

California Overdose Surveillance Dashboard Data Suppression

We used the California Health & Human Services (CHSS) De-identification Guidelines (<https://chhsdata.github.io/opendatahandbook/disclosure/>) to score our combination of factors. Scores are used to determine when data suppression or statistical masking should be considered and utilized to protect confidentiality.

The following represents the combinations, scores, and what is currently available on the dashboard.

| Time | Geography | Demographics | CHHS Score | Release | | |
|-----------|-----------|---------------------|------------|------------|-------------|----------------|
| | | | | Raw Counts | Crude Rate* | Age-Adj. Rate* |
| 12-Month | State | None | 2 | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Quarterly | State | None | 6 | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 12-Month | State | Sex | 4 | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 12-Month | State | Age (5-year Groups) | 8 | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 12-Month | State | Race/Ethnicity | 6 | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Quarterly | State | Sex | 8 | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Quarterly | State | Age (5-year Groups) | 12 | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Quarterly | State | Race/Ethnicity | 10 | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 12-Month | County | None | 12 | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Quarterly | County | None | 16 | No | Yes | Yes |
| 12-Month | County | Sex | 9 | > 5 | Yes | Yes |
| 12-Month | County | Age (5-year Groups) | 13 | > 5 | Yes | Yes |
| 12-Month | County | Race/Ethnicity | 11 | > 5 | Yes | Yes |
| Quarterly | County | Sex | 18 | No | Yes | Yes |
| Quarterly | County | Age (5-year Groups) | 22 | No | Yes | Yes |
| Quarterly | County | Race/Ethnicity | 20 | No | Yes | Yes |
| 12-Month | Zip Code | None | 12 | No | Yes | Yes |

*Annualized Quarterly Rate & 12-Month Moving Average

Note: Scores greater than 12 require some form of suppression or masking (i.e. < 6 Cell Suppression)

Scoring Assumptions. We took a conservative approach to scoring all data by assuming counts < 11 events. The reason for this approach is that opioid overdoses have tended to affect small, northern rural counties in California disproportionately.

For **state-level** indicators, we assumed a base CHHS score of 2 pts (7 pts [Events < 11] – 5 pts [State or geography with population >2,000,000]).

For **county-level** indicators, we assumed a base CHHS score of 12 pts (7 pts [Events < 11] + 5 pts [Population ≤ 20,000]). Quarterly state- and county-level indicators included an additional 4+ pts for quarterly data.

Availability of Counts. For counties, we utilized a ≤ 5 suppression strategy for annual counts involving demographic factors. Quarterly counts are only released at the state level; no quarterly county-level counts are available.