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Maine Naloxone Distribution Initiative

Project-To-Date Totals through March 31, 2021

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In July of 2019, the Maine Naloxone Distribution Initiative (MNDI) launched an overdose education, prevention, and naloxone distribution project. Public health and harm reduction partners, known as Tier 1 Distributors, began distributing state-supplied naloxone rescue kits across Maine to clinicians, community partners, and end users. This brief provides information on naloxone distribution and reported overdose reversals by the Tier 1 organizations comprising the MNDI from the initiation of the project through March 2021, with a particular emphasis on the first quarter of 2021.

Tier 1 organizations include Bangor Public Health (BPH), Portland Public Health (PPH), MaineGeneral Health (MG), and Maine Access Points (MAP). BPH serves the Aroostook, Downeast, and Penquis public health districts, PPH serves Cumberland and York, and MG serves Central, Midcoast, and Western. MAP distributes naloxone statewide with a particular focus on rural regions. Data from the Office of the Attorney General’s (OAG) law enforcement administered naloxone program have also been included to provide an overview of the combined public health, harm reduction, and public safety efforts in Maine.

Fatal drug overdoses increased in 2020 and that trend has continued in the first quarter of 2021. Currently, there is no comprehensive way to fully enumerate the total of nonfatal overdoses as this metric relies on voluntary reporting. Thus, it is difficult to quantify the full efficacy of naloxone distribution efforts during this troubling period. The distribution and reported reversal data tables and figure in this report offer conservative estimates of the lives saved through public health, harm reduction, and safety efforts, which prevented the number of drug deaths from potentially being much higher.

Additional resources, data, and visualizations are available at the Maine Drug Data Hub: <https://mainedrugdata.org/>.

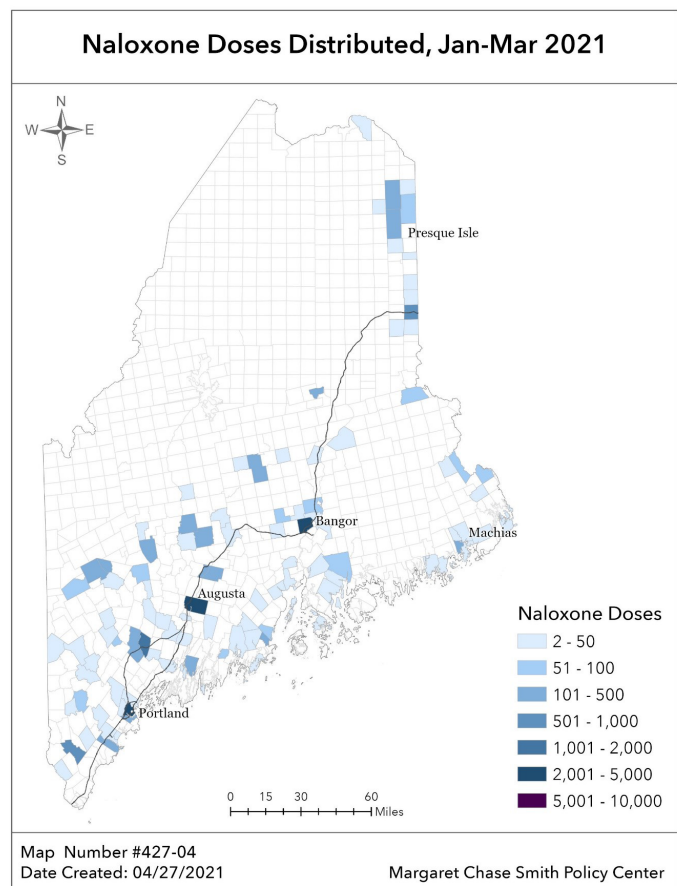


Figure 1: Number of naloxone doses distributed by the Maine Naloxone Distribution Initiative from January through March 2021

Public Health—Tier 1 Distributors

During the first quarter of 2021 (January–March):

- 16,236 doses of naloxone have been distributed
- 383 overdose reversals have been voluntarily reported.

From July 2019 through March 2021 (MNDI project-to-date totals):

- 76,562 doses of naloxone have been distributed
- 1692 overdose reversals have been voluntarily reported.

Public Safety—Law Enforcement Agencies

During the first quarter of 2021 (January–March):

- 2004 doses of naloxone have been distributed
- 50 overdose reversals have been voluntarily reported.

From July 2019 through March 2021:

- 7952 doses of naloxone have been distributed
- 371 overdose reversals have been voluntarily reported.

Table 1 Doses of naloxone distributed by Tier 1 distributors and OAG

	2019 ¹	2020	January 2021	February 2021	March 2021	Total
BPH	1768	10,550	732	224	516	13,790
PPH	3792	8640	96	292	1704	14,524
MG	2550	5870	2032	784	1622	12,858
MAP (IM)	3486	19,561	2216	2834	1888	29,985
MAP (IN)	510	3599	410	392	494	5405
OAG	2034	3914	852	288	864	7952
TOTAL	14,140	52,134	6338	4814	7088	84,514

¹ 2019 data is for July through December only.

Table 2 Number of overdose reversals¹ voluntarily reported to Tier 1 distributors (by individuals or Tier 2 distributors) and overdose reversals reported by OAG law enforcement agencies

	2019 ²	2020	January 2021	February 2021	March 2021	Total
BPH	17	289	49	55	93	503
PPH	28	304	4	-	10	346
MG	1	87	10	7	15	120
MAP	29	521	64	38	38	690
OAG	50	271	26	10	14	371
OD-ME app ³	-	31	0	0	2	33
TOTAL	125	1503	153	110	172	2063

¹ Reversal totals are conservative estimates as not all reversals are reported.

² 2019 data is July through December only.

³ OD-ME app is a mobile phone app developed in 2020 to support naloxone administration.