

Issue brief: Reports of efforts to help the nation's overdose epidemic

***Updated May 12, 2022**

Despite the continuing COVID-19 global pandemic and the nation's worsening drug overdose epidemic, the American Medical Association also has seen efforts in many states to increase access to evidence-based treatment. The AMA remains greatly concerned by [a continuing number of reports](#) from national, state and local media suggesting increases in opioid- and other drug-related mortality—particularly from illicitly manufactured fentanyl, fentanyl analogs, methamphetamine and cocaine. The AMA also continues to highlight [the latest research and data](#) to help provide evidence-based data and other information to help policymakers undertake meaningful public health interventions.

This issue brief is focused on positive interventions that are working to help increase access to evidence-based treatment for substance use disorders, patients with pain and harm reduction efforts. For context, among the related AMA advocacy, resources and recommendations:

- [AMA-Manatt Health 2022 state policy toolkit](#) provides more than 400 specific laws, regulations, policy guidance and other actions being implemented to help reduce mortality and improve outcomes. The toolkit builds on the 2020 [AMA-Manatt Health national policy roadmap](#) use of best practices to increase access to evidence-based care for mental illness, substance use disorders, comprehensive pain care and harm reduction initiatives.
- The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on February 10, 2022, released a draft revision to its 2016 opioid prescribing guideline. [The AMA said](#) that the CDC's new draft guideline—if followed by policymakers, health insurance companies and pharmacy chains—provides a path to remove arbitrary prescribing thresholds, restore balance and support comprehensive, compassionate care.
- [AMA letter urging Congress](#) to hold health plans accountable for nearly 15 years of failures in complying with the 2008 Mental Health Parity And Equity Addiction Act.
- [AMA comments on Biden Administration's 2022 National Drug Control Strategy](#). Reduce barriers to medications to treat substance use disorders; broaden access to a wide range of harm reduction services, including naloxone, sterile needle and syringe exchange services, and drug checking supplies; require all health insurance programs to remove arbitrary restrictions for care for patients with pain; and take steps to develop and support a national, standardized reporting system for key metrics related to drug use. July 2021.
- [Recommendations from the AMA Substance Use and Pain Care Task Force](#) and [AMA 2021 Overdose Epidemic national report](#) Updated recommendations that highlight physicians' actions as well as additional steps that must be taken to have a meaningful impact on reducing drug-related mortality and improving patient outcomes. September 2021
- AMA issue brief on [key considerations for employers during the drug overdose epidemic](#). This includes reviewing benefit plans for patients and families with substance use disorders, mental illness and/or pain; promoting harm reduction at work; and reducing stigma.

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National reports (state reports begin on page 4)

- **Biden’s drug control strategy urges more ‘harm reduction,’ fewer barriers to treatment.** https://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2022/04/21/joe-biden-drug-control-strategy-overdose-deaths/2991650542070/ April 21, 2022
- **Justice Department Issues Guidance on Protections for People with Opioid Use Disorder under the Americans with Disabilities Act.** <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-issues-guidance-protections-people-opioid-use-disorder-under-americans> April 5, 2022
- **Implementation tools to help states use opioid litigation funds for evidence-based programs.** <https://opioidprinciples.jhsph.edu/implementation-tools/> April 2022
- **More States Legalize Fentanyl Test Strips.** <https://www.medpagetoday.com/special-reports/exclusives/97900> March 28, 2022
- **As drug overdoses soar, more providers embrace harm reduction.** <https://www.aamc.org/news-insights/drug-overdoses-soar-more-providers-embrace-harm-reduction> February 15, 2022
- **CDC proposes new prescription opioid guidelines for caregivers.** <https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/2022/02/10/cdc-opioid-prescriptions/> February 10, 2022
- **Making mental health parity a priority.** https://dailyjournalonline.com/community/farmington-press/opinion/making-mental-health-parity-a-priority/article_0addf00b-ed85-59e0-b27b-f37444d41af6.html February 9, 2022
- **Native American tribes reach \$590 million opioid settlement.** <https://www.mprnews.org/story/2022/02/01/native-american-tribes-reach-590-million-opioid-settlement> February 1, 2022
- **Opinion. New York City’s New Overdose Prevention Centers Have Already Saved Lives.** <https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/dadarcelclark/new-york-overdose-prevention-centers> December 15, 2021
- **SAMHSA Announces Unprecedented \$30 Million Harm Reduction Grant Funding Opportunity to Help Address the Nation’s Substance Use and Overdose Epidemic.** <https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/202112081000> December 8, 2021
- **SAMHSA Extends the Methadone Take-Home Flexibility for One Year While Working Toward a Permanent Solution.** <https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/202111181000> November 18, 2021
- **The ‘Safe Supply’ Movement Aims to Curb Drug Deaths Linked to the Opioid Crisis.** <https://time.com/6108812/drug-deaths-safe-supply-opioids/> October 25, 2021
- **Fighting Disparity through Addiction Medicine.** <https://www.asam.org/Quality-Science/publications/magazine/read/article/2021/10/21/fighting-disparity-through-addiction-medicine> October 21, 2021
- **Expanded Access to Naloxone Can Curb Opioid Overdose Deaths.** <https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/issue-briefs/2020/10/expanded-access-to-naloxone-can-curb-opioid-overdose-deaths> October 20, 2021
- **Buprenorphine misuse decreased among U.S. adults with opioid use disorder from 2015-2019.** <https://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/news-releases/2021/10/buprenorphine-misuse-decreased-among-us-adults-with-opioid-use-disorder-from-2015-2019> October 15, 2021
- **Webinar from the AMA and Manatt Shares How Telehealth Policies Changed During COVID-19, What That Means for Substance Use Disorder Treatment—and What’s Next.** <https://www.manatt.com/insights/webinars/telehealth-and-sud-lessons-from-the-pandemic> October 3, 2021
- **Opinion: Overdose prevention sites can save lives and promote recovery. We must be**

- willing to try them. <https://www.statnews.com/2021/09/29/overdose-prevention-sites-save-lives-promote-recovery/> September 29, 2021
- **Maia Szalavitz Discusses Her New Page-Turner About the History of Harm Reduction.** <https://www.thebody.com/article/maia-szalavitz-undoing-drugs> September 20, 2021
 - **Cherokee Nation highlights Medication Assisted Treatment Clinic for International Overdose Awareness Day.** https://www.tahlequahdailypress.com/news/cherokee-nation-highlights-medication-assisted-treatment-clinic-for-international-overdose-awareness-day/article_ae00fb6d-930f-532c-afec-0ea527c1565e.html September 1, 2021
 - **Mobile telemedicine unit found to be effective in treating opioid use disorder in rural areas.** <https://www.news-medical.net/news/20210828/Mobile-telemedicine-unit-found-to-be-effective-in-treating-opioid-use-disorder-in-rural-areas.aspx> August 28, 2021
 - **Opioid Settlement Funds—Do Not Neglect Patients With Pain.** <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama-health-forum/fullarticle/2783468> August 20, 2021
 - **ASAM Teams up with the AMA, Shatterproof to Educate Prescribers and Medical Students About Treating Opioid Use Disorder with Buprenorphine.** <https://www.asam.org/advocacy/news/asam-advocacy-blog/2021/07/29/asam-teams-up-with-the-ama-shatterproof-to-educate-prescribers-and-medical-students-about-treating-opioid-use-disorder-with-buprenorphine> July 29, 2021
 - **Clearing the Hurdles to Safe Injection Facilities.** <https://www.medpagetoday.com/psychiatry/opioids/93567> July 14, 2021
 - **Observations of the Opioid Workgroup of the Board of Scientific Counselors of the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control on the Updated CDC Guideline for Prescribing Opioids.** <https://www.cdc.gov/injury/pdfs/bsc/OWG-Report-of-Recs-1-12-06.30.21-FINAL-508.pdf> July 2, 2021
 - **DEA Finalizes Measures to Expand Medication-Assisted Treatment.** <https://www.dea.gov/press-releases/2021/06/28/dea-finalizes-measures-expand-medication-assisted-treatment> June 28, 2021
 - **Issue Brief: Policies Should Promote Access to Buprenorphine for Opioid Use Disorder. The Pew Charitable Trusts.** https://www.pewtrusts.org/-/media/assets/2021/05/policieshouldpromoteaccesstobuprenorphine_brief.pdf May 2021
 - **Access to Treatment for Individuals with Opioid Use Disorder.** <https://www.networkforphl.org/resources/access-to-treatment-for-individuals-with-opioid-use-disorder/> April 21, 2021
 - **CMS Selects Value in Opioid Use Disorder Treatment Demonstration Applicants.** <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cms-selects-value-opioid-use-disorder-treatment-demonstration-applicants> April 8, 2021 ([List of Value in Treatment Demonstration Selected Applicants](#))
 - **Integrating behavioral health and primary care.** <https://www.medicaleconomics.com/view/integrating-behavioral-health-and-primary-care> April 5, 2021
 - **Biden Administration Plan Tackles Drug Addiction Crisis.** <https://www.psychiatrytimes.com/view/biden-administration-plan-narrows-in-on-drug-addiction-crisis> March 31, 2021
 - **Overcoming Barriers to Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder.** <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2777039> February 25, 2021
 - **American Society of Addiction Medicine Public Policy Statement on Advancing Racial Justice in Addiction Medicine.** <https://www.asam.org/docs/default-source/public-policy->

- [statements/asam-policy-statement-on-racial-justiced7a33a9472bc604ca5b7ff000030b21a.pdf?sfvrsn=5a1f5ac2_2](#) February 25, 2021
- **Mental Health: Will it Finally Be an American Legislative Priority?** <https://harvardpolitics.com/mental-health-legislation/> February 23, 2021
 - **Bupropion plus naltrexone could work for methamphetamine use disorder.** <https://www.pharmacist.com/article/bupropion-plus-naltrexone-could-work-methamphetamine-use-disorder> February 18, 2021
 - **‘Use that money wisely’: Coalition urges governments to spend opioid settlement funds on evidence-based efforts.** <https://www.statnews.com/pharmalot/2021/01/27/opioids-addiction-money-covid-purdue-jnj/> January 27, 2021
 - **Regional public health overdose response projects receive national funding.** <https://www.thepitchkc.com/regional-public-health-overdose-response-projects-receive-national-funding/> January 27, 2021
 - **Biden moving to nix Trump plan on opioid-treatment prescriptions.** <https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/2021/01/25/biden-buprenorphine-waiver/> January 25, 2021
 - **Extended Medicaid Coverage Would Help Postpartum Patients With Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder.** <https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/articles/2021/01/14/extended-medicaid-coverage-would-help-postpartum-patients-with-treatment-for-opioid-use-disorder> January 14, 2021
 - **HHS Expands Access to Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder.** <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2021/01/14/hhs-expands-access-to-treatment-for-opioid-use-disorder.html> January 14, 2021
 - **Combination treatment for methamphetamine use disorder shows promise in NIH study.** <https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/combination-treatment-methamphetamine-use-disorder-shows-promise-nih-study> January 13, 2021
 - **CMS Issues Guidance about Expanded Medicaid Coverage for Treatment of Opioid Use Disorders.** <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/news-alert/cms-issues-guidance-about-expanded-medicaid-coverage-treatment-opioid-use-disorders> and <https://www.medicaid.gov/federal-policy-guidance/downloads/sho20005.pdf> December 30, 2020
 - **As a physician and a patient, I’ve seen the damage caused by the stigma of addiction. It must end.** <https://www.statnews.com/2020/12/08/stigma-weaponized-helps-fuel-addiction-crisis/> December 8, 2020

State-specific news reports and other information

1. Alabama

- **Find out how this new initiative with Addiction Prevention Coalition is helping stop HIV in Birmingham’s youth.** <https://bhamnow.com/2021/10/18/find-out-how-this-new-initiative-with-addiction-prevention-coalition-is-helping-stop-hiv-in-birmingham-youth/> October 18, 2021

2. Alaska

- **Got 15 minutes? You can save a life.** <https://www.adn.com/sponsored-content/2022/02/04/got-15-minutes-you-can-save-a-life/> February 4, 2022
- **State updates guidance for treating opioid use disorders.** <https://www.ktoo.org/2021/05/21/state-updates-guidance-for-treating-opioid-use-disorders/> May 21, 2021

3. Arizona

- **Navajo County will use state, federal grants to reduce overdose deaths.**
https://www.wmicentral.com/news/latest_news/navajo-county-will-use-state-federal-grants-to-reduce-overdose-deaths/article_e8927332-43ab-5d41-a618-302ae457b072.html January 18, 2022
- **Legalized syringe exchanges, fentanyl test strips could help combat overdose deaths.**
<https://kjzz.org/content/1725254/legalized-syringe-exchanges-fentanyl-test-strips-could-help-combat-overdose-deaths> October 17, 2021
- **Legalization brings legitimacy to needle exchange programs in Arizona.**
<https://www.kold.com/2021/08/26/legalization-brings-legitimacy-needle-exchange-programs-arizona/> August 26, 2021
- **Arizona Coalition Develops Toolkit to Respond to Fentanyl Crisis.**
<https://www.hmpgloballearningnetwork.com/site/ap/news/arizona-coalition-develops-toolkit-respond-fentanyl-crisis> July 21, 2021
- **Gov. Ducey signs bill to help prevent fentanyl overdoses.**
https://www.azfamily.com/news/investigations/opioid_crisis/fentanyl/gov-ducey-signs-bill-to-help-prevent-fentanyl-overdoses/article_6df555de-b8cc-11eb-af43-170dad04d654.html May 19, 2021
- **AMA urges support for Arizona harm reduction bill.** <https://searchlf.ama-assn.org/letter/documentDownload?uri=%2Funstructured%2Fbinary%2Fletter%2FLETTERS%2F2021-5-11-Letter-to-Support-AZ-SB-1250-FINA.pdf> May 11, 2021
- **Banner Phoenix launches new program to combat opioid overdoses.**
<https://ktar.com/story/4340712/banner-phoenix-launches-new-program-to-combat-opioid-overdoses/> April 22, 2021

4. Arkansas

- **UAMS-linked research studying first-of-its-kind drug to treat meth abuse.**
<https://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2021/nov/02/uams-linked-research-studying-first-of-its-kind/> November 2, 2021
- **Members of community receive training with lifesaving NARCAN.**
<https://www.hotsr.com/news/2021/aug/02/members-of-community-receive-training-with/> August 2, 2021
- **Opioid treatment and research at center of two UAMS grants.**
<https://talkbusiness.net/2021/02/opioid-treatment-and-research-at-center-of-two-uams-grants/> February 24, 2021
- **20 overdoses in county since July 2020, 16 Narcan ‘saves’.**
https://www.thedailycitizen.com/news/20-overdoses-in-county-since-july-2020-16-narcan-saves/article_f5834485-d2e0-58b3-af7f-cf8c553d4ada.html January 27, 2021

5. California

- **California Inmate Overdoses Plummet Under Drug Program.**
<https://www.nbcbayarea.com/news/california/california-inmate-overdoses-plummet-under-drug-program/2874576/> April 26, 2022 (Also see related California dashboard with detailed data: <https://cchcs.ca.gov/isudt/dashboard/>)
- **Overdose rescue at Walmart: Former fentanyl users just happened to have life-saving Narcan in their car.** <https://www.kget.com/news/local-news/overdose-rescue-at-walmart-former-fentanyl-users-just-happened-to-have-life-saving-narcan-in-their-car/> April 20, 2022
- **In a bid to stop overdose deaths, California could allow drug use at supervised sites.**
<https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2021-10-23/harm-reduction-california-could-allow-drug-use-at-supervised-sites> October 23, 2021
- **Dear Provider Letter. California Department of Public Health.**
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CCDPHP/sapb/CDPH%20Document%20Library/SOS->

- [Workgroup-Action-Notice-Best-Practices-for-Providers-Who-Inherit-Patients-on-Opioids_ADA.pdf](#) September 7, 2021
- **Overdose Response Team Launching Next Week Seeks To Prevent Rise in Opioid-Related Deaths.** <https://www.sfgate.com/news/bayarea/article/Overdose-Response-Team-Launching-Next-Week-Seeks-16354128.php> July 31, 2021
 - **As fentanyl overdoses spike, county gives public tool to save lives.** <https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/health/story/2021-05-21/as-fentanyl-overdoses-spike-county-gives-public-tool-to-save-lives> May 21, 2021
 - **The key to treating opioid addiction is to cut the red tape.** <https://kmp.com/news/local/the-key-to-treating-opioid-addiction-is-to-cut-the-red-tape> April 27, 2021
 - **County Supervisors Overturn Ban on Needle Exchange Program.** <https://patch.com/california/san-diego/county-supervisors-overturn-ban-needle-exchange-program> January 26, 2021
6. **Colorado**
- **After one year, the Colorado Naloxone Project will soon be available nationally.** <https://www.kunc.org/health/2022-04-26/after-one-year-the-colorado-naloxone-project-will-soon-be-available-nationally> April 26, 2022
 - **CDPHE allocates \$1.8 million to increase access to naloxone in local communities.** <https://stateofreform.com/featured/2022/02/colorado-naloxone/> February 4, 2022
 - **Colorado hospital distributes overdose antidote Narcan to new and expecting parents.** <https://www.9news.com/article/news/local/next/colorado-hospital-overdose-antidote-narcan-new-expecting-parents-moms/73-ca13f1f2-852d-413e-b114-c3754fd57964> September 15, 2021
 - **A New Salida Treatment Center Aims To Fill Behavioral Health Care Gaps in the Region.** <https://www.cpr.org/2021/05/06/a-new-salida-treatment-center-aims-to-fill-mental-health-care-gaps-in-the-region/> May 6, 2021
 - **New Project Wants All Colorado Hospitals To Give Opioid Overdose Reversal Drug To At-Risk Patients.** <https://www.kunc.org/health/2021-05-03/new-project-wants-all-colorado-hospitals-to-give-opioid-overdose-reversal-drug-to-at-risk-patients> May 3, 2021
 - **Colorado Medicaid extends coverage for substance abuse treatment.** <https://stateofreform.com/featured/2021/01/colorado-medicare-extends-coverage-for-substance-abuse-treatment/> January 4, 2021
7. **Connecticut**
- **Opinion: Want to reduce drug overdose deaths in Connecticut? Create safe spaces for users.** <https://www.courant.com/opinion/op-ed/hc-op-connecticut-should-enact-legislation-scs-implementation-20210725-vepmq4tnmjb2pjmncaa2rjftje-story.html> July 25, 2021
 - **Coronavirus pandemic worsened the opioid crisis; a new law is designed to help.** <https://www.theday.com/article/20210710/NWS01/210719934> July 10, 2021
8. **Delaware**
- **DPH Announces Launch Of Restaurant Accolade Program To Address Substance Abuse Prevention, Opioid Overdose.** <https://news.delaware.gov/2022/03/15/dph->

[announces-launch-of-restaurant-accolade-program-to-address-substance-abuse-prevention-opioid-overdose/](#) March 15, 2022

- **Mobile clinics at this Middletown church try to fill gaps for those struggling with drug use.** <https://www.delawareonline.com/story/news/local/2021/04/22/mobile-clinics-middletown-aim-fill-gap-addiction-resources/7291803002/> April 22, 2021
- **State allocates first \$700K to treat substance use disorder.** <https://www.capegazette.com/article/state-allocates-first-700k-treat%2%A0substance-use-disorder/213690> January 5, 2021

9. District of Columbia

- **Arlington County Will Give Out Fentanyl Test Strips To People Released From Incarceration.** <https://dcist.com/story/21/08/31/arlinton-county-virginia-fentanyl-opioid-drug-overdose-incarceration/> August 31, 2021
- **DC Free Naloxone.** DC residents may request to receive free naloxone by mail from the Opioid Learning Institute. <http://opioidhealth.org/dc-free-naloxone/>

10. Florida

- **Walgreens settles with Florida in opioid case for \$683 million.** <https://health.wusf.usf.edu/health-news-florida/2022-05-05/walgreens-settles-with-florida-in-opioid-case-for-683-million> May 5, 2022
- **Florida Senate passes a measure allowing schools to stock anti-overdose drug.** <https://wusfnews.wusf.usf.edu/politics-issues/2022-02-04/florida-senate-passes-a-measure-allowing-schools-to-stock-anti-overdose-drug> February 4, 2022
- **Program to curb Tampa Bay’s opioid deaths launches Friday.** <https://www.baynews9.com/fl/tampa/news/2021/05/20/program-to-curb-tampa-bay-s-opioid-deaths-launches-friday-> May 19, 2021

11. Georgia

- **Ogeechee Tech’s Campus Safety Receives Training For Treating Opioid Overdose.** <https://allongeorgia.com/bulloch-schools/ogeechee-techs-campus-safety-receives-training-for-treating-opioid-overdose/> September 17, 2021

12. Illinois

- **This Cook County judge gives convicts his cell number—if they complete addiction program.** <https://chicago.suntimes.com/2022/1/28/22902699/rehabilitative-alternative-program-charles-burns-cook-county-drug-court> January 28, 2022
- **Alex’s Law aims to decrease opioid overdose deaths.** <https://illinoisnatedemocrats.com/caucus-news/27-senator-laura-ellman-news/3014-alex-s-law-aims-to-decrease-opioid-overdose-deaths> August 23, 2021
- **After record year for drug overdoses, Malcolm X College to train community health workers to fight opioid addiction.** <https://chicago.suntimes.com/education/2021/7/21/22579157/opioid-drug-overdoses-malcolm-x-college-mental-health-training-community-health> July 16, 2021
- **DuPage County Jail Confirms Christine Finnigan Will Receive Her Life-Saving Medication.** <https://www.aclu-il.org/en/news/dupage-county-jail-confirms-christine-finnigan-will-receive-her-life-saving-medication> February 26, 2021
- **Emphasizing medical student and physician mental health in the curricula.** <https://end-overdose-epidemic.org/stories/emphasizing-medical-student-and-physician-mental-health-in-the-curricula/> February 1, 2021

13. Indiana

- **State health department gives naloxone training during National Recovery Month.**

- <https://indianapolisrecorder.com/state-health-department-gives-naloxone-training-during-national-recovery-month/> September 17, 2021
- **Southern Indiana fire department’s ‘NaloxBox’ offers free anti-overdose drug confidentiality.** <https://www.courier-journal.com/story/news/local/indiana/2021/05/25/sellersburg-indiana-fire-department-offering-free-naloxone-overdose-medicine/5186815001/> May 25, 2021
14. Iowa
- **Iowa offers free Narcan kits to reverse overdoses from painkillers or heroin.** <https://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/health/2020/07/14/iowa-offers-free-narcan-naloxone-kits-reverse-overdoses-opioid-painkillers-heroin/5437135002/> July 14, 2021
15. Kansas
- **Sheriff’s deputy gives woman 3 doses of Naloxone after she likely took counterfeit pill at KC casino.** <https://fox4kc.com/news/sheriffs-deputy-gives-woman-3-doses-of-naloxone-after-she-likely-took-counterfeit-pill/> November 9, 2021
16. Kentucky
- **Judge sides with pain physician, orders CVS to resume filling his scripts.** <https://www.beckersasc.com/asc-news/judges-sides-with-pain-physician-orders-cvs-to-resume-filling-his-scripts.html> August 17, 2021
 - **McCracken County Public Library provides life-saving Narcan to public.** <https://wsilvtv.com/2021/07/08/mccracken-county-public-library-provides-life-saving-narcan-to-public/> July 8, 2021
 - **Addiction in the Pandemic: The \$350M Effort to Heal Communities in Opioid Crisis.** <https://wfpl.org/addiction-in-the-pandemic-the-350m-effort-to-heal-communities-in-opioid-crisis/> February 11, 2021
 - **Medical professionals focus on substance abuse, drug overdose epidemic, even through COVID-19.** https://news-expressky.com/news/medical-professionals-focus-on-substance-abuse-drug-overdose-epidemic-even-through-covid-19/article_0caba46c-6224-11eb-ac03-37f1a7aafd31.html January 29, 2021
17. Louisiana
- **Louisiana Department of Health: LDH Office of Behavioral Health expanding opioid treatment services to Houma and Bogalusa.** <https://ldh.la.gov/news/6589> April 27, 2022
 - **Fentanyl test strips legalized in East Baton Rouge Parish.** <https://www.brproud.com/news/local-news/fentanyl-test-strips-legalized-in-east-baton-rouge-parish/> July 30, 2021
18. Maine
- **City of Portland. Portland Public Health Center Service Update.** <https://www.portlandmaine.gov/866/Needle-Exchange-Program> As part of their harm reduction services, Portland Public Health began distributing fentanyl test strips to clients. March 3, 2022
 - **Maine Drug Data Hub Home.** <https://mainedrugdata.org/> (updated monthly)
 - **Maine Bolsters Substance Abuse Outreach Program In Effort To Stem Tide Of Opioid Deaths.** <https://www.mainepublic.org/health/2021-09-03/maine-bolsters-substance-abuse-outreach-program-in-effort-to-stem-tide-of-opioid-deaths> September 3, 2021
 - **Maine first state to roll out text alerts when drug overdoses spike.** <https://www.pressherald.com/2021/07/26/maine-first-state-to-roll-out-text-alerts-when-drug-overdoses-spike/> July 26, 2021
 - **Maine expanding opioid treatment during wave of overdose deaths.**

<https://www.pressherald.com/2021/07/15/maine-expanding-opioid-treatment-during-wave-of-overdose-deaths/> July 15, 2021

- **Maine police departments are giving out fentanyl testing strips.**
<https://bangordailynews.com/2021/04/08/news/midcoast/maine-police-departments-are-giving-out-fentanyl-testing-strips/> April 7, 2021
- **Maine receives \$1.4 million to combat Maine’s opioid crisis.**
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