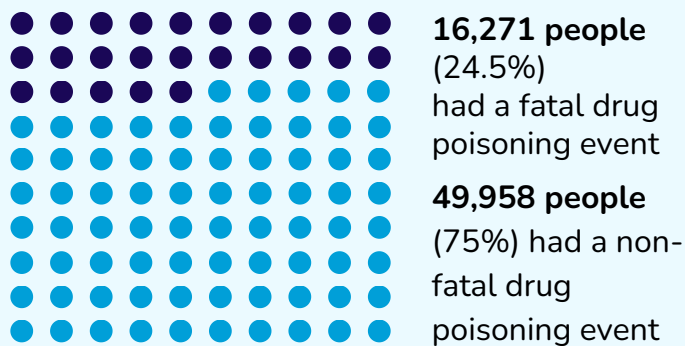


BC's Provincial Overdose Cohort (BC-ODC) represents people who were identified as having an unregulated drug poisoning event (i.e. overdose) between January 1, 2015 and December 31, 2023, and who had linked demographic data available in BC's administrative health datasets.

66,229 people experienced a drug poisoning event from 2015-2023

From January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2023...



The BC-ODC undercounts non-fatal drug poisoning events. Some non-fatal drug poisoning events happen in community with no contact from health care, so the BC-ODC cannot capture these.

Many people experienced multiple drug poisoning events



1 in 3 people who had a drug poisoning event

(36%) have had multiple drug poisoning events.



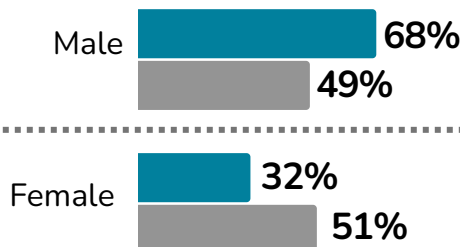
1 in 3 people who died of a drug poisoning

(35%) had a non-fatal drug overdose event prior to their death.

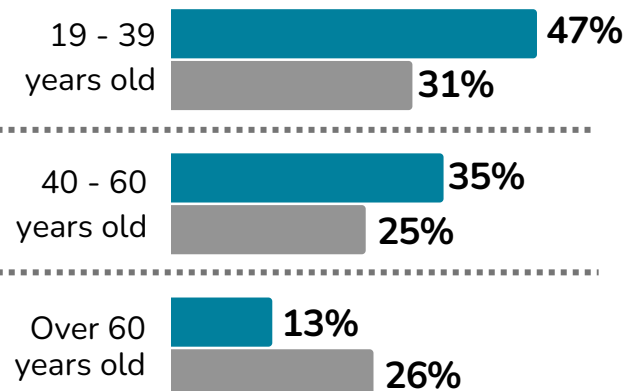
Men and 19-39 year olds are over-represented in drug poisoning events

■ % of people who experienced a drug poisoning ■ % of BC Population (Population data extracted from BC Stats for 2023 via Population Estimates)

Sex



Age



Visit the [BC-ODC website](#) for more information and findings from research using the BC-ODC.

The BC Provincial Overdose Cohort (BC-ODC) is a collection of information on people who had a drug poisoning event (overdose).

The BC-ODC is focused on using data for action to prevent overdose-related harms and deaths.

Data in the Overdose Cohort

The BC-ODC data sources are linked using a shared data governance model to monitor and respond to the ongoing overdose public health emergency.

To provide information on overdose-related risk factors and outcomes following overdose, data in the BC-ODC can be linked to other health and demographic datasets.

Source Files

Provincial Health Services Authority:

BC Emergency Health Services

BC Ministry of Health:

Discharge Abstract Database (DAD)

Medical Services Plan (MSP)

Client Roster (CLR)

Vital Statistics (VSD)

National Ambulatory Care Reporting System (NACRS)

BC Coroners Service:

Unregulated Drug Poisoning Deaths



Analytic Files



Overdose Encounters: Unique drug poisoning health care encounters



Overdose Episodes: Encounters related to a single event



Overdose Cases: People who experience one or more overdose episodes

Refreshing the BC-ODC Data

The BC-ODC is refreshed annually with the most up-to-date data available on new overdose encounters, episodes, and cases.

The current BC-ODC has been refreshed to include data up to December 31, 2023.

Access to the BC-ODC Data

The BC-ODC is now available for use in the PHSA PANDA Platform, and will be available in 2026 in the Ministry of Health's Health Data Platform.

Priority Setting & Key Findings

To date, analyses with the BC-ODC have been guided by a prioritization exercise co-led by partners, including people with lived experience of substance use and overdose.

The prioritization conducted in 2020 identified three broad priorities to guide analyses with the BC-ODC.

Outputs from the BC-ODC related to each of the three topics can be found [here](#).

A new prioritization exercise is underway and will be completed in 2026. Contact Shania Au (shania.au@bccdc.ca) for more information.

