



# Defiance County General Health District Epidemiology Assessment

4th Quarter Report  
January 7, 2019

## Senior Falls by Month

Table 1. Number of fall-related ED visits by month for Defiance County residents 65 years and older<sup>1</sup>

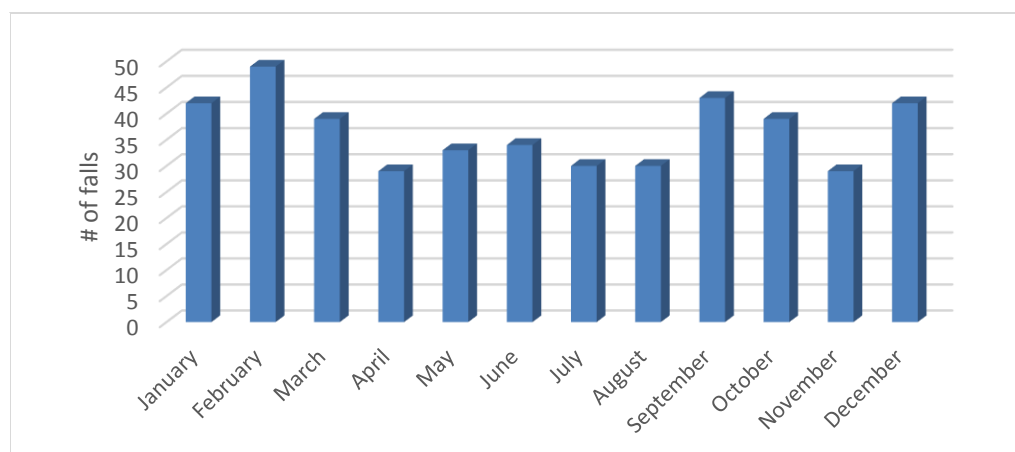
Month	2018	5-Year Average
January	42	29.8
February	49	30.6
March	39	30.2
April	29	24.2
May	33	33.2
June	34	33.6
July	30	33.4
August	30	32.6
September	43	30.6
October	39	39.2
November	29	36
December	42	36
Total	439	

## 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 fourth quarter of 2018, there were approximately 110 fall-related ED visits in residents 65 years and older. Fifty-seven percent of the falls occurred in females.

In the fourth quarter, there were 109 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 City<sup>2</sup>. Eight-four of the lift assist were not transported to the hospital for further assessment<sup>2</sup>.

Figure 1. ED Visits for Older Adult Falls 65+, 2018



In 2017, there approximately 455 ED visits for older adult falls vs. 439 in 2018. Thirty-three percent of the ED visits for falls were between the ages of 70-79 years old. Overall, the number of ED visit slightly decreased in 2018, however, lift assist by EMS increased.

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 1/7/2019. 2. Defiance Fire and Rescue Division, EMS.