

July 2023 Newsletter
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Cannabis Use Disorder Associated With Surgery Complications

According to a new study published in *JAMA Surgery*, patients with cannabis use disorder were more likely to experience complications around the time of surgery. Read more [here](#).

Emergency Room Visits Linked To Cannabis Increased During Pandemic

According to a new study published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, emergency department visits related to cannabis use increased among people under the age of 25 during the pandemic and have remained elevated. Read more [here](#).

Fatal Drug Overdoses Remain At Record Levels

Provisional data released by the CDC on July 12 showed the number of people dying of drug overdoses in the U.S. was nearly the same between February 2022 and February 2023. Read more [here](#).

SAMHSA Harm Reduction Framework Draft Open for Public Comment

On July 17, SAMHSA announced that the agency's Harm Reduction Framework Draft is open for public comment. The framework will inform SAMHSA's harm reduction activities, as well as related policies, programs, and practices. Comments will be accepted through 5 p.m. ET on August 14, 2023. Read more [here](#).

Cocaine and Opioid Mix Drive Up Fatal Overdoses

According to a new Centers for Disease Control and Prevention analysis, overdose deaths involving both cocaine and opioids have spiked over the past decade. Read more [here](#).

White House Releases National Response Plan to Address Fentanyl Combined with Xylazine

On July 11, the Biden administration released a plan to fight a rise in deaths caused by a combination of illicit fentanyl and xylazine. Read the full National Response Plan [here](#).

House Labor HHS Bill Considered in Subcommittee

On July 14, House appropriators released draft text of their FY24 Labor-HHS-Education spending bill ahead of subcommittee markup. The measure would provide \$43 billion for NIH, which is \$3.8 billion below FY23, including \$1.663 billion for NIDA, the same as the FY23 level. Read more [here](#).

Senate Appropriators Approve FY24 Labor-HHS Spending Bill

On July 27, the Senate Appropriations Committee voted 25-1 to advance its FY24 Labor, Health and Human Services bill. The bill provides \$47.8 billion for NIH, \$943 million over FY23 and \$1.67 billion for NIDA, \$10 million over FY23 and the level included in the House FY24 bill. This includes no less than \$365.3 million, an increase of \$10 million, for the Institute's share of the HEAL Initiative. Bill text, the report, a summary and other materials are available [here](#).