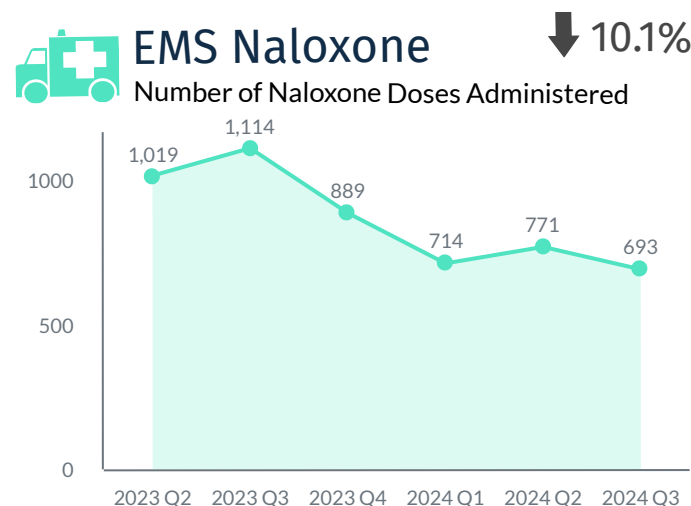
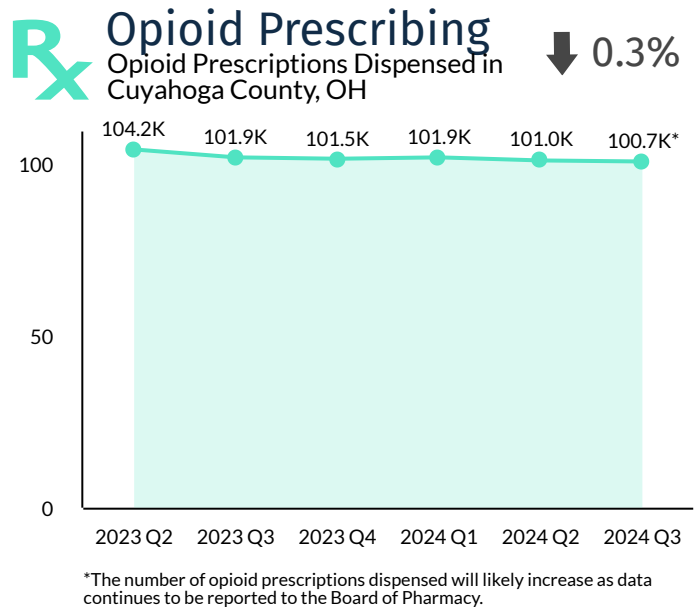
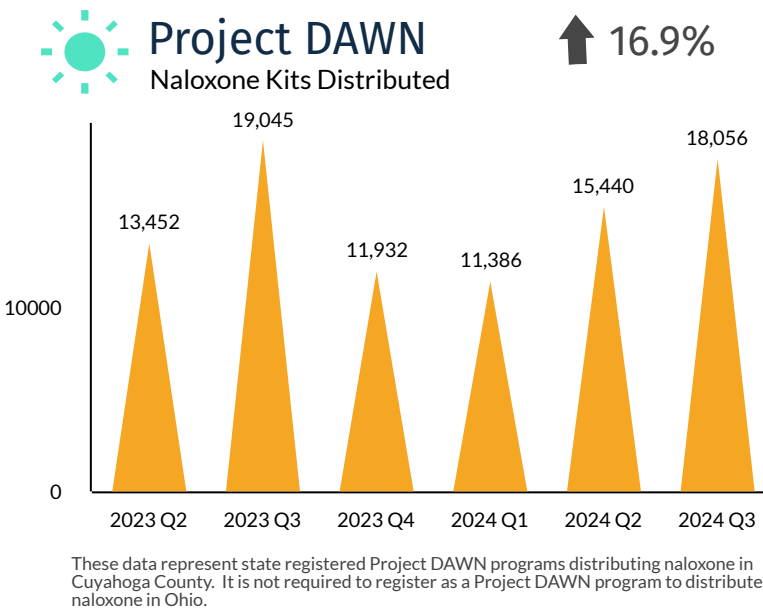
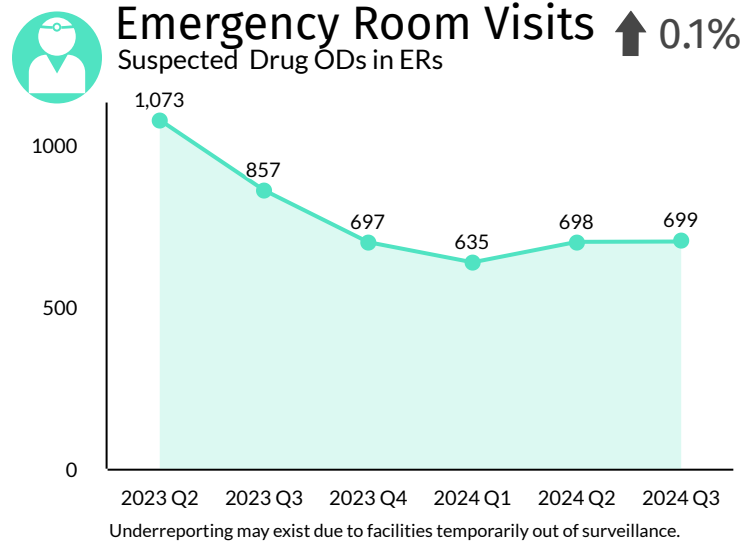
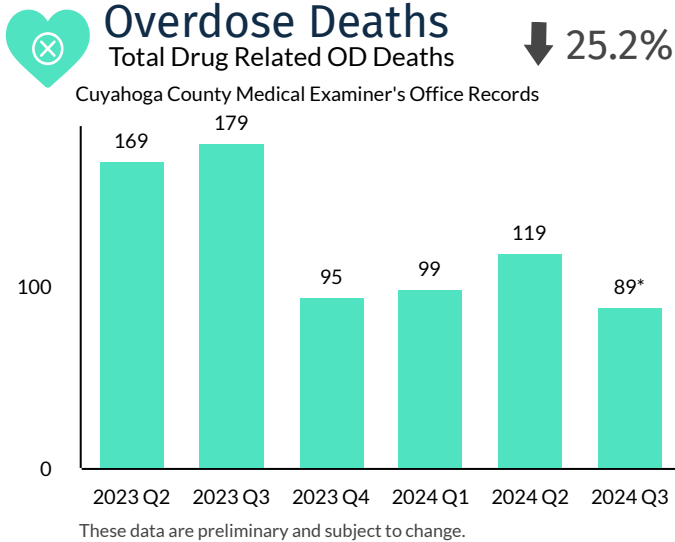
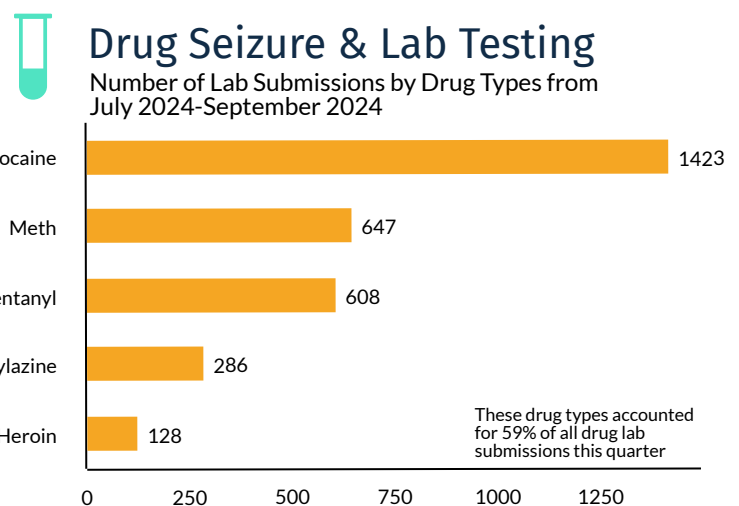


Overdose Data to Action Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Overdose data surveillance is intended to generate insight to drive more effective prevention and response activities by providing timely dissemination of drug overdose related trends.

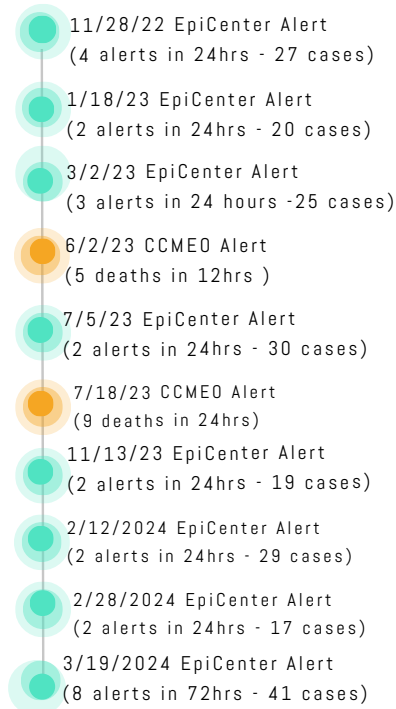


EMS Naloxone administrations are provided by agencies reporting to Ohio EMS



Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office Reporting

Overdose Alert Periods (November 2022 - Present)



The overdose alert periods are a combination of non-fatal overdose anomaly (spike) detections reported by the Cuyahoga County Board of Health, also known as EpiCenter Alerts, and fatal overdose public health alerts issued by the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office, shown on a timeline.



Highlight



Warning Issued for Ordering Prescription Medications Online

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) announced an indictment against individuals running illegal online pharmacies. Multiple fake pharmacies were identified that have been shipping millions of unregulated counterfeit prescription pills, which often contain fentanyl, to tens of thousands of individuals in the U.S., and without the requirement of a prescription. Related drug overdose deaths have occurred. Individuals should only use medications prescribed by a licensed healthcare provider and dispensed by a licensed pharmacy.
<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2024/s1002-counterfeit-prescription-online-pharmacies.html>

New Adulterant in Drug Supply

A new adulterant to fentanyl emerged within the U.S. illicit drug market in mid-June. Bis (2,2,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidyl) sebacate, also known as BTMPS, is an industrial chemical used to protect plastics and their content from UV light with various commercial uses. Its appearance began on the West coast, but it has rapidly spread across the nation. The Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office detected BTMPS in the Cuyahoga County drug supply this quarter through syringe testing efforts. The effects of this substance on humans are not well understood and should be monitored closely.



Important Findings / Trends

Increases or decreases are from Q2 2024 to Q3 2024 unless otherwise stated. Data are preliminary and subject to change.

Quarter over Quarter:

Overall, fatal overdoses decreased by 25.2% over the last quarter.¹ The number of persons presenting to emergency departments for suspected drug overdose was relatively stable (0.1% increase).²

There was a decrease (0.3%) in opioid prescribing this quarter.³ There was a 16.9% increase in the number of Project DAWN naloxone kits distributed in quarter 3 of 2024.⁴ EMS naloxone administrations decreased by 10.1%.⁵

From July to September 2024, cocaine ranked highest in the number of lab submissions (1,423) to the Cuyahoga County Regional Forensics Science Lab (CCRFSL), followed by methamphetamine (647). Lab submissions of cocaine increased by 59%, fentanyl increased by 42%, methamphetamine increased by 42%, xylazine increased by 21%, and heroin increased by 35% from last quarter.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Drug Seizures:

National CBP data show that seized fentanyl by weight for 2024 through Q3 (21.9K lbs.) is below the 2023 through Q3 weight seized (27.0K lbs.). Comparing fiscal year 2024 to 2023 data, the amount of seized cocaine by weight also decreased this year but methamphetamine seizures by weight increased.⁶

Cuyahoga County Board of Health
<https://www.ccbh.net/overdose-data-dashboard/>

Data Sources and Notes:

- 1 Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office Quarterly Updates
- 2 Emergency Department Visits for Suspected Drug Overdose Among Cuyahoga County Residents. EpiCenter. Ohio Department of Health. Data used for this report is accessed by the Cuyahoga County Board of Health. Similar data is available to the public at <https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/violence-injury-prevention-program/Suspected-OD-Dashboard2>
- 3 Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System. Ohio Board of Pharmacy. Available <https://www.ohiopmp.gov/County.aspx>
- 4 Ohio Department of Health, Violence and Injury Prevention Section - Project DAWN Monthly Distribution Logs. Analyzed by Cuyahoga County Board of Health.
- 5 Ohio EMS. Naloxone Administration Doses, by County. "Naloxone Watch" Available <https://www.ems.ohio.gov/#gsc.tab=0>
- 6 U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Drug Seizures. Drug Seizure Statistics. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/drug-seizure-statistics>