

OPIOID USE AND ENFORCEMENT IN IOWA

Nathan Blake
Deputy Attorney General
Iowa Department of Justice





IOWA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

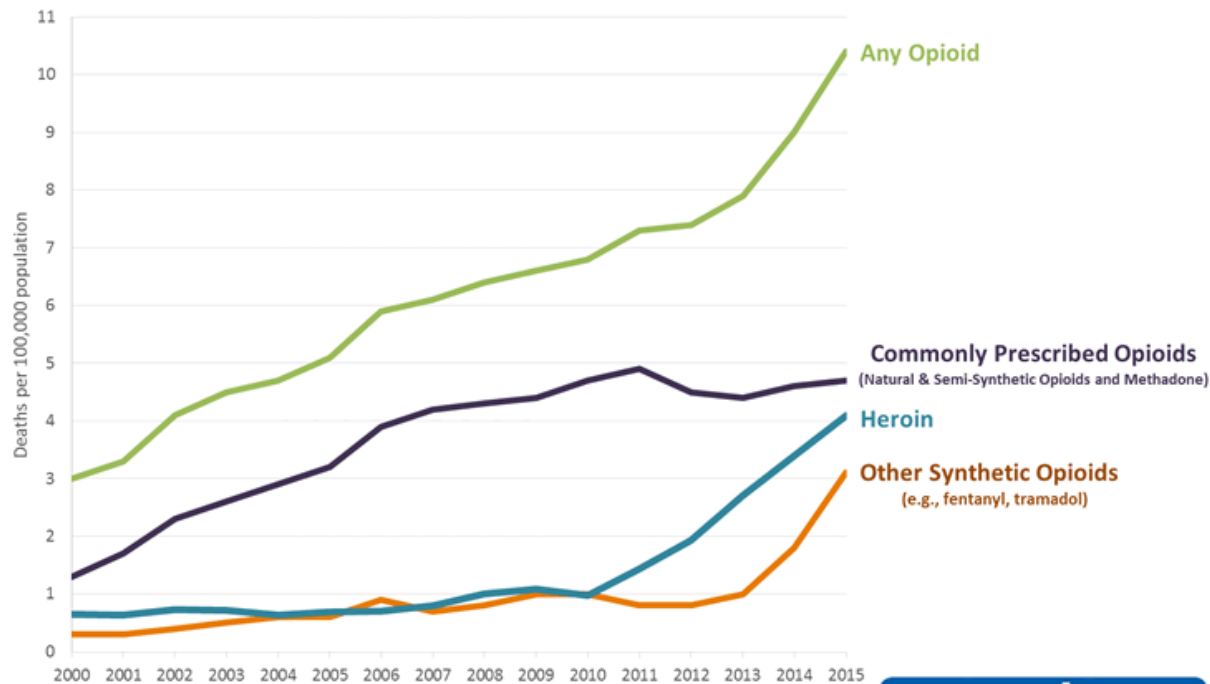
Attorney General Tom Miller

- Criminal appeals, state government clients, child support recovery, consumer fraud, and special criminal cases.
- National leader in consumer protection multistate actions, including tobacco, Microsoft, and the national mortgage settlements.
- First elected in 1978.



National – overdose deaths

Overdose Deaths Involving Opioids, United States, 2000-2015



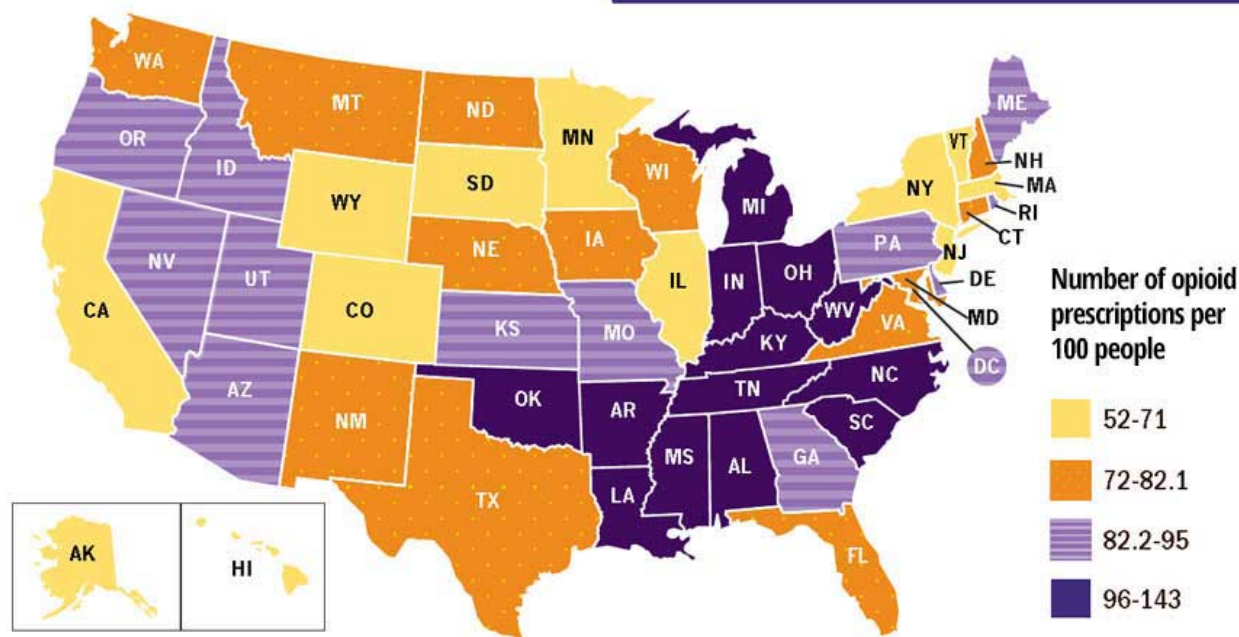
SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality. CDC WONDER, Atlanta, GA: US Department of Health and Human Services, CDC; 2016. <https://wonder.cdc.gov/>.

www.cdc.gov
Your Source for Credible Health Information



National – opioid prescriptions dispensed

Some states have more opioid prescriptions per person than others.



SOURCE: IMS, National Prescription Audit (NPA™), 2012.



Increase in Iowa

Opioid Treatment Admissions:

<i>Number of admissions in 2005</i>	<i>Number of admissions in 2016</i>
608	2,274

Opioid Overdose Deaths:

<i>Number of overdose deaths in 2005</i>	<i>Number of overdose deaths in 2016*</i>
28	67

Opioid Related Deaths:

<i>Number of opioid related deaths in 2005</i>	<i>Number of opioid related deaths in 2016*</i>
59	146

*Indicates provisional data

Data from Iowa Department of Public Health



Multistate opioids investigation

- Publicly announced in June 2017
- Announced an expansion last month, now includes 5 manufacturers (Purdue Pharma, Endo, Janssen, Teva/Cephalon, and Allergan) as well as 3 distributors (AmerisourceBergen, Cardinal Health, and McKesson)
- 40 states + DC



Potential claims

- Safety, effectiveness of long-term use
 - Despite aggressive marketing, the CDC has noted “there is no good evidence that opioids improve pain or function with long-term use.”
- False claims of low addiction risk and “pseudoaddiction”
- False claims on risks of overdoses



Other lawsuits

- States: MS, OH, OK, NM, NH, AR, SC, WA, MO
- Cities: Seattle & Everett, WA; Dayton, OH; Stockton, CA; Chicago, IL
- Counties: 10 in NY; also CA, IL, TN



State legislation - prescribing

- Limits for initial opioid prescriptions for acute pain
 - 18 states (not Iowa), usually 7-day limit
 - Exceptions for cancer, hospice & palliative care, chronic pain
- Opiate prescriptions become invalid after certain time
 - 33 states (not Iowa)
 - Range from 3 days to 1 year, with most 30, 90, or 180 days



State legislation – prescribing (cont.)

- Under federal law, prescribers allowed to issue multiple prescriptions of Schedule II substances at once
 - 37 states prohibit this practice (not Iowa)
- Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs
 - Prescriber mandate in 26 states (not Iowa)
 - Access, data sharing across state lines and with law enforcement
- Pharmacists must check ID before dispensing prescriptions of controlled substances
 - 36 states (not IA)



State legislation - other

- Naloxone

- In 2016, Iowa began to allow opioid antagonists to be dispensed to:
 - the person at risk of an opioid-related overdose
 - a family member or friend of a person at risk
 - a person in a position to assist a person at risk
 - a first responder (including law enforcement, EMS, fire departments)
- Good Samaritan and Overdose Immunity laws provide immunity from arrest or prosecution when someone calls 911
 - 38 states (not Iowa)



State legislation - other

- Syringe services programs
 - Explicitly authorized by state law in 19 states (not Iowa)
- Prescription drug takeback programs
 - Iowa has enacted
- Mandated provider training on addiction risks, etc.
- Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) funding



Additional efforts

- Agreement with Amphastar announced on October 4
 - \$6 rebate program for naloxone
 - Open to public entities,
 - State, regional, county, or city
 - EMS
 - Law enforcement
 - Public hospitals
 - Run by ODCP



Fin.

Nathan Blake

Deputy Attorney General for Policy

nathan.blake@iowa.gov

515-281-4325

