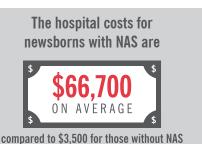


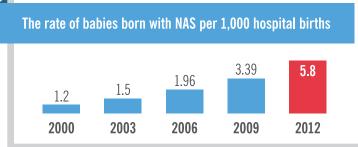
Children and the Opioid Epidemic

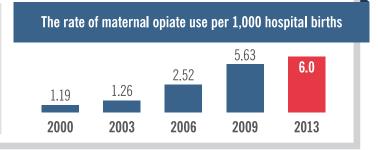
The recent increase in opioid abuse requires a focus, not only on the adults who are struggling with use and addiction, but on the epidemic's extensive impacts on children. Infants who are born with prenatal exposure to opioids often experience neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS), which is characterized by symptoms such as tremors or seizures, vomiting, fevers, excessive crying, poor feeding, and rapid breathing.











In 2016, there were more than **64,000 drug-involved overdose deaths**, up from over 52,000 in 2015.

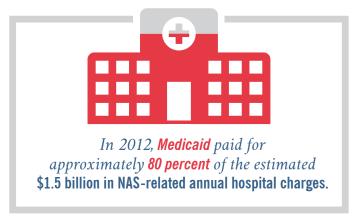
52,000

64,000 *in 2016*

These overdose deaths are primarily driven by opioids, both prescription and illicit opioids such as heroin and fentanyl.

In 2015, 32.2 percent of new entrants into foster care were due to drug use by a parent. In 2009, the rate was 26.1 percent.





For every **\$1 invested** in substance-use treatment there is a return on investment *between \$4 and \$7* in reduced drug-related crime, criminal justice costs, and theft alone.

Factoring in savings in health care costs, the benefit-to-cost ratio exceeds 12 to 1.















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