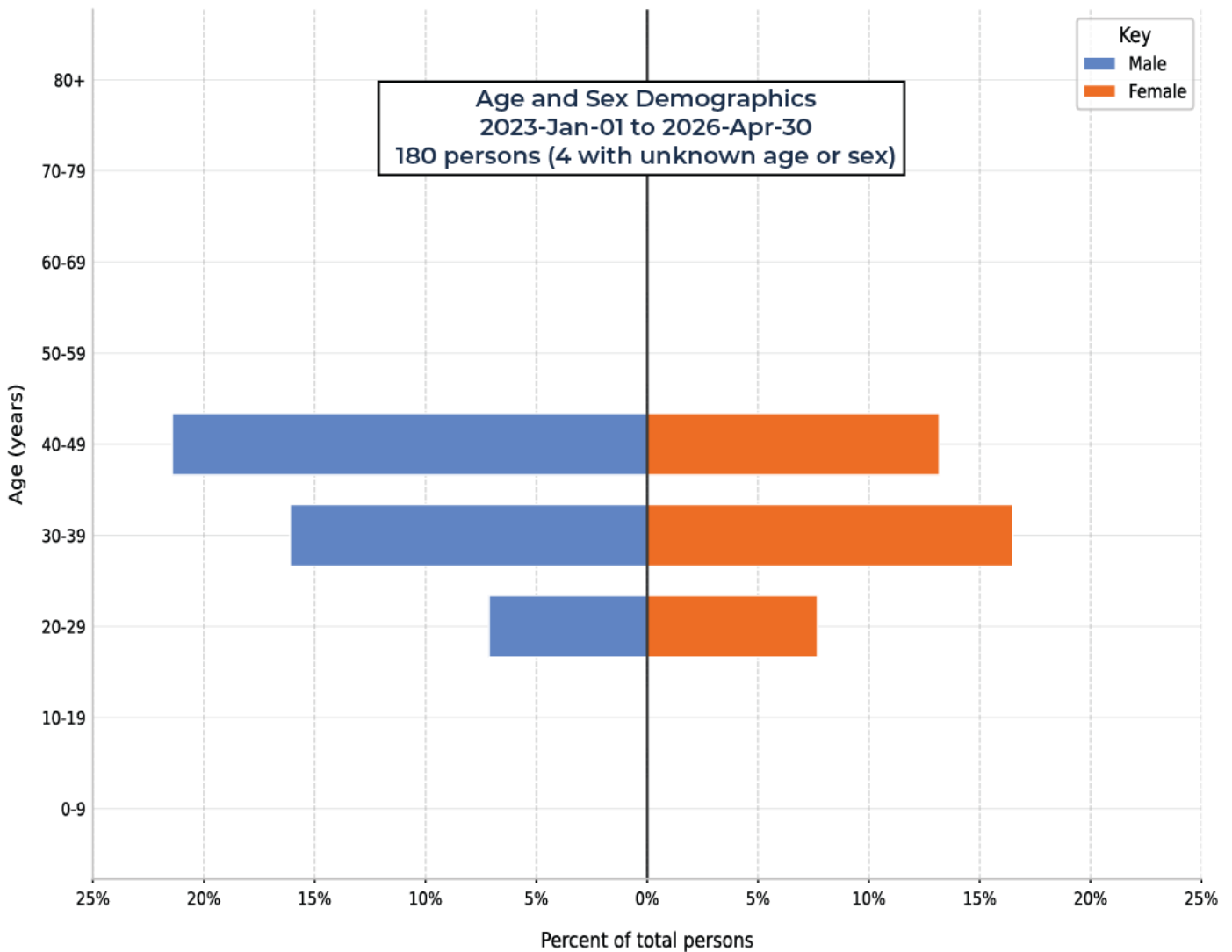


NDEWS Special Report EMS encounters for nonfatal drug-related overdoses involving medetomidine in the US January 1, 2023 - April 30, 2026

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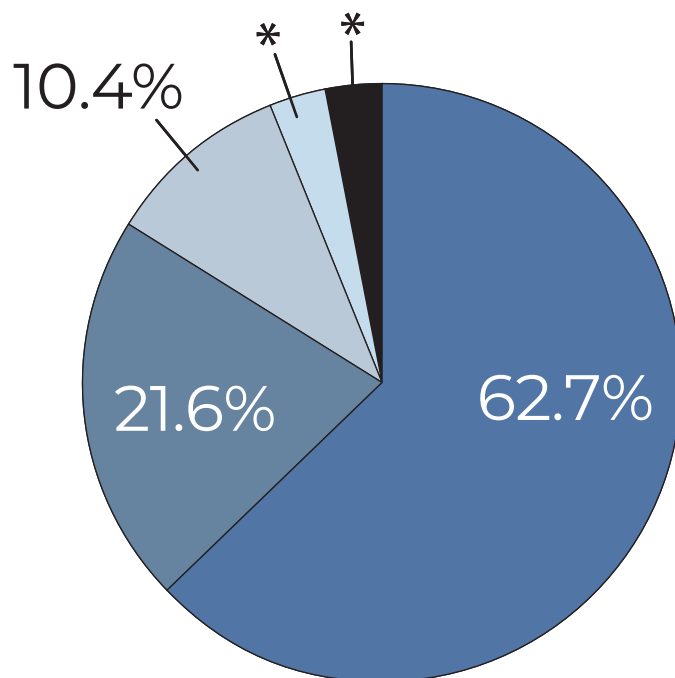
From January 1, 2023 to April 30, 2026, there were 180 reported EMS encounters for nonfatal drug-related overdoses involving medetomidine (n=180) nationally. The demographic characteristics of the non-suppressed EMS encounters are shown below including age, sex, and race. Counts fewer than 10 encounters are suppressed.



*Counts are limited due to suppression

See page 2 for plot detailing demographic characteristics of reported EMS encounters for nonfatal drug-related overdoses involving medetomidine

Demographic Distribution of Medetomidine EMS Encounters



*Counts are limited due to suppression



Nonfatal drug-related EMS encounters involving medetomidine were included when the emergency response involved patient contact and the record contained a documented mention of medetomidine or “rhino tranq” (including common misspellings) in the patient complaint or narrative. Selected nonfatal encounters were classified using the CDC DOSE overdose syndrome, the Nonfatal Overdose syndrome, and the Substance Use Disorder composite syndrome.

All dispatch types above follow the guidelines set by the National Emergency Medical Services Information System (NEMSIS).

Limitations: biospatial.io data reflect pre-hospital EMS encounters and do not include hospital outcomes, toxicology confirmation, medical history, or prescription information. Much of the data relies on clinical impressions, self-report, or bystander accounts. Additionally, EMS encounters for nonfatal drug-related overdoses involving medetomidine may be underreported, overreported or misclassified. biospatial.io syndromes and symptoms are not mutually exclusive. Drug overdose categories may overlap, as a single EMS encounter can be classified into multiple drug-related categories (e.g., fentanyl encounters are also counted in the broader opioids category). Encounters involving multiple substances (e.g., fentanyl and cocaine) are counted in each relevant category.