

Data Brief 273: Drug Overdose Deaths in the United States, 1999–2015

Data table for Figure 1. Age-adjusted drug overdose death rates, by sex: United States, 1999–2015

Year	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Deaths per 100,000	Number	Deaths per 100,000	Number	Deaths per 100,000
1999	16,849	6.1	11,258	8.2	5,591	3.9
2000	17,415	6.2	11,563	8.3	5,852	4.1
2001	19,394	6.8	12,658	9.0	6,736	4.6
2002	23,518	8.2	15,028	10.6	8,490	5.8
2003	25,785	8.9	16,399	11.5	9,386	6.4
2004	27,424	9.4	17,120	11.8	10,304	6.9
2005	29,813	10.1	18,724	12.8	11,089	7.3
2006	34,425	11.5	21,893	14.8	12,532	8.2
2007	36,010	11.9	22,298	14.9	13,712	8.8
2008	36,450	11.9	22,468	14.9	13,982	8.9
2009	37,004	11.9	22,593	14.8	14,411	9.1
2010	38,329	12.3	23,006	15.0	15,323	9.6
2011	41,340	13.2	24,988	16.1	16,352	10.2
2012	41,502	13.1	25,112	16.1	16,390	10.2
2013	43,982	13.8	26,799	17.0	17,183	10.6
2014	47,055	14.7	28,812	18.3	18,243	11.1
2015	52,404	16.3	32,957	20.8	19,447	11.8

NOTES: Deaths are classified using the *International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision*. Drug overdose deaths are identified using underlying cause-of-death codes X40–X44, X60–X64, X85, and Y10–Y14.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality.

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Data table for Figure 2. Drug overdose death rates, by age group: United States, 1999–2015

Year	Age group (years)											
	15–24		25–34		35–44		45–54		55–64		65 and over	
	Number	Deaths per 100,000	Number	Deaths per 100,000	Number	Deaths per 100,000	Number	Deaths per 100,000	Number	Deaths per 100,000	Number	Deaths per 100,000
1999	1,240	3.2	3,236	8.1	6,295	14.0	4,067	11.1	991	4.2	930	2.7
2000	1,435	3.7	3,169	7.9	6,469	14.3	4,389	11.6	1,013	4.2	854	2.4
2001	1,700	4.2	3,410	8.6	6,968	15.5	5,115	13.0	1,185	4.7	910	2.6
2002	2,095	5.1	4,125	10.5	8,064	18.1	6,466	16.2	1,601	6.0	1,060	3.0
2003	2,491	6.0	4,488	11.4	8,358	18.9	7,325	17.9	1,943	6.9	1,070	3.0
2004	2,751	6.6	4,680	11.9	8,439	19.3	8,040	19.3	2,283	7.8	1,104	3.0
2005	2,918	6.9	5,340	13.6	8,506	19.6	8,968	21.1	2,761	9.0	1,203	3.3
2006	3,460	8.1	6,346	16.1	9,373	21.7	10,421	24.1	3,355	10.5	1,321	3.6
2007	3,550	8.2	6,663	16.8	9,152	21.4	11,012	25.1	4,043	12.2	1,435	3.8
2008	3,487	8.0	6,739	16.8	8,885	21.1	11,222	25.2	4,396	12.9	1,587	4.1
2009	3,377	7.7	7,013	17.2	8,524	20.5	11,390	25.4	4,858	13.7	1,721	4.3
2010	3,571	8.2	7,572	18.4	8,546	20.8	11,299	25.1	5,486	15.0	1,722	4.3
2011	3,762	8.6	8,445	20.2	9,130	22.5	11,933	26.7	6,060	15.9	1,892	4.6
2012	3,518	8.0	8,508	20.1	8,948	22.1	11,895	26.9	6,423	16.6	2,094	4.9
2013	3,664	8.3	8,947	20.9	9,320	23.0	12,045	27.5	7,551	19.2	2,344	5.2
2014	3,798	8.6	10,055	23.1	10,134	25.0	12,263	28.2	8,122	20.3	2,568	5.6
2015	4,235	9.7	11,880	26.9	11,505	28.3	12,974	30.0	8,901	21.8	2,760	5.8

NOTES: Deaths are classified using the *International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision*. Drug overdose deaths are identified using underlying cause-of-death codes X40–X44, X60–X64, X85, and Y10–Y14.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality.

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Data table for Figure 3. Age-adjusted drug overdose death rates, by race and ethnicity: United States, 1999–2015

Year	Non-Hispanic white		Non-Hispanic black		Hispanic	
	Number	Deaths per 100,000	Number	Deaths per 100,000	Number	Deaths per 100,000
1999	12,328	6.2	2,429	7.5	1,669	5.4
2000	13,171	6.6	2,391	7.3	1,443	4.6
2001	14,949	7.4	2,519	7.6	1,483	4.5
2002	18,406	9.2	2,784	8.2	1,831	5.4
2003	20,375	10.2	2,822	8.2	2,009	5.6
2004	22,024	11.0	2,895	8.3	1,912	5.2
2005	23,604	11.8	3,322	9.3	2,220	5.8
2006	27,274	13.6	3,912	10.8	2,519	6.3
2007	29,217	14.5	3,574	9.7	2,487	5.9
2008	29,966	14.8	3,147	8.4	2,536	5.8
2009	30,303	15.0	3,160	8.3	2,601	5.8
2010	31,711	15.7	3,122	8.0	2,583	5.6
2011	33,961	16.9	3,385	8.5	2,941	6.1
2012	33,823	16.8	3,488	8.7	3,055	6.3
2013	35,581	17.6	3,928	9.7	3,345	6.7
2014	37,945	19.0	4,323	10.5	3,504	6.7
2015	41,720	21.1	5,070	12.2	4,117	7.7

NOTES: Deaths are classified using the *International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision*. Drug overdose deaths are identified using underlying cause-of-death codes X40–X44, X60–X64, X85, and Y10–Y14. Deaths for Hispanic persons may be underreported by about 5%.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality.

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Data table for Figure 4. Age-adjusted drug overdose death rates, by state: United States, 2015

Area	Number	Deaths per 100,000
Alabama	736	15.7
Alaska	122	16.0
Arizona	1,274	19.0
Arkansas	392	13.8
California	4,659	11.3
Colorado	869	15.4
Connecticut	800	22.1
Delaware	198	22.0
District of Columbia	125	18.6
Florida	3,228	16.2
Georgia	1,302	12.7
Hawaii	169	11.3
Idaho	218	14.2
Illinois	1,835	14.1
Indiana	1,245	19.5
Iowa	309	10.3
Kansas	329	11.8
Kentucky	1,273	29.9
Louisiana	861	19.0
Maine	269	21.2
Maryland	1,285	20.9
Massachusetts	1,724	25.7
Michigan	1,980	20.4
Minnesota	581	10.6
Mississippi	351	12.3
Missouri	1,066	17.9
Montana	138	13.8
Nebraska	126	6.9
Nevada	619	20.4
New Hampshire	422	34.3
New Jersey	1,454	16.3
New Mexico	501	25.3
New York	2,754	13.6
North Carolina	1,567	15.8
North Dakota	61	8.6
Ohio	3,310	29.9
Oklahoma	725	19.0
Oregon	505	12.0
Pennsylvania	3,264	26.3
Rhode Island	310	28.2
South Carolina	761	15.7
South Dakota	65	8.4
Tennessee	1,457	22.2
Texas	2,588	9.4
Utah	646	23.4
Vermont	99	16.7
Virginia	1,039	12.4
Washington	1,094	14.7
West Virginia	725	41.5
Wisconsin	878	15.5
Wyoming	96	16.4

NOTES: Deaths are classified using the *International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision*. Drug overdose deaths are identified using underlying cause-of-death codes X40–X44, X60–X64, X85, and Y10–Y14. The age-adjusted drug overdose death rate in the United States in 2015 was 16.3 per 100,000 standard population.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality.

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Data table for Figure 5. Percentage of drug overdose deaths involving selected drug categories: United States, 2010, 2014, and 2015

Year	All drug overdose deaths		Heroin		Natural and semisynthetic opioids		Methadone		Syntheticopioids excluding methadone		Cocaine		Psychostimulants with abuse potential	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
2010	38,329	100	3,036	7.9	10,943	28.6	4,577	11.9	3,007	7.8	4,183	10.9	1,854	4.8
2014	47,055	100	10,574	22.5	12,159	25.8	3,400	7.2	5,544	11.8	5,415	11.5	4,298	9.1
2015	52,404	100	12,989	24.8	12,727	24.3	3,301	6.3	9,580	18.3	6,784	12.9	5,716	10.9

NOTES: Deaths are classified using the *International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision*. Drug overdose deaths are identified using underlying cause-of-death codes X40–X44, X60–X64, X85, and Y10–Y14. Drug overdose deaths involving selected drug categories are identified by specific multiple-cause-of-death codes: for heroin, T40.1; natural and semisynthetic opioids, T40.2; methadone, T40.3; synthetic opioids excluding methadone, T40.4; cocaine, T40.5; and psychostimulants with abuse potential, T43.6. Categories are not mutually exclusive because deaths may involve more than one drug. The percentage of drug overdose deaths lacking information on the specific drugs involved varied by year: 25% in 2010, 19% in 2014, and 17% in 2015.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality.