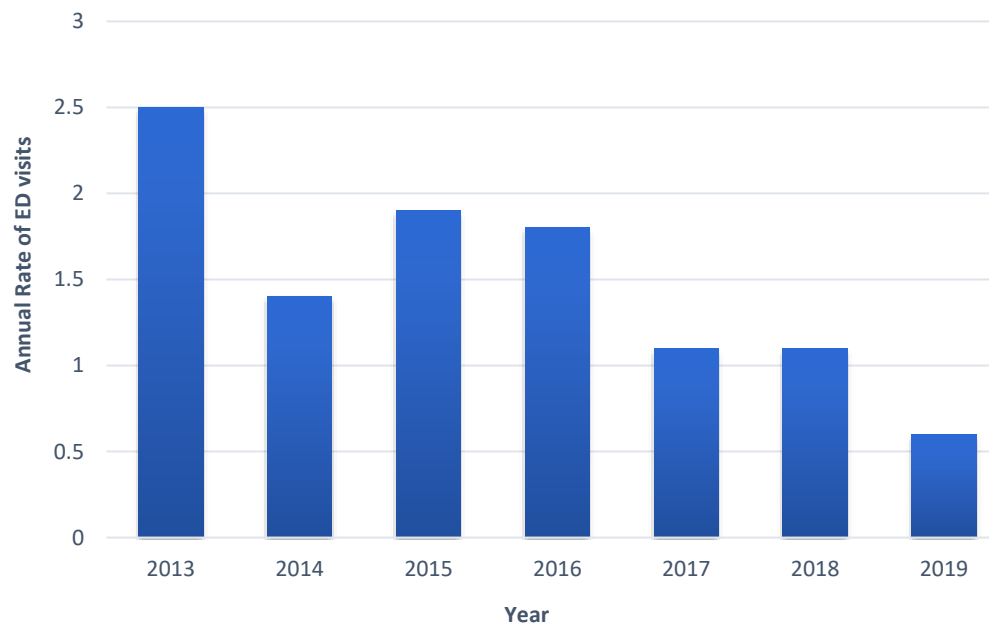


OHI #24: Occupational Heat-Related Emergency Department visits

Annual Crude Rate* of Inpatient Hospitalizations, 2013-2019



*Rate per 100,000 employed persons age 16 years or older

Annual Number and Crude Rate* of Inpatient Hospitalizations, New Jersey and United States, 2013-2019

Year	Number		Rate*	
	NJ	US	NJ	US
2013	103	N/A	2.5	N/A
2014	59	N/A	1.4	N/A
2015	81	N/A	1.9	N/A
2016	82	N/A	1.8	N/A
2017	47	N/A	1.1	N/A
2018	47	N/A	1.1	N/A
2019	26	N/A	0.6	N/A

*Rate per 100,000 employed persons age 16 years or older

N/A: not available

Data Source: New Jersey Department of Health inpatient hospital discharge data

Technical Notes:

- In October 2015, health care providers began using ICD-10-CM. Because of the significant differences for heat-related illness codes, we consider the transition from the ICD-9-CM to the ICD-10-CM a break in series.
- Prior to 2016, this indicator counted ED visits for heat illness solely when Workers' Compensation was identified as the expected payer. As of 2016, that has changed. The updated case definition counts heat illness ED visits as work-related if Workers' Compensation is the expected payer OR if the record contains: 1) Either of 2 designated work status codes (Y99.0, &99.1) or; 2) Any of 14 designated codes for place of injury or external cause of morbidity (Y92.61, Y92.62, Y92.64, Y92.64, Y92.65, Y92.69, Y92.71, Y92.72, Y92.73, Y92.74, Y92.79, Z04.2, Z57.6, Z57.8). For this reason, results starting in 2016 should not be compared to results from earlier year.
- Self-employed individuals such as farmers and independent contractors, railroad or longshore and maritime workers may not be covered by state workers' compensation systems.
- Includes employed persons age 16 years or older.
- Excludes patients with unknown age and out-of-state residents and unknown residence.
- Data include all emergency-department visits regardless of disposition.
- Annual rates of emergency department visits presented in Figure 24 are calculated by using the number of ED visits and the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Geographic Profile of Employment and Unemployment, which contains Current Population Survey estimates for state-specific numbers of employed persons.

Limitations:

- Emergency department data are subject to a number of limitations:
 - Many individuals with work-related illnesses or injuries do not file for workers' compensation or fail to recognize work as the cause of their illness or injury.
 - Attribution of primary payer in emergency department records may not be accurate.
 - All visits are counted, including multiple admissions for a single individual.
 - Practice patterns and payment mechanisms may affect decisions by health care providers to correctly diagnose occupational heat-related illness and/or to list the condition as a discharge diagnosis.
 - The number of diagnoses listed on discharge summaries may vary by regional practice patterns and by the person completing discharge summaries.
 - ED data are not available in all states, aggregation of state data to produce nationwide estimates may not be feasible.
- Heat-related ED visits may occur in workers under age 16, but corresponding denominator data are not readily available.