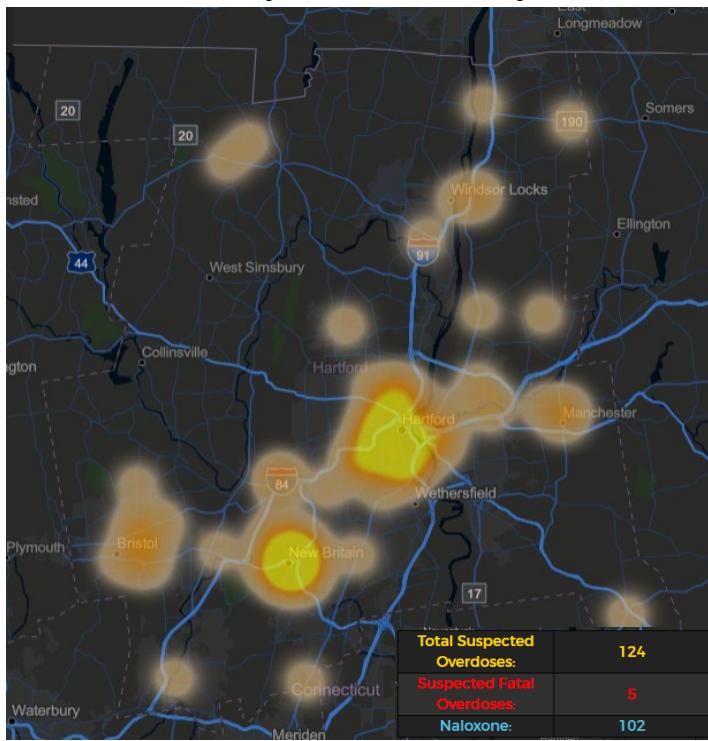
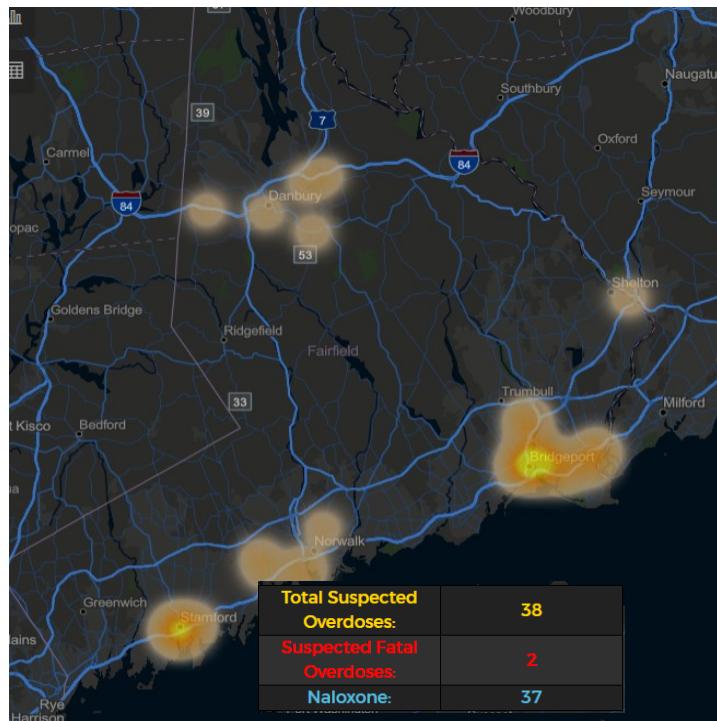


October 2023, Issue LIII

Connecticut Opioid Heat Map



In the month of September 2023, significant overdose activity was noted in Hartford (above) and Fairfield (below) Counties.



Overdoses and the First Weekend of the Month

Introduction:

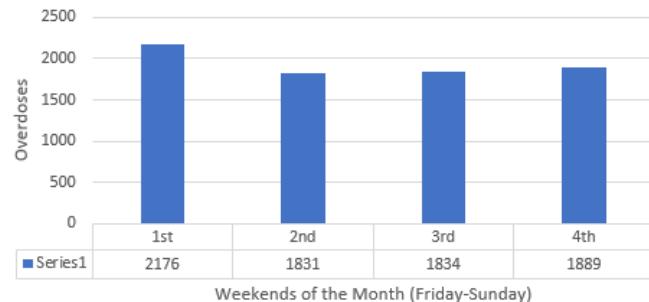
Opioid overdoses continue to be a leading cause of death in Connecticut and the nation. Knowing when overdoses are more likely to occur can help us best deploy scarce resources. Last year in our July SWORD newsletter, we studied overdoses on the first day of the month and determined overdoses were 21.7% more likely on the first day of the month than any other day, and 14.4% more likely on the first Friday of the month than any other Friday of the month. In this new study, we hypothesized overdoses will be more prevalent on the first weekend of the month than on subsequent weekends of the month.

Methods:

We examined SWORD reported overdoses from July 1, 2019, until September 24, 2023, that occurred over a weekend. A weekend was defined as Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. If the first of the month fell on any of those three days, we counted that weekend as the first weekend of the month.

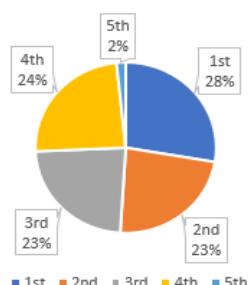
Overdoses by Weekend of the Month

July 2019-September 2023



Overdoses by Weekend of the Month

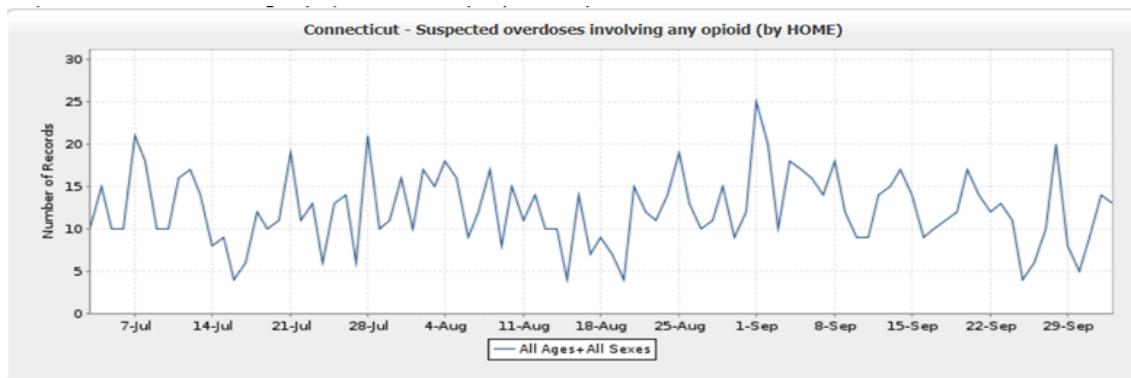
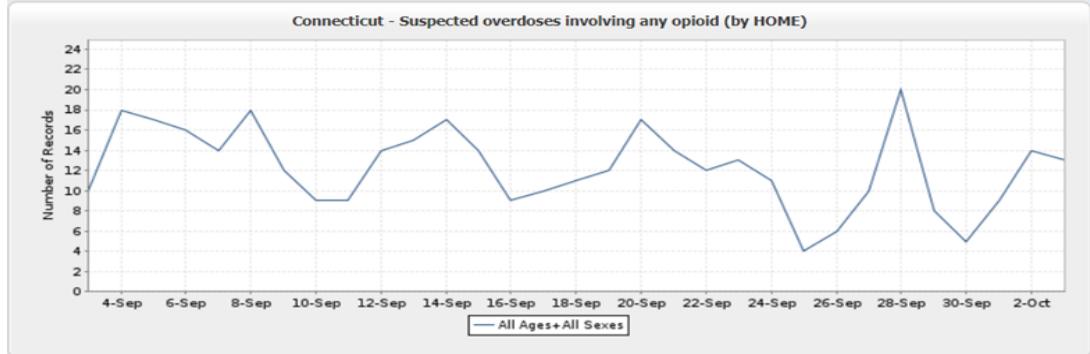
July 2019-September 2023



Overdoses and the First Weekend continued. on page 3

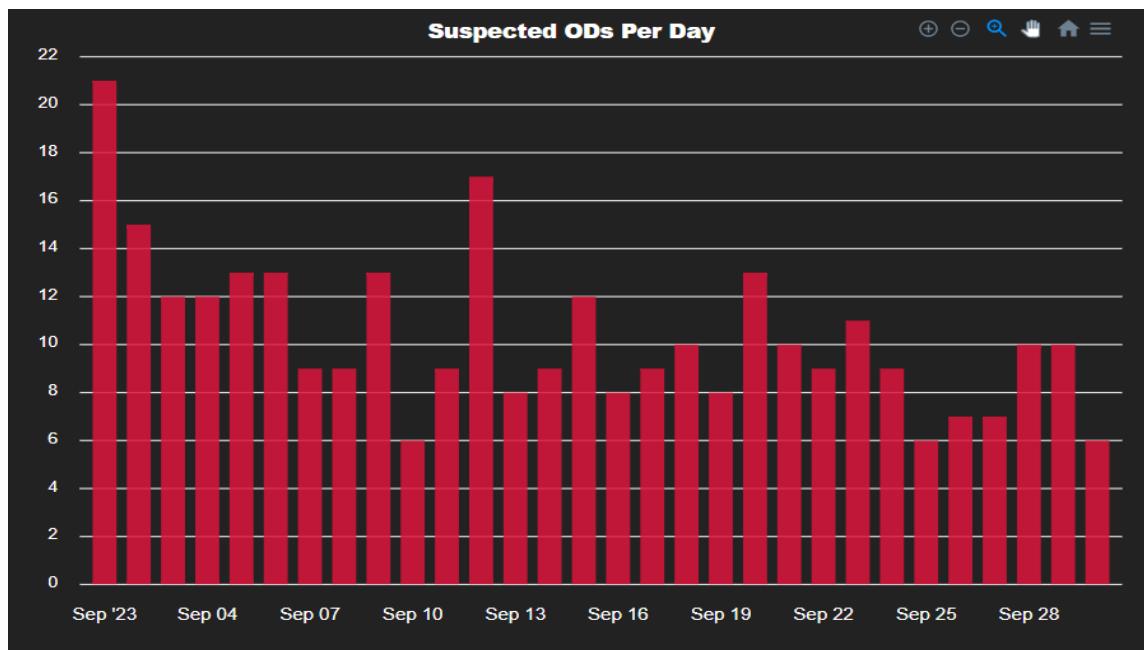
Right >: Suspected Overdoses Involving Any Opioid, totaled by day, for the previous 30 days:

Information sourced from EpiCenter system, October 2023.



Right >: This graph represents EMS reported opioid overdoses by incident day during September 2023.

This graph was sourced from OD-MAP in October 2023.



SWORD Statewide Reporting June 2023

In the month of July 2023, there were 311 calls to the Connecticut Poison Control Center (CPCC) for SWORD. Of these calls, 290 were non-fatal and 21 were reported as fatalities. There were 276 total naloxone administrations: 159 non-fatal multiple doses of naloxone administered, 107 non-fatal single dose naloxone, 24 non-fatal with no naloxone administered and one non-fatal naloxone administration unknown. Of the 21 fatalities, nine received multiple doses of naloxone, one received a single dose, and 11 with no naloxone administered.

The 311 cases involved suspected overdoses from all of our counties: Fairfield 38, Hartford 124, Litchfield 18, Middlesex 16, New Haven 69, New London 28, Tolland four and Windham 14.

*Numbers subject to change

Left: < Suspected overdoses involving any opioid by day previous 3 months

Information sourced from EpiCenter system, October 2023.

Results:

Eight thousand one hundred and forty-eight overdoses occurred on weekends during the study period.

1st Weekend 2176

2nd Weekend 1831

3rd Weekend 1834

4th Weekend 1889

5th Weekend 418

Overdoses were more prevalent on the first weekend of the month (Friday through Sunday) than on subsequent weekends during the time-period July 2019 through September 2023. This was true in 30 of 51 months (58.8%).

Overdoses were:

17.2% more likely on the first weekend than on any other weekend of the month.

18.8% more likely on the first weekend than on the 2nd weekend.

18.6% more likely on the first weekend than the 3rd weekend.

15.1% more likely on the first weekend than the 4th weekend.

12.1% more likely on the first weekend than on the 5th weekend.

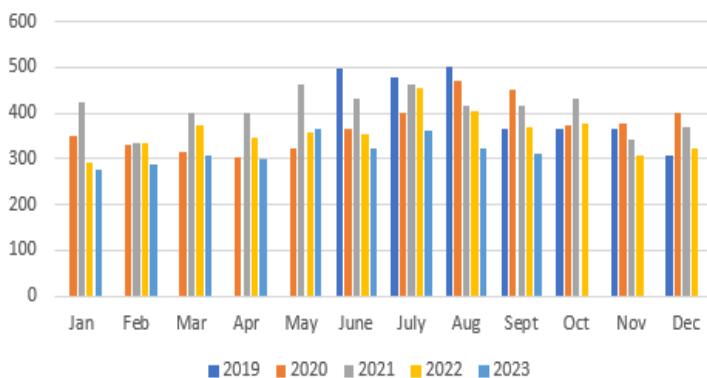
Limitations:

The overdoses only include those overdoses where 911 was called and the EMS crew reported the call to the Connecticut Poison Control Center.

Conclusion:

Overdoses are more likely to occur on the first weekend of the month. If overdose resources such as public information announcements, naloxone training, or staffing of overdose response teams and recovery navigators are in scarce supply, the best time for them to be deployed is on the first weekend of the month.

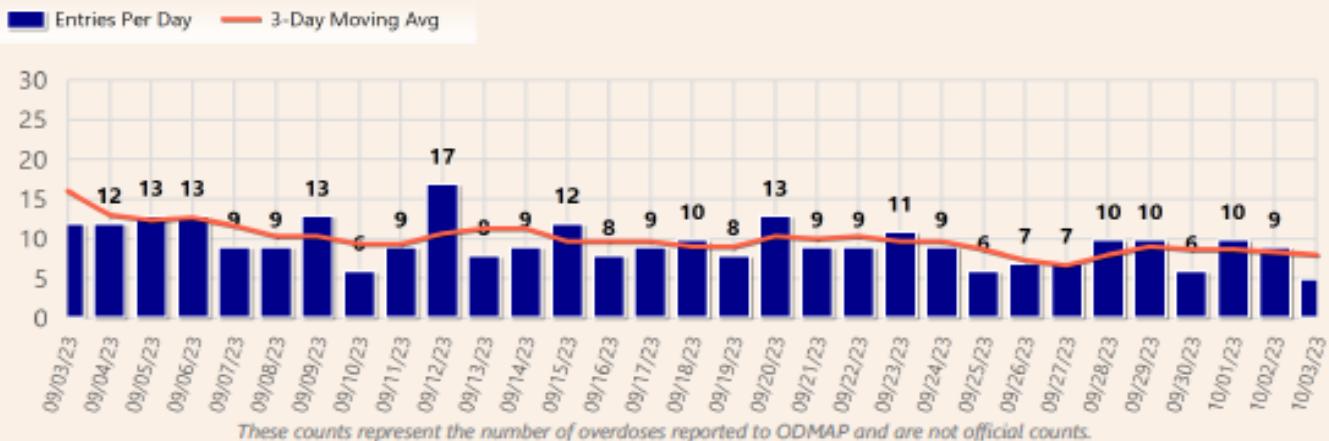
Suspected Overdoses by month
June 2019-September 2023



	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
July	46	40	42	46	
Aug	81	47	45	46	
Sept	52	30	41	35	
Oct	44	41	29	39	
Nov	61	26	37	33	
Dec	36	23	30	30	44
Jan	48	35	33	30	
Feb	39	28	29	44	
March	37	28	31	21	
April	42	23	44	34	
May	37	37	24	34	
June	36	32	35	45	
July	43	40	31	32	
August	63	38	33	48	54
September	53	42	47	56	
Oct	46	36	37	36	
Nov	30	41	30	40	
Dec	41	46	39	35	
Jan	45	39	45	42	34
Feb	24	34	38	44	
March	33	51	42	37	
April	44	45	32	48	
May	35	43	40	58	35
June	43	48	39	33	
July	46	44	44	40	
August	47	39	45	45	41
September	56	41	40	44	
Oct	52	49	48	48	34
Nov	46	30	38	28	
Dec	32	29	41	28	
Jan	39	22	22	31	35
Feb	27	37	27	44	
March	32	36	33	36	
April	48	44	37	31	42
May	39	24	45	46	
June	36	28	34	48	
July	42	43	47	54	
August	49	36	39	40	
September	51	40	41	24	
Oct	39	38	41	40	40
Nov	39	37	38	29	
Dec	33	35	34	36	
Jan	39	28	27	27	24
Feb	35	30	28	15	
March	40	35	31	29	
April	32	31	29	29	
May	35	38	34	37	
June	43	19	42	22	
July	45	39	29	44	35
August	48	38	18	20	
September	47	28	29	28	

Red represents the highest numeric value for a 5 day period, and is followed sequentially by Orange, Yellow, Light Green and Dark Green as the numeric values decline.

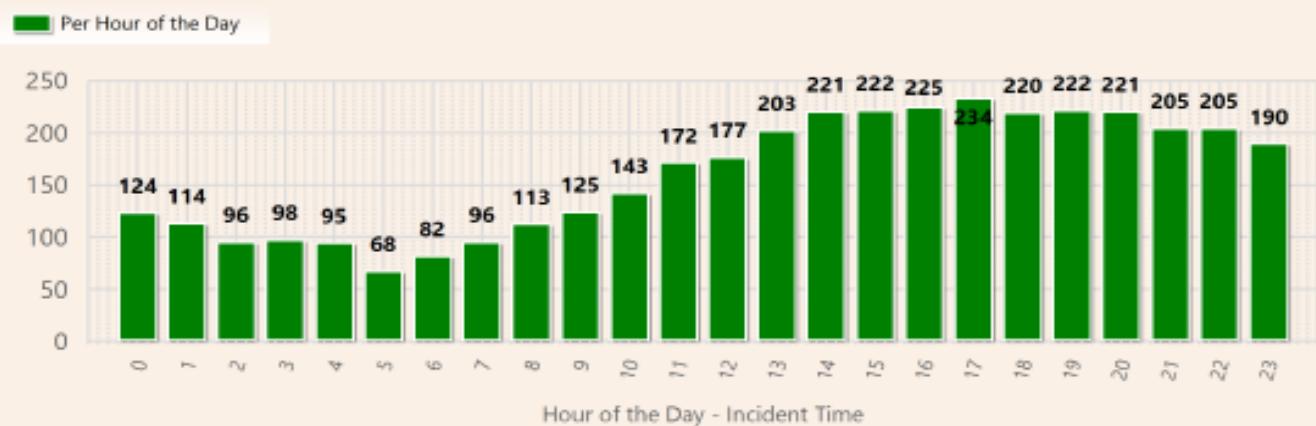
ODMAP Suspected Overdose Submissions - In the Last Month



ODMAP Suspected OD Submissions by day.

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

ODMAP Suspected Overdose Submissions - All Data Submitted



Cumulative (June 2019—September 2023) 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



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!

