

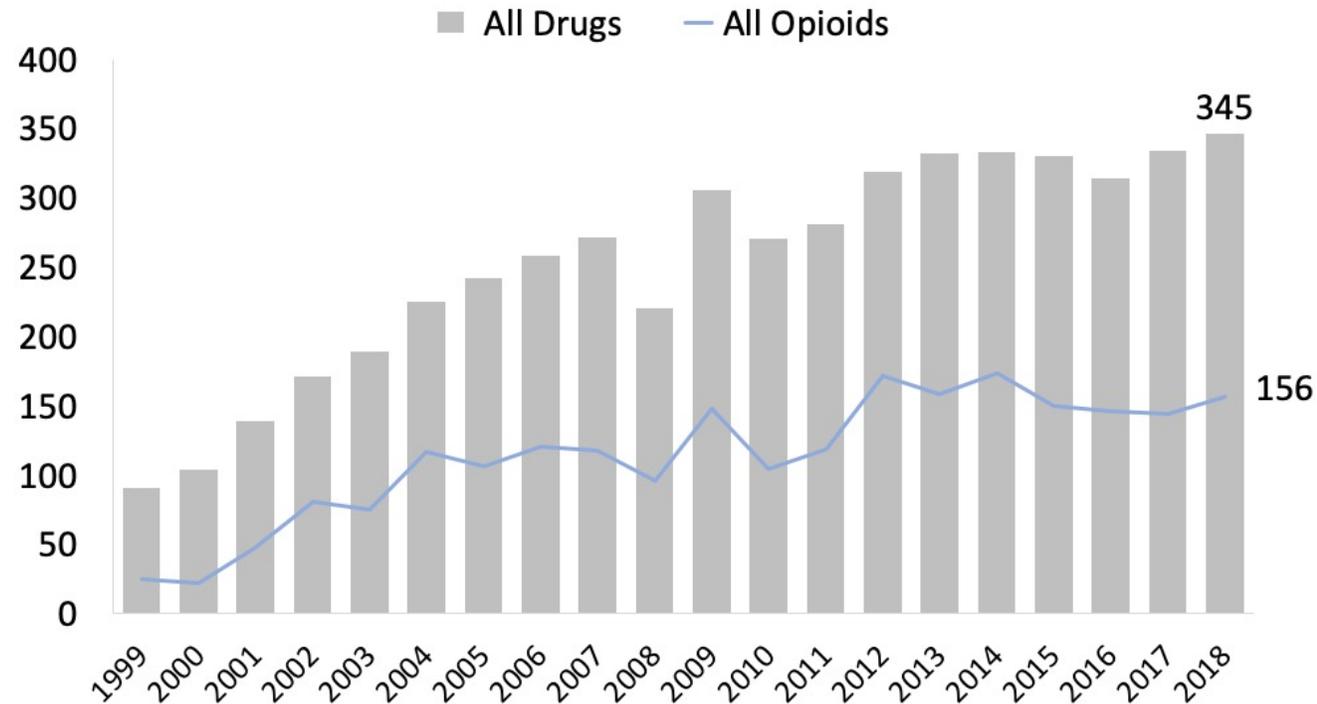
KDADS State Opioid Response & KanCare

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

Commissioner Andrew Brown

OUD impacts in Kansas

- In the U.S., there were 67,367 drug overdose deaths reported in 2018. Opioids were involved in 46,802 (a rate of 14.6) overdose deaths.
- In Kansas, there were 345 drug overdose deaths reported in 2018. Opioids were involved in 156 (a rate of 5.7) overdose deaths.
- In Kansas our percentage of opioid involved overdose deaths is about 45%, while nationally it about 70% of all overdoses.
- Kansas is about 1% of the population of the U.S. and had 0.33% of the opioid involved overdoses in the U.S. in 2018.



of Kansas Drug Overdose Deaths, Source: CDC WONDER, 2020.

State Opioid Response

- In 2015, KDADS began receiving Federal funding from SAMHSA targeted at reducing OUD overdose deaths, through prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery. Additional federal funding with similar intention was provided through the CDC to KDHE using a public health model at about the same time.
- KDADS and KDHE, have worked together to coordinate the use of these funding streams and policy efforts to jointly slow the increase of OUD deaths in Kansas.
- KDADS and KDHE jointly sponsor an annual State Opioid Conference as well as the Kansas Prescription Drug and Opioid Advisory Committee.

Focus Areas of the Kansas Rx and Opioid Advisory Committee and State Response

1	PREVENTION
2	PROVIDER EDUCATION
3	TREATMENT & RECOVERY
4	LAW ENFORCEMENT
5	NEONATAL ABSTINENCE SYNDROME

State Opioid Response and KanCare

- The KanCare Section 1115 Waiver Demonstration Renewal Application, submitted to Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on December 20, 2017 included a SUD IMD exclusion waiver request.
- KDADS developed an implementation and evaluation plan for the exclusion waiver which was approved by CMS in 2019.
- The Substance Use Disorders (SUD) Demonstration Implementation Plan outlines the state's strategy to provide a full continuum of services for SUD treatment to KanCare members.
- The two-year implementation plan should be near completion by July of 2021.
- KDADS and KDHE have been working to address policy changes and state plan amendments needed to facilitate the implementation of the portion of the waiver.
- KDADS and KDHE also recently began a CMS pilot on reporting procedures for SUD metrics and outcomes, that was directly related to the progress on the evaluation plan.

Peer Support Expansion in KanCare

An Aid to Successful Recovery

- In 2020, KDADS expanded Peer Support in KanCare as part of the waiver.
- KDADS added a MCO performance measure requiring a 10% increase in Peer Support utilization as a financial incentive for expansion.
- KDADS increased access to Peer Support provider training and certification to increase the workforce.
- KDADS increased the KanCare provider reimbursement rates for Peer Support by 10%.
- KDADS is currently working to add additional Peer Support categories for certification and specialization.
- KDADS included peer support in the expansion of telehealth under the national Public Health Emergency in 2020.
- KDADS is also considering a State Plan Amendment to allow peer support under the direction of an nurse practitioner in 2021.

Peer Support Role in MAT

- Utilizing Peer Support during MAT provides increased opportunity for successful recovery and reduced risk for readmissions and overdose deaths after a treatment discharge.
- Peer providers in the MAT program are able to build rapid rapport with patients and can serve as an important bridge that connects the patient and the clinical staff.
- Patients trust the peer providers more quickly, and this can enhance the delivery of prompt and accurate services.

Common Tasks for Peer Specialists in a MAT Program

- Meets with patients individually and facilitates groups
- Assists patients with relapse prevention strategies
- Secures detox/inpatient treatment
- Provides community resource information
- Assists with goal setting and tips for sobriety
- Supplies a lived experienced perspective to the MAT team providers and works closely with team members
- Screening on the front end for MAT intakes

MAT Expansion in KanCare

- In 2020, KDADS expanded MAT in KanCare as part of the IMD exclusion waiver.
- KDADS worked with KDHE to draft a policy for the inclusion of Methadone for OUD treatment. Currently Kansas has 9 Methadone Clinics and the MCOs are working on enrolling them in their networks. Prior to 2020, only 1 of them was an enrolled Medicaid provider and they could only bill KanCare for pain management.
- KDHE is currently assisting KDADS with the submission of a State Plan Amendment that will create authority for the expanded MAT policy.
- KDADS is working with KDHE to increase Buprenorphine prescribers, currently Kansas is ranked 46th in access to Buprenorphine among states based on waived providers per capita.
- KDADS is currently working to complete a policy by July that will require MAT services be made available to all OUD patients in a residential treatment program.

Behavioral Health COVID-19 Response

Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) has been working closely with KDHE to respond to COVID-19 in Behavioral Health Services.

KDADS quickly issued guidance to providers that allowed for the expansion of telehealth and verbal consent to facilitate social distancing during treatment service delivery in outpatient settings. KDADS also provided flexibility to providers to provide continuity of essential services allowing for additional infection control measures to be taken in residential treatment facilities.

KDADS worked with KDHE to establish new telehealth policies for KanCare providers and MCOs that helped mitigate some of the negative financial impact on providers and allowed for continuity of essential services during the pandemic.

KDADS has been working at the federal level to advocate for continued flexibility in CMS regulations for the telehealth delivery of behavioral health services in Medicaid and Medicare.

Summary of Implementation Progress

IMD Exclusion Waiver

- KDADS completed the implementation and evaluation plans for the SUD IMD exclusion waiver and began reporting on initial progress to CMS in 2020.
- KDHE & KDADS worked together to add MAT services for OUD to KanCare.
- KDADS included SUD providers in Peer Support expansion efforts.
- KDADS is working with KDHE to explore opportunities for improving integration of SUD screening and services in KanCare.
- KDADS increased access to housing supports for KanCare members with SUD or in recovery.
- KDADS expanded options for SUD treatment through telehealth during the national Public Health Emergency in 2020.

Questions/Discussion



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