



Wisconsin's Opioid Crisis

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

State Facts



654 Deaths

or **67% of all overdose deaths** in the year ending April 2025 involved opioids.¹



1 in 8

Wisconsinites were prescribed and used an opioid in 2023. **48% received the prescription following surgery.**²



47% of Patients

aged 65+ were prescribed an opioid when treated for pain in 2023.²



\$73 Billion

the estimated total societal cost of opioid use disorder (OUD) to the state in 2024.³



90%

of surgical patients receive an opioid prescription following surgery annually.⁴



7.6 Million

people misused prescription opioids in 2024.⁵



1.2 Million

Medicare beneficiaries suffered from OUD in 2023. **53,165 experienced an opioid overdose.**⁶



\$1.5 Trillion

the estimated cost of the opioid crisis, with Medicare shouldering \$33 billion.⁷

Over 48,000 Americans

died from an opioid-related overdose between April 2024 and April 2025⁸ –

66% of all drug overdose deaths.

That translates to approximately

133 lives lost every day

in the United States due to an opioid-related drug overdose.⁸

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8. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2025). Provisional Drug Overdose Death Counts. <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/vsrr/drug-overdose-data.htm>