



Opioid Recovery & Remediation Fund (ORRF) Advisory Council

Executive Office of Health and Human Services

March 6, 2024

Today's Agenda



Welcome to New Council Members



Approval of 12/11/23 Minutes



Important Announcements



ORRF Mission, Vision & Principles



Updates on Strategic Priorities



Initiative Spotlight: BSAS Data Dashboard

Welcome to New Council Members

Thank you to Jennifer Almonte & Kate Lena for your service!

A warm welcome to our new members:

Candice McClory, Opioid Prevention Specialist, City of Lynn

Born and raised in Lynn, MA, Ms. McClory's work over the last 15 years has been in the public health field, working with diverse populations to address the opioid crisis and its impacts on individuals and communities. Her core competencies include public health, harm reduction, overdose prevention, and education relating to HIV, HCV, and other STIs. She is passionate about helping people who use drugs and their families access care and resources, and reducing the stigma and barriers they face.

Vaira Harik, Assistant County Administrator, Barnstable County Commissioner's Office

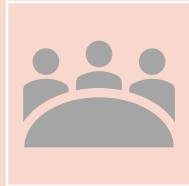
Prior to becoming the Assistant County Administrator at the Barnstable County Commissioner's Office, Ms. Harik was the Deputy Director and Senior Project Manager for Barnstable County's Department of Health and Human Services where she convened public, private, and non-profit agencies and partners to address regional health and social problems in the areas of substance misuse, aging and disability, childcare accessibility, and health equity, with a focus on policy and systems change. Ms. Harik received her Master's Degree in Health Policy and Management from Harvard University.

Vote on 12/11/23 Minutes

Important Announcements



Vendor selected for Community Grantmaking RFR



Massachusetts Municipal Opioid Abatement [Conference](#) scheduled for March 19-20, 2024



Updated Municipal Expenditure [Dashboard](#)

ORRF Mission & Vision

Mission*: The purpose of the Opioid Recovery and Remediation Trust Fund (Fund) is to mitigate the effects of the opioid epidemic on individuals and families, particularly in historically underserved communities, which have experienced a disproportionately high rate of opioid related overdose deaths.



Vision*: The Fund will finance activities across the full continuum of prevention, harm reduction, treatment, services and supports for an individual's recovery from opioid addiction and in support of their loved ones.

*See ORRF Strategic Framework:

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/orrf-advisory-council-meeting-presentation-12622/download>

ORRF Guiding Principles

01

Focus on historically underserved populations suffering from and/or impacted by opioid use disorder

02

Incorporate health equity and community engagement principles into each funded program

03

Prioritize localized, community-focused efforts where possible

04

Drive funding decisions based on current data and evidence-based research

05

Focus on sustainability concepts for funded efforts from the beginning

06

Prioritize innovative and nontraditional solutions

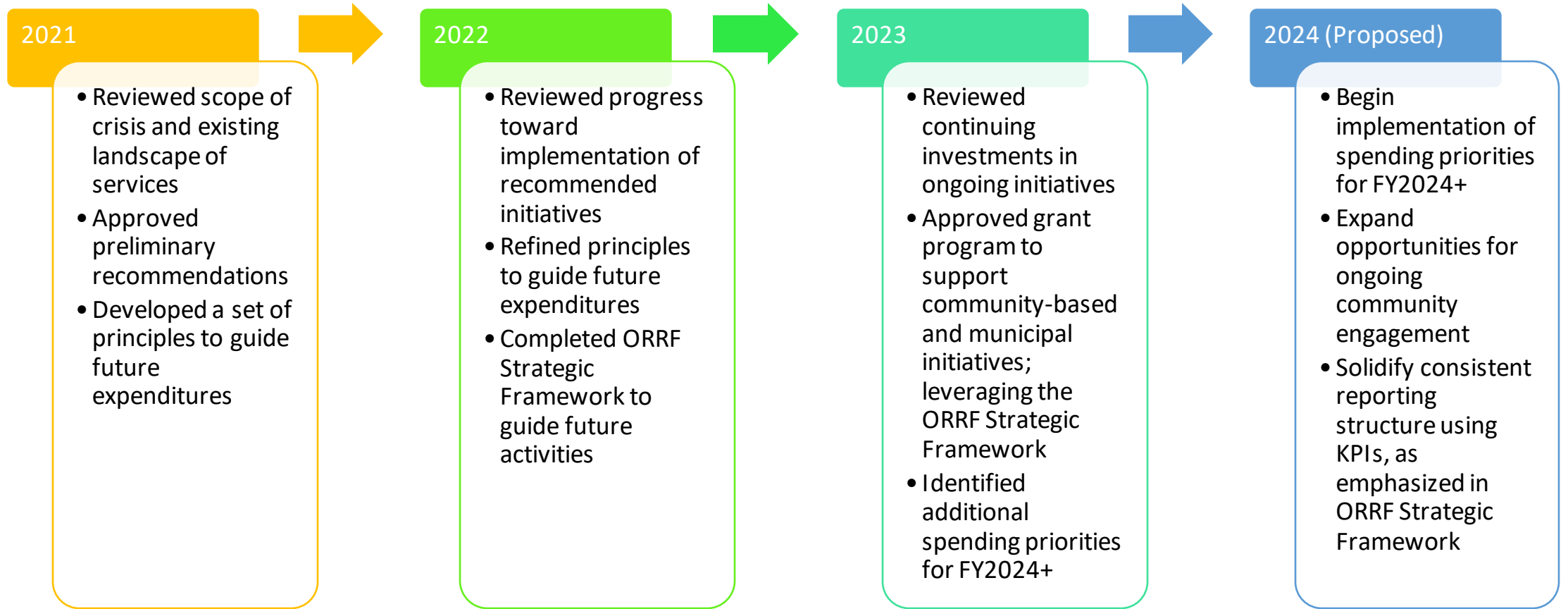
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Fund solutions and programs that do not have alternative funding sources

*See ORRF Strategic Framework:

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/orrf-advisory-council-meeting-presentation-12622/download>

Timeline of Council Activities



Overview of Strategic Priorities & Initiatives



Updates on Ongoing Initiatives

Workforce

- MA-Repay: Initial round of funding resulted in **395 substance use treatment providers** receiving loan repayment awards totaling **\$12,642,872**
- Launching **second round** with remaining funds (~\$2M) to capture any workers who may have joined the workforce after January 2023

Access to MOUD

- 5 programs funded across the state to add **mobile components** and/or **medication units** in areas of high need
- **OTP Desert Study** will inform future funding opportunities

Housing & Housing Supports

- **585** unique individuals sheltered across 7 Low-Threshold Sites
- **200** of these individuals placed in permanent housing through a housing navigation program (n=194) or were housed through reunification with friends or family

Harm Reduction Expansion

- Funds **7** vendors to expand access to harm reduction services for underserved individuals including, but not limited to, Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC)

Emergency Fund

- Allocating up to **\$1.6M** in approved emergency funds to maintain housing capacity

Updates on New Initiatives

Equity

- Planning to re-open [Black and Latino Men's Re-Entry RFR](#) to add 1-2 sites in areas of high need.
- Planning to release **Women's Re-Entry** in Spring 2024 to provide enhanced community-based supports for people who identify as women pre- and post- release from incarceration as well as for those under community supervision.
- Announced **\$2.9 million** in grants to support BIPOC-led and primarily serving organizations to address substance use and/or social determinants impacting substance use through **Redefining Community Wellness** program

Service Expansion/Enhancement

- Posted notice of intent to award funding to **16** hospital systems through [Hospital-based SUD RFR](#)
- Funded hospitals will establish or expand existing **addiction consult services** and/or **bridge clinics** co- or closely located to the hospital, to **increase access to care** and **strengthen linkages to ongoing care**
- Began meeting with hospitals to review contract expectations including plans for **data collection and evaluation**
- Goal is to have contracts in place by **4/2024**

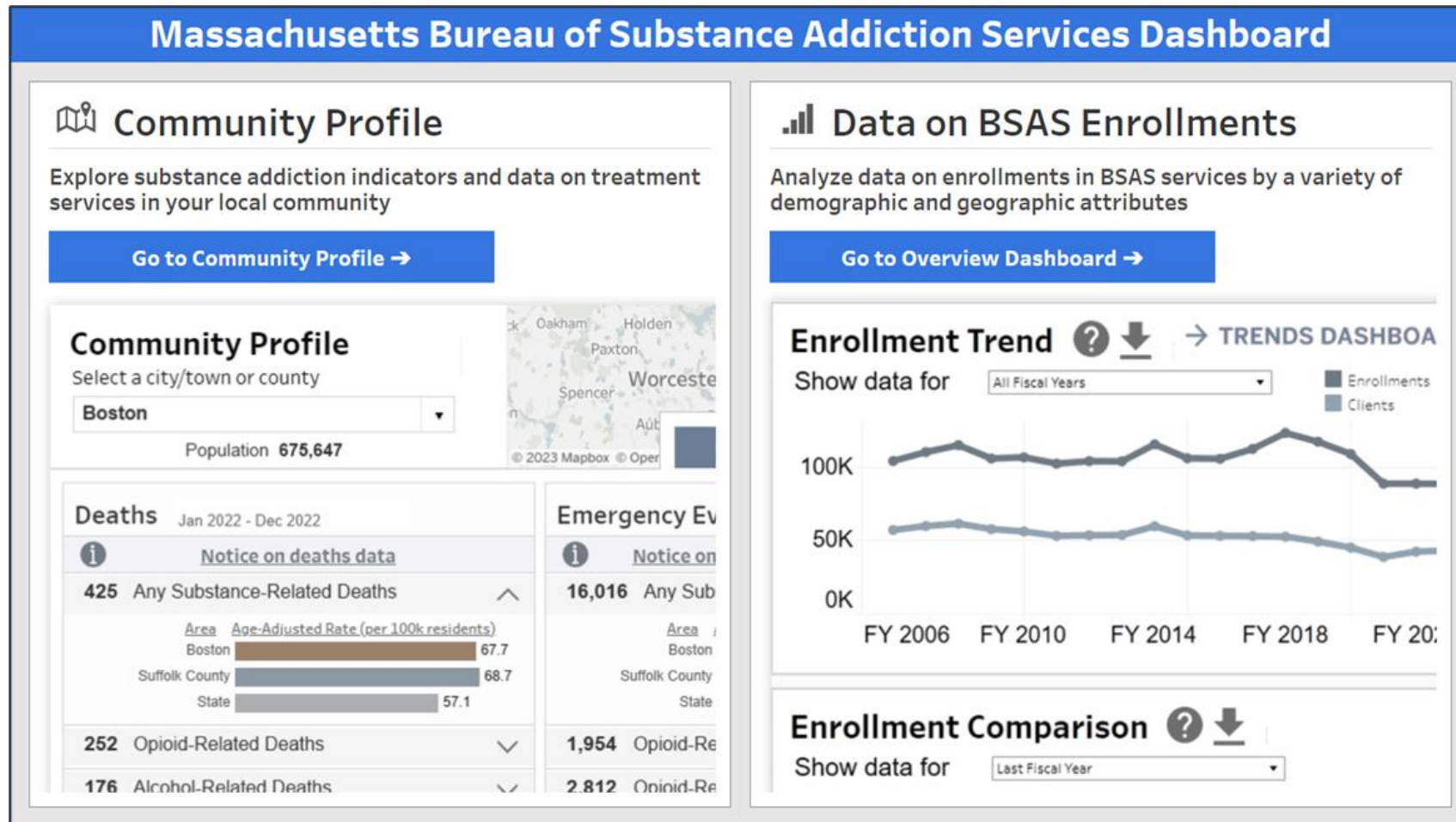
Supporting Families

- Plan to release an RFR in **Spring 2024** to fund existing evidence-based and evidence-informed models that support families
- **\$3M** will provide funds needed to pilot, implement, and evaluate these models that focus on priority populations and are equity-driven

Data Collection/Analysis

- **Spotlight Presentation:** BSAS Dashboard Expansion

Initiative Spotlight: Community Profile Dashboard



The Challenge

There are several barriers to accessing substance misuse and treatment data today that can hinder communities in data-driven decision-making:



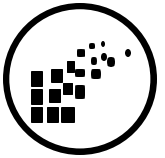
Data is scattered across several different systems

A user must visit multiple webpages/reports to access relevant data



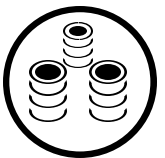
Each dataset has its own reporting methods

This can often lead to significant variations in measures when comparing data across data sources due to differences in reporting methods



Data may be unavailable at the community level

Data is often unavailable at the community level (city/town or county), as this level of disaggregated reporting requires complex data suppression rules



Data are often siloed to their own reporting system

Existing dashboards and reports are often limited in the data they can report, due to legal or data sharing agreements needed to access different data

The Opportunity: Unified Community Profile

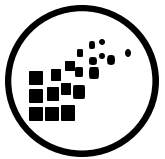
The **Community Profile** integrates substance addiction indicators into a single dashboard, offering the first unified view of substance misuse data in the state.



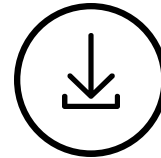
Unites datasets across 6 separate systems, allowing for richer and more meaningful analysis



Provides a set of **curated indicators** for **3 major categories**: substance-related deaths, emergency events, and substance addiction services



Comprehensively covers all **351 cities/towns** and **14 counties** in Massachusetts, with all data passing through a data-suppression engine



Data can be **downloaded** for additional analysis

Examples of Use Cases



General Public

Explore both **high-level summaries** and **deep dive details** on substance-related deaths, emergency events, and substance addiction services in your local community



Community Health Stakeholders

Select your location of interest to see substance use and services metrics that can be used to inform **addiction treatment services planning** and conduct **needs assessments**



Internal EOHHS Stakeholders

Reference the dashboard when **generating reports** that are used for internal meetings to understand substance misuse data at the community level



Academic Researchers







Download specific **community data for further analysis** (in tools like Excel, R or Python) or query it programmatically using the dashboard's API



Media

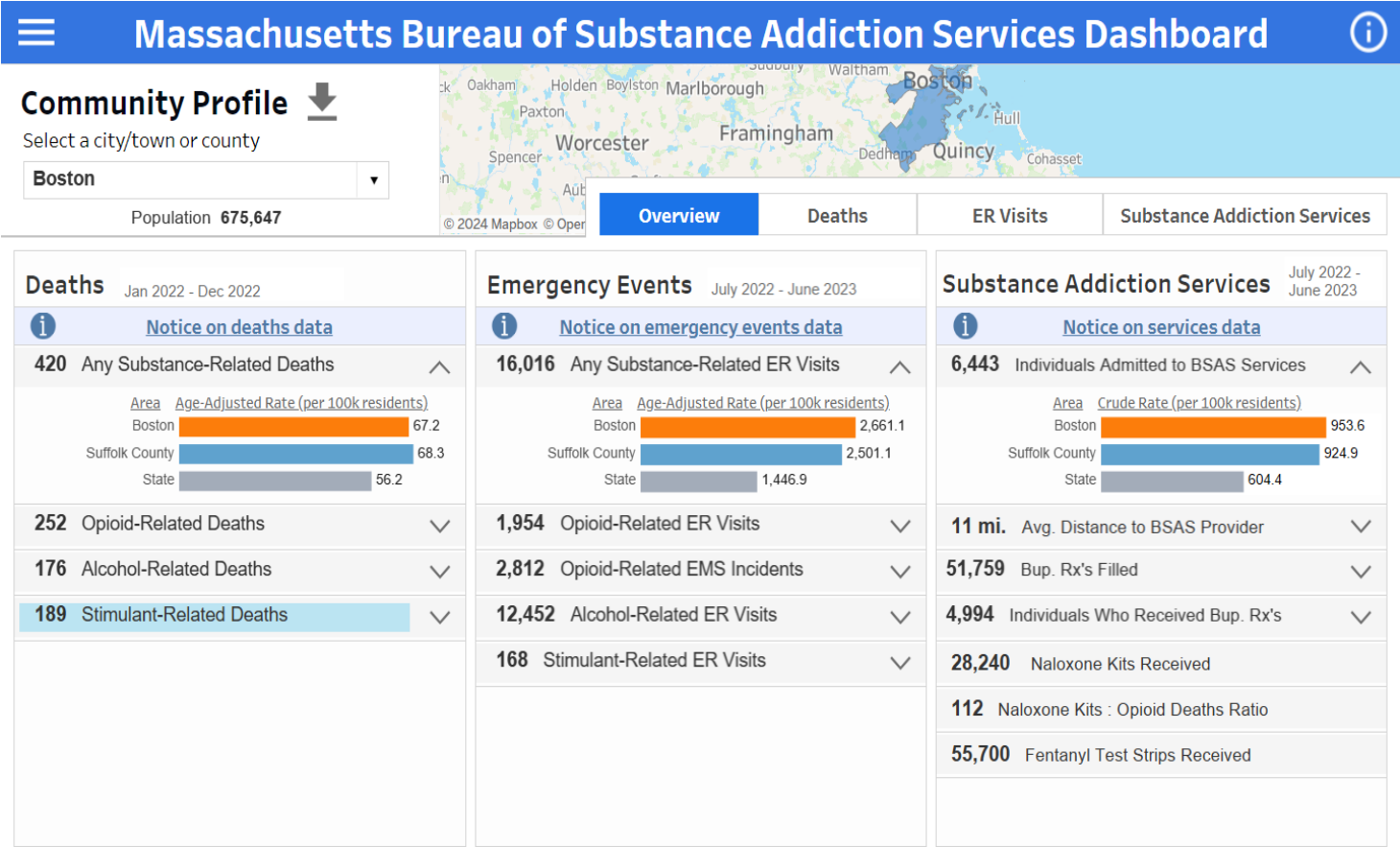
Screenshot dashboard visualizations when creating **news articles** that discuss substance misuse issues in Massachusetts

Key Features

-  **Data on BSAS Enrollments:** The BSAS Enrollments page captures information on enrollment in BSAS services broken out by geography, fiscal years, and demographic characteristics. There are over **3 million possible combinations** of these filters.
-  **Community Profile:** The Community Profile view provides specific **city, town, and county level snapshots** of substance-related deaths, emergency events, and services.
-  **Individual Privacy Protections:** All data passes through a custom designed data-suppression engine to minimize any risk of individual disclosure.
-  **Data Downloadable for Offline Use:** Users can download the data powering the visualizations they create through the dashboard or through an API.
-  **Best Practices in Accessibility:** The dashboard has been designed to follow best practices in state and federal accessibility guidelines.
-  **Data Dictionary:** A comprehensive data dictionary for all terms defines key concepts used throughout the dashboard.

How It Works

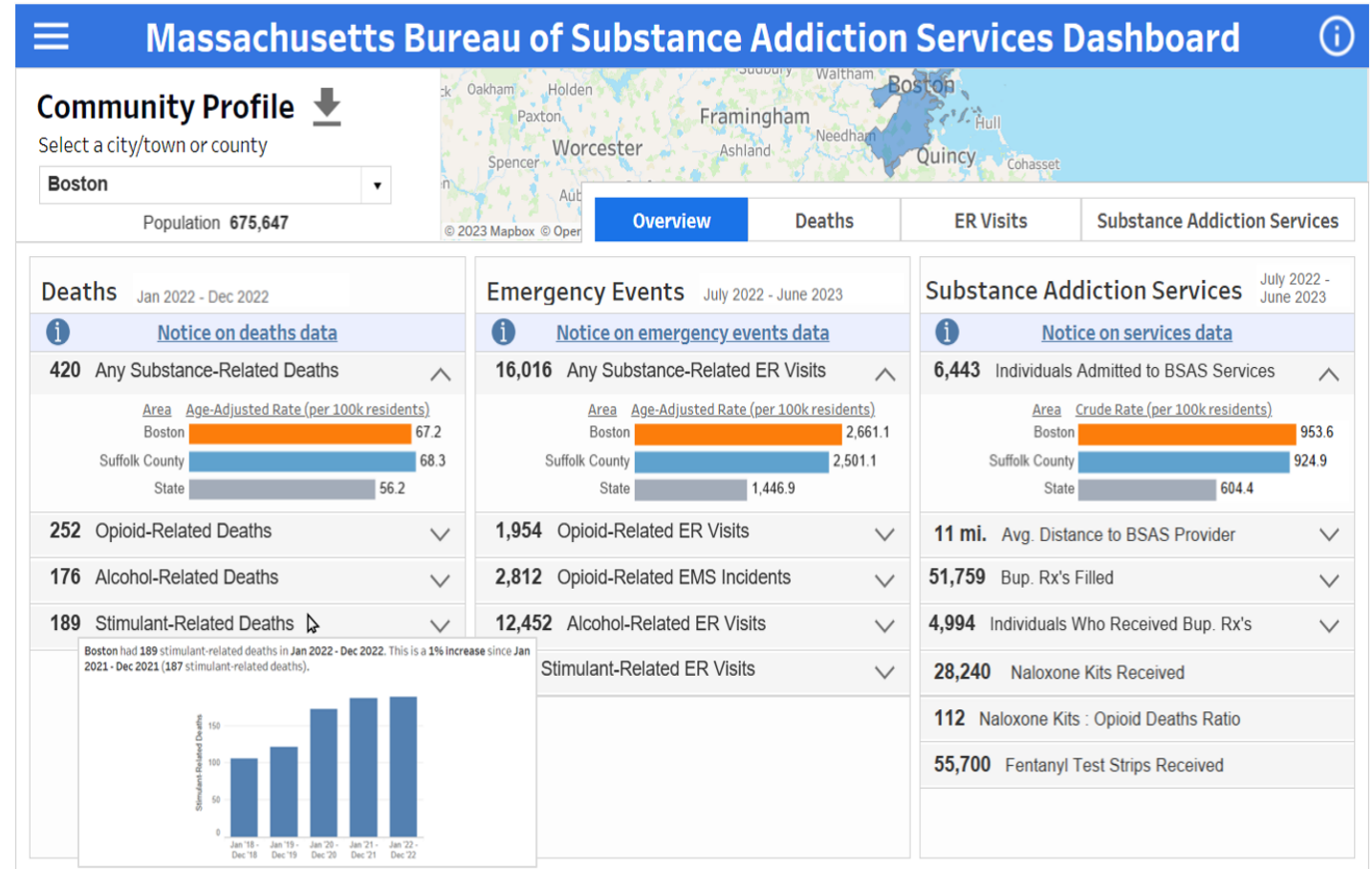
1. Visit [Data on Enrollments in Substance Addiction Services | Mass.gov](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/data-on-enrollments-in-substance-addiction-services) and select “Community Profile” (no login is needed)
2. Select your Massachusetts community (one of the 351 cities/towns or 14 counties)
3. A set of curated substance use/ treatment metrics and visuals for your community is displayed. Data can be downloaded for further analysis or offline use.



Community Profile overview page, set to the City of Boston (screenshot trimmed to fit)

Overview Page

- The **Community Profile Overview** page displays a curated set of overview metrics that convey **substance addiction impact and services** within a community. These metrics are organized into three categories:
 - Substance-Related Deaths
 - Emergency Events
 - Substance Addiction Services
- Users can expand the metrics to display **bar graph comparisons** to the state rate and, if a city/town is selected, the county rate.
- Users can hover over each metric to display **a 5-year trend** and the **percent change** since the prior year.

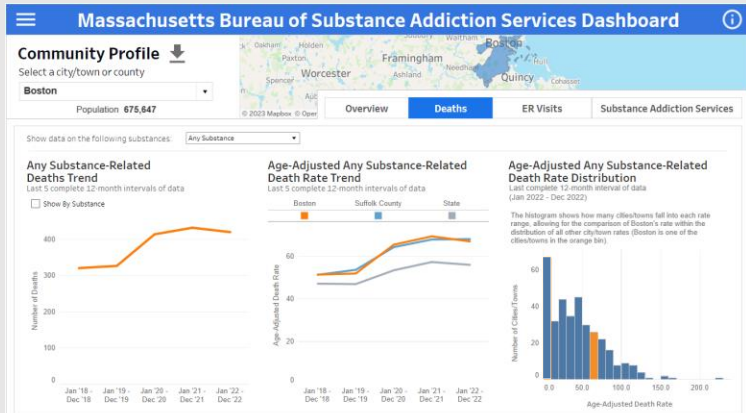


Detail Tabs

Deaths

Using the top-level filter, users can multi-select which substance(s) the visuals will reflect.

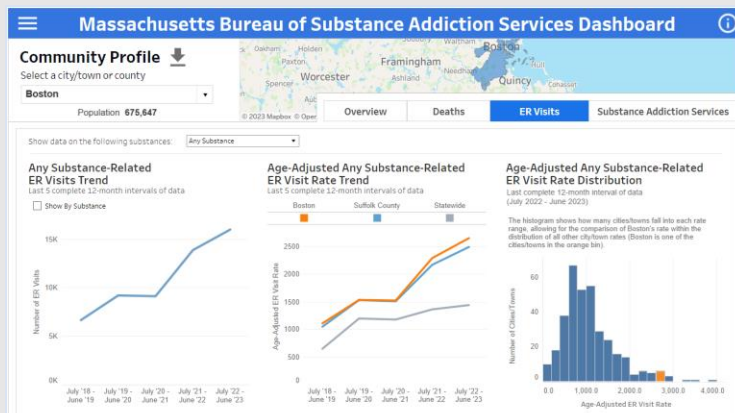
- The **Number of Deaths Trend** displays a 5-year trend of SUD-related deaths.
- The **Age-Adjusted Death Rate Trend** displays a 5-year trend of the selected community rate compared to the state and (if applicable) its county.
- The **Age-Adjusted Death Rate Distribution** compares this rate to the distribution of city/town or county rates in the most recent year.



Emergency Visits

Using the top-level filter, users can multi-select which substance(s) the visuals will reflect.

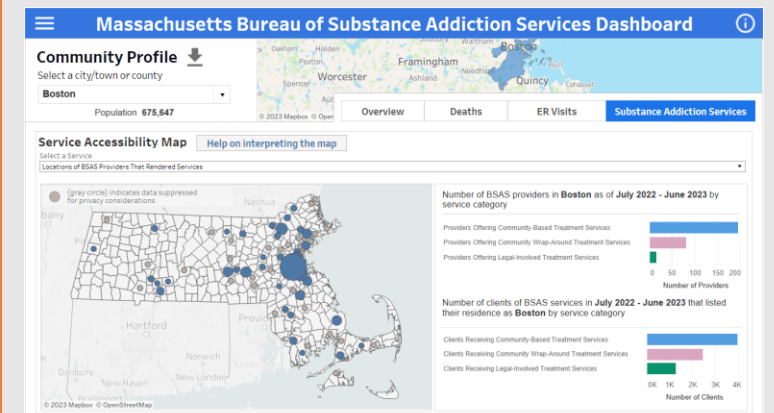
- The **Number of ED Visits** trend displays a 5-year trend of ED visits.
- The **Age-Adjusted ED Visit Rate Trend** displays a 5-year trend of the selected community rate compared to the state and (if applicable) its county.
- The **Age-Adjusted ED Visit Rate Distribution** compares this rate to the distribution of city/town or county rates in the most recent year.



Substance Addiction Services

Using the top-level filter, users can select which service visualizations to view.

- The **Locations of Naloxone Kits Distributed** and **Locations of Fentanyl Test Strips Distributed** views display maps of naloxone kits and fentanyl test strips distributed in each city/town or county.
- The **Locations of BSAS Providers That Rendered Services** view displays a map visualizing where BSAS clients travel to receive services from BSAS providers, along with bar graphs showing number of providers and clients by service category.



Dashboard Demo

☰
Massachusetts Bureau of Substance Addiction Services Dashboard
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Community Profile

Select a city/town or county

Boston
▼

Population **675,647**

Overview

Deaths
ER Visits
Substance Addiction Services

Deaths Jan 2022 - Dec 2022

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[Notice on deaths data](#)

420 Any Substance-Related Deaths ^

Area	Age-Adjusted Rate (per 100k residents)
Boston	67.2
Suffolk County	68.3
State	56.2

252 Opioid-Related Deaths v

176 Alcohol-Related Deaths v

189 Stimulant-Related Deaths v

Emergency Events July 2022 - June 2023

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[Notice on emergency events data](#)

16,016 Any Substance-Related ER Visits ^

Area	Age-Adjusted Rate (per 100k residents)
Boston	2,661.1
Suffolk County	2,501.1
State	1,446.9

1,954 Opioid-Related ER Visits v

2,812 Opioid-Related EMS Incidents v

12,452 Alcohol-Related ER Visits v

168 Stimulant-Related ER Visits v

Substance Addiction Services July 2022 - June 2023

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[Notice on services data](#)

6,443 Individuals Admitted to BSAS Services ^

Area	Crude Rate (per 100k residents)
Boston	953.6
Suffolk County	924.9
State	604.4

11 mi. Avg. Distance to BSAS Provider v

51,759 Bup. Rx's Filled v

4,994 Individuals Who Received Bup. Rx's v

28,240 Naloxone Kits Received

112 Naloxone Kits : Opioid Deaths Ratio

55,700 Fentanyl Test Strips Received

Questions & Answers

Hermik Babakhanlou-Chase

Director of BSAS's Office of Statistics and Evaluation

Email: hermik.babakhanlou-chase@mass.gov

Upcoming Council Meetings

- Thursday, June 13, 2024 from 10:30 am – 12:00 pm
- Tuesday, September 10, 2024 from 12:30 – 2:00 pm
- Tuesday, December 3, 2024 from 11:00 am – 12:30 pm