

Opioid Litigation Settlement: *Using Evidence to Lead Action*

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Connections

Agenda

- Review Impact of the Opioid Crisis
- Provide Settlement Agreement Background
- Overview of County Framework to Guide Investments
- Questions

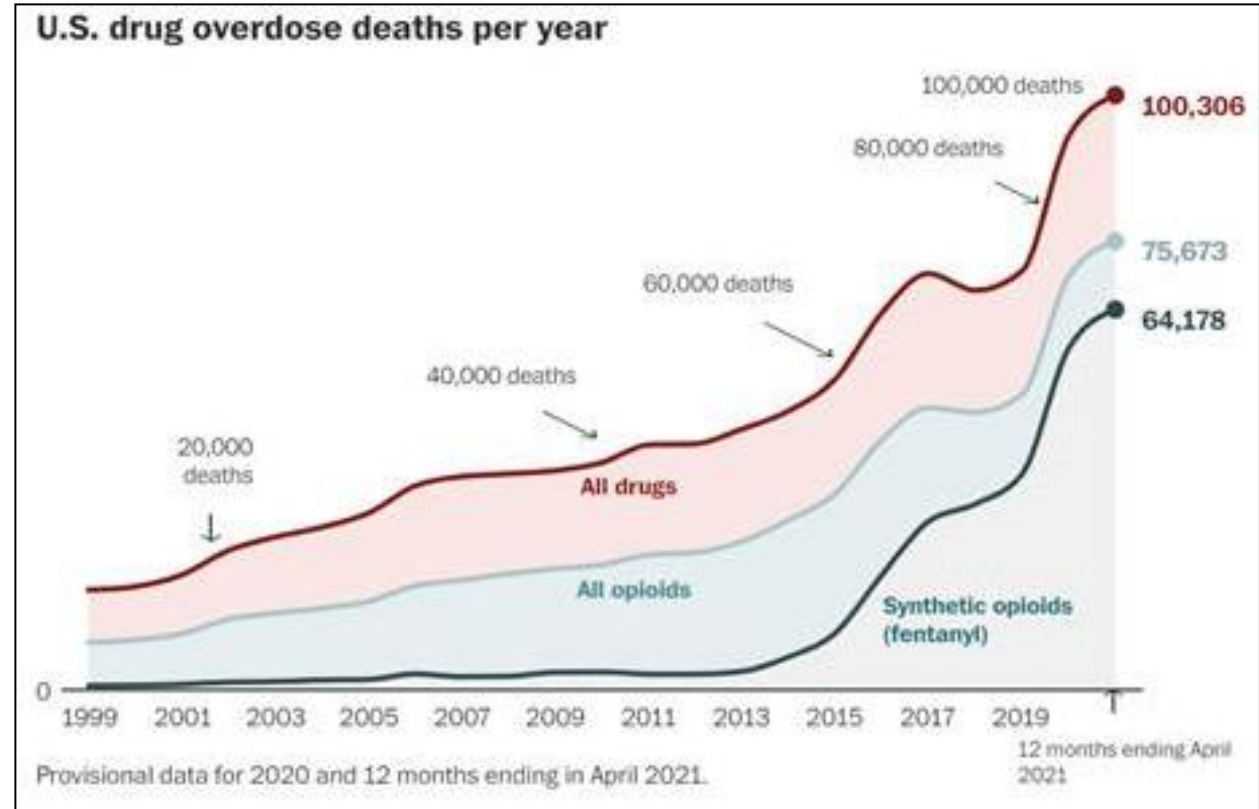
Lifting Up Our Community

- Clackamas County and Cities will receive funding from the National Opioid Settlement to mitigate harms associated with the opioid and other drug crisis.
- New funding provides an opportunity to make strategic investments in evidence-based approaches that **strengthen our communities, prevent opioid misuse and stem the rising number of overdose deaths.**



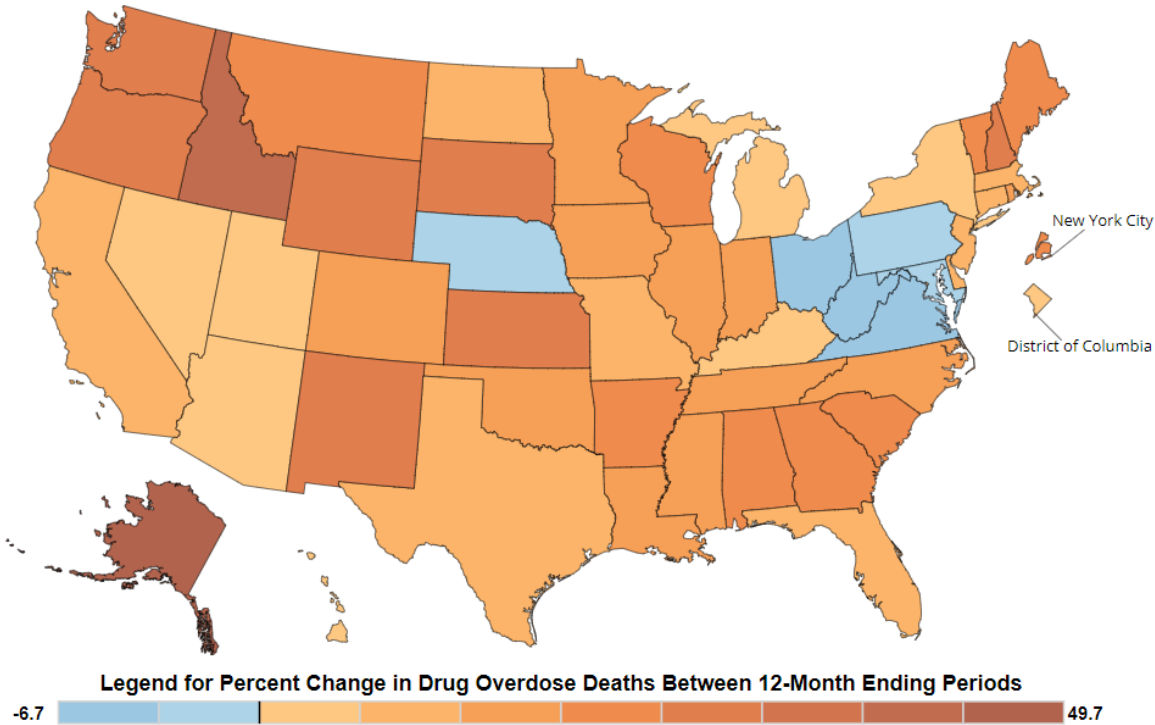
National Opioid Crisis

- Over **100,000** people died as a result of the overdose epidemic from April 2020 to April 2021.
- Approximately **75,000** of those deaths involved opioids, most of which were due to synthetic opioids such as fentanyl.



Local Impact

Oregon saw a 26.09% increase in ALL overdose deaths- March 2021-March 2022.



CDC, Center for Health Statistics, Vital Statistics Rapid Release (VSRR) program: <https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/2020/han00438.asp>

Alcohol and Drug Addiction Worsens in Oregon- Deaths soar during pandemic

- Oregon now ranks 2nd in the country for substance use disorders
- Oregon fell to 50th in access to treatment,
- Oregon ranks 1st in prescription opioid misuse
- Oregon ranks 1st in methamphetamine use

[National Survey on Drug Use and Health](#), conducted by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), 2020

Using Data to Inform Decisions

Public Health staff maintain a substance use data dashboard that includes key indicators of opioid harm. These numbers describe some, but not all, of the impact of opioids on the people of our county.

Data can be used to identify populations and areas of the county most impacted. Data collected includes:

- **Overdose deaths** involving opioids
- **Emergency Department (ED) visits** for overdose
- Non-fatal overdoses that involve **illicit drugs, such as heroin, fentanyl and meth**
- The rate of **prescriptions for opioids**

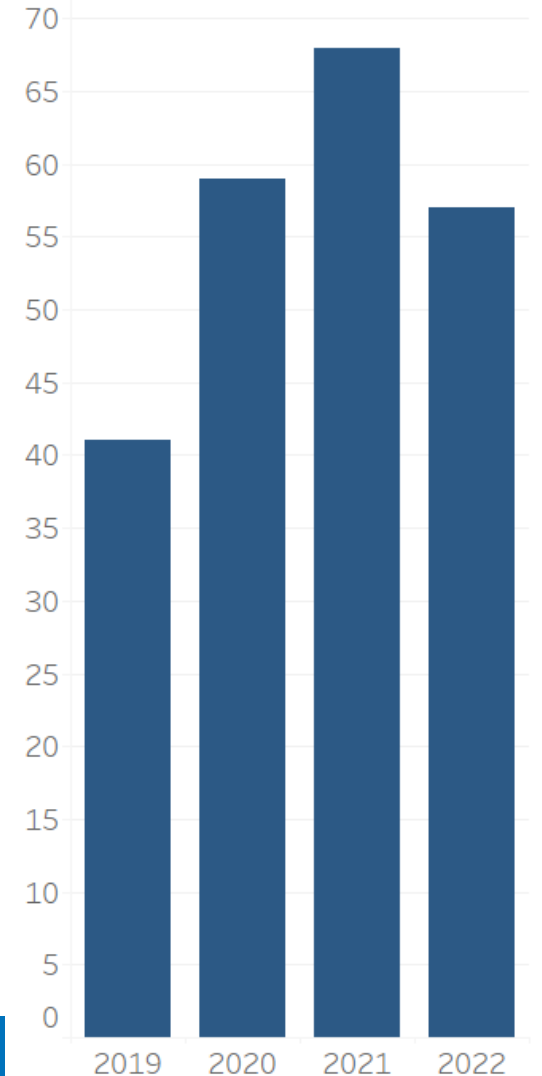


Local Impact

- Clackamas County saw a 66% increase in drug-related deaths from 2019 (41) to 2021 (68).
- The presence of opioids in the results of people who died in association with substance use has increased 168% from 2019 (19) to 2021 (51) in Clackamas County.
- Deaths related to fentanyl have increased more than 5 fold from 2019 (5) to 2021 (40).

Source: Clackamas County Medical Examiner
Created by: Clackamas County Public Health Division
Data are preliminary and subject to change

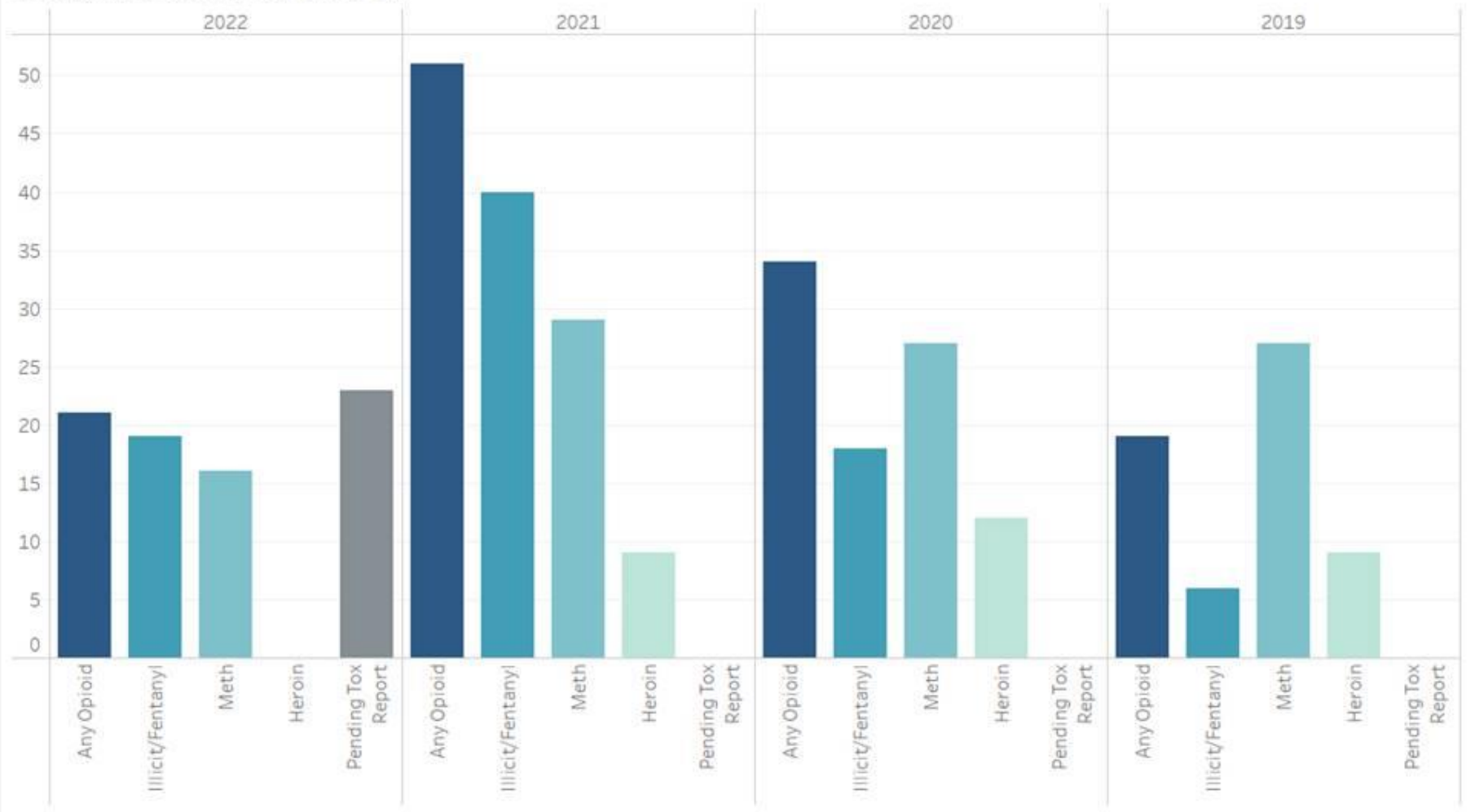
Confirmed and Suspect Drug-Related Deaths
2019-September 2022



Local Impact

Toxicity Results by Drug Type 2019 - September 2022

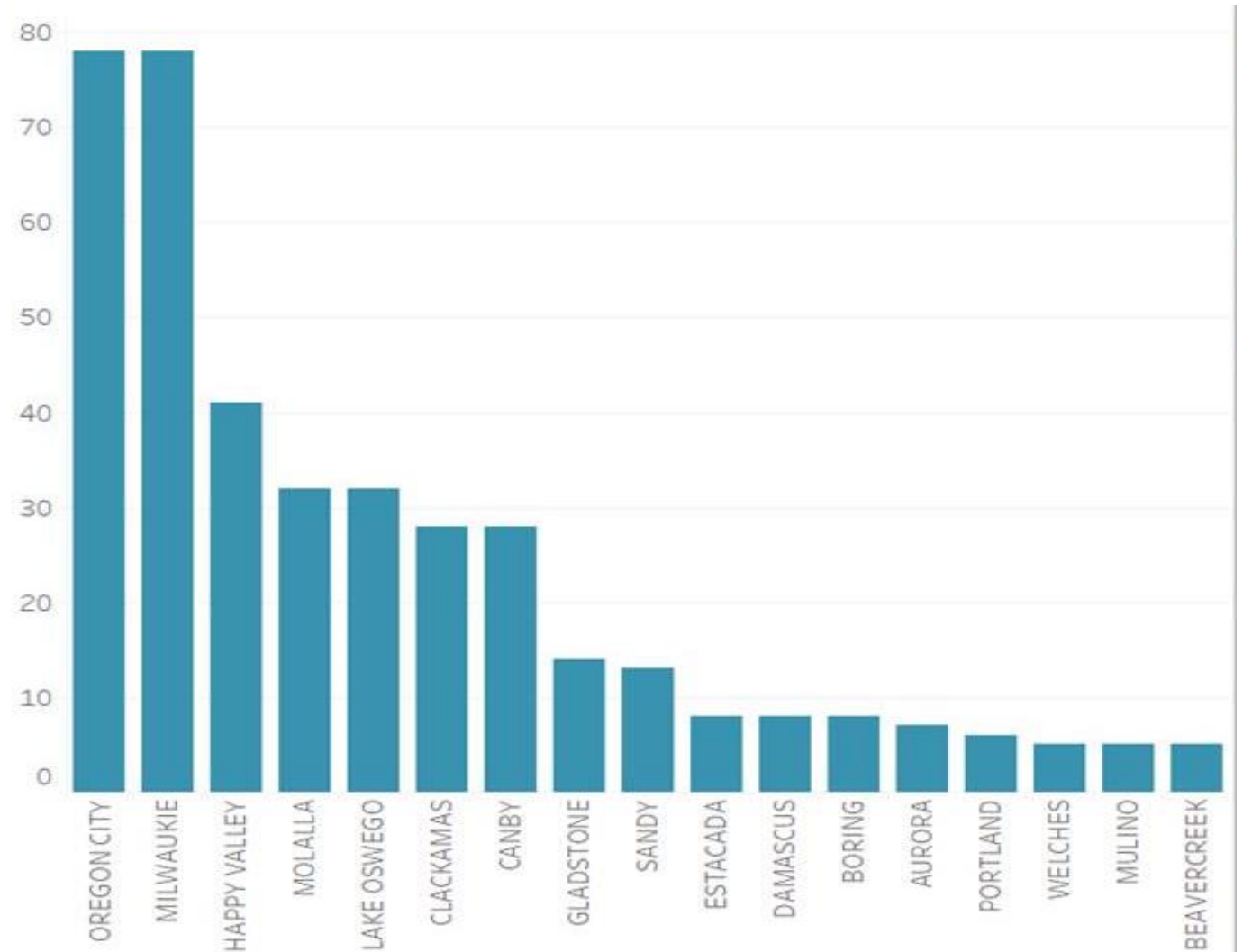
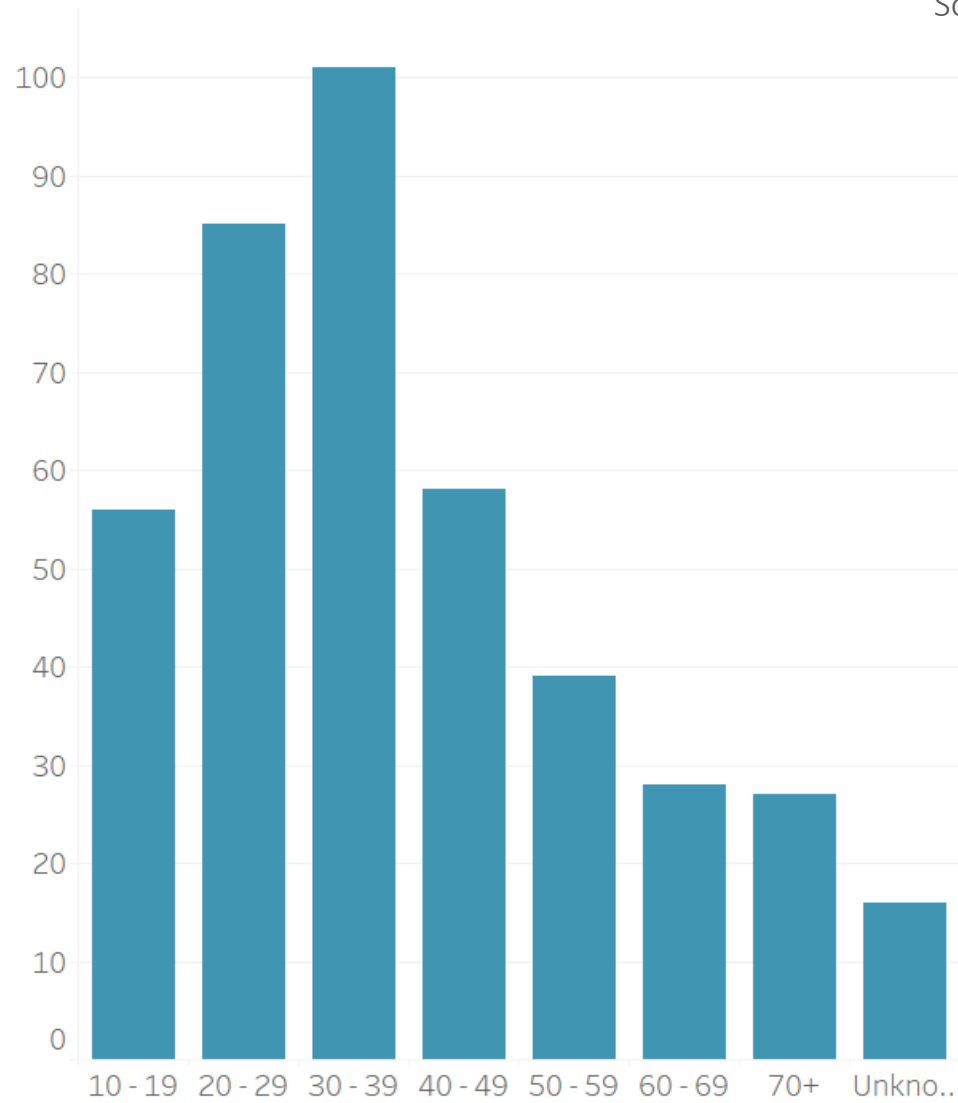
Source: Clackamas County Medical Examiner
Created by: Clackamas County Public Health Division



Local Impact

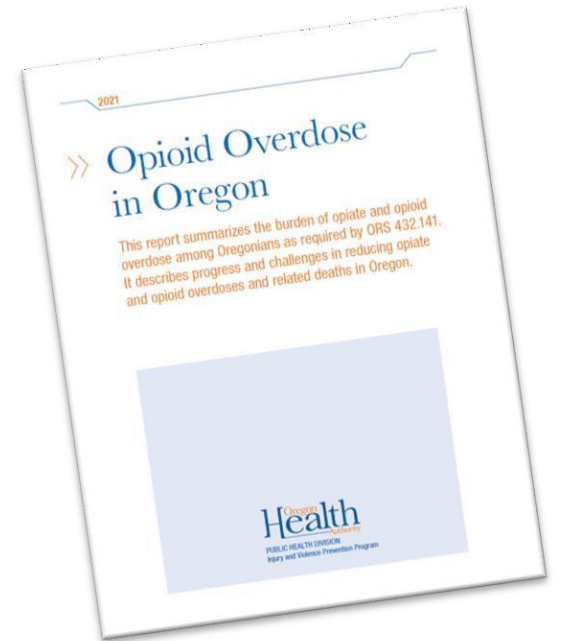
Overdose-Related 911 Calls via FirstWatch By age and by City February 1– September 2022

Source: FirstWatch; Created by Clackamas County Public Health Division



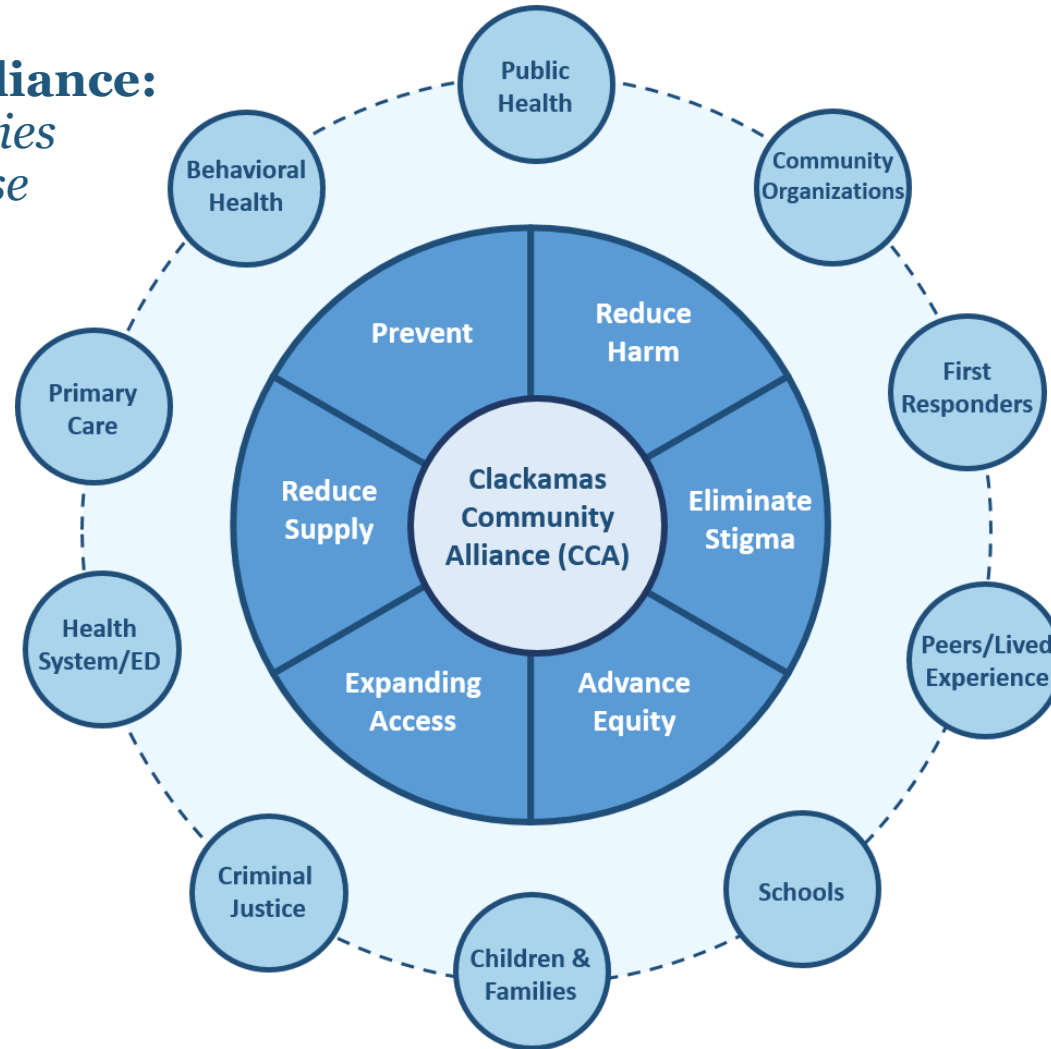
Key Take-Aways from OR Overdose Report:

- Many people who overdosed never touched the health care system
- 70% of people who overdosed were not administered naloxone
- Root causes: lack of community cohesion, mental health issues, and absence of basic needs
- Stigma associated with substance use
- Lack of access to shelters, detox facilities, and treatment centers
- Many don't know what community resources exist



Community Response

Clackamas Community Alliance:
*Strengthening communities
affected by substance use*



Settlement Agreement Background

- **Oregon will receive \$333 million** as part of two settlements, including Johnson & Johnson (\$5 billion) and the 3 distributors (\$21 billion).
 - Defendants have **up to 18 years** to complete payments.
 - State funding: 45%
 - Local funding: 55% to counties and cities who signed onto the agreement
- **Clackamas County will receive approximately \$13.7 million.**
 - Cities will receive lesser amounts depending on population and public health metrics.
 - Expect that payments will be front-loaded with 40% distributed in the first 2-3 years.

Allowable Uses of Settlement Funding

The Exhibit E of the Settlement Agreement identifies **nine core abatement strategies**:

- 1) Targeted naloxone distribution
- 2) Criminal justice interventions
- 3) Medication for Opioid Use Disorder
- 4) Enrich prevention strategies
- 5) Linkage to Syringe Exchange programs
- 6) Healthcare system interventions
- 7) Warm hand-off program and recovery support
- 8) Data collection and research
- 9) Treatment during pregnancy & postpartum period

Guiding Principles

- 1) **Spend Money to save lives**
- 2) **Use evidence to guide spending**
- 3) **Invest in youth prevention**
- 4) **Focus on racial equity**
- 5) **Develop a fair & transparent process**

Source: Principles For the Use of Funds from the Opioid Litigation, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, opiodprinciples.jhsph.edu

Opioid Settlement Framework

Evidence

- Assess gaps in prevention, treatment, harm reduction and recovery.

Equity

- Identify populations and those most generally impacted including our communities of color.

Collaboration

- Engage communities to identify priorities and need to inform funding allocations.
- Bring together multi-disciplinary representation including those with lived experience to advise the process.

Transparency

- Provide annual report on investments and lives saved.

Support to Cities

- **Inform investments**
 - Assessment findings & data
 - **Identify gap & needs**
 - Share evidence-based programs/practices
- **Maximize investments**
 - Coordinate aligned activities to build economies of scale
 - Strengthen local response through **collaborative investments**

Opioid Settlement: Next Steps



Questions?