

***Passaic County Prosecutor's Office
Intelligence/Homeland Security Unit***



***Passaic County Overdose Environment
January 1, 2017 - December 31, 2017***



PASSAIC COUNTY OVERDOSE ANALYSIS

JANUARY 1, 2017 -DECEMBER 31, 2017



BACKGROUND

The Passaic County Prosecutor's Office continues to conduct analysis of autopsy reports retrieved from unattended deaths which occur in Passaic County that were investigated from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017 (****cut off date 02/06/2018*). The content in this report is based on the information retrieved from the State of New Jersey Office of the State Medical Examiner, which reports the cause(s) of these deaths being in the form of substance abuse overdoses.

It should be noted that reporting documentation regarding unattended deaths tends to be delayed from the State of New Jersey Office of the State Medical Examiner, due to the voluminous amount of cases it receives. Therefore the data may fluctuate as there are continuous fluid updates in fatal overdose reporting.

Reports for November and December 2017 are not included in this reporting due to the delay in the receiving the final reports.

Additional scope and analysis includes the Nasal Narcan Deployments administered by municipalities and Police Departments within Passaic County.

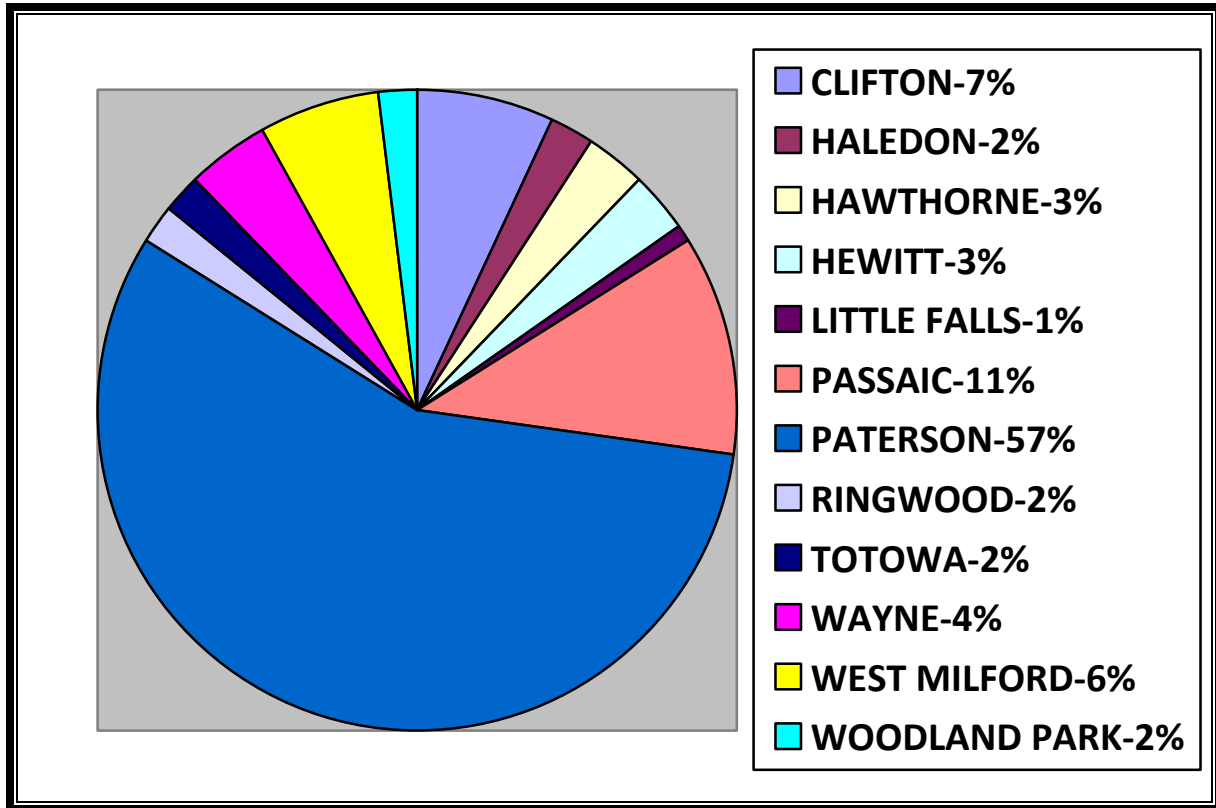


PASSAIC COUNTY OVERDOSE ANALYSIS

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Key Findings



Total Cases Reported= 99

OVERVIEW

During the time period listed, there were ninety-nine (99) Fatal Overdoses reported in Passaic County, New Jersey. The City of Paterson had the greatest amount of fatal drug overdoses with fifty-six (56) or 57% of the cases reported. The City of Passaic had the second highest amount with eleven (11) or 11% in their municipality. The City of Clifton had seven (7) or 7%. West Milford had six (6) or 6%. Wayne had four (4) or 4%. Hawthorne Borough had three (3) or 3%. Ringwood, Totowa, Haledon and Woodland Park each had (2) or 2% of the cases reported. Little Falls had one (1) or 1% of the fatal overdoses reported

There were seven individuals who reside outside of Passaic County that overdosed within our jurisdiction(s) during this reporting period. Two were from Hudson County, two from Morris County, two from Bergen County and one individual was from Ocean County.

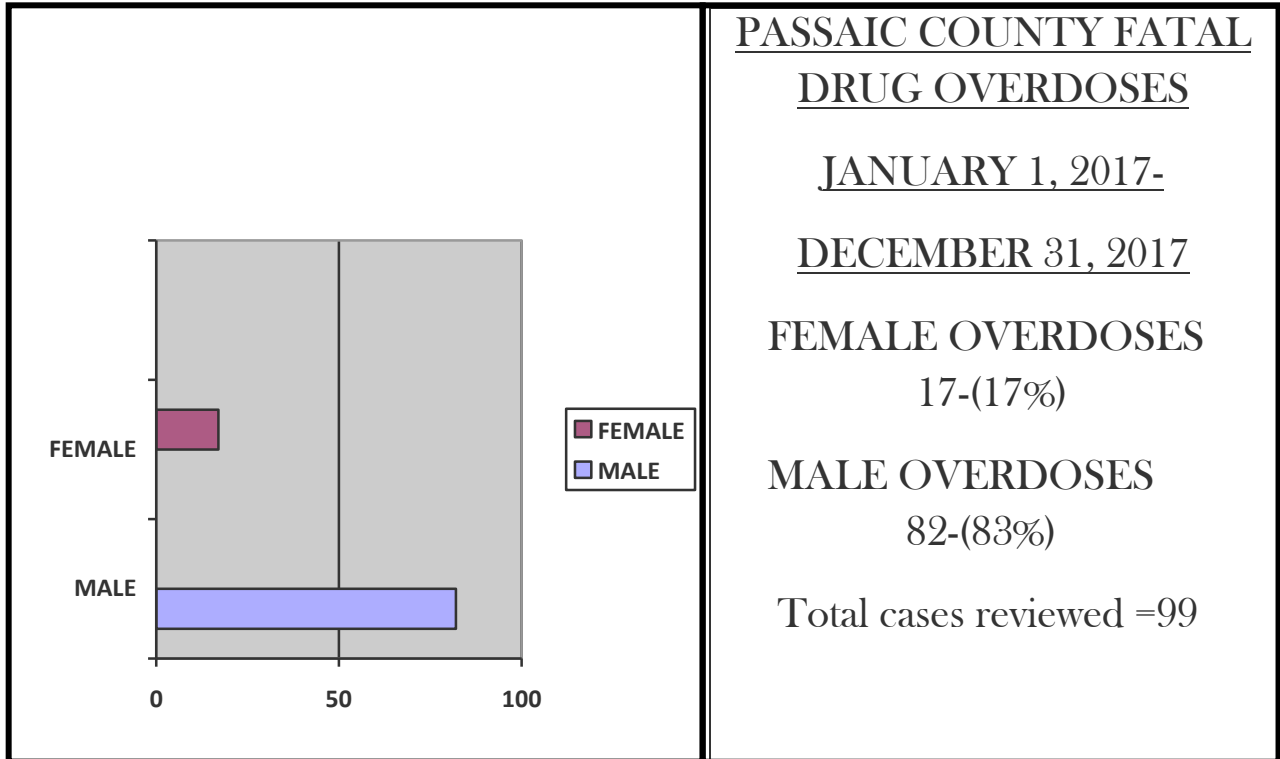


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Fatal Overdoses by Gender



PASSAIC COUNTY FATAL
DRUG OVERDOSES

JANUARY 1, 2017-

DECEMBER 31, 2017

FEMALE OVERDOSES

17-(17%)

MALE OVERDOSES

82-(83%)

Total cases reviewed =99

OVERVIEW

Between January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017 males overdosed at a greater rate at 83% with a total number of 82 cases. Females at a lower rate at 17% with a total of 17 cases.

The percentage of females overdosing has remained consistent within the same percentages over this time period, as compared to last year.

Males tend to overdose at a higher rate, usually caused by Heroin and Fentanyl drug abuse.

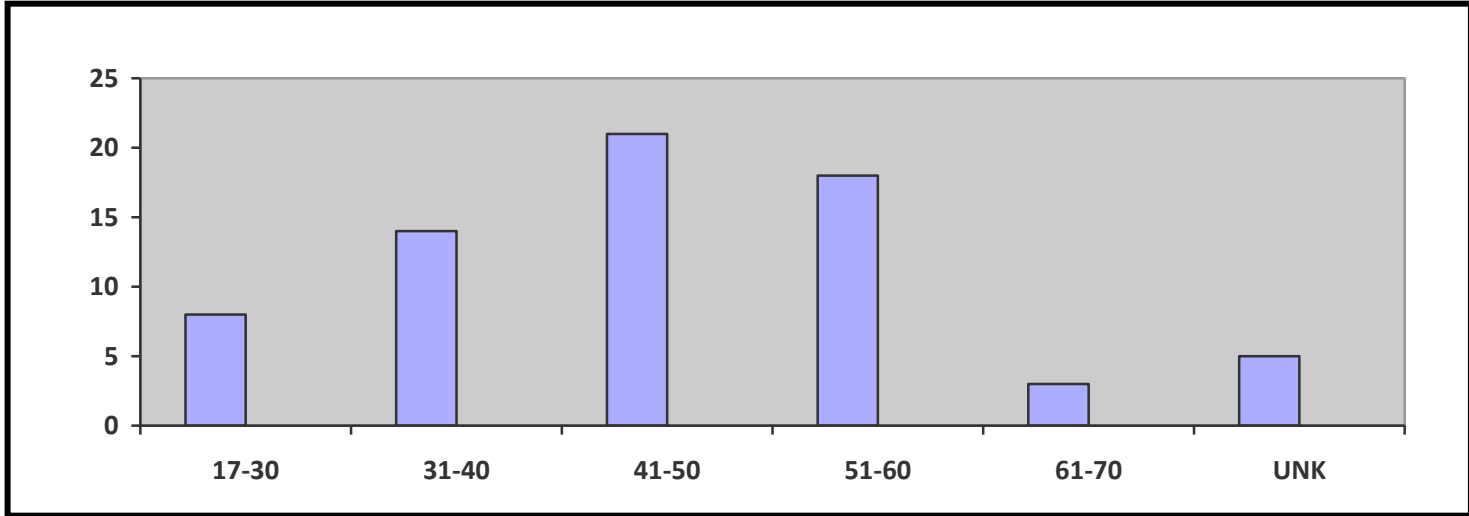


PASSAIC COUNTY OVERDOSE ANALYSIS



JANUARY 1, 2017 -DECEMBER 31, 2017

Fatal Overdoses by Age



Total Cases Reviewed=99

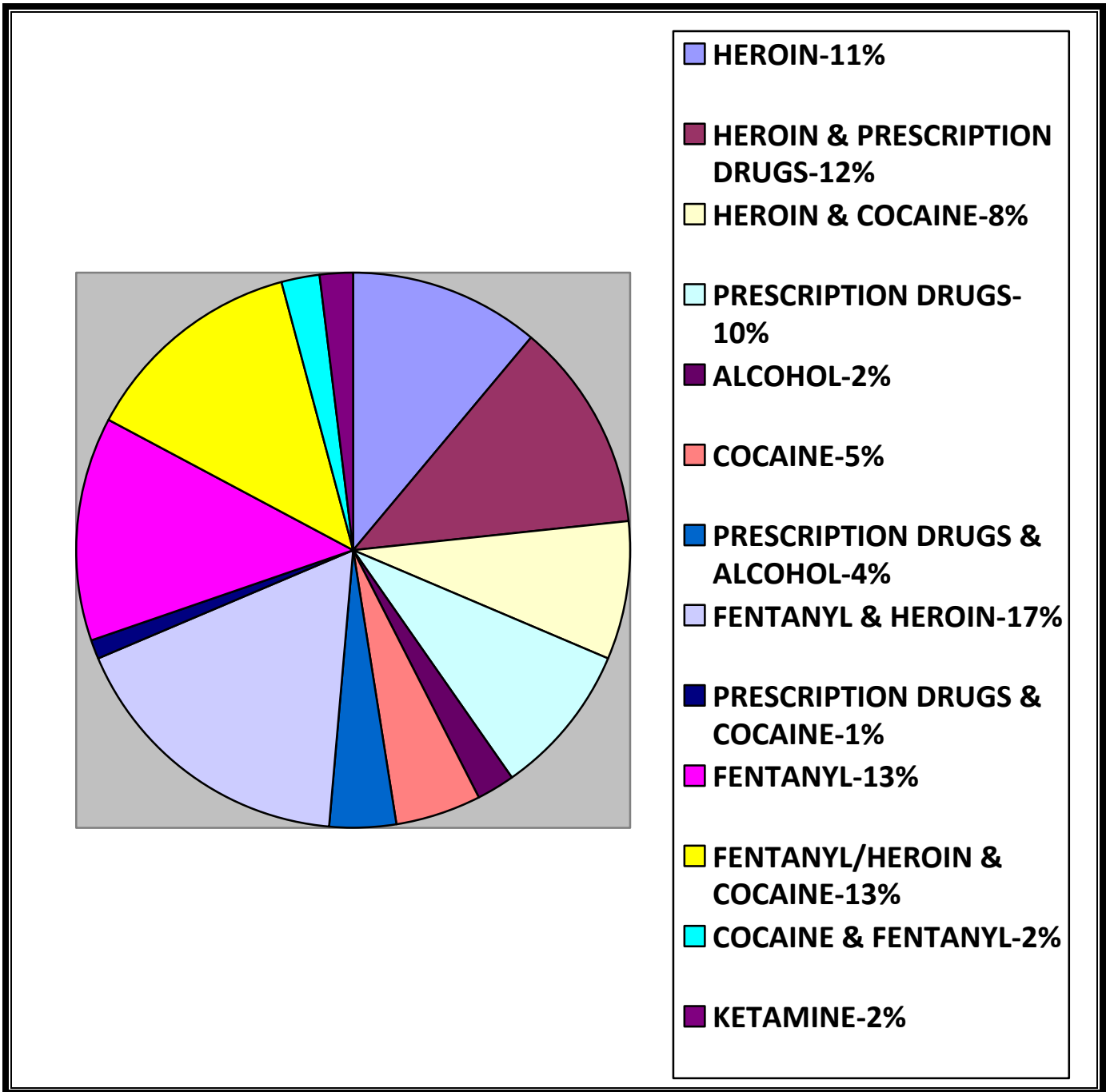
17-30 Year Old-13 Cases (13%)
31-40 Year Old-25 Cases (25%)
41-50 Year Old-29 Cases (30%)
51-60 Year Old-21 Cases (21%)
61-70 Year Old-5 Cases (5%)
UNKNOWN AGE-6 Cases (6%)

OVERVIEW

The greatest number of Fatal Overdoses reported was in the age group of 41-50 having twenty-nine (29) cases or 30% of the total fatal overdoses reported. 31-40 year olds had the second highest reporting with twenty-five (25) cases or 25%. 51-60 year olds had the third highest percentage at 21% with twenty-one (21) of the cases listed. 17-30 year olds had 13% with thirteen (13) cases reported. 61-70 year olds had the least amount of cases reported with five (5) or 5%. It should be noted that the first age group category (17-30), was lowered in this report year for the first time to include 17 year olds, indicating that an overdose fatality has now victimized a juvenile within Passaic County. There were six (6) cases or 6% where the age of the overdose victim(s) was not able to be determined.

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Total Cases Reviewed=99



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OVERVIEW

The utilization of the combination of Fentanyl and Heroin was responsible for 17% of all fatal overdose cases reported. This combination has emerged during this reporting year as compared to earlier years reporting, replacing the sole use of Heroin which has dominated the cause of fatal overdoses in Passaic County for the past three years.

Fentanyl as well as Fentanyl combined with other factors, make up a total of 45% of all Fatal Overdoses for this reporting period. We will continue to monitor any Fentanyl related overdose deaths to ensure the public's safety and raise awareness as this trend continues to emerge.

Prescription drugs along with other factors combined still plague overdose victims responsible for 27% of the cases reported as well.

As in the past several years, other factors have also been present (i.e.: alcohol intoxication) as the contributing causes in accidental/overdose deaths reported. These factors were also responsible for 2% of the fatal overdoses reported.

Cocaine has been very prevalent as well during this reporting period, with five (5) or 5% of the cases reviewed. Heroin, Cocaine and Fentanyl combined has attributed to thirteen (13) or 13% of the fatal overdoses. Cocaine along with Fentanyl was also reported in two (2) cases or 2%. This was the first reporting period where these combinations were documented as a causing factor for overdose fatalities.

Ketamine, categorized as a “dissociative anesthetic,” which is used in powdered or liquid form as an anesthetic, usually on animals. It can be injected, consumed by humans in drinks, can be snorted, or added to joints or cigarettes. This drug has been reported for the first time in this reporting period at least two times (2%) as a cause of fatal overdoses in Passaic County.



PASSAIC COUNTY OVERDOSE ANALYSIS



JANUARY 1, 2017 -DECEMBER 31, 2017

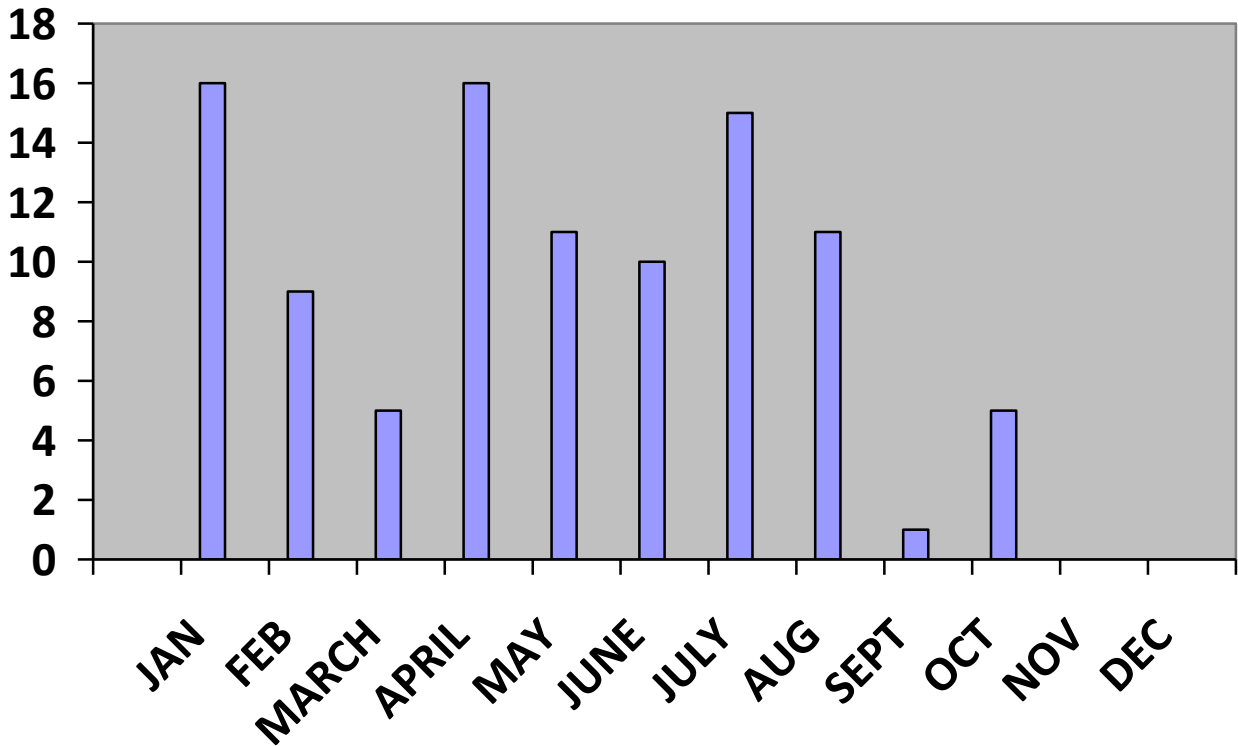
FATAL OVERDOSES BY MONTH

The tables and charts below illustrate the comparisons of fatal overdoses reported monthly in Passaic County

January 1, 2017-December 31, 2017

(99 cases reported)

Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
16	9	5	16	11	10	15	11	1	5		





PASSAIC COUNTY OVERDOSE ANALYSIS

JANUARY 1, 2017 -DECEMBER 31, 2017



OVERVIEW

It should be noted that when statistics were compared to first, second and third quarter 2016 as compared to first, second and third quarter 2017 (January 1, 2016- October 31, 2016 vs. January 1, 2017- October 31, 2017) it revealed Passaic County to be trending at a higher rate of 74% in 2017 in regard to fatal overdoses.

Comparative analysis on fatal overdoses has only been conducted up to first, second and third quarter at this time due to the delay in final conclusive reporting by the New Jersey Office of the State Medical Examiner. We do expect these statistics to fluctuate as final reports are received.

NASAL NAXOLONE-NARCAN STATISTICS

Nasal Naxolone-Narcan was implemented in Passaic County in August 2014 in an effort by the State of New Jersey to thwart fatal overdoses. The deployment of Narcan has dramatically increased over the past year as predicted.

There were several individuals from Bergen, Morris, Ocean County that were administered Narcan within different jurisdictions in Passaic County.

Other individuals residing out of state, from New York, Pennsylvania and South Carolina were also administered Narcan within the confines of Passaic County.

The table and chart on the next page below illustrates the 2017 Narcan Deployments by month in Passaic County.



PASSAIC COUNTY OVERDOSE ANALYSIS



JANUARY 1, 2017 -DECEMBER 31, 2017

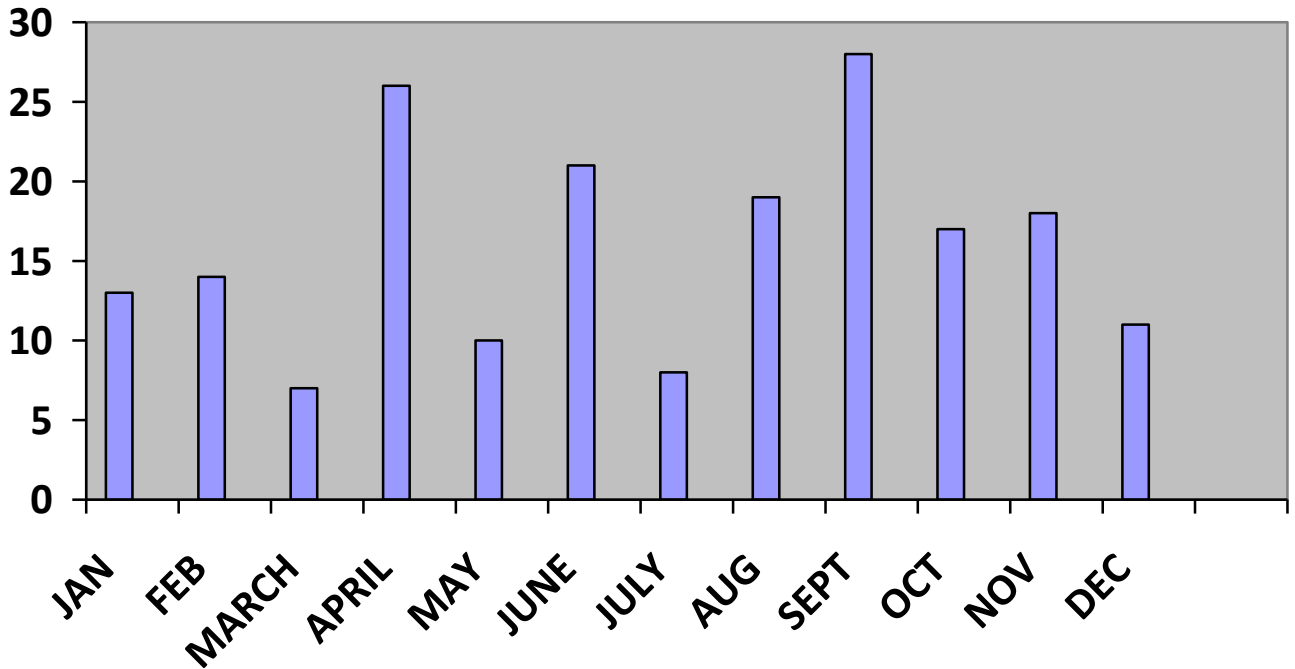
JANUARY 1, 2017-DECEMBER 31, 2017 (192 DEPLOYMENTS REPORTED)

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

JANUARY 1, 2016-DECEMBER 31, 2016 VS. JANUARY 1, 2017-DECEMBER 31, 2017

111 DEPLOYMENTS 2016 VS. 192 DEPLOYMENTS 2017 **73% INCREASE

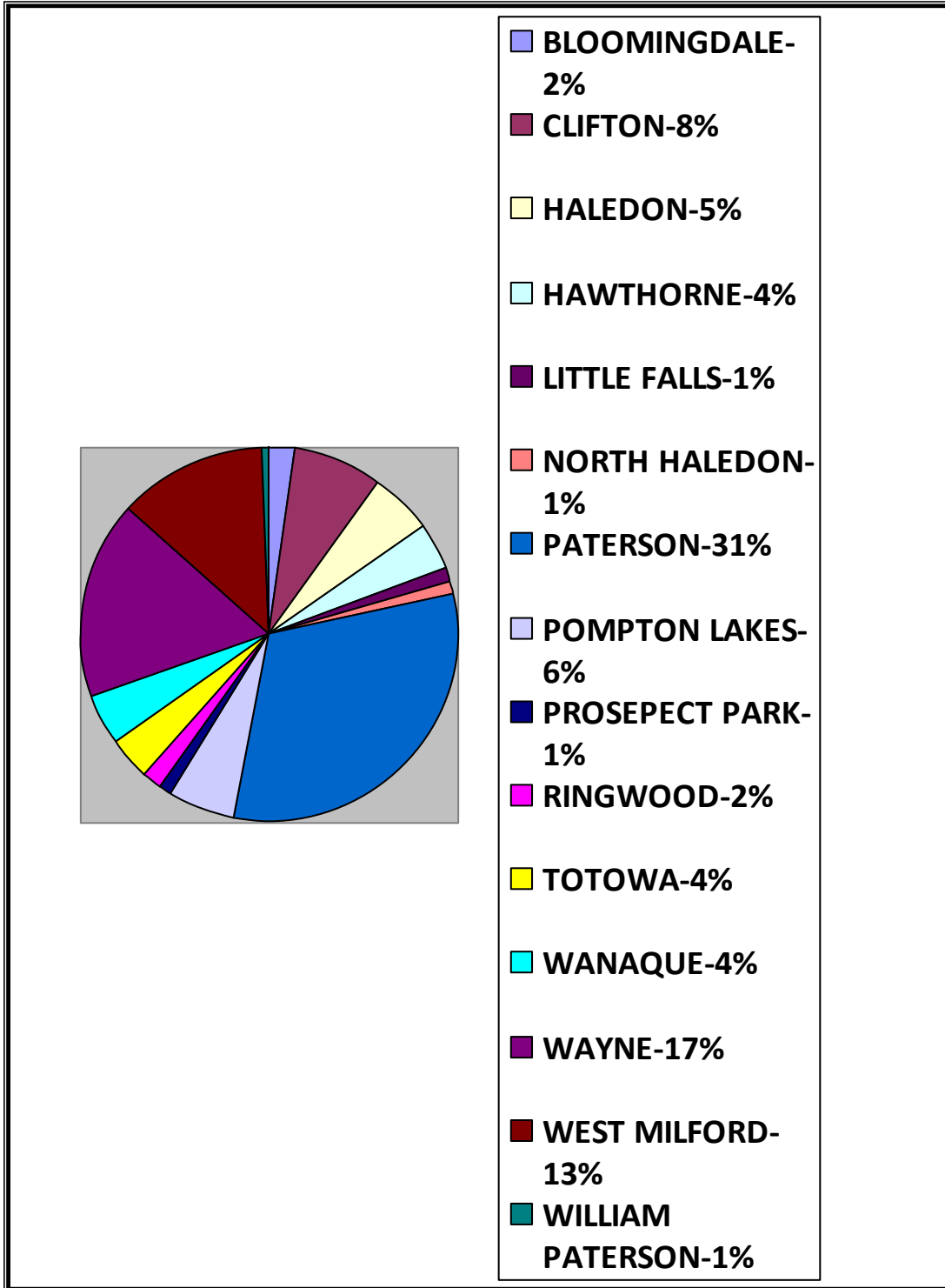
JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
13	14	7	26	10	21	8	19	28	17	18	11





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OVERVIEW

During the time period of January 1, 2017-December 31, 2017 there were one -hundred ninety two (192) Nasal Naxolone -Narcan Deployments in Passaic County. Twelve (12) or 6% of these deployments resulted in a fatal overdose, where the individual who was administered Narcan was not able to be revived.

There were a total of one-hundred eleven (111) Narcan Deployments for the entire year 2016 (January 1, 2016-December 31, 2016) demonstrating that Passaic County has greatly surpassed the one-hundred eleven (111) 2016 total deployments in 2017. Passaic County experienced a 73% increase in Narcan Deployments compared to the same time period in 2016.

The chart above illustrates these deployments administrated by Passaic County Police Departments.

Paterson Police Department administered the greatest amount of Narcan with fifty-nine (59) or 31% of the deployments (please note that two of the deployments in the City of Paterson was administered by the Passaic County Sheriff's Department). Wayne Police Department had the second highest with thirty-five (35) or 17% followed by West Milford Police Department with twenty-five (25) or 13% of the deployments.

Clifton had fifteen (15) or 8% of the deployments listed.

Pompton Lakes Police Department had eleven (11) or 6% of the deployments listed.

Haledon Borough had ten (10) or 5% of the deployments listed.

Hawthorne Borough and Wanaque Police Departments each had eight (8) or 4% of the deployments listed.

Totowa had seven (7) or 4% of the deployments.

Bloomington had four (4) or 2%, Ringwood had three (3) or 2% of the deployments.

North Haledon and Prospect Park Police Departments each had two (2) or 1% of the deployments.

William Paterson University Police Department had one (1) or 1% of the total deployments.



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IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

With the dramatic increase in the presence of Fentanyl, it is imperative that Heroin Task Force Initiatives as well as outreach and awareness to Passaic County communities be maintained as an effort in reducing these increased overdose trends.

Heroin, Cocaine and Prescription drug abuse remains to be problematic in this county and throughout New Jersey. Substance abuse, fatal and non-fatal overdoses continues to be a priority to be addressed in Passaic County. Although Passaic County is experiencing a dramatic increase in fatal and non-fatal overdoses, municipalities are remaining vigilant regarding Narcan deployments aiding in thwarting additional overdose fatalities. This is evident with the increasing spike in Narcan Deployments.

Analysis should be continued to monitor these statistics which will heighten awareness in the cases of increased overdose activity as well as any new drug trends emerging to cause additional overdoses.

For additional information regarding this Intelligence Product please contact:

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