

Nevada Drug Overdose Surveillance

February 2026: *Washoe County*



Purpose: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Overdose Data to Action (OD2A) is a program that supports state, territorial, county, and city health departments in obtaining more comprehensive data to enhance overdose surveillance, reporting, and dissemination efforts to better inform prevention, early intervention, treatment, harm reduction, and other entities. This monthly report contains information on overdose within **Washoe County** primarily utilizing emergency department (ED) visit data from the National Syndromic Surveillance Program for the month of **January 2026**.

Actions to Help Support Overdose Prevention and Response: Emergency departments serve as an important connection point with people and their loved ones regarding fatal and non-fatal overdose prevention. With consideration of the data outlined in this report, community partners, including emergency departments, healthcare systems, and emergency medical services may consider potential steps to further support people experiencing an overdose:

- Explore ways to include educational information as part of standard discharge paperwork for people who experience an overdose, which can include helping them identify [behavioral health treatment](#), providing [resources](#), or other relevant information.
- Expand Naloxone distribution at emergency departments and by EMS (Leave Behind Naloxone) to those who had an overdose and their family and friends.
- Provide peer support to patients and their loved ones through recovery coaching in the emergency department to ensure they are provided with wraparound services following their medical emergency.
- Provide training opportunities for emergency department staff, EMS, and other emergency responders on how to discuss overdose prevention and response with patients who may be at risk for overdose.

Report Highlights:

- Suspected drug-related overdose ED visit rates have **remained stable** from December 2025 to January 2026 in Washoe County.
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Nevada Drug Overdose Surveillance Monthly Report

I. Syndromic Surveillance Data

Figure 1. Suspected drug overdoses from Syndromic Surveillance in Washoe County, past 12 months

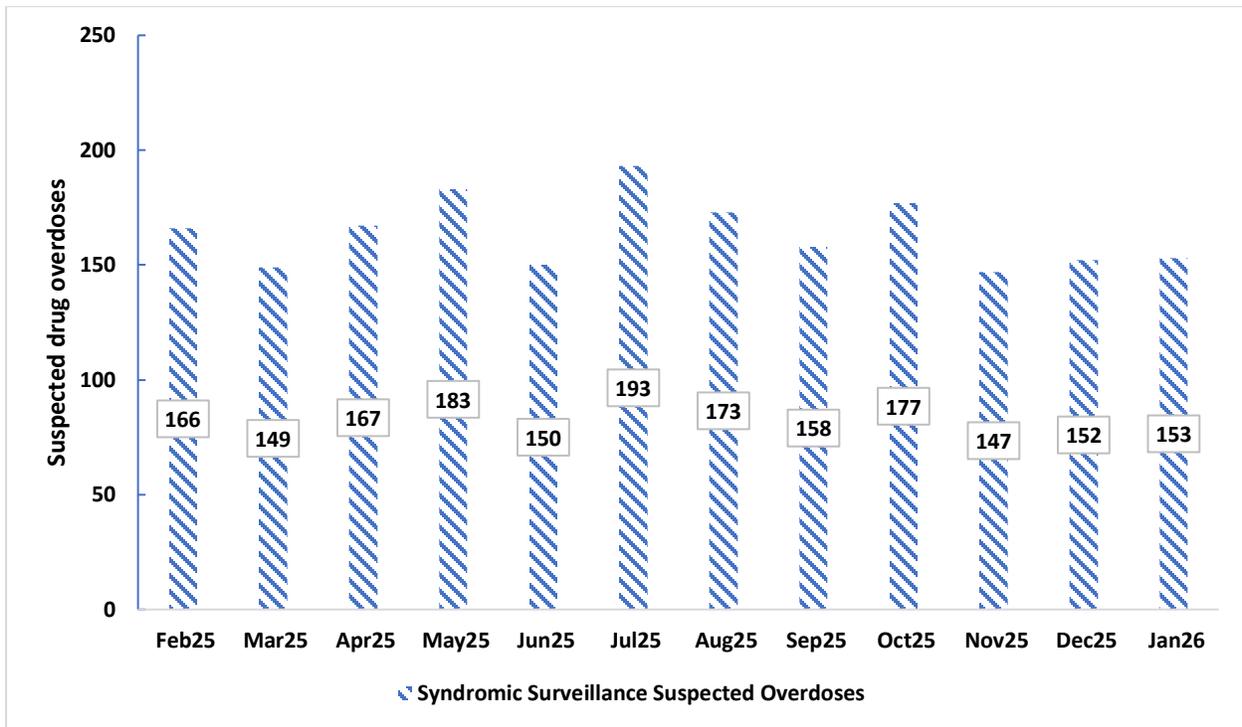
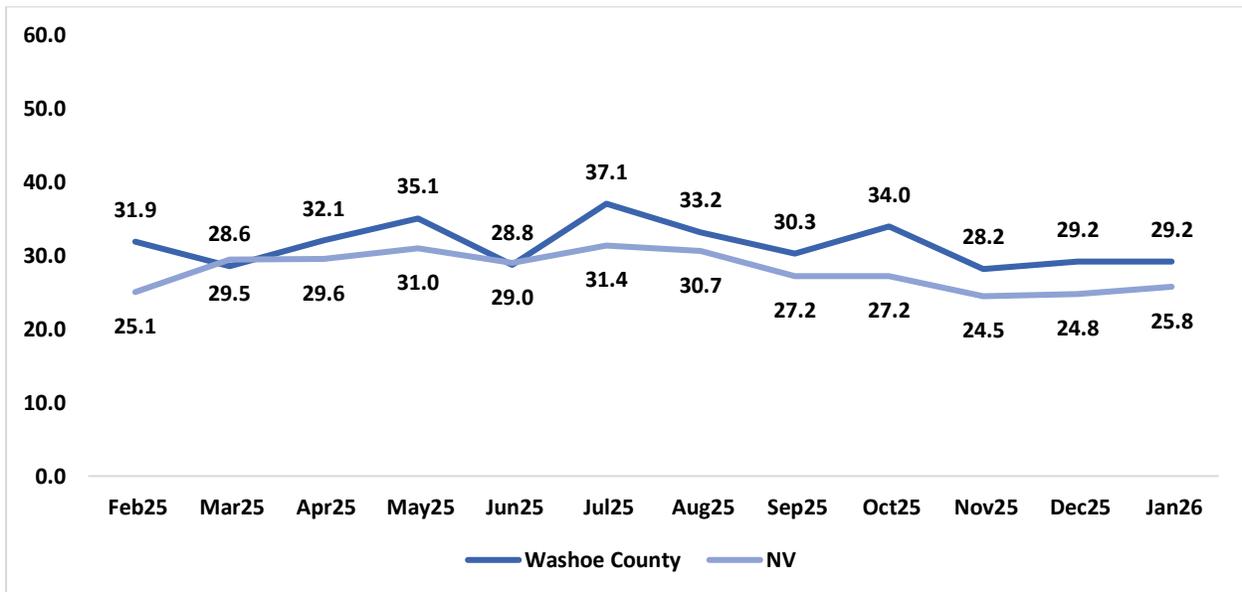
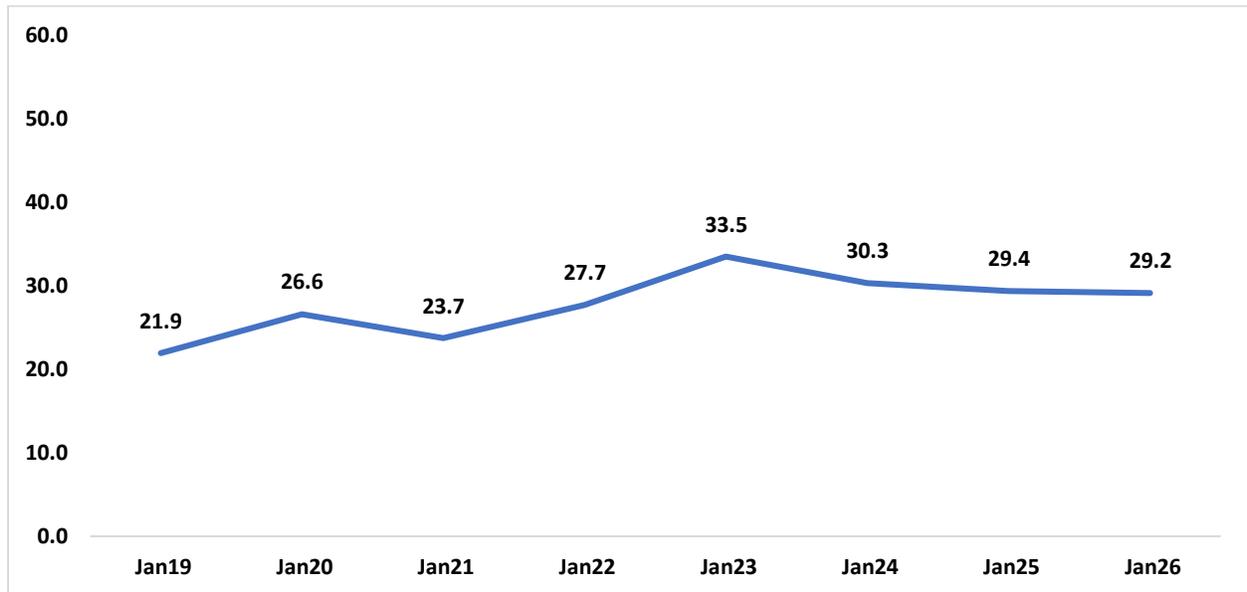


Figure 2. Monthly rates of suspected drug-related overdose ED visits in Washoe County vs NV, past 12 months (per 100,000 population)



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Figure 3. Monthly rates of suspected drug-related overdose ED visits in Washoe County, 2019-2026 (per 100,000 population)



Nevada Drug Overdose Surveillance Monthly Report

II. Technical Notes

Data Sources: National Syndromic Surveillance Program is a near real-time method of categorizing visits to the ED across Nevada based on a patient's chief complaint and/or discharge diagnosis.

Case definitions: For National Syndromic Surveillance Program, case definitions and queries for suspected all drug overdose ED visits are created and provided by CDC and include chief complaint keywords and ICD-10-CM discharge diagnosis codes

Limitations: Statewide, the National Syndromic Surveillance Program is estimated to capture visits from approximately 90-95% of Nevada emergency department facilities, and thus may underestimate the occurrence of overdoses across the state. Since not everyone who overdoses is able to make it to the ED, this report may underestimate the total overdose burden in the state.