

Wisconsin Environmental Scan (2025)

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Funded by the Office of National Drug Control Policy and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



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> Overdose Surveillance in Wisconsin

Public Health and Public Safety Monitoring Programs



Substance Use and Overdoses in Wisconsin

Overdoses

- **Fatalities - 1,851 in 2022, 1,772 in 2023**
- **6,476 emergency department visits for nonfatal overdoses in 2023**

Polysubstance Involvement

- **62.9 percent of all overdose fatalities in 2023 involved 2+ substances**
- **Increasing in cocaine and methamphetamine use**

Impacted Populations

- **Black men are 4.77 times more likely to die of an overdose in Wisconsin than anywhere else in the United States**

Wisconsin DHS (2025), SUDORS (2024), Windsor & Reeves (2025)

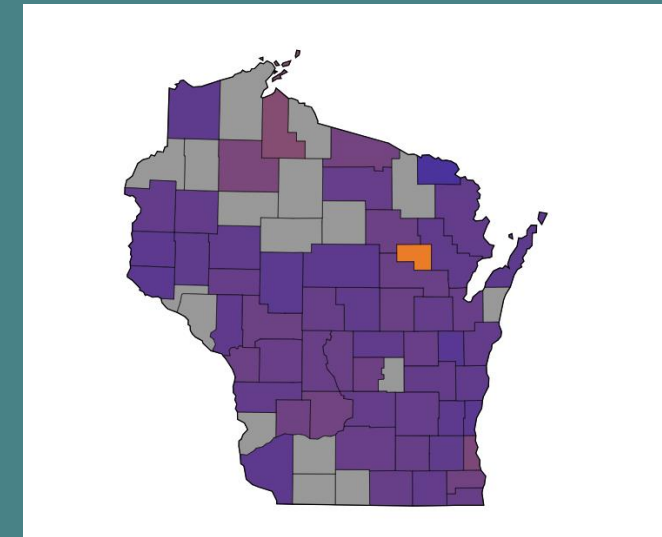


The Impact of Overdoses on Native American Communities in Wisconsin

Menominee County

- Native American population – 78.3 percent of county (3,356 residents)
- Menominee Indian Reservation covers most of the county
- Opioid overdose fatality rate – 56.3 deaths per 100,000 (Wisconsin average – 19.4)
- Cocaine overdose fatality rate – 11.3 deaths per 100,000 (Wisconsin average - 7.2)
- Methamphetamine overdose fatality rate – 36.6 deaths per 100,000 (Wisconsin average – 4.1)
- Drug-related emergency department (ED) visits – 620 visits per 100,000

The total number of events may be small, but the impact on the community is tremendous.



Menominee County, WI (DOSE – CDC, 2024).

Wisconsin DHS (2025)



Public Health Surveillance Programs

Overdose Mortality/Morbidity Surveillance – Wisconsin Department of Health Services

- Emergency department syndromic surveillance – 99 percent of EDs reporting
- Wisconsin Ambulance Run Data System (WARDS) and National Emergency Medical Services Information System (NEMSIS)
- Data abstraction from patient care reports (PCRs)
- State vital records data

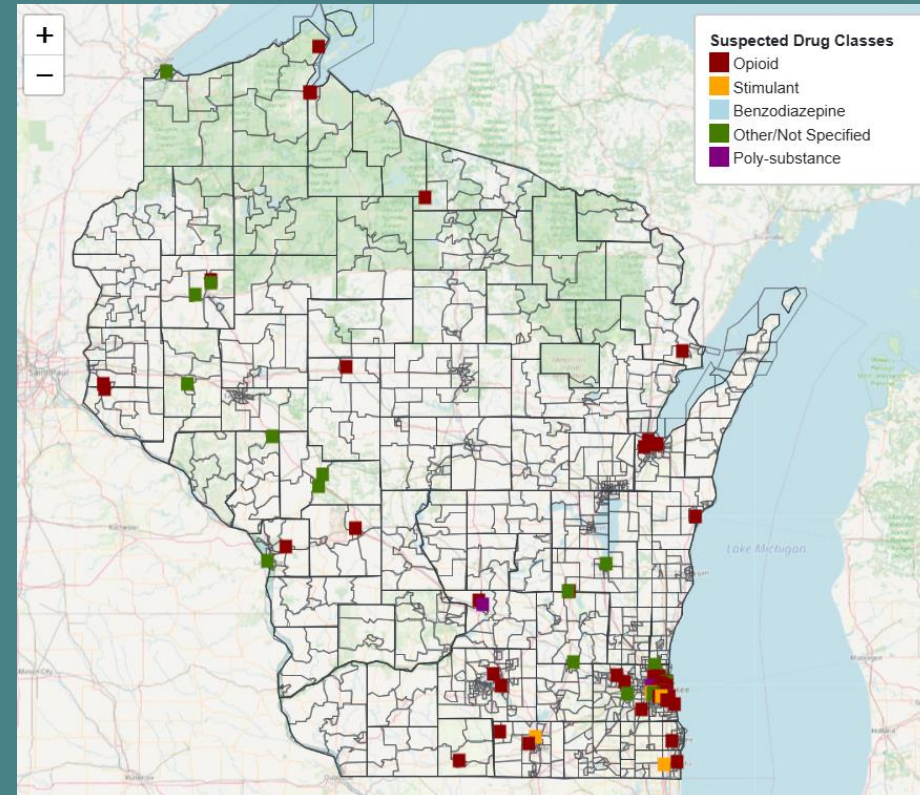
Other Data Platforms

- Overdose Data to Action (OD2A) biosurveillance
- Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) data
- Residual urine testing from emergency department visits



Wisconsin Suspected Overdose Alerts for Rapid Response (WiSOARR)

- Geospatial data platform used in place of the Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program (ODMAP)
- Operated and maintained by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS)
- Ambulance data is auto-populated into WiSOARR
- Data is not publicly available



WiSOARR mapping from Wisconsin DHS



Public Safety Surveillance Programs

Badger TraCS (Traffic and Criminal Software)

- Near-real-time overdose reporting through law enforcement computer system
- Overdose reporting form adapted from Use of Force/Arrest-Related Death form
- Data will populate into WiSOARR

Forensic Investigations

- Division of Criminal Investigation laboratories (Milwaukee, Madison, Wausau)
- Milwaukee County and Dane County Medical Examiner's Offices
- Wisconsin State Lab of Hygiene



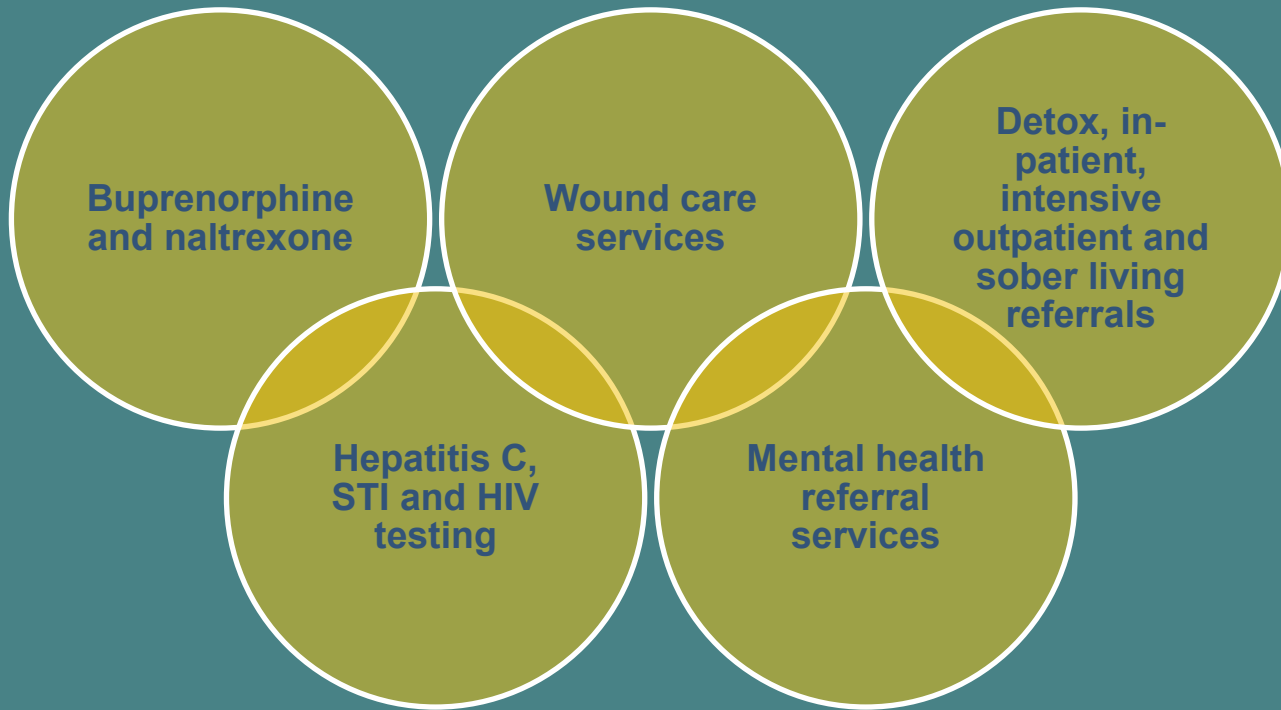
> Substance Use Disorder Treatment

Treatment in Community and Correctional Settings



Treatment in Community Settings: the Compass Clinic

- Low-barrier healthcare and substance use disorder treatment services

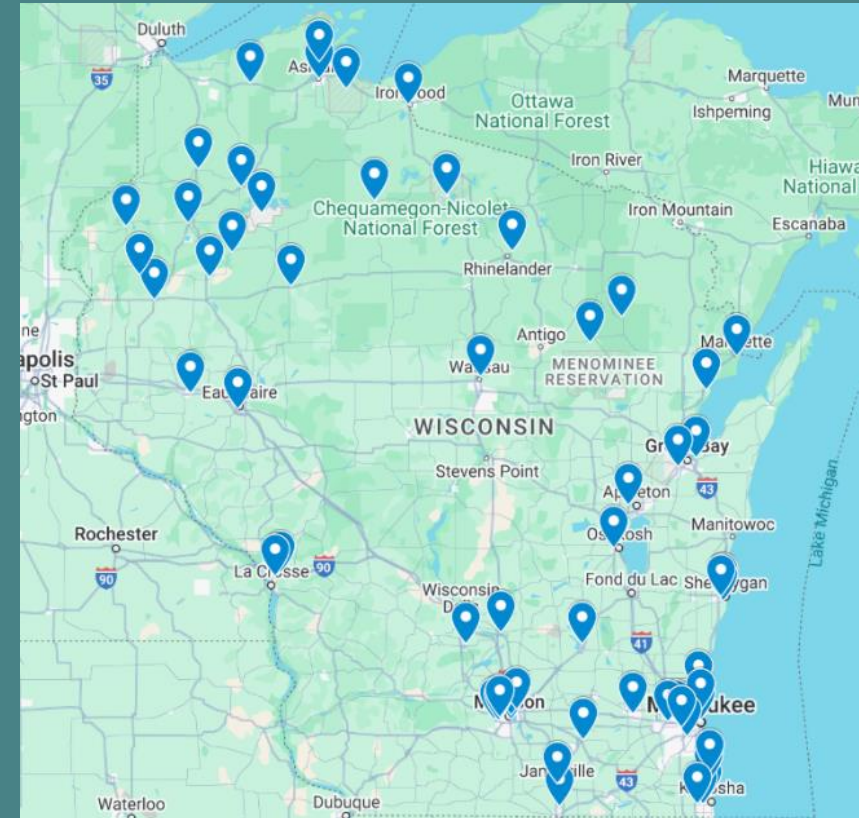


University of Wisconsin – Madison's Park Street Office houses the Compass Clinic.



Treatment in Community Settings: Resource Gaps in Rural Settings

- Rural county designation – 46 of 72 counties
- Southwestern Wisconsin – approximately 6,900 square miles without a treatment center
- Central Wisconsin – approximately 12,300 square miles without a treatment center
- Far northeastern Wisconsin (under Michigan's Upper Peninsula) – approximately 15,200 square miles without a treatment center



Substance use disorder treatment centers that offer mental health services and accept Medicaid.



Treatment in Correctional Settings

State Correctional Facilities

- Eligibility screenings at intake
- Offer counseling, buprenorphine and naltrexone – no methadone
- Primary treatment programs offered at minimum, medium and maximum-security facilities

County Jails and Detention Facilities

- 74 total facilities – some offer all or some versions of MAT (medication-assisted treatment), others offer no MAT. Variability in mental health services
- Third-party health service contractors operate medical services in most jails – services are limited to prearranged budget agreements with the county
- As of 2024, Bureau of Justice Assistance funds at Clark, Dunn, Fond du Lac, Kenosha, St. Croix, Winnebago and Wood counties

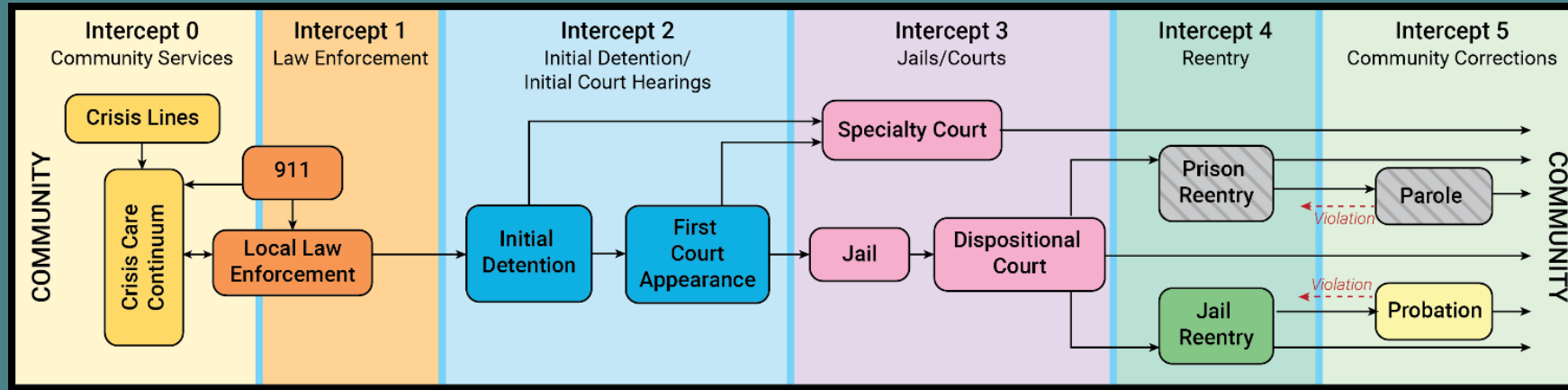


> Linkage to Care

The Sequential Intercept Model in Action



Door County Sheriff's Office: Opening Doors to Recovery Using the Sequential Intercept Model (SIM)



Program Goals

- Increase program referrals through Officer-Initiated Pathways
- Enhance the program through the implementation of a Co-Responder Model
- Enhance relationships with community partners and increase program awareness
- Expand prevention efforts



Door County Sheriff's Office

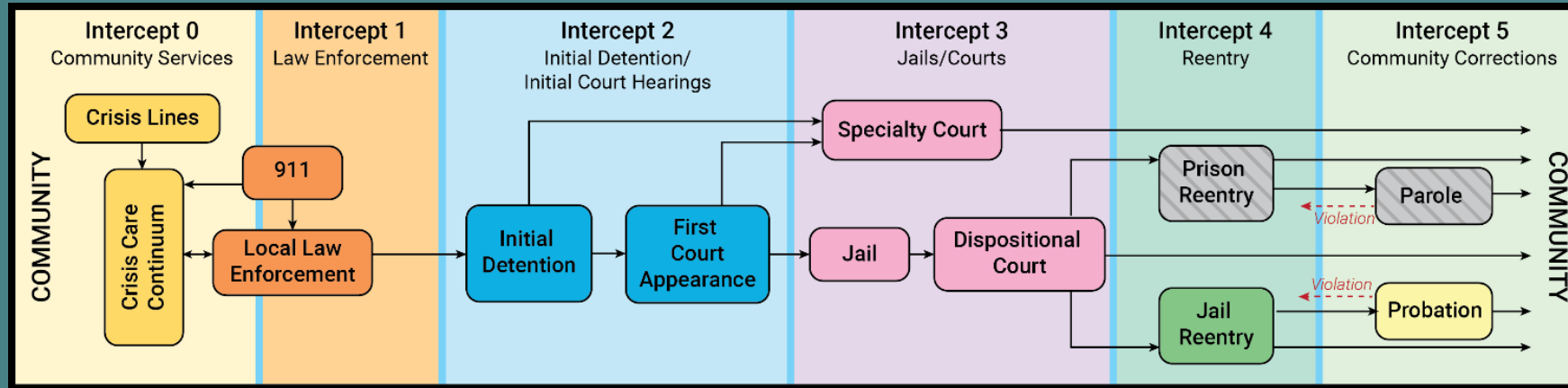
Program Eligibility

- Door County resident, 18 or older and charges held in abeyance cannot be a felony
- Cannot have past charges of domestic violence or sexual offenses, cannot be on probation or parole
- Complete proxy assessment listed below (score of 4 or less)

Current Age	Point(s)	Age at First Arrest	Point(s)	Number of Prior Arrests	Point(s)
18-25	0	0-17	2	5+	2
26-35	1	18-21	1	2-4	1
36+	2	22+	0	0-1	0
Total:		Total:		Total:	



Jackson County Jail and the Sequential Intercept Model (SIM)



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- Estimated 85 percent of inmates there for drug-related offense
- Partner with Addiction Medical Solutions to provide methadone, buprenorphine or naltrexone
- Each person screened for substance use disorder and mental health disorder upon booking
- Behavioral Health Coordinator develops treatment plans



Jackson County Jail: The Gold Standard for Wisconsin

Services Prior to Release

- 30 days of appointments scheduled
- Transportation coordination
- Coordinating services with Tribal nations (25 percent of inmates are Indigenous)
- Completing Medicaid re-enrollment form
- Naloxone, fentanyl and xylazine test strips to everyone upon release



> Overdose Prevention Services

Risk Reduction and Overdose Prevention



Statewide Services

Health Departments

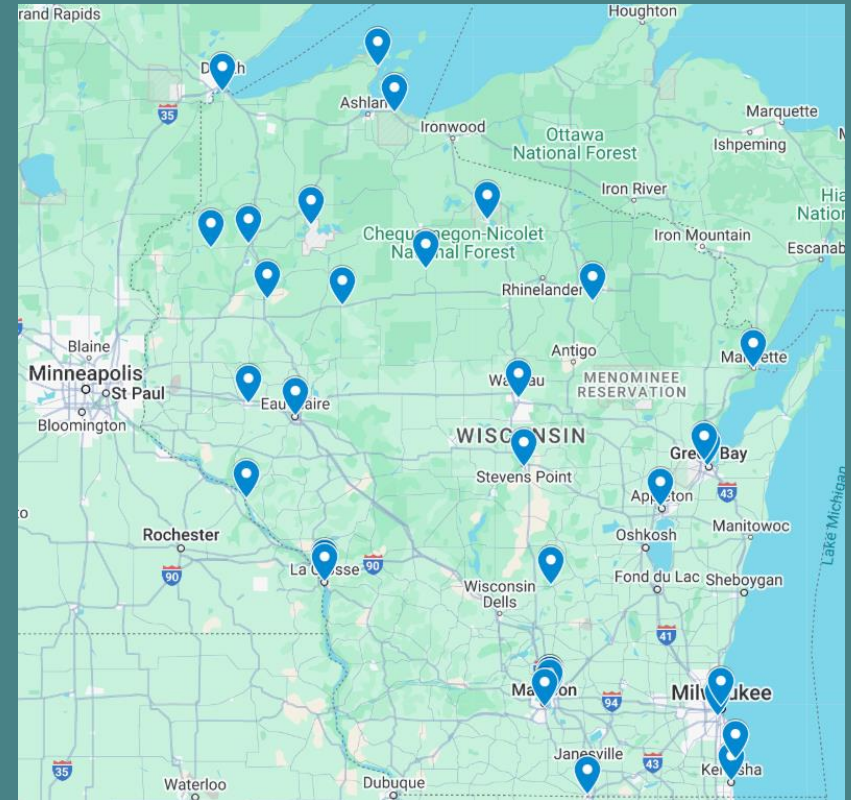
- Ten locations

Tribal Health Centers

- Six locations

Community-Based Organizations and Overdose Prevention Agencies

- 32 mobile and fixed-site locations



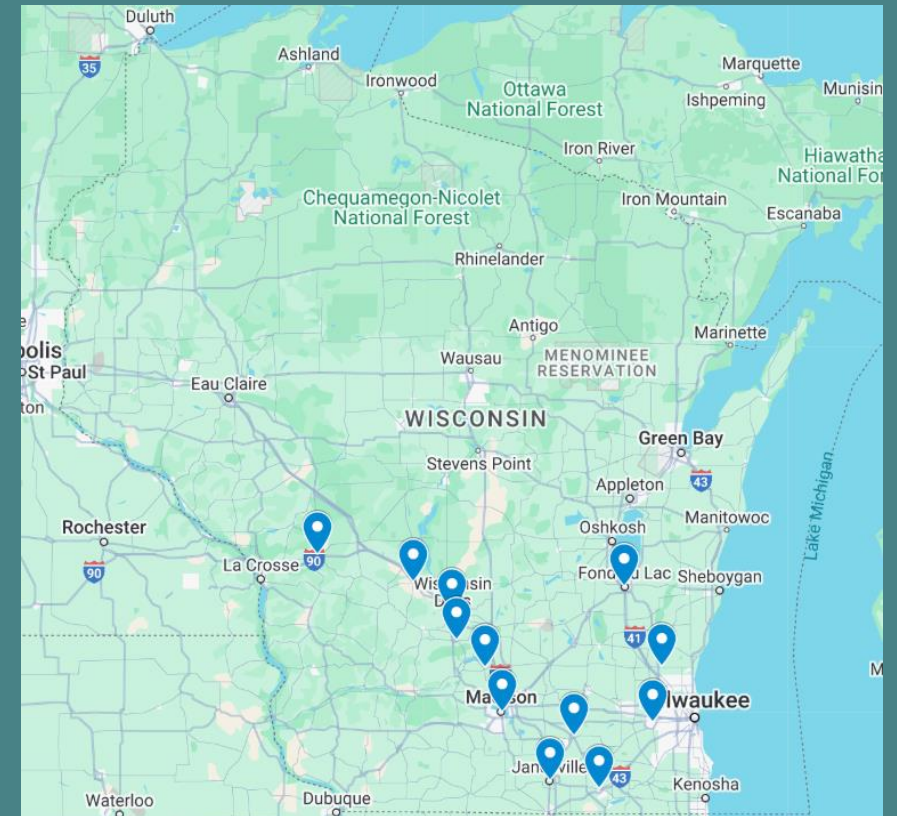
Overdose prevention agency locations throughout Wisconsin.



The Harm Reduction Response Team (HRRT)

Services provided (operated by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services):

- Disease prevention and risk reduction supplies
- Naloxone
- Fentanyl and xylazine test strips
- Safer sex supplies
- Hygiene and comfort items
- Rapid HIV and hepatitis C testing



Areas served by the mobile HRRT.

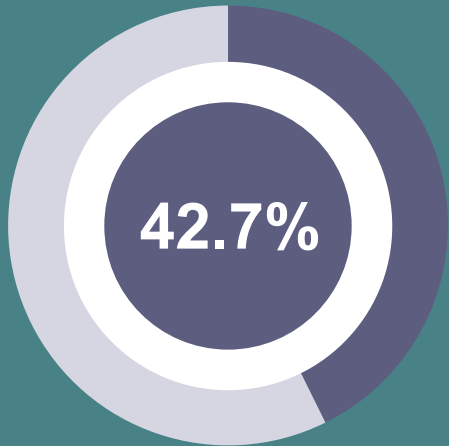


> Recommendations

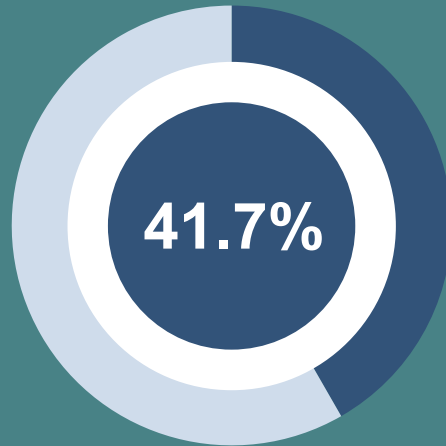
Focusing on Milwaukee, Drug Testing and Legal Protections



Overdose Disparities in Milwaukee County: Reaching Beyond Injection Drug Use



42.7 percent of overdose fatalities involved cocaine (5 percent increase from 2022 and 30 percent increase since 2016)



Black residents comprised 41.7 percent of fatal overdoses in 2023



Black residents comprised 44 percent of nonfatal overdoses in 2023

Wisconsin DHS (2025) & SUDORS (2024)



Overdose Disparities in Milwaukee County: Reaching Beyond Injection Drug Use

Strategies and Partnerships:

- Safe and Sound
- Safe and Supportive Communities
- Black Harm Reduction Network
- Center for Substance Use Research and Intervention
- Safer smoking supplies at nontraditional access points
- Combining CPR and overdose response training



Drug Checking, Monitoring and Reporting System (DCMARS)

- Milwaukee Drug Rapid Testing and Outreach Program (MDROP)
- Continue to collaborate with the Milwaukee County Medical Examiner's Office to expand capacity for drug testing and explore additional partnerships with forensic laboratories throughout the state
- Continue to partner with Washington/Baltimore HIDTA to develop a geospatial platform to show drug testing results
- Assist the City of Milwaukee and community partners with overdose spike alert and rapid response planning based on near-real-time data obtained from drug testing



Good Samaritan Legislation and Law Enforcement Partnerships

- Collaborate with law enforcement agencies across the state to discuss the negative impacts surrounding arrests at the scene of an overdose
- Provide the recently developed training “Overdose Response: Understanding Trauma as a First Responder” to law enforcement and EMS agencies across the state
- Seek to establish a partnership with the Public Defender Project at the University of Wisconsin Law School to better understand how drug-induced homicide (DIH) laws are being applied in Wisconsin





OVERDOSE RESPONSE STRATEGY



PUBLIC HEALTH

| PUBLIC SAFETY

| PARTNERSHIP