

# OPIATE CRISIS

## QUARTERLY REPORT

QUARTER 1 (JAN-MAR), 2016  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO

### DRUG OVERDOSE EPIDEMIC

Central Ohio is experiencing a drug epidemic. This quarterly report provides a snapshot of the most up-to-date data on drug overdose treatment and infectious disease in Franklin County.



In Franklin County, there was a

**343% increase**  
**in residents who died**

from unintentional drug overdoses from 2003 to 2015.

### HARM REDUCTION PROGRAM

Columbus Public Health, in collaboration with other community partners, has launched a Harm Reduction Program, an initiative to lessen the tragic impact of addiction to heroin and other opiates. This partnership is working to save lives, help people recover and stop the spread of disease through drug abuse prevention education, counseling, testing, and giving access to syringes and naloxone. These efforts are expected to have many positive impacts such as lowering rates of blood borne diseases like HIV and Hepatitis C, keeping used syringes off the streets and connecting people in crisis with substance use services. More information at [www.columbus.gov/harm](http://www.columbus.gov/harm)

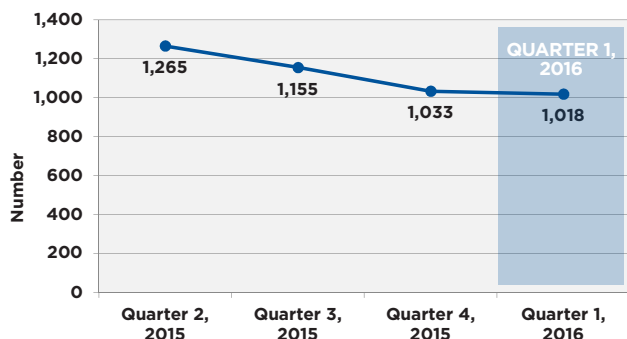


**Nearly 16 million (15,809,812) doses of opioids** were dispensed in Franklin County during Quarter 1 of 2016, which represents a 10% decrease compared to the number of opioid doses dispensed in Quarter 4 of 2015.

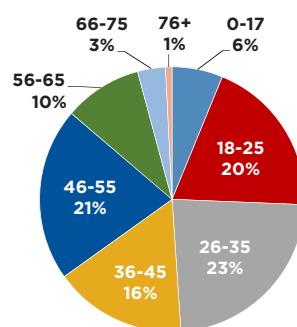
### EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) PATIENTS

This section includes data of patients seen by EMS in Franklin County for drug poisoning/drug ingestion.

#### DRUG OVERDOSE PATIENTS SEEN BY EMS BY QUARTER (N=4,471)



#### BY AGE GROUP Quarter 1, 2016 (N=1,018)



#### OVERDOSES & NALOXONE

Drug overdoses can have very serious complications when left untreated. Naloxone is a medicine that can be given to counteract an overdose.

During Quarter 1 of 2016, Columbus Fire EMS\* gave nearly **700 doses of naloxone.**

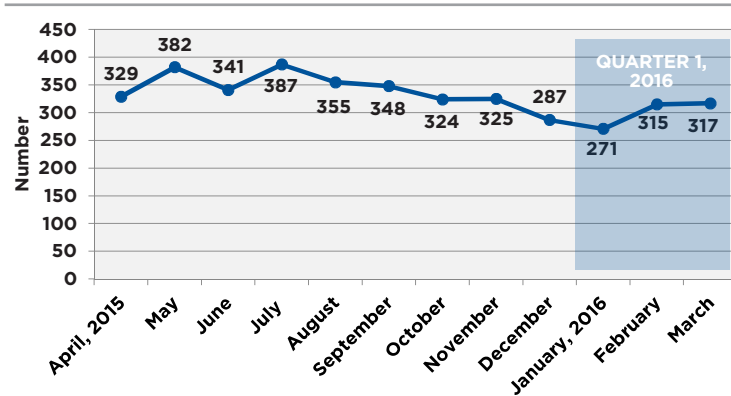
\*Columbus Fire EMS data only. Not inclusive of all EMS systems in Franklin County.

# EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT (ED) VISITS

This section includes data for patients who presented in Franklin County EDs with chief complaints that mention overdose\*\*. In Quarter 1 of 2016, 52 (5.8%) out of 903 ED visits for drug overdose were heroin related.

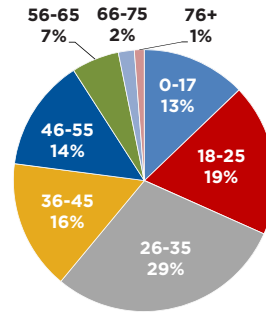
## OVERDOSES IN ED BY MONTH

(N=3,981)



## BY AGE GROUP

Quarter 1, 2016 (N=903)



\*\*Overdose: Drug-related complaints that mention overdose, detox, or withdrawal.

## HEROIN RELATED OVERDOSES

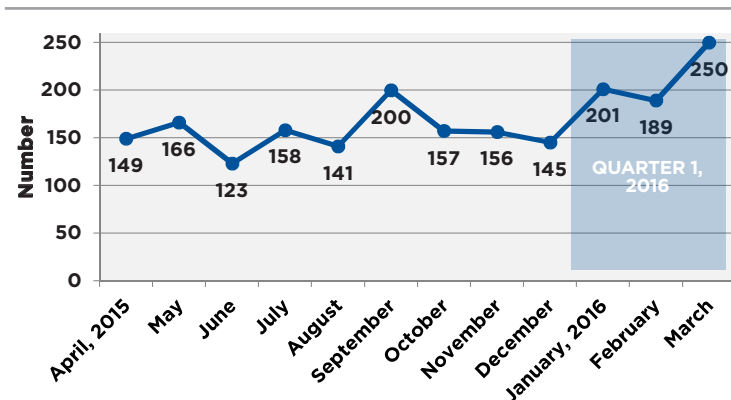
In Quarter 1 of 2016, there were **52 heroin related overdose ED visits** (out of 903 total overdose ED visits).

# SYRINGE USE & THE SPREAD OF DISEASE

People who inject drugs without a clean syringe are at risk for Hepatitis C. The number of Hepatitis C cases in Franklin County is increasing.

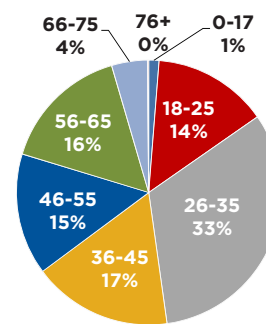
## HEPATITIS C CASES BY MONTH

(N=2,035)



## BY AGE GROUP

Quarter 1, 2016 (N=640)



†AOD: Alcohol & Other Drugs

## SYRINGE ACCESS PROGRAM

Quarter 1, 2016

**9,213** clean syringes distributed

**77** new clients served

**10%** requested AOD† consult

**18%** purchased naloxone

**ABOUT THE DATA:** All current and historical figures are preliminary and subject to change as new/updated information are received. All data are received by facility location with the exception of hepatitis data, which is received by county of residence. **Opioid dispensing data** were reported by the the State Ohio Board of Pharmacy via the Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System Quarterly Count Data Tables. **EMS data** were reported by the Ohio Department of Public Safety EMS. Data includes EMS patients with a primary or secondary impression of poisoning/drug ingestion. **Columbus Fire EMS data** were received from Columbus Division of Fire. Number of doses given does not reflect the number of patients treated, as some patients require multiple doses of naloxone. **Current and preliminary hospital emergency department data** were downloaded from Ohio's syndromic surveillance system (EpiCenter). Data includes patients who presented in emergency departments and select acute-care facilities for drug-related complaints that mention overdose, detox, and/or withdrawal. Syringe Access Program data were received from Safe Point beginning February 1, 2016. **Current and preliminary hepatitis data** (2015 and after) are downloaded from the Ohio Disease Reporting System by date of report to CDC. **Analysis is completed by** the Office of Epidemiology at Columbus Public Health. Only patients with complete data were included in analyses.