Overdose and Other Drug-Induced Deaths in Australia, 2003-2022 - NSW

1
New South Wales
There were 452 registered overdose and other drug-induced deaths (excluding alcohol and tobacco) in New
South Wales in 2022, which is equivalent to 0.72% of all
registered deaths in this jurisdiction.
The rate increased from 4.7 deaths per 100,000 people in
2003 to 7.8 deaths per 100,000 people in 2017,
subsequently decreasing to 6.8 deaths per 100,000 people
in 2020. The preliminary age-standardised rate of drug-induced deaths was 5.5 deaths per 100,000 people in 2022
induced deaths. The rate
of drug-induced deaths was also higher
among males than females (7.3 versus 3.8
deaths per 100,000 people, respectively).
Analyses did not indicate a statistically significant change
between 2021 and 2022 in the preliminary rates for males

Overdose and Other Drug-Induced Deaths in Australia, 2003-2022 - NSW

3
Table A22. Age-standardised rate per 100,000 people of drug-induced deaths in New South Wales in 2021 and 2022, and
average percent change (APC) for difference between 2022 and 2021 (with 95% confidence intervals), by sex
Sex Rate in 2021 Rate in 2022 APC for 2022 vs 2021
Female 4.5 (3.8, 5.2) 3.8 (3.2, 4.5) -15 (-31, 6)
Male 8.5 (7.6, 9.4) 7.3 (6.5, 8.2) -14 (-26, 1)
Total 6.4 (5.9, 7.0) 5.5 (5.0, 6.1) -14 (-24, -2)*
Note: Deaths where conditions related to alcohol or tobacco comprised the underlying cause of death are not captured here. Causes of death data for
2021 and 2022 are preliminary and thus are subject to further revision. 95% confidence intervals for the age-standardised rate and average percent

Ov erdo s e a n d Othe r Drug -Induc ed Deaths i n Au stralia, 2 00 3 -20 2 2 - NSW

4

Note: Deaths where condit ions related to alcohol or t obacco comprised the underlying cause of death are not capt ured here. C a uses of death data for

2021 and 2022 are preliminary and thus are subject to furt her revision. 95% confidence int ervals for the age- standardised rate and average percent

change are shown in brackets. Please refer t o our methods docum ent on ‘P resentation of results’ for interpretation of average percent change. P lease

also refer to our methods document on ‘Data source’ and ‘C oding of deaths’ for det ails on t he data use d.

Table A26. Ag e -st and ardis ed rate per 1 00 ,0 00 peo pl e o f overdose deaths i n N ew South Wal es i n 2 02 1 a nd 202 2 , a nd

avera ge perce nt c ha nge (A PC) fo r diff erence betw ee n 2022 a nd 202 1 (with 95% c o nfidence i nter v als) , by drugs invol ve d

Drug Rate i n 20 21 Rate in 20 22 APC fo r 20 22 vs 2 02 1

O pioids 3.8 (3.3 , 4 .2) 3 .2 (2.8, 3.6) -15 (-28, 1)

Antiepil epti c, s edat ive- hypn o tic & antipar kin sonism dru gs 3.5 (3.1 , 4 .0) 2 .5 (2.2, 2.9) -28 (-40, -14)*

Amphetamin e-type stimulants 1.9 (1.6 , 2 .2) 1 .6 (1.3, 1.9) -17 (-35, 5)

Antidepr ess ants 1.8 (1.6 , 2 .2) 1 .3 (1.1, 1.6) -29 (-44, -8)*

Antipsy cho tics & n eurol epti cs 1.2 (1.0 , 1 .5) 0 .81 (0.6 2 , 1 .03) -35 (-53, -11)*

Alcoho l 0.8 5 (0.66, 1.08) 0 .67 (0.5 0 , 0 .87) -22 (-45, 1 2)

Non-o pioid an alge sic s 0.7 1 (0.5 3, 0.91) 0 .56 (0.41, 0.75) -21

Overdose and Other Drug-Induced Deaths in Australia, 2003-2022 - NSW

5
Acknowledgements
We wish to acknowledge Lauren Moran and the team at the Australian Bureau of Statistics for their assistance with the data and ICD-10
coding practices to ensure rigorous, comprehensive, and consistent reporting on drug-induced deaths in Australia.
We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which the work for this report was undertaken. We pay respect to Elders past,
present, and emerging.
Related Links
x For the full report on trends in overdose and other drug-induced deaths in Australia go to:
http://www.unsw.edu.au/research/ndarc/resources/trends-drug-induced-deaths-australia-2003-2022
x For interactive data visualisations accompanying this report, go to: https://drugtrends.shinyapps.io/Deaths_2022
x�x