

National Study of Treatment and Addiction Recovery Residences Report

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The National Study of Treatment and Addiction Recovery Residences (NSTARR) constitutes the largest and most diverse study of recovery housing in the U.S. to date. NSTARR compiled data from publicly available sources (e.g., Oxford House, National Alliance for Recovery Residences, and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration websites) and lists maintained by entities tracking recovery housing. Residences for which locating information was available were geocoded and linked with U.S. Census data on urbanicity, alcohol- and drug-involved mortality, and COVID vulnerability. Data collection began in January 2020 and is ongoing until June 2023. The NSTARR database currently contains information on 10,358 residences operated by 3,628 providers in all 50 states. For a detailed description of methods and national findings, please see Mericle et al., 2022.

KEY FINDINGS

The NSTARR team identified 47 recovery residences (6.79 houses per 100,000 population) the District of Columbia (DC; see Table 1). Eighty-nine percent of residences in DC could be geocoded for these analyses. Compared to other states, DC, an urban area, ranked 6 in terms of recovery housing availability per capita (see Figure 1).

We used geographic information systems to identify hot and cold spots in various states, but these analyses were not conducted for DC because the Getis-Ord G_i^* Hot Spot Analysis tool requires a minimum of 30 input features (counties or other subunits) for it to work best.

The age-adjusted alcohol- and drug-involved mortality rate (per 100,000 population) was 25.50 in DC for the years 2009-2019. DC ranked 11 on alcohol- and drug-involved mortality out of the 50 states and DC. DC also ranked highly with respect to recovery housing availability, suggesting recovery housing is located in areas with greater need (see Table 1 and Figure 2).

COVID vulnerability was summarized using the county-level data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's COVID Vulnerability Index (CCVI). The CCVI is a composite measure of seven social determinants of health, encompassing modified themes from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Social Vulnerability Index in combination with COVID risk factors to identify communities in need of additional support during the COVID pandemic. DC was classified as having moderate need, again suggesting that recovery housing is located in communities with greater need (see Table 1 and Figure 3).

47
RESIDENCES
TOTAL

6
NATIONAL
AVAILABILITY
RANKING

Table 1. Descriptive Statistics on Recovery Residences

County Name	Population ¹	RUCC Classification ²	Number of Recovery Residences ³	Recovery Residences Per 100,000 Population	Recovery Residences Availability per Capita (Rank) ⁴	Age-Adjusted Alcohol/Drug Mortality ⁵ Rate per 100,000 Population	Mortality Rate (Rank) ⁶	CCVI Quintile ⁷
District of Columbia	692,683	Urban	42	6.06	1	50.30	1	Moderate

¹Population data were downloaded from tables in Social Explorer's ACS five-year estimate (2015-2019). American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, 2015-2019. Social Explorer tables, ACS 2015-2019. Social Explorer.

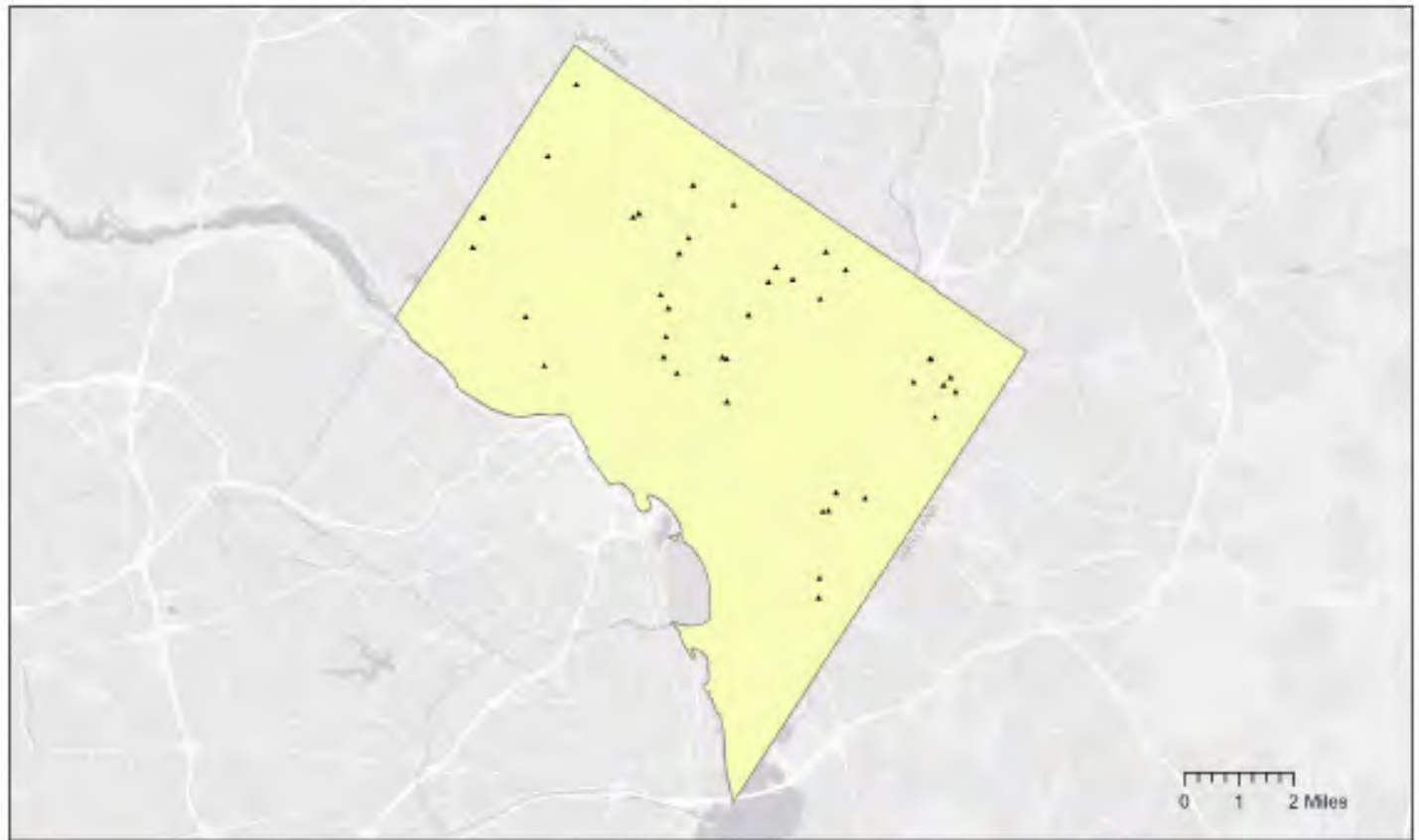
²The Rural-Urban Continuum Code (RUCC) was used to classify each county as urban, adjacent rural, or non-adjacent rural. Urban counties are counties with codes 1 (Counties in metro areas of 1 million population or more), 2 (Counties in metro areas of 250,000 to 1 million population), and 3 (Counties in metro areas of fewer than 250,000 population). Adjacent rural counties are counties with codes 4 (Urban population of 20,000 or more, adjacent to a metro area), 6 (Urban population of 2,500 to 19,999, adjacent to a metro area), and 8 (Completely rural or less than 2,500 urban population, adjacent to a metro area). Non-adjacent rural counties are the remaining three codes - 5 (Urban population of 20,000 or more, not adjacent to a metro area), 7 (Urban population of 2,500 to 19,999, not adjacent to a metro area), and 9 (Completely rural or less than 2,500 urban population, not adjacent to a metro area). Rural-Urban Continuum Code (RUCC). <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/rural-urban-continuum-codes.aspx>

³Recovery residences are from the NSTARR project and are current as of 2020. Five (5) recovery residences in Washington, DC were not successfully geocoded due to lack of adequate address information.

⁴Alcohol- and drug-involved mortality included all deaths as underlying causes of death and selected ICD-10 codes mentioning or attributed to alcohol or drugs as contributing cause of death. Data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2020. CDC Wonder (Wide-ranging Online Data for Epidemiologic Research). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Atlanta, GA. Available at: <https://wonder.cdc.gov/>. For more information on coding multiple causes of death, see: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, About Multiple Cause of Death, 1999-2019. <https://wonder.cdc.gov/mcd-icd10.html>. accessed on August 9 2021.

⁵COVID-19 Community Vulnerability Index (CCVI) scores range in value from 0 – 1, with 0 being least vulnerable and 1 being the most vulnerable. Each county (including Washington, DC) is ranked relative to all counties across the country, based on seven themes/domains. Each county was grouped into quintiles: very high (score of 0.8-1), high (0.6-0.8), moderate (0.4-0.6), low (0.2-0.4), and very low (0-0.2). For more information on how the CCVI I is calculated, see: COVID-19 Community Vulnerability Index (CCVI) methodology. Retrieved from [https://covid-static-assets.s3.amazonaws.com/US-CCVI/COVID-19+Community+Vulnerability+Index+\(CCVI\)+Methodology.pdf](https://covid-static-assets.s3.amazonaws.com/US-CCVI/COVID-19+Community+Vulnerability+Index+(CCVI)+Methodology.pdf)

Figure 1. Distribution of Residences by Rural-Urban Classification



- ▲ Recovery residences
- Rural-Urban Classification Code (RUCC)
 - Urban
 - Adjacent rural
 - Non-adjacent rural
 - Counties with residence locations suppressed (1-4 residences) to protect privacy



Data Credits: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, EPA, NPS
 Recovery residence locations: 2020
 Created by: NSTARR Project (May 2022)



Figure 2. Distribution of Residences by Age-adjusted Alcohol- and/or Drug-involved Mortality

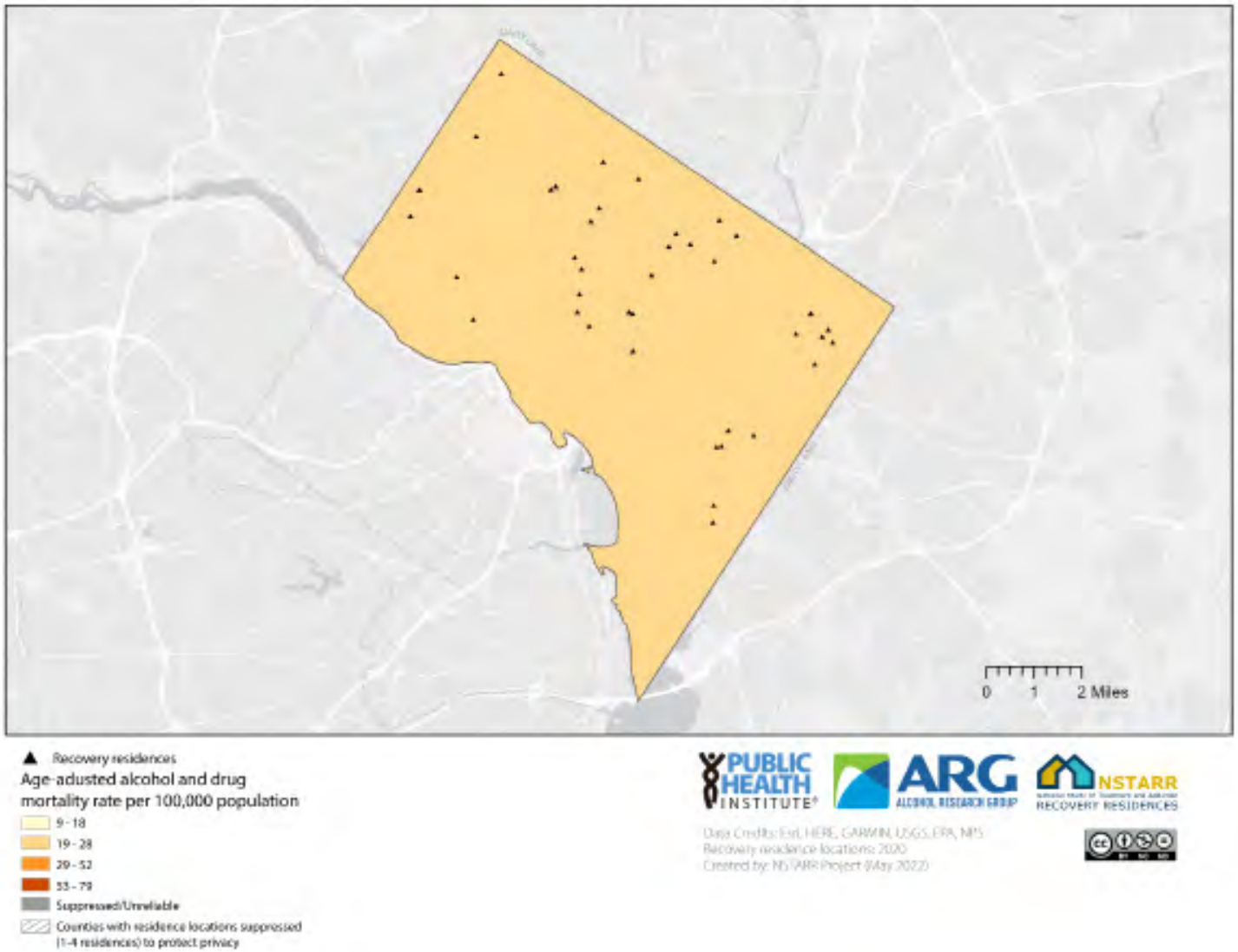
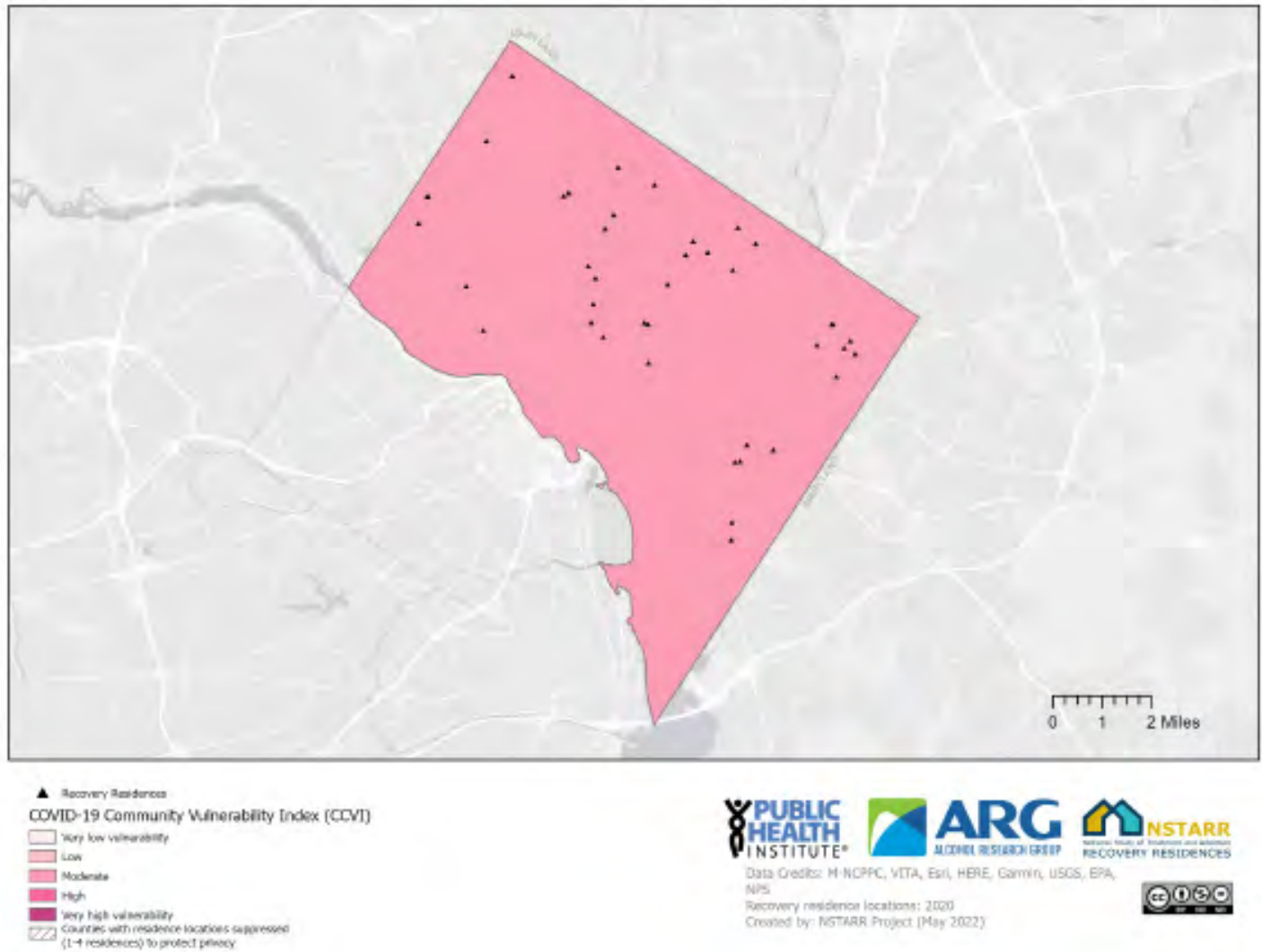


Figure 3. Distribution of Residences by COVID-19 Community Vulnerability Index





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