

King County Overdose Response

Brad Finegood, Strategic Advisor, Overdose Prevention and Response,
Public Health – Seattle & King County

Susan McLaughlin, Director, Behavioral Health & Recovery Division,
Department of Community and Human Services

King County Board of Health
March 21, 2024

 King County

DCHS

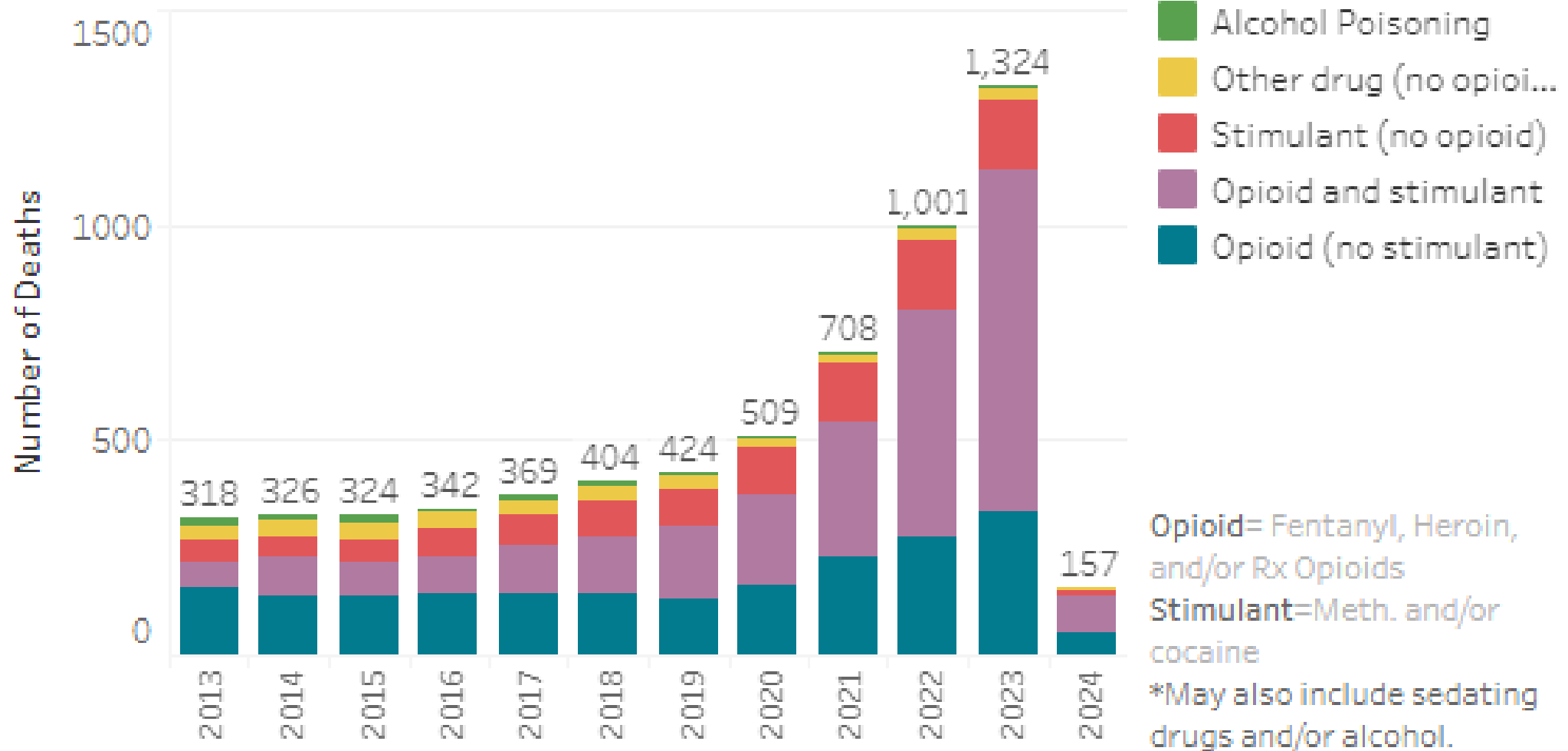
Department of Community
and Human Services

Public Health 
Seattle & King County

Drug & Alcohol Poisoning Deaths, King County

(Note: Bar chart can be viewed in terms of counts or rates; each decedent with an overdose death is represented once.)

Count ▾



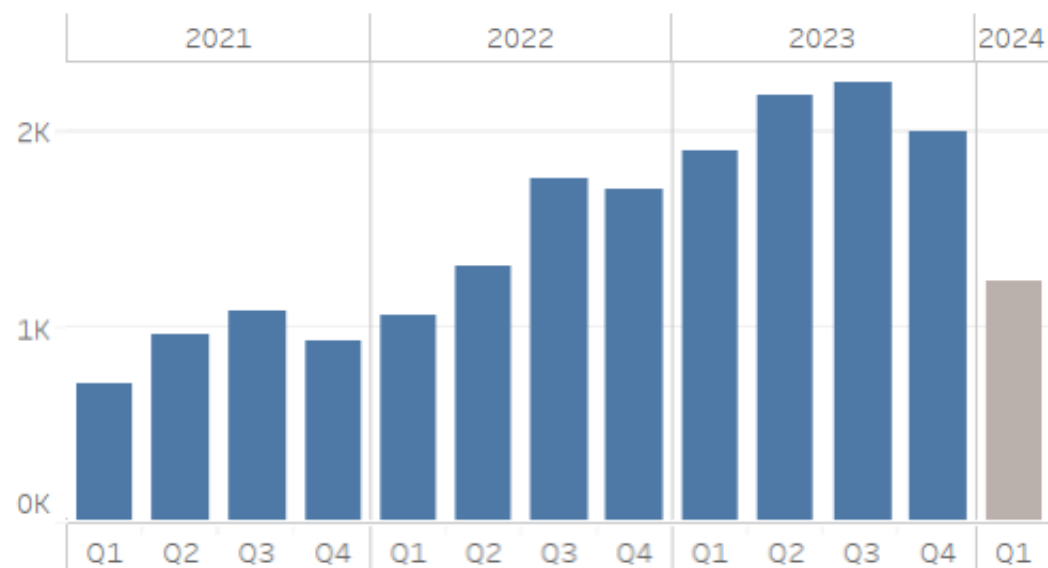
Opioid Overdoses Treated by King County Emergency Medical Services

(As of 3/3/2024)

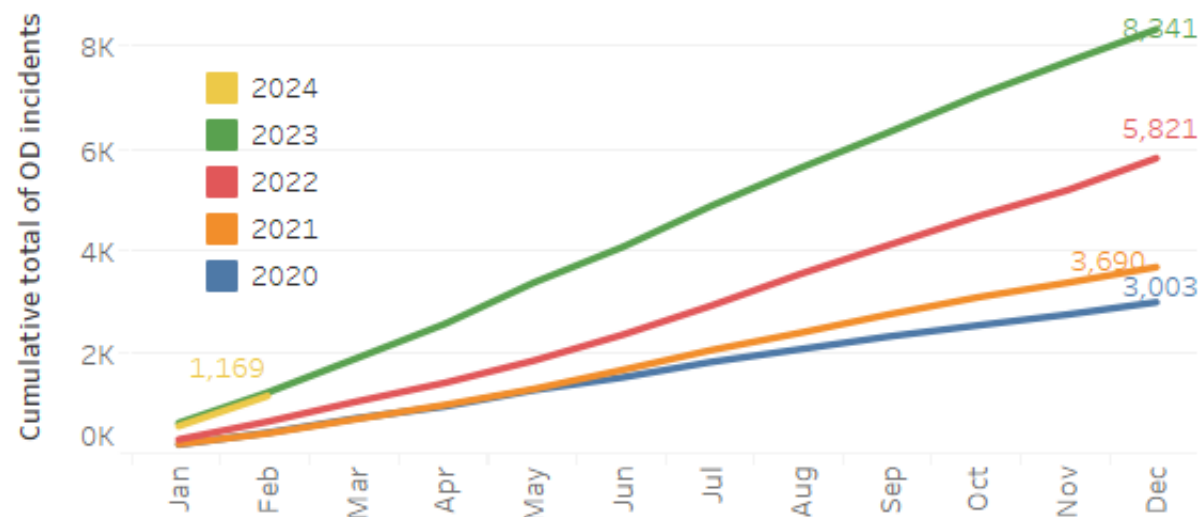
This dashboard summarizes opioid overdoses in King County treated by Emergency Medical Services (KC EMS) personnel. Nearly all overdoses treated by EMS personnel are non-fatal.

Trends in Opioid Overdoses treated by KC EMS

Select graph view: Trends by Quarter



Cumulative total # of Opioid Overdoses treated by KC EMS





Continuum of Response

SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER



Cross Cutting Capabilities: Communications, Data, Policy, Outreach and Engagement

King County Cross Departmental Overdose Prevention and Substance Use Disorder Work

Public Health

Harm Reduction Supplies Distribution

- Naloxone
- Fentanyl Test Strips

Training

- Health Care System training & supports
- Community Trainings

Drug Supply Surveillance

Emergency Medical Services

Coordination post-overdose

Direct Services

- Jail Health
- Prevention – Syringe Service
- Mobile Medical, Primary Care
- Street Medicine Outreach

Joint Public Health/ DCHS Collaboration Communications

- Newsletter
- Education & Information communication campaigns

Innovations

- Post Overdose Center
- Overdose prevention in supportive housing
- Innovations for MOUD

Policy

Substance Use Prevention

DCHS – BHRD

Substance Use Disorder (SUD)
Treatment Continuum (adults & youth)

- Withdrawal management (Detox)
- Residential Treatment
- Outpatient/Intensive Outpatient
- Sobering Center
- Opioid Treatment Programs
- BH Workforce Development
- Contingency Management
- BH Outreach Teams
- Recovery Navigators
- Emergency Services Patrol
- Crisis Care Centers
- Peer-led Services
- Provider network of 40+ behavioral health agencies

2023 Substance Use Disorder Treatment Reach



**Outpatient SUD
Services**

**4,581
CLIENTS SERVED**



**SUD Residential
Services**

**1,796
INDIVIDUALS SERVED**



**Medication for Opioid
Use Disorder (MOUD)**

**11,000 +
INDIVIDUALS SERVED**



**Withdrawal
Management Services**

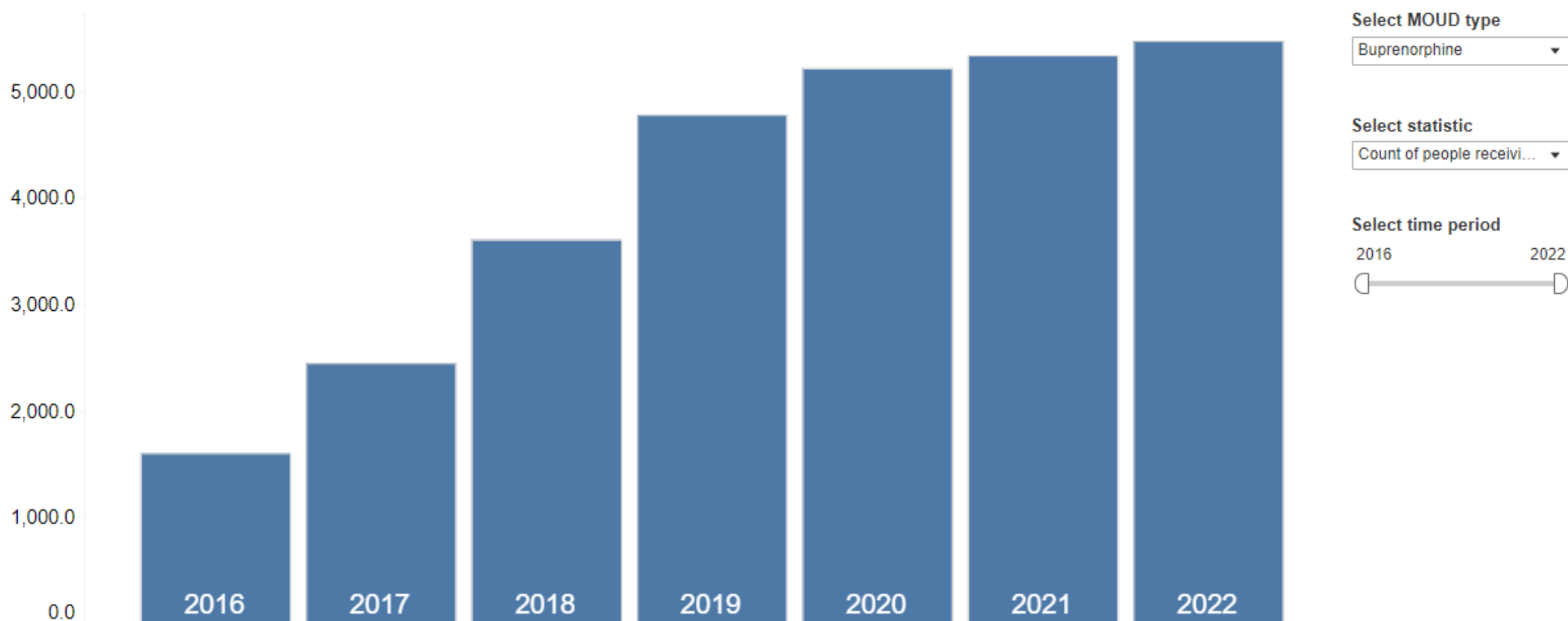
**1,065
INDIVIDUALS SERVED**



Sobering Services

**8,000 +
INDIVIDUALS SERVED**

Count of people receiving MOUD by calendar year
King County Medicaid beneficiaries with Opioid Use Disorder



MOUD = Medication for Opioid Use Disorder

Five Priorities for Action to Prevent Overdoses in 2024

PRIORITY 1

Treatment and community-based, recovery-focused care for all.

PRIORITY 2

Behavioral health beds and facilities.

PRIORITY 3

Overdose reversal medication and fentanyl testing.

PRIORITY 4

A robust, diverse behavioral health workforce.

PRIORITY 5

Reduced disproportionality in overdoses.

Priority 1: Treatment & Community-Based Recovery-Focused Care For All

- Launch a 24/7 Buprenorphine Prescribing Line
- Enable Community Behavioral Health Providers to provide buprenorphine induction and ongoing treatment through Medicaid funding
- Increase the number of 24/7 youth and adult mobile crisis programs
- Invest in 6 new community navigators to link people to treatment and support harm reduction.

Priority 2: Behavioral Health Beds and Facilities

- Partner with Pioneer Human Services to open a 16-bed residential treatment program for people with co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders
- Partner with the City of Seattle to permanently site and re-open a 24/7 sobering center
- Partner with City of Seattle, Downtown Emergency Service Center (DESC), and University of Washington to open a post-overdose recovery center

Priority 3: Overdose Reversal Medication and Fentanyl Testing

- Expand the number of fire departments that provide leave-behind naloxone at sites of overdoses where people are at high risk
- Convene a county-wide Overdose Fatality Review process
- Test up to 1,000 drug samples annually to reduce accidental drug poisonings
- Distribute 45,000 naloxone kits and 100,000 test strips through a new centralized harm reduction supply center and vending machines

Priority 4: A Robust, Diverse Behavioral Health Workforce

- Add approximately 100 new apprenticeships statewide with half of the opportunities in King County. Apprenticeship tracks include behavioral health technicians, substance use disorder professionals, and peer counselors

Priority 5: Reduce disproportionality in overdoses

- Distribute \$2 million in overdose prevention grants from opioid settlement funds to disproportionately impacted and underserved populations

CRISIS CARE CENTERS

Levy Purposes

Paramount Purpose



CRISIS CARE CENTERS

Establish and operate a regional network of five crisis care centers in King County, with at least one in each of the four crisis response zones and one serving youth.

Supporting Purpose 1



RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT

Restore the number of mental health residential treatment beds to at least 355 and expand the availability and sustainability of residential treatment in King County.

Supporting Purpose 2



COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH WORKFORCE

Increase the sustainability and representativeness of the behavioral health workforce in King County.

Behavioral Health Crisis Resources

King County Resources:

24-Hour Regional Crisis Line: 866-427-4747

Provides immediate help to individuals, families, and friends of people in emotional crisis. This crisis line can help you determine if you or your loved one needs professional consultation or connection to mental health or substance use services like mobile crisis or a next-day appointment.

24/7 Bupe Line: 206-289-0287

Talk to a doctor to receive a buprenorphine prescription any time any day for opioid use disorder.

Behavioral Health & Recovery Div. Client Services: 800-790-8049

For people interested in mental health services.

SUD Residential Phone Line: 855-682-0781

For information about King County substance use residential services, Monday-Friday 9am-5pm.

Overdose Prevention Supplies, Training, Resources, and Data

Provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week:

www.kingcounty.gov/overdose

National Resource:

988 National Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

Provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Behavioral Health Crisis Resources (Continued)

Washington State Resources:

WA Recovery Help Line: 866-789-1511

A 24/7 anonymous and confidential help line that provides crisis intervention and referral services for Washington State residents. *Who answers:* Professionally trained volunteers and staff.

WA Warm Line: 877-500-WARM (9276)

Confidential peer support help line for people living with emotional and mental health challenges. *Who answers:* Specially-trained volunteers who have lived experience with mental health challenges.

Washington 211: Dial 211

Who answers: A highly-trained information and referral specialist will assess your needs and provide a list of referrals to available resources in your community.

Youth & LGBTQ+ Resources:

Teen Link: 866-833-6546

Confidential and anonymous help line for teens in Washington state. *Who answers:* Trained teen volunteers.

Trevor Project: 866-488-7386

24/7 free, confidential and anonymous national help line for LGBTQ+ young people. *Who answers:* Trained counselors.

TRANS Lifeline: 877-565-8860

24/7 hotline run by trans people, for trans people to connect people to community support and resources needed to survive and thrive.

Questions?