

MERCER COUNTY

At-A-Glance 2024



**WEST VIRGINIA OFFICE OF
DRUG CONTROL POLICY**
West Virginia Department of Human Services



FROM 2014 TO 2024, OPIOID
PRESCRIPTION DRUG
DISPENSING DECREASED BY **-69%**¹

Naloxone Kits Distributed² **6,749***

Certified Treatment Beds³ **42**

Certified Recovery Housing⁴ **135**

Number of Helpline Calls⁵ **420**

Number of Helpline Calls Connected to Treatment⁵ **166**

QRT Connected to Treatment⁶ **21**

Community Assets

- Quick Response Team (QRT)
- Regional Partnership Grant (RPG)
- Harm Reduction Program
- Hospitals with SUD Response
- Treatment Court - Juvenile
- Treatment Court - Family
- Treatment Court - Adult

Hospitals with SUD Response: Bluefield Regional Medical Center (Princeton Hospital 2020), WVU Medicine Princeton Community Hospital

Local Comprehensive Behavioral Healthcare Provider: Southern Highlands

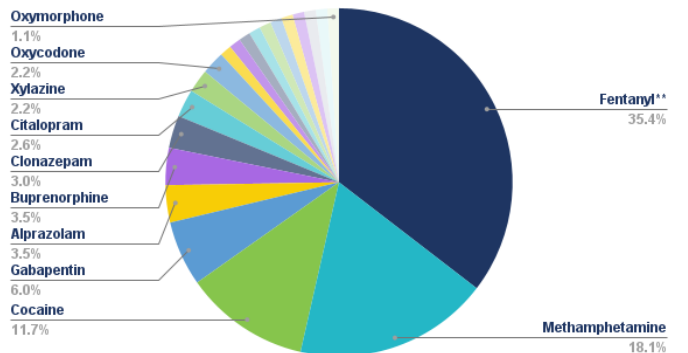
Local Prevention Lead Organization: Community Connections

Day Report: Southern Regional Community Corrections

Number of overdose fatalities in 2022:⁸
58

Number of overdose fatalities in 2023:⁸
91
County Rank:⁸ 4

Substance Prevalence in Overdose Fatalities 2023 (Mercer)⁹



Acronyms/Definitions

Certified Treatment Bed - A licensed facility providing short-term, medically necessary withdrawal management and stabilization, staffed with medical professionals, offering 24/7 monitoring, restrictive rules, and insurance acceptance.

Certified Recovery Housing - A peer-run or staff-managed home offering long-term support for individuals in recovery, where residents pay rent, receive assistance, and have the freedom to work and attend meetings, without on-site clinical services.

Hospital SUD Response Program - comprehensive approaches to SUD for individuals who present to the hospital system that can include screening, referral to treatment, MOUD induction, providing naloxone, and a Peer Recovery Support Specialist consult.

Harm Reduction Program (HRP) - refers to the use of practical strategies and ideas aimed at reducing the negative consequences associated with drug use.

Medication-Assisted Treatment/Medications for Opioid Use Disorders (MAT/MOUD) - refers to the three U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved medications used to treat opioid use disorder: Methadone, Buprenorphine, and Naltrexone.

Quick Response Team (QRT) - teams who contact people within 24 to 72 hours of an overdose to connect them to treatment and other services.

Regional Partnership Grant (RPG) - integration of programs and services designed to increase the well-being, improve the permanency, and enhance the safety of children who are in, or at-risk of, out-of-home placements as the result of a parent or caregiver's SUD.

Substance Use Disorder (SUD) - the recurrent use of alcohol or drugs causing clinically significant impairment, including health problems, disability, and failure to meet major responsibilities at work, school, or home.

Resources:

DoHS Office of Drug Control Policy:
<https://dhhr.wv.gov/office-of-drug-control-policy>

DoHS Office of Drug Control Policy Data Dashboard:
<https://bit.ly/ODCPData>

Addiction Treatment Locator:
<https://treatmentatlas.org/>

Certified Recovery Residence Locator:
<https://warr.org/recovery-housing-guide/residence-directory/>

Data Sources:

- (1) West Virginia Board of Pharmacy
- (2) West Virginia Department of Human Services, Bureau for Behavioral Health
- (3) West Virginia Department of Human Services, Bureau for Medical Services
- (4) West Virginia Alliance of Recovery Residences
- (5) First Choice Services, Inc.
- (6) West Virginia Department of Health, Bureau for Public Health
- (7) U.S. Census Bureau
- (8) West Virginia Department of Health, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
- (9) West Virginia Department of Health, Bureau for Public Health, Health Statistics Center

(--) Data unavailable at time of report.

(*) Number of naloxone kits distributed is approximate based on shipment data from the University of Charleston School of Pharmacy, Narcan Direct, and numbers reported from Save-a-Life Day 2024.

(**) Fentanyl-related deaths include those from pharmaceutical fentanyl and illicit fentanyl and its analogues.

For more information, contact:

Stephen Loyd, MD

Director, DoHS Office of Drug Control Policy
stephen.d.loyd@wv.gov

<https://dhhr.wv.gov/office-of-drug-control-policy>

Get Help



Scan for Free Naloxone:



As of January 2025