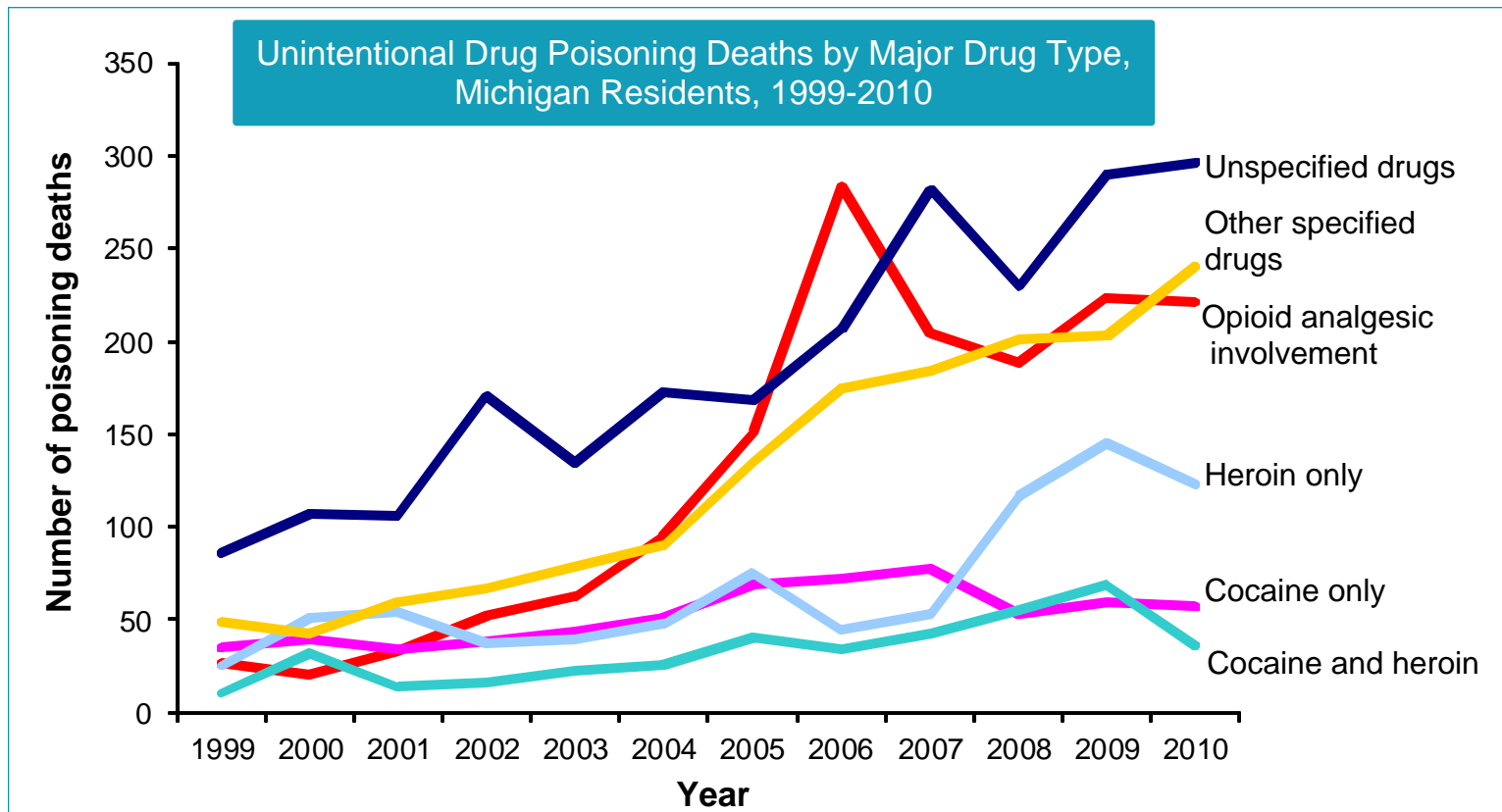


Unintentional Drug Poisoning Deaths in Michigan

In 2010, there were 973 deaths due to unintentional drug poisonings in Michigan. Of these deaths, 22.7% involved **opioid analgesics**.

Opioid analgesics are narcotic drugs that are usually prescribed to relieve pain (ex. oxycodone, hydrocodone, methadone)¹.



From 1999-2010:

- The total number of unintentional poisoning deaths rose from 235 in 1999 to 990 in 2009, then decreased to 973 in 2010.
- Poisoning deaths involving **opioid analgesics** increased by 8.3 fold, more rapidly than those from any other drug.
- The number of prescriptions filled in Michigan for opioid analgesics also increased substantially over this time period².

References: 1. Warner, M, Chen LH, Makuc DM. Increase in fatal poisonings involving opioid analgesics in the United States, 1999-2006. NCHS data brief, no 22. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. 2009.
2. Michigan Department of Community Health, Michigan Epidemiological Profile, March 2012.