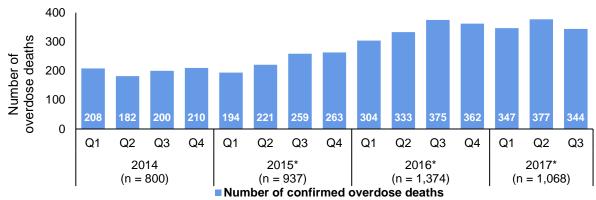
# Unintentional Drug Poisoning (Overdose) Deaths Quarters 1, 2, and 3, 2017, New York City

December 2017

# Overdose deaths in New York City remained at epidemic levels during the first nine months of 2017

344 overdoses confirmed during the third quarter of 2017 Many 2017 deaths still pending final determinations; more recent quarters subject to larger increases



\*Data for 2015, 2016, and 2017 are provisional and subject to change.

## **Key Points**

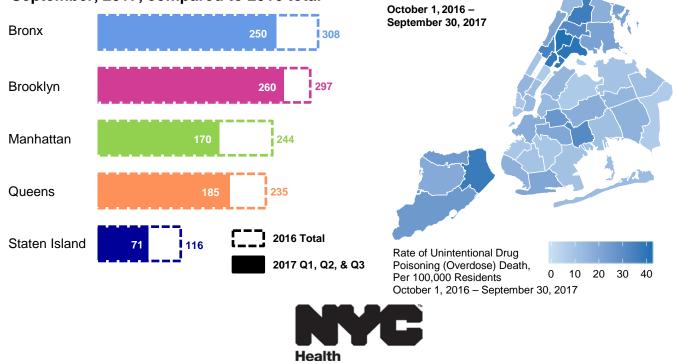
- Every seven hours, someone dies of a drug overdose in New York City.
- More New Yorkers die of drug overdoses than homicides, suicides, and motor vehicle crashes combined.

Bronx and Staten Island neighborhoods

have high rates of overdose death

- Overdose deaths in New York City (NYC) have increased for six consecutive years.
- Fentanyl, a highly potent opioid, continues to be involved in approximately half of all overdose deaths.

#### Number of confirmed overdose deaths by borough of residence, January – September, 2017, compared to 2016 total



# Concerned about overdose? Here's what you can do

## Obtain naloxone, a medication that can reverse an opioid overdose

- Opioid-involved deaths are preventable. Opioid-involved overdoses can be reversed using the medication naloxone (Narcan®).
- All New Yorkers can receive free naloxone and training on how to use it from opioid overdose prevention programs.
- Naloxone is also available at participating pharmacies in New York City. Most insurance programs cover part or all of the cost of naloxone. N-CAP, a New York State program, covers up to \$40 of insurance copay.
- To find an opioid overdose prevention program or a participating pharmacy near you, visit nyc.gov/health and search "overdose prevention."

## Know and get the most effective treatment for opioid use disorder (addiction)

- Medication-assisted treatment is the most effective treatment for opioid use disorder (addiction).
- Many New Yorkers have opioid use disorder and could benefit from treatment.
- Medication-assisted treatment, such as methadone or buprenorphine (Suboxone®), can prevent overdose and effectively treat opioid addiction.
- If you or someone you know has an opioid use disorder, medication-assisted treatment can help.
- To find a buprenorphine prescriber or a methadone treatment program near you, call 1-888-NYCWELL or text "WELL" to 65173.
- New York City providers who would like to prescribe buprenorphine can register for training by e-mailing buprenorphine@health.nyc.gov.

# **Data Notes and Definitions**

- Data for 2015, 2016, and 2017 are provisional and subject to change.
- This report includes only deaths where the medical examiner has determined the cause of death. Since it
  can take several weeks for the medical examiner to complete investigations of suspected overdoses, many
  cases for 2017 are still pending final determinations. More recent quarters are subject to larger increases.
- Data include drug overdoses where medical examiners determined the manner of death to be accidental.
- Borough-level data are presented by decedent's borough of residence. Because borough-level data exclude non-residents, numbers will not reflect the total number of overdose deaths in New York City.
- Mortality data were collected through an in-depth review of data and charts from the Health Department's Bureau of Vital Statistics and the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

