



Combatting the Overdose Epidemic: State Strategies for Prevention and Intervention

NCSL Opioid Policy Fellows Kick Off Meeting

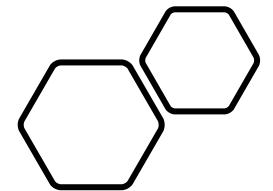
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Health Scientist Team

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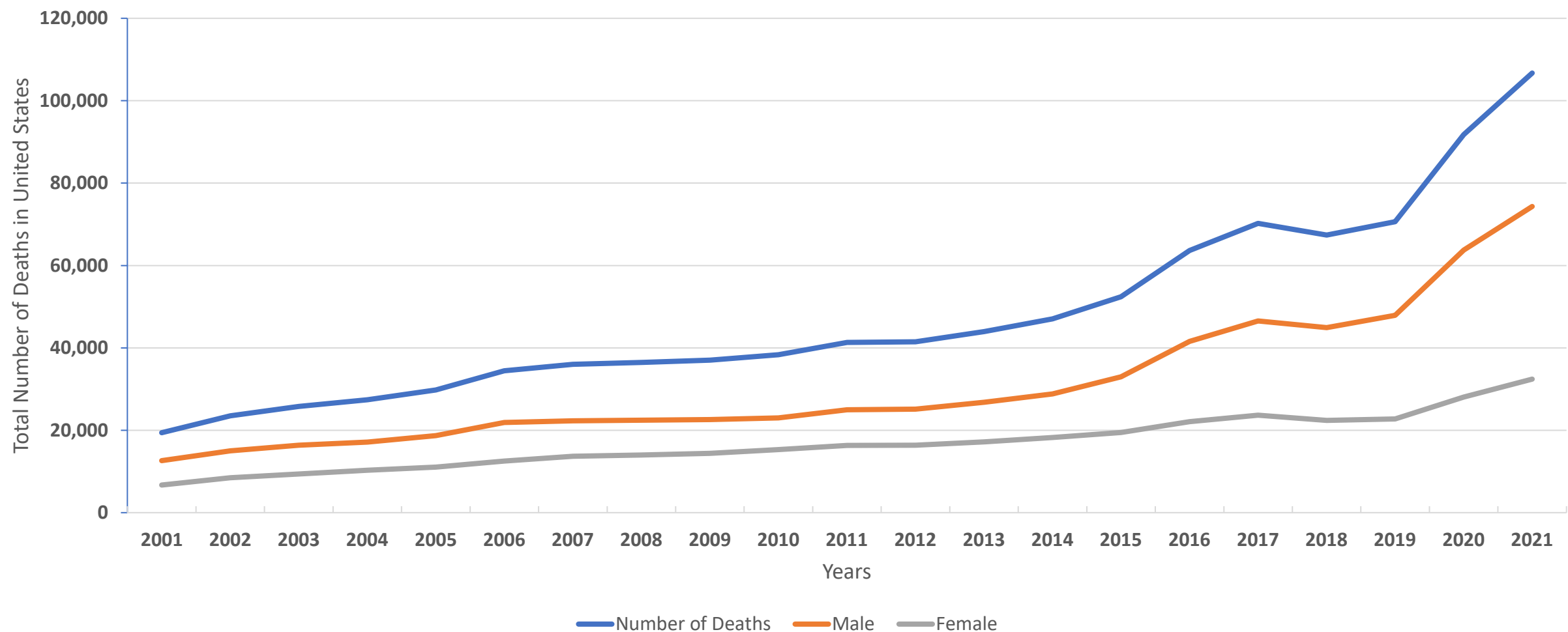
The findings and conclusions in this presentation are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Learning Objectives

- Basic understanding of the overdose epidemic and the rising polysubstance crisis
- CDC's programs aimed at preventing substance misuse and illicit drug use
- Surveillance and prevention strategies that communities can engage in to prevent drug overdose

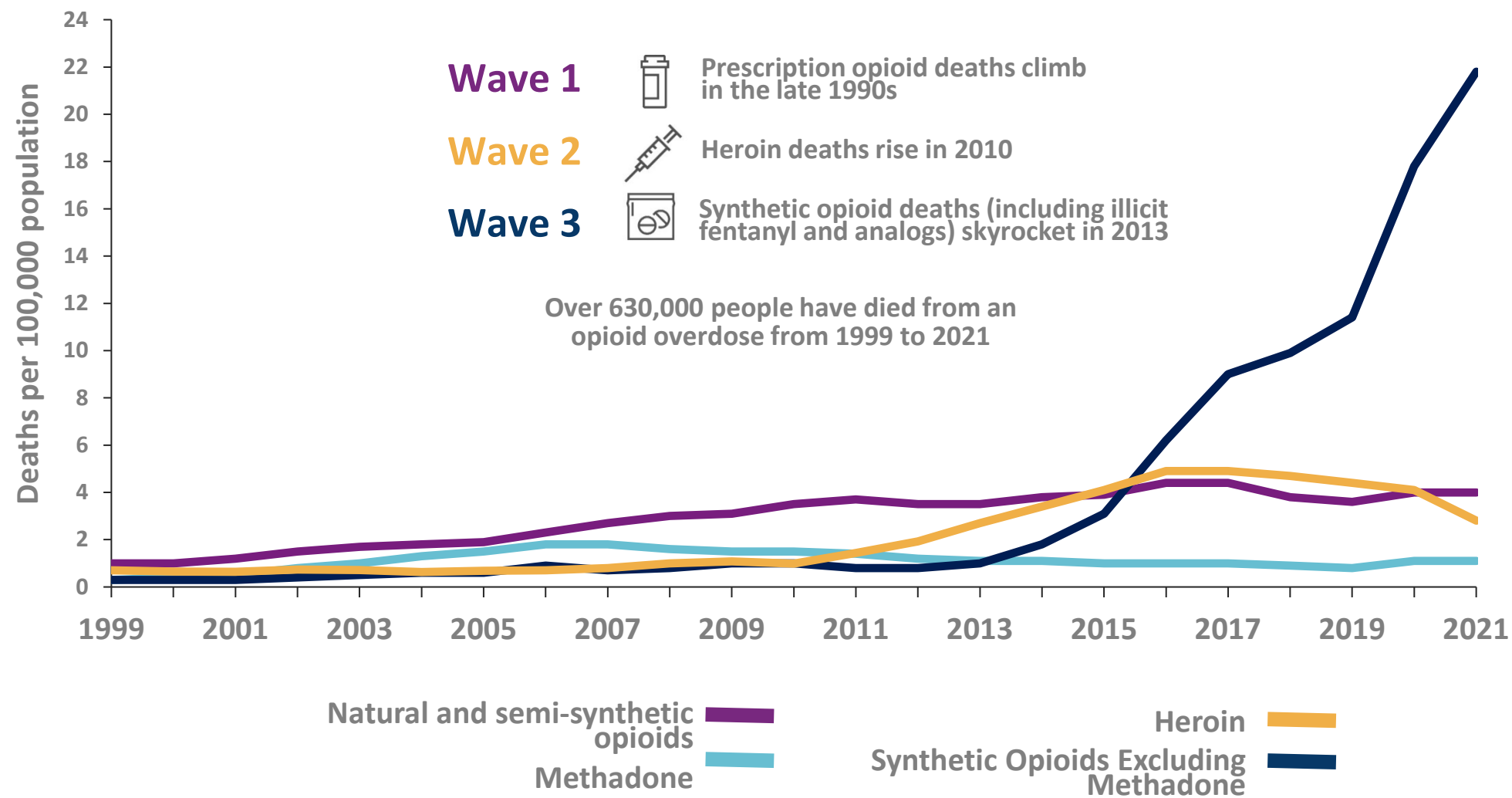
United States Drug Overdose Deaths Surpass 100K in 2021

Drug Overdose Deaths in the United States, 2001 -2021



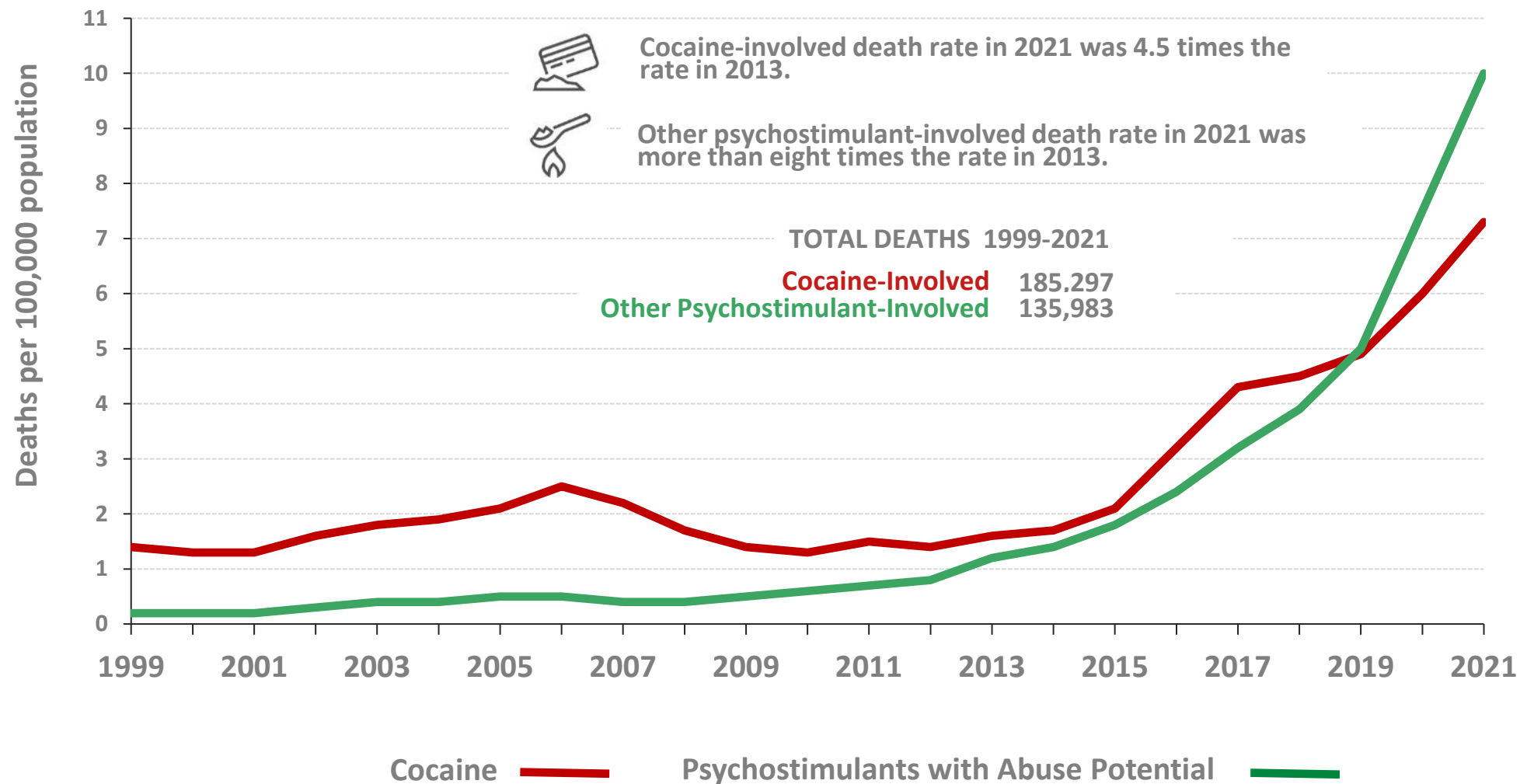
SOURCES: National Vital Statistics System Mortality File & Spencer, Miniño, Spencer & Warner (2022) NCHS Data Brief 457

Waves of the U.S. Opioid Overdose Epidemic



SOURCES: National Vital Statistics System Mortality File & Spencer, Miniño, Spencer & Warner (2022) NCHS Data Brief 457

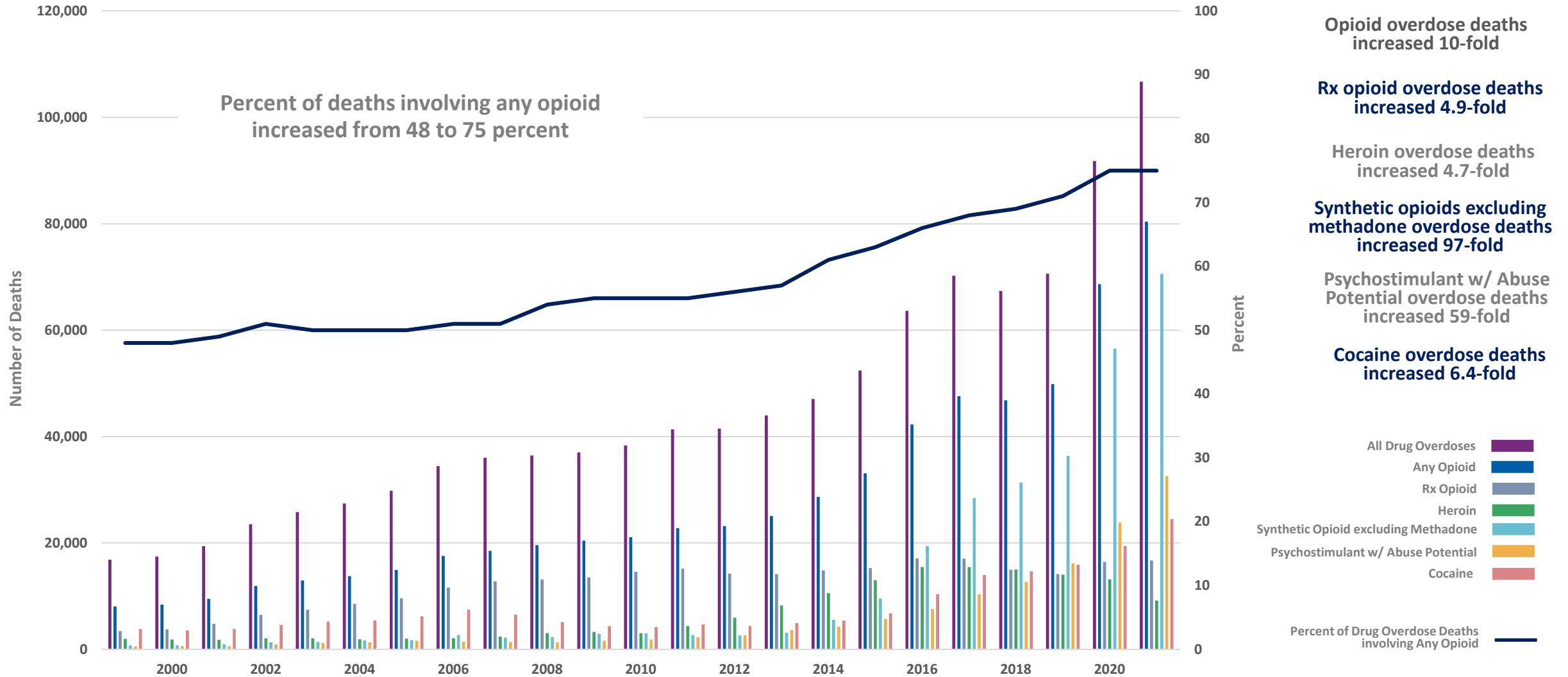
Drug Overdose Deaths Involving Cocaine and Psychostimulants with Abuse Potential in the US are Increasing



SOURCES: National Vital Statistics System Mortality File & Hedegaard, Miniño, Spencer & Warner (2022) NCHS Data Brief 428

Historical Trends in U.S. Drug Overdose Deaths

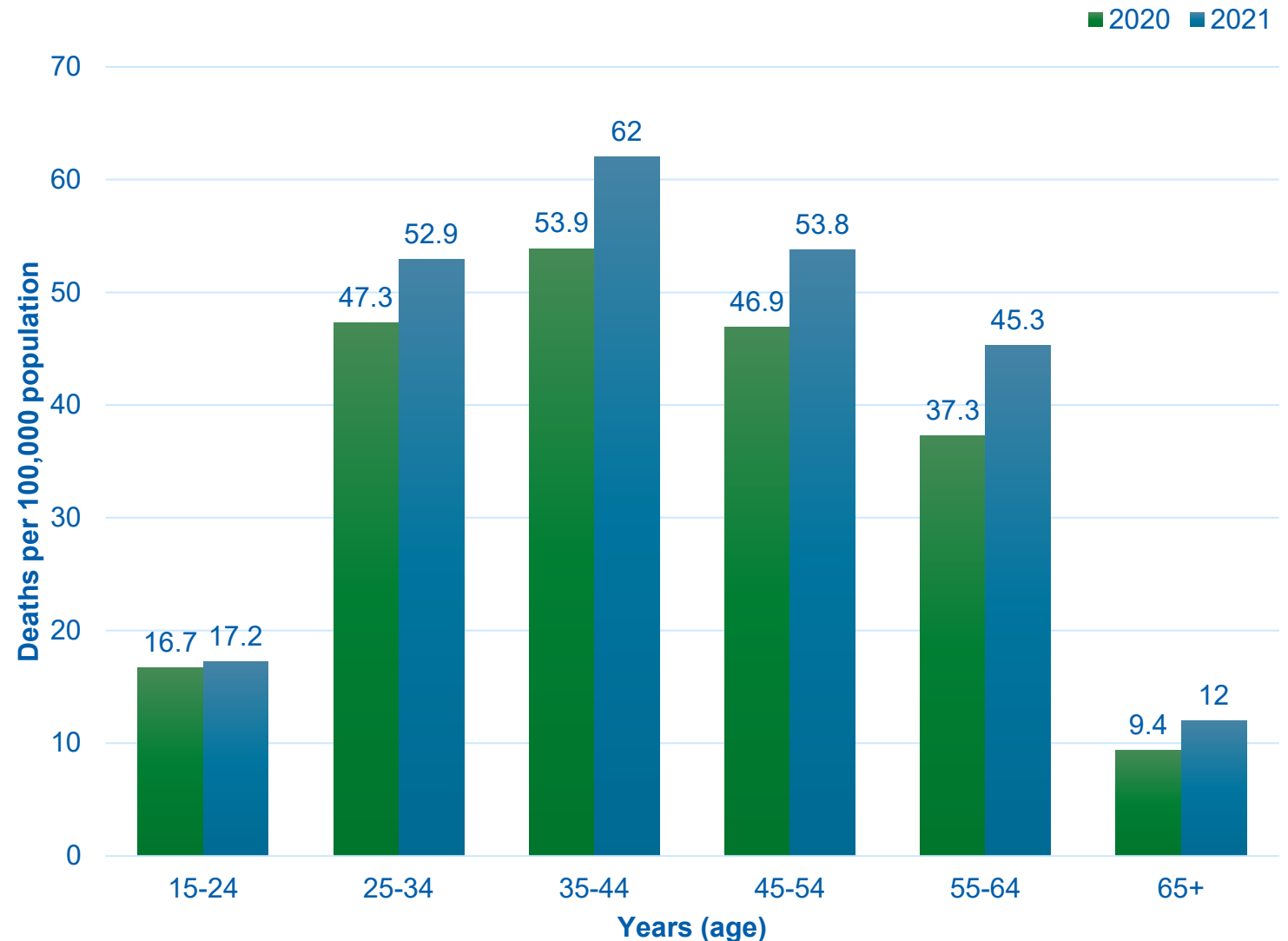
1999-2021



During the COVID-19 pandemic deaths continued to climb

- The age-adjusted rate of drug overdose deaths rose more than 14% from 2020 through 2021 in the U.S.
- Adults aged 65 and over had the largest percentage increase in rates from 2020 through 2021 (28%).

Drug Overdose Deaths in the United States



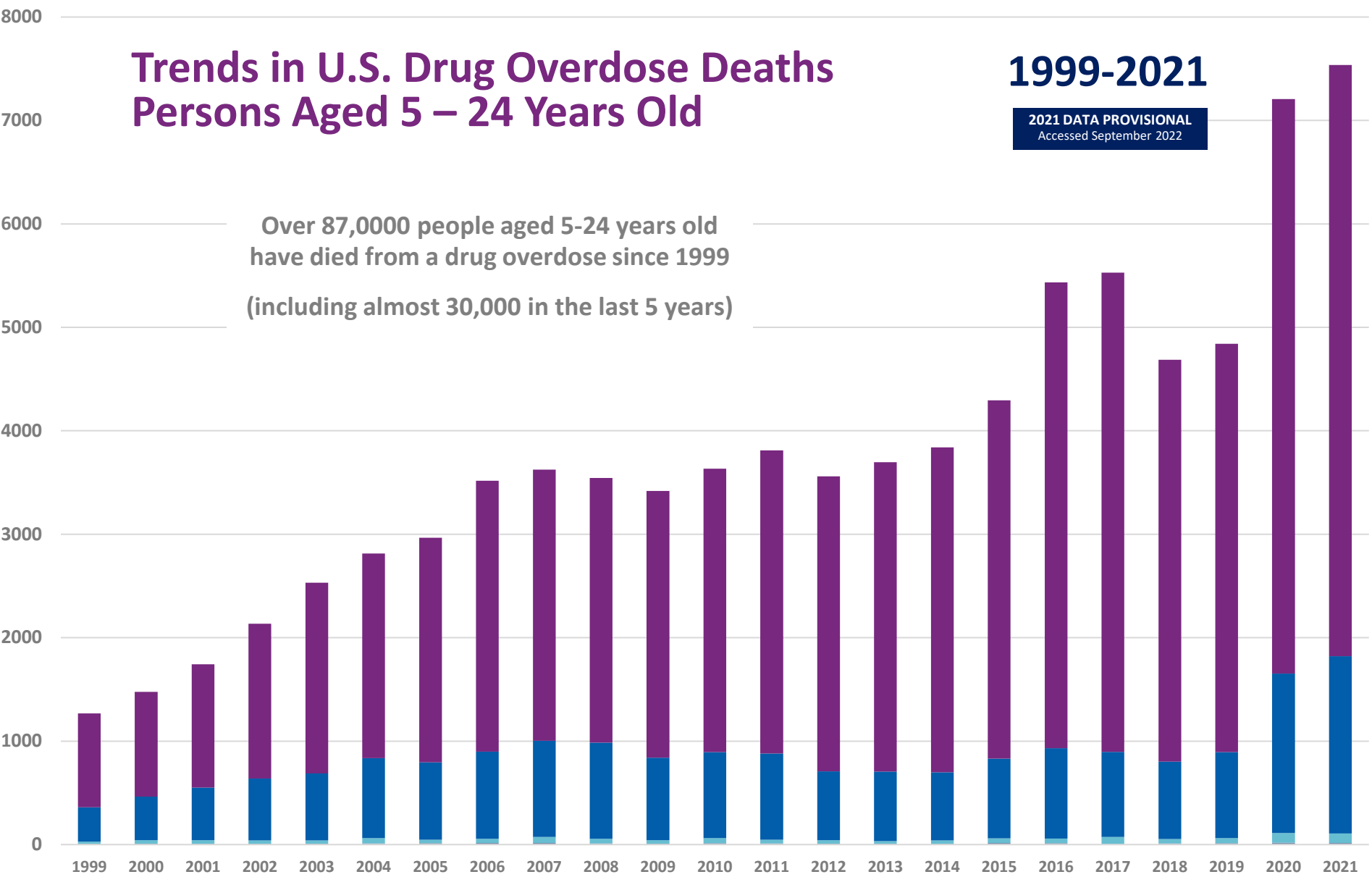
Trends in U.S. Drug Overdose Deaths Persons Aged 5 – 24 Years Old

1999-2021

2021 DATA PROVISIONAL
Accessed September 2022

Over 87,000 people aged 5-24 years old
have died from a drug overdose since 1999
(including almost 30,000 in the last 5 years)

Number of Deaths



SINCE 1999

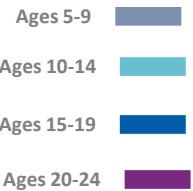
Drug overdose deaths
increased almost 6-fold

Over 87,000 people
aged 5-24 years old have
died from a drug
overdose since 1999
including almost 30,000
in the last 5 years

Drug overdose deaths
for people aged 15-19
over doubled from
2019 to 2021

Drug overdose deaths for
people aged 20-24
increased 1.4-fold from
2019 to 2021

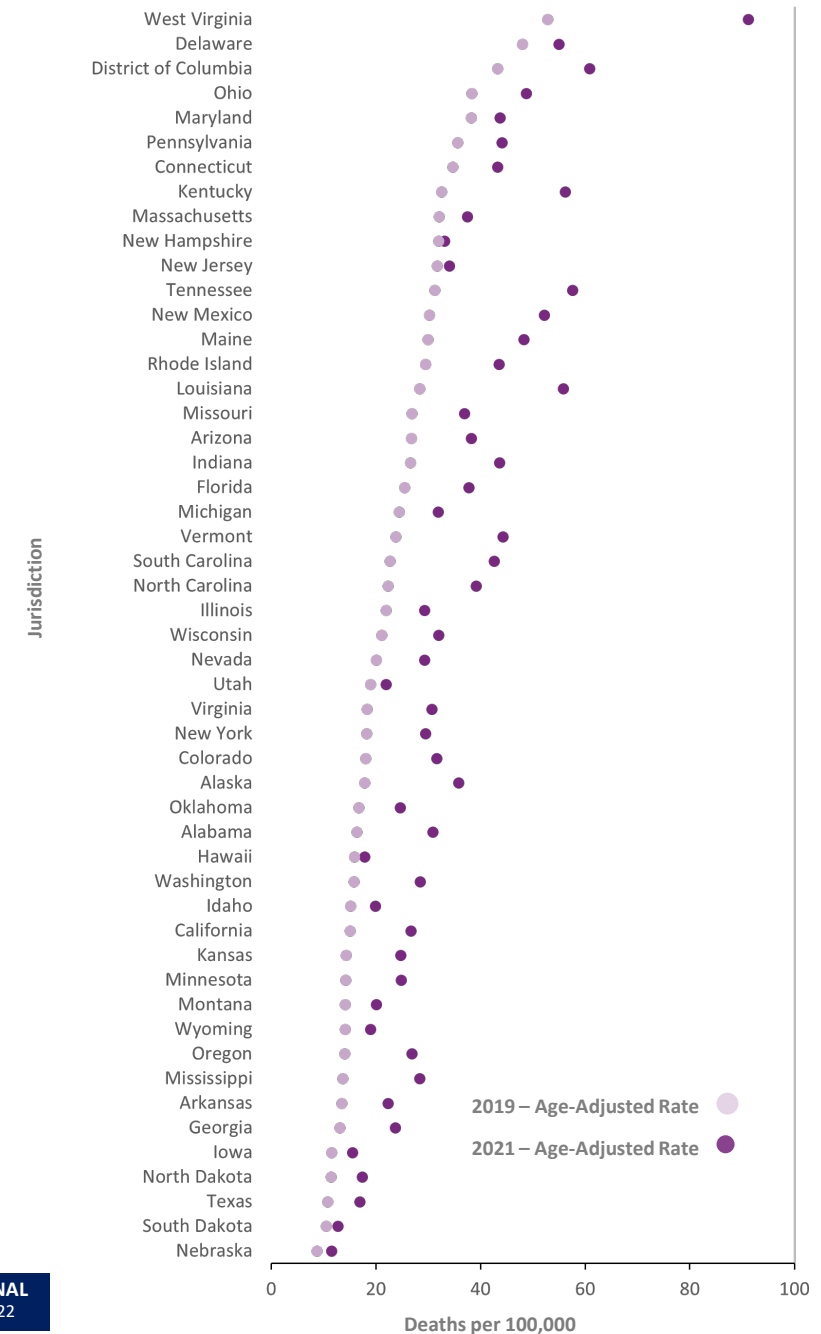
85 percent of the over
7200 drug overdose
deaths in 2020
involved an opioid



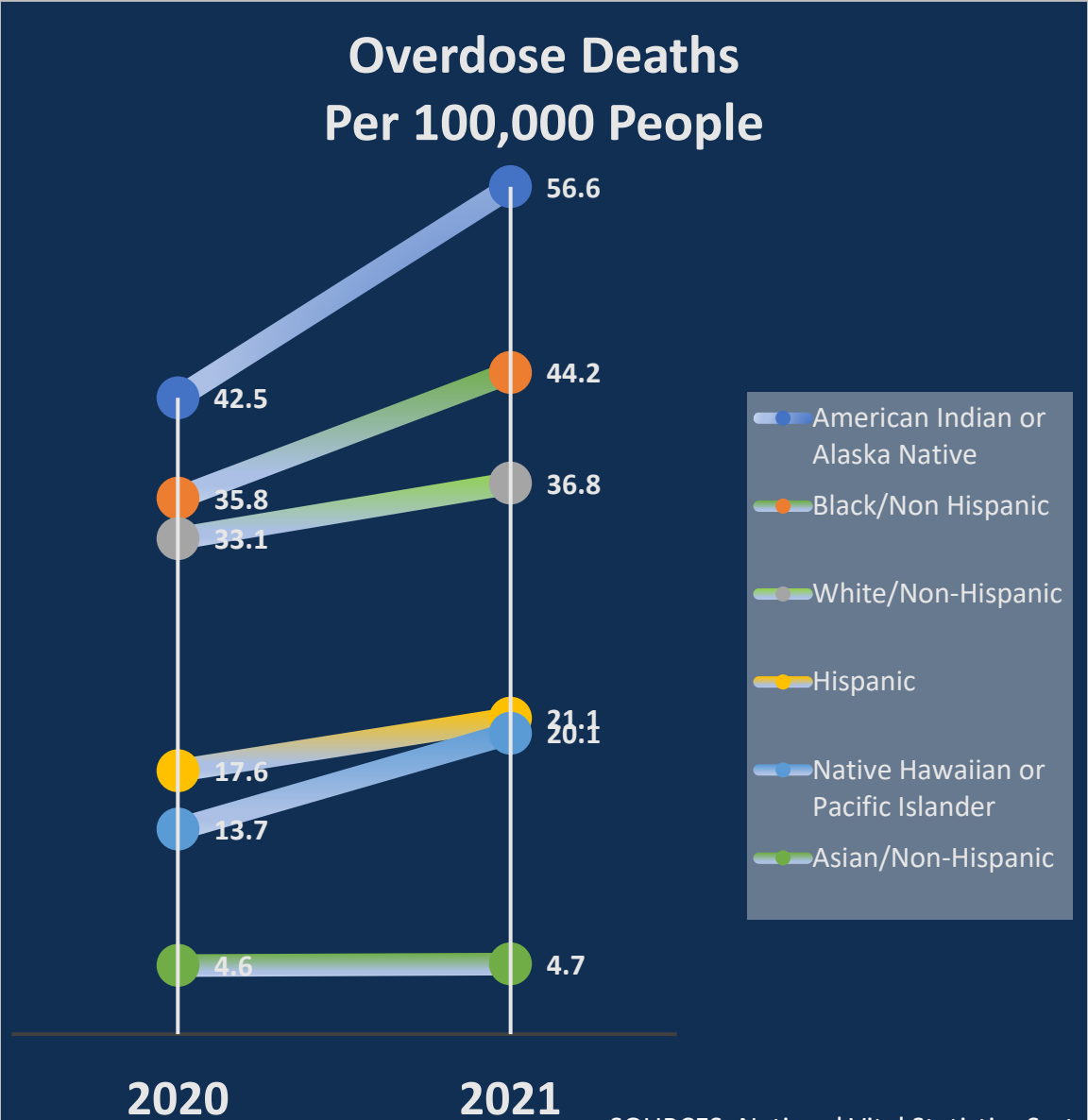
SOURCE: National Vital Statistics System Mortality File

Changes in State-Level Drug Overdose Death Rates 2019 to 2021

- All 50 states had increases in their drug overdose death rate.
- West Virginia had the highest rates in 2019 and 2021.
- Fourteen states had an over 75 percent increase in their death rate; 40 states increased over 25 percent.
- 5 states had death rates over 35 per 100,000 in 2019. 21 states had death rates over 35 per 100,000 in 2021.
- In 1999, the US drug overdose death rate was 6.1 per 100,000 population. The overall US drug overdose death rate in 2021 was 32.7 per 100,000 population.




Racial and Ethnic Disparities in U.S. Drug Overdose Death Rates



SOURCES: National Vital Statistics System Mortality File & Spencer, Miniño, Spencer & Warner (2022) NCHS Data Brief 457



An elephant is shown in profile, standing in a dark, textured room. A single spotlight hangs from the ceiling, casting a bright, circular pool of light on the wall behind the elephant and on the floor. The elephant's trunk is slightly curved, and its tusks are visible. The overall mood is somber and dramatic.

**67 percent of all drug overdose deaths &
89 percent of opioid-involved overdose deaths also
involved synthetic opioids excluding methadone**

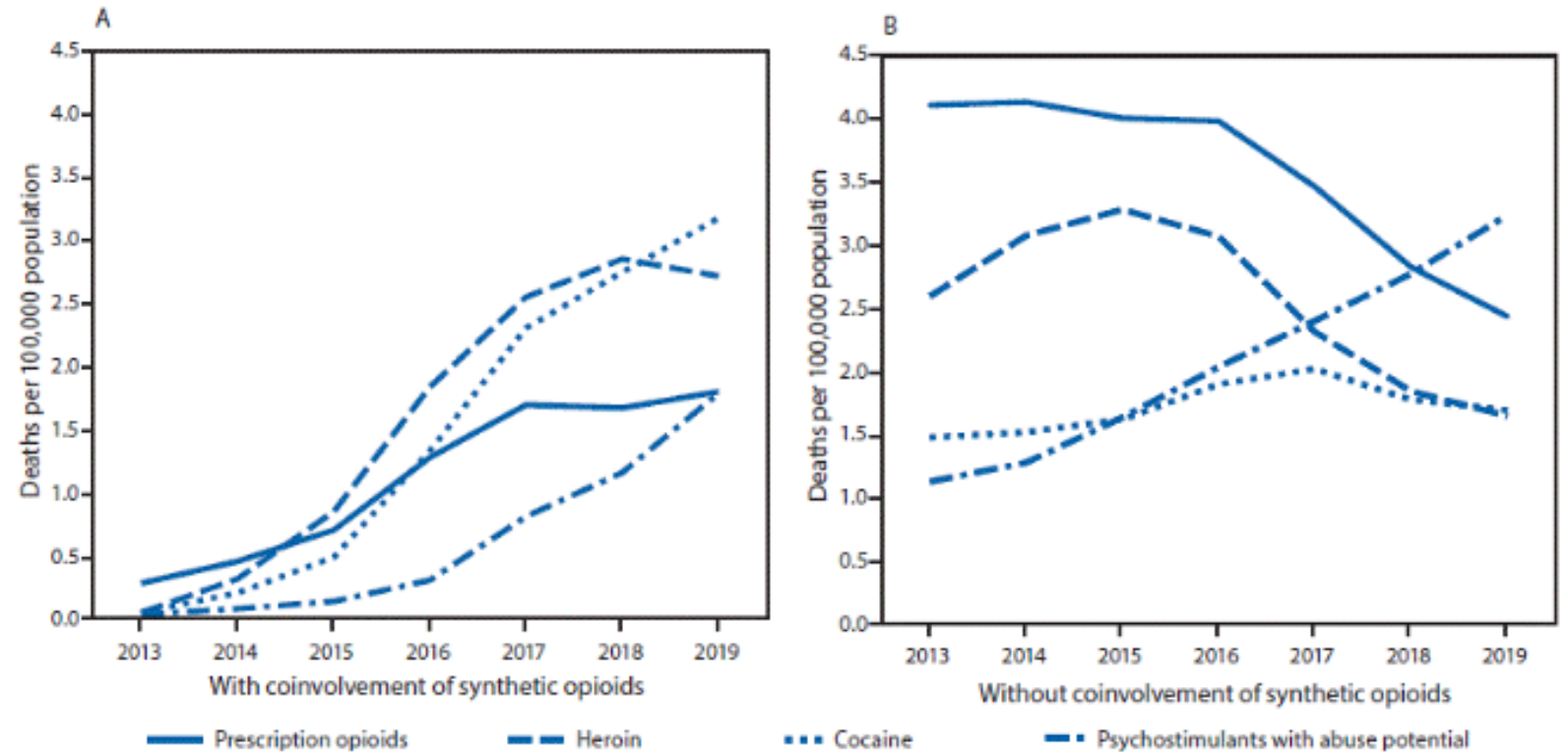
April 2021 – May 2022 – Provisional Drug Overdose Deaths

Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/vsrr/drug-overdose-data.htm>

Fentanyl

Synthetic opioids (fentanyl) are driving increases in overdoses involving most other drugs

- Continued increase in burden caused by illicitly manufactured fentanyl
- Challenges posed by COVID-19 pandemic
- Increasing co-involvement of substances in overdose deaths



The changing calculus of risk of drug use in an illicit marketplace with fentanyl

Continuum of Use



- The risk of drug overdose is elevated with any use of illicitly manufactured fentanyl, given its potency, lethality, and the variability in the illicit supply.
- Historically, risk for a non-fatal or fatal overdose grew as frequency of use grew.
- In an environment rife with fentanyl the calculus changes. Risk of death is elevated upon initiation and at every point on the continuum.
- The increases in deaths among youth and young adults as well as the increase in polydrug deaths involving fentanyl in all age groups are two markers of this elevated risk.

A person is sitting on a highly reflective floor in a hallway, leaning against a wall and holding their head in their hands, suggesting distress or despair. The person's reflection is clearly visible on the floor.

Key Take-Aways about Polysubstance Use in the U.S.

- Polysubstance use is not new and is common among persons struggling with substance use disorders.
- The pattern of substances used is changing.
- Some polysubstance use is occurring without user's knowledge of drug contamination.
- The proliferation of synthetic drugs - especially illicitly manufactured fentanyl and fentanyl analogs - greatly elevates the overdose risk of polysubstance use.
- Persons struggling with multiple substance use disorders faced greater challenges accessing treatment and recovery services – especially during COVID-19 pandemic.

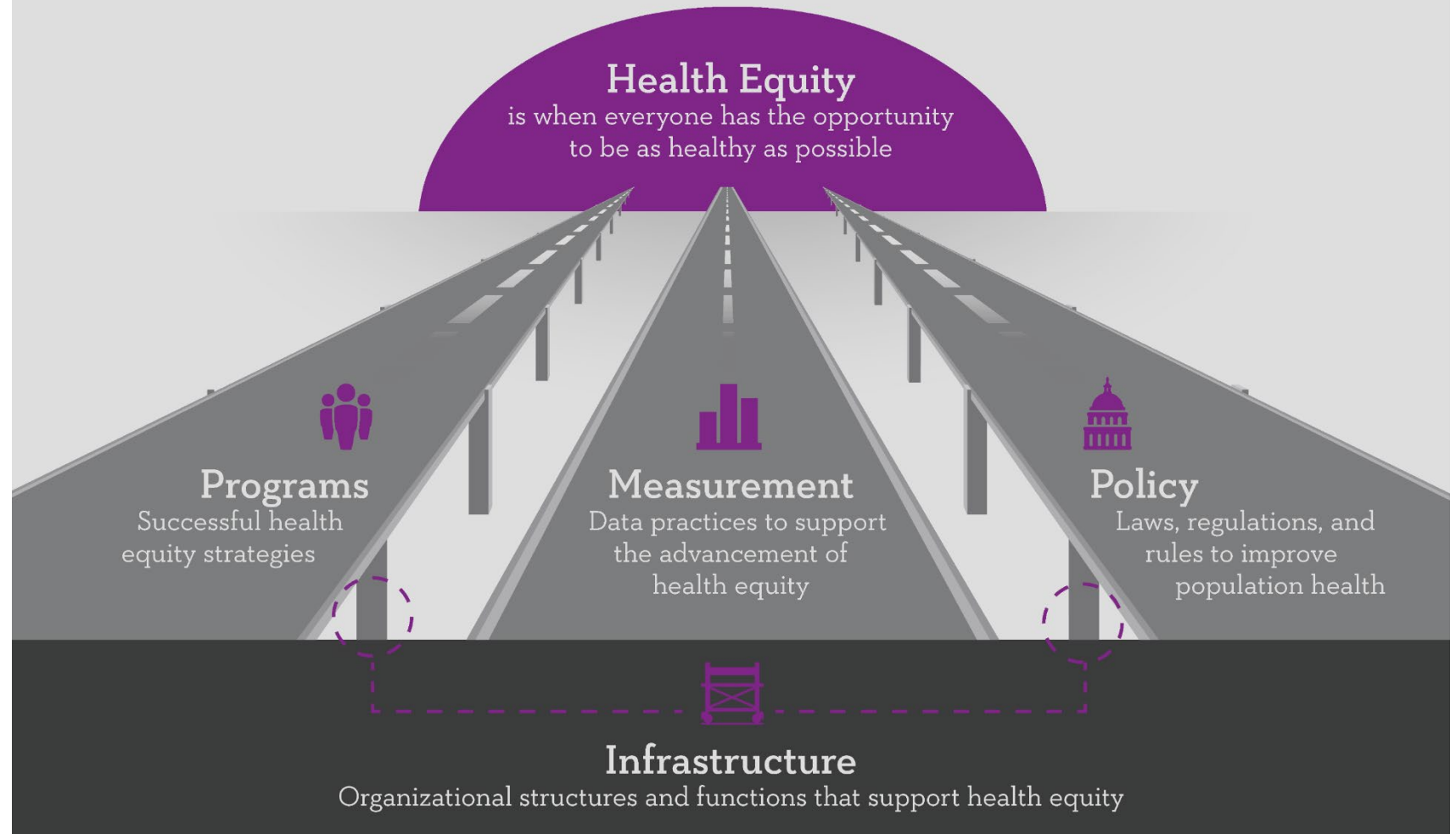
CDC Initiatives:
Evidence-based approaches that work!

CDC's Approach to Prevent Overdoses and Substance Use-Related Harms



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PAVING THE ROAD TO HEALTH EQUITY



Addressing Health Equity in Drug Overdose Prevention



CDC Drug Free Communities Branch

Provide grant awards, subject matter expertise, and partner connections to diverse community coalitions to reduce and prevent substance use among youth leading to drug-free lives now and through adulthood.

STRATEGIC VISION

Advancing Coalition Collaboration

Foster coalition connections across youth substance use prevention networks by increasing cohesion with state and local partners, sharing CDC expertise and resources, and maximizing national and federal partnerships.

Advancing Community Health

Champion public health by tailoring expertise and promoting evidence-based prevention strategies to coalitions and communities, enabling them to further health equity and address root causes and risk factors of youth substance use.

Advancing Coalition Capacity

Provide grants management and programmatic support to ensure compliance and enhance alignment between strategies and outcomes.

CDC's Approach to Prevent Overdoses and Substance Use-Related Harms

GUIDING PRINCIPLES



Promote Health Equity



Address Underlying Factors



Partner Broadly



Take Evidence-Based Action



Advance Science



Drive Innovation

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Monitor, Analyze, and Communicate Trends



Build State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Capacity



Support Providers, Health Systems, Payors, and Employers



Partner with Public Safety and Community Organizations



Raise Public Awareness and Reduce Stigma



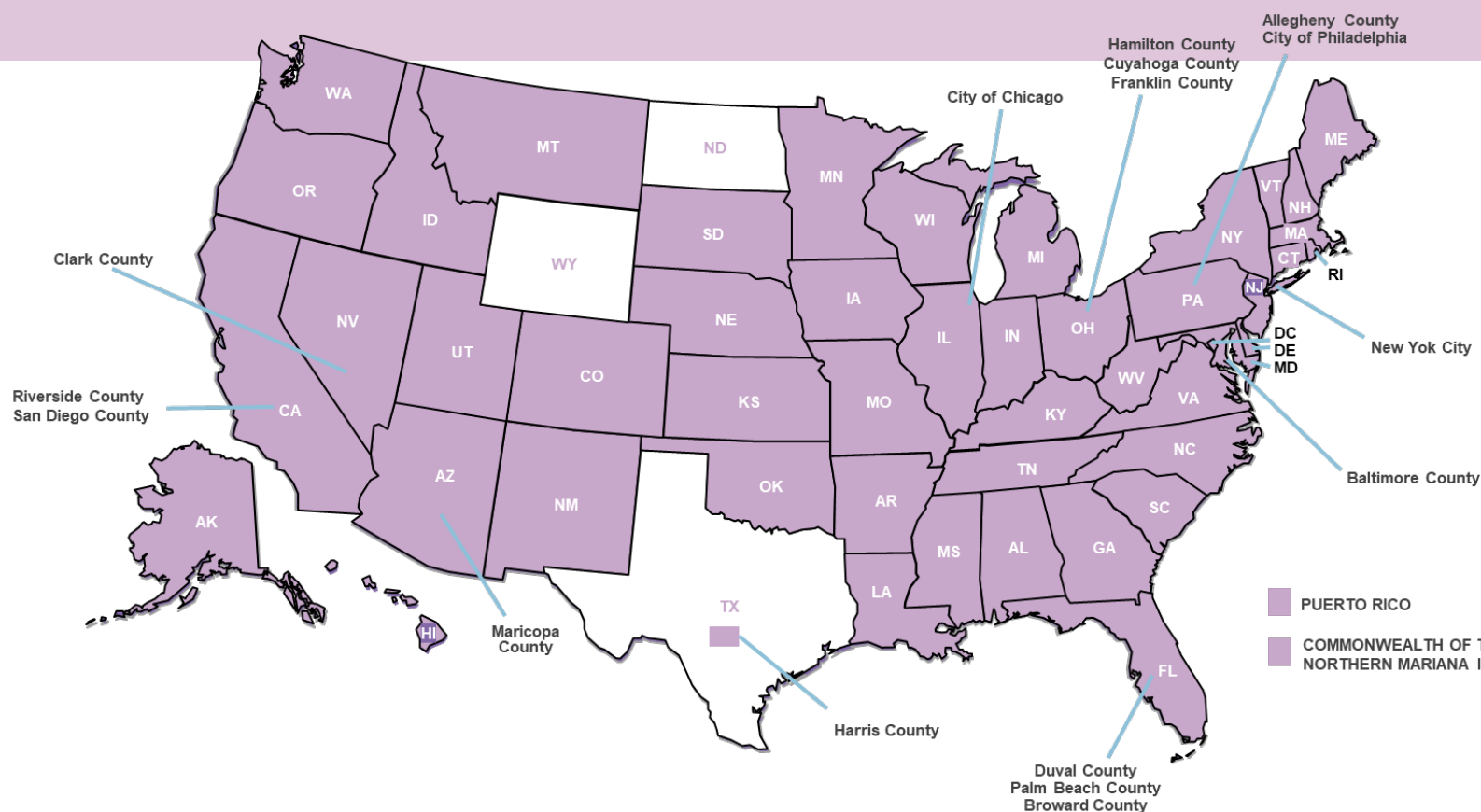
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Overdose Data to Action (OD2A)



- \$300M per year for 4 years
- Seamless integration of data and prevention programs
- 66 jurisdictions funded including 47 states, DC, 2 territories and 16 hard hit cities and counties
- At least twenty percent of state funds go to the local level as well to spur innovation and multisector collaboration.



Surveillance



PDMPs



Health System



Public Safety



Linkage to Care



Empower
Consumers



Local Response

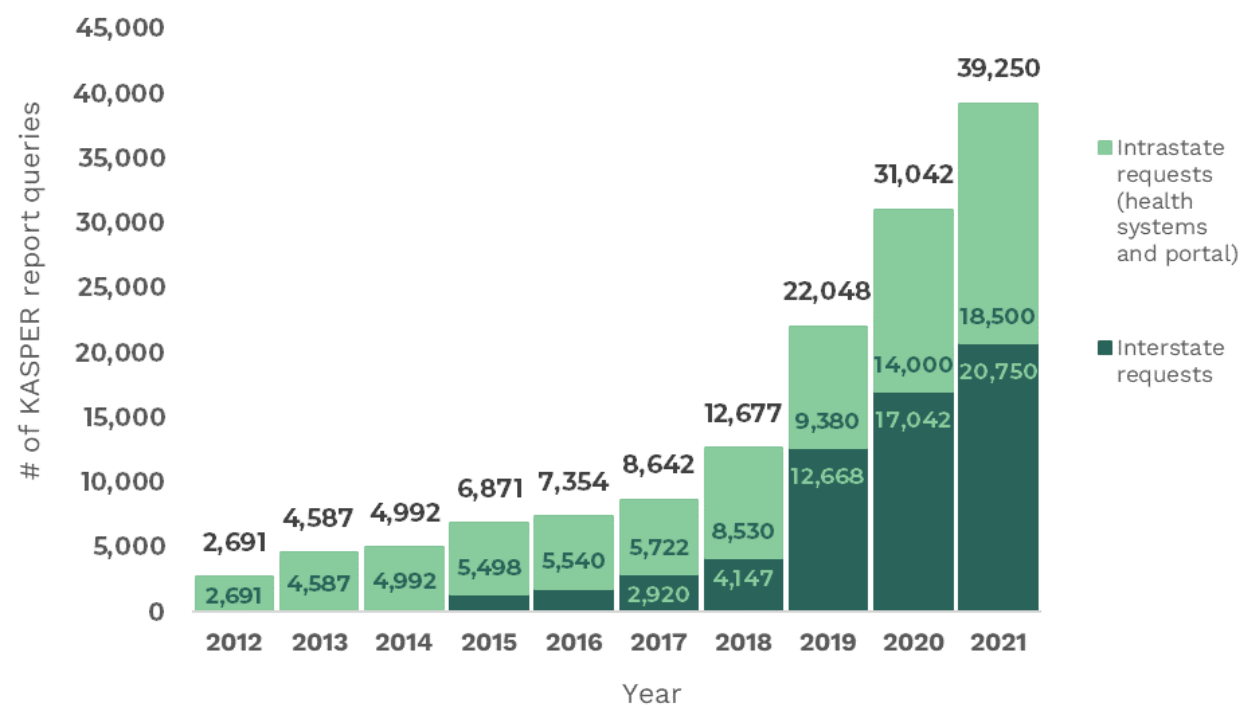


OD2A Success Story: Kentucky's PDMP Program KASPER



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National Center for Injury
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KASPER Use: Report Requests 2012-2021

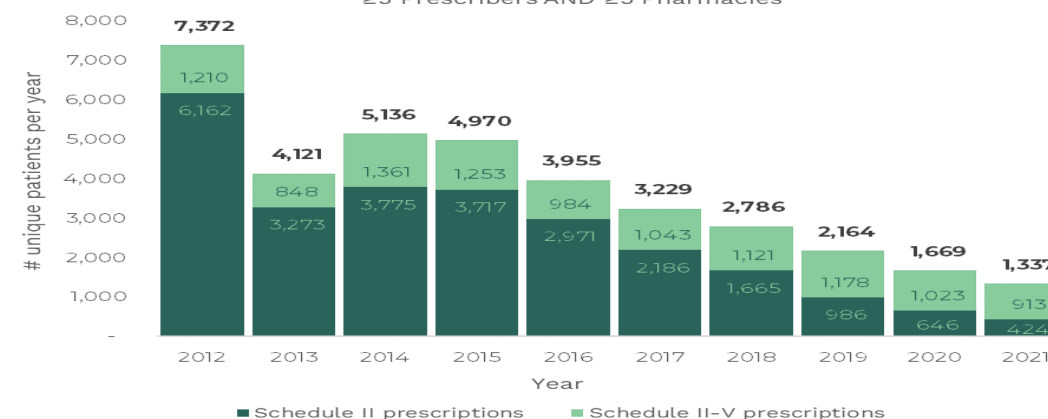


- KASPER was cited as software that supports multiple pathways for integration among clinicians and health systems in different ways:

Highlights

- Flexibility and provision in hub choice facilitate integration uptake
- Ongoing engagement with clinicians and health systems provides a supportive environment
- Improved workflow and accessibility for clinical staff is partly attributed to data integration
- Open data sharing status fosters interstate interoperability

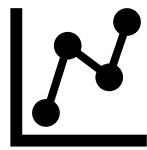
Annual Number of Unique Patients with Multiple Provider Episodes
≥5 Prescribers AND ≥5 Pharmacies





CONCEPT

The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) obtained approval for the delivery of **near-real time nonfatal overdose notifications** to local jurisdictions to support rapid care coordination services to identify people who experience non overdose who are at risk of future, fatal overdose.



DATA SOURCES

The state health information exchange and project vendor, Chesapeake regional information systems (CRISP) provides notifications through the hospital and EMS overdose data using the EMS opioid case definition and ICD-10 codes. CRISP led the testing of the case definitions and reviewed zip code boundaries to route alerts to local jurisdictions



PILOT PROGRAM

Seven local health departments (LHDs) were recruited to participate in the pilot to receive these data notifications and use them to target resources for prevention activities. Participants include: MDHs behavioral health administration, the Maryland hospital association, Community based organizations, peers and two local health officers



PROGRESS

In the first four weeks more than 700 hospital and EMS notifications were received, jurisdictions are documenting successful contacts made with overdose survivors

CDC Resources

STOP OVERDOSE



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FACTS ON FENTANYL

Fentanyl is up to 50x more potent than heroin and 100x more potent than morphine. **Learn more about the dangers of fentanyl and how it has taken over the drug supply.**

POLYSUBSTANCE USE FACTS

Polysubstance use occurs when two or more drugs are taken together, either intentionally or unintentionally. **Learn more about the risks and consequences of mixing different types of drugs.**

LIVESAVING NALOXONE

Naloxone is a safe medication that can reverse an overdose from opioids, including heroin and fentanyl. **Learn more about where to get naloxone and how to use it.**

STIGMA REDUCTION

Addiction is a disease, not a character flaw. There are many ways to treat substance use disorders. **Learn more about what options are available and how to support loved ones on their recovery journey.**

Linking People with Opioid Use Disorder to Medication Treatment:

A Technical Package of Policy,
Programs, and Practices



2022



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Prevention and Control

Apply Best Practices for Linkage to Care

- + Linkage to evidence-based care with medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) is vital for public health.
- + Outpatient care programs, hospital departments (including emergency departments), harm reduction and syringe services programs, and criminal justice settings all present opportunities for linkage to care.
- + This technical package describes opportunities and established best practices as well as summaries of current research. It offers practical advice for providing trauma-informed and culturally appropriate care to certain populations at increased risk of OUD and other opioid-related harms.
- + Organizations that have developed innovative approaches for linking patients with MOUD are highlighted, offering real world examples to help guide and inspire action.

Promoting What Works In Communities

- + CDC reference document showcasing 10 best practices to prevent opioid overdose.

Harm Reduction Strategies:

- Targeted Naloxone Distribution
- 911 Good Samaritan Laws
- Syringe Services Programs

Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT):

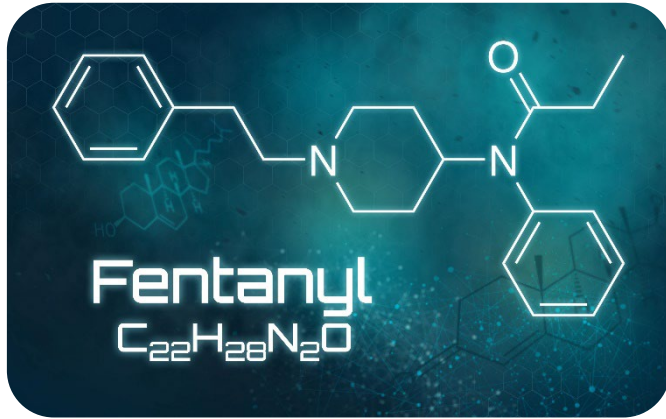
- MAT Prior-Authorization
- MAT in Criminal Justice Settings and Upon Release
- ED Buprenorphine Initiation

Academic Detailing

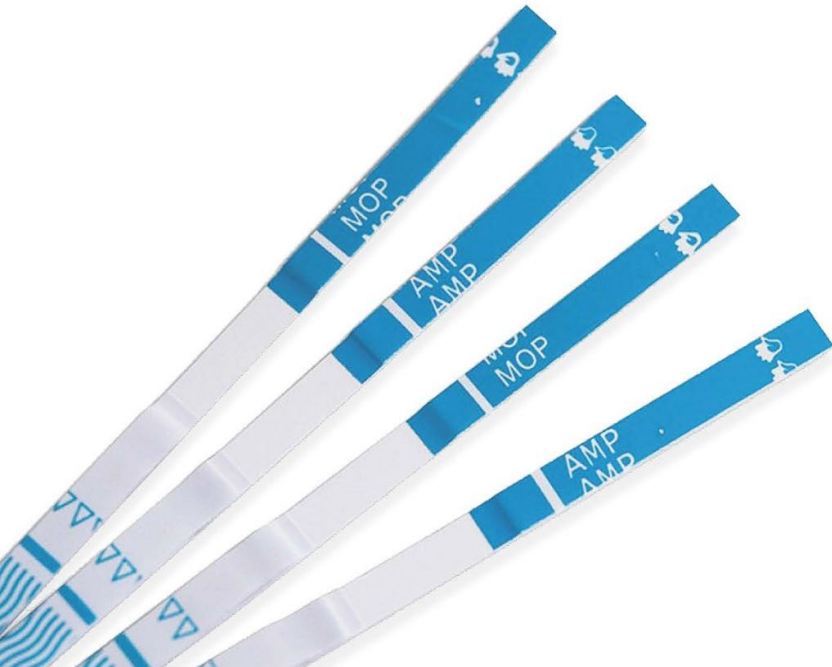
Fentanyl Toxicology Screening



Promoting Use of Fentanyl Test Strips



- + Created in 2011 and distributed mainly at harm reduction sites. Greater distribution needed across other settings.
- + Single line indicates a positive AND double line indicates a negative. Does not detect all analogs like carfentanil.
- + Inexpensive (~\$1 each), easy to use, and can be carried in a wallet or purse.
- + Does not provide information about amount of fentanyl but can inform use decisions.
- + Use of FTS associated with using more slowly, using less, throwing the batch away, or using with another person around.
- + As of April 2021, CDC and SAMHSA funding can be used to purchase FTS to support drug checking and surveillance.



CDC Partnerships and Innovative Programs

Overdose Response Strategy



National Program

33 High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas across 50 States, DC, Puerto Rico, & US Virgin Islands



Share data systems between
public health and safety

Implement overdose prevention
and response strategies

Evaluate promising public health
and safety strategies



Cornerstone Projects



2016

Fentanyl

Presence and status of fentanyl analogs in ORS states



2017

911 Good Samaritan Laws

Law enforcement knowledge, understanding, and experience implementing Good Samaritan Laws



2018

Linkage to Care

Prearrest diversion, drug courts, linkage upon release from incarceration, post-overdose outreach, and safe stations.



2019

Overdose Prevention in Jails

Correctional staff knowledge of jail-based overdose prevention strategies available



2021

Stimulants

Effective response to people who use stimulants



Combating Opioid Overdose through Community Level Intervention (COOCLI)

Example COOCLIs

- Working with the hospitality and restaurant industry to train managers and staff on the importance of having naloxone on-site in Broward County FL
- Warm hand offs and targeted re-entry care coordination prior to release from incarceration in Philadelphia, PA
- Using community paramedics, peer mentors, case managers, others to identify, refer, and support those suffering with a SUD through Project Hope in Clackamas County, OR
- Leverage bilingual and bicultural behavioral health support for case management, recovery support services, and outreach in Boston, MA
- Allow people with an SUD to schedule and receive rides to treatment appointments and programs through Wheels of Hope in Merrimack Valley MA

Broward County, FL



\$2.5M in FY21



An innovative and holistic police-school-community partnership

- Focuses on ACES to create a trauma informed community working to build resilience in children.
- Partnership between Berkeley County Schools, Martinsburg Police Department, Shepherd University and community organizations including The Boys & Girls Club of the Eastern Panhandle.
- Program advocates for children with high ACE scores and connect individuals and their families with the services they need to succeed.
- Program is tiered and provides school supports, prevention programs, and wrap-around services for children and families in need.



Bureau of Justice Assistance Partnerships

Rural Responses to the Opioid Epidemic

Overdose Detection Mapping Application Pilot
States & Tribes

Building Bridges Between Jails and Community Based
Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder

Harm Reduction Training and Education for Law
Enforcement

Overdose Fatality Review Project



BJA's

Comprehensive

Opioid, Stimulant,
and Substance Abuse

Program

**The most important
pitch is the next one.**



QUESTIONS



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Extra Slides