

SWORD Statewide Reporting December 2020

In the month of December 2020, there were 400 calls to the CT Poison Control Center (CPCC) for SWORD. Of these calls, 366 were non-fatal and 34 resulted in fatalities. There were 315 total naloxone administrations: 161 non-fatal multiple doses of naloxone administered, 137 non-fatal single dose naloxone, and 63 non-fatal with no naloxone administered. There were five (5) non-fatal with “unknown” naloxone administered. Of the 34 fatalities, twelve (12) received multiple doses of naloxone, five (5) received single dose, and seventeen (17) with no naloxone administered. The gender breakdown for the state is: Male (291); Female (103) and (6) unknown.

The 400 cases involved suspected overdoses from all of our counties: Fairfield (77), Hartford (157), Litchfield (18), Middlesex (9), New Haven (63), New London (43), Tolland (11), and Windham (19). The age breakdown of the patients is as follows: 0 to 18 years of age (4); 19 to 24 years of age (26); 25 to 34 years of age (113); 35 to 44 years of age (89); 45 to 54 years of age (72); 55 to 64 years of age (65); 65 years of age and older (22); age unknown (9).

*Numbers subject to change

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

SWORD Spotlight

Kudos to Hunters Ambulance Service and to Trinity Health of New England EMS for being vigilant in their reporting efforts to Connecticut Poison Control Services.



The Spotlight will also be illuminating some of the real public health work that is resulting from the reporting that is taking place.

SWORD Reporting Translates into Real Results

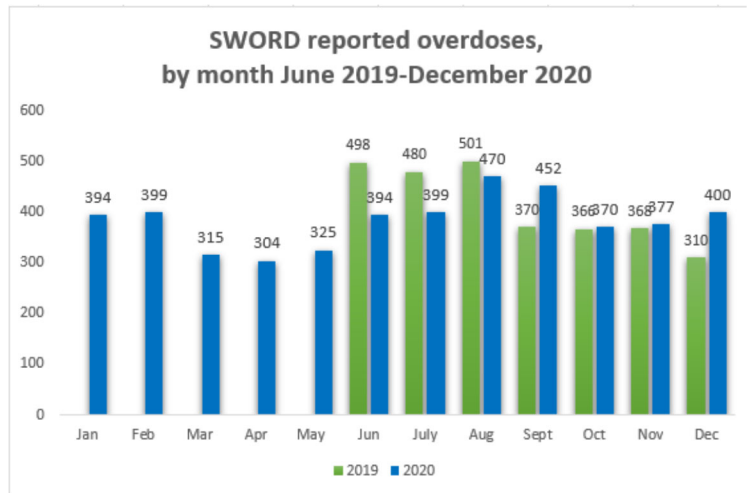
Sarah Toomey, Community Outreach and Recovery Navigator, Greenwood's Counseling Services, Litchfield, CT

I would like to give an example of how reporting overdose data into CPCC had a positive outcome. Watertown, has been one town in Litchfield County that consistently and accurately reports. Following a recent overdose, we were able to see this was a location that had an overdose in the past. We have a relationship with Watertown PD, with the information from ODMAP we contacted Watertown PD for further information. We then were cont. above...

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able to follow up with the family, provide Narcan and engage the family and individual in conversations around treatment.

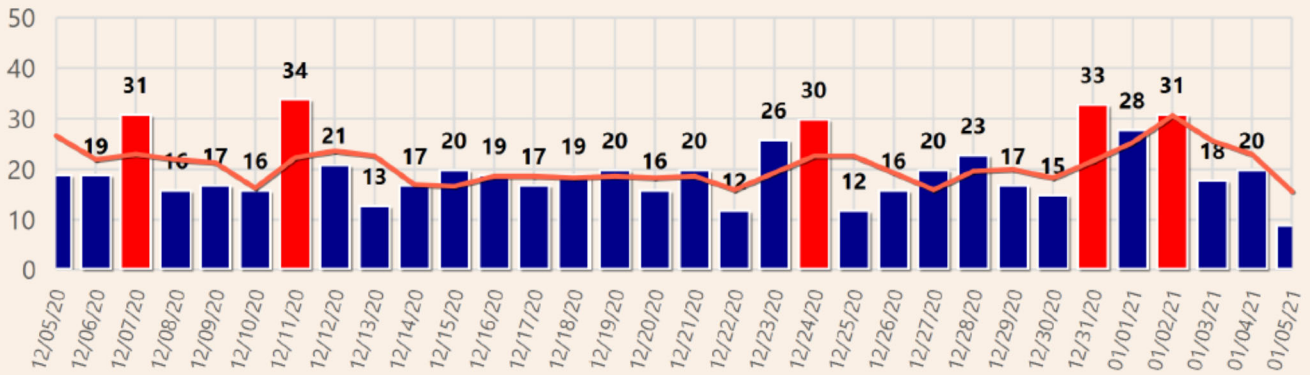
We learned additional information about a fatal overdose and uber driver involvement with transporting the individual that overdosed. By reporting a single overdose we were able to learn a lot and provide additional supports to the community not just to the individual who overdosed but family, community members and services.



This graph shows the total suspected overdoses (fatal and non-fatal) called into CPCC by month since June 2019

ODMAP Suspected Overdose Submissions - In the Last Month

■ Entries Per Day — 3-Day Moving Avg



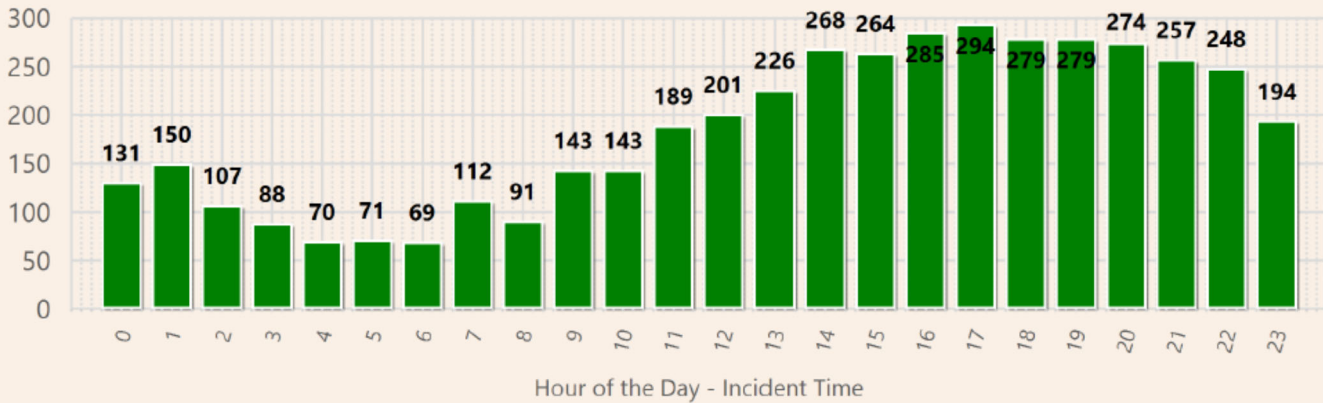
These counts represent the number of overdoses reported to ODMAP and are not official counts.

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



Cumulative (June—December, 2020) 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.

Note: All data in this newsletter come from reports made by CT EMS and can be viewed in ODMAP Level 2

Connecticut Office of Chief Medical Examiner (OCME)

In 2020, EMS reported 4,463 overdoses to the Connecticut Poison Control Center through the SWORD program. While August and September accounted for the highest number of reported overdoses, November and December had the most fatalities, accounting for 9% of all reported overdoses (versus 6.6% normally).

A review of the December fatal overdoses found the following:

80% were male/20% female.	38% were discovered by family members.
82% occurred in residences. *	50% received resuscitative efforts.
9% in hotels.	47% received naloxone but 0% received bystander naloxone.
9% in public places (car, porta-potty, business, etc).	35% were transported.
95% were unwitnessed.	

Ages ranged from 15 to 65. 32% were 50-59. 3% were 19 and under, 20% were 20-29, 20% were 30-39, 15% 40-49, 6% 60-69. 20% in their 30's.

This December data, in comparison to nonfatal overdoses, suggests that using alone in a residence puts people at extremely high risk for fatal overdose, and lack of naloxone, in the residence, may be a contributing factor.

Examining the data surrounding overdoses can help public health workers at both the state and local level better target their limited resources in battling the epidemic.

Please continue to report all opioid overdoses you encounter and know that the data your report is being put to use.

**Year 1 SWORD data showed 58% of overdoses occurred in residences and bystanders deliver naloxone in 15% of 911 calls.*

Glassine Bags

The following is an example of a bag stamp encountered in December: New World. Other stamps encountered in December, but not pictured include, One Way, 7UP, It's Magic and Guy Fawkes.

If present, and safe to do so, responders are urged to take a photo of the identified heroin bag at the scene and email to poisoncontrol@uchc.edu with the Connecticut Poison Control Center case number given when the reported overdose is called in.

A glassine heroine bag, "New World," is pictured at right.



Do you need help accessing ODMAP Level 1 (Spike Alert Level) or Level 2 (Map Level)?

[Click here to contact the ODMAP Helpdesk](#), or call (301) 489-1744



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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!

