

“LGBTQIA+ & MOUD”

Study Overview

The studies discuss demographic disparities, noting higher overdose rates among non-Hispanic whites and certain age groups, for example, young adults and older individuals. Vulnerable populations such as the homeless and previously incarcerated people are also disproportionately affected. The ongoing public health challenge posed by drug overdoses underscores the importance of multifaceted strategies, including prevention, harm reduction, and equitable access to treatment to effectively address this complex crisis.



In 2021 and 2022, there were over 100,000 reported drug overdose deaths annually in the United States. This represented a significant increase, with a 14% rise from 2020 to 2021.

TAKEAWAYS

- ✓ Non-Hispanic whites had the highest average annual increase in overdose mortality rates (7.6%).
- ✓ Women experienced a faster progression in overdose mortality rates compared to men (6.7% annual increase).
- ✓ The age group 55–64 years old had the highest overdose mortality rates, but there was also a significant increase among young adults aged 20–24 years.
- ✓ Homeless individuals faced particularly high risks of drug overdose mortality.
 - ✓ Synthetic opioids were responsible for the majority (91%) of drug overdose fatalities among the homeless population studied.
- ✓ Since 2010, there has been a 200% increase in overdose deaths involving illicit opioids, including heroin and synthetic opioids.