

Medicare Part B Spending by Drug

Data Dictionary

Variable Name	Term Name	Definition
HCPCS_Cd	Medicare Billing Code (HCPCS Code)	Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) code used to identify the drug furnished by the provider.
HCPCS_Desc	Drug Description	Description of the HCPCS code for the drug furnished by the provider.
Brnd_Name	Brand Name	Name of the drug furnished by the provider. This includes both brand names (drugs that have a trademarked name) and generic names (drugs that do not have a trademarked name). ' * ' Indicates multiple brand and/or generic names for a specific HCPCS code. See "Medicare Part B Spending by Drug-Manufacturer and Drug Use Information" supporting document for additional names. ' ** ' Indicates brand/generic names unavailable. Name reflects the HCPCS short description.
Gnrc_Name	Generic Name	A term referring to the chemical ingredient of a drug rather than the trademarked brand name under which the drug is sold. ' * ' Indicates multiple brand and/or generic names for a specific HCPCS code. See "Medicare Part B Spending by Drug-Manufacturer and Drug Use Information" supporting document for additional names. ' ** ' Indicates brand/generic names unavailable. Name reflects the HCPCS short description.
Tot_Spndng_2020	2020 Total Spending	Aggregate drug spending for the Part B program during 2020.
Tot_Dsg_Units_2020	2020 Total Dosage Units	The sum of the dosage units of medication dispensed in 2020 (e.g. number of tablets, grams, milliliters or other units). For Part B, the quantity of a drug in a dosage unit is the same as the quantity of the drug in a HCPCS billing unit.
Tot_Clms_2020	2020 Total Claims	Number of claims for each drug in 2020.
Tot_Benes_2020	2020 Total Beneficiaries	Number of Medicare Part B fee-for-service beneficiaries utilizing the drug during 2020.
Avg_Spndng_Per_Dsg_Unt_2020	2020 Average Spending Per Dosage Unit	Part B drug spending in 2020 divided by the number of dosage units in 2020.
Avg_Spndng_Per_Clm_2020	2020 Average Spending Per Claim	Part B drug spending in 2020 divided by the number of claims in 2020.
Avg_Spndng_Per_Bene_2020	2020 Average Spending Per Beneficiary	Total Part B drug costs in 2020 divided by the number of unique beneficiaries utilizing the drug during 2020.
Outlier_Flag_2020	2020 Outlier Flag	Yearly outlier flag variable, which is set to "1" when a drug's Average Spending per Dosage Unit is substantially impacted by outlier records in a given year. These potentially anomalous drugs are identified as outliers so that users can exercise caution when interpreting results. See the methodology document for additional details.
Tot_Spndng_2021	2021 Total Spending	Aggregate drug spending for the Part B program during 2021.

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Tot_Dsg_Units_2021	2021 Total Dosage Units	The sum of the dosage units of medication dispensed in 2021 (e.g. number of tablets, grams, milliliters or other units). For Part B, the quantity of a drug in a dosage unit is the same as the quantity of the drug in a HCPCS billing unit.
Tot_Clms_2021	2021 Total Claims	Number of claims for each drug in 2021.
Tot_Benes_2021	2021 Total Beneficiaries	Number of Medicare Part B fee-for-service beneficiaries utilizing the drug during 2021.
Avg_Spndng_Per_Dsg_Unit_2021	2021 Average Spending Per Dosage Unit	Part B drug spending in 2021 divided by the number of dosage units in 2021.
Avg_Spndng_Per_Clm_2021	2021 Average Spending Per Claim	Part B drug spending in 2021 divided by the number of claims in 2021.
Avg_Spndng_Per_Bene_2021	2021 Average Spending Per Beneficiary	Total Part B drug costs in 2021 divided by the number of unique beneficiaries utilizing the drug during 2021.
Outlier_Flag_2021	2021 Outlier Flag	Yearly outlier flag variable, which is set to "1" when a drug's Average Spending per Dosage Unit is substantially impacted by outlier records in a given year. These potentially anomalous drugs are identified as outliers so that users can exercise caution when interpreting results. See the methodology document for additional details.
Tot_Spndng_2022	2022 Total Spending	Aggregate drug spending for the Part B program during 2022.
Tot_Dsg_Units_2022	2022 Total Dosage Units	The sum of the dosage units of medication dispensed in 2022 (e.g. number of tablets, grams, milliliters or other units). For Part B, the quantity of a drug in a dosage unit is the same as the quantity of the drug in a HCPCS billing unit.
Tot_Clms_2022	2022 Total Claims	Number of claims for each drug in 2022.
Tot_Benes_2022	2022 Total Beneficiaries	Number of Medicare Part B fee-for-service beneficiaries utilizing the drug during 2022.
Avg_Spndng_Per_Dsg_Unit_2022	2022 Average Spending Per Dosage Unit	Part B drug spending in 2022 divided by the number of dosage units in 2022.
Avg_Spndng_Per_Clm_2022	2022 Average Spending Per Claim	Part B drug spending in 2022 divided by the number of claims in 2022.
Avg_Spndng_Per_Bene_2022	2022 Average Spending Per Beneficiary	Total Part B drug costs in 2022 divided by the number of unique beneficiaries utilizing the drug during 2022.
Outlier_Flag_2022	2022 Outlier Flag	Yearly outlier flag variable, which is set to "1" when a drug's Average Spending per Dosage Unit is substantially impacted by outlier records in a given year. These potentially anomalous drugs are identified as outliers so that users can exercise caution when interpreting results. See the methodology document for additional details.
Tot_Spndng_2023	2023 Total Spending	Aggregate drug spending for the Part B program during 2023.
Tot_Dsg_Units_2023	2023 Total Dosage Units	The sum of the dosage units of medication dispensed in 2023 (e.g. number of tablets, grams, milliliters or other units). For Part B, the quantity of a drug in a dosage unit is the same as the quantity of the drug in a HCPCS billing unit.
Tot_Clms_2023	2023 Total Claims	Number of claims for each drug in 2023.
Tot_Benes_2023	2023 Total Beneficiaries	Number of Medicare Part B fee-for-service beneficiaries utilizing the drug during 2023.

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Avg_Spndng_Per_Dsg_Unit_2023	2023 Average Spending Per Dosage Unit	Part B drug spending in 2023 divided by the number of dosage units in 2023.
Avg_Spndng_Per_Clm_2023	2023 Average Spending Per Claim	Part B drug spending in 2023 divided by the number of claims in 2023.
Avg_Spndng_Per_Bene_2023	2023 Average Spending Per Beneficiary	Total Part B drug costs in 2023 divided by the number of unique beneficiaries utilizing the drug during 2023.
Outlier_Flag_2023	2023 Outlier Flag	Yearly outlier flag variable, which is set to "1" when a drug's Average Spending per Dosage Unit is substantially impacted by outlier records in a given year. These potentially anomalous drugs are identified as outliers so that users can exercise caution when interpreting results. See the methodology document for additional details.
Tot_Spndng_2024	2024 Total Spending	Aggregate drug spending for the Part B program during 2024.
Tot_Dsg_Units_2024	2024 Total Dosage Units	The sum of the dosage units of medication dispensed in 2024 (e.g. number of tablets, grams, milliliters or other units). For Part B, the quantity of a drug in a dosage unit is the same as the quantity of the drug in a HCPCS billing unit.
Tot_Clms_2024	2024 Total Claims	Number of claims for each drug in 2024.
Tot_Benes_2024	2024 Total Beneficiaries	Number of Medicare Part B fee-for-service beneficiaries utilizing the drug during 2024.
Avg_Spndng_Per_Dsg_Unit_2024	2024 Average Spending Per Dosage Unit	Part B drug spending in 2024 divided by the number of dosage units in 2024.
Avg_Spndng_Per_Clm_2024	2024 Average Spending Per Claim	Part B drug spending in 2024 divided by the number of claims in 2024.
Avg_Spndng_Per_Bene_2024	2024 Average Spending Per Beneficiary	Total Part B drug costs in 2024 divided by the number of unique beneficiaries utilizing the drug during 2024.
Outlier_Flag_2024	2024 Outlier Flag	Yearly outlier flag variable, which is set to "1" when a drug's Average Spending per Dosage Unit is substantially impacted by outlier records in a given year. These potentially anomalous drugs are identified as outliers so that users can exercise caution when interpreting results. See the methodology document for additional details.
Avg_DY24_ASP_Price	Average Sales Price	The average of the quarterly payment amount listed on the ASP Drug Pricing files for the most recent year, including the 6 percent or other applicable add-on.
Chg_Avg_Spndng_Per_Dsg_Unit_23_24	Change in Average Spending Per Dosage Unit (2023-2024)	The percent change in average spending per dosage unit from the prior year.
CAGR_Avg_Spndng_Per_Dsg_Unit_20_24	Annual Growth Rate in Average Spending Per Dosage Unit (2020-2024)	The constant average change in spending per unit over the most recent five years of data availability, calculated using the compound annual growth rate (CAGR).