

NEVADA COUNTY EMCC ANNUAL REPORT



2020

Emergency Medical Care Committee

A review of operations, and associated recommendations, submitted to the Nevada County Board of Supervisors and the Sierra-Sacramento Valley Emergency Services Agency.



NEVADA COUNTY
Public Health



EMCC Annual Report 2020

EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE

1 | BACKGROUND

Section 1797.270 *et seq* of the California Health and Safety Code permits counties to have an Emergency Medical Care Committee (EMCC), and resolution #07-593 of the Nevada County Board of Supervisors established such a committee to advise the Board and the Sierra-Sacramento Valley Emergency Services Agency (S-SV) on issues concerning provision of emergency medical services in Nevada County.

A | Annual Reporting

The Health and Safety Code proposes that the EMCC shall, at least annually, review the operations of each of the following:

- Ambulance services operating within the county,
- Emergency medical care offered within the county, including programs for training large numbers of people in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and lifesaving first aid techniques, and
- First aid practices in the county.

This report to the Board and S-SV is a fulfillment of that responsibility.

B | Membership

The Board prescribes the membership of the committee, and this annual report is co-authored by the following member agencies

Private Ground Ambulance Provider:

Dignity Health- Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital
Ambulance Service

Acute Care Hospital Emergency Rooms:

Dignity Health- Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital
Tahoe Forest Hospital

Provider Agencies:

Grass Valley Fire Dept. (Incorporated City or Town
EMS Provider)
Penn Valley FPD (Unincorporated Western Nevada
County ALS Provider)
Truckee FPD (Unincorporated Eastern Nevada
County ALS Provider)

Peardale-Chicago Park FPD (Unincorporated EMS
Provider)

CALFIRE (Dispatch Center)

County Departments:

Nevada County Public Health Officer
Nevada County OES Manager

Ex-officio non-voting members:

Sierra-Sacramento Valley Emergency Medical
Services Agency (S-SV)
Nevada County Sheriff's Office
One incorporated city police department (Grass
Valley)
Nevada County Fire Chief's Association
American Red Cross

2 | REPORT CONTENT

NEVADA COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE BY THE NUMBERS

4	Air Transport Agencies
2	Acute Care Hospitals
2	Public Transport Agencies
1	Private Transport Agency
27	Emergency Physicians
80	Paramedics
161	EMTs

A | Ambulance Services

TRANSPORT AGENCIES

Agency	PM/ RN*	EMTs	911 EMS calls	911 EMS Transports	Code 3 Transport**
Dignity-SNMH Ambulance Service	28	26	5,973	4,682	492
Penn Valley FPD	11	4	901	588	59
Truckee FPD	41	5	1,417	1,156	73
CALSTAR	8	N/A	37	37	N/A
CHP	4	N/A	14***	6	N/A
REACH	9	N/A	5	5	N/A
Care Flight	40	N/A	42	41	N/A
Total	141	35	8,389	6,515	624

*Reach/Cal Star employ flight RNs/Paramedics. CHP utilizes a single Paramedic. ** Code 3 – An emergency transport using red lights and siren (CVC section 21055 & CCR 1107.7 & 1105). *** Rescue and/or EMS.

B | Emergency Medical Care

NON-TRANSPORT AGENCIES

Agency	EMTs/Paramedics	Responses to 911 EMS Scene Calls
Grass Valley/Nevada City Fire Department	17	3,059
Graniteville Fire Company	X	X
Higgins Fire Protection District	14	572
Nevada County Consolidated Fire District	31	2,271
North San Juan Fire Protection District	13	347
Ophir Hill Fire Protection District	10	231
Peardale-Chicago Park Fire Protection District	8	172
Rough & Ready Fire Protection District	6	158
Washington Water District Fire Department	2	39
Total	123	7,622

HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS/TRAUMA CENTERS**Hospital****EMS Transports**

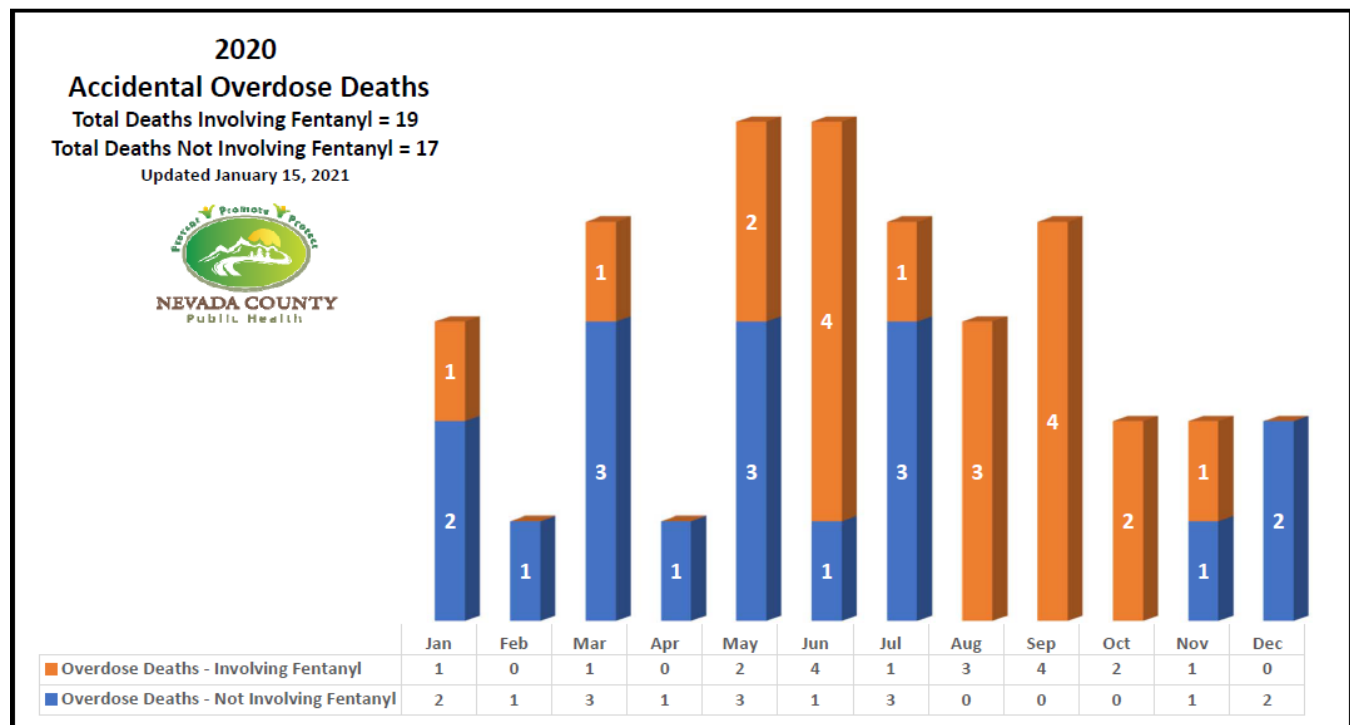
Dignity Health- SNMH	4,786
Sutter Auburn Faith	175
Trauma Centers	
Adventist Health Rideout Medical Center (L3)	47
Sutter Roseville Medical Center (L2)	306
Tahoe Forest Hospital (L4)	728
U.C. Davis Medical Center (L1 & Burn)	12
Renown Regional Medical Center (L2)	149
Total	6,203

NARCAN ADMINISTRATION**ALS Provider Agencies**

Dignity Health Sierra Nevada Ambulance	43
Penn Valley Fire	6
Truckee Fire	11
Law Enforcement (All agencies)	
Grass Valley Police Department	5
Nevada City Police Department	2
Nevada County Sheriff's Office	
Truckee Police Department	
BLS (All agencies)	
Grass Valley/Nevada City Fire Department	1
Higgins Fire District	2
Nevada County Consolidated Fire District	1
North San Juan Fire District	1
Peardale-Chicago Park Fire District	
Ophir Hill Fire District	
Rough & Ready Fire District	
Washington Fire & Rescue	
By-Standers	6
Total	78

Bystander, Law Enforcement & BLS Fire Department Prehospital Naloxone Administration Data

Overdose Type	Bystander	Law Enforcement	BLS Fire Department
Prescription – Intentional	0	1	0
Prescription – Unintentional	1	0	0
Street – Illicit	5	6	5



In 2020, we witnessed an introduction of fentanyl into Nevada County's drug supply. Fentanyl is a powerful synthetic opioid that is 50 times more potent than heroin. Fentanyl can be present in counterfeit pills and other substances. Many individuals consume fentanyl without their knowledge because they do not realize that it is in a product they're using. As a result, we experienced an increase in accidental overdoses due to fentanyl and total overdose deaths. In 2019, there were zero accidental overdose deaths related to fentanyl and in 2020 there were 17, ranging from young adults to senior citizens.

C | CPR & First Aid Practices

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many training programs for these disciplines were shut down for much of the year. They require in-person, hands-on application of skills that were not possible under the health orders in place. These orders stretched into the year 2021.

D | Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19)

RESPONSE:

- **Agencies implement alternative Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).** Providers continually modified PPE usage based on ever-changing public health and CDC guidance in the early stages of the pandemic. PPE was difficult to near impossible to locate in the early months.
- **Changes to daily practices.** Many responder agency offices closed to the public. Police and Fire kept employees separated as much as possible and masks became the order of the day. Training was significantly curtailed and remotely performed when possible. Many agencies were negatively impacted by staff contracting the virus, resulting in overtime and short staffing.
- **Response changes.** Fire agencies ceased routinely performing “lift-assists” at elderly and congregate living facilities, asking their staff to perform this service. Police agencies changed to taking many non-violent crime reports remotely or via computer technology. During the first few months most emergency response agencies saw a 10-30% reduction in calls for service.
- **Large fire response.** Fire agencies completely changed their organization of camps and living/dining facilities. Crews kept to themselves, only sending the bare minimum members into fire camp for supplies and food. Most fire camps required daily temperature checks and surveys of symptoms.

RECOVERY:

- **Early vaccine administration.** Many first responders were deemed by public health to be eligible for the first tier of vaccine administration. This included EMS personnel from the ambulance services and EMTS/Paramedics affiliated with all fire agencies. Shortly, all fire and police personnel were offered vaccination. While not every first responder has accepted the vaccine, every first responder has been offered it free of charge.
- **Continued PPE usage.** Providers continue to use appropriate PPE when in a healthcare setting, following CDC’s latest guidance. Many agencies have relaxed requirements for masking when not engaged in medically related procedures.

Emergency Medical Care Committee

2020 Chairperson: Clayton Thomas, Penn Valley FPD