



Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists

POISONING EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISIT INDICATOR Nonfatal Nondrug Poisoning Emergency Department Visits

Numerator:

• Nonfatal ED visits from the injury ED visit subset with any of the following ICD-10-CM diagnostic or external cause of injury codes in any field.

Codes* for Nonfatal Nondrug Poisonings

T51-T53, T55-T62, T64	Toxic effects of nonmedicinal substances
T54.0	Toxic effects of phenol and phenol homologues
T65.0-T65.81, T65.83, T65.89, T65.9	Toxic effects of other and unspecified substances
Y38.7	Terrorism due to chemical weapons
Y35.2	Legal intervention involving gas

^{*7}th character of A or missing (reflects initial encounter, active treatment)

Denominator:

• Midyear population for the calendar year under surveillance obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau or suitable alternative.

Measures of frequency:

- Annual number of ED visits, by age group and sex.
- Annual age-adjusted rates, overall and by sex, standardized by the direct method to the year 2000 standard U.S. population.^{2,11}

Period for case definition:

Calendar year based on date of ED discharge.

Indicator notes:

- The Injury Surveillance Indicator for use with ED data includes cases with either an injury diagnosis code or an external cause of injury code in any field. This broad definition results in the capture of all cases of injury or potential injury seen in the ED.
- This indicator does not include cases that were admitted to the hospital.
- The nondrug poisoning codes include toxic effects of ethanol (T51.0).

Limitations of data source:

- Injuries that result in ED visits only represent a portion of the overall burden of injury. These injuries should be considered in the context of both less- and more-severe injuries.
- The accuracy of indicators based on codes found in ED data are limited by the completeness and quality of coding.