

# Drug Overdose Surveillance Report

## Lake County, Ohio: March 2020

The following report outlines emergency department (ED) and urgent care (UC) drug overdose events by Lake County residents during the month of March. During the aforementioned timeframe, a total of 35 recorded drug overdose ED/UC events met the inclusion criteria listed below and occurred among Lake County residents, accounting for 0.5% of all March ED/UC visits, and increasing from the 31 drug overdose ED/UC visits observed during the month of February. No fatalities were reported among those reporting to ED/UCs during the month of March.

In March, Lake County drug overdoses occurred among individuals ranging from 15 to 64 years of age. In total, one event involved an over-the-counter medication, three involved an illicit substance, and 31 involved an unspecified substance (Figure 1). Moreover, 27 ED/UC visits resulted in routine discharge, while three were discharged to treatment, two left against medical advice, one was admitted for inpatient care, one was discharged to another facility per legal guidelines, and five lacked reported discharge information.

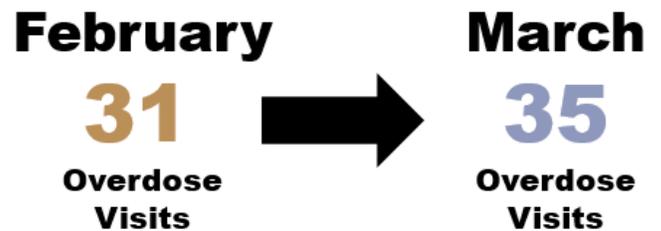
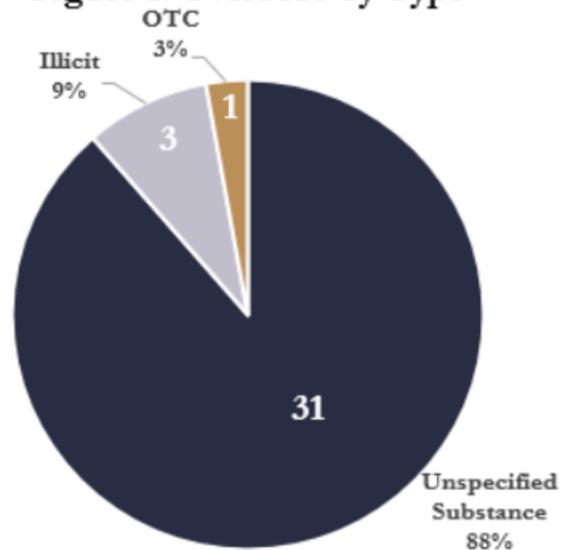
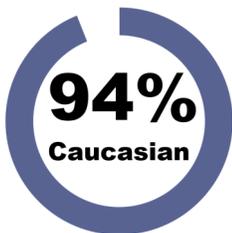


Figure 1. Overdose by Type



**Ages:**  
**15 to 64**  
**Average:**  
**35 Years**



**54%**  
Female

### Inclusion Criteria:

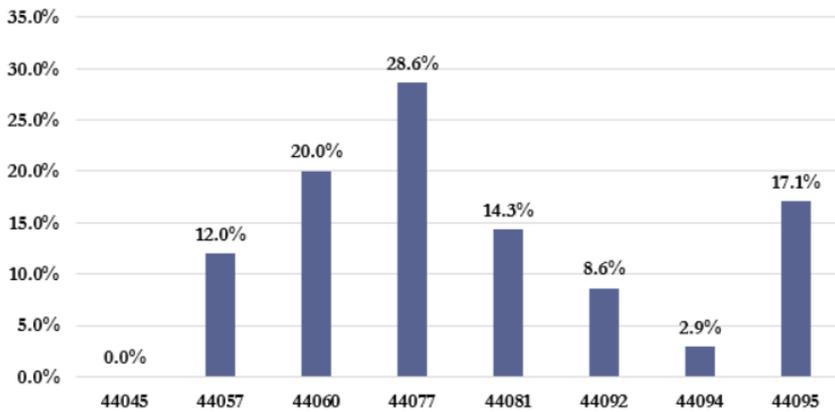
The data presented in this report was retrieved from Ohio's EpiCenter Health Monitoring System, as identified by the "Ohio Opioid-Related: Suspected Drug Overdose" classifier. Data prior to August 2019 was identified using the "Traumatic Injury: Drugs" classifier. This report contains information about Lake County residents, regardless of ED/UC location, and drug-related cases include all ED/UC admits specifying overdose or poisoning. Admits without supporting information, or otherwise indicative of a suicide attempt, intentional overdose, or accidental insulin overdose were excluded from this analysis, as were cases presenting for detox or withdrawal symptoms. In most cases, the drug responsible for the overdose is not indicated. As such, the included figures are not limited to opioid-related events.



## Geographical Distribution

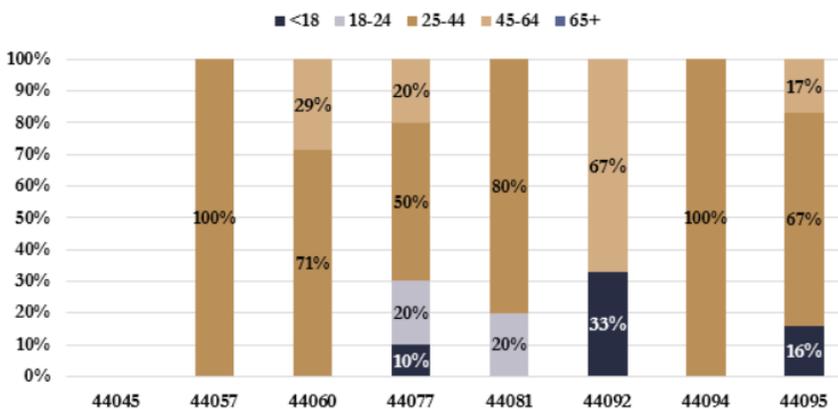
### In what areas were overdoses most prevalent?

Figure 2. Overdose Occurrences by Zip Code of Residence



In March, the greatest frequency of ED/UC overdose events occurred amongst those residing in zip code 44077 (Figure 2). The proportion of ED/UC overdose events increased by 5.5% in 44057, 0.7% in 44060, 14.3% in 44081, and 1.0% in 44095 as compared to the month of February, while decreasing 10.1% in 44077, 4.3% in 44092, and 3.6% in 44094. For the fifth consecutive month, no ED/UC overdose events were observed among residents of 44045.

Figure 3. Overdose Ages by Zip Code of Residence



ED/UC overdose events varied by age across each of the reported zip codes (Figure 3). Overdose event frequency was highest among those 25 to 44 years of age (63%), followed by those 45 to 64 years of age (20%), 18 to 24 years of age (11%), and under 18 years of age (6%). During the month of March, no ED/UC overdose events occurred amongst those 65 years of age and older.

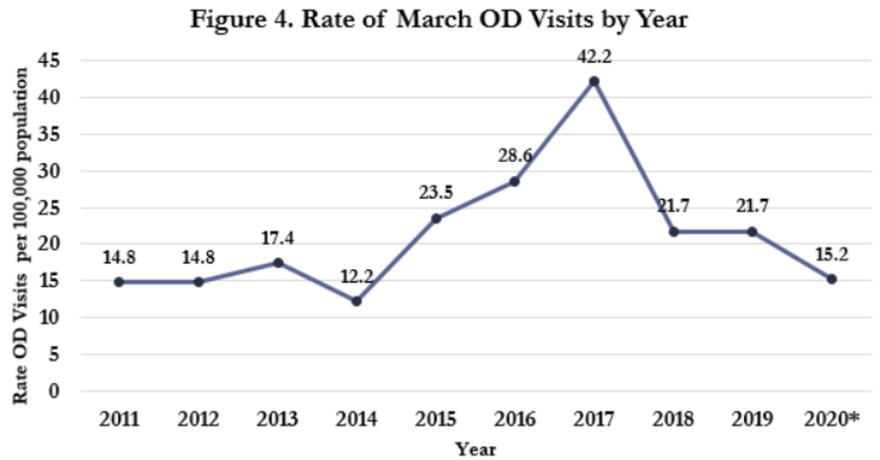
### At which Lake County facilities did overdose events present?

Table 1. Overdose Reporting Facility

| Facility                | N  | (%)  |
|-------------------------|----|------|
| Madison Campus          | 2  | 5.7  |
| TriPoint Medical Center | 13 | 37.1 |
| West Medical Center     | 9  | 25.7 |
| Outside of County       | 11 | 31.5 |
| Total                   | 35 | 100  |

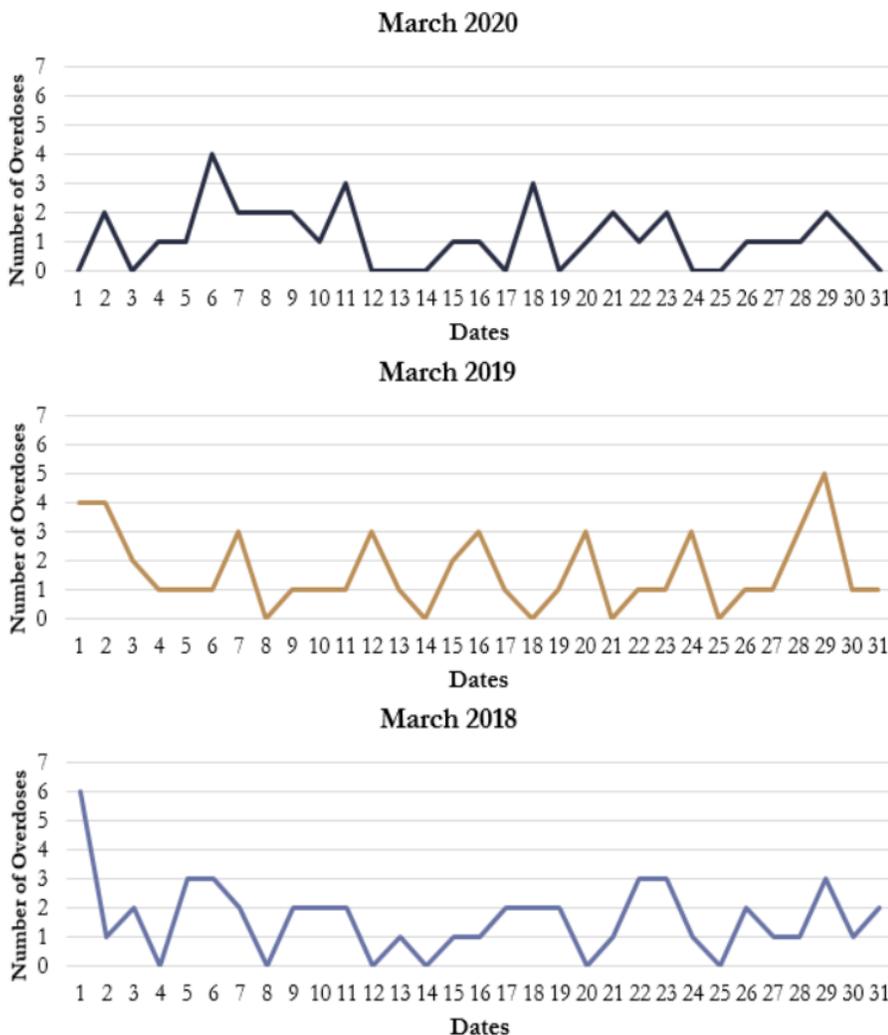
During the month of March, TriPoint Medical Center experienced the highest number of all ED/UC visits observed among Lake County residents (37.1%), followed by facilities outside of Lake County (31.5%), West Medical Center (25.7%), and the Lake Health Madison Campus (5.7%; Table 1).

The March 2020 Lake County ED/UC overdose event rate per 100,000 population was the second lowest observed in the past 10 years, is 30% lower than the rate observed in March of 2019, and is 64% lower than the peak 2017 rate of 42.2 (Figure 4).



\*Rates based on most current available annual population estimates, as obtained from census.gov. 2020 rates are based on 2019 population estimates.

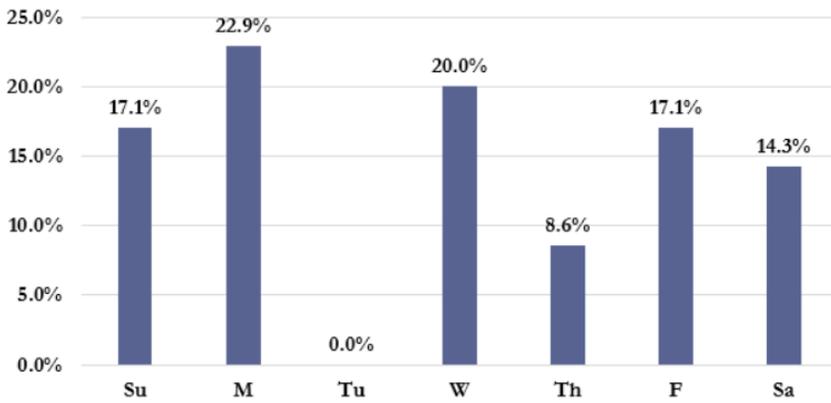
Figure 5. March Drug Overdose Daily Frequencies, 2018 to 2020



In order to provide for comparisons of daily ED/UC overdose event frequency, March ED/UC overdose events by day are illustrated for 2018, 2019, and 2020 (Figure 5). The daily maximum of four ED/UC overdose events in March of 2020 is less than the daily maximums of both those reported in 2019 (five) and 2018 (six). Moreover, mean daily ED/UC overdose event frequency for March of 2020 (1.1) is lower than both March of 2018 (1.6) and 2019 (1.6), respectively.

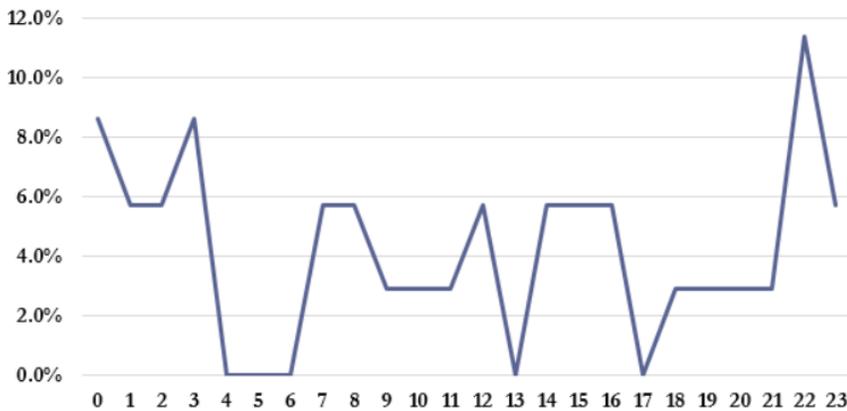
A total of ten days with no ED/UC overdose events were observed during March of 2020, as compared to five days in March of 2019, and six in March of 2018. March 2020 overdose events peaked on March 6, as compared to the 2019 peak, which occurred on March 29, and 2018 peak, which occurred on March 1.

Figure 6. Overdose Occurrences by Day of Week



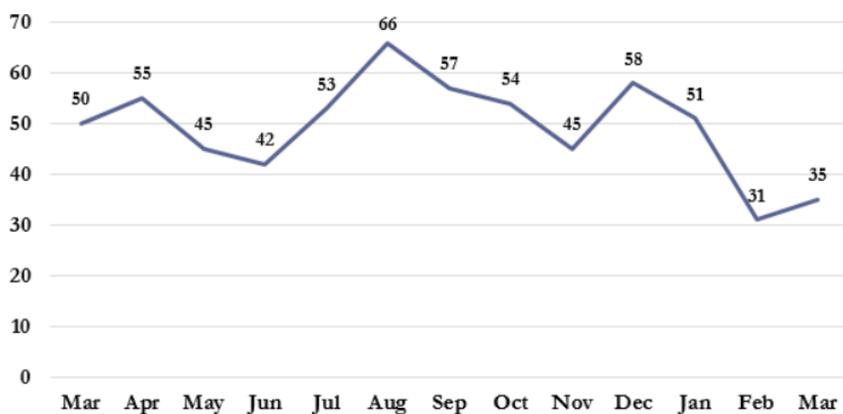
When organized by day of week, the frequency of ED/UC overdose events was highest on Monday during the month of March (Figure 6). Wednesdays experienced the second highest event frequency (20.0%), followed by Sunday (17.1%), Friday (17.1% each), Saturday (14.3%), and Thursday (8.6%). No ED/UC overdose events presented on Tuesdays during the month of March.

Figure 7. Overdose Occurrences by Hour of Day



March ED/UC overdose events were more prominent during late-night hours, and lowest during early morning hours (Figure 7). ED/UC overdose events peaked at approximately 10:00 pm, with additional increases around midnight and 3:00 am. No ED/UC overdose events were reported between the hours of 4:00 am and 6:00 am, at 1:00 pm, and at 5:00 pm during the month of March.

Figure 8. Overdose Counts - Past 12 Months



When organized by month, ED/UC overdose events increased 10% between March and April, decreased 24% from April to June, increased 57% from June to August, decreased 32% from August to November, increased 29% from November to December, decreased 47% from December to February, and increased 13% from February to March (Figure 8). A total of 117 ED/UC visits for drug-related overdose events have been observed thus far in 2020, as compared to 145 during the same time frame in 2019.

# Lake County General Health District Resources



## Project DAWN Naloxone Clinics

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation and subsequent response efforts, all in-person Project DAWN Clinics have been temporarily suspended until further notice.

Training and registration to receive a naloxone kit is available on our website for residents of Lake County, as well as other counties in Ohio without an active Project DAWN Program.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.lcghd.org/naloxone-distribution/>.

## Pharmaceutical Disposal Instructions

Before disposing of pharmaceuticals at one of the drop-off locations, be sure to remove or black-out identifiable information on the pharmacy label. Disposable items suitable for drop-off include:

- Unused or expired medications
- Prescriptions, non-prescription pills, syrups, and creams
- Pain and mood altering medications
- Pain relievers, over-the-counter cold and flu medication, vitamins, and pet medications

## Pharmaceutical Drug Collection and Disposal Locations

Monday-Friday: 7:00 am - 8:00 pm

Saturday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Sunday: 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

*Note: NO Sunday hours at Lakeland*

### **Eastlake Police Department**

35150 Lakeshore Boulevard  
Eastlake, OH 44095

### **Madison Township Police Department**

2065 Hubbard Road  
Madison, OH 44057

### **Mentor Police Department**

8500 Civic Center Boulevard  
Mentor, OH 44060

### **Mentor-on-the-Lake Police Department**

5860 Andrews Road  
Mentor-on-the-Lake, OH 44060

### **Lake County Sheriff's Office**

104 East Erie Street  
Painesville, OH 44077

### **Willoughby Police Department**

36700 Euclid Avenue  
Willoughby, OH 44094

### **Willoughby Hills Police Department**

35405 Chardon Road  
Willoughby Hills, OH 44094

### **Lakeland Comm. College Police Department**

7700 Clocktower Drive, Building A, Lower Level  
Kirtland, OH 44094

REV: 4/12/2020



**Lake County  
General Health District**

**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

