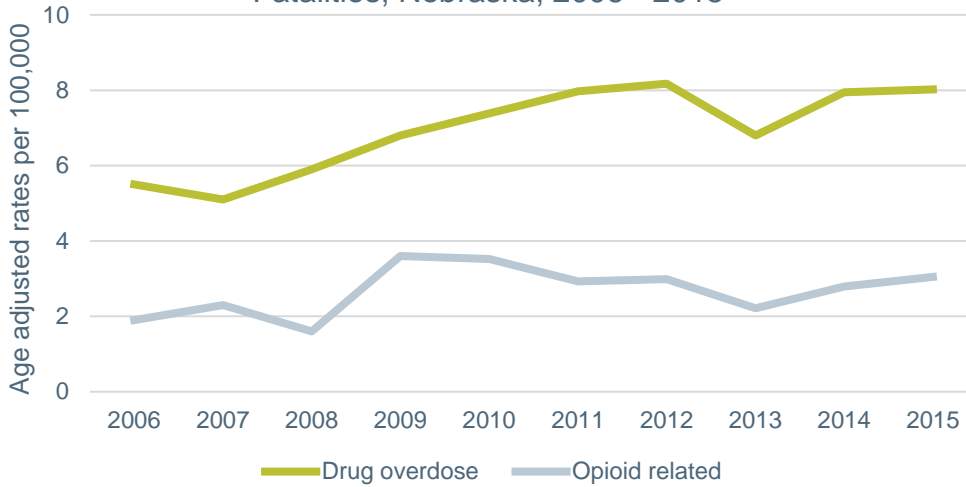


Nebraska Drug Overdose Deaths Fact Sheet for 2015

All Drug-Involved and Opioid-Involved Overdose Fatalities, Nebraska, 2006 - 2015



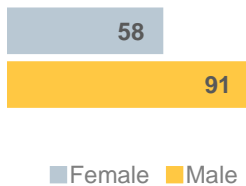
A National Public Health Crisis Continues

In the United States, 52,404 Americans died from a drug overdose in 2015. Of those, 63.1% involved opioids.¹

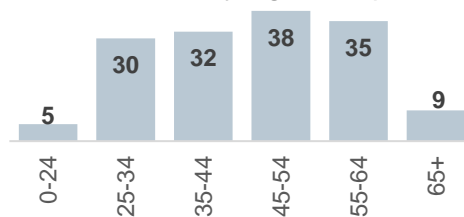
In Nebraska, during the same period of time, 149 people died from a drug overdose. Of those, at least, 38.9% involved an opioid (including prescription pain relievers, heroin, fentanyl, or other opioids).²

Number of Deaths by Demographic Characteristics and Intent ²

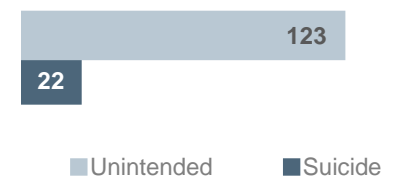
Number by Sex



Number by Age Group

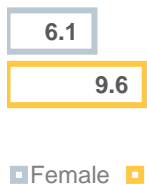


Number by Intent

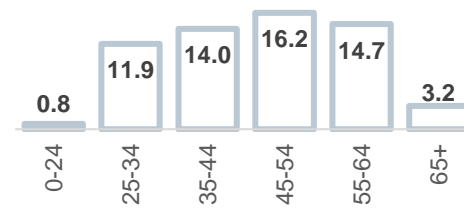


Death Rate per 100,000 persons by Demographic Characteristics and Intent ^{2 †}

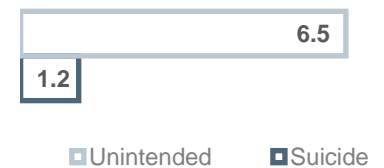
Rate by Sex



Rate by Age Group



Rate by Intent



† Rates provided for groups with numbers less than 20 may be unreliable, these rates are provided for context and should be used with caution.

In 2015, 14.8% of all drug overdoses were identified as a suicide or intentional; the majority were identified as accidental or unintentional (82.6%). Males accounted for 61%, up from 48% in 2014.

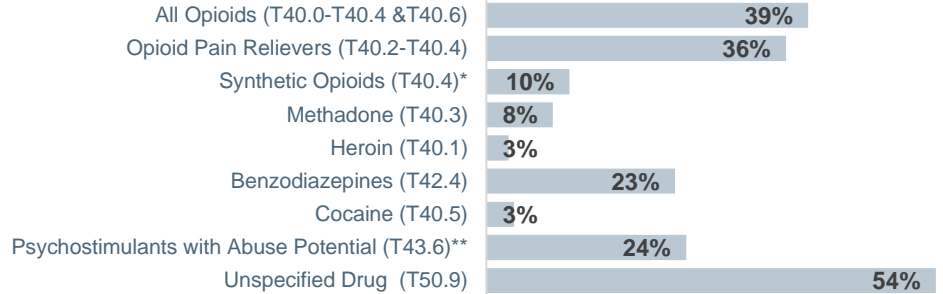
Individuals aged 45-54 had the highest death rates of all age categories with 35-44 and 55-64 year olds trailing closely.

Proportion of Deaths Involving Selected Drugs ²

Opioid Pain Relievers Contributed to 36% of Drug Overdose Deaths

Opioid pain relievers, such as oxycodone or hydrocodone, contributed to 54 (36%) of 149 drug overdose deaths in 2015. These results may be an undercount, because the percent of drug overdose deaths that had *only* unspecified drug(s) listed as contributing to the death accounted for 28% percent in 2015.

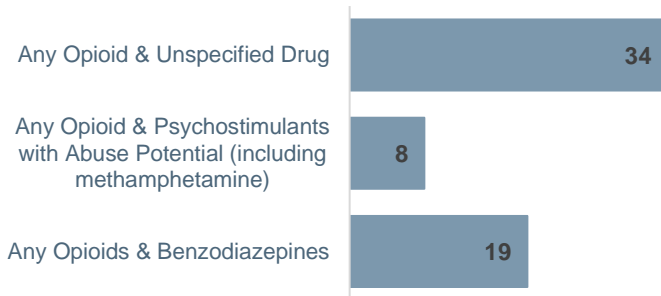
Proportion of Drug Overdose Deaths Involving Selected Drugs[†], Nebraska, 2015 ²



[†] Categories are not mutually exclusive * Includes fentanyl, fentanyl analogs, & similar drugs **Includes prescription stimulants, methamphetamine, & similar drugs

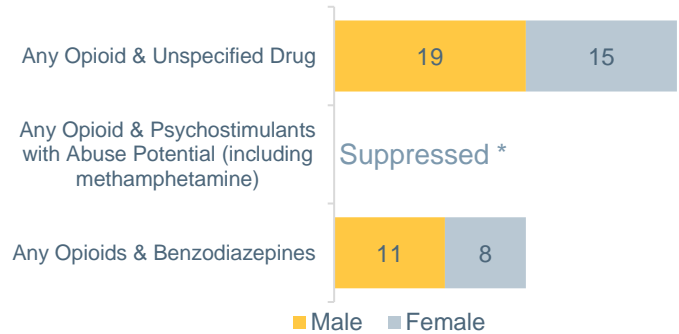
Number of Deaths Involving Selected Drug Combinations ^{2†}

Selected Drug Combinations



[†] Categories are not mutually exclusive

Selected Drug Combinations by Sex



[†] Categories are not mutually exclusive * Data is suppressed if the number of deaths for the group are less than 5.

Addressing the Issue in Nebraska



Nebraska DHHS in collaboration with an expert advisory task force, actively practicing providers, and senior state officials have developed a **guidance document for clinicians** who are helping people live better lives. The document promotes consistent, safe and effective pain management practices to assist in making clinical decisions easier, ensure patient safety, & provide effective options to treat pain.

www.dhhs.ne.gov/PDMP



Nebraska Pain Management Guidance Document
A Provider and Community Resource



Developed by the Department of Health and Human Services in collaboration with an expert advisory task force, actively practicing providers, and senior state officials. Written for clinicians and the public. © 2015. 1st Edition, October 2015.



The **Nebraska MEDS Coalition** has received funding to implement a Statewide Medication Disposal Initiative to reduce the availability of unused medication that may result in unintentional poisoning or illegal use and to provide education. www.nebraskameds.org

Nebraska DHHS in collaboration with Nebraska Health Information Initiative have implemented the statewide **Prescription Drug Monitoring Program**, a tool that collects dispensed prescription information. The tool is to help prevent the misuse of controlled substances and for patient safety. www.dhhs.ne.gov/PDMP

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. www.cdc.gov 12/30/2016 MMWR: Increases in Drug and Opioid-Involved Overdose Deaths- United States, 2010-2015.
2. Nebraska Vital Statistics data, 2006-2015.

Notes: Data is suppressed if number of individuals in a group are less than 5. Rates provided for groups with numbers less than 20 may be unreliable, these are provided for context and should be used with caution.