California’s Response to the Opioid Epidemic

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CHCF Briefing
52 weeks, 52 faces
Obituaries narrate lives lost to the opioid epidemic

Source: David Armstrong, STAT
An estimated 50,000 people died from an opioid overdose in the US in 2016
Where is the line that splits California’s population in half?

Source: USC PERE/CSII
Parts of California are harder hit than Ohio
2015 opioid overdose death rates per 100,000 (age adjusted)

Death rate above national average

Source: California Opioid Overdose Surveillance Dashboard:
https://cdph.ca.gov/opioiddashboard
Kaiser Family Foundation
How did we get here?

Rates of opioid sales, and overdose deaths, 1999-2010

Source: Centers for Disease Control. MMWR 2011
Addiction is a brain disease: living in a tempest
Medication calms the brain and allows true recovery

- Methadone
- Buprenorphine
- Naltrexone
What now?

California is engaged in coordinated efforts

- Opioid prescribing
- Access to medication-assisted treatment
- Naloxone availability
California is starting to see improvements

From 2014-2016:

- 17% drop in opioids prescribed
- 14% increase in buprenorphine prescriptions
- Number of deaths stable
Welcome to the California Opioid Overdose Surveillance Dashboard

The dashboard and data available through this application are the result of a multi-agency collaboration between the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), Office of Behavioral Health and Suicide Prevention (OBHSP), California Department of Justice, and the California Health Care Foundation. The goal is to provide a data-driven, real-time visualization and integration of statewide and regionally specific acute, natality and analytic data involving overdose and opioid prescription data. These dashboards will enable surveillance of several short- and long-term goals currently targeted by California’s Prescribed Drug Overdoses Prevention program.

For more information on what California is doing to address the opioid epidemic, visit the following resources:
- Prescription Drug Overdose Prevention (PDOP) Program
- Opioid-Related Safety Workgroup

Understanding the Data
The data used in this application was authorized by several sources:
- Multiple Cause of Death Data provided by the California Vital Statistics
- Emergency Department Visit & Incident Information Data provided by CHCF

Both raw and age-adjusted rates are available for each indicator. Cause of death records the total number of deaths during a specific year for a given cause of death for every 100,000 residents, divided by the population and multiplied by 100,000. For example, a crude death rate of 20 for females would mean that there were 20 recorded deaths from breast cancer per 100,000 population for a given year. The age-adjusted death rate is calculated by using the age distribution of the US population as the standard. The age-adjusted death rate is calculated by multiplying each cause-specific death rate by its corresponding age distribution of the population, summing these products for all causes, and dividing by the total population size.

Please visit the Data Definitions and Technical Notes page for detailed descriptions of how each indicator was calculated, assumptions regarding the data, data suppression, and any limitations.
Coordinated Efforts Statewide
Statewide Opioid Safety Workgroup

Building a comprehensive approach to:

- Safer Prescribing
- Access to Treatment
- Naloxone Distribution
- Public Education Campaign
- State Opioid Overdose Dashboard
Hub-and-Spoke System

Primary Care Setting

SUD Clinic

Mental Health Services

Primary Care Setting

Primary Care Setting

Pain Management Clinic

Specialty Treatment “Hub”
Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System

- Counties that have submitted implementation plans to participate in the DMC-ODS Pilot
- Counties that have begun treating patients
CURES 2.0

Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System
Smart Care California

Public-private partnership of major California health purchasers, plans and providers covering 40% of California lives

Current areas of focus:

• Opioid Safety
• C-Sections
• Low back pain
California Opioid Safety Network
What can we learn from another epidemic?


Source: Centers for Disease Control, National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention
California Death Rates, Fentanyl

Fentanyl Overdose (Preliminary) Deaths: Age-Adjusted Rate per 100k Residents

Source: California Opioid Overdose Surveillance Dashboard: [https://cdph.ca.gov/opioiddashboard](https://cdph.ca.gov/opioiddashboard)

California Health Care Foundation [www.chcf.org](http://www.chcf.org)
Summary

*Hard problems need systems solutions.*

**PREVENT:** Fewer prescriptions, lower doses, shorter durations

**MANAGE:** Identify patients at risk, taper to safer treatments

**TREAT:** Streamline access to medication-assisted treatment

**STOP:** Stop the deaths – streamline access to naloxone
Panel Discussion
Statewide Opioid Safety Workgroup

Building a comprehensive approach to:

- Safer Prescribing
- Access to Treatment
- Naloxone Distribution
- Public Education Campaign
- State dashboard
Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System
Audience Q&A