

**Research Brief**

**November 2020**

## KEY FINDINGS

**Rates of ED use among AL residents were significantly higher after Hurricane Irma in 2017 than in 2016:**

- Injury-related visits were 12.5% higher at 30 days, but there was no significant difference between injury-related rates at 90 days.
- Other medical visits were 12% higher at 30 days, and 7.7% higher at 90 days.

**Heart failure was a primary ED diagnosis among AL residents after Hurricane Irma in 2017, but not in 2016:** The top ten ED diagnoses were similar from 2016 to 2017 (e.g., UTI, sepsis, etc.), with the exception of heart-