

HIV and Hepatitis Prevention Program Snapshot

Harm Reduction Supply Distribution: 2022

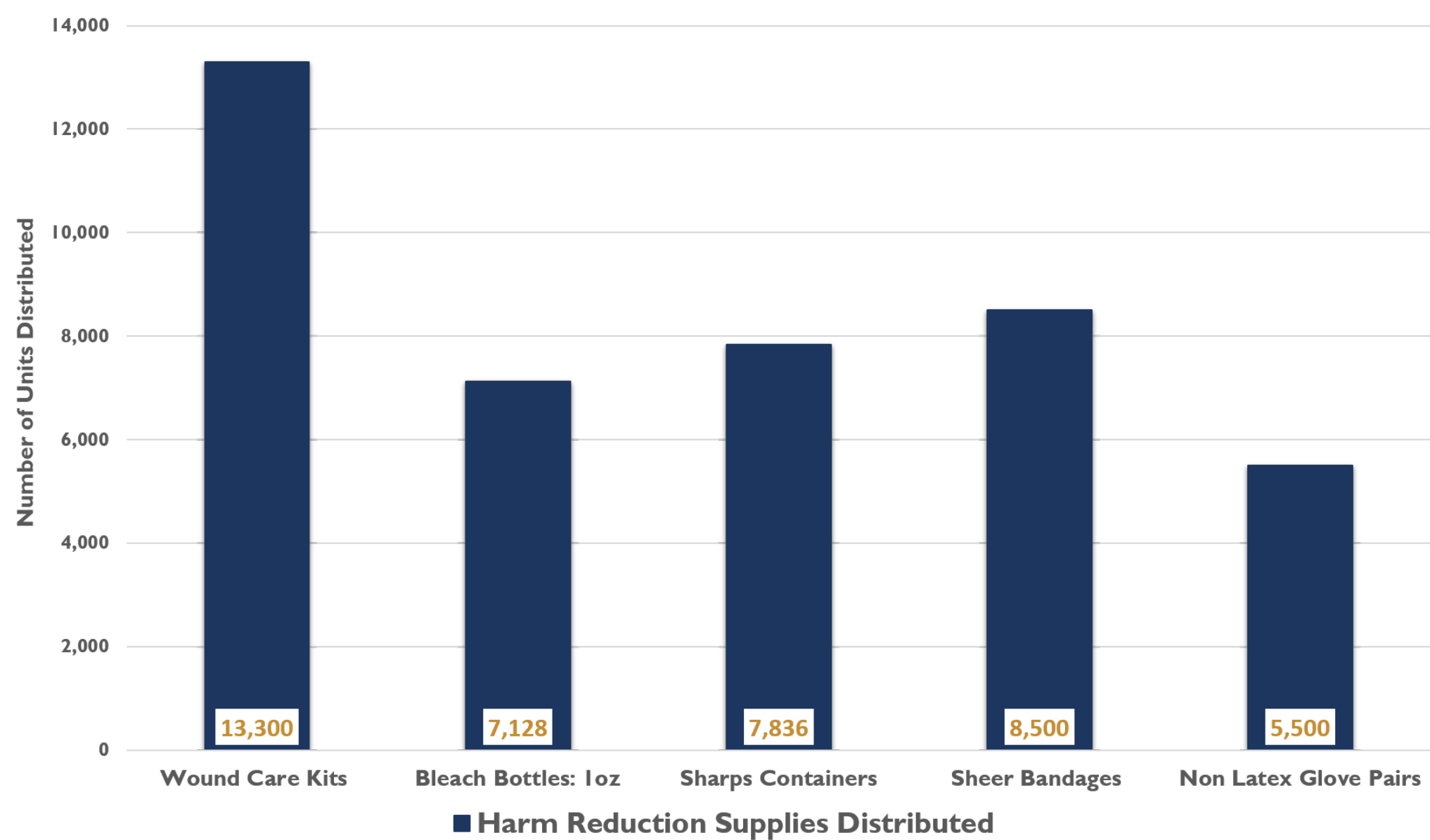
Statewide Supply Distribution 2022

The Bureau of HIV, STI, and Hepatitis partners with the Bureau of Substance Use Disorder Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery to support the distribution of harm reduction supplies to people who inject drugs (PWID) in Iowa.

Access to this system was expanded in 2022 to engage a broader variety of community partners and organizations that interact with PWID, resulting in **42 organizational partners supporting supply distribution efforts.**

Supplies provided through this system are intended to minimize the potential for transmission of HIV and viral hepatitis, prevent injection site bacterial and fungal complications, allow for safe storage and disposal of used injecting equipment, and support wound care.

No materials considered to be drug paraphernalia are supplied.



Along with the supplies displayed above, an additional 48,000 alcohol prep pads were distributed among PWID to support injection site sanitization.

Description of Provided Supplies



Each wound care kit comes packaged in a 4" x 6" resealable polybag and contains:

- 1 pair of gloves
- 2 gauze pads
- 2 large bandages
- 2 antiseptic towelettes
- 2 200mg ibuprofen tablets

Wound care kits are intended to **minimize the risks of medical complications related to injection drug use.** Specifically, these items can help reduce the risk of injection site bacterial and fungal infections such as necrotizing fasciitis, bacteremia, endocarditis, tetanus, wound botulism, and abscesses.



It is recommended that PWID always use new sterile syringes when injecting. In the event that new materials are not readily available, disinfecting equipment with bleach can greatly reduce the risk of HIV and viral hepatitis.



Safe disposal of used injecting supplies reduces the number of used syringes that are improperly disposed of in the community. Proper disposal ensures that others are not cut by used equipment, thus preventing potential infections.



Fit Packs are small and transportable sharps containers aimed at supporting the safe storage and disposal of used supplies for those who do not have immediate access to traditional sharps containers.