

## 4.3 Results

### Demographic Characteristics

Table 5 provides demographic information on Arizona residents age 65 and older who were discharged from an ER or as a hospital inpatient in 2012. Beginning with ER discharges among Arizonans age 65 and older, there were 286,938 total ER discharges, with adults ages 65-84 accounting for about 81 percent of all ER discharges. Concerning costs, the average overall cost of an ER discharge for an Arizonan age 65 and older in 2012 was \$6,175 and the average cost for an inpatient hospital discharge for the same group was \$53,956. Interestingly, the average cost of an ER discharge slightly increased with age group, but for inpatient discharges, price per discharge decreased substantially with age. By gender, females accounted for 168,254, or roughly 59 percent, of all ER discharges. Considering age group, females accounted for 57 percent, 58 percent, and 65 percent of ER discharges among adults age 65 – 74, 75 – 84, and 85 and older, respectively. White non-Hispanics accounted for 81 percent (233,013) of all ER discharges, with an increasing percentage of White non-Hispanics in each increasing age group. The majority of Arizonans age 65 and older discharged from an ER were married (51 percent),

Table 5. Demographic Characteristics of Arizona Resident Emergency Room Discharges and Emergency Room Discharge Rates for adults Age 65 and Older by Age Group, 2012

	Emergency Room Discharges				Inpatient Discharges			
	Total	65 - 74 Years	75 - 84 Years	85 + Years	Total	65 - 74 Years	75 - 84 Years	85 + Years
Total discharges	286,938	131,827	101,434	53,677	239,851	104,501	88,068	47,282
Average cost per discharge (\$)	6,175	5,999	6,268	6,431	49,920	54,842	49,626	39,590
<i>Gender</i>								
Female	168,254	74,750	58,843	34,661	128,513	52,687	46,825	29,001
Male	118,681	57,074	42,591	19,016	111,338	51,814	41,243	18,281
<i>Race/Ethnicity</i>								
American Indian or Alaska Native	5,317	2,783	1,934	600	4,433	2,231	1,639	563
Asian or Pacific Islander	2,869	1,513	982	374	2,430	1,109	939	382
Black or African American	7,794	4,470	2,489	835	5,744	2,953	2,059	732
Hispanic or Latino	35,884	18,920	12,272	4,692	24,055	11,686	8,831	3,538
White non-Hispanic	233,013	103,074	83,052	46,887	200,931	85,463	73,778	41,690
Other	146	87	43	16	210	100	69	41
Refused	1,915	980	662	273	2,048	959	753	336
<i>Marital Status</i>								
Single	35,366	21,756	9,921	3,689	27,394	15,752	8,271	3,371
Married	145,342	74,950	52,792	17,600	123,392	61,218	46,689	15,485
Separated	1,585	1,117	369	99	1,083	699	305	79
Divorced	25,108	15,519	7,393	2,196	20,235	12,168	6,236	1,831
Widowed	78,144	17,826	30,525	29,793	65,977	13,951	25,931	26,095
Unknown	1,393	659	434	300	1,769	713	635	421
Not Applicable	0	0	0	0	0*	0	0*	0
<i>Payee</i>								
Self	4,248	2,491	1,258	499	1,562	840	514	208
Private insurance (indemnity, HMO, PPO)	21,791	14,513	5,371	1,907	13,296	9,283	2,852	1,161
AHCCCS Medicaid/AHCCCS HCG	4,488	2,737	1,336	415	3,582	1,906	1,243	433
Medicare	191,113	83,790	68,566	38,757	167,455	70,713	61,905	34,837
Other	65,298	28,296	24,903	12,099	53,956	21,759	21,554	10,643

Notes: \* Cell suppressed due to non-zero count less than 6.