New Hampshire Drug Monitoring Initiative

New Hampshire Information & Analysis Center

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NHIAC Product #: 2016-2506 *February 2016 Report* *16 March 2016*

Purpose: *The NH Drug Monitoring Initiative (DMI) is a holistic strategy to provide awareness and combat drug distribution and abuse. In line with this approach the DMI will obtain data from various sources (to include, but not limited to, Public Health, Law Enforcement, and EMS) and provide monthly products for stakeholders as well as situational awareness releases as needed.*

Drug Environment Report—UNCLASSIFIED

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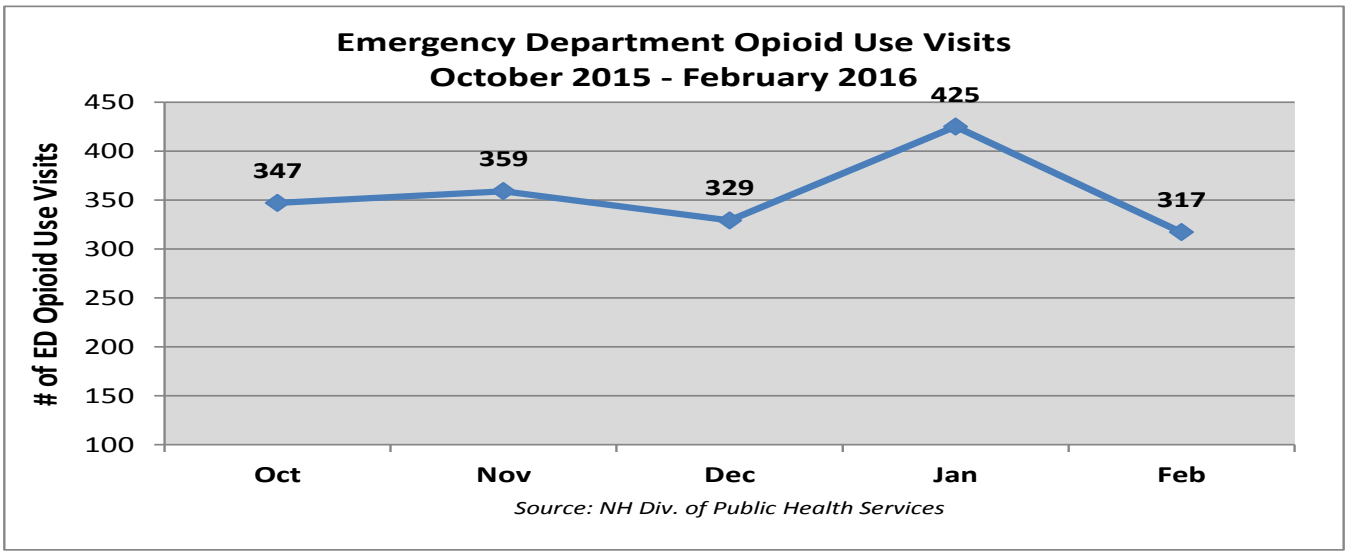
Opioid Related Emergency Department Visits*

Data Source: NH Division of Public Health Services

IMPORTANT NOTE– Data Source Change!!! The ER visit data has been expanded beyond heroin to include all opioids. Also in addition to a query of the chief complaint text, the Division of Public Health is conducting queries on ICD-10 diagnostic codes designated for heroin and opioids. This results in an apparent increase in the number of ER visits, which is NOT necessarily indicative of an actual increase, but rather due to a more representative way of tracking the information using ICD-10 codes beginning in October of 2015.

Monthly Trends: The chart below (ED Opioid Use Visits October 2015—February 2016) is based on the new query method described above. There was a 25.4% decrease in Opioid ED visits from January to February.



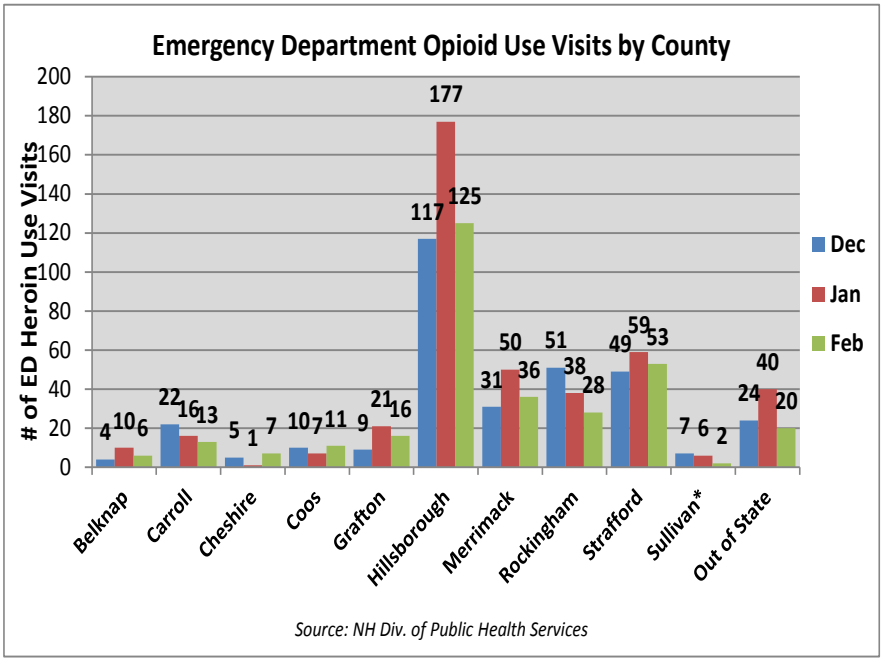
Geographic Trend: The following information identifies observable trends in opioid related Emergency Department visits on the basis of county of residence.

Top Counties for February:
1. Hillsborough 2. Strafford

Largest % Increase from Jan to Feb:
1. Cheshire

County	Dec	Jan	Feb	% Change
Belknap	4	10	6	-40%
Carroll	22	16	13	-19%
Cheshire	5	1	7	600%
Coos	10	7	11	57%
Grafton	9	21	16	-24%
Hillsborough	117	177	125	-29%
Merrimack	31	50	36	-28%
Rockingham	51	38	28	-26%
Strafford	49	59	53	-10%
Sullivan*	7	6	2	-67%
Out of State	24	40	20	-50%
TOTAL	**329**	**425**	**317**	**-25%**

NOTE: County represents where the heroin use patient resides



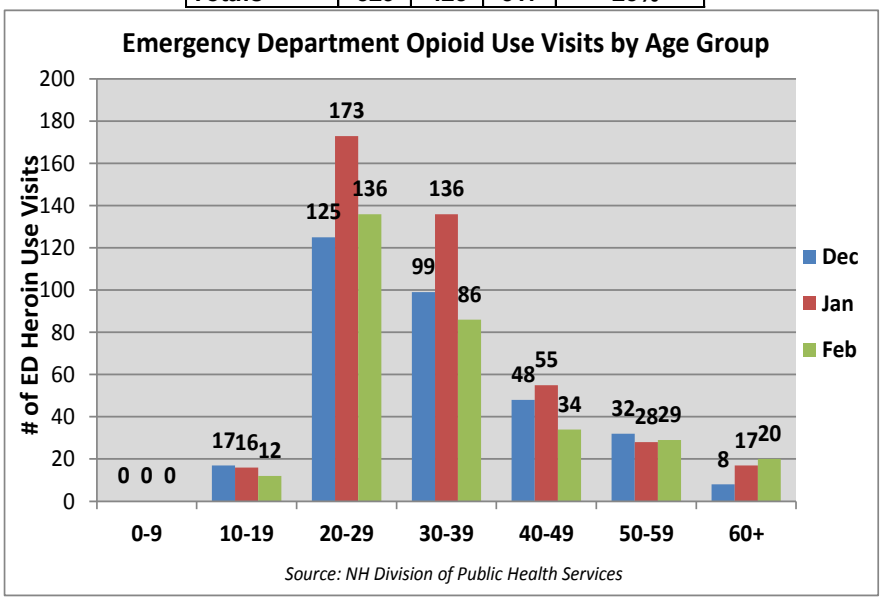
*The source of these data are New Hampshire's Automated Hospital Emergency Department Data system, which includes all emergency department encounters from 26 acute care hospitals in New Hampshire. These data represent any encounter with the term "heroin or opioid" listed as chief complaint text and may represent various types of incidents including accidental poisonings, suicide, or other related types of events. These data also represent any encounter with an ICD-10 code that was designated for heroin and opioids. Currently all but two of the hospitals are sending ICD-10 data. Chief complaint and ICD-10 codes were combined to capture the maximum representation of opioid data in NH hospitals and deduplicated so encounters could only be counted once for a visit.

Opioid Related Emergency Department Visits (Continued)

Demographic Trends: The following information identifies observable trends in opioid related Emergency Department visits on the basis of age, and gender of patients.

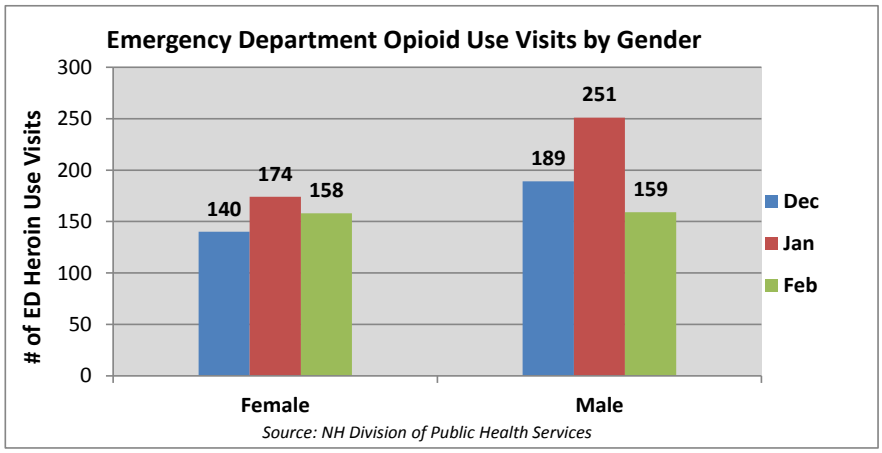
Age Trends: The age group with the largest number of Opioid related emergency department visits for February was 20-29 YOA. The largest percent increase from January to February was 60+ YOA with an 18% increase.

Age	Dec	Jan	Feb	% Change
0-9	0	0	0	0%
10-19	17	16	12	-25%
20-29	125	173	136	-21%
30-39	99	136	86	-37%
40-49	48	55	34	-38%
50-59	32	28	29	4%
60+	8	17	20	18%
Totals	**329**	**425**	**317**	**-25%**



Gender Trends: The gender with the largest number of Opioid related emergency department visits for February was male; however the number of ER visits for females was only one (1) less. The largest percent decrease from January to February was male with a 37% decrease.

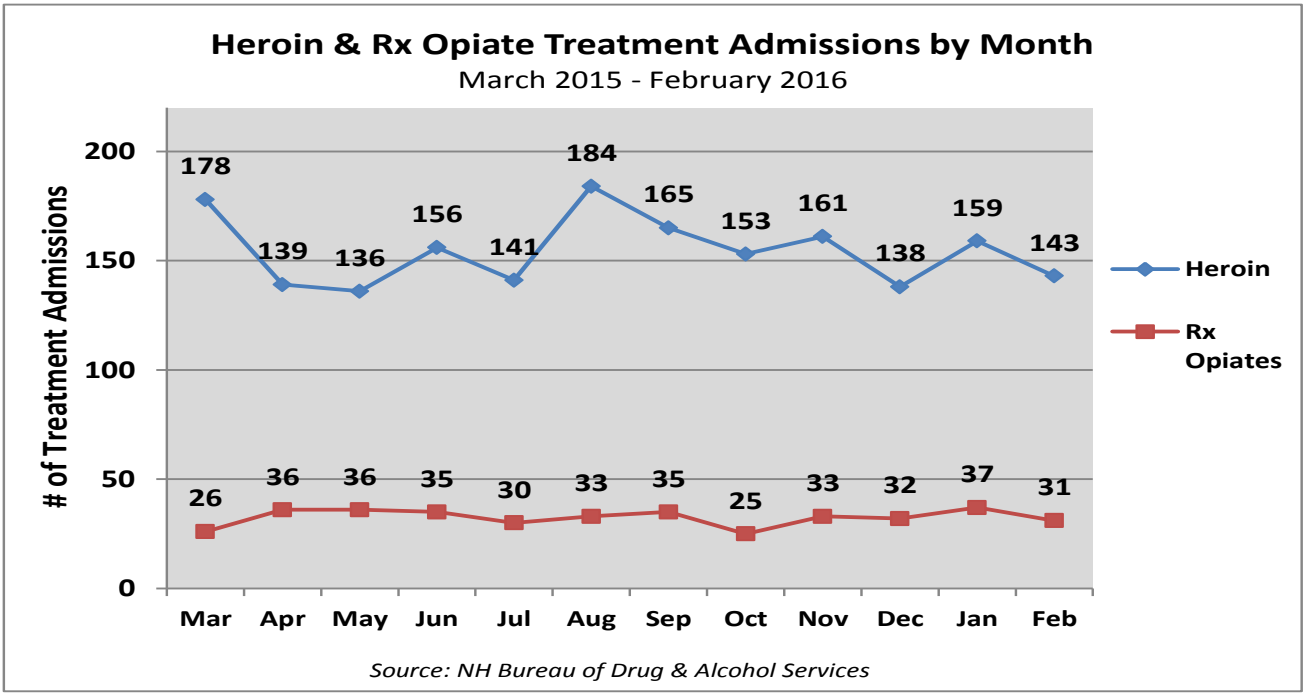
Gender	Dec	Jan	Feb	% Change
Female	140	174	158	-9%
Male	189	251	159	-37%
Totals	**329**	**425**	**317**	**-25%**



Heroin & Rx Opiate Treatment Admissions

Data Source: NH Bureau of Drug & Alcohol Services

Monthly Trends: As displayed in the charts below, the number of treatment admissions for heroin increased from December to January and then decreased from January to February. The number of admissions for prescription opiates decreased by 16% from January to February. When combining the number of heroin and prescription opiate treatment admissions, the overall number of admissions decreased by 11% from January to February.

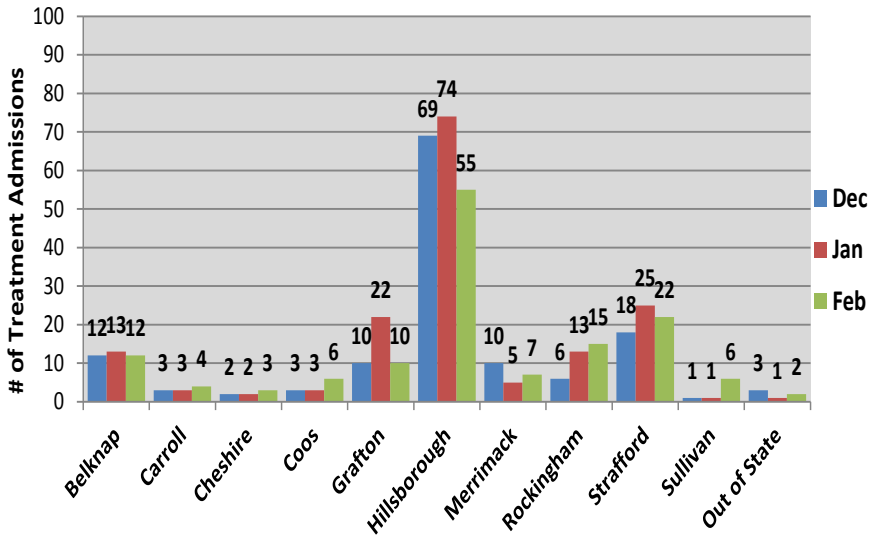


Source: NH Bureau of Drug & Alcohol Services

Geographic Trends: The county with the largest number of residents admitted to a treatment program for heroin or prescription opiates during the month of February was Hillsborough County. Sullivan county experienced the largest percent increase with an increase of 500% in the number of residents admitted to treatment programs from January to February.

County	Dec	Jan	Feb	% Change
Belknap	12	13	12	-8%
Carroll	3	3	4	33%
Cheshire	2	2	3	50%
Coos	3	3	6	100%
Grafton	10	22	10	-55%
Hillsborough	69	74	55	-26%
Merrimack	10	5	7	40%
Rockingham	6	13	15	15%
Strafford	18	25	22	-12%
Sullivan	1	1	6	500%
Out of State	3	1	2	100%
Not provided	33	34	32	-6%
Totals	**170**	**196**	**174**	**-11%**

NOTE: County represents where the patient resides



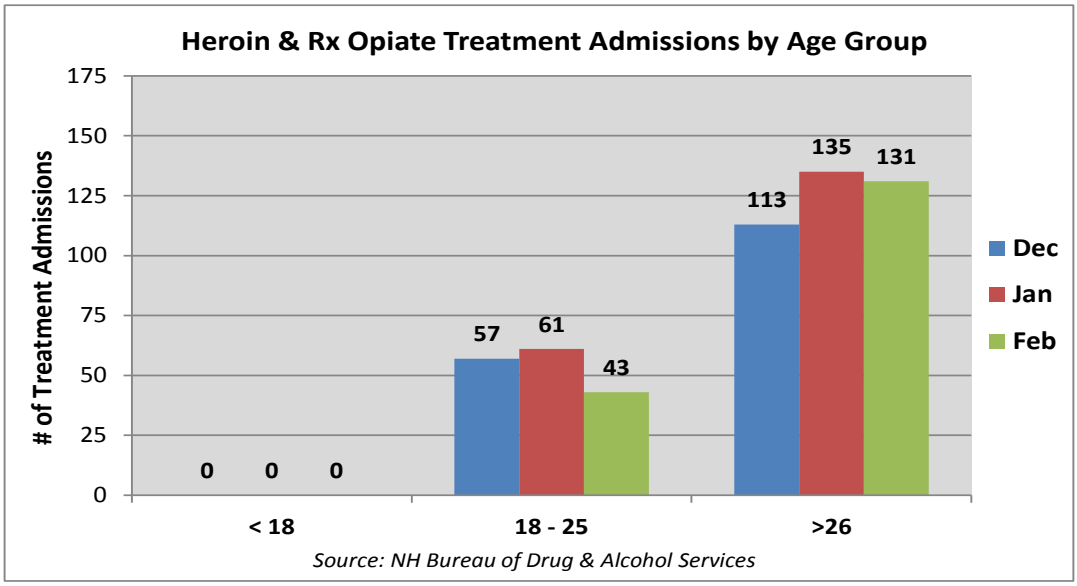
Source: NH Bureau of Drug & Alcohol Services

Heroin & Rx Opiate Treatment Admissions (Continued)

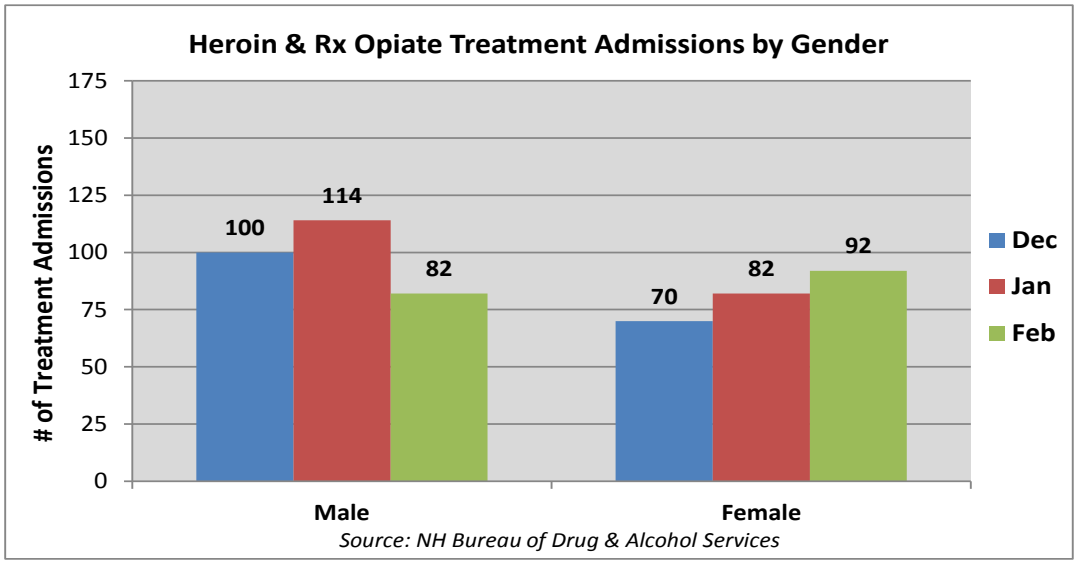
Demographic Trends: Treatment admissions for heroin and prescription opiates usage was broken down by age and gender as displayed in the charts below. Individuals 26 years of age or older exhibited the highest number of treatment admissions during the months of December, January, and February.

- There were more females than males admitted to treatment programs during the month of February. The number of males admitted to treatment programs decreased by 28% from January to February and the number of females admitted to treatment programs increased by 12% during the same time period.

Age Group	Dec	Jan	Feb	% Change
< 18	0	0	0	0%
18 - 25	57	61	43	-30%
>26	113	135	131	-3%
Totals	**170**	**196**	**174**	**-11%**



Gender	Dec	Jan	Feb	% Change
Male	100	114	82	-28%
Female	70	82	92	12%
Totals	**170**	**196**	**174**	**-11%**



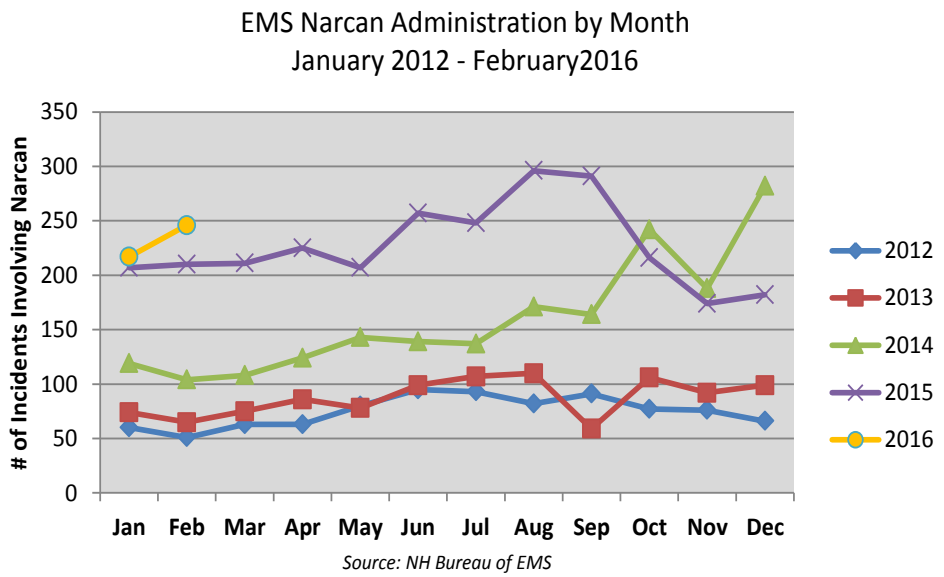
EMS Narcan Administration*

Data Source: NH Bureau of Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

Annual & Monthly Trends:

Incidents involving EMS Narcan administration increased by 13% from January 2016 to February.

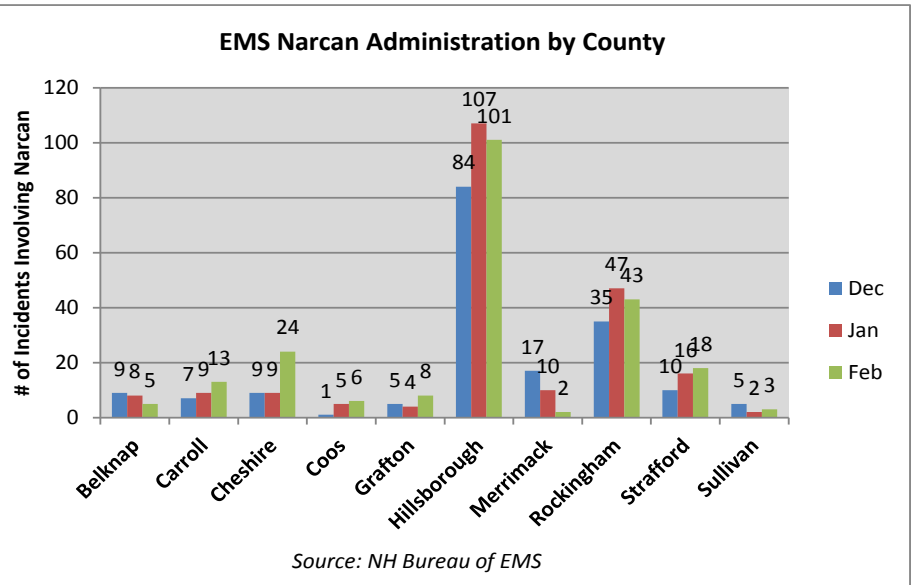
(*Note: Narcan is administered in cases of cardiac arrest when the cause of the arrest cannot be determined. It therefore cannot be concluded that all of the reported Narcan cases involved drugs.)*



Geographic Trends: The following chart displays the number of incidents involving Narcan administration by county for the months of December, January, and February. The county with the largest number of Narcan administrations for all three months is Hillsborough County with 84, 107 and 101 incidents, respectively. The largest percent increase in the number of incidents involving Narcan between January and February was observed in Cheshire County at 167%.

See the following page for a map of EMS Narcan Administration Incidents by Town for the last 12 months, March 2015 through February 2016.

County	Dec	Jan	Feb	% Change
Belknap	9	8	5	-38%
Carroll	7	9	13	44%
Cheshire	9	9	24	167%
Coos	1	5	6	20%
Grafton	5	4	8	100%
Hillsborough	84	107	101	-6%
Merrimack	17	10	2	-80%
Rockingham	35	47	43	-9%
Strafford	10	16	18	13%
Sullivan	5	2	3	50%
Total	182	217	223	3%



*Narcan data in this report involves the number of incidents where Narcan was administered, NOT the number of doses of Narcan during a certain time period. Multiple doses may be administered during an incident.

EMS/Narcan Administration By Town
3/1/2015 - 2/29/2016
Data source: New Hampshire Bureau of EMS

Prepared by:
NH Information & Analysis Center

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Belknap
1 - Center Harbor

Carroll
2 - Hales Location
3 - Harts Location

Coos
4 - Hadleys Purchase
5 - Beans Grant
6 - Cutts Grant
7 - Sargents Purchase
8 - Pinkhams Grant
9 - Crawfords Purchase
10 - Chandlers Purchase
11 - Low & Burbanks Grant
12 - Thompson & Meserves Purchase
13 - Greens Grant
14 - Martins Location
15 - Ervings Grant
16 - Wentworth Location
17 - Atkinson & Gilmanton Academy Grant

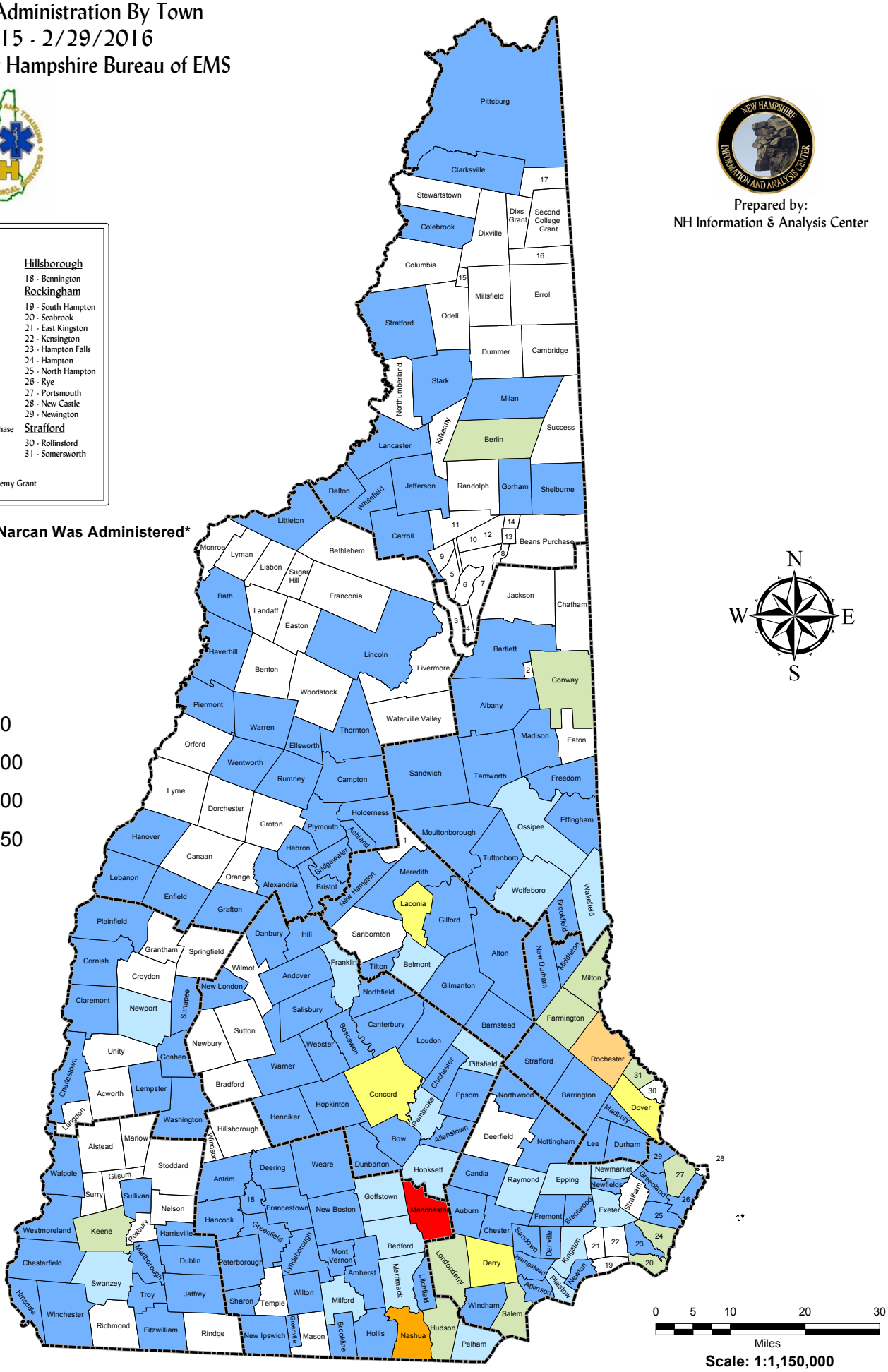
Hillsborough
18 - Bennington

Rockingham
19 - South Hampton
20 - Seabrook
21 - East Kingston
22 - Kensington
23 - Hampton Falls
24 - Hampton
25 - North Hampton
26 - Rye
27 - Portsmouth
28 - New Castle
29 - Newington

Strafford
30 - Rollinsford
31 - Somersworth

Incidents Where Narcan Was Administered

- 0
- 1 - 10
- 11 - 25
- 26 - 50
- 51 - 100
- 101 - 200
- 201 - 500
- 501 - 750



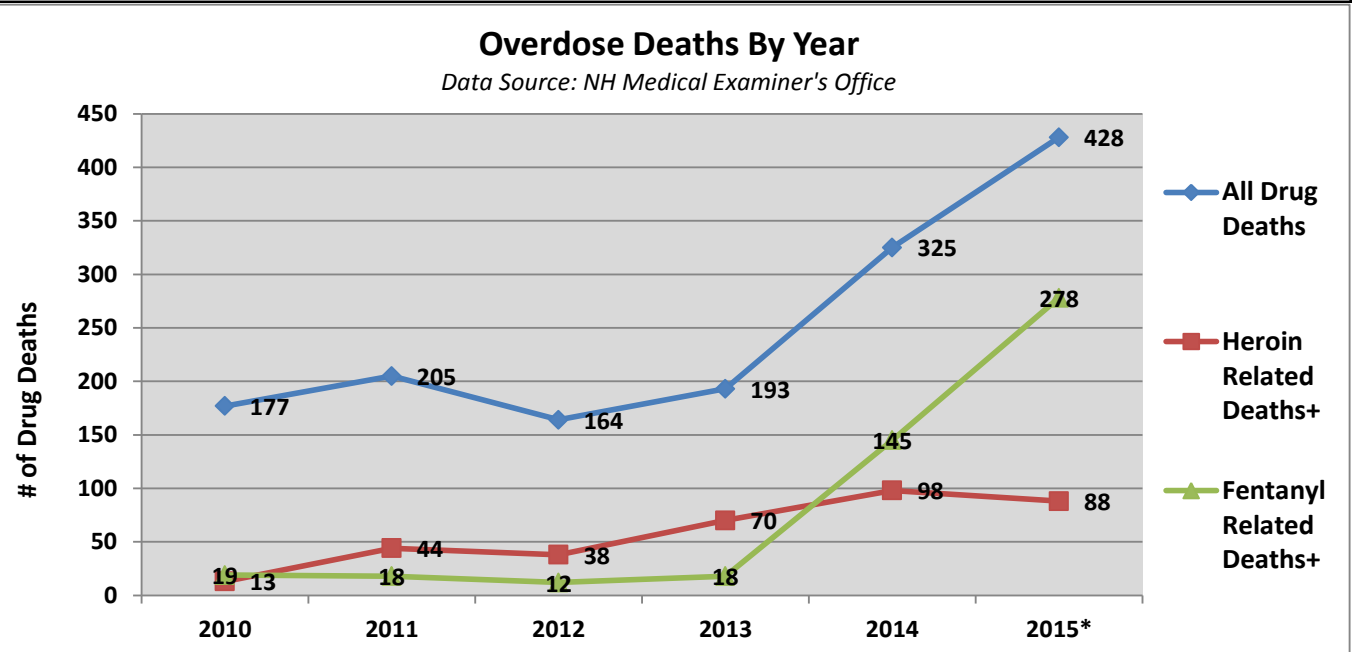
0 5 10 20 30
Miles
Scale: 1:1,150,000

Drug Overdose Deaths

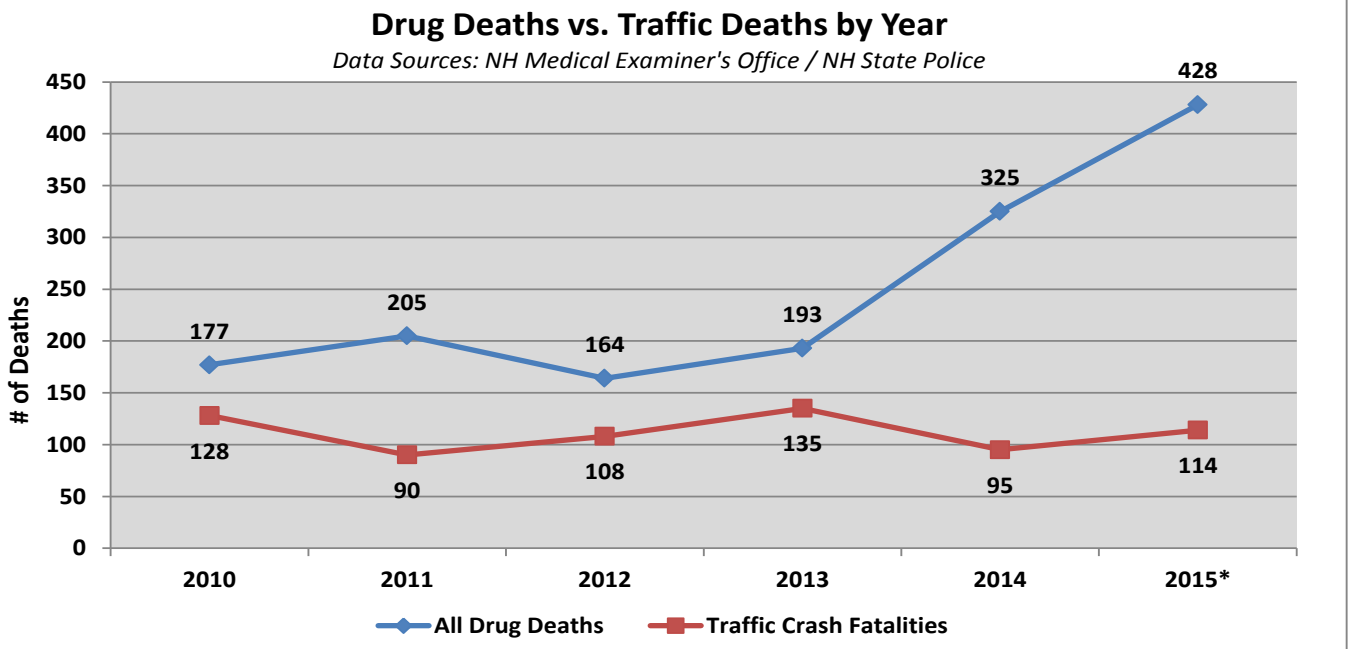
Data Source: NH Medical Examiner's Office

Annual Trends: The chart below displays overdose deaths annually from 2010 through 2015. 2015 totals are based on analysis completed as of 12 March 2016. **Eight cases are still pending analysis and therefore these numbers are subject to change.** The total number of drug related deaths is represented as well as deaths related to Heroin and/or Fentanyl.+ There are 86 cases from 2016 that are "pending toxicology", and there are ten confirmed drug deaths in 2016. **Please see page 9 for a map of 2015 overdose deaths by town where the individual is believed to have used the drug(s).**

+Heroin and Fentanyl Related deaths are not mutually exclusive, several deaths involved both drugs.



**2015 Numbers are based on analysis completed as of 12 March 2016 - cases still pending*
+ Heroin & Fentanyl Related deaths are not mutually exclusive, several deaths involved both drugs



**2015 Drug Death numbers are based on analysis completed as of 12 Mar 2016 - many cases are still pending analysis.*

Overdose Deaths by Town* - 2015+
(Data Source: NH Medical Examiner's Office)

***Location where the drug(s) is suspected to have been used.**

+2015 data was reported on March 12, 2016. There are many more deaths that are suspected to be drug related, but the official cause of death is pending until the toxicology results are received.

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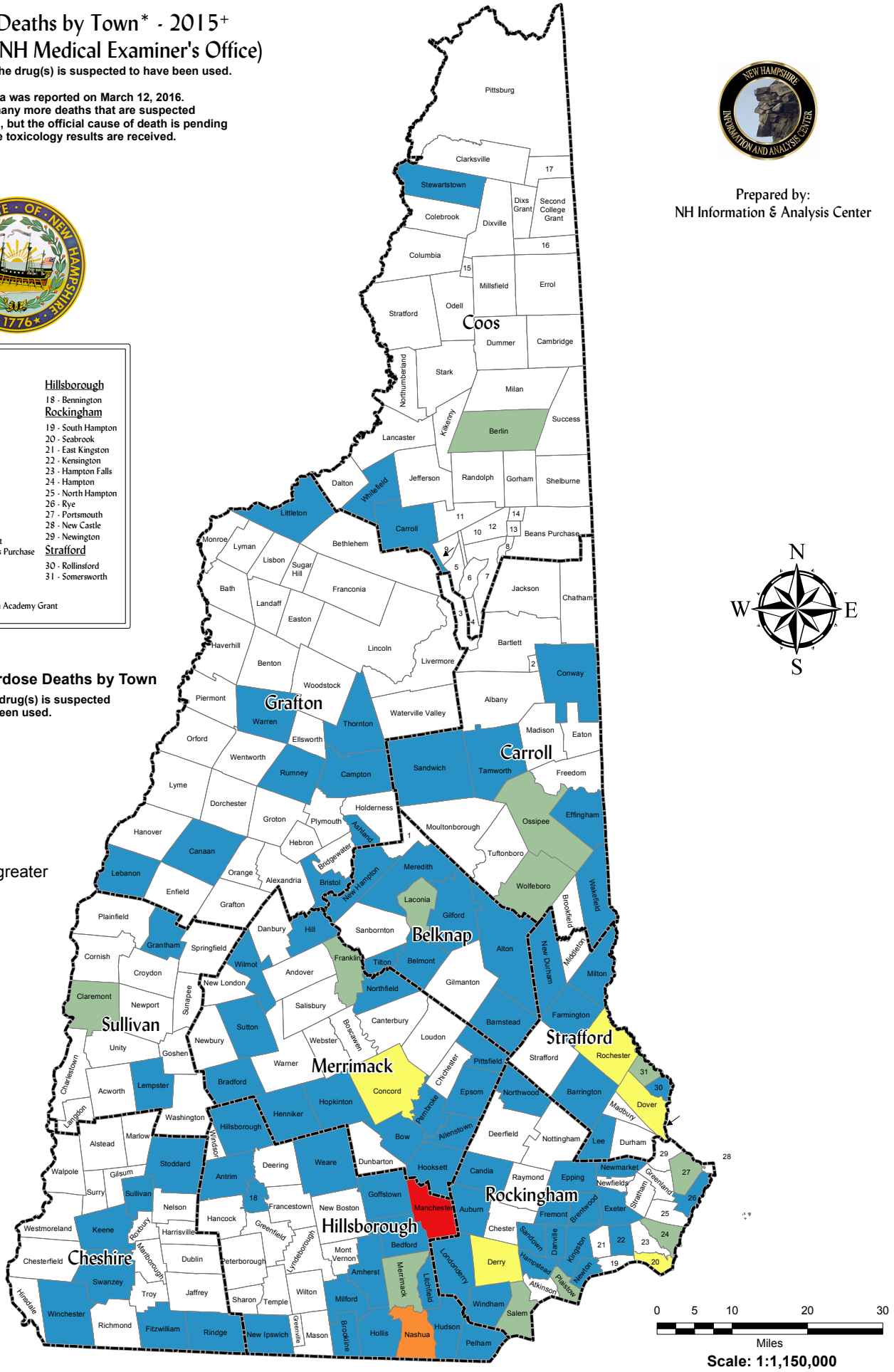

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Number of Overdose Deaths by Town

***Location where the drug(s) is suspected to have been used.**

- 1 - 4
- 5 - 10
- 11 - 25
- 26 - 50
- 51 and greater

Situational Awareness:

CVS to Stock Narcan

According to WMUR, The Granite State is now one of several states where Narcan can be purchased at CVS without a prescription. Forty-seven pharmacies in the state will have Narcan available by the end of the month, CVS said. Health workers said its availability could make a difference. Dr. William Goodman, Chief Medical Officer at Catholic Medical Center said, "It's a very cost-effective way to save a life and help someone start the journey towards being recovered from opioid dependence… If someone's abusing opiates, or if they're just on opiates, they should have Narcan at home if there's a chance they may overdose." CVS isn't the first pharmacy to offer Narcan without a prescription; other pharmacies have been making the drug available. But those on the front lines aren't seeing the results. Christopher Stawasz, regional director of AMR ambulance service said that although Narcan doesn't address the real problem, it can save lives.

In the News...

State Senate Passes Bill Aimed at Fighting Heroin Epidemic

According to unionleader.com, on March 10, 2016 the state senate passed a handful of bills to combat the heroin and opioid epidemic, with tacit acknowledgement the efforts are just part of a continued plan to save lives. The bills included supplemental funding of about $2.5 million for the governor's commission on alcohol and drug abuse prevention. An additional $125,000 is being proposed for the NH AG's office to hire an attorney dedicated to prosecuting drug cases. The Department of Health and Human Services is on a path to receive $500,000 to establish a program for peer recovery support services. Sen. Andy Sanborn said, "We recognize that this is the most important issue facing us in NH." Sen. President Chuck Morse said the legislation comes with increased oversight and reporting to ensure additional funds are being spent wisely to combat the drug crisis.

Major Gang in New York has Ties to New Hampshire

According to WMUR New York City police are celebrating what they called a major bust in the pipeline that brings heroin and cocaine in to New Hampshire. A SWAT team raided an Orange Street apartment in June 2015 and discovered guns, drugs, and thousands of dollars, evidence that ultimately lead to the arrest of three New York residents. Police said these three were believed to be part of a more extensive drug and gun running operation. Officials in New York announced that dozens of gang members were located in what police called the largest gang take-down in the history of the Bronx. More than a quarter-million dollars in cash, 15 guns and at least 16 kilograms of cocaine, crack, heroin and fentanyl were seized. Authorities said that four gangs involved — The Miami Ave Gang, The Eden Boys, The Ugz and The Rgz– formed an alliance. Officials said that the gangs would use the guns they purchased in New Hampshire and Massachusetts to exact revenge in the Bronx. Police said the gangs dealt $10,000 worth of crack per week in Manchester, New Hampshire. Eighty-four people were indicted, and 58 were charged as major traffickers, which means they could be sentenced to life in prison. Authorities said that while most of those indicted are in custody, 18 are still at large. Police are still investigating where the gangs got the drugs and who was selling them the drugs.

Tracked by NHIAC/HSEC SINs: 03,16 / 05,06

Substance Abuse Treatment/Recovery Directory:

State funded treatment facilities in NH (NOT a complete list)—Source NH Department of Health & Human Services

CONCORD

Concord Hospital
The Fresh Start Program
(Intensive Outpatient 18 years and older and Outpatient Services.)
250 Pleasant Street, Suite 5400
Concord, NH 03301
Phone: 603-225-2711 ext. 2521
Fax: 603-227-7169

DOVER

Southeastern NH Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services (Dover)
(Outpatient and Intensive Outpatient Services.)
272 County Farm Road
Dover, NH 03820
Crisis Center: 603-516-8181
Main: 603-516-8160
Fax: 603-749-3983

GILFORD

Horizons Counseling Center
(Intensive Outpatient 18 years and older and Outpatient Services.)
25 Country Club Road Suite #705
Gilford, NH 03249
Phone: 603-524-8005
Fax: 603-524-7275

LEBANON

Headrest
12 Church Street
PO Box 247
Lebanon, NH 03766
Hotline: 603-448-4400 or 800-639-6095
Phone: 603-448-4872
Fax: 603-448-1829

MANCHESTER

Child and Family Services
Adolescent Substance Abuse Treatment Program (ASAT)
(Intensive Outpatient Services for Adolescents.)
404 Chestnut Street
Manchester, NH 03105
Phone: 800-640-6486
or 603-518-4001
Fax: 603-668-6260

Families in Transition
(Provides services for parenting women including pregnant women, intensive outpatient services; housing and comprehensive social services.)
122 Market Street
Manchester, NH 03104
Phone: 603-641-9441
Fax: 603-641-1244

The Mental Health Center of Greater Manchester
(Outpatient Adolescent and Families.)
1228 Elm Street, 2nd Floor
Manchester, NH 03101
Phone: 603-668-4111
Fax: 603-628-7733

Manchester Alcoholism and Rehabilitation Center Easter Seals Farnum Outpatient Services
(Intensive Outpatient 18 years and older and Outpatient Services.)
140 Queen City Avenue
Manchester, NH 03101
Phone: 603-263-6287
Fax: 603-621-4295

NASHUA

Greater Nashua Council on Alcoholism
Keystone Hall
(Outpatient and Intensive Outpatient Services for Adults, Adolescents and Their Families.)
12 & 1/2 Amherst Street
Nashua, NH 03063
Phone: 603-943-7971 Ext. 3
Fax: 603-943-7969

The Youth Council
(Outpatient for Adolescents and Families.)
112 W. Pearl Street
Nashua, NH 03060
Phone: 603-889-1090
Fax: 603-598-1703

PORTSMOUTH

Families First of the Greater Seacoast
(Pregnant and Parenting Women, Primary Care Setting, Outpatient.)
100 Campus Drive, Suite 12
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Phone: 603-422-8208 Ext. 150
Fax: 603-422-8218

A full list of Substance Abuse and Treatment Facilities can be found here.

A treatment locator can be found here.