

POSTED: MAY 2019

Massachusetts Department of Public Health

**Number of Opioid-Related Overdose Deaths, All Intents by County, MA Residents: 2010-2018**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **County** | **2010** | **2011** | **2012** | **2013** | **2014** | **2015** | **2016** | **2017** | **2018** | **Total 2010-2018** |
| Barnstable | 20 | 19 | 24 | 43 | 53 | 66 | 81 | 67 | 71 | 444 |
| Berkshire | 4 | 9 | 18 | 22 | 29 | 33 | 36 | 27 | 40 | 218 |
| Bristol | 79 | 82 | 95 | 116 | 146 | 168 | 243 | 243 | 220 | 1,392 |
| Dukes | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 22 |
| Essex | 51 | 57 | 94 | 119 | 209 | 231 | 273 | 311 | 278 | 1,623 |
| Franklin | 6 | 6 | 8 | 10 | 11 | 18 | 14 | 9 | 22 | 104 |
| Hampden | 48 | 45 | 59 | 69 | 64 | 96 | 129 | 113 | 208 | 831 |
| Hampshire | 12 | 10 | 11 | 30 | 26 | 16 | 36 | 28 | 36 | 205 |
| Middlesex | 94 | 130 | 122 | 155 | 273 | 333 | 402 | 356 | 325 | 2,190 |
| Nantucket | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 10 |
| Norfolk | 60 | 64 | 71 | 83 | 127 | 161 | 212 | 167 | 170 | 1,115 |
| Plymouth | 41 | 67 | 57 | 86 | 110 | 168 | 188 | 206 | 153 | 1,076 |
| Suffolk | 64 | 85 | 91 | 111 | 145 | 195 | 239 | 254 | 217 | 1,401 |
| Worcester | 80 | 82 | 91 | 115 | 162 | 216 | 242 | 264 | 283 | 1,535 |
| **Total Deaths** | **560** | **656** | **742** | **961** | **1,362** | **1,710** | **2,100** | **2,050** | **2,033** | **12,174** |

# Technical Notes

* Data for 2017 and 2018 deaths are preliminary and subject to updates. Case reviews of deaths are evaluated and updated on an ongoing basis. A large number of death certificates have yet to be assigned final cause-of-death codes. 2017 and 2018 counts are based on the estimates rather than confirmed cases. Data updated on 4/8/2019.
* Numbers and calculations based on values less than 5 are suppressed for years in which the death file is not yet closed if they are based on pending cases.
* 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.
* Cases were defined using the International Classification of Disease (ICD-10) codes for mortality. The following codes were selected from the underlying cause of death field to identify poisonings/overdoses: X40-X49, X60-X69, X85-X90, Y10-Y19, and Y35.2. All multiple cause of death fields were then used to identify an opioid-related 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 death.
* Beginning with the May 2017 report, DPH started reporting opioid-related 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