



SESSION 1

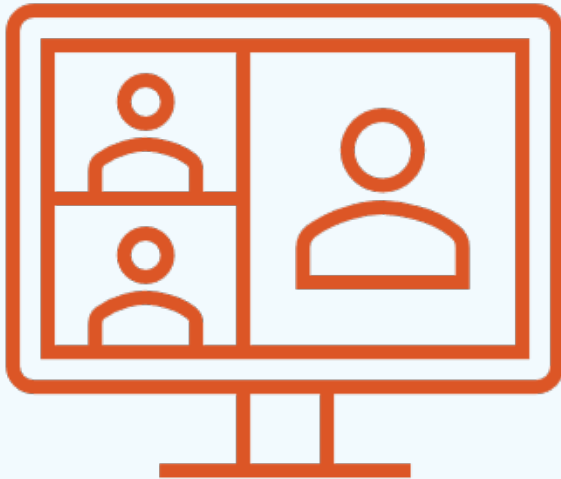
Understanding the Opioid Crisis and New Requirements in Oregon



Virtual Learning Opportunity

Presented by WestEd and The Oregon Department of Education

Session Information



- Participants will remain **muted with video off**.
- Participants are invited to **share comments via chat**. Please submit questions for the presenters using the Q&A feature.
- This session will be **recorded and posted** to the Oregon Department of Education's (ODE) K-12 Substance Use Prevention and Intervention webpage and to ODE's YouTube page.

Session Objectives



- Explore the **scope and impact of the opioid epidemic in Oregon** and on students' health, well-being and academic success.
- Discuss Oregon's **response to the opioid crisis** and examine legislative responses in detail.

Session Agenda



1. Welcome & Introductions
2. The Opioid Crisis in the U.S.
3. The Opioid Crisis in Oregon
4. Oregon's Response to the Crisis
5. Q&A with Alanna Russell (ODE)

Content Disclaimer

- This webinar will cover sensitive topics related to **opioid misuse prevention, the trauma associated** with the opioid epidemic, and its **impact on students** in Oregon.
- The discussion aims to equip educators with effective planning strategies while emphasizing the importance of inclusive and non-shaming language.
- Our goal is to create a respectful, supportive environment for learning and collaboration. Some content may evoke strong emotions or discomfort. Participants should care for their well-being. **If you have any concerns or need support**, please let us know during or after the session.



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Welcome & Introductions

The Oregon Department of Education



Alanna Russell

Office of Teaching, Learning & Assessment
Standards & Instructional Support
Substance Use Prevention Education Coordinator
Program Analyst 4



- The Oregon Department of Education works in partnership with school districts, education service districts and community partners to foster equity and excellence for every learner;
- Together, we serve over 560,000* K–12 students and support more than 1,200 public k-12 schools organized into 197 School Districts;
- We believe every student should have access to a high-quality, well-rounded learning experience; and
- We work to ensure every student in Oregon graduates with a plan for their future.
- The ODE equity lens also helps educators and decision-makers recognize institutional and systemic barriers and discriminatory practices that have limited student success in the Oregon education system.
- The equity lens emphasizes underserved students, such as out of school youth, English Language Learners, and students of color with a particular focus on racial equity.

*Data from Fall 2024

The WestEd Team



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WestEd is a non-profit research, development, and service agency dedicated to improving education, health, and human development outcomes for children, youth, and adults. We have a focus on research and evaluation, professional development, and technical assistance.

WestEd supports schools, districts, states, local governing bodies, and local & national organizations in implementing effective strategies. Our key focus areas include education, health and well-being, and improved justice outcomes.

FACT OR MYTH





Fact or Myth (1)



Opioid impacts across Oregon are generally restricted to large urban areas with dense populations.

This is a Myth (1)



Opioid impacts in Oregon are varied across counties and regions. They demonstrate impact in rural and urban areas. For example, even in counties with low population density, some experience high 'rates' of impact vs. high 'counts' of impact.



Fact or Myth (2)



The rate of US overdose fatalities, including opioid-related fatalities, were not impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

This is a Myth (2)



Overdose fatalities spiked during the Covid-19 Pandemic and though they declined after the pandemic the rates of overdose opioid fatalities are still higher than they were pre-pandemic.



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The Opioid Crisis in the United States

What Exactly are Opioids and Fentanyl?

Opioids

Opioids are a **broad category of substances that include both natural and synthetic drugs** used primarily for pain relief by binding to opioid receptors in the brain.

Fentanyl

Fentanyl is a **synthetic opioid, known for its high potency** compared to other opioids.

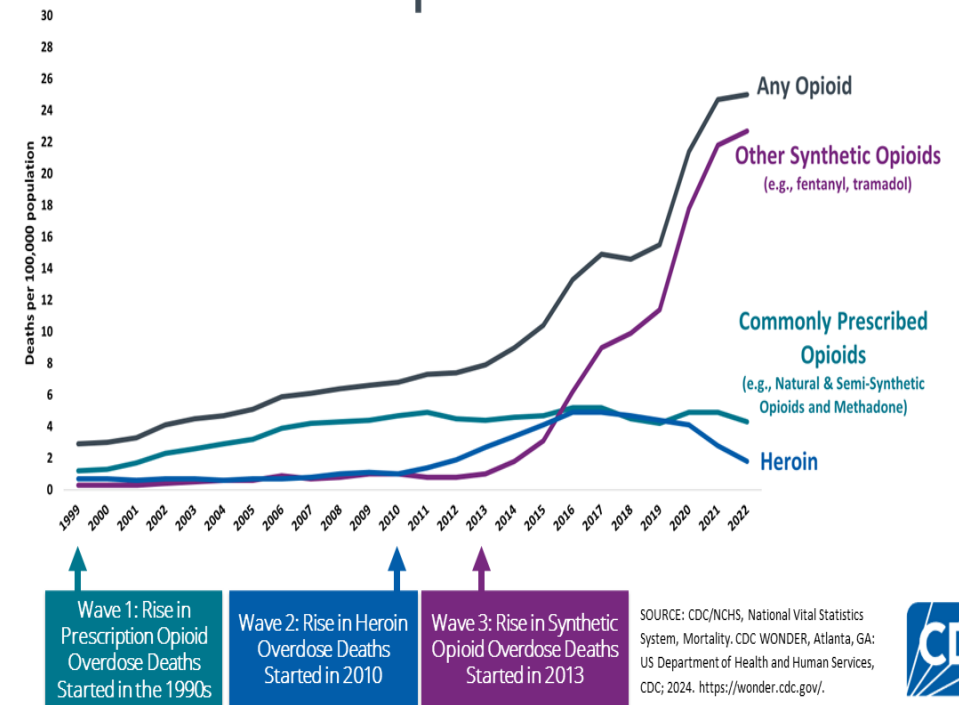
Fentanyl-laced drugs are **extremely dangerous**, and many people may be unaware that their drugs are laced with fentanyl.

A National Epidemic

Opioids have a massive impact on families and communities nationwide.

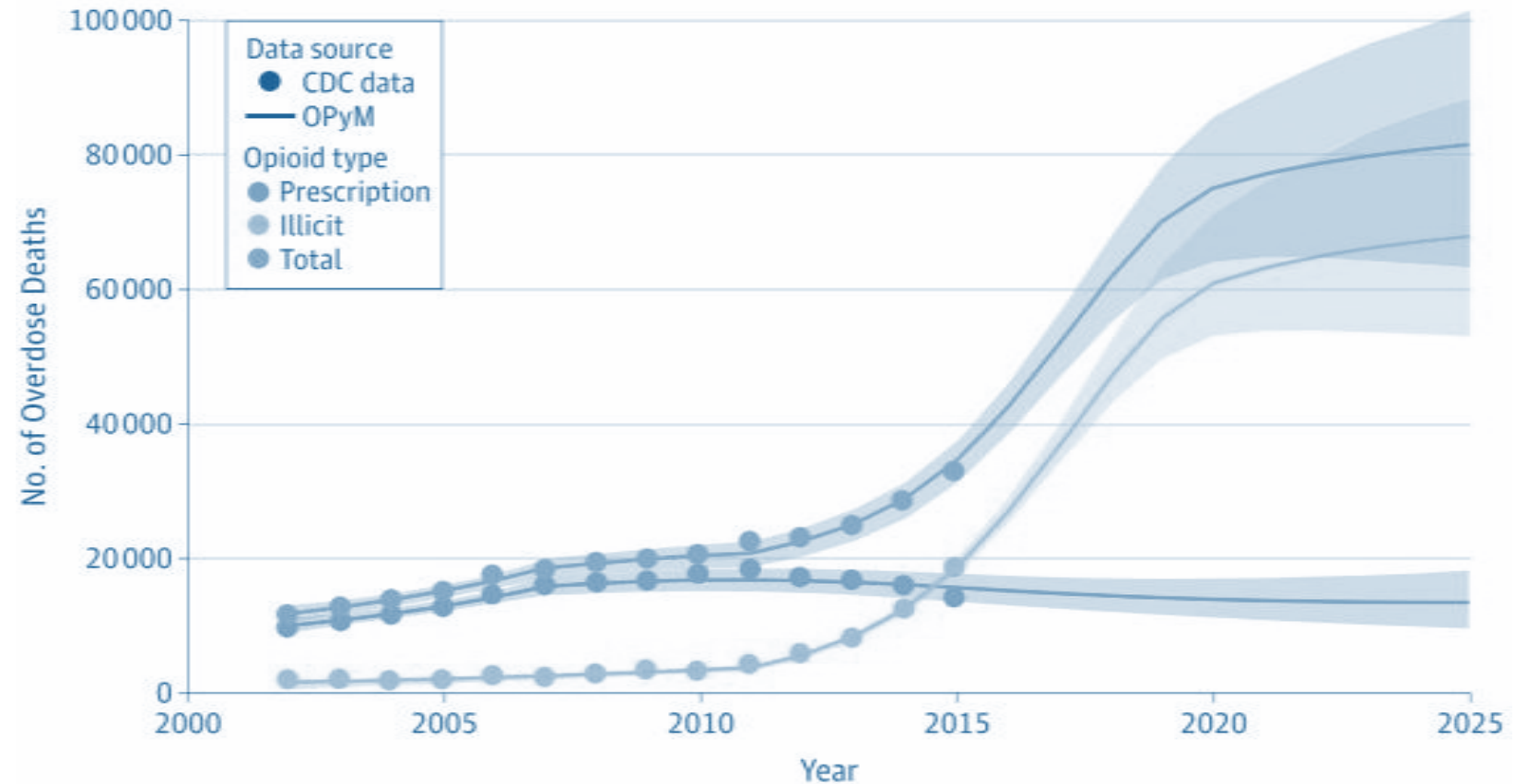
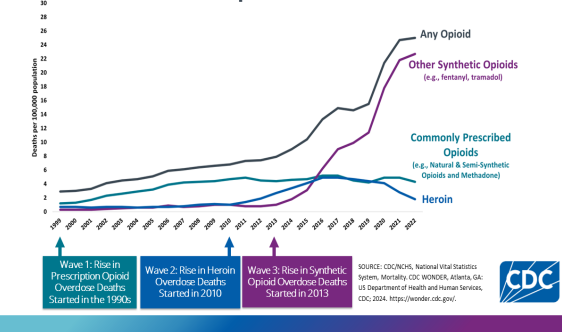
- Nationally **59,457 people** died of opioid overdoses 2024.¹
- In 2019, 1.4 million children lived with a parent with Opioid-Use Disorder.
- In 2019, 70.6% of all drug overdose deaths in the US were due to opioids.
- In 2022, 10 times the people died from opioids than in 1999.

Three Waves of Opioid Overdose Deaths



Opioid Overdose Epidemic Trajectory, 2000–2025

Three Waves of Opioid Overdose Deaths



Source: Chen, Q., Larochele, M. R., Weaver, D. T., Lietz, A. P., Mueller, P. P., Mercaldo, S., & Chhatwal, J. (2019). Prevention of prescription opioid misuse and projected overdose deaths in the united states. *Journal of American Medicine Association Network Open*, 2(2), e187621. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2018.7621



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The Opioid Crisis in Oregon

The Opioid Overdose Epidemic in Oregon

Opioid **overdose deaths in Oregon increased sharply during the COVID pandemic** and have decreased slightly since late 2023. Complete data for 2024 is not yet available.

Illicitly manufactured fentanyl (IMF) **emerged significantly in the Oregon drug supply in 2020**, later than in Eastern states.

In January 2024, Governor Tina Kotek, Multnomah County Chair Vega Pederson, and Portland **Mayor Ted Wheeler announced coordinated 90-day emergencies** related to the growing use of illicit fentanyl.

Additional Context

Although Fentanyl has been fueling higher rates of opioid overdoses in Oregon in the early 2020s, Oregon is the 23rd lowest in terms of substance-use overdose rates in the US.

West Virginia and Tennessee (and generally the southeastern states) have the highest impacts of Opioid-misuse across the country.

Oregon has taken several measures to reduce opioid impacts among residents in recent years, including developing a statewide rapid response system that partners with local resource providers.

Geographic Trends and Vulnerable Pop.

County Trends

- Clackamas, Jackson, Jefferson, Lane, Multnomah, Tillamook and Washington counties have experienced the largest health impacts related to opioid use.

Urban and Rural Areas

- On average, rural and remote areas of the state have lower rates of emergency visits for mental health and substance use than urban areas.

Vulnerable Groups

- Young men between 25 and 39 are the most impacted group in the state when it comes to opioid-related fatalities.

Oregon's Detailed Demographic Trends

Age

- Young people aged 10-24 have the third highest rate of both opioid overdose fatalities (11.36 per 100,000 total population in 2023).

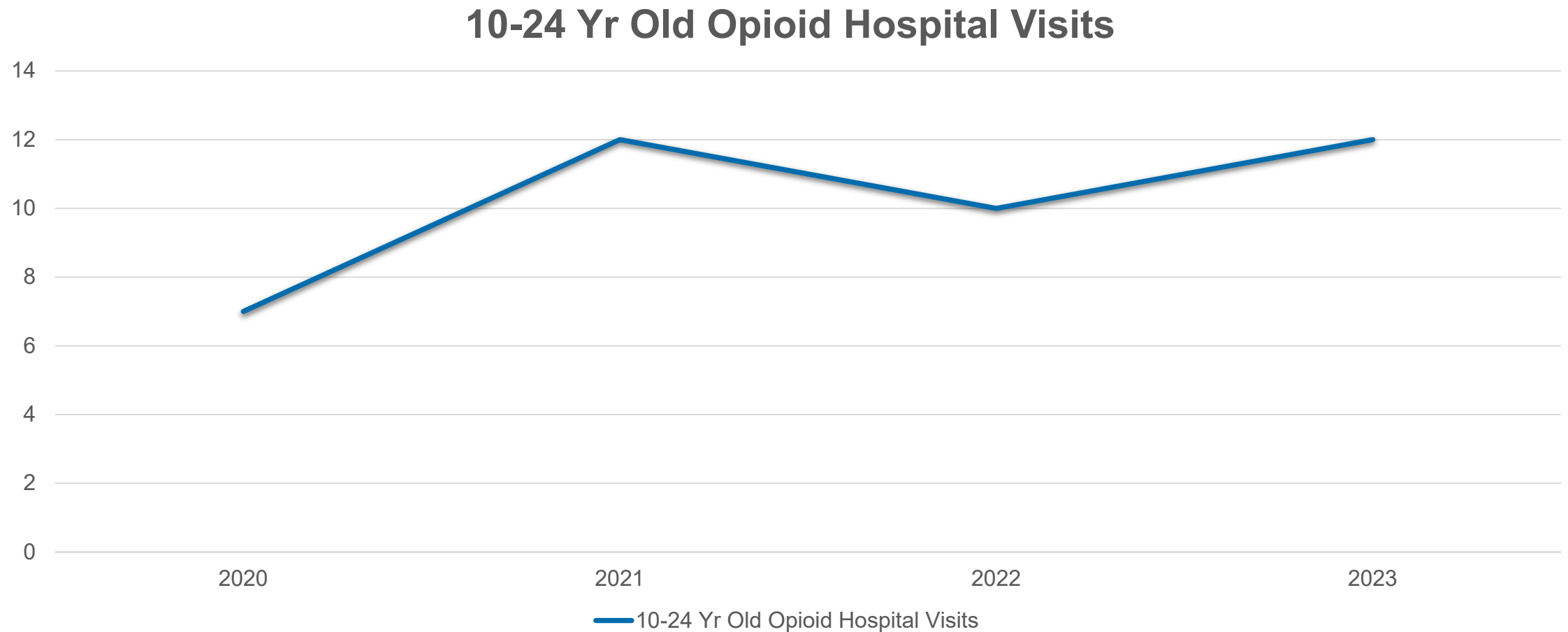
Race

- Non-Hispanic Black and American Indian or Alaska Native residents had the highest rates of opioid overdose deaths in 2023 (81.35 and 78.85 per 100,000 total population). However, overall opioid overdose fatalities are higher among White residents.

Gender

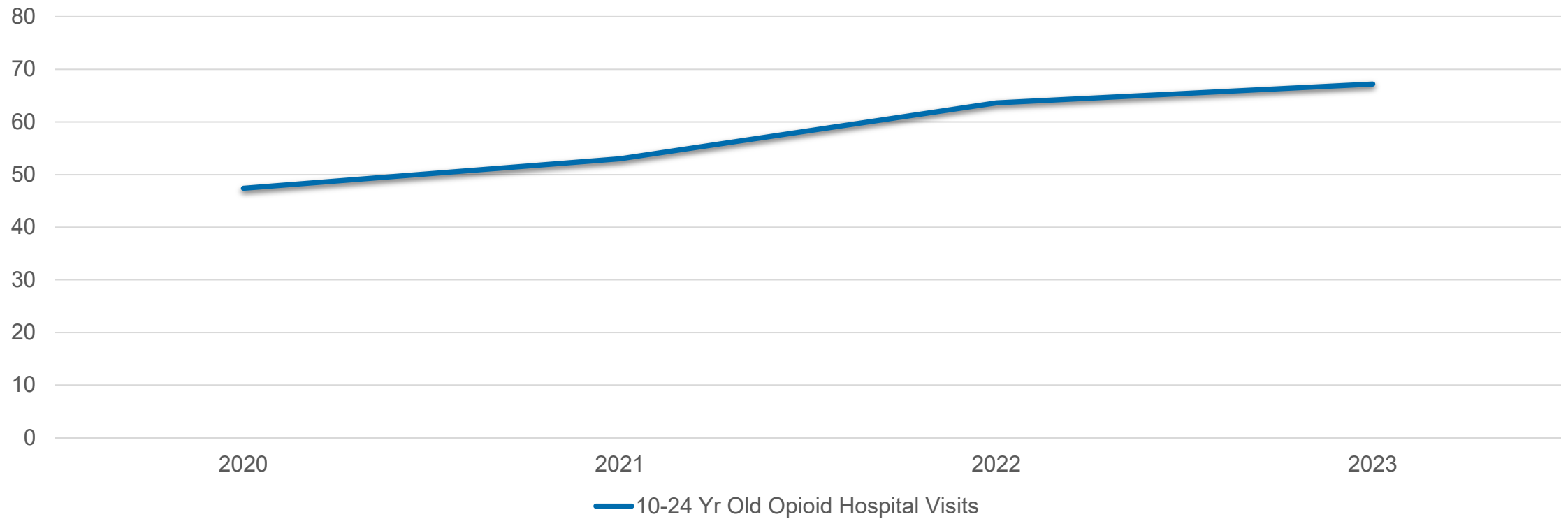
- Opioid overdose fatalities are more common among men than women (49.38 compared with 16.61 per 100,000 total population in 2023).

Opioid Hospital Visit Rates in Youth 10-24



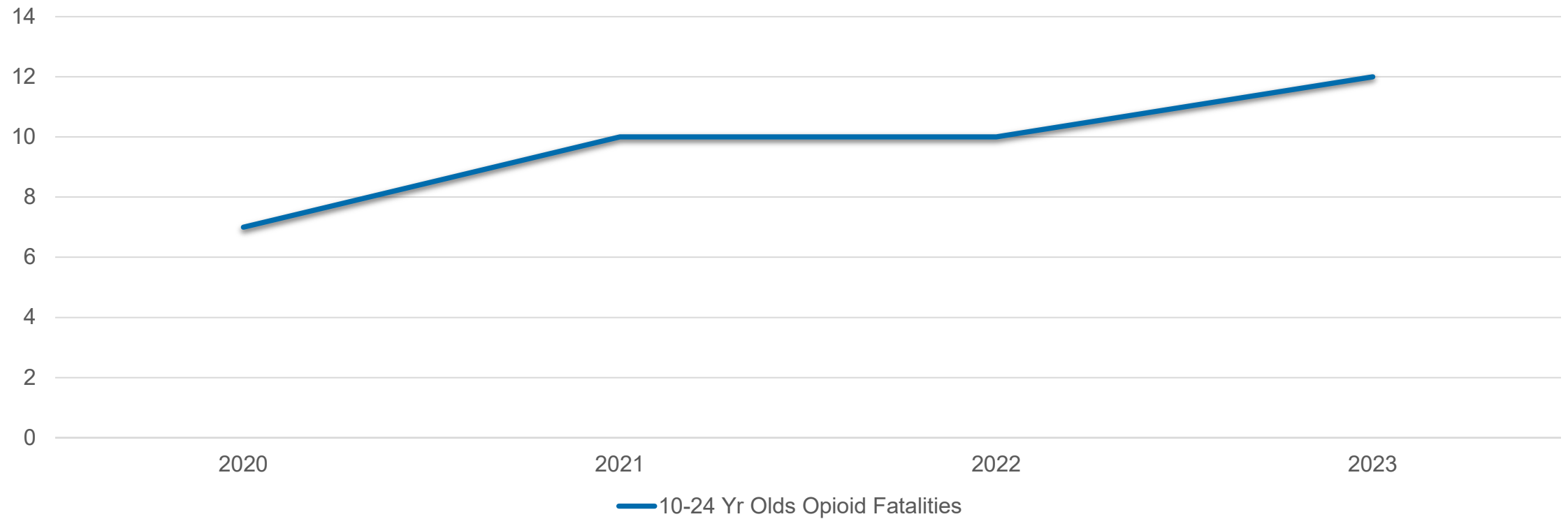
Opioid Emergency Department Visit Rates in Youth 10-24

10-24 Yr Old Opioid Emergency Department Visits



Opioid Overdose Fatality Rates in Youth 10-24

10-24 Yr Olds Opioid Fatalities



Perspectives from Oregon Students

Most Oregon students reported not using opioid drugs.

Only 1% or fewer reported using prescription opioids without a doctor's order or differently than a doctor prescribed.

Most students reported understanding the dangers of opioids.

Most students reported being disinterested in using opioids.

A majority of students reported recognizing the risks of harm from taking prescription drugs that are not prescribed to them.



Share Your Thoughts

Does this data on opioid impacts in Oregon surprise you? What surprises you the most?

Answer the poll questions and please share your thoughts in the chat.



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Oregon's Response to the Crisis

The Key Education Agency Responses in Oregon's Senate Bill 238 and House Bill 5204

Oregon Senate Bill 238 & House Bill 5204

Oregon Senate Bill 238

- Updated Division 22 standards
- School drug and alcohol prevention programs must reflect the dangers posed by opioids, synthetic opioids, and counterfeit drugs
- Districts and public charter schools must implement ODE Synthetic Opioid Prevention lessons in grades 6, 7, 8, and once in high school (starting 2024-25)

House Bill 5204

- Appropriated funds to ODE to create new curriculum supplements on the dangers of synthetic opioids (in development)

2023

2024

What requirements for schools are outlined in Division 22?

Requirements for the 24-25 School Year

Division 22 and OAR 581-022-2045 requires that districts develop Comprehensive Substance Use Prevention and Intervention Plans that include:

- K-12 instruction, including annual instruction in grades 9-12, that:
 - Aligns with 2023 Health Standards
 - **Utilizes Annually Required Opioid Prevention Lessons**
- Policies and procedures related to substance use, including intervention and referral, and procedures for drug-related medical emergencies
- Public information program for students, parents and district staff
- Staff development related to drug and alcohol use prevention
- Annual review and approval by the district's school board



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Guest Q&A Alanna Russell, ODE



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Audience Questions

Virtual Learning Opportunity Sessions Summary

| Session | Topic |
|---------|---|
| 2 | What Can You Do? School-based Opioid Overdose Prevention Discussion |
| 3 | What's Happening Now in Oregon? Current Landscape of Prevention and Treatment Resources |
| 4 | Implementing K–12 Lesson Plans |

Register for other sessions in the Virtual Learning Series



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Thank you and please complete our follow-up survey



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