



CENTER FOR IMPROVING
VALUE IN HEALTH CARE

POTENTIALLY AVOIDABLE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT (ED) VISITS

Employer Standard Report

What are Potentially Avoidable ED Visits?

ED visits are considered potentially avoidable if they are classified into one of these categories:

- Not an emergency
- An emergency, but treatable by primary care
- An emergency, but preventable or avoidable

\$100M

Spent annually on
avoidable ED visits
in Colorado

Total Cost of
Potentially Avoidable Visits
(Hover in any area to see change in cost by year)

\$9,471,116

...out of a total cost of \$35.7M

How much you're spending
on Potentially Avoidable ED Visits.

Across Colorado,

32%

of all ED Visits are
potentially avoidable
(2016-2020)

% of Costs Categorized as Potentially Avoidable
(Hover to see change in % of Costs from previous year)

Employer

Denver County

26.6%

29.3%

How that compares to statewide
and other counties/regions.

Top Diagnosis Categories by Potentially avoidable Costs

(Hover over any diagnostic category to see full ED utilization information)

Diseases of the heart	Potentially avoidable costs: \$1,494,676
Headache; including migraine	Potentially avoidable costs: \$859,370
Ear conditions	Potentially avoidable costs: \$739,341
Spondylosis; intervertebral disc disorders; other back problems	Potentially avoidable costs: \$657,241

What conditions are driving the
majority of the visits and spending.

What Can You Learn?

With this report, find out:

- How much you're spending on potentially avoidable ED visits.
- How your spending compares to statewide and other counties/regions.
- What conditions are driving the majority of the visits and spending.
- Spending and ED utilization trends over time, and more!

How Can You Use It?

- Use this report to identify where to focus education for your employees and their families that can save money while ensuring they receive the care they need.
- *CIVHC uses an algorithm developed by NYU to categorize ED visits into potentially avoidable or necessary visits. For more information on the full methodology, please contact us at ColoradoAPCD@civhc.org.

Contact us to schedule a demo today! • coloradoapcd@civhc.org • 720-583-2095