

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	Raw Counts	Release Crude Rate ^a	Age-Adj. Rate ^a
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

^a 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. We assumed that **state-level** indicators had 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 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.