

OPIOID USE DISORDER TREATMENT

CHARLESTON COUNTY

Cascade of Care

1,126

**People Have Died from Opioid Drug Overdose
in Charleston County from 2015-2023 ***

Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder Works but is Underutilized.

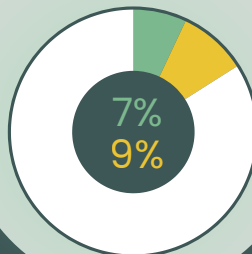
The evidence is clear that treatment for opioid use disorder can facilitate recovery, improve individual and family well being, and dramatically reduce the chance of overdose and death. However, most people in South Carolina who have an opioid use disorder are not receiving any treatment for their condition.

Percent of South Carolina Uninsured Adults Who Received Opioid Use Disorder Treatment in a County Alcohol and Drug Authority or Opioid Treatment Program in Charleston County in 2021



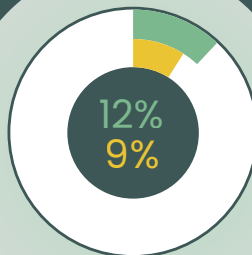
Medication

Of uninsured adults in Charleston County with opioid use disorder, **7% received buprenorphine** and **9% received methadone** in the 34 days following diagnosis.



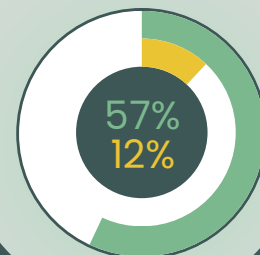
Counseling

Of uninsured adults in Charleston County with an opioid use disorder, **12% had one or more psychosocial treatment sessions** within 14 days of diagnosis, and **9% had two or more sessions** within 34 days of their initial session.



Retention

Of uninsured adults in Charleston County, **57% who initiated medication** for opioid use disorder **continued it** for 90 days and **12% of those who initiated psychosocial treatment** for opioid use disorder **continued it** for 90 days.



The Data

The estimates presented in this county profile reflect uninsured adults aged 18-64 who received opioid use disorder treatment in a County Alcohol and Drug Authority or Opioid Treatment Program in South Carolina in 2021.

Detailed information regarding the study population and the methods used to create these estimates can be found on our website.

Support & Resources

South Carolina Center of Excellence in Addiction provides:

- Technical Assistance
- Training and Education
- Data Analysis

South Carolina's Guide to Approved Uses for Investing Opioid Settlement Funds provides information of how you can implement approved strategies for spending opioid settlement funds in your county.



OPIOID USE DISORDER TREATMENT SOUTH CAROLINA

Cascade of Care

1 OUT OF 4

or 22% of uninsured adults in South Carolina with opioid use disorder **received treatment** in a timely manner in 2021.



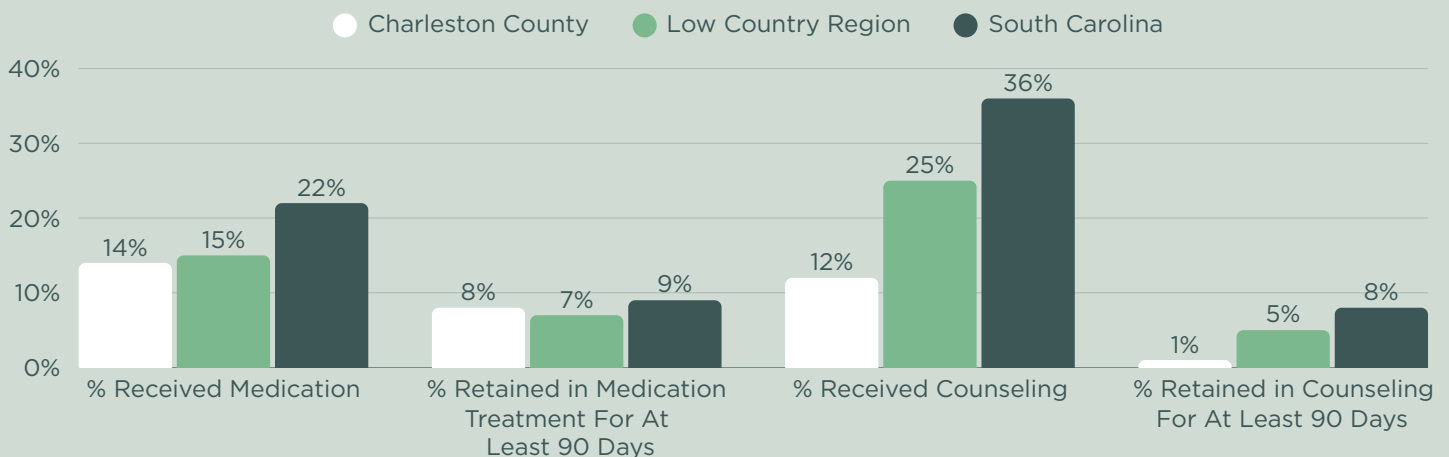
Cascade of Care Framework

Promoted by the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Cascade of Care framework can help structure local and state efforts to combat the opioid epidemic by identifying key targets, interventions, and quality indicators across populations and settings to reduce deaths.*



Charleston County Compared to South Carolina

Estimated Percentage of Uninsured Adults Diagnosed with Opioid Use Disorder in a County Alcohol and Drug Authority or Opioid Treatment Program Who Met Selected Cascade Targets



Strategies to Strengthen the Cascade in Charleston County

Diagnosis

- Implement screenings in health care settings and use evidence-based standardized approaches to identify opioid use disorder
- Implement evidence-based early intervention programs in schools
- Encourage interventions by first responders to connect at-risk individuals to behavioral health services and supports (e.g. pre-arrest diversion programs, post-overdose response teams)

Medication

- Increase access to free and low-cost treatment
- Expand treatment capacity by increasing the number of health care providers willing to prescribe buprenorphine
- Build and strengthen collaborative referral relationships between opioid treatment programs and other treatment providers
- Develop programs in jails to provide opioid use disorder treatment medications for individuals who need it

Counseling

- Build effective referral systems and warm handoff programs guided by the principle that there is “no wrong door” to initiate treatment
- Decrease barriers to treatment by increasing telehealth options and mobile methadone programs
- Implement harm reduction programs to reduce health and safety issues associated with drug use (syringe services and naloxone distribution programs)

Treatment Retention

- Provide services to address barriers to remaining in treatment, such as transportation, childcare, and housing
- Ensure care is patient centered and continue shared decision-making practices with patients around treatment initiation and retention
- Implement treatment programs that include the use of health IT (e.g. tele health, online programs)

Data displayed represent South Carolina’s uninsured adults aged 18–64 from 2021 who received opioid use disorder treatment in a County Alcohol and Drug Authority or Opioid Treatment Program. Percentages are estimates based on the data and do not reflect exact counts. State regions are based on the [South Carolina Department of Public Health Regions](#). These data reflect trends in opioid use disorder diagnosis and treatment receipt during the COVID-19 pandemic, which may differ significantly from such trends during the non-pandemic period.

