



McHenry County Monthly Opioid Surveillance Report 2022

Last Updated: 3/1/2023

McHenry County Department of Health (MCDH) Opioid Surveillance and Response (OSR) Program monitors opioid use via several surveillance systems, including: 1) overdose deaths obtained from the McHenry County Coroner’s Office (MCCO), 2) opioid-related emergency department (ED) visits obtained through the Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics (ESSENCE), 3) emergency medical services (EMS) encounters obtained from the Illinois Prehospital Database and 4) opioid and opioid analog exposures from the Illinois Poison Center (IPC). Together these systems give a detailed picture of the trends in opioid use for McHenry County (note: suicides and attempted suicides are excluded from all data sources mentioned above). Mortality and ED visit frequencies less than 10 are suppressed to protect confidentiality. Opioid surveillance is conducted year-round. Coroner Opioid Overdose Death data is provisional and subject to change. ED, IPC, and EMS Encounter data are finalized for 2022. MCDH thanks all our surveillance partners for their efforts in collecting this information.

Key Takeaways

- Opioid Overdose Deaths are trending lower than historical data for the last 5 years; however, data is not fully processed. This report will be updated as data is finalized.
- ED visits are trending lower than historical data for the last 5 years
- EMS encounters are trending higher than historical data for the last 5 years
- IPC exposures are trending lower than historical data for the last 5 years

Indicator	YTD Jan	YTD Feb	YTD Mar	YTD Apr	YTD May	YTD Jun	YTD Jul	YTD Aug	YTD Sep	YTD Oct	YTD Nov	YTD Dec
Opioid Overdose Deaths ¹	<10*	<10*	<10*	<10*	<10*	12	16	21	22	23	23	28
Opioid Overdose Deaths Baseline	3	7	9	13	17	21	26	28	32	34	37	42
ED Visits ²	15	22	41	54	61	73	84	102	111	127	134	140
ED Visits Baseline	16	35	57	73	86	113	135	164	182	197	212	233
EMS Encounters ³	6	10	17	25	36	42	49	56	62	72	78	83
EMS Encounters Baseline	5	11	17	22	29	40	46	54	58	60	65	75
IPC Opioid Exposure ⁴	2	2	3	4	6	8	9	12	13	16	16	17
IPC Opioid Exposure Baseline	4	6	6	7	9	10	11	14	16	16	20	21

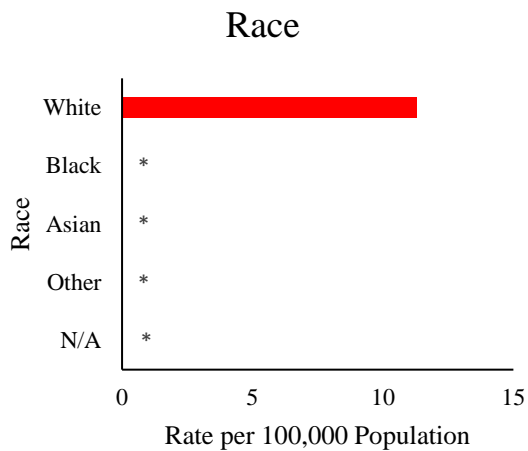
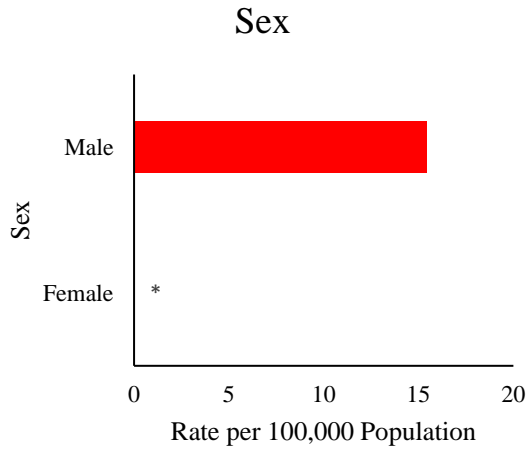
* suppressed to protect confidentiality

** The year-to-date (YTD) is a running total of cases beginning with the first day of the calendar year up to the end of the current month. Trends in opioid use are compared to the baseline (baseline is calculated as the year-to-date median of retrospective data).

McHenry County Opioid Surveillance Report 2022

Opioid Overdose Deaths

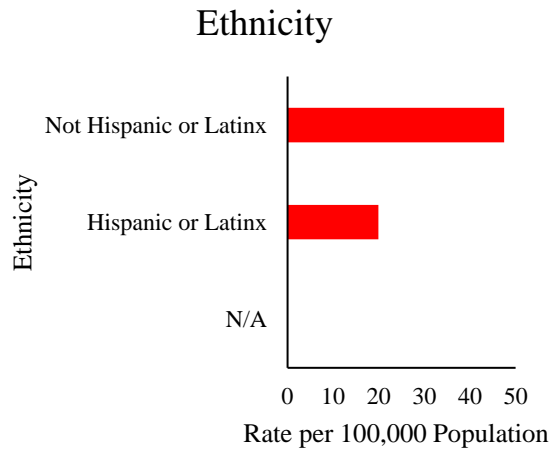
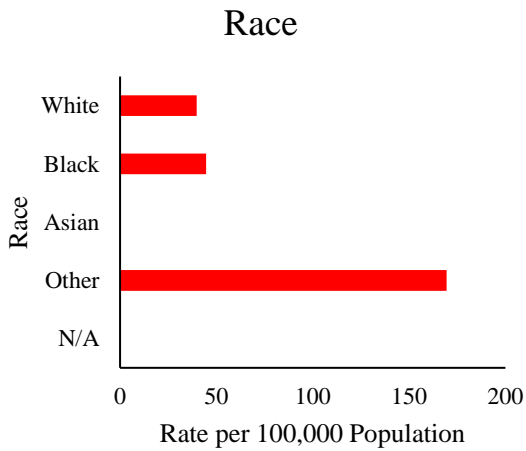
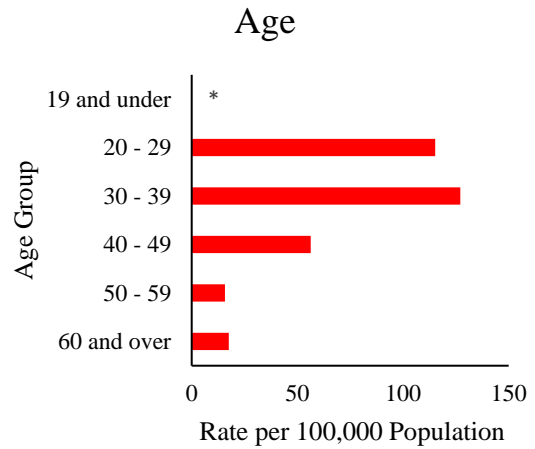
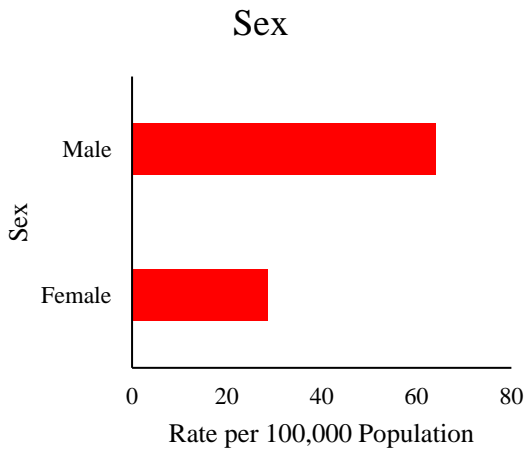
Opioid overdose death data is provided by McHenry County Coroner's Office. Cases with an opioid listed in the cause of death were included. Cases determined to be a suicide were excluded. In accordance with the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 242m(d)), demographic groups with overdose deaths under 10 are suppressed in visualizations to protect confidentiality.



McHenry County Opioid Surveillance Report 2022

Emergency Department (ED) Visits YTD ²

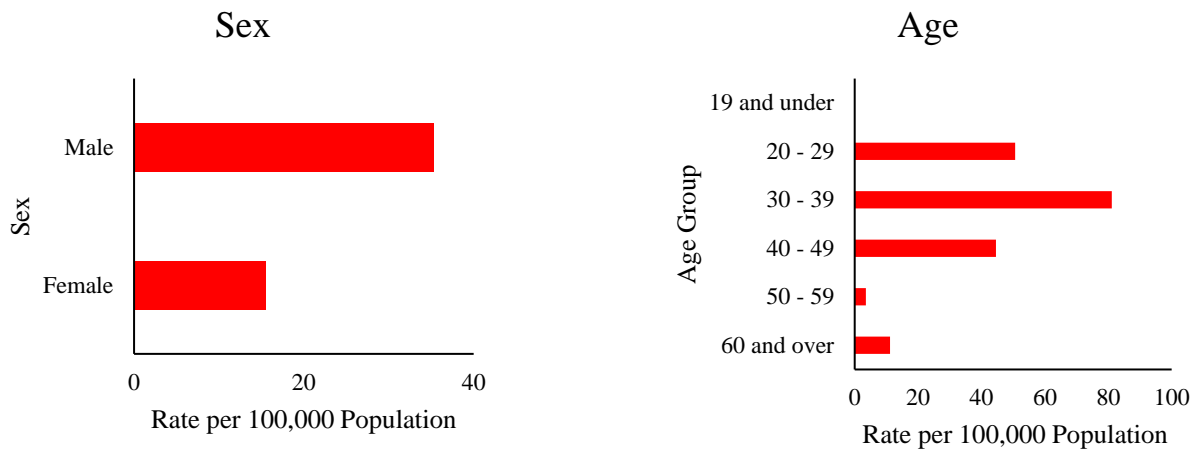
ED visit data is obtained through the Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics (ESSENCE). Through this system, developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, MCDH tracks emergency department visits for opioid overdoses among McHenry County residents. Visualizations presented below display the rate of opioid overdose visits per 100,000 population by demographic group⁵.



McHenry County Opioid Surveillance Report 2022

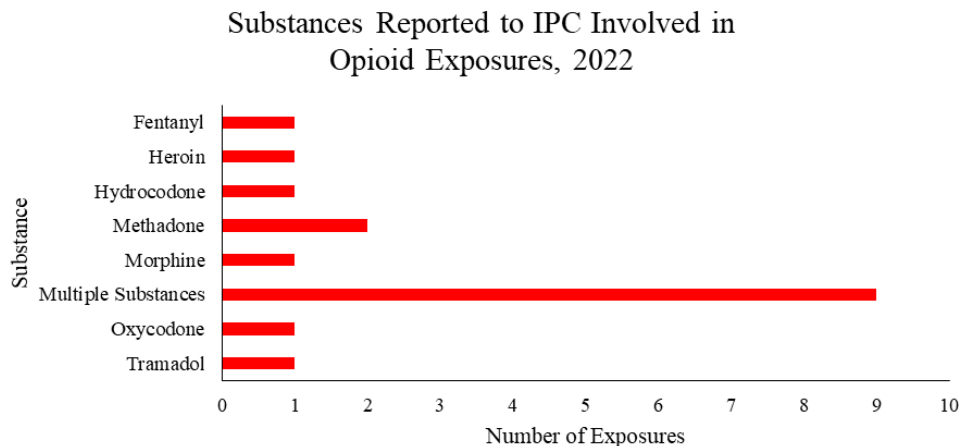
*EMS Encounters*³

McHenry County EMS encounter data is provided by the Illinois Department of Public Health. The Illinois Prehospital Database captures the number of times Naloxone was administered by EMS. Visualizations presented below display the rate of Naloxone administration by EMS per 100,000 population by demographic group⁶. Charts for race and ethnicity are not displayed, as more than 50% of the data is unknown. In 2022, 83 individuals were administered Naloxone by EMS. In 2022, 14 individuals identified their race as White, with 77 individuals' race being unknown. Additionally, 14 individuals identified their ethnicity as not Hispanic or Latinx, with 77 individuals' ethnicity being unknown.



*Illinois Poison Center Opioid Exposures*⁴

Opioid exposure data is accessed through the National Poison Data System (NPDS). The NPDS is the data warehouse for every poison control center in the nation. There were 17 IPC exposures reported in 2022. The chart below details YTD totals for opioid exposures to the Illinois Poison Center.



McHenry County Opioid Surveillance Report 2022

¹ Overdose death data has the following limitations: data is not real-time and some case investigations are pending toxicology.

² Emergency department data has the following limitations: though data is near real-time, there is lag time in the system processing ED visits; data quality also depends on the completeness of hospital reporting.

³ Illinois Prehospital Data has the following limitations: overdoses are suspected and not confirmed. Additionally, there are incomplete race/ethnicity entries at this time.

⁴ Illinois Poison Center has the following limitations: overdoses captured by this system are limited by severity (system captures lower severity data).

⁵ The rate per 100,000 population is an estimate of the number of opioid related ED visits that would be found among 100,000 people. A rate of 20 for those who classify their ethnicity as Not Hispanic or Latinx, for example, would suggest that if 100,000 individuals with this ethnicity were gathered, 20 would have an opioid overdose related visit to the ED. This measure is used to make accurate comparisons among population groups of different sizes.

⁶ The rate per 100,000 population is an estimate of the number of times Naloxone was administered by EMS among 100,000 people. A rate of 20 for those who classify their sex as male, for example, would suggest that if 100,000 individuals with this sex were gathered, 20 would have been administered Naloxone by EMS. This measure is used to make accurate comparisons among population groups of different sizes.

Additional resources:

- CDC, [Understanding the Epidemic](#)
- CDC, [NSSP BioSense Platform](#)
- Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), [Opioid Data Dashboard](#)
- Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), [Prehospital Data Program](#)
- Illinois Poison Center, [Poison Prevention Education](#)

For additional information contact the McHenry County Department of Health at health@mchenrycountyil.gov.