

MNDOSA 2023 Data Update

The **Minnesota Drug Overdose and Substance Use Surveillance Activity (MNDOSA)** tracks severe or unusual cases of hospital-treated overdoses or acute substance use issues in near real time and provides hospitals with the rare opportunity to send biological samples to the MDH Public Health Laboratory for detailed toxicology testing.

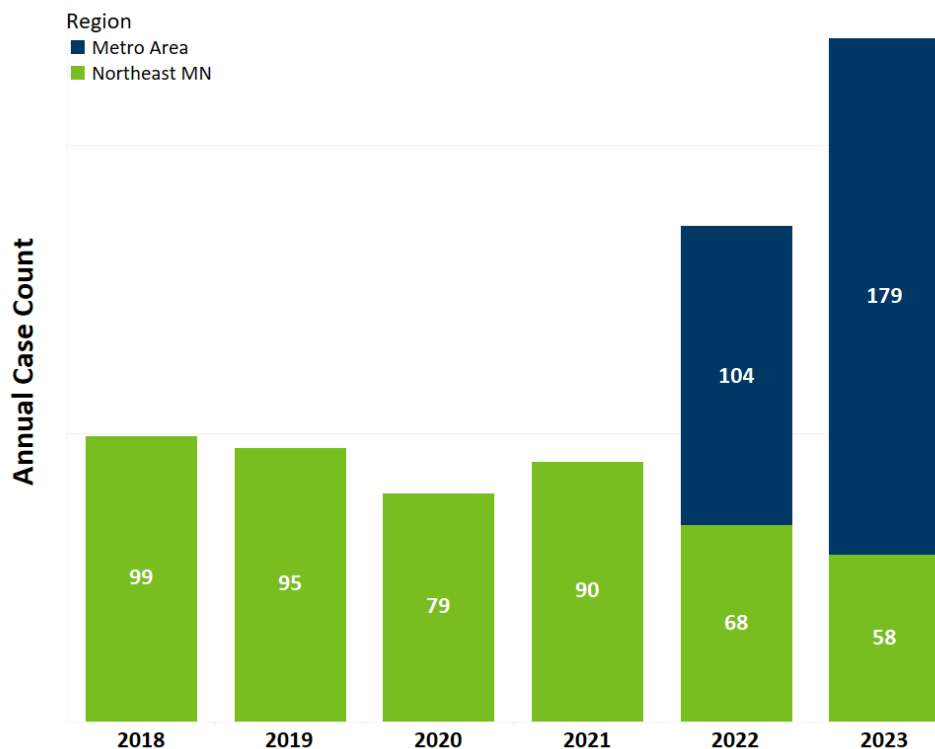
In these cases, MNDOSA collects data on the circumstances and risk factors experienced by the patients involved. This patient data, combined with laboratory toxicology testing that can identify more than 1,000 unique substances found in clinical samples, provides unique insights into drug markets in local communities in Northeast Minnesota and the Twin Cities Metro Area.

To see MNDOSA in action, watch our video [Substance Testing at the Public Health Lab](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D24RojxCt5s) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D24RojxCt5s>).

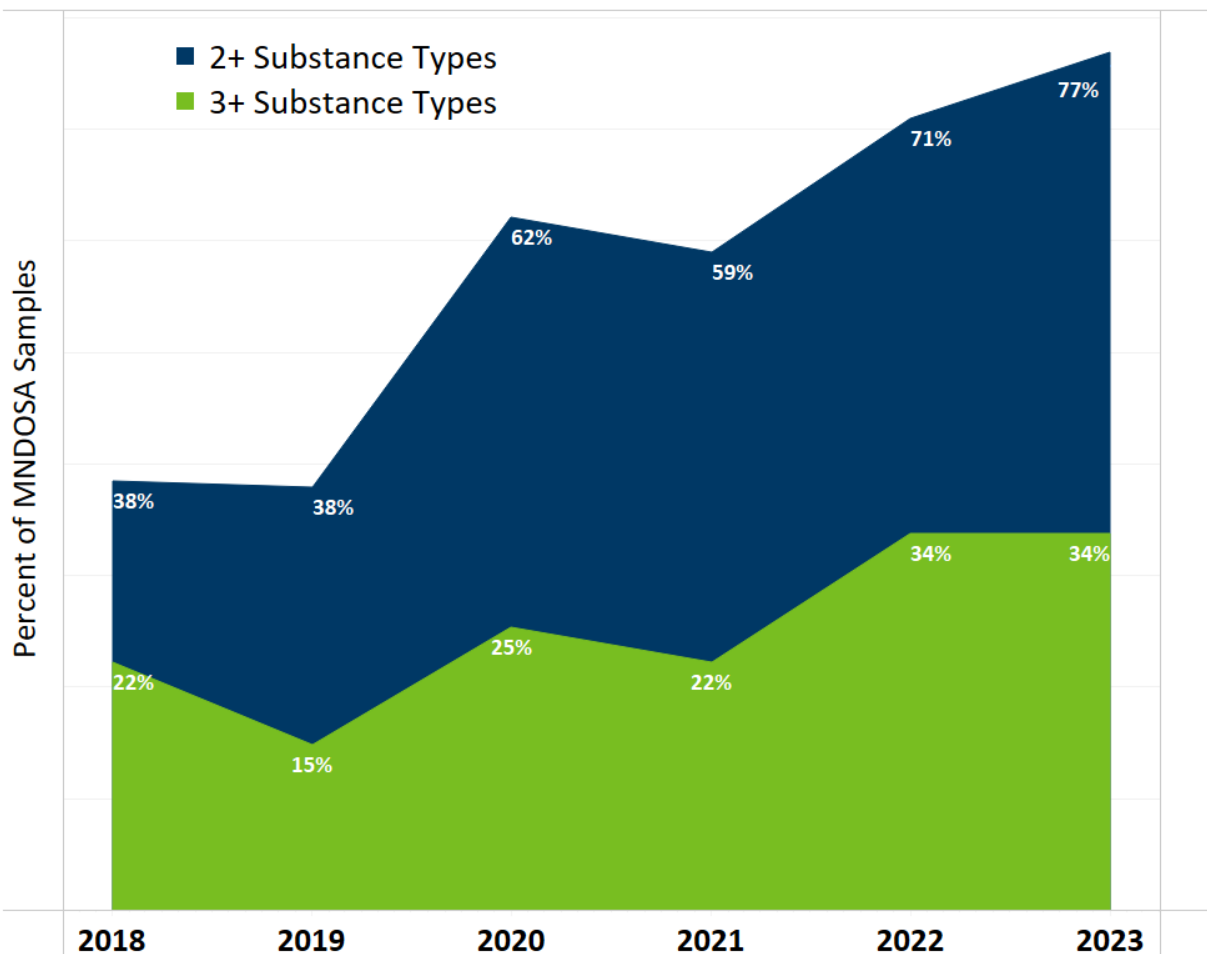
MNDOSA patients are often exposed to multiple substances

MNDOSA began in 2017 in Northeast MN and expanded to the Twin Cities Metropolitan area in 2022. Annual sample volume varies by year and region, and it may not reflect the total number of substance misuse cases treated in partnering facilities, or trends in substance misuse over time. In 2023, MNDOSA tested 237 samples (58 from Northeast MN, 179 from Twin Cities Metropolitan area). 77% of these samples tested positive for two or more substance types (amphetamines, opioids, cocaine, marijuana, and/or synthetic cannabinoids or cathinones).

In 2023, MNDOSA tested 237 samples in two regions.



Polysubstance use among MNDOSA samples from 2018 – 2023.



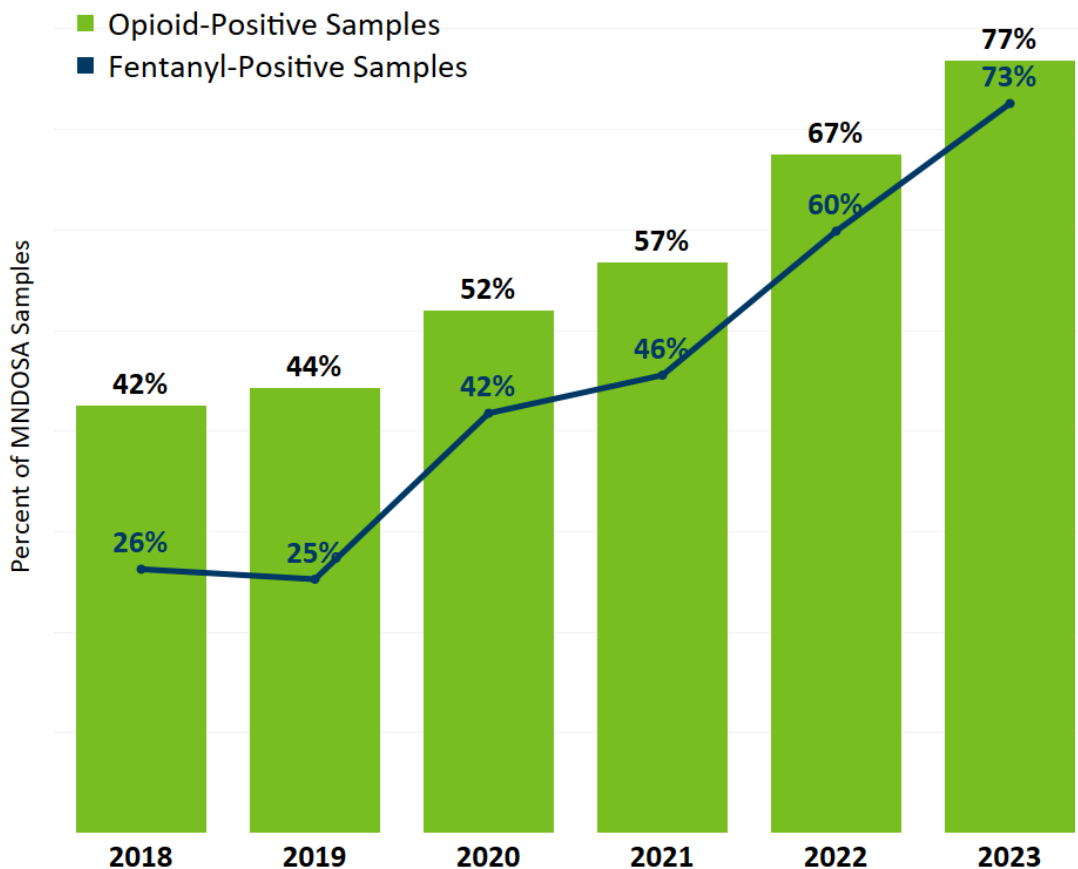
Xylazine is an emerging concern, especially in Northeast Minnesota.

- In 2023, 1 in 11 statewide samples that tested positive for fentanyl also detected xylazine.
 - In Northeast Minnesota, 1 in 6 fentanyl samples also detected xylazine in 2023.
 - In the Metro Area, 1 in 15 fentanyl samples also detected xylazine in 2023.

Opioid detection has increased dramatically since 2018.

Almost all opioid positive MNDOSA cases now involve fentanyl.

Opioid and fentanyl detection among MNDOSA samples has increased since 2019.



Many MNDOSA patients are people experiencing homelessness

Drug overdose is a common cause of death among people experiencing homelessness in Minnesota. From 2017 to 2021, approximately one third of all MNDOSA patients were experiencing homelessness: [MNDOSA Report: Homelessness and Substance Misuse in Northeast Minnesota \(2017-2021\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/injury/data/mndosanortheast.html)

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Visit the [MNDOSA webpage](#) to learn more about the program. A full list of reports is also featured on this page. Interested in joining the MNDOSA project? Contact health.drugodepi@state.mn.us

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