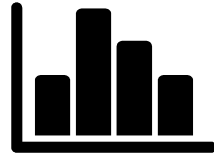


Opioids: The Faceless Killer



1,943

Opioid Caused Overdoses in Milwaukee County from 2011-
2018

1.

What are Opioids?

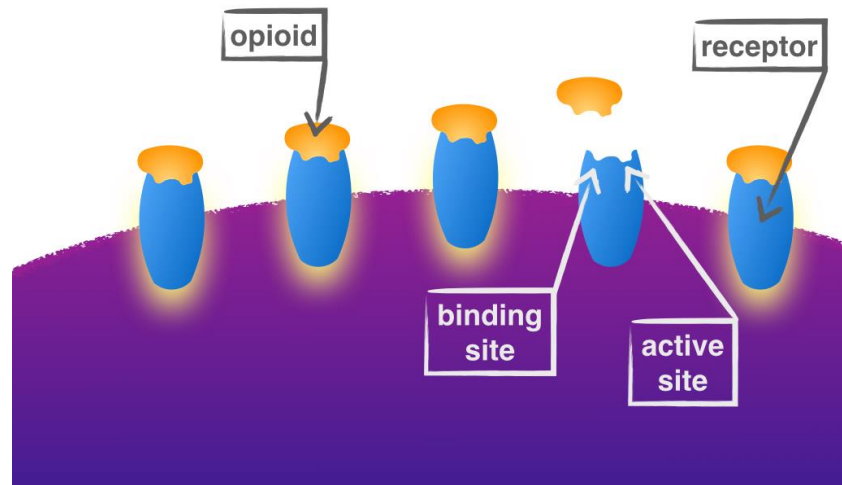
Medicinal Purpose

Neurons

Opioid Receptors

Pain Relief

**80% of heroin addicts start
on prescription pills.**



Effects on the Brain

Ventral Tegmental Area
Dopamine
Opioid Receptors

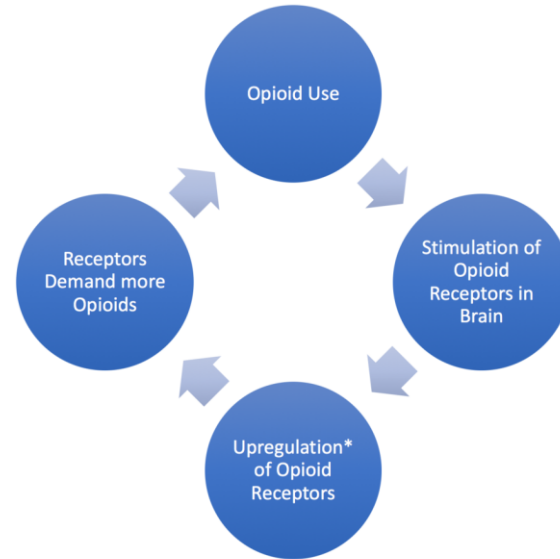


Source: National Geographic, “This is What Happens to Your Brain on Opioids | Short Film Showcase”

Addiction

Tolerance

Withdrawal



*Upregulation is the creation of new opioid receptors in the brain

Source: MATclinics



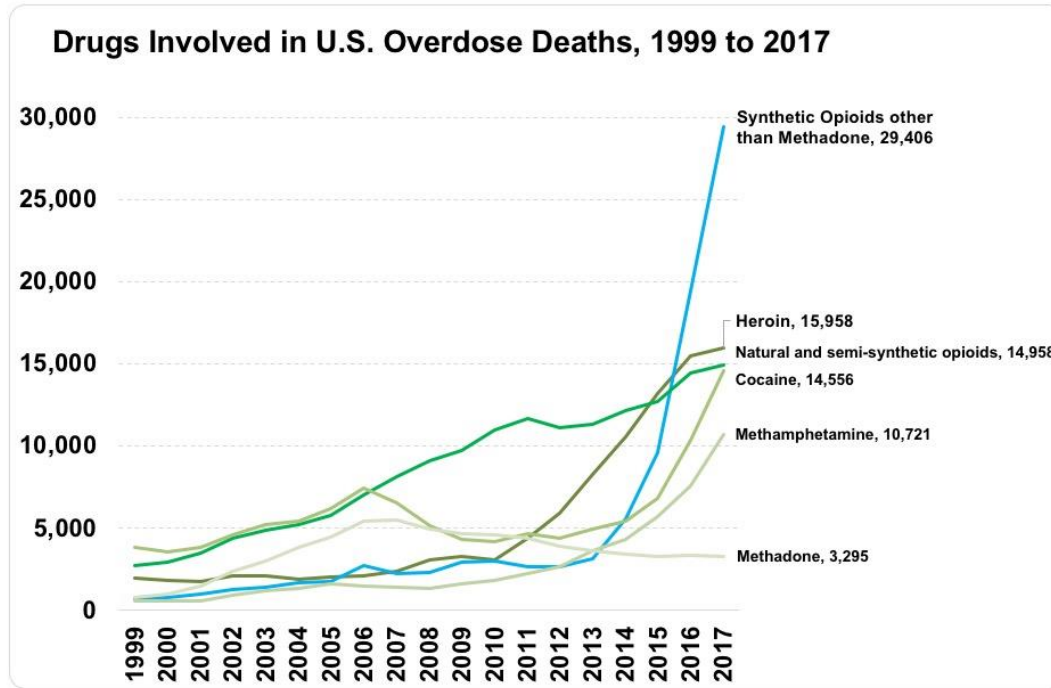
In Conclusion...

- Opioids become an addict's necessity.
- Opioids can be used to treat pain, but this is dangerous.
- **It usually starts with prescription medication.**

**How are Opioids
Impacting our
Community?**

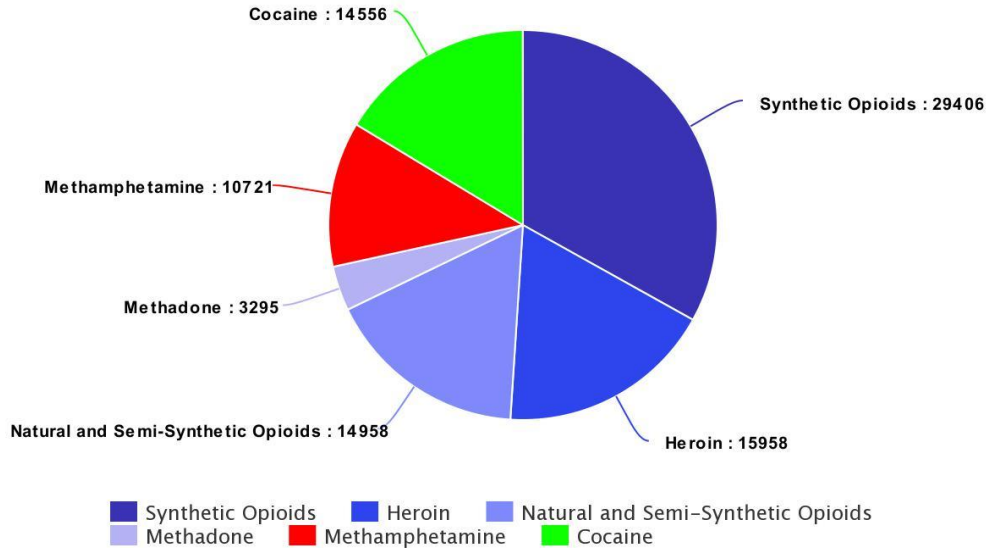
2.

National Drug Overdoses since 1999



Source: National Institute on Drug Abuse

Drugs involved in U.S. Overdoses, 2017
National Institute for Drug Abuse

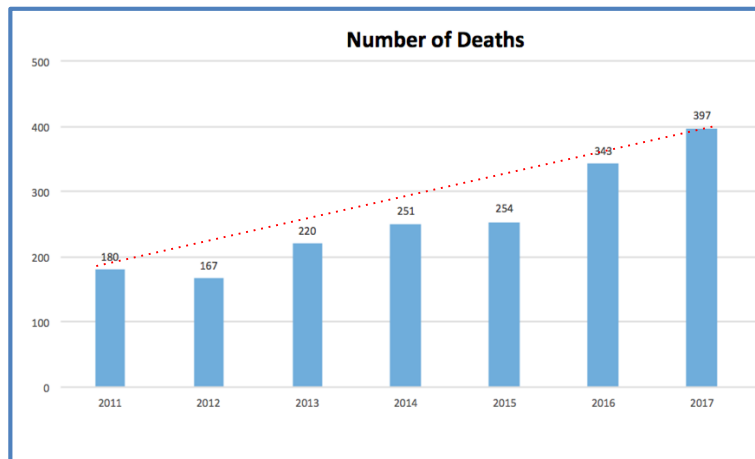


**Everything
in blue is
an opioid.**

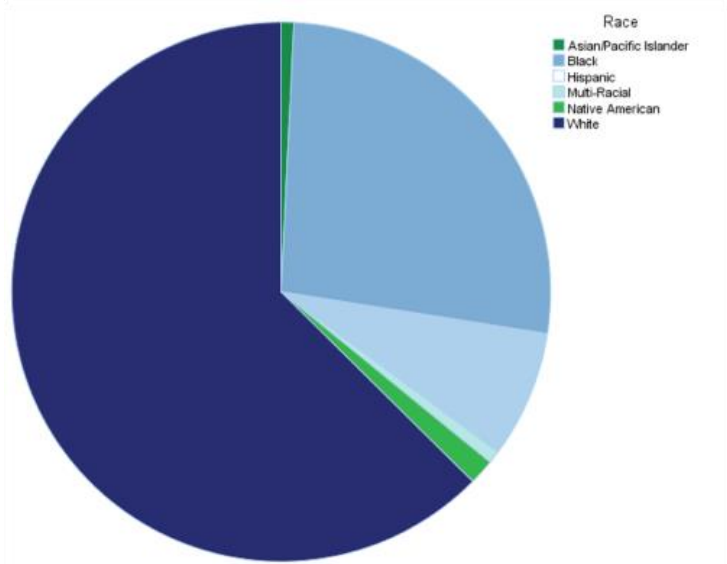
meta-chart.com

72% (63,617) of Overdoses in the USA Caused by Opioids Since 1999

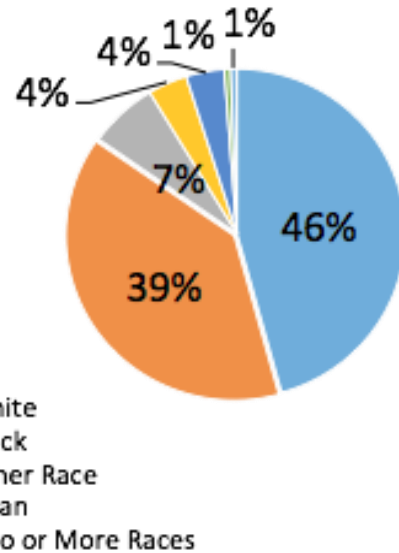
Number of Opioid Overdoses in Milwaukee County per Year, 2011-2017



220% Increase in Annual Opioid Overdoses Since 2011.



Opioid Overdoses by Race, 2017



Racial Makeup of Milwaukee County

Opioid Overdoses in Milwaukee County by Race

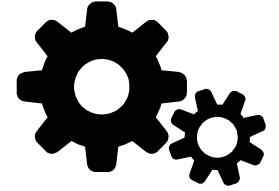
A panoramic view of a city at sunset. In the foreground, several modern glass skyscrapers are visible, their windows reflecting the vibrant orange and yellow light of the setting sun. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds, creating a dramatic backdrop. In the distance, a river flows through the city, and various urban buildings and structures are visible. The overall atmosphere is serene and urban.

These are not statistics. **These are lives.**

**How do
we fight
it?**

3.

Key concepts in combating the Opioid Epidemic



Awareness



Learn

- Opioid Safety
- Prescription Use
- Opioid Disposal



Eight Opioid Safety Principles for Patients and Caregivers®

- 1. Never take an opioid pain medication that is not prescribed to you**
- 2. Never adjust your own doses**
- 3. Never mix with alcohol**
- 4. Taking sleep aids or anti-anxiety medications together with opioid pain medication can be dangerous**
- 5. Always tell your healthcare provider about all medications you are taking from any source**
- 6. Keep track of when you take all medications**
- 7. Keep your medications locked in a safe place**
- 8. Dispose of any unused medications**

Opioid Safety

These guidelines can prevent opioid addictions from forming.



DISPOSE OF:

- Prescription medications, patches, ointments
- Over-the-counter medications, patches, ointments
- Non-aerosol medical sprays and vials
- Pet medications

75% of opioid addicts start their addictions on prescription medications.

Source: Milwaukee Health Department

Safe Drug Disposal Locations:

- Police Stations
- Pharmacies: Hayat and Walgreens
- The Annual Drug Take Back Event
- Sinai, Aurora West Allis, Sixteenth Street's Parkview Clinic, and the VA Hospital
- [TakeBackMyMeds.com](https://www.TakeBackMyMeds.com)¹⁸

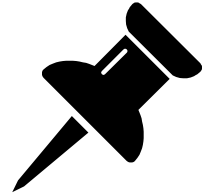
Teach

- Raise Awareness
- Educate
- Advocate



Support

- Confidential Conversation
- Peer Support
- Addiction Stigmas



**What would you do
if you had the flu?**





A condition of the living animal or plant body or of one of its parts that **impairs normal functioning** and is typically manifested by distinguishing signs and symptoms

Combating the Epidemic



Learn

- Learn what causes addiction
- Learn how they are affecting Milwaukee
- Learn how to help

Teach

- Teach what you learn
- Raise awareness
- Advocate safety

Support

- Encourage reaching out
- Be kind to others
- Fight the stigmas of addiction

Be the change to make the change.