



New Hampshire Drug Monitoring Initiative

New Hampshire Information & Analysis Center

Phone: (603) 223.3859

NH.IAC@dos.nh.gov

Fax: (603) 271.0303



NHIAC Product #: 2022-5394

June 2022 Report

25 July 2022

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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	Overdose Death Data				
	2018	2019	2020	2020 Death Update As of 4/2021	2021 Death Update As of 4/2022
Total Overdose Deaths	471	415	417	406	381
Deaths Involving Opioids	420	372	357	350	323
Deaths Involving Cocaine	65	79	58	56	30
Deaths Involving Meth	22	52	59	58	54
Deaths Pending Toxicology	N/A	N/A	N/A	8	44

⇒ Population data source: [2020 Census](#) | [State Data Center](#) | [NH Office of Strategic Initiatives](#)

- Year/month overview charts are based on annual estimates from the above website. County charts are based on a 2020 estimated population of each county.

Previous versions of the Drug Environment Report can be found at: <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov>

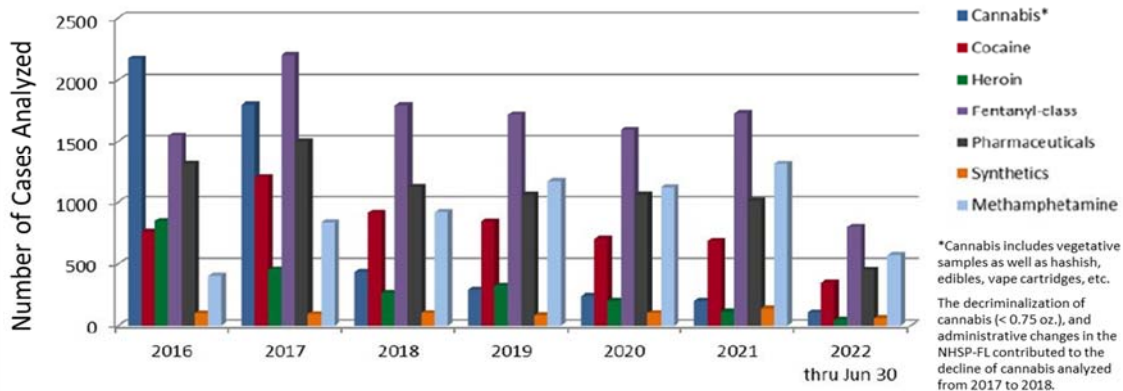
The monthly online DMI viewer can be found at: <https://nhvieww.maps.arcgis.com>

New Hampshire's Drug Environment Summary:

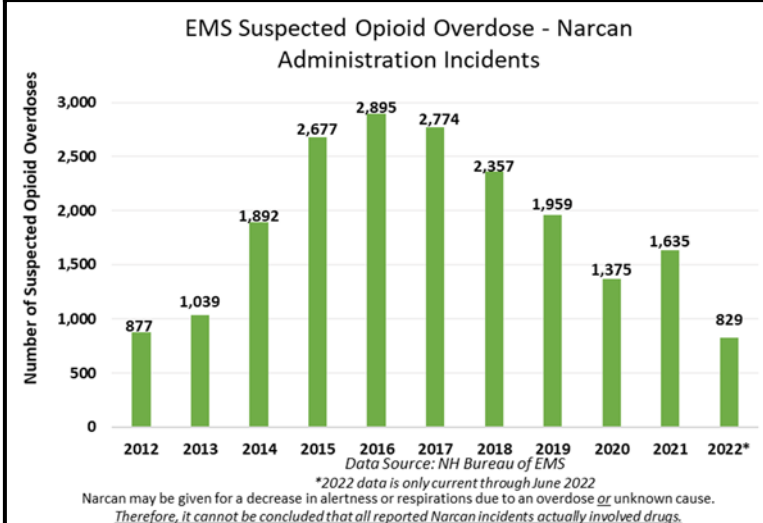
- Drug Overdose Deaths peaked in 2017, at 488. However, the continued availability of public-use naloxone (Narcan) since it first became available in June 2015, very likely contributes to a continued decline in both overdose deaths and EMS provided Narcan administration, statewide.

June 2022 Data Summary			
	EMS Narcan Administration Incidents	Treatment Admissions	Opioid Related Emergency Department Visits
Percent Change from May to June	↑ 8%	↓ -8%	↓ -20%
County w/ Highest Incidence	Coos	Hillsborough	Strafford
Age Group w/ Highest Incidence	30-39	N/A	30-39

NH State Police Forensic Laboratory Controlled Drug Case Information June 2022



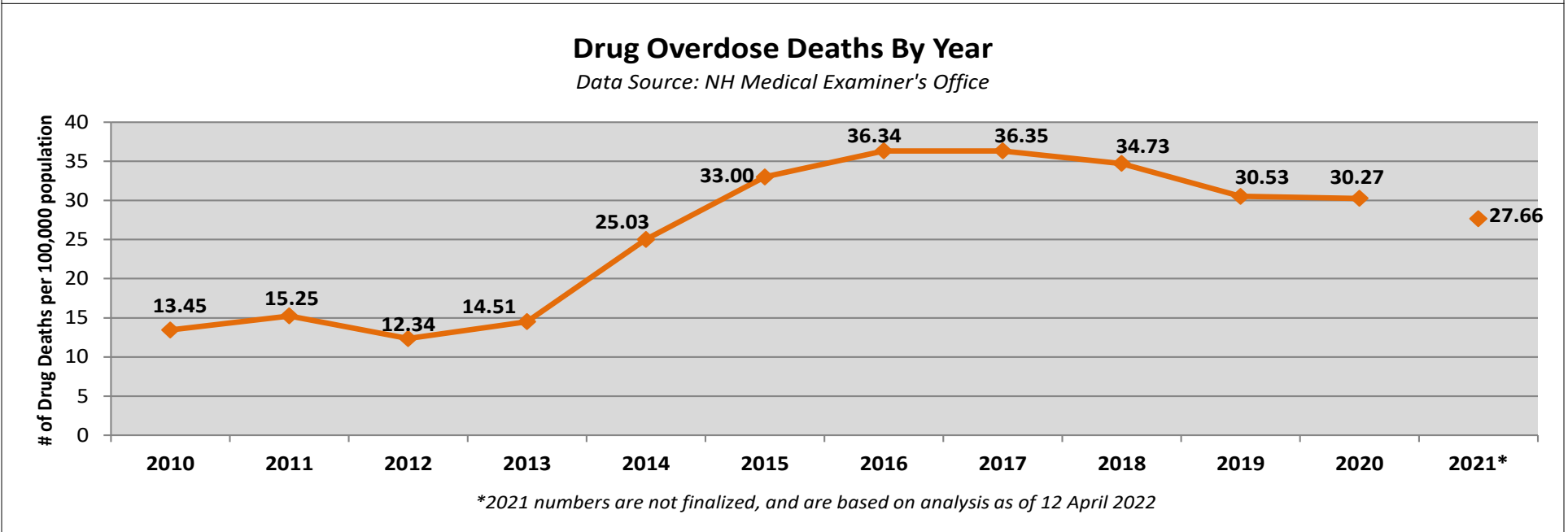
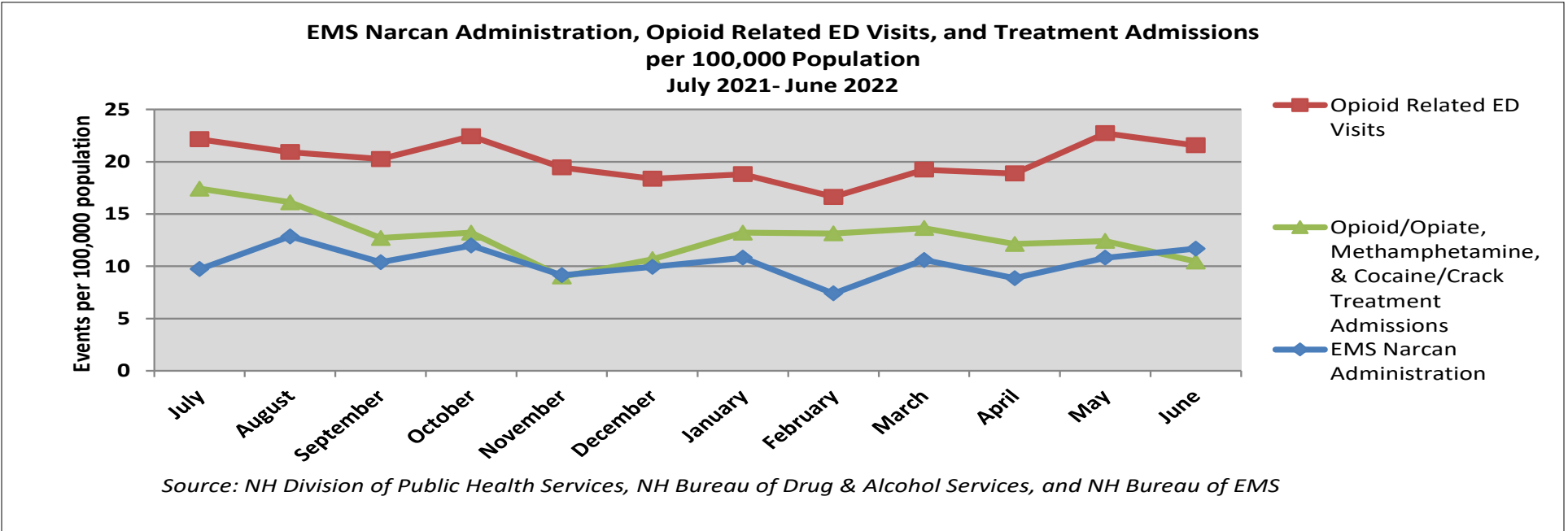
Year	Cannabis*	Cocaine	Heroin	Fentanyl-class	Pharmaceuticals	Synthetics	Methamphetamine
2016	2,173	759	847	1,547	1,311	99	404
2017	1,799	1,201	453	2,202	1,499	93	834
2018	433	913	264	1,794	1,123	101	919
2019	289	843	322	1,718	1,058	83	1,169
2020	240	702	199	1,593	1,060	101	1,118
2021	199	685	114	1,731	1,011	136	1,310
2022 (thru June 30)	106	347	48	799	451	61	573
June 2022	21	85	8	139	90	15	109



DATA WILL BE UPDATED 2022

2020 Overdose Deaths					
Percent Change: All Overdose Deaths (2019 to 2020)	Percent Change: Opioid Deaths (2019 to 2020)	Percent Change: Meth Deaths (2019 to 2020)	Percent Change: Cocaine Deaths (2019 to 2020)	County w/ Most Deaths Per Capita	Age Group w/ Most Deaths
↑ 0.48%	↓ -4%	↑ 13%	↓ -27%	Strafford	30-39 Year Olds

Overview: Trends for Narcan, ED Visits, Treatment Admissions, and Overdose Deaths:



Drug Overdose Deaths:

Data Source: NH Medical Examiner's Office

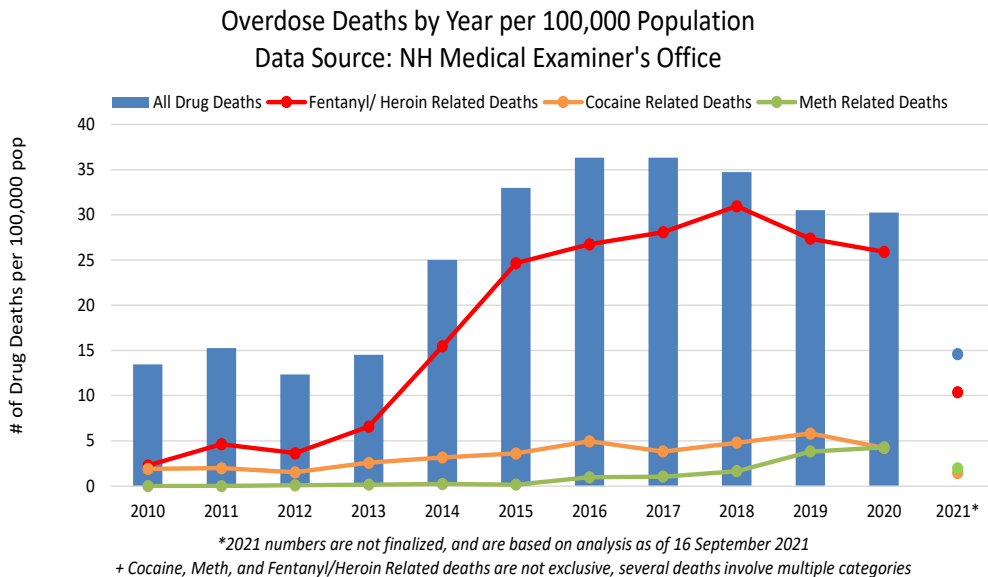
Right click on the paperclip and select "Open File" to view additional data.

Trends:

- As of 16 September, there are 201 confirmed drug overdose deaths and 83 cases pending toxicology for 2021.
- So far for 2021, Coos County has the highest suspected drug use resulting in overdose deaths per capita, at 2.40 deaths per 10,000 population. Sullivan County is second highest with 2.05 overdose deaths per 10,000 population.
- The age group with the largest number of drug overdose deaths is 30-39 years, which represents 28% of all overdose deaths for 2021.

*****IMPORTANT DATA NOTES*****

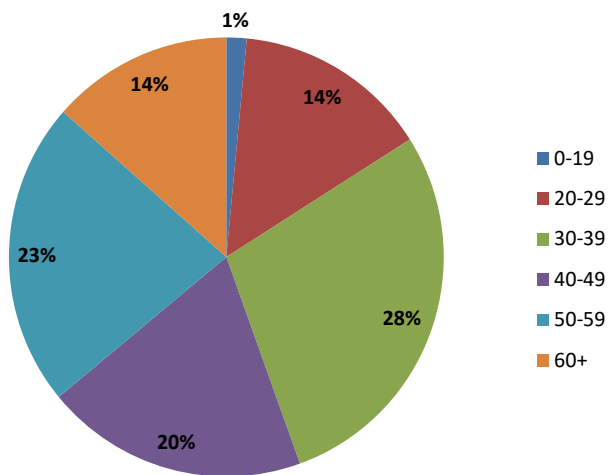
- Analysis is based on county where the drug (s) is suspected to have been used.



OCME DATABASE UPGRADES IN PROGRESS

Overdose Deaths by Age 2021*

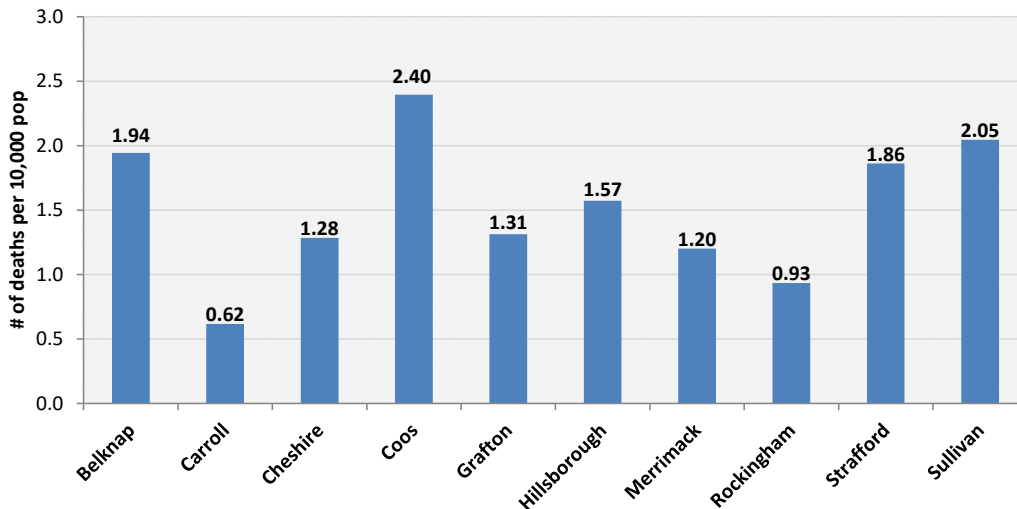
Data Source: NH Medical Examiner's Office



*2021 numbers are not finalized, and based on analysis as of 16 September 2021

2021 Overdose Deaths by County per 10,000 Population

Data Source: NH Medical Examiner's Office



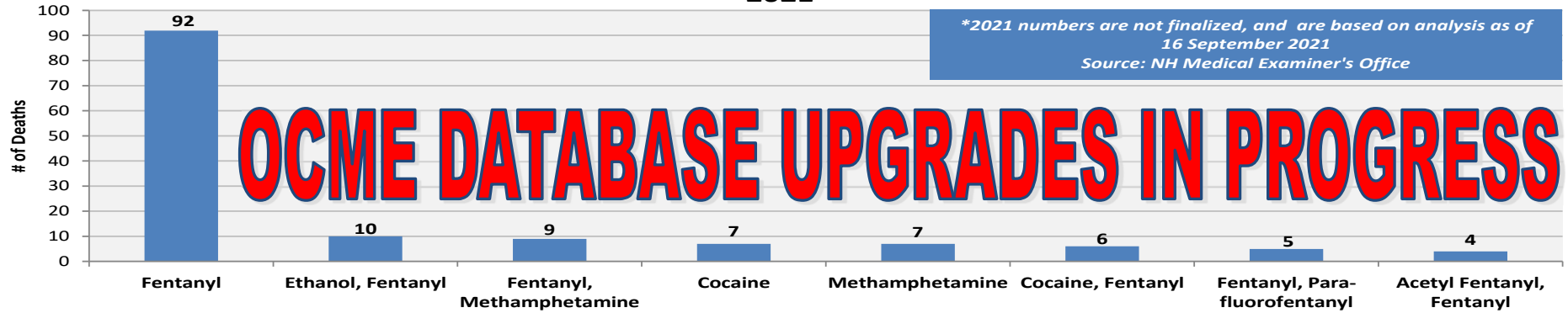
2021 numbers are not finalized, and are based on analysis as of 16 September 2021

DATA WILL BE UPDATED IN 2022

Drug Overdose Deaths (Continued):

Data Source: NH Medical Examiner's Office

**Cocaine, Methamphetamine, and/or Fentanyl Class Combination Related Drug Deaths
2021**



2021 Total Drug Deaths	Fentanyl Class Deaths	Cocaine Deaths	Meth Deaths
201	139	20	27

2021 Cocaine, Methamphetamine, and/or Fentanyl Class Combination Related Drug Deaths that were noted once or twice*

Cocaine, Fentanyl, Methamphetamine	Fentanyl, Methadone	Acetyl Fentanyl, Ethanol, Fentanyl	Alprazolam, Fentanyl, Mitragnine	Cocaine, Methamphetamine	Ethanol, Methamphetamine, Mitragnine	Fentanyl, Heroin	Fentanyl, Mitragnine, Para-fluorofentanyl
Ethanol, Fentanyl, Methamphetamine	Fentanyl, Methamphetamine, Para-fluorofentanyl	Acetyl Fentanyl, Fentanyl, Methamphetamine	Cocaine, Fentanyl, Gabapentin	Ethanol, Fentanyl, Methadone	Etizolam, Fentanyl, Para-fluorofentanyl	Fentanyl, Heroin, Methamphetamine	Fentanyl, Oxycodone, Para-fluorofentanyl
Ethanol, Fentanyl, Para-fluorofentanyl	3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine, Fentanyl	Alprazolam, Ethanol, Fentanyl	Cocaine, Fentanyl, Para-fluorofentanyl	Ethanol, Fentanyl, Mitragnine	Fentanyl, Gabapentin	Fentanyl, Methadone, Para-fluorofentanyl	Fentanyl, Promethazine
Fentanyl, Hydrocodone	Acetyl Fentanyl, Diphenhydramine, Ethanol, Fentanyl	Alprazolam, Fentanyl, Methamphetamine	Cocaine, Ketamine	Ethanol, Fentanyl, Phenobarbital	Fentanyl, Gabapentin, Mirtazapine	Fentanyl, Methamphetamine, Methylenedioxymethamphetamine	Para-fluorofentanyl

DATA WILL BE UPDATED IN 2022

Overdose Deaths by Town* - 2021 + (Data Source: NH Medical Examiner's Office)

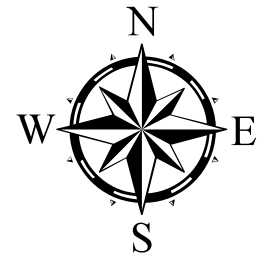
*Location where the drug(s) is suspected to have been used.

+2021 data was reported on September 16, 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.

83 CASES PENDING
9 Cases have an unknown location

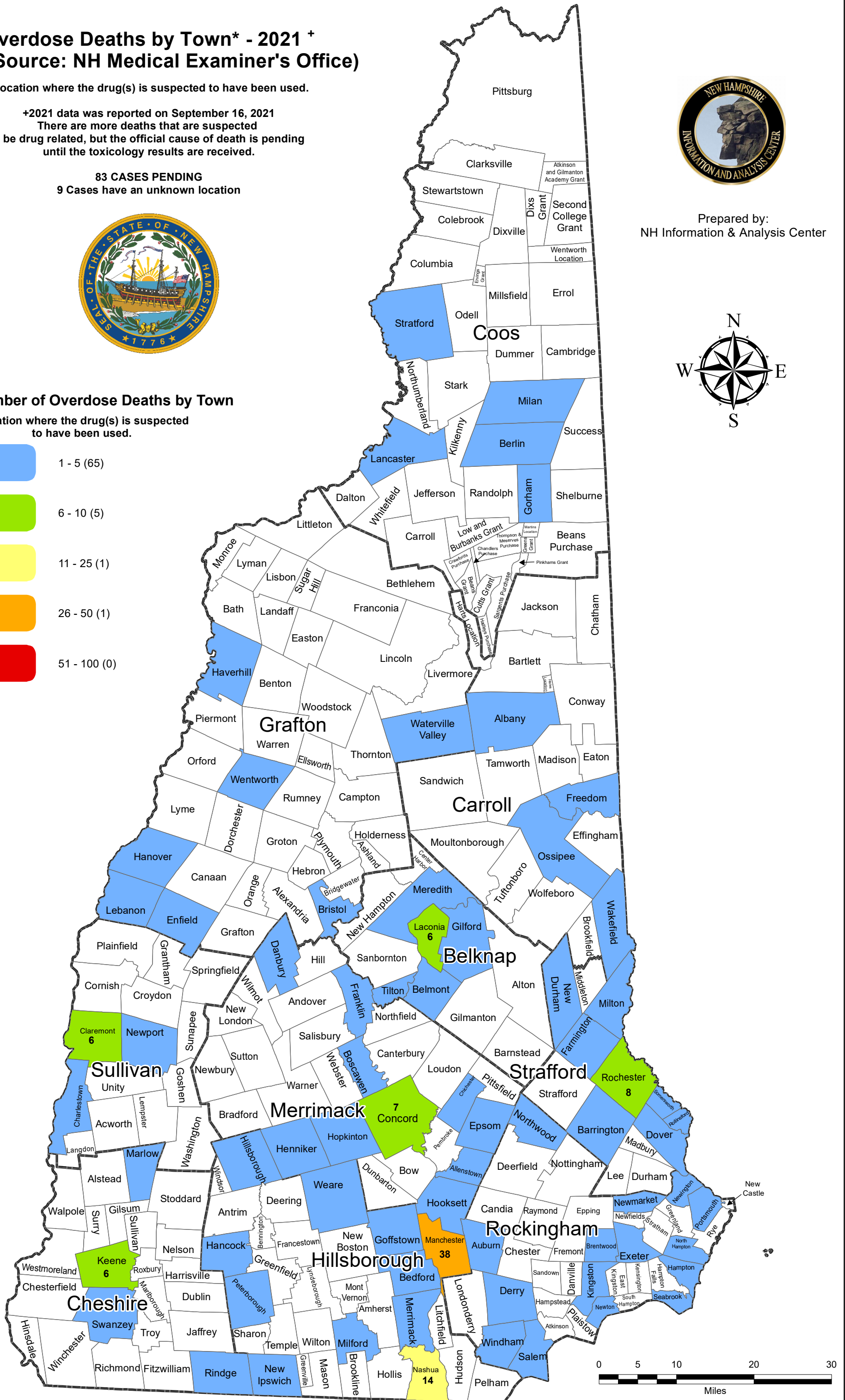
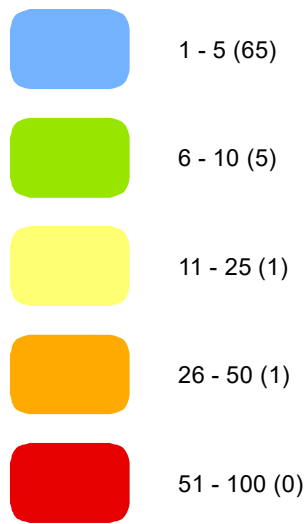


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Number of Overdose Deaths by Town

*Location where the drug(s) is suspected to have been used.



Scale: 1:725,000

EMS Drug Overdose/Abuse Incidents:

Data Source: NH Bureau of Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

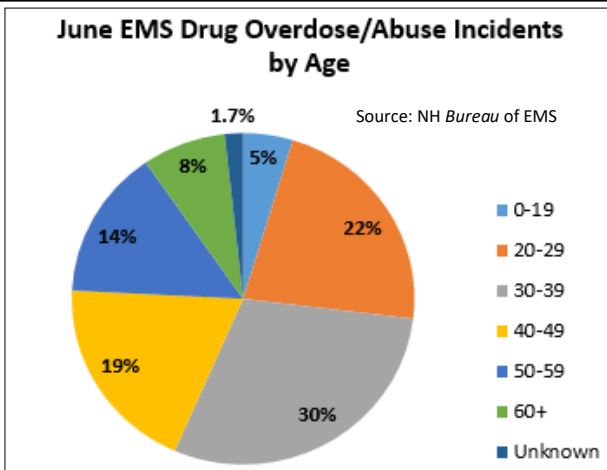
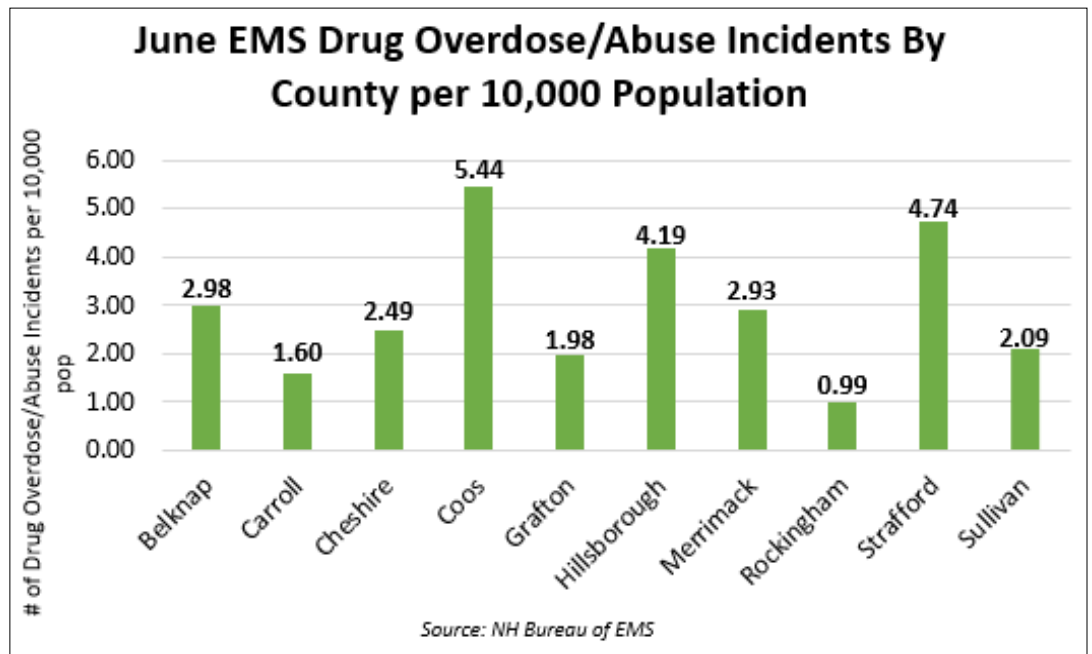
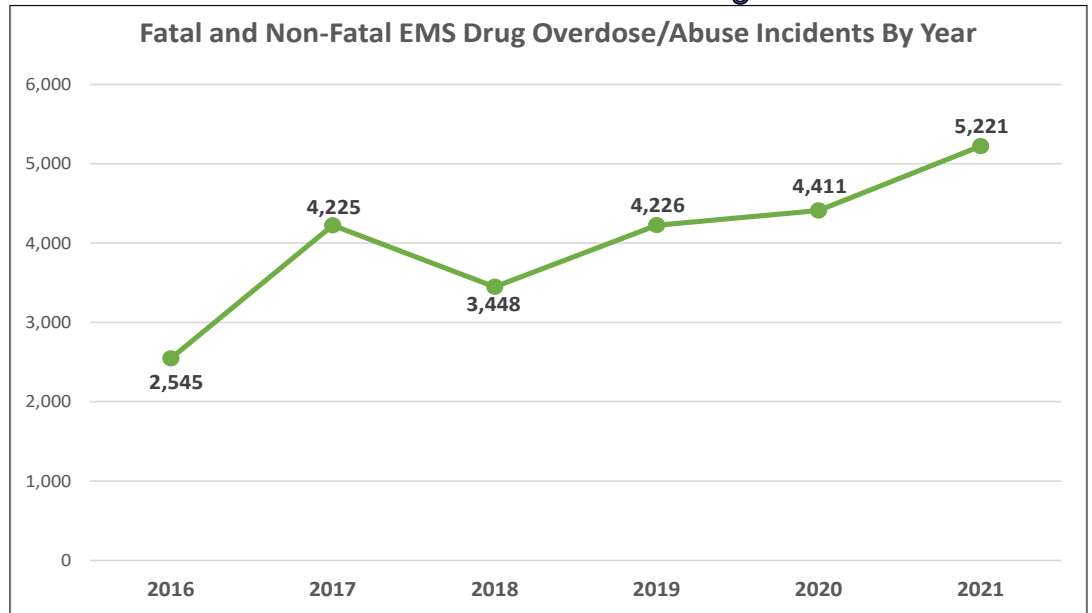
Right click on the paperclip and select "Open File" to view additional data.

Analyst Notes:

- EMS Drug Overdose/Abuse incidents remained consistent from May to June, with 1 less incident reported.
- In June, Coos County saw the highest Drug Overdose/Abuse incidents per capita with 5.44 incidents per 10,000 population. Strafford County was second highest with 4.74 per 10,000 population.
- The age group with the largest number of Drug Overdose/Abuse incidents was 30-39, representing 30% of all Drug Overdose/Abuse incidents in June.
- More males than females experienced a Drug Overdose/Abuse incident in June.

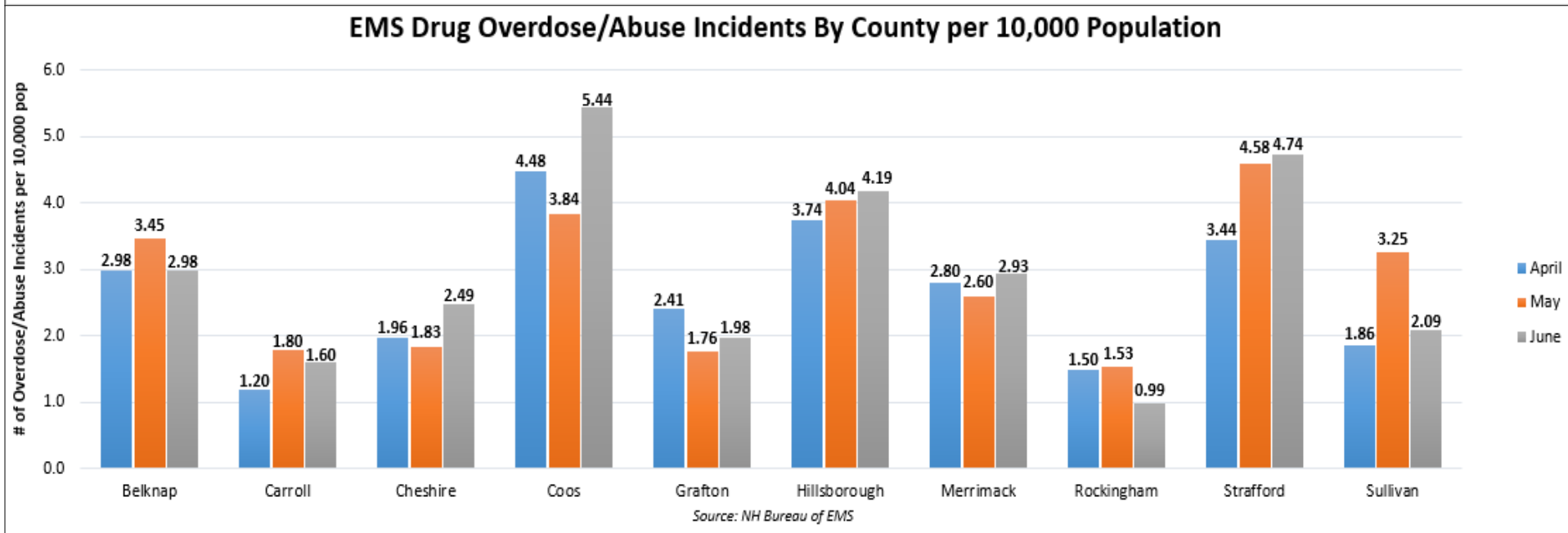
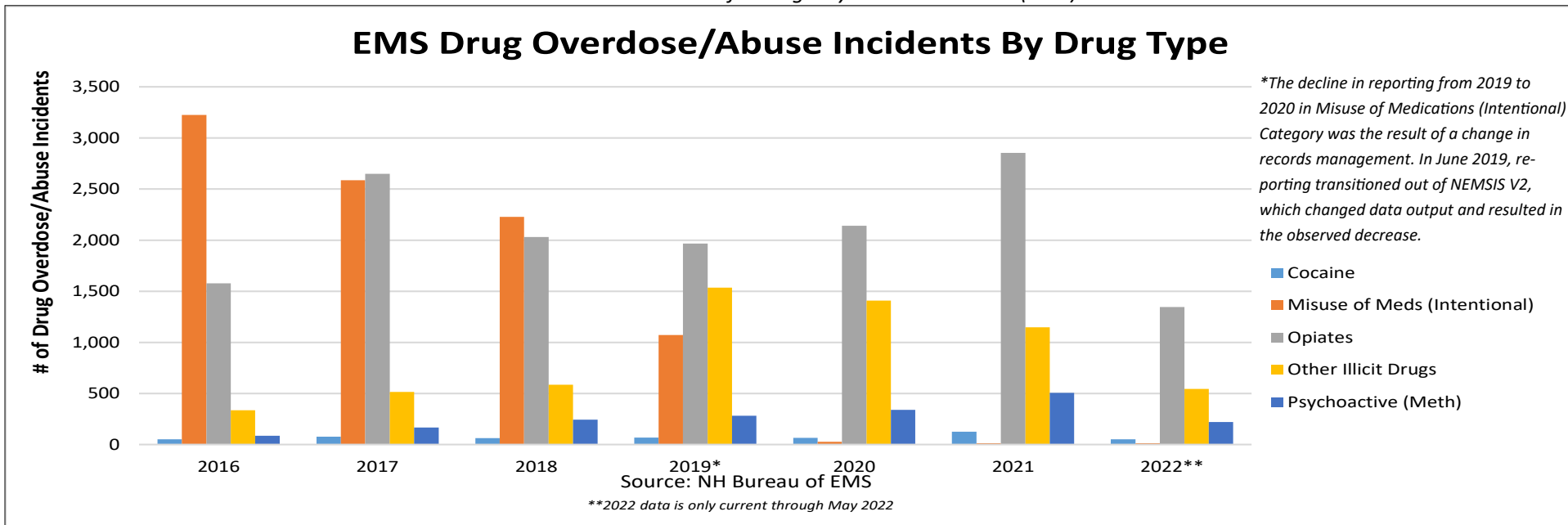
*****IMPORTANT DATA NOTES*****

- Data represents cases where EMS providers indicated one or more diagnoses of medication abuse/overdose. Incidents reflect both non-fatal and fatal drug overdose/abuse.
- The continued decrease in the number of EMS Drug Overdose/Abuse Incidents by Year for 2019 and 2020 is attributable to a records management system upgrades and early stages of the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- **The November 2021 DMI was the first inclusion of this dataset.**



EMS Drug Overdose/Abuse Incidents (Continued):

Data Source: NH Bureau of Emergency Medical Services (EMS)



EMS Drug Overdose/Abuse Incidents 07/1/2021 – 06/30/2022

* Data represents cases where EMS providers indicated one or more diagnoses of medication abuse/overdose.

* Incidents reflect both non-fatal and fatal drug overdose/abuse.

Data Source: New Hampshire Bureau of EMS

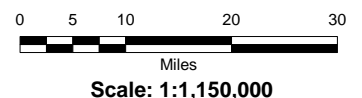
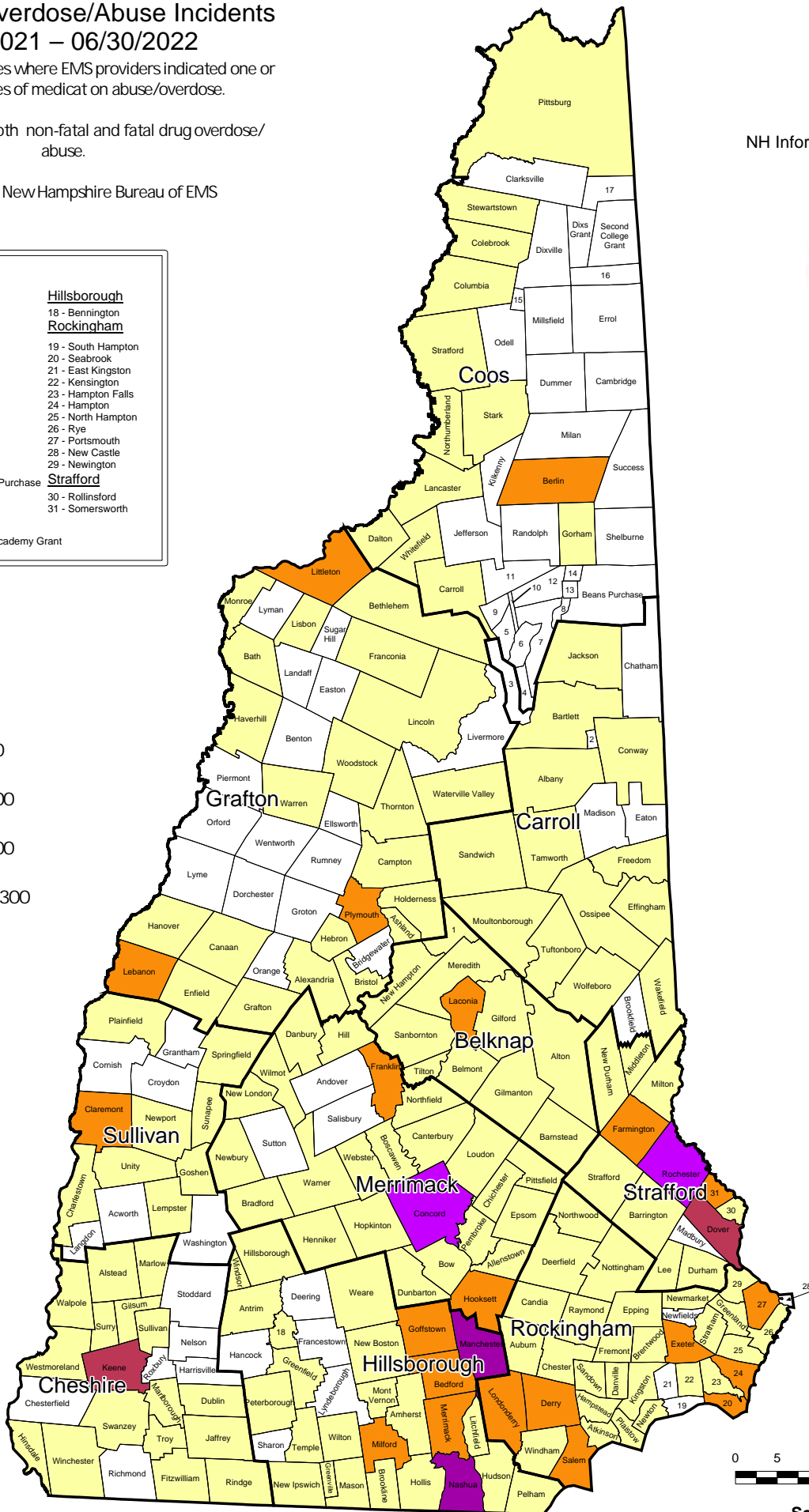
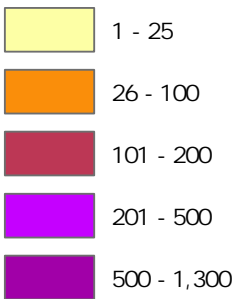


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INDEX	
Belknap	Hillsborough
1 - Center Harbor	18 - Bennington
Carroll	Rockingham
2 - Hales Location	19 - South Hampton
3 - Harts Location	20 - Seabrook
Coos	21 - East Kingston
4 - Hadleys Purchase	22 - Kensington
5 - Beans Grant	23 - Hampton Falls
6 - Cutts Grant	24 - Hampton
7 - Sargents Purchase	25 - North Hampton
8 - Pinkhams Grant	26 - Rye
9 - Crawford's Purchase	27 - Portsmouth
10 - Chandlers Purchase	28 - New Castle
11 - Low & Burbanks Grant	29 - Newington
12 - Thompson & Meserves Purchase	Strafford
13 - Greens Grant	30 - Rollinsford
14 - Martins Location	31 - Somersworth
15 - Erving's Grant	
16 - Wentworth Location	
17 - Atkinson & Gilman Academy Grant	

Town Totals



EMS Narcan Administration Incidents:

Data Source: NH Bureau of Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

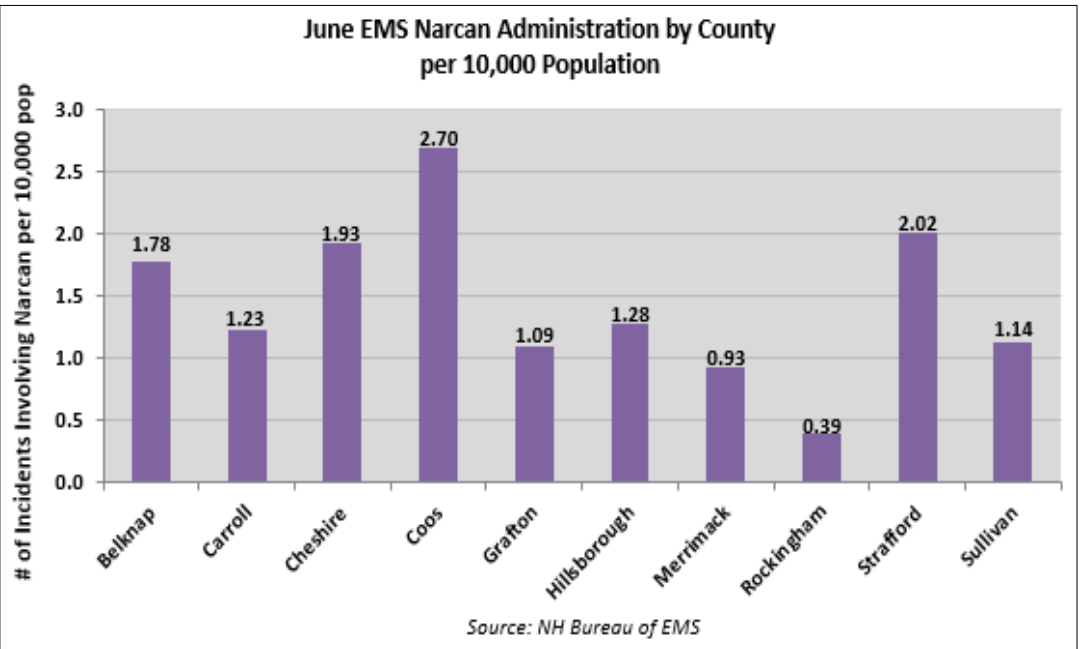
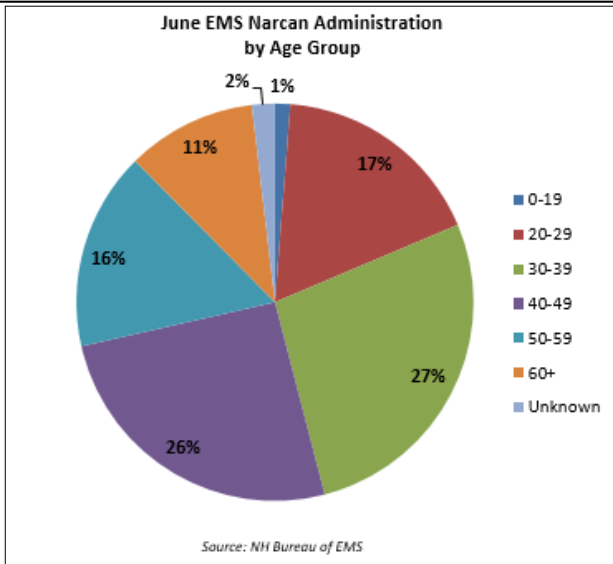
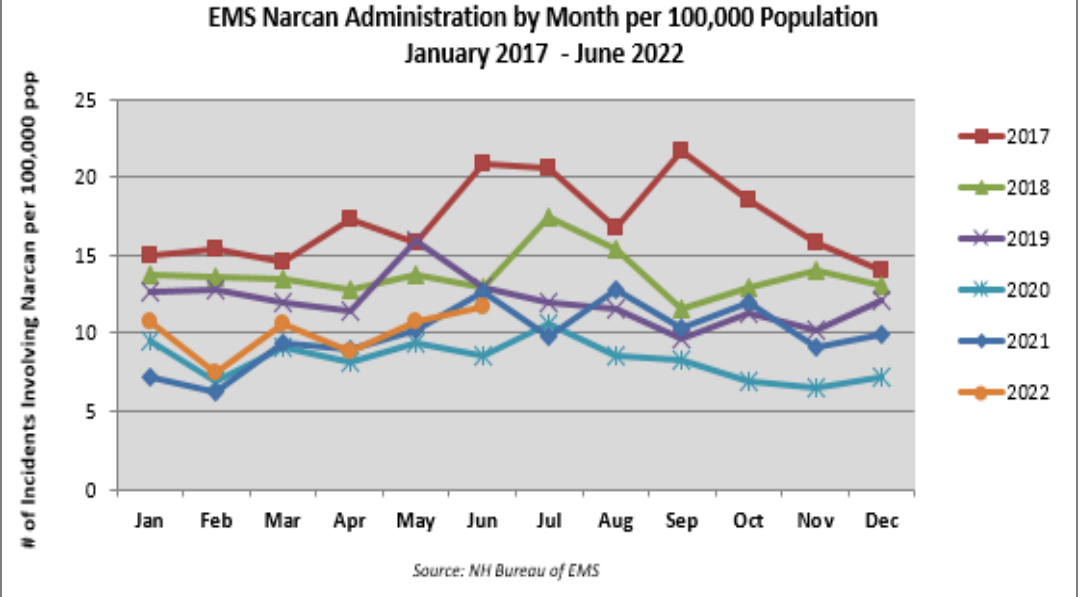
Right click on the paperclip and select "Open File" to view additional data.

Trends:

- EMS Narcan administration incidents increased by 8% from May to June.
- In June, Coos County had the highest EMS Narcan administration incidents per capita with 2.70 incidents per 10,000 population. Strafford county saw the second highest with 2.02 incidents per 10,000 population.
- The age group with the largest number of EMS Narcan administration incidents was 30-39, representing 27% of all EMS Narcan administrations in June.

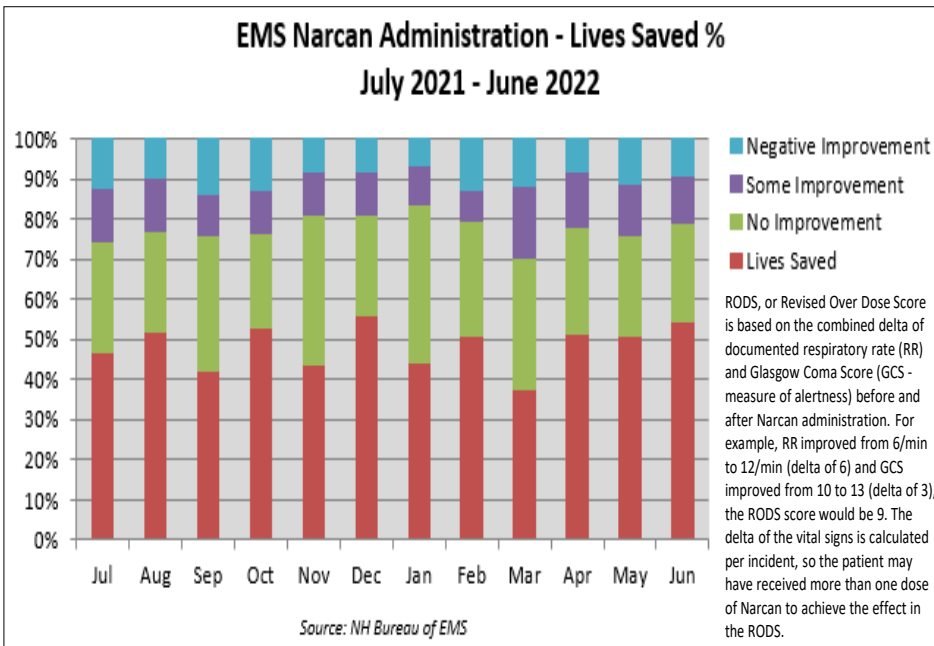
*****IMPORTANT DATA NOTES*****

- 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.



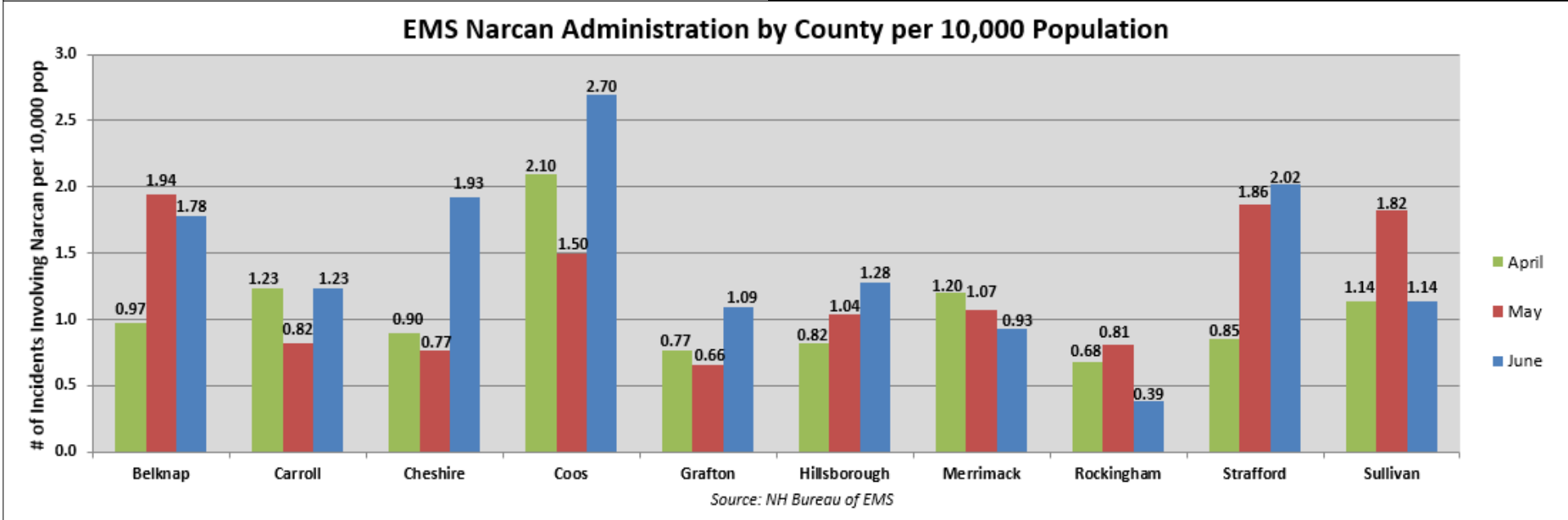
EMS Narcan Administration Incidents (Continued):

Data Source: NH Bureau of Emergency Medical Services (EMS)



EMS Narcan Administration - Lives Saved												
	2021						2022					
<i>Source: NH Bureau of EMS</i>	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
RODS Outcome												
Lives Saved <i>RODS Score of 8+</i>	63	92	60	87	55	77	66	52	55	63	76	88
Some Improvement <i>RODS Score of 1-7</i>	18	24	14	18	14	15	14	8	26	17	19	19
No Improvement <i>RODS Score of 0</i>	37	44	49	39	47	35	59	29	48	32	37	39
Negative Improvement <i>Negative RODS Score</i>	16	17	20	21	10	10	10	13	17	10	17	16
Total	134	177	143	165	126	137	149	102	146	122	149	161

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 10-13 (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/Narcen Administration by Town

07/1/2021 – 06/30/2022

Data Source: New Hampshire Bureau of EMS



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25 - North Hampton

26 - Rye

27 - Portsmouth

28 - New Castle

29 - Newington

30 - Rollinsford

31 - Somersworth

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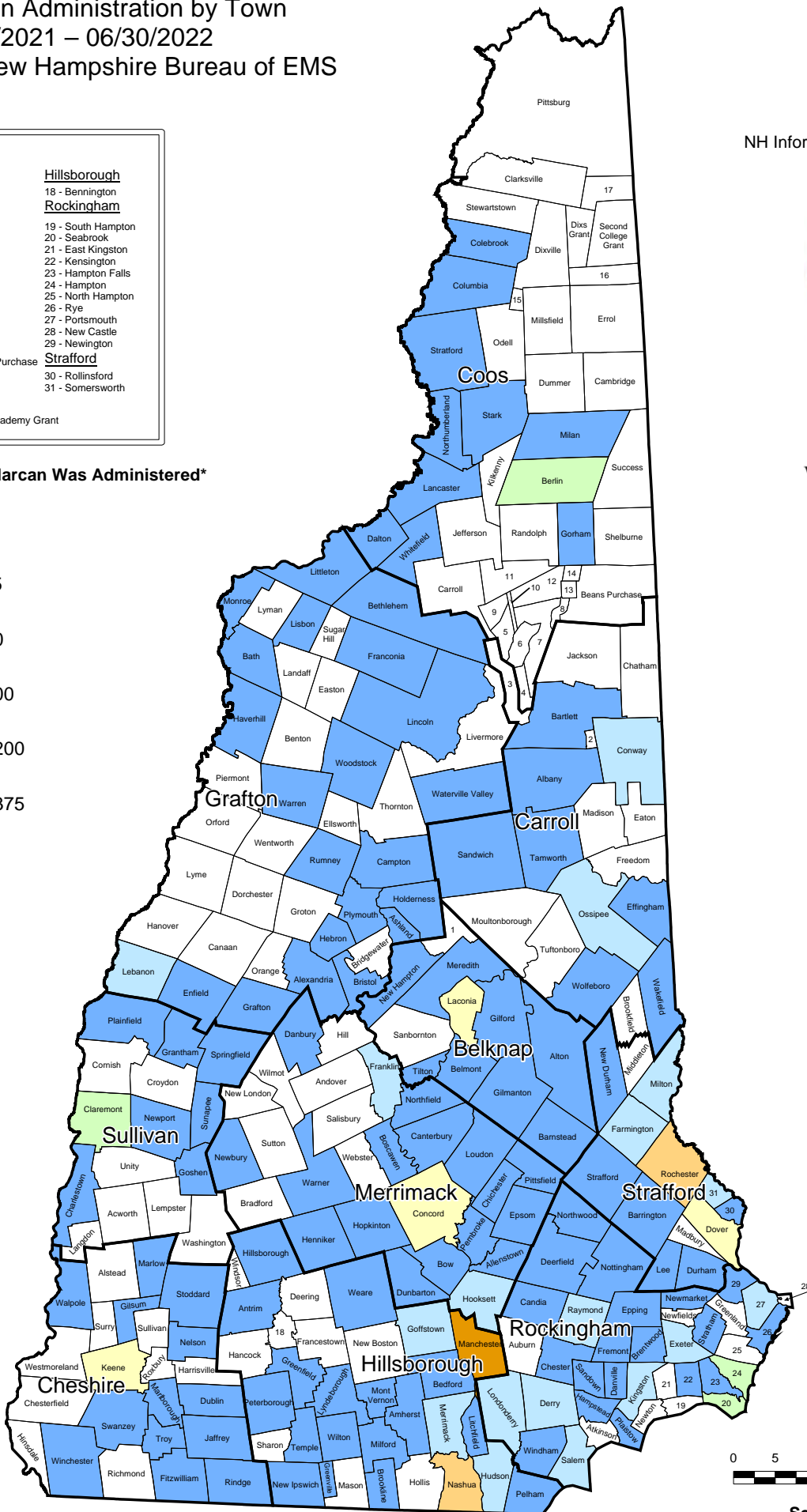
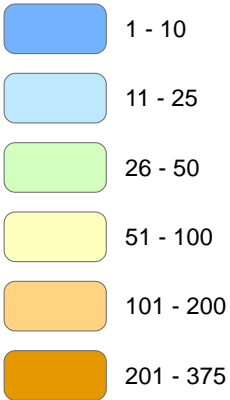
31 - Somersworth

31 - Somersworth

31 - Somersworth



Incidents Where Narcan Was Administered



Scale: 1:1,150,000

Opioid Related Emergency Department Visits:

Data Source: NH Division of Public Health Services

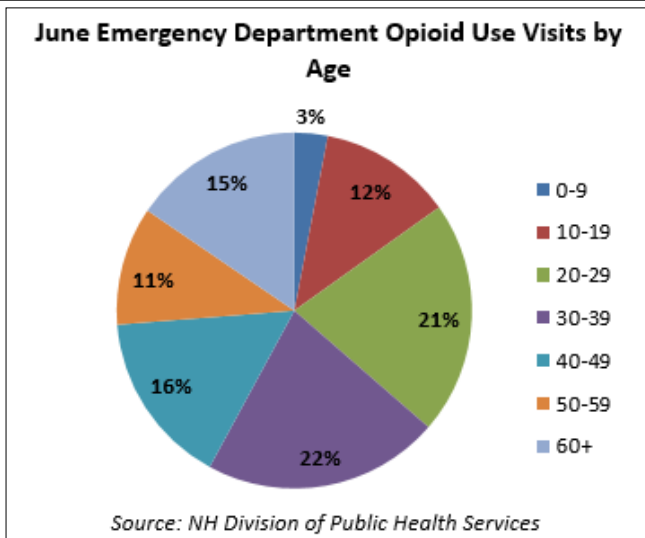
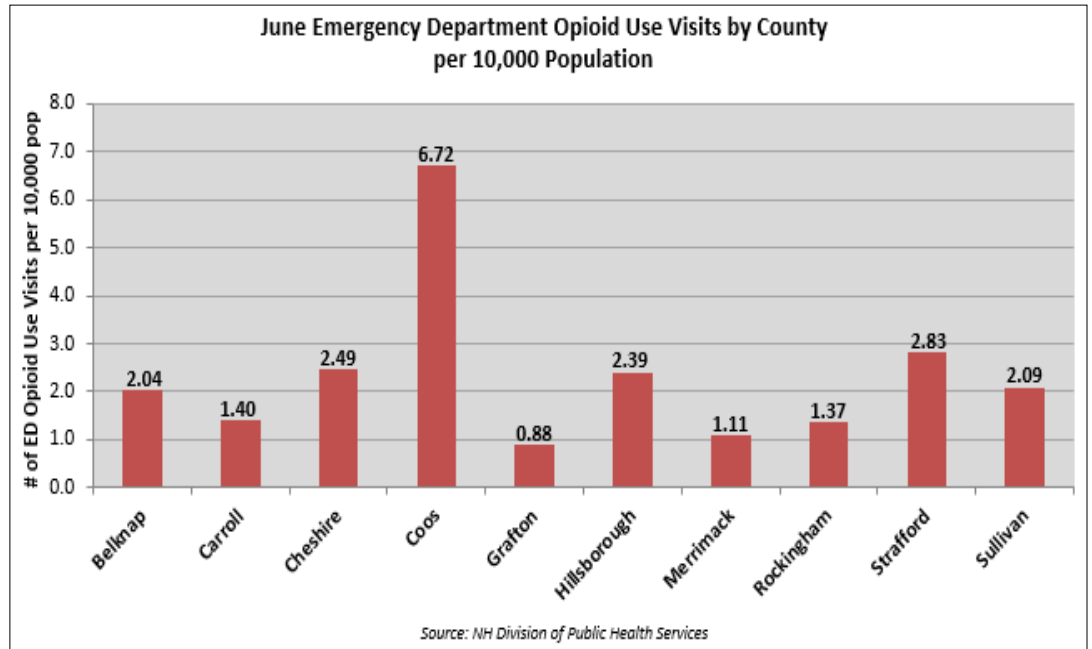
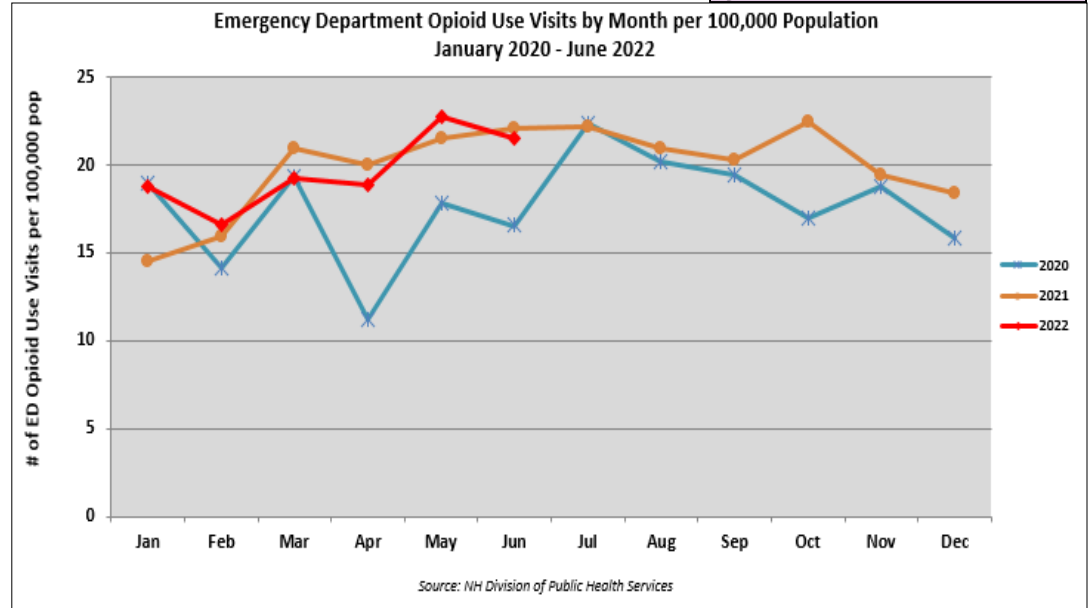
Right click on the paperclip and select "Open File" to view additional data.

Trends:

- Opioid related ED visits decreased by 5% from May to June.
- In June, residents from Coos County had the most opioid related ED visits per capital with 6.72 visits per 10,000 population. Sullivan County was a distant second with 2.83 visits per 10,000 population.
- In June, the age group with the largest number of opioid related ED visits was 30-39 year olds with 22%.

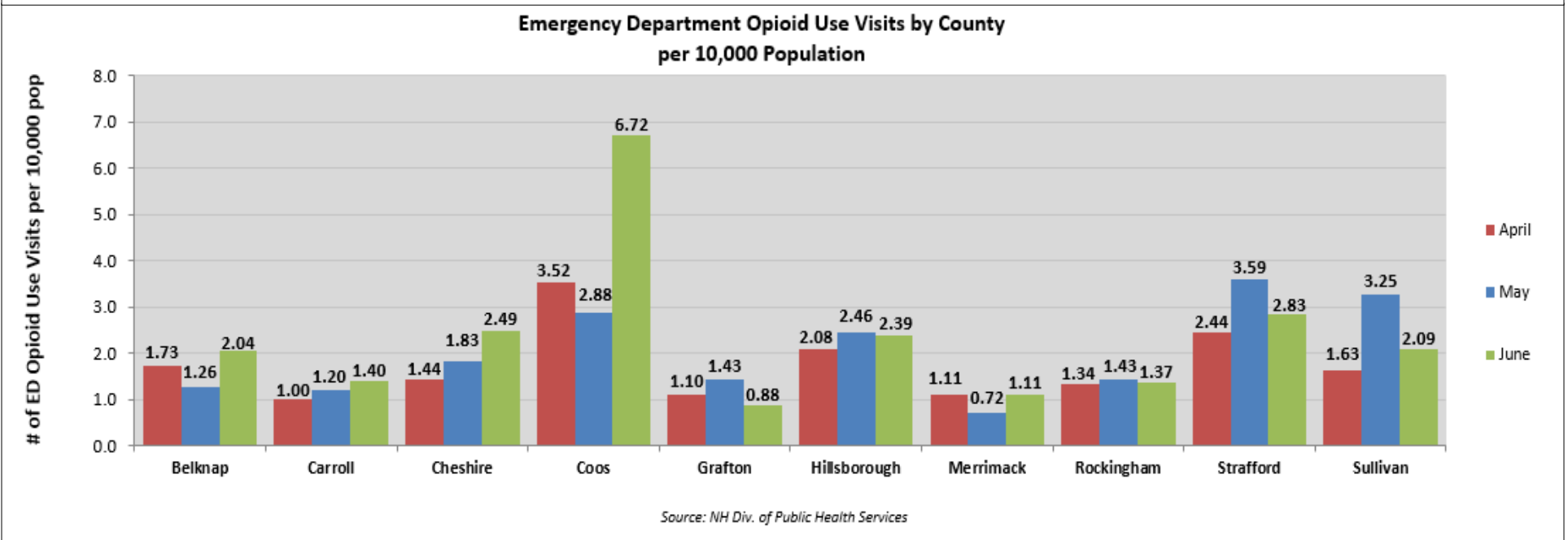
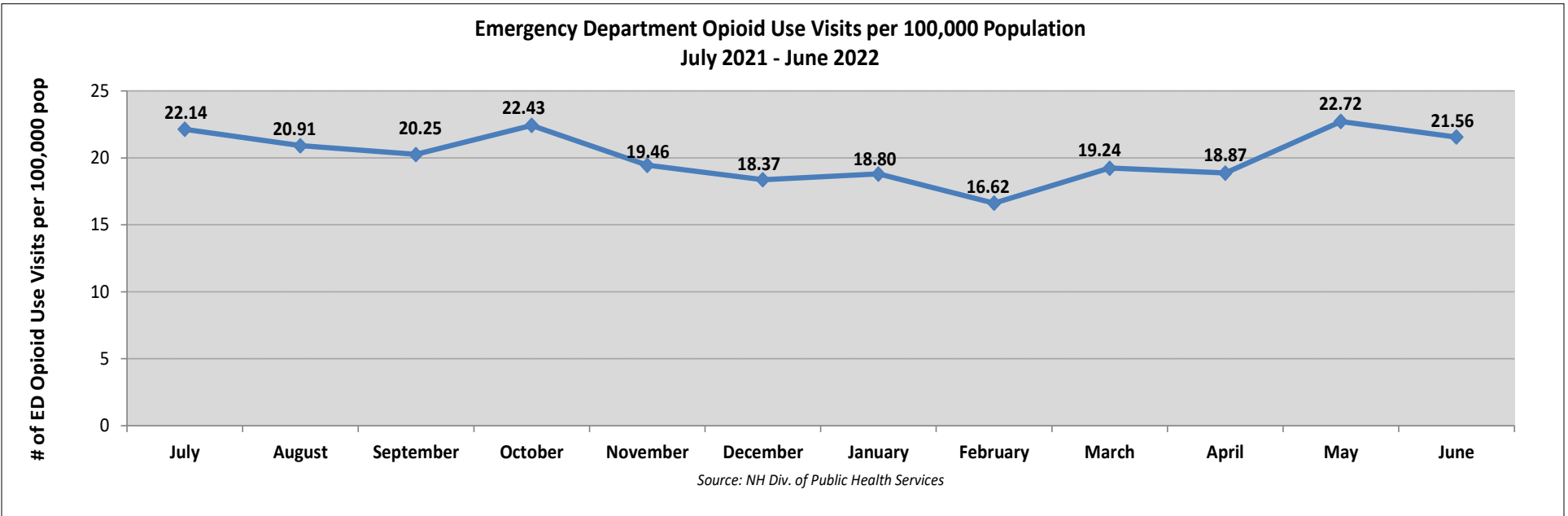
***** IMPORTANT DATA NOTES *****

- ***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."



Opioid Related Emergency Department Visits (Continued):

Data Source: NH Division of Public Health Services



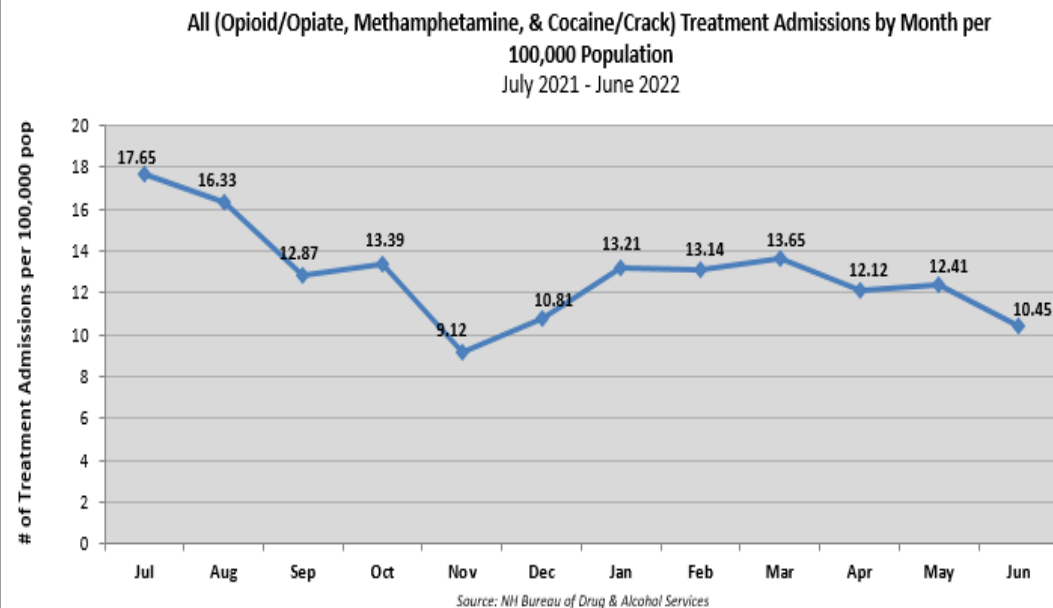
Treatment Admissions:

Data Source: NH Bureau of Drug & Alcohol Services

Right click on the paperclip and select "Open File" to view additional data.

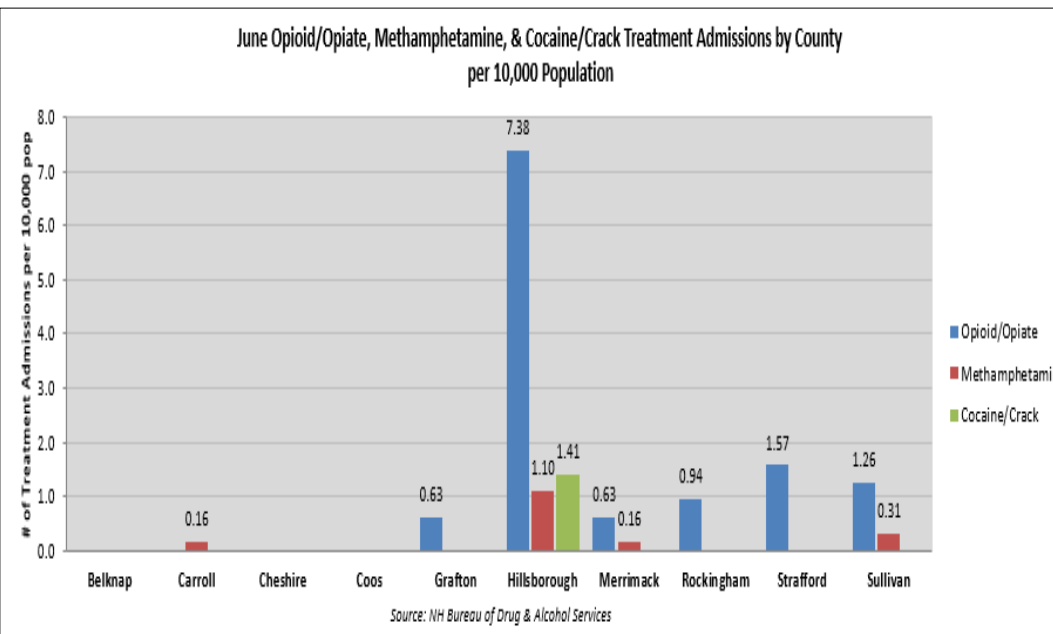
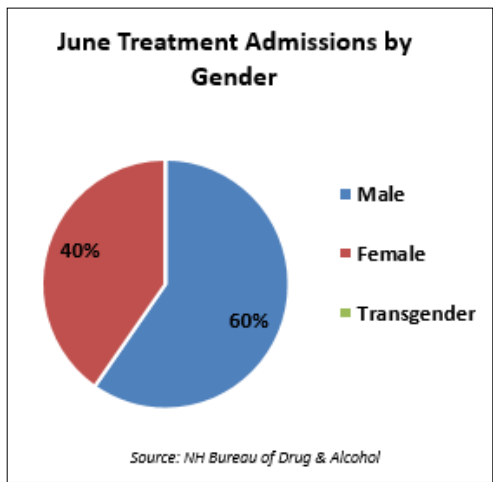
Trends:

- Opioid/Opiate, Methamphetamine, & Cocaine/Crack treatment admissions decreased 16% from May to June.
- In June, residents from Hillsborough County had the highest admission per capita rate for opioid/opiate treatment, with 7.38 admissions per 10,000 population.
- More males than females were admitted to state funded treatment facilities in June for Opioid/Opiate, Methamphetamine, & Cocaine/Crack use.
- Methamphetamine treatment admissions increased 29% from May to June.
- Cocaine/Crack treatment admissions decreased 33% from May to June.
- Heroin/Fentanyl treatment admissions decreased 19% from May to June.



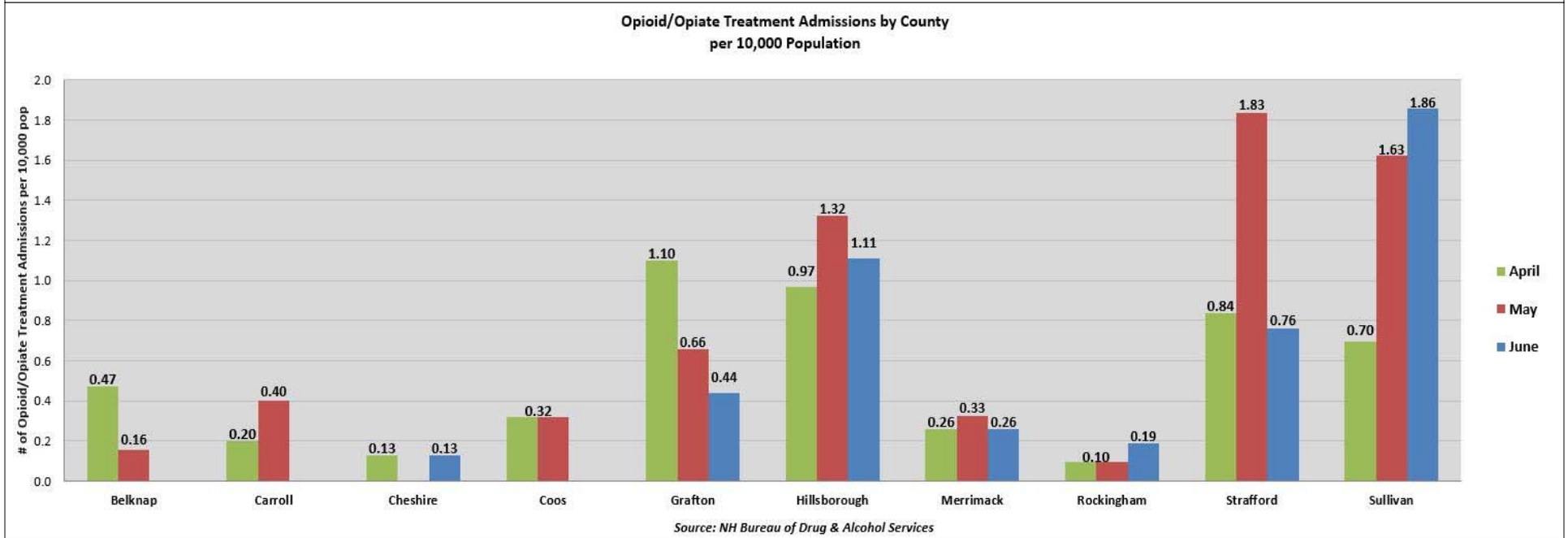
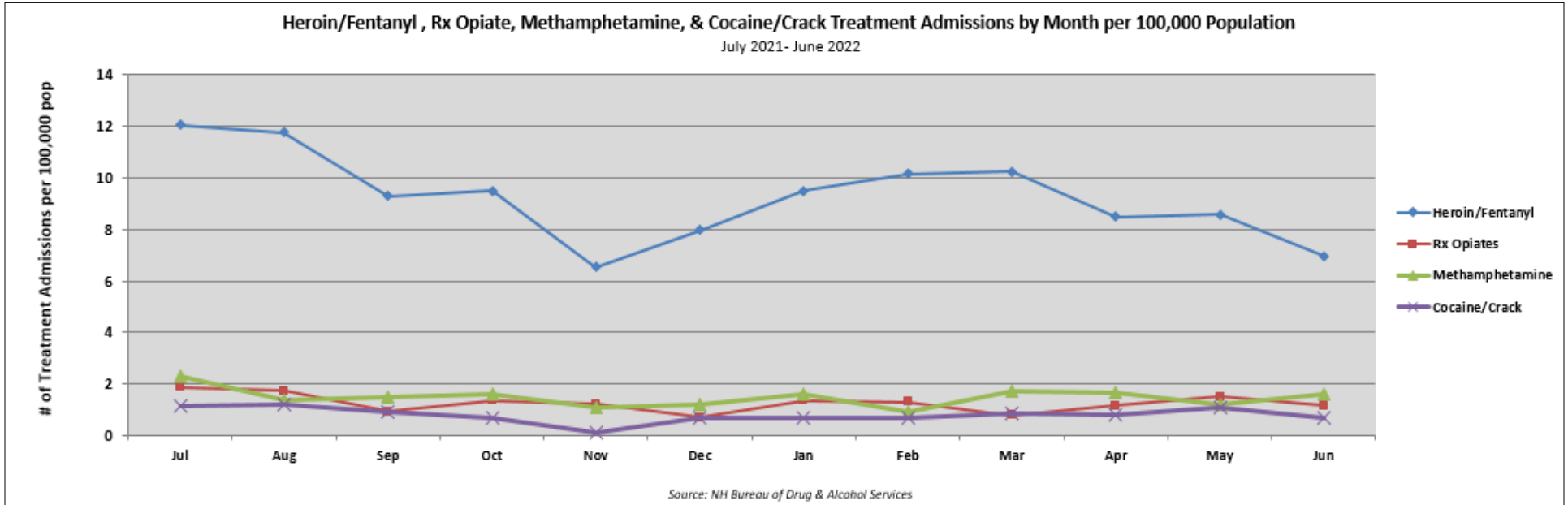
***** IMPORTANT DATA NOTES *****

- 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.



Treatment Admissions (Continued):

Data Source: NH Bureau of Drug & Alcohol Services



Situational Awareness:

NEW HAMPSHIRE SAFE STATIONS

Manchester Safe Station Began 5/4/2016 & Ended 10/4/2021

Nashua Safe Station Began 11/17/2016 & Ended 6/30/2020

Total Number of Safe Station Visits: Manchester	8,197
Total Number of Safe Stations Visits: Nashua	3,717
Total Number of Safe Stations Visits	11,914

State Officials Warn of Increase in Non-opioid Drugs Laced with Fentanyl:

CONCORD, NH —State officials are warning the public about the risk of fentanyl-laced drugs amid evidence that New Hampshire has seen an uptick in overdoses this year.

At a press conference outside Concord Hospital Thursday, Gov. Chris Sununu, Commissioner Bob Quinn of the New Hampshire Department of Safety, and a panel of medical professionals said those increases in overdoses and overdose deaths may be a result of drugs that are more potent than realized.

“It’s rare to see heroin by itself,” State Police Col. Nathan Noyes said. “When we do see heroin, it is routinely mixed with fentanyl. And while fentanyl can be found as the sole drug in some samples, approximately 70 percent of the time it is mixed with other drugs. ... We’re seeing fentanyl mixed with everything, including counterfeit pills.”

Gov. Sununu and state officials said the apparent rise in fentanyl is another reason New Hampshire residents should think before trusting any source for any drug that isn’t prescribed.

Source: <https://www.newhampshirebulletin.com> (30 June 2022)

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