

# Saving Lives through the Angel Initiative

## 2021 in Review

### 2021 Kentucky Resident Statistics

- There were 2,256 drug overdose-related deaths among Kentuckians, equating to 50.4 drug overdose-related deaths per 100,000 Kentucky residents.<sup>1</sup>
- Opioids were the leading drug involved in overdose-related deaths (80%) among Kentuckians (40.1 per 100,000).<sup>1</sup>
- There were 12,946 nonfatal drug overdose-related emergency department visits, equating to 289.2 per 100,000 Kentucky residents.<sup>1</sup>
- There were 742 babies born with neonatal abstinence syndrome.<sup>1</sup>
- The rate of emergency department visits that resulted in a substance use disorder diagnosis among Kentucky residents was 1,056.6 per 100,000 Kentucky residents.<sup>1</sup>
- Infectious diseases were prevalent among emergency department visits, with 620 endocarditis-, 8,988 hepatitis C-, 119 hepatitis A-, and 3,191 HIV-related encounters.<sup>1</sup>
- 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 (61.6 per 100,000 Kentucky residents, equating to 2,758 encounters).<sup>1</sup>
- The Angel Initiative was suspended from April 2020 through January 2021 per executive order, which impacted in-person accessibility and referrals in early 2021.

### 2021 Angel Initiative Program Acceptance Statistics<sup>2</sup>

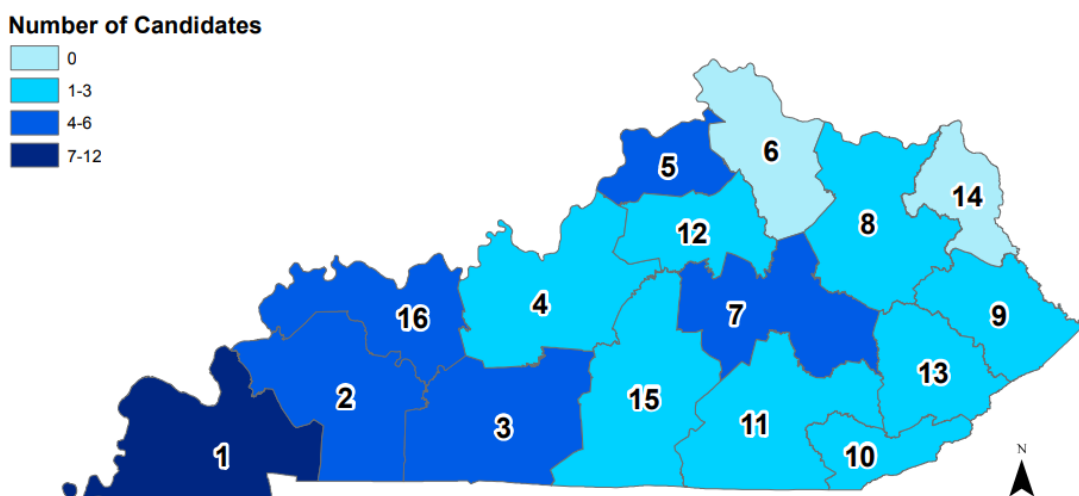
The Angel Initiative proactively helps individuals battling substance use or misuse find treatment options that best fit their needs. Individuals seeking help can visit any Kentucky State Police (KSP) post and an intake officer will work with them to quickly locate a treatment facility within the state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



Despite the Angel Initiative being suspended for the first month of 2021, 54 persons sought assistance at KSP posts. Seventy percent of Angel Initiative candidates were accepted and placed in treatment, 22% were accepted and not placed in treatment, and 7% were not accepted in accordance with KSP General Order OM-B-23.

### ANGEL INITIATIVE CANDIDATES BY KSP POST, 2021

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.

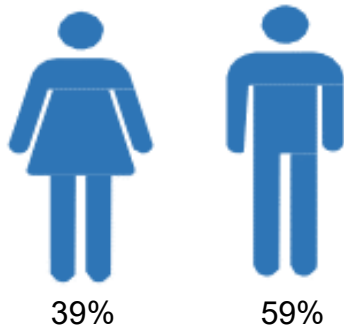
<sup>1</sup>Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center. (2022). *Drug overdose and related comorbidity county profiles*. Data retrieved August 2022. <https://kiprc.uky.edu/programs/overdose-data-action/county-profiles>. <sup>2</sup>Angel Initiative candidate data are extrapolated from Kentucky State Police Teletype system and KSP-324 and KSP-325 forms. Data source: KSP Post Angel Initiative Candidates 2021. Data are provisional and subject to change.

## 2021 Angel Initiative Candidate Demographic Characteristics\*

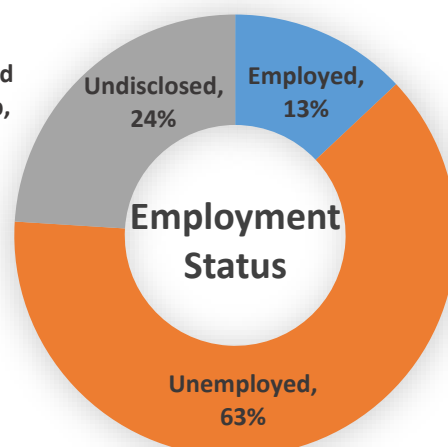
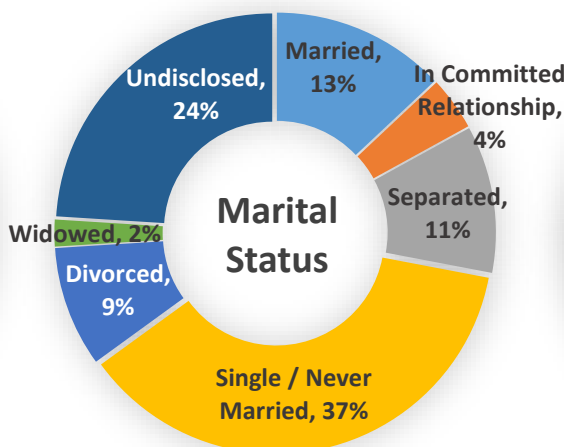
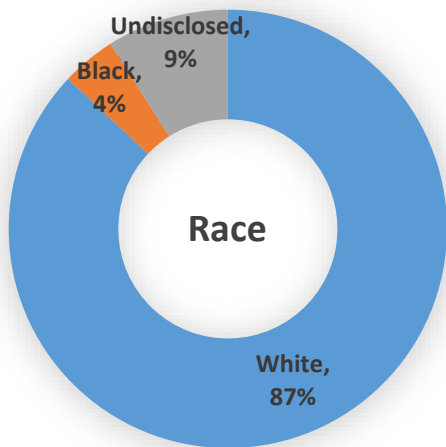
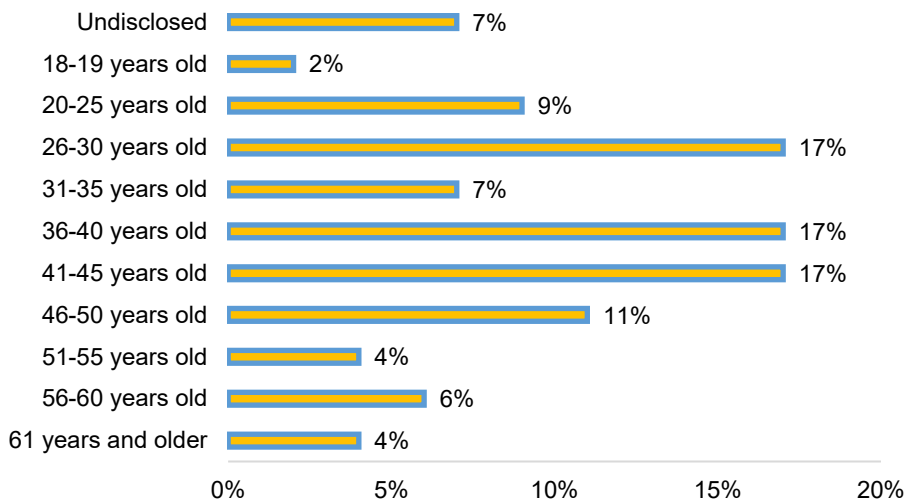
(n=54)

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

### Sex



### Age Groups



2% of Angel Initiative candidates had a middle school education, 26% had some high school education, 32% had completed high school/GED, 13% had some college, 4% had completed college, and 24% did not disclose their education.



74% had health insurance, while 6% did not; 20% failed to disclose whether they had health insurance.



32% were homeless; 33% did not disclose information regarding their housing.



35% had dependents, 41% did not, and 24% did not disclose whether they had dependents.



6% had U.S. military history, 70% did not, and 24% did not disclose military history.

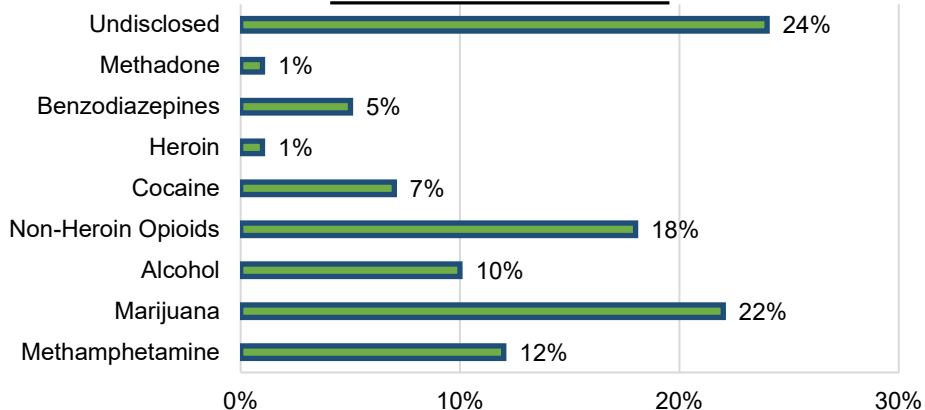
## 2021 Angel Initiative Candidate Drug-Related Characteristics

### Age at Drug Use Initiation\*

- 2% under age 10
- 24% from age 10-15
- 32% from age 16-20
- 4% from age 21-25
- 7% from age 26-30
- 4% from age 36-40
- 28% did not disclose

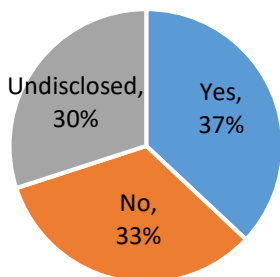
\*Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

### First Substance Used\*

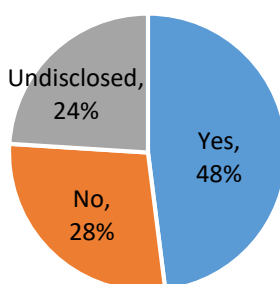


\*Multiple drugs may have been reported at substance initiation.

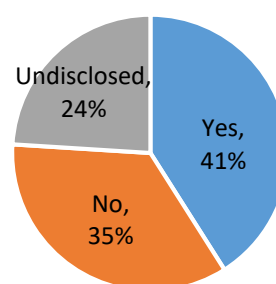
### Prior Drug Arrest



### Prior Drug Treatment



### Prior Self-Help Program



4% of candidates reported having previously participated in the Angel Initiative.

37% reported having received a mental health disorder diagnosis.

37% reported never having received a mental health disorder diagnosis.

26% did not disclose any mental health disorder diagnosis.

Mental Health

### Employment Effects

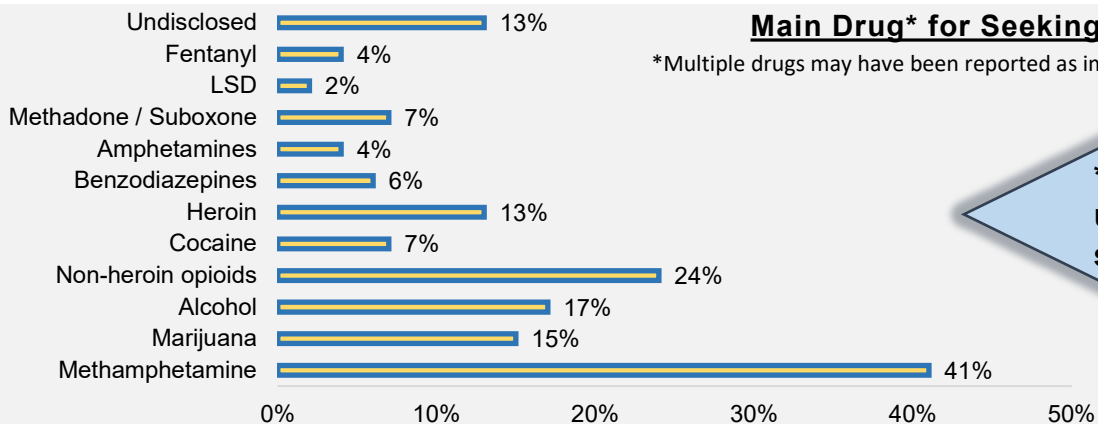
43% reported that drugs/alcohol use affected employment.

22% reported that drugs/alcohol use did not affect employment.

35% did not disclose effects on employment.

### Main Drug\* for Seeking Angel Initiative

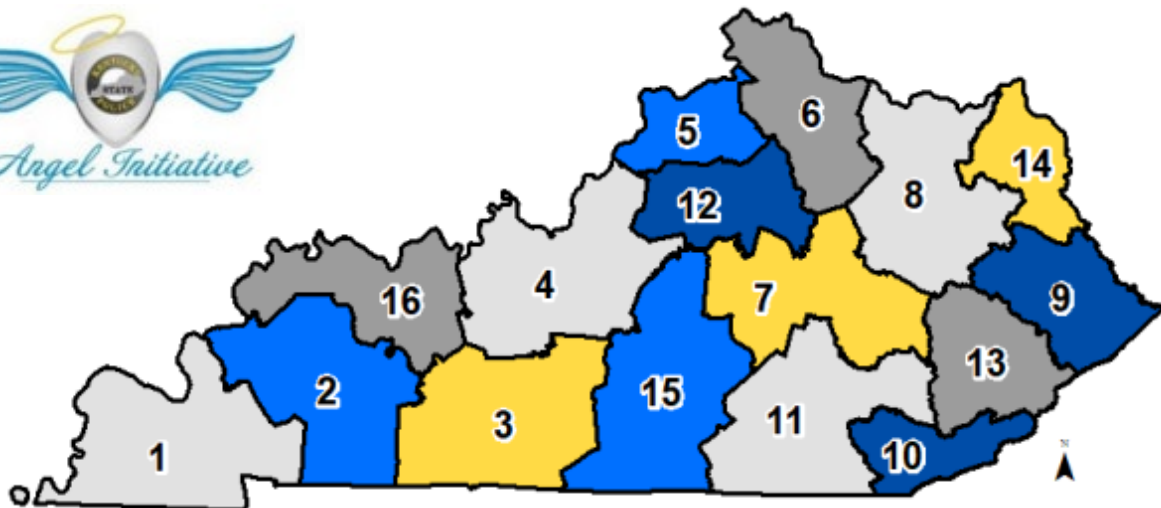
\*Multiple drugs may have been reported as impetus for seeking help.



**\*35% reported using multiple substances.**

**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**



**POST 1: MAYFIELD** (270) 856-3721  
8366 US 45 N, Mayfield KY, 42051

**POST 2: MADISONVILLE** (270) 676-3313  
1000 Western KY Pkwy, Nortonville, KY 42442

**POST 3: BOWLING GREEN** (270) 782-2010  
3119 Nashville Rd., Bowling Green, KY 42102

**POST 4: ELIZABETHTOWN** (270) 766-5078  
1055 N Mulberry, Elizabethtown, KY 42701

**POST 5: CAMPBELLSBURG** (502) 532-6363  
160 Citation Ln, Campbellsburg, KY 40011

**POST 6: DRY RIDGE** (859) 428-1212  
4265 US 25, Dry Ridge, KY 41035

**POST 7: RICHMOND** (859) 623-2404  
699 Eastern Byp, Richmond, KY 40475

**POST 8: MOREHEAD** (606) 784-4127  
1595 Flemingsburg Rd, Morehead, KY 40351

**POST 9: PIKEVILLE** (606) 433-7711  
3499 N Mayo Trl, Pikeville, KY 41501

**POST 10: HARLAN** (606) 573-3131  
3319 US 421 S, Harlan, KY 40831

**POST 11: LONDON** (606) 878-6622  
11 State Police Rd, London, KY 40741

**POST 12: FRANKFORT** (502) 227-2221  
1250 Louisville Rd, Frankfort, KY 40601

**POST 13: HAZARD** (606) 435-6069  
100 Justice Dr, Hazard, KY 41701

**POST 14: ASHLAND** (606) 928-6421  
5975 US 60, Ashland, KY 41102

**POST 15: COLUMBIA** (270) 384-4796  
1118 Jamestown St, Columbia, KY 42728

**POST 16: HENDERSON** (270) 826-3312  
8298 Keach Dr, Henderson, KY 42420

**TREATMENT RESOURCES**

**ONLINE**



- **Find Help Now Kentucky Near-Real-Time Online Treatment Locator** [FindHelpNowKY.org](https://www.findhelpnowky.org)
- **NIAAA Alcohol Treatment Navigator** [alcoholtreatment.niaaa.nih.gov](https://alcoholtreatment.niaaa.nih.gov)

**PHONE**



- **Kentucky Help Statewide Call Center** (8:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. 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** (8:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. ET): **1-866-908-6483**

*This report is supported by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention grant NU17CE924971. Contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the funders.*

*Suggested citation:*

Kentucky Substance Use Research & Enforcement. Saving Lives through the Angel Initiative: 2021 in Review. *K-SURE Brief (No.22)*, August 2022.

