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Some of Massachusetts "Addiction" Statistics as of 2014

- Massachusetts has 32nd highest drug overdose mortality rate in the US, with 11 out of 100,000 people suffering drug overdose fatalities.
- The number of annual overdose deaths has increased in by 47% since 1999. National rates have doubled in 29 states, quadrupled in four of these states, and tripled in 10 or more.
- In Boston alone in recent years, accidental drug overdoses increased by over 39%. Non fatal heroin overdoses increased 76% in that time frame and prescription drug overdoses rose 38%.
- 50 Americans die a day from prescription drug overdoses and more than 6 million suffer from prescription drug abuse disorders.
- In Massachusetts, about 434,000 persons aged 12 or older (nearly 8%) were dependent on or abused alcohol within a 12 month period. In this same period, 173,000 people over the age of 12 were dependent upon or abused illicit drugs.
- Among people older than 12 with alcohol dependence or abuse, about 36,000 (8.3%) received treatment for their alcohol use.
- Nearly 8% of all persons 21 or older reported heavy alcohol use but only about 1 in 24 received treatment for alcohol.
- In 2012 of all patients receiving treatment, alcohol was reported as the drug of choice in 35% and 43% reported the drug of choice as heroin.
- Nationwide, nearly 1.5 million adolescents are dependent on or abused alcohol and more than 1.2 million adolescents are dependent on or abused illicit drugs.
- Approximately 68,000 (13.3 percent) of adolescents in Massachusetts used an illicit drug; 18,000 males and 20,000 adolescent females used pain relievers non-medically
- 20.2 % (103,000) of adolescents used alcohol, & 13.1 % (67,000) engaged in binge drinking.
- 32,000 adolescents needed but did not receive treatment for past-year drug problems.
- Massachusetts scored 9 out of 10 on a new policy report card of Promising Strategies to help curb prescription drug abuse.
- From 2002-2010, 5,529 Massachusetts residents died from opiod related overdoses.
- Studies show over 50% of persons interviewed reported they did not call 911 during an overdose due to their fear of police involvement.
- MA is now one of 14 states and the District of Columbia that has the Good Samaritan Law.
- As part of a Department of Public Health overdose prevention project, between November 2007 & January 2014 21,700 persons were trained to prevent, recognize and respond to an opiod overdose and administer Narcan. DPH documented reversal of 2,533 potentially fatal overdoses.
- 23 million people are in recovery according to Faces and Voices of Recovery!

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Call **MOAR** at 617-423-6627 Sources; Boston Public Health Commission, Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Substance Abuse and Mental health Services Administration * All statistics were taken from reports dated 2008-2013. Numbers are subject to change. (March 2014)