

To better understand this complex issue, public data on perceptions and attitudes towards substance use was collected. The results will help inform a strategic planning process for selecting targeted community prevention and response strategies. This report outlines the key findings from this assessment.

### Access to Care

Limited access to mental health and substance use services is a barrier for seeking treatment. Specific barriers to rural communities was cited in the assessment. For example, stigma for seeking services, financial constraints, distance between services, and varying knowledge of available resources. The assessment also identified barriers to increasing available resources, such as, inability to attract and retain treatment professionals and insufficient insurance reimbursement for individual or group recovery programs.

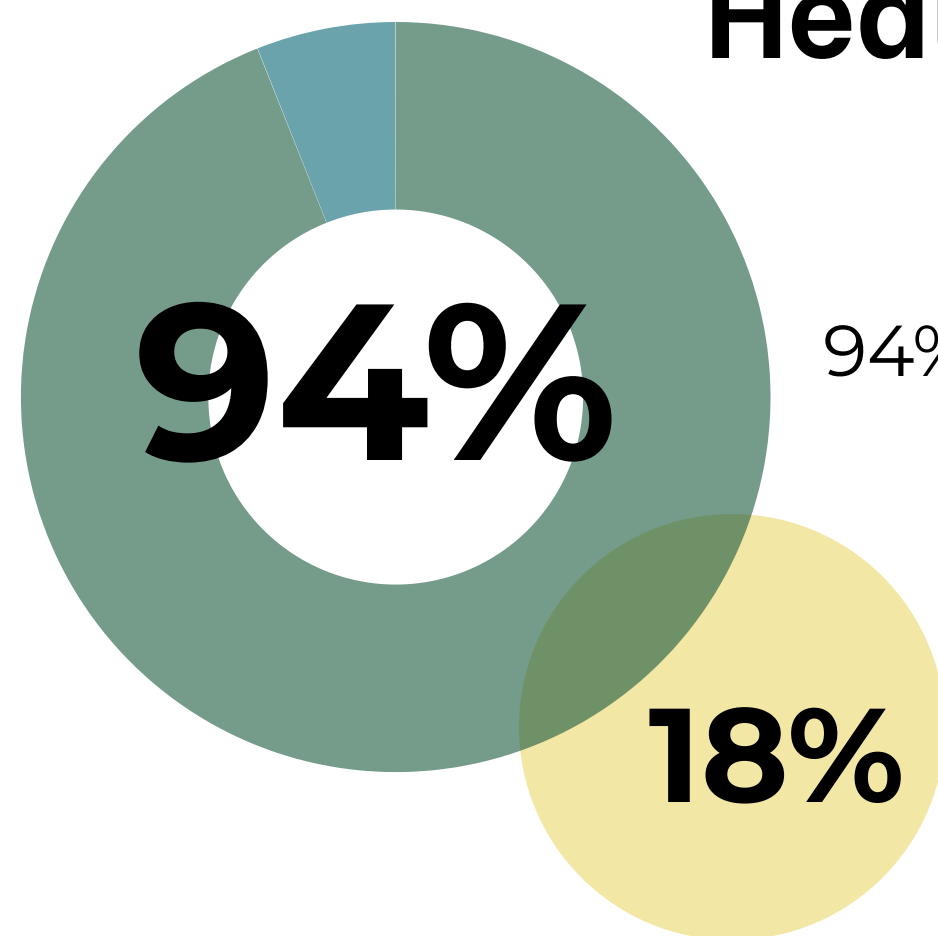
# 93%

of people aged 12 or older in 2020 who needed substance use treatment in the United States did not receive treatment at a specialty facility (approximately 38.4 million people)\*\*

#### Common Reasons Nationally for Not Seeking Treatment\*\*

- Having no health care coverage
- Not being able to afford the cost of treatment
- Not finding the type of treatment they wanted
- Being concerned that neighbors or community would have a negative opinion of them

#### Health Insurance



94% of assessment participants currently have health insurance.

18% of individuals with health insurance, cited currently having BadgerCare.

#### Assessment Participants Reported

EVIDENCE

- Varying communication and collaboration between intervention and response organizations impacts continuity of care.
- Limited access to recovery support groups for families.
- Limited availability of treatment and recovery resource options.
- Stigma was the number one cited reason preventing people from seeking treatment services.
- Limited financial resources was the second most cited reason preventing people from seeking treatment services.
- Long waitlists to get into available resources.
- Complicated and lengthy process of establishing with a provider.
- Lack of knowledge of the available resources and programs.

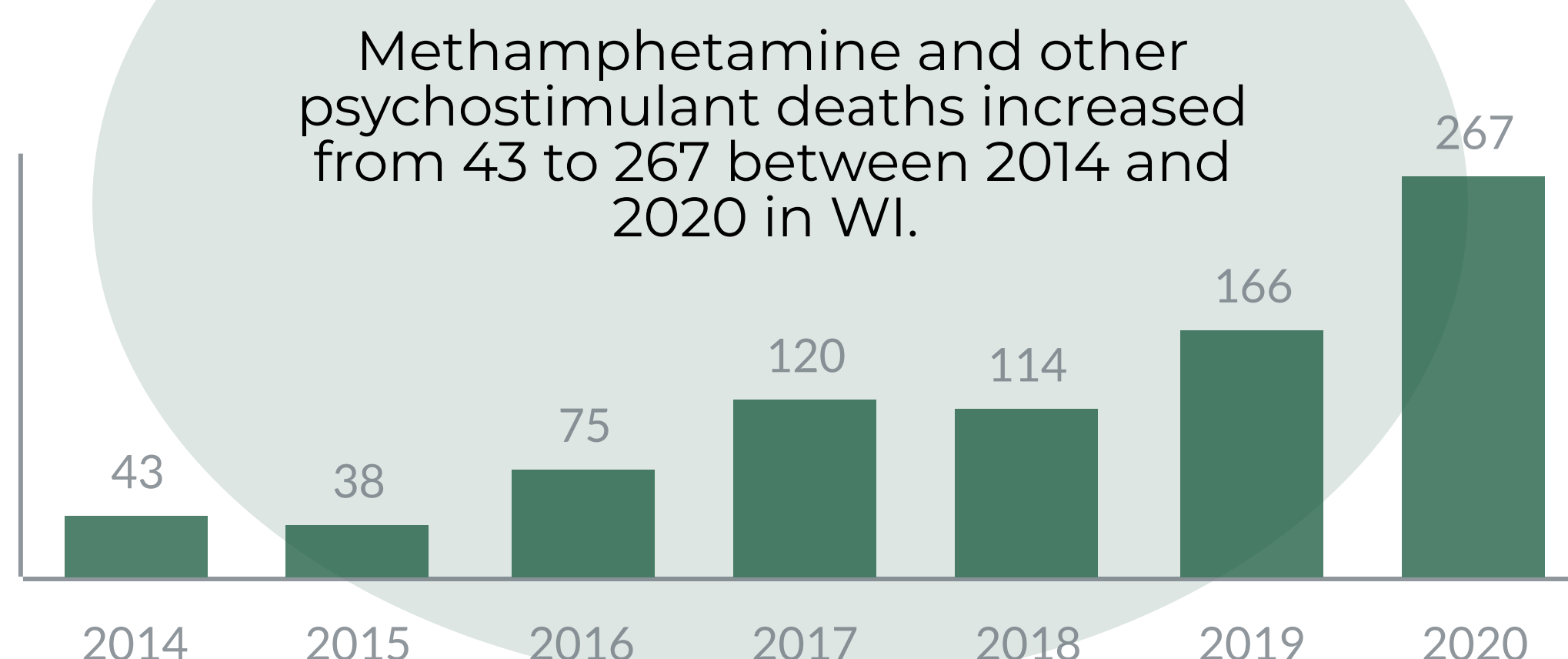
### The Burden of Overdose and Suicide in Wisconsin

Supporting innovative ways to expand access to care, including technologies and non-clinical support services is one strategy that makes up a comprehensive approach to prevention.\*\*

# 78%

The number of overdose deaths from all substances among Wisconsin residents increased 78%, 2014–2020\*

#### WI Annual Methamphetamine and other Psychostimulants Deaths\*



# 40%

The suicide rate among Wisconsin residents increased by 40%, 2000–2017 \*\*\*



### Access to Care

#### Assessment Participants Identified Next Steps

##### Expand access to mental health and substance use treatment services.



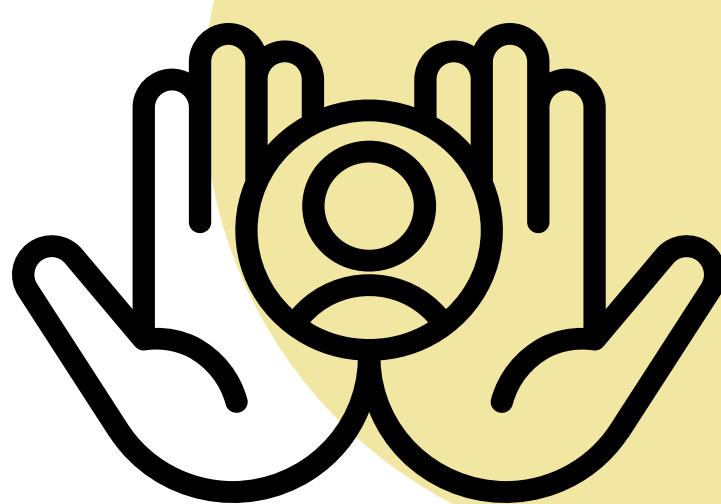
- Increase availability of telehealth and other virtual services.
- Improve family recovery support opportunities.
- Increase access to recovery services within the criminal justice system.
- Increase awareness and availability of harm reduction strategies.
- Support innovative ways to expand access to care, including peer-led and other non-clinical support services.

##### Increase awareness and coordination of linkages to care



- Improve consistent continuity of health care and social services among diverse community sectors.
- Form cooperative relationships between treatment providers, recovery resources, public safety and public health organizations to increase referrals and engagement in evidence-based treatment.
- Improve organizational procedures for collaborative transition planning.
- Employ peer support services within the treatment team.
- Provide recovery support for family members.
- Increase the public's knowledge of risk factors, recognition of warning signs, and preparedness to support and responds.

##### Provide social supports to help reduce individual barriers to care



- Increase access to transportation resources.
- Increase access to sober living and affordable housing.
- Improve access to affordable childcare.
- Increase access to internet and broadband services.
- Increase social supports through peer recovery services.

\*WI Department of Health Services. Interactive Dashboards, <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/stats/aoda.htm>

\*\*2020 National Survey on Drug Use and Health <https://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/reports/rpt35325/NSDUHFFR1PDFWHTMLFiles2020/2020NSDUHFFR1PDFW102121.pdf>

\*\*\*Suicide in WI-Impact and Response <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p02657.pdf>

\*\*\*Overdose Data to Action - CDC <https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/od2a/index.html>

