

Poisonings from Tobacco/Nicotine Products

April 15, 2009 – April 15, 2014

- During the past five years in Georgia (April 15, 2009 to April 15, 2014), there were a total of **1,169 calls** made to the Georgia Poison Center (GPC) due to exposures or poisonings from tobacco- or nicotine-containing products. (Table 1)
- On average, about 234 tobacco/nicotine poisoning calls were made each year.
- Some of the common symptoms of tobacco/ nicotine poisoning include nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, fever, dizziness, seizures, headache, tachycardia, hypertension, edema, and throat or eye irritation.
- More than half of the tobacco/nicotine exposures (n= 644) occurred among males, while there were 511 exposures for females.
- Among the 1,169 calls, routes of nicotine or tobacco exposures included ingestion (n =1,049), dermal (n=28), inhalation (n=73), and ocular (n=15).
- The overwhelming majority of exposures were among children ages 0-5 years (n=965), making up about 83% of the total tobacco/nicotine exposure calls. (Figure 1)

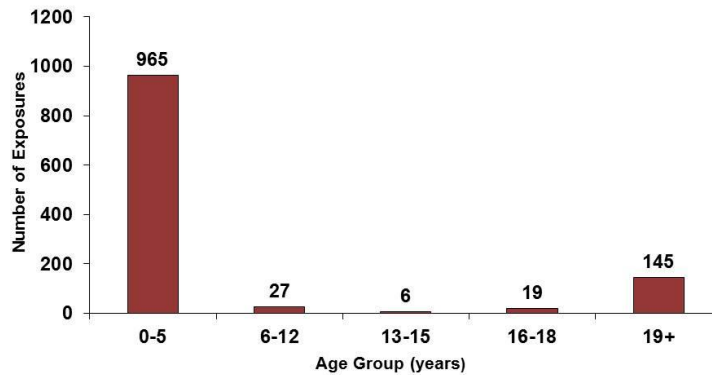
Table 1. Number of Tobacco/Nicotine Poisonings or Exposures, by Product Type, Georgia, April 15, 2009 to April 15, 2014

Tobacco Product Type/Substance	Number of Exposure Calls
Cigarette, cigarette butt, cigarette filter tip	707
E-cigarettes	62
Smokeless Tobacco (chewing tobacco, snuff)	231
Nicotine (includes all types of tobacco products, including e-cigarettes)	123
Other (cigar, Nicorette, hookah, cigarette smoke, etc.)	46
Total	1,169



Poisonings from Tobacco/Nicotine Products

Figure 1. Number of Tobacco/Nicotine Poisonings by Age Group, Georgia, April 15, 2009 to April 15, 2014



Source: Georgia Poison Center (GPC) Data

- The most common routes of tobacco/nicotine exposures or poisonings, by age group, were:
 - 0-5 years – ingestion (n= 951)
 - 6-12 years—ingestion (n= 21)
 - 13-15 years –ingestion (n < 5)
 - 16-18 years—ingestion (n=11)
 - 19+ years—inhalation (n=57) and ingestion (n=56)
- The LaGrange, East Metro, Northwest, Cobb-Douglas, and North Public Health Districts had the highest number of tobacco/nicotine poisoning calls. (Table 2)

Table 2. Number of Tobacco/Nicotine Poisonings or Exposures, by Public Health District, Georgia, April 15, 2009 to April 15, 2014

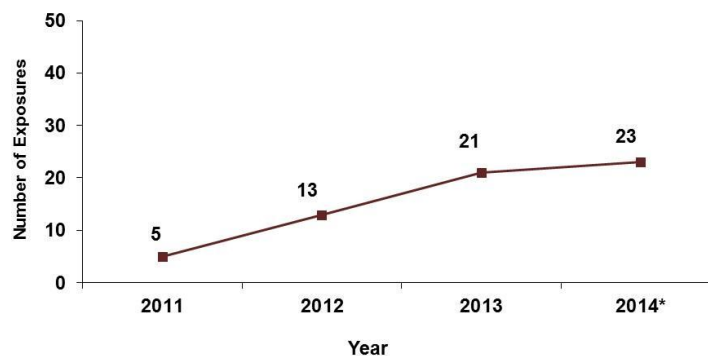
Public Health District	Number of Exposure Calls
1-1 Northwest (Rome)	91
1-2 North Georgia (Dalton)	68
2 North (Gainesville)	83
3-1 Cobb-Douglas	90
3-2 Fulton	70
3-3 Clayton (Morrow)	26
3-4 East Metro (Lawrenceville)	91
3-5 DeKalb	51
4 LaGrange	95
5-1 South Central (Dublin)	15
5-2 North Central (Macon)	61
6 East Central (Augusta)	51
7 West Central (Columbus)	52
8-1 South (Valdosta)	38
8-2 Southwest (Albany)	39
9-1 Coastal (Savannah)	70
9-2 Southeast (Waycross)	44
10 Northeast (Athens)	72

Nicotine Poisonings from E-cigarettes

Jan 1, 2011 – April 15, 2014

- The number of calls made to the Georgia Poison Center about nicotine poisoning from electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) increased from only five calls in 2011 to 23 calls during the first four months of 2014. (Figure 2)
- The total number of nicotine poisonings from e-cigarettes did not vary by sex—females had 31 exposures while males had 26 exposures.
- The majority of e-cigarette nicotine exposures occurred among children aged 0-5 years (n =26) and adults aged 19+ years (n=30).
- The most common route of exposure for e-cigarette nicotine poisonings among children aged 0-5 years was ingestion of the nicotine-containing liquid (n=21).
- The most common route of exposure for e-cigarette nicotine poisonings among adults ages 19+ years was inhalation (n=11) followed by ingestion (n=8), and ocular (n=7).

Figure 2. Number of Nicotine Poisonings from E-cigarettes by Year, Georgia, 2011-2014*



Source: Georgia Poison Center (GPC) Data

*Note: 2014 includes number of exposures from Jan 1, 2014 – April 15, 2014