



# Virginia's Opioid Crisis

*How the opioid epidemic has continued  
to impact the people of Virginia*

## State Facts



**2,020 Deaths**

or 84.9% of total  
overdose deaths involved  
opioids in 2023.<sup>1</sup>



**32.5 Opioid  
Prescriptions**

were written for every 100  
persons in Virginia in 2023.<sup>2</sup>



**20,717  
Beneficiaries**

on Medicare Part D had  
Opioid Use Disorder in  
2022.<sup>3</sup>



**\$5 Billion**

was the cost of the  
opioid epidemic to  
Virginia in 2021.<sup>4</sup>

## National Data



**90%**

of surgical patients  
receive an opioid  
prescription following  
surgery annually.<sup>5</sup>



**194,447**

Medicare Part D  
beneficiaries received  
“high” or “extreme”  
amounts of prescription  
opioids in 2022.<sup>6</sup>



**1.1 million**

Medicare beneficiaries  
suffered from Opioid  
Use Disorder in 2022.<sup>6</sup>



**\$33 billion**

was the estimated  
cost to the Medicare  
program of Opioid  
Use Disorder in  
2022.<sup>7</sup>

**Over 81,000 Americans**

died from an opioid-related drug overdose  
in 2023 - **79% of all overdoses** in 2023.<sup>8, 9</sup>

**222 Americans Everyday**

were lost due to an opioid-related drug  
overdose in 2023.<sup>8</sup>

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2. Center for Disease Control and Prevention (2024). Opioid Dispensing Rate Maps. <https://www.cdc.gov/overdose-prevention/data-research/facts-stats/opioid-dispensing-rate-maps.html>

3. Office of the Inspector General (2023). The Consistently Low Percentage of Medicare Enrollees Receiving Medication to Treat Their Opioid Use Disorder Remains a Concern. <https://oig.hhs.gov/documents/evaluation/2722/OEI-02-23-00250-Complete%20Report.pdf>

4. Virginia Commonwealth University (2024). Opioid Costs in Virginia. <https://news.vcu.edu/article/2024/01/the-opioid-epidemic-cost-virginians-5-billion-in-2021-new-data-shows>

5. Singh, K., Murali, A., Stevens, H., Vydiswaran, V. G. V., Bohnert, A., Brummett, C. M., & Fernandez, A. C. (2022). Predicting persistent opioid use after surgery using electronic health record and patient-reported data. *Surgery*, 172(1), 241–248.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.surg.2022.01.008>

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7. Desmarais, M. (2024). Opioid Use Disorder in the Medicare Fee-for-Service Program. The Moran Company, an HMA Company. <https://www.healthmanagement.com/insights/briefs-reports/economic-analysis-of-opioid-use-disorder-in-the-medicare-fee-for-service-program/>

8. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2024). US Overdose Deaths Decrease in 2023, First Time Since 2018. [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/nchs\\_press\\_releases/2024/20240515.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/nchs_press_releases/2024/20240515.htm)

9. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2024). Drug Overdose Deaths in the United States, 2003–2023.

<https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/databriefs/db522.htm#:~:text=In%202023%2C%20105%2C007%20drug%20overdose%20deaths%20occurred%2C%20the%20rate%20decreased%20to%2031.3%20in%202023.>