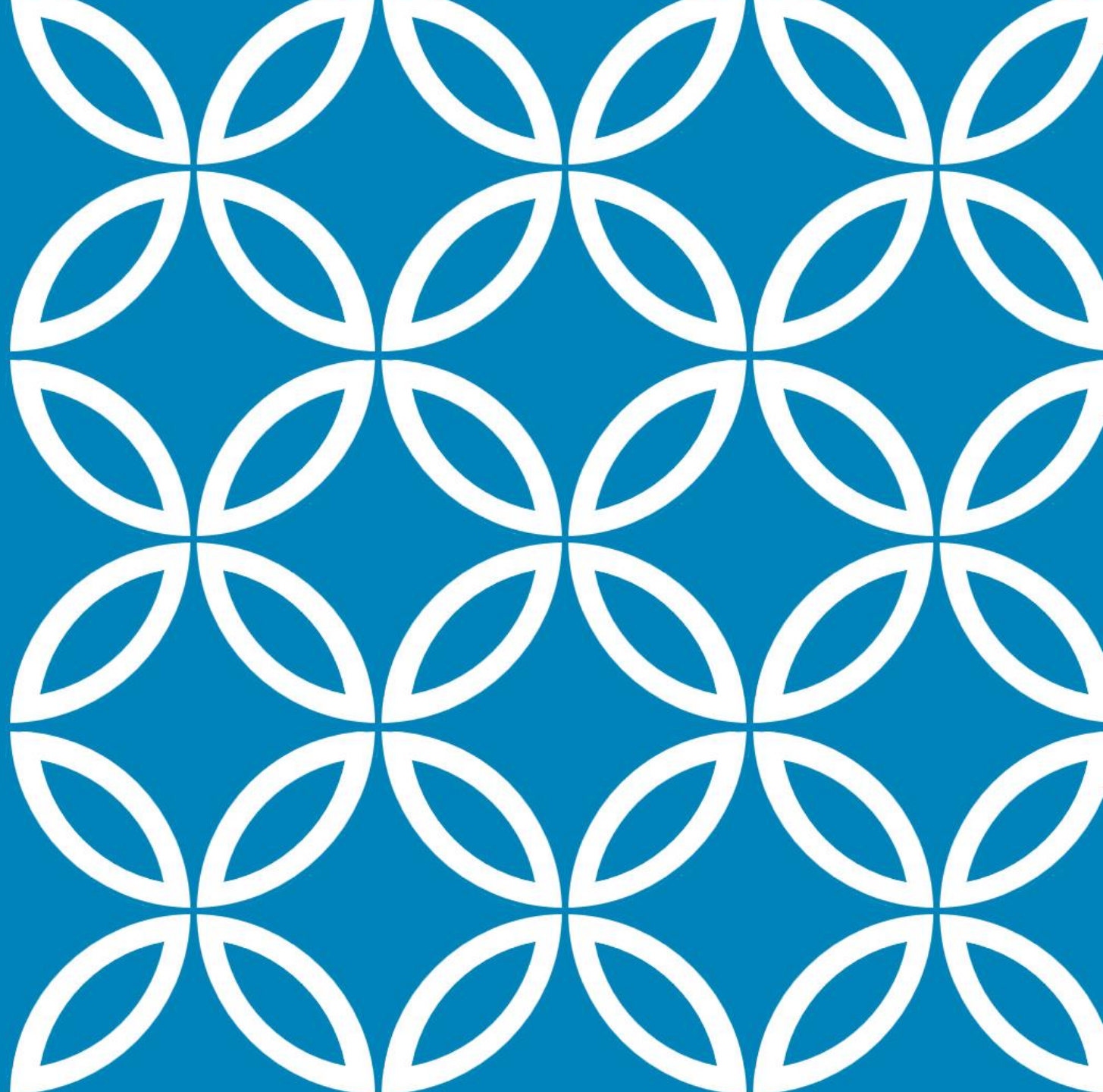


OPIOIDS IN NORWAY

Stig Erik Sørheim

Actis – Norwegian Policy Network on Alcohol and drugs



OPIOIDS AND DRUG-RELATED DEATHS

Around 260 drug related deaths in Norway per year

- 81 % of drug related deaths in Norway related to opioids (fhi.no)

Approx 5800 drug related deaths in Europe in 2019

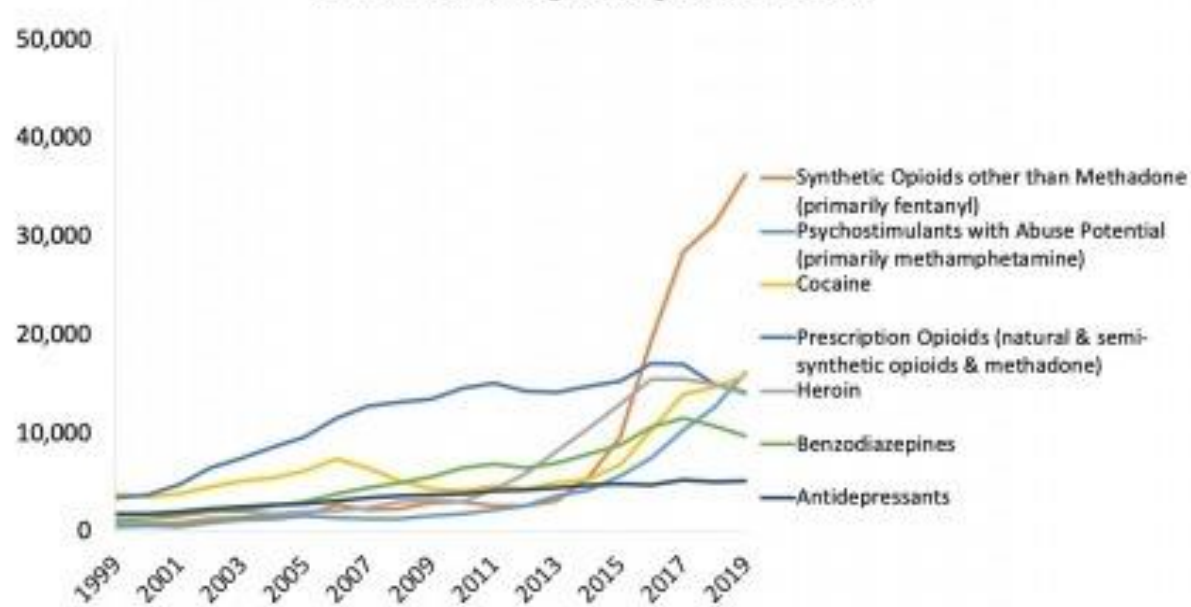
- 76 % of drug related deaths in Europe related to opioids (emcdda.eu)
- Significant differences between countries: some countries < 50 %, some >80%
- Missing or low quality data in many countries

Many other drug related harms associated with opioids

- Social and health problems
- Injection associated with infectious diseases

A WARNING FROM THE US

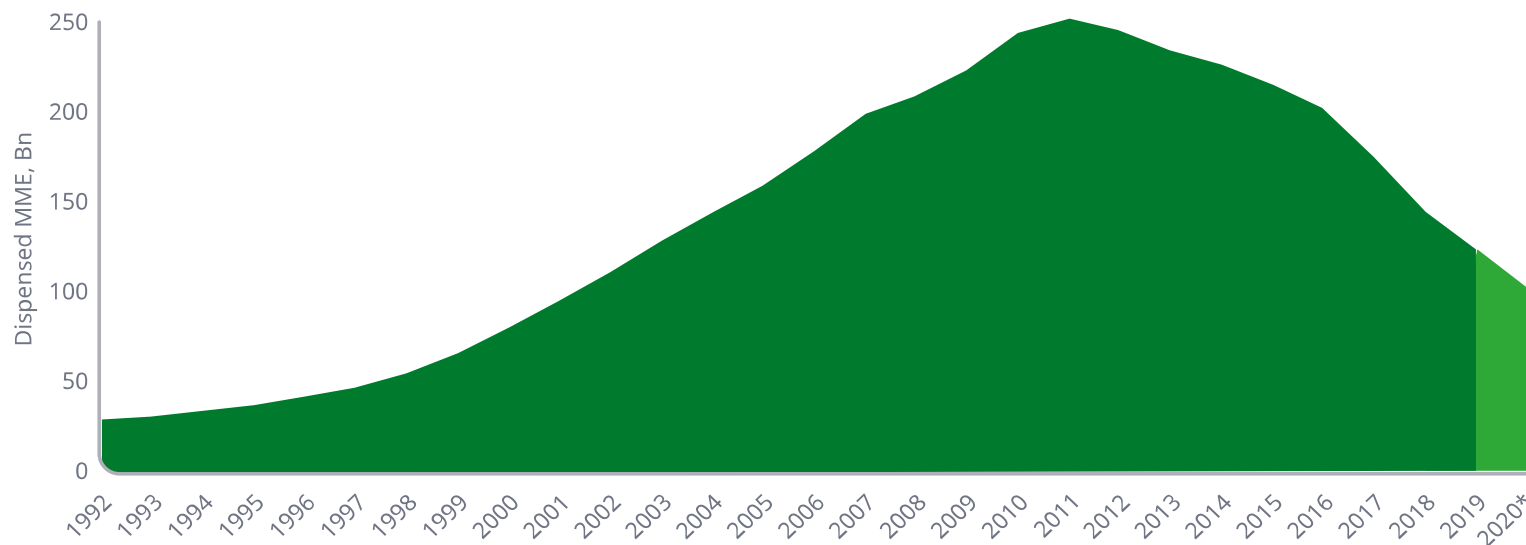
Figure 2. National Drug-Involved Overdose Deaths*, Number Among All Ages, 1999-2019



*Includes deaths with underlying causes of unintentional drug poisoning (X40-X44), suicide drug poisoning (X60-X64), homicide drug poisoning (X85), or drug poisoning of undetermined intent (Y10-Y14), as coded in the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision. Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Multiple Cause of Death 1999-2019 on CDC WONDER Online Database, released 12/2020.

Source: drugabuse.gov

PRESCRIPTION OF OPIOIDS IN THE US



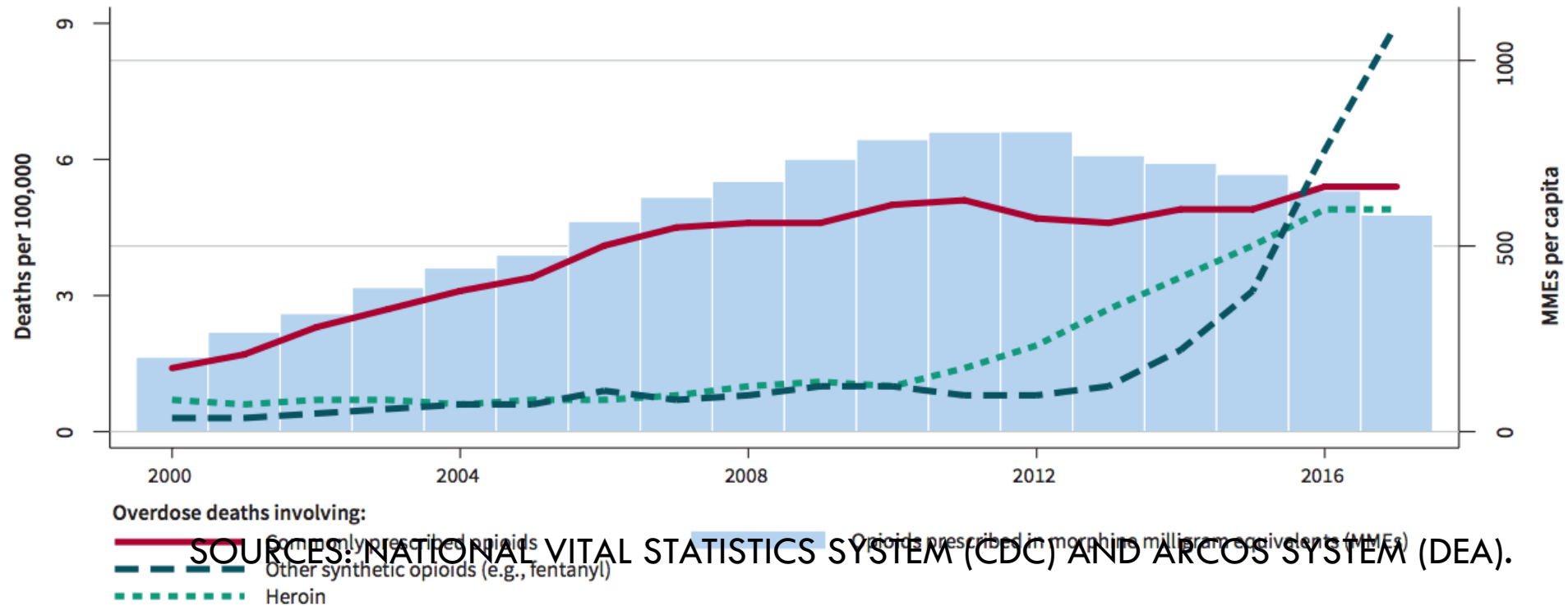
Source: IQVA Xponent, Mar 2020; IQVIA National Prescription Audit; IQVIA Institute, Nov 2020

Exhibit Notes: Historical NPA archive data for periods 1992-2005 combined with Xponent analysis for periods 2006-2020. 2020* includes data through September, and an estimation of Q4 2020 data based on previous year trend. Analysis is based on opioid medicines for pain management and excludes those medicines used for medication-assisted opioid use dependency treatment (MAT) or overdose recovery. Opioid medicines are categorized and adjusted based on their relative intensity to morphine, called a morphine milligram equivalent (MME), see Methodology. 1 CDC Prescription Opioid Data. Accessed Oct 2020. Available from: <https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/data/prescribing.html>

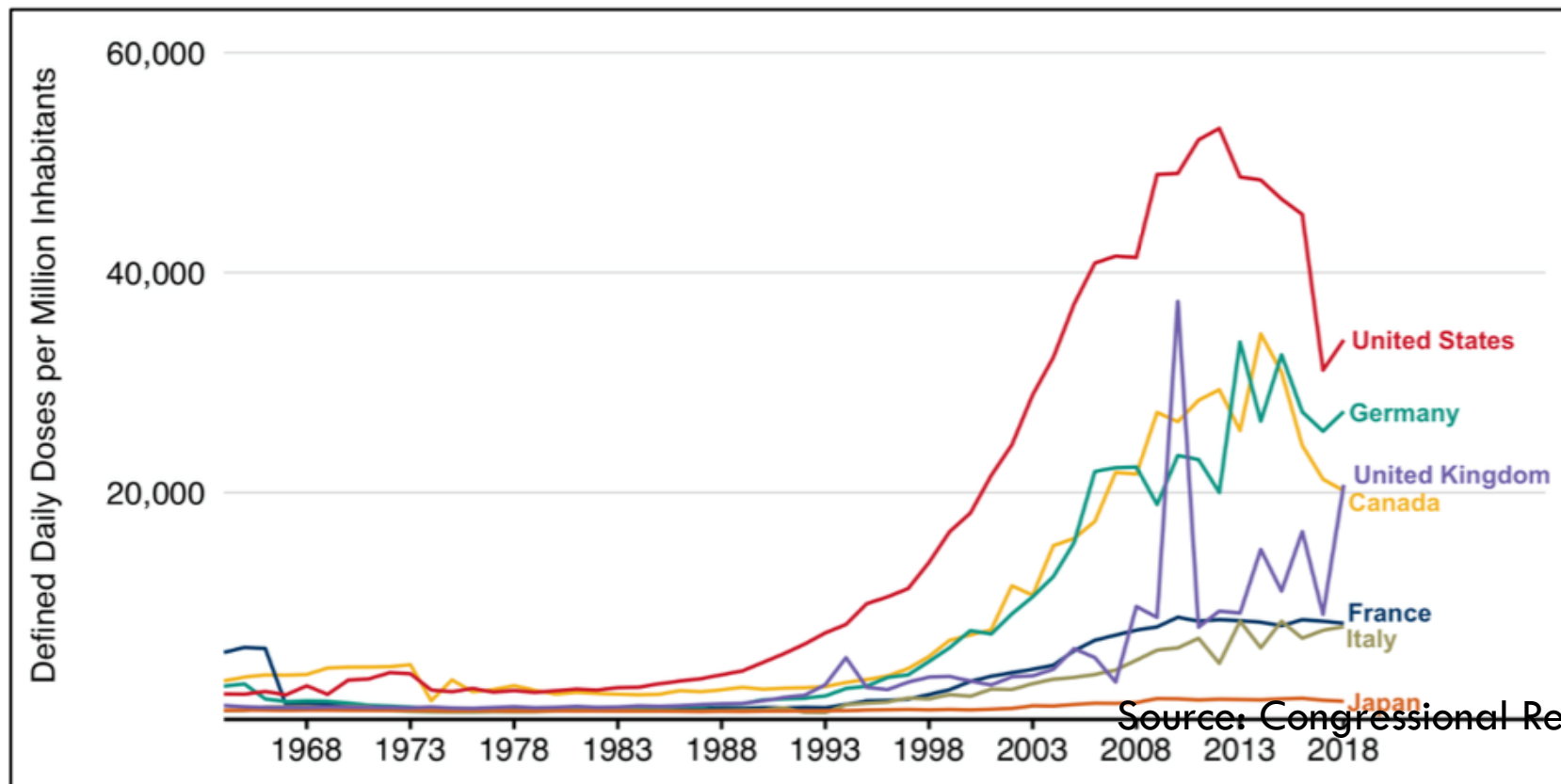
Report: Prescription Opioid Trends in the United States. IQVIA Institute for Human Data Science, December 2020.

THREE OPIOID EPIDEMICS

Figure 1: Opioid prescriptions and overdose deaths between 2000 and 2017

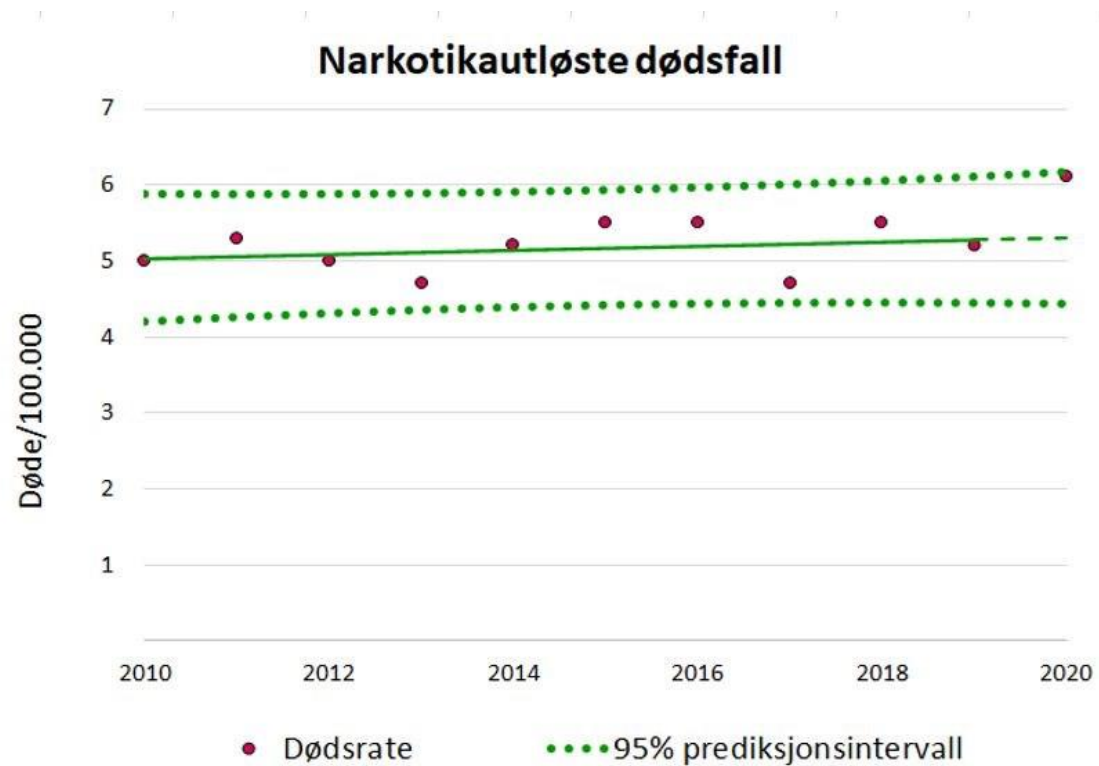


OPIOID PRESCRIPTIONS IN THE G-7 COUNTRIES



Source: Congressional Research Service 2021

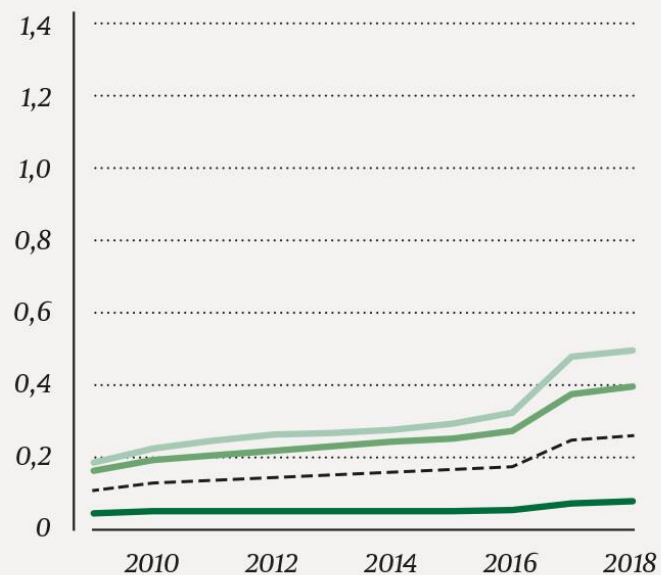
TREND IN DRUG RELATED DEATHS IN NORWAY



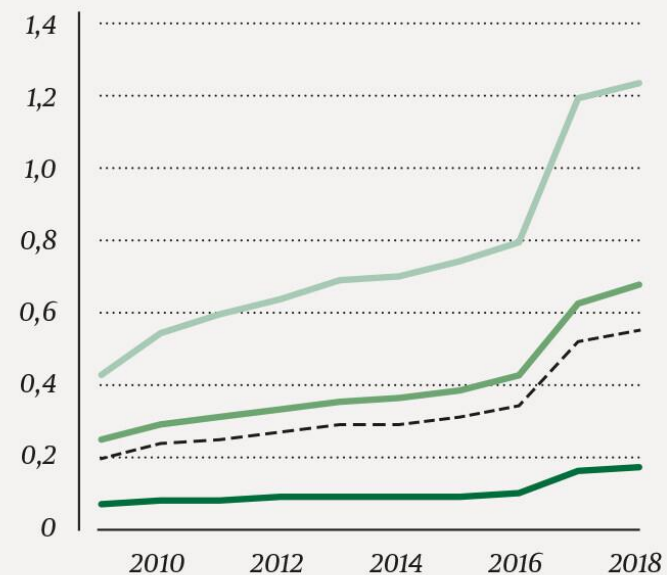
SHARE OF POPULATION WHO WERE PRESCRIBED OPIOIDS FROM 2009 - 2018

■ 18-44 år ■ 45-69 år ■ ≥70 år --- 18+

Prevalens hos menn (%)



Prevalens hos kvinner (%)



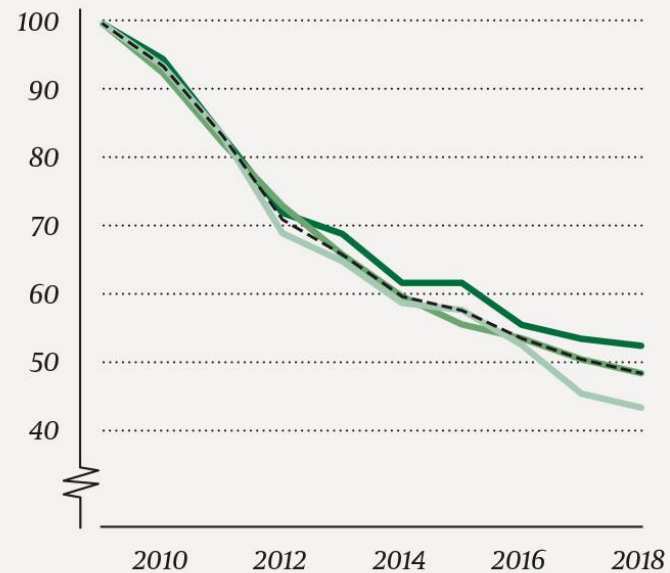
SHARE OF PEOPLE WHO GOT OPIOID PRESCRIPTIONS WHO CONTINUED USE

■ 18-44 år ■ 45-69 år ■ ≥70 år --- 18+

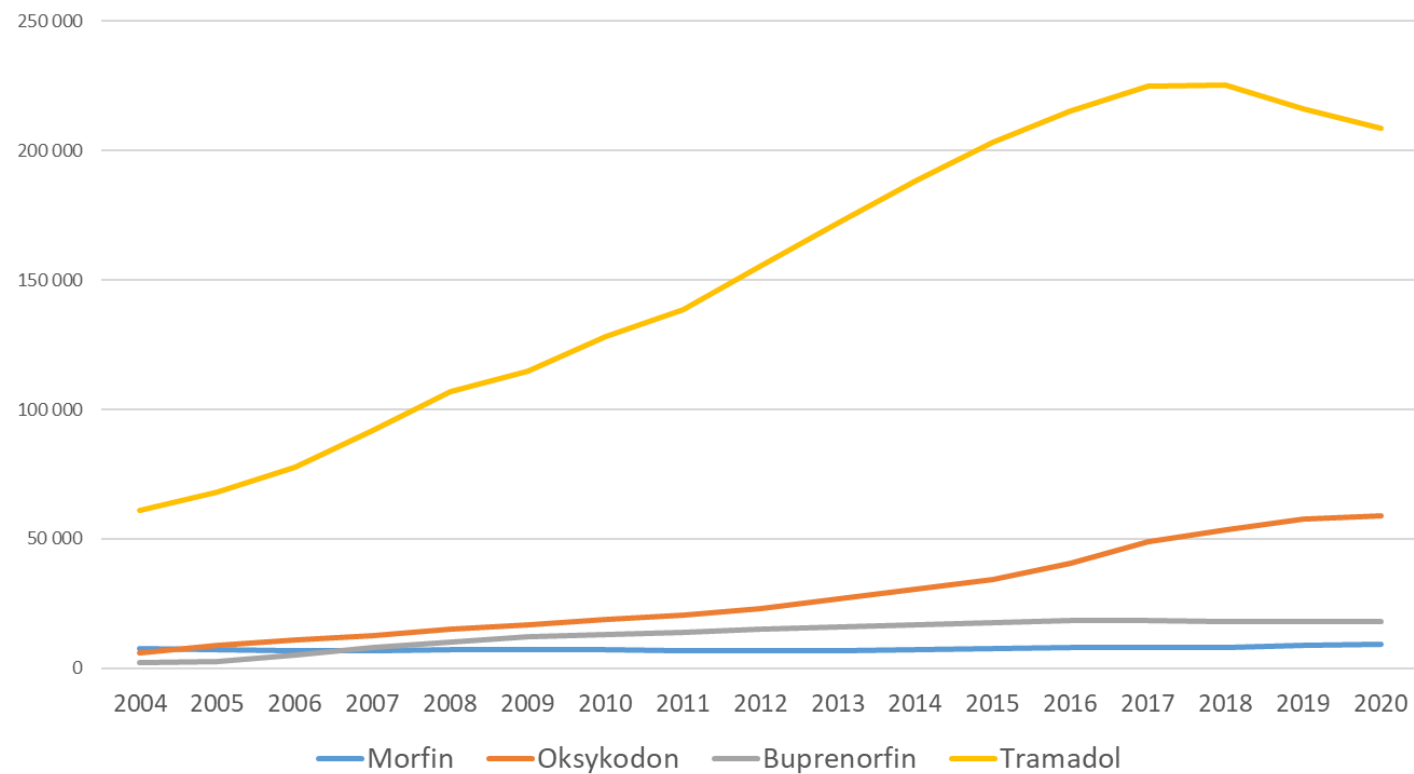
Andel menn (%)



Andel kvinner (%)

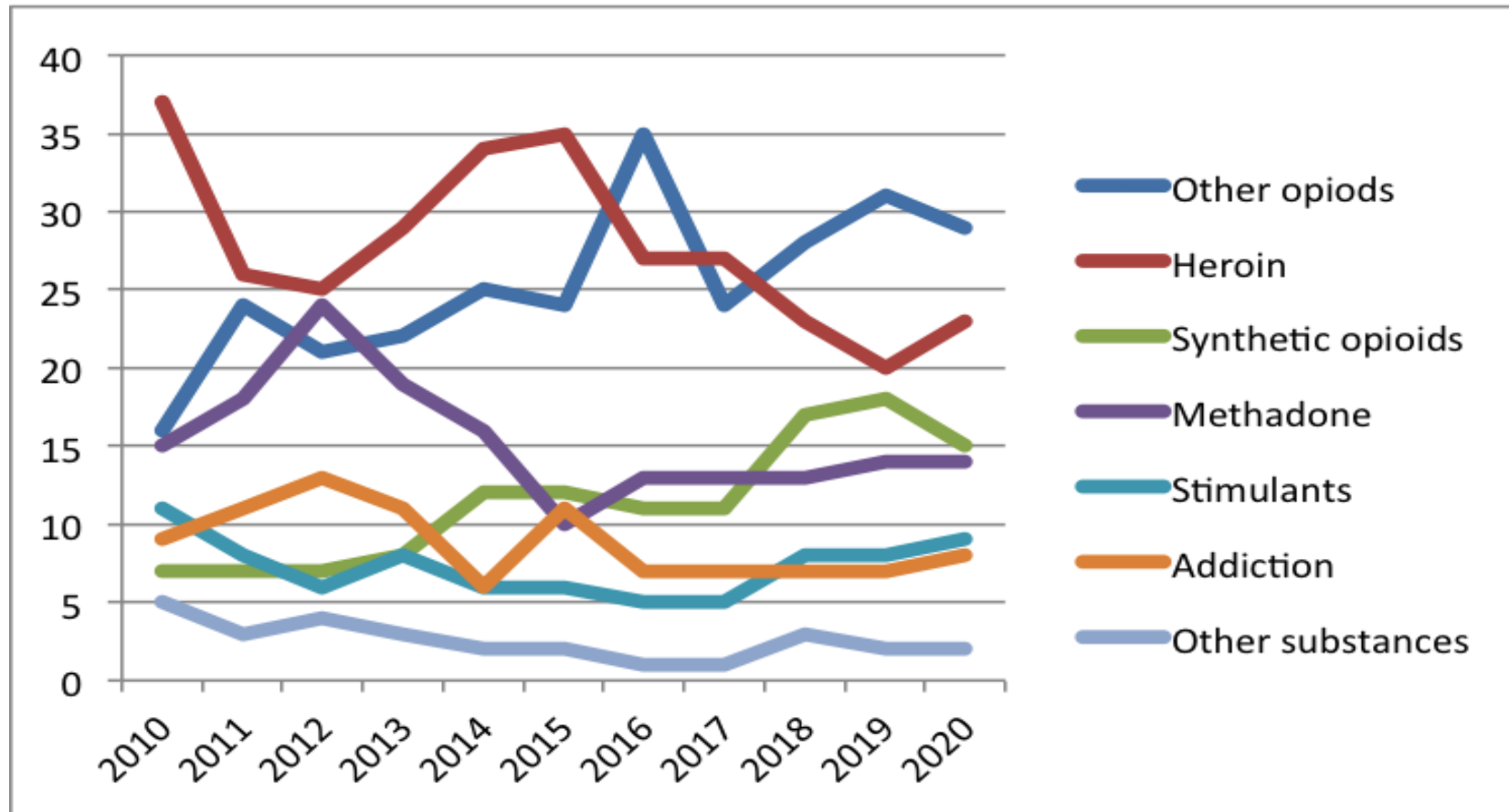


INCREASED USE OF STRONG OPIOIDS



Source: FHI
Reseptregisteret 2021

DRUG RELATED DEATHS IN NORWAY



Source: FHI

OPIOID TREATMENT

Main treatment: substitution with buprenorphine or methadone

- >8000 patients

Overdose strategy

- Naloxone
- Switch-campaign – to discourage injecting and promote less risky use
- Substitution treatment

Average age at death increasing – indicates that recruitment to opioid use has slowed down (rop.no)

- Average age in substitution treatment increasing. Average age: 46,5 yrs - 36 % are over 50 – 6 % are under 30

Substitution treatment reduces overdose deaths

- Estimate: Treatment reduces risk of dying by approx 50 %
- Estimate: 887 lives saved from 1996 to 2016 (Addiction, nov 2021)

Is the treatment system adapted to new user groups (prescription opioids)?

- Substitution treatment
- Harm reduction measures