

**M**ore people died across the U.S. from drug overdoses in 2014 than in any other year on record, with 60 percent involving opiates.

The opioid epidemic remains steady:

- Someone overdoses on heroin or other opioids every two hours in South Florida, officials announced in September.
- Opioids caused 73 percent of overdose deaths in 2015, compared with 57 percent in 2010, according to [the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#).
- Heroin was responsible for one in four overdose deaths last year.

But in January, High Sobriety – a first-of-its-kind rehab center that uses cannabis as a central part of its treatment plan – opened in California.

Research shows:

- Patients using medical marijuana to control chronic pain reported a [64 percent](#) reduction in their use of opioids.
- Opioid overdose deaths have decreased by [25 percent](#) in states where medical cannabis is legal.

