

The 2013 North Carolina Heat Report

Season to date (5/1/13 – 9/30/13):

- ☀ Approximately 2,272 heat-related illnesses were identified in ED visit records (figure 1)
- ☀ Majority of illness among males 25-64 years of age (figure 2)
- ☀ Daily maximum heat indices up to 105°F were observed
- ☀ Common references in triage notes were for work (e.g., vendor at fairgrounds), recreation (e.g., tennis, watching or participating in football), and yard work.

Notes: These data are from NC DETECT. Heat-related illness is captured through a near real-time keyword search for ‘heat,’ ‘hot,’ ‘hyperthermia,’ ‘heat exhaustion,’ and ‘heat stroke’ in chief complaint and triage notes of emergency department records or a diagnosis code for heat-related illness. These numbers under-estimate the true number of heat illness hospital visits. Please contact lauren.thie@dhs.nc.gov for more information.

Figure 1. ED visits for heat-related illness and daily maximum heat index (RDU airport), 5/1/13 to 9/14/13, North Carolina.

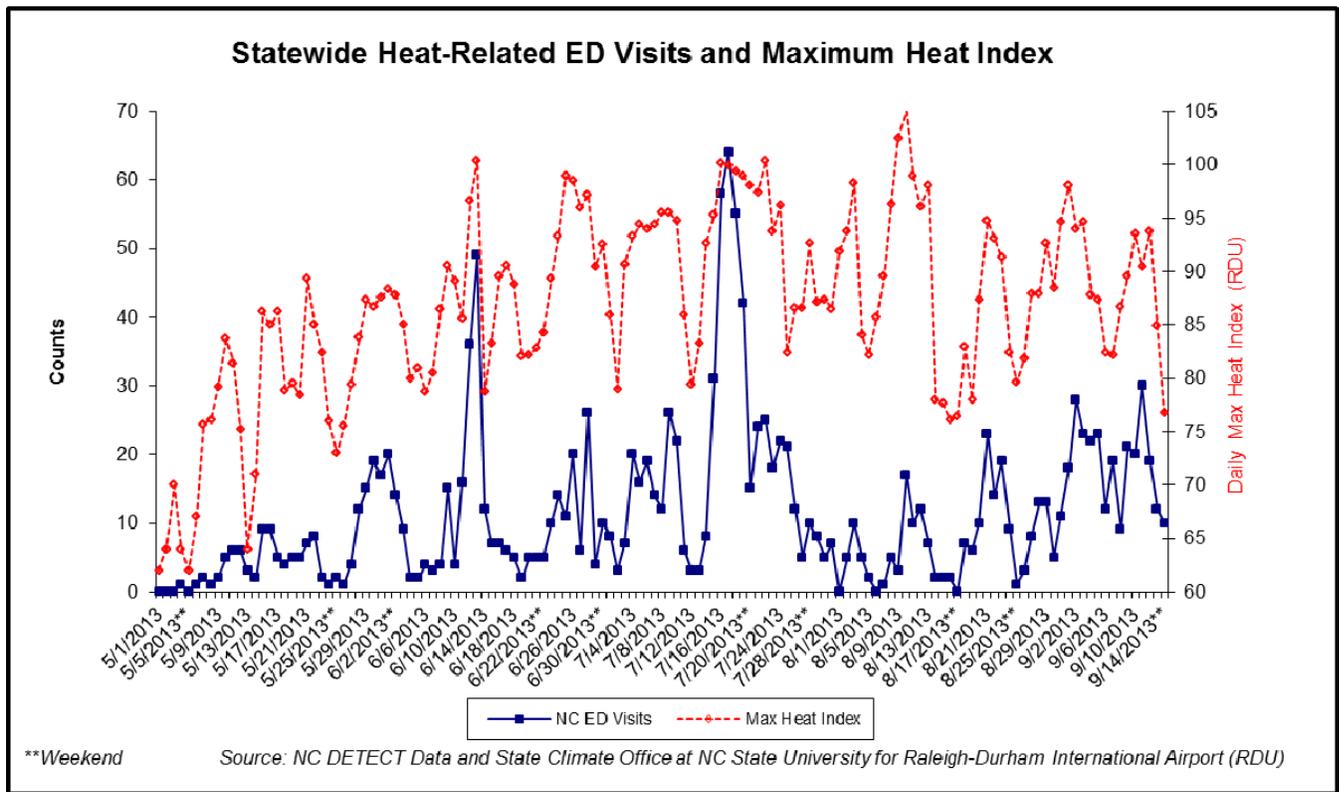


Figure 2. ED visits for heat-related illness by age group, 5/1/13 to 9/14/13, North Carolina.

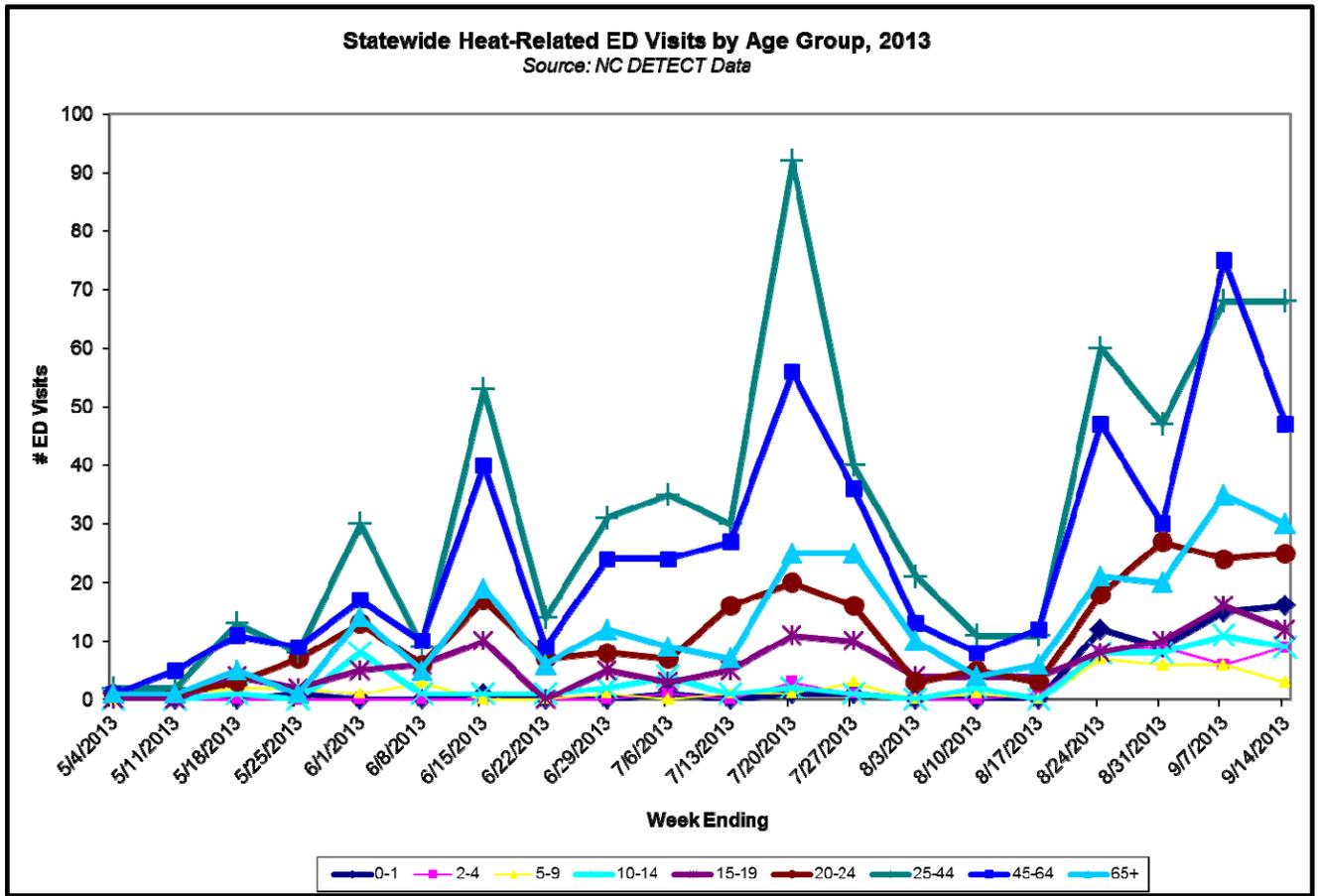


Figure 3. ED visits for heat-related illness for selected years, 2009-2013, North Carolina.

