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Trends in the Number and Percentage of the Population with Any Dental or Medical Visits, 2003–2018

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Highlights

- About 37 percent of Americans (121.2 million in 2018) visited a dentist and a physician at least once a year, and another 9 percent (28.2 million in 2018) visited only a dentist.
- The percentage visiting both a physician and a dentist in 2018 was higher among persons who are non-Hispanic White (43.7 percent) compared to those who are Hispanic (26.2 percent) or non-Hispanic Black (25.8 percent).
- Persons who are non-Hispanic White, non-Hispanic other, male, aged 6 to 64, and living in the West and Midwest are more likely to visit a dentist only.

Introduction

In 2000, the first-ever Surgeon General's Report on oral health was released. *Oral Health in America* provided numerous examples of the connection between oral health and overall health, concluding that "oral health means much more than healthy teeth" and "is essential to the general health and well-being of all Americans."¹ Since the publication of that report, there has been a concerted effort to better integrate oral health and overall health across the country. Full integration is multidirectional, incorporating oral health into different aspects of overall health (medical care, behavioral

¹ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. *Oral Health in America: A Report of the Surgeon General*. 2000. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, National Institutes of Health, Rockville, MD.

health, pharmacy care, etc.) and incorporating overall health concepts into dental practices. For example, the American Dental Association, the nation's largest dentist organization, has estimated that healthcare costs in the United States could be reduced by over \$100 million each year through screening for chronic diseases in dental offices.²

To provide a foundation for multidirectional integration of oral health and overall health, we examined the number and percentage of persons with any dental and medical visits using 2003 to 2018 data from the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey-Household Component. A dental visit included any reported visit in the year to any type of dental provider, including general dentists, specialists, hygienists, and technicians. A medical visit included any reported visit in the year to any type of physician or nonphysician provider in an office-based, inpatient, outpatient, emergency room, or home health setting.

Findings

All differences between estimates discussed in the text are statistically significant at the 0.05 level or better unless otherwise noted.

U.S. medical and dental visits (tables 1–2, figure 1)

As shown in table 1 and figure 1, 121.2 million Americans had both a medical and dental visit in 2018, an 18 percent increase from 2003. Though this increase was driven mostly by population growth, more Americans than ever before reported visiting only a dental provider in the past year (28.2 million, up 11 percent from 2003) or having neither visited a medical nor a dental provider in the past year (64.7 million, up 18 percent from 2003).

As seen in table 2 and figure 1, the percentage of Americans exclusively visiting medical providers and not dental providers decreased in 2018 to its lowest point in two decades, with only 34.4 percent (down from 37.0 percent in 2003) visiting just a medical provider in 2018. The percentage of people with just a dental visit did not change significantly from 2003 to 2018, however, at around 8.6 percent. But the overall percentage of Americans with a dental visit, including those with a medical visit, rose from 44.0 percent in 2003 to 45.7 percent in 2018.

² American Dental Association, Health Policy Institute. *Screening for Chronic Diseases in the Dental Office*. 2018. Accessed August 16, 2021, at https://www.ada.org/~media/ADA/Science_percent20and_percent20Research/HPI/Files/ADA_HPI_DentalOfcScreening.pdf?la=en

Medical and dental visits by race/ethnicity (table 2, figure 2)

As seen in table 2 and figure 2, significant disparities exist between racial/ethnic groups in healthcare utilization. Among persons who are non-Hispanic White, 43.7 percent visited both a medical and dental provider in 2018, compared to just 26.2 percent of those who are Hispanic and 25.8 percent of those who are non-Hispanic Black. Similarly, more Hispanics (31.0 percent) had neither a dental nor medical visit in 2018, compared to non-Hispanic Blacks (25.3 percent) and non-Hispanic Whites (14.6 percent). More non-Hispanic Blacks (40.7 percent) had only a medical visit in 2018, compared to Hispanics (34.5 percent) and non-Hispanic Whites (33.1 percent).

Medical and dental visits by age (tables 1–2, figure 2)

Healthcare visits by children and adolescents ages 0 to 5 and ages 6 to 17 years increased from 2003 to 2018. The percentage with visits to both a medical and dental provider increased from 20.1 percent to 29.0 percent and from 42.2 percent to 46.3 percent for the two age groups, respectively. The percentage with only medical visits dropped from 66.1 percent in 2003 to 54.6 percent in 2018 for children ages 0 to 5.

Among adults 65 years and older, 27.9 million had a dental visit in 2018, up from 15.4 million in 2003. The overall percentage of Americans 65 years of age and older with a dental visit increased from 42.0 percent in 2003 to 51.0 percent in 2018, while the percentage of those having a dental visit only but not a medical visit remained steady at 1.6 percent.

Medical and dental visits by region (table 2, figure 2)

Disparities in dental utilization were also based on geographic location. Only 41.5 percent of Americans in the South had a dental visit in 2018, compared to 47.5 percent in the Northeast, 49.9 percent in the Midwest, and 47.8 percent in the West. However, people living in the West (10.2 percent) were most likely to have had a dental visit but not a medical visit compared to those in the Northeast (7.6 percent). People living in the South (21.9 percent) and West (21.7 percent) were most likely to have neither a medical nor a dental visit in 2018 compared to those in the Northeast (17.2 percent) and Midwest (16.0 percent).

Data Source

This Statistical Brief uses data from the following public use data files:

Data Files	2003	2006	2009	2012	2015	2018
Full-Year Consolidated	HC-79	HC-105	HC-129	HC-155	HC-181	HC-209
Dental events	HC-77B	HC-102B	HC-126B	HC-152B	HC-178B	HC-206B
Inpatient events	HC-77D	HC-102D	HC-126D	HC-152D	HC-178D	HC-206D
Emergency room events	HC-77E	HC-102E	HC-126E	HC-152E	HC-178E	HC-206E
Outpatient events	HC-77F	HC-102F	HC-126F	HC-152F	HC-178F	HC-206F
Office-based events	HC-77G	HC-102G	HC-126G	HC-152G	HC-178G	HC-206G
Home health events	HC-77H	HC-102H	HC-126H	HC-152H	HC-178H	HC-206H

Definitions

Dental visits

A dental visit is an in-person visit to any type of dental provider, including general dentists and specialists such as periodontists, as well as non-dentists such as hygienists and technicians.

Medical visits

A medical visit is an in-person visit to any type of medical provider, including physicians (medical doctors) and non-physicians (e.g., nurses, technicians) in an office-based, inpatient, outpatient, emergency room, or home health setting.

Race/ethnicity

Classification by race/ethnicity was based on information reported for each family member. First, respondents were asked if the person's main national origin or ancestry was Puerto Rican; Cuban; Mexican, Mexican American, or Chicano; other Latin American; or other Spanish. All persons whose main national origin or ancestry was reported in one of these Hispanic groups, regardless of racial background, were classified as Hispanic. All other persons were classified according to their reported race. For this analysis, the following classification by race and ethnicity was used: Hispanic, non-Hispanic Black, non-Hispanic White, and non-Hispanic other. The other category includes American Indian, Alaska Native, Asian or Pacific Islander, other race, and multiple races.

Age

The age variable is based on the sample person's age as of the end of the year. If data were not collected during a round because the sample person was out of scope (e.g., deceased or institutionalized), then age at the time of the previous round was used.

Census region

The Census region variable is based on the location of the household at the end of the year. If missing, the most recent location available is used.

Region	Included States
Northeast	Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont
Midwest	Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin
South	Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia
West	Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming

About MEPS

The Medical Expenditure Panel Survey Household Component (MEPS-HC) collects nationally representative data on healthcare use, expenditures, sources of payment, and insurance coverage for the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population. The MEPS-HC is cosponsored by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) and the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). More information about the MEPS-HC can be found on the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS) website at <http://www.meps.ahrq.gov>.

References

American Dental Association, Health Policy Institute. *Screening for Chronic Diseases in the Dental Office*. 2018. Accessed August 16, 2021, at https://www.ada.org/~media/ADA/Science_percent20and_percent20Research/HPI/Files/ADA_HPI_DentalOfcScreening.pdf?la=en

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. *Oral Health in America: A Report of the Surgeon General*. 2000. U.S. Department of Health and Human

Services, National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, National Institutes of Health, Rockville, MD.

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AHRQ welcomes questions and comments from readers of this publication who are interested in obtaining more information about access, cost, use, financing, and quality of healthcare in the United States. We also invite you to tell us how you are using this Statistical Brief and other MEPS data and tools and to share suggestions on how MEPS products might be enhanced to further meet your needs. Please email us at MEPSProjectDirector@ahrq.hhs.gov or send a letter to the address below:

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Table 1. Population with any dental or medical visits

Demographic	Total population (millions)*					
Visit category^	2003	2006	2009	2012	2015	2018
All persons						
Dental and medical	102.6 (2.6)	102.8 (3.0)	104.5 (2.9)	104.7 (3.1)	109.6 (3.4)	121.2 (3.5)
Dental only	25.4 (0.9)	26.2 (0.9)	24.9 (0.9)	25.2 (0.9)	28.2 (1.1)	28.2 (1.0)
Medical only	107.6 (2.5)	110.0 (2.8)	114.4 (2.7)	119.5 (2.6)	119.3 (3.1)	112.3 (2.7)
Neither dental nor medical	55.0 (1.7)	60.2 (2.0)	62.9 (1.9)	64.1 (1.9)	64.3 (2.0)	64.7 (1.9)
Race/ethnicity						
Hispanic, any race						
Dental and medical	8.1 (0.5)	8.7 (0.5)	10.2 (0.7)	11.8 (0.8)	14.0 (0.9)	15.8 (0.9)
Dental only	3.0 (0.2)	3.3 (0.2)	3.5 (0.2)	4.2 (0.3)	4.9 (0.3)	5.0 (0.4)
Medical only	16.2 (0.9)	18.0 (1.0)	19.2 (1.3)	21.1 (1.5)	21.3 (1.3)	20.8 (1.2)
Neither dental nor medical	13.4 (0.8)	15.2 (1.0)	16.2 (1.2)	16.3 (1.1)	16.8 (1.3)	18.7 (1.1)
Non-Hispanic White						
Dental and medical	81.3 (2.4)	79.9 (2.6)	79.6 (2.7)	77.4 (2.9)	77.2 (2.9)	85.1 (3.0)
Dental only	18.1 (0.8)	18.0 (0.7)	16.3 (0.7)	15.9 (0.8)	17.2 (1.0)	16.7 (0.8)
Medical only	69.1 (1.9)	69.1 (2.0)	71.6 (2.2)	73.2 (2.2)	69.4 (2.3)	64.5 (2.1)
Neither dental nor medical	27.7 (1.0)	30.0 (1.1)	31.4 (1.2)	31.4 (1.3)	30.2 (1.4)	28.4 (1.3)
Non-Hispanic Black						
Dental and medical	7.7 (0.5)	8.2 (0.5)	8.5 (0.5)	8.7 (0.5)	9.0 (0.5)	10.3 (0.7)

Demographic	Total population (millions)*					
Visit category^	2003	2006	2009	2012	2015	2018
Dental only	2.4 (0.2)	2.9 (0.3)	2.6 (0.3)	2.7 (0.2)	2.9 (0.2)	3.3 (0.3)
Medical only	15.9 (0.8)	15.7 (0.9)	15.8 (0.9)	16.5 (1.0)	17.2 (1.0)	16.3 (0.9)
Neither dental nor medical	9.2 (0.6)	9.4 (0.6)	9.9 (0.7)	10.0 (0.6)	10.4 (0.6)	10.1 (0.6)
Non-Hispanic other						
Dental and medical	5.4 (0.4)	6.0 (0.5)	6.1 (0.6)	6.8 (0.5)	9.3 (0.8)	10.0 (0.7)
Dental only	1.9 (0.2)	2.0 (0.3)	2.5 (0.2)	2.3 (0.2)	3.2 (0.3)	3.2 (0.3)
Medical only	6.4 (0.5)	7.2 (0.6)	7.7 (0.6)	8.7 (0.7)	11.4 (1.0)	10.6 (0.6)
Neither dental nor medical	4.7 (0.4)	5.5 (0.6)	5.4 (0.4)	6.3 (0.6)	6.8 (0.6)	7.5 (0.5)
Sex						
Male						
Dental and medical	43.0 (1.2)	43.9 (1.4)	44.4 (1.3)	44.9 (1.6)	47.6 (1.7)	53.2 (1.6)
Dental only	14.4 (0.6)	14.8 (0.6)	13.9 (0.5)	13.9 (0.6)	15.3 (0.7)	15.4 (0.7)
Medical only	50.0 (1.3)	51.3 (1.4)	53.5 (1.4)	55.3 (1.3)	55.4 (1.5)	52.7 (1.4)
Neither dental nor medical	34.9 (1.1)	37.0 (1.3)	38.7 (1.2)	39.1 (1.2)	38.9 (1.2)	38.4 (1.2)
Female						
Dental and medical	59.6 (1.5)	58.9 (1.8)	60.0 (1.8)	59.8 (1.7)	62.0 (1.9)	68.0 (2.1)
Dental only	11.0 (0.5)	11.5 (0.5)	11.0 (0.5)	11.3 (0.5)	13.0 (0.6)	12.8 (0.5)
Medical only	57.6 (1.4)	58.7 (1.6)	60.8 (1.5)	64.2 (1.6)	63.9 (1.8)	59.6 (1.5)
Neither dental nor medical	20.1 (0.8)	23.2 (0.9)	24.2 (0.8)	25.0 (0.8)	25.4 (1.0)	26.2 (0.9)

Demographic	Total population (millions)*					
Visit category^	2003	2006	2009	2012	2015	2018
Age group						
0-5						
Dental and medical	4.6 (0.3)	5.3 (0.4)	5.9 (0.4)	5.2 (0.3)	6.3 (0.4)	6.8 (0.4)
Dental only	0.8 (0.1)	0.8 (0.1)	0.7 (0.1)	1.0 (0.1)	0.7 (0.1)	1.1 (0.2)
Medical only	15.3 (0.6)	15.1 (0.6)	15.7 (0.6)	14.9 (0.6)	14.4 (0.7)	12.9 (0.6)
Neither dental nor medical	2.4 (0.2)	3.1 (0.2)	3.5 (0.2)	3.0 (0.2)	2.6 (0.2)	2.7 (0.2)
6-17						
Dental and medical	21.0 (0.8)	20.2 (0.8)	20.7 (0.9)	21.5 (1.0)	21.2 (1.0)	23.2 (1.0)
Dental only	7.2 (0.4)	8.2 (0.4)	6.5 (0.4)	7.4 (0.4)	8.4 (0.5)	7.0 (0.4)
Medical only	12.4 (0.5)	11.4 (0.5)	12.4 (0.5)	12.0 (0.6)	11.8 (0.6)	11.5 (0.7)
Neither dental nor medical	9.2 (0.5)	9.8 (0.5)	9.3 (0.4)	9.0 (0.5)	8.7 (0.5)	8.4 (0.4)
18-64						
Dental and medical	62.1 (1.7)	61.3 (1.9)	60.7 (1.9)	58.8 (1.9)	60.0 (2.1)	64.2 (2.1)
Dental only	16.8 (0.6)	16.5 (0.6)	16.9 (0.6)	16.0 (0.6)	18.1 (0.8)	19.2 (0.8)
Medical only	60.9 (1.6)	64.3 (1.7)	66.5 (1.8)	70.3 (1.7)	69.7 (1.9)	64.6 (1.7)
Neither dental nor medical	41.1 (1.2)	45.0 (1.5)	47.3 (1.5)	49.2 (1.5)	49.9 (1.6)	50.1 (1.5)
65+						
Dental and medical	14.8 (0.8)	15.9 (0.7)	17.1 (0.8)	19.2 (1.0)	22.1 (1.0)	27.0 (0.9)
Dental only	0.6 (0.1)	0.7 (0.1)	0.8 (0.1)	0.8 (0.1)	1.1 (0.1)	0.9 (0.1)

Demographic	Total population (millions)*					
Visit category^	2003	2006	2009	2012	2015	2018
Medical only	18.9 (0.7)	19.2 (0.7)	19.7 (0.7)	22.3 (0.8)	23.3 (0.9)	23.3 (0.8)
Neither dental nor medical	2.4 (0.2)	2.3 (0.2)	2.8 (0.2)	3.0 (0.2)	3.1 (0.3)	3.5 (0.2)
Region						
Northeast						
Dental and medical	22.1 (1.1)	21.8 (1.3)	21.3 (1.6)	20.4 (1.4)	21.5 (1.6)	22.2 (1.6)
Dental only	4.0 (0.4)	4.5 (0.3)	3.5 (0.3)	3.5 (0.3)	4.2 (0.4)	4.2 (0.4)
Medical only	19.5 (1.0)	19.9 (1.1)	20.6 (1.1)	21.5 (1.1)	20.7 (1.0)	19.6 (1.1)
Neither dental nor medical	8.4 (0.5)	8.5 (0.6)	9.8 (0.7)	10.3 (0.6)	10.1 (0.7)	9.6 (0.8)
Midwest						
Dental and medical	25.6 (1.5)	25.3 (1.5)	25.3 (1.3)	25.7 (1.6)	26.0 (1.8)	27.8 (1.2)
Dental only	6.2 (0.4)	6.2 (0.5)	6.1 (0.4)	6.0 (0.4)	6.3 (0.5)	6.2 (0.4)
Medical only	23.0 (1.2)	23.4 (1.3)	23.6 (0.9)	24.3 (0.9)	23.7 (1.2)	23.3 (1.2)
Neither dental nor medical	10.6 (0.7)	11.0 (0.8)	12.0 (0.8)	10.9 (0.7)	11.8 (0.6)	10.9 (0.7)
South						
Dental and medical	32.3 (1.3)	33.2 (1.7)	34.6 (1.4)	34.6 (1.8)	36.2 (1.7)	41.9 (1.9)
Dental only	8.1 (0.5)	8.2 (0.5)	8.0 (0.5)	8.2 (0.5)	9.3 (0.6)	9.9 (0.5)
Medical only	42.2 (1.5)	43.4 (1.8)	45.6 (1.6)	48.6 (1.6)	49.1 (2.2)	45.5 (1.7)
Neither dental nor medical	21.7 (1.1)	24.2 (1.4)	24.7 (1.1)	25.6 (1.1)	26.4 (1.4)	27.3 (1.1)
West						

Demographic	Total population (millions)*					
Visit category^	2003	2006	2009	2012	2015	2018
Dental and medical	22.5 (1.2)	22.4 (1.4)	23.3 (1.2)	24.0 (1.1)	25.9 (1.3)	29.3 (2.1)
Dental only	7.1 (0.5)	7.3 (0.5)	7.4 (0.5)	7.5 (0.4)	8.4 (0.7)	7.9 (0.7)
Medical only	22.8 (1.3)	23.3 (1.3)	24.6 (1.3)	25.1 (1.0)	25.8 (1.2)	23.8 (1.3)
Neither dental nor medical	14.3 (1.0)	16.5 (1.0)	16.4 (0.8)	17.3 (1.0)	16.0 (1.0)	16.9 (1.0)

*Standard errors for estimates appear in parentheses.

^Dental includes any visit to any type of dental provider. Medical includes any visit to any office-based, outpatient, inpatient, emergency room or home health provider.

Source: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Center for Financing, Access and Cost Trends, Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, Household Component, 2003-2018.

Table 2. Percentage of population with any dental or medical visits

Demographic	Percentage of population*					
Visit category^	2003	2006	2009	2012	2015	2018
All persons						
Dental and medical	35.3 (0.5)	34.3 (0.5)	34.1 (0.6)	33.4 (0.6)	34.1 (0.6)	37.1 (0.6)
Dental only	8.7 (0.2)	8.8 (0.2)	8.1 (0.2)	8.0 (0.2)	8.8 (0.3)	8.6 (0.2)
Medical only	37.0 (0.4)	36.8 (0.4)	37.3 (0.4)	38.1 (0.5)	37.1 (0.5)	34.4 (0.4)
Neither dental nor medical	18.9 (0.4)	20.1 (0.4)	20.5 (0.4)	20.4 (0.4)	20.0 (0.4)	19.8 (0.4)
Race/ethnicity						
Hispanic, any race						
Dental and medical	20.0 (0.8)	19.2 (0.7)	20.7 (0.7)	22.1 (0.7)	24.6 (0.8)	26.2 (0.9)

Demographic	Percentage of population *					
Visit category ^	2003	2006	2009	2012	2015	2018
Dental only	7.3 (0.4)	7.3 (0.4)	7.1 (0.4)	7.9 (0.4)	8.6 (0.4)	8.3 (0.5)
Medical only	39.8 (0.9)	39.8 (0.8)	39.1 (0.8)	39.4 (0.7)	37.4 (0.7)	34.5 (0.9)
Neither dental nor medical	33.0 (0.9)	33.8 (0.9)	33.0 (0.9)	30.5 (0.8)	29.5 (0.9)	31.0 (0.8)
Non-Hispanic White						
Dental and medical	41.4 (0.7)	40.5 (0.6)	40.0 (0.7)	39.1 (0.7)	39.8 (0.8)	43.7 (0.8)
Dental only	9.2 (0.3)	9.1 (0.3)	8.2 (0.3)	8.0 (0.3)	8.9 (0.4)	8.6 (0.3)
Medical only	35.2 (0.6)	35.1 (0.5)	36.0 (0.6)	37.0 (0.6)	35.8 (0.7)	33.1 (0.6)
Neither dental nor medical	14.1 (0.4)	15.2 (0.3)	15.8 (0.5)	15.9 (0.5)	15.6 (0.5)	14.6 (0.5)
Non-Hispanic Black						
Dental and medical	21.9 (0.9)	22.7 (0.8)	23.0 (0.9)	23.0 (0.9)	22.8 (0.8)	25.8 (1.0)
Dental only	6.9 (0.5)	8.0 (0.6)	7.1 (0.5)	7.2 (0.4)	7.4 (0.4)	8.3 (0.7)
Medical only	45.0 (0.8)	43.3 (0.9)	42.9 (0.8)	43.5 (1.0)	43.4 (0.8)	40.7 (1.2)
Neither dental nor medical	26.2 (1.0)	26.0 (0.8)	26.9 (0.8)	26.3 (0.8)	26.4 (0.9)	25.3 (1.1)
Non-Hispanic other						
Dental and medical	29.4 (1.5)	28.9 (1.4)	28.4 (1.3)	28.2 (1.4)	30.2 (1.2)	31.9 (1.5)
Dental only	10.4 (0.9)	9.6 (1.0)	11.5 (0.8)	9.7 (0.8)	10.5 (0.7)	10.2 (0.7)
Medical only	34.7 (1.4)	34.9 (1.6)	35.4 (1.3)	35.8 (1.2)	37.1 (1.1)	33.9 (1.5)
Neither dental nor medical	25.4 (1.3)	26.6 (1.8)	24.7 (1.2)	26.3 (1.3)	22.2 (1.1)	23.9 (1.1)
Sex						

Demographic	Percentage of population*					
Visit category^	2003	2006	2009	2012	2015	2018
Male						
Dental and medical	30.2 (0.6)	29.9 (0.5)	29.5 (0.6)	29.3 (0.7)	30.3 (0.7)	33.3 (0.6)
Dental only	10.1 (0.3)	10.0 (0.3)	9.3 (0.3)	9.1 (0.3)	9.7 (0.3)	9.6 (0.4)
Medical only	35.1 (0.5)	34.9 (0.5)	35.6 (0.5)	36.1 (0.6)	35.3 (0.6)	33.0 (0.5)
Neither dental nor medical	24.5 (0.5)	25.2 (0.5)	25.7 (0.5)	25.5 (0.5)	24.8 (0.5)	24.1 (0.5)
Female						
Dental and medical	40.2 (0.6)	38.7 (0.6)	38.5 (0.7)	37.3 (0.6)	37.8 (0.7)	40.8 (0.7)
Dental only	7.4 (0.3)	7.5 (0.3)	7.1 (0.3)	7.0 (0.3)	7.9 (0.3)	7.7 (0.3)
Medical only	38.8 (0.5)	38.5 (0.5)	39.0 (0.6)	40.1 (0.6)	38.9 (0.6)	35.7 (0.6)
Neither dental nor medical	13.6 (0.4)	15.2 (0.4)	15.5 (0.4)	15.6 (0.4)	15.5 (0.5)	15.8 (0.4)
Age group						
0-5						
Dental and medical	20.1 (1.0)	21.9 (1.1)	23.0 (1.1)	21.5 (1.1)	26.1 (1.4)	29.0 (1.3)
Dental only	3.5 (0.4)	3.5 (0.5)	2.9 (0.4)	4.1 (0.5)	3.0 (0.4)	4.8 (0.7)
Medical only	66.1 (1.1)	61.8 (1.3)	60.7 (1.2)	62.1 (1.2)	60.1 (1.5)	54.6 (1.2)
Neither dental nor medical	10.3 (0.7)	12.8 (0.8)	13.4 (0.8)	12.3 (0.9)	10.8 (0.9)	11.5 (0.9)
6-17						
Dental and medical	42.2 (0.9)	40.7 (1.1)	42.3 (1.1)	43.2 (1.1)	42.3 (1.1)	46.3 (1.3)
Dental only	14.4 (0.6)	16.5 (0.6)	13.3 (0.7)	14.8 (0.6)	16.8 (0.8)	14.0 (0.8)

Demographic	Percentage of population*					
Visit category^	2003	2006	2009	2012	2015	2018
Medical only	24.9 (0.8)	23.0 (0.7)	25.3 (0.9)	24.0 (0.9)	23.6 (1.0)	22.9 (1.0)
Neither dental nor medical	18.5 (0.7)	19.7 (0.7)	19.1 (0.7)	18.0 (0.9)	17.3 (0.8)	16.8 (0.7)
18-64						
Dental and medical	34.3 (0.6)	32.8 (0.6)	31.7 (0.7)	30.3 (0.6)	30.4 (0.7)	32.4 (0.6)
Dental only	9.3 (0.3)	8.8 (0.3)	8.8 (0.3)	8.2 (0.3)	9.1 (0.3)	9.7 (0.3)
Medical only	33.7 (0.5)	34.4 (0.5)	34.7 (0.5)	36.2 (0.5)	35.2 (0.5)	32.6 (0.5)
Neither dental nor medical	22.7 (0.4)	24.1 (0.5)	24.7 (0.5)	25.3 (0.5)	25.3 (0.6)	25.3 (0.5)
65+						
Dental and medical	40.3 (1.3)	41.8 (1.1)	42.3 (1.1)	42.3 (1.3)	44.6 (1.2)	49.4 (1.0)
Dental only	1.7 (0.2)	1.8 (0.3)	1.9 (0.3)	1.8 (0.3)	2.2 (0.3)	1.6 (0.2)
Medical only	51.5 (1.1)	50.5 (1.1)	49.0 (1.0)	49.2 (1.2)	47.1 (1.2)	42.7 (0.9)
Neither dental nor medical	6.5 (0.5)	6.0 (0.4)	6.9 (0.5)	6.7 (0.5)	6.2 (0.5)	6.4 (0.4)
Region						
Northeast						
Dental and medical	41.0 (1.4)	39.9 (1.2)	38.6 (1.7)	36.7 (1.5)	38.1 (1.4)	39.9 (1.3)
Dental only	7.5 (0.6)	8.2 (0.5)	6.3 (0.5)	6.2 (0.4)	7.4 (0.7)	7.6 (0.5)
Medical only	36.1 (1.2)	36.4 (1.2)	37.3 (1.2)	38.6 (1.1)	36.6 (1.1)	35.3 (1.0)
Neither dental nor medical	15.5 (0.7)	15.4 (0.8)	17.8 (1.0)	18.5 (0.9)	17.9 (1.0)	17.2 (0.8)
Midwest						

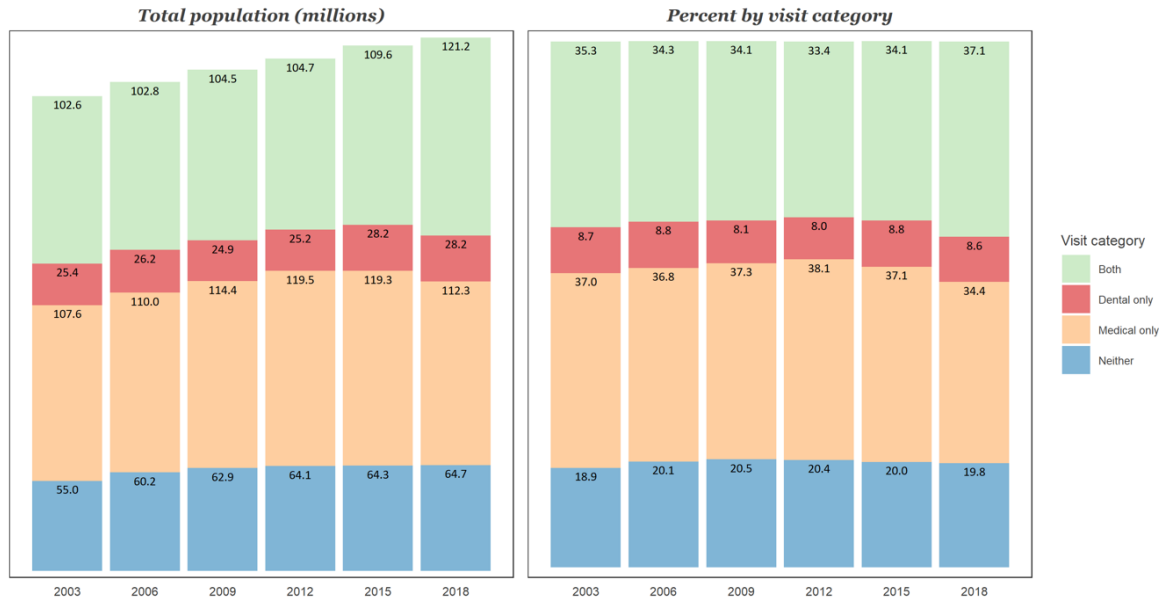
Demographic	Percentage of population*					
Visit category^	2003	2006	2009	2012	2015	2018
Dental and medical	39.1 (1.1)	38.4 (0.9)	37.8 (1.3)	38.4 (1.3)	38.3 (1.5)	40.8 (1.1)
Dental only	9.4 (0.4)	9.4 (0.4)	9.0 (0.5)	9.0 (0.5)	9.3 (0.6)	9.1 (0.5)
Medical only	35.2 (0.9)	35.5 (0.9)	35.3 (0.9)	36.4 (1.0)	35.0 (1.2)	34.2 (1.0)
Neither dental nor medical	16.2 (0.8)	16.7 (0.6)	17.9 (0.9)	16.3 (0.8)	17.5 (0.7)	16.0 (0.7)
South						
Dental and medical	31.0 (0.8)	30.4 (0.9)	30.7 (0.8)	29.6 (0.9)	29.9 (0.8)	33.6 (1.0)
Dental only	7.8 (0.4)	7.6 (0.3)	7.1 (0.4)	7.0 (0.4)	7.7 (0.4)	7.9 (0.4)
Medical only	40.4 (0.7)	39.8 (0.8)	40.4 (0.7)	41.6 (0.8)	40.6 (0.6)	36.5 (0.7)
Neither dental nor medical	20.8 (0.7)	22.2 (0.7)	21.9 (0.6)	21.8 (0.7)	21.8 (0.8)	21.9 (0.7)
West						
Dental and medical	33.7 (0.9)	32.3 (1.0)	32.5 (1.0)	32.5 (0.9)	34.0 (1.2)	37.6 (1.3)
Dental only	10.6 (0.6)	10.5 (0.5)	10.4 (0.5)	10.1 (0.4)	11.1 (0.6)	10.2 (0.5)
Medical only	34.2 (0.8)	33.5 (0.7)	34.3 (0.9)	33.9 (0.7)	33.9 (1.1)	30.5 (0.8)
Neither dental nor medical	21.4 (0.7)	23.8 (0.9)	22.9 (0.6)	23.5 (0.9)	21.0 (0.7)	21.7 (1.0)

*Standard errors for estimates appear in parentheses.

^Dental includes any visit to any type of dental provider. Medical includes any visit to any office-based, outpatient, inpatient, emergency room or home health provider.

Source: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Center for Financing, Access and Cost Trends, Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, Household Component, 2003-2018.

Figure 1: Population with any dental and medical visits



Dental includes any visit to any type of dental provider. Medical includes any visit to any office-based, outpatient, inpatient, emergency room, or home health provider.

Source: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Center for Financing, Access and Cost Trends, Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, Household Component, 2003-2018.

Figure 1. Population with any dental and medical visits

Provider Visit Category	2003	2006	2009	2012	2015	2018
In Millions						
Dental and medical	102.6	102.8	104.5	104.7	109.6	121.2
Dental only	25.4	26.2	24.9	25.2	28.2	28.2
Medical only	107.6	110.0	114.4	119.5	119.3	112.3
Neither dental nor medical	55.0	60.2	62.9	64.1	64.3	64.7
Percentages						
Dental and medical	35.3	34.3	34.1	33.4	34.1	37.1

Provider Visit Category	2003	2006	2009	2012	2015	2018
Dental only	8.7	8.8	8.1	8.0	8.8	8.6
Medical only	37.0	36.8	37.3	38.1	37.1	34.4
Neither dental nor medical	18.9	20.1	20.5	20.4	20.0	19.8

Source: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Center for Financing, Access and Cost Trends, Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, Household Component, 2003-2018.

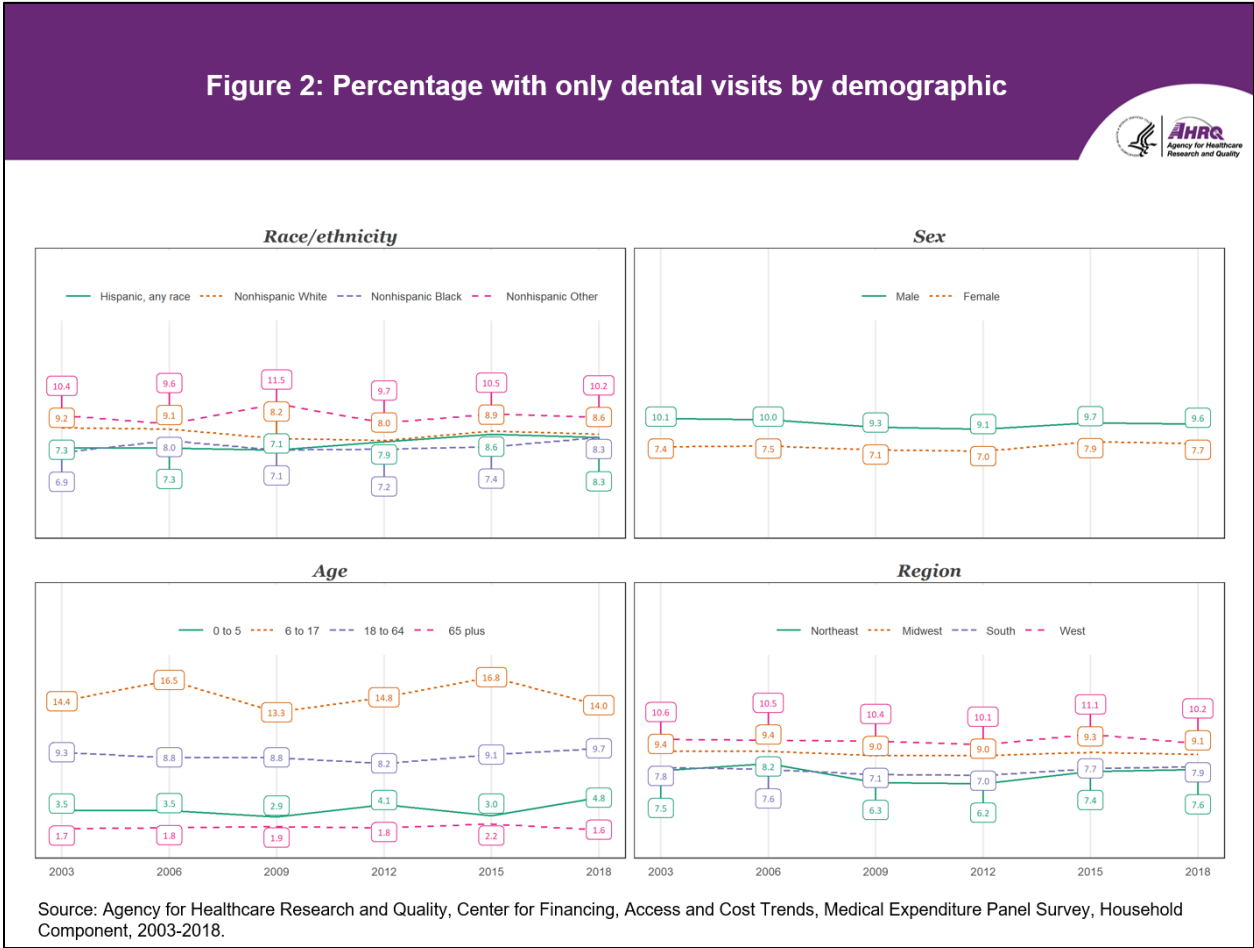


Figure 2. Percentage with only dental visits by demographic

Demographic	2003	2006	2009	2012	2015	2018
Race/ethnicity						

Demographic	2003	2006	2009	2012	2015	2018
Hispanic, any race	7.3	7.3	7.1	7.9	8.6	8.3
Non-Hispanic White	9.2	9.1	8.2	8.0	8.9	8.6
Non-Hispanic Black	6.9	8.0	7.1	7.2	7.4	8.3
Non-Hispanic other	10.4	9.6	11.5	9.7	10.5	10.2
Sex						
Male	10.1	10.0	9.3	9.1	9.7	9.6
Female	7.4	7.5	7.1	7.0	7.9	7.7
Age group						
0-5	3.5	3.5	2.9	4.1	3.0	4.8
6-17	14.4	16.5	13.3	14.8	16.8	14.0
18-64	9.3	8.8	8.8	8.2	9.1	9.7
65+	1.7	1.8	1.9	1.8	2.2	1.6
Region						
Northeast	7.5	8.2	6.3	6.2	7.4	7.6
Midwest	9.4	9.4	9.0	9.0	9.3	9.1
South	7.8	7.6	7.1	7.0	7.7	7.9
West	10.6	10.5	10.4	10.1	11.1	10.2

Source: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Center for Financing, Access and Cost Trends, Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, Household Component, 2003-2018.