



Defiance County General Health District Epidemiology Assessment

3rd Quarter Report

October 20, 2021

Senior Falls by Month

Table 1. Number of fall-related ED visits by month for Defiance County residents 65 years and older^{1,3}

Month	2021	5-Year Average (2014-2019)
January ¹	35	37
February ¹	42	39
March ¹	37	35
April ³	21	30
May ³	24	37
June ³	24	37
July ³	37	38
August ³	41	38
September ³	38	39
October		40
November		38
December		44
Total		451

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 third quarter, 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. Sixty-six percent of the falls were transported to the hospital for further assessment². From January through September 2021, there have been 7 fall related deaths in residents 65 years and older.

Within Defiance County Community Health Improvement Plan for 2022-2024, there are senior fall prevention action steps:

- Continuing to implement the Matter of Balance Program within Defiance County.
- Train additional "lay" volunteers to implement the Matter of Balance Program within Defiance County.
- Partner with additional organizations to build referral avenues (i.e. EMS, paramedics, hospitals).

1. ED visits coded as falls are derived from data in the ESSENCE 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 10/21/2021. 2. Defiance Fire and Rescue Division, EMS. 3. Epicenter