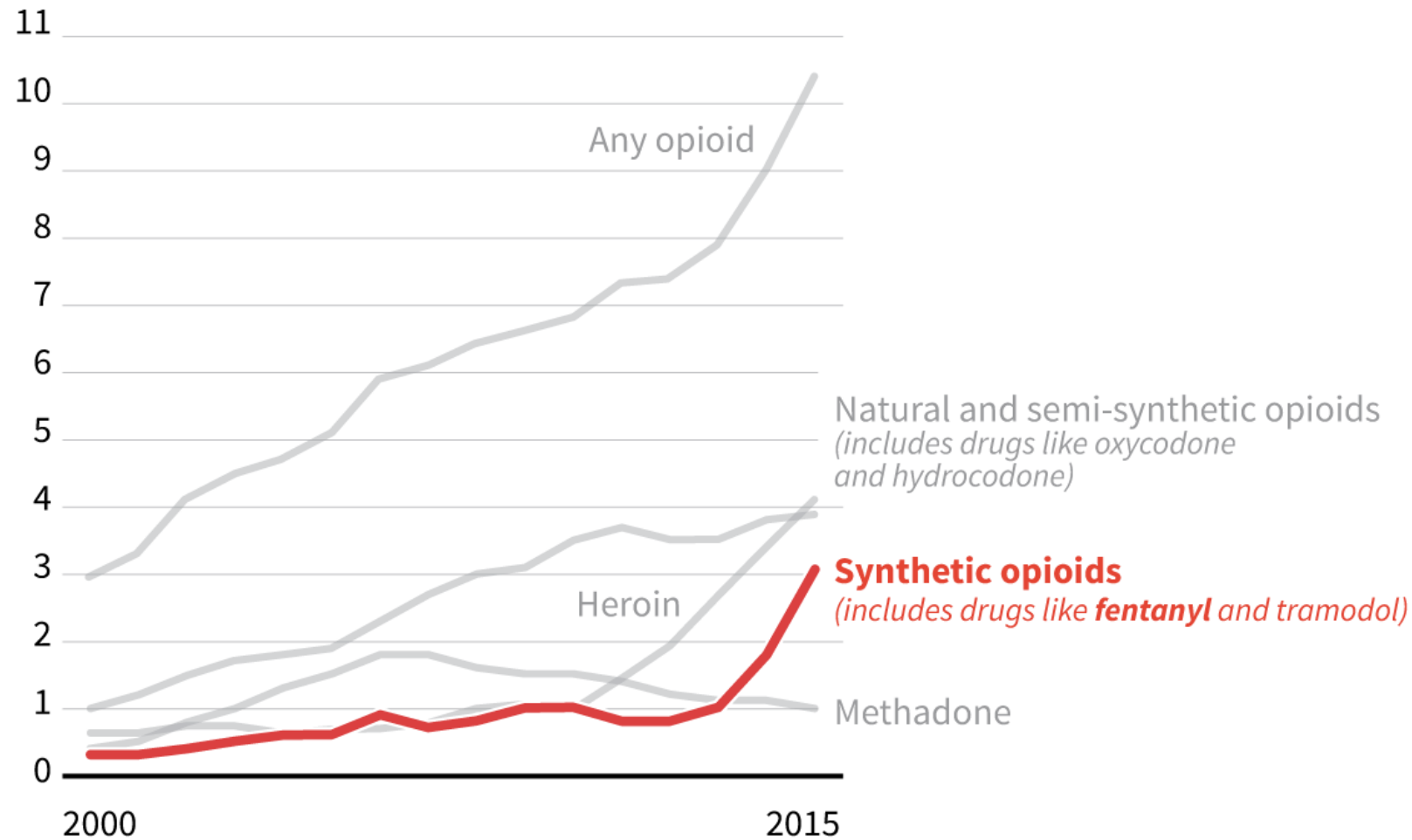




Opiate and other Substance Use
Disorders Interim Study Committee
Law Enforcement and Drug Interdiction

Opioid-Related Deaths, Especially From Synthetic Opioids Like Fentanyl, Are On The Rise In The U.S.

Drug overdose deaths involving opioids, by type, per 100,000 population



Source: CDC

The Huffington Post

Why are Opiates exploding in the United States ?

- Over-prescribing of opiate based medication?
- US appetite for stronger more powerful drugs?
- Large quantities of domestically produced marijuana?
- Cost/ Benefit for Mexican and South American cartels
- Low Cost

Over prescribing of Opiate based medication

US appetite for stronger more powerful
drugs?

Large quantities of domestically produced
marijuana?

POPPY PRODUCTION IN MEXICO



What do the cartels have to lose?

- Based on a 6 billion dollar market in the US each year the cartels stand to lose 2-3 billion dollars based on marijuana legalization alone in just the states of Colorado and Washington
- How do you satisfy that shortfall? Grow poppy and produce heroin. Additionally increase other drugs coming into the country such as methamphetamine. Sinaloa Cartel controls an estimated 80% of the drugs entering the United States makes an estimated 2-3 billion from their trafficking activities annually

Poppy has overtaken marijuana as the most interdicted crop in Mexico

Low Cost

Low Cost

Heroin is a relatively cheap and easy drug to get. Stricter rules and regulations surrounding prescription opiate painkiller pills, leaving many prescription pill junkies nowhere to turn.

Prescription opiates on the street are increasingly expensive. Rather than face the intolerable withdrawals, many users have made the switch from prescription medication to heroin. Heroin provides the same or a better high than prescription opiates, but at a fraction of the cost.

Why the explosion in overdose deaths?

One of the biggest dangers surrounding heroin is its unknown potency. Prescription pill users are able to monitor what they are taking. However, different batches of heroin vary greatly in strength and purity. Heroin is often mixed with other substances that can greatly increase a user's chance of overdose. For many addicts, this is part of their deadly love affair with the drug. Users quickly develop a tolerance to opiates, leaving them chasing that high consuming more heroin each time in an attempt to recreate their initial high.

Easy Access

There has been a large uptick in Mexican drug smuggling activities as a primary reason for the increased ease of access to heroin and fentanyl.

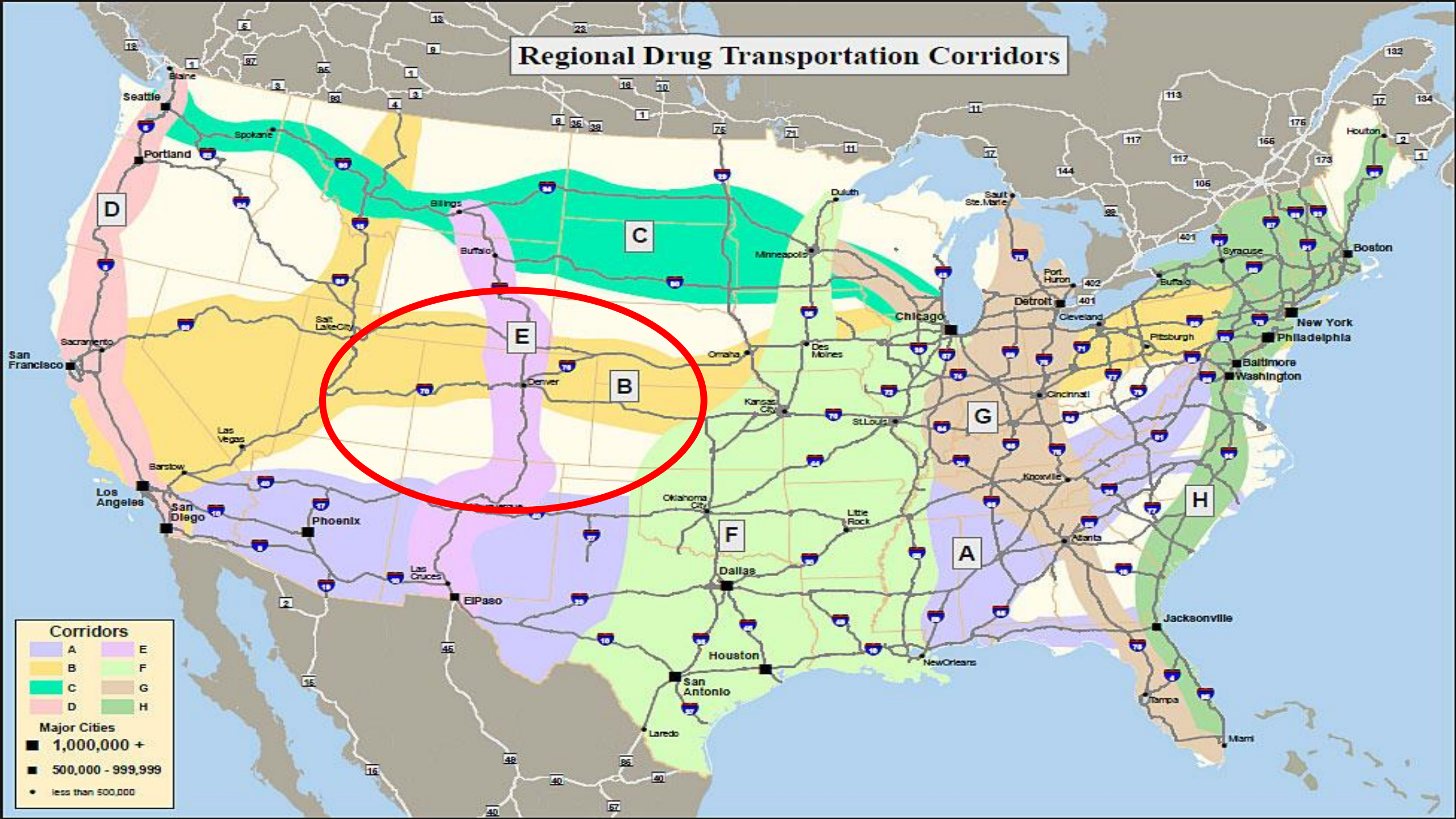
A cheap and easy hustle means addicts pursue their high of choice with a voracious appetite, further feeding the chain of supply and demand for heroin.

Dark web, Chinese and Mexican importers are main sources of Fentanyl and Carfentanil

What does this mean for Colorado?

- Overdose deaths are at an all time high similar to the rest of the Country
- Colorado is a source and pass through state for many of the narcotics hitting the streets throughout the Country
- We need stiffer penalties for those distributing Fentanyl and Carfentanil
- The only reason you would distribute these items is to cause death or near death and to increase the value of your product
- Steady funding for the use of Narcan by police officers
- Enforcement will continue across the State of Colorado and throughout the United States

Regional Drug Transportation Corridors



Corridors

A	E
B	F
C	G
D	H

Major Cities

- 1,000,000 +
- 500,000 - 999,999
- less than 500,000



Heroin Transportation Routes

- Primary
- Secondary
- Tertiary

Source: National Drug Intelligence Center analysis of National Seizure System data; federal, state and local law enforcement reporting.



Any questions or concerns feel free to contact
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