



Defiance County General Health District Epidemiology Assessment

2nd Quarter Report

July 6, 2018

Senior Falls by Month

Table 1. Number of fall-related ED visits by month for Defiance County residents 65 years and older¹

Month	2018	5-Year Average
January	42	29.8
February	49	30.6
March	39	30.2
April	29	24.2
May	33	33.2
June	34	33.6
July		
August		
September		
October		
November		
December		
Total	226	151

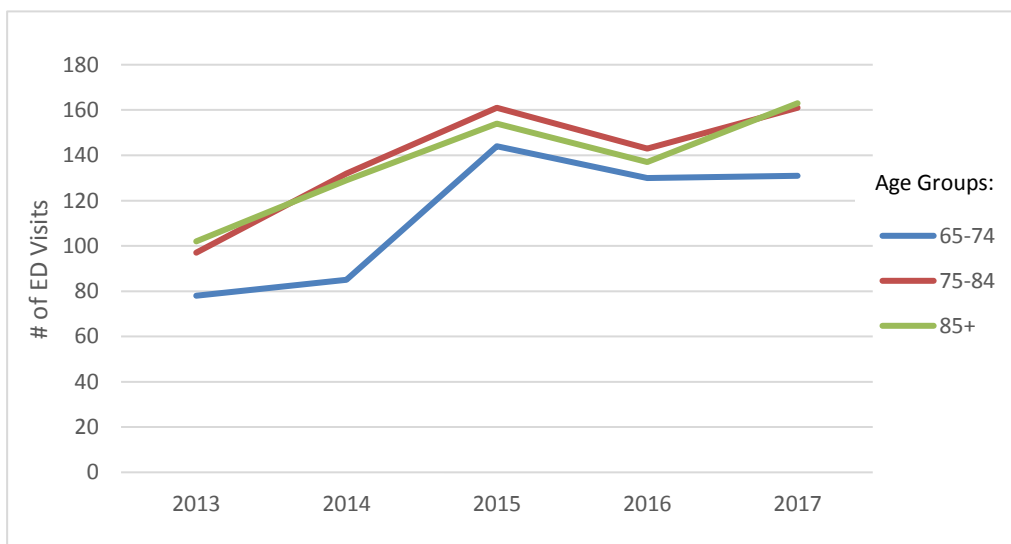
There has been an increase in ED visits for fall-related injuries from 2016 to 2017. From year to date, the falls per month have been higher than the average 5 years. Individuals over the age of 85 are 10-15 times more likely to experience a hip fracture from a fall than individuals aged 60-65 years.³

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 years and older. Table 1 displays the total estimated number of emergency department (ED) visits coded as falls from all Defiance County hospital ED records. In the second quarter of 2018, there were approximately 96 fall-related ED visits in residents 65 years and older. Sixty-six percent of the falls were females.

There were 74 emergency medical service (EMS) runs, where an EMS team was dispatched to a resident's home and assisted an individual that was 65 years or older that fell in Defiance City². Seventy percent of the falls were transported to the hospital for further assessment.

Figure 1. ED Visits for Fall-Related Injuries by Age



1. 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 7/5/2018. 2. Defiance Fire and Rescue Division, EMS 3. CDC, 2016. Older Adults Falls