



## Opioid - Key Statistics

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### SOCIAL SERVICES

- 1) From 2018 to 2021, Dakota County's cost share for chemical dependency totaled \$2,227,331.<sup>1 2</sup>
- 2) From July 1, 2016 through April 14, 2020, 353 referrals were made to Dakota County Child Protection for chemical use during pregnancy. Opioids, as a group, represent the third highest drug total among these clients with 37 clients. THC (122 clients) and methamphetamines (88 clients) represent the highest and second highest groups, respectively.<sup>3</sup>
- 3) From Jan 1, 2018 – June 29, 2022, there were 310 children placed in foster care in Dakota County due to parental drug abuse.<sup>4 5</sup>

### TREATMENT

- 4) From 2017 to 2021, there were 841 admissions of Dakota County residents to methadone treatment facilities. This represents 6.0% of the total chemical dependency treatment admissions for Dakota County admissions, compared with 5.3% statewide. Consistently year to year since 2017, with the exception of 2018, Dakota County has had a higher percentage of the total chemical dependency treatment admissions for methadone treatment than the statewide rate.<sup>6</sup>
- 5) Between 2019 and 2021, of the 8255 treatment facility admissions for Dakota County residents, 1493 listed Heroin/Other Opiates as their "Primary Substance of Abuse," accounting for 18.1% of Dakota County residents in treatment facilities and ranks third to Methamphetamine's (1553) and alcohol (3824) as the "Primary Substance of Abuse."<sup>7 8</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Schug, Emily. Dakota County Social Services.

<sup>2</sup> Due to a variety of factors that significantly impacted costs from 2018-2021 (changes to county cost share, pandemic rules related to MA-eligibility, pay-backs and refunds, etc.) there is no ability to use these numbers to illustrate multi-year trends.

<sup>3</sup> Schillman, Janell. Dakota County Social Services. June 21, 2022.

<sup>4</sup> Sue Cleaveland, Dakota County Social Services. June 29, 2022.

<sup>5</sup> A child was included in this data set if one of the primary removal conditions for that child was parental drug abuse.

<sup>6</sup> DAANES Admission Summary Report – 2017. Page 1.

DAANES Admission Summary Report – 2018. Page 1.

DAANES Admission Summary Report – 2019. Page 1.

DAANES Admission Summary Report – 2020. Page 1.

DAANES Admission Summary Report – 2021. Page 1.

<sup>7</sup> DAANES Admission Summary Report – 2019. Page 2.

DAANES Admission Summary Report – 2020. Page 2.

DAANES Admission Summary Report – 2021. Page 2.

Due to a change in data collection formatting, we were unable to include a comparison that included 2017-2018 data.

<sup>8</sup> Due to a change in reporting formatting, we are only able to combine 2019-2021.

## PUBLIC HEALTH

- 6) From 2017 to 2021, there were 25,392 births in Dakota County (average of 5,078 annually). For that same period, 49 births had the mom and/or infant test positive for opioids, including methadone.<sup>9 10</sup>
- 7) From 2018 to 2021, 38 Public Health clients were identified with a risk factor of "Drug Use" upon admission to Dakota County's family home visiting program.<sup>11</sup>
- 8) From 2018 to 2021, there were 639 screenings (CAGE-AID) for substance use done for primary caregivers in Dakota County's family home visiting program. 35 screens were positive, indicating that the client may have a substance use problem. Of these, 13 indicated opioid use.<sup>12</sup> Family health clients who enter with a substance use risk factor or later screen positive are referred for a chemical health assessment.<sup>13</sup>
- 9) Dakota County Social Services and Public Health departments offer a collaborative program, Safe & Healthy Start, to identify and serve women who experience prenatal substance abuse. Public Health Nurses serve as prenatal substance abuse experts for Safe & Healthy Start. From 2018 to 2021, 19 clients were opened to Dakota County's family home visiting program as a result of a Safe & Healthy Start referral.<sup>14</sup>

## COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

- 10) As of June 1, 2022, Dakota County Community Corrections had 1,111 high-risk clients with an active Drug Testing Condition. This represents 70% of current high-risk clients (1,111 out of 1,594).<sup>15 16</sup>

## DAKOTA COUNTY SHERIFF

- 11) From 2018 to 2021, the annual number of inmates placed on watch protocol increased from 316 in 2018 to 503 in 2021, with an average of 391 per year. During that same time period, the number of checks ranged from a low in 2018 of 57,935 to a high of 98,136 in 2021, with a total of 285,660 checks.<sup>17</sup>
- 12) From 2018 to 2021, the Dakota County Sheriff's Office spent 4,118.5 hours on Hospital Guard Duty. Annual hours ranged from a low of 372 in 2020 to a high of 1524 in 2021.<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> Minnesota Department of Health, birth certificate data (2019-2021 data are preliminary)

<sup>10</sup> The toxicology results are entered in a free-text box on the birth certificate file. The person tested is not always identified (mom and/or infant) and the specific drugs(s) are not always noted.

<sup>11</sup> Dakota County Public Health, PH-Doc system.

<sup>12</sup> "Screened Positive" indicates that the client answered "yes" to one or more of the following questions.  
<https://www.sbirtraining.com/node/525>

1. In the last three months, have you felt you should cut down or stop drinking or using drugs?

2. In the last three months, has anyone annoyed you or gotten on your nerves by telling you to cut down or stop drinking or using drugs?

3. In the last three months, have you felt guilty or bad about how much you drink or use drugs?

4. In the last three months, have you been waking up wanting to have an alcoholic drink or use drugs?

<sup>13</sup> Dakota County Public Health Department

<sup>14</sup> IBID.

<sup>15</sup> Mickus, Rachel. Dakota County Community Corrections. June 1, 2022.

<sup>16</sup> The 1,111 high risk clients with an active Drug Testing Condition does not represent all clients testing, but those that could be tested as a court ordered condition. Not all clients with an active Drug Testing Condition are tested for opioids.

<sup>17</sup> Verby, Benjamin. Dakota County Sheriff's Office.

<sup>18</sup> CJN and Dakota County Sheriff's Office.

## PRESCRIPTION DROP-BOXES

- 13) Between 2017 and March 31, 2022, subsidized with Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) funding, Dakota County paid approximately \$12,805 for destruction of prescription and over-the-counter drugs collected in drop-boxes.<sup>19</sup>
- 14) The drug collection program began in 2011 with 3 sites and has expanded over the last several years to 10 sites in 2022.<sup>20</sup>
- 15) From 2017 to 2021, the pharmaceutical program disposal and supply costs for Dakota County estimated \$16,792.36. Since its commencement in 2011, Dakota County has spent over \$69,000 to implement the pharmaceutical program, not including law enforcement time.<sup>21</sup>

## LAW ENFORCEMENT

- 16) From 2017 to 2020, the number of non-marijuana narcotic arrests in Dakota County totaled 2,295, making up 45.2% of all drug related arrests in that time period.<sup>22</sup>
- 17) From 2018 to 2021, the Dakota County Drug Task Force recovered 28,313 illegal prescription pill doses.<sup>23</sup>
- 18) From 2018 to 2021, the Dakota County Drug Task Force recovered 358.68 grams of heroin.<sup>24</sup>
- 19) From 2018 to 2021, the Dakota County Drug Task Force recovered 19,667 illegal counterfeit fentanyl pill doses.<sup>25</sup>
- 20) From 2018 to 2021, the Dakota County Drug Task Force recovered 155.24 grams of pure powder fentanyl.<sup>26</sup>

## DAKOTA COUNTY ATTORNEY

- 21) From 2018 to 2021, the number of heroin cases charged in Dakota County decreased from 55 to 38 cases, totaling 204 cases in that time period.<sup>27</sup> It peaked at 64 cases in 2020.<sup>28</sup>

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<sup>19</sup> Grant, John. Dakota County Drug Task Force.

<sup>20</sup> Otterson, Kristi. Dakota County Environmental Resources.

<sup>21</sup> Otterson, Kristi. Dakota County Environmental Resources.

<sup>22</sup> "Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA), 2020 Uniform Crime Report, "Drug Abuse Arrests by County." (p.57 - "county" link)

"Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA), 2019 Uniform Crime Report, "Drug Abuse Arrests by County." (p.57 - "county" link)

"Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA), 2018 Uniform Crime Report, "Drug Abuse Arrests by County." (p.57 - "county" link)

"Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA), 2017 Uniform Crime Report, "Drug Abuse Arrests by County." (p.58 - "county" link)

<sup>23</sup> Commander Bryan Hermerding. Dakota County Drug Task Force.

<sup>24</sup> Commander Bryan Hermerding. Dakota County Drug Task Force.

<sup>25</sup> Commander Bryan Hermerding. Dakota County Drug Task Force.

<sup>26</sup> Commander Bryan Hermerding. Dakota County Drug Task Force.

<sup>27</sup> 2021 County Attorney Office Highlights. Office of Dakota County Attorney.

2020 County Attorney Office Highlights. Office of Dakota County Attorney.

2019 County Attorney Office Highlights. Office of Dakota County Attorney.

2018 County Attorney Office Highlights. Office of Dakota County Attorney.

<sup>28</sup> 2020 County Attorney Office Highlights. Office of Dakota County Attorney.