

# THE MASSACHUSETTS OPIOID EPIDEMIC

*An Issue of Substance*



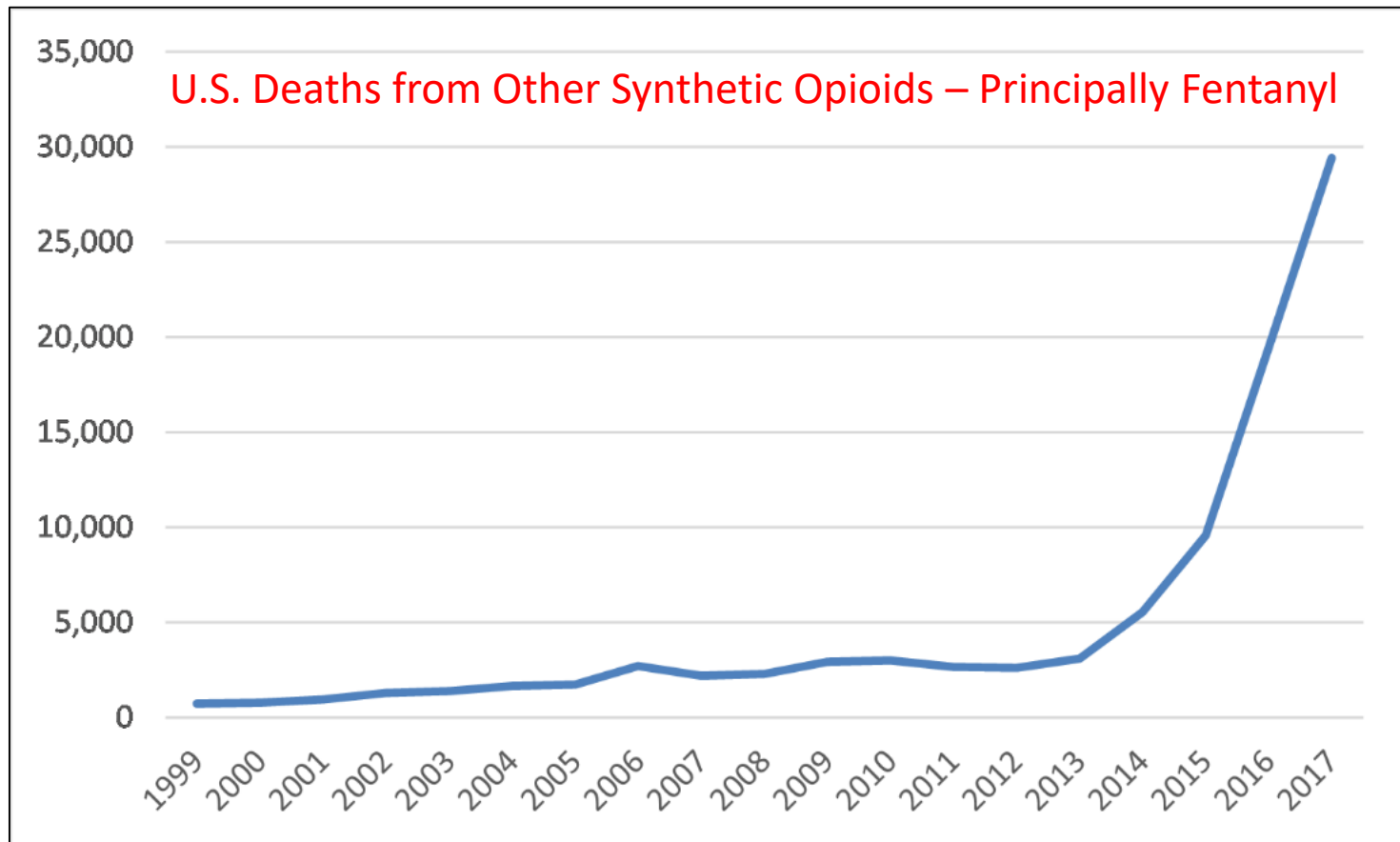
Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation

# Purpose of this report

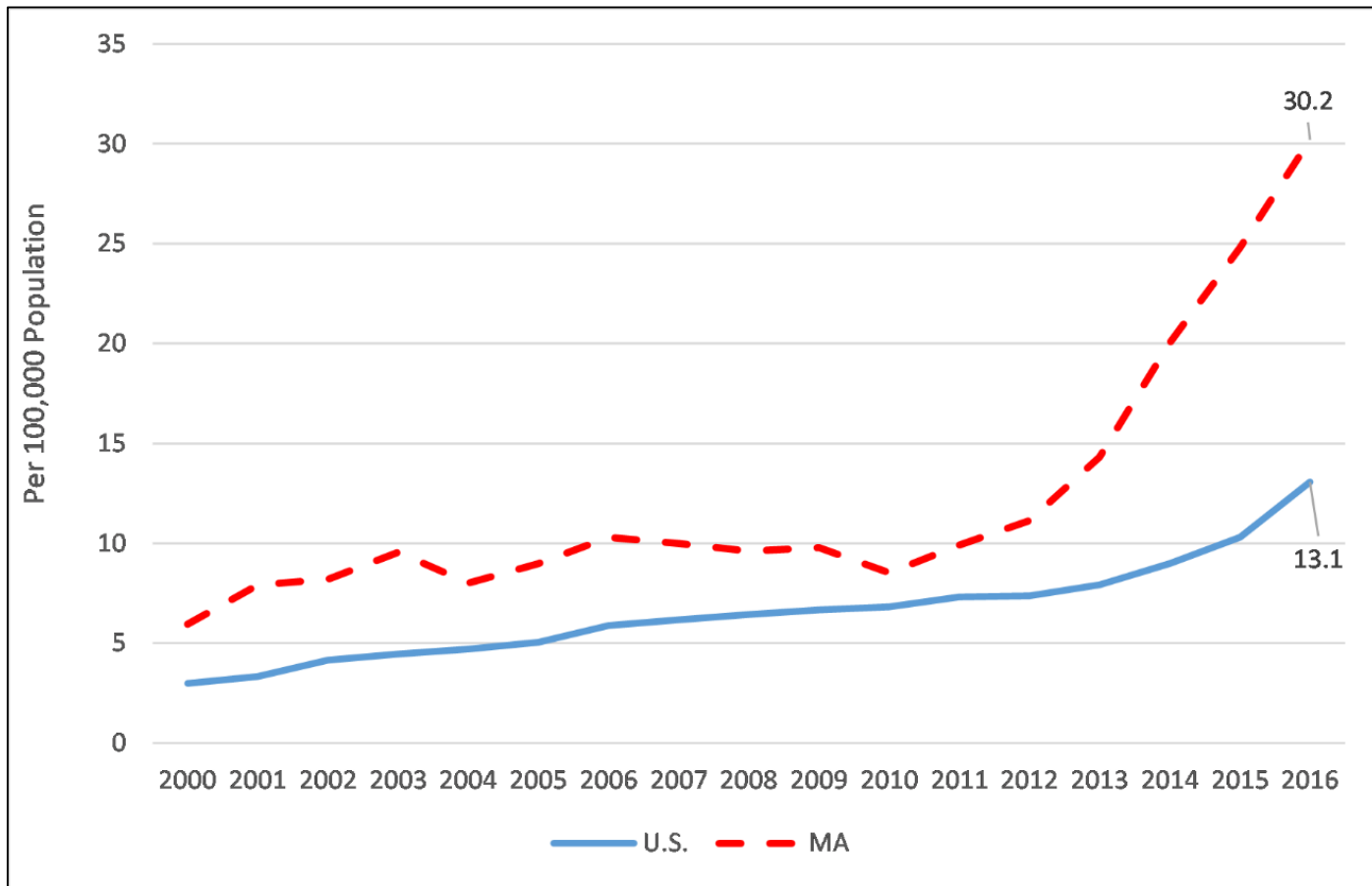
- Provide a comprehensive picture of the size and scope of the epidemic in Massachusetts
- Motivate greater involvement in this crisis among business leaders
- Demonstrate methodology and data sources for future studies here and in other states



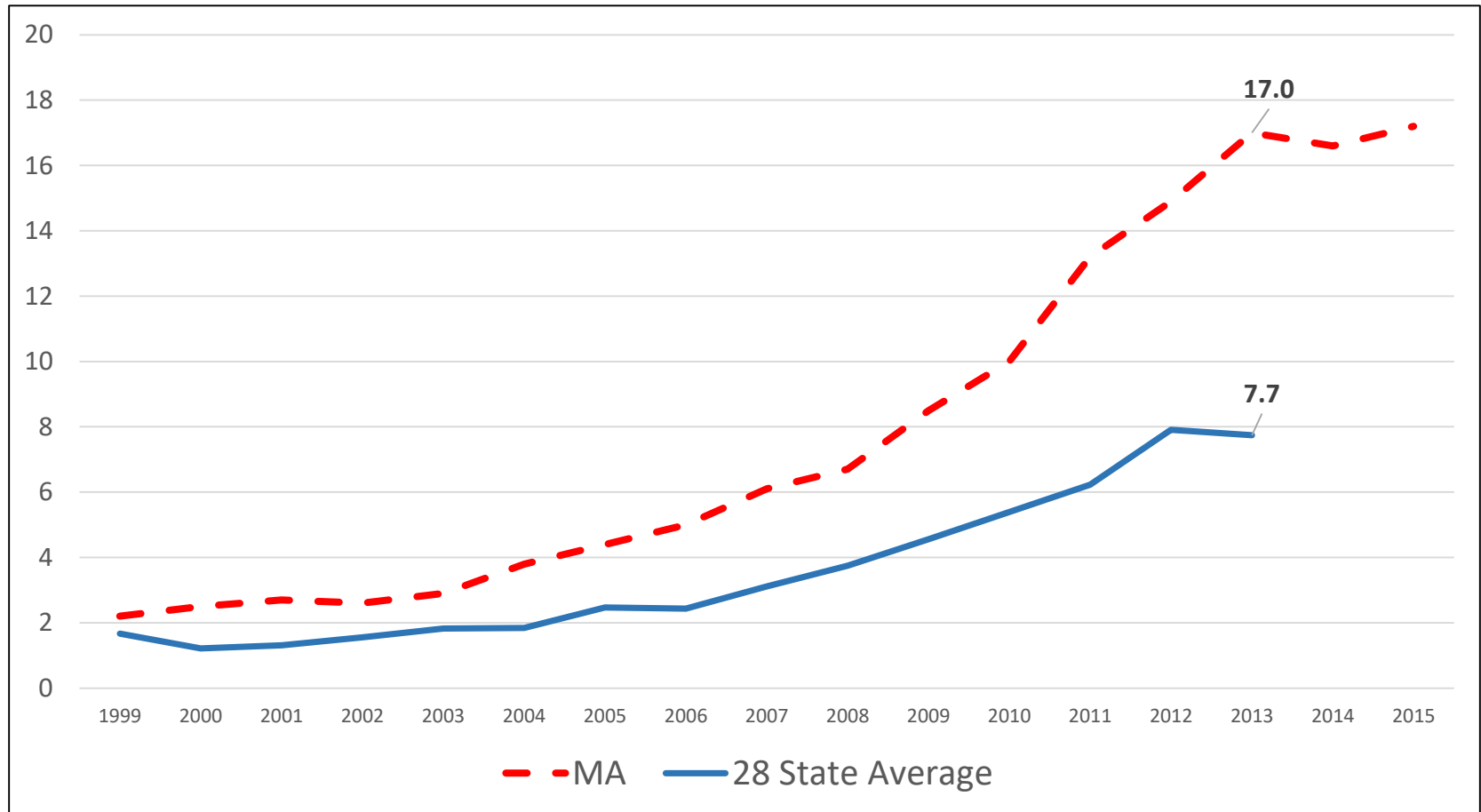
# The opioid epidemic is far from over and it will probably get worse



# Massachusetts at the epicenter of the epidemic – opioid-related deaths per 100,000 population



# Another metric: incidences of Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome per 1,000 Births



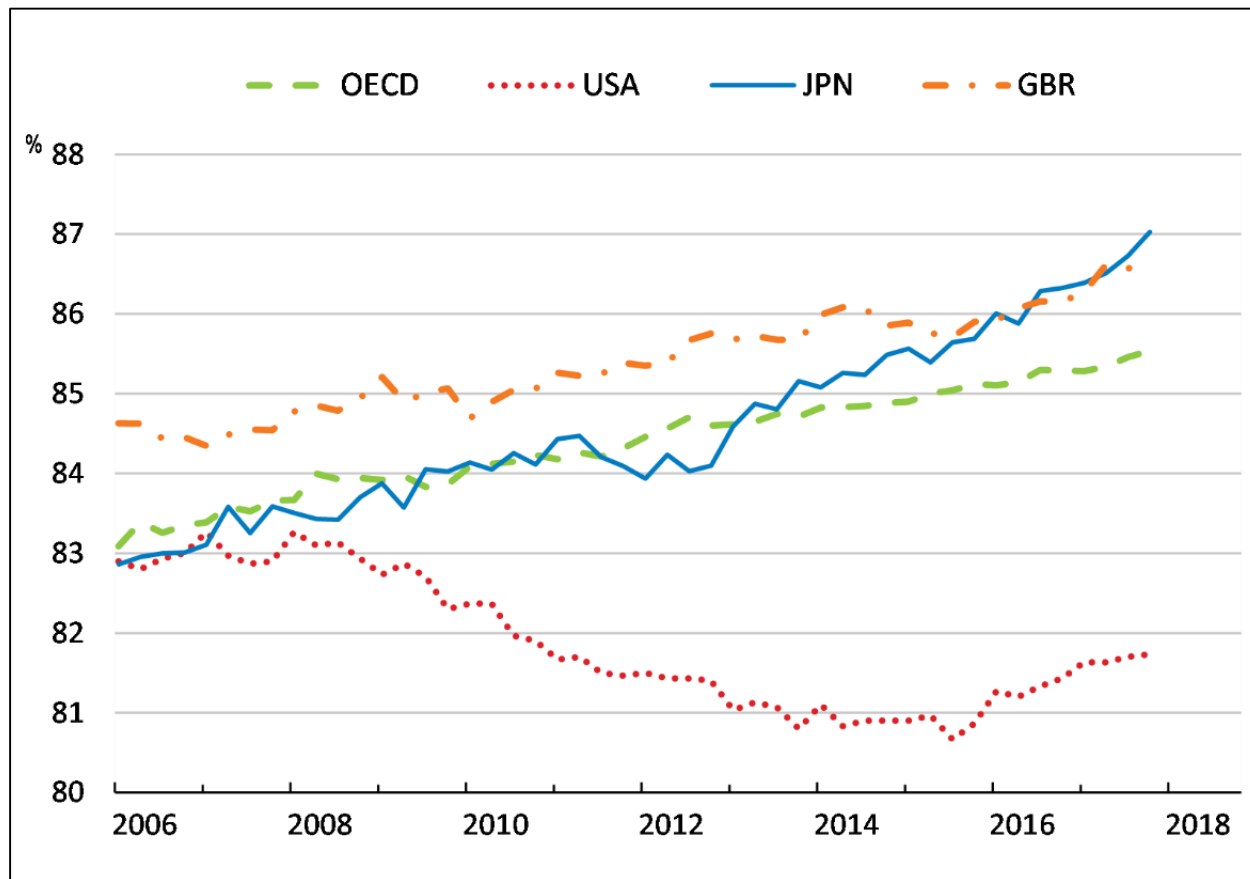
People in the workforce: absenteeism, presenteeism, and excess health care costs businesses ~ \$4.8 billion

	Employees	Hours Lost / Year	Output/Hr.	Total Productivity
Absenteeism	143,000	124	108	<b>(1,922,224,161)</b>
Presenteeism	143,000	50	108	<b>(775,090,388)</b>

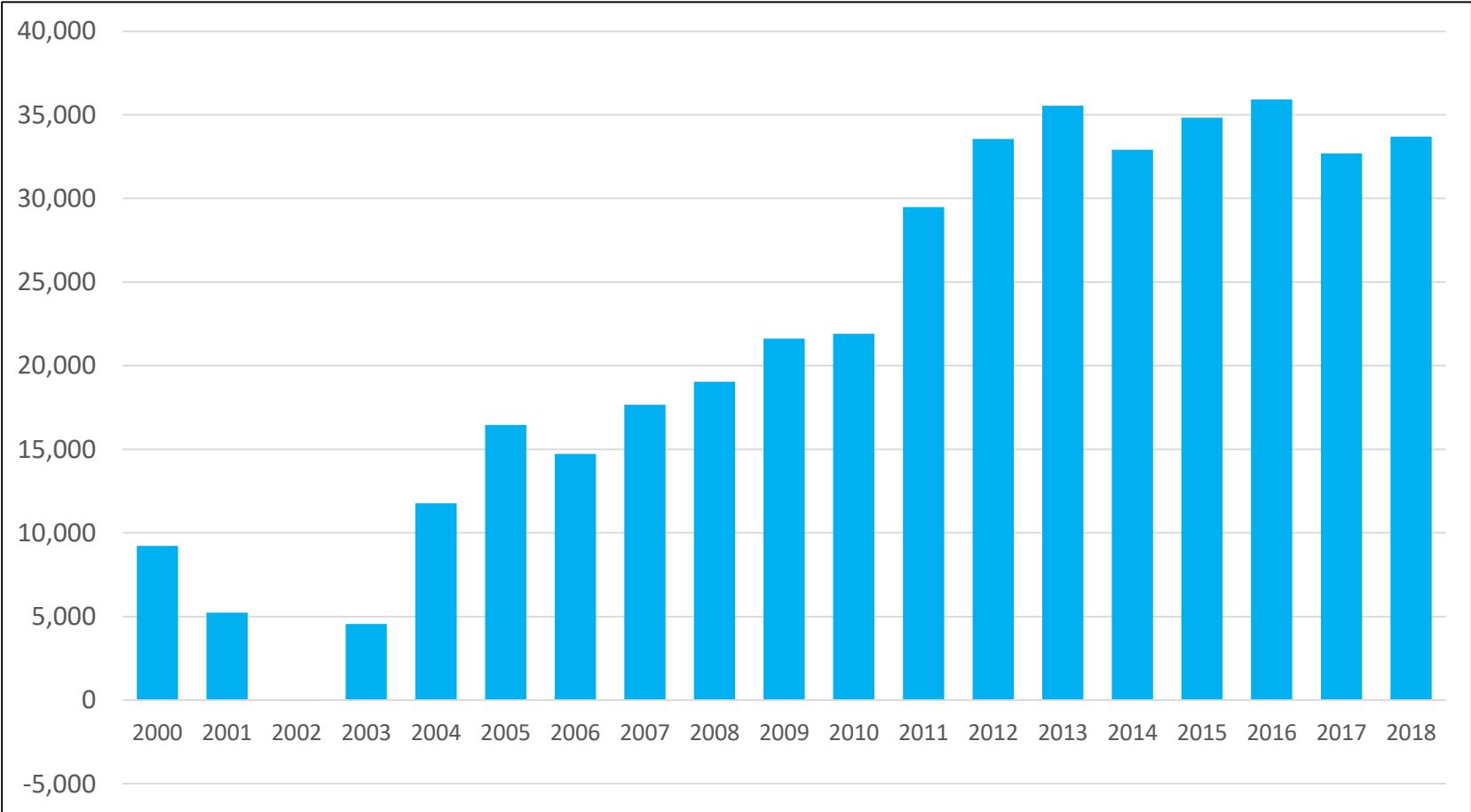
Studies	Excess Health Care Costs / Employee
Birnbaum et al, 2006	13,363
Council of Economic Advisors	15,474
FairHealth, 2016	15,898
Florence et al, 2016	16,257
Kirson et al, 2016	14,810
Rice et al, 2014a	10,627
Rice et al, 2014b	11,376
White et al, 2005	14,054
White et al, 2011	20,546
<b>Average</b>	<b>14,712</b>
<b>143,000</b>	<b>(2,103,768,333)</b>



People out of the workforce: the U.S. labor force participation rate is demonstrably lower than other countries in the developed world

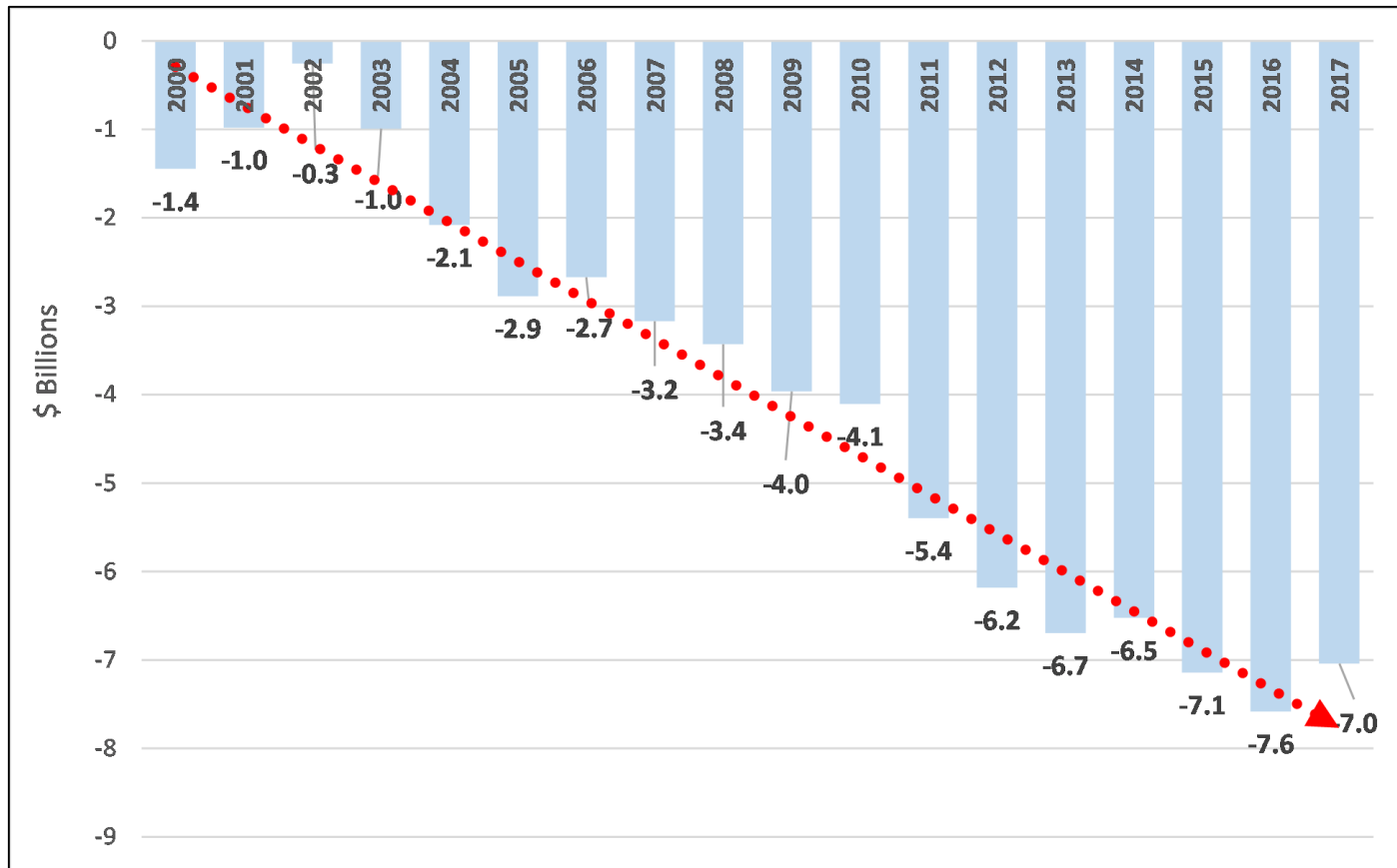


Since 2011, MA has averaged 33,700 people unable to work due to opioid misuse





# Massachusetts economic impact from lost productivity and foregone income



# Breadth of the crisis: sizable impacts on the economy, business, health care providers, the state and municipalities

	<b>Estimated Impact in 2017</b>
<b>The Economy</b>	
Lost Productivity from People Unable to Work	\$5.9 Billion
Foregone Incomes due to Fatalities	\$1.1 Billion
<b>Businesses</b>	
Lost Business Productivity due to Absenteeism	\$1.9 Billion
Lost Business Productivity due to Presenteeism	\$775 Million
Additional Health Care Costs	\$2.1 Billion
<b>Health Care Providers</b>	
ED Visits	\$122 Million
Inpatient Stays	\$538 Million
ICU Stays	\$271 Million
Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome	\$48 Million
Early Intervention and Support for Families Affected by OUD	?
Medical Complications from OUD*	?
<b>State Budget</b>	
MassHealth	\$860 Million
Dept. of Public Health	\$136 Million
Dept. of Mental Health	\$17 Million
Dept. of Children and Families	\$370 Million
Criminal Justice System	\$500 Million
<b>Communities</b>	
First Responders	\$43 Million
Opioid-Related Police Costs	\$510 Million



# Conclusion: It is time to talk

- MTF hopes this report catalyzes greater urgency and engagement from all segments of our society in the battle against the scourge of this epidemic – particularly among Massachusetts employers
- For the future of our Commonwealth and the sake our children, we must ALL fully engage in the struggle to curtail this crisis. It is a fight for their lives – and the fight of our lives.

