Senior Falls by Month

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

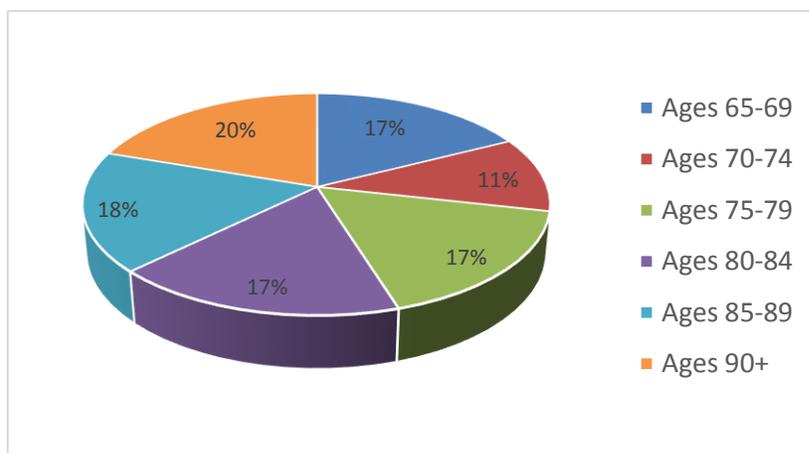| Month	2019	5-Year Average
January	43	33.2
February	33	37.4
March	36	32.8
April	35	24.8
May	38	35.4
June	43	34.4
July		
August		
September		
October		
November		
December		
Total	228	

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 2019, there were approximately 116 fall-related ED visits in residents 65 years and older. Sixty-one percent of the falls occurred in females.

In the second quarter, there were 77 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[2]. Thirty-five percent of the falls were not transported to the hospital for further assessment[2].

There were seven fall related deaths from January through June, 2019 in a Defiance County resident[3]. The median age was 85 years old. In 2018, there were three fall related deaths in Defiance County residents.

Figure 1. ED visits for fall related injuries by age group

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 7/1/2019. 2. Defiance Fire and Rescue Division, EMS. 3. Defiance County Health Department Vital Statistics.