



The Current State of the Opioid Crisis

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Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths United States, 1970–2007





Drug Overdose Deaths by Major Drug Type, United States, 1999–2010



CDC, National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, CDC Wonder. Updated with 2010 mortality data.

National Drug-Involved Overdose Deaths by Specific Category—Number Among All Ages, 1999-2020



*Includes deaths with underlying causes of unintentional drug poisoning (X40–X44), suicide drug poisoning (X60–X64), homicide drug poisoning (X85), or drug poisoning of undetermined intent (Y10–Y14), as coded in the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision. Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Multiple Cause of Death 1999-2020 on CDC WONDER Online Database. released 12/2021.

12 Month-ending Provisional Number of Drug Overdose Deaths by Drug or Drug Class: United States



Legend for Drug or Drug Class

Cocaine (T40.5)	Synthetic opioids, excl. methadone (T40.4)
Heroin (T40.1)	
Methadone (T40.3)	
Natural & semi-synthetic opioids (T40.2)	
Psychostimulants with abuse potential (T43.6)	

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Figure. Adolescent Overdose Deaths, 2010-2021



Drug overdose rates per 100 000 adolescents are shown by (A) substance involved and (B) race and ethnicity. The year 2021 refers to January to June 2021, and rates have been annualized. The vertical dashed lines delineate the prepandemic and pandemic periods of observed data.

Friedman J, Godvin M, Shover CL, Gone JP, Hansen H, Schriger DL. Trends in Drug Overdose Deaths Among US Adolescents, January 2010 to June 2021. JAMA. 2022 Apr 12;327(14):1398-1400.

Heroin treatment admissions: 2003-2013



SOURCE: Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS). Data received through 01.23.15.

Death rates from overdoses of heroin or prescription opioid pain relievers (OPRs), by age group



Age group (yrs)

SOURCE: CDC. Increases in Heroin Overdose Deaths — 28 States, 2010 to 2012 MMWR. 2014, 63:849-854



Source: J. Katz. NYT Short Answers to Hard Questions About the Opioid Crisis August 10, 2017

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Growth and Level of the Synthetic Opioid OD Deaths, 2016



Source: JAMA Network Open. 2019;2(2):e190040. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2019.0040

Growth and Level of the Synthetic Opioid OD Deaths, 2016

D Synthetic opioids



The District of Columbia had the fastest rate of increase in mortality from opioids in the country, more than tripling every year since 2013

Source: JAMA Network Open. 2019;2(2):e190040. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2019.0040

Three Opioid-Addicted Cohorts

- 20-40 y/o, disproportionately white, significant heroin use, <u>opioid addiction began with Rx use</u> (addicted after 1995)
- 40 y/o & up, disproportionately white, mostly Rx opioids, <u>opioid addiction began with Rx use</u> (addicted after 1995)
- 3. 50 y/o & up, disproportionately non-white, mostly heroin users, <u>opioid addiction began in teen years</u> with heroin use (addicted before 1995)



SOURCE: CDC WONDER

Figure 2. Rates of Opioid Overdose Deaths per 100 000 Persons 55 Years and Older by Sex and by Race and Ethnicity, 1999 to 2019



Mason M, Soliman R, Kim HS, Post LA. Disparities by Sex and Race and Ethnicity in Death Rates Due to Opioid Overdose Among Adults 55 Years or Older, 1999 to 2019. JAMA Netw Open. 2022;5(1):e2142982. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2021.42982

Non-Hispanic Whites

Non-Hispanic Blacks

Figure 1. Heroin Treatment Admission Rates by Age Category Among Non-Hispanic Black Individuals, US,

Figure 2. Heroin Treatment Admission Rates by Age Category Among Non-Hispanic White Individuals, US, 2000-2017

A Non-Hispanic White men A Non-Hispanic Black men mean No. 1000 800 • 2000-2002 2000-2002 2003-2005 800 2003-2005 Heroin treatment admissions/100 000, Heroin treatment admissions/100 000, mean No 2006-2008 2006-2008 600 2009-2011 2009-2011 2012-2014 2012-2014 600 2015-2017 2015-2017 400 400 200 200 18-20 12-14 15-17 21-24 25-29 30-34 35-39 40 - 4445-49 50-54 55-64 >65 21-24 45-49 50-54 12-14 15-17 18-20 25-29 30-34 35-39 40-44 55-64 ≥65 Age category, y Age category, y B Non-Hispanic White women B Non-Hispanic Black women mean No. 700 400 600 Heroin treatment admissions/100 000, Heroin treatment admissions/100 000, mean No. 500 300 400 200 300 200 100 100 12-14 15-17 18-20 21-24 25-29 30-34 35-39 40-44 45-49 50-54 55-64 >6! 12-14 15-17 18-20 21-24 25-29 30-34 35-39 40-44 45-49 50-54 55-64 ≥65 Age category, y Age category, y

2000-2017

Source: Warren EC, Kolodny A. Trends in Heroin Treatment Admissions in the United States by Race, Sex, and Age. JAMA Netw Open. 2021 Feb 1;4(2):e2036640. doi: 10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2020.36640.

In one year, drug overdoses killed more Americans than the entire Vietnam War did

Dramatic Increases in Maternal Opioid Use and Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome

Children of the Opioid Epidemic Are Flooding Foster Homes. America Is Turning a Blind Eye.

For the first time, drug overdose deaths have surpassed 100,000 in a 12-month period

How the opioid crisis decimated the American workforce







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Incomplete data

19 - 44

< 8

8 - 14

SOURCE: Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS). Data received through 11.03.10.



2009 (range 1 – 379)



SOURCE: Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS). Data received through 11.03.10.

Unintentional overdose deaths involving opioid analgesics parallel per capita sales of opioid analgesics in morphine equivalents by year, U.S., 1997-2007



Source: National Vital Statistics System, multiple cause of death dataset, and DEA ARCOS * 2007 opioid sales figure is preliminary.



CDC. MMWR 2011

Pro-painkiller lobby shapes policy amid drug epidemic

Matthew Perrone and Ben Wieder, Associated Press and Center for Public Integrity



POLITICAL SPENDING

Opioid manufacturers and their allies have contributed roughly \$80 million to state and federal candidates and have spent about \$746 million on state and federal lobbying since 2006. How the spending breaks down:

to State to Federal for State/Federal candidates \$109 mil. \$716 mil. 45% 54% Reps





Sources: International Narcotics Control Board; World Health Organization population data

Industry-funded organizations campaigned for greater use of opioids

Pain Patient Groups

Professional Societies

The Joint Commission



The Federation of State Medical Boards

Johnson & Johnson And Drug Distributors Finalize \$26 Billion Settlement To End Opioid Crisis Lawsuits

> Alabama settles opioid claims with J&J, McKesson, Endo for \$276 mln -attorney general

Walgreens to pay \$683m to settle claims it exacerbated opioid crisis in Florida

Teva Pharm expects U.S. opioid case settlements to cost \$2.6 bln



Prescription opioid use has declined to 60% of the peak volume in 2011 after another year of double-digit decline expected in 2020

Exhibit 1: Prescription Opioid Use in Morphine Milligram Equivalents (MME) Bn, 1992–2020*



Source: IQVIA Xponent, Mar 2020; IQVIA National Prescription Audit; IQVIA Institute, Nov 2020

In states across the U.S., neonatal opioid withdrawal is declining

Number of Babies Born Dependent on Opioids in Florida Each Year



Controlling the epidemic:

- Prevent new cases of opioid addiction
- Treat people who are already addicted
- Harm Reduction
- Interdiction (Law Enforcement)

Comparison of Mortality Data from AIDS Case Reports and Death Certificates in Which HIV Disease Was Selected as the Underlying Cause of Death, United States, <u>1987–2006</u>





*For comparison with data for 1999 and later years, data in the bottom (red) line for 1987–1998 were modified to account for *ICD-10* rules instead of *ICD-9* rules.





From: Buprenorphine Use: The International Experience Clin Infect Dis. 2006;43(Supplement_4):S197-S215. doi:10.1086/508184 Clin Infect Dis | © 2006 by the Infectious Diseases Society of America

Buprenorphine Access Is Still Inadequate

The Supply of Buprenorphine Prescribers Across the U.S.¹³

100% of these providers can prescribe opioids. physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants work in the U.S.

74,000 (5.7%)

are waivered to prescribe buprenorphine.

Only 43,700 (3.4%)

of the total provider population **publicly disclose** that they can prescribe buprenorphine.



The required training varies between eight and 24 hours depending on prescriber type, and prescribers are restricted in the number of patients they are allowed to treat.

Buprenorphine Access Is Still Inadequate

County-Level Waivered Prescriber Supply¹⁵

IGER THAN ADDICTION

- The median buprenorphine capacity by county is 4 prescribers per 100,000 people.
- Thirty-nine percent (1,228) of counties do not have a waivered buprenorphine prescriber, creating an access challenge for any of these counties' 18 million residents.
 - Two-thirds (11.9 million) of these individuals live in rural areas.
 - One-third (6.1 million) of these individuals live in urban and suburban areas.



Impact of COVID-19 on the Opioid Crisis

• OD deaths increased at a faster rate

 Ability to provide direct services and psychosocial support impeded

Litigation against opioid industry slowed

OUD Increases COVID Risks

- Increased susceptibility to infection
 - Opioid-induced immunosuppression
 - Psychosocial factors (homelessness, treatment settings)
- Increased risk for complications
 - Opioid-induced immunosuppression
 - Respiratory depression from opioids
 - Other medical problems

OUD Increases COVID Risks

- Addictive disorder increases risk for COVID, with opioid use disorder followed by tobacco use disorder, having highest risk.
- Addictive disorder increases risk for death from COVID, with greatest risk in Black patients with OUD.

Source: Wang, Q.Q., Kaelber, D.C., Xu, R. et al. COVID-19 risk and outcomes in patients with substance use disorders: analyses from electronic health records in the United States. Mol Psychiatry (2020).

Treatment System Changes

• Feds relax Methadone rules on take-home doses and allow home deliveries.

Buprenorphine home inductions

- Expansion of tele-medicine treatment
- Naloxone home deliveries

Article

High-dimensional characterization of post-acute sequalae of COVID-19

https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-021-03553-9	Ziyad Al-Aly ^{1,2,3,4,5} , Yan Xie ^{1,2,6} & Benjamin Bowe ^{1,2,6}	
Received: 18 January 2021		
Accepted: 14 April 2021	The acute clinical manifestations of COVID-19 are well characterized ^{1,2} ; however, its	
Published online: 22 April 2021	post-acute sequalae have not been comprehensively described. Here, we use the national healthcare databases of the US Department of Veterans Affairs to systematically and comprehensively identify 6-month incident sequalae including diagnoses, medication use, and laboratory abnormalities in 30-day survivors of COVID-19. We show that beyond the first 30 days of illness, people with COVID-19 exhibit higher risk of death and health resource utilization. Our high dimensional approach identifies incident sequalae in the respiratory system and several others including nervous system and neurocognitive disorders, mental health disorders, metabolic disorders, cardiovascular disorders, gastrointestinal disorders, malaise, fatigue, musculoskeletal pain, and anemia. We show increased incident use of several therapeutics including pain medications (opioids and non-opioids), antidepressants, anxiolytics, antihypertensives, and oral hypoglycemics and evidence of laboratory abnormalities in multiple organ systems. Analysis of an array of pre-specified outcomes reveals a risk gradient that increased across severity of the acute COVID-19 infection (non-hospitalized, hospitalized, admitted to intensive care). The findings show that beyond the acute illness, substantial burden of health loss – spanning pulmonary and several extrapulmonary organ systems – is experienced by COVID-19 survivors. The results provide a roadmap to inform health system planning and development of multidisciplinary care strategies to reduce chronic health loss among COVID-19 survivors.	

Source: Al-Aly, Z. et al. High-dimensional characterization of post-acute sequalae of COVID-19. Nature <u>https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-021-03553-9</u> (2021).

Can We Learn From COVID-19?

Summary

 The U.S. is in the midst of a severe epidemic of opioid addiction and overdose deaths, which worsened during Covid.

- To bring the epidemic to an end:
 - We must prevent new cases of opioid addiction
 - We must improve access to treatment for people already addicted