

# Drug Overdose Surveillance Report Lake County, Ohio: May 2021

The following report outlines emergency department (ED) and urgent care (UC) drug overdose events by Lake County residents during the month of May. During this timeframe, a total of 43 recorded drug overdose ED/UC events met the inclusion criteria listed below. This represents an increase from the previous month's 37 drug overdose ED/UC visits. No fatalities were reported among those reporting to ED/UCs for overdose during the month of May.

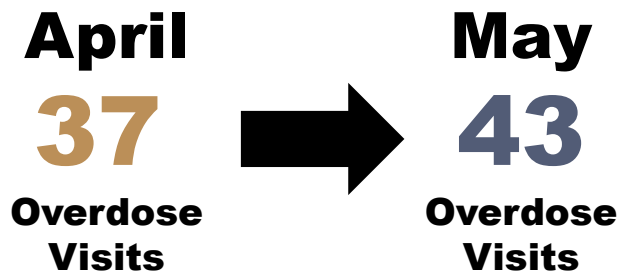
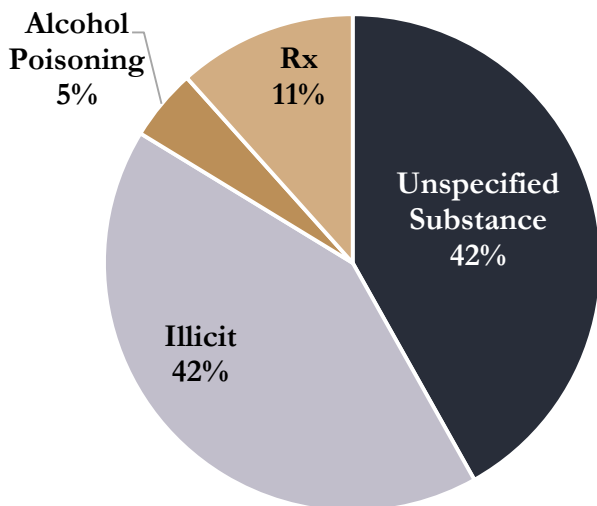
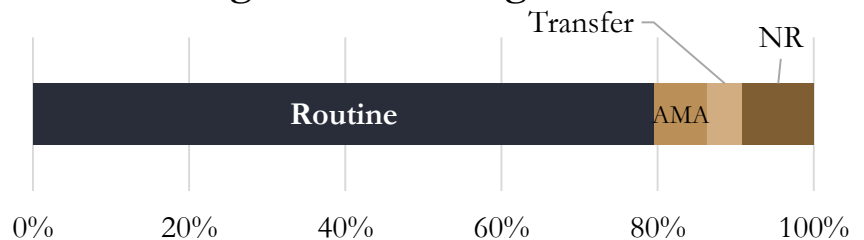


Figure 1. Overdoses by Type



In May, Lake County drug overdose ED/UC admissions occurred among individuals ranging from under one to 70 years of age. Five events involved a prescription (Rx) medication, 18 events involved an illicit substance, two involved alcohol poisoning, and 18 involved an unspecified substance (Figure 1). Moreover, 35 ED/UC visits resulted in routine discharge, while three left against medical advice (AMA), one was discharged to another healthcare facility, and four lacked reported discharge information (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Discharge Status

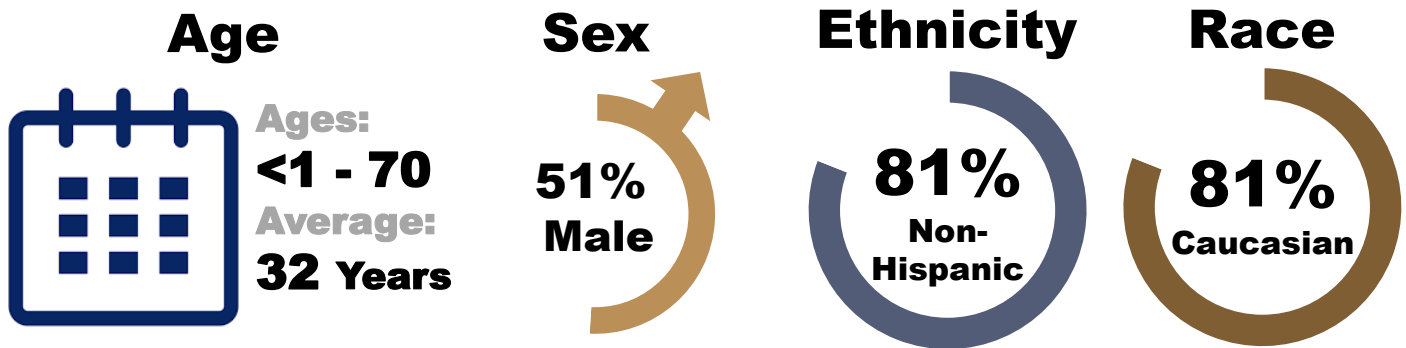


## Inclusion Criteria:

The data presented in this report was retrieved from Ohio ESSENCE (Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics), which replaced EpiCenter as Ohio's Syndromic Surveillance System in January 2021. Data is extracted using the Chief Complaint and Differential Diagnosis Category "CDC All Drug v1." Data prior to 2021 was retrieved from EpiCenter using the "Ohio Opioid-Related Suspected Drug Overdose" classifier, and prior to August 2019, 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, withdrawal symptoms, or evaluation for admission to a treatment program absent an overdose. In many cases, the drug responsible for the overdose is not indicated. As such, the included figures are not limited to opioid-related events.

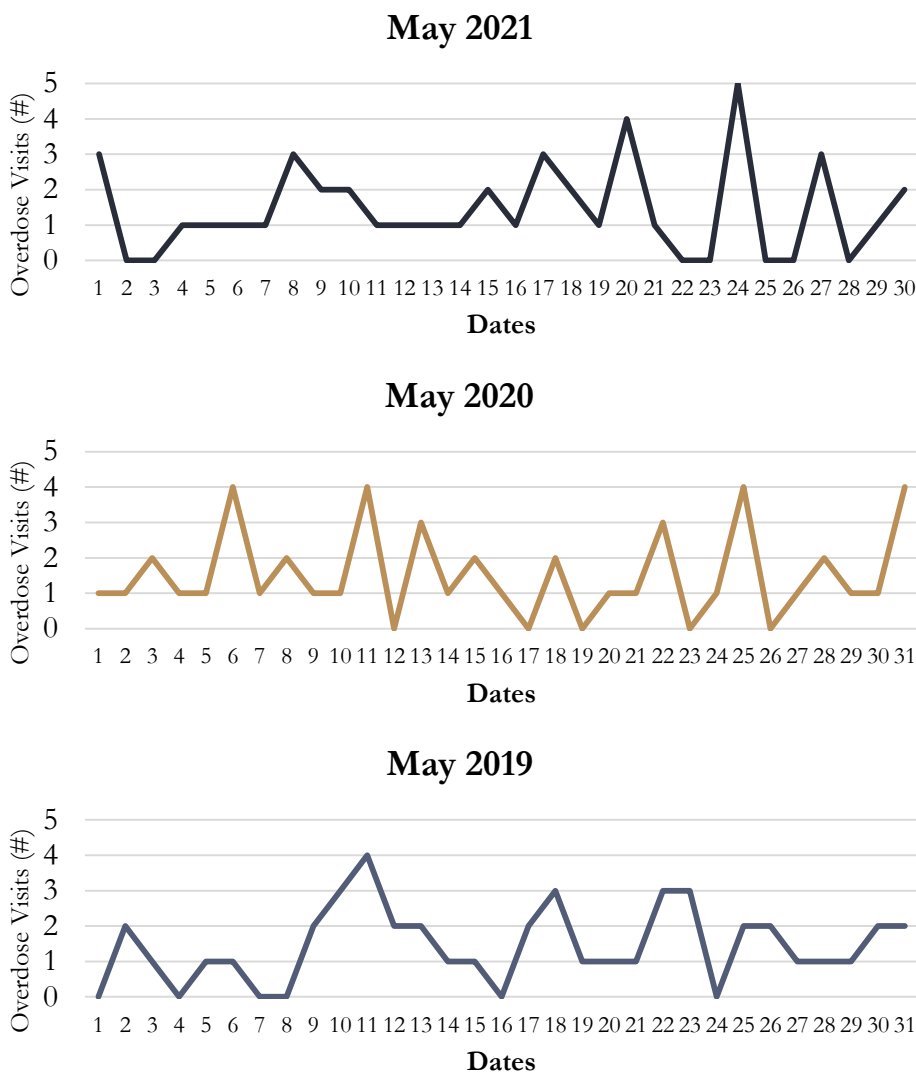


### Characteristics of Individuals who Overdosed



### How does this compare with past years?

Figure 3. May Drug Overdose Daily Frequencies, 2019-2021



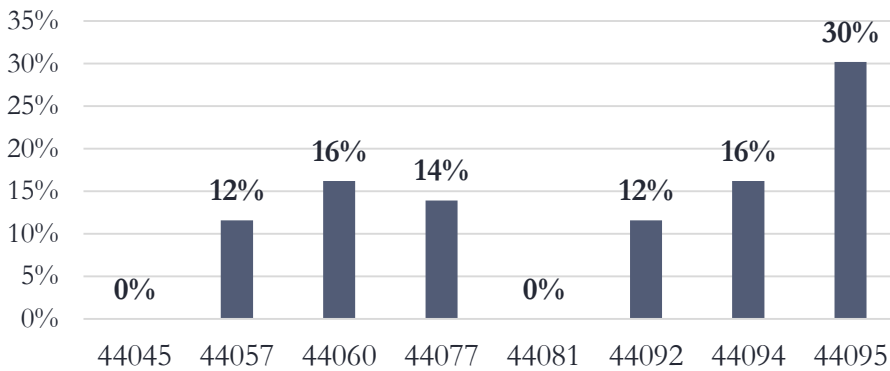
In order to provide for comparisons of daily ED/UC overdose event frequency, May events by day are illustrated for 2019, 2020, and 2021 (Figure 3). The daily maximum of five in May of 2021 is 25% higher than the daily maximum of four reported in 2020 and 2019, respectively. Mean daily ED/UC overdose event frequency in May of 2021 (1.4) is equivalent to the rates for 2020 (1.4) and 2019 (1.4).

A total of seven days with no ED/UC overdose events were observed in May of 2021, as compared to five days in May of 2020, and six in May of 2019. May 2021 overdose events peaked on May 24, as compared to multiple 2020 peaks, which occurred on May 6, 11, and 25, and the 2019 peak, which occurred on May 11.

## Geographical Distribution

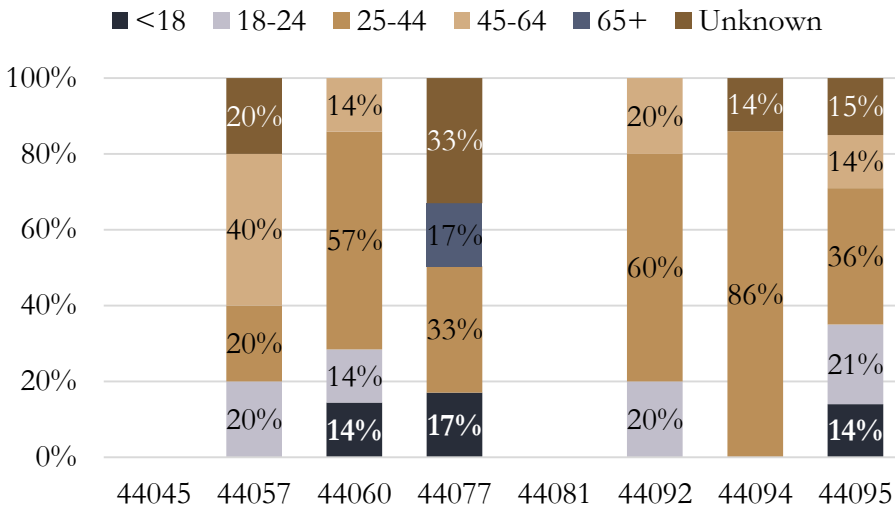
### In what areas were overdoses most prevalent?

Figure 4. Overdose Occurrences by Zip Code of Residence



In May, the greatest frequency of ED/UC overdose events occurred amongst those residing in zip code 44095 (Figure 4). ED/UC overdose events increased in 44057 (1%) and 44095 (22%), and decreased in 44077 (10%), 44092 (2%), and 44094 (11%). For the 20th consecutive month, no overdose visits were observed among residents of 44045.

Figure 5. Overdose Ages by Zip Code of Residence



ED/UC overdose events varied by age across each of the reported zip codes (Figure 5). Overdose event frequency was highest among those 25 to 44 years of age (48%), followed by those 18 to 24 years of age (14%), 45 to 64 years of age (14%), less than 18 years of age (11%) and 65 years or older (2%). The remaining 11% did not include age information.

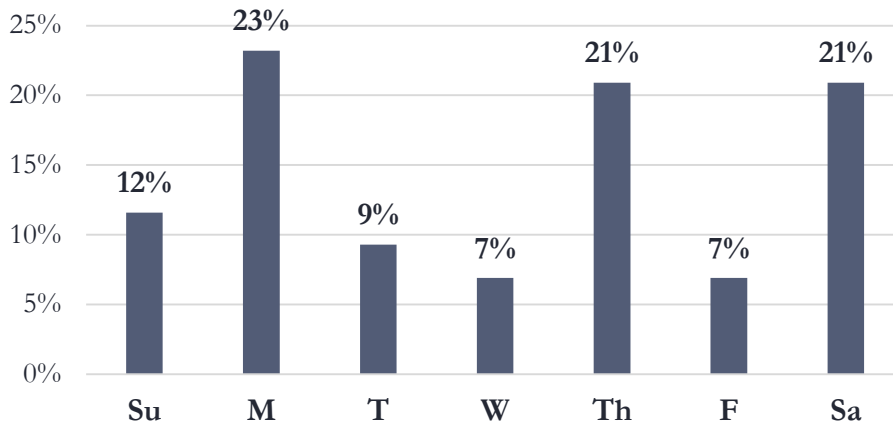
### At which Lake County facilities did overdose events present?

Table 1. Overdose Reporting Facility

Facility	N	(%)
Madison Campus	2	5
TriPoint Medical Center	13	30
West Medical Center	16	37
Outside of County	12	28
<b>Total</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>100</b>

During the month of May, the highest proportion of Lake County residents who presented to ERs/UCs for suspected drug overdoses presented to West Medical Center (37%), followed by facilities outside of Lake County (28%), TriPoint (30%), and Madison Campus (5%).

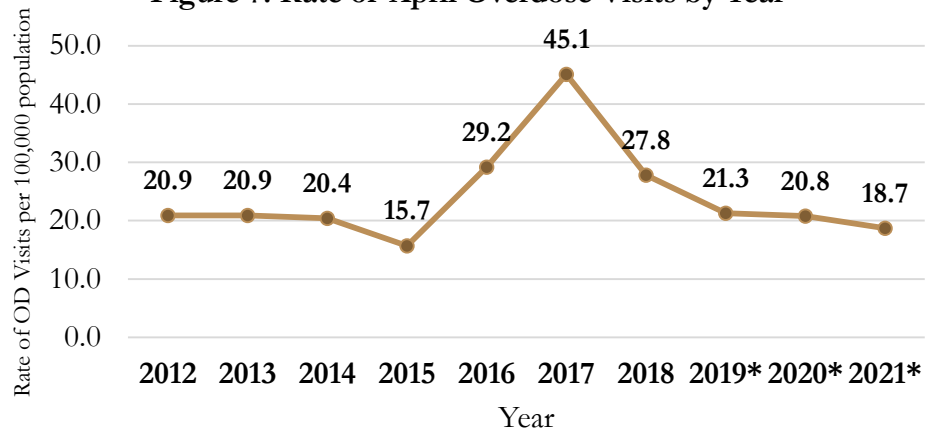
Figure 6. Overdose Occurrences by Day of Week



When organized by day of week, the frequency of ED/UC overdose events was highest on Monday (23%; Figure 6). Thursday (21%) and Saturday (21%) experienced the second highest frequency of overdose events, followed by Sunday (12%), and Tuesdays (9%). Rates of ED/UC visits for overdose events were lowest on Wednesday (7%) and Friday in May (7%).

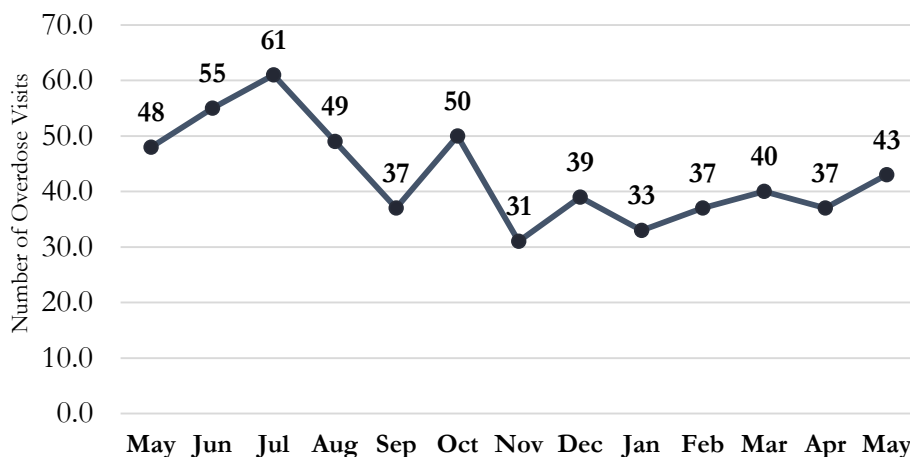
The May 2021 Lake County ED/UC overdose event rate per 100,000 population is the second lowest rate observed for May in the past 10 years (Figure 7). It is 10% lower than the rate for May 2020, 59% lower than the highest rate of 45.1 observed in May 2017, and 19% higher than the lowest rate of 15.7 observed in May 2015.

Figure 7. Rate of April Overdose Visits by Year



\*Rates based on most current available annual population estimates, as obtained from data.census.gov; 2019-2021 rates are based on 2019 population estimates.

Figure 8. Overdose Counts – Past 12 Months



When organized by month, ED/UC overdose events increased 27% from May to July 2020, decreased 39% from July to September, increased 35% from September to October, decreased 38% from October to November, increased 26% from November to December, decreased 15% from December to January, increased 21% from January to March, decreased 8% from March to April, and increased 16% from April to May (Figure 8). A total of 190 ED/UC visits for drug-related overdose events have been observed thus far in 2021, as compared to 203 in the same period for 2020.

# 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: 6/11/2021



**Lake County  
General Health District**

**Public Health**

Prevent. Promote. Protect.

