



Iowa's Opioid Crisis

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

State Facts



168 Deaths

or **39.8% of all overdose deaths** in the year ending April 2025 involved opioids.¹



578,140 Claims

or 3.3% of all Medicare Part D claims were for opioids in 2023 - an average of **44 per prescriber**.²



34.6 Opioid Prescriptions

were written for every 100 persons in Iowa in 2023.³



\$23.5 Billion

the estimated total societal cost of opioid use disorder (OUD) in Iowa in 2024.⁴



90%

of surgical patients receive an opioid prescription following surgery annually.⁵



7.6 Million

people misused prescription opioids in 2024.⁶



1.2 Million

Medicare beneficiaries suffered from OUD in 2023. **53,165 experienced an opioid overdose**.⁷



\$1.5 Trillion

the estimated cost of the opioid crisis, with Medicare shouldering \$33 billion.⁸

Over 48,000 Americans

died from an opioid-related overdose between April 2024 and April 2025⁹ –

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.⁹

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8. Desmarais, M. (2024). Opioid Use Disorder in the Medicare Fee-for-Service Program. The Moran Company. <https://www.healthmanagement.com/insights/briefs-reports/economic-analysis-of-opioid-use-disorder-in-the-medicare-fee-for-service-program/>
9. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2025). Provisional Drug Overdose Death Counts. <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/vsrr/drug-overdose-data.htm>