Saving Lives through the Angel Initiative
2020 in Review

2020 Kentucky Statistics

- There were 1,964 drug overdose-related deaths among Kentuckians, equating to 43.87 drug overdose-related deaths per 100,000 Kentucky residents.¹
- The drug classes most commonly involved in overdose-related deaths of Kentucky residents in 2020 were non-heroin opioids and fentanyl/fentanyl analogs (1,588 and 1,344, respectively).²
- There were 12,894 nonfatal drug overdose-related emergency department visits, equating to 287.99 per 100,000 Kentucky residents.¹
- There were 859 babies born with neonatal abstinence syndrome.¹
- The rate of emergency department visits that resulted in a substance use disorder diagnosis among Kentucky residents was 1,020.11 per 100,000 Kentucky residents.¹
- Infectious diseases were also prevalent among emergency department visits, with 624 endocarditis-, 10,267 hepatitis C-, 179 hepatitis A-, and 3,410 HIV-related encounters.¹
- Of infectious disease-related emergency department visits that co-occurred with a drug-related diagnosis, the combination of hepatitis C with a drug-related comorbidity was the most common (67.36 per 100,000 Kentucky residents).¹
- Per executive order, the Angel Initiative was suspended from April 2020 through January 2021, thus impacting in-person accessibility and referral to treatment services.

2020 Angel Initiative Program Acceptance Statistics³

The Angel Initiative proactively helps individuals battling substance use or misuse find treatment options that best fit their needs. Individuals seeking help can visit any Kentucky State Police (KSP) post and an intake officer will work with them to quickly locate a treatment facility within the state with availability.

Between January and April of 2020, when the Angel Initiative was suspended for the year, 22 persons sought assistance at KSP posts via website or phone. Ninety-one percent of Angel Initiative candidates were accepted and placed in treatment, 5% were accepted with placement status unknown, and 5% were not accepted in accordance with KSP General Order OM-B-23.

ANGLER INITIATIVE CANDIDATES BY KSP POST, 2020
Commonwealth of Kentucky

Data reflect the physical KSP post location (shown by numbers 1-16 on the map) where an Angel Initiative candidate arrived seeking assistance; data may not represent where the candidate lives or was placed for treatment. Source: GIS Section, Kentucky State Police Records and Technology Center: Frankfort, Kentucky.

2020 Angel Initiative Candidate Demographic Characteristics* (n=22)

Due to rounding, some percentages may total more than 100%.

Sex

- 32% Female
- 68% Male

Age Groups

- 61 years and older: 5%
- 56-60 years old: 5%
- 51-55 years old: 0%
- 46-50 years old: 18%
- 41-45 years old: 5%
- 36-40 years old: 23%
- 31-35 years old: 9%
- 26-30 years old: 14%
- 20-25 years old: 18%
- 18-19 years old: 5%

Race

- White, 100%

Marital Status

- Married, 18%
- Divorced, 23%
- Undisclosed, 36%
- Single / Never Married, 18%
- Separated, 5%
- Unmarried, 5%

Employment Status

- Employed, 5%
- Unemployed, 55%
- Undisclosed, 41%

- 9% of Angel Initiative candidates had some high school education, 23% had completed high school/GED, 18% had some college, 9% had completed college, and 41% did not disclose their education.

- 50% had health insurance, while 9% did not; 41% failed to disclose whether they had health insurance.

- 14% were homeless; 46% did not disclose information regarding their housing.

- 27% had dependents, 36% did not, and 36% did not disclose whether they had dependents.

- 9% had U.S. military history, 50% did not, and 41% did not disclose military history.
2020 Angel Initiative Candidate Drug-Related Characteristics

**Age at Drug Use Initiation***
- 14% from age 10-15
- 14% from age 16-20
- 18% from age 21-25
- 5% from age 26-30
- 5% from age 31-35
- 5% from age 46-50
- 41% did not disclose

*Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

**First Substance Used***
- Undisclosed: 67%
- Alcohol: 25%
- Marijuana: 4%
- Methamphetamine: 4%

*Multiple drugs may have been reported at substance initiation.

**Prior Drug Arrest**
- Yes: 9%
- No: 50%
- Undisclosed: 41%

**Prior Drug Treatment**
- Yes: 36%
- No: 27%
- Undisclosed: 36%

**Prior Self-Help Program**
- Yes: 18%
- No: 46%
- Undisclosed: 36%

**Employment Effects**
- 32% reported that drugs/alcohol use affected employment.
- 27% reported that drugs/alcohol use did not affect employment.
- 41% did not disclose effects on employment.

**Main Drug* for Seeking Angel Initiative**
- Undisclosed: 18%
- Methadone / Suboxone: 9%
- Benzodiazepines: 5%
- Heroin: 5%
- Non-heroin opioids: 9%
- Alcohol: 14%
- Marijuana: 23%
- Methamphetamine: 32%

*Multiple drugs may have been reported for seeking help.

*9% reported using multiple substances.

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No candidates reported having previously participated in the Angel Initiative.

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32% reported having received a mental health disorder diagnosis.

27% reported never having received a mental health disorder diagnosis.

41% did not disclose any mental health disorder diagnosis.
Any person who voluntarily enters a Kentucky State Police post and requests help with substance use or misuse will be immediately screened into the Angel Initiative.

Kentucky State Police Post Locations

KENTUCKY STATE POLICE POST LOCATIONS

TREATMENT RESOURCES

ONLINE

- Find Help Now Kentucky Near-Real-Time Online Treatment Locator: FindHelpNowKY.org
- NIAAA Alcohol Treatment Navigator: alcoholtreatment.niaaa.nih.gov

PHONE

- Kentucky Help Statewide Call Center (8:00am-5:30pm ET): 1-877-318-1871
- Kentucky Opioid and Assistance Resources (after hours): 1-800-854-6813
- Substance Abuse Call Center: 1-833-859-4357
- Operation Unite (8:00am-5:30pm ET): 1-866-908-6483

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