Vermont's multi-faceted approach to addressing substance use disorder involves coordination between multiple state agencies and community partners in the areas of prevention, treatment, recovery and law enforcement.

**Access to Treatment**

- **8831** Estimated Vermonters age 18+ receiving MAT in **hubs and spokes** Q3 2019*
- **0** People waiting for hub services**
- **15-20k** Estimated people with OUD in need of treatment (includes people in treatment)

Research shows that MAT is the most effective treatment for OUD.

**Drug Disposal**

- **85** Drug disposal locations available statewide*
- **16,868** Pounds of drugs collected in state-funded programs between Nov 2018 and November 2019**

Most people who misuse prescription opioids get them from friends or family. Convenient disposal options may decrease misuse of unused prescriptions.

**Overdoses (Accidental)**

- **89** Fatal Overdoses 2019 opioid fatalities as of Oct. 2019 compared to 97 as of Oct. 2018**
- **84%** Of 2019 fatal overdoses involve fentanyl, through Oct. 2019**

**Nonfatal Overdoses**

- **16.2** Rate of nonfatal opioid overdoses per 10,000 ED visits in Nov. 2019** compared to the Nov. 2018 rate of 18.7

People who die from accidental overdoses may have more than one substance in their system.

**Prescription Monitoring**

**Vermont Total MME Dispensed**

- **41%** Reduction in opioid analgesics dispensed between Q1 2016 and Q3 2019*
- **4.2%** Of Vermont population received opioid analgesics in Q3 2019

Nearly 80% of people who use heroin had previously misused prescription opioids. Limiting use to the minimum medically necessary amount is best practice.

**Recent Highlights**

- There are four new naloxone training videos, new brochures, wallet cards, and posters available on the [naloxone webpage](#)
- The [naloxone data brief](#) has been updated. Over 30,000 doses naloxone reversal kits have been distributed since 2014.

**Messaging**

- New messaging on the risks of sharing prescription opioids
- New messaging on safely using and storing prescriptions

Sources: Vital Statistics; ESSENCE; VPMS; SATIS; program reporting. Some data are preliminary and subject to change.

* Data updated quarterly
** Data updated monthly

12/16/2019
**Acronyms**

ADAP – Alcohol & Drug Abuse Programs  
CDC – Centers for Disease Control & Prevention  
ED – Emergency Department  
MAT – Medication Assisted Treatment  
MME – Morphine Milligram Equivalent  
OUD – Opioid Use Disorder  
OD – Overdose  
SAMHSA – Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration  
VPMS – Vermont Prescription Monitoring System

**Definitions**

**Hub** – Regional programs that provide intensive opioid use disorder treatment options, including high intensity Medication Assisted Treatment, and maintain strong connections to area Spokes. There are nine Hubs in Vermont.

**Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)** – The use of methadone, buprenorphine, or naltrexone, in combination with counseling and behavioral therapies, to treat opioid use disorder.

**Morphine Milligram Equivalent (MME)** – The amount of morphine equivalent to the strength of the opioid dispensed. Using MME allows comparison between types and strengths of opioids.

**Opioid Analgesic** – Narcotic pain medication

**Opioid Use Disorder (OUD)** – Recurrent use of opioids causes clinically and functionally significant impairment, such as health problems, disability, and failure to meet major responsibilities at work, school, or home.

**Spoke** – Office-based opioid treatment settings located in communities across Vermont. At many Spokes, opioid use disorder treatment is fully integrated into general healthcare and wellness services.

**More Information**

[healthvermont.gov/scorecard-opoids](http://healthvermont.gov/scorecard-opoids)  
[healthvermont.gov/RxAware](http://healthvermont.gov/RxAware)  
[healthvermont.gov/opioids](http://healthvermont.gov/opioids)  
[healthvermont.gov/ADAPReports](http://healthvermont.gov/ADAPReports)  
[healthvermont.gov/YRBS](http://healthvermont.gov/YRBS)

**References**

[healthvermont.gov/DoYourPart](http://healthvermont.gov/DoYourPart)  