



Emergency Medical Services Controlled Substance Overdose Report

**First Quarter 2019
January – March**

**Ron DeSantis
Governor**

**Scott A. Rivkees, MD
State Surgeon General**

Report Overview

In response to the national opioid epidemic, Governor Scott signed HB 249 into law in 2017. This requires the Florida Department of Health (Department) to create a quarterly report that summarizes raw overdose data received by the Department from licensed emergency medical service (EMS) providers. The report is to be provided to the Statewide Drug Policy Advisory Council, the Department of Children and Families, and the Florida Fusion Center. In addition to this quarterly report, the data are immediately made available to county level first responder and public health agencies.

This report is based on information received through the Florida Emergency Medical Services Tracking and Reporting System (EMSTARS) and represents a summary of EMS overdose responses reported into EMSTARS. EMSTARS is a voluntary program and records received by the Department represent 90 percent of the EMS responses throughout Florida.

Although the system is capable of capturing detailed information on the suspected cause of an overdose (i.e., heroin, fentanyl), in most cases this information is not included in the EMS record and therefore not included in the EMSTARS reporting. This is primarily due to the limited ability for EMS to make or to record a specific determination as to the cause of a suspected overdose during an emergency medical response. Differences between data standards, software vendors, and agency configuration may also affect the level of detail provided in EMSTARS records.

The EMSTARS data are characterized as responses because a single patient encounter may involve more than one agency. For example, a patient can receive initial treatment from a non-transport agency and be transported to a hospital by a different agency. When examining the overdose burden on the state EMS system, reviewing the total number of responses helps inform stakeholders on the resources devoted to the opioid epidemic.

Records included in EMSTARS are for patient-incidents where the 9-1-1 response involved an evaluation, treatment, and/or transport of a patient for extreme physical illness, decreased level of consciousness, respiratory depression, coma, or death resulting from the consumption or use of any substance that requires medical attention, assistance or treatment, and clinical suspicion for drug overdose, such as respiratory depression, unconsciousness, or altered mental status, without other conditions to explain the clinical condition. EMS personnel issue impressions to describe a patient's condition in the EMS record. Impressions are encoded in International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10 CM) diagnostic categories as listed in the Data Definitions section on the following page. Information on the patient outcome is limited to the information available in the EMS record. The actual number of overdose deaths occurring in Florida is not represented in this report. Patients may expire after care is transferred from EMS to hospitals or be obviously dead and not require an EMS response. Actual diagnoses are issued by a licensed physician in a medical setting, including pronouncement of death. Official cause of death is determined by medical examiners.

Any questions about this report can be directed to:

Florida Department of Health
Division of Emergency Preparedness & Community Support
Bureau of Emergency Medical Oversight
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin A22 • Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1722
Phone: (850) 245-4440 • Fax: (850) 488-9408 • EMS@flhealth.gov

Data Definitions

Suspected drug overdose:

Fatal: Primary/Secondary Impression of “T36 - T50, F11 - F16, F18 - F19” and patient death reported

Non-fatal: Primary/Secondary Impression of “T36 - T50, F11 - F16, F18 - F19” and no indication of death

Suspected opioid overdose:

Fatal: Primary/Secondary Impression of “T40.1 - T40.4, T40.60, T40.69, F11” and patient death reported

Non-fatal: Primary/Secondary Impression of “T40.1 - T40.4, T40.60, T40.69, F11” and no indication of death

Administration of opioid-antagonist:

Fatal: Primary/Secondary Impression of “T36 - T50, F11 - F16, F18 - F19” and administration of naloxone and patient death reported

Non-fatal: Primary/Secondary Impression of “T36 - T50, F11 - F16, F18 - F19” and administration of naloxone and no indication of death

Inclusion Criteria

1. Type of Service Requested = 911 Response
2. Incident/Patient Disposition indicates that the patient was evaluated, treated, and/or transported
3. Incident location must be within Florida

Florida Overview

	Non-fatal	Rate	Fatal	Rate
Total number of suspected drug overdose EMS responses	10,634	5.00	51	0.02
Total number of suspected opioid overdose EMS responses	3,895	1.83	30	0.01
EMS responses including administration of an opioid-antagonist	7,708	3.62	279	0.13

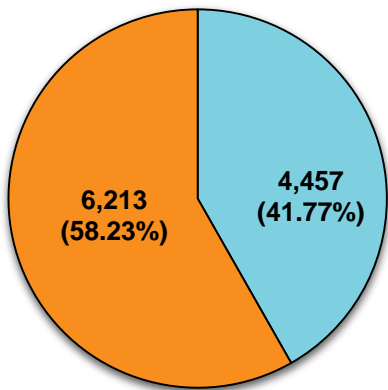
Note: Population rate per 10,000 people.

Suspected drug overdose (including both fatal and non-fatal):

Age group	<1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
Frequency	17	93	14	133	1,520	2,934	2,288	1,464	1,249	950
Rate	0.74	1.01	0.12	1.11	6.06	10.53	8.95	5.21	4.41	2.23

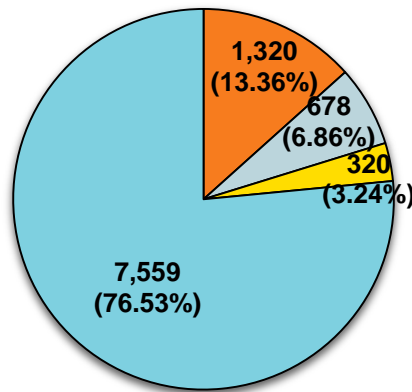
Note: Population rate per 10,000 people.

Gender



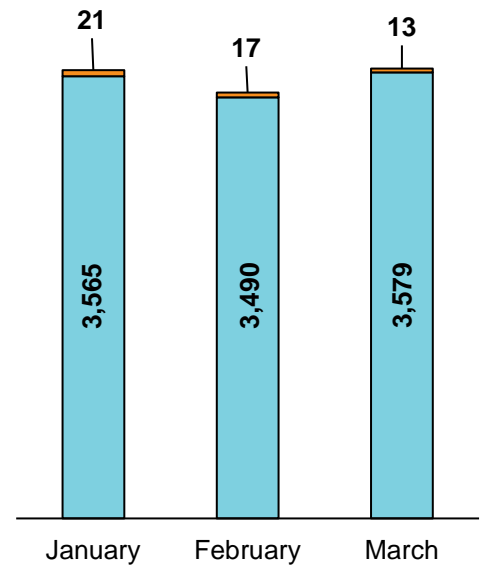
Female Male

Race/Ethnicity



Black Hispanic Other White

Trend (by Month)

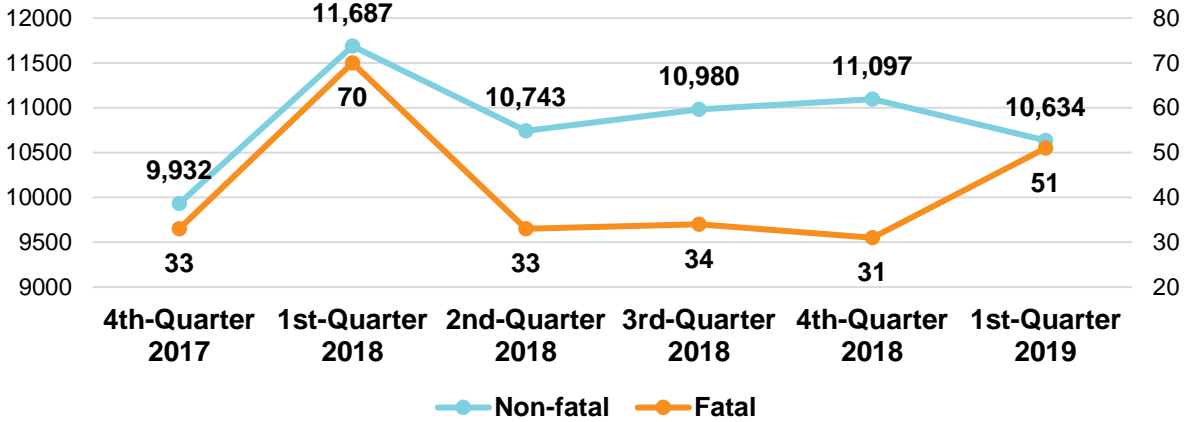


Fatal drug overdose
Non-fatal drug overdose

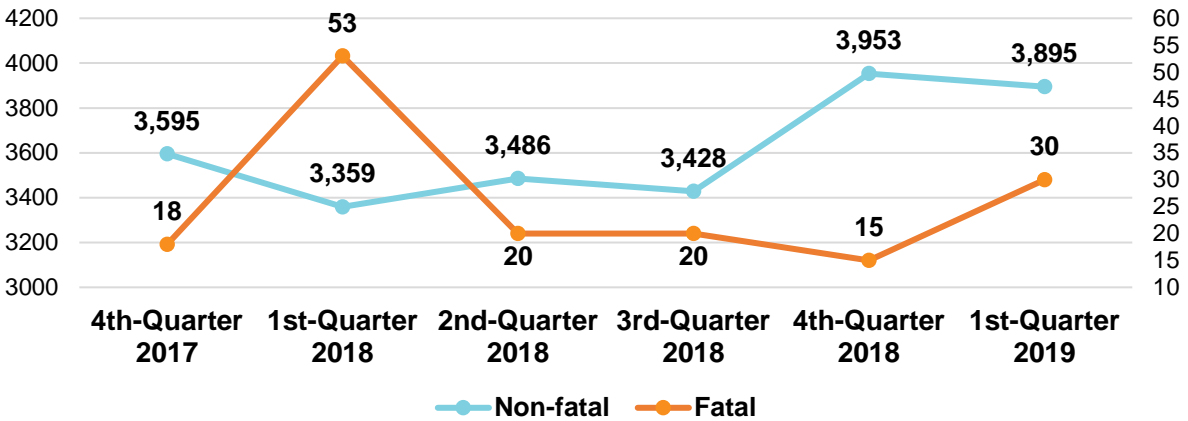
Note: Counts for gender and race/ethnicity are for only the total number of records that include that information; for gender, 99.86% of the total records are presented in the chart; for race/ethnicity, 92.44% of the total records are presented in the chart.

Florida Trend (by Quarter)

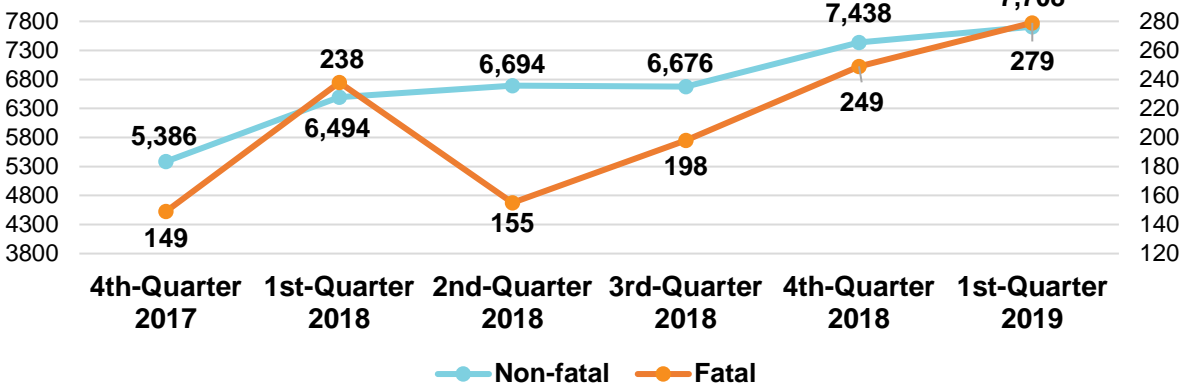
Total number of suspected drug overdose EMS responses



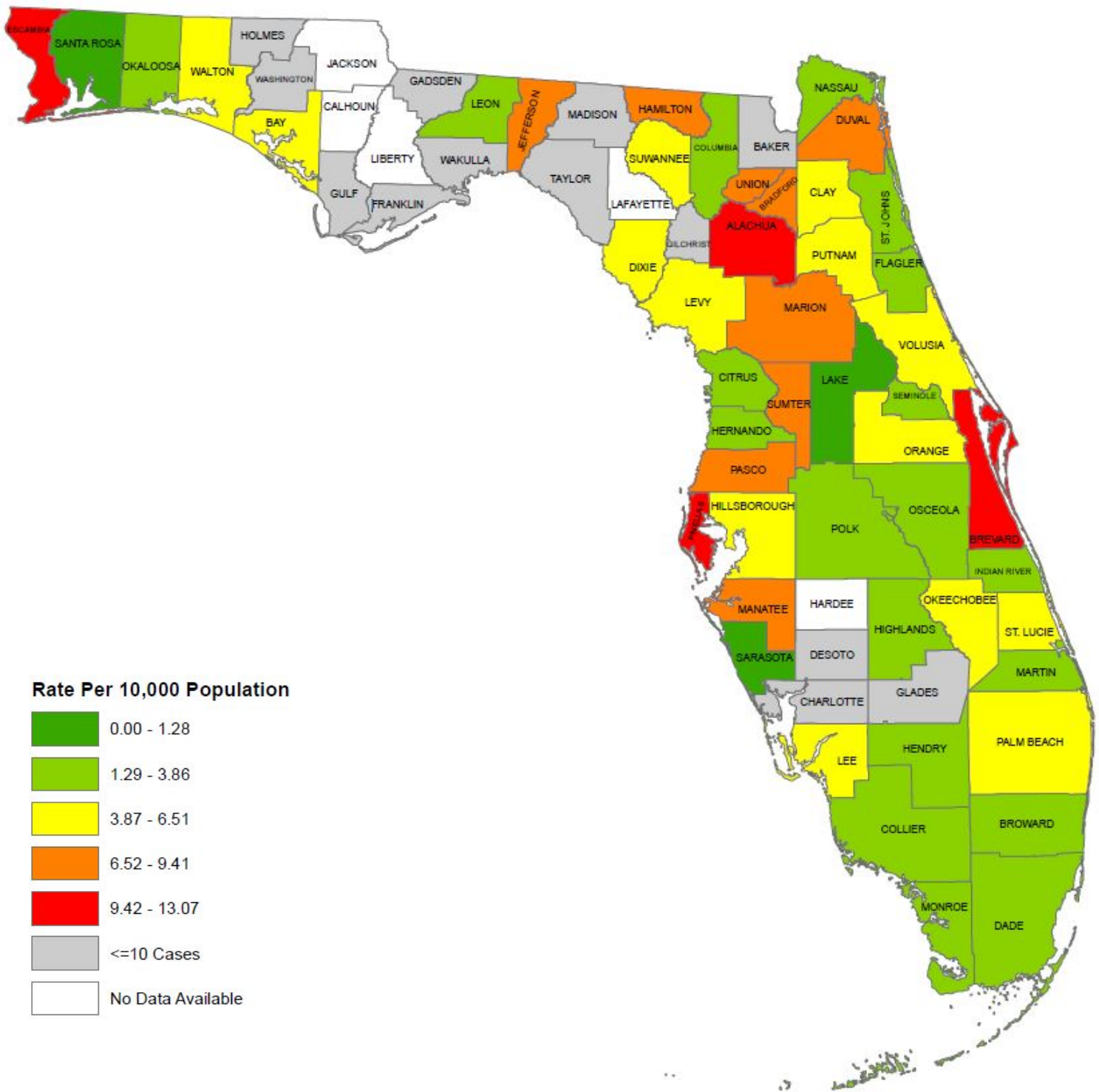
Total number of suspected opioid overdose EMS responses



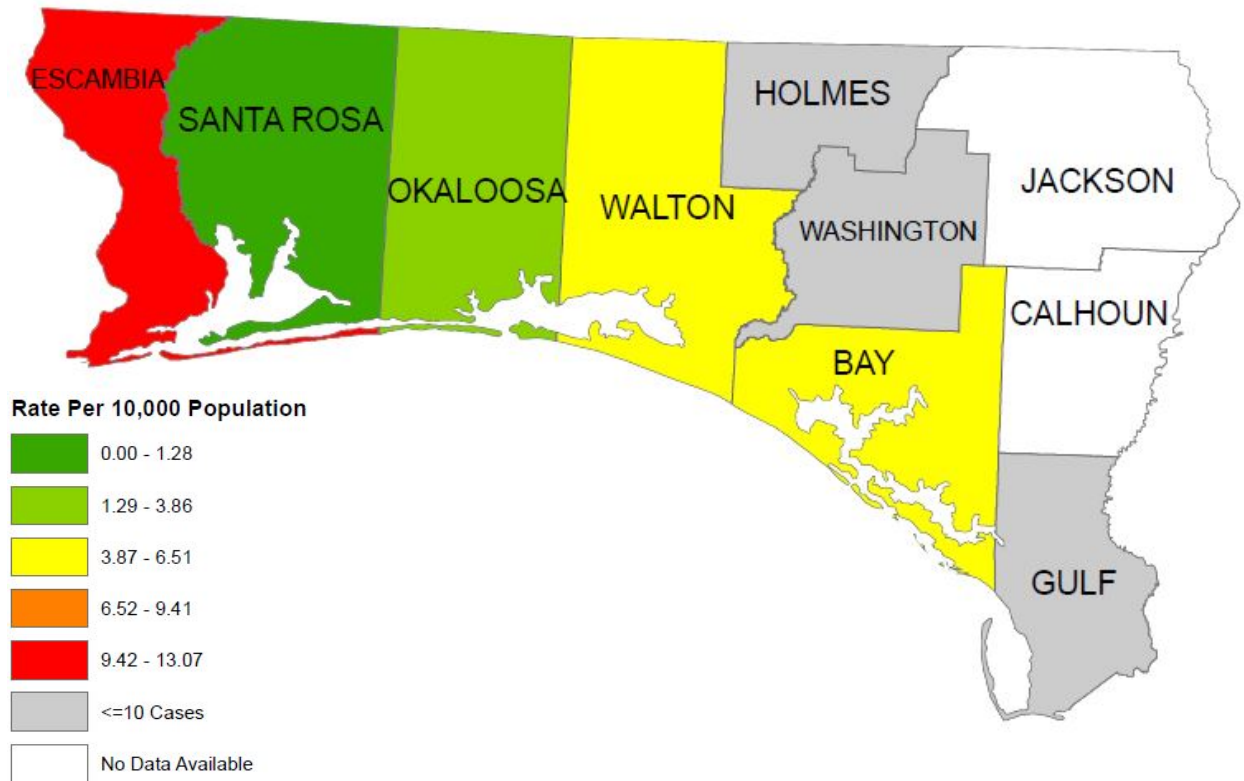
EMS responses including administration of an opioid-antagonist



Total Drug Overdose (Fatal and Non-Fatal)



Region 1

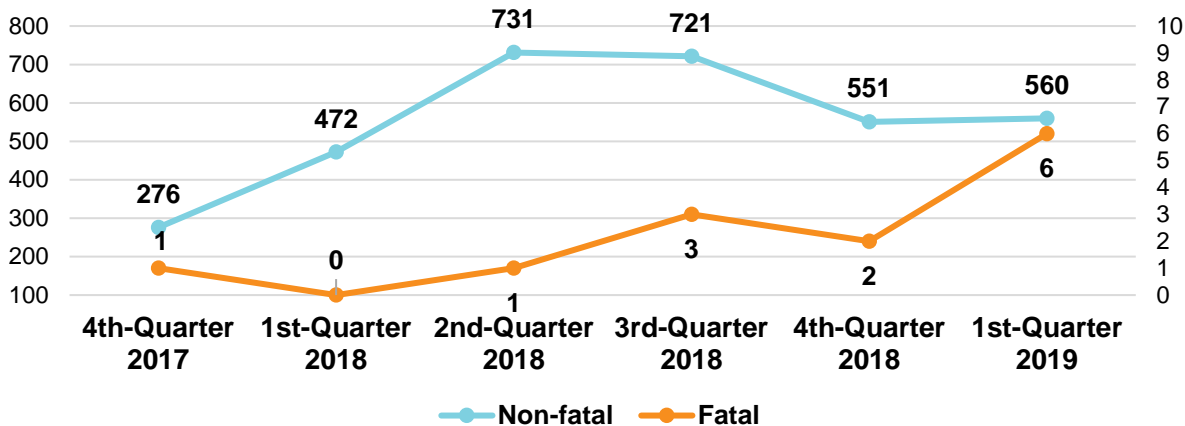


Geographic Area	Drug Overdose			Opioid Overdose			Opioid-antagonist		
	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal
Bay	74	4.01	.	25	1.36	.	79	4.28	1
Escambia	348	10.91	5	166	5.20	1	127	3.98	9
Gulf	8	.	.	1	.	.	2	.	.
Holmes	1	.	.	1	.	.	4	.	.
Okaloosa	67	3.35	1	33	1.65	1	70	3.50	2
Santa Rosa	23	1.28	.	1	.	.	1	.	.
Walton	35	5.01	.	4	.	.	20	2.86	.
Washington	4	.	.	2	.	.	6	.	.
Total	560	5.18	6	233	2.15	2	309	2.86	12

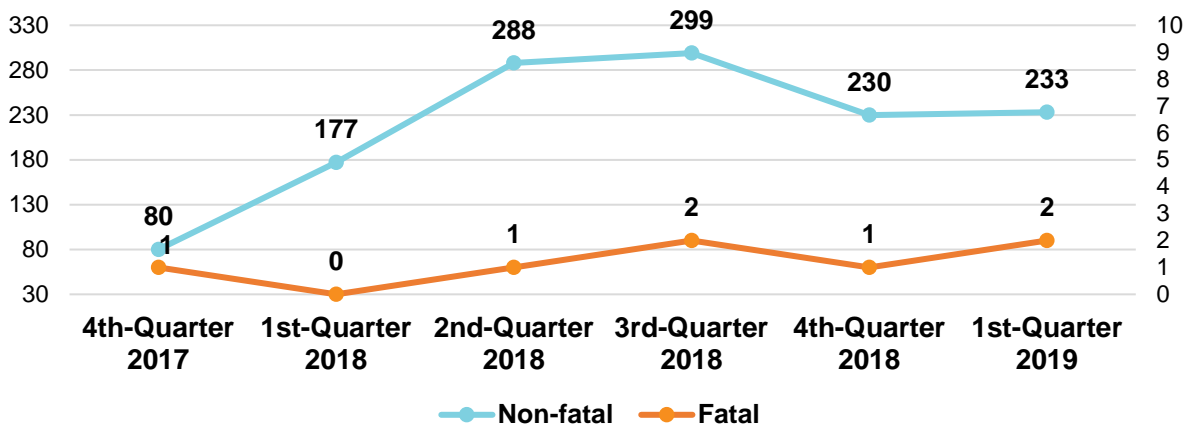
Note: 1. Population rate per 10,000 people.
 2. Rate is not presented when frequency is less than or equal to 10.

Region 1 Trend (by Quarter)

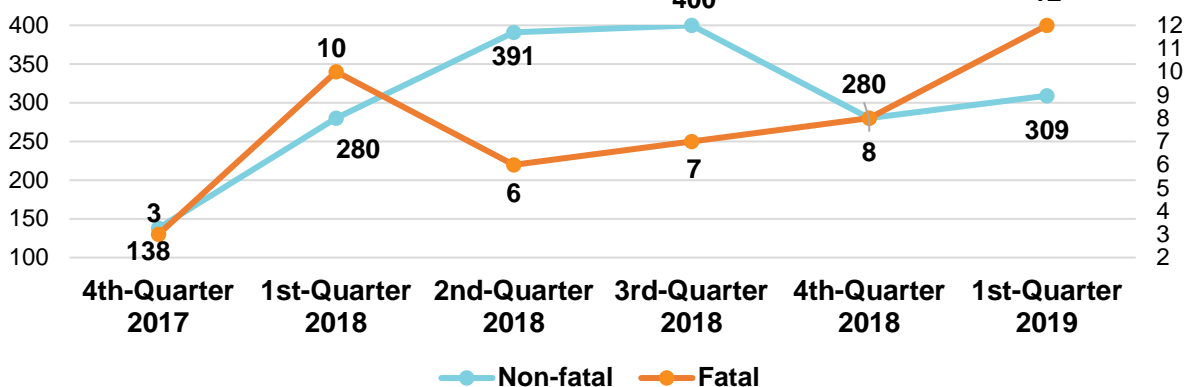
Total number of suspected drug overdose EMS responses



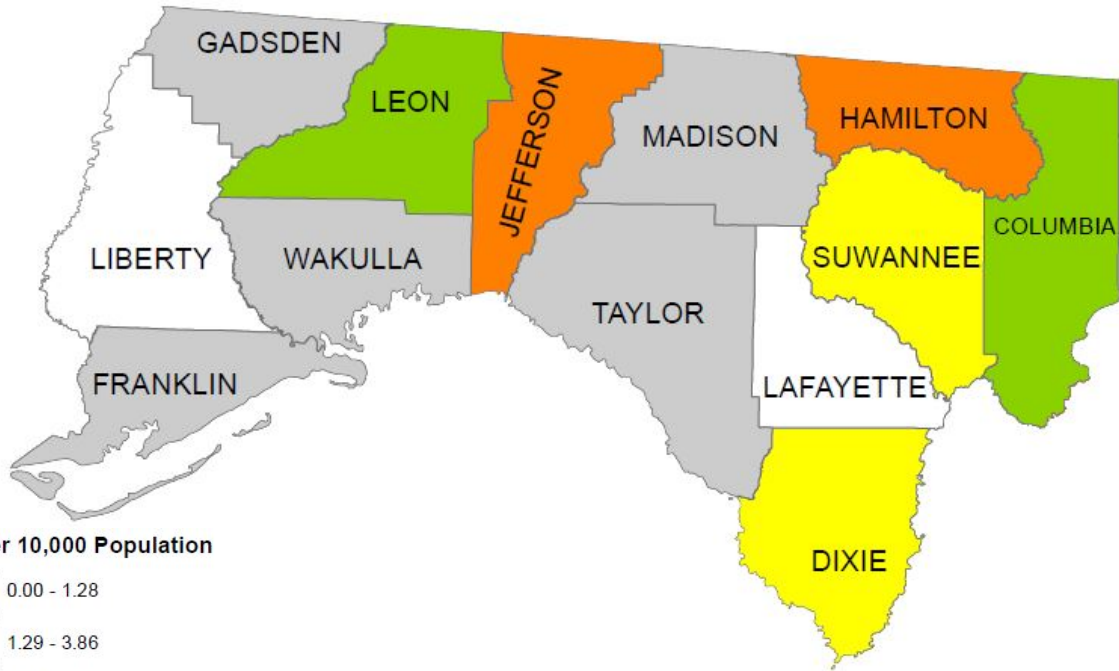
Total number of suspected opioid overdose EMS responses



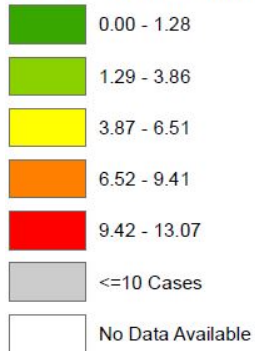
EMS responses including administration of an opioid-antagonist



Region 2



Rate Per 10,000 Population

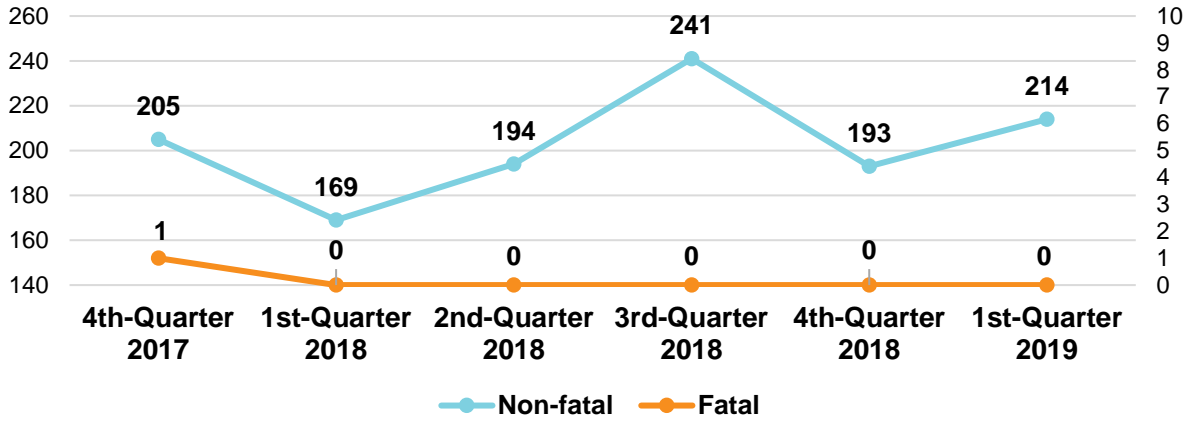


Geographic Area	Drug Overdose			Opioid Overdose			Opioid-antagonist		
	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal
Columbia	23	3.28	.	9	.	.	34	4.85	.
Dixie	11	6.51	.	4	.	.	4	.	1
Franklin	2	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	.
Gadsden	7	1.45	.	1	.	.	6	.	.
Hamilton	12	8.14	.	2	.	.	4	.	1
Jefferson	13	8.80	.	.	.	.	4	.	.
Lafayette	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	.
Leon	100	3.40	.	26	0.89	.	28	0.95	4
Madison	7	.	.	2	.	.	7	.	.
Suwannee	22	4.85	.	8	.	.	25	5.52	.
Taylor	7	.	.	1	.	.	3	.	.
Wakulla	10	.	.	.	.	.	3	.	.
Total	214	3.52	.	54	0.89	.	121	1.99	6

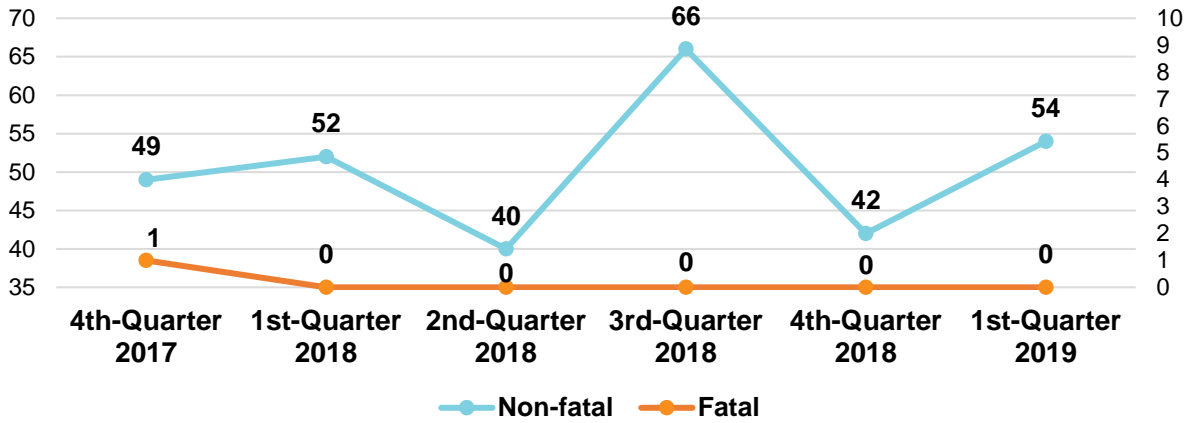
Note: 1. Population rate per 10,000 people.
 2. Rate is not presented when frequency is less than or equal to 10.

Region 2 Trend (by Quarter)

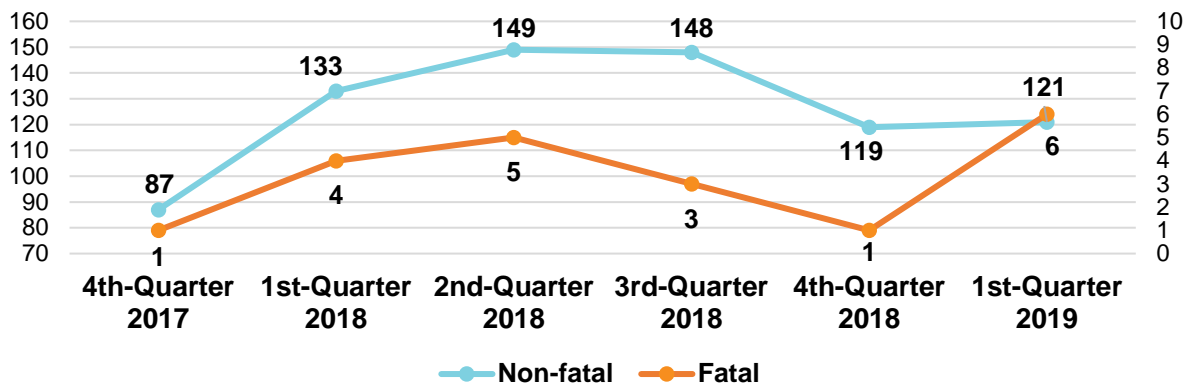
Total number of suspected drug overdose EMS responses



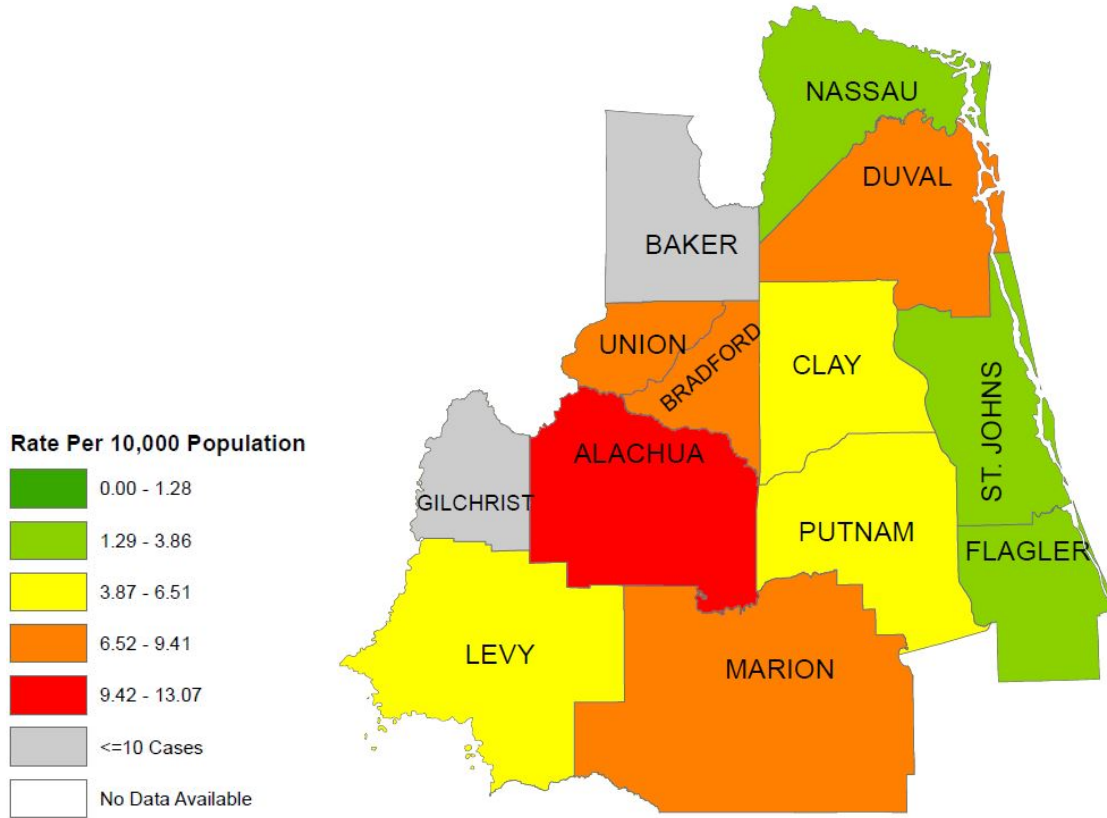
Total number of suspected opioid overdose EMS responses



EMS responses including administration of an opioid-antagonist



Region 3

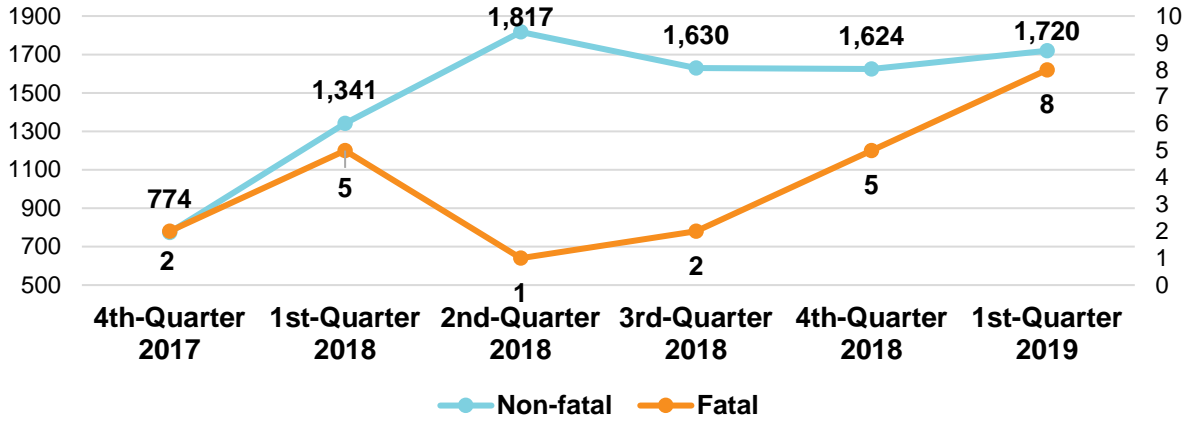


Geographic Area	Drug Overdose			Opioid Overdose			Opioid-antagonist		
	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal
Alachua	319	11.98	.	36	1.35	.	79	2.97	1
Baker	8	.	.	3	.	.	9	.	.
Bradford	23	8.07	.	2	.	.	6	.	.
Clay	91	4.18	1	43	1.97	.	96	4.41	3
Duval	712	7.35	4	371	3.83	3	662	6.83	.
Flagler	43	3.86	.	17	1.53	.	40	3.59	2
Gilchrist	7	.	.	2	.	.	5	.	.
Levy	17	4.07	.	1	.	.	25	5.98	1
Marion	324	8.99	3	21	0.58	.	196	5.44	2
Nassau	29	3.43	.	19	2.24	.	55	6.50	.
Putnam	42	5.71	.	13	1.77	.	40	5.44	.
St. Johns	93	3.73	.	.	.	.	56	2.24	2
Union	12	7.54	.	5	.	.	2	.	.
Total	1,720	6.98	8	533	2.16	3	1,271	5.16	11

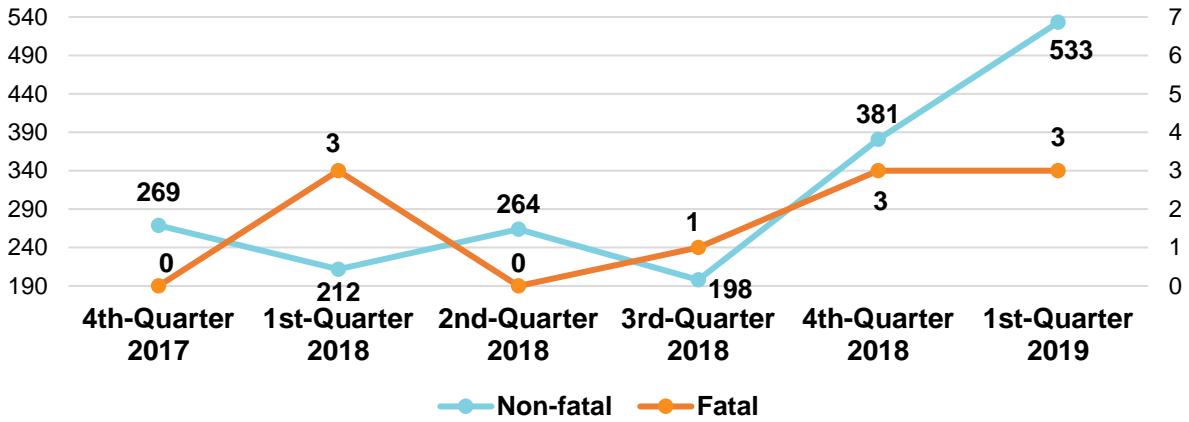
Note: 1. Population rate per 10,000 people.
 2. Rate is not presented when frequency is less than or equal to 10.

Region 3 Trend (by Quarter)

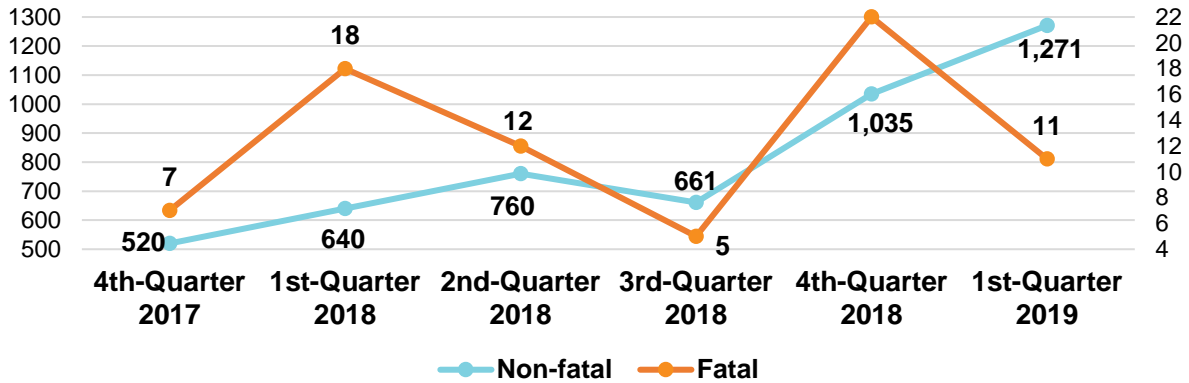
Total number of suspected drug overdose EMS responses



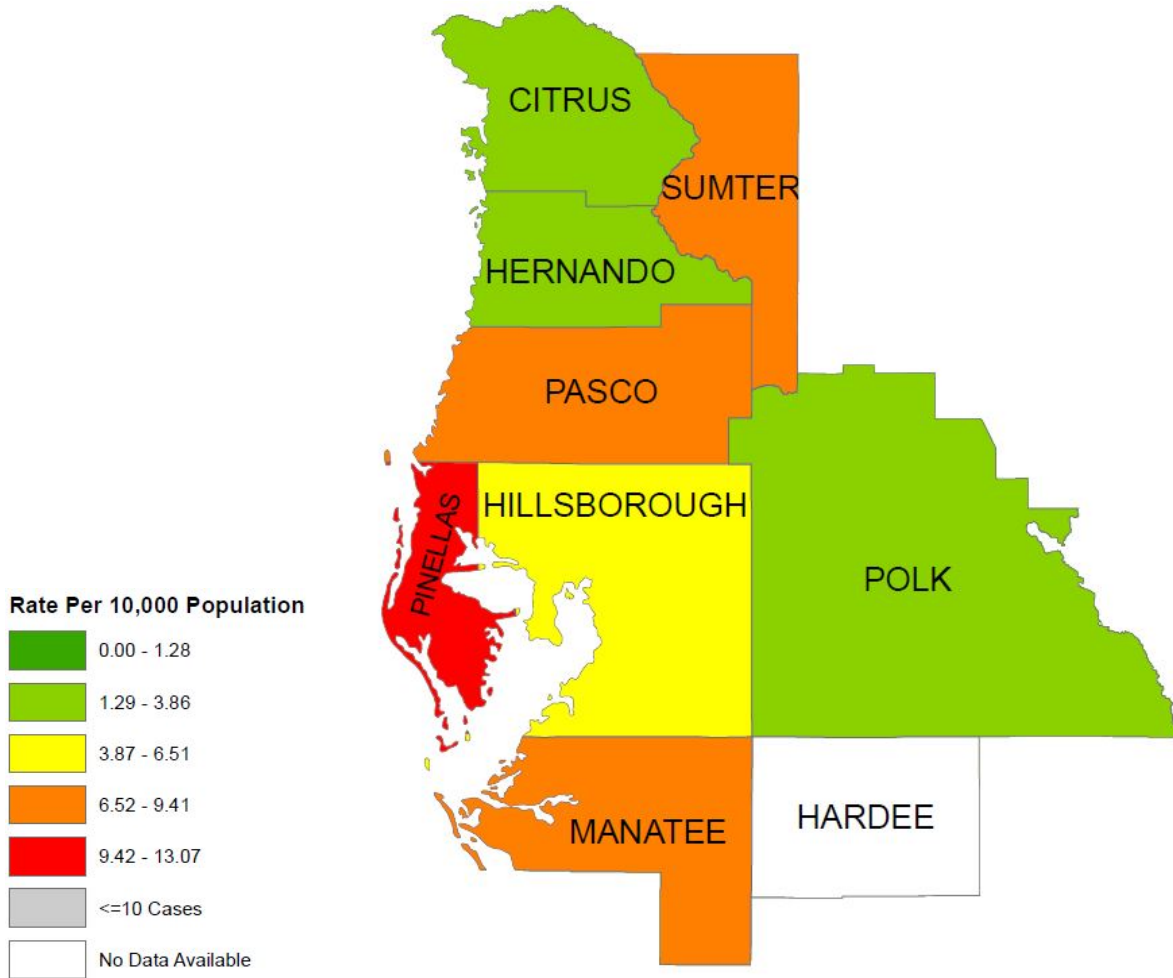
Total number of suspected opioid overdose EMS responses



EMS responses including administration of an opioid-antagonist



Region 4

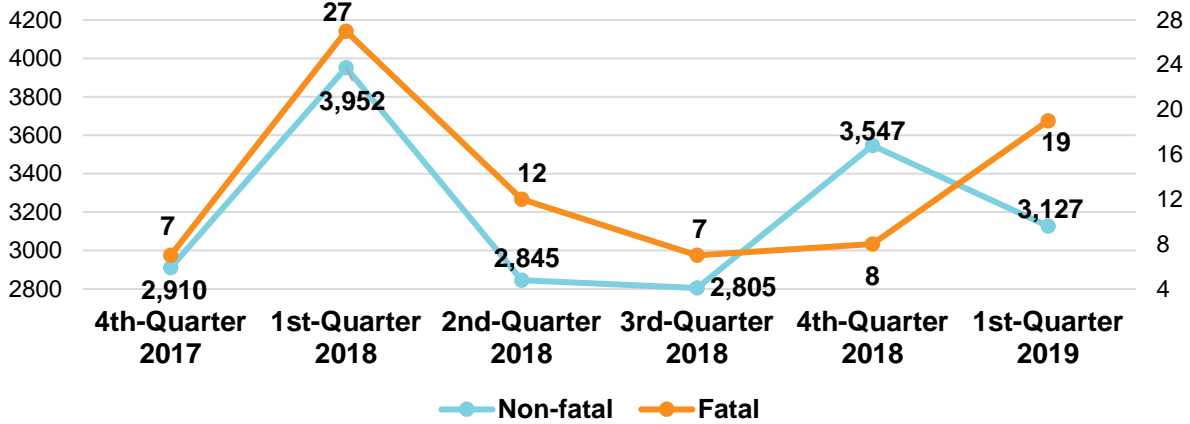


Geographic Area	Drug Overdose			Opioid Overdose			Opioid-antagonist		
	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal
Citrus	27	1.84	.	.	.	.	23	1.57	.
Hardee	.	.	.	.	.	.	4	.	.
Hernando	45	2.39	.	17	0.90	.	67	3.56	.
Hillsborough	664	4.59	.	173	1.19	.	403	2.78	31
Manatee	365	9.39	1	192	4.94	1	213	5.48	12
Pasco	457	8.66	6	50	0.95	1	296	5.61	5
Pinellas	1,264	12.95	12	1,002	10.26	9	1,435	14.70	101
Polk	200	2.88	.	36	0.52	.	330	4.75	7
Sumter	105	8.01	.	8	.	.	60	4.58	3
Total	3,127	6.90	19	1,478	3.26	11	2,831	6.25	159

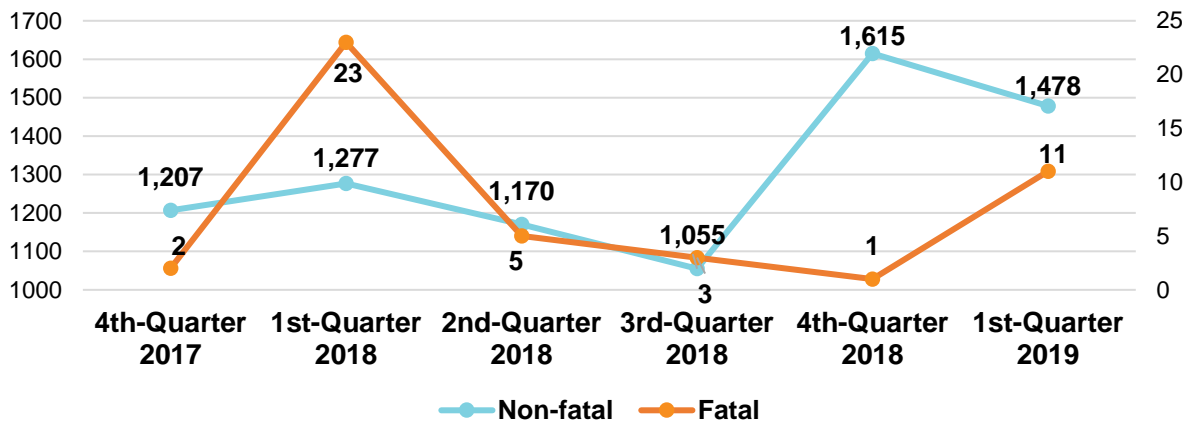
Note: 1. Population rate per 10,000 people.
 2. Rate is not presented when frequency is less than or equal to 10.

Region 4 Trend (by Quarter)

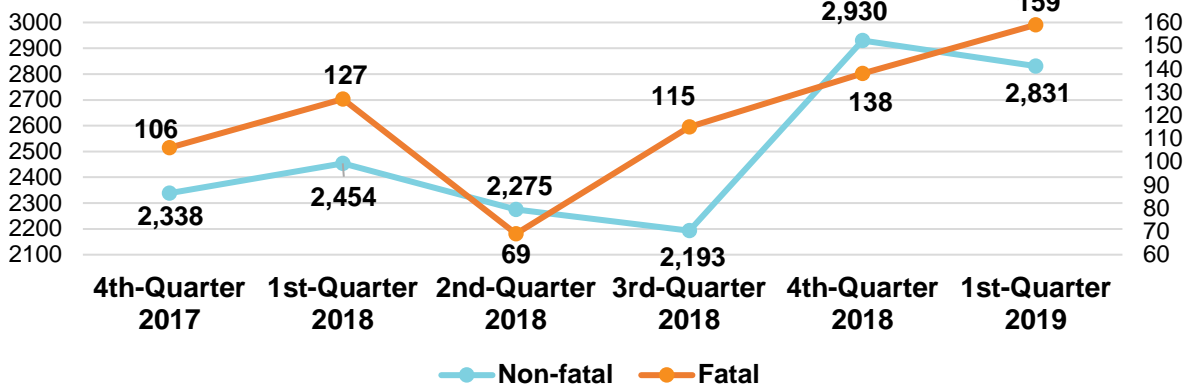
Total number of suspected drug overdose EMS responses



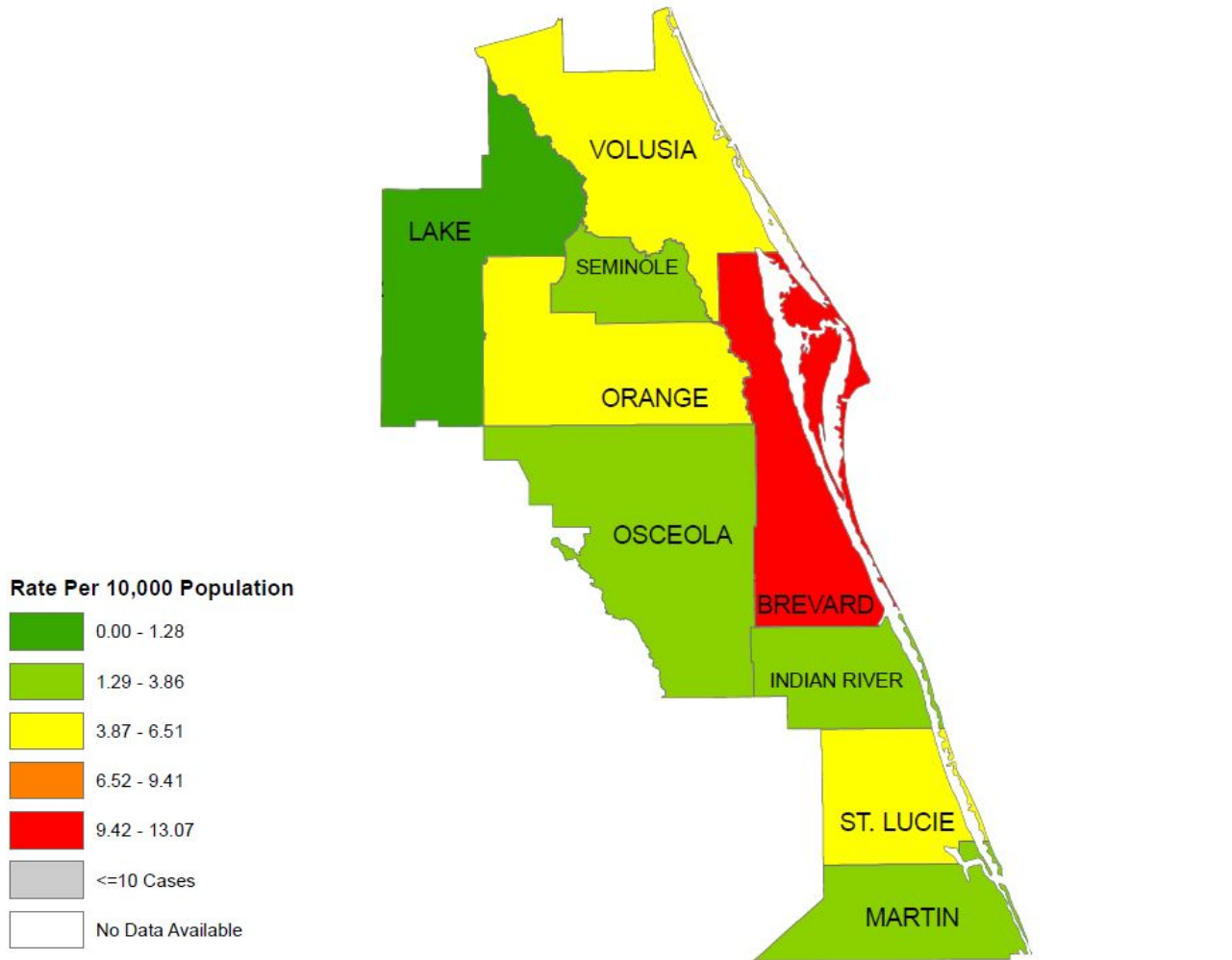
Total number of suspected opioid overdose EMS responses



EMS responses including administration of an opioid-antagonist



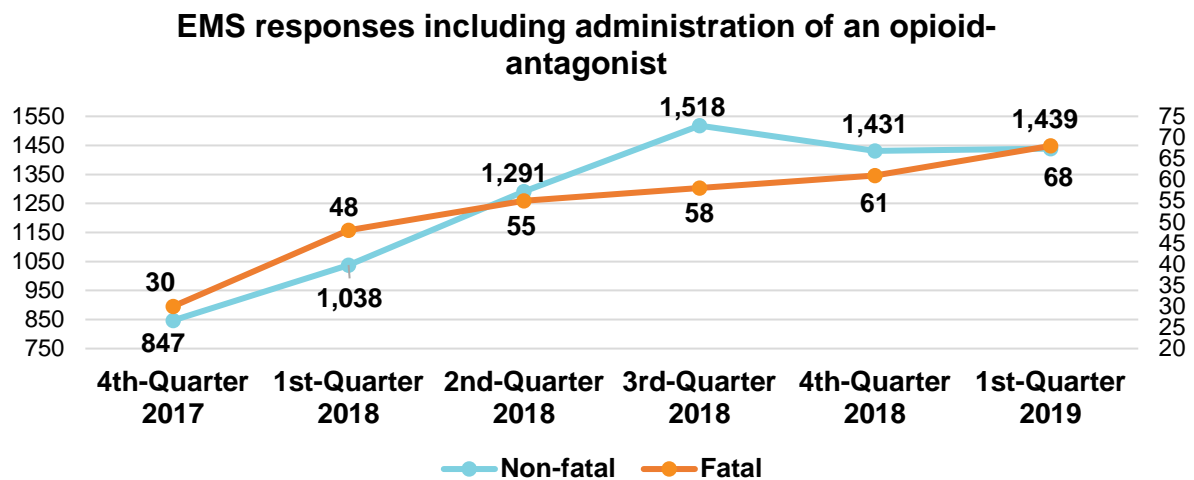
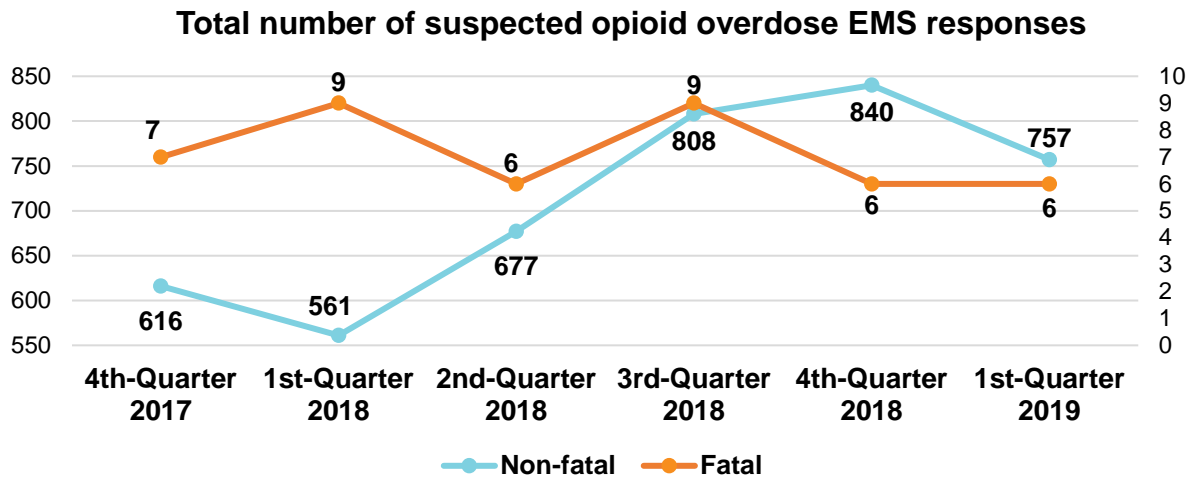
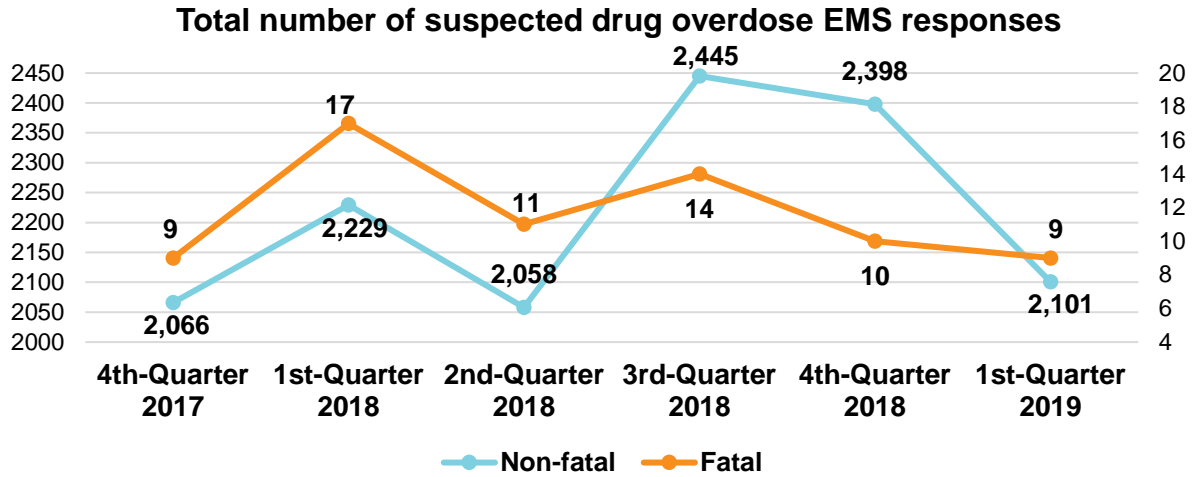
Region 5



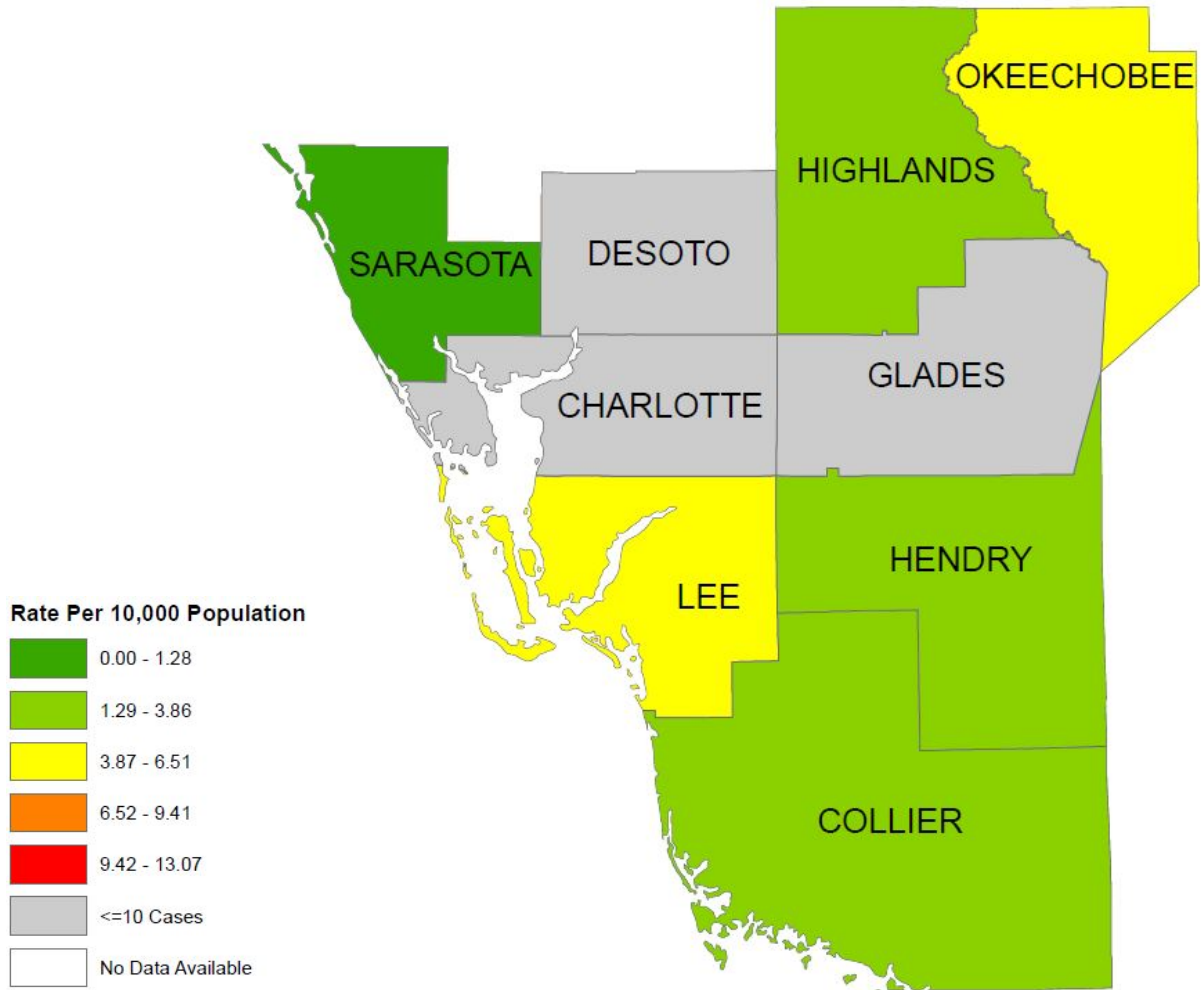
Geographic Area	Drug Overdose			Opioid Overdose			Opioid-antagonist		
	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal
Brevard	623	10.54	5	376	6.36	4	482	8.16	25
Indian River	59	3.82	.	16	1.03	.	52	3.36	.
Lake	20	0.57	.	1	.	.	12	0.34	.
Martin	53	3.37	.	26	1.65	.	44	2.80	.
Orange	649	4.63	2	239	1.70	1	642	4.58	29
Osceola	127	3.39	.	17	0.45	.	54	1.44	1
Seminole	103	2.19	1	55	1.17	1	86	1.83	10
St. Lucie	153	4.93	.	17	0.55	.	51	1.64	.
Volusia	314	5.83	1	10	.	.	16	0.30	3
Total	2,101	4.83	9	757	1.74	6	1,439	3.31	68

Note: 1. Population rate per 10,000 people.
 2. Rate is not presented when frequency is less than or equal to 10.

Region 5 Trend (by Quarter)



Region 6

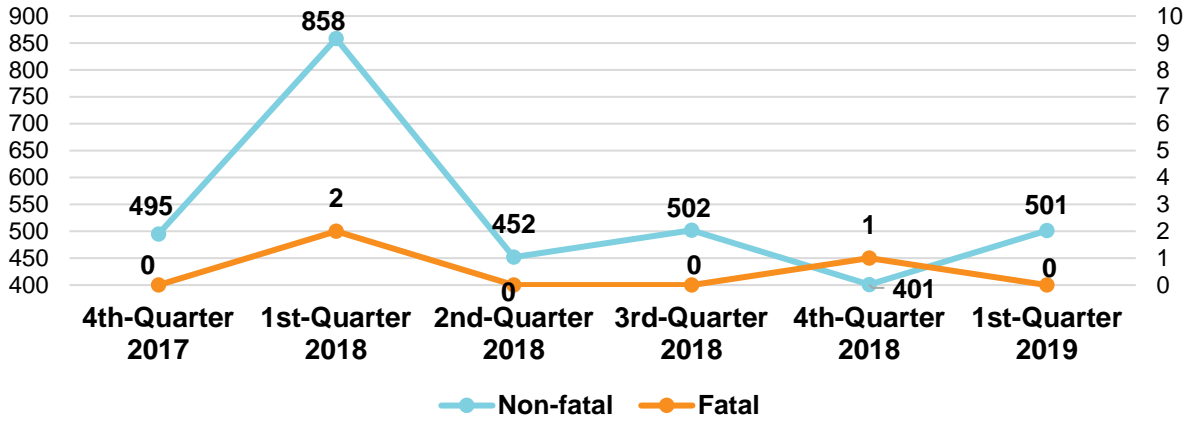


Geographic Area	Drug Overdose			Opioid Overdose			Opioid-antagonist		
	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal
Charlotte	9	.	.	1	.	.	50	2.81	5
Collier	60	1.60	.	52	1.39	.	96	2.56	.
Desoto	9	.	.	5	.	.	9	.	.
Glades	1	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
Hendry	13	3.26	.	6	.	.	11	2.76	2
Highlands	29	2.78	.	5	.	.	32	3.07	.
Lee	309	4.19	.	23	0.31	.	168	2.28	2
Okeechobee	20	4.79	.	6	.	.	17	4.07	.
Sarasota	51	1.21	.	4	.	.	96	2.28	3
Total	501	2.57	.	102	0.52	.	480	2.47	12

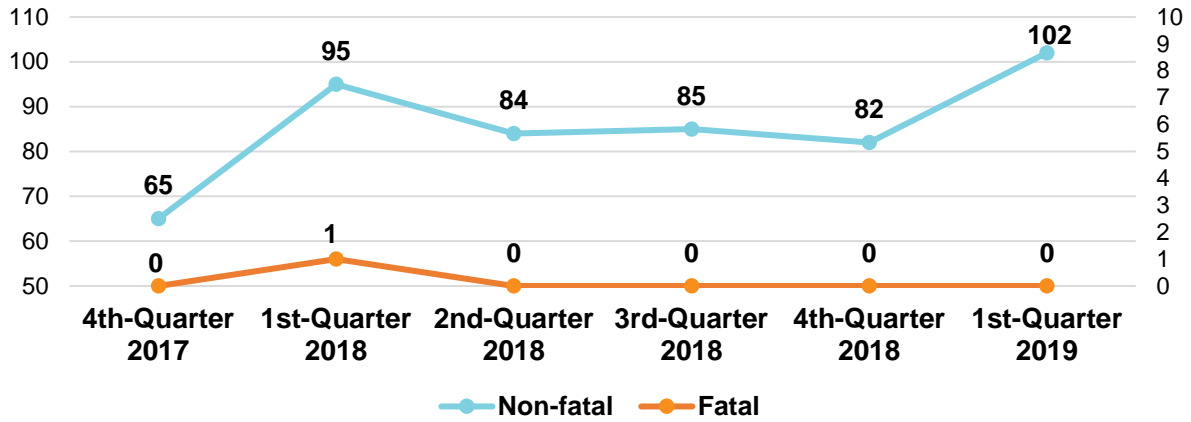
Note: 1. Population rate per 10,000 people.
 2. Rate is not presented when frequency is less than or equal to 10

Region 6 Trend (by Quarter)

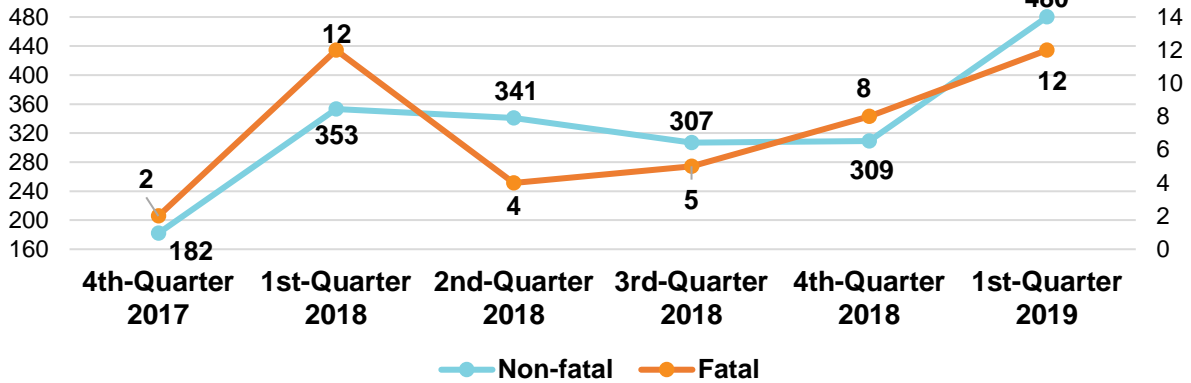
Total number of suspected drug overdose EMS responses



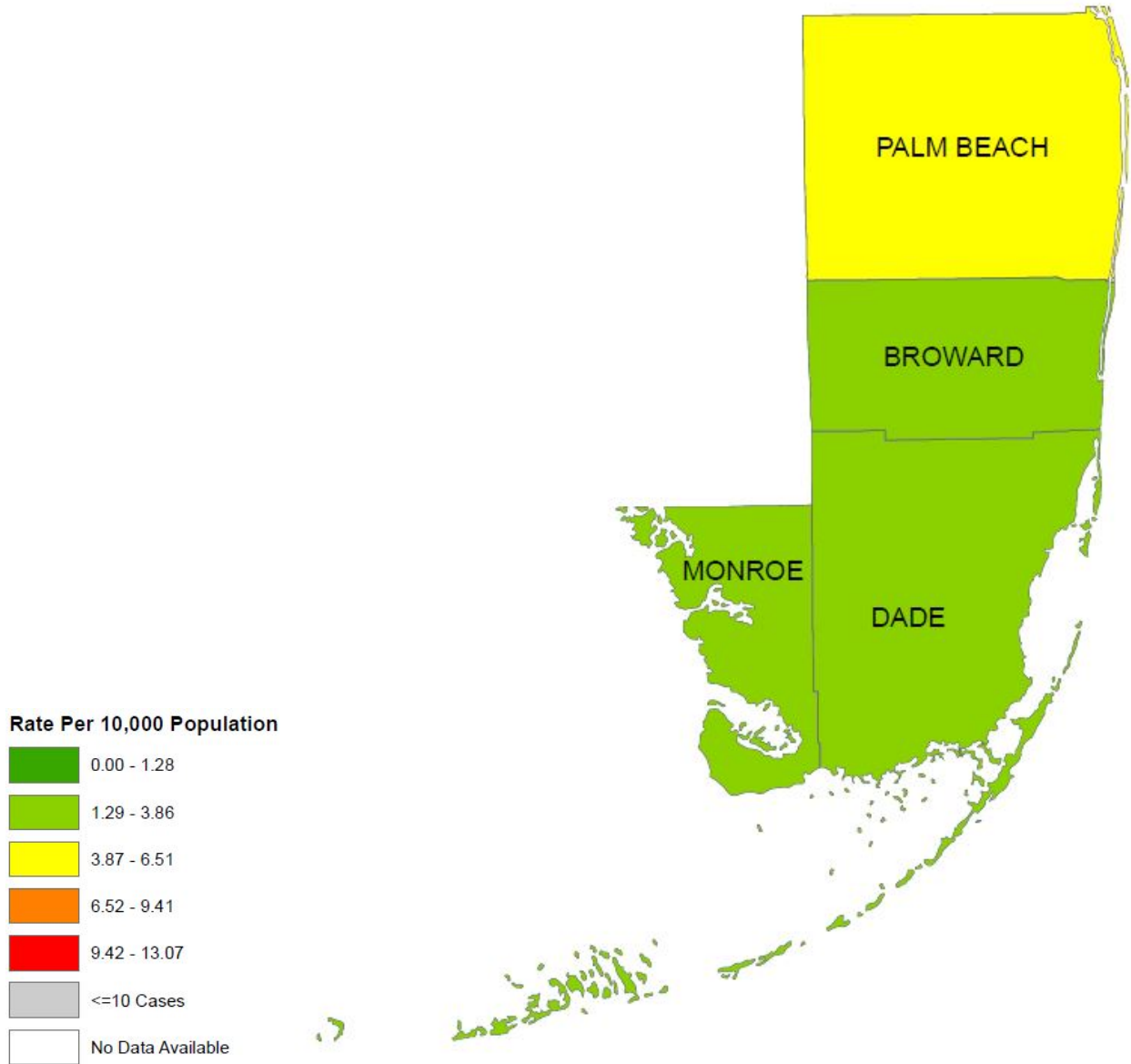
Total number of suspected opioid overdose EMS responses



EMS responses including administration of an opioid-antagonist



Region 7

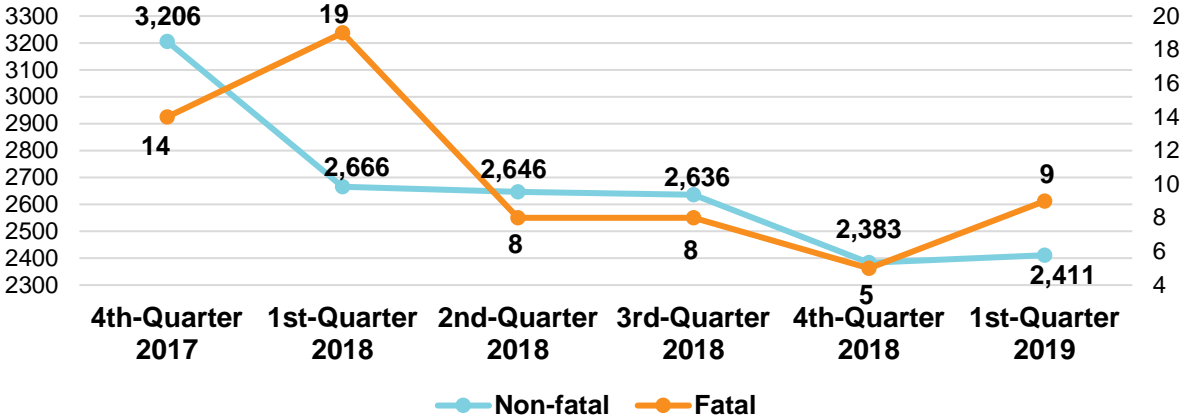


Geographic Area	Drug Overdose			Opioid Overdose			Opioid-antagonist		
	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal
Broward	619	3.21	1	116	0.60	.	237	1.23	1
Miami-Dade	935	3.29	.	76	0.27	.	529	1.86	4
Monroe	19	2.51	.	6	.	.	25	3.30	.
Palm Beach	838	5.74	8	540	3.70	8	466	3.19	6
Total	2,411	3.83	9	738	1.17	8	1,257	1.99	11

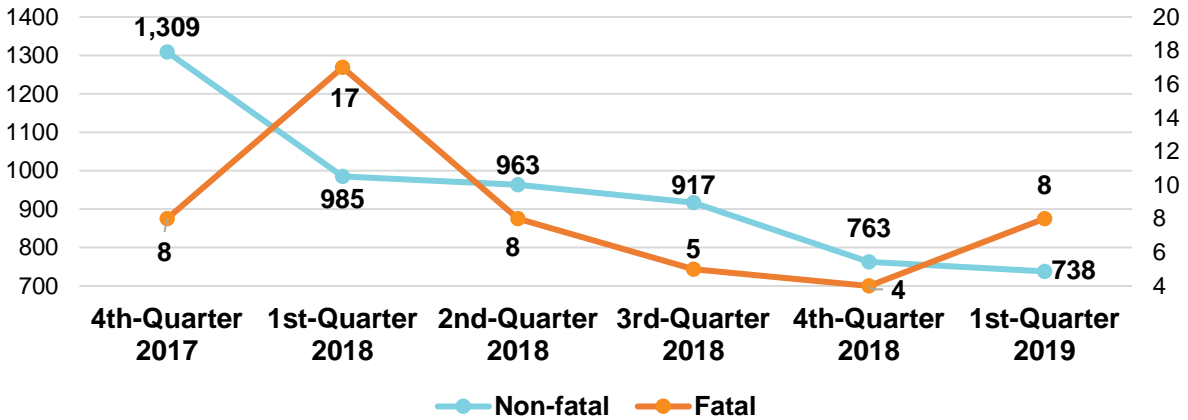
Note: 1. Population rate per 10,000 people.
 2. Rate is not presented when frequency is less than or equal to 10.

Region 7 Trend (by Quarter)

Total number of suspected drug overdose EMS responses



Total number of suspected opioid overdose EMS responses



EMS responses including administration of an opioid-antagonist

