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Maine Naloxone Distribution Initiative

Project-To-Date Totals through September 30, 2021

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In July 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 September 2021, with a particular emphasis on the third 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 third 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/>.

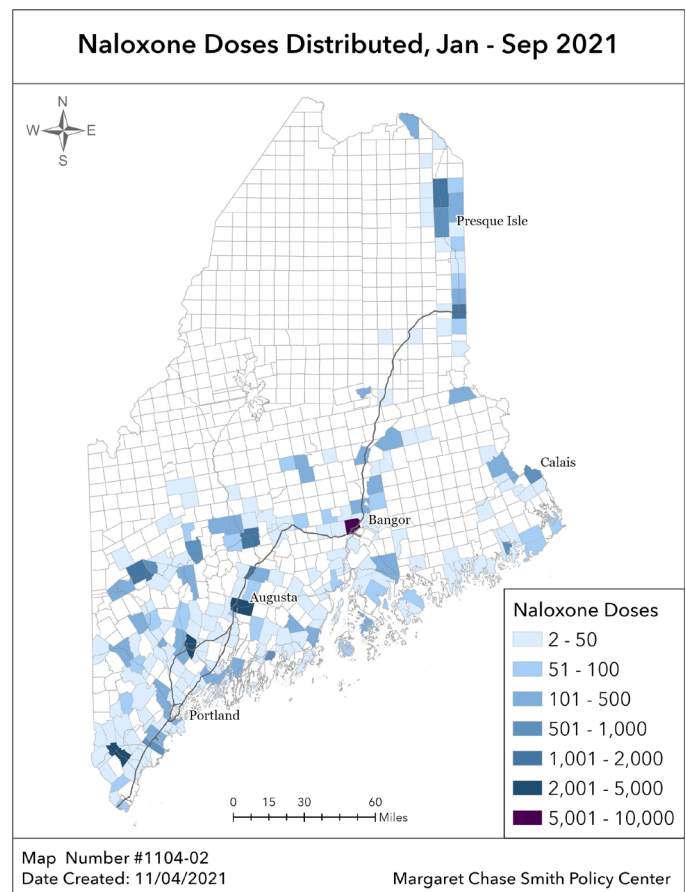


Figure 1: Number of naloxone doses distributed by the Maine Naloxone Distribution Initiative from January through September 2021

Public Health—Tier 1 Distributors

During the third quarter of 2021 (July–September):

- 22,412 doses of naloxone have been distributed
- 670 overdose reversals have been voluntarily reported.

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

- 117,264 doses of naloxone have been distributed
- 2788 overdose reversals have been voluntarily reported.

Public Safety—Law Enforcement Agencies

During the third quarter of 2021 (July–September):

- 1364 doses of naloxone have been distributed
- 53 overdose reversals have been voluntarily reported.

From July 2019 through September 2021:

- 10,536 doses of naloxone have been distributed
- 439 overdose reversals have been voluntarily reported.

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

	2019	2020	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	JUL 2021	AUG 2021	SEP 2021	Total
BPH	1768	10550	1472	4254	882	1292	1672	21890
PPH	3792	8640	2092	1992	878	1176	1798	20368
MG	2550	5870	4438	3156	1250	890	1168	19322
MAP (IM)	3486	19561	6938	7102	2508	3670	3350	46615
MAP (IN)	510	3599	1296	1786	514	648	716	9069
OAG	2034	3914	2004	1220	752	260	352	10536
Total	14140	52134	18240	19510	6784	7936	9056	127800

Notes: (1) Unit is doses for all values. (2) IM = intramuscular; IN = intranasal. All values are IN unless otherwise indicated. (3) MAP distribution initially included state-supplied and nonstate-supplied naloxone. (4) 2019 data is for July through December only. (5) A revision has been made to BPH March 2021 and PPH April 2021

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

	2019	2020	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	JUL 2021	AUG 2021	SEP 21	Total
BPH	17	289	197	151	80	118	105	957
PPH	28	304	14	51	21	31	29	478
MG	1	87	32	66	19	26	42	273
MAP	29	521	140	157	47	47	100	1041
OAG	69	220	40	57	25	19	9	439
OD-ME app	0	31	2	1	0	3	2	39
Total	144	1452	425	483	192	244	287	3227

Notes: (1) Reversal totals are conservative estimates as not all reversals are reported. (2) OD-ME app is a mobile phone app developed in 2020 to support naloxone administration. (3) Overdose reversal figures may increase as backdated Tier 2 distributor and OAG incident reports are received. (4) 2019 data is July through December only.