



To Local Health Departments, community partners, and other stakeholders:

The Maryland Department of Health has released the [Drug Overdose Surveillance and Epidemiology \(DOSE\) Annual Report](#) for 2023. The report analyzes suspected non-fatal overdose trends in Maryland, utilizing emergency medical services (EMS) and emergency department (ED) data.

While recent state non-fatal suspected overdose rates saw a 15% decrease last year, this report includes a deep dive into 2023 overdose data. The 2024 comprehensive report is expected to be available in the coming months, and non-fatal, opioid-related overdose data is currently available through June 2025 on the [Overdose Data Dashboard](#).

Highlights for 2023 include:

- There were over 25,000 ED visits for suspected non-fatal drug overdose
 - ED visit counts for suspected non-fatal drug overdose in 2023 were at their highest since 2019
- The highest EMS call rates were observed in Baltimore City (107.7 per 10,000) and Washington County (52.4 per 10,000).
- Rates for Black individuals in these jurisdictions were significantly higher than those among white individuals.
- Lay persons and law enforcement constituted the majority of bystanders who administered naloxone prior to EMS arrival in 2023.
 - This includes 357 lay people (41.7%) and 284 law enforcement officers (33.1%)

► August 2025



Resources

- Drug Overdose Surveillance and Epidemiology (DOSE) [Annual Report](#)
 - Non-Fatal Overdose [Trends Brief](#) (2023 data)
- The Maryland Overdose Data Dashboard is accessible at bit.ly/OverdoseData

For media inquiries, please contact mdh.communications@maryland.gov.
For general inquiries related to the MDH Dashboard, please contact mdh.dataoffice@maryland.gov.