

BENEATH THE NUMBERS FOR WASHTENAW COUNTY RESIDENTS:

- **Total Overdoses For 2017 A Third Higher Than For 2016.** The total number of overdoses (deaths plus ED admissions) for 2017 are 34% higher than those for 2016 .
- **Total Overdoses per Week Nearly Doubled.** In 2015, 3.4 Washtenaw County residents overdosed each week. By 2017, that number nearly doubled to 6.5 overdoses per week.
- **Non-Lethal Overdoses Primarily Driving Increases.** While opioid related overdose deaths increased moderately (8%) between 2016 and 2017, ED admissions for unintentional opioid related overdoses increased 43% during that same time period.
- **Nearly three quarters of Opioid Overdose Related Deaths Associated With Synthetic Opioids** In 2017, 71% were associated with synthetic opioids, such as Fentanyl and Carfentanyl.
- **Only Small Percentage Of Unintentional Opioid Related ED Admissions Associated With Synthetic Opioids.** Only 2% of unintentional opioid overdose related admissions were associated with synthetic opioids in 2017.
- **For Elderly, Less Urban Zip Codes In Washtenaw County Have Higher Rates** of opioid related ED admissions compared to elderly in more central urban zip codes.
- **Adverse Effects Are Cause Of Over Three Quarters (76%)** of opioid related ED admissions for Washtenaw County residents 65 years and older.

See Back Page For Detailed Information Regarding *Opioid Related Overdoses in Elderly Washenaw County Residents*



Opioid Report

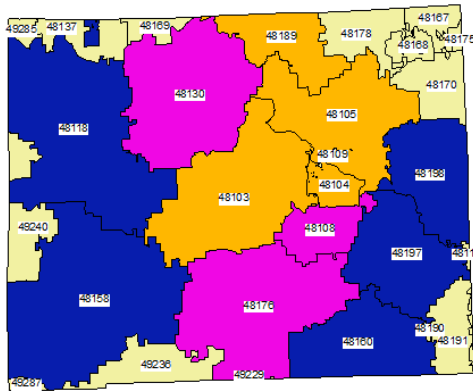
OPIOID RELATED OVERDOSES AND DEATHS of WASHTENAW COUNTY RESIDENTS

March 2018. Volume 4, Number 2

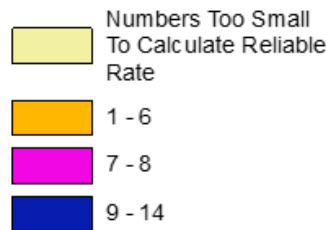


Washtenaw County Health Department

Opioid Related Adverse Effect or Poisoning* Related Emergency Department Admission Age Specific Rates Per 1,000** Washtenaw County Residents 65 Years or Older Zip Code of Residence January 2016 - December 2017



Overdose Rate Per 1000 Persons 65 Years or Older



**Age Specific Rate =
(Number of Opioid Related Emergency Department Admissions for Persons 65 Years and Older / Total Number of Persons 65 Years and Older)*1000
Please Contact Adreanne Waller, MPH Epidemiologist- Wallera@ewashtenaw.org

For Washtenaw County residents 65 years and older, opioid related Emergency Department (ED) admission are higher in less urban zip codes.

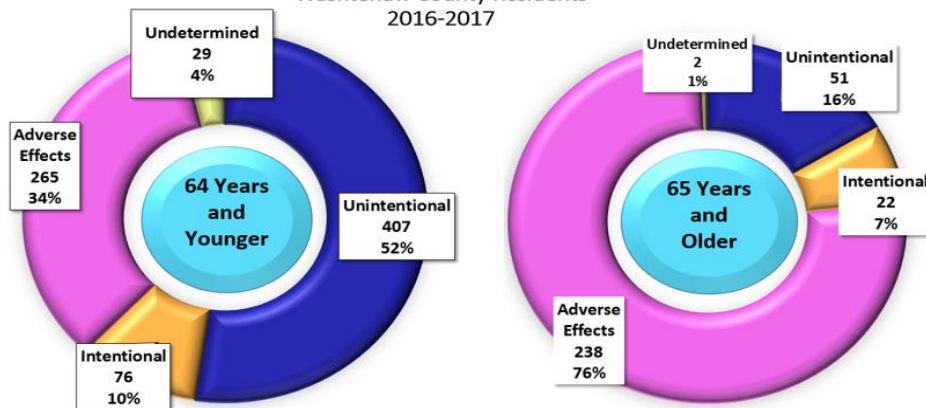
National data* suggest that people in rural counties are twice as likely to have opioid overdoses. This may be because rural residents are more likely to have lower incomes, experience more occupation related injuries, and have less access to non opioid pain treatments. Only ten percent of treatment resources are located in rural areas. Rural residents have less access to emergency services and the overdose reversal drug, Naloxone.

For Washtenaw County residents 65 years and older who have an opioid related ED admission, adverse effects of opioids comprise a larger proportion of total ED admissions (76%) than their younger counterparts (34%). Older residents are much more likely to have other chronic illnesses and may be more vulnerable to the adverse effects of opioids.

Elderly patients, particularly those with chronic diseases (chronic obstructive pulmonary, asthma or heart disease, etc), who take opioids are more likely to experience the following risks compared to those who do not**:

- Bowel obstruction
- Respiratory depression
- Impaired recovery from injury or surgery
- Altered immune function
- Cognitive impairment
- Hypogonadism
- Sleep apnea
- Higher risk of death

Emergency Department Admissions* Associated With Opioids by Type** and Age Group Washtenaw County Residents 2016-2017



*Opioid Poisoning including accidental, intentional, assault or undetermined (ICD-10 - T40(0,1,2,3,4,6)X(1,2,3,4,5)).
Source: Emergency department data provided by Washtenaw County Public Health, Michigan Medicine and Saint Joseph Mercy hospitals reporting Washtenaw County residents only.
These numbers do not include persons who survived their overdose and refused or did not seek or receive medical care.

****Poisonings Related to Opioids reflect a incorrect amount, incorrect frequency or incorrect administration. These poisonings may be *Intentional or Unintentional* (Accidental). *Adverse effects* occur when therapeutic medication is prescribed correctly and administered properly, but the patient suffers a physical reaction.**
[ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting](#)

*Raising Awareness and Seeking Solutions to the Opioid Epidemic's Impact on Older Rural adults. Benson, WF. & Altrich, N. August 2017.

**Opioid System Modulates the Immune Function: A Review Xuan Liang, Renny Liu, Chunhua Chen, Fang Ji, Tianzuo Li Transl Perioper Pain Med. Author manuscript; available in PMC 2016 Mar 14. Published in final edited form as: Transl Perioper Pain Med. 2016; 1(1): 5-13.

**The Psychological and physical side effects of Pain Medications. Teeter, D. National Safety Council. 2015.



Please contact [Adreanne Waller, MPH, Epidemiologist](#), Washtenaw County Health Department, for questions.

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Go to Washtenaw County Health Department '[Opioid and Heroin Overdose Data](#)' webpage for all Opioid Reports.