

Introduction	Demographics and Determinants of Health	Overdose Incidents & Fatalities	Naloxone Utilization	Fentanyl Test Strip Utilization
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## Jefferson County Substance Use Data Dashboard: Introduction

The purpose of the dashboard is to provide stakeholders and our community with updated data, including multiple "real-time" measures and trends to enable data-informed and data-driven decision-making in program development, funding, and policymaking.

This data dashboard is the result of a multi-sector collaboration launched by the Jefferson County Substance Use Partnership (JCSUP) and led by Jefferson County Public Health with support and contributions from:

*Points West Syringe Services Program,  
Jefferson County Coroner's Office,  
Local and county law enforcement,  
Social services,  
Treatment providers,  
Recovery support organizations,  
Local hospital systems,  
Mesa, Pueblo, and (formerly)  
Tri-County Departments of Public Health,  
Community-based organizations, and  
People with lived experience and  
expertise in:  
recovery, harm reduction, and mental health.*

JEFFERSON COUNTY COLORADO | Public Health



JCSUP AMERICAN COUNTY PARTNERSHIP

### Questions or Comments?

We love feedback! If you have questions about this dashboard or suggestions to improve its functionality/use please contact the JCSUP Coordinator at [amuller@jeffco.us](mailto:amuller@jeffco.us).

*This dashboard was made possible through funding from the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment's Overdose Data to Action Grant and facilitated/developed by The Steadman Group in partnership with Jefferson County Public Health and JCSUP.*

*The project is designed to evolve with the needs of the county and stakeholders, so be sure to watch out for updates from JCH/JCSUP about new and upcoming features of the dashboard as we continue to improve Jeffco's substance use-related data capacity.*

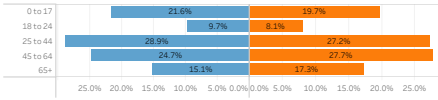
### Demographics and Social Determinants of Health

Data sources: Colorado State Demography Office, U.S. Census, American Community Survey, 2022  
 Point-in-Time (PIT) surveys by: Metro Denver Homeless Initiative (MDHI), Northern Colorado Continuum of Care, and Colorado Coalition for the Homeless, Pikes Peak Continuum of Care  
 Update frequency: Annual  
 Last updated: April 2023

How do Jefferson County demographics differ from the state average?

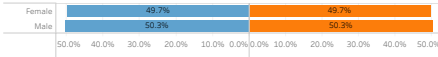


#### Age group

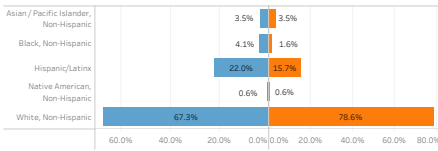


--> Jeffco is older

#### Sex assigned at birth

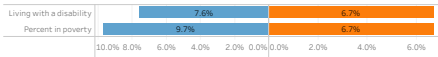


#### Racial/Ethnic Identity



--> Jeffco is home to larger white-identifying and smaller Black- and Hispanic-identifying populations

#### Poverty & disability under age 65

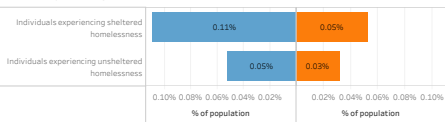


--> Jeffco experiences less poverty

#### A note on poverty:

Poverty often *underestimates* the true economic burden of low-income in a given area. Because many government benefits for food, health, and housing support are cut off near 100% of the poverty line, a number of families living above that line still face significant economic hardship in obtaining basic necessities no longer subsidized by the government but still too expensive to afford on a relatively low income.

#### Persons experiencing homelessness



--> Folks in Jeffco are less likely to experience homelessness

#### A note from JCPH's Homelessness Outreach Coordinator:

The PIT Count only surveys people experiencing what HUD defines as "literal homelessness" on a single night. Literal homelessness is defined as living in places not meant for human habitation, shelter, and some transitional housing programs. Someone staying temporarily with family or friends, staying in a motel, or staying in a hospital on the night of the survey is not counted, even if this individual experiences "literal homelessness" on all other nights.

### Overdose frequency

Data sources: ESSENCE, Jefferson County Coroner's Office  
 Update frequency: Monthly (ESSENCE), Annual (Coroner)  
 Date range: 2018 - present

**Please note:**

- If an indicator has a group of <5 individuals or incidents, that data is suppressed for privacy
- You can change the timeframe of data included by adjusting the sliders below
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Start Date Jun 2020

End Date Apr 2023

#### Have overdose-related emergency department admissions changed over time?

Overdose-related ED admissions  
 (N = 2,143) - Last updated: June 2023



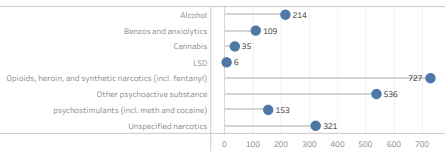
Notes: ED admissions data begins June 2020 due to extreme data variation from March-May 2020 during the onset of COVID-19. Overdose incidents reflect any relevant ED admission from Jefferson County residents, regardless of the location of the point of care.

Click the box below to see pre-COVID overdose-related admission data.

**ED Overdose Data, 2018 - May 2020**

#### What substances tend to be involved in overdose-related ED admissions?

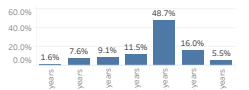
Primary substance involved in overdose



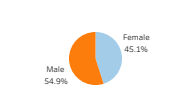
Note: The above review of 'primary substance involved' does not show substances with a count of <5 unique incidents.

#### What are the demographics of JeffCo residents experiencing overdose-related ED admi..

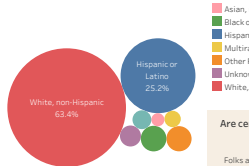
Age group



Sex assigned at birth



Racial/ethnic identity



Racial/ethnic identity

- American Indian or Alaska Native, non-Hispanic
- Asian, non-Hispanic
- Black or African American, non-Hispanic
- Hispanic or Latino
- Multiracial, non-Hispanic
- Other Race, non-Hispanic
- Unknown
- White, non-Hispanic

#### Are certain groups at greater risk than others?

--> Yes  
 Folks ages 18-44, men, and those who identify as White, non-Hispanic are more likely to experience overdose-related ED admissions than expected based on county demographic data.

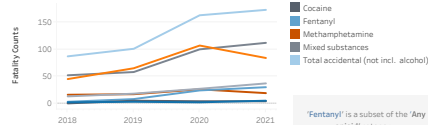
Note: The above review of 'racial/ethnic identity' does not show racial/ethnic groups with a count of <5 unique incident..

#### How do ED overdose incidents compare to annual accidental overdose fatalities?

The Jefferson County Coroner's Office data is explored below.

Accidental overdose fatalities over time, by substance involved

(N = 1,410) - Last updated: April 2023



- Acute alcohol (accidental)
- Alcohol-related (chronic)
- Any opioid
- Cocaine
- Fentanyl
- Methamphetamine
- Mixed substances
- Total accidental (not incl. alcohol)

Note: Coroner's Office fatality data includes all deaths that occur in Jefferson County, while vital statistics data include all deaths that occur among Jefferson County residents, regardless of their geographic location at the time of death. As a result, coroner's data does not align with vital statistics data.

'Fentanyl' is a subset of the 'Any opioid' category.

'Mixed substances' means that more than one substance was identified—including alcohol, illicit drugs, prescription medications, and over-the-counter medications—but we do not have more information on which substances were involved.

'Total accidental (not incl. alcohol)' excludes fatalities related to chronic alcohol use and acute alcohol intoxication due to the classification methods of the Coroner's Office.

**ED Overdose Data, 2018 - May 2020**

--> Based on past ED admissions data (view by clicking on box above), accidental overdose fatalities and ED admissions correlate closely.

### Naloxone distribution and outcomes

Data source: Points West Syringe Services Program  
 Update frequency: Monthly  
 Collection period: 2018 - present

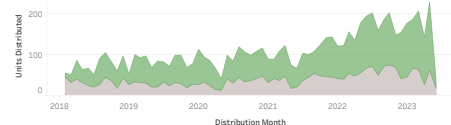
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Start Date: Feb 2018  
 End Date: Jun 2023

#### How much naloxone is distributed in the community?

Total monthly naloxone units dispensed by repeat vs. first-time collector status  
 (N=7,116) - Data last updated: June 2023



#### Are we distributing enough naloxone to meet the need?

Naloxone deficit	2018	2019	2020	2021
	-591	-606	-1,500	-1,641

**--> Not right now.**  
 Even as distribution has increased, the need is growing more quickly.

**What is this?**

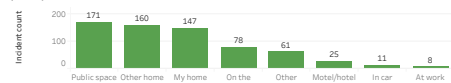
The **naloxone deficit**—also known as the "naloxone saturation rate"—establishes that, for every opioid-related overdose fatality, the community should give out 20 naloxone kits to more effectively prevent future overdose mortality.

The **naloxone deficit** tells us how many naloxone units short we are from reaching that 20 kit-per-overdose-fatality benchmark. Click on any box to the left to see the original study.

The count above reflects saturation based on Points West program data *only* and likely overestimates the local need.

#### Where is naloxone being used?

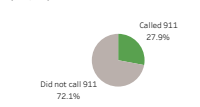
Count of overdose incidents by setting  
 (N= 661)



**--> Almost 1/3 of all overdose incidents reported happened in public spaces.**

#### What happens after someone uses naloxone to reverse an overdose?

911 utilization following naloxone use  
 (N=1,562)



**--> Naloxone works!**  
 --> EMS use for overdose is unlikely among this group when naloxone is on hand

Overdose outcome following naloxone use  
 (N=399)

Person woke up because of my help	76.4%
Person was taken to hospital and I know that they survived	8.3%
Paramedics came and I don't know what happened after that	4.6%
Person woke up without any help	3.5%
Paramedics were able to revive person	2.6%
Person did not survive (Fatal outcome)	0.6%

### Fentanyl Test Strip Distribution Volume and Outcomes

Data source: Points West Syringe Services Program  
 Update frequency: Monthly  
 Collection Period: 2018 - present

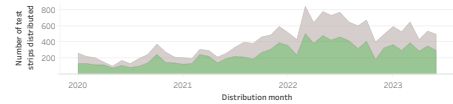
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Start Date: Jan 2020  
 End Date: Jun 2023

#### How many fentanyl test strips are distributed in the community?

Fentanyl test strips (FTS) distributed over time by repeat vs. first-time participant status  
 (N = 17,286) - Last updated: June 2023



#### How much of the drug supply is saturated with fentanyl?

Fentanyl test strip results  
 (N=1,909)



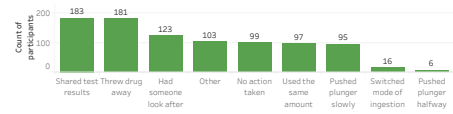
Any opioid (incl. heroin, opioids, fentanyl, and blues)	Positive	62.3%
Methamphetamine	Positive	49.2%
Other (incl. crack, cocaine, benzodiazepines, other stimulants)	Positive	52.2%

**A note from the JCPH Harm Reduction Program Coordinator:**

FTS results provide only a partial picture of fentanyl prevalence, as these figures are based on self-report data. This creates limitations due to poor memory recall and social desirability bias, meaning that folks often say what they think is the "right" answer instead of objective reality.

#### Do FTS results change behavior?

Positive test strip result outcome: actions taken  
 (N= 503)



**--> Yes!**

The majority of individuals with a positive FTS result report changing their behavior to more safely consume substance, or avoid consumption entirely.

## Demographics, Points West Naloxone and Fentanyl Test Strip Program Participants

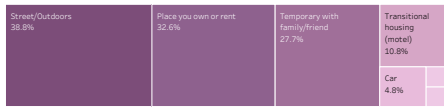
Data source: Points West Syringe Services Program  
 Update frequency: Monthly  
 Data collection range: 2018-present

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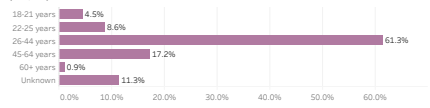
### How do harm reduction program participant demographics differ from the state and c..

Housing status  
 (N = 2,343) - Last updated: June 2023



-> Participants are much more likely to report unstable housing

Age group  
 (N=2,905)

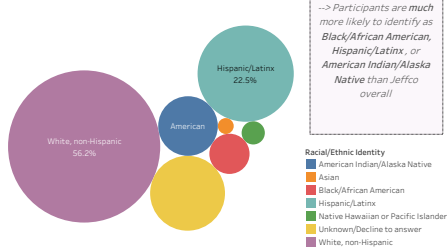


Gender identity  
 (N=2,336)



-> Participants are more likely to be under age 44 and identify as a man

Racial/ethnic identity  
 (N=2,448)



-> Participants are much more likely to identify as Black/African American, Hispanic/Latinx, or American Indian/Alaska Native than Jeffco overall

**Racial/Ethnic Identity**

- American Indian/Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black/African American
- Hispanic/Latinx
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- Unknown/Decline to answer
- White, non-Hispanic

Overdose Incidents & Fatalities	Naloxone Utilization	Fentanyl Test Strip Utilization	Harm Reduction Participant Demographics	<b>Recovery Ecosystem Index</b>
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**Recovery Ecosystem Index**

*created by NORC, Eastern Tennessee University, and the Fletcher Group (a Rural Center of Excellence)*

[Click here](#) to visit the website directly!

