**Purpose:** The NH Drug Monitoring Initiative (DMI) is a holistic strategy to provide awareness and combat drug distribution and misuse. In line with this approach the DMI will obtain data from various sources (to include, but not limited to, Public Health, Law Enforcement, and EMS) and provide monthly products for stakeholders as well as situational awareness releases as needed.

### Drug Environment Report—UNCLASSIFIED

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Previous versions of the Drug Environment Report can be found at: [https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dcbcs/bdas/data.htm](https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dcbcs/bdas/data.htm)

The monthly online DMI viewer can be found at: [https://nhvieww.nh.gov/IAC/DMI/](https://nhvieww.nh.gov/IAC/DMI/)


⇒ Year/month overview charts are based on annual estimates from the above website. County charts are based on a 2019 estimated population of each county.

⇒ If your agency is looking for further breakdowns than what is in this document please contact the NHIAC.
Overview: Trends for Narcan, ED Visits, Treatment Admissions, and Overdose Deaths:

EMS Narcan Administration, Opioid Related ED Visits, and Treatment Admissions per 100,000 Population
March 2020 - February 2021

Source: NH Division of Public Health Services, NH Bureau of Drug & Alcohol Services, and NH Bureau of EMS

Drug Overdose Deaths By Year
Data Source: NH Medical Examiner's Office

*2020 numbers are not finalized, and are based on analysis as of 11 March 2021
Drug Overdose Deaths:
Data Source: NH Medical Examiner’s Office

Trends:
- As of 11 March there are 397 confirmed drug overdose deaths and 14 cases pending toxicology for 2020.
- As of March 11, the projected number of total overdose deaths for 2020 is 411. This projected number is the lowest since before 2015 and includes confirmed overdose deaths plus pending toxicology cases.
- In 2020, Strafford and Hillsborough Counties have the highest suspected drug use resulting in overdose deaths per capita, at 3.65 and 3.39 deaths per 10,000 population respectively.
- The age group with the largest number of drug overdose deaths is 30-39 years, which represents 33% of all overdose deaths for 2020.

*** IMPORTANT DATA NOTES***
- **Drug overdose deaths by county now accurately reflect incident county. The NHIAC continues to work with the OCME to correct any prior reports that reflect the location where the death occurred, not where the drug was suspected to have been used.**

Overdose Deaths by Year per 100,000 Population
Data Source: NH Medical Examiner’s Office

- 2020 numbers are not finalized, and are based on analysis as of 11 March 2021
- * Cocaine, Meth, and Fentanyl/Heroin Related deaths are not exclusive, several deaths involved multiple categories

Overdose Deaths by County per 10,000 Population
Data Source: NH Medical Examiner’s Office

- 2020 numbers are not finalized, and are based on analysis as of 11 March 2021

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NH Drug Monitoring Initiative

Drug Environment Report—UNCLASSIFIED

Right click on the paperclip and select "Open File" to view additional data.
Drug Overdose Deaths (Continued):

Cocaine, Methamphetamine, and/or Fentanyl Combination Related Drug Deaths 2020

*2020 numbers are not finalized, and are based on analysis as of 11 March 2021
Source: NH Medical Examiner’s Office

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Amphetamines, Cocaine, Fentanyl
Fentanyl, Oxycodeone
Acetyl Fentanyl, Fentanyl, Fluoxetine, Tramadol
Buprenorphine, Methamphetamine
Cocaine, Fentanyl, Xylazine
Duloxetine, Fentanyl
Eutylone, Fentanyl

Cocaine, Ethanol, Fentanyl
Methadone, Methamphetamine
Acetyl Fentanyl, Fentanyl, Methadone
Alprazolam, Ethanol, Fentanyl
Clonazepam, Methamphetamine, Olanzapine, Perphenazine, Risperidone, Trazodone
Cocaine, Methamphetamine
Ethanol, Fentanyl, Fluoxetine, Olanzapine
Fentanyl, Flualprazolam

Cocaine, Fentanyl, Methadone
1, 1-difluoroethane, Etizolam, Fentanyl, Pyrazolam
Acetyl Fentanyl, Fentanyl, Methadone, Morphine
Alprazolam, Fentanyl
Cocaine, Diazepam, Fentanyl
Cocaine, Oxycodeone
Ethanol, Fentanyl, Gabapentin, Morphine
Fentanyl, Gabapentin, Hydroxyzine

Ethanol, Fentanyl, Methamphetamine
Acetyl Fentanyl, Buprenorphine, Fentanyl, Methadone
Alcohol, Fentanyl
Amitriptyline, Fentanyl
Cocaine, Ethanol
Cocaine, Tramadol
Ethanol, Fentanyl, Para-fluorofentanyl
Fentanyl, Heroin

Ethanol, Fentanyl, Oxycodeone
Acetyl Fentanyl, Cocaine, Fentanyl, MDMA
Alpha PHP/alpha PiHP, Cyclobenzaprine, Fentanyl
Amphetamines, Cocaine, Ethanol, Fentanyl
Cocaine, Ethanol, Methadone
Dextro/levomethorphan, Fentanyl, Xylazine
Ethanol, Fentanyl, Quetiapine, Venlafaxine
Fentanyl, Heroin, Methadone

Fentanyl, Methadone
Acetyl Fentanyl, Cyclobenzaprine, Fentanyl, Gabapentin, Oxymorphone, Xylazine
Alprazolam, Amphetamines, Cocaine, Ethanol, Fentanyl, Trazodone
Amphetamines, Fentanyl
Cocaine, Fentanyl, Morphine
Diphenhydramine, Fentanyl, Methadone
Ethanol, Methamphetamine
Fentanyl, Heroin, Methamphetamine

*Cells filled with gray indicate combinations noted twice

Fentanyl, Hydrocodeone
Fentanyl, Methadone, Morphine
Fentanyl, Methadamine, Para-fluorofentanyl
Fentanyl, Methamphetamine, Tramadol
Fentanyl, Morphine, Oxycodeone
Fentanyl, Oxymorphone
Flualprazolam, Methamphetamine, Promethazine
Overdose Deaths by Town* - 2020 *
(Data Source: NH Medical Examiner’s Office)
*Location where the drug(s) is suspected to have been used.

+2020 data was reported on March 11, 2021
There are more deaths that are suspected to be drug related, but the official cause of death is pending until the toxicology results are received.

14 CASES PENDING
39 Cases have an unknown location

Number of Overdose Deaths by Town
*Location where the drug(s) is suspected to have been used.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Towns Range</th>
<th>Number of Towns</th>
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<td>1 - 5</td>
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<td>6 - 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 - 50</td>
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9 - Crawford Purchase
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11 - Low & Barrick Grant
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NH Information & Analysis Center

Prepared by:
NH Information & Analysis Center
Trends:

- EMS Narcan administration incidents decreased by 13% from January to February.
- In February, Sullivan and Belknap County had nearly the same EMS Narcan administration incidents per capita with 1.14 and 1.13 incidents per 10,000 population, respectively.
- The age group with the largest number of EMS Narcan administration incidents was 30-39, representing 35% of all EMS Narcan administrations in February.

*** IMPORTANT DATA NOTES ***

- Narcan data in this report involves the number of incidents where Narcan was administered, NOT the number of doses of Narcan during a certain time period. Multiple doses may be administered during an incident.
- Narcan may be given for a decrease in alertness or respirations due to an overdose or unknown cause. Therefore, it cannot be concluded that all reported Narcan incidents actually involved drugs.
EMS Narcan Administration - Lives Saved %
March 2020 - February 2021

Source: NH Bureau of EMS

RODS, or Revised Over Dose Score is based on the combined delta of documented respiratory rate (RR) and Glasgow Coma Score (GCS - measure of alertness) before and after Narcan administration. For example, RR improved from 6/min to 12/min (delta of 6) and GCS improved from 10 to 13 (delta of 3), the RODS score would be 9. The delta of the vital signs is calculated per incident, so the patient may have received more than one dose of Narcan to achieve the effect in the RODS.

EMS Narcan Administration by County per 10,000 Population

Source: NH Bureau of EMS

EMS Narcan Administration Incidents (Continued):

Data Source: NH Bureau of Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
EMS/Narcan Administration by Town
3/1/2020 - 2/28/2021
Data Source: New Hampshire Bureau of EMS

*Incidents Where Narcan Was Administered*

- 1 - 10
- 11 - 25
- 26 - 50
- 51 - 100
- 101 - 200
- 201 - 300
Opioid Related Emergency Department Visits:  
Data Source: NH Division of Public Health Services

Trends:
- Opioid related ED visits increased by 10% from January to February.
- In February, residents from Hillsborough County had the most opioid related ED visits per capita with 2.06 visits per 10,000 population. Strafford County residents had the second highest number of opioid related ED visits per capita with 1.86 visits per 10,000 population, respectively.
- In February, the age group with the largest number of opioid related ED visits was the 20-29 year old age group with 25%.

*** IMPORTANT DATA NOTES ***
- *Important Note*: The data being reported starting January 2020 has different collection criteria than previous months/years. Due to the new collection criteria, the data is no longer comparable to previous data.
- County represents where the opioid use patient resides.
- These data include data on suspected overdoses categorized as “all drug,” “all opioid,” “heroin,” and “all stimulant.” This report uses key words and ICD-10 associated overdose codes that CDC has defined as tailored to nonfatal opioid overdoses.
- These data are now collected using criteria the CDC established for their Overdose Data to Action (OD2A) grant “making this report more transparent.”

Emergency Department Opioid Use Visits by Month per 100,000 Population
January 2020 - February 2021

February Emergency Department Opioid Use Visits by County per 10,000 Population

February Emergency Department Opioid Use Visits by Age

Source: NH Division of Public Health Services
Opioid Related Emergency Department Visits (Continued):

Data Source: NH Division of Public Health Services

Emergency Department Opioid Use Visits per 100,000 Population
March 2020 - February 2021

Emergency Department Opioid Use Visits by County per 10,000 Population

Source: NH Div. of Public Health Services
Trends:
- Opioid/opiate, Methamphetamine, & Cocaine/Crack treatment admissions decreased 9% from January to February.
- In February, residents from Sullivan County were admitted at the highest per capita rate for opioid/opiate treatment, with 1.82 admissions per 10,000 population.
- More males than females were admitted to state funded treatment facilities in February for Opioid/Opiate, Methamphetamine, & Cocaine/Crack use.
- Methamphetamine treatment admissions increased 29% from January to February.
- Cocaine/Crack treatment admissions increased 11% from January to February.
- Heroin/Fentanyl treatment admissions decreased by 16% from January to February.

*** IMPORTANT DATA NOTES***
- County represents where the patient resides.
- These data represent treatment admissions to state funded facilities.
- These data have decreased due to numerous factors. The Affordable Care Act has been fully implemented, resulting in increased access to affordable health insurance and coverage for substance use disorder treatment in NH. New Hampshire expanded its Medicaid program, which also provided increased opportunities for substance use disorder treatment in the state. Substance use disorder treatment in the state has increased sharply in response to these policies which has shifted clients served by State of New Hampshire contracted treatment providers to other payment models and facilities.
Heroin/Fentanyl, Rx Opiate, Methamphetamine, & Cocaine/Crack Treatment Admissions by Month per 100,000 Population

March 2020 - February 2021

Source: NH Bureau of Drug & Alcohol Services

Opioid/Opiate Treatment Admissions by County per 10,000 Population

December
January
February

Belknap
Carroll
Cheshire
Coos
Grafton
Hillsborough
Merrimack
Rockingham
Strafford
Sullivan

Source: NH Bureau of Drug & Alcohol Services
Maine: Police Departments Get New Tool to Reduce Overdose Deaths: Fentanyl Test Strips

Seven Maine police departments are getting a new tool they hope will reduce the number of fatal drug overdoses in the state. Departments in Westbrook, South Portland, Biddeford, Kennebunk, Augusta, Bath and Brunswick are among 19 agencies in Maine and Massachusetts that will receive fentanyl test strips. They can be distributed to people to detect whether the drugs they are using are laced with the powerful synthetic opioid. Local and state officials say they are a harm reduction tool that can be used with other resources, including steering users to treatment programs, to prevent overdoses.

“It’s about saving lives,” said Kennebunk police Chief Robert MacKenzie, whose department will distribute test strips in York County. “We need to do everything we can as a community and society to save lives. There are a lot of people who struggle with substance use.”

The departments were chosen to participate in the One2One: Engagement to Recovery program by the Police Assisted Addiction & Recovery Initiative, a nonprofit that aims to help law enforcement agencies create non-arrest pathways to treatment and recovery.

Source: www.sunjournal.com 03/09/2021

A full list of Substance Use Disorder Treatment Facilities and Recovery Support Services can be found here or by calling 211.