

# Data Brief: Confirmed Unintentional/Undetermined<sup>1</sup> Opioid-related<sup>2</sup> Overdose Deaths Among Massachusetts Residents – Demographic Data Highlights

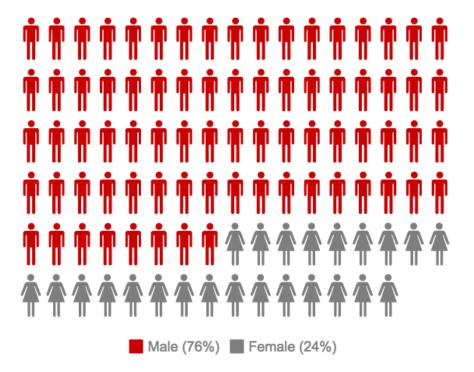
Massachusetts Department of Public Health

POSTED: MAY 2016

This data brief highlights demographic data from confirmed overdose deaths from January 2015 through December 2015.

#### Confirmed Unintentional/Undetermined<sup>1</sup> Opioid-related Deaths by Gender: 2015

| Unintentional/Undetermined Opioid Deaths by Gender: 2015 |       |  |  |  |
|--|-------|--|--|--|
| Male   | 1,048 |  |  |  |
| Female   | 331   |  |  |  |
| Total  | 1.379 |  |  |  |



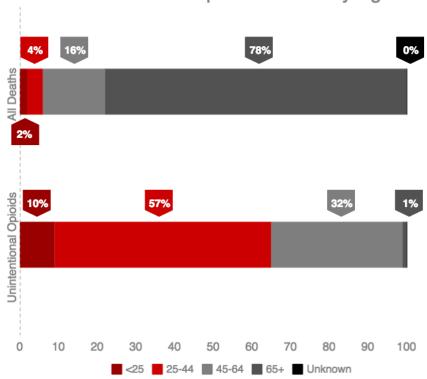
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Unintentional poisoning/overdose deaths combine unintentional and undetermined intents to account for a change in death coding that occurred in 2005. Suicides are excluded from this analysis.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Opioids include heroin, opioid-based prescription painkillers, and other unspecified opioids.

## Confirmed Unintentional/Undetermined<sup>1</sup> Opioid-related Deaths Compared to All Deaths by Age: 2015

|                            | Deaths by Age: 2015 |       |       |       |       |       |        |         |        |  |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|---------|--------|--|
|                            | 0-14                | 15-24 | 25-34 | 35-44 | 45-54 | 55-64 | 65+    | Unknown | Total  |  |
| All Deaths                 | 393                 | 481   | 1086  | 1270  | 3077  | 5995  | 44,055 | 5       | 56,362 |  |
| Confirmed Unintentional /  |                     |       |       |       |       |       |        |         |        |  |
| Undetermined Opioid Deaths | 1                   | 142   | 437   | 350   | 302   | 132   | 15     | 0       | 1,379  |  |

### Unintentional Opioids Deaths by Age

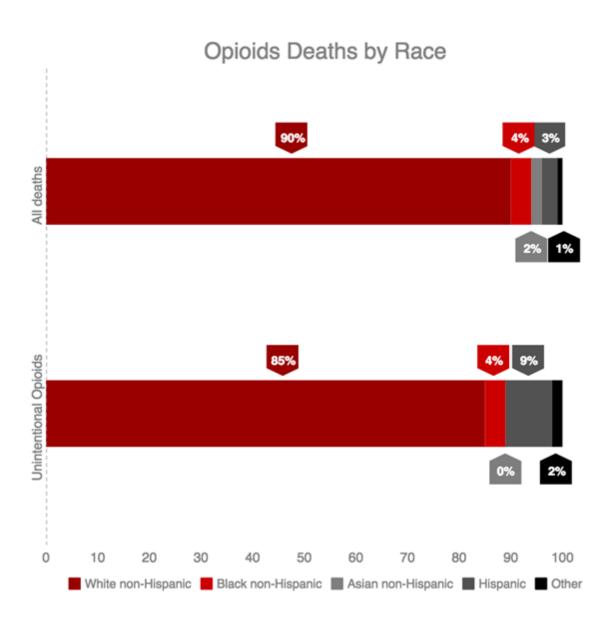


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## Confirmed Unintentional/Undetermined<sup>1</sup> Opioid-related Deaths Compared to All Deaths by Race: 2015

|   | White    | Black    | Asian    |          |         |        |
|---|----------|----------|----------|----------|---------|--------|
|   | non-     | non-     | non-     |          | Other/  |        |
|   | Hispanic | Hispanic | Hispanic | Hispanic | Unknown | Total  |
| All Deaths                              | 50,413   | 2,343    | 1,066    | 1,996    | 504     | 56,362 |
| Unintentional/Undetermined <sup>1</sup> |          |          |          |          |         |        |
| Opioid Deaths                           | 1,162    | 63       | 6        | 125      | 23      | 1,379  |

Unintentional/Undetermined opioid-related deaths, compared to all deaths: 2015



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Unintentional poisoning/overdose deaths combine unintentional and undetermined intents to account for a change in death coding that occurred in 2005. Suicides are excluded from this analysis.

#### **Technical Notes**

2015 death data are preliminary and subject to updates. Case reviews of deaths are evaluated and updated on an ongoing basis. A large number of deaths have yet to be assigned final cause-of-death codes. The information presented in this report <u>only</u> includes confirmed cases. Data updated on 03/31/2016.

Source: Registry of Vital Records and Statistics, Massachusetts Department of Public Health