

# Drug Overdose Surveillance Report Lake County, Ohio: December 2020

The following report outlines emergency department (ED) and urgent care (UC) drug overdose events by Lake County residents during the month of December. During this timeframe, a total of 39 recorded drug overdose ED/UC events met the inclusion criteria listed below, accounting for 0.6% of all December ED/UC visits among Lake County residents. This represents an increase from the previous month's 31 drug overdose ED/UC visits. One fatality was reported among those reporting to ED/UCs during the month of December.

In December, Lake County drug overdose ED/UC admissions occurred among individuals ranging from 13 to 33 years of age. Four events involved an illicit substance and 35 involved an unspecified substance (Figure 1). Moreover, 25 ED/UC visits resulted in routine discharge, while two were discharged to treatment, five left against medical advice, one resulted in a fatality, and six lacked reported discharge information.

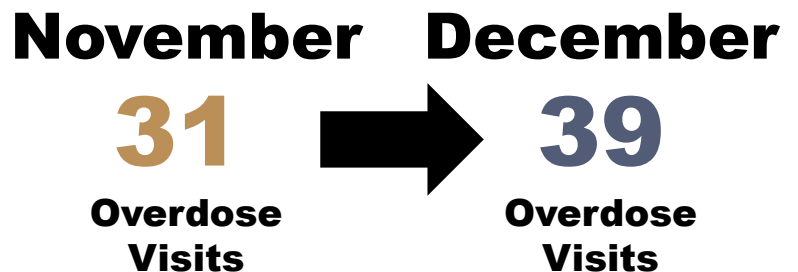
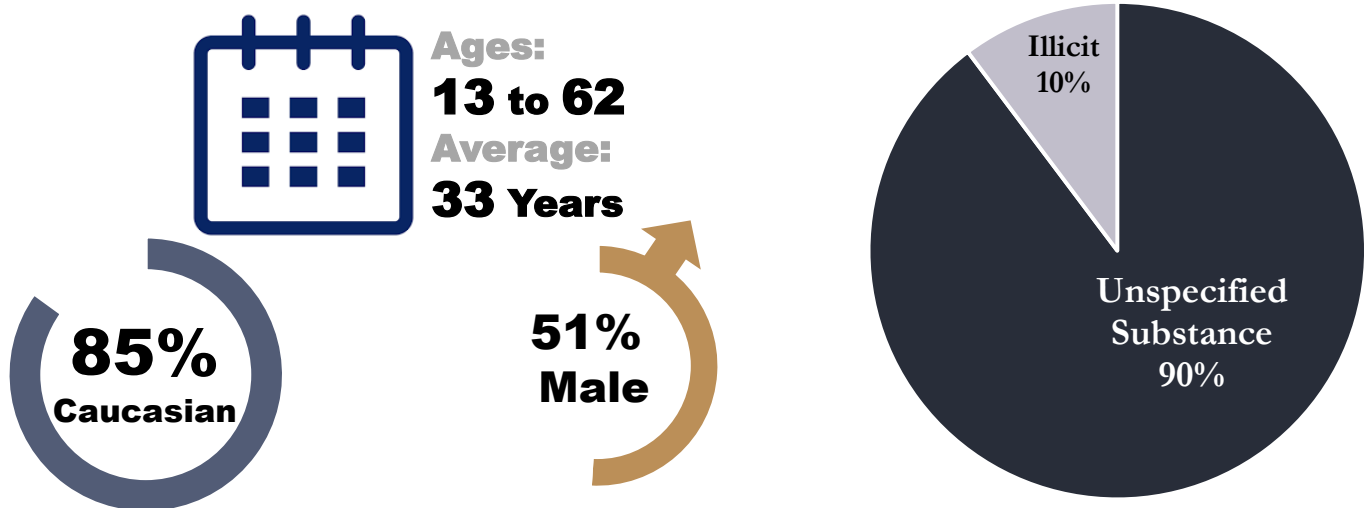


Figure 1. Overdoses by Type



## Inclusion Criteria:

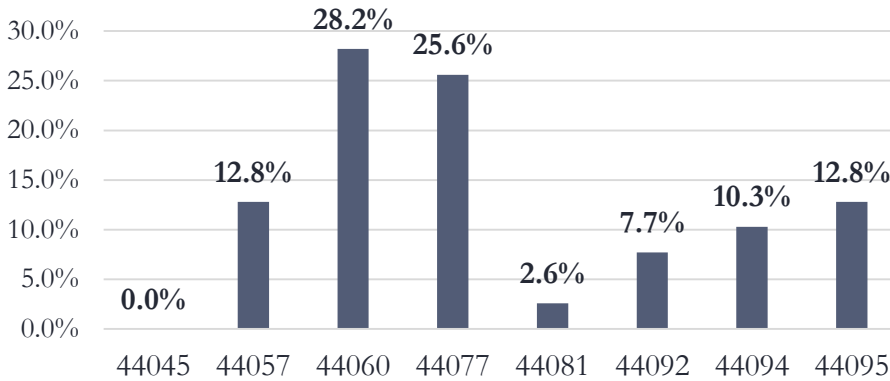
The data presented in this report was retrieved from Ohio's EpiCenter Health Monitoring System, as identified by the "Ohio Opioid-Related: Suspected Drug Overdose" classifier. Data prior to August 2019 was identified using the "Traumatic Injury: Drugs" classifier. This report contains information about 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

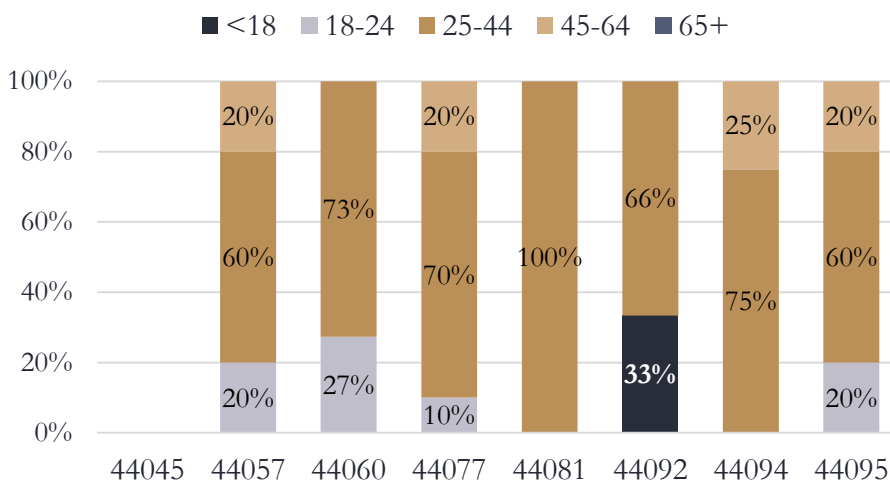
### In what areas were overdoses most prevalent?

Figure 2. Overdose Occurrences by Zip Code of Residence



In December, the greatest frequency of ED/UC overdose events occurred amongst those residing in zip code 44060 (Figure 2). ED/UC overdose events increased in 44060 (5.6%), 44092 (4.5%), and 44095 (3.2%), and decreased in 44057 (0.1%), 44077 (3.4%), 44081 (0.6%), and 44094 (9.1%). For the fifteenth consecutive month, no overdose visits 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 (66.7%), followed by those 45 to 64 years of age (15.4%), 18 to 24 years of age (12.8%), and 18 years and younger (5.1%); no overdose events were observed among those 65 years of age and older.

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

Table 1. Overdose Reporting Facility

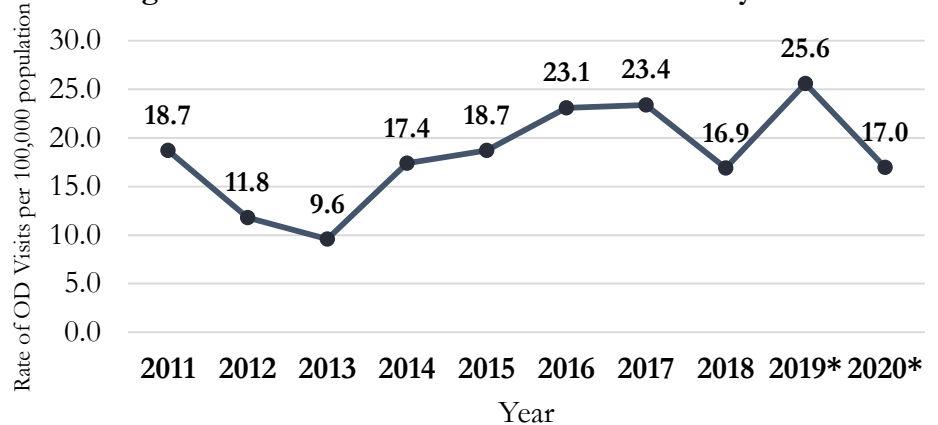
Facility	N	(%)
Madison Campus	2	5.1
TriPoint Medical Center	14	35.9
West Medical Center	15	38.5
Outside of County	8	20.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>100.0</b>

During the month of December, the highest proportion of Lake County residents who presented to ERs/UCs for suspected drug overdoses presented to West Medical Center (38.5%), followed by TriPoint (35.9%), facilities outside of Lake County (20.5%), and the Madison Campus (5.1%).

### How does this compare with past years?

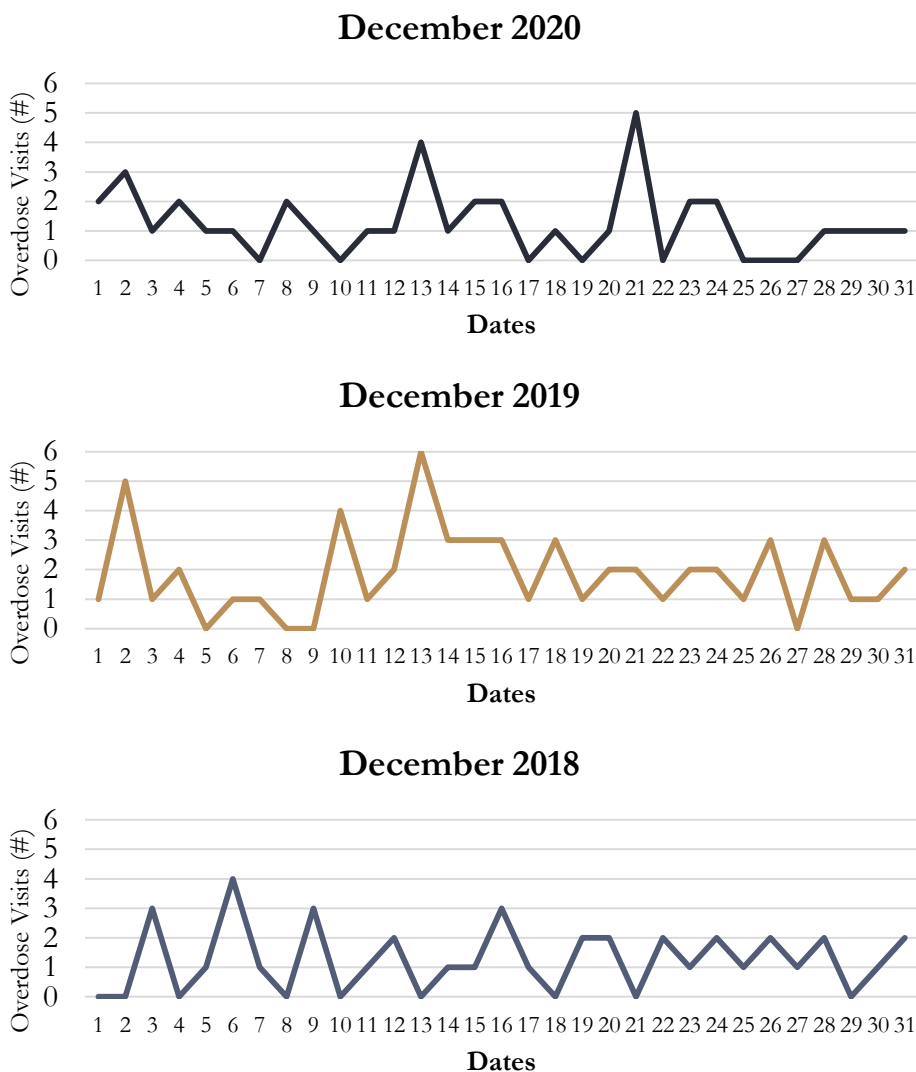
The December 2020 Lake County ED/UC overdose event rate per 100,000 population is the fourth lowest rate observed for December in the past 10 years (Figure 4). ED/UC events were 34% lower than the rate for December 2019, and 77% higher than the lowest rate of 9.6 observed in December of 2013.

Figure 4. Rate of December Overdose Visits by Year



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

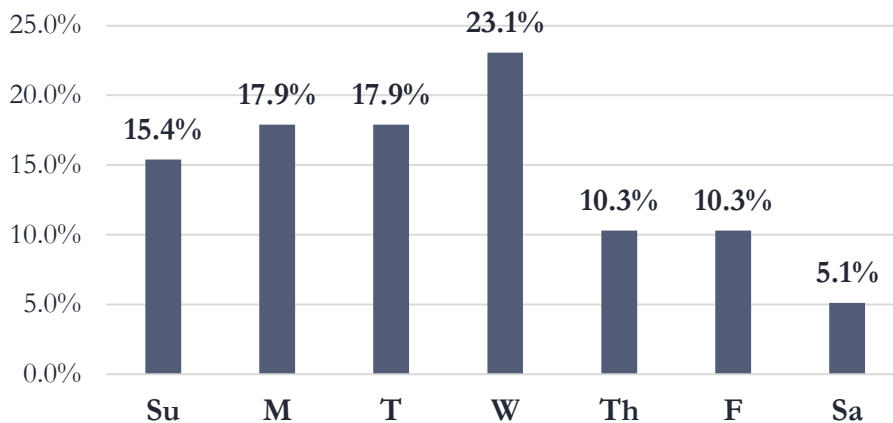
Figure 5. December Drug Overdose Daily Frequencies, 2018-2020



In order to provide for comparisons of daily ED/UC overdose event frequency, December events by day are illustrated for 2018, 2019, and 2020 (Figure 5). The daily maximum of five for December of 2020 is 17% lower than the daily maximum of six reported in 2019, and 25% higher than the daily maximum in 2018. Moreover, mean daily ED/UC overdose event frequency for December of 2020 (1.3) is lower than the rates in December of 2019 (1.9) and equivalent to that of 2018 (1.3).

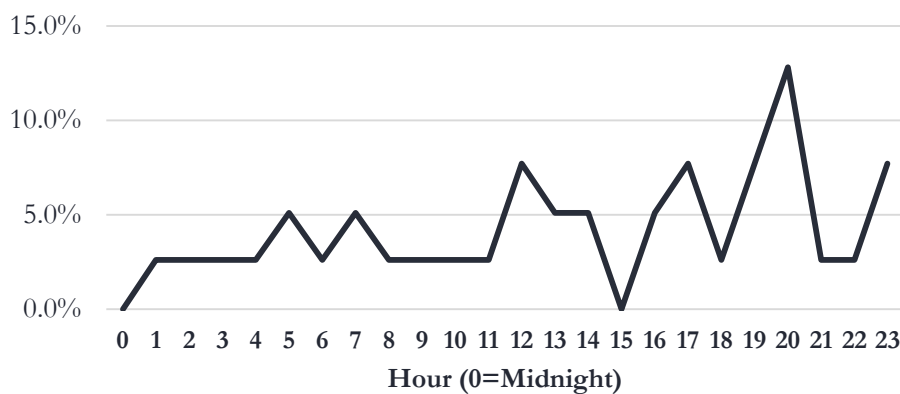
A total of eight days with no ED/UC overdose events were observed during December of 2020, as compared to four days in December of 2019, and nine in December of 2018. December 2020 overdose events peaked on December 21, as compared to the 2019 peak, which occurred on December 13, and the 2018 peak, which occurred on December 6.

Figure 6. Overdose Occurrences by Day of Week



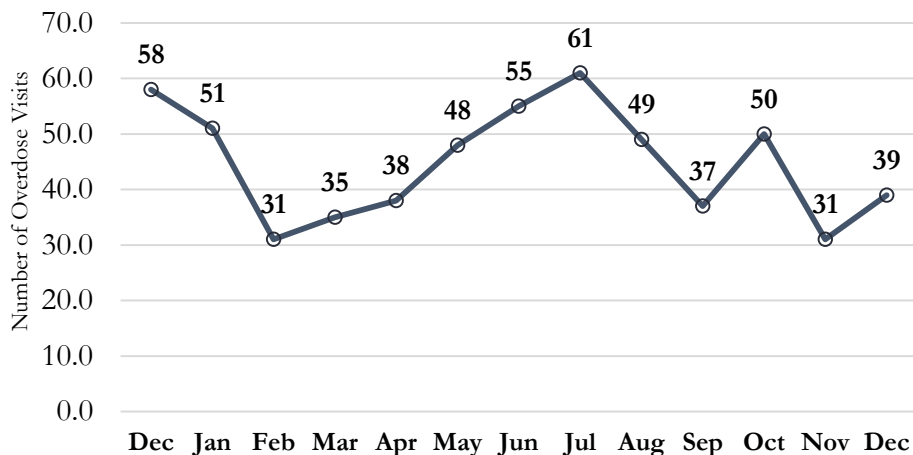
When organized by day of week, the frequency of ED/UC overdose events was highest on Wednesdays (23.1%; Figure 6). Mondays and Tuesdays experienced the next highest frequency of overdose events (17.9% each), followed by Sundays (15.4%), and Thursdays and Fridays (10.3% each). Saturdays had the lowest frequency of occurrences (5.1%).

Figure 7. Overdose Occurrences by Hour of Day



December ED/UC overdose events were most prominent between 8:00 pm and 9:00 pm (Figure 7). Secondary peaks occurred around 12:00 pm, 5:00 pm, and 11:00 p.m. No overdose events presented to ED/UCs during the hours of 12:00 am or 3:00 pm during the month of December.

Figure 8. Overdose Counts – Past 12 Months



When organized by month, ED/UC overdose events decreased 47% from December to February, increased 97% from February to July, decreased 39% from July to September, increased 35% from September to October, decreased 38% from October to November, and increased 26% from November to December (Figure 8). A total of 525 ED/UC visits for drug-related overdose events have been observed thus far in 2020, as compared to 620 during the same timeframe in 2019.

# Lake County General Health District Resources



## Project DAWN Naloxone Clinics

Due to the ongoing situation with COVID-19 and response efforts, all in-person Project DAWN Clinics have been canceled 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 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

*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: 2/12/2021



**Lake County  
General Health District**

**Public Health**

Prevent. Promote. Protect.

