



# OPIOID CRISIS



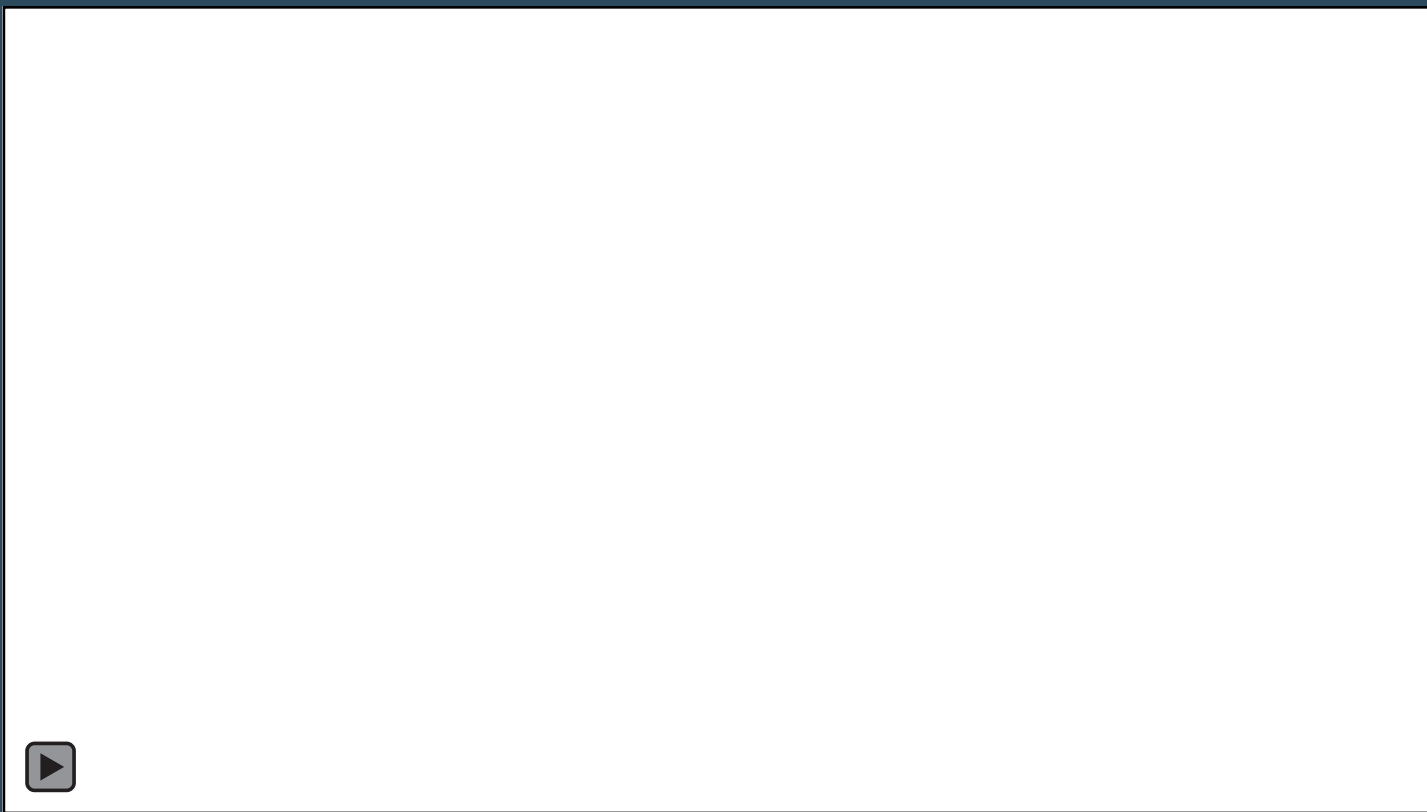
**COUNTERDRUG  
JOINT TASK  
FORCE**

**Pennsylvania  
National Guard**

EST. 1989



# HEROIN IN THE COMMUNITY





# HEROIN IN THE COMMUNITY





# COURSE OVERVIEW

- Introduction to Opioids
- Trends
- Drug Overdoses
- Prevention



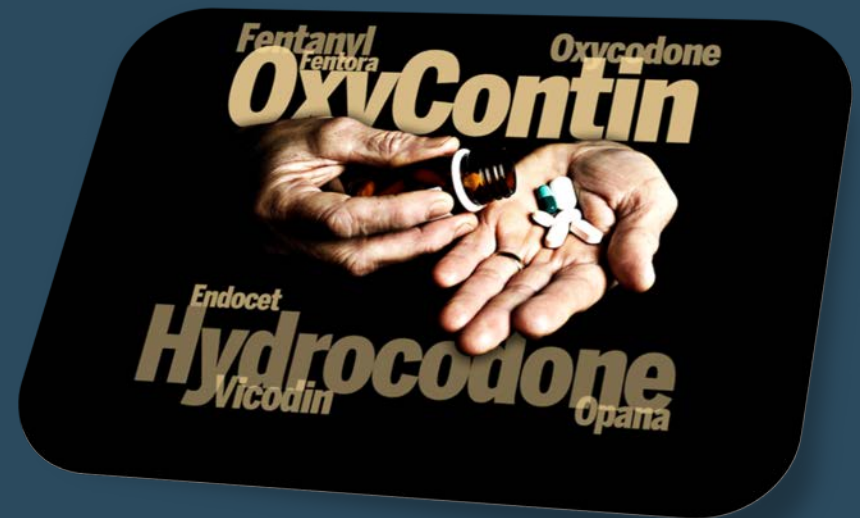
# PRESCRIPTION OPIOIDS





# WHAT ARE OPIOIDS

- Agent that bind to opioid receptors to relieve pain
- Methods of administration
  - Oral
  - Injected
  - Snorted
- Concerns
  - Increased tolerance
  - Dependence
  - Addiction
  - Overdose





# RX OPIOID TRENDS

2015



**79,000**

Prescribers



**6.6 Million**

Prescriptions for  
Oxycodone and Hydrocodone



**~37 Pills**

Per Pennsylvanian



**3600**

Pharmacies



**475 Million**

Dosage Units



# RX OPIOID TRENDS

- **Adolescents Perception**
  - 38% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders and 55% of 12 graders feel there is great risk in taking prescription drugs occasionally
  - **80% of high school students and 44% of middle school students have personally witnessed drug related activities at their school**
  - **PA narcotic prescription drug use higher than national rate for 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders**

Source: DEA Philadelphia Field Division. (2016). *National and Regional Trends in Heroin and Opioid Availability and Abuse* [PowerPoint Slides]. Retrieved from DEA Philadelphia Field Division

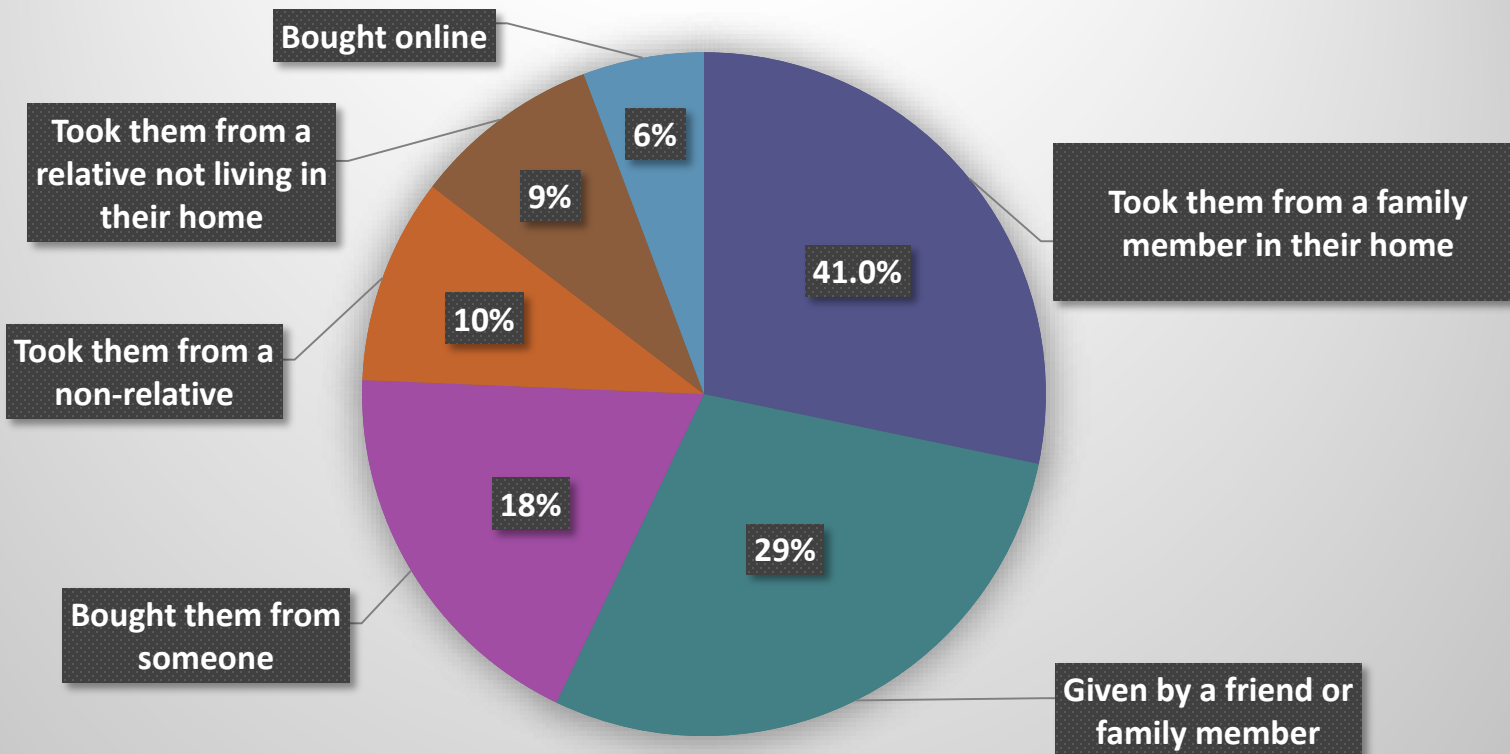
Source: PCCD, DDAP, & PDE. (2015). *Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS)*. Retrieved from <http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Juvenile-Justice/Documents/PAYS/2015%20PAYS%20State%20Report%20082816.pdf>





# RX OPIOID TRENDS

## Sources of Obtaining Prescription Narcotics





# RX OPIOID TRENDS

## New Updates in PA

- 2 Nov 2016 Gov. Wolf signed five pieces of legislation to battle the heroin and opioid epidemic in PA
  - Restrictions on physicians in regards to minors
  - Safe prescribing curriculum in medical colleges and training facilities
  - Requirements on continuing education
  - Prescribers must check the Achieving Better Care – Monitoring All Prescriptions program before prescribing
  - Dispensers must enter data into ABC-MAP within 24 hours
  - Hospitals and urgent care centers limited to prescribing 7 day supply
  - Expands the prescription drop off program



# HEROIN





# WHAT IS HEROIN

- **Opioid synthesized from morphine.**
  - Morphine extracted from poppy plant
- **Methods of Administration**
  - Injected
  - Snorted
  - Smoked
- **Concerns**
  - Highly addictive
  - Disease Transmission
  - High risk of overdose

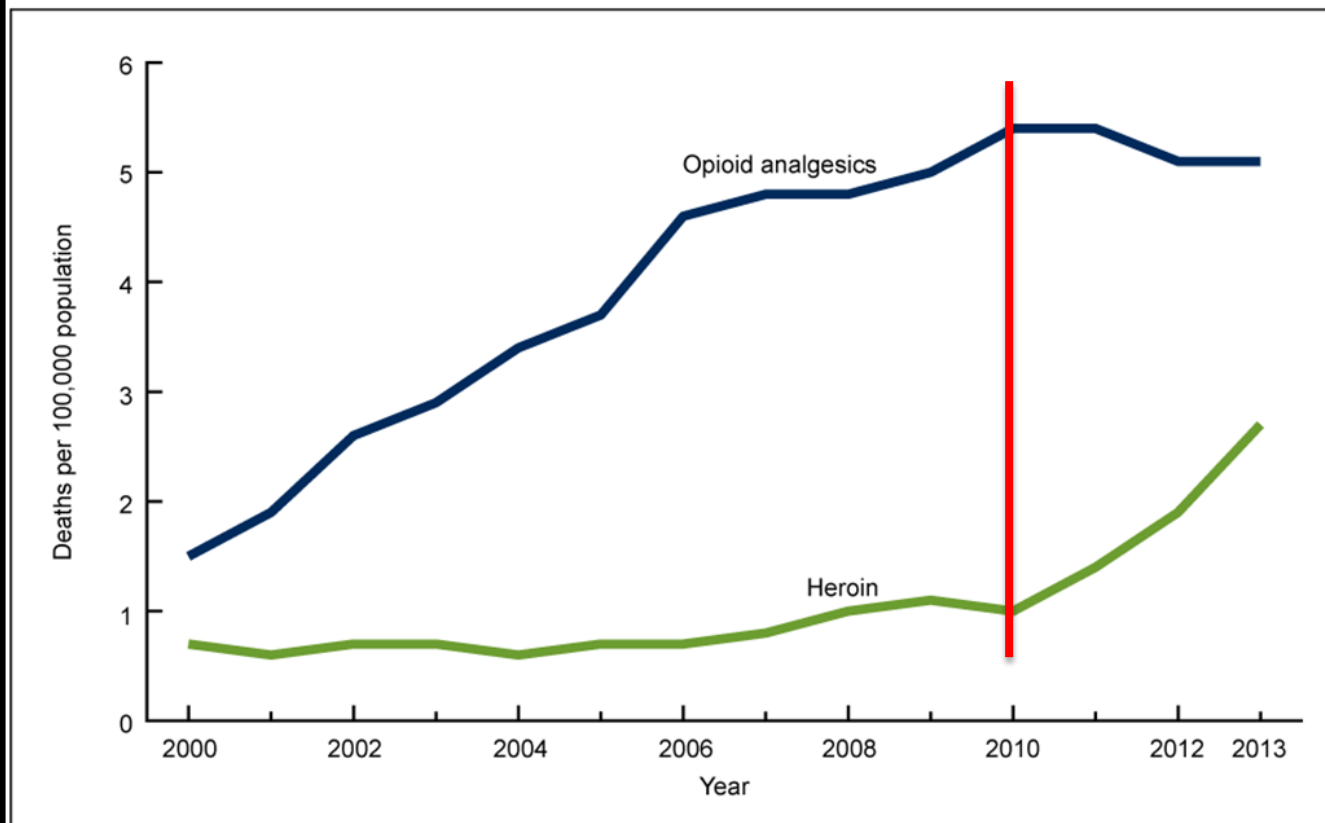




# Rx OPIOID TRENDS

Heroin is Replacing Rx Opioids

Figure 1. Age-adjusted rates for drug-poisoning deaths, by type of drug: United States, 2000–2013



NOTES: The number of drug-poisoning deaths in 2013 was 43,982, the number of drug-poisoning deaths involving opioid analgesics was 16,235, and the number of drug-poisoning deaths involving heroin was 8,257. A small subset of 1,342 deaths involved both opioid analgesics and heroin. Deaths involving both opioid analgesics and heroin are included in both the rate of deaths involving opioid analgesics and the rate of deaths involving heroin. Access data table for Figure 1 at: [http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/databriefs/db190\\_table.pdf#1](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/databriefs/db190_table.pdf#1).

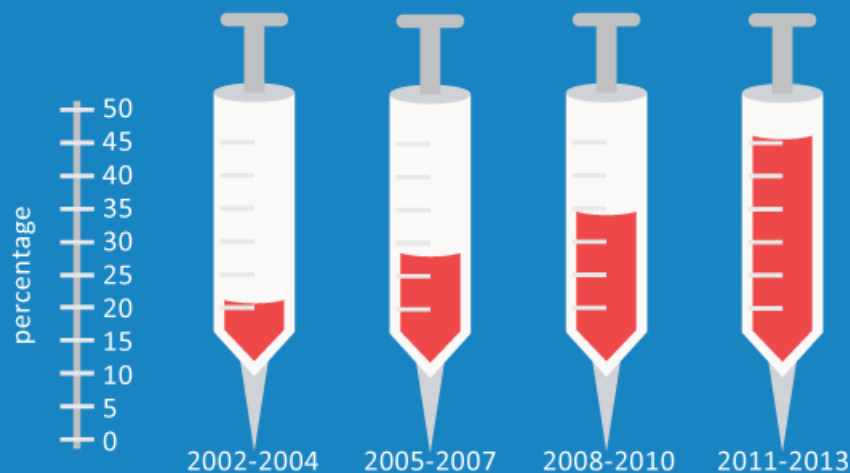
SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality.



# HEROIN TRENDS

- Rx Opioid Transition to Heroin
  - Same chemical properties as opioids
  - Pills become too expensive and less available
    - \$25-\$50 a day vs. \$125-\$250 per day
  - Heroin is widely available, cheap, and highly pure

The percentage of heroin users with opioid pain reliever abuse or dependence more than doubled, from **20.7%** in 2002-2004 to **45.2%** in 2011-2013.



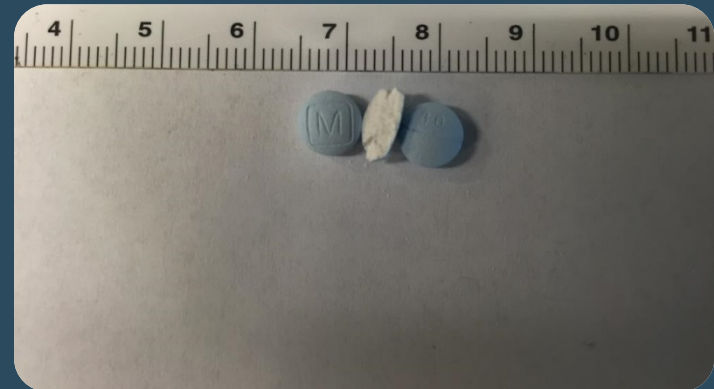
Annual average percentage of past-year heroin users\* with past-year opioid pain reliever abuse or dependence, by time interval – U.S., 2002–2013.

\*Past-year heroin use defined as any use of heroin in the 12 months preceding the National Survey on Drug Use and Health survey interview. Source: CDC Vital Signs release, July 10, 2015



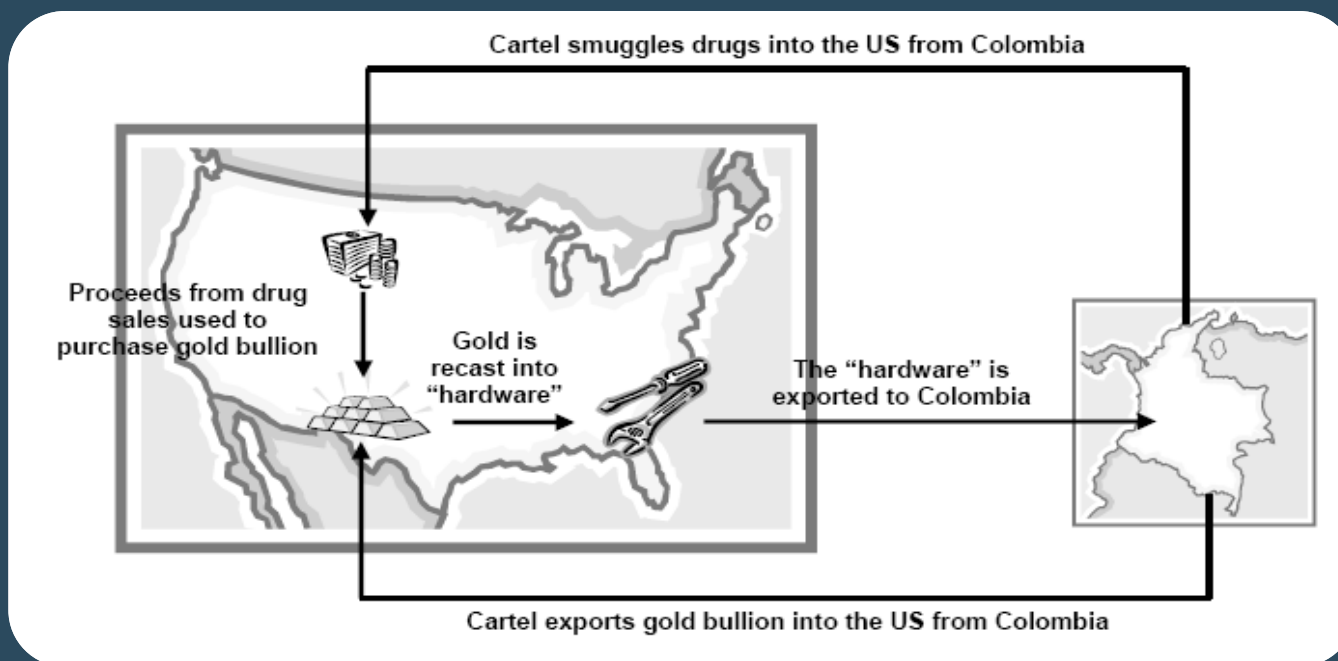
# HEROIN TRENDS

- **Fentanyl and Fentanyl Compounds**
  - Highly powerful synthetic opioid
  - Easy to manufacture
  - Highly profitable
  - Dangerous to handle





# HEROIN TRENDS



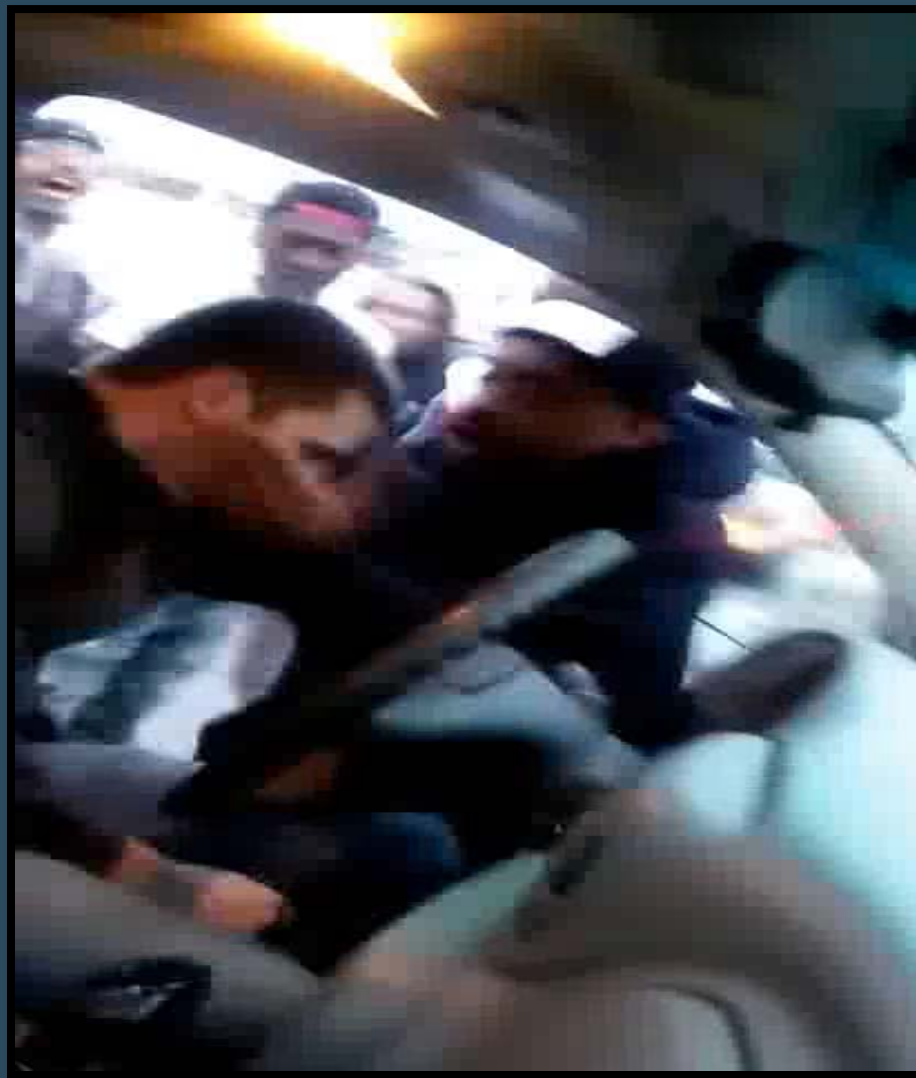
CBOs profit on every level  
Stopping the money > Stopping the drugs





# OPIOID OVERDOSES

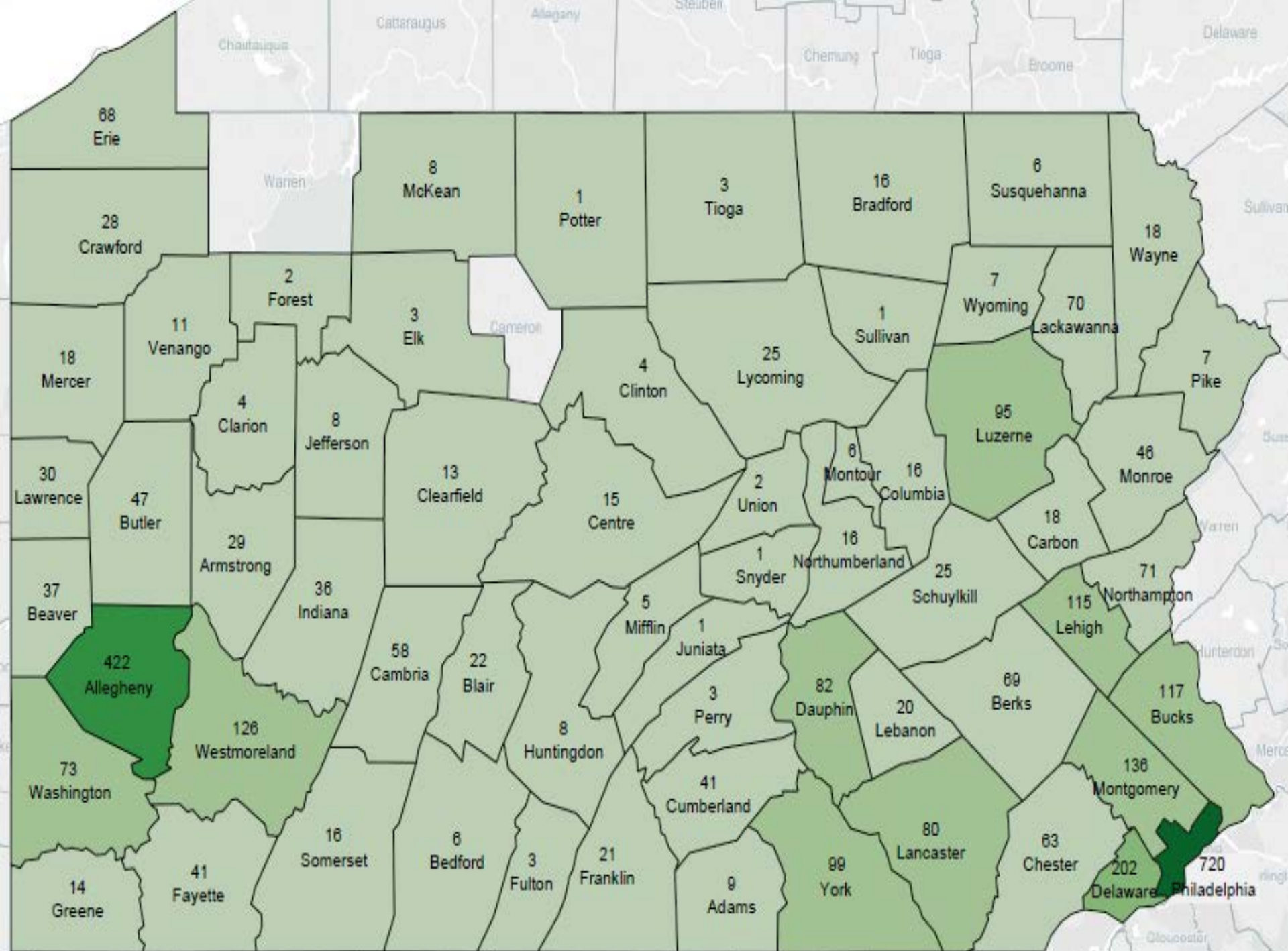
- Loss of consciousness
- Difficult to arouse
- Breathing will slow or even stop
- Pinpointed pupils
- Death can occur within minutes





# OVERDOSE TRENDS

- **Pennsylvania Drug Overdoses**
  - In 2015, nearly 3,400 deaths, an increase of 23.4% from 2014
  - In 2015, PA ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in the nation for number of drug related overdose deaths – Center for Disease Control
  - Heroin was present in overdose decedents in 59 of the 62 counties





# OVERDOSE TRENDS

Ranking of Frequency of Drugs Present, and Rate of Change  
In Drug-Related Overdose Decedents, Pennsylvania, 2014 - 2015

Rank	Drug	% Reported Among 2015 Decedents	Δ From 2014
1	Heroin	★ 54.6%	5.4%
2	Fentanyl	★ 27.0%	★ 92.9%
3	Cocaine	23.9%	40.6%
4	Alprazolam	20.5%	5.7%
5	Oxycodone	18.6%	3.9%
6	Clonazepam	9.9%	3.1%
7	Diazepam	7.5%	-9.6%
8	Marijuana	7.1%	7.6%
9	Methadone	6.7%	-11.8%
10	Hydrocodone	5.8%	7.4%
11	Tramadol	3.8%	-17.4%
12	Acetyl Fentanyl	3.6%	*
13	Methamphetamine	3.1%	95.0%
14	PCP	1.7%	-16.5%

\*No Acetyl Fentanyl Reported in 2014

Figure 3: Gender and Age of Drug-Related Overdose Decedents, Pennsylvania, 2015

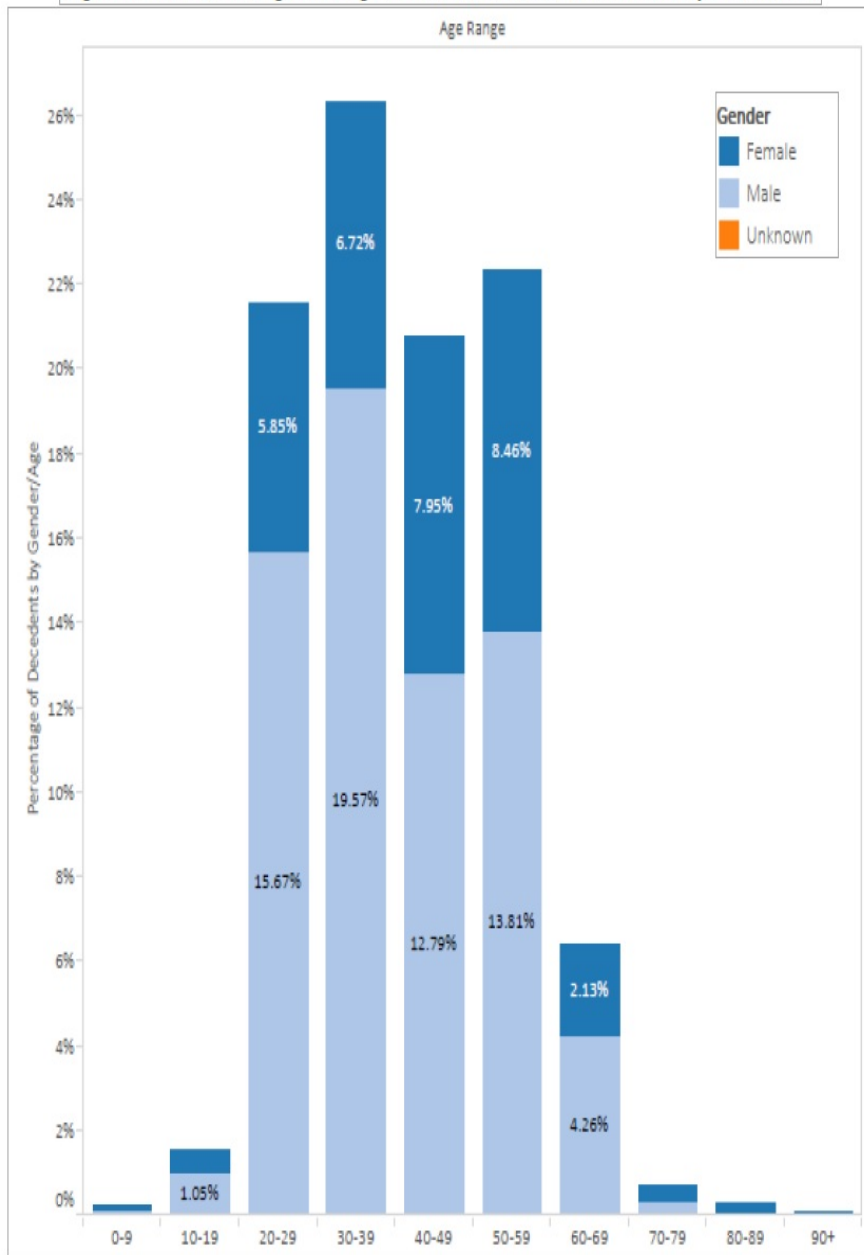
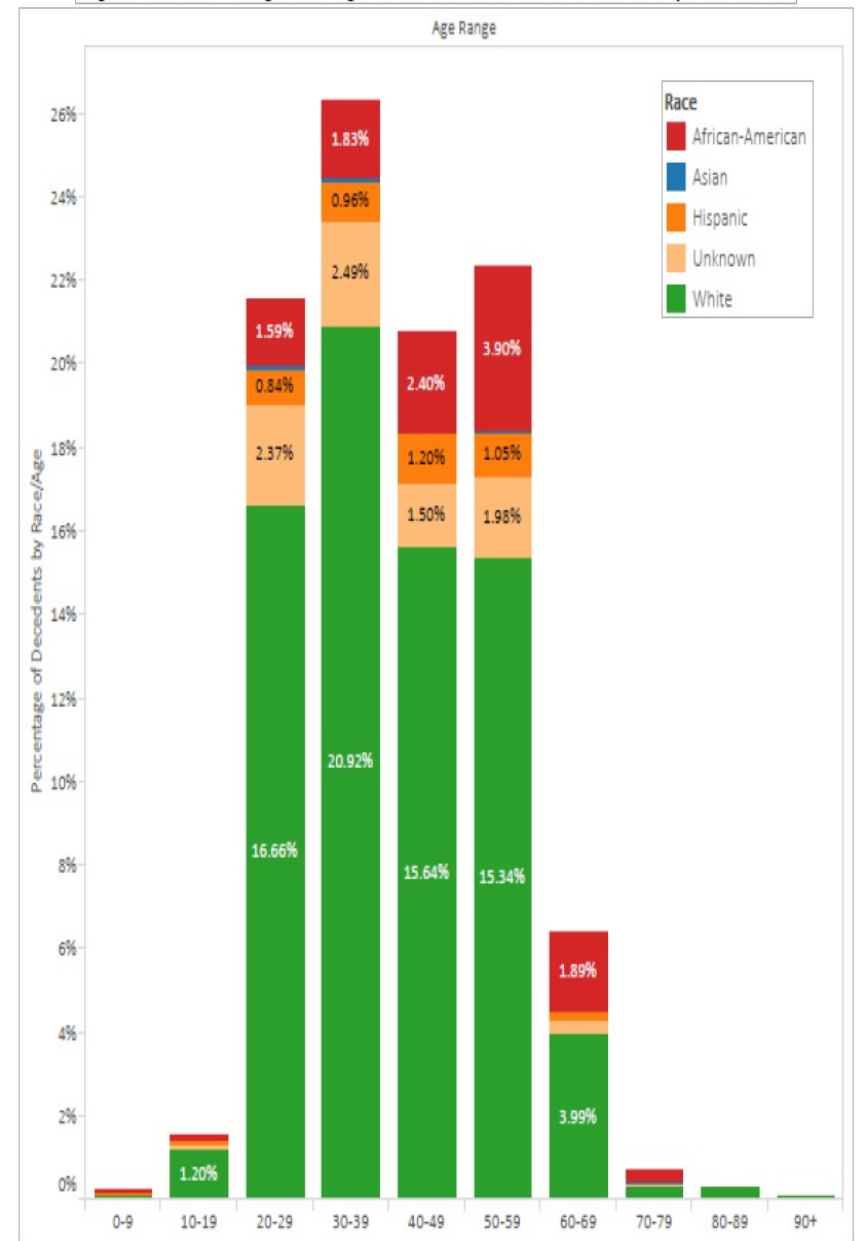


Figure 5: Race and Age of Drug-Related Overdose Decedents, Pennsylvania, 2015



Source: Pennsylvania Coroner Data

Source: Pennsylvania Coroner Data



# OVERDOSE TRENDS

- **Naloxone (Narcan™)**

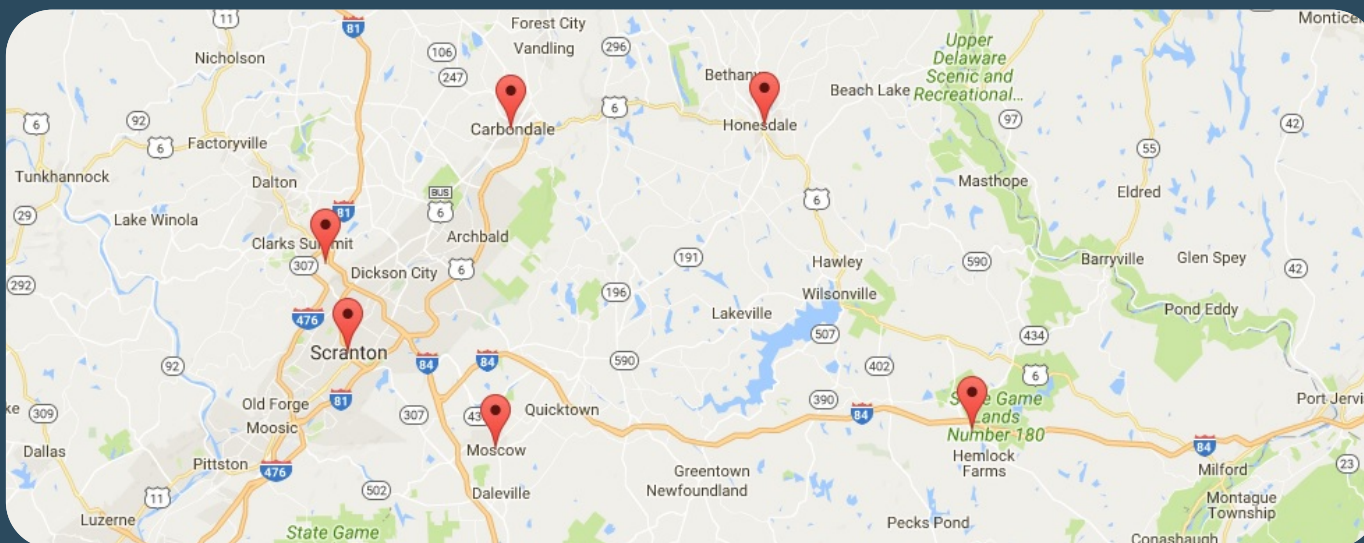
- Binds the same receptor as all opioids to block the effects
- There is **no adverse effect** in individuals who do not use opioids so it is very safe
- Effects should be seen within minutes





# DRUG TAKE BACK PROGRAM

- Department of Drug and Alcohol (DDAP), PA Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD), and PA District Attorneys Association (PDAA)
- Allows for safe place to dispose of medications
  - Prevents accidental use or abuse
  - Decreases potential environmental hazards
- Secure drop-off boxes





# OPIOID ADDICTION

- **Warning Signs**

- Changes in physical appearance, attitude and/or behavior
- Pinpoint pupils
- Frequent flu-like symptoms
- Wearing long sleeves
- Drop in grades or work performance

- **Friends or family members**

- Missing medications
- Missing spoons
- Missing shoe laces and/or belts
- Increase in personal meds



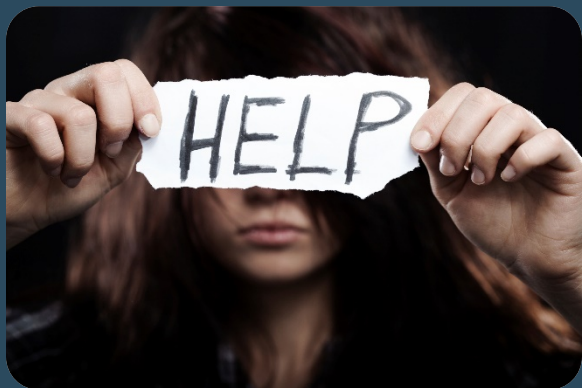




# HOW TO INTERVENE

If drugs or paraphernalia are found **DO NOT TOUCH**

- Be informed
- Contact a specialist
- Speak up and offer support
- Provide information for assistance
- DO NOT lecture



**PA GET HELP NOW**

*Find Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services*

**1-800-662-4357 (HELP)**

*1-800-662-4357 (HELP)*



# RESOURCES

**PA GET HELP NOW**

*Find Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services*

**1-800-662-4357 (HELP)**

- **Narcan Training** - <http://getnaloxonenow.org>
- **PA Dept. of Drug and Alcohol Programs** - [www.ddap.pa.gov](http://www.ddap.pa.gov)
- **Wayne County Drug and Alcohol Commission**  
318 10th St, Honesdale, PA 18431  
570-253-6022
- **GET HELP NOW**— Find Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services  
1-800-662-4357
- **PA Counterdrug Civil Operations**  
MSgt Brandon Staudt – 717-861-9396 – [c-brstaudt@pa.gov](mailto:c-brstaudt@pa.gov)



# QUESTIONS AND FEEDBACK



<http://www.surveymzmo.com/s3/3269668/heroin>