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**

- **9,478** Estimated Vermonters age 18+ receiving MOUD in **hubs and spokes Q1 2022** *
- **15-20k** Estimated people with OUD in need of treatment (includes people in treatment)

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

**Drug Disposal**

- **79** Drug disposal locations available statewide *
- **21,890** Pounds of drugs collected in state-funded programs between September 2021 and August 2022 **

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

**Overdoses (Accidental)**

**June** Current and Previous Year Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opioid related fatal overdoses</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of fatal overdoses involving fentanyl</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonfatal rate per 10,000 ED Visits</td>
<td>28.5</td>
<td>31.1</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. For more information: Monthly Vermont Opioid-Related Fatalities.

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

**Prescription Monitoring**

- **Vermont Total MME Dispensed**
  - **110M**
  - **51M**

- **54%** Reduction in opioid analgesics dispensed between Q1 2016 and Q2 2022 *
- **3.8%** Of Vermont population received opioid analgesics in Q2 2022.

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**

- The [2022 Vermont Social Autopsy Report: 2019-2020 Data Analysis](#) is now available. The purpose of the Social Autopsy Report is to identify trends in how Vermonters who died of a drug overdose interacted with state systems prior to death to identify opportunities for intervention. Of the 172 Vermonters who died of overdose in 2020:
  - Fentanyl was involved in 74% of overdoses
  - Most (82%) had a substance use disorder
  - Nearly all (99%) interacted with at least one agency or data set
  - Most (87%) interacted with three or more agencies or data sets

**Messaging**

The Health Department is running [CDC RxAware](#) messaging on TV, radio, digital and social media channels throughout the fall. The campaign features testimonials of people experiencing the impacts of Opioid Use Disorder.

* Data updated quarterly
** Data updated monthly

9/28/2022
Acronyms

BRFSS – Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System
CDC – Centers for Disease Control & Prevention
DSU – Division of Substance Use Programs
ED – Emergency Department
MOUD – Medication for Opioid Use Disorder
MME – Morphine Milligram Equivalent
OUD – Opioid Use Disorder
OD – Overdose
SAMHSA – Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration
SUDORS – State Unintentional Drug Overdose Reporting System
VPMS – Vermont Prescription Monitoring System
YRBS – Youth Risk Behavior Survey

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 for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) – 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
healthvermont.gov/RxAware
healthvermont.gov/opioids
healthvermont.gov/ADAPReports
healthvermont.gov/YRBS
KnowODVT.com
EndAddictionStigmaVT.com

References

healthvermont.gov/DoYourPart
www.cdc.gov/nchs/nyss/vsrr/drug-overdose-data.htm