

COUNTERFEIT PILLS ARE MASS-PRODUCED IN UNREGULATED LABS, DECEPTIVELY BRANDED, SOLD AS LEGITIMATE MEDICATIONS, AND HAVE KILLED HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS.

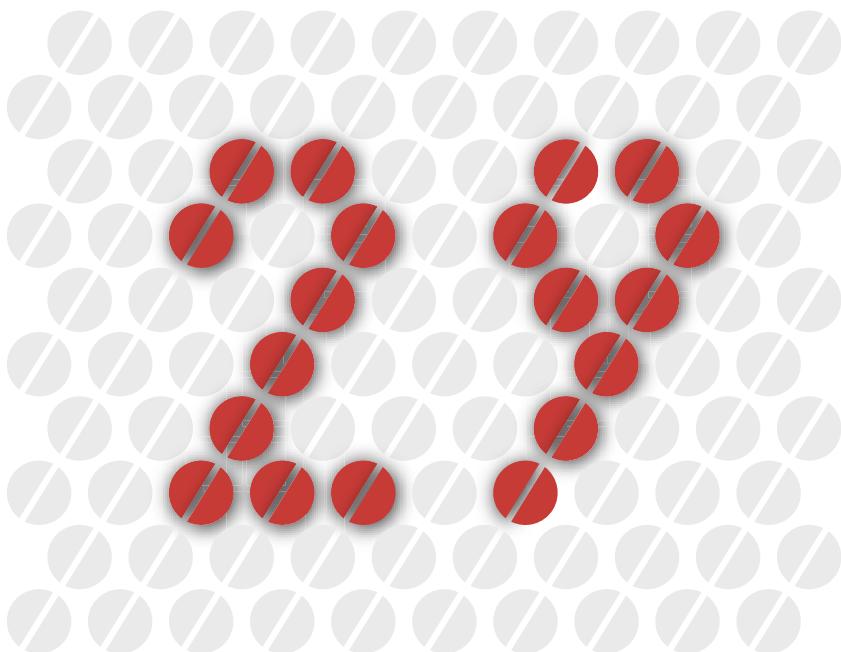
ONE
PILL CAN
KILL

U.S. Department of Justice | U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration
COUNTERFEIT PILLS FACT SHEET

COUNTERFEIT PRESCRIPTION PILLS • WIDELY AVAILABLE • LETHAL IN SMALL DOSES

29%

of counterfeit pills tested at DEA laboratories, contain a deadly dose of fentanyl



Criminal drug networks are flooding the U.S. with counterfeit pills

- Criminal drug networks mass-produce counterfeit pills and falsely market them as legitimate prescription pills to deceive the American public.
- Counterfeit prescription pills are easily accessible and often sold on social media and e-commerce platforms, making them available to anyone with a smartphone.
- Many counterfeit pills are made to look like prescription opioids such as oxycodone (Oxycontin®, Percocet®), hydrocodone (Vicodin®), and alprazolam (Xanax®); or stimulants like amphetamines (Adderall®).
- It can be nearly impossible to differentiate between a real and counterfeit pill. Never trust your own eyes to determine whether a pill is legitimate.



For more information about counterfeit pills, go to DEA.gov/OnePill

Data as of January 2026

*Photos of counterfeit pills do not represent all available counterfeit pills.



Know the facts:

- DEA and its law enforcement partners continue to seize millions of fentanyl pills.
- Counterfeit pills have been seized in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.
- In 2025, DEA seized more than 47 million fentanyl pills and nearly 10,000 pounds of fentanyl powder.
- DEA's 2025 fentanyl seizures represent 369 million potential lives saved.
- Fentanyl is 100 times more potent than morphine and 50 times more potent than heroin.
- Visit **DEA.gov/OnePill** for the latest DEA fentanyl seizures.

**LEARN MORE**

**The only safe medications
are ones that come from
licensed and accredited
medical professionals.**

**DEA warns that pills purchased
outside of a licensed pharmacy
are illegal, dangerous, and
potentially lethal.**

For more information about counterfeit pills, go to **DEA.gov/OnePill**

Data as of January 2026



The Drug Enforcement Administration ensures the safety and health of the American public by fighting against violent criminal drug networks and foreign cartels trafficking in illicit drugs. To accomplish that mission, the Drug Enforcement Administration employs approximately 10,000 men and women throughout the world as Special Agents, Diversion Investigators, Intelligence Analysts, Chemists, and Professional Staff.