


BIPARTISAN POLICY CENTER

States of Despair: Understanding Declining Life Expectancy in the United States

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WHAT'S CAUSING REDUCED U.S. LIFE EXPECTANCY?



- “Deaths of Despair”
 - Drugs
 - Opioid Use Disorder
 - Alcohol
 - Suicide
- Obesity
- Leveling off in decreased mortality from heart disease & cancer

When it comes to health, the United States is far from being united.¹

¹ Koh HK, Parekh AK. Toward a United States of Health: Implications of Understanding the US Burden of Disease. *JAMA*. 2018;319(14):1438–1440. doi:10.1001/jama.2018.0157

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FEDERAL AGENCY OPPORTUNITIES



- Discretionary Spending (examples)
 - Centers for Disease Control *and Prevention*
 - Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
- Mandatory Spending
 - Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
 - Payment policy
 - Delivery models
 - Quality metrics
 - Quality improvement organizations

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NOVEMBER 2018 ELECTIONS



- Gubernatorial Elections in 36 states and 3 territories
- Opportunity to focus new state leaders on prevention, public health, and primary care
- Promote bidirectional flow of information between federal government and states as evidenced-based policies, programs, and activities are implemented

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