









HamiltonCounted

2024 Year-End Report



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Cover page Tennessee River photo by William Vest and Jay Buchanan.

Table of Contents page McDonald Farm photo by photographer Robin Rudd / Chattanooga Times Free Press.

A Message from Mayor Wamp and Sources and Appendices page photos contributed by Hamilton County Press Secretary, Haley Burton.



A Message from Mayor Wamp

Hamilton Counted has undoubtedly brought our community’s challenges into focus. Now, with two years of data, we have a clearer, data-driven understanding of where we stand on issues ranging from education and crime to overdoses.

This year, we expanded the report to include a closer look at the state of our public schools. While Hamilton County has several high-performing schools excelling in academics and college readiness, the data reveals stark disparities, particularly in urban schools where success rates lag behind county and state averages, despite receiving more funding per student. Schools with higher percentages of economically disadvantaged students consistently struggle with lower proficiency scores. Despite significant investments—some exceeding \$20,000 per student—performance gaps persist, emphasizing the critical role of parental and community engagement and innovative educational strategies. As the data indicates, Hamilton County is home to many of the best public elementary schools in the region.

Countywide, violent crime has seen a slight decline over the past year. Non-fatal shootings in Chattanooga dropped by 21 percent, yet the city’s murder rate remains high and consistent with recent years. This data, combined with poor public school performance in the City of Chattanooga, underscores the urgent need to invest in alternative education pathways that equip students with the skills to break the cycle of violence and poverty.

For the second year in a row, fatal overdoses in Hamilton County have declined and are now at their lowest level since 2020. However, the opioid epidemic does not discriminate—it affects individuals and families from all walks of life. As we continue to look for innovative ways to meet people in their moment of need, we launched Tennessee’s first Overdose Prevention Team, led by Hamilton County EMS, deploying Quick Response Vehicles to deliver life-saving medications and connect individuals to critical recovery resources. This proactive approach brings immediate support into victim’s homes, tailors assistance to their unique needs, and provides a warm handoff to community organizations that offer long-term care.

While this report provides a clearer picture of our county’s challenges, it is also a call to action. Data alone does not create change—our response to it does. Solving these issues requires more than just government action; it takes a united effort. I invite every company, church, and civic organization to step up and play a role in this pivotal moment in our county’s history.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading 'West W'.

Education



Hamilton County Schools

Data includes 77 Hamilton County Schools

Per Pupil Expenditure Averages:

Hamilton County: \$16,786
State: \$12,749

42.8% of Hamilton County Schools perform higher than the state's average proficiency rate.

4 of 37 HCS in the City Chattanooga are performing above the state average

15 of 21 Hamilton County high schools have fewer than 50% of students scoring 21 or higher on the ACT.

**21 is considered college ready*

29.8% of Hamilton County Schools are achieving proficiency rates above 50%.

7 schools in Hamilton County have per-pupil spending exceeding \$20,000.

Success Rate (also known as 'proficiency rate'): represents the percentage of students whose score met expectations or exceeded expectations across all tested subjects. The Hamilton County Schools data in the charts on the following pages are in order by "success rate."

More information about education data in Hamilton County can be found in the sources section.

Hamilton County Elementary Schools

#	School	Success Rate	Economically Disadvantaged	Expenditure per student
1	Nolan Elementary School (PreK-5)	85.20%	<5%	\$15,160.51
2	Thrasher Elementary School (K-5)	83%	<5%	\$15,065.89
3	Lookout Mountain Elementary School (K-5)	81.90%	<10 students	\$18,517.31
4	Chattanooga School for Liberal Arts (K-12)	72.20%	11%	\$15,037.70
5	Westview Elementary School (PreK-5)	69.20%	10%	\$15,945.54
6	Chattanooga School for the Arts & Sciences Lower (K-5)	64.70%	10%	\$15,412.25
7	Ooltewah Elementary School (PreK-5)	64%	13%	\$15,572.60
8	Wallace A. Smith Elementary School (PreK-5)	62.60%	12%	\$16,231.62
9	McConnell Elementary School (K-5)	62.10%	18%	\$16,496.76
10	Apison Elementary School (PreK-5)	61.50%	9%	\$16,711.69
11	Normal Park Museum Magnet School (PreK-8)	59.70%	10%	\$16,084.85
12	Big Ridge Elementary School (K-5)	57.65%	14%	\$16,041.02
13	Allen Elementary School (PreK-5)	55.40%	17%	\$17,030.69
14	Daisy Elementary School (PreK-5)	55.30%	24%	\$17,913.31
15	North Hamilton County Elementary School (PreK-5)	52.80%	25%	\$16,725.80
16	Alpine Crest Elementary School (K-5)	50.20%	37%	\$17,307.72
17	Soddy Elementary School (PreK-5)	48.50%	22%	\$17,134.34

Hamilton County Elementary Schools

#	School	Success Rate	Economically Disadvantaged	Expenditure per student
18	Middle Valley Elementary School (PreK-5)	47.20%	23%	\$15,814.64
19	Snow Hill Elementary School (PreK-5)	41.80%	26%	\$16,474.25
20	Battle Academy for Teaching & Learning (PreK-5)	40.90%	41%	\$16,900.90
21	Lookout Valley Elementary School (PreK-5)	40.60%	30%	\$19,956.38
22	Rivermont Elementary School (PreK-5)	37.30%	42%	\$17,614.86
23	Wolftever Creek Elementary School (PreK-5)	36.60%	29%	\$16,552.47
24	East Brainerd Elementary School (PreK-5)	34.60%	34%	\$15,600.74
25	Red Bank Elementary School (PreK-5)	28.60%	42%	\$17,070.46
26	Barger Academy of Fine Arts (PreK-5)	27.30%	62%	\$19,175.06
27	East Side Elementary School (K-5)	27.10%	67%	\$19,692.88
28	Hixson Elementary School (PreK-5)	26.90%	36%	\$18,943.93
29	Woodmore Elementary School (PreK-5)	26.90%	74%	19,261.08
30	East Lake Elementary School (PreK-5)	23.40%	62%	\$18,098.10

Hamilton County Elementary Schools

#	School	Success Rate	Economically Disadvantaged	Expenditure per student
31	Bess. T Shepherd Elementary School (PreK-5)	22%	49%	\$17,703.63
32	East Ridge Elementary School (PreK-5)	20.90%	52%	\$16,447.55
33	Hamilton County Virtual School (K-12)	20.50%	43%	\$15,274.12
34	DuPont Elementary School (K-5)	20.10%	44%	\$19,473.58
35	Clifton Hills Elementary School (PreK-5)	18.80%	69%	\$17,374.72
36	Spring Creek Elementary School (PreK-5)	17.60%	47%	\$16,384.33
37	Tommie F. Brown Academy (PreK-5)	16.20%	71%	\$18,888.42
38	Harrison Elementary School (PreK-5)	14.10%	54%	\$16,165.74
39	Hardy Elementary School (PreK-5)	9.10%	80%	\$20,100.06
40	Orchard Knob Elementary School (PreK-5)	8.70%	77%	\$19,752.85
41	Calvin Donaldson Elementary School (PreK-5)	8.40%	78%	\$23,132.85

Hamilton County Middle & High Schools

#	School	Success Rate	%	Economically Disadvantaged	College & Career Readiness	ACT 21+ Score	Expenditure per student
1	Hamilton County Collegiate High at Chattanooga State	90.50%	<10 students		>95%	87.70%	\$11,987.79
2	Chattanooga High School Center for Creative Arts (6-12)	76.90%	8%		92.90%	84.70%	\$14,925.53
3	Chattanooga School for Liberal Arts (K-12)	72.20%	11%		N/A	N/A	\$15,037.70
4	Signal Mountain Middle/High School (6-12)	70.30%	5%		73.90%	66.30%	\$14,759.22
5	STEM School Chattanooga (9-12)	66.70%	15%		>95%	74.20%	\$17,116.98
6	Chattanooga School for the Arts & Sciences Upper (6-12)	61.90%	10%		81.70%	65.40%	\$14,974.71
7	Normal Park Museum Magnet School (PreK-8)	59.70%	10%				\$16,084.85
8	Loftis Middle School	58.20%	16%				\$16,455.02
9	East Hamilton High School	56.70%	15%		69.90%	47%	\$14,506.06
10	East Hamilton Middle School	49%	20%				\$15,149.70
11	Sale Creek Middle/High School (6-12)	46.50%	17%		64%	44%	\$16,893.50
12	Hunter Middle School	46.20%	14%				\$15,619.06
13	Soddy Daisy High School	45.20%	19%		57.70%	50%	\$14,751.97
14	Soddy Daisy Middle School	40.90%	19%				\$15,717.20
15	Ooltewah Middle School	39.10%	29%				\$16,314.09

Hamilton County Middle & High Schools

#	School	Success Rate	%	Economically Disadvantaged	College & Career Readiness	ACT 21+ Score	Expenditure per student
16	Ivy Academy, Inc. (6-12)	37.60%		9%	68.90%	41%	\$17,131.10
17	Ooltewah High School	37.50%		22%	54.70%	30%	\$15,161.50
18	Hixson High School	37.10%		23%	51.90%	36.20%	\$16,887.72
19	Hixson Middle School	34%		25%			\$16,966.39
20	Chattanooga Girls Leadership Academy (6-12)	33.60%		68%	>95%	42.10%	\$19,751.05
21	Lookout Valley Middle/High School (6-12)	31.90%		43%	42.60%	20.40%	\$18,854.37
22	Chattanooga Preparatory School (6-12)	26.10%		55%	N/A	N/A	\$18,131.54
23	Red Bank Middle School	25.20%		44%			\$17,267.79
24	Sequoyah High School (9-12)	23.50%		24%	81.50%	11.10%	\$21,941.85
25	Red Bank High School	21.20%		42%	49.70%	25.40%	\$15,790.72
26	Brown Middle School	20.80%		45%			\$17,398.67
27	Hamilton County Virtual School (K-12)	20.50%		43%	33.70%	24.40%	\$15,274.12
28	Tyner Academy (9-12)	20.20%		59%	36.40%	11.60%	\$23,299.31
29	East Ridge Middle School	20%		54%			\$16,865.53
30	Central High School	19.40%		39%	40.70%	19%	\$16,800.43

Hamilton County Middle & High Schools

#	School	Success Rate	%	Economically Disadvantaged	College & Career Readiness	ACT 21+ Score	Expenditure per student
31	East Ridge High School	17%		47%	37.50%	9.60%	\$16,482.97
32	Howard Connect Academy (6-8)	17%		60%			\$22,147.24
33	Tyner Middle Academy (6-8)	15.30%		68%			\$18,501.46
34	East Lake Academy of Fine Arts (6-8)	13.50%		66%			\$18,606.16
35	Dalewood Middle School	13%		64%			\$23,687.21
36	The Howard School (9-12)	10.40%		63%	32.70%	<5%	\$16,749.29
37	Chattanooga Charter School of Excellence High	10.20%		58%	N/A	N/A	\$19,691.14
38	Orchard Knob Middle School	8.10%		77%			\$21,088.92
39	Brainerd High School	6.80%		65%	27.90%	<5%	\$16,848.56

Crime in Hamilton County



HamiltonCounted

Data reflects numbers from January 1 - December 31 for each year, unless otherwise noted (see Appendices A1-A4 and Appendix B for more detailed crime data that’s outlined below).

Violent crime in Hamilton County decreased 7%

Violent crime includes Aggravated Assault, Murder, Rape, and Robbery.

*2023 to 2024

Non-fatal shooting victims down 23% countywide

*2023 to 2024

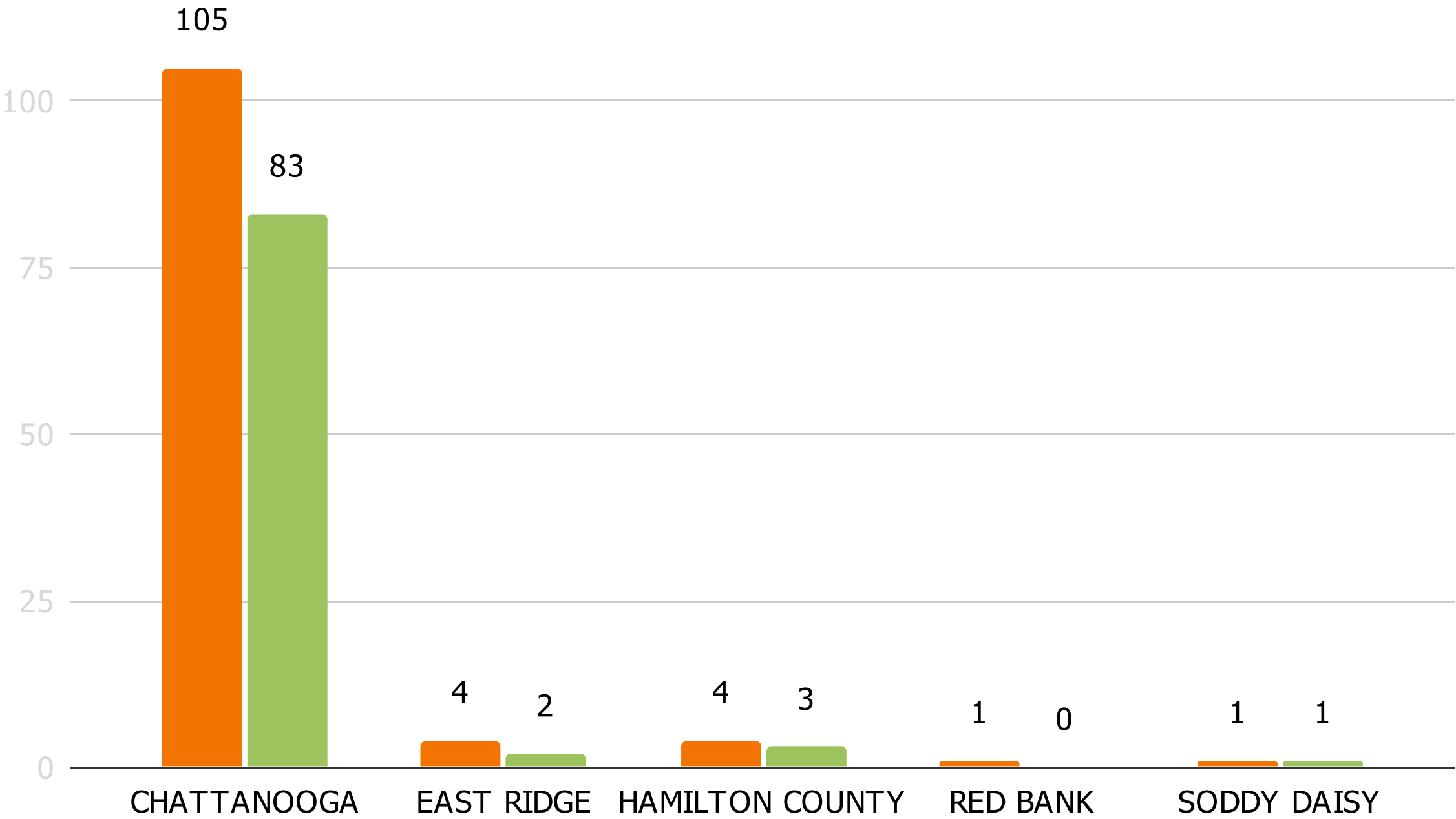
Murders in Chattanooga down 7%

See Appendix A1

*2023 to 2024

Overall crime down 13% countywide

*2023 to 2024

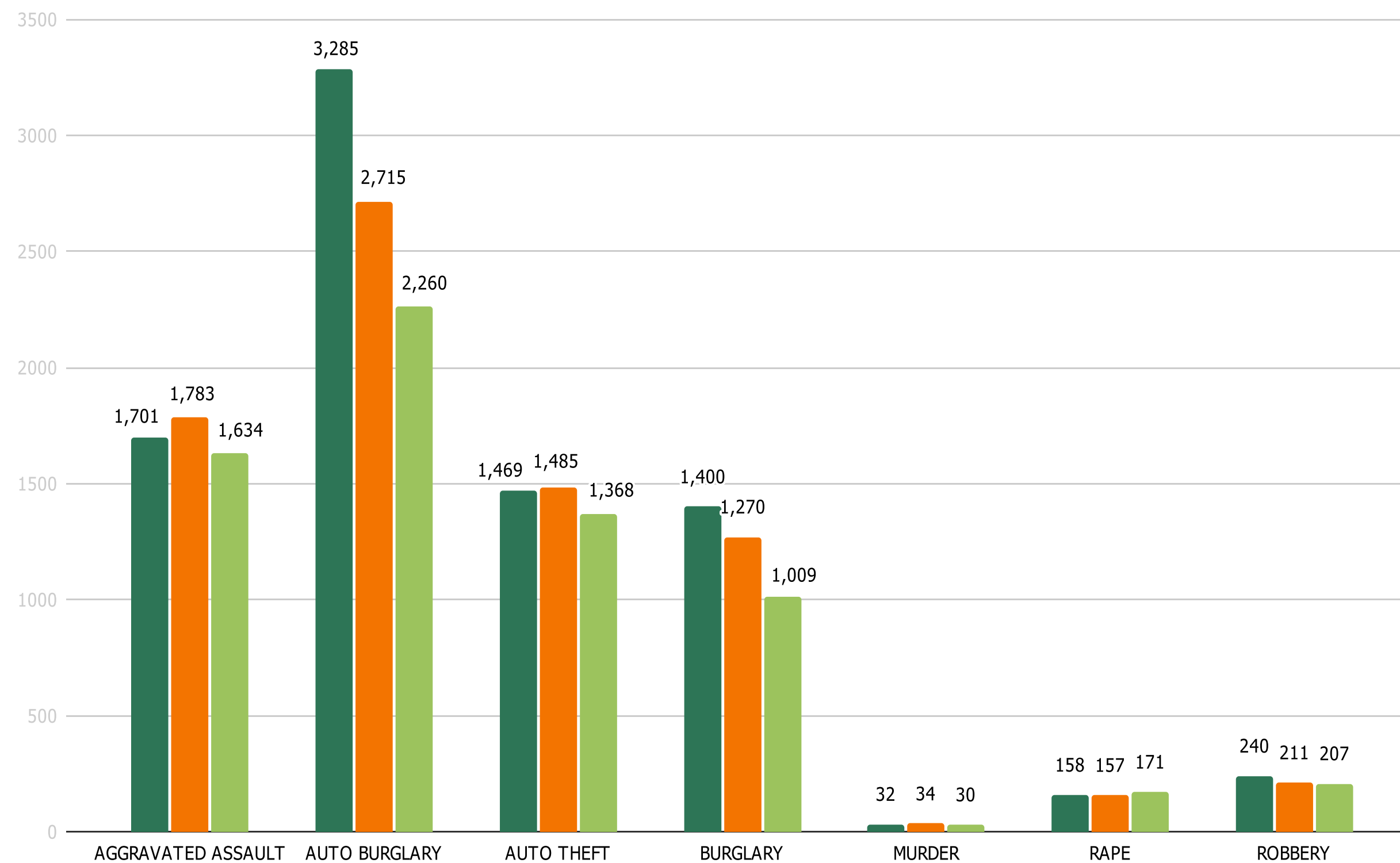


Non-Fatal Shooting Victims

The City of Chattanooga experienced a **21% decrease in non-fatal shooting victims** over the last year.

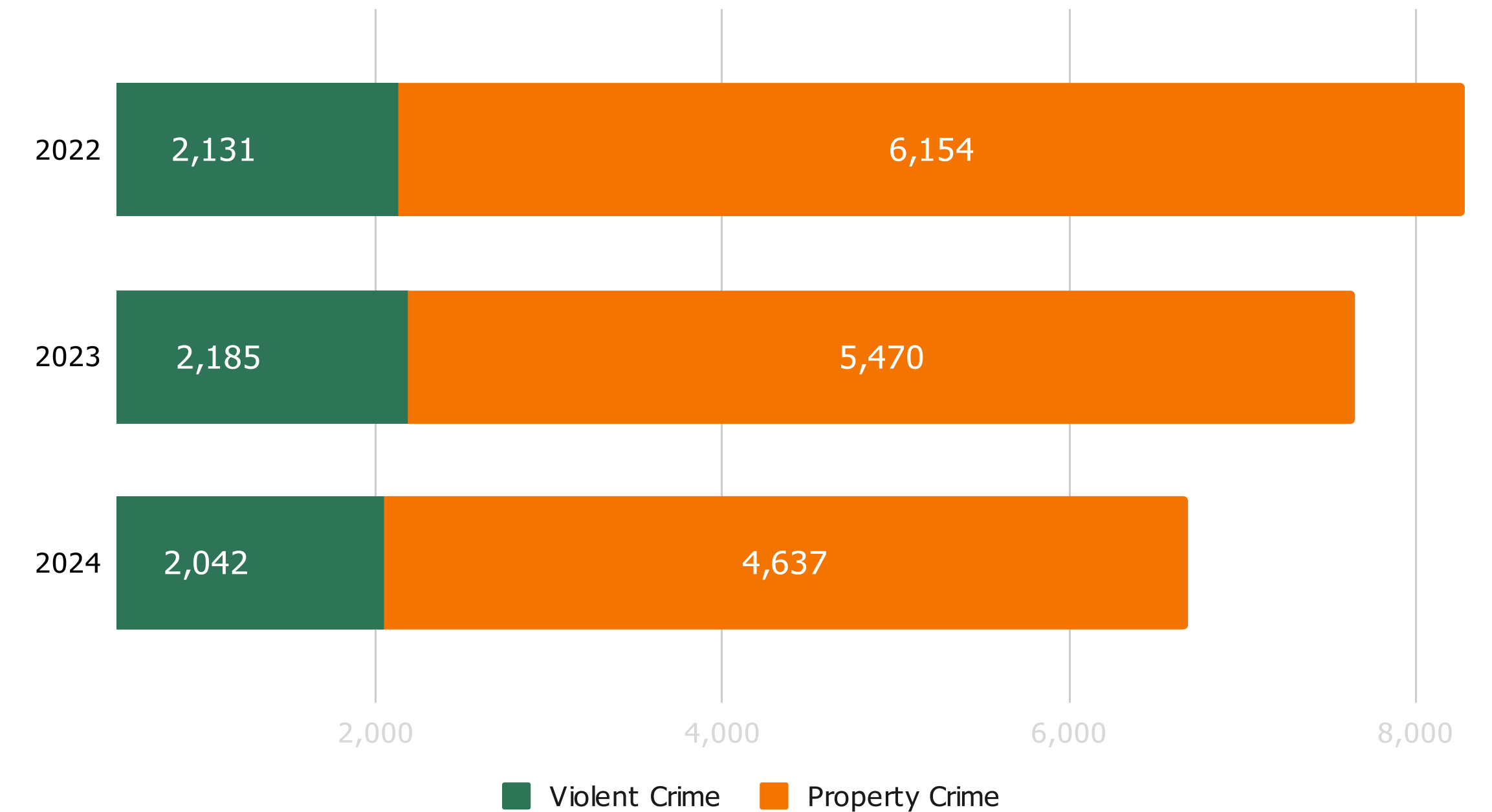
Collegedale, Lookout Mountain, and Signal Mountain are not shown, as there were no shooting victims during this time period in 2023 and 2024 (see Appendix B for detailed non-fatal shooting data).

Countywide Crime the Last 3 Years



- 2022
- 2023
- 2024

Countywide Crime by Category: Violent and Property

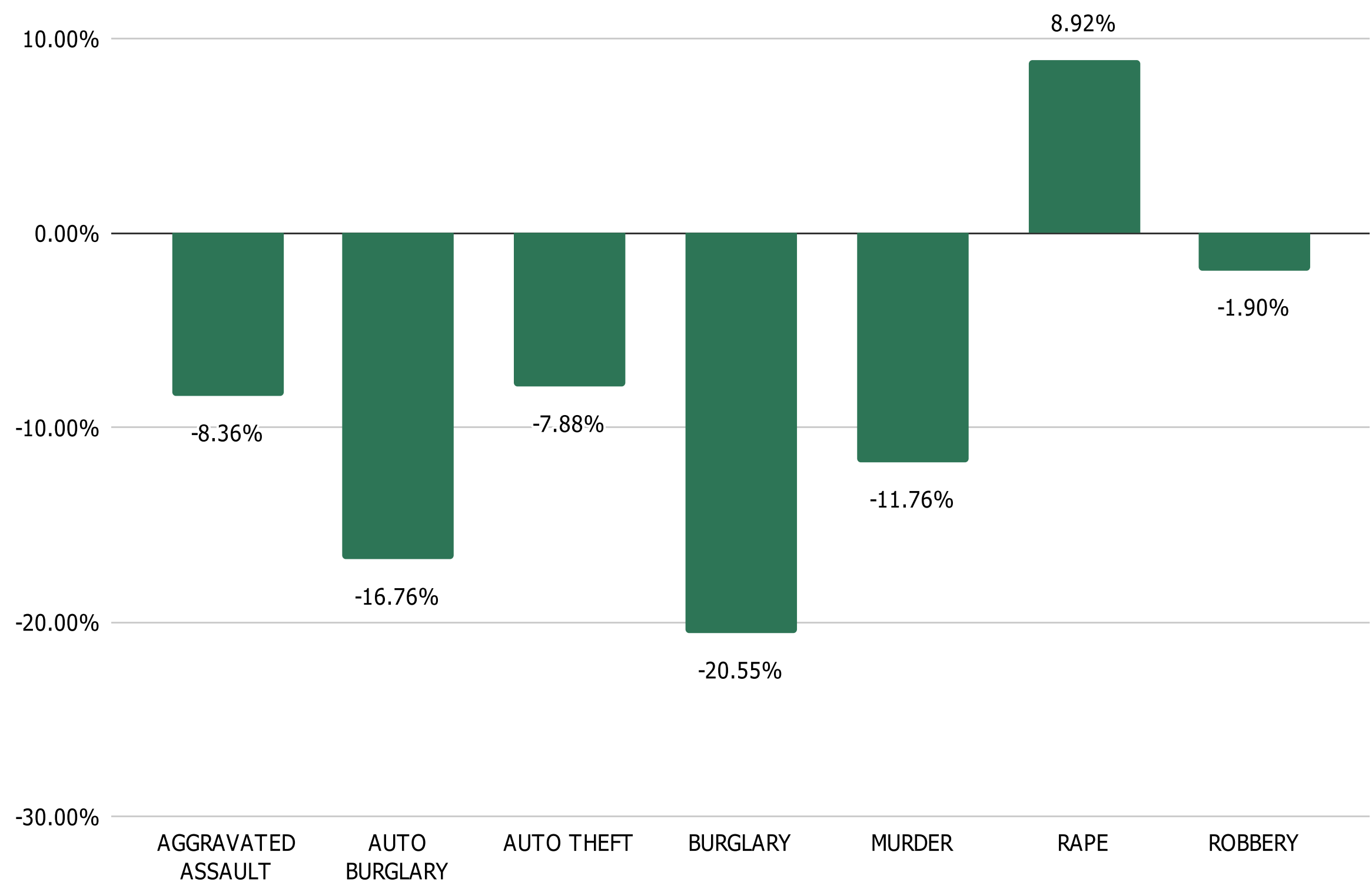


Violent crime includes Murder, Rape, Aggravated Assault, and Robbery.

Property crime includes Burglary, Auto Theft, Auto Burglary.

Percent Change by Crime Type

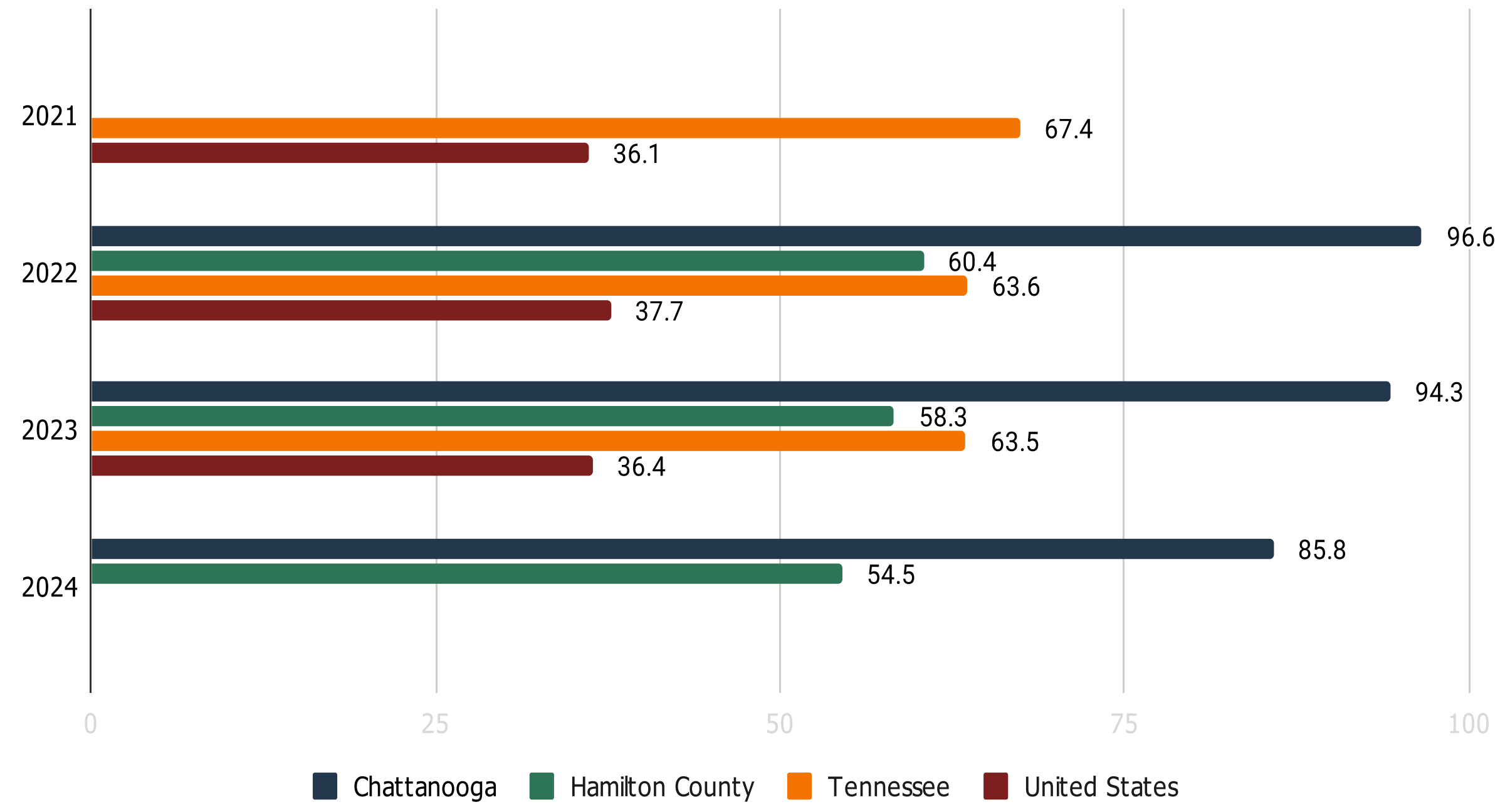
Countywide: 2023 to 2024



Violent Crime Per Capita Rates

Per Capita is the number of crimes per 10,000 residents

*Some data not available and is excluded from the chart



All municipalities in Hamilton County, including Chattanooga, are included in the Hamilton County data.

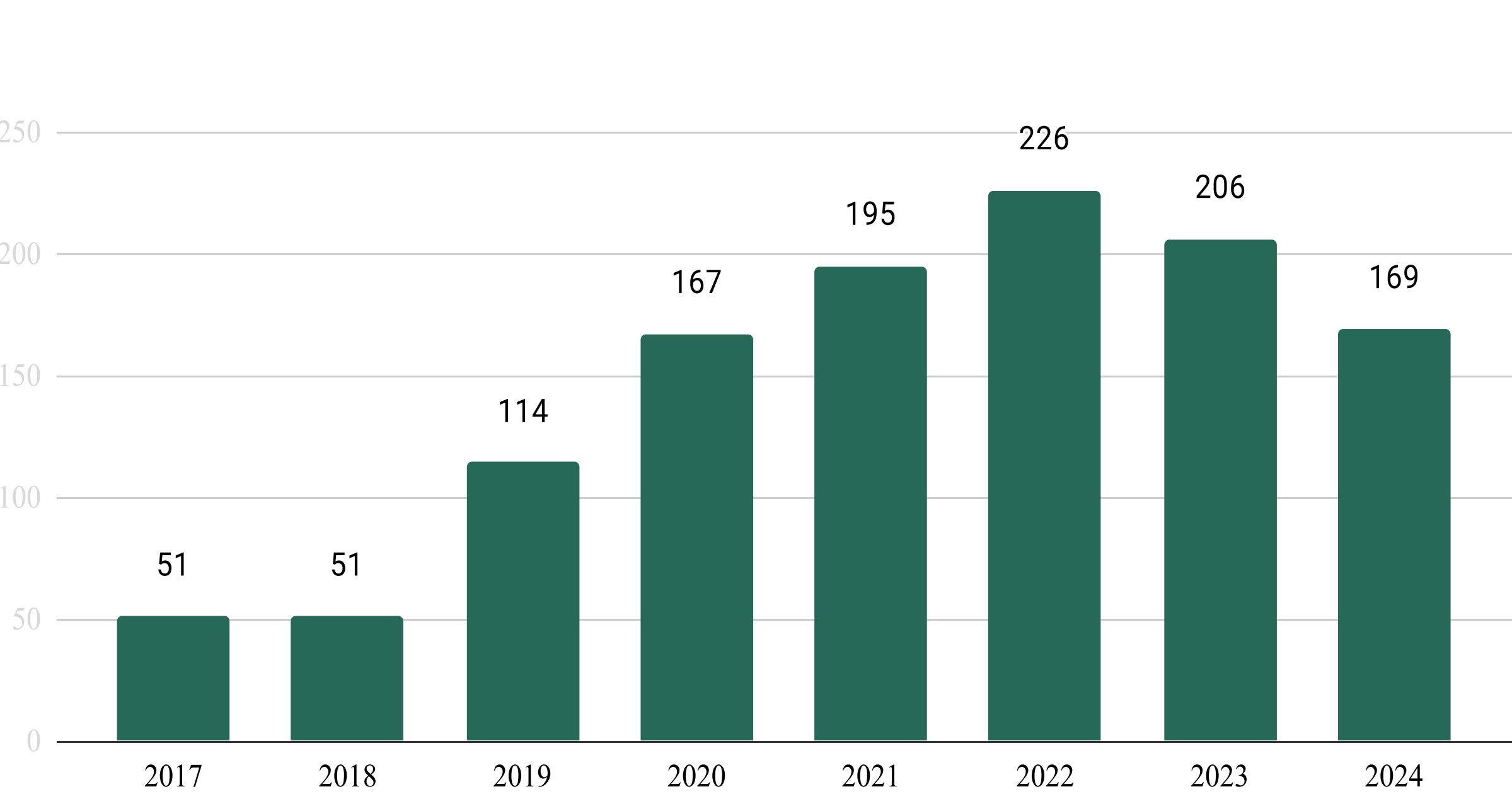
East Ridge data is not available for 2022; therefore, the East Ridge population has been subtracted when computing overall crime rates in 2022 for Hamilton County. Their population and data have been included in the 2023 and 2024 Hamilton County data.

Substance Misuse and Overdoses

Fatal Overdoses

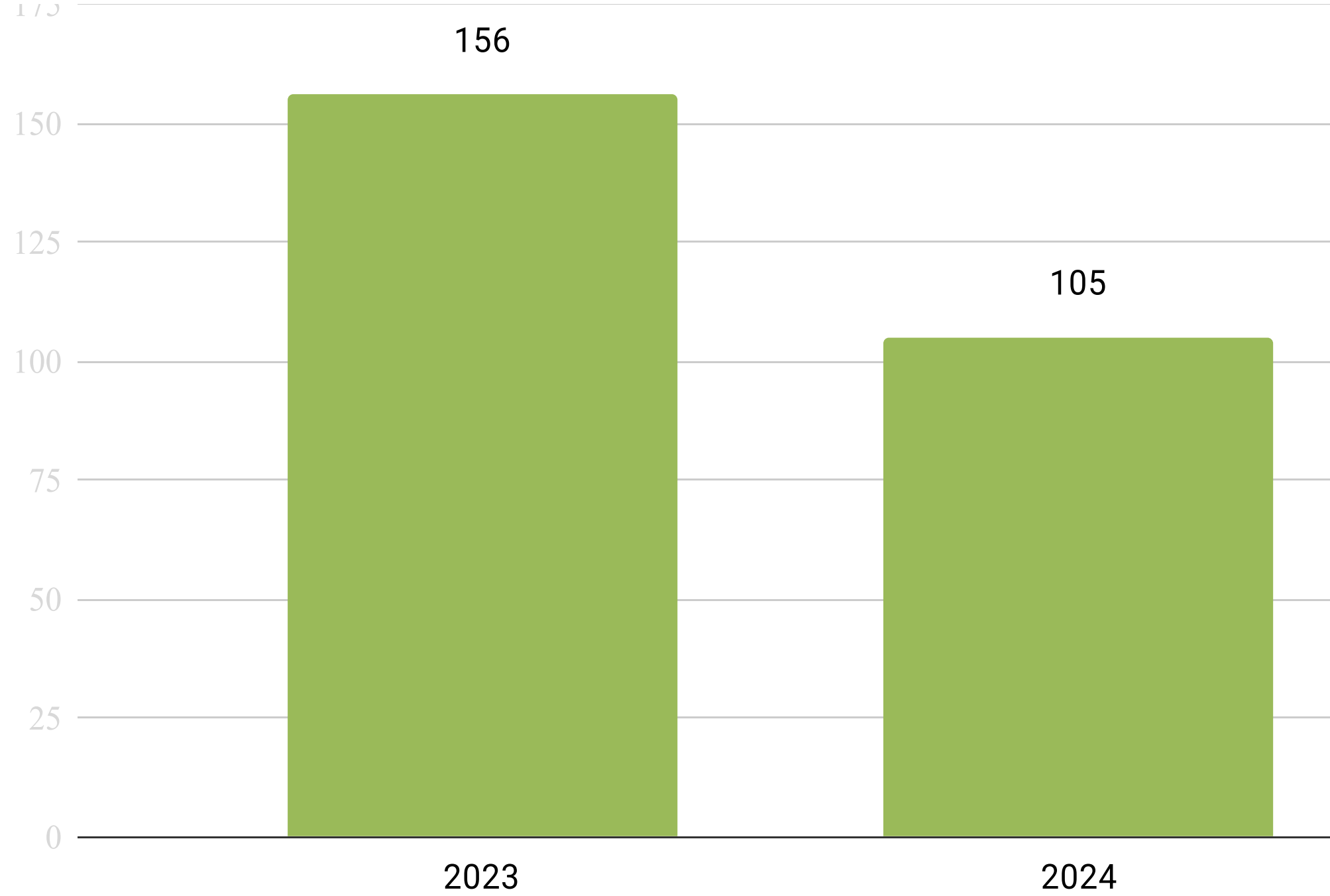
Hamilton County Fatal Overdoses

**Includes all municipalities*



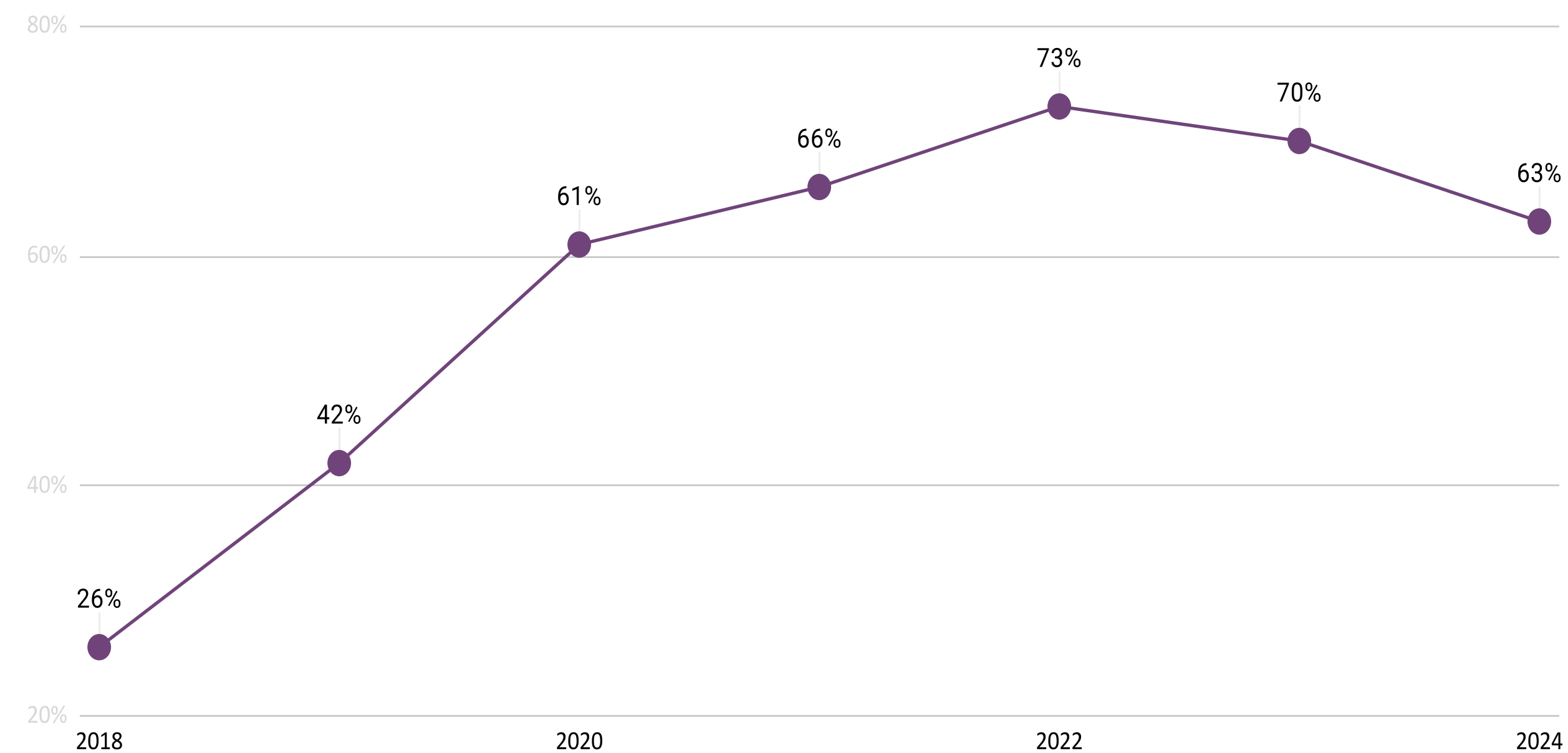
Fatal overdoses across Hamilton County have **decreased 18%** in the last year.

Chattanooga Fatal Overdoses



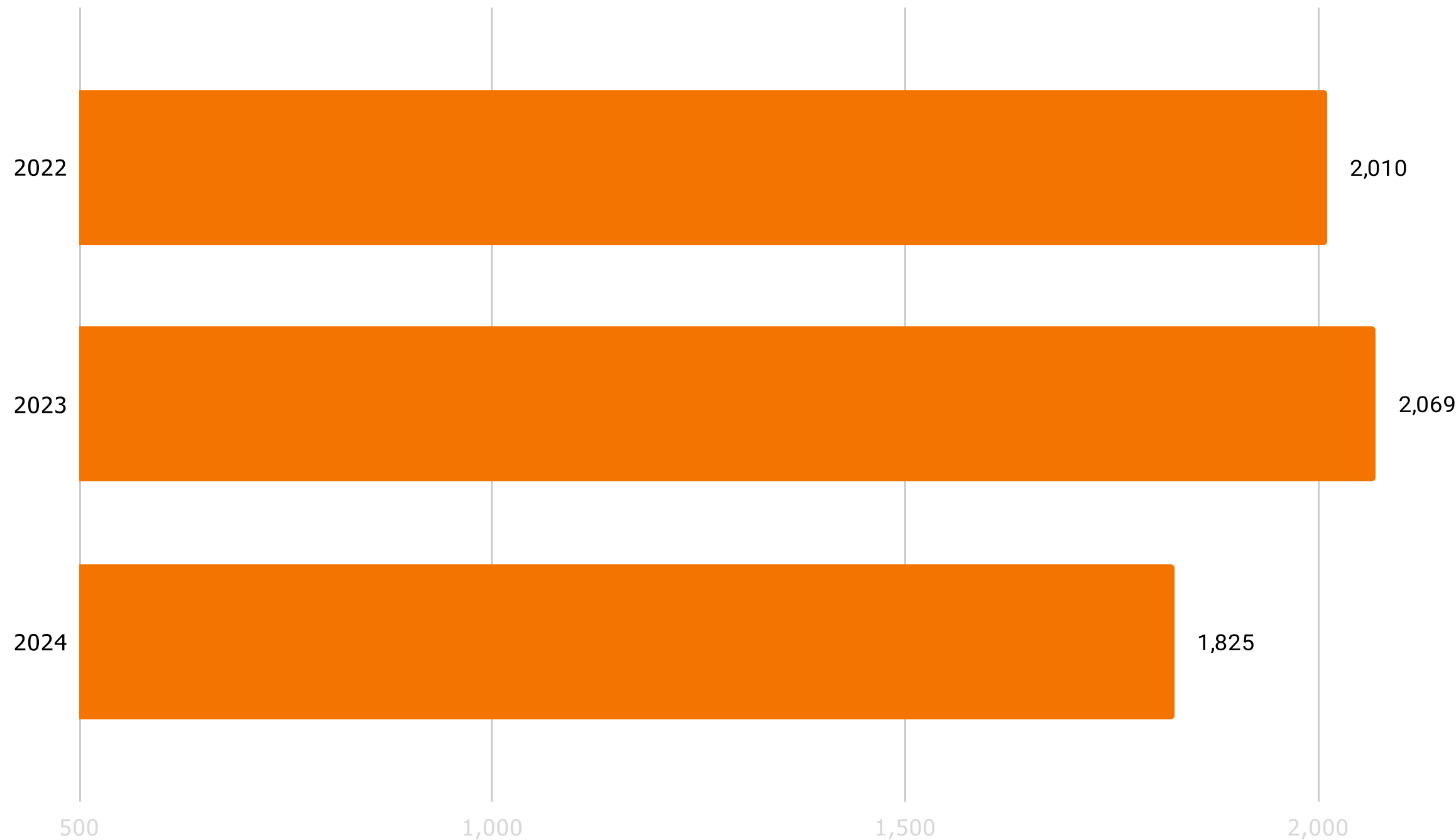
Fatal overdoses in Chattanooga have **decreased 33%** in the last year.

Fentanyl-related Overdose Deaths



Emergency Room Visits: Suspected Overdose-Related

Visits are **down 12% from last year**.

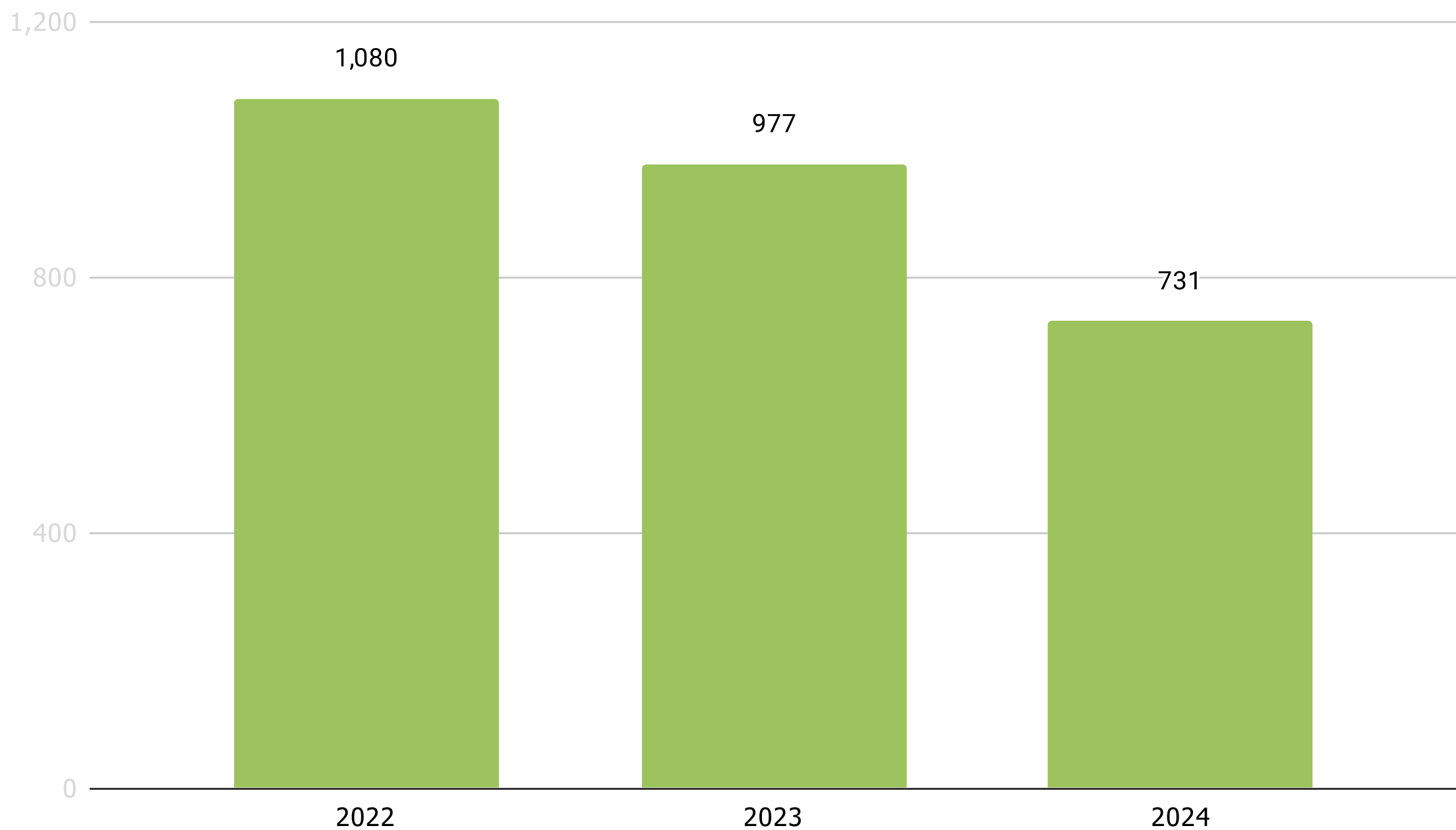


Adults aged 31 to 40 accounted for the highest percentage of emergency room visits in 2024, making up 19% of all cases.

Naloxone Report

This chart reflects the number of patients who were administered Naloxone by Emergency Medical Services (EMS) in Hamilton County.

See Appendix C



Overdose Death Location Heat Map

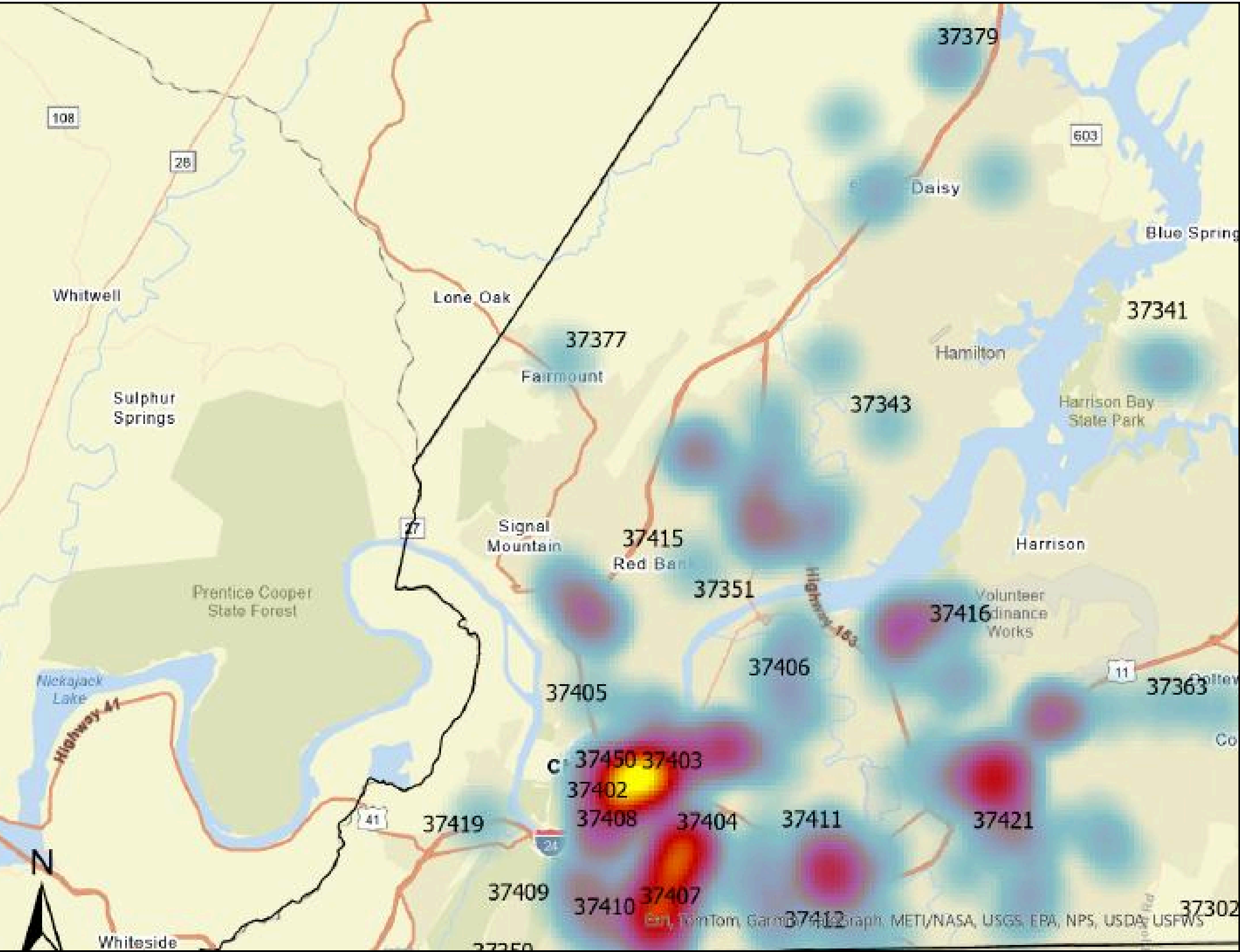
Heat maps show geographical concentration rather than quantity. The fatal overdoses below are mapped by where they occurred, not necessarily where the person died. For example, a person might overdose at their house but ultimately die at the hospital. For data collection purposes, tracking where the overdose occurred is most important.

Overdose Death Concentrations: 2023 & 2024

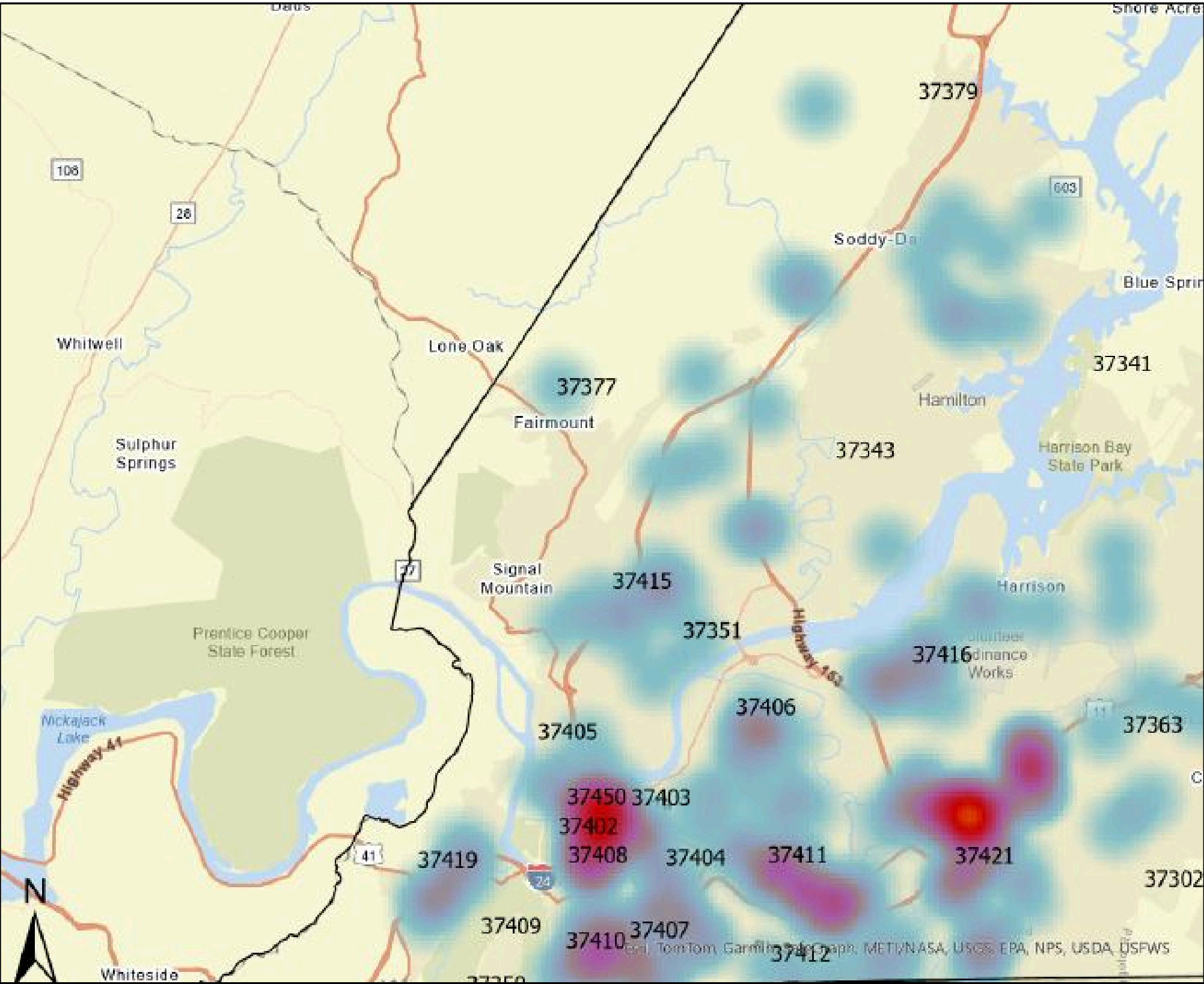
- 37421 - East Brainerd & Hickory Valley
- 37402 - Downtown & Riverfront
- 37411 - Eastdale & Brainerd

Concentrations have shifted away from **37407** (Rossville Blvd & 4th Avenue) from 2023 to 2024.

2023



2024



In 2024, there were **169 fatal overdoses** in Hamilton County, which is approximately **44 deaths per 100,000 people**.

Opioid Prosecution Data

- Convictions for 2nd degree murders or distribution of schedule II drug resulting in death:
5 convictions
- Pending 2nd degree murder cases: **14 cases**
- Convictions for reckless homicide & A or B felony drug cases: **18 convictions**
- Pending A or B felony drug cases: **Approximately 65 cases**

Innovative Response to Opioids Crisis Update

- Launched the state's first Overdose Prevention Team, led by Hamilton County EMS, to support overdose victims in their time of crisis and connect them with recovery specialists.
- The Office of Economic and Community Development (ECD) successfully secured nearly \$1.5 million in grant funding to establish and expand a Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) program at the Hamilton County Jail and Detention Center.
- Mayor Wamp and Sheriff Garrett announced the expansion of the re-entry program at the Hamilton County Jail & Detention Center with the opening of electrical and cosmetology programs empowering inmates to be well-equipped to re-integrate into society.
- Awarded more than \$500,000 to local organizations who are deploying grassroots strategies to combat opioid's destructive impact on Hamilton County families.

See Appendix C1 for substance misuse and overdose resources.

Food and Nutrition Assistance



The Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program is funded through the USDA. WIC services are provided through the Tennessee Department of Health in 126 entities across the state, including county health departments, stand-alone clinics, and hospital sites.

The program is designed to provide supplemental food assistance and nutrition education to low-income pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding women, infants, and children until age five.



The Chattanooga Area Food Bank partners with retailers, manufacturers, farmers, buying alliances, and individual donors to end hunger in the region.

Foxwood Food Center is Hamilton County's largest brick and mortar food pantry, and the only one operated by the Chattanooga Area Food Bank.

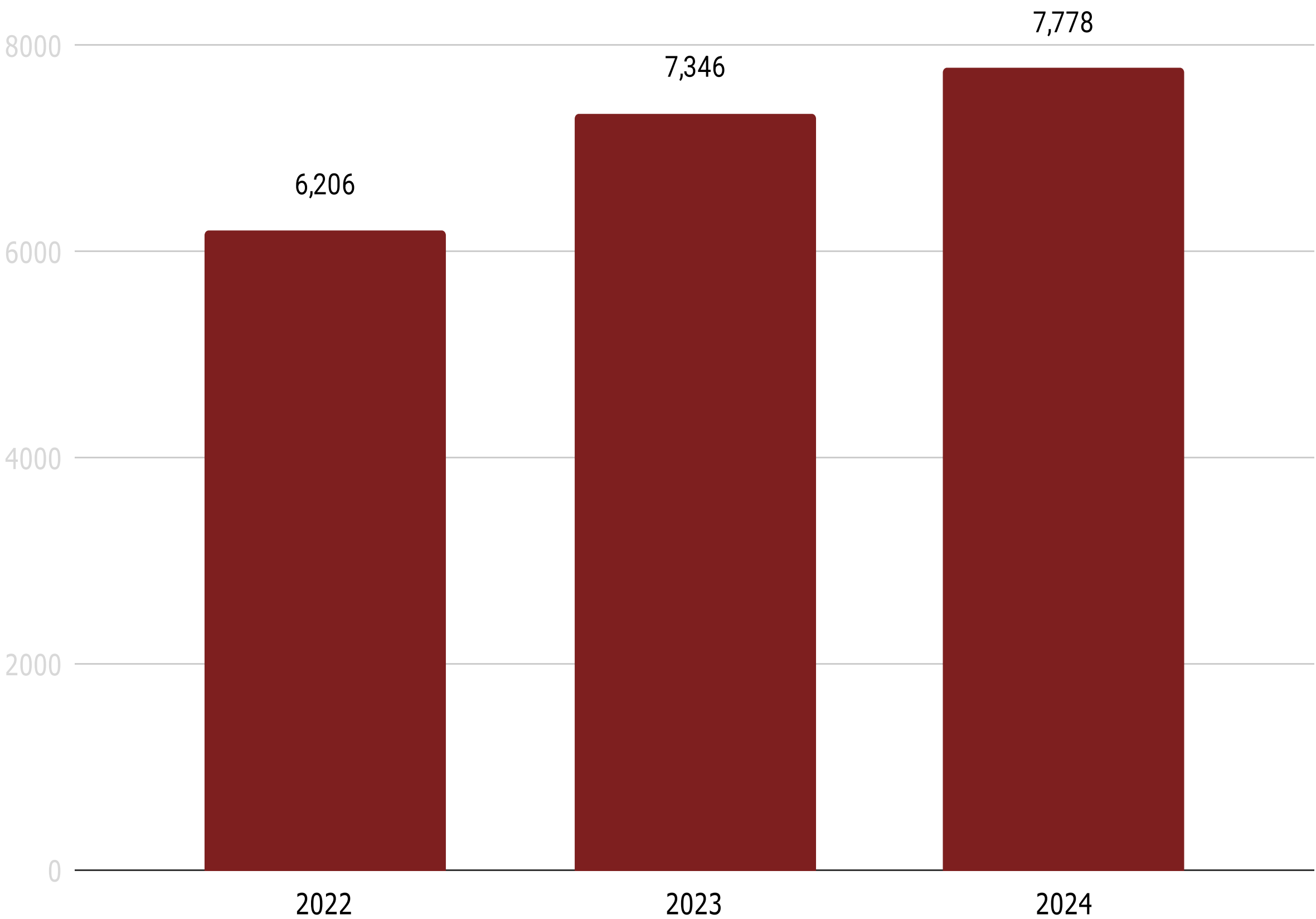
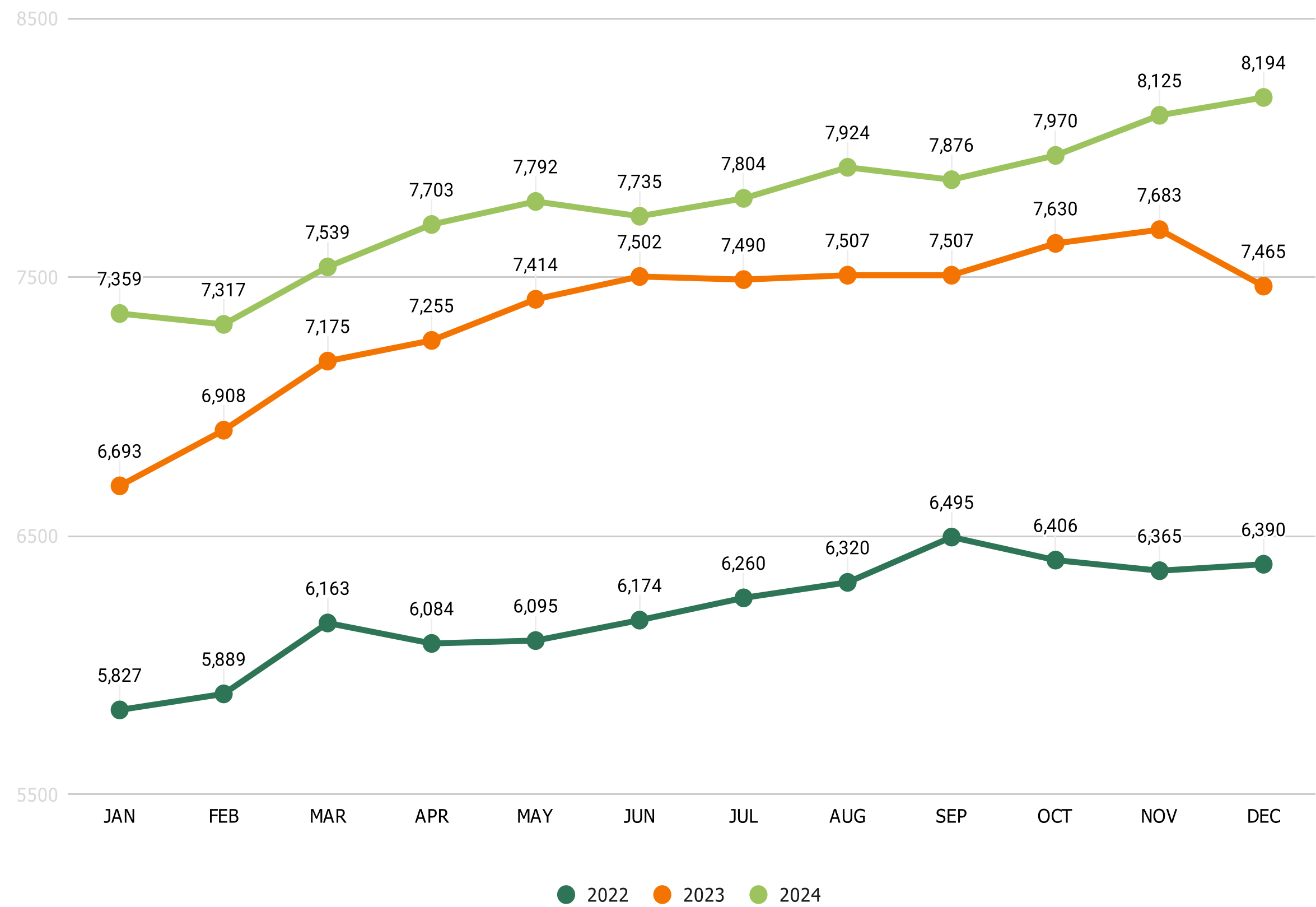


WIC Participants in Hamilton County



WIC participation has steadily increased over the past two years.

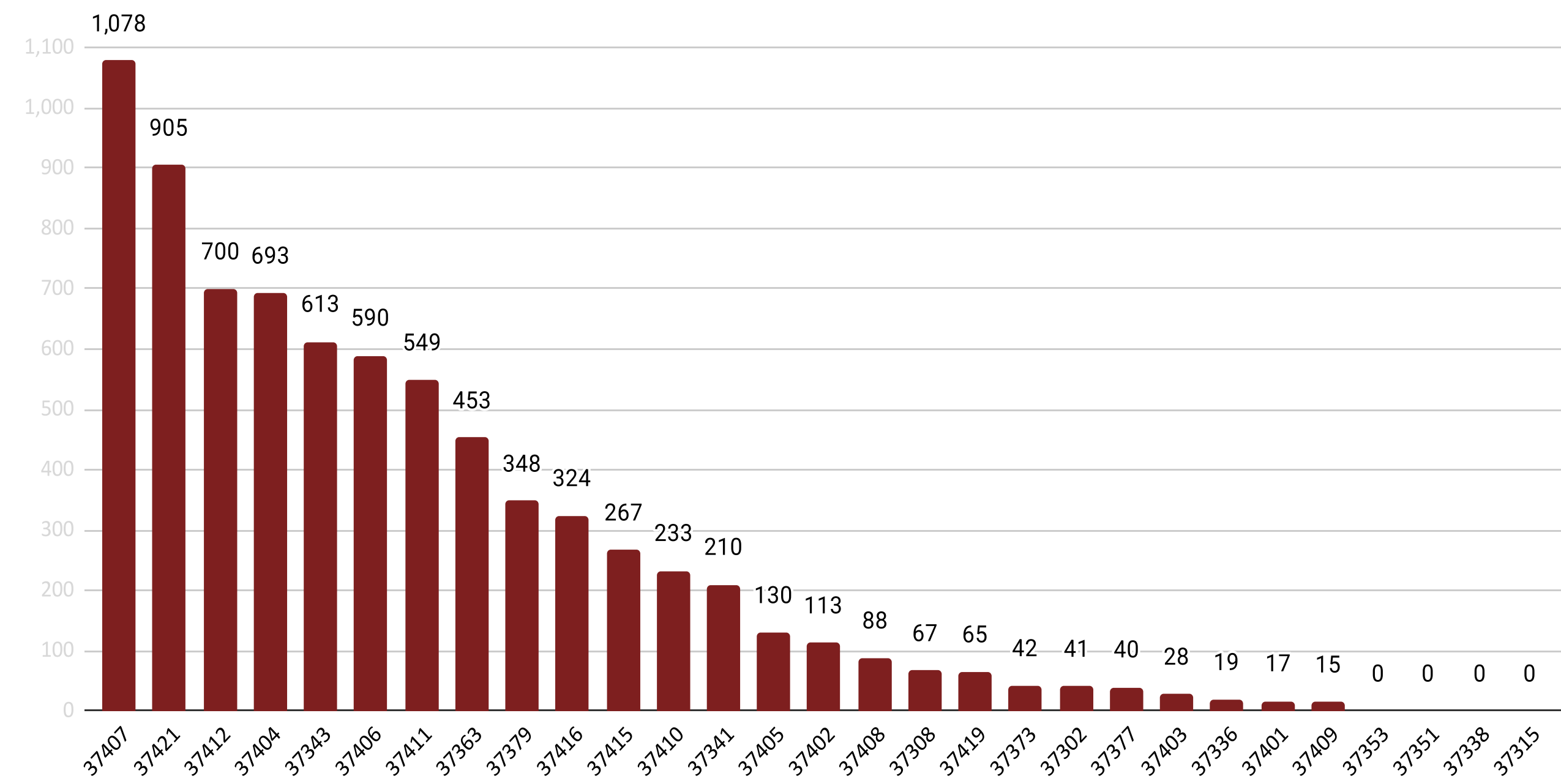
Average monthly WIC participation is **up nearly 6% from last year** and **25% since 2022**.





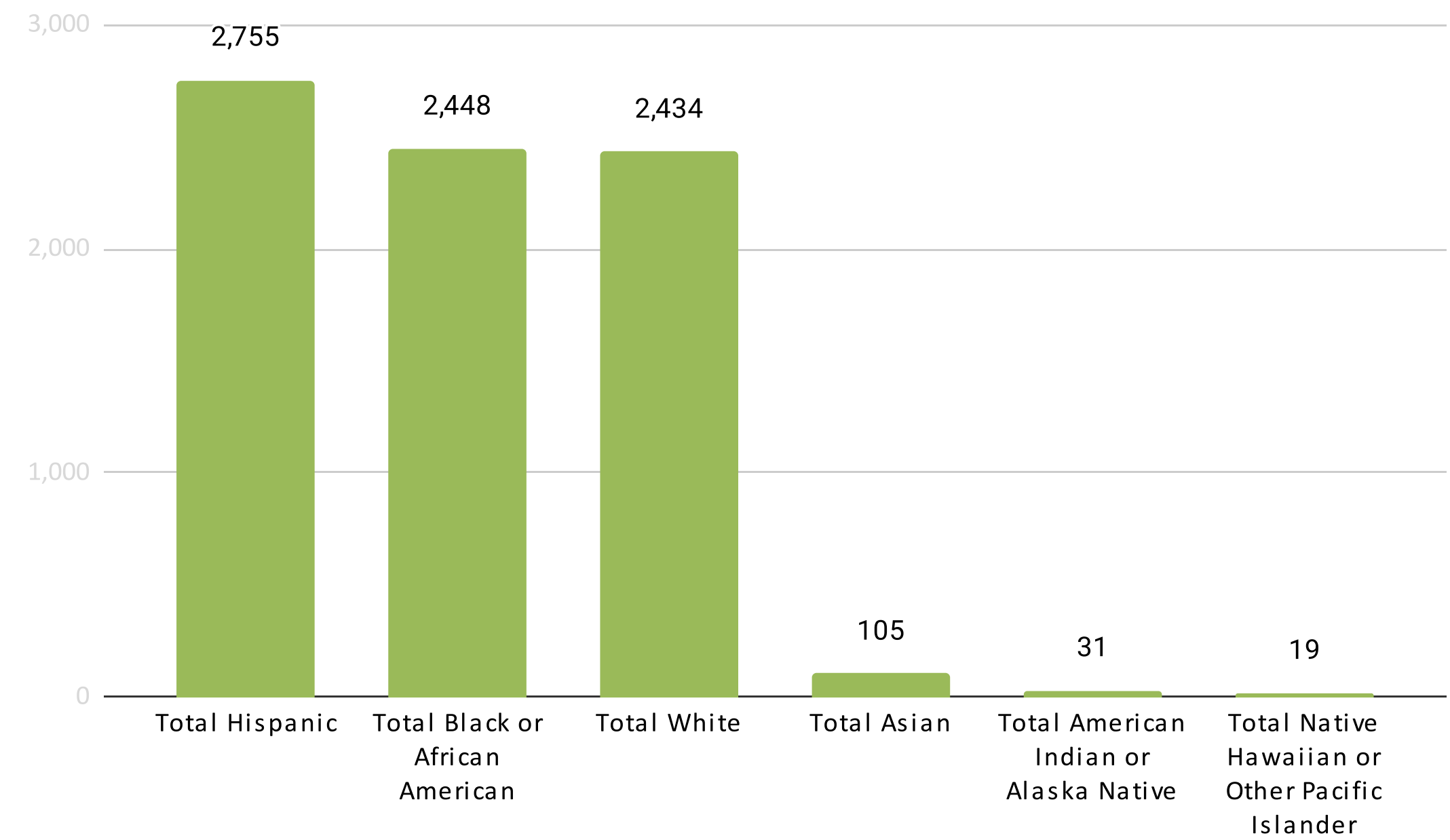
WIC Participants by Zip Code: May 2024

May saw the highest WIC participants in the first half of 2024, with ZIP code **37407** (East Lake) leading in enrollments.

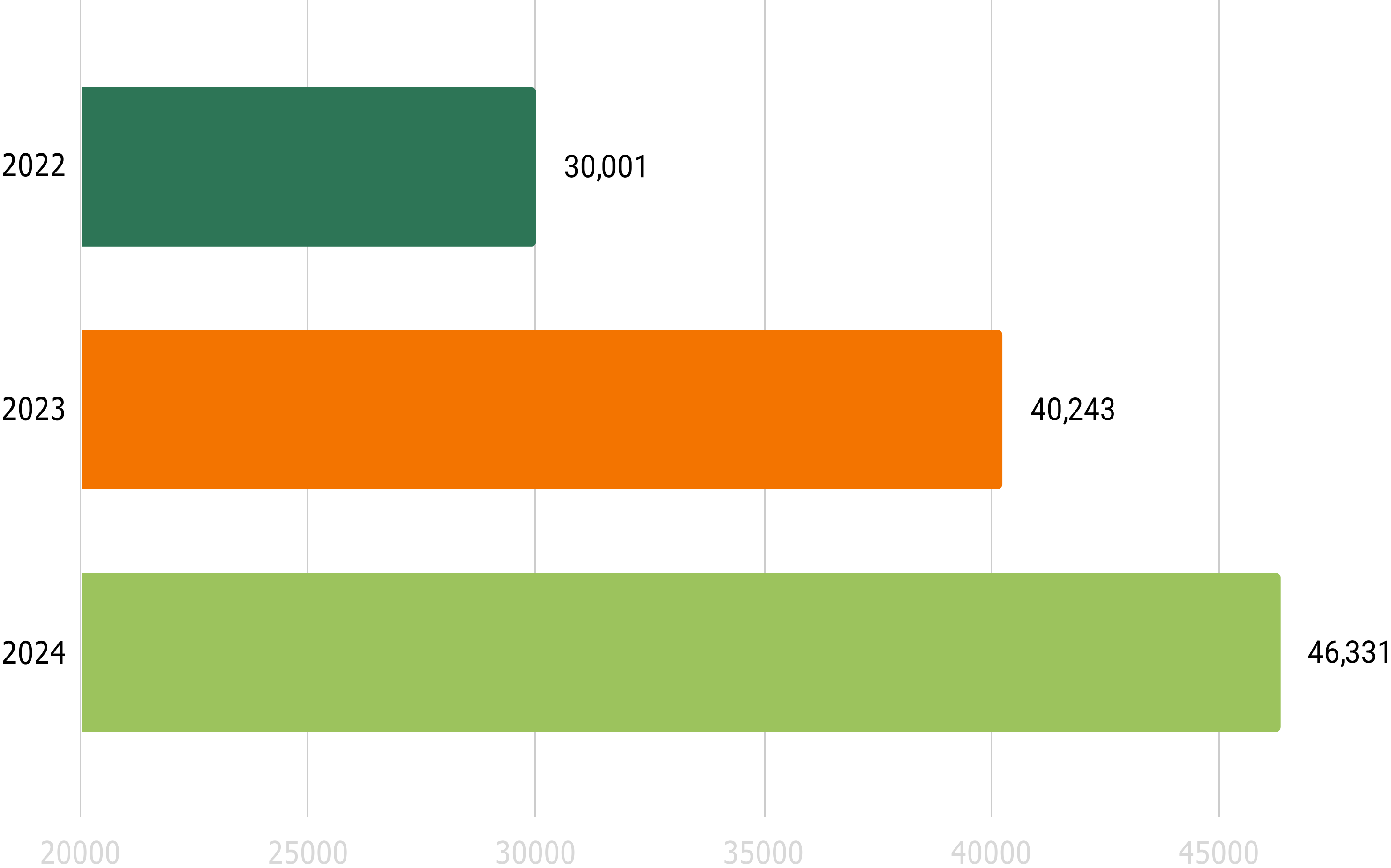


Note: The number of participants by zip code include those that extend over into adjacent counties. Also, the data was suppressed in some zip codes if participation count was less than 11.

WIC Participants by Race: May 2024



Emergency Food Box Distribution



Demand for emergency food boxes in Hamilton County has steadily risen since 2022, mirroring national trends observed by the Chattanooga Area Food Bank. This increased need is likely driven by the expiration of COVID-era assistance programs, greater awareness of the Foxwood Food Center, and the impact of inflation.

The total number of emergency food boxes distributed by Foxwood Food Center **increased 15% from 2023 and are up 54% since 2022.**

Homelessness and Health

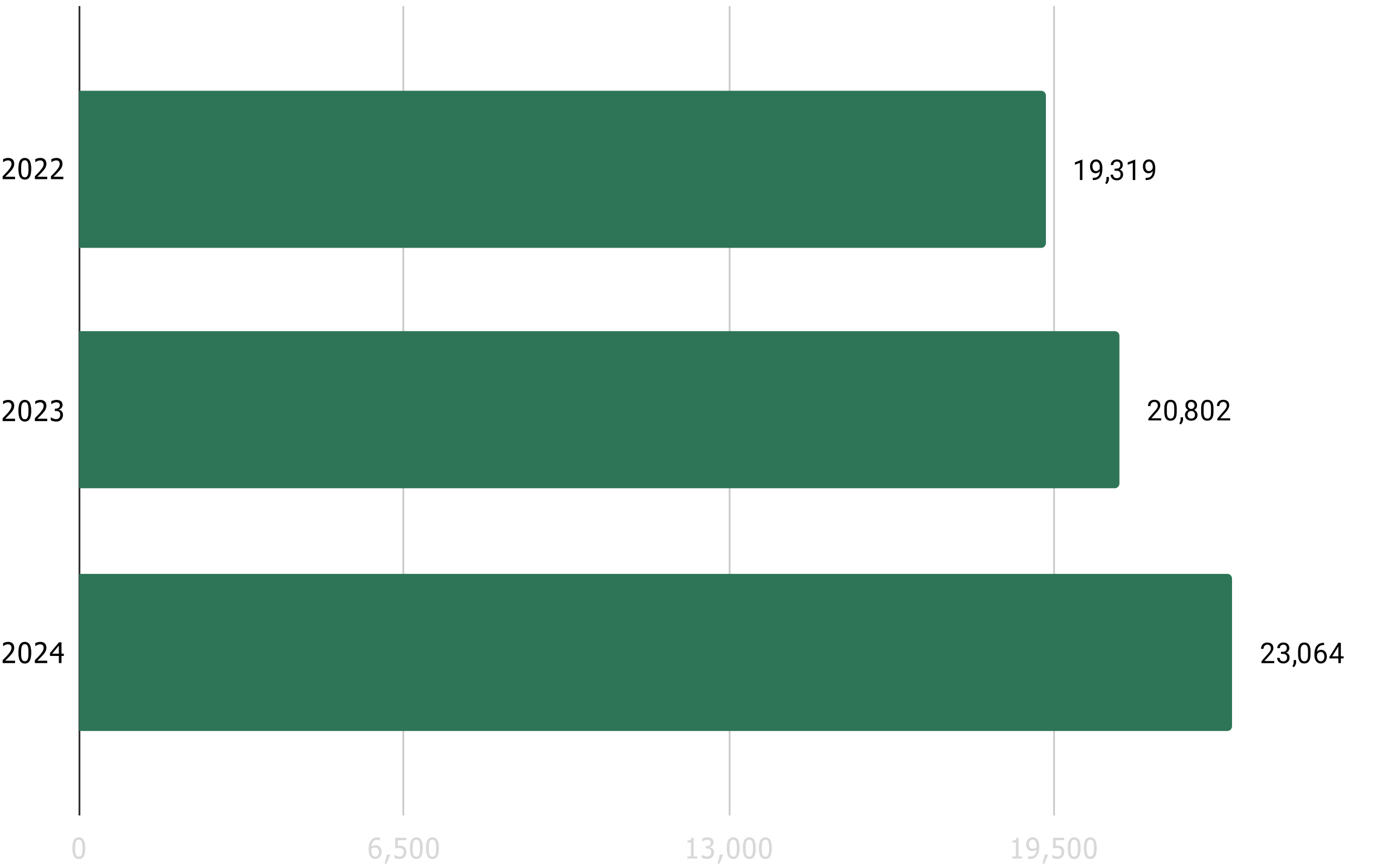
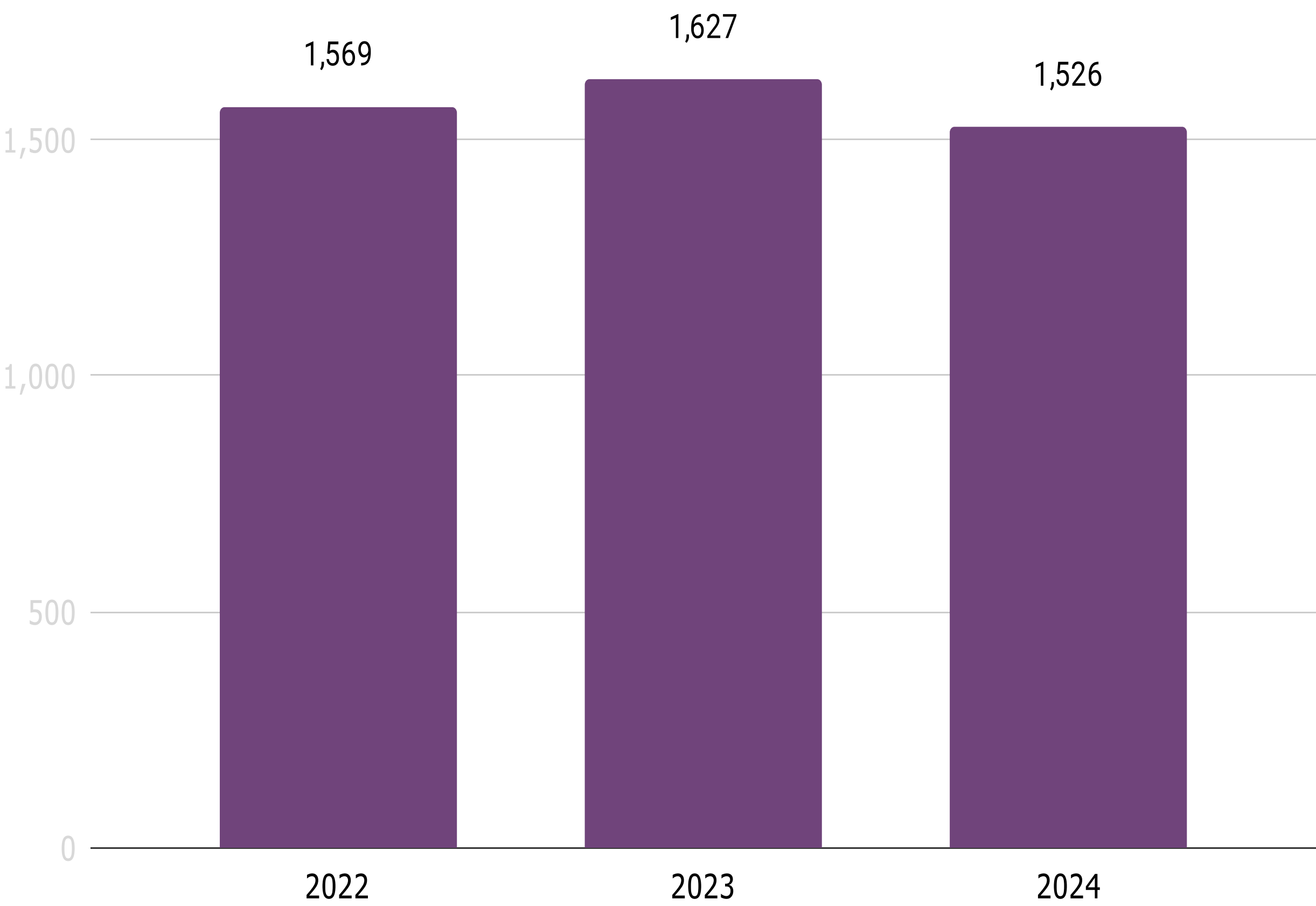
All data comes directly from the Hamilton County Homeless Health Care Center.

“Street patients” matches the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s (HUD) definition of “unsheltered.”

An unsheltered person would meet the requirements to be considered “Category 1 - Literally Homeless.” In general, for purposes of the Point-In-Time (PIT) Count, HUD considers individuals and families sleeping in a place not designated for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation (i.e. abandoned buildings, train stations, or camping grounds) as “unsheltered” homeless.

"Street" Patients

The number of "street" patients seen by the Hamilton County Homeless Health Care Center **decreased 6% from last year.**

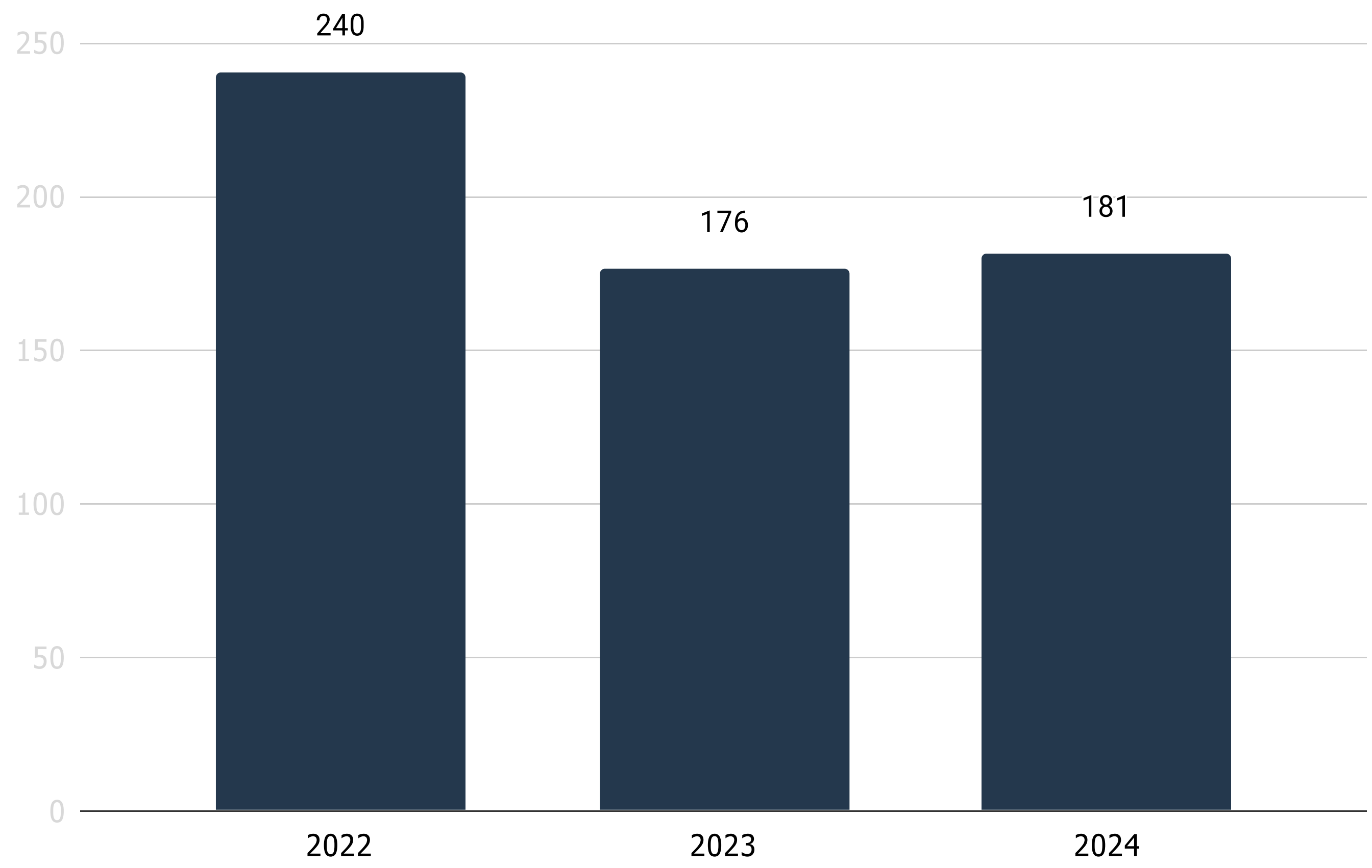


Clinic Visits

The chart above counts visits to the Homeless Health Care Center, not the number of patients visiting the clinic. A patient is counted every time they visit the clinic.

Clinic visits are **up 11% from 2023 and 19% from 2022.**

Children 17 Years & Younger Served by the Homeless Health Care Center



Victim Services



Family Justice Center
Chattanooga • Hamilton County
Pathways to Hope and Safety



**Children's
Advocacy
Center**
The Emmy Haney House

Child Abuse Reporting Hotline - (877) 237-0004



Partnership
for Families, Children and Adults

24/7 Crisis Hotline - (423) 755-2700
Crisis Text Line - (423) 356-3620

Partnership's 24/7 Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Crisis Hotline is completely confidential.

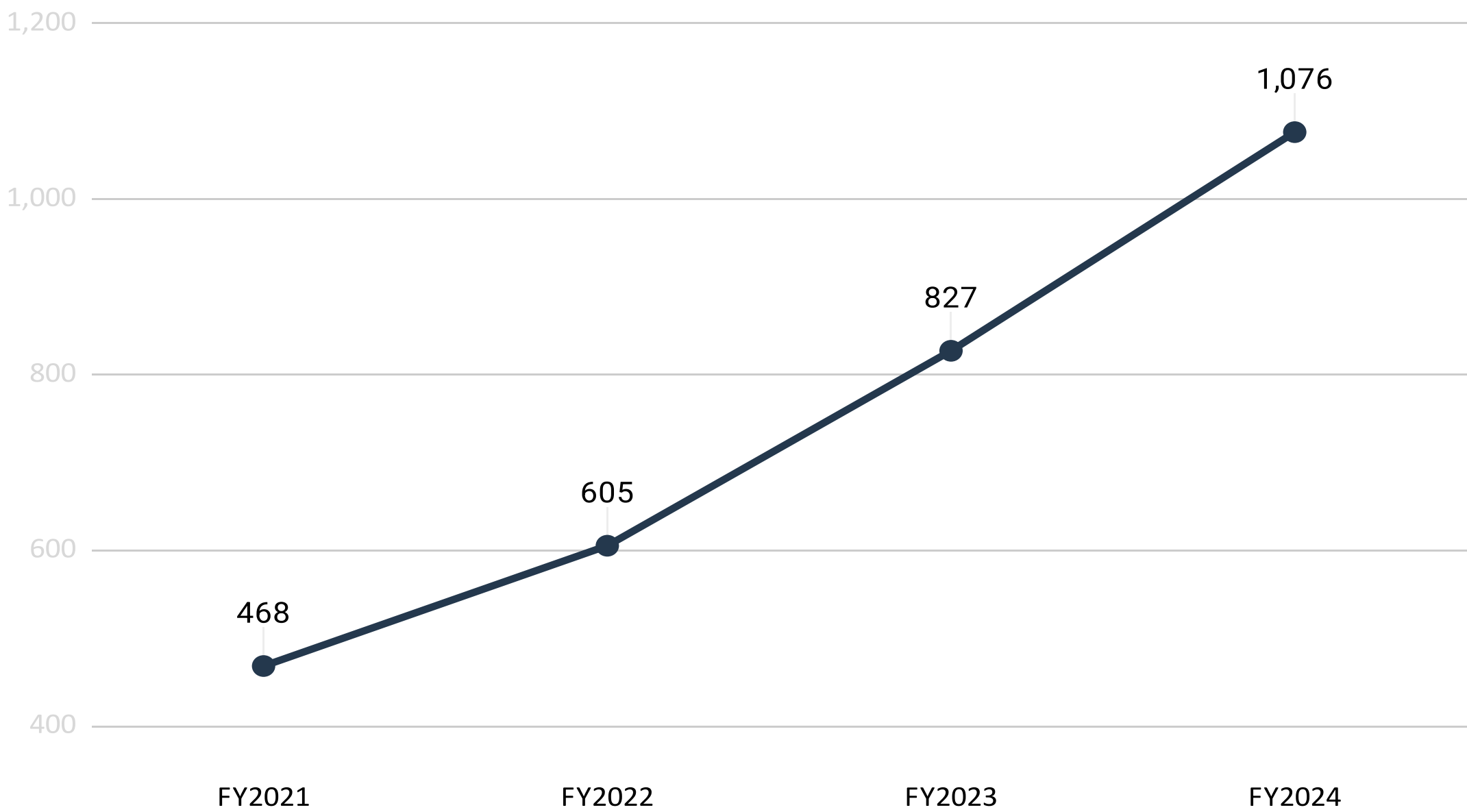


HamiltonCounted

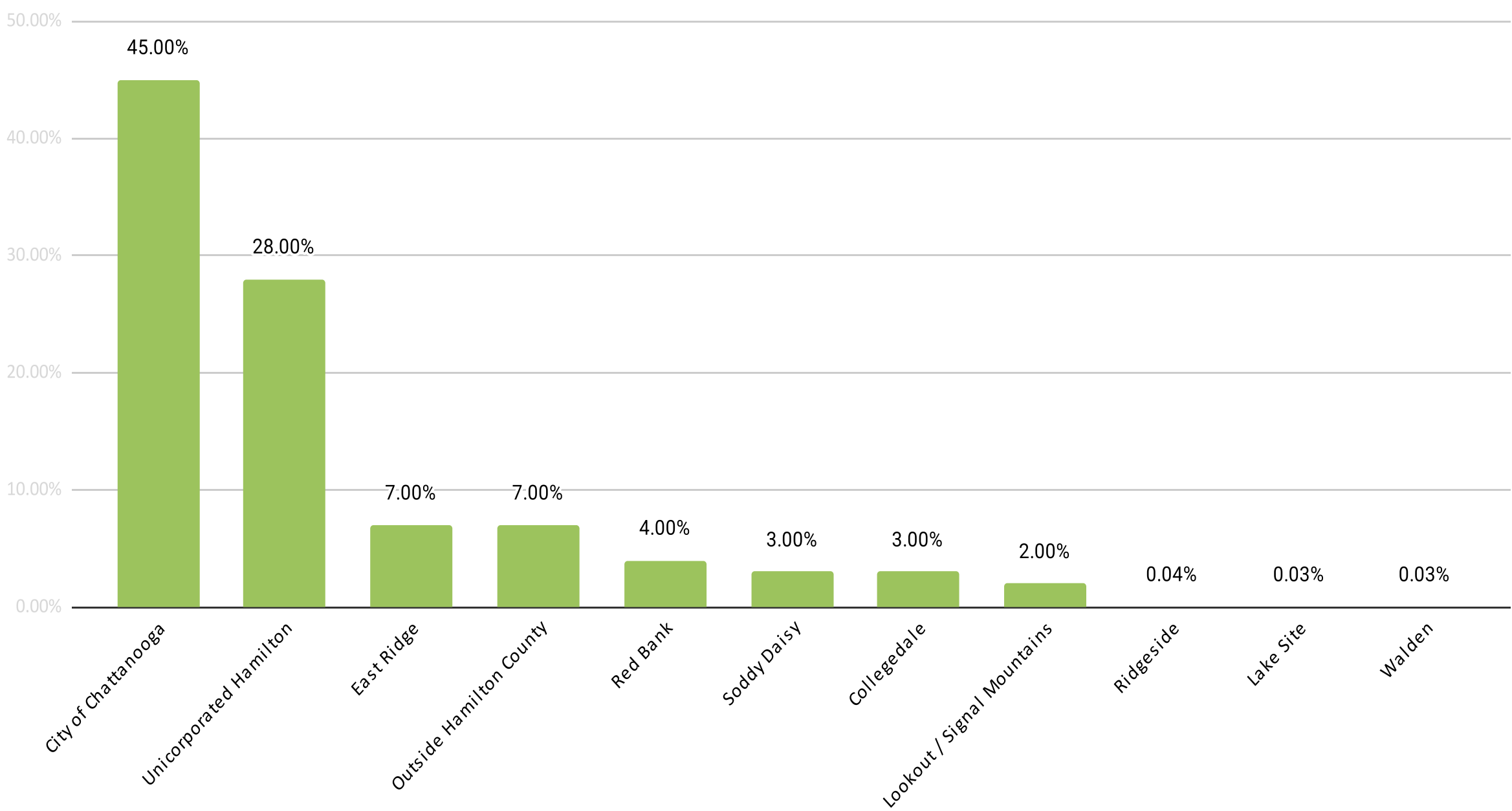
Survivors Served

The Family Justice Center boasts a **130% increase in the number of survivors served from Fiscal Year* 2021 to Fiscal Year 2024**. The most common services provided to survivors are: information referral, crisis intervention, counseling, court advocacy, and safety planning.

*A fiscal year in Hamilton County is defined as July to June.



Residential Areas Served



The FJC provides comprehensive, trauma-informed services to residents affected by intimate partner violence, family violence, elder abuse, and human trafficking.

Key areas of victimization addressed include domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and harassment, strangulation, and human trafficking.

Sexual Abuse Forensic Interviews

All referrals received by the Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) come from the Department of Children's Services (DCS) or law enforcement in Hamilton County.

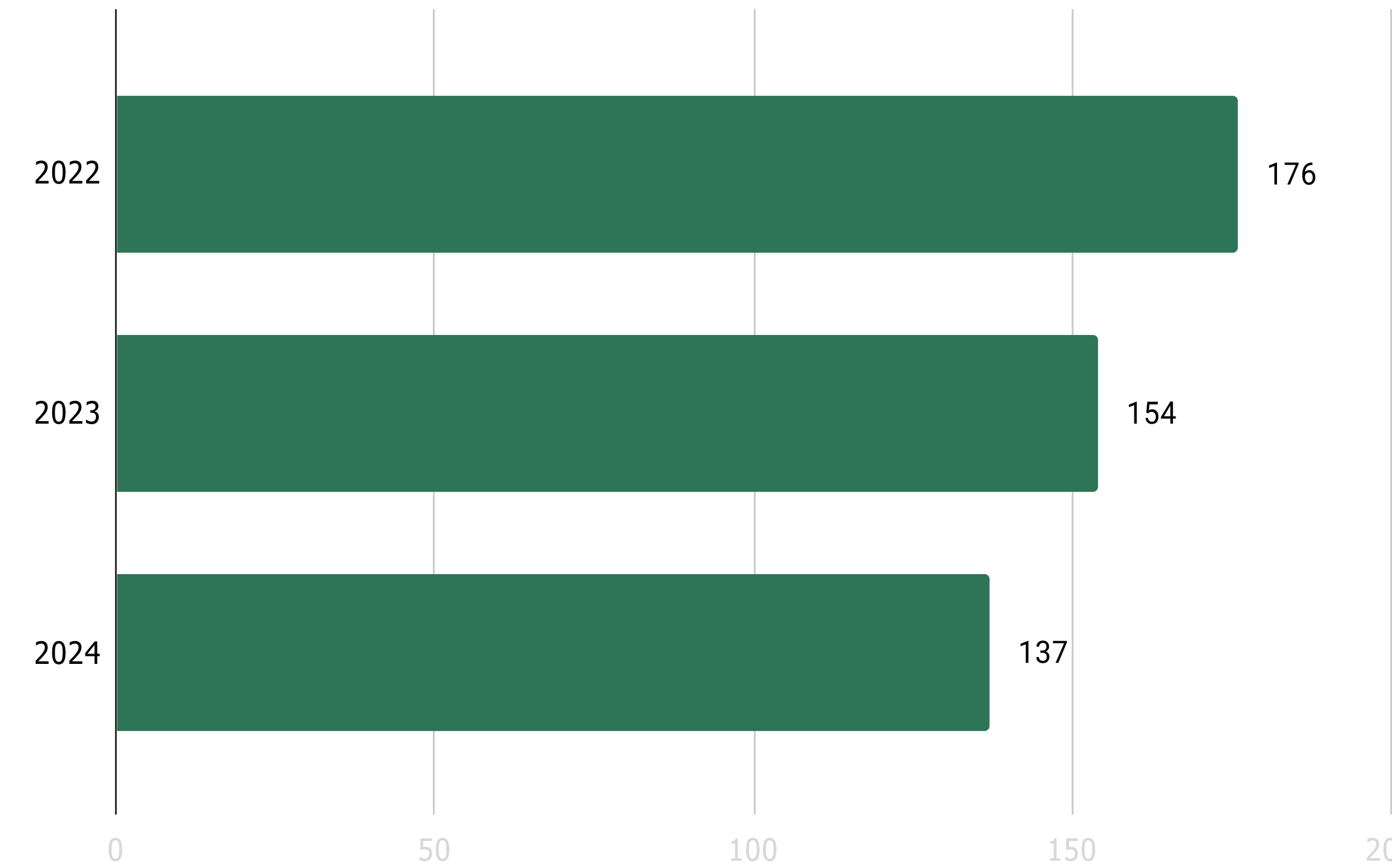
Sexual abuse forensic interviews **decreased 25% from 2023**.



Sexual Abuse Medical Exams

Every child with an allegation is forensically interviewed, but not all are recommended for a medical exam. The child may not experience acute abuse, rather an incident that occurred years ago, which might not qualify the child for an exam. All services are provided at no cost to clients for as long as services are needed.

Sexual abuse medical exams **decreased 11% from 2023** and 22% since 2022.

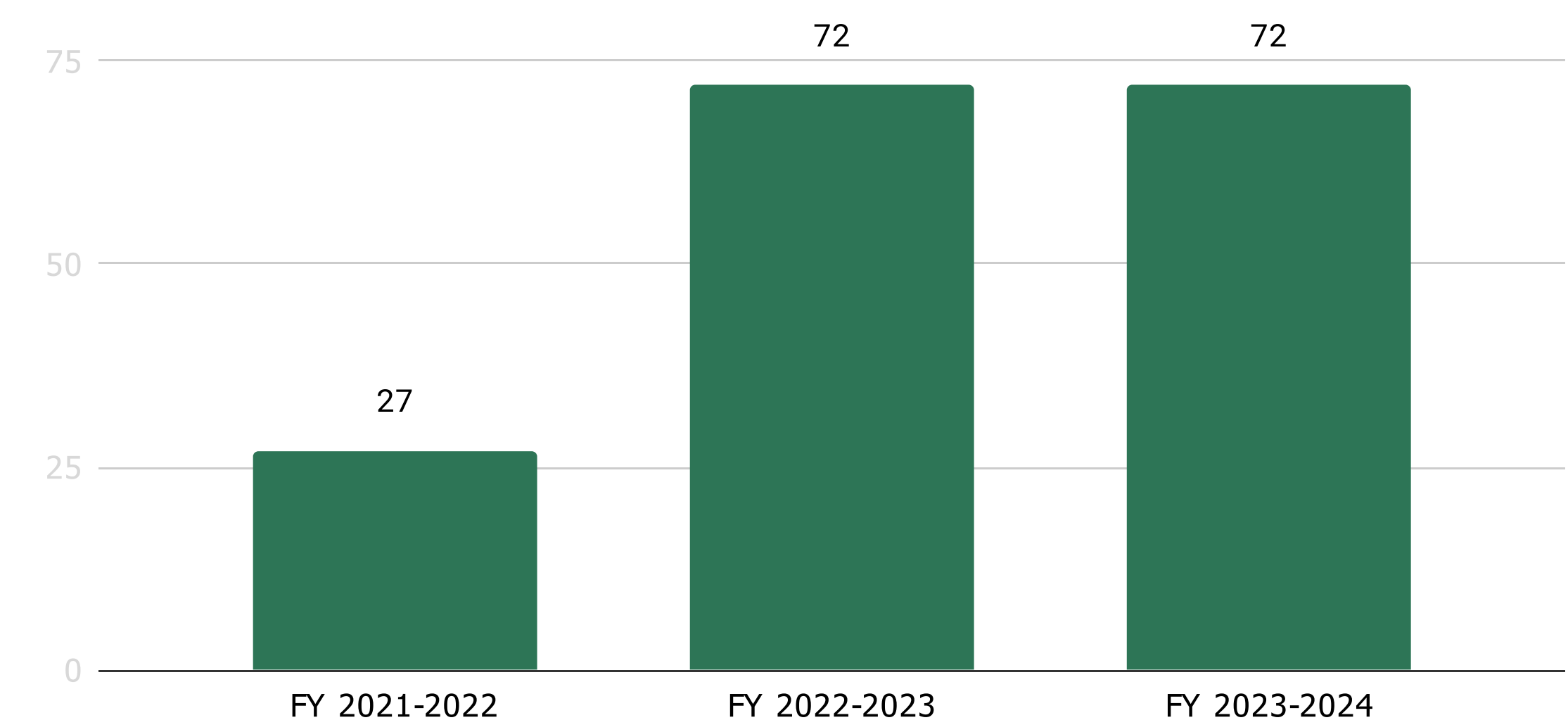


Prosecution of Child Sex Crimes in Hamilton County



In October 2022, Hamilton County District Attorney General Coty Wamp assigned a special prosecutor to the Children's Advocacy Center to focus on sex crimes against children.

Since then, the CAC has seen an increase in the number of cases accepted for prosecution.

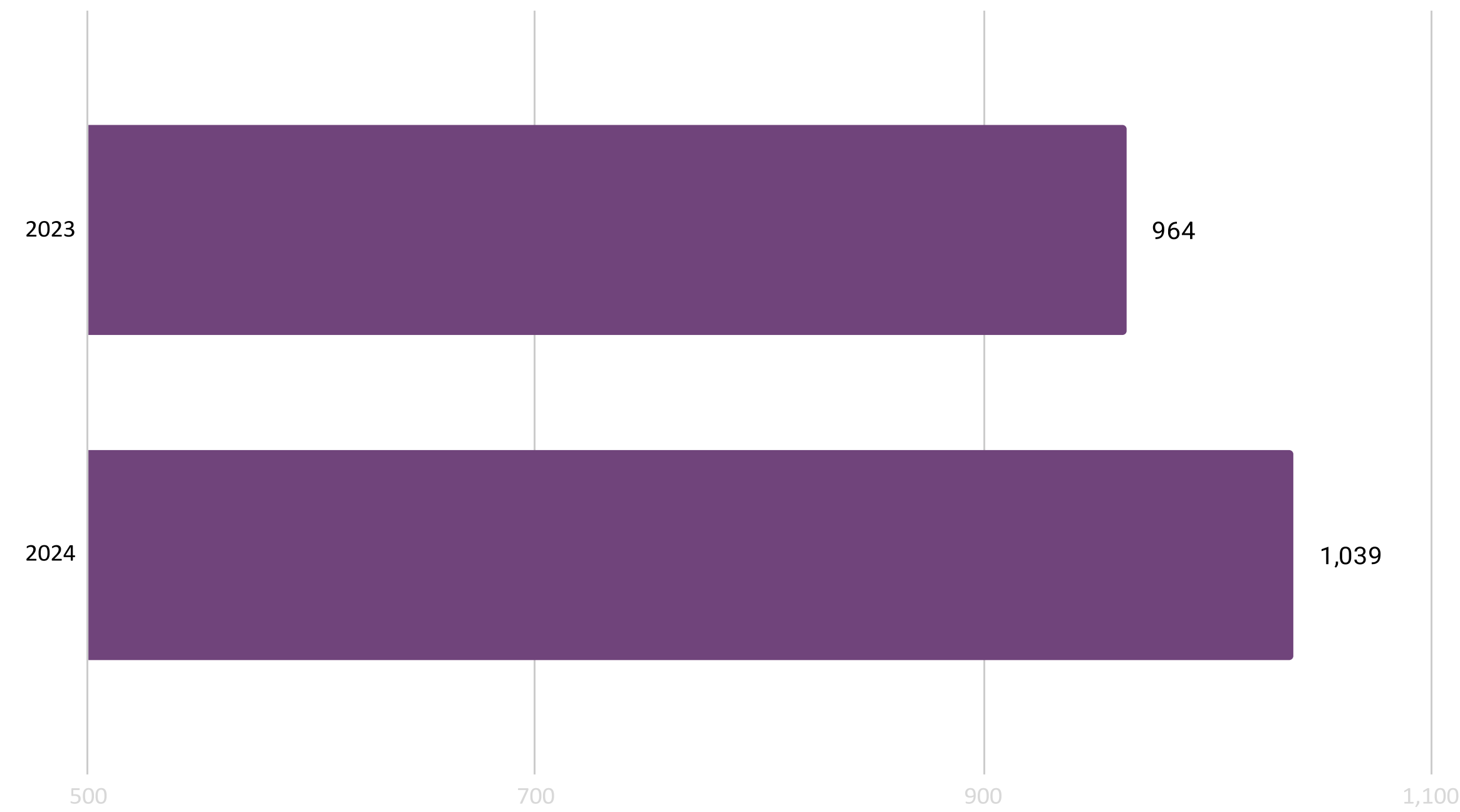


The increase in **cases accepted for prosecution** from 27 in Fiscal Year 2022 to 72 in Fiscal Year 2024 is a **167% increase**, a testament to the importance of having a dedicated prosecutor focused on prosecuting sex crimes against children.

Domestic Violence Hotline Calls

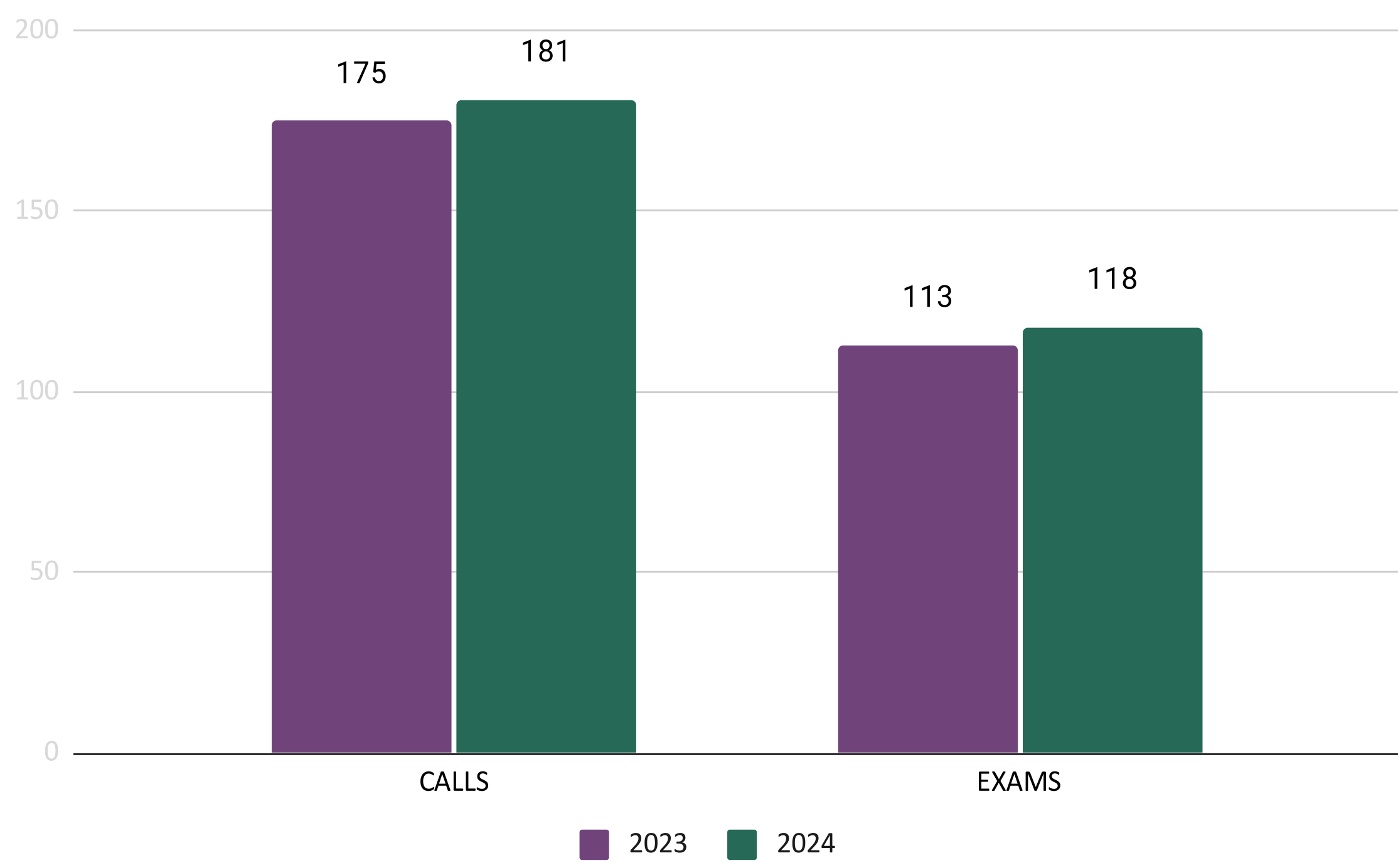
Partnership began tracking their data differently in July 2022; therefore, 2022 data is not available.

DV Hotline calls **increased 7.8%** from last year.



Sexual Assault Hotline Calls and Exams

Sexual assault exams are reflective of assaults that occurred in Hamilton County. Hotline calls for sexual assault and domestic violence came from Hamilton County residents (*see Appendix D for totals*).



Sources and Appendices



Sources

Education

- All education data can be found on the State Report Card found here: <https://www.tn.gov/education/families/report-card.html>

Crime in Hamilton County

- Population is a current estimate from <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/hamiltoncountytennessee>. All populations are an estimation. Hamilton County population, less East Ridge (21,936), is 352,746.
- All crime data is provided by the respective Hamilton County municipal agency using their Records Management System. 2024 data is considered "operational" and subject to change as each agency finalizes their data.
- Violent Crimes: The FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program defines violent crimes as those offenses that involve force or threat of force and is composed of four offenses: murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2019/crime-in-the-u.s.-2019/topic-pages/violent-crime>
- Property Crimes: The FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program includes the offenses of burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. The object of the theft-type offenses is the taking of money or property, but there is no force or threat of force against the victims. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2019/crime-in-the-u.s.-2019/topic-pages/property-crime#:~:text=Definition,of%20force%20against%20the%20victims>
- Part 1 Crime is defined by the National Uniform Crime Reporting Program and refers to serious crime that occur with regularity in all areas of the country and are likely to be reported to police. Part 1 violent crimes include homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. Part 1 property crimes include burglary, theft, and auto theft. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2019/crime-in-the-u.s.-2019/topic-pages/offense-definitions>
- East Ridge Police Department changed Records Management Systems in August 2022; therefore, 2022 data is not available and will not be included in crime counts, rates, and percent changes.
- Non-fatal shooting incident definition and information can be found here: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9187788/>

Substance Misuses and Overdoses

- Fatal overdose data provided by the Hamilton County Medical Examiner's Office and the Hamilton County Health Department's Epidemiologists. You can find the epidemiologists overdose surveillance reports here: <https://health.hamiltontn.org/en-us/communityhealth/overdoseprevention.aspx>
There may be additional suspected drug-related death data reported over this time period in subsequent reports as data is finalized.
- Drug-related deaths are those deaths that the Hamilton County Health Department receives from the Hamilton County Medical Examiner's Office with a cause of death listed as an acute overdose or a death resulting from chronic drug abuse.
- Acute overdose deaths are those deaths in which the Hamilton County Medical Examiner listed drugs (either an overdose or a toxicity) as a primary cause of death or contributing cause of death on the death certificate and in the medical examiner report. The Medical Examiner determines the cause of death and contributing cause of death following a thorough investigation, including (as appropriate): scene investigation, medical records review, external examination, autopsy, histology, and postmortem toxicology reports. Some deaths may have substances listed on the toxicology report in concentrations that are not high enough to result in or contribute to a death, and are therefore, not a cause of death; in these cases, these deaths do not count as an acute overdose death. Chronic drug abuse deaths are those deaths in which the cause of death is due to chronic substance abuse and the individuals did not overdose at the time of death.
- Jurisdiction: Currently, the Hamilton County Medical Examiner's Office (which is also the Southeast Tennessee Regional Forensic Center) primarily handles deaths that occur within Hamilton County with occasional cases referred from adjoining counties. Those referred cases do not count in the Hamilton County statistics. Individuals who are injured or overdose in other counties, transported to a medical facility in Hamilton County and die in Hamilton County, will have their death certificate done by the Hamilton County Medical Examiner Office. Those cases are included in Hamilton County statistics. The converse also holds: an injury or overdose occurring in Hamilton County, with death in a different county or state, will be included in that jurisdiction's statistics, not Hamilton County.

Sources

Substance Misuses and Overdoses Cont.

- Non-fatal data: All non-fatal overdose-related emergency department visits from Hamilton County hospitals were included in this data, regardless of the patient's county of residence. Data was pulled from ESSENCE - NSSP using the CDC All Drug Overdose (version 2) query, which includes relevant ICD-10-CM codes, ICD-9-CM codes, SNOMED codes, and relevant terms in the chief complaint free text field. There may be additional suspected non-fatal overdose-related emergency department visit data reported over this time period in subsequent reports as data is finalized.
- Hamilton County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Naloxone data provided by EsoSuite and EMS personnel.
- Narcan is the brand name for Naloxone, the medication designed to reverse an opioid overdose. This means that it attaches to opioid receptors and reverses and blocks the effects of other opioids. Naloxone can quickly restore normal breathing to a person if their breathing has slowed or stopped because of an opioid overdose. But, Naloxone has no effect on someone who does not have opioids in their system, and it is not a treatment for opioid use disorder. Examples of opioids include heroin, fentanyl, oxycodone (OxyContin®), hydrocodone (Vicodin®), codeine, and morphine. Source: National Institute on Drug Abuse; National Institutes of Health; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. <https://nida.nih.gov/publications/drugfacts/naloxone>
- Prosecutor data came directly from the prosecutor's office.

Food and Nutrition Assistance

- All WIC data is provided by the Hamilton County Health Department and the TN Department of Health WIC Program.
- All Food Bank data is provided by the Chattanooga Area Food Bank.

Homelessness and Health

- Hamilton County's Homeless Health Care Center data provided by eClinicalWorks from the Hamilton County Health Department.
- Homelessness Housing Status Definitions
 - Homeless Shelter* – Patients who are living in an organized shelter for individuals experiencing homelessness. Shelters that generally provide meals and a place to sleep are regarded as temporary and often limit the number of days or the hours of the day that a resident may stay at the shelter.
 - Transitional Housing* – Transitional housing units are generally small units (six people is common) where people transition from a shelter and are provided extended, but temporary, housing stays (generally between 6 months and 2 years).
 - Doubled Up* – Patients who are living with others. The arrangement is considered to be temporary and unstable, though a patient may live in a succession of such arrangements over a protracted period.
 - Street* – Patients who are living outdoors, in a vehicle, in an encampment, in makeshift housing/shelter, or in other places generally not deemed safe or fit for human occupancy.
 - Permanent Supportive Housing* – Permanent supportive housing usually is in service-rich environments, does not have time limits, and may be restricted to people with some type of disabling condition.
 - Other* – Patients who were housed when first seen during the year and were no longer homeless, but who were still eligible for the program because they experienced homelessness during the previous 12 months.
 - Unknown* – Patients known to be experiencing homeless whose housing arrangements are unknown.
- HUD's definitions and categories of homeless can be found here: <https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/coc-esq-virtual-binders/coc-esq-homeless-eligibility/four-categories/>

Sources

Victim Services

- All Family Justice Center data provided by staff at the FJC.
- All Partnership for Families, Children, and Adults data provided by staff at Partnership. Sexual assault exams are counted by the county in which the assault occurred, not necessarily where the victim lives.
- All Children’s Advocacy Center and Prosecutor Data provided by staff at CAC. Child maltreatment data counts children as 18 years old and younger. A child may disclose more than one type of violence but are categorized by the type of violence from their initial intake from the Department of Children's Services.

Appendix A1: Crime by Municipality

January 1 - December 31	UNINCORPORATED HAMILTON COUNTY Includes Lakesite and Walden Pop. 121,334				CHATTANOOGA Pop. 184,086				COLLEGEDALE Pop. 11,255			
CRIME	2022	2023	2024	% Change 2023 to 2024	2022	2023	2024	% Change 2023 to 2024	2022	2023	2024	% Change 2023 to 2024
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	200	218	259	18.81%	1,411	1,392	1,232	-11.49%	20	23	10	-56.52%
AUTO BURGLARY	236	178	171	-3.93%	2,919	2,323	1,927	-17.05%	44	28	32	14.29%
AUTO THEFT	127	115	68	-40.87%	1,289	1,262	1,214	-3.80%	15	5	5	0.00%
BURGLARY	200	146	166	13.70%	1,099	977	736	-24.67%	31	30	25	-16.67%
MURDER	3	2	1	-50.00%	26	29	27	-6.90%	2	2	0	-100.00%
RAPE	34	14	13	-7.14%	116	121	130	7.44%	6	3	2	-33.33%
ROBBERY	8	9	8	-11.11%	225	194	191	-1.55%	2	1	0	-100.00%
TOTALS:	808	682	686	0.59%	7,085	6,298	5,457	-13.35%	120	92	74	-19.57%

Appendix A2: Crime by Municipality (Cont)

January 1 - December 31	EAST RIDGE Pop. 21,936				LOOKOUT MTN Pop. 2,070				RED BANK Pop. 11,959			
CRIME	2022	2023	2024	% Change 2023 to 2024	2022	2023	2024	% Change 2023 to 2024	2022	2023	2024	% Change 2023 to 2024
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	-	75	70	-6.67%	0	0	0	N/C	43	46	41	-10.87%
AUTO BURGLARY	-	106	88	-16.98%	1	13	1	-92.31%	41	33	29	-12.12%
AUTO THEFT	-	54	50	-7.41%	1	1	0	-100.00%	18	33	20	-39.39%
BURGLARY	-	51	41	-19.61%	3	1	0	-100.00%	34	24	13	-45.83%
MURDER	-	1	1	0.00%	0	0	0	N/C	0	0	0	N/C
RAPE	-	12	20	66.67%	0	1	0	-100.00%	1	2	0	-100.00%
ROBBERY	-	5	6	20.00%	0	0	0	N/C	5	2	2	0.00%
TOTALS:	-	304	276	-9.21%	5	16	1	-93.75%	142	140	105	-25.00%

Appendix A3: Crime by Municipality (Cont)

January 1 - December 31	SIGNAL MTN Pop. 8,883				SODDY DAISY Pop. 13,159			
CRIME	2022	2023	2024	% Change 2023 to 2024	2022	2023	2024	% Change 2023 to 2024
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	1	1	2	100.00%	26	28	20	-28.57%
AUTO BURGLARY	10	6	6	0.00%	34	28	6	-78.57%
AUTO THEFT	1	0	1	N/C	18	15	10	-33.33%
BURGLARY	2	4	3	-25.00%	31	37	25	-32.43%
MURDER	0	0	0	N/C	1	0	1	N/C
RAPE	0	0	1	N/C	1	4	5	25.00%
ROBBERY	0	0	0	N/C	0	0	0	N/C
TOTALS:	14	11	13	18.18%	111	112	67	-40.18%

Appendix A4: Crime by Municipality (Cont)

Chattanooga Monthly and Yearly Crime Breakdown

Chattanooga Police Department	JAN			FEB			MAR			APR			MAY			JUN			JUL			AUG			SEP			OCT			NOV			DEC			TOTAL		
CRIME	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
AGG. ASSAULT	92	105	79	93	96	86	112	130	110	107	124	135	143	157	114	144	129	125	132	103	110	131	122	108	137	118	91	126	107	89	113	103	84	81	98	101	1411	1392	1232
AUTO BURGLARY	287	226	135	259	170	151	247	134	177	247	166	185	283	162	179	252	185	135	267	204	170	216	225	152	234	243	171	232	242	160	196	186	157	199	180	155	2919	2323	1927
AUTO THEFT	153	99	113	116	93	101	122	86	128	101	85	135	102	74	98	122	85	97	121	118	138	83	121	102	105	127	81	93	125	72	86	123	78	85	126	71	1289	1262	1214
BURGLARY	96	74	67	121	72	62	95	73	64	82	97	56	89	69	66	85	75	44	84	88	70	98	95	71	97	102	78	87	81	56	93	84	53	72	67	49	1099	977	736
MURDER	1	2	1	1	2	3	1	1	3	1	4	5	2	1	2	5	2	3	2	4	0	4	4	3	3	4	3	2	1	1	3	4	0	1	0	3	26	29	27
RAPE	10	11	8	12	8	3	15	12	14	6	14	11	12	13	11	7	10	11	10	3	8	10	11	12	14	10	16	6	16	17	8	8	15	6	5	4	116	121	130
ROBBERY	35	11	12	22	13	13	22	19	11	16	18	21	20	13	9	18	23	20	11	19	18	16	13	16	17	14	14	20	23	19	16	16	20	12	12	18	225	194	191
TOTAL:	674	528	415	624	454	419	614	455	507	560	508	548	651	489	479	633	509	435	627	539	514	558	591	464	607	618	454	566	595	414	515	524	407	456	488	401	7,085	6,298	5,457

Appendix B

Shooting Incidents and Victims by Municipality

January 1 - December 31						
Hamilton County Non-Fatal Shootings	2023		2024		% Change Incidents	% Change Victims
	Incidents	Victims	Incidents	Victims		
COLLEGEDALE	0	0	0	0	N/C	N/C
CITY OF CHATTANOOGA	85	105	68	83	-20.00%	-20.95%
EAST RIDGE	4	4	2	2	-50.00%	-50.00%
HAMILTON COUNTY	3	4	3	3	0.00%	-25.00%
LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN	0	0	0	0	N/C	N/C
RED BANK	1	1	0	0	-100.00%	-100.00%
SODDY DAISY	1	1	1	1	0.00%	0.00%
SIGNAL MOUNTAIN	0	0	0	0	N/C	N/C
TOTAL	94	115	74	89	-21.28%	-22.61%

Violent and Property Crime Count, Per Capita, % Change

Hamilton County Crime Rates January 1 - December 31							
Crime Category	2022	Per Capita	2023	Per Capita	2024	Per Capita	% Change 2023 to 2024
Violent Crime	2,131	60.4	2,185	58.3	2,042	54.50	-6.54%
Property Crime	6,154	174.5	5,470	146.0	4,637	123.76	-15.23%

Per Capita is calculated at per 10,000 residents

Appendix C

Naloxone Report

While there is no concrete answer as to why Naloxone distributions by EMS are down, medical professionals believe it could be attributed to Naloxone more readily available and laws enacted to force providers to prescribe Naloxone when prescribing opioid-based medications. Fatal overdoses have started to decrease, which may be a factor in these numbers as well.

Appendix C1 (Cont)

Substance Misuse & Overdose Resources

1. Hamilton County Coalition

The Hamilton County Coalition works to prevent overdose deaths, promote addiction recovery, and reduce underage drinking and tobacco use. They have a number of community partners who stand ready to connect individuals and families with resources, training, and recovery programs to combat the opioid epidemic.

2. Tennessee REDLINE

Tennessee REDLINE serves as a 24/7/365 referral service to addiction treatment that connects individuals and their families looking for help with substance use disorder.

Anyone can call or text 800-889-9789 for confidential referrals. The service is provided by the Tennessee Association for Alcohol, Drug, and other Addiction Services (TAADAS) through a contract with the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (TDMHSAS).

3. SAMHSA

SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) offers a free, confidential, 24/7/365 treatment referral and information service in English and Spanish for individuals and families facing mental and/or substance use disorders. This service provides referrals to local treatment facilities, support groups, and community-based organizations. Anyone can call their national helpline at 1-800-662-4357.

4. 988 Lifeline

The 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline provides 24/7/365, free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for individuals and their loved ones, and best practices for professionals in the United States.

5. Find Help Now

FindHelpNowTN.org features a near real-time treatment opening locator for substance misuse that guides individuals to available treatment opening based on factors such as the type of treatment needed, insurance programs and payment methods, gender identity, in-or-out-patient treatment options, and location. Facilities on the site are asked to update the availability of their residential, in-patient, and out-patient services regularly to ensure the most current information is available.

6. United Way Chattanooga

United Way of Greater Chattanooga unites individuals and families with resources allowing people to reach their full potential through education, stability, and health and well-being. Individuals with a 423 area code can call or text 211 for support during a crisis Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Appendix D

Partnership for Families, Children, and Adults

While there is no definitive answer as to why calls to the domestic violence hotline have risen, Partnership has done a better job of collecting data, particularly from the homeless population in Chattanooga. Additionally, they have focused on educating the community on resources available to victims through community events.

Total Calls and Exams: Q1 - Q4			
Jan -Dec	2023	2024	% Change
DV CALLS	964	1039	7.78%
SA CALLS	175	181	3.43%
SA EXAMS	113	118	4.42%