



**Office of Addiction
Services and Supports**

OASAS. Every Step of the Way.

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

CHINAZO CUNNINGHAM, MD
Commissioner

A Public Health Approach to the Overdose Epidemic

Chinazo Cunningham, MD, MS

November 18, 2022

Disclosure

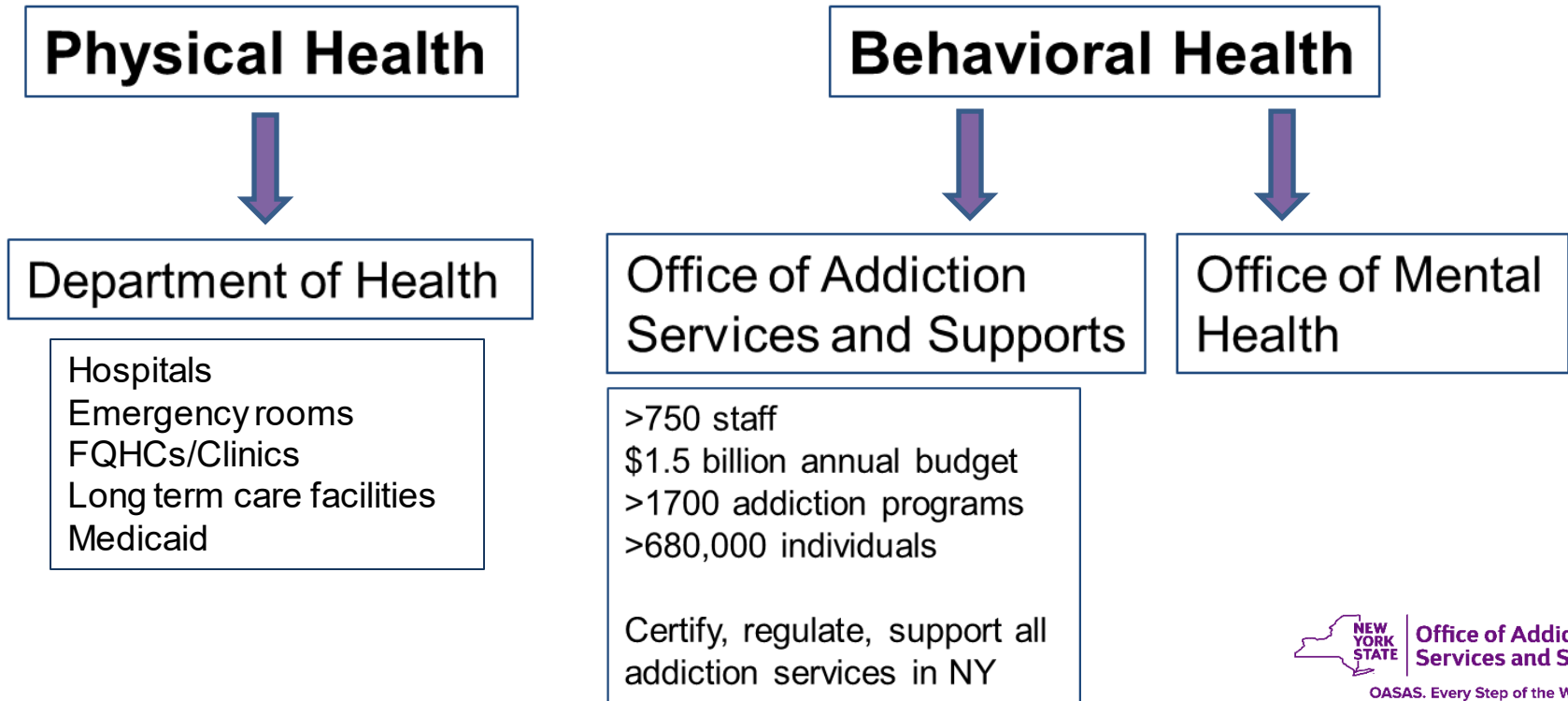
- Chinazo Cunningham, MD, MS has no financial relationships with an ineligible company relevant to the content of this presentation.
- No commercial funding has been accepted for this activity.

Outline

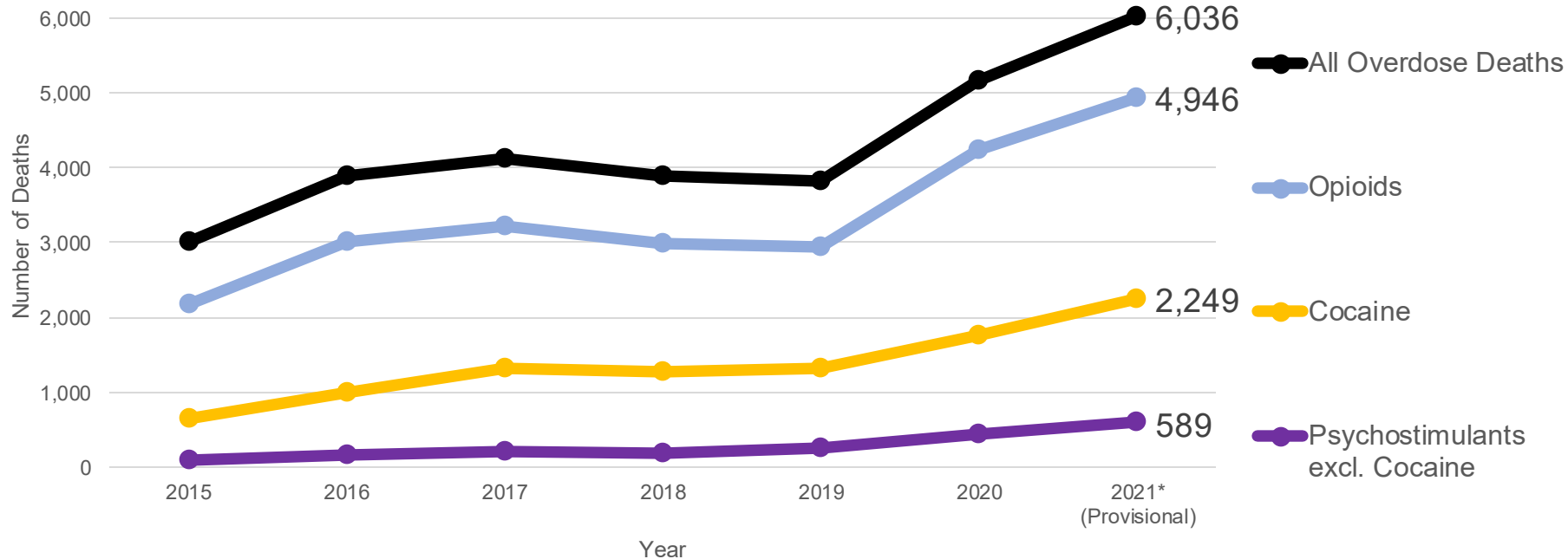
- View of New York State
- Guiding principles
 - Evidence-based and data-driven approach
 - Harm reduction
 - Equity lens
- Path forward

A View of New York State

Public Health in New York State



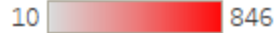
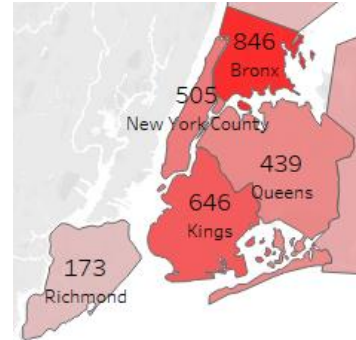
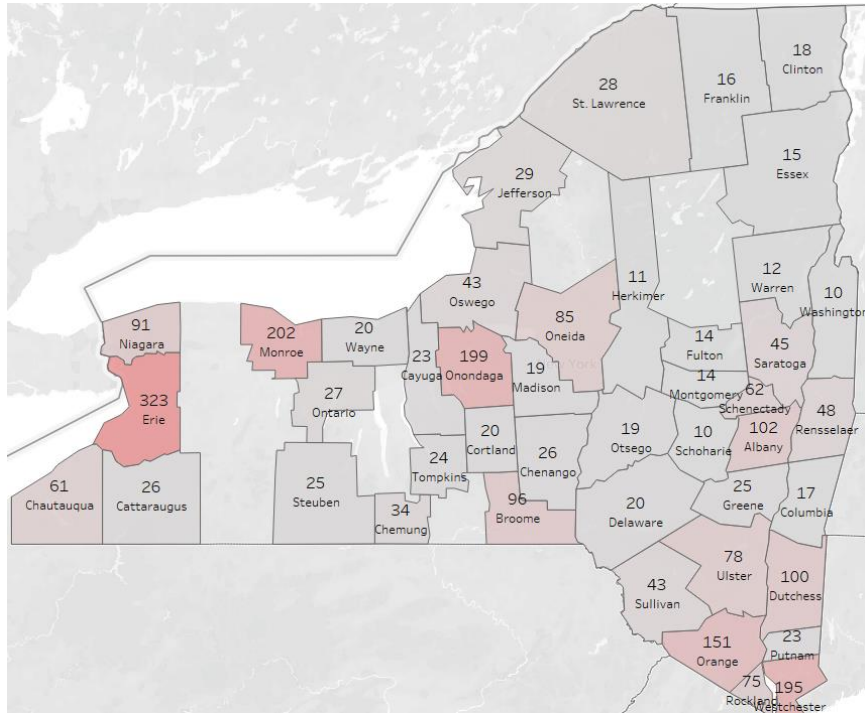
Overdose Deaths in New York



*Not mutually exclusive (more than one substance can be present at death)

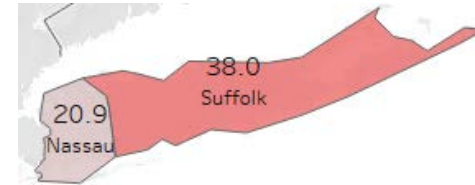
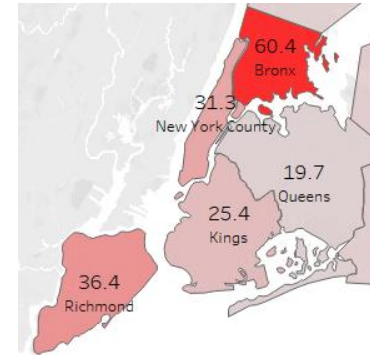
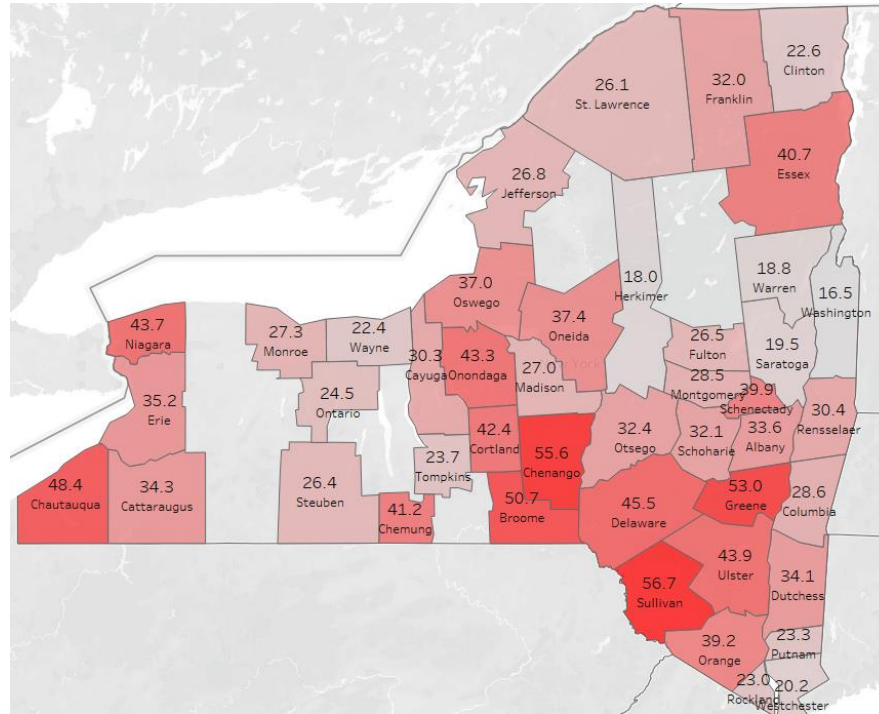
Source: Mortality Data on CDC WONDER Online Database

Provisional Number of Overdose Deaths, 2021



Source: Provisional Mortality on CDC WONDER Online Database
 Counties not shown are suppressed because the value is <10.

Provisional Crude Rate of Overdose Deaths, 2021



16.5 60.4

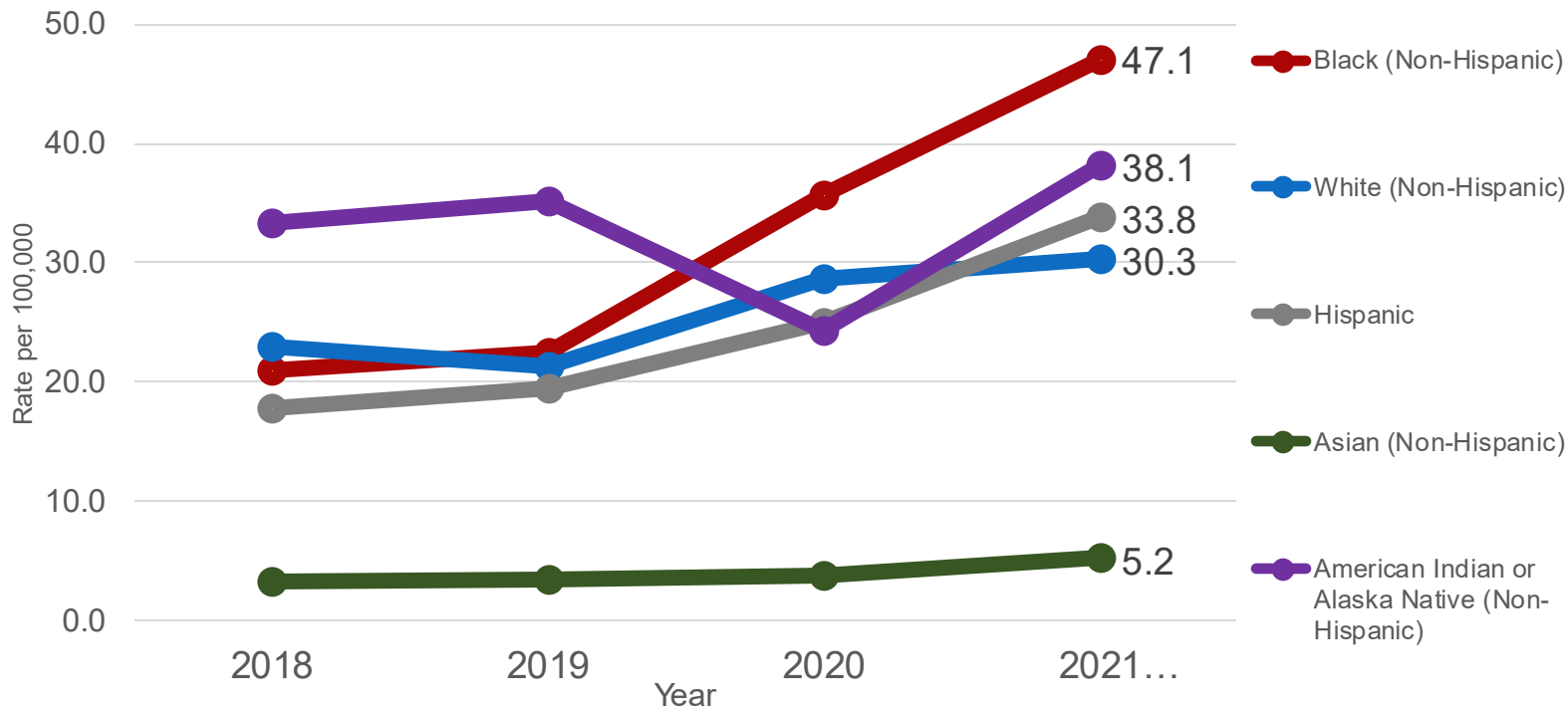
Source: Provisional Mortality on CDC WONDER Online Database
 Counties not shown are suppressed because the value is <10.



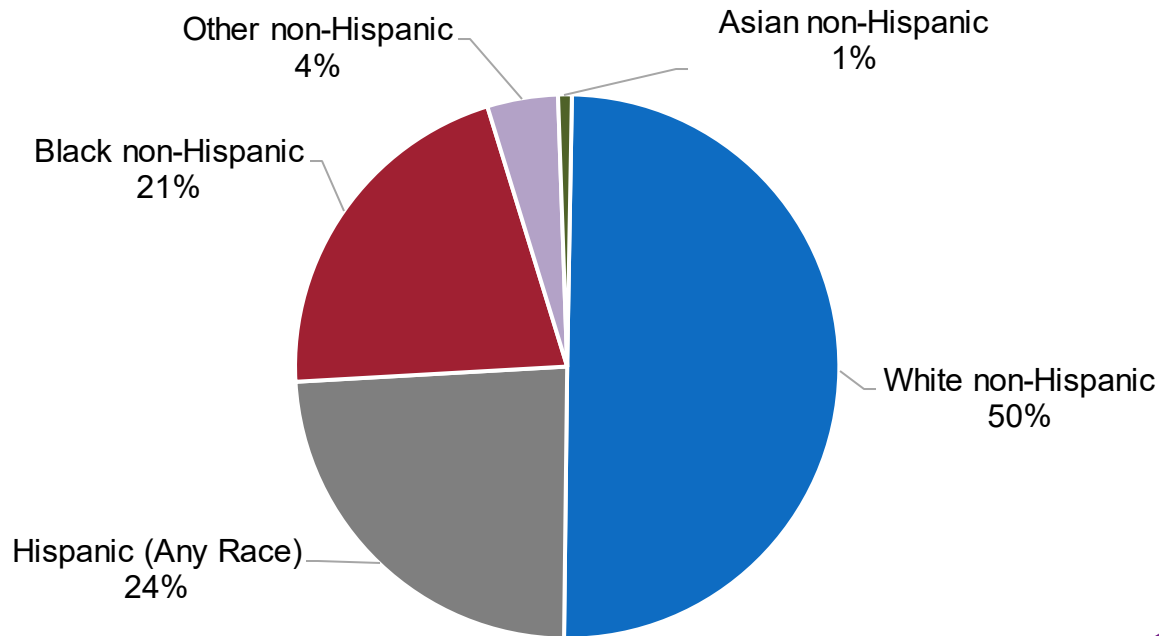
Office of Addiction
 Services and Supports

OASAS. Every Step of the Way.

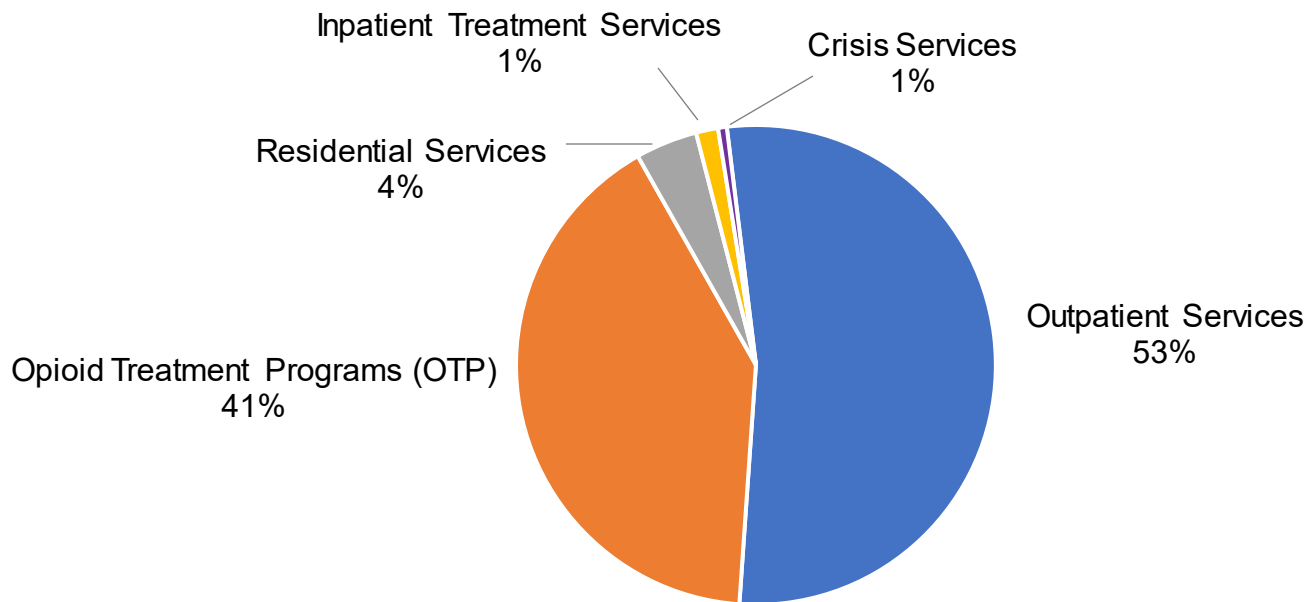
Overdose Deaths by Race/Ethnicity- New York



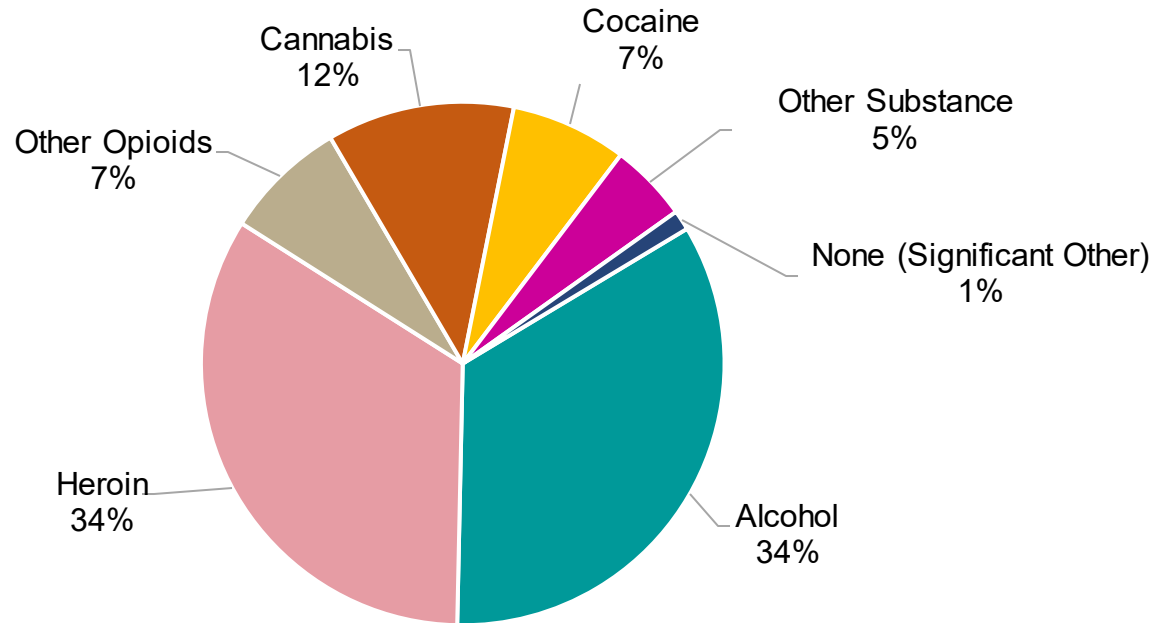
Race/Ethnicity of Patients in OASAS-certified Treatment Programs, 2021



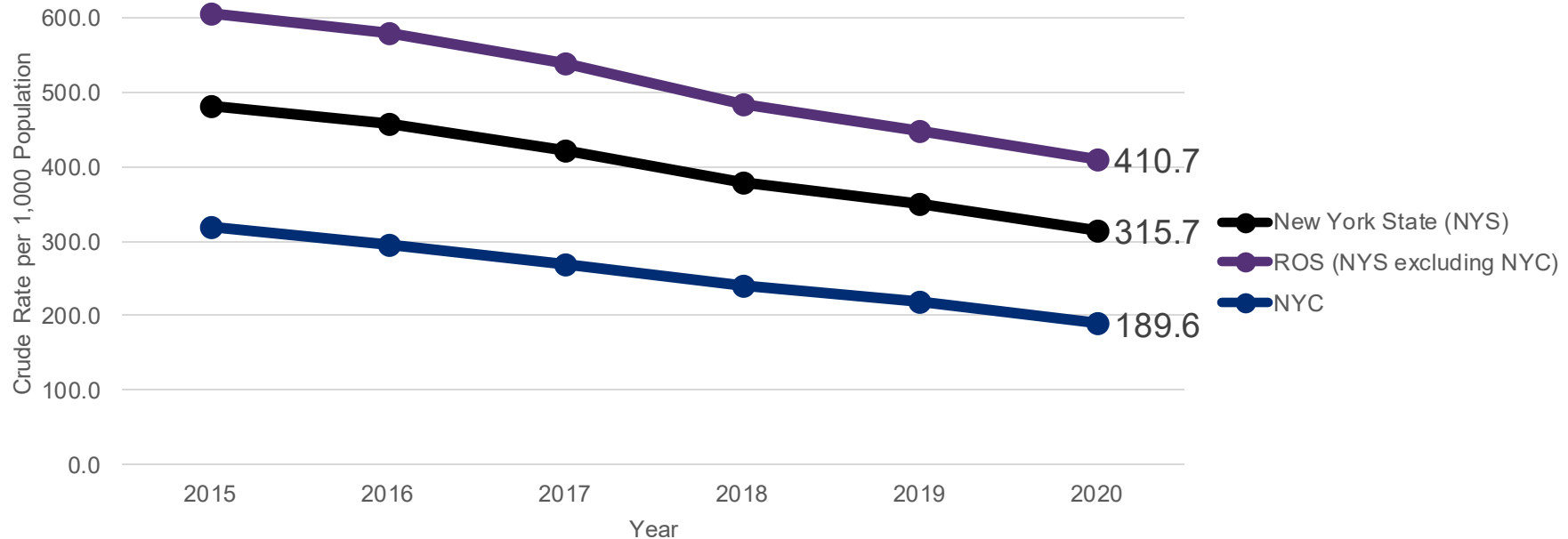
Average Daily Enrollment in OASAS-certified Treatment Programs by Program Type, 2021



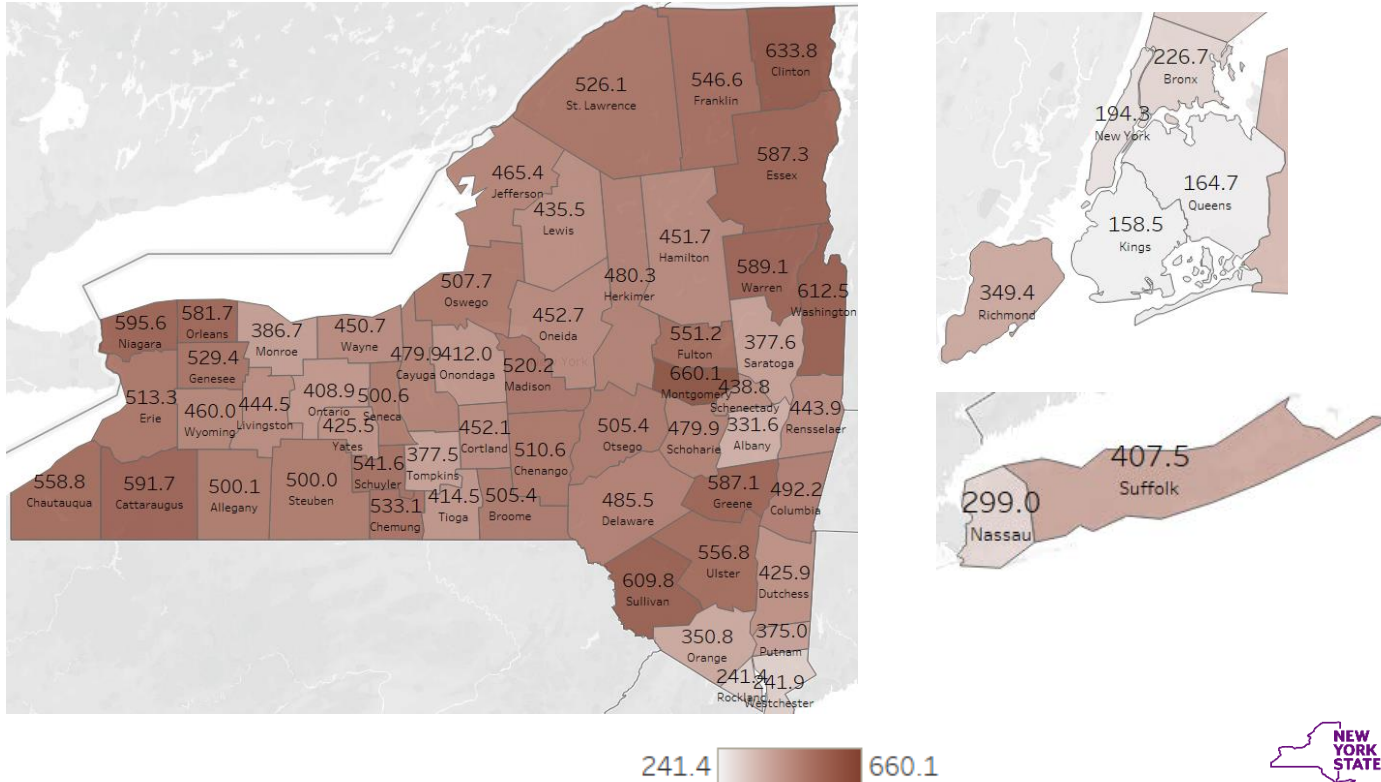
Primary Substance for Patients in OASAS-certified Treatment Programs, 2021



Opioid Analgesics Prescriptions in NY



Opioid Analgesics Prescriptions (Crude Rate per 1,000), 2020



Source: NYS Prescription Monitoring Program Data as of June 2021

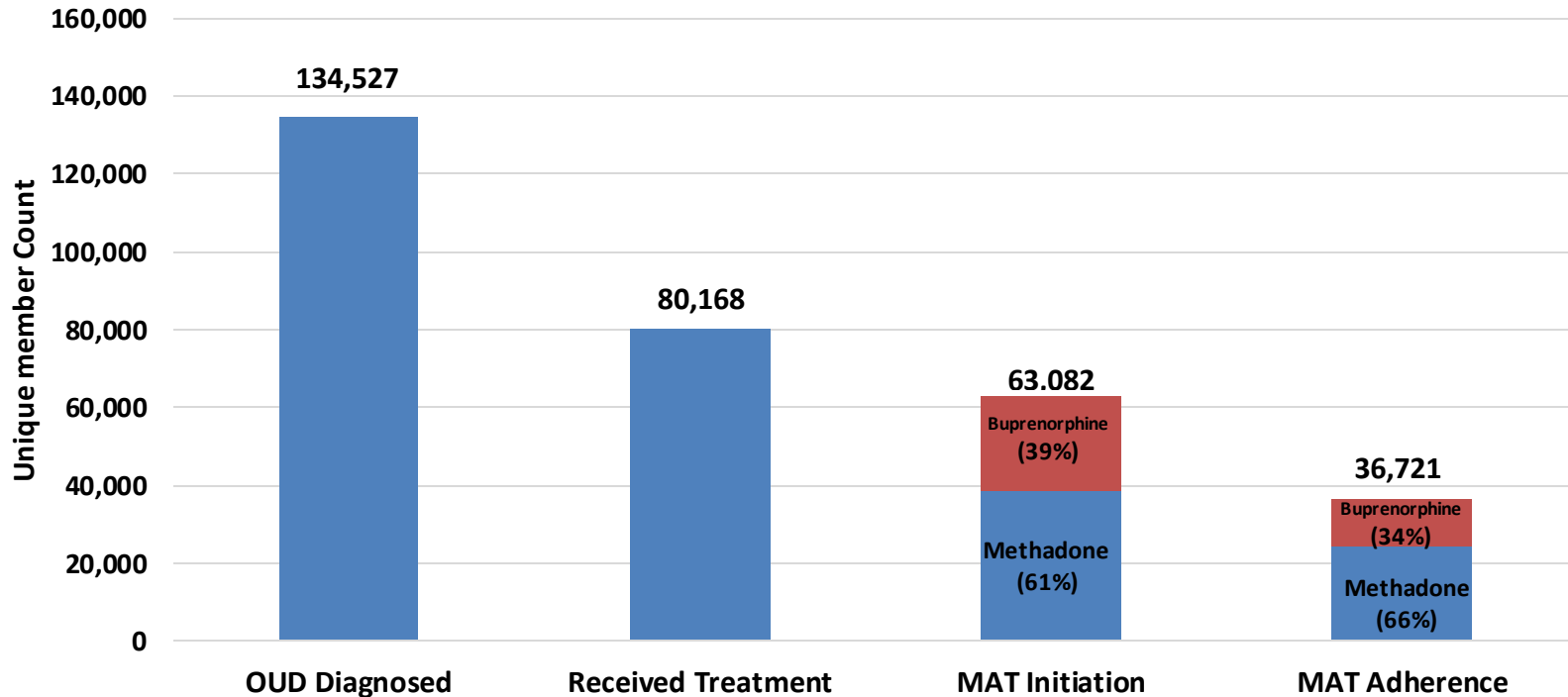
Evidence-Based Approaches

Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder

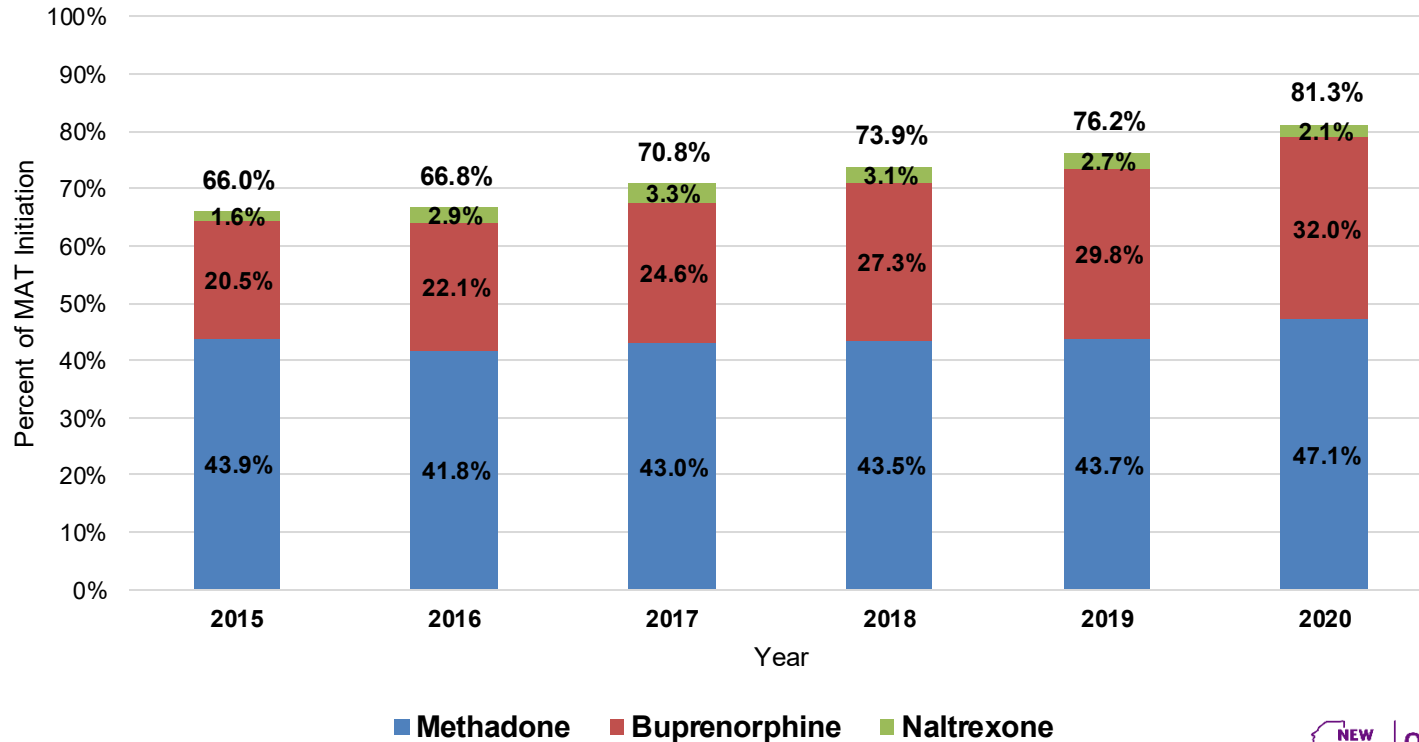
- Opioid use disorder is a chronic disease
- Treatment
 - Non-pharmacologic
 - Pharmacologic treatment
 - Opioid agonists: buprenorphine & methadone
 - Opioid antagonist: naltrexone



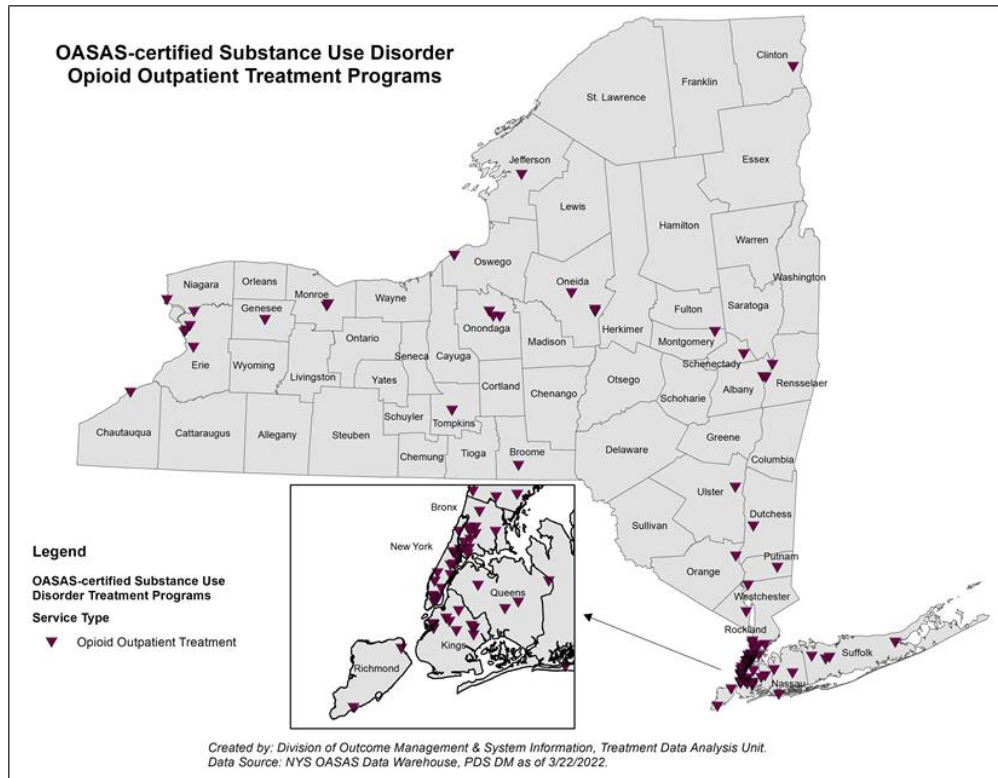
OUD Cascade of Care among NY Medicaid Patients, 2020



Medication Initiation among Medicaid Patients who received OUD Treatment



95 Opioid Treatment Programs in NY Serve >50,000 patients

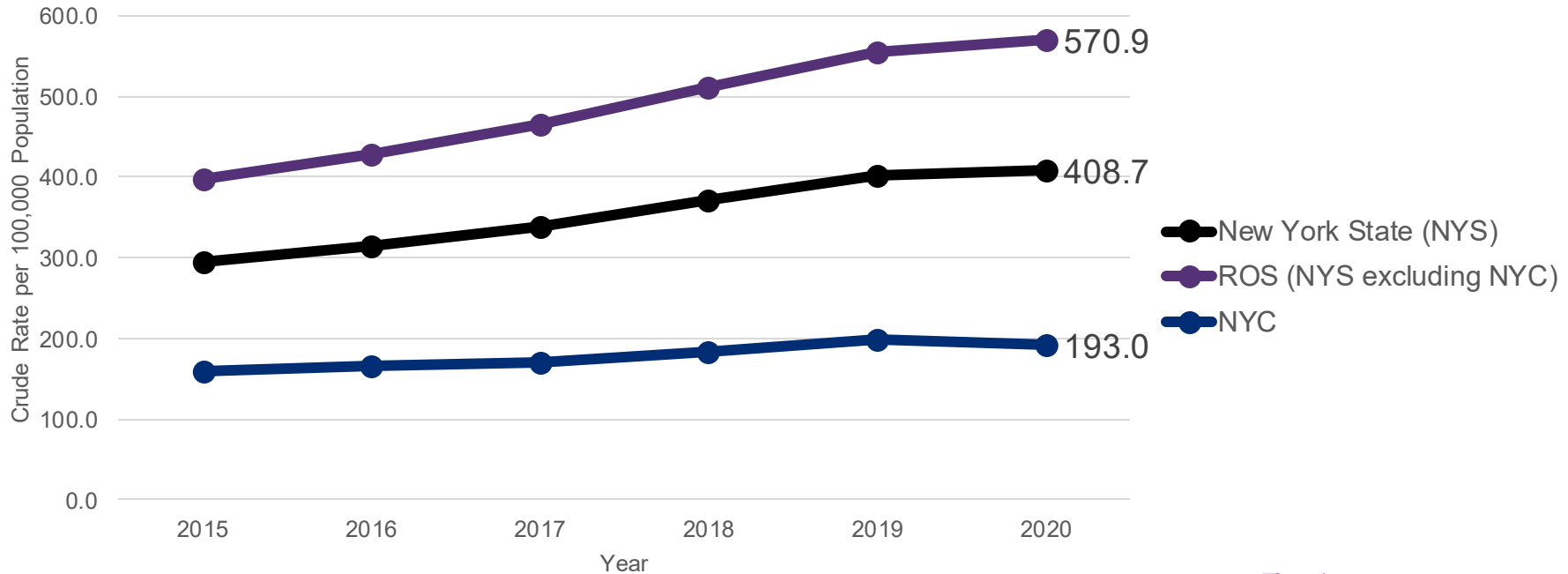


Expanding Medication Treatment for OUD

- Mobile Medication Units
- Policy Changes
 - Take-home dosing
 - Expand telehealth
 - Address geographical barriers
 - Address financial barriers
- Mandated medication treatment in ALL correctional facilities

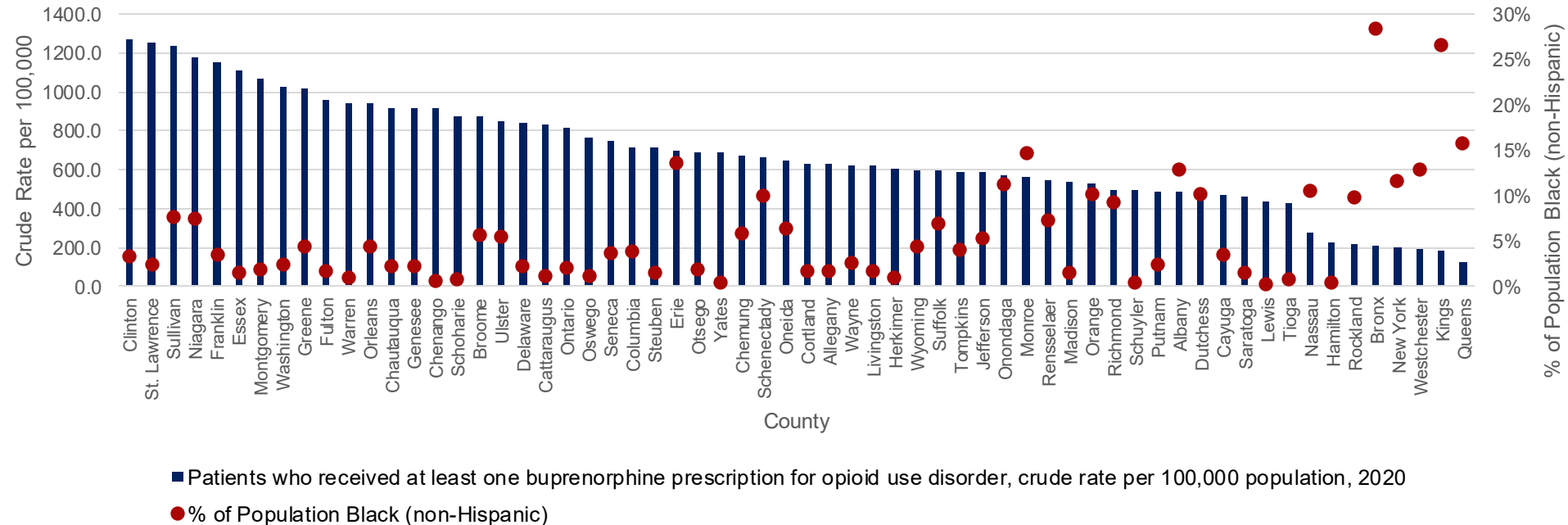


New Yorkers Receiving Buprenorphine for OUD



Source: NYS Prescription Monitoring Program Data as of June 2021

Patients Receiving Buprenorphine for OUD, 2020



Sources: NYS Prescription Monitoring Program Data as of June 2021; 2020 U.S. Census

Harm Reduction

Harm Reduction

- Framework and practical strategies that reduce harms associated with substance use
- Key harm reduction principles
 - Respect the rights of people who use substances
 - Acknowledgement of a continuum of substance use
 - Provision of non-judgmental low-threshold services
 - Meets people where they are

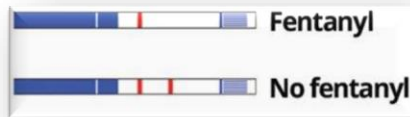
Extending OASAS' Reach

- Outpatient services outside clinic setting
- Outreach services to underserved population
 - Street outreach
 - Subway outreach
- Homeless Shelter Initiative



Overdose Prevention

- Pharmacy naloxone standing order
- Naloxone co-payment support
- Naloxone vending machines
- Fentanyl test strips
- Drug deactivation bags
- Medication lock bags



Overdose Prevention Centers (OPCs)

- Pilot OPCs authorized by Rhode Island
- OPC bill passed by legislature in California
- Two OPCs opened in NYC in 11/2021
 - Operated by a harm reduction organization
 - Numerous social and medical services on-site
 - No public funding or oversight
 - Outcomes in first 2 months:
 - Staff responded 125 times to mitigate overdoses
 - Services used by 613 people 5975 times



Racism and Inequities

Depictions of OUD Differ by Race/Ethnicity



Difference in Narratives

Criminal justice issue

Incarceration

Moral failing

War on drugs

Public health issue

Treatment

Medical condition

Gentler/kinder approach

The Path Forward

Summary & Priorities

- **Largest number of overdose deaths ever**
- **Signs of Progress**
 - Criminal justice reform
 - Harm reduction acceptance
 - Historic level of funding
- **Data-Driven Approach**
 - Strengthen data, evaluation, research
 - Incorporate evidence-based interventions
- **Harm Reduction**
 - Harm Reduction Division
 - Infusing into existing programs and developing innovative programming
- **Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion (JEDI) Office**
 - Regulations, policies, data and analyses
 - Funding and procurement
 - Composition of advisory committees

OASAS. Every Step of the Way.



**Office of Addiction
Services and Supports**

chinazo.cunningham@oasas.ny.gov



@DrChinazoOASAS

@NYSOASAS