

Overdose Response Program (ORP) | Division of Behavioral Health and Wellness

GRANTS

- U.S. DOJ Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program (COSSAP) Grant
- TDH-CDC High Impact Area (HIA) Grant
- NACCHO Grant
- The "Community Overdose Prevention and Empowerment" project will deploy community health educators and enhance surveillance through surveys and listening sessions so authentic community voice is incorporated into overdose prevention strategies, messaging, and materials.
- SAMHSA GAINS Center Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) Mapping Workshop Grant
- SIM Workshops are designed bring together a local, multidisciplinary group of key stakeholders from a particular jurisdiction to facilitate cross-system collaboration and to identify and discuss ways in which barriers in and between the criminal justice and behavioral health systems can be reduced through the development of integrated local strategic action plans.

****Public Health Emergency****

Drug/Opioid Overdose Crisis in the U.S.

On October 26, 2017, the drug overdose crisis was officially declared to be a public health emergency by President Trump. This determination was recently renewed by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, effective April 1, 2022.

<https://www.phe.gov/emergency/news/healthactions/phe/Pages/default.aspx>

INTERVENTIONS AND ACTIVITIES

Overdose Fatality Review (OFR) Panel

- Seeks to examine and understand the circumstances surrounding fatal drug overdoses occurring in Davidson County. **Meetings occur monthly.**

ED Post-Overdose Discharge Protocol

- Initiative seeks to improve care through the use of peer recovery navigators, naloxone distribution, harm reduction strategies, and medically-assisted treatment (MAT).

Nashville Fire Department EMS Post-Overdose Follow-Up

- Implementation began in early January 2021.

Substance Use Linkage by ORP Social Worker

- Implementation began in November 2020. Activities include linking MPHD clinic patients with substance use disorder to available resources.

Data-to-Action with Local Prevention/Public Safety Partners

- Collaborating with prevention partners/public safety for targeted response to high-activity areas.

HIA Multidisciplinary Stakeholder Group

- Inaugural quarterly meeting held in July involving stakeholders from multiple sectors aimed at mitigating the local drug overdose crisis.

SAMHSA GAINS Center Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) Mapping Workshop

- Implementation is underway with initial planning meeting held in mid January.

****Metro Council Presentation**

- Program epidemiologist presented on the current state of the overdose epidemic in Davidson County at the Public Health and Safety Committee meeting on March 10.

****2022 Rx Drug Abuse & Heroin Summit**

- Program staff slated to attend annual conference in Atlanta, GA from April 18-21.

****Leveraging Data for Acute Response Efforts**

- Provided strategic consult for officials from the Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities (TASC) Center for Health and Justice and the International Association of Chiefs of Police re: leveraging data to enhance acute overdose response efforts.

MEDIA

March 3 - The Tennessean

<https://www.tennessean.com/story/news/politics/2022/03/03/tennessee-senate-passes-fentanyl-test-strip-bill/9349550002/>

March 11 - Metropolitan Nashville Police Department Media Release

<https://www.nashville.gov/departments/police/news/3-persons-arrested-conspiracy-charges-after-11-pounds-meth-18-grams>

March 14 - The Tennessean

<https://www.tennessean.com/story/news/local/2022/03/14/davidson-county-tns-drug-overdose-crisis/7001680001/>

March 15 - WRKN News Channel 2

<https://www.wkrn.com/news/local-news/nashville/overdoses-in-metro-increasing-at-alarming-rate/>

March 27 - The Tennessean

<https://www.tennessean.com/story/news/local/davidson/2022/03/28/davidson-county-receive-23-million-funds-opioid-settlement/7098063001/>

SPIKE ALERTS

- Since implementation in June 2021, the SPIKE Auto Text Program has been utilized 7 times:

2022

February 5

2021

June 9, July 16, August 13, September 2, October 4, and December 4

Monthly Drug Overdose Activity, January 2020-March 2022
Data reported for the last three months are provisional and subject to change.

Data and Surveillance

Suspected Fatal Drug Overdoses

- Fentanyl has been detected in 79% of overdose-related toxicology reports in 2022 (76% in 2021).
- Monthly Average
2021: 61.0 suspected overdose deaths
2022: 55.3 suspected overdose deaths

Suspected Nonfatal Drug Overdose-related Emergency Department (ED) Visits

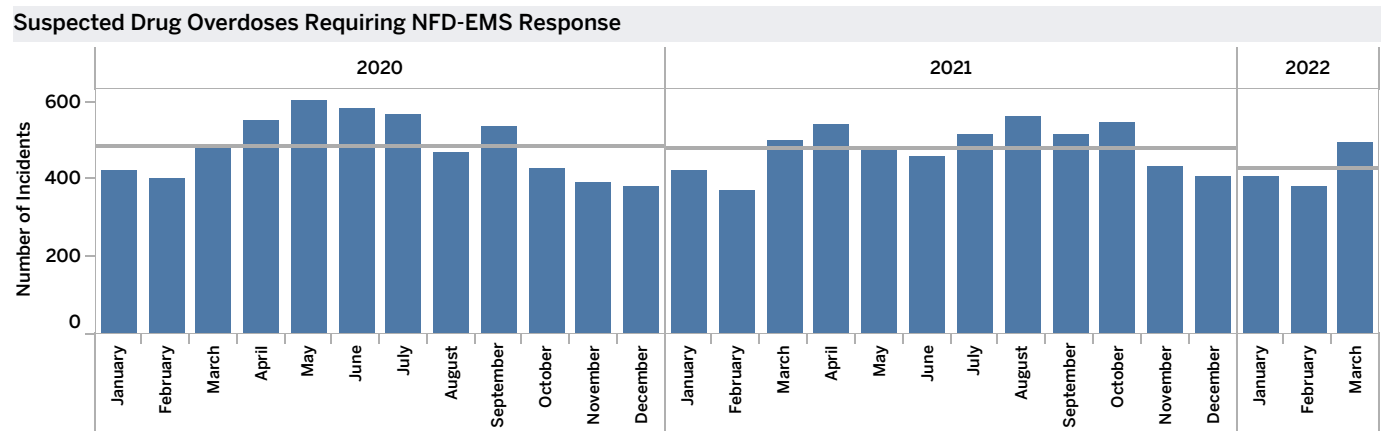
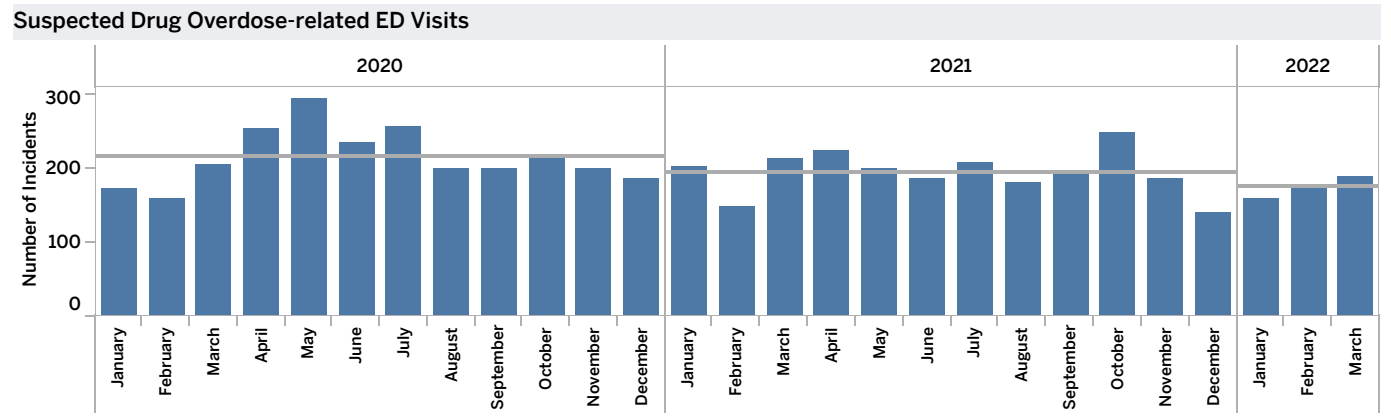
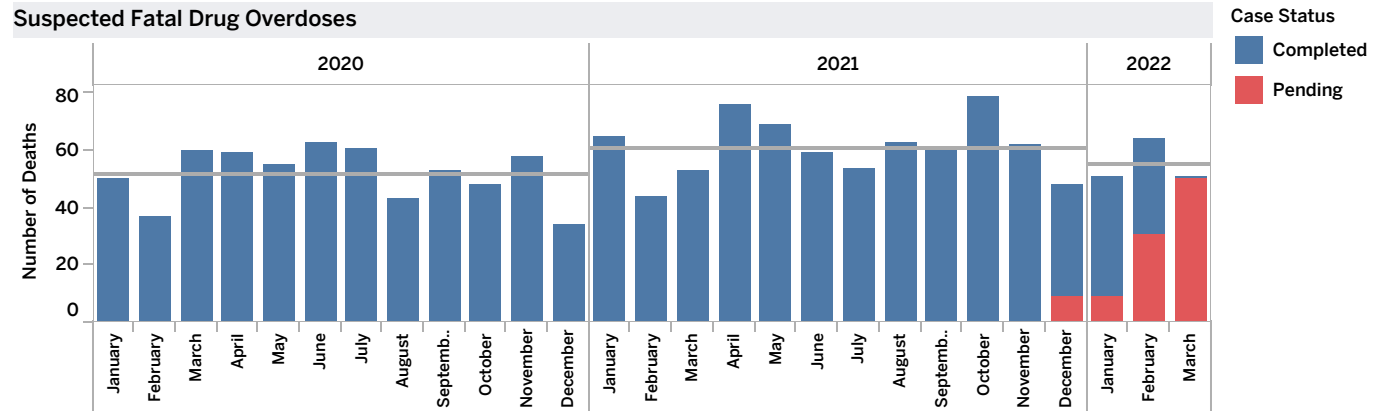
Monthly Average
2021: 195.8 overdose-related ED visits
2022: 175.3 overdose-related ED visits

Suspected Drug Overdoses Requiring NFD-EMS Response

Monthly Average
2021: 478.8 suspected overdoses
2022: 426.3 suspected overdoses

Syringe Containers Collected in the Community

- In 2021, there were **1,877 syringe containers collected** by the Metro Public Health Department in 2021, representing an **76% increase** compared to 2020 (each syringe container is estimated to collect between 400 and 430 1cc syringes).
- Monthly Average
2020: 88.7 containers
2021: 156.4 containers



Prevention Categories for Activities/Interventions Implemented or Supported by ORP

The Overdose Response Program is involved in both actively implementing and supporting a multitude of community activities and interventions aimed at addressing all levels of prevention (primary, secondary, and tertiary). This ensures our program is applying a comprehensive approach which involves mitigating the currently burgeoning local drug overdose crisis while aiming to prevent substance use/addiction before it ever occurs.

Implemented by ORP

Overdose Fatality Review (OFR) Panel - primary, secondary, tertiary

ED Post-Overdose Discharge Protocol - primary, secondary, tertiary

HIA Multidisciplinary Stakeholder Group - primary, secondary, tertiary

Nashville Fire Department Emergency Medical Services Post-Overdose Follow-Up - primary, secondary, tertiary

Substance Use Linkage by ORP Social Worker - primary, secondary, tertiary

Data-to-Action with Local Prevention Partners - primary

Data-to-Action with Public Safety Partners - primary

Data-to-Action with Local Homeless/Housing Partners - primary

SPIKE Auto Text Program - primary, secondary

Drug Overdose Monitoring and Surveillance - primary, secondary, tertiary

Syringe Services Program (SSP) - primary, secondary

(Note: MPHD receives syringe containers from organization implemented the SSP for disposal as medical waste)

Supported by ORP

Fentanyl Test Strip Distribution (as a means of harm reduction) - primary, secondary

Definitions

Primary Prevention: "upstream" measures that prevent the onset of illness before the disease process begins. Immunization against infectious disease is a good example.

Secondary Prevention: measures that lead to early diagnosis and prompt treatment of a disease. Breast self-examination is a good example of secondary prevention.

Tertiary Prevention: involves the rehabilitation of people who have already been affected by a disease, or activities to prevent an established disease from becoming worse.

Overdose Response Program

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Metro Public Health Department Website

Drug Overdose Information

<https://www.nashville.gov/departments/health/drug-overdose-information>

Data Sources

Suspected Fatal Drug Overdoses

Death Investigation and Decedent Information (DIDI) Database (maintained by the Davidson County Medical Examiner (DCME))

Suspected Nonfatal Drug Overdose-related ED Visits

ESSENCE-TN

Suspected Drug Overdoses Requiring NFD-EMS Response

Nashville Fire Department Emergency Medical Services (NFD-EMS)

Notes

Data presented in this report were extracted on April 5, 2022 and are provisional. There may be additional fatal/nonfatal drug overdoses reported over this time period in subsequent reports as incidents that occurred from January 2022-March 2022 are not yet finalized. Suspected drug overdose deaths captured in the DIDI database represent deaths under DCME jurisdiction and do not necessarily indicate Davidson County residency status of the decedent.

If you have information on unusual overdose activity, please contact the Overdose Response Program:

Opioid.Response@nashville.gov | 615-340-0498



SPIKE Alerts by Text
Information that can save lives
Get alerts about overdoses in your community



FG Trade/Getty Images

Partnership to End Addiction is working with organizations in your community to alert you when spikes in drug overdoses occur locally. This knowledge can help you take action to engage and protect your loved ones struggling with addiction.

Why it matters: Spike alerts can prompt families and community members to:

- 1 Have discussions about seeking treatment and/or using substances more safely
- 2 Protect people you care about by getting naloxone and learning how to use it
- 3 Talk to friends or loved ones who are not using substances about the risks of use
- 4 Advocate for and support efforts in your community to prevent overdoses

Text SPIKE to
855-9-OD-KNOW
(855-963-5669)

and follow the steps to
get messages on your
phone when overdose
spikes occur.

How it works: Health and law enforcement officials can release a "spike alert" to the media in response to a pattern of drug overdoses within a community. Partnership to End Addiction's SPIKE Alerts by Text program informs you when these alerts are issued.



Learn more:
drugfree.org/spike
or scan QR code to sign up now

Partnership to End Addiction is a nonprofit working to transform how our nation addresses addiction. Learn more at drugfree.org.



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