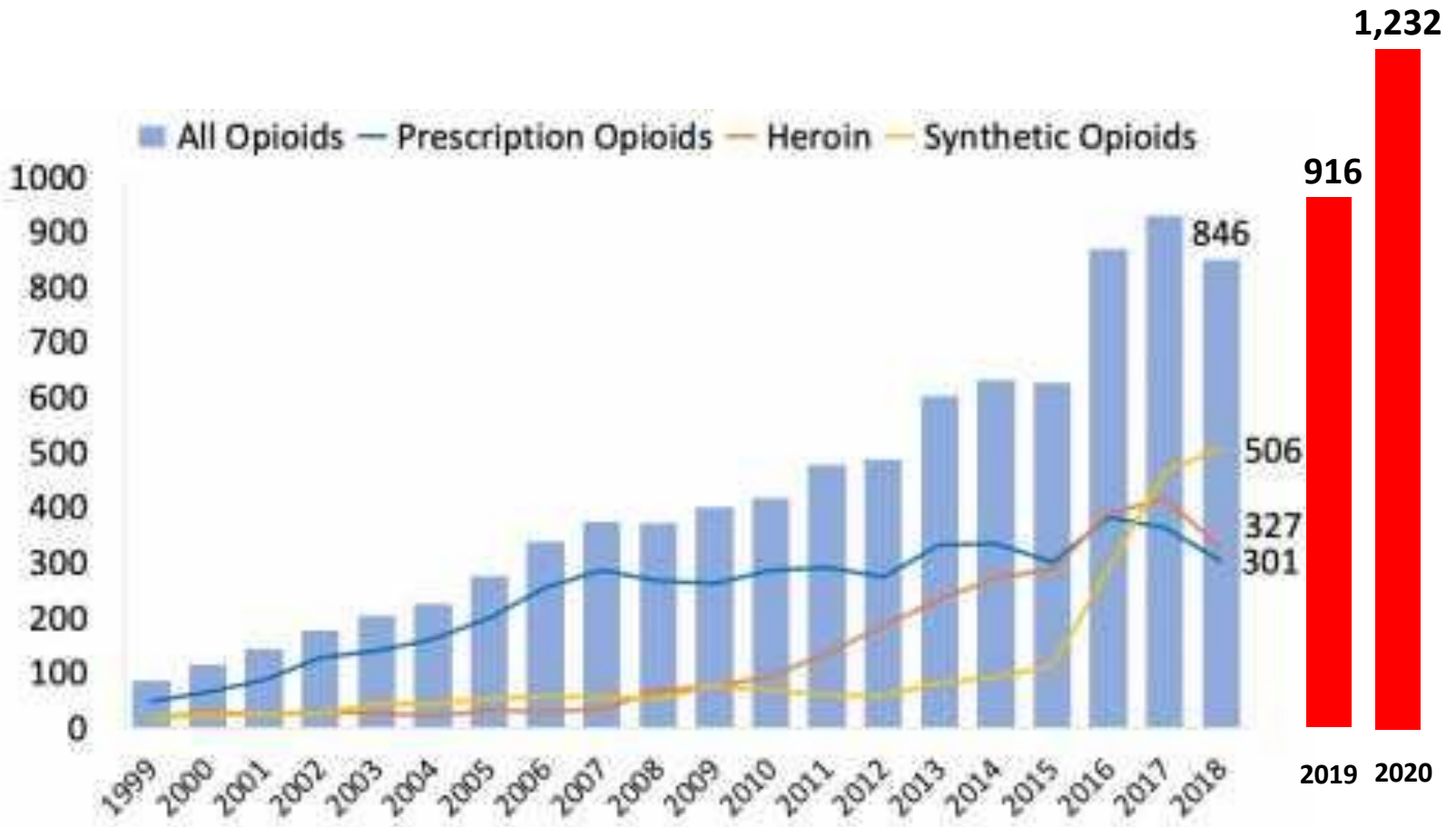


# The Opioid Crisis in Wisconsin

*Current Status and Initiatives*  
*March, 2022*

# Number of Overdose Deaths Involving Opioids in Wisconsin, by Opioid Category

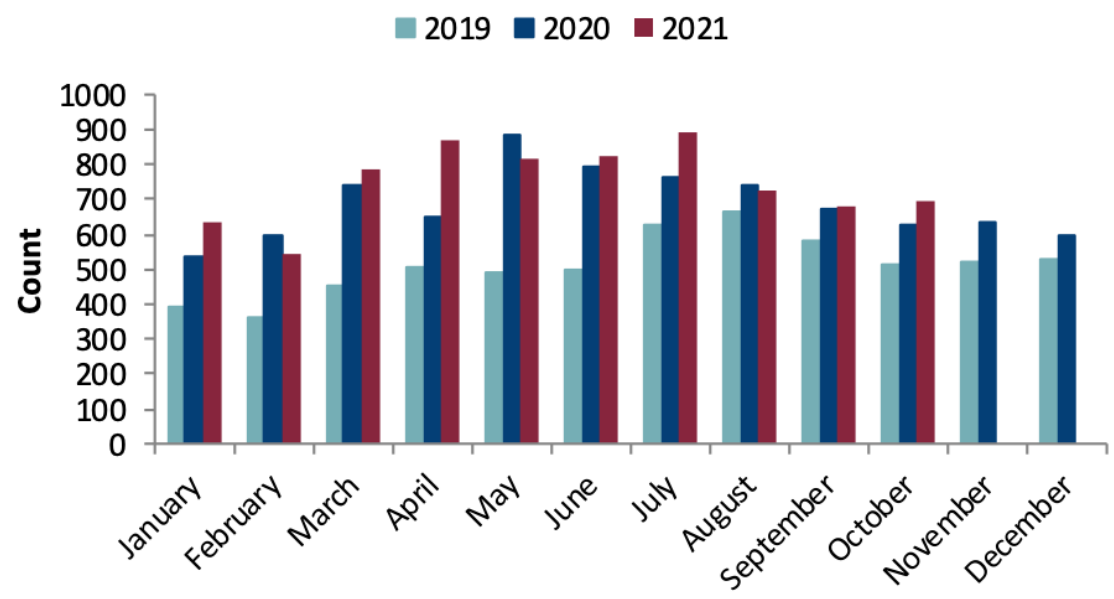


Source: Wisconsin DHSS.

For additional Wisconsin opioid resources: [www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/opioids](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/opioids)

# A Deteriorating Position in Wisconsin

**Figure 2. Wisconsin Suspected Opioid Overdoses by Month, YTD**



Source: Office of Health Informatics, Wisconsin Department of Health Services  
 Data: Wisconsin Ambulance Run Data System (WARDS)

**73% Increase in Opioid Overdose Ambulance Runs from 2019 to 2021  
 (5,188 vs est. 8,976)**

# A Deteriorating Position in Wisconsin



- A 42% YOY *Increase* in Opioid Misuse in Wisconsin
- A 11% YOY *Decrease* in Opioid Misuse Nationally



# WI AB 619/SB 600 Fentanyl Test Strips

## *Findings From FTS Pilots (CA, RI, MD, MA, WA, PA)*

- Test strips are easy for PWUD to use with minimal instruction
- PWUD FTS users communicate positive test results within user community, causing deterrence
- Test strips are a useful engagement tool to foster discussion with PWUD regarding NARCAN, rehabilitation services, etc.
- Test strips allow PWUD to be more informed about the drugs they are buying and using, leading to behavior change and the adoption of increased harm reduction measures
- *Lower Overdose Deaths*

# WI AB619/SB600 Fentanyl Test Strips

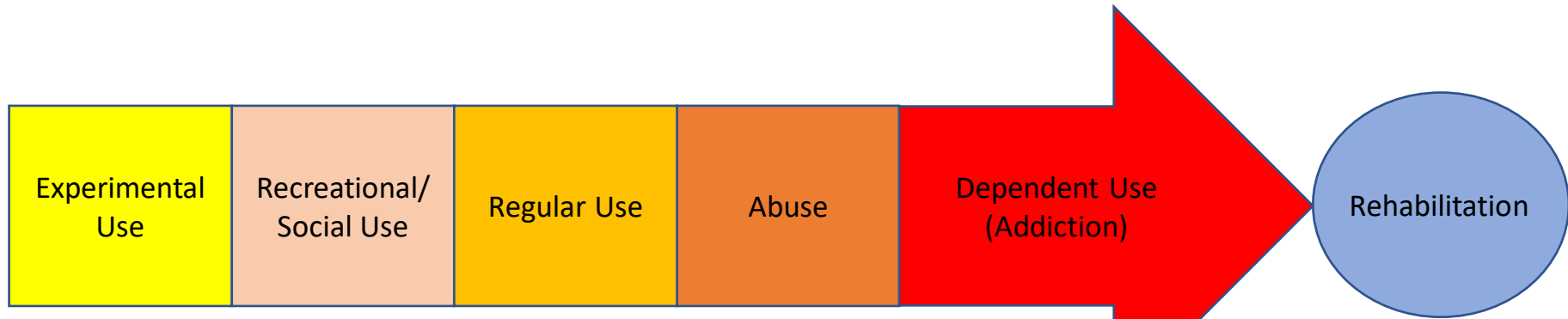
## *Why Is Fentanyl Such A Problem?*

- Source: China  Mexico  USA
- Why? Mexican Cartel Profits:
  - Kilo of Heroin \$80,000
  - Kilo of Fentanyl \$1,400,000
- Strategy:
  - Put Fentanyl in Marijuana, Cocaine, Meth, Ecstasy, Counterfeit Prescription Drugs (i.e., Xanax)
  - Get Users Hooked On Fentanyl-Laced Drugs
  - Leads To Full Opioid Addiction (Heroin)

***In 2019, 71% of All Wisconsin Opioid-Related Deaths***

***Involved Fentanyl***

# The Continuum of Substance Abuse and Needed Care



## Prevention

- **AODA Education**
  - ARC- RTI Program
  - **LRB-4581 (Start)**
- **Prescription Protocols**
  - Repeal 3-Day PDMP Exemption Bill **SB 407 & AB 430**
- **3,5,7 Day Acute Pain Prescription Protocol**
  - 3.1M Opioid Scripts
  - 1 in 6 Residents
  - 37 States w/ Protocols
- **Lock-Up Opioids**
  - Model Social Host Law
  - Lock Bags @ Pharmacy

## Intervention/ Harm Reduction

- **Legislation: SB 600 (FTS)**
  - Provided for EMTs, Police Needle Exchanges
- **School Intervention**
- **Counseling/Mentoring**

## Treatment

- **Promote ER MAT**
- **Remove Obstacles**
  - Inpatient
  - Incl. Room/Board
  - State Med. Asst.
  - **LRB-4582**
- **Full Rehabilitation**
  - 28 Days ??
- **Outpatient MAT**
  - Vivitrol Paid For

## Aftercare

- **Monitoring**
- **Periodic Outpatient**
- **Recovery Groups**

# A Deteriorating Position in Wisconsin

## *Need For Stronger Legislation*

- Common Sense Reforms Aimed at Harm Reduction (FTS)
- Renewed Focus on Education
- Make Treatment More Widely Available and Affordable (LRB-4582)
- Prescription Protocols to More Tightly Control Opioid Introduction (SB 407)



# Current Bills in the Wisconsin Legislature Dealing With Opioids

## ***LRB-4581***

Provides Additional State Financial Assistance to Wisconsin School Districts Looking to Establish an Effective Substance Abuse Educational Program

## ***SB 407 & AB 430***

Repeals the 3-Day ePDMP Exemption Bill, Thus Requiring Physicians and Dentists to Check the Enhanced Prescription Drug Monitoring Program for all Opioid Prescriptions

## ***AB619 & SB600***

Legalizes the Use and Distribution of Fentanyl Test Strips

## ***LRB-4582***

Provides Improved Patient Treatment Options for Substance Abusers on BadgerCare

## ***Naloxone/NARCAN for Wisconsin Schools***

We Are Currently Working on an Initiative to Mandate the Placement of NARCAN in all Wisconsin Middle and High Schools, Along With Mandatory Training of Appropriate School Personnel to Administer It.

# Current Successes on Bills in the Wisconsin Legislature Dealing With Opioids

On Wednesday, March 16, 2022 Governor Tony Evers Signed Three Significant Anti-Opioid Measures Into Law:

**Bill 600** *Decriminalizes the use of fentanyl testing strips, which are used to confirm a the presence of a substance as fentanyl. Such strips are classified as drug paraphernalia under current state law.*

**Bill 352** *Creates three tiers of felonies for manufacturing, dealing and possessing fentanyl based on the amount and increases the maximum prison sentence for the crimes by five years if the crimes occur in a public housing project or within 1,000 feet of a park, swimming pool, youth center, a correctional facility, a school or a school bus.*

**Bill 49** *Calls for the creation of a state database tracking methamphetamine and opioid use. The bill appropriates \$1.5 million to the state Department of Administration for the project.*

/

# Current Successes on Bills in the Wisconsin Legislature Dealing With Opioids

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