

# **NDEWS** *National Drug Early Warning System*

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Funded at the Center for Substance Abuse Research by the National Institute on Drug Abuse

## San Francisco Sentinel Community Site (SCS) Drug Use Patterns and Trends, 2018

November 2018

NDEWS Coordinating Center

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# National Drug Early Warning System (NDEWS) San Francisco Sentinel Community Site (SCS) Drug Use Patterns and Trends, 2018

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## Highlights

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- Numerous indicators suggest increasing **methamphetamine**-related morbidity and mortality in the City and County of San Francisco (CCSF). Substance use disorder (SUD) treatment admissions for methamphetamine continued to rise, as did hospitalizations, emergency department visits, and law enforcement seizures involving methamphetamine. Deaths involving methamphetamine increased from 2008 to 2016.
- The rates of SUD treatment admissions, hospitalizations, emergency department visits, and law enforcement seizures involving **opioids** continued to increase, yet opioid-related mortality remained stable. The distribution of **naloxone** by community-based organizations has continued to increase, with 5,499 naloxone kits distributed and 1,247 overdose reversals by lay persons reported in 2017.
- Evidence suggests a continued increase in **heroin** use in CCSF. The proportion of all SUD treatment admissions involving heroin remained steady after several years of consistent increases, rates of heroin-involved emergency department visits and hospitalizations have increased since 2013, and rates of law enforcement seizures for heroin have risen since 2015. Mortality from heroin remains low, although it has been increasing since 2011, with 41 deaths from heroin in 2017.
- Although **fentanyl** is not the dominant opioid affecting CCSF, the rate of fentanyl-involved overdose deaths has increased since 2013 and law enforcement seizures increased sharply from 2015 to 2016 but remained stable in 2017. There have been multiple suspected and confirmed episodes of nonfatal and fatal overdoses resulting from fentanyl-containing crack cocaine, methamphetamine, and counterfeit opioid and benzodiazepine pills since 2017. In response to these incidents, syringe access programs now routinely provide fentanyl test strips to clients.

- In 2017, CCSF began providing **buprenorphine inductions for homeless persons** at the site of encampments. At one year, 22% of recipients were still on buprenorphine and not using illicit opioids. In 2018, CCSF dedicated \$2 million to expand this service.
- CCSF is engaged in efforts to open two **supervised injection sites** in 2018, following the recommendations of a local government task force. A recent report estimated there were 24,492 people who inject drugs in CCSF in 2015.
- In 2016, California voters passed **Proposition 64**, which legalized the sale and distribution of cannabis products beginning in 2018. The rate of SUD treatment admissions and law enforcement seizures involving cannabis have declined since 2013, yet the rate of cannabis-related emergency department visits has steadily increased since 2006. Tracking cannabis-related health and safety indicators since legalization is a priority for CCSF.

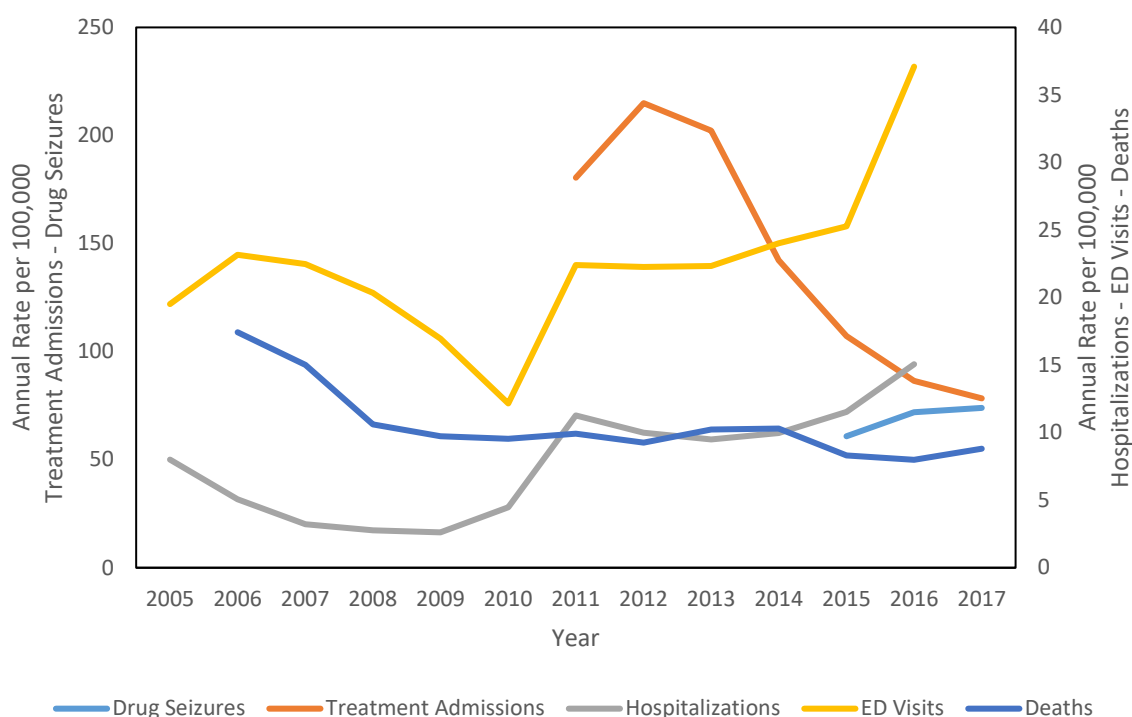
## NDEWS Priority Substances

### COCAINE/CRACK

#### Key Findings

Local indicators for cocaine/crack use and related morbidity and mortality in CCSF are mixed (Figure 1). The rate of SUD treatment admissions for cocaine/crack have been declining since 2012, and both overdose deaths and law enforcement seizures involving cocaine have been stable. However, there were increases in both emergency department visits and hospitalizations involving cocaine from 2015 to 2016. It should be noted that the U.S. healthcare system transitioned from ICD-9 to ICD-10 on October 1, 2015, so changes from 2015 to 2016 may reflect changes in diagnostic coding practices.

**Figure 1. San Francisco Cocaine/Crack Indicators, 2005-2017**



SOURCES: See the Sources section for details. Emergency department visits and hospitalizations include primary or nonprimary ICD-9 codes: E855.2 (poisoning), 970.81 (poisoning) and ICD-10 code: T40.5 (poisoning); primary only ICD-9 codes: 304.2 (dependence), 305.6 (abuse) and ICD-10 code: F14 (dependence/abuse/use).

#### Polydrug Use

Among the 693 SUD treatment admissions for cocaine/crack in CCSF in 2017, the most common secondary substances were alcohol (10%), marijuana (5%), and methamphetamine (4%).

Among the 78 overdose deaths involving cocaine in CCSF in 2017, 59% involved an opioid (29% involved opioid analgesics; 24% involved heroin; 15% involved fentanyl), 22% involved methamphetamine, and 10% involved alcohol.

## Additional Findings

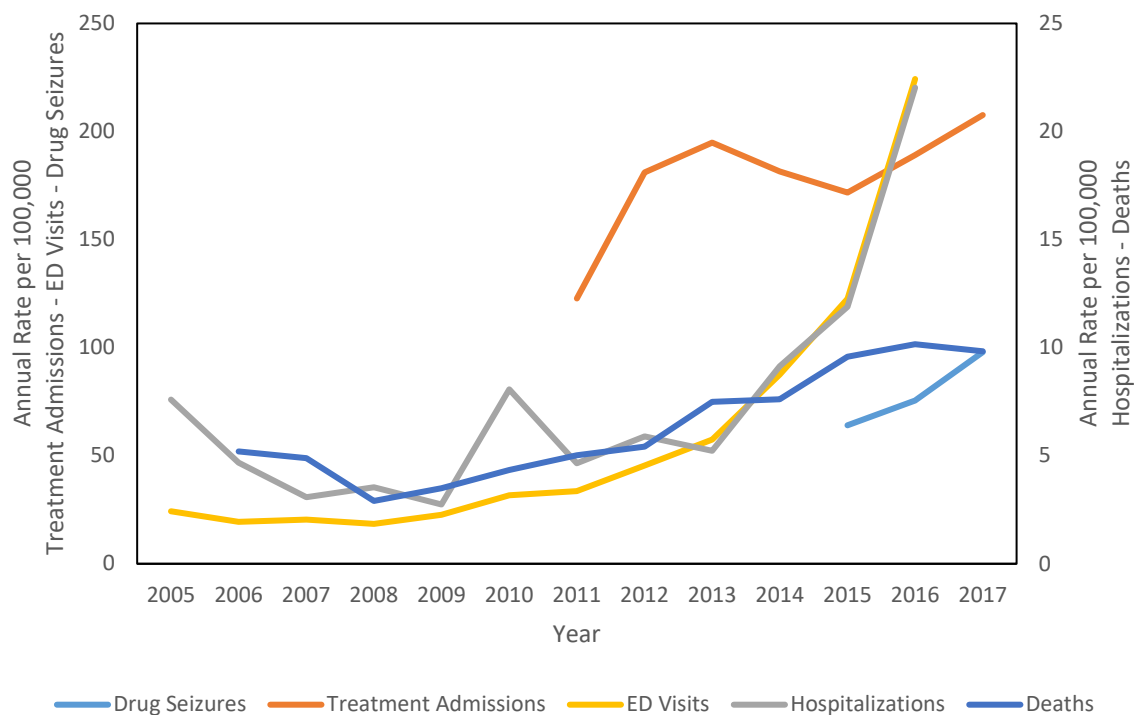
There have been several recent suspected and confirmed episodes of nonfatal and fatal overdose from fentanyl-containing cocaine/crack. See Fentanyl and Other Synthetic Opioids Additional Findings for details.

## METHAMPHETAMINE

### Key Findings

Local indicators suggest an increase in methamphetamine and related morbidity and mortality in CCSF (Figure 2). SUD treatment admissions for methamphetamine have increased since 2015, and methamphetamine-involved emergency department visits and hospitalizations have increased sharply since 2013, after longer gradual increases. Overdose deaths involving methamphetamine have increased steadily since 2008 but have remained stable since 2015. Law enforcement seizures have increased each year since at least 2015.

**Figure 2: San Francisco Methamphetamine Indicators, 2005-2017**



SOURCES: See the Sources section for details. Emergency department visits and hospitalizations include primary or nonprimary ICD-9 codes: E854.2 (poisoning), 969.72 (poisoning) and ICD-10 code: T43.62 (poisoning); primary only ICD-9 codes: 304.4 (dependence), 305.7 (abuse) and ICD-10 code: F15 (dependence/abuse/use).

## **Polydrug Use**

Among the 1,836 SUD treatment admissions for methamphetamine in CCSF in 2017, the most common secondary substances were alcohol (8%), heroin (4%), and cocaine/crack (3%).

Among the 87 overdose deaths involving methamphetamine in CCSF in 2017, 36% involved an opioid (14% involved opioid analgesics; 15% involved heroin; 10% involved fentanyl), 20% involved cocaine, and 5% involved alcohol.

## **Additional Findings**

There have been several recent suspected and confirmed episodes of nonfatal and fatal overdose from fentanyl-containing methamphetamine. See Fentanyl and Other Synthetic Opioids Additional Findings for details.

An analysis of deaths from acute toxicity from cocaine/crack or methamphetamine in San Francisco found that stimulant deaths were more likely than opioid deaths to involve a cardiac or cerebrovascular cause of death (Turner et al., *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 2018).

A randomized controlled trial of extended-release naltrexone among men-who-have-sex-with-men who have methamphetamine use disorder found no effect on methamphetamine use (Coffin et al., *Addiction*, 2018).

A study of HIV-positive people who use stimulants in CCSF found recent use to be associated with inflammation, innate immune activation, neuroendocrine hormone regulation, and neurotransmitter synthesis (Carrico et al., *Brain, Behavior & Immunity*, 2018).

## **HEROIN**

### **Key Findings**

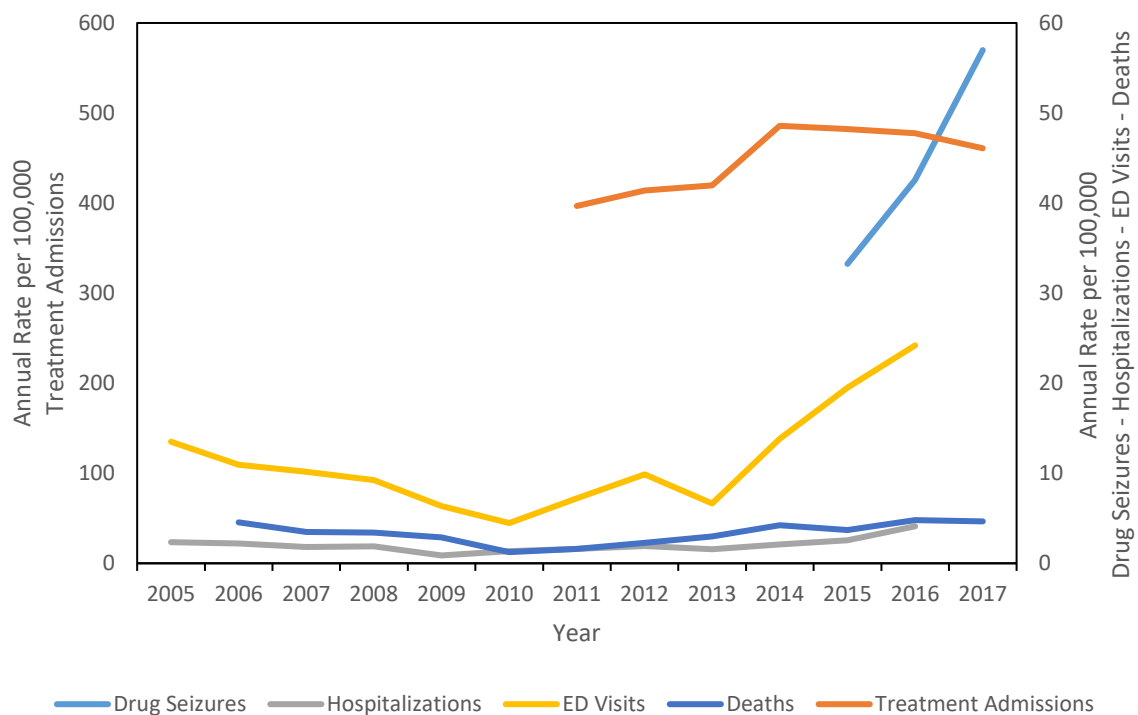
Local indicators suggest an increase in heroin use and related morbidity in CCSF (Figure 3). Although the rate of SUD treatment admissions for heroin has been stable since 2014, heroin-involved emergency department visits and hospitalizations have both increased since 2013. The number and rate of law enforcement seizures of heroin have also increased since at least 2015. Despite increases in multiple indicators, overdose deaths involving heroin have remained stable since 2014.

### **Polydrug Use**

Among the 4,077 SUD treatment admissions for heroin in CCSF in 2017, the most common secondary substances were cocaine/crack (25%), methamphetamine (22%), and marijuana (5%).

It is very common for heroin overdose deaths to involve other substances in CCSF. Among the 41 overdose deaths involving heroin from in 2017, 46% involved cocaine, 32% involved methamphetamine, 15% involved another opioid (10% involved opioid analgesics; 5% involved fentanyl), and 7% involved alcohol.

**Figure 3: San Francisco Heroin Indicators, 2005-2017**



SOURCES: See the Sources section for details. Emergency department visits and hospitalizations include primary or nonprimary ICD-9 codes: E850.0 (poisoning), 965.01 (poisoning) and ICD-10 code: T40.1 (poisoning).

### Additional Findings

CCSF has a robust program of community distribution of naloxone as well as a co-prescribing initiative for patients in safety net primary care clinics. The community distribution program has substantially increased naloxone distribution in recent years and has reported a growing number of overdose reversals by program clients. In 2017, the Drug Overdose Prevention and Education (DOPE) Project distributed 5,499 naloxone kits and program participants reported 1,247 overdose reversals in the community.

The overall number of buprenorphine prescriptions and the number of patients prescribed buprenorphine have increased steadily since at least 2010 (Figure 4).

A review of medical examiner case narratives for opioid overdose decedents in San Francisco noted that only 21% were attributed to heroin, but this proportion increased to 31% when evidence of injection was considered suggestive of heroin use (Hurstak et al., *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 2018).

A pilot randomized controlled trial of a behavioral intervention to reduce opioid overdose conducted in San Francisco demonstrated a significant reduction in opioid overdose events (Coffin et al., *Plos One*, 2017). A further analysis of trial data found that fluctuations in the quantity of illicit opioids used were positively associated with overdose risk (Rowe et al., *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 2018).



**Figure 4. Buprenorphine Prescriptions in San Francisco, CA, 2010-2017**

Year	Number of Prescriptions	Number of Unique Patients*
2010	10600	974
2011	10292	1193
2012	10531	1331
2013	11446	1456
2014	12694	1652
2015	12855	1627
2016	14456	1841
2017	16222	2073

\*Unique patients are per year, so a single patient may be included in multiple years.  
Source: See the Sources section for details.

## **PRESCRIPTION OPIOIDS**

### **Key Findings**

Local indicators for prescription opioid use and related morbidity and mortality in CCSF are mixed (Figure 5). The rates of SUD treatment admissions, overdose deaths, and law enforcement seizures involving prescription opioids have been declining since 2014. However, there were increases in both emergency department visits and hospitalizations involving prescription opioids from 2015 to 2016. It should be noted that the U.S. healthcare system transitioned from ICD-9 to ICD-10 on October 1, 2015, so changes from 2015 to 2016 may reflect changes in diagnostic coding.

Although opioid overdose mortality has remained stable, the proportion of opioid overdose deaths involving opioid analgesics has declined since 2011 as the proportion involving heroin and fentanyl have increased.

### **Polydrug Use**

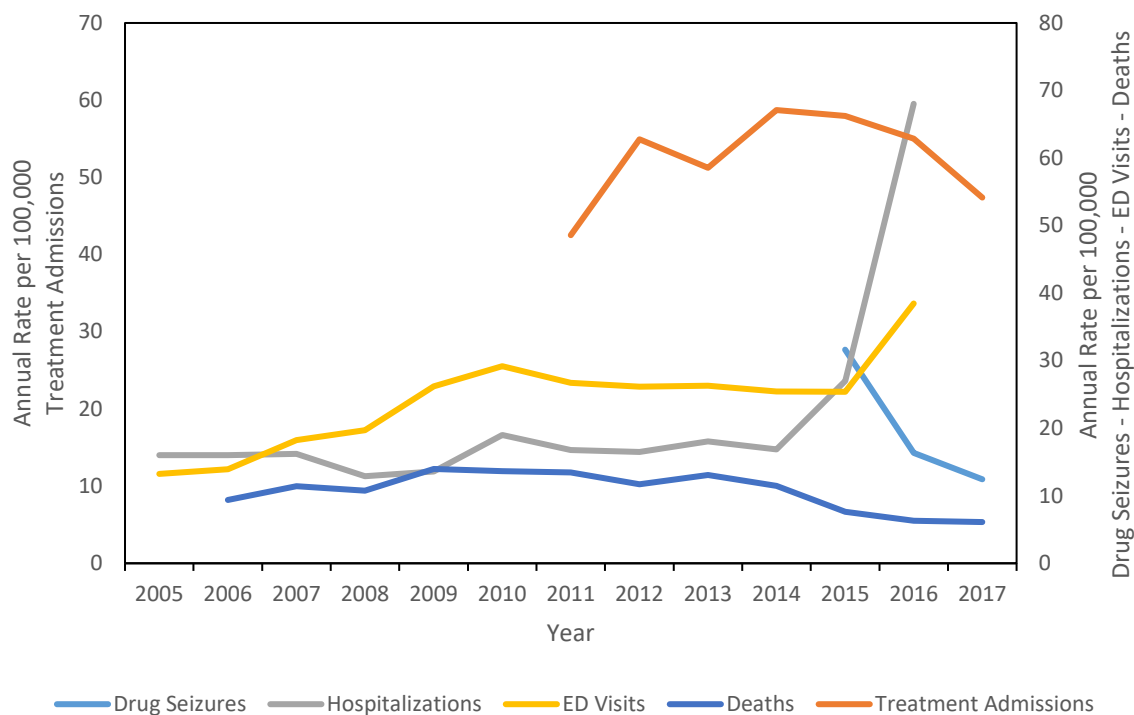
Among the 419 SUD treatment admissions for prescription opioids in CCSF in 2017, the most common secondary substances were heroin (12%), methamphetamine (10%), and cocaine/crack (8%).

Among the 54 overdose deaths involving prescription opioids in 2017, 43% involved cocaine, 22% involved methamphetamine, 15% involved either heroin (7%) or fentanyl (7%), and 11% involved alcohol.

### **Additional Findings**

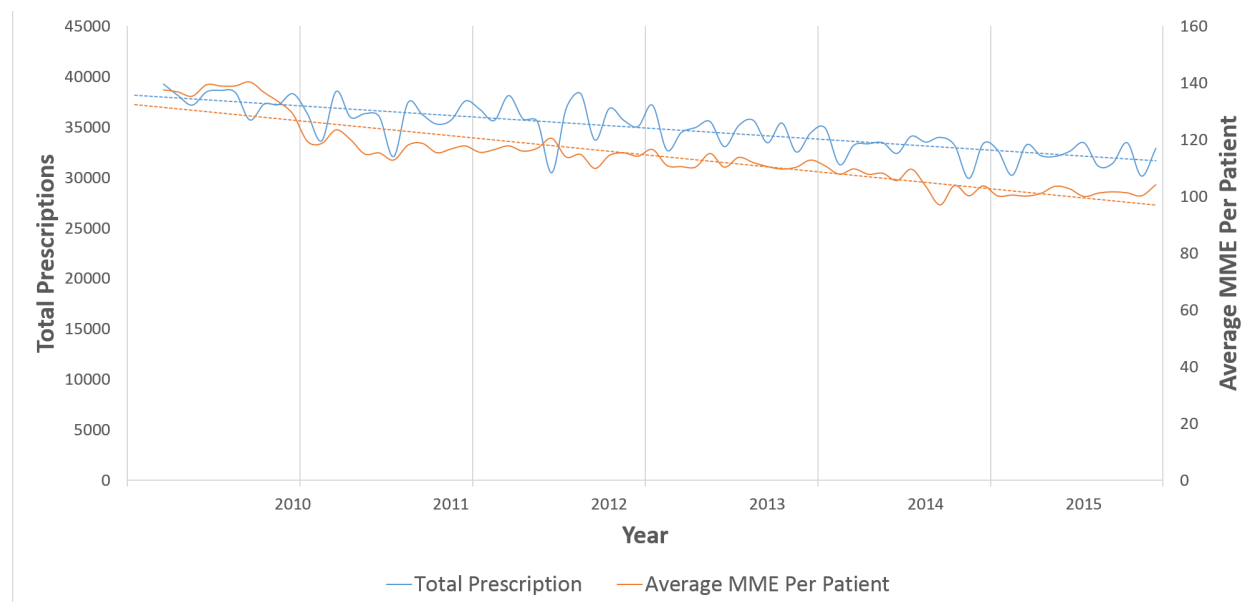
Opioid prescribing substantially declined from a peak in 2010 through at least 2015 according to data from the California State prescription drug monitoring program (CURES 2.0) (Figure 6).

**Figure 5: San Francisco Prescription Opioid Indicators, 2005-2017**



SOURCES: See the Sources section for details. Emergency department visits and hospitalizations include primary or nonprimary ICD-9 codes: E850.1, E850.2, 965.00, 965.02, 965.09 (all poisoning) and ICD-10 codes: T40.0, T40.2, T40.3, T40.6 (all poisoning).

**Figure 6. Monthly Opioid Prescription Trends, San Francisco, 2010-2015**



SOURCES: See the Sources section for details.

Qualitative research into opioid prescribing practices and patient experiences in the Bay Area explored the complexity of patient care in this era of changing opioid prescribing guidelines (Knight et al., *Social Science & Medicine*, 2017; Hurstak et al., *Substance Abuse*, 2017).

An analysis of drug use histories collected from PWID in CCSF and Los Angeles, CA, found that those initiating drug use during the prescription opioid era (1990s–2000s) had a shorter time to initiation of injection drug use (Bluthenthal et al., *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 2017).

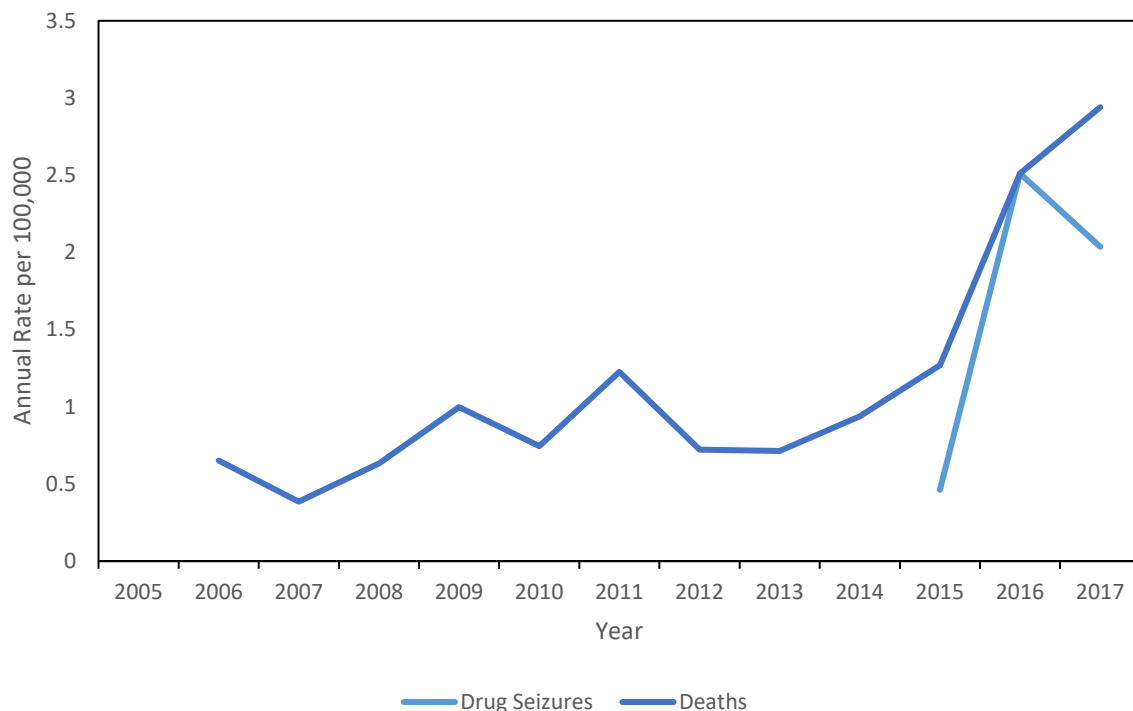
See the Heroin Additional Findings section for details regarding community distribution of naloxone and buprenorphine prescriptions in CCSF.

## FENTANYL AND OTHER NONPRESCRIPTION SYNTHETIC OPIOIDS

### Key Findings

Although the threat posed by fentanyl is not as severe in CCSF as in other regions in the United States, local indicators suggest an increase in the presence of fentanyl in the illicit drug supply in CCSF (Figure 7). The rate of fentanyl-involved overdose deaths has increased since 2013, and the rate of law enforcement seizures of fentanyl increased sharply from 2015 to 2016.

**Figure 7: San Francisco Fentanyl Indicators, 2005-2017**



SOURCES: See the Sources section for details.

## **Polydrug Use**

Among the 26 overdose deaths involving fentanyl in CCSF in 2017, 46% involved cocaine, 35% involved methamphetamine, 23% involved either heroin (8%) or prescription opioids (15%), and 27% involved alcohol.

## **Additional Findings**

In recent years, there have been several episodes of nonfatal and fatal overdose events involving fentanyl-containing cocaine/crack, methamphetamine, and counterfeit opioid and benzodiazepine pills. In an episode in February 2018, three overdose decedents tested positive for cocaine, methamphetamine, fentanyl, and acetyl fentanyl; traces of these substances were also found in a glass pipe found on the scene, suggesting that either the methamphetamine or the cocaine was laced with fentanyl and acetyl fentanyl. In another episode in May 2017, fentanyl was found in crack cocaine that was smoked and caused three overdoses requiring hospitalization and one death. In 2015, there was one confirmed episode of fentanyl sold as heroin and two episodes of counterfeit benzodiazepine pills containing fentanyl that resulted in multiple overdoses and several deaths. As a result of these incidents, syringe access programs are routinely providing fentanyl test strip to participants.

A report was published regarding the role of naloxone distribution programs in identifying the first episode of fentanyl being sold as heroin in 2015, noting that there was a substantial increase in naloxone dispensed and reversals reported in the Civic Center neighborhood of CCSF, without an increase in mortality (Rowe et al., *Journal of Urban Health*, 2018).

See the Heroin Additional Findings section for details regarding community distribution of naloxone and buprenorphine prescriptions in CCSF.

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## **Other Priority Substances in San Francisco**

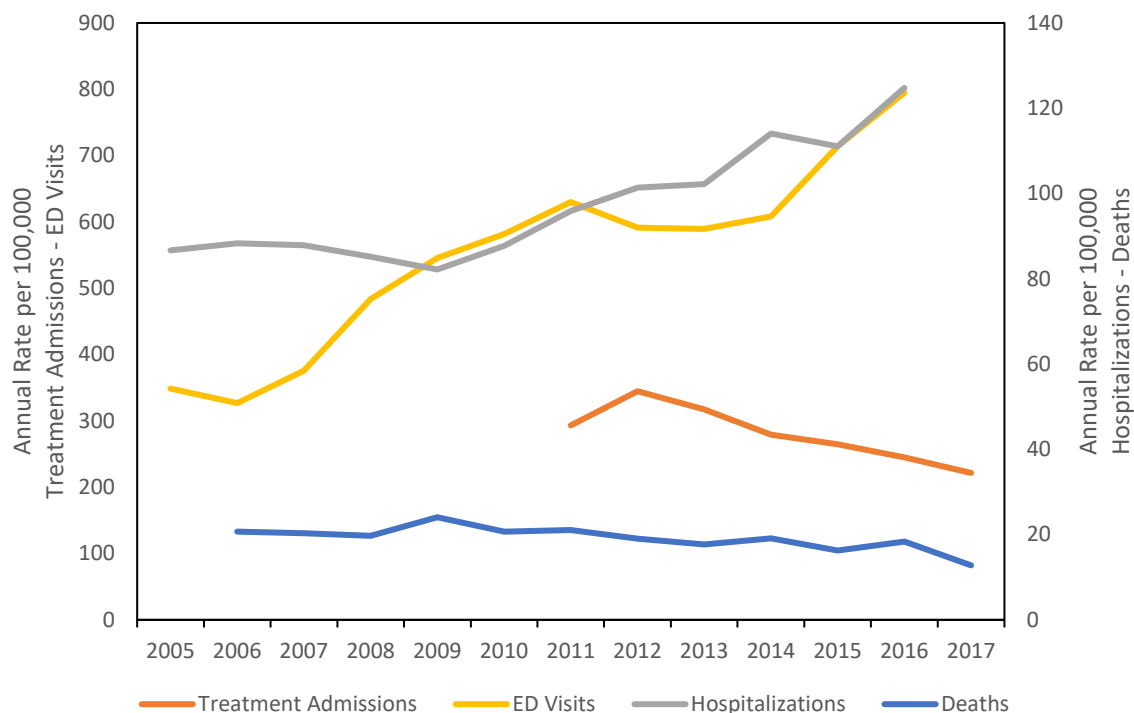
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### **ALCOHOL**

#### **Key Findings**

Local indicators for alcohol use and related morbidity and mortality in CCSF are mixed (Figure 8). SUD treatment admissions for alcohol have declined since 2012, and deaths due to chronic alcohol use or acute alcohol effects have long been stable. However, both emergency department visits and hospitalizations for acute alcohol effects have increased steadily since at least 2009.

**Figure 8: San Francisco Alcohol Indicators, 2005-2017**



SOURCES: See the Sources section for details. Emergency department visits and hospitalizations include primary or nonprimary ICD-9 codes: E860.0, E860.1, E860.2, E860.9, 980.0, 980.1, 980.9 and ICD-10 codes: X45, Y15, T51.0, T51.1, T51.9; primary only ICD-9 codes: 291, 305.0, 303.0, 303.9, 790.3 and ICD-10 codes: F10, R78.0. Deaths involve both acute and chronic effects of alcohol.

## Polydrug Use

Among SUD treatment admissions for alcohol in CCSF in 2017, the most common secondary substances were methamphetamine (7%), cocaine/crack (6%), and marijuana (5%).

It is common for alcohol to be implicated in overdose deaths involving other substances. See the Polydrug Use sections for other substances for details.

## Additional Findings

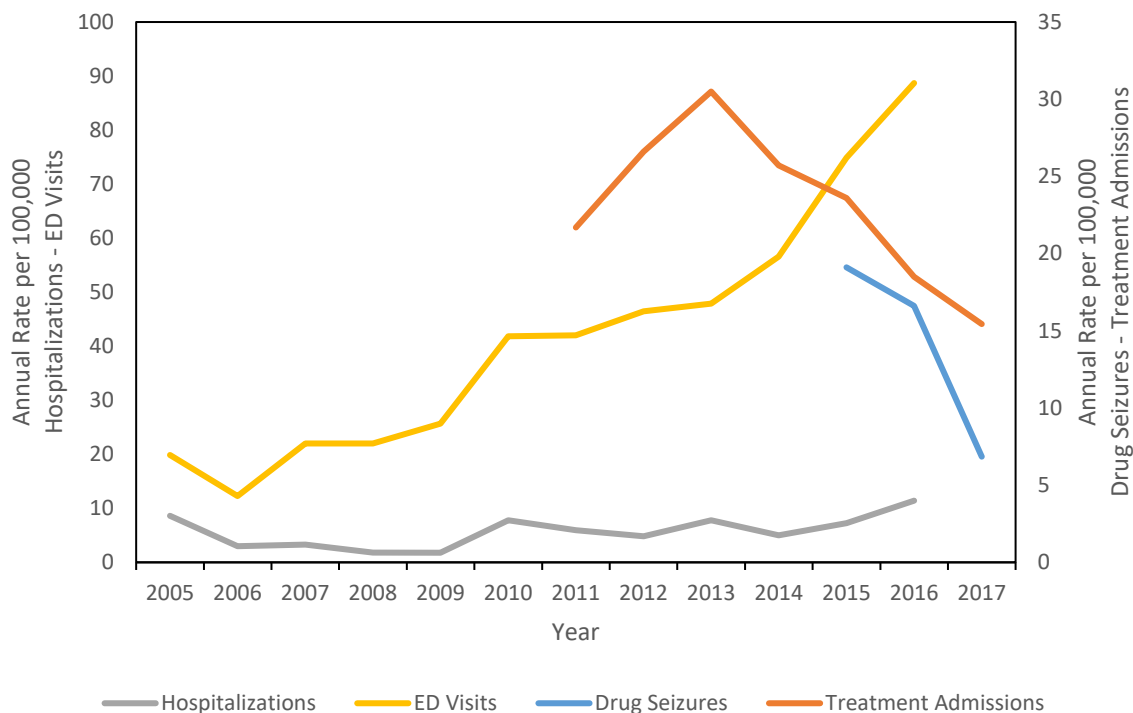
Results of a pilot study of low-threshold extended-release naltrexone for homeless adults who are high utilizers of multiple emergency services in CCSF suggested that the intervention was effective for some individuals and was overall cost-effective (Smith-Bernadin et al., *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*, 2018).

## MARIJUANA

### Key Findings

Local indicators for marijuana use and related morbidity and mortality in CCSF are mixed (Figure 9). SUD treatment admissions for marijuana have declined since 2013, and drug seizures have declined since at least 2015. However, emergency department visits involving marijuana have increased steadily since 2006.

**Figure 9: San Francisco Cannabis Indicators, 2005-2017**



SOURCES: See the Sources section for details. Emergency department visits and hospitalizations include primary or nonprimary ICD-9 codes: E854.1 (poisoning), 969.6 (poisoning) and ICD-10 code: T40.7 (poisoning); primary only ICD-9 codes: 304.3 (dependence), 305.2 (abuse) and ICD-10 codes: F12 (dependence/abuse/use).

### Additional Findings

In 2016, California voters passed Proposition 64, which legalized the sale and distribution of cannabis products beginning in 2018. Tracking cannabis-related health and safety indicators since legalization is a priority for CCSF.

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## Infectious Diseases Related to Substance Use

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Annual new HIV diagnoses have been declining steadily for more than ten years. As of December 31, 2017, there were 202 new diagnoses in 2017; however, this is likely a slight underestimate because of delays in case reporting. The number and percentage of diagnoses among people who inject drugs (PWID), including gay or bisexual males who inject drugs and other PWID, declined steadily from 2010 through 2015 but increased modestly in 2017. The number and percentage of diagnoses among PWID other than gay or bisexual men, however, has remained stable and low since 2012. Among the 202 new HIV diagnoses reported in 2017, there were 52 (22%) among all PWID, including 29 (13%) among gay or bisexual male PWID and 23 (10%) among other PWID (Figure 10). Of the 16,011 individuals currently living with HIV in San Francisco, 3,104 (19.4%) are or were PWID, including 2,207 (13.8%) gay or bisexual male PWID and 897 (5.6%) other PWID.

**Figure 10. New HIV Diagnoses by Transmission Type, San Francisco, 2010-2017**

Transmission Category	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)
Total new diagnoses	424		457		391		314		270		232		202	
Any injection drug user (IDU)	87	(20.5)	67	(14.7)	67	(17.1)	64	(20.4)	41	(15.2)	42	(18.1)	52	(22.4)
IDU only	28	(6.6)	20	(4.4)	21	(5.4)	23	(7.3)	17	(6.3)	20	(8.6)	23	(9.9)
Gay or bisexual male IDU	59	(13.9)	47	(10.3)	46	(11.8)	41	(13.1)	24	(8.9)	22	(9.5)	29	(12.5)

An analysis of men-who-have-sex-with-men and their partners found that any drug use in a partnership was significantly associated with sexual HIV risk behaviors (Brown et al., *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 2017).

The most up-to-date data regarding HCV in San Francisco come from the HCV Elimination Initiative, a local coalition of individuals and organizations that coordinates efforts to eliminate HCV in CCSF. The HCV Elimination Initiative estimated that approximately 22,000 (2.5%) San Francisco residents are HCV seropositive, compared with a national seroprevalence estimate of 1.4%. Of all HCV seropositive individuals in San Francisco, 16,408 are estimated to be viremic, with up to 11,922 viremic cases untreated as of the end of 2016. It is also estimated that PWID make up approximately 70% of active HCV infections in San Francisco, whereas they make up less than 3% of the city's population.

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## New Substance-Related Legislative and Policy Updates

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- In 2016, California voters passed Proposition 64, which legalized the sale and distribution of cannabis products beginning in 2018.

- In 2017, CCSF began providing buprenorphine inductions for homeless persons at the site of encampments. At the end of one year, 22% of recipients were still on buprenorphine and not using illicit opioids. In 2018, CCSF dedicated \$2 million to expand this service.
- CCSF is engaged in efforts to open two supervised injection sites in 2018, following the recommendations of a government task force. A recent report estimated there were 24,492 people who inject drugs in CCSF in 2015.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Facente, S. N. et al. (2018). Estimated hepatitis C prevalence and key population sizes in San Francisco: A foundation for elimination. PLoS ONE, 13(4), e0195575. <http://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0195575>



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## Treatment Tables

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**Table 1: Trends in Admissions\* to Programs Treating Substance Use Disorders, San Francisco Residents, 2013-2017**

Number of Admissions and Percentage of Admissions with Selected Substances Cited as Primary Substance at Admission, by Year and Substance

	Calendar Year									
	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	(#)	(%)	(#)	(%)	(#)	(%)	(#)	(%)	(#)	(%)
<b>Total Admissions (#)</b>	<b>11,257</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>10,830</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>10,270</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>9,958</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>9,660</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Primary Substance of Abuse (%)</b>										
Alcohol	2,670	23.7%	2,384	22.0%	2,293	22.3%	2,144	21.5%	1,959	20.3%
Cocaine/Crack	1,702	15.1%	1,214	11.2%	928	9.0%	757	7.6%	693	7.2%
Heroin	3,531	31.4%	4,145	38.3%	4,177	40.7%	4,183	42.0%	4,077	42.2%
Prescription Opioids	431	3.8%	501	4.6%	502	4.9%	482	4.8%	419	4.3%
Methamphetamine	1,639	14.6%	1,549	14.3%	1,488	14.5%	1,656	16.6%	1,836	19.0%
Marijuana	733	6.5%	627	5.8%	584	5.7%	463	4.6%	390	4.0%
Benzodiazepines	21	0.2%	20	0.2%	22	0.2%	23	0.2%	14	0.1%
MDMA	21	0.2%	19	0.2%	12	0.1%	5	0.1%	5	0.1%
Synthetic Stimulants	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Synthetic Cannabinoids	2	0.0%	1	0.0%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Other Drugs/Unknown	507	4.5%	370	3.4%	263	2.6%	245	2.5%	267	2.8%

**NOTES:**

**\* Admissions:** Each admission does not necessarily represent a unique individual because some individuals are admitted to treatment more than once in a given period.

**unavail:** Data not available.

**Source:** Data provided to the San Francisco SCE by the San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFDPH), Community Behavioral Health Services Division.

**Table 2: Demographic and Drug Use Characteristics of Treatment Admissions\* for Select Primary Substances, San Francisco Residents, 2017**  
Number of Admissions, by Primary Substance and Percentage of Admissions with Selected Demographic and Drug Use Characteristics

	Primary Substance																	
	Alcohol		Cocaine/Crack		Heroin		Prescription Opioids		Methamphetamine		Marijuana		Benzo-diazepines		Synthetic Stimulants		Synthetic Cannabinoids	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Number of Admissions (#)	1,959	100%	693	100%	4,077	100%	419	100%	1,836	100%	390	100%	14	100%	0	100%	0	100%
Sex (%)																		
Male	1,498	76.5%	484	69.8%	2,767	67.9%	266	63.5%	1,357	73.9%	250	64.1%	8	57.1%	na	na	na	na
Female	461	23.5%	209	30.2%	1,310	32.1%	153	36.5%	479	26.1%	140	35.9%	6	42.9%	na	na	na	na
Race/Ethnicity (%)																		
White, Non-Hisp.	730	37.3%	118	17.0%	2,011	49.3%	239	57.0%	654	35.6%	40	10.3%	5	35.7%	na	na	na	na
African-Am/Black, Non-Hisp	422	21.5%	432	62.3%	1,043	25.6%	51	12.2%	376	20.5%	120	30.8%	1	7.1%	na	na	na	na
Hispanic/Latino	539	27.5%	86	12.4%	554	13.6%	71	16.9%	541	29.5%	171	43.8%	2	14.3%	na	na	na	na
Asian	65	3.3%	31	4.5%	101	2.5%	14	3.3%	99	5.4%	19	4.9%	2	14.3%	na	na	na	na
Other	203	10.4%	26	3.8%	368	9.0%	44	10.5%	166	9.0%	40	10.3%	4	28.6%	na	na	na	na
Age Group (%)																		
Under 18	9	0.5%	3	0.4%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	4	0.2%	143	36.7%	0	0.0%	na	na	na	na
18-25	102	5.2%	26	3.8%	216	5.3%	20	4.8%	220	12.0%	93	23.8%	6	42.9%	na	na	na	na
26-44	755	38.5%	184	26.6%	1,738	42.6%	244	58.2%	1,119	60.9%	104	26.7%	6	42.9%	na	na	na	na
45+	1,093	55.8%	480	69.3%	2,123	52.1%	153	36.5%	493	26.9%	50	12.8%	2	14.3%	na	na	na	na
Route of Administration (%)																		
Smoked	0	0.0%	593	85.6%	215	5.3%	21	5.0%	1,207	65.7%	379	97.2%	0	0.0%	na	na	na	na
Inhaled	0	0.0%	78	11.3%	647	15.9%	36	8.6%	130	7.1%	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	na	na	na	na
Injected	0	0.0%	9	1.3%	3,101	76.1%	36	8.6%	432	23.5%	0	0.0%	1	7.1%	na	na	na	na
Oral/Other/Unknown	1,959	100.0%	13	1.9%	114	2.8%	326	77.8%	67	3.6%	10	2.6%	13	92.9%	na	na	na	na
Secondary Substance (%)															na	na	na	na
None	1,560	79.6%	514	74.2%	1,608	39.4%	180	43.0%	1,381	75.2%	225	57.7%	2	14.3%	na	na	na	na
Alcohol	0	0.0%	72	10.4%	124	3.0%	18	4.3%	145	7.9%	92	23.6%	3	21.4%	na	na	na	na
Cocaine/Crack	125	6.4%	0	0.0%	1,025	25.1%	33	7.9%	47	2.6%	25	6.4%	1	7.1%	na	na	na	na
Heroin	22	1.1%	47	6.8%	0	0.0%	49	11.7%	71	3.9%	3	0.8%	1	7.1%	na	na	na	na
Prescription Opioids	8	0.4%	2	0.3%	167	4.1%	43	10.3%	12	0.7%	2	0.5%	1	7.1%	na	na	na	na
Methamphetamine	130	6.6%	24	3.5%	885	21.7%	41	9.8%	0	0.0%	33	8.5%	2	14.3%	na	na	na	na
Marijuana	92	4.7%	33	4.8%	205	5.0%	32	7.6%	135	7.4%	0	0.0%	4	28.6%	na	na	na	na
Benzodiazepines	4	0.2%	1	0.1%	53	1.3%	19	4.5%	3	0.2%	3	0.8%	0	0.0%	na	na	na	na
Synthetic Stimulants	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	na	na	na	na
Synthetic Cannabinoids	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	na	na	na	na

**NOTES:**

**\*Admissions:** Each admission does not necessarily represent a unique individual because some individuals are admitted to treatment more than once in a given period.

**unavail:** Data not available; **na:** Not applicable; **Percentages** may not sum to 100 due to missing data, rounding, and/or because not all possible categories are presented in the table. Category frequencies may not sum to drug total due to missing data and/or not all possible categories are presented in the table.

**SOURCE:** Data provided to the San Francisco SCE by the San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFPDH), Community Behavioral Health Services Division.

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## Sources

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### DATA FOR THIS REPORT WERE DRAWN FROM THE FOLLOWING SOURCES:

**Treatment admissions data** for San Francisco County were provided by the Community Behavioral Health Services Division of the San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFPDH). Treatment episodes include clients admitted in prior years who are still receiving services in a particular year (e.g., methadone maintenance clients).

**Hospital admission and emergency department visit data** for San Francisco County were provided by the California Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development.

**Drug mortality data** were taken from the National Vital Statistics System-Mortality data, with additional information provided by the California Electronic Death Record System (CA-EDRS).

**Drug seizure data** were provided by the National Forensic Laboratory Information System (NFLIS), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). Data were retrieved on Identified Drugs of Total Analyzed Drug Reports, San Francisco, 2015 and 2016, NFLIS, DEA. NFLIS methodology allows for the accounting of up to three drugs per item submitted for analysis. The data presented are a combined count including primary, secondary, and tertiary reports for each drug.

**Buprenorphine Prescription data** were provided by the California Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System (CURES 2.0).

**Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) surveillance and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) data** were provided by the San Francisco Department of Public Health, *Population Health Division, Applied Research, Community Health Epidemiology, and Surveillance Branch, HIV Semi-Annual Surveillance Report, HIV/AIDS Cases Reported Through December 2017*, accessed at <https://www.sfdph.org/dph/comupg/oprograms/hivepise/HIVepiSecReports.asp>.

**Viral hepatitis data** was obtained from Facente SN, Grebe E, Burk K, et al. Estimated hepatitis C prevalence and key population sizes in San Francisco: A foundation for elimination. *PLoS One*. 2018; 13(4): e0195575.

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