Wisconsin Opiate-related Deaths

Note: Includes deaths involving heroin and/or prescription opioids
Source: Wisconsin resident death certificates, Office of Health Informatics, Dept. of Health Services

Source: Wisconsin Dept of Health Services, Division of Public Health, Office of Health Informatics: Hospital Patient Data System
Wisconsin Unintentional Opiate Poisoning Hospitalizations & Emergency Dept. Visits

Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Hospital Patient Data System

Note: Figure does not include three VA Hospitals. Emergency department visit counts exclude those admitted as inpatients.
What are the numbers

- This chart reflects SE Wisconsin only
- The totals include needles distributed plus exchanged needles
- About 60 – 75% are distributed needles
Number of Heroin Cases Worked

Wisconsin State Crime Lab Submissions Only

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Cases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>273</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>473</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>579</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>648</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>1,061</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1,136</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: The data reflects submissions to the Wisconsin State Crime Lab.*
HEROIN CASES IN 2008

Total Number of Cases: 273
Number of Counties with Cases: 28

HEROIN CASES BY COUNTY
- No Crime Lab Cases
- 1-9 Crime Lab Cases
- 10-19 Crime Lab Cases
- 20-29 Crime Lab Cases
- 30+ Crime Lab Cases

Information cutoff: December 31, 2008
Numbers based on cases analyzed by the Wisconsin State Crime Laboratories
HEROIN CASES IN 2014

Total Number of Cases | Number of Counties with Cases
--- | ---
1,136 | 53

HEROIN CASES BY COUNTY

- No Crime Lab Cases
- 1-9 Crime Lab Cases
- 10-19 Crime Lab Cases
- 20-29 Crime Lab Cases
- 30+ Crime Lab Cases

Information cutoff: December 31, 2014
Numbers based on cases analyzed by the Wisconsin State Crime Laboratories
Why Has Heroin Use Increased?

- First prong -

It rarely starts with heroin

✓ Most start by recreational abuse of opioids
✓ Some become addicted to opioids after surgery
  • More and more that is the exception
What are the sources of the Rx?

Over prescribing

- Take back day September 2014
  - 617,000 pounds nationwide
  - Over 34,000 pounds in Wisconsin

- Take back day May 2015
  - No federally coordinated effort
  - Over 39,000 pounds in Wisconsin
    - Did not include Milwaukee or Madison

Diversion
US has a different heroin source -Second Prong-

- No longer coming from SW or SE Asia
- Manipulation of purity levels
- Recent Purity levels = more ingestion options
  - Ability to snort or smoke
  - **No longer have to start with IV**
    - High rates of purity increase potential for OD
    - Users often won’t know what purity they are using
Ruthless Business Model

Cartels forced their way into market

✓ Required cocaine distributors to take heroin for sale
✓ Intentional manipulation of purity levels
  • Increases coincide with introduction of new drug types
  • Produce addicted users quickly

Recent peaks in purity averages
## Comparison of Recent History Heroin Use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1980’s</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 - 8% purity</td>
<td>15-26% average purity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$350 - $400 per gram</td>
<td>$100 - $150 per gram</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tight knit group of addicts</td>
<td>Street Level Sales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Method of Ingestion Injection</td>
<td>1.25 million chronic users of heroin nationwide, 20-25% in treatment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Methods of Ingestion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Snorting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Smoking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Injection</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Heroin in Wisconsin

Manipulation of purity levels:

✓ 2003: 67% average at Milwaukee Crime Lab

✓ 2008: 39% average
  • Cartels had secured their customer base

✓ 2010: 30% average

✓ 2012: levels cont. to hover around 30% average

✓ 2013 some purity levels over 70%
South American Heroin (SA)

By 2010, 51% of all heroin analyzed by DEA was identified as SA*.  
✓ High purity (41% - 95%) **US Average 56.0%**

*DEA-2012 Heroin Signature Program
Multi-Faceted Approach

Law Enforcement
✓ Locking addicted users up does not lead to long-term sobriety
✓ Tougher dealer network to unravel

Treatment
✓ 163,000+ IV drug abusers in Wisconsin
✓ Drug Treatment Courts

Prevention – Most important
Prevention Efforts

- Shift Heroin awareness programs to Opiate awareness campaign
  - Involve schools
- Drug take back
- Collaborate with Hospitals, Dental Associations, Medical Society, Pharmacies
- Legislation
Legislation

PDMP changes
- Embed PDMP in medical records
- Real time entry by pharmacy
- Include VA

Good Samaritan Laws

Medication Assisted Treatment

Rural treatment resources

Medication return units