



Opioid Related Illness calls in Lowell MA 2019

Executive Summary: The City of Lowell MA saw a **35.51% decrease** in Opioid Related Illness (ORI) on 911 calls when comparing 2019 (523 ORI) to 2018 (811 ORI). Lowell also saw a 31.21% decrease (455 in 2018, 313 in 2019) in patients that required Naloxone (Narcan) and breathing support to reverse a near fatal overdose.

2019 Data: There were 523 ORI 911 calls in Lowell, MA during 2019.

Severity of patient

- 313 Priority 1 patients
 - These patients required Narcan and breathing support to save them
- 97 Priority 2 patients
 - These patients all used an opioid and showed side effects of the drug but did not require Narcan
- 113 Priority 3 patients
 - These patients all used an opioid but did not show significant change in their medical status because of the usage

Location of the patients

- 220 (45%) of the ORI occurred in a public location outside (usually a park or sidewalk)
- 186 (38%) of the ORI occurred inside a private home
- 69 (14) of the ORI occurred inside a public location inside (coffee shop, restaurant, public building)
- 8 (2%) of the ORI occurred in a cell block
- 3 (1%) of the ORI occurred in a health care institute

	Acre	Back Central	Belvidere	Central -ville	Downtown	Highlands	Lwr Belv	Lwr Highlands	Pawtucket-ville	Sacred Heart	South Lowell
ORI	63	82	17	68	138	36	11	51	25	21	11
of Total	12%	16%	3%	13%	26%	7%	2%	10%	5%	4%	2%

When

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
ORI	42	49	43	47	46	44	46	35	46	52	36	37
Of total	8%	9%	8%	9%	9%	9%	9%	7%	9%	10%	7%	7%

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
ORI	68	64	78	68	96	80	69
Of total	13%	12%	15%	13%	18%	15%	13%

Hometowns

- **Lowell** **314** 60% of the ORI patients relayed that they lived in Lowell
- Non listed 48
- **Dracut** **20**
- **Billerica** **19**
- Lawrence 14
- **Tewksbury** **11**
- Haverhill 8
- **Chelmsford** **7**
- **Westford** **6**
- **Tyngsboro** **3**
- **41 other communities listed with between 1 and 5 patients**

Gender

29% of the patients were females. These patients had an average age of 37.4 years old. Their ages ranged from 13-62.

71% of the patients were males. These patients had an average age of 38.8 years old. Their ages ranged from 17 – 72.

Frequency of Patients

- 1 patient had 7 ORI calls with EMS via 911
- 2 patients had 6 ORI calls with EMS via 911
- 2 patients had 5 ORI calls with EMS via 911
- 9 patients had 4 ORI calls with EMS via 911
- 14 patients had 3 ORI calls with EMS via 911
- 45 patients had 2 ORI calls with EMS via 911
- 326 patients had 1 ORI call with EMS via 911

Narcan

Note: The number represents the amount of times that a specific agency gave Narcan to a person.

- If Lowell Fire gave 1 patient two doses of Narcan that would count once in this section.
- If a bystander and Lowell Police each gave the same patient a dose of Narcan that would count as 1 for each
- These totals are from Trinity EMS patient care reports. Specific agencies may have more accurate totals.
- Lowell Fire gave 106 patients Narcan
- Lowell Police gave 34 patients Narcan
- Bystanders/Family gave 85 patients Narcan
 - **27% of all near fatal opioid overdoses in Lowell, the first dose of Narcan was given before 911 arrived**
- Trinity EMS gave 92 patients Narcan
- Lowell General Hospital ALS gave 27 patients Narcan

All the data contained in this report was generated via Trinity EMS patient care reports. Any overdose that happened outside of 911 is not included.

Please email any questions to Jon Kelley at JKELLEY@TRINITYEMS.COM

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