

FAST FACTS

- In 2018, 3,764 Ohioans died from unintentional drug overdoses.
- Fentanyl was involved in the majority of unintentional drug overdose deaths among all race/sex groups, ranging from 64.5% among white non-Hispanic females to 82.2% among Hispanic males.
- Black non-Hispanic males had the highest unintentional drug overdose death rate in Ohio compared to other sex/race groups.
- From 2017 to 2018, unintentional drug overdose death rates decreased for all sex/race groups, with the largest decrease among white non-Hispanic males (24.5%).

Age and Sex

- In 2018, the highest rates of unintentional overdose deaths were observed among 35-44 year olds followed by 25-34 year olds.
- Rates decreased across all age groups from 2017 to 2018.
- Males have consistently higher rates of fatal overdose compared to females. However, from 2017 to 2018, rates for males decreased 24.0% compared to a 19.2% decrease for females.

Figure 1: Rate of Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths by Age, Ohio, 2013-2018

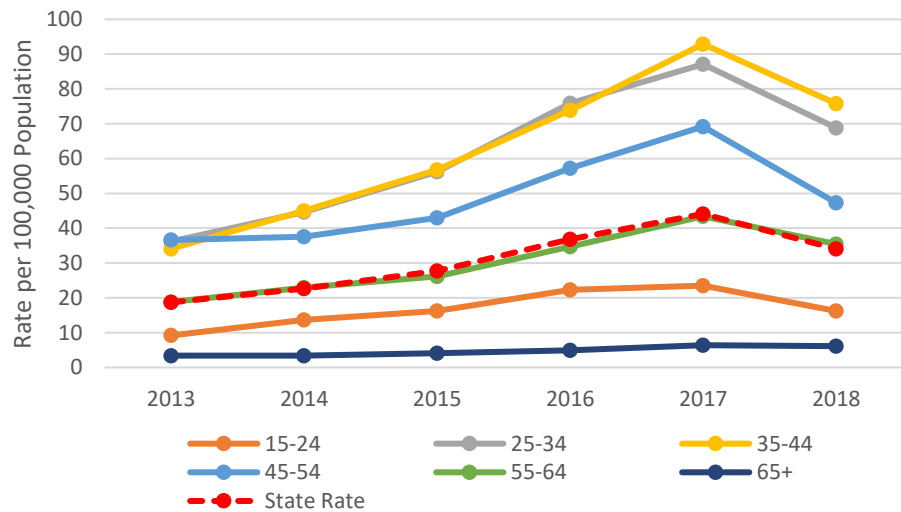
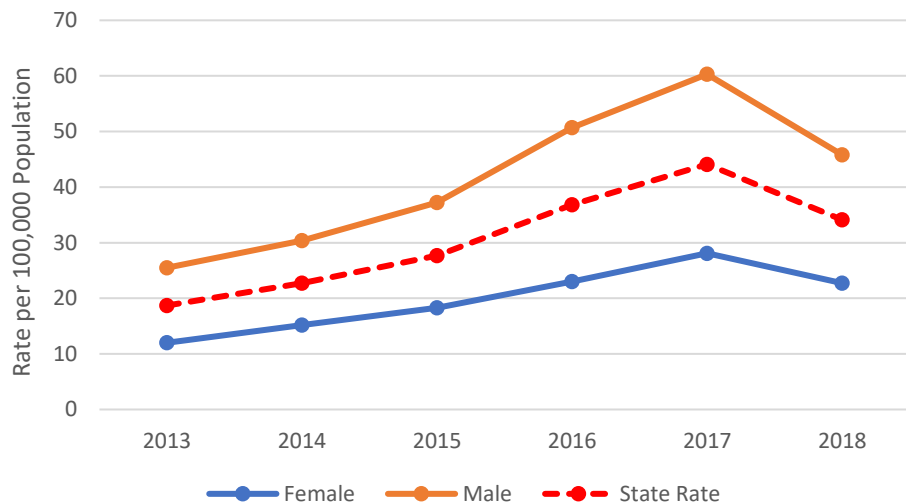


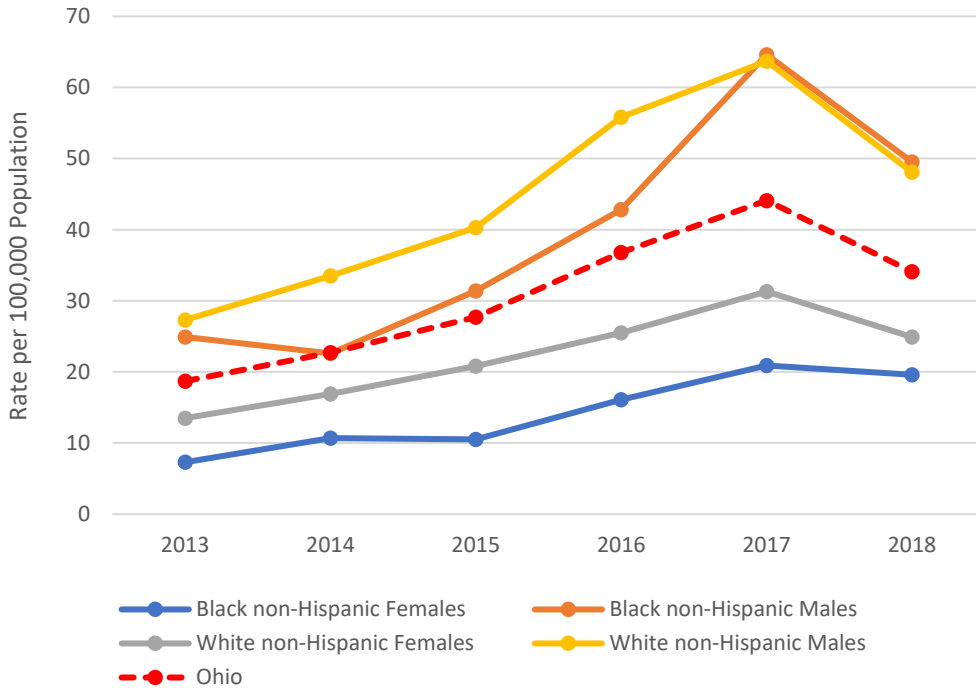
Figure 2: Age-Adjusted Rate of Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths by Sex, Ohio, 2013-2018



Source: Ohio Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics. Analysis: ODH Violence and Injury Prevention Section. Includes Ohio residents who died due to unintentional drug poisoning (underlying cause of death ICD-10 codes X40-X44).

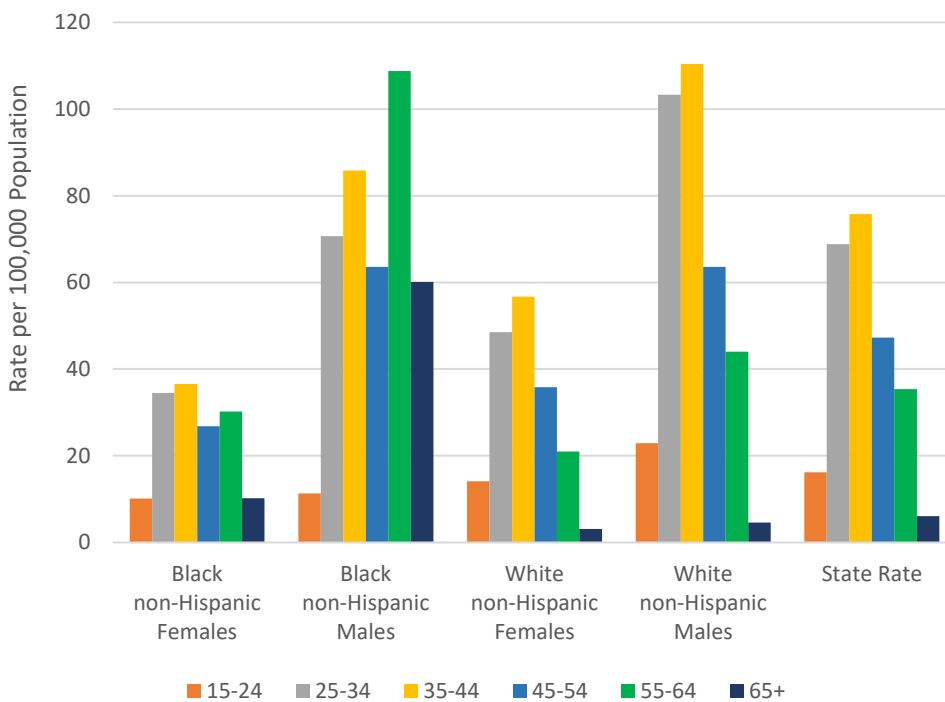
Race/Ethnicity

Figure 3: Age-Adjusted Rate of Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths by Sex and Race/Ethnicity, Ohio, 2013-2018



- For the second year in a row, black non-Hispanic males had the highest overdose death rate in Ohio compared to other sex and race/ethnicity groups. Prior to 2017, the last time this demographic group had the highest overdose death rate was in 2008. Black non-Hispanic females have the lowest unintentional overdose death rates.
- From 2017 to 2018, overdose death rates decreased for all sex and race/ethnicity groups. The largest decreases were among males; white non-Hispanic and black non-Hispanic males had a 24.5% and 23.4% decrease respectively. White non-Hispanic females had a 20.4% decrease, while black non-Hispanic females had a decrease of just 6.2%.

Figure 4: Rate of Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths by Age, Sex, and Race/Ethnicity, Ohio, 2018



- In 2018, 35-44 year olds (followed by 25-34 year olds) had the highest overdose death rate among all sex and race/ethnicity groups with the exception of black non-Hispanic males. Among black non-Hispanic males, 55-64 year olds had the highest rate.
- The highest rates for black non-Hispanic females have previously been among older age groups (45-54 and 55-64), not those within the reproductive years (ages 15-44). Substance use disorder among females of childbearing age is of particular concern because fetal exposure to opioids and other substances during pregnancy can result in infants born with neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS).*

Drug Involvement by Age

- In 2018, illicit fentanyl was involved in the majority of unintentional drug overdose deaths among all age groups; however, the percentage of deaths involving fentanyl decreased as age increased. Fentanyl involvement ranged from 47.5% of overdose deaths among those aged 65 and above to 79.8% of deaths among 15-24 year olds.
- In deaths involving a combination of fentanyl and other drug categories, the highest percentage were related to the combination of fentanyl and cocaine followed by the combination of fentanyl and heroin.

Figure 5: Percentage of Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths Involving Select Drugs by Age, Ohio, 2018

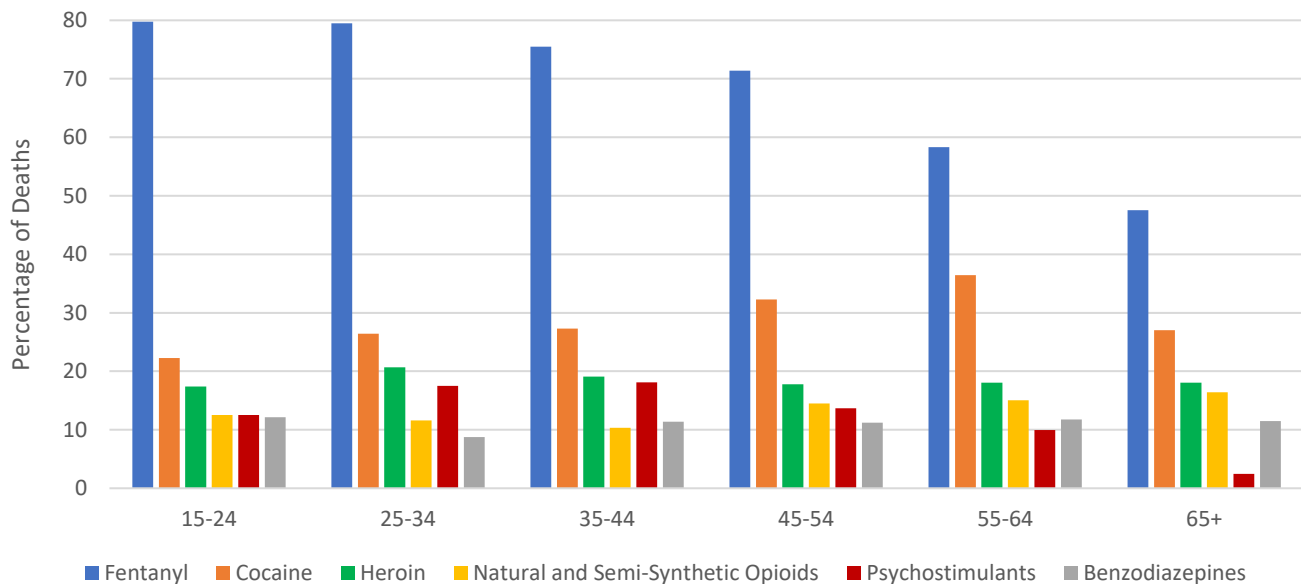
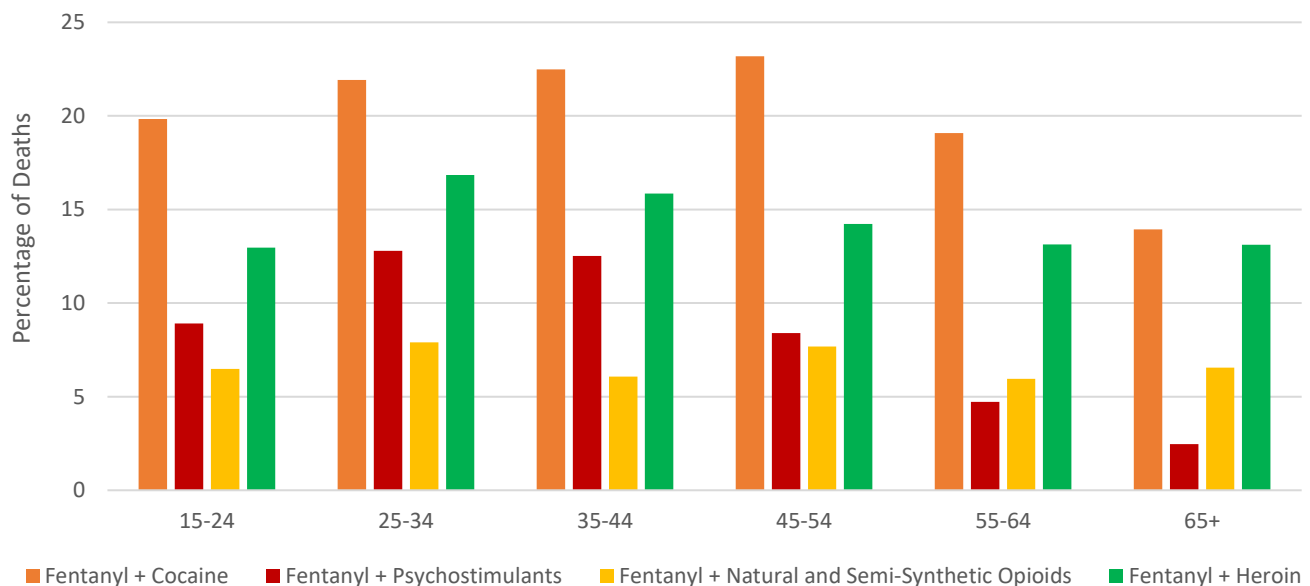


Figure 6: Percentage of Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths Involving Select Drug Combinations by Age, Ohio, 2018



Source: Ohio Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics. Analysis: ODH Violence and Injury Prevention Section. Includes Ohio residents who died due to unintentional drug poisoning (underlying cause of death ICD-10 codes X40-X44). Natural and Semi-Synthetic Opioids (e.g., oxycodone, hydrocodone) correspond to code T40.2. Multiple drugs are usually involved in overdose deaths. Individual deaths may be reported in more than one category. Other age groups not represented due to small numbers.

Drug Involvement by Race/Ethnicity

- Illicit fentanyl was involved in the majority of overdose deaths in 2018 among all race/sex groups, ranging from 64.5% among white non-Hispanic females to 82.2% among Hispanic males.
- In deaths involving a combination of fentanyl and other drug categories, the highest percentage were related to a combination of fentanyl and cocaine in all sex and race/ethnicity groups with the exception of Hispanic females. Among Hispanic females, the highest percentage of deaths were related to the combination of fentanyl and heroin.

Figure 7: Percentage of Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths Involving Select Drugs by Sex and Race/Ethnicity, Ohio, 2018

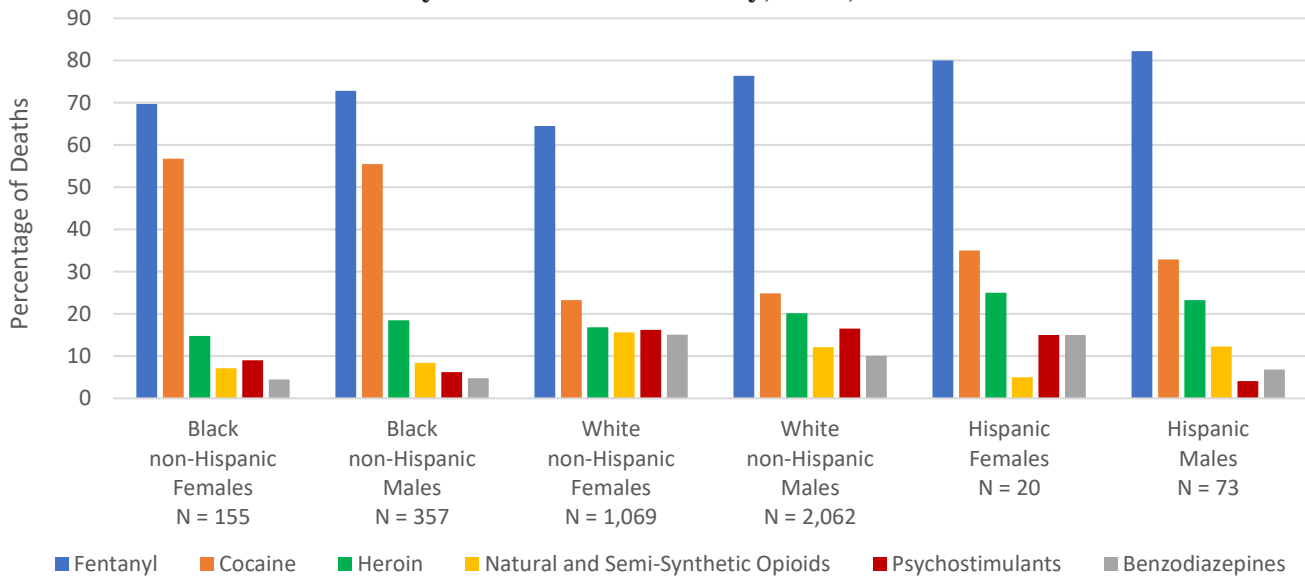
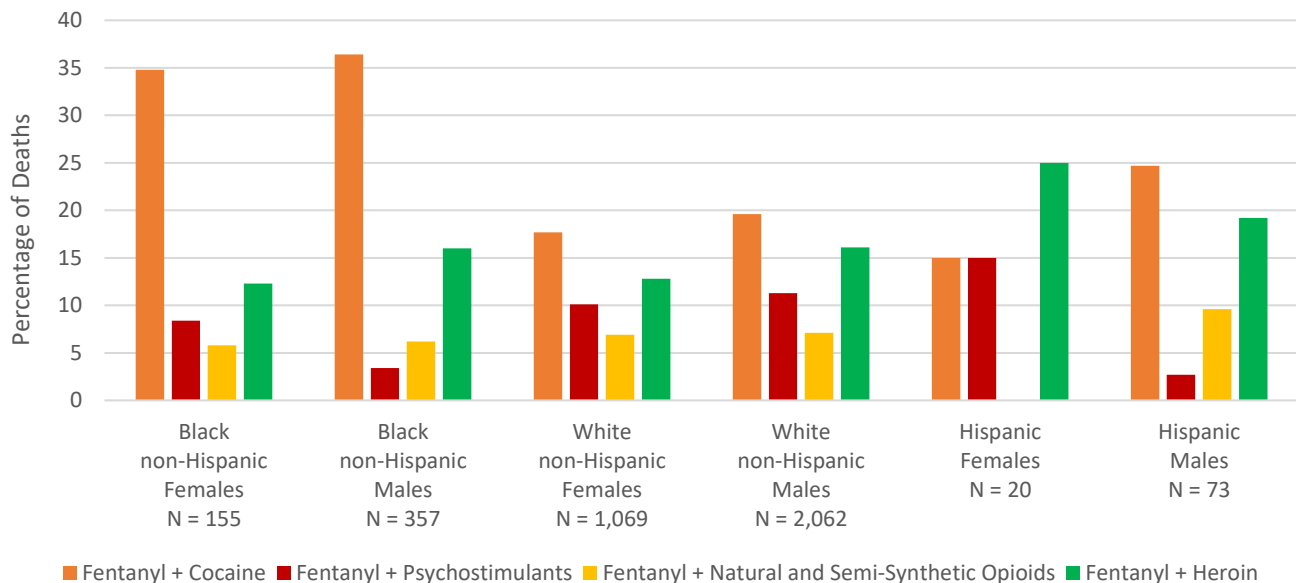


Figure 8: Percentage of Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths Involving Select Drug Combinations by Sex and Race/Ethnicity, Ohio, 2018



Source: Ohio Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics. Analysis: ODH Violence and Injury Prevention Section. Includes Ohio residents who died due to unintentional drug poisoning (underlying cause of death ICD-10 codes X40-X44). Natural and Semi-Synthetic Opioids (e.g., oxycodone, hydrocodone) correspond to code T40.2. Multiple drugs are usually involved in overdose deaths. Individual deaths may be reported in more than one category. Other race groups not represented due to small numbers.

Drug Involvement by Race/Ethnicity: Fentanyl, Psychostimulant, and Cocaine Trends

Figure 9. Number of Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths Involving Fentanyl, Psychostimulants, and Cocaine by Sex and Race/Ethnicity, Ohio, 2013-2018

● Black non-Hispanic Females ● Black non-Hispanic Males ● White non-Hispanic Females ● White non-Hispanic Males

Fentanyl:

- From 2017 to 2018, all sex and race/ethnicity groups experienced decreases in the number of fentanyl-related deaths with the exception of black non-Hispanic females who had a slight increase.
- Decreases ranged from 13.9% among black non-Hispanic males to 23.9% among white non-Hispanic females.

Psychostimulants:

- In 2018, white non-Hispanic males had the highest number of psychostimulant-related deaths. However, from 2017 to 2018, the number of psychostimulant-related deaths among white non-Hispanic males decreased by 5.3% in comparison to the 141% increase from 2016 to 2017.
- The remaining sex and race/ethnicity groups experienced increases in psychostimulant deaths.

Cocaine:

- From 2017 to 2018, all sex and race/ethnicity groups experienced decreases in the number of cocaine-related deaths with the exception of black non-Hispanic females who had an increase of 8.6%.
- Decreases ranged from 20.2% among black non-Hispanic males to 35.8% among white non-Hispanic males.

Figure 9a. Fentanyl

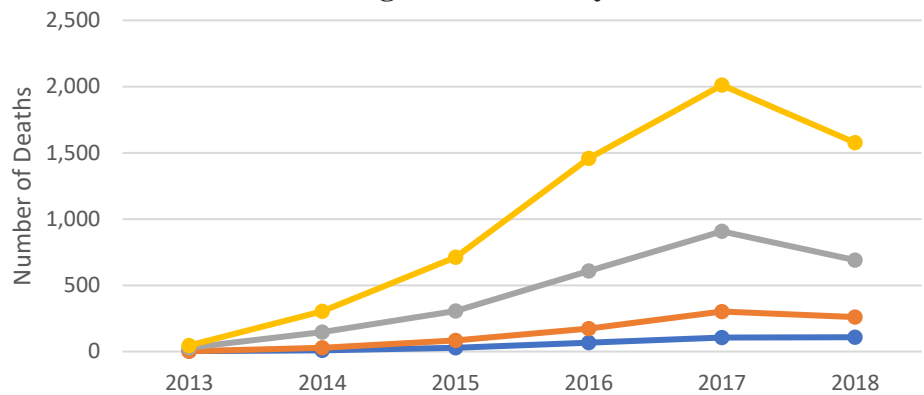


Figure 9b. Psychostimulants (e.g. methamphetamines)

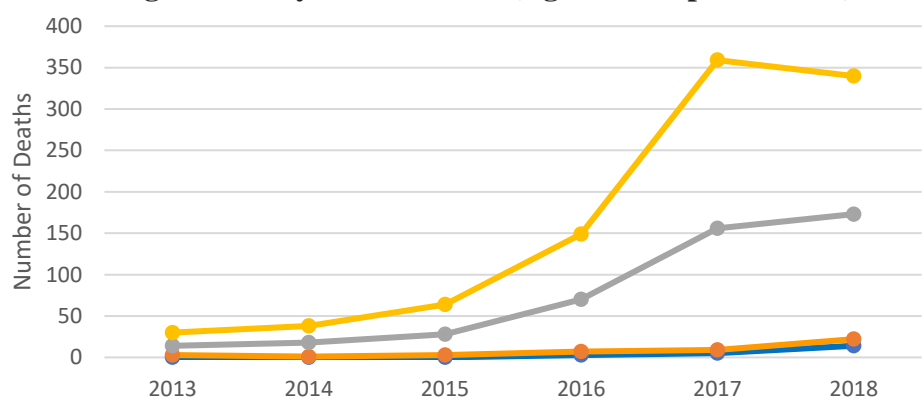
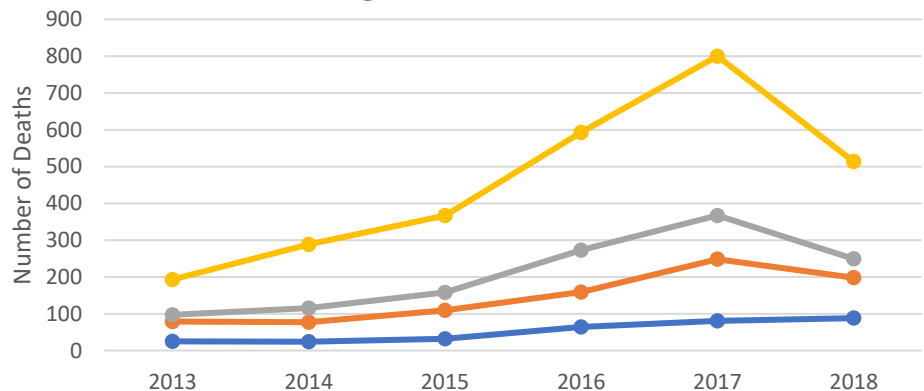


Figure 9c. Cocaine



2017-2018 Drug Involvement Summary

Table 1: Number of Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths Involving Select Drugs by Sex and Race/Ethnicity, Ohio, 2017-2018

	Fentanyl		Cocaine		Heroin		Natural and Semi-Synthetic Opioids		Psychostimulants		Benzodiazepines	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
Race/Ethnicity and Sex¹												
Black, non-Hispanic Females	106	108	81	88	14	23	31	11	5	14	10	7
Black, non-Hispanic Males	302	260	248	198	92	66	52	30	9	22	21	17
White, non-Hispanic Females	907	690	367	249	273	180	280	167	156	173	190	161
White, non-Hispanic Males	2,011	1,576	800	514	575	416	429	250	359	340	273	208
Hispanic Females	17	16	5	7	6	5	5	1	0	3	2	3
Hispanic Males	61	60	27	24	19	17	11	9	7	3	5	5
Total²	3,431	2,733	1,540	1,092	987	714	812	471	537	564	506	403

Table 2: Number of Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths Involving Select Drug Combinations by Sex and Race/Ethnicity, Ohio, 2017-2018

	Fentanyl + Cocaine		Fentanyl + Psychostimulants		Fentanyl + Natural and Semi-Synthetic Opioids		Fentanyl + Heroin	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
Race/Ethnicity and Sex¹								
Black, non-Hispanic Females	53	54	4	13	17	9	10	19
Black, non-Hispanic Males	145	130	7	12	35	22	68	57
White, non-Hispanic Females	266	189	112	108	146	74	207	137
White, non-Hispanic Males	573	405	240	234	268	146	411	333
Hispanic Females	5	3	0	3	2	0	5	5
Hispanic Males	21	18	4	2	7	7	13	14
Total²	1,072	808	368	379	477	260	720	569

Source: Ohio Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics. Analysis: ODH Violence and Injury Prevention Section. Includes Ohio residents who died due to unintentional drug poisoning (underlying cause of death ICD-10 codes X40-X44). Fentanyl includes fentanyl and fentanyl analogs (e.g. carfentanil). Natural and Semi-Synthetic Opioids (e.g. oxycodone, hydrocodone) correspond to code T40.2. Multiple drugs are usually involved in overdose deaths. Individual deaths may be reported in more than one category.

1. Other race groups not represented due to small numbers.

2. Total includes all sex/race/ethnicity categories.

Demographic Summary

Table 3: Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths by Demographics, Ohio, 2013-2018

Demographics	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018		2013-2018	
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Rate ¹	Number	Rate ¹
Age									
<15	2	0	2	4	5	4	*	17	0.1
15-24	145	215	253	345	361	247	16.2	1,566	16.8
25-34	525	656	835	1,143	1,330	1,063	68.8	5,552	61.8
35-44	483	632	792	1,022	1,283	1,054	75.8	5,266	62.9
45-54	597	601	676	886	1,051	703	47.3	4,514	48.2
55-64	292	361	417	557	700	571	35.4	2,898	30.3
65+	60	61	75	93	124	122	6.1	535	4.8
Sex									
Female	696	860	1,017	1,284	1,560	1,250	22.7	6,667	19.9
Male	1,408	1,666	2,033	2,766	3,294	2,514	45.8	13,681	41.7
Race/Ethnicity									
American Indian, non-Hispanic	1	2	4	4	16	6	*	33	18.2
Asian/Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic	1	6	4	8	14	11	3.2	44	2.4
Black, non-Hispanic	227	239	298	426	611	512	33.5	2,313	26.1
White, non-Hispanic	1,838	2,235	2,674	3,538	4,109	3,131	36.5	17,525	33.4
Hispanic	33	38	61	69	98	93	21.7	392	17.1
Race/Ethnicity and Sex²									
Black, non-Hispanic Females	58	81	81	126	162	155	19.6	663	14.3
Black, non-Hispanic Males	169	158	217	300	449	357	49.5	1,650	39.6
White, non-Hispanic Females	629	768	915	1,127	1,365	1,069	24.9	5,873	22.1
White, non-Hispanic Males	1,209	1,467	1,759	2,411	2,744	2,062	48.1	11,652	44.7
Hispanic Females	8	4	15	22	22	20	9.0	91	8.1
Hispanic Males	25	34	46	47	76	73	33.4	301	25.4
Total³	2,110	2,531	3,050	4,050	4,854	3,764	34.1	20,359	30.7

Source: Ohio Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics. Analysis: ODH Violence and Injury Prevention Section. Includes Ohio residents who died due to unintentional drug poisoning (underlying cause of death ICD-10 codes X40-X44).

1. The death rates presented for age groups are age-specific. The death rates presented for sex and race/ethnicity are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population to allow a comparison of the overall risk of dying between different populations. Rate suppressed when fewer than 10 total deaths.

2. Other race groups not represented due to small numbers.

3. Total includes all unintentional drug overdose deaths among Ohio residents.