

By the numbers

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152

Heroin overdose deaths in DuPage County,
2006 to present.

21

Deaths caused by heroin overdose
in Will County so far this year.

85

Arrests made by Naperville police
involving heroin, 2009 to present.

107

Aurora police responses to ambulance calls
for overdoses, suicides and criminal matters involving heroin, 2010 to present.

15

Pounds of heroin recovered
in an Elgin drug bust last July.

900

Adolescents treated each year at Rosecrance in Rockford; last year 117 came from DuPage County. The average age is 16, and patients remain in the inpatient program for an average of 40 days.

3

New referrals this week to a recently launched support group for students recovering from heroin addiction at Neuqua Valley High School.

10-fold

Increase in the prescription of opiates to treat pain during the last 20 years. Frequently abused and sold in illicit markets for the euphoria they induce, the medications often provide a gateway to heroin use.

635

Graduates of Kane County's Drug Court program since its inception in 2000; of 160 current participants, 21 percent identify heroin as their drug of choice.

250-plus

Graduates of Will County's Drug Court program in the dozen years since it was established, of whom 32 percent named heroin as their drug of choice.

Sources: Will County coroner, DuPage County coroner, Naperville police, Aurora police, Kane County sheriff, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Kane County Drug Court Coordinator Carrie Thomas, Will County Drug Court, Rosecrance Health Network