

County of San Diego  
Hospital Association of San Diego County  
Emergency Department Discharge Patient Summary  
April 1, 2005 – June 30, 2005

The Emergency Department Discharge Patient Summary is an aggregate report describing all patients who are treated and discharged from the emergency department. Emergency department (ED) data, however, does not represent all patients who present to the ED. The information contained in this database is collected from billing data, so if a patient presents to the ED and is admitted to that same hospital, all of their information is transferred to the inpatient record. Typically, between 12 percent and 20 percent of all patients who present to the ED are admitted to the hospital.

Emergency department data that is reported to Emergency Medical Services (EMS) does not contain unique identifiers, such as social security number. Each record represents a visit to the ED; multiple visits for the same person cannot be identified and accounted for. Therefore, this report represents the number of *encounters* (visits), not the number of *people* who use the ED. The term *patient* will be used to refer to all discharges from the ED.

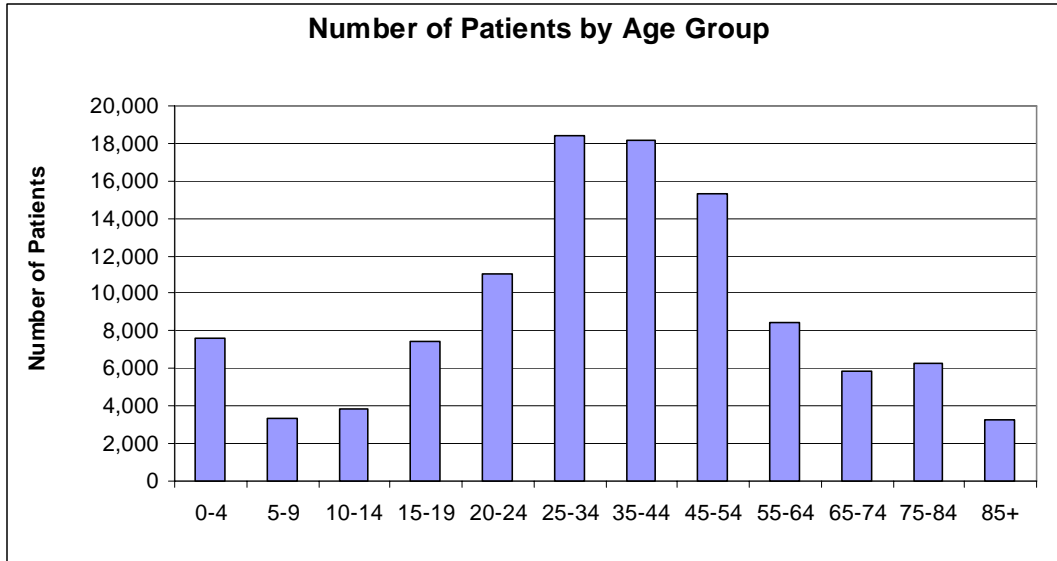
The following data elements are reported to the hospital association:

Facility ID Number	Expected Source of Payment
Patient ZIP code	Principal Diagnosis
Date of Birth	Other Diagnoses
Sex	Principal E-Code
Race	Other E-Codes
Ethnicity	Principal Procedure (CPT-4)
Service Date	Other Procedures (CPT-4)
Disposition of Patient	

Thirteen hospitals reported emergency department data for this report.

## Patient Demographics

There were 109,076 patients who were treated and discharged from the thirteen emergency departments (EDs) represented by this report. Nearly 60 percent were between the ages of 20 and 54 years of age.



Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

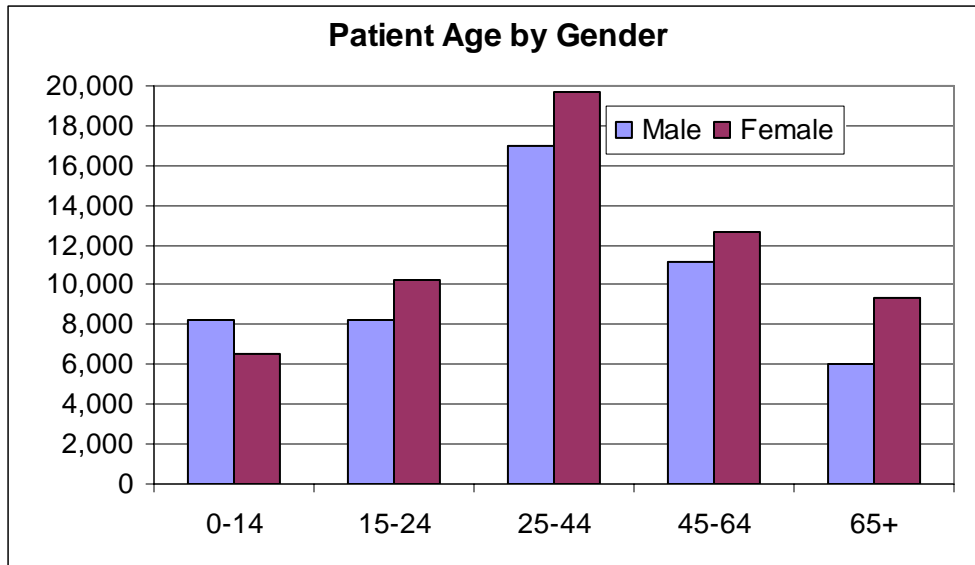
### Number and Percent of ED Patients by Age Group

Age Group	Frequency	Percent
0-4	7,582	7.0
5-9	3,387	3.1
10-14	3,825	3.5
15-19	7,413	6.8
20-24	11,068	10.1
25-34	18,436	16.9
35-44	18,174	16.7
45-54	15,281	14.0
55-64	8,486	7.8
65-74	5,830	5.3
75-84	6,313	5.8
85+	3,271	3.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>109,076</b>	<b>100.0</b>

\*Total includes 10 cases with missing Age Group

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

Overall, 54 percent of ED patients were female. However, patients in the 0 to 14 year age group were more often male (56%).



Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

	0-14		15-24		25-44		45-64		65+		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Male	8,219	55.6	8,229	44.5	16,938	46.3	11,142	46.9	6,053	39.3	50,588	46.4
Female	6,569	44.4	10,245	55.4	19,654	53.7	12,623	53.1	9,359	60.7	58,452	53.6
Total	14,794	100.0	18,481	100.0	36,610	100.0	23,767	100.0	15,414	100.0	109,076	100.0

\*Totals include 35 patients with missing gender and 10 patients with missing age.

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

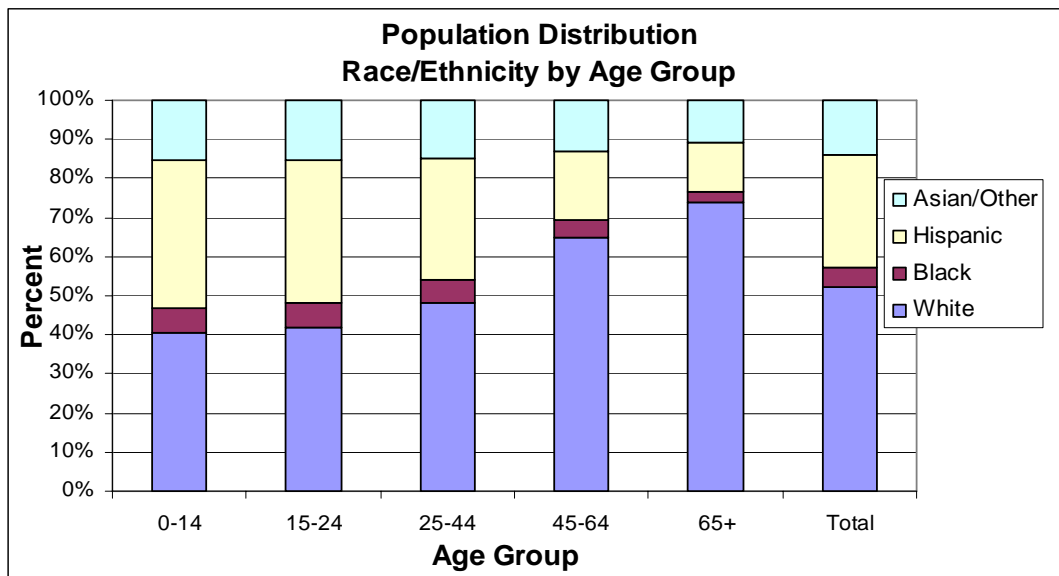
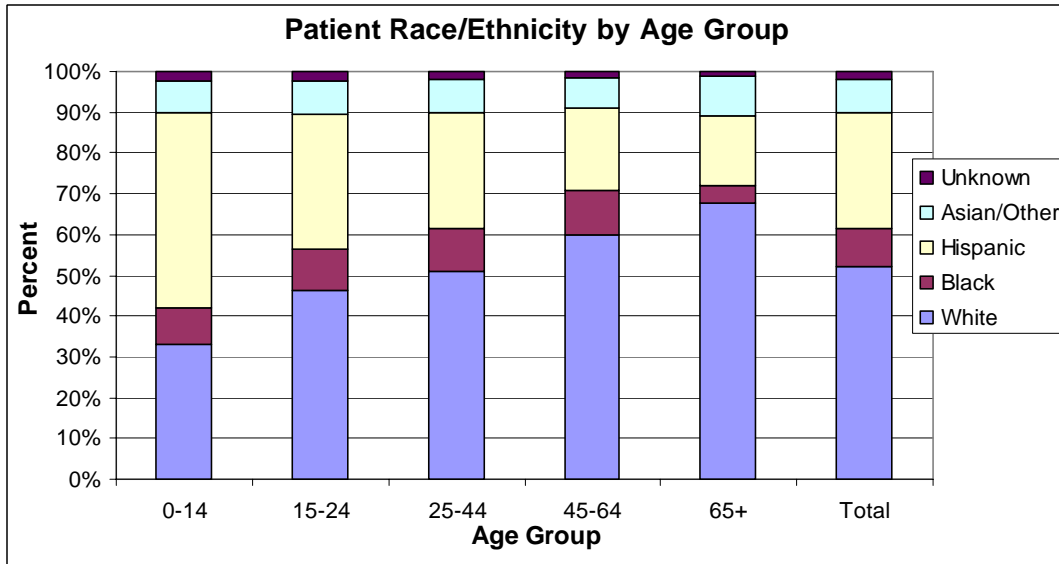
The distribution of patients varied by age within each region. Patients residing in the North Central region were older than patients residing in each of the other regions. The highest proportion of patients aged 0 to 14 years lived in the South region.

	North Coastal		North Central		Central		South		East		North Inland		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
0-14	2,848	17.5	794	5.9	2,163	10.4	3,329	19.5	1,696	11.8	2,719	17.2	14,794	13.6
15-24	2,442	15.0	2,397	17.7	3,384	16.2	2,913	17.0	2,588	18.1	2,594	16.4	18,481	16.9
25-44	4,760	29.2	5,022	37.1	7,976	38.3	5,221	30.5	5,037	35.2	4,809	30.3	36,610	33.6
45-64	3,388	20.8	2,926	21.6	5,318	25.5	3,134	18.3	3,106	21.7	3,202	20.2	23,767	21.8
65+	2,836	17.4	2,406	17.8	2,001	9.6	2,498	14.6	1,896	13.2	2,528	15.9	15,414	14.1
Total	16,274	100.0	13,545	100.0	20,842	100.0	17,095	100.0	14,323	100.0	15,852	100.0	109,076	100.0

\*Total includes 11,135 patients with missing region of residence and 10 patients with missing age.

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

Nearly half of ED patients between 0 and 14 years of age were Hispanic, compared to 38 percent of the population. Overall, the proportion of black patients using the ED was higher than the proportion of blacks in the population.



Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.  
 Population Data: SANDAG, 2004 population estimates.

Among 0 to 14 year old ED patients, 48 percent were Hispanic, compared to only 38 percent of the population. A higher proportion of ED patients were black across all age groups when compared to the proportion of the San Diego County population as a whole.

**Patient Race/Ethnicity by Age Group**

	0-14		15-24		25-44		45-64		65+		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
White	4,914	33.2	8,527	46.1	18,669	51.0	14,203	59.8	10,458	67.8	56,776	52.1
Black	1,317	8.9	1,919	10.4	3,881	10.6	2,647	11.1	662	4.3	10,427	9.6
Hispanic	7,062	47.7	6,115	33.1	10,367	28.3	4,746	20.0	2,593	16.8	30,886	28.3
Asian/Other	1,175	7.9	1,505	8.1	2,930	8.0	1,789	7.5	1,490	9.7	8,889	8.1
Unknown	324	2.2	415	2.2	763	2.1	380	1.6	209	1.4	2,098	1.9
Total	14,794	100.0	18,481	100.0	36,610	100.0	23,767	100.0	15,414	100.0	109,076	100.0

\*Totals include 10 patients with missing age.

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

**Population Distribution by Race/Ethnicity and Age Group**

	0-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65+	Total
White	40.8%	42.1%	48.3%	64.8%	73.7%	52.1%
Black	6.2%	6.2%	5.7%	4.6%	3.0%	5.3%
Hispanic	37.9%	36.7%	31.2%	17.5%	12.3%	28.4%
Asian/Other	15.1%	15.1%	14.8%	13.1%	10.9%	14.1%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Population Data: SANDAG, 2004 population estimates.

One-fourth of all patients residing in the Central region were black, compared to less than 10 percent overall. In the South region, nearly 60 percent of ED patients were Hispanic.

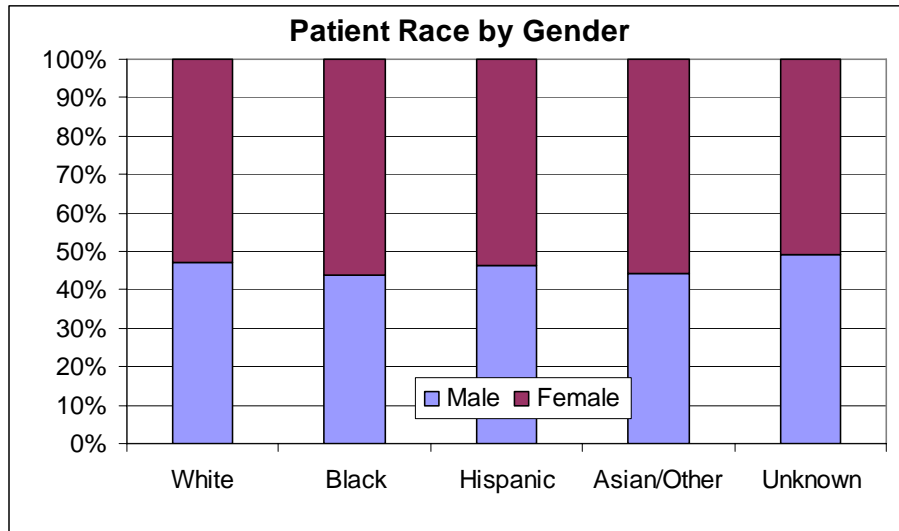
**Patient Race/Ethnicity by Region**

	North Coastal		North Central		Central		South		East		North Inland		Unknown		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
White	10,374	63.7	9,139	67.5	7,325	35.1	3,986	23.3	9,281	64.8	9,692	61.1	6,979	62.7	56,776	52.1
Black	785	4.8	695	5.1	5,206	25.0	1,142	6.7	1,367	9.5	491	3.1	741	6.7	10,427	9.6
Hispanic	3,892	23.9	1,546	11.4	6,544	31.4	9,824	57.5	2,780	19.4	4,126	26.0	2,174	19.5	30,886	28.3
Asian/Other	1,073	6.6	1,949	14.4	1,509	7.2	1,595	9.3	630	4.4	1,215	7.7	918	8.2	8,889	8.1
Unknown	150	0.9	216	1.6	258	1.2	550	3.2	265	1.9	327	2.1	325	2.9	2,091	1.9
Total	16,274	100.0	13,545	100.0	20,842	100.0	17,097	100.0	14,323	100.0	15,851	100.0	11,137	100.0	109,076	100.0

\*Totals include 11,137 patients with missing region of residence.

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

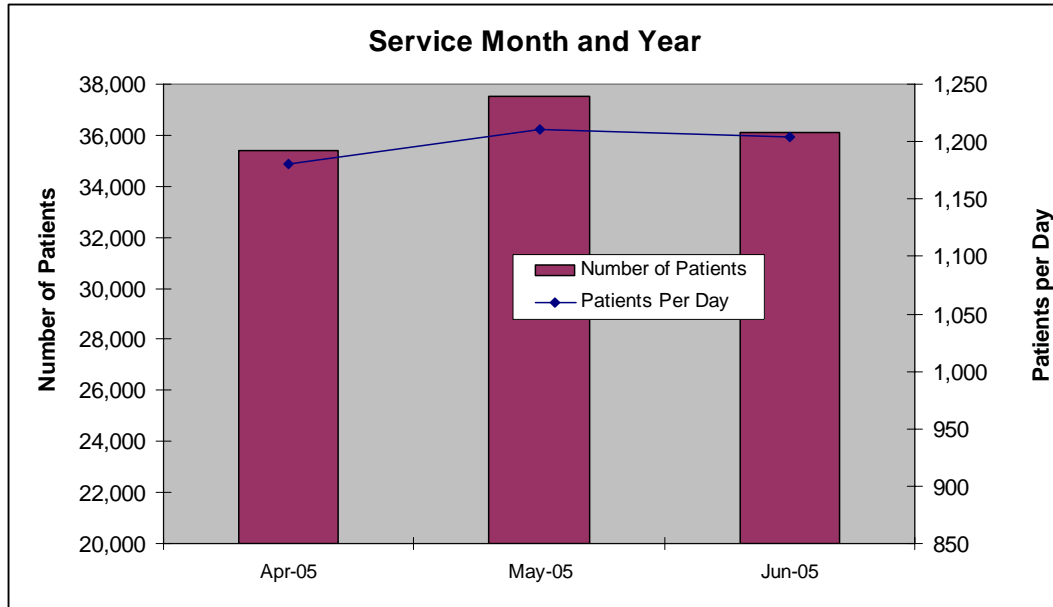
Across all racial/ethnic categories, a higher proportion of females were treated and discharged from the emergency department than males.



Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

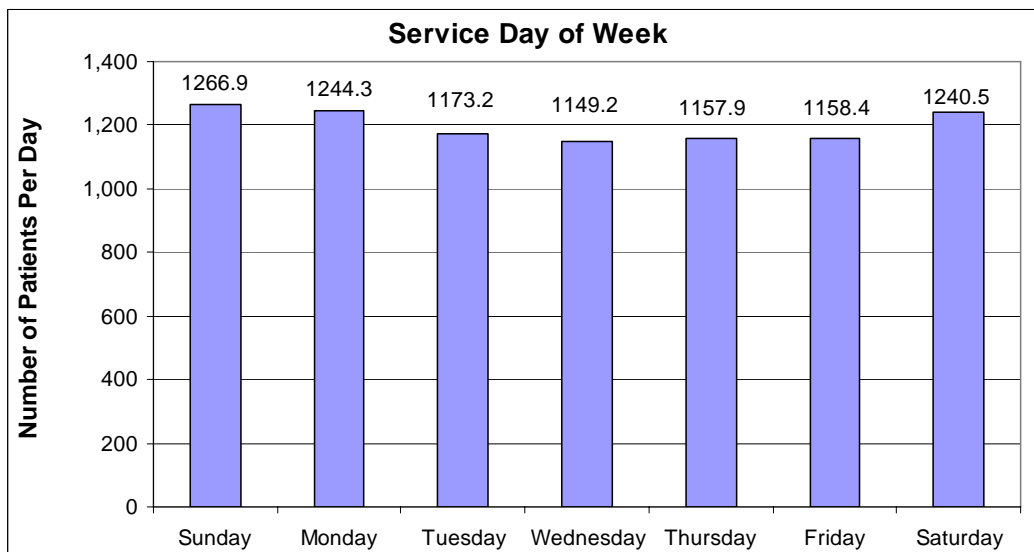
## Month and Day of Week

There were fewer patients discharged from the emergency department in April than in May or June. The average number of patients discharged per day among the hospitals reporting data was 1,180 in April, 1,211 in May, and 1,204 in June.



Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

There were more patients discharged per day on Sundays (1,267) than any other day of the week. The fewest number of patients who were treated and discharged per day occurred on Wednesdays (1,149).

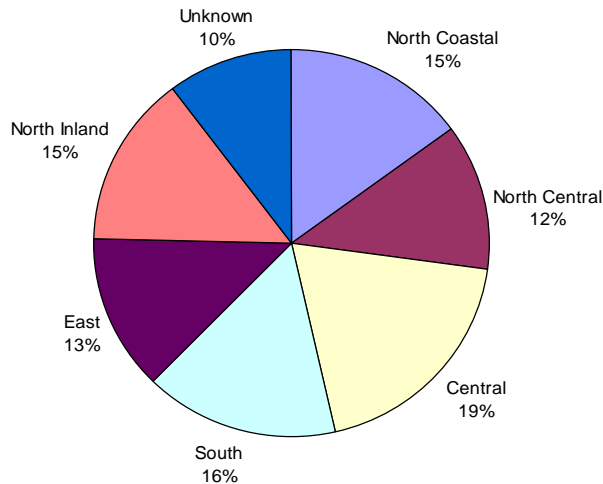


Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

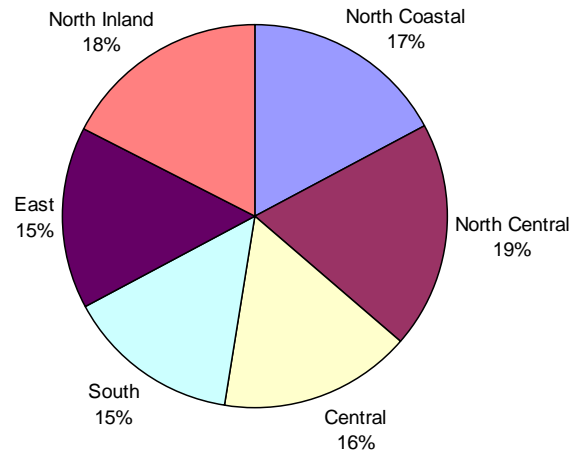
## Patient Residence

Patients discharged from the thirteen emergency departments represented in this report were fairly evenly distributed in number between the health and human services regions, and comparable to the population distribution by region. The North Central region appeared to be underrepresented by ED patients when compared to the proportion of the population.

### Patient Residence by Region



### Population by Region



Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.  
Population Data: SANDAG, 2004 population estimates.

### Patient Region of Residence

	Frequency	Percent
North Coastal	16,274	14.9
North Central	13,545	12.4
Central	20,843	19.1
South	17,097	15.7
East	14,323	13.1
North Inland	15,855	14.5
Unknown	11,139	10.2
Total	109,076	100.0

### Population by Region

	Frequency	Percent
North Coastal	515,999	17.1
North Central	581,158	19.3
Central	489,811	16.2
South	439,059	14.6
East	461,872	15.3
North Inland	529,305	17.5
Total	3,017,204	100.0

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.  
Population Data: SANDAG, 2004 population estimates.



The distribution of ED patients by subregional area (SRA) compared to the distribution of the population by SRA is presented below.

**Patient Residence by SRA**

	Frequency	Percent of Patients	Percent of Population
Central San Diego	8,642	7.9	5.4
Peninsula	1,129	1.0	2.1
Coronado	122	0.1	0.9
National City	2,877	2.6	1.9
Southeast San Diego	7,002	6.4	5.4
Mid-City	5,198	4.8	5.8
Kearny Mesa	4,629	4.2	5.0
Coastal	2,298	2.1	2.6
University	1,306	1.2	1.7
Del Mar-Mira Mesa	2,580	2.4	4.9
North San Diego	2,972	2.7	3.0
Poway	2,124	1.9	2.9
Miramar	11	0.0	0.2
Elliott-Navajo	1,346	1.2	3.0
Sweetwater	1,813	1.7	3.4
Chula Vista	6,959	6.4	3.8
South Bay	5,117	4.7	4.4
Jamul	701	0.6	0.5
Spring Valley	2,106	1.9	2.7
Lemon Grove	916	0.8	1.0
La Mesa	1,877	1.7	1.9
El Cajon	3,363	3.1	4.1
Santee	1,325	1.2	1.7
Lakeside	1,242	1.1	1.9
Harbison Crest	2,438	2.2	0.5
Alpine	368	0.3	0.5
Ramona	1,164	1.1	1.2
San Dieguito	2,796	2.6	3.0
Carlsbad	2,975	2.7	3.5
Oceanside	6,697	6.1	5.4
Pendleton	67	0.1	1.3
Escondido	6,789	6.2	5.1
San Marcos	2,527	2.3	2.7
Vista	3,382	3.1	3.3
Valley Center	577	0.5	0.7
Pauma	121	0.1	0.2
Fallbrook	607	0.6	1.6
Palomar-Julian	92	0.1	0.2
Laguna-Pine Valley	44	0.0	0.2
Mountain Empire	265	0.2	0.2
Anza-Borrego Springs	113	0.1	0.1
Out of County	9	0.0	
Unknown	10,390	9.5	
Total	109,076	100.0	100.0

\*Percent of Patients refers to the percentage of ED patients residing in each SRA.

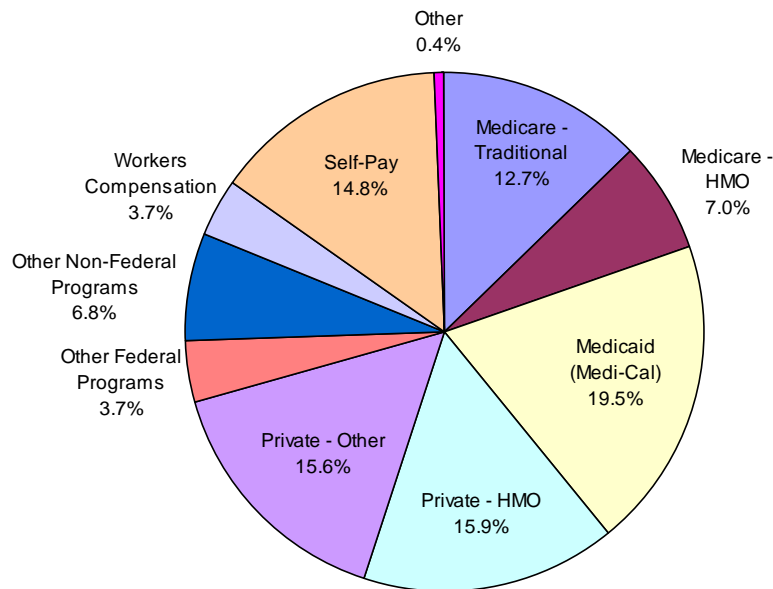
\*Percent of Population refers to the percentage of the total population residing in each SRA.

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.  
Population Data: SANDAG, 2004 population estimates.

## Source of Payment

Among patients discharged from the thirteen EDs represented in this report, 97 percent reported an expected source of payment. Of those with a known payment source, 20 percent were covered by Medicare and 20 percent by Medi-Cal. Nearly 32 percent of all patients were covered by private insurance, 16 percent of whom were members of a health maintenance organization (HMO). During the first quarter, only 9 percent of patients were self-pay, compared to 15 percent during this quarter. The distribution of payment source is shown below.

### Source of Payment – When Known



Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

### Aggregation of Payment Categories

Payment Category	Expected Source of Payment
Medicare - Traditional	Medicare part A, part B
Medicare - HMO	HMO Medicare Risk
Medicaid (Medi-Cal)	Medicaid (Medi-Cal)
Private - HMO	HMO
Private - Other	PPO, EPO, POS, Blue Cross/Blue Shield
Other Federal Programs	CHAMPUS (TRICARE), Title V, Veterans Affairs Plan, Other federal program
Other Non-Federal Programs	Other non-federal program
Workers Compensation	Workers compensation health claim
Self-Pay	Self-pay
Other	Automobile medical, other

### Source of Payment by Age Group

	0-14		15-24		25-44		45-64		65+		Total	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Self-Pay	1647	11.5	4235	23.9	6837	19.3	2771	11.9	245	1.6	15739	14.8
Other non-federal programs	61	0.4	1,034	5.8	3,579	10.1	2,506	10.7	24	0.2	7,205	6.8
PPO	1,325	9.2	2,229	12.6	4,029	11.4	2,391	10.2	187	1.2	10,161	9.6
POS	111	0.8	151	0.9	368	1.0	247	1.1	12	0.1	889	0.8
EPO	82	0.6	95	0.5	261	0.7	175	0.7	6	0.0	619	0.6
HMO Medicare Risk	533	3.7	484	2.7	926	2.6	931	4.0	4,534	29.5	7,408	7.0
Automobile Medical	2	0.0	9	0.1	24	0.1	17	0.1	23	0.1	75	0.1
Blue Cross/Blue Shield	742	5.2	891	5.0	1,845	5.2	1,318	5.6	87	0.6	4,883	4.6
CHAMPUS (TRICARE)	624	4.4	968	5.5	1,017	2.9	690	3.0	110	0.7	3,409	3.2
HMO	3,345	23.3	2,722	15.4	6,157	17.4	4,001	17.1	609	4.0	16,834	15.9
Medicare Part A	0	0.0	62	0.4	1,275	3.6	1,877	8.0	6,391	41.6	9,605	9.0
Medicare Part B	0	0.0	21	0.1	487	1.4	733	3.1	2,660	17.3	3,901	3.7
Medicaid (Medi-Cal)	5,747	40.1	3,874	21.9	6,262	17.7	4,384	18.8	394	2.6	20,662	19.5
Other federal program	5	0.0	60	0.3	159	0.4	166	0.7	5	0.0	395	0.4
Title V	0	0.0	9	0.1	14	0.0	10	0.0	0	0.0	33	0.0
Veterans Affairs Plan	0	0.0	2	0.0	18	0.1	62	0.3	9	0.1	91	0.1
Workers Compensation	0	0.0	767	0.1	2,029	0.1	1,024	0.1	66	0.1	3,886	0.1
Other	103	0.7	82	0.5	139	0.4	37	0.2	10	0.1	371	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,327</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>17,695</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>35,426</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>23,340</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>15,372</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>106,166</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Missing Payor Source	467		786		1,184		427		42		2,910	
<b>Age Group Totals</b>	<b>14,794</b>		<b>18,481</b>		<b>36,610</b>		<b>23,767</b>		<b>15,414</b>		<b>109,076</b>	

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

\*Total includes 10 patients with missing age.

- Nearly one-fourth of all 15 to 24 year old patients were self-pay, although the highest proportion of self-pay patients were 25 to 44 years of age.
- 40 percent of all children aged 0 to 14 years were covered by Medi-Cal, and 12 percent were self-pay.
- Only 88 percent of patients 65 years and older were covered by some form of Medicare.

**Source of Payment by Race/Ethnicity**

	White		Black		Hispanic		Asian/Other		Unknown		Total	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Self-Pay	6,658	12.0	1,771	17.2	5,859	19.7	1,048	12.0	403	21.3	15,739	14.8
Other non-federal programs	3,818	6.9	1,290	12.5	1,604	5.4	376	4.3	116	6.1	7,205	6.8
PPO	6,432	11.6	427	4.1	1,748	5.9	1,280	14.6	274	14.5	10,161	9.6
POS	678	1.2	40	0.4	110	0.4	60	0.7	1	0.1	889	0.8
EPO	316	0.6	72	0.7	127	0.4	99	1.1	5	0.3	619	0.6
HMO Medicare Risk	5,571	10.0	244	2.4	1,075	3.6	412	4.7	103	5.5	7,408	7.0
Automobile Medical	25	0.0	17	0.2	20	0.1	11	0.1	2	0.1	75	0.1
Blue Cross/Blue Shield	3,747	6.7	139	1.3	590	2.0	382	4.4	25	1.3	4,883	4.6
CHAMPUS (TRICARE)	1,881	3.4	358	3.5	681	2.3	414	4.7	75	4.0	3,409	3.2
HMO	8,957	16.1	1,096	10.6	4,759	16.0	1,581	18.1	440	23.3	16,834	15.9
Medicare Part A	6,030	10.9	812	7.9	1,853	6.2	825	9.4	85	4.5	9,605	9.0
Medicare Part B	2,571	4.6	295	2.9	553	1.9	440	5.0	41	2.2	3,901	3.7
Medicaid (Medi-Cal)	6,696	12.1	3,492	33.8	8,914	30.0	1,358	15.5	202	10.7	20,662	19.5
Other federal program	277	0.5	27	0.3	61	0.2	27	0.3	3	0.2	395	0.4
Title V	25	0.0	3	0.0	2	0.0	3	0.0	0	0.0	33	0.0
Veterans Affairs Plan	67	0.1	9	0.1	11	0.0	2	0.0	2	0.1	91	0.1
Workers compensation health	1,665	3.0	184	1.8	1,542	5.2	402	4.6	92	4.9	3,886	3.7
Other	115	0.2	42	0.4	171	0.6	23	0.3	20	1.1	371	0.3
Total	55,529	100.0	10,318	100.0	29,680	100.0	8,743	100.0	1,889	100.0	106,166	100.0
Missing Payor Source	1,247		109		1,206		146		209		2,910	
Race/Ethnicity Totals	56,776		10,427		30,886		8,889		2,098		109,076	

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

- 34 percent of black patients and 30 percent of Hispanic patients were covered by Medi-Cal, compared to 15 percent of Asian/other patients and 12 percent of whites.
- Almost two-thirds of black patients were underinsured: 34 percent were covered by Medi-Cal, 17 percent were self-pay, and 13 percent were covered by non-federal programs.
- Only 17 percent of black patients and 25 percent of Hispanic patients were covered by private insurance, compared to 36 percent of white patients.

### Source of Payment by Gender

	Male		Female		Total	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Self-Pay	8,479	17.3	7,257	12.7	15,739	14.8
Other non-federal programs	4,504	9.2	2,699	4.7	7,205	6.8
PPO	4,742	9.7	5,416	9.5	10,161	9.6
POS	397	0.8	492	0.9	889	0.8
EPO	232	0.5	387	0.7	619	0.6
HMO Medicare Risk	3,029	6.2	4,375	7.7	7,408	7.0
Automobile Medical	37	0.1	38	0.1	75	0.1
Blue Cross/Blue Shield	2,306	4.7	2,577	4.5	4,883	4.6
CHAMPUS (TRICARE)	1,507	3.1	1,902	3.3	3,409	3.2
HMO	7,432	15.1	9,401	16.5	16,834	15.9
Medicare Part A	4,144	8.4	5,461	9.6	9,605	9.0
Medicare Part B	1,682	3.4	2,219	3.9	3,901	3.7
Medicaid (Medi-Cal)	7,763	15.8	12,897	22.6	20,662	19.5
Other federal program	205	0.4	190	0.3	395	0.4
Title V	22	0.0	11	0.0	33	0.0
Veterans Affairs Plan	79	0.2	12	0.0	91	0.1
Workers Compensation	2,379	4.8	1,507	2.6	3,886	3.7
Other	132	0.3	239	0.4	371	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>49,071</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>57,080</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>106,166</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Missing Payor Source	1,517		1,372		2,910	
<b>Gender Totals</b>	<b>50,588</b>		<b>58,452</b>		<b>109,076</b>	

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

\*Total includes 35 patients with missing gender.

- 62 percent of Medi-Cal patients were female.
- 23 percent of all females were covered by Medi-Cal, and 13 percent were self-pay.
- 17 percent of male patients were self-pay, and 9 percent were covered by non-federal programs.

**Source of Payment by Region**

	North Coastal		North Central		Central		South		East		North Inland	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Self-Pay	2,573	16.0	1,659	12.3	3,982	19.1	2,422	14.2	1,987	13.9	492	3.6
Other non-federal programs	234	1.5	810	6.0	2,737	13.2	1,235	7.2	1,389	9.7	257	1.9
PPO	1,362	8.5	2,170	16.1	1,047	5.0	1,240	7.3	1,321	9.2	1,400	10.3
POS	258	1.6	245	1.8	115	0.6	80	0.5	37	0.3	38	0.3
EPO	92	0.6	93	0.7	126	0.6	120	0.7	121	0.8	34	0.3
HMO Medicare Risk	1,287	8.0	815	6.0	464	2.2	612	3.6	785	5.5	2,899	21.4
Automobile Medical	1	0.0	5	0.0	34	0.2	13	0.1	16	0.1	2	0.0
Blue Cross/Blue Shield	1,109	6.9	965	7.2	432	2.1	295	1.7	100	0.7	1,039	7.7
CHAMPUS (TRICARE)	772	4.8	477	3.5	314	1.5	536	3.1	272	1.9	427	3.1
HMO	2,818	17.5	2,636	19.6	2,019	9.7	2,784	16.3	2,692	18.8	2,660	19.6
Medicare Part A	1,814	11.3	1,294	9.6	1,780	8.6	2,040	11.9	1,560	10.9	299	2.2
Medicare Part B	126	0.8	581	4.3	854	4.1	313	1.8	192	1.3	1,546	11.4
Medicaid (Medi-Cal)	2,479	15.4	1,212	9.0	6,193	29.8	4,744	27.8	3,410	23.8	1,564	11.5
Other federal program	39	0.2	9	0.1	14	0.1	15	0.1	6	0.0	299	2.2
Title V	3	0.0	5	0.0	4	0.0	4	0.0	2	0.0	0	-
Veterans Affairs Plan	9	0.1	10	0.1	20	0.1	9	0.1	29	0.2	4	0.0
Workers Compensation	1,039	6.5	470	3.5	569	2.7	500	2.9	362	2.5	601	4.4
Other	62	0.4	24	0.2	99	0.5	123	0.7	17	0.1	7	0.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,077</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13,480</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>20,803</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>17,085</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>14,298</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13,568</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Missing Payor Source	197		65		40		12		25		2,287	
<b>Region Total</b>	<b>16,274</b>		<b>13,545</b>		<b>20,843</b>		<b>17,097</b>		<b>14,323</b>		<b>15,855</b>	

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

\*Excludes 10,855 patients with missing region information.

- 62 percent of patients in the Central region were underinsured: 30 percent were covered by Medi-Cal, 19 percent were self-pay, and 13 percent were covered by non-federal programs. Only 18 percent were covered by private insurance.
- 28 percent of patients in the South region were covered by Medi-Cal, and 14 percent were self-pay.
- In the North Inland region, 21.4 percent of patients belonged to a Medicare HMO. 11 percent were covered by Medicare part B, and 2 percent by Medicare part A.

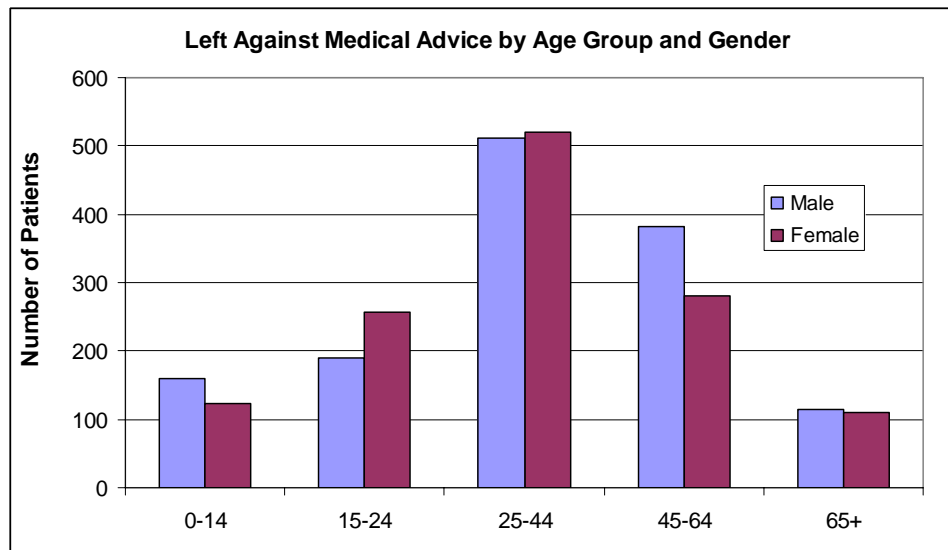
## Patient Disposition

Nearly all (94 percent) patients who were treated and discharged from the emergency department were sent home for self care. Note: ED data does not include patients who were admitted to the hospital from the emergency department. Typically, between 12 percent and 20 percent of all patients who present to the ED are admitted to the hospital.

Patient Disposition		
	Frequency	Percent
Home for Self Care	102,208	93.7
Left Facility Against Medical Advice	2,647	2.4
Transfer to Another Hospital	2,109	1.9
Discharged to Psychiatric Hospital or Unit	614	0.6
Discharged to Skilled Nursing Facility	599	0.5
Expired	215	0.2
Transfer to Other Inpatient Facility	182	0.2
Other	180	0.2
Unknown	123	0.1
Discharged to Intermediate Care Facility	95	0.1
Discharged to Other Rehab Facility	32	0.0
Home under care of organized home health service organization	24	0.0
Home With Hospice Care	17	0.0
Discharged to a Medical Facility With Hospice Care	16	0.0
Discharged to Long Term Care	12	0.0
Discharged to a Federal Hospital	3	0.0
Home Under Care of Home Intravenous Provider	0	0.0
Discharged to Nursing Facility under MediCal, not Medicare	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>109,076</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

Fewer patients left against medical advice (AMA) this quarter (n = 2,647) than in the first quarter (n = 3,036), despite the larger number of patient visits represented overall. A higher proportion of males left AMA (2.7%) than females (2.2%), but this distribution varied by age group.



Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

### Percentage of Patients Leaving AMA

	0-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65+	Total
Male	1.9	2.3	3.0	3.4	1.9	2.7
Female	1.9	2.5	2.6	2.2	1.2	2.2
Total	1.9	2.4	2.8	2.8	1.5	2.4

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

A higher percentage of black patients presenting to the ED left AMA than any other race/ethnicity (4.0%).

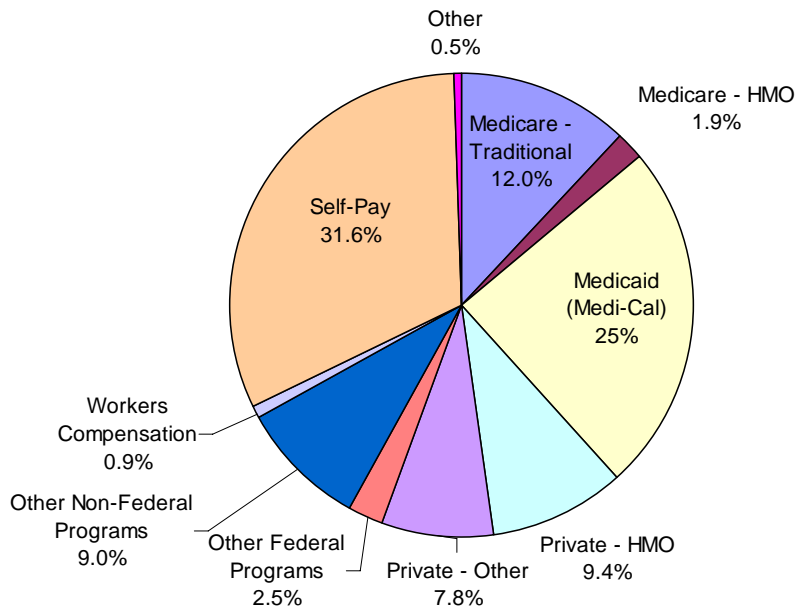
### Patients Leaving AMA by Race/Ethnicity

	Total	AMA	%AMA
White	56,776	1,291	2.3
Black	10,427	417	4.0
Hispanic	30,886	709	2.3
Asian/Other	8,889	164	1.8
Unknown	2,098	66	3.1
Total	109,076	2,647	2.4

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

Expected Source of Payment was known for all but one patient who left AMA (n = 2,646). The distribution of payment type is shown below. A much higher percentage of self-pay and Medi-Cal patients left AMA than in the overall population.

### Payment Source – When Known Patients Leaving AMA

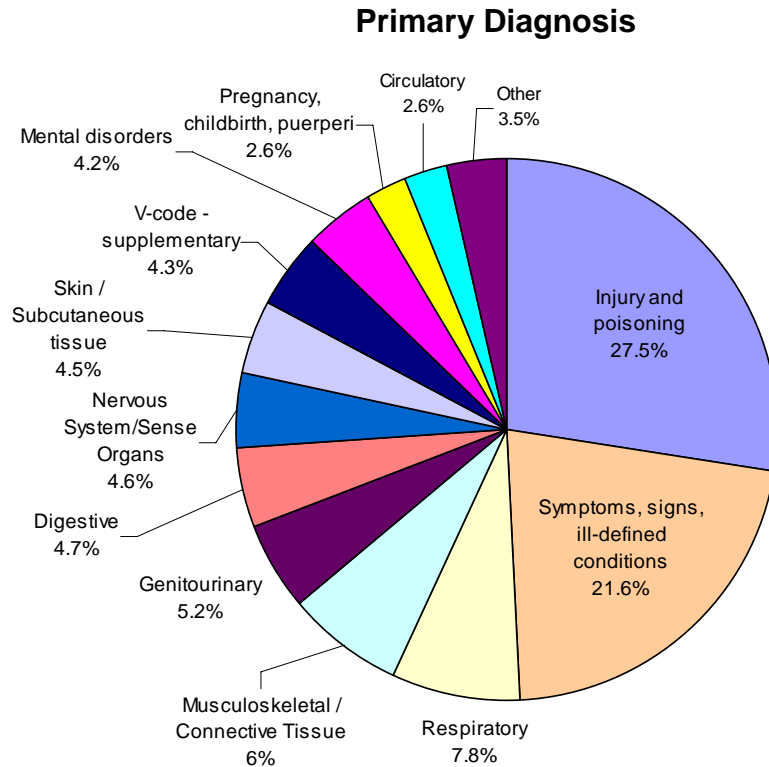


Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.



## Primary Diagnosis

Primary diagnosis was reported for 99 percent of all patients. Among the diagnoses that were reported, ED patients were treated and discharged for a diagnosis represented by the following categories.



Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

Each category is represented by the following diagnoses:

**Mental Disorders** – includes psychoses, neurotic disorders, personality disorders, and other nonpsychotic mental disorders.

**Skin/Subcutaneous Tissue** – includes infections of skin and subcutaneous tissue, and inflammatory conditions of skin and subcutaneous tissue.

**V-Code Supplementary** – Circumstances other than a disease or injury, such as a person who is not currently sick donating an organ or blood, a person with a known disease encountering the system for specific treatment (dialysis, chemotherapy, cast change), or when a problem is present which influences the person's health status but is not in itself a current illness or injury.

**Digestive** – includes diseases of the oral cavity, salivary glands, and jaws, diseases of the esophagus, stomach, and duodenum, appendicitis, hernia of the abdominal cavity, noninfectious enteritis and colitis, and other diseases of the intestines, peritoneum, and digestive system.

**Diseases of Nervous System, Sense Organs** – includes inflammatory diseases of the central nervous system (CNS), hereditary and degenerative diseases of the CNS, disorders of the peripheral nervous system, and disorders of the eye and ear.

**Genitourinary** – includes nephritis, nephritic syndrome, and nephrosis, other diseases of the urinary system, diseases of male genital organs and female pelvic organs, disorders of the breast, and disorders of the female genital tract.

**Musculoskeletal/Connective Tissue** – Includes arthropathies (arthritis) and related disorders, dorsopathies (back), rheumatism (excluding the back), osteopathies, chondropathies, and acquired musculoskeletal deformities.

**Respiratory** – includes acute respiratory infections, diseases of the upper respiratory tract, pneumonia and influenza, COPD, lung disease due to external agents, and other diseases of the respiratory system.

**Symptoms, signs, ill-defined conditions** – includes symptoms, signs, abnormal results of laboratory or other investigative procedures, and ill-defined conditions with no diagnosis classifiable elsewhere.

**Injury and Poisoning** – includes fractures, dislocation, sprains and strains, intracranial injury, internal injury, open wounds, hematoma, lacerations, late effects of injury and poisoning, superficial injury, contusions, crushing injury, foreign bodies, traumatic complications of injury, poisoning, and complications of surgical or medical care.

**Other** – Includes infectious and parasitic diseases; neoplasms; endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases; diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs; diseases of the circulatory system; complications of pregnancy; and congenital anomalies.

The fifteen most common diagnoses among patients treated and discharged from the ED are listed below. Compared to last quarter, acute respiratory infections dropped from the first to the sixth most common diagnosis (3.5%). Acute respiratory infections include the common cold, sore throat, tonsillitis, laryngitis, and acute bronchitis. Respiratory symptoms (4.8%) represent undiagnosed respiratory abnormalities, including hyperventilation, apnea, shortness of breath, wheezing, cough, painful respiration, and other discomfort in the chest. Asthma, chronic bronchitis, emphysema, and other chronic obstructive lung diseases are classified under COPD and allied health conditions (2.6%).

General symptoms (4.9%) include altered consciousness, hallucinations, syncope, convulsions, dizziness, sleep disturbances, fever, and general malaise and fatigue. Abdominal symptoms (4.8%) refer to abdominal tenderness or pain, which is otherwise unclassifiable. Head and neck symptoms (2.4%) are diagnosed for general headache, neck pain, swelling, or voice and speech disturbances.

ED diagnoses of other diseases of the urinary system (3.4%) were mainly kidney stones, kidney infections, urinary tract infections and cystitis. Dorsopathies (3.4%) refer to disorders of the back and cervical region. Neurotic, personality and other nonpsychotic mental disorders (3.0%) included neurotic disorders, non-dependent abuse of drugs, and other depressive disorders. Infections of skin and subcutaneous tissue (2.9%) were diagnosed for any cellulitis or abscess, boil, impetigo or local skin infection.

**Primary Diagnosis  
15 Most Common Diagnoses**

Primary Diagnosis	Frequency	Percent
840-848 SPRAINS AND STRAINS OF JOINTS AND MUSCLES	5,515	5.1
780 GENERAL SYMPTOMS*	5,333	4.9
786 RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS*	5,282	4.8
789 ABDOMINAL SYMPTOMS*	5,281	4.8
920-924 CONTUSION WITH INTACT SKIN SURFACE	4,233	3.9
460-466 ACUTE RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS	3,835	3.5
720-724 DORSOPATHIES	3,703	3.4
590-599 OTHER DISESES OF URINARY SYSTEM	3,679	3.4
870-879 OPEN WOUND OF HEAD, NECK, TRUNK	3,554	3.3
880-887 OPEN WOUND OF UPPER LIMB	3,302	3.0
300-316 NEUROTIC, PERSONALITY, OTHER NONPSYCHOTIC	3,283	3.0
680-686 INFECTIONS OF SKIN AND SUBCUTANEOUS TISSUE	3,175	2.9
490-496 COPD AND ALLIED CONDITIONS	2,866	2.6
784 HEAD AND NECK SYMPTOMS*	2,660	2.4
810-819 FRACTURE OF UPPER LIMB	2,338	2.1

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

**Primary Diagnosis by Age Group**

	0-14		15-24		25-44		45-64		65+		Total	
	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent
Infectious and Parasitic Diseases	502	3.4	255	1.4	432	1.2	167	0.7	105	0.7	1,461	1.3
Neoplasms	15	0.1	25	0.1	97	0.3	82	0.3	44	0.3	264	0.2
Endocrine, Nutrition, Metabolic	102	0.7	152	0.8	479	1.3	511	2.2	511	3.3	1,755	1.6
Disease of blood & blood forming organs	25	0.2	24	0.1	52	0.1	55	0.2	60	0.4	216	0.2
Mental disorders	95	0.6	884	4.8	1,848	5.1	1,302	5.5	393	2.6	4,522	4.2
Diseases of Nervous System/Sense Organs	1,246	8.5	645	3.5	1,680	4.6	993	4.2	397	2.6	4,961	4.6
Circulatory	20	0.1	88	0.5	474	1.3	851	3.6	1,355	8.8	2,788	2.6
Respiratory	2,439	16.6	1,321	7.2	2,202	6.0	1,471	6.2	1,061	6.9	8,494	7.8
Digestive	523	3.6	779	4.2	1,682	4.6	1,213	5.1	853	5.6	5,050	4.7
Genitourinary	305	2.1	1,270	6.9	2,247	6.2	1,116	4.7	755	4.9	5,693	5.2
Comps of preg, childbirth, puerperi	8	0.1	1,183	6.4	1,634	4.5	10	0.0	0	0.0	2,836	2.6
Skin/Subcutaneous tissue	482	3.3	872	4.7	1,997	5.5	1,182	5.0	367	2.4	4,902	4.5
Musculoskeletal/Connective tissue	237	1.6	721	3.9	2,835	7.8	2,513	10.6	1,200	7.8	7,506	6.9
Congenital Anomalies	5	0.0	8	0.0	9	0.0	6	0.0	0	0.0	28	0.0
Perinatal conditions	61	0.4	2	0.0	2	0.0	1	0.0	1	0.0	67	0.1
Symptoms, signs, ill-defined conditions	2,690	18.4	3,110	16.9	7,585	20.8	5,674	24.0	4,404	28.7	23,464	21.6
Injury and poisoning	5,444	37.1	6,102	33.2	9,372	25.7	5,472	23.1	3,422	22.3	29,812	27.5
V-code - supplementary	457	3.1	919	5.0	1,806	5.0	1,037	4.4	416	2.7	4,637	4.3
Group Total	14,656	100.0	18,360	100.0	36,433	100.0	23,656	100.0	15,344	100.0	108,456	100.0

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

\*Total includes 10 patients with missing age. Excludes 620 patients with missing diagnosis.

- 37 percent of all patients aged 0 to 14 years were discharged with an injury or poisoning diagnosis. 17 percent were diagnosed with a respiratory disease.
- 34 percent of all infectious and parasitic disease diagnoses were among persons 0 to 14 years of age.
- Patients 15 to 24 years of age were most often diagnosed with an injury or poisoning (33%), followed by symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions (17%).
- Patients 65 years and older were most often diagnosed with symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions (29%). However, 22 percent were diagnosed with injury and poisoning, and 9 percent with circulatory disease.

### Primary Diagnosis by Race/Ethnicity

	White		Black		Hispanic		Asian/Other		Unknown		Total	
	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent
Infectious and Parasitic Diseases	554	1.0	179	1.7	579	1.9	124	1.4	25	1.3	1,461	1.3
Neoplasms	134	0.2	18	0.2	86	0.3	21	0.2	5	0.3	264	0.2
Endocrine, Nutrition, Metabolic	908	1.6	176	1.7	469	1.5	179	2.0	23	1.2	1,755	1.6
Disease of blood and blood forming organs	105	0.2	37	0.4	54	0.2	17	0.2	3	0.2	216	0.2
Mental disorders	2,756	4.9	378	3.6	1,049	3.4	257	2.9	82	4.3	4,522	4.2
Diseases of Nervous System/Sense Organs	2,588	4.6	488	4.7	1,431	4.7	376	4.2	78	4.1	4,961	4.6
Circulatory	1,736	3.1	242	2.3	516	1.7	245	2.8	49	2.5	2,788	2.6
Respiratory	3,940	7.0	1,050	10.1	2,578	8.4	773	8.7	153	7.9	8,494	7.8
Digestive	2,368	4.2	507	4.9	1,673	5.4	417	4.7	85	4.4	5,050	4.7
Genitourinary	2,924	5.2	521	5.0	1,621	5.3	548	6.2	79	4.1	5,693	5.2
Comps of preg, childbirth, puerperi	812	1.4	285	2.7	1,428	4.6	246	2.8	65	3.4	2,836	2.6
Skin/Subcutaneous tissue	2,625	4.6	523	5.0	1,285	4.2	381	4.3	88	4.6	4,902	4.5
Musculoskeletal/Connective tissue	4,194	7.4	935	9.0	1,719	5.6	536	6.0	122	6.3	7,506	6.9
Congenital Anomalies	12	0.0	2	0.0	10	0.0	3	0.0	1	0.1	28	0.0
Perinatal conditions	19	0.0	3	0.0	41	0.1	3	0.0	1	0.1	67	0.1
Symptoms, signs, ill-defined conditions	12,130	21.5	2,323	22.3	6,559	21.3	2,091	23.6	361	18.8	23,464	21.6
Injury and poisoning	16,507	29.2	2,222	21.4	8,189	26.7	2,297	25.9	597	31.0	29,812	27.5
V-code - supplementary	2,223	3.9	508	4.9	1,440	4.7	358	4.0	108	5.6	4,637	4.3
Group Total	56,535	100.0	10,397	100.0	30,727	100.0	8,872	100.0	1,925	100.0	108,456	100.0

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

\*Excludes 620 patients with missing diagnosis.

- Most infectious and parasitic disease diagnoses were among Hispanic patients (n=579).
- White patients were most often diagnosed with injury and poisoning (29%).
- 10 percent of black patients were diagnosed with respiratory disease. 9 percent were diagnosed with musculoskeletal and connective tissue diseases.

### Primary Diagnosis by Gender

	Male		Female		Total	
	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent
Infectious and Parasitic Diseases	672	1.3	789	1.4	1,461	1.3
Neoplasms	102	0.2	161	0.3	264	0.2
Endocrine, Nutrition, Metabolic	806	1.6	949	1.6	1,755	1.6
Disease of blood and blood forming organs	88	0.2	128	0.2	216	0.2
Mental disorders	2,411	4.8	2,111	3.6	4,522	4.2
Diseases of Nervous System/Sense Organs	2,096	4.2	2,865	4.9	4,961	4.6
Circulatory	1,348	2.7	1,440	2.5	2,788	2.6
Respiratory	3,905	7.8	4,589	7.9	8,494	7.8
Digestive	2,271	4.5	2,779	4.8	5,050	4.7
Genitourinary	1,596	3.2	4,097	7.0	5,693	5.2
Comps of preg, childbirth, puerperi	8	0.0	2,828	4.9	2,836	2.6
Skin/Subcutaneous tissue	2,622	5.2	2,280	3.9	4,902	4.5
Musculoskeletal/Connective tissue	3,352	6.7	4,150	7.1	7,506	6.9
Congenital Anomalies	16	0.0	12	0.0	28	0.0
Perinatal conditions	30	0.1	37	0.1	67	0.1
Symptoms, signs, ill-defined conditions	9,903	19.7	13,558	23.3	23,464	21.6
Injury and poisoning	16,474	32.8	13,326	22.9	29,812	27.5
V-code - supplementary	2,593	5.2	2,044	3.5	4,637	4.3
<b>Group Total</b>	<b>50,293</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>58,143</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>108,456</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

\*Total includes 20 cases with missing gender. Excludes 620 cases with missing diagnosis.

- One-third of all male patients were diagnosed with an injury or poisoning, compared to only 23 percent of all females.
- Among females, 2,828 were diagnosed with complications of pregnancy, childbirth, and the puerperium (5%). Seven percent were diagnosed with genitourinary diseases.

### Primary Diagnosis by Region

	North Coastal		North Central		Central		South		East		North Inland	
	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent
Infectious and Parasitic Diseases	230	1.4	149	1.1	327	1.6	354	2.1	177	1.2	64	0.4
Neoplasms	28	0.2	22	0.2	38	0.2	42	0.2	19	0.1	95	0.6
Endocrine, Nutrition, Metabolic	242	1.5	205	1.5	320	1.5	284	1.7	195	1.4	326	2.1
Disease of blood	39	0.2	34	0.3	37	0.2	30	0.2	26	0.2	29	0.2
Mental disorders	704	4.3	469	3.5	882	4.2	559	3.3	627	4.4	668	4.3
Diseases of Nervous/Sense Organs	665	4.1	606	4.5	891	4.3	876	5.1	625	4.4	736	4.8
Circulatory	521	3.2	405	3.0	413	2.0	470	2.8	327	2.3	417	2.7
Respiratory	1,215	7.5	910	6.7	1,665	8.0	1,525	8.9	1,076	7.5	1,222	7.9
Digestive	705	4.3	585	4.3	972	4.7	1,006	5.9	587	4.1	756	4.9
Genitourinary	773	4.8	779	5.8	1,016	4.9	970	5.7	744	5.2	823	5.3
Comps of preg, childbirth, puerperi	337	2.1	306	2.3	613	2.9	596	3.5	346	2.4	435	2.8
Skin/Subcutaneous tissue	579	3.6	586	4.3	1,249	6.0	743	4.4	680	4.8	532	3.4
Musculoskeletal/Connective tissue	914	5.6	928	6.9	1,735	8.3	1,144	6.7	1,077	7.5	979	6.3
Congenital Anomalies	2	0.0	3	0.0	5	0.0	2	0.0	0	-	11	0.1
Perinatal conditions	21	0.1	4	0.0	9	0.0	9	0.1	5	0.0	16	0.1
Symptoms, signs, ill-defined conditions	3,434	21.2	3,069	22.7	4,652	22.3	3,580	21.0	3,443	24.1	3,169	20.5
Injury and poisoning	5,114	31.5	3,885	28.7	4,597	22.1	4,263	25.0	3,925	27.4	4,699	30.4
V-code - supplementary	696	4.3	583	4.3	1,398	6.7	602	3.5	421	2.9	472	3.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,219</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13,528</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>20,819</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>17,055</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>14,300</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>15,449</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

\*Total excludes 11,086 with missing region, and 620 with missing diagnosis.

- Patients in the South and Central region had the highest percentage of respiratory diagnoses.
- Infectious and parasitic diseases were most often diagnosed in the South (n=354) and Central regions (n=327).
- The most common diagnosis in Central region was symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions (22.3%). The most common diagnosis in every other region was injury and poisoning.

## Primary Injury

A primary external cause of injury code (E-code) was reported for 31,590 patients (29%). The fifteen most common E-codes are listed below.

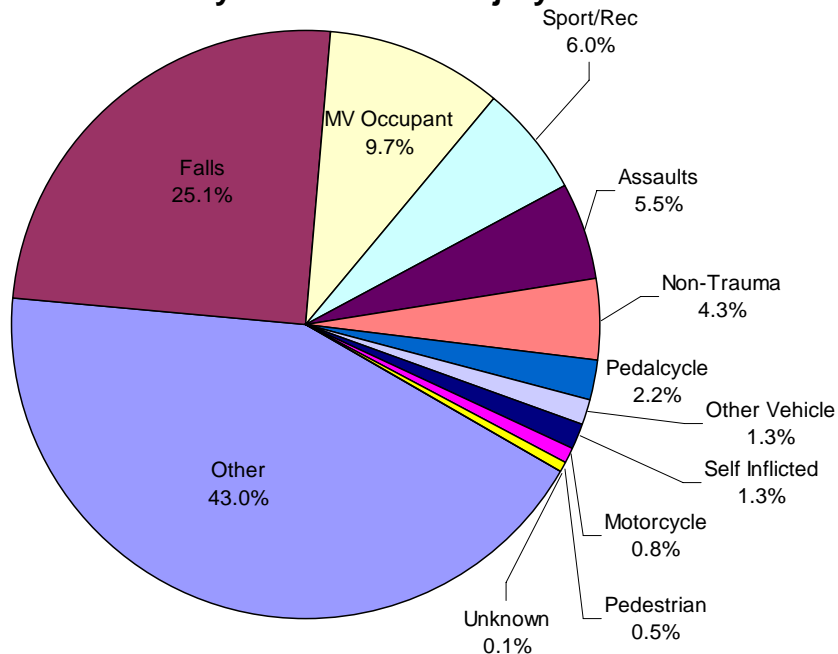
**Primary Mechanism of Injury  
15 Most Common E-Codes**

Principal E-Code	Frequency	Percent
FALL OTH TRIP STUMBLE	3,054	9.7
ACCID FROM OVEREXERTION*	2,762	8.7
STRUCK BY OBJ/PERSON OT	1,873	5.9
MVA COLLISION UNSP DRIVER	1,706	5.4
UNSPEC FALL	1,594	5.0
ACCID CUTTING INSTRUM OT	1,516	4.8
STRUCK IN SPORTS W/O FALL	1,064	3.4
ACCIDENT UNSPEC	1,027	3.3
UNARMED FIGHT OR BRAWL	855	2.7
MVA COLLISION UNSP PASNGR	736	2.3
FALL AGAINST OTH OBJECT	605	1.9
PED CYCLE ACCID PED CYCLIST	592	1.9
KNIFE/SWORD/DAGGER ACC	589	1.9
FALL ONE LEVEL TO ANOTH	552	1.7
FALL ON STAIR/STEP OT	537	1.7

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

Overall, falls accounted for 25 percent and motor vehicle occupants represented 10 percent of reported injuries. It is important to note that these cases do not represent the more severe injuries that are admitted to the hospital. The “Other” category includes unintentional cut/pierce injuries, struck by object, environmental, etc..

**Primary Mechanism of Injury**



Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.



### Primary Injury by Age Group

	0-14		15-24		25-44		45-64		65+		Total	
	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent
Railway Incidents	0	0.0	1	0.0	2	0.0	3	0.1	0	0.0	6	0.0
MV Traffic Incidents	256	4.6	1,208	18.7	1,390	13.9	727	12.4	204	5.5	3,785	12.0
MV Non-Traffic Incidents	30	0.5	89	1.4	119	1.2	39	0.7	15	0.4	292	0.9
Other Road Vehicle Incidents	246	4.4	133	2.1	203	2.0	111	1.9	11	0.3	704	2.2
Water Transport Incidents	1	0.0	7	0.1	15	0.1	5	0.1	0	0.0	28	0.1
Air and Space Transport Incidents	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	0.0	3	0.1	1	0.0	8	0.0
Vehicle Incidents NEC	1	0.0	4	0.1	6	0.1	2	0.0	4	0.1	17	0.1
Poisoning by Drugs/Medicinal Substances/Biologicals	88	1.6	74	1.1	116	1.2	94	1.6	38	1.0	410	1.3
Poisoning by Otr Solid/Liquid/Gases/Vapors	25	0.4	26	0.4	49	0.5	28	0.5	8	0.2	136	0.4
Abnormal Surgical/Medical Procedures	2	0.0	17	0.3	40	0.4	39	0.7	51	1.4	149	0.5
Fall Incidents	2,111	37.8	884	13.7	1,630	16.3	1,664	28.5	2,226	60.1	8,515	27.0
Incidents Caused by Fire/Flames	8	0.1	20	0.3	35	0.3	13	0.2	2	0.1	78	0.2
Incidents Due to Natural/Environmental Factors	253	4.5	217	3.4	385	3.8	252	4.3	74	2.0	1,181	3.7
Incidents Caused by Submersion/Suffocation/Foreign Bodies	179	3.2	87	1.3	223	2.2	112	1.9	60	1.6	661	2.1
Other Incidents	2,238	40.1	2,655	41.1	4,533	45.3	2,097	35.9	729	19.7	12,252	38.8
Late Effects of Unintentional Injury	2	0.0	9	0.1	24	0.2	30	0.5	13	0.4	78	0.2
Adverse Effects of Drugs, Medicinal, & Biologic Substances	48	0.9	78	1.2	246	2.5	219	3.7	230	6.2	821	2.6
Suicide/Self-Inflicted Injury	19	0.3	156	2.4	162	1.6	79	1.4	7	0.2	423	1.3
Homicide/Injury Purposely Inflicted by Otr Persons	62	1.1	689	10.7	693	6.9	269	4.6	26	0.7	1,739	5.5
Legal Intervention	1	0.0	49	0.8	78	0.8	24	0.4	2	0.1	154	0.5
Undetermined Intent	8	0.1	53	0.8	52	0.5	35	0.6	3	0.1	151	0.5
Injury Resulting from Operations of War	0	0.0	2	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.0
<b>Group Total</b>	<b>5,578</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>6,458</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>10,005</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5,845</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,704</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>31,590</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

- Falls were the most common mechanism of injury among patients 65 years and older (60%).
- Most fall incidents occurred among patients 65 years and older (n=2,226) and among children 0 to 14 years of age (n=2,111).
- Eleven percent of all injuries among 15 to 24 year olds were intentionally inflicted by another person.
- Three percent of injuries among 0 to 14 year olds were due to submersion, suffocation, or foreign bodies.

### Primary Injury by Race/Ethnicity

	White		Black		Hispanic		Asian/Other		Unknown		Total	
	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent
Railway Incidents	4	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	6	0.0
MV Traffic Incidents	1,874	10.7	350	14.9	1,060	12.3	410	17.0	91	14.2	3,785	12.0
MV Non-Traffic Incidents	178	1.0	13	0.6	70	0.8	21	0.9	10	1.6	292	0.9
Other Road Vehicle Incidents	422	2.4	36	1.5	183	2.1	43	1.8	20	3.1	704	2.2
Water Transport Incidents	22	0.1	0	0.0	1	0.0	1	0.0	4	0.6	28	0.1
Air and Space Transport Incidents	6	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	8	0.0
Vehicle Incidents NEC	9	0.1	0	0.0	6	0.1	2	0.1	0	0.0	17	0.1
Poisoning by Drugs/Medicinal Substances/Biologicals	247	1.4	33	1.4	101	1.2	22	0.9	7	1.1	410	1.3
Poisoning by Otr Solid/Liquid/Gases/Vapors	69	0.4	10	0.4	39	0.5	16	0.7	2	0.3	136	0.4
Abnormal Surgical/Medical Procedures	85	0.5	7	0.3	43	0.5	12	0.5	2	0.3	149	0.5
Fall Incidents	5,039	28.7	510	21.7	2,248	26.1	567	23.6	151	23.6	8,515	27.0
Incidents Caused by Fire/Flames	48	0.3	4	0.2	13	0.2	10	0.4	3	0.5	78	0.2
Incidents Due to Natural/Environmental Factors	729	4.1	54	2.3	289	3.4	80	3.3	29	4.5	1,181	3.7
Incidents Caused by Submersion/Suffocation/Foreign Bodies	353	2.0	55	2.3	190	2.2	50	2.1	13	2.0	661	2.1
Other Incidents	6,708	38.1	911	38.8	3,443	40.0	939	39.0	251	39.2	12,252	38.8
Late Effects of Unintentional Injury	51	0.3	8	0.3	13	0.2	5	0.2	1	0.2	78	0.2
Adverse Effects of Drugs, Medicinal, & Biologic Substances	481	2.7	59	2.5	193	2.2	77	3.2	11	1.7	821	2.6
Suicide/Self-Inflicted Injury	266	1.5	32	1.4	92	1.1	26	1.1	7	1.1	423	1.3
Homicide/Injury Purposely Inflicted by Otr Persons	836	4.8	233	9.9	529	6.1	112	4.7	29	4.5	1,739	5.5
Legal Intervention	65	0.4	26	1.1	53	0.6	5	0.2	5	0.8	154	0.5
Undetermined Intent	92	0.5	8	0.3	38	0.4	8	0.3	5	0.8	151	0.5
Injury Resulting from Operations of War	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.0
<b>Group Total</b>	<b>17,584</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2,349</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>8,610</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2,406</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>641</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>31,590</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

- Among black patients, 10 percent of all injuries were intentionally inflicted by another person.
- Most self-inflicted injuries were among white patients (63%).
- 29 percent of injuries among whites, and 26 percent of injuries among Hispanics were due to falls.

### Primary Injury by Gender

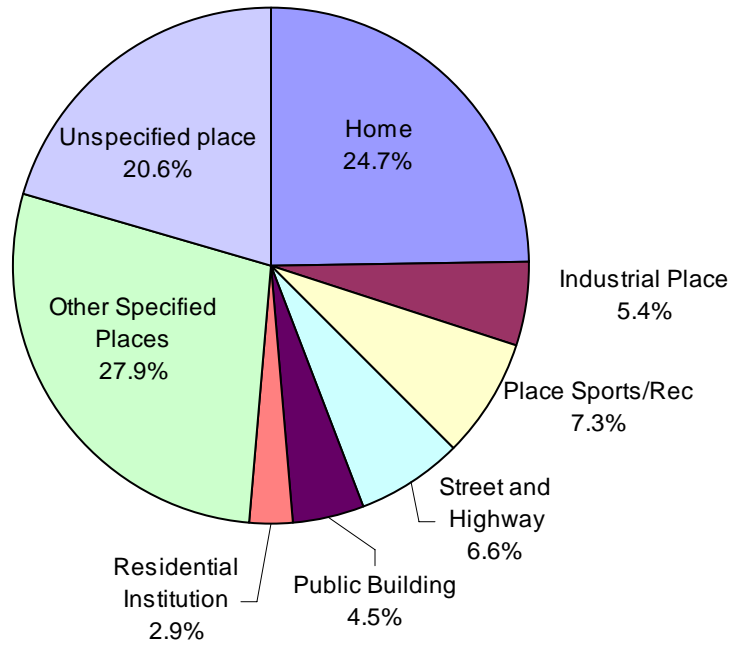
	Male		Female		Total	
	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent
Railway Incidents	2	0.0	4	0.0	6	0.0
MV Traffic Incidents	1,810	10.5	1,974	13.7	3,785	12.0
MV Non-Traffic Incidents	210	1.2	82	0.6	292	0.9
Other Road Vehicle Incidents	520	3.0	184	1.3	704	2.2
Water Transport Incidents	14	0.1	14	0.1	28	0.1
Air and Space Transport Incidents	7	0.0	1	0.0	8	0.0
Vehicle Incidents NEC	10	0.1	7	0.0	17	0.1
Poisoning by Drugs/Medicinal Substances/Biologicals	198	1.2	212	1.5	410	1.3
Poisoning by Otr Solid/Liquid/Gases/Vapors	79	0.5	57	0.4	136	0.4
Abnormal Surgical/Medical Procedures	70	0.4	79	0.5	149	0.5
Fall Incidents	3,972	23.1	4,539	31.6	8,515	27.0
Incidents Caused by Fire/Flames	55	0.3	23	0.2	78	0.2
Incidents Due to Natural/Environmental Factors	592	3.4	589	4.1	1,181	3.7
Incidents Caused by Submersion/Suffocation/Foreign Bodies	395	2.3	265	1.8	661	2.1
Other Incidents	7,332	42.6	4,918	34.2	12,252	38.8
Late Effects of Unintentional Injury	41	0.2	37	0.3	78	0.2
Adverse Effects of Drugs, Medicinal, & Biologic Substances	320	1.9	501	3.5	821	2.6
Suicide/Self-Inflicted Injury	163	0.9	260	1.8	423	1.3
Homicide/Injury Purposely Inflicted by Otr Persons	1,201	7.0	537	3.7	1,739	5.5
Legal Intervention	134	0.8	20	0.1	154	0.5
Undetermined Intent	85	0.5	65	0.5	151	0.5
Injury Resulting from Operations of War	2	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.0
<b>Group Total</b>	<b>17,212</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>14,368</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>31,590</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.  
 \*Includes 10 cases with missing gender.

- 32 percent of injuries among females were due to falls.
- Seven percent of injuries among males were intentionally inflicted by another person, compared to only 4 percent of females.

The location of injury was reported for 29,092 patients. Twenty-five percent of all injuries occur in the home.

### Location of Injury



Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

Falls were the single most common mechanism of injury among ED patients. Most falls occurred among adults 65 years and older (26.1%), followed by children 0 to 14 years of age (22.5%). When specified, 30 percent of falls occurred at home.

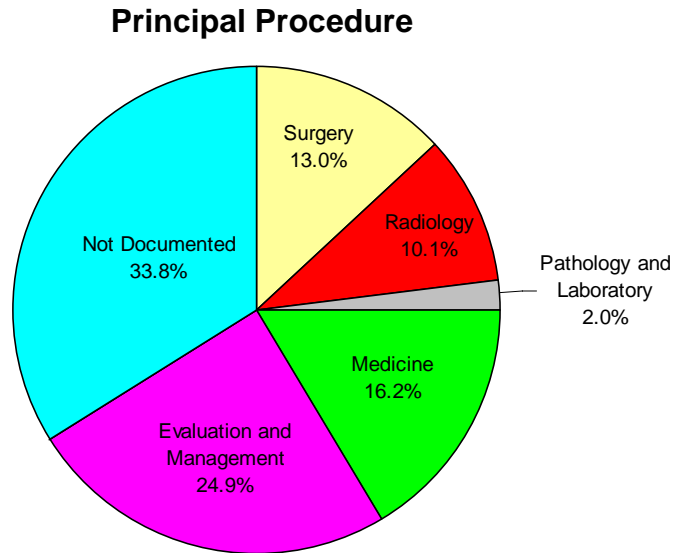
### Fall Injuries by Age Group

	Frequency	Percent
0-14	2,111	24.8
15-24	884	10.4
25-44	1,630	19.1
45-64	1,664	19.5
65+	2,226	26.1
Total	8,515	100.0

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

## Principal Procedures

Sixty-four percent (n=72,178) of patients represented in this report had at least one documented procedure.



Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

The top ten most common procedures performed, when known, are listed below.

### Principal Procedures 10 Most Common Procedures

Principal Procedure	Frequency	Percent
EMERGENCY DEPT VISIT	26,839	37.2
DIAGNOSTIC RADIOLOGY	10,066	13.9
THERAPY OR DIAG INJECTIONS	8,019	11.1
SURGERY INTEGUMENTARY	5,582	7.7
SURGERY MUSCULOSKELETAL	4,279	5.9
CARDIOVASCULAR	3,069	4.3
THERAPEUTIC OR DIAG INFUSIONS (EXCL CHEMO)	2,804	3.9
SURGERY CARDIOVASCULAR	2,661	3.7
PULMONARY	1,708	2.4
VACCINES TOXOIDS	1,144	1.6

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

The most common primary procedure is “Emergency Department Visit,” which refers to evaluation and management services performed in the emergency department. The distribution of the level of emergency care for procedures listed as “Emergency Department Visit” is displayed below.

Emergency Department Visit

	Frequency	Percent
Self-limited, minor problems	5,244	19.54
Low to moderate severity	4,003	14.91
Moderate severity	8,110	30.22
High severity, but no immediate threat to life or function.	7,861	29.29
High severity and immediate threat to life or function	581	2.16
Physician direction of EMS care, advanced life support	1,040	3.87
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,839</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

Other common procedures include the following:

**Diagnostic Radiology** - any x-ray, computed tomography (CT) scan, diagnostic ultrasound, or other diagnostic nuclear medicine tool.

**Therap Prophy or Diag Injections** - includes any therapeutic, prophylactic or diagnostic injection: subcutaneous, intramuscular, or intravenous.

**Surgery Integumentary** - any repair of superficial wounds or drainage of an abscess.

**Surgery Musculoskeletal** - not limited to surgical procedures, includes the application of splints or casts.

**Cardiovascular** - refers primarily to routine electrocardiogram (n=2776), but also includes cardiopulmonary resuscitation (n=58).

**Transfusion Medicine** - refers to pathology and laboratory procedures, such as blood typing.

**Surgery Cardiovascular** - is used to describe either the introduction of a needle or intracatheter to the vein, or the collection of venous blood by venipuncture.

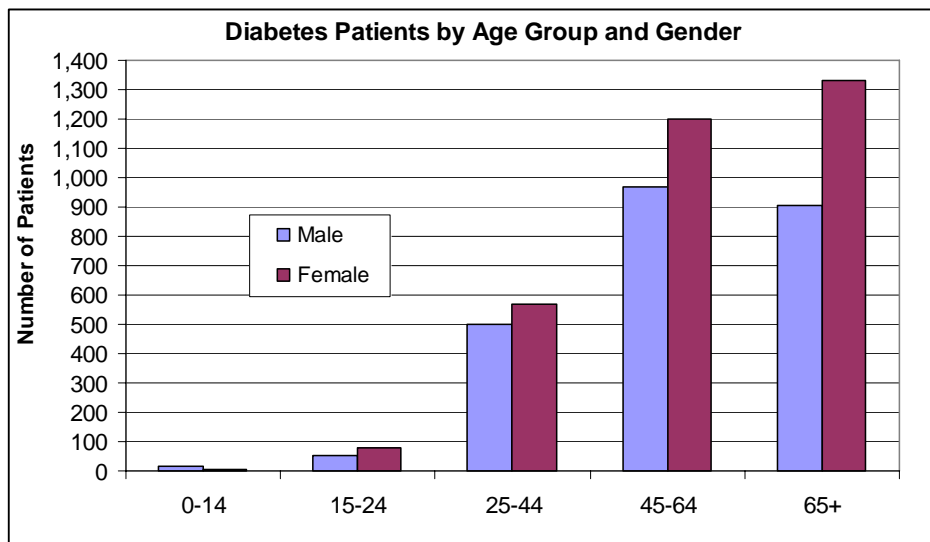
**Pulmonary** - includes treatments for pulmonary emergencies, such as inhalation treatment for asthma or airway obstructions.

**Vaccine Toxoids** - refers primarily to tetanus and diphtheria toxoids administered intramuscularly.

## Diabetes Mellitus

Of the 109,076 patients who presented to the EDs represented by this report, 5,625 were identified as diabetic. Eighty-six percent were identified as having controlled type II diabetes and 12 percent were identified as having controlled type I diabetes. Most diabetics don't present to the ED with a primary diagnosis of diabetes, but instead present with other conditions that may be or are complicated by the disease. Of the 5,625 patients who were identified as diabetic, 760 had a primary diagnosis of diabetes. Nearly half (47%) of patients with a primary diagnosis of diabetes presented to the ED with diabetic hypoglycemia or hypoglycemic shock. Another 31% were diagnosed with uncomplicated diabetes, with no mention of the presenting symptoms.

Fifty-seven percent of diabetic ED patients were female, and the number of diabetic patients increased with increasing age.



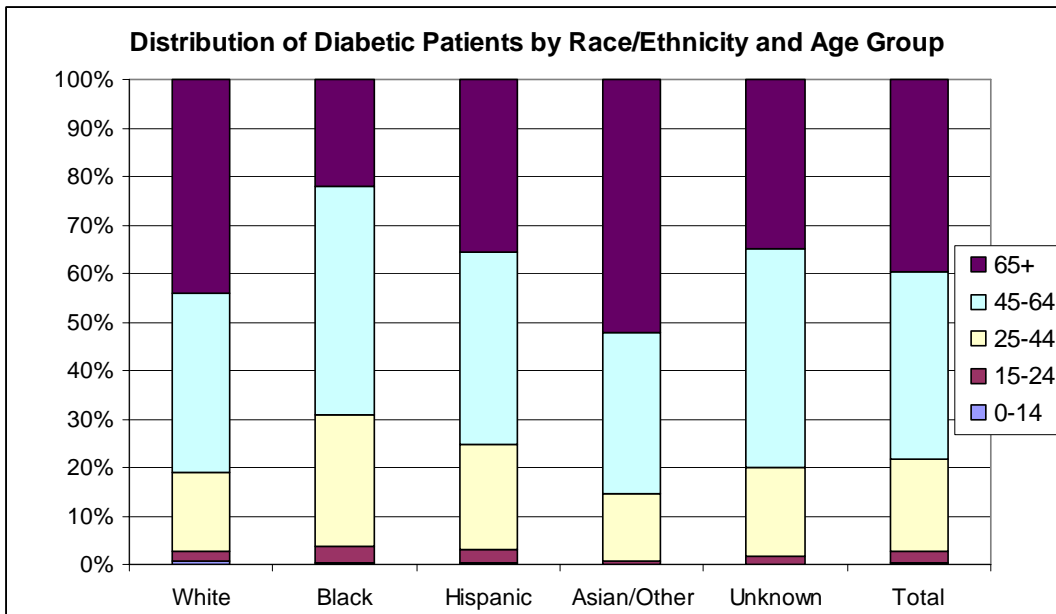
Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

The percent of all patients with an ED visit who were diagnosed with diabetes as a primary or co-morbid condition increased with increasing age group. Although there were more females over the age of 65 years diagnosed with diabetes, a higher percentage of elderly males who visited the ED had diabetes.

	Male	Female	Total
0-14	0.2	0.1	0.2
15-24	0.6	0.8	0.7
25-44	3.0	2.9	2.9
45-64	8.7	9.5	9.1
65+	14.9	14.2	14.5
Total	4.8	5.4	5.2

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

The distribution of diabetes patients within each racial/ethnic category varied by age group. In the white and Asian/other categories, the highest percentages of diabetic patients were over the age of 65 years.



Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

	White		Black		Hispanic		Asian/Other		Unknown		Total	
	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent
0-14	14	0.5	3	0.5	5	0.3	1	0.2	0	0.0	23	0.4
15-24	56	2.2	20	3.2	49	2.8	3	0.5	1	1.7	129	2.3
25-44	418	16.3	173	27.3	384	21.7	84	13.9	11	18.3	1,070	19.0
45-64	942	36.8	298	47.1	700	39.5	200	33.1	27	45.0	2,167	38.5
65+	1,127	44.1	139	22.0	633	35.7	316	52.3	21	35.0	2,236	39.8
Total	2,557	100.0	633	100.0	1,771	100.0	604	100.0	60	100.0	5,625	100.0

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

ED identified with a race/ethnicity of Asian/other had the highest proportion of diabetics (6.8%), followed by blacks (6.1%).

#### Percent of All ED Patients With Diabetes

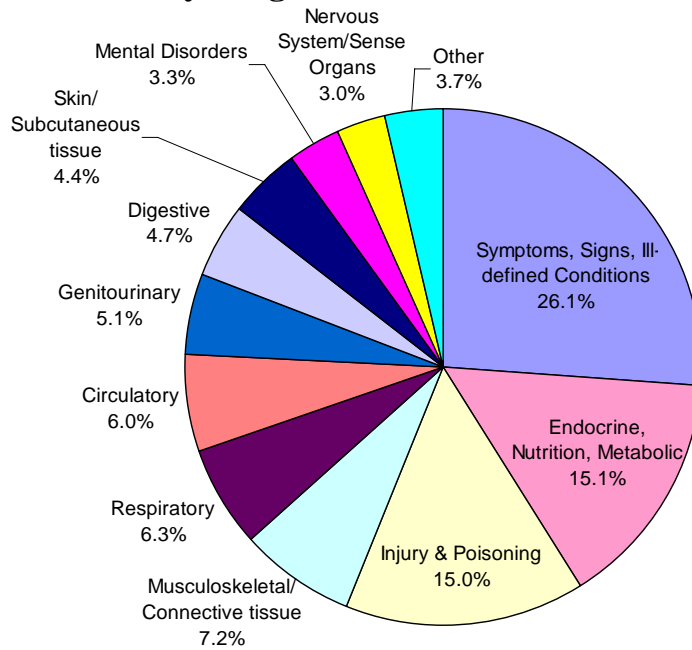
	Total ED	Total Diabetes	% Diabetes
White	56,776	2,557	4.5
Black	10,427	633	6.1
Hispanic	30,886	1,771	5.7
Asian/Other	8,889	604	6.8
Unknown	2,098	60	2.9
Total	109,076	5,625	5.2

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.



The primary diagnoses for diabetic ED patients were symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions, injury and poisoning, and endocrine, nutrition and metabolic diseases. Patients diagnosed with symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions most often presented with respiratory, general, or abdominal symptoms. There were 984 diabetic patients who were assigned an E-code for an injury or poisoning. Of these patients, 42% reported a fall, and 13% reported adverse effects of drugs, medicinal, and biological substances.

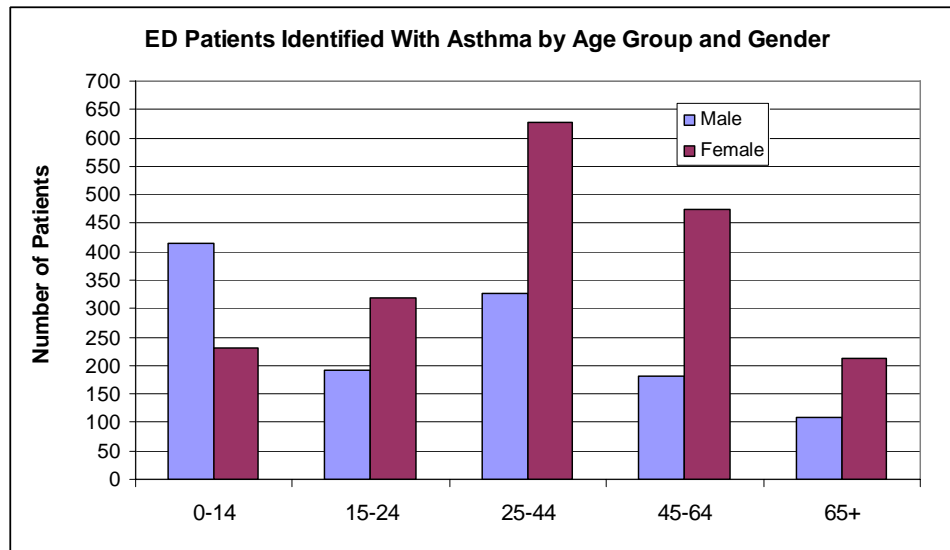
### Primary Diagnoses of Diabetic ED Patients



Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

## Asthma

A total of 3,088 ED patients (2.8%) were identified as asthmatic during this quarter. Most asthma patients were females aged 25 to 44 years (n=628) and 45 to 64 years (n=475). However, the largest proportion of asthma diagnoses in ED patients occurred among males 0 to 14 years of age (5.0%). Females over the age of 14 years were diagnosed with asthma more often than males of the same age.



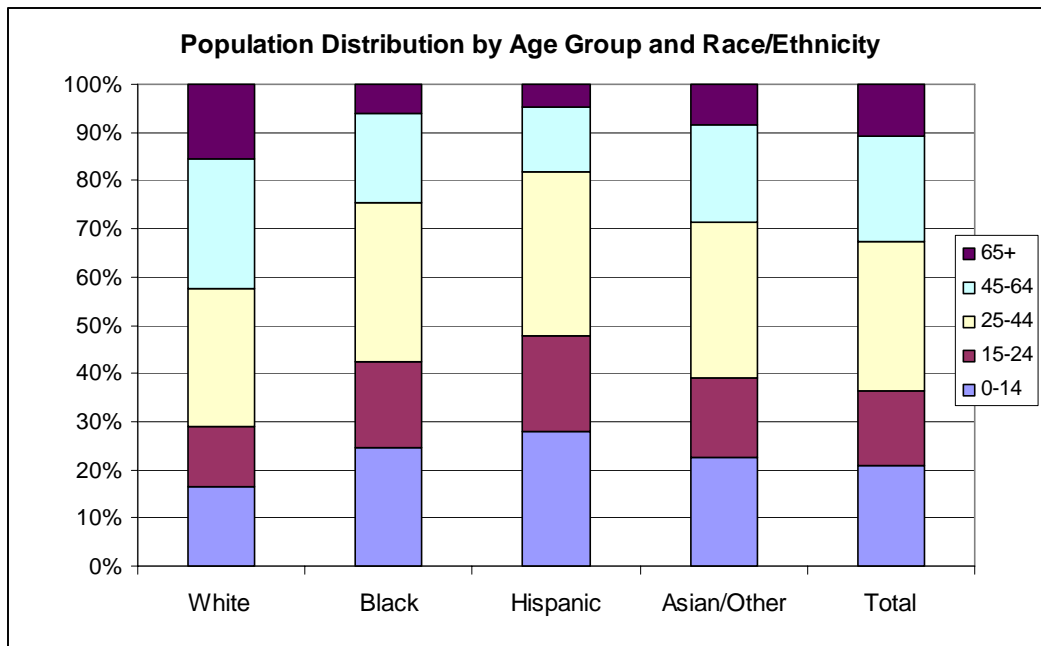
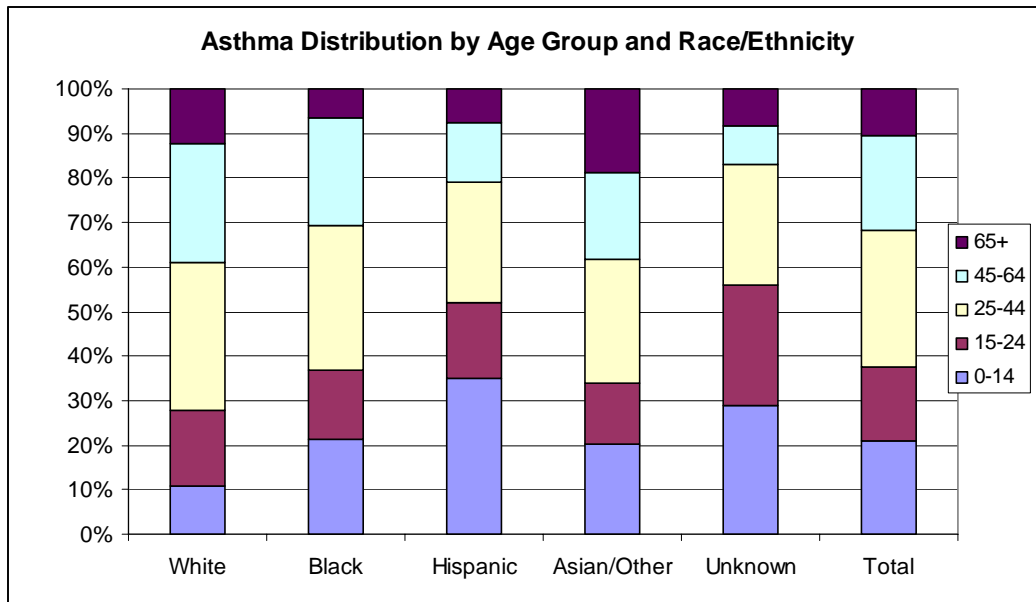
Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

### Percent of All ED Patients With Asthma

	Male	Female	Total
0-14	5.0	3.5	4.4
15-24	2.3	3.1	2.8
25-44	1.9	3.2	2.6
45-64	1.6	3.8	2.8
65+	1.8	2.3	2.1
Total	2.4	3.2	2.8

Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

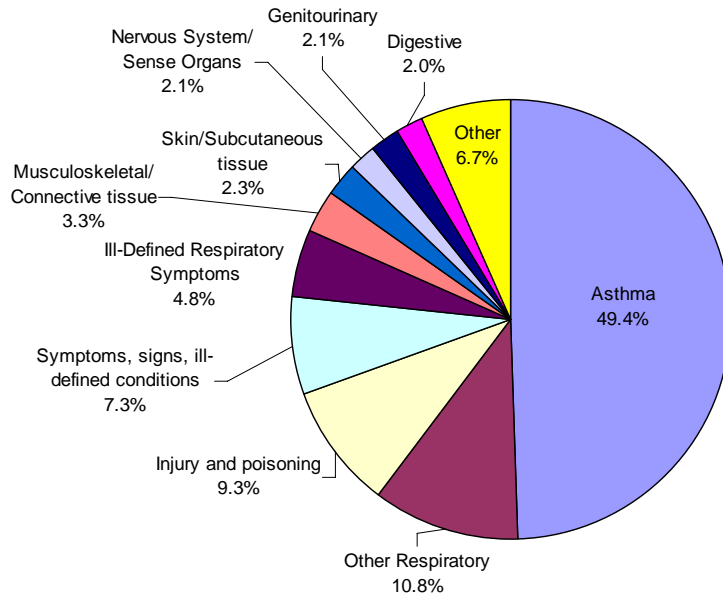
The distribution of asthma by age group within each of the major categories of race/ethnicity was similar to the distribution of the population overall.



Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.  
 Population Data: SANDAG, 2004 population estimates.

Out of all patients identified as asthmatic, 1,525 (49.4%) presented to the ED with an acute onset of asthma. Close to 11 percent presented with other respiratory conditions, such as bronchitis, upper respiratory infection and pneumonia, or with ill-defined respiratory symptoms (7%), such as wheezing, cough or chest pain, not identified as asthma.

### Primary Diagnosis of Asthmatic ED Patients



Source: County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Department Database, 4/1/2005 – 6/30/2005.

For those patients who presented with an acute onset of asthma, 932 had a documented procedure (61.1%). Of those with a documented procedure, 217 received a radiologic examination of the chest (23%), and 210 received a pressurized or nonpressurized inhalation treatment for diagnostic purposes (23%). Other services included detailed evaluation of problems with moderate to high severity (17%), detailed evaluation of problems with low to low-moderate severity (9%), and demonstration or evaluation of patient utilization of an inhaler or nebulizer (8%).

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