

# OVERDOSE RESPONSE STRATEGY

PUBLIC HEALTH | PUBLIC SAFETY | PARTNERSHIP



## Illinois Public Health and EMS Partners,

First and foremost, thank you for your continued commitment to addressing the overdose crisis in Illinois. We're pleased to share an important update that will improve access to timely suspected overdose data—and open new opportunities for public health and EMS engagement and action.

Starting January 1, 2026, the Illinois Public Health Department will begin submitting statewide suspected overdose data to the Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program (ODMAP). We, the Illinois Overdose Response Strategy (ORS) team, are here to assist local and state organizations with questions and support.

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### What is ODMAP, and why is it important for your community?

ODMAP is a free, web-based, mobile-friendly platform for near real-time reporting and monitoring of suspected fatal and non-fatal overdose events. Developed and managed by the Washington/Baltimore High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (W/B HIDTA), ODMAP works with agencies to collect, visualize, and analyze suspected overdose data within and across jurisdictions. The system enables users to leverage data to drive informed, coordinated, and community-based overdose response strategies.



ODMAP is available to all **local, state, federal, and tribal agencies** that serve the interests of **public safety** and **public health**. As of December 2025, approximately 5,600 agencies across all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico are using the platform. Over 3.3 million overdose events have been entered into ODMAP and 37,875 users registered.

ODMAP helps communities:

- Track and respond to overdose spikes
- Share information across agencies and jurisdictions
- Strengthen local strategies and save lives

Learn more at [ODMAP.org](https://ODMAP.org).

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### What's Changing in Illinois?

On **August 15, 2025**, Governor Pritzker signed **House Bill 3645 (Public Act 104-0321)** into law. Beginning **January 1, 2026**:

- All **EMS personnel statewide** must document suspected opioid overdoses in their **patient care reports (PCRs)** within 24 hours.
- The **Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH)** will then transmit those de-identified reports to **ODMAP**.

What this means for you:

- **For current ODMAP users:** This change reduces manual entry burden and improves data completeness.

- **For public health agencies not yet using ODMAP:** This is an ideal time to explore how ODMAP can strengthen your overdose prevention and response strategies.
- **Spike alerts:** With the influx of EMS data, you may see an increase in reported suspected overdose spikes in the short term. Agencies with custom thresholds may want to review and adjust them as needed.

👉 Resource: [ODMAP Resources – Spike Alert Overview](#)

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## Get Started with ODMAP

Now is a great time for Illinois public health and EMS agencies to start using ODMAP. Access to near-real-time suspected overdose activity in your region supports:

- Targeted community education and outreach
- Resource allocation for harm reduction and treatment
- Public health alerting and emergency preparedness

To sign up for ODMAP, visit: [ODMAP – Request Agency Access at Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program - Request Agency Access](#)

If you are unsure if your agency already has an ODMAP account, you can check here: [ODMAP Participating Agencies](#)

**Important Note:** ODMAP is not intended for the general public or media. It is an **internal situational awareness tool**, designed to help agencies monitor suspected overdose activity in near real-time, enabling timely and coordinated response efforts aimed at reducing overdose fatalities and improving access to life-saving care.

All entries represent **suspected (i.e., unconfirmed) overdose events** based on initial impressions from EMS and other first responders. They may not reflect confirmed cases. ODMAP is not intended to be a system of record and does not replace official overdose data produced by the **Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH)**.

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## Resources and Support

- ODMAP information: [ODMAP.org](#)
- Additional resources: [ODMAP Resource Index](#)  
Illinois opioid data: [IDPH Opioid Data Dashboard](#)
- Questions about implementation, privacy, or technical setup? For technical assistance contact Washington Baltimore HIDTA at [odmap@wb.hidta.org](mailto:odmap@wb.hidta.org) or (301) 489-1744 (Monday-Friday 8:30 AM-4:30 PM EST).
- For additional information on the Overdose Response Strategy and general ODMAP inquiries, please contact the **Illinois Overdose Response Strategy (ORS) Team** at [orsprogram.org](mailto:orsprogram.org).
  - Victor Markowski v.markowski@chicago-hidta.org
  - Kate Drayton kdrayton@cdcfoundation.org

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**Together, we can make Illinois's overdose response more timely, coordinated, and data-informed.**  
Thank you for your ongoing partnership in protecting the health and wellbeing of our communities.

**Sincerely,**

*The Illinois ORS Team*