



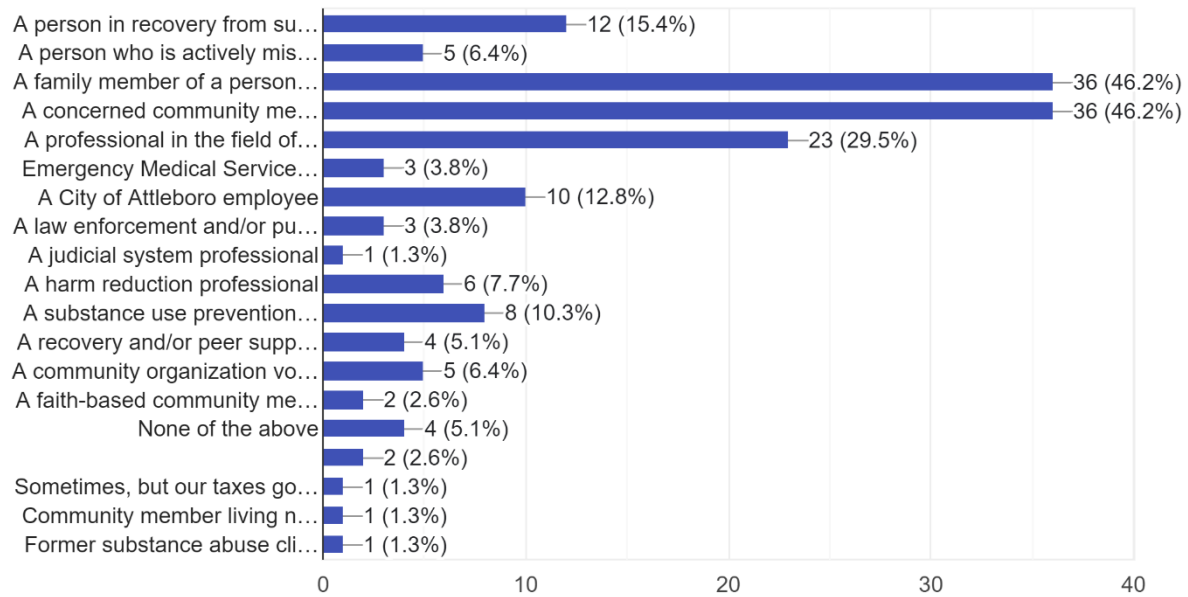
Attleboro Opioid Settlement Survey Results

Open for 2 weeks actively – survey is still open, but not advertised. We received 81 responses. Below is a report of information collected from the report to help guide City Hall in how funding should be prioritized. All information was provided anonymously.

Most respondents were a family member of a person who use/used or a concerned community member.

Which of the following describes your personal and/or professional involvement? Check all that apply:

78 responses



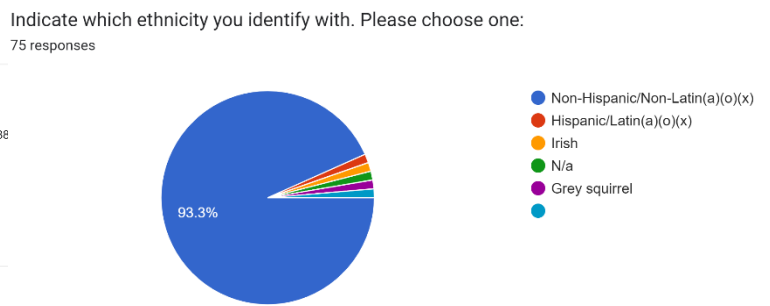
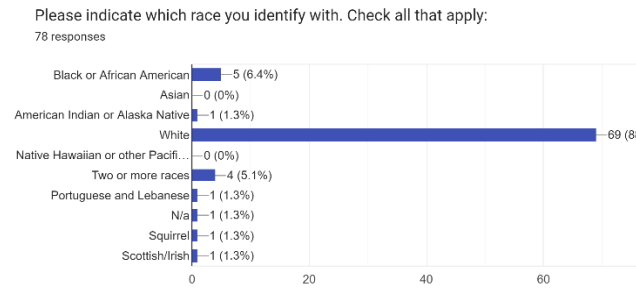
Please indicate which gender you identify with.

78 responses



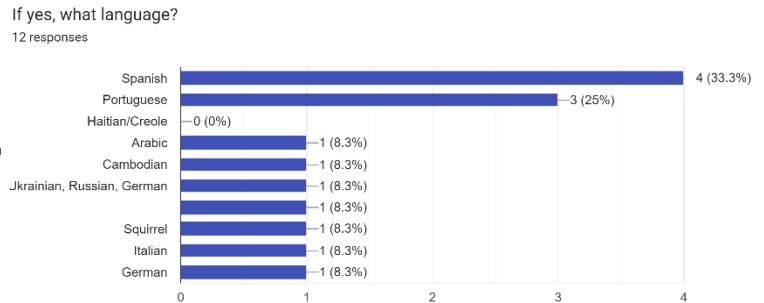
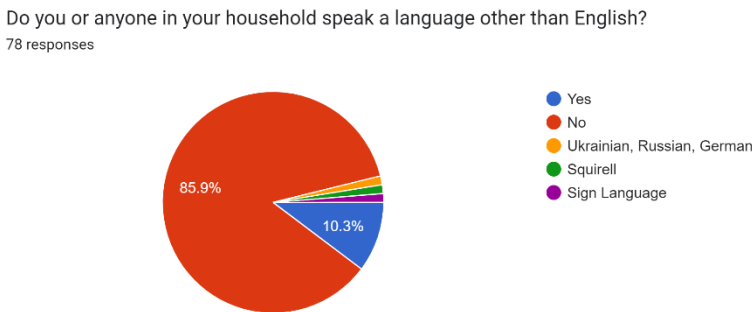
60% of responses were female.

Attleboro Opioid Settlement Survey Results August 2023



Large percentage of respondents were white.

Most speak English, but we also saw Spanish and Portuguese. This survey was only in English – so that factors into these results:



Have you or your family been impacted by the opioid crisis in any of the following ways?

- 61.6% of respondents selected “Death of a family or friend”
- 26% selected “Current use by family/friend”
- 23.3% selected “Job loss/unemployment”
- 21.9% selected “Legal costs”
- 17.8% Selected that “It has not impacted me or my family”
- 12.3% selected “Problems accessing Opioid Treatment”

Are there enough transportation services to access treatment and recovery services in Attleboro?

- 46.6% reported No
- 32.9% reported Yes
- “Other” comments included:
 - Lack of “green” transportation
 - Transportation hours need to be improved and extended
 - Lots of “unknowns”



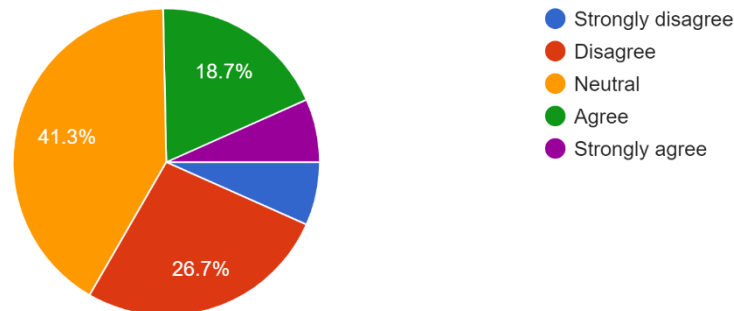
What concerns you about substance use in Attleboro?

- “I want people to feel comfortable coming forward to receive support for their substance use, but I worry our community and policing structure is not at that point of acceptance and compassion quite yet”
- “The increase with youth (and ripple effects of adult substance abuse in their lives)”
- “The people are getting younger and younger that use. Drugs seem to be on any corner it's hard for people to stay clean because of it! A lot of city officials are extremely judgmental about substance abuse”
- “Lack of available treatment and community resources. lack of shelter also”
- “There are recovery centers and clinics in the center of town but I’m not sure enough people know about them or how easy it is to make an appointment.”
- “Lack of education about the realities of addiction and addiction treatment in well-meaning community members/helpers.”

Is it easy to find local recovery services in Attleboro?

Is it easy to find local recovery services in Attleboro?

75 responses



Is it easy to connect with a local peer support specialist or support group?

- 46.3% of respondents selected No
- 32.8% of respondents selected Yes

How do you prefer to get information on support/recovery programs?

- Majority said online
- Other highlights – email, social media

Are there are enough services to encourage early identification of mental health disorders?

- 79.5% selected No
- 13.7% selected Yes



Is there enough awareness of trauma and adverse childhood experiences in relation to substance use disorder?

- 84.7% selected No
- 9.7% selected Yes

What have you seen to be effective in helping people reach and/or maintain substance use recovery?

- “Harm reduction which includes abstinence-based recovery choices. Compassion, respect, the important of human relationships. Focusing on the dignity and worth of a person regardless of what they’re engaged in”
- “Early intervention with connections to family services, ease of transport/continuation, trusted community connections”
- “Treating both the mental health and substance use together, not separately”
- “Access to affordable housing, public transportation to support people being able to work, jobs paying a living wage to afford rents, and access to mental health treatment for the issues that underlie substance use.”
- “Meeting people where they are at, supporting housing, education, employment (recovery-friendly workplaces), involving peers in more interactions, training all healthcare workers to more frequently approach people who use or used drugs with compassion and not shame”

Support People in Treatment and Recovery Thinking about how settlement funds should be used, please indicate how important you feel each of the support people in treatment and recovery options are below.

Out of 77 responses:

- Provide community supportive services including social and legal services – **48 selected**
- Provide access to recovery housing – **46 selected**
- Provide employment training or educational services - **40 selected**
- Provide peer support specialists - **39 selected**
- Support programs for recovery in schools - **37 selected**
- Provide transportation to treatment or recovery services - **37 selected**
- Support or expand peer-recovery centers - **35 selected**
- Support bereaved families and frontline care providers - **30 selected**
- Increase engagement of non-profits, faith-based communities, and community coalitions - **28 selected**

Connections to Care Thinking about how settlement funds should be used, please indicate how important you feel each of the connections to care options are below.



Out of 73 responses:

- Fund services or training to encourage early identification and intervention for families, children, or adolescents who may be struggling with use of drugs - **62 selected**
- Support school-based services related to opioid use disorders - **41 selected**
- Support more Sharps Collections Bins - **20 selected**

Harm Reduction Thinking about how settlement funds should be used, please indicate how important you feel each of the harm reduction options are below.

Out of 73 responses:

- Continue to fund a team that outreaches to substance users after an overdose occurs - **48 selected**
- Continue to increase availability of naloxone, an opioid overdose reversal medication - **47 selected**
- Train those who provide care to persons who use opioids in crisis and harm reduction strategies - **46 selected**
- Continue to provide training and education regarding naloxone and other drugs that treat overdoses - **45 selected**
- Fund mobile units that offer or provide referrals to harm reduction services - **40 selected**
- Support those who receive naloxone to reverse an overdose and connect to treatment programs - **32 selected**
- Fund syringe service programs - **19 selected**

Address the Needs of Criminal-Justice-Involved Persons Thinking about how settlement funds should be used, please indicate how important you feel each of the below addresses the needs of criminal-justice-involved person options are below.

Out of 72 responses:

- Post-incarceration supports, case management, and other supportive services - **57 selected**
- Create co-responder model to address opioid use disorder-related 911 (i.e. a substance use professional who responds to a scene where substance use occurs) - **52 selected**
- Continue to fund public safety-led diversion strategies - **33 selected**

Prevent Misuse of Opioids and Implement Prevention Education Thinking about how settlement funds should be used, please indicate how important you feel each of the prevent misuse of opioids and implement Prevention Education options are below.

Out of 75 responses:

- Support greater access to mental health services and supports for young people - **63 selected**



- Support programs, policies, and practices that have demonstrated effectiveness in preventing drug misuse among youth - **54 selected**
- Support positive youth activities - **48 selected**
- Support activities that support positive school climate - **37 selected**

Additional Thoughts:

- “Attleboro no longer has any sober living homes for females. This problem puts women in difficult positions when seeking treatment.”
- “Great work by the POP unit of the police department”
- “There are huge waiting lists for services! Also, the training requirements for a LADC-1 (which I have a license for) require 6,000 post graduate hours for an independent license.”
- “Funding sharps programs/safe injection sites would only create a larger problem. Funding should be focused on prevention and providing helpful resources for those who want the help. Anybody unwilling to make a change despite education should be held accountable for the safety of themselves and the public.”
- “There is and will be an ongoing caseworker need for this permanent segment of our population that can assist individuals with challenges that arise pertaining to seeking housing, working through ID and RMV issues, identifying a PCP, stress management, making priorities and managing time, job search readiness, interview preparation, conflict resolution among other matters that can overwhelm an individual with substance abuse disorder or their affected family.”
- “More care should be focused on children and grandparents who are involved in recovery with their families”