

2017 Annual Report



Children's
of Alabama®



REGIONAL
Poison
CONTROL CENTER

About the RPCC

The Regional Poison Control Center (RPCC) has been a long-term commitment of Children's of Alabama to the citizenry of Alabama since 1958. The RPCC was the 14th center established in the United States, during a time period when serious morbidity and mortality were attributed to poison ingestion in children and adults. Since its inception, the center engaged in providing the most accurate and rapid poison information to physicians only in the early years and then to both the professional and general public. The RPCC has provided 24/7/365, toll-free access to lifesaving information since 1979. The RPCC is a fully accredited poison center by the American Association of Poison Control Centers. Throughout the years of dedicating substantial resources to developing a quality professional staff, quality assurance programs, data surveillance and research, 800 number access and state-of-the-art informational resources, the RPCC serves the entire state of Alabama as the only accredited statewide center by the Alabama Department of Public Health.



POISON
Help
1-800-222-1222

A red pill bottle with a white cap and a white skull and crossbones symbol on the front, positioned between the words "Help" and "1-800-222-1222".

Children's of Alabama, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama Caring Foundation, the Alabama Department of Education, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services/Health Resources and Services Administration provide operational and educational support for the Regional Poison Control Center.

In 2017 the RPCC handled

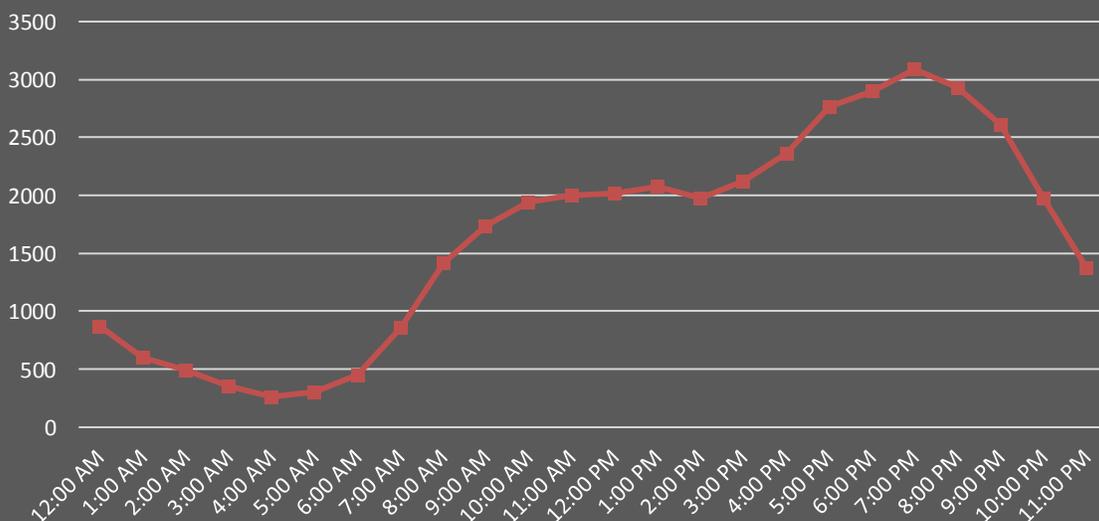
39,465 calls & made

56,770 follow-up calls.

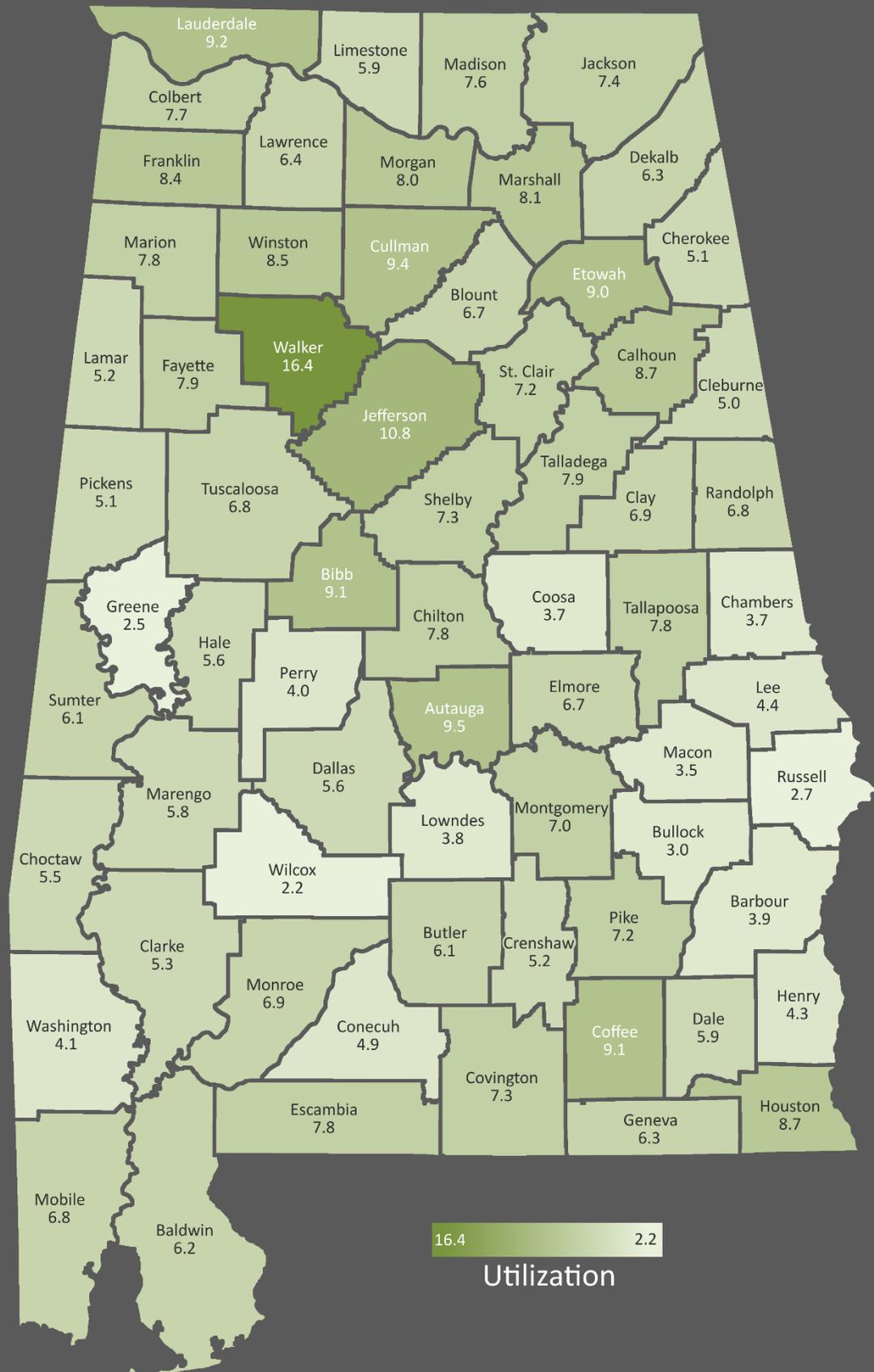
Of those 39,465 calls, 33,414 were poison exposure calls. The other 6,051 calls were information and other calls.

The RPCC monitors 82% of poison exposure calls from home on site. In children <6 years old, approximately 90% are monitored at home rather than being referred to an HCF.

Call Volume by Hour of Day



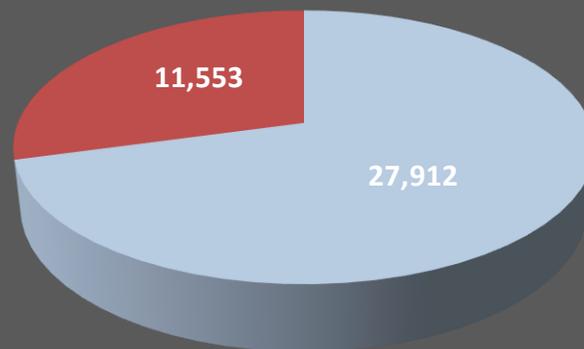
2017 Calls per County per 1,000 Residents*



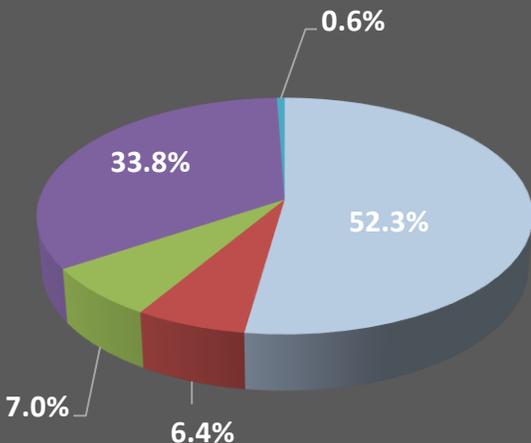
16.4 2.2
Utilization

*calls per county divided by population, multiplied by 1,000

71% of the calls made to the RPCC came from patients at home. The remaining **29%** of calls came from doctors, nurses, pharmacists, paramedics, and other health care providers.



The RPCC is available to patients of all ages. In 2017 we handled calls on patients that ranged from 3 days to 100 years old!



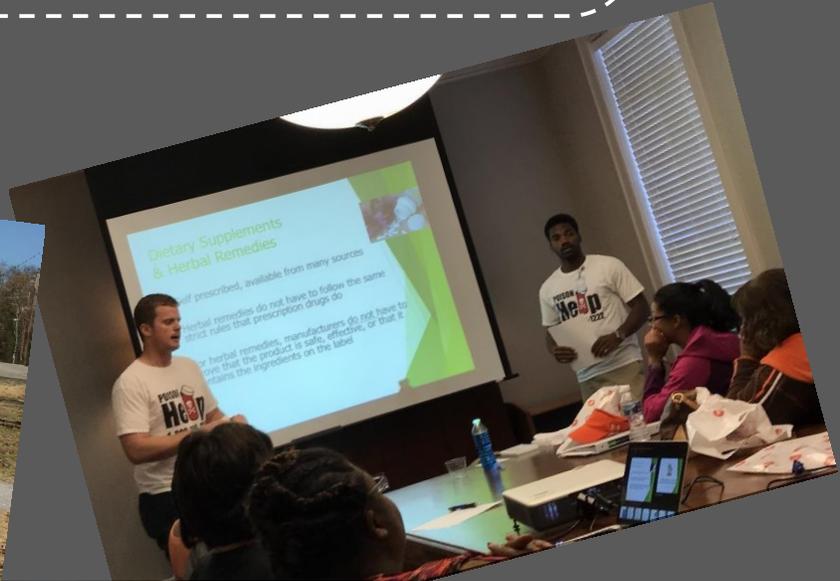
Call Volume by Patient Age	
<6 years	17,098
6 –12 years	2,089
13 –19 years	2,294
>20 years	11,044
Unknown	191

The RPCC presented four posters at the 2017 North American Congress of Clinical Toxicology in Vancouver, BC, Canada: *Significant gaps in knowledge in individuals 65 years of age and older observed by a poison center's Older Adult Medication Safety Program, The dangerous internet purchase: an uncommon presentation of carbon monoxide toxicity with pulmonary edema, hemoptysis, and chemical pneumonitis, Delayed presentation of an intraarterial injection of crushed amphetamine/dextroamphetamine treated with conservative management, and Mild tachycardia and hypertension only after accidental parenteral administration of sumatriptan in a young woman.* Four members of the RPCC staff attended the conference, lead discussion panels, and served as presenters. The nurses, pharmacists, and physicians in the RPCC participate in events and research nationally.



In 2017 the RPCC staff attended 130 hours of community health education events and speaker programs with 8700 Alabamians in attendance. The RPCC partners with the Healthy Child Care of Alabama RNs who presented Poison Prevention programs to another 3000 Alabamians. Together 72% of our educational events were geared towards the pediatric population.

The RPCC hosted 12 Pharm. D. candidates from the Samford University McWhorter School of Pharmacy and Auburn University Harrison School of Pharmacy in 2017. Pharmacy students learn about toxic exposures, envenomations, and take poison and drug information calls while on rotation in the Poison Center.



Top 10 Pediatric Exposures

1. Cleaning substances
2. Cosmetics
3. Topical preparations
4. Other non-medication, toys
5. Antihistamines
6. NSAIDs
7. Hormones, BCP, Thyroid
8. Vitamins
9. Cough/Cold medications
10. Insecticides/DEET



(800) 222-1222



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www.ChildrensAL.org/RPCC