

CT EMS SWORD

Statewide Opioid Reporting Directive Newsletter

December 2020, Issue XIX

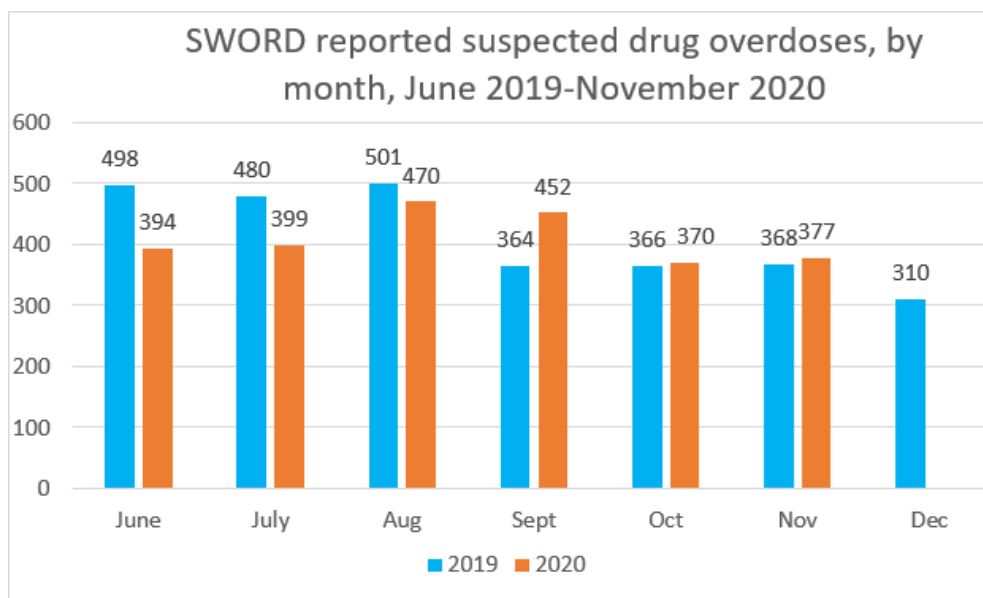
SWORD Statewide Reporting November 2020

In the month of November 2020, there were 377 calls in to the CT Poison Control Center (CPCC) for SWORD. Of these calls, 347 were non-fatal and 30 resulted in fatalities. There were 278 total naloxone administrations: 153 non-fatal multiple doses of naloxone administered, 114 non-fatal single dose naloxone, and 75 non-fatal with no naloxone administered. There were three (3) non-fatal with “unknown” naloxone administered. Of the 30 fatalities, five (5) received multiple doses of naloxone, six (6) received single dose, and nineteen (19) with no naloxone administered. The gender breakdown for the state is: Male (271); Female (103) and (3) unknown.

The 377 cases involved suspected overdoses from all of our counties: Fairfield (59), Hartford (150), Litchfield (16), Middlesex (18), New Haven (72), New London (44), Tolland (7), and Windham (11). The age breakdown of the patients is as follows: 0 to 18 years of age (2); 19 to 24 years of age (25); 25 to 34 years of age (90); 35 to 44 years of age (96); 45 to 54 years of age (72); 55 to 64 years of age (71); 65 years of age and older (15); age unknown (6).

*Numbers subject to change

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

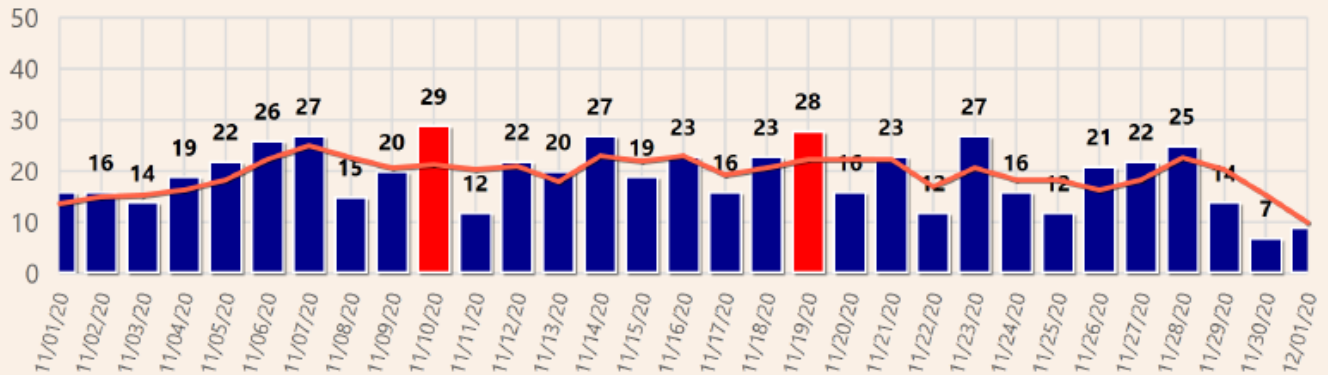


This graph shows the total suspected overdoses (fatal and non-fatal) called into CPCC by month since June 2019

Thank you to all EMS providers who have called in SWORD cases to the CPCC.
Keep up the great work!

ODMAP Suspected Overdose Submissions - In the Last Month

■ Entries Per Day — 3-Day Moving Avg



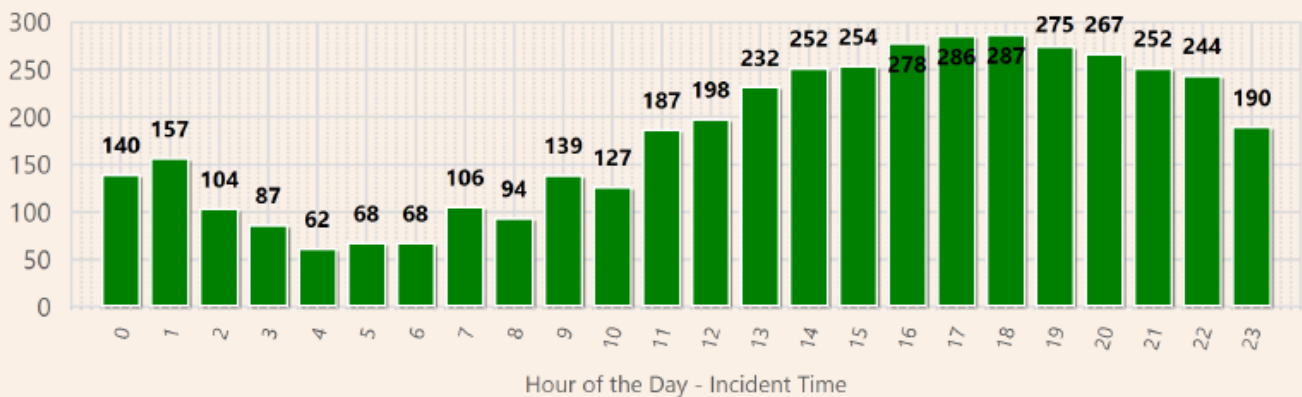
These counts represent the number of overdoses reported to ODMAP and are not official counts.

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—November, 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)

The description of paraphernalia found on scene can be very important in determining whether reported overdoses are due to a bad batch, that poses a continuing threat to others, or are random events. In many areas of the state, particularly surrounding Hartford, and Waterbury, most heroin is packed in small glassine envelopes, many of which are stamped with a brand or come in a preprinted envelope with a brand design. Recently in Hartford, a brand known as Dark Magic was linked to overdoses due to dealers allegedly improperly mixing their ingredients. When on scene have one of your crew members scan the premises for paraphernalia in the same manner in which you look for medications. Note syringes, pipes and wrappings of any kind. Heroin bags can often look like small crumbled up pieces of paper. Sometimes the scene has been cleaned prior to your arrival by the victims' friends or acquaintances. Other times, the patient will be forthcoming, answering manner in which he used and the name of any branded heroin bag. We appreciate your efforts.

Glassine Bags

The following is an example of a bag stamp encountered in November: Dark Magic. 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, "Dark Magic", 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



Department of Public Health
Office of Emergency Medical Services

410 Capitol Ave



[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!

