



New Hampshire Drug Monitoring Initiative

New Hampshire Information & Analysis Center

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NHIAC Product #: 2023-05673

January 2023 Report

28 January 2023

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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- ⇒ Population data source: [2021 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 2021 estimated population of each county.
- ⇒ If your agency is looking for further breakdowns than what is in this document please contact the NHIAC.

Overdose Death Data					
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 Death Update As of 2/2023
Total Overdose Deaths	471	415	417	436	434
Deaths Involving Opioids	420	372	357	404	399
Deaths Involving Cocaine	65	79	58	36	N/A
Deaths Involving Meth	22	52	59	63	N/A
Deaths Pending Toxicology	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	39

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>

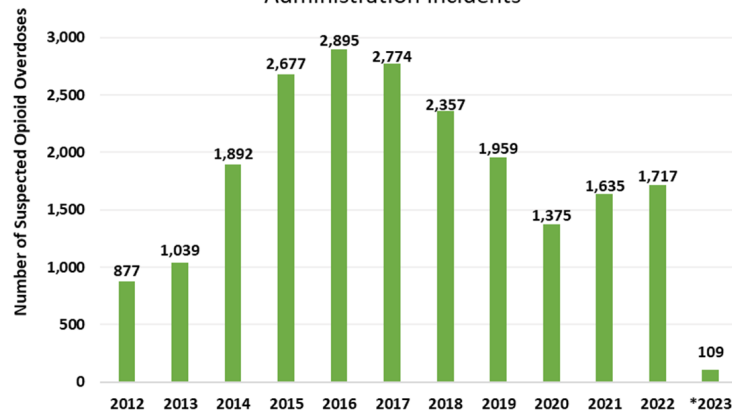
New Hampshire's Drug Environment Summary: **UPDATED**

- Drug overdose deaths in the New Hampshire are rising. As of February 2023, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner published their findings for 2021 and provided updated numbers for 2022. From 2020 to 2021, NH experienced a 4.5% increase, and projections for 2022 show an additional ~9% increase. If projections prove true, this would be the third consecutive yearly increase in NH, and return us to levels not witnessed since 2016-2018.

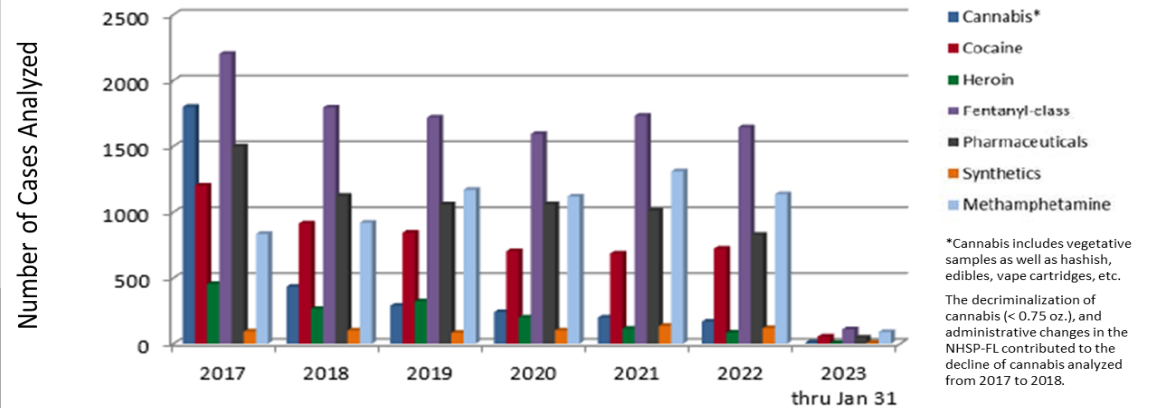
January 2023 Data Summary

	EMS Narcan Administration Incidents	Treatment Admissions	Opioid Related Emergency Department Visits
Percent Change from December '22 to January '23	↓ -17%	↓ -16%	↓ -5%
County w/ Highest Incidence	Sullivan	Hillsborough	Coos
Age Group w/ Highest Incidence	30-39	N/A	30-39

EMS Suspected Opioid Overdose - Narcan Administration Incidents



Data Source: NH Bureau of EMS
 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.

NH State Police Forensic Laboratory Controlled Drug Case Information
January 2023

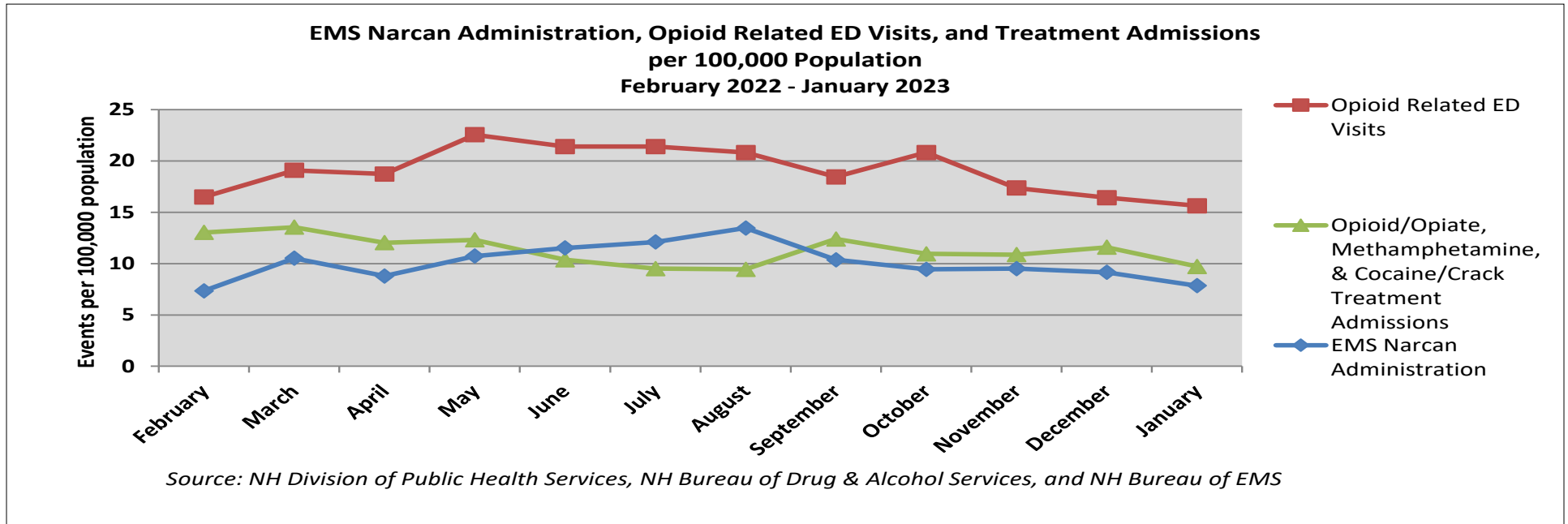
*Cannabis includes vegetative samples as well as hashish, edibles, vape cartridges, etc.

The decriminalization of cannabis (< 0.75 oz.), and administrative changes in the NHSP-FL contributed to the decline of cannabis analyzed from 2017 to 2018.

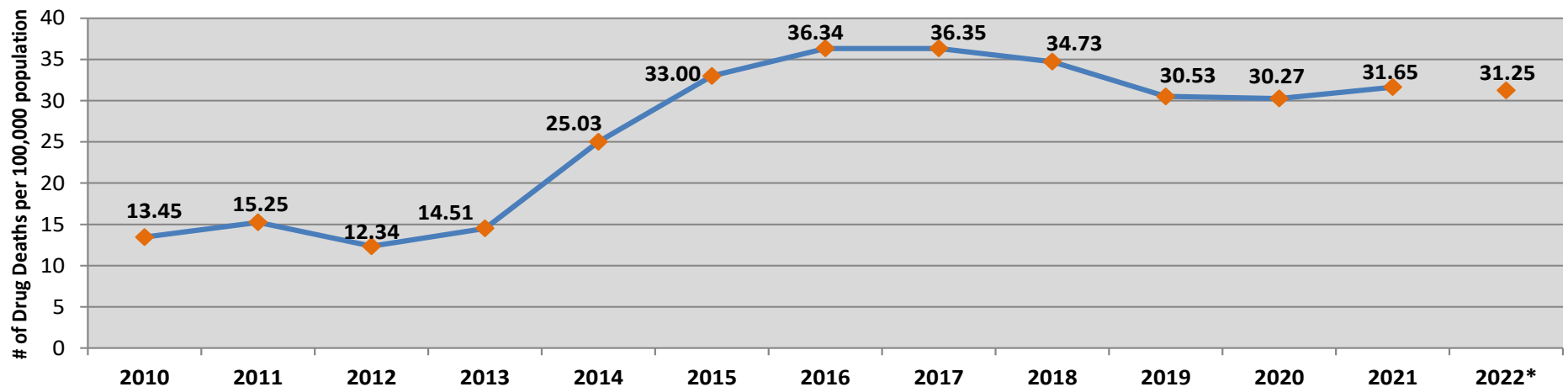
Year	Cannabis*	Cocaine	Heroin	Fentanyl-class	Pharmaceuticals	Synthetics	Methamphetamine
2017	1,799	1,201	453	2,202	1,499	93	834
2018	433	913	264	1,794	1,123	101	919
2019	289	843	322	1,718	1,058	83	1,169
2020	240	702	199	1,593	1,060	101	1,118
2021	199	685	114	1,731	1,011	136	1,310
2022	167	722	84	1,644	827	118	1,136
2023 thru Jan 31	10	54	6	109	46	7	89
Jan 2023	10	54	6	109	46	7	89

2021 Overdose Deaths

Percent Change: All Overdose Deaths (2020 to 2021)	Percent Change: Opioid Deaths (2020 to 2021)	Percent Change: Meth Deaths (2020 to 2021)	Percent Change: Cocaine Deaths (2020 to 2021)	County w/ Most Deaths Per Capita	Age Group w/ Most Deaths
↑ 4%	↑ 13%	↑ 7%	↓ -38%	Coos	30-39 Year Olds

Overview: Trends for Narcan, ED Visits, Treatment Admissions, and Overdose Deaths:**Drug Overdose Deaths By Year**


Data Source: NH Medical Examiner's Office



*2022 numbers are not finalized, and are based on analysis as of 13 February 2023

Drug Overdose Deaths:

Data Source: NH Medical Examiner's Office

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

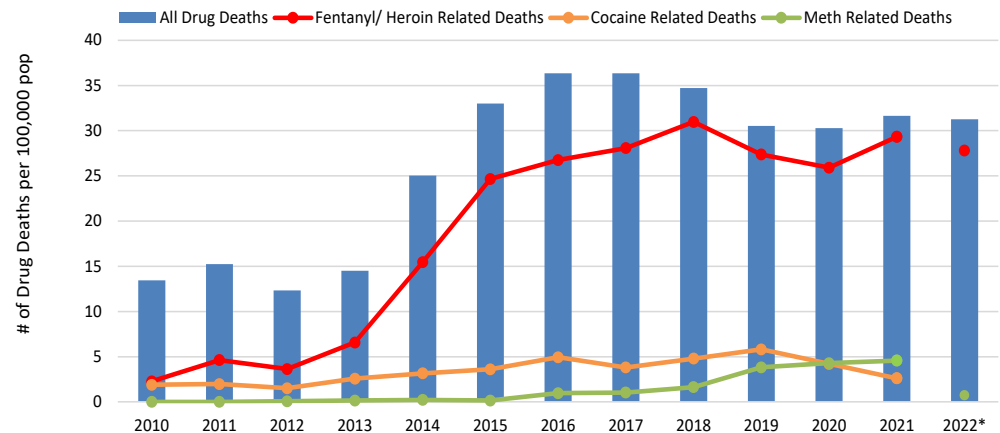
- As of 13 February 2023, there are 434 confirmed drug overdose deaths and 39 cases pending toxicology for 2022.
- So far for 2022, Coos County has the highest suspected drug use resulting in overdose deaths per capita, at 6.97 deaths per 10,000 population. Hillsborough County is second highest with 4.16 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 2022.

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

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

Overdose Deaths by Year per 100,000 Population

Data Source: NH Medical Examiner's Office

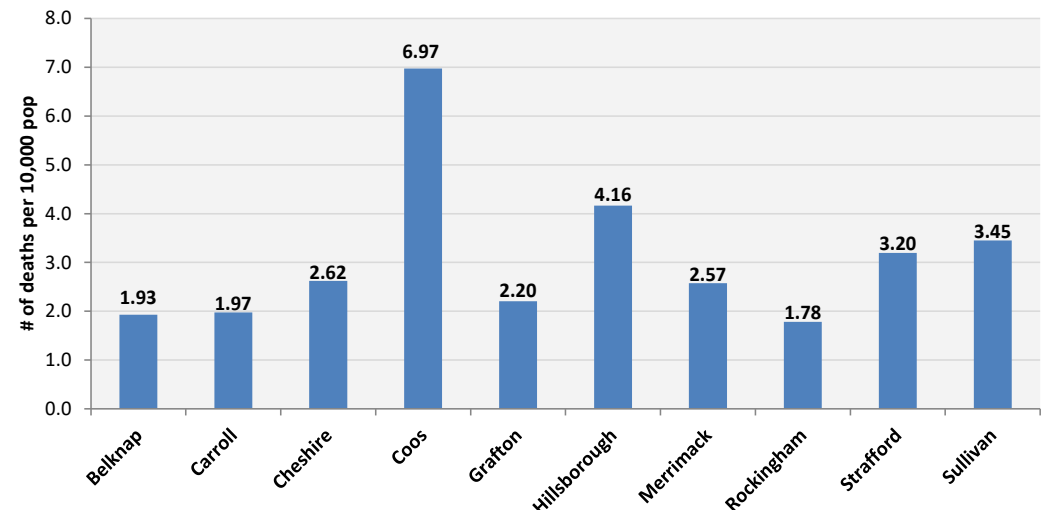


*2022 numbers are not finalized, and are based on analysis as of 13 February 2023

+ Cocaine, Meth, and Fentanyl/Heroin Related deaths are not exclusive, several deaths involve multiple categories

2022 Overdose Deaths by County per 10,000 Population

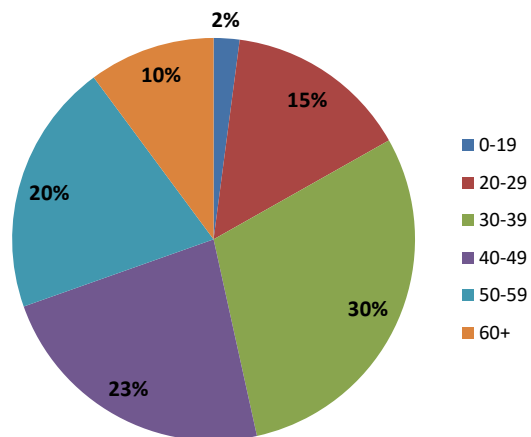
Data Source: NH Medical Examiner's Office



2022 numbers are not finalized, and are based on analysis as of 13 February 2023

Overdose Deaths by Age 2022*

Data Source: NH Medical Examiner's Office

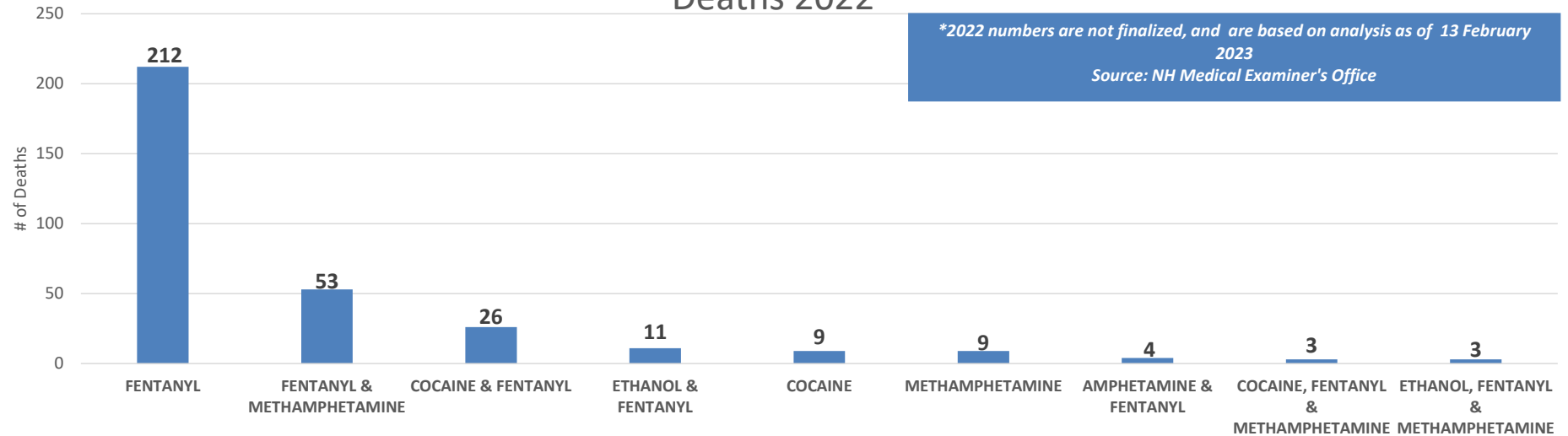


*2022 numbers are not finalized, and based on analysis as of 13 February 2023

Drug Overdose Deaths:

Data Source: NH Medical Examiner's Office

Cocaine, Methamphetamine, and/or Fentanyl Class Combination Related Drug Deaths 2022



2022 Cocaine, Methamphetamine, and/or Fentanyl Class Combination Related Drug Deaths that were noted once or twice*

4-ANPP, AMPHETAMINE, FENTANYL, HYDROXYZINE & METHAMPHETAMINE	BROMAZOLAM & FENTANYL	ETHANOL, OXYCODONE, FENTANYL & XYLAZINE	ACETYL FENTANYL, ETHANOL & FENTANYL	AMPHETAMINE, ETHANOL, FENTANYL & METHAMPHETAMINE	BROMAZOLAM, COCAINE & FENTANYL	COCAINE & HEROIN	COCAINE, FENTANYL & OXYCODONE
ACETYL FENTANYL & FENTANYL	COCAINE, ETHANOL & FENTANYL	METHAMPHETAMINE & OXYCODONE	ACETYL FENTANYL, FENTANYL, METHAMPHETAMINE & PARA-FLUOROFENTANYL	AMPHETAMINE, FENTANYL & METHAMPHETAMINE	BROMAZOLAM, CYCLOBENZAPRINE, FENTANYL, GABAPENTIN, METHADONE, METHAMPHETAMINE & OXYCODONE	COCAINE & METHAMPHETAMINE	COCAINE, FENTANYL & PARA-FLUOROFENTANYL
ALCOHOL & FENTANYL	EPHEDRINE, FENTANYL, METHAMPHETAMINE & PHENYLPROPANOLAMINE	4-ANPP, AMPHETAMINE, FENTANYL & METHAMPHETAMINE	AMLODIPINE & FENTANYL	AMPHETAMINE, FENTANYL, METHAMPHETAMINE & SERTRALINE	BUPRENORPHINE, FENTANYL & METHAMPHETAMINE	COCAINE & MORPHINE	COCAINE, FENTANYL, & METHYLENEDIOXYMETHAMPHETAMINE
BROMAZEPAM, CYCLOBENZAPRINE, FENTANYL, GABAPENTIN & METHAMPHETAMINE	FENTANYL & ISOTONITAZENE	4-ANPP, ETHANOL & FENTANYL	AMPHETAMINE, ARIPIRAZOLE & FENTANYL	AMPHETAMINES, ETHANOL & FENTANYL	BUPROPION & METHAMPHETAMINE	COCAINE, DULOXETINE, FENTANYL, GABAPENTIN, METHAMPHETAMINE & METHYLPHENIDATE	ETHANOL & PARA-FLUOROFENTANYL
FENTANYL, METHAMPHETAMINE & PHENYLPROPANOLAMINE	METHAMPHETAMINE & OXYCODONE	ACETYL FENTANYL, AMPHETAMINE, FENTANYL & METHAMPHETAMINE	AMPHETAMINE, ETHANOL & FENTANYL	BROMAZELAM, FENTANYL, FLUBROMAZEPAM & XYLAZINE	COCAETHYLENE, COCAINE, ETHANOL & FENTANYL	COCAINE & PARA-FLUOROFENTANYL	ETHANOL, FENTANYL & PAROXETINE
FENTANYL, GABAPENTIN, METHADONE & METHAMPHETAMINE	ETIZOLAM, FENTANYL & FLUBROMAZOLAM	FENTANYL & FLUBROMAZOLAM	FENTANYL & GABAPENTIN	FENTANYL & METHADONE	FENTANYL & MYTRAGININE	FENTANYL, METHAMPHETAMINE & PARA-FLUOROFENTANYL	HEROIN, FENTANYL, & METHAMPHETAMINE
FENTANYL & PARA-FLUOROFENTANYL	PARAFLUOROFENTANYL	*Cells filled with gray indicate combinations noted twice					

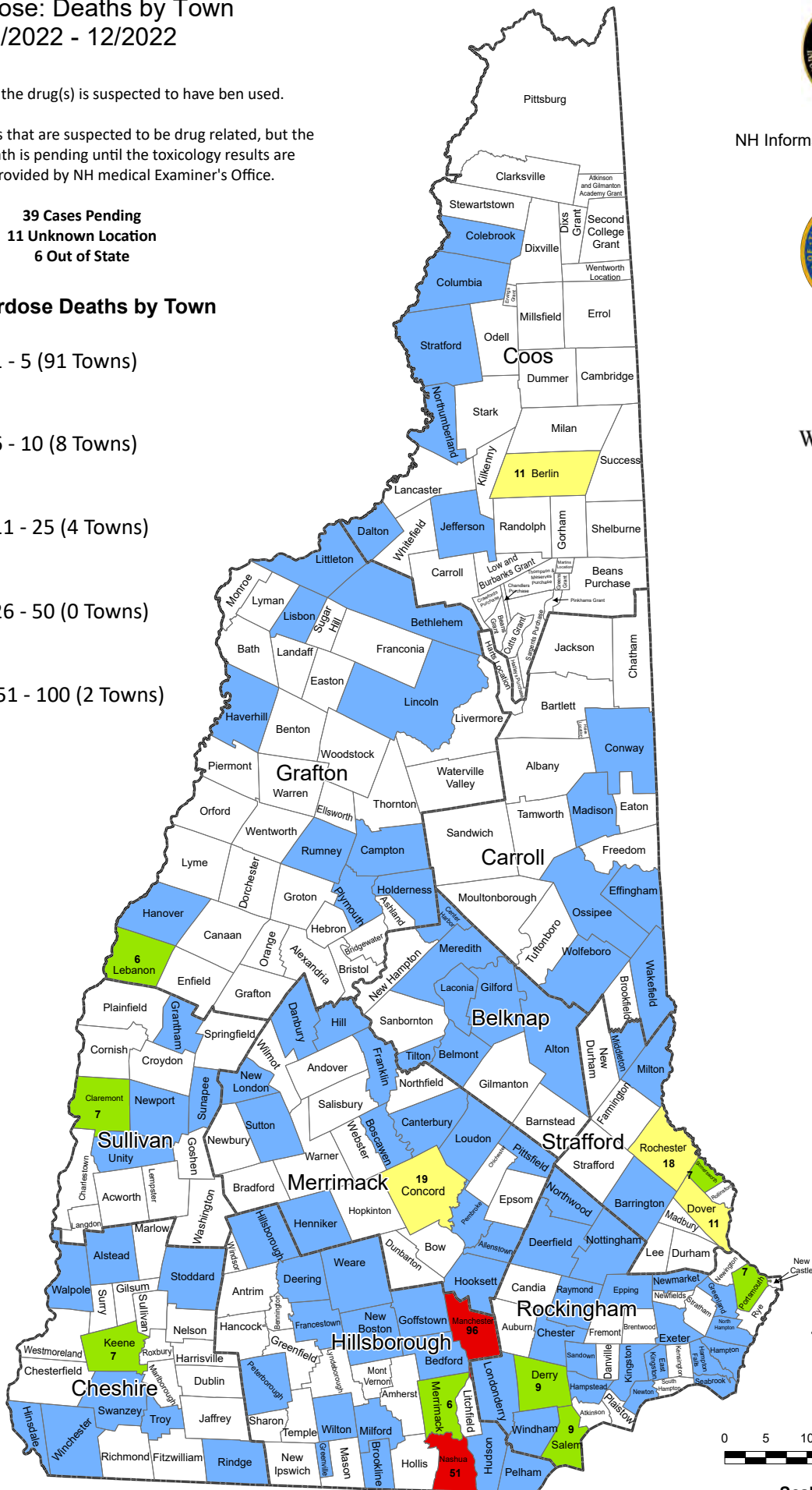
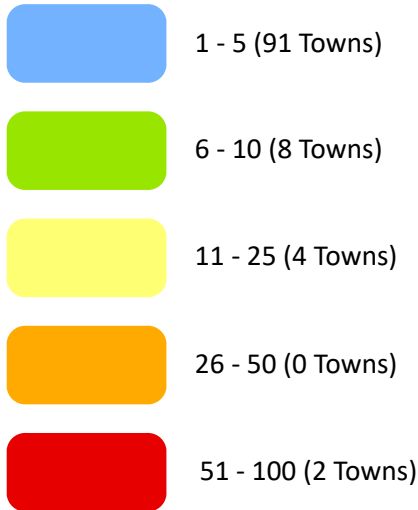
Overdose: Deaths by Town 1/2022 - 12/2022

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

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. Data provided by NH medical Examiner's Office.

39 Cases Pending
11 Unknown Location
6 Out of State

Number of Overdose Deaths by Town



Prepared by:
NH Information & Analysis Center




0 5 10 20 30
Miles

Scale: 1:1,150,000

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:**

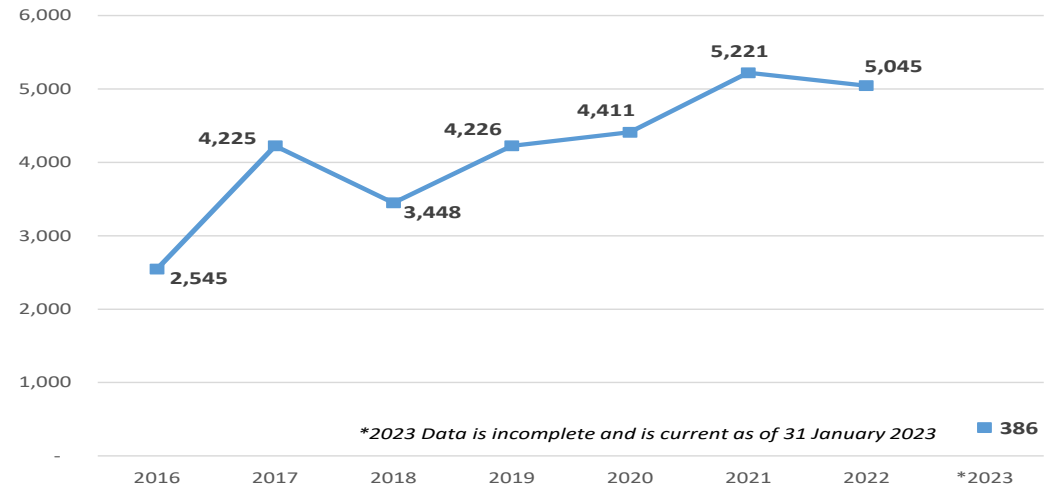
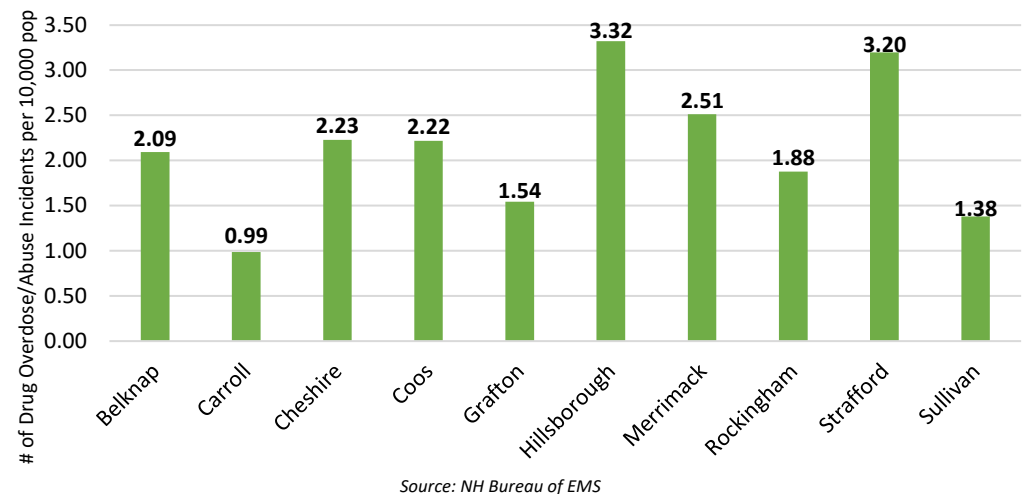
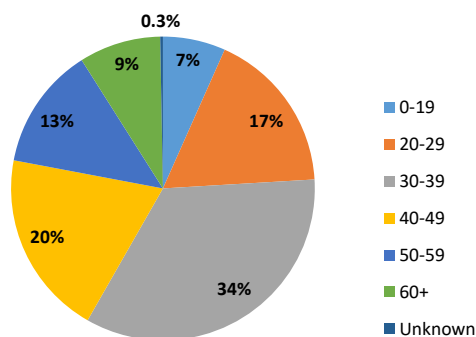
- EMS Drug Overdose/Abuse incidents increased 1% from December 2022 to January 2023.
- In January, Hillsborough County saw the highest Drug Overdose/Abuse incidents per capita with 3.32 incidents per 10,000 population. Belknap County was a close second with 3.20 per 10,000 population.
- The age group with the largest number of Drug Overdose/Abuse incidents was 30-39, representing 34% of all Drug Overdose/Abuse incidents in January.
- More males than females experienced a Drug Overdose/Abuse incident in January.

*****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.

Fatal and Non-Fatal EMS Drug Overdose/Abuse Incidents by Year

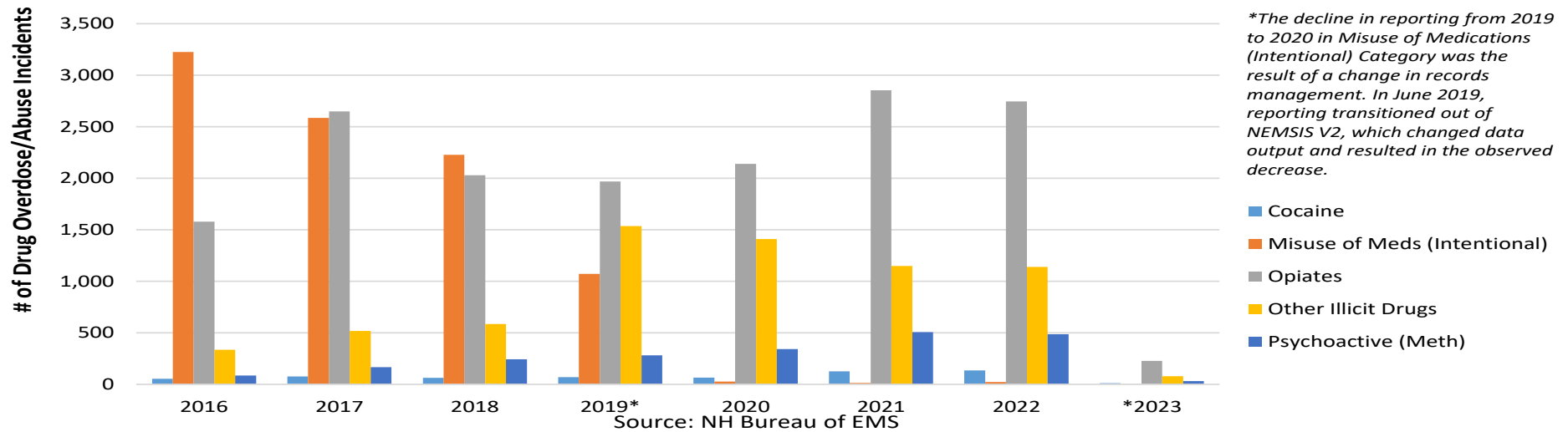
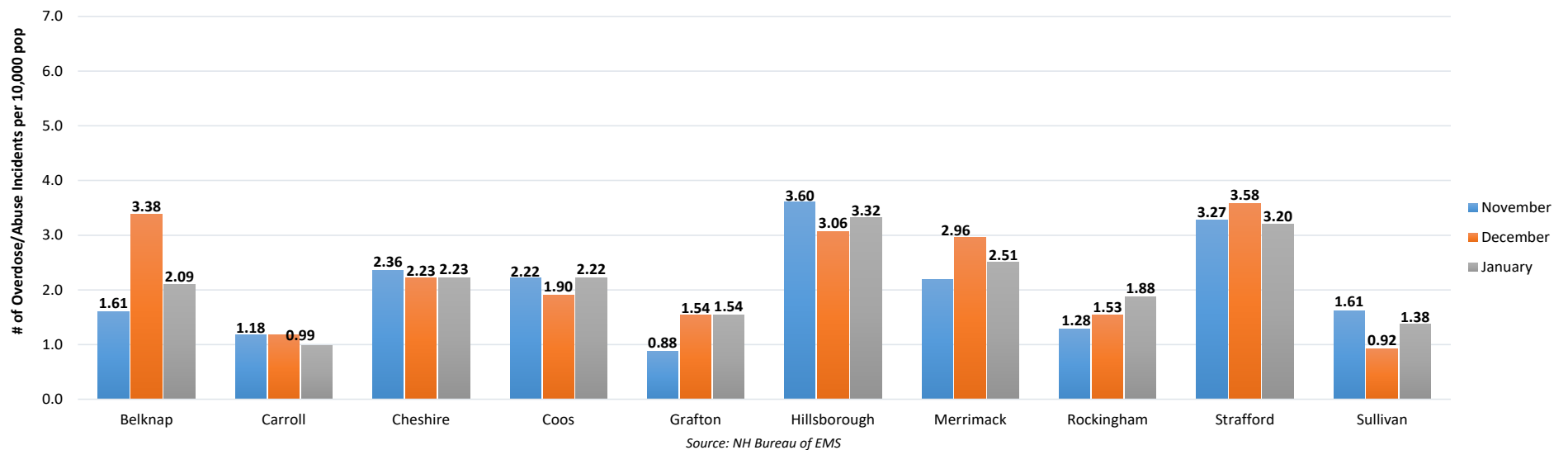
Data Source: NH Fire Academy, Bureau of EMS

**January EMS Drug Overdose/Abuse Incidents By County per 10,000 Population****January EMS Drug Overdose/Abuse Incidents by Age**

Source: NH Bureau of EMS

EMS Drug Overdose/Abuse Incidents (Continued):

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

EMS Drug Overdose/Abuse Incidents By Drug Type**EMS Drug Overdose/Abuse Incidents By County per 10,000 Population**

EMS Drug Overdose/Abuse Incidents 2/2022 - 1/2023

*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



Prepared by:
NH Information & Analysis Center



INDEX

Belknap

1 - Center Harbor

Carroll

2 - Hales Location

3 - Harts Location

Coos

4 - Hadleys Purchase

5 - Beans Grant

6 - Cutts Grant

7 - Sargents Purchase

8 - Pinkhams Grant

9 - Crawfords Purchase

10 - Chandlers Purchase

11 - Low & Burbanks Grant

12 - Thompson & Meserves Purchase

13 - Greens Grant

14 - Martins Location

15 - Ervings Grant

16 - Wentworth Location

17 - Atkinson & Gilmanton Academy Grant

Hillsborough

18 - Bennington

Rockingham

19 - South Hampton

20 - Seabrook

21 - East Kingston

22 - Kensington

23 - Hampton Falls

24 - Hampton

25 - North Hampton

26 - Rye

27 - Portsmouth

28 - New Castle

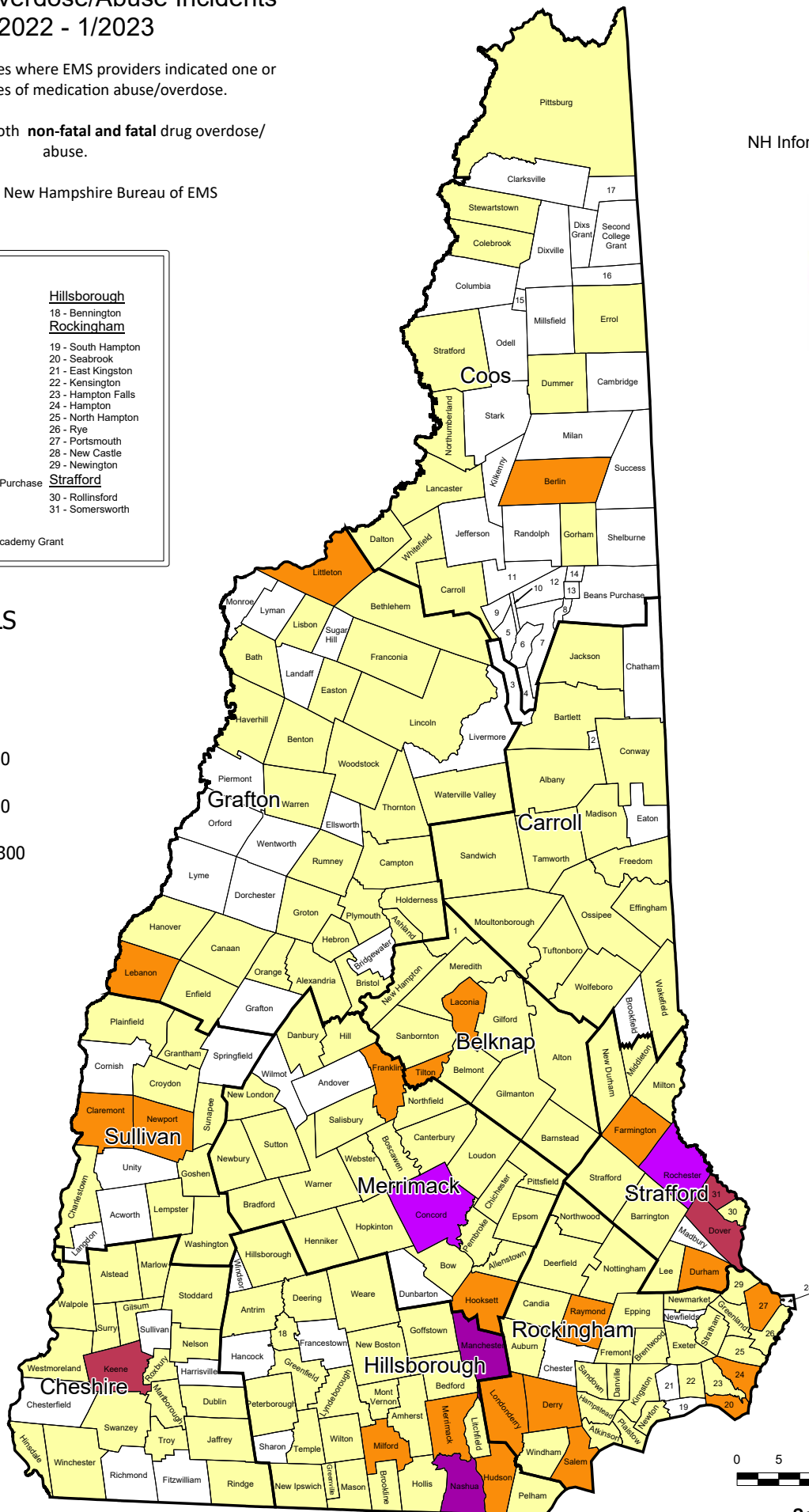
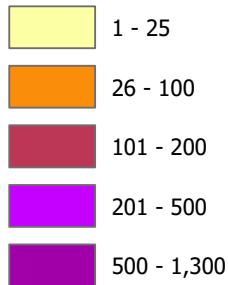
29 - Newington

Strafford

30 - Rollinsford

31 - Somersworth

TOWN TOTALS




0 5 10 20 30

Miles

Scale: 1:1,150,000

EMS Narcan Administration Incidents:

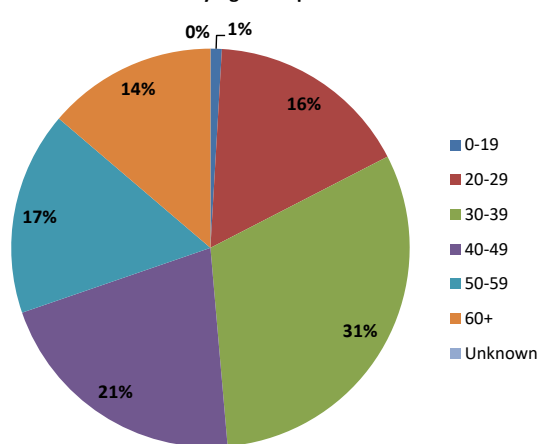
Data Source: NH Bureau of Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

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

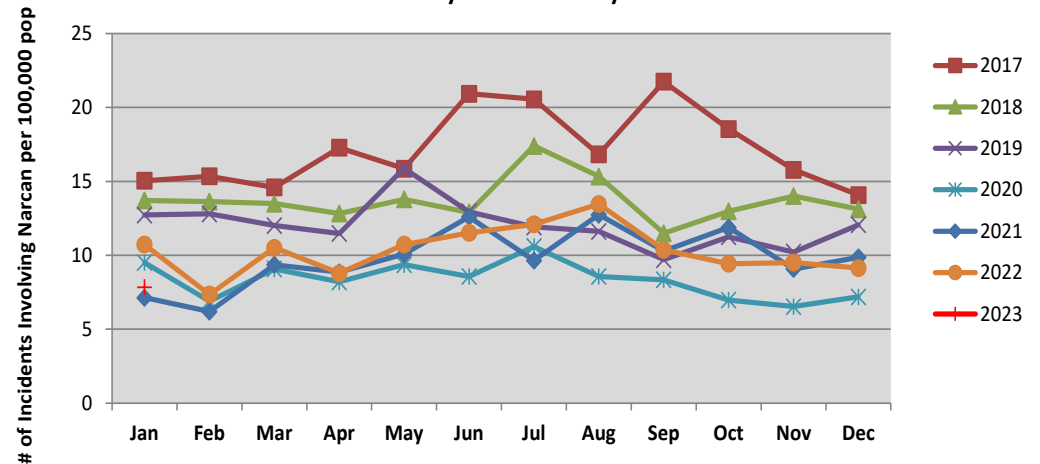
- EMS Narcan administration incidents decreased by 17% from December 2022 to January 2023.
- In January, Sullivan County had the highest EMS Narcan administration incidents per capita with 1.38 incidents per 10,000 population. Strafford county was second with 1.07 incidents per 10,000 population.
- The age group with the largest number of EMS Narcan administration incidents was 30-39, representing 31% of all EMS Narcan administrations in January.

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

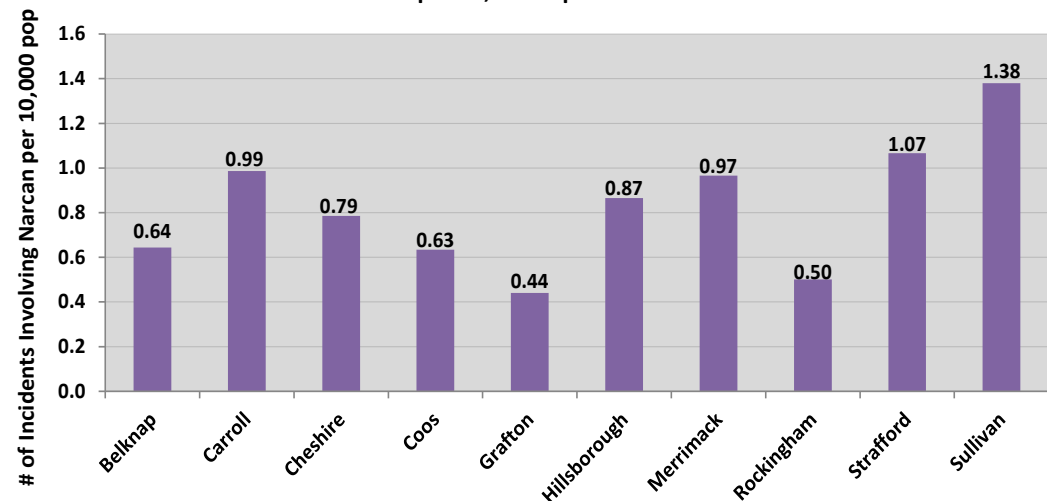
- Narcan data in this report involves the number of incidents where Narcan was administered, NOT the number of doses of Narcan during a certain time period. Multiple doses may be administered during an incident.
- Narcan may be given for a decrease in alertness or respirations due to an overdose or unknown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

January EMS Narcan Administration by Age Group

Source: NH Bureau of EMS

**EMS Narcan Administration by Month per 100,000 Population
January 2017 - January 2023**

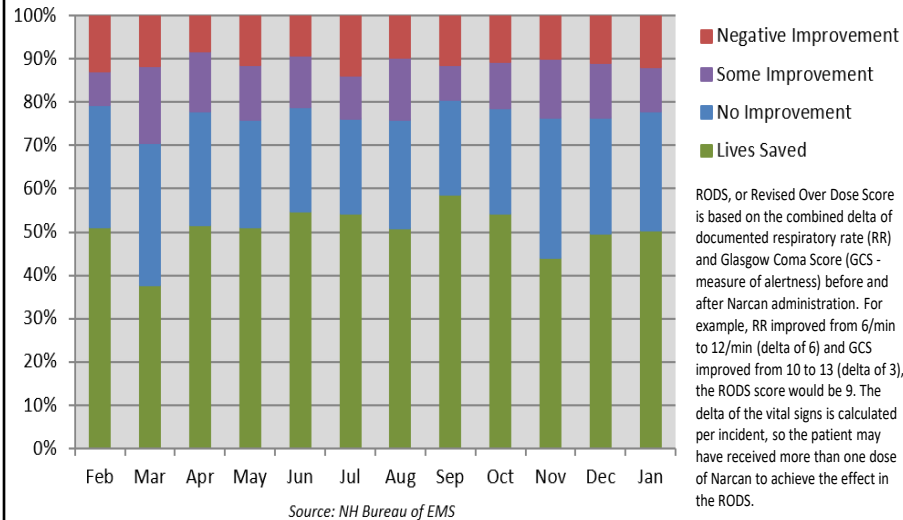
Source: NH Bureau of EMS

**January EMS Narcan Administration by County
per 10,000 Population**

Source: NH Bureau of EMS

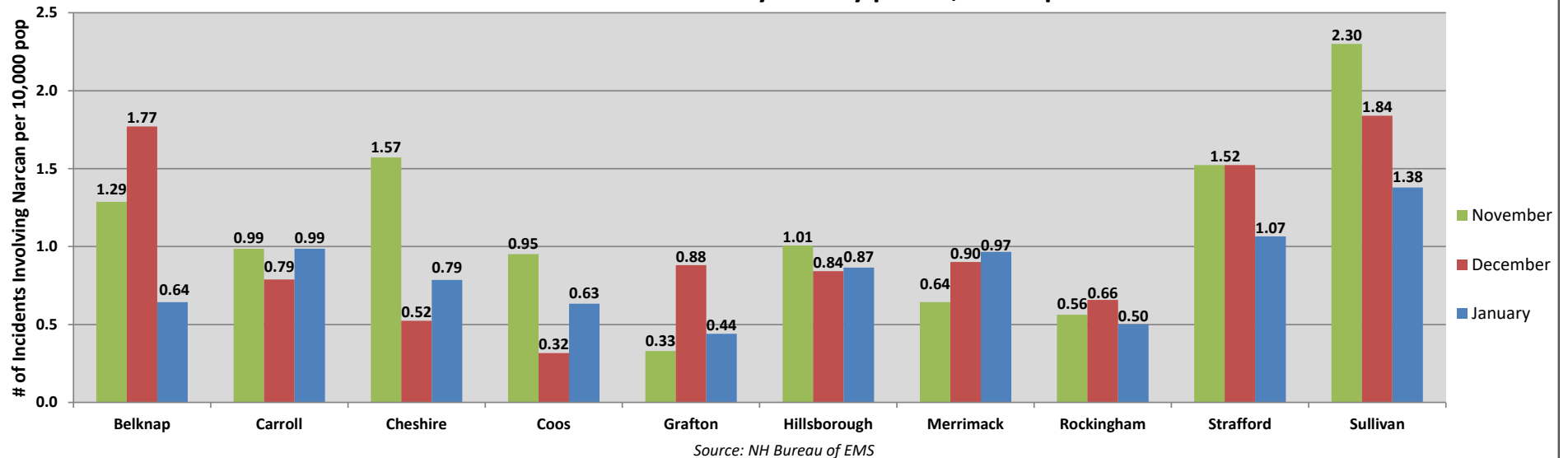
EMS Narcan Administration Incidents (Continued):

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

**EMS Narcan Administration - Lives Saved %
February 2022 - January 2023****EMS Narcan Administration - Lives Saved**

	2022												2023
Source: NH Bureau of EMS	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	
RODS Outcome													
Lives Saved RODS Score of 8+	52	55	63	76	88	79	95	88	71	58	63	55	
Some Improvement RODS Score of 1-7	8	26	17	19	19	18	27	12	14	18	16	11	
No Improvement RODS Score of 0	29	48	32	37	39	46	47	33	32	43	34	30	
Negative Improvement Negative RODS Score	13	17	10	17	15	25	18	17	14	13	14	13	
Total	102	146	122	149	160	168	187	144	131	132	127	109	

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 Narcan Administration by County per 10,000 Population

EMS/Narcan Administration by Town

2/2022 - 1/2023

Data Source: New Hampshire Bureau of EMS

INDEX

Belknap

1 - Center Harbor

Carroll

2 - Hales Location

3 - Harts Location

Coos

4 - Hadleys Purchase

5 - Beans Grant

6 - Cutts Grant

7 - Sargents Purchase

8 - Pinkhams Grant

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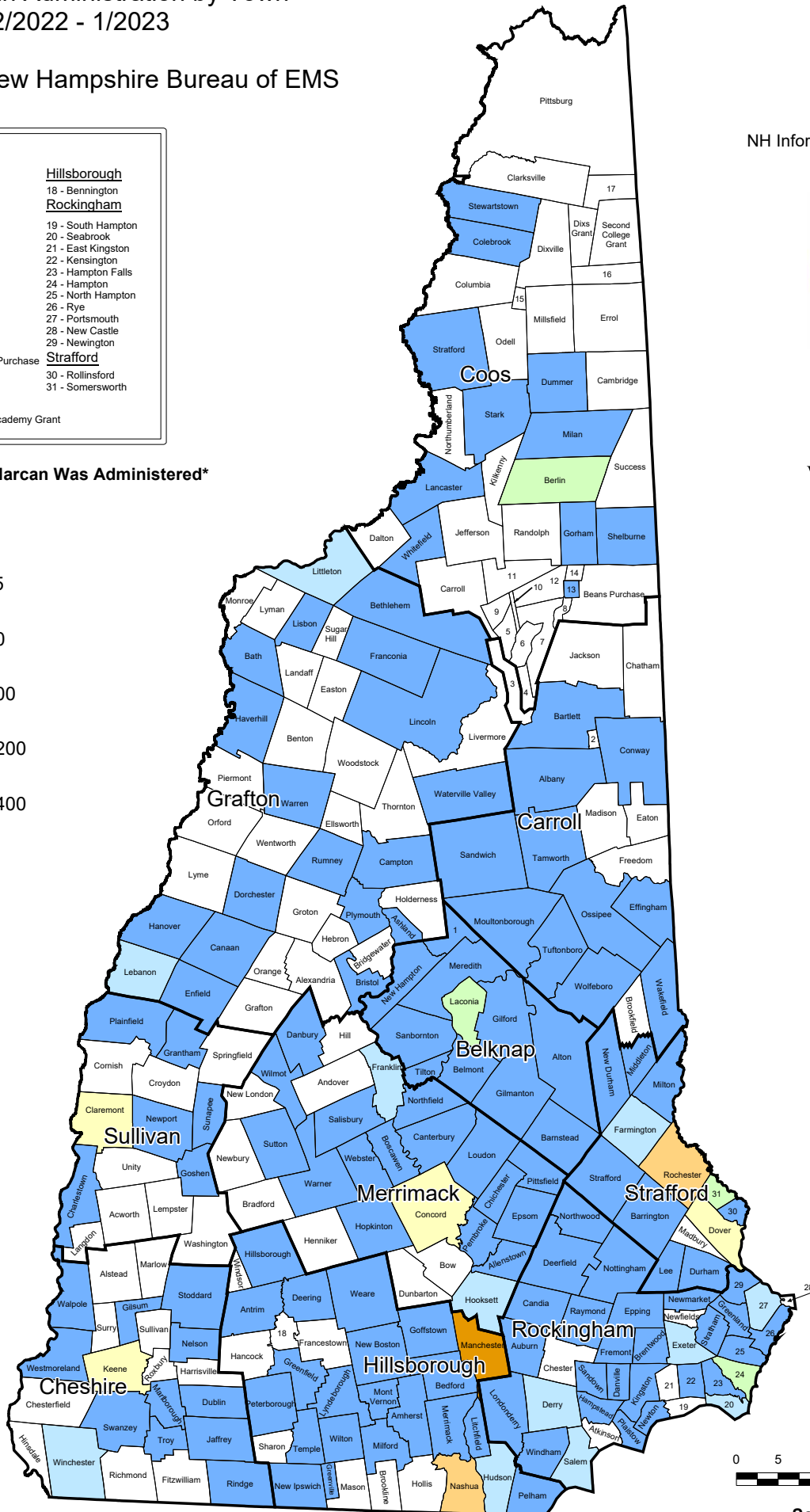
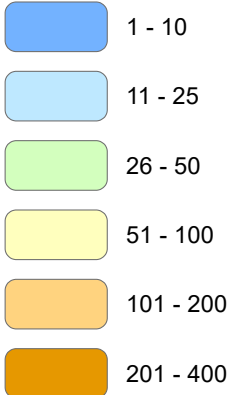
29 - Newington

Strafford

30 - Rollinsford

31 - Somersworth

Incidents Where Narcan Was Administered

Prepared by:
NH Information & Analysis Center


0 5 10 20 30

Miles

Scale: 1:1,150,000

Opioid Related Emergency Department Visits:

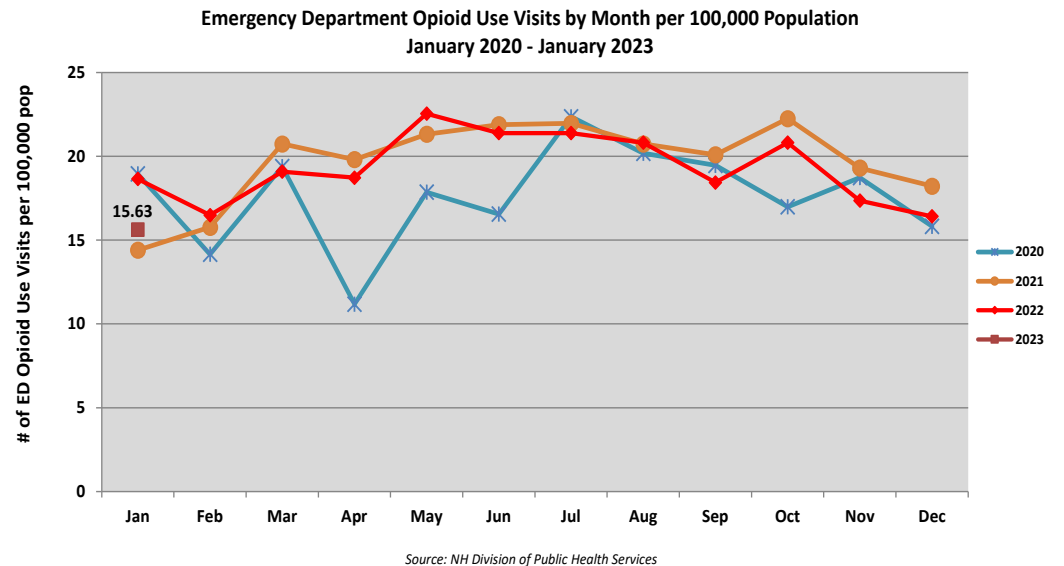
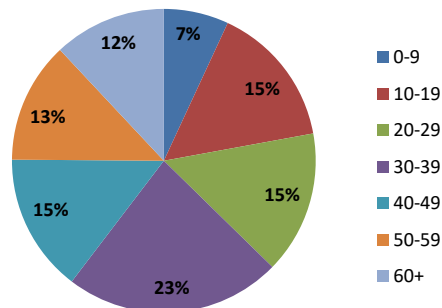
Data Source: NH Division of Public Health Services

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

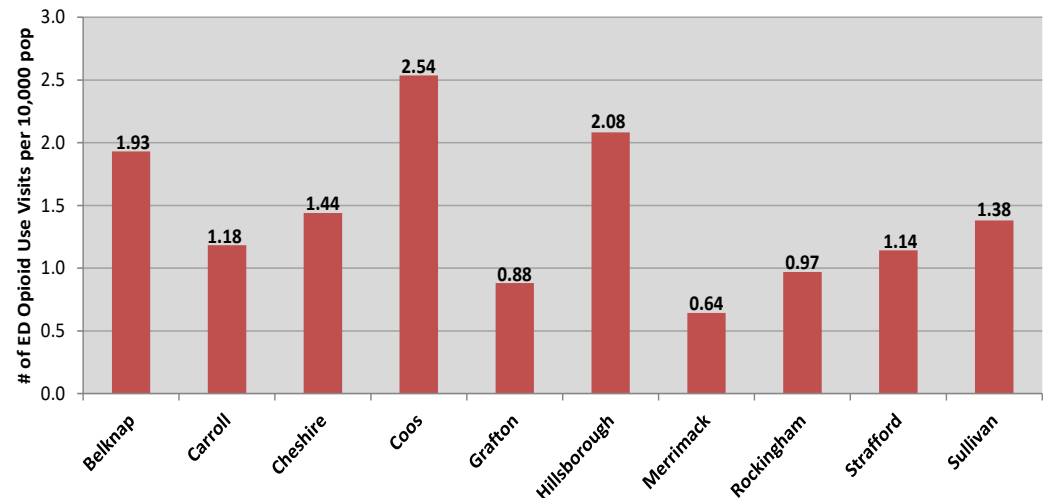
- Opioid related ED visits decreased by 5% from December 2022 to January 2023.
- In January, residents from Coos County had the most opioid related ED visits per capital with 2.54 visits per 10,000 population. Belknap County was second with 2.08 visits per 10,000 population.
- In January, the age group with the largest number of opioid related ED visits was 30-39 year olds with 23%.

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

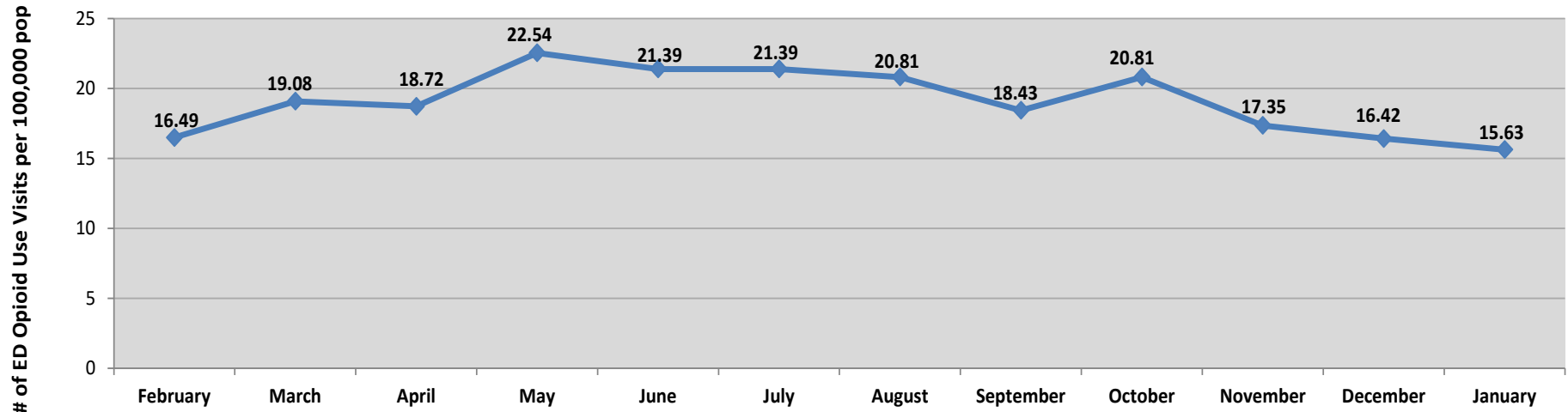
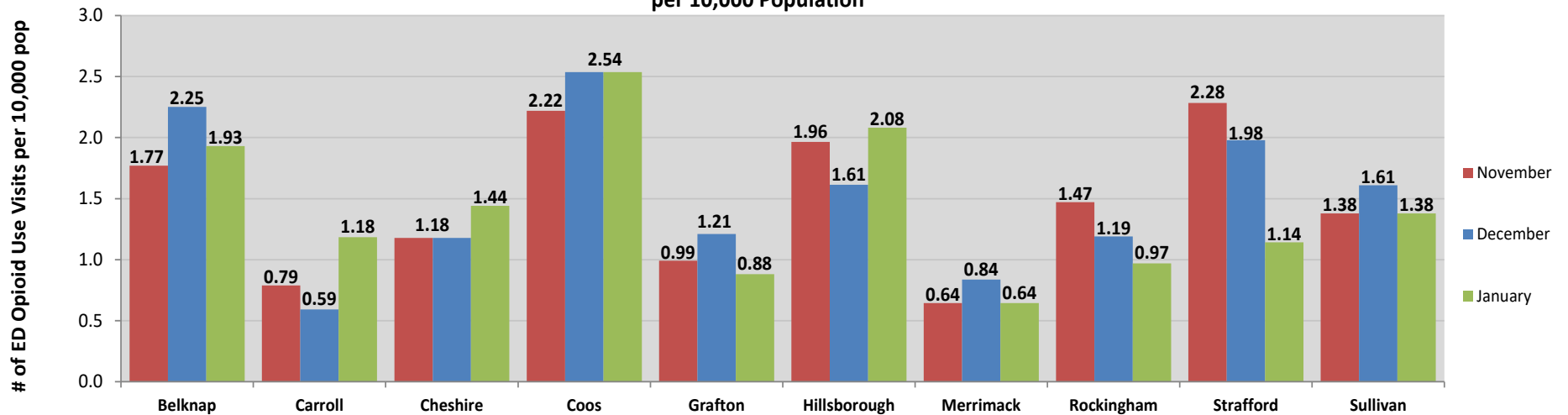
- **January Data Note:** Four hospitals are temporarily not reporting data to the relevant system and thus are not included in this month's data set.
- The data being reported starting January 2020 has different collection criteria than previous months/years. Due to the new collection criteria, the data 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."

**January Emergency Department Opioid Use Visits by Age**

Source: NH Division of Public Health Services


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

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
February 2022 - January 2023***Source: NH Div. of Public Health Services***Emergency Department Opioid Use Visits by County
per 10,000 Population***Source: NH Div. of Public Health Services*

Treatment Admissions:

Data Source: NH Bureau of Drug & Alcohol Services

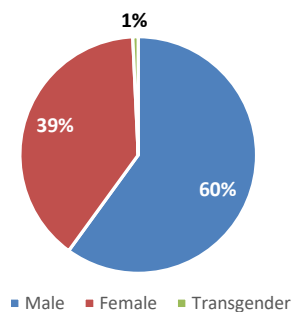
Right click on the paperclip and select "Open File" to view additional data. **Trends:**

- Opioid/Opiate, Methamphetamine, & Cocaine/Crack treatment admissions decreased 16% from December 2022 to January 2023.
- In January, residents from Hillsborough County had the highest admission per capita rate for opioid/opiate treatment, with 7.08 admissions per 10,000 population.
- More males were admitted to state funded treatment facilities in January for Opioid/Opiate, Methamphetamine, & Cocaine/Crack use, than females or transgenders.
- Methamphetamine treatment admissions increased 50% from December '22 to January '23.
- Cocaine/Crack treatment admissions decreased 19% from December '22 to January '23.
- Heroin/Fentanyl treatment admissions decreased by 9% from December '22 to January '23.

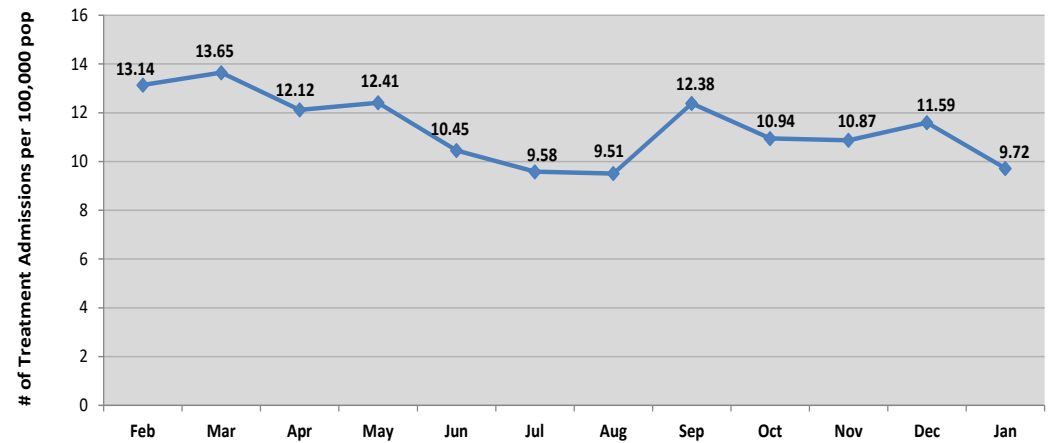
*****IMPORTANT DATA NOTES*****

- 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.

January Treatment Admissions by Gender

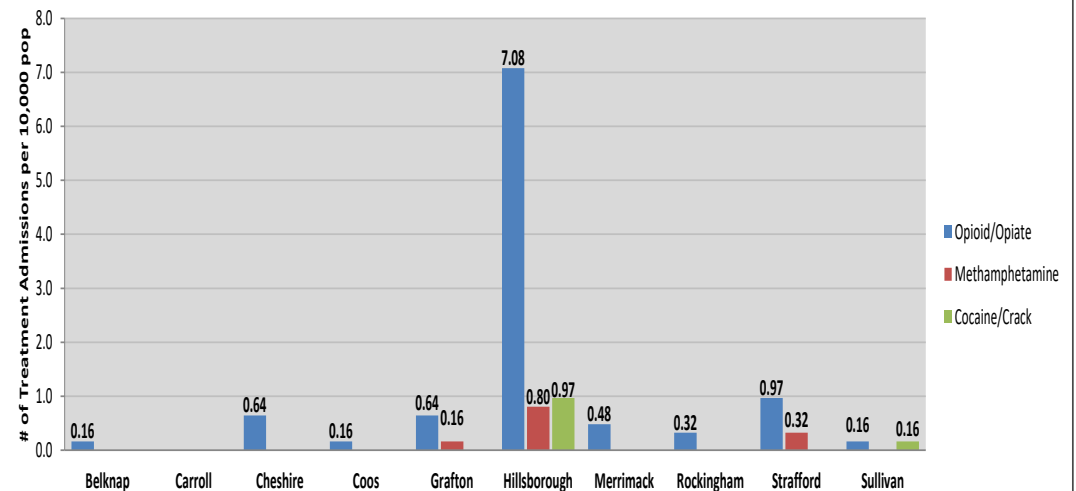


Source: NH Bureau of Drug & Alcohol

All (Opioid/Opiate, Methamphetamine, & Cocaine/Crack) Treatment Admissions by Month per 100,000 Population
February 2022 - January 2023

Source: NH Bureau of Drug & Alcohol Services

January Opioid/Opiate, Methamphetamine, & Cocaine/Crack Treatment Admissions by County per 10,000 Population



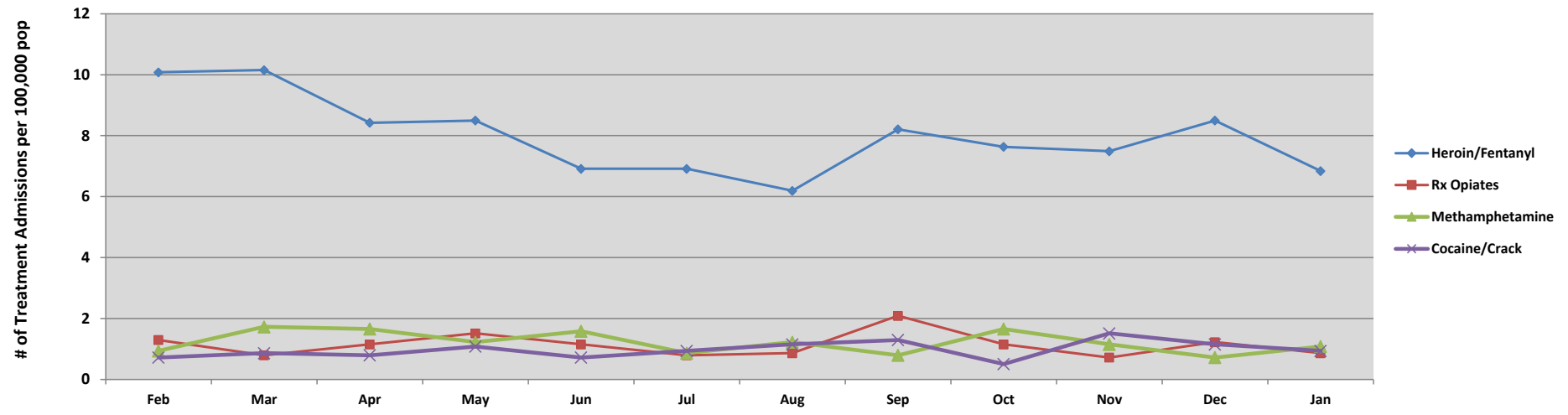
Source: NH Bureau of Drug & Alcohol Services

Treatment Admissions (Continued):

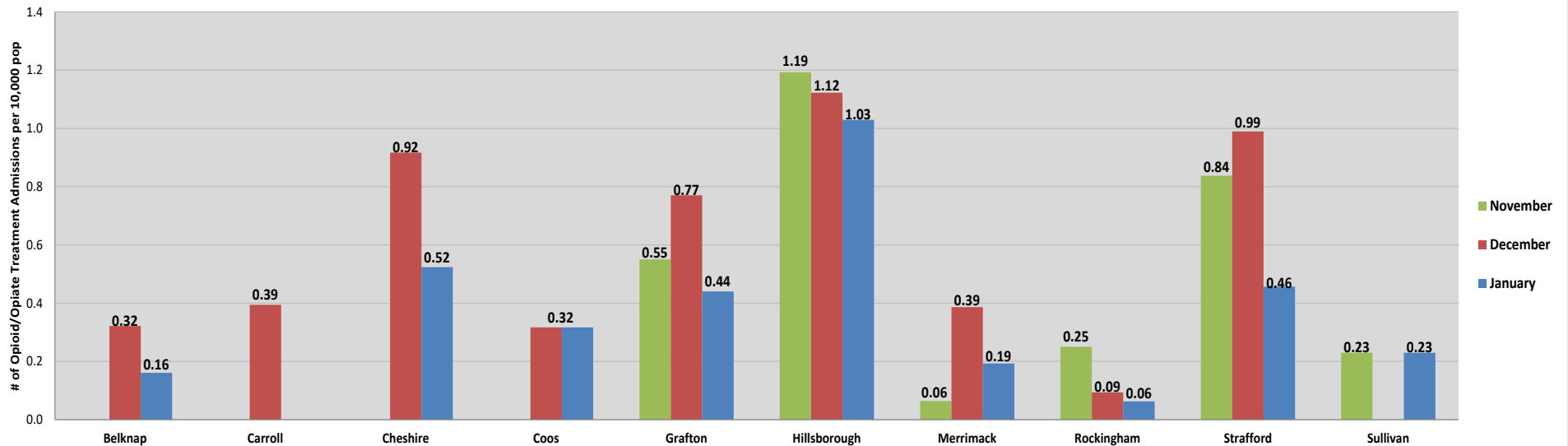
Data Source: NH Bureau of Drug & Alcohol Services

Heroin/Fentanyl, Rx Opiate, Methamphetamine, & Cocaine/Crack Treatment Admissions by Month per 100,000 Population

February 2022 - January 2023



Source: NH Bureau of Drug & Alcohol Services

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

Source: NH Bureau of Drug & Alcohol Services

Situational Awareness/Press Reporting:

AGs From New Hampshire, Other States Ask President Biden to Label Mexican Drug Cartels As Foreign Terrorist Organizations (FTOs)

Attorney Generals from New Hampshire and 20 other states are asking President Joe Biden to label Mexican drug cartels as foreign terrorist organizations. New Hampshire Attorney General John Formella said cartels are fueling the drug problem, calling it a health and national security crisis. "It would be an unprecedented move when it comes to cartels, but the opioid crisis has reached unprecedented levels and the cartels are starting to take actions they've never taken before," Formella told WMUR.

Formella said the designation will give state and federal law enforcement agencies more power to freeze cartel assets, deny entry to cartel members and pursue tougher punishments. "We should all pay close attention to the fact that the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration calls the Sinaloa and Jalisco New Generation Cartels *'ruthless, violent, criminal organizations that are indiscriminately killing Americans at catastrophic and record rates.'* It is time we started treating these cartels like the terror organizations that they are," Formella said in a news release.

Officials warned that Mexican cartels are starting to mix Xylazine into drugs like cocaine, heroin and fentanyl, further adding to the concern.

Source: <https://www.msn.com> (10 Feb 2023)

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