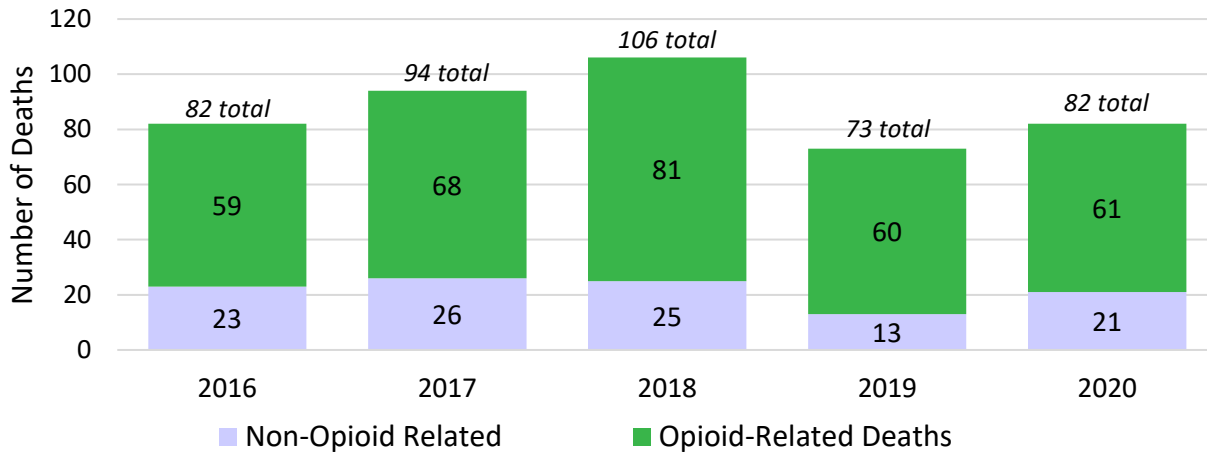


# Opioid Report



## Opioid and Non-Opioid Related Overdose Deaths

Washtenaw County Residents, 2016-2020



Source: Washtenaw County Medical Examiner and Washtenaw County Health Department, Waller, A.

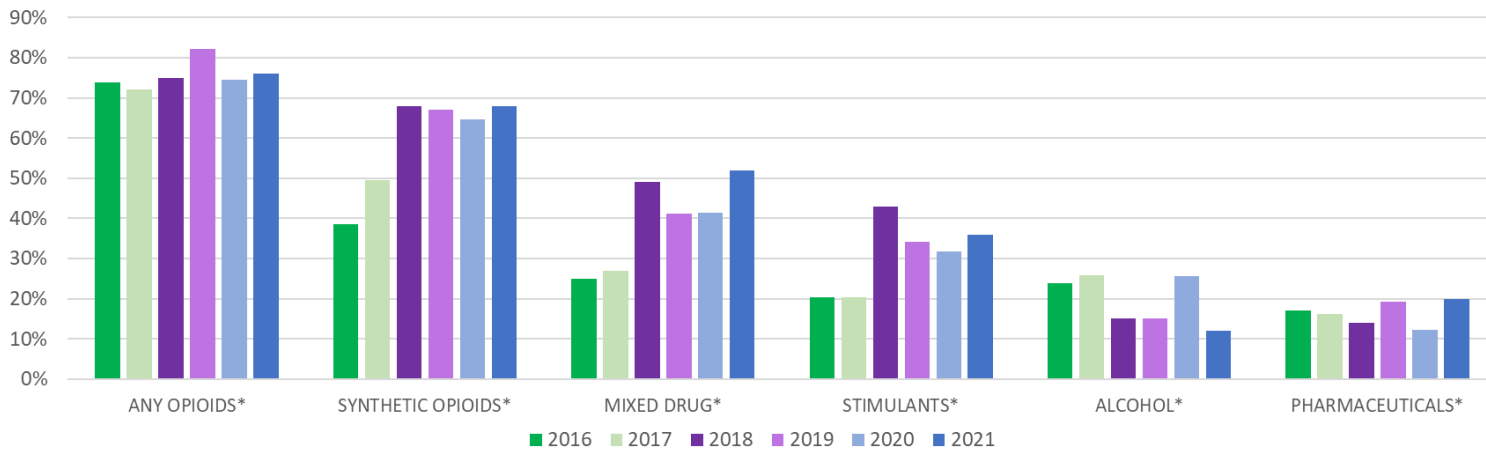
## Overdose Drug Death Trends and Disparities

- **Opioid-related deaths increased nationally during the Covid-19 pandemic, while rates remained stable in Washtenaw County.** Between 2019 and 2020, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported more than a 30% increase in opioid-related deaths. Deaths for Washtenaw residents overall were essentially unchanged. However, for adults aged 30 years and younger and for Black/African American residents, there were substantial increases during that period.
- **Overdose deaths associated with non-opioids increased 62% between 2019 and 2020.** Some of the drivers of the increase in non-opioid deaths included those where alcohol was involved. While alcohol was involved in only 9% of the opioid related deaths, it was involved in 58% of the non-opioid deaths. Overall, alcohol related deaths nearly doubled for Washtenaw County residents, from 11 deaths in 2019 to 21 deaths in 2020. In particular, alcohol-related deaths doubled between 2019-2020 for White residents, males and those over 30 years.
- **Between 2018 and 2019, there was nearly a 10% reduction in number of opioid-related deaths.** During that same period, there was a 50% reduction in overdose deaths associated with non-opioid substances as well.
- **Local Economic indicators also improved concurrent with the overdose death reductions in Washtenaw County.** Between 2018 and 2019, unemployment rates dropped 20% (from 5% to 3%), poverty rates decreased 19% (from 16% to 13%) and the proportion of low-income individuals who spend 30% or more on rent decreased 24% (from 25% to 19%). (Washtenaw County - U.S. Census Data)

# Opioid Report



## Overdose Poisoning Deaths Percent of Substances and Characteristics Involved~ Washtenaw County Residents Jan 2016 – May 2021



~Total of 461 cases during January 2016 and May 2021, as reported by Washtenaw County Medical Examiner and Washtenaw County Health Department (Waller, A)

\*Any opioids includes pharmaceuticals, illicit and synthetic opioids

- Synthetic opioids include substances such as Fentanyl, Mitragynine (Kratom)
- Mixed Drugs includes more than one category of substance such as alcohol, opioids, stimulants, etc.
- Stimulants include Cocaine and Methamphetamine
- Alcohol includes cases that mention alcohol poisoning, ethanol or chronic alcoholism
- Pharmaceuticals includes both prescribed and Over the Counter (OTC)

Source: Washtenaw County Health Department, Washtenaw County Medical Examiner

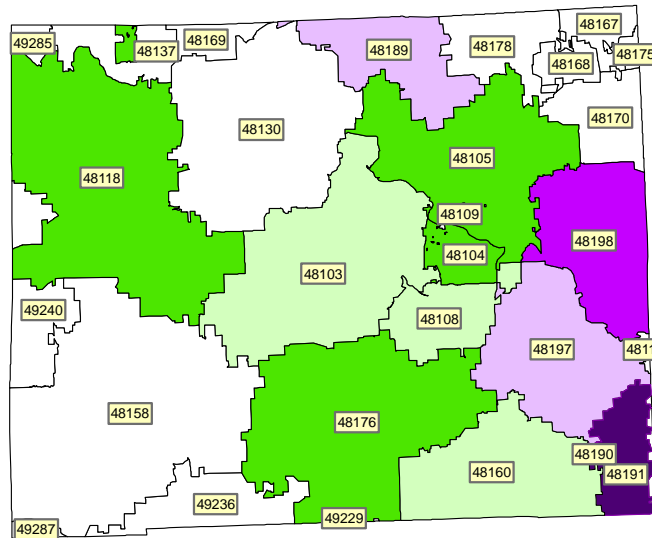
### It's Not Just An "Opioid Epidemic"

- **In 2016, approximately one quarter of overdose deaths involved more than one drug/alcohol category.** By May of 2021, over half of overdose deaths involved mixed drugs.
- **While the number and proportion of all overdose deaths that were alcohol-related decreased by nearly 50% between 2018 and 2019,** the number and proportion of deaths with alcohol identified as contributing increased 90% between 2019 and 2020 for nearly all race, sex and age groups.
- **People who have substance use disorders (SUD) often struggle with past trauma, mental illness, poverty, racism, housing instability and socioeconomic challenges.** SUD is frequently a symptom or coping mechanisms resulting from these underlying circumstances. These issues, along with mixed drug use, present increasing challenges and opportunity for creative approaches regarding harm reduction, treatment and prevention interventions to address root causes.

# Opioid Report

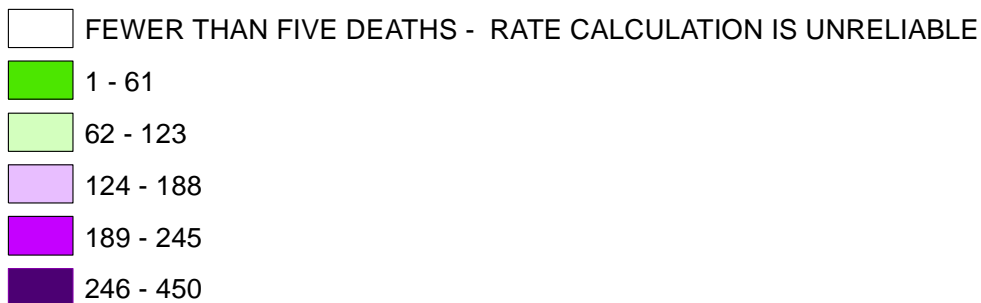


Overdose Deaths - Five Year Rates Per 100,000  
Including All Drugs or Alcohol a Contributing to Cause of Death\*  
Washtenaw County Residents by Zip Code of Residence  
January 2016 - May 2021  
(Zip Codes With Five Or More Cases Only Included)



## By Zip Code of Residence

### SUD RELATED DEATH RATE PER 100,000



\*SOURCE- Washtenaw County Medical Examiner/Washtenaw County Health Department.  
Cause of Death may include more than one substance (opioids, stimulants or alcohol).  
Motor Vehicle Accident (MVA) fatalities involving alcohol or drugs are not included.  
Waller, A. June 17, 2021

## Geographic Disparities

- While overdose deaths associated with opioids, stimulants and alcohol occur within populations across Washtenaw, the highest rates during 2016 through May 2021 occurred in 48190/91 (Whitaker/Willis areas), 48197/98 (Ypsilanti/Ypsilanti Township/Superior Township area) and 48189 (Whitmore Lake area).