

Fiscal quarter 2 2021

Syringe services report



Quarter 2: 10/01/2021—12/31/2021

Syringe service metrics are calculated to determine the reach of program services. Seven syringe service providers (SSPs) exchanged syringes with clients from October 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021: Utah Harm Reduction Coalition, One Voice Recovery, Utah Naloxone, Soap 2 Hope, Southeast Utah Health Department, Martindale Clinic, Beyond Addiction Mosaic, and Hand in Hand.

Table 1. Syringe Service Program metrics

Metric	October	November	December	Q2 totals
Syringes in	81,767	90,546	81,911	338,458 [†]
Syringes disposed elsewhere*	787	681	1012	6,099 [†]
Syringes out	89,152	101,966	87,330	422,028 [†]
Return ratio**	1.09	1.13	1.07	1.25 [†]
Return ratio (with disposed)	1.08	1.12	1.05	1.22 [†]
Total unique clients served	964	1,011	841	1,870
Total encounters	1,515	1,664	1,320	6,317 [†]
New participants	226	196	136	558 [†]

*Self reported proper disposal

**"Return ratio" is syringes out divided by syringes in

[†]Quarterly totals that include Utah Naloxone data

As indicated in the table above, data provided by Utah Naloxone is only represented in the quarterly totals. Utah Naloxone does not gather client-level data.

The return ratio syringe metric is calculated by dividing the number of syringes distributed out, by the number of used syringes collected. This ratio is calculated with the number of syringes turned in directly to syringe service providers, and also with that number combined with the number of syringes reported to be properly disposed of elsewhere.

During this time period, the return ratio varied by month, but averaged to 1.22 over the quarter. Or for every 1.2 syringes distributed, SSPs received one back at an exchange event.

Table 2. Naloxone provided by SSPs

Naloxone	October	November	December	Q2 totals
Doses distributed	230	135	44	409
Reversals reported	22	25	15	62

At each SSP encounter, participants are asked if they received an overdose reversal with naloxone, or if they performed a reversal for someone else in the time since their last visit. It is possible a participant could report more than one reversal per month, or encounter. Participants may decline to answer this question.

Reversals are defined as survival of an individual when one or more naloxone doses were administered in a suspected overdose event. Additional naloxone purchased by Utah Naloxone and distributed by syringe service providers is not included in doses distributed.

Table 3. Gender reported by clients

Gender	Q2 (%)	Q2 (N)
Male	57.6%	1,008
Female	41.1%	719
Trans/Nonconforming	0.5%	9
Declined	0.7%	13

New clients are asked a series of intake questions at their first visit, including questions about gender and race. All data on gender and race is self-reported.

Table 4. Race reported by clients

Race	Q2 (%)	Q2 (N)
White	78.2%	1,367
Black	4.6%	80
Other	4.1%	72
Multiple	3.6%	63
American Indian/Alaskan Native	2.3%	40
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	1.8%	31
Asian	0.5%	9
Declined/Unknown	5.0%	87

Clients are not asked intake questions about gender or race during follow up syringe exchange encounters. If a client wants to change the self-reported data in their record, they may do so at any time. Gender and race data was not available for 121 participants during the quarter. The percentages in Tables 3, 4 and 5 are based on 1,749 complete client records.

Figure 1. Gender reported by clients

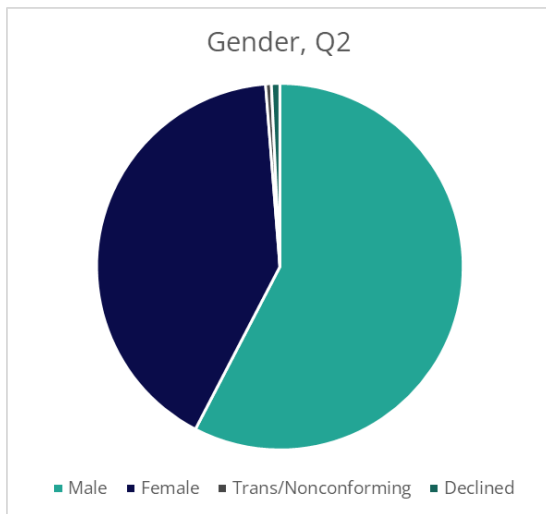


Figure 2. Race reported by clients

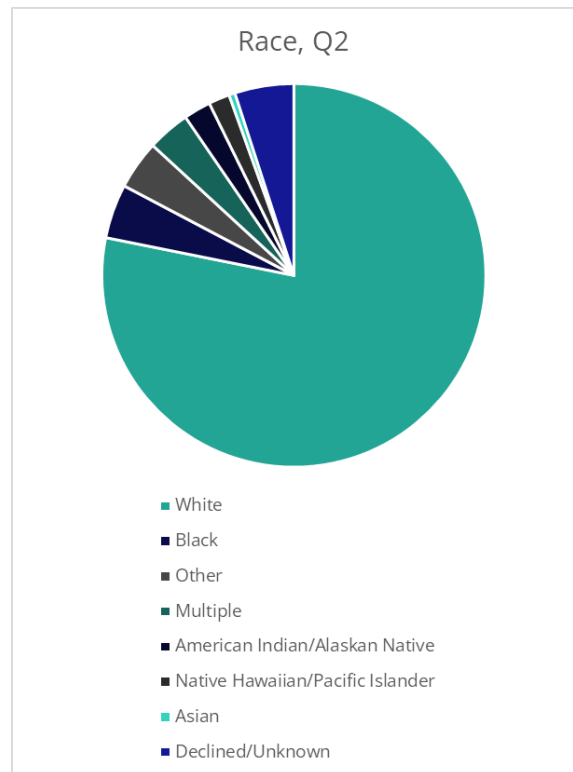


Table 5. Ethnicity reported by clients

Ethnicity	Q2 (%)	Q2 (N)
Non-Hispanic/Latino	82.6%	1,444
Hispanic/Latino	14.4%	252
Declined/Unknown	3.0%	53

Figure 3. Ethnicity reported by clients

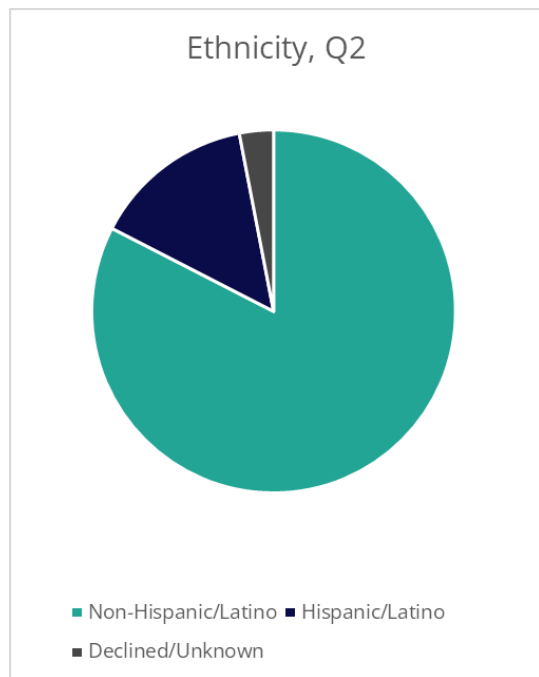


Table 6. HCV testing and identification

HCV at intake	October	November	December	Q2 totals
Reported HCV positive at intake	19	12	11	42
HCV testing	October	November	December	Q2 totals
Tested	54	56	26	136
Tested positive	21	19	9	49
Positivity rate	38.9%	33.9%	34.6%	36.0%

Three syringe service providers gave rapid antibody tests to clients, shown in tables 6 and 7: Utah Harm Reduction Coalition, One Voice Recovery, and Southeast Utah Health Department. All SSPs collect information on HIV and HCV status upon intake. Two additional syringe service providers offer testing in their clinic locations, that is not reported here: Utah Naloxone and Martindale Clinic.

Syringe service providers who do not provide testing, provide referrals to testing sites and can make testing appointments for clients. All syringe service providers must offer referrals for HCV and HIV testing at each syringe encounter, regardless of testing capability.

Table 7. HIV testing and identification

HIV at intake	October	November	December	Q2 totals
Reported HIV positive at intake	0	1	0	1
HIV testing	October	November	December	Q2 totals
Tested	56	53	33	142
Tested positive	0	0	0	0
Positivity rate	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Table 8. Referrals

Referrals October	Written	Verbal	Active
Substance use treatment	929	1,036	35
HCV/HIV testing	927	1,464	36
Naloxone	923	1,122	449
Referrals November	Written	Verbal	Active
Substance use treatment	860	1,218	58
HCV/HIV testing	857	1,629	61
Naloxone	846	859	898
Referrals December	Written	Verbal	Active
Substance use treatment	671	1,113	43
HCV/HIV testing	672	1,236	31
Naloxone	671	520	687
Referrals Q2 totals	Written	Verbal	Active
Substance use treatment	4,278	3,367	136
HCV/HIV testing	4,274	4,329	128
Naloxone	4,258	2,501	2,034

Substance use treatment, HCV/HIV testing, and Overdose prevention/naloxone referrals are required at each encounter for all providers. Providers may give more than one type of referral. For example, a provider may speak with a client about HIV testing and also schedule an appointment for that client to be tested.

Table 9. Substances reported at intake

	October	November	December	Q2 totals
New vlients	226	196	136	558
Meth	171	128	76	375
Heroin	157	126	88	371
Marijuana	68	65	29	162
Alcohol	47	39	18	104
Tobacco	40	35	24	99
Crack/cocaine	29	24	16	69
Benzodiazepines	26	16	11	53
Fentanyl	18	13	8	39
Prescription pain medicines	14	9	13	36
Suboxone	10	15	9	34
Gabapentin	11	9	9	29
Methadone	7	6	6	19
Spice	8	5	4	17
Subutex	3	2	1	6

Data is collected from individuals who use the syringe service program at intake, or return to the program from jail or residential treatment center. Individuals are asked what substances they used in the past 30 days.

If an individual used more than one substance, they mark each substance used.

Table 10. Substances reported at intake, by percentage

	October	November	December	Q2 totals
Meth	75.7%	65.3%	55.9%	67.2%
Heroin	69.5%	64.3%	64.7%	66.5%
Marijuana	30.1%	33.2%	21.3%	29.0%
Alcohol	20.8%	19.9%	13.2%	18.6%
Tobacco	17.7%	17.9%	17.6%	17.7%
Crack/Cocaine	12.8%	12.2%	11.8%	12.4%
Benzodiazepines	11.5%	8.2%	8.1%	9.5%
Fentanyl	8.0%	6.6%	5.9%	7.0%
Prescription Pain Medicines	6.2%	4.6%	9.6%	6.5%
Suboxone	4.4%	7.7%	6.6%	6.1%
Gabapentin	4.9%	4.6%	6.6%	5.2%
Methadone	3.1%	3.1%	4.4%	3.4%
Spice	3.5%	2.6%	2.9%	3.0%
Subutex	1.3%	1.0%	0.7%	1.1%

The two most common substances reported at intake are displayed in the figure below. Most clients report using meth or heroin.

Figure 4. Substances reported at intake, by percentage

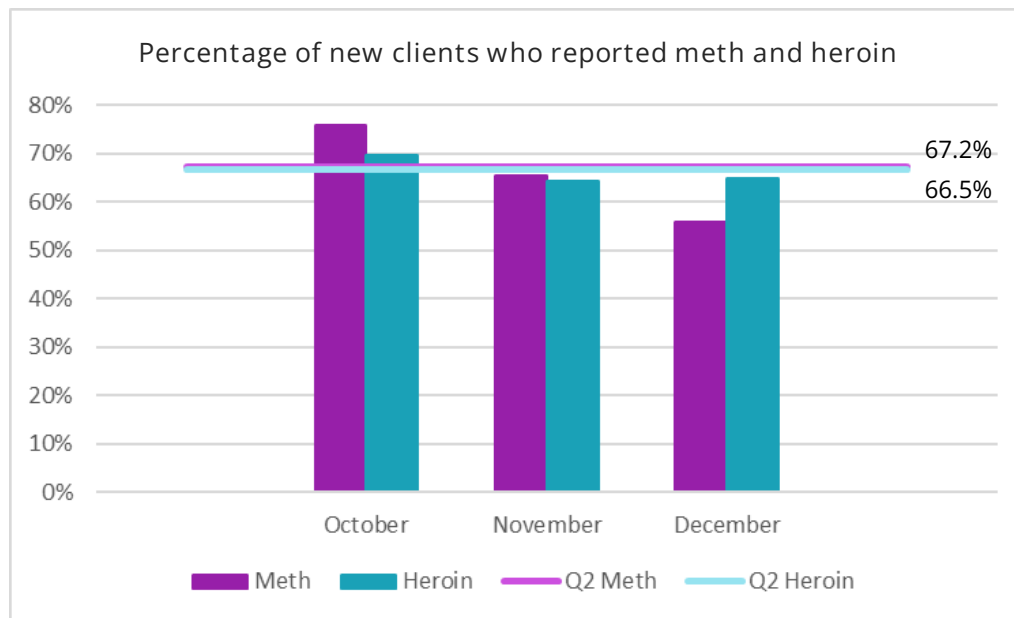
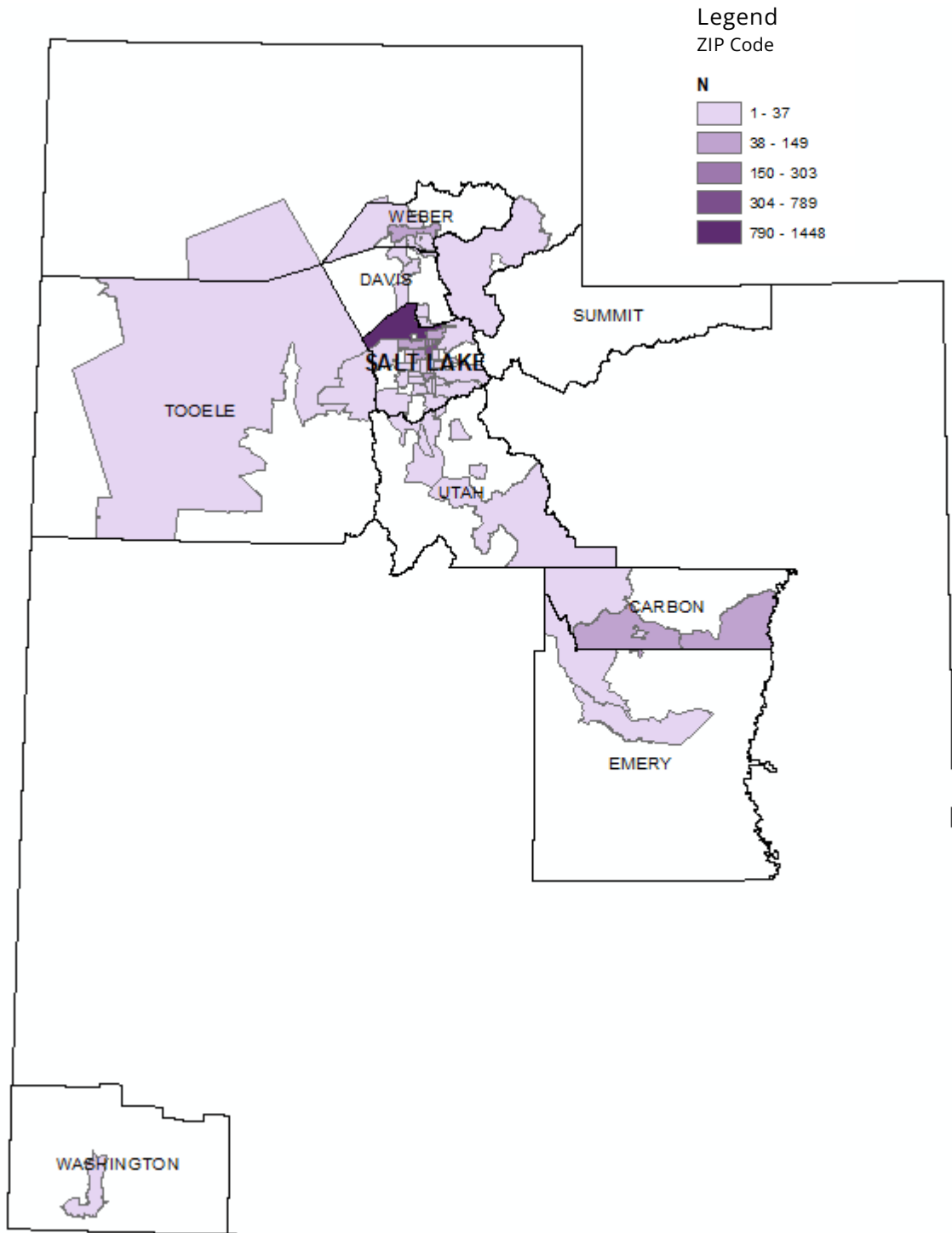


Figure 5. ZIP Code of each syringe service encounter reported



SSPs record the ZIP Code location of each SSP encounter they have with each participant. The map above displays the ZIP Code location of SSP encounters for the fiscal year. ZIP Code locations with higher number of encounters are marked by darker shades of purple.

Table 11. ZIP Code of encounters

ZIP	N	ZIP	N
84116	1,448	84094	5
84105	789	84124	5
84115	633	84141	3
84102	303	84660	3
84101	292	84015	2
84401	149	84029	2
84104	94	84041	2
84119	79	84054	2
84103	75	84093	2
84520	66	84096	2
84047	61	84126	2
84501	57	84403	2
84111	47	80102	1
84020	37	84043	1
84106	36	84045	1
84074	29	84050	1
84120	29	84067	1
84542	26	84087	1
84123	25	84108	1
84107	21	84110	1
84404	20	84112	1
84121	19	84118	1
84528	16	84129	1
84070	14	84216	1
84117	14	84225	1
84081	13	84405	1
84044	10	84416	1
84062	8	84504	1
84092	7	84526	1
84084	6	84606	1
84088	6	84770	1
84095	6		
84113	6		
84513	6		

Additional reports on syringe services and fentanyl test strips can be found at

<https://ptc.health.utah.gov/prevention/syringe-services/>