

1. Drug overdose data are retrieved from the state's EpiCenter surveillance tool. "Overdose" cases include all ED visits to Hamilton County hospitals in which drugs were indicated as reason for visit. Cases were included in analysis if the case notes for the patient included the term "overdose" or "OD." Where specified, traumatic injuries due to drugs caused by suicide attempts, adverse reactions to normal medications, or accidental overdose of over-the-counter or common drugs such as Tylenol or insulin were excluded from analysis. ZIP codes refer to the ZIP code of residence of the patient visiting the emergency department (ED). Dates are defined as 6 a.m. of a day to 6 a.m. of the following day, which more accurately reflects drug use patterns than standard day intervals. For example, January 1st refers to the period of 6 a.m. on January 1st to 6 a.m. on January 2nd. Data from the EpiCenter tool are limited and often do not include full details of ED visit, such as drug used or intent of use. As such, overdose estimates will include not just opioids, but potentially any drug. Second, case notes are recorded at patient intake and may change from a patient's initial examination to their final diagnosis.

2. Emergency dispatches refer to fire/EMS and law enforcement responses to 911 emergency calls related to drug overdose, in which a unit was dispatched. Call notes are reviewed and included/excluded using the same criteria as EpiCenter, adapted for the format of 911 dispatch call logs.

* Demographics reported from hospital & ED visits (orange line), and do not include demographic information from 911 dispatches (blue line). ** Percent among those who do not have missing information for the respective demographic factor.

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