

Overdoses within .25, .5, and 1-mile radius of Clinton/Clifford Intersection

Data Analysis for Project CLEAN

July 29, 2020



CLEAN-2020-06

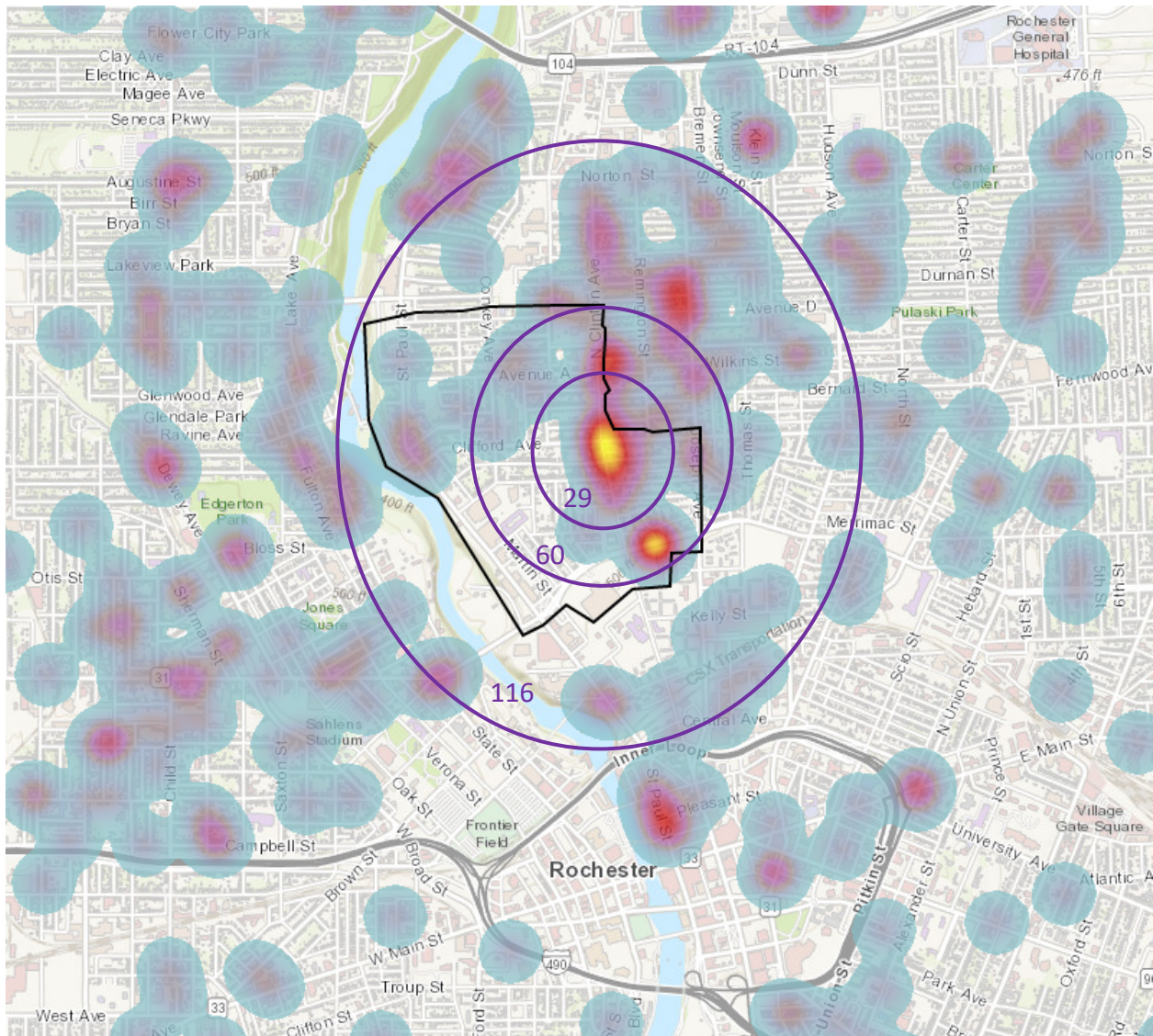
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Overdoses in Monroe County are concentrated in Northeast Rochester, specifically near the Clinton/Clifford Intersection. This paper uses the Monroe County Heroin Task Force Overdose Data (which includes all overdoses known to law enforcement) to analyze the number of overdoses that occurred within a quarter mile, half mile and one mile radius of this intersection. The maps not only show the high concentration of these overdoses right in the heart of the open-air drug market, but they also provide another way to understand how overdoses impact community members that live, work, play, and pass through this neighborhood. For example, over the last three years (2017-2019), anyone living within a half mile of this intersection has potentially been exposed to more than one overdose every single week.

The table below shows the number and percent of overdoses for each of the distances from the Clinton/Clifford intersection.

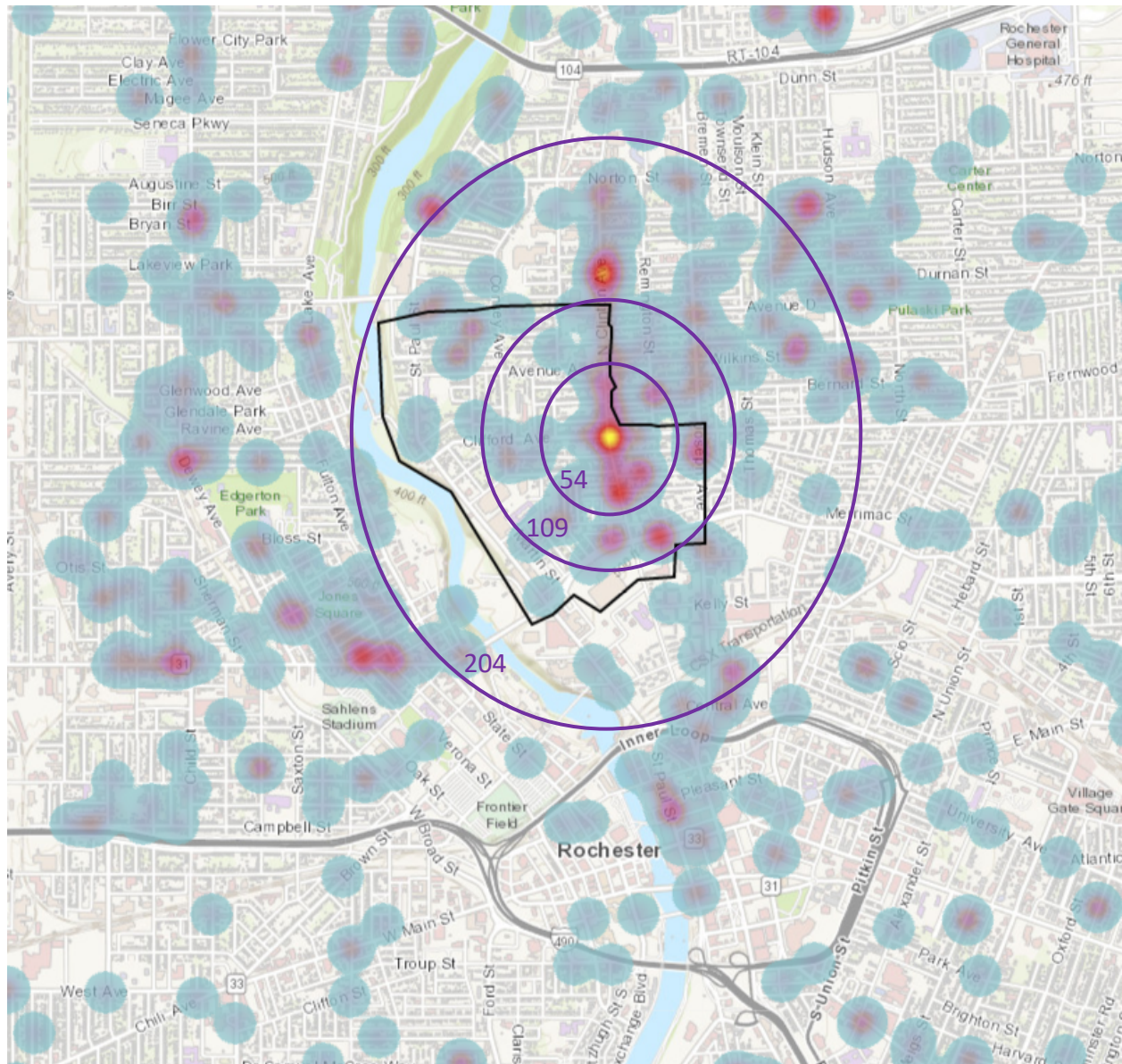
	2017	% of Roc ODs	% of MC ODs	2018	% of Roc ODs	% of MC ODs	2019	% of Roc ODs	% of MC ODs	Jan 1 –June 30 2020	% of Roc ODs	% of MC ODs
0.25 mile	29	6%	4%	54	7%	5%	26	6%	3%	8	4%	2%
0.5 mile	60	12%	7%	109	15%	10%	66	14%	8%	24	11%	6%
1 mile	116	23%	14%	204	28%	18%	125	27%	15%	43	19%	10%
Rochester (Roc) Total	518			729			470			228		
Monroe County (MC) Total	807			1133			840			418		

2017 Overdoses within .25, .5, and 1-mile radius of N. Clinton/Clifford Intersection



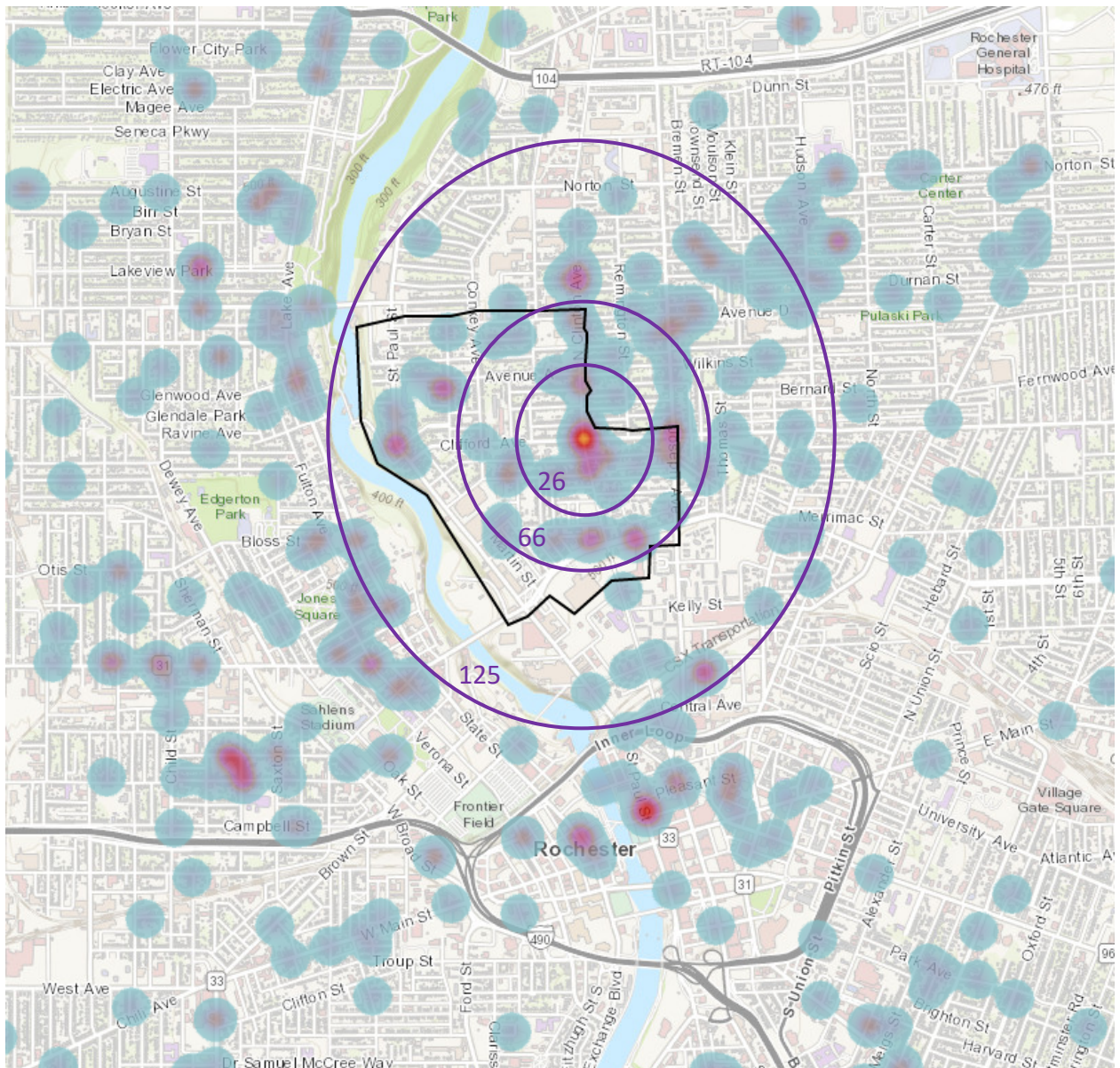
The black outline above indicates the Project CLEAN target area. In 2017, there were 807 overdoses known to law enforcement across Monroe County. Of these, 518 occurred in Rochester. Nearly one-quarter (23%) of all of the overdoses in Rochester occurred within 1-mile of the Clinton/Clifford intersection. For some perspective, Rochester is about 35 square miles of land. Within $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of this intersection, there were more than 2 overdoses every month.

2018 Overdoses within .25, .5, and 1-mile radius of N. Clinton/Clifford Intersection



In 2018, there were 1,133 overdoses known to law enforcement across Monroe County. Of these, 729 occurred in Rochester. More than one-quarter (28%) of all of the overdoses in Rochester occurred within 1-mile of the Clinton/Clifford intersection and nearly 1 in 5 overdoses across the County occurred within this same area. Moreover, 7% of all Rochester overdoses occurred within just $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of this intersection, further revealing the high concentration of overdoses in this neighborhood.

2019 Overdoses within .25, .5, and 1-mile radius of N. Clinton/Clifford Intersection



In 2019, there were 840 overdoses known to law enforcement across Monroe County. Of these, 470 occurred in Rochester. In the most recent year, overdoses still continue to be concentrated in this intersection. Nearly 15% of all of the overdoses in Rochester occurred within a ½ mile of the Clinton/Clifford intersection. Within 1 mile of this intersection, there were more than 10 overdoses every single month.

Discussion

Year after year, the Clinton/Clifford intersection has the highest concentration of overdoses in Rochester and Monroe County. This location is in the heart of the open-air drug market. The nature of heroin dependence is that as soon as someone gets heroin, they use it, right in the community that they purchased it in. This is a residential community, with a main business corridor. Residents and businesses witness not only the overdoses, but also the problems associated with drug use, including garbage and drug paraphernalia, traffic and parking issues, and open drug use.

Witnessing overdoses can be traumatic for everyone, from children to adults. The impact of traumatic events on the wider community has been less studied than individual trauma, but there is emerging evidence that events such as violence contribute to community trauma. It is likely that witnessing overdoses also contributes to community trauma. This constant exposure to trauma can negatively impact individual and community wellbeing (Hirschberger, 2018). For a larger discussion on community trauma, please see our [two-part series on trauma](#).

During the first year of Project CLEAN, we received additional overdose data from AMR, and so in our presentation of 2017 data in a [previous working paper](#), we included overdoses from both data sources. Since then, we have been consistently working with only the Monroe County Heroin Task Force Dataset, which is presented in this paper. The data presented here, then, are only overdoses known to law enforcement. This is an important limitation, as we know that there are many more overdoses that occur in this community, but are not made known to law enforcement or other first responders. For example, conversations with a local staff member from an agency that provides the overdose reversal drug, naloxone, revealed that, based on a sample of naloxone replacement forms, only one in five individuals reported contacting 911 during the overdose. This means that 4 out of 5 of those overdoses were never known to law enforcement. Therefore, it is possible that the number of overdoses presented here is actually 5x (five times) more than the official overdose data captured in this database and presented in this paper. Importantly, then, this community is exposed to many more overdoses than is presented in this official data. This could equate to 130 possible overdoses within a quarter mile of the Clinton/Clifford intersection in 2019; more than ten each month.

Reference

Hirschberger, G. (2018). Collective trauma and the social construction of meaning. *Frontiers in Psychology*. Retrieved from <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpsyg.2018.01441/full>