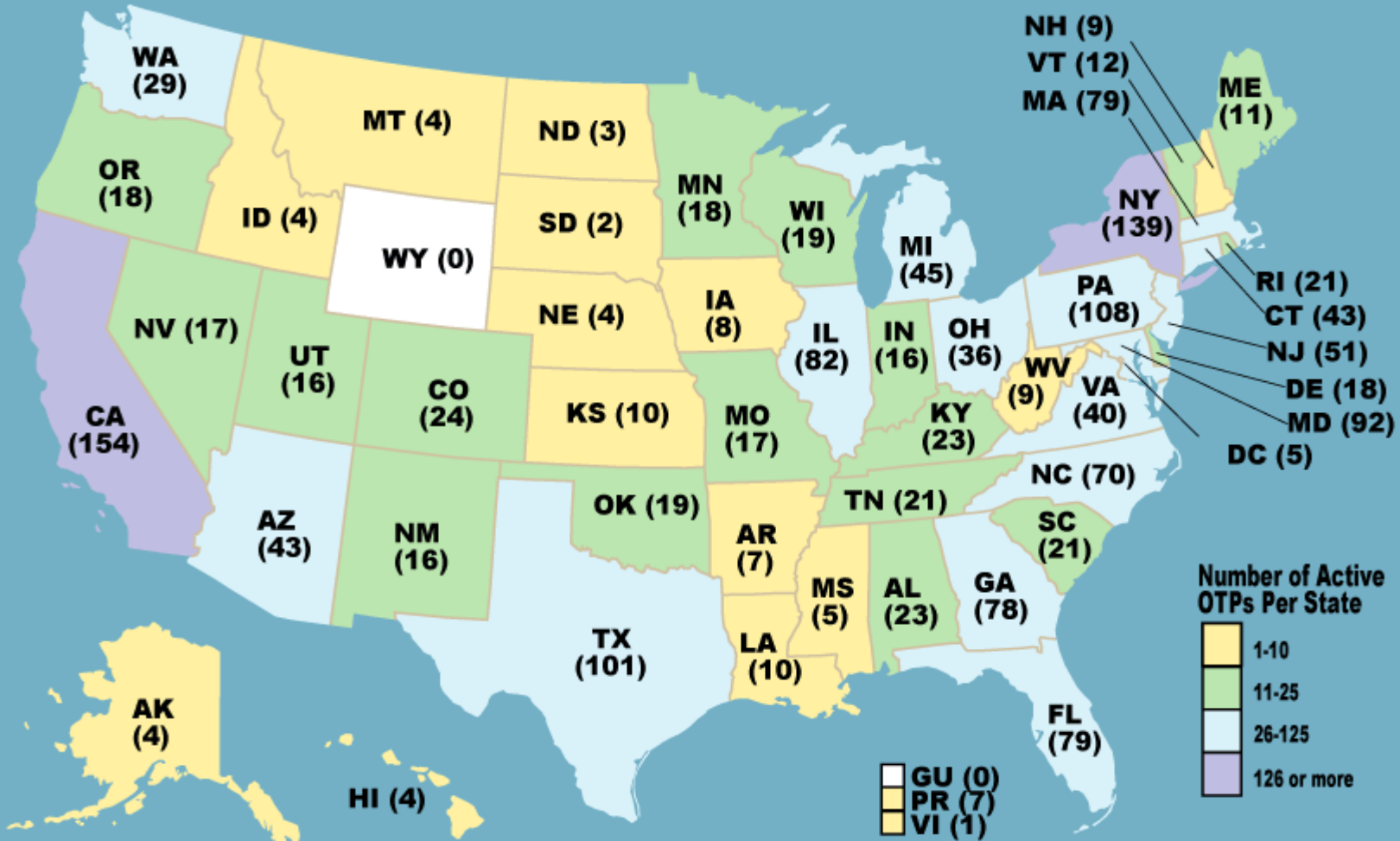


# Increasing Access to Medication Assisted Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder in the Criminal Justice Setting



**Mark W. Parrino, M.P.A.**  
**October 21, 2020**  
**Criminal Justice Initiative Webinar Series**

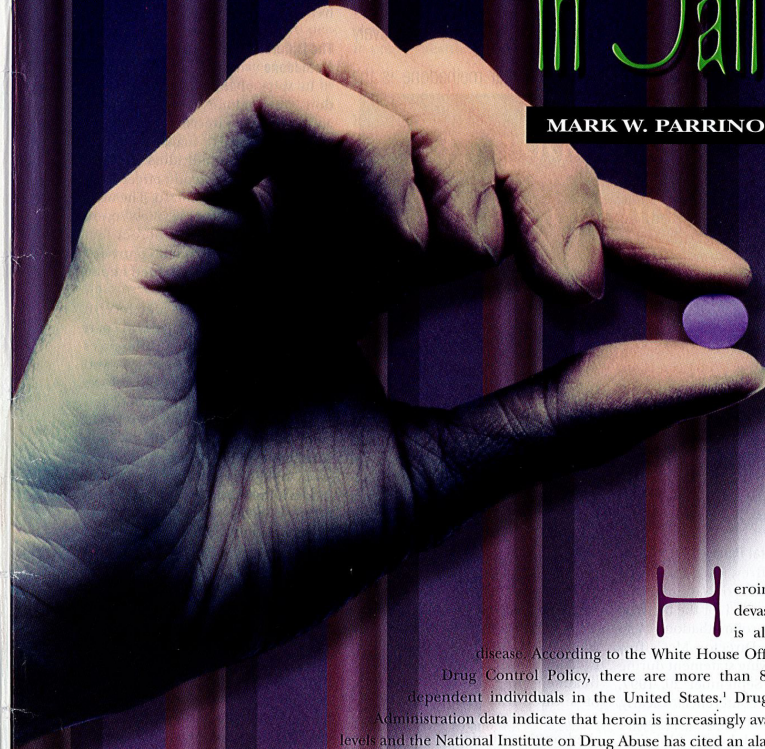
## SAMHSA Certified Opioid Treatment Programs



**Source: SAMHSA, CSAT. OTP Database. February 27, 2018.**

# Methadone Treatment in Jail

MARK W. PARRINO



**H**eroin addiction is a devastating reality. It is also a treatable

disease. According to the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, there are more than 800,000 heroin dependent individuals in the United States.<sup>1</sup> Drug Enforcement Administration data indicate that heroin is increasingly available at purer levels and the National Institute on Drug Abuse has cited an alarming increase in the number of young people using heroin in suburban and urban areas.

The New York State Division of Substance Abuse Services completed a study in 1991 and found that the annual per person cost of untreated heroin addiction amounts to \$45,000.00.<sup>2</sup> Another study was completed in California in 1994 and found that drug and alcohol abuse creates an annual cost to taxpaying citizens in the amount of \$3.1 billion with 35 percent of the costs being absorbed by the nation's criminal justice system.<sup>3</sup>

AMERICAN JAILS May/June 2000 ♦ 9



## **AATOD Fact Sheet**

### **Medication-Assisted Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder in the Justice System**

**October 2017**

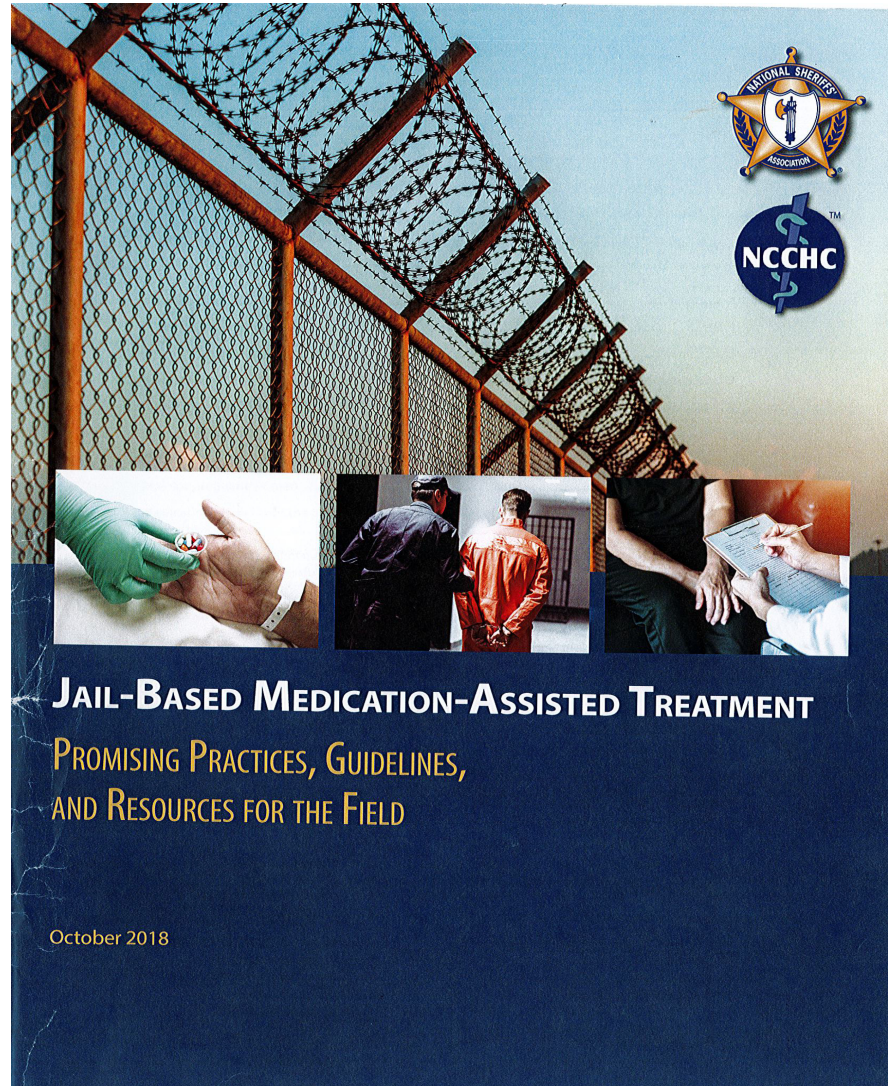
#### **Introduction**

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Many publications over the last decade have documented the alarming increase in use and abuse of prescription opioids and heroin (Cicero, Inciardi, & Munoz, 2005; Davis, Severtson, Bucher-Bartelson, & Dart, 2014; GAO, 2009; Paulozzi, Budnitz, & Xi, 2006; Pletcher, Kertesz, Kohn, & Gonzales, 2008; Reifler, et al., 2012; Schneider, et al., 2009). This surge resulted largely from the significant increase in physician/dentist prescription of opioid medications to treat chronic pain during the 1990s, when a sizeable subset of patients became dependent on and/or addicted to the medications. A report from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) cited that 79.5 percent of heroin users had previously used prescription pain relievers for nonmedical reasons (Muhuri, Gfroerer, & Davies, 2013). More recent media reports have indicated that over 120 people die of an opiate related overdose each day (2017).

The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) has clearly established that Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) "increases patient retention and decreases drug use, infectious disease transmission, and criminal activity" (NIDA, 2012). This type of treatment combines counseling with medications that block opioids' euphoric effects and relieve relapse-inducing cravings. "To







A prisoner at Rhode Island's John J. Moran Medium Security Prison, watches television during free time on December 10, 2013 in Cranston, Rhode Island. | Getty

LAW AND ORDER

## How the Smallest State is Defeating America's Biggest Addiction Crisis

Rhode Island inmates get opioid replacements while they're locked up and it seems to be keeping them from overdosing when they get out.

By ERICK TRICKEY | August 25, 2018

**C**RANSTON, R.I. — By the time police caught Paul Roussell with heroin last summer, the 58-year-old lobster fisherman had been addicted to the drug for almost 10 years. He'd gone from sniffing two bags of heroin a day to 10, then as

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# Major Policy Initiatives

- Implementation of Medicare Reimbursement for OTPs: January 1, 2020
- Promulgation of DEA Mobile Van Regulations
- Department of Agriculture Funding Opportunities
- Implementation of New Medicaid Rates in 11 States: October 2020

# Impact of COVID-19 on OTP Policy

- Expanded Use of Telehealth/Telecommunication
- Greater Clinical Flexibility for Medication Take-Home
- Toxicology Testing Results
- Access to Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)



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