Drug overdose deaths are a leading cause of injury mortality in Oregon. Deaths have remained relatively unchanged in Oregon since 2006 (Figure 1), while deaths in the U.S. in general have increased. The U.S. rate increased from 11.5 deaths per 100,000 (age-adjusted rate) in 2006 to 21.7 in 2017. In Oregon, decreases in opioid-related deaths continue, while deaths due to drugs such as methamphetamine continue to increase.

Drug overdose death rates vary by race and ethnicity (Figure 2). The highest rate of drug overdose deaths from 2013 to 2017 occurred among Non-Hispanic Whites (13.7 per 100,000), followed closely by American Indian/Alaska Natives. The lowest
rate of drug overdose deaths from 2013 to 2017 occurred among Non-Hispanic Asian/Pacific Islanders (2.4 per 100,000).

**FIGURE 2**

**Drug overdose deaths by race/ethnicity, Oregon, 2013–2017**

![Bar chart showing drug overdose deaths by race/ethnicity.](chart)

**Note:** NH = Non-Hispanic. Counts and rates for non-White Hispanics have been suppressed due to small numerators and unstable rates, or zero counts.

**Source:** CDC-Wonder

**Additional Resources:** [Injury and Violence Prevention Program](#)

**About the Data:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Data are from the CDC Wonder Multiple Cause of Death Files, 1999-2017, as compiled from data provided by the 57 vital statistics jurisdictions through the Vital Statistics Cooperative Program. The data include deaths of unintentional, suicide, homicide, or undetermined intent.

**For More Information Contact:** Laura Chisholm, [Laura.F.Chisholm@state.or.us](mailto:Laura.F.Chisholm@state.or.us)

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