

Agenda and Minutes

Washington County Opioid Settlement Council

Meeting Information

- Date and time: January 15, 2025 (Wednesday) from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm
- Location: Washington County Government Center, Stillwater
- Council meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm.
- Members of the public are welcome to attend council meetings as observers and have an opportunity to share comments during the designated period.

Opioid Settlement Council Members

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emily Brunner | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Josephine Igwacho | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jay Pernu |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deb Chmielecki | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lori Kelley | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Seth Perry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jessica Feider | <input type="checkbox"/> Rose Kosin | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carla Schweich |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kristi Gullett | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Denise Lasker | <input type="checkbox"/> Jamie Steber |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alicia House | <input type="checkbox"/> Suzy Oswald | |

Public Health and Environment (PHE) Chief Strategist Representatives

- Rolando Vera | *Correctional Health Nursing Manager*
- Sean Young-Stephens | *Public Health Program Coordinator*

Agenda Items

- Public comment period
- Welcome and introductions
- Updates on funded projects

PHE provided brief updates on each of the eight funded projects. Overall, all contracts are finalized, and funding is beginning to be paid out to some of the awardees. Project work is in its beginning stages.

- Overdose data
 - Presentation from PHE
 - Reflection/discussion

PHE presented the overdose data included in this packet. All data presented comes from the Minnesota Department of Health and is publicly available on their [Drug Overdose Data webpages](#).

Council members discussed their observations and insights. Topics included: overdose data limitations/nuances, overdose language, potential causes that influence these data, dynamics of polysubstance use, importance/nuances of racial disparities, and youth/schools.

- Open time for topics/questions/feedback from council members
- Closing and next steps

At upcoming meetings in early 2025, the council will continue discussions about the recent awardees and plans/priorities for the next round of funding. A 2025 timeline is expected to be established in quarter one.

Updates on Funded Projects



Family Recovery Programming

Thrive! Family Recovery Resources



Technology and Access to Care

YourPath



Focused Community Education

ShelettaMakesMeLaugh, LLC



Recovery and Peer Support

WayMakers to Recovery



Hispanic/Latino Community Health

Wellshare International



Education in Rural/Faith Communities

Elim Lutheran Church



Youth Programming in Schools

Change the Outcome



Support for Veterans and First Responders

Invisible Wounds Project

Overdose Data Presentation

Overdose Data Introduction

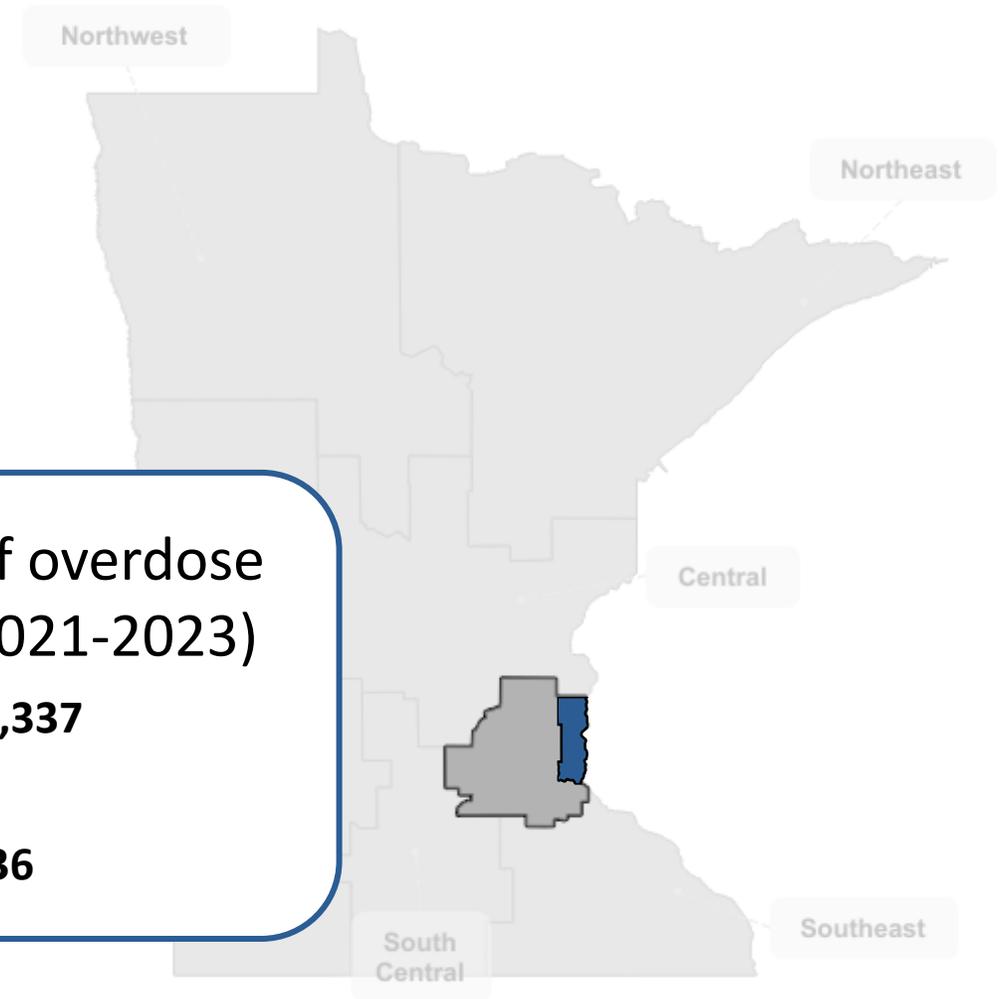
- Goal: continue to build our understanding of the evolving opioid crisis in Washington County
- This data folds into other data/information
- Data comes from the Minnesota Department of Health and is publicly available
 - Fatal overdose data comes from Minnesota death certificates
 - Nonfatal overdose data are based on suspected overdoses from hospital data
- Objectively reporting data, not explaining the “why”
- Every “number” is a human being

Geographic Levels

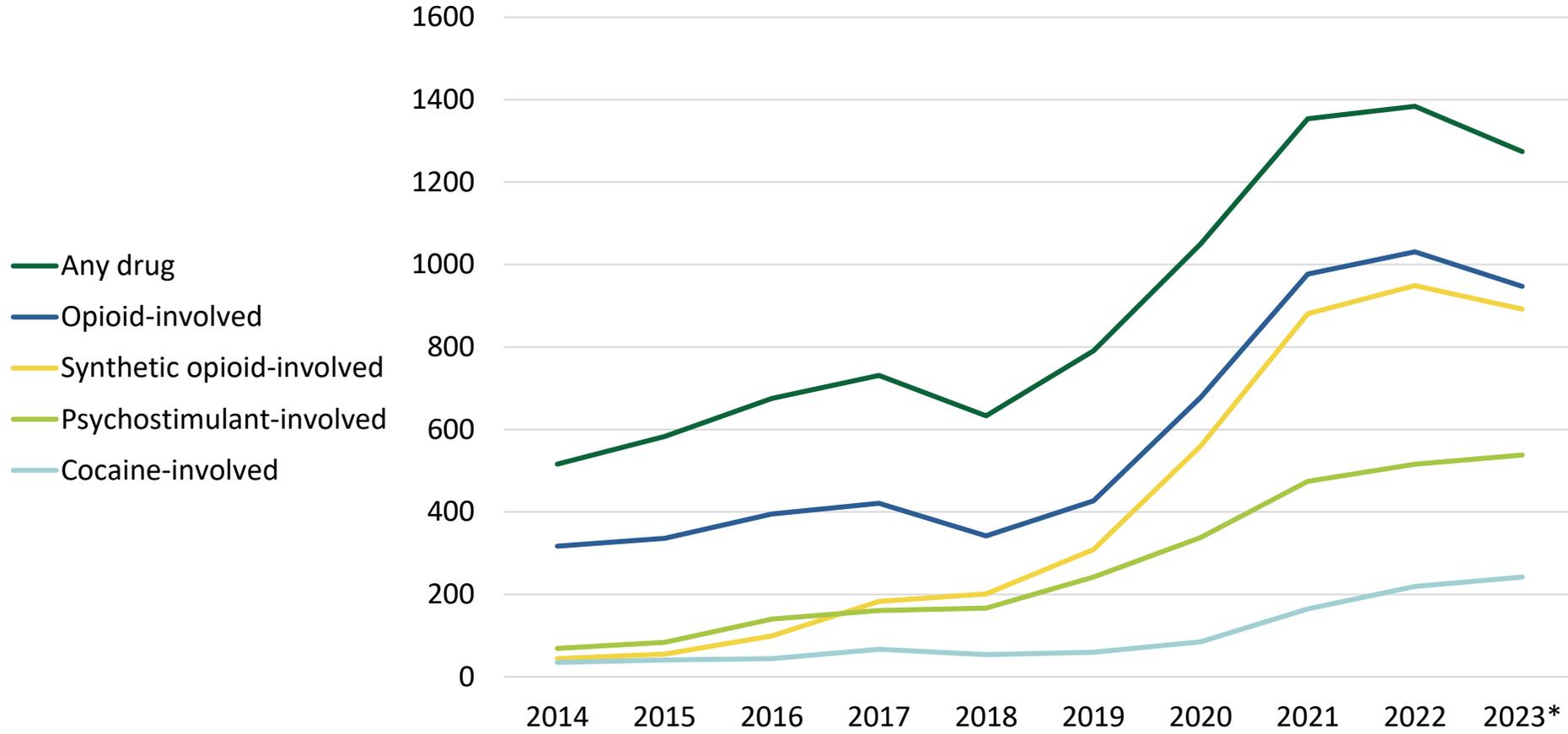
- Sharing data highlights at the state, region, and county levels (by residency)
- Each level of context is important

Average number of overdose deaths per year (2021-2023)

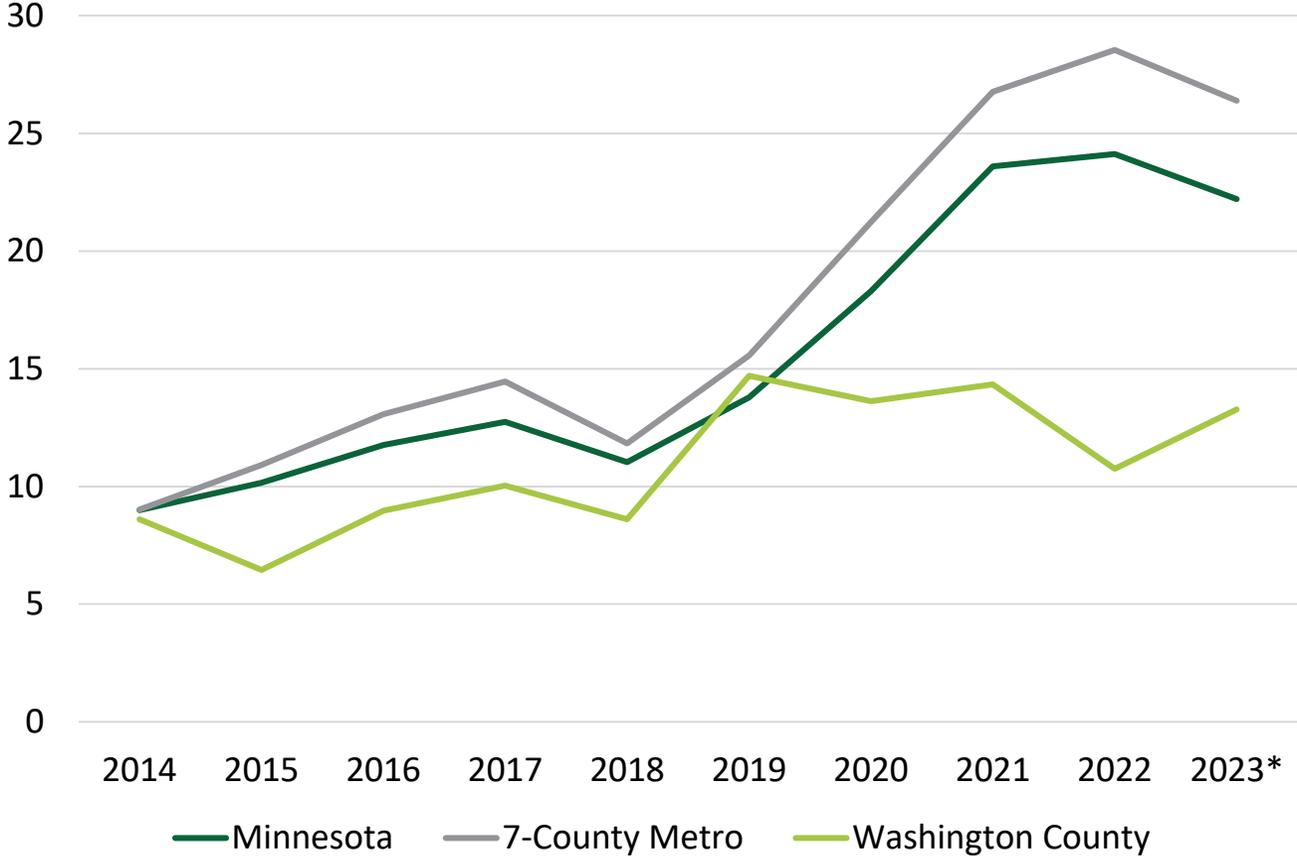
- State of Minnesota: **1,337**
- Metro Region: **861**
- Washington County: **36**



Number of overdose deaths among Minnesota residents by substances involved (non-exclusive)

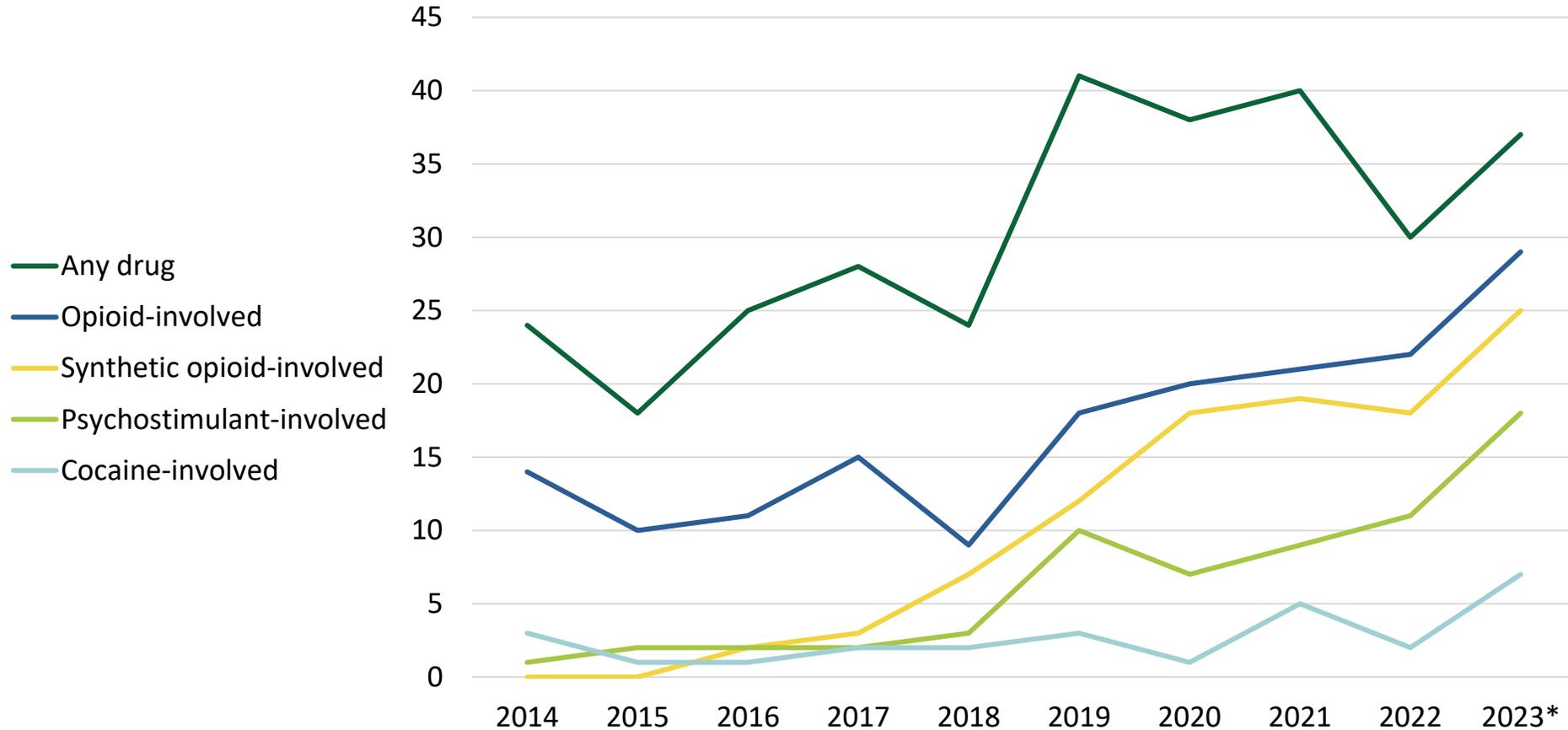


Rates of fatal drug overdose per 100,000 residents

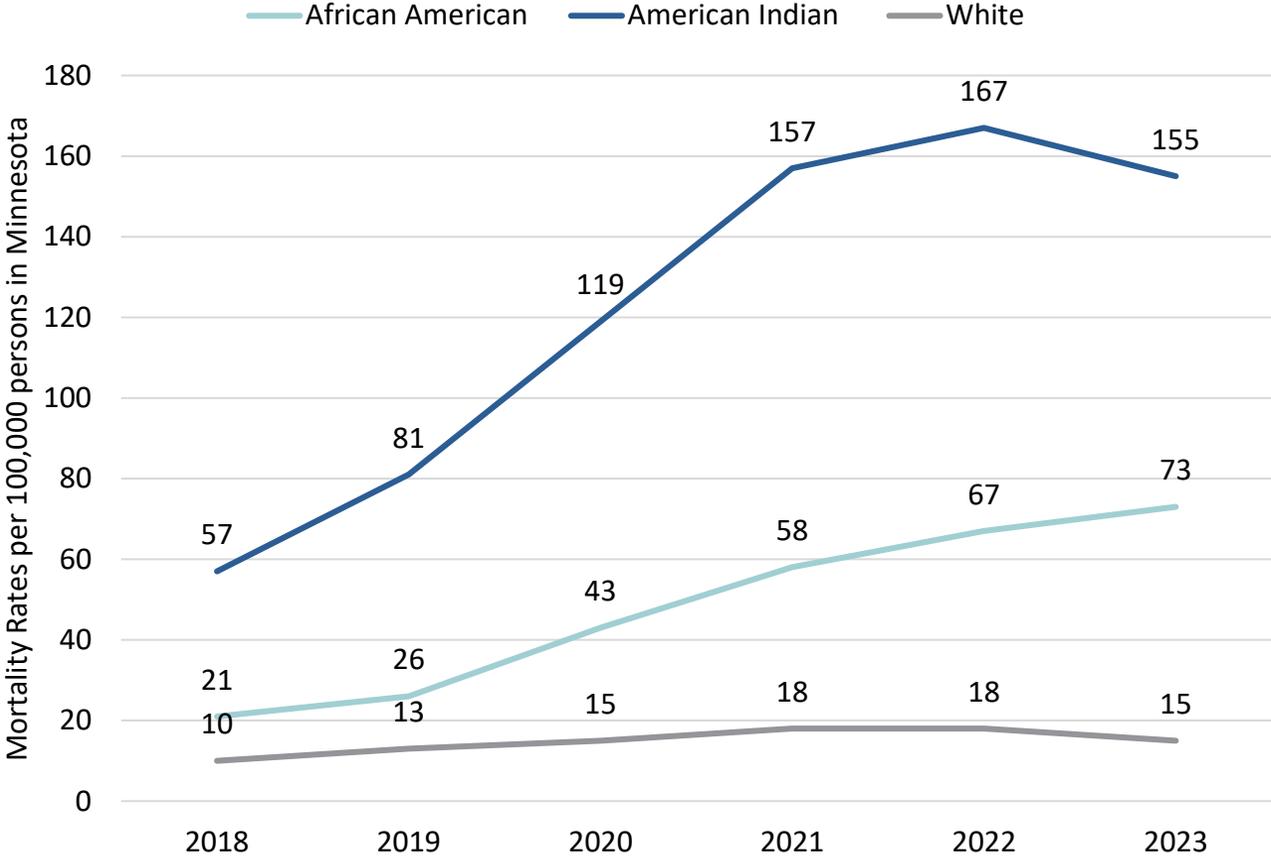


*2023 data are preliminary

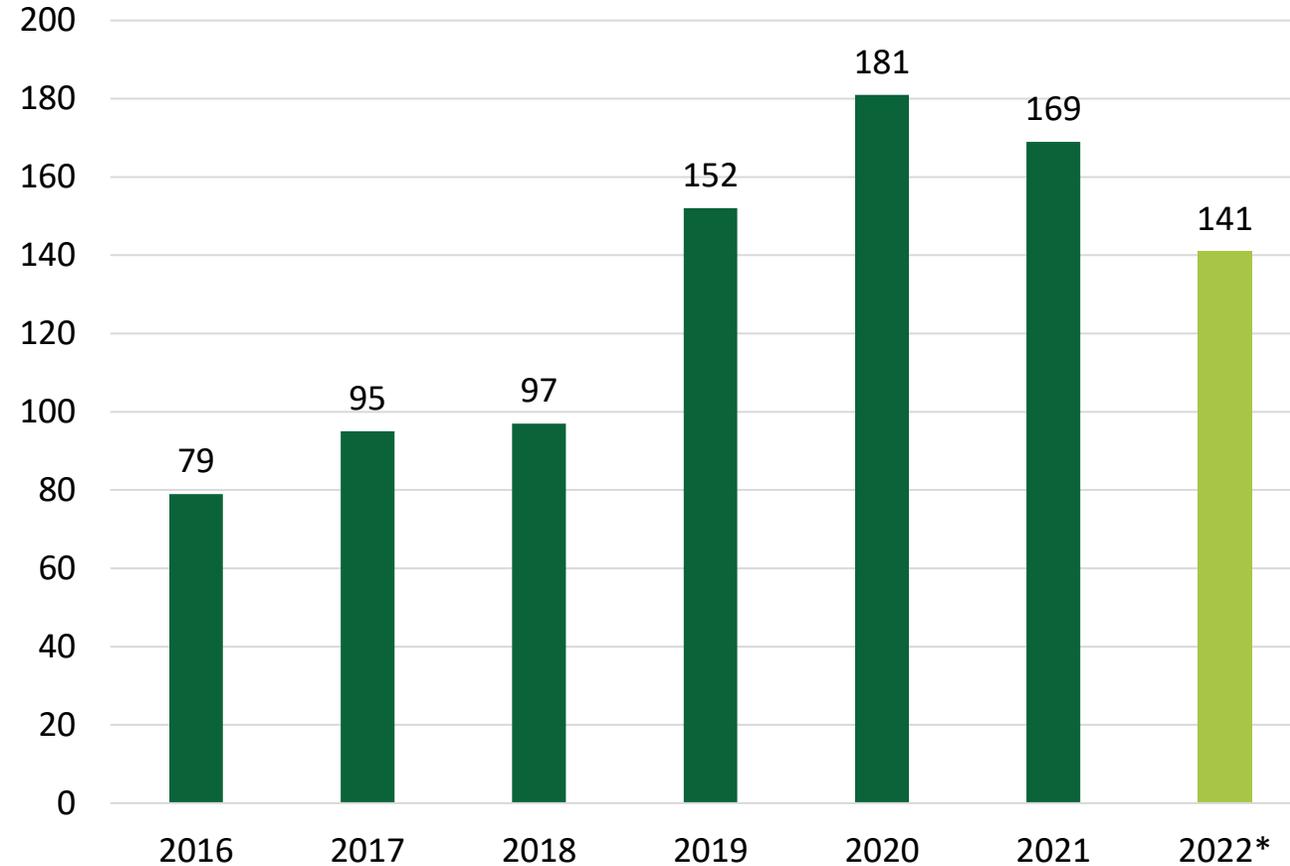
Number of overdose deaths among Washington County residents by substances involved (non-exclusive)



Racial disparities in Minnesota drug overdose deaths

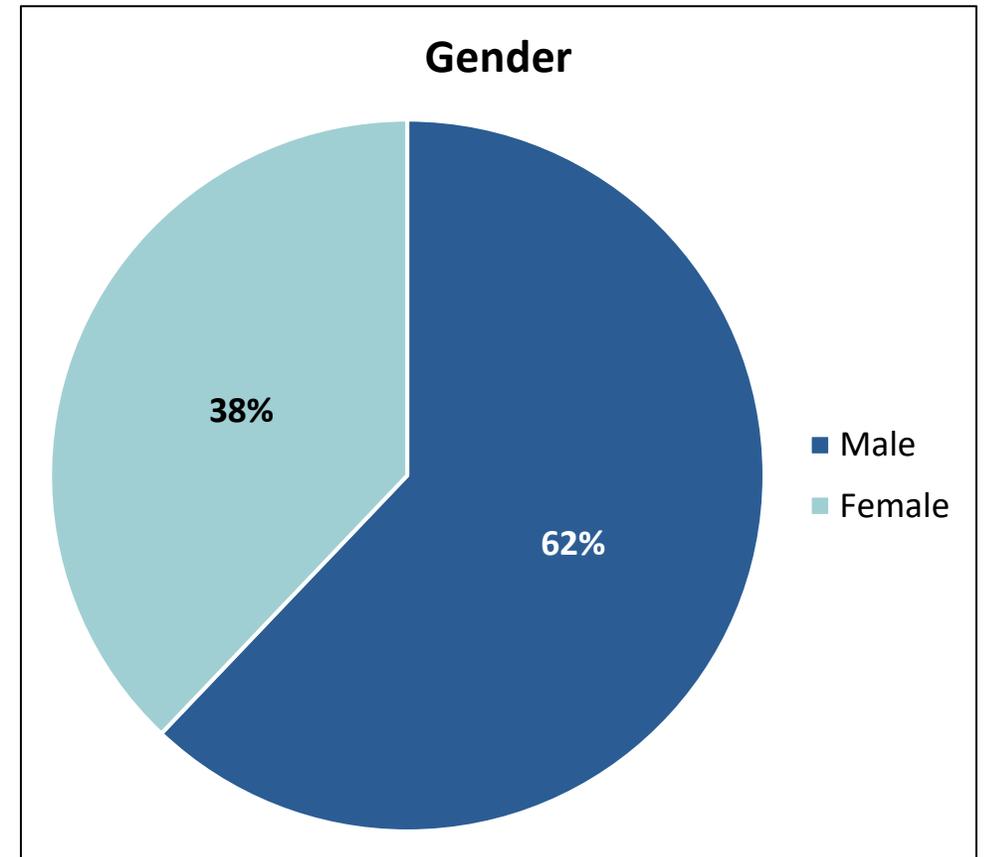
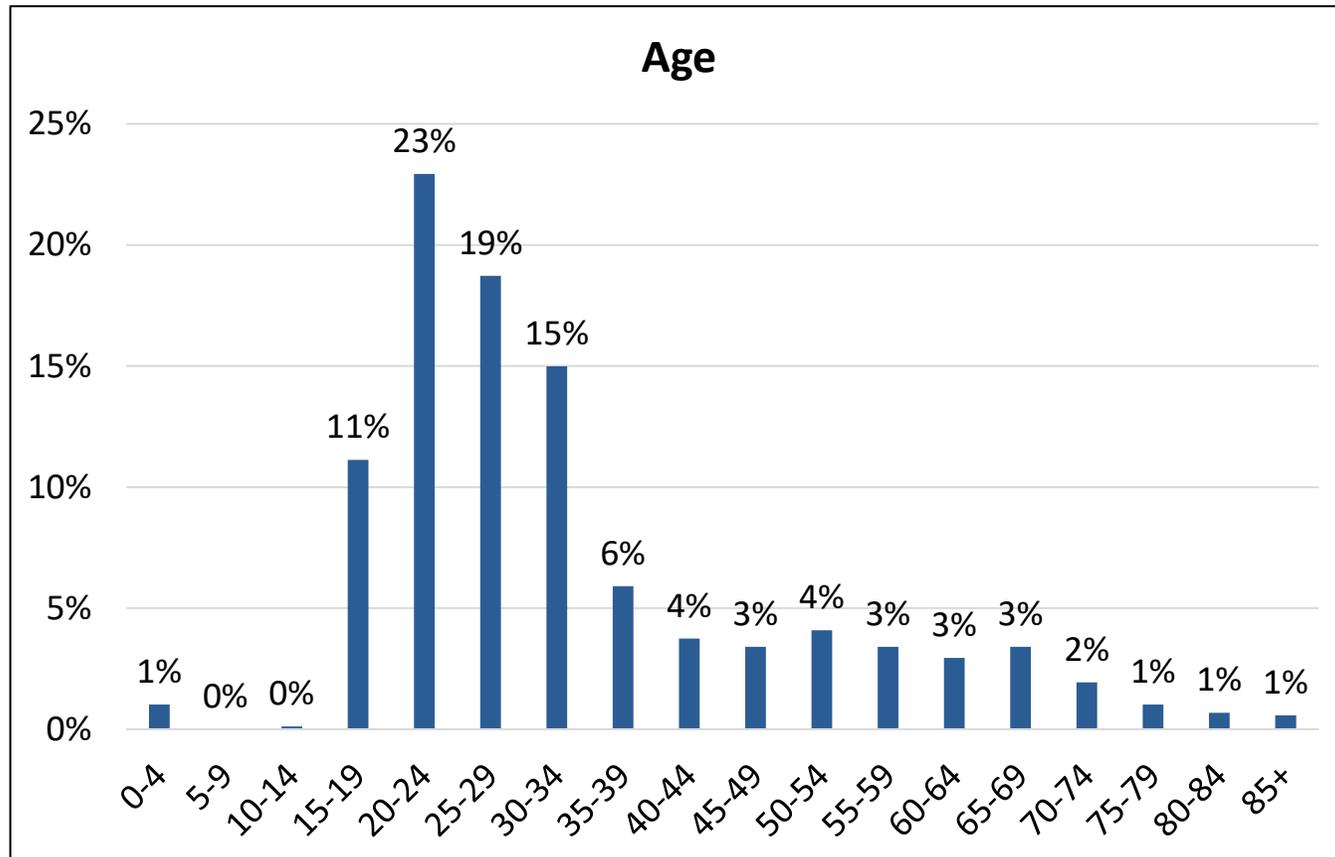


Number of hospital visits for nonfatal opioid-involved overdoses among Washington County residents



Nonfatal opioid-involved overdoses by age and gender

Washington County residents, 2016 through 2022*



Reflection/Discussion

- What highlights stand out?
- What surprised you?
- What insights would you add to these data from your experience/expertise?

Shared Agreements

Washington County Opioid Settlement Council

- Honor confidentiality
- Be present at meetings and participate
- Listen to understand, not respond – we all have something different to offer
- Allow space to ask and receive questions
- Be open and respectful to the ideas of others – use respectful language to talk about those impacted
- Speak from your own experience and speak objectively
- Take space/make space – everyone has an equal voice during the meeting
- Have an agenda and stick to it – be efficient
- Share the role/context you're speaking from
- Only one person speaks at a time