

# THE OPIOID CRISIS

## IN THE UNITED STATES

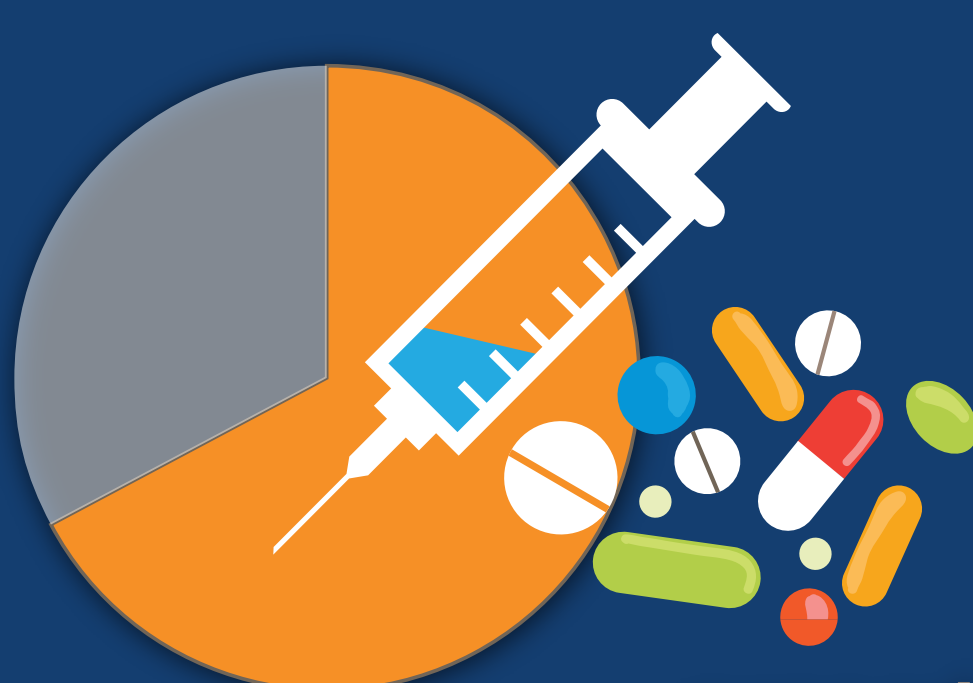


In 2015:

**Drug overdose** was the leading cause of accidental death in the U.S.

**52,404** Americans died of drug overdoses — an increase of **11%** from 2014.

One overdose death occurred **every 10 minutes**.



About **33,000** of total fatal drug overdoses — nearly two-thirds of them — were due to opioids, including prescription pain relievers and heroin.

That's an increase of **15%** from 2014.

Opioids killed about **91** Americans per day.

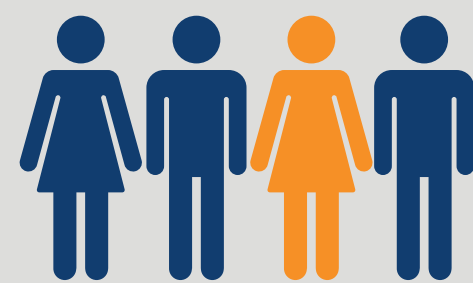


Prescription pain relievers were responsible for approximately **20,000** overdose deaths, while heroin accounted for nearly **13,000** overdose deaths.



That's a **23% increase** in heroin overdose deaths from 2014.

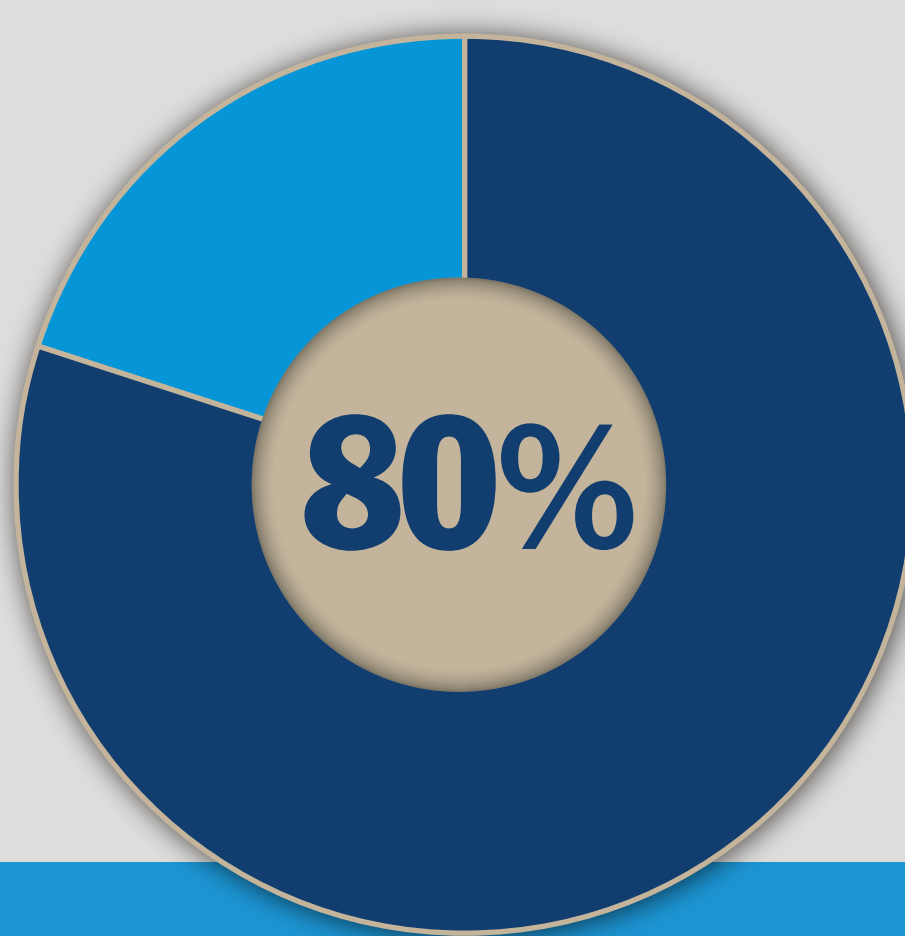
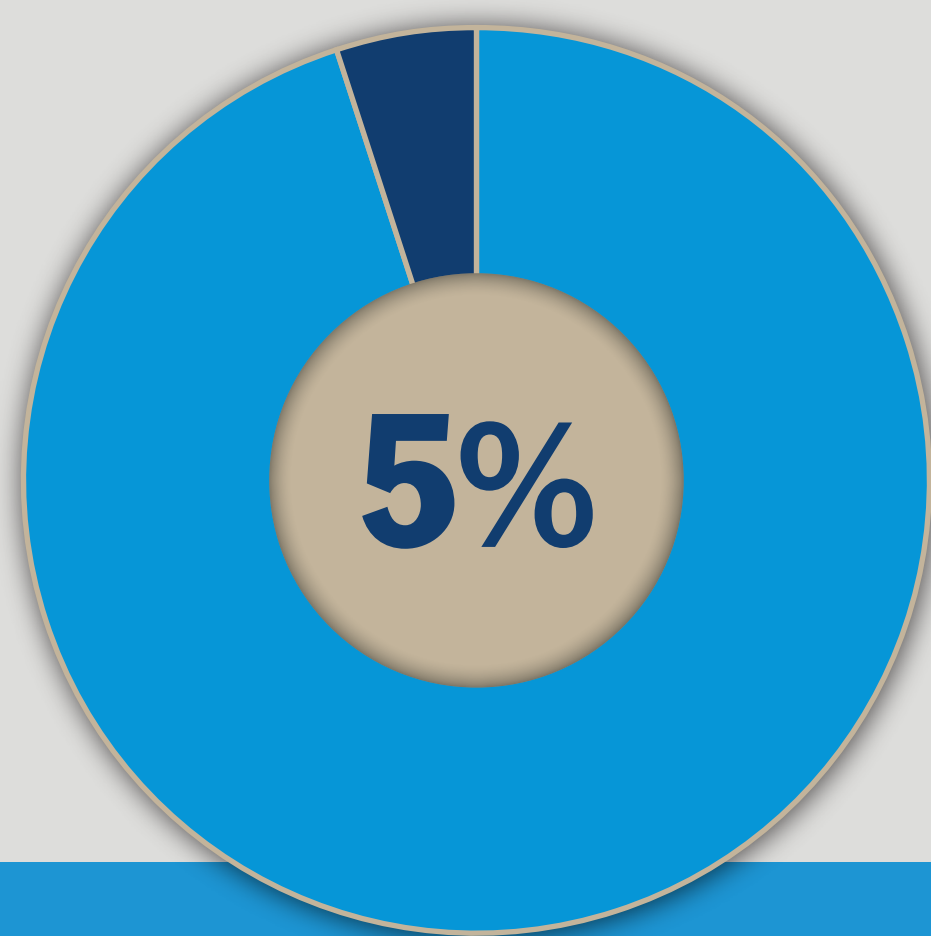
By some estimates, **1 in 4 people** who receive prescription opioids long term for noncancer pain in primary care settings struggles with addiction.



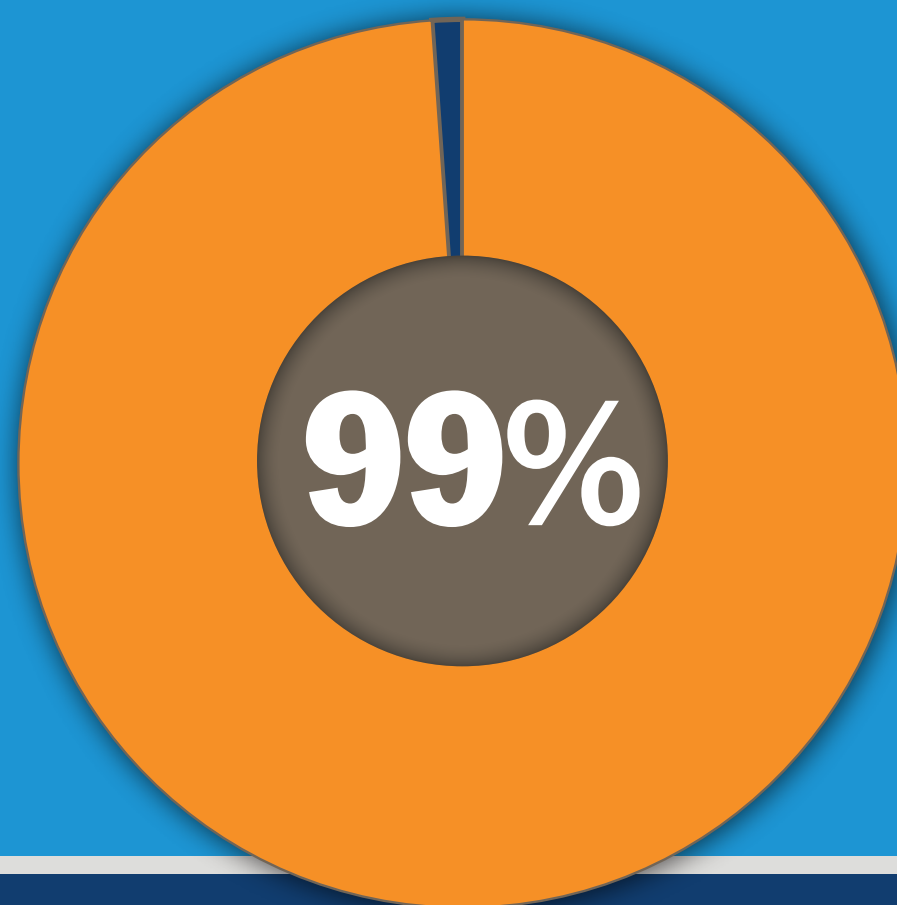
Sources: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, The Associated Press, The Economist

## THE CRISIS IN CONTEXT

Americans make up approximately **5%** of the world's population but consume **80%** of the global opioid supply.



Americans consume **more than 99%** of the world's supply of hydrocodone (the opiate that is in Vicodin).



Americans are prescribed about

**6x**

as many opioids per capita as the citizens of Portugal and France are prescribed (even though these countries offer far easier access to healthcare).



Sources: International Narcotics Control Board, The Washington Post