

**In 2020, Dorchester
County had 89 opioid
overdoses,
15 of which were fatal.**



[To Learn More Visit
DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG](https://www.dorchestergoespurple.org)



Using a prescription drug
not prescribed to you or
differently than
prescribed is misuse.



[To Learn More Visit
DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG](https://www.dorchestergoespurple.org)



About half (50.8%) of people misusing opioids got them from friends or family. Another 37.5% of people misusing opioids got them from health care providers.



[To Learn More Visit
DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG](https://www.dorchestergoespurple.org)



**Talk with your kids
about misusing
prescription pain medicine.
Your voice matters to your
children.**



[To Learn More Visit
DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG](http://DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG)



**Lock up and monitor your
prescription medicine.
Safe storage helps
prevent misuse.**



**To Learn More Visit
DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG**



**Got old or unused
medicine? Take it to a
24-hour drop box at any
law enforcement agency,
no questions asked.**



[To Learn More Visit
DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG](https://www.dorchestergoespurple.org)



**If your child gets pain
medicine after an injury
or dental procedure,
control and monitor the
pills.**



**To Learn More Visit
DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG**



**2,499 Marylanders died
from opioids in 2020.
Deaths from opioids
increased by
18.7% from 2019.**



[To Learn More Visit
DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG](https://www.dorchestergoespurple.org)



Some signs of an opioid overdose include having a hard time breathing, clammy skin, blue lips and fingers, limp body, and vomiting.



To Learn More Visit
DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG



**Anyone can learn how to respond
to an opioid overdose using
naloxone (Narcan), a life-saving
medicine. Call 410-228-3230 for
information on free training.**



**To Learn More Visit
DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG**



**The Good Samaritan Law
protects people who help
with an overdose from
arrest and prosecution of
certain crimes.**



**To Learn More Visit
DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG**



**You can become
dependent on prescription
pain medicine at
recommended doses.**



**To Learn More Visit
DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG**



Some signs of opioid abuse include
pinpoint pupils, slurred speech,
having a hard time breathing,
confusion, nausea, itching or flushed
skin, constipation, and nodding off.



[To Learn More Visit
DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG](https://www.dorchestergoespurple.org)



**Feeling connected to
family, school, and
community protect
young people from risky
behaviors.**



[To Learn More Visit
DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG](https://www.dorchestergoespurple.org)



You don't have to do it alone.

Help is available:

Call 410-228-7714.

After hours and weekends:

Call 1-888-407-8018.



To Learn More Visit
DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG



**9.7 million people aged
12 and older misused
pain relievers in 2019.**



[To Learn More Visit
DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG](https://www.dorchestergoespurple.org)



If your healthcare provider suggests opioids, ask about the risks and if there is a non-addictive alternative.



[To Learn More Visit DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG](https://www.dorchestergoespurple.org)



**Prescription opioids
are in the same class
of drugs as heroin.**



[To Learn More Visit
DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG](https://www.dorchestergoespurple.org)



**For the first time since 2016,
prescription opioid deaths
increased significantly in
Maryland, accounting for 445
fatal overdoses in 2020.**



**To Learn More Visit
[DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG](https://dorchestergoespurple.org)**



Peer Support Specialists have life experience with substance use disorder and offer support to individuals using substances or in recovery. To speak with a Peer: Call DRI-Dock at 410-228-3230.



[To Learn More Visit
DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG](https://www.dorchestergoespurple.org)



**Past misuse of
prescription opioids is
the strongest risk factor
for starting heroin use.**



**To Learn More Visit
DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG**



Fentanyl is a man-made drug that is very deadly and is being mixed with other drugs, like heroin and cocaine.



[To Learn More Visit
DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG](https://www.dorchestergoespurple.org)



Fentanyl is leading the supply of illicit opioids. Fentanyl was involved in a record-breaking 83.9% of all fatal overdoses in Maryland in 2020.



[To Learn More Visit
DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG](https://DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG)



If you are not sure if you can become dependent on a medication, ask your doctor, pharmacist, or healthcare professional.



[To Learn More Visit
DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG](https://www.dorchestergoespurple.org)



**Substance use disorder is
a chronic brain disease,
meaning it is long-lasting
and changes the way the
brain works.**



**To Learn More Visit
DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG**



**You are more likely to
die from an opioid
overdose than a
motor vehicle crash.**



**To Learn More Visit
DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG**



Every day, about 2,600
adults aged 26 or older
misuse a prescription
pain reliever for the
first time.



[To Learn More Visit
DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG](https://www.dorchestergoespurple.org)



**Opioids were involved in
90.1% of all fatal overdoses
in 2020, which is higher than
at any other point during the
opioid crisis in Maryland.**



**To Learn More Visit
[DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG](https://dorchestergoespurple.org)**



**Maryland had 917
cocaine-related deaths in
2020. Cocaine was the
substance most frequently
mixed with opioids.**



[To Learn More Visit
DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG](https://www.dorchestergoespurple.org)



**Substance misuse
does not discriminate
against race, gender,
or economic status.**



[To Learn More Visit
DORCHESTERGOESPURPLE.ORG](https://www.dorchestergoespurple.org)

