



Massachusetts Health Policy Forum

Monica Bharel, MD, MPH
Commissioner
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Friday, January 11, 2019



Baker-Polito Administration



Governor Charlie
Baker &
Lieutenant
Governor Karyn
Polito



Health and Human
Services Secretary
Marylou Sudders



Department of
Public Health
Commissioner
Monica Bharel



About DPH



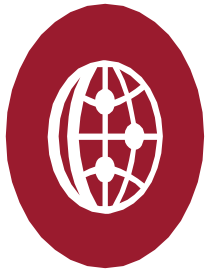
1799

History of department dates to Paul Revere



8 Bureaus, 6 Offices

DPH covers a range of issues from birth until death



15 sites, 3000 employees

DPH is located across the Commonwealth, and partners with local boards of health



\$1 billion

Annual budget, comprised of federal, state, and grant funding



Prevention and Wellness – Health Access – Nutrition – Perinatal and Early Childhood – Adult Treatment – Data Analytics and Support – Housing and Homelessness – Violence and Injury Prevention – Office of Statistics and Evaluation – Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention – Community Sanitation – Drug Control – Occupational Health Surveillance – PWTF – SANE Program – Interagency Initiatives – Planning and Development – Prevention – Problem Gaming – Quality Assurance and Licensing – Youth and Young Adults – Early Intervention – Children and Youth with Special Needs – Epidemiology Program – Immunization Program – Global Populations and Infectious Disease Prevention – STI Prevention – HIV/AIDS – Integrated Surveillance and Informatics Services – Clinical Microbiology Lab – Chemical Threat, Environment and Chemistry Lab – Childhood Lead Screening – Environmental Microbiology and Molecular Foodborne Lab – STD/HIV Laboratories – Biological Threat Response Lab – Central Services and Informatics – Quality Assurance – Safety and Training – Health Care Certification and Licensure – Health Professional Licensure – Office of Emergency Medical Services – DoN – Medical Use of Marijuana – Shattuck Hospital – Mass Hospital School – Tewksbury Hospital – Western MA Hospital – State Office of Pharmacy Services – Office of Local and Regional Health – Office of Health Equity – Accreditation and Performance Management – ODMOA – OPEM – HR and Diversity – Office of General Counsel – Office of CFO – Commissioner’s Office



Massachusetts DPH will continue to be a **national leader** in innovative, outcomes-focused public health based on a **data-driven** approach, with a focus on **quality public health and health care services** and an emphasis on the social determinants and **eradication of health inequities**.



VISION

Optimal health and well-being for all people in Massachusetts, supported by a strong public health infrastructure and healthcare delivery.

MISSION

The mission of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) is to prevent illness, injury, and premature death; to ensure access to high quality public health and health care services; and to promote wellness and health equity for *all* people in the Commonwealth.

DATA

We provide relevant, timely access to data for DPH, researchers, press and the general public in an effective manner in order to target disparities and impact outcomes.

DETERMINANTS

We focus on the social determinants of health - the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age, which contribute to health inequities.

DISPARITIES

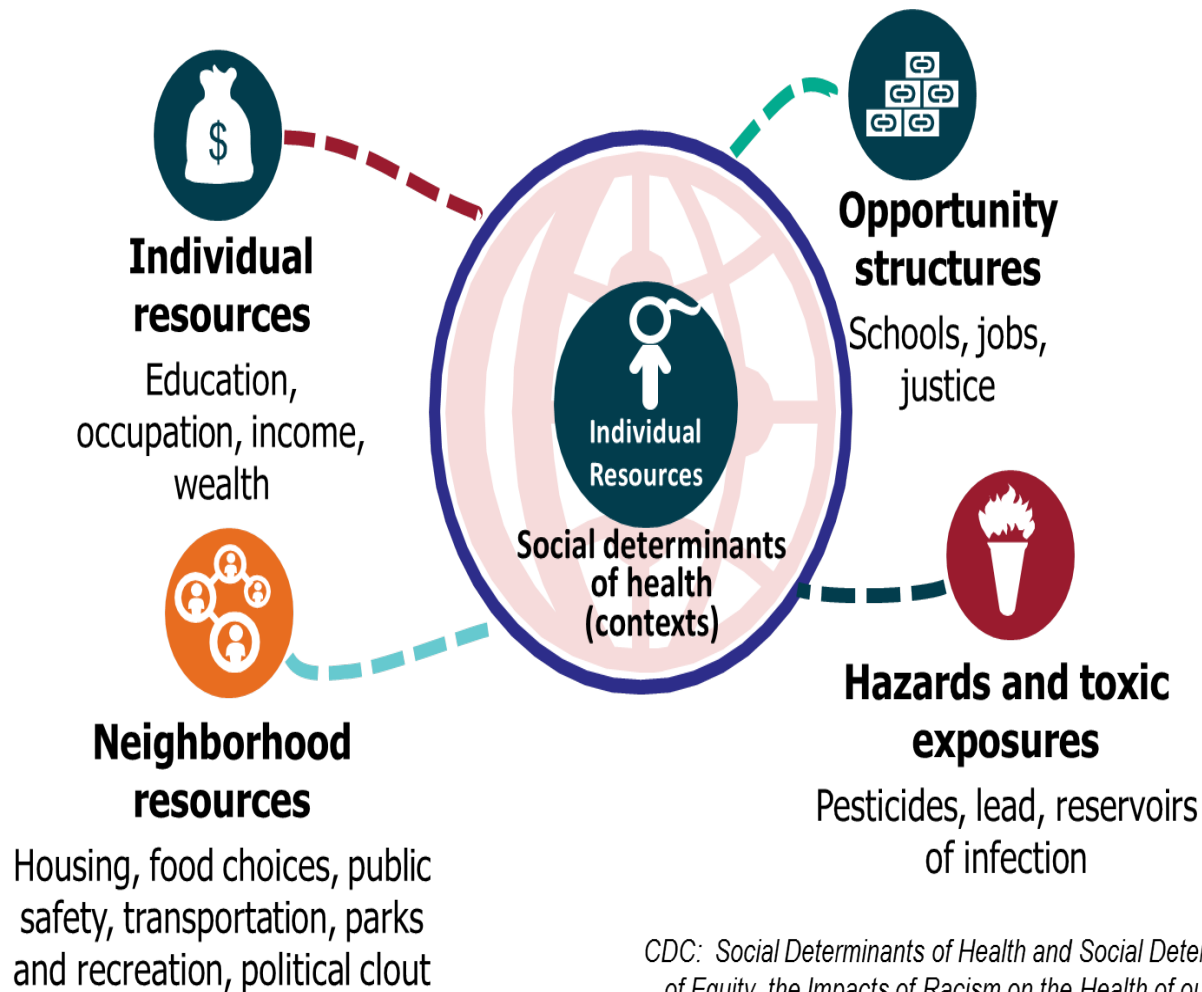
We consistently recognize and strive to eliminate health disparities amongst populations in Massachusetts, wherever they may exist.

EVERYDAY EXCELLENCE

PASSION AND INNOVATION

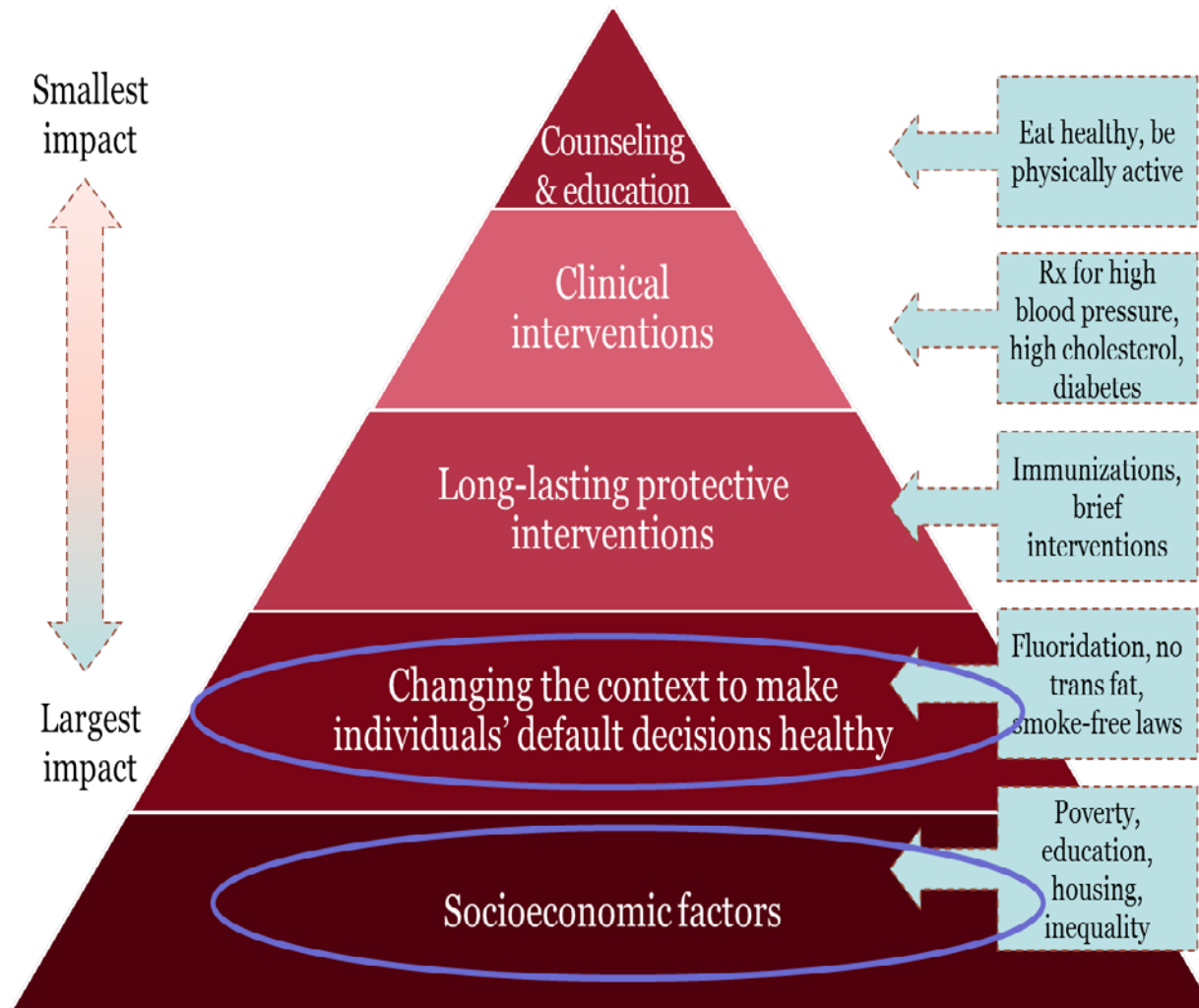
INCLUSIVENESS AND COLLABORATION

Social Determinants



CDC: Social Determinants of Health and Social Determinants of Equity, the Impacts of Racism on the Health of our Nation

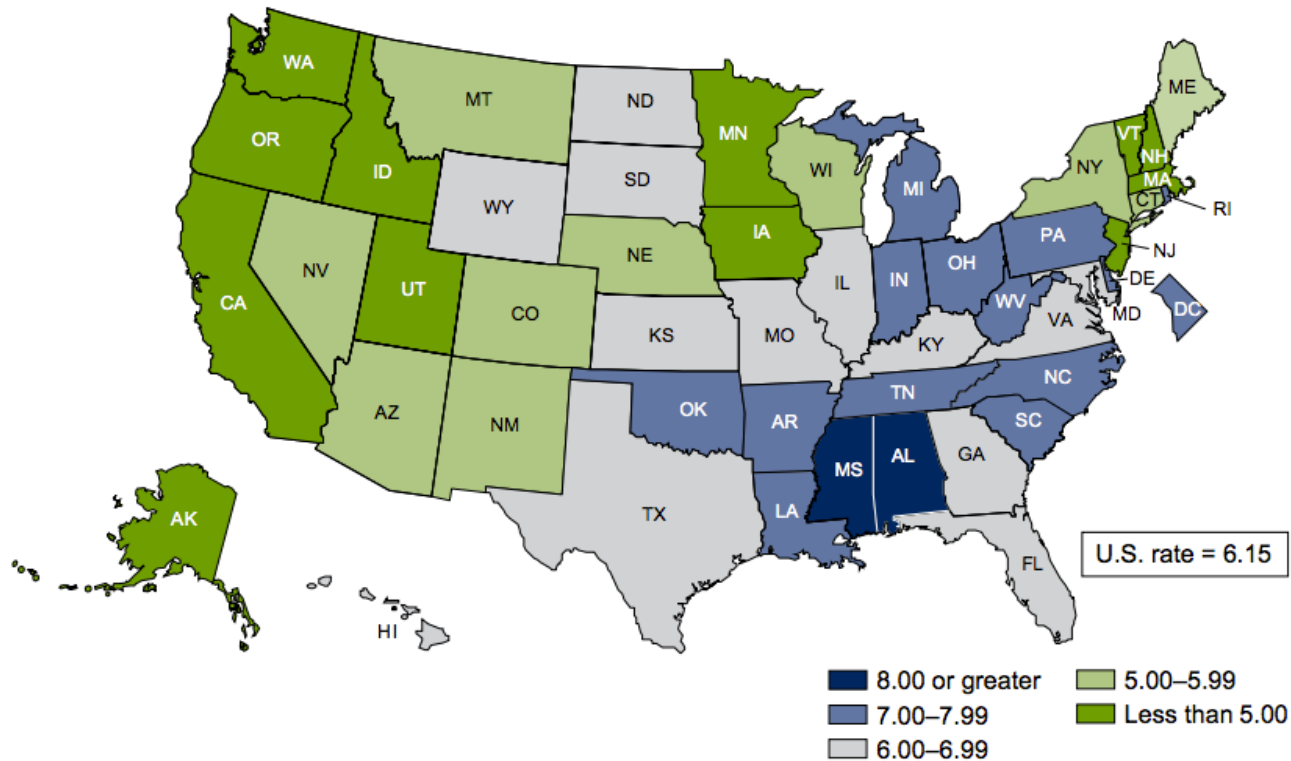
CDC Health Impact Pyramid





A FOCUS ON HEALTH EQUITY

U.S. Infant Mortality Rate 2011

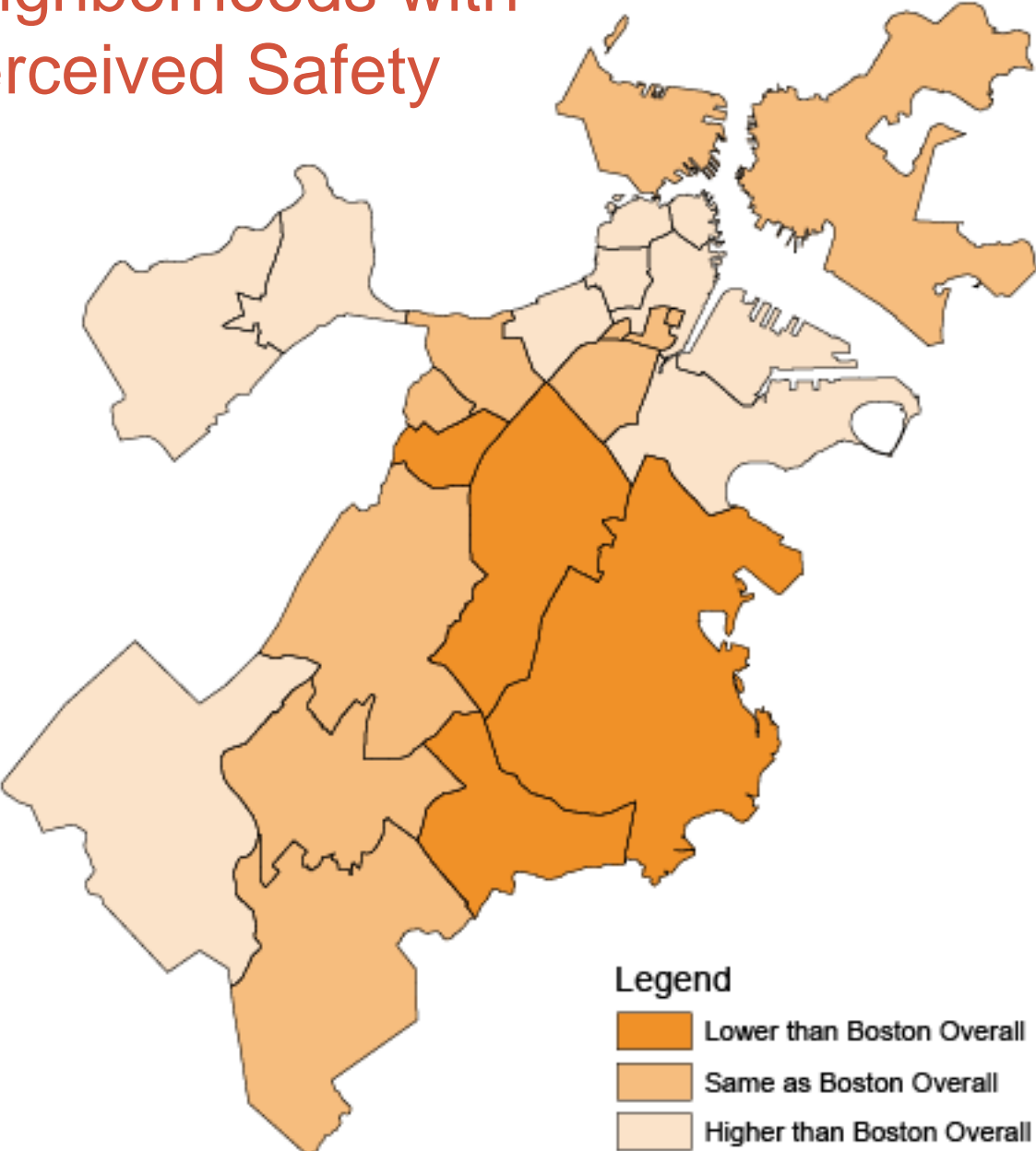


Boston Neighborhoods with High Rates of Chronic Disease Hospitalizations



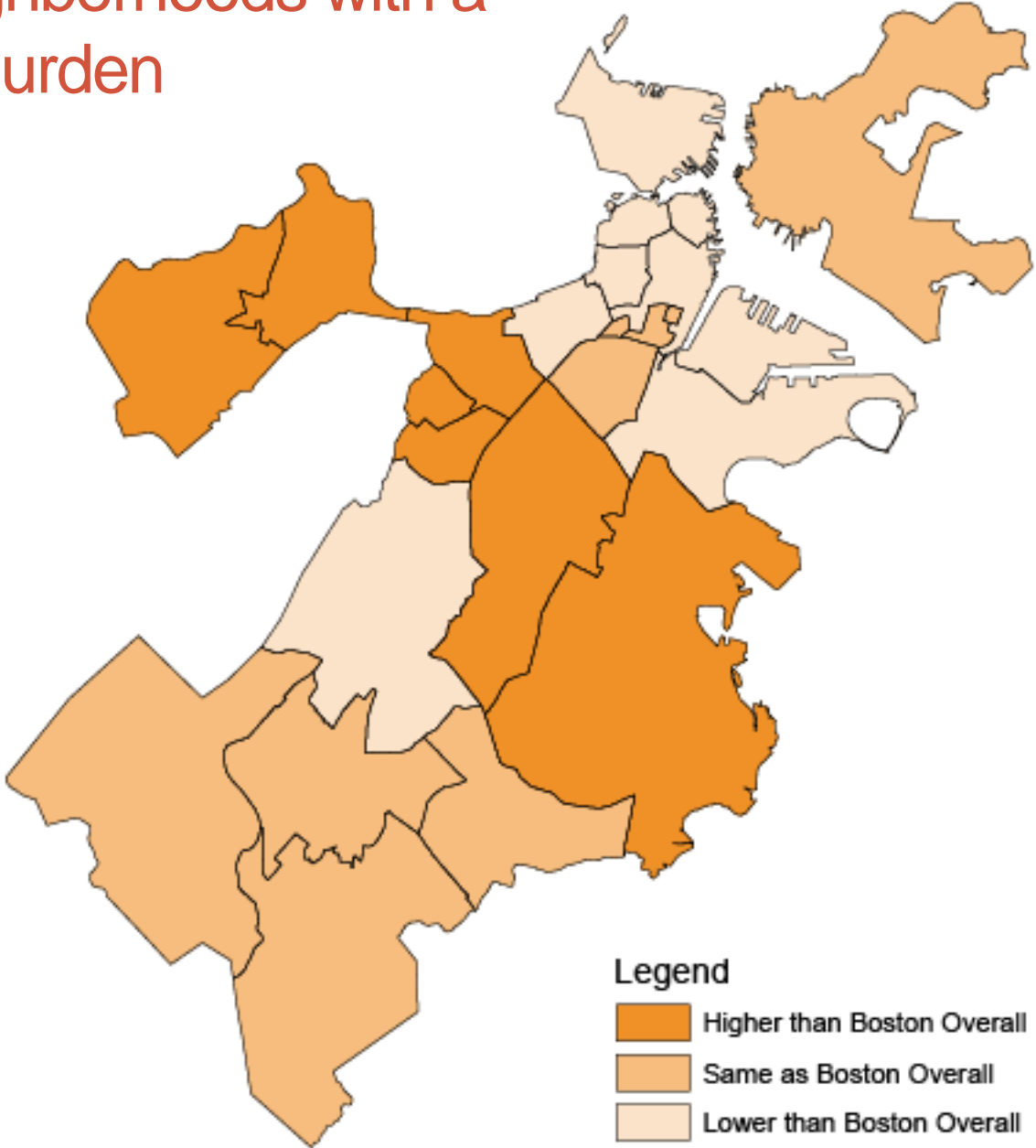
*2012 CHIA Hospital Discharge Data, age adjusted

Boston Neighborhoods with Poor Perceived Safety



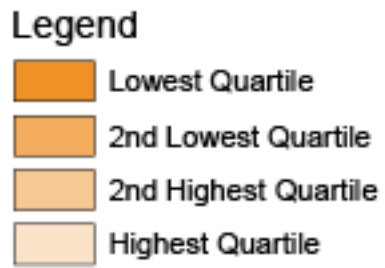
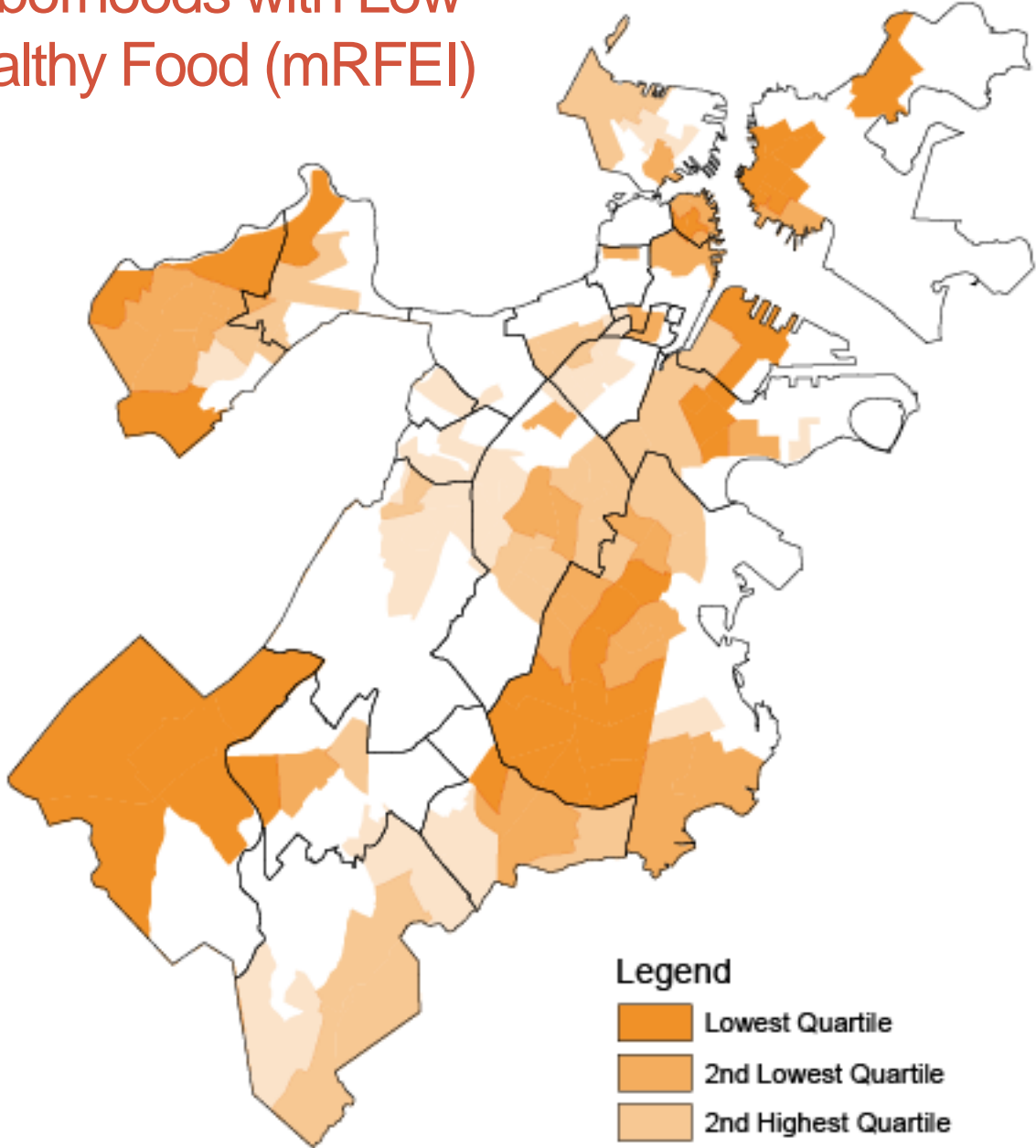
*Boston Neighborhood Survey (BNS), 2008; Harvard Youth Prevention Center through Cooperative agreement with the CDC

Boston Neighborhoods with a High Rent Burden



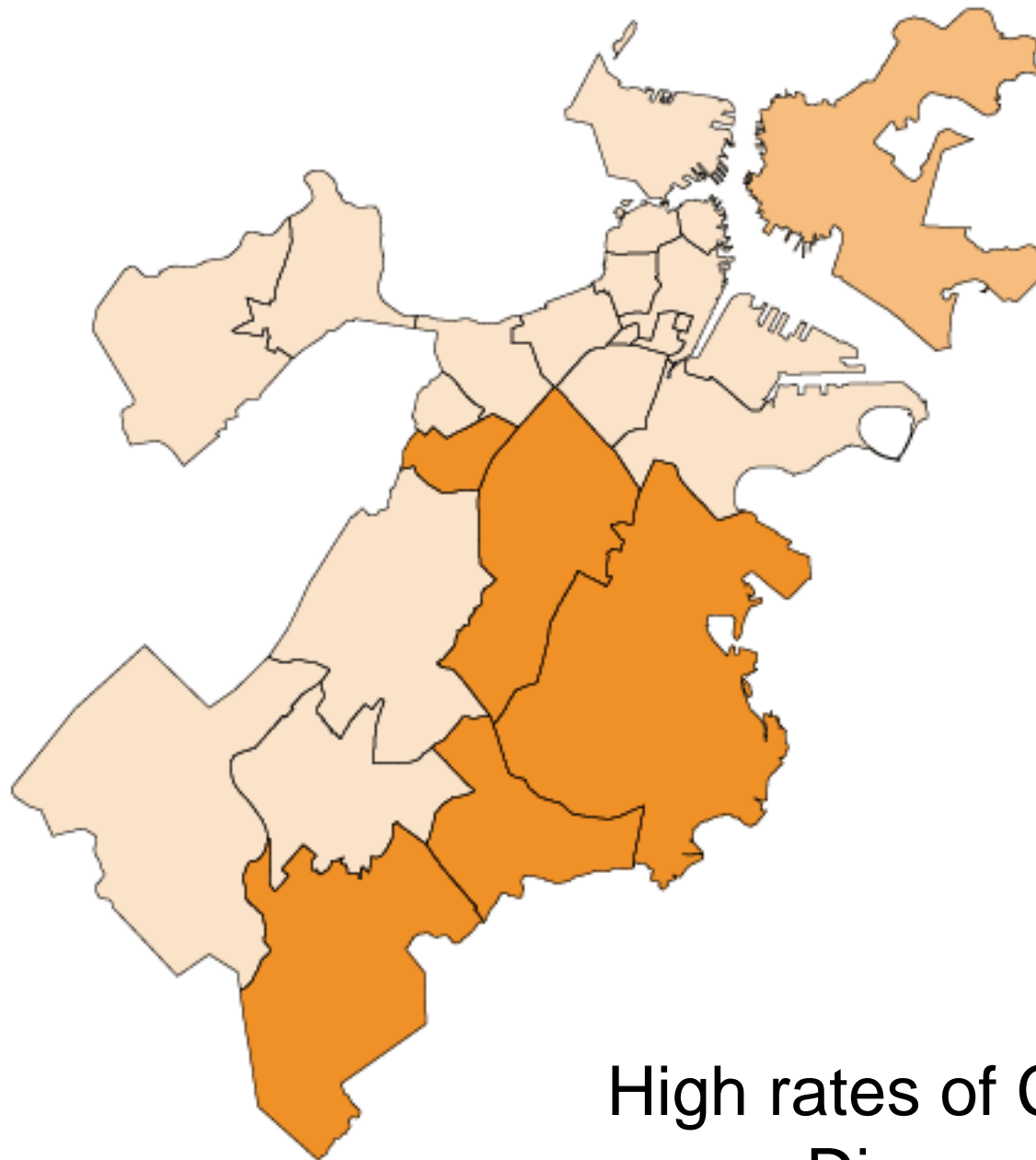
* American Community Survey, 2008-2012, US Census Bureau

Boston Neighborhoods with Low Access to Healthy Food (mRFEI)

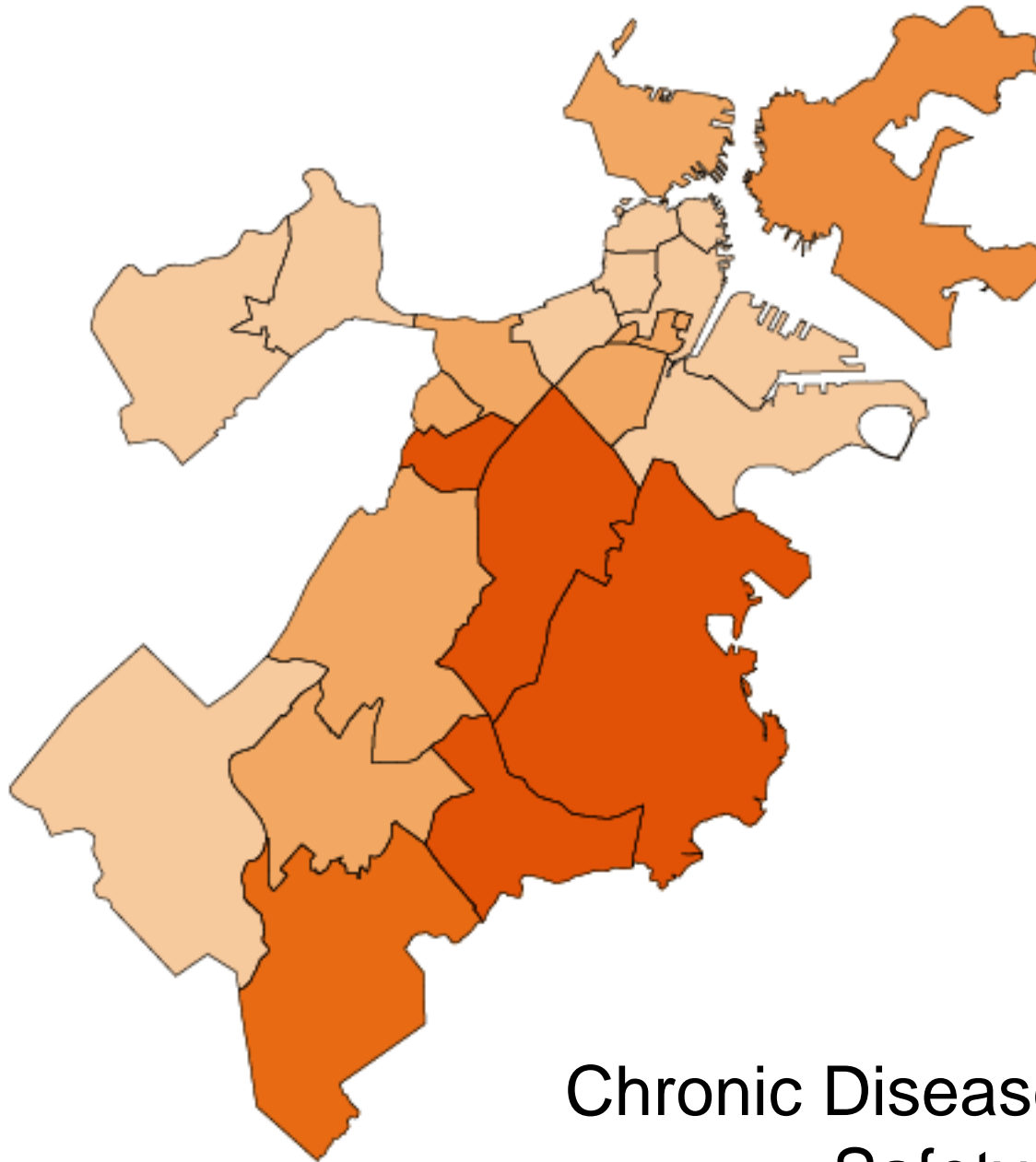


* Modified Retail Food Environment Index, CDC

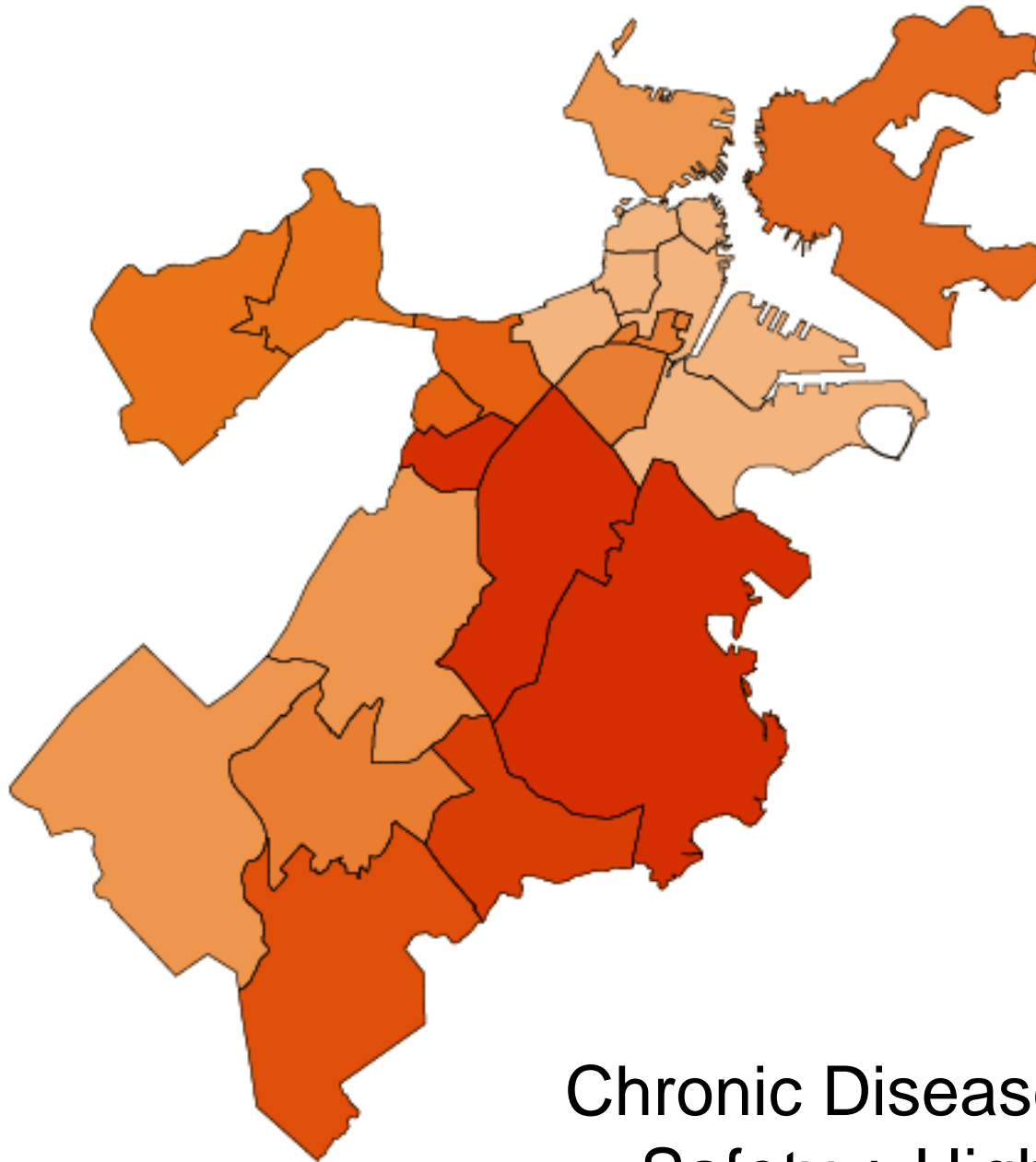
But put them all together
and....



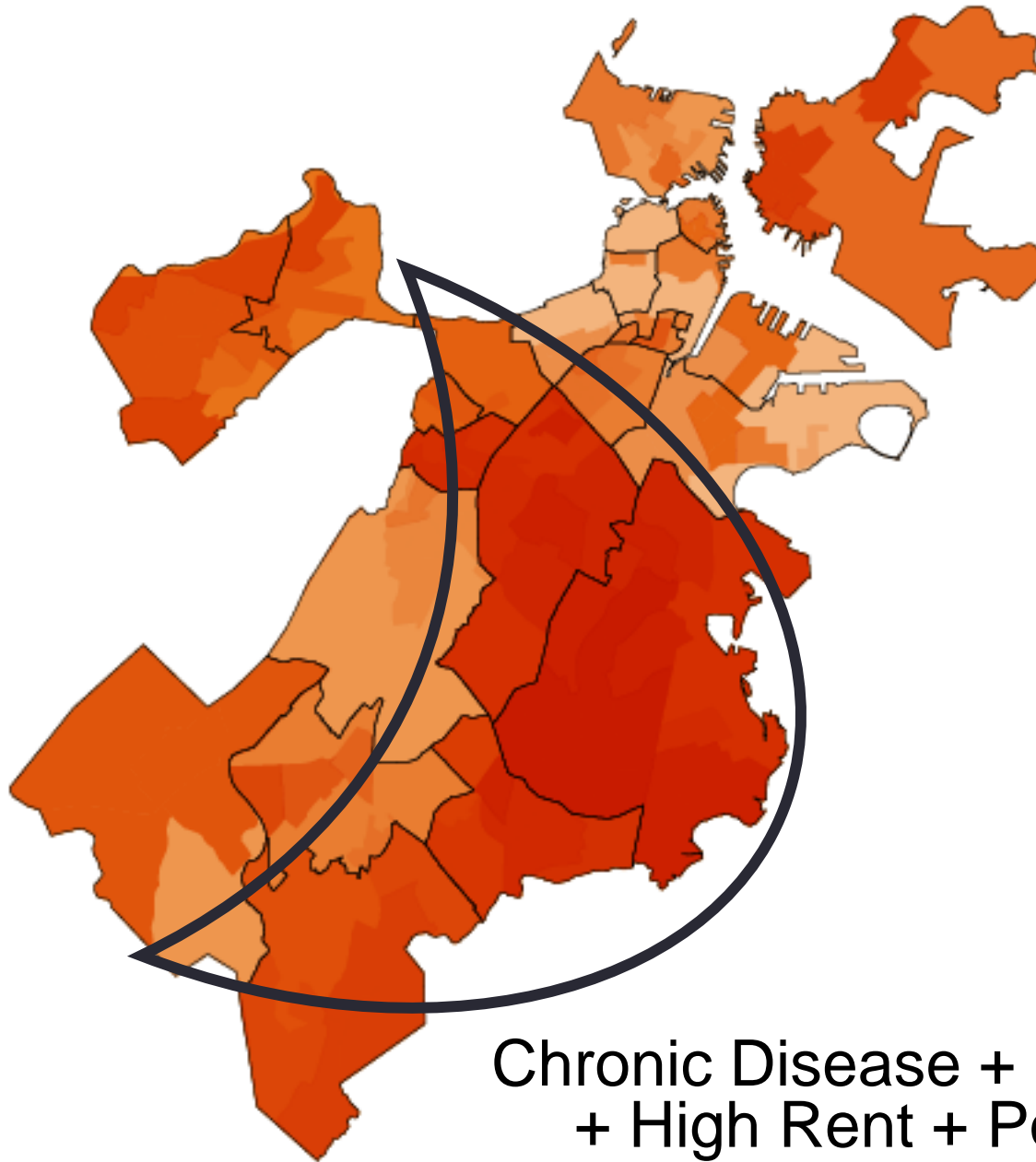
High rates of Chronic Disease



Chronic Disease + Poor
Safety



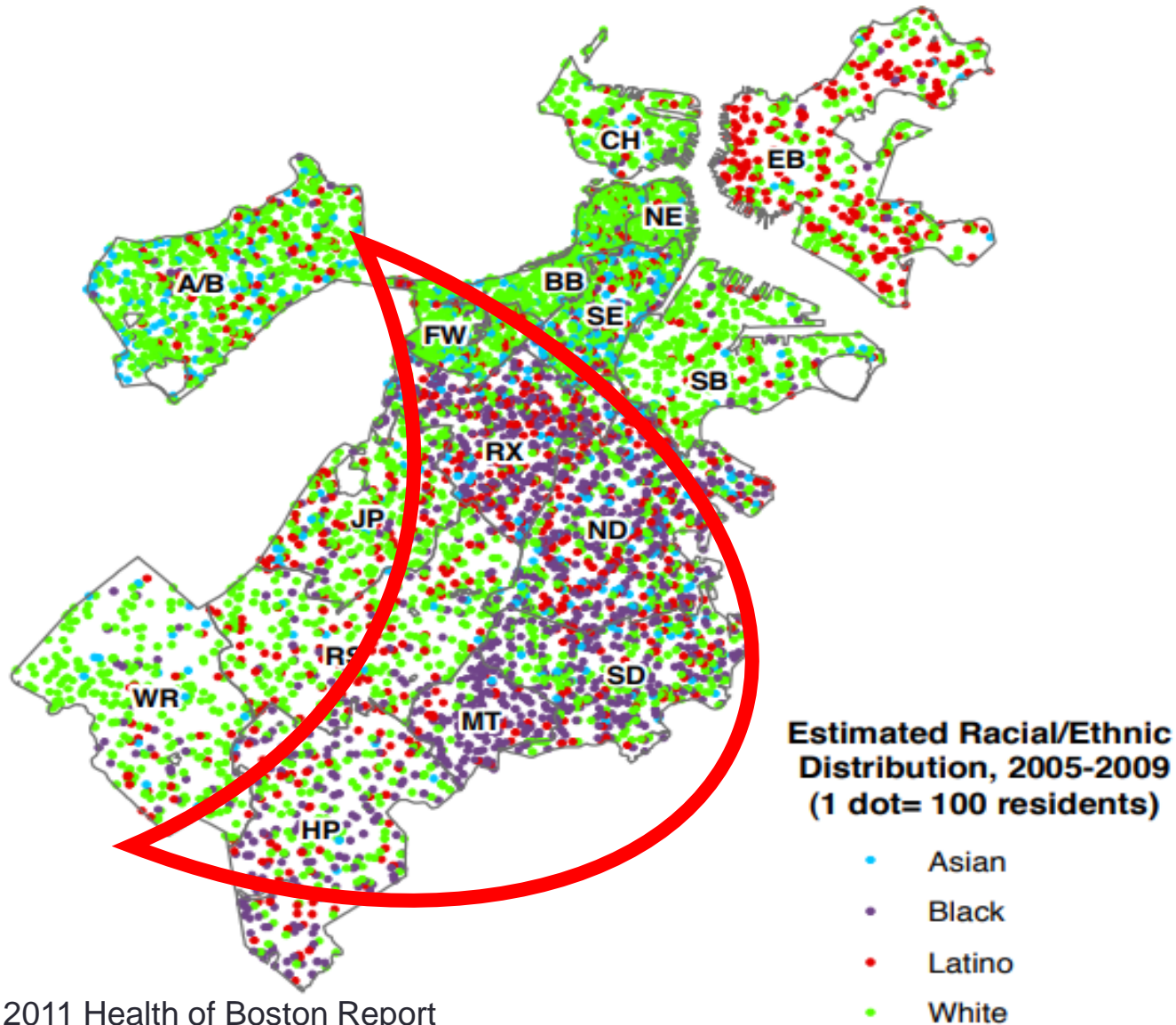
Chronic Disease + Poor
Safety + High Rent



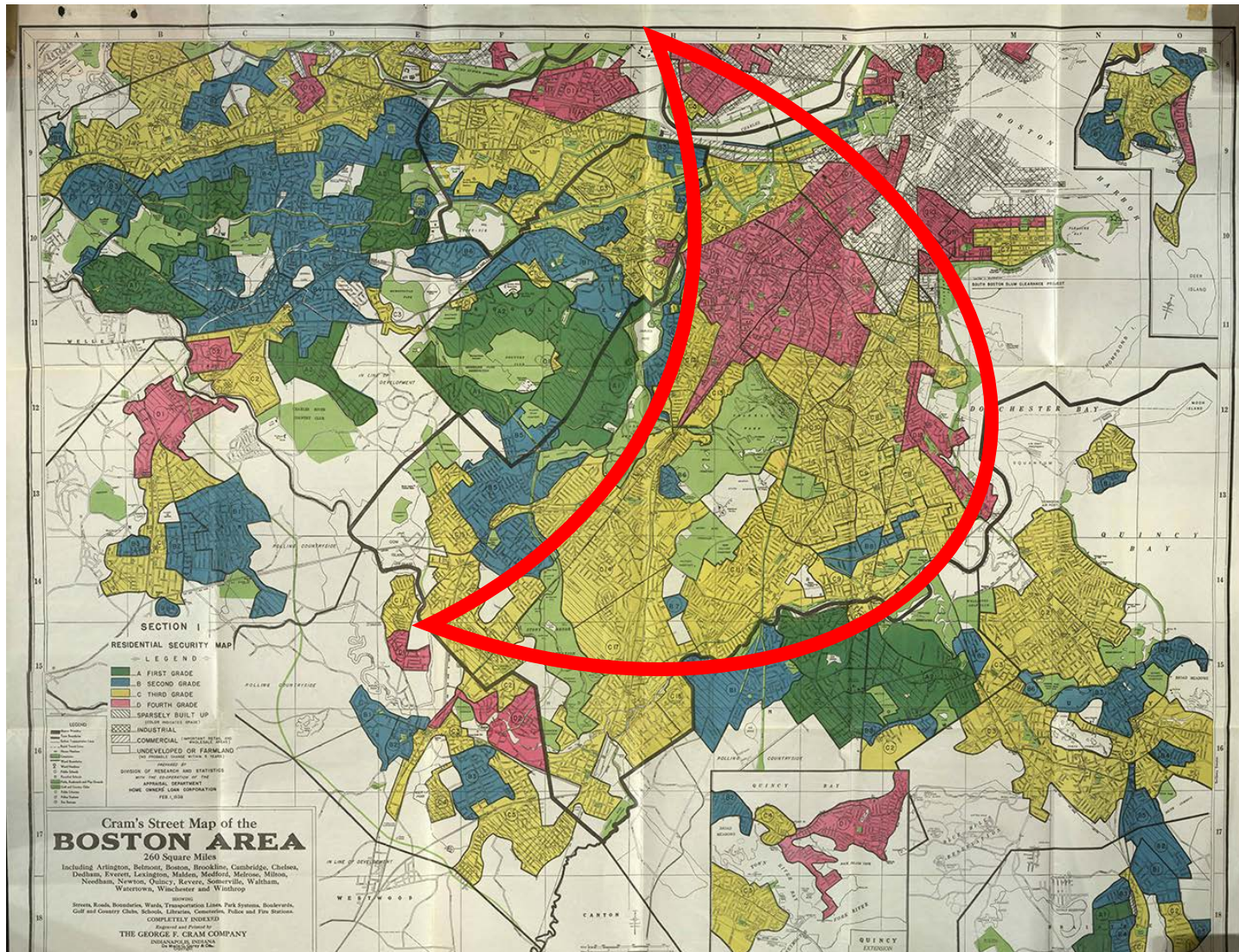
Chronic Disease + Poor Safety
+ High Rent + Poor Food
Access

What else is going on in “the crescent” ...

Place Matters



Redlining of Boston Neighborhoods



Health Priorities

Social Determinants of Health



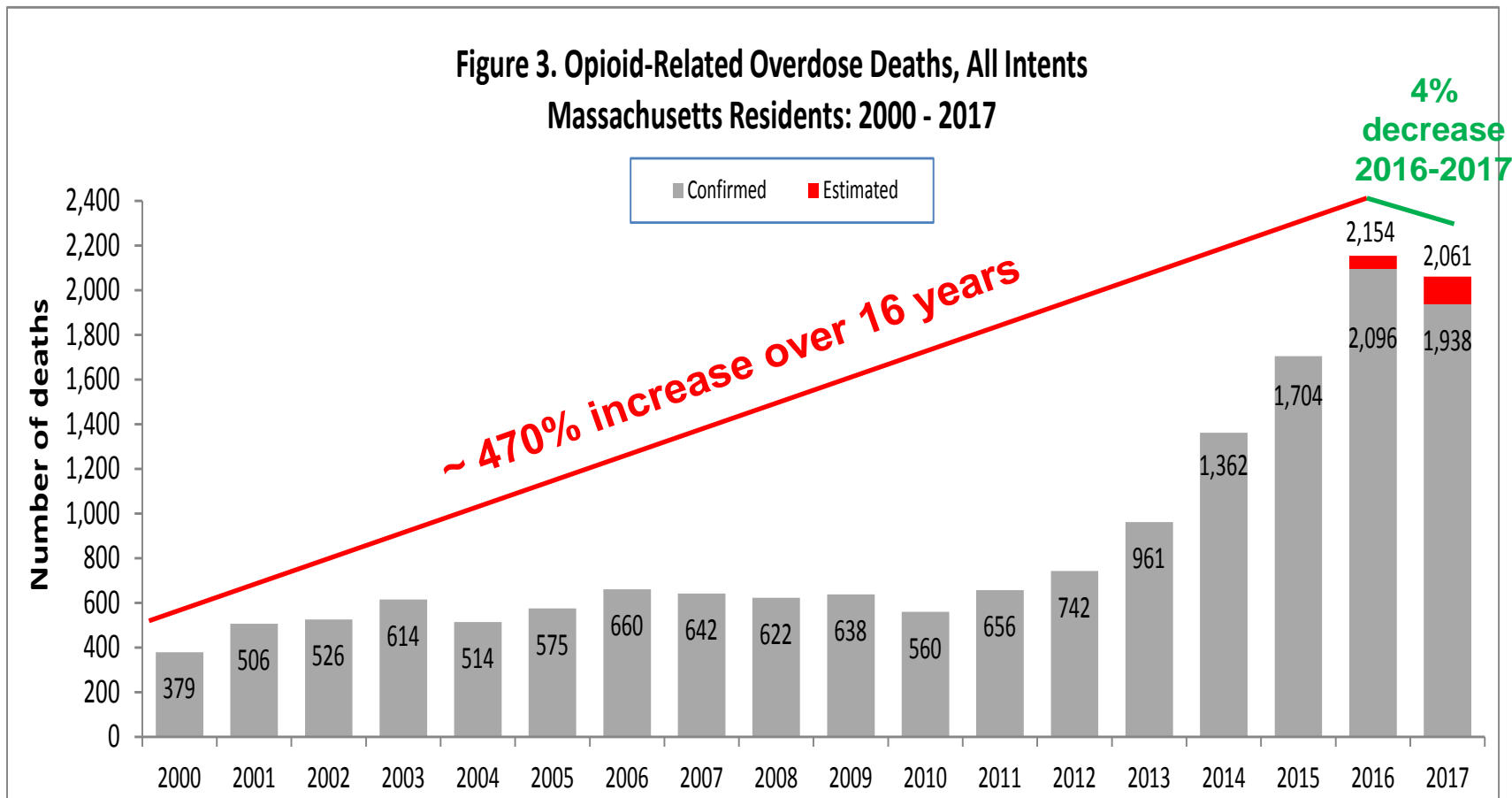


Case Study: Opioid Data

Analyzing data, determinants and disparities to produce good policy



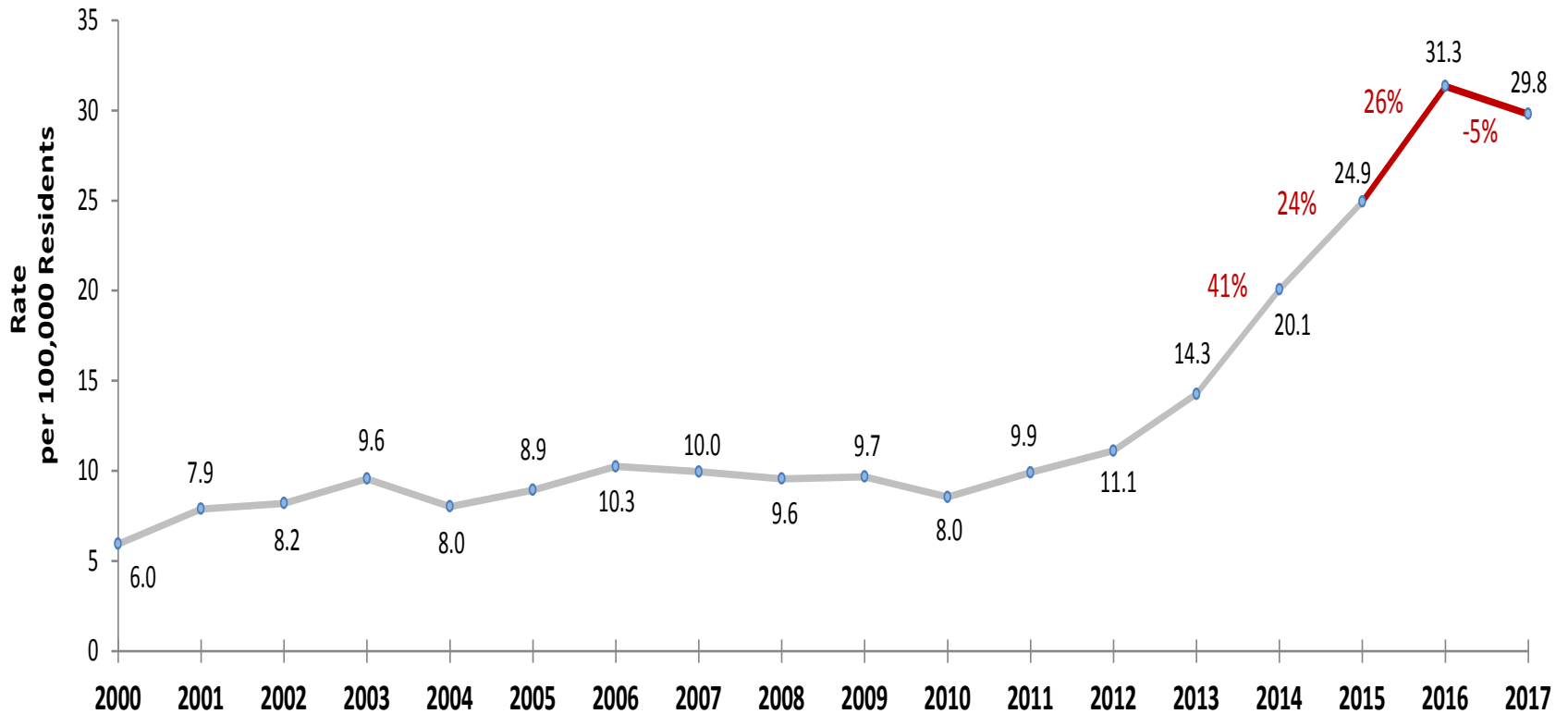
Opioid-related overdose deaths declined in 2017 for the first time in 7 years – estimated 4 percent decrease from 2016





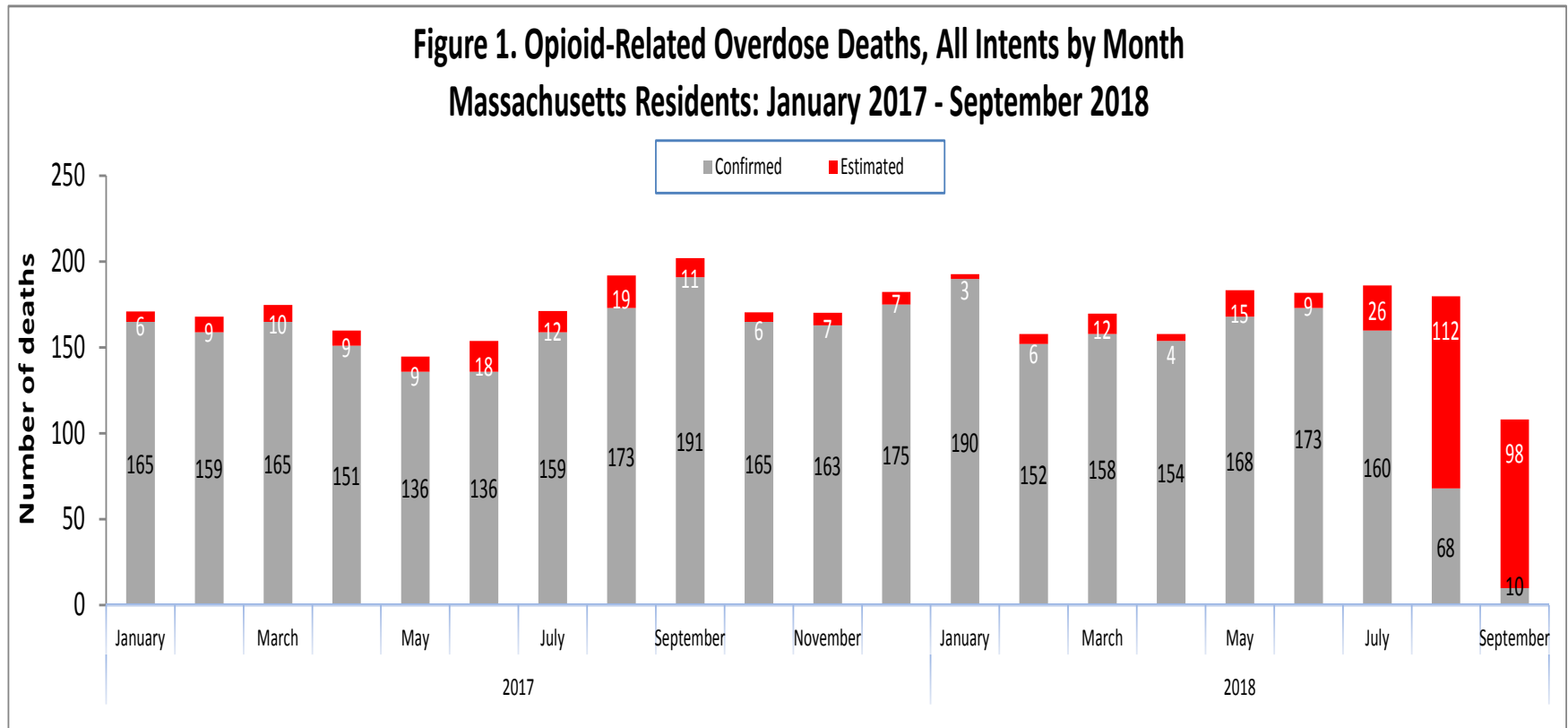
Opioid Related Overdose Death Rates

Figure 4. Rate of Confirmed and Estimated Opioid-Related Overdose Deaths, All Intent
Massachusetts Residents: 2000 - 2017





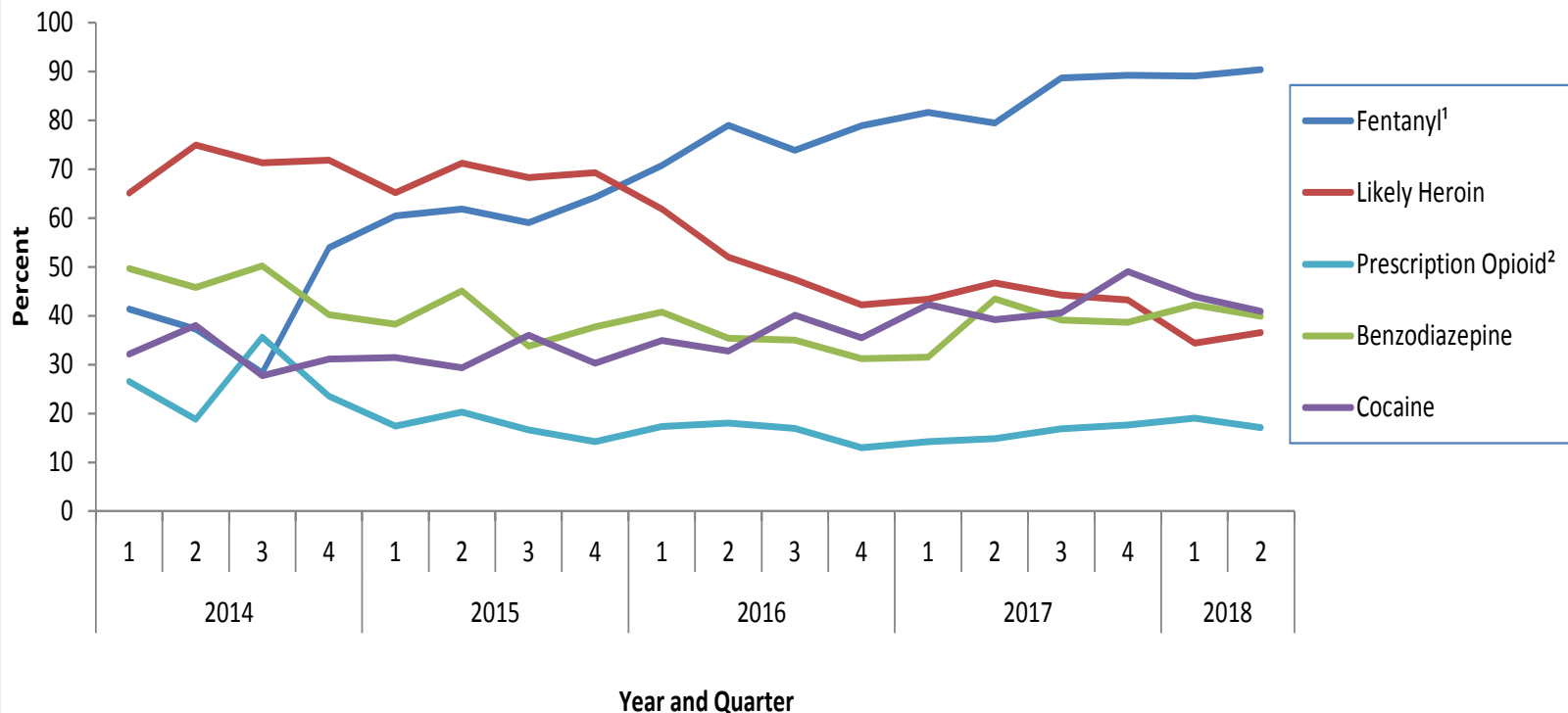
For the first 9 months of 2018, there were 1518 confirmed and estimated opioid-related overdose deaths, compared with 1538 in the same period in 2017





The proportion of fentanyl present in the toxicology of opioid-related overdose deaths continue to rise and reached an all-time high of **90 percent** in the 2nd quarter of 2018

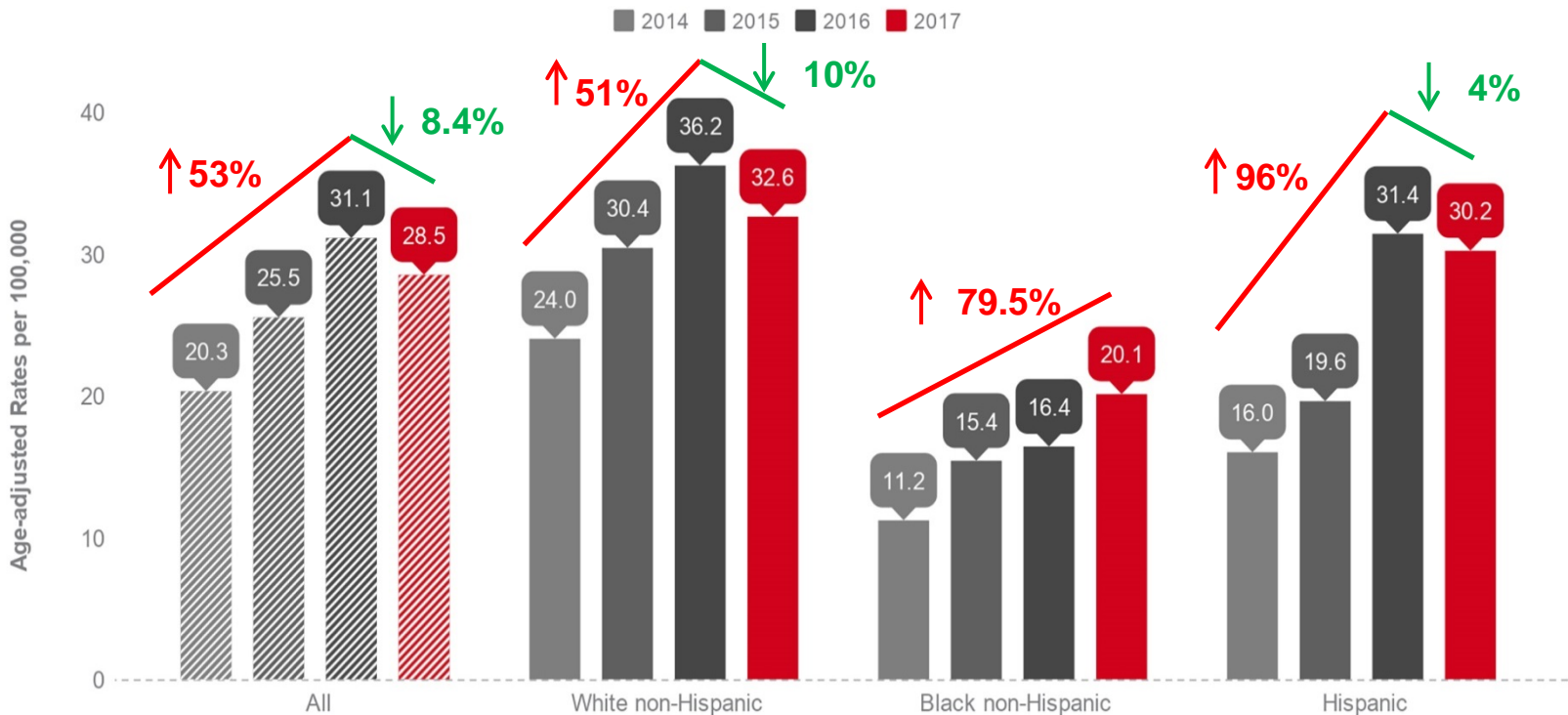
Figure 5. Percent of Opioid-Related Overdose Deaths with Specific Drugs Present
Massachusetts Residents: 2014 - 2018





Between 2016 and 2017, confirmed opioid-related overdose death rate increased for Black non-Hispanics, decreased for White non-Hispanics and Hispanics

Confirmed Opioid-Related Overdose Death Rates, All Intents, by Race and Hispanic Ethnicity

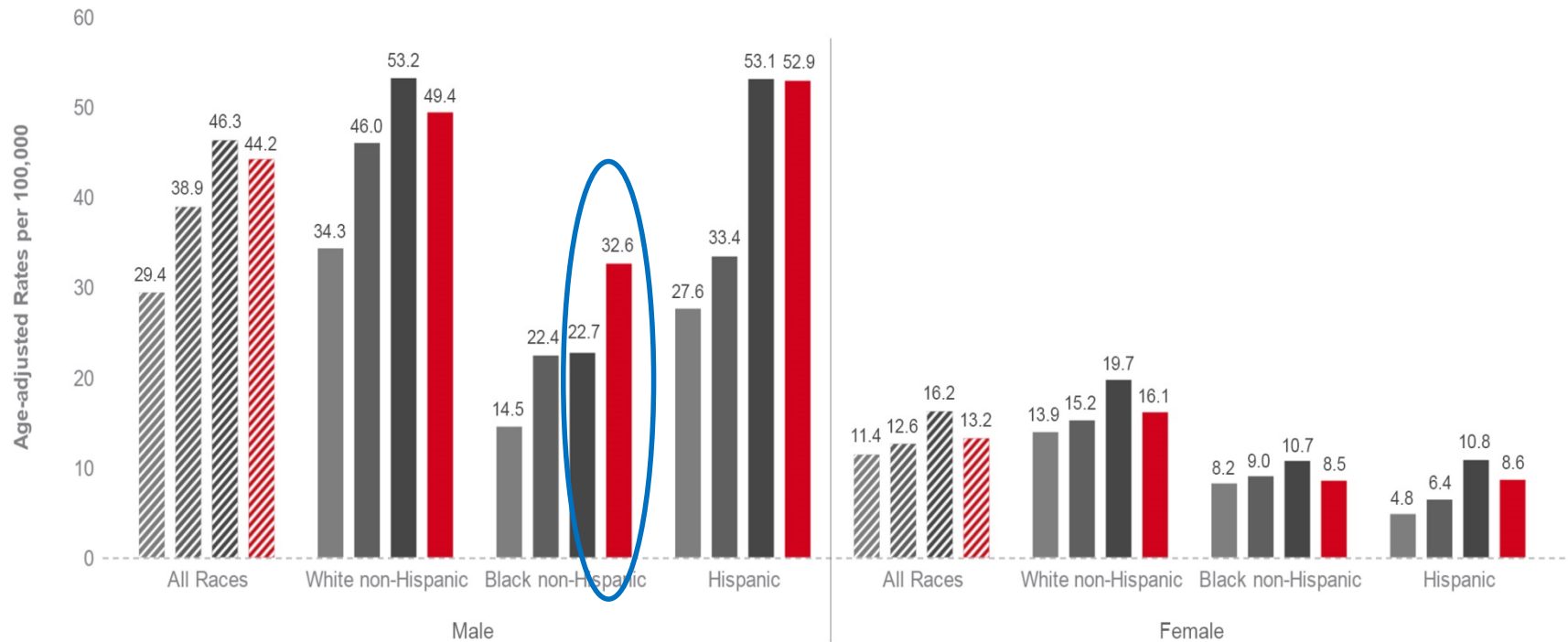




When analyzed by Gender and Race and Hispanic Ethnicity, non-Hispanic black males were the only group whose death rates increased by 44% between 2016 and 2017

Confirmed Opioid-Related Overdose Death Rates, All Intents, by Gender and Race and Hispanic Ethnicity

■ 2014 ■ 2015 ■ 2016 ■ 2017



Chapter 55 Report & Data Brief

An Assessment of Fatal and Nonfatal Opioid Overdoses in Massachusetts (2011 – 2015)

Data Brief
 An Assessment of Opioid-Related Overdoses in Massachusetts 2011-2015
 Massachusetts Department of Public Health
 RELEASED: August 2017

Background

Chapter 55 of the Acts of 2015 (Chapter 55) was passed by the Massachusetts Legislature and signed into law by Governor Charles D. Baker in August 2015. This law permitted the linkage and analysis of different government data sets to better understand the opioid epidemic, guide policy development, and help make programmatic decisions. Chapter 55 resulted in an in-depth report examining the factors driving the opioid crisis in Massachusetts. The law was reauthorized in Chapter 333 of the Acts of 2016, enabling this unprecedented analysis to continue supporting the Commonwealth's data-driven response to the opioid epidemic. This data brief highlights key findings from the second Chapter 55 report released in August 2017.

In the twelve months since the first Chapter 55 report was released in September 2016, nearly 2,000 Massachusetts residents have died of opioid-related overdoses. The total number of deaths has increased five fold in the last 20 years, but the rate of increase of opioid-related overdose deaths was particularly sharp between 2013 and 2014. The maps below show a graphic depiction of the increasing and spreading opioid crisis in Massachusetts between 2011 and 2015 (the darkening area on the maps below).

Increasing and Spreading Opioid-Related Overdose Death Rates in Massachusetts from 2011 to 2015¹

2011

2015

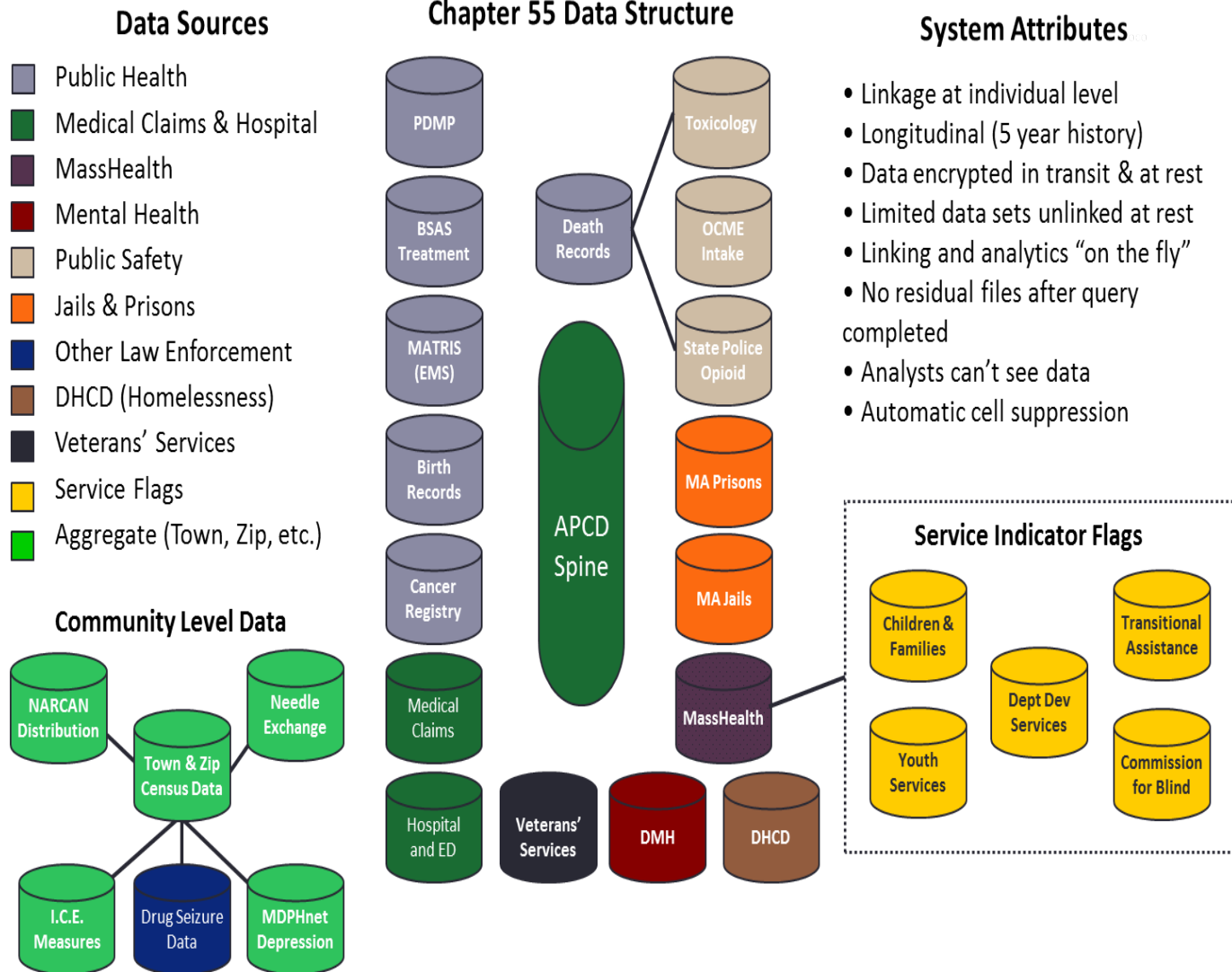
What is especially notable is the epidemic's rapid and insidious geographic spread throughout the Commonwealth. Almost every community is affected. Opioid-related overdose deaths and nonfatal opioid-related overdoses are highest among younger males, but all population subgroups have seen increases in recent years. Individuals released from incarceration are also at high risk of death upon re-entering the community, but so too are individuals experiencing homelessness, veterans, mothers with opioid use disorder, and individuals with serious mental illnesses.

August 2017

Massachusetts Department of Public Health



Data Mapping





Chapter 55: Partners Coming Together

Academic

- Brandeis University
- Boston University
- Brown University
- Harvard Medical School
- Harvard School of Public Health
- Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Northeastern University
- Tufts University
- University of Massachusetts Amherst
- University of Massachusetts Boston
- University of Massachusetts Medical School

Hospitals & Private Industry

- Baystate Health
- Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
- Boston Medical Center
- Brigham & Women's Hospital
- Children's Hospital
- GE
- IBM
- Liberty Mutual
- Massachusetts General Hospital
- Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers
- McKinsey & Company
- The MITRE Corporation
- Partners Healthcare
- PwC
- Rand Corporation

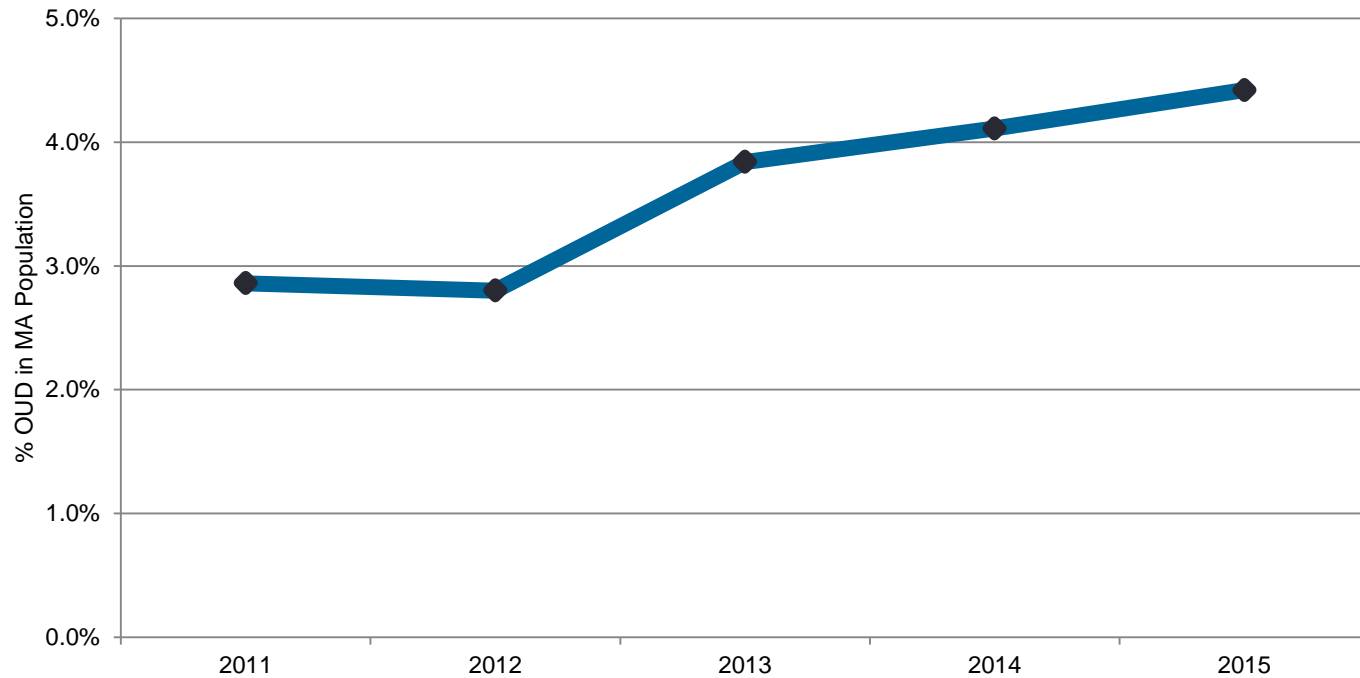
State and Federal Government Agencies

- Boston Public Health Commission
- Center for Health Information and Analysis
- Department of Housing and Community Development
- Department of Mental Health
- Department of Correction
- Department of Public Health
- Executive Office of Health and Human Services
- Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (NE)
- Health Policy Commission
- Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association
- MassIT
- Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
- State Auditor's Office



Opioid Use Disorder (OUD)

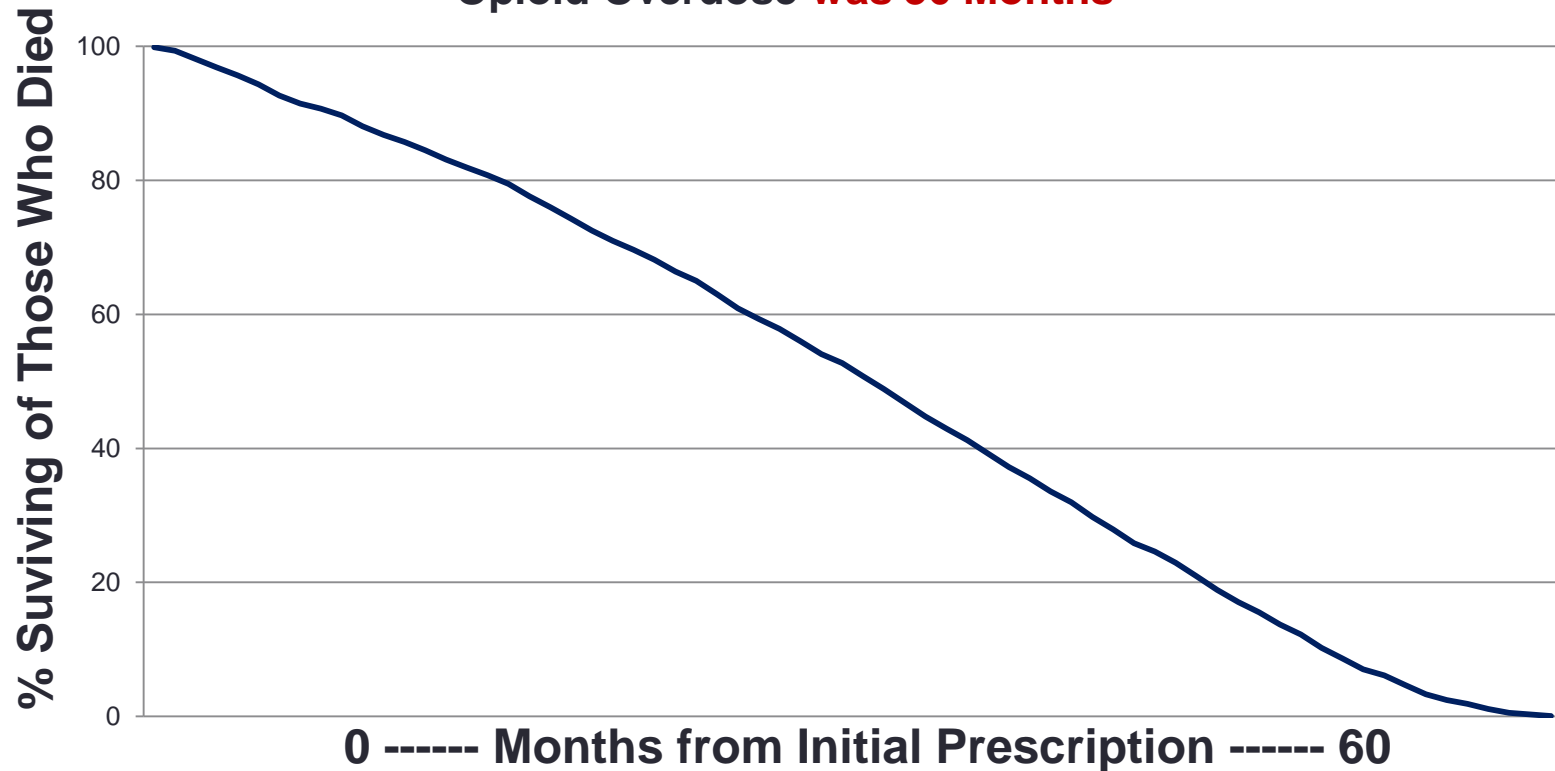
**Estimated OUD Population Rises Significantly
Between 2011-2015**





Time From Initial Rx to Overdose Death

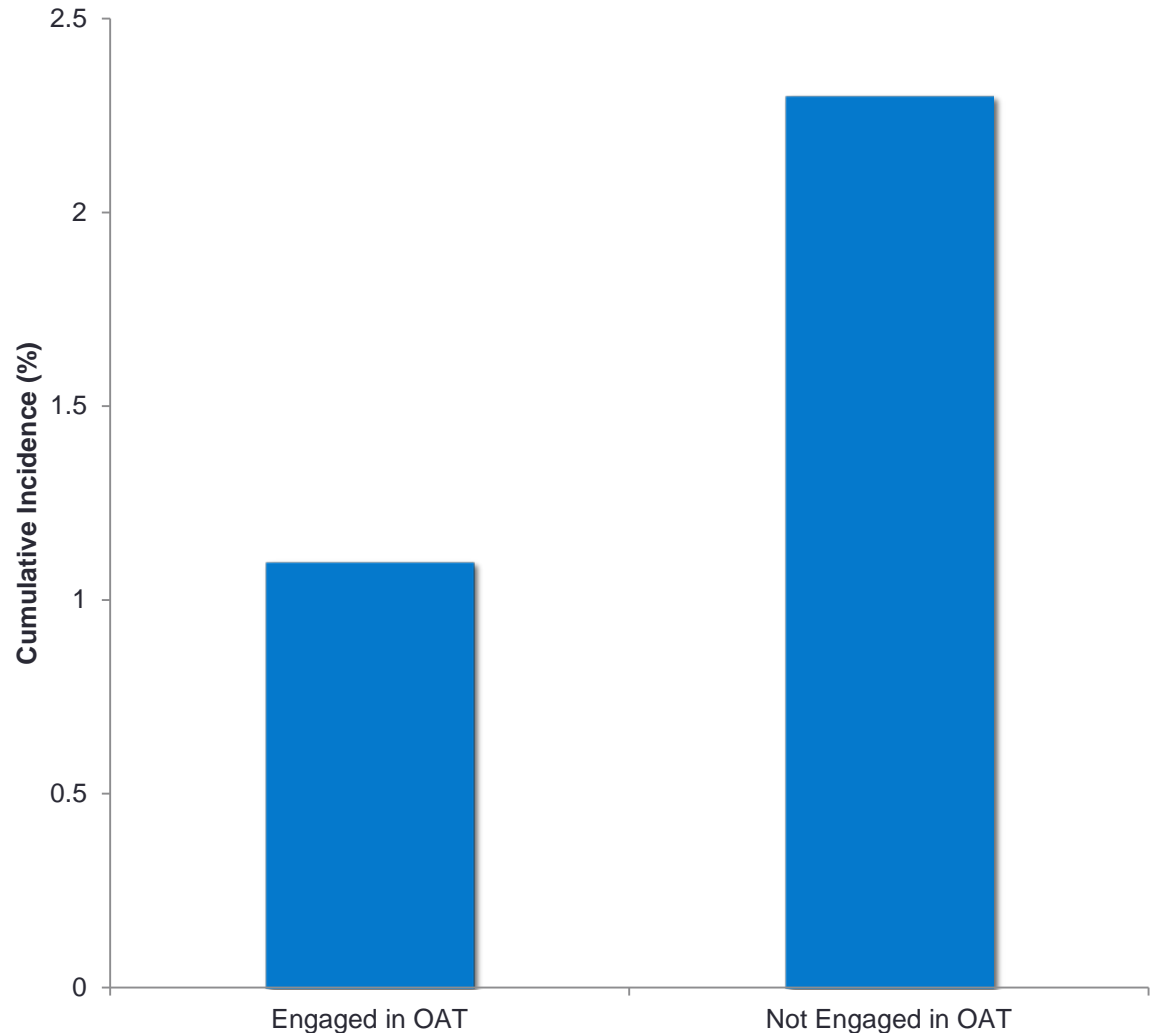
Average Survival Time For Those Who Died of Opioid Overdose **was 36 Months**



Treatment with Medication

Patients treated with methadone and/or buprenorphine (Opioid Agonist Treatment or “OAT” that block the effect of opioids) following a non-fatal overdose were significantly less likely to die; however, very few patients (~5%) engage in OAT following a non-fatal overdose.

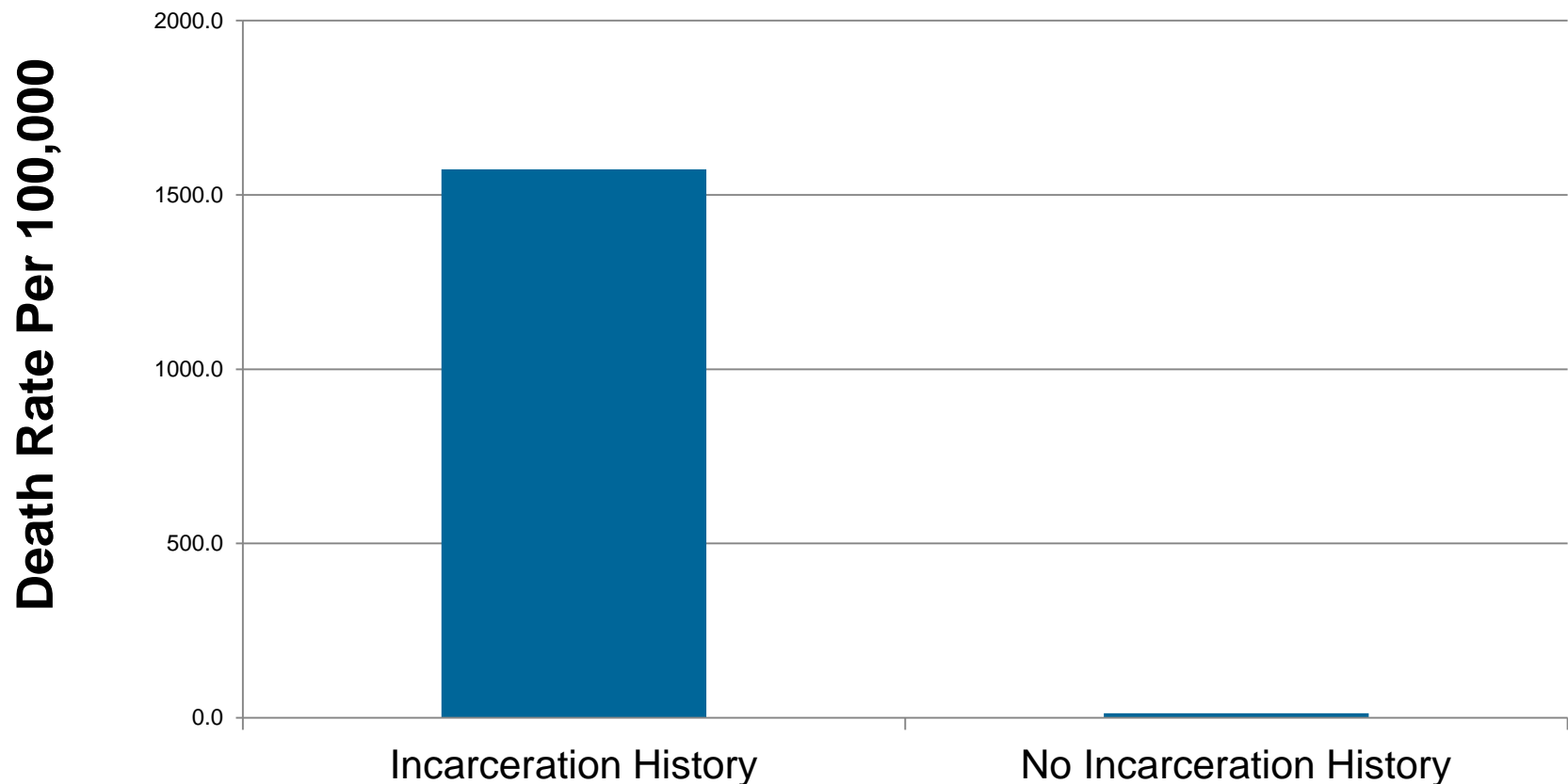
Figure 2: Cumulative Incidence of Opioid-Related Death by OAT Status





Persons with Histories of Incarceration

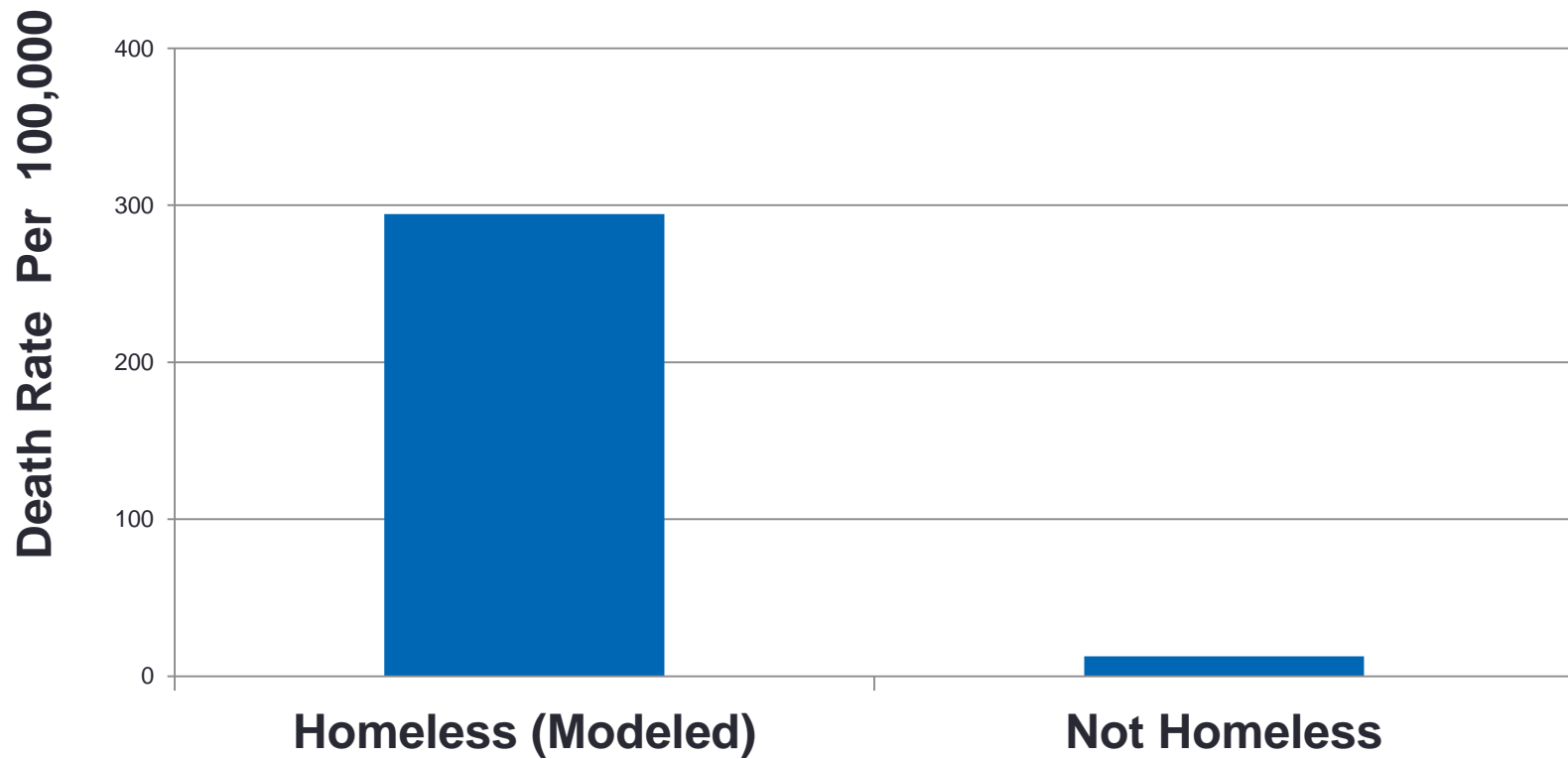
Opioid Death Rate **120 Times Higher**
for Individuals with Histories of Incarceration





Persons Experiencing Homelessness

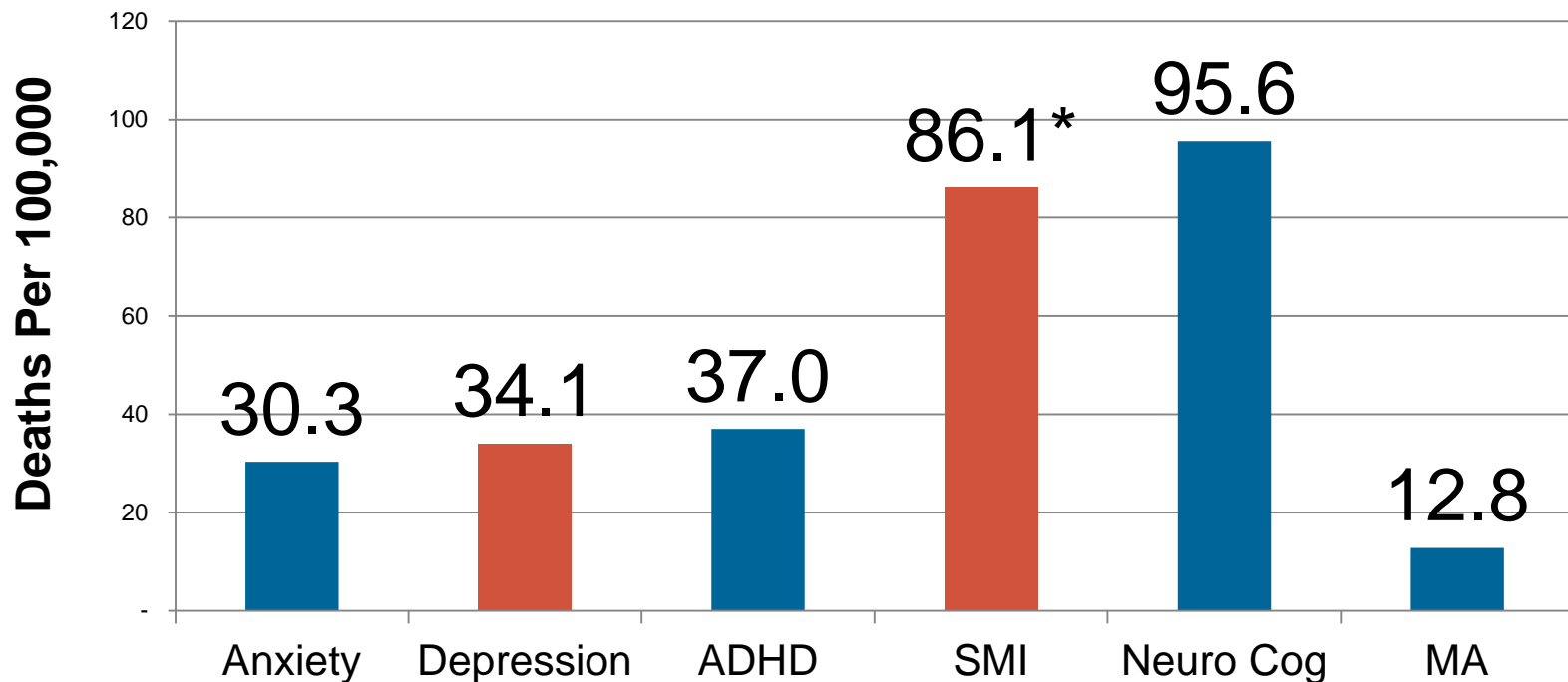
Opioid Death Rate **30 Times Higher**
for the Homeless Individuals





Individuals with Serious Mental Illness

**Very High Rates of Fatal Opioid Overdoses
for Persons with Some Mental Health Diagnoses**

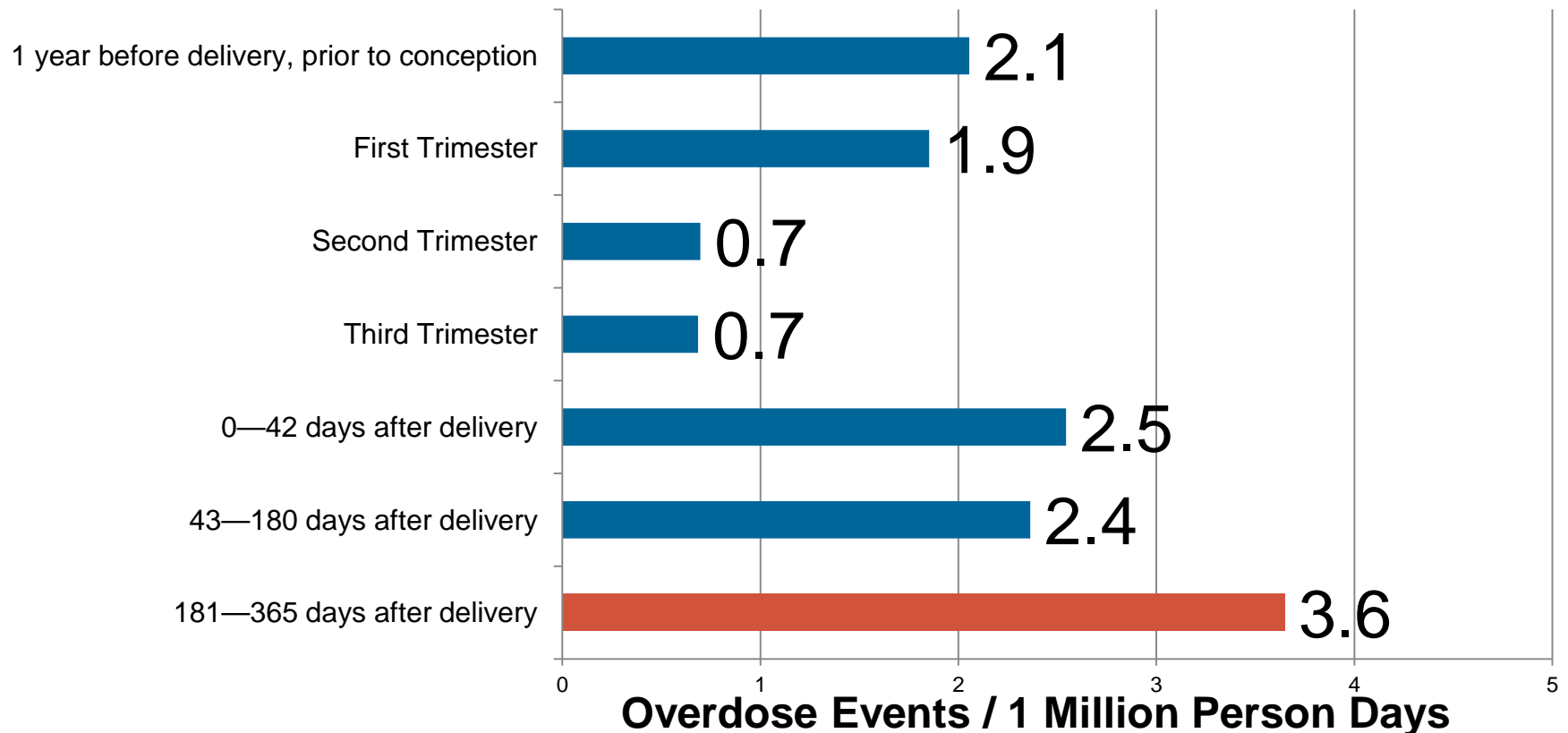


*Among MassHealth members only



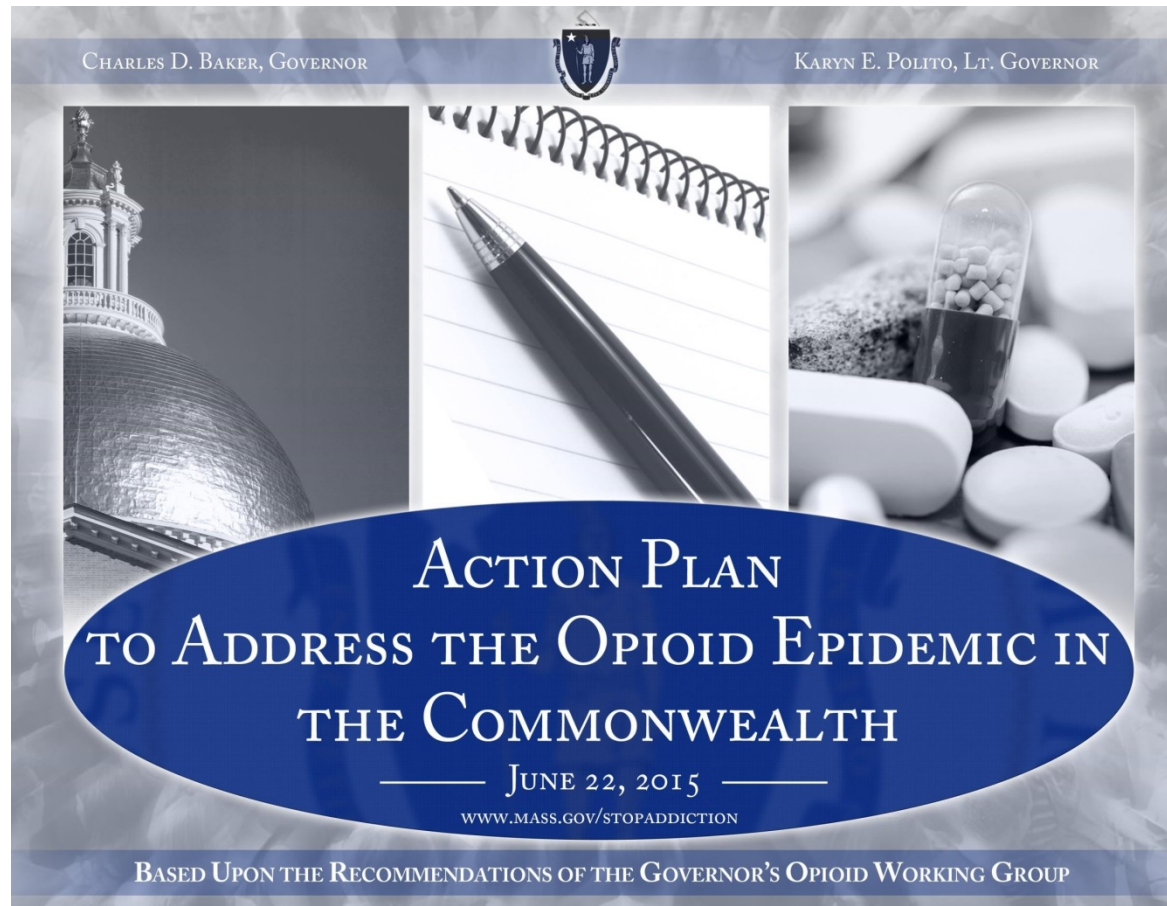
Pregnant and Postpartum Risk

Rate of Opioid Overdose Events Increase Sharply After Delivery for OUD Mothers



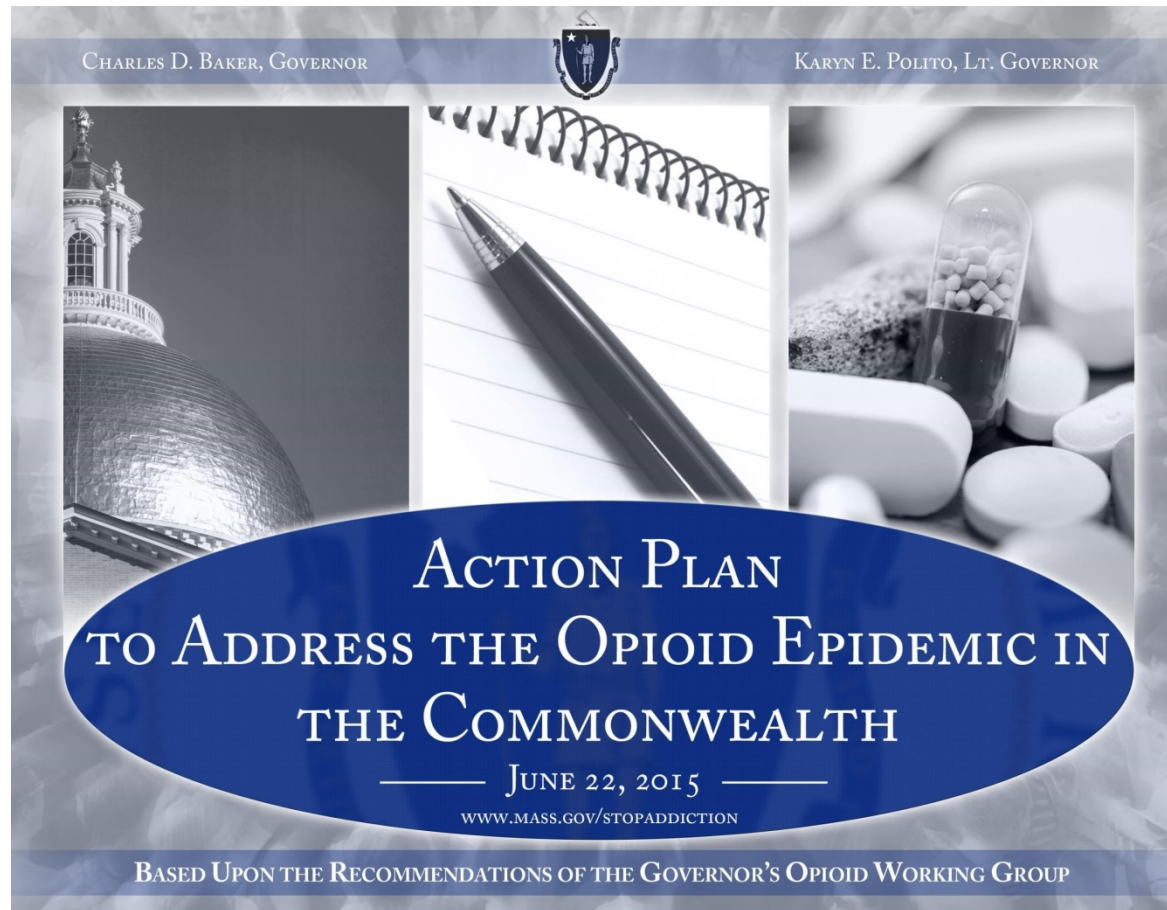


Governor Baker's Opioid Working Group: Prevention Intervention Treatment Recovery





Prevention Intervention Treatment Recovery





WHAT IS STIGMA?

TAKE THE PLEDGE

TAKE THE QUIZ

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

FOR HELP: 1-800-327-5050 (tty: 1-800-439-2370)

www.mass.gov/StateWithoutStigma

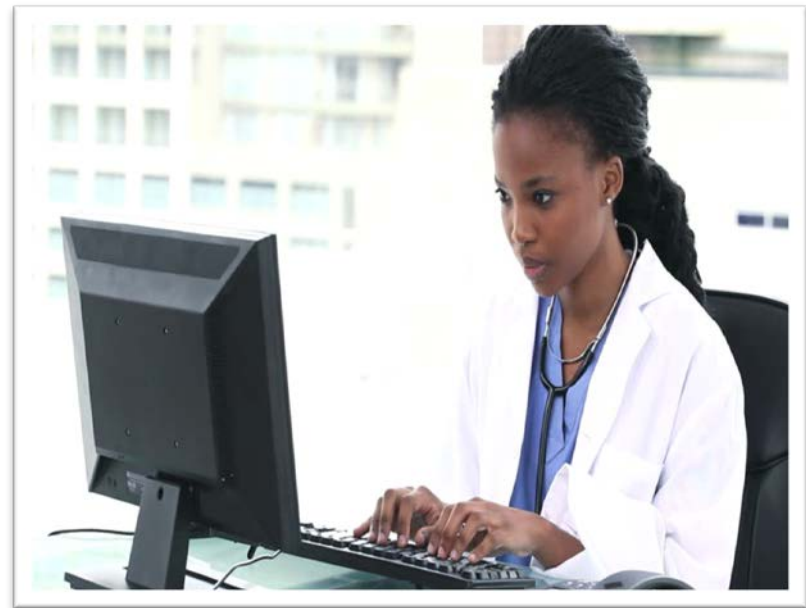
Parent Campaign Launched

- Rx opioid misuse
- Parents of middle and high school age kids
- Tips for how to start conversation



Safe Prescribing

- Rx 7-day limit
- Check Prescription Monitoring Tool
- Prescriber Education





New MassPAT Campaign

- Building awareness and promoting the use of the Massachusetts Prescription Awareness Tool

57
SECONDS

That's how long it took
Linda's doctor to discover
her opioid dependence.

Use the Massachusetts Prescription Awareness Tool whenever you prescribe an opioid. It's required by law, and research shows it's lowering the number of opioid prescriptions – and saving lives.

MassPAT. It takes a minute.
For more information visit MassPAT.gov

A message from the
Massachusetts Department of Public Health

The advertisement features a blurred background image of a woman's face. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image. The number "57" is large and white, with "SECONDS" in a smaller font below it. A horizontal line separates the number from the text below. The text "That's how long it took Linda's doctor to discover her opioid dependence." is in a white sans-serif font. Below that, a paragraph explains the use of the MassPAT tool. At the bottom, the slogan "MassPAT. It takes a minute." is followed by the website "MassPAT.gov". A small logo and text "A message from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health" are in the bottom left corner.



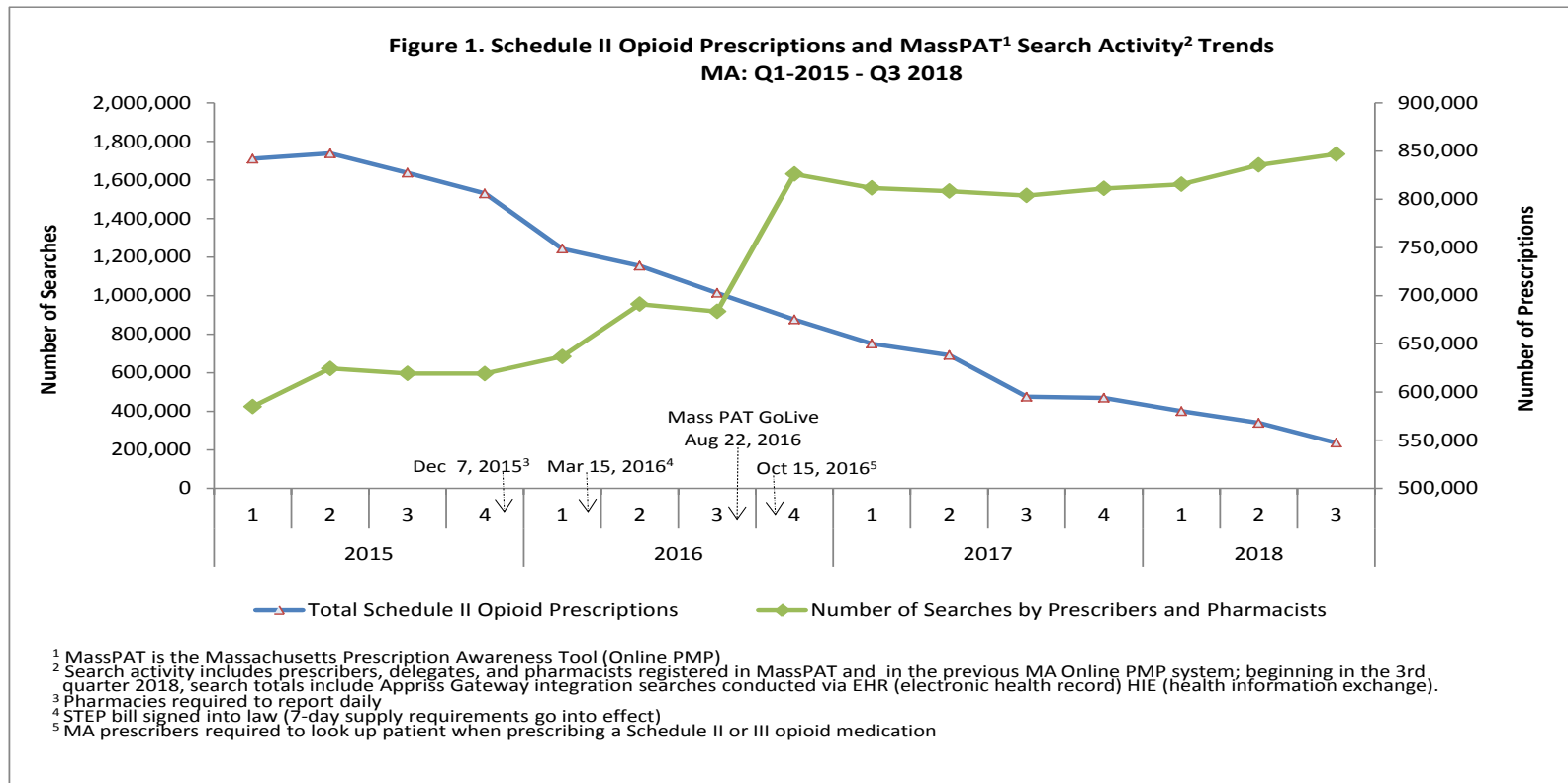
Core Competencies

- Medical Schools
- Dental Schools
- Advance Practice Nursing
- Physician Assistants
- Community Health Centers
- Social Work Programs





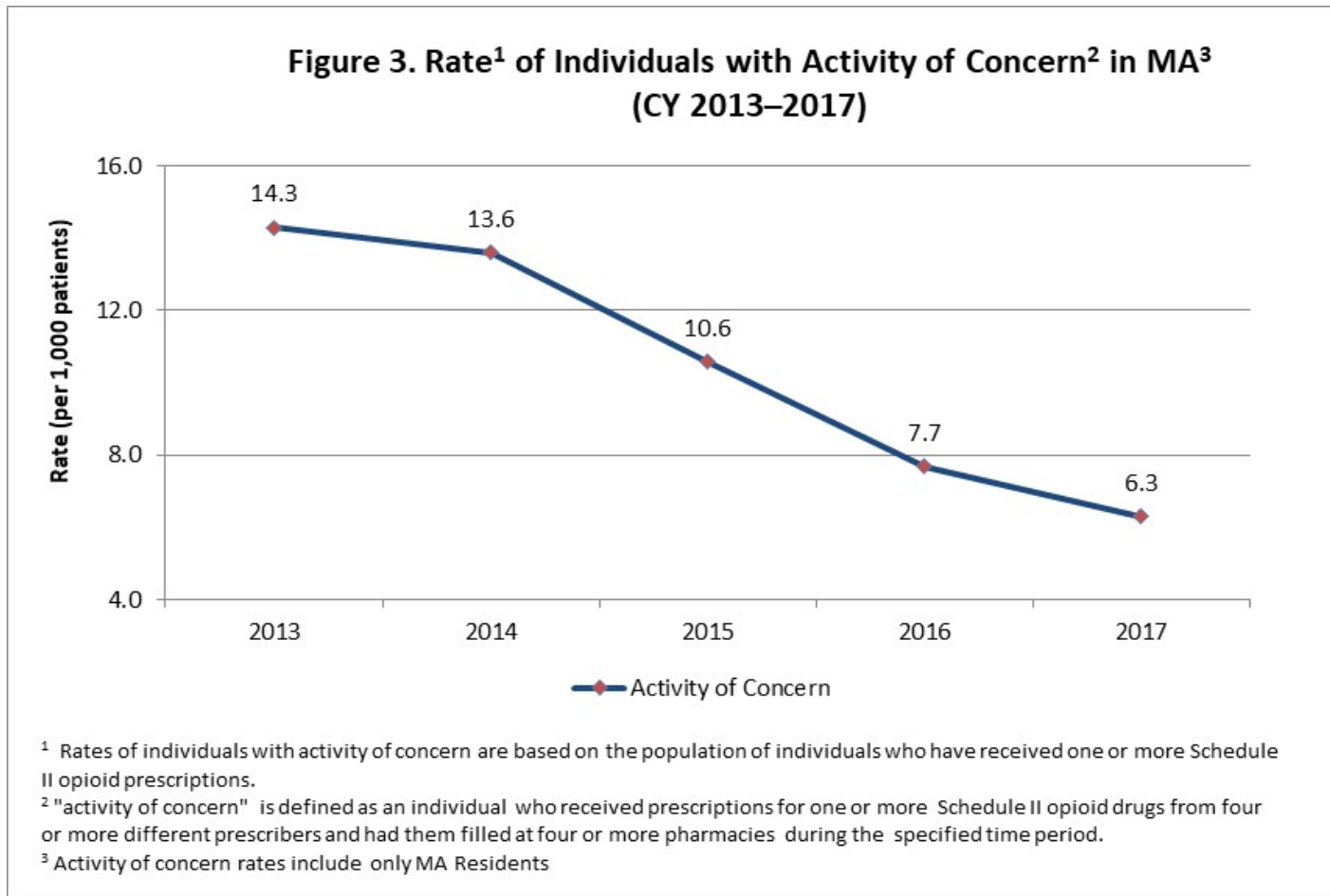
Prescription Monitoring Program – Data Trends



- Registered MassPAT providers conducted approximately 1.7 million searches in the third quarter of 2018, which represented an additional 57,000 searches over the previous quarter
- Approximately 246,000 individuals in Massachusetts received prescriptions for Schedule II opioids in the third quarter of 2018; this is a small decrease from the previous quarter and a 37% decrease from the first quarter of 2015

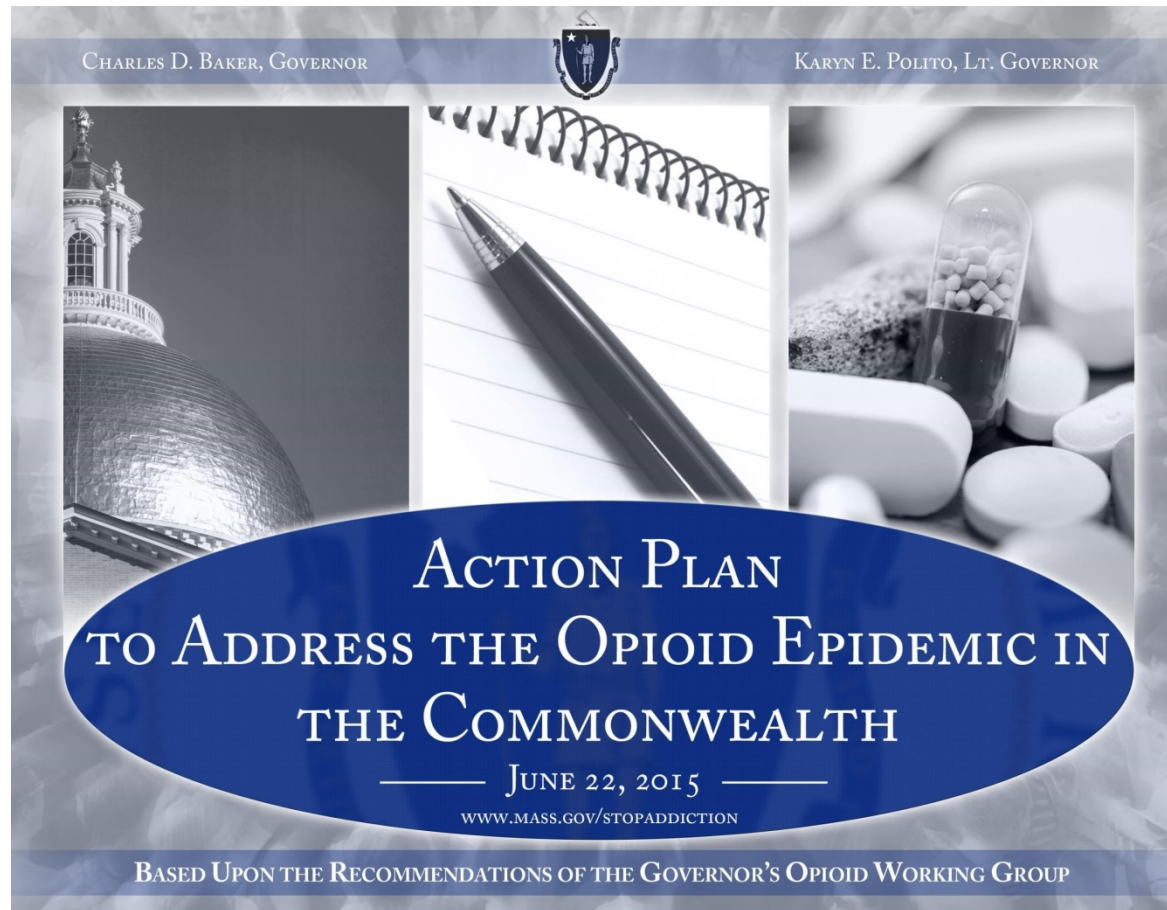


The rate of individuals with activity of concern decreased by 56 percent from 14.3 to 6.3 per 1,000 individuals between 2013 and 2017





Prevention **Intervention** Treatment Recovery



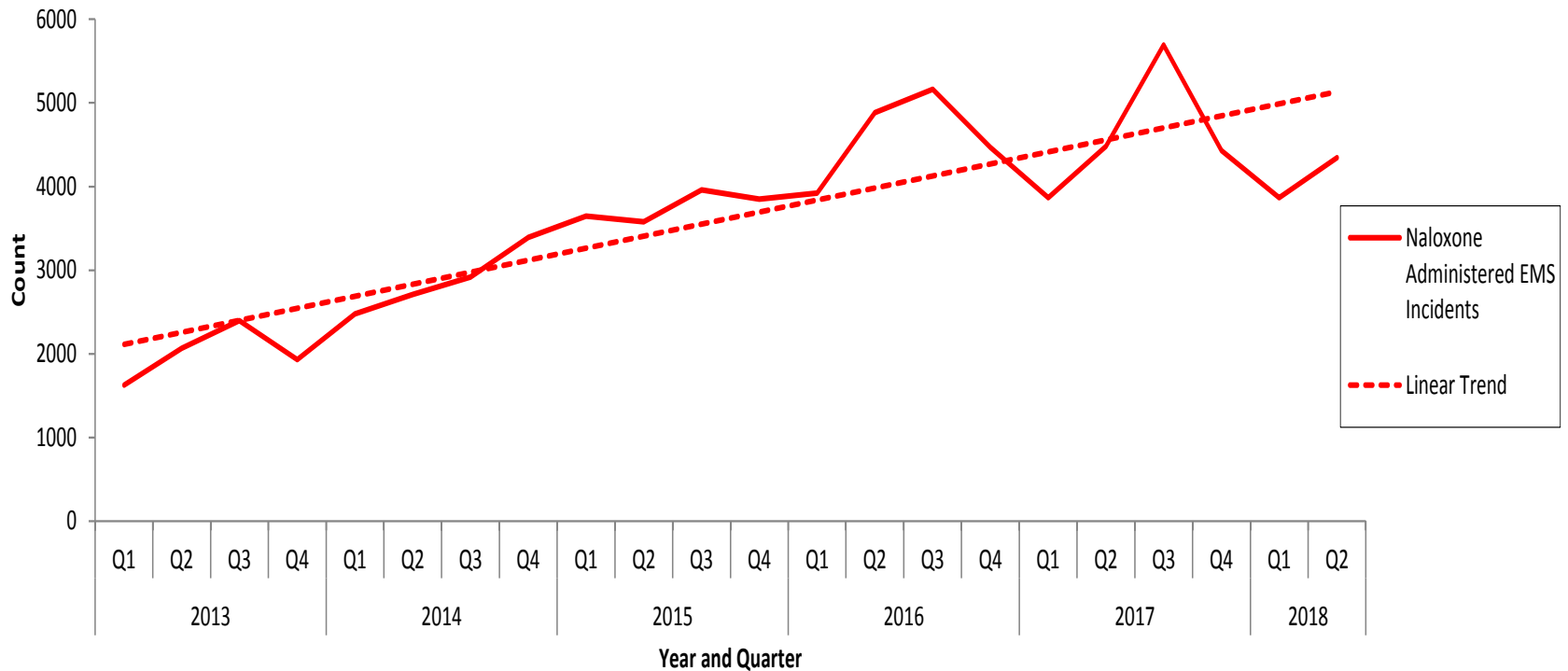
Access to Naloxone (Narcan®)



- First Responders
- Bystanders
- Pharmacies
- Community Bulk Purchasing Program

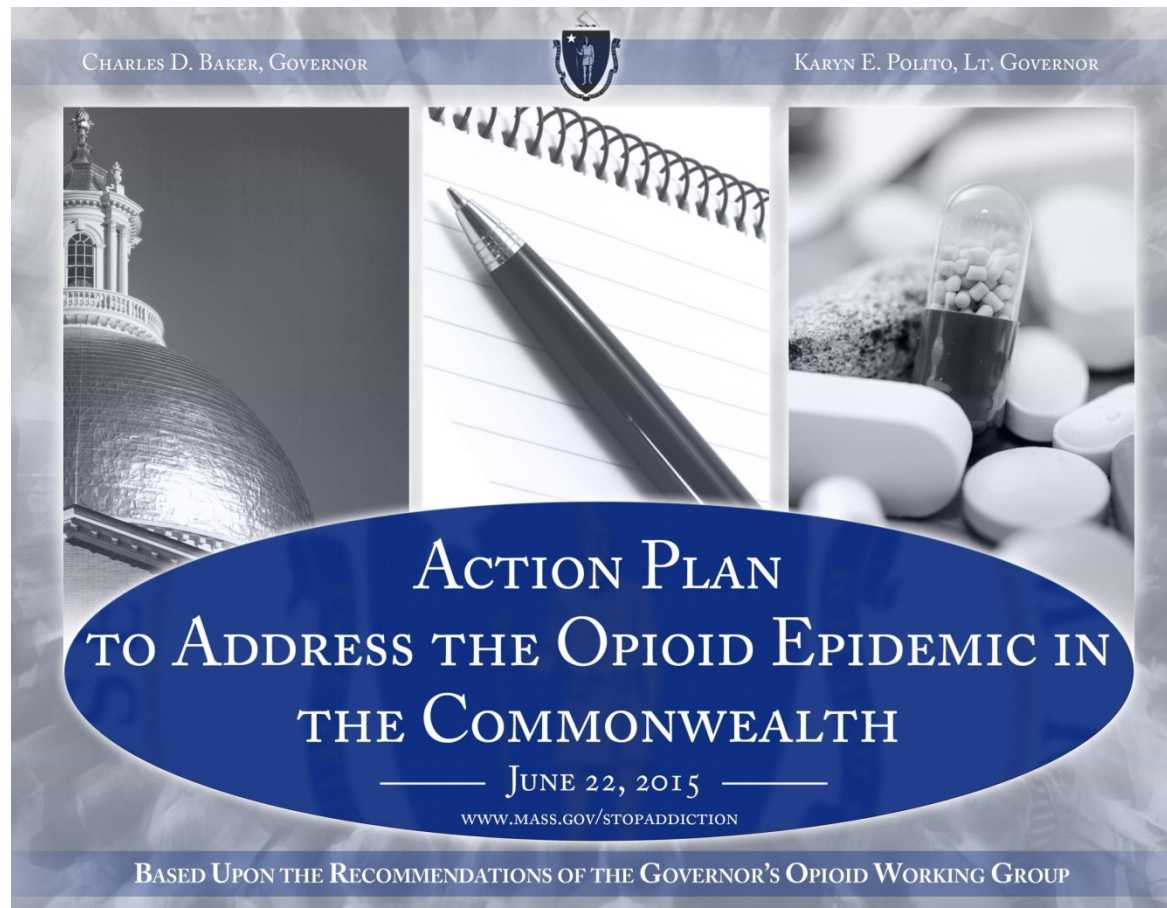
EMS incidents Involving Naloxone Administration

Figure 2: Count of All EMS Incidents Involving Naloxone Administration, MA: 2013-Q2 2018





Prevention Intervention **Treatment Recovery**



Treatment

- 800+ more Tx beds since 2015
- Ended use of prison for women with SUD
- Expanded Office Based Treatment
- Treatment for High-Risk Populations





Revamped Helpline

Secure | <https://helpline.org>

Apps | Suggested Sites | Free Hotmail | Imported From IE | MassHR | Other bookmark

The Massachusetts Substance Use **HELPLINE** 800.327.5050

GET HELP | HELP SOMEONE | LEARN MORE | ABOUT | LOGIN

HOPE IS HERE.
FIND TREATMENT ONLINE ▶
800.327.5050

NEED HELP?
CHAT WITH A HELPLINE SPECIALIST





Connect with DPH



@MassDPH



Massachusetts Department of
Public Health



DPH blog

<https://blog.mass.gov/publichealth>



www.mass.gov/dph