

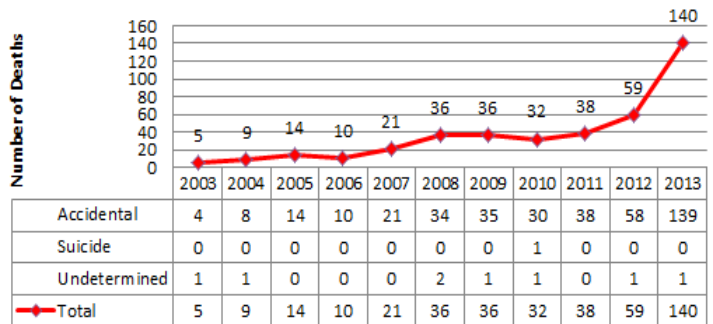
## HEROIN FAST STATS

Heroin is derived from morphine which comes from the opium poppy. It can be smoked, sniffed/snorted or injected and is highly addictive. Most heroin is produced in Asia or Mexico. Over the past decade, there has been a tremendous increase in the number of heroin-related overdose deaths both in West Virginia and nationally. Many heroin-related overdose deaths occur in the presence of other substances, known as polysubstance abuse.

- ◆ Heroin-related deaths have been steadily increasing over the past decade, with a spike starting in 2011.
- ◆ The number of heroin-related deaths is nearly thirty times higher than it was just a decade ago.
- ◆ Most deaths are accidental overdoses occurring in young males.
- ◆ Heroin-related deaths among males are more than three times higher than among females.
- ◆ Nearly half (119) of all heroin-related overdose deaths in the past 5 years occurred in people aged 25-34.
- ◆ West Virginia has the eleventh highest heroin-related overdose rate in the nation.<sup>1</sup>
- ◆ Three percent of West Virginia high school students have ever tried heroin.<sup>2</sup>

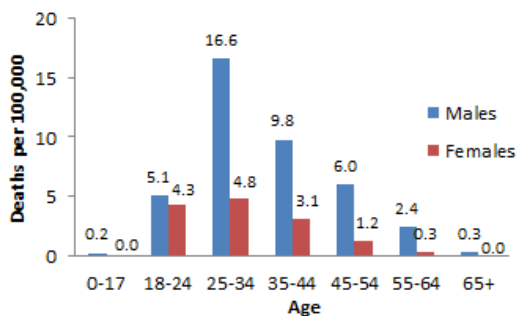


### Heroin-Related Overdose Deaths Among West Virginia Residents



Data Source: West Virginia Health Statistics Center, Vital Statistics System

### West Virginia Resident Heroin-Related Overdose Mortality Rates, 2009-2013



Data Source: West Virginia Health Statistics Center, Vital Statistics System

#### Resources:

For Health Statistics, contact the Health Statistics Center at 304-558-2931 or visit [www.wvdhhr.org/bph/hsc](http://www.wvdhhr.org/bph/hsc).

For Possible Overdose, contact the West Virginia Poison Control Center at 1-800-222-1222.

For Prescription Drug Abuse, contact the Rx Drug Abuse Hotline at 1-866-WV QUITT (1-866-987-8488) or visit [www.wvrxabuse.org](http://www.wvrxabuse.org).

For Help Overcoming Narcotics, contact Narcotics Anonymous at 1-800-407-7195 or visit [www.narcotics.com](http://www.narcotics.com).

<sup>1</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC Wonder 2008-2011

<sup>2</sup> West Virginia Department of Education, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2013