



Robert Bage
Chief of Police
Fort Walton Beach
President of the Florida Police Chiefs Association



ROBERT A. HARDWICK

SHERIFF

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

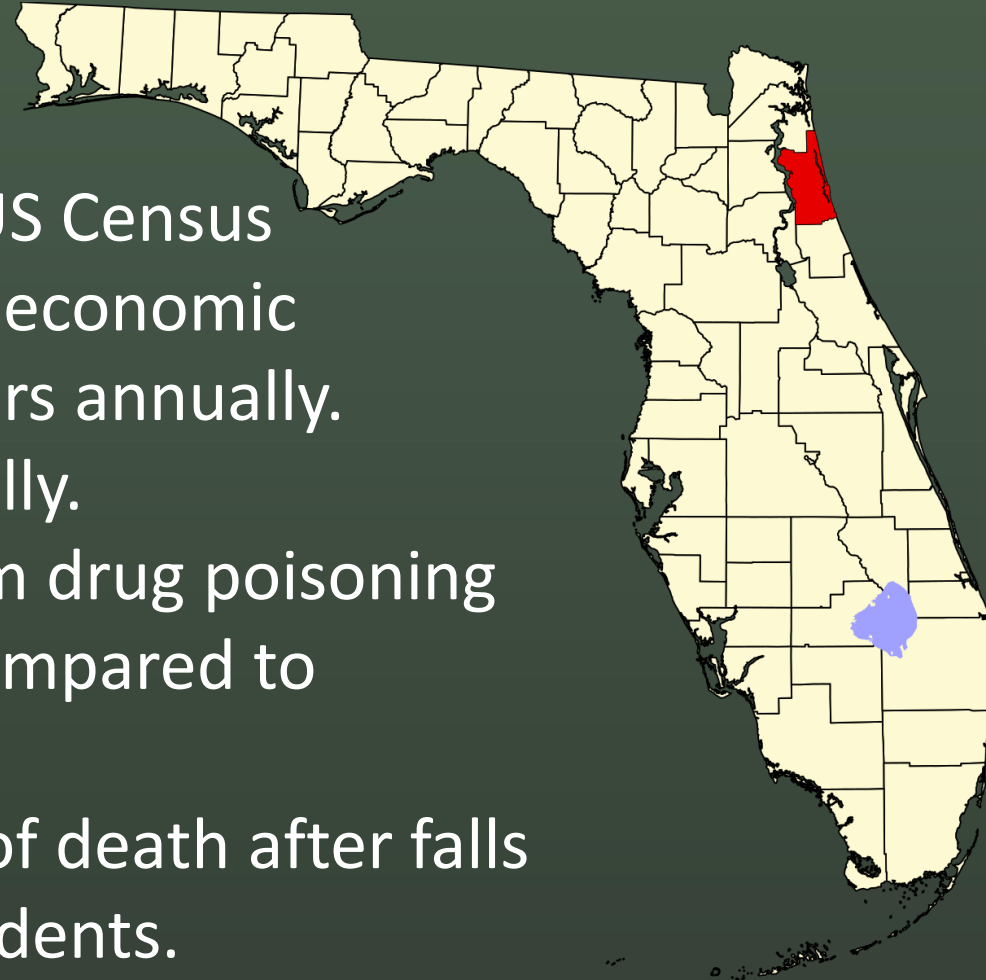


Opioids in Florida

St. Johns County, Florida

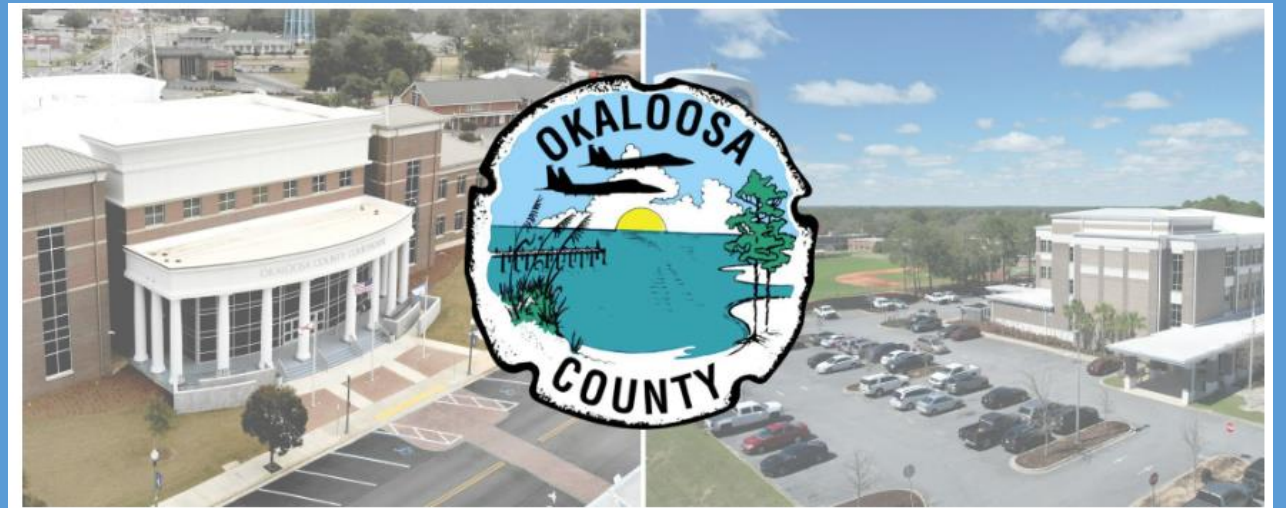


- Third most northern county in Florida
- Population: 335,000 according to the 2024 US Census
- Tourism is one of St. Johns County's primary economic engines with approximately 6.5 million visitors annually.
- Visitors spends more than \$2.4 billion annually.
- In 2023, the age-adjusted rate of deaths from drug poisoning in St. Johns County was 18.7 per 100,000, compared to Florida's rate of 30.8 per 100,000.
- Overdose deaths are the 2nd leading cause of death after falls in St. Johns County when categorized as accidents.

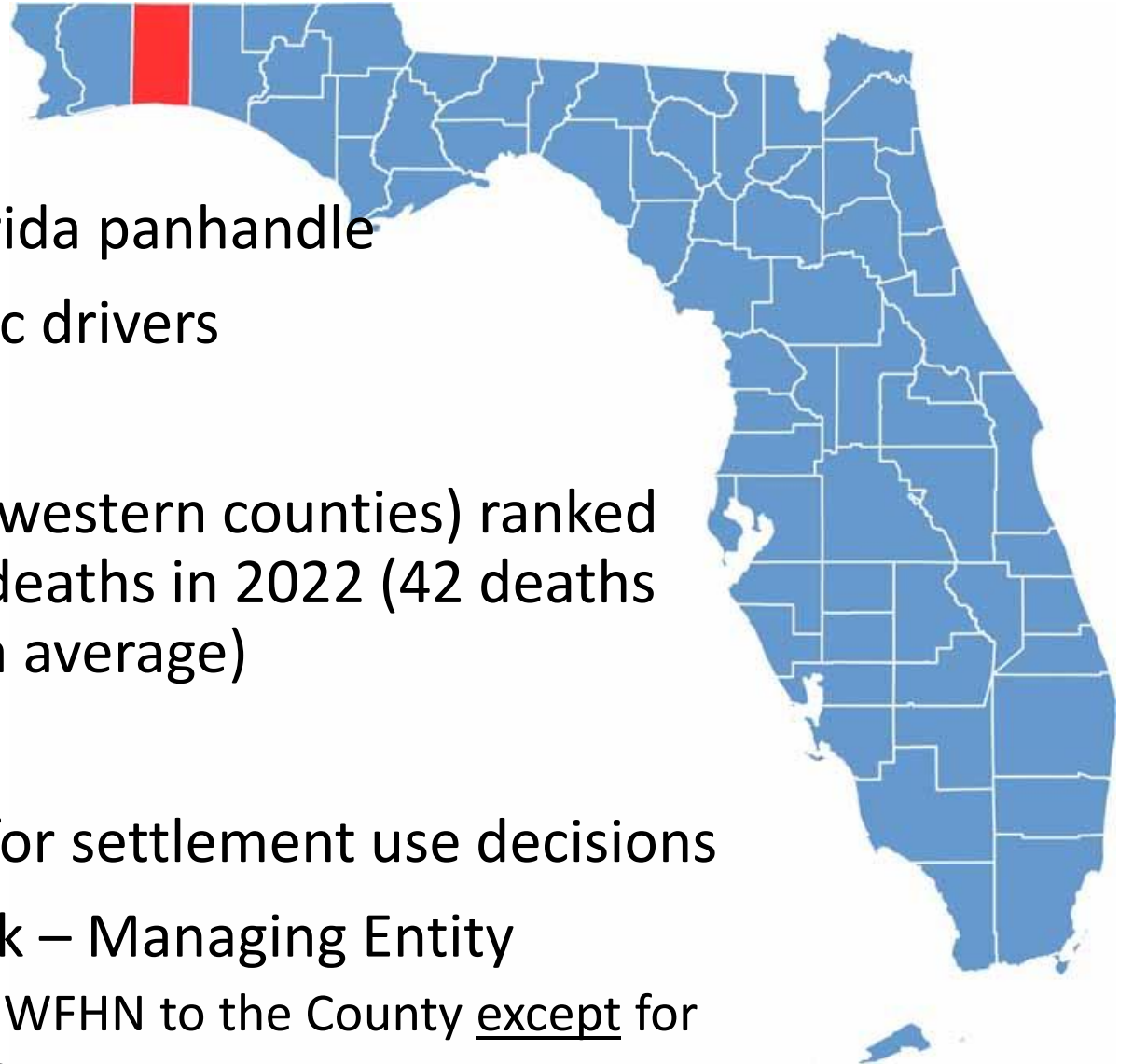




Sheila Fitzgerald
Deputy County Administrator
Support Services



Okaloosa County



- Third most western county in Florida panhandle
- Tourism and military are economic drivers
- Population: 221,806
- District 1 Medical Examiner (four western counties) ranked first in per capital opioid-related deaths in 2022 (42 deaths per 100,000 vs. 21 state of Florida average)
- Not a Qualified County (< 300k)
- Not required to have a taskforce for settlement use decisions
- Northwest Florida Health Network – Managing Entity
 - All settlement funds flow through NWFHN to the County except for City/County Direct settlement funds

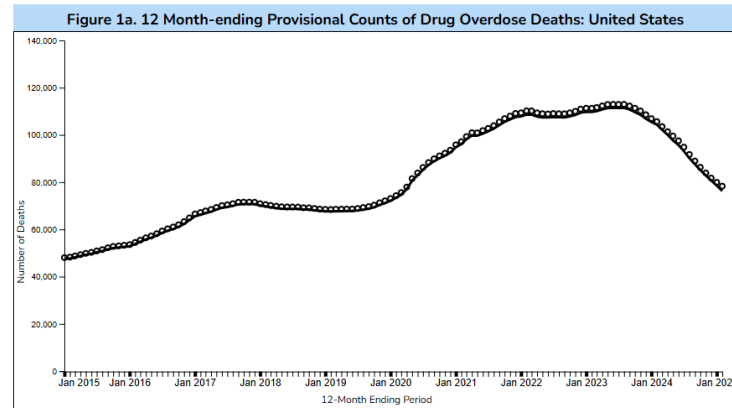


COACHING WEBINAR

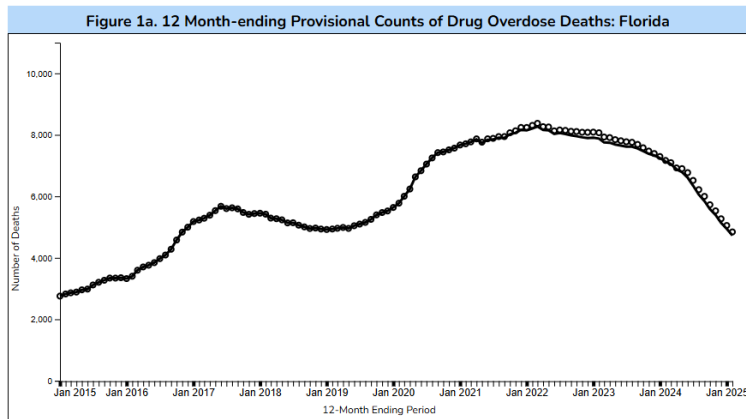
Free and open to nonmembers

presented by  **FLC**
FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES

Based on data available for analysis on: July 6, 2025

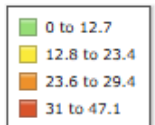
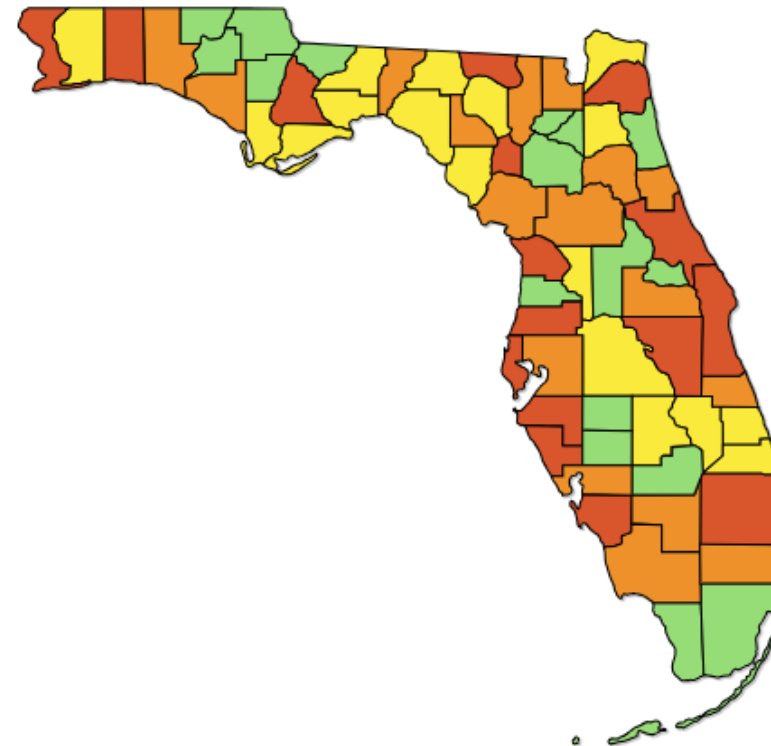


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Opioid Overdose Annual AADR (Per 100,000 persons)

Opioid ▼



Statewide Council on Opioid Abatement



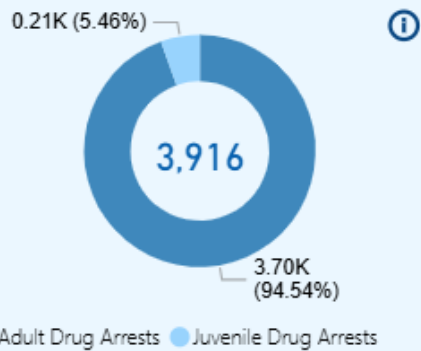
- **Who is on the Board?**
 - *Chair* – Attorney General James Uthmeier
 - *Delegate Chair* – Dennis M. Lemma
 - *Vice Chair* – Secretary Taylor N. Hatch
 - *Governor's Appointee* – Executive Director Amy Ronshausen
 - *Senate President's Appointee* – Major Todd Michael Shear
 - *Office of the Speaker's Appointee* – Sheriff Robert A. Hardwick
 - *Florida League of Cities Appointee* – Vice Mayor Jolien Caraballo
 - *Board Member* – Commissioner Chris Dougherty
 - *Board Member* – Commissioner Lee Constantine
 - *Board Member* – Commissioner Kathleen Peters

Florida Opioid Dashboard

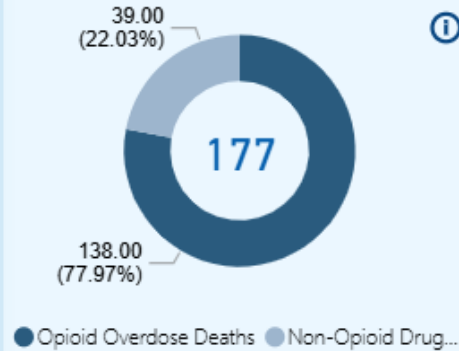


2018-2022 Totals - St. Johns County

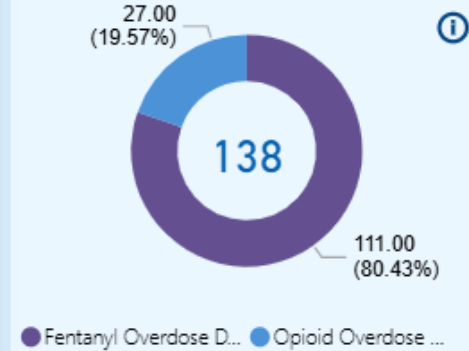
All Drug Arrests



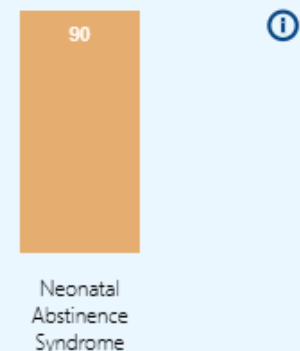
All Drug Overdose Deaths



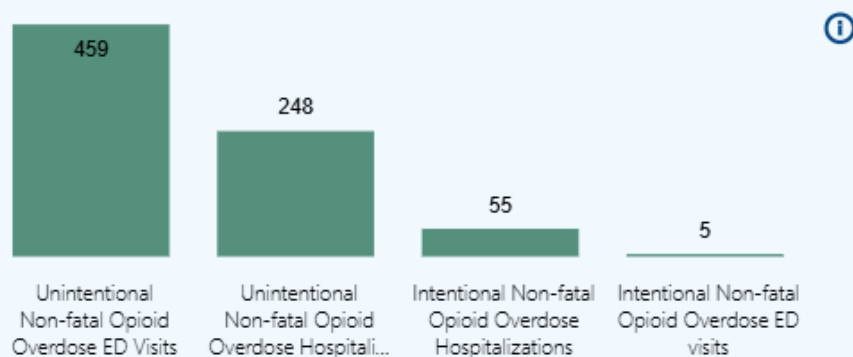
Opioid-Specific Overdose Deaths



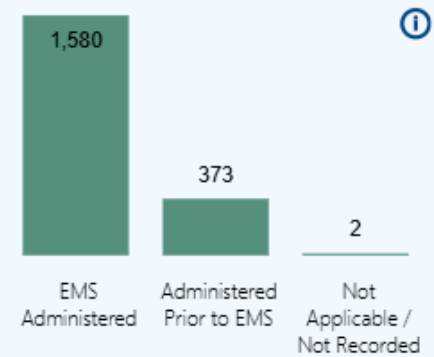
Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome



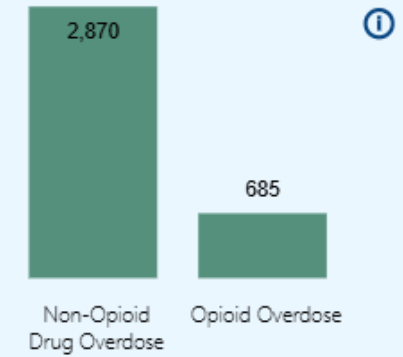
Opioid Related Emergency Department (ED) Visits and Hospitalizations



Naloxone Administration by EMS



Suspected Overdose EMS Responses

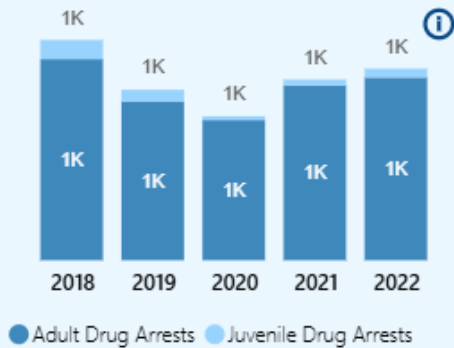


Florida Opioid Dashboard

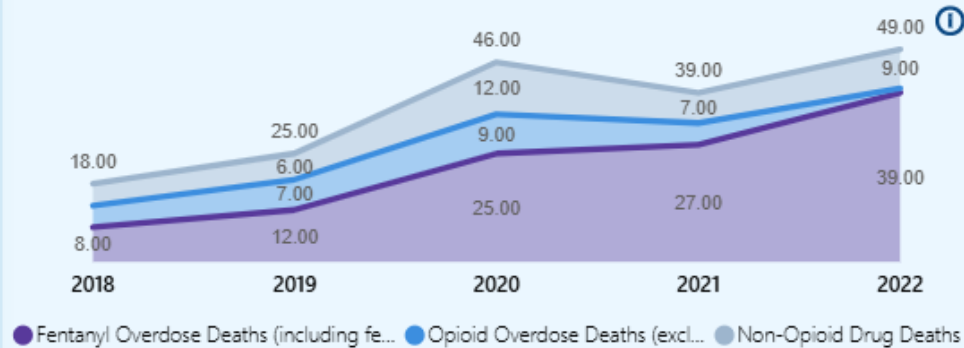


Annual Trends by Calendar Year - St. Johns County

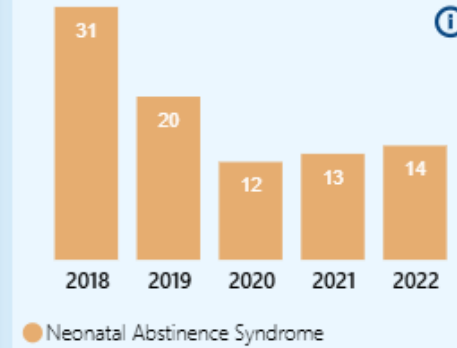
All Drug Arrests



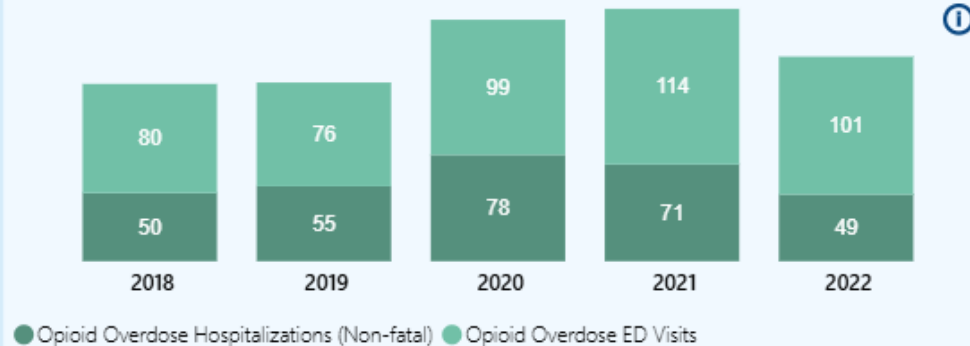
Drug Overdose Deaths



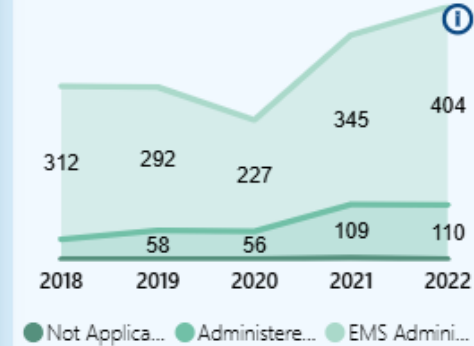
Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome



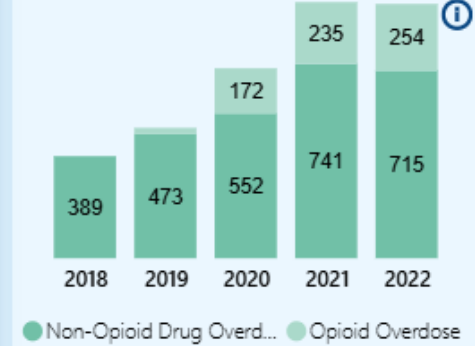
Opioid Related Emergency Department (ED) Visits and Hospitalizations



Naloxone Administration by EMS



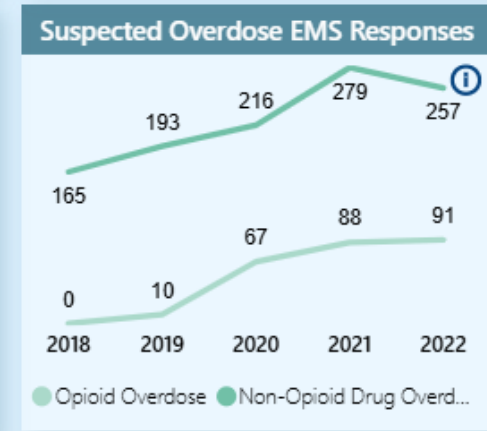
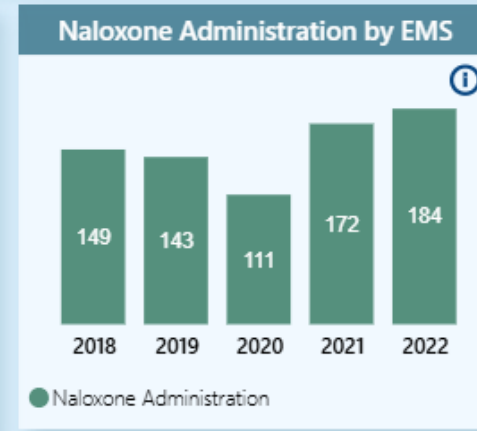
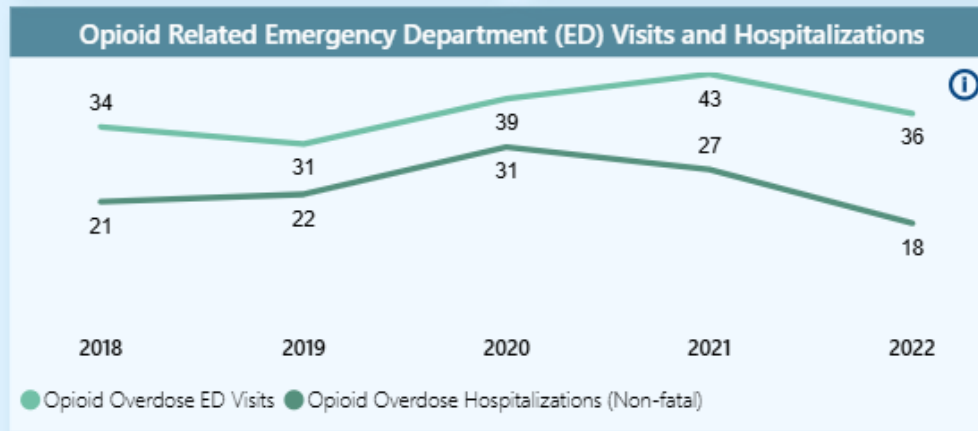
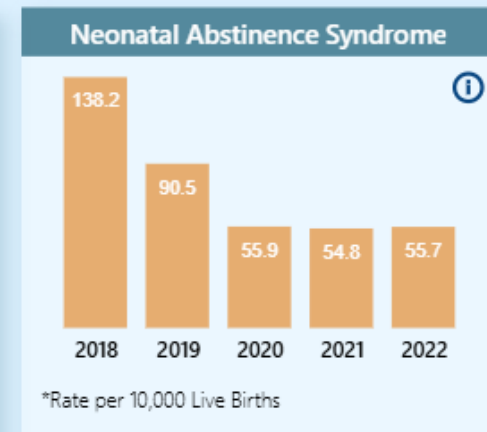
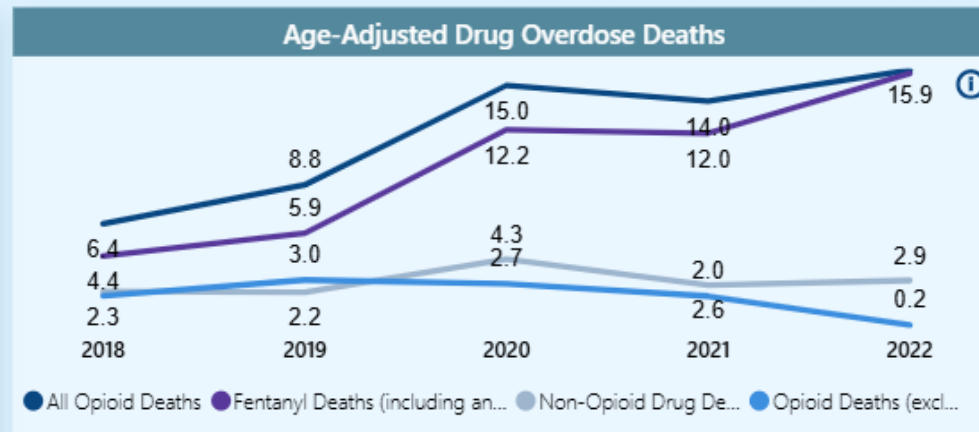
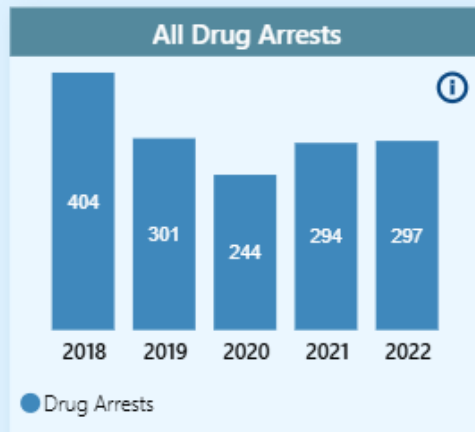
Suspected Overdose EMS Responses



Florida Opioid Dashboard



Annual Rates per 100,000 by Calendar Year - St. Johns County





Settlement Funds

CORE Network (State Funds)	Regional Abatement Funds	City/County Direct
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$1,443,750 TOTAL (\$825,000 Year 1; \$412,500 Year 2; \$206,250 Year 3 (Final)) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$9.35 million over 18 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$2.68 million over 18 years
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part of 2nd phase implementation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently awaiting agreement for Year 3 expenditure plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$641k received to date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launched July 2024 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Still drawing down Year 1 funds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Still no expenditure plan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approx. 14% used by Okaloosa to establish our Paramedicine Program. The remainder used by our Bridgeway Center, Inc. (our behavioral health provider) to expand their detox program to 24/7. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Source of funds for continuity of Okaloosa County EMS Paramedicine Program long term 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential source of funds for capital project related to opioid substance use disorder treatment <p>**Also have small national settlement payments to allocate.</p>

Major Initiatives Funded

- POST (Post Overdose Support Team)
- EMS Paramedicine Program
- 24-hour detox program
- Education and Prevention Program at the Sheriff's office and School District
- Anchored Program (Jail program to reduce recidivism and drug use)
- Forthcoming: Jail MAT enhancements and MAT Mobile Clinic for geographically distant parts of the County

St. Johns County – Setting the Standard



Community Outreach SWORD

JET Program in the Jail

EPIC Behavioral Healthcare & the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office: Leading a Community-Based Response

Co-Responder Program: First Response with Compassion

Medication-Assisted Recovery (MARS Program)

S.I.G.H.T. Program (Seeking Insight, Growth, Healing, and Treatment)

SMART Jail-Based Treatment & Recovery Courts

PEER Recovery Services

Community Prevention: Naloxone & Public Awareness

Lessons learned and finals thoughts