



# Number of Opioid-Related Overdose Deaths, All Intent by County, MA Residents: 2013-2023

Massachusetts Department of Public Health

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County	Year of Death												Total 2013-2023	Percent Change 2023 vs. 2022
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023			
Barnstable	43	53	67	81	67	71	73	76	80	87	72	770	-17.2%	
Berkshire	22	29	32	35	30	40	40	56	62	47	48	441	2.1%	
Bristol	115	145	172	243	239	218	260	233	291	276	261	2453	-5.4%	
Dukes	1	5	7	3	2	4	3	6	5	6	6	48	0.0%	
Essex	119	205	236	274	301	273	279	251	289	277	217	2720	-21.7%	
Franklin	10	11	18	14	9	22	17	20	36	26	28	211	7.7%	
Hampden	69	64	98	130	113	209	199	215	213	230	231	1771	0.4%	
Hampshire	30	26	16	36	28	38	39	34	44	37	29	357	-21.6%	
Middlesex	152	273	341	402	350	322	304	297	358	380	301	3480	-20.8%*	
Nantucket	0	1	1	2	3	1	2	1	4	2	4	21	100.0%	
Norfolk	82	125	164	213	168	170	130	154	162	160	165	1693	3.1%	
Plymouth	86	110	174	190	202	151	176	184	167	190	154	1785	-18.9%	
Suffolk	110	146	199	242	252	215	218	287	295	304	330	2598	8.6%	
Worcester	115	162	222	246	251	281	267	278	279	331	278	2710	-16.0%	
<b>Total Deaths</b>	<b>954</b>	<b>1,356</b>	<b>1,748</b>	<b>2,111</b>	<b>2,015</b>	<b>2,015</b>	<b>2,007</b>	<b>2,092</b>	<b>2,285</b>	<b>2,357</b>	<b>2,125</b>	<b>21,064</b>	<b>-9.8%*</b>	

\*Indicates a statistically significant change

**Technical Notes**

- Data for 2022 to 2023 deaths are preliminary and subject to updates. Case reviews of deaths are evaluated and updated on an ongoing basis. Many death certificates have yet to be assigned final cause of death codes. 2022 to 2023 counts are based on the estimates rather than confirmed cases. Data updated on 04/11/2024.
- Please note that some totals may not add up due to deaths with unknown city/town of residence and the rounding of counts.
- Opioids include heroin, illicitly manufactured fentanyl, opioid-based prescription painkillers, and other unspecified opioids.
- Beginning with the August 2019 report, DPH updated the case definition used to identify opioid-related overdose deaths to match the CDC’s case definition. The following International Classification of Disease (ICD-10) codes for mortality were selected from the underlying cause of death field to identify poisonings/overdoses: X40-X44, X60-X64, X85, and Y10-Y14. All multiple cause of death fields were then used to identify an opioid-related overdose death: T40.0, T40.1, T40.2, T40.3, T40.4, and T40.6.
- This report tracks all opioid-related overdoses due to difficulties in reporting heroin-associated overdoses separately. Many deaths related to heroin are not specifically coded as such due to the fast metabolism of heroin into morphine.
- To maintain consistency with NCHS reporting, DPH does not include the ICD-10 code F11.1, which may include opioid-related overdose deaths.
- Beginning with the May 2017 report, DPH started reporting opioid-related overdose deaths for all intents, which includes unintentional/undetermined and suicide.

**Sources**

- Massachusetts Registry of Vital Records and Statistics, MDPH
- Massachusetts Office of the Chief Medical Examiner