



## Overdose and Other Drug-Induced Deaths in Australia, 2021



Preliminary estimates indicate that there were 1,788 druginduced deaths in 2021 (excluding deaths caused by alcohol and tobacco).



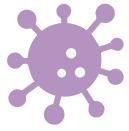
There were five drug-induced deaths per day among Australians, which is 1.0% of all registered deaths in Australia in 2021.

7.6 vs. 6.9

deaths

per 100,000 Australian population

The national preliminary revised rate of drug-induced deaths in 2021 was lower than the revised rate in 2020; these rates are likely to further increase with data revisions.



The 2020 and 2021 quarterly rates were similar to or lower than the corresponding 2019 estimates.

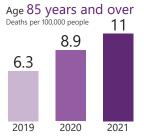


More than three in five druginduced deaths occurred among males.



9.3 55-64 16% 4.9 65-74 6.7% 5.3 75-84 4.0% 11 85+ 3.3% Overdose and other drug

Overdose and other druginduced deaths were most common among 45-54 and 35-44 year olds.



The 85 and over age group was the only age group where both 2020 and 2021 estimated rates were higher than the 2019 rate; these rates are likely to further increase with data revisions. Percentage (rate per 100,000 people)

**73**% (7.0 deaths) Major cites

15% (6.4 deaths) Inner regional

7.1% (6.0 deaths) Outer regional

1.5% (5.7 deaths) Remote and very remote

The majority of deaths occurred in major cities however the rate of deaths was similar in major cities and inner regional areas.

12% of those who died from drug-induced death

PERSONAL HISTORY OF SELF HARM 76% of all drug-induced deaths occurred

HOME

32% of drug-induced deaths occurred in residents of THE MOST DISADVANTAGED AREAS

Unintentional 68% Intentional 27% Undetermined 4.8% Undetermined 4.8% The 97% of DEATHS majority of drug-induced deaths were due to UNINTENTIONAL

**58**% Opioids

had

 $\mathbf{54}^{\text{Antiepileptic, sedative-hyp-}}_{\text{notic and anti-parkinsonism}}$ 

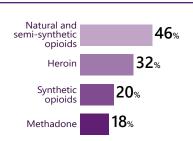
32% Antidepressants

26% Amphetamine-type stimulants

21% Antipsychotics and neuroleptics

16% Alcohol

Opioids were the most commonly identified substances involved in drug overdose deaths.



Natural and semi-synthetic opioids (e.g., morphine, oxycodone) was the most commonly identified opioid type in opioid overdose deaths.

## HEROIN SYNTHETIC OPIOIDS



Estimated rate of overdose deaths involving opioids in 2021 was lowwer compared to 2020, which was particularly evident for deaths involving heroin and synthetic opioids.

## AMPHETAMINE-TYPE STIMULANTS



DRUG OVERDOSE

deaths per 100,000 people

The rate of drug overdose deaths involving amphetamine-type stimulants was lower in 2021 compared to the peak recorded in 2020.