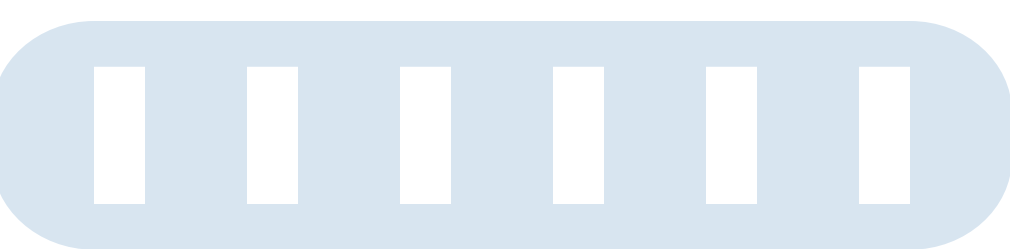


NURSE PRACTITIONERS: IMPROVING PATIENT OUTCOMES FOR OPIOID USE DISORDER

AANP

American Association of
NURSE PRACTITIONERS®

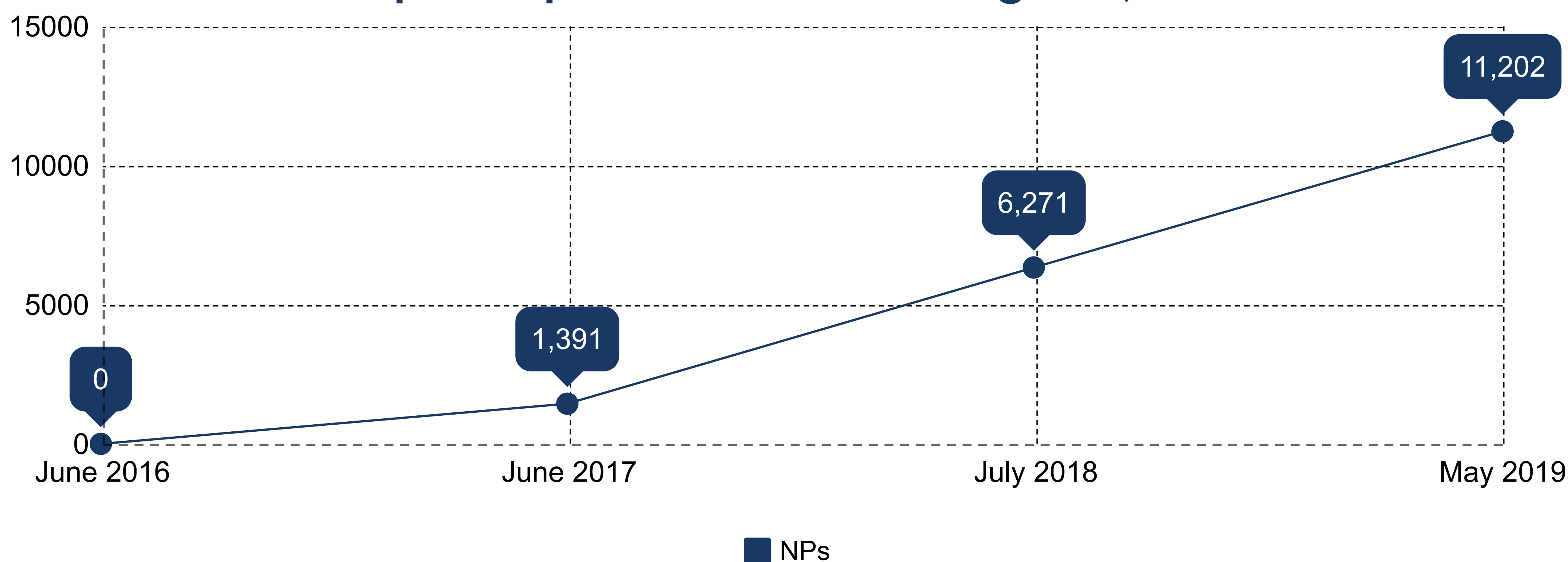
More than 130 Americans die from a drug overdose every day. Annually, this is more than the number of Americans that die from car crashes and guns—combined. The true impact of the opioid crisis reaches beyond those numbers. It includes an unprecedented number of children entering foster care due to parental substance abuse and record increases in both the number of babies born with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome and lost productivity of the U.S. workforce. Improving access to medication assisted treatments (MATs) can have a profound impact on individuals with opioid use disorder, their families and the health of our nation.^{1,2,3,4}



As of May 2019, over 11,000 NPs are authorized by the DEA to prescribe MAT.

MATs, such as buprenorphine, are critical to improving outcomes for individuals suffering from opioid use disorder. In 2016, the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) implemented a pilot program granting nurse practitioners (NPs) the authorization to prescribe buprenorphine to treat opioid use disorder. In October 2018, the Substance Use-Disorder Prevention that Promotes Opioid Recovery and Treatment (SUPPORT) Act was signed into law, permanently authorizing NPs to prescribe MAT.^{5,6}

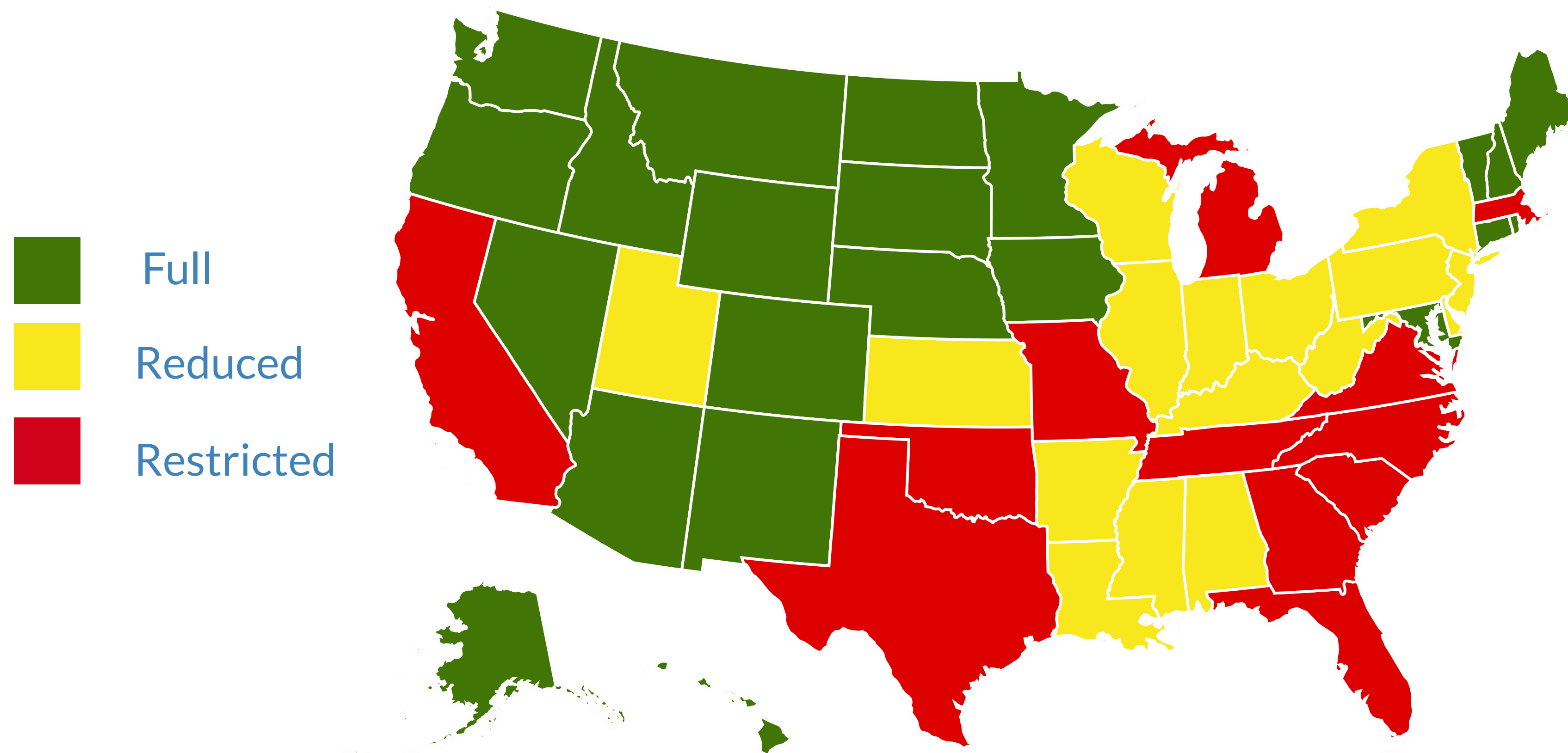
Growth in Buprenorphine Waivers Among NPs, 2016 to 2019⁷



Access to MAT therapy isn't equitable across all states. According to researchers at the Institute for Health Policy Studies at the University of California, San Francisco,

"States in which NP practice is restricted may be less able to expand the opioid treatment workforce."⁸

NPs in Full Practice Authority (FPA) States Are More Likely to Have a Buprenorphine Waiver Than Those in Reduced and Restricted States⁷



Top 12 States

1	Maine	14.0%
2	District of Columbia	13.4%
3	Alaska	12.3%
4	Vermont	12.2%
5	New Hampshire	11.8%
6	Oregon	11.1%
7	Maryland	10.5%
8	New Mexico	10.3%
9	Washington	8.9%
10	Connecticut	8.7%
11	Arizona	8.6%
12	Wyoming	8.4%

States with the highest proportion of NPs who have waivers are states with Full Practice Authority.

States with the lowest proportion of NPs who have waivers are states with Reduced or Restricted Practice Authority.

Bottom 12 States

40	Wisconsin	2.5%
41	Michigan	2.3%
42	Florida	1.9%
43	Nebraska	1.8%
44	Arkansas	1.6%
45	Missouri	1.6%
46	Texas	1.5%
47	Mississippi	1.4%
48	Georgia	1.3%
49	Alabama	1.1%
50	Kansas	1.1%
51	Tennessee	0.0%



NPs play a critical role in helping our nation curb the crisis of opioid use disorders. Equipped with graduate degrees and advanced clinical training, NPs diagnose, treat and prescribe medications in over a billion patient visits each year. **AANP calls on policymakers to retire outdated laws that stand between patients and the care they need by adopting Full Practice Authority for NPs.**

¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. (2018). Annual Surveillance Report of Drug-Related Risks and Outcomes, United States 2017. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Atlanta, GA.

² Jilani, S. M., Frey, M. T., Pepin, D., Jewell, T., Jordan, M., Miller, A. M., ... & Ailes, E. C. (2019). Evaluation of State-Mandated Reporting of Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome –Six States, 2013–2017. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, 68(1), 6.

³ US Department of Health & Human Services (2016). Number of children in foster care increases for the third consecutive year. Administration for Children & Families. Retrieved from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/archive/media/press/2016-number-of-children-in-foster-care-increases-for-the-third-consecutive-year>

⁴ Gitis, B. & Soto, I. (2018). The Labor Force and Output Consequences of the Opioid Crisis. American Action Forum. Retrieved from <https://www.americanactionforum.org/research/labor-force-output-consequences-opioid-crisis/>

⁵ GovTrack.us. (2019). S. 524 – 114th Congress: Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016. Retrieved from <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/114/s524>

⁶ GovTrack.us. (2019). H.R. 6 – 115th Congress: SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act. Retrieved from <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6>

⁷ AANP Analysis of National NP Database and SAMHSA Waiver Data, July 2019

⁸ Spetz, J., Toretzky, C., Chapman, S., Phoenix, B., Tierney, M. (2019). Nurse practitioner and physician assistant waivers to prescribe buprenorphine and state scope of practice restrictions. *JAMA*, 321(14), 1407-1408.