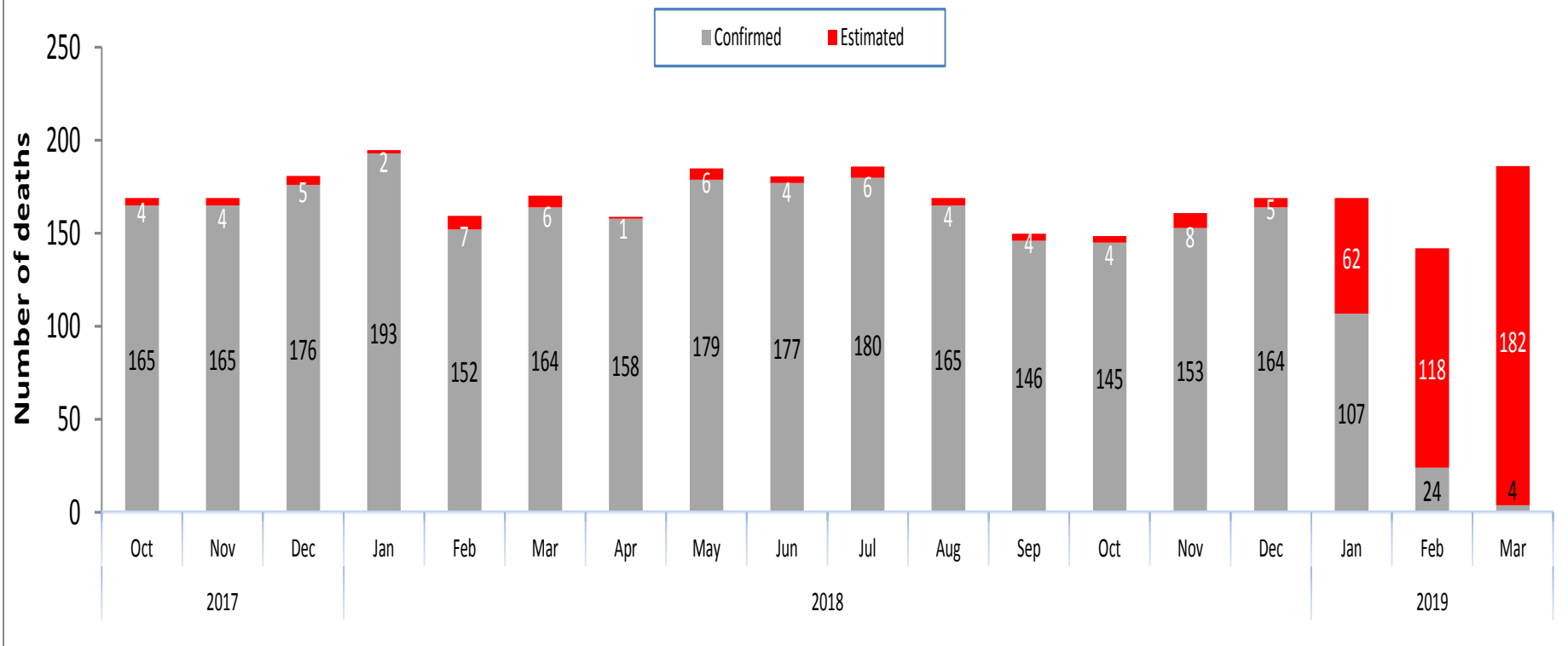




Preliminary data show 497 confirmed and estimated opioid-related overdose deaths in the first quarter of 2019.

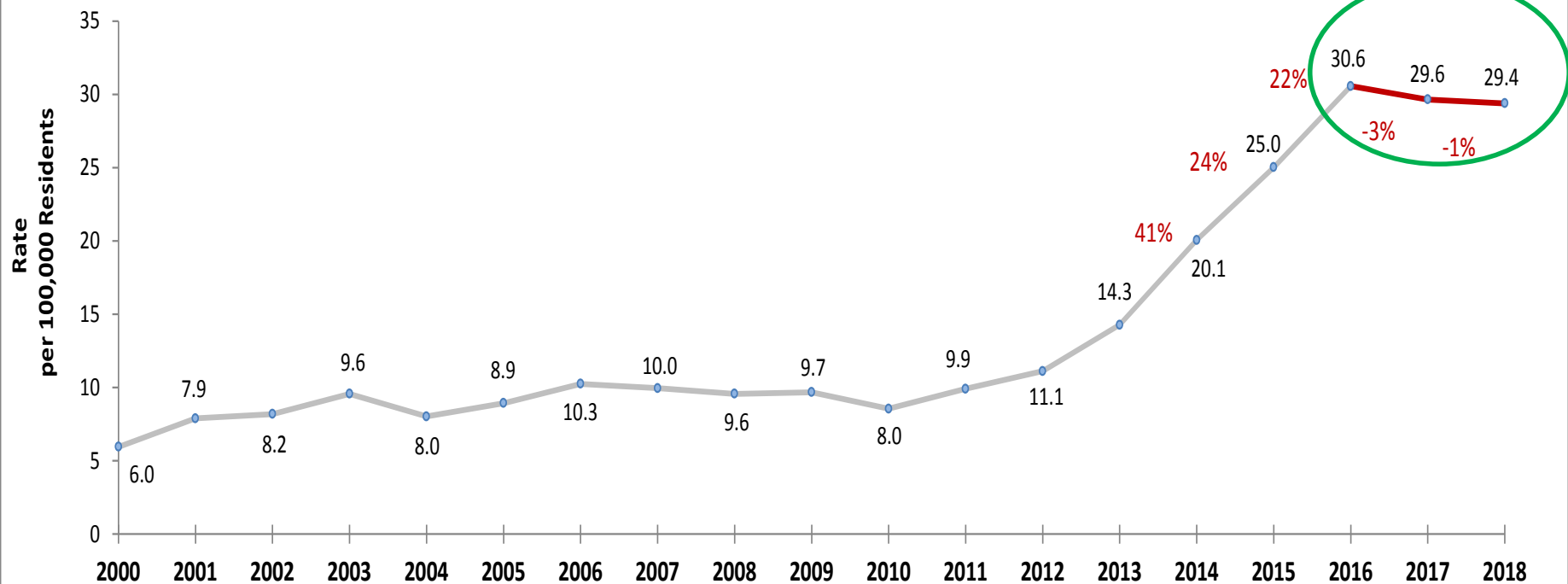
Figure 1. Opioid-Related Overdose Deaths, All Intent by Month
Massachusetts Residents: October 2017 - March 2019





The rate of opioid-related overdose deaths decreased for a second straight year – for a total of an estimated 4% decrease from 2016 to 2018.

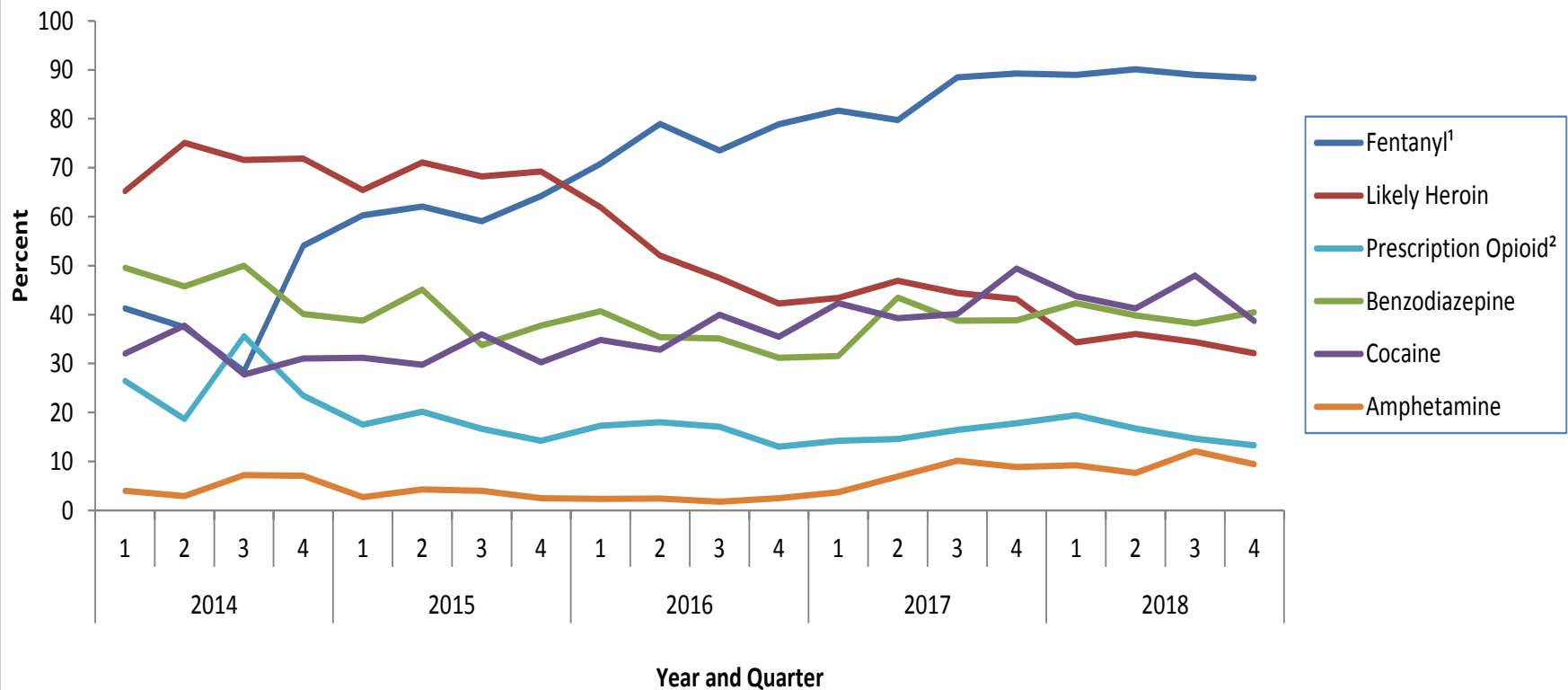
**Figure 3. Rate of Confirmed and Estimated Opioid-Related Overdose Deaths, All Intent
Massachusetts Residents: 2000 - 2018**





Fentanyl remains a key factor in opioid-related overdose deaths (89% present in toxicology screen) but we're also seeing a rise in some stimulants such as cocaine and amphetamines.

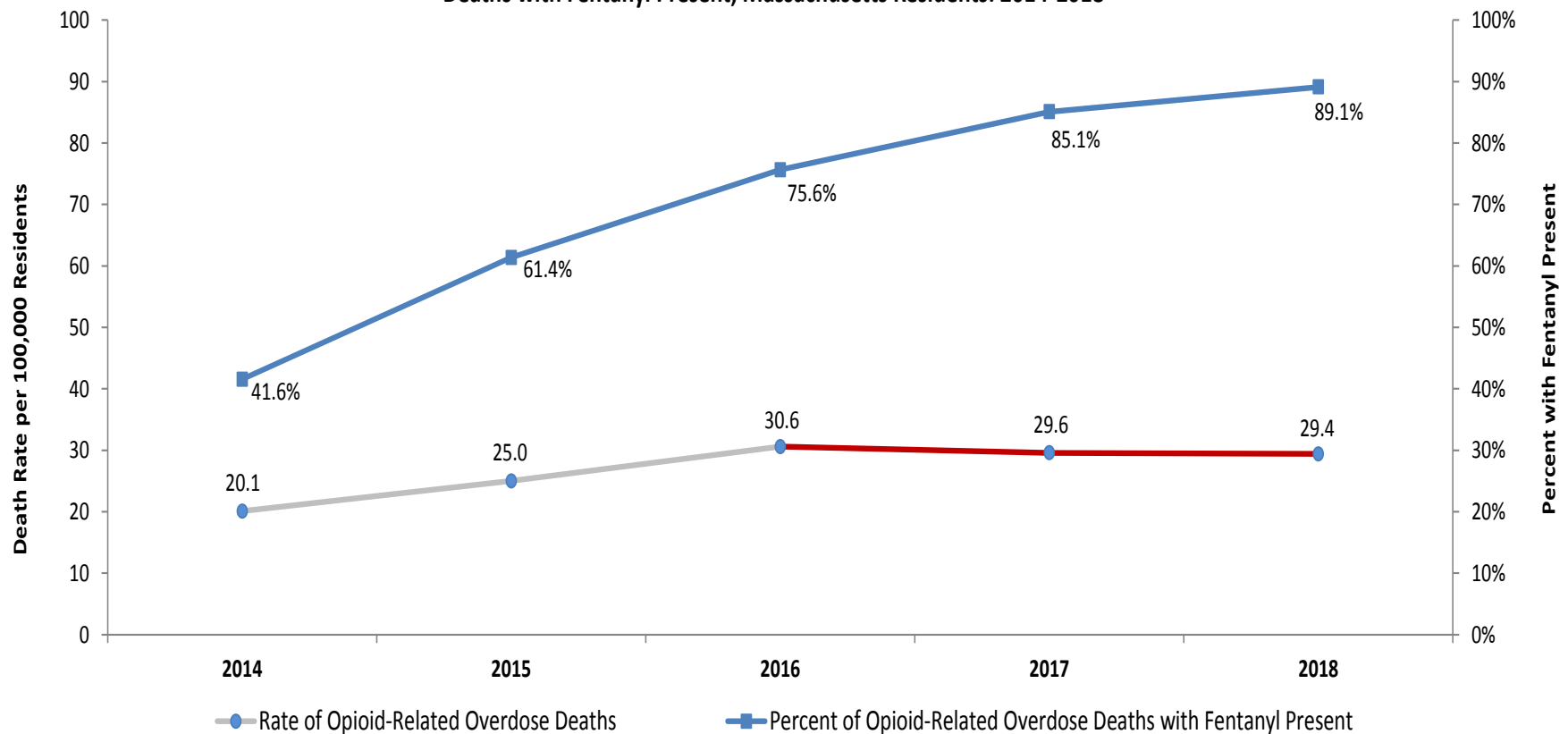
**Figure 4. Percent of Opioid-Related Overdose Deaths with Specific Drugs Present
Massachusetts Residents: 2014 - 2018**





Although the presence of fentanyl in opioid-related overdose deaths continues to rise, the opioid-related overdose death rate has remained relatively stable since 2016.

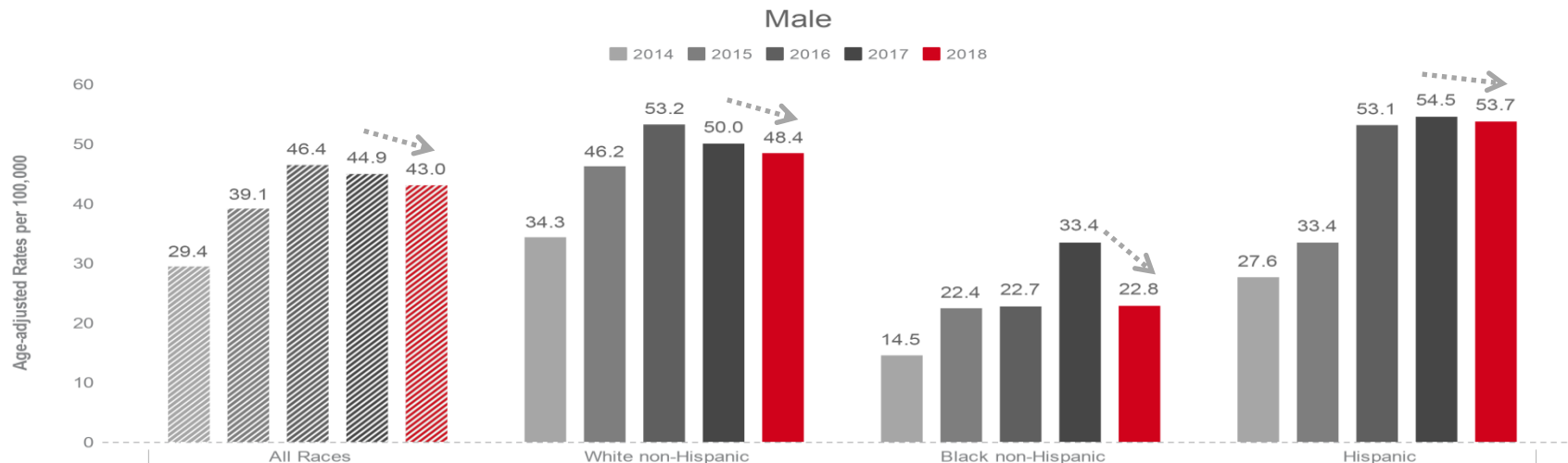
Figure 5. Rate of Confirmed and Estimated Opioid-Related Overdose Deaths and Percent of Confirmed Opioid-Related Overdose Deaths with Fentanyl Present, Massachusetts Residents: 2014-2018



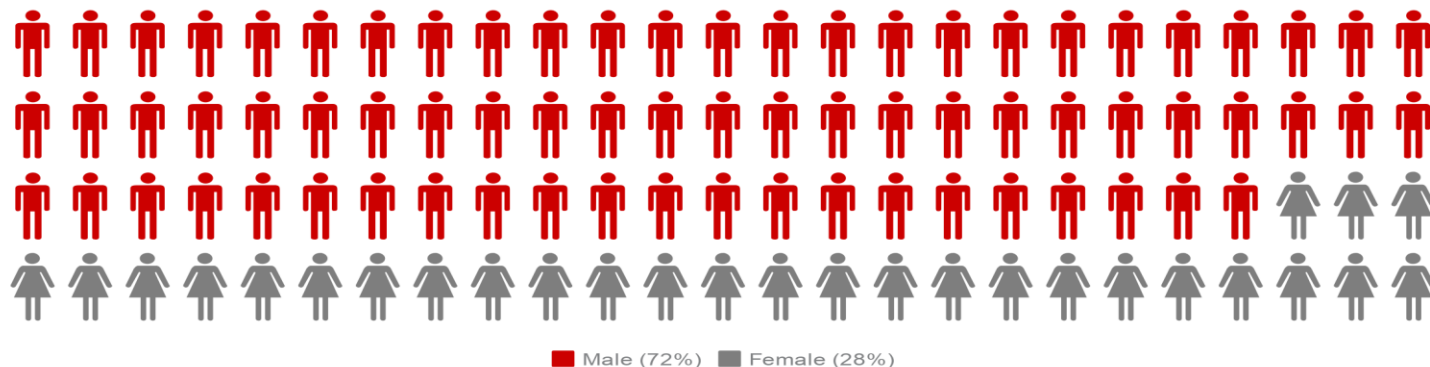


Death rates for males of all races and ethnicities decreased between 2017 and 2018. However, males comprised 72% of all opioid-related overdose deaths in 2018.

Confirmed Opioid-Related Overdose Death Rates, All Intent, by Race and Hispanic Ethnicity



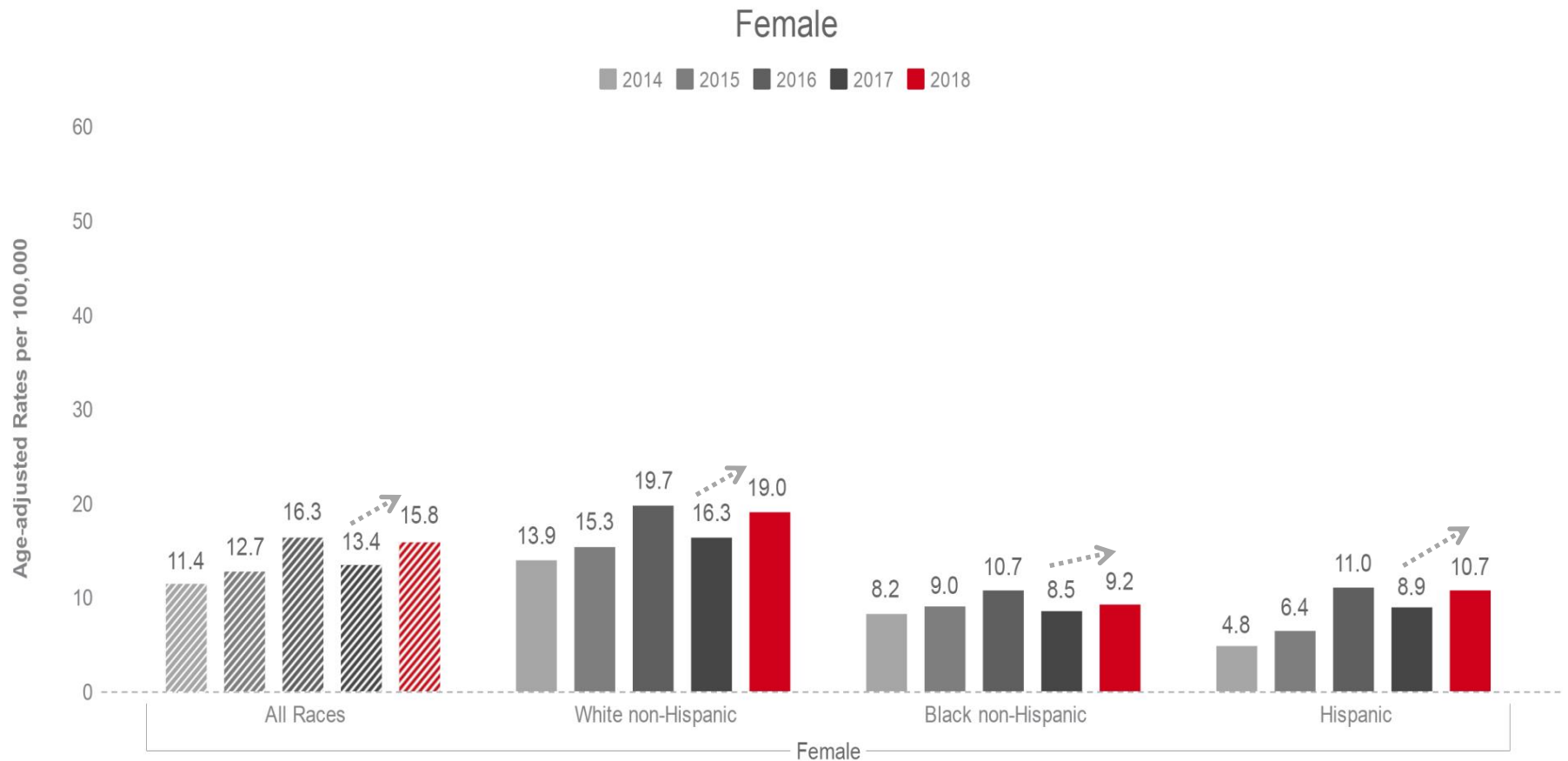
All Intent Opioids Deaths by Gender



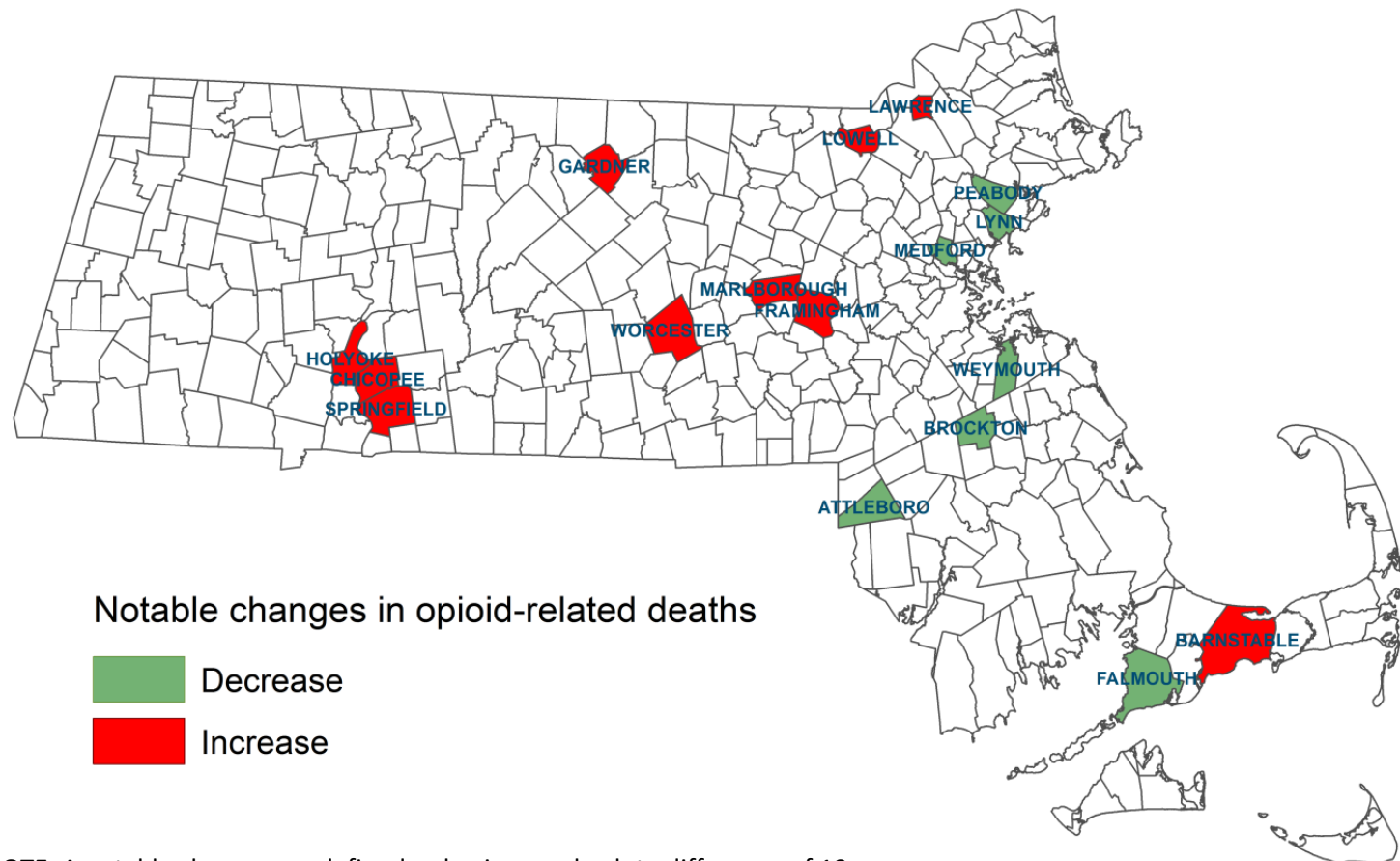


The confirmed opioid-related overdose death rates for females of all races and ethnicities increased in 2018 compared with 2017.

Confirmed Opioid-Related Overdose Death Rates, All Intents, by Race and Hispanic Ethnicity



There was some clustering of cities and towns that experienced notable increases or decreases in opioid-related overdose deaths between 2017 and 2018.



NOTE: A notable change was defined as having an absolute difference of 10 or more occurrence or resident opioid-related overdose deaths between 2017 and 2018 **and** at least a 20% change during that period.