



# Tobacco/Nicotine Poisonings in Georgia

(April 15, 2009 to April 15, 2017)

- During the past eight years in Georgia, there were a total of 2,218 calls made to the Georgia Poison Center about exposures or poisonings from tobacco- or nicotine-containing products (Table 1); an average of about 277 tobacco/nicotine poisoning calls were made each year.
- 97 calls reported during the 4 months of January, 2017 to April, 2017.
- More than half (1,530; 69%) of the calls were about tobacco/nicotine poisonings from cigarette use, followed by all other types of nicotine products, including nicotine-containing cigars and chewing tobacco (415; 19%), e-cigarettes (254; 11%), and the category including Nicoderm, Nicorettes, and hookahs (19; 1%).
- Some of the common symptoms of tobacco/nicotine poisoning included nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, fever, dizziness, seizures, headache, tachycardia, hypertension, edema, and throat or eye irritation.
- More than half (1,239; 56%) of the tobacco/nicotine poisoning occurred among males.
- The overwhelming majority of poisonings were among children age 0-5 years (1,825; 82%) (Table 1).
- Almost all (n=1,821;99.8%) poisonings among children age 0-5 years were due to unintentional exposures.
- The most common routes of tobacco/nicotine exposures or poisonings among children age 0-5 years were:
  - Ingestion (n=1,783)
  - Dermal (n=26)

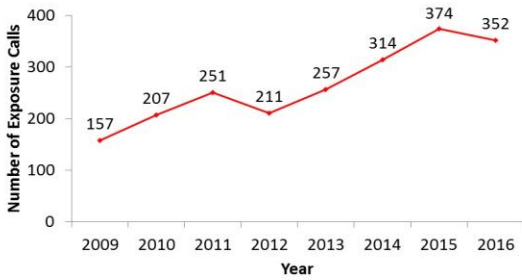
**Table 1. Number of Tobacco/Nicotine Poisonings or Exposures, by Product Type, Georgia, April 15, 2009 to April 15, 2017**

Tobacco Product Type/Substance	Total Number of Poisonings	Number among 0-5 years of age
Cigarette (cigarette butt, cigarette filter tip, cigarette smoke extracts)	1,530 (69%)	1,396 (77%)
Nicotine (all types tobacco products including cigars and smokeless tobacco)	415 (19%)	262 (14%)
E-Cigarette	254 (11%)	163 (9%)
Other (Nicoderm, Nicorette, hookah)	19 (1%)	4 (N/A)
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,218</b>	<b>1,825</b>

Data Source: Georgia Poison Center (GPC)

- The number of calls for exposure or poisoning from products containing tobacco/nicotine has steadily increased from 2009-2015 (Figure1).

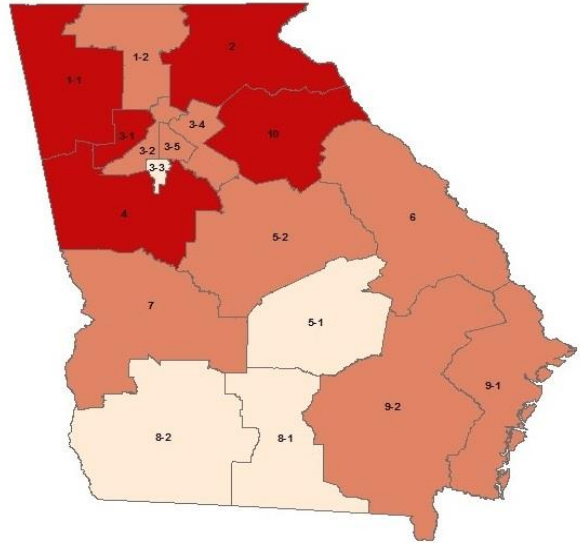
**Figure 1. Number of Tobacco/Nicotine Poisonings or Exposures, by Year, Georgia, 2009-2016**



Data Source: Georgia Poison Center

- LaGrange (n=197), Northwest (Rome) (n=170), East Metro (Lawrenceville) (n=166), North (Gainesville) (n=153), and Cobb/Douglas (n=151) Health Districts had the highest number of tobacco/nicotine poisoning calls (Map 1).

**Map 1. Number of Tobacco/Nicotine Poisonings or Exposures, by Public Health District, Georgia, April 15, 2009 to April 15, 2017**



Data Source: Georgia Poison Center (GPC)

1-1. Northwest (Rome) (n=170) 1-2 North Georgia (Dalton) (n=138)  
 2 North (Gainesville) (n=153) 3-1 Cobb/Douglas (n=151)  
 3-2 Fulton (n=120) 3-3 Clayton (Morrow) (n=48) 3-4 East Metro (Lawrenceville) (n=166) 3-5 DeKalb (n=98) 4 LaGrange (n=197) 5-1 South Central (Dublin) (n=29) 5-2 North Central (Macon) (n=121) 6 East Central (Augusta) (n=89) 7 West Central (Columbus) (n=89) 8-1 South (Valdosta) (n=71) 8-2 Southwest (Albany) (n=83) 9-1 Coastal (Savannah) (n=136) 9-2 Southeast (Waycross) (n=93) 10 Northeast (Athens) (n=141)