



Number of Opioid-Related Overdose Deaths, All Intentions by County, MA Residents: 2010-2020

Massachusetts Department of Public Health

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County	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total 2010-2020
Barnstable	20	19	24	43	53	67	81	67	71	73	76	594
Berkshire	4	9	16	22	29	32	35	30	40	39	56	312
Bristol	78	82	95	115	145	172	243	240	218	260	233	1881
Dukes	0	0	0	1	5	7	3	2	4	3	7	32
Essex	49	57	93	119	205	235	274	299	273	279	253	2136
Franklin	6	6	8	10	11	18	14	9	22	17	20	141
Hampden	48	45	59	69	64	98	130	113	208	199	215	1248
Hampshire	12	10	11	30	26	16	36	28	38	39	34	280
Middlesex	91	130	118	152	273	341	402	348	321	304	299	2779
Nantucket	1	0	0	0	1	1	2	3	1	2	1	12
Norfolk	58	64	70	82	125	164	213	166	170	129	156	1397
Plymouth	38	67	57	86	110	174	190	202	151	176	185	1436
Suffolk	63	85	90	110	146	199	241	251	215	218	289	1907
Worcester	79	82	91	115	162	222	246	250	281	267	282	2077
Total Deaths	547	656	733	954	1,356	1,746	2,110	2,008	2,013	2,005	2,106	16,234

Technical Notes

- Data for 2017 to 2020 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 to 2020 counts are based on the estimates rather than confirmed cases. Data updated on 10/7/2021.
- 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.
- 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