Drug Overdose Mortality in Delaware

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Terms and Definitions

- Mortality
  - Number
  - Rate
    - Age-adjusted
    - Age-specific

- Poisonings – type or manner of injury
- Drug overdoses – subset of poisonings
- Intent – second classification of injury
Number of Deaths and Age-adjusted Death Rate due to Drug Overdoses
Delaware, 1999-2010

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center
Why are drug poisonings important?

• The number of deaths due to poisoning is rising.
• In 2006-2010, poisonings were the most common cause of injury death
  ▫ 1 out of 4 total injuries were caused by poisoning
  ▫ 93% of poisonings were caused by drugs
• Unintentional injuries
  ▫ 29% due to poisonings, 27% due to drug poisonings
• Self-inflicted injuries
  ▫ 19% due to poisonings, 15% due to drug poisonings
Distribution of Drug Overdose Deaths by Intent
Delaware, 2006-2010

Unintentional 76.9%
Self-inflicted 13.0%
Assault 0.2%
Undetermined 9.9%

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center
Five-year Age-adjusted Drug Overdose Mortality Rates by Intent
Delaware, 1999-2010

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center
Five-year Age-adjusted Unintentional Drug Overdose Mortality Rates by Type of Drug*
Delaware, 1999-2010

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center
Five-year Age-specific Drug-overdose Death Rates by Race and Sex
Delaware, 2006-2010

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center.
Percent Distribution of Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths by Race and Sex
Delaware, 2006-2010

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center
Distribution of Drug Type by Poisoning Intent

- **Total drug overdose deaths, of all intents**
  - One or more prescription drugs were involved in 447 (77.7%) of the 575 drug overdose deaths in 2006-2010.
  - One or more OPRs were involved in 351 (61%) of the 575 drug overdose deaths in 2006-2010.
  - One or more illicit drugs were involved in 231 (40.2%) of the 575 drug overdose deaths in 2006-2010.

- **Unintentional**
  - One or more prescription drugs were involved in 327 (74%) of the 442 unintentional drug overdose deaths in 2006-2010.
  - One or more OPRs were involved in 283 (64%) of the 442 unintentional drug overdose deaths in 2006-2010.
  - One or more illicit drugs were involved in 207 (46.8%) of the 575 unintentional drug overdose deaths in 2006-2010.

- **Self-inflicted**
  - One or more prescription drugs were involved in 70 (94.7%) of the 75 self-inflicted drug overdose deaths in 2006-2010.
  - One or more OPRs were involved in 34 (45.3%) of the 75 drug overdose deaths in 2006-2010.
  - One or more illicit drugs were involved in 5 (6.7%) of the 75 drug overdose deaths in 2006-2010.
Questions?

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