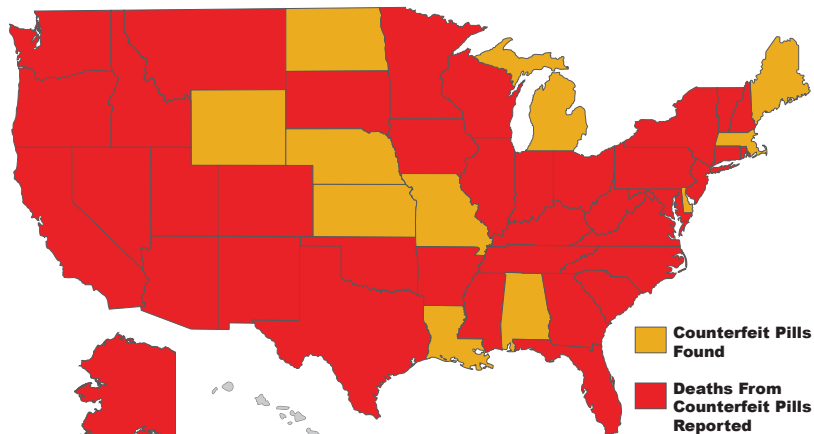
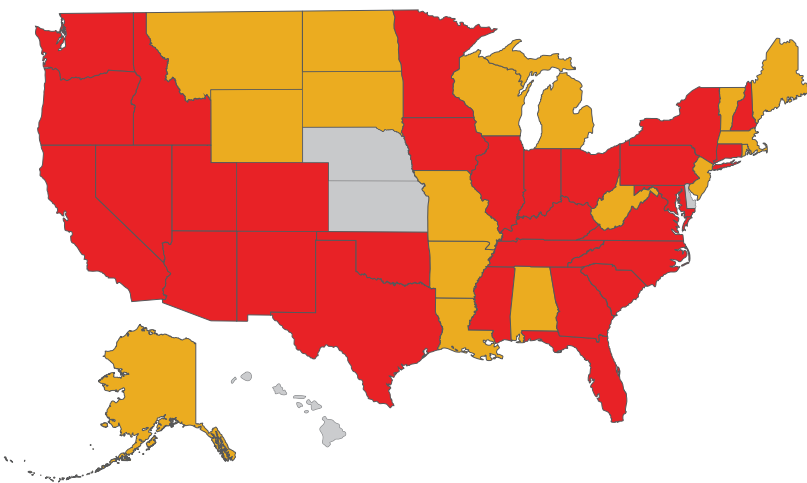


# JANUARY 2020

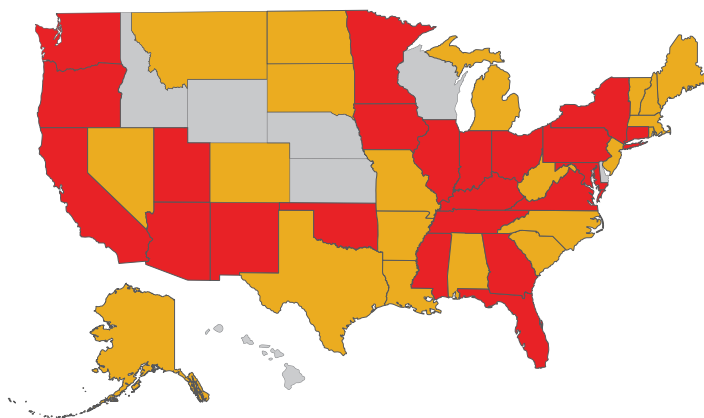


Fake prescription pills have been found in 49 states, and have killed people in 38 of them. Does not count prescription opioids or fentanyl/heroin incidents.

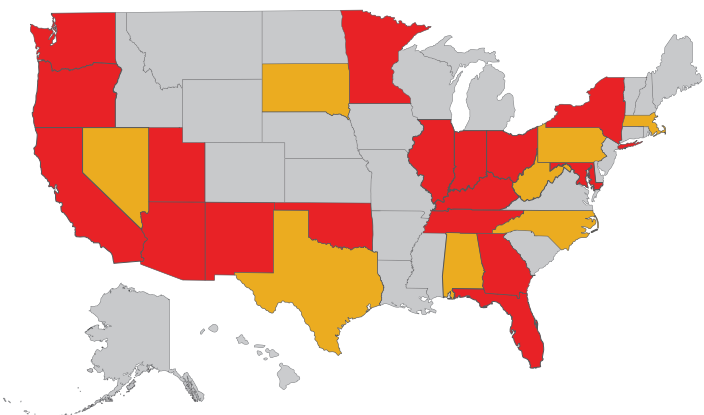
January 2019



April 2018



October 2016



## 49 STATES HAVE REPORTED DEADLY COUNTERFEIT PILLS MADE WITH FENTANYL

### ● Fake, fentanyl-laced pills have left a trail of bodies

A father-to-be in Georgia dropped dead after taking a painkiller for a pulled muscle in February 2015.<sup>1</sup> Eight months later, a Californian took a Xanax when he couldn't sleep, and never woke up.<sup>2</sup> Deaths like these have been reported in 38 states.

### ● Risks for first responders

Tiny quantities of fentanyl and fentanyl analogues, which can be ingested orally, inhaled or injected, can cause illness, respiratory depression, or death.<sup>3</sup> Officers, EMTs, nurses, and even working dogs have been treated for fentanyl exposure.<sup>4</sup>

### ● Where do these pills come from?

Criminals bring cheap Chinese fentanyl across U.S. borders, but the drug also comes via the mail. A first-class envelope can conceal enough powdered fentanyl that a person with an inexpensive pill press can make over 120,000 deadly fake pills.<sup>5</sup>



Fatal dose of fentanyl

### ● How do we stop it?

Educate Americans about the existence of dangerous counterfeits and oppose efforts to weaken the closed, secure drug supply through importation.

**Only purchase medicine from licensed U.S. pharmacies selling FDA-approved products.**

## Footnotes

1. "Counterfeit Pill Made With Fentanyl Killed Young Father-To-Be," The Partnership for Safe Medicines, December 4, 2017, <http://safedr.ug/JPGorgia>.
2. "Young Californian Dies After Accidentally Taking Counterfeit Xanax," The Partnership for Safe Medicines, September 27, 2017, <http://safedr.ug/ToshA>.
3. *Counterfeit Prescription Pills Containing Fentanyls: A Global Threat*, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, July 2016, <http://bit.ly/2EzoNmU>.
4. "Police: East Liverpool Officer Accidentally Overdoses on Fentanyl After Making Drug Arrest," WCPO, May 15, 2017, <http://bit.ly/2HPpKJY>; Andrea K. McDaniels and Erika Butler, "Deputy, Two EMS Providers Treated for Overdose Symptoms Responding to Call," *The Baltimore Sun*, May 23, 2017, <http://bsun.md/2HP2Pyn>; "Police: 3 Ohio Nurses Treated for Fentanyl Exposure," *US News & World Report*, August 12, 2017, <http://bit.ly/2FSPjlf>; and Dan Vergano, "These Three Very Good Police Dogs Overdosed on Fentanyl—and Lived," *Buzzfeed*, July 1, 2017, <http://bzfd.it/2HMguG9>.
5. *Counterfeit Prescription Pills Containing Fentanyl...*, <http://bit.ly/2EzoNmU>.

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Association for Accessible Medicines	Mississippi Pharmacists Association	Pharmaceutical Security Institute
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California Pharmacists Association	National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations	Rx Outreach
Colorado BioScience Association	National Alliance On Mental Illness	Rx Partnership
Community Access National Network	National Association of Boards of Pharmacy	The Sharing Alliance
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Institute for Safe Medication Practices	NeedyMeds	
International AntiCounterfeiting Coalition	New Mexico Pharmacists Association	
International Health Facility Diversion Association	Ohio Pharmacists Association	

