

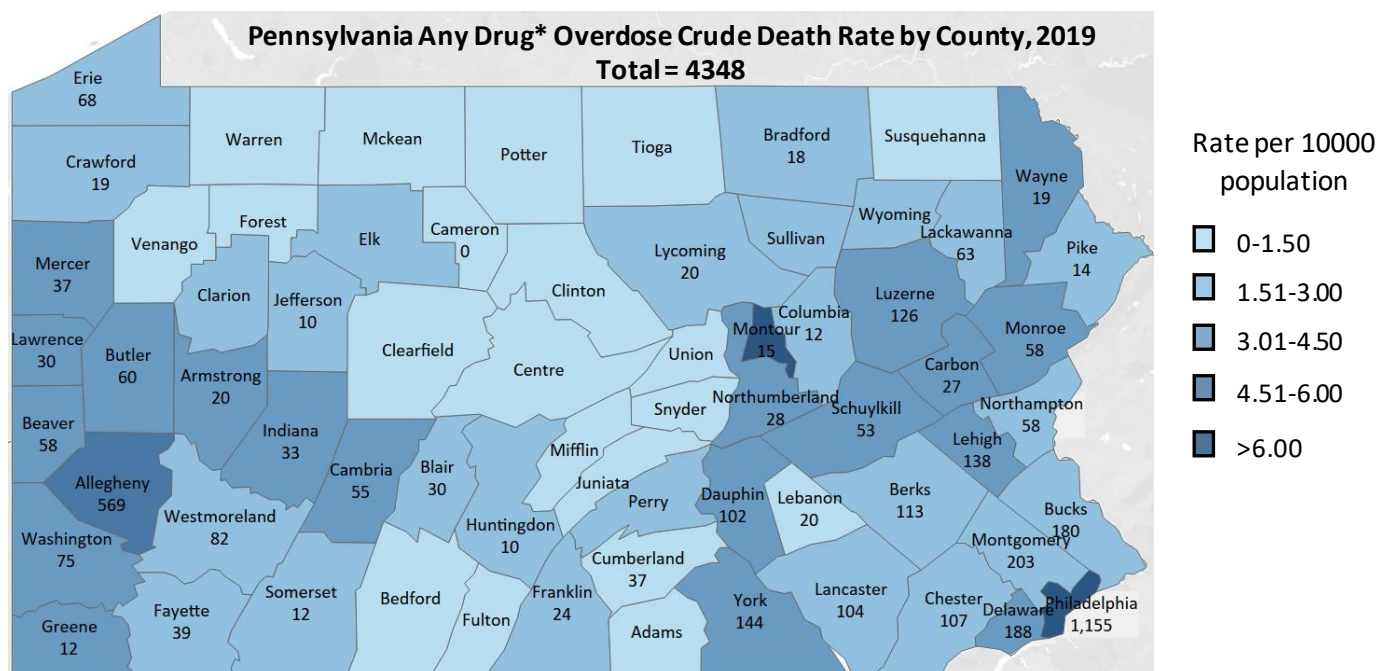
Fatal and Non-fatal Drug Overdoses in Pennsylvania, 2019

Through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-funded Enhanced State Opioid Overdose Surveillance and Overdose Data to Action grants, the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) has collected both fatal and non-fatal overdose data for the past four years from a variety of sources†.

Preliminary estimates indicate that as of July 2020 there were 4348 drug overdose deaths in Pennsylvania in 2019, with 62 death records still pending in counties that have not reported toxicology information directly to the DOH. Key findings from 2019 include:

- Preliminary estimates indicate drug overdose deaths in Pennsylvania decreased 1.7% in 2019 when compared to 2018, and 19.4% when compared to 2017 when the Opioid Command Center was established. This percentage of decrease could be less, once investigations into 62 deaths that have yet to be finalized have been reported to the DOH.
- On average, approximately 12 Pennsylvanians died from drug overdose every day in 2019.
- Of the 4348 drug overdose deaths in 2019 identified to-date, 80.2% (3485) have been confirmed to be opioid-related, a 7% decrease compared to the 3737 in 2018. However, DOH anticipates the number of confirmed opioid-related overdoses deaths could increase as additional counties submit their toxicology information for 2019.
 - Of the 3485 confirmed opioid-related overdose deaths, 41% (1446) also involved a stimulant such as cocaine and/or methamphetamine contributing to their cause of death, which is a 4% increase compared to 2018 (1 392).
 - In 2019, 9% (401) of overdose deaths involved a stimulant without an opioid. For comparison, 8% (347) of overdose deaths involved a stimulant without an opioid in 2018.
 - As of July 15, 2020, 7.4% (320) of overdose deaths are missing toxicology information; 3.7% (163) of 2018 overdose deaths were missing toxicology information.
- Based on death record data, over half of drug overdose deaths occurred in the decedent's own home (57%), highlighting the importance of getting naloxone into the hands of community members, particularly friends and family of people who use opioids.
- 27% of overdose deaths occurred among those 25-34 years of age, followed by 26% among those 35-44.
- 77% of drug overdose decedents were white, 16% were black, and 7% were of other or unknown races.
- 91% drug overdose decedents were non-Hispanic, 8% were Hispanic, and <1% were of unknown ethnicities.

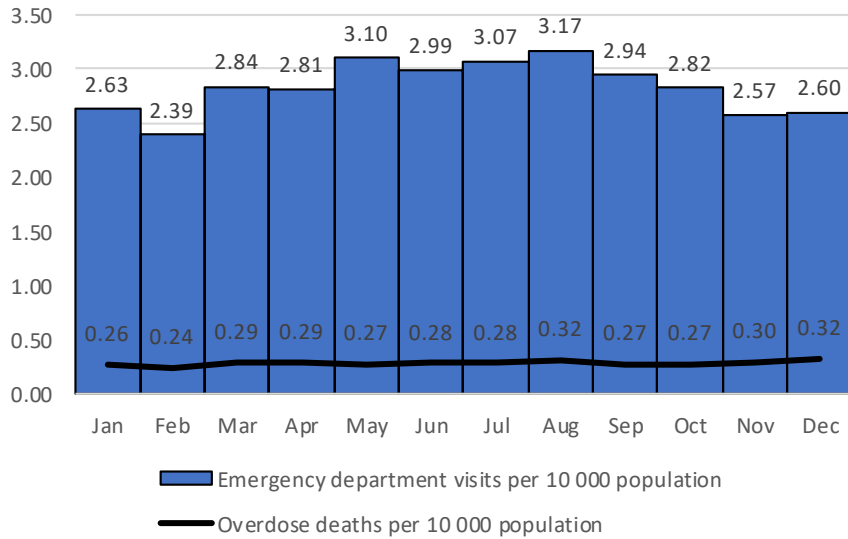
The DOH will publish an annual report and additional detailed findings, which will be available on the [PDMP website](#).



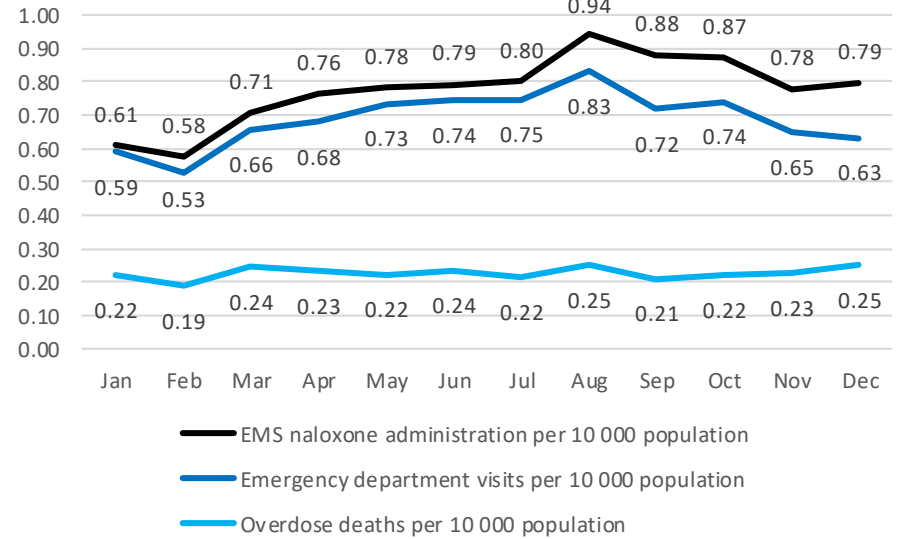
† Fatal overdose data includes death record data from the Bureau of Health Statistics and Registries, as well as toxicology and coroner/medical examiner records data through partnerships with individual county coroners/medical examiners and the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs. Non-fatal overdose data includes syndromic surveillance data through our partnerships with emergency departments. Counts for counties with deaths counts between 1 and 9 are suppressed.

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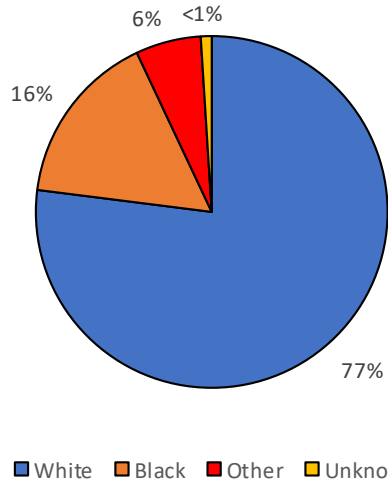
Rate of Fatal and Non-fatal Overdose Trends per 10 000 Population for **Any Drug*** Overdose, by Month, 2019



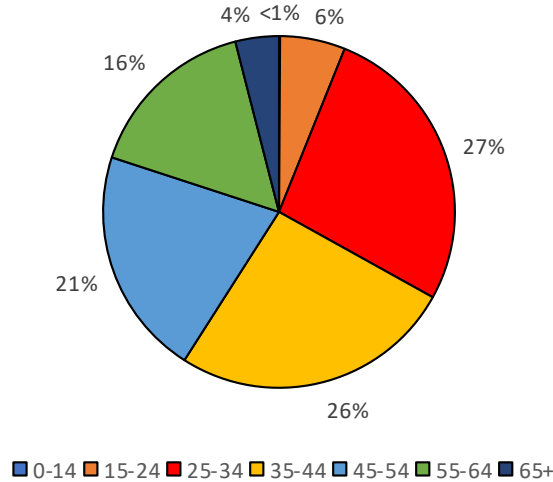
Rate of Fatal and Non-fatal Overdose Trends per 10 000 Population for **Any Opioid§** Overdose, by Month, 2019



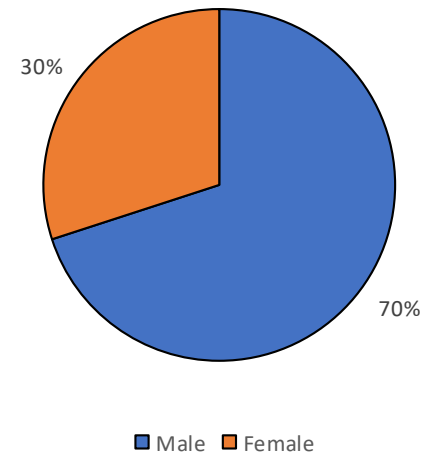
Any Drug Overdose Deaths by Race, 2019



Any Drug Overdose Deaths by Age Group, 2019



Any Drug Overdose Deaths by Gender, 2019



* "Any Drug" overdoses include "Accidental" and "Undetermined" overdose deaths from illicit, prescription or over-the-counter drugs, excluding alcohol-only related deaths. Counts do not include "Homicides" or "Suicides". NOTE: For prosecution purposes, some counties certify "Accidental" and/or "Undetermined" overdose deaths as "Homicides".

§ "Any Opioid" Overdoses include overdoses from illicit or prescription opioids, including heroin and fentanyl.