

Opioid Surveillance

February 2024



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STATEMENT ON STRUCTURAL INEQUITY

The Kent County Health Department acknowledges that social, economic, and environmental inequities contribute to adverse public health outcomes. Inequities affect communities differently and influence health behaviors and one’s ability to access health care and resources. Working collaboratively to reduce health disparities through policies, practices, systems, and environmental approaches can help improve health outcomes for all.

MEDICAL EXAMINER DATA

Source: Kent County Medical Examiner Office; Note: Counts do not represent final numbers; they are subject to change after cases are reviewed. Data are current as of March 6, 2024.

Table 1. Number of drug-related overdose deaths, by selected characteristics and county of residence, Kent County, January 2023 – January 2024

		KENT COUNTY RESIDENTS ¹	NON-COUNTY RESIDENTS
TOTAL DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS		93	16
OPIOID-INVOLVED			
TOTAL OPIOID-INVOLVED DEATHS		64 (69% of all od deaths)	8 (50% of all od deaths)
AVERAGE AGE		44.3 years	38.5 years
MEDIAN AGE		42.0 years	38.5 years
POLY-SUBSTANCE		41 (64%)	3 (38%)
SUBSTANCES INVOLVED²	Fentanyl	56 (88%)	7 (88%)
	Heroin	2 (3%)	0 (0%)
	Rx Opioids ³	8 (13%)	1 (13%)
	Cocaine	28 (44%)	1 (13%)
	Methamphetamine	2 (3%)	2 (25%)
	Alcohol	4 (6%)	1 (13%)
	Xylazine	11 (17%)	-- ⁴
COMBINATIONS WITH FENTANYL			
HEROIN & FENTANYL		1 (50% of heroin overdoses)	0
METHAMPHETAMINE & FENTANYL		2 (25% of meth. overdoses)	2 (50% of meth. overdoses)
COCAINE & FENTANYL		27 (63% of cocaine overdoses)	1 (25% of cocaine overdoses)

¹Kent County residents and unknown resident status; ²Substances involved are not mutually exclusive and do not constitute an exhaustive list; multiple drugs are often identified as a related cause of death in a single case; ³Prescription opioids include codeine, hydrocodone, methadone, morphine, and oxycodone; ⁴Toxicology not reviewed for xylazine involvement for non-residents.

Table 2. Opioid-involved overdose deaths by demographics, Kent County, January 2023 – January 2024

		NUMBER	DEATH RATE PER 100,000	95% CI FOR RATE
SEX	Male	50	15.7	(11.3 - 20.0)
	Female	14	--	--
AGE GROUP	0 - 14 Years	--	--	--
	15 - 24 Years	--	--	--
	25 - 34 Years	11	--	--
	35 - 44 Years	22	27.3	(15.9 - 38.7)
	45 - 54 Years	10	--	--
	55 - 64 Years	15	--	--
	65+ Years	--	--	--
RACE/ ETHNICITY	White	40	7.8	(5.4 - 10.2)
	Black	19	30.6	(16.8 - 44.3)
	Hispanic	--	--	--
	American Indian/Alaska Native	--	--	--
	Asian or Pacific Islander	--	--	--
	Unknown	--	--	--
Total Deaths		64	9.9	(7.5 - 12.3)

-- denotes data suppressed due to low numbers

Source: Population estimates from American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Figure 1. Number of opioid-involved overdose deaths by year, Kent County residents, 2005-2023

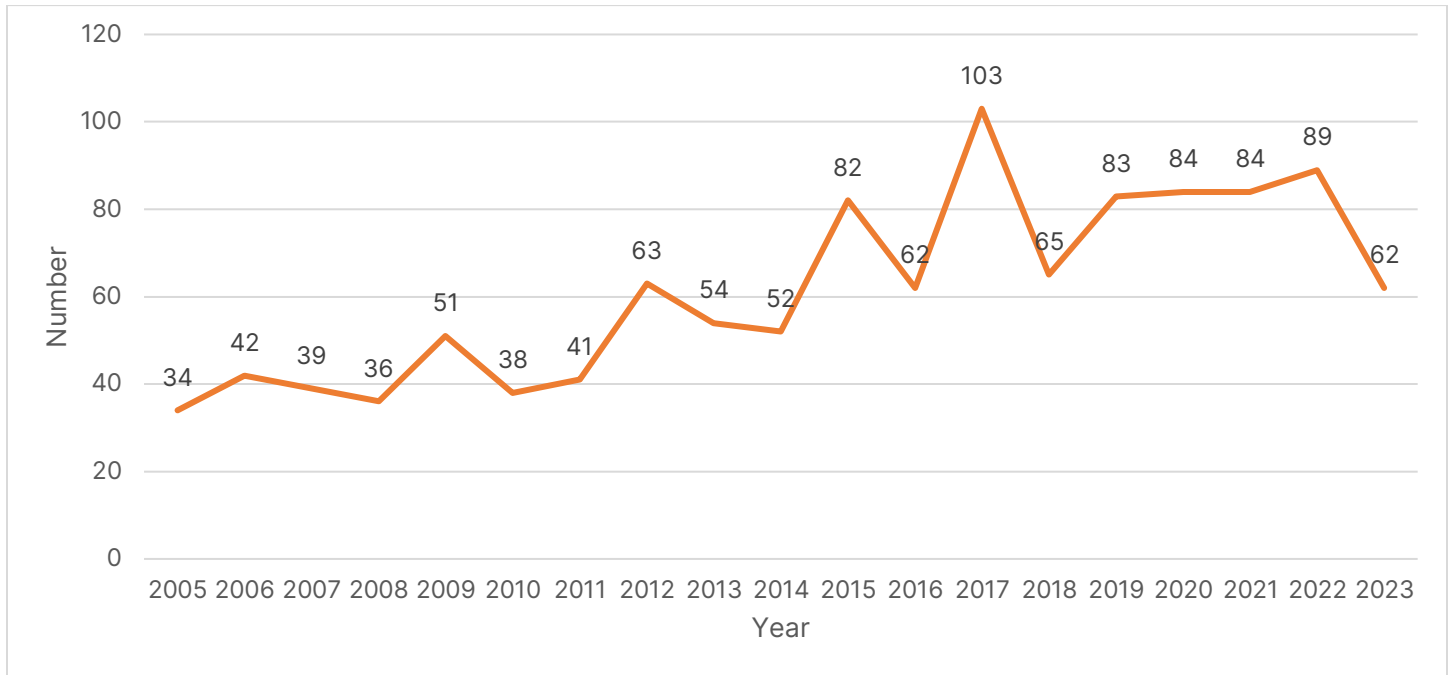


Figure 2. Number of opioid-involved overdose deaths by month, Kent County residents, 2019-2023

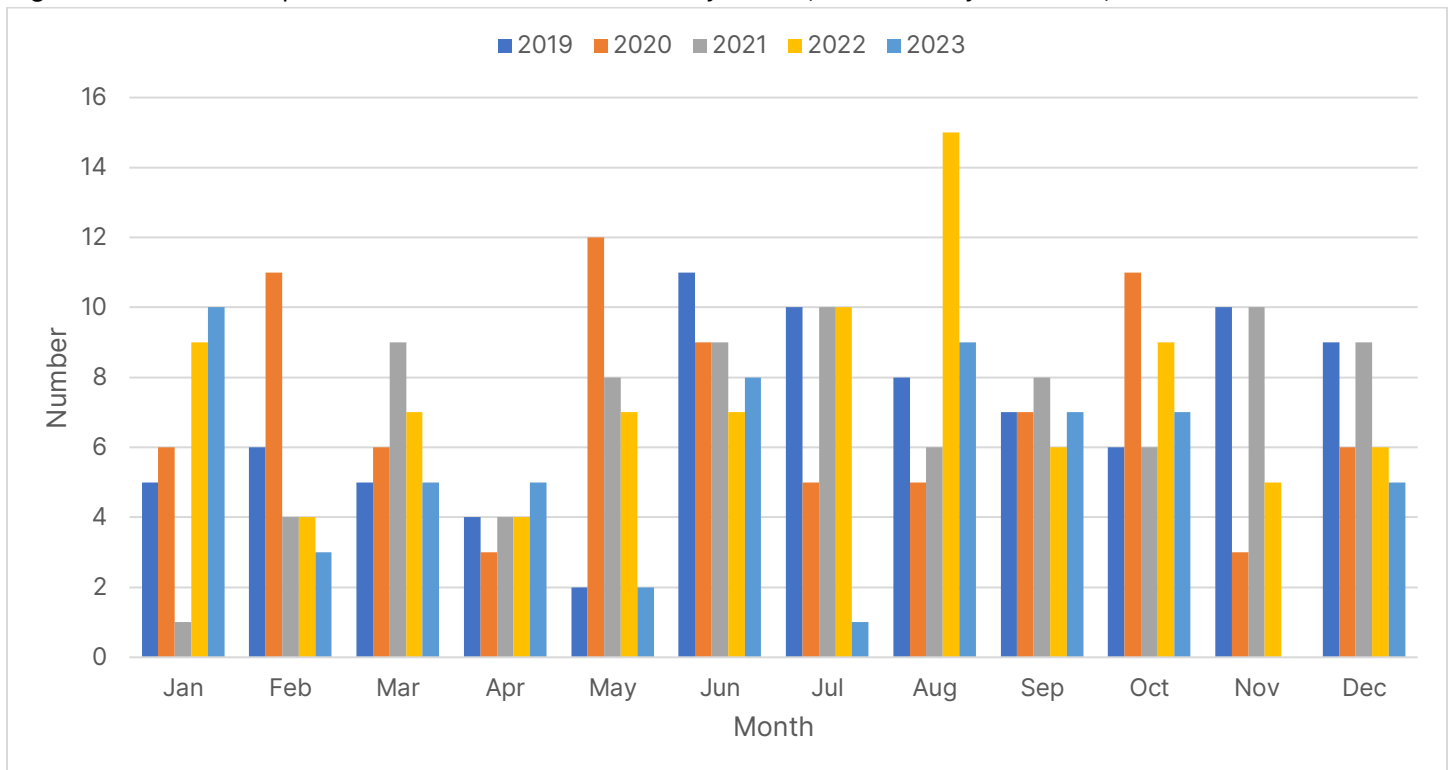
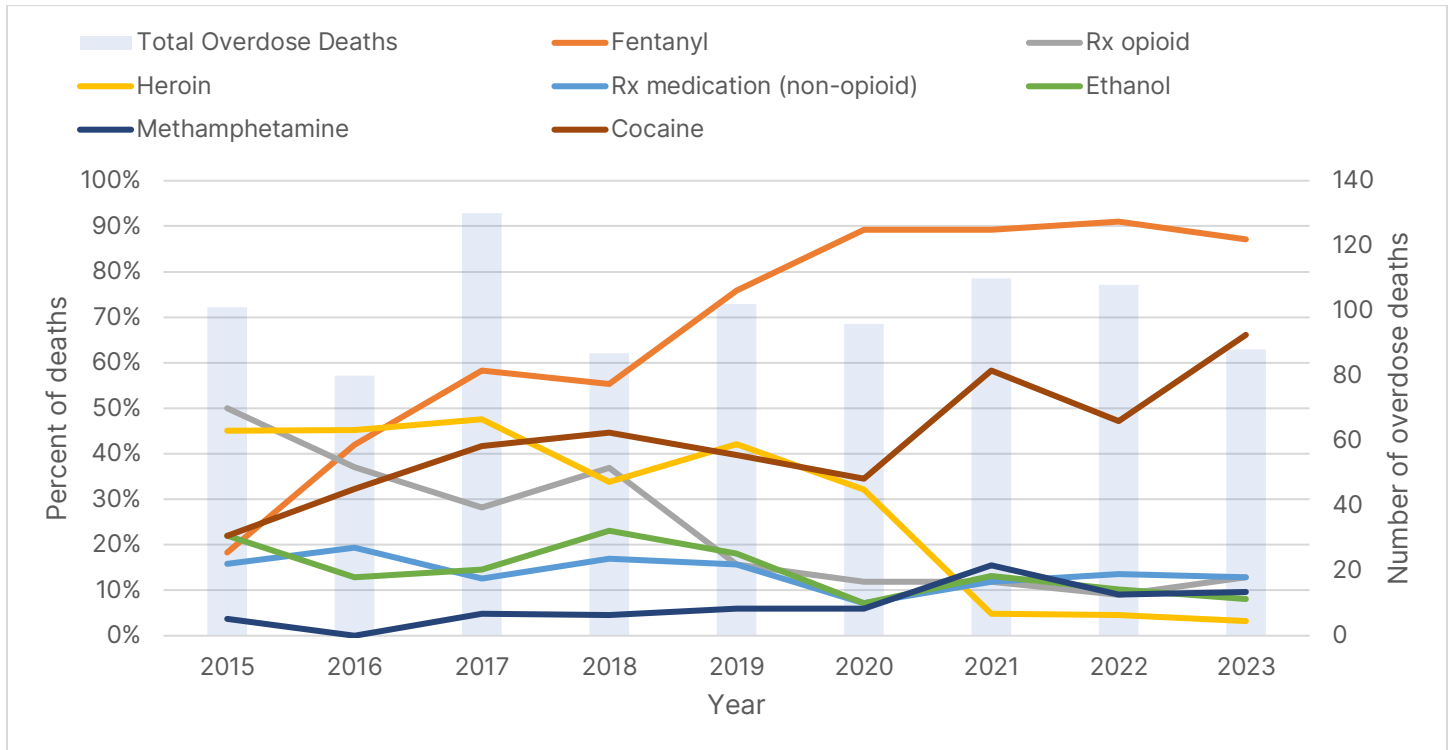
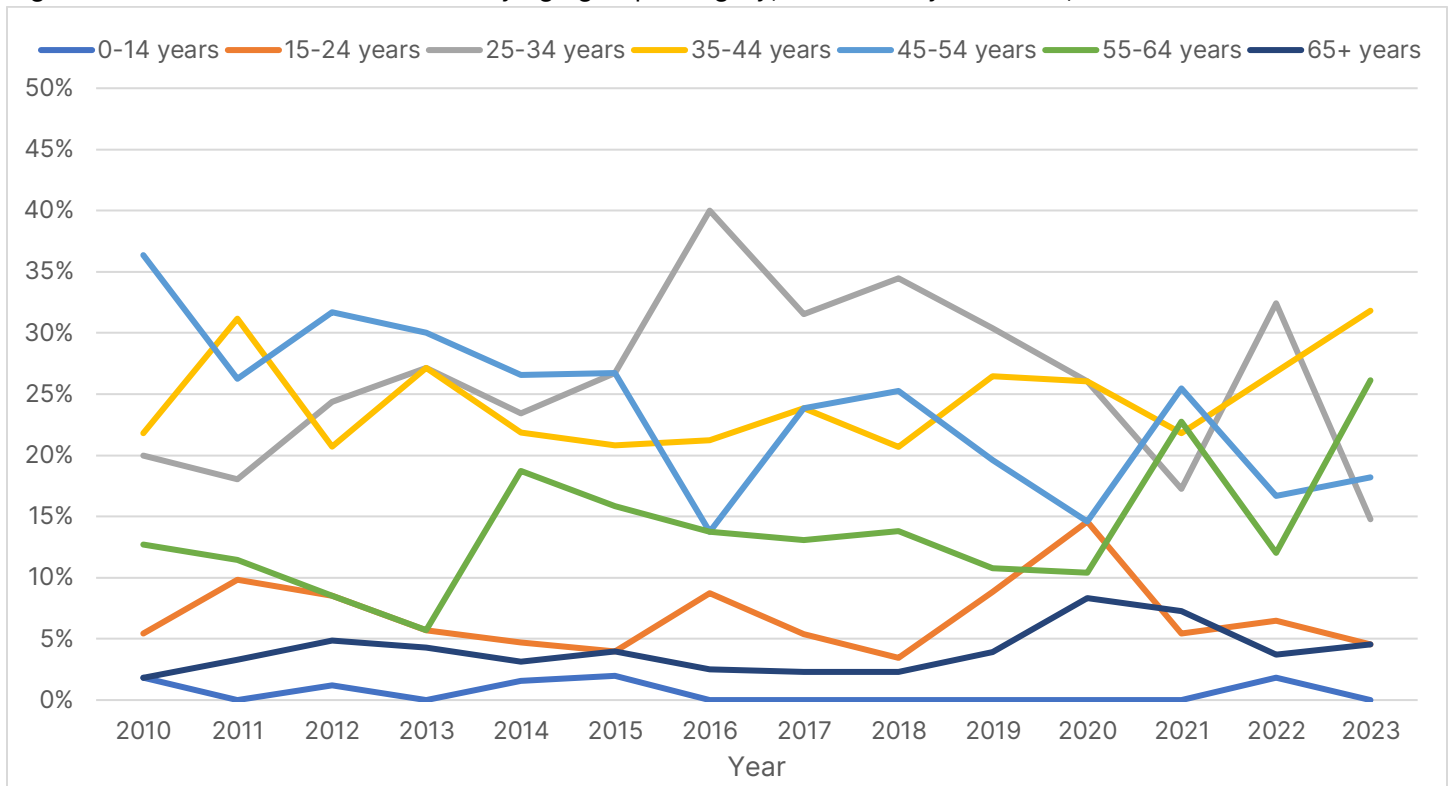


Figure 3. Percent of overdose deaths with select substances present, Kent County residents, 2015-2023



Note: Often multiple drugs are identified as a related cause of death in a single case

Figure 4. Percent of overdose deaths by age group category, Kent County residents, 2013-2023



Note: Age group 0-14 years is suppressed due to low numbers

Figure 5. Percent of overdose deaths by manner and opioid involvement, Kent County residents, 2005-2023

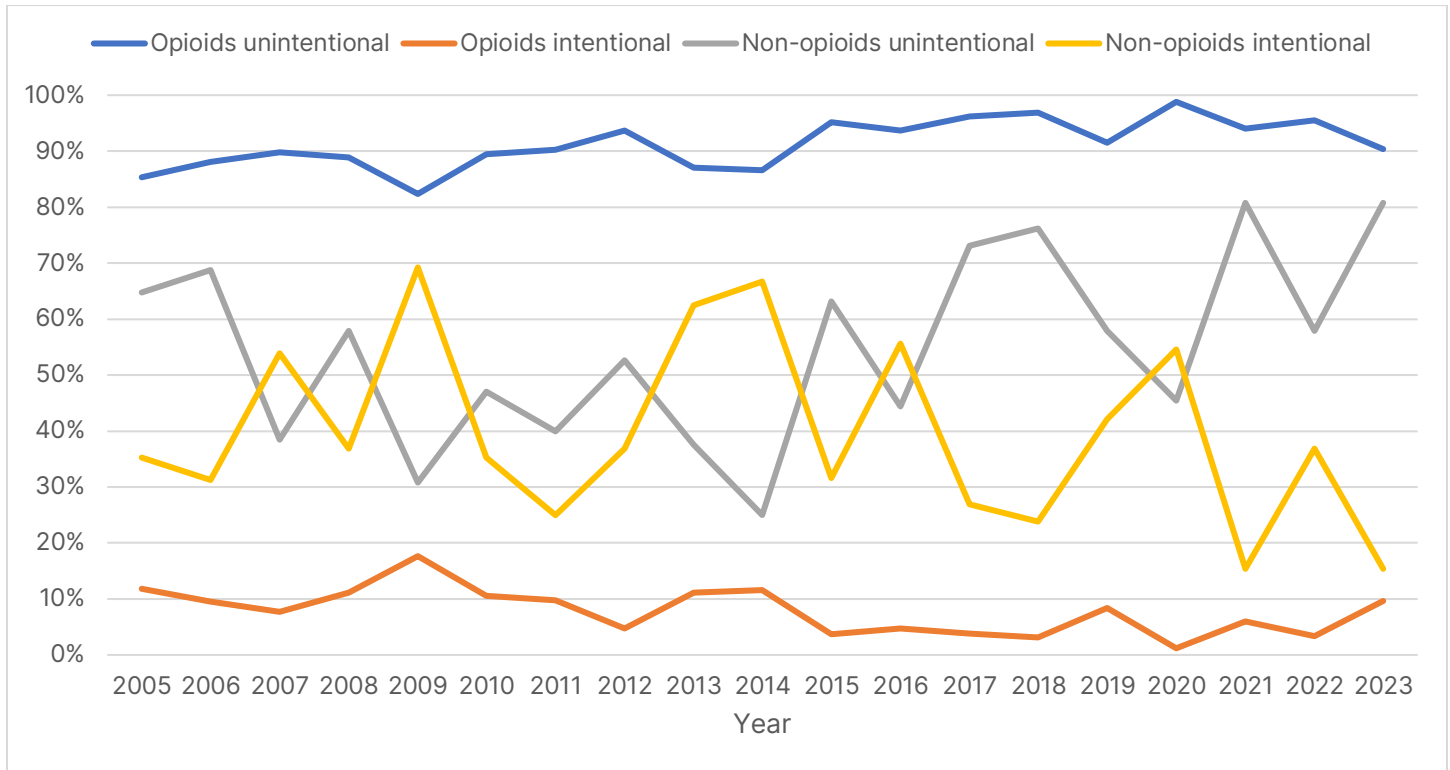
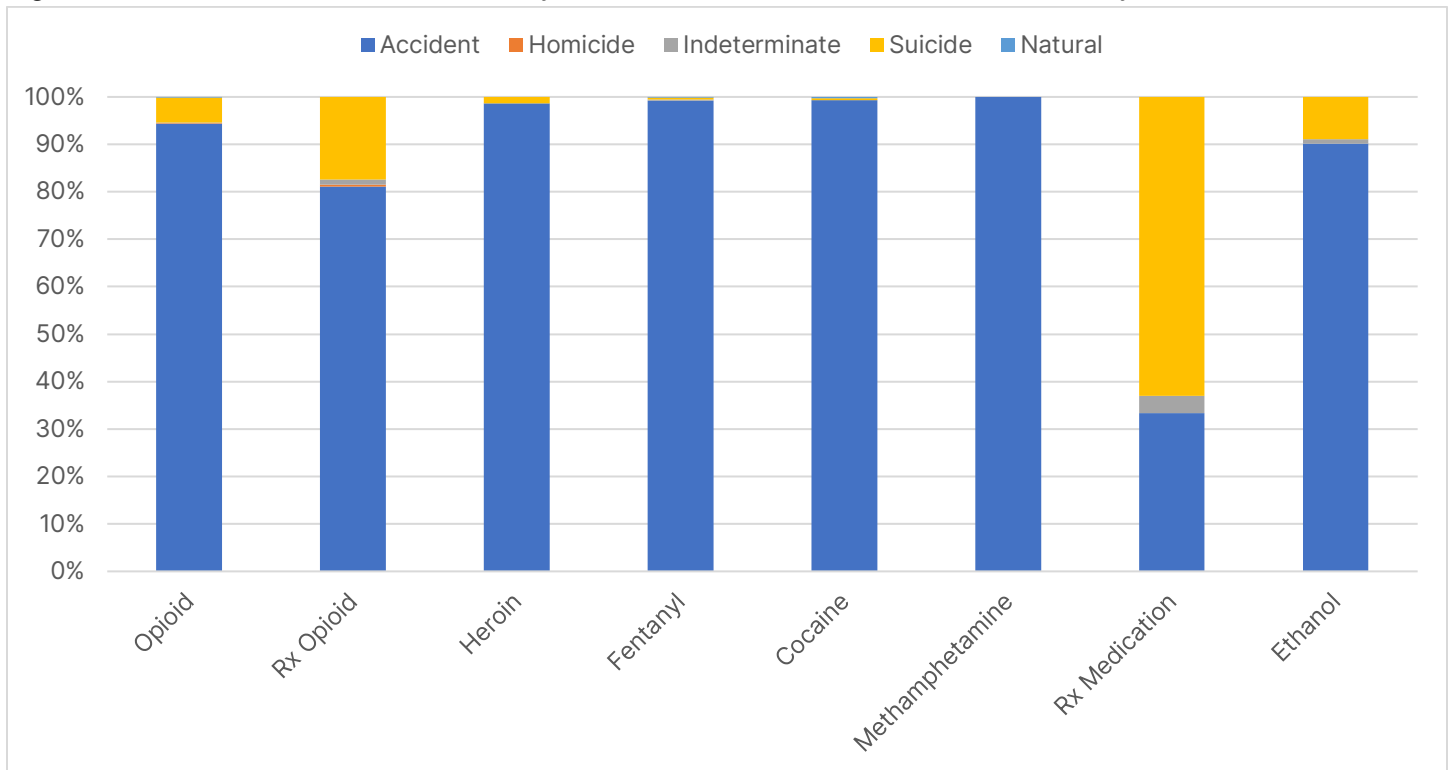


Figure 6. Manner of death determination by substance involved in overdose, Kent County residents, 2005-2024



Note: Includes all opioid and non-opioid overdose deaths; multiple drugs are often identified as a related cause of death in a single case

OVERDOSE CHARACTERISTICS BY RACE

Source: Kent County Medical Examiner¹; MI EMS Information System (MI-EMSIS), System for Overdose Surveillance (SOS)²

Average age of opioid overdose death by race, Kent County residents, 2018-2024¹

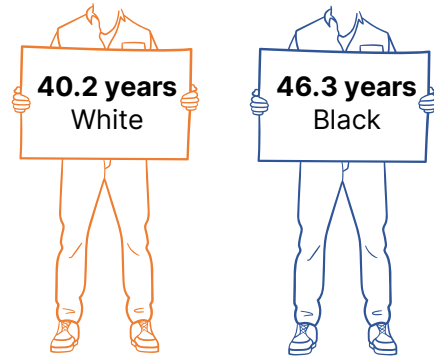


Figure 7. Naloxone administrations per 100,000 population by race, Kent County, 2018-2023²

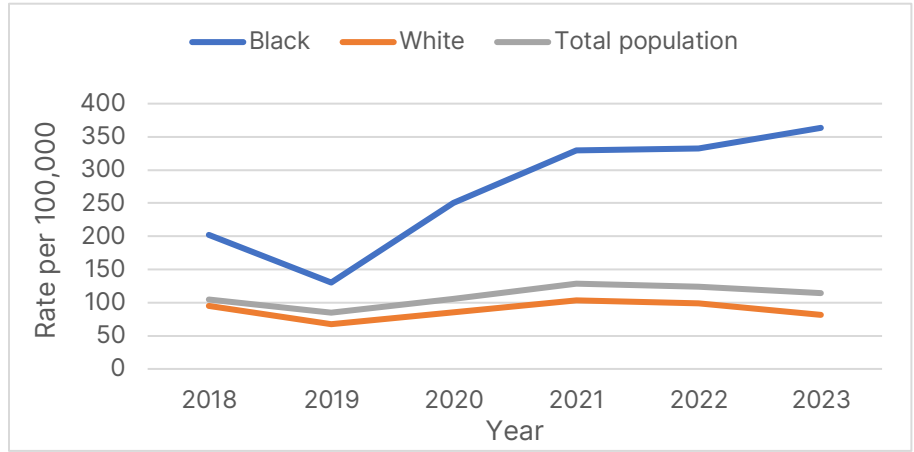
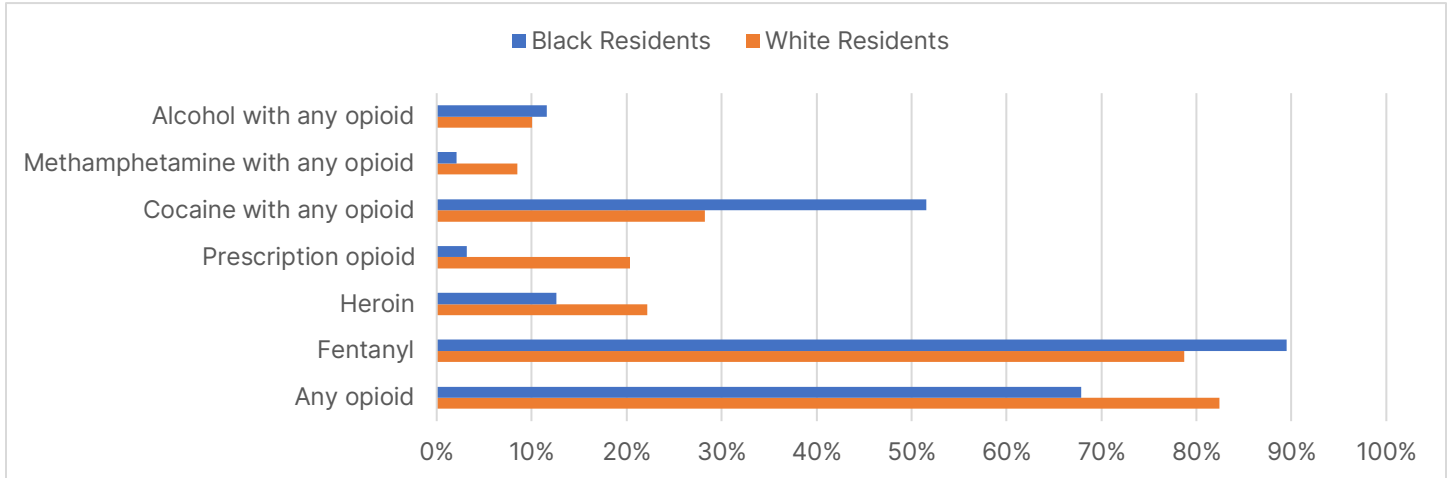
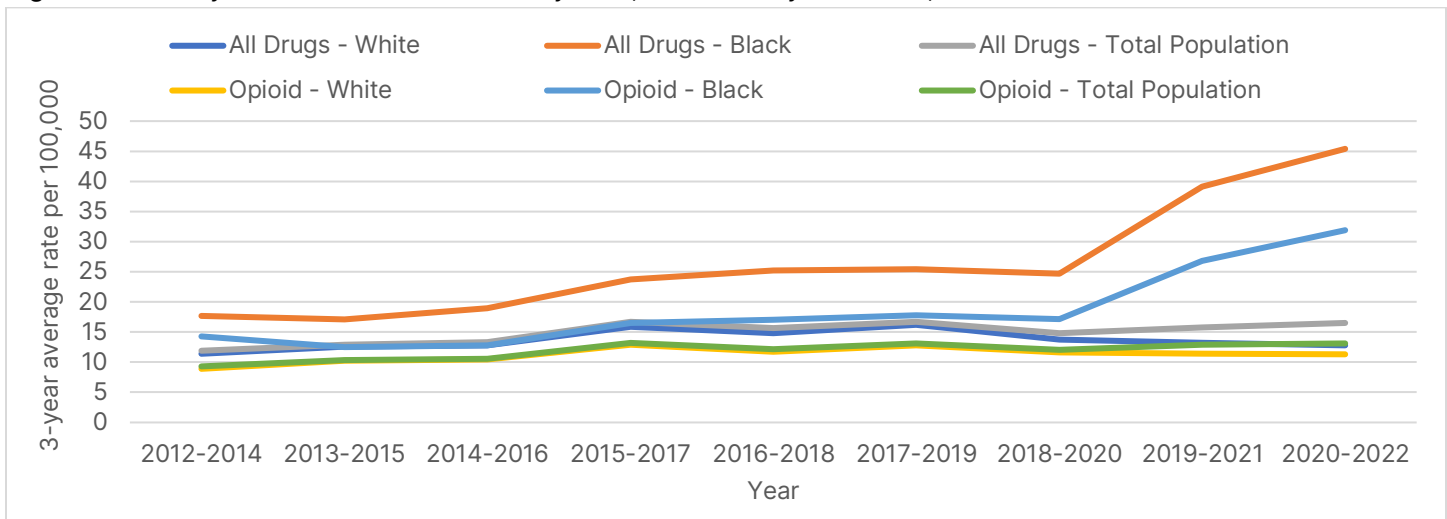


Figure 8. Percent of overdoses involving select substances by race, Kent County residents, 2018-2024¹



Note: Multiple drugs are often identified as a related cause of death in a single case

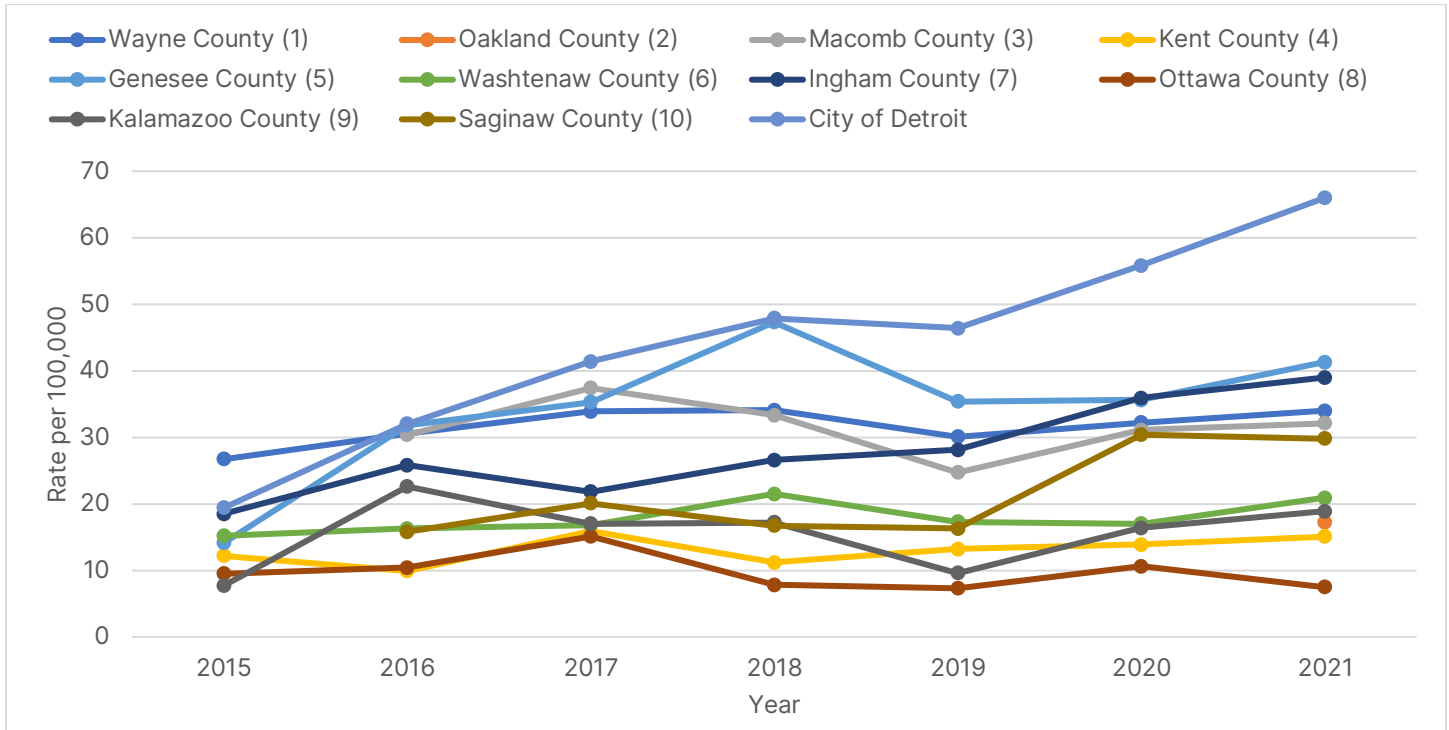
Figure 9. Three-year overdose death rate by race, Kent County residents, 2012-2022¹



COMPARISON WITH MICHIGAN COUNTIES

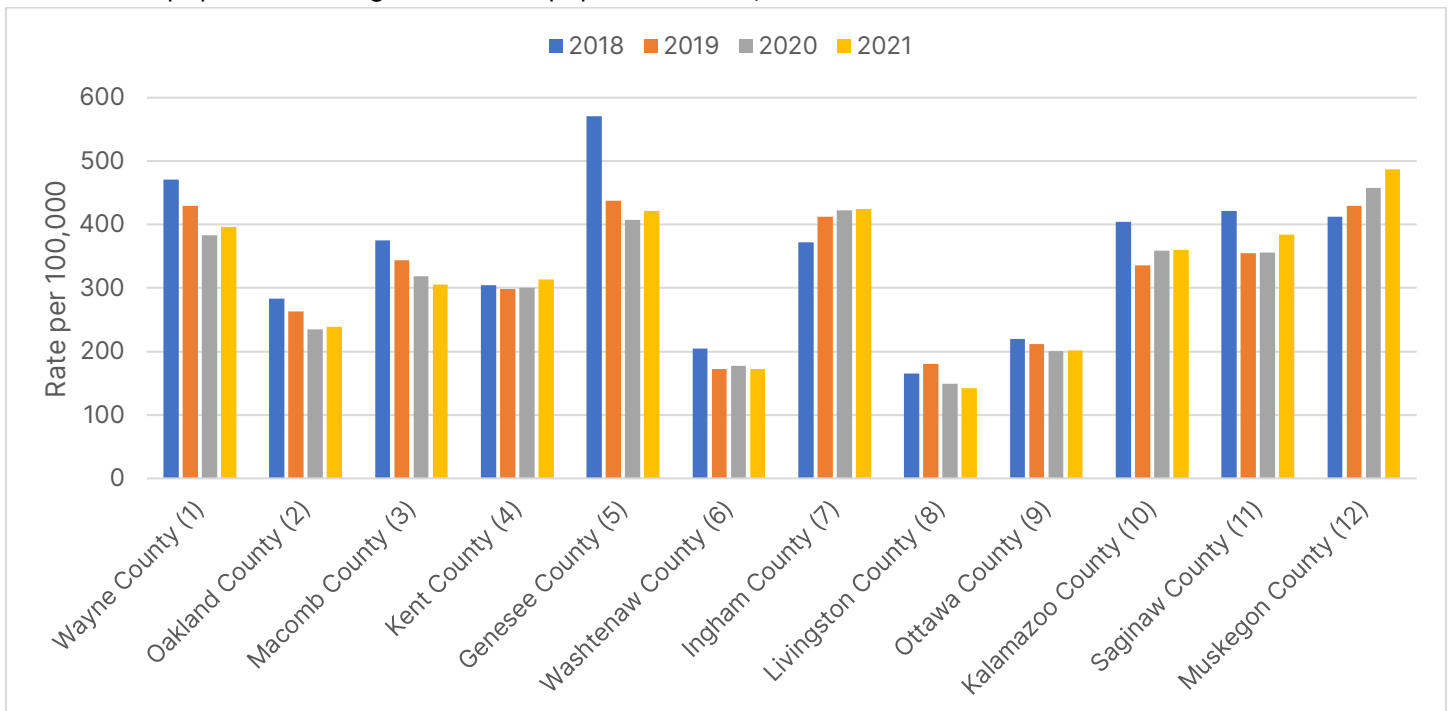
Source: Michigan Resident Death Files through the Michigan Division for Vital Records and Health Statistics, via the MiTracking Data Portal.

Figure 10. Age-adjusted rate of opioid-involved poisoning deaths per 100,000 population, top ten most populated Michigan counties (population rank) and City of Detroit, 2015-2021



Note: Data for Oakland County are suppressed for years 2015-2020 due to >20% of deaths with unspecified drugs

Figure 11. Crude rate of emergency department visits due to probable drug overdose per 100,000 population, top twelve most populated Michigan counties (population rank), 2018-2021



NALOXONE ADMINISTRATION

Source: Michigan EMS Information System (MI-EMSIS), via the System for Overdose Surveillance (SOS). Data may not always be complete, and data should not be considered a definitive opioid overdose count.

Figure 12. Frequency of naloxone administration by EMS by date in Kent County, Dec. 9, 2023 – Mar. 7, 2024

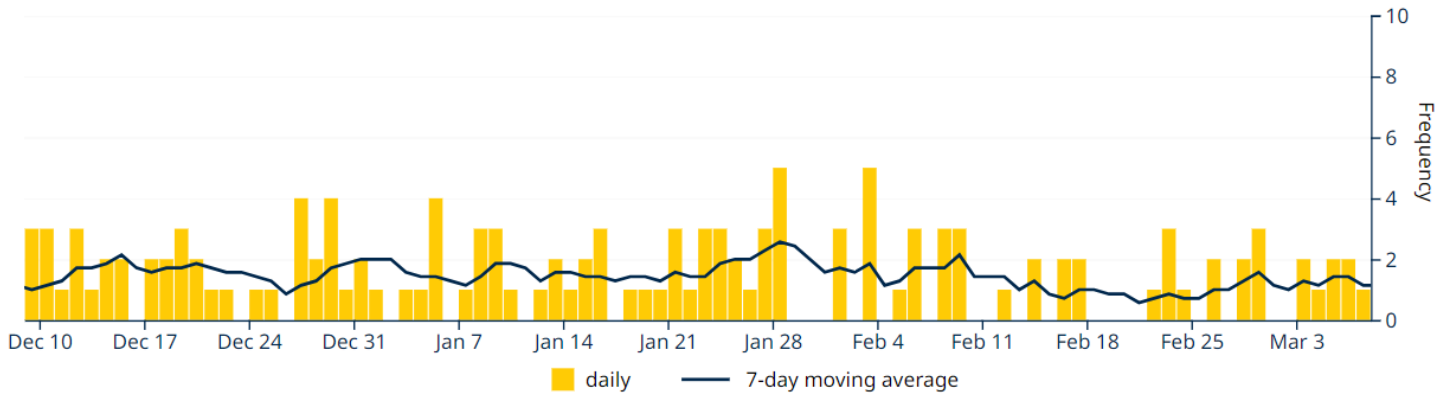


Figure 13. Naloxone administration by gender, Kent County, Dec. 9, 2023 – Mar. 7, 2024

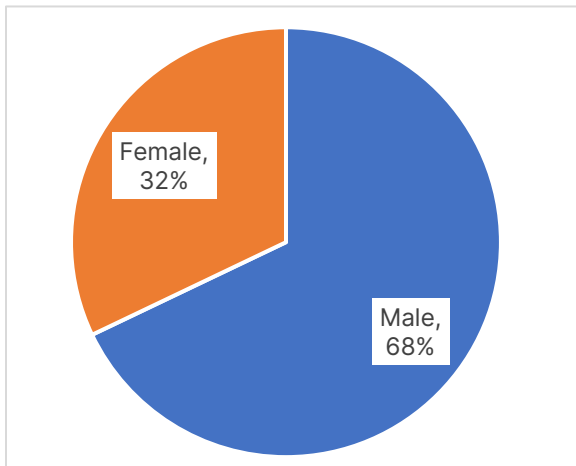


Figure 14. Naloxone administration by age, Kent County, Dec. 9, 2023 – Mar. 7, 2024

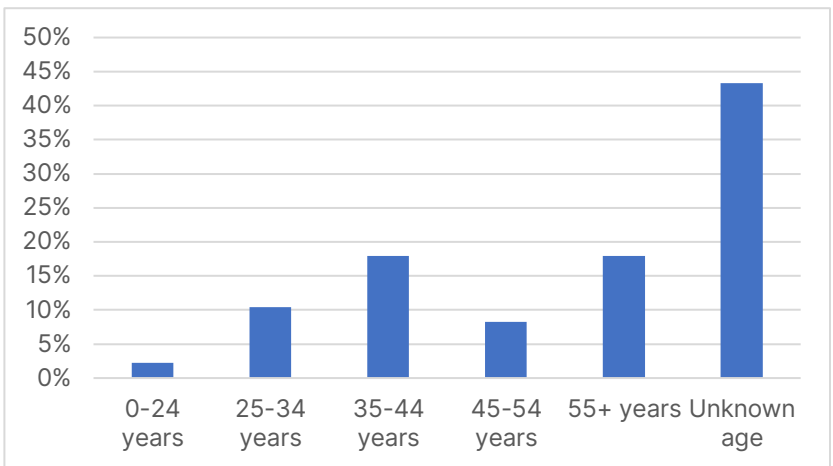


Figure 15. Naloxone administration by race and ethnicity, Kent County, Dec. 9, 2023 – Mar. 7, 2024

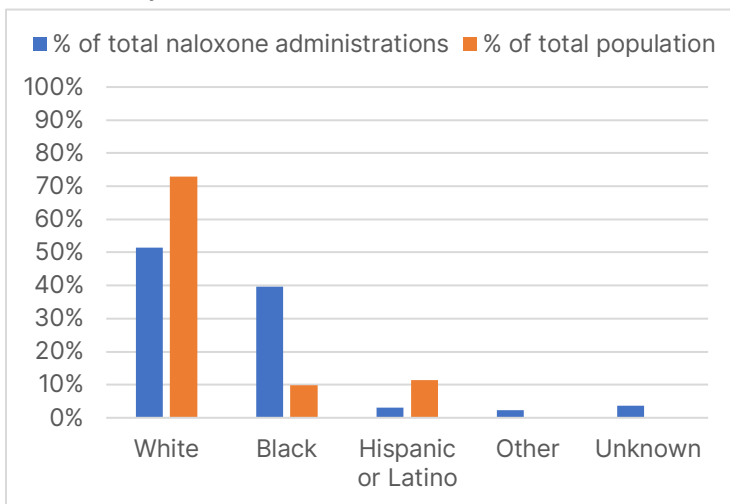


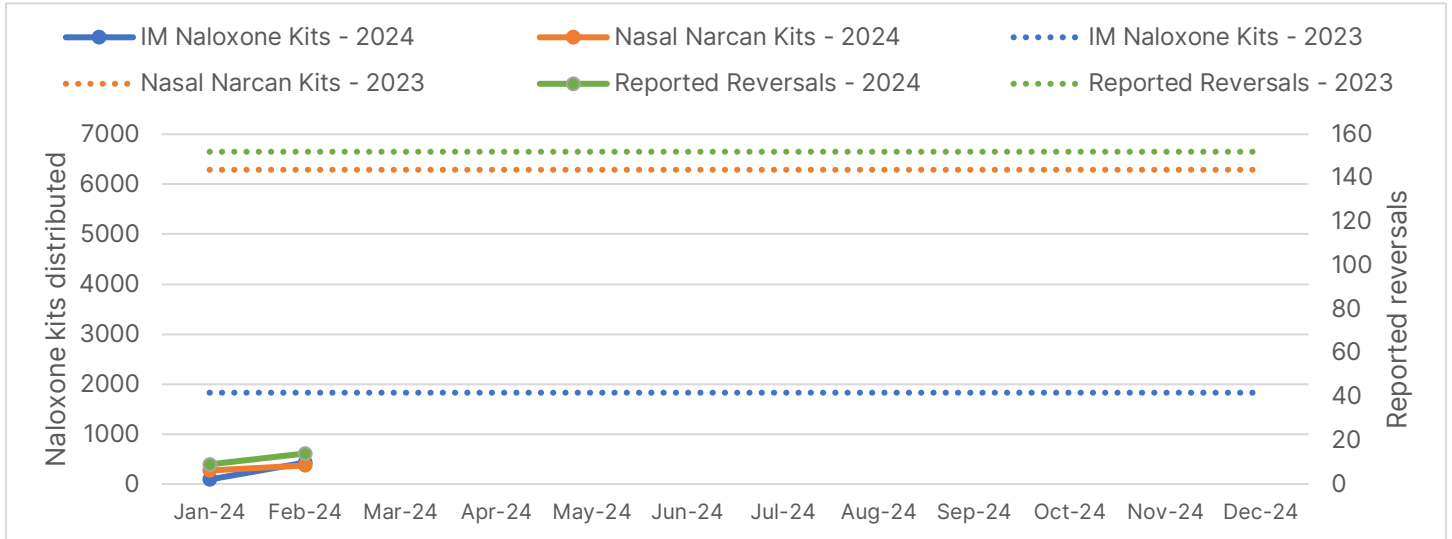
Table 3. Naloxone administration by city and ZIP Code, Kent County, Dec. 9, 2023 – Mar. 7, 2024

Top 5 Cities	% of Admin.	% of Kent Co. Pop.
Grand Rapids	82.1%	30.2%
Wyoming	5.2%	11.6%
Kentwood	3.0%	8.3%
Byron Center	--	--
Caledonia	--	--
Top 5 ZIP Codes	% of Admin.	% of Kent Co. Pop.
49503	21.6%	6.0%
49507	18.7%	5.8%
49504	10.4%	6.3%
49548	9.7%	5.3%
49512	6.7%	2.9%

NALOXONE DISTRIBUTION

Source: The Grand Rapids Red Project¹; Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)²

Figure 16. Naloxone distributed by the Grand Rapids Red Project and community reported reversals, 2023 total vs. cumulative 2024¹



Note: IM (intramuscular) kits contain four doses of naloxone, and nasal kits contain two doses of naloxone

[Map](#). Pharmacies approved to dispense naloxone under the Chief Medical Executive Standing Order, Kent County, 2024²

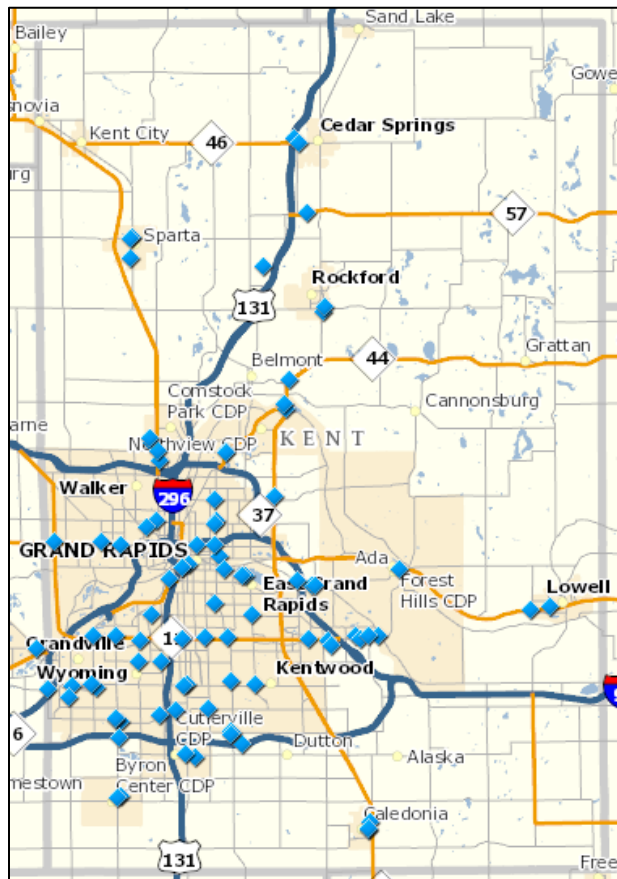
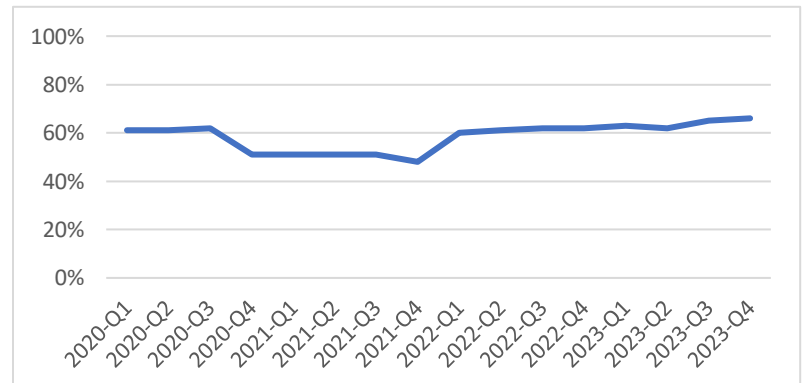


Table 4. MDHHS naloxone portal kit orders by agency type, Kent County, 2020 – January 2024²

AGENCY TYPE	NUMBER OF KITS
COMMUNITY ORGS & NONPROFITS	60,816
HOSPITALS/MEDICAL CENTERS/CLINICS	7,512
TREATMENT/RECOVERY CENTERS & BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES	4,608
FIRST RESPONDERS	2,424
LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS	1,440
OTHER	1,368
CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES/JAILS	1,056
ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS	312
DRUG COURTS	204
FAITH-BASED INSTITUTIONS	36
TOTAL	79,776

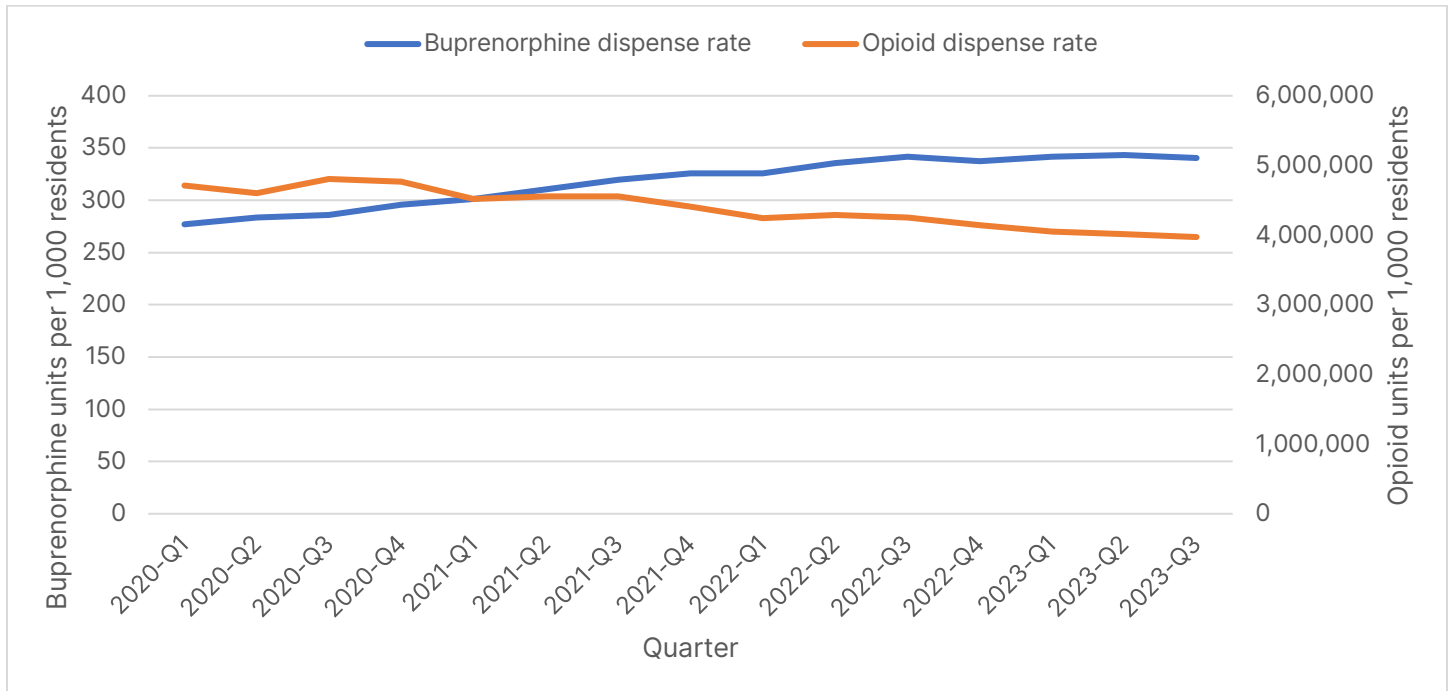
Figure 17. Percent of pharmacies participating in the naloxone standing order, Kent County, 2020-2023



MICHIGAN AUTOMATED PRESCRIPTION SYSTEM

Source: Michigan Automated Prescription System (MAPS), via the [Michigan Overdose Data to Action Dashboard](#) administered by MDHHS.

Figure 18. Buprenorphine¹ and opioid prescription² units dispensed per 1,000 residents, Kent County, 2020-2023



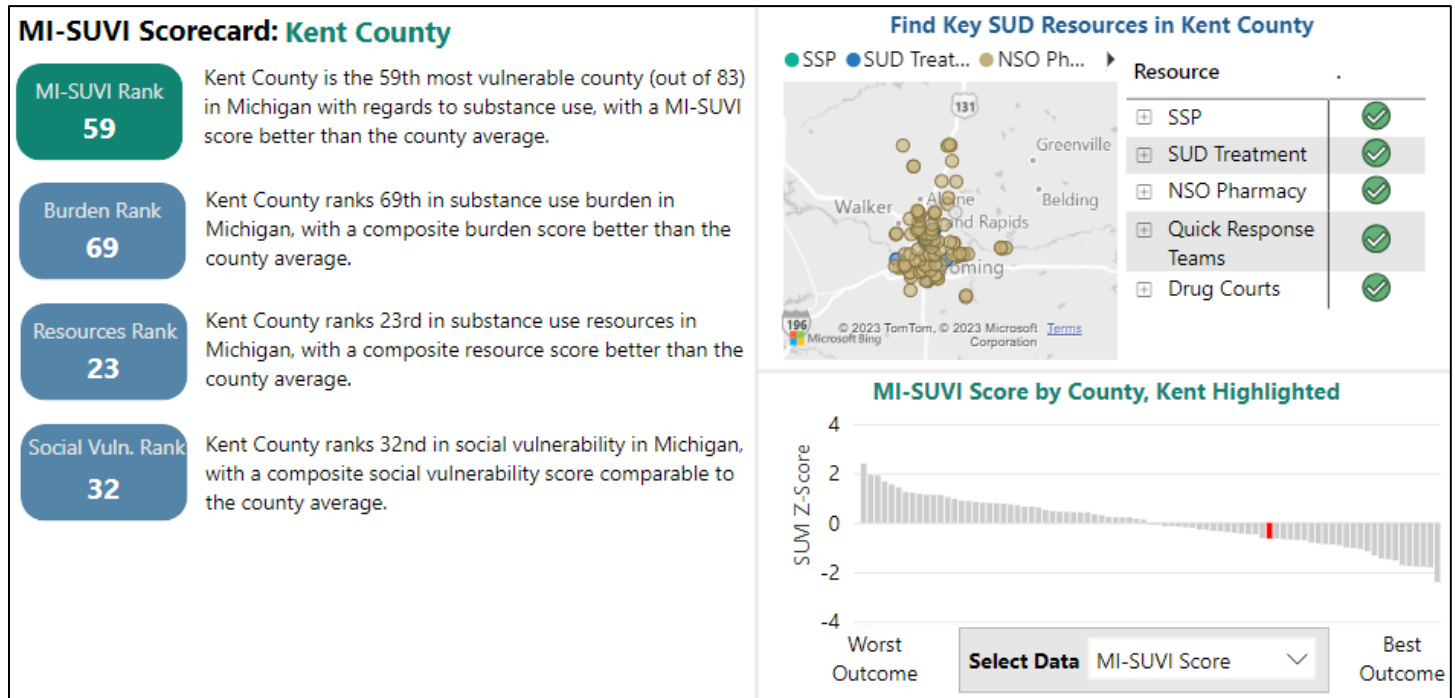
Note: ¹The buprenorphine indicator represents the number of prescription buprenorphine units (which refers to a dosage unit that could be pills or milliliters, grams, etc.) dispensed to residents to treat opioid use disorder. ²The opioid prescription indicator represents the number of prescription opioid units (which refers to a dosage unit that could be pills or milliliters, grams, etc.) dispensed to residents to treat pain.

SUBSTANCE USE VULNERABILITY INDEX

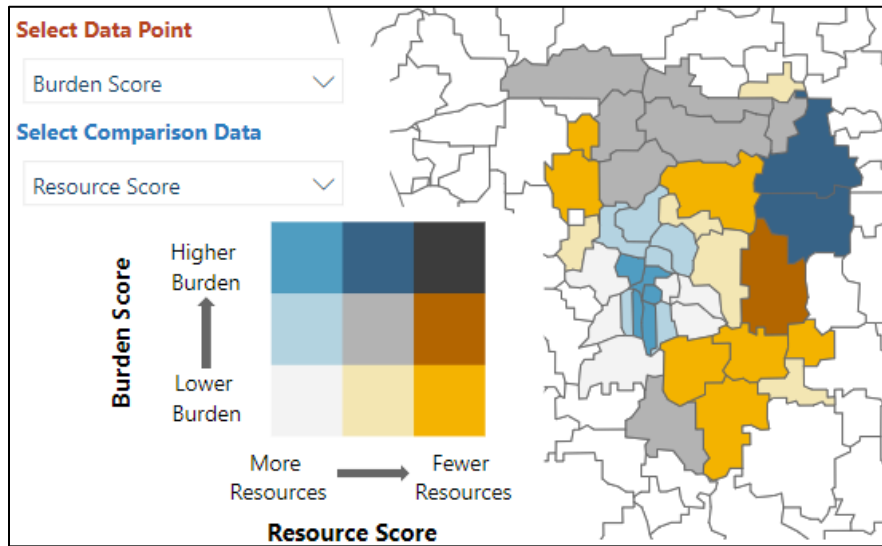
Source: [Michigan Overdose Data to Action Dashboard](#) administered by MDHHS.

From the Michigan Substance Use Vulnerability Index Documentation: “MDHHS developed the Michigan Substance Use Vulnerability Index (MI-SUVI) as a tool to help guide equitable SUD [substance use disorder] program and policy decision-making. The MI-SUVI is a single, standardized score that considers multiple factors that influence a community’s vulnerability related to substance use, including indicators related to substance use burden, resources, and social vulnerability. The MI-SUVI score is standardized and available at the county and ZIP Code Tabulation Area (ZCTA) levels. Counties/ZCTAs can be assessed by how far above or below the county/ZCTA average they fall in the total MI-SUVI score, as well as in their substance use burden, substance use resources, and social vulnerability scores. All communities in Michigan are impacted by substance use. The MI-SUVI does not describe “communities” or “bad” communities with regards to substance use, but rather indicates the extent to which a county has been impacted in comparison to others. The MI-SUVI should not be used alone in decision-making but can be used as a strategic starting point for conversation and to highlight the extent to which certain communities may require further outreach or assessment. Additional information, such as local knowledge and additional, relevant data indicators should be included in any SUD-related decision-making.”

Image. MI-SUVI Dashboard, Kent County



Map. Bivariate Map, Burden Score¹ x Resource Score² by Kent County ZIP Codes



¹Substance Use Burden: negative outcomes associated with SUD that place a burden on individuals and community resources such as the healthcare and justice systems. ²Substance Use Resources: resources available to the community that can be used to address the negative outcomes associated with SUD.