

## Trends in the Distribution of Selected Opioids by State, US, 1999-2011

Christopher M. Jones, PharmD, MPH
LCDR, US Public Health Service
Division of Unintentional Injury Prevention
National Center for Injury Prevention and Control
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

## Drug overdose death rates continue to increase US, 1980-2010



## Number of drug overdose deaths involving opioid pain relievers and other drugs US, 1999-2010



## Rates of opioid overdose deaths, sales and treatment admissions increased in parallel, US, 1999-2010



## Current Analysis

- National and state sales of oxycodone, hydrocodone, methadone from 1999 through 2011
- Based on DEA's Automation of Reports and Consolidated Orders System (ARCOS) data


## ARCOS

- DEA database
- Quarterly mandatory reporting system for manufacturers and distributors
- Tallies cumulative sale of certain licit controlled substances in grams
$\square$ Reflects the amount of drug legitimately distributed in the U.S.
- Used to monitor controlled substances from the point of manufacture to the point of sale.
- Public health uses to monitor trends


## Distribution rate of selected opioids in grams, US, 1999-2011, ARCOS



## Distribution of hydrocodone, 201 I, ARCOS



Percent change in distribution of hydrocodone by state, 1999-2011, ARCOS


## Distribution of methadone 201I, ARCOS



## Percent change in distribution of methadone 1999-2011, ARCOS



## Distribution of oxycodone 201I, ARCOS



Percent change in distribution of oxycodone by state, 1999-2011, ARCOS


## Conclusions

$\square$ Rising trends in opioid use portend increasing rates of drug overdoses

- Data available to states to track prescription drug sales and overdoses vary widely
a ARCOS data are consistent across states and can be used to track distribution and compare states
- PDMPs and insurance claims data can also be used to identify and address opioid abuse by patients, as well as inappropriate prescribing by providers
- These data can also be used to track the impact of various state-level interventions


## Thank You

## Christopher M. Jones, PharmD, MPH cjones@cdc.gov

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.


