

Opioid Awareness Factsheet

Senate File 730 | House File 1440



National

Chronic Pain & Overdose Deaths

- Drug overdose is the leading cause of accidental death in the U.S. with 55,403 lethal drug overdoses in 2015.
- During 2015, fatal overdoses involving opioids, including heroin, topped 33,000.
 - **Roughly 1 person every 15 minutes**
- Since 2000, more than 300,000 Americans have lost their lives to an opioid overdose.

Dispensing

On an **average DAY** in the U.S.:

- More than 650,000 opioid prescriptions dispensed
- 3,900 people initiate nonmedical use of prescription opioids
- 580 people initiate heroin use

Economic Impact

- **\$55 billion** in health and social costs related to prescription opioid abuse each year.
- **\$22 billion** in emergency department and inpatient care for opioid poisonings

State (MN)

Overdose Deaths

- **572** overdose deaths in **2015**
- More than half were opioid overdoses (heroin & Rx, 2015)
 - 216 opioid pain relievers
 - 114 heroin
- The total number of drug overdose deaths for the first half of 2016 was **327**.
- **That is 15% higher than the first half of 2015** (n = 285)

| January 1, 2015- June 30 2015 | January 1, 2016- June 30 2016 |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 285 drug overdose deaths | 327 drug overdose deaths |
| Men: 163 | Men: 211 |
| Opioid pain relievers 104 | Opioid pain relievers: 151 |
| Heroin: 49 | Heroin: 70 |
| Fentanyl: 36 | Fentanyl: 51 |
| 25-34 year: 58 | 25-34 year: 83 |
| 35-44: 69 | 35-44: 77 |
| 45-54: 68 | 45-54: 72 |

- 25-34 year olds had the greatest number of drug overdose deaths for the first half of 2016; if this continues, this will be a change as 45-54 year olds have had the highest number of drug overdose deaths in the past.
- **Opioid pain relievers are still the drug most often involved in drug overdose deaths;** Men continued to have a higher number of drug overdose deaths.

Treatment Admissions

- "For the first time in 2015, heroin admissions exceeded the number of marijuana admissions (3,738 heroin and 3,426 marijuana)"
- [in MN] "**A record-high 16.5 percent** of admissions to addiction treatment programs were for heroin, of which 36.9 percent were less than 26 years old."