

This data report provides a summary of drug-related fatalities that occurred from 2016 to 2020\* among residents of Medina County, OH. A drug-related fatality was identified as any fatality where a drug or controlled substance was detected immediately upon death and does not include deaths resulting from chronic substance use or abuse. During this time frame, Medina County saw a total of 222 drug-related fatalities with an overall age adjusted mortality rate of 21.1 fatalities per 100,000 people in the county.

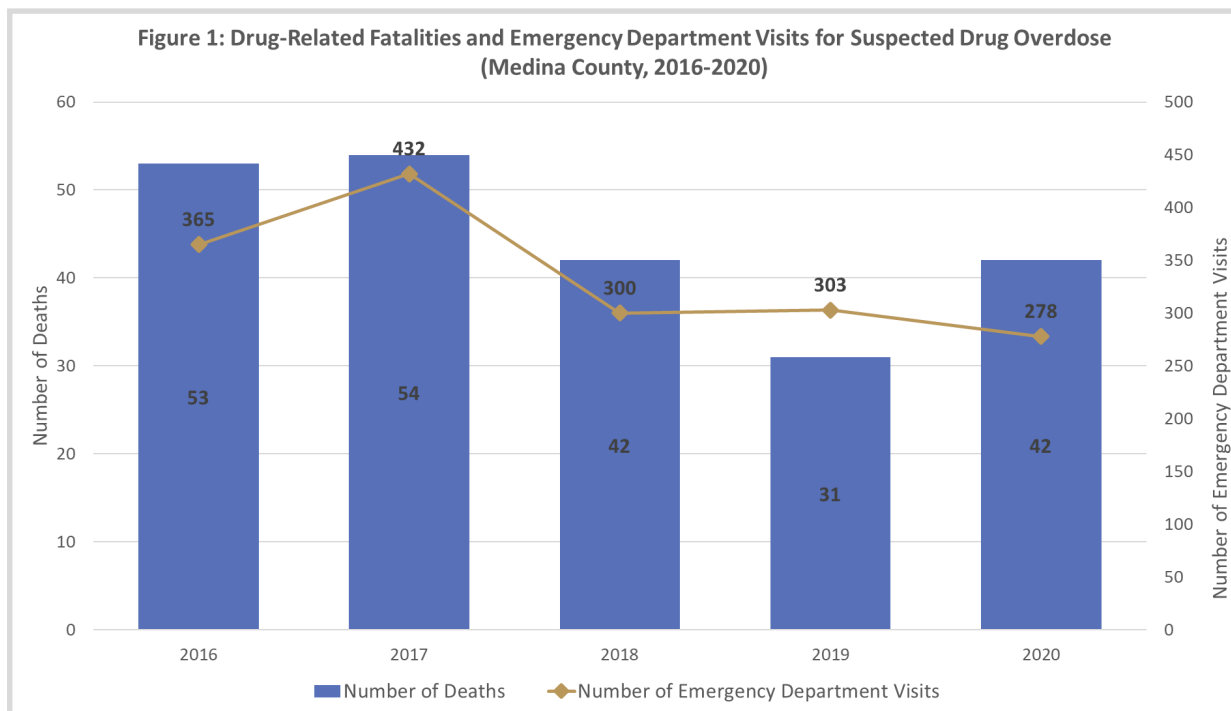


Figure 1 shows the number of drug-related fatalities and emergency room visits\*\* for per year from 2016 to 2020. From 2016 to 2020, there was a 20.8% decrease in drug-related fatalities and a 23.8% decrease in emergency room visits. Between 2019 and 2020, emergency room visits continued to decrease but drug-related fatalities grew by 35.5%.

\*Data are based on mortality records received from the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) Bureau of Vital Statistics and were extracted on June 7, 2021. Data from 2020 are considered preliminary and subject to change as more information is added. Fatalities were analyzed based on indicators in the death record. These indicators use ICD 10 codes for poisonings and exposure to noxious substances in combination with literal text from cause of death fields.

\*\*Data for emergency department visits come from Health Monitoring Systems EpiCenter 3.5.21 and represent all visits made to hospitals and urgent cares for suspected drug overdoses and were extracted on July 1, 2021.

<b>Table 1: Indicated Substances in Drug-Related Fatalities (Medina County, 2016-2020)</b>			
<b>Substance</b>	<b>ICD 10 Codes</b>	<b>Number of Fatalities</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Prescription Opiates	T40.2-T40.4, T40.6	158	71.2%
Fentanyl and/or fentanyl analogues	Fentanyl found in literal cause of death	114	51.4%
Carfentanil	Carfentanil found in literal cause of death	26	11.7%
Heroin	T40.1	30	13.5%
Designer Opioids	T402-403	1	0.4%
Benzodiazepines	T42.4	34	15.3%
Barbituates	T42.3	2	0.9%
Cocaine	T40.5	38	17.1%
Psychostimulants (e.g., Methamphetamine)	T436	20	9.0%
Hallucinogens	T40.7, T40.8, T40.9	4	1.8%
Alcohol	T51.0-51.9	48	21.6%
Other Unspecified Drugs	T50.9	81	36.5%
Poly-Substance Use	Any combination of substances listed above	164	73.9%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>222</b>	

*Table 1 displays drug-related fatalities by substance indicated based on ICD 10 codes and literal text listed in the cause of death to provide a description of the type of substance that contributed to the fatality. The highest number of fatalities were attributed to prescription opiates: ICD 10 code T40.2-T40.4 & T40.6 (71.2%). Notably, 73.9% of fatalities involved multiple substances.*

*In examining the leading cause of death, 190 (85.6%) were identified as unintentional or accidental, 46 (8.6%) were suicides, 6 (2.7%) resulted from diseases of the heart, 5 (2.3%) were of undetermined intent, and 2 (0.9%) were from other causes. Not included in this report are the 46 fatalities from alcoholic liver disease, 31 from mental and behavior disorders due to use of alcohol, or any other diseases or condition resulting from chronic drug or substance use.*

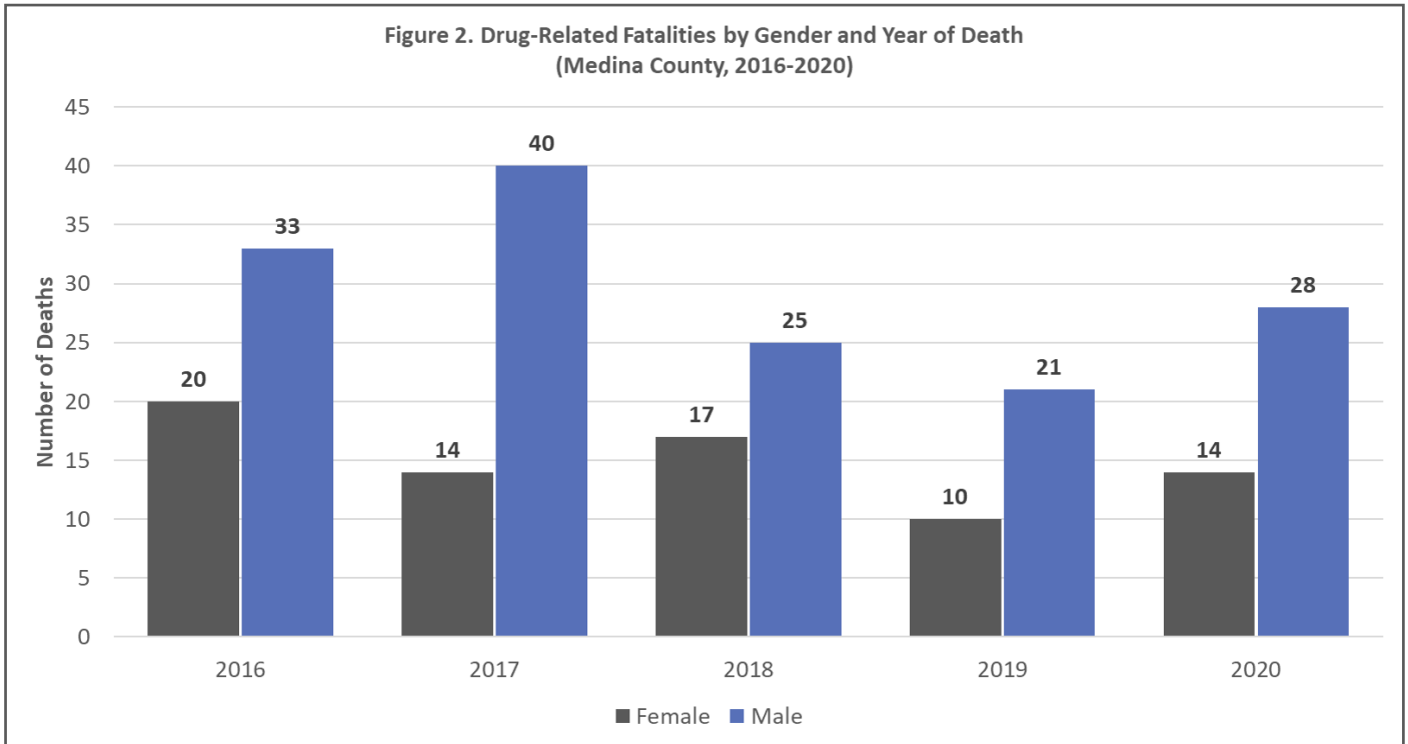


Figure 2 displays drug-related fatalities by gender and year of death. 2016 had the highest number of fatalities for females (20) and 2017 had the highest for males (40). Males accounted for twice as many drug-related fatalities. The number of drug-related fatalities for both genders decreased between 2017 and 2019, but in 2020, drug-related fatalities increased.

<b>Table 2: Drug-Related Fatalities by Age Groups (Medina County, 2016-2020)</b>							
<b>Age Groups</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>Percentages</b>
0-14 years	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>	0.0%
15-24 years	5	8	7	3	5	<b>28</b>	12.6%
25-44 years	31	31	27	22	24	<b>135</b>	60.8%
45-64 years	17	11	8	6	12	<b>54</b>	24.3%
65+ years	0	4	0	0	1	<b>5</b>	2.3%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>222</b>	

Table 2 displays the number of drug-related fatalities by age groups and year of death. The 25-44 years age group had the highest number of overdose related fatalities with 135 fatalities (60.8%). The 0-14 age group had the lowest with 0 fatalities (0%). The average age of this individuals was 37.5 years and also ranged from 15 to 76 years of age.

Table 3: Drug-Related Fatalities by Residential Zip Codes and Area (Medina County, 2016-2020)			
Zip Codes	Area	Number of Drug-Related Fatalities	Rate of Fatalities per 100,000
44203	Norton (Border of Wadsworth)	*	*
44212	Brunswick	56	125.5
44215	Chippewa Lake	5	226.3
44217	Creston	*	*
44230	Doylestown (Border of Wadsworth)	*	*
44233	Hinckley	7	87.9
44235	Homerville	*	*
44253	Litchfield	6	193.9
44254	Lodi	16	316.9
44256	Medina	67	105.5
44273	Seville	9	122.8
44275	Spencer	*	*
44280	Valley City	*	*
44281	Wadsworth	38	117.7
<b>Totals</b>		<b>222</b>	<b>142.3</b>

\*Data are not presented when fewer than 5 fatalities were observed.

Table 3 displays the number of drug-related fatalities by the individuals' residential zip codes and area. The zip codes with the highest rate of fatalities were the following: 44254 (Lodi), 44215 (Chippewa Lake), and 44253 (Litchfield).

**Figure 3: Density of Drug-Related Fatalities Based on Location of Injury (Medina County, 2016-2020)**

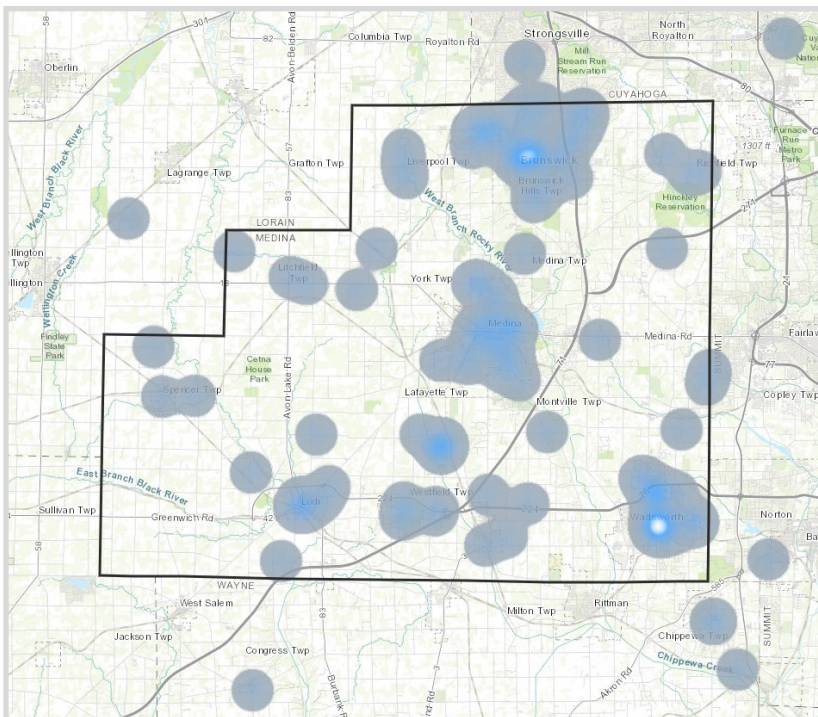


Figure 3 displays the density of locations of where drug-related fatalities occurred (based on location of injury). One in five fatalities (18.9%) occurred outside of Medina County. In examining the location of death, 126 (56.8%) died in a home, 68 (30.6%) died in a hospital, 9 (4.1%) died in a vehicle or parking lot, 6 (2.7%) died outside or near a park, 6 (2.7%) died in a hotel or shelter, and 7 (3.2%) did not provide a location.

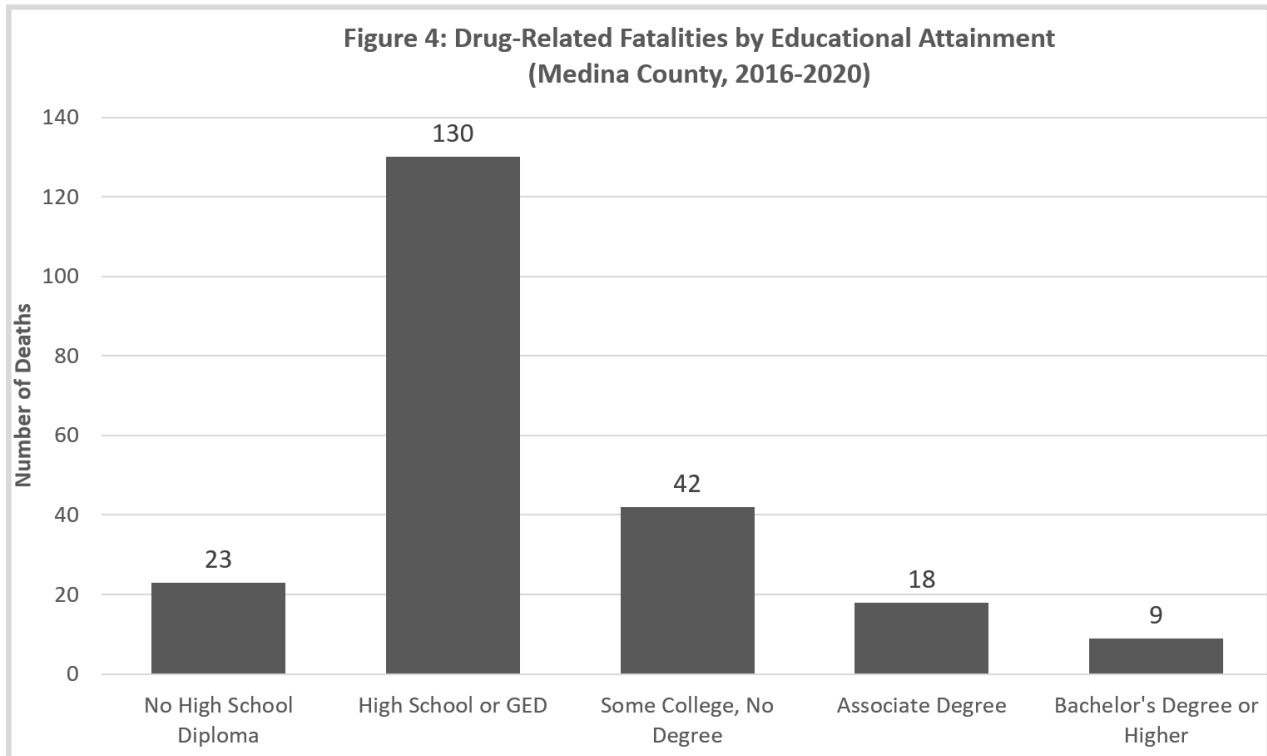


Figure 4 displays the number of drug-related fatalities by educational attainment. The highest number of fatalities occurred among individuals who had an educational level of high school graduate or GED completed with 130 fatalities (58.6%) and the lowest number of fatalities occurred among individuals who a Bachelor's Degree or higher (4.1%).

**Table 4: Drug-Related Fatalities by Year and Marital Status (Medina County, 2016-2020)**

Marital Status	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Totals	Percentage of Fatalities
Divorced/ Separated	12	10	10	4	10	46	20.7%
Married	10	14	11	5	7	47	21.1%
Single	29	28	20	22	24	123	55.4%
Widowed	2	2	1	0	1	6	2.7%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>222</b>	

Table 4 displays the number of drug-related fatalities by year and marital status. The highest number of fatalities occurred among individuals who were single with 123 fatalities (55.4%). Individuals who were married or divorced/separated accounted for 41.8% of all overdose related fatalities.

Questions about this report can be directed to the Medina County Health Department Epidemiologists, Brent Styer or Stephanie Moore, by calling 330-723-9688 option 2, or via email at [bstyer@medinahealth.org](mailto:bstyer@medinahealth.org) or [smoore@medinahealth.org](mailto:smoore@medinahealth.org).

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