

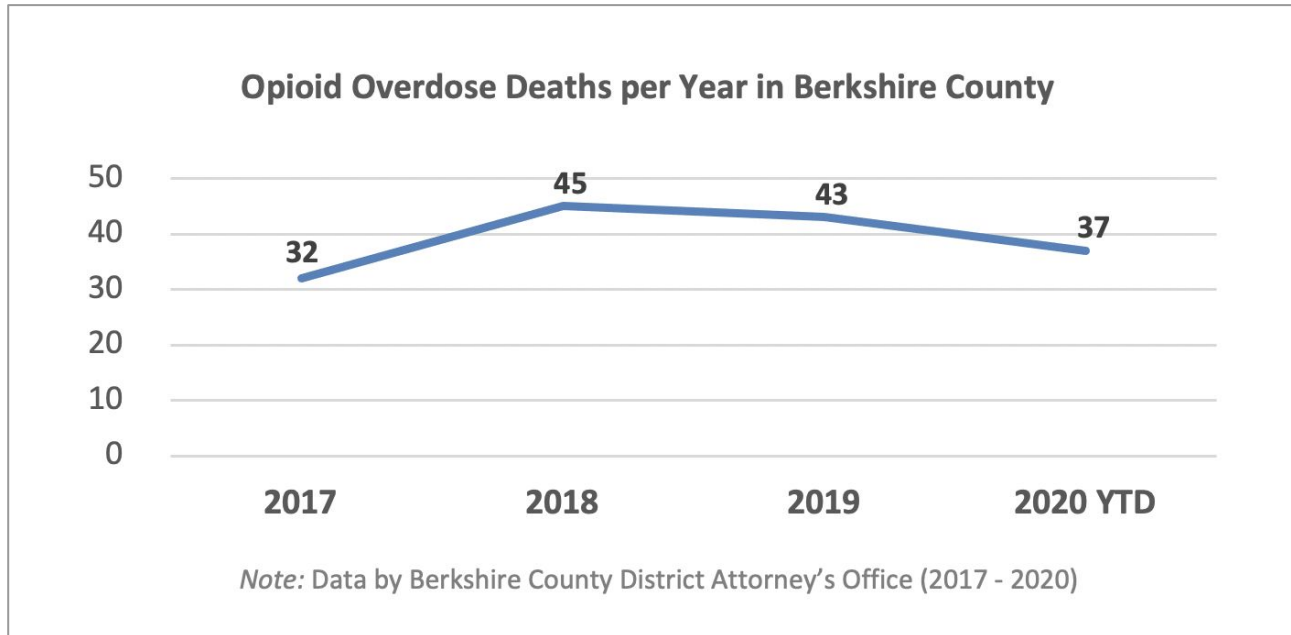
Berkshire County

Opioid Overdose Death Data 2017– 2020

*Berkshire Opioid Addiction Prevention Collaborative
Post-Overdose Engagement Program*

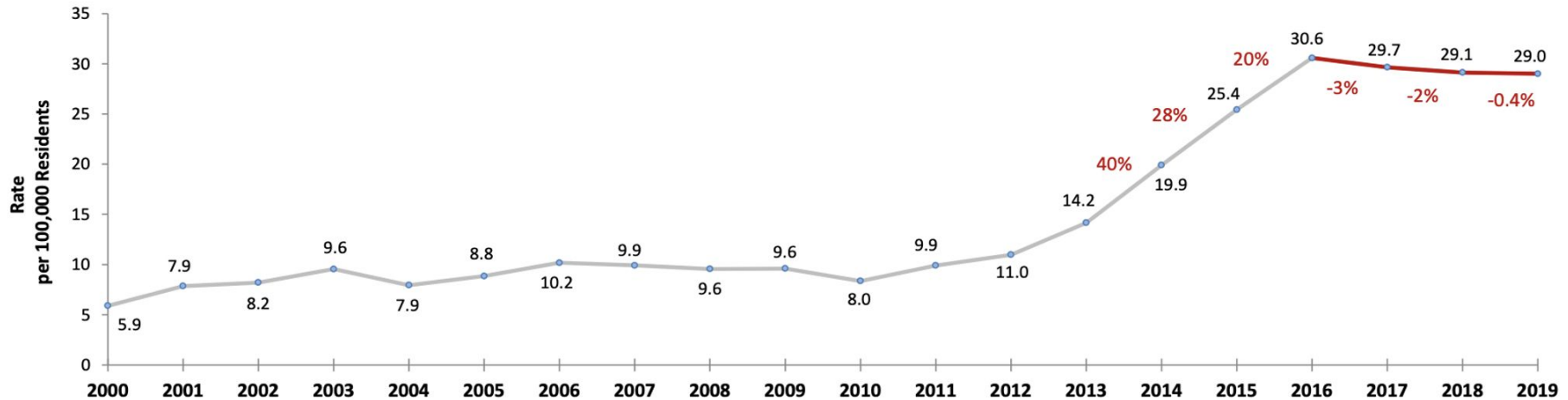
Presented by Michaela O'Connor
March 10, 2021

Berkshire County opioid OD deaths have ranged between 32-45 over the past 5 years.



In MA, opioid OD deaths have tripled in the last decade.

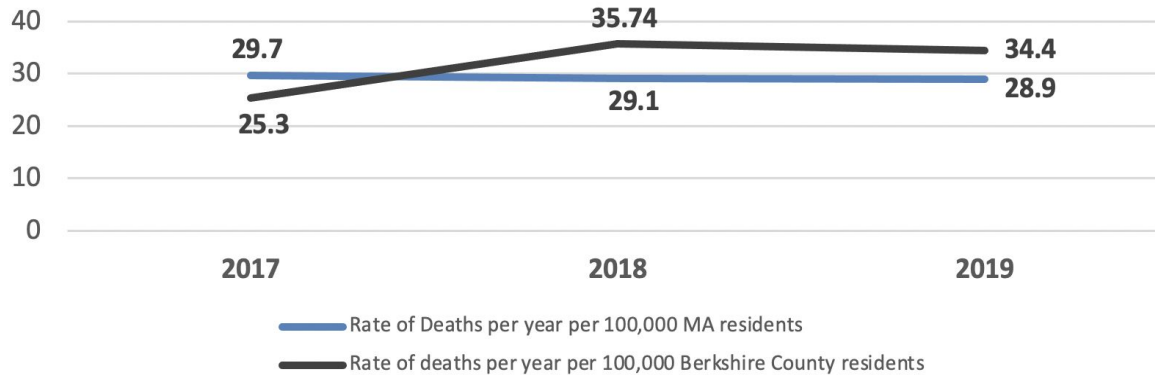
**Figure 3. Rate of Confirmed and Estimated Opioid-Related Overdose Deaths, All Intent
Massachusetts Residents: 2000 - 2019**



Note: Data by MA DPH

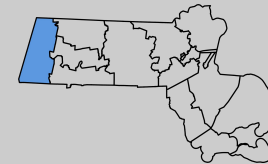
Since 2018, Berkshire County opioid OD death rates per capita have exceeded overall MA per capita averages.

Rate of Opioid-Related Overdose Deaths per 100,000 from 2017-2019 in MA and Berkshire County



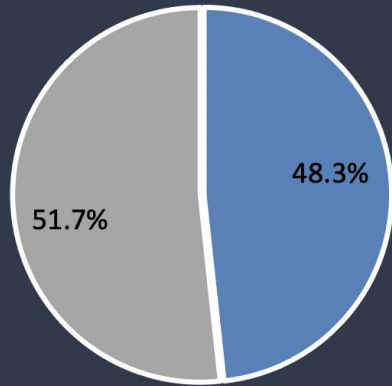
Note: Data by Berkshire County District Attorney's Office, United States Census Bureau, and MA DPH

- Berkshire County follows one yr behind MA state trends
- Stabilization of opioid OD death rates in recent yrs
- Problems with data
 - Not up to date
 - Population data inaccurate



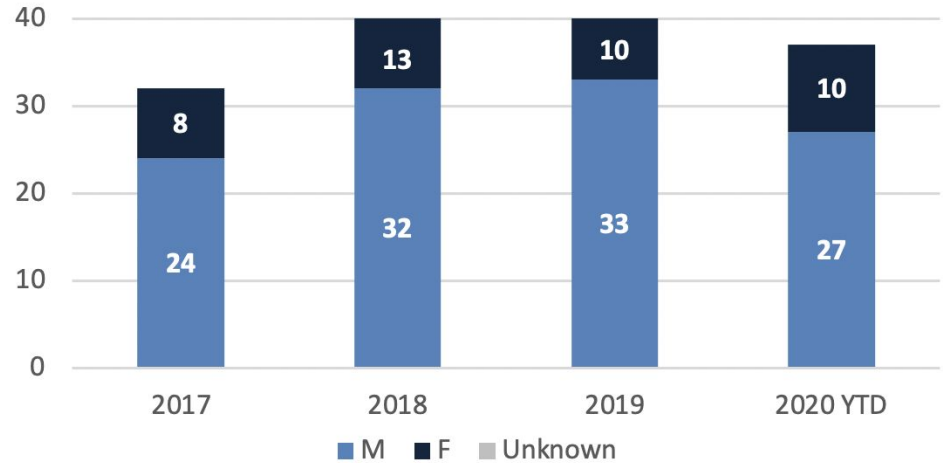
In Berkshire County, men comprise ~75% of OD deaths despite being only 50% of population.

Gender Composition of Berkshire County



□ M □ F

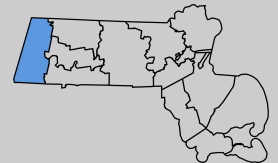
Opioid Overdose Deaths by Gender in Berkshire County*



Note: Data by Berkshire County District Attorney's Office (2017 - 2020)

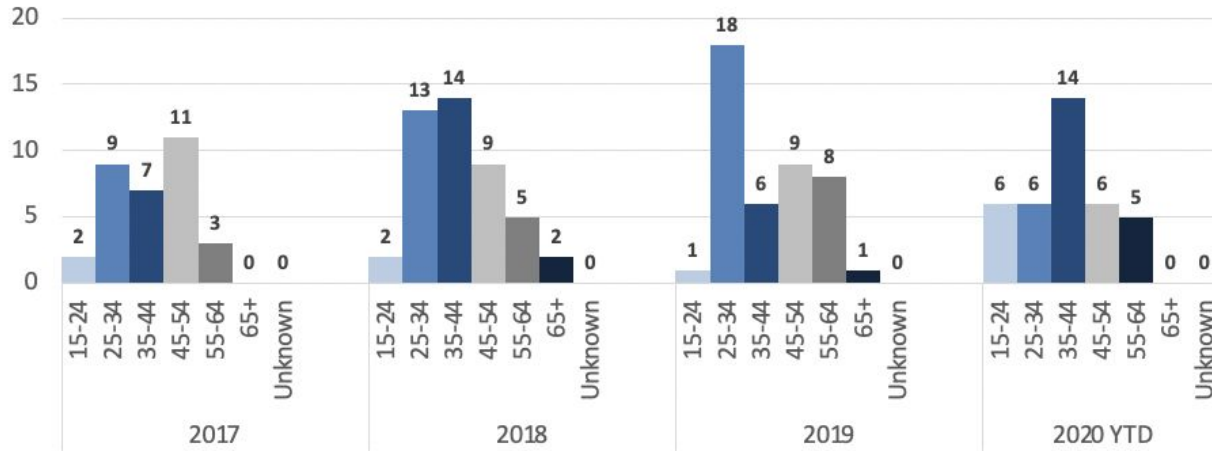
*likely assigning gender at death

- Which factors make men more likely to die of an opioid overdose?



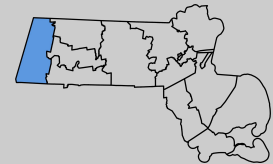
By Age: Berkshire County Opioid OD Deaths

Opioid Overdose Deaths per Year by Age Cohort in Berkshire County

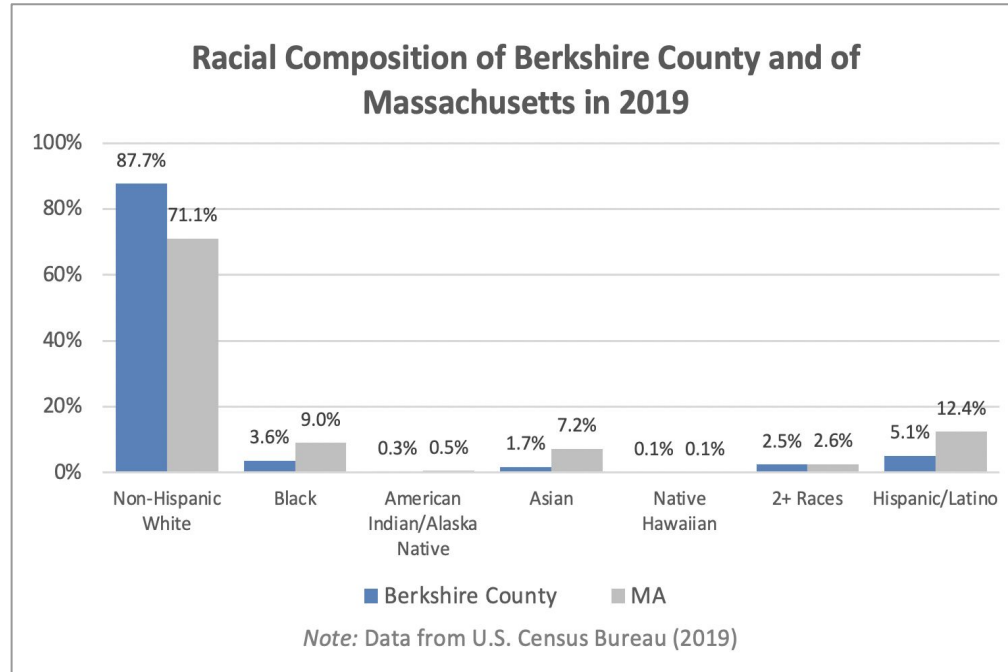


Note: Data by Berkshire County District Attorney's Office (2017 - 2020)

- Increase in OD deaths among 25-34 age cohort in recent years
- In 2020, spike in OD deaths among 15-24 age cohort
- Elderly populations less affected



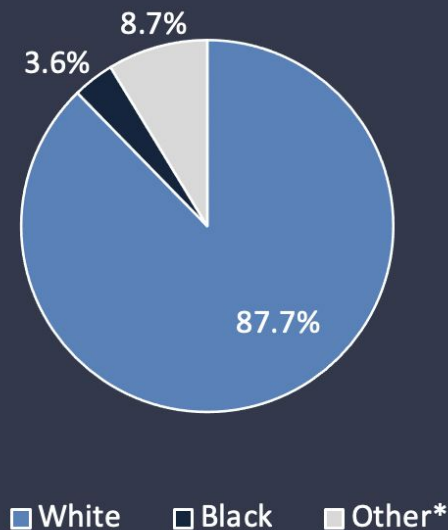
By Race: Berkshire County



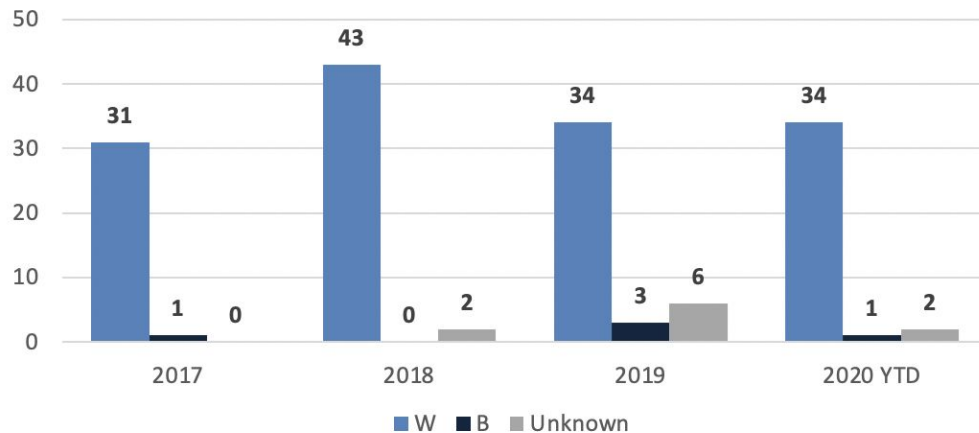
The overwhelming majority of people – nearly 90% – in Berkshire County are white.

By Race: Berkshire County OD Deaths

Racial Composition of Berkshire County

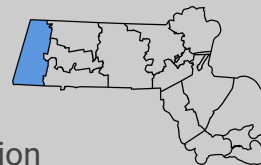


Opioid Overdose Deaths by Race in Berkshire County

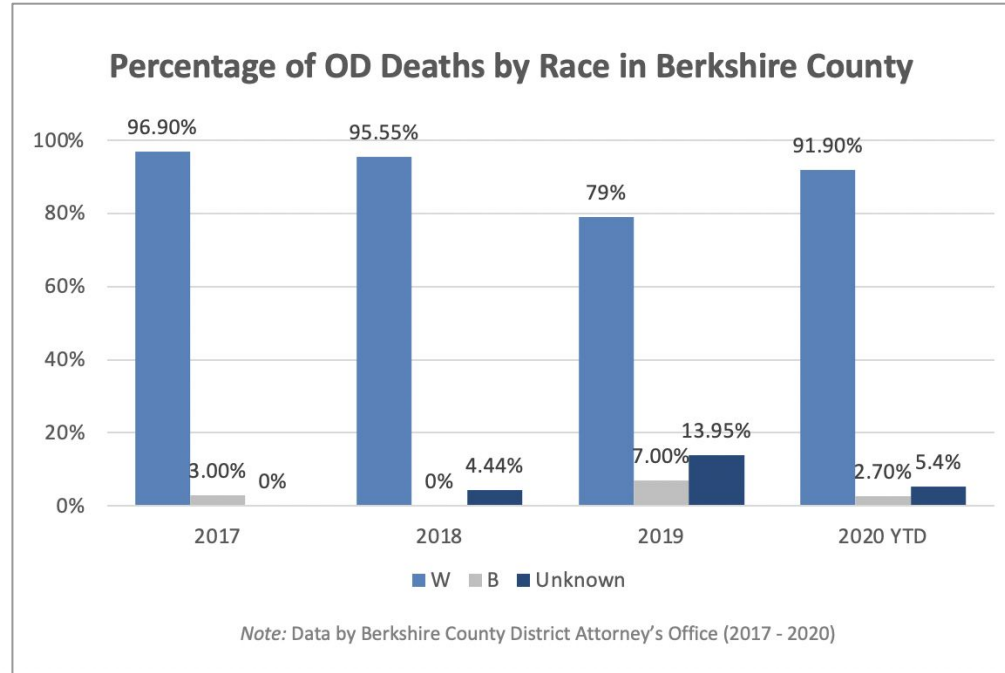


Note: Data by Berkshire County District Attorney's Office (2017 - 2020)

- Whites comprise majority of OD deaths
- Limitations of data
 - Several deaths of unknown race
 - Does not separate hispanic population



By Race: Berkshire County Opioid OD Deaths (Cont.)



Problem with data: significant # of people of unknown race

Racial Disparity in Berkshire County Opioid OD Deaths in 2019

% of Total Population
of Berkshire County

3.6%

Black



% of Black OD Deaths in Berkshire County by Year

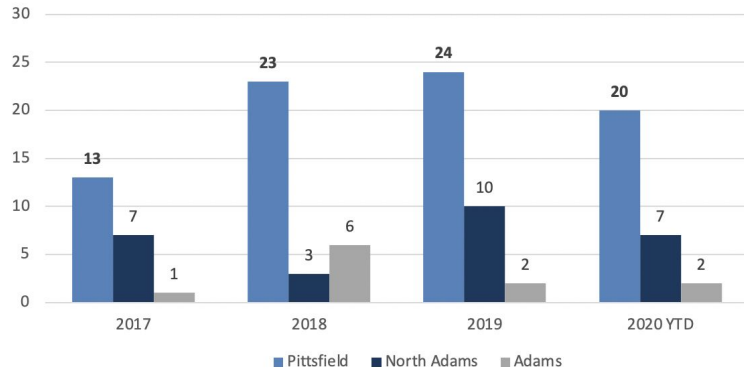
2017	2018	2019	2020
3%	0%	7%	2.7%

Double the expected
rate for Berkshire County

Overrepresentation of black population in OD deaths in overwhelmingly white Berkshire County in 2019

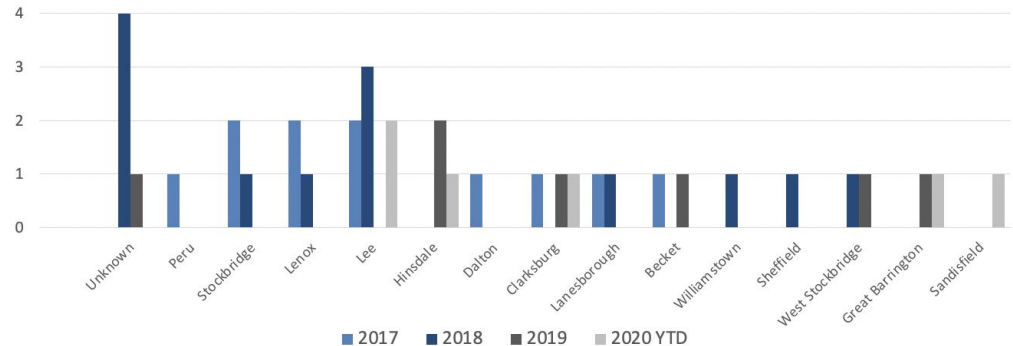
Pittsfield & North Adams have the greatest # of opioid OD deaths in Berkshire County.

Opioid Overdose Deaths in Adams, North Adams, & Pittsfield per Year



Note: Data by Berkshire County District Attorney's Office (2017 - 2020)

Opioid Overdose Deaths in Berkshire County per Year (excluding Adams, North Adams, & Pittsfield)

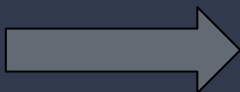


Note: Data by Berkshire County District Attorney's Office (2017 - 2020)

Gauging Trends in OD Deaths by Municipality

% of Berkshire County Population

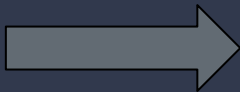
34%
Pittsfield



% of OD Deaths in Berkshire County per Town by Year

2017	2018	2019	2020
41%	56%	57%	54%

10.2%
North Adams



2017	2018	2019	2020
22%	7%	23%	19%

6.4%
Adams



2017	2018	2019	2020
3%	13%	9%	5.4%

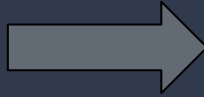
Gauging Trends in OD Deaths by Municipality (Cont.)

% of Berkshire County Population

49.4%

Other Municipalities

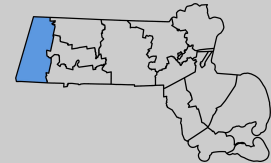
excluding Adams, North Adams,
and Pittsfield



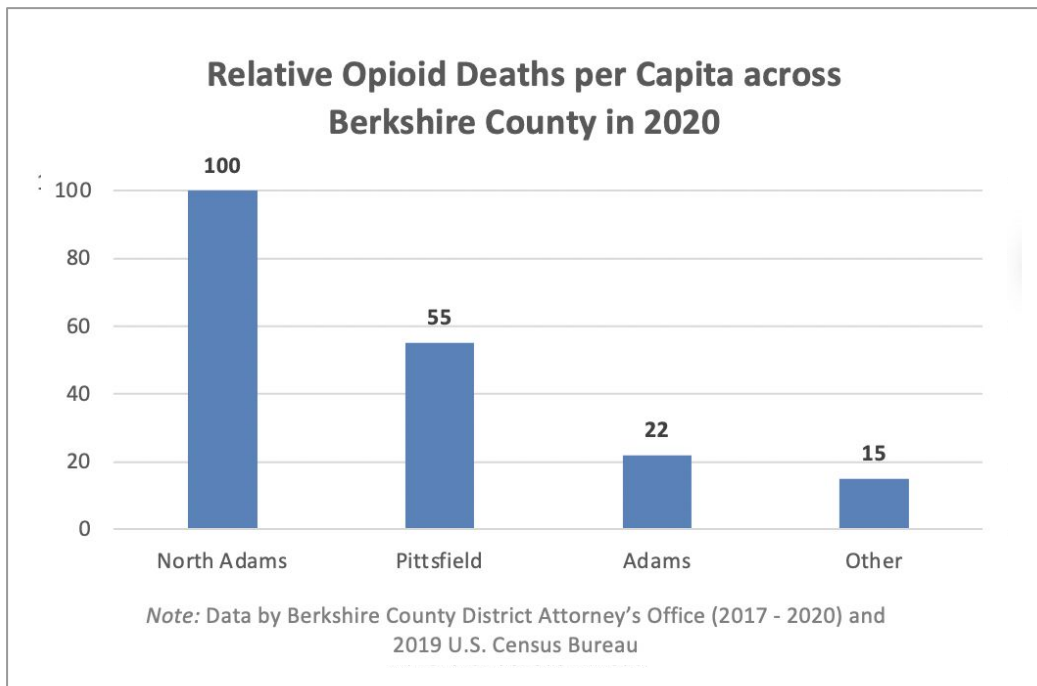
% of OD Deaths in Berkshire County per Town by Year

2017	2018	2019	2020
34%	23%	24%	21.6%

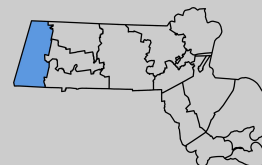
- Greatest # of OD deaths in Adams, North Adams, and Pittsfield
- Greater % of OD deaths in these municipalities than would be expected, even despite their larger populations



By Municipality: Relative Opioid Deaths

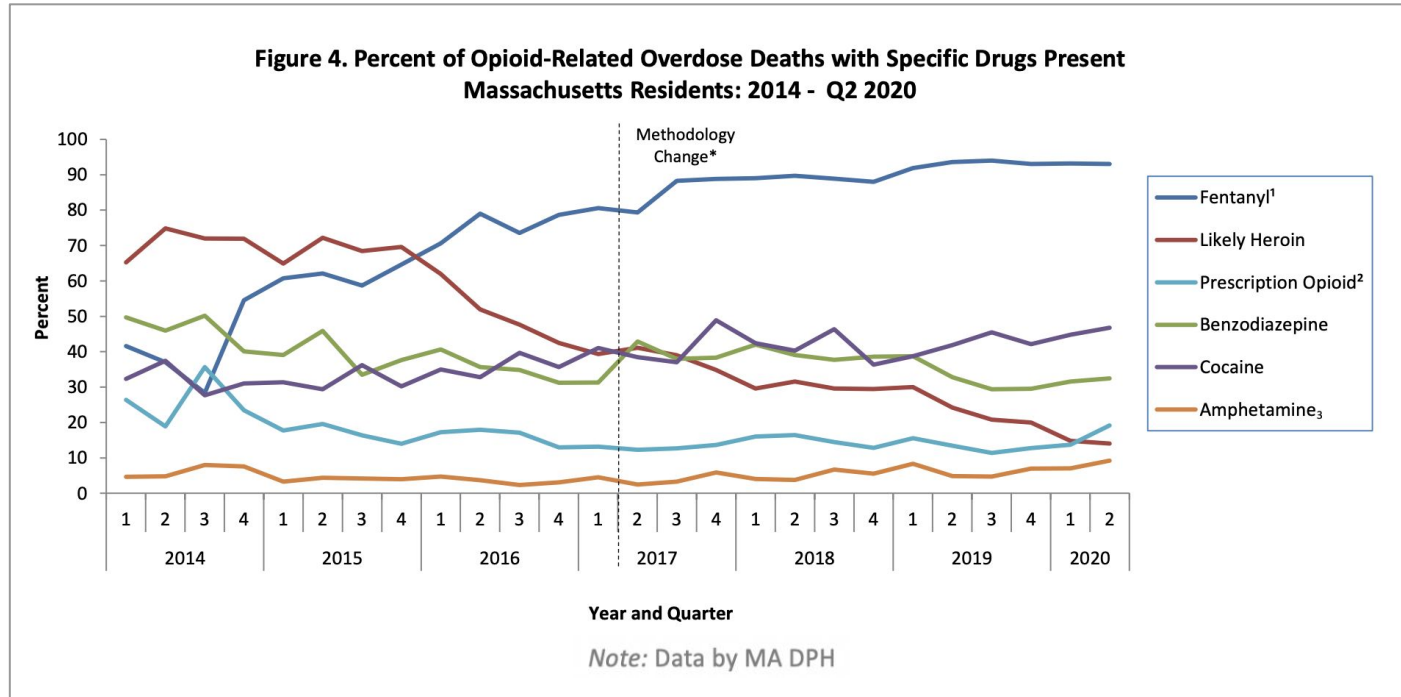


- 1.8x and 4.5x more likely per capita to die of an opioid OD in North Adams than Pittsfield & Adams respectively
- 6.7x more likely per capita to die of an opioid OD in North Adams than other municipalities

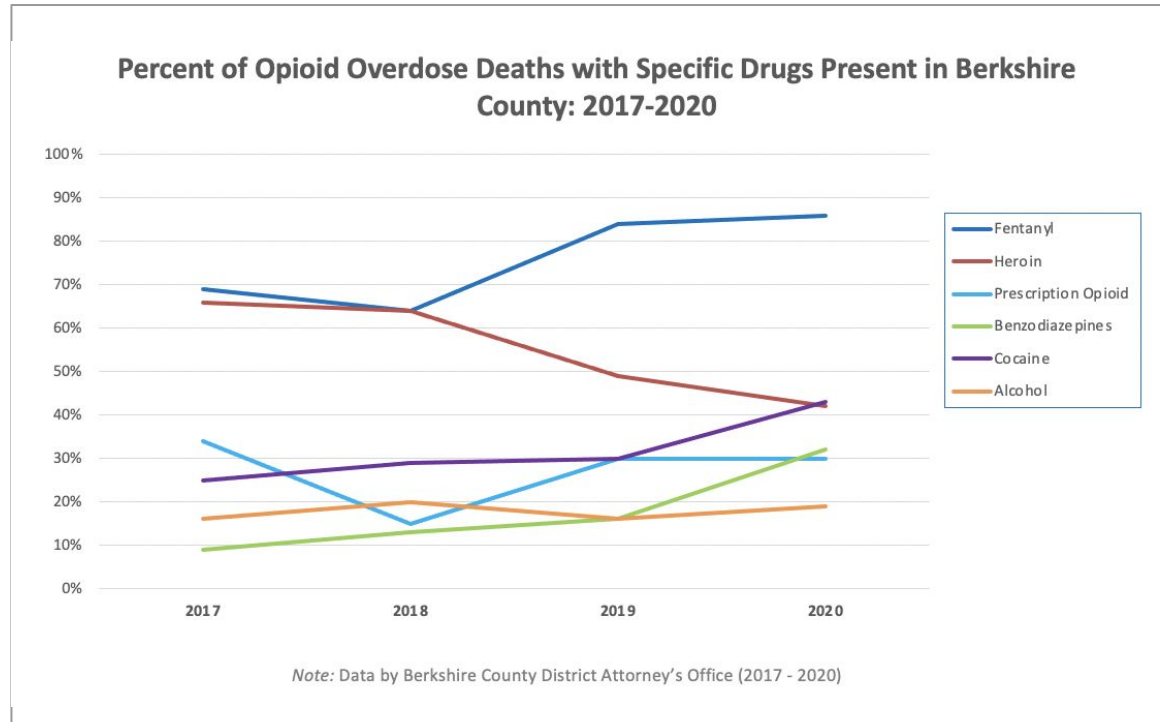


For every 100 people per capita that die of an OD in North Adams, x # of people die in other municipalities

In MA, opioid OD deaths are a result of a rise in Fentanyl, which has offset the decline in Heroin.

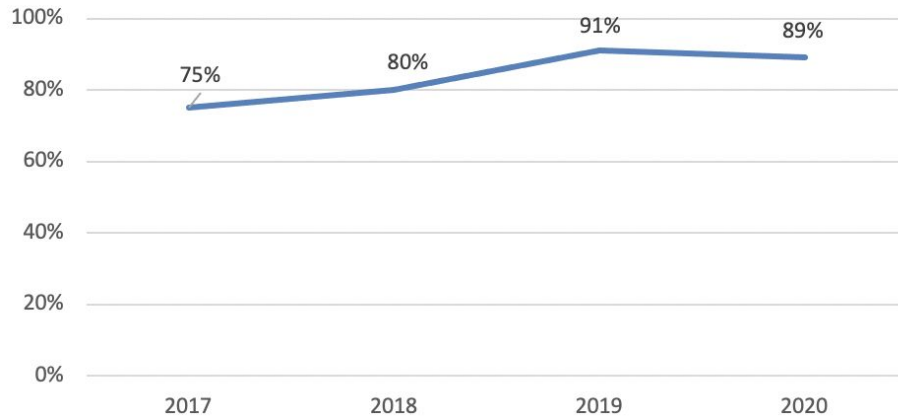


In Berkshire County, Fentanyl contributed to more than 85% of all overdose deaths.



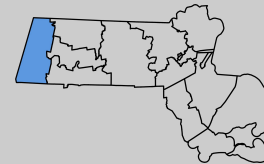
Almost 90% of opioid overdose deaths in Berkshire County resulted from a mix of drugs.

Rate of Opioid OD Deaths with Mix of Drugs Present in Berkshire County: 2017 - 2020



Note: Data by Berkshire County District Attorney's Office (2017 - 2020)

- Fentanyl heavily represented in OD death toxicology reports
- Majority of opioid OD deaths include a mix of drugs
- Data Limitations
 - Several deaths listed as "opioids"



Next Steps

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