



EMPOWER HENRICO

Preventing, Treating and
Combating Substance Use

**July 2026 Overdose Response Strategy (ORS)
Trends, Analysis & Threats (TAT) Webinar Summary**

**Empower Task Force Meeting
July 16, 2026**

ABOUT THE OVERDOSE RESPONSE STRATEGY (ORS)*

The ORS is a nationally coordinated, cross-sector collaboration between public health and public safety. The mission of the ORS is to help communities reduce fatal and non-fatal drug overdoses by connecting public health and public safety agencies, sharing information and supporting evidence-based interventions.

ORS Program Goals:

1. Share data systems to inform rapid and effective community overdose prevention efforts
2. Support immediate, evidence-based response efforts that can directly reduce overdose deaths
3. Design and use promising strategies at the intersection of public health and public safety
4. Support the implementation of evidence-informed prevention strategies that can reduce substance use and overdose

**ORS acknowledges that all data is shared voluntarily by data owners in advance of public release and can be preliminary and incomplete. ORS does not own or manage any of the data presented.*

July 2026 ORS-TAT Presenters

Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Special Testing Laboratory

Dr. Agnes Winokur | Laboratory Director

DEA Drug Trends, Analysis & Threats

Dr. Winokur presented the DEA's latest findings on the illicit drug supply and novel substances. The presentation provided insights from a regional perspective from across the US.

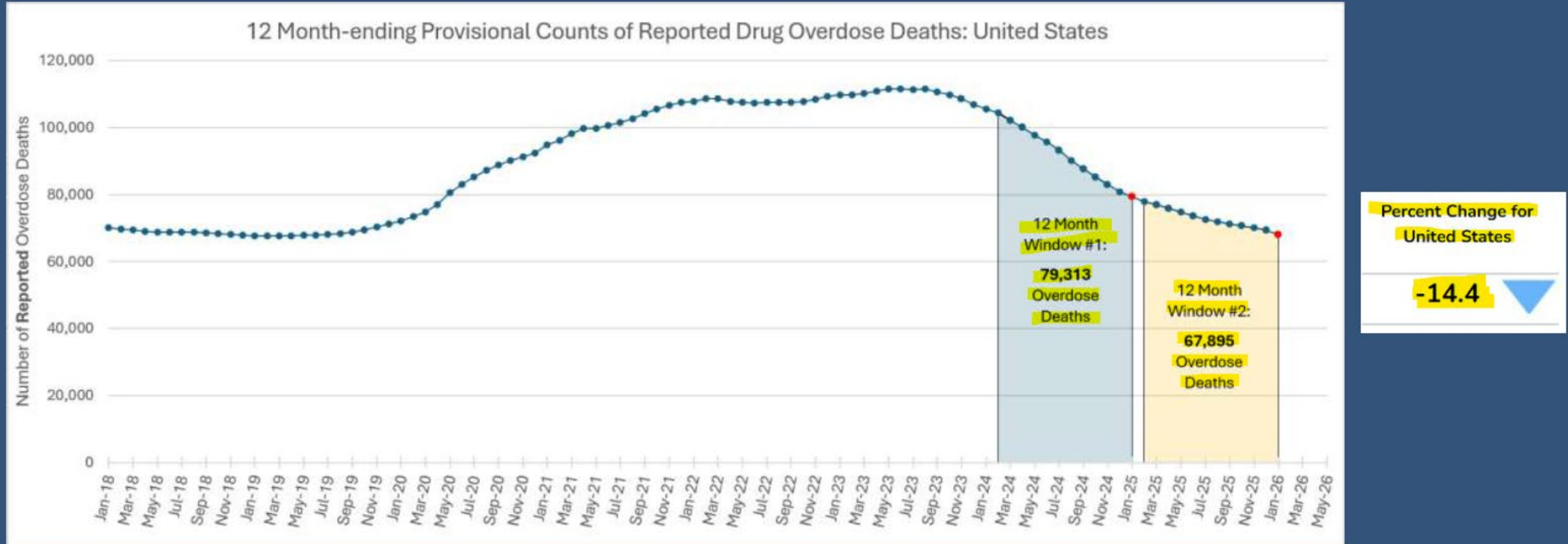
Overdose Response Strategy (ORS) / National HIDTA Assistance Center (NHAC)

Emma Kempton | Senior Policy Analyst

Drug Trends to Action

Emma Kempton presented findings gathered from TAT participants and highlighted examples of how drug trends and threats shared through this series are being translated into action. Attendees will gain practical examples of cross-sector efforts that have directly impacted overdose prevention and response.

National Picture - Overdose Mortality



Based on data available for analysis on: June 7th, 2026

National Center for Health Statistics, Provisional Drug Overdose Death Counts

Nationally, as of June 2026, reported overdose deaths have declined about 14% for the 12-month period ending January 2026, representing a continuation of the downward trend from the 2023 peak. However, regional variation persists, with some Western states trending upward despite the national decline.

The DEA Overdose Surveillance Exchange (DOSE) is a new initiative to detect emerging substances linked to overdose cases by partnering with medical examiners and coroner offices.

DOSE – DEA Overdose Surveillance Exchange



Rapid, high-quality chemical analysis

Fully characterize the chemical makeup of illicit drug samples involved in drug overdoses.

Identify unknown substances

48-hour turnaround time

Detailed reporting to facilitate the use of the information for targeting substances in toxicology testing.

Early Alerts

Scientific Information with the participating offices and communities

Collaboration and data sharing

Sharing with participating jurisdictions to provide a more comprehensive picture of the illicit drug landscape contributing to drug poisonings in their communities



Source: DEA

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DOSE Next Steps

Near Term:

- Strengthen partnerships with CDC (DOSE-SYS), NIST (RADAR), NPS Discovery, and HIDTA (ODMAP).
- Expand DOSE response beyond local area through partnerships with law enforcement, medical examiners, poison control centers, toxicology labs, etc.
- Continue to disseminate Emerging Drug Alerts of new substances identified through DOSE.
- Build a webpage and public dashboard to track DOSE responses, case information and analytical results.
- Establish DOSE Mobile Response Units.

Future Outlook:

- Extend DOSE to DEA field laboratories.

Contact DOSE



DOSE@dea.gov

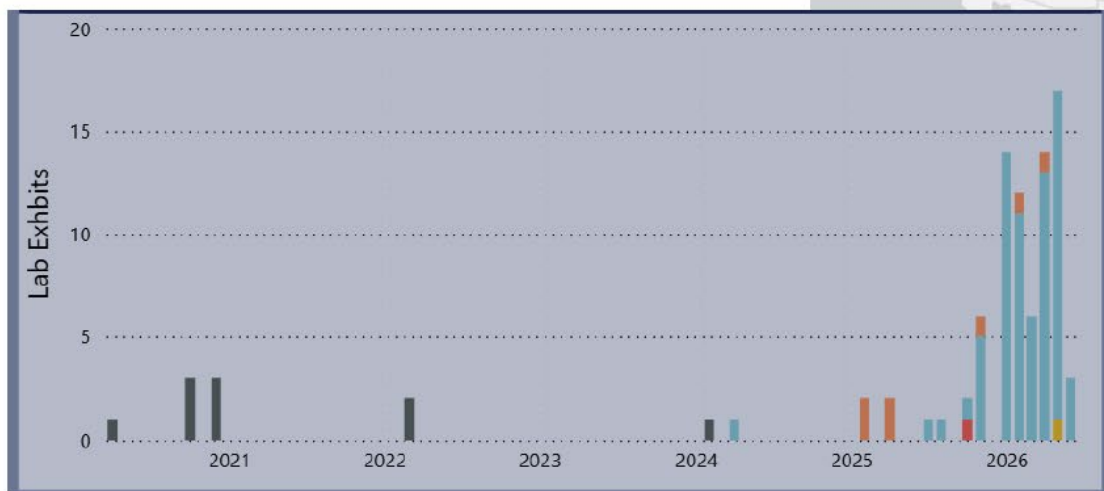
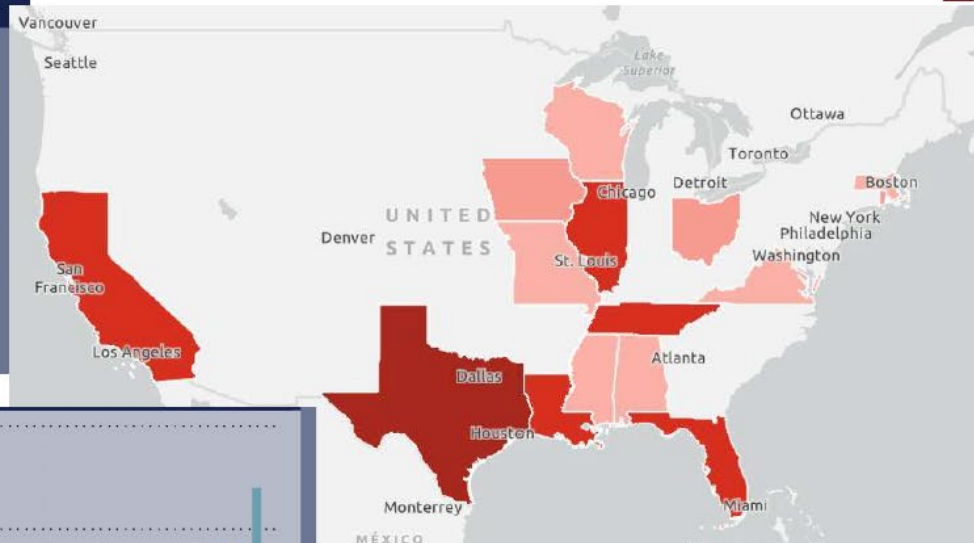
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DEA – Orphines from Jan 1 – June 30, 2026)



Exhibits Containing "Orphine" by Form

Common Name	Other	Powder	Tablet	Total
⊕ 5,6-Dichloro Brorphine		1		1
⊕ 5-Chloro desmethyl chlorphine		1		1
⊕ Brorphine	1	7	2	10
⊕ Cychlorphine	1	12	59	72
⊕ Spirochlorphine		6	1	7
	2	25	62	89



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Orphine detections are accelerating, led by cychlorphine. DEA laboratory data identified 89 orphine exhibits from January-June 2026, with cychlorphine appearing in 63 exhibits. Cychlorphine in tablet form was the top trending substance in the South Central region over the past 90 days. It is also making an appearance in VA samples but not to the same extent as other states.

DEA: SOUTH REGION (JAN 1-JUN 30, 2026)

DEA - South Region (Fentanyl from Jan 1 – June 30, 2026)

- South
- Alabama
- Arkansas
- Delaware
- District of Columbia
- Florida
- Georgia
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maryland
- Mississippi
- North Carolina
- Oklahoma
- Puerto Rico
- South Carolina
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Virginia
- West Virginia



DEA - South Region (Cocaine from Jan 1 – June 30, 2026)

- South
- Alabama
- Arkansas
- Delaware
- District of Columbia
- Florida
- Georgia
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maryland
- Mississippi
- North Carolina
- Oklahoma
- Puerto Rico
- South Carolina
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Virginia
- West Virginia



DEA - South Region (Methamphetamine from Jan 1 – June 30, 2026)

- South
- Alabama
- Arkansas
- Delaware
- District of Columbia
- Florida
- Georgia
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maryland
- Mississippi
- North Carolina
- Oklahoma
- Puerto Rico
- South Carolina
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Virginia
- West Virginia



ORS-TAT Webinar Participant Questionnaire Results

- Most attendees report learning new & relevant information but there is a gap translating that info into action; 95% of regular attendees learned new information, but only 60% translated that information into a new or improved action/plan in their work.
- Every sector had a way of putting that information to work. Examples: updating overdose response protocols for law enforcement/first responders, updating public health surveillance queries, updating prevention messaging to match current risks, tailoring withdrawal management & treatment approaches for clinicians, and policymakers allocating/reallocating resources to address new & emerging trends.
- Multi-sector partnerships are most impactful. Cross-sector teams can review multiple sources of data to validate/verify a trend learned at these webinars, collaborate with relevant personnel, create or revise an action plan or build a plan to monitor trends and prepare a coordinated response.
- **Three considerations for attendees:**
 1. Remember that no single data trend occurs in isolation,
 2. No single source of data tells the whole picture,
 3. And all attendees have an opportunity to act on this information depending on the sector they represent and the needs of each community.
- **Call to action: Email ors-tat@nhac.org with examples of how the TAT webinars, or drug trends in general, translate into action in your work.**

Examples by Sector

First Responders – Updates to dispatch and response protocols

Law Enforcement – Roll call updates, training on emerging trends, and impact on calls for service

Public Health – Perform new search queries of available data, notify relevant stakeholders

Prevention – Tailor prevention messaging or update prevention curricula

Treatment / Clinical – Update MOUD dosage, withdrawal protocols, patient and provider education

Policy / Decisional – Allocate or re-allocate resources to accommodate shifting drug supply patterns

DEA TEMPORARY SCHEDULING OF 7-OH & RELATED SUBSTANCES

- On July 1st, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration filed its Notice of Intent (NOI) to temporarily place 7-hydroxymitragynine (7-OH) and three related substances into Schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act (CSA) because these substances have no accepted medical use and have a high potential for abuse.
- One NOI addresses 7-OH above a specified threshold, the second NOI addresses moving 7-hydroxymitragynine-related substances (mitragynine pseudoindoxyl, MGM-15, and MGM-16) into Schedule 1 of the Controlled Substances Act.
- Once the temporary scheduling orders take effect, the manufacture, distribution, sale, and possession of covered 7-OH substances will become subject to criminal, civil, and administrative provisions of the Controlled Substances Act.

QUESTIONS?

**Link to register for future
ORS TAT Webinars:**
[ORS TAT Webinar Series Registration Link](#)

APPENDIX



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Slides_July2026



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Summary_July2026