

Population Health Vital Statistics Brief:

Drug Overdoses, January - August 2022

The *Population Health Vital Statistics Data Brief* series was created to provide regular updates to the Community Health Assessment and to provide the community with additional important information about population health. For more information on the Community Health Assessment and to access other reports in the *Vital Statistics Data Brief* series, please visit scph.org/assessments-reports



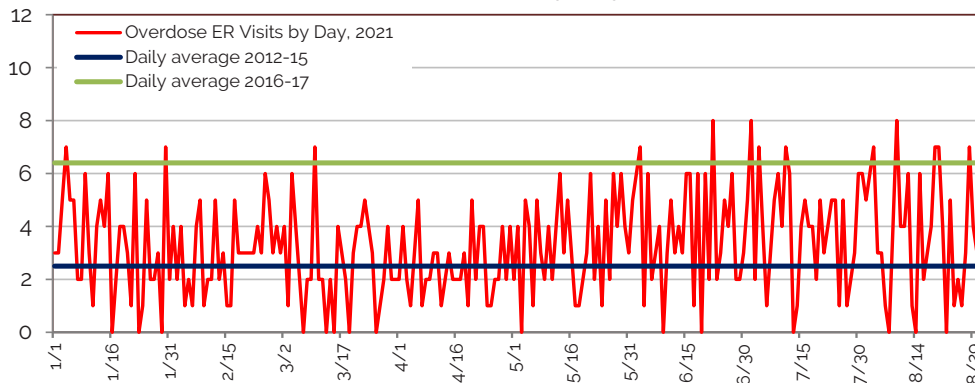
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Drug Overdose Visits to Hospital Emergency Rooms

From January 1, 2022 to August 31, 2022, emergency rooms serving Summit County residents have treated an estimated 812 drug overdoses (OD); the current 7-day average is 2.9 overdoses per day. as of 9/5* So far in 2022, we have had 15 days without an unintentional overdose-related ER visit recorded in EpiCenter. The highest total in Summit County to date in 2022 was reached three times; on June 22nd, July 2nd, and August 9th. There were eight reported overdose-related ER visits on each occasion.

Multiple OD visits (more than one visit to an ER in the same hospital system) -- A total of 51 people visiting an ER for an overdose in 2022 made more than one visit (6.3% of the total).

Overdose ER Visits by Day, 2022



7-Day Average Overdose ER Visits by Day, 2022

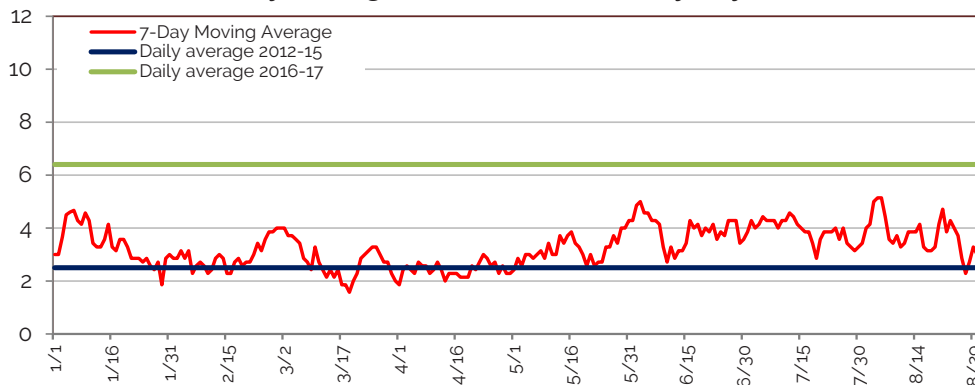


Figure 1a and 1b: Visits to the ER Due To Drug Overdoses By Day (top figure) and By Seven-Day Moving Average (bottom figure) -- Note: Because day-to-day total ER visits tend to fluctuate, a seven-day simple moving average chart is included to more clearly examine trends in the data. Source: EpiCenter

* Drug overdose data is retrieved from the state's EpiCenter surveillance tool. "Overdose" cases include all emergency visits by a Summit County resident to any medical provider in which drugs were identified as the cause of traumatic injury. Overdose cases were further refined by selecting only those cases where the case notes included the terms "OD" or "overdose." Traumatic injuries due to drugs caused by suicide attempts, allergic reactions to normal medications, or accidental overdoses of everyday drugs (such as Tylenol or Ibuprofen) were removed where identified. Zip codes refer to the zip code of residence of the patient visiting the ER. Data cited in this report represents the full-day totals from the day before the report's release.

It is important to note that these are estimated figures rather than a full and final count because initial diagnoses and/or details of a particular case may change from a patient's initial examination to his or her final outcomes, and because the limited case notes field in EpiCenter may not include all details necessary to firmly classify a case as an overdose.

It is also important to note that case notes available through EpiCenter rarely identify the specific drug or drugs involved in an overdose. Therefore the figures here can be associated with any drug, not just heroin and/or fentanyl.



QR code link to SCPH Drug Dashboards

Demographic Analysis of Drug Overdose ER Visits, YTD 2022

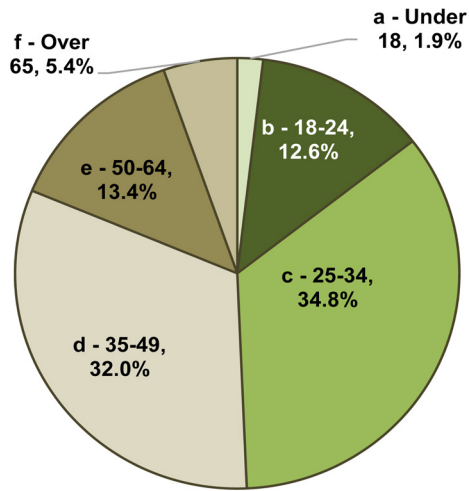


Figure 3 Age of ER Visitors. Source: EpiCenter/SCPH

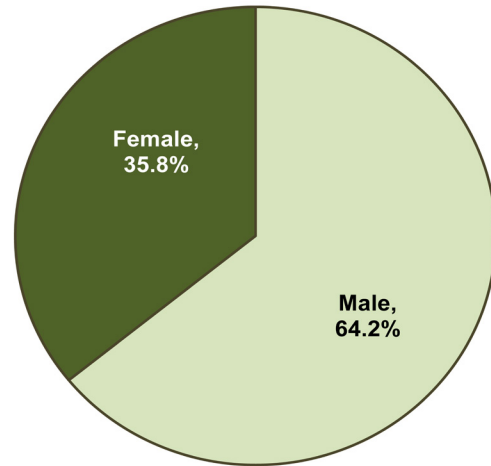


Figure 4: Sex of ER Visitors. Source: EpiCenter/SCPH

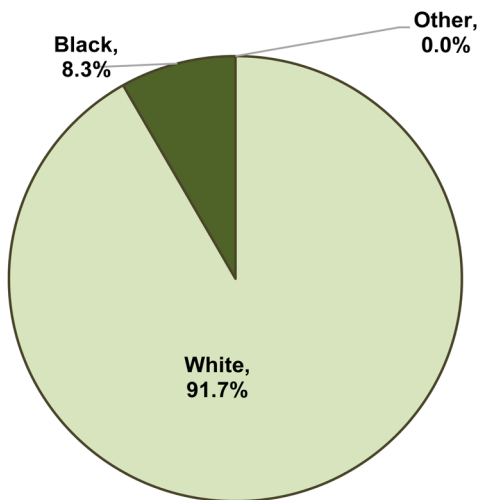


Figure 5: Race of ER Visitors. Source: EpiCenter/SCPH

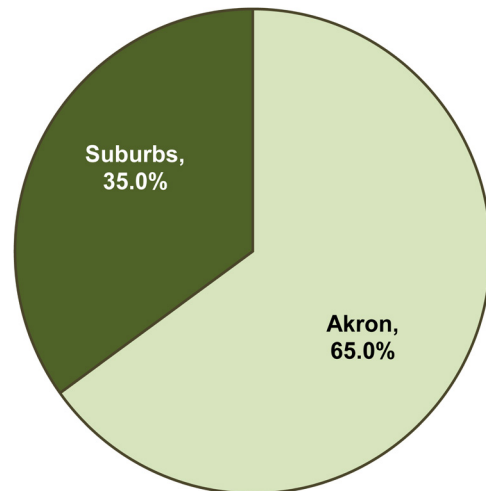


Figure 6: Location of ER Visitors. Source: EpiCenter/SCPH

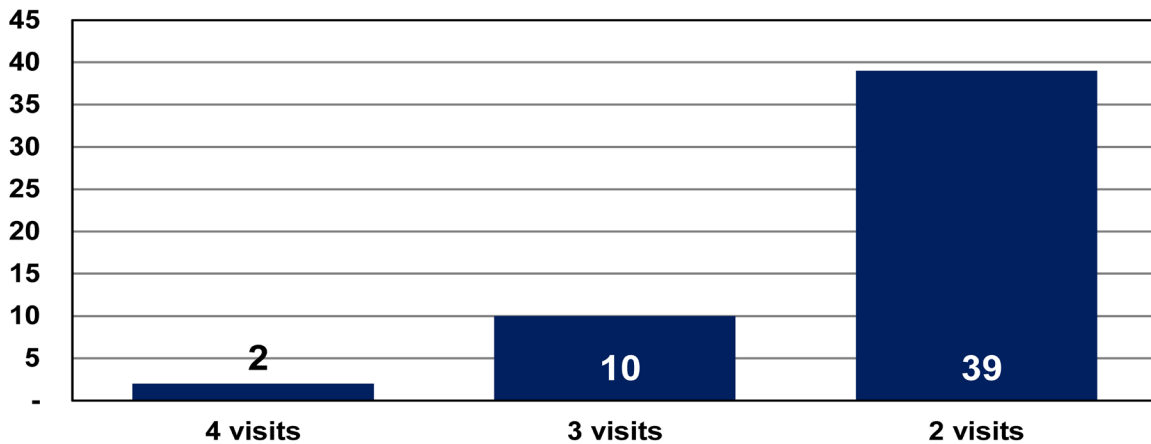


Figure 7: Patients with multiple visits in 2022, by number of visits. Source: EpiCenter/SCPH

Emergency Room Visits Due to Drug Overdose Per 1,000 Population, 2022

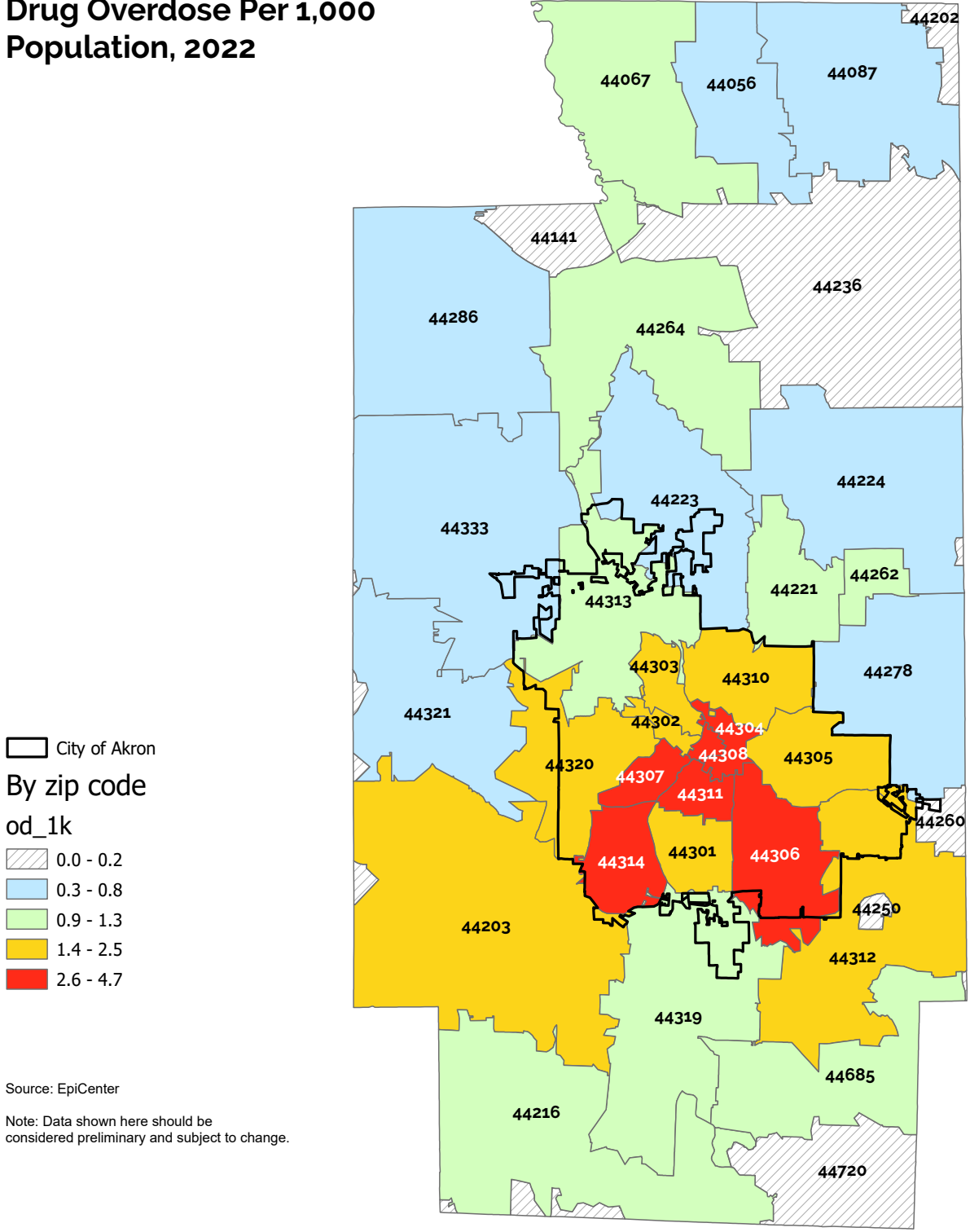


Figure 8: Number and Percent of ER Visits Due to Drug Overdoses, YTD 2022
 Source: EpiCenter/SCPH.

Current list of pharmacies dispensing Narcan without a prescription: <https://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/licensing/NaloxonePharmacy>

Drug Overdose ER Visit Statistics by Zip Code, 2016-YTD 2022

(zip codes with 10 or more OD-related ER visits since 2015)

Zip	Year							YTD 2022	Total OD, 2015-2022	Annual trend	YTD 2022	
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	OD per 1,000				Change 2021-2022	
44203	346	325	161	184	95	125	90	1,335		2.2	17%	
44312	212	220	141	110	74	64	49	875		1.5	7%	
44314	199	181	92	117	70	94	76	834		4.1	23%	
44306	181	177	103	111	74	88	84	826		3.9	30%	
44305	152	171	96	142	73	69	46	754		2.1	0%	
44310	169	167	119	113	66	61	54	753		2.1	21%	
44221	157	128	103	85	54	63	34	634		1.2	-19%	
44311	103	108	73	82	80	83	47	580		5.7	-26%	
44320	100	99	51	64	46	55	49	476		2.6	23%	
44301	109	104	65	59	40	37	35	454		2.3	32%	
44319	97	93	43	55	41	48	31	410		1.4	-3%	
44224	98	74	51	55	38	50	25	401		0.6	-11%	
44685	75	61	44	56	35	34	28	336		1.0	8%	
44313	66	78	56	41	34	29	26	336		1.0	56%	
44307	57	50	39	34	39	28	27	278		4.4	29%	
44223	55	74	48	35	18	32	13	276		0.7	-19%	
44067	62	40	33	40	26	28	18	248		0.9	-10%	
44278	60	62	43	21	14	25	14	242		0.8	-24%	
44302	34	38	29	15	16	20	11	163		2.4	-29%	
44333	43	31	27	17	13	13	13	157		0.7	44%	
44303	26	24	29	13	19	12	13	137		1.5	44%	
44304	22	24	25	6	12	16	17	123		3.5	60%	
44236	29	22	11	20	20	8	5	122		0.2	-20%	
44321	35	13	23	18	9	13	5	122		0.3	-50%	
44087	14	20	16	15	16	27	9	121		0.4	-40%	
44056	20	25	24	10	11	16	6	116		0.5	-50%	
44216	22	23	15	10	13	8	10	101		1.1	67%	
44308	14	24	11	9	6	6	5	76		4.4	67%	
44262	25	13	8	6	6	9	5	72		1.0	0%	
44286	6	1	13	5	7	11	5	50		0.8	-38%	
44264	4	10	3	4	2	4	3	30		1.0	200%	
44250	9	4	3	3	2	1	2	24		1.8	100%	
Total	2,604	2,488	1,599	1,556	1,071	1,180	855	11,477		1.6	7%	

Figure 9: Overdose-Related ER Visits by Zip Code
 Source: EpiCenter/SCPH.

Deaths Caused by Drug Overdose, 2021-YTD 2022

Data from the Summit County Medical Examiner's office provides a snapshot of those who have been victims of an overdose death since the beginning of 2021:

Race: More than three-quarters of OD deaths are White and 22% are Black.

Age: Half of all OD deaths are between ages 25 and 44.

Sex: Three-quarters of OD deaths are male.

Substances involved: The vast majority of OD deaths involve fentanyl. More than one-third involve methamphetamines, while one-in-five involve cocaine. It should be noted that most victims of an overdose were found to have taken more than one substance, so percentages will add up to more than 100%.

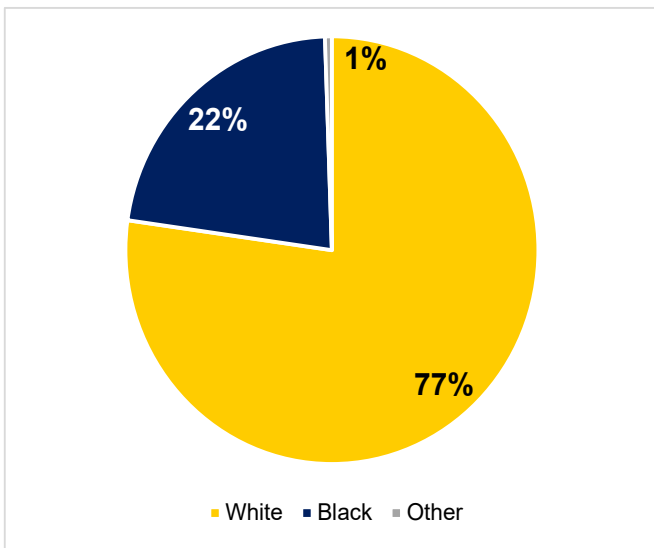


Figure 10: Race of Overdose Deaths, 2021-2022 YTD, Source: ODH Death Records, SCPH

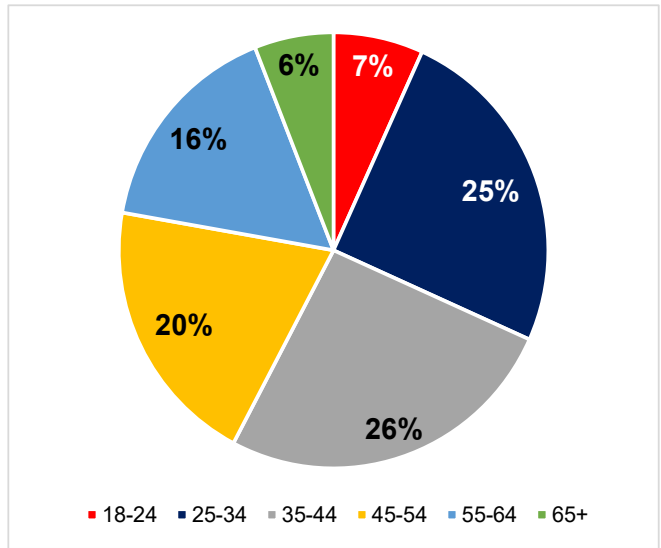


Figure 11: Age of Overdose Deaths, 2021-2022 YTD, Source: ODH Death Records, SCPH

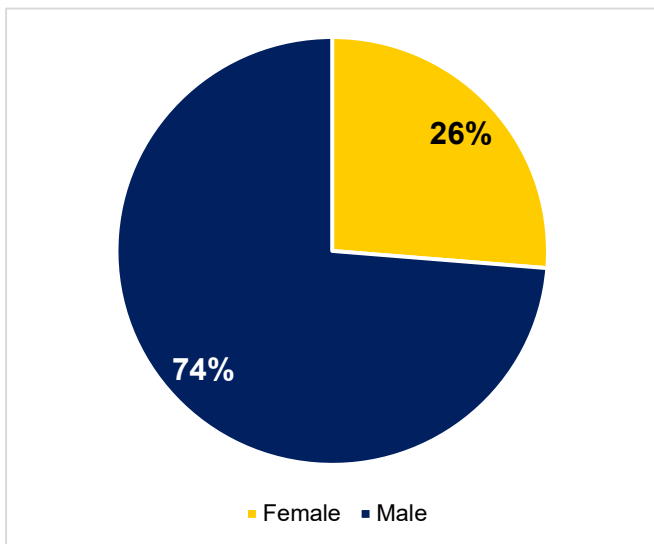


Figure 12: Sex of Overdose Deaths, 2021-2022 YTD, Source: ODH Death Records, SCPH

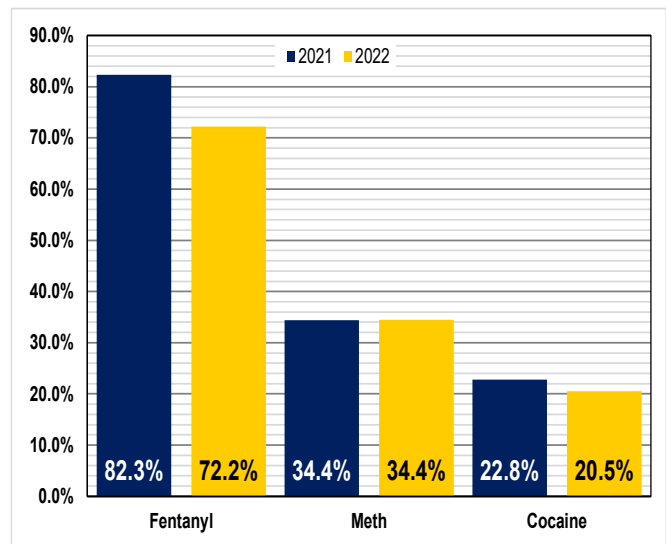


Figure 13: Top 3 Substances Found in Overdose Fatalities, 2021-2022 YTD, Source: ODH Death Records, SCPH

Density Pattern of Drug Overdose Fatalities, 2021-2022, Summit County, Ohio

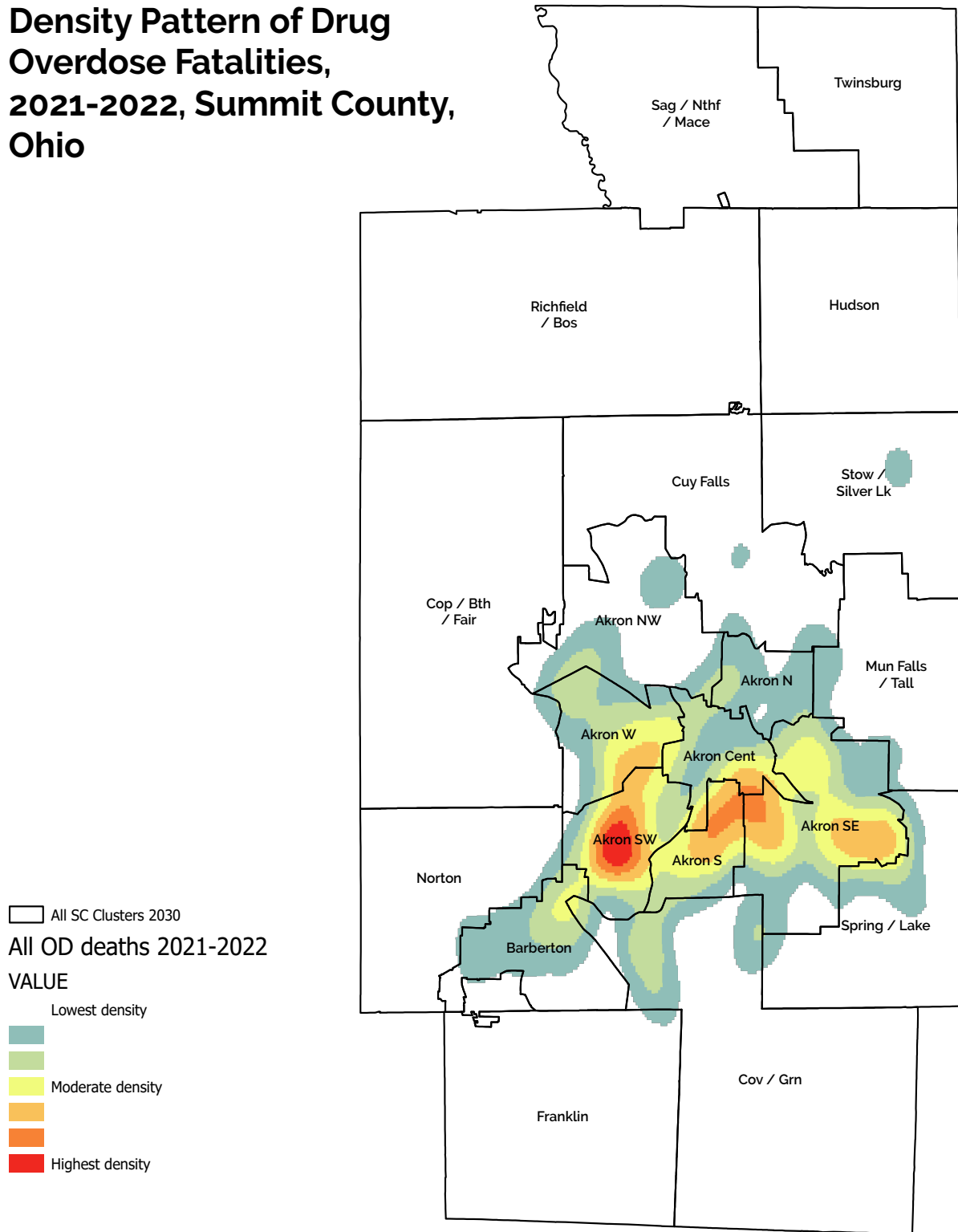


Figure 14: Density Pattern of Drug Overdose Fatalities
Source: Summit County Medical Examiner's Office/SCPH.

Trends In Substance Abuse, Akron-Canton Region

Figure 15 below presents data from "Drug Abuse Trends in the Akron-Canton Region, July 2021 - December 2021" published by the *Ohio Substance Abuse Monitoring Network* (OSAM). The data in this report highlights emerging trends over the same time period in the previous year and provides some insight on how those trends impact today's overdose picture. The report relies primarily on input by focus groups made up of drug users, community professionals, service providers, and law enforcement. The report's primary conclusions can be found below:

"Fentanyl and methamphetamine [are] highly available throughout OSAM regions."

"Not only has fentanyl been substituted for heroin and adulterated in almost every drug, but respondents also reported high prevalence of fentanyl-pressed pills disguised as prescription pills."

"Respondents noted an increase in methamphetamine availability tied to heroin/fentanyl use. The combination of methamphetamine along with heroin/fentanyl to "speedball" (concurrent or consecutive stimulant and depressant highs) has increased in popularity. And due to its low cost and high potency, methamphetamine is supplanting cocaine as the preferred stimulant."

"Respondents discussed methamphetamine's current high availability as widespread, encroaching on every community type. Reportedly, methamphetamine is as common in urban areas as it is in rural areas."

Summary of Drug Trends in the Akron-Canton Region, July-December, 2021

Type of Drug	Current availability	Availability Change	BCI Cocaine Indicence Change	Urinalysis - Percent positive (last 6 mo.)	Number tested	Reported Use - Last 30 days	Most available (drugs with multiple types only)
Cocaine	High	No change	No change	11.2%	9,795	9.4%	NA
Heroin	Moderate / High	No change	Decrease	2.7%	9,580	30.3%	NA
Fentanyl	High	No change	No change	34.7%	11,177	NA	NA
Rx opioids - Oxycodone or Oxymorphone	Low	No change	NA	7.7%	11,532	18.8%	Percocet
Rx opioids - Other Opiates	Low	No change	NA	18.3%	9,643	NA	NA
Sedative / Hypnotics - Klonopin / Xanax	Low	No change	Increase (Klo) / No chg (Xan)	15.3%	8,741	4.7%	Klonopin / Xanax
Marijuana	High	No change	NA	NA	NA	28.1%	NA
Methamphetamine	High	No change	Decrease	22.7%	9,235	21.9%	NA
Rx stimulants	Moderate	No change	NA	25.6%	9,358	NA	Adderall
MDMA	Moderate	No change	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Other drugs available during the past 6 months:

gabapentin, hallucinogens (lysergic acid diethylamide [LSD], psilocybin mushrooms), inhalants, ketamine, kratom, over-the-counter medications (OTCs), synthetic marijuana

The full *Drug Trends Monitoring Report* can be downloaded here:

<https://mha.ohio.gov/research-and-data/data-and-reports/osam/drug-trend-reports>