



Emergency Medical Services Controlled Substance Overdose Report

**Fourth Quarter 2018
October – December**

**Ron DeSantis
Governor**

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 entirely 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	11,097	5.31	31	0.01
Total number of suspected opioid overdose EMS responses	3,953	1.89	15	0.01
EMS responses including administration of an opioid-antagonist	7,438	3.56	249	0.12

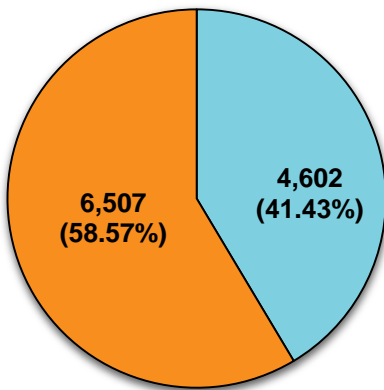
Note: Population rate per 10,000 people.

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	14	94	13	140	1,581	3,070	2,327	1,581	1,310	981
Rate	0.61	1.03	0.11	1.20	6.33	11.28	9.31	5.66	4.75	2.37

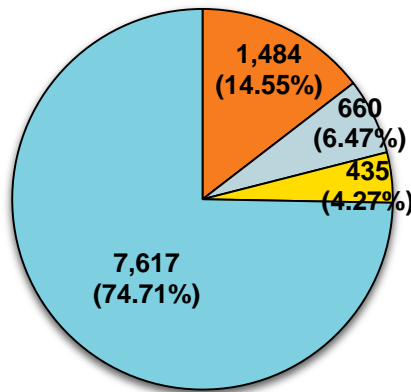
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Gender



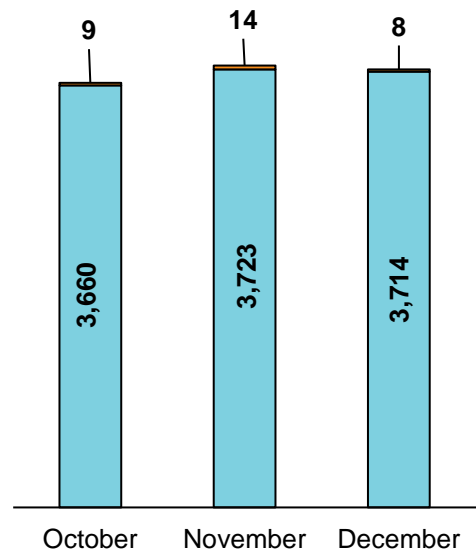
Female Male

Race/Ethnicity



Black Hispanic Other White

Trend (by Month)

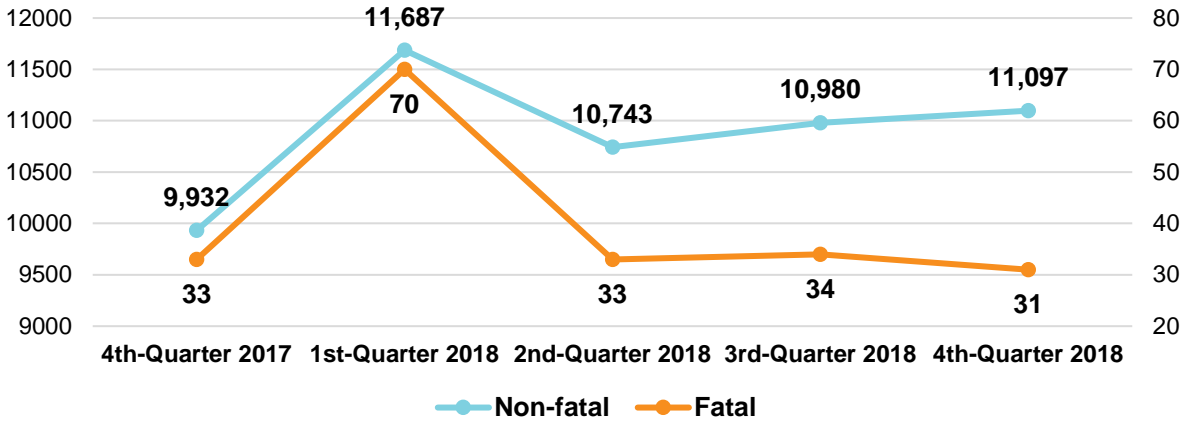


Fatal drug overdose
Non-fatal drug overdose

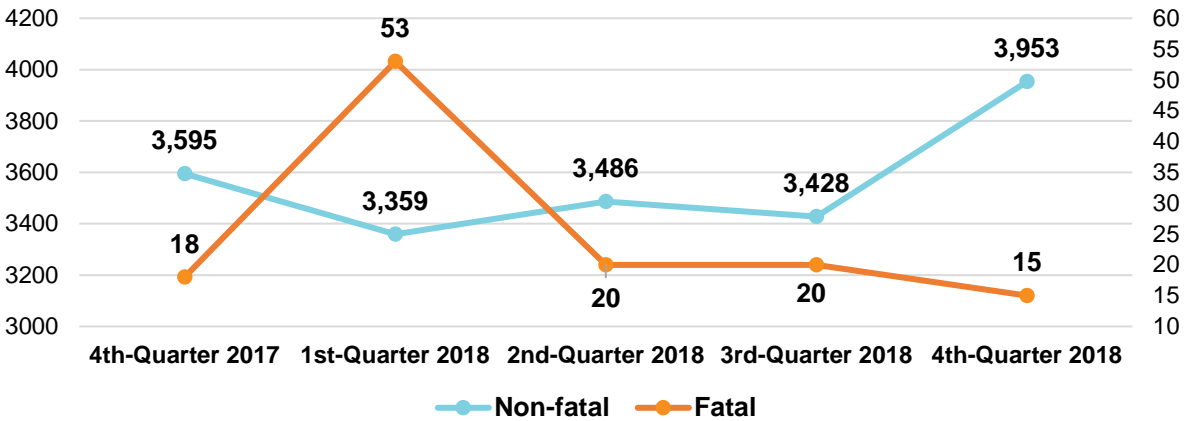
Note: Counts for gender and race/ethnicity are for only the total number of records that include that information; for gender, 99.83% of the total records are presented in the chart; for race/ethnicity, 91.62% of the total records are presented in the chart.

Florida Trend (by Quarter)

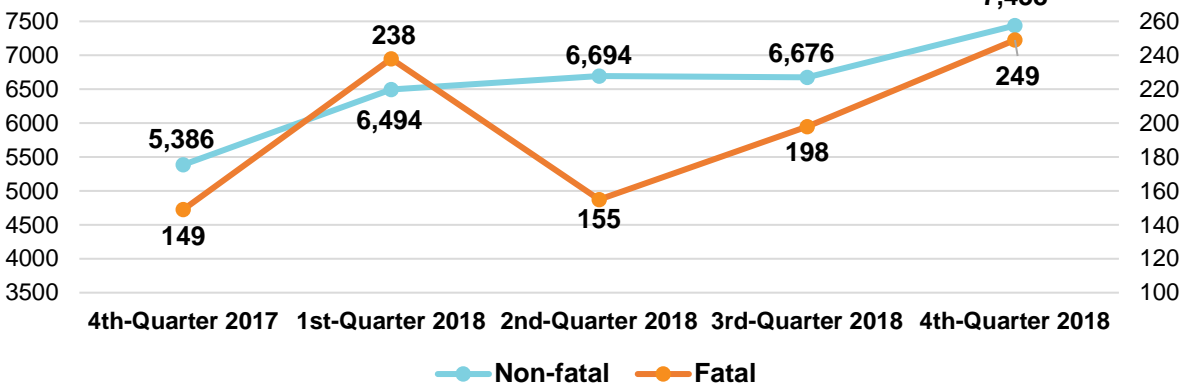
Total number of suspected drug overdose EMS responses



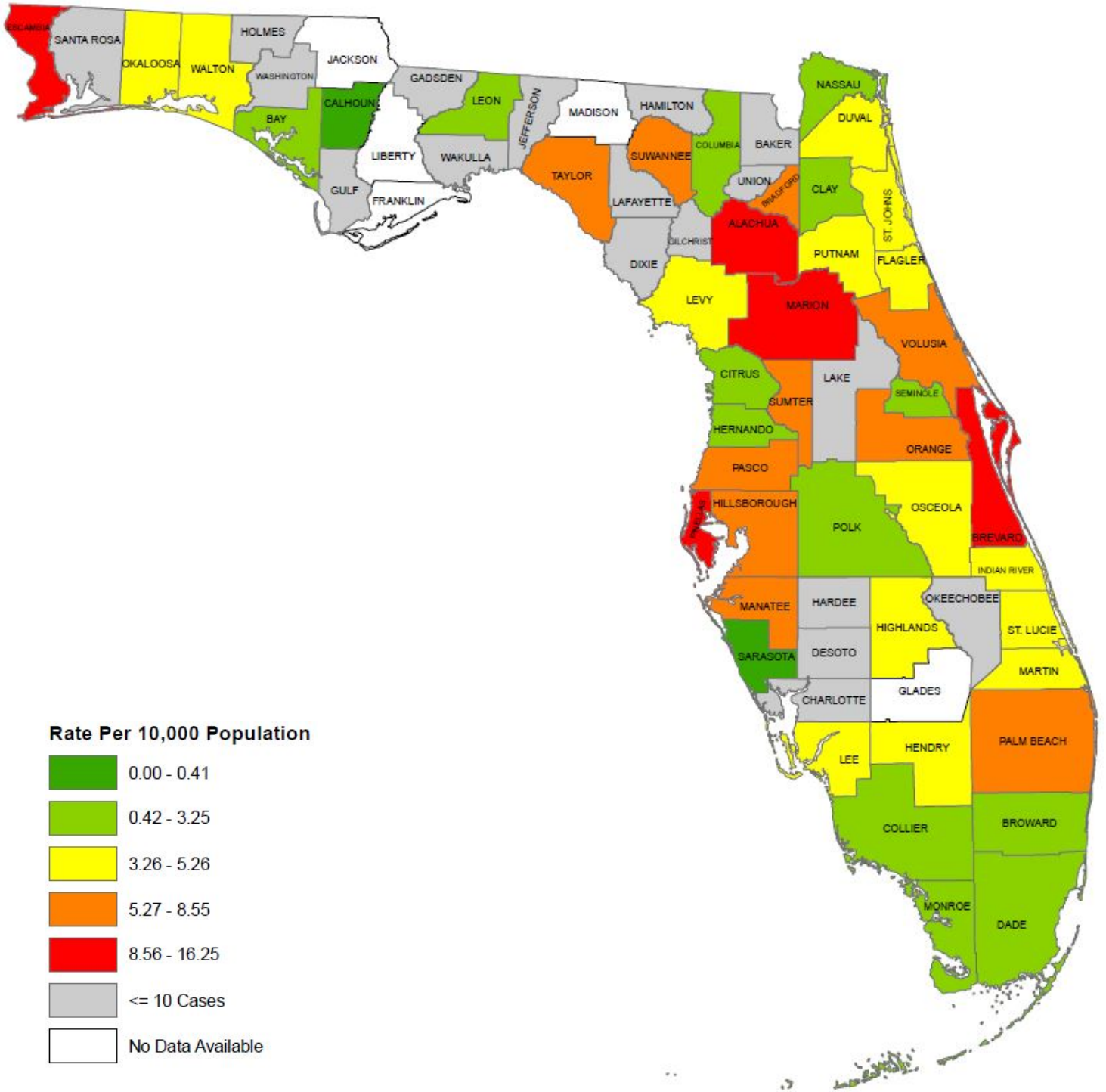
Total number of suspected opioid overdose EMS responses



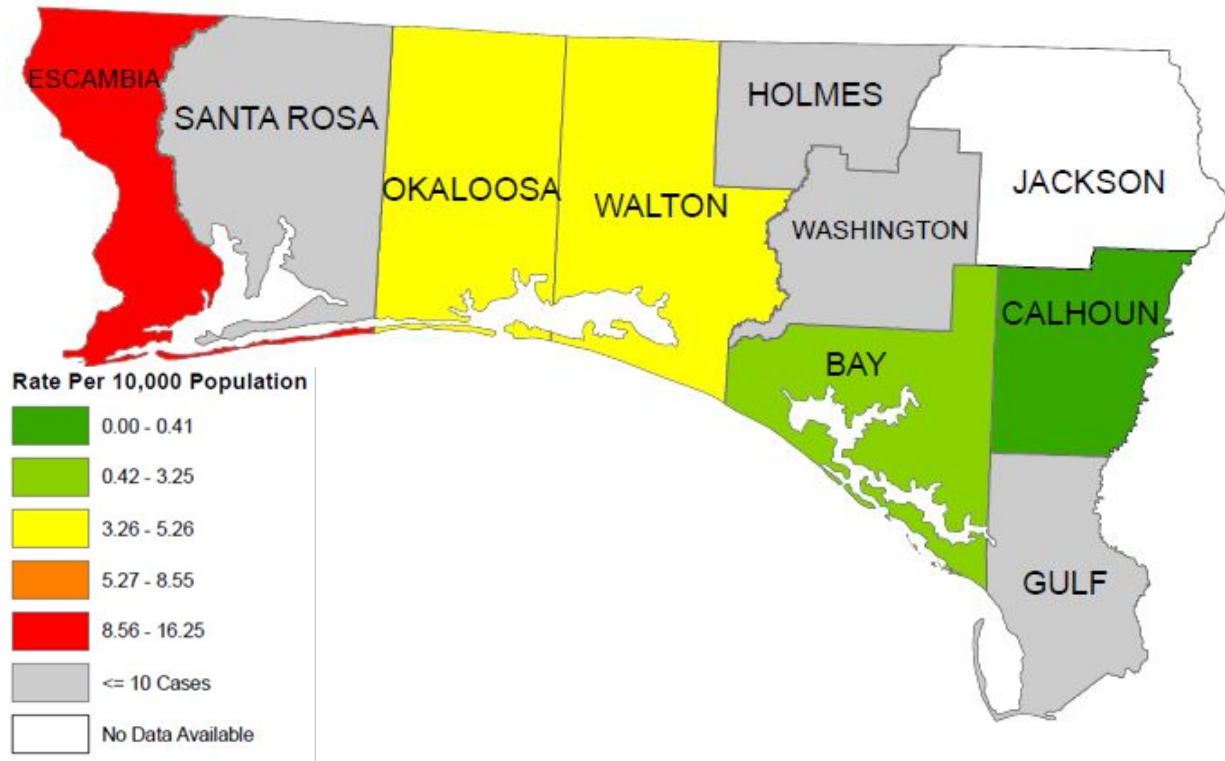
EMS responses including administration of an opioid-antagonist



Total Drug Overdose (Fatal and Non-Fatal)



Region 1

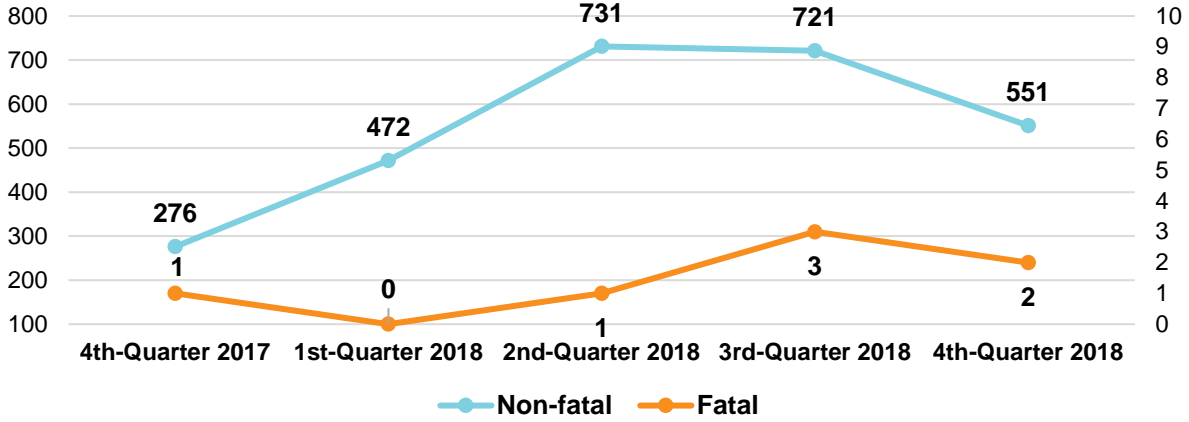


Geographic Area	Drug Overdose			Opioid Overdose			Opioid-antagonist		
	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal
Bay	38	2.10	.	20	1.10	.	61	3.37	.
Escambia	374	11.89	2	163	5.18	1	129	4.10	6
Gulf	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Holmes	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Okaloosa	94	4.78	.	41	2.08	.	80	4.07	2
Santa Rosa	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Walton	30	4.44	.	4	.	.	8	.	.
Washington	4	.	.	2	.	.	2	.	.
Total	551	5.18	2	230	2.16	1	280	2.63	8

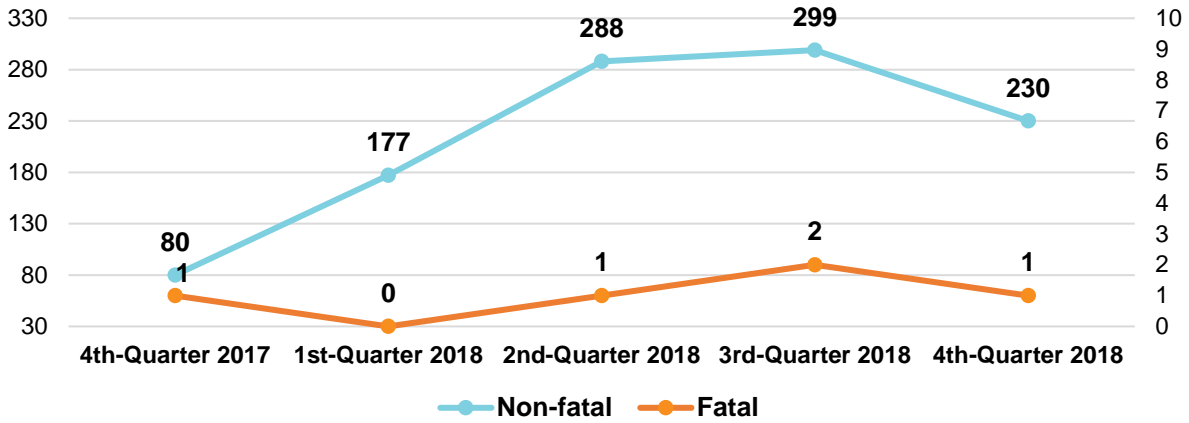
Note: 1. Population rate per 10,000 people.
 2. Rate is not presented when frequency is less than or equal to 10.

Region 1 Trend (by Quarter)

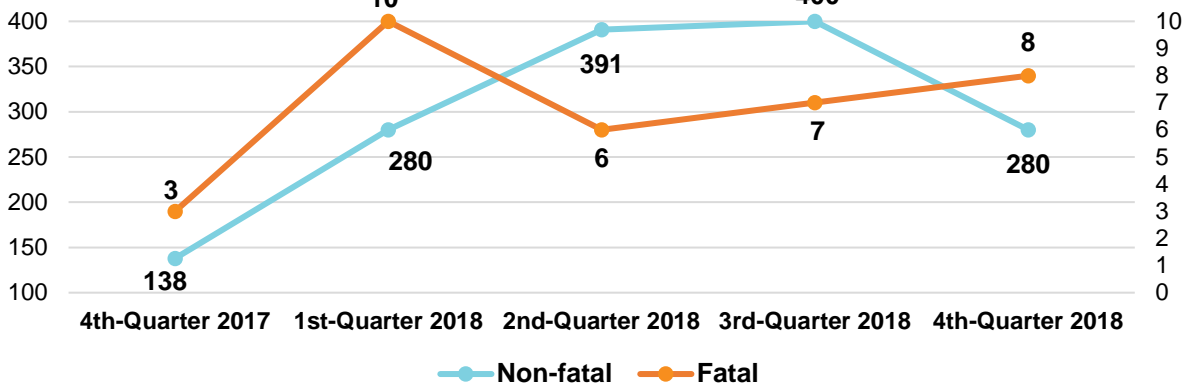
Total number of suspected drug overdose EMS responses



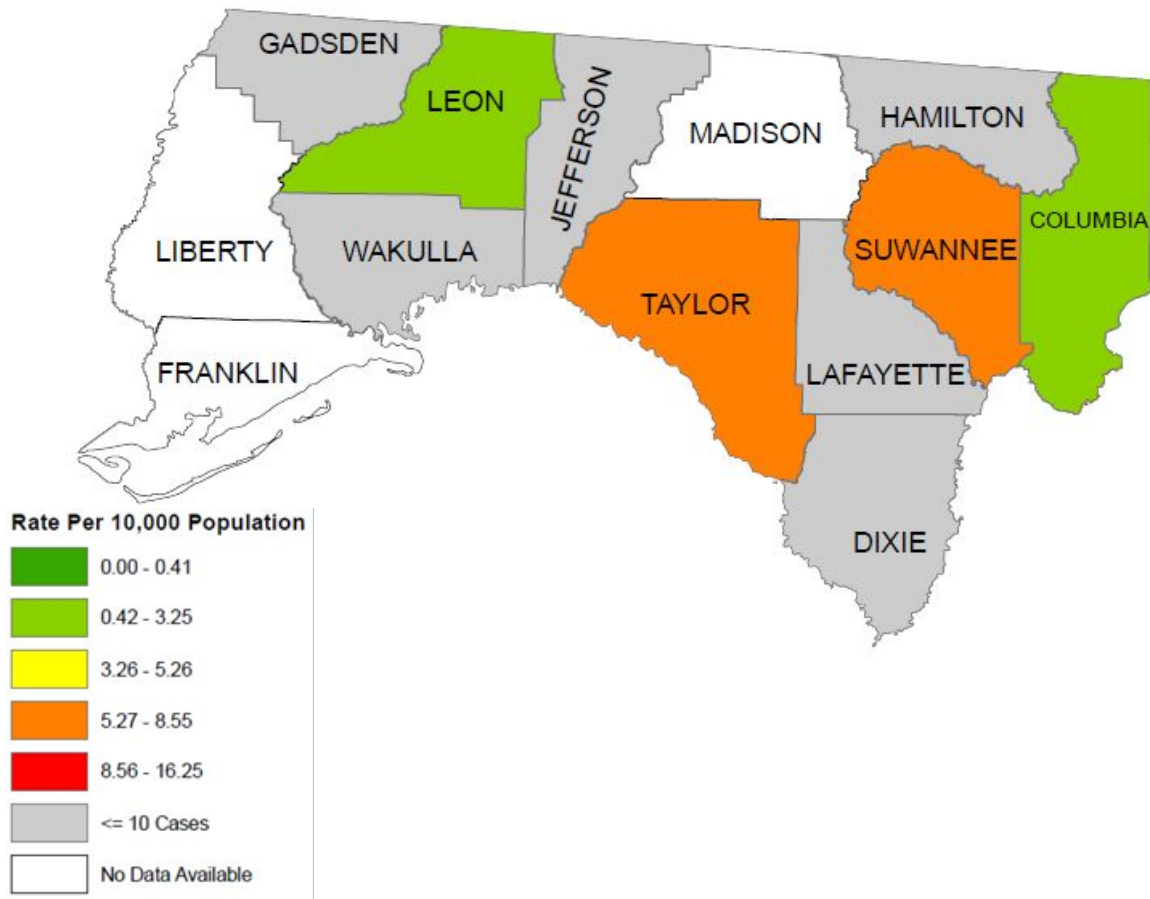
Total number of suspected opioid overdose EMS responses



EMS responses including administration of an opioid-antagonist



Region 2

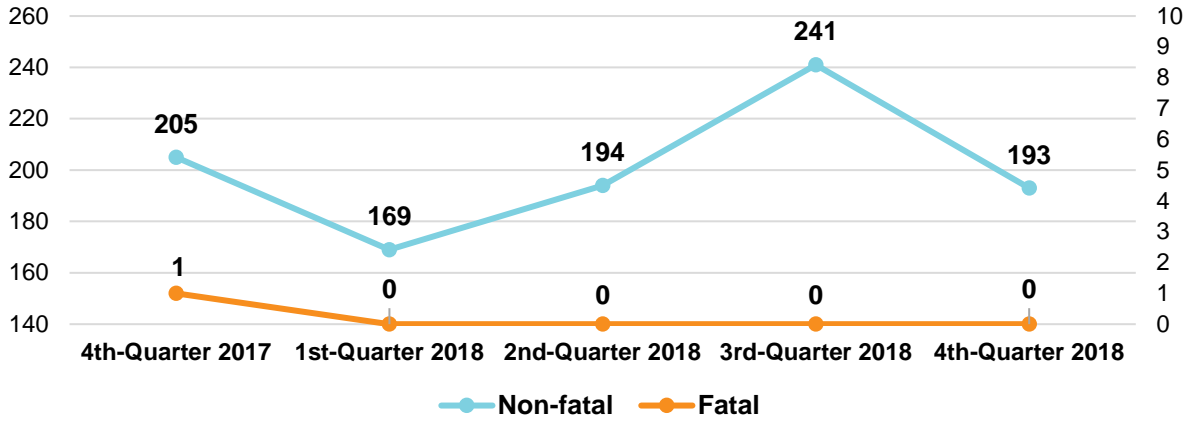


Geographic Area	Drug Overdose			Opioid Overdose			Opioid-antagonist		
	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal
Columbia	22	3.15	.	10	.	.	35	5.01	.
Dixie	4	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	.
Gadsden	10	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	.
Hamilton	3	.	.	.	.	.	6	.	.
Jefferson	6	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	.
Lafayette	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Leon	90	3.05	.	18	0.61	.	37	1.25	.
Madison	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
Suwannee	32	7.12	.	6	.	.	14	3.11	1
Taylor	19	8.56	.	6	.	.	19	8.56	.
Wakulla	6	.	.	1	.	.	2	.	.
Total	193	3.17	.	42	0.69	.	119	1.95	1

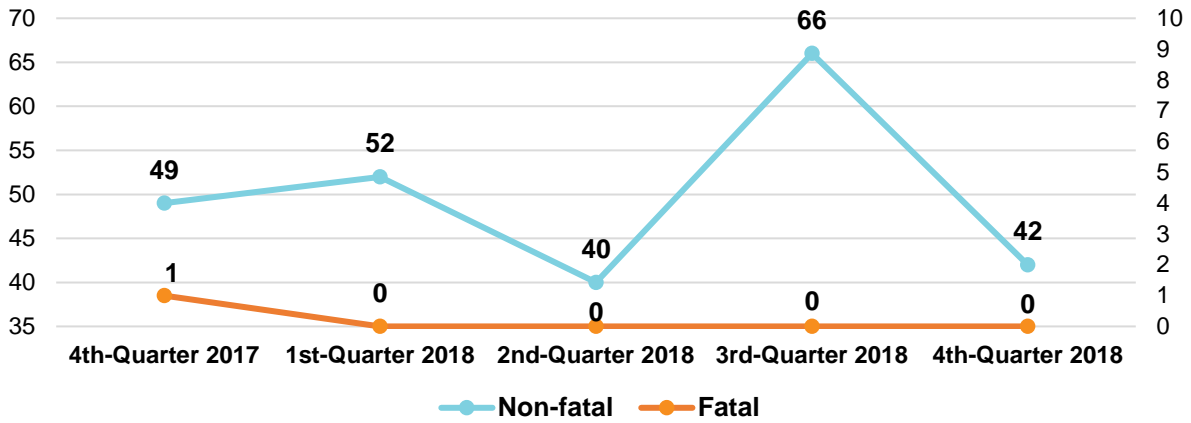
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Region 2 Trend (by Quarter)

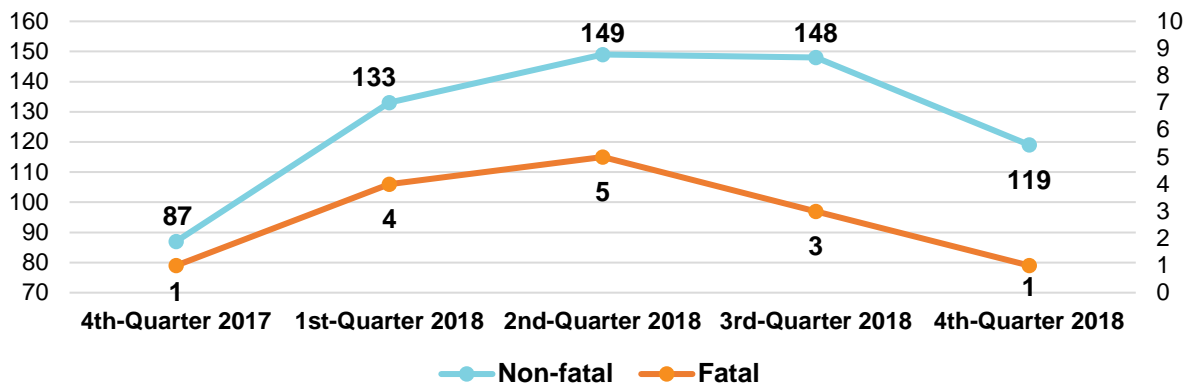
Total number of suspected drug overdose EMS responses



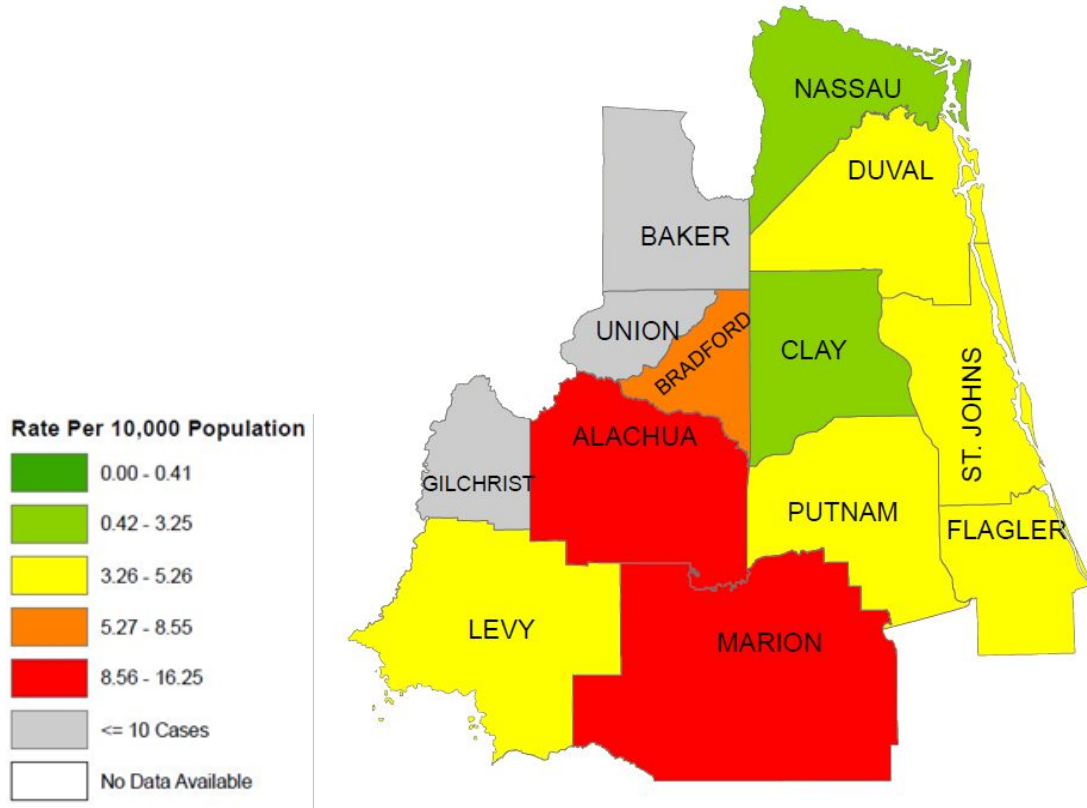
Total number of suspected opioid overdose EMS responses



EMS responses including administration of an opioid-antagonist



Region 3

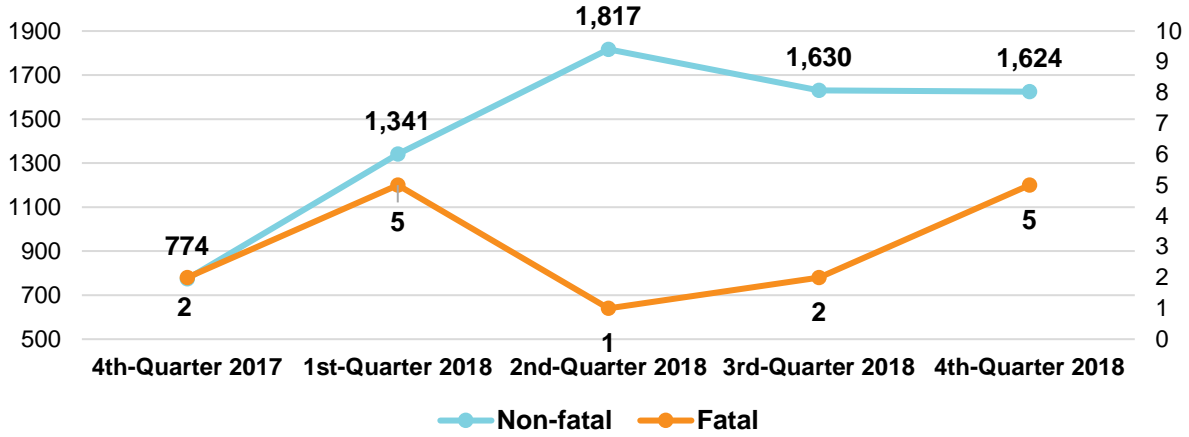


Geographic Area	Drug Overdose			Opioid Overdose			Opioid-antagonist		
	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal
Alachua	425	16.25	.	33	1.26	.	93	3.56	1
Baker	5	.	.	5	.	.	8	.	.
Bradford	22	7.80	.	1	.	.	3	.	.
Clay	38	1.76	.	.	.	.	2	.	.
Duval	498	5.21	5	247	2.58	3	463	4.85	1
Flagler	56	5.13	.	18	1.65	.	41	3.75	3
Gilchrist	10	.	.	1	.	.	6	.	.
Levy	17	4.13	.	5	.	.	17	4.13	4
Marion	391	10.93	.	41	1.15	.	264	7.38	2
Nassau	24	2.96	.	14	1.73	.	37	4.56	2
Putnam	27	3.69	.	11	1.51	.	40	5.47	.
St. Johns	102	4.31	58	2.45	6
Union	9	.	.	5	.	.	3	.	3
Total	1,624	6.71	5	381	1.57	3	1035	4.28	22

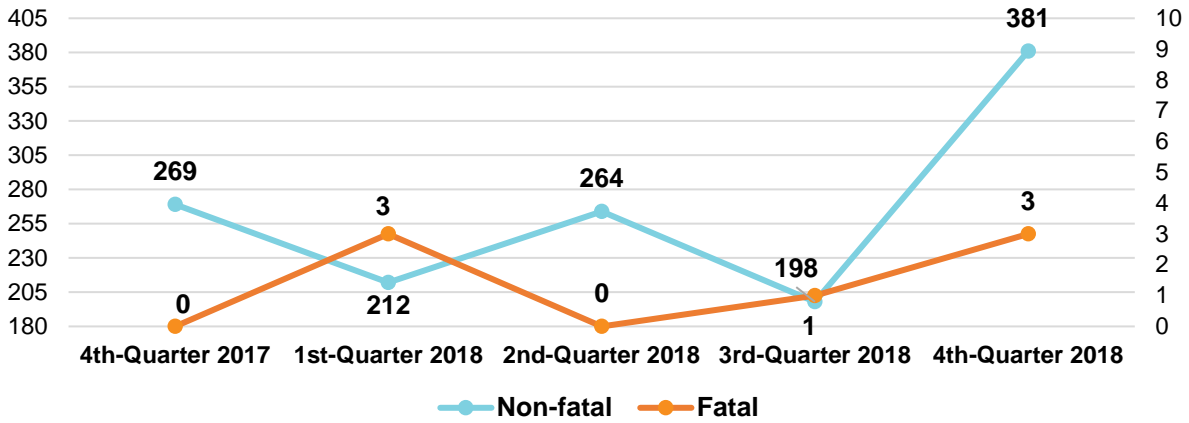
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Region 3 Trend (by Quarter)

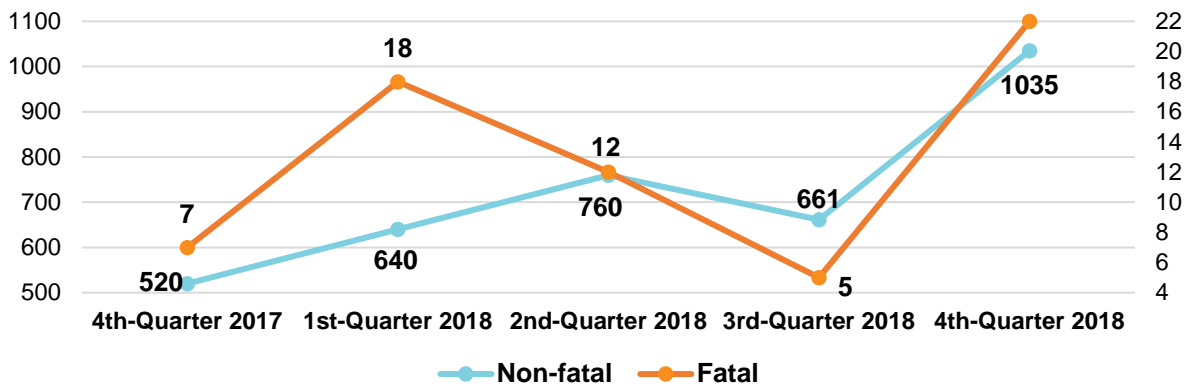
Total number of suspected drug overdose EMS responses



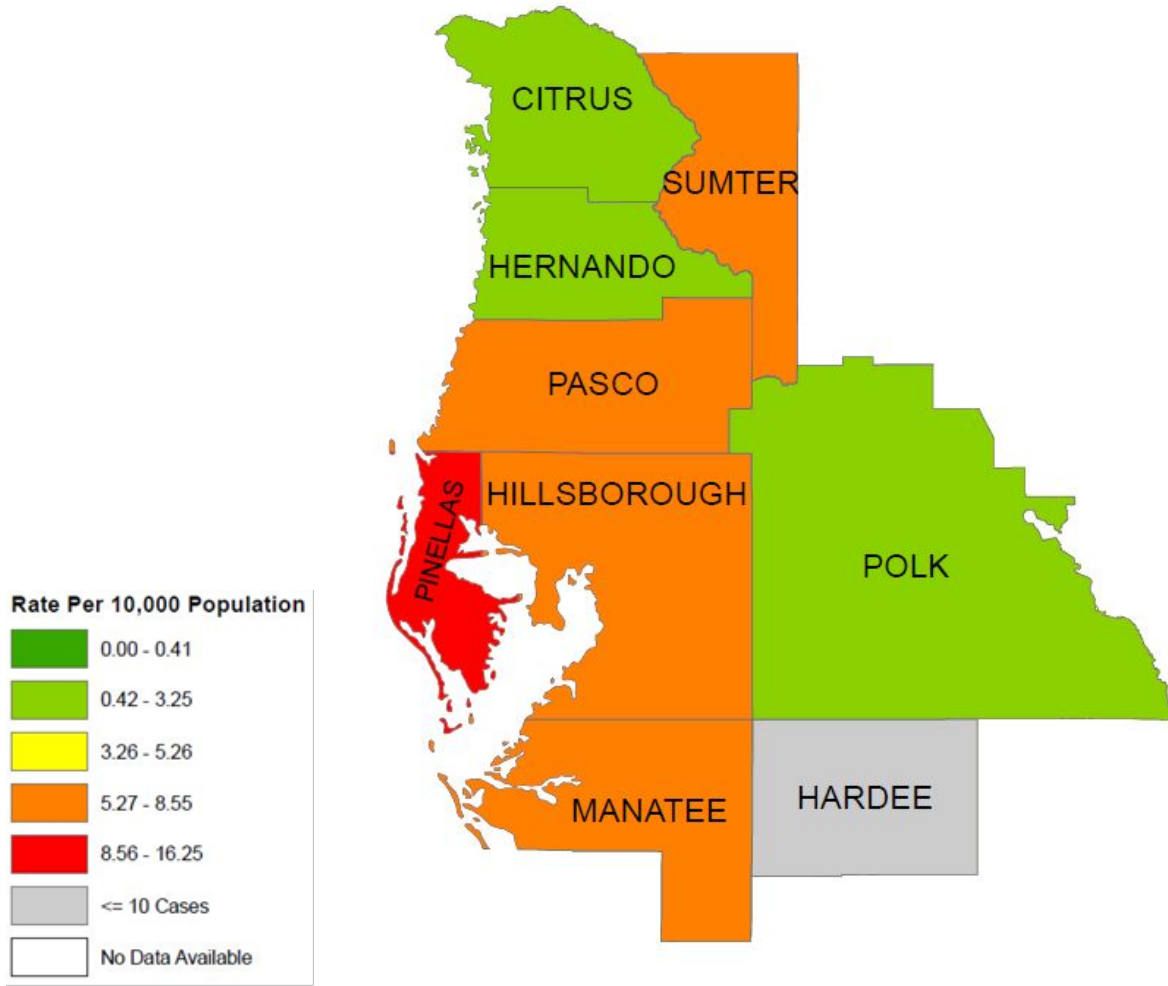
Total number of suspected opioid overdose EMS responses



EMS responses including administration of an opioid-antagonist



Region 4

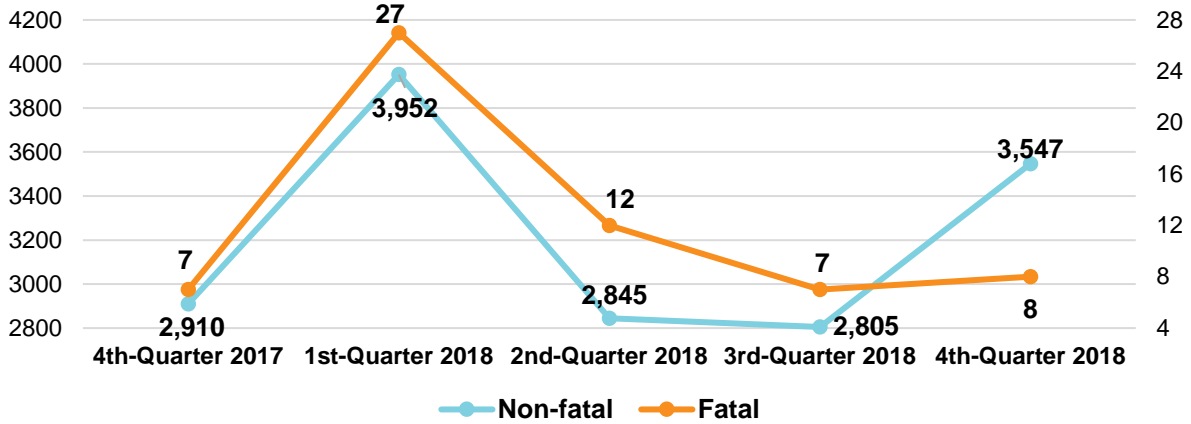


Geographic Area	Drug Overdose			Opioid Overdose			Opioid-antagonist		
	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal
Citrus	40	2.74	.	1	.	.	40	2.74	.
Hardee	3	.	.	2	.	.	5	.	.
Hernando	55	2.96	.	18	0.97	.	69	3.71	.
Hillsborough	1069	7.55	2	288	2.03	.	625	4.41	24
Manatee	298	7.95	1	144	3.84	.	141	3.76	9
Pasco	427	8.26	4	42	0.81	.	228	4.41	2
Pinellas	1371	14.22	.	1088	11.28	.	1478	15.33	89
Polk	200	2.96	1	28	0.41	1	299	4.42	6
Sumter	84	6.48	.	4	.	.	45	3.47	8
Total	3,547	7.99	8	1,615	3.64	1	2,930	6.60	138

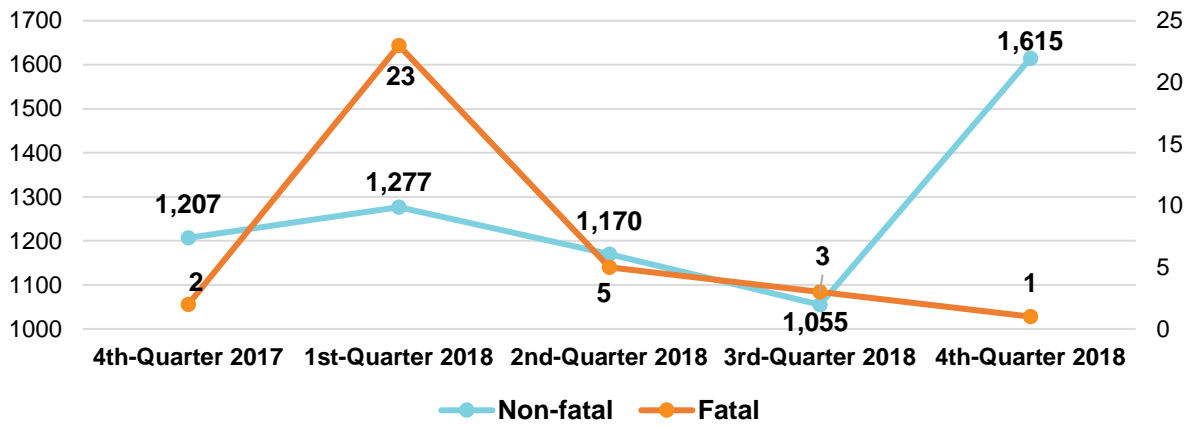
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Region 4 Trend (by Quarter)

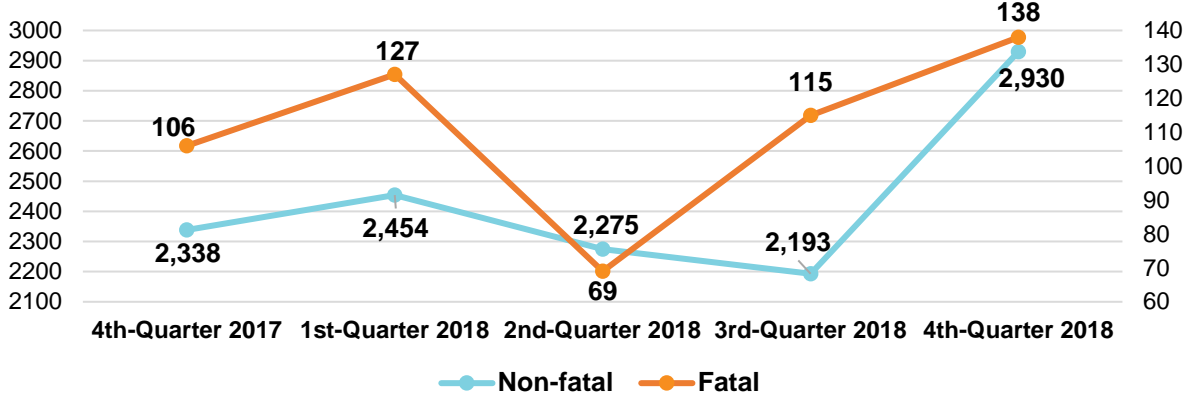
Total number of suspected drug overdose EMS responses



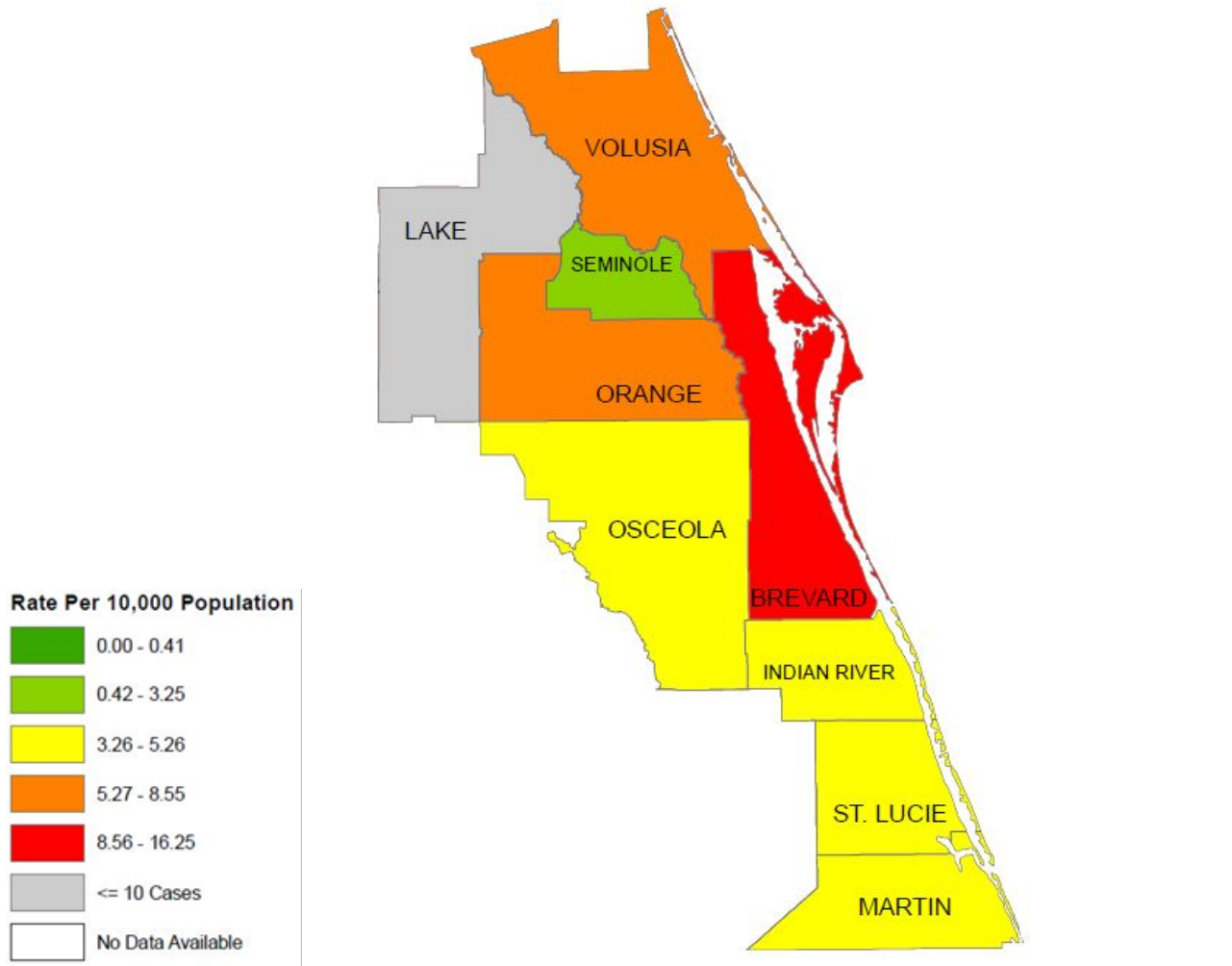
Total number of suspected opioid overdose EMS responses



EMS responses including administration of an opioid-antagonist



Region 5

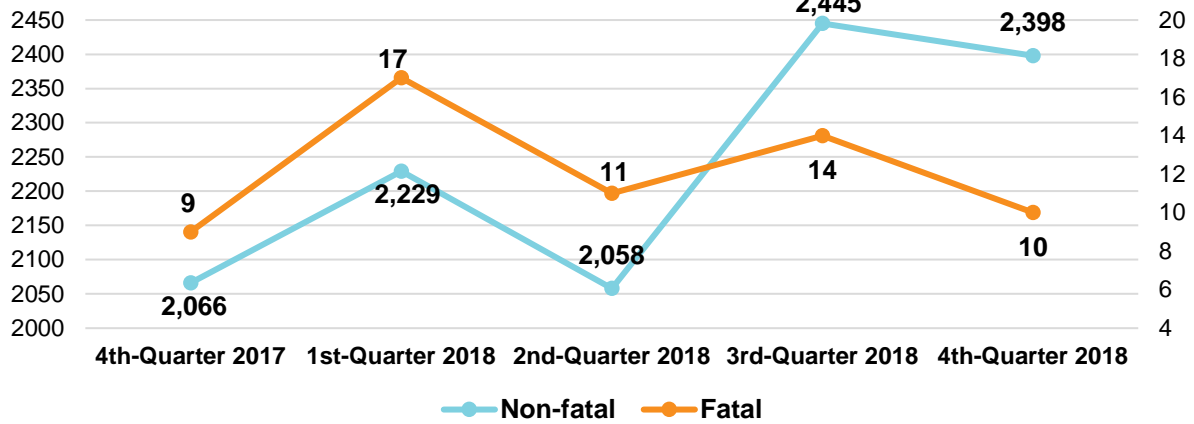


Geographic Area	Drug Overdose			Opioid Overdose			Opioid-antagonist		
	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal
Brevard	694	11.89	2	425	7.28	1	478	8.19	16
Indian River	73	4.79	1	20	1.31	1	47	3.08	.
Lake	5	.	.	.	.	.	6	.	2
Martin	59	3.83	.	15	0.97	.	38	2.47	.
Orange	812	6.02	4	266	1.97	3	629	4.66	34
Osceola	150	4.26	1	42	1.19	.	92	2.62	1
Seminole	103	2.22	2	46	0.99	1	79	1.70	6
St. Lucie	144	4.70	.	19	0.62	.	50	1.63	2
Volusia	358	6.74	.	7	.	.	12	0.23	.
Total	2,398	5.67	10	840	1.98	6	1,431	3.38	61

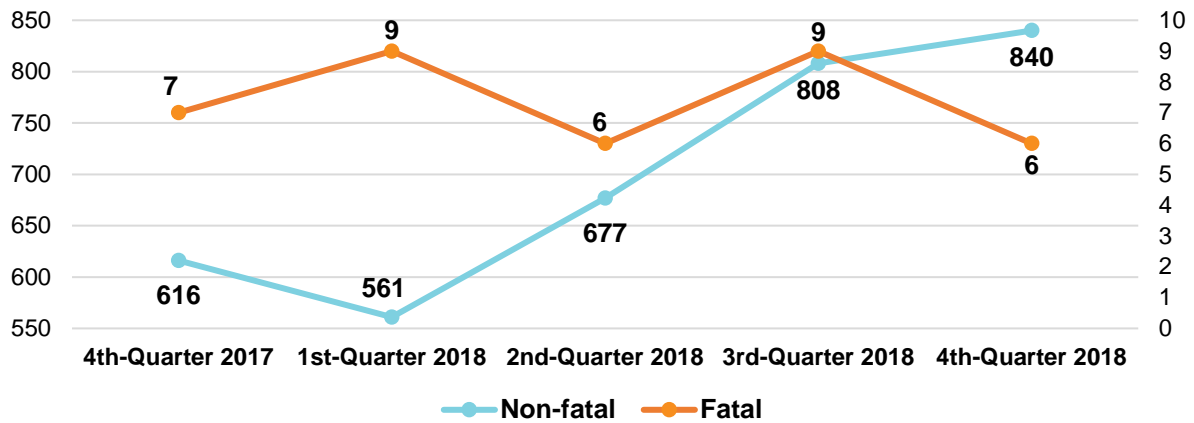
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Region 5 Trend (by Quarter)

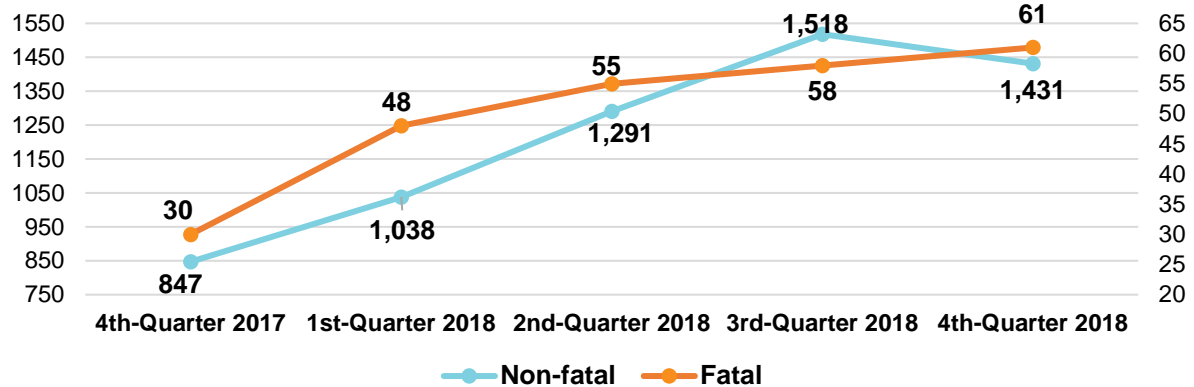
Total number of suspected drug overdose EMS responses



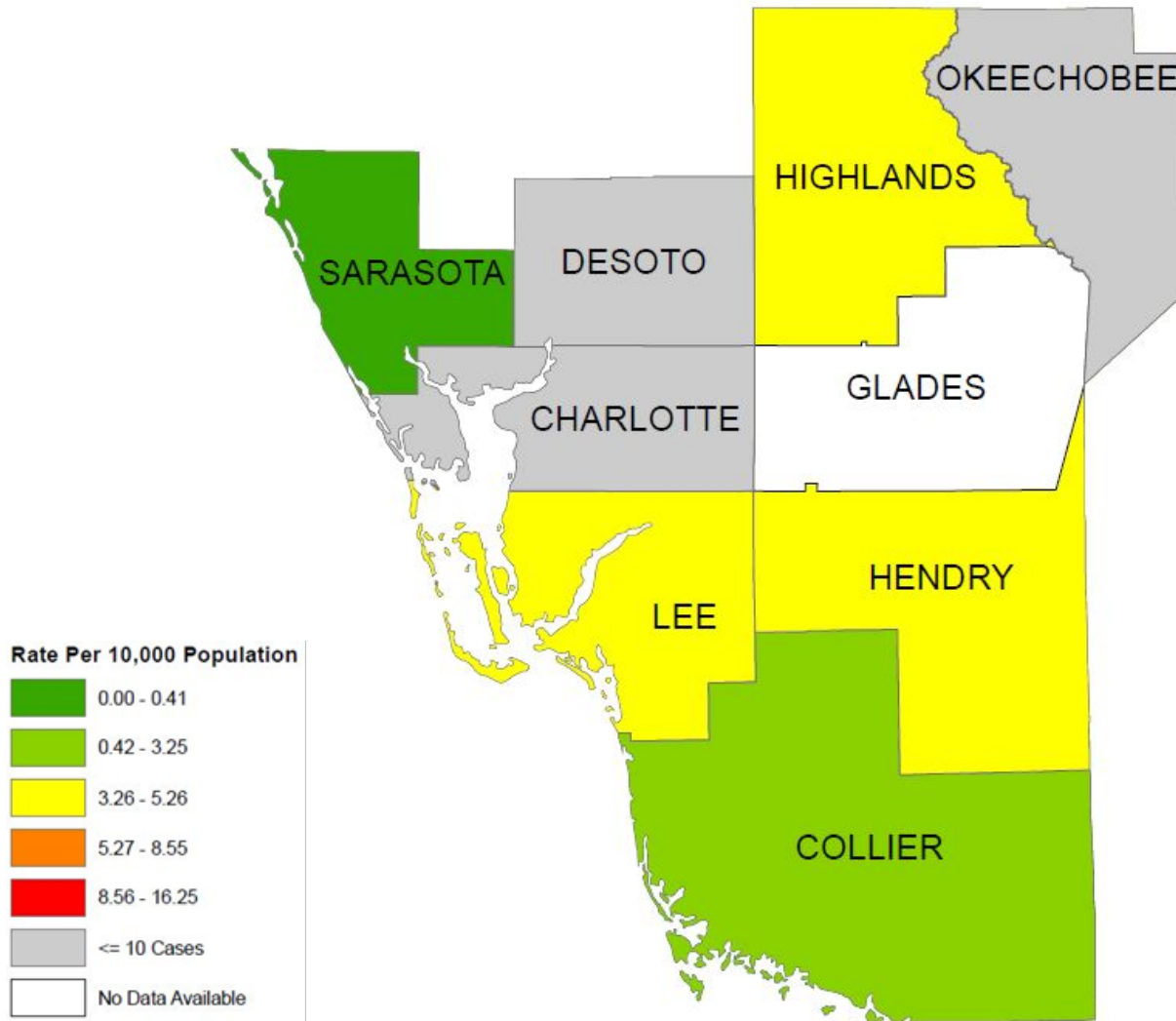
Total number of suspected opioid overdose EMS responses



EMS responses including administration of an opioid-antagonist



Region 6

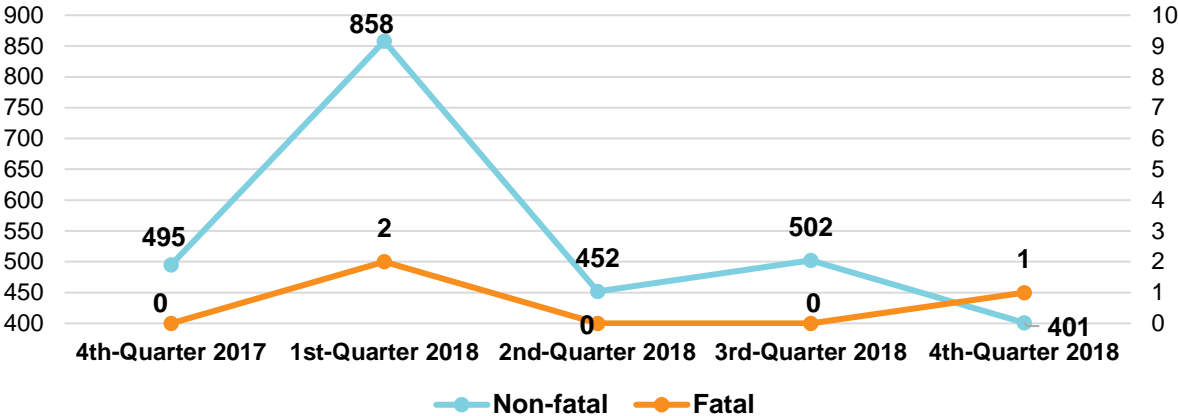


Geographic Area	Drug Overdose			Opioid Overdose			Opioid-antagonist		
	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal
Charlotte	5	.	.	.	.	.	35	1.98	3
Collier	52	1.42	1	39	1.07	.	75	2.05	1
Desoto	5	.	.	2	.	.	4	.	.
Hendry	15	3.86	.	8	.	.	15	3.86	1
Highlands	37	3.57	.	8	.	.	29	2.80	.
Lee	269	3.75	.	20	0.28	.	141	1.96	1
Okeechobee	1
Sarasota	17	0.41	.	5	.	.	10	.	2
Total	401	2.10	1	82	0.43	.	309	1.62	8

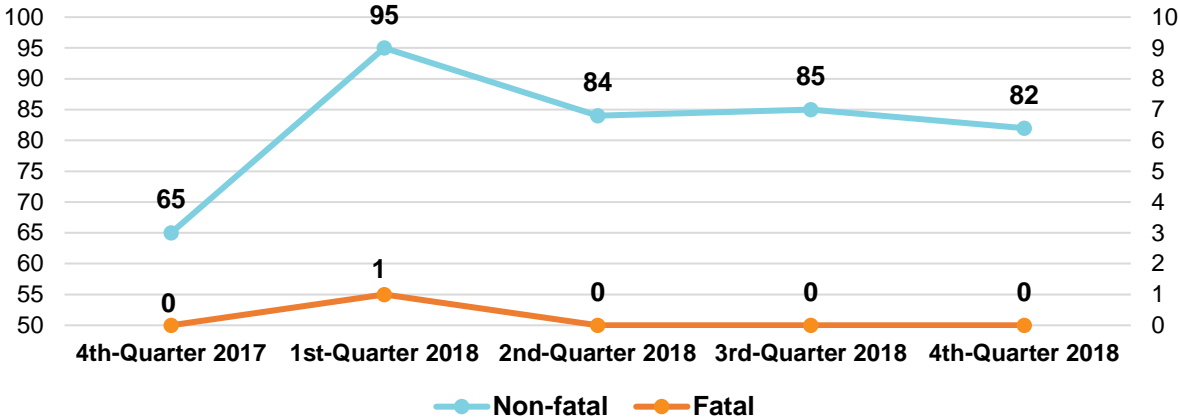
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Region 6 Trend (by Quarter)

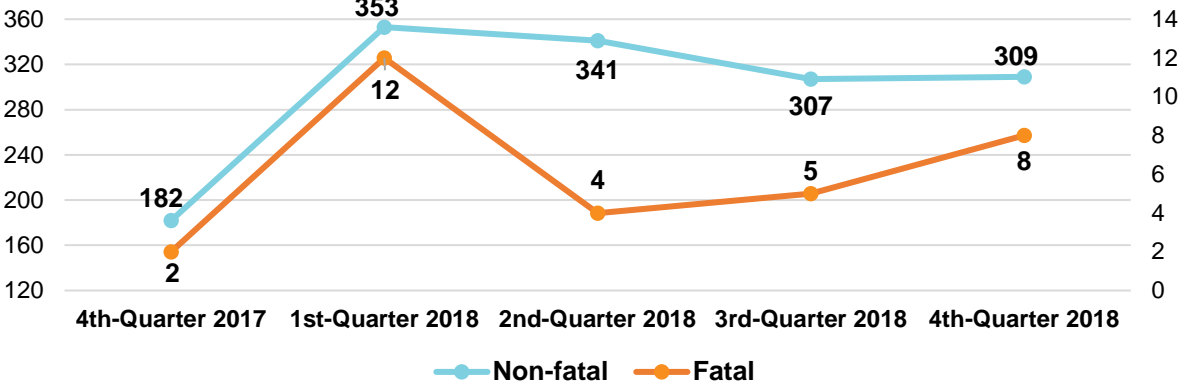
Total number of suspected drug overdose EMS responses



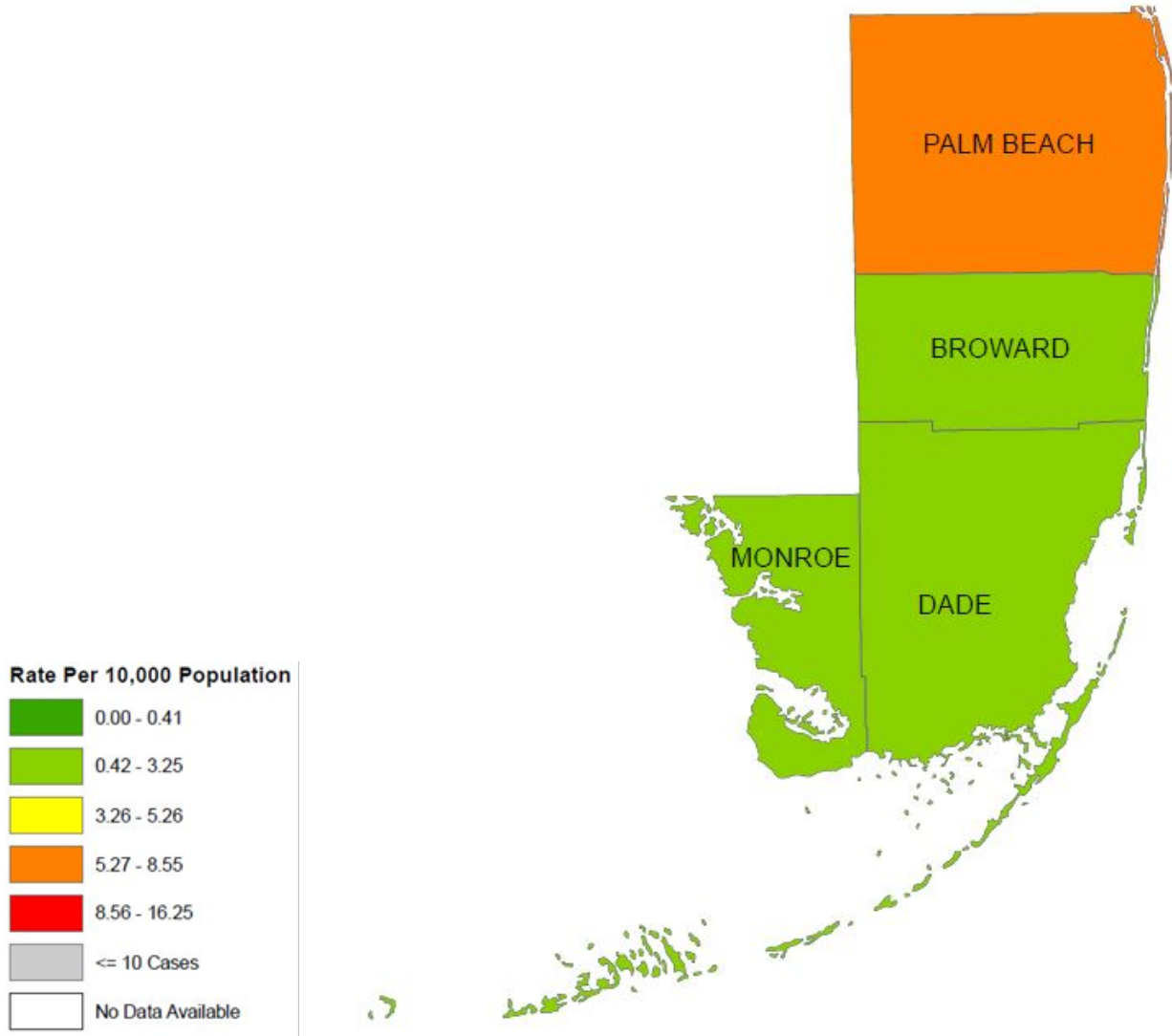
Total number of suspected opioid overdose EMS responses



EMS responses including administration of an opioid-antagonist



Region 7

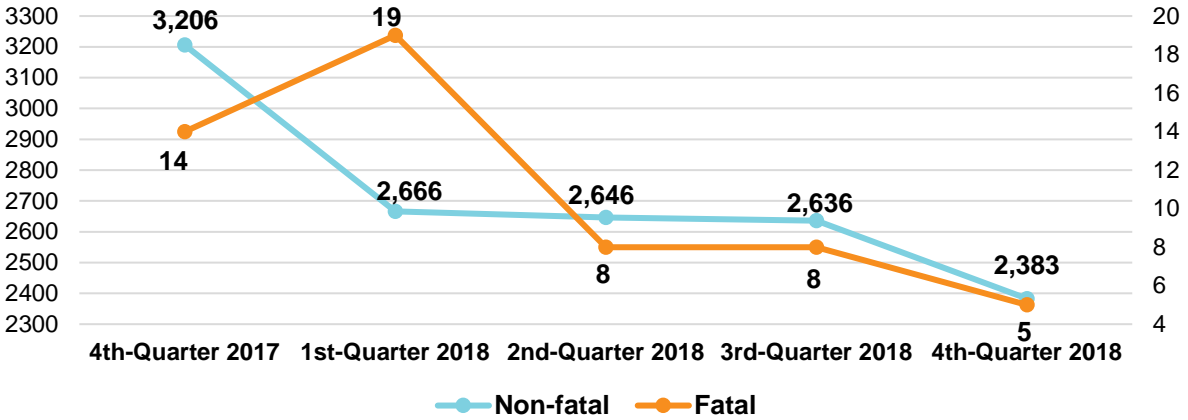


Geographic Area	Drug Overdose			Opioid Overdose			Opioid-antagonist		
	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Rate	Fatal
Broward	604	3.17	2	115	0.60	1	260	1.36	.
Miami-Dade	908	3.25	.	87	0.31	.	542	1.94	3
Monroe	12	1.55	.	5	.	.	22	2.85	1
Palm Beach	859	6.01	3	556	3.89	3	510	3.57	7
Total	2,383	3.84	5	763	1.23	4	1,334	2.15	11

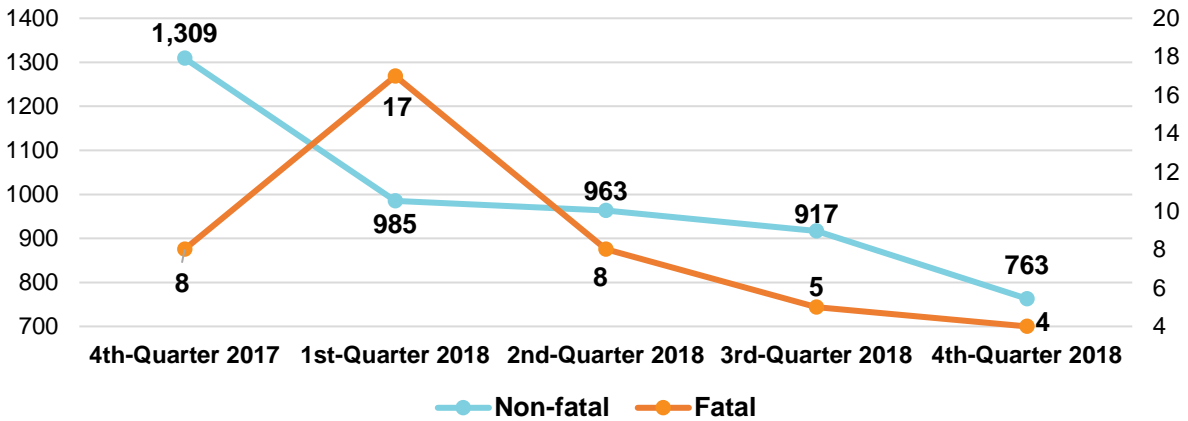
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Region 7 Trend (by Quarter)

Total number of suspected drug overdose EMS responses



Total number of suspected opioid overdose EMS responses



EMS responses including administration of an opioid-antagonist

