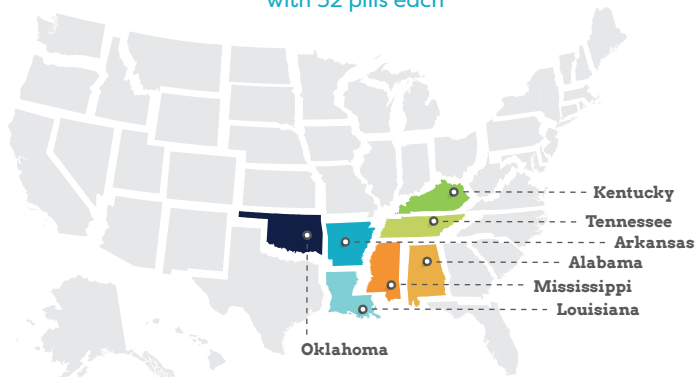


# EXPOSING A SILENT GATEWAY TO PERSISTENT OPIOID USE

A CHOICES *Matter* STATUS REPORT

## Opioids continue to be overprescribed

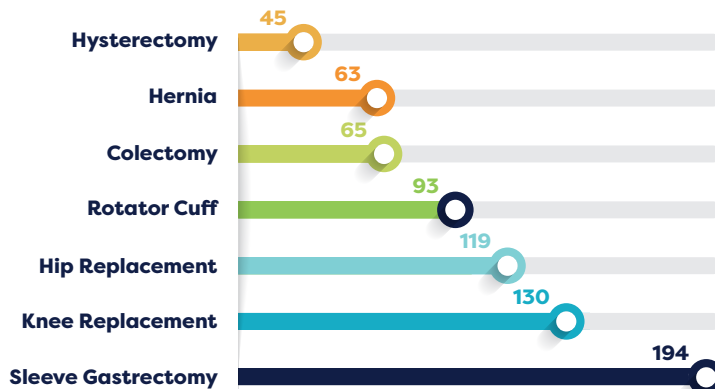
Enough opioids were prescribed in 2017 to provide every American with 32 pills each



Seven states had enough opioid prescriptions written in 2017 for every citizen in the state to have his or her own prescription.

## Prescribing varies widely

Patients are prescribed nearly 100 to 200 opioid pills to help manage pain from four common procedures



## Orthopedic surgery patients are at high risk of overdose

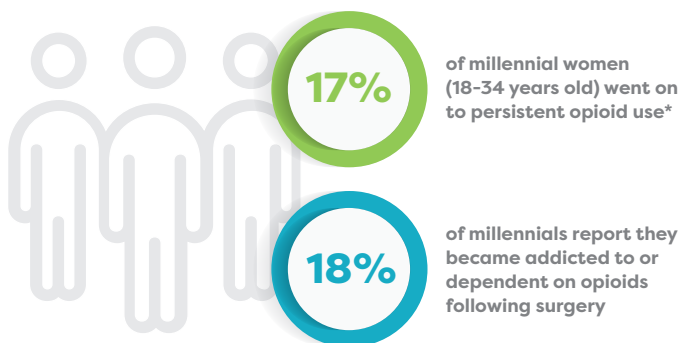
**1** in **14** orthopedic surgery patients were prescribed a daily dose of opioids equal to

**90** milligrams of morphine or more

far higher than the 20 MME\*/day recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

\*MME=morphine milligram equivalents

## Long-term negative consequences rising among millennials



\*Persistent use is defined as patients using an opioid 3-6 months following the postsurgical recovery period

## Opioid overprescribing leads to unused pills available for misuse and abuse

