



# Defiance County General Health District Epidemiology Assessment

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Report  
January 20, 2017

## Senior Falls by Month (2015-2016)

Table 1. Number of fall-related ED visits by month for Defiance County residents<sup>1</sup>

Month	2015	2016
January	44	21
February	40	41
March	29	39
April	24	31
May	39	42
June	43	34
July	40	40
August	38	29
September	45	34
October	38	33
November	41	25
December	38	41
Total	459	410

## Falls Among the Elderly

This report was created as a surveillance effort to help understand the needs of the community concerning senior falls. Seniors are defined in this report as adults ages 65 and older. Table 1 displays the total number of emergency department (ED) visits coded as falls from all Defiance County hospital ED records. From 2015 to 2016, the number of senior fall ED visits have decreased by 11%. In the fourth quarter, there were 43 emergency medical service (EMS) runs, where a EMS team was dispatched to a resident's home and assisted an individual that fell<sup>2</sup>. In 2016, the total known senior falls in Defiance County including both ED visits and EMS runs were 548 falls. The average number of falls per month were 46 in 2016.

<sup>1</sup> ED visits coded as falls are derived from data in the EpiCenter and represent only those reported in the system. These data are provisional and subject to change when additional data are reported. All data is on Defiance County residents, including residents who may have sought medical help at a hospital outside of Defiance County. Falls are selected based on codes at diagnosis. Data reported as of 1/3/2017.

<sup>2</sup> Defiance Fire and Rescue Division

Figure 1. Senior Fall ED Visits by Year<sup>1</sup>

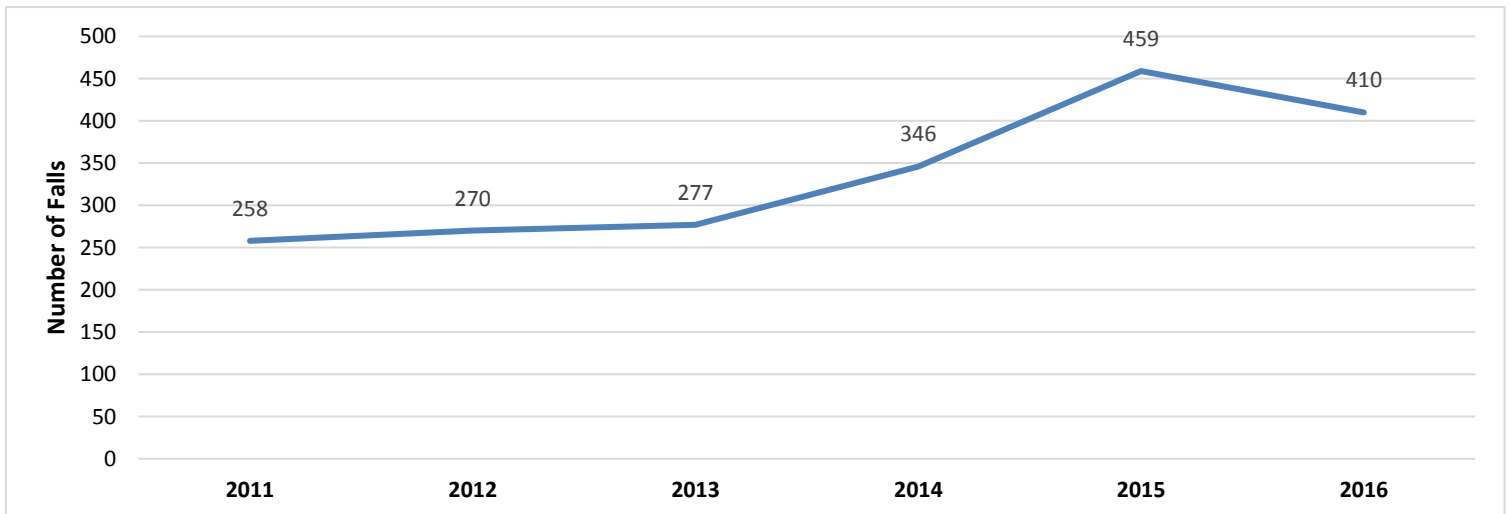


Figure 1. Displays the total number of senior fall emergency department visits from 2011-2016. Senior falls recorded from the EMS are not included in figure 1. due to a change in software.