

Opioid Use & Disability

Physical and mental disabilities correlate with increased odds of opioid abuse.

Risk factors:

- High rate of medication prescribed for health problems
- Societal enabling
- Lack of understanding of the unique circumstances of people with disabilities and opioid use
- Lack of identification of prevention and treatment

1,500

Kentucky babies were born with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome in 2016.

Unintentional death through opioid overdose is more likely for people with a **spinal cord injury** or **TBI**.

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Americans with chronic pain will misuse opioids in their lifetime.

Opioid Deaths in Kentucky

2016

1,419

2017

1,566

2018

1,333

In 2017, Kentucky's opioid death rate was the *fourth highest* in the country.

Misuse of prescriptions for pain relief (non-synthetic and synthetic) and heroin use can lead to opioid addiction.



1. NCHS, 2016

2. Sprong, M. E., Melvin, A., Dallas, B., & Koch, D. S. (2014). Substance abuse and vocational rehabilitation: A survey of policies & procedures. *Journal of Rehabilitation Journal of Rehabilitation*, 80(4), 4–9.

3. NIH, 2018

4. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2017). Annual Surveillance Report of Drug-Related Risks and Outcomes — United States, 2017. Surveillance Special Report 1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.