



Overview

In 2017, there were 2,202 drug overdose deaths involving opioids in Illinois—a rate of 17.2 deaths per 100,000 persons, which is higher than the national rate of 14.6 deaths per 100,000 persons. The greatest increase in opioid deaths was seen in cases involving synthetic opioids (mainly fentanyl): a rise from 127 deaths in 2014 to 1,187 deaths in 2017 (Figure 1). Deaths involving heroin also increased significantly in the same 3-year period: from 844 to 1,251 deaths. There were 623 deaths involving prescription opioids in 2017, nearly double the 343 deaths in 2014. (Opioid Summaries by State, [NIH](#)).

Infrastructure

The Single State Authority for Substance Abuse Services is the Illinois Department of Human Services [Division of Substance Use Prevention and Recovery](#). It administers the Opioid State Targeted Response (STR) grants. Illinois received \$16,328,583 for year one of the grant and the same amount for year two. A summary of the services and activities that are supported by the award [is included here and updated each month](#). The [Illinois Opioid Crisis Response Advisory Council](#), located within IDHS, started meeting in 2017, and has [five subcommittees](#): Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT), Prescribing Practices, Public Awareness & Education, Criminal Justice Populations, and Children & Families. For a complete action guide for the state of Illinois, please review the [State of Illinois Opioid Action Plan](#) and accompanying [Implementation Report](#)

Opioid Response Network (STR-TA)

The Opioid Response Network (ORN) provides free education and training on evidence-based practices in the prevention, treatment, and recovery of opioid use disorders. The ORN team stands ready to assist you. For more information, visit getstr-ta.org

Prevention

[Illinois Prescription Monitoring Program](#) (ILPMP) collects information on controlled substance prescriptions (Schedules II, III, IV and V). These data are required to be reported on a daily basis by all retail pharmacies dispensing prescriptions in Illinois. IDHS SUPR provides a list of [drug take back program](#) information.

Naloxone

In September 2015, Illinois enacted [Public Act 99-0480](#), expanding access to the opioid antagonist, naloxone. The Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) –in consultation with the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) – has [issued a standardized procedure](#) for appropriately trained professionals (such as pharmacies, pharmacists, or opioid overdose education and naloxone distribution (OEND) programs) to obtain, dispense, or administer naloxone. IDHS also runs the [Drug Overdose Prevention Program \(DOPP\)](#), which enrolls and trains non-medical personnel on how to administer Naloxone.

Treatment

IDHS/SUPR runs the [Access to Medication Assisted Treatment \(A-MAT\) Project](#), which is a MAT network model (Hub and Spoke) implemented in areas of Illinois that have relatively few treatment resources for persons with OUD. (MAT "deserts"). Illinois also has a 24-hour helpline and resource center devoted to connecting individuals to treatment for OUD and other SUDs. People seeking help can call 1-833-2FINDHELP.

Recovery

Historically, IDHS/SUPR supported recovery support services through a federal discretionary grant called 'Access to Recovery.' This has grown to include other small pilots to provide recovery support services. Peer Recovery Support Services



providers in Illinois can be found [here](#). IDHS SUPR [registers](#) and maintains a [directory](#) of recovery and Oxford housing. In addition to developing a statewide ROSC, SUPR has implemented local ROSC Councils in eight communities through its [Recovery-Oriented Systems of Care-Illinois Statewide Network \(ROSC-ISN\) program](#). This program established networked, geographically distributed ROSC Councils that will assist communities with building local recovery-oriented systems of care and that can network with the statewide ROSC.

Data-related Resources

For a comprehensive report on opioid data from Illinois, [please review this report](#). It has data that includes, but is not limited to demographic analysis of opioid overdose deaths, opioid-related emergency department visits and inpatient hospitalizations statewide and county-by-county, naloxone administration by EMS providers, opioid prescribing, and comorbidity information about infectious diseases like HIV and hepatitis C. An additional report is available [here](#). IDPH also has an [Opioid Data Dashboard](#) provides maps broken down by county fatal and non-fatal overdoses, trends by age, race, sex, and cause, data specific to prescription opioids and other information

Regional Coordinators

A PDF chart of county based coalitions, task forces, and advisory groups published by the IDPH [can be found here](#). This includes mission statements, counties covered, and websites (if available).

IDHS Division of Substance Use Prevention and Recovery

Danielle Kirby, Director
Phone: 312-814-2300
Brian Pacwa, Assistant
Phone: 312-814-6529
brian.pacwa@illinois.gov

License and Compliance Questions

Laura Garcia, Deputy Director of Bureau of Licensure, Compliance and Monitoring
Phone: 312-814-2294
Email: Laura.Garcia@Illinois.gov
Robert Johnson, Compliance Unit Manager
Phone Number: 217-785-9449
Email: Robert.Johnson@illinois.gov
Tracey Loggins, Assistant
Phone: 312-814-6357
Email: Tracey.Loggins@Illinois.gov

Prevention

Rafael Rivera, Deputy Director of Bureau of Prevention Services
Phone: 312-793-1628
Email: Rafael.Rivera@Illinois.gov
Vanessa Villa, Assistant
Phone: 312-814-1997
Email: Vanessa.Villa@Illinois.gov

Contracts/Grants

Rick Nance, Deputy Director of Bureau of Business and Fiscal Operations
Phone: 217-557-6706
Email: Rick.Nance@Illinois.gov
Michele Lowe, Assistant
Phone: 217-524-1114
Email: Michele.Lowe@Illinois.gov

Medication-Assisted Treatment

Richard Weisskopf, State Opiate Treatment Authority: Phone: 312-814-6380
Email: Richard.Weisskopf@Illinois.gov

Medicaid

Jayne Antonacci, Medicaid Liaison
Phone: 217-785-7754
Email: Jayne.Antonacci@Illinois.gov

Illinois HELPLINE for Opioids and Other Substances

Phone: 833-234-6343
Webpage: <https://helplineil.org>