Drug Overdose Surveillance Report

3rd Quarter 2021

Hamilton County Health Department

Important note about the provisional data of this report

All suspected overdose-related deaths and overdose-related emergency department visit data in this report is provisional; meaning that it is the best current estimate available and is subject to change as data is confirmed over time.

This data does not represent official counts and is used as a way to conduct regular syndromic surveillance of the overdose epidemic in Hamilton County. Final data will be available after it undergoes a rigorous verification process. Provisional data is useful to understand the impact of the overdose epidemic on our community and inform resource allocation.
July to September 2021
Number of suspected fatal overdoses*: 58

*Includes all overdose incidents that took place in Hamilton County or that occurred at a Hamilton County hospital, includes non-Hamilton county residents

Source: Hamilton County Medical Examiner’s Office, Q3 2021.
Prepared by Hamilton County Health Department

- **Age Group (years):**
  - 0-17: 2%
  - 18-24: 5%
  - 25-34: 26%
  - 35-44: 26%
  - 45-54: 22%
  - 55-64: 17%
  - 65+: 2%

- **Sex:**
  - Female: 31%
  - Male: 69%

- **County of Residence:**
  - Hamilton County: 84%
  - Other: 16%

- **Cause of Death by Substance:**
  - Polysubstance: 12%
  - Fentanyl: 45%
  - Stimulant: 41%

- **Fentanyl Listed as a Cause of Death (COD):**
  - Listed on COD: 79%
  - Not listed on COD: 21%

Data is provisional & subject to change.
Heat Map of Overdose Deaths by Incident Zip Code

Data is provisional & subject to change.

Source: Hamilton County Medical Examiner’s Office, Q3 2021.
Prepared by Hamilton County Health Department
July to September 2021
Number of nonfatal drug overdose emergency department visits*: 191
*Includes all Hamilton County hospital visits, includes non-Hamilton county residents

Age Group (years):
- 0-17: 0%
- 18-24: 5%
- 25-34: 26%
- 35-44: 17%
- 45-54: 9%
- 55-64: 8%
- 65+: 3%
- Unknown: 32%

Sex:
- Female: 32%
- Male: 68%

County of Residence:
- Hamilton County: 72%
- Other: 28%

Drug Category**:
- Opioid w/o Heroin: 32%
- Heroin: 68%
- Stimulant: 11%

Count:
- Total: 180
- Hamilton County: 125
- Other: 59

**Drug category totals do not equal total number of nonfatal ED visits due to polysubstance use.

Data is provisional and subject to change.

Source: ESSENCE-TN Hamilton County, Q3 2021.
Prepared by Hamilton County Health Department
Heat Map of Nonfatal Overdose-Related Emergency Department Visits by Hamilton County Resident Zip Code

Data is provisional & subject to change.

Source: ESSENCE-TN Hamilton County, Q3 2021.
Prepared by Hamilton County Health Department
Resources for the Public

**Tennessee REDLINE**
A free, 24/7, confidential resource to receive accurate addiction information and treatment and resource referrals. 
Call or text: 1.800.889.9789 

**Naloxone Training**
Sign up for an Overdose Prevention and Naloxone training through the Hamilton County Coalition: 
[https://www.hccoalition.org/overdose-awareness-trainings](https://www.hccoalition.org/overdose-awareness-trainings)

**Overdose Signs**
- Not responsive
- Fingertips or lips turn blue or gray
- Slow, shallow, or no breathing
- Gurgling or snoring sounds
- Faint or no pulse

**Responding to an Overdose**
- Call 911
- If you have naloxone and have received TDH’s training, give the person naloxone and perform rescue breathing
- If no response after 2-3 minutes, give a second dose of naloxone
- Do not leave the person alone (help will arrive)
- If the person starts to breathe or becomes more alert, lay the person in the recovery position: put the person slightly on their left side so that their body is supported by a bent knee with their face turned to the side and bottom arm reaching out to stabilize

**Additional Resources**
Visit the Hamilton County Health Department’s Overdose Prevention webpage for additional resources -
Footnotes

Note: There may be additional fatal/nonfatal drug overdoses reported over this time period in subsequent reports as data is finalized.

Suspected fatal drug overdose data was obtained from the Hamilton County Medical Examiner’s Office. Data is provisional and will undergo vigorous review for final confirmation. All fatalities that occurred in Hamilton County were included in this report, regardless of county of residence.

Suspected nonfatal emergency department drug overdose data was obtained from ESSENCE-TN and ranged from 01/01/2021 to 06/30/2021. Data is provisional and will undergo vigorous review for final confirmation. All overdose-related ED visits in Hamilton County were included in this report, regardless of county of residence. ICD-10-CM diagnosis injury codes, in addition to chief complaint keyword queries, were used to capture nonfatal drug overdoses:

- Opioid: T40.0, F11.1, F11.2, F11.9
- Heroin: T40.1
- Other opioid: T40.2
- Methadone: T40.3
- Other synthetic narcotic: T40.4
- Cocaine: T40.5
- Other/unspecified narcotic: T40.6
- Amphetamine: T43.62

Drug Categories

- Opioids excluding Heroin: T40.0, T40.2-T40.4, T40.6, F11.1 (after review of CC), F11.2 (after review of CC), F11.9 (after review of CC)
- Heroin: T40.1
- Stimulant: T40.5, T43.62