



## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

# AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

**MEETING DATE:** October 9, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Update on Oregon's drug overdose mortality crisis

**BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

For four consecutive years (2020-2023), drug overdose mortality rates substantially increased in Oregon. While in 2019 the State had one of the lowest per capita overdose mortality rates, in 2023 it had one of the highest. During that same period, Deschutes County likewise experienced an increase in drug overdose deaths.

In this presentation, staff will provide information on drug overdose mortality rates in Deschutes County and how these compare with rates in Oregon and across the country along with reports from local data sources (Emergency Department visits and Bend wastewater data) which indicate declining numbers of overdoses in 2024.

**BUDGET IMPACTS:**

None

**ATTENDANCE:**

Mathew Christensen, Public Health Epidemiologist  
Emily Horton, Public Health Program Manager