

Opioid Abuse and Overdose Prevention Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Center for Injury Prevention and Control FY 2020 Labor HHS Appropriations Bill

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 20 President's request	FY 20 TFAH
Opioid Abuse and Overdose Prevention	\$475,579,000	\$475,579,000	\$475,579,000	\$650,000,000

Background: Opioid abuse is a public health epidemic. Drug overdose deaths more than tripled between 1999 and 2017 (with a total of 70,237 deaths in 2017). According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), there has been a 45% increase in deaths involving synthetic opioids from 2016 to 2017, while deaths from heroin and semisynthetic opioids stayed the same. In 2016, the number of overdose deaths involving opioids (including prescription opioids and heroin) was five times higher than in 1999. From 2000 to 2016, more than 600,000 people died from drug overdoses. On average, 115 Americans die every day from an opioid overdose. No strategy to address this epidemic will be complete without an investment into programs that address substance misuse prevention, as well as treatment and recovery.

Impact: The CDC uses data and prevention strategies to help track trends in the epidemic, identify problem areas, and help states strengthen and evaluate prevention efforts. CDC is also equipping health care providers with data and tools needed for appropriate opioid prescribing. Building off their previous **Opioid Prevention in States** effort (shown in the map below), the CDC is in the process of merging its previously separate grants into a single FY 2019 grant program called **Overdose Data to Action**. This new multi-faceted grant would expand prevention efforts to all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The program provides support to states to address systemic and emerging issues and translate opioid use data into prevention activities. CDC provides scientific expertise, enhanced surveillance activities, and support resources to quickly report fatal and non-fatal overdoses and shares data to improve prevention responses; and shares the RX Awareness campaign to educate consumers about the risks of prescription opioids.

Overdose Prevention in States (OPIS)



Note: The map represents FY2018 grants

Recommendation: TFAH urges the Committee to provide a \$650 million in FY20 to address the opioid epidemic and support the Opioid Abuse and Overdose Prevention activities at the CDC Injury Center. This funding would expand the Injury Center activities and support state health departments to improve monitoring and surveillance, expand and strengthen evidence-based prevention activities, and continue to improve prescribing practices.