

Opioid Overdose Death and Suicide Link Data Sources

US CDC Drug Overdose Death Data- Data and charts of increases and rates US and by state

<https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/data/statedeaths.html>

Opioids—prescription and illicit—are the main driver of drug overdose deaths. Opioids were involved in 42,249 deaths in 2016, and opioid overdose deaths were five times higher in 2016 than 1999.

In 2016, the five states with the highest rates of death due to drug overdose were West Virginia (52.0 per 100,000), Ohio (39.1 per 100,000), New Hampshire (39.0 per 100,000), Pennsylvania (37.9 per 100,000) and (Kentucky (33.5 per 100,000).

Significant increases in drug overdose death rates from 2015 to 2016 were seen in the Northeast, Midwest and South Census Regions. States with statistically significant increases in drug overdose death rates included Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.^{1Main}

Attorney General Janet Mills Releases 2017 Maine State Drug Death Statistic

<https://www.maine.gov/ag/news/article.shtml?id=788298>

www.maine.gov/ag/news/index.shtml. For full report

<http://www.maine.gov/tools/whatsnew/attach.php?id=788298&an=1>

The State of Maine saw 418 drug-induced deaths in 2017, according to figures released today by Attorney General Janet Mills. Drug overdose deaths increased by 11% in 2017 over the previous year. The data was collected and analyzed by Marcella H. Sorg, PhD, of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, under a contract with the Office of the Attorney General. **49 people or 12 % were ruled as suicides**

While the increase is not as significant as the nearly 40% increase in deaths in 2016 over the previous year, the number of deaths in 2017 was driven by a sharp increase of 27% in deaths due to illegal fentanyl and fentanyl analogs, while heroin deaths decreased. In addition, 2017 saw an increase in both cocaine and methamphetamine deaths and a decrease in deaths caused by benzodiazepines.

Omissions On Death Certificates Lead To Undercounting Of Opioid Overdoses

<http://mainepublic.org/post/omissions-death-certificates-lead-undercounting-opioid-overdoses#stream/0>

2016 Patterns of Drug-induced Mortality in Maine, 2015 Update

<https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1734&context=mpr>

[EXPANDED MAINE DRUG DEATH REPORT FOR 2016 Overview](#)

www.mainehealthindex.org/sites/default/files/Drug%20Death%202016%20Final%20Rpt%20April%2011%202017.pdf

376 deaths; 38 confirmed as suicides (10%)

The relationship between suicide and heroin overdose among methadone maintenance patients in Sydney, Australia

[Shane Darke](#)

[Joanne Ross](#)

Abstract

Aims. To examine the relationship between attempted suicide and non-fatal heroin overdose among methadone maintenance patients. **Design.** Cross-sectional survey. **Setting.** Sydney, Australia.

Participants. Two hundred and twenty-three methadone maintenance patients. **Findings.** Forty per cent of participants reported a history of at least one suicide attempt. Females were significantly more likely than males to have attempted suicide (50% vs. 31%), and to have done so on more than one occasion (28% vs. 15%). There was a large difference between males and females in the onset of attempted suicide. Females reported an initial attempt, on average, 6 years earlier than males (18.3 vs. 24.7 years), and were significantly more likely than males to have attempted suicide prior to the onset of heroin use (69% vs. 11%). While heroin overdose was common among the sample (66%), the most common methods employed for suicide attempts were overdose of a non-opioid drug (21%) and slitting of wrists

(20%). A deliberate heroin overdose as a means of attempted suicide was reported by 10% of participants. Heroin overdoses appeared overwhelmingly to be accidental. Ninety-two per cent of those who had overdosed reported that their most recent overdose was accidental. Conclusions. Attempted suicide presents a major clinical problem to staff at drug treatment programmes, but one distinct from heroin overdose. While both overdose and suicide present increasing clinical problems, they are separate problems, and require different responses.

Citing Literature

Number of times cited: 52

Elisabet Arribas-Ibar, Josep Maria Suelves, Albert Sanchez-Niubò, Antònia Domingo-Salvany and M. T. Brugal, Suicidal behaviours in male and female users of illicit drugs recruited in drug treatment facilities, *Gaceta Sanitaria*, 31, 4, (292), (2017).

Crossref

R. Ickick, E. Karsinti, J-P. Lépine, V. Bloch, G. Brousse, F. Bellivier and F. Vorspan, Serious suicide attempts in outpatients with multiple substance use disorders, *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2017.08.037, 181, (63-70), (2017).

Crossref

Shane Darke, Sharlene Kaye and Johan Duflou, Rates, characteristics and circumstances of methamphetamine-related death in Australia: a national 7-year study, *Addiction*, 112, 12, (2191-2201), (2017).

Wiley Online Library

Shane Darke, Michelle Torok and Joanne Ross, Developmental trajectories to heroin dependence: Theoretical and clinical issues, *Journal of Applied Social Psychology*, 47, 3, (165-171), (2017).

Wiley Online Library

Stephen J. Morewitz, Mortality, Runaway and Homeless Youth, 10.1007/978-3-319-30863-0_15, (149-155), (2016).

Crossref

Zarmeneh Aly, Noah Rosen and Randolph W. Evans, Migraine and the Risk of Suicide, *Headache: The Journal of Head and Face Pain*, 56, 4, (753-761), (2016).

Wiley Online Library

Joni Teoh Bing Fei, Anne Yee and Mohamad Hussain Bin Habil, Psychiatric comorbidity among patients on methadone maintenance therapy and its influence on quality of life, *The American Journal on Addictions*, 25, 1, (49-55), (2015).

Wiley Online Library

Martin O. Olsson, Louise Bradvik, Agneta Öjehagen and Anders Hakansson, Risk factors for unnatural death: Fatal accidental intoxication, undetermined intent and suicide: Register follow-up in a criminal justice population with substance use problems, *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 162, (176), (2016).

Crossref

Gregory Armstrong and Luke Samson, The imperative to integrate suicide prevention within community-based harm reduction programs for people who inject drugs: Informed by the situation in Delhi, India, *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 28, (133), (2016).

Crossref

Torkel Richert, Wasted, overdosed, or beyond saving – To act or not to act? Heroin users' views, assessments, and responses to witnessed overdoses in Malmö, Sweden, *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 26, 1, (92), (2015).

Crossref

Gregory Armstrong and Luke Samson, Extreme Levels of Suicidality Among People Who Inject Drugs in Delhi, India, *JAIDS Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes*, 70, 2, (e66), (2015).

Crossref

Sylwia Fudalej, Mark Ilgen, Iwona Kołodziejczyk, Anna Podgórska, Piotr Serafin, Kristen Barry, Marcin Wojnar, Frederic C. Blow and Amy Bohnert, Somatic Comorbidity and Other Factors Related to Suicide Attempt Among Polish Methadone Maintenance Patients, *Journal of Addiction Medicine*, 9, 6, (433), (2015).

Crossref

Shane Darke, Pathways to heroin dependence: time to re-appraise self-medication, *Addiction*, 108, 4, (659-667), (2012).

Wiley Online Library

J. Nowotnik, D. Rentsch, A. Bittorf, I. Lindner and A. Büttner, Mumie ohne Geheimnisse – Identifizierung, Eingrenzung der Liegezeit und Nachweis von Morphin, *Rechtsmedizin*, 23, 6, (485), (2013).

Crossref

Isabelle Richer, Karine Bertrand, Jill Vandermeerschen and Élise Roy, A prospective cohort study of non-fatal accidental overdose among street youth: The link with suicidal ideation, *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 32, 4, (398-404), (2012).

Wiley Online Library

SHANE DARKE, GABRIELLE CAMPBELL and GARTH POPPLE, Self-harm and attempted suicide among therapeutic community admissions, *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 31, 4, (523-528), (2011).

Wiley Online Library

Naghmeh Mokhber, Reza Afshari and Fatemeh Farhoodi, Evaluation of the suicide risk factors among methadone maintenance treatment of opiate dependent individuals: A six month assessment, *Open Journal of Psychiatry*, 02, 02, (91), (2012).

Crossref

Martin D. Cheatle and Seddon R. Savage, Informed Consent in Opioid Therapy: A Potential Obligation and Opportunity, *Journal of Pain and Symptom Management*, 44, 1, (105), (2012).

Crossref

Wei-Che Lin, Kun-Hsien Chou, Hsiu-Ling Chen, Chu-Chung Huang, Cheng-Hsien Lu, Shau-Hsuan Li, Ya-Ling Wang, Yu-Fan Cheng, Ching-Po Lin and Chien-Chih Chen, Structural deficits in the emotion circuit and cerebellum are associated with depression, anxiety and cognitive dysfunction in methadone maintenance patients: A voxel-based morphometric study, *Psychiatry Research: Neuroimaging*, 10.1016/j.pscychresns.2011.05.009, 201, 2, (89-97), (2012).

Crossref

Sagar Lavania, Daya Ram, Samir Kumar Praharaj, Amil Hayat Khan and Amrit Patojoshi, Deliberate Self-harm in Nondepressed Substance-dependent Patients, *Journal of Addiction Medicine*, 6, 4, (247), (2012).

Crossref

Peter C. Britton, Amy S.B. Bohnert, James D. Wines and Kenneth R. Conner, A procedure that differentiates unintentional from intentional overdose in opioid abusers, *Addictive Behaviors*, 37, 1, (127), (2012).

Crossref

Giuliano Zamparutti, Fabrizio Schifano, John M. Corkery, Adenekan Oyefeso and A. Hamid Ghodse, Deaths of opiate/opioid misusers involving dihydrocodeine, UK, 1997–2007, *British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology*, 72, 2, (330-337), (2011).

Wiley Online Library

Amy S.B. Bohnert, Kathryn M. Roeder and Mark A. Ilgen, Suicide attempts and overdoses among adults entering addictions treatment: Comparing correlates in a U.S. national study, *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 119, 1-2, (106), (2011).

Crossref

Shane Darke, Johan Dufou and Michelle Torok, Comparative Toxicology of Intentional and Accidental Heroin Overdose*, *Journal of Forensic Sciences*, 55, 4, (1015-1018), (2010).

Wiley Online Library

Jameson K. Hirsch, Peter C. Britton and Kenneth R. Conner, Psychometric Evaluation of the Life Orientation Test—Revised in Treated Opiate Dependent Individuals, *International Journal of Mental Health and Addiction*, 8, 3, (423), (2010).

Crossref

Eric Janssen, Estimating the levels of acute drug-related deaths in France, 2001–2002: A simple technique to measure bias in overdoses recording, *Journal of Substance Use*, 15, 2, (105), (2010).

Crossref

Shane Darke, Michelle Torok, Sharlene Kaye and Joanne Ross, Attempted Suicide, Self-Harm, and Violent Victimization among Regular Illicit Drug Users, *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*, 40, 6, (587-596), (2011).

Wiley Online Library

Amy S.B. Bohnert, Kathryn Roeder and Mark A. Ilgen, Unintentional overdose and suicide among substance users: A review of overlap and risk factors, *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 110, 3, (183), (2010).

Crossref

A. Hakansson, L. Bradvik, F. Schlyter and M. Berglund, Factors Associated with the History of Attempted Suicide, *Crisis*, 31, 1, (12), (2010).

Crossref

Laurent Michel, Roch Giorgi, Virginie Villes, Isabelle Poizot-Martin, Pierre Dellamonica, Bruno Spire, Camelia Protopopescu and M. Patrizia Carrieri, Withdrawal symptoms as a predictor of mortality in patients HIV-infected through drug use and receiving highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART), *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 99, 1-3, (96), (2009).

Crossref

Louise Brådvik, Mats Berglund, Arne Frank, Anna Lindgren and Peter Löwenhielm, Number of addictive substances used related to increased risk of unnatural death: A combined medico-legal and case-record study, *BMC Psychiatry*, 9, 1, (2009).

Crossref

Elizabeth Maloney, Louisa Degenhardt, Shane Darke and Elliot C. Nelson, Are non-fatal opioid overdoses misclassified suicide attempts? Comparing the associated correlates, *Addictive Behaviors*, 34, 9, (723), (2009).

Crossref

Fabien Trémeau, Angéline Darreya, Luc Staner, Humberto Corrêa, Hubert Weibel, Frédéric Khidichian and Jean-Paul Macher, Suicidality in Opioid-Dependent Subjects, *The American Journal on Addictions*, 17, 3, (187-194), (2010).

Wiley Online Library

Elizabeth Maloney, Louisa Degenhardt, Shane Darke, Richard P. Mattick and Elliot Nelson, Suicidal behaviour and associated risk factors among opioid-dependent individuals: a case–control study, *Addiction*, 102, 12, (1933-1941), (2007).

Wiley Online Library

Louise Brådvik, Arne Frank, Per Hulenvik, Alvaro Medvedeo and Mats Berglund, Heroin Addicts Reporting Previous Heroin Overdoses Also Report Suicide Attempts, Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, 37, 4, (475-481), (2010).

Wiley Online Library

Kenneth R. Conner, Peter C. Britton, Luke M. Sworts and Thomas E. Joiner, Suicide attempts among individuals with opiate dependence: The critical role of belonging, Addictive Behaviors, 32, 7, (1395), (2007).

Crossref

Balancing on the edge of death: suicide attempts and life- threatening overdoses among drug addicts

[Ingeborg Rossow](#)

[Grethe Lauritzen](#)

First published: 03 May 2002

Abstract

Aims. Assessment of prevalence of non- fatal overdoses and suicide attempts and predictors of and co- variation between such behaviours among drug addicts. **Design.** Cross- sectional survey. **Setting.** Inpatient and outpatient treatment units in Norway. **Participants.** National sample of 2051 drug addicts admitted to treatment in Norway in 1992- 93. **Measurements.** Self- reports of suicide attempts and of life- threatening overdoses from structured interviews with therapists. **Findings.** Almost half (45.5%) the clients reported having experienced one or more life- threatening overdoses. A third (32.7%) reported one or more suicide attempts. Suicide attempts were more often reported among those who had overdosed (odds ratio (OR) = 6.3), and the number of life- threatening overdoses and number of suicide attempts were positively and moderately associated (Pearson's $r = 0.39$). Drug addicts who had exhibited both life- threatening behaviours were characterized by polydrug use, poor social functioning and HIV risk- taking behaviour. Suicide attempters were also characterized by psychiatric problems.

Conclusions. The substantial co- variation between suicide attempts and drug overdose suggests some common underlying causal factors. These seem to be related to heavy drug use and poor social integration.

Shane Darke, Joanne Ross, Christina Marel, Katherine L. Mills, Timothy Slade, Lucy Burns and Maree Teesson, Patterns and correlates of attempted suicide amongst heroin users: 11-year follow-up of the Australian treatment outcome study cohort, *Psychiatry Research*, **227**, 2-3, (166), (2015).

[Crossref](#)

- Gregory Armstrong and Luke Samson, Extreme Levels of Suicidality Among People Who Inject Drugs in Delhi, India, *JAIDS Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes*, **70**, 2, (e66), (2015).
-

[Crossref](#)

- Andreea Adelina Artenie, Julie Bruneau, Geng Zang, François Lespérance, Johanne Renaud, Joël Tremblay and Didier Jutras-Aswad, Associations of substance use patterns with attempted suicide among persons who inject drugs: Can distinct use patterns play a role?, *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, **147**, (208), (2015).
-

[Crossref](#)

- Peter C. Britton, Amy S.B. Bohnert, James D. Wines and Kenneth R. Conner, A procedure that differentiates unintentional from intentional overdose in opioid abusers, *Addictive Behaviors*, **37**, 1, (127), (2012).
-

[Crossref](#)

- Sagar Lavania, Daya Ram, Samir Kumar Praharaj, Amil Hayat Khan and Amrit Patojoshi, Deliberate Self-harm in Nondepressed Substance-dependent Patients, *Journal of Addiction Medicine*, **6**, 4, (247), (2012).
-

[Crossref](#)

- Amy S.B. Bohnert, Kathryn M. Roeder and Mark A. Ilgen, Suicide attempts and overdoses among adults entering addictions treatment: Comparing correlates in a U.S. national study, *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, **119**, 1-2, (106), (2011).
-

[Crossref](#)

- Amy S.B. Bohnert, Kathryn Roeder and Mark A. Ilgen, Unintentional overdose and suicide among substance users: A review of overlap and risk factors, *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, **110**, 3, (183), (2010).

[Crossref](#)

Elizabeth Maloney, Louisa Degenhardt, Shane Darke and Elliot C. Nelson, Are non-fatal opioid overdoses misclassified suicide attempts? Comparing the associated correlates, *Addictive Behaviors*, **34**, 9, (723), (2009).

[Crossref](#)

Louise Brådvik, Arne Frank, Per Hulenvik, Alvaro Medvedeo and Mats Berglund, Heroin Addicts Reporting Previous Heroin Overdoses Also Report Suicide Attempts, *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*, **37**, 4, (475-481), (2010).

[Wiley Online Library](#)