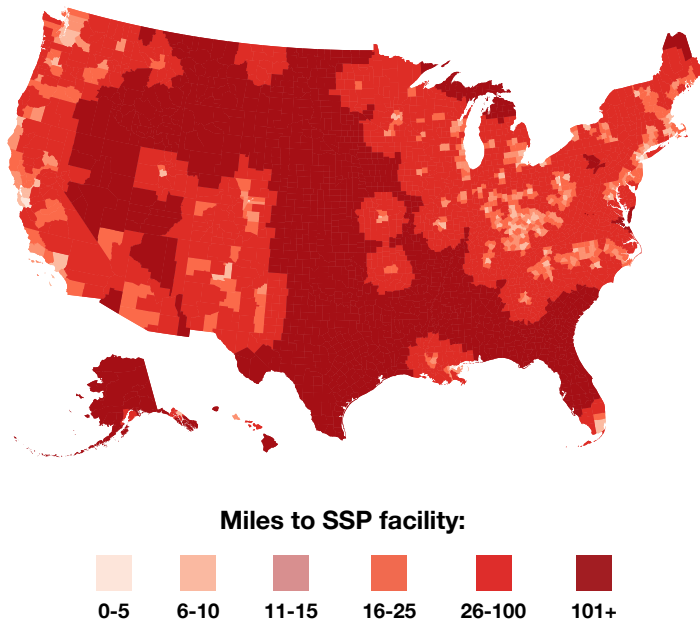
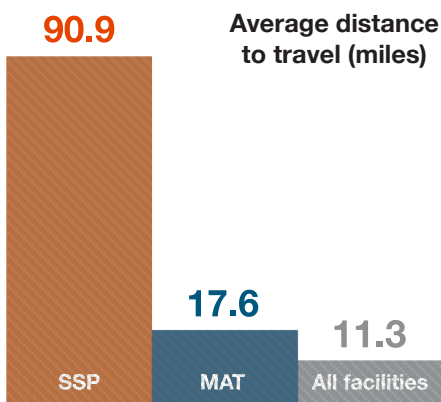


# Getting to Services: Far, Far Away

The number of drug-related poisoning deaths in the United States more than tripled between 1999 and 2017, accompanied by a rise in injection drug use. Since uptake of treatment for substance use disorder and harm reduction services at syringe services programs can reduce the risk of HIV and hepatitis C acquisition, access to services is critically important.

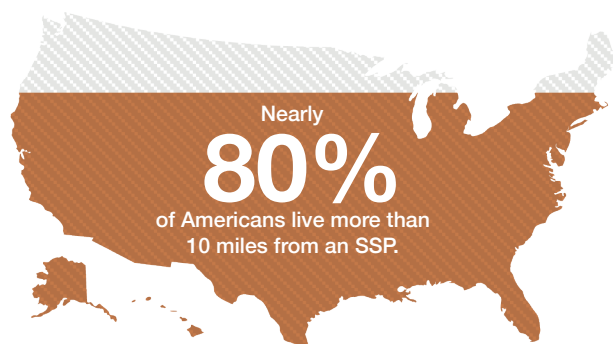
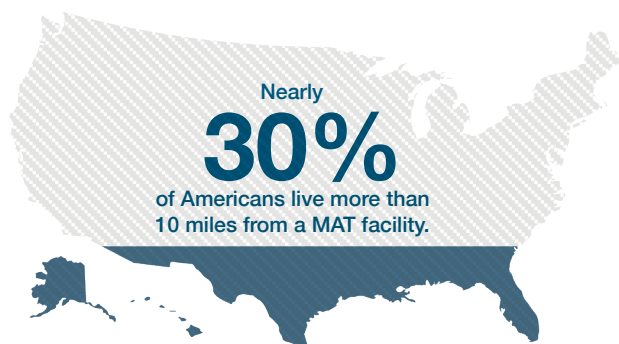
## Many miles to go

The average distance required to travel to a substance abuse treatment facility is 11.3 miles, 17.6 miles for a facility providing medication-assisted treatment (MAT), and 90.9 miles for a syringe services program (SSP).



## Too many Americans left behind

Syringe services programs and medication-assisted therapy often require daily or weekly visits to facilities. According to one study,<sup>1</sup> people typically do not access SSPs if they are more than ten miles from where they live. Yet nearly 30% of Americans (95.7 million people) live more than ten miles from a facility providing medication-assisted treatment, and nearly 80% (260.9 million people) live more than ten miles from an SSP.



See how your state compares at [opioid.amfar.org](http://opioid.amfar.org)

Source: Sharp A, Jones A, Honermann B, Millett G. 220 Vulnerable counties: One year later. [Poster presentation] Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI). 2018 March. Available online at [http://www.croiconference.org/sites/default/files/posters-2018/1430\\_Sharp\\_1158.pdf](http://www.croiconference.org/sites/default/files/posters-2018/1430_Sharp_1158.pdf)

<sup>1</sup> Canary L, Hariri S, Campbell C, Young R, Whitcomb J, et al. Clin Infect Dis. 2017 Aug; 65(3):514-7.