

Table 8. Other medical equipment and services<sup>a</sup>: median and mean expenditures per person with expense and distribution of expenditures by source of payment, U.S., 1997

Population characteristic	Total population (in thousands)	Percent with expense	Annual total expense per person with expense		Percent distribution of total expenses by source of payment							
			Median	Mean	Total expenses (in millions)	Out of Pocket	Private Insurance <sup>b</sup>	Medicare	Medicaid	Other public programs <sup>c</sup>	Other <sup>d</sup>	
<b>Total</b>	271,279	17.6	160	347	16,560	56.6	24.1	8.4	4.8	3.6*	2.5	
<b>Age in years</b>												
Under 65	237,093	16.1	150	249	9,479	61.2	24.2	1.9*	5.2	4.4*	3.2*	
Under 6	23,791	3.2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
6-17	48,127	12.0	124	180	1,038	66.1	19.0	0.0	11.5	0.9*	2.5*	
18-44	108,879	16.4	139	198	3,542	69.1	20.8	0.3*	3.2	0.8*	5.8*	
45-64	56,295	24.4	200	347	4,758	55.1	26.8	3.6*	5.2	7.9*	1.3	
65 and over	34,185	28.2	197	735	7,081	50.4	24.0*	17.1*	4.2*	2.5*	1.6*	
<b>Sex</b>												
Male	132,605	15.1	159	414	8,320	55.1	27.4	6.1	3.0	6.6*	1.7*	
Female	138,673	19.9	164	298	8,240	58.1	20.8	10.8*	6.6	0.5*	3.3*	
<b>Race/ethnicity</b>												
White and other	206,082	19.4	163	363	14,507	56.8	25.6	8.6*	3.3	3.4*	2.4	
Black	34,086	12.2	149	232	967	60.6	14.0	3.0*	15.5	1.6*	5.4*	
Hispanic	31,111	11.5	153	304	1,086	50.9	13.7	10.5*	14.8	8.1*	1.9*	
<b>Health insurance status<sup>ef</sup></b>												
Under age 65:												
Any private	173,962	17.9	157	253	7,885	62.7	29.0	1.0*	0.8*	4.9*	1.6	
Public only	29,828	12.3	122	271	997	32.5*	0.2*	10.5*	43.4	1.4*	12.0*	
Uninsured	33,304	9.9	124	181	596	89.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.9*	8.7	
Age 65 and over:												
Medicare only	8,550	28.1	198	632*	1,516*	43.4	0.0	42.2*	0.0	11.1*	3.4*	
Medicare and private	21,690	28.2	199	832*	5,087*	54.9	33.4	10.5*	0.3*	0.2*	0.7*	
Medicare and other public	3,486	30.8	164	437	469	24.2	0.0	8.3*	61.0	0.5*	5.9*	
<b>Poverty status<sup>g</sup></b>												
Poor	36,415	13.6	150	303	1,495	45.0	7.5	8.7*	29.4	1.1*	8.3*	
Near-poor	12,233	15.0	150	296	545	54.0	15.4	15.1*	12.9	2.0*	0.5*	
Low income	38,723	14.7	140	317	1,810	50.3	24.1*	6.3*	7.6	7.9*	3.8*	
Middle income	89,981	17.6	150	433	6,846	53.6	29.7	12.2*	2.0*	0.6*	1.8*	
High income	93,926	20.7	179	302	5,864	65.2	22.6	4.0	0.1	6.4*	1.6*	
<b>Metropolitan statistical area (MSA)<sup>e</sup></b>												
MSA	215,782	17.7	162	315	12,059	55.1	23.5	10.3*	4.8	3.5*	2.8	
Non-MSA	52,621	17.7	155	466*	4,340*	62.2	26.5	3.5*	4.8*	1.1*	1.9*	
<b>Census Region</b>												
Northeast	52,394	17.4	169	305	2,776	58.1	27.8	5.5*	5.1	0.8*	2.7*	
Midwest	63,090	19.4	159	241	2,952	67.7	19.4	3.9*	5.1	0.7*	3.2	
South	94,929	16.7	154	451	7,148	55.5	22.1	9.7*	4.1	7.2*	1.3*	
West	60,865	17.3	167	350	3,685	48.6	29.0	11.9	5.5*	0.9*	4.1*	
<b>Perceived health status<sup>h</sup></b>												
Under 65 years												
Excellent, very good, or good	217,904	15.5	149	212	7,153	68.6	23.8	0.3*	4.0	0.8*	2.4	
Fair or Poor	18,876	23.0	180	535	2,323	38.2	25.3	6.9*	8.8*	15.3*	5.4*	
65 years and over												
Excellent, very good, or good	24,864	26.7	180	498	3,304	53.9	8.8	26.1*	4.0*	4.8*	2.4*	
Fair or Poor	8,890	33.6	227	1,263*	3,777*	47.4	37.4	9.2*	4.5*	0.5*	1.0*	

<sup>a</sup>Expenses for eyeglasses, ambulance services, orthopedic items, hearing devices, prostheses, bathroom aids, medical equipment, disposable supplies, alterations/modifications, and other miscellaneous items or services that were obtained, purchased, or rented during the year are included. About half the expenditures in this category were for vision items.

<sup>b</sup>Private insurance includes CHAMPUS and CHAMPVA (Armed-Forces-related coverage).

<sup>c</sup>Other public programs include Department of Veterans Affairs (except CHAMPVA); other Federal sources (Indian Health Service, military treatment facilities, and other care provided by the Federal Government); other State and local sources (community and neighborhood clinics, State and local health departments, and State programs other than Medicaid); and other public (Medicaid payments reported for persons who were not enrolled in the Medicaid program at any time during the year).

<sup>d</sup>Other includes Worker's Compensation; other unclassified sources (e.g., automobile, homeowner's, liability, and other miscellaneous or unknown sources); and other private insurance (any type of private insurance payments reported for persons without private health insurance coverage during the year, as defined in MEPS).

<sup>e</sup>Number of persons and amount of expenses do not add to overall total because data on this variable were not available for some sample persons.

<sup>f</sup>Uninsured refers to persons uninsured during the entire year. Public and private health insurance categories refer to individuals with public or private insurance at any time during the period; individuals with both public and private insurance and those with CHAMPUS or CHAMPVA (Armed-Forces-related coverage) are classified as having insurance.

<sup>g</sup>Poor refers to incomes below the Federal poverty line; near poor, over the poverty line through 125 percent of the poverty line; low income, over 125 percent through 200 percent of the poverty line; middle income, over 200 percent to 400 percent of the poverty line; and high income, over 400 percent of the poverty line.

-- Less than 100 sample cases with expenses.

\*Relative standard error equal to or greater than 30 percent.

**Note:** These estimates are for a target population of approximately 271.3 million persons who were in the civilian noninstitutionalized population for all or part of 1997. Percents may not add to 100 because of rounding.

**Source:** Center for Cost and Financing Studies, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality: Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, 1997.