



Illinois and the Opioid Epidemic

Stephanie N. Vojas

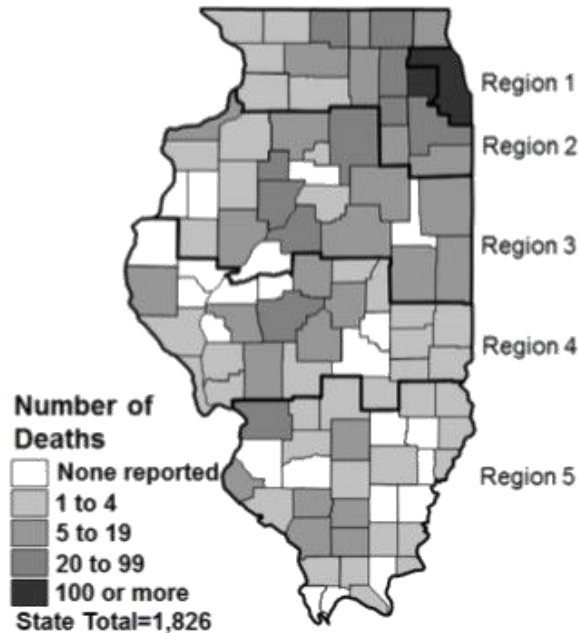
July 24, 2018

In 2017, Illinois had over 1,900 fatalities attributed to opioid overdoses.

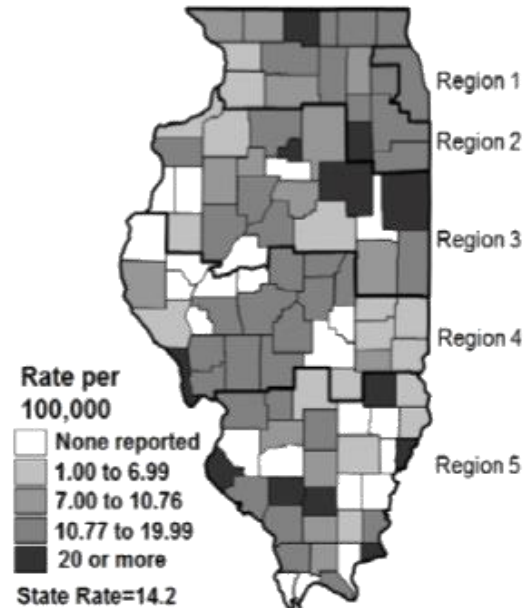
- **This is a 70 percent increase from 2013.**
- **Since 2008, opioid overdoses have killed almost 11,000 people**

The Opioid Epidemic in Illinois is not regional.

**NUMBER OF OPIOID OVERDOSE DEATHS
BY ILLINOIS COUNTY – 2016**



**RATE PER 100,000 OF OPIOID OVERDOSE DEATHS
BY ILLINOIS COUNTY – 2016**



**Illinois is tackling the
opioid epidemic at every
level of government.**

Illinois State Agency Initiatives

- **Illinois Department of Insurance**
 - Consumer Toolkit for Navigating Behavior Health and Substance Use Disorder
 - Launched a Statewide Consumer Education Campaign on Parity
 - Office of Consumer Health and Insurance
- **Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services**
 - Medicaid 1115 Demonstration Waiver
 - Integrated Health Homes
- **Illinois Department of Human Services**
 - Prescription Monitoring Program
 - Substance Abuse Use Disorder System of Care
 - Outpatient Methadone Treatment
 - State Targeted Response to the Opioid Crisis

Illinois State Agency Initiatives - con't

- **Illinois Department of Corrections**
 - Medicated Assisted Treatment
 - Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority
- **Illinois Department of Public Health**
 - Illinois Opioid Action Plan

21st Century Cures Act

- Illinois received \$16.3 million to combat the opioid epidemic from federal HHS.
 - Part of \$485 million authorized for all 50 states under the 21st Century Cures Act
- The Illinois Department of Human Services estimates it's served an additional 4,100 people from the funding, and more with prevention programs.
- Highlights include:
 - Outpatient methadone treatment services for an additional 1,633 patients
 - “Warm handoffs” at six targeted hospitals, connecting 999 recently discharged patients with recovery support services
 - Naloxone kits and training for additional counties
 - The creation of a 24/7 helpline
 - received 1,933 calls in the first three months

Illinois Opioid Action Plan

- **Prevention:** Preventing the further spread of the opioid crisis.
- **Treatment and Recovery:** providing evidence-based treatment and recovery services to Illinois residents with opioid use disorder.
- **Response:** averting overdose deaths.

OVERALL GOAL

Reduce Opioid-Related Deaths by 33%
Against Estimated Deaths in Three Years

PREVENTION

A Safer Prescribing and Dispensing

- 1 Increase PMP use by providers
- 2 Reduce high-risk opioid prescribing through provider education and guidelines

B Education and Stigma Reduction

- 3 Increase accessibility of information and resources
- 4 Increase impact of prevention programming in communities and schools

C Monitoring and Communication

- 5 Strengthen data collection, sharing, and analysis to better identify opportunities for intervention

TREATMENT AND RECOVERY

D Access to Care

- 6 Increase access to care for individuals with opioid use disorder

E Supporting Justice-Involved Populations

- 7 Increase the capacity of deflection and diversion programs statewide

RESPONSE

F Rescue

- 8 Increase the number of first responders as well as community members who are trained and have access to naloxone

G Supporting Justice-Involved Populations

- 9 Decrease the number of overdose deaths after an at-risk individual's immediate release from a correctional or other institutional facility

Stakeholder Collaboration

Naloxone

Naloxone is a drug that blocks the effects of opioids, allowing it to rapidly reverse the effects of an opioid overdose.

Naloxone Public Acts

- In 2010, Illinois passed the **Drug Overdose Prevention Law**, a law making it legal for to allow non-medical personnel to administer Naloxone
- In 2012, Illinois enacted the **Emergency Medical Services Access Act (EMSAA)**
 - Gave Good Samaritan protections to the person providing the emergency medical assistance
 - Protected the individual suffering the overdose from felony possession charges
- In 2015, Illinois required All law enforcement agencies, fire departments, and emergency medical servicer providers to possess Naloxone.
 - Trained pharmacists in Illinois are now allowed to dispense Naloxone without a prescription
 - Private insurance plans are required to cover anti-overdose medications

Drug Overdose Prevention Program (DOPP)

- Established by the Illinois Department of Public Health
- Trains communities on how to administer and how to access Naloxone
- As of Fall 2017, thirty-four counties (34) in the state have an Enrolled Program
 - Many of the enrolled programs serve multi-county areas in order for there to be some coverage across all 102 counties

Using Data to Fight the Epidemic

- **Hospital Licensing Act**

- Required hospitals, medical examiners and coroners to collect and report data on heroin and opioid overdose treatments and deaths

- **The Comprehensive Opioid Data Report**

- Issued by the Illinois Department of Public Health
- The 2017 report showed that while opioid prescriptions were decreased, overdoses are continuing to increase

Drug Courts

Drug courts are an alternative to jail or prison for people who have been convicted of nonviolent drug crimes.

Drug Courts

- A 2016 law in Illinois prevents judges from barring drug court participants from using medications such as methadone when prescribed by a doctor to treat opioid addiction
- The law has allowed 9 county jails to participate in a pilot program where Vivitrol is used as a treatment option
 - Vivitrol is a once-a-month shot of extended-release naltrexone that blocks the brain from the effects of opioids
- All participants are required to have frequent court appearances, successfully complete treatment, secure employment and be randomly drug tested a minimum of twice per week
- Incentives, sanctions and therapeutic adjustments are given to motivate participants to make positive changes in thinking and behavior

Prescription Monitoring Program

A PMP is a centralized repository detailing when certain medications are prescribed and dispensed. Doctors can access a patient's history to see what prescriptions a patient is taking.

Prescription Monitoring Program

- Since the mid-1990s, Illinois has had a Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP)
- The Illinois PMP started as a paper repository it
 - Went online in 2000
 - Providers were not required to use the system.
- The voluntary nature of the system lead to low reporting and use of the PMP
- Beginning on January 1, 2018, all prescribers with an Illinois Controlled Substance License are required to register with and use the Illinois PMP

Pharmaceutical Reps

Beginning July 1, 2017, Chicago started requiring representatives who do business in Chicago more than 15 days a year to obtain a \$750 license

Licensing Pharmaceutical Reps

- Nearly 1,500 pharmaceutical reps have obtained a license
- Representatives are also required to complete ethics training, receive continuing education and disclose interactions with healthcare professionals.
- The fees created over \$700,000 in revenue that was directed toward opioid addiction treatment and services.
- The city said 4,000 residents were served in 2017, and an additional \$500,000 annual investment was also added to the efforts in 2018.

Illinois Attorney General

Filed a 2016 lawsuit against Insys for its sale of Subsys, which is significantly more powerful than morphine and intended exclusively for the treatment of breakthrough cancer pain

AG Madigan settles for \$4.45 million

- Alleged Insys deceptively promoted and sold Subsys to treat a wide variety of pain, such as back and neck pain, even though the drug was not approved for those uses
- Reached a \$4.45 million settlement with the pharmaceutical company Insys Therapeutics Inc. (Insys)
 - Create an Opioid Abuse Detection Program to identify prescribers who are abusing or aiding in the abuse of opioids;
 - Restrict promoting Subsys only to oncologists and prescribers who have affirmatively stated they currently treat or are likely to treat patients with cancer pain;
 - Prevent Insys employees from communicating with an Illinois patient's insurance company regarding prior authorization of an opioid;
 - Limit the number of times a prescriber can host an Insys speaker program and the number of times a prescriber can attend an Insys speaker program; and
 - Prohibit sales representatives from communicating about a particular patient with a prescriber, initiating direct communication with a patient, or having access to a patient's medical records.

The Alternatives to Opioids Act

Under the proposed law, anyone over the age of 21 with an opioid prescription would be eligible for the Illinois Medical Cannabis Program.

The Alternatives to Opioids Act

- Passed the House and the Senate by veto-proof bipartisan majorities on May 31, 2018
 - Over 21 years old
 - Obtain signed paperwork from a doctor
 - No wait months for approval into the program.

Prescription Drug Task Force Act

The Task Force would study the extent of overdoses and make recommendations on future legislation

Prescription Drug Task Force Act

- The 25-member group would include representatives for doctors, hospitals, pharmacists, law enforcement, families who have been impacted by overdoses
- The Task Force would:
 - study prescription opioid abuse in this State
 - study the over-prescription of opioids such as Hydrocodone and Oxycodone
 - recommend whether restrictions on prescriptions of opioids should be enacted by the General Assembly
 - recommend any other legislation, including amendments to the Illinois Controlled Substances Act
- The Legislation was sent to the Governor on June 29, 2018



Local Governments Take Legal Action

Several Lawsuits have been filed

1. Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle and Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx filed a lawsuit against several opioid manufacturers in 2017
 - The county is seeking compensatory and punitive damages to cover opioid treatment programs, costs to treat overdose patients and an increase in autopsies
 - County data show there were about 650 opioid deaths in 2015, rising 70 percent to more than 1,090 in 2016. There have been about 850 deaths in 2017 as of the beginning of December
2. DuPage, Lake, Will, McHenry and Kane counties banded together to file lawsuits against several pharmaceutical companies and several doctors
3. Illinois villages and cities filed a lawsuit against pharmaceutical companies and three Illinois doctors in May 2018
 - Melrose Park, Bellwood, Berkeley, Berwyn, Chicago Heights, Hillside, Northlake, Oak Lawn, Pekin, River Forest and Tinley Park.