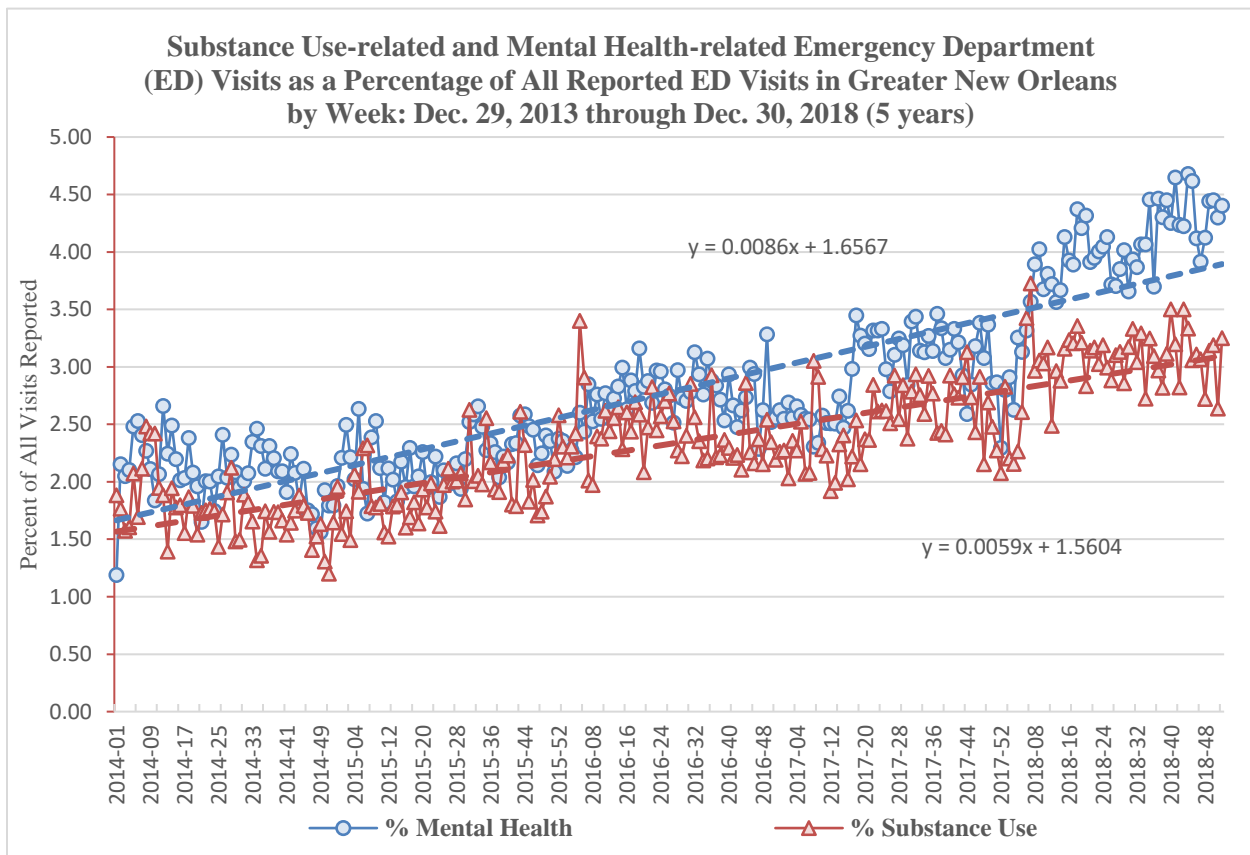


Substance Use and Mental Health-related Emergency Department (ED) Visits for Greater New Orleans

In calendar 2018, a total of 16,926 substance use-related emergency department (ED) visits¹ in Greater New Orleans² were reported to the Louisiana Early Event Detection System (LEEDS) while there were 22,186 mental health-related visits. These represent 3.0 percent and 4.0 percent of all ED visits reported, respectively.



- Five-Year Trend** (chart above) – From January 2014 through December 2018, substance use and mental health problems contributed to an *increasing* proportion of emergency department visits. During this five-year period, the proportion of weekly total ED visits that were **substance use-related visits increased at an average annual rate of 13.2 percent** while the proportion of weekly total ED visits that were **mental health-related visits increased at an average annual rate of 16.1 percent**.³
- Recent Trend** (chart below) – From January 2017 through December 2018 (a two-year period), the proportion of weekly total ED visits that were **substance use-related visits increased at an**

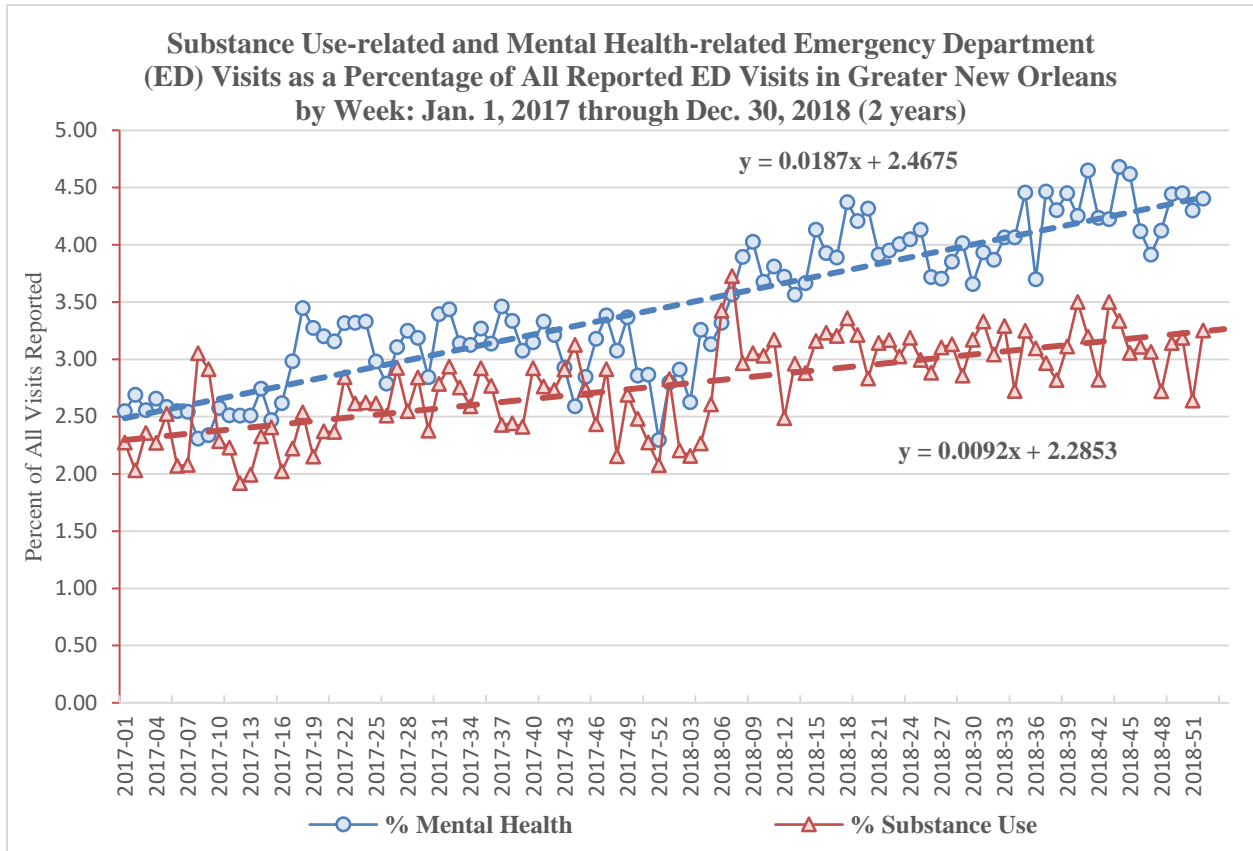
¹ These visits were identified based on text describing the presenting problem and or diagnoses recorded.

² Greater New Orleans refers to the 4 parishes: Orleans, Jefferson, St. Bernard and Plaquemines.

³ Based on linear trend analysis of weekly visit counts. Take the regression coefficient for the trend line and multiply by 52 (weeks per year) to obtain an annual percentage point increase. Divide the percentage point increase by the average (mean) percentage of all visits for the period to estimate the annual percentage increase.

average annual rate of 17.3 percent while the proportion of weekly total ED visits that were **mental health-related visits increased at an average annual rate of 28.2 percent.**

- Since January 2014, substance use-related ED visits increased at a slower rate than mental health-related ED visits so that by 2018 the number of mental health-related ED visits was one-third greater than the number of substance use-related visits.
- From January 2017 to December 2018, both mental health-related and substance use-related ED visits increased more rapidly than for the five-year period, 2014 through 2018.



Source: Louisiana Early Event Detection System (LEEDS), weekly summary data provided by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Public Health, January 30, 2019.

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For Further Information:

Regarding the Louisiana Early Event Detection System (LEEDS), follow this link,

<http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/1000> or dayaamayi.kurimella@la.gov ;

Regarding the specific analysis presented here, contact Bob.Gallati@ARC-Associates.net .

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