





## Welcome

**Dr. Fermin Leguen, MD, MPH**District Health Officer





## Congenital Syphilis

**Tabby Eddleman, MPH**Office of Disease Surveillance

Angel Stachnik, MPH
Office of Informatics and Epidemiology

Carissa Orozco, RN, BSN Sexual Health Outreach Prevention Program





## What is Congenital Syphilis?

Congenital syphilis (CS) is a disease that occurs when a mother with syphilis passes the infection on to her baby during pregnancy.

Source: www.cdc.gov/std/syphilis/stdfact-congenital-syphilis.htm





# Babies born to women with untreated syphilis maybe stillborn or die from the infection as a newborn.

For babies born with CS, CS can cause:

Deformed bones

Severe anemia (low blood count)

Enlarged liver and spleen

Jaundice (yellowing of the skin or eyes)

Brain and nerve problems, such as

blindness or deafness

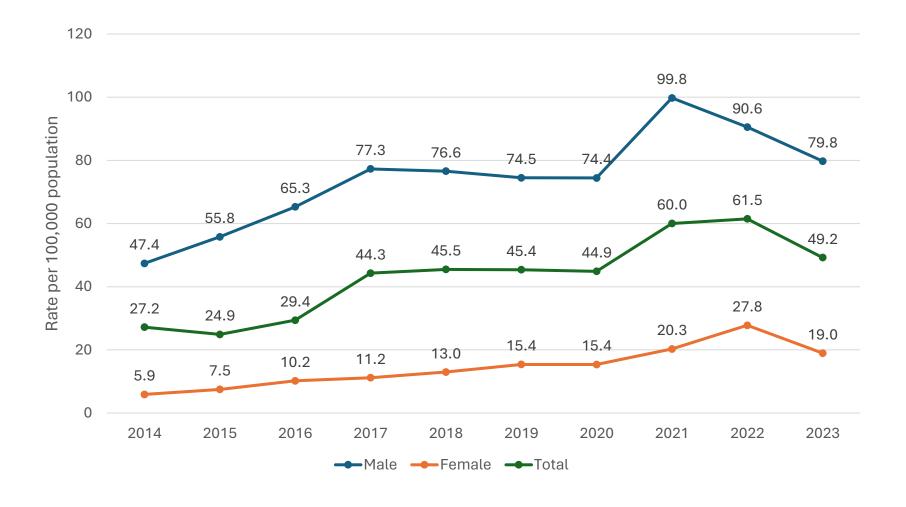
Meningitis

Skin rashes

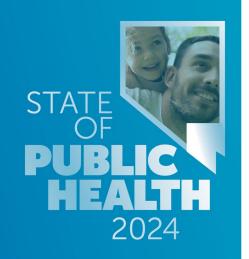




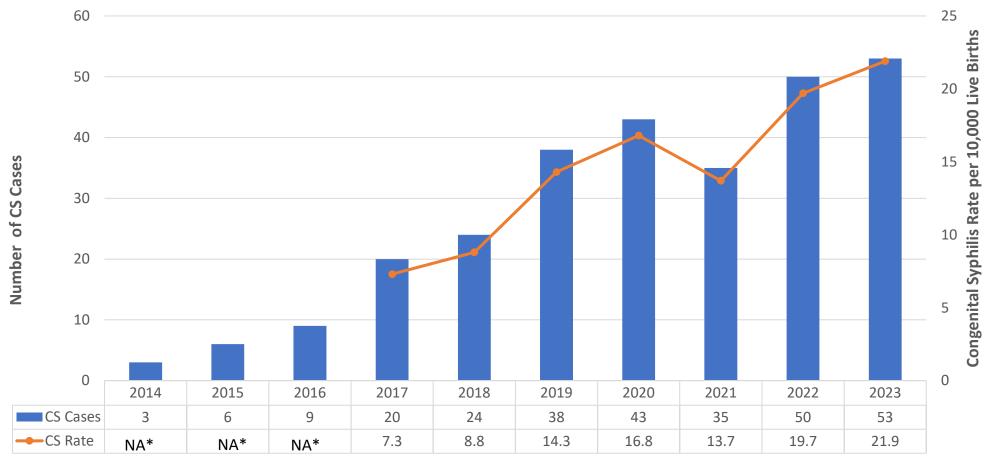
## Infectious Syphilis Rates by Birth Sex, Clark County, NV 2014-2023

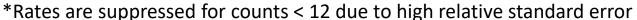






## Congenital Syphilis Cases and Rates, Clark County, NV 2014-2023









## Disease Investigation and Intervention Specialist (DIIS)

- DIIS help stop the spread of disease throughout communities.
- DIIS are used to respond to different infections diseases and not just STDs (Zika, Ebola, Tuberculosis).
- Ensure patients get treatment

- Offer partner services
- Prevention counseling
- Disease comprehension
- Provide referrals to other services (mental health, legal services, substance use treatment, social services)





## **DIIS & Congenital Syphilis Cases**

- DIIS follow all pregnant clients who have been diagnosed with syphilis up to the day of delivery.
- Treatment for patients and their partners.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester testing.
- Follow-up on baby.





# Why is a Congenital Syphilis Case Management Program Needed in Clark County?

• Congenital Syphilis (CS) cases in Clark County increased 1,567% from 2014 to 2022.

#### • During 2022:

- 85% of CS cases were asymptomatic
- 66% of CS cases were drop-in deliveries
- 63% of mothers of CS cases had no prenatal care
- 59% of mothers of CS cases had positive toxicology screening





## **Patient Eligibility**

- Regardless of insurance status.
- Pregnant persons diagnosed with syphilis at any stage.
- Post-partum persons withing six weeks of delivery and diagnosed with syphilis.





## Nurse Case Management Activities

**Participated in Academic Detailing to OB providers** (in partnership with the Office of Disease Surveillance) – AB192 provisions for syphilis testing requirement during pregnancy and at delivery.

#### Case management activities

- Increase access to care (Mom/Baby).
- Provide prevention education to pregnant and postpartum persons.
- Referral to community partners (Trac-B, WIC, etc.).
- Navigate patients to community partners for adequate care and treatment.





## Challenges

- Homeless population is difficult to track and keep engaged in care.
- Limited resources for personnel (intensive case management; average caseload is 25 per nurse for best practice).
- Accessing health care with bus transportation can be harrowing during pregnancy and during summer and winter months.
- General reluctance to engage with the health care system.
- Testing not being performed on all deliveries.





## **Next Steps**

 Implement Home Administered Treatment for Syphilis (HATS) – planning phase.

Goal of HATS is to provide "street medicine" and treat the clients where they are at.





### **Case Review Team**

- The Case Review Team's primary responsibility is to review cases for systems issues.
- The CRT is multidisciplinary.
- The CRT looks at how community resources and services were provided to a woman and family and identifies gaps in services.
- The CRT develops and reports its recommendations to the Community Action team.



DATA GATHERING

Case Identification
Medical Record
Abstraction
Maternal Interview

COMMUNITY ACTION

**Community Action Team** 

CHANGES IN COMMUNITY SYSTEMS





## Missed Opportunities & Possible Solutions

- Access to Health care:
   Clients do not have health insurance and do not have the resources to obtain health insurance.
- Provider Knowledge:

  Missed Opportunities to test for STI's, cost and availability. There is misunderstanding about treatment for syphilis with primary providers.

Individual Knowledge:

 Lack of Awareness about STI's, and low perceived risk for patients.

- Met our clients where they are at. We need more outreach events.
- Academic detailing, Inform providers about SB211. (In an ER or primary care setting, providers can consult with a patient 15 years of age to ascertain if the client would like to get tested for STIs.) SB192 (Testing all pregnant people for certain STIs). Sexual Health Questionnaires/trauma informed care in medical school curriculums or continuing education credits.
- Improve Health literacy on educational resources. Sex education in schools. Leverage social media.





## Common Themes & Possible Solutions

#### Social Factors:

Single mothers, domestic violence from partners, involvement in the justice system, loss of confidence with U.S. health care system, childcare, client show are unhoused and have transportation obstacles.

 Improved communication with social service providers, improved awareness of resources – again leverage social media, meet clients where they are at.

#### Substance Use/ Mental Health:

Improve access.

 Culturally competent substance and mental health services and resources – addressing stigma.

#### Other:

Unplanned pregnancy, contraception and sex work.

 Age-appropriate sex education in schools; occupational health and safety for sex workers.







Matters



## Questions?







# Overdose Burden in Clark County

An in-depth look at drug overdose mortality data

Marco G. Méndez, MPH Epidemiologist

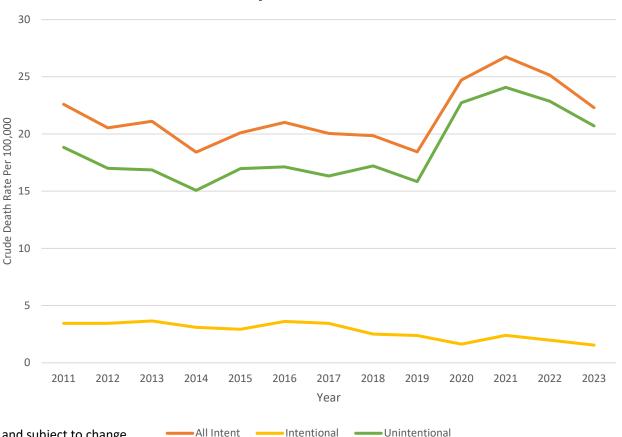




# What We Know: Most fatal drug overdoses are unintentional, including overdoses involving fentanyl.

Drug Overdose Death Rate (All Substances) Per 100,000

Clark County Residents, 2011-2023

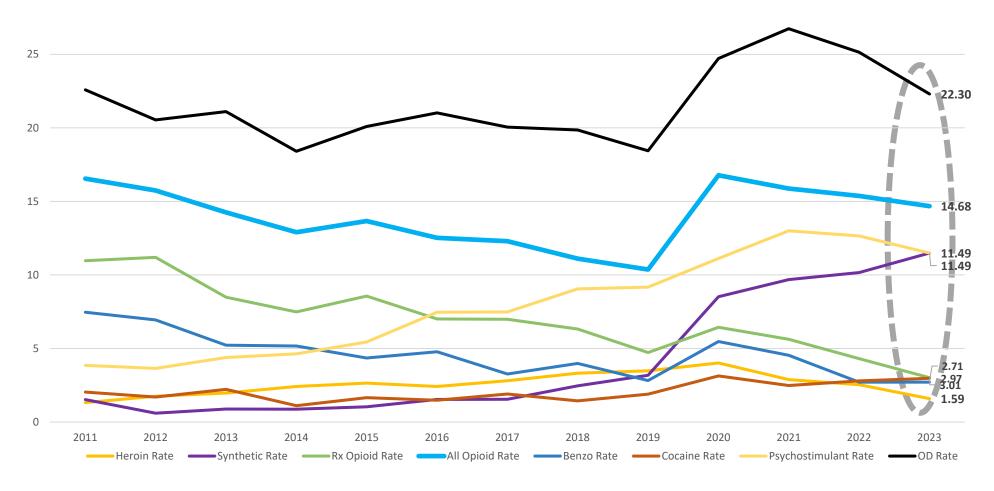


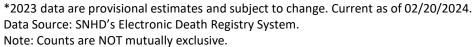




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## Crude Drug Overdose Death Rate Per 100,000 Clark County Residents By Drug Class (2011-2023)



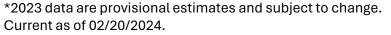






## **Drug Overdose Deaths**

Percent of drug overdose deaths among Clark County residents in 2023:





DRUG	% OF DEATHS
Cocaine	13.3%
Methamphetamine	51.5%
Benzodiazepines	12.2%
Prescription Opioids	13.5%
Heroin	7.1%
Fentanyl	51.5%
All Opioid	65.8%
Xylazine (Tranq)	0%



## **Emerging Issue: Drug Contamination**

Other drugs implicated in fentanyl overdoses (2023):

% OF DRUG IMPLICATED FENTANYL **DEATHS** 11.6% **Benzos** (31/267)46.4% **Psychostimulants** (124/267)Natural/Semi-10.5% **Synthetic Opioids** (28/267)14.6% Cocaine (39/267)4.5% Heroin (12/267)

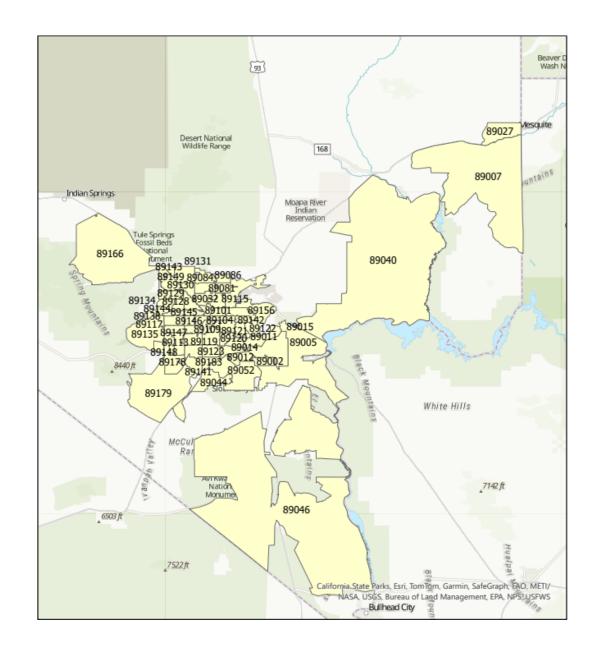


<sup>\*2023</sup> data are provisional estimates and subject to change. Current as of 02/20/2024.









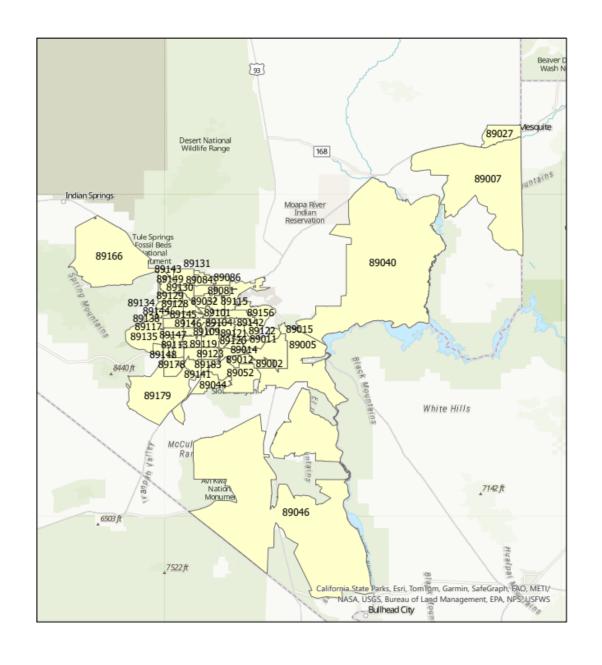
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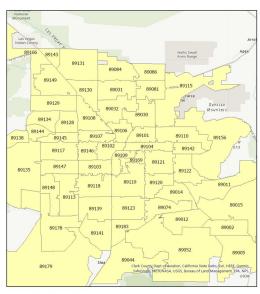


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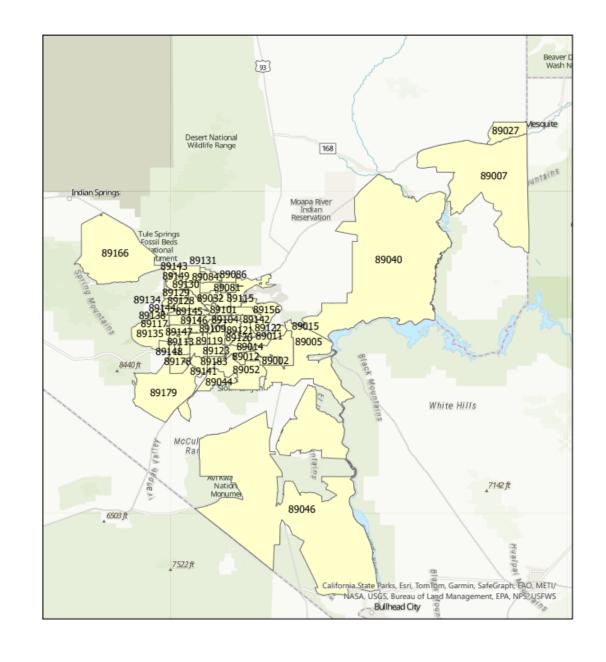






Fentanyl Deaths 2018 (Counts)





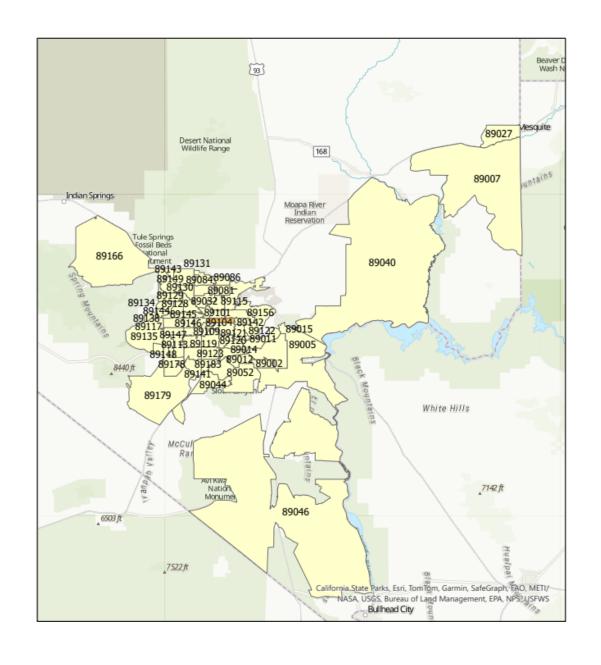
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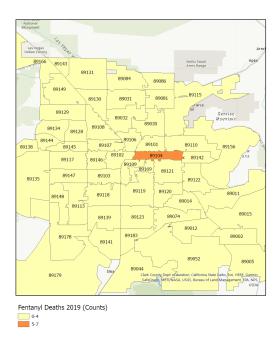
Fentanyl Deaths 2018 (Counts)





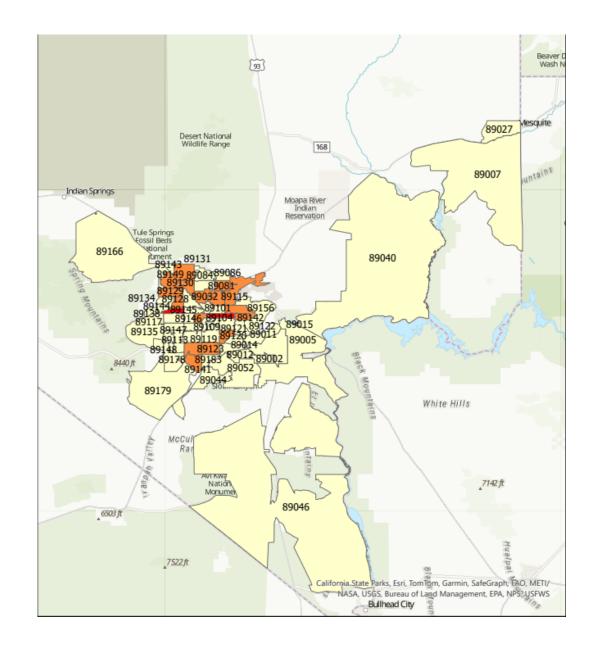
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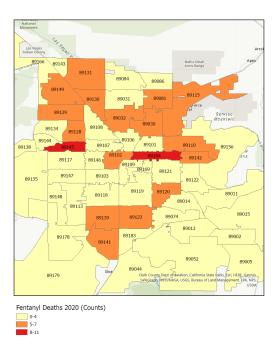


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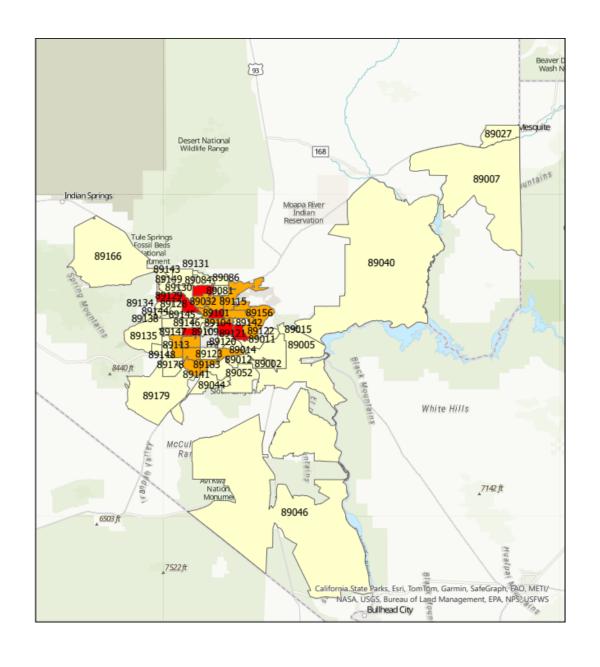




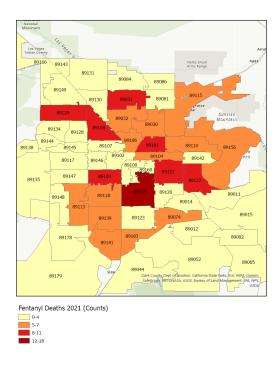


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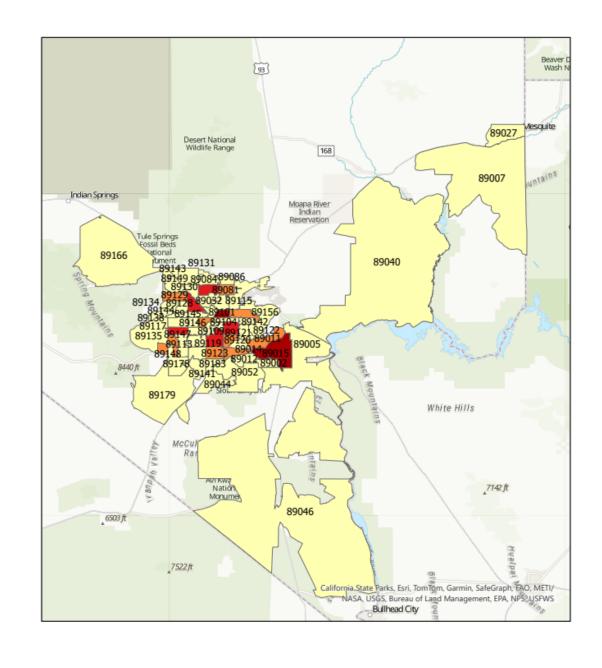






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#### Overdose Burden in Clark County Panel

Facilitator:

Victoria Burris, MPH

Communicable Disease Manager, Southern Nevada Health District

Panelists:

**Assemblywoman Clara Thomas** 

Member, Substance Use Response Working Group (SURG)

Terry Kerns, PhD

Substance Abuse/Law Enforcement Coordinator, Office of the Attorney General

**Kat Reich** 

Senior Administration & Data Manager, Trac-B Exchange

Victoria Hughes

Communicable Disease Supervisor, Southern Nevada Health District

