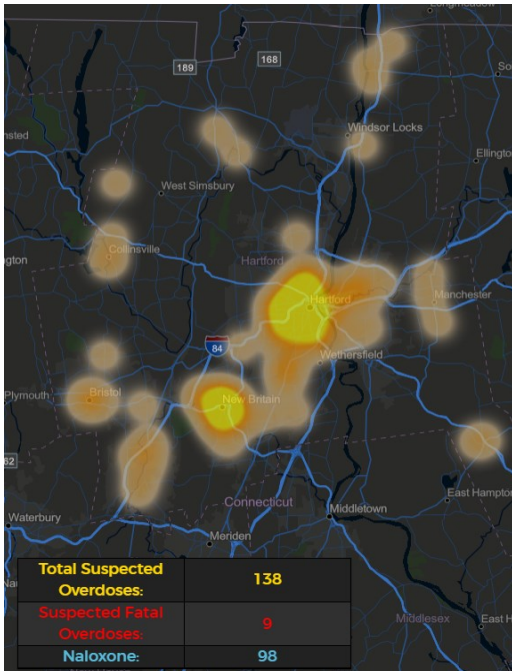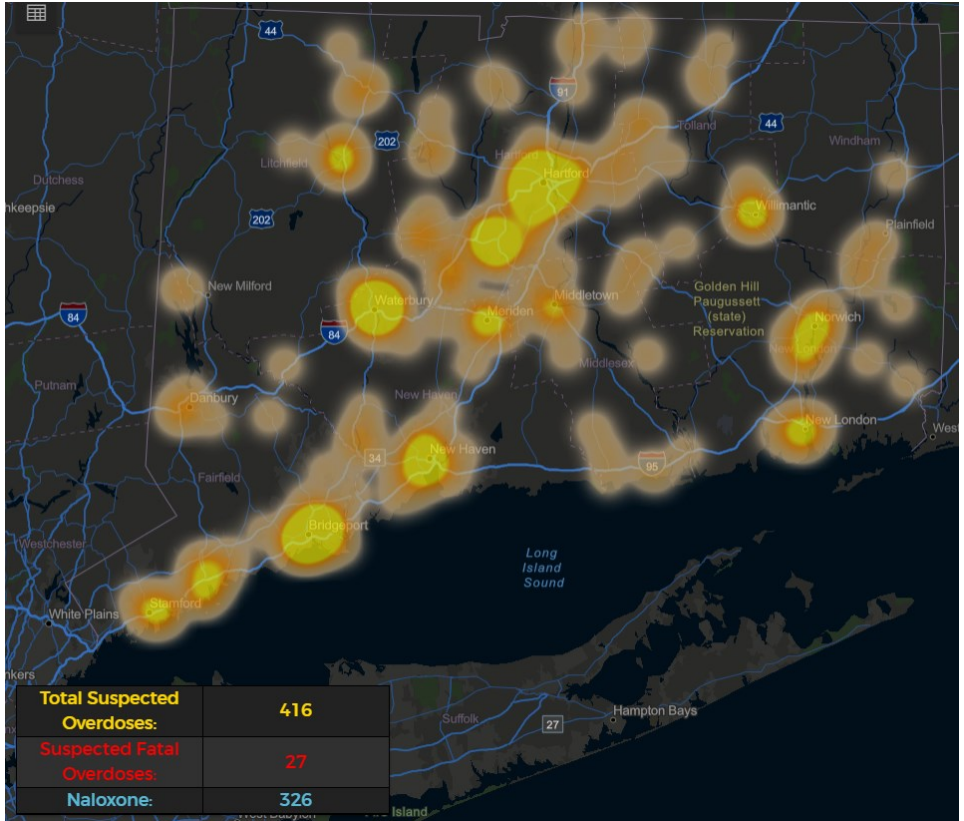## Connecticut Opioid Heat Map

In the month of August the State of Connecticut saw increased overdose activity in Hartford & Fairfield Counties. The heatmaps depicted, at right, and below show cumulative data for the month of August 2021.

Total Suspected Overdoses:	416
Suspected Fatal Overdoses:	27
Naloxone:	326

Total Suspected Overdoses:	138
Suspected Fatal Overdoses:	9
Naloxone:	98

Above/\ Hartford County Heat Map, for August 2021

SWORD Spotlight

Kudos to East Windsor Ambulance Services, East Hartford Fire & American Ambulance Service, who all achieved near 100% reporting of overdoses in the month of August.

Your continued diligence is appreciated. Consistent and committed reporting translates into real outcomes as local public health entities and their community partners look to ODMAP for real time data relating to opioid overdoses.
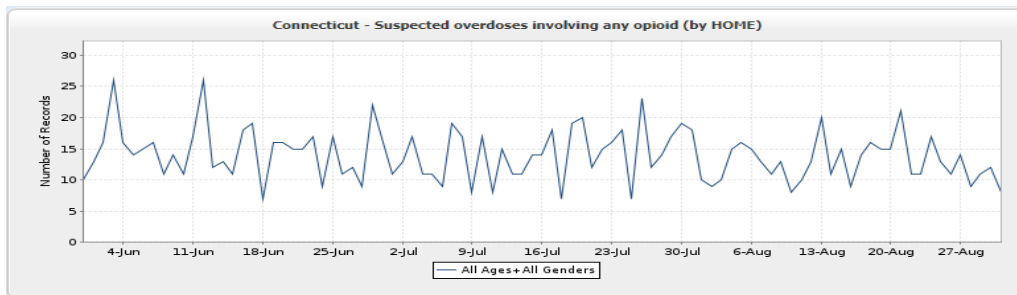
Recent Glassine Bag Sightings

Bags used to hold drug product. Glassine is a clear paper product, which is water resistant.

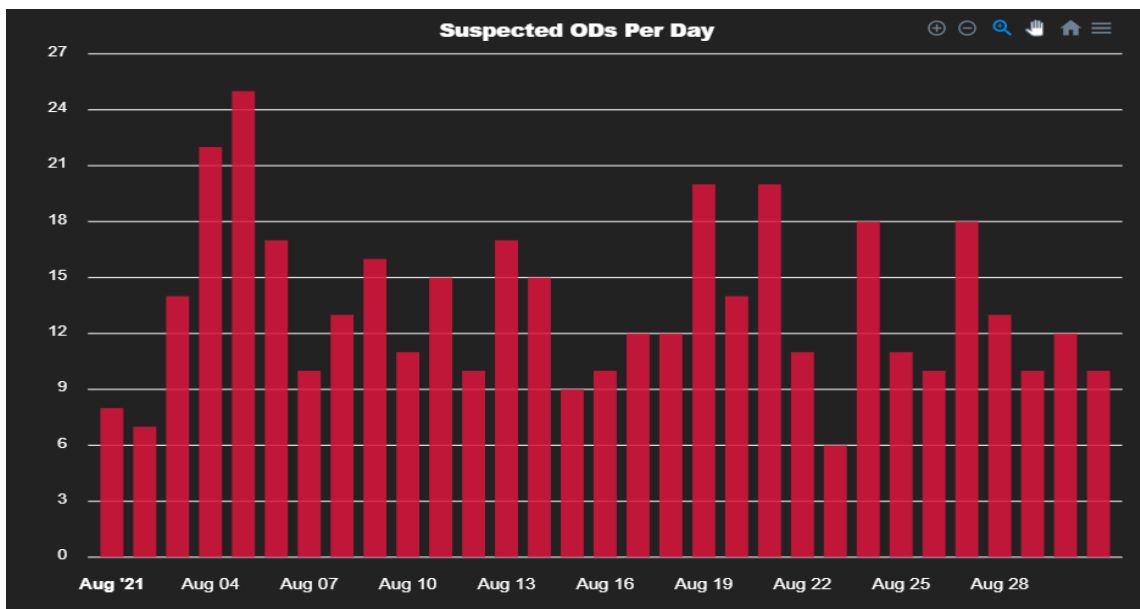Connecticut - Suspected overdoses involving any opioid (by HOME)

Left: < Total count of emergency department visits related to suspected overdoses with any opioid*. This data shows counts for **August 2021** for the state of Connecticut.

Right: > Total count of emergency department visits related to suspected overdoses with any opioid*. This data shows total counts for the **previous 90 days** for the state of Connecticut.

Connecticut - Suspected overdoses involving any opioid (by HOME)

Data, above, represents the total count of emergency department visits (Syndromic Surveillance) related to prescription and illicit opioid drug overdoses. Data reflects overdoses based on town/city resident. It does not include non-resident overdoses. Data subject to change.

*Suspected overdoses involving any opioid include prescription and illicit opioids.

Suspected ODs Per Day

< Left: This graph represents EMS reported opioid overdoses by incident day during August, 2021.

SWORD Statewide Reporting August 2021

In the month of May 2021, there were 416 calls to the Connecticut Poison Control Center (CPCC) for SWORD. Of these calls, 416 were non-fatal and 27 resulted in fatalities. There were 326 total naloxone administrations: 175 non-fatal multiple doses of naloxone administered, 137 non-fatal single dose naloxone, and 72 non-fatal with no naloxone administered. There were seven (5) non-fatal with "unknown" naloxone administered. Of the 27 fatalities, ten (10) received multiple doses of naloxone, four (4) received single dose, and twelve (12) with no naloxone administered, and one (1) was unknown.

The 416 cases involved suspected overdoses from all of our counties: Fairfield (87), Hartford (138), Litchfield (18), Middlesex (20), New Haven (91), New London (34), Tolland (15), and Windham (13).

*Numbers subject to change   ***TIP: Store the CPCC number in your cell for ease of use! 1-800-222-1222**

Data a Deeper Dive

Fentanyl Contaminated Cocaine

EMS crews recently reported to Connecticut Poison Control a 911 response where four patients were found overdosed. All required naloxone. Three of the patients were successfully revived. The fourth, who was found in cardiac arrest and had pulses restored, died several days later in the hospital after being taken off a ventilator. The call was significant because EMS reported that the patients who were revived with naloxone denied the use of opioids stating that they had only drunk alcohol and snorted cocaine. Subsequently there were two other calls in the area where patients reported similar stories. This information precipitated a situational awareness advisory being sent to the local public health department. Local harm reduction workers were also notified of the events.

Mass overdose scenes where patients who claimed to have only used cocaine, but required resuscitation with naloxone have become more common in recent months. The New York Times reported six overdose deaths related to contaminated cocaine in around South Fork, Long Island. In Los Angeles, three people died and a fourth was hospitalized in a similar incident. Here in
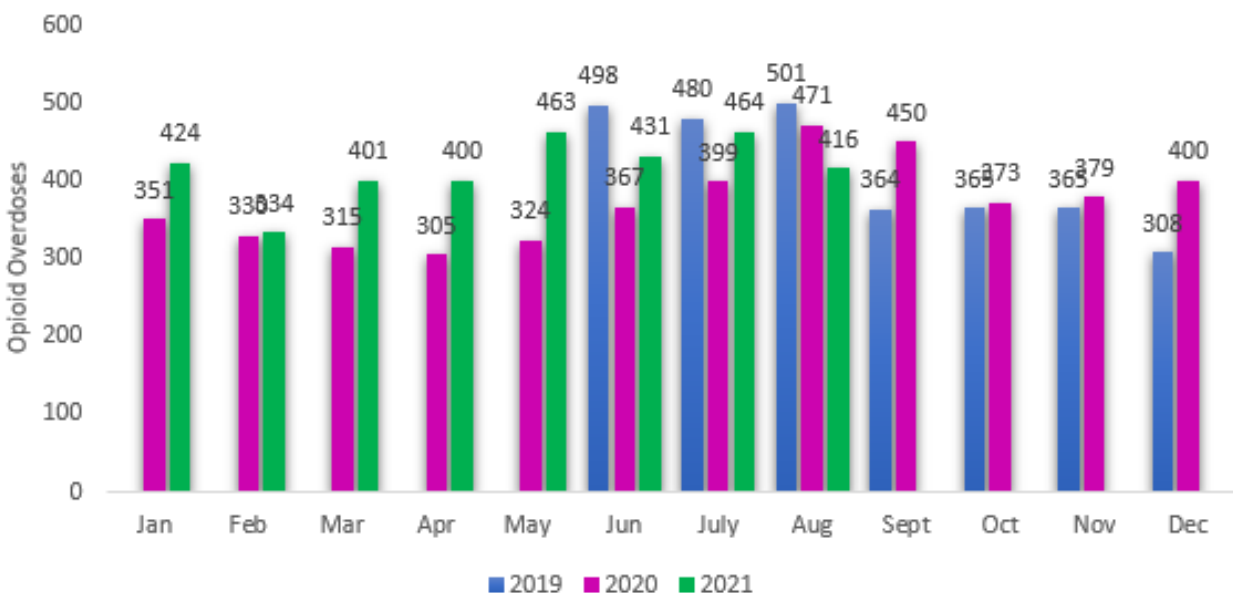
Connecticut, over the past year, we have received an increasing number of reports of single overdoses from people believing they were only using cocaine, who required naloxone for resuscitation.

There has been much speculation about the cause of these overdoses. Are dealers deliberately lacing the cocaine with fentanyl? Or is the fentanyl getting in the cocaine through cross contamination due to poor cleaning techniques of the grinders, sifters, and scales and other equipment and surfaces used to mix and package the drugs by dealers who sell both cocaine and fentanyl?
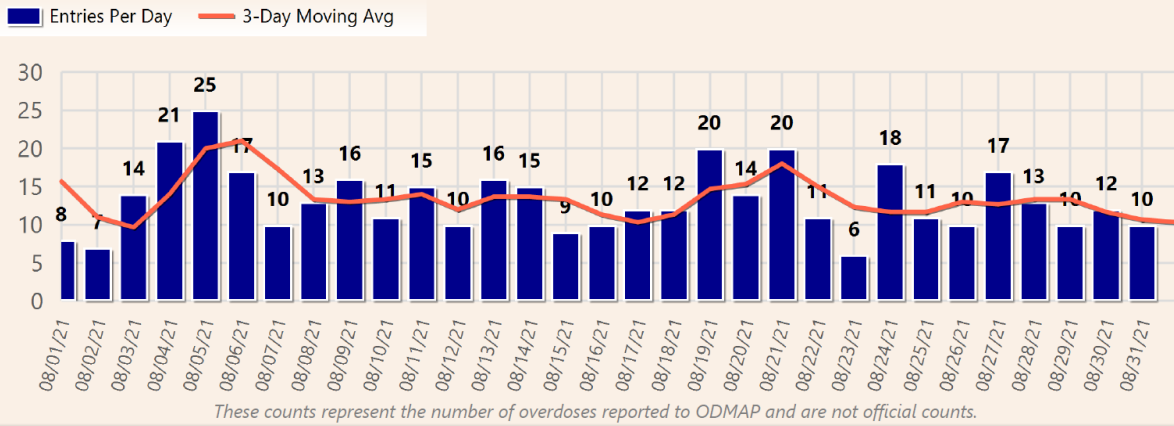
Harm reduction groups are messaging their clientele who only use cocaine to be careful when using cocaine, to never street drugs use alone and always have naloxone available .

It is vitally important the EMS report these and all suspected opioid overdoses to the Connecticut Poison Control Center. Multiple overdose scenes, which make up only 2% of the SWORD calls into the CPCC, are particularly significant for awareness of highly lethal drug mixes.
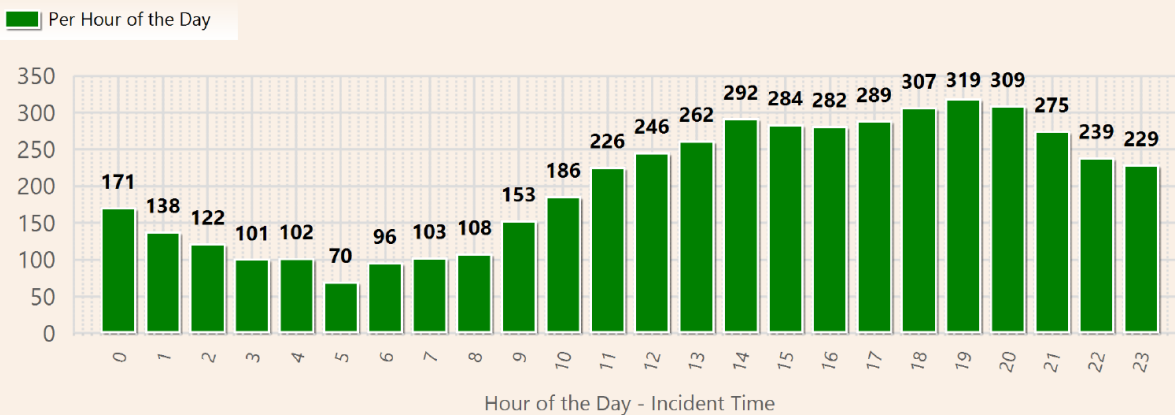

Suspected OD's by month June 2019-August 2021

ODMAP Suspected Overdose Submissions - In the Last Month

Entries Per Day — 3-Day Moving Avg

These counts represent the number of overdoses reported to ODMAP and are not official counts.

ODMAP Suspected OD Submissions by day.

This graph shows total suspected overdoses called in each day during the time period.

The red line running horizontally shows a 3-day moving average of call-ins.

ODMAP Suspected Overdose Submissions - All Data Submitted

Per Hour of the Day

Hour of the Day - Incident Time

Cumulative (June 2019—August, 2021) Overdoses by the Hour of the Day

This graph shows the hour of the day suspected overdose incidents have

occurred statewide since the SWORD program began on June 1, 2019.

Do you need help accessing ODMAP Click here to contact the ODMAP Helpdesk, or call (301) 489-1744

DPH
Keeping Connecticut Healthy
Connecticut Department
of Public Health

410 Capitol Ave
Hartford, CT 06134
860-509-7975

Department of Public Health

Office of Emergency Medical Services

Click here to contact OEMS regarding the SWORD program,

ODMAP, or feedback, Click here to check out the SWORD page on our website

Thank you for your participation!

PHAB
ACCREDITED HEALTH DEPARTMENT
Advancing public health performance
PUBLIC HEALTH ACCREDITATION BOARD

POISON Help
1-800-222-1222