

# WHAT'S TRENDING?

# Opioids and the Pandemic: A Deadly Mix

**Breaking News!** US Records Over 81,000+ **Overdose Deaths During Pandemic - The Most Ever** 

81,000 People Would Fill The Empire State Building Approximately Six Times



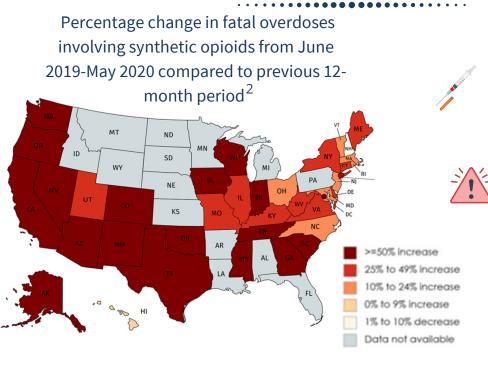
18.2% increase in fatal overdoses compared to previous 12-month period

Percentage change in fatal overdoses from June 2019-May 2020 compared to previous 12-



Highest overdose months during COVID: March - May 2020

month period 10% to 19% increase 0% to 9% increase 1% to 10% decrease



Illicit fentanyl use up 38.4% nationwide, is the primary driver of overdose deaths

10 Western states saw 98% increase in synthetic opioid deaths

## What Communities Can Do:



#### **Track the Issue in Your Community**

Collect local data to track the problem over time and improve detection of overdose outbreaks in your local community.



#### **Expand Naloxone Access**

Increase Naloxone distribution to first responders and increase take-home naloxone access for general public to account for limitations during the pandemic.



### **Educate on Overdose Reversal & Dangers of Illicit Fentanyl** Use

Identify new ways to provide socially-distanced education, including awareness on increased risks of substance use during COVID-19 and COVID-19 specific prevention steps.



### **Expand Awareness About Treatment Options in Your Area**

Identify local substance use options available and expand awareness to high-risk and general populations on options and ways to access treatment.

Disclaimer: CADCA's "What's Trending?" infographic series is solely intended as an informational resource for prevention practitioners and coalition members to become aware of the latest trends within the field. All data and statistics provided are properly sourced and cited.

Sources:

Overdose Deaths Accelerating During COVID-19. (2020, December 18). Retrieved January 30, 2021, from

2https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2020/p1218-overdose-deaths-covid-19.html

Increase in Fatal Drug Overdoses Across the United States Driven by Synthetic Opioids Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic. (2020, March 27). Retrieved January 30, 2021, from https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/2020/han00438.asp

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