

Table 92 (page 1 of 3). Selected prescription and nonprescription drugs recorded during physician office visits and hospital outpatient department visits, by sex and age: United States, 1995–1996 and 2003–2004

[Data are based on a sample of visit records from physician offices and hospital outpatient departments]

Age group and National Drug Code (NDC) therapeutic class ¹ (common reasons for use)	Total		Male		Female	
	1995–1996	2003–2004	1995–1996	2003–2004	1995–1996	2003–2004
All ages		Visits with at least one drug per 100 population ²				
Drug visits ³	189.8	226.4	156.5	190.3	221.5	260.9
		Number of drugs per 100 population ⁴				
Total number of drugs ⁵	400.3	604.3	321.1	502.1	475.6	701.9
Antidepressants (depression and related disorders)	13.8	30.2	9.1	20.0	18.2	40.0
NSAID ⁶ (pain relief)	19.9	30.1	16.0	25.4	23.7	34.7
Antiasthmatics/bronchodilators (asthma, breathing)	13.0	24.7	11.7	21.4	14.3	27.9
Hyperlipidemia (high cholesterol)	5.4	23.7	5.4	24.0	5.4	23.4
Hypertension control drugs, not otherwise specified (high blood pressure)	6.0	23.6	4.1	20.5	7.8	26.6
Nonnarcotic analgesics (pain relief)	14.4	23.6	13.0	21.9	15.7	25.3
Antihistamines (allergies)	13.7	22.7	10.8	17.3	16.4	27.9
Acid/peptic disorders (gastrointestinal reflux, ulcers)	12.0	21.4	9.8	18.3	14.1	24.3
Blood glucose/sugar regulators (diabetes)	9.5	19.8	8.6	19.1	10.4	20.6
Vitamins/minerals (dietary supplements)	9.2	16.8	3.4	10.3	14.8	23.1
ACE inhibitors (high blood pressure, heart disease)	9.6	16.8	9.0	16.5	10.2	17.0
Narcotic analgesics (pain relief)	11.2	16.7	10.3	13.4	12.2	19.9
Diuretics (high blood pressure, heart disease)	10.2	16.6	7.8	13.4	12.6	19.6
Penicillins (bacterial infections)	16.6	13.1	15.5	12.6	17.7	13.6
Estrogens/progestins (menopause, hot flashes) . . . . .	...	...	...	...	19.8	14.9
Under 18 years		Visits with at least one drug per 100 population ²				
Drug visits ³	153.9	170.4	152.3	175.2	155.6	165.4
		Number of drugs per 100 population ⁴				
Total number of drugs ⁵	261.3	326.0	255.6	333.9	267.3	317.7
Penicillins (bacterial infections)	37.2	29.2	36.4	29.9	38.0	28.4
Antiasthmatics/bronchodilators (asthma, breathing)	13.4	27.2	14.8	29.5	11.9	24.8
Antihistamines (allergies)	17.5	25.0	16.7	23.3	18.4	26.9
NSAID ⁶ (pain relief)	7.4	14.6	6.9	15.0	7.9	14.2
Nonnarcotic analgesics (pain relief)	12.1	13.0	10.4	12.5	13.9	13.5
Cephalosporins (bacterial infections)	18.1	12.4	18.8	12.6	17.3	12.2
Erythromycins/lincosamides (infections)	10.2	11.3	11.0	11.0	9.4	11.6
Nasal corticosteroid inhalants (asthma, breathing, allergies)	3.5	10.4	3.5	11.0	3.5	9.8
Antitussives/expectorants (cough and cold, congestion)	11.8	9.5	11.0	8.8	12.7	10.2
Anorexiant/CNS stimulants (attention deficit disorder, hyperactivity)	3.9	8.5	5.6	12.9	2.1	4.0
Nasal decongestants (congestion)	14.0	8.5	12.4	8.1	15.7	8.8
Antidepressants (depression and related disorders)	1.9	8.0	1.9	9.1	1.9	6.8
18–44 years		Visits with at least one drug per 100 population ²				
Drug visits ³	136.2	154.0	90.9	102.3	180.4	204.9
		Number of drugs per 100 population ⁴				
Total number of drugs ⁵	251.0	327.4	168.8	221.6	331.2	431.4
Antidepressants (depression and related disorders)	14.0	26.9	9.3	16.9	18.5	36.8
NSAID ⁶ (pain relief)	16.7	21.5	14.5	16.7	18.8	26.2
Antihistamines (allergies)	10.8	16.8	7.5	10.9	14.1	22.5
Narcotic analgesics (pain relief)	11.7	15.2	10.8	10.9	12.7	19.5
Antiasthmatics/bronchodilator (asthma, breathing)	6.8	11.9	3.3	7.1	10.2	16.5
Vitamins/minerals (dietary supplements)	11.8	11.2	1.1	2.1	22.2	20.3
Acid/peptic disorders (gastrointestinal reflux, ulcers)	6.6	9.6	5.3	8.3	7.9	11.0
Erythromycins/lincosamides (infections)	7.5	8.4	5.4	5.6	9.5	11.1
Penicillins (bacterial infections)	9.5	7.9	7.0	5.9	11.9	9.9
Nonnarcotic analgesics (pain relief)	6.0	7.9	4.5	5.7	7.4	10.1
Antitussives/expectorants (cough and cold, congestion)	7.7	7.9	5.8	4.9	9.5	10.8
Nasal corticosteroid inhalants (asthma, breathing, allergies)	4.7	7.3	3.3	5.5	6.1	9.0
Contraceptive agents (prevent pregnancy) . . . . .	...	...	...	...	13.4	19.8

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 92 (page 2 of 3). Selected prescription and nonprescription drugs recorded during physician office visits and hospital outpatient department visits, by sex and age: United States, 1995–1996 and 2003–2004

[Data are based on a sample of visit records from physician offices and hospital outpatient departments]

Age group and National Drug Code (NDC) therapeutic class ¹ (common reasons for use)	Total		Male		Female	
	1995–1996	2003–2004	1995–1996	2003–2004	1995–1996	2003–2004
45–64 years						
Drug visits ³	222.4	274.7	185.0	232.5	257.4	314.5
Visits with at least one drug per 100 population ²						
Number of drugs per 100 population ⁴						
Total number of drugs ⁵	505.1	794.6	403.2	662.9	600.4	918.7
Antidepressants (depression and related disorders)	23.5	48.1	14.9	30.8	31.5	64.5
Hyperlipidemia (high cholesterol)	10.4	42.2	12.0	45.5	8.8	39.0
NSAID ⁶ (pain relief)	30.3	41.7	23.9	36.3	36.4	46.9
Hypertension control drugs, not otherwise specified (high blood pressure)	9.4	39.8	6.9	38.3	11.7	41.1
Blood glucose/sugar regulators (diabetes)	17.7	35.9	16.7	36.6	18.7	35.2
Acid/peptic disorders (gastrointestinal reflux, ulcers)	19.8	33.4	18.3	29.1	21.3	37.4
Antiasthmatics/bronchodilators (asthma, breathing)	14.4	31.1	11.4	23.6	17.1	38.1
Nonnarcotic analgesics (pain relief)	16.3	29.0	15.6	29.5	17.0	28.5
Narcotic analgesics (pain relief)	17.5	27.8	17.0	25.3	18.0	30.2
ACE inhibitors (high blood pressure, heart disease)	16.8	26.6	17.7	26.8	16.0	26.5
Antihistamines (allergies)	13.5	25.9	9.1	17.5	17.7	33.8
Diuretics (high blood pressure, heart disease)	13.5	23.1	11.2	19.2	15.7	26.7
Beta blockers (high blood pressure, heart disease)	10.6	22.2	10.0	20.2	11.2	24.0
Calcium channel blockers (high blood pressure, heart disease)	19.3	18.8	19.9	18.6	18.8	19.0
Estrogens/progestins (menopause, hot flashes)	...	...	...	...	55.7	30.4
65 years and over						
Drug visits ³	399.4	479.9	378.1	461.7	414.7	493.3
Visits with at least one drug per 100 population ²						
Number of drugs per 100 population ⁴						
Total number of drugs ⁵	1,047.4	1,697.5	956.9	1,612.5	1,112.5	1,760.1
Hypertension control drugs, not otherwise specified (high blood pressure)	29.1	100.2	22.7	91.6	33.8	106.4
Hyperlipidemia (high cholesterol)	24.7	99.8	25.1	110.8	24.5	91.7
Nonnarcotic analgesics (pain relief)	44.9	85.5	49.0	89.0	42.0	82.9
Diuretics (high blood pressure, heart disease)	55.2	81.6	48.5	76.9	60.0	85.0
ACE inhibitors (high blood pressure, heart disease)	42.6	74.4	41.2	84.5	43.6	67.0
Blood glucose/sugar regulators (diabetes)	37.5	74.1	38.0	82.0	37.1	68.2
Acid/peptic disorders (gastrointestinal reflux, ulcers)	42.2	72.3	36.0	67.8	46.6	75.6
Beta blockers (high blood pressure, heart disease)	25.5	71.9	23.6	72.9	26.8	71.2
NSAID ⁶ (pain relief)	41.8	67.4	31.9	59.1	49.0	73.5
Calcium channel blockers (high blood pressure, heart disease)	57.3	57.5	52.2	53.3	60.9	60.6
Vitamins/minerals (dietary supplements)	17.1	54.5	13.1	44.2	20.0	62.1
Antidepressants (depression and related disorders)	23.5	52.1	16.7	35.1	28.5	64.7
Antiasthmatics/bronchodilators (asthma, breathing)	31.3	47.9	37.1	48.6	27.0	47.3
Anticoagulants/thrombolytics (blood thinning, reduce or prevent blood clots)	20.7	45.0	24.0	53.0	18.3	39.2
Estrogens/progestins (menopause, hot flashes)	...	...	...	...	37.1	29.9
65–74 years						
Drug visits ³	362.8	428.5	323.0	399.3	394.9	452.9
Visits with at least one drug per 100 population ²						
Number of drugs per 100 population ⁴						
Total number of drugs ⁵	930.5	1,452.9	804.7	1,370.4	1,032.1	1,522.1
Hyperlipidemia (high cholesterol)	27.3	96.6	27.1	107.4	27.4	87.6
Hypertension control drugs, not otherwise specified (high blood pressure)	24.8	82.5	19.2	69.0	29.3	93.8
Blood glucose/sugar regulators (diabetes)	35.7	73.5	32.4	81.9	38.4	66.4
Nonnarcotic analgesics (pain relief)	38.0	70.9	40.5	75.6	35.9	66.9
NSAID ⁶ (pain relief)	42.0	65.1	31.2	56.9	50.8	72.0
Acid/peptic disorders (gastrointestinal reflux, ulcers)	38.7	64.0	30.6	60.4	45.2	67.0
ACE inhibitors (high blood pressure, heart disease)	37.1	61.8	35.6	72.1	38.3	53.3
Diuretics (high blood pressure, heart disease)	40.0	59.5	32.3	56.7	46.3	61.8
Beta blockers (high blood pressure, heart disease)	23.7	59.4	20.7	59.4	26.1	59.4
Calcium channel blockers (high blood pressure, heart disease)	48.9	51.3	46.2	43.8	51.2	57.5
Antidepressants (depression and related disorders)	22.7	48.1	14.2	33.6	29.6	60.3
Antiasthmatics/bronchodilators (asthma, breathing)	31.1	46.8	33.0	43.6	29.5	49.5
Vitamins/minerals (dietary supplements)	14.1	41.7	10.1	38.9	17.4	44.1
Antihistamines (allergies)	14.7	35.1	12.3	28.8	16.6	40.3
Estrogens/progestins (menopause, hot flashes)	...	...	...	...	47.5	37.9

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 92 (page 3 of 3). Selected prescription and nonprescription drugs recorded during physician office visits and hospital outpatient department visits, by sex and age: United States, 1995–1996 and 2003–2004

[Data are based on a sample of visit records from physician offices and hospital outpatient departments]

Age group and National Drug Code (NDC) therapeutic class ¹ (common reasons for use)	Total		Male		Female	
	1995–1996	2003–2004	1995–1996	2003–2004	1995–1996	2003–2004
75 years and over	Visits with at least one drug per 100 population ²					
Drug visits ³	449.2	537.1	466.3	543.2	438.7	533.3
	Number of drugs per 100 population ⁴					
Total number of drugs ⁵	1,206.8	1,969.8	1,200.9	1,928.8	1,210.4	1,995.8
Hypertension control drugs, not otherwise specified (high blood pressure)	35.1	119.8	28.4	121.1	39.2	119.0
Diuretics (high blood pressure, heart disease)	75.8	106.2	74.5	103.3	76.6	108.1
Hyperlipidemia (high cholesterol)	21.3	103.4	21.8	115.2	21.0	95.9
Nonnarcotic analgesics (pain relief)	54.4	101.8	62.6	106.5	49.4	98.8
ACE inhibitors (high blood pressure, heart disease)	50.2	88.3	50.2	100.6	50.1	80.5
Beta blockers (high blood pressure, heart disease)	27.9	85.8	28.3	90.5	27.6	82.8
Acid/peptic disorders (gastrointestinal reflux, ulcers)	47.0	81.5	44.7	77.4	48.3	84.1
Blood glucose/sugar regulators (diabetes)	39.8	74.7	46.9	82.1	35.5	70.1
NSAID ⁶ (pain relief)	41.5	69.9	33.1	61.9	46.7	74.9
Vitamins/minerals (dietary supplements)	21.2	68.7	18.0	51.1	23.2	79.9
Calcium channel blockers (high blood pressure, heart disease)	68.6	64.5	61.8	65.8	72.7	63.7
Anticoagulants/thrombolytics (blood thinning, reduce or prevent blood clots)	28.6	62.3	34.9	75.3	24.7	54.1
Antidepressants (depression and related disorders)	24.6	56.6	20.7	37.0	27.0	69.0
Antiasthmatics/bronchodilators (asthma, breathing)	31.5	49.0	43.7	55.1	24.0	45.2
Thyroid/antithyroid (hyper- and hypothyroidism)	27.1	47.1	15.1	30.2	34.4	57.7

. . . Category not applicable.

¹The National Drug Code (NDC) therapeutic class is a general therapeutic or pharmacological classification scheme for drug products reported to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) under the provisions of the Drug Listing Act. See [Appendix II, National Drug Code \(NDC\) Directory therapeutic class; table XII](#).

²Estimated number of drug visits during the 2-year period divided by the sum of population estimates for both years times 100.

³Drug visits are physician office and hospital outpatient department visits in which at least one prescription or nonprescription drug was recorded on the patient record form.

⁴Estimated number of drugs recorded during visits during the 2-year period divided by the sum of population estimates for both years times 100.

⁵Until 2002, up to six prescription and nonprescription medications were recorded on the patient record form. Starting with 2003 data, up to eight prescription and nonprescription medications are recorded on the patient record form. If 2003–2004 data were restricted to six instead of eight drugs, the 2003–2004 total drug rate for all ages would be 5.5% lower. See [Appendix II, Drug](#).

⁶NSAID is nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug. Aspirin was not included as an NSAID in this analysis. See [Appendix II, National Drug Classification \(NDC\) therapeutic class](#).

NOTE: Drugs recorded on the patient record form are those prescribed, continued, administered, or provided during a physician office or hospital outpatient department visit.

SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey and National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey.