Prevention and Health Promotion

Opioid-related overdose deaths

Opioid-related overdose\(^1\) is one of the leading causes of injury mortality in Oregon. Opioid overdose, which includes prescription drug as well as street drug deaths, have markedly increased in Oregon since 2000, from 73 total deaths (2000) to 344 deaths in 2017 (Figure 1). The rate of death in the U.S was 1.8 times higher than Oregon in 2017.

![Opioid-related overdose death rate by year, Oregon and U.S.](image)

Opioid-related overdose death rates vary by race/ethnicity (Figure 2). The highest average age-adjusted mortality rate from 2013 to 2017 occurred among American Indians/Alaska Natives (10.1 per 100,000), and whites (9.0 per 100,000). The lowest rates of Opioid-related overdose death occurred among Asian/Pacific Islanders (1.8 per 100,000), and Hispanics (3.6 per 100,000).

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\(^1\) The current 2019 updated data replaces previous rates that included only unintentional and undetermined intent, to include overdoses of all intents (unintentional, intentional, undetermined). This results in higher rates than previously reported.
Additional Resources: Injury and Fatality State Plans and Reports

About the Data: Data source is CDC Wonder. Data include deaths for which the underlying cause of death was accidental, intentional or undetermined intent poisoning, and opium, heroin, methadone, other synthetic narcotics or other opioids were listed among the contributing causes of death. Population estimates used in calculating rates are from the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS).

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