

Monthly Opioid Morbidity and Mortality Report

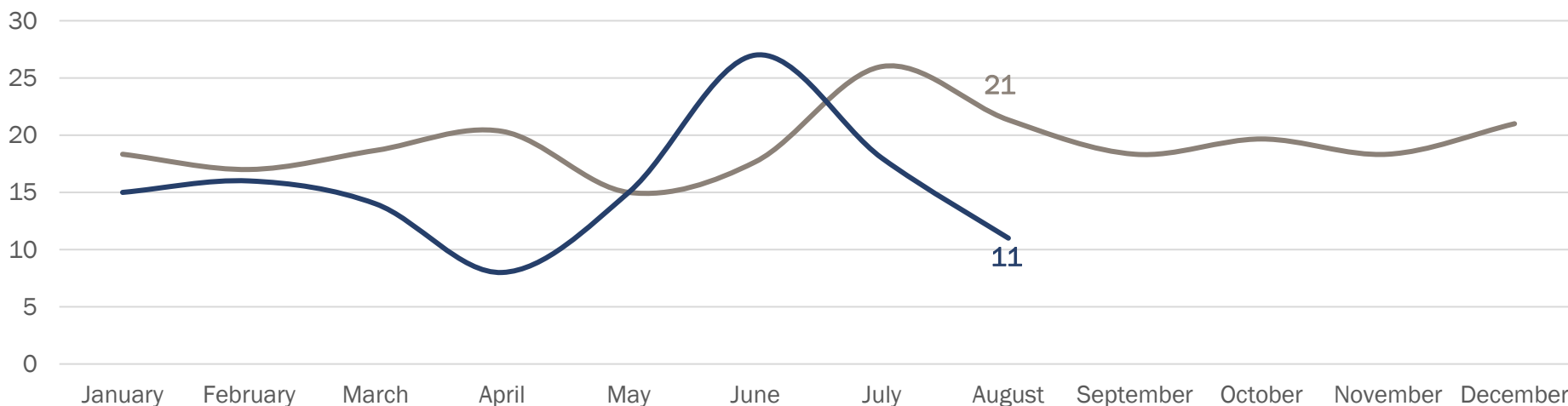
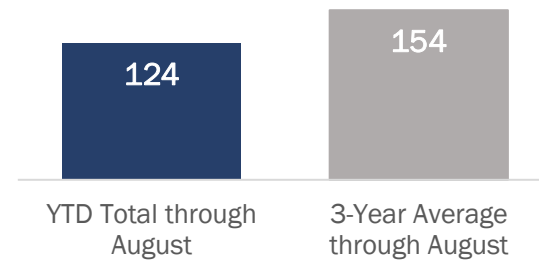
Summary of 2024 Opioid Deaths (to date):

November 13, 2024

As of the end of August, there have been 124 opioid-related accidental and undetermined deaths among Vermont residents. The number of opioid deaths is lower than the three-year average through August. Washington County currently has the highest rate of opioid deaths (28.3 per 100,000 residents); this rate is statistically similar to Vermont overall (19.2 per 100,000 residents).

The number of Vermonters dying by opioid overdose was lower in August than in previous years.

Opioid deaths in **2024** and **3-year averages** by month among Vermont residents*

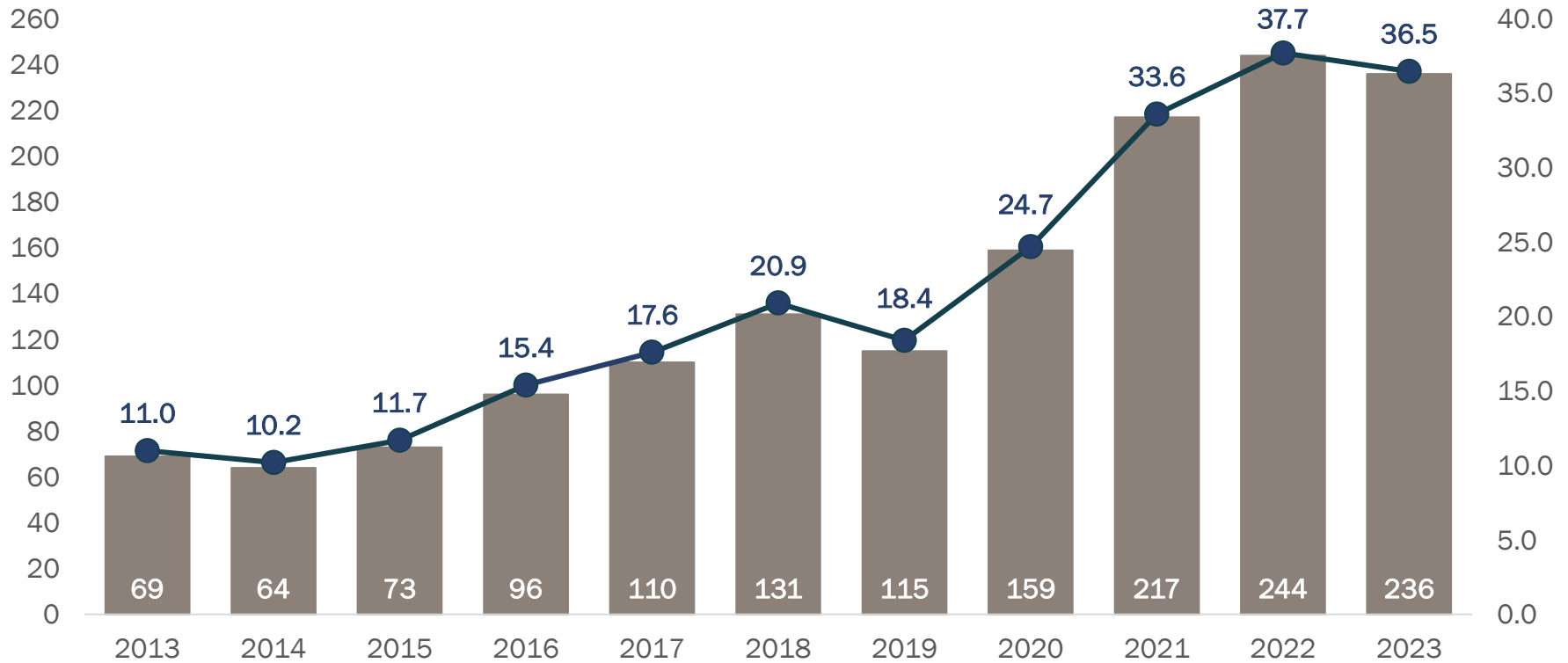


Source: Vermont Vital Statistics, 2021-2024. All data from 2023 and 2024 are considered preliminary.

*3-year averages are calculated using the years 2021 to 2023.

Please note there is an 8-week lag in reporting opioid overdose deaths. An 8-week lag minimizes the changes in numbers posted. Opioid deaths through the end of August are included in this report. There is **1** pending death certificate in March 2024, **4** pending death certificates in April 2024, **5** pending death certificates in May 2024, **5** pending death certificates in June 2024, **8** pending death certificates in July 2024, and **13** pending death certificates in August 2024.

The number and rate per 100,000 of opioid-related deaths over the past 10 years.



*2023 data is preliminary and subject to change. There are 0 pending death certificates in 2023.

For more comparisons to previous years: [Annual Opioid-Related Deaths Report](#)

Through August, most opioid-related accidental and undetermined deaths among Vermont residents have involved fentanyl.

2024 Month of Death	Total Number of Opioid-Related Accidental and Undetermined Manner Deaths								
	Total*	Fentanyl	Rx Opioid (no fentanyl)	Heroin	Cocaine	Xylazine	Gabapentin	Benzodiazepines	Methamphetamine
January	15	15	1	0	11	4	3	3	1
February	16	15	4	0	13	4	3	1	1
March	14	13	4	0	8	5	1	3	4
April	8	8	0	0	7	3	0	1	0
May	15	15	1	0	8	8	2	4	1
June	27	25	5	1	21	13	2	1	3
July	18	17	8	1	15	8	2	6	1
August	11	11	2	0	9	7	4	1	1
September									
October									
November									
December									
Total Vermont Residents	124	119	25	2	92	52	17	20	12
Vermonters in Vermont	116	111	25	2	86	52	17	19	10
Vermonters Out of State	8	8	0	0	6	0	0	1	2
Non-Vermont Residents	8	8	0	2	3	5	1	1	1

Source: Vermont Vital Statistics. All data from 2024 is considered preliminary.

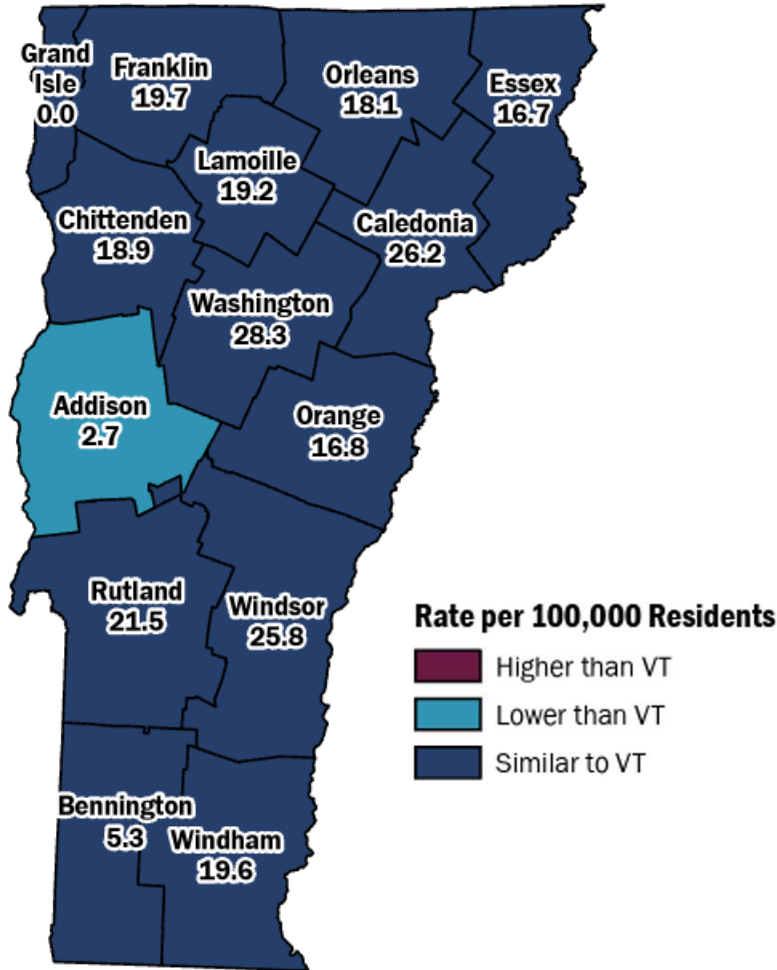
*Involvement of individual substances is not mutually exclusive.

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Deaths

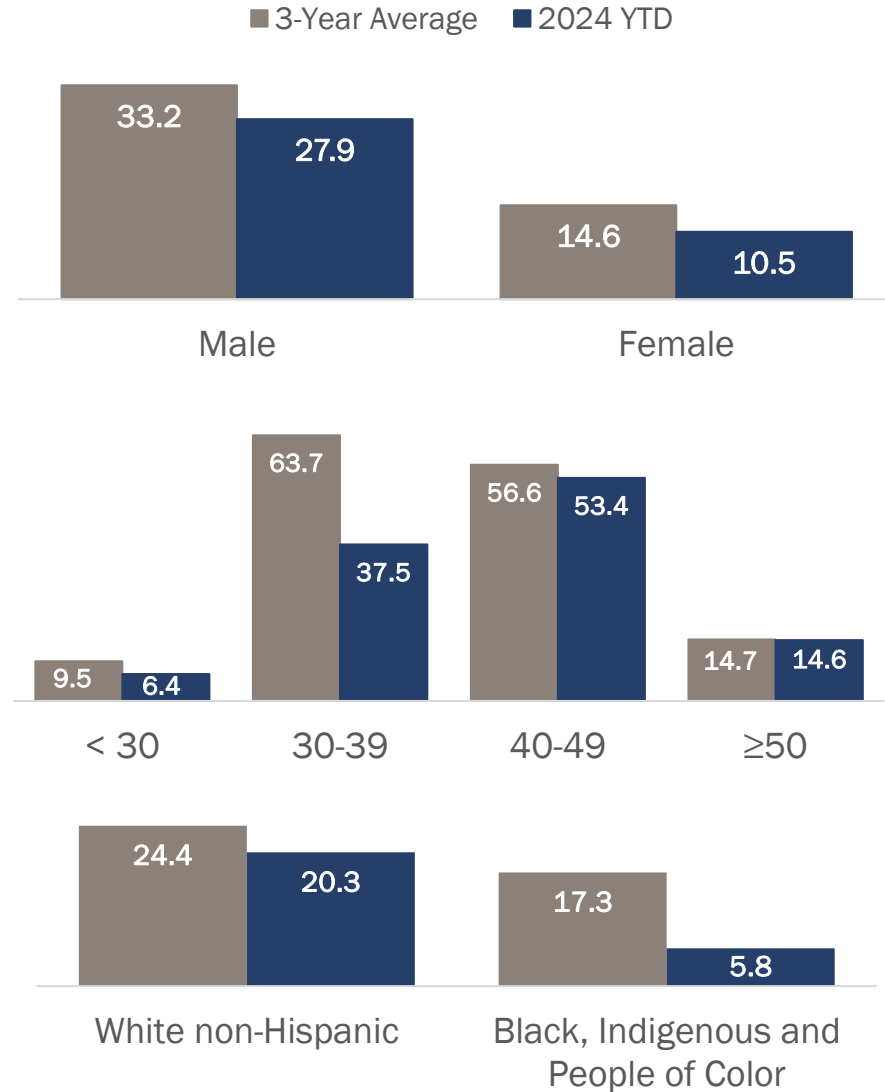
Opioid overdose death rates by county of residence compared to statewide rate (19.2), through August

Opioid overdose death rates per 100,000 Vermont residents



Opioid overdose death rates by sex, age, and race/ethnicity, through August

Rate per 100,000 Vermont residents



Chittenden County has the highest number of opioid-related accidental and undetermined deaths through August.

Number of Opioid Deaths by Month and County of Residence														3-year
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Avg*
Addison	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1					1	5
Bennington	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0					2	12
Caledonia	1	3	1	0	0	2	0	1					8	7
Chittenden	3	2	5	1	4	9	4	4					32	35
Essex	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0					1	2
Franklin	2	0	1	1	0	3	3	0					10	9
Grand Isle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					0	1
Lamoille	2	1	0	0	0	2	0	0					5	6
Orange	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0					5	6
Orleans	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1					5	8
Rutland	2	2	0	1	0	6	2	0					13	17
Washington	3	2	2	1	2	1	6	0					17	12
Windham	1	1	1	0	4	1	1	0					9	17
Windsor	0	1	1	1	3	3	2	4					15	18
Missing County of Residence	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0					1	0
VT Resident Deaths	15	16	14	8	15	27	18	11					124	154
Vermonters in VT	15	15	13	7	11	26	18	11					116	
Non-Vermont Residents	2	1	0	0	2	1	1	1					8	
Pending Death Certificates**	0	0	1	4	5	5	8	13					36	

Note: 2024 data is preliminary and subject to change.

*3-year averages are calculated through August.

**The number of pending death certificates are deaths that have not been assigned a cause of death in Vermont Vital Statistics.

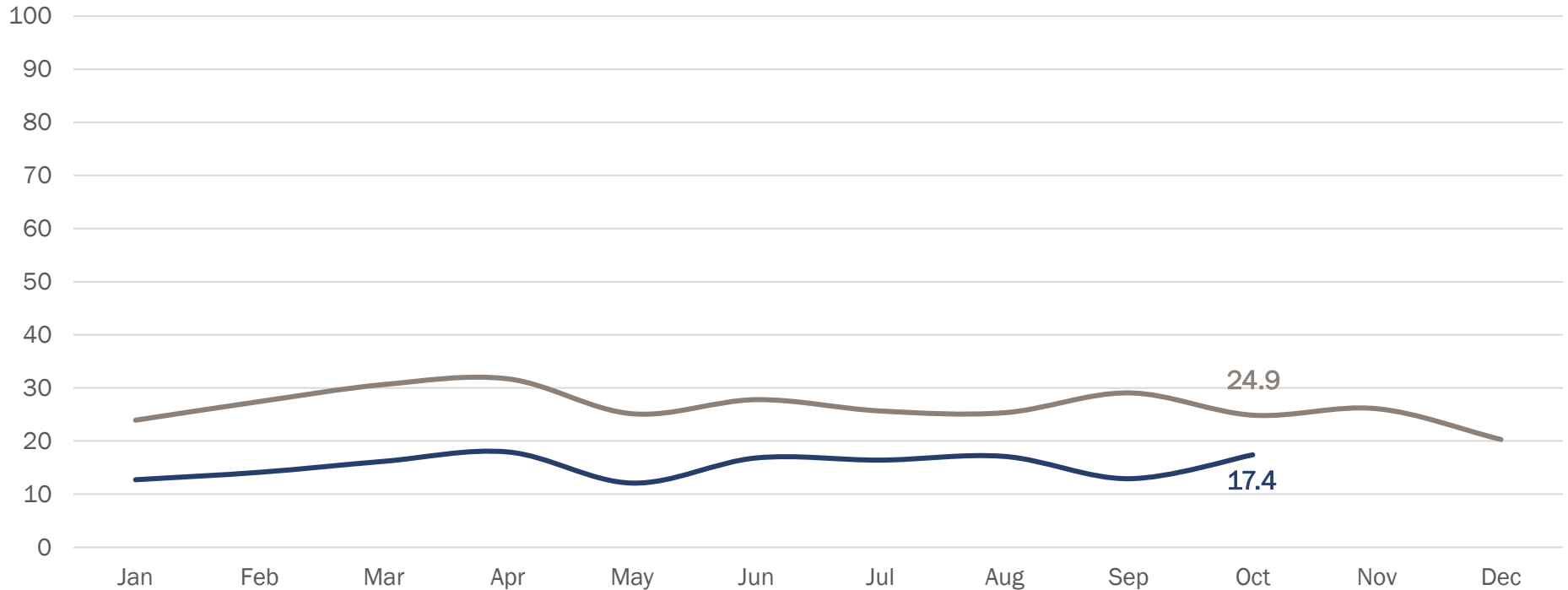
Death certificates that are pending are not necessarily opioid-related deaths.

Syndromic Surveillance

As of November 13th, emergent care visit rates for opioid overdose in 2024 have been lower than the 3-year average.

Rate of Emergent Care Visits for Opioid Overdose by Month

2024 and 3-year Average Rates of Opioid Overdose Visits per 10,000 ED and Urgent Care Visits*



Source: Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics, 2021-2024.

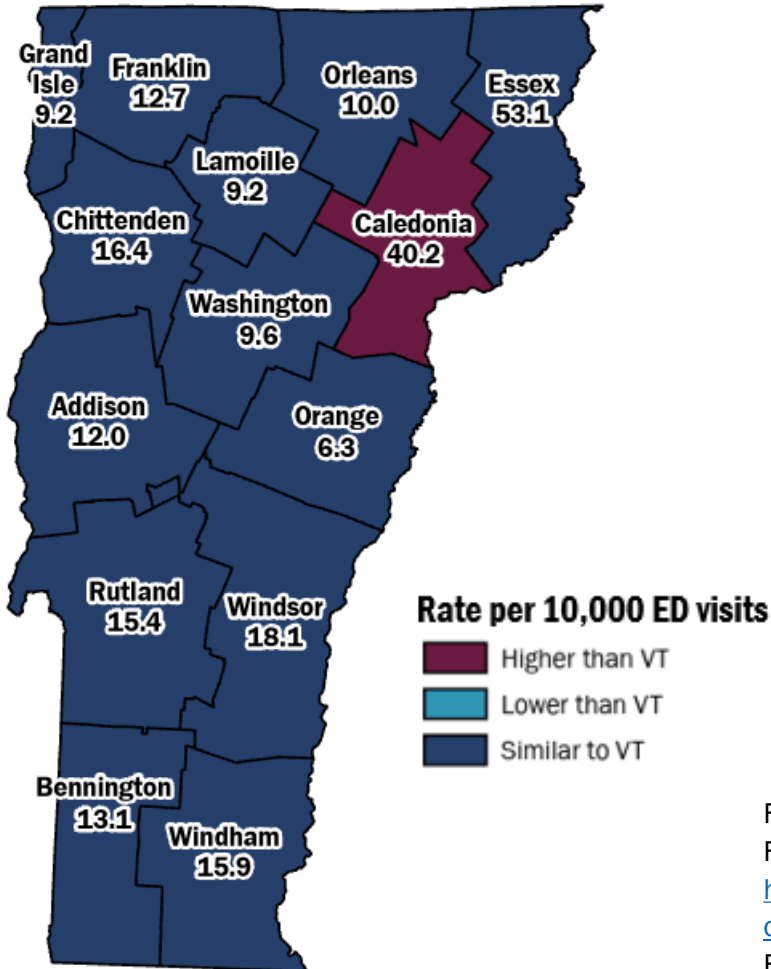
*3-year averages are calculated using the years 2021 to 2023.

Opioid overdose is determined using the patient's chief complaint and/or discharge diagnosis.

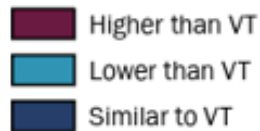
Syndromic Surveillance

2024 ED visit rates for opioid overdose by county of residence compared to statewide rate (15.2), through August

ED Visit Rates per 10,000 visits.

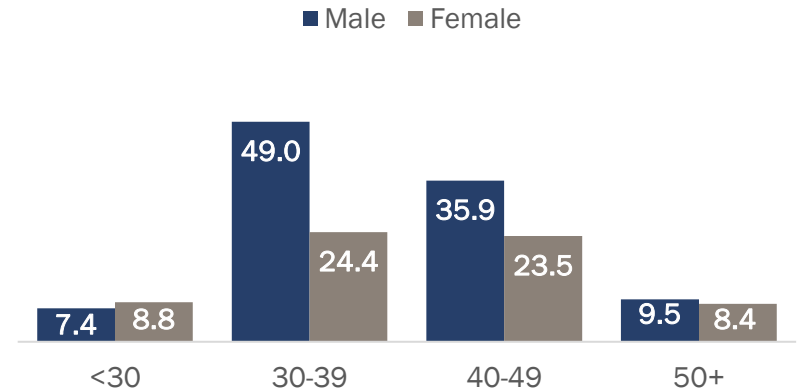


Rate per 10,000 ED visits



2024 ED visit rates for opioid overdose by sex and age group, through August

ED Visit Rates per 10,000 ED visits



Summary of 2024 Opioid Overdose-Related ED Visit Data:

- As of November 13th, emergent care visit rates for opioid overdose in 2024 have been lower than the 3-year average.
- The rate of ED visits for opioid overdose is highest among males aged 30-39.
- The rate of opioid-related ED visits in Caledonia County (40.2 per 10,000 visits) is statistically higher than the statewide rate (15.2 per 10,000 visits).

For more information about the data, contact: ahs.vdhoverdosedatavt@vermont.gov

For more data on opioid overdoses in Vermont, see the annual brief:

<https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/document/dsu-fatal-opioid-overdoses-2023.pdf>

For more information on opioids in Vermont: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/alcohol-drugs/by-substance/heroin-and-other-opioids>