



Westchester County

Department of Health



2024.03

Community Health Data Report

2024.03

Timely Report of Substance Use Disorder Captured by Community Health Electronic Surveillance System (CHESS) Westchester County, 2023

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Westchester County Department of Health's Community Health Electronic Surveillance System (CHESS) receives daily data electronically from existing healthcare information systems reported to the NYS Health Department, automatically analyzes data to detect potential elevated levels for syndromic categories of interest, and provides electronic reports to Health Department personnel. **Syndromes of interest are extracted and monitored by checking the patient chief complaints, triage notes, and diagnosis information.**

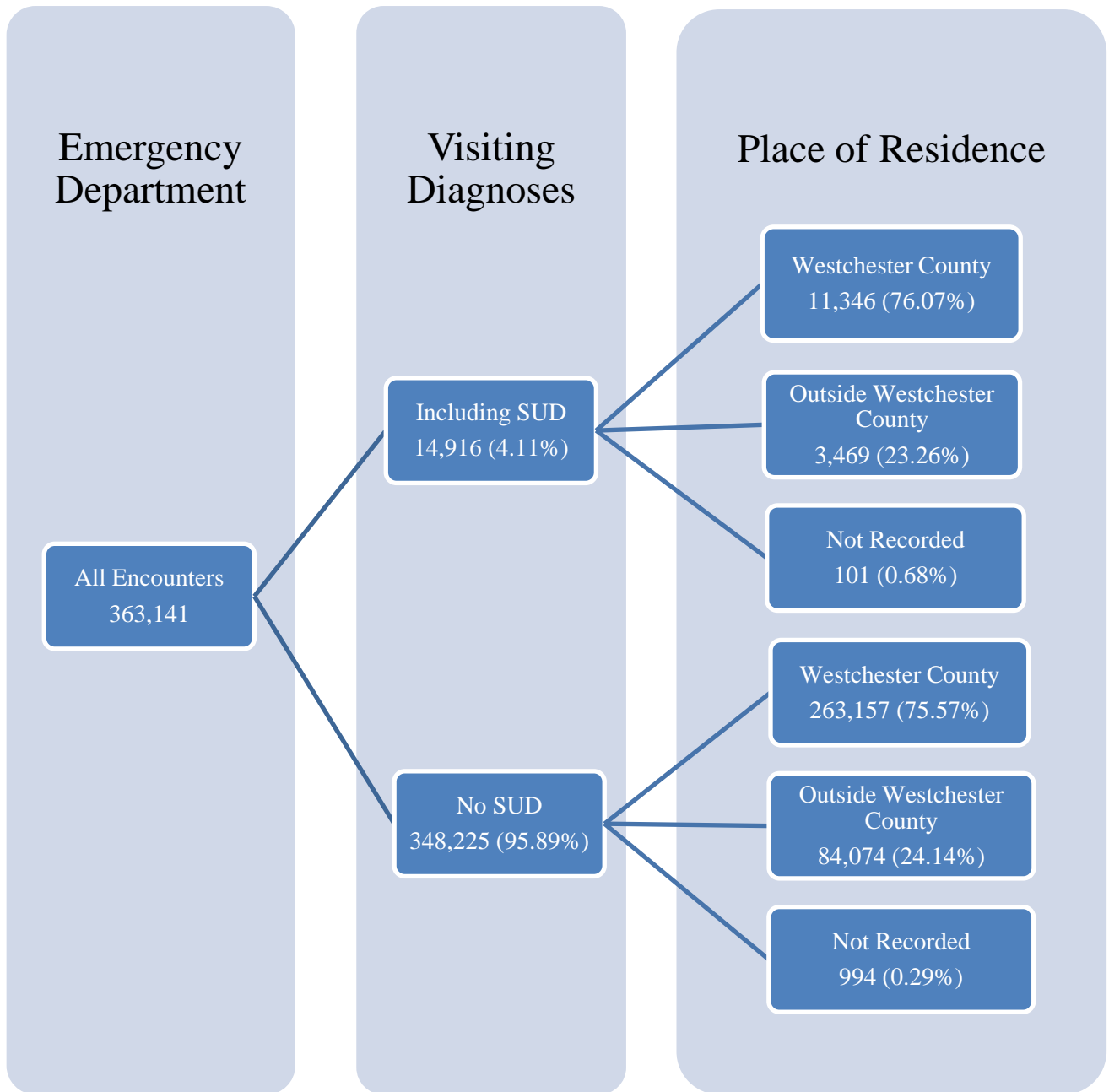
The substance use disorders (SUD) data reported in this brief include those cases with alcohol, nicotine, opioids, cannabis, sedatives, cocaine, stimulants, hallucinogens, inhalants, and other psychoactive substance documented in one or more diagnoses while visiting the ER system of the eleven acute hospitals in Westchester County. The specific factors of substance use disorder consist of abuse, intoxication, and physical/psychological dependence.

CHESS data are transmitted within 24 hours from the patients' admission to the ER without complete diagnosis coding by the facilities. Therefore, data reported in this brief may underestimate the extent of substance use in the county. However, it provides a timely description of current trends and raises awareness if there is an abnormal surge in incidence.



George Latimer, County Executive
Sherlita Amler, MD, Commissioner
Department of Health

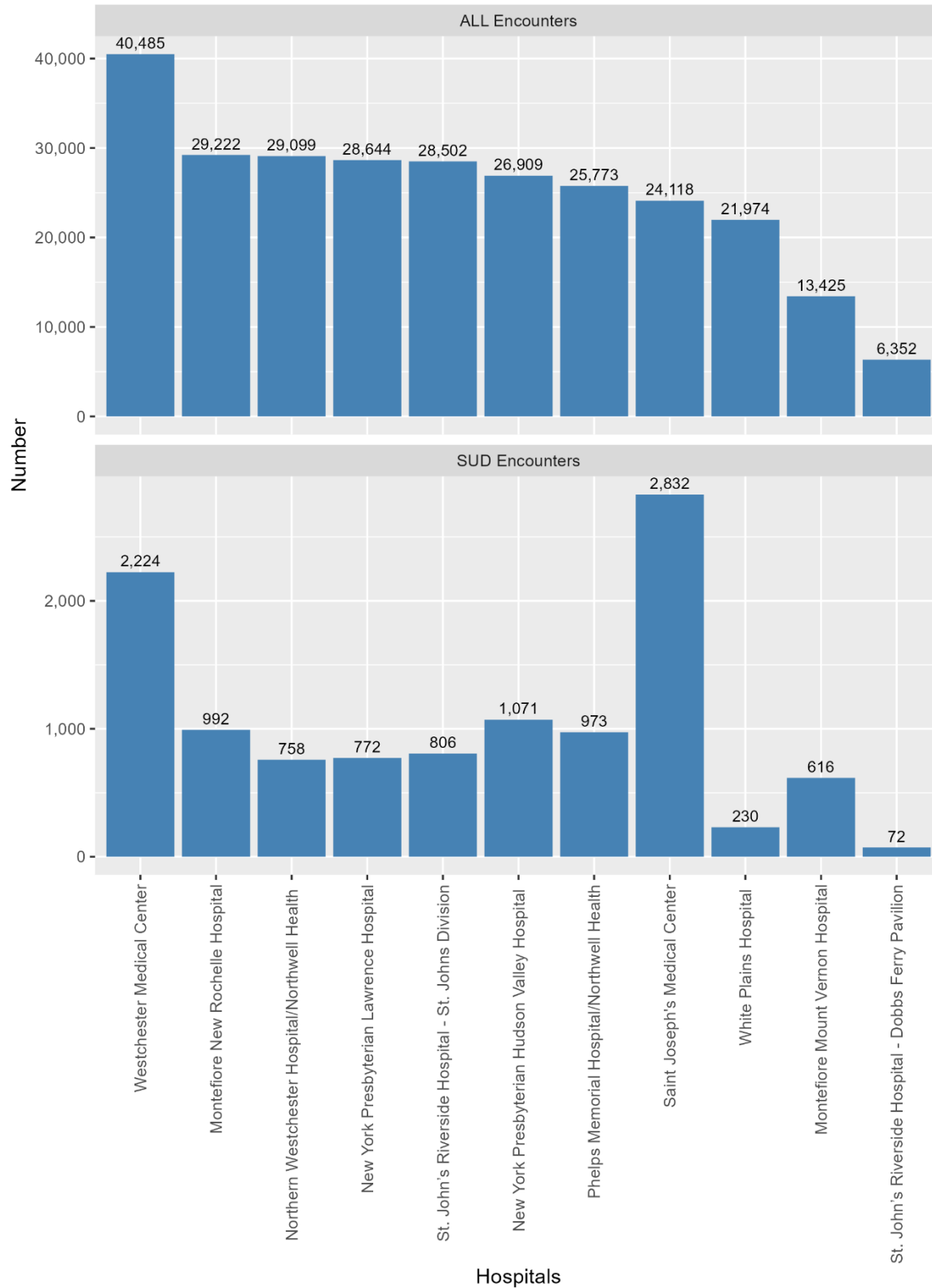
Overview



In 2023, Emergency Department of Westchester County hospitals have received 14,916 encounters with SUD documented in one or more of their diagnoses. Among them, 11,346 encounters have been registered as patients residing in Westchester County. Such encounters will be referred as SUD Encounters in this report. Rates of SUD encounters were calculated as per 100,000 population.

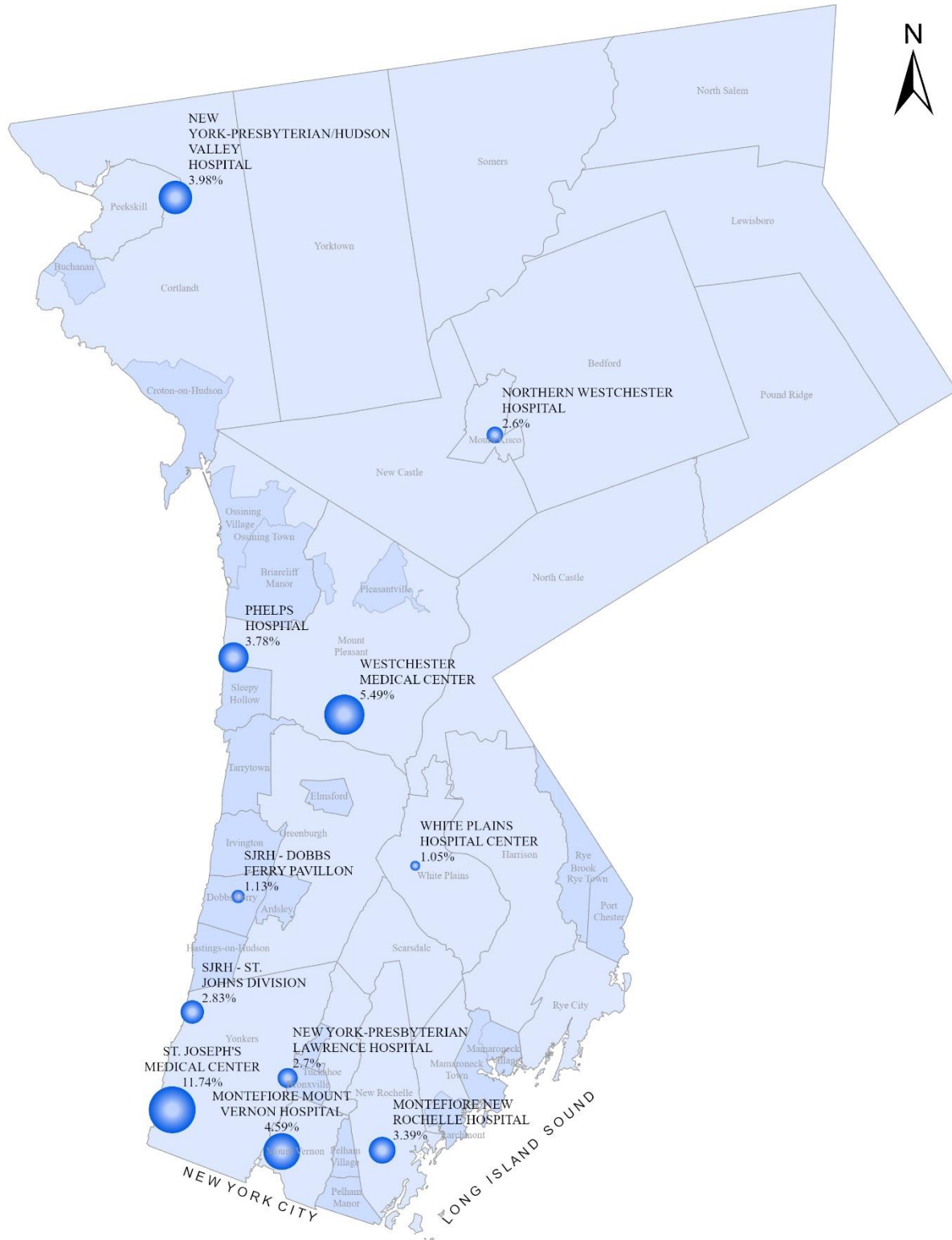
Hospital

All Encounters and SUD Encounters at Emergency Department by Hospital, Westchester County, 2023



Hospital

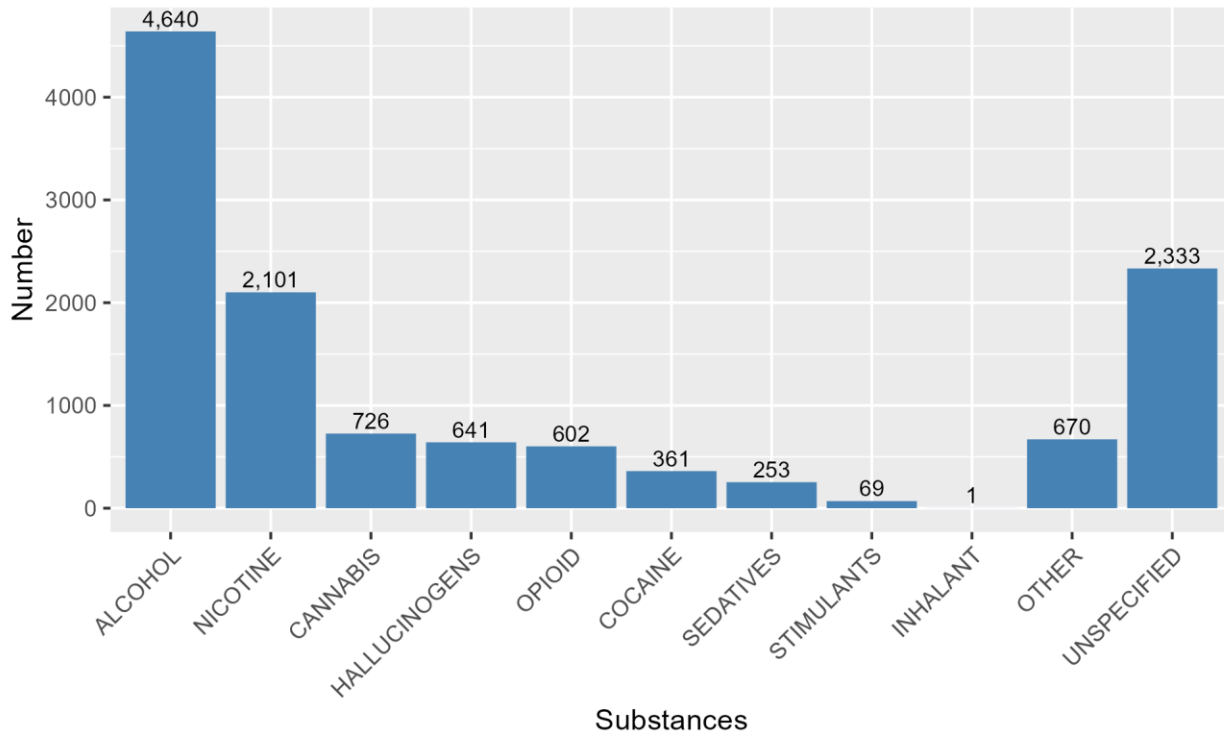
SUD Encounters as a Percentage of All Encounters at Emergency Department by Hospital, Westchester County, 2023



St. Joseph's Medical Center has the highest percentage of SUD encounters over all encounters during 2023.

Substance

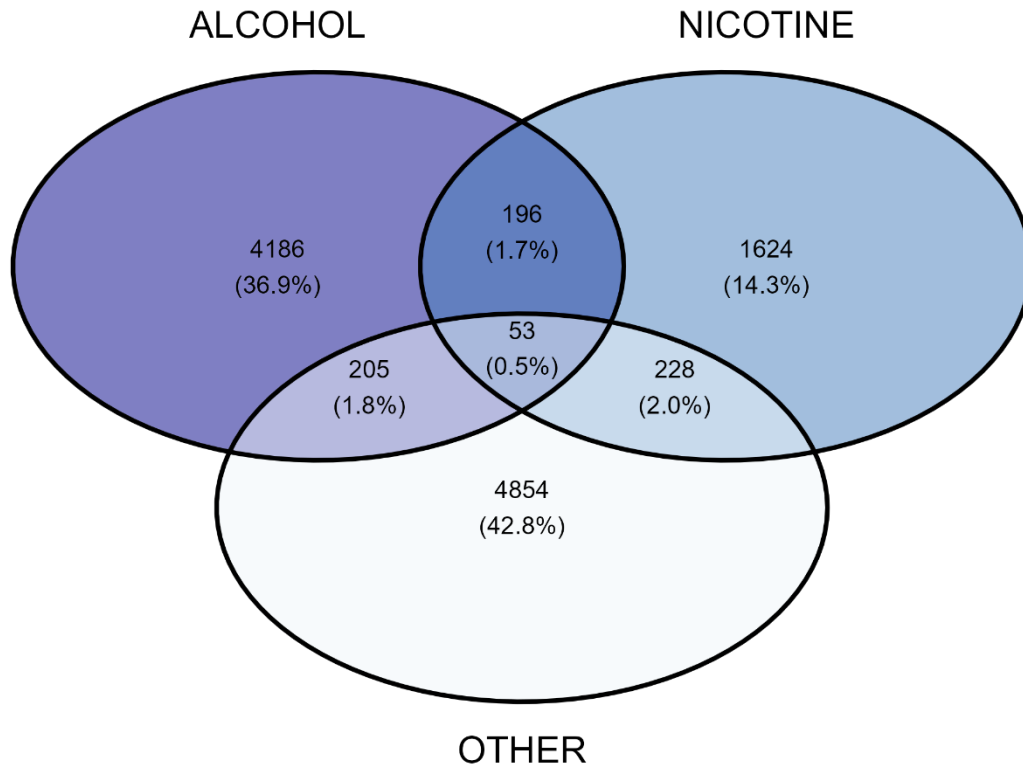
SUD Encounters by Substance Documented in the Diagnoses, Westchester County, 2023



Individuals may be using multiple substances at the time of their encounters at Emergency Department. Among them, alcohol and nicotine are the two most commonly reported substances.

Substance

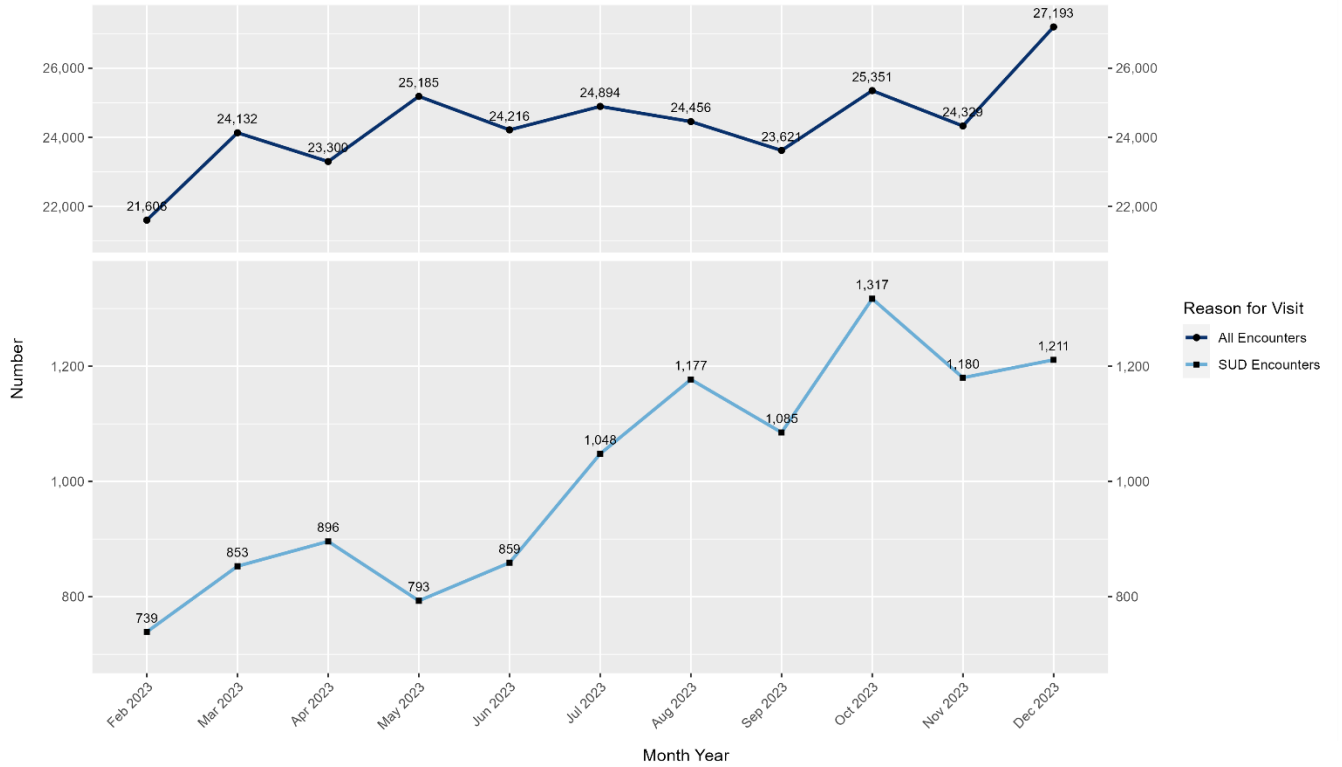
Overlapping SUD Substance, Westchester County, 2023



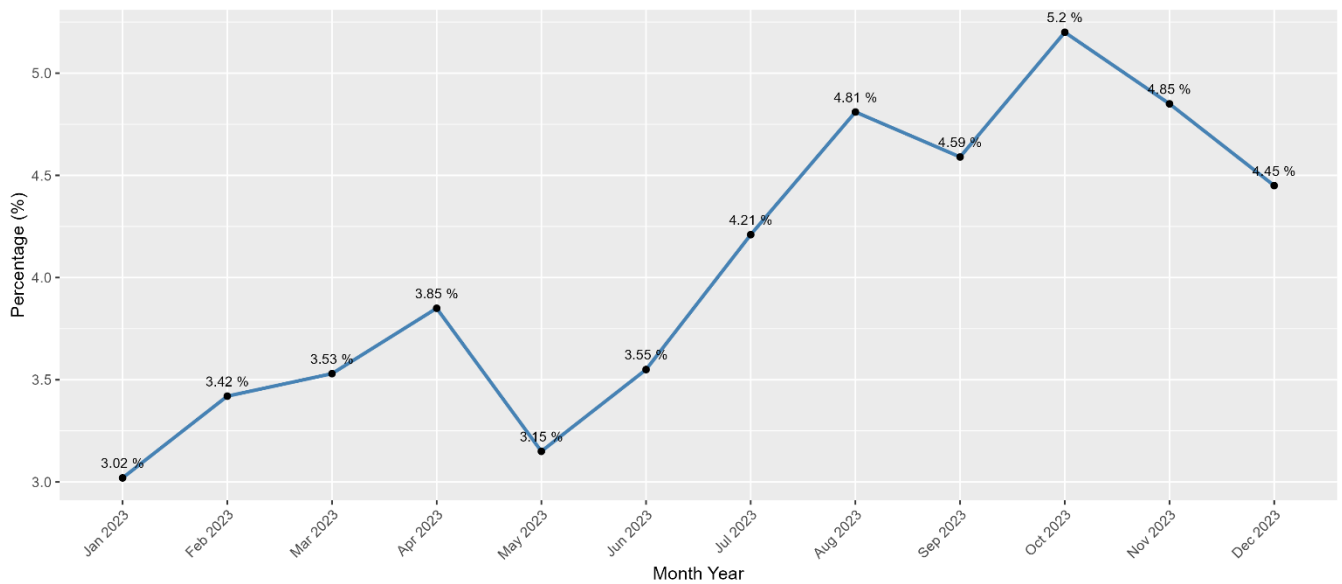
Substances included in OTHER	Encounters
CANNABIS	726
OPIOID	670
HALLUCINOGENS	641
COCAINE	602
SEDATIVES	361
STIMULANTS	253
INHALANT	69
OTHER PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCE	1
UNSPECIFIED	2,333

Monthly Distribution

Monthly SUD Encounters and All Encounters at Emergency Department, Westchester County, 2023



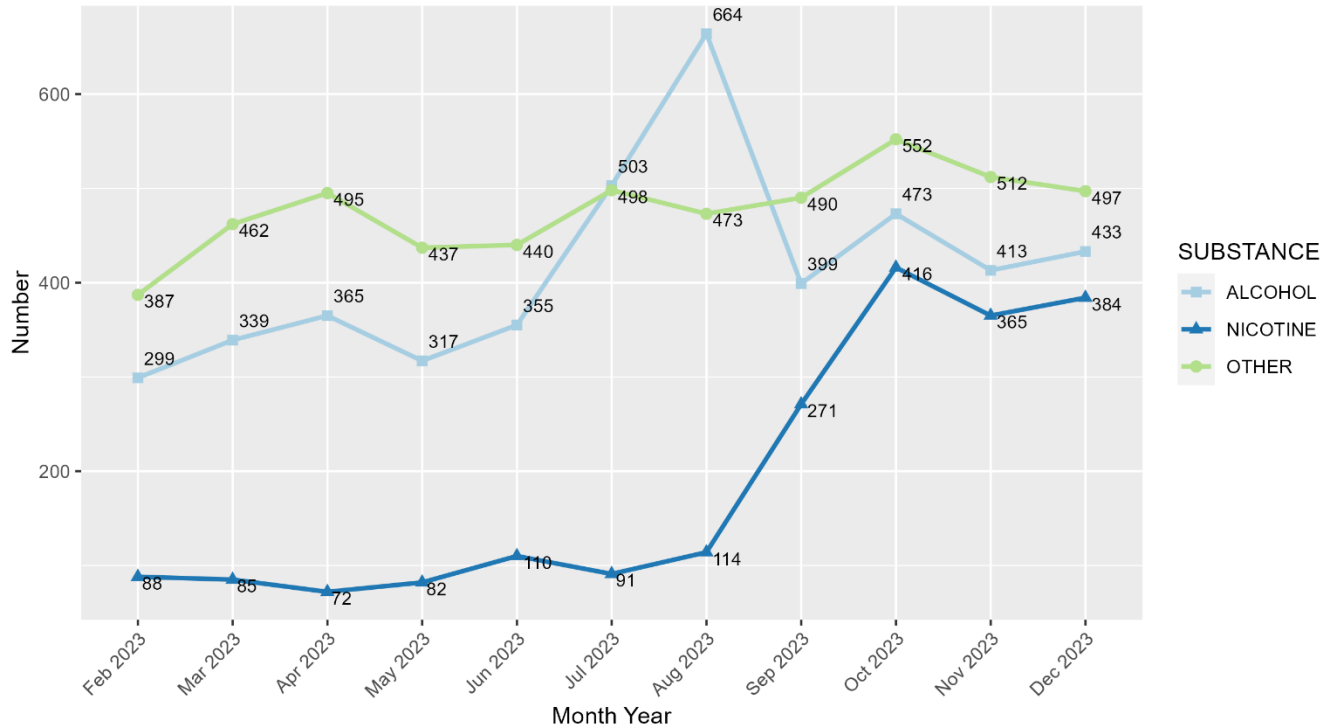
Percentage of SUD Encounters at Emergency Department by month, Westchester County, 2023.



The percentage of SUD encounters over all encounters at Emergency Department had an increase in the second half of the year 2023.

Monthly Distribution

Monthly SUD Encounters at Emergency Department by Substance, Westchester County, 2023



There was a sharp increase in SUD encounters involving alcohol in the summer and SUD encounters involving nicotine in the fall.

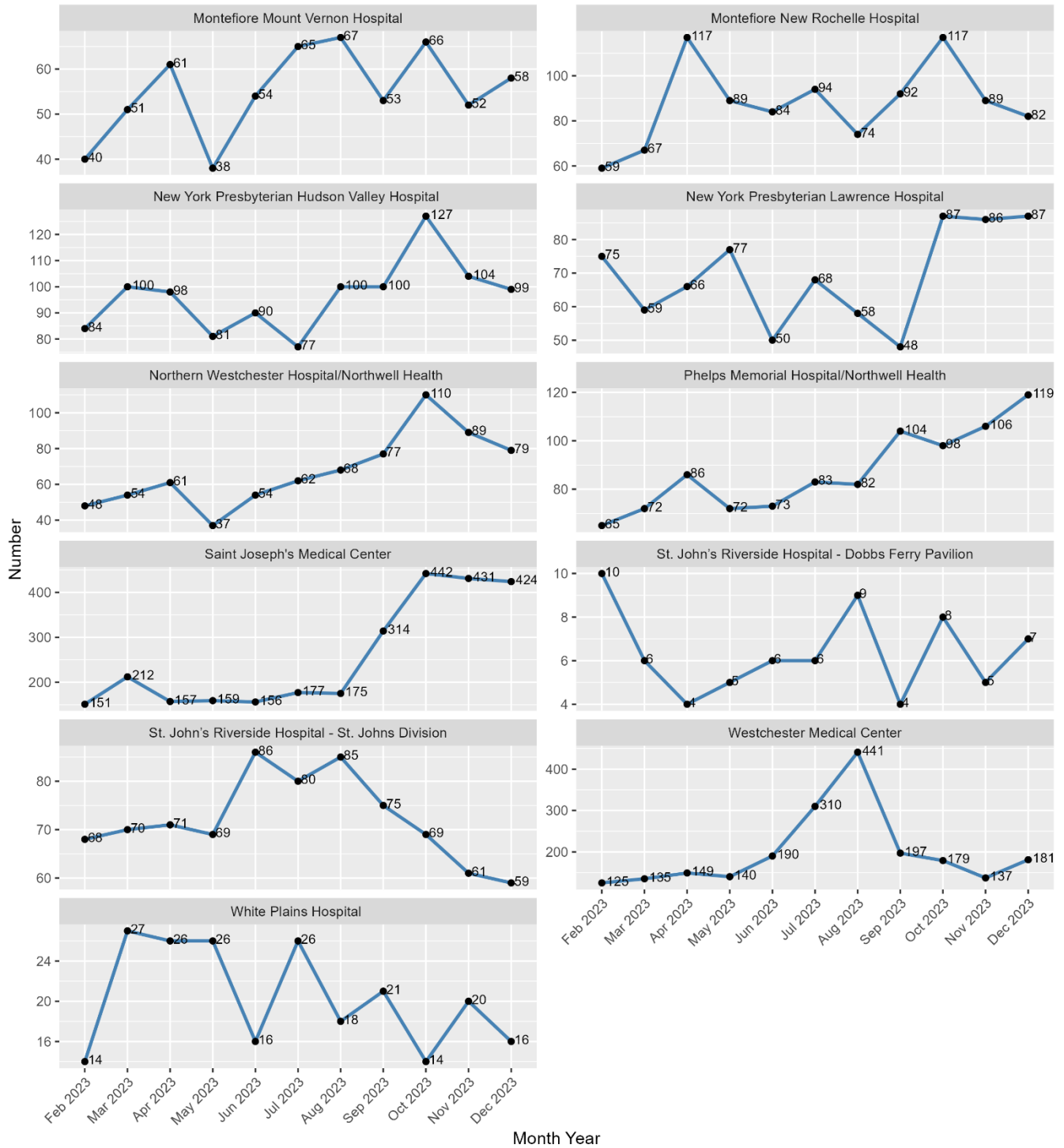
Monthly SUD Encounters at Emergency Department by Substance, Westchester County, 2023

	Jan*	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
ALCOHOL	80	299	339	365	317	355	503	664	399	473	413	433
NICOTINE	23	88	85	72	82	110	91	114	271	416	365	384
CANNABIS	10	54	67	66	52	54	42	55	74	91	79	82
OPIOID	16	38	43	37	49	47	40	43	70	92	61	66
COCAINE	6	18	26	30	20	14	19	24	49	48	57	50
SEDATIVES	2	19	16	18	25	16	17	20	25	34	21	40
HALLUCINOGENS	9	50	48	53	39	55	52	64	68	72	69	62
STIMULANTS	1	10	5	4	4	6	5	8	7	10	6	3
INHALANTS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
OTHER	12	39	39	44	45	39	43	40	78	98	112	81
UNSPECIFIED	48	180	236	263	223	233	291	233	169	150	153	154

*January: Incomplete

Monthly Distribution

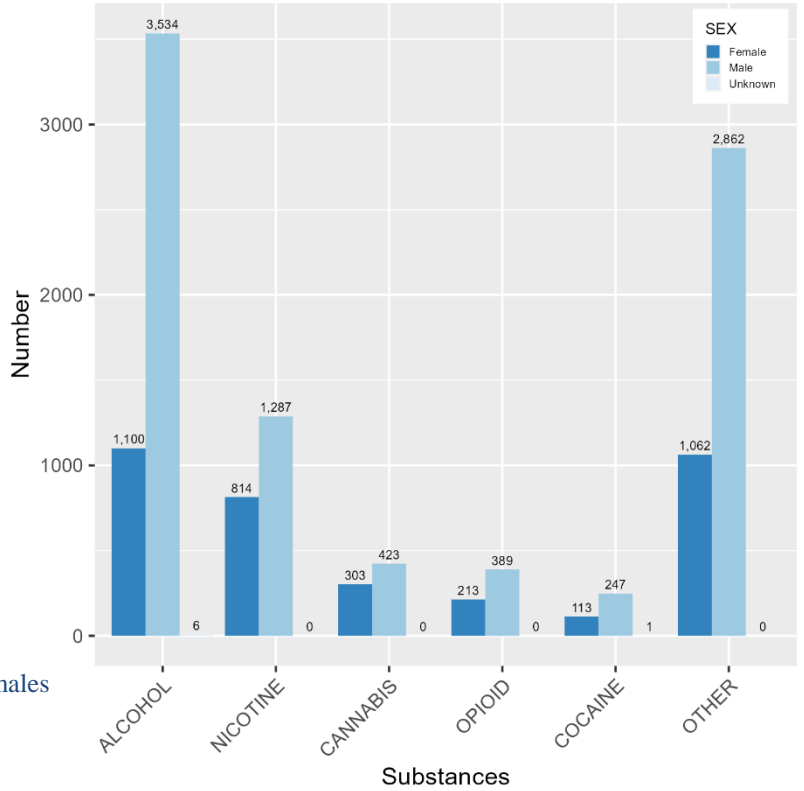
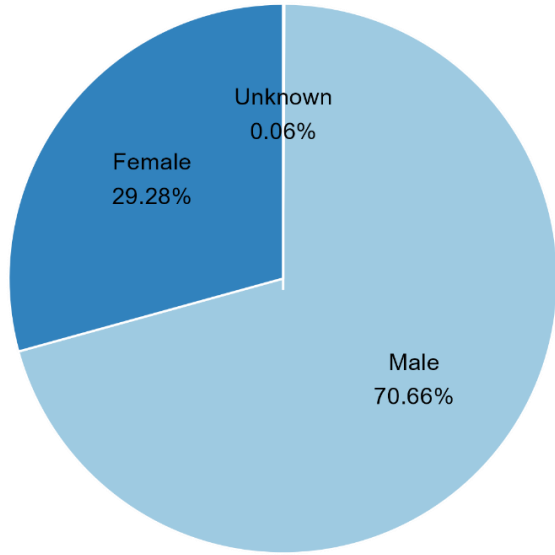
Monthly SUD Encounters at Emergency Department by Hospital, Westchester County, 2023



While overall SUD encounters as a percent of total increased over the second half of the year, each hospital demonstrated different patterns over the year.

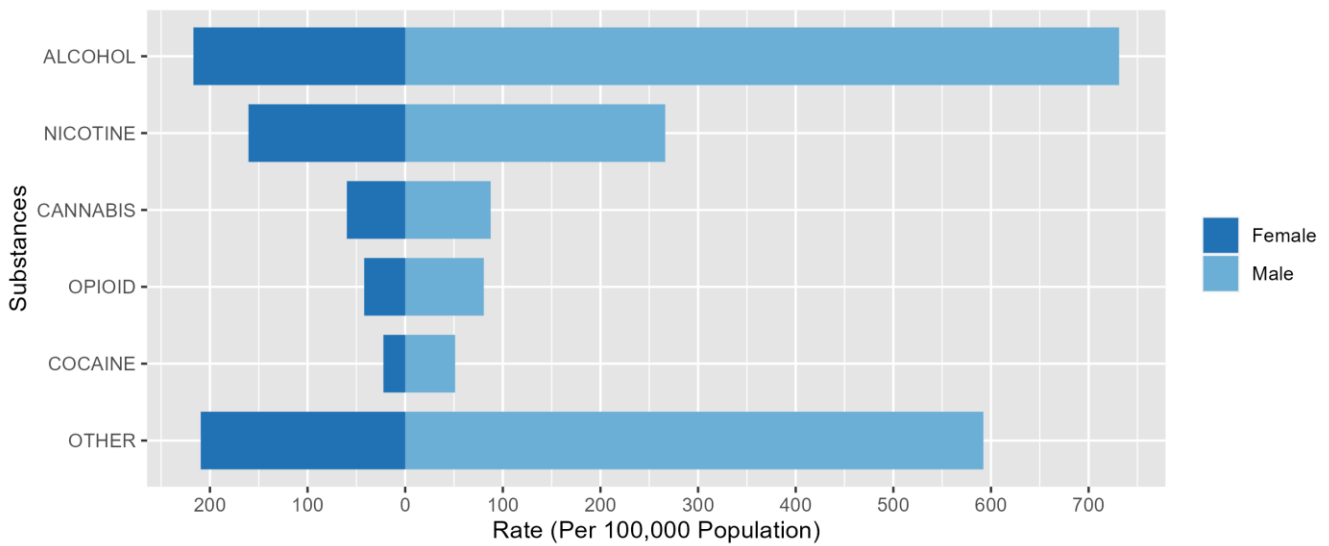
Demographics

SUD Encounters at Emergency Department by Sex, Westchester County, 2023



In 2023, there were more male SUD encounters than females for each type of the substances studied.

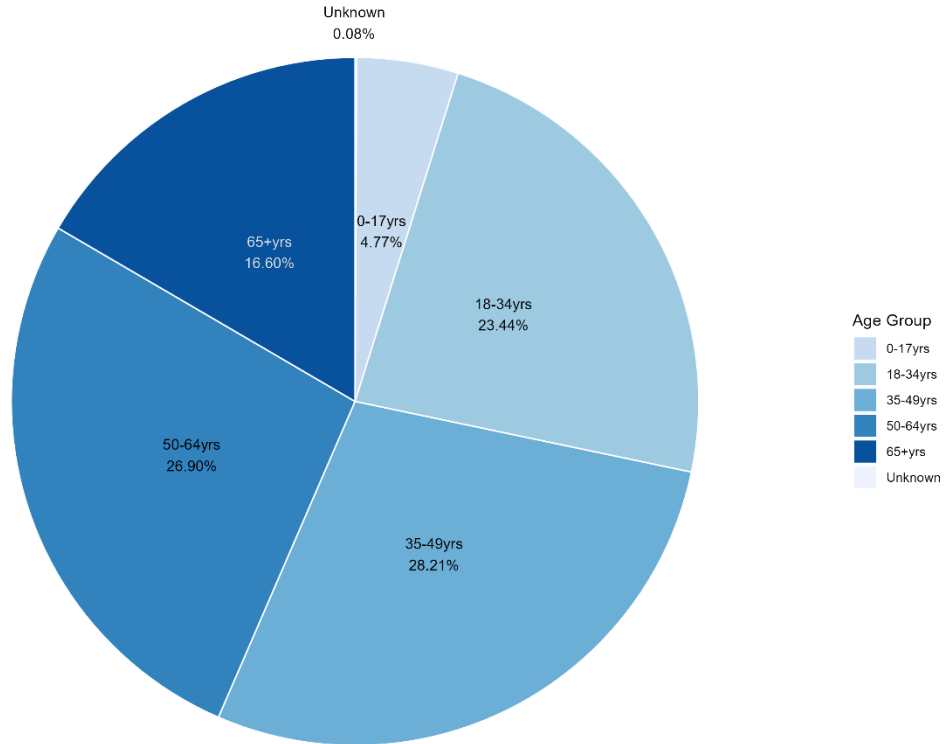
SUD Encounter Rate by Sex for Major Substances, Westchester County, 2023



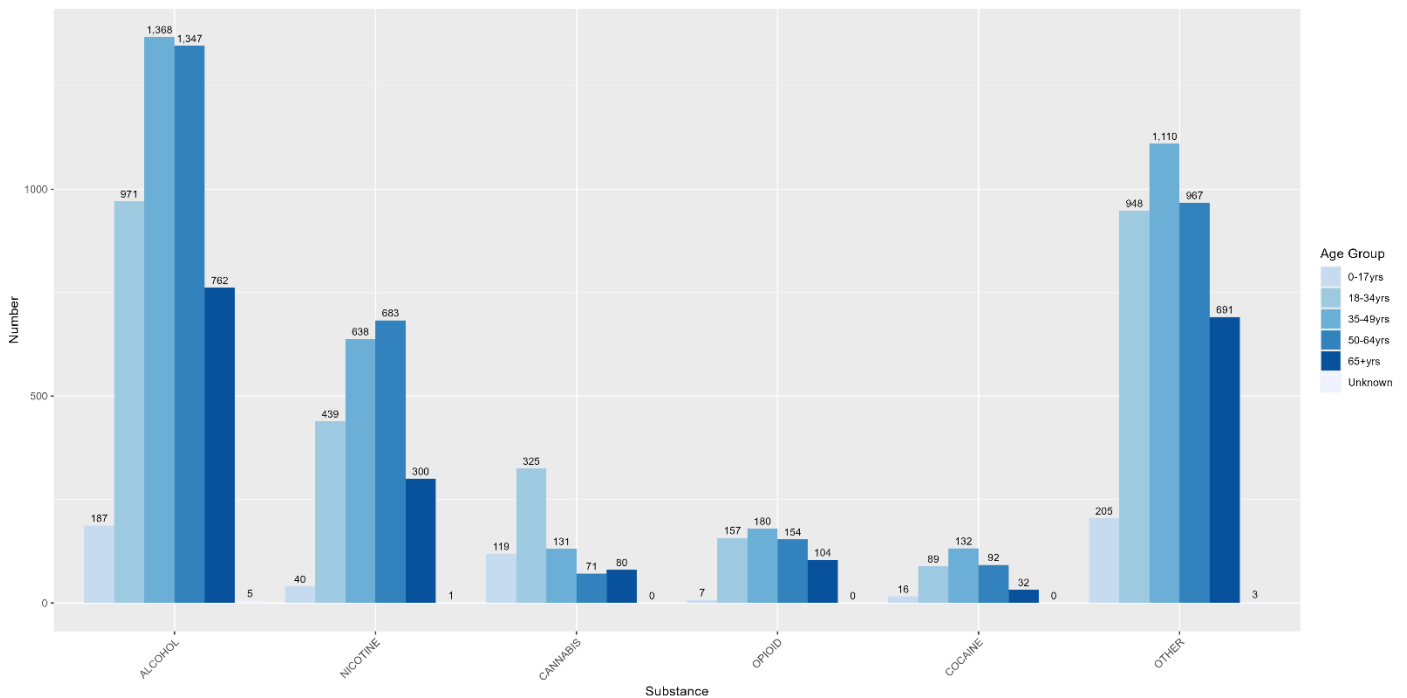
Among Westchester County residents who visited Emergency Department with SUD in 2023, male residents have higher SUD rate than female residents for all substances studied.

Demographics

SUD Encounters at Emergency Department by Age, Westchester County, 2023

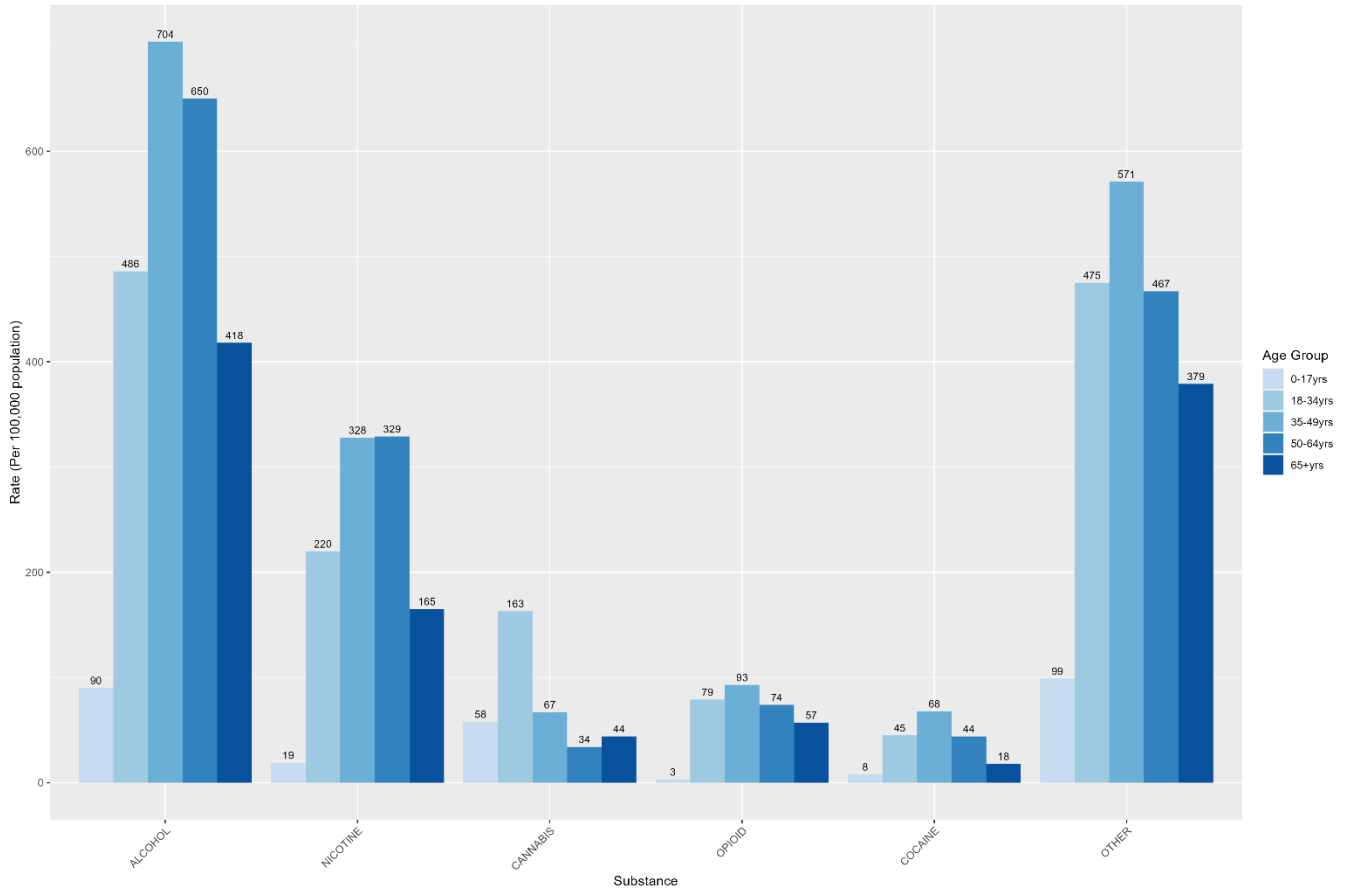


Age Distribution of SUD Encounters by Substances Documented, Westchester County, 2023



Demographics

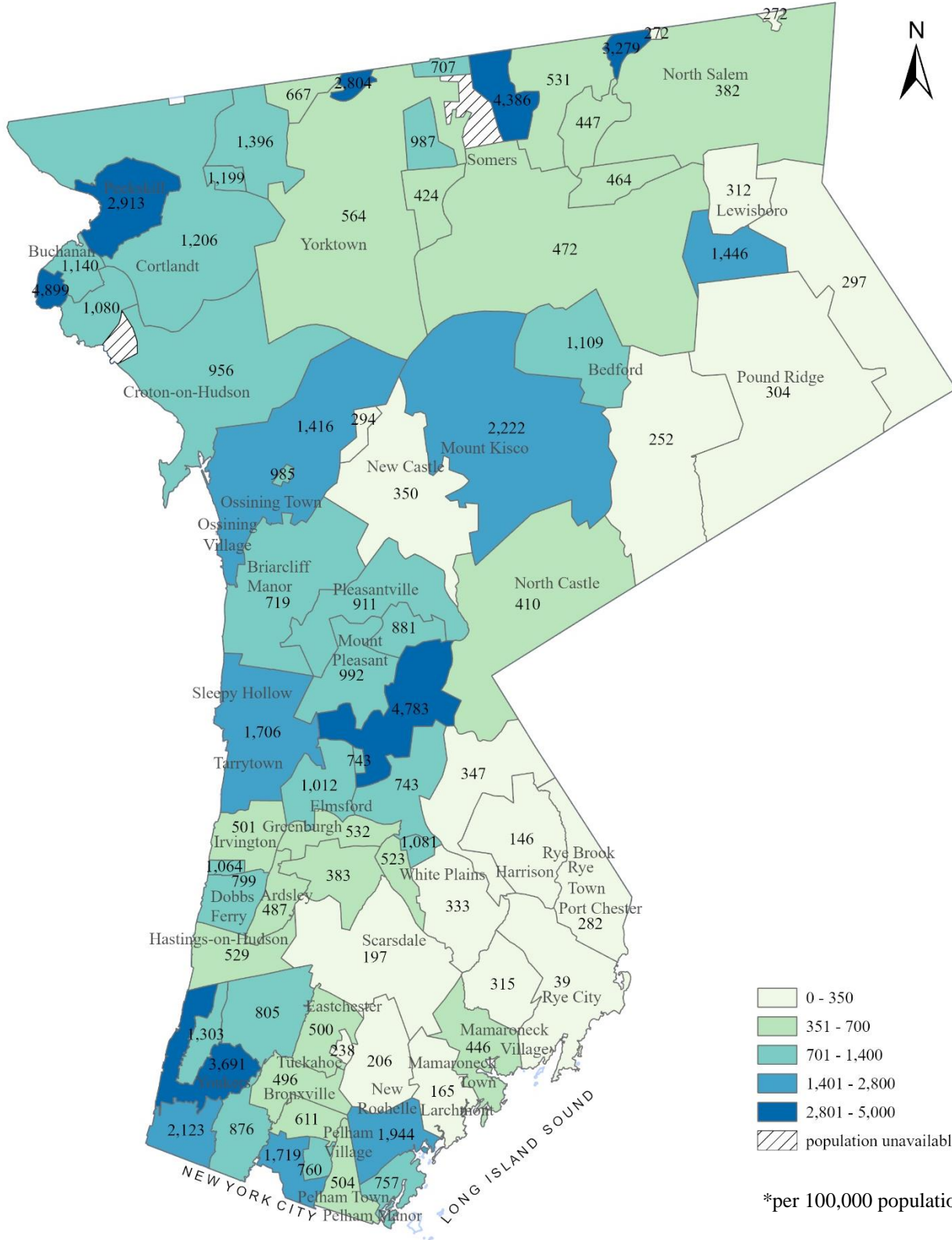
SUD Encounter Rate by Age for Major Substances, Westchester County, 2023



Among Westchester County residents who visited Emergency Department for SUD in 2023, residents aged 35-49 years have the highest SUD rate for consuming alcohol, opioid, cocaine and other substances. Residents aged 18-34 years have the highest SUD rate for consuming cannabis.

Residence Distribution

SUD Encounter Rate* by Residence Zip Code, Westchester County, 2023



- 0 - 350
- 351 - 700
- 701 - 1,400
- 1,401 - 2,800
- 2,801 - 5,000
- population unavailable

*per 100,000 population