

2021 : Drug Poisoning Deaths in Ireland

HRB StatLink Series 20

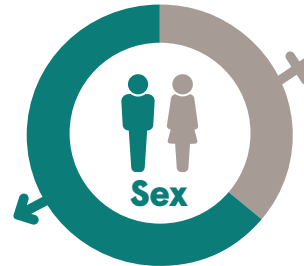
Number of deaths

354
deaths

Sex & age

64%
male

41 yrs
median age



36%
female

47 yrs
median age

Drugs implicated

Most common drug groups



Opioids



Benzodiazepines



Antidepressants



Cocaine



Top 6

Methadone **129**

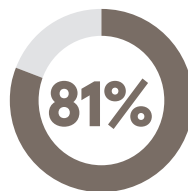
Diazepam **112**

Alprazolam **107**

Cocaine **107**

Alcohol **91**

Pregabalin **83**



81% were polysubstance poisonings



88% had prescribable drugs implicated

Location

43% in Dublin

12% in Cork

45% rest of Ireland

Mental health

At least **48%** had a mental health issue



Ever injected



At least **18%** (62 people) ever injected

Injecting at time of death

7%
23 people

91% were polysubstance poisonings

71% were alone

Alone at time of death in 2021

41%

(145 people) were alone at time of death

Median age

45+

42%
of males

Median age

42+

39%
of females

Median age

48+

Of those who were alone

Most common drug groups

Benzodiazepines



Opioids



Antidepressants



83% were polysubstance poisonings

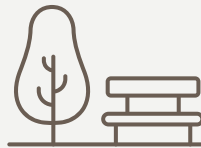
21% ever injected



11% injecting at time of death



62% were private dwelling

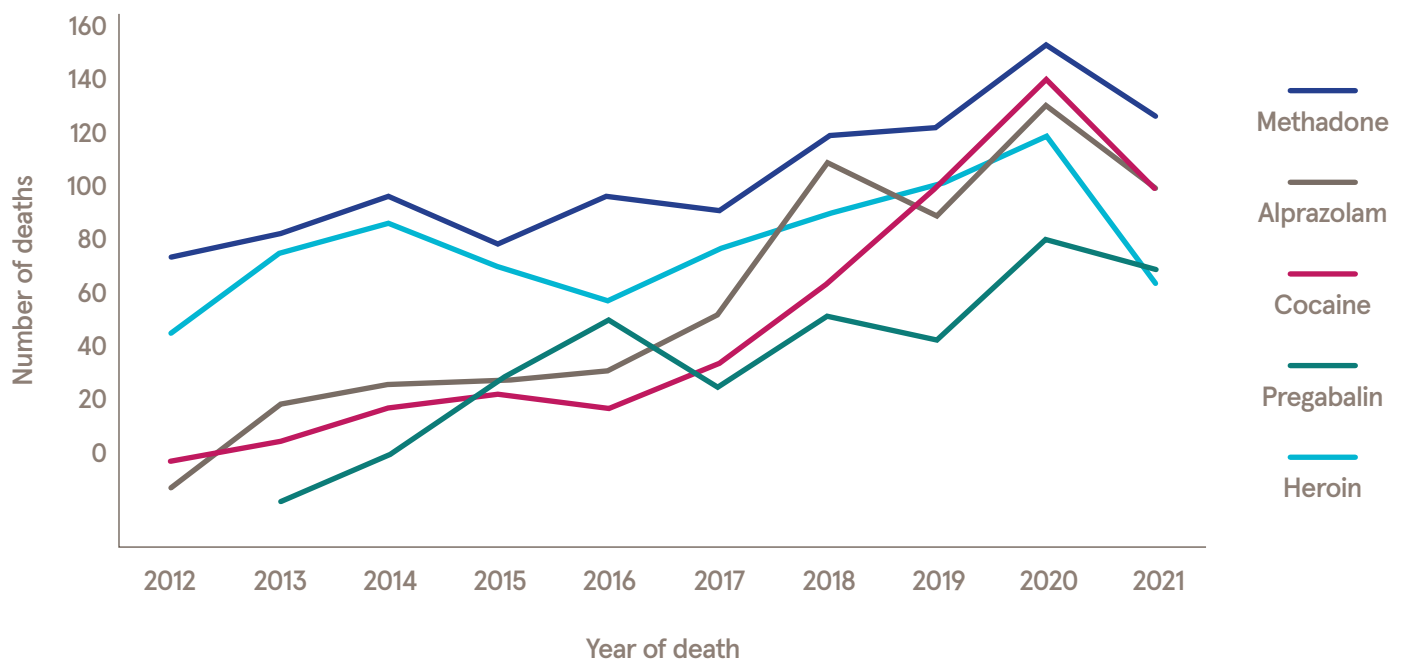


14% were public place



25% were homeless

Key trends in poisoning drugs 2012 to 2021



NEED ADVICE

If you have any concerns regarding drugs please visit: www.drugs.ie or call 1800 459 459