



# NORWALK SUBSTANCE USE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT (ED) VISITS OVERVIEW FOR THE NORWALK PARTNERSHIP (TNP) PPT #2

City of Norwalk Health Department

Brian Weeks,  
Epidemiology & Informatics  
Division

March 27, 2024



Drinking alcohol  
while using opioids  
increases the risk of  
overdose and death.

[www.cdc.gov/alcohol](http://www.cdc.gov/alcohol)



# Important!: Disclaimers/Reminders (Please Read)

- Warning: Presentation will contain terminology, topics, or information that may be considered graphic/triggering to some audiences.
- All information and data are up to date as of March 27, 2024 and are provisional/subject to change.
- Only records using Norwalk standard postal zip codes analyzed as all record-level data in EpiCenter anchored by zip code (06850, 06851, 06853, 06854, and 06855) and nothing more geographically granular available. Zip codes may overlap with other towns.
- **Counts** or **Cnt** account for only 1 visit per day (i.e., **ED Visit Days**). Multiple visits by same patient beyond original day attributed 1 visit day per each additional/different day. This is important as a means to reduce skewing/confounding of data for multiple visits by same patient during same day for same reason, which does occur!
- **Unique (“Uniq”) Patients** variable filters for possible repeat ED visit days by patient and interprets each unique patient as a sole individual counted only once for the entire time interval assessed.
- **Counts** or **Unique Patients** < 7 not depicted for confidentiality purposes.
- **Rates** with a count < 20 are considered unstable/unreliable (see green [ $\geq 20$ ]/red [ $< 20$ ] font).
- **Rates** calculated using US Census American Community Survey (ACS) 2021 5-year estimates per 1,000 (i.e., 1k) residents.
- Race/Ethnicity counts and rates depicted as non-Hispanic (e.g., White or Black/African-American [AA] implies non-Hispanic [NH] Whites or non-Hispanic Blacks/AA), unless specified as Hispanic/Latino.
- Given the use of syndromic classifiers/definitions, variability of intake/discharge notes/codes, zip code anchoring, and census estimates in tabulations/calculations, **all values presented are estimates** and should be interpreted with caution and consideration of a margin of error. As analyses become more granular or specific, this margin of error increases, which decreases accuracy/reliability of the value.
- Data analyzed from EpiCenter Syndromic Surveillance for CT hospitals for Norwalk resident zip codes only.

# What Is Syndromic Surveillance and Its Purpose?

- Healthcare providers required to report Emergency Illnesses and Health Conditions in accordance with the DPH's annual "List of Reportable Diseases, Emergency Illnesses and Health Conditions" in a format approved by the state Health Commissioner per Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 19a-2a(9) and 19a-215(b).
- Guidance developed and provided by CDC National Syndromic Surveillance Program (NSSP) in implementing syndromic systems and definitions of illnesses/conditions.
- In CT, no other system supported this type of data in a timely manner for local health departments until EpiCenter.
- Other states use similar systems with differing levels of robustness/capability. One of most common is the Early Notification of Community-Based Epidemics (ESSENCE).

 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

National Syndromic Surveillance Program (NSSP)

**NSSP** Fast Electronic Health Data for  
Public Health Collaboration and Response



# What Is the EpiCenter Syndromic Surveillance System?



- Browser-based application.
  - Rolled out to CT local health departments (LHDs) in 2018/2019.
  - Developed by the CT Department of Public Health (CT DPH) with vendor, Health Monitoring Systems (HMS), Inc, and local health support.
  - Designed for LHDs to receive timely and preliminary ED visit data defined by syndrome and classifier definitions.
  - Categorizes emergency department (ED) visits by intake/discharge notes and codes—does not use or account for insurance, other code types, physician notes, or other medical test info in records.
  - Contains pertinent fields for demographic and basic visit data such as age, sex, race/ethnicity, date and time of visit, reason for visit, etc.
  - Limited accuracy down to zip code—does not provide identifiable data/information, so no residence street address, phone number, names, etc.
  - **Can only see detailed data for zip codes associated with jurisdiction (i.e., Norwalk).**
- Close to real-time data compared to other sources for LHDs.
- Evaluates ED visits and not hospitalization data!**



# Alcohol-Associated Syndromic Classifier Definition Example



- Example of some terms/text parsed for the alcohol classifier
- Example ICD codes captured include: F10.0-F10.1
- This is a continually evolving process in the public health practitioner and research community at all levels

Indicators (+)	Co-Indicators	Indicators (-)
1ntox		\bno al
\balch		alcohol screen
\balco		alcohol test
\bintx		alcorn
achoho		non al
acoho		nonal
\balc\b		with\s*out\s*((me ntion\s*of\s*)) (an y\s*))?alc
alcaho		
alchiho		
alcohol		
alochol		
drank to m		
drank too m		
drinking prob		
drinking too		
drunk		
entox		
\betho\b		
ethoh		
ethol		
etoh		
excessive drinking		
heavy drink		
intox		
jello shot		
poss drinkin		
possible drinkin		
too much to dr		

# Important Notes

- For following demographic data slides, the color-coded text bubbles are defined as the following:



= Highest unique “uniq” patient count for demographic measure evaluated in time interval



= Highest unique patient rate for demographic measure evaluated in time interval

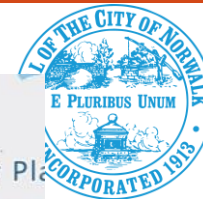
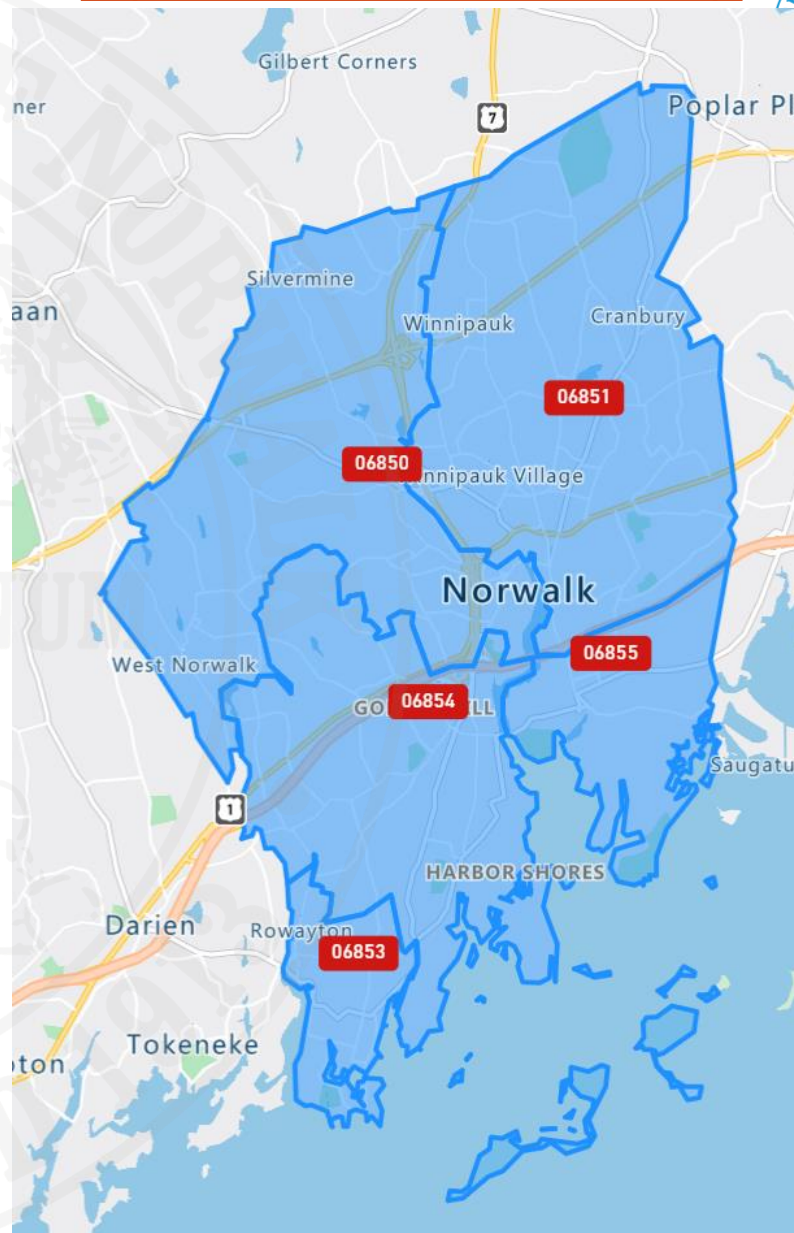


= Both highest unique patient count and rate for demographic measure evaluated in time interval

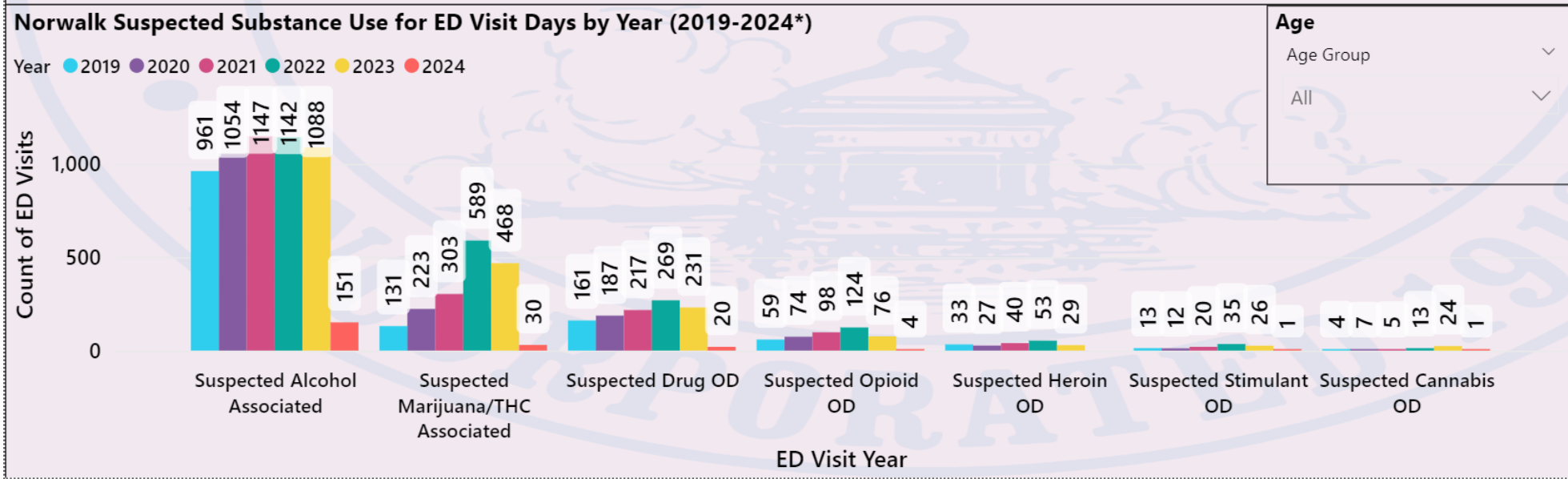
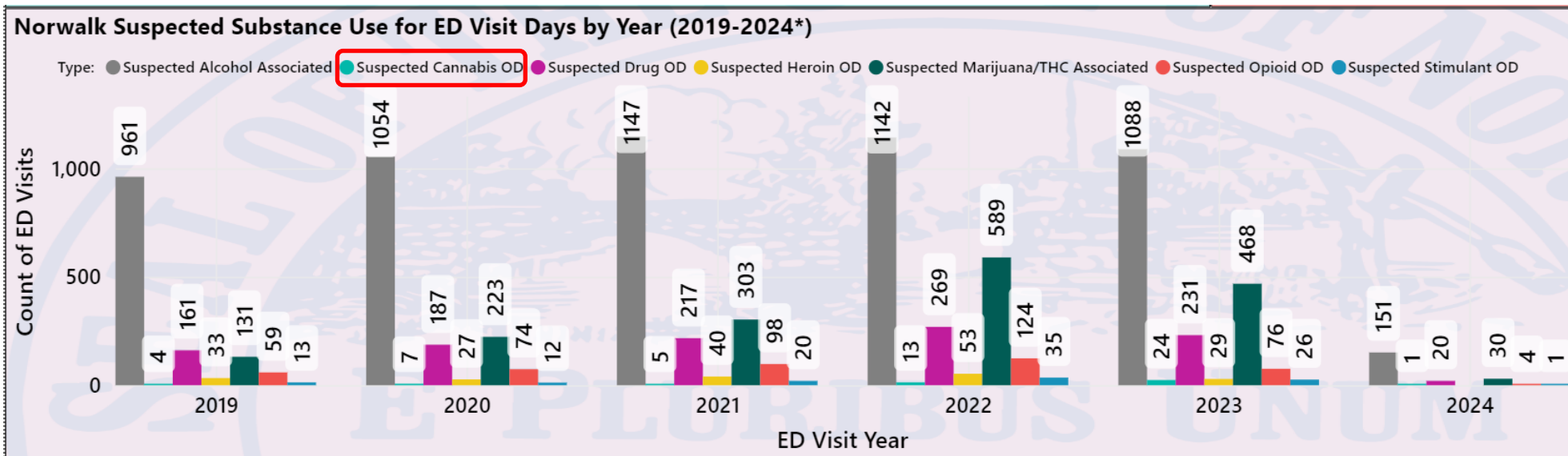
- All chart visuals depict the unique patient rates and not counts!

All maps depict the common Norwalk zip codes

## Zip Code Reference Map



# Overall Norwalk Substance Use Situation by ED Visit Days by ED Visit Year (2019-Feb 28, 2024)



# Suspected Drug ODs (March 1, 2023-Feb 28, 2024)



## Suspected Drug OD ED Visit Days for Norwalk Residents

**212**  
Suspected ED Visit Days

**195**  
Unique Patients

**Additional 17 (8.02%) ED Visit Days**

Sex	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Sex Rate (per 1k)
F	87	83	42.56%	1.82
M	125	112	57.44%	2.48

**Sex: Unique Pt Rate (per 1k)**

**Age**

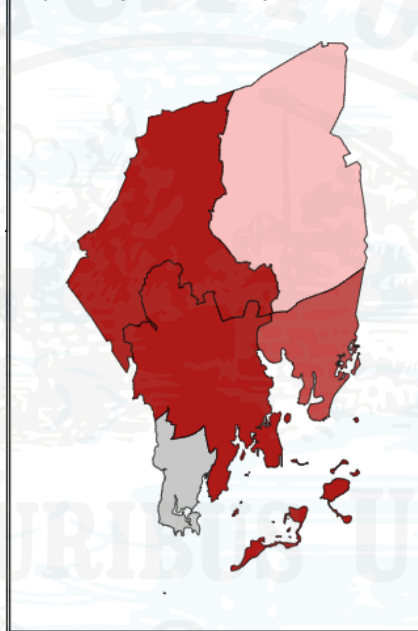
Age Group	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Age Rate (per 1k)
0-9	14	14	7.61%	1.45
10-19	29	29	15.76%	2.95
20-29	22	22	11.96%	1.95
30-39	41	36	19.57%	2.55
40-49	18	15	8.15%	1.24
50-59	27	26	14.13%	1.89
60-69	38	31	16.85%	2.90
70-79	12	11	5.98%	1.83

**Age: Unique Pt Rate (per 1k)**

Age Group	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Age Rate (per 1k)
< 18	31	31	16.40%	1.18
18-24	25	25	13.23%	0.95
25-44	63	55	29.10%	2.09
45-64	57	51	26.98%	1.94
65+	30	27	14.29%	1.03

**Age: Unique Pt Rate (per 1k)**

Zip: Unique Pt Rate (per 1k)



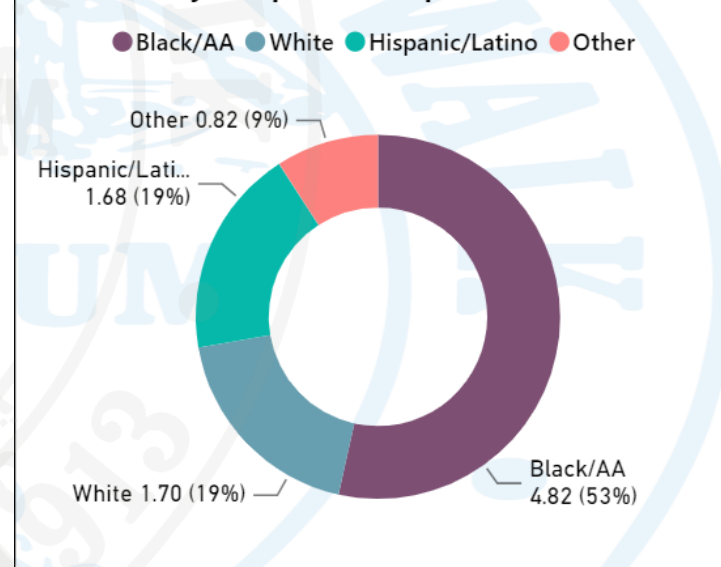
Zip

Zip Code	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Zip Rate (per 1k)
06850	52	48	25.40%	2.51
06851	49	46	24.34%	1.60
06854	84	76	40.21%	2.50
06855	21	19	10.05%	2.25

Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Race Rate (per 1k)
White	87	79	41.80%	1.70
Black/AA	58	52	27.51%	4.82
Hispanic/Latino	47	44	23.28%	1.68
Unknown	14	14	7.41%	

Race/Ethnicity: Unique Pt Rate (per 1k)



**1.4x greater rate for Males and 10-19 and 60-69 y/o highest rates**

**2.8x greater rate Black/AA vs Whites**





# Suspected Opioid ODs (March 1, 2023-Feb 28, 2024)



## Suspected Opioid OD ED Visit Days for Norwalk Residents

**64**  
Suspected ED Visit Days

**57**  
Unique Patients

**Additional 7 (10.94%) ED Visit Days**

Sex	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Sex Rate (per 1k)
F	17	17	29.82%	0.37
M	47	40	70.18%	0.88

**Sex: Unique Pt Rate (per 1k)**

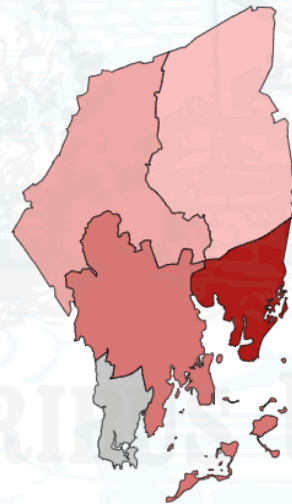
**Age**

Age Group	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Age Rate (per 1k)
30-39	13	13	33.33%	0.92
50-59	12	11	28.21%	0.80
60-69	19	15	38.46%	1.40

**Age: Unique Pt Rate (per 1k)**

Age Group	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Age Rate (per 1k)
25-44	22	21	40.38%	0.80
45-64	25	21	40.38%	0.80
65+	12	10	19.23%	0.38

Zip: Unique Pt Rate (per 1k)



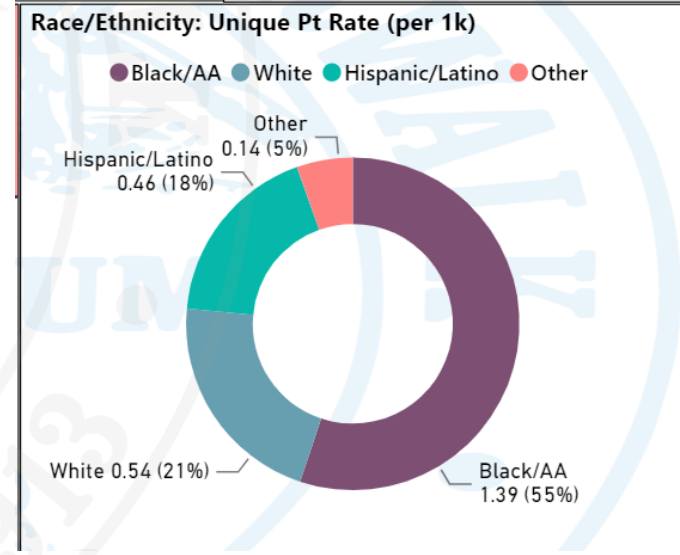
**Zip**

Zip Code	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Zip Rate (per 1k)
06850	11	10	18.18%	0.52
06851	12	12	21.82%	0.42
06854	28	23	41.82%	0.76
06855	11	10	18.18%	1.18

**Males largest volume**

**Race/Ethnicity**

Race/Ethnicity	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Race Rate (per 1k)
White	29	25	48.08%	0.54
Black/AA	18	15	28.85%	1.39
Hispanic/Latino	12	12	23.08%	0.46



**06854 highest reliable rate**



# Suspected Heroin ODs (March 1, 2023-Feb 28, 2024)

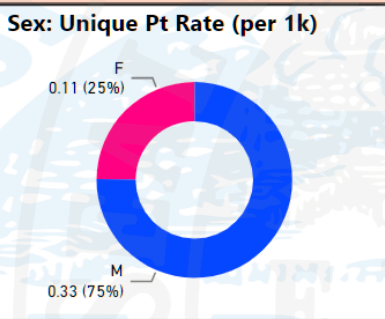


## Suspected Heroin OD ED Visit Days for Norwalk Residents

**25**  
Suspected ED Visit Days

**20**  
Unique Patients

**Additional 5 (20.00%) ED Visit Days**

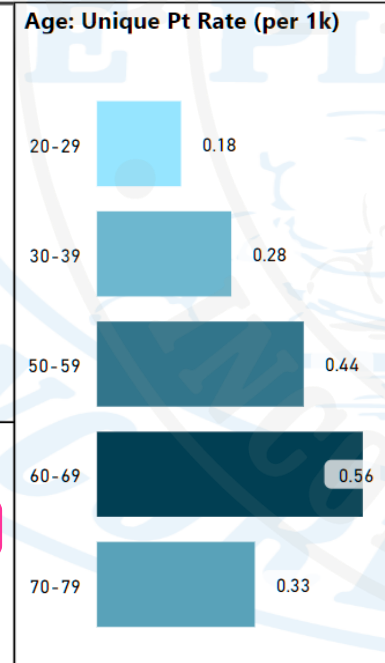


**Sex**

Sex	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Sex Rate (per 1k)
M	20	15	100.00%	0.33

**Age**

Age Group	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Age Rate (per 1k)
20-29				0.18
30-39				0.28
50-59				0.44
60-69				0.56
70-79				0.33



Age Group	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Age Rate (per 1k)
45-64	14	10	100.00%	0.38

Zip: Unique Pt Rate (per 1k)



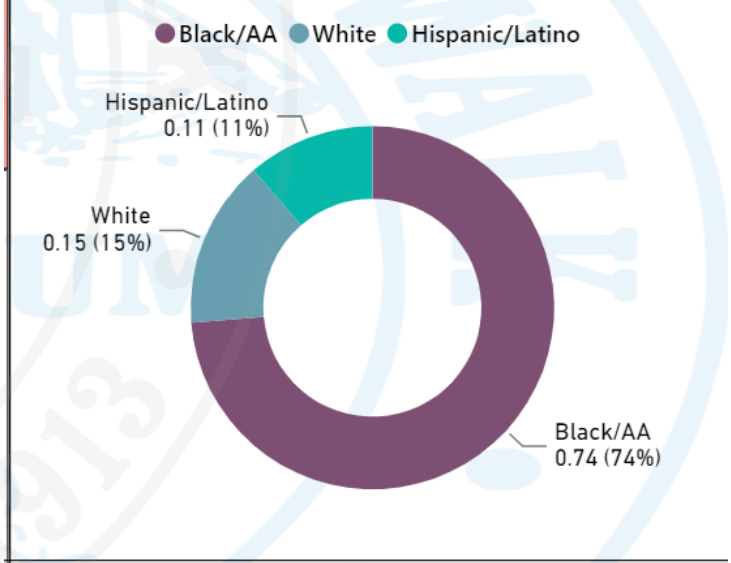
Zip

Zip Code	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Zip Rate (per 1k)
06854	15	10	100.00%	0.33

Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Race Rate (per 1k)
Black/AA	10	8	53.33%	0.74
White	10	7	46.67%	0.15

Race/Ethnicity: Unique Pt Rate (per 1k)



**Males largest volume**

**06854 highest volume**



# Suspected Stimulant ODs (March 1, 2023-Feb 28, 2024)



### Suspected Stimulant OD ED Visit Days for Norwalk Residents

**22** Suspected ED Visit Days | **22** Unique Patients

**Additional 0 (0.00%) ED Visit Days**

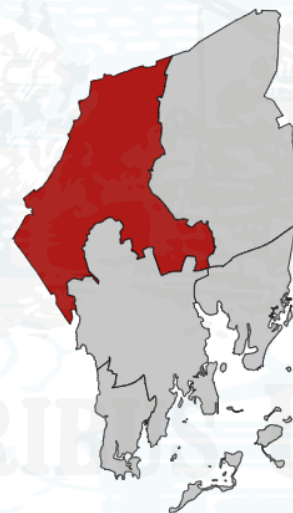
#### Sex: Unique Pt Rate (per 1k)

Sex	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Sex Rate (per 1k)
M	17	17	100.00%	0.38

#### Age: Unique Pt Rate (per 1k)

Age Group	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Age Rate (per 1k)
30-39	9	9	100.00%	0.64
25-44	11	11	61.11%	0.42
45-64	7	7	38.89%	0.27

Zip: Unique Pt Rate (per 1k)



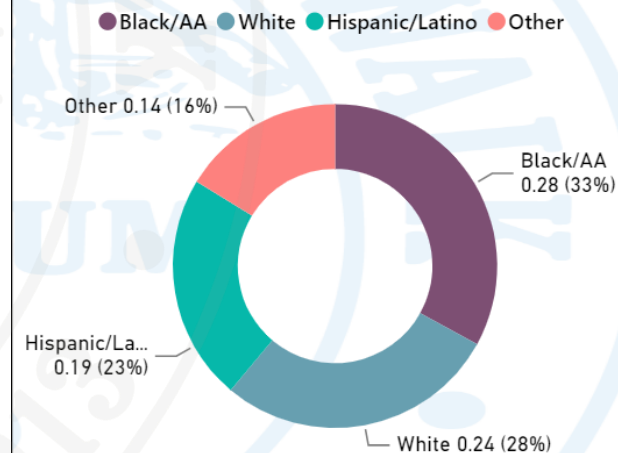
Zip

Zip Code	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Zip Rate (per 1k)
06850	10	10	100.00%	0.52

Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Race Rate (per 1k)
White	11	11	100.00%	0.24

Race/Ethnicity: Unique Pt Rate (per 1k)



**Males highest volume and 30-39 y/o most impacted by volume**

**Whites highest volume**



# Suspected Alcohol-Associated (March 1, 2023-Feb 28, 2024)



## Suspected Alcohol-Associated ED Visit Days for Norwalk Residents

**1065** Suspected ED Visit Days **680** Unique Patients

**Additional 385 (36.15%) ED Visit Days**

### Sex

Sex	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Sex Rate (per 1k)
F	298	191	28.09%	4.19
M	767	491	72.21%	10.85

### Age

Age Group	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Age Rate (per 1k)
10-19	34	32	4.73%	3.25
20-29	126	105	15.51%	9.32
30-39	216	142	20.97%	10.07
40-49	176	106	15.66%	8.73
50-59	240	117	17.28%	8.51
60-69	178	98	14.48%	9.17
70-79	43	38	5.61%	6.33
80+	12	12	1.77%	3.60
Unkn own	37	37	5.47%	

Age Group	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Age Rate (per 1k)
< 18	22	21	3.09%	0.80
18-24	69	63	9.26%	2.39
25-44	382	254	37.35%	9.65
45-64	450	229	33.68%	8.70
65+	105	85	12.50%	3.23

### Age: Unique Pt Rate (per 1k)

### Zip: Unique Pt Rate (per 1k)

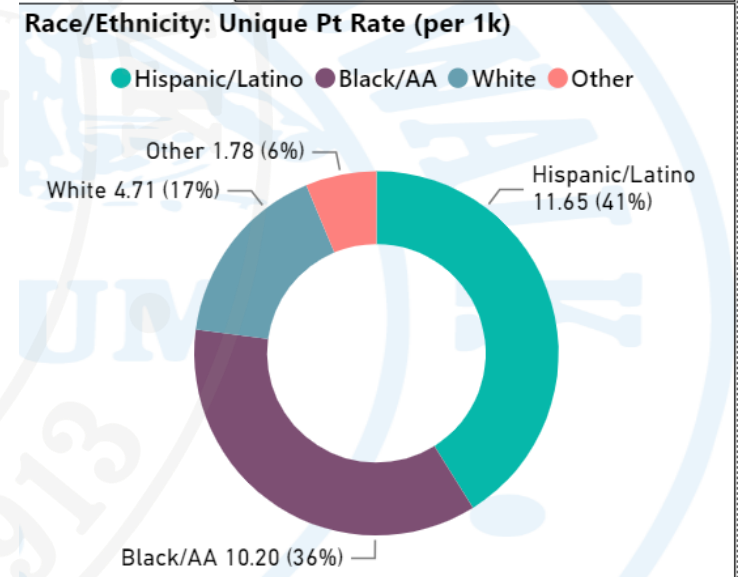
Zip Code	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Zip Rate (per 1k)
06850	186	131	19.26%	6.84
06851	209	167	24.56%	5.81
06853	14	11	1.62%	2.75
06854	534	323	47.50%	10.64
06855	122	55	8.09%	6.51

### Zip

Zip Code	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Zip Rate (per 1k)
06850	186	131	19.26%	6.84
06851	209	167	24.56%	5.81
06853	14	11	1.62%	2.75
06854	534	323	47.50%	10.64
06855	122	55	8.09%	6.51

### Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Race Rate (per 1k)
Hispanic/Latino	485	306	45.00%	11.65
White	354	219	32.21%	4.71
Black/AA	176	110	16.18%	10.20
Unknown	37	35	5.15%	
Other	13	13	1.91%	1.78



**2.6x greater rate for Males and 30-39 y/o highest rates**

**2.5x greater rate Hispanic/Latino vs Whites. Black/AA rate high as well.**





# Suspected Marijuana/THC-Associated (March 1, 2023-Feb 28, 2024)



### Suspected Marijuana/THC Associated ED Visit Days for Norwalk Residents

**404**  
Suspected ED Visit Days

**352**  
Unique Patients

**Additional 52 (12.87%) ED Visit Days**

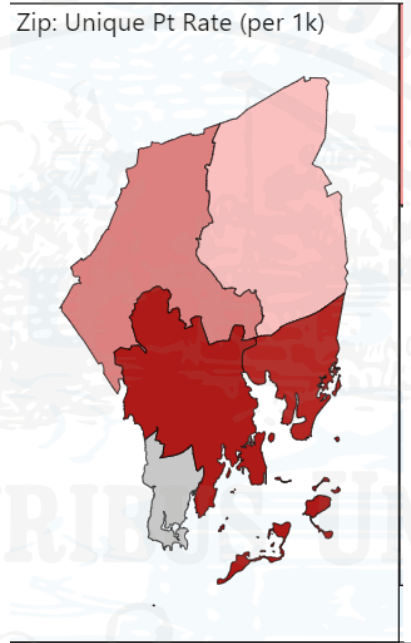
Sex	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Sex Rate (per 1k)
F	156	141	40.06%	3.09
M	248	211	59.94%	4.66

**Sex: Unique Pt Rate (per 1k)**

Age Group	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Age Rate (per 1k)
10-19	69	66	19.30%	6.70
20-29	124	110	32.16%	9.76
30-39	83	75	21.93%	5.32
40-49	51	38	11.11%	3.13
50-59	45	37	10.82%	2.69
60-69	18	17	4.97%	1.59

**Age: Unique Pt Rate (per 1k)**

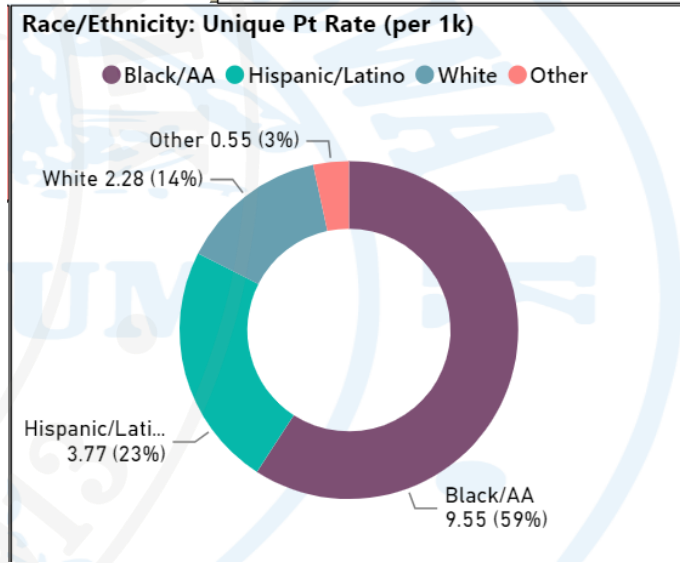
Age Group	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Age Rate (per 1k)
< 18	51	49	14.00%	1.86
18-24	78	75	21.43%	2.85
25-44	179	151	43.14%	5.74
45-64	78	65	18.57%	2.47
65+	15	12	3.43%	0.46



Zip Code	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Zip Rate (per 1k)
06850	81	71	20.40%	3.71
06851	99	84	24.14%	2.92
06854	170	152	43.68%	5.01
06855	49	41	11.78%	4.85

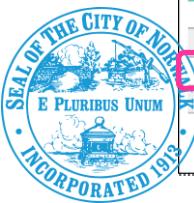
**Race/Ethnicity**

Race/Ethnicity	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Race Rate (per 1k)
White	121	106	30.46%	2.28
Black/AA	123	103	29.60%	9.55
Hispanic/Latino	111	99	28.45%	3.77
Unknown	44	40	11.49%	



**1.5x greater rate for Males and 20-29 y/o highest rate**

**4.2x greater rate Black/AA vs Whites. Hispanic/Latino and Black/AA most impacted.**



# Suspected Cannabis-/Cannabinoid-Associated (March 1, 2023-Feb 28, 2024)



### Suspected Cannabis OD ED Visit Days for Norwalk Residents

**22**  
Suspected ED Visit Days

**22**  
Unique Patients

**Additional ED Visit Days**

0 (0.00%)

**Sex: Unique Pt Rate (per 1k)**

Sex	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Sex Rate (per 1k)
F	12	12	54.55%	0.26
M	10	10	45.45%	0.22

**Age**

Age Group	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Age Rate (per 1k)
10-19	11	11	100.00%	1.12

**Age: Unique Pt Rate (per 1k)**

Age Group	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Age Rate (per 1k)
< 18	11	11	100.00%	0.42

Zip: Unique Pt Rate (per 1k)



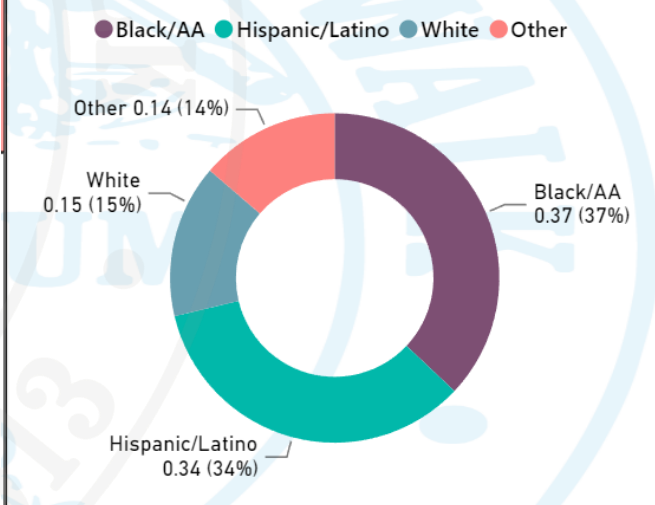
Zip Code	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Zip Rate (per 1k)
06851	7	7	43.75%	0.24
06854	9	9	56.25%	0.30

**Females and 10-19 y/o highest volumes**

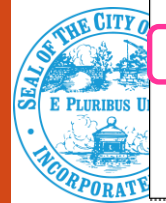
Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Race Rate (per 1k)
Hispanic/Latino	9	9	56.25%	0.34
White	7	7	43.75%	0.15

Race/Ethnicity: Unique Pt Rate (per 1k)



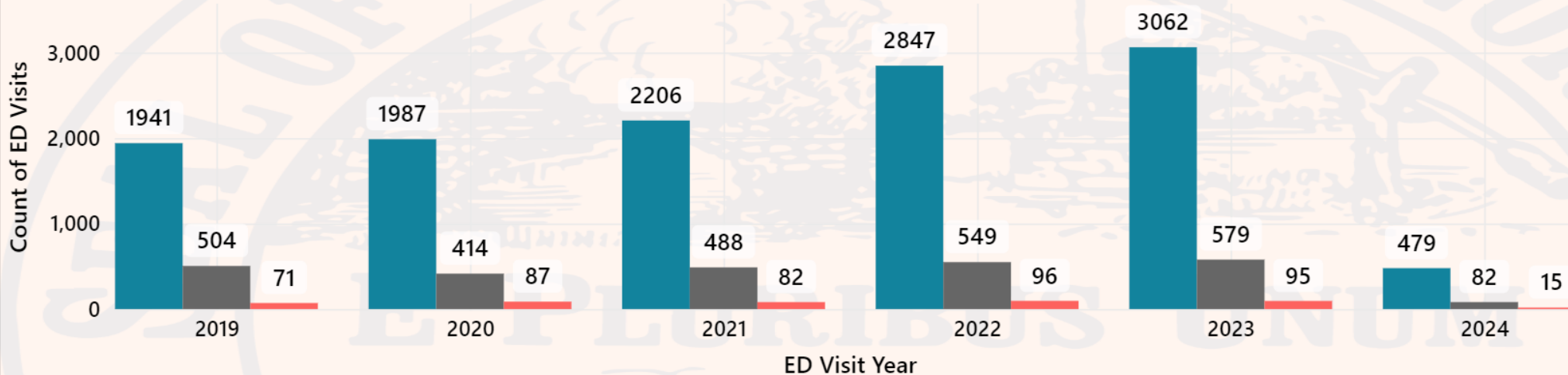
**Hispanic/Latino highest volume.**



# Mental Health ED Visit Days by ED Visit Year (2019-Feb 28, 2024)

Norwalk Suspected Mental Health, Suicidal Ideation, and Suicide Attempt for ED Visit Days by Year (2019-2024\*)

Type: ● Suspected Mental Health ● Suspected Suicidal Ideation ● Suspected Suicide Attempt

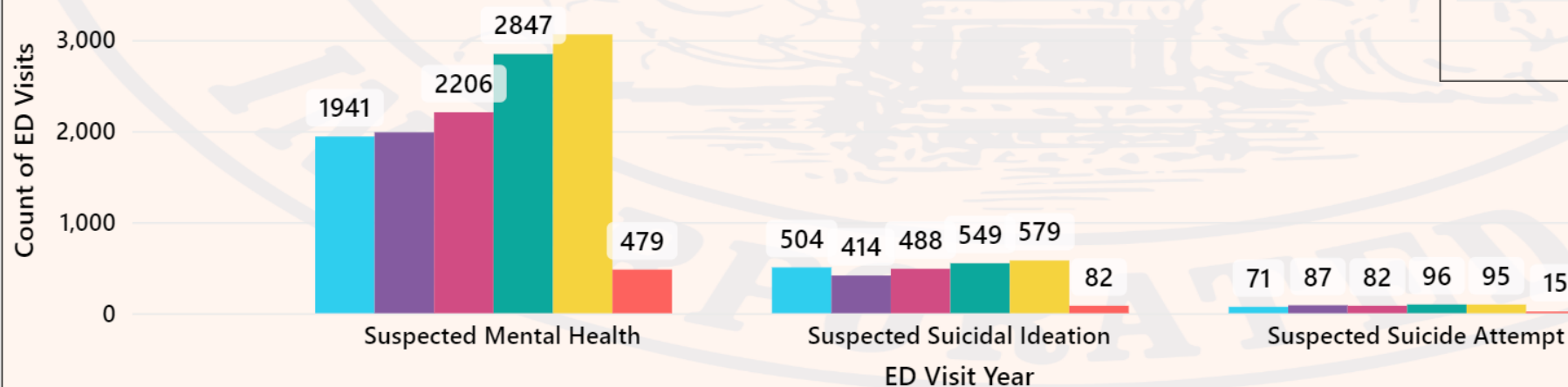


Norwalk Suspected Mental Health, Suicidal Ideation, and Suicide Attempt for ED Visit Days by Year (2019-2024\*)

Year: ● 2019 ● 2020 ● 2021 ● 2022 ● 2023 ● 2024

**Age**

Age Group





# Suspected Mental Health (March 1, 2023-Feb 28, 2024)

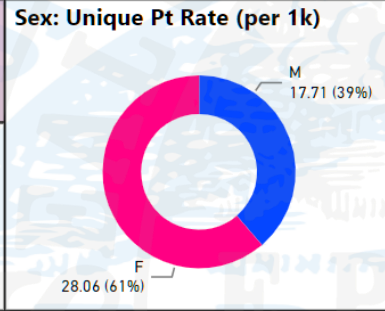


## Suspected Mental Health-Associated ED Visit Days for Norwalk Residents

**3027** Suspected ED Visit Days

**2080** Unique Patients

**Additional 947 (31.29%) ED Visit Days**

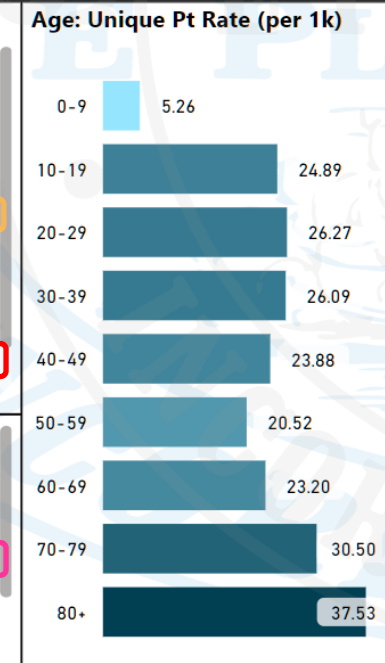


**Sex**

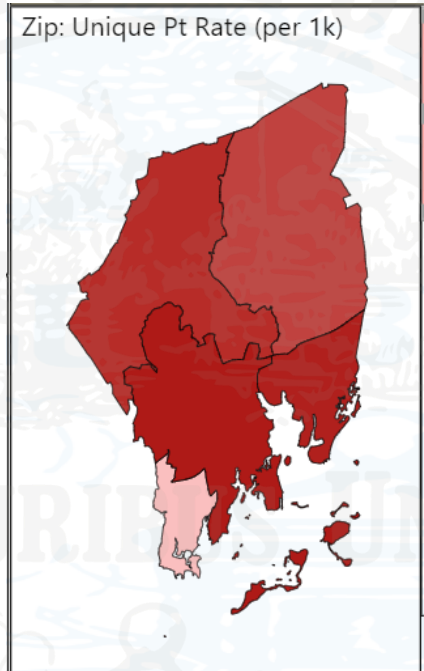
Sex	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Sex Rate (per 1k)
F	1803	1279	61.52%	28.06
M	1223	801	38.53%	17.71

**Age**

Age Group	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Age Rate (per 1k)
0-9	58	51	2.45%	5.26
10-19	309	245	11.78%	24.89
20-29	380	296	14.23%	26.27
30-39	555	368	17.69%	26.09
40-49	446	290	13.94%	23.88
50-59	448	282	13.56%	20.52
60-69	359	248	11.92%	23.20
70-79	314	183	8.80%	30.50
80+	151	125	6.01%	37.53



Age Group	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Age Rate (per 1k)
< 18	302	240	11.54%	9.12
18-24	257	199	9.57%	7.56
25-44	990	680	32.69%	25.84
45-64	891	569	27.36%	21.63
65+	580	396	19.04%	15.05



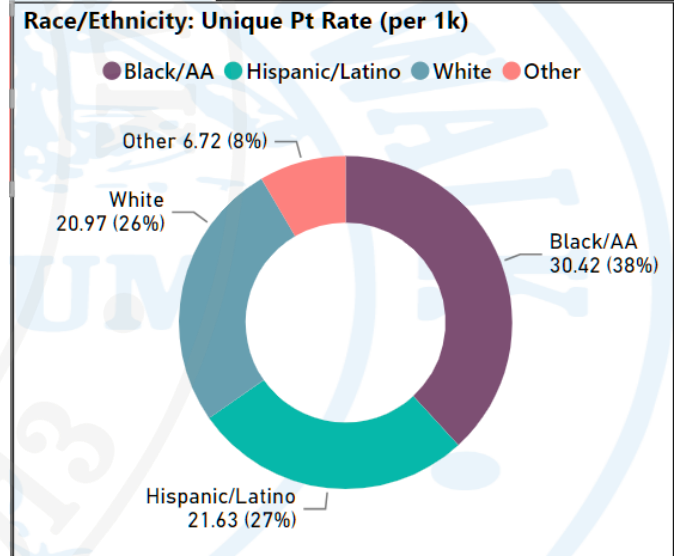
**Zip**

Zip Code	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Zip Rate (per 1k)
06850	618	457	21.97%	23.85
06851	885	629	30.24%	21.87
06853	45	42	2.02%	10.49
06854	1163	771	37.07%	25.40
06855	316	211	10.14%	24.97



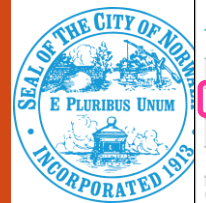
**Race/Ethnicity**

Race/Ethnicity	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Race Rate (per 1k)
White	1477	975	46.88%	20.97
Hispanic/Latino	714	568	27.31%	21.63
Black/AA	578	328	15.77%	30.42
Unknown	193	163	7.84%	
Other	65	49	2.36%	6.72



**1.6x greater rate for Females and 1.4x greater rate for 80+ vs 30-39 y/o**

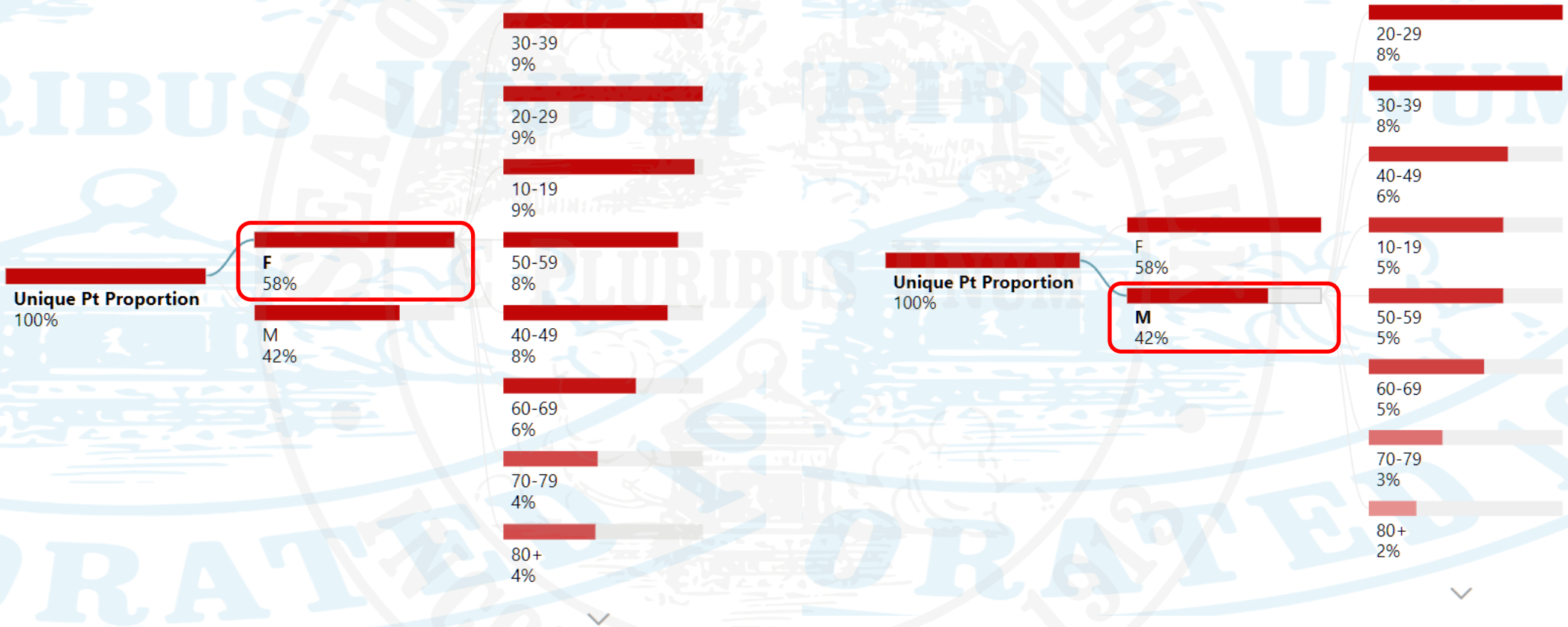
**1.5x greater rate Black/AA vs Whites**





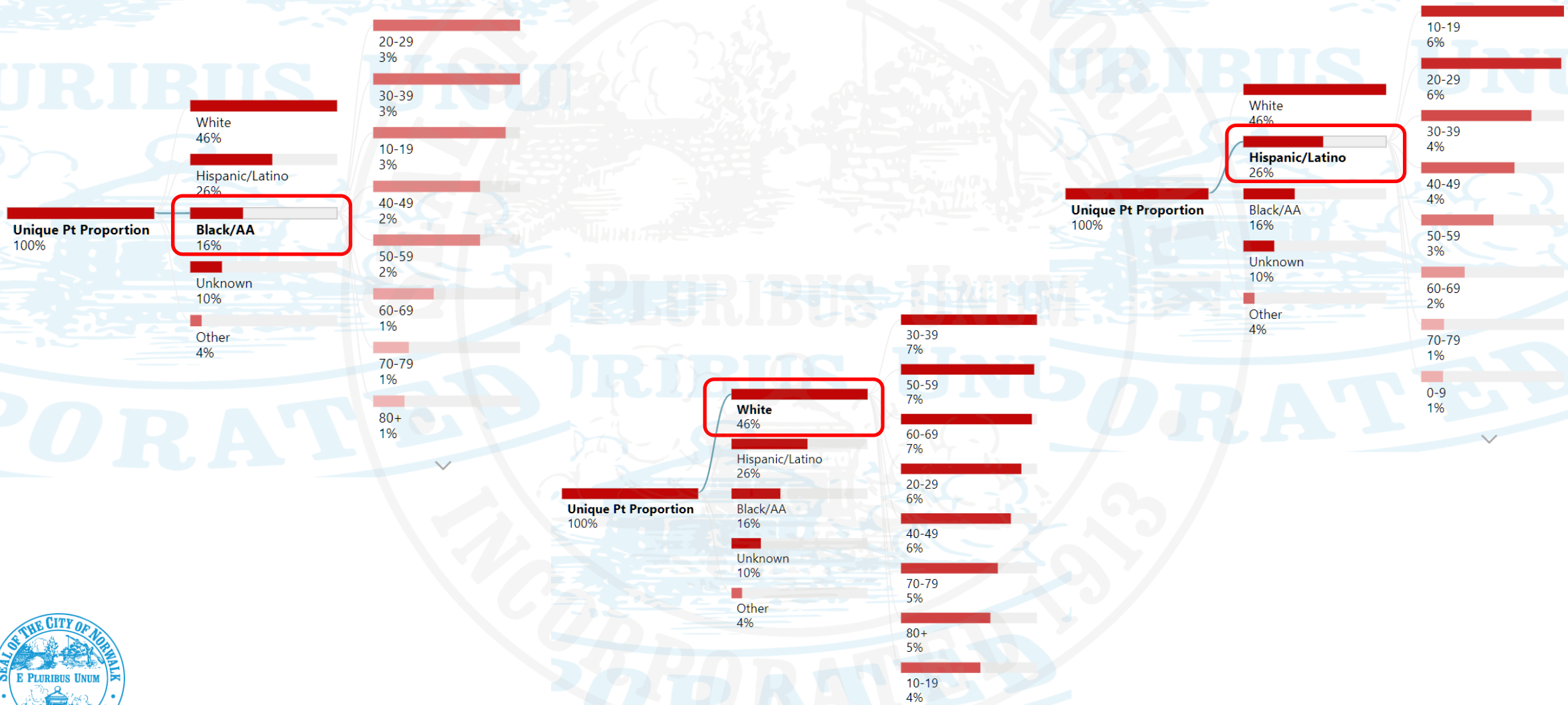
# Suspected Mental Health ED Visit Days (March 1, 2023-Feb 28, 2024)

## Unique Patient (Pt) Proportion by Sex and Age Group



# Suspected Mental Health ED Visit Days (March 1, 2023-Feb 28, 2024)

## Unique Patient (Pt) Proportion by Race/Ethnicity and Age Group



# Suspected Suicidal Ideation (March 1, 2023-Feb 28, 2024)

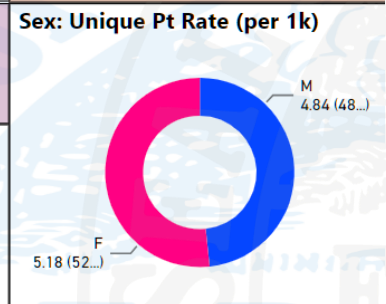
## Suspected Suicidal Ideation ED Visit Days for Norwalk Residents



**Additional**  
100 (18.02%)  
ED Visit Days

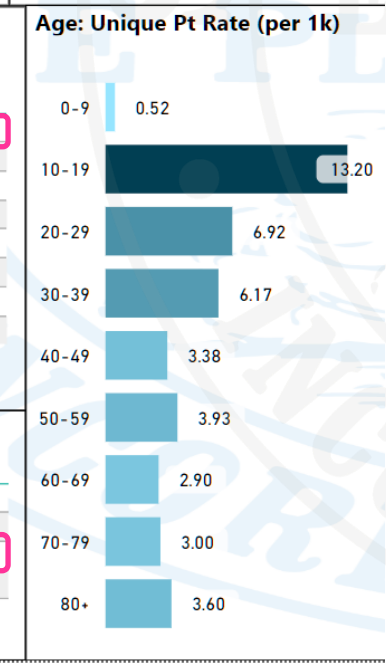
**Sex**

Sex	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Sex Rate (per 1k)
F	297	236	51.98%	5.18
M	257	219	48.24%	4.84

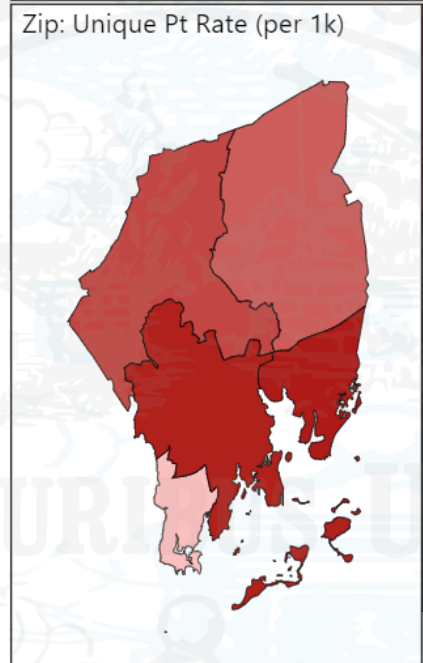


**Age**

Age Group	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Age Rate (per 1k)
10-19	141	130	28.95%	13.20
20-29	93	78	17.37%	6.92
30-39	101	87	19.38%	6.17
40-49	52	41	9.13%	3.38
50-59	84	54	12.03%	3.93
60-69	40	31	6.90%	2.90
70-79	25	18	4.01%	3.00
80+	12	12	2.67%	3.60



Age Group	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Age Rate (per 1k)
< 18	122	112	24.67%	4.26
18-24	90	75	16.52%	2.85
25-44	167	141	31.06%	5.36
45-64	124	87	19.16%	3.31
65+	51	41	9.03%	1.56

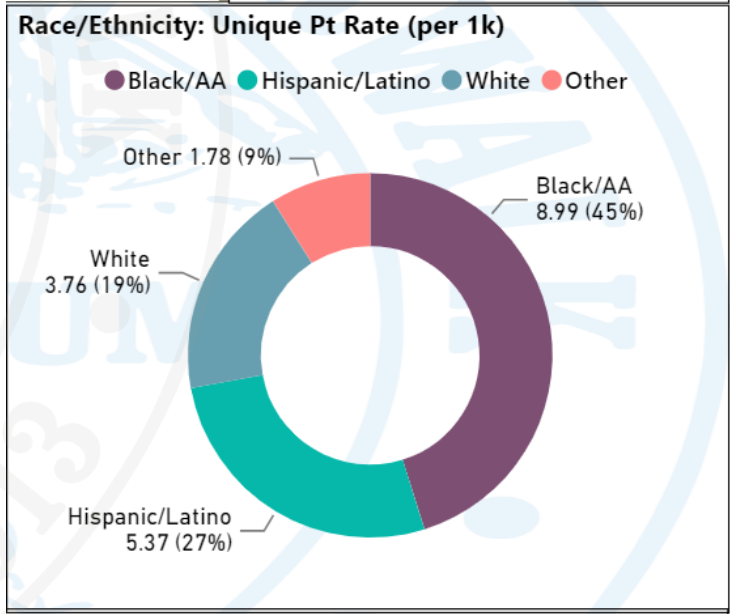


**Zip**

Zip Code	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Zip Rate (per 1k)
06850	111	95	20.88%	4.96
06851	143	127	27.91%	4.42
06853	9	8	1.76%	2.00
06854	225	179	39.34%	5.90
06855	67	51	11.21%	6.04

**Race/Ethnicity**

Race/Ethnicity	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Race Rate (per 1k)
White	216	175	38.46%	3.76
Hispanic/Latino	164	141	30.99%	5.37
Black/AA	126	97	21.32%	8.99
Unknown	33	30	6.59%	
Other	16	13	2.86%	1.78



**1.1x greater rate for Females and 10-19 y/o highest rate**

**2.4x greater rate Black/AA vs Whites**

# Suspected Suicide Attempts (March 1, 2023-Feb 28, 2024)

## Suspected Suicide Attempt ED Visit Days for Norwalk Residents

**87** Suspected ED Visit Days | **85** Unique Patients

**Additional 2 (2.30%) ED Visit Days**

### Sex

Sex	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Sex Rate (per 1k)
F	46	45	52.94%	0.99
M	41	40	47.06%	0.88

### Age

Age Group	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Age Rate (per 1k)
10-19	27	26	34.67%	2.64
20-29	16	15	20.00%	1.33
30-39	13	13	17.33%	0.92
40-49	9	9	12.00%	0.74
50-59	12	12	16.00%	0.87

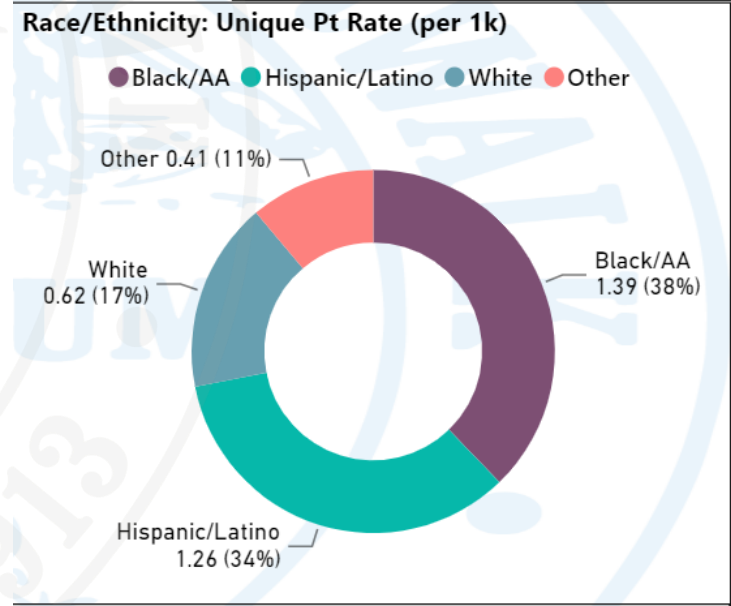
Age Group	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Age Rate (per 1k)
< 18	25	24	30.77%	0.91
18-24	16	15	19.23%	0.57
25-44	20	20	25.64%	0.76
45-64	19	19	24.36%	0.72

### Zip: Unique Pt Rate (per 1k)

Zip Code	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Zip Rate (per 1k)
06850	19	18	21.18%	0.94
06851	19	19	22.35%	0.66
06854	37	36	42.35%	1.19
06855	12	12	14.12%	1.42

### Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	Cnt	Uniq	Uniq %	Race Rate (per 1k)
Hispanic/Latino	34	33	42.86%	1.26
White	29	29	37.66%	0.62
Black/AA	16	15	19.48%	1.39



**1.1x greater rate for Females and 10-19 y/o highest rate**

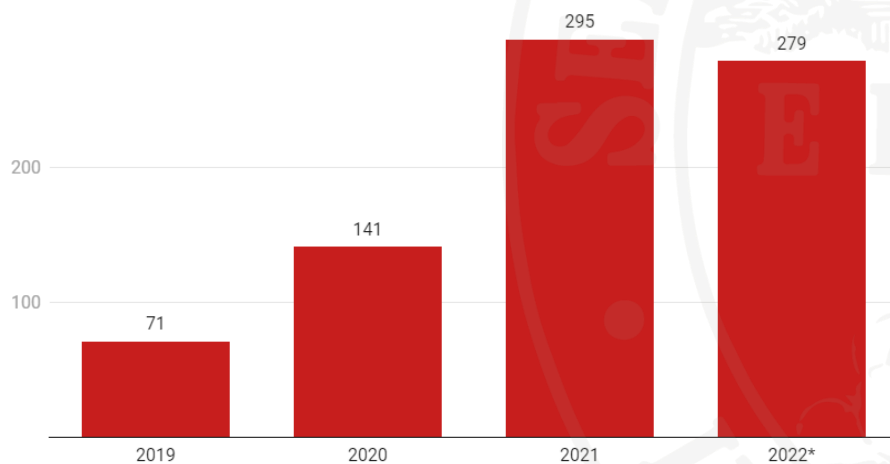
**2x greater rate Hispanic/Latino vs Whites**

# Xylazine in CT Drug Overdose Deaths (2019-2022\*)

# Fentanyl in Drug Overdose Deaths (2014-2021)

## Animal tranquilizer implicated in growing number of overdose deaths

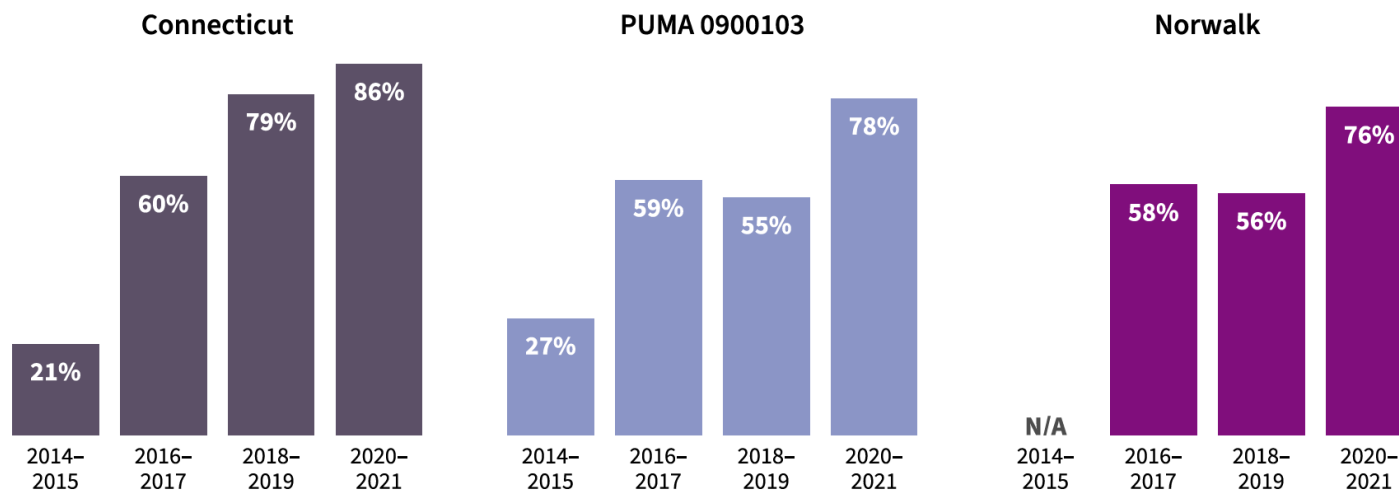
Deadly overdoses involving xylazine, an animal tranquilizer, have reached 279 this year as of the end of October.



Note: \*Data for 2022 ranges from January through October.

Chart: José Luis Martínez • Source: Connecticut Department of Public Health • [Get the data](#) • Created with [Datawrapper](#)

FIGURE 21: SHARE OF DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS INVOLVING FENTANYL, 2012-2021



- <https://ctmirror.org/2022/12/22/ct-overdose-deaths-xylazine-animal-tranquilizer/>
- [https://www.ctdatahaven.org/sites/ctdatahaven/files/norwalk\\_profile\\_v1.pdf](https://www.ctdatahaven.org/sites/ctdatahaven/files/norwalk_profile_v1.pdf)
- [https://www.ctdatahaven.org/sites/ctdatahaven/files/norwalk\\_equity\\_2023.pdf](https://www.ctdatahaven.org/sites/ctdatahaven/files/norwalk_equity_2023.pdf)

# Overview of Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL) and Overdose Mortality

TABLE 7I

## Years of potential life lost by cause of death

ANNUALIZED YEARS OF POTENTIAL LIFE LOST BEFORE AGE 75 PER 100,000 RESIDENTS, 2015-2021

LOCATION	CANCER	POISONING (INCL. OVERDOSE)	HEART DISEASE (INCL. STROKE)	COVID-19	MOTOR VEHICLE CRASH	LUNG DISEASE	FIREARM (INCL. HOMICIDE & SUICIDE)
Connecticut	1,532	1,303	1,186	599	409	348	267
Fairfield County	1,245	858	954	542	281	219	222
Bridgeport	1,547	1,370	1,547	968	521	417	955
Danbury	1,295	1,154	1,044	637	346	237	78
Fairfield	1,055	639	600	315	56	137	81
Greenwich	922	494	470	210	44	82	72
Norwalk	1,329	818	1,201	916	234	286	89
Stamford	1,161	526	863	575	284	142	145
Stratford	1,718	1,644	1,317	839	291	325	236

TABLE 7J

## Overdose deaths increased during the pandemic

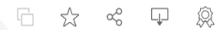
ANNUALIZED ACCIDENTAL OVERDOSE DEATH COUNTS AND AGE-ADJUSTED RATES PER 1 MILLION RESIDENTS, 2014-2016 TO 2020-2021

LOCATION	2014-2016		2017-2019		2020 AND 2021	
	COUNT	RATE PER MILLION	COUNT	RATE PER MILLION	COUNT	RATE PER MILLION
Connecticut	2,137	102	3,119	149	2,781	193
Fairfield County	337	62	463	83	427	112
Bridgeport	95	107	169	194	155	257
Danbury	35	66	49	91	47	135
Fairfield	19	59	13	51	19	82
Greenwich	11	33	10	37	9	41
Norwalk	28	53	41	70	37	92
Stamford	22	27	39	46	43	74
Stratford	39	125	47	153	36	161

[https://www.ctdatahaven.org/sites/ctdatahaven/files/DataHaven\\_FC2023-web.pdf](https://www.ctdatahaven.org/sites/ctdatahaven/files/DataHaven_FC2023-web.pdf)

# CT DPH Overdose Deaths Dashboard (2015-23): Norwalk

Drug Overdose Deaths in Connecticut Data Dashboard, 2015 to 2023 by [Heather Clinton](#)



Deaths: 146

Unintentional and Undetermined Drug Overdose Deaths in Connecticut, 2015 to 2024

Average Age: 44.6

Median Age: 45.0

Year

2015  
13

2016  
9

2017  
14

2018  
8

2019  
18

2020  
20

2021  
20

2022  
24

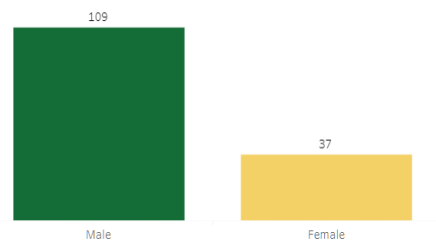
2023  
18

2024  
2

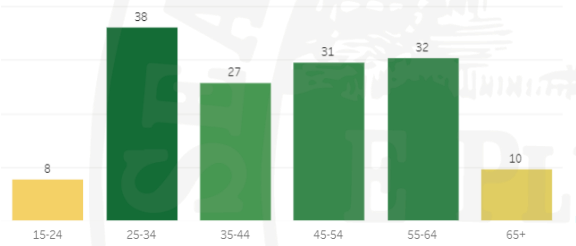
Number of Deaths (low to high)



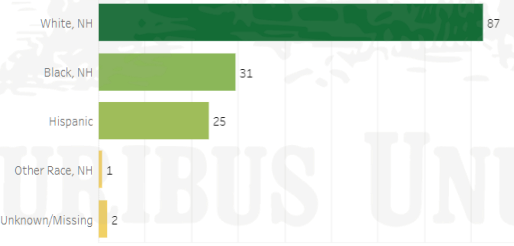
Sex



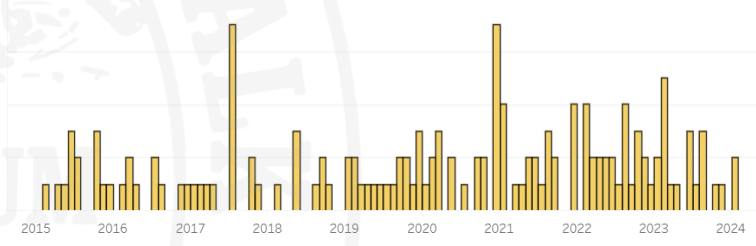
Age Group



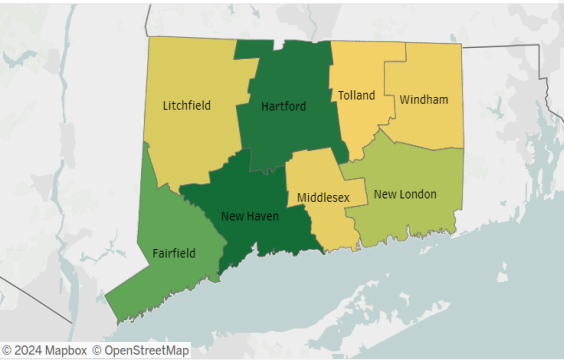
Race/Ethnicity



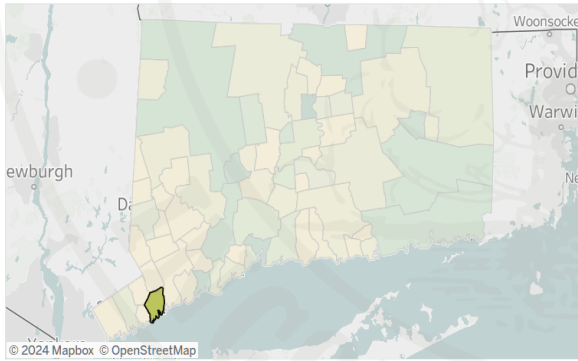
Date of Death



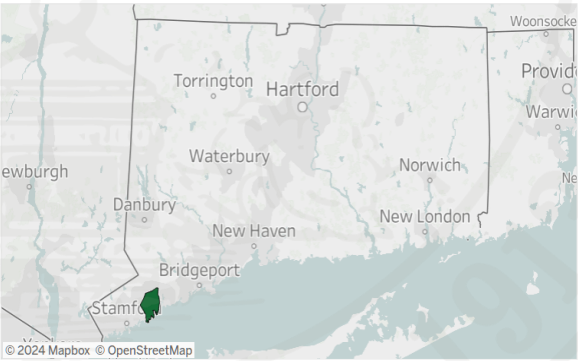
Residence County



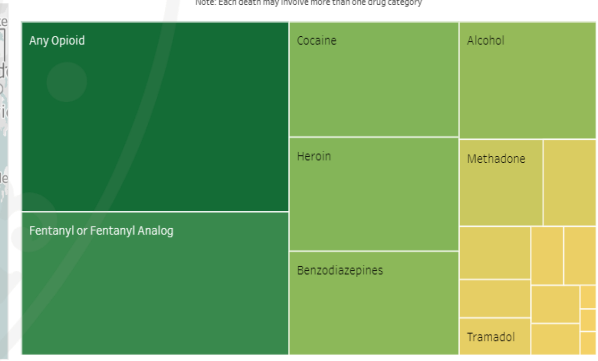
Residence Local Health Department/District (LHD)



Residence City



Drug Types Involved

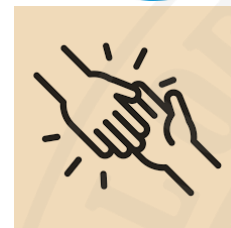


© 2024 Mapbox © OpenStreetMap  
 Data Source: CT State Unintentional Drug Overdose Reporting System (SUDORS). 2023 data are preliminary and subject to change. Data current as of March 4, 2024. Dashboard last updated March 27, 2024.

# Conclusions/Takeaways



- Since 2019 for the ED syndromic surveillance data, 2022 was worst year for all substances studied so far. 2023 only slightly milder.
- For recent year (March 2023 forward), **Mental Health (MH)** and **Suicidal Ideation (SI)** ED visits continue increasing, and **Substance Use (SU)** can be both a contributor and/or manifestation of these increasing number of events as they often intersect
- Generally, **Females** remain consistently the most likely candidates to seek/require ED visits for **MH/SI/Suicide Attempts (SA)**; **Males** remain consistently the highest candidates for **SU-related/-associated** ED visits studied
- For MH, either Female, 80+ y/o, and NH Black/African-American are the most common demographics by unique patient rate, while either Female, 30-39 y/o, or NH White by unique patient volume.
- By unique patient rate, NH Black/AA disproportionately impacted for most substances for ED visits (especially Marijuana/THC)—exception for Hispanic/Latino for Alcohol. Aged 30-39 y/o remains the highest for Alcohol. Aged 20-29 y/o highest for Marijuana/THC.
- Marijuana/THC and Alcohol contribute to/associated with **youth (< 18 y/o)** ED visits
- The **06854** Zip Code (West Norwalk/SONO) of residence often presents as the highest by rate and an indicator of risk. Conversely, 06853 (Rowayton) often remains the lowest and less concern.



Feel free to share any comments or questions. These analyses will continue to evolve as we continue to work together to address coordination, need, and equity! Thank you.