



Office of the
Attorney General

Settlement with McKinsey & Co. for firm's role in the opioid crisis

Rhode Island to receive \$2.59 million

Rhode Island and 46 states (excluding NV, WA, and WV) plus the District of Columbia and five U.S. territories have reached a \$573 million settlement with McKinsey & Co., for the firm's work on behalf of opioid manufacturers that contributed to the opioid crisis. This marks the first multi-state opioid settlement to result in substantial payment to the states to address the epidemic.

McKinsey will pay a total of \$478 million to the 47 states, DC, and five territories in the first year, then four annual payments of \$23 million, and agrees to not work for clients related to opioids. Rhode Island will receive \$2.59 million over five years, with \$2.14 million being paid in the first year. The proceeds for each state were determined by a formula based principally on population.

McKinsey's role in opioid crisis

Starting in 2004, McKinsey worked with opioid manufacturers — including Purdue Pharma — to design unfair trade practices, recommending deceptive marketing strategies to encourage healthcare providers to prescribe opioids.

McKinsey worked on aggressive marketing campaigns for Purdue to encourage doctors to prescribe long courses of high-dose, extended release OxyContin, driving increased opioid sales and profits. McKinsey's work with Purdue spanned 15 years and involved a variety of projects to increase opioid sales.

Legal basis

McKinsey's work on deceptive marketing strategies for opioids violated Rhode Island's Deceptive Trade Practices Act. These unfair trade practices injured Rhode Island consumers and directly and proximately caused the State's injuries.

How settlement funds will be used

The Attorney General's Office will work with other state agencies, public health experts, and community stakeholders to put a framework in place to ensure the funds are used solely to address the impact of the opioids epidemic on Rhode Islanders — through treatment, rescue, recovery, and prevention programs — and are distributed in a manner that is evidence-based, transparent, equitable, and efficient.

Nearby states: recovery amounts

State (population)	Recovery (million)
RI (1.06 million)	\$2.59
MA (6.89 million)	\$13.23
CT (3.75 million)	\$7.51
VT (624,000)	\$1.54
NH (1.35 million)	\$3.33
ME (1.34 million)	\$3.14
DE (974,000)	\$2.58

