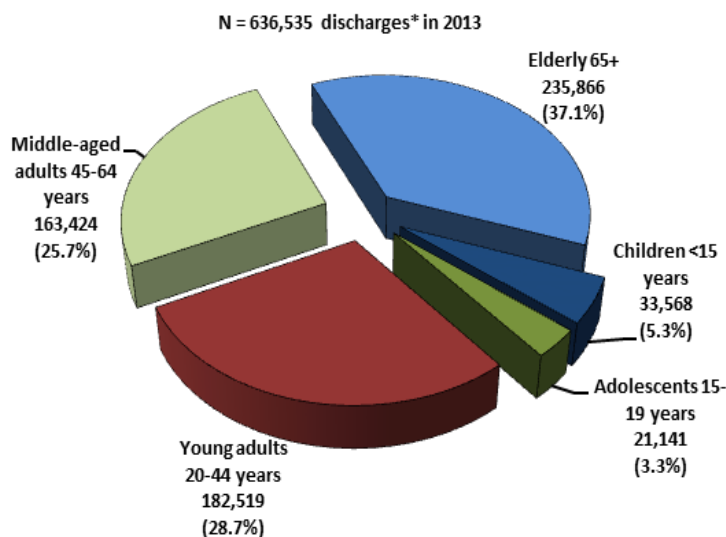


#### 4A. INPATIENT DISCHARGES FROM SHORT-STAY HOSPITALS BY FIRST-LISTED DIAGNOSIS AND PATIENT CHARACTERISTICS

**Figure 4A-1**  
**Hospital Inpatient Discharges<sup>a</sup> by Age Group, Arizona Residents, 2013**

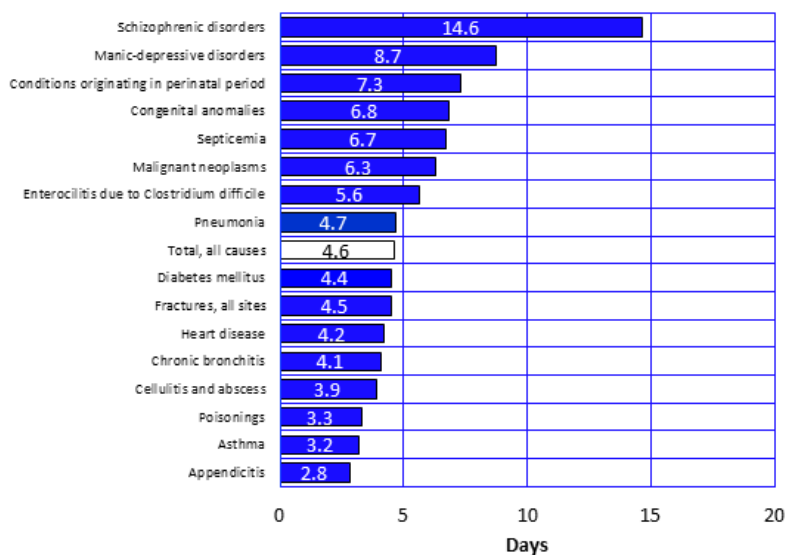


Note: <sup>a</sup> Excluding newborn infants.

In 2013, there were 636,535 inpatients discharged, excluding newborn infants, from non-Federal short stay hospitals in Arizona (**Table 4A-1**). Patients who were elderly (65 years or older) accounted for 37.1 percent of hospital discharges (**Figure 4A-1**), followed by young adults (20-44 years old) who comprised 28.7 percent of discharges, and middle-aged adults 45-64 year olds (25.7 percent of all inpatient discharges)

*Diseases of the circulatory system* were the most common diagnoses (13.1 percent of all discharges), followed by diseases of the *digestive system* (10.3 percent), and *injury and poisoning* diagnoses (9.7 percent; percentages based on data in **Table 4A-1**).

**Figure 4A-2**  
**Average Length of Hospital Stay for Discharges with Selected First-listed Diagnosis, Arizona Residents, 2013**



Based on the data from the National Hospital Discharge Survey, the longest continuously running nationally representative survey of hospital utilization, the length of stay for inpatients has changed dramatically from 1970 through 2010. In 1970, the average length of stay was 7.8 days, with one-third of patients hospitalized for 8 days or more. In 2010, the average length of stay nationally was 4.8 days.

In 2013, the average length of hospital stay for Arizona inpatients was 4.6 days (**Figure 4A-2, Table 4A-5**). The percent of patients hospitalized for 3 days or less was 59.8 percent, with 14.1 percent of inpatients staying 8 days or more.

The average length of stay was 4.2 days for heart disease, 4.4 days for diabetes, 6.3 days for cancer, and 14.6 days for schizophrenic disorders.