



# SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE.

## YOU ARE NOT ALONE. RECOVERY IS POSSIBLE.



**EVERY 11 MINUTES**  
SOMEONE IN AMERICA DIES  
FROM AN OPIOID OVERDOSE.

Source: Hedegaard H., Minino A.M., Warner M. Drug Overdose Deaths in the United States, 1999-2017. NCHS Data Brief, no 329. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. 2018.



**80%**

**OF HEROIN USERS STARTED WITH  
A PRESCRIPTION PAINKILLER.**

Source: Jones, C.M. Heroin Use and Heroin Use Risk Behaviors Among Nonmedical Users of Prescription Opioid Pain Relievers – United States, 2002-2004 and 2008-2010. Drug Alcohol Depend (Sept. 1, 2013) 132(102):95-100.

**MORE AMERICANS DIED OF  
A DRUG OVERDOSE  
IN 2017 THAN DIED IN THE IRAQ,  
AFGHANISTAN AND VIETNAM  
WARS, COMBINED.**

Source: CBS News, 2017. CDC, 2018



**NEARLY ALL PEOPLE WHO USED  
HEROIN ALSO USED AT LEAST**

**1 OTHER DRUG**

**MOST USED AT LEAST**

**3 OTHER DRUGS**

**PEOPLE WHO ARE ADDICTED TO...**

**ALCOHOL ARE 2X** **MARIJUANA ARE 15X** **COCAINE ARE 3X** **Rx OPIOID PAINKILLERS ARE 40X**

**...MORE LIKELY TO BE ADDICTED  
TO HEROIN.**

Source: National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), 2011-2013.

## DEFINING SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER

The National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA) defines **substance use disorder as a chronic, relapsing brain disease** that is characterized by compulsive drug seeking and use, despite harmful consequences.

Source: National Institute on Drug Abuse. The Science of Drug Abuse and Addiction: The Basics.

## FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

**Employer supported and monitored treatment yields better** sustained recovery rates than treatment initiated at the request of friends and family members.

Source: Weisner, C., Lu, Y., Hinman, A., et al. (2009) Substance Use, Symptom, and Employment Outcomes of Persons With a Workplace M for Chemical Dependency Treatment. Psychiatric Services, May 2009, 60(5), 646-654.

In the United States, **8–10% of people over the age of 12 are addicted to alcohol or other drugs during their lifetime.** That's approximately 22 million people. (Cigarette smoking is also an addiction that kills people.)

Source: Grant B., Saha T.D., Ruan W.J., et al., "Epidemiology of DSM-5 Drug Use Disorder Results From the National Epidemiologic Survey on Alcohol and Related Conditions-III." The Journal of the American Medical Association Psychiatry, January 2016.

## REACH OUT FOR HELP

**SAMHSA's National Helpline – 1-800-662-HELP (4357)**

It's free, confidential, 24/7, 365-day-a-year treatment referral and information service (*in English and Spanish*) for individuals and families facing mental and/or substance use disorders.

FIND ADDICTION TREATMENT  
OPENINGS NOW!

**FINDHELPNOWKY.ORG**



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