

OPIOID DEPENDENCE IN WISCONSIN

Courtesy of the Wisconsin Health Information Organization

January 2020



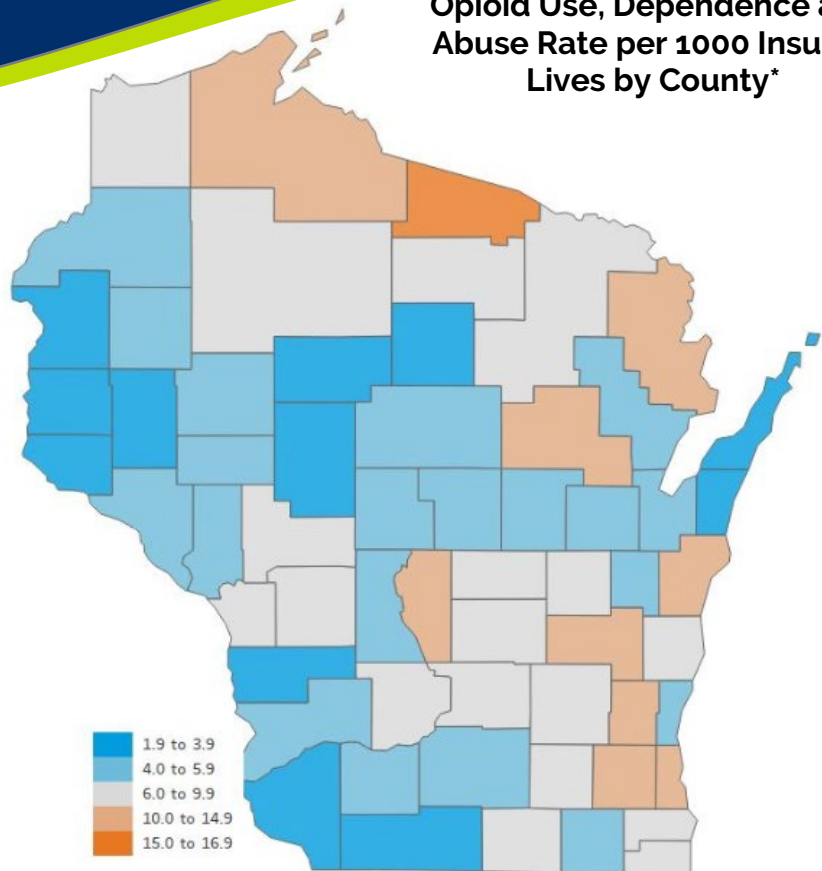
WHIO

This report provides information on opioid use, dependency and abuse in Wisconsin. The overuse and addiction to opioids – prescription pain killers and illegal drugs such as heroin – is a serious national crisis that affects families, individuals and the social welfare of communities.

WHIO is a statewide organization dedicated to improving the quality, affordability, safety, and efficiency of health care in Wisconsin. WHIO's information on over 4 million insured lives is derived from hundreds of millions of medical and pharmacy claims voluntarily contributed by WI insurers and the Medicaid program.

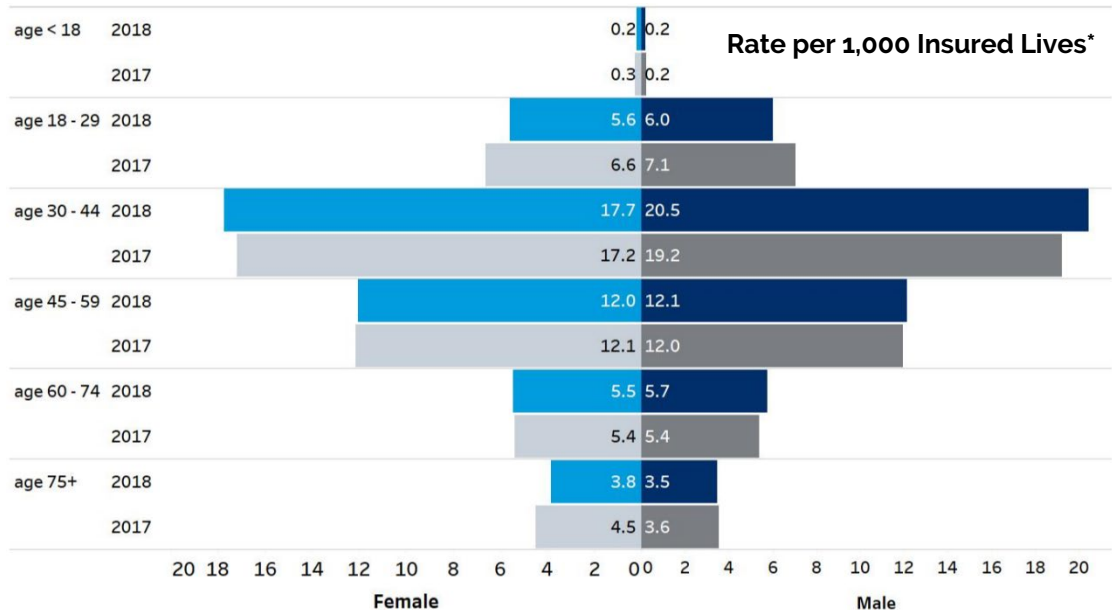
For additional information please contact WHIO at 608.442.3876

Opioid Use, Dependence and Abuse Rate per 1000 Insured Lives by County*



In 2018, the rate of opioid use, dependence and abuse in WI was 7.9 per 1,000 insured lives, a slight increase from 2017 when the rate was 7.8 per 1,000 insured lives. *

Opioid Use, Dependence & Abuse Patients by Age & Gender



*Data includes individuals who received health care services and are insured by entities that participate in WHIO.

OPIOID USE IN WISCONSIN

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Wisconsin Department of Health Services – Opioids: Direct Data

In 2018, there were 836 overdose deaths involving opioids in Wisconsin – a rate of 14.5 deaths per 100,000 persons. A decrease of almost 10 percent from 2017 when there were 932 overdose deaths – a rate of 16.1 deaths per 100,000.

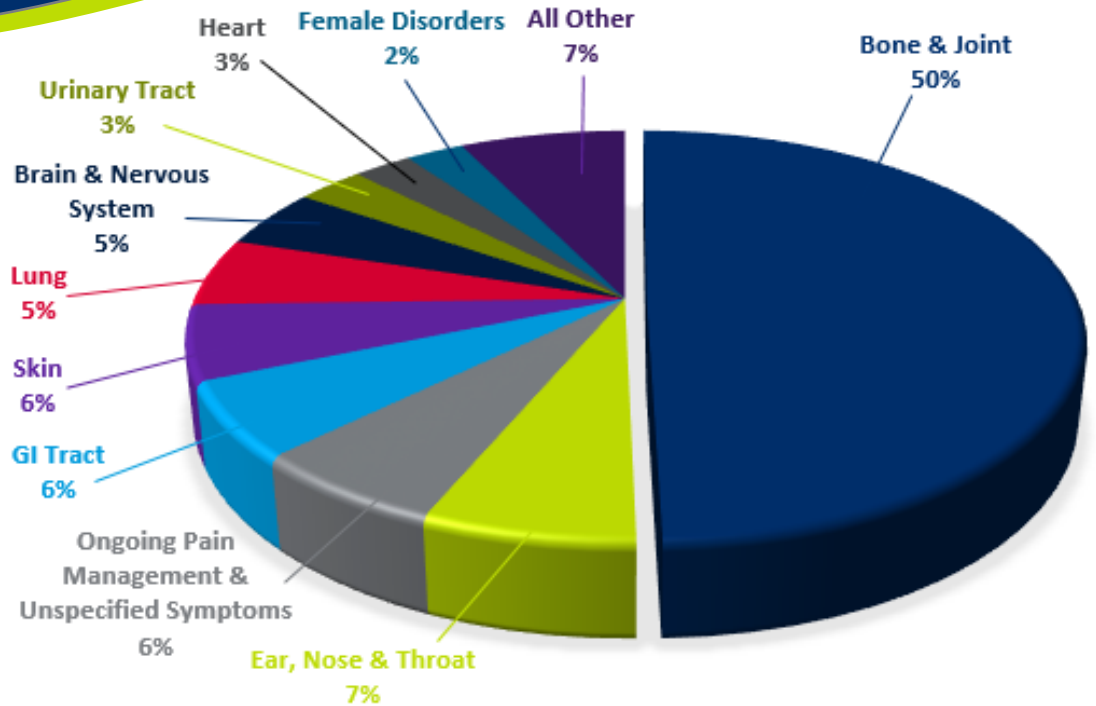
Since 2014 there has been a significant increase in synthetic opioid deaths (mainly fentanyl): a rise from 90 deaths in 2014 to 504 deaths in 2018.

Deaths involving heroin also increased in the same 5-year period: from 269 deaths to 327 deaths.

There were 297 deaths involving prescription opioids in 2018, an 11.6 percent decrease from 336 in 2014.

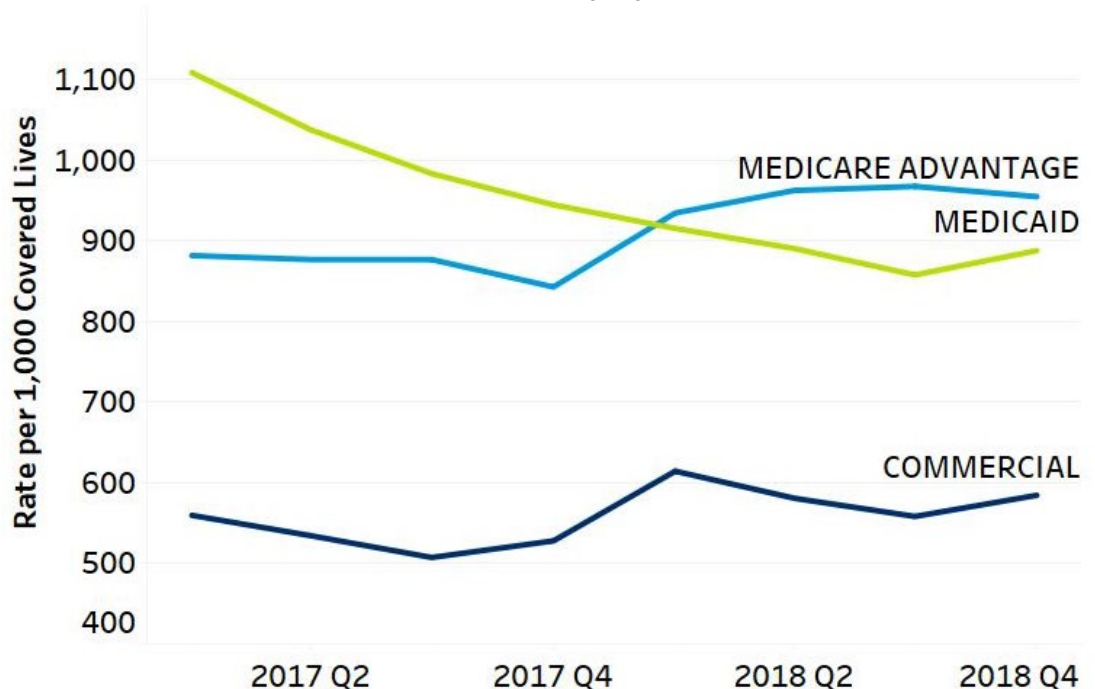
As of 3/31/2019, there have been 200 opioid-related deaths in the year.

Opioid Prescriptions by Condition Treated in 2018*



In 2018, there were 9.7 opioid prescriptions per 1,000 insured lives, an increase of 0.3 percent from 2017 when the rate was 9.6 opioid prescriptions per 1,000 insured lives. * The use of opioids to treat acute & chronic pain varies by the patient's condition and insurance.

Opioid Prescriptions per 1000 Lives by Type of Insurance 2017 – 2018*



*Data includes individuals who received health care services and are insured by entities that participate in WHIO.