



Osage County

Unintentional Poisoning Facts

State Facts:

- From 2007-2012, nearly 3,900 Oklahomans died of an unintentional poisoning (UP).
- More Oklahoma adults age 25-64 die of UP than motor vehicle crashes or suicide.
- Opioid prescription painkillers are the most common drugs involved in UP deaths.
- Oklahoma had the fifth highest poisoning death rate in the U.S.

What is a Poisoning?

A poisoning is the ingestion, inhalation, absorption, or contact with a substance resulting in a toxic effect or bodily harm. An unintentional poisoning occurs when a person does not intend to hurt themselves or someone else. The person may intentionally be exposed to a substance (e.g., a person ingests a medication at higher than prescribed levels) but does not intend to harm themselves.

In the late 1990s the most common cause of overdose deaths became prescription drugs.

Four out of five unintentional poisoning deaths in Oklahoma involve at least one prescription drug.

Number of UP deaths in Osage County by type of substance, 2007-2012

All unintentional poisonings	44
Prescription drugs	34
Prescription painkillers (opioids)	31
Illicit drugs	16
Alcohol	9

Most common substances* in Osage County overdose deaths:

Methadone	Hydrocodone
Oxycodone	Fentanyl
Alprazolam	Diazepam
Methamphetamine	Heroin
Alcohol	Oxymorphone

Injury Prevention Service

(405) 271-3430

<http://poison.health.ok.gov>



Osage County Data (2007-2012)

- Osage County had the 36th highest unintentional poisoning death rate in the state.
- Seven out of ten of these deaths involved a prescription painkiller.
- Males were 50% more likely to die of an unintentional poisoning than females.
- Adults age 25-54 had the highest rate of unintentional poisoning death.
- Adults age 45-54 were more than twice as likely to die of an unintentional poisoning compared to teens and young adults age 15-24.
- Three in ten people who died of an unintentional poisoning had a history of mental health problems.
- More than half of people who died had a history of substance abuse.
- Three out of four deaths occurred at a home or apartment, while two in ten occurred at a hospital.

*Top three substances in bold.

