

# 2022

# Drug Poisoning Deaths in Ireland

HRB StatLink Series 28

## Number of deaths

**343**  
deaths

## Sex & age

**68%**  
male

**45 yrs**  
median age



**32%**  
female

**46 yrs**  
median age

## Drugs implicated

### Most common drug groups



Opioids



Benzodiazepines



Cocaine



Antidepressants



### Top 7 drugs

Methadone **123**

Cocaine **115**

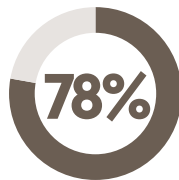
Diazepam **100**

Alprazolam **96**

Heroin **78**

Alcohol **65**

Pregabalin **63**



78% were polysubstance poisonings



81% had prescribable drugs implicated

## Location

**43%** in Dublin

**12%** in Cork

**45%** rest of Ireland

## Mental health

At least **44%** had a mental health issue



## Ever injected



At least **23%** (80 people) ever injected

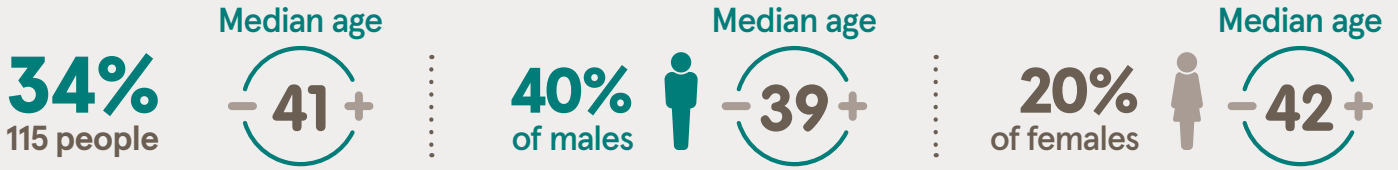
## Injecting at time of death

**9%**  
32 people

**91%**  
were polysubstance poisonings

**50%**  
were alone

## Cocaine poisoning deaths 2022



## Of cocaine poisoning deaths

Most common additional drug groups



Opioids



Benzodiazepines



Antidepressants

**79%** were polysubstance poisonings

**29%** ever injected



**18%** injecting at time of death

**50%** ever treated

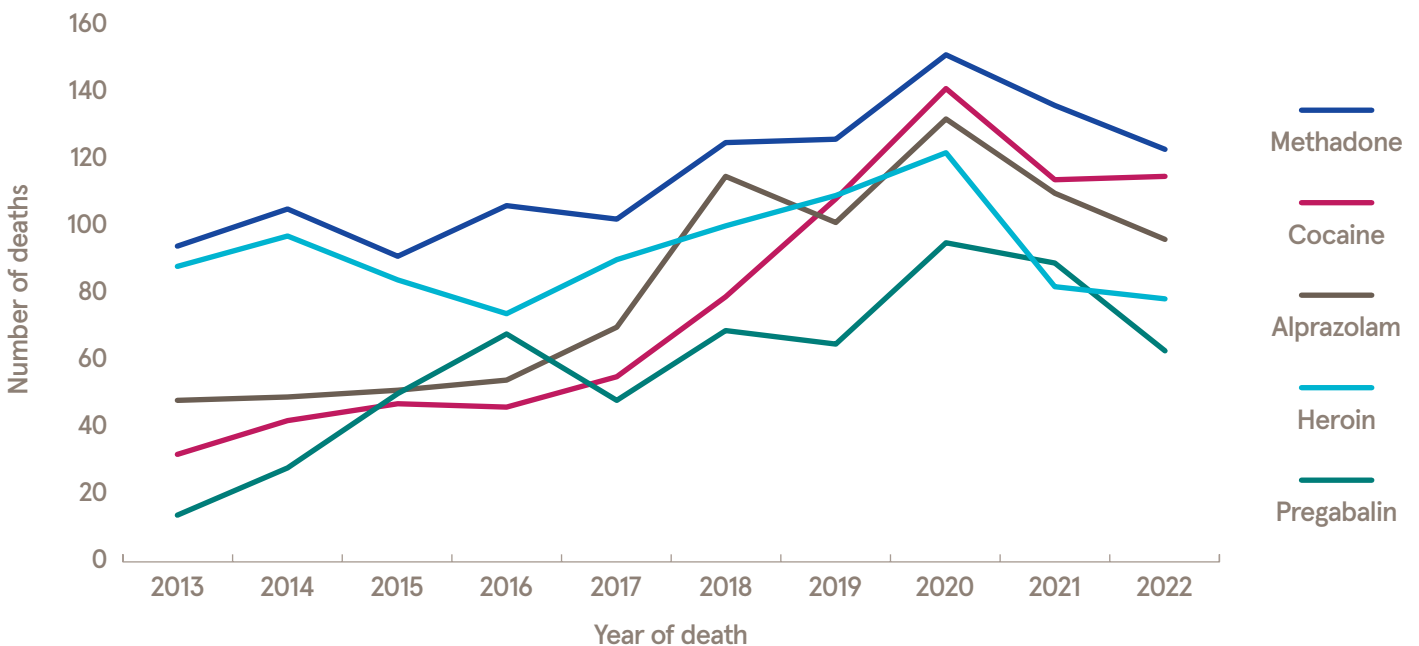


**69%** were private dwelling



**42%** were alone

## Key trends in poisoning drugs 2013 to 2022



### NEED ADVICE

If you have any concerns regarding drugs please visit: [www.drugs.ie](http://www.drugs.ie) or call 1800 459 459