

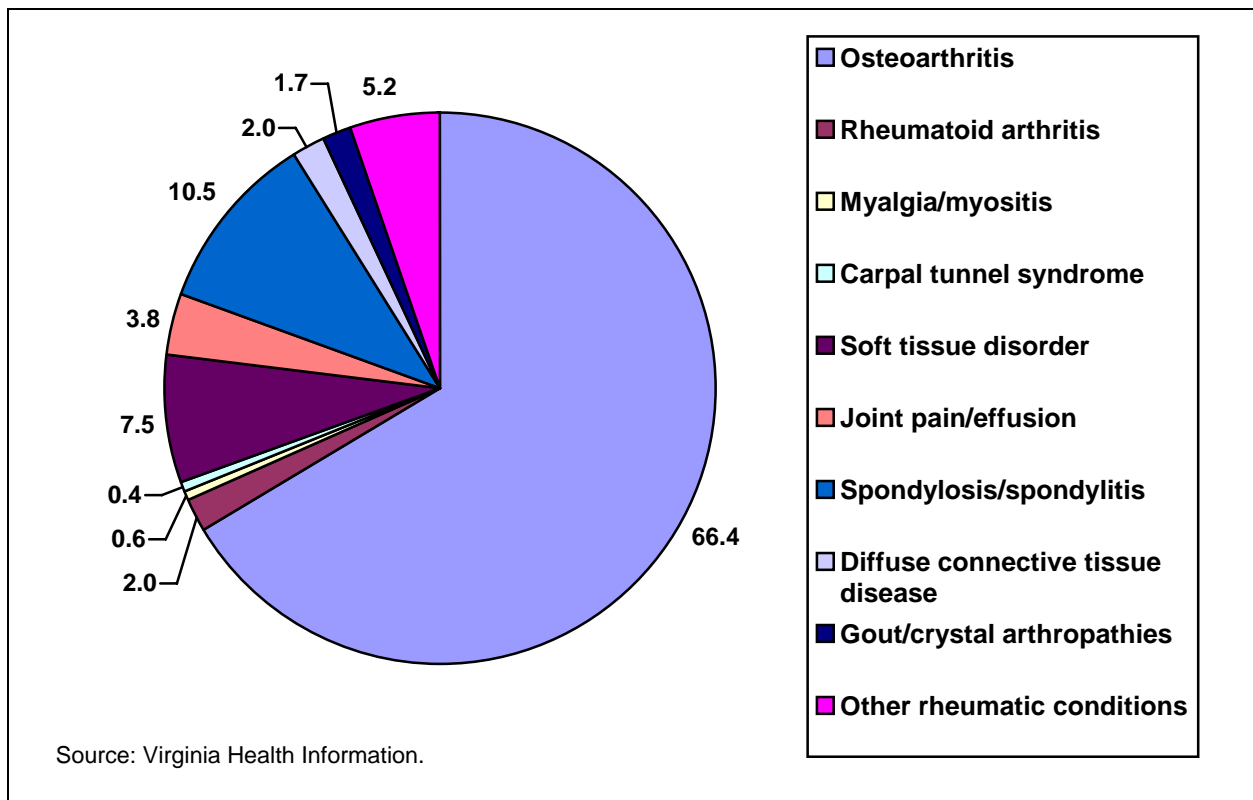
## 2004 Arthritis-Related Hospitalizations

In 2004, there were 22,077 hospitalizations (stays) with a primary diagnosis of arthritis or other allied condition in Virginia.<sup>1</sup> The total charges for these hospital stays was over \$616 million, with an average of \$27,911 spent per stay. Patients spent a total of over 90,000 days in the hospital for arthritis-related conditions, for an average of 4.1 days per stay.

Other findings:

- Osteoarthritis represented the majority (n=14,652; or 66%) of the hospital stays (Figure 1) and total hospital charges spent (n=\$450 million; 73%).

**Figure 1. Percent of Total Arthritis Hospitalizations, by Diagnosis, Virginia, 2004**



- Women had more arthritis-related hospitalizations (61%) than men (39%). Women had a higher age-adjusted rate (332.4 per 100,000) of hospitalization for arthritis than men (258.4).<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Includes osteoarthritis; rheumatoid arthritis; myalgia or myositis; carpal tunnel syndrome; soft tissue disorder; joint pain, effusion, or unspecified joint disorder; spondylosis or spondylitis; diffuse connective tissue disease; gout and crystal arthropathies; and other specified rheumatic conditions. See the diagnostic categories developed by the National Arthritis Data Workgroup (NADW).

<sup>2</sup> Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population.

- Blacks had a higher age-adjusted rate (312.6 per 100,000), compared to Whites (288.0), Hispanics (91.8) or people of other races (109.0).
- The eastern region of the state had more hospitalizations (5,887, or 27%) than other regions.