



**KENTUCKY INJURY PREVENTION
AND RESEARCH CENTER**

Kentucky Resident Drug Overdose Deaths, 2016–2020

Annual Report

December 8, 2021

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Executive Summary

Total Deaths

- Drug overdose deaths among Kentucky residents rose steadily over the five-year period covered by this report. The largest increase occurred from 2019 to 2020, when the number of drug overdose deaths among Kentucky residents increased by 49%, from 1,316 to 1,965 deaths. For those same years, opioid overdose deaths increased by 61%, from 988 to 1,594 deaths while stimulant overdoses increased by 54%, from 538 to 827 deaths.
- In 2020, 81% of all drug overdose deaths involved at least one opioid and 42% involved at least one stimulant.

Sex

- For this five-year period, male decedents accounted for 64% of drug overdose deaths. Men also made up the majority of people who died from an opioid or stimulant overdose (65% and 67%, respectively).
- From 2019 to 2020, drug overdose deaths among men increased by 63%, from 834 to 1,358 while drug overdose deaths among women increased by 26%, from 482 to 607.
- Among fatal drug overdoses in men in 2020, 81% involved at least one type of opioid while 44% involved at least one type of stimulant. Among female decedents in 2020, those same percentages were 80% and 38%, respectively.

Race

- The majority of Kentucky residents who died from a drug overdose during this five-year period were white (92%). This proportion is higher than expected, based on representation in Kentucky's general population (87%).
- From 2019 to 2020, the greatest percent increase in drug overdose deaths occurred among black residents (64%, from 105 to 172). Drug overdose deaths among white residents increased by 49% over the same years, from 1,191 to 1,773.
- In 2020, at least one type of opioid was involved in the deaths of 82% of both white and black decedents who died from a drug overdose. In contrast, a greater percentage of black decedents who died from a drug overdose involved at least one type of stimulant (52%) when compared to white decedents (41%).

Drug Types

- In 2020, 69% of all drug overdose deaths involved fentanyl (1,354 out of 1,965). Among opioid overdose deaths, the percent involving fentanyl jumps to 85% (1,354 out of 1,594). The next most common drug types involved in overdose deaths in 2020 were methamphetamine (29%, 579), prescription opioids (23%, 448 deaths), and benzodiazepines (16%, 308).
- From 2019 to 2020, the greatest percent increase in drug overdose deaths involved fentanyl (82%, from 743 to 1,354). The second highest percent increase in drug overdose deaths involved methamphetamine (52%, from 380 to 579) and cocaine (48%, from 112 to 166). Heroin was the only drug type included in this analysis to have

a decrease in the number of deaths in which it was involved from 2019 to 2020 (-22%, from 143 to 111 deaths).

Seasonality

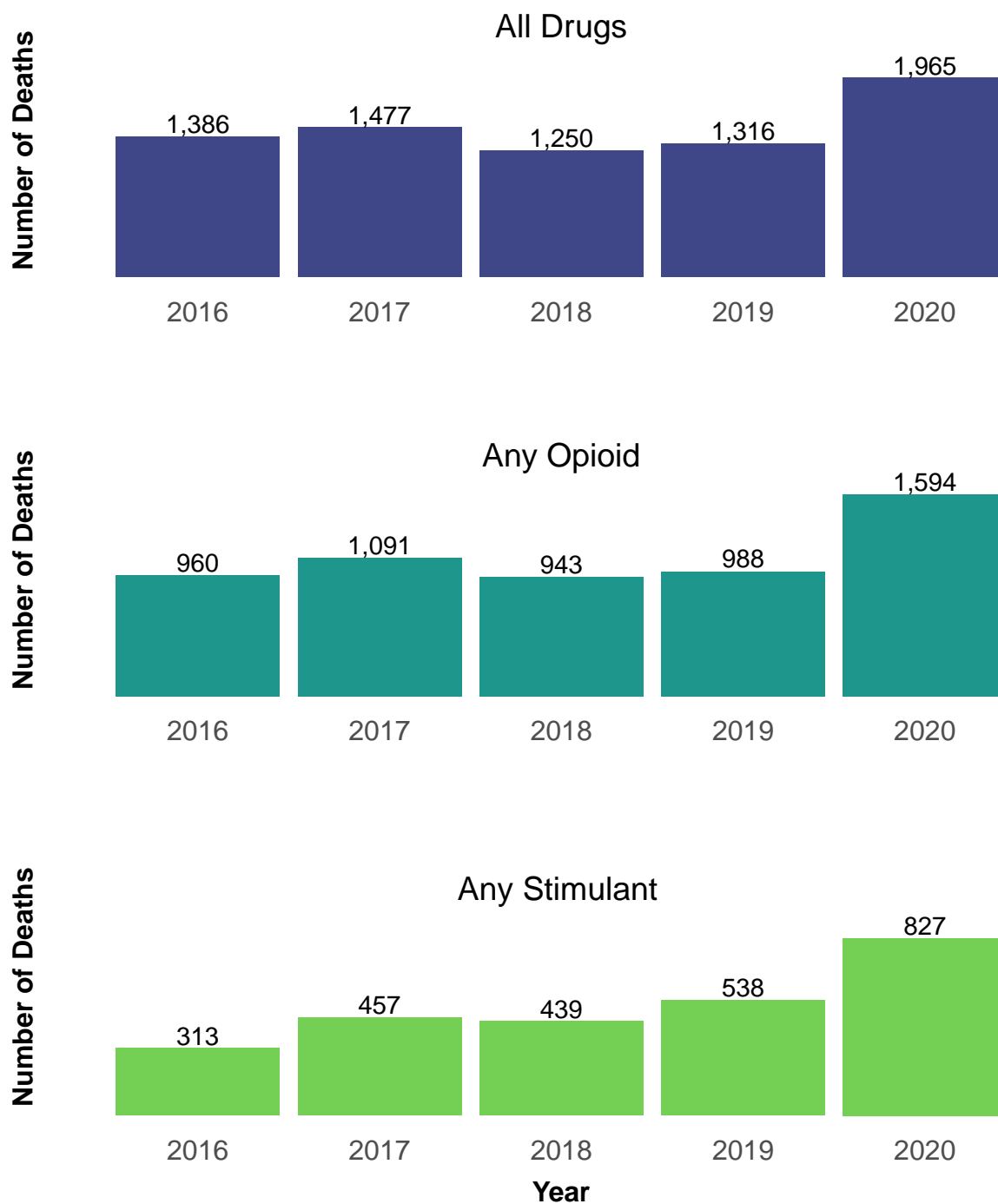
- For three out of the five years covered by this report (2016, 2017, 2019), the highest number of drug overdose deaths occurred at or just after the end of the year, in December, January, or February.
- In 2020, the highest monthly count of drug overdose deaths occurred in May, shortly following the enactment of protective measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. After this initial spike, monthly numbers of deaths appear to drop to levels that would have been expected based on the pre-COVID trend of rising monthly counts that started in 2019.

County Ranking

- In 2020, the five counties with the highest age-adjusted rates for drug overdose deaths were Bourbon County (98.4 deaths per 100,000 residents, n=18), Garrard County (85 deaths per 100,000 residents, n=15), Carter County (82.3 deaths per 100,000 residents, n=21), Madison County (81.2 deaths per 100,000 residents, n=68), and Grant County (77.7 deaths per 100,000 residents, n=17).
- Rates based on numbers less than 20 are unstable and should be interpreted with caution. Henry County (88 deaths per 100,000 residents, n=12) and Estill County (79.2 deaths per 100,000 residents, n=11) were excluded from the list above due to low numbers of events (n<15).

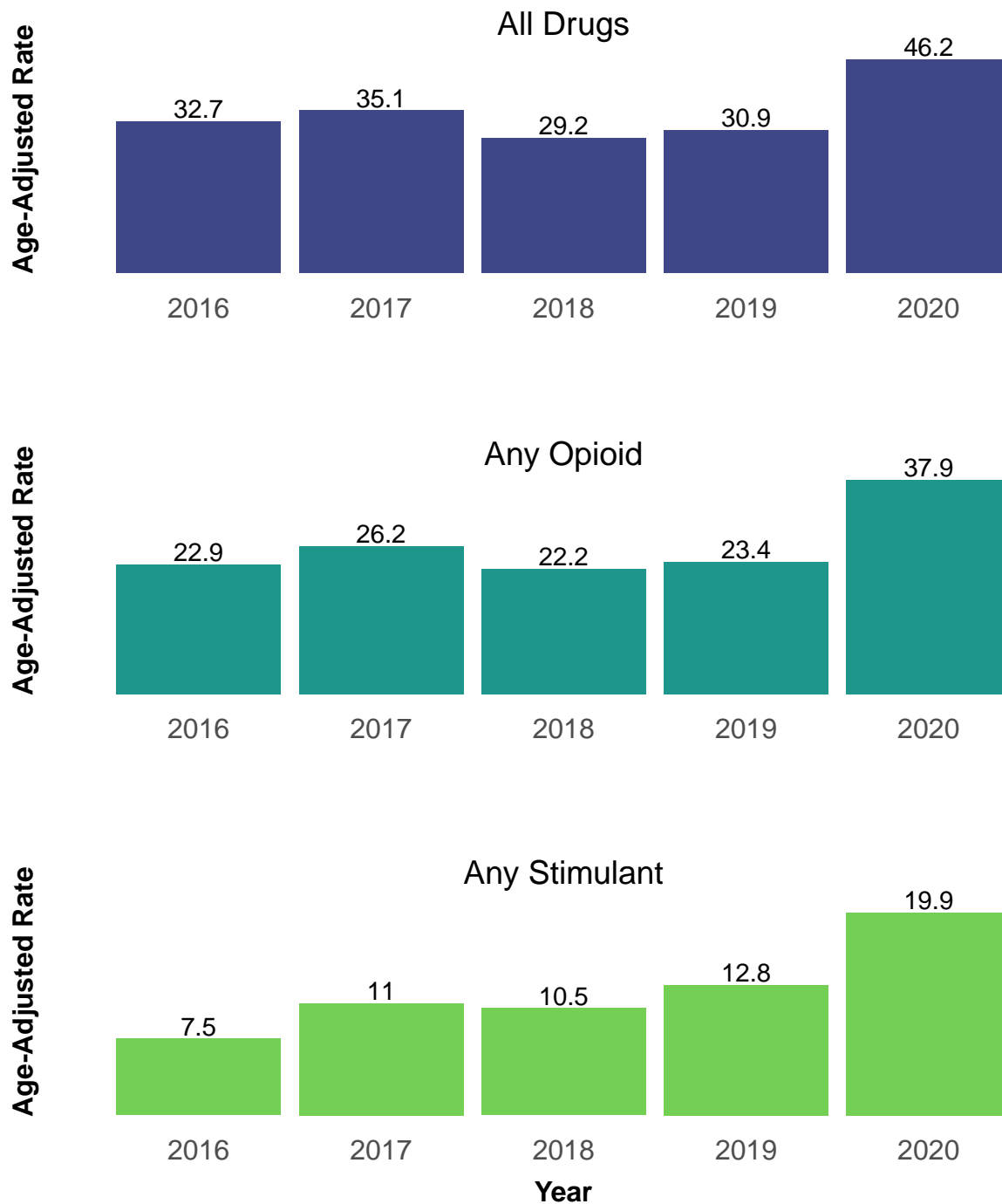
Number and Rate of Deaths

Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents, 2016–2020



Produced by the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center as bona fide agent for the Kentucky Department for Public Health. Data are provisional and subject to change. December 2021

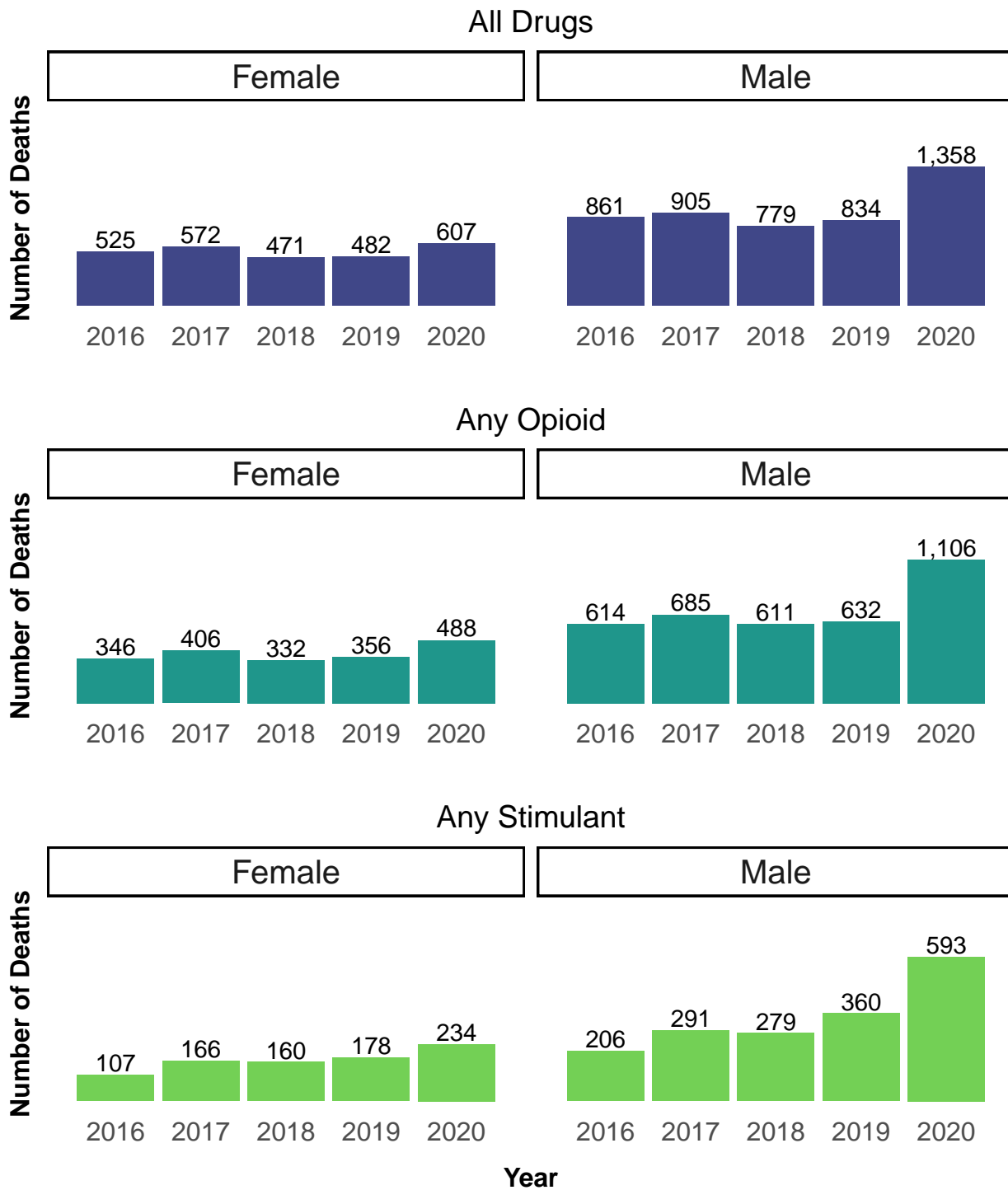
Age-Adjusted Rates of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents, 2016–2020



Rates are presented as number of events per 100,000 population. Produced by the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center as bona fide agent for the Kentucky Department for Public Health. Data are provisional and subject to change. December 2021.

Number of Deaths, by Sex

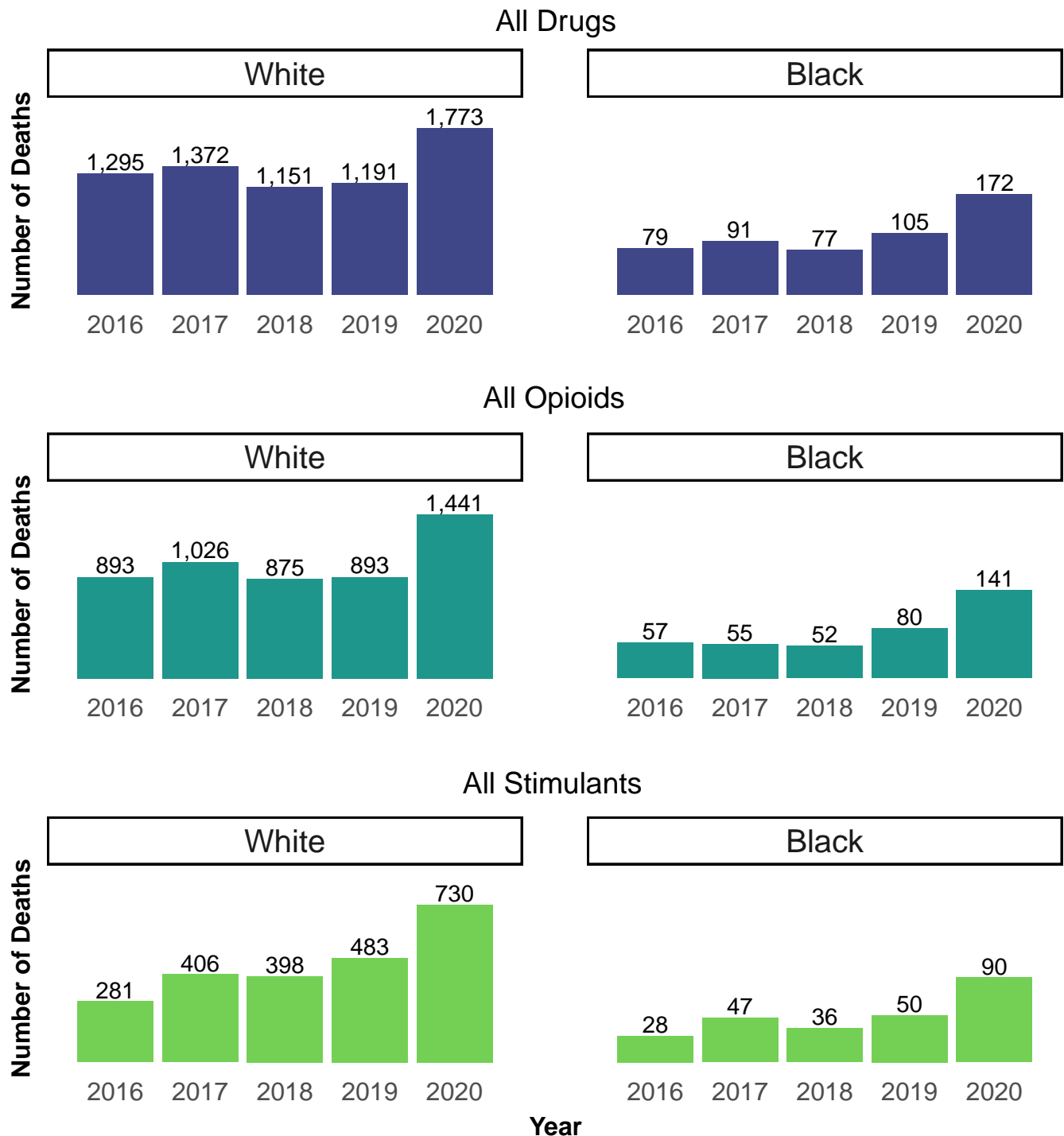
Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents by Sex, 2016–2020



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Number of Deaths, by Race

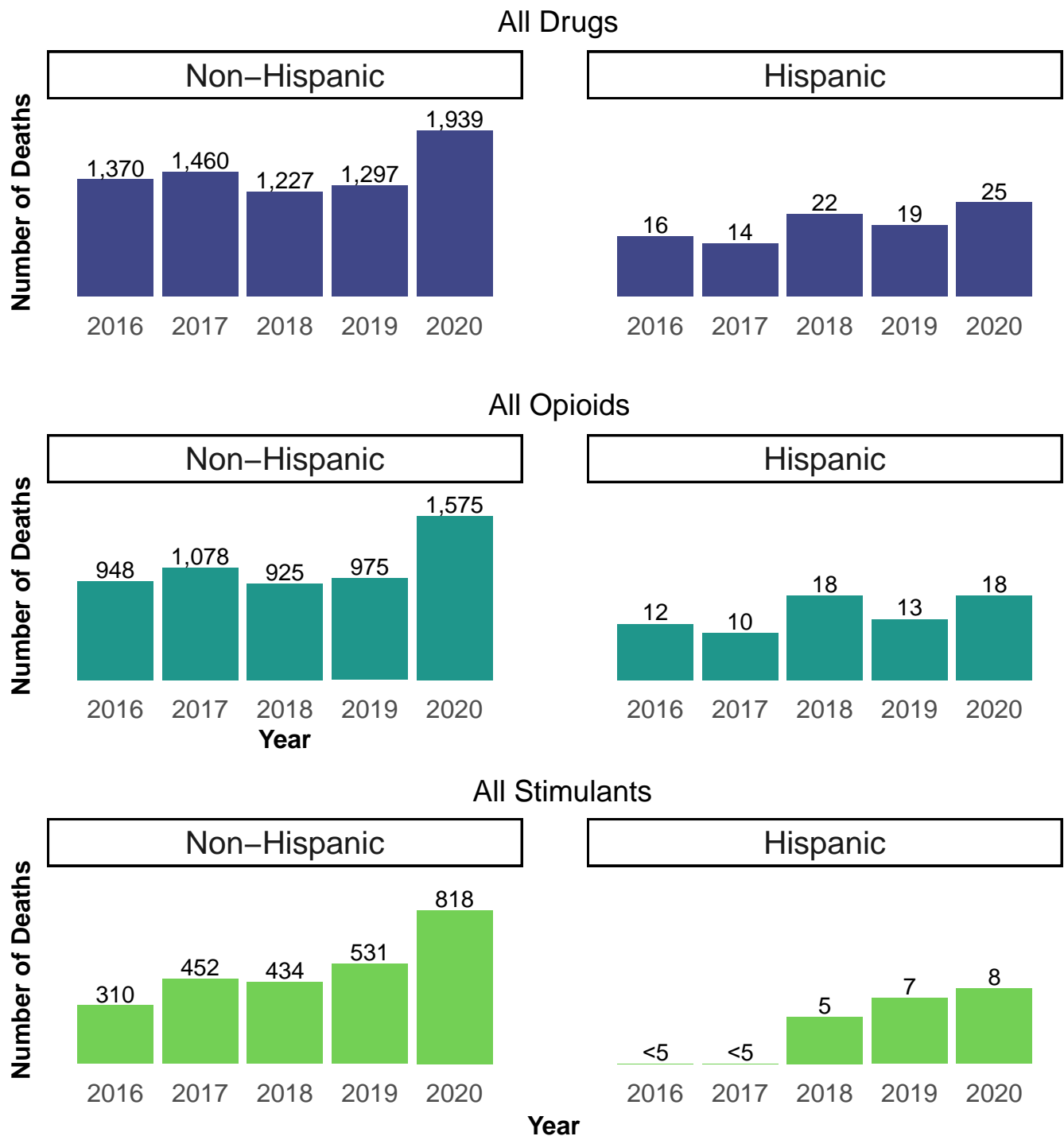
Number of Drug Overdose Deaths Kentucky Residents by Race 2016–2020



Numbers less than five are censored in accordance with state data management policy. Decedents of other or unknown race were excluded from this analysis (n=88). Produced by the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center as bona fide agent for the Kentucky Department for Public Health. Data are provisional and subject to change. December 2021.

Number of Deaths, by Ethnicity

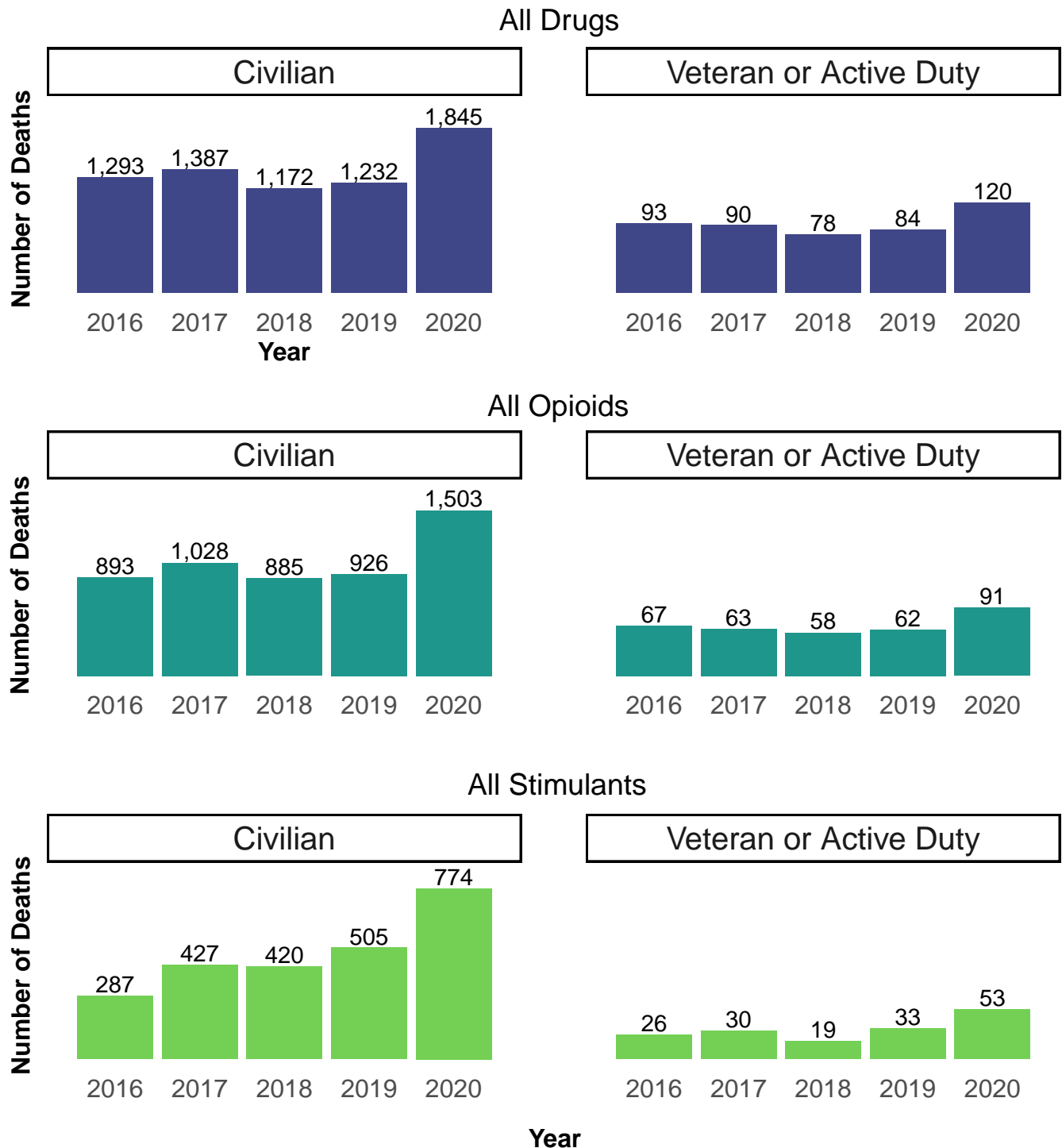
Number Drug Overdose Deaths Kentucky Residents, by Ethnicity 2016–2020



Patients with unknown ethnicity were excluded from this analysis (n = 5). Produced by the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center as bona fide agent for the Kentucky Department for Public Health. Data are provisional and subject to change. December 2021.

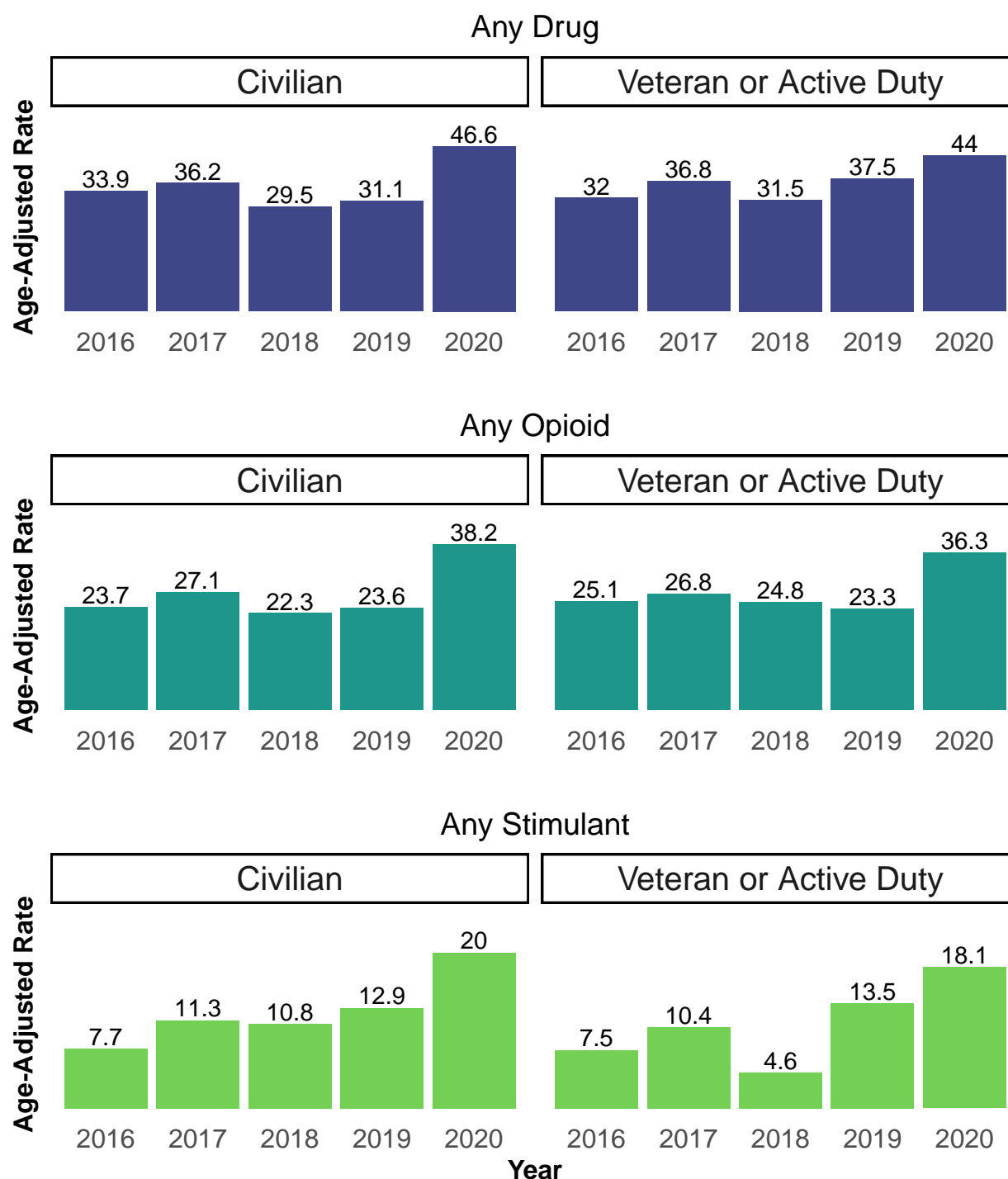
Number and Rate of Deaths, by Military Status

Numbers Drug Overdose Deaths Kentucky Residents, by Military Status 2016–2020



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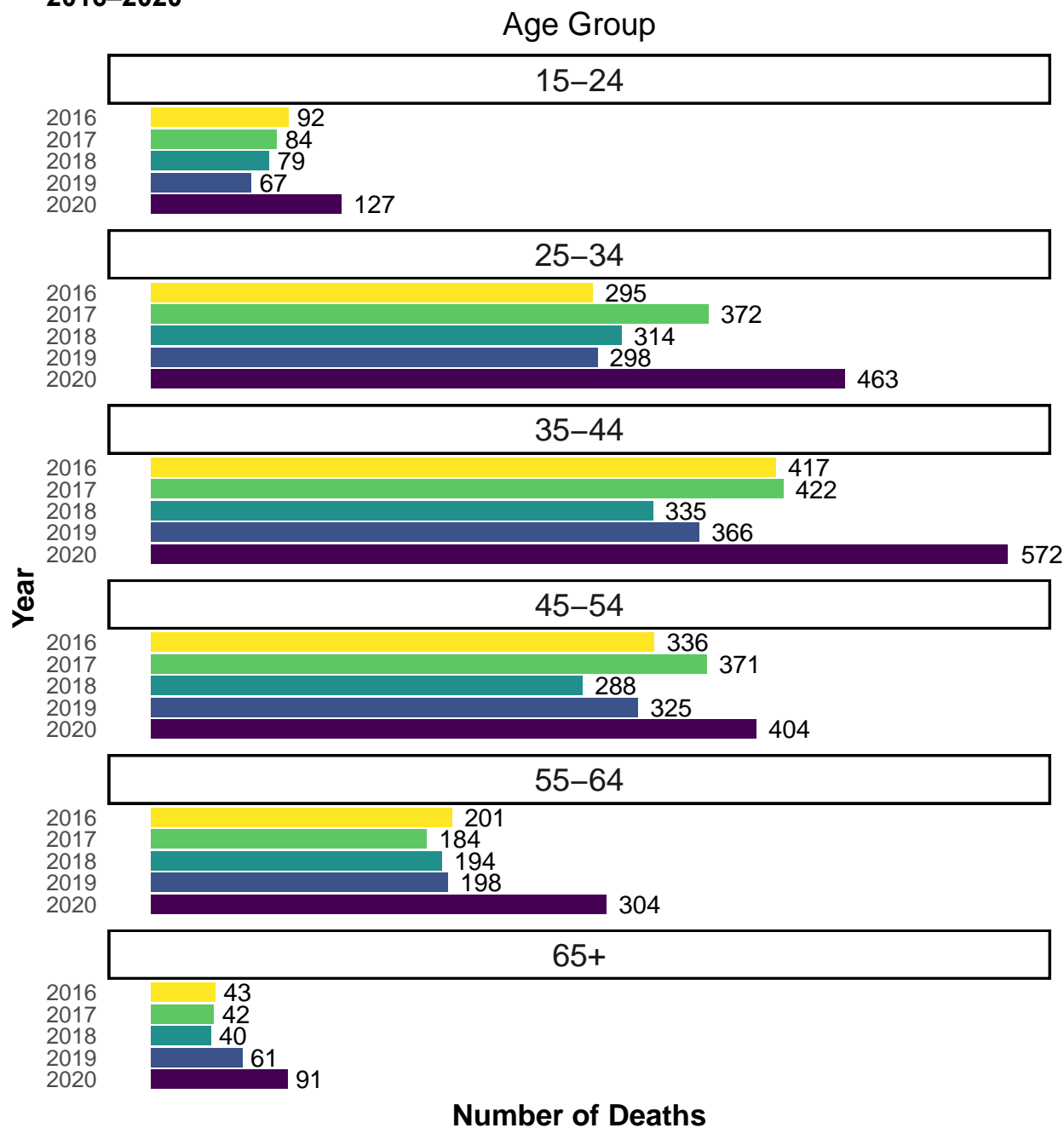
Age-Adjusted Rates of Drug Overdose Deaths Kentucky Residents, by Military Status 2016–2020



Rates are presented as number of events per 100,000 population. Produced by the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center as bona fide agent for the Kentucky Department for Public Health. Data are provisional and subject to change. December 2021.

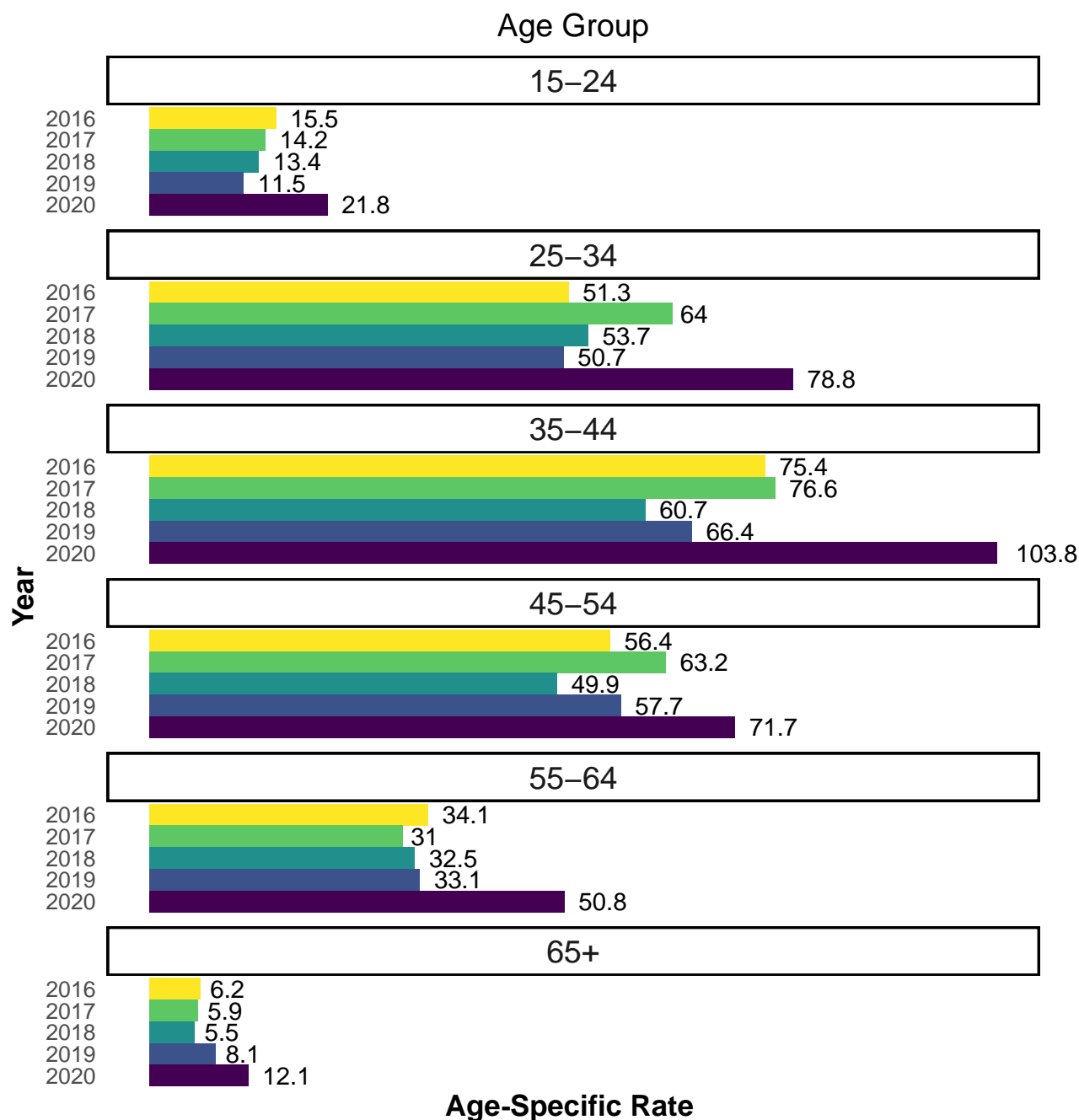
Number and Rate of Deaths, by Age Group

Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths Kentucky Residents, by Age Group 2016–2020



Decedents under the age of 15 were excluded from this analysis due to small sample size (n=9). Produced by the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center as bona fide agent for the Kentucky Department for Public Health. Data are provisional and subject to change. December 2021.

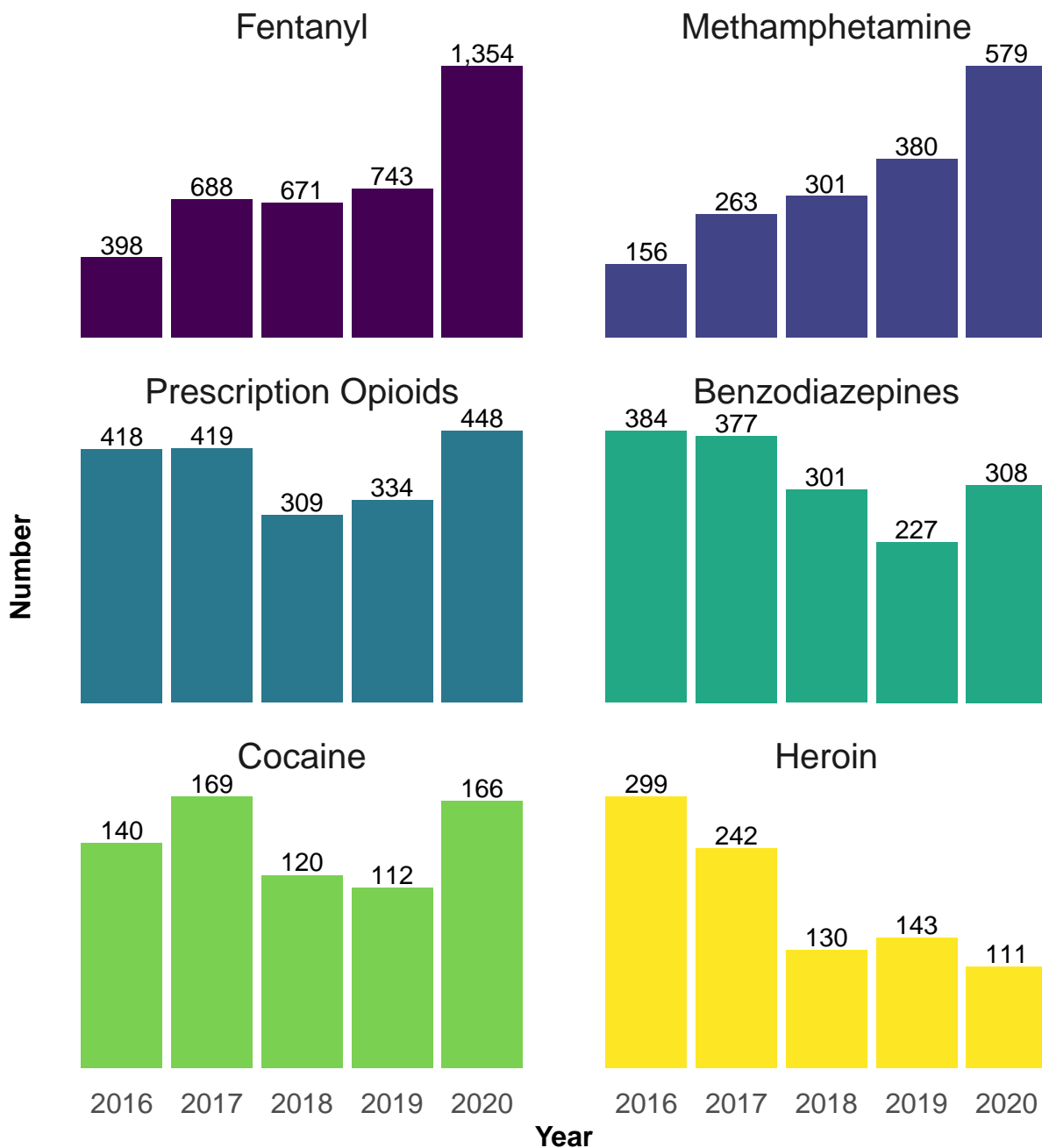
Age-Specific Rate of Drug Overdose Deaths Kentucky Residents, by Age Group 2016–2020



Decedents under the age of 15 were excluded from this analysis due to small sample size (n=9). Rates are expressed as the numbers of events per 100,000 population. Produced by the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center as bona fide agent for the Kentucky Department for Public Health. Data are provisional and subject to change. December 2021.

Number of Deaths, by Drug Type

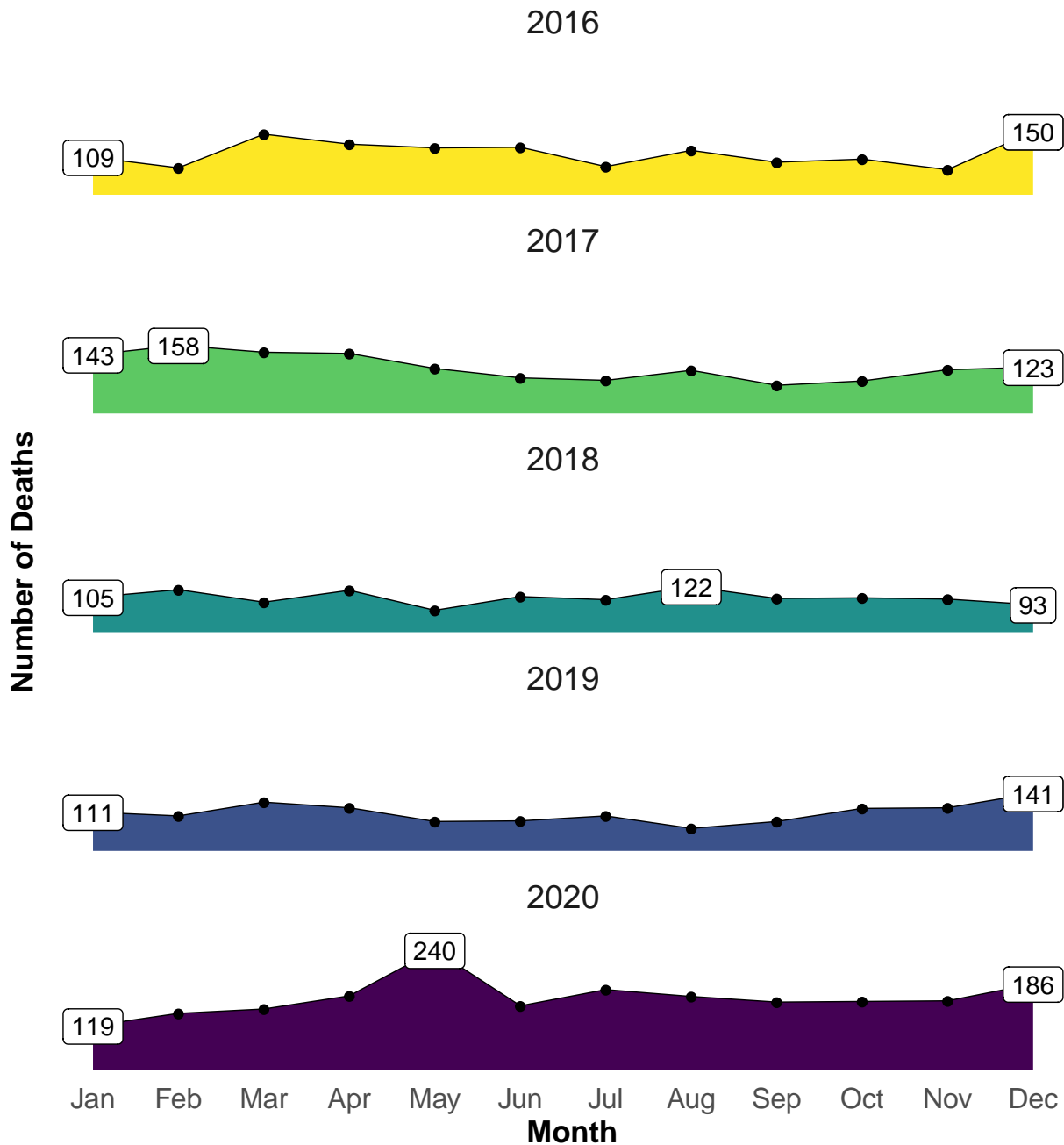
Number of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents, by Drug Type
2016–2020



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Number of Deaths, by Month

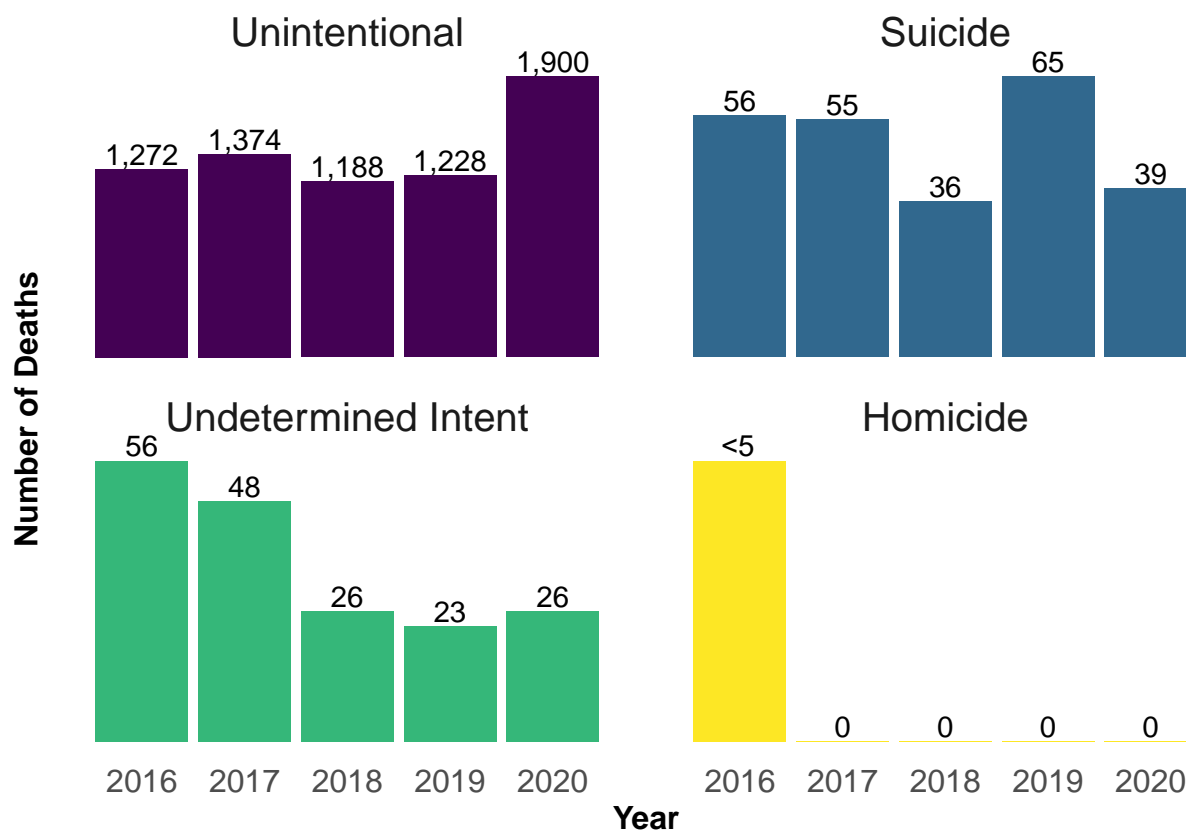
Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents by Month 2016–2020



Labeled values display the numbers for the first and last months and the maximum monthly number for each year. Produced by the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center as bona fide agent for the Kentucky Department for Public Health. Data are provisional and subject to change. December 2021.

Number of Deaths, by Intention

Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents by Intention 2016–2020



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County-Level Counts and Rates

Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents.¹

County	Year	Number			Age-Adjusted Rate		
		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Adair	2016	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
Allen	2016	5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	11	8	5	50.5	*	*
	2020	6	5	<5	*	*	*
Anderson	2016	9	7	<5	*	*	*
	2017	11	10	5	54.4	48.9	*
	2018	6	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	11	6	5	51	*	*
	2020	14	14	6	59.5	59.5	*
Ballard	2016	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2019	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2020	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*

Note:

*Numbers less than five and rates based on numbers less than 10 are suppressed in accordance with state data management policy.

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¹ Numbers are based on the decedent's county of residence.

Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents.¹

County	Year	Number			Age-Adjusted Rate		
		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Barren	2016	5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	11	<5	5	25.4	*	*
	2018	6	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	9	<5	5	*	*	*
Bath	2016	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2018	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	8	6	<5	*	*	*
Bell	2016	11	8	<5	39.3	*	*
	2017	8	7	<5	*	*	*
	2018	8	6	5	*	*	*
	2019	9	5	5	*	*	*
	2020	9	8	<5	*	*	*
Boone	2016	44	27	<5	35.5	21.8	*
	2017	44	37	7	33.8	28.5	*
	2018	43	39	14	32.7	29.6	11.1
	2019	34	24	17	26.6	19	13
	2020	50	48	15	38.8	37.1	12.3

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Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents.¹

County	Year	Number			Age-Adjusted Rate		
		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Bourbon	2016	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	7	5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	6	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	9	9	<5	*	*	*
	2020	18	17	6	98.4	91.1	*
Boyd	2016	25	23	6	52.6	49.3	*
	2017	31	26	7	63.7	52.6	*
	2018	27	24	6	60.5	55.2	*
	2019	30	27	13	64.6	58.8	28.7
	2020	35	32	13	67.1	62.4	26.3
Boyle	2016	16	12	<5	61.9	45.7	*
	2017	8	6	<5	*	*	*
	2018	5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2019	8	5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	12	11	<5	44	40.4	*
Bracken	2016	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*

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Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents.¹

County	Year	Number			Age-Adjusted Rate		
		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Breathitt	2016	6	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2018	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	6	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	6	5	<5	*	*	*
Breckinridge	2016	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	7	5	5	*	*	*
Bullitt	2016	19	9	<5	24	*	*
	2017	37	30	15	49.1	39.7	20.4
	2018	27	23	6	34.7	31.1	*
	2019	29	27	8	36.6	34	*
	2020	42	37	18	53.1	46.7	24
Butler	2016	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0
	2017	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2018	<5	0	<5	*	0.0	*
	2019	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0
	2020	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0

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County	Year	Number			Age-Adjusted Rate		
		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Caldwell	2016	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0
	2017	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0
	2018	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0
	2019	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0
	2020	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
Calloway	2016	5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0
	2019	7	5	0	*	*	0.0
	2020	9	5	<5	*	*	*
Campbell	2016	66	53	6	71.8	58.8	*
	2017	61	55	19	65.2	59.5	19.4
	2018	47	45	12	49.2	47.6	13.1
	2019	36	35	10	38	37.3	11.2
	2020	54	47	18	54.7	48.3	17.9
Carlisle	2016	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2017	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2018	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2019	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2020	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0

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Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents.¹

County	Year	Number			Age-Adjusted Rate		
		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Carroll	2016	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	6	<5	<5	*	*	*
Carter	2016	9	8	<5	*	*	*
	2017	15	10	7	62.8	48.5	*
	2018	10	10	7	40.3	40.3	*
	2019	7	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	21	15	9	82.3	61.1	*
Casey	2016	6	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	6	<5	5	*	*	*
	2018	5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	6	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
Christian	2016	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	7	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	7	6	<5	*	*	*
	2020	18	7	8	34.6	*	*

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Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents.¹

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		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Clark	2016	9	5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	17	10	6	49.7	30.2	*
	2018	20	15	6	53.8	40.9	*
	2019	15	10	7	44.8	28.2	*
	2020	35	24	10	104.3	73.7	31.7
Clay	2016	5	5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	<5	0	<5	*	0.0	*
	2018	5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	8	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
Clinton	2016	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2018	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2020	7	5	<5	*	*	*
Crittenden	2016	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0
	2017	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2018	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2019	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2020	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*

Note:

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Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents.¹

County	Year	Number			Age-Adjusted Rate		
		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Cumberland	2016	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0
	2018	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2019	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2020	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Daviess	2016	13	9	<5	12.7	*	*
	2017	11	5	<5	11.7	*	*
	2018	13	9	5	12.3	*	*
	2019	10	<5	5	11	*	*
	2020	21	13	12	23.2	13.4	12.9
Edmonson	2016	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0
	2017	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2018	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	<5	0	<5	*	0.0	*
	2020	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Elliott	2016	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0
	2018	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*

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		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Estill	2016	9	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	11	7	<5	75.1	*	*
	2018	5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2019	11	5	<5	81	*	*
	2020	11	8	<5	79.2	*	*
Fayette	2016	115	99	42	37.3	32.4	13.3
	2017	125	109	47	40.1	34.8	15.7
	2018	122	105	44	38.4	33.2	13.9
	2019	99	86	38	31.1	27.2	12.4
	2020	150	138	58	46.9	43.2	18.5
Fleming	2016	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
Floyd	2016	16	13	<5	42.2	33	*
	2017	12	9	<5	37.4	*	*
	2018	11	10	<5	34.6	31.8	*
	2019	13	9	<5	37.1	*	*
	2020	16	13	5	50.2	40.8	*

Note:

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¹ Numbers are based on the decedent's county of residence.

Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents.¹

County	Year	Number			Age-Adjusted Rate		
		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Franklin	2016	16	10	5	32.2	20.2	*
	2017	25	21	10	52.7	44	22.1
	2018	16	13	10	32.6	27.4	22.7
	2019	18	14	7	35.6	27.9	*
	2020	20	18	11	44.1	41	24.6
Fulton	2016	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2019	<5	0	<5	*	0.0	*
	2020	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Gallatin	2016	6	5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	8	6	<5	*	*	*
	2018	7	5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
Garrard	2016	8	5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	5	5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	15	10	7	85	61.9	*

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¹ Numbers are based on the decedent's county of residence.

Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents.¹

County	Year	Number			Age-Adjusted Rate		
		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Grant	2016	15	15	<5	64.8	64.8	*
	2017	8	8	<5	*	*	*
	2018	9	8	5	*	*	*
	2019	17	15	11	77.4	67.9	50.5
	2020	17	12	8	77.7	54.2	*
Graves	2016	5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
Grayson	2016	12	<5	5	47.8	*	*
	2017	11	7	<5	48.6	*	*
	2018	5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2020	8	<5	<5	*	*	*
Green	2016	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	<5	0	<5	*	0.0	*
	2018	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0

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Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents.¹

County	Year	Number			Age-Adjusted Rate		
		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Greenup	2016	7	5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	14	10	<5	40.2	30.1	*
	2018	15	12	7	44.9	35.9	*
	2019	21	18	8	62	52.2	*
	2020	22	20	8	64.6	59.8	*
Hancock	2016	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2019	<5	0	<5	*	0.0	*
	2020	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
Hardin	2016	26	21	8	24.8	19.8	*
	2017	19	14	5	18.6	13.6	*
	2018	17	9	7	14.4	*	*
	2019	22	16	12	20.9	15.6	11.6
	2020	31	23	11	30	21.8	11.2
Harlan	2016	8	7	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	10	5	<5	39.1	*	*
	2018	6	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	10	6	6	38.5	*	*
	2020	14	10	9	60.8	44.8	*

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Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents.¹

County	Year	Number			Age-Adjusted Rate		
		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Harrison	2016	23	20	<5	123.6	108	*
	2017	10	8	<5	65.8	*	*
	2018	5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	7	5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	8	8	0	*	*	0.0
Hart	2016	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2018	6	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2020	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
Henderson	2016	5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	8	7	<5	*	*	*
	2018	5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2020	8	5	<5	*	*	*
Henry	2016	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	6	5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	12	12	6	88	88	*

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Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents.¹

County	Year	Number			Age-Adjusted Rate		
		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Hickman	2016	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0
	2017	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2018	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2019	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2020	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hopkins	2016	10	7	<5	23.2	*	*
	2017	13	7	<5	33.5	*	*
	2018	<5	0	<5	*	0.0	*
	2019	5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	6	<5	<5	*	*	*
Jackson	2016	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
Jefferson	2016	322	187	85	44.2	25.8	11.8
	2017	353	251	100	47.3	34.3	13.3
	2018	282	226	115	37.4	30	15.3
	2019	319	271	129	43.2	37.1	17.6
	2020	513	453	229	69.3	61.8	31.1

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Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents.¹

County	Year	Number			Age-Adjusted Rate		
		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Jessamine	2016	16	16	<5	34.1	34.1	*
	2017	30	29	6	60.8	59.5	*
	2018	18	16	5	36.6	32.7	*
	2019	22	18	8	44.2	36.5	*
	2020	34	32	14	64	59.6	28.1
Johnson	2016	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2018	5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	6	<5	<5	*	*	*
Kenton	2016	84	64	10	51	39.7	6.1
	2017	115	96	35	69.4	58.4	20.2
	2018	91	76	16	56.4	46.9	9.9
	2019	78	64	26	47.5	40.4	16.3
	2020	85	76	25	52.7	47.3	16.4
Knott	2016	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	<5	0	<5	*	0.0	*
	2019	7	6	<5	*	*	*
	2020	19	12	12	121.7	86.5	72

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Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents.¹

County	Year	Number			Age-Adjusted Rate		
		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Knox	2016	10	7	5	31.6	*	*
	2017	13	10	6	45.7	34.7	*
	2018	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2019	9	<5	6	*	*	*
	2020	11	7	10	37.3	*	34.7
Larue	2016	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	<5	0	<5	*	0.0	*
Laurel	2016	9	6	<5	*	*	*
	2017	12	7	5	20.2	*	*
	2018	14	8	5	23.9	*	*
	2019	5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	22	14	12	37.9	25.6	21.7
Lawrence	2016	6	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2020	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0

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Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents.¹

County	Year	Number			Age-Adjusted Rate		
		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Lee	2016	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	8	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	5	<5	<5	*	*	*
Leslie	2016	7	7	<5	*	*	*
	2017	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2018	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
Letcher	2016	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	7	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2018	7	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	7	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	5	5	<5	*	*	*
Lewis	2016	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*

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Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents.¹

County	Year	Number			Age-Adjusted Rate		
		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Lincoln	2016	9	8	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	7	6	<5	*	*	*
	2018	9	7	5	*	*	*
	2019	5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	15	8	13	66.9	*	57.2
Livingston	2016	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0
	2018	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0
Logan	2016	5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2018	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	<5	0	<5	*	0.0	*
	2020	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
Lyon	2016	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2017	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2018	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2019	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2020	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*

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Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents.¹

County	Year	Number			Age-Adjusted Rate		
		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Madison	2016	25	25	6	30.7	30.7	*
	2017	44	38	18	53.7	45.6	22.4
	2018	46	39	23	57.6	48.4	29.3
	2019	53	41	26	62.3	47.9	30.6
	2020	68	55	34	81.2	66.3	41.6
Magoffin	2016	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2018	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	8	7	5	*	*	*
Marion	2016	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	11	9	7	56.9	*	*
Marshall	2016	10	6	<5	29.5	*	*
	2017	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2018	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0

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Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents.¹

County	Year	Number			Age-Adjusted Rate		
		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Martin	2016	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2019	6	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	6	<5	<5	*	*	*
Mason	2016	11	7	<5	71.9	*	*
	2017	10	9	<5	66	*	*
	2018	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
McCracken	2016	12	5	<5	18.6	*	*
	2017	8	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2018	11	5	<5	17.1	*	*
	2019	12	<5	6	19.7	*	*
	2020	12	5	7	21	*	*
McCreary	2016	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2020	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0

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Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents.¹

County	Year	Number			Age-Adjusted Rate		
		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
McLean	2016	<5	0	<5	*	0.0	*
	2017	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2018	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2019	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0
	2020	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Meade	2016	10	6	0	33.6	*	0.0
	2017	9	6	6	*	*	*
	2018	<5	0	<5	*	0.0	*
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	10	8	<5	33.1	*	*
Menifee	2016	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2020	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
Mercer	2016	10	7	<5	43.6	*	*
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	7	<5	5	*	*	*

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County	Year	Number			Age-Adjusted Rate		
		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Metcalf	2016	5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2018	<5	0	<5	*	0.0	*
	2019	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2020	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
Monroe	2016	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	<5	0	<5	*	0.0	*
	2018	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
Montgomery	2016	10	9	<5	40	*	*
	2017	15	12	<5	60.2	49	*
	2018	13	10	<5	44	33.8	*
	2019	9	7	<5	*	*	*
	2020	14	14	6	51.9	51.9	*
Morgan	2016	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	6	<5	<5	*	*	*

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Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents.¹

County	Year	Number			Age-Adjusted Rate		
		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Muhlenberg	2016	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	6	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	8	<5	<5	*	*	*
Nelson	2016	12	8	<5	28.2	*	*
	2017	19	14	12	48.1	36.2	30.6
	2018	6	5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	13	9	6	32.8	*	*
	2020	20	19	9	45.2	42.4	*
Nicholas	2016	<5	0	<5	*	0.0	*
	2017	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2018	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	7	7	<5	*	*	*
Ohio	2016	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0
	2018	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	<5	0	<5	*	0.0	*
	2020	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0

Note:

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Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents.¹

County	Year	Number			Age-Adjusted Rate		
		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Oldham	2016	11	5	<5	18.6	*	*
	2017	7	6	<5	*	*	*
	2018	9	5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	16	13	7	25.4	20.6	*
	2020	8	8	<5	*	*	*
Owen	2016	7	6	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	9	7	<5	*	*	*
	2019	7	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	6	6	<5	*	*	*
Owsley	2016	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0
	2017	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0
	2018	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	<5	0	<5	*	0.0	*
Pendleton	2016	7	7	<5	*	*	*
	2017	8	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2018	9	8	<5	*	*	*
	2019	6	5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	5	<5	<5	*	*	*

Note:

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¹ Numbers are based on the decedent's county of residence.

Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents.¹

County	Year	Number			Age-Adjusted Rate		
		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Perry	2016	9	8	<5	*	*	*
	2017	7	5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	9	<5	6	*	*	*
	2019	5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	17	13	7	68.6	54.5	*
Pike	2016	16	13	<5	28.2	24.2	*
	2017	11	9	<5	18.5	*	*
	2018	16	13	<5	26.8	20.8	*
	2019	23	12	11	42.4	22.5	23
	2020	25	20	11	47.8	39.4	23
Powell	2016	6	5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	7	7	<5	*	*	*
	2019	5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	9	9	<5	*	*	*
Pulaski	2016	13	9	<5	23.7	*	*
	2017	13	9	7	21.8	*	*
	2018	10	9	<5	16.6	*	*
	2019	14	11	5	23	18.2	*
	2020	24	17	12	40.1	29.1	20.8

Note:

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¹ Numbers are based on the decedent's county of residence.

Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents.¹

County	Year	Number			Age-Adjusted Rate		
		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Robertson	2016	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2019	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2020	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
Rockcastle	2016	6	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	6	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	6	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	8	7	8	*	*	*
Rowan	2016	8	7	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	6	6	<5	*	*	*
	2018	7	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	10	8	<5	49.4	*	*
Russell	2016	6	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	6	5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	8	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*

Note:

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Rates are presented as the number of deaths per 100,000 population. Rates based on numbers less than 20 are unstable and should be interpreted with caution. Data are provisional and subject to change. Produced by the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center, as bona fide agent for the Kentucky Department for Public Health. December 2021.

¹ Numbers are based on the decedent's county of residence.

Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents.¹

County	Year	Number			Age-Adjusted Rate		
		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Scott	2016	20	16	<5	38.3	31.2	*
	2017	13	12	<5	24.2	22.4	*
	2018	15	12	<5	28	22.7	*
	2019	13	10	<5	22.3	18	*
	2020	29	19	8	50.7	34	*
Shelby	2016	15	11	<5	34.2	25.5	*
	2017	11	5	<5	24.4	*	*
	2018	10	6	5	22.3	*	*
	2019	14	13	<5	30.3	27.8	*
	2020	14	8	5	27.7	*	*
Simpson	2016	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2018	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2019	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2020	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
Spencer	2016	5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	6	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	7	<5	<5	*	*	*

Note:

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¹ Numbers are based on the decedent's county of residence.

Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents.¹

County	Year	Number			Age-Adjusted Rate		
		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Taylor	2016	6	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	8	5	5	*	*	*
	2018	8	6	<5	*	*	*
	2019	6	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	14	11	<5	59.2	51.2	*
Todd	2016	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0
	2017	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2018	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2019	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0
	2020	5	<5	<5	*	*	*
Trigg	2016	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2019	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2020	<5	0	<5	*	0.0	*
Trimble	2016	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	<5	0	<5	*	0.0	*
	2018	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	<5	0	<5	*	0.0	*

Note:

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¹ Numbers are based on the decedent's county of residence.

Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents.¹

County	Year	Number			Age-Adjusted Rate		
		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Union	2016	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0
	2019	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2020	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
Warren	2016	16	10	6	13.3	8.1	*
	2017	13	9	<5	10.4	*	*
	2018	17	8	5	14	*	*
	2019	21	14	6	17.9	11.9	*
	2020	25	17	11	19.6	14	8.7
Washington	2016	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2018	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
Wayne	2016	<5	0	<5	*	0.0	*
	2017	5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2019	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0
	2020	8	<5	<5	*	*	*

Note:

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¹ Numbers are based on the decedent's county of residence.

Numbers of Drug Overdose Deaths among Kentucky Residents.¹

County	Year	Number			Age-Adjusted Rate		
		All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant	All Drugs	Any Opioid	Any Stimulant
Webster	2016	<5	<5	0	*	*	0.0
	2017	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2020	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
Whitley	2016	8	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	12	6	<5	35.2	*	*
	2018	7	5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	8	<5	5	*	*	*
	2020	12	9	<5	42.2	*	*
Wolfe	2016	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2017	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2018	<5	0	0	*	0.0	0.0
	2019	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	8	5	<5	*	*	*
Woodford	2016	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*
	2017	6	5	<5	*	*	*
	2018	8	5	<5	*	*	*
	2019	9	5	<5	*	*	*
	2020	11	11	5	42.6	42.6	*

Note:

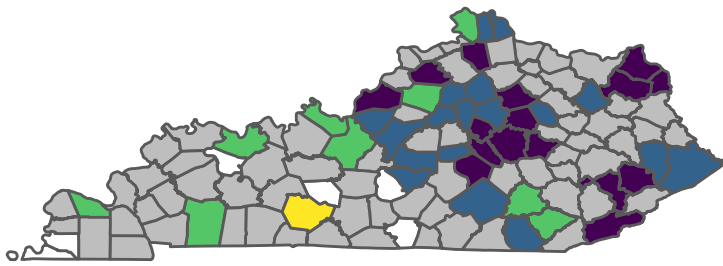
*Numbers less than five and rates based on numbers less than 10 are suppressed in accordance with state data management policy.

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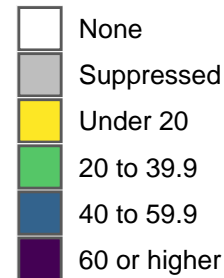
¹ Numbers are based on the decedent's county of residence.

County Maps

Age-Adjusted Rates of Drug Overdose Deaths
by Kentucky County of Residence, 2020



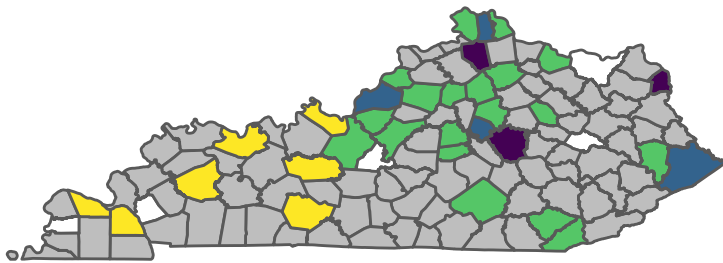
Age-Adjusted Rate



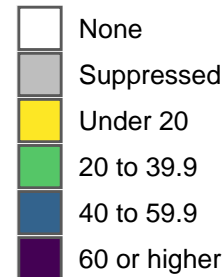
Rates are expressed as the numbers of events per 100,000 residents.
Rates based on numbers less than 10 are suppressed in accordance
with state data management policy.

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Kentucky Department for Public Health. Data are provisional and subject to change.
December 2021.

Age-Adjusted Rates of Drug Overdose Deaths
by Kentucky County of Residence, 2019



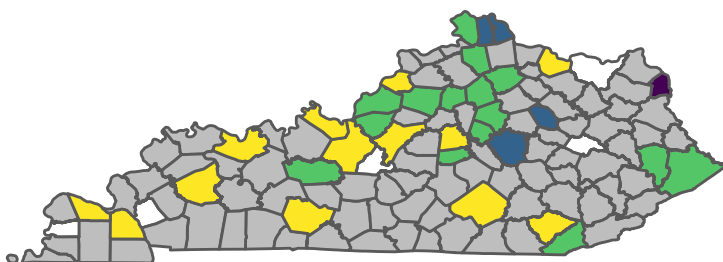
Age-Adjusted Rate



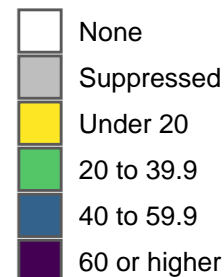
Rates are expressed as the numbers of events per 100,000 residents.
Rates based on numbers less than 10 are suppressed in accordance
with state data management policy.

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Kentucky Department for Public Health. Data are provisional and subject to change.
December 2021.

Age-Adjusted Rates of Drug Overdose Deaths
by Kentucky County of Residence, 2018



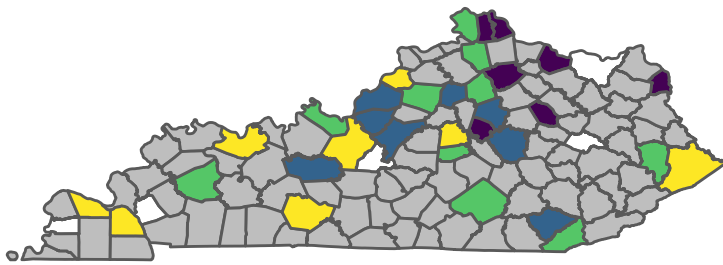
Age-Adjusted Rate



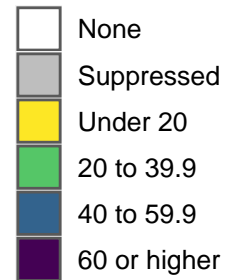
Rates are expressed as the numbers of events per 100,000 residents.
Rates based on numbers less than 10 are suppressed in accordance
with state data management policy.

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Kentucky Department for Public Health. Data are provisional and subject to change.
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Age-Adjusted Rates of Drug Overdose Deaths by Kentucky County of Residence, 2017



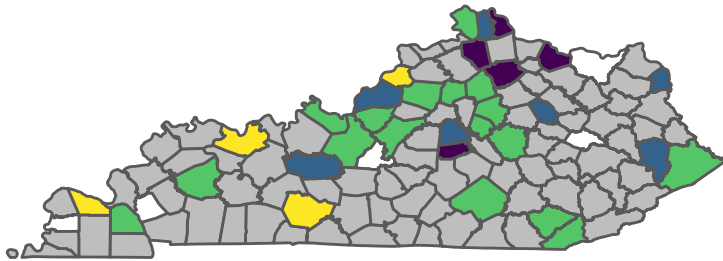
Age-Adjusted Rate



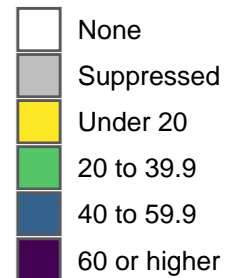
Rates are expressed as the numbers of events per 100,000 residents.
Rates based on numbers less than 10 are suppressed in accordance
with state data management policy.

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Kentucky Department for Public Health. Data are provisional and subject to change.
December 2021.

Age-Adjusted Rates of Drug Overdose Deaths by Kentucky County of Residence, 2016



Age-Adjusted Rate



Rates are expressed as the numbers of events per 100,000 residents.
Rates based on numbers less than 10 are suppressed in accordance
with state data management policy.

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December 2021.

About this Report

This report presents the burden of drug overdose deaths among Kentucky residents from 2016–2020. The data source for the Kentucky resident data in this report is the Kentucky Death Certificate Database, Kentucky Office of Vital Statistics, Cabinet for Health and Family Services. Data are provisional and subject to change. This report was supported by Cooperative Agreement Number NU17CE924971-02-01, funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the Department of Health and Human Services.

This report includes only deaths of Kentucky residents. Data on Kentucky residents who died outside of the Commonwealth may be incomplete, likely resulting in a undercount of all drug overdose deaths that occurred in Kentucky or among Kentucky residents. Rates based on numbers less than 20 are unstable and should be interpreted with caution.

Numbers less than five and rates based on numbers less than 10 were suppressed in accordance with state data management policy. Rates based on numbers less than 20 are unstable and should be interpreted with caution.

Definitions

Drug overdose deaths are defined as events with an underlying cause of death code of X40–X44, X60–X64, X85, or Y10–Y14. Drug overdose deaths involving specific drug types are identified by the presence of the following ICD-10 codes as a supplemental cause of death:

Drug Type	ICD-10
All Opioids	T40.0–T40.4, T40.6
All Stimulants	T40.5, T43.6
Heroin	T40.1
Prescription (RX) Opioids	T40.0, T40.2–T40.3
Synthetic Opioids	T40.4
Fentanyl	T40.4 a textual mention of fentanyl
Benzodiazepines	T42.4
Cocaine	T40.5
Other Psychostimulants	T43.6
Methamphetamine	T43.6 and a textual mention of methamphetamine

Drug type categories are not mutually exclusive. Deaths that include codes from two or more drug type categories will be counted within each group.