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**

- **9,118** Estimated Vermonters age 18+ receiving MAT in **hubs and spokes** Q3 2021*
- **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*
- **24,105** Pounds of drugs collected in state-funded programs between December 2020 and November 2021**

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

**Overdoses (Accidental)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>September</th>
<th>Current and Previous Year Comparison</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opioid related fatalities</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of fatalities involving fentanyl</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonfatal rate per 10,000 ED Visits</td>
<td>29.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Data updated quarterly
** Data updated monthly

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

**Prescription Monitoring**

- **50%** Reduction in opioid analgesics dispensed between Q1 2016 and Q3 2021*
- **3.9%** Of Vermont population received opioid analgesics in Q3 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**

- The **Treatment Status Among People Who Died of an Overdose, 2016-2020** report is now available.
- Assessing Substance Use Campaigns through **PACE Vermont** highlights that some respondents aware of campaigns changed behavior as a result of being exposed to messaging.
- The **Naloxone Distribution and Administration** report is available.

**Messaging**

Overdose prevention messaging is running on digital channels December through February. Messaging is reaching higher risk young adults to increase awareness about signs of an overdose.
Acronyms

ADAP – Alcohol & Drug Abuse Programs
BRFSS – Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System
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
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 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
healthvermont.gov/RxAware
healthvermont.gov/opioids
healthvermont.gov/ADAPReports
healthvermont.gov/YRBS
KnowODVT.com
EndAddictionStigmaVT.com

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healthvermont.gov/DoYourPart
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