

IOWA OVERDOSE DATA TO ACTION GRANT

UNINTENTIONAL AND UNDETERMINED OVERDOSE DEATHS, 2021

Introduction

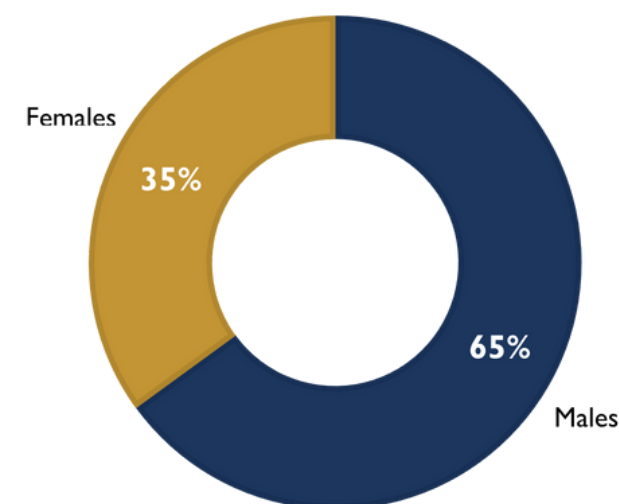
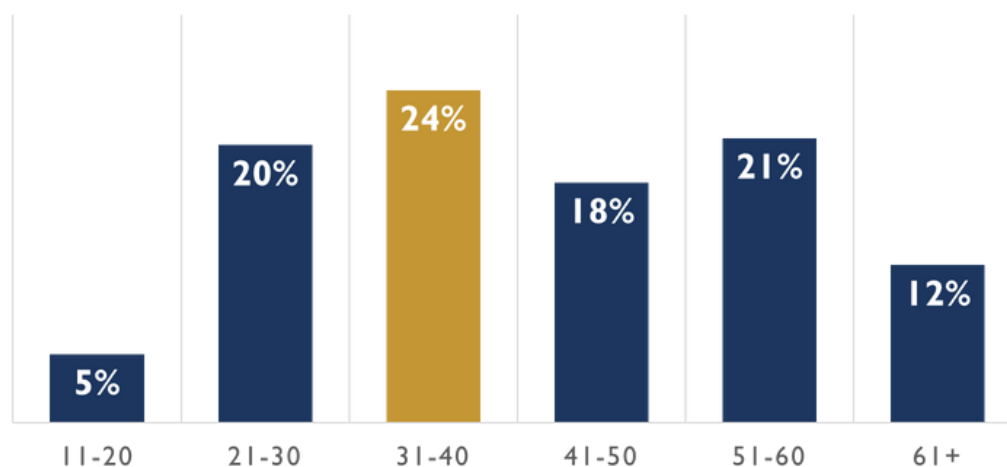
The Iowa State Unintentional Drug Overdose Reporting System (IASUDORS) is a statewide surveillance system that collects information on overdose deaths occurring in Iowa. Overdoses that are unintentional or have an undetermined intent are included in the system. IASUDORS is a unique multi-source data system combining information from death certificates, toxicology reports, and medical examiner reports. IASUDORS cases include overdoses involving street drugs such as heroin, cocaine, and hallucinogens and overdoses that involved prescription drugs, over-the-counter drugs, veterinary drugs, dietary supplements and non-medicinal substances used primarily for the feeling that they cause. Cases that **only** involve alcohol, tobacco, or inhalants (such as organic solvents) are excluded. The Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH), soon to be the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) through collaboration with the University of Iowa Injury Prevention Research Center began collecting data for IASUDORS in 2020 through support from the Overdose Data to Action Grant #CDC-RFA-CE19-190402 funded by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Why are Medical Examiner and Toxicology Reports important for IASUDORS?

IASUDORS provides comprehensive information that can be used to inform prevention efforts in Iowa. To better understand circumstances that surround overdose deaths, data completeness and timeliness is essential to ensure accuracy for overdose data. With the data submitted from death certificates, toxicology reports, and medical examiner reports there are also opportunities to identify specific substances contributing to death as well as polysubstance overdose trends.

Mortality Profile

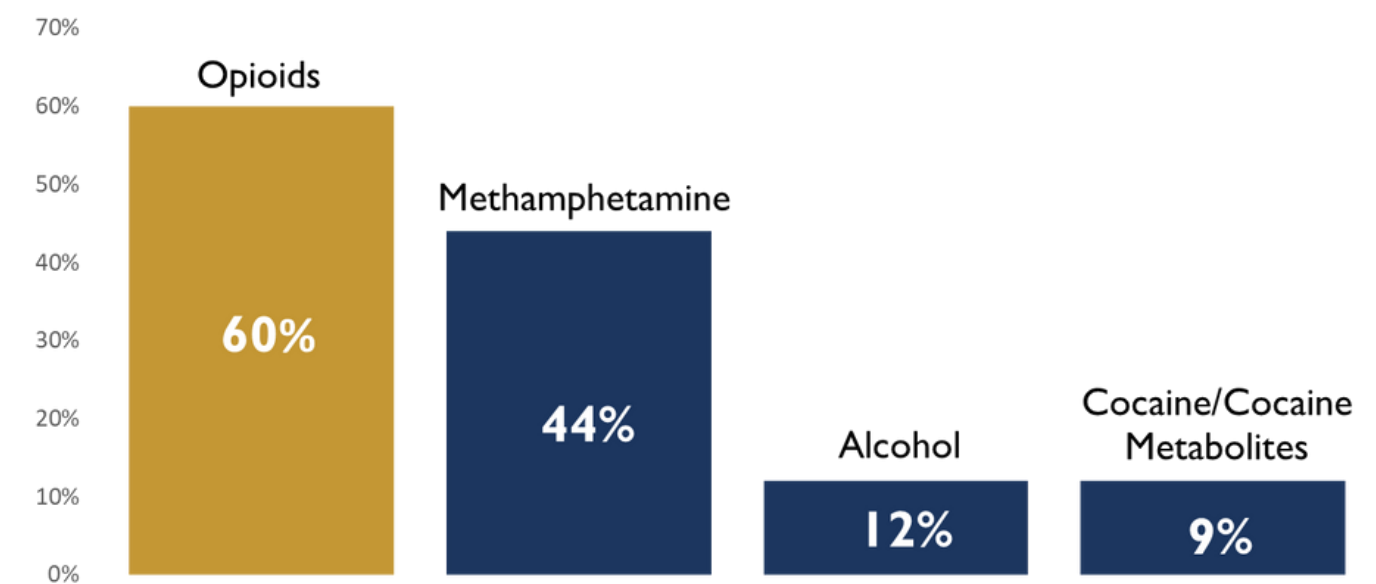
In 2021, there were a total of 398 overdose deaths in Iowa included in IASUDORS. Three hundred eighty-three (383) overdoses were unintentional (accidental). Intent could not be determined for the 15 remaining overdose deaths. Ninety-five percent (95%) were Iowa residents. Males accounted for 65% of unintentional and undetermined overdose deaths and 24% of the decedents were between the ages of 31-40. Eighty-five percent (85%) of decedents were White and 13% of decedents were African Americans.



Substance Involvement

In Iowa during 2021, opioids (combined prescription and illicit) were present in 60% of all unintentional and undetermined overdose deaths. Many substances are screened for and more than one may be reported, therefore the following will add up to greater than 100%.

60% of Decedents had Opioids Listed as a Cause of Unintentional and Undetermined Overdose Death



Resources

More information on unintentional and undetermined overdose prevention efforts and resources can be found at <https://yourlifeiowa.org/> or by contacting Your Life Iowa by phone at 1-855-581-8111 and/or text at 1-855 895-8398.

For more information on SUDORS please visit the [CDC SUDORS Dashboard](#).

STATE OF IOWA DEPARTMENT OF
Health AND Human
SERVICES



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