Chapter 7 Healthcare Access

VARIABLES

Analysis	Data Source
1. SoonerCare Enrollment: stratified by ZIP code, ethnicity and gender	Oklahoma Health Care Authority State Fiscal Years 2016-2018 Data
2. Oklahoma City-County Hospital Utilization: stratified by ZIP code, ethnicity, gender and primary payer	Oklahoma Inpatient Discharge Data, 2016-2018
3. Electronic Surveillance System for Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics (ESSENCE) : stratified by ZIP code, gender and age	Oklahoma County ESSENCE Syndromic Surveillance System, 2016-2018

SOONERCARE MEMBER EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISITS

SoonerCare (Oklahoma Medicaid) provides health coverage for people who cannot afford medical bills and is jointly funded by the federal and state government. The Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) administers the program for the state of Oklahoma.
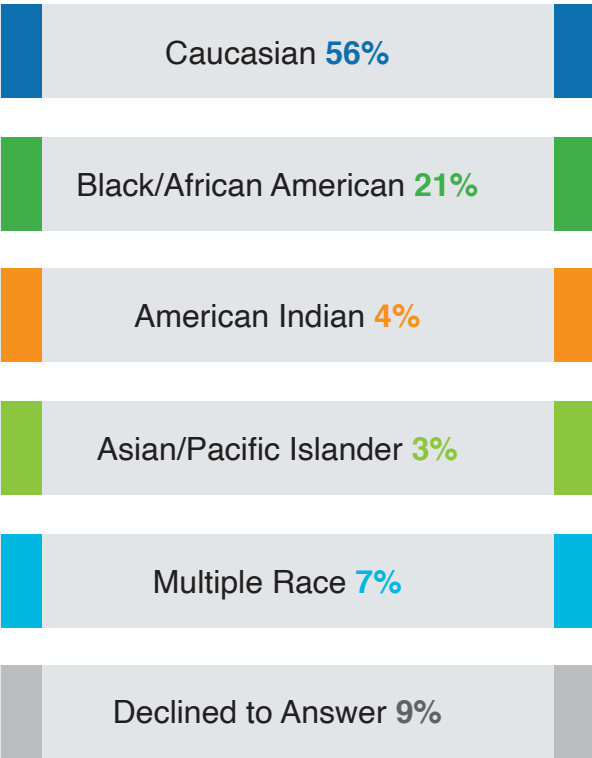
Why is it important?
Use of Emergency Department care for services that are not truly emergencies creates a serious burden within the health care system and adds costs to health care services. Research shows that at the national level Medicaid beneficiaries utilize the emergency department at nearly a twice the rate of those with private insurance (CMS, 2014). The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) expresses the importance of reducing unnecessary hospital emergency department use within healthcare systems. Understanding what parts of our community experience high emergency department use can help bring services, such as preventive care, education, and community-based programming to those areas with the goal of educating members on taking control of their health.

How are we doing?
SoonerCare served 26 percent of residents in Oklahoma County in 2018. In Oklahoma County, the annual average number of members enrolled in SoonerCare was 221,462 for the State Fiscal Years (SFY) 2016-2018. During SFY 2016-2018, 183,843 SoonerCare members in Oklahoma County visited emergency departments, with an average number of 61,281 emergency department visits per year. The Oklahoma City-County ZIP codes with the highest number of members enrolled in SoonerCare over the three years were 73119, 73099 and 73127. The ZIP codes with the lowest number of members enrolled in SoonerCare were 73145, 73151 and 73102. The highest annual average number of emergency department visits by SoonerCare members were in the 73119, 73129 and 73110 ZIP codes, while the lowest annual average number of emergency department visits by SoonerCare members were in the 73145, 73151 and 73173 ZIP codes. Of the Oklahoma County SoonerCare enrolled members during 2016-2018, 56 percent were Caucasian, and 21 percent were Black/African American. Additionally, an annual average of 62,548 members self-identified as Hispanic in Oklahoma County.

The OHCA ranked Oklahoma County first with the largest number of unduplicated enrollees (205,927) in 2018, and 40th for percent of population enrolled in SoonerCare (26 percent), similar to the percent of the state population (25 percent) enrolled in SoonerCare. (OHCA Annual 2019 Report).
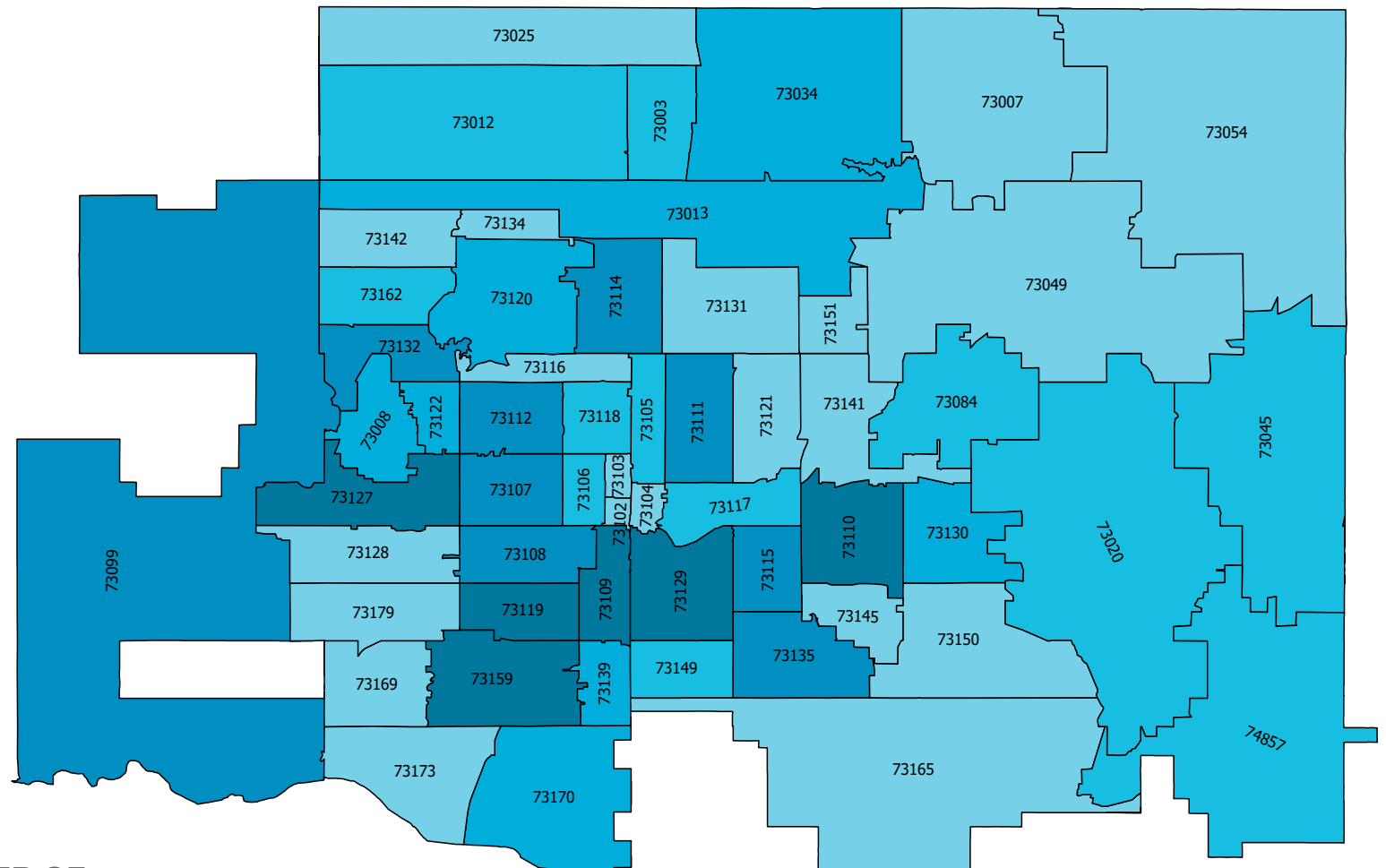
Data Source: Oklahoma Health Care Authority State Fiscal Years 2016-2018 data
References:
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. (2014). Reducing nonurgent use of emergency departments and improving appropriate care in appropriate settings. CMS Informational Bulletin. https://www.medicaid.gov/federal-policy-guidance/downloads/cib-01-16-14.pdf
- Oklahoma Health Care Authority. (2019). OHCA SFY 2019 annual report appendix. https://oklahoma.gov/content/dam/ok/en/okhca/documents/a0301/24442.pdf

Average Annual Medicaid Enrollment by Race
Oklahoma County, 2016-2018 SFY

Caucasian **56%**

Black/African American **21%**

American Indian **4%**

Asian/Pacific Islander **3%**

Multiple Race **7%**

Declined to Answer **9%**

Medicaid Enrollment by Gender
Oklahoma County, 2016-2018 SFY

Year	Male	Female
SFY 2016	96,194	126,940
SFY 2017	94,692	124,124
SFY 2018	96,639	125,796
SFY 2016-2018 Percent Enrollment	43%	57%

AVERAGE NUMBER OF
SOONERCARE ED VISITS PER YEAR
Oklahoma City-County, 2016-2018

Lowest — Highest

Zip	Visits	Zip	Visits	Zip	Visits	Zip	Visits	Zip	Visits	Zip	Visits
73003	926	73054	319								
73007	113	73084	857	73109	3,138	73119	4,890	73132	1,999	73151	15
73008	1,570	73099	2,834	73110	3,378	73120	1,445	73134	229	73159	3,010
73012	642	73102	51	73111	2,143	73121	277	73135	2,268	73162	971
73013	1,313	73103	136	73112	2,032	73122	1,185	73139	1,648	73165	253
73020	930	73104	168	73114	2,542	73127	3,303	73141	264	73169	202
73025	153	73105	563	73115	2,323	73128	334	73142	483	73170	1,132
73034	1,173	73106	972	73116	216	73129	3,393	73145	11	73173	50
73045	687	73107	2,187	73117	1,012	73130	1,450	73149	748	73179	232
73049	368	73108	2,434	73118	842	73131	66	73150	225	74857	628

Data Source: Oklahoma Health Care Authority State Fiscal Years 2016-2018 Data

OKLAHOMA CITY-COUNTY INPATIENT HOSPITAL UTILIZATION

Hospital utilization rates indicate which pockets of the community may have increased needs for health services. These trends can help identify areas that may require in-depth investigation regarding cost, quality, access, or provider output (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention). The hospital utilization indicator helps estimate the use of acute care hospitals in Oklahoma City-County during 2016-2018. This indicator reveals the number of hospital discharges per 1,000 population. A discharge is defined as the completion of any continuous period of stay of one night or more in a hospital as an inpatient (National Health Interview Survey definition).

Why is it important?
Areas with a greater number of primary care providers usually have lower rates of hospitalization for conditions that are more easily treatable on an out-patient basis. If access to high-quality primary care is increased, a community may be able to reduce preventable hospitalizations.

How are we doing?
The overall hospital discharge rate during 2016-2018 was 115.9 discharges per 1,000 people. Of the discharged patients, 64.7 percent were white, and 18.5 percent were Black/African American. For insurance, 36.4 percent had Medicare, 27.1 percent had commercial insurance, 28.5 percent had Medicaid, and 2.1 percent were Veterans Affairs/Military patients.

Data Source: Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH), Center for Health Statistics, Health Care Information, Oklahoma Inpatient Discharge Data 2016-2018.

Hospital Discharge Primary Payer
Oklahoma County, 2016-2018

36.4%
Medicare

27.1%
Commercial Insurance

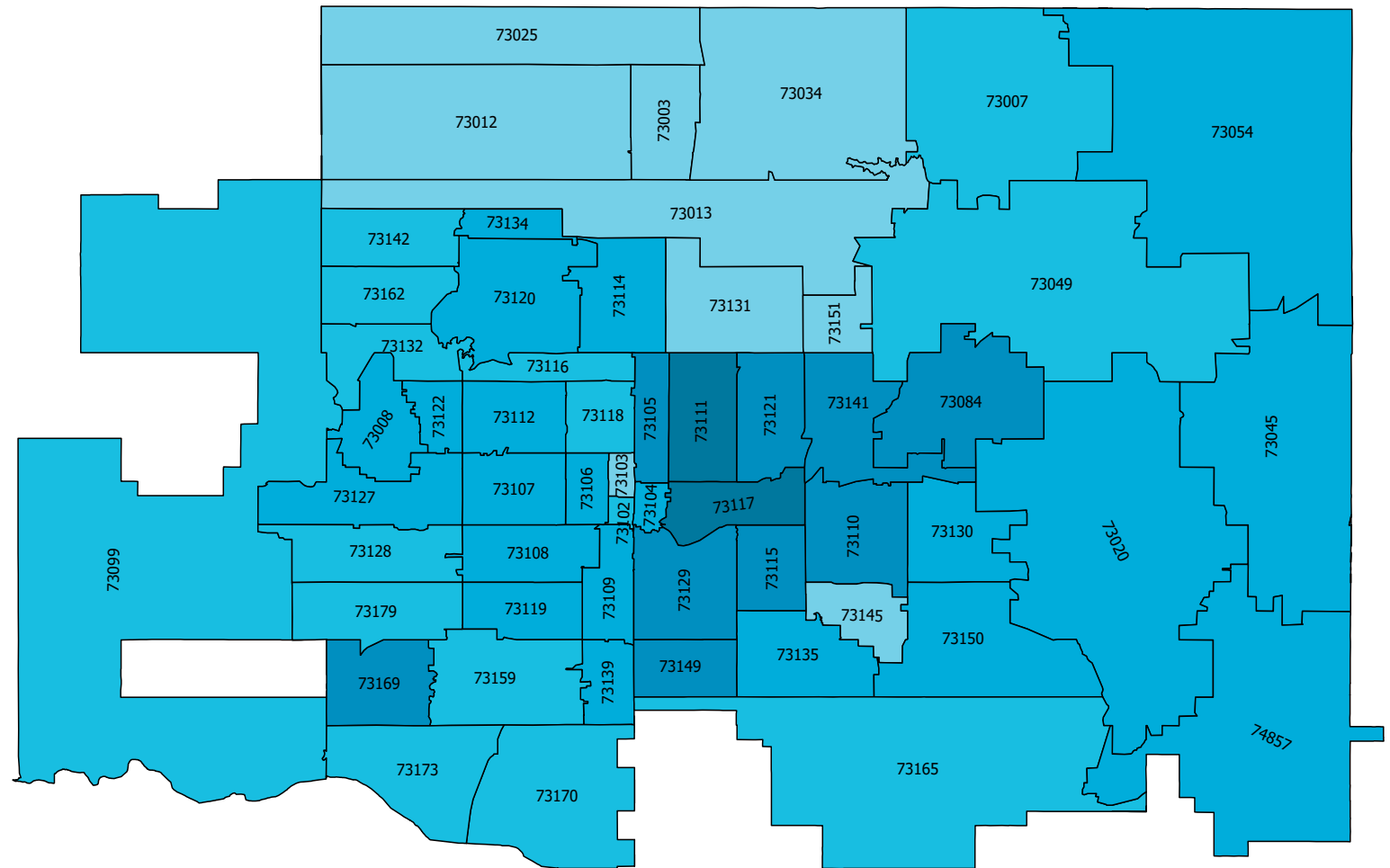**25.8%**
Medicaid

6.9%
Uninsured/Self-Pay

2.1%
Veterans Affairs/Military

1.4%
Other

0.4%
Workers Compensation
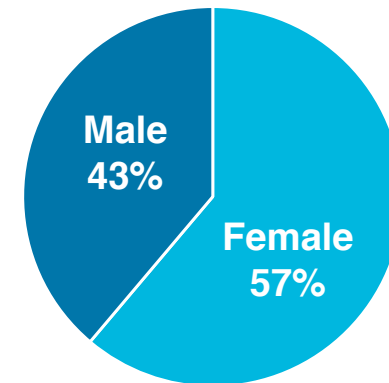
INPATIENT HOSPITAL DISCHARGE RATES
Oklahoma City-County, 2016-2018

Lowest ▢▢▢▢▢ Highest

73003	86.8	73054	121.1							
73007	90.5	73084	154.2	73109	130.3	73119	125.4	73132	109	73151	76.4
73008	123.6	73099	102.4	73110	144.7	73120	112	73134	114	73159	108.9
73012	72.4	73102	96.1	73111	212.1	73121	142.4	73135	117.5	73162	97.9
73013	82.6	73103	85.3	73112	114.3	73122	112.8	73139	124.8	73165	100.8
73020	113.3	73104	121.9	73114	124.2	73127	130.2	73141	151.3	73169	151
73025	72.5	73105	138.3	73115	145.6	73128	106.3	73142	89.9	73170	97
73034	79.5	73106	112.9	73116	100.9	73129	137.3	73145	75.7	73173	98.3
73045	129	73107	116	73117	185	73130	131.6	73149	143.9	73179	96.7
73049	107.9	73108	130.8	73118	104.4	73131	76.9	73150	122.1	74857	122.9

Rate per 1,000 population. Data Source: Oklahoma Inpatient Discharge Data, 2016-2018

ESSENCE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT SURVEILLANCE ENCOUNTERS

ESSENCE Emergency Room Visits by Gender
Oklahoma City-County, 2016-2018

Male 43%

Female 57%

Being able to track the primary complaints of patients who report to the emergency department is a way to understand what is happening in a community. Electronic Surveillance System for Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics (ESSENCE) is a system in which several Oklahoma City-County area hospitals send daily electronic transfers of chief emergency room complaints to the Oklahoma City-County Health Department. This indicator presents the number of emergency room visits to acute care hospitals by Oklahoma City-County residents per 1,000 population from 2016-2018.

Why is it important?
ESSENCE monitors population-level early signs of impending illness, such as fever, rash, and diarrhea, and alerts physicians to potential outbreaks and bioterrorism events, including COVID cases, before large numbers of patients become sick. ESSENCE data includes ZIP codes and provides one source of emergency department use in Oklahoma City-County. This information is important in understanding emergency department use for the general population and one use of syndromic surveillance within the Oklahoma City-County public health system.
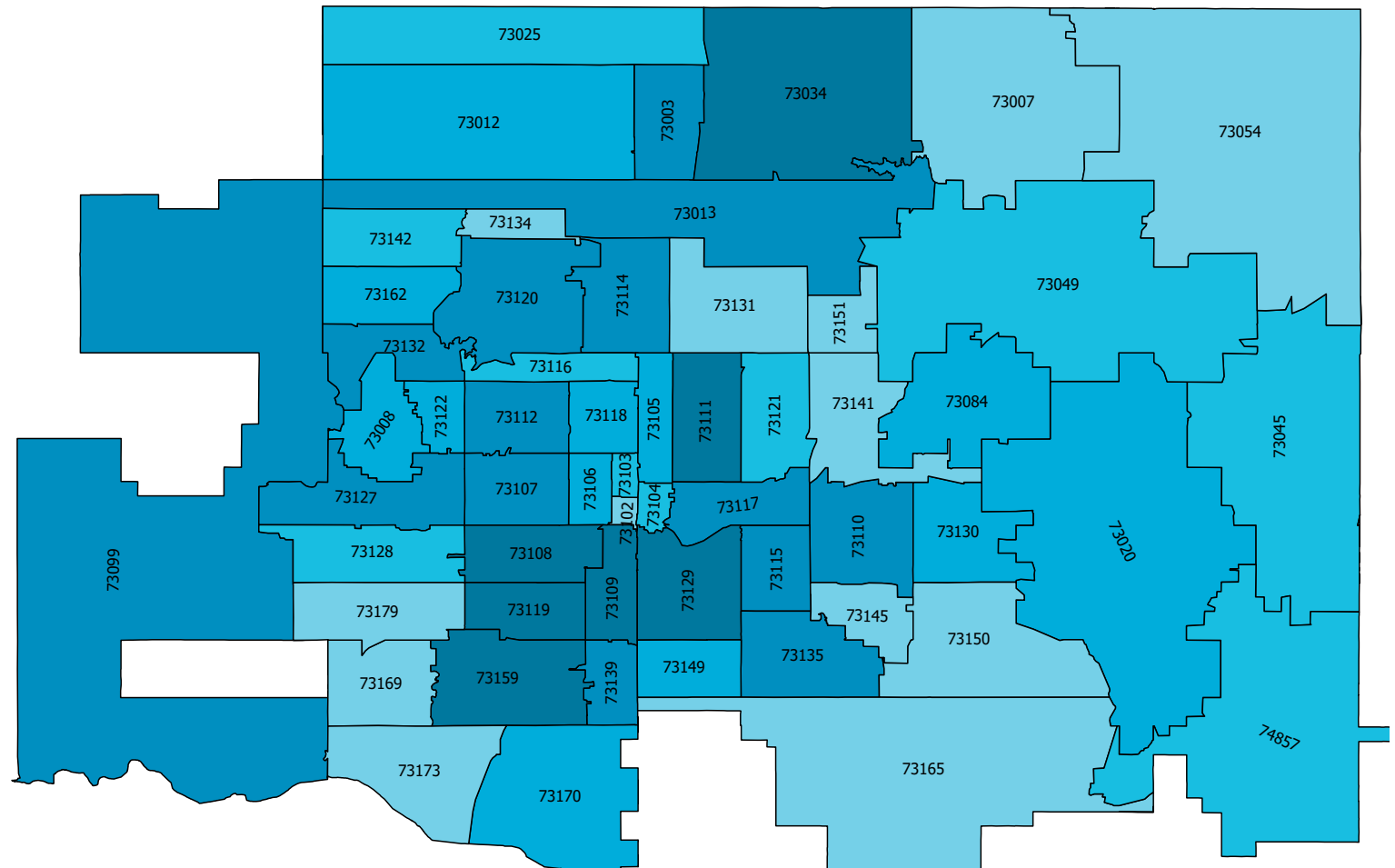
How are we doing?
There were 358,169 emergency department encounters for Oklahoma City-County residents captured through the ESSENCE system for an approximate rate of 127 per 1,000 population. Females, 57.3 percent, accounted for more visits than males, 42.7 percent. More than 25 percent of visits were individuals under the age of 10. ZIP codes with the highest average number of visits were 73119, 73109, 73129, 73111 and 73034.

Data Source: Oklahoma County ESSENCE Syndromic Surveillance System, 2016-2018

ESSENCE Emergency Room Visits by Age Group
Oklahoma City-County, 2016-2018

Age	Male	Female
00-09	49,304	42,506
10-19	17,895	23,554
20-29	16,865	37,905
30-39	16,022	30,692
40-49	14,016	20,330
50-59	16,136	18,197
60-69	11,219	13,703
70-79	6,539	9,539
80+	4,848	8,888

**AVERAGE NUMBER OF
ESSENCE ED VISITS PER YEAR**
Oklahoma City-County, 2016-2018

Lowest ▢▢▢▢▢ Highest

73003	9,878	73054	1,279							
73007	633	73084	3,410	73109	21,467	73119	29,723	73132	7,399	73151	213
73008	5,768	73099	7,928	73110	10,768	73120	7,557	73134	915	73159	15,443
73012	5,041	73102	975	73111	18,106	73121	1,960	73135	10,996	73162	4,123
73013	10,936	73103	1,383	73112	10,734	73122	3,869	73139	10,638	73165	977
73020	3,708	73104	2,708	73114	8,882	73127	11,769	73141	896	73169	640
73025	1,948	73105	5,102	73115	9,906	73128	1,585	73142	1,806	73170	5,883
73034	15,956	73106	6,394	73116	1,729	73129	21,155	73145	850	73173	336
73045	2,083	73107	10,752	73117	7,524	73130	4,399	73149	4,578	73179	896
73049	1,371	73108	15,028	73118	4,974	73131	642	73150	763	74857	1,787

Data Source: Oklahoma County ESSENCE Syndromic Surveillance System, 2016-2018

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