

Drug Overdose Dashboard Data

UPDATED 1/14/2026

Opioid Overdose Deaths by Year

YEAR	YEARLY DEATHS
2018	349
2019	421
2020	690
2021	964
2022	1039
2023	1011
2024	678

Source: Minnesota death certificates

Deaths by Race

In 2024, American Indians in Minnesota were seven times more likely to die from a drug overdose and African Americans in Minnesota were three times as likely to die from drug overdose than Whites in Minnesota.

Year	African American	American Indian	White
2018	21	57	10
2019	26	81	13
2020	43	119	15
2021	58	157	18
2022	67	167	18

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Year	African American	American Indian	White
2023	73	155	15
2024	48	100	13

Source: Minnesota death certificates

Nonfatal Overdose by Opioid

Hospital visits for nonfatal opioid overdose sharply decreased in 2024, the lowest level since 2018.

Year	All Opioid	Heroin	"Opioid (excluding heroin)"
2018	2915	1438	1477
2019	3871	1848	2023
2020	5130	1889	3241
2021	5478	1607	3871
2022	5,211	820	4391
2023	5247	360	4887
2024	3594	143	3451

Source: Minnesota hospital discharge data

ER Visits by Age

In 2024, 25-34-year-old Minnesotans had the greatest number of nonfatal hospital visits for opioid-involved overdoses.

Age	# in 2024
1-14 years	47

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Age	# in 2024
15-24 years	533
25-34 years	1192
35-44 years	755
45-54 years	422
55-64 years	381
65+ years	264

Source: Minnesota hospital discharge data

ER Visits by Sex

Males had more ER visits for opioid-involved overdoses in 2024.

Females: 35.49% (1275 visits)

Males: 64.51% (2318 visits)

Source: Minnesota hospital discharge data

Opioid Prescriptions Dispensed

The number of opioids reported as dispensed in Minnesota has steadily decreased since 2017.

Year	Number of Opioids Reported as Dispensed
2017	3,180,131
2018	2,704,445
2019	2,472,684
2020	2,250,190
2021	2,208,461

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Year	Number of Opioids Reported as Dispensed
2022	2,115,909

Source: Minnesota Board of Pharmacy Prescription Monitoring Program

For county-level prescribing rates, visit [Data Dashboard / Minnesota Board of Pharmacy Prescription Monitoring Program \(https://mn.gov/boards/pharmacy-pmp/reports/data-dashboard.jsp\)](https://mn.gov/boards/pharmacy-pmp/reports/data-dashboard.jsp)

Use and Misuse Among Youth

The percentage of Minnesota students using prescription pain medications without a prescription or differently than a doctor instructed was higher in 2019 than in 2013. Inappropriate use by eighth grade students has increased steadily.

Year	Grade 11	Grade 9	Grade 8
2013	2.8	1.8	0.8
2016	4.8	2.9	2.3
2019	3.1	3.5	4.2
2022	3.1	4.4	5.2

Source: Minnesota Student Survey

Substance Use Disorder Treatment

Only 1 in 10 people with a substance use disorder receive treatment in the U.S.

Substance Use at Admission to Treatment by Substance

Alcohol remains the primary substance used at admission to substance use disorder treatment for adults in Minnesota. In 2019, methamphetamine was the second leading substance used at admission to treatment.

Year	Alcohol	Methamphetamine	Injection Drug Use	Heroin	Other Opiates
2011	25115	4248	5103	3338	4572
2012	24258	5300	6147	4529	4481
2013	22819	7110	7369	5149	4393
2014	22538	8727	8010	5520	3885
2015	22203	9978	9245	6668	3910
2016	21430	12386	10554	7378	3484
2017	22104	14524	11831	8391	3399
2018	21802	15934	11504	7282	2687
2019	23292	17207	13998	7680	2502
2020	21160	14802	10787	7008	2460
2021	22594	16358	16358	7319	4128

Source: Minnesota Department of Human Services, BHD, DAANES

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From 2020 to 2022, the number of admissions for Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) treatment increased after a period of relative stability. The increase was largely due to treatment for opioids other than heroin.

Year	All opioids	Heroin	Other Opioids
2015	10674	6734	3,861
2016	10972	7,443	3,444
2017	11942	8,477	3,387
2018	10333	7547	2,735
2019	10233	7724	2,451
2020	9583	7104	2,439
2021	11466	7311	4,123
2022	12205	5556	6614
2023	13206	3481	9698

The number of patients who have completed their Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) treatment at the time of their discharge has been decreasing.

Year	Completed OUD treatment (e.g., provider initiated or approved discharge)	Did not complete OUD treatment (e.g., left treatment without staff approval, transferred, or incarcerated)
2015	3304	6507
2016	3512	6646
2017	3579	7076
2018	3137	5905
2019	2947	5658

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Year	Completed OUD treatment (e.g., provider initiated or approved discharge)	Did not complete OUD treatment (e.g., left treatment without staff approval, transferred, or incarcerated)
2020	2498	5655
2021	2777	6644

In 2023, seven out of ten patients had not completed their Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) treatment at the time of discharge.

The number of Medicaid recipients who have received Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD), like buprenorphine, has been increasing.

Year	Number of Medicaid recipients receiving MOUD
2016	13,100
2017	15,227
2018	17,322
2019	19,375
2020	20,676
2021	24,084
2022	26,318
2023	29,382

The number of Primary Care Providers (PCPs) who can administer, dispense, and prescribe buprenorphine to treat Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) has continued to increase.

Year	30 patient limit	100 patient limit	275 patient limit
2017	366	72	28

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Year	30 patient limit	100 patient limit	275 patient limit
2018	552	119	32
2019	870	167	48
2020	1196	292	60
2021	1469	405	77
2022	1980	498	94

Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome and Other Impacts of Substance Use on Youth

Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Cases

The number and rate (per 1,000 live births) of Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) diagnoses has varied since 2016.

Year	Rate of NAS diagnoses (per 1,000 live births)	Number of NAS diagnoses
2016	6.0	411
2017	6.4	433
2018	5.3	350
2019	5.6	367
2020	6.5	406
2021	5.9	375
2022	7.4	468

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Year	Rate of NAS diagnoses (per 1,000 live births)	Number of NAS diagnoses
2023	6.6	399
2024	6.4	392

Source: Minnesota hospital discharge data

The number of children in Out-of-Home (OOH) placements for caretaker drug misuse has been steadily decreasing.

Year	Number of OOH Placements
2016	2,144
2017	2,323
2018	2,203
2019	1,974
2020	1,652
2021	1,582
2022	1,381
2023	1,223

Less than half of children in Out-of-Home (OOH) placements due to caregiver substance misuse were reunited with their caretaker at the end of their placement in 2023. OOH placements that ended in reunification have been decreasing steadily since 2016.

	OOH Placement ended in reunification	OOH Placement did not end in reunification
2016	58%	42%

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	OOH Placement ended in reunification	OOH Placement did not end in reunification
2017	59%	41%
2018	56%	44%
2019	52%	48%
2020	52%	48%
2021	49%	51%

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01/14/2026