
Using Data to Support Local Overdose Response and Prevention Work

Part 2: A Deeper Dive Into Oregon ESSENCE

Public Health Division, Oregon Health Authority



June 3, 2024

Agenda

- **Welcome & introductions**
- **Oregon ESSENCE**
- **Oregon EMS & Trauma Systems**
- **ESSENCE and injury epidemiology**
- **Q&A**



June 3, 2024

Oregon ESSENCE: Public Health Applications of Syndromic Surveillance

Meagan McLafferty, Syndromic Surveillance Epidemiologist
Preparedness, Surveillance & Epidemiology Team
Acute & Communicable Disease Prevention Section
Public Health Division
Oregon Health Authority



OREGON ESSENCE

ESSENCE Overview



ESSENCE

Electronic

Surveillance

System for the

Early

Notification of

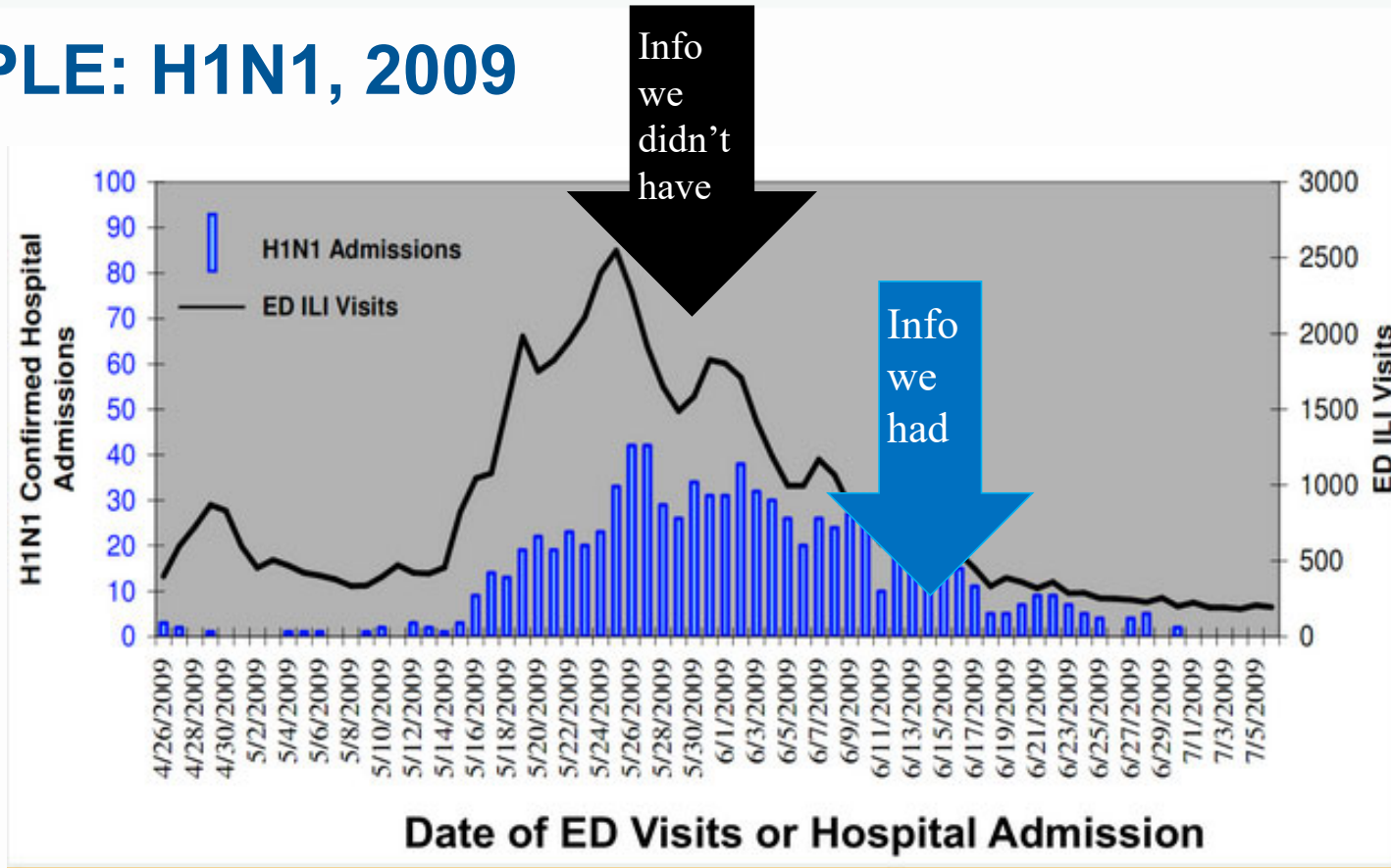
Community-based

Epidemics

- Key words!
 - Early
 - Community-based
- Strength: a near real-time look at key data we may not otherwise be alerted to
- Utility: community-based, population-level birds eye view of what's happening in our EDs and urgent care centers
- When we first learn of an emergent public health issue in the community, we look to ESSENCE

Oregon
Health
Authority

EXAMPLE: H1N1, 2009

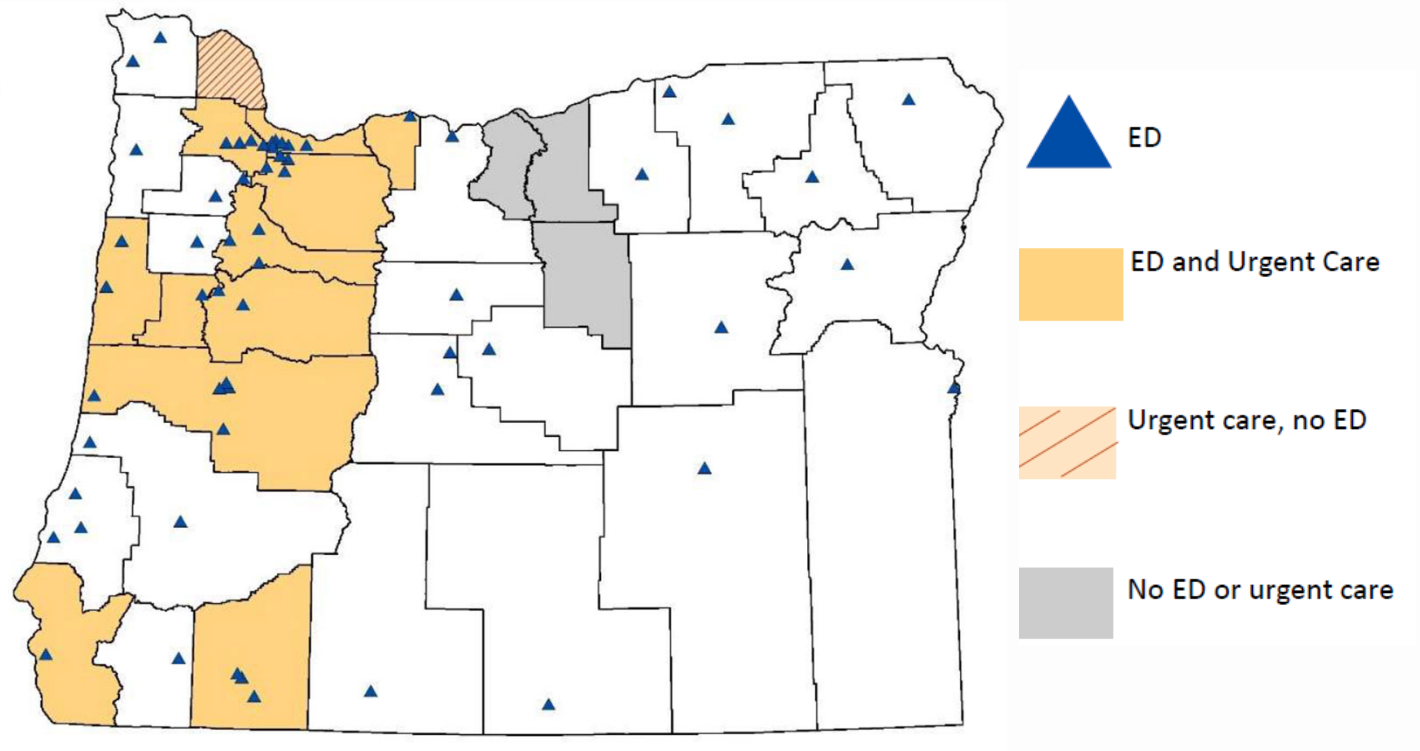


New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Health Alert #27: Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza update, revised reporting requirements and testing procedures

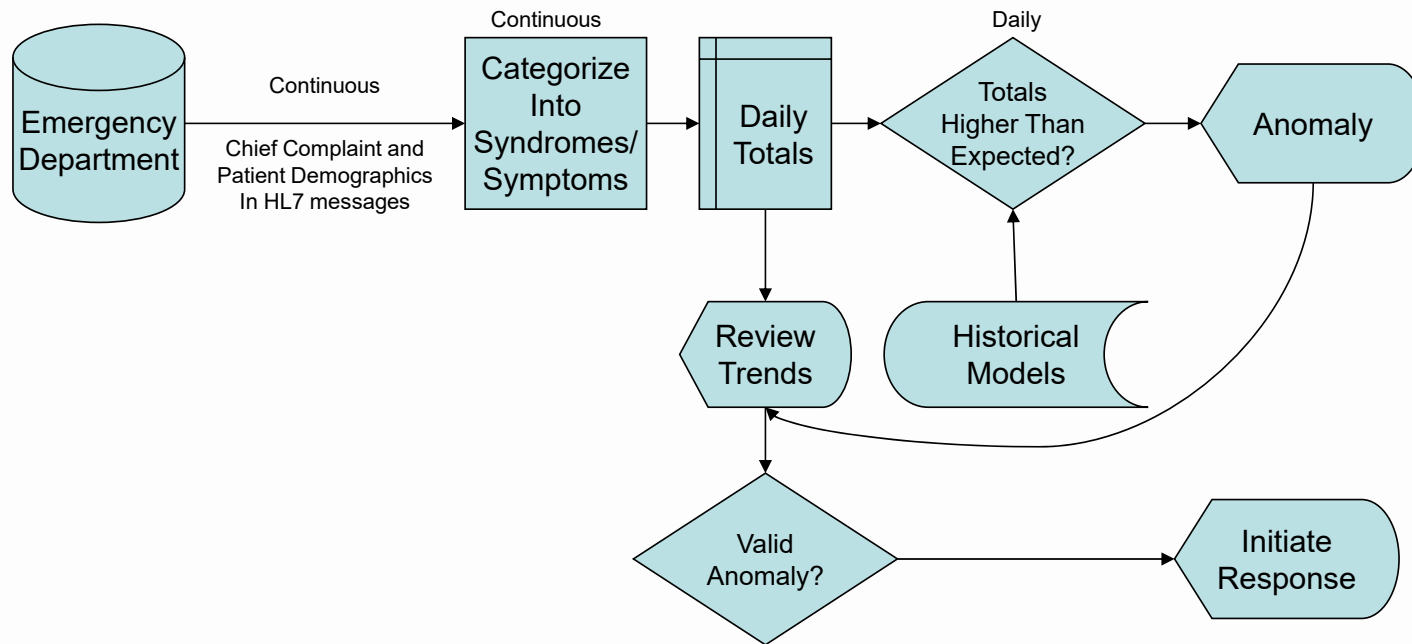


ESSENCE Data Sources

- Emergency Department and Urgent Care
- Poison Control Center
- Death Records
- EMS
- Orpheus (reportable disease)
- Air Quality
- Weather



Oregon ESSENCE System



Source : Bill Storm, Ohio Department of Health

Potential areas of interest

- Injury
 - Motor vehicle accidents
 - Snake bites
 - Mammal bites (bats)
 - Intoxication
 - Alcohol
 - Fireworks/burns
 - Firearm injury
- Communicable disease
 - Food storage, handling
 - Respiratory outbreaks
 - Vector-borne illness
- Environmental
 - High heat, dehydration, sun exposure
 - Altitude sickness
 - Wildfire smoke (respiratory issues)
 - Evacuation for fires
- Event-related, e.g. eclipse
 - Eye injury
 - Diseases/threats specific to locations in arch of totality (examples: snake bites, mushroom poisoning)



Syndromic Surveillance

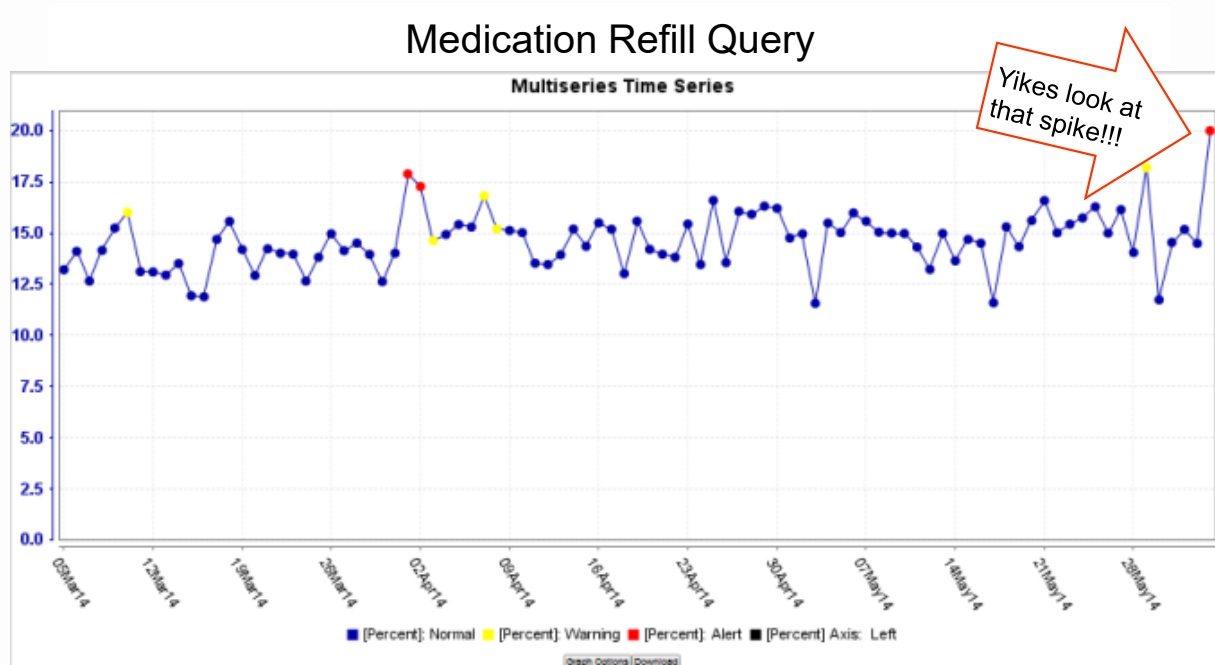
- **Real-time** collection, analysis, interpretation and dissemination of health data
- Not based on laboratory confirmed diagnosis of a disease but disease “**syndrome**”
- 12 primary syndrome groupings “pre-loaded” into system
 - Exposure
 - Fever
 - GI
 - ILI
 - Injury
 - Neurological
 - Rash
 - Respiratory, and others...
- Apply syndrome of interest to components of medical record, e.g. chief complaint



Hospital Surge and Capacity

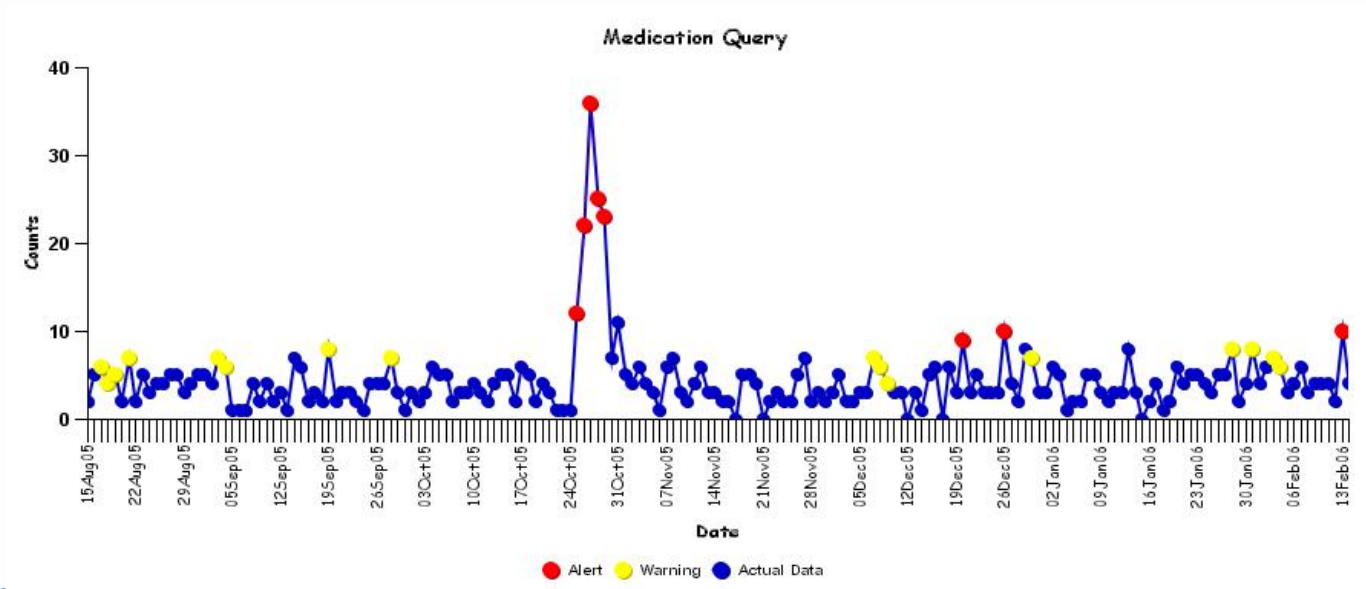
Use ESSENCE to run queries for encounters associated with symptoms over the past 90 days.

i.e., Advance query: medication refill

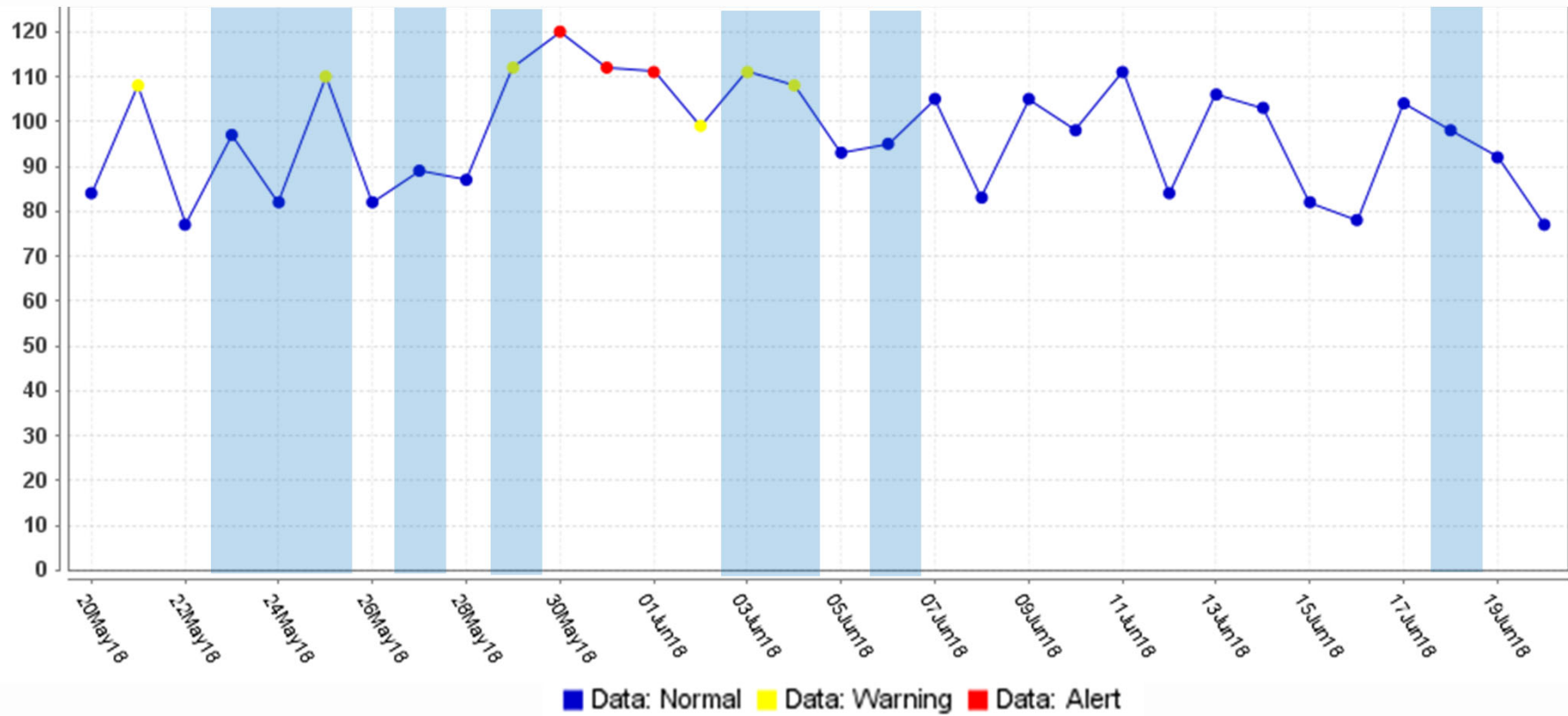


Medication requests following hurricane Wilma

Total cases: 801; Avg. age: 40



Gastroenteritis Syndrome May 20 – June 19

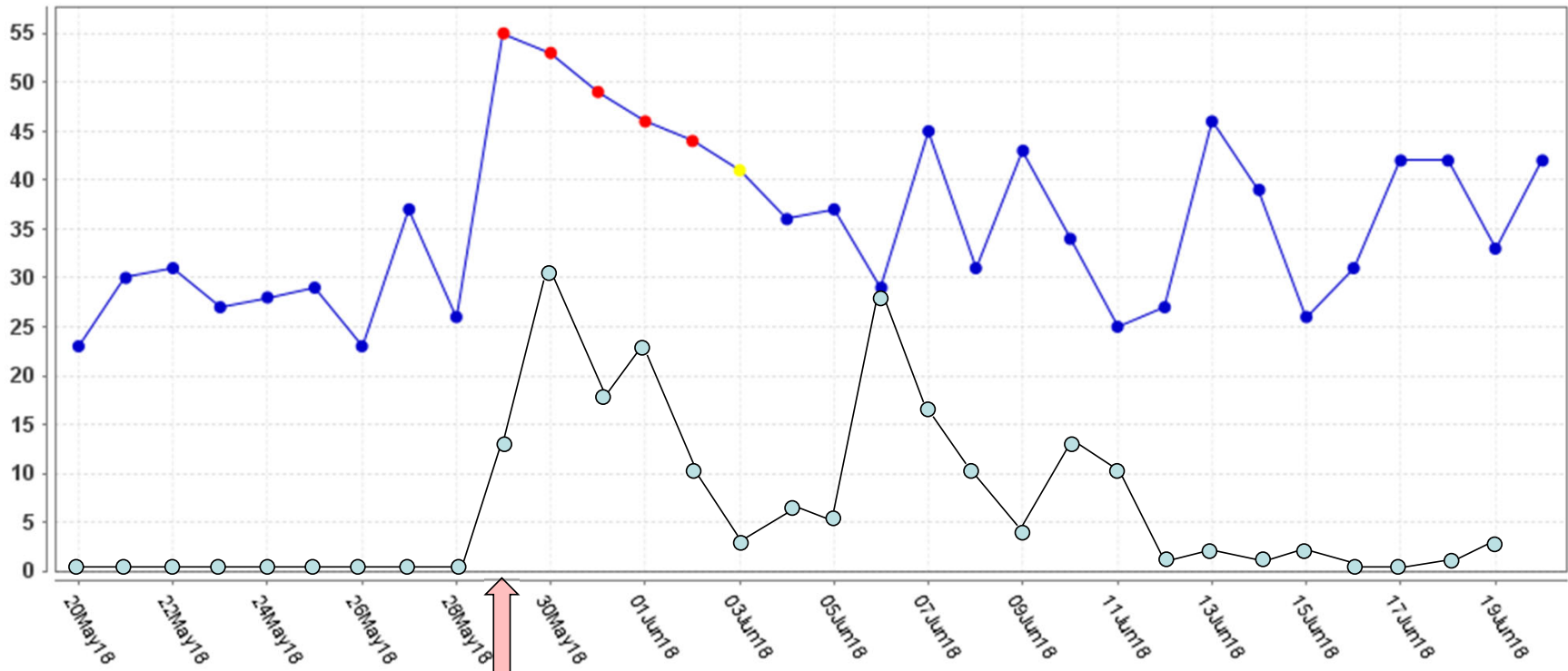


■ Data: Normal ■ Data: Warning ■ Data: Alert

■ Cyanotoxin detects



“Water” visits and media coverage of cyanotoxins



Emergency alert



- TOTAL VISITS
- HEAT-RELATED
- SUBMERSION
- FIRE AND SMOKE
- AIR QUALITY
- ABOUT

HEAT-RELATED ILLNESS refers to a variety of conditions resulting from elevated body temperatures such as heat stroke, heat syncope (fainting), heat exhaustion, and heat cramps.

HEAT-RELATED ILLNESS (HRI) QUERY
 This query looks for words like "heat," "sun stroke," and "hyperthermia" and HRI codes (including ICD-9 code 992 and ICD-10 code T67) among E.D. and urgent care patient chief complaints and discharge diagnoses.

SEASONAL HAZARD: HEAT-RELATED ILLNESS

Extreme heat makes many groups -- including people with chronic disease, young children, older adults, and outdoor workers -- vulnerable to heat-related illness (HRI). To reduce the risk of HRI, drink plenty of fluids, wear light colored clothing and sunscreen, and schedule outdoor activities during cooler times of the day.

For more information, see the [Oregon Health Authority's HRI prevention website here](#)

E.D. and urgent care center visits for heat-related illness

In this chart, we see an increase in heat-related illness (HRI) visits in May 2023 which is typical to see at this time of year as temperatures rise.



- Year
- 2018
 - 2019
 - 2020
 - 2021
 - 2022
 - 2023

Published:
06/12/2023

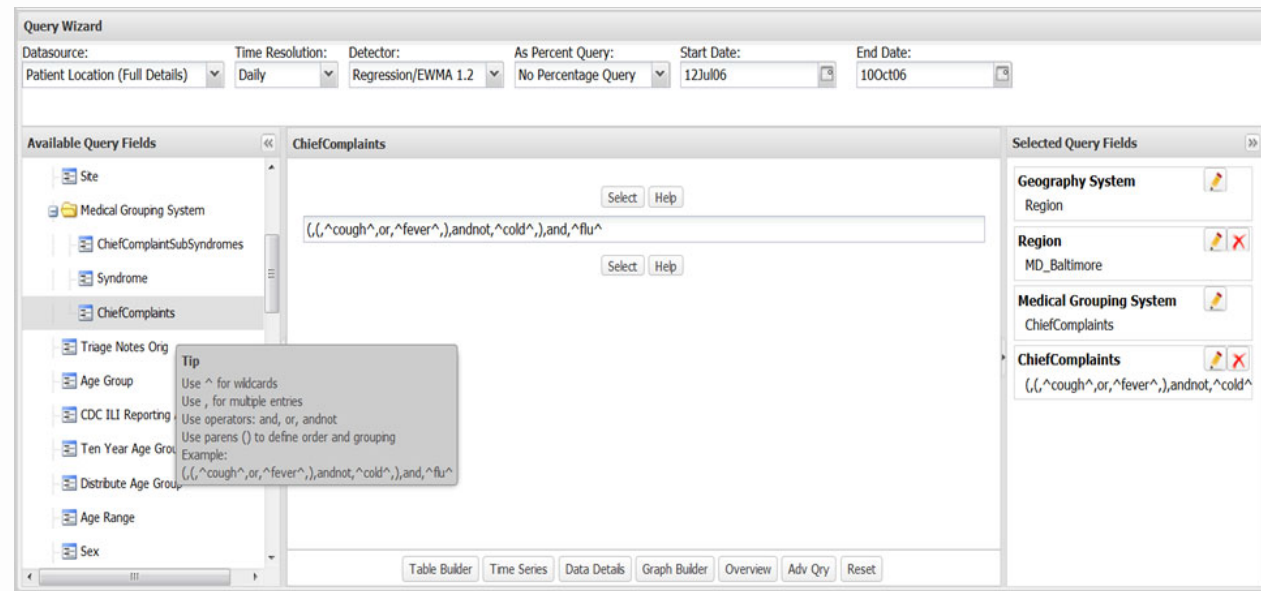
OK, but what's IN the data?

- Varies by data stream—ED is not the same as EMS etc.
- NOT individually identifiable
 - Remember, it's for detection of “**community-based** epidemics”
- ED/UC data:
 - Age, sex, zip code, race, ethnicity
 - Chief complaint
 - Discharge diagnoses
 - ICD-10 codes
 - Clinical impression
 - Triage notes



Querying ESSENCE

- Queries can be simple, or very complex
- Pre-loaded queries for 12 primary syndromes, many more subsyndromes, and many specific queries created by CDC or OHA
- Write your own!



Querying ESSENCE

^;992^ ,or, ^;T67^ ,or, ^;E900^ ,or, ^;X30 ,or, ^heat ^ ,or, ^heatcramp^ ,or, ^heatex^ ,or, ^heatst^ ,or, ^heat-exhaust^ ,or, ^heat-related^ ,or, ^heat-stroke^ ,or, ^hypertherm^ ,or, ^overheat^ ,or, ^over heat^ ,or, ^sun stroke^ ,or, ^sunstr^ ,or, ^sun-str^ ,or, ^to hot^ ,or, ^too hot^ ,or, (, (^hot^ ,or, ^ heat ^ ,) ,and, (, ^excessive^ ,or, ^exhaust^ ,or, ^expos^ ,or, ^fatigue^ ,or, ^cramp^ ,or, ^stress^ ,or, ^in car^ ,or, ^outside^ or ^prostration^ ,),) ,andnot, (, ^heater^ ,or, ^heatrate^ ,or, ^cheat^ ,or, ^wheat^ ,)

Who can access ESSENCE?

- Public health!
 - Specifically, entities outlined as public health in HIPAA 45 CFR 164.512
- Access granted to individuals, not organizations
- OHA and LPHA employees
- Tribal health employees
- Academia—staff and students at Oregon-based institutions
 - *For public health purposes only, NOT research
- Additional, more stringent access requests for data streams beyond ED/UC



Contact Us!

Oregon.Essence@dhsosha.state.or.us

- ESSENCE team:
 - Meagan McLafferty
 - Larissa Williams
 - Madeline LeVasseur
 - Amanda Faulkner



Oregon EMS & Trauma Systems

Using Data to Support Overdose Response & Prevention

Monday, June 3, 2024



PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION
EMS and Trauma Systems

OR-EMSI / ESSENCE Integration

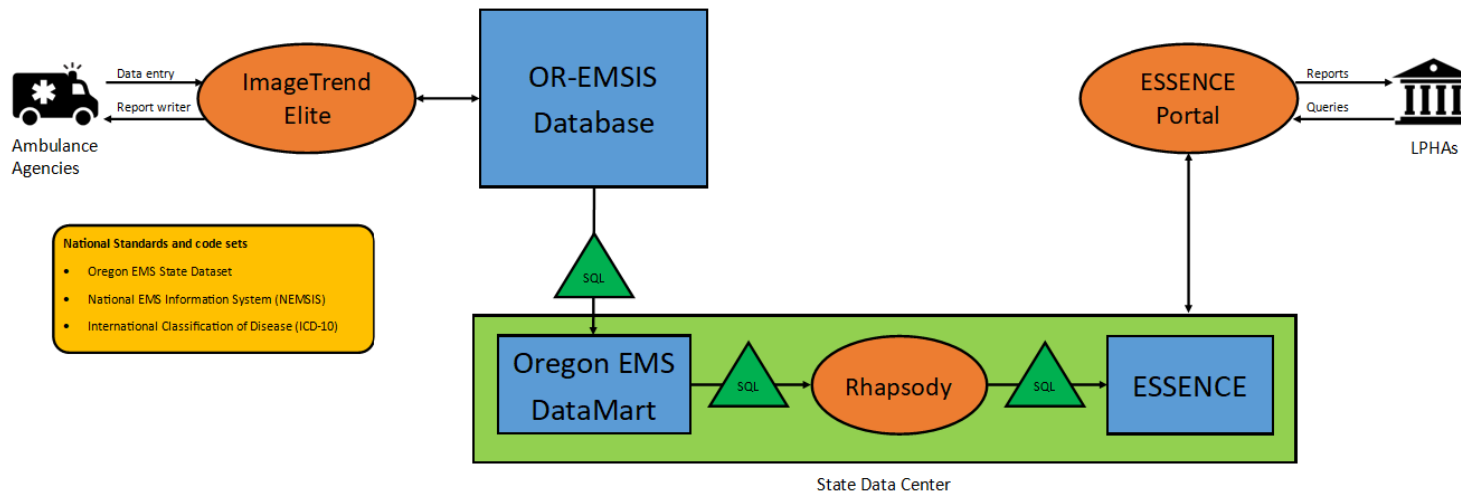
- The ESSENCE Integration relies on our EMS DataMart, which is a mirror of our vendor's reporting database in our state data center
- Data in DataMart is queried by Rhapsody, an integration engine solution hosted in the state data center
- Data is then pushed to ESSENCE where it can be accessed by authorized personnel through the web portal

OR-EMSI / ESSENCE Integration

OR-EMSI / ESSENCE Data Flow Diagram

Revised 05/30/24

Key
 OR-EMSI = Oregon EMS Information System
 ESSENCE = Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-Based Epidemics



OR-EMSYS / ESSENCE Integration

Data Elements:

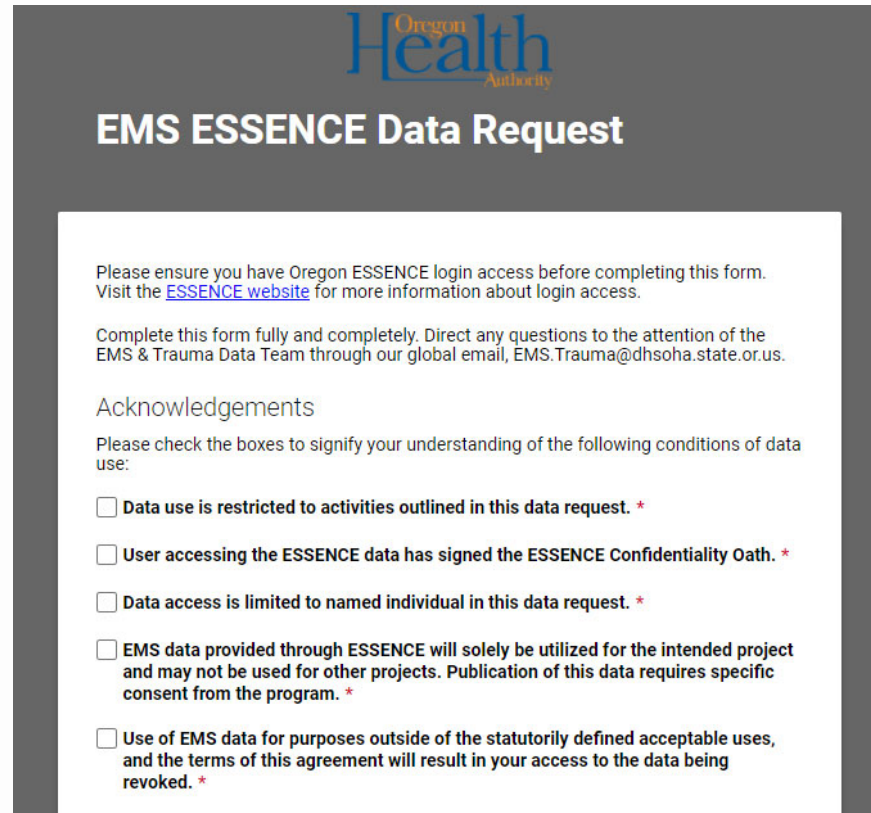
- Agency
- Response
- Times
- Patient
- Scene
- Situation
- Injury
- Arrest
- History
- Narrative
- Vitals
- Exam
- Medications
- Procedures
- Disposition

Access Request

You can request access to EMS data through our web form here:

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/4886c635ce73492aa96e9b2e5c2ac9ba>

Access Request



Oregon Health Authority

EMS ESSENCE Data Request

Please ensure you have Oregon ESSENCE login access before completing this form. Visit the [ESSENCE website](#) for more information about login access.

Complete this form fully and completely. Direct any questions to the attention of the EMS & Trauma Data Team through our global email, EMS.Trauma@dhsosha.state.or.us.

Acknowledgements

Please check the boxes to signify your understanding of the following conditions of data use:

- Data use is restricted to activities outlined in this data request. *
- User accessing the ESSENCE data has signed the ESSENCE Confidentiality Oath. *
- Data access is limited to named individual in this data request. *
- EMS data provided through ESSENCE will solely be utilized for the intended project and may not be used for other projects. Publication of this data requires specific consent from the program. *
- Use of EMS data for purposes outside of the statutorily defined acceptable uses, and the terms of this agreement will result in your access to the data being revoked. *

Access Request

- You must have Oregon ESSENCE login access before requesting access to the EMS data.
- Visit the [ESSENCE website](#) for more information about login access.
- The access request form will become the DUA between you and our program, so complete it fully and completely.
- Use of EMS data in ESSENCE is subject to all constraints on other ESSENCE data sets.
- There are additional constraints imposed by statute.

Access Request

Acknowledgements:

- Data use is restricted to activities outlined in this data request.*
- User accessing the ESSENCE data has signed the ESSENCE Confidentiality Oath.*
- Data access is limited to named individual in this data request.*
- EMS data provided through ESSENCE will solely be utilized for the intended project and may not be used for other projects.
- Publication of this data requires specific consent from the program.*
- Use of EMS data for purposes outside of the statutorily defined acceptable uses, or the terms of the data use agreement will result in your access to the data being revoked.*

Access Request

ESSENCE Acceptable Uses:

- To facilitate the interchange of information that can be used to coordinate responses and monitor events routinely and during a potential health event
- For early detection and characterization of events (or health-related threats) by building on state and local health departments systems and programs
- To provide health-related information for: (i) public health situation awareness, (ii) routine public health practice, or (iii) public health evaluation
- To improve the ability to detect emergency health threats by supporting the enhancement of systems to signal alerts for potential problems in collaboration with federal, state and local health jurisdictions and other potential stakeholders

Access Request

EMS Data acceptable uses under statute:

- Quality assurance
- Quality improvement
- Epidemiological assessment and investigation
- Public health critical response planning
- Prevention activities

Access Request

Information you will need to complete the form:

- Name and contact information
- Organization/Institution
- Authorizing Manager contact
- Project Name
- Duration
- Project
 - Description
 - Objectives
 - Dataset or report
 - Geography

Access Request

If you are looking to develop other syndromes using EMS data you will need to provide:

- Specific definitions and/or metrics
- Data elements needed for analysis
- Codes and criteria

Access Request

Data Security

- Physical and technical safeguards
- Plans for use of data
- Plans for ensuring confidentiality

Access Request

You may attach any supporting documents related to your project by dragging directly into the web form.

Access Request

Submitting your request

- You will receive a confirmation email that we received your request
- We will review your request within 10 business days
- Time to approval will depend upon complexity of the request .

Review Process

- Internal review of request
- Agency/Manager confirmation
- Clarification (if necessary)
- Generation of pdf documentation
- Signature (by Adobe Sign)
 - Requestor
 - Authorizing Manager
 - Oregon EMS & Trauma Medical Director
- Referral to ESSENCE team for permissions

Resources

EMS ESSENCE access request web form:

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/4886c635ce73492aa96e9b2e5c2ac9ba>

Oregon State EMS dataset:

https://nemsis.org/media/nemsis_states/repository.html?repository=oregon&file=Resources/OR_StateDataSet.xml&at=refs%2Fheads%2Frelease-3.5.0

Questions?

Oregon EMS & Trauma Systems Program
EMS.Trauma@odhsoha.oregon.gov



PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION
EMS and Trauma Systems

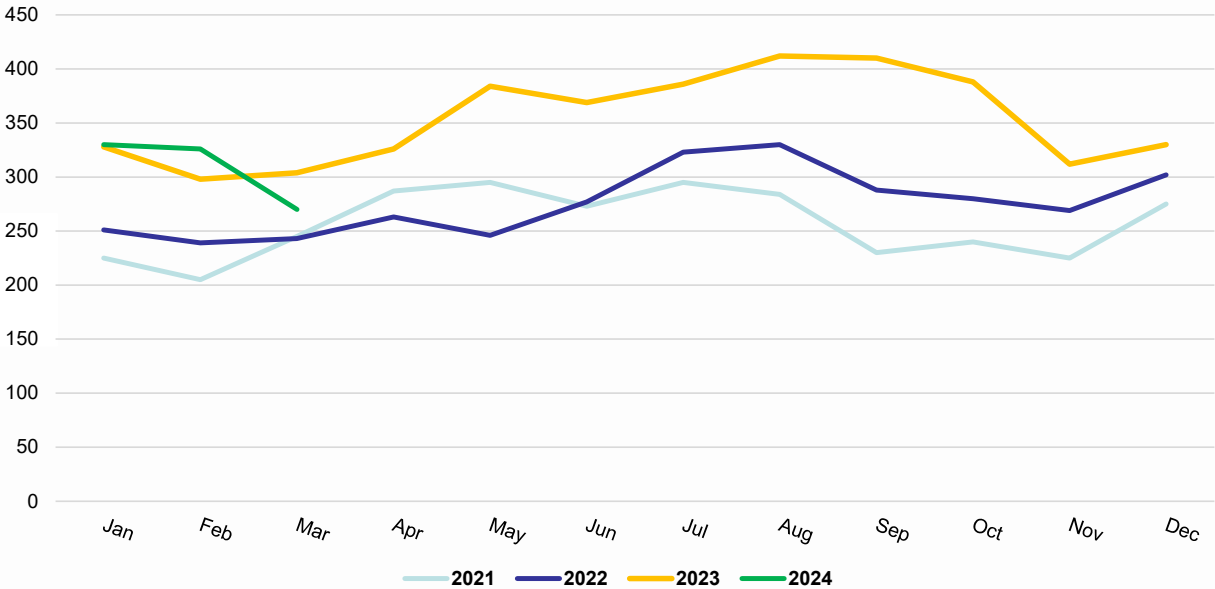
Using Data to Support Overdose Response & Prevention

Robyn Ellis, Data to Action Coordinator

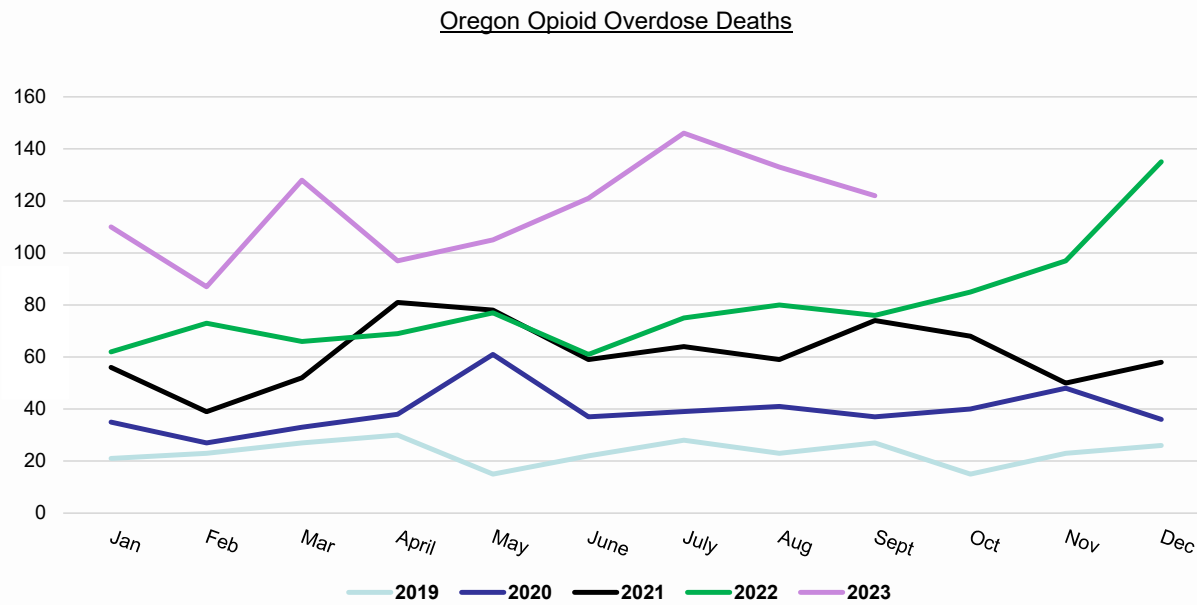


ESSENCE Data available on OHA [public page](#)

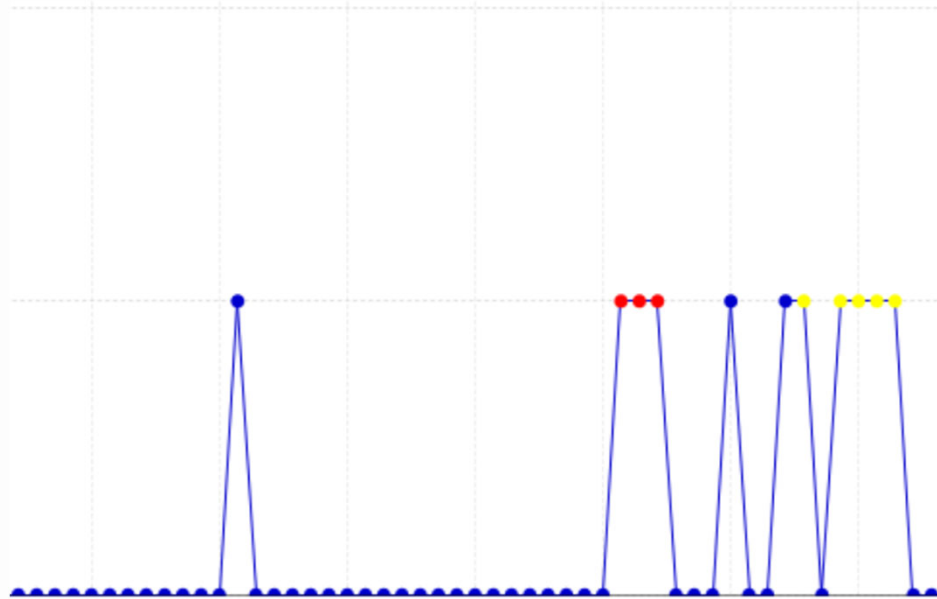
Opioid overdose visits to EDs and UCCs



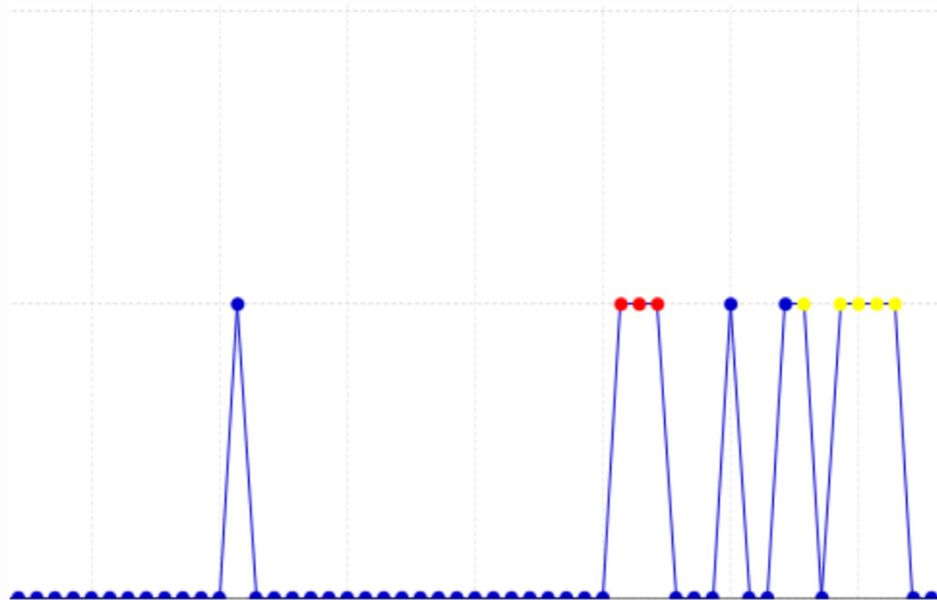
SUDORS Data available on OHA [public page](#)



Connecting with Oregon Counties



Connecting with Oregon Counties



Q&A

Oregon
Health
Authority

May 20, 2024