OPIOID AND HEROIN SURVEILLANCE

Indiana State Department of Health
Epidemiology Resource Center

The Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics (ESSENCE) is a syndromic surveillance system that collects and analyzes data from participating hospital emergency departments in Indiana. In June 2017 ISDH began using the system to monitor suspected ODs. This guide outlines the steps taken to use the opioid and heroin overdose surveillance tab.

Step 1: Access the system

The preferred web browser to access ESSENCE are Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome. You can use Internet Explorer, however, there are some compatibility issues. To access ESSENCE, go to https://essence.isdh.in.gov/ and login with your user ID and password. If you do not have an ESSENCE user account or need to reset your password, please contact Kayley Dotson via email (kdotson@isdh.in.gov) or phone 317-233-7748.

User ID

Password

Log In

Step 2: View the opioid and heroin tab

Once logged in to ESSENCE you will need to do the following:

1. Click the myESSENCE tab on the upper left hand side of the screen
2. Click on the "Opioid and Heroin Surveillance" tab
    a. Please note the tab may take a few minutes to load
3. You should now have access to the opioid and heroin surveillance tab.

Step 3: Opioid and heroin surveillance tab layout

- Opioid (left column): Include suspected opioid ODs occurring among county residents and local hospitals during a specific period. Established daily time series widgets are pre-loaded to visualize the suspected opioid ODs among county residents and hospital facilities.

- Heroin (right column): Include suspected heroin ODs occurring among county residents and local hospitals during a specific period. Established daily time series widgets are pre-loaded to visualize the suspected heroin ODs among county residents and hospital facilities.

> **WARNING**: Use caution when identifying suspected opioid and heroin ODs. Due to reporting requirements, it is likely cases are underreported. It is recommended to view the suspected "Overdose Surveillance" tab for more complete reporting.

Step 4: Monitor suspected opioid and heroin ODs by county of residence and/or local hospital facilities.

Share aggregate reports with first responders, community groups, etc.

If the ESSENCE opioid and heroin surveillance tab is under construction, a widget note will be available on the upper left hand side. If there are any questions please reach out to Kayley Dotson, Overdose Surveillance Systems Epidemiologist.