

Kentucky's Drug Overdose Trends Update

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Faculty Disclosure

The presenters declare no conflicts of interest or financial relationships with any commercial entities that could be perceived as influencing the content of this presentation.

Objectives

- 🎯 **Objective 1:** Identify the burden of mortality and morbidity of overdose in Kentucky
- 🎯 **Objective 2:** Describe the disproportionate overdose burden of historically marginalized populations
- 🎯 **Objective 3:** Discuss the implications of dashboard insights for harm reduction, including tailoring interventions, targeting high-risk populations, and collaborating with stakeholders to implement strategies effectively.

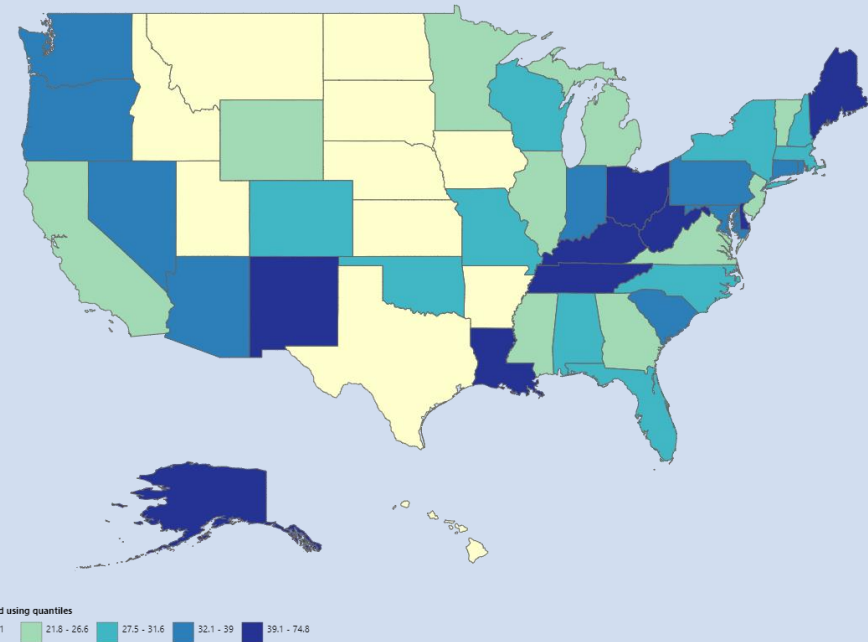
Expected Outcome

- **Enhanced Understanding of Overdose Trends:** Attendees will gain insights into the overall overdose trends and the disproportion burden among historically marginalized people.
- **Informed Decision-Making:** Harm reduction practitioners will be equipped with actionable insights derived from the data, enabling evidence-based decision-making and targeted interventions to support harm reduction participants.

Introduction to Drug Overdose Trends in Kentucky

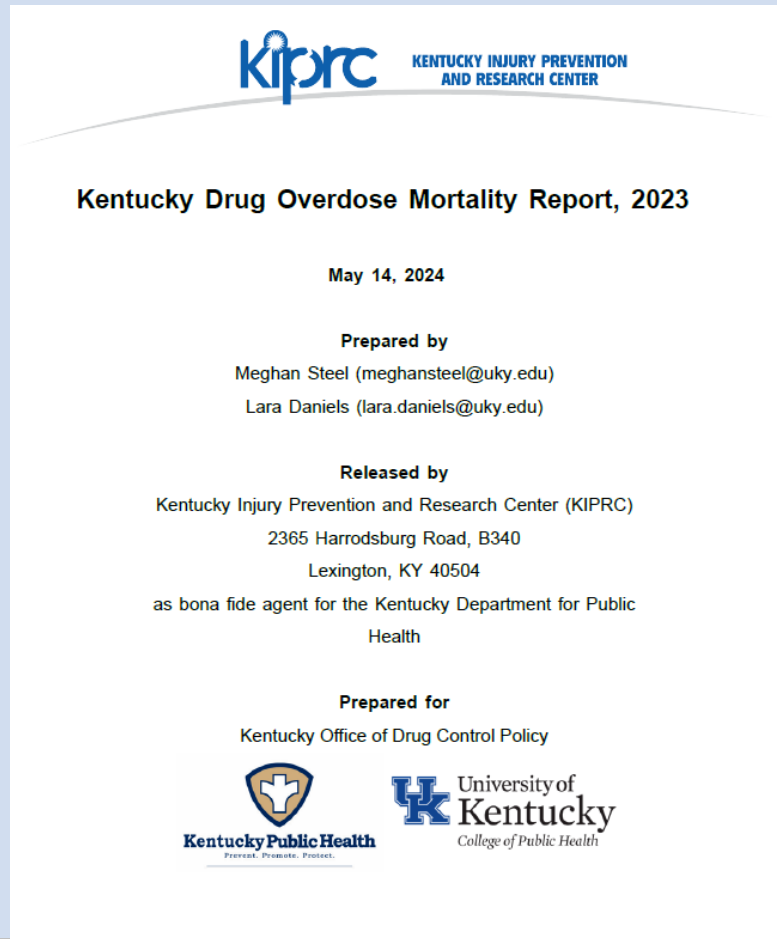
- Kentucky is ranked 6th in the nation for fatal overdose rates in 2023, with an age-adjusted rate of 44.3 per 100,000 persons, highlighting the significant impact of the drug overdose epidemic within the state (CDC, 2024).
- The Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center (KIPRC) plays a pivotal role in combating drug-related health issues across the state by spearheading efforts in data collection, analysis, and dissemination.

Age Adjusted Rate of Overdose Mortality by State, United States 2024



Source: <http://wonder.cdc.gov>. Data pulled May 15, 2024. Data are provisional.

Kentucky Resident Drug Overdose Mortality Tables and Maps



Drug Types Identified:

- In 2023, 1,984 Kentucky residents died from a drug overdose, a decrease of 9.8% from the 2,200 resident deaths in 2022 and resulting in a rate of 45.9 deaths per 100,000 residents.
- Fentanyl was the most commonly identified drug in toxicology reports, comprising 79.1% of total drug overdose deaths, a decrease of 9% from 72.5% in 2022.
- Methamphetamine was identified in 55.2% of total deaths which is 5% higher than in 2022.
- Drugs of interest xylazine, tianeptine, and medetomidine

Report created in collaboration with the Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy.

Who?

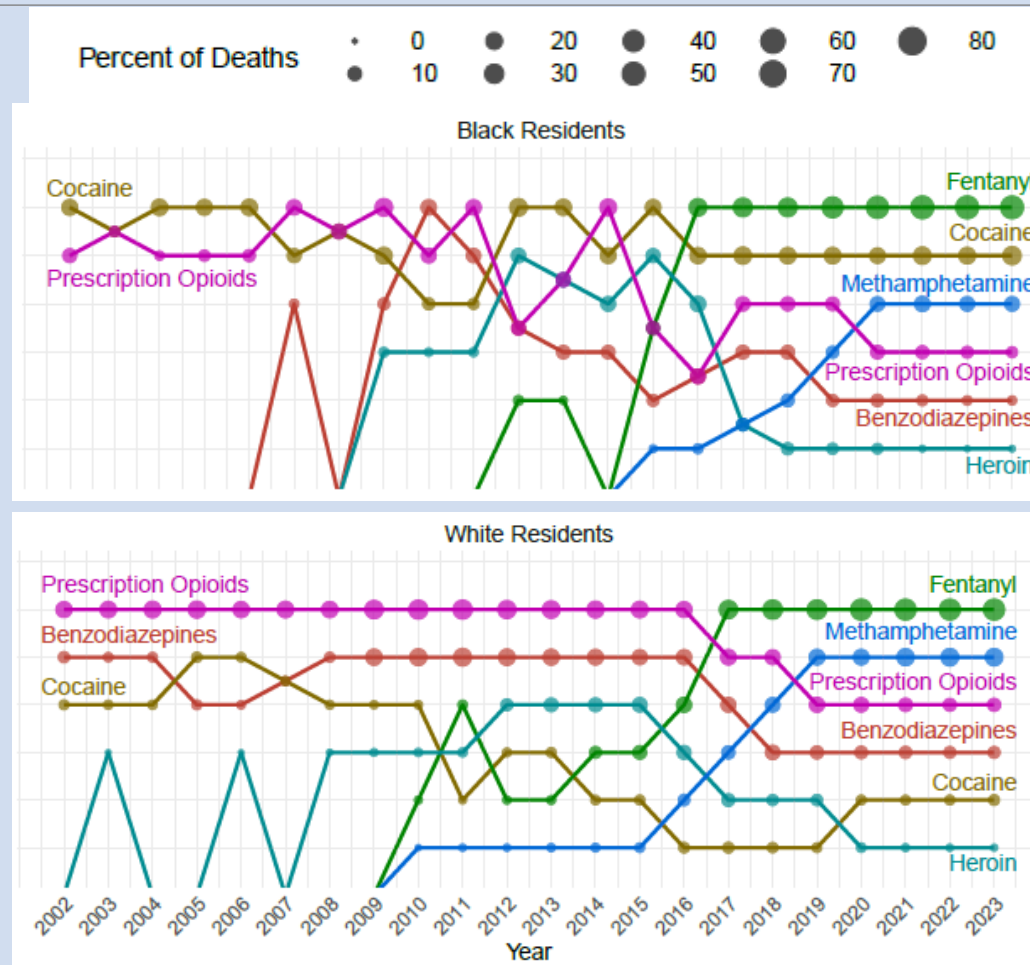
RACE

Age-Adjusted Rate for Kentucky Resident Drug Overdose Deaths by Race, 2021–2023

Race	2021	2022	2023
Black	60.7	67.6	68.3
White	53.9	51.4	45.0
Other	11.4	20.0	16.2

Rates are presented as the number of drug overdose deaths per 100,000 population. Data are provisional and subject to change. Produced by the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center, as bona fide agent for the Kentucky Department for Public Health. May 2024. Data source: Kentucky Death Certificate Database, Kentucky Office of Vital Statistics, Cabinet for Health and Family Services.

Top Drugs Identified by ICD-10 Code on the Death Certificates of Kentucky Resident Drug Overdose Decedents by Race, 2002-2022

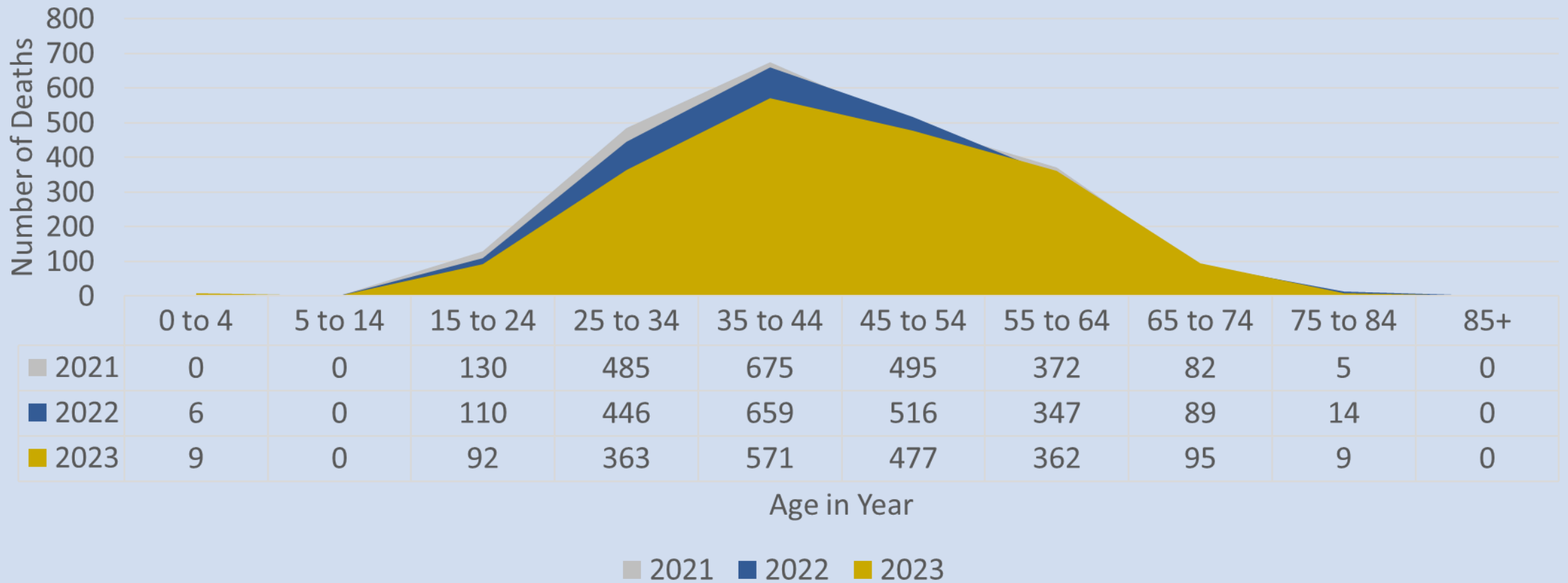


Produced by the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center, as bona fide agent for the Kentucky Department for Public Health. Data are provisional and subject to change. Data extracted May 2024.

Who?

AGE

Counts of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents by Age Group, 2021-2023



Where?

GEOGRAPHY

KENTUCKY COUNTIES WITH HIGHEST RATES OF DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS AMONG KENTUCKY RESIDENTS

Kentucky County	Rate of Drug Overdose Deaths per 100,000 Residents	Count of Drug Overdose Deaths
1 Estill	187.3	27
2 Lee	155.9	11
3 Breathitt	150.6	18
4 Powell	121.1	16
5 Floyd	109.9	35

Counties with rates based on counts less than 10 have been excluded from this list. Data are provisional and subject to change. Produced by the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center, as bona fide agent for the Kentucky Department for Public Health. May 2024. Data source: Kentucky Death Certificate Database, Kentucky Office of Vital Statistics, Cabinet for Health and Family Services.

KENTUCKY COUNTIES WITH THE HIGHEST COUNTS OF FENTANYL INVOLVED DEATHS AMONG KENTUCKY RESIDENTS

Kentucky County	Drug Overdose Deaths Involving Fentanyl
1 Jefferson	494
2 Fayette	160
3 Kenton	56
4 Madison	56
5 Pike	36

Counts are based on where the death occurred and not on the county of residence; thus, counts could include residents of other counties and/or states. Data are provisional and subject to change. Produced by the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center, as bona fide agent for the Kentucky Department for Public Health. May 2024. Data source: Drug Overdose Fatality Surveillance System (DOFSS).

Nonfatal Overdose

Kentucky Resident Emergency Department Visits for Nonfatal Drug Overdoses



Kentucky Resident Emergency Department Visits for Nonfatal Drug Overdoses, 2019–2023

Annual Report, Updated April 2024

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Suggested Citation

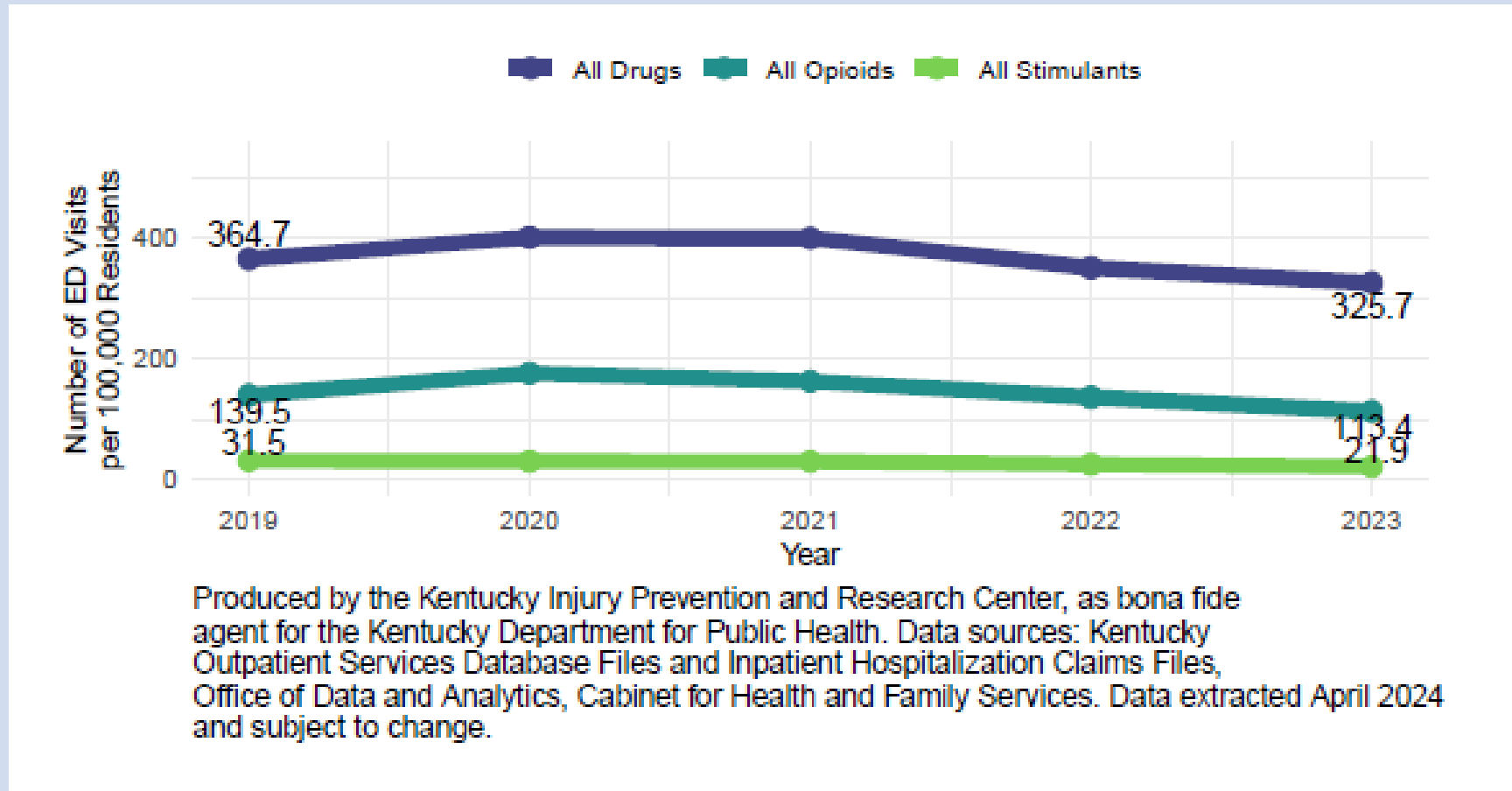
Steel, M., Mirzaian, M., Daniels, L. (2024). *Kentucky Resident Emergency Department Visits for Nonfatal Drug Overdoses, 2019–2023: Annual Report, Updated April 2024*. Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center.



Total Nonfatal Drug Overdose Emergency Department (ED) Visits (2022):

- Total: 14,003 visits
- Percent change from 2021: Decrease of 6.6%

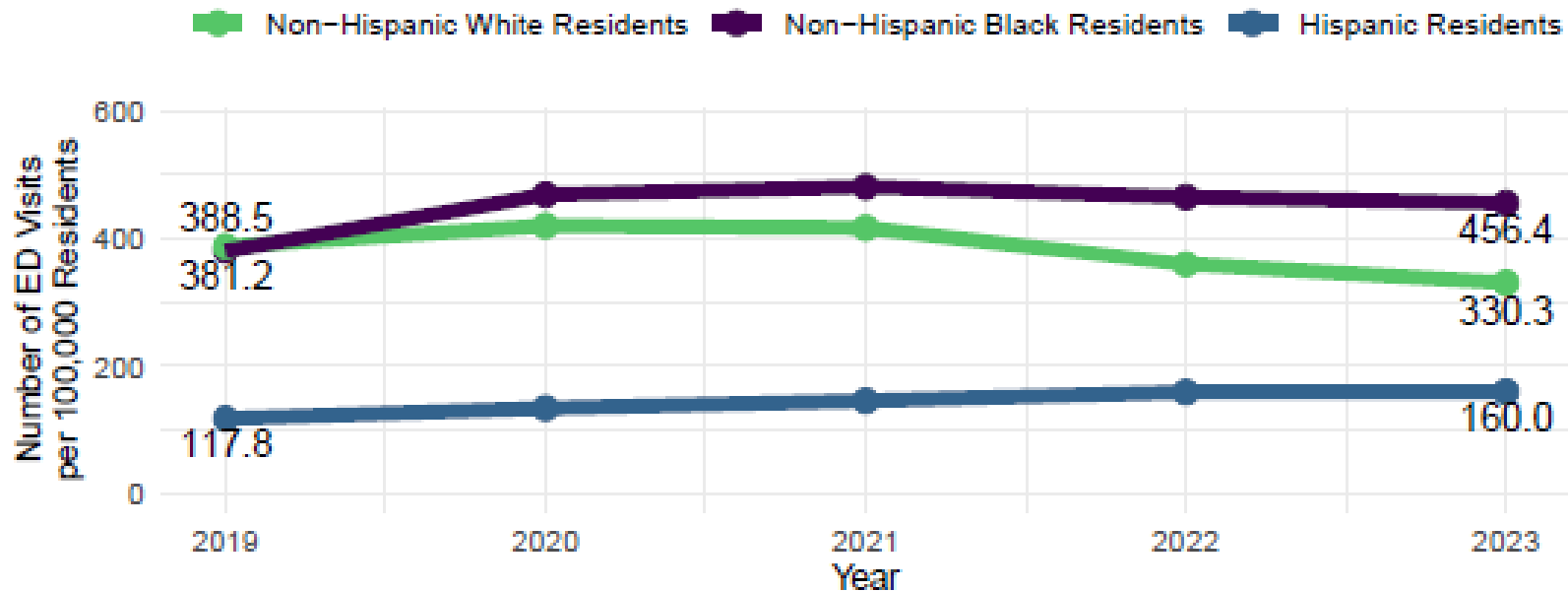
Age-adjusted rates of emergency department visits for nonfatal drug overdose among Kentucky residents, 2019–2023



Who?

RACE

Age-adjusted rates of Kentucky resident emergency department visits for nonfatal drug overdose involving any drug, by race and ethnicity, 2019–2023



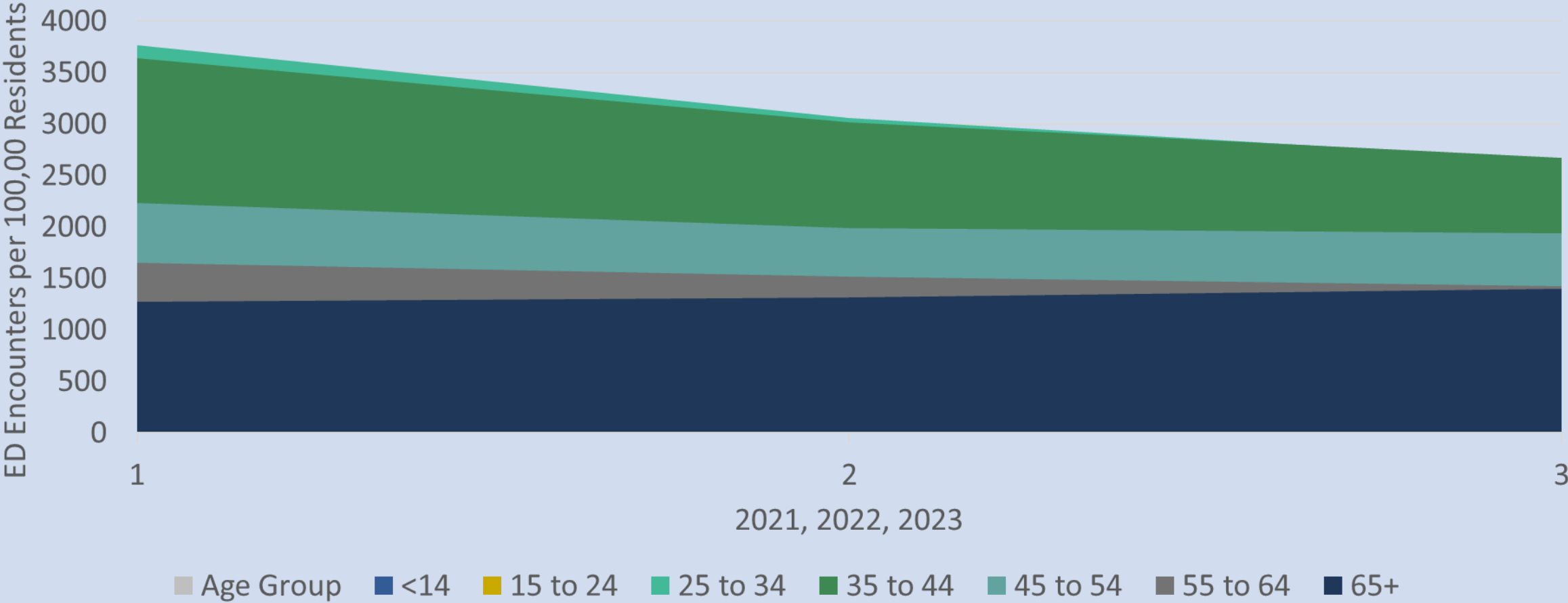
Patients of other races were excluded from this graph as their rates were not reportable for several years due to the low numbers of visits (n=1,093).

Produced by the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center, as bona fide agent for the Kentucky Department for Public Health. Data sources: Kentucky Outpatient Services Database Files and Inpatient Hospitalization Claims Files, Office of Data and Analytics, Cabinet for Health and Family Services. Data extracted April 2024. Data are provided and subject to change.

Who?

AGE

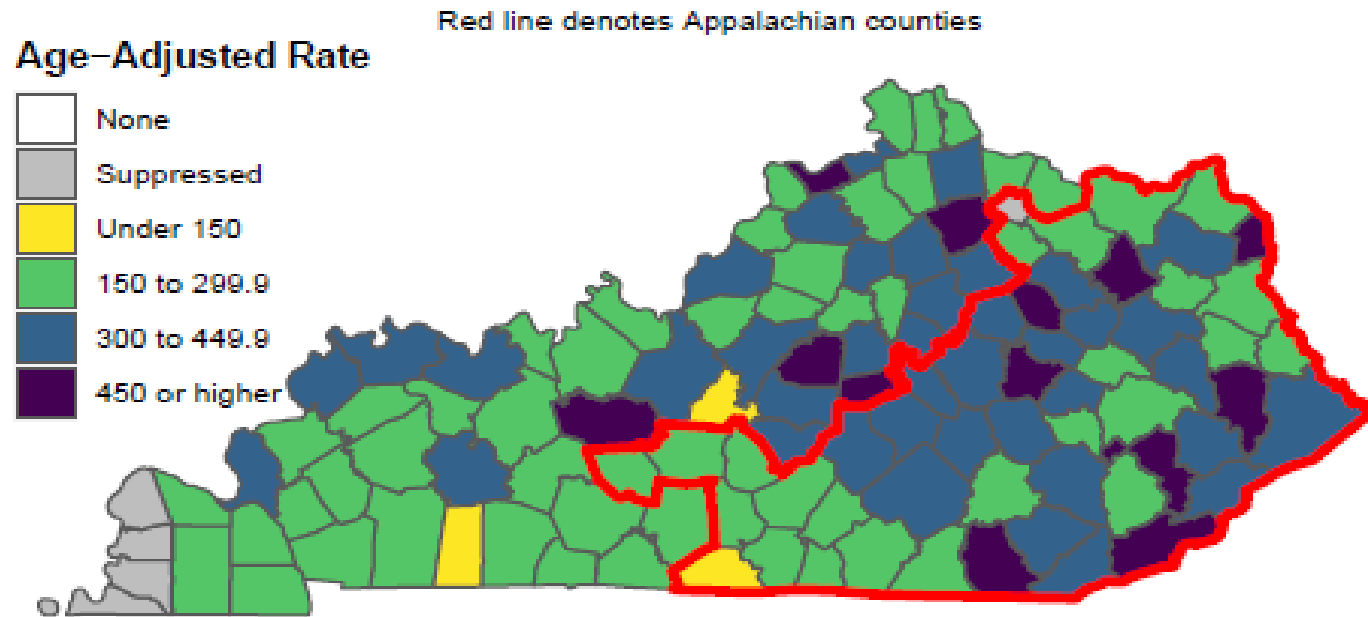
Counts of Overdose ED Encounters among Kentucky Residents by Age Group, 2021 to 2023



Where?

GEOGRAPHY

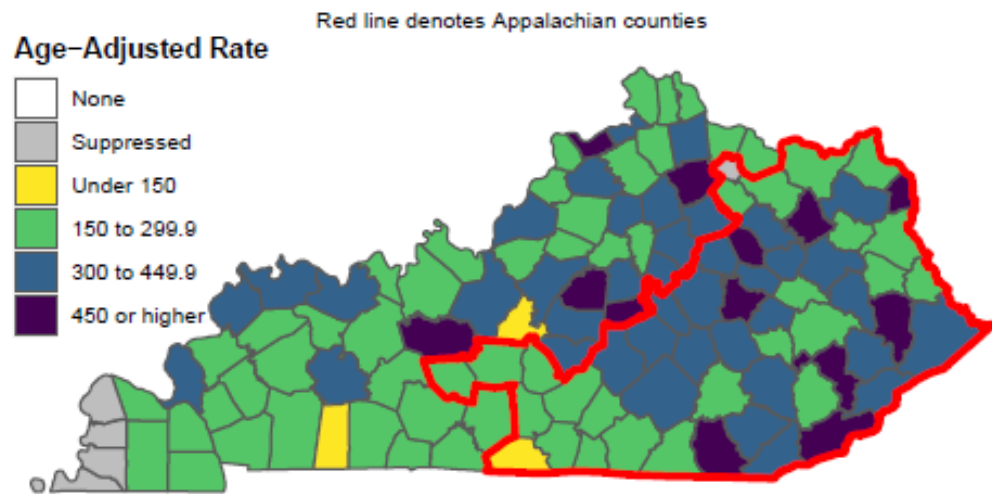
Age-adjusted rates of emergency department visits for nonfatal drug overdose by Kentucky county of residence, 2023



Rates are presented as the number of visits per 100,000 population.
Produced by the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center, as bona fide agent for the Department for Public Health. Data sources: Kentucky Outpatient Services Database Files and Inpatient Hospitalization Claims Files, Office of Data and Analytics, Cabinet for Health and Family Services. Data extracted April 2024. Data are provisional and subject to change.

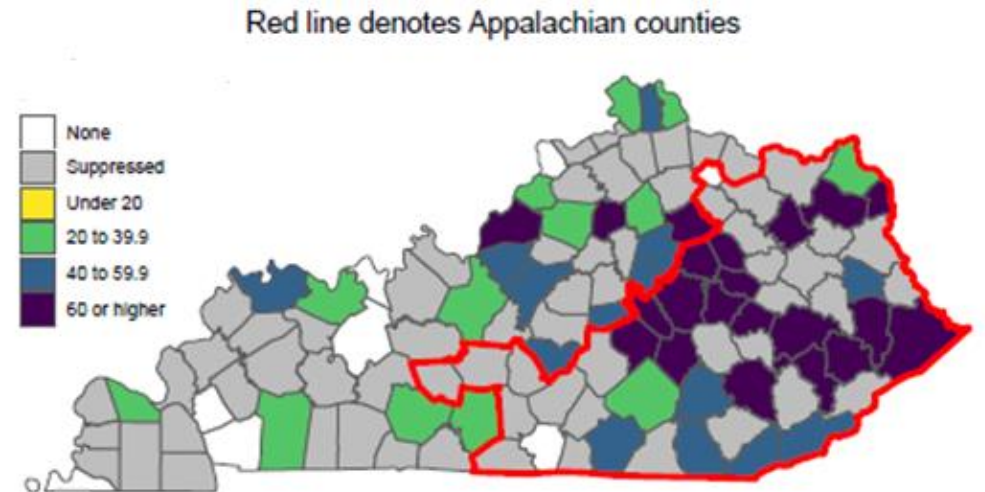
Comparison of ED Visits and Deaths from Overdose by Kentucky County, 2023

ED VISITS



Rates are presented as the number of visits per 100,000 population. Produced by the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center, as bona fide agent for the Kentucky Department for Public Health. Data sources: Kentucky Outpatient Services Database Files and Inpatient Hospitalization Claims Files, Office of Data and Analytics, Cabinet for Health and Family Services. Data extracted April 2024. Data are provisional and subject to change.

DEATHS



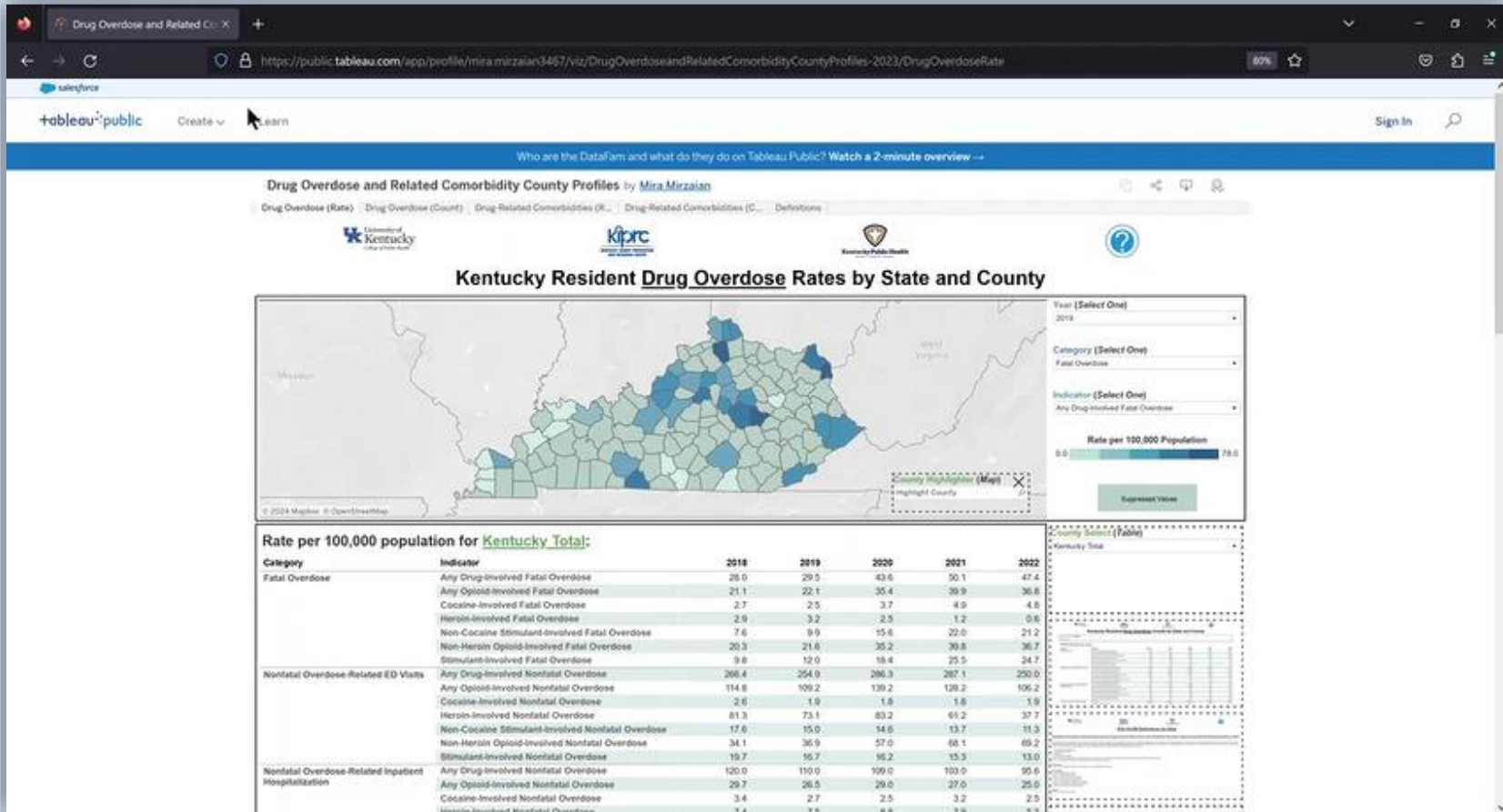
Produced by the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center, as bona fide agent for the Kentucky Department for Public Health. Data source: Kentucky Death Certificate Database, Kentucky Office of Vital Statistics, Cabinet for Health and Family Services. Data extracted May 2024. Data are provisional and subject to change.



KIPRC 'County Profiles': Drug Overdose and Related Comorbidities Tableau Dashboard



SCAN ME

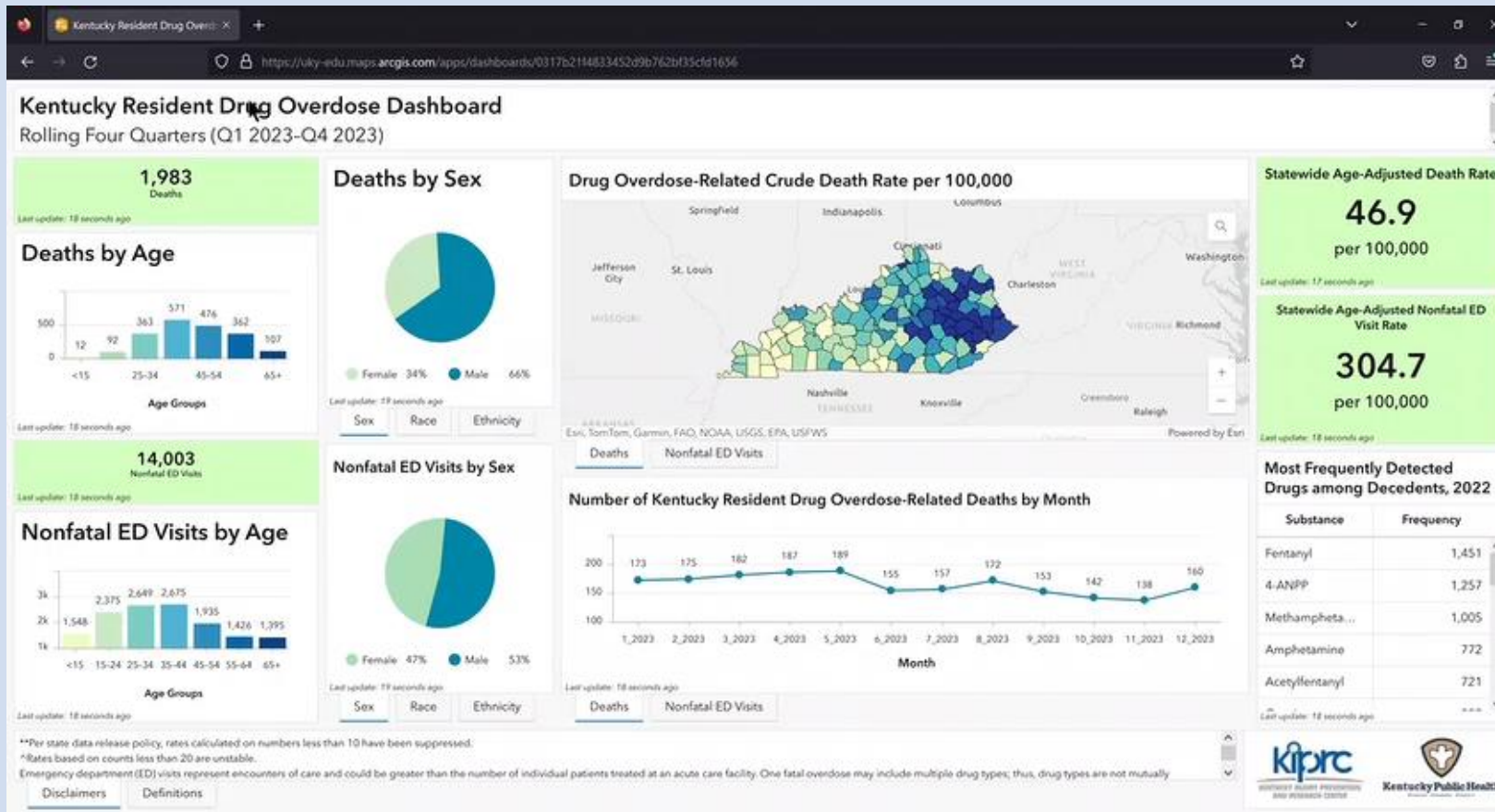




KIPRC Quarterly Morbidity and Mortality ArcGIS Dashboard



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Implications for Harm Reduction

- Dashboards can inform programmatic decision-making by providing timely information on overdose trends and demographics.
- The information can be used to tailor interventions based on the specific drug overdose patterns observed in their communities.
- Targeted interventions can be developed to address high-risk populations identified through the data, such as certain age groups or geographic areas with elevated overdose rates.
- Enhanced awareness of local overdose trends can facilitate collaboration between health care providers, public health agencies, and community organizations to implement comprehensive prevention strategies.

Conclusions and Q&A

- Insights from the both overdose deaths and ED encounters for overdose are declining for the second year in a row.
- The declines are not felt proportionately among different races and age groups. The distribution of the declines are also not equal.
- Continued monitoring and analysis of data are crucial for identifying emerging trends and adapting intervention efforts accordingly.
- The use of data dashboards enhances transparency and facilitates informed decision-making among policymakers, health care professionals, and community stakeholders.

To access KIPRC data
product library:



SCAN ME

Produced by the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center (KIPRC).

KIPRC, established in 1994, is a unique partnership between the Kentucky Department for Public Health (KDPH) and the University of Kentucky College of Public Health. KIPRC serves both as an academic injury prevention research center and as the KDPH's "bona fide agent" for statewide injury prevention and control, focusing on injury prevention translation and practice.

For more information, visit <https://kiprc.uky.edu>.

This project is supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of cooperative agreement 1 NU17CE010186 totaling \$5.4 million with 0% financed with nongovernmental sources. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement by, CDC, HHS, or the U.S. government. For more information, please visit [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov).