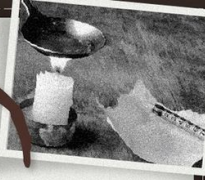


ALL THERE IS TO KNOW ABOUT

# Heroin



A derivative of the opium poppy, when used in medicine it is typically used to treat severe pain, such as that resulting from a heart attack or a severe injury from an accident. When heroin is supplied illegally, though, it is often adulterated to a freebase form, making it one of the most dangerous drugs around.

## How Heroin is Abused

Studies have shown that the subjective pleasure of drug use is proportional to the rate at which the blood level of the drug increases. Intravenous injection is the fastest route of drug administration, causing blood concentrations to rise the most quickly, followed by smoking, suppository (anal or vaginal insertion), insufflation (snorting), and ingestion (swallowing).



## EFFECTS OF Heroin:

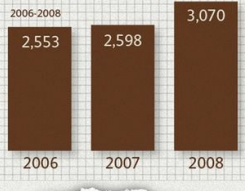
Studies show that heroin use and abuse is caused in part due to internal and external factors such as violent homes and parental neglect. This lack of emotional, social, and financial support causes strain and influences individuals to engage in deviant acts, including heroin usage.

SHORT-TERM EFFECTS	LONG-TERM EFFECTS
Rush	Collapsed veins
Depressed Respiration	Bacterial infections
Nausea and Vomiting	Infection of heart and valves
Suppression to pain	Infectious diseases (HIV aids and Hepatitis B and C)

## Where is the Heroin coming from



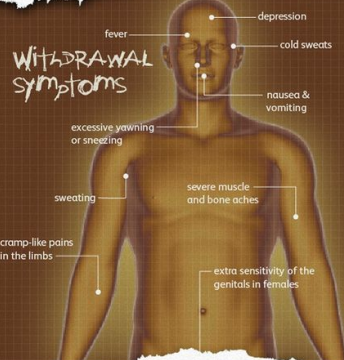
## US Heroin Deaths



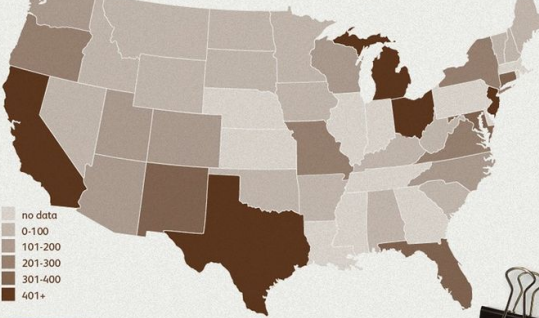
## DANGERS OF Using Heroin

- The risk of contracting blood-borne pathogens such as HIV and hepatitis
- The risk of contracting bacterial or fungal endocarditis and possibly venous sclerosis (a condition where the veins narrow and harden)
- The risk of poisoning from chemicals added to "cut" heroin from its pure form
- Decreased kidney function
- Chronic constipation
- Death from overdose can take anywhere from several minutes to several hours
- Overdose of heroin is usually caused by interactions with other depressant drugs like alcohol or benzodiazepines.

## Withdrawal symptoms



## DEATHS FROM HEROIN OVERDOSES, BY STATE as of May 2010



**84,000**  
Last year there were over 84,000 visits to the emergency room due to Heroin



**\$150-\$200**  
Addicts spend \$150-\$200 a day to support their habits

**51%**  
Heroin is responsible for 51% of ALL drug related deaths



Withdrawal symptoms begin within 6 to 24 hours of discontinuation of the drug



The rate of lifetime heroin use is higher among those in prison (23.4 percent for State and 17.9 percent for Federal).

**3.8 million people**

(1.5 percent of the population above 12) say they have tried heroin at least once in their lifetimes.



THAT'S THE SAME AMOUNT OF PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA