

# Prescription Opioid Drug Misuse and Heroin Use in El Paso County: Scope and Impact of the Problem

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# Objectives

- Understand the scope of the prescription opioid drug misuse and heroin use problem in Colorado and El Paso County
- Discuss factors contributing to the growth in prescription opioid drug misuse and heroin use
- Highlight community efforts to address the opioid crisis in our community

# What's the big deal?

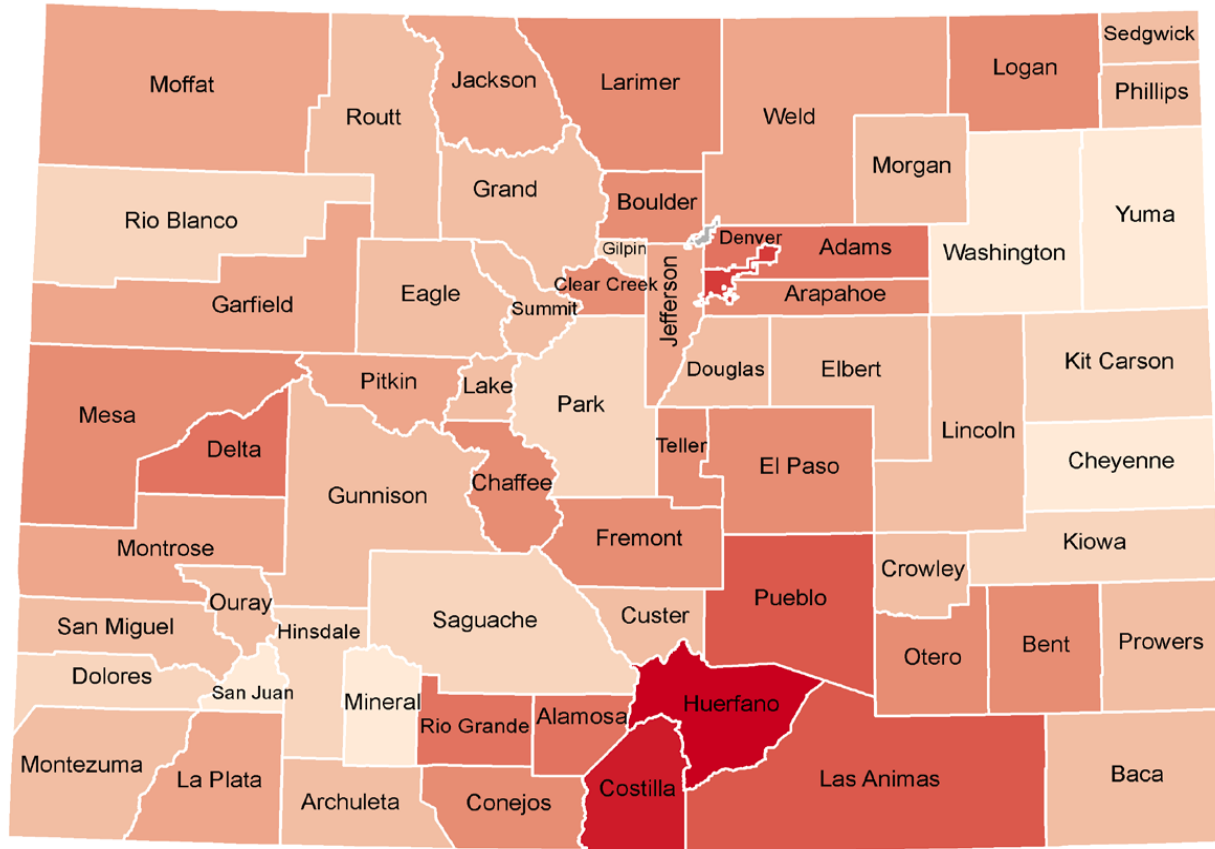
# Drug Overdose Mortality

- In 2016, over 51,000 people died from drug overdoses in the United States
  - ❖ One every 10 minutes
  - ❖ Nearly 60% of those deaths involved prescription drugs
  - ❖ Painkillers (opioids) were involved in 75% of those deaths
- In Colorado, opioid related drug overdose deaths now number ~600/year
- In 2016, 120 people died from an opioid related overdose in El Paso County

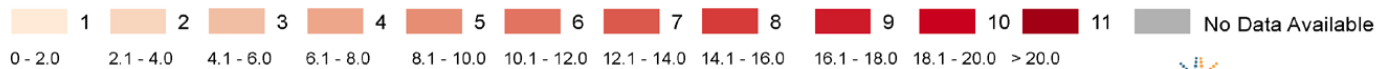
# Drug Overdose Mortality (cont.)

- Since 2003, more overdose deaths have involved opioids than heroin and cocaine combined
- The problem knows no regional, gender, age, income, or other bounds: it is truly an epidemic (CDC: top four)

### Colorado Drug Overdose Death Rate, 2002



Legend (rate per 100,000)

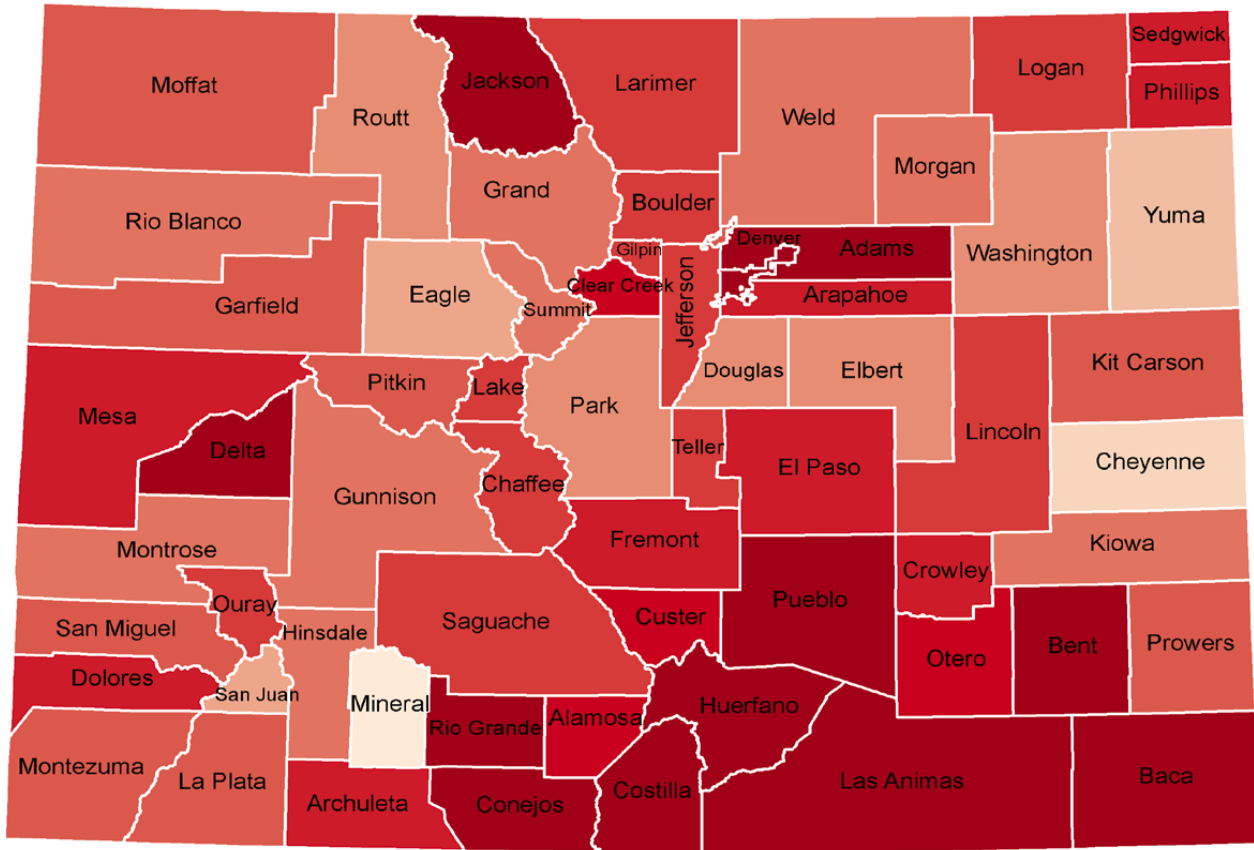


Source: CHI analysis of CDC National Vital Statistics System Mortality Data



Improving the health and wellbeing of the Pikes Peak community through collaboration

### Colorado Drug Overdose Death Rate, 2014



Legend (rate per 100,000)



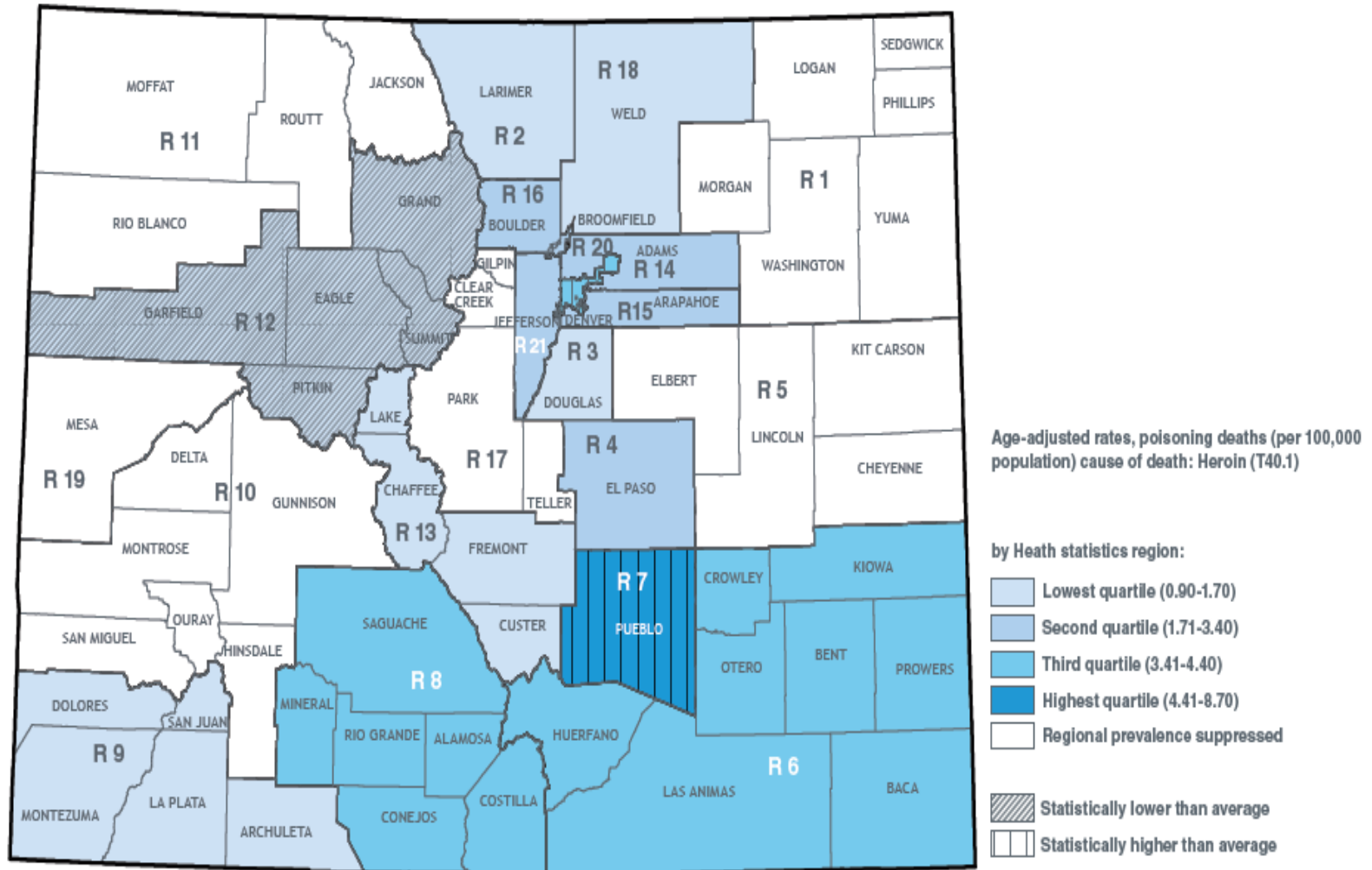
# Drug Overdose Mortality in Colorado

Colorado Drug Overdose Death Rate, 2014

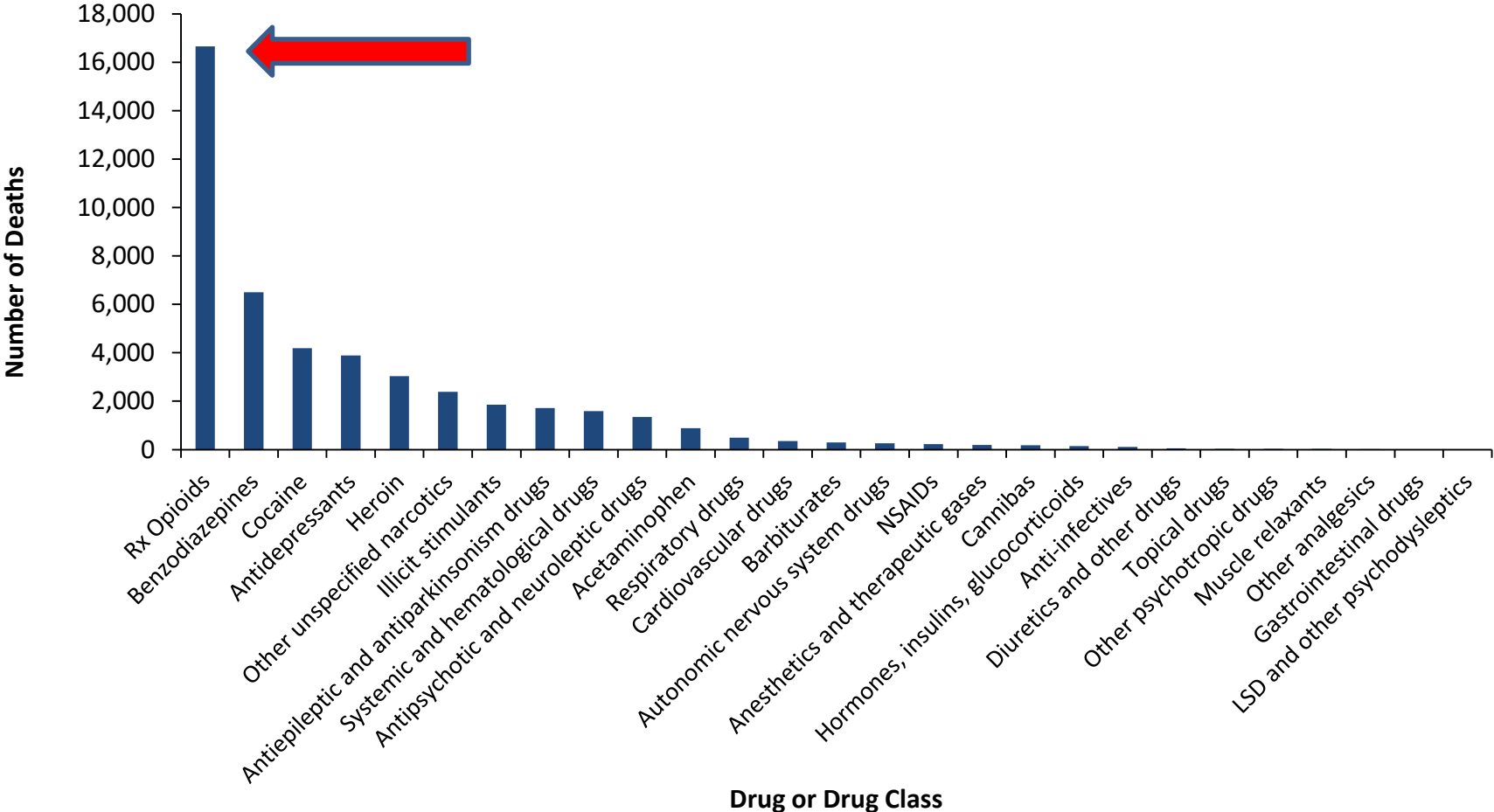




# Heroin Overdose Death Rates: 2013 - 2015

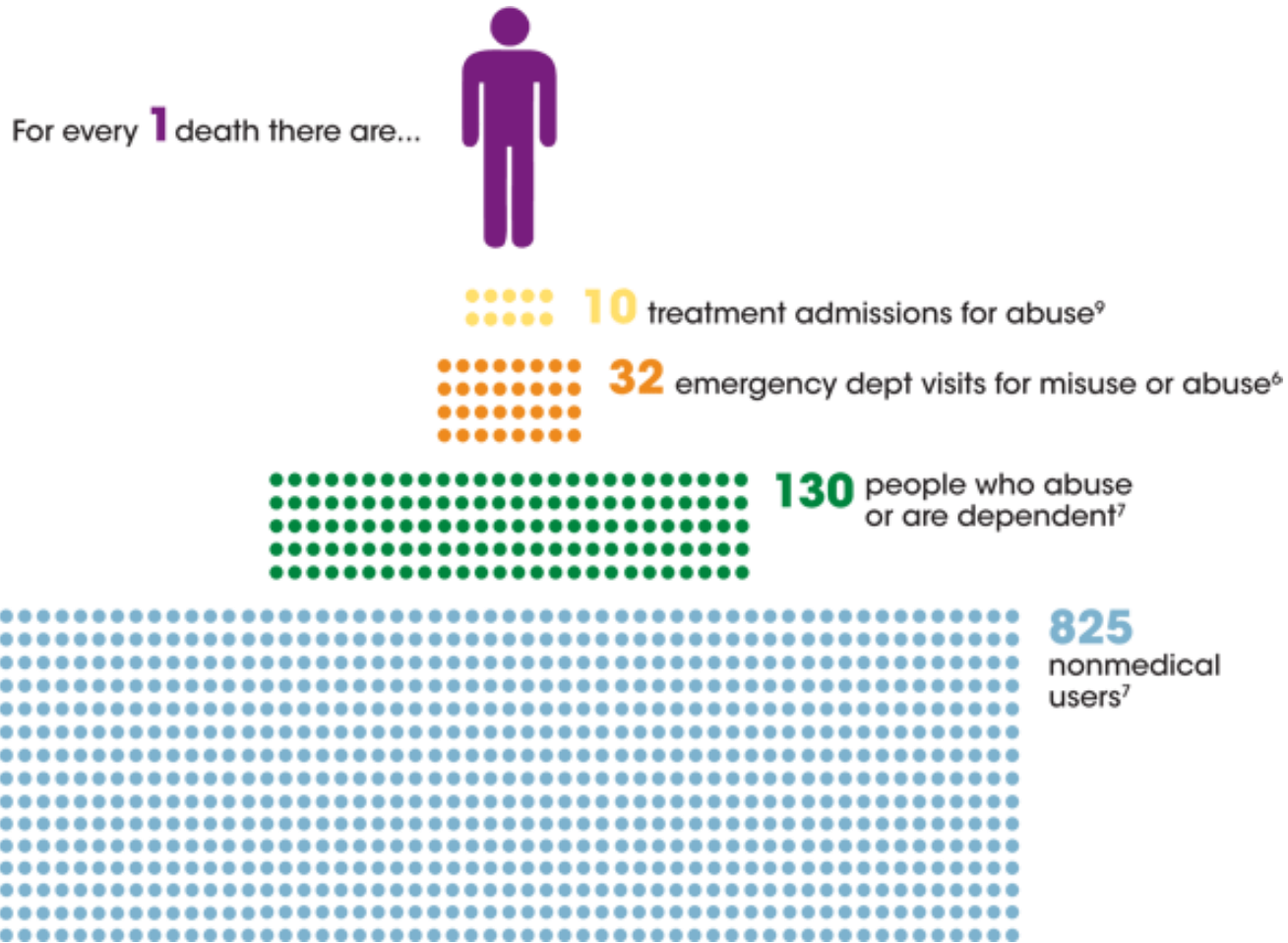


# Prescription Drugs: primary driver of Overdose Deaths in United States



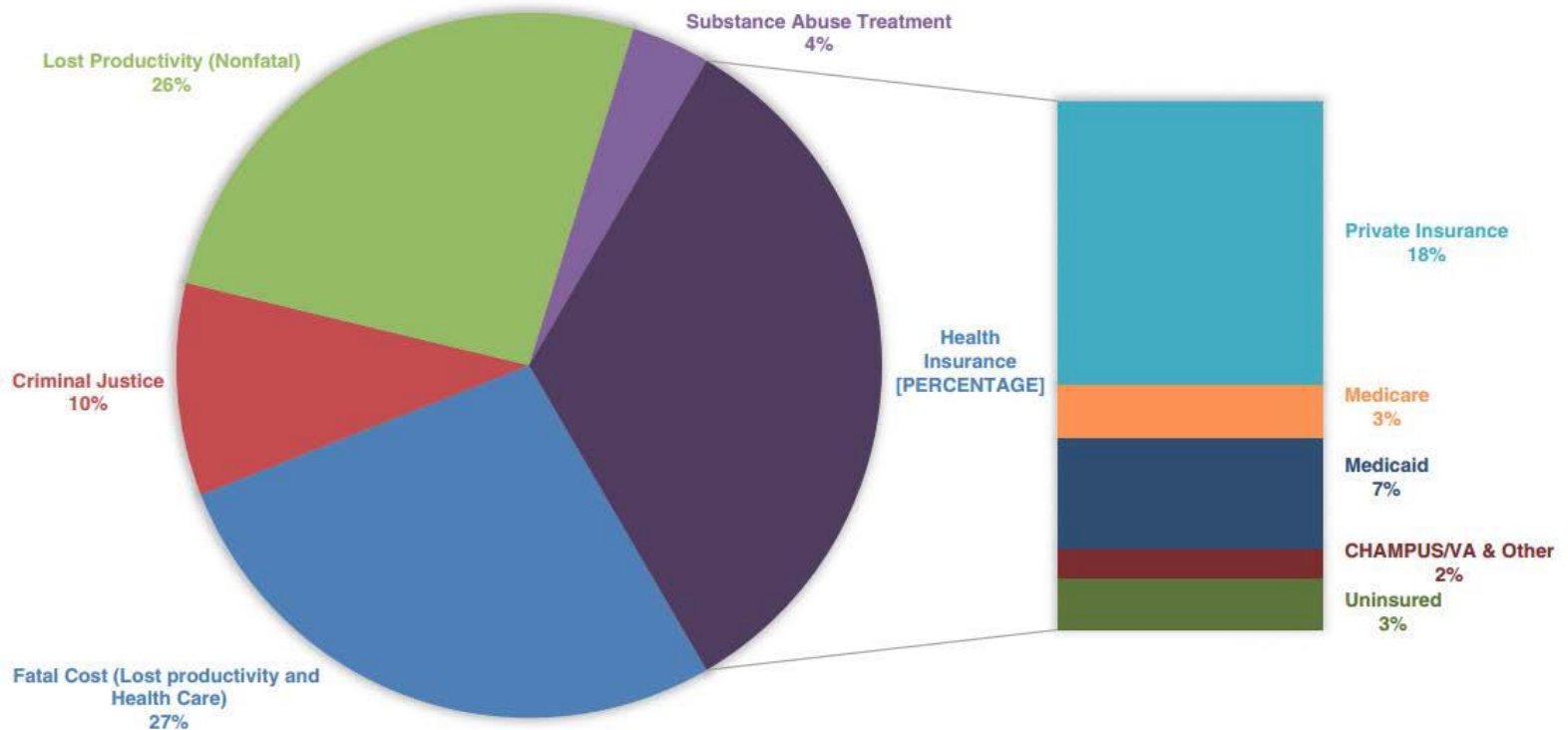
# Deaths are the Tip of the Iceberg

For every opioid overdose death in 2013 there were. . .



# Cost to the System: Prescription Opioids

## Distribution of the Economic Burden of Prescription Opioid Overdose, Abuse and Dependence



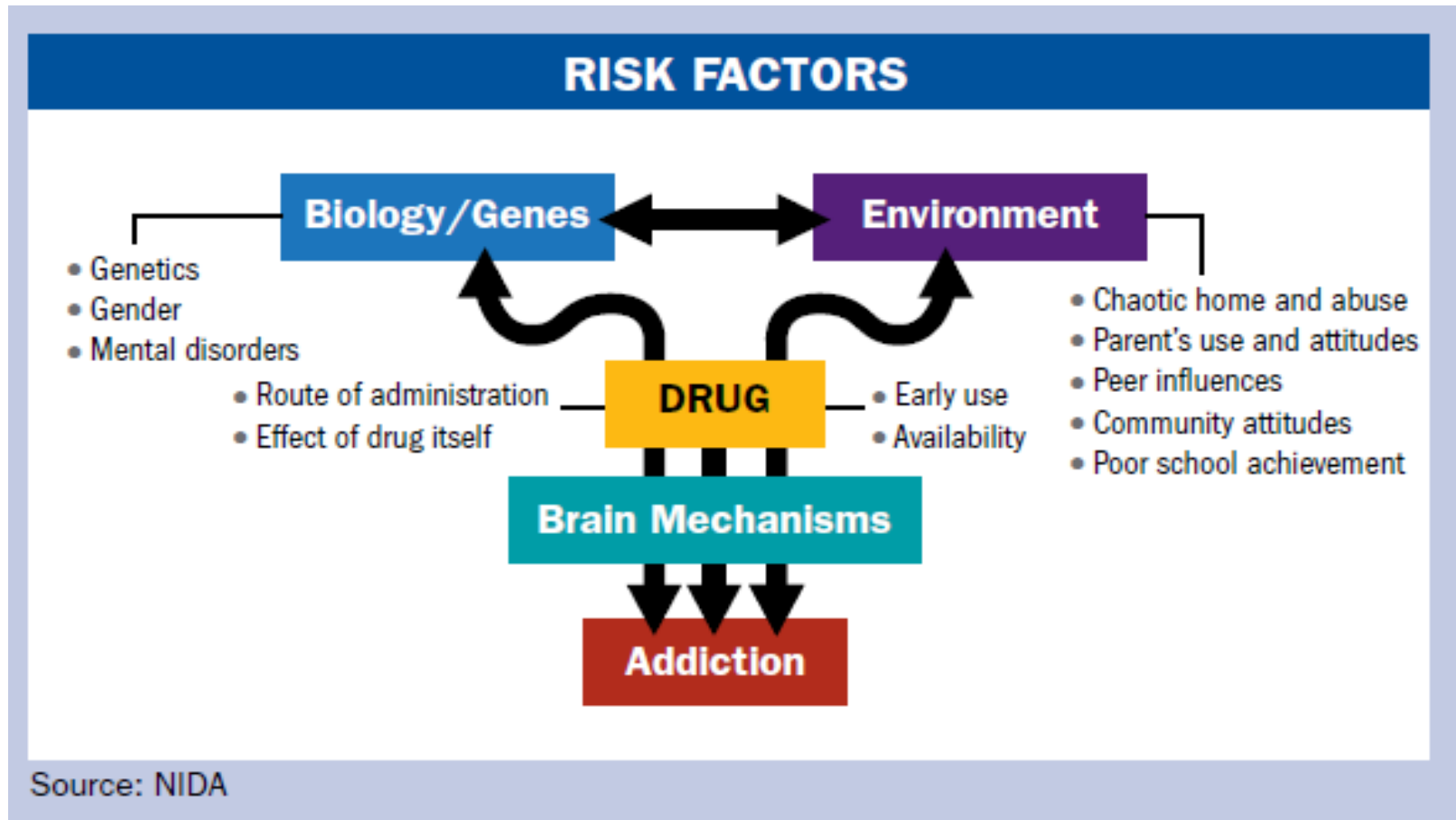
# How did we get here?

# The “Perfect Storm” of Opioids

- Over past 25 years: rapid increase in amount of opioids being prescribed and dispensed
- Causes of the increase?
  - Increased recognition of pain, under-treatment of pain
  - Pain as the “fifth vital sign”, JCAHO quality measure, etc.
  - Drug company advertising and promotion
  - Practitioners are not well trained in pain management, opioid pharmacology, and addiction
  - Drugs are very powerful, highly addictive if not used properly
  - Scamming, doctor/pharmacy shopping, black market for opioids

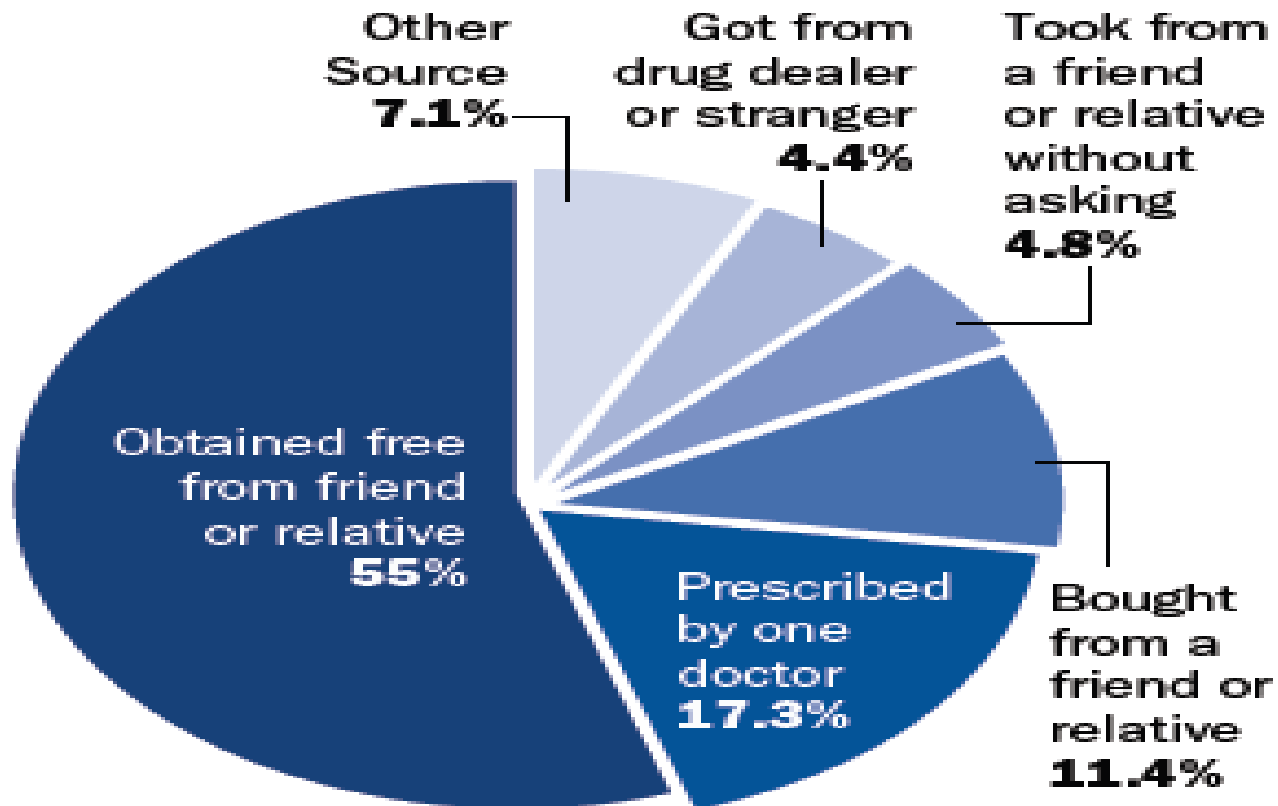
# How does this problem start?

# Risk Factors for Prescription Opioid Drug Misuse and Heroin Use





# Sources of Opioids among Nonmedical Users

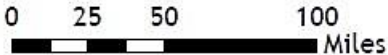
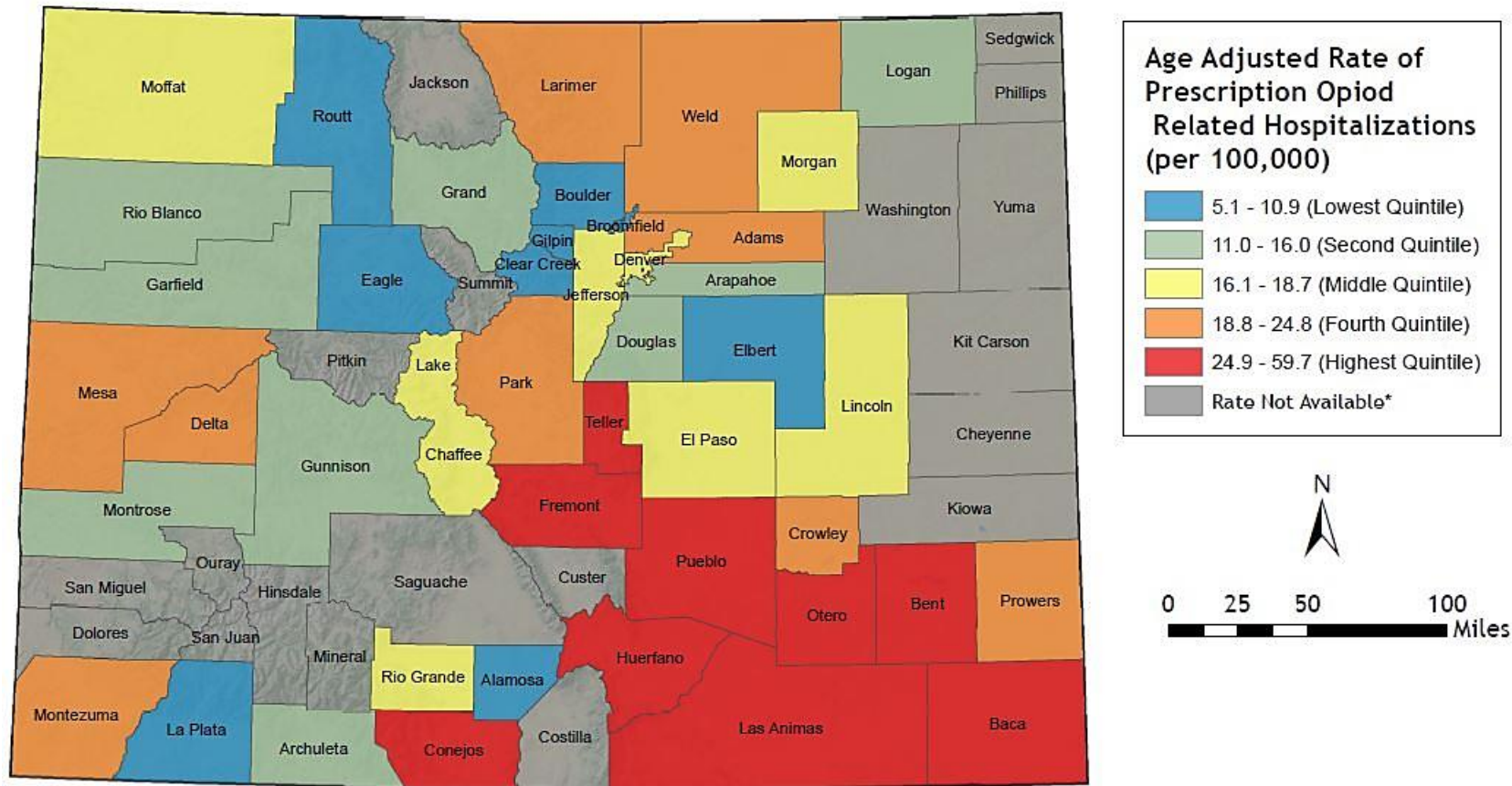


# What does the problem look like in El Paso County?

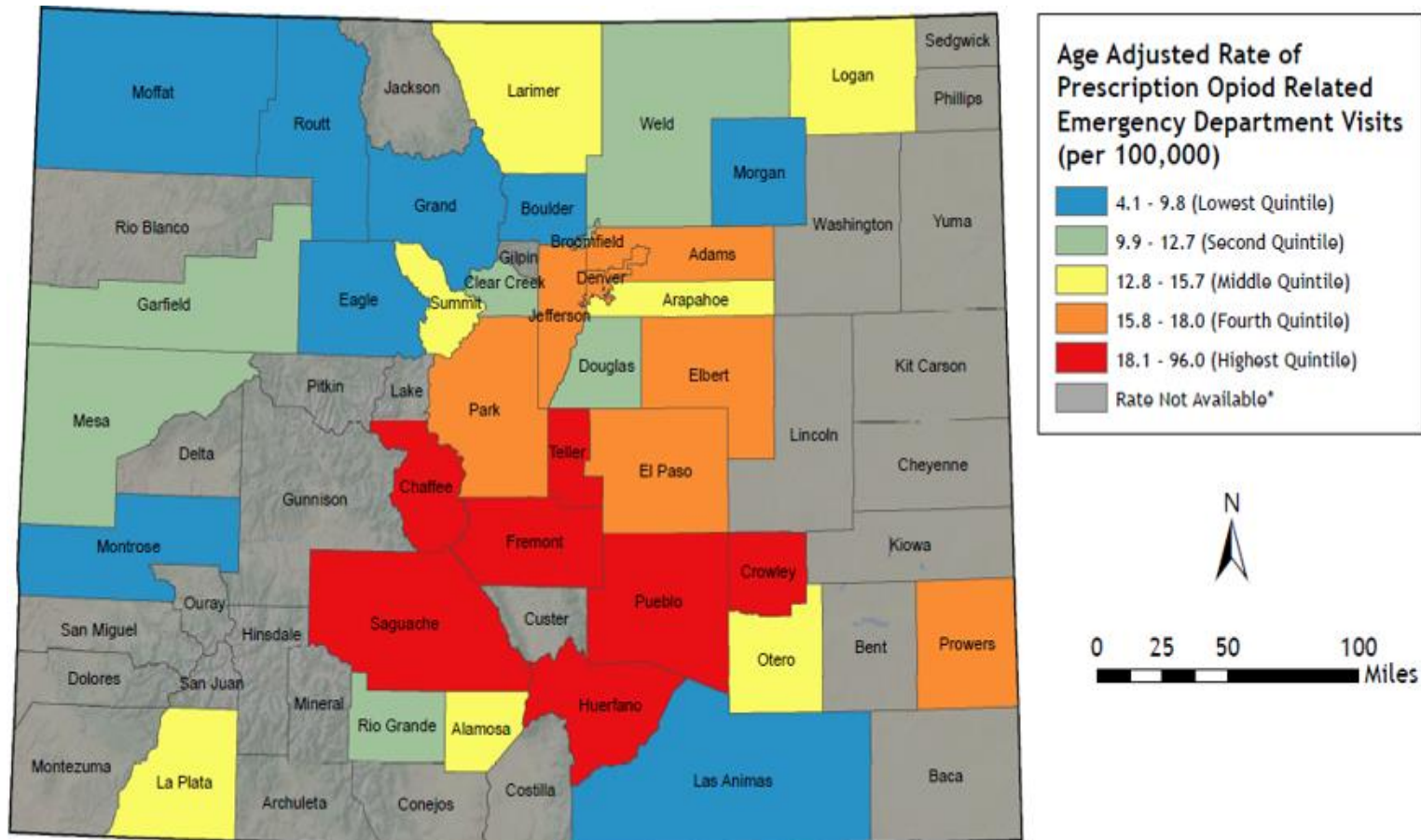
# Controlled Substance Prescriptions Dispensed in El Paso County in 2016

- 767 opioid prescriptions written per 1,000 residents; nearly **538,000** prescriptions in total (based on an approximate population of 688,000)
- Over **30,606,000** opioid pills were dispensed based on the “average of 58 pills per prescription”
- Over **2,000** pounds of opioid pills were dispensed

# Opioid Overdose Hospitalizations: 2013-2015



# Opioid Overdose ED Visits: 2013-2015



# What is being done in El Paso County?

# Coalition for Prevention, Addiction Education and Recovery

# Vision Statement:

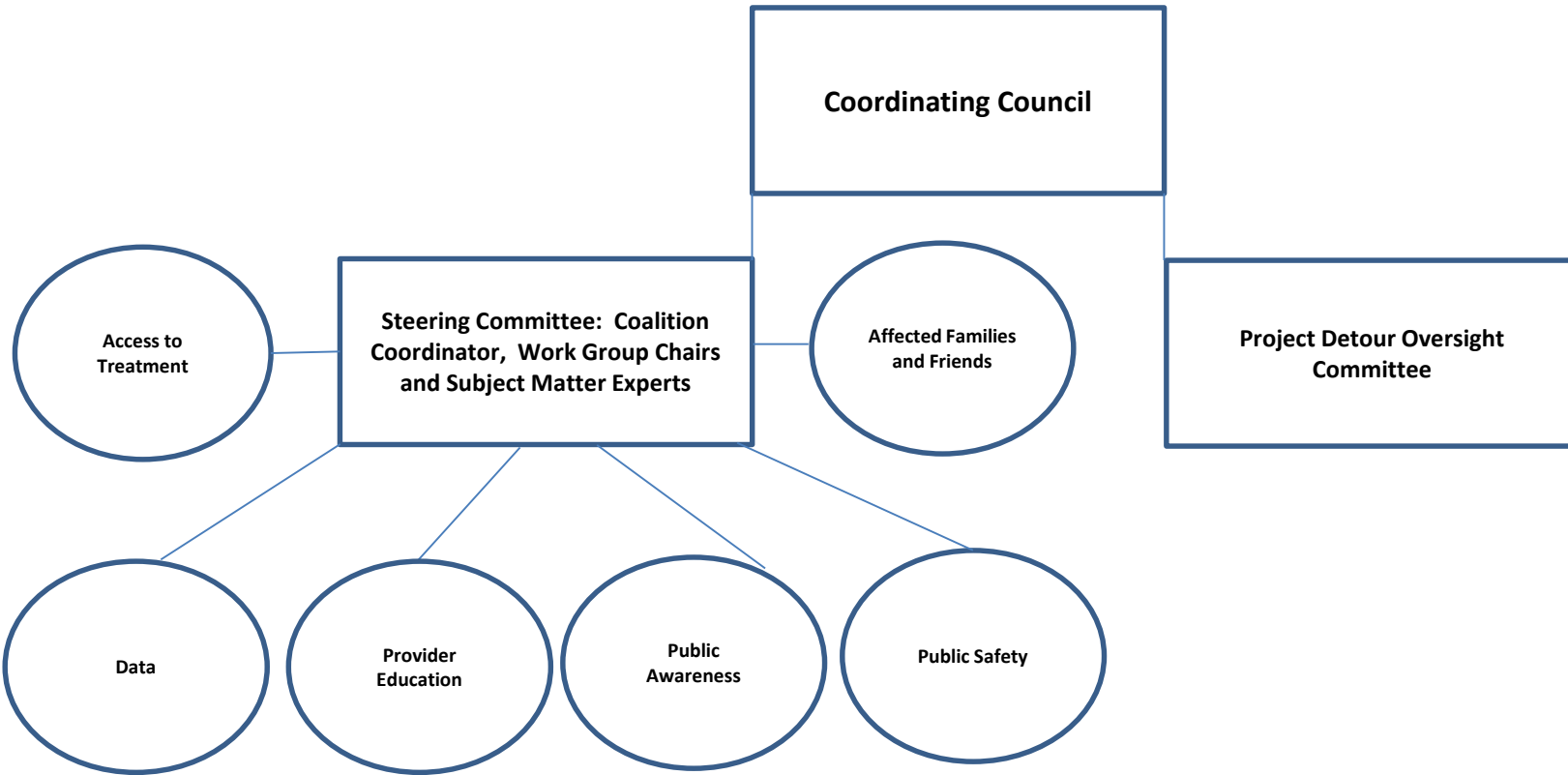
We are a safe, informed, and thriving community of engaged individuals making healthy choices free of substance misuse.

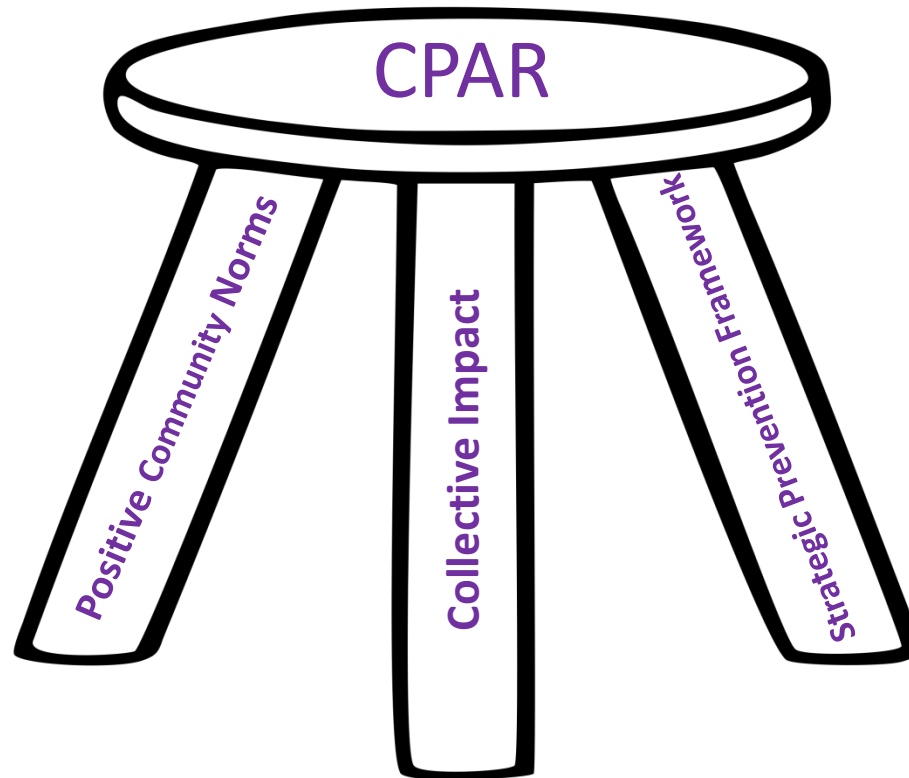


# Mission Statement:

To build a sustainable community of partnerships committed to preventing and reducing substance misuse by promoting a culture of wellness through education, prevention, treatment and recovery support.

# Organizational Structure of CPAR





# Grants Received by Community Health Partnership

- Community Readiness Assessment, funded by the Colorado Health Foundation, to identify El Paso County's level of readiness to address the opioid crisis
- Project Detour: National Grant from BUILD Funders to fund a pilot program for women who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, addicted to alcohol or opioids, and involved with the criminal justice system

# Questions?

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