Issue brief: Nation’s drug-related overdose and death epidemic continues to worsen

*Updated February 15, 2022

The nation’s drug overdose epidemic continues to change and become worse. One prevailing theme is the fact that the epidemic now is driven by illicit fentanyl, fentanyl analogs, methamphetamine, and cocaine, often in combination or in adulterated forms. There is an urgent need for policymakers’ action to increase access to evidence-based care for substance use disorders, pain and harm reduction measures. The news articles and reports below cite data from multiple and varied sources, including national, state and local public health agencies, law enforcement, emergency medical services, hospitals, treatment centers, research journals and others.

Recent AMA advocacy, resources and recommendations to end the epidemic:

- **AMA-Manatt Health 2022 state policy toolkit** provides more than 400 specific laws, regulations, policy guidance and other actions being implemented to help reduce mortality and improve outcomes. The toolkit builds on the 2020 **AMA-Manatt Health national policy roadmap** use of best practices to increase access to evidence-based care for mental illness, substance use disorders, comprehensive pain care and harm reduction initiatives.
- The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on February 10, 2022, released a draft revision to its 2016 opioid prescribing guideline. The AMA said that the CDC’s new draft guideline—if followed by policymakers, health insurance companies and pharmacy chains—provides a path to remove arbitrary prescribing thresholds, restore balance and support comprehensive, compassionate care.
- **AMA letter urging Congress** to hold health plans accountable for nearly 15 years of failures in complying with the 2008 Mental Health Parity And Equity Addiction Act.
- **AMA comments on Biden Administration’s 2022 National Drug Control Strategy.** Reduce barriers to medications to treat substance use disorders; broaden access to a wide range of harm reduction services, including naloxone, sterile needle and syringe exchange services, and drug checking supplies; require all health insurance programs to remove arbitrary restrictions for care for patients with pain; and take steps to develop and support a national, standardized reporting system for key metrics related to drug use. July 2021.
- **Recommendations from the AMA Substance Use and Pain Care Task Force** and **AMA 2021 Overdose Epidemic national report** Updated recommendations that highlight physicians’ actions as well as additional steps that must be taken to have a meaningful impact on reducing drug-related mortality and improving patient outcomes. September 2021.
- **AMA issue brief on key considerations for employers during the drug overdose epidemic.** This includes reviewing benefit plans for patients and families with substance use disorders, mental illness and/or pain; promoting harm reduction at work; and reducing stigma.

See below for news and other reports from all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

For more information, please contact Daniel Blaney-Koen, JD, Senior Legislative Attorney, AMA Advocacy Resource Center, at daniel.blaney-koen@ama-assn.org

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National reports

- Teenage Fentanyl Deaths Are Soaring, and Black Teens Are Hit Hardest.  
- Study shows that states need more naloxone.  
- Overdose deaths cost US $1 trillion annually, bipartisan report finds.  
- Overdose Deaths Caused by Opioids in Combination with Stimulants Hit Black Communities Hardest.  
- Suicides by drug overdose increased among young people, elderly people, and Black women, despite overall downward trend.  
- Economic Toll Of Opioid Epidemic: $1.3 Trillion A Year.  
- Surging Racial Disparities in the U.S. Overdose Crisis.  
  https://doi.org/10.1176/appi.aip.2021.21040381 February 2, 2022
- The fight to legalize life-saving fentanyl test strips in Southern states.  
- Overdose deaths hit a historic high in 2020. Frustrated experts say these strategies could save lives.  
- The future of Overdose Prevention Centers—With two U.S. centers now open, will the Biden administration intervene or look away?  
  https://www.medpagetoday.com/psychiatry/addictions/96468 January 1, 2022
- Making Addiction Treatment More Realistic And Pragmatic: The Perfect Should Not Be The Enemy Of The Good.  
- To save lives, overdose antidote should be sold over-the-counter, advocates argue.  
  https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2021/12/14/1063865914/to-save-lives-overdose-antidote-should-be-sold-over-the-counter-advocates-argue December 14, 2021
- Fed up with baby steps amid ‘tsunami of overdose death’.  
- Buprenorphine Misuse: What’s the Reality?  
  https://www.medpagetoday.com/opinion/second-opinions/95753?xid=nl_secondopinion_2021-11-21&eun=g1622575d0 November 18, 2021
- Opinion: U.S. overdose deaths are soaring, Biden’s new plan could help ease the crisis.  
- As overdose deaths soar, DEA-wary pharmacies shy from dispensing addiction medication.  
• The Biden team is scrambling to slow a crushing wave of drug overdose deaths. https://www.npr.org/2021/10/27/1049245787/biden-hhs-tackle-drug-overdose-deaths October 27, 2021

• Overdose deaths are so high that the Biden team is embracing ideas once seen as taboo. https://www.npr.org/2021/10/27/1049245787/biden-hhs-tackle-drug-overdose-deaths October 27, 2021


• Fentanyl is one reason why the U.S. drug addiction crisis is roaring back. https://www.npr.org/2021/10/19/1047223109/fentanyl-is-one-reason-why-the-u-s-drug-addiction-crisis-is-roaring-back October 19, 2021

• Drug users face obstacles and mistrust when it comes to getting COVID vaccine. https://www.npr.org/2021/10/03/1042802584/drug-users-face-obstacles-and-mistrust-when-it-comes-to-getting-covid-vaccine October 3, 2021


• Patients on high doses of opioid analogesics risk overdose when tapering study finds. https://www.pharmacist.com/Pharmacy-News/patients-on-high-doses-of-opioid-analogesics-risk-overdose-when-tapering-study-finds August 26, 2021

• As opioid epidemic rages, an overdose antidote is in short supply; Pfizer says manufacturing issue led to problems producing injectable Narcan. https://www.bostonglobe.com/2021/08/02/metro/opioid-epidemic-rages-an-overdose-antitode-is-short-supply-rii August 2, 2021


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• **The Opioid Crackdown is Hurting People in Pain.** [https://washingtonmonthly.com/2021/06/15/the-opioid-crackdown-is-hurting-people-in-pain/](https://washingtonmonthly.com/2021/06/15/the-opioid-crackdown-is-hurting-people-in-pain/) June 15, 2021


• **Chronic pain can be burdensome. Isolation during the pandemic can make it worse.** [https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/chronic-pain-pandemic-isolation/2021/05/07/9e0c7112-adde-11eb-b476-c3b287e52a01_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/chronic-pain-pandemic-isolation/2021/05/07/9e0c7112-adde-11eb-b476-c3b287e52a01_story.html) May 9, 2021


• **One in five pharmacies blocks access to key medication to treat addiction.** [https://news.ohsu.edu/2021/04/26/one-in-five-pharmacies-blocks-access-to-key-medication-to-treat-addiction](https://news.ohsu.edu/2021/04/26/one-in-five-pharmacies-blocks-access-to-key-medication-to-treat-addiction) April 26, 2021

• **Overdose Deaths Surged in Pandemic, As More Drugs Were Laced With Fentanyl.** [https://www.delawarepublic.org/post/overdose-deaths-surged-pandemic-more-drugs-were-laced-fentanyl](https://www.delawarepublic.org/post/overdose-deaths-surged-pandemic-more-drugs-were-laced-fentanyl) April 22, 2021

• **The Health 202: Overdose deaths may have topped 90,000 in 2020.** [https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2021/04/07/health-202-overdose-deaths-may-have-topped-90000-2020/](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2021/04/07/health-202-overdose-deaths-may-have-topped-90000-2020/) April 7, 2021


• **House reshapes approach to mental health and addiction.** [https://www.rollcall.com/2021/03/16/house-reshapes-approach-to-mental-health-addiction/](https://www.rollcall.com/2021/03/16/house-reshapes-approach-to-mental-health-addiction/) March 16, 2021


• **As Overdose Deaths Surge, White House Takes Steps To Build Drug Policy Team.** [https://www.npr.org/sections/president-biden-takes-office/2021/02/03/963732520/as-overdose-deaths-surge-white-house-takes-steps-to-build-drug-policy-team](https://www.npr.org/sections/president-biden-takes-office/2021/02/03/963732520/as-overdose-deaths-surge-white-house-takes-steps-to-build-drug-policy-team) February 3, 2021

• **81,230 overdoses set record for such deaths in a 12-month period, CDC says.** [https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/81230-overdoses-set-record-for-such-deaths-in-a-](https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/81230-overdoses-set-record-for-such-deaths-in-a-)

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*Opioid overdoses are skyrocketing*: as Covid-19 sweeps across US an old epidemic returns. 

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- High Rate of Stimulant Use in Opioid ED Cases.  

- Coronavirus Crisis Disrupts Treatment For Another Epidemic: Addiction.  

- ‘Cries for help’: Drug overdoses are soaring during the coronavirus pandemic.  

- Expanded Telehealth Helps Communities Address Opioid Use Disorder During Pandemic; Practitioners see benefits for patients and providers, especially in rural areas.*  

- Pandemic unleashes a spike in overdose deaths.  

- Despite the Challenges, We Must Fight Harder to Address the Nation’s Opioid Epidemic; Patrice A. Harris, MD.  

- A New Addiction Crisis: Treatment Centers Face Financial Collapse.  

- Substance use up amid pandemic: survey.  

- The Escalation of the Opioid Epidemic Due to COVID-19 and Resulting Lessons About Treatment Alternatives.  

- Drug overdoses climb during COVID-19 pandemic; Officials nationwide report spikes less than a year after the Trump administration touted progress in battling the crisis.  

- The pandemic is triggering opioid relapses across Appalachia.  

- Don’t Forget the Other Pandemic Killing Thousands of Americans.  

- The pandemic may fuel the next wave of the opioid crisis.  

State reports

1. Alabama
   - Baldwin County drug overdose deaths tripled over 2 years.  
• Overdose deaths are up 31.3% in Arizona. https://whnt.com/news/overdose-deaths-are-up-31-3-in-arizona/ May 21, 2021
• Opioid overdoses increased 20% in Alabama. https://www.wbrc.com/2021/04/21/opioid-overdoses-increased-ala/ May 4, 2021
• Opioid overdoses on the rise since pandemic began. https://www.wbrc.com/2020/08/18/opioid-overdoses-rise-since-pandemic-began/ August 18, 2020

2. Alaska
• Overdose deaths in Alaska have been on the rise since the pandemic began, report says. https://www.adn.com/alaska-news/2020/12/23/overdose-deaths-in-alaska-have-been-on-the-rise-since-the-pandemic-began-report-says/ December 23, 2020

3. Arizona
• Arizona poison control centers sound alarm as fentanyl overdoses spike. https://www.kold.com/2022/02/02/arizona-poison-centers-sound-alarm-fentanyl-overdoses-spike/ February 1, 2022
4. Arkansas

- Addiction and overdose death impact on Northwest Arkansas and River Valley.

- Chronic pain patients decry federal guidelines at 6th state Capitol rally.
California


6. Colorado
- Law enforcement seizes 110,000 fentanyl pills from Denver-area stash houses; 19 indicted in trafficking ring. [https://www.denverpost.com/2021/12/01/denver-fentanyl-bust-arrests/](https://www.denverpost.com/2021/12/01/denver-fentanyl-bust-arrests/) December 1, 2021
- Opioid overdose deaths up 54% in 2000, fentanyl fatalities spike.

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7. Connecticut

- [Largest jump in Colorado overdose deaths in more than 20 years, data show.](https://coloradonewsline.com/briefs/largest-jump-in-colorado-overdose-deaths-in-more-than-20-years-data-show/) July 15, 2021
- [Street drugs containing fentanyl circulating in Boulder, officials say.](https://www.9news.com/article/news/health/fentanyl-drugs-boulder-xanax-oxycodeone/73-0528ece1-0081-4938-9b75-0892ca2a3ca9) February 6, 2021
- [Deaths in Colorado rose 20% during first 6 months of pandemic, reflecting COVID-19’s broader toll on health.](https://www.denverpost.com/2020/10/11/colorado-covid-death-toll/) October 11, 2020
- [Opioid crisis in Colorado could get worse amid pandemic.](https://apnews.com/bf1c11aac45d63808ffae945c750cd81) June 28, 2020
- Dozens of CT overdoses were falsely linked to fentanyl-laced marijuana, official says. [https://www.ctinsider.com/news/article/Dozens-of-CT-overdoses-were-falsely-linked-to-16821517.php](https://www.ctinsider.com/news/article/Dozens-of-CT-overdoses-were-falsely-linked-to-16821517.php) February 1, 2022
- With over 1,000 Connecticut deaths last year, opioids demand even greater attention during pandemic. [https://ctmirror.org/2020/07/09/with-over-1000-deaths-last-year-opioids-demand-even-greater-attention-during-pandemic/](https://ctmirror.org/2020/07/09/with-over-1000-deaths-last-year-opioids-demand-even-greater-attention-during-pandemic/) July 9, 2020

8. Delaware
9. District of Columbia

- Despite efforts by Bowser and D.C. Council, opioid deaths hit record this year. [https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/dc-politics/dc-opioid-deaths-2020/2020/12/05/95cfba3a-34c0-11eb-b59c-adb7153d10c3_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/dc-politics/dc-opioid-deaths-2020/2020/12/05/95cfba3a-34c0-11eb-b59c-adb7153d10c3_story.html) December 5, 2020
- Rise in fatal drug overdoses in D.C. region likely tied to pandemic, officials say. [https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/drug-overdose-washington-coronavirus/2020/08/20/2a4c64b8-e0a4-11ea-ade1-28daf1a5e919_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/drug-overdose-washington-coronavirus/2020/08/20/2a4c64b8-e0a4-11ea-ade1-28daf1a5e919_story.html) August 21, 2020

10. Florida

11. Georgia


- The Epidemic Within the Epidemic: Tampa Bay’s Opioid Crisis. Preliminary Assessment. [https://www.tampabay.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/project%20opioid%20preliminary%20assessment_05.10.21_0.pdf](https://www.tampabay.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/project%20opioid%20preliminary%20assessment_05.10.21_0.pdf) April 15, 2021


• ‘Perfect storm’: In Georgia, rising opioid overdoses don’t discriminate. 
• Officials: Fentanyl overdoses spreading across Georgia. 
  https://apnews.com/article/georgia-health-fc27a85f6f92ad24b5383e814111fc7da May 16, 2021
• Fentanyl-related deaths on the rise in the Peach State. 
  https://www.wtvm.com/2021/05/06/fentanyl-related-deaths-rise-peach-state/ May 6, 2021
• Some Georgia Hospitals Are Reporting A Rise In Trauma Cases. 
  https://www.wabe.org/some-georgia-hospitals-are-reporting-a-rise-in-trauma-cases/ October 5, 2020
• Updated Suspected Drug Overdose Increases in Georgia Amid COVID-19. 
• Health chief warns of drug overdose increase during pandemic. 
• Addiction Recovery Leaders Say Opioid Crisis Didn’t Stop When Pandemic Began. 

12. Hawaii
• Use of Naloxone Grows as Overdose-Reversing Antidote Becomes More Accessible. 
  https://bigislandnow.com/2021/12/05/use-of-naloxone-grows-as-overdose-reversing-antidote-becomes-more-accessible/ December 5, 2021
• Heroin Recoveries, Fentanyl Investigations on the Rise. 
  https://bigislandnow.com/2021/12/05/heroin-recoveries-fentanyl-investigations-on-the-rise/ December 5, 2021
• A look at Hawaii’s underfunded meth epidemic. 
• Fentanyl from Mexican cartels coming into Hawaii as overdoses rise. 
• Drug-related Deaths in Honolulu Hit a 5-Year High in 2020. 
• More homeless residents dying from meth overdoses. 
  https://abc17news.com/news/national-world/2021/04/01/more-homeless-residents-dying-from-meth-overdoses/ April 1, 2021
13. Idaho
- Idaho health leaders look for tools to prevent overdoses as fentanyl rises in the state. [https://www.ktvb.com/article/news/local/idaho-health-leaders-tools-to-prevent-overdoses-fentanyl-rises-state/277-1a585f4d-aa45-450a-84e0-14e7ad509d59](https://www.ktvb.com/article/news/local/idaho-health-leaders-tools-to-prevent-overdoses-fentanyl-rises-state/277-1a585f4d-aa45-450a-84e0-14e7ad509d59) February 3, 2022

- Notes from the Field: Opioid Overdose Deaths Before, During, and After an 11-Week COVID-19 Stay-at-Home Order — Cook County, Illinois, January 1, 2018—October 6, 2020. [https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7010a3.htm?s_cid=mm7010a3_w](https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7010a3.htm?s_cid=mm7010a3_w) March 12, 2021
- Pritzker Administration Announces Over $2 million in Fines for Major Health Insurance Companies Violating Illinois Mental Health Parity Laws CIGNA Healthcare of IL, UnitedHealthcare, CIGNA Health and Life, HCSC, and Celtic found to be in violation of Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act
15. Indiana

- **Annual Southern Indiana addiction awareness events follow rise in overdose deaths.**
  January 16, 2022

- **Overdose deaths spike again in ‘21’; pandemic blamed.**
  September 4, 2021

- **CDC: Indiana’s drug overdose deaths rise 33% from 2019 to 2020.**
  July 14, 2021

- **Bartholomew County seeing spike in overdose deaths.**
  May 6, 2021

- **COVID-19 Worsens Mental Health, Sparks Overdose.**
  November 17, 2020

- **“An Unintended Consequence”: Overdoses Spike In Clark Co. After Pandemic, Lockdowns.**
  October 30, 2020

- **Mental health trends worrisome.**
  http://www.therepublic.com/2020/10/30/mental_health_trends_worrisome/
  October 29, 2020

- **Overdose deaths in St. Joseph County rise again as COVID-19 takes toll on mental health.**
  October 5, 2020

- **Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on Drug Overdoses in Indianapolis.**
  October 2020

- **An epidemic of their own; relapse and overdose rates surge amidst coronavirus lockdowns.**
  August 12, 2020

- **‘There needs to be awareness’: Addiction recovery help still available during pandemic.**
  http://www.bcdemocrat.com/2020/06/16/there-needs_to_be_awareness_addiction_recovery_help_still_available_during_pandemic/
  June 16, 2020

- **Naloxone Use, Opioid Overdoses Increase Amid Virus Pandemic.**
  May 29, 2020

- **An Indiana Police Dept. No Longer Reversing Overdoses During Pandemic.**
  https://filtermag.org/cops-naloxone-coronavirus/
  April 24, 2020
16. Iowa


17. Kansas

- National increase in drug overdose deaths leads KDHE to educate residents about Naloxone. https://www.wibw.com/2021/08/06/national-increase-drug-overdose-deaths-leads-kdhe-educate-residents-about-naloxone/ August 6, 2021

18. Kentucky

- U.S. Attorney’s Office Reaches Settlement with Ashland-based Hospital Resolving Alleged Violations of the Americans with Disabilities Act. https://www.justice.gov/usao-
Louisiana

- Overdose deaths rose 56% during pandemic in Louisiana, CDC reports.  

- Louisiana observes Opioid Crisis Awareness Day after year of record overdose deaths in U.S.  

- DEA warns of fake Oxycodone, Adderall pills containing fentanyl, meth after spike in drug overdoses.  

- Opioid-related overdose deaths continue to rise in Lafayette Parish, and fentanyl a big reason why.  

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20. Maine

- Penobscot County continues to see a disproportionate share of Maine’s overdose deaths. https://observer-me.com/2021/09/10/news/penobscot-county-continues-to-see-a-disproportionate-share-of-maines-overdose-deaths/ September 10, 2021
- Overdose risk during pandemic is tragic reality for some families.
## 21. Maryland

- **As MD Opioid Deaths Explode in Pandemic, Town Halls Aim to Halt Crisis.**
- **Garrett County among 4 to see decrease in opioid deaths.**
- **Opioid Use, Fentanyl Deaths Spike During Pandemic.**
- **As opioid deaths remain near record highs, Maryland offers $50 million in new grants.**
- **Overdoses and alcohol-related deaths rising during pandemic.**
- **In the shadow of COVID-19, opioid crisis continues unabated attack.**
- **Drug overdose alert issued in Carroll County.**
- **Health officials say COVID-19 might be worsening opioid crisis.**
- **Opioid-related deaths make a disappointing uptick in early 2020, possibly related to coronavirus.**
- **Pandemic cited as Md. opioid fatalities inch up.**

## 22. Massachusetts

- **Fewer women are seeking addiction treatment in Mass. as use and overdoses increase.**
- **Editorial: It’s never been more urgent to give safe injection sites a try.**
- **Opioid-related overdose deaths soar among Black residents.**
- **Massachusetts Department of Public Health Data Brief: Opioid-Related Overdose Deaths among Massachusetts Residents.**
• While doctors prepare to handle rise in opioid cases, access to recovery programs remains limited. [Website URL] December 8, 2020

• Overdose Deaths Have Risen in Mass. Amid Pandemic, State Data Show. [Website URL] November 16, 2020

• ‘A perfect storm’: Pandemic is making it harder to kick drugs. [Website URL] September 30, 2020

• Sounding the alarm: Seeing warning signs of an epidemic within the COVID pandemic (Viewpoint). [Website URL] August 30, 2020

• SouthCoast doctors say telemedicine has proven its worth, hope it will continue.* [Website URL] May 28, 2020

• The Pandemic Has Changed Addiction Treatment, Some Hope For Good.* [Website URL] May 21, 2020

23. Michigan

• Nationwide naloxone shortage means higher costs in Michigan. [Website URL] September 7, 2021

• Michigan drug overdose deaths climbed to record levels in 2020 during pandemic. [Website URL] July 26, 2021


• Michigan seeing a rise in overdose deaths due to the pandemic. [Website URL] May 20, 2021

• Target 8: Fatal ODs doubled in parts of W. MI at COVID-19’s spring peak. [Website URL] October 29, 2020

• Macomb County medical board: EMS opioids overdose treatment up during COVID-19. [Website URL] August 24, 2020

• Naloxone kits could end up being lifesavers. [Website URL] August 13, 2020

• Michigan to give opioid antidote for free to community groups, residents. [Website URL] June 30, 2020

• Push to telehealth means more medication to treat addiction in northern Michigan.* [Website URL] May 7, 2020

• 20% increase in patients seeking substance abuse treatment. [Website URL] May 2, 2020

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24. Minnesota

- As overdose deaths spike, Minnesota families grapple with grief.  
- Pandemic, homelessness brought record overdose calls in Minneapolis.  
- Minnesota drug overdose deaths jumped in pandemic year.  
- Duluth police: 20 opioid overdose deaths in 2020.  
- New report finds increase in 2020 overdose deaths.  
- DEA: Significant increase in counterfeit pills in Minnesota.  
- In Duluth, ODs spike as pandemic decreases access to aid; The pandemic might be increasing the demand for dangerous drugs.  
- St. Paul Police Issue Alert After 28 Suspected Overdoses In 6 Days, 2 Deaths.  
  https://minnesota.cbslocal.com/2020/03/05/st-paul-police-issue-alert-after-28-suspected-overdoses-in-6-days-2-deaths/ March 5, 2020

25. Mississippi

- Overdose deaths involving fentanyl on the rise in Mississippi.  
- Substance abuse continues to climb during the coronavirus pandemic.  
- Overdose rates soaring in the pandemic.  
- An in-depth look at the Drug Epidemic in Mississippi.  

26. Missouri

- 7th person dies from suspected overdose in Central West End.  
- Half of this year’s drug overdose deaths recorded in Columbia have occurred since Aug. 1.  
  https://www.columbiatribune.com/story/news/local/2021/10/20/alarming-
27. Montana


27. Montana

28. Nebraska


29. Nevada

30. New Hampshire

- Drug overdose deaths holding steady in New Hampshire. [https://apnews.com/article/health-coronavirus-pandemic-new-hampshire-0c96e44b800e37c31fc36f7f216acd31](https://apnews.com/article/health-coronavirus-pandemic-new-hampshire-0c96e44b800e37c31fc36f7f216acd31) July 22, 2021
- Opioid cases rising in NH, Manchester projects ‘significant’ increase in deaths. [https://www.wmur.com/article/opioid-cases-manchester-nh/36358247](https://www.wmur.com/article/opioid-cases-manchester-nh/36358247) May 6, 2021
- NH has seen at least 200 fatal drug overdoses so far this year. [https://www.sentinelsource.com/news/local/nh-has-seen-at-least-200-fatal-drug-overdoses-so-far-this-year/article_a04ea351-e402-5375-bcf6-51e4ecfe49c2.html](https://www.sentinelsource.com/news/local/nh-has-seen-at-least-200-fatal-drug-overdoses-so-far-this-year/article_a04ea351-e402-5375-bcf6-51e4ecfe49c2.html) August 26, 2020

31. New Jersey


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32. New Mexico


33. New York

overdoses-within-last/article_c64f66c6-e634-5d21-8511-8760c0a4710f.html
September 14, 2020
• Opioid Addiction, Overdoses on Rise: DA. http://theforumnewsgroup.com/2020/06/05/opioid-addiction-overdoses-on-rise-da/ June 5, 2020
• COVID-19 cited in spike of opioid overdoses; Pandemic has worsened the opioid crisis. More people are dying of overdoses and fewer are being admitted for treatment. https://www.investigativepost.org/2020/05/21/covid-19-cited-in-spike-of-opioid-overdoses/ May 21, 2020
• As overdoses spike, local experts remind people help is available. (Albany, Greene, Rensselaer counties) https://www.timesunion.com/news/article/As-overdoses-spike-Capital-Region-experts-remind-15207385.php April 17, 2020

34. North Carolina
• Overdose deaths in NC increase by 26% in 2021, leaders call for change. https://www.wect.com/2022/01/30/overdose-deaths-nc-increase-by-26-2021-leaders-call-change/ January 30, 2022
35. North Dakota


36. Ohio

- Overdose Incidents Rose Sharply Around Ohio Valley During Pandemic. 
- Coronavirus can’t stem central Ohio opioid abuse. 
- Don’t forget the other epidemic; editorial. 
- Narcan handed out to step opioid overdose rise amid COVID-19. 
- Coroner: 6 overdose deaths in Franklin County Friday. 
- Health officials fear COVID-19 could trigger rise in drug overdoses. 
- HEALTH ALERT: Canton latest to close its syringe program. 

37. Oklahoma
- Addicted America: Law enforcement faces increase in fentanyl deaths. 
- Broken Arrow police see increase in fentanyl overdoses. 
- Opioid crackdown had ‘tremendous fallout,’ with more suicides, drug overdoses among patients, lawmakers told. 
- Manslaughter conviction of 21-year-old Oklahoma woman who suffered miscarriage sparks outcry. 
- Counterfeit pills laced with fentanyl are driving a spike in Oklahoma deaths. 
- Oklahoma Sees Increase In Overdose Deaths From 2019-2020. 
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