

Maine Naloxone Distribution Initiative

Project-To-Date Totals through September 30, 2024

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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 2024, with a particular emphasis on the third quarter of 2024. Additionally, subcategories of naloxone distribution from Tier 1 organizations to the Overdose Prevention Through Intensive Outreach Naloxone and Safety (OPTIONS) initiative and syringe services/access programs in 2021 as well as EMS Naloxone Leave Behind Program are provided.

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.

Currently, it is hard to measure the effectiveness of naloxone distribution because the total number of overdose reversals relies on voluntary reporting. 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.

Monthly proportions of 2024 fatalities fluctuated from a low of 4.8% in May to a high of 7.2% in March. During the first nine months of 2024, fatal overdoses constituted 5.6% of all overdoses, lower than January–September 2023 (5.9%) (Sorg et al. 2024). Additional resources, data, and visualizations are available at the Maine Drug Data Hub: <https://mainedrugdata.org/>.

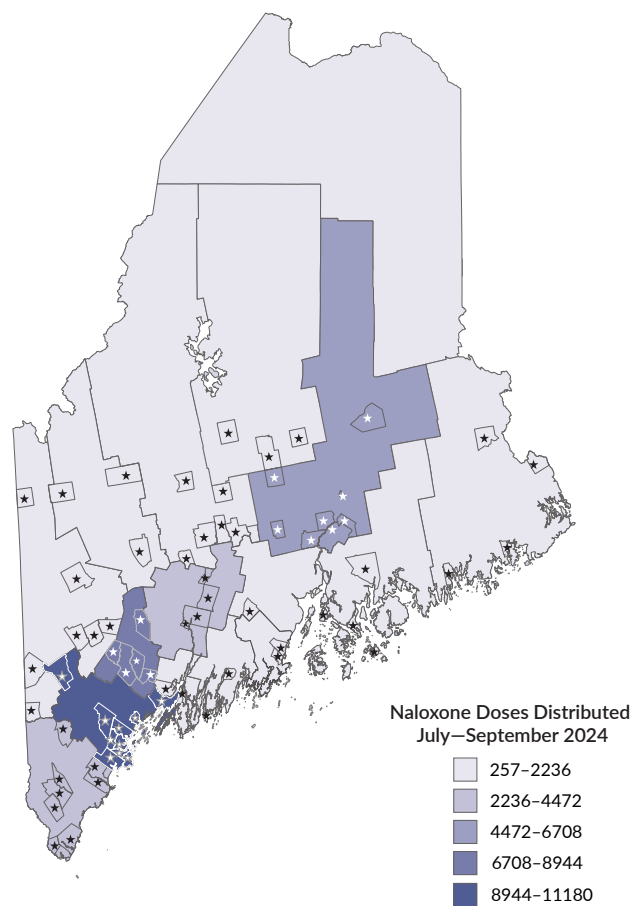


Figure 1: County-level naloxone distribution levels (with point of initial township distribution indicated by star) by the Maine Naloxone Distribution Initiative from April through June 2024

Public Health—Tier 1 Distributors

During the third quarter of 2024 (July–September):

- 38,032** doses of naloxone have been distributed
- 400** overdose reversals have been voluntarily reported.

From July 2019 through September 2024 (MNDI project-to-date totals):

- 564,256** doses of naloxone have been distributed
- 9,053** overdose reversals have been voluntarily reported.

Public Safety—Law Enforcement Agencies

During the third quarter of 2024 (July–September):

- 454** doses of naloxone have been distributed
- 36** overdose reversals have been voluntarily reported.

From July 2019 through September 2024:

- 21,128** doses of naloxone have been distributed
- 1,817** overdose reversals have been voluntarily reported.

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

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Jan– Mar 2024	Apr– Jun 2024	Jul 2024	Aug 2024	Sep 2024	Total
BPH (IN)	1768	10882	15180	30572	38290	7378	23084	524	2306	3492	133476
BPH (RI)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2208	0	1776	288	4272
PPH (IN)	3792	8640	12240	20427	38540	9162	9668	2890	4626	2984	112969
PPH (IM)	0	0	0	590	1124	256	752	100	250	76	3148
MG	2550	5172	13312	15874	39446	7804	9068	2896	3578	3090	102790
MAP (IM)	5472	23533	36562	44786	36128	4716	3746	1256	2214	652	159065
MAP (IN)	306	3089	6194	11145	15004	3288	4476	2146	1080	1808	48536
OAG	2042	3898	5598	3356	3430	1934	416	246	144	64	21128
Total	15930	55214	89086	126750	171962	34538	53418	10058	15974	12454	585384

Notes: (1) Unit is doses for all values. (2) IM = intramuscular; IN = intranasal; RI = RiVive®. 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 January and July, 2020 and March 2021 and PPH April 2021, Jan 2022 and MG March 2020, October, November, December 2021 and March, April 2022. OBH 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022. (5) Table 1 includes corrections for MAP reporting that include a decrease in IN doses and an increase in IM doses. 1957 doses of IN naloxone were removed from distribution data from 07/2019 to 07/2023 and 13926 doses of IM naloxone were added to distribution data from 07/2019 to 07/2023. (6) Beginning June of 2024, the MNDI will be purchasing and distributing lower dose (3mg) naloxone (RiVive®)

Table 1.1 Doses of naloxone distributed by Tier 1 distributors to OPTIONS liaisons (subcategory of total distribution)

	2021	2022	Jan– Mar 2023	Apr– Jun 2023	Jul– Sep 2023	Sep– Dec 2023	Jan– Mar 2024	Apr– Jun 2024	Jul 2024	Aug 2024	Sep 2024	Total
BPH	1100	1632	584	1240	1200	1256	320	2486	0	840	440	11098
PPH	570	912	756	440	600	872	472	576	148	360	296	6002
MG	1940	3376	808	840	1512	816	1176	840	528	472	720	13028
Total	3610	5920	2148	2520	3312	2944	1968	3902	676	1672	1456	30128

Notes: (1) Unit is doses for all values.

Table 1.2 Doses of naloxone distributed by Tier 1 distributors through syringe services/access programs (subcategory of total distribution)

	2021	2022	Jan– Mar 2023	Apr– Jun 2023	Jul– Sep 2023	Oct– Dec 2023	Jan– Mar 2024	Apr– Jun 2024	Jul 2024	Aug 2024	Sep 2024	Total
BPH	5450	5306	1856	3918	2160	1344	1896	3372	0	696	1224	27222
PPH	4968	9447	3026	3224	2814	2032	1686	2512	1108	1194	842	32853
MG	4012	1524	408	718	848	610	760	1264	224	216	90	10674
MAP	19356	32620	10926	10194	13858	10940	7424	7904	3178	3294	2460	122154
Total	33786	48897	16216	18054	19680	14926	11766	15052	4510	5400	4616	192903

Notes: (1) Unit is doses for all values. (2) A revision has been made to BPH March, June, September of 2021 January, April and May of 2022 as well as PPH April 2021 and February of 2023. (3) Missing data for January 2021 for PPH.

Table 1.3 Doses of naloxone distributed by Tier 1 distributors to EMS Naloxone Leave Behind Program (subcategory of total distribution)

	2022	Jan–Mar 2023	Apr–Jun 2023	Jul–Sep 2023	Oct–Dec 2023	Jan–Mar 2024	Apr–Jun 2024	Jul 2024	Aug 2024	Sep 2024	Total
BPH	480	178	16	514	440	512	36	110	24	28	2338
PPH	346	20	46	258	558	112	156	8	96	12	1612
MG	464	160	0	568	830	324	416	186	76	128	3152
Total	1290	358	62	1340	1828	948	608	304	196	168	7102

Notes: (1) Unit is doses for all values. (2) The EMS Leave Behind Program was launched in January of 2022. T1s are to provide EMS agencies across the state with kits of naloxone to provide to anyone who has refused EMS transport.

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 through the a reporting tool called ODMAP

	2019	2020	2021	2022	Jan– Mar 2023	Apr– Jun 2023	Jul– Sep 2023	Oct– Dec 2023	Jan– Mar 2024	Apr– Jun 2024	Jul 2024	Aug 2024	Sep 2024	Total
BPH	17	289	834	602	174	198	130	138	164	162	75	54	31	2868
PPH	28	304	299	429	70	82	75	57	82	178	40	41	19	1704
MG	1	87	224	278	47	58	78	63	82	80	12	7	13	1030
MAP	29	521	715	936	314	243	178	127	64	132	37	18	49	3363
OAG	51	401	595	388	87	78	54	49	41	37	14	15	7	1817
OD-ME app	0	31	14	9	9	6	5	3	2	5	2	0	2	88
Total	126	1633	2681	2642	701	665	520	437	435	594	180	135	121	10870

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. (5) Law enforcement agencies that receive naloxone from the OAG and report reversals through ODMAP are now being included. ODMAP reversal data has been added from July 2019 to present. (6) A revision has been made to MAP 2022 and PPH February 2023 reversal reports as well as OAG Q1 2023.

Works Cited

Marcella H. Sorg, and Daniel S. Soucier. 2024. *Maine Monthly Overdose Report*. University of Maine. Orono: Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center.