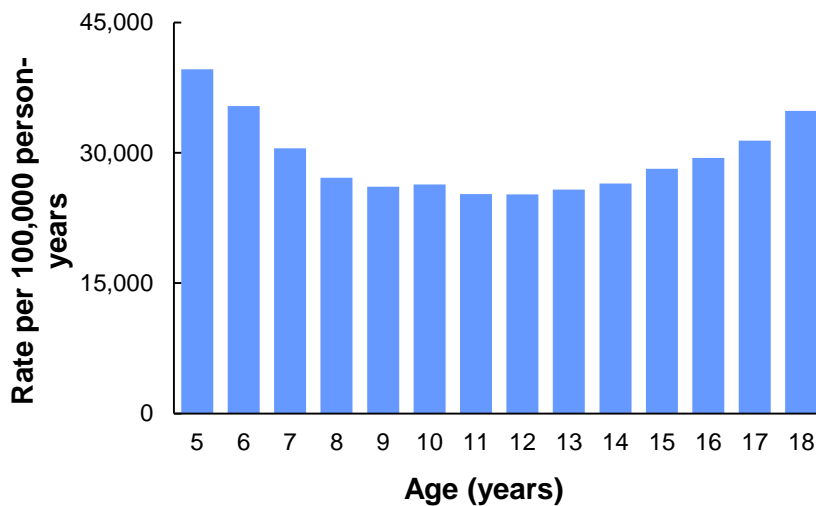


## NORTH CAROLINA EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISITS AMONG SCHOOL-AGE BOYS, 5-18 YEARS OF AGE, 2013

The North Carolina Disease Event Tracking and Epidemiologic Collection tool (NC DETECT) provides public health officials and hospital users with the capacity for statewide early event detection and timely public health surveillance. Through NC DETECT, users can access near real-time data from North Carolina acute care emergency departments (EDs), the Carolinas Poison Center (CPC), and the Pre-Hospital Medical Information System (PreMIS). NC DETECT data from ED visits have become increasingly important for the surveillance of injury morbidity in North Carolina. NC DETECT is funded by the NC Division of Public Health (NC DPH). This document summarizes 2013 ED visits by school-age boys 5-18 years of age.<sup>†</sup>

### Rates of NC ED visits among school-age boys



- Among school-age children 5-18 years of age, there was a total of 558,499 ED visits in 2013.

- Slightly less than one-half of these visits (48.5%) were by school-age boys (271,105 visits).

- In 2013, school-age boys visited the ED at a rate of 29,402 ED visits per 100,000 population.

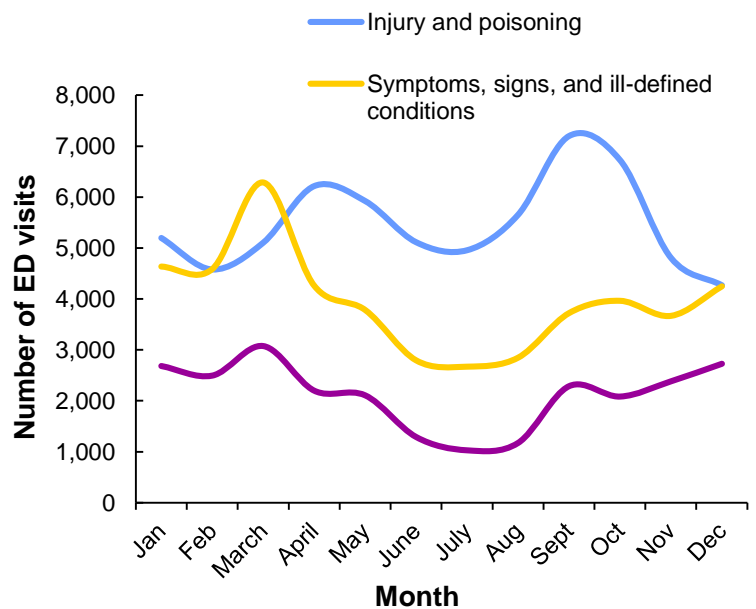
- Rates peaked at five years of age for boys (39,616 ED visits per 100,000 person-years).

### Frequency of ED visits by school-age boys by month and by leading diagnosis groupings for diseases and injuries, 2013<sup>§</sup>

- The three most common ICD-9-CM groupings for diseases and injuries for school-age boys were: 1) injury and poisoning; 2) symptoms, signs, and ill-defined conditions; and 3) diseases of the respiratory system.

- For all three leading causes of ED visits among school-age boys, the fewest number of visits was observed during the summer months of June-August.

- There was a sharp spike in September for ED visits related to injury and poisoning followed by a smaller spike in April. The most common first-listed injury and poisoning diagnosis code assigned during the months of April and September was 959.01, "head injury, unspecified."



<sup>\*</sup>For questions about the methods used to generate this fact sheet, please email [ncdetect@listserv.med.unc.edu](mailto:ncdetect@listserv.med.unc.edu).

Missing: 53,273 (19.7%) ED visits missing a first-listed diagnosis code  
<sup>§</sup>ICD-9-CM classification based on the first-listed diagnosis code.

<sup>†</sup>In 2013, 107,788 ED visits among school-age children were missing a classifiable, first-listed diagnosis code; therefore, rates may not be directly comparable with previous years of NC DETECT ED data.

School-age boys' NC ED visits classified by the three most common *diagnosis* groupings and age group, 2013<sup>‡</sup>

Age group	Classification	Number of ED visits with this condition	Percent of ED visits with this condition
5-7	1) Symptoms, signs, and ill-defined conditions ( <i>Most common condition: fever with 3,382 visits</i> )	14,899	26.7%
	2) Injury and poisoning ( <i>Most common condition: superficial wounds and contusions with 2,752 visits</i> )	12,584	22.5%
	3) Diseases of the respiratory system ( <i>Most common condition: acute respiratory infections with 4,580 visits</i> )	9,478	17.0%
	Other condition	18,856	33.8%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>55,817</b>	--
8-10	1) Injury and poisoning ( <i>Most common condition: superficial wounds and contusions with 2,668 visits</i> )	11,672	28.0%
	2) Symptoms, signs, and ill-defined conditions ( <i>Most common condition: abdominal pain with 2,007 visits</i> )	9,957	23.9%
	3) Diseases of the respiratory system ( <i>Most common condition: acute respiratory infections with 2,540 visits</i> )	5,689	13.7%
	Other condition	14,335	34.4%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>41,653</b>	--
11-13	1) Injury and poisoning ( <i>Most common condition: superficial wounds and contusions with 3,047 visits</i> )	14,406	35.3%
	2) Symptoms, signs, and ill-defined conditions ( <i>Most common condition: abdominal pain with 1,591 visits</i> )	7,947	19.5%
	3) Diseases of the respiratory system ( <i>Most common condition: acute respiratory infections with 1,961 visits</i> )	4,315	10.6%
	Other condition	14,171	34.7%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>40,839</b>	--
14-16	1) Injury and poisoning ( <i>Most common condition: sprains and strains with 3,390 visits</i> )	16,141	36.5%
	2) Symptoms, signs, and ill-defined conditions ( <i>Most common condition: abdominal pain with 1,410 visits</i> )	7,948	19.5%
	3) Diseases of the musculoskeletal system ( <i>Most common condition: other and unspecified disorders of the joint with 1,484 visits</i> )	3,625	8.2%
	Other condition	16,501	37.3%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>44,215</b>	--
17-18	1) Injury and poisoning ( <i>Most common condition: sprains and strains with 2,409 visits</i> )	10,931	31.0%
	2) Symptoms, signs, and ill-defined conditions ( <i>Most common condition: abdominal pain with 1,218 visits</i> )	6,721	19.0%
	3) Mental health disorders ( <i>Most common condition: attention deficit disorder with 2,139 visits</i> )	3,129	8.9%
	Other condition	14,527	41.1%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>35,308</b>	--
<b>Total</b>		<b>217,832</b>	--

Missing: 53,273 ED visits missing a classifiable, first-listed diagnosis code; denominator is 217,832 ED visits  
<sup>‡</sup>ICD-9-CM classification based on the first-listed diagnosis code

NC DETECT



Source: Carolina Center for Health Informatics / <https://cchi.web.unc.edu> / Department of Emergency Medicine, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2014.  
 NC Division of Public Health / [www.publichealth.nc.gov](http://www.publichealth.nc.gov) / Injury Epidemiology & Surveillance Unit/ 919-707-5425  
 NC Disease Event Tracking and Epidemiologic Collection Tool (NC DETECT) / [www.ncdetect.org](http://www.ncdetect.org) / 919-843-2361  
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