



Synthetic Opioid Fast Stats

February 2019

FATAL SYNTHETIC OPIOID-RELATED OVERDOSES CONTINUE TO RISE AMONG WEST VIRGINIA RESIDENTS

1,486

Synthetic opioid-related overdose deaths among WV residents from 2013-2017

Synthetic opioids are largely driving the increase in drug overdose deaths among West Virginia residents. Most synthetic opioid-related overdose deaths are related to fentanyl and its analogs, but synthetic opioids also include drugs such as meperidine and tramadol. Since 2013, synthetic opioid-related overdose deaths have increased an average of **45%** annually, while all drug overdose deaths increased, on average, **12%** annually.

In 2017, synthetic opioids were involved in:

74%

of opioid-related overdose deaths

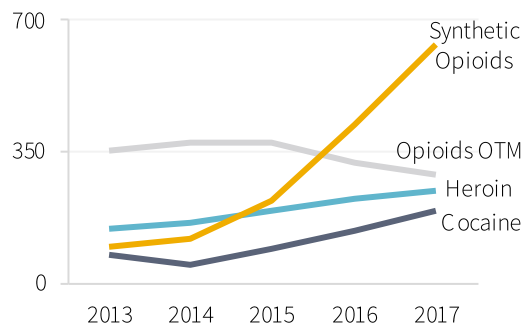


63%

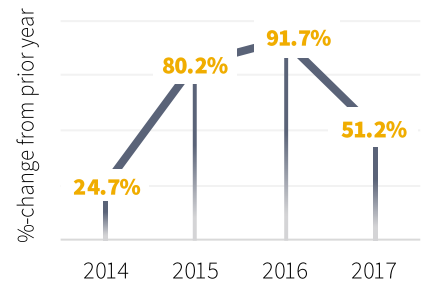
of all drug overdose deaths



632 fatal synthetic opioid-related overdoses occurred in 2017, 552% more than in 2013.

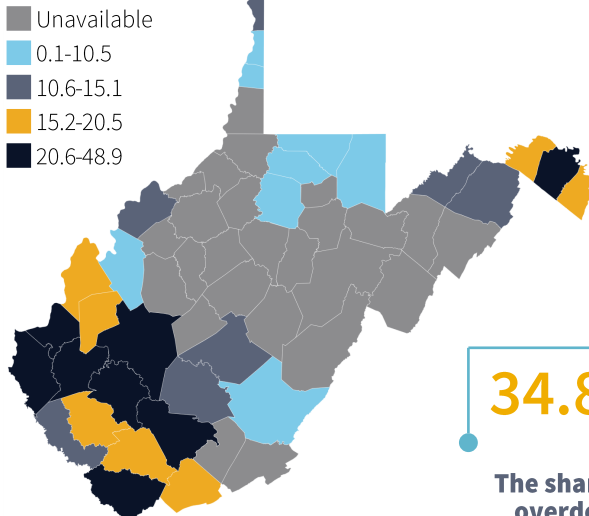


51.2% increase in synthetic opioid-related deaths from 2016 (418 deaths) to 2017 (632 deaths).

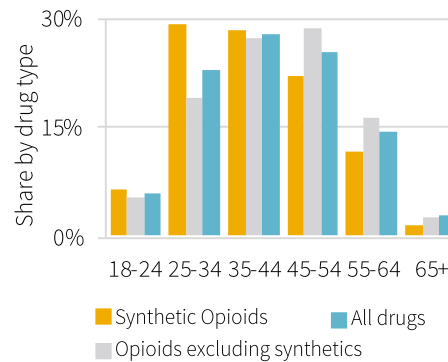


Synthetic Opioid-Related Overdose Death Rates

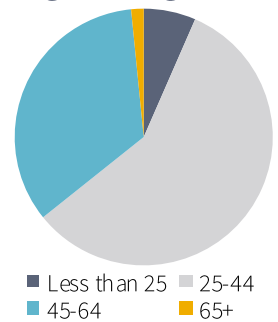
Deaths per 100,000 residents, 2013-17



Fatal synthetic opioid overdoses by age at death, 2013-17



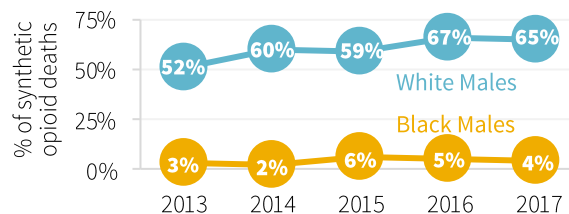
Most synthetic opioid overdose deaths occur among those aged 25-44.



34.8

 fatal synthetic opioid deaths per 100,000 residents in West Virginia in 2017

The share of fatal synthetic opioid-related overdoses among males has increased.



In 2017, **39.7%** of fatal synthetic opioid overdose deaths occurred in **males aged 25 to 44.**

Notes: Opioids OTM ("other than methadone") include drugs such as morphine, oxycodone, and hydrocodone. Synthetic opioid-related overdose deaths are identified by the multiple cause code T40.4 and includes synthetic opioid analgesics, like fentanyl and its analogues. Drug overdose deaths are identified using cause-of-death codes X40-44, X60-64, X85, and Y10-14. Deaths per 100,000 are crude rates calculated using NCHS bridged-race population estimates. Data from 2017 is preliminary and subject to change.

Resources

- WV Health Statistics Center: 304-558-2931 or www.wdhhr.org/bph/hsc
- For help with an addiction or mental health issue contact: 1-844-HELP-4WV

Source

- WV Health Statistics Center, Vital Statistics System

