



Opioid Effects on St Clair County

Captain Mat King
St. Clair County Sheriff's Office

Overview

- Trend shifts from cocaine to prescription pills in in the late 1990's and early 2000's
- Mid 2000's the transition from cocaine to pills and then heroin is recognized
- Mid to late 2010's the heroin presence is strong and fentanyl Carfentanil arrive. At this time, heroin is now declared to be at epidemic levels
- Overdoses and property crimes quickly increase at relative levels
- Federal, State and local authorities recognize the epidemic and react
- Heroin is still present at a lower level, yet methamphetamine begins to take place as the leading illicit drug of choice

History of the Opioid Epidemic

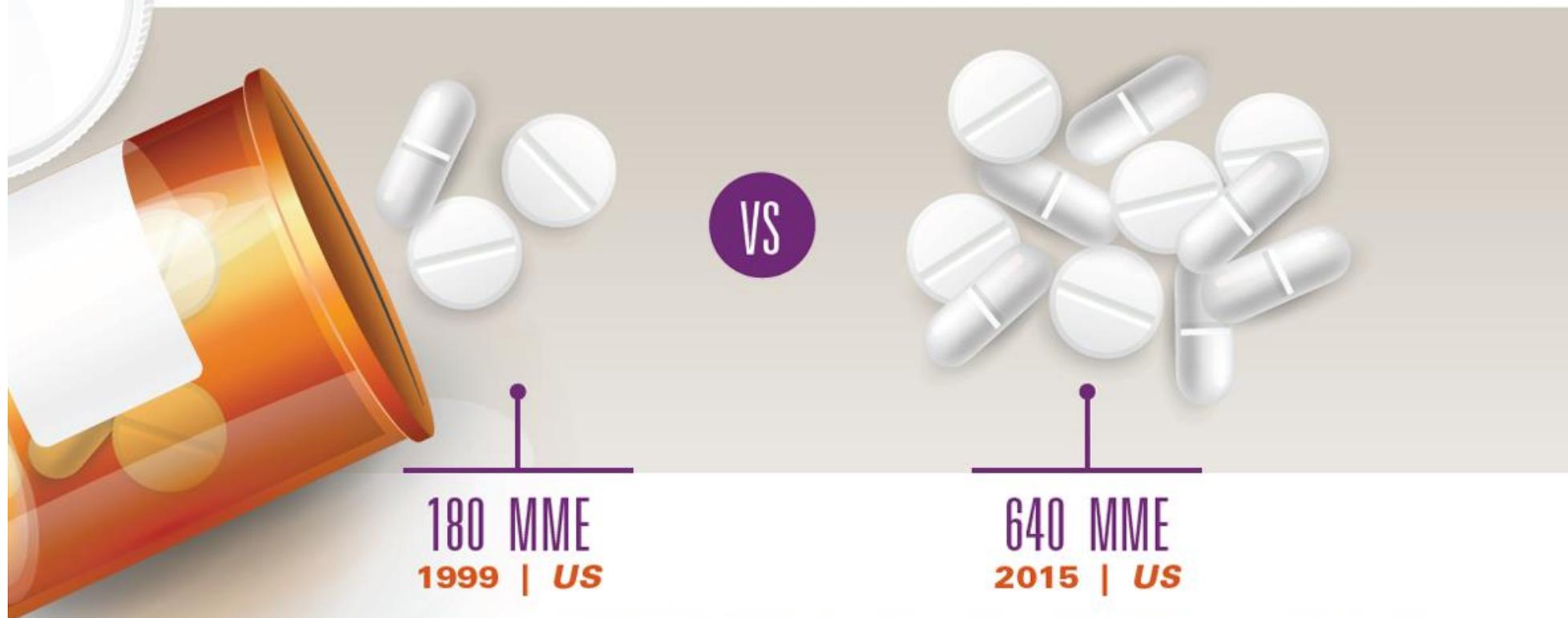
U.S Department of Health and Human Services

- In the late 1990s, pharmaceutical companies claimed that opioid pain relievers were non addictive
- Increased prescription of opioid medications
- Increase misuse of both prescription and non-prescription opioids
- The pattern of misuse revealed the addictiveness of the opioid prescriptions
- In 2017 HHS declared a “Public Health Emergency” and announced a 5-point strategy to combat the opioid crisis

Health and Human Services 5 Point Plan to combat the Opioid Crisis

- Better addiction prevention
- Better data
- Better pain management
- Better targeting of overdose reversing drugs
- Better research

The amount of opioids prescribed per person was three times higher in 2015 than in 1999.



SOURCES: Automation of Reports and Consolidated Orders System (ARCOS) of the Drug Enforcement Administration; 1999. QuintilesIMS Transactional Data Warehouse; 2015.

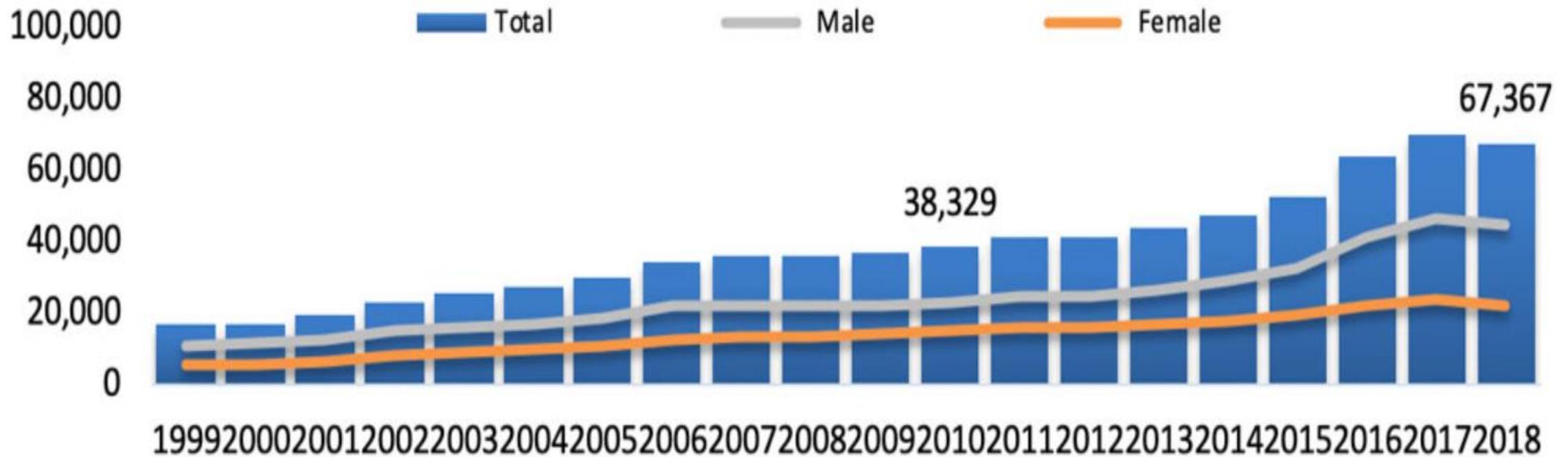
Overdose Deaths in the U.S.

- Statistics from 1999-2017 show a steady increase in overdose 2018 showing a decrease
- 70% of these overdoses involve opioids
- A drastic increase of heroin with or without synthetics (mainly fentanyl) began in 2010



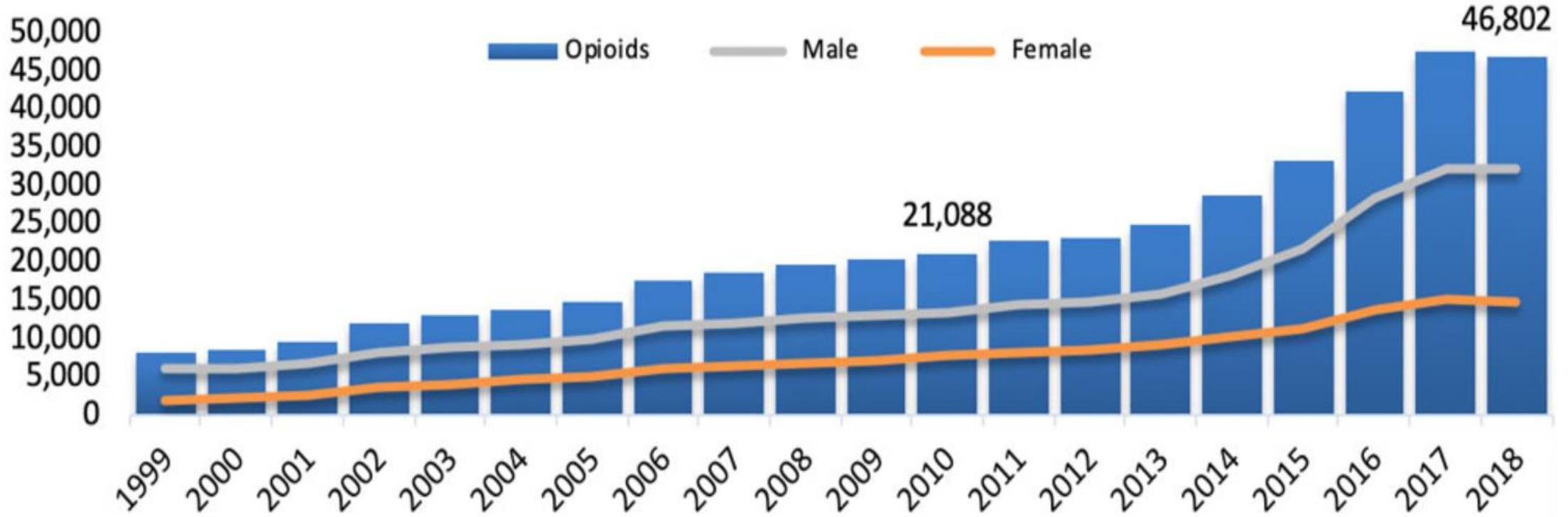
National Drug Overdose Deaths

Number Among All Ages, by Gender, 1999-2018



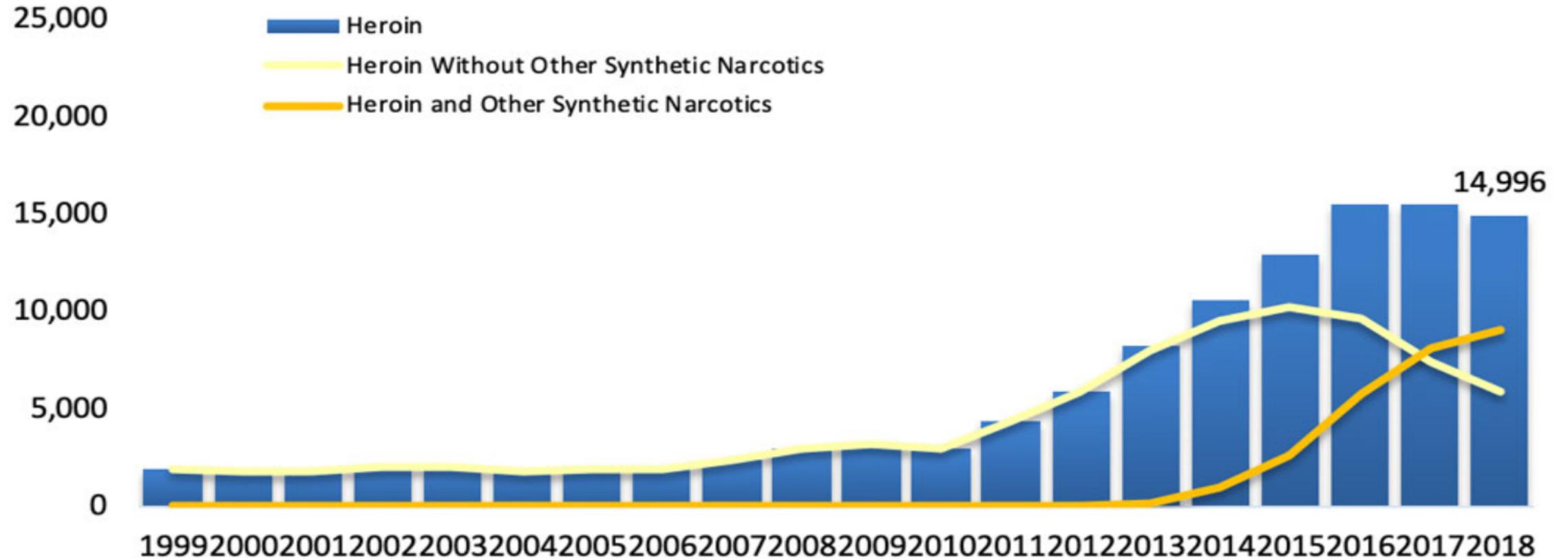
National Drug Overdose Deaths Involving Any Opioid

Number Among All Ages, by Gender, 1999-2018



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Multiple Cause of Death 1999-2017 on CDC WONDER Online Database, released January, 2020

National Drug Overdose Deaths Involving Heroin Number Among All Ages, 1999-2018



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Multiple Cause of Death 1999-2017 on CDC WONDER Online Database, released January, 2020

The Opioid Epidemic & St. Clair County

- Drug Task Force Investigators notice an increase of heroin and pill sales and seizures
- St. Clair County overdoses numbers spike
- Home Invasion and other theft related property crimes increase

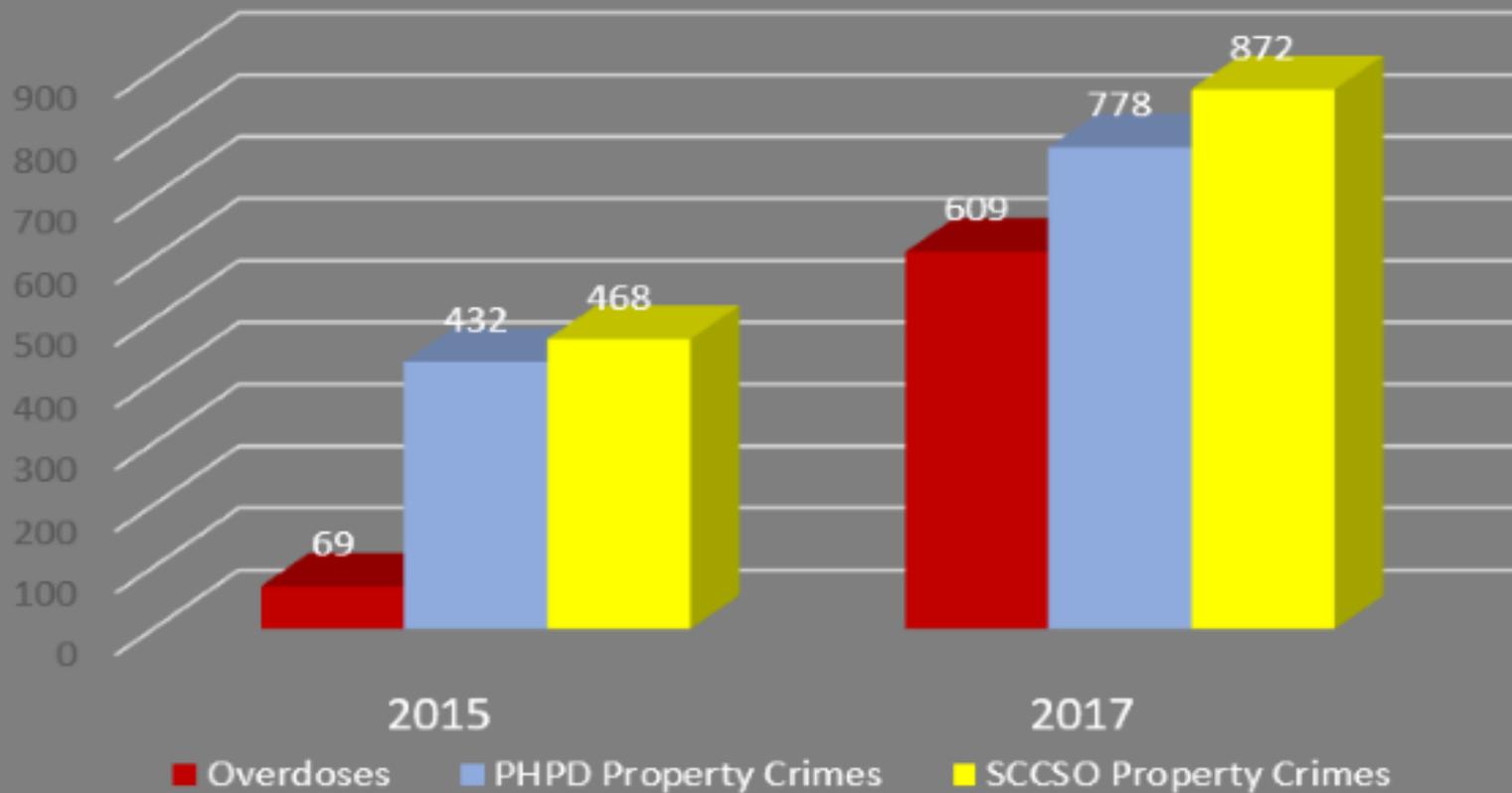
Fentanyl & Carfentanil Appears in St. Clair County

- Heroin is up to 5 times the potency of morphine
- Fentanyl is up to 100 times the potency of morphine
- Carfentanil is up to 10,000 times the potency of morphine

Source: DEA Issues Carfentanil Warning To Police And Public. (2016, September 22). Retrieved August 11, 2020, from <https://www.dea.gov/press-releases/2016/09/22/dea-issues-carfentanil-warning-police-and-public>



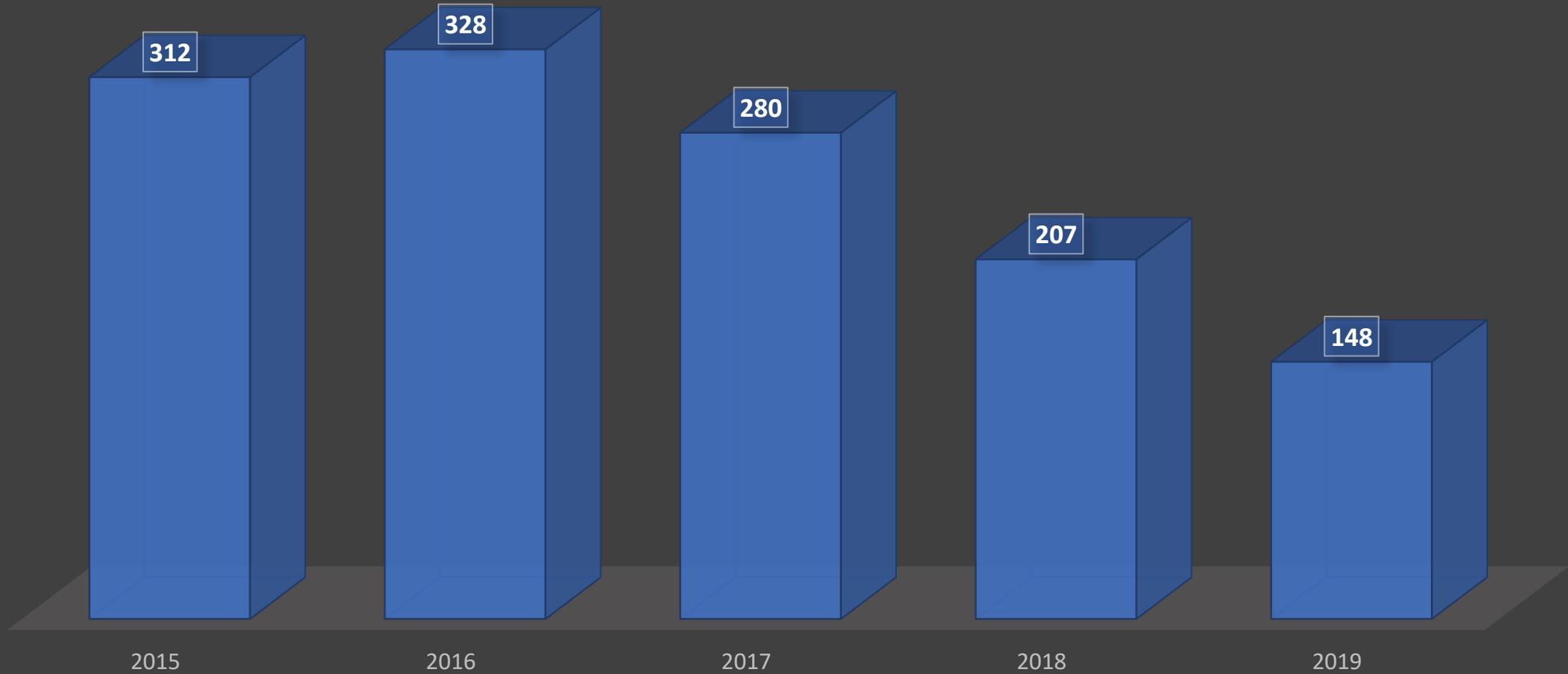
Overdoses in Relation to Property Crimes



Source: Sgt. George Maschke St. Clair County Sheriff's Office

NARCAN USE BY TRI-HOSPITAL EMS

SOURCE TRI-HOSPITAL EMS CEO KEN CUMMINGS



Who Becomes Addicted to Opioids?

- As with any drug, anyone can become addicted to opiates
- Opioids are unique because the initial use that leads to addiction may or may not have an illicit origin.
- The addiction may start at a party with friends or with a prescription from a physician with no ill intent
- Opioids in prescription form were readily available and easily obtained in medicine cabinets in most households
- 80% of Heroin users started their opioid addiction with prescription pills (Jones, 2013; Muhuri et al., 2013)

Fighting Prescription Drug Abuse with Federal and State Law

- Federal drug regulation began in the 1910s with opiate regulation
- In 1970 the Controlled Substance Act was put in place as a single system of regulating psychotropic and narcotic drugs
- 1973 brought the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) that oversees the dispensing of prescription drugs
- The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Amendments Act of 2007 was granted authority to develop risk evaluations and mitigation strategy (REMS) and require companies to evaluate whether the risks outweigh the benefits

- FDA monitors patient access to ensure patients receive proper pain management
- President Obama launched a campaign to combat prescription drug abuse
 - Promoting youth and parent education,
 - Research on patterns of abuse and successful abuse deterrents
 - Increased tracking and monitoring of controlled substances
 - Resources for proper medication disposal
 - Increases resources for law enforcement to target improper prescribing practices and “Pill Mills”

Fighting Prescription Drug Abuse with Federal and State Law continued...

Fighting Prescription Drug Abuse with Federal and State Law continued...

- Michigan's prescription drug monitoring program is developed
- MAPS is used to track controlled substances prescriptions
 - It is used by prescribers and dispensers
 - Monitors against "Doctor Shopping"
- State medical boards mandate requirements prior to prescribing pain medications
- Laws with limited immunity when seeking help for an overdose ex. Michigan's Good Samaritan Law 2017

Blake, V. (2013, May 01). Fighting Prescription Drug Abuse with Federal and State Law. Retrieved August 11, 2020, from <https://journalofethics.ama-assn.org/article/fighting-prescription-drug-abuse-federal-and-state-law/2013-05>

St. Clair County's Response to the Opioid Epidemic

- Law Enforcement officers throughout the county are trained in and equipped with naloxone
- Naloxone Standing order is passed in Michigan allowing dispersal without a prescription
- St. Clair County Health Department creates the Second Chance Naloxone Program
- Michigan enacts a Good Samaritan law encouraging overdose reporting by protecting 911 callers from criminal prosecution

- Additional Partnerships created with the criminal justice community, St. Clair County Health Department, St. Clair County CMH and professionals from the medical field to identify and address the opioid concerns
- Hope Not Handcuffs
- F.A.N.
- Executive Overdose Committee

St. Clair County's Response to the Opioid Epidemic



A proposal to double the funding St. Clair County Drug Task Force Millage is requested and approved



Heroin use and sales spike

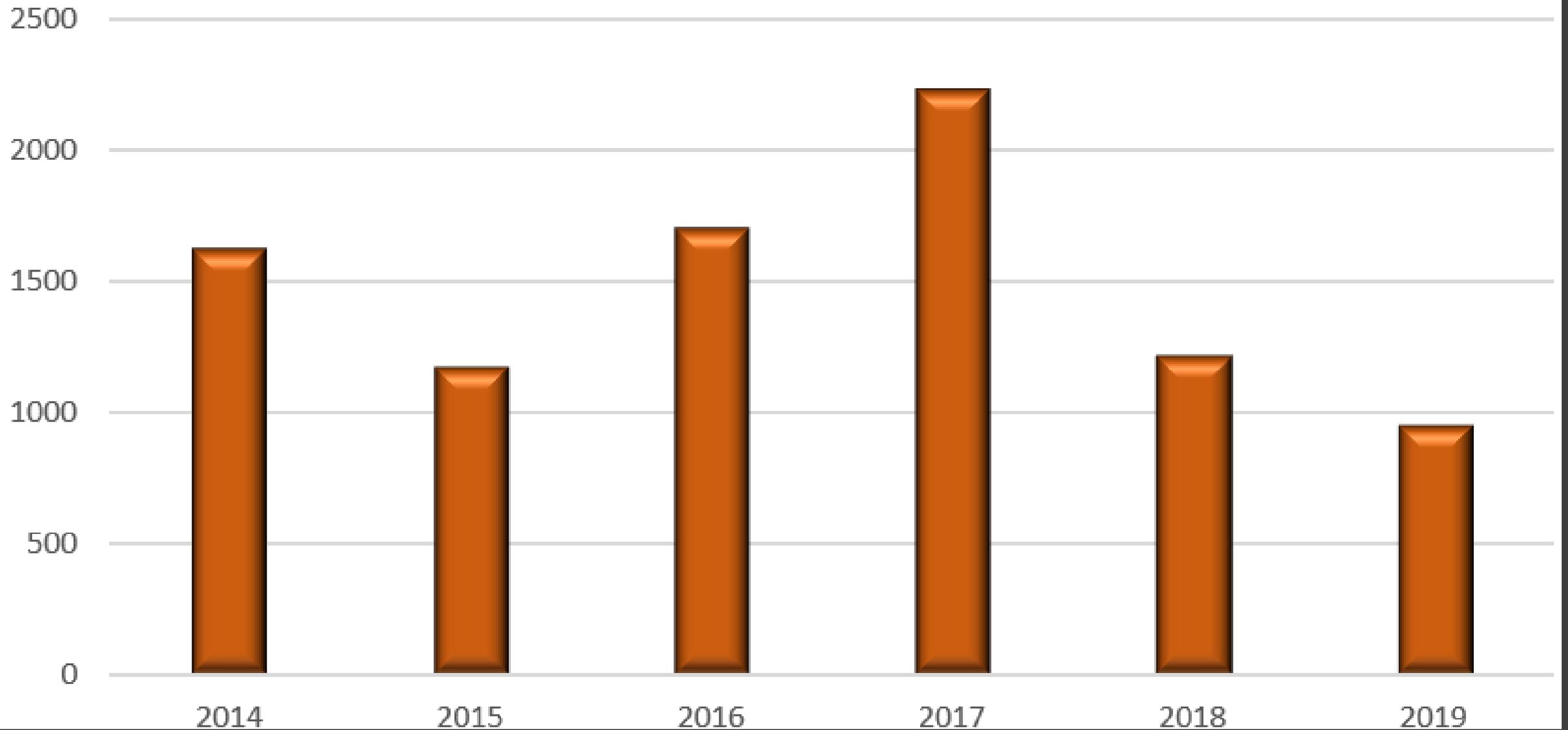
Overdoses spike

Meth Labs Spike

Property Crimes increase

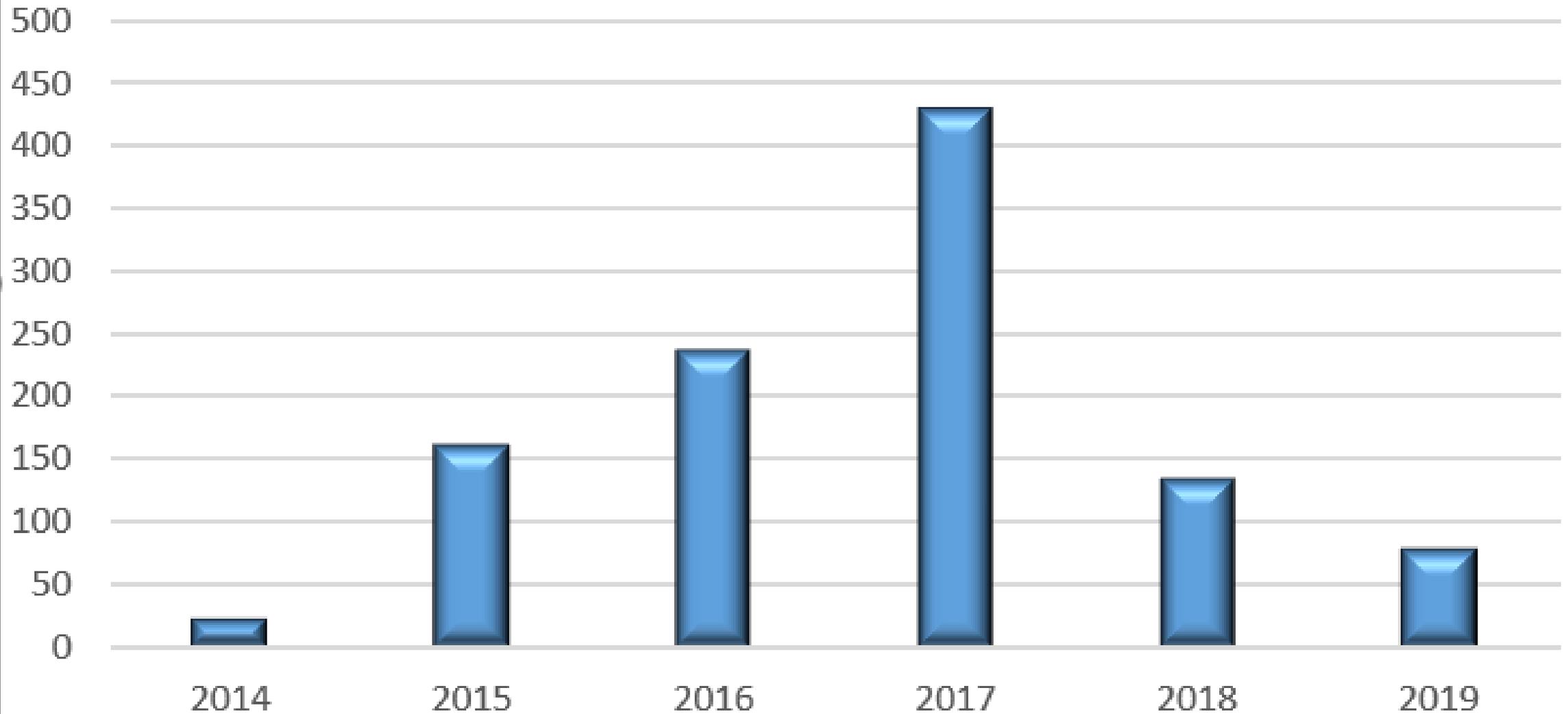
Pills Siezed

Source: St. Clair County Drug Task Force



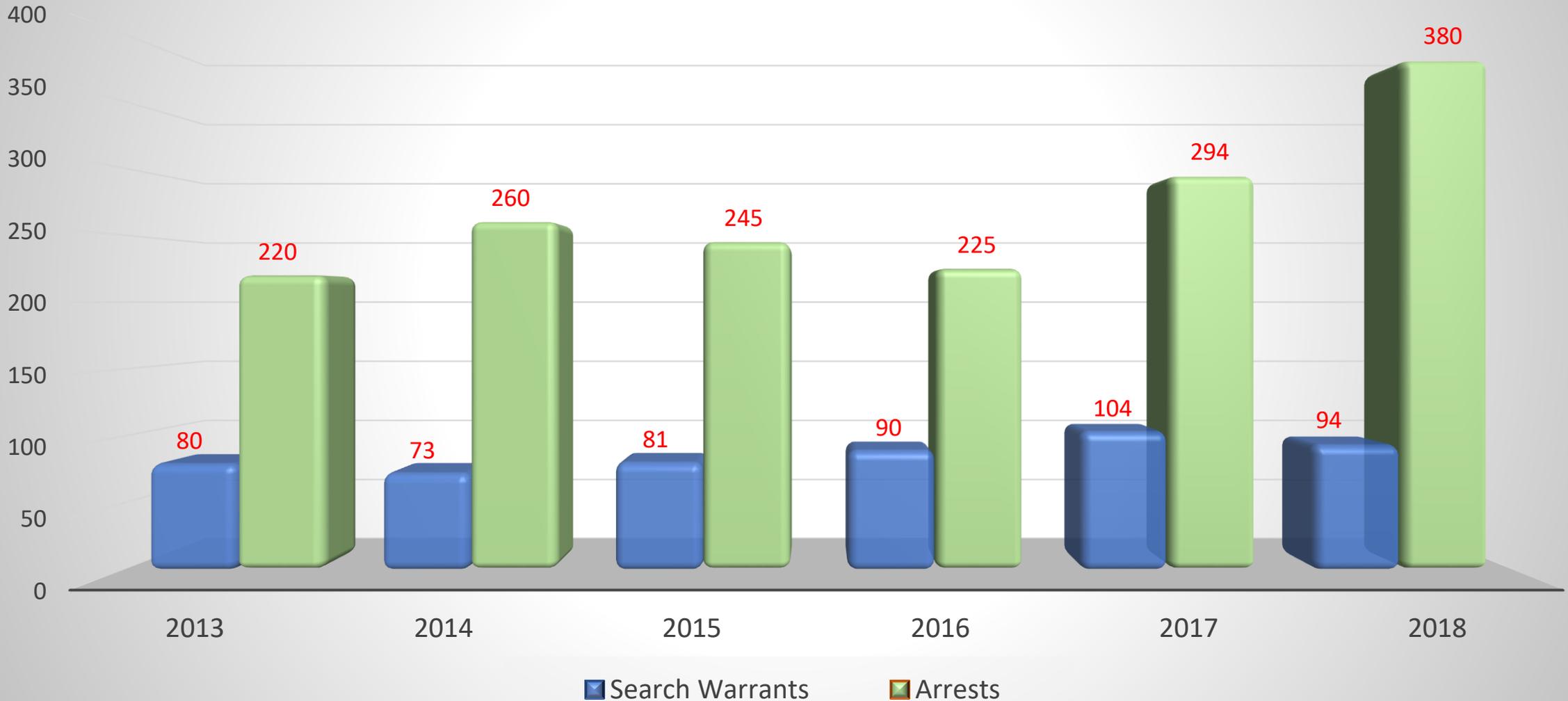
Heroin (grams siezed)

Source: St. Clair County Drug Task Force



Arrests & Search Warrants

Source: St. Clair County Drug Task Force



St. Clair County Illicit Drug Use Trends

- In the early 2000's crack cocaine was the primary drug of choice. Methamphetamine was popular throughout the mid-west but did not have a strong presence in St. Clair County
- Prescription pills became more present
- In 2015 heroin use started to become more prevalent than crack cocaine and spiked in 2017
- The sale of heroin became the priority of the St. Clair County Drug Task force as the overdose numbers skyrocketed
- In 2018 heroin use dropped significantly and methamphetamine became popular becoming the primary drug of choice

Questions?