

Consequences of Illicit Drug Consumption

Illicit drug consumption leads to many health and societal effects including arrests, dependence, abuse and even death. Wisconsin rates of dependence, abuse and deaths due to drug use are similar to, or lower than, national averages. The rate of arrests for drug law violations is also lower in Wisconsin than nationally.

Mortality

Deaths due to drug use are a direct consequence of illicit drug use.

- In 2006, 526 Wisconsin residents died as a direct consequence of illicit drug use (Table 8).
- The age-adjusted mortality rate of drug-related deaths has increased in Wisconsin, from 3.1 deaths per 100,000 population in 1999 to 9.3 deaths per 100,000 in 2006.

Table 8. Age-adjusted mortality rate and total number of drug-related deaths, Wisconsin and the United States, 1999-2006

		1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<i>United States</i>	Rate/100,000	5.6	5.7	6.2	7.6	8.3	8.7		
	Total number	15,635	16,113	17,813	21,797	24,230	25,670		
<i>Wisconsin</i>	Rate/100,000	3.1	4.0	4.1	5.2	6.2	6.7	7.9	9.3
	Total number	167	213	223	287	344	383	448	526

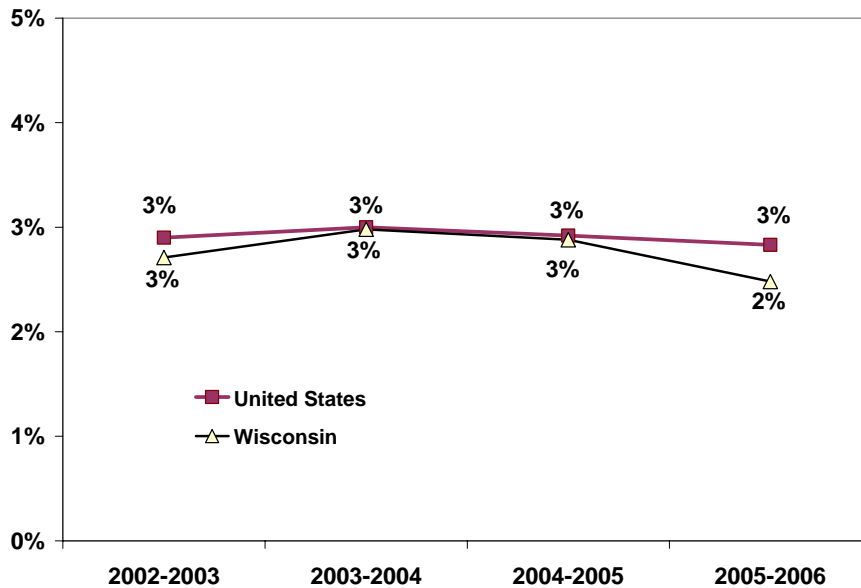
Source: Wisconsin resident death certificates, Bureau of Health Information and Policy, Division of Public Health, Department of Health Services; United States death certificate data compiled by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <http://wonder.cdc.gov/mortSQL.html>.

Dependence or Abuse

Dependence and abuse are direct consequences of illicit drug use.

- During 2002 through 2005, the rate of dependence on or abuse of illicit drugs was the same (3%) for Wisconsin and the United States (Figure 14).
- Wisconsin's rate of drug dependence or abuse for 2005-2006 was 2%.

Figure 14. Prevalence of drug dependence and abuse, age 12 and older, Wisconsin, 2002-2006

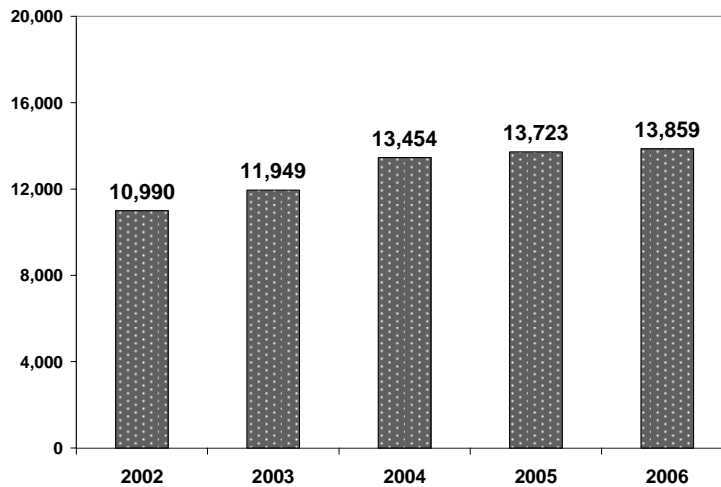


Source: National Survey on Drug Use and Health, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Hospitalizations

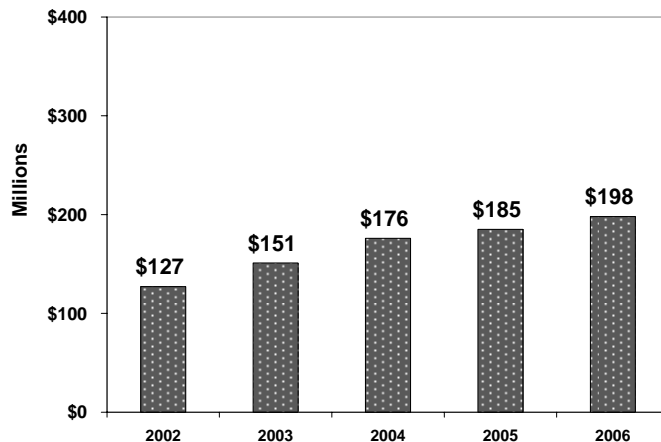
- There were 13,859 Wisconsin hospitalizations defined as drug-related in 2006, an increase of 26% since 2002 (Figure 15). Drug-related hospitalizations include such diagnoses as drug psychoses, drug dependence, drug-related polyneuropathy, and accidental and purposeful poisoning by drugs.
- Charges for drug-related hospitalizations in Wisconsin totaled \$198 million in 2006, an increase of 56% from the \$127 million in 2002 (Figure 16). (These amounts are not adjusted for inflation.)

Figure 15. Number of drug-related hospitalizations, Wisconsin, 2002-2006



Source: Wisconsin hospital inpatient discharge file, Wisconsin Hospital Association Information Center, Inc.

Figure 16. Hospital charges for drug-related hospitalizations, in millions, Wisconsin, 2002-2006



Source: Wisconsin hospital inpatient discharge file, Wisconsin Hospital Association Information Center, Inc.

Note: Hospital charges are the total facility charges for the length of stay and are not the same as actual costs paid by any payer; also, they do not include physician or other ancillary charges (see Technical Notes).

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Table 9. Drug-related hospitalizations, Wisconsin by county, 2004-2006

County	Number			Rate per 100,000 Population	
	2004	2005	2006	2004-2005	2005-2006
Adams	37	43	47	194	216
Ashland	110	100	115	630	649
Barron	115	107	90	243	215
Bayfield	42	47	46	294	307
Brown	377	453	439	174	186
Buffalo	17	14	25	112	140
Burnett	65	32	31	294	191
Calumet	20	15	21	40	41
Chippewa	181	168	183	294	292
Clark	73	62	61	198	180
Columbia	114	125	141	217	240
Crawford	28	28	24	164	152
Dane	1,014	1,054	1,032	227	226
Dodge	154	140	124	167	149
Door	36	48	46	148	166
Douglas	23	20	28	49	54
Dunn	76	88	57	197	173
Eau Claire	264	308	308	304	326
Florence	1	13	7	140	202
Fond du Lac	229	233	232	233	234
Forest	28	30	44	290	373
Grant	70	69	63	140	133
Green	51	33	43	120	107
Green Lake	38	27	22	170	128
Iowa	30	47	47	164	199
Iron	32	25	30	428	418
Jackson	47	54	53	257	270
Jefferson	102	130	148	147	174
Juneau	69	66	69	259	252
Kenosha	403	412	456	255	269
Kewaunee	26	24	20	120	106
La Crosse	259	262	253	240	236
Lafayette	12	19	12	95	95
Langlade	68	56	63	298	288
Lincoln	74	65	61	230	208
Manitowoc	181	200	171	233	226
Marathon	257	219	262	185	186
Marinette	91	72	87	188	184

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Table 9. Drug-related hospitalizations, Wisconsin by county, 2004-2006 (continued)

County	Number			Rate per 100,000 Population	
	2004	2005	2006	2004-2005	2005-2006
Marquette	38	34	35	238	226
Menominee	18	18	12	393	327
Milwaukee	3,837	3,940	3,877	421	426
Monroe	67	82	83	176	193
Oconto	42	61	57	137	156
Oneida	126	137	141	355	377
Outagamie	237	244	255	141	145
Ozaukee	156	154	210	180	211
Pepin	13	13	13	176	177
Pierce	58	74	74	170	189
Polk	109	113	95	252	233
Portage	109	135	161	181	219
Price	54	42	33	314	248
Racine	497	508	513	258	261
Richland	33	30	32	171	169
Rock	462	438	445	287	279
Rusk	36	50	30	282	264
St. Croix	106	95	89	133	117
Sauk	153	134	156	250	250
Sawyer	49	52	45	299	285
Shawano	57	39	45	116	102
Sheboygan	318	320	342	279	289
Taylor	21	23	16	111	99
Trempealeau	46	53	36	179	159
Vernon	52	41	46	161	149
Vilas	79	79	93	355	385
Walworth	171	180	206	177	192
Washburn	57	33	31	271	192
Washington	229	222	210	180	170
Waukesha	810	853	867	220	226
Waupaca	85	97	72	173	161
Waushara	48	29	30	156	119
Winnebago	267	253	276	163	165
Wood	200	239	272	292	341
Wisconsin	13,454	13,723	13,859	246	249

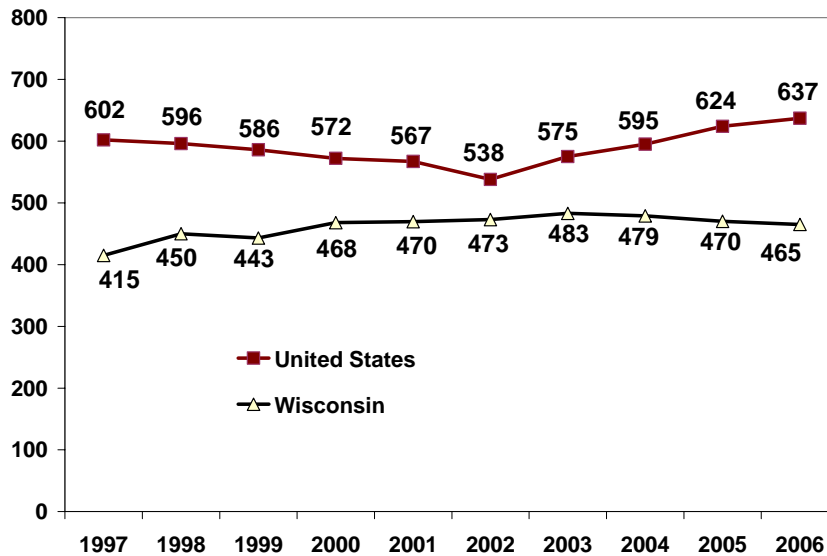
Source: Wisconsin inpatient hospital discharge data, Wisconsin Hospital Association Information Center, Inc.
 Note: Hospitalization numbers and rates are based on patient's county of residence.

Crime and Arrests

Drug law violations are a direct consequence of illicit drug use.

- There were 26,193 arrests in Wisconsin for drug law violations in 2006, an increase of 22% since 1997 (21,522 arrests).
- From 1996 to 2006, the rate of drug law arrests was lower in Wisconsin than the national average (Figure 17).
- During these years, Wisconsin’s rate of drug law arrests ranged between 415 and 483 arrests per 100,000 Wisconsin residents. The rate of drug law arrests in Wisconsin was 465 per 100,000 population in 2006.

Figure 17. Rate of drug law arrests (adult and juvenile) per 100,000 population, Wisconsin and the United States, 1996-2006



Sources: *Crime and Arrests in Wisconsin*, Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance; and *Crime in the United States*, U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Criminal Justice Information Services Division.

Note: These two data sources provide rates per 100,000 population for reported index crimes (property offenses and violent offenses), plus numbers of arrests for index crimes and numbers of crimes/arrests for non-index crimes. Where rates were not directly obtained, rates per 100,000 population were calculated using the standard formula: rate = number / population x 100,000.

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Table 10. Arrests for drug law violations per 100,000 population, Wisconsin by county, 2005 and 2006

County	Arrests per 100,000 population		County	Arrests per 100,000 population	
	2005	2006		2005	2006
Adams	221	355	Marinette	207	162
Ashland	499	442	Marquette	518	460
Barron	327	196	Menominee	2118	2806
Bayfield	429	647	Milwaukee	719	692
Brown	462	617	Monroe	687	637
Buffalo	401	331	Oconto	212	269
Burnett	538	261	Oneida	792	468
Calumet	120	63	Outagamie	394	442
Chippewa	287	294	Ozaukee	247	207
Clark	202	123	Pepin	203	109
Columbia	668	592	Pierce	292	206
Crawford	6	12	Polk	402	330
Dane	354	369	Portage	235	282
Dodge	309	398	Price	585	307
Door	377	309	Racine	521	572
Douglas	489	377	Richland	98	365
Dunn	379	419	Rock	472	440
Eau Claire	731	663	Rusk	421	385
Florence	40	162	St. Croix	248	282
Fond du Lac	258	283	Sauk	410	439
Forest	532	727	Sawyer	306	533
Grant	238	223	Shawano	559	560
Green	310	331	Sheboygan	386	419
Green Lake	376	512	Taylor	207	189
Iowa	119	215	Trempealeau	284	353
Iron	286	338	Vernon	176	161
Jackson	309	267	Vilas	443	362
Jefferson	494	434	Walworth	1075	1034
Juneau	105	134	Washburn	307	246
Kenosha	572	552	Washington	527	538
Kewaunee	211	192	Waukesha	380	361
La Crosse	634	544	Waupaca	306	313
Lafayette	288	319	Waushara	77	112
Langlade	593	659	Winnebago	442	460
Lincoln	531	391	Wood	722	487
Manitowoc	292	377			
Marathon	323	281	Wisconsin	470	465

Source: *Crime and Arrests in Wisconsin*, Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance.