

The FAIR Health Opioid Tracker 2025

A User's Guide

A FAIR Health Brief, September 30, 2025



This brief is a user's guide to the 2025 edition of the FAIR Health <u>Opioid Tracker</u>, ¹ a resource on opioid use disorder. The Opioid Tracker is one in a series of FH[®] Trackers—online, interactive resources that offer geographic insights into public health issues.

Opioid use disorder has been a serious issue for years. The National Institute on Drug Abuse reports that opioid-involved overdose deaths rose from 49,860 in 2019 to 79,358 in 2023.² In the Opioid Tracker, FAIR Health draws on its repository of billions of commercial healthcare claim records—the largest in the nation—to provide insight into data related to opioid use disorder. In this year's edition of the Opioid Tracker, a national heat map represents patients with opioid use disorder diagnoses per 100,000 patients receiving medical services in 2024 for each state. The darkest states in the heat map are those where the number of such patients was highest.

Clicking on a state, or on the District of Columbia, displays an infographic for that jurisdiction. The infographic includes:

- The top five procedure code categories by utilization for opioid use disorder;
- The top five procedure codes by aggregate allowed amounts³ for opioid use disorder;
- The change in the number of patients with opioid use disorder diagnoses per 100,000 patients receiving medical services from 2021 to 2024;
- The distribution of patients with opioid use disorder diagnoses by age; and
- The distribution of patients with opioid use disorder diagnoses by gender.

In addition, there are two infographics for the nation as a whole, the first with information similar to the state infographics, the second with the following findings:

- The top five states for opioid use disorder;
- The fastest-growing specialties involved in the treatment of opioid use disorder;
- The distribution of places of service for opioid use disorder; and
- Service type (professional versus facility) as a percentage of total allowed amounts for opioid use disorder.

What follows is a guide to the findings presented in the <u>national infographics</u>. For state-specific information, we invite you to visit the state infographics in the Opioid Tracker.

³ An allowed amount is the total negotiated, in-network fee paid to the provider under an insurance plan. It includes the amount that the health plan pays and the part the patient pays under the plan's in-network cost-sharing provisions (e.g., copay or coinsurance if the patient has met the deductible). The aggregate allowed amount for a given procedure is simply the sum of all the allowed amounts for that procedure in the applicable geographic area during the time frame.



The FAIR Health Opioid Tracker 2025

¹ "Opioid Tracker," FAIR Health, accessed September 18, 2025, https://www.fairhealth.org/fh-trackers/opioid-abuse-map.

² "Drug Overdose Deaths: Facts and Figures," National Institute on Drug Abuse, August 2024, https://nida.nih.gov/research-topics/trends-statistics/overdose-death-rates#Fig3.

National Findings

The national top five procedure code categories by utilization for opioid use disorder among commercially insured patients in 2024 are shown in the table below. Alcohol/substance abuse services and treatments had the highest utilization, representing 39.5 percent of claim lines⁴ for all procedure code categories for opioid use disorder. Drug screening accounted for 22.1 percent. Following this were office/outpatient/emergency room services, at 14.0 percent; psychiatric/psychological services, at 9.1 percent; and laboratory procedures (other than drug screening), at 6.4 percent.



Top Five Procedure Code Categories by Utilization for Opioid Use Disorder

Percent of all claim lines by procedure code categories for opioid use disorder in the nation

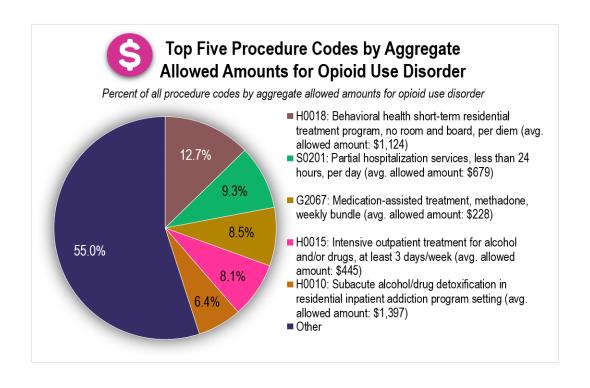
PROCEDURE CODE CATEGORY	PERCENT
Alcohol/Substance Abuse Services and Treatments	39.5%
Drug Screening	22.1%
Office/Outpatient/Emergency Room Services	14.0%
Psychiatric/Psychological Services	9.1%
Laboratory Procedures (Other Than Drug Screening)	6.4%

⁴ A claim line is an individual service or procedure listed on an insurance claim.



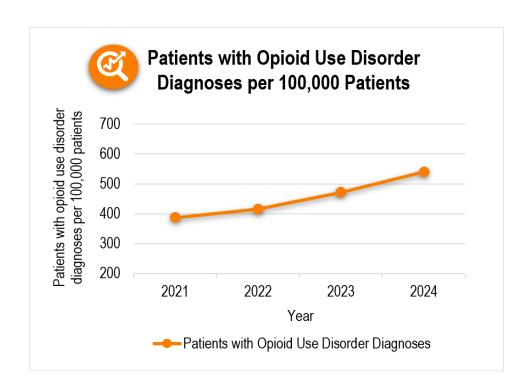
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The national top five procedure codes by aggregate allowed amounts for opioid use disorder among commercially insured patients in 2024 are shown below. In the number one position, H0018 (behavioral health short-term residential treatment program, no room and board, per diem) accounted for 12.7 percent of aggregate allowed amounts for opioid use disorder. The average allowed amount for this code was \$1,124. In second position was S0201 (partial hospitalization services, less than 24 hours, per day), at 9.3 percent. In third position was G2067 (medication-assisted treatment, methadone, weekly bundle), at 8.5 percent. Next was H0015 (intensive outpatient treatment for alcohol and/or drugs, at least three days per week), at 8.1 percent. In fifth position was H0010 (subacute alcohol/drug detoxification in residential inpatient addiction program setting), at 6.4 percent; this code had the highest average allowed amount of the top five, \$1,397. All other procedure codes collectively accounted for 55.0 percent of aggregate allowed amounts for opioid use disorder.

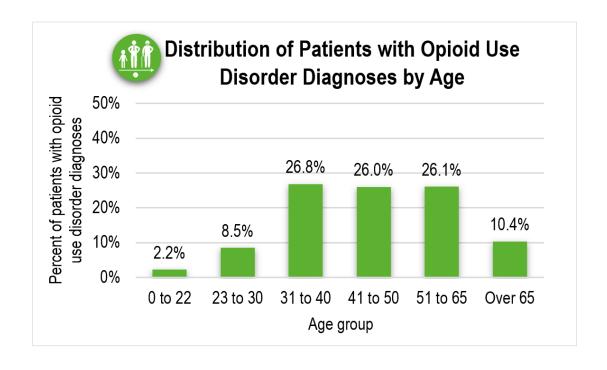




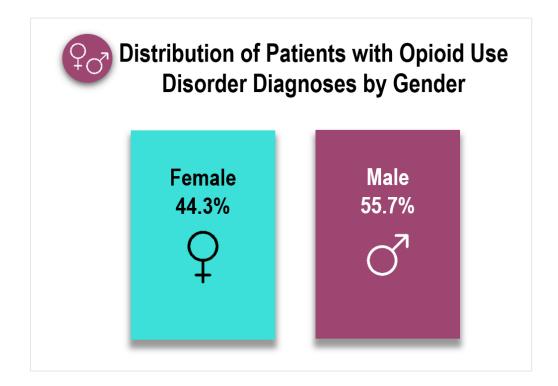
Nationally, among the commercially insured population, patients with opioid use disorder diagnoses showed an overall increase from 2021 to 2024 (see the figure below). In 2021, there were 386 patients with opioid use disorder diagnoses per 100,000 patients, while in 2024 there were 539, an increase of 39.8 percent.



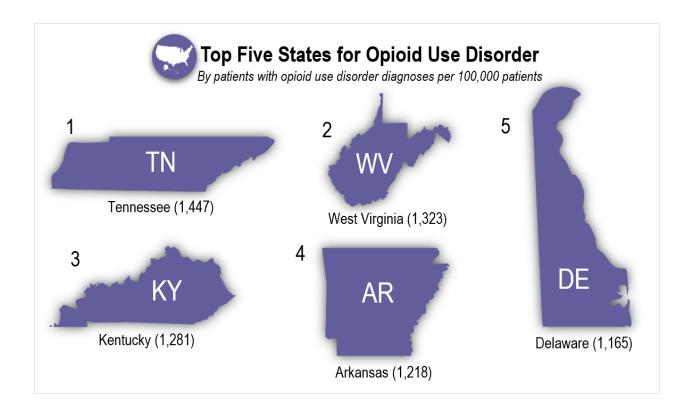
The age distribution of patients with opioid use disorder diagnoses among commercially insured patients in 2024 across the nation is shown in the figure below. The highest percentage of opioid use disorder diagnoses were attributable to patients in the 31 to 40 age group, with 26.8 percent of the total. Of the total diagnoses, 26.1 percent were from patients in the 51 to 65 age group, 26.0 percent from the 41 to 50 age group and 10.4 percent from the over 65 age group. Patients aged 23 to 30 and those under 23 accounted for the lowest percentage of opioid use disorder diagnoses with 8.5 percent and 2.2 percent, respectively.



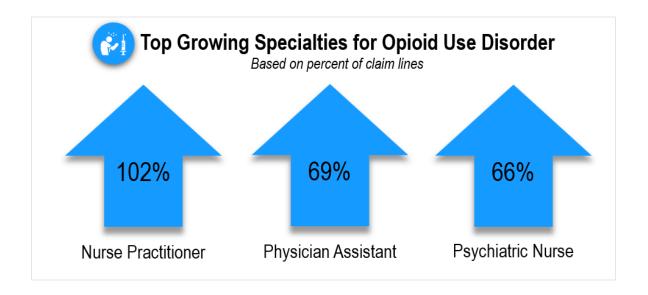
The national gender distribution of patients with opioid use disorder diagnoses among commercially insured patients in 2024 is shown in the figure below. Males were 55.7 percent of patients with those diagnoses, while females were 44.3 percent.



As shown in the figure below, Tennessee had the highest rate of commercially insured patients receiving treatment for opioid use disorder, with 1,447 patients with such a diagnosis per 100,000 patients. Completing the top five states were West Virginia (1,323 patients), Kentucky (1,281 patients), Arkansas (1,218 patients) and Delaware (1,165 patients).

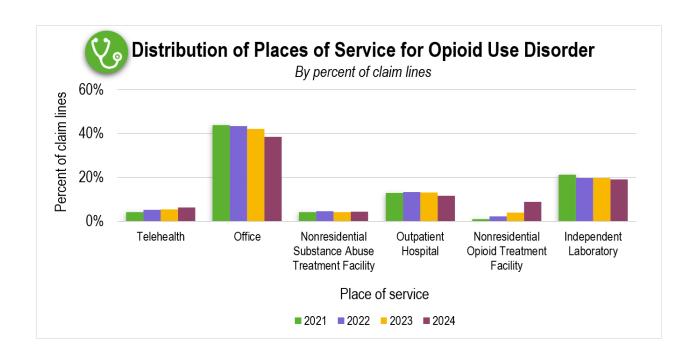


The fastest-growing specialty involved in the treatment of opioid use disorder nationally was nurse practitioner, which increased 102 percent in percent of claim lines from 2021 to 2024 (as shown in the figure below). In second and third position, respectively, were physician assistant (69 percent) and psychiatric nurse (66 percent).



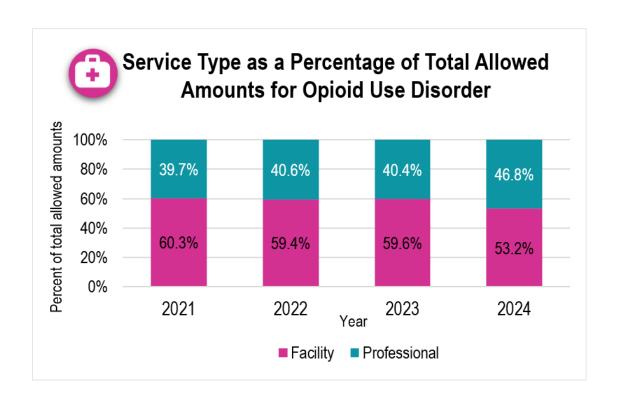


The figure below shows the distribution of places of service for opioid use disorder by percent of claim lines from 2021 to 2024. Throughout that period, office had the largest share of claim lines, but its share fell from 43.8 percent in 2021 to 38.6 percent in 2024, a decrease of 11.8 percent. During the same period, telehealth grew from 4.3 percent to 6.3 percent, an increase of 48.8 percent; while nonresidential opioid treatment facility grew from 1.0 percent to 9.0 percent, a rise of 785.0 percent.





As shown in the figure below, facility costs as a percentage of total allowed amounts for opioid use disorder decreased from 60.3 percent in 2021 to 53.2 percent in 2024, a drop of 11.8 percent. By contrast, professional costs rose from 39.7 percent to 46.8 percent in the same period, an increase of 18.0 percent.





Conclusion

Taken together, the results in the national opioid infographics, like those in the state-specific infographics, shed light on various aspects of opioid use disorder, including utilization, costs, age and gender. In addition, the national infographics illuminate geography, specialties, places of service and service types. We hope that the Opioid Tracker will be useful to all healthcare stakeholders, such as policy makers, payors, providers, patients and researchers, who continue to track and seek to better understand and address this public health issue.

Click <u>here</u> for the Opioid Tracker.



About FAIR Health

FAIR Health is a national, independent nonprofit organization dedicated to bringing transparency to healthcare costs and health insurance information through data products, consumer resources and health systems research support. FAIR Health qualifies as a public charity under section 501(c)(3) of the federal tax code. FAIR Health possesses the nation's largest collection of commercial healthcare claims data, which includes over 52 billion claim records and is growing at a rate of about 4 billion claim records a year. FAIR Health licenses its commercial data and data products-including benchmark modules, data visualizations, custom analytics and market indices—to commercial insurers and self-insurers, employers, providers, hospitals and healthcare systems, government agencies, researchers and others. Certified by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) as a national Qualified Entity, FAIR Health also receives data representing the experience of all individuals enrolled in traditional Medicare Parts A, B and D, which accounts for a separate collection of over 53 billion claim records; FAIR Health includes among the commercial claims data in its database, data on Medicare Advantage enrollees. FAIR Health can produce insightful analytic reports and data products based on combined Medicare and commercial claims data for government, providers, payors and other authorized users. FAIR Health's free, awardwinning, national consumer website is available in English (fairhealthconsumer.org) and Spanish (fairhealthconsumidor.org). For more information on FAIR Health, visit fairhealth.org.

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