

CDC – DRUG OVERDOSE PREVENTION

FY 2017 President's Budget Request | \$85.6 Million (an increase of \$10M)

How CDC is Fighting the Opioid Overdose Epidemic:

1. Improving data quality and surveillance to monitor and respond to the epidemic
2. Strengthening state efforts by scaling up effective public health interventions
3. Supplying health care providers with the data, tools, and guidance needed to improve the safety of their patients

How We Work

Higher prescription rates of opioid pain relievers are associated with more overdose deaths. The abuse of prescription opioids is the strongest risk factor for heroin use.

Improving opioid prescribing to prevent abuse and dependence before they occur remains the key strategy to prevent opioid dependence and overdose.

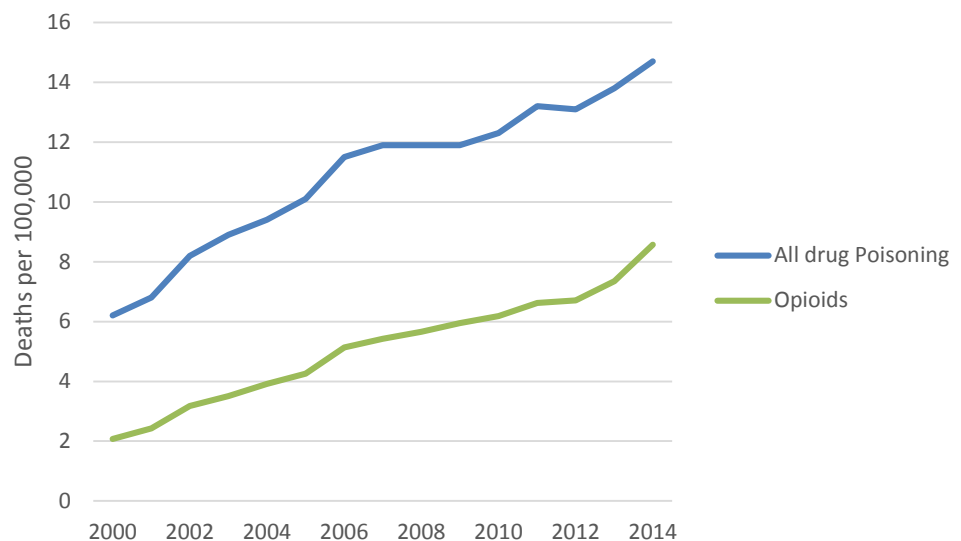
Why We're Here

More people died from drug overdoses in the United States in 2014 than during any previous year on record, driven by sharp increases in opioid overdose deaths involving both prescription opioids pain relievers and illicit opioids like heroin. The opioid overdose epidemic killed more than 28,000 people in 2014 alone.

A four-fold increase in the prescribing of opioid pain relievers contributed to and continues to fuel the epidemic. The last fifteen years have seen massive increases in opioid overdose deaths, driven largely by deaths from the most commonly prescribed prescription opioids and, in the last five years, sharp increases in heroin and illegally manufactured opioid (i.e., illicit fentanyl) overdose deaths. Continued action is urgently needed.

Age-adjusted rate of drug overdose deaths and drug overdose deaths involving opioids[§]

United States, 2000-2014



National Vital Statistics System Mortality File

In FY 2017, CDC will:

- Continue support for state-based opioid overdose prevention program in all states, with a focus on states on the frontlines of the epidemic
- Increase uptake among providers of opioid prescribing guidelines for chronic pain outside of active cancer treatment, palliative care, and end-of-life care currently in development and slated for release in FY 2016
- Maximize the use of state-based prescription drug monitoring programs (PDMPs) as a public health tool to assist in clinical decision making and in conducting public health surveillance
- Identify and scale up promising prevention practices in the nation's hospitals and health systems, including working to expand and evaluate an innovative model to coordinate care for high-risk opioid patients to ensure they receive safer, more effective treatment for both prescription opioid and heroin/illicit opioid dependence



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention