

# CAMConnect News

July 2006



## Nearly Half of Camden Residents Visit ER Each Year

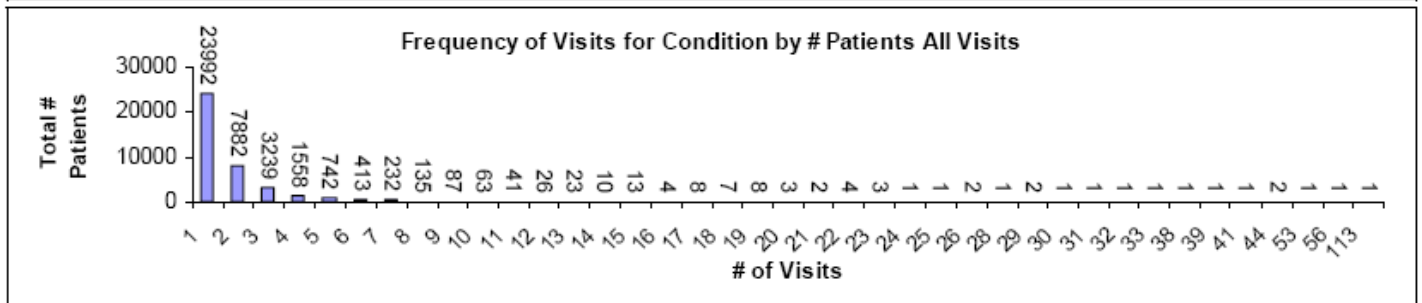
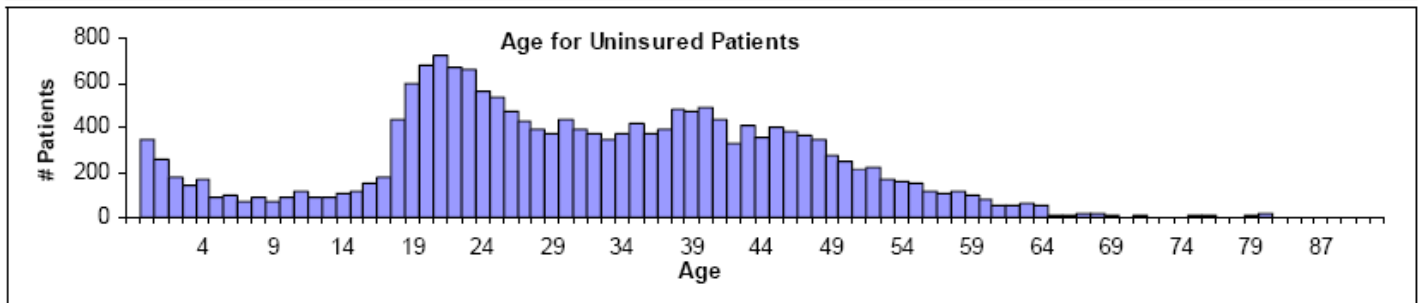
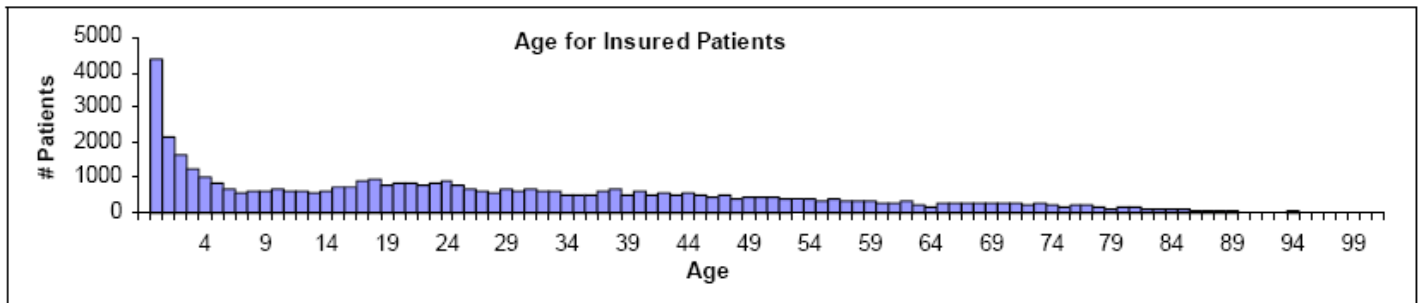
### Key Findings

- 68,911 total visits to Camden ERs (2003)
- 38,519 Camden residents had at least 1 visit (roughly 1 in 2 residents)
- 234 residents visited the ER 10 or more times (accounted for 3,508 visits or 5% of the total)
- The most frequent utilizers of ERs tend to be insured

CAMConnect, working with the Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers, is analyzing emergency room and inpatient hospitalization data to determine patterns in treatment and utilization. The initial data was presented at a conference in June.

For more information and to download data, visit [www.camconnect.org/CamdenHealthData.html](http://www.camconnect.org/CamdenHealthData.html)

BELOW: *Initial analysis shows the difference in the age distribution for insured patients vs. uninsured patients that visit the ER.*



**CAMConnect Members Meeting, Friday, July 21. See page 2 for more details**

## "Tracking Camden's Progress" Focus of Members Meeting

On July 21, 2006, CAMConnect will hold a Members Meeting at UMDNJ, 401 Haddon Avenue, in Camden (use 7th St entrance). The meeting will begin at 10:30 a.m. with an overview of CAMConnect's history, our data products, and the services we provide. We have many new members, so we hope this will provide an opportunity for them to learn more about the organization and our efforts to expand and democratize access to data and information. Members will also have the opportunity to pick up copies of CAMConnect reports and data.

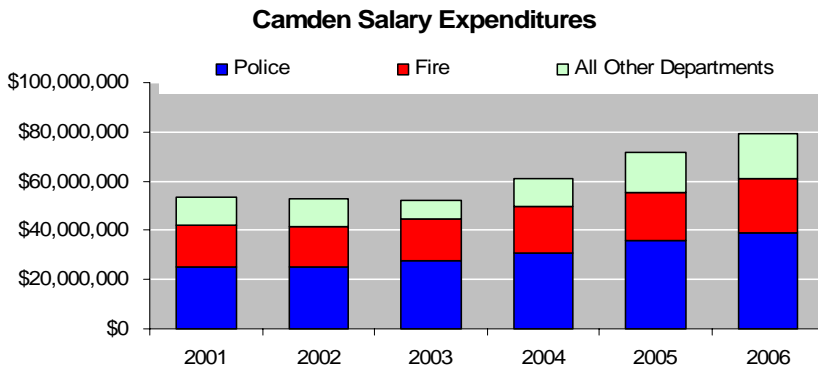
Even though this is called a "Members Meeting," we encourage non-members to attend if they are interested in learning more about CAMConnect and the importance of accurate information and data. Also, we encourage you to bring colleagues who may be interested in learning more about CAMConnect.

The program theme is "Tracking Camden's Progress." Many organizations similar to CAMConnect develop yearly indicators reports that track progress on data related to civic health and progress. For instance, the Baltimore Neighborhood Indicators releases an annual "Vital Signs" report.

CAMConnect will present some of these data for Camden on July 21, including data on crime, education, health, and the municipal budget. Much of this information also will be incorporated into an updated version of CAMConnect's Camden Facts report, to be released in fall 2006. However, if CAMConnect is to issue a true annual indicators report, there is a significant amount of work ahead, and additional resources are needed.

More information can be found at [www.camconnect.org](http://www.camconnect.org)

### Camden Budget Shows Increased Spending



See <http://www.camconnect.org/resources/BudgetandTaxes.htm> for more information.

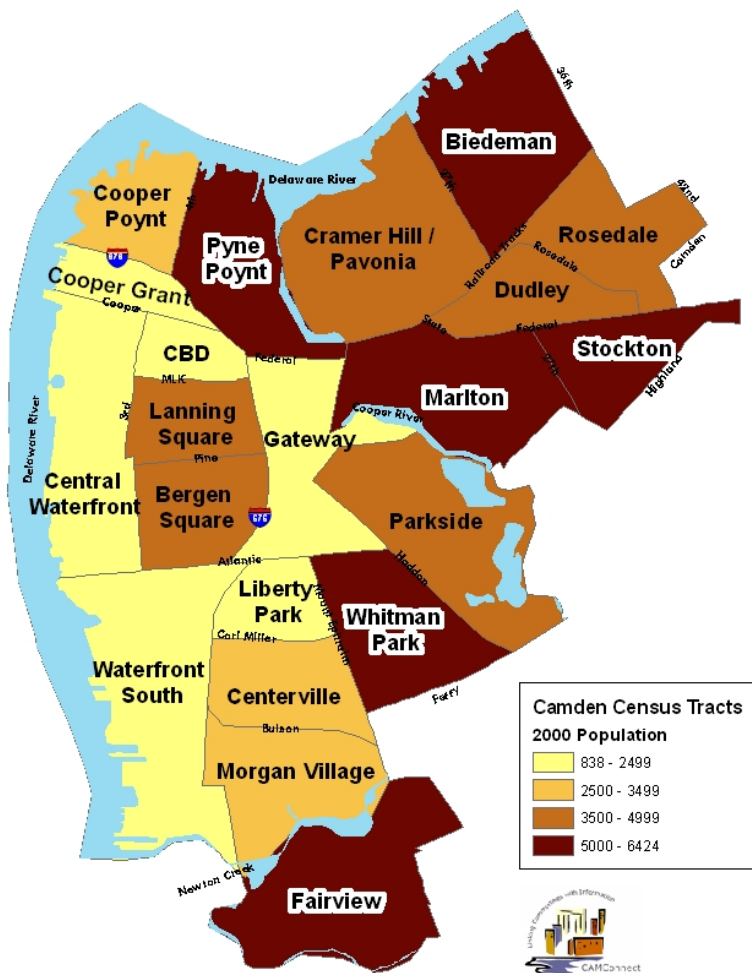
In 2005, CAMConnect prepared a summary report on the Camden municipal budget. This report was updated in 2006, with new information presented to a special meeting of Camden City Council

Municipal salary expenditures have increased 46% since FY 2003. Between FY 2005 and FY 2006, salary expenditures increased \$7.75 million, or 10%.

<p><b>CAMConnect</b> E&amp;R Building, Suite 142 401 Haddon Avenue Camden, NJ 08103</p>	<p><b>Phone:</b> 856-968-9506 <b>Fax:</b> 856-968-6216 <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:ziegler@camconnect.org">ziegler@camconnect.org</a> <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.camconnect.org">www.camconnect.org</a></p>	<p><b>Mission:</b> To expand and democratize access to information for residents and organizations that live and work in the City of Camden.</p>
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*CAMConnect is a member of the National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership ([www.urban.org/nnip](http://www.urban.org/nnip))*

## Camden Facts Update Coming in Fall 2006



To help shape our priorities as an organization, we rely on the input of our members. One mechanism of obtaining feedback is an annual member survey, which is actually a component of CAMConnect's bylaws.

25 CAMConnect members responded to the electronic survey in February 2006 for an 83% response rate. An analysis of the survey results is available on the Members Section of the CAMConnect website.

The survey had several purposes. It assessed the use and awareness of existing CAMConnect products and services by members. Second, it determined priorities for how CAMConnect can improve its services to members, whether it be a new training program or updated reports. Third, it sought to identify opportunities for new partnerships and engagement between CAMConnect and its members.

*LEFT: This map shows population in each Camden Census tract. A 2006 update of Camden Facts will include more recent Census data for the city as a whole.*

### Member Survey Results

- Members were more likely to be familiar with CAMConnect's products and reports (Camden Facts, Kids Count, neighborhood reports, etc.) than with CAMConnect's services, which include data management and presentation, GIS mapping, survey design and analysis, and evaluation.
- Research was the most common use of CAMConnect data, followed by program planning and grant writing.
- If CAMConnect and its partners were to offer training, top choices were as follows: 1) GIS mapping; 2) Database use and programming; 3-tie) Data presentation and graphic design; 3-tie) Statistical software.
- Updating the Camden Facts neighborhood reports and the Camden Facts: Camden City reports were identified as the top priorities for improvement of existing materials.
- 24 of 25 respondents recommended CAMConnect membership, with one newer member unsure.

CAMConnect



Linking Communities with Information

**CAMConnect News**  
**July 2006**

CAMConnect  
E & R Building 2nd Floor  
401 Haddon Avenue  
Camden, NJ 08103



Become a  
**CAMConnect**  
**Member**



Members Receive:

1. Access to Members Section of website with unique maps and data, frequently updated
  2. Color copies of CAMConnect reports
  3. Priority for technical assistance
  4. Quarterly issues of CAMConnect News
- \$500 Large Institutions
  - \$250 Departments
  - \$100 Small organizations
  - \$50 Patrons
  - \$10 Camden City Resident

\*\* Send check to become a member\*\*  
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