

COMPETITIVE PROBLEMS IN THE DRUG INDUSTRY 8869

TABLE IV.—NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS OF PRESCRIBED DRUGS, NUMBER OF PRESCRIPTIONS AND AVERAGE PRESCRIPTIONS PER RECIPIENT BY RACE AND SEX, JANUARY-MAY 1971

Race and sex	Number of recipients	Number of prescriptions	Average prescription per recipient
Total.....	102,228	1,128,673	11.0
White males.....	13,533	208,311	15.4
White females.....	23,274	410,120	17.6
Nonwhite males.....	26,599	186,357	7.0
Nonwhite females.....	38,822	323,885	8.3

Differences in the number of prescriptions received per recipient varied considerably in the Program categories. Prescriptions per recipient for the Old Age Assistance recipients were more than four times those for the Aid to Dependent Children recipients. (Table V)

TABLE V.—NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS OF PRESCRIBED DRUGS, NUMBER OF PRESCRIPTIONS AND AVERAGE PRESCRIPTIONS PER RECIPIENT BY PROGRAM CATEGORY, JANUARY-MAY 1971

Program category	Number of recipients	Number of prescriptions	Average prescriptions per recipient
Total.....	102,228	1,128,673	11.0
Old age assistance.....	53,118	746,885	14.1
Aid to the blind.....	1,234	15,185	12.3
Aid to the permanently and totally disabled.....	17,577	269,938	15.4
Aid to dependent children.....	30,299	96,665	3.2

Utilization rates were much higher in whites of each category. (Table VI) During the Period January 1, 1971-May 31, 1971, 68.3% of total white eligibles used drug benefits and among all non-white eligibles, 41.3% used drug benefits. In each category of Program eligibility, utilization rate for drugs under Medicaid was highest among the whites. The smallest differences between the races for drug utilization were for the blind and dependent children.

TABLE VI.—NUMBER OF ELIGIBLES, NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS OF PRESCRIBED DRUGS AND UTILIZATION RATES FOR WHITES AND NONWHITES BY PROGRAM CATEGORY OF ELIGIBILITY, JANUARY-MAY, 1971

Program category	Eligibles ¹		Recipients		Utilization rate (percent)	
	Whites	Nonwhites	Whites	Nonwhites	Whites	Nonwhites
Total.....	53,858	158,494	36,807	65,421	68.3	41.3
OAA.....	32,042	46,110	25,393	27,725	79.2	60.1
AB.....	691	1,468	428	806	61.9	54.9
APTD.....	9,290	15,157	7,414	10,163	79.8	67.1
ADC.....	11,835	95,759	3,572	26,727	30.2	27.9

¹ Based on data from Mississippi Department of Public Welfare as of September 1969.

Evaluation of data on average number of prescriptions per eligible person during the period January 1, 1971-May 31, 1971, as shown on Table VII, reveals that whites averaged 11.5 prescriptions while nonwhites averaged 3.2 for the over 200,000 total eligibles. Again, in all categories, whites showed much higher drug usage.