

Time and Day of Overdose in Vermont

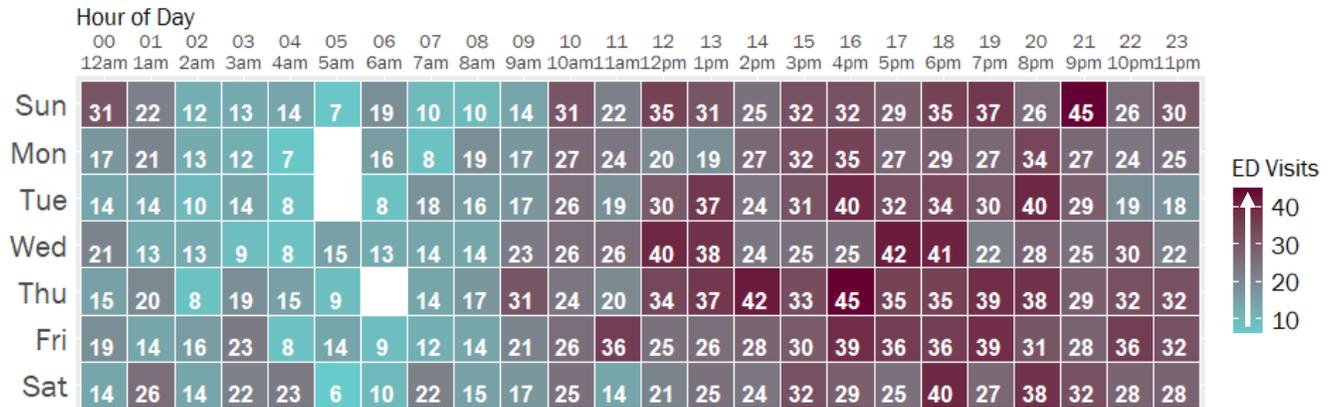
May 2025

Understanding when overdoses happen in Vermont is critical for public health workers, healthcare providers and community organizations as they work to prevent overdoses and save lives. If you need help accessing or understanding this information, contact AHS.VDHOVerdoseDataVT@vermont.gov.



Emergency Departments see more nonfatal overdose patients in the afternoon and evening and on Thursdays, Fridays, and Sundays.

Total nonfatal opioid, stimulant, and benzodiazepine overdose visits at Vermont emergency departments



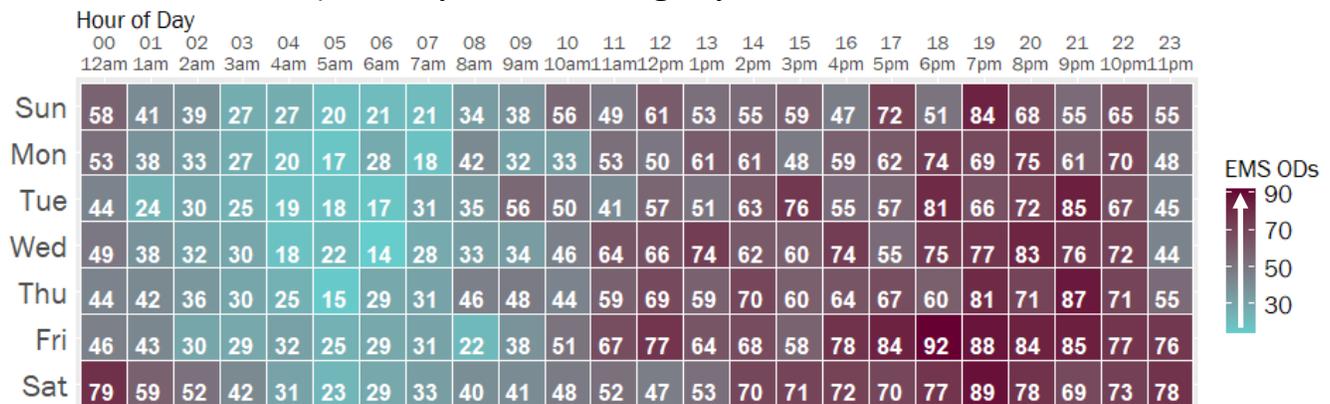
Source: ESSENCE, 2019-June 2024

Blank squares indicate that the data is suppressed due to small numbers.



Emergency Medical Services see more overdose patients in the afternoon and evening and on Fridays and Saturdays.

Total fatal and nonfatal opioid, stimulant, benzodiazepine, and hallucinogen overdose responses by Vermont emergency medical services



Source: SIREN, 2019-June 2024



HealthVermont.gov
802-863-7200



Resources

Overdose prevention strategies: www.KnowODVT.com

Harm reduction, treatment, and recovery services: www.VTHelpLink.org

Overdose prevention: AHS.VDHod2a@vermont.gov

References

Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics ([ESSENCE syndromic surveillance](#)), 2019 – June 2024.

Statewide Incident Reporting Network ([SIREN](#)), 2019 – June 2024.

Data Notes

Emergency Department Data

- **ESSENCE** is an electronic syndromic surveillance system used to track real-time healthcare encounter data.
- An overdose is an unintentional poisoning which has been caused by drugs rather than any potentially toxic substance (e.g., cleaning agents and pesticides).
- [Benzodiazepine](#), [stimulant](#), and [opioid](#) overdose ED visits were identified using CDC's syndrome definitions and were included in the analysis as nonfatal overdose ED visits. Overdoses related to suicide and self-harm were excluded from the analysis.
- All visits to Vermont EDs were included.

Emergency Medical Services Data

- **SIREN** is a comprehensive electronic prehospital patient care data collection, analysis, and reporting system that has been in use since 2010.
- 911 emergency incidents (including mutual aid) occurring in the state of Vermont for primary and secondary impressions that indicated a drug overdose were included. Marijuana and alcohol-only overdoses were excluded.
- All EMS incidents were included. This includes all incidents regardless of whether transportation of the patient was needed or accepted and includes patients who were “dead on arrival.”