



HEALTH EQUITY REPORT

Data, Methods, and References

Opioid Overdose

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Data and Methods

Hospitalizations and ED visit data were generated from the State Planning and Research Cooperative System (SPARCS). Opioid mortality data were generated from NYS Vital Statistics. The Finger Lakes Health Systems Agency's SPARCS and Vital Statistics Data Portals were used to generate mortality, hospitalization, ED visit and cost data.

Where available, the opioid overdose-related indicators were generated by the following groupings:

Region-- Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Capital Region, Upstate;

Gender—Male, Female;

Age—0-14 yrs., 15-24 yrs., 25-34 yrs., 35-44 yrs., 45-64 yrs., 65-74 yrs., 75+ yrs.;

Race/Ethnicity—White non-Hispanic, Black non-Hispanic, Hispanic;

Socioeconomic status—SES 1 (low), SES 2, SES 3, SES 4, SES 5 (high).

When reviewing Race/Ethnicity, the graphs present rates by “Other” categories. Because these categories include a mix of racial groups (e.g. Asian, Native American, Multi-race) and were generally low in number, these categories were not discussed in the narrative.

The Finger Lakes Health Systems Agency's (FLHSA) SPARCS Data Portal included a SES query with analysis available at the Zip code level or by Zip Code aggregate, including county. SES was based on average income, level of education, value of housing stock, age of housing stock, population crowding, percent of persons paying more than 35% of their income on housing, and percent of children living in single parent households. The FLHSA SPARCS Data Portal only had SES scores available for counties north and west of Westchester County. Each Zip code was assigned a value of SES 1 through SES 5, with SES 1 being the lowest and SES 5 being the highest. SES 1 and SES 5 each contain 15% of the population, SES 2 and SES 4 each contain 20% of the population, and SES 3 contains 30% of the population. Since the SES categories are Zip-code based, data generated by SES might vary from data generated by county.

Cost information was generated from the SPARCS database. The cost information from SPARCS represents billing data that were submitted by hospitals in New York State. Total opioid overdose hospitalization costs included the accommodation charge and the ancillary charge for all patients hospitalized within a given year. The accommodation charge is defined as the accommodation rate charged per day for a specific type of accommodation multiplied by the length of stay in days. The rate charged per day depends on the type of room (e.g. private, semi-private, or within a ward), type of care (e.g. general, medical, rehabilitation, etc.) and level of care. The ancillary charge is the sum of all ancillary costs, such as nursing, pharmacy, laboratory, etc. The ED visit costs include only the ancillary charges.

Graphs will indicate whether rates are crude or age-adjusted. Most graphics presenting opioid overdose rates that are age-adjusted. The exceptions are trend comparisons when 2015 data are utilized (NYSDOH 2015 opioid overdose indicators were only available as crude rates), and when age-specific rates are presented

Because of small numbers for many of the Opioid overdose-related indicators, rates were presented in red if the rates were unstable (<10 events in the numerator).

The report utilized the opioid mortality, hospitalization and ED visit ICD codes utilized by NYSDOH in the New York State-County Opioid Quarterly Report-October 2016 (see page 63).⁷
http://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/aids/general/opioid_overdose_prevention/docs/ros_2015_2016.pdf

References

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