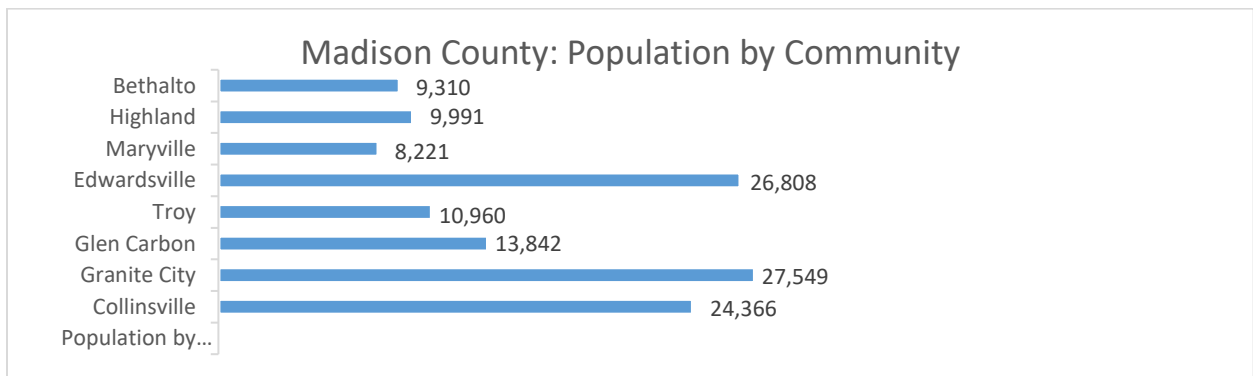
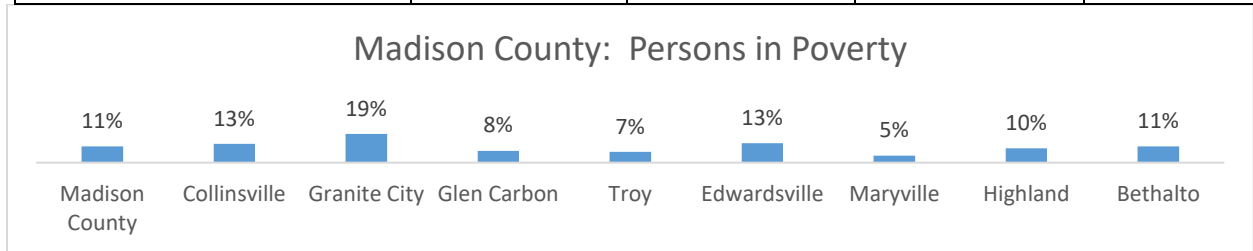


## Demographics

The Partnership for Drug-Free Communities serves Madison, St. Clair and the surrounding Illinois Counties. This area in southwestern Illinois is known as the St. Louis Metro East Region. The following is a breakdown of the area per the 2010 US Census. The counties chosen are based on Partnership participation.

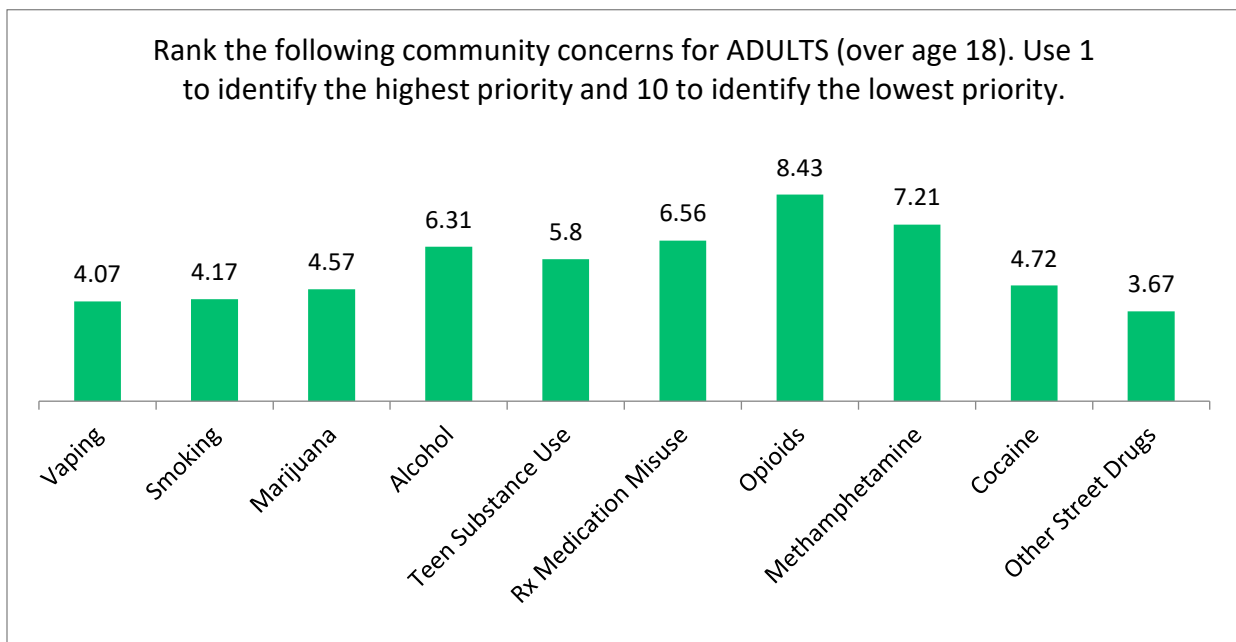
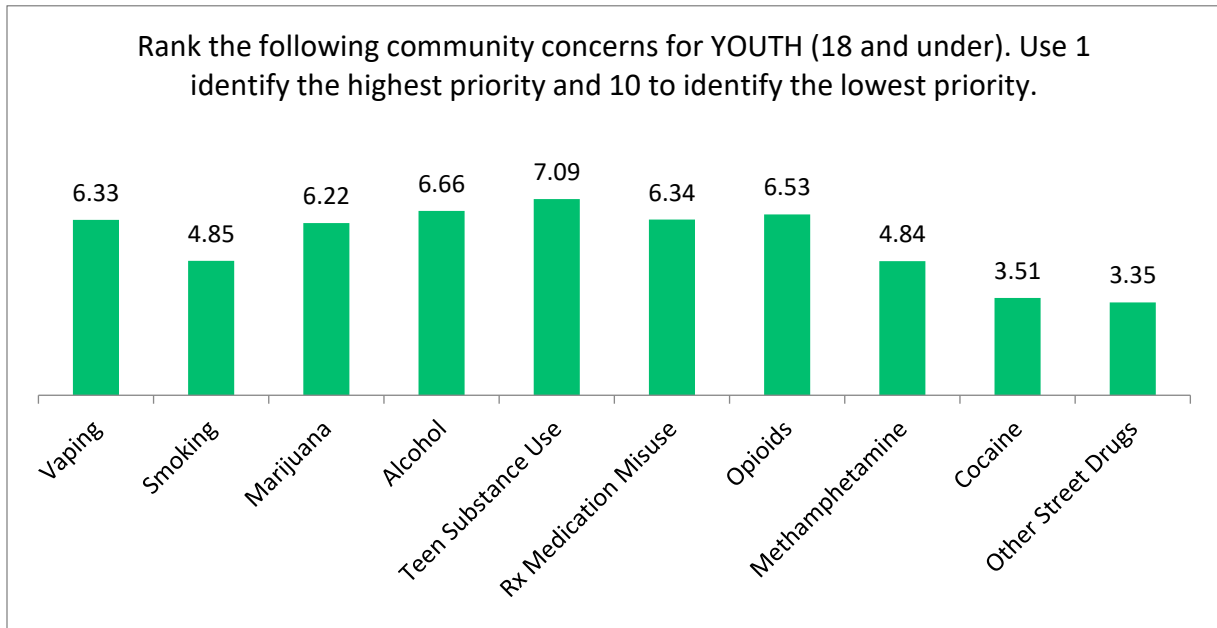
	<i>Total Population</i>	<i>Black</i>	<i>White</i>	<i>Hispanic/Latino</i>	<i>Asian</i>	<i>2 or more Races</i>	<i>Other Races</i>	<i>Poverty</i>
Madison	269,282	8%	88%	3%	1%	2%	1%	11%
St. Clair	259,686	31%	65%	3%	1%	2%	1%	13%
Bond	16,589	6%	88%	3%	1%	1%	1%	14%
Clinton	37,562	3%	92%	2%	0	1%	0	8%
Jersey	21,773	.5%	96%	3%	0	0	0	10%
Macoupin	44,926	1%	96%	2%	.5%	0	0	14%
Montgomery	28,828	5%	92%	2%	0	0	0	16%

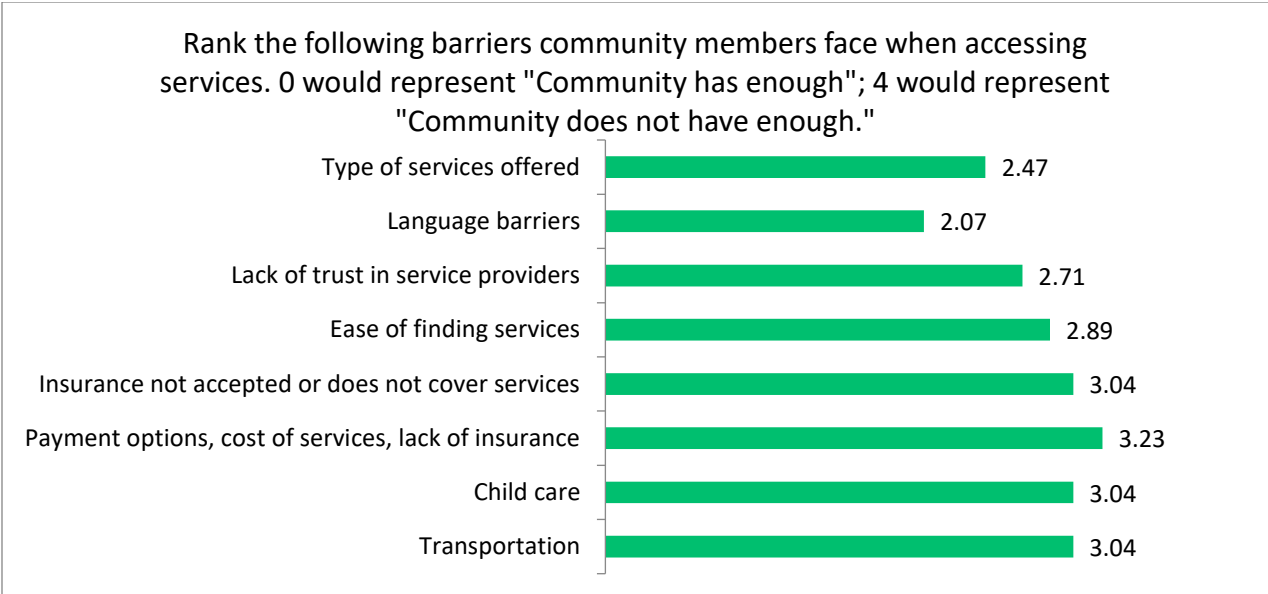
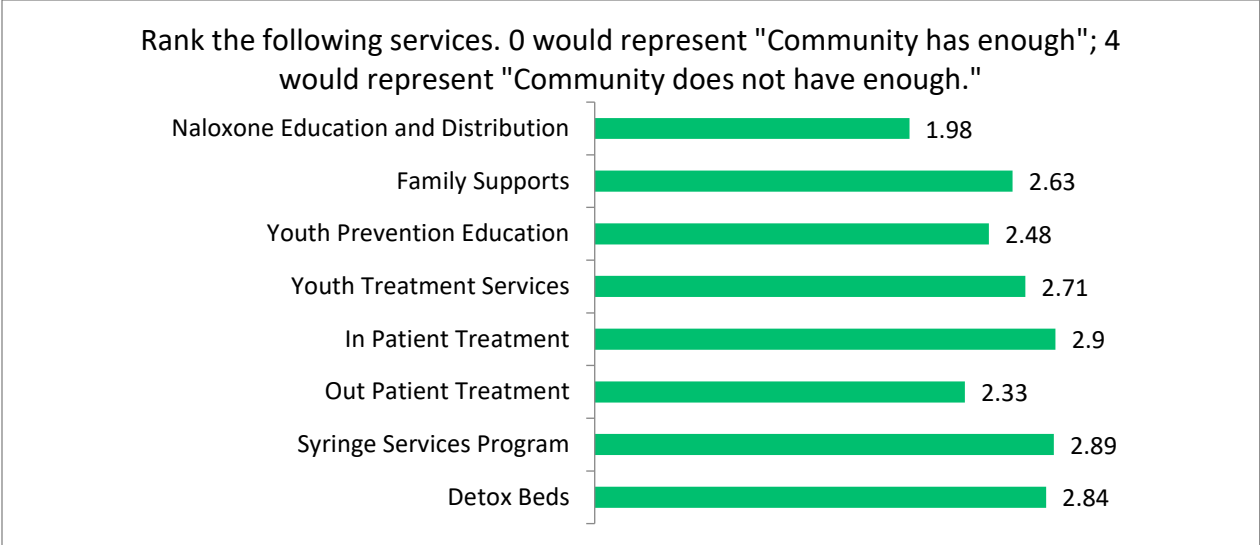
<i>County Health Rankings 2021</i>	<i>Bond County</i>	<i>Madison County</i>	<i>St. Clair County</i>	<i>Illinois</i>
Premature Death	7,800			6,600
Poor Mental Health Days	4.5			3.8
Alcohol-impaired driving deaths	31%			31%
Adult Smoking	21%			16%
Primary Care Physicians	1,660:1			1,240:1
Dentists	5,480:1			1,240:1
Mental Health Providers	660:1			410:1



## Partnership Member Survey Monkey Summary

The following is a summary of May 2021 responses to a Survey Monkey sent to the 300+ members of the Partnership. The majority of the 60 people who responded represented Madison County and were female. 19% reported lived experience, 81% reported having a family member or friends with a substance use concern, and 30% reported having a mental health diagnosis.





**People Who Use Summary**

The following priorities are based on information collected from people who use and submitted by The Porchlight Collective SAP:

1. Low barrier temporary housing in Jersey County, Madison County and St. Clair County. Typical "Oxford House" sober living abstinence requirements are difficult for people with use disorders (PWUD) chaotically to achieve when unhoused. Recovery capital is achieved faster when PWUD have access to stable housing and other behavioral health and community services. (Ex: Housing First models)
2. Additional medication for opioid use disorder (MOUD) waived prescribers, including additional low barrier methadone programs with Medicaid slots.

**Law Enforcement Summary**

Two members of the Metropolitan Enforcement Group of Southwestern Illinois (MEGSI) provided the following information during a meeting on July 16, 2021. The top 2 illicit drugs in this area are methamphetamine (meth) and fentanyl. Cannabis is third. Others include: prescription drugs, MDMA (methylenedioxy-methamphetamine) often referred to as ecstasy, psychedelics, cocaine/crack cocaine, and some heroin. Meth and fentanyl are easy to access. Cannabis is often not a concern to people since having less than 100 grams is not typically a legal issue.

High quality pill presses are increasingly being used to press a fentanyl form that resembles oxycodone or OxyContin. Fentanyl is being found in a pill form though the capsule form, often called buttons or beans, are still around. More home presses have been seen in the past year. They are primarily used to press MDMA/ecstasy/Molly (the date rape drug). The pills are not well formed and may be crumbly. Methamphetamine or cocaine that contains fentanyl is usually about 2% fentanyl. Some people are seeking this combination. Others are purchasing non-opioid drugs that contain fentanyl without their knowledge.

#### Demographics:

- Youth and young adults are more likely to use psychedelics, MDMA/ecstasy [Note: alcohol, tobacco (vaping) and marijuana use continue to be the most used drugs by youth]
- Youth and young adults tend to purchase their drugs from someone they know, social media like Snapchat, or, occasionally, on the dark web
- It is not uncommon for parents who use drugs to introduce them to your children, often around age 13
- Methamphetamine is primarily used by people who are White
- Crack cocaine is primarily used by people who are Black
- Fentanyl is being used by all races
  - People who are White tend to inject fentanyl
  - People who are Black tend to snort fentanyl

#### Prices (approximate and vary):

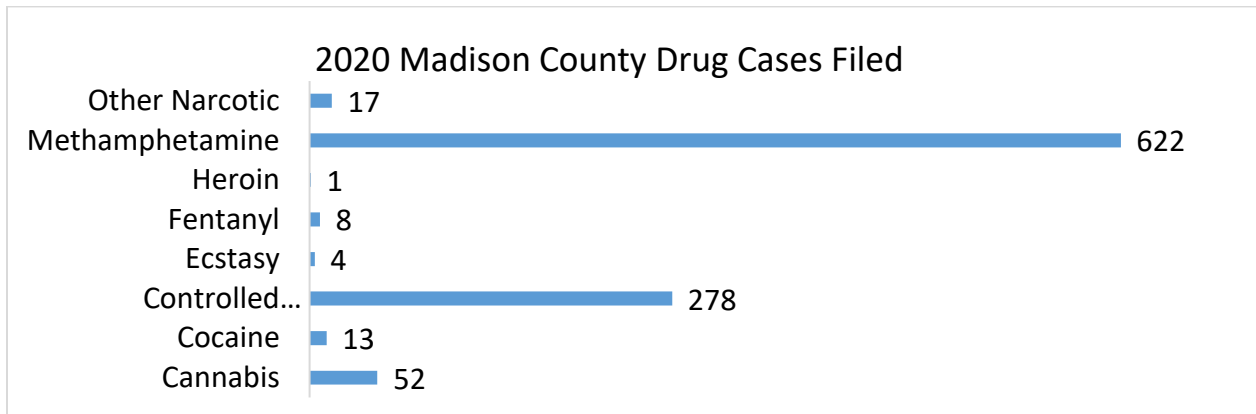
- Methamphetamine is \$20-\$30 per half gram and \$60-\$80 per gram
- Fentanyl is \$5 per pill/capsule
- Cocaine/crack is \$80-\$100 per half gram
- MDMA/ecstasy is \$1-\$5 per pill
- Prices went up during the pandemic, but are dropping again

#### Origin of local drugs:

- Most all of local drugs originated in Mexico, though an enormous amount of the local supplies are being shipped/transported from California
- Drug shipments from Mexico had nearly stopped during the pandemic, but have once again picked up

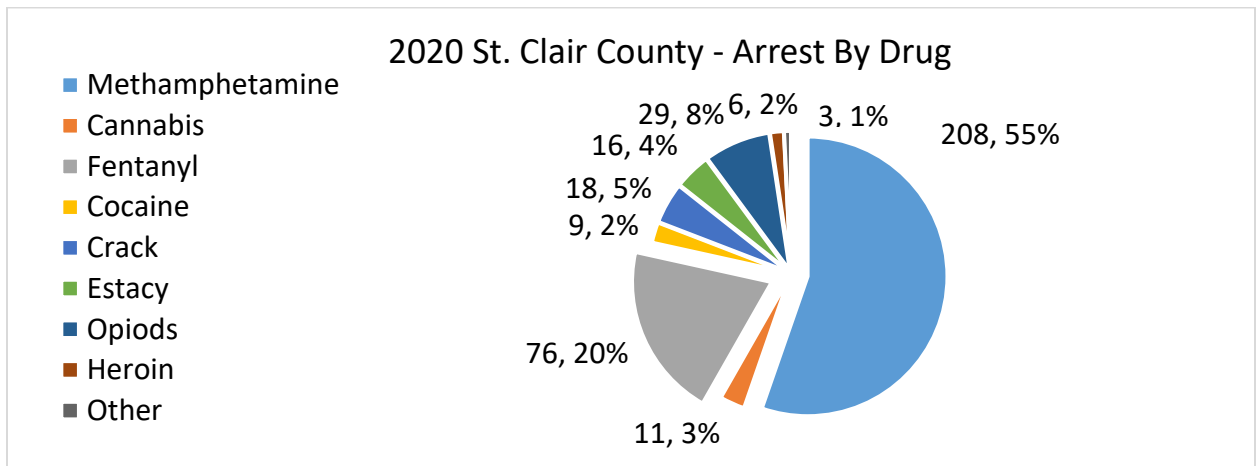
- Most fentanyl continues to be manufactured in China, though most is now shipped to Mexico rather than the US
- Mexico is manufacturing meth and some fentanyl

The Madison County State’s Attorney’s Office provided the following information on drugs charges filed in 2020. The “Controlled Substance” charges included various drugs such as fentanyl, Oxycodone and ecstasy.



91% of the people charged with methamphetamine were White. 64% were male. 40% were in their thirties.

The following is derived from felony drug cases tracked by the St. Clair County Drug Tactical Unit and does not represent all of the county’s law enforcement agencies.



In St. Clair County, 81% of the people arrested with fentanyl arrests were White. 59% of those arrested were in their thirties. 66% were male. To contrast this with the St. Clair County Coroner’s overdose death records for January – June 2021, 80% of the people who died due to a drug overdose had fentanyl in their system. These percentages were equal in White and Blacks who died.

80% of the people arrested with methamphetamine arrests were White. 68% were male. 51% of those arrested were in their thirties.

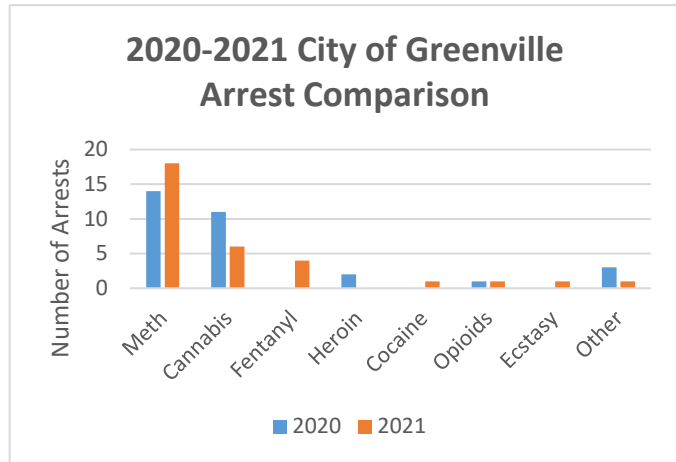
The following is a summary of comments shared at meetings and during interviews with local, county, regional, state and federal law enforcement agencies:

- Most every agency reported fentanyl and methamphetamine as the biggest problems. Both are easy to access and cheap.
- “There has recently been “an uptick in drugs coming in on the roads again.” Ice [methamphetamine] had slowed down so, after a two year break, we began seeing the shake-and-bake home methamphetamine cooks back; many had been recently released from prison. Now ice from Mexico is returning and prices are going down.”
- Regarding youth substance use, alcohol and marijuana are the primary drugs being used. Youth are typically not using harder substances.
- Funding and staffing limits are obstacles. One agency reported, “Unfortunately, staff working on the drug unit often get pulled off their work when violent situations that require immediate intervention arise. It makes it hard to work consistently on the drug issues.”
- “The data collected by the Illinois Youth Survey is important to our work, but we need more prevention education programs in the schools.”
- “Law enforcement has to do everything possible and, when it comes to distributors, we have to build strong cases.”
- “One problem is getting people to share their source of the drugs they have. Recently, ecstasy has hit the area. It is being made by poor quality hand presses, and seems to be most popular among younger people.”
- “I have always wished we could get good numbers for the number of people saved by Narcan. I think if you added that to the number of fatal OD’s, the numbers would be absolutely staggering and very valuable.”
- “High quality pill presses are increasingly being used to press fentanyl into pill that resemble oxycodone or OxyContin.”
- St. Louis DEA has confirmed that a large amount of high quality pills resembling oxycodone, Adderall and other drugs are being found in the area. Purchases are happening on the street and online.
- “Trying to target the distributors who are supplying drugs that result in overdoses has been a priority of great concern.”
- Concern was expressed about the danger of returning vehicles to their owners after drugs are confiscated. Often the person transporting the drugs has borrowed or rented the vehicle. The safety of use was questioned and a decontamination process was suggested.
- One department reported that more people are being found too late to use naloxone.
- “Biggest change noted was the increase in overdoses at transit locations. Drugs are being used on or at the various stops. This is being seen in a variety of ages, twenty through sixty. Methamphetamine and fentanyl are the two biggest problems.” [St. Clair County]
- “While county prosecutors are doing great work that has been hindered by the pandemic, some drug distributor sentences have been too light.” [Madison County]
- “The majority of drug poisonings are not local residents, but people who frequent the adult entertainment clubs.” Agencies serving the communities near the McKinley Bridge also report most overdoses are in people traveling through or visiting their communities.

- “Covid-19 and stay at home orders and the related stress probably have led to more relapses and to users increasing their dosage in response to the increased stress of the pandemic. It is obviously just a theory but it makes sense to me.”
- “There is no particular good news.”

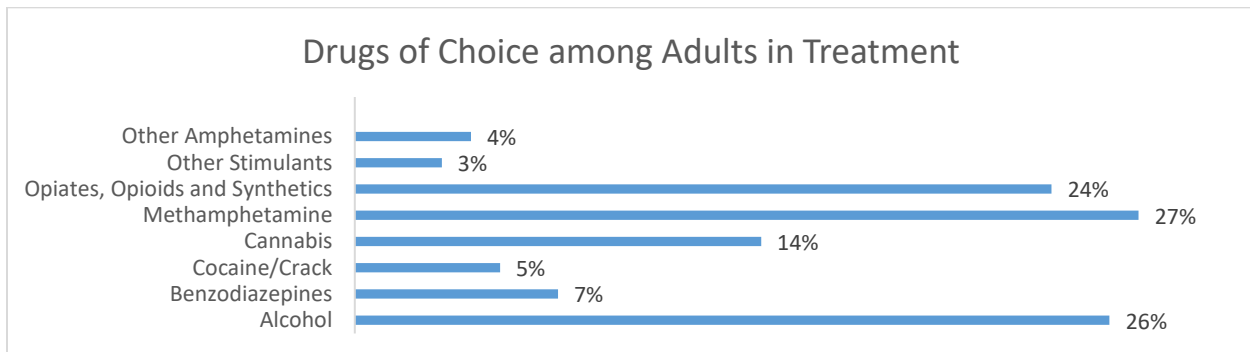
In Bond County, law enforcement officers report that currently 90% of their cases involve methamphetamine, 5% opioids, and 5% marijuana; in Greenville alone there have been 31 arrests year to date where substances were involved and 32 arrests in 2020.

The chart compares the substance related arrests distribution shift from 2020 to 2021. Things to note include a nearly 30% increase in methamphetamine related arrests in 2021; a 45% decrease in cannabis related arrests; a 400% increase in fentanyl related arrests, and a decrease to 0 arrests for heroin related offenses – the latter two are most likely the result of a national trend that has resulted in heroin no longer being available on the streets leading to an increased presence of fentanyl.

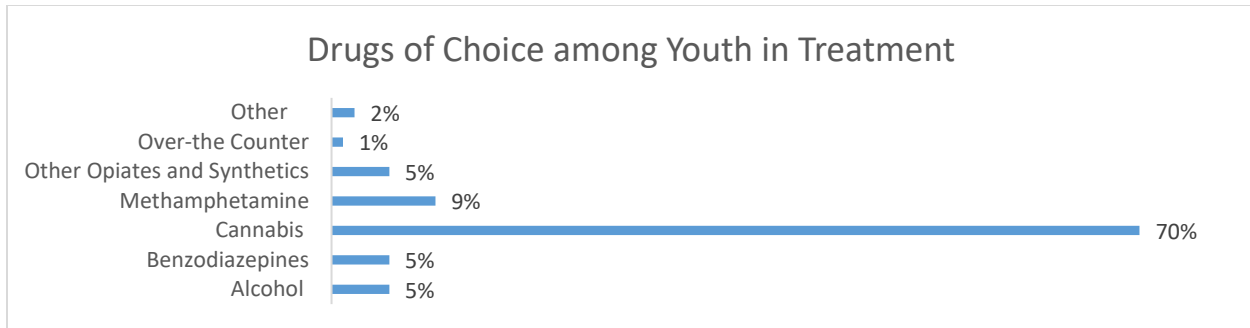


### Treatment Summary

The following data from a local treatment facility represents in-patient and out-patient admissions for January-November 2021.



Alcohol, methamphetamine and opioids were the leading drugs of choice among adults in treatment in 2020 and 2021.



Cannabis was the leading drug of choice among youth in treatment, which is down from 78% in 2020.

“[Fentanyl] is in everything because of how many times substances are stepped on by the time they reach users, and cross contamination is the norm, not the exception. Regular users know that [fentanyl] is in everything, even substances marketed as heroin.” Anonymous

A recovery coach pointed out that the drug of choice has changed in the African American population. She said it was now considered fashionable to use opioid.

### **Businesses Summary**

Six bartenders said there was a time when people would not discuss the drugs they were using. Now it is commonplace to mention it, and others seem to accept it.

### **Healthcare Summary**

In 2021, Anderson Hospital completed its 2022-2025 Community Health Needs Assessment and Community Health Plan. One of its top five (5) health priorities was identified as Substance Misuse based on community surveys, focus groups and a health summit. The final report stated, “Substance misuse and addiction, in the form of alcohol and other illicit drugs, is increasing and taking a great toll on our society. Substance misuse is highly prevalent within our community; therefore, Anderson Hospital proactively works with partnerships and community programs to address the issue.”

### **Coroners’ Overdose Death Data Summaries**

In Madison County in 2021 there were 116 overdose deaths. Based on the Madison County Coroner’s Office data:

- Overdose deaths increased 32% in the past year
- Fentanyl related overdose deaths accounted for 65% of all deaths; this was a 42% increase over the past year
- Methamphetamine related deaths accounted for 47% of all overdose deaths; this was an 86% increase over the past year
- The age range was 19 – 76 years; there was one infant death; the average age was 42



- 91% of the deaths were in people who were White and 9% in people who were Black; 65% were male and 35% were female

In St. Clair County in 2021 there were 82 overdose deaths. Based on the St. Clair County Coroner's Office data:

- Overdose deaths dropped 12% in the past year
- Fentanyl related deaths accounted for 67% of all deaths; this was an 18% decrease over the past year
- Methamphetamine related deaths accounted for 30% of all deaths; this was an 11% decrease over the past year
- The age range was 17 – 69 years; there was one infant death; the average age was 41
- 59% of the deaths were in people who were White and 39% in people who were Black; 1 person was Indian and 1 was listed as Other; data on gender was not available
- Deaths in people who were Black decreased by 16%; there was a 13% decrease in Whites

In Bond County, all 6 people who died in 2021 had methamphetamine in their systems at the time of death; 4 of those 6 also included fentanyl, one multiple additional substances, and one methamphetamine.

### **Parent/Guardian Summary**

Regarding youth substance use and the pandemic:

- "...kids started drinking and doing drugs more because they were home alone, not going anywhere and it just was really hard..."
- "not having his extracurricular activities and school made him so sad and being alone so much of the time made him do things and think things he thought he never would."
- "He shared with me one night recently that he started smoking weed every day and it was interacting with his prescription meds and he was drinking whatever he could find because he was so depressed."

The following was written by a parent in Madison County. "I have had to learn a lot about a topic that previously was "not in my backyard". Because I had never received any prevention education as a parent, I had no idea what to look for... I later learned that she was high at school every day her senior year, but not one teacher reached out to me – I assume because she was able to still get good grades in spite of sitting in the back of the classroom unable to stay awake in class. The stigma around addiction is agonizing. Her siblings were afraid to share the experience with friends out of fear that they would start treating them differently and parents would say they were no longer welcome because now they are a "troublemaker" too. While there are services in Madison County, when you are in crisis, you don't know what to do or where to turn – you don't know which facility is best for her needs, you have to quickly learn a new language about co-occurring disorders, and then you shame yourself for not knowing and not intervening earlier, and on top of all of that, you realize that there is no one you can talk to about it because it is this deep dark secret that cannot be shared. We felt alone and isolated while trying to figure it all out and keep our heads above water every.single.day."

## 2020 Emergency Department Opioid Overdose Cases by County

<i>County</i>	<i># of Cases</i>	<i>% of Population</i>
Madison	299	.11%
St. Clair	217	.08%
Bond	*	-
Calhoun	*	-
Clinton	11	.03%
Effingham	*	-
Greene	13	.1
Jersey	19	.08%
Macoupin	17	.03%
McLean	78	.04%
Montgomery	17	.06%
Shelby	*	-

### Schools Summary

The following is a summary of comments made by school personnel from multiple school districts in Madison, St. Clair and several surrounding counties.

- Remote learning resulted in new habits in some students—they are addicted to nicotine. (Note: this would be due to the use of vaping products, not cigarettes.)
- Since school has resumed in-person, cannabis use and vaping have been problematic.
  - Students are coming to school under the influence.
  - Students are being caught with cannabis and vaping products in school.
  - Educators reported that students are “self-medicating.”
- Alcohol use seems to have continued as it did prior to the pandemic.

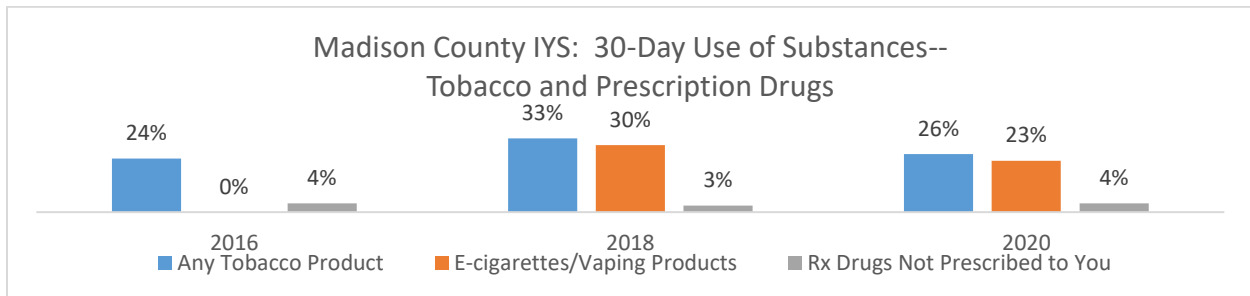
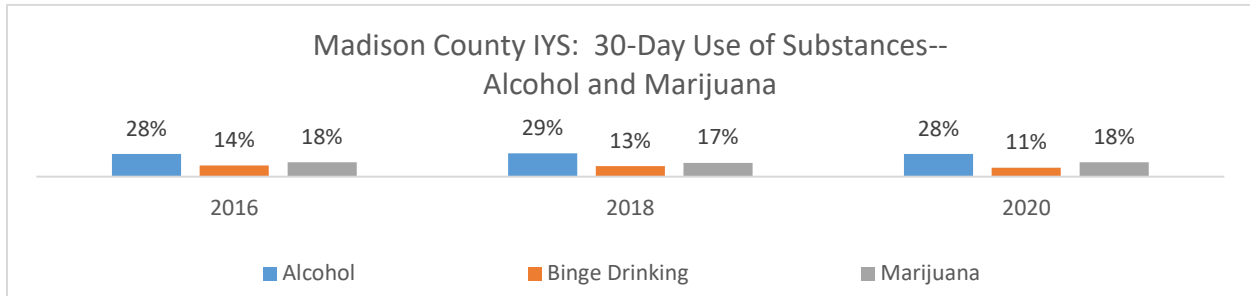
One educator commented that is a sad situation that students are using cannabis and vapes as a coping mechanism. They need it to feel comfortable coming through the door.

A local college counselor who works closely with campus police reporting the following issues over the recent past:

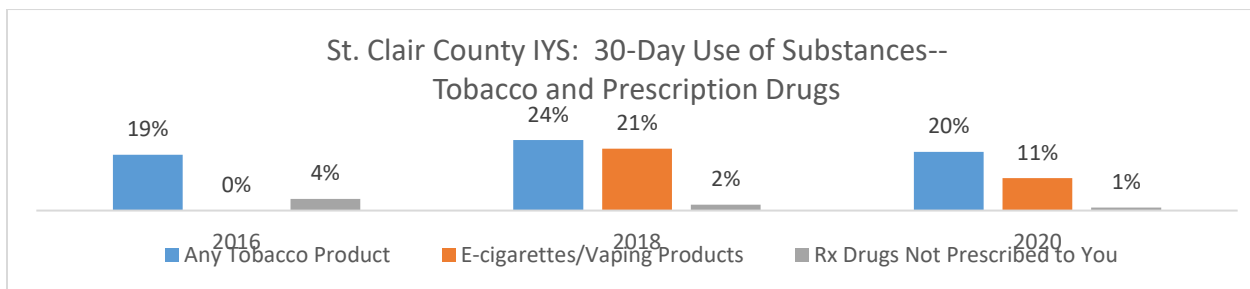
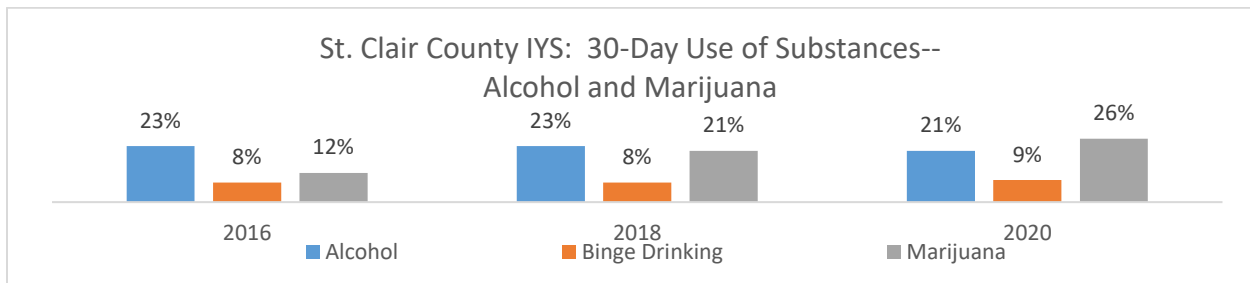
1. Cannabis use—residents are often using edibles to avoid reports being made regarding the odor but some eat too much and report panic attacks
2. Alcohol use
3. Domestic violence
4. Sexual assaults, which have increased
5. Panic attacks, which have increased due to cannabis use

### 2020 Illinois Youth Survey

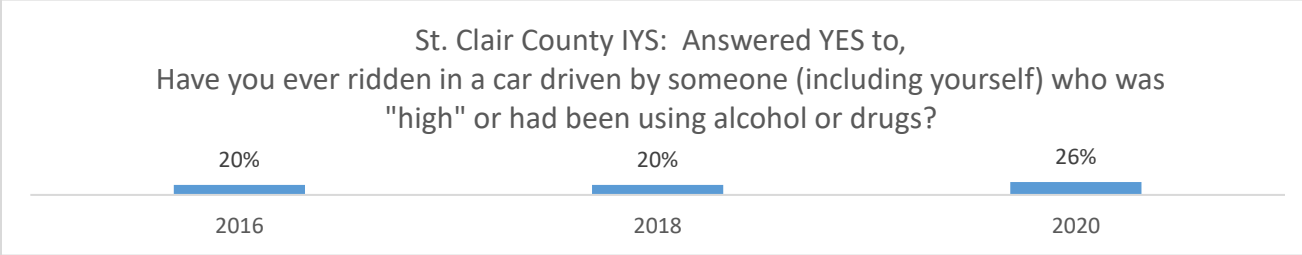
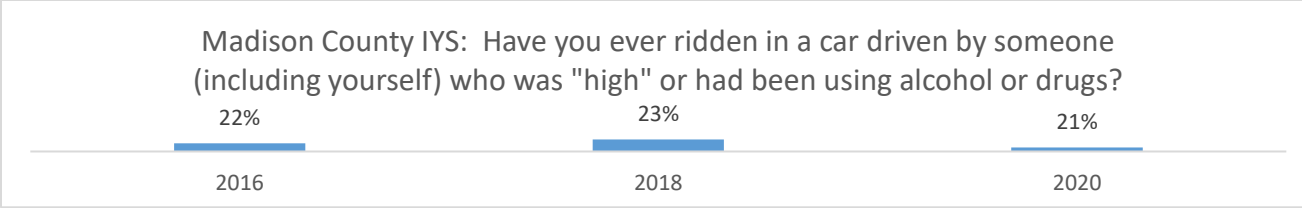
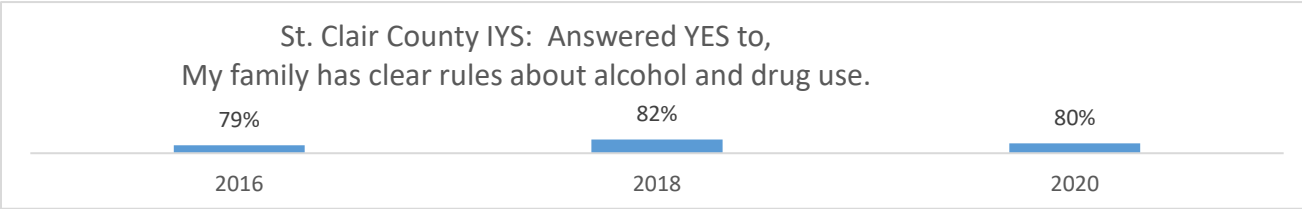
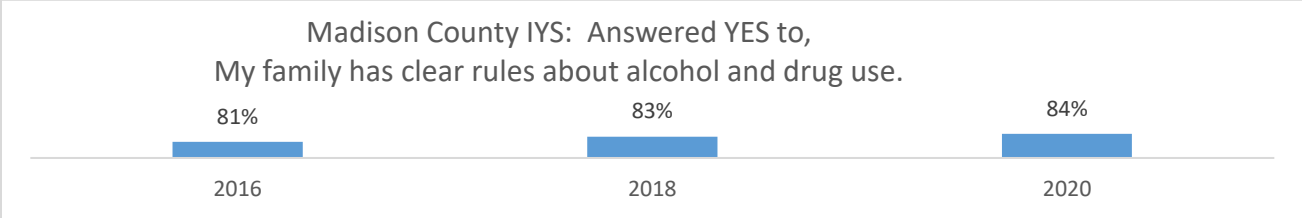
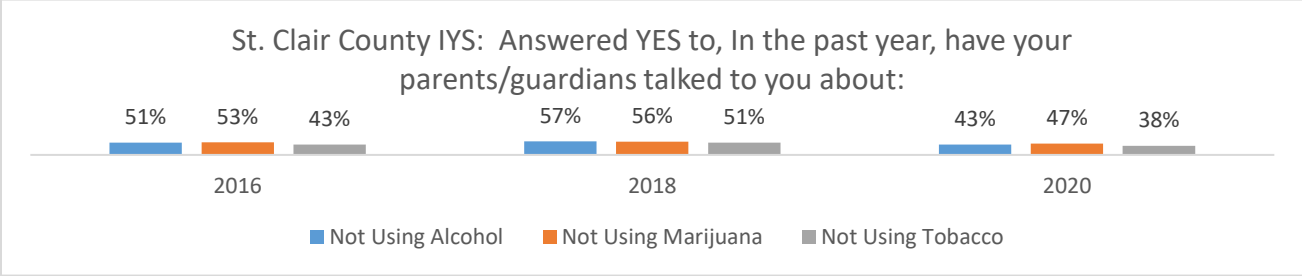
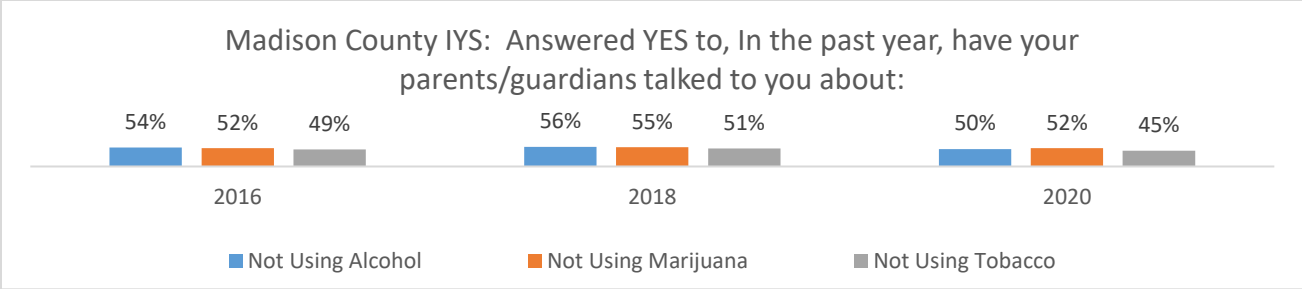
The following data were taken from the 2020 Illinois Youth Survey for Madison and St. Clair Counties. The results from the 10<sup>th</sup> graders participating are being reported. The number of youth participating in the survey was down from prior years, but the Madison County data was representative of the population. St. Clair County data represented more African-American youth than White or other races.

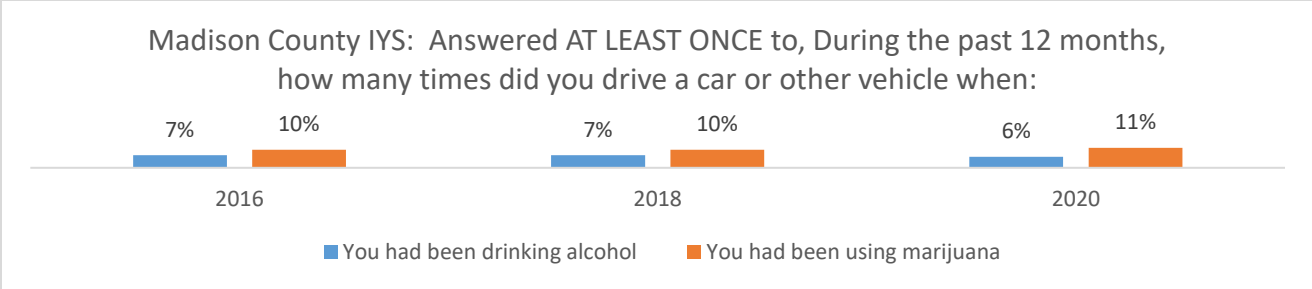


Data regarding e-cigarette/vaping products was not collected in 2016.



Data regarding e-cigarette/vaping products was not collected in 2016.





While there was little change in the amount of alcohol or prescription drugs 10<sup>th</sup> graders were using over the past few years. St. Clair County 10<sup>th</sup> graders showed a significant increase in marijuana use. Both counties showed an increase in tobacco use in 2018, which dipped in 2020. Madison County parent/guardian communication about not using substances was consistent though there was a drop in communication regarding tobacco use in 2020. St Clair County parent/guardian communication varied and showed a drop in communication regarding all drugs surveyed in 2020. Approximately 80% of all students surveyed reported their families have clear rules about alcohol and drug use.

Vehicle use with a driver that was “high” or using substances was consistently above 20% with St. Clair County 10<sup>th</sup> graders reporting 26% in 2020. Youth driving a vehicle under the influence ranged from 4-7% for alcohol and 7-12% for marijuana.

## Faith Summary

Education is key; concerned about liabilities; people need to know why it is needed; may have been a change in drug use; trust level; a lot of places don't know why this is important; consider using fliers, social media, etc.

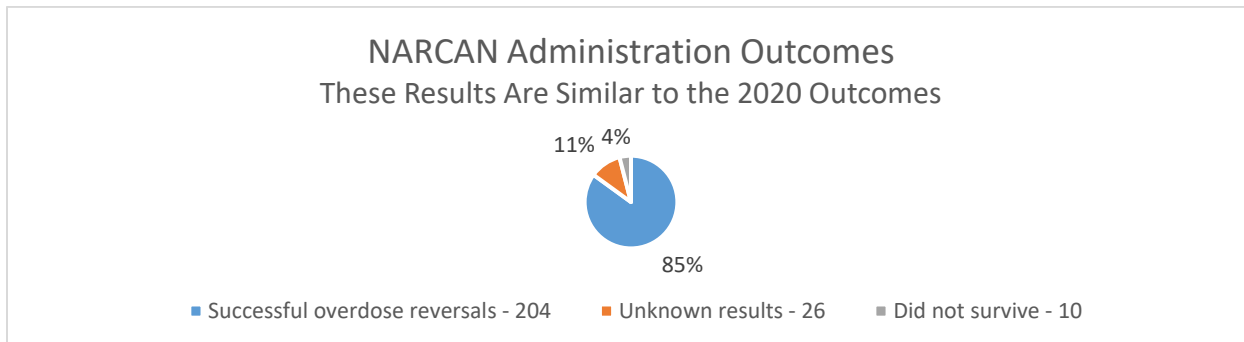
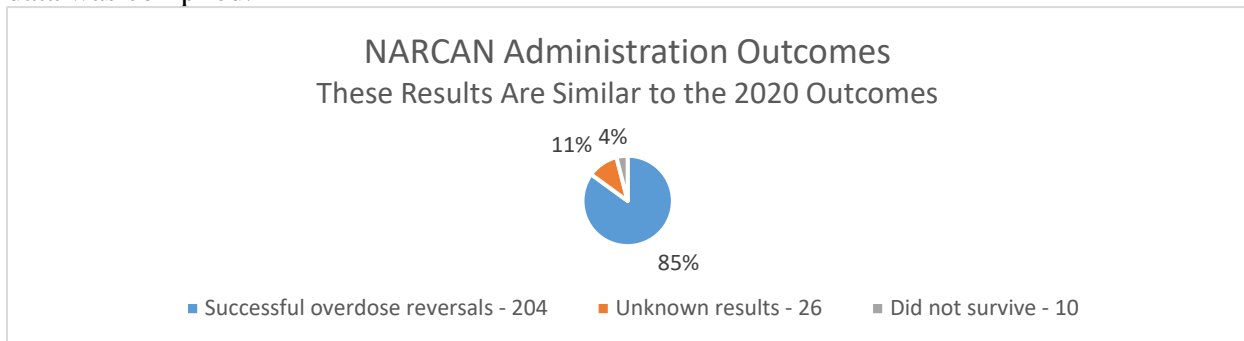
Wyvetta Granger; New Life Community Church; Community Life Line; June 2020

## Learning Center Needs Assessment Summary

Data was collected in 2021 in 15 southwestern Illinois rural counties including Bond, Calhoun, Greene, Jersey, Macoupin and Montgomery. The top 5 service priorities identified were 1) transportation 2) recovery housing 3) stigma reduction 4) prevention and 5) mental health.

## NARCAN Administration Reports Summary for 2021

In 2021, a total of 3608 boxes of Narcan were distributed in Madison and St. Clair Counties through a grant implemented by Chestnut Health Systems. That number was up from 2024 in 2020. Based on the 240 Narcan Administration Reporting Forms received in 2021, the following data was compiled.



Between 2020 and 2021, there was a 46% decrease in NARCAN administrations in the Black population, and 26% decrease in the White. NARCAN administrations in the Hispanic population increased from 1 to 7, and decreased in the Asian population from 2 to 0.

## **Key Summary Points from Needs Assessment**

A Partnership member survey identified “Other Street Drugs,” cocaine, methamphetamine and smoking as the top concerns for youth ages 18 and under. The top adult concerns were “Other Street Drugs,” vaping, smoking, marijuana and cocaine. In-patient treatment, syringe service programs, detox beds, and family support were the services identified as lacking the community. Problems with insurance and/or costs of services, child care, and transportation were identified as the primary barriers to accessing services. Additional priorities shared by people who use include housing and medication assisted recovery options. A large needs assessment conducted in neighboring rural counties identified transportation, recovery housing, stigma reduction, prevention, and mental health services as top priorities.

The Coroner’s overdose death data indicated that fentanyl and methamphetamine are leading causes of death in Madison and St. Clair Counties. Law enforcement identified methamphetamine and fentanyl as the top two local illicit drugs; cannabis is third. Youth use tends to include alcohol and cannabis. Treatment providers indicated alcohol, methamphetamine and opioids were the leading drugs of choice among adults, and cannabis was the leading drug of choice among youth.