Opioid-Related Overdose Deaths

In 2016, there were 180 opioid-related overdose deaths in Mississippi—a rate of 6.2 deaths per 100,000 persons—compared to the national rate of 13.3 deaths per 100,000. Between 2013 and 2016, the number of deaths from heroin overdose increased from 10 to 33 deaths; deaths from synthetic opioid overdose increased from 24 to 45 deaths; and deaths from prescription opioid overdose increased from 66 to 103 deaths.

Opioid Pain Reliever Prescriptions

In 2015, Mississippi providers wrote 107.5 opioid prescriptions per 100 persons (3.2 million prescriptions). In the same year, the average U.S. rate was 70 opioid prescriptions per 100 persons (IMS Health, 2016).

Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS)

A CDC study showed the incidence of NAS in Mississippi remained unchanged over a two-year period (the only period for which data exists). In 2010 and 2011 the rate of NAS in Mississippi was 1.2 and 1.3 cases per 1,000 births, respectively. The same analysis resulted in a 2013 national average across 28 states of 6.0 cases per 1,000 births (CDC, MMWR, 2014). A second analysis over the same 2-year period (2010–2011) by the Mississippi State Department of Health found there were 151 NAS-related discharges among infants, and 142 of them occurred during the neonatal period, yielding a rate of 2.7 NAS-related hospitalizations per 1,000 neonatal stays (The MS State Dept. of Health).
**HIV Prevalence and HIV Diagnoses Attributed to Injection Drug Use (IDU)**

**U.S. Incidence:** In 2015, 9.1 percent (3,594\(^1\)) of the 39,513 new diagnoses of HIV in the United States were attributed to IDU. Among new cases, 8.2 percent (2,614\(^1\)) of cases among men and 13.2 percent (980) of cases among women were transmitted via IDU (CDC).

**U.S. Prevalence:** In 2014, 955,081 Americans were living with a diagnosed HIV infection—a rate of 299.5 per 100,000 persons. Of these, 18.1 percent (131,056\(^1\)) of males and 22.6 percent (52,013) of females were living with HIV attributed to IDU (CDC).

**State Incidence:** Of the new HIV cases in 2015, 509 occurred in Mississippi, with 3.2 percent\(^1\) of new cases in males and 6.0 percent of new cases in females attributed to IDU (AIDSVu).

**State Prevalence:** In 2014, an estimated 8,983 persons were living with a diagnosed HIV infection in Mississippi—a rate of 364 infections per 100,000 persons. Of these, 13.0 percent\(^1\) of males and 14.8 percent of females were living with HIV attributed to IDU (AIDSVu).

**Hepatitis C (HCV) Prevalence and HCV Diagnoses Attributed to Injection Drug Use**

**U.S. Incidence:** In 2015, there were 181,871 reported cases of chronic HCV and 33,900 estimated cases of acute HCV\(^2\) (CDC). Where data were available, 64.2 percent of acute cases reported IDU (CDC).

**U.S. Prevalence:** An estimated 3.5 million Americans are living with HCV, including approximately 2.7 million living with chronic infections (CDC).

**State Incidence:** Current state incidence data are not available. Between December 2011 and August 2013, the Mississippi State Department of Health identified 499 unique cases of HCV (MS.gov).

**State Prevalence:** Current state prevalence data are not available. As of 2010, an estimated 35,200 persons (1,590 case per 100,000 persons) were living with HCV in Mississippi (HepVu).

**Additional Resources**

- Mississippi State Department of Health, Preventing Prescription Drug Abuse
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Opioid Overdose
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Behavioral Health Barometer Mississippi, Volume 4 (2017)

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\(^1\) Includes transmission to individuals with injection drug use as a risk factor.

\(^2\) 2015 estimate after adjusting for under-ascertainment and under-reporting. Data for 2015 were unavailable for Alaska, Arizona, Connecticut, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Iowa, Mississippi, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Wyoming.