

## **FORTRESS Dashboard: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)**

**1. What is the age range for the individuals listed on the dashboard?**

There are no age restrictions applied to the dashboard.

**2. What ICD codes do you use to determine if someone has had an accidental overdose and is therefore represented in the dashboard?**

Specific ICD-10 codes pulled from the death records are X40–X44, X60–X64, Y10–Y14, X85.

**3. Does the dashboard cover all ED touchpoints for that person throughout the state or just the county they are from or died in?**

It is considered a touchpoint when someone visits the Emergency Department (ED) at some point in time before experiencing a fatal overdose. The ED touchpoints are throughout the state of Indiana in 12 months prior to death.

**4. What state agencies are used to compile the data?**

**Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) – Vital Records:** Provides death certificate data, including specific ICD-10 codes for overdose deaths, date of death, and demographics. This is our foundation for identifying the cohort.

**IDOH – ESSENCE (Syndromic Surveillance):** Captures emergency department visits, including date/time, symptoms, and patient demographics. This is used to identify ED touchpoints.

**Indiana State Police – CHRIS:** The Criminal History Repository Information System provides jail booking data, including booking dates and facility information.

**Indiana Department of Correction – Prison Release Records:** Gives us release dates from state correctional facilities, which we use to identify reentry touchpoints.

**Indiana Professional Licensing Agency (PLA) – INSPECT:** The state's prescription monitoring program. We extract dates and types of controlled substances dispensed, excluding short-term or inpatient fills.

**Indiana Department of Homeland Security – EMS Reporting (NEMSIS):** Provides EMS response data, including dispatch and arrival times, location, and suspected overdose indicators.

\*Of note, any Emergency Department or EMS interaction within 24 hours of an individual's fatal overdose were excluded given the likelihood that they were related to the fatal overdose.

**5. The individuals who are represented in each county, is that the county they lived in or the county they died in?**

County refers to the county of death from Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) vital records. For total touchpoint count (used only in the calculation for touchpoint rates)—it is the individual's county of residence captured in the respective touchpoint data source with the exception of DOC releases, which is the court county captured in DOC data.

**6. Can this dashboard be used to track data regarding deaths by suicide?**

Currently, the dashboard can only be used to track data regarding deaths by accidental overdose.

**7. What will happen to the dashboard when the FORTRESS grant ends?**

MPH has committed to maintaining the dashboard after the grant ends to ensure it remains publicly available.