

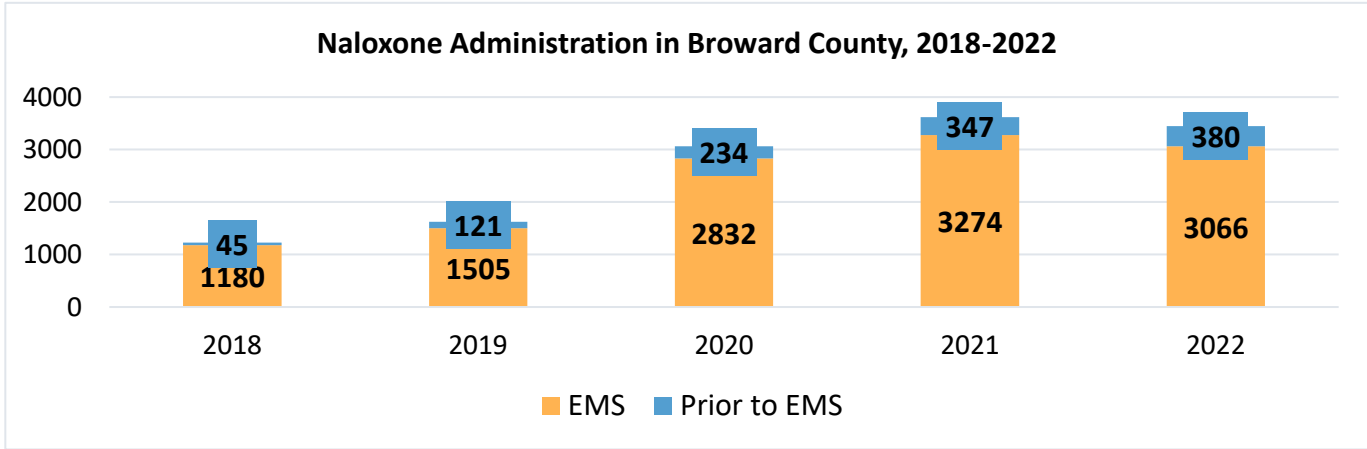
January 2024

## Naloxone Administration in Broward County

Naloxone is a medication which is used to rapidly reverse an overdose caused by an opioid, such as fentanyl, heroin, morphine, or oxycodone. Administering naloxone to an individual showing signs of opioid overdose can be used to temporarily reverse the overdose until appropriate medical care can be administered (which is still required). As such, ensuring broad access to naloxone and education on how to administer it can save lives.

Data from the Florida Department of Health indicate that administration of naloxone in Broward County has increased substantially since 2018. In that year, there were 1,180 naloxone administrations by emergency medical services (EMS) and 45 administrations prior to EMS arrival. However, by 2022, there were 3,066 naloxone administrations by EMS and 380 administrations prior to EMS arrival. The largest number of naloxone administrations occurred in 2021 in which there was a total of 3,621. In fact, as a percentage of the total, naloxone administrations prior to EMS have increased from 4% in 2018 to 11% in 2022.

Any naloxone administration represents a potential life saved, yet the increase in naloxone administration prior to EMS arrival suggests that distribution of naloxone to community members, organizations, schools, and public places is increasing—as is training on how to use naloxone. This has the effect of potentially saving more lives, as individuals experiencing opioid overdose have a higher chance of survival the sooner they receive naloxone. Ongoing naloxone distribution and education will be vital for mitigating opioid overdose deaths.



Source: Florida Department of Health Substance Use Dashboard,  
<https://www.flhealthcharts.gov/ChartsDashboards/rdPage.aspx?rdReport=SubstanceUse.Overview>.

Broward Briefings may be copied. Please cite United Way of Broward County Commission on Behavioral Health & Drug Prevention.