DEA, the primary regulator of controlled substances, oversees every part of the supply chain



DEA sets opioid quotas: the amount of opioids that each manufacturer can make and sell in that year



DEA'S ARCOS DATABASE

DEA maintains a database of all opioid sales

ARCOS Reporting System: A government system to monitor the flow of controlled substances from their point of manufacture through commercial distribution channels to delivery to pharmacies or other retailers.



PRESCRIBERS

DEA registers doctors, dentists and veterinarians to prescribe opioids



MANUFACTURERS

DEA registers manufacturers to produce medicines per DEA production quota

Manufacturers report all opioid sales to DEA







DISTRIBUTORS



PHARMACIES, HOSPITALS AND OTHER DISPENSERS

DEA registers pharmacies and others to order medicine from distributors and fill prescription for patients

DEA registers distributors to buy medicines from manufacturers and ship upon order Distributors report all opioid sales, and any suspicious orders, to DEA