HOUSTON HOSPITALS
EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT USE STUDY

Zip Code Level Data on Children Age 0 To 17

January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007

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June 2009
Executive Summary

For the purposes of strategic planning and outreach, as well as to target resources that may at times be limited, a request was submitted to the University of Texas School of Public Health for ZIP code level information on emergency department visits by children age 0 to 17. The following comments and maps, and the companion spreadsheet, are an answer to this request. For a complete analysis of 2007 ED visits to Harris County area hospitals, please see the full report at http://www.sph.utc.tmc.edu/hsrc. For the purposes of this report, “insured” refers to all forms of payment combined (e.g. Medicaid, Medicare, CHIP, private insurance, etc.).

Results

With occasional exceptions, the geographical distribution (all age groups) of total ED visits, primary care related ED visits, and primary care related ED visits by the uninsured matches the distribution of those visits for children age 0 to 17 (Maps 1 & 2, 4 & 5, 7 & 8).

The percentage of total ED visits, as well as primary care related ED visits, that were children is highest in areas such as the northwest section of Harris County, the area along Acres Homes and the I 45 North corridor, and part of the Ship Channel. By contrast, the areas of the Third Ward, South Park, and Sunnyside were among the ZIP codes with the lowest percentages (Maps 3 & 6).

The percentage of uninsured primary care related ED visits that were children follows a pattern similar to Maps 3 and 6, but less so along the I 45 North corridor (Map 9).
Please refer to the accompanying spreadsheet for complete information on the following:

Map 1: Greatest total ED visits – 77520 (22,288)
Map 2: Greatest total ED visits by children – 77520 (7,442)
Map 3: Greatest percentage of total ED visits by children – 77081 (46.3%)
Map 4: Greatest total primary care related ED visits – 77520 (11,091)
Map 5: Greatest total primary care related ED visits by children – 77520 (4,651)
Map 6: Greatest percentage of PCR ED visits by children – 77081 (52.4%)
Map 7: Greatest total PCR ED visits by the uninsured – 77520 (4,043)
Map 8: Greatest total PCR ED visits by uninsured children – 77520 (924)
Map 9: Greatest percentage of uninsured PCR ED visits by children – 77547 (30.5%)

The following were not mapped:

Greatest total PCR ED visits by the insured: 77520 (7,048)
Greatest total PCR ED visits by insured children: 77520 (3,726)

Greatest percentage of insured PCR ED visits by children: 77081 (71.3%). The data provided for 77507 is suspect, because the Census Bureau indicates that it has a population of 0.
Map 2

Frequency Of Total ED Visits (Admitted and Discharged) - 25 Hospitals in 2007
Age 0 To 17
Map 3

Percentage Of Total ED Visits (Admitted And Discharged) That Are Children Age 0 To 17
25 Hospitals in 2007

Legend
- ED
- Counties
- Waterways

Percent of Total
- 3.8 - 6.2
- 6.3 - 9.3
- 9.4 - 12.6
- 12.7 - 15.9
- 16.0 - 19.2

Map 8

Frequency Of Primary Care Related ED Visits By The Uninsured - 25 Hospitals in 2007
Age 0 To 17

Legend
- ED
- Counties
- Waterways
- PCR & Unins. Children
  - 0 - 49
  - 50 - 119
  - 120 - 230
  - 231 - 924
Map 9

Percentage Of Uninsured Primary Care Related ED Visits That Are Children Age 0 To 17
25 Hospitals in 2007

Legend
- ED
- Counties
- Waterways
Pct. PCR & Unins.
- 0 - 15.9
- 16.0 - 20.3
- 20.4 - 22.9
- 23.0 - 30.6