Key Data

Opioids

- The rate of prescription opioid overdose deaths has declined, while the rate of heroin overdoses has increased.*
- About 330,000 persons 12 years and older in Washington State are estimated to misuse pain relievers.*
- Nearly 60% of those who inject heroin said they were “hooked on” prescription opiates before they began using heroin.*
- 66% of drug injectors in Washington reported they would like help stopping or reducing their drug use.*

Sources used:

- Washington State Health Assessment, [Drug Overdose and Nonmedical Use of Pain Relievers](#)
- University of Washington Alcohol & Drug Abuse Institute [Interactive Data](#)
- Department of Health [Opioid-related Deaths in Washington State](#)
- Washington State [Healthy Youth Survey](#)
- Health of Washington State, including [Drug Abuse and Overdose](#) and [Social and Economic Determinants of Health](#)

* Sources:

DOH Death Certificates

National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2015-2016

2015 Drug Injector Health Survey, University of Washington and Public Health-Seattle & King County

UW Alcohol and Drug Abuse Institute 2015 WA State Syringe Exchange Survey