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**

- **9,271** Estimated Vermonters age 18+ receiving MAT in **hubs and spokes** Q4 2020*
- **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*
- **16,494** Pounds of drugs collected in state-funded programs between April 2020 and Mar 2021**

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

**Overdoses (Accidental)**

**February Current and Previous Year Comparison**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opioid related fatalities</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of fatalities involving fentanyl</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonfatal rate per 10,000 ED Visits</td>
<td>34.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All data are preliminary and subject to change. People who die from accidental overdoses may have more than one substance in their system.

**Prescription Monitoring**

- **48%** Reduction in opioid analgesics dispensed between Q1 2016 and Q1 2021*
- **4.0%** Of Vermont population received opioid analgesics in Q1 2021.

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**

- Nearly 7,200 pounds of unused medications were returned during the April 2021 DEA take back day.
- The **2020 4th Quarter Medication Assisted Treatment in Vermont Hubs and Spokes Report** has been published.
- The Q1 2021 VPMS report will soon be posted on ADAP’s data and reports page.

**Messaging**

- The Health Department launched the new **One More Conversation** campaign reaching pregnant and new moms, along with their health care providers, with educational messaging on the harms of alcohol, cannabis, opioids and tobacco.

Sources: Vital Statistics; ESSENCE; VPMS; SATIS; program reporting. Data are preliminary and subject to change. * Data updated quarterly  
** Data updated monthly  
5/25/2021
**Acronyms**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADAP</td>
<td>Alcohol &amp; Drug Abuse Programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRFSS</td>
<td>Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDC</td>
<td>Centers for Disease Control &amp; Prevention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ED</td>
<td>Emergency Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAT</td>
<td>Medication Assisted Treatment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MME</td>
<td>Morphine Milligram Equivalent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OUD</td>
<td>Opioid Use Disorder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OD</td>
<td>Overdose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAMHSA</td>
<td>Substance Abuse &amp; Mental Health Services Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VPMS</td>
<td>Vermont Prescription Monitoring System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YRBS</td>
<td>Youth Risk Behavior Survey</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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-opioids](http://healthvermont.gov/scorecard-opioids)
- [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)