

Utah Health Status Update:

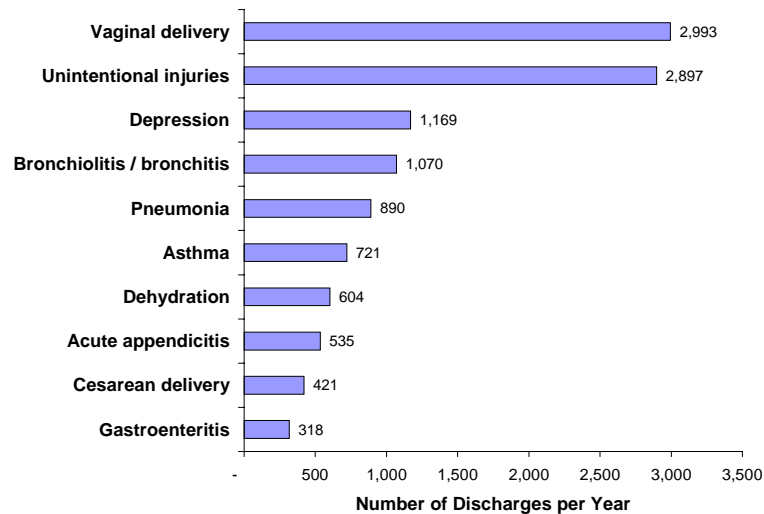
Common Reasons for Hospitalization of Children

Hospitalization data are an important means of assessing patterns and rates of non-fatal illness. Children are hospitalized for different conditions than are adults. A recent report by the Health Data Committee and the Office of Health Care Statistics examined the frequencies and charges for the most common reasons for which children are hospitalized. This Health Status Update presents highlights from that report.

- During 1993-1997, there were 118,864 (non-newborn) discharges of Utah residents age 0-19 years, or about 23,800 per year. Those discharges resulted in over \$866 million (>\$170 million per year) in hospital charges. This report focused on 20 conditions (discharge diagnoses) that accounted for 75,400 discharges or 63.4% of all non-newborn discharges of Utahns age 0-19.

Most Common Reasons for Hospitalization

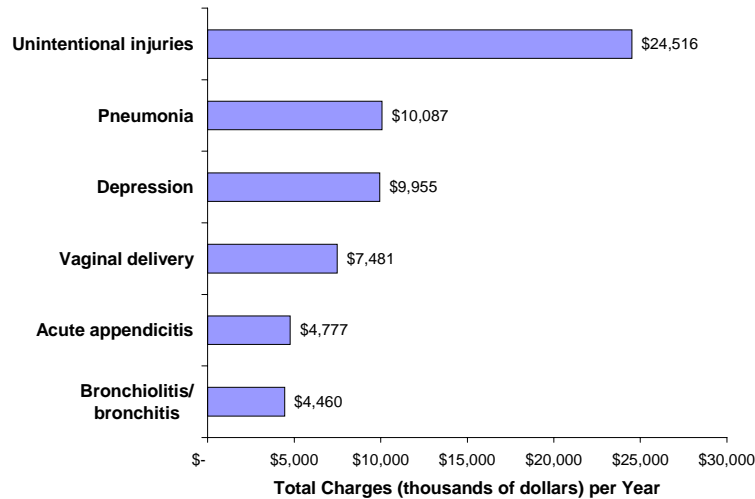
Average numbers of hospital discharges per year for selected conditions, Utah residents age 0-19, 1993-1997.



- The most common reasons for hospitalization of Utahns age 0-19 were vaginal delivery and unintentional injuries (see figure).
- The conditions resulting in the most total hospital charges were unintentional injuries (12% of charges in this age group), pneumonia, and depression (see figure).

Hospital Charges by Condition

Average total hospital charges (thousands of dollars) per year for selected conditions, Utah residents age 0-19, 1993-1997.

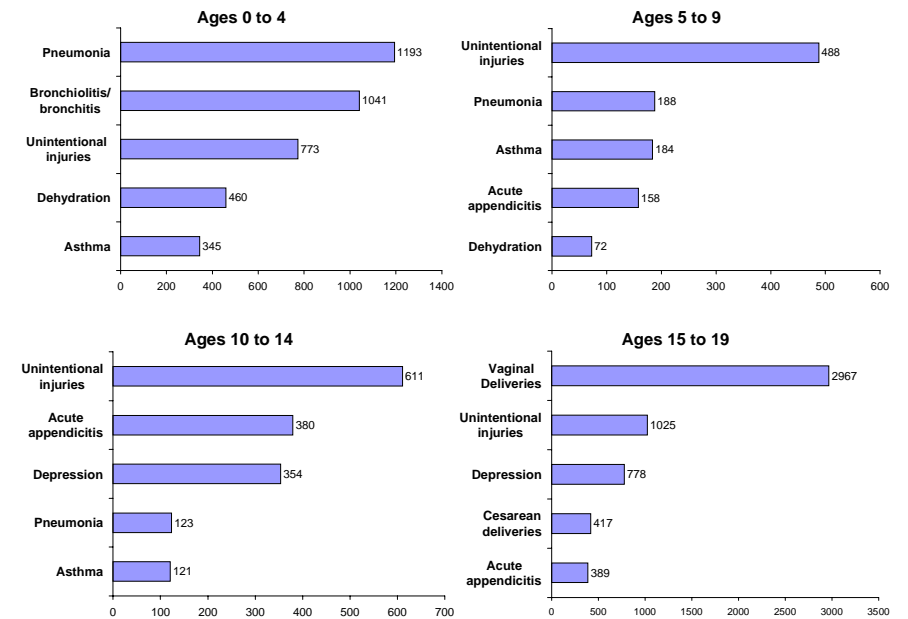


- Average charge per hospitalization was highest for manic-depressive illness (\$11,093 per discharge), behavior disorders (\$9,625), and injuries due to assault (\$9,488).
- In the age group 0-19 years, females had higher hospitalization rates than males (354.4 per 10,000 vs. 283.4 per 10,000). When hospitalizations for deliveries were excluded, the rate for females for all other conditions was somewhat lower (260.2 per 10,000) than for males.

- The reasons for hospitalization varied somewhat by age. Pneumonia and bronchiolitis/bronchitis were most common for children 0 to 4, unintentional injuries for children age 5 to 14, and vaginal deliveries for those age 15 to 19.

Reasons for Hospitalization by Age

Average numbers of hospital discharges per year for selected conditions by age group, Utah residents age 0-19, 1993-1997.

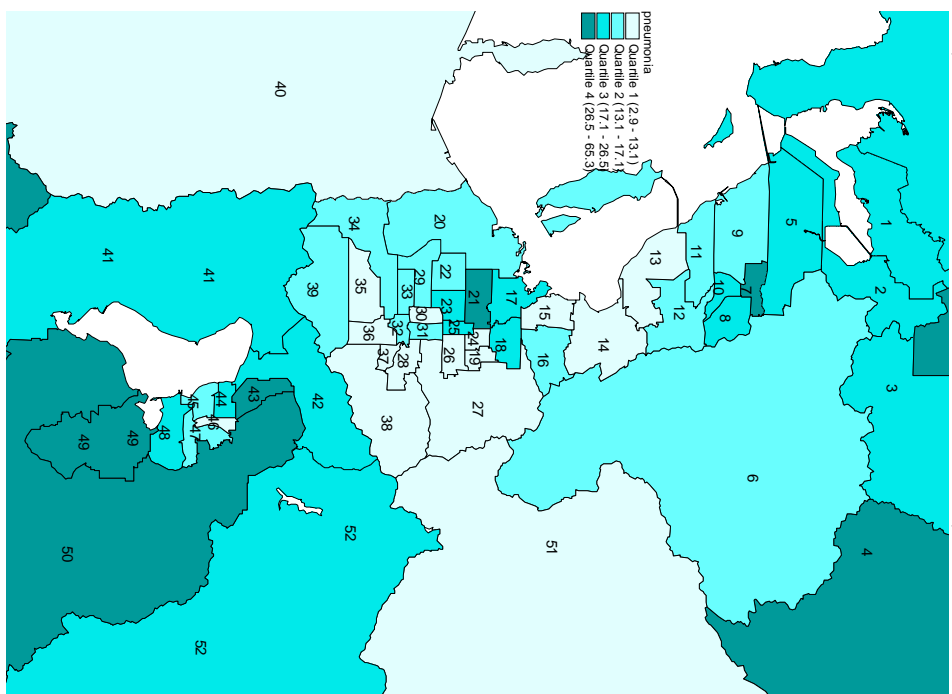


- Nearly 10% of charges for hospitalizations of Utahns age 0-19 were for mental health/behavioral conditions (depression, behavior disorder, manic-depressive, substance abuse).
- There was appreciable variation in rates of hospitalization of children among the 12 local health districts and among 61 Utah small areas (based on zip code or county of residence). For example, the rate for pneumonia varied from

56.3 per 10,000 in Tri-County District to 10.7 in Summit County. By small area, Glendale (area 21 of sample map below) in Salt Lake County had the highest overall hospitalization rate and rates in that community were significantly higher than the state rate for 5 of 14 non-delivery-related conditions.

Examining hospitalization rates for children can help with health assessment in that age group. Variations in hospitalization rates for children by community of residence can help identify problems such as with access to ambulatory pediatric care.

Average Annual Rates of Hospitalization for Pneumonia per 10,000 Persons. Utah Wasatch Front, 1993-97.



Small Area Boundary Designations

#	Area Name
1	Brigham City
2	Other Box Elder Co.
3	Logan
4	Other Cache/Rich Co.
5	Ben Lomond
6	Morgan/East Weber Co.
7	Downtown Ogden
8	South Ogden
9	Roy/Hooper
10	Riverdale
11	Clearfield/Hill AFB
12	Layton
13	Syracuse/Kaysville
14	Farmington/Centerville
15	Woods Cross/No St.
16	Bountiful
17	Rose Park
18	Avenues
19	Foot Hill/U of U
20	Magna
21	Glendale
22	West Valley West
23	West Valley East
24	Downtown Salt Lake
25	South Salt Lake
26	Millicreek
27	Holladay
28	Cottonwood
29	Kearns
30	Taylorsville
31	Murray
32	Midvale
33	West Jordan No.
34	W. Jordan, Copperton
35	South Jordan
36	Sandy Center
37	Sandy, NE
38	Sandy, SE
39	Riverton/Draper
40	Tooele Co.
41	Lehi/Cedar Valley
42	American Fork/Alpine
43	Pleasant Grove/Lindon
44	North Orem
45	West Orem
46	East Orem
47	Provo/BYU
48	Provo South
49	Springville/Spanish Fork
50	Utah Co. South
51	Summit Co.
52	Wasatch Co.
53	Tri-county LHD
54	Juab/Willard/Sanpete Co.
55	Sewyer/Plute/Wayne Co.
56	Carbon/Emery Co.
57	Grand/San Juan Co.
58	St. George
59	Other Washington Co.
60	Cedar City
61	Other Southwest Dist.



October Utah Health Status Update

Copies of the complete report, *Child and Adolescent Hospitalizations for Most Frequent and Expensive Conditions in Utah*, can be obtained from the Office of Health Care Statistics, Utah Department of Health, P. O. Box 144004, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4004, (801) 538-7048, FAX (801) 538-9916, email: jscarlet@doh.state.ut.us, and Internet: <http://hlunix.hl.state.ut.us/hda/childhospitalizations.pdf>. Additional information about this topic is available from the Center for Health Data, Utah Department of Health, P O Box 142101, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-2101, (801) 538-9191, FAX (801) 536-0947, email: phdata@doh.state.ut.us. Please send any comments on this report to the Center for Health Data.

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