

In This Section

*Non-Ranked Measure

Drug overdose deaths*

Drug Overdose Deaths are the number of deaths due to drug poisoning per 100,000 population. ICD-10 codes used include X40-X44, X60-X64, X85, and Y10-Y14. These codes cover accidental, intentional, and undetermined poisoning by and exposure to: 1) nonopioid analgesics, antipyretics and antirheumatics, 2) antiepileptic, sedative-hypnotic, antiparkinsonism and psychotropic drugs, not elsewhere classified, 3) narcotics and psychodysleptics [hallucinogens], not elsewhere classified, 4) other drugs acting on the autonomic nervous system, and 5) other and unspecified drugs, medicaments and biological substances.

Reason for Inclusion as Additional Measure
Drug overdose deaths are a leading contributor to premature death and are largely preventable. Currently, the United States is experiencing an epidemic of drug overdose deaths. Since 2000, the rate of drug overdose deaths has increased by 137 percent nationwide. Opioids contribute largely to drug overdose deaths; since 2000, there has been a 200 percent increase in deaths involving opioids (opioid pain relievers and heroin).[1]

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