

## Resources

### Missouri Opioid Crisis

<https://opioids.mo.gov>

### Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services

<https://health.mo.gov>  
800-575-7480

### MO-Hope Project

*(for information about treatment or other resources)*

[MOHopeProject.org](http://MOHopeProject.org)

### SAMSA Helpline (24/7)

800-662-HELP (4357)

**Contact your  
county's mental health  
crisis hotline.**

*Sources: MSHP Division of Drug and Crime Control; Centers for Disease Control & Prevention; U.S. Department of Health & Human Services; National Institute on Drug Abuse.*

### Emergency Assistance:

1-800-525-5555 or Cellular \*55

### Road Conditions:

1-888-275-6636

### Sex Offender Registry:

1-888-SOR-MSHP  
(1-888-767-6747)

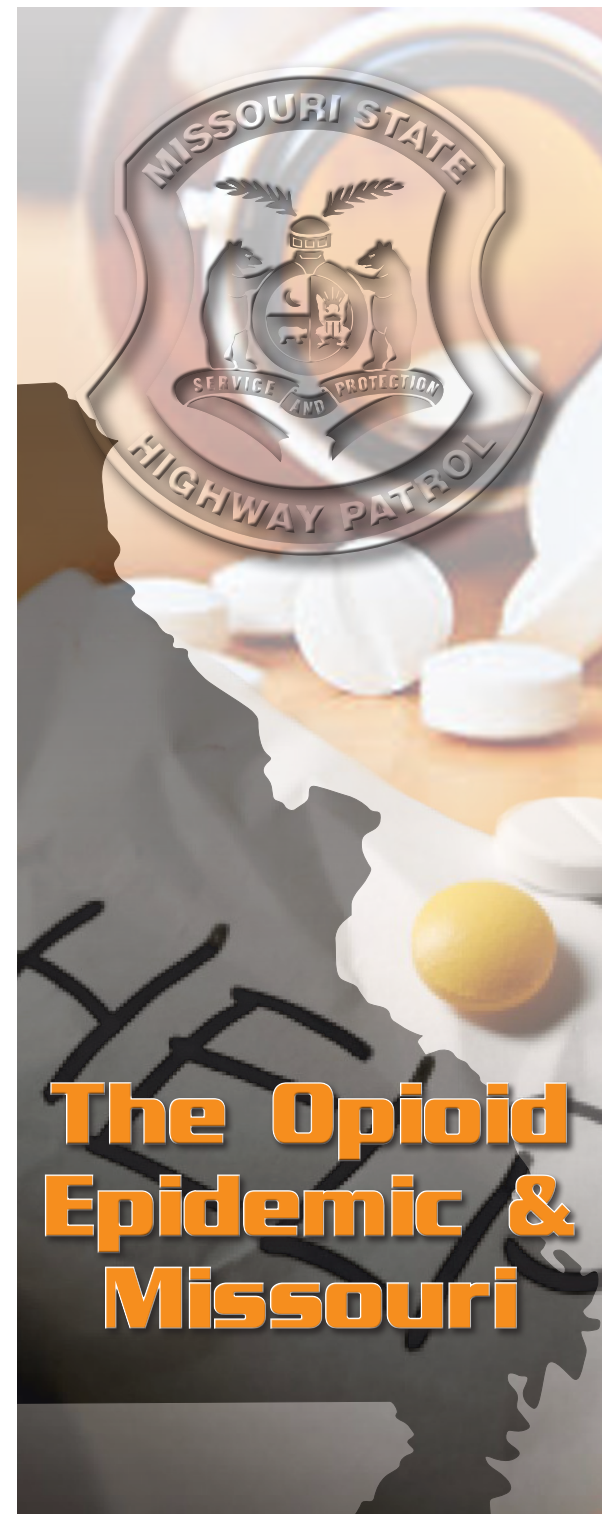


Missouri State Highway Patrol  
1510 East Elm Street  
Jefferson City, MO 65101  
(573) 751-3313  
V/TDD: (573) 751-3313

[mshppied@mshp.dps.mo.gov](mailto:mshppied@mshp.dps.mo.gov)  
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**T**he current opioid epidemic in the U.S. and Missouri contributes to thousands of drug overdose deaths involving prescription opioid pain relievers and illicit opioids. This epidemic affects all races and all socio-economic levels; it can be your neighbor, co-worker, family member, or your closest friend. One in three Missouri families has been affected by the opioid epidemic. Approximately three people die from an opioid overdose in Missouri every day.

This class of drug encompasses both prescription opioids and illicit opioids, including pain pills, heroin, and fentanyl derivatives. Synthetic opioids have recently become more prevalent in the Midwest. Familiar names include fentanyl and carfentanil.

The most commonly misused narcotics are prescription opioids, which are used to treat pain. Prescription opioids treat pain associated with common procedures (oral surgery, common sports or accidental injuries, and other conditions). Patients: Be aware that prescription opioids are synthetic heroin and must be taken according to your doctor's orders. Your prescription is for you; it's illegal to share your medication with anyone.

## The Hard Truth:

- Every day, approximately 134 people die in the United States from opioid overdose (prescription and heroin). That's about one person every 10 minutes.
- Since 2010, this public health issue continues to kill more people per year than motor vehicle crashes.
- The opioid epidemic currently kills more U.S. citizens than HIV did at its peak (1995).
- In addition, 4,000 people misuse prescription pills or take someone else's prescription pills for the first time each day.
- Anyone who takes prescription pills can become addicted to them. As many as one in four patients receiving long-term opioid therapy in a primary care setting struggle with opioid addiction.
- Currently, for every 100 people in Missouri there are 80 prescriptions for opioid painkillers.
- The United States accounts for five percent of the world's population; however, Americans use 80% of the world's opioid painkillers and 99% of its hydrocodone.
- U.S. emergency rooms treat more than 1,000 people for not using prescription opioids as directed every day.
- Reportedly, over 600 people try heroin every day for the first time. Four out of five heroin users misused prescription painkillers first. They changed to heroin because of the cost compared to prescription pills and in some cases accessibility.

## There's Hope

It will require collaboration between public health and public safety officials to find a solution to today's substance abuse disorders. Missouri State Highway Patrol troopers are hopeful the combination of prevention, education, enforcement, and treatment will raise awareness about the risks of opioid misuse. Patrol employees are committed to playing a critical role in empowering people to make safer choices and, in turn, prevent deaths due to overdose.