

Overdose Hazard Alert

From 2018–2023, 2,507 U.S. workers died from unintentional overdoses involving drugs or alcohol in the workplace¹. In Oregon alone, 16 workers died from workplace incidents involving drugs or alcohol from 2018 to 2024. A variety of factors can lead to overdoses in the workplace, including work- and home-related stressors and a lack of adequate support and resources.

¹ National Safety Council. (n.d.). Overdose Deaths. National Safety Council. <https://injuryfacts.nsc.org/work/safety-topics/overdose-deaths/#:~:text=Workplace%20unintentional%20overdose%20deaths%20involving,demographics%2C%20industries%2C%20and%20occupations>

Please observe the following safety tips:

- Incorporate naloxone as part of the workplace emergency first aid program to help reverse the effects of an opioid overdose. Be sure to properly train employees on how to recognize the signs and symptoms of an overdose, where the naloxone is located within the workplace, the administration of naloxone, and the steps to take during an overdose emergency.
- Educate employees about treatment and recovery resources – both within the workplace, such as Employee Assistance Programs and health insurance benefits, and within the broader community (see resources listed below).
- Educate supervisors and managers on how to recognize and support employees with a substance use disorder, including strategies for empathy, confidentiality, and encouraging professional help.



Safety tips sources: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2024, September 2). Drug Overdose Deaths at Work. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://www.cdc.gov/overdose-resources/files/drug-overdose-deaths-at-work.html>

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Community Treatment and Recovery Resources

Oregon Health Authority:

<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/hsd/amh/pages/addictions.aspx>

Oregon Health & Science University: <https://www.ohsu.edu/portland-alcohol-research-center/treatment-resources-alcohol-and-drug-abuse>

Multnomah County: <https://multco.us/services/addiction-treatment>

For a list of Oregon agencies that provide services for substance use disorder treatment services by county scan the QR code:



Examples of Fatal Stories

Case 1: A 44-year-old restaurant worker was found dead on his hands and knees. He appeared to collapse while working. He died of a fentanyl overdose.

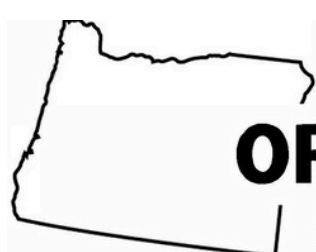
Case 2: A 34-year-old server was found unresponsive in the bathroom. he died of a drug overdose.

Case 3: A 42-year-old maintenance worker was found dead in a storage shed by a coworker. It was determined that he had overdosed on narcotics.

Case 4: A 47-year-old administrator died of a fentanyl overdose while she was at work.



August 31st is International Overdose Awareness Day. Learn more at: <https://www.overdoseday.com/campaign-resources/>



OREGON

State **FACE** Program

Fatality Assessment & Control Evaluation

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