

People's Health

Outcomes • Planning • Evaluation



Know the Facts: Drug Overdose Deaths

DID YOU KNOW?

- During 2010, 40,393 drug-induced deaths occurred in the United States. Mortality was highest among people aged 40–49 years.
- Drug overdose was the leading cause of injury death in 2010. Among people 25 to 64 years old, drug overdose caused more deaths than motor vehicle crashes.
- In 2011, drug misuse and abuse caused about 2.5 million emergency department (ED) visits. Of these, more than 1.4 million ED visits were related to pharmaceuticals.
- From 1999 to 2007, the number of U.S. poisoning deaths involving any opioid analgesic (e.g., oxycodone, methadone, or hydrocodone) more than tripled, from 4,041 to 14,459.

WHERE WE WERE (BASELINE):

In Shasta County, there were 7.8 drug overdose deaths per 100,000 population in 1999-01 (3-year average annual age-adjusted rate).

WHERE WE ARE:

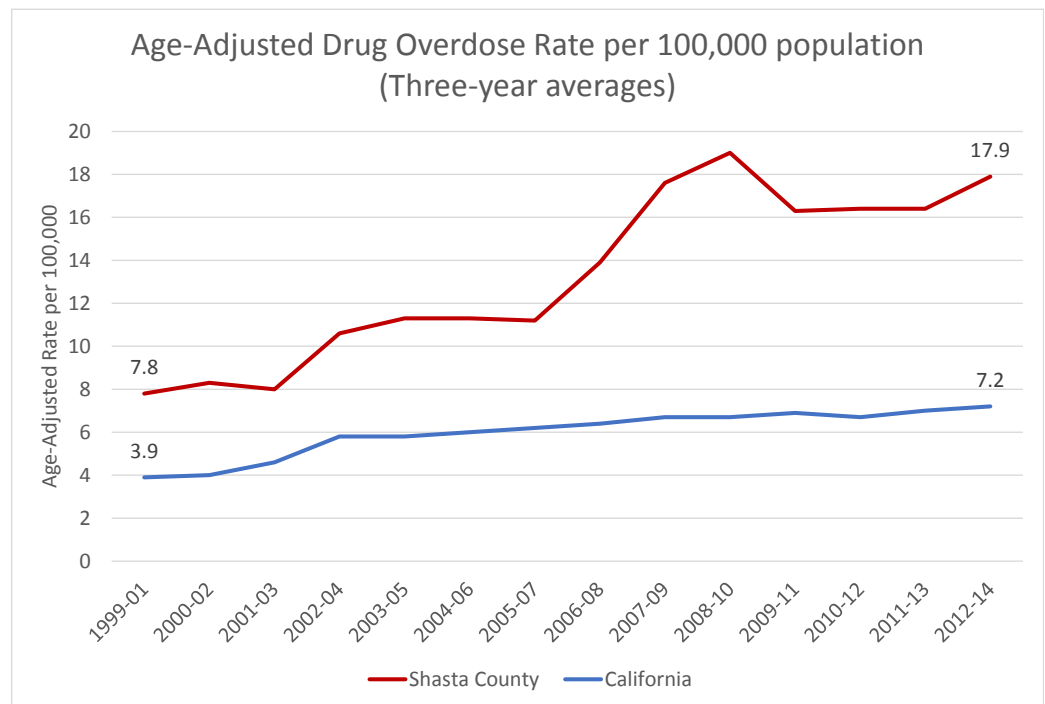
In Shasta County, there were 17.9 drug overdose deaths per 100,000 population in 2012-14 (3-year average annual age-adjusted rate).

WHERE WE ARE AIMING (HEALTHY PEOPLE 2020 GOAL):

Not established.

DEFINITION:

Number and rate of drug overdose deaths (age-adjusted deaths per 100,000 population) for Shasta County residents. (ICD-10 codes F11.0, F12.0, F13.0, F14.0, F15.0, F16.0, F19.0, P04.4, P96.1, X40-X44, X60-X64, X85, Y10-Y14, T40, T42.3, T42.4, T42.6, T43.3, T43.6). Includes only drugs with the potential to cause substance use disorders or abuse and dependence.



Contributing Staff: Ali Abadi and Stephanie Taylor. Last updated April 2016

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KEY POINTS:

- Shasta County's three-year average age-adjusted drug-related death rate for 2011-2013 was significantly higher than that of California.
- Drug-induced death rates in Shasta County have increased by 74.4% from 1999 to 2013. At the same time, rates in California increased by 34.9%.
- In 2012, California was one of the 11 states with age-adjusted drug related death rates (10.8 per 100,000) lower than the national level (13.1 per 100,000). From 1999 through 2012, the age-adjusted drug-poisoning death rate nationwide more than doubled, from 6.1 per 100,000 population in 1999 to 13.1 in 2012.

PRIMARY PREVENTION ACTIVITIES:

- Encourage youth, adults and community leaders to organize ways to reduce the sale and use of illicit drugs in their communities.
- Provide earlier and more school-based education about how to resist peer pressure to use drugs illegally within proven comprehensive life skills curriculum.
- Develop neighborhood surveillance and drug control programs.
- Strengthen neighborhood connections and provide healthy activities for youth and families.
- Educate healthcare providers and patients and provide proper disposal methods, like drug take-back programs to remove unused medications from the home.
- Expand prescriber use of state-based prescription drug monitoring programs (called CURES in California).

From the Desk of Andrew Deckert, MD, MPH

*Shasta County
Public Health Officer*



Shasta County has one of the highest rates of drug related deaths in California. Prescription drug abuse has also been on the rise and contributes, along with alcohol and illegal drugs, to high death rates.

Shasta County Public Health recently collaborated with community partners to install kiosks where people can drop off their unwanted, unused or expired medications, day or night. This is a very positive step toward keeping these drugs out of the hands of people who might misuse them.

To your health!