

Table 2. National Trends of Mental Health–Related Emergency Department Visits Among Children, Adolescents, and Young Adults (per 1000 Capita) by Age Group, 2011–2020^a

	2011–2012	2013–2014	2015–2016	2017–2018	2019–2020	Average annual percent change (95% CI)	P value	P value for interaction ^b
Any psychiatric diagnosis								
5–9 y	4.8	5.4	12.5	12.2	11.8	12.2 (4.0 to 20.7)	.002	.04
10–14 y	11.9	15.8	29.5	27.3	36.5	12.9 (7.9 to 18.2)	<.001	
15–19 y	42.6	43.3	58.9	55.1	63.3	4.9 (1.8 to 8.1)	.002	
20–24 y	54.0	58.5	85.7	77.5	72.7	4.9 (2.2 to 7.6)	<.001	
Mood-related^c								
5–9 y	3.0	1.7	3.5	3.9	2.4	3.3 (–8.9 to 17.3)	.61	.55
10–14 y	7.5	8.9	14.5	10.9	17.5	9.3 (2.5 to 16.5)	.006	
15–19 y	22.7	21.0	33.5	31.0	32.3	4.9 (0.7 to 9.3)	.02	
20–24 y	26.0	24.1	37.4	32.6	32.4	4.5 (0.5 to 8.7)	.03	
Behavioral (nonsuicidal)^c								
5–9 y	1.5	3.0	4.8	3.6	2.4	5.6 (–6.7 to 19.6)	.39	.70
10–14 y	4.2	5.6	9.0	9.3	12.7	13.5 (4.9 to 22.7)	.002	
15–19 y	4.8	6.1	7.5	10.8	10.2	9.7 (1.4 to 18.7)	.02	
20–24 y	4.4	4.2	6.3	4.1	5.9	3.1 (–6.3 to 13.6)	.53	
Substance use^c								
5–9 y	0.17	0.16	0.18	0.58	0.97	24.9 (–14.2 to 82.1)	.25	.74
10–14 y	1.4	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.2	7.4 (–6.1 to 22.8)	.30	
15–19 y	13.9	17.4	20.1	16.5	18.3	2.2 (–3.0 to 7.7)	.41	
20–24 y	25.0	32.3	50.5	43.0	31.8	4.0 (0.4 to 7.8)	.03	
Psychosis^c								
5–9 y	0.4	0.3	0.5	1.2	2.1	33.7 (1.6 to 75.9)	.04	.18
10–14 y	0.9	1.2	1.2	2.7	3.6	21.6 (2.4 to 44.4)	.03	
15–19 y	2.5	3.0	2.9	3.1	5.6	9.4 (–2.9 to 23.2)	.14	
20–24 y	4.4	4.3	9.3	6.3	6.4	5.8 (–3.0 to 15.5)	.20	
Suicide-related^c								
5–9 y	0.1	0.3	2.3	4.0	3.5	32.9 (10.8 to 59.3)	.002	.70
10–14 y	2.3	3.1	9.9	9.7	13.2	21.3 (11.3 to 32.1)	<.001	
15–19 y	5.8	8.6	15.3	18.6	24.5	18.5 (11.5 to 25.9)	<.001	
20–24 y	5.2	3.6	11.1	17.5	18.6	22.3 (14.0 to 31.1)	<.001	
Other^c								
5–9 y	1.4	2.0	4.5	4.8	4.7	14.3 (1.3 to 28.9)	.03	.38
10–14 y	5.1	6.4	15.0	13.6	18.1	14.6 (7.3 to 22.5)	<.001	
15–19 y	14.9	13.6	21.1	21.4	26.5	14.6 (7.3 to 22.5)	<.001	
20–24 y	11.7	11.9	18.1	16.1	22.9	9.5 (3.7 to 15.6)	.001	

^a Data are from the National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey^{17,18} and the US Census Bureau.³¹ Data are reported as percent values unless otherwise specified. Age groups used in the per-capita analysis were predefined based on US Census data.

^b Interaction terms were tests to assess whether trends in mental health-related emergency department visits significantly differed across the age groups.

^c Disorders included within the 6 mental health diagnoses categories were as follows for mood (depression, anxiety, mania, trauma, and stress-related), behavioral (disruptive, impulse control, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder), psychosis (no disorders included with this diagnosis category), suicide-related (suicide, suicidal ideation, suicidal attempts, and nonsuicidal self-injury), substance use (no disorders included with this diagnosis category), and other (eating disorders, personality disorders, and parent-child problems).