

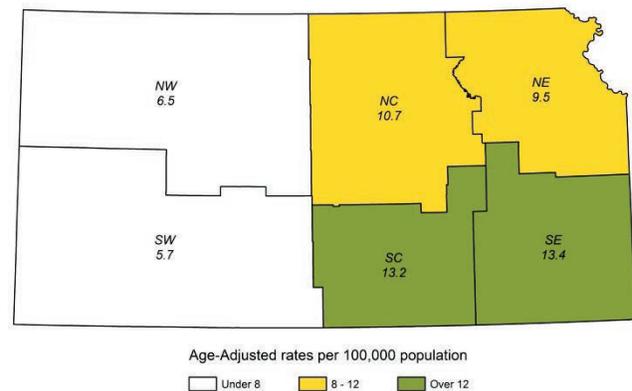
Poisoning deaths due to drugs in Kansas, 2009-2013

Nationwide, deaths from drug overdose have been rising steadily for the past two decades and have become the leading cause of injury death in the United States. In 2012, there were 41,502 drug overdose deaths in the United States, and in 2011 drug overdoses were involved in about 2.5 million emergency department visits. Opioid analgesics, one of the most commonly abused groups of drugs, cost the country about \$55.7 billion in 2007 [1]. Kansas' experience parallels that of the nation: hospitalizations for drug poisonings increased by almost threefold from 1999 to 2009, and resident deaths due to opioid analgesics rose almost threefold from 1999 to 2010 [2].

Kansas Highlights

- There were 1,475 Kansas resident deaths from acute poisoning due to drugs in the 2009-2013 period.
- The age-adjusted death rate due to acute drug poisoning for Kansas residents for the 2009-2013 period was 10.6 deaths per 100,000 population, which is lower than the Healthy People 2020 target of 11.3 deaths per 100,000 population [3].
- Southeast Kansas had the highest age-adjusted death rate from acute drug poisoning (13.4 deaths per 100,000 population) in the 2009-2013 period, while Southwest Kansas had the lowest age-adjusted rate (5.7 deaths per 100,000 population). The difference between the two regions was statistically significant, but the rate differences among the other regions were not.
- Men are more likely to die by acute drug poisoning than women. In the 2009-2013 period there were 805 Kansas resident male deaths due to acute drug poisoning, compared to 670 female deaths. The age-adjusted acute drug poisoning rates were 11.6 deaths per 100,000 for Kansas resident males and 9.6 deaths per 100,000 Kansas resident females.
- White non-Hispanics had more acute drug poisoning deaths (1,286) than any other Kansas population group in the 2009-2013 period, as well as the highest age-adjusted death rate due to acute drug poisoning (11.7 deaths per 100,000 group population).

Drug Poisoning Death Rates for KDHE Service Districts
Kansas Residents, 2013



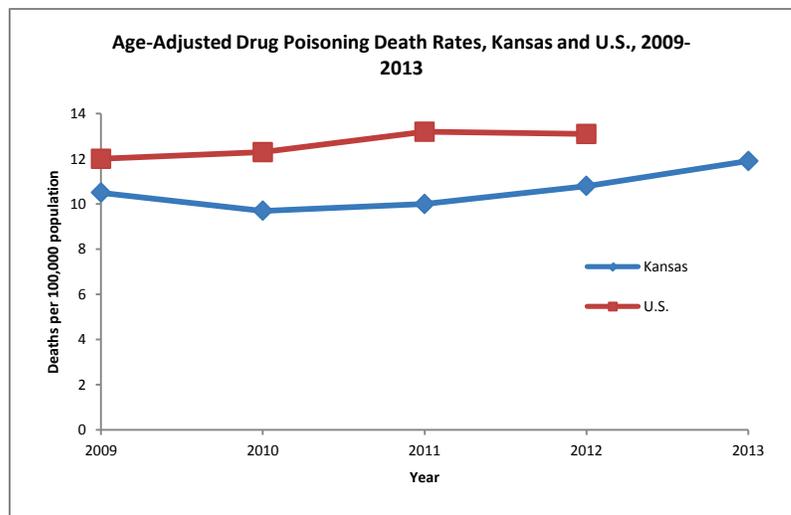
More Kansas Health Statistics and Publications

- For a list of all publications issued by KDHE go to http://www.kdheks.gov/data_reports_stats.htm.
 - Visit Kansas Information for Communities (KIC) the department's online data query tool at <http://kic.kdhe.state.ks.us/kic/index.html>.
- Community Health Needs Assessment information at <http://www.kansashealthmatters.org/>.

- Age-group 45-54 had more acute drug poisoning deaths than any other age-group (463) in the 2009-2013 period, as well as the highest age-specific suicide rate (23.5 deaths per 100,000 group population).
- A majority (1,028 deaths or 69.7%) of acute drug poisoning deaths were due to multiple drugs (both specified and unspecified) or at least one drug plus alcohol. The most common specified drug category was opioid analgesics, a group that includes morphine, methadone, oxycodone, hydrocodone, (606 deaths or 41.1%), followed by psychostimulants, including methamphetamine (110 deaths or 7.5%). Totals do not add to 100 percent because any drug death could have more than one drug as a contributing cause.

State and National Comparisons

The Kansas drug poisoning mortality rate has been lower than the national rate since 2009 [4]. In 2012 (the latest year for which national data has been published), the Kansas drug poisoning rate (10.8 drug poisoning deaths per 100,000 population) was 17.6% lower than the national rate (13.1 drug poisoning deaths per 100,000 population). (National results for 2013 have not yet been released.)



Want to know more about drug poisoning?

For information about drug enforcement in Kansas, visit the webpage of the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, <http://www.accesskansas.org/kbi/de/index.shtml>.

For information about drug abuse prevention services in Kansas, visit the webpage of Behavioral Health Services (part of the Kansas Department of Aging and Disabilities), <http://www.kansasbehavioralhealthservices.org/bhs1.0/>.

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Acknowledgements: Laurel Stanley

Related References:

[1] Prescription Drug Overdose in the United States: Fact Sheet. [Internet] Center for Disease Control. [cited 2014 Dec 10] Available from : <http://www.cdc.gov/homeandrecreationalafety/overdose/facts.html>.

[2] Oakley D, Liscek B, Crevoiserat, J. Kansas Trends in Poisoning Morbidity and Mortality. Kansas Health Statistics Review, No. 52 – February 2012.

[3] Healthy People 2020 Topics and Objectives. [Internet] U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. [cited 2014 Dec 5] Available from : <http://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/>.

[4] U.S. drug poisoning rates produced using the query tool Fatal Injury Reports, National and Regional, 1999-2012, at <http://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/mortrate10.html>.