



The National Opioid Crisis: Current Trends & Solutions

January 30, 2025

In support of improving patient care, this activity has been planned and implemented by American Academy of CME, Inc. and Partnership for a Drug-Free New Jersey. American Academy of CME, Inc. is Jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

Physicians

American Academy of CME, Inc., designates this live activity for a maximum of 1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Nurse Practitioners and Nurses

American Academy of CME, Inc., designates this educational activity for 1.0 ANCC contact hours.

Pharmacists

This activity provides 1.0 ACPE contact hours (0.1 CEUs) of continuing education credit. Universal Activity Number: JA4008191-9999-25-004-L01-P, Knowledge

Physician Assistants

American Academy of CME, Inc. has been authorized by the American Academy of PAs (AAPA) to award AAPA Category 1 CME credit for activities planned in accordance with AAPA CME Criteria. This activity is designated for 1.0 AAPA Category 1 CME credits. PAs should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation.

Dentists

American Academy of CME, Inc. is an ADA CERP Recognized Provider. ADA CERP is a service of the American Dental Association to assist dental professionals in identifying quality providers of continuing dental education. ADA CERP does not approve or endorse individual courses or instructors, nor does it imply acceptance of credit hours by boards of dentistry. Concerns or complaints about a CE provider may be directed to the provider or to the Commission for Continuing Education Provider Recognition at ADA.org/CERP.

American Academy of CME, Inc. designates this activity for 1.0 continuing education credits.

Other HCPs

Other members of the care team will receive a certificate of participation.

Additional Continuing Education Credit

EMT

This webinar has been approved by NJ OEMS for 1 EMT Elective CEU.

Athletic Trainers

Partnership for a Drug-Free New Jersey (BOC AP#: P12171) is approved by the Board of Certification, Inc. to provide continuing education to Athletic Trainers (ATs). This program is eligible for a maximum of one (1) Category A hours/CEUs.

Additional Information About Continuing Education

- You must apply to receive continuing education credit. It will not be sent to you just for attending this webinar.
- **WHERE CAN YOU FIND THE LINK TO APPLY FOR CREDIT?**
 - **The last slide of this webinar**
 - **The chat at the end of the program**
 - **The follow-up email you will receive tomorrow**
- The poll at the end of today's webinar **IS NOT** the evaluation for continuing education credit. The evaluation will be available through the link mentioned above.
- The links will be active for 30 days after today's event.

PA Planner Dean Barone discloses that he serves on the speakers bureaus of Ethicon and Johnson & Johnson.



Jennifer B. Austin
Field Intelligence Manager
Drug Enforcement Administration – New Jersey Division



Partnership for a
Drug-Free New Jersey
In Cooperation with the Governor's Council on
Substance Use Disorder and the NJ Dept. of Human Services

National Opioid Crisis: Trends & Solutions



Jennifer Austin
Field Intelligence Manager

The DEA Mission

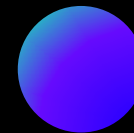
DEA's mission

is to ensure the safety and health of American communities by combating criminal drug networks bringing harm, violence, and overdoses to the United States.

To accomplish that mission, the Drug Enforcement Administration employs approximately 10,000 personnel throughout the world—including Special Agents, Diversion Investigators, Intelligence Research Specialists, and Chemists—across 241 domestic offices in 23 U.S. divisions and 93 foreign offices in 69 countries.

One

Pill



Can

Kill

New Jersey Division

Serving New Jersey with offices in Atlantic City, Camden, Monmouth/Ocean, Newark, and Paterson; led by Special Agent in Charge Cheryl Ortiz.

Drug Enforcement Administration
New Jersey Field Division
Special Agent in Charge
Cheryl Ortiz



What

We

Do



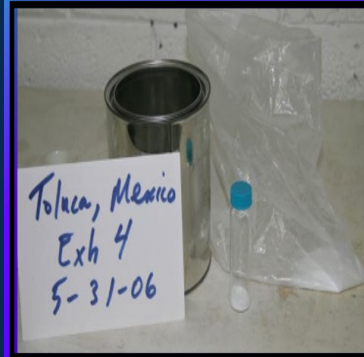
The Evolution of Narcotics Distribution



Fentanyl Lab Seizure



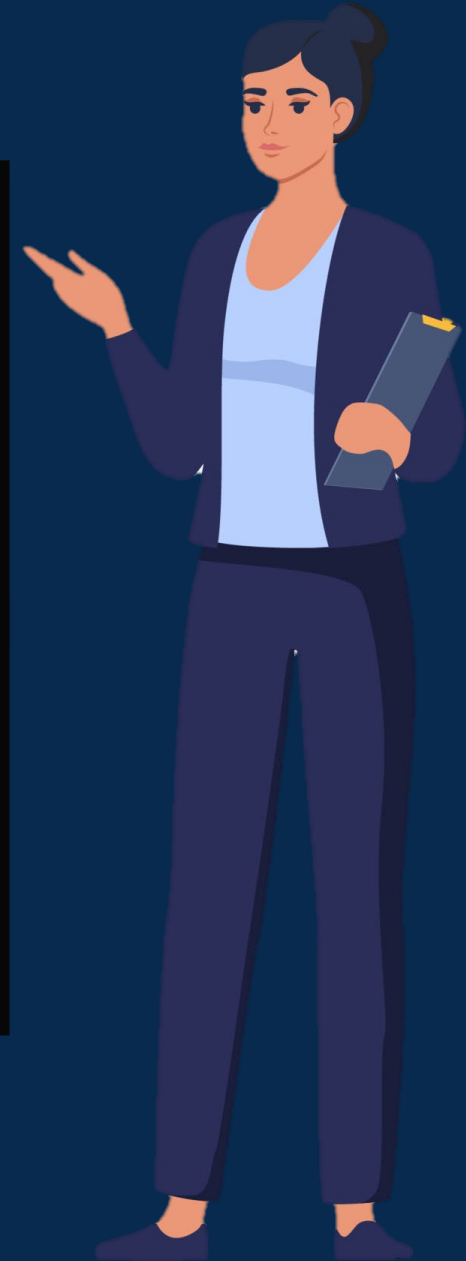
2006



Toluca, Mexico

Fentanyl Synthesis Lab

2017



Culiacán, Mexico

January 2021



March 2021



Fentanyl Lab Seizures in Sinaloa, Mexico

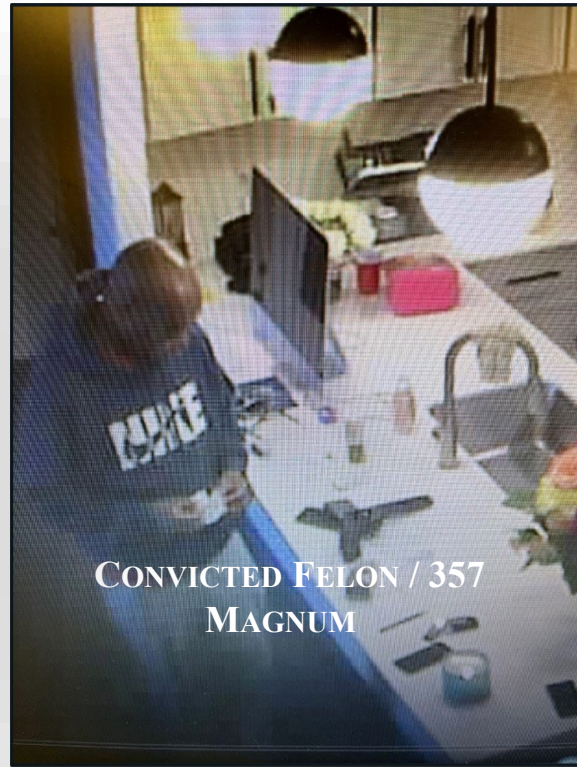
2024

Local Distribution

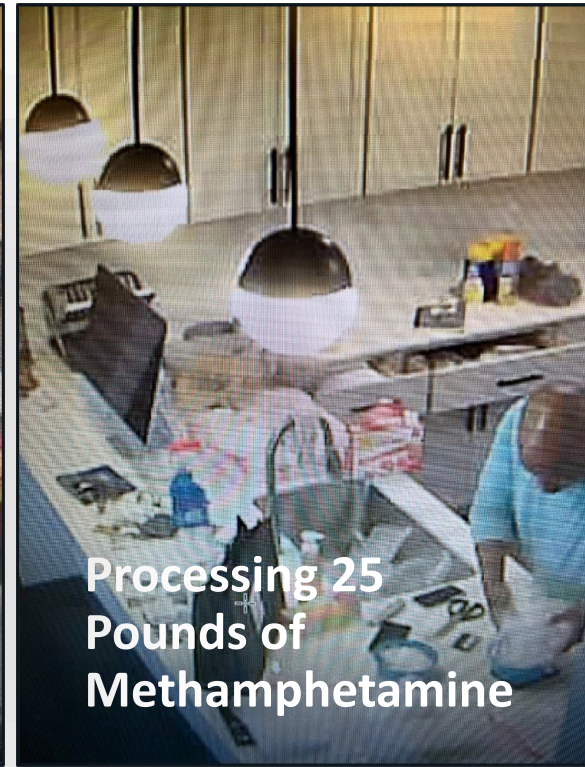
Mill



COUNTING DRUG PROCEEDS



CONVICTED FELON / 357
MAGNUM



Processing 25
Pounds of
Methamphetamine

Narcotics Distribution

Payment Methods



venmo

Bitcoin

coinbase

WESTERN UNION
MONEY TRANSFER

PayPal

Cash App

Delivery Services



UNITED STATES
POSTAL SERVICE®

UBER

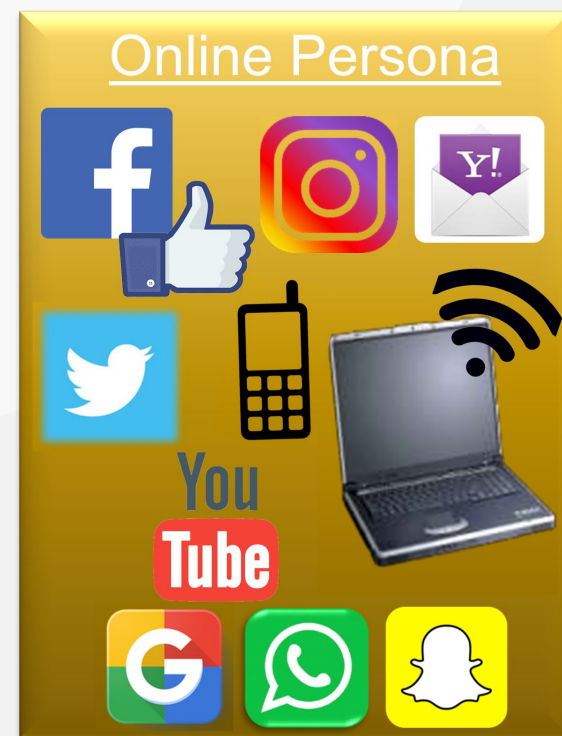
lyft

FedEx
Express

ups

DHL

Online Persona



Facebook

Instagram

Y!

Twitter

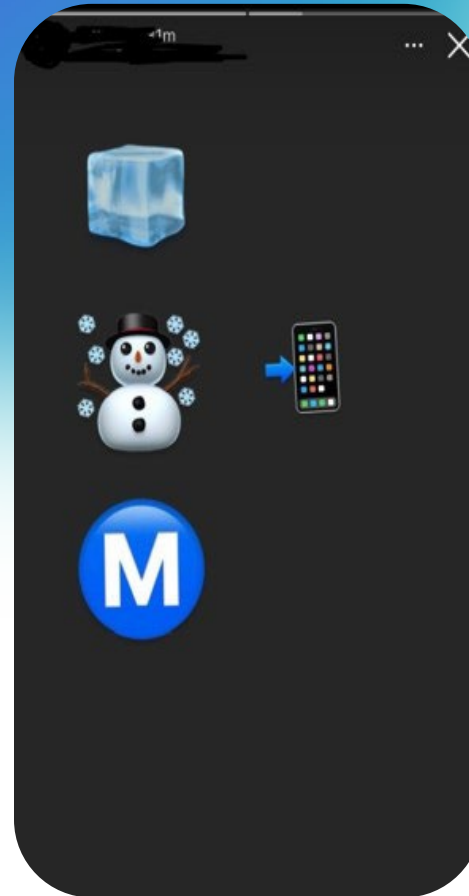
You
Tube

G

WhatsApp

Snapchat

Examples of Social Media Marketing



Drug Trends.

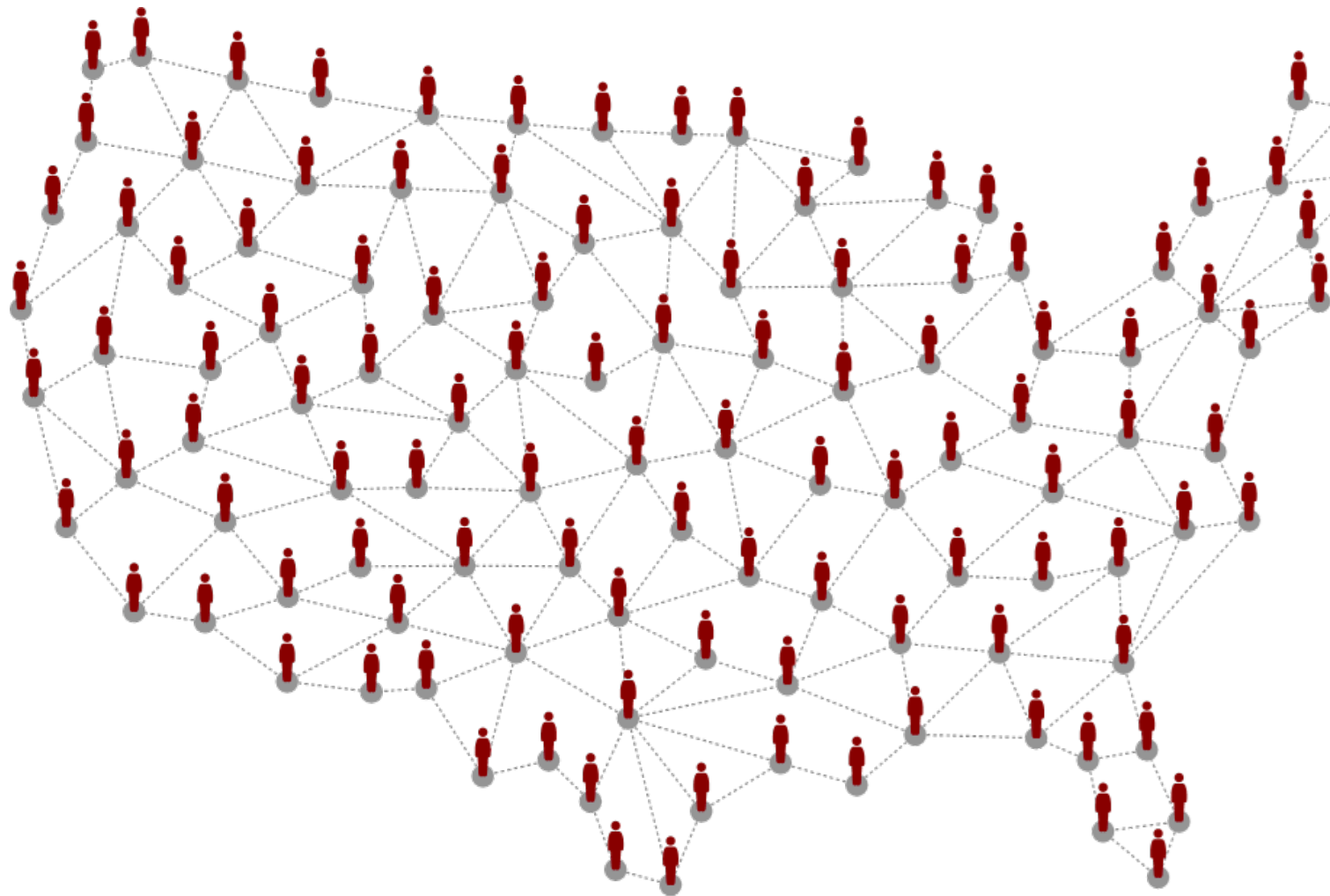


D
R
U
G



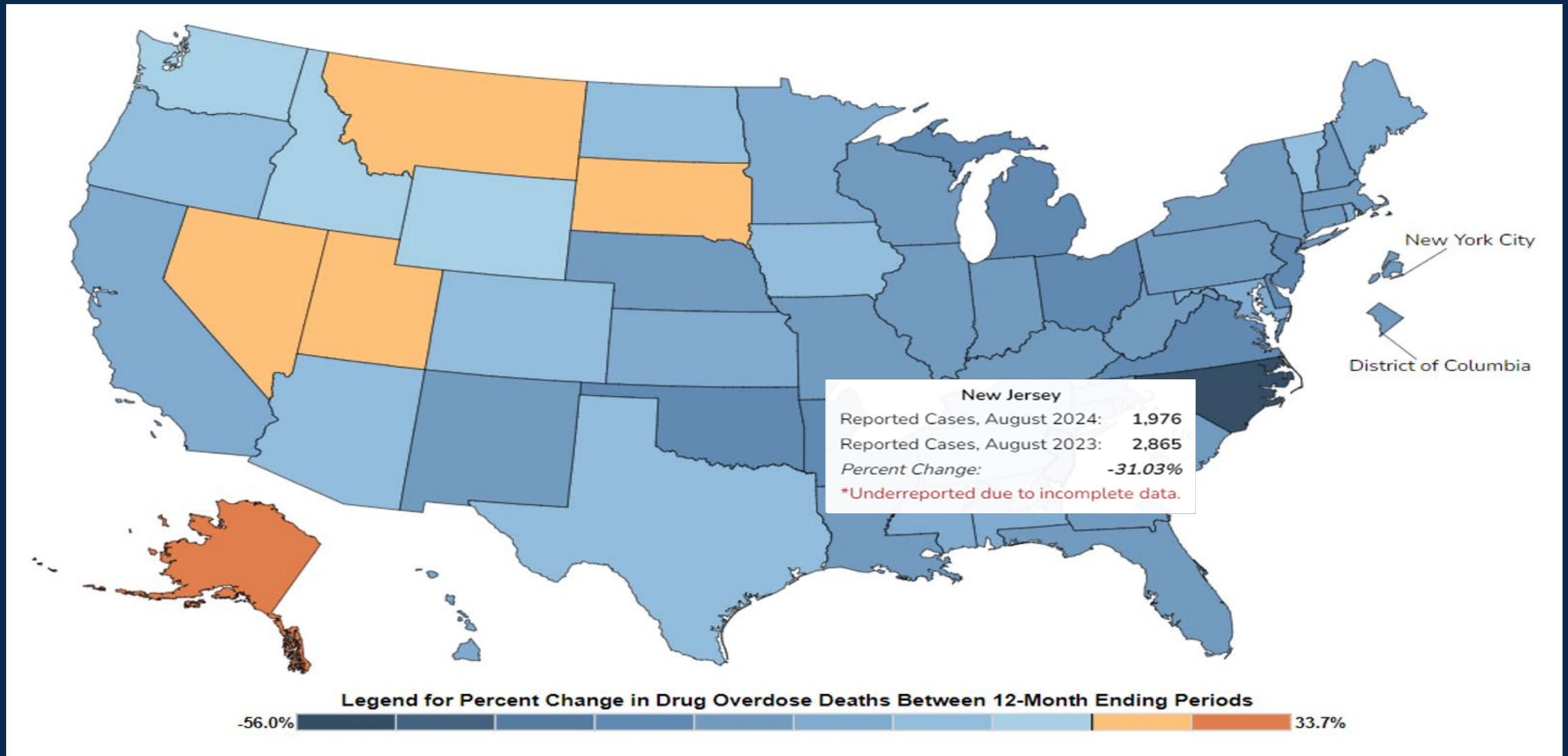
**On average, 265 people
die of a drug overdose
every day in the U.S.**

O
V
E
R
D
O
S
E



The record quantities of fentanyl that DEA seized in 2024 are enough to **kill every American.**

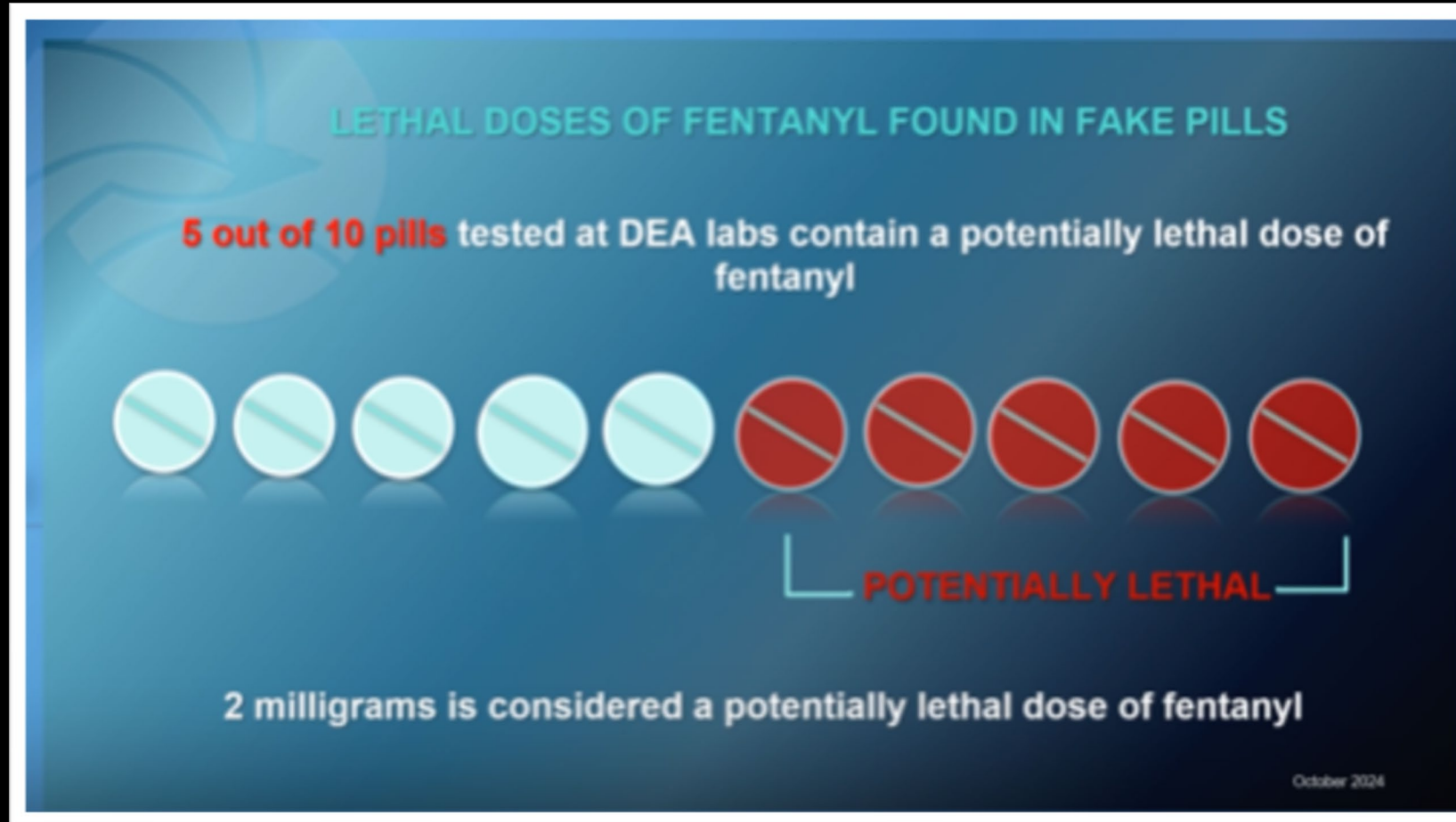
Percent Change in Reported 12 Month-ending Count of Drug Overdose Deaths By State: August 2023 to August 2024



Fake Pills



Hope On The Horizon



- In 2023 DEA reported that 7 out of 10 pills contained a deadly dose of fentanyl.
- In October of 2024 that number has dropped to 5 out of 10 pills.



Global Fentanyl Supply Chain

Fentanyl in New Jersey

- Fentanyl continues to be pervasive in drug supply
- In 2024, the vast majority of opioids seized in New Jersey contained fentanyl.
- New Jersey has recently seized samples containing carfentanil – 100 times more potent than fentanyl

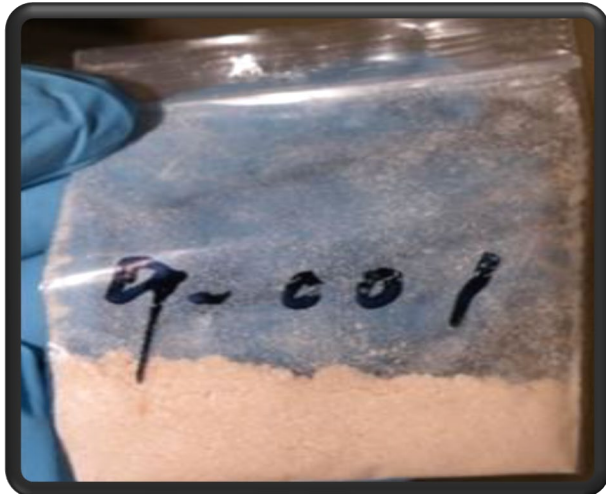


Nitazene and Nitazene Analogs

Protonitazene



Metonitazene



1. Nitazenes are synthetic opioids from a drug class called benzimidazole-opioids



2. First identified in NJ drug supply in 2021

3. Similar compounds include:

- Etonitazene
- Metonitazene
- Isotonitazene
- Protonitazene

4. Protonitazene is not a scheduled drug in the U.S.; etonitazene and isotonitazene are both Schedule I substances

Xylazine

- Xylazine (“tranq”) is a veterinary sedative that is being mixed into the drug supply
- Non-opioid and not Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved for human use
- In 2024, approximately ½ of opioid samples seized in New Jersey contained Xylazine
- Xylazine is a vasal constrictor- decreasing the ability of the blood to carry oxygen to the skin. In extreme cases, this causes necrosis of the skin, which is when the skin dies and use causes wounds on the skin at the injection site or other parts of the body
- The prevalence of xylazine is changing the way first responders provide care during a suspected overdose



Tusi

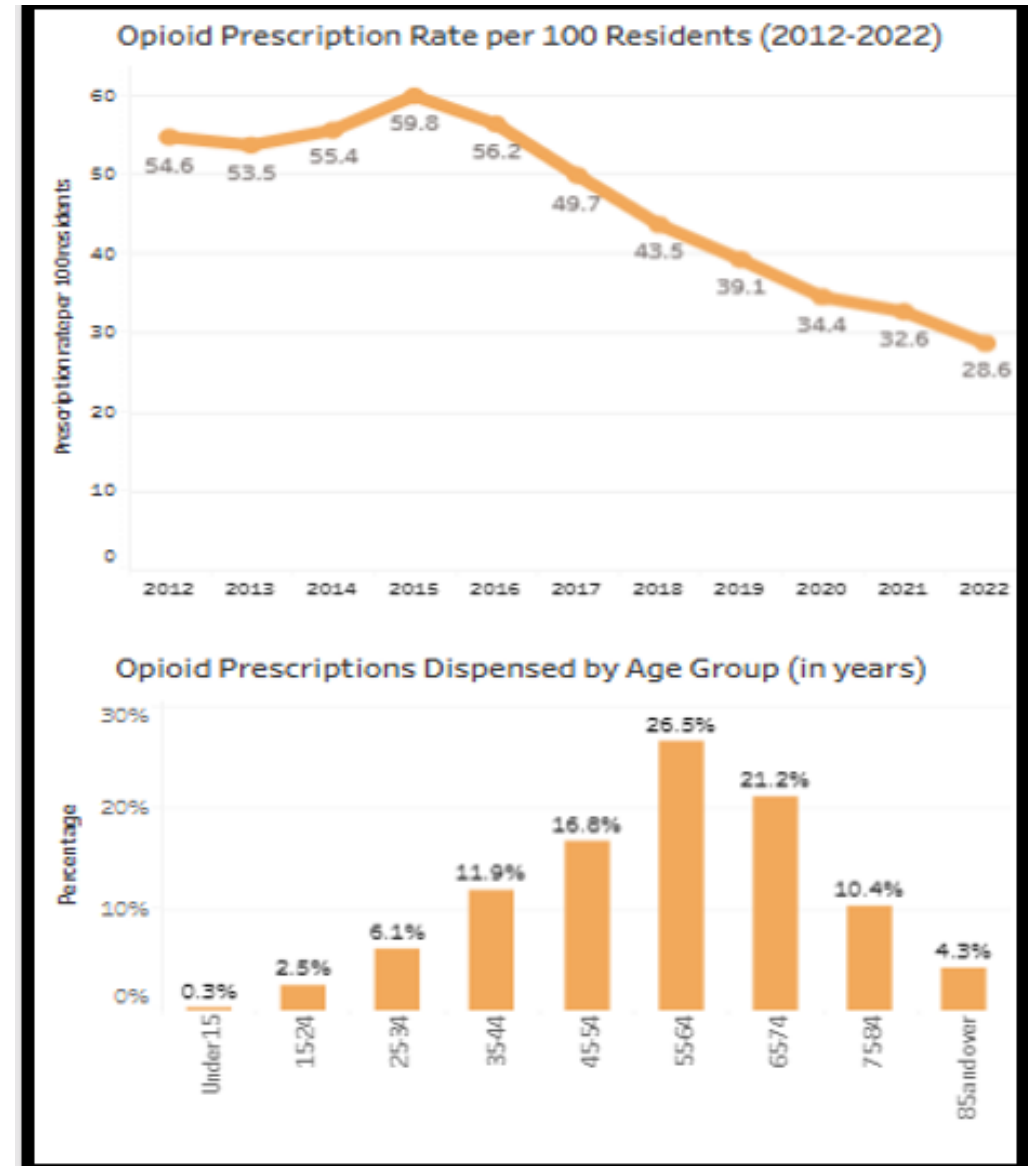


- Known as Pink Cocaine
- Traditional mixture of “Tusi” includes MDMA, Ketamine and various stimulants, such as cocaine and has also been found adulterated with opioids
- The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) reports that there is no set formula for “Tusi”; various combinations of ketamine, methamphetamine, cocaine, food coloring and flavorings have been reported



Prescription Data

- The Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) is used to track controlled dangerous substance (CDS) prescriptions
- State-run and stores records about prescribing of medications classified as federally CDS
- Benefits of PDMP:
 - Improve opioid over-prescribing
 - Identify drug-seeking behavior
 - Inform clinical practice and decisions
 - Help identify patients who may be at risk for overdose
 - Provide health authorities with timely information about prescribing and patient behaviors



What We Do

Diversion

ENTER LAURENCE COMPANY'S
BRIEF CASE STUDY

National Prescription Drug
Take Back Day

used or expired
disposal.



Diversion Control Division

National Drug Take Back

- DEA's National Prescription Drug Take Back Day has helped Americans easily rid their homes of unneeded medications—those that are old, unwanted, or expired—some of which can be a gateway to addiction.
- DEA's National Prescription Drug Take Back Day reflects DEA's commitment to Americans' safety and health, encouraging the public to remove unneeded medications from their homes.
- DEA's Take Back happens twice a year, once in the Spring and once in the Fall.
- SAMHSA reports that 53 percent of people ages 12 or older who obtained prescription pain medication for nonmedical use obtained them from a friend or relative. This further underscores the importance of safeguarding medications and disposing of unneeded ones.*

Diversion Control Division

Fall 2024 NJ Take Back Numbers



The first DEA Take Back day was started in New Jersey in 2009 as a joint effort by DEA New Jersey and the Partnership for Drug Free New Jersey and was called Operation Medicine Cabinet.

What We Do

Outreach
Prevention
Education

ESTABLISHED IN 1989
DEA TAKE BACK CAMPAIGN

National Prescription Drug
Take Back Day

Turn in unused or expired
medication for safe disposal.

DEATakeBack.com

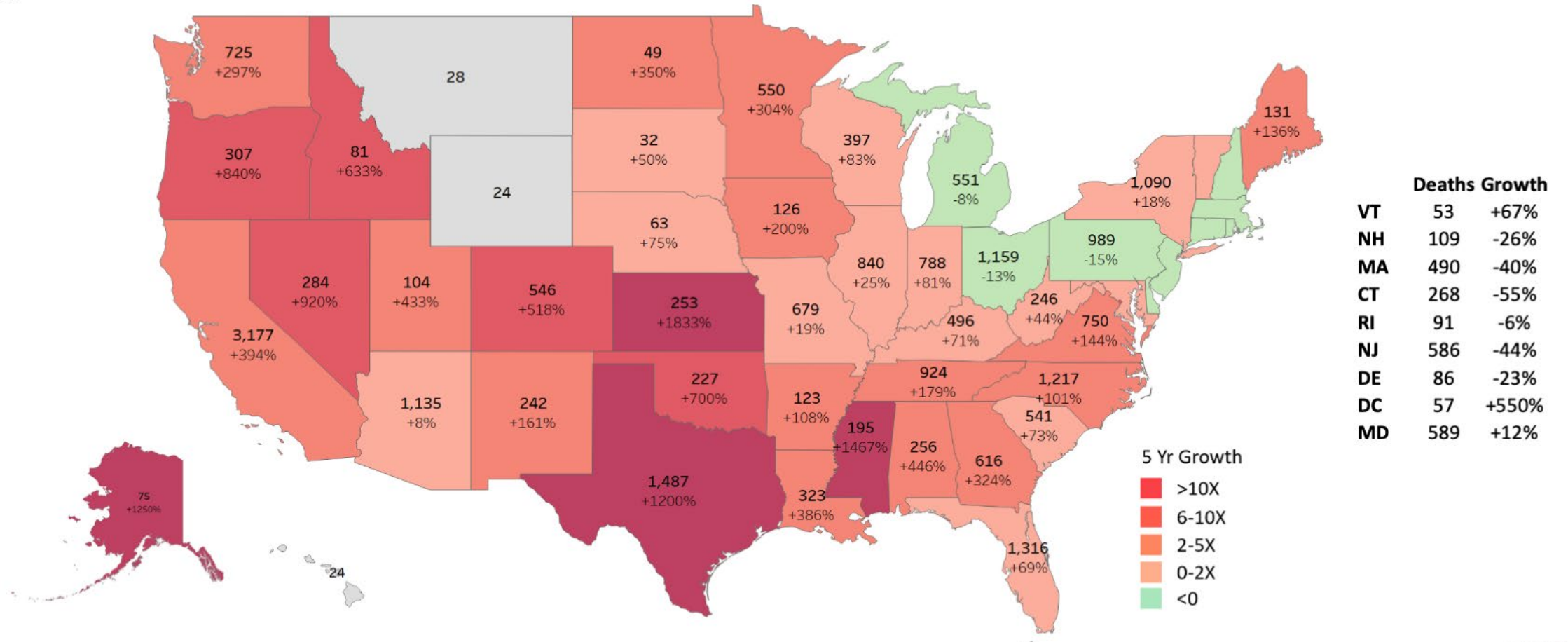


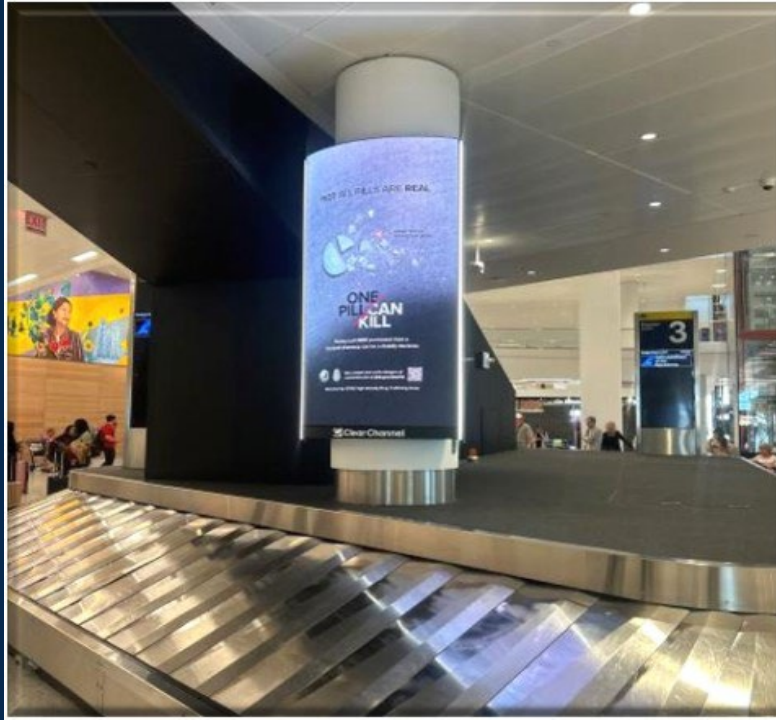
U.S. Youth Synthetic Opioid Involved Drug Deaths and Growth by State

Under 25 yrs, 2019-2023

25,495 deaths
+91% 2023 v 2018

1. CDC (2024)





www.dea.gov/onepill



DEA Resources



Publications



Operation Prevention

<http://www.getsmartaboutdrugs.com/publications>



Websites

Thank you
Questions?



Joanna.A.Mlicka-Anderko@dea.gov



To register for continuing education for today's webinar:
Physicians, physician assistants, nurses, nurse practitioners, dentists, pharmacists, other: knockoutday.drugfreenj.org/jan30
EMT: KnockOutDay.DrugFreeNJ.org/EMT
Athletic Trainers: KnockOutDay.DrugFreeNJ.org/Trainers

UPCOMING WEBINAR
Preventing Opioid Misuse & Addiction
11 a.m. Thursday, February 27, 2025
Register at KnockOutDay.DrugFreeNJ.org/events

