

COLLABORATIONS

Data collected by AL-SUDORS will be shared with our data partners.

Additionally, data will be shared to inform other groups such as:

- Alabama Child Death Review System (ACDRS)
- Alabama Department of Mental Health
- Alabama Law Enforcement Agency
- Alabama Opioid Overdose and Addiction Council
- Alabama Violent Death Reporting System (AVDRS)
- Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

OVERDOSE PREVENTION

- Create data-driven decision based on the trends and characteristics of overdose deaths
- Identify risk factors for opioid populations
- Assist in geographically targeting limited resources and effective policies or programs
- Encourage the investments of funds into health care programs
- Provide data driven evidence to lawmakers to inform and promote legislative action
- Improve Opioid Prescribing
- Treat Opioid Use Disorder

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Citations:

1. Opioid Overdose, <https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/opioids/index.html>.
2. "ALEA seeing a spike in drug overdose deaths across the state," <https://whnt.com/news/huntsville/alea-seeing-a-spike-in-drug-overdose-deaths-across-the-state>.
3. OD2A Funded States, Territories, Cities & Counties, <https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/od2a/funded-states.html>.



AL-SUDORS

ALABAMA STATE UNINTENTIONAL
DRUG OVERDOSE REPORTING SYSTEM

Alabama Department of Public Health
Bureau of Prevention, Promotion, and Support
Epidemiology and Evaluation Support Division

ALABAMA
PUBLIC
HEALTH



INTRODUCTION

In 2021, approximately 107,622 people died from drug overdose in the United States. Overdose deaths from synthetic opioids (primarily fentanyl), psychostimulants such as methamphetamine, and cocaine also continued to increase in 2021 compared to 2020.¹ The drug overdose epidemic continues to be a national crisis.

In Alabama, the influx of drug overdoses has been driven by fentanyl. According to the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA), there has been a spike in overdoses in every county in Alabama in 2022.²

The overdose epidemic makes it crucial for public health to have rapid data collection, analysis, and dissemination of overdose information. To combat the opioid overdose epidemic, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) created the Overdose Data to Action Grant (OD2A), which is a 3-year agreement that funds health departments in 47 states and the District of Columbia for surveillance and prevention of opioid overdose.³

AL-SUDORS

AL-SUDORS is a state-based surveillance program which tracks the incidence rate of overdose deaths with the purpose of providing data to public health officials, policymakers, and community stakeholders. AL-SUDORS aims to gain a deeper understanding of emerging trends and factors leading to overdose and inform statewide action plans for prevention and response efforts.

Program Goals:

- Increase integrated, timely, and data-driven efforts by state and local public health partners to improve prevention and response actions
- Increase knowledge and training among healthcare professionals regarding overdoses and opioid misuse
- Decrease overdose deaths due to suspected opioid use and other common causes of overdoses
- Decrease the rate of emergency department events involving overdoses
- Identify specific substances causing or contributing to drug overdose deaths and to better understand the circumstances



DATA COLLECTION

Our partners gather data and provide resources that are essential to the success of AL-SUDORS. Without the support of the following organizations, it would be impossible to collect information and provide accurate overdose data to our partners.

PRIMARY DATA PARTNERS

Vital Statistics Department of ADPH:

- Provides death certificates which contain the majority of incident data for the SUDORS program staff to collect

Alabama Coroner and Medical Examiners:

- Provides detailed “Manner of Death,” “Cause of Death,” and circumstantial data

Alabama Forensic Science:

- Toxicology Reports