

# Opioids in Vermont: Prevalence, Risk, and Impact

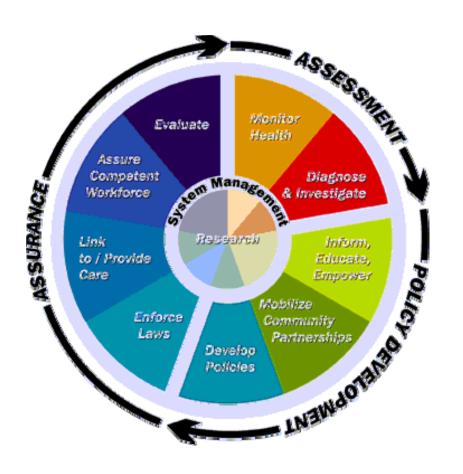
October 27, 2016



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### **Essential Public Health Services**



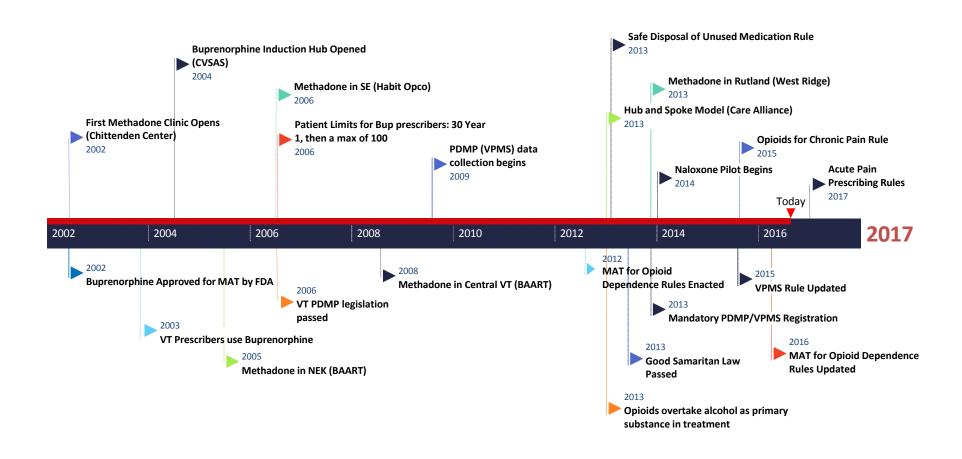
- Monitor Health to Identify and Solve Community Health Problems
- Inform, Educate, and
   Empower People About
   Health Issues

### Agenda

- The current status in Vermont
- □ Fatal overdoses
- Non-fatal overdoses
- Prevalence
- Treatment
- □ Crime
- □ So what? (Implications)

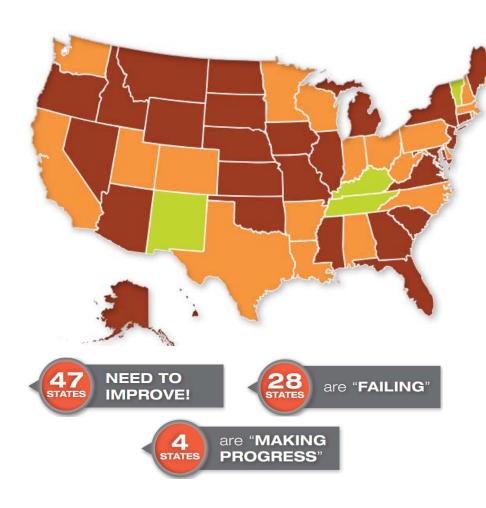


## Timeline: Addressing Opioid Misuse and Addiction in Vermont





# VT is one of four states "making progress" in policy according to the National Safety Council



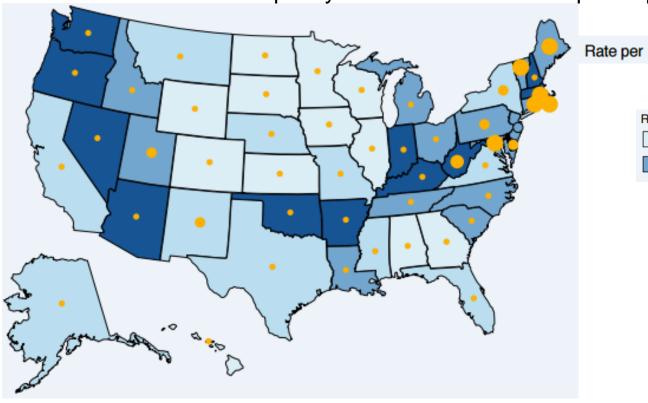
#### **Areas Assessed:**

- Mandatory Prescriber Education
- Opioid Prescribing Guidelines
- Eliminating Pill Mills (VT doesn't have them but also doesn't have legislation to eliminate/prevent them)
- Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs
- Increased Access to Naloxone
- Availability of Opioid Use Disorder Treatment

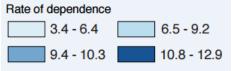
In Place Not in Place

# Vermont has one of the highest rates of treatment capacity

Rate of Past Year Opioid Abuse or Dependence\* and Rate of Medication Assisted Treatment Capacity with Methadone or Buprenorphine



Rate per 1,000 persons aged 12 years and older



Source: NSDUH 2003-2012

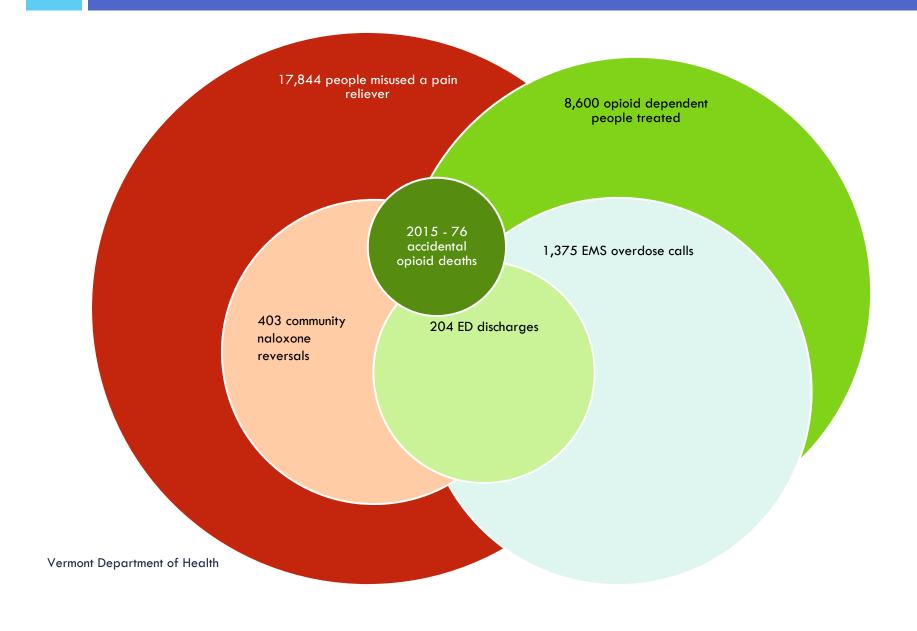


Source: N-SSATS 2003-2012

<sup>\*</sup>Opioid abuse or dependence includes prescription opioids and/or heroin

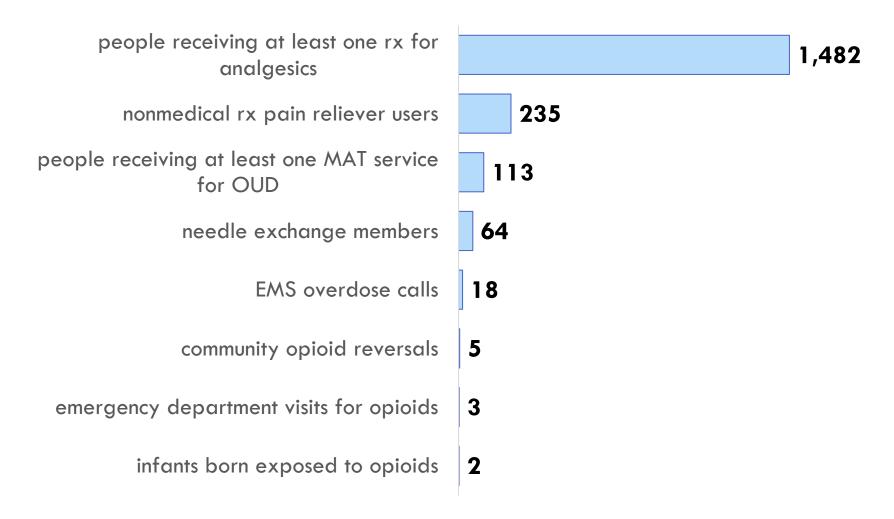


## People can be in many of our data sources





# For every 1 fatal opioid overdose in VT there are:

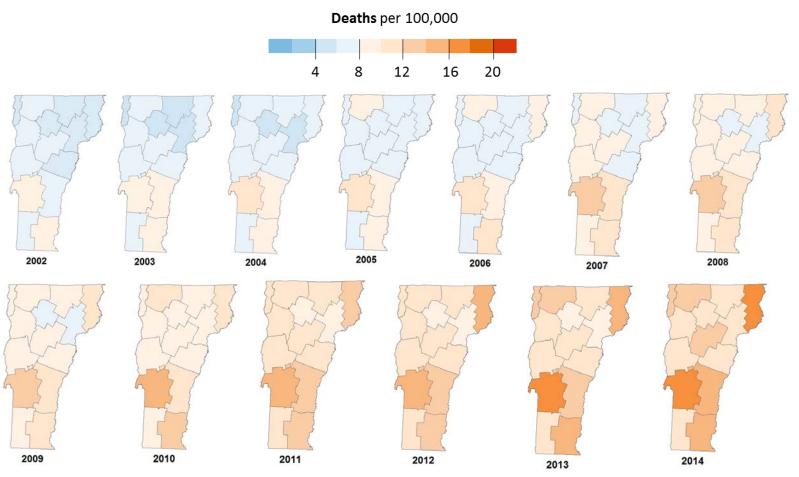


## **Fatalities**

### **Vermont Drug Poisoning Estimated Deaths by County**

(All Drug Poisoning Deaths)

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Drug Poisoning Mortality: United States, 2002-2014



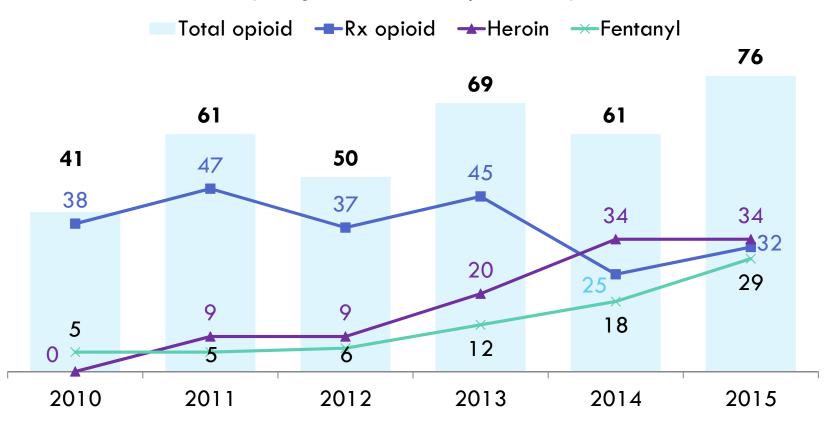
Vermont's 2014 age adjusted rate of drug poisoning deaths is the same as the U.S. average at approximately 14.7 per 100,000 Vermonters.



January 2016

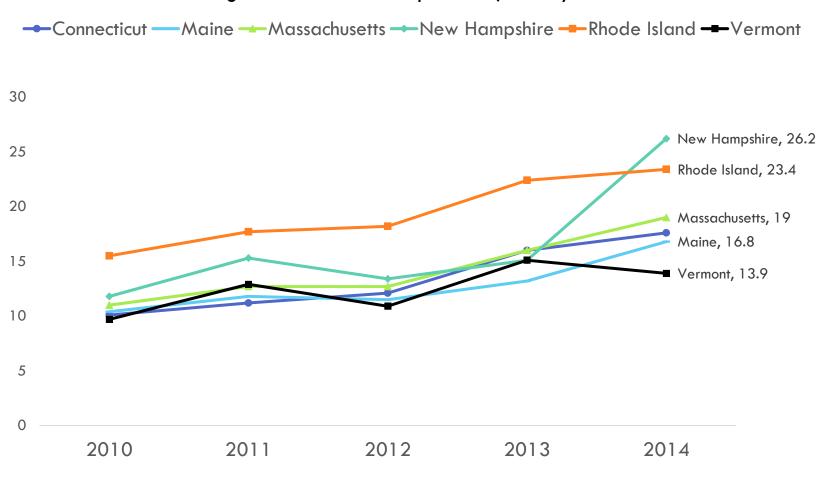
## Drug-Related Fatalities Involving Opioids

Total number of accidental and undetermined manner drug-related fatalities involving an opioid (categories not mutually exclusive)



### New England Drug Overdose Deaths by State and Year

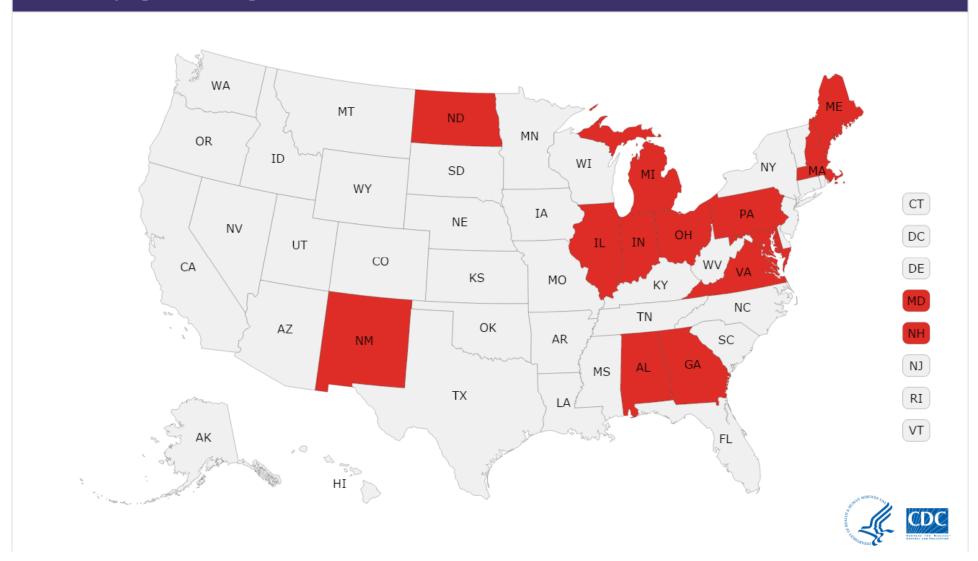
#### Drug Overdose Deaths per 100,000 by State



Vermont Department of Health

Source: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, mortality data. Includes opioids and other drugs

### Statistically significant drug overdose death rate increase from 2013 to 2014, US states



## Non-fatal overdose

### Key Surveillance Needs

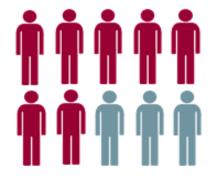
Respond to emerging issues

## The heroin increase is an offshoot of the opioid epidemic



3 out of 4 people who used heroin in the past year misused

opioids first



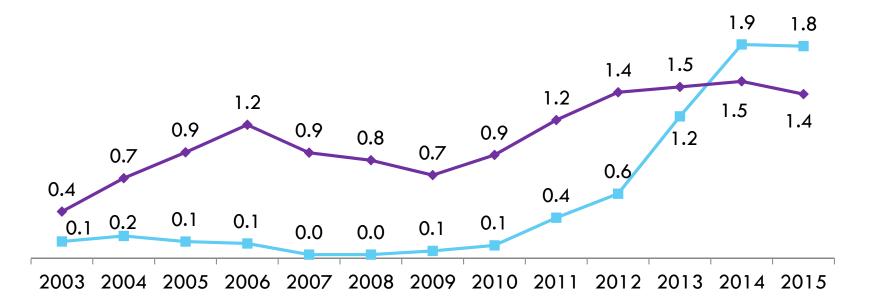
7 out of 10 people who used heroin in the

past year also misused opioids in the past year

Jones, C.M., Heroin use and heroin use risk behaviors among nonmedical users of prescription opioid pain relievers – United States, 2002–2004 and 2008–2010. Drug Alcohol Depend. (2013).

### Syndromic Surveillance

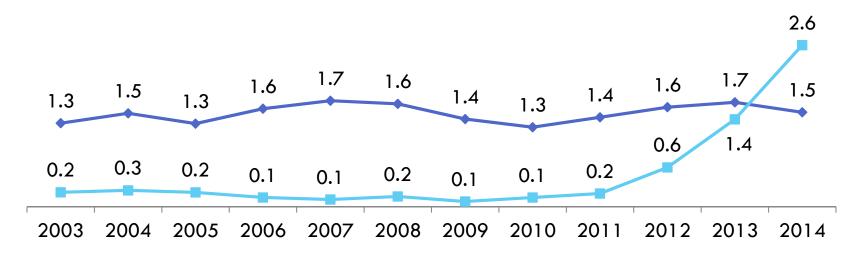
#### Syndromic Surveillance Rate per 10,000 Vermonters



### **Emergency Department Discharge Data**

Emergency Department Discharge Rate per 100,000 People for Opioid Overdose, by Type of Opioid and Year Vermont Residents at Vermont Hospitals

→Other opioids → Heroin

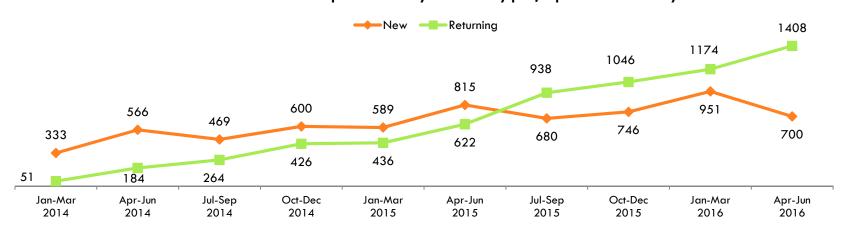


### EMS – SIREN data system

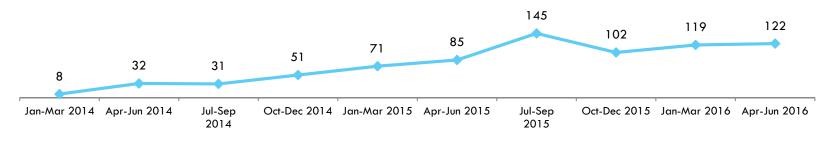
- Data are newly being used for opioid surveillance purposes –
   cases are not well defined
- Data are available immediately, but analysis takes a long time
- Data are based on first impression and reason for call
- Preliminary Data
  - □ In 2014 there were 1,257 potential overdose responses
  - □ In 2015 there were 1,361 potential overdose responses
  - These comprise approximately 1.5% of all calls.

### Naloxone

#### Number of doses dispensed by client type, quarter and year



## Number of reports of naloxone use in response to a perceived overdose incident



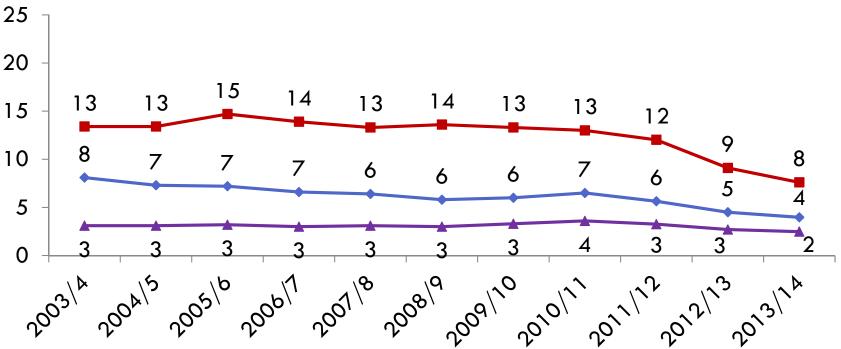
## Prevalence

Vermont Department of Health

## Non-medical use of prescription pain relievers in Vermont

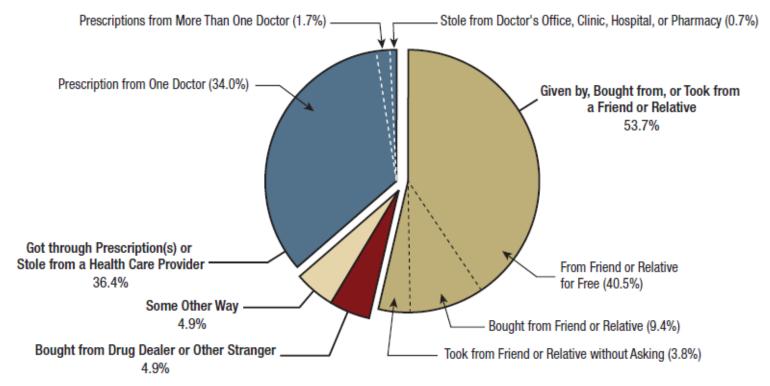
Percent of Vermont population reporting non-medical use of pain relievers in the past year by age in years.





## Nationally, over half of those who misused a prescription pain reliever got it from a friend or relative.

Figure 24. Source Where Pain Relievers Were Obtained for Most Recent Misuse among People Aged 12 or Older Who Misused Prescription Pain Relievers in the Past Year: Percentages, 2015



12.5 Million People Aged 12 or Older Who Misused Pain Relievers in the Past Year

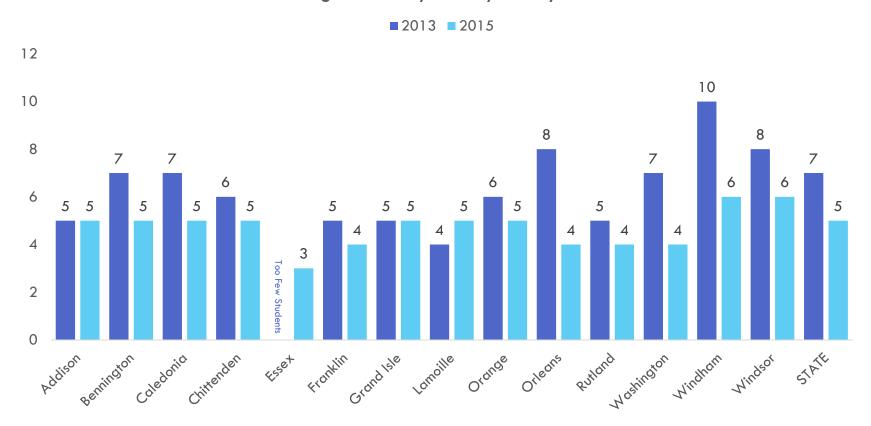
Note: The percentages do not add to 100 percent due to rounding.

Note: Respondents with unknown data for the Source for Most Recent Misuse or who reported Some Other Way but did not specify a valid way were excluded.

Source: National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2015

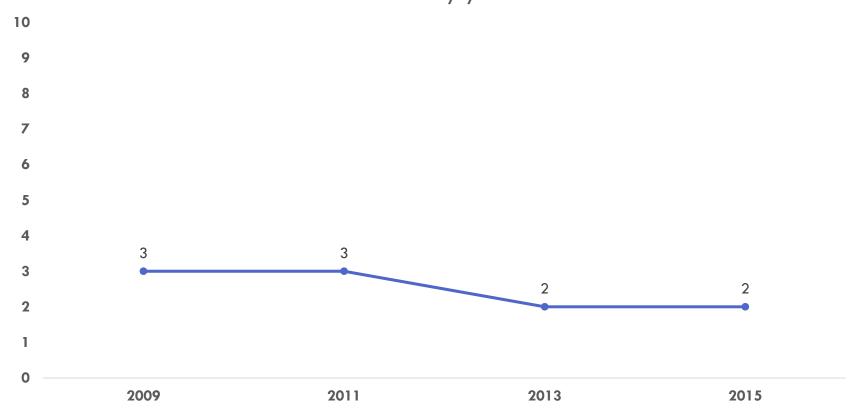
# High School prescription drug misuse decreased in almost every county from 2013 to 2015

Percent of high school students reporting past 30 day prescription drug misuse by county and year



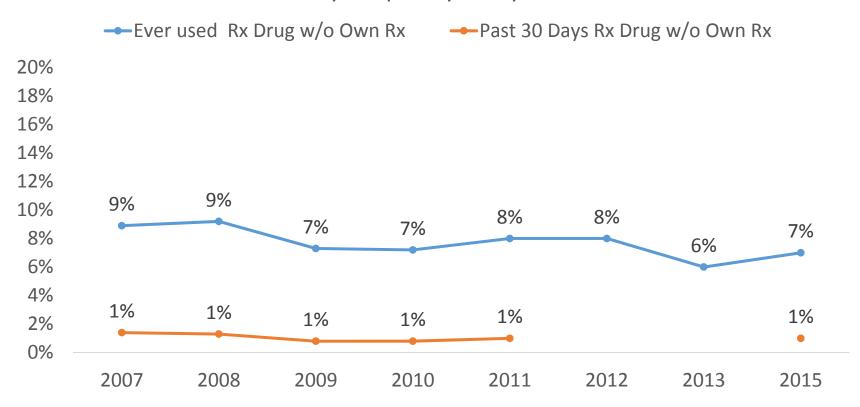
## Heroin use among high school students remains low

Percent of high school students reporting heroin use within their lifetime by year



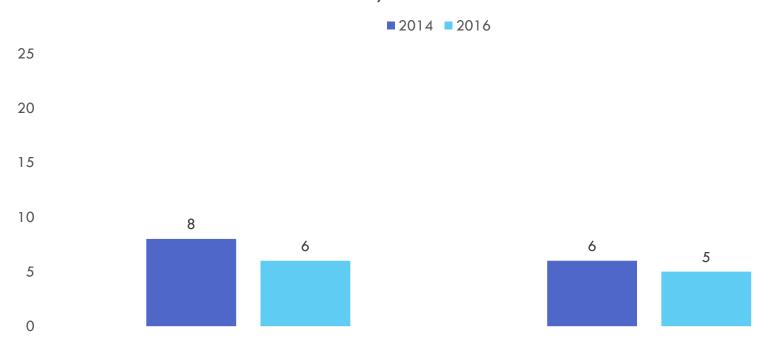
### Percent of Adults Who Report Prescription Drug Misuse

## Percent of adults (18+) who report prescription drug misuse by frequency and year



### Opioid Misuse – Young Adult Survey\* & College Health Survey

Percent of young adults who report opioid misuse in the past year by data source



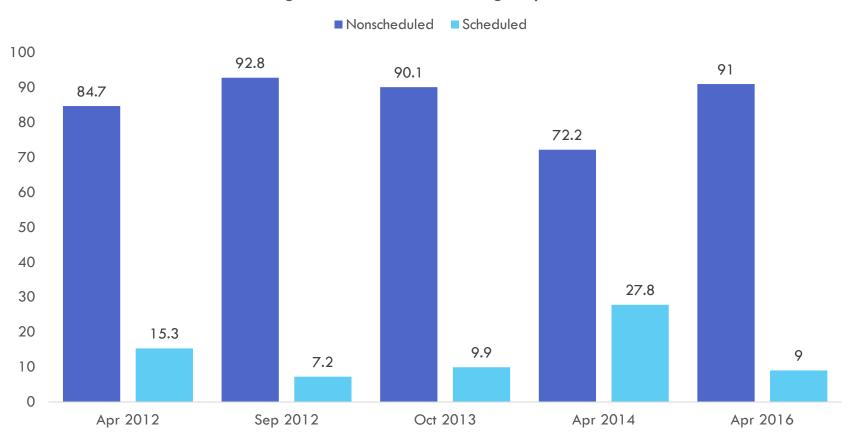
Young Adult Survey
\*Young Adult Survey conducted by the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation under a contract with VDH

College Health Survey

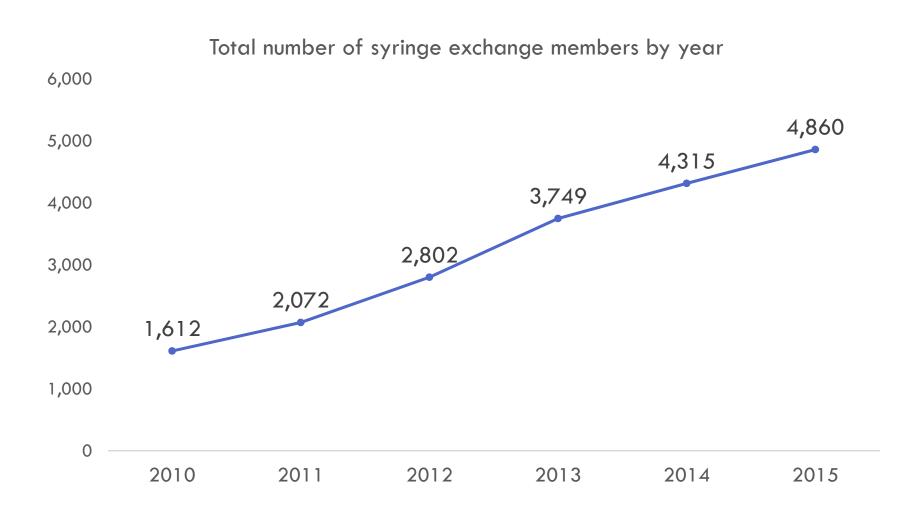
Source: Young Adult Survey and College Health Survey

# The vast majority of drugs recovered at take back days are non-scheduled

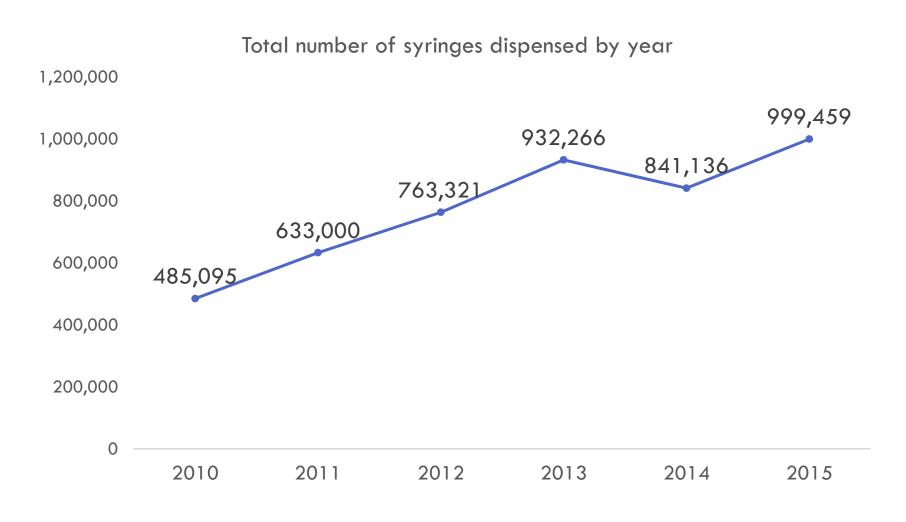
### Percent of Burlington "take back" drugs by schedule and date



# The total number of needle exchange members is increasing rapidly



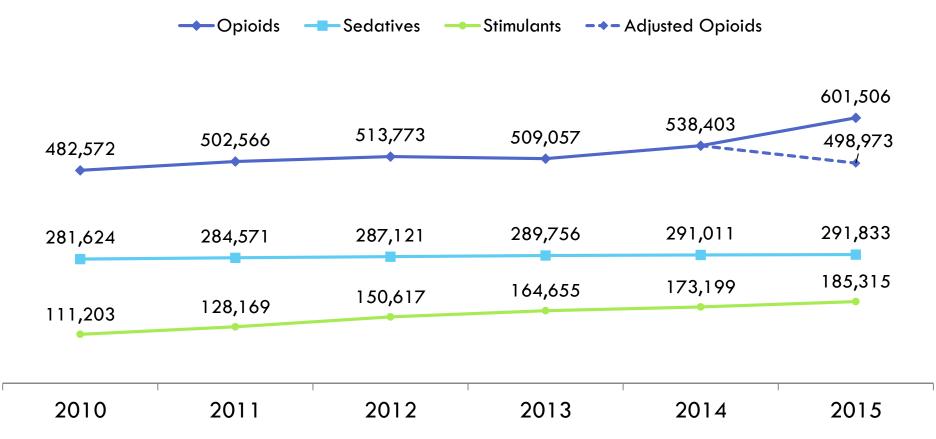
### The total number of needles dispensed almost hit 1 million



Source: Vermont Syringe Exchange Programs

## Number of Prescriptions by Drug Type and Year





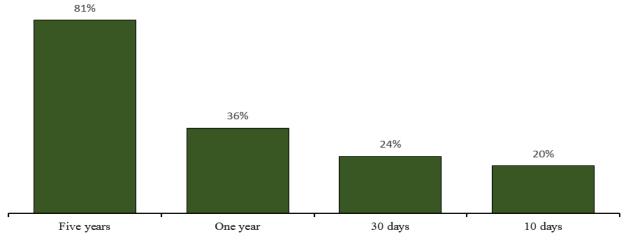
**Note:** The 2015 Annual Report reflects the first full year of VPMS data with tramadol reclassified from a Schedule V to a Schedule IV drug. Its inclusion in VPMS data due to this reclassification resulted in an increase of 82,992 opioid prescriptions being reported to VPMS 2015. Additionally, the White River Junction Veterans Affairs Medical Center began uploading to VPMS in March of 2015. It uploaded 19,541 opioid prescriptions in 2015. Had these two new data sources not been provided to VPMS in 2015, the number of opioid prescriptions would have decreased for the first time since 2010. (See the Adjusted Opioids trend line.)



## Prescription histories of Individuals with opioid-related accidental fatalities (ORAF)

- In 2015, 68 of 75 ORAF individuals had controlled substance prescription histories
- □ Of the 68, 81% received high dose (≥90 MME) analgesics in the period before their deaths
- ORAF's with an opioid prescription in the year prior to fatality received average of 261 days' supply in that year.

#### % of ORAF with $\geq$ 90 MME Opioid Rx by Time Elapsed Before Death



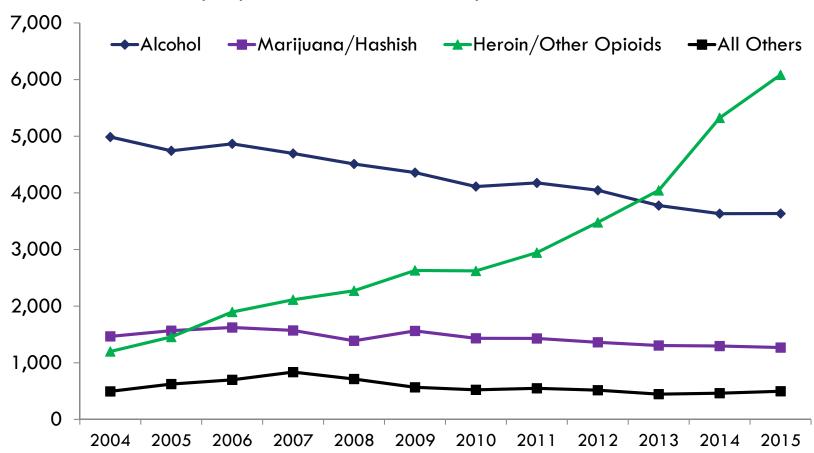
Vermont Department of Health

Source: Vermont Prescription Monitoring System and Vital Statistics

## **Treatment**

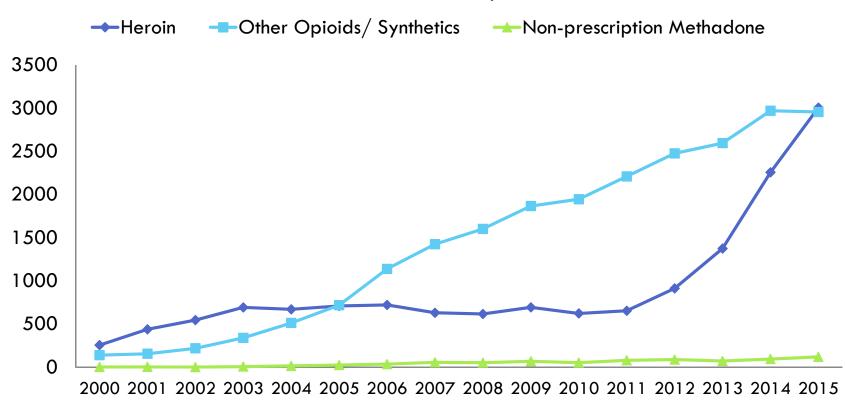
# The number of people using heroin at treatment admission is increasing faster than for other opioids





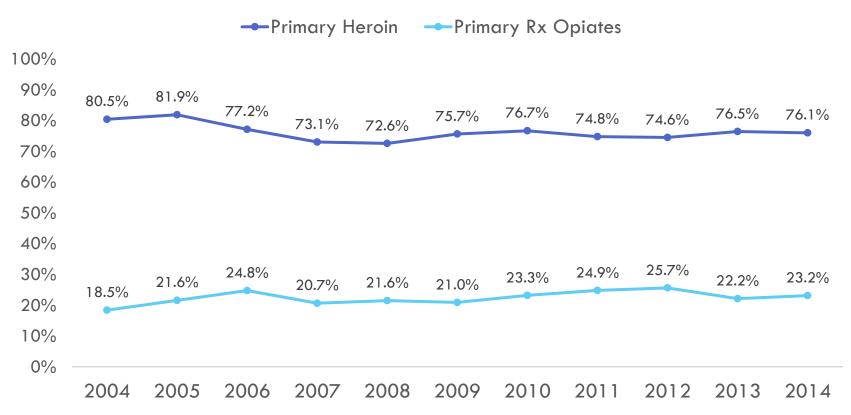
# The number of individuals using heroin at treatment admission has increased in the last five years

#### Number of People Treated by Type of Opioid Being Used on Admission to Treatment by Fiscal Year



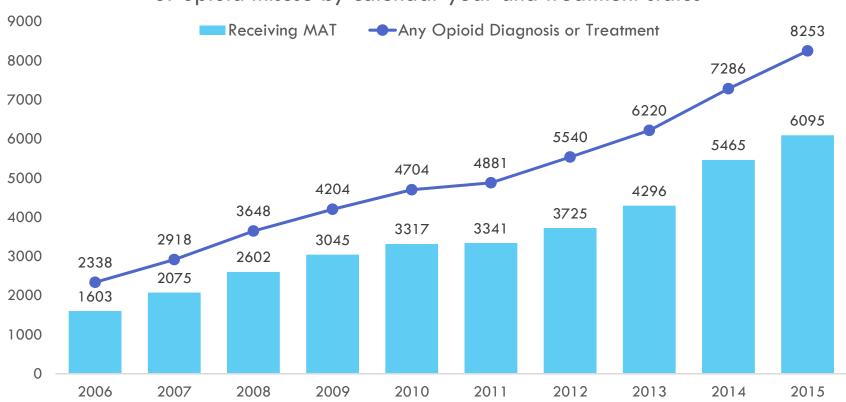
# While more heroin users inject than prescription drug users, the percent has remained fairly stable

Percent of individuals treated for primary diagnosis of opioid misuse who are injection drug users by type of opioid and year



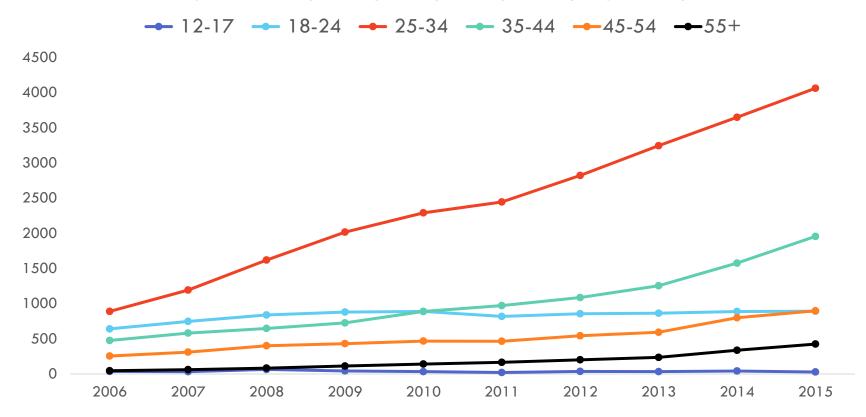
# Most Medicaid recipients with an opioid misuse diagnosis are receiving medication assisted treatment

Number of Medicaid recipients with at least one primary diagnosis of opioid misuse by calendar year and treatment status



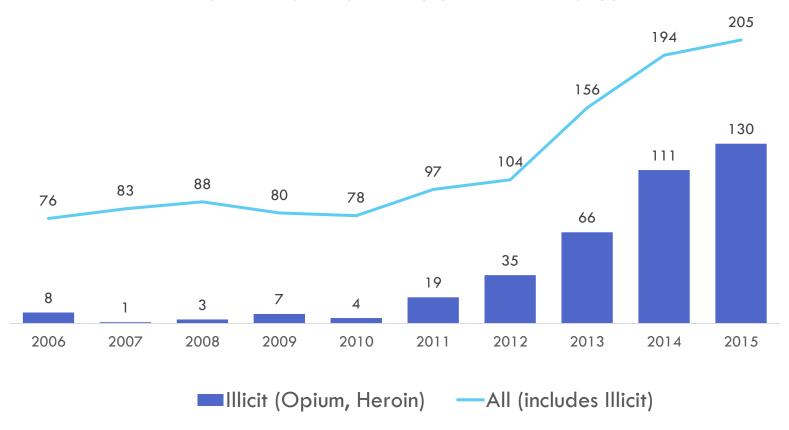
#### Medicaid recipients between 25 and 44 make up the vast majority of those treated for opioid misuse

Number of Medicaid recipients with at least one primary opioid diagnosis or buprenorphine prescription by age and year

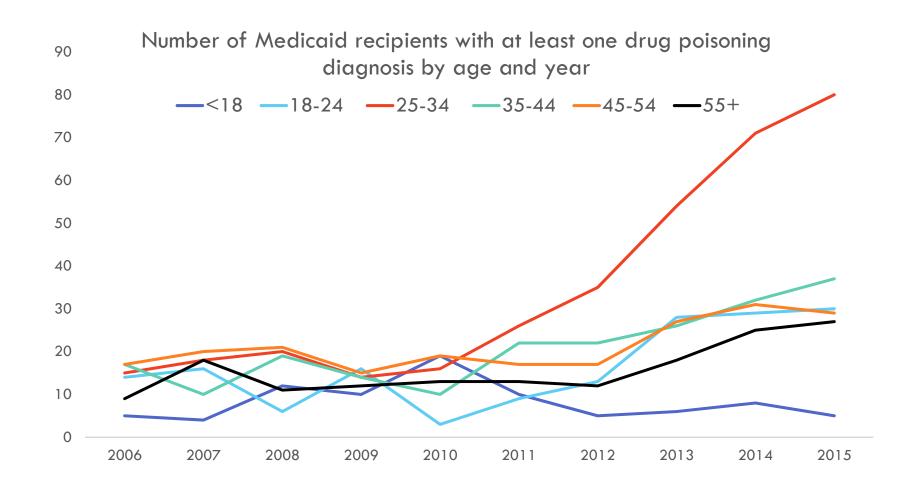


# Drug poisoning diagnosis (overdose) among Medicaid recipients is driven by illicit opioids

Number of Medicaid recipients with at least one primary opioid poisoning diagnosis by year and drug type

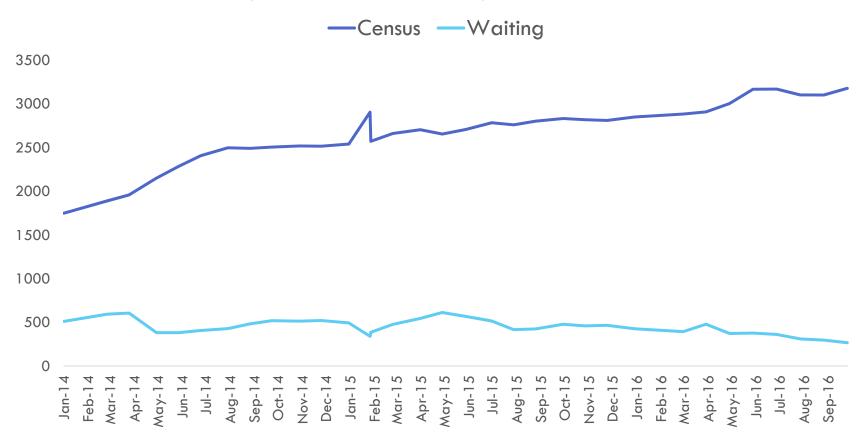


### Medicaid recipients between 25 and 34 make up the vast majority of those treated for opioid poisoning (overdose)

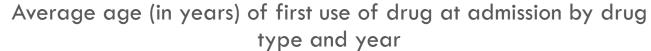


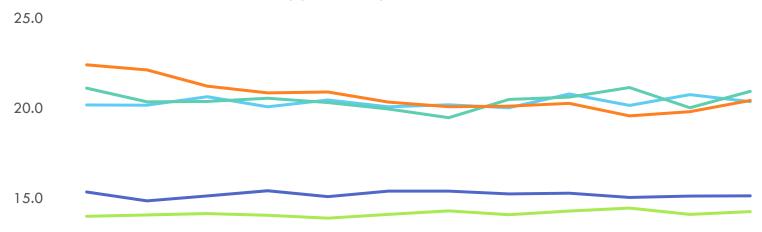
# As the total number of clients in treatment increased, the number of people waiting for services remains flat





## The average age of first drug use by clients has remained stable



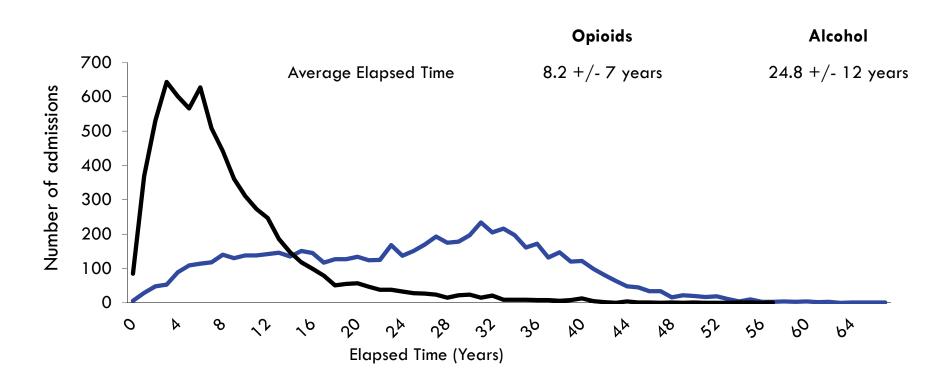


10.0												
10.0	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Alcohol	15.4	14.9	15.1	15.4	15.1	15.4	15.4	15.2	15.3	15.0	15.1	15.1
——Cocaine/Crack	20.2	20.2	20.6	20.1	20.5	20.1	20.2	20.0	20.8	20.2	20.8	20.4
Marijuana	14.0	14.1	14.1	14.1	13.9	14.1	14.3	14.1	14.3	14.5	14.1	14.3
Heroin	21.1	20.4	20.4	20.6	20.3	20.0	19.5	20.5	20.6	21.2	20.0	20.9
Other Opiates	22.4	22.1	21.2	20.9	20.9	20.3	20.1	20.1	20.3	19.6	19.8	20.4

### People seek treatment for opioid addiction much sooner after first use than with alcohol

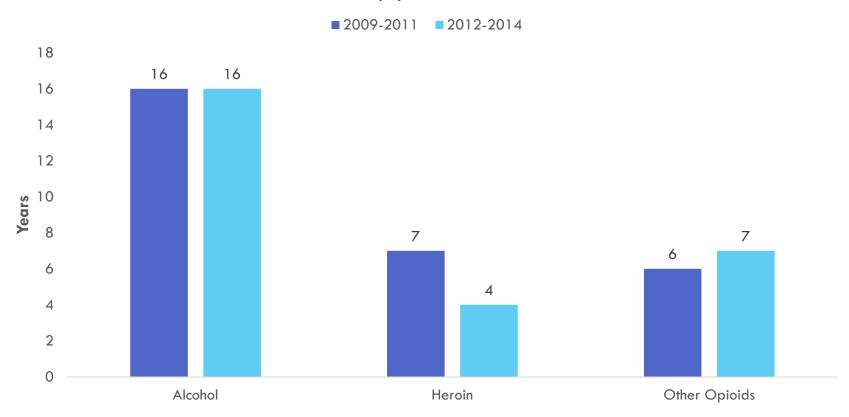
Elapsed Time (Years) Between Age of First Use and Age at Treatment Admission for Daily Users of Opioid and Alcohol (2005-2011)



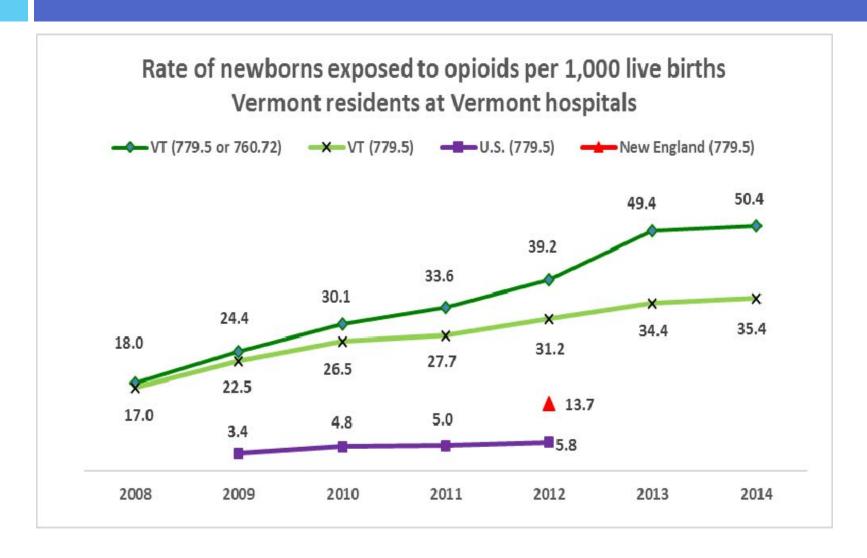


# The median time to treatment has increased slightly for prescription opioids and decreased for heroin

Median number of years between age of first use and entering treatment by year and substance

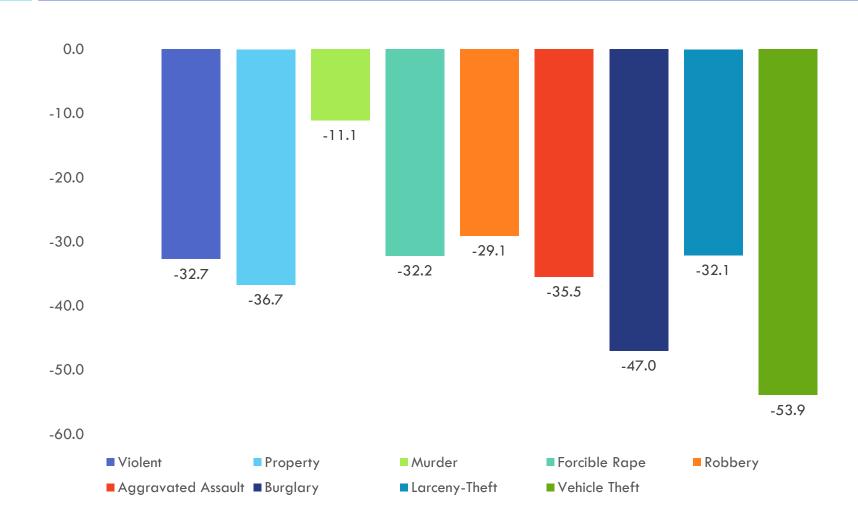


# Improved treatment and screening have helped to identify more infants exposed to opioids



#### Crime

#### Change in Crimes/100,000 in Vermont 2011-2014



#### So what?

Vermont Department of Health

#### In Summary

- Vermont is putting in place many of the prevention, intervention, treatment and recovery options that could help turn the tide on the opioid crisis.
- Vermont is doing better than much of the country in substance abuse treatment, harm reduction and data collection.
- While the problem continues to increase, there are small signs of hope:
  - Large parts of the state do not have wait lists for treatment
  - Deaths from prescription opioids appear to be flattening
  - Naloxone is getting into the hands of those who need it most
  - Youth use is trending downward over time