

# ***Transcending the Syndemic:*** **Ending the HIV and Opioid Epidemics in America**

Presented to the

***National HIV Prevention Conference***

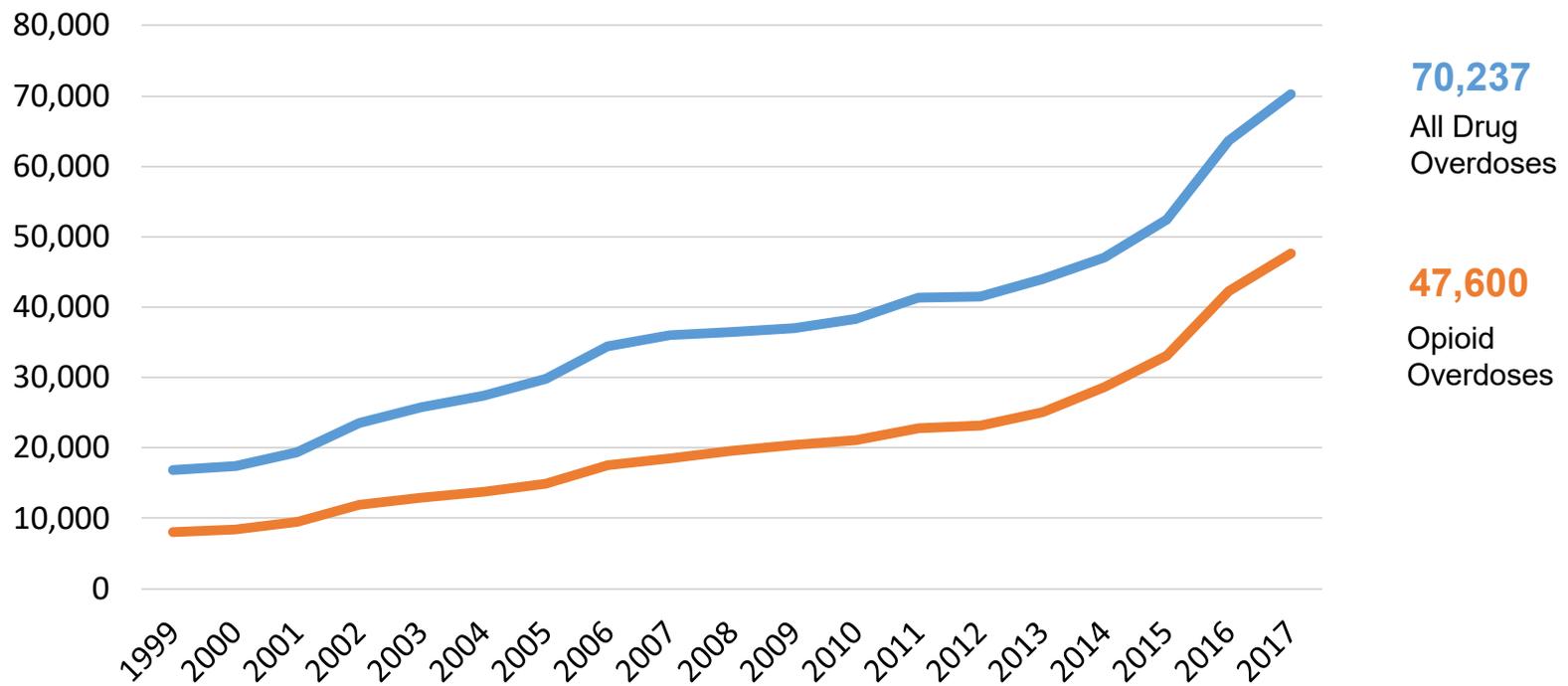
March 20, 2019

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Assistant Secretary for Health and Senior Advisor for Opioid Policy



# U.S. DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS

THE MOST CRITICAL PUBLIC HEALTH CHALLENGE OF OUR TIME



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SOURCE: NCHS, National Vital Statics System, Mortality

# OVERDOSE MORTALITY BY CLASS OF DRUG

ADAPTED FROM CDC STATISTICS, MARCH 2019

	HEROIN	NAT & SEMI SYNTHETIC	METHADONE	SYNTHETIC OPIOIDS	COCAINE	PSYCHO-STIMULANTS
<b>AUG 2017 *</b>	16,371	15,336	3,283	27,373	14,215	9,783
<b>AUG 2018 *</b>	15,514	13,504	3,216	31,958	15,495	12,350
<b>Change</b>	<b>- 5.23%</b>	<b>- 11.95%</b>	<b>- 2.04%</b>	<b>16.75%</b>	<b>9.00%</b>	<b>26.24%</b>

<https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/vsrr/drug-overdose-data.htm>

**~70% of Cocaine Deaths also have Opioids Detected**

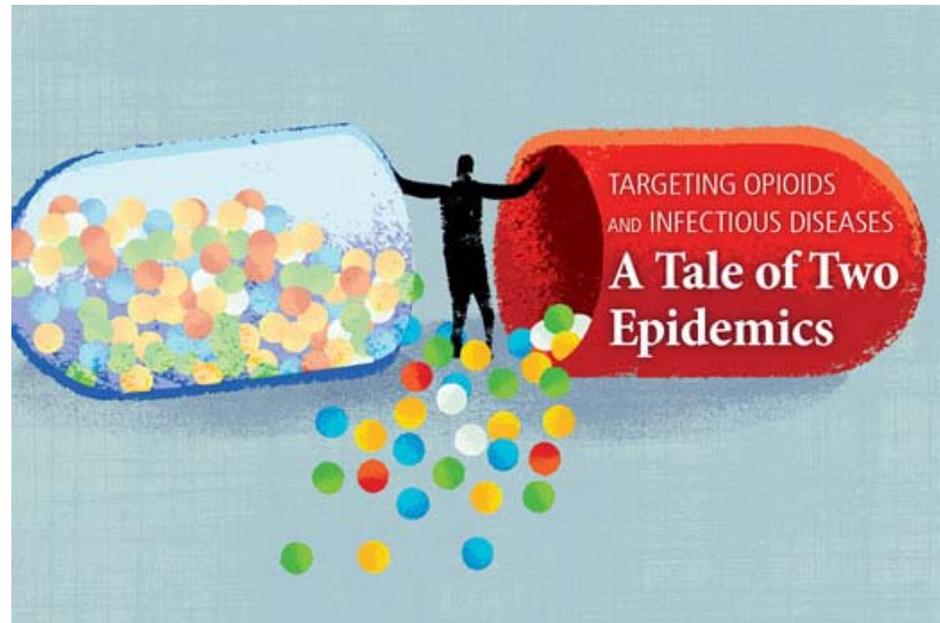


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- Number of predicted deaths for the 12 months ending in August of the indicated year

# INFECTIOUS CONSEQUENCES OF THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

- **HIV**
- Hepatitis B
- Hepatitis C
- Endocarditis
- Skin, bone, and joint infections

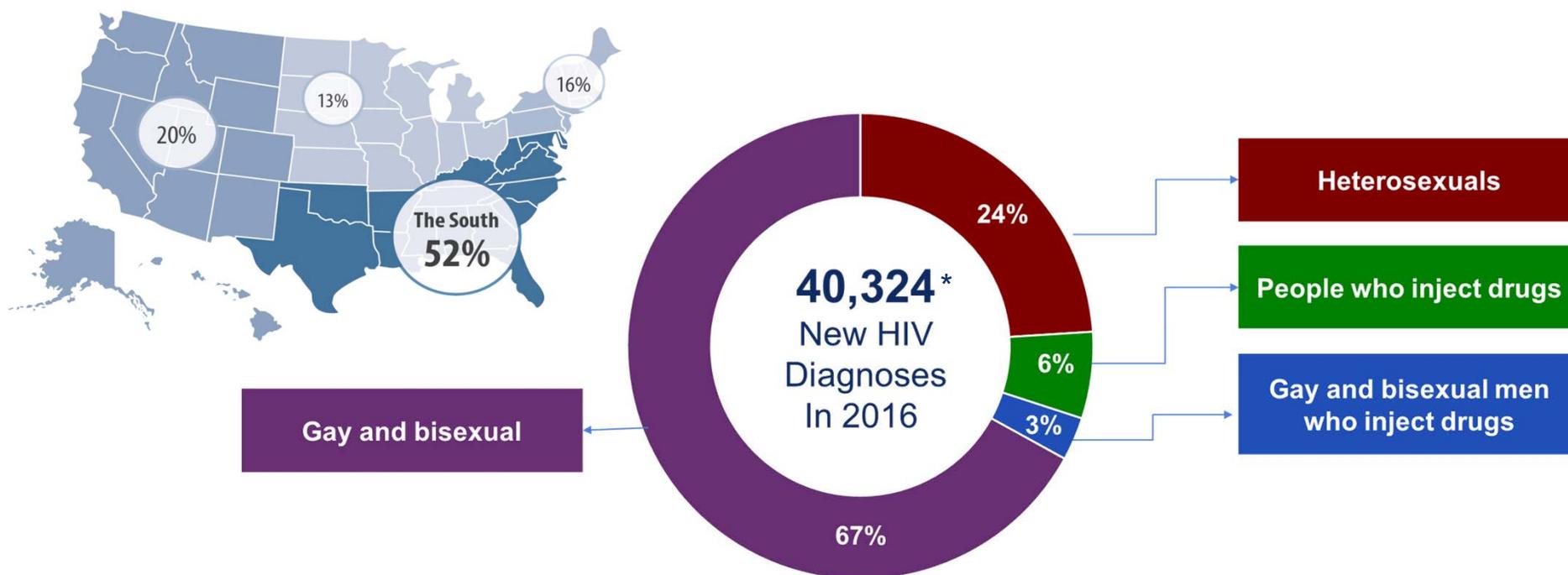


**National Academies Workshop**  
Sponsored by OASH, Report July 2018



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# IV DRUG USE ASSOCIATED WITH ~9% OF NEW HIV CASES



\* [www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/library/reports/surveillance/cdc-hiv-surveillance-supplemental-report-vol-23-4.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/library/reports/surveillance/cdc-hiv-surveillance-supplemental-report-vol-23-4.pdf),  
all other data from <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/library/reports/surveillance/cdc-hiv-surveillance-report-2017-vol-29.pdf>

# HHS 5-POINT STRATEGY TO COMBAT THE OPIOIDS CRISIS



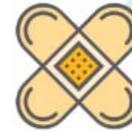
**Better** addiction prevention, treatment, and recovery services



**Better** data



**Better** pain management



**Better** targeting of overdose reversing drugs



**Better** research

<https://www.hhs.gov/opioids/>



# ENHANCED RESOURCES IN PRESIDENT'S FY2020 BUDGET REQUEST (HHS Budget in Brief)



Due to the opioid epidemic, the United States is experiencing increases in certain infectious diseases as well as an increased number of disease outbreaks

- The FY 2020 Budget provides \$58 million to increase CDC's Infectious Diseases and the Opioid Epidemic activities, **\$53 million above FY 2019**
- This program addresses the infectious disease consequences of the opioid epidemic and supports prevention and surveillance interventions in high-risk areas to reduce the spread of infectious disease



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# COMPREHENSIVE SYRINGE SERVICES PROGRAMS: AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE SYNDEMICS SOLUTION



## Syringe Services Programs

Sometimes called “needle exchange” or “syringe exchange,” syringe services programs provide access to clean and sterile equipment used for the preparation and consumption of drugs as well as tools for the prevention and reversal of opioid overdose, such as naloxone training and distribution, fentanyl testing strips, and more. Comprehensive syringe services programs also provide additional social and medical services such as: safe disposal of syringes and needles; testing for HIV and hepatitis C infection and linkage to treatment; education about overdose and safer injection practices; referral and access to drug treatment programs, including MAT; tools to prevent HIV and other infectious disease, such as condoms, counseling, or vaccinations; and linkage to medical, mental health, and social services.

**SSP participants are 5X more likely to enter drug treatment and 3.5X more likely to cease injecting compared to those who don't use SSP programs**

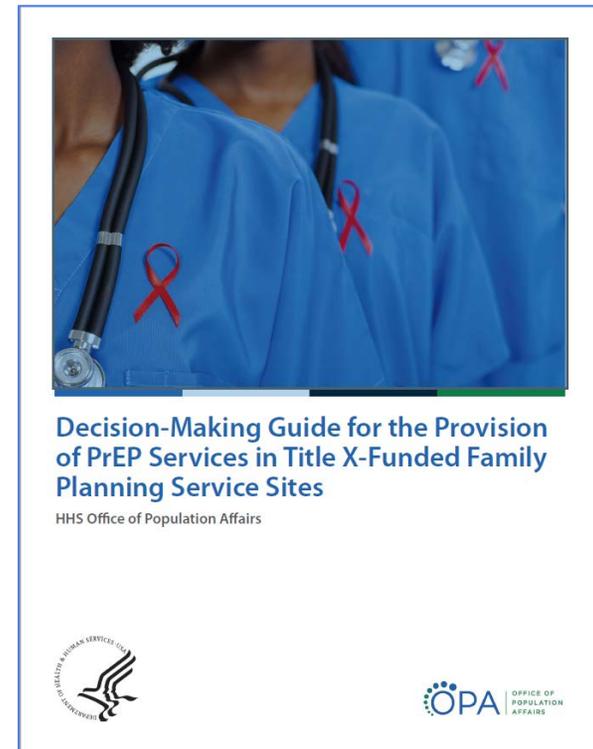


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# INTEGRATION OF HIV PREVENTION INTO PROGRAMS

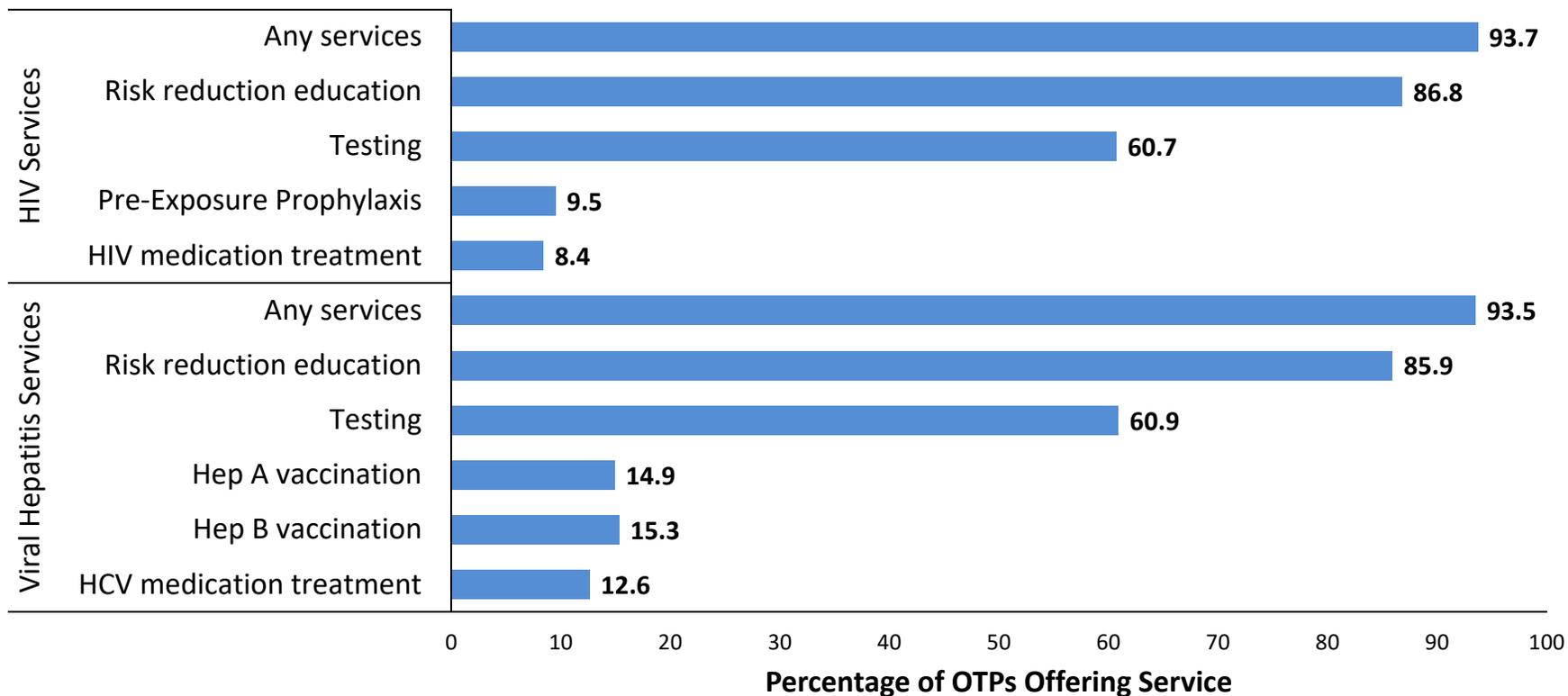
- Organizational tool to help clinic leadership and administrators evaluate capacity and organizational readiness for PrEP service delivery based on their clients' needs
- Extensive formative research including informational interviews, in-depth literature review, expert work group meeting, and pilot project
- Dissemination and training plan implementation currently underway



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[www.hhs.gov/opa/reproductive-health/hiv-and-staying-healthy](http://www.hhs.gov/opa/reproductive-health/hiv-and-staying-healthy)

# INCREASE HIV / HCV SERVICES AT DRUG TREATMENT PROGRAMS





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