

How Harm Reduction Organizations Access Naloxone



Every day, more than **200 people die** of an opioid-involved overdose in the United States.



The opioid overdose reversal drug, **naloxone**, can restore breathing within minutes if administered promptly, making it an essential tool in the fight against this crisis.

Harm reduction organizations are the primary point of access to this life-saving medication, especially for the most common overdose rescuers—people who use drugs.

Of the 16.95 million doses of naloxone distributed in the United States in 2021,

45% were distributed > outside of “retail pharmacies and traditional health care facilities” (learn more) such as harm reduction organizations, health departments and community-based organizations

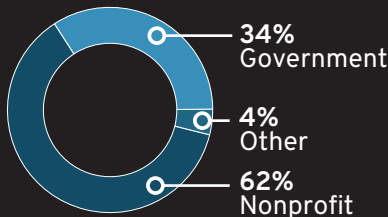
39% were distributed > through traditional non-pharmacy medical channels

16% were distributed > through retail pharmacies

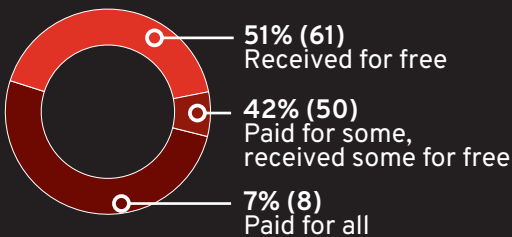


R Street surveyed how harm reduction organizations procure naloxone in 2023.

Types of organizations surveyed



Do organizations pay for their naloxone?



Of the 119 organizations surveyed,

110 (92%) acquired naloxone from at least one group purchasing program.

94 (79%) received naloxone from a government program or agency.

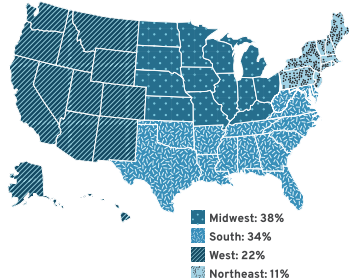
38 (32%) received naloxone from a buyers club such as Remedy Alliance or the North America Syringe Exchange Network.

20 (17%) procured naloxone directly from a pharmaceutical company, distributor or pharmacy.

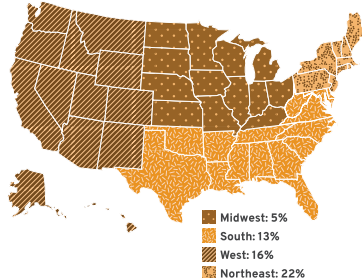
17 (14%) accessed naloxone through other channels, including nonprofit clearinghouses, charity donations and university programs.

Regional differences in naloxone sources.

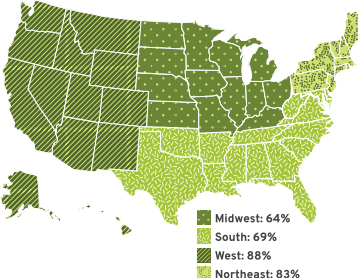
Buyers Clubs



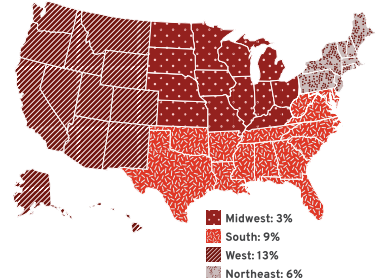
Direct from Pharmaceutical Manufacturer, Distributor or Pharmacy



Government Agencies



Other



Naloxone Access and Group Purchasing

A Brief History

