

**Table 2.8: Trends in Physician Visits for Back Pain, United States 1998-2010****Physician Visits for Back Pain**

	Total Number of Visits with Diagnoses (in 000s)						
	1998	2000	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
<b>Physician Visits for Lumbar/Low Back Pain</b>							
Back Disorders	15,855.0	16,151.1	20,040.2	21,813.3	24,067.4	28,248.1	31,196.4
Disc Disorders	3,004.1	3,727.5	4,997.5	6,497.3	6,977.5	5,267.3	8,723.9
Back Injury	5,252.3	6,835.0	7,351.4	5,454.2	6,888.6	2,966.7	4,929.1
<b>Total, Back Pain</b>	<b>23,037.0</b>	<b>25,018.9</b>	<b>29,145.6</b>	<b>31,539.9</b>	<b>34,944.7</b>	<b>34,064.7</b>	<b>40,903.3</b>
<b>Physician Visits for Cervical/Neck Pain</b>							
Neck Disorders	4,337.3	4,806.5	6,691.6	8,637.7	6,221.8	7,419.1	8,764.9
Disk Disorders	567.5	867.9	1,266.0	1,689.6	1,528.7	1,730.5	2,103.1
Neck Injury	4,324.2	2,936.2	4,776.9	3,444.8	2,211.1	10,642.4	2,317.7
<b>Total, Cervical Back Pain</b>	<b>8,922.2</b>	<b>8,266.3</b>	<b>11,726.9</b>	<b>13,104.0</b>	<b>9,513.1</b>	<b>10,642.4</b>	<b>16,310.5</b>
<b>Physician Visits for Back Pain (Lumbar and Cervical) [1]</b>							
Total Visits	31,959.2	33,285.2	40,872.5	44,643.9	44,457.8	43,014.1	50,656.9

**Physician Visits for Back Pain as Proportion of Total Population**

	Rate of Physician Visits for Back Pain per 100 Persons [2]						
	1998	2000	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
<b>Physician Visits for Lumbar/Low Back Pain</b>							
Back Disorders	5.9	5.7	6.9	7.4	8.1	9.4	10.1
Disc Disorders	1.1	1.3	1.7	2.2	2.3	1.8	2.8
Back Injury	1.9	2.4	2.5	1.8	2.3	1.0	1.6
<b>Total, Back Pain</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>13.2</b>
<b>Physician Visits for Cervical/Neck Pain</b>							
Cervical Disorders	1.6	1.7	2.3	2.9	2.1	2.5	2.8
Disk Disorders	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.7
Neck Injury	1.6	1.0	1.6	1.2	0.7	3.6	0.8
<b>Total, Cervical Back Pain</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>5.3</b>
<b>Physician Visits for Back Pain (Lumbar and Cervical)</b>							
Total Visits	11.8	11.7	14.0	15.1	14.9	14.4	16.4

[1] Total visits may be lower than sum of diagnoses due to multiple diagnoses per patient.

[2] Adjusted to 2010 U.S. Census Population Estimates. There is the potential for multiple diagnoses per person which is not accounted for.

Source: National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS) 1998-2010. [www.cdc.gov/nchs/ahcd/ahcd\\_questionnaires.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/ahcd/ahcd_questionnaires.htm) April 23, 2013.