

2018 Ohio Drug Overdose Data: Female Demographic Summary

FAST FACTS

- In 2018, females made up 33.2% of the 3,764 Ohioans who died from unintentional drug overdose. Of those 1,250 females, 62.6% were of childbearing age (ages 15-44).
- Among females, white non-Hispanics have the highest rates of unintentional drug overdose deaths, while Hispanics have the lowest rates.
- From 2013 to 2018, the overdose death rate among all black non-Hispanic females increased by 168.5%, while the rate among black non-Hispanic females of childbearing age increased 407.7%.

Female Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths in Ohio

- From 2013 to 2018, the rate of unintentional drug overdose deaths has increased by 89.2% among all females and by 131.4% among females of childbearing age (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), a set of symptoms associated with abrupt withdrawal.

Figure 1. Number of Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths Among Females, Ohio, 2013-2018

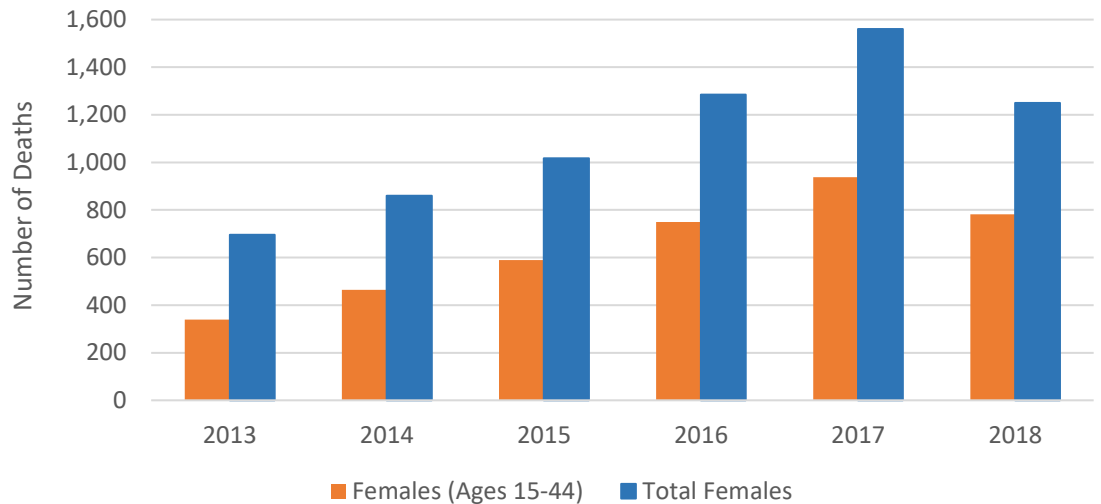
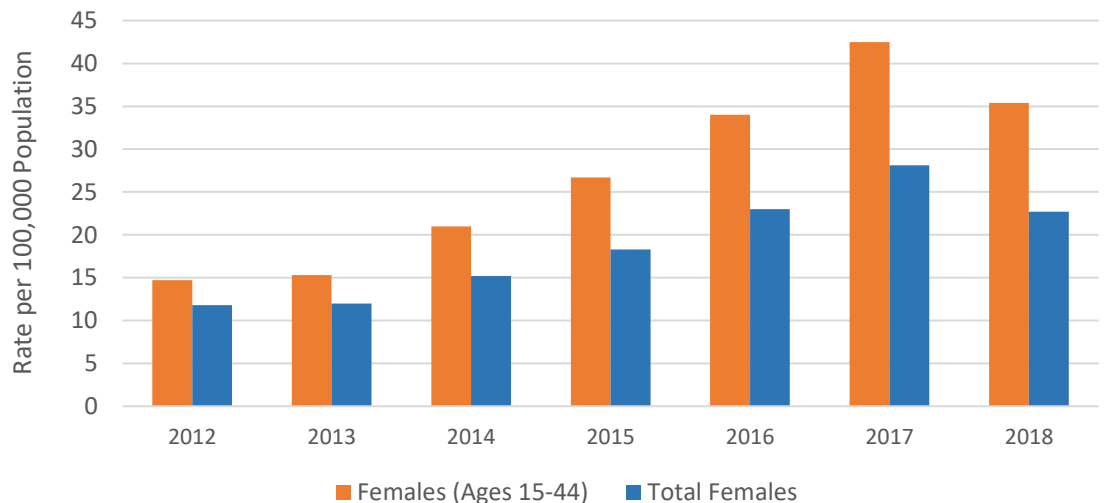


Figure 2. Rate of Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths Among Females, Ohio, 2013-2018



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). Death rates presented for females of childbearing age (ages 15-44) are age-specific; death rates presented for total females are age-adjusted to the U.S. 2000 standard population to allow a comparison of the overall risk of dying between different populations.

Demographics

- In 2018, the highest rates of fatal overdose among females were among 35-44 year olds followed by 25-34 year olds.
- Currently, 35-44 year olds have the highest rate among both white non-Hispanic females and black non-Hispanic females. The highest rates for black non-Hispanic females have previously been among older age groups (45-54 and 55-64), not those of childbearing age (ages 15-44).

Figure 3. Rate of Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths Among Females by Age, Ohio, 2013-2018

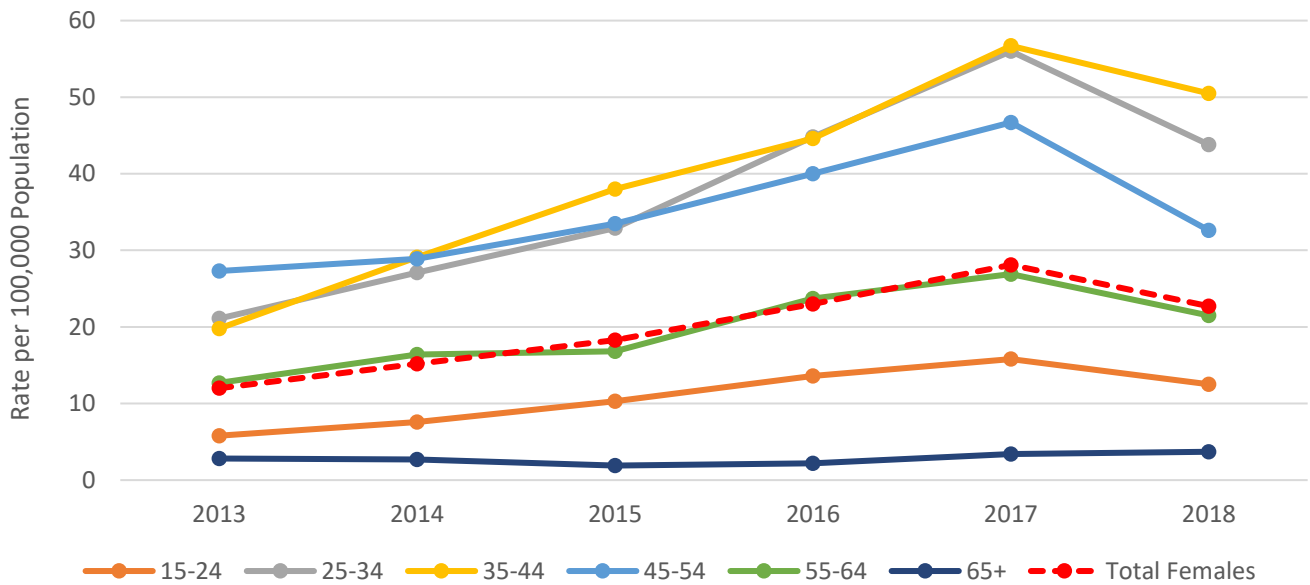
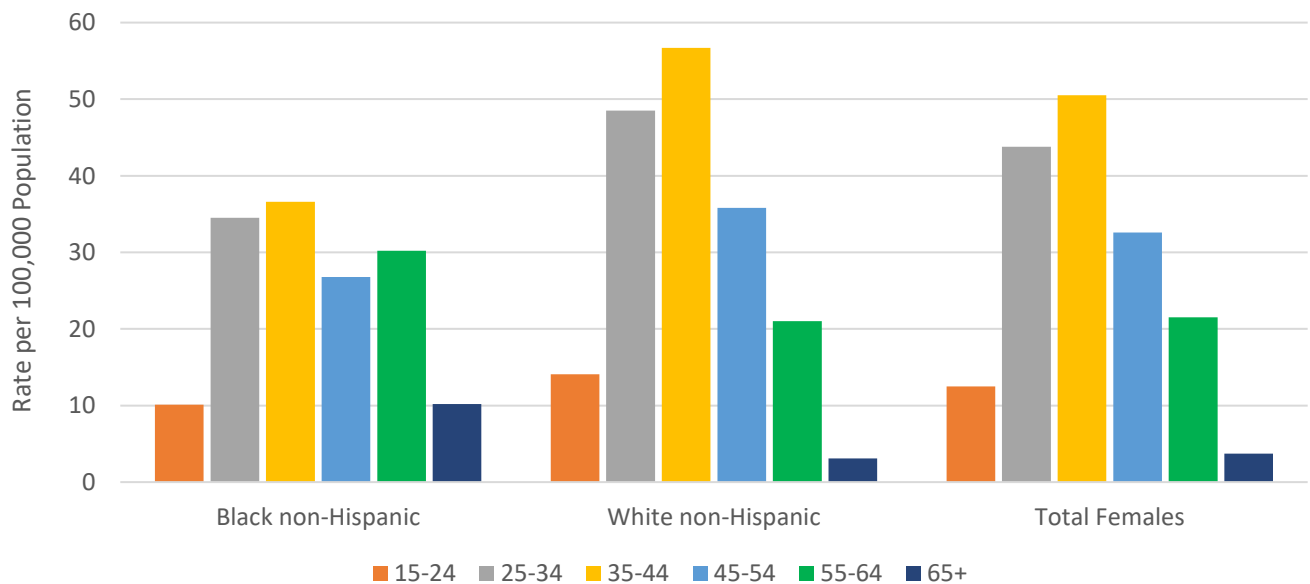


Figure 4. Rate of Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths Among Females by Age and Race/Ethnicity, Ohio, 2018



Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths Involving Specific Drugs

- Fentanyl was involved in the greatest percentage of unintentional overdose deaths among all females regardless of age, but those percentages were highest among females younger than 35.
- In deaths involving a combination of fentanyl and other drug categories, the highest percentage among all age groups involved cocaine.
- The percentage of deaths involving psychostimulants was higher among females younger than 45 compared to those 45 and older, while the percentage of deaths related to natural and semi-synthetic opioids was higher among females 45 and older compared to those under 45.

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

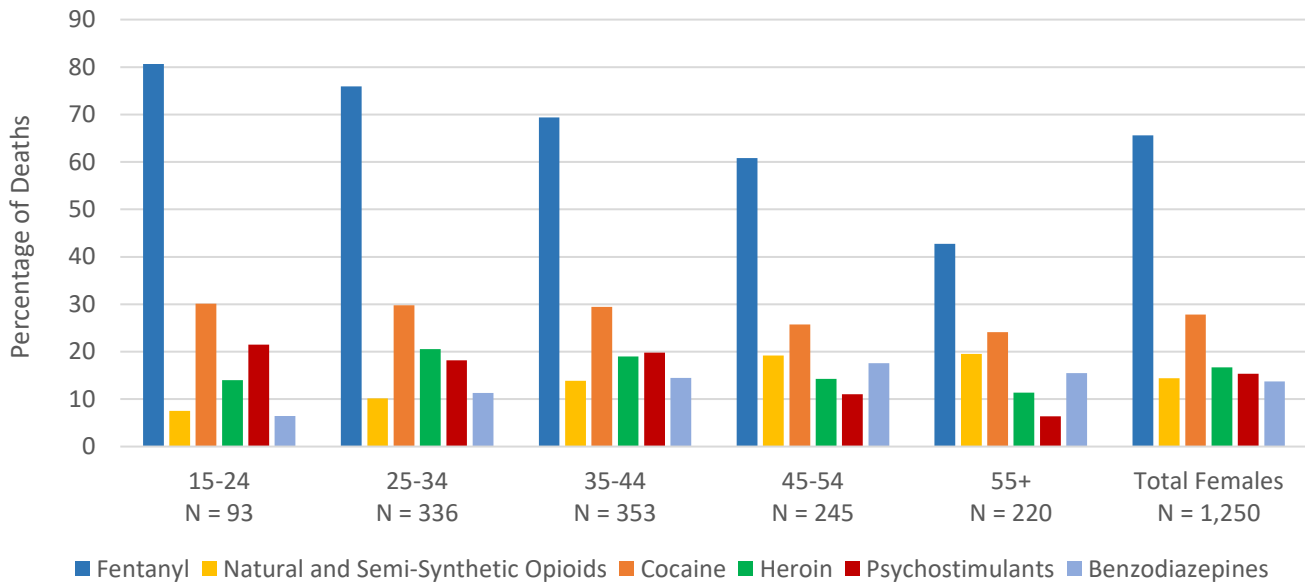
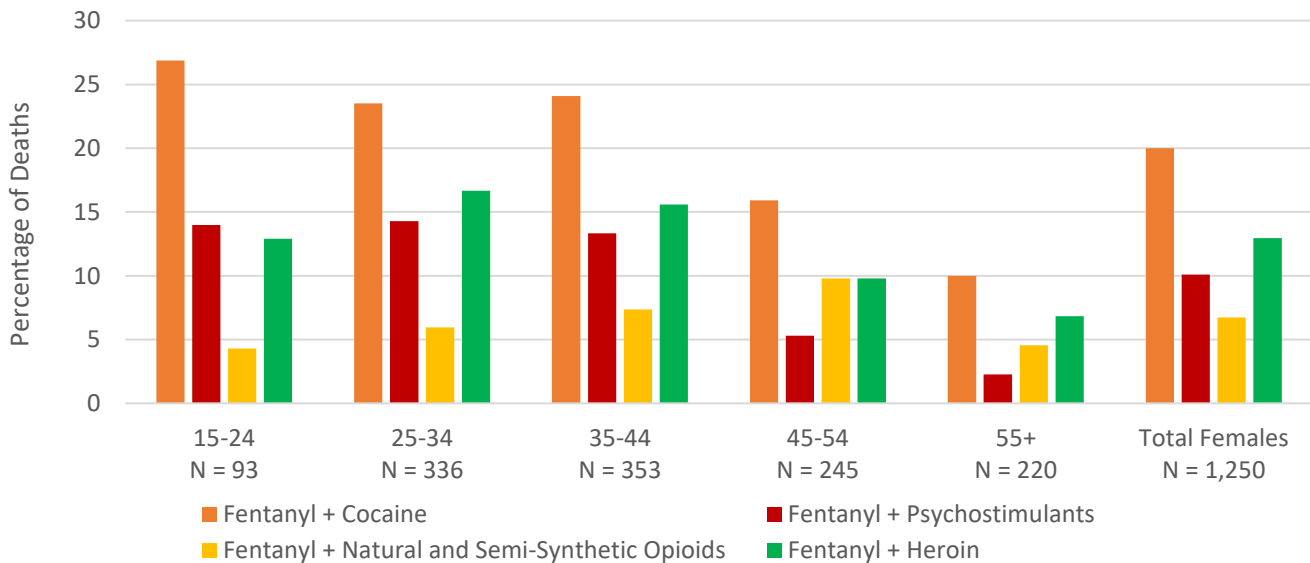


Figure 6. Percentage of Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths Among Females Involving Select Drug Combinations by Age, Ohio, 2018



Drug Involvement by Race/Ethnicity and Age

- Fentanyl was involved in 65.6% of female deaths in 2018. From 2017 to 2018, deaths involving fentanyl decreased by 23.9% among white non-Hispanic females; however deaths among black non-Hispanic females increased slightly.
- From 2017 to 2018:
 - Deaths related to psychostimulants increased 19.3%, while deaths related to all other drug categories decreased.
 - Deaths involving natural and semi-synthetic opioids (e.g. oxycodone, hydrocodone) had the largest decrease during this time period (43.4%).
 - Among white non-Hispanic females, deaths related to fentanyl, cocaine, and heroin decreased, while black non-Hispanic females continued to see increases in deaths related to these substances.

Table 1. Number of Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths Among Females Involving Select Drugs, 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												
Black, non-Hispanic	106	108	81	88	14	23	31	11	5	14	10	7
White, non-Hispanic	907	690	367	249	273	180	280	167	156	173	190	161
Hispanic	17	16	5	7	6	5	5	1	0	3	2	3
Age												
<15	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
15-24	93	75	39	28	20	13	13	7	19	20	7	6
25-34	342	255	147	100	91	69	62	34	53	61	39	38
35-44	264	245	114	104	89	67	81	49	51	70	53	51
45-54	196	149	97	63	54	35	94	47	26	27	61	43
55-64	131	84	60	48	37	22	53	38	12	14	36	27
65+	11	10	1	5	4	3	14	5	0	0	6	7
Total	1,039	820	458	348	295	209	318	180	161	192	202	172

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. Other race groups that are not represented due to small numbers are included in Total.

Females of Childbearing Age (15-44): Demographics

- In 2018, 35-39 year olds had the highest rate of unintentional overdose deaths among females of childbearing age followed by 30-34 and 40-44 year olds.
- White non-Hispanic females of childbearing age have the highest rate of unintentional overdose deaths among females.
- From 2017 to 2018, the overdose death rate among black non-Hispanic females of all ages decreased by 6.2%, while the rate for black non-Hispanic females of childbearing age increased by 6.0%.

Figure 7. Rate of Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths Among Females of Childbearing Age (15-44) by Age, Ohio, 2013-2018

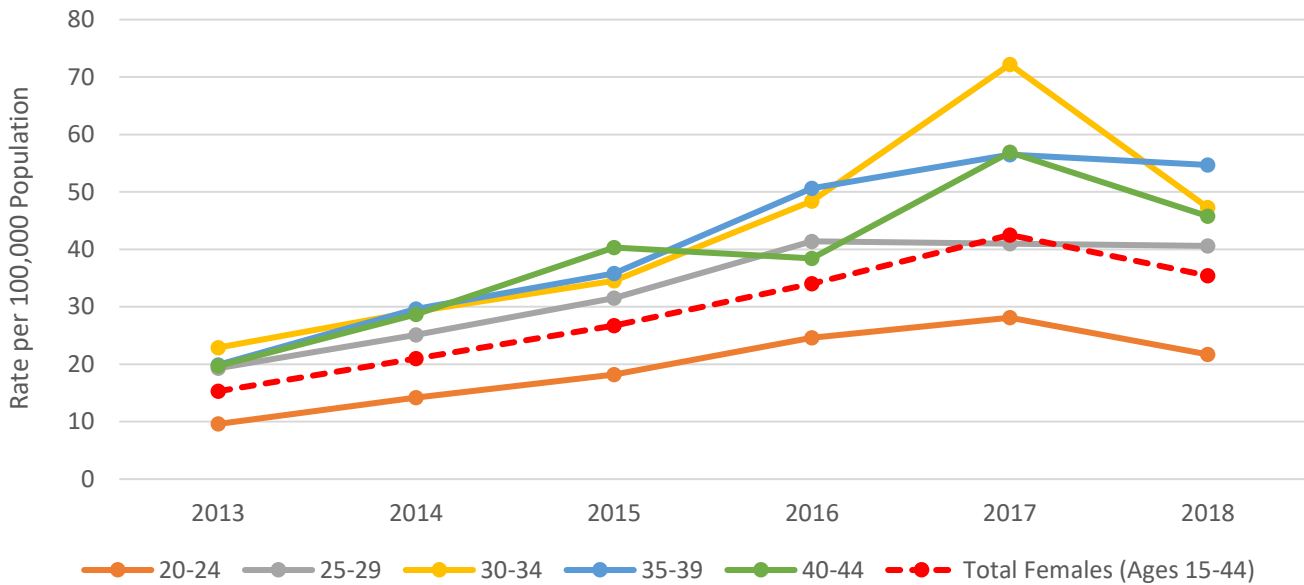
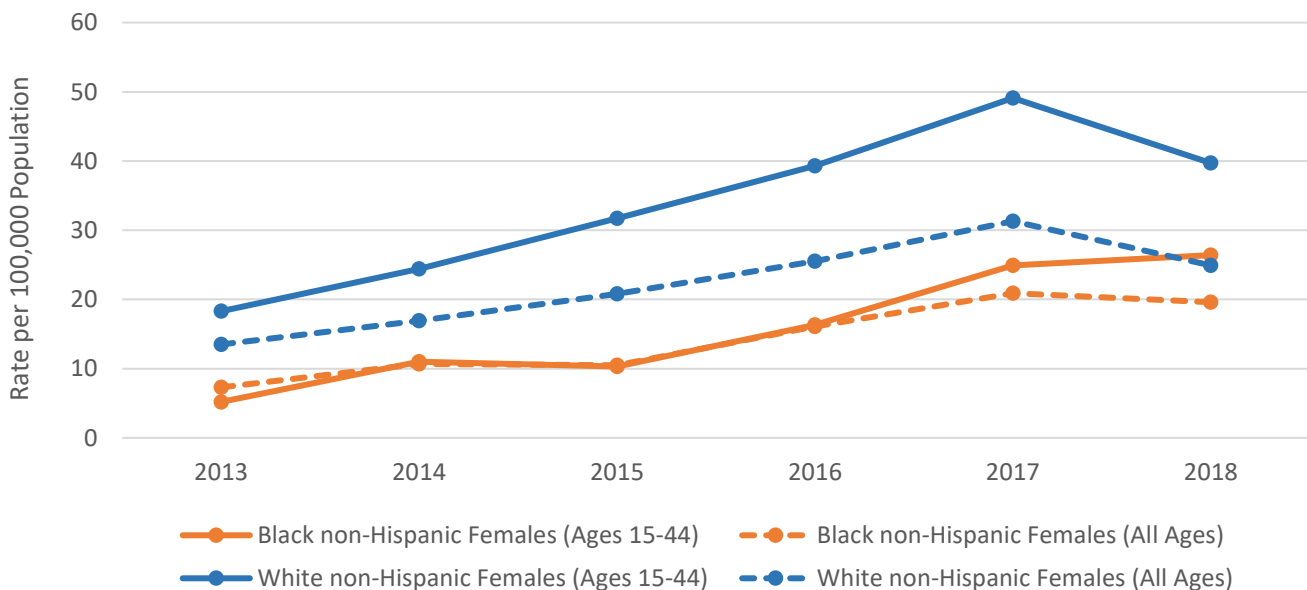


Figure 8. Rate of Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths Among Females by Race/Ethnicity, Ohio, 2013-2018



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). Other race and ethnicity groups not represented due to small numbers. Death rates presented for females of childbearing age (ages 15-44) are age-specific; death rates presented for total females are age-adjusted to the U.S. 2000 standard population to allow a comparison of the overall risk of dying between different populations.

Females of Childbearing Age (15-44): Drug Involvement

- Fentanyl was involved in the greatest percentage of unintentional overdose deaths among females of childbearing age in 2018, but those percentages were highest among females between the ages of 20 and 34.
- From 2017 to 2018:
 - Deaths related to psychostimulants increased 22.8%, while deaths related to all other drug categories decreased.
 - Deaths involving natural and semi-synthetic opioids (e.g. oxycodone, hydrocodone) had the largest decrease during this time period (42.3%).
 - Among white non-Hispanic females, deaths related to fentanyl, cocaine, and heroin decreased, while black non-Hispanic females continued to see increases in deaths related to these substances.

Figure 9. Percentage of Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths Among Females of Childbearing Age (15-44) Involving Select Drugs by Age, Ohio, 2018

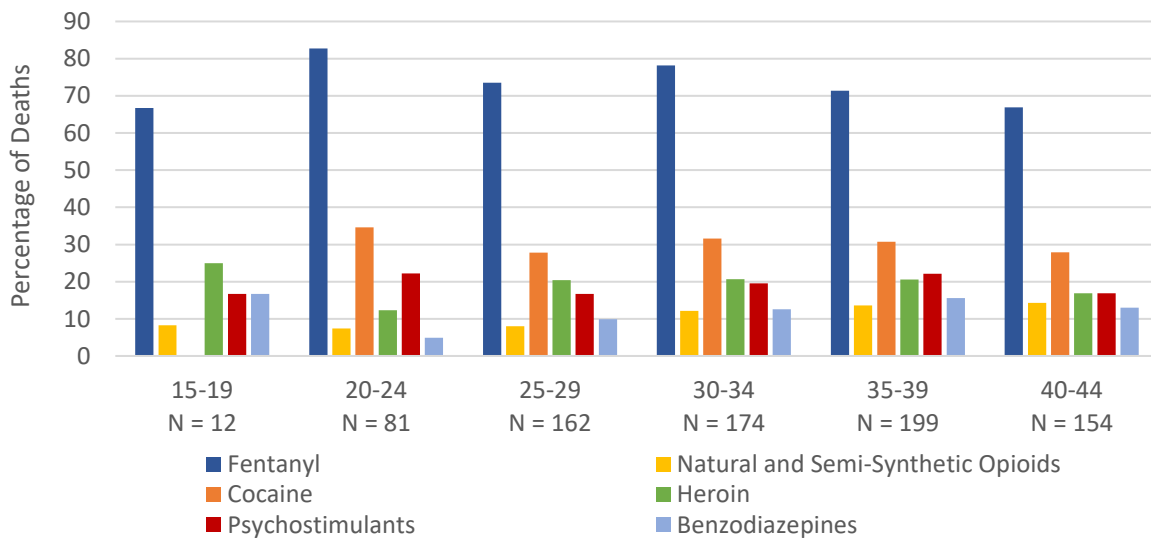


Table 2. Number of Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths Among Females of Childbearing Age (15-44) Involving Select Drug, Ohio, 2017-2018

	Fentanyl		Cocaine		Heroin		Natural and Semi-Synthetic Opioids		Psychostimulants		Benzodiazepines	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
Race/Ethnicity												
Black, non-Hispanic	64	73	44	50	6	16	14	5	2	13	4	3
White, non-Hispanic	614	481	247	173	189	127	138	83	121	133	94	88
Hispanic	14	16	5	6	3	5	2	1	0	3	1	3
Age												
15-19	6	8	3	0	4	3	1	1	0	2	1	2
20-24	87	67	36	28	16	10	12	6	19	18	6	4
25-29	134	119	56	45	34	33	26	13	20	27	22	16
30-34	208	136	91	55	57	36	36	21	33	34	17	22
35-39	145	142	59	61	44	41	41	27	25	44	26	31
40-44	119	103	55	43	45	26	40	22	26	26	27	20
Total	699	575	300	232	200	149	156	90	123	151	99	95

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. Other race groups that are not represented due to small numbers are included in Total.

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

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018		2013-2018	
	Count	Count	Count	Count	Count	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Drugs									
All Opioids	476	655	842	1,089	1,329	1,006	80.5	5,397	81.0
Fentanyl	33	157	341	693	1,039	820	65.6	3,083	46.2
Cocaine	125	141	193	343	458	348	27.8	1,608	24.1
Heroin	229	324	399	412	295	209	16.7	1,868	28.0
Psychostimulants	15	18	28	75	161	192	15.4	489	7.3
Natural and Semi-Synthetic Opioids	193	235	257	265	318	180	14.4	1,448	21.7
Benzodiazepines	123	163	214	214	202	172	13.8	1,088	16.3
Methadone	42	47	56	46	46	33	2.6	270	4.0
Hallucinogens	11	15	16	30	34	20	1.6	126	1.9
Drug Combinations									
Fentanyl + Cocaine	3	35	78	201	328	250	20.0	895	13.4
Fentanyl + Psychostimulants	0	6	11	34	116	126	10.1	293	4.4
Fentanyl + Natural and Semi-Synthetic Opioids	3	31	59	108	165	84	6.7	450	6.7
Fentanyl + Heroin	6	48	140	221	223	162	13.0	800	12.0
Total	696	860	1,017	1,284	1,560	1,250		6,667	

Table 4: Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths Among Females by Demographics, Ohio, 2013-2018

Demographics	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018		2013-2018	
	Count	Count	Count	Count	Count	Count	Rate ¹	Count	Rate ¹
Age									
<15	1	0	2	2	2	3	*	10	0.2
15-24	45	59	79	103	119	93	12.5	498	10.9
25-34	153	199	244	336	425	336	43.8	1693	37.8
35-44	141	206	267	310	394	353	50.5	1671	39.7
45-54	226	235	267	314	359	245	32.6	1646	34.7
55-64	102	133	138	196	224	179	21.5	972	19.7
65+	28	28	20	23	37	41	3.7	177	2.8
Race/Ethnicity									
American Indian, non-Hispanic	0	0	2	2	5	0	*	9	*
Asian/Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic	0	3	0	3	4	3	*	13	1.5
Black, non-Hispanic	58	81	81	126	162	155	19.6	663	14.3
White, non-Hispanic	629	768	915	1,127	1,365	1,069	24.9	5,873	22.1
Hispanic	8	4	15	22	22	20	9.0	91	8.1
Total	696	860	1,017	1,284	1,560	1,250	22.7	6,667	19.9

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). All Opioids includes prescription opioids, fentanyl, and heroin. Fentanyl includes fentanyl and fentanyl analogs (e.g. carfentanyl). Natural and Semi-Synthetic Opioids (e.g. oxycodone, hydrocodone) correspond to code T40.2. Multiple drugs are usually involved in overdose deaths. Other race groups that are not represented due to small numbers are included in Total.

1. Death rates presented for age groups are age-specific; death rates presented for sex and race/ethnicity are age-adjusted to the U.S. 2000 standard population to allow a comparison of the overall risk of dying between different populations.