

OHIO'S OPIOID EPIDEMIC FACTS

#BuckeyeHealthy

The opioid epidemic has devastated Ohio and the country — leading to misuse, addiction and overdoses. Here are some statistics that illustrate the problem in Ohio and resources for getting help.

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Ohio had the second-highest rate of opioid overdose deaths in the U.S. in 2017 — almost triple the national average.¹



Synthetic opioids led to the most overdose deaths in Ohio — a nearly

2,500%

increase in deaths over five years. Fentanyl was the largest contributor.¹

Know the signs of opioid abuse

SIDE EFFECTS: constipation, nausea, vomiting and dry mouth; sleepiness and dizziness; confusion; decreased breathing; and itching and sweating²

ADDICTION BEHAVIORAL SIGNS: change in peer group, carelessness with grooming, decline in academic performance, missing classes/work, loss of interest in favorite activities, changes in eating or sleeping habits and deteriorating relationships with family and friends²

While the number of opioid prescriptions is declining, Ohio still averages about 5% higher than the national prescribing rate.¹



Of those, roughly **21-29%** misuse them.³



947 Ohioans died in 2017 from prescription opioid overdoses.¹

Need help or know someone who does?

- 1 Ask your doctor** to refer you to an addiction specialist.
- 2 Call Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)** at 1-800-662-HELP (4357) or visit www.findtreatment.samhsa.gov.

- 3 Buckeye Health Plan members can call** Member Services at 1-866-246-4358 (TDD/TTY: 1-800-750-0750) to find an addiction medicine professional and local resources for support.

¹ National Institute on Drug Abuse. Opioid Involved Overdose Deaths. March 2019. Retrieved from: <https://bit.ly/2mjjm81>

² SAMHSA. The Truth About Opioids. Retrieved August 26, 2019 from: <https://bit.ly/2kHB84J>

³ National Institute on Drug Abuse. Opioid Overdose Crisis. January 2019. Retrieved from: <https://bit.ly/2kRJMxq>