

Table 6. Dental 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 \$145	Mean \$405	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	40.5			\$44,501	51.1	41.7	0.4	3.0	0.8	3.0
<b>Age in years</b>											
Under 65	237,093	40.8	140	400	38,695	48.2	44.9	0.0	3.3	0.7	2.8
Under 6	23,791	17.6	88	151	632	28.7	45.3	0.0	22.6	0.3*	3.0*
6-17	48,127	50.0	121	434	10,433	48.1	41.2	0.0	6.5	0.7*	3.6
18-44	108,879	39.1	139	362	15,379	44.7	49.4	0.0	2.1	0.6*	3.2
45-64	56,295	46.2	179	471	12,251	53.8	42.4	0.1*	1.0	0.9*	1.7
65 and over	34,185	38.0	179	447	5,806	70.3	20.0	2.8	1.4*	1.2*	4.3*
<b>Sex</b>											
Male	132,605	37.4	140	390	19,331	52.7	40.2	0.4	2.6	1.0	3.1
Female	138,673	43.4	148	418	25,170	49.9	42.8	0.4	3.3	0.6*	3.0
<b>Race/ethnicity</b>											
White and other	206,082	45.2	150	416	38,748	52.1	41.9	0.4	2.1	0.7	2.8
Black	34,086	25.4	102	292	2,523	45.7	38.0	0.6*	10.4	2.2*	3.1
Hispanic	31,111	25.7	137	403	3,230	43.4	41.3	0.4	9.0	0.4	5.5*
<b>Health insurance status<sup>e,f</sup></b>											
Under age 65:											
Any private	173,962	47.3	149	422	34,712	47.8	49.9	0.0	0.4*	0.5*	1.4
Public only	29,828	26.8	92	229	1,831	26.1	3.8*	0.6*	61.4	3.6*	4.5
Uninsured	33,304	19.3	107	335	2,153	73.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2*	24.0
Age 65 and over:											
Medicare only	8,550	30.1	188	513	1,322	78.4	0.0	6.2	0.0	1.5*	14.0*
Medicare and private	21,690	44.5	184	441	4,251	69.0	26.5	1.6*	0.4*	1.2*	1.3*
Medicare and other public	3,486	15.6	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Poverty status<sup>g</sup></b>											
Poor	36,415	23.2	121	350	2,963	40.9	17.4	0.8*	35.6	1.1	4.3*
Near-poor	12,233	23.5	100	277	797	53.3	29.3	0.4*	9.6	3.8*	3.5*
Low income	38,723	30.3	119	337	3,948	57.0	31.6	0.2*	3.1	0.5*	7.5*
Middle income	89,981	40.7	143	373	13,667	50.7	44.2	0.6	0.4	1.1*	3.0
High income	93,926	53.3	158	462	23,126	51.6	45.4	0.3*	0.2*	0.5	2.1
<b>Metropolitan statistical area (MSA)<sup>h</sup></b>											
MSA	215,782	41.9	150	421	38,049	50.5	42.6	0.5	2.8	0.8	2.9
Non-MSA	52,621	36.1	120	329	6,251	54.1	36.6	0.1*	4.5	0.9*	3.8*
<b>Census Region</b>											
Northeast	52,394	42.3	149	419	9,278	56.6	36.3	0.4	4.0	0.3*	2.4
Midwest	63,090	45.8	135	359	10,368	49.2	44.4	0.2*	2.3*	0.7*	3.2
South	94,929	34.8	132	395	13,052	54.7	38.9	0.2*	2.2	0.9	3.1
West	60,865	42.2	177	460	11,803	44.5	46.6	0.8	3.8	1.1*	3.3
<b>Perceived health status<sup>e</sup></b>											
Under 65 years											
Excellent, very good, or good	217,904	41.4	140	397	35,861	48.0	45.4	0.0	3.1	0.6*	2.8
Fair or Poor	18,876	34.3	151	436	2,821	51.1	38.1	0.5*	5.8	1.9*	2.6*
65 years and over											
Excellent, very good, or good	24,864	42.6	178	443	4,688	69.6	21.2	2.4	0.7*	1.0*	5.1*
Fair or Poor	8,890	26.9	181	467	1,118	73.2	15.1	4.5*	4.5*	2.1*	0.7*

<sup>a</sup>Expenses from any type of dental care providers are included.

<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.