

2023

January–December

DRUG OVERDOSE DEATH REPORT

MISSOURI STATEWIDE

This data comes from the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) and includes overdose deaths based on the location **where the individual lived**.


For more information on what data is included and how drug overdose deaths are defined, please visit the Data FAQ Sheet on our website:

<https://www.mimhaddisci.org/missouri-overdose-data-2>

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KEY TAKEAWAYS

- The total number of drug overdose deaths statewide **decreased by 11%** in 2023 compared to 2022. This is the first decrease since 2019.
 - The Northwestern Region was the only region to *not* experience a decrease in the number of deaths.
- The St. Louis Metro Region continues to have the highest total number and the highest mortality rate of overdose deaths within the state, **although it experienced a 14% decrease** in the number of deaths in 2023 compared to 2022.
- The total number of deaths in 2023 decreased across all drug types.
 - **Fentanyl continues to saturate the opioid drug supply** and was present in almost all (93%) of the opioid overdose deaths.
- The total number of overdose deaths for **Black males decreased by 9%** in 2023 statewide. However, **Black males continue to be disproportionately affected** by overdose deaths, with a mortality rate over three times higher than that of White males and Black females, and over six times higher than White females.

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- For information on how to get naloxone visit: getmissourinaloxone.com
 - To find linkage to SUD treatment visit: <https://www.nomodeaths.org/get-treatment>
 - To see previous reports visit: <https://www.mimhaddisci.org/missouri-overdose-data-2>

TOTAL NUMBER OF DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS STATEWIDE

- The state experienced its first **decrease** in the total number of drug overdose deaths since 2019.

Missouri Statewide

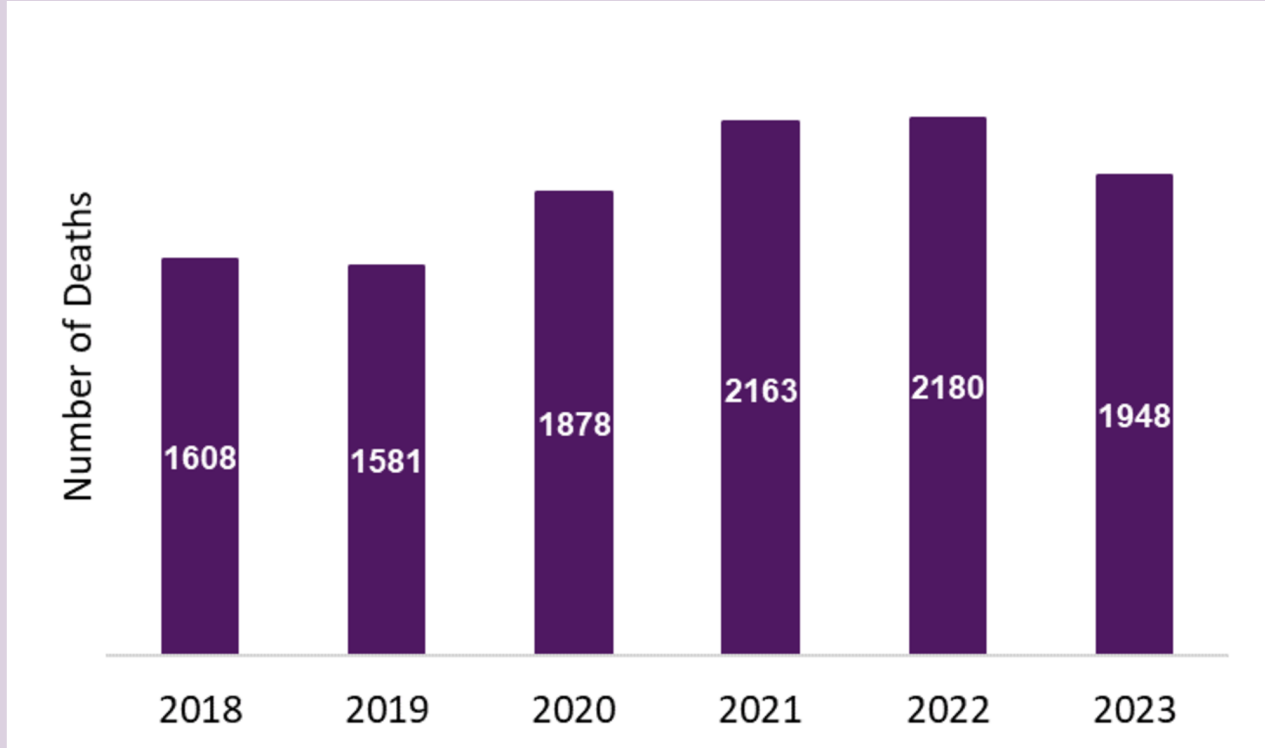
1948

people lost their lives to
a drug overdose in 2023.

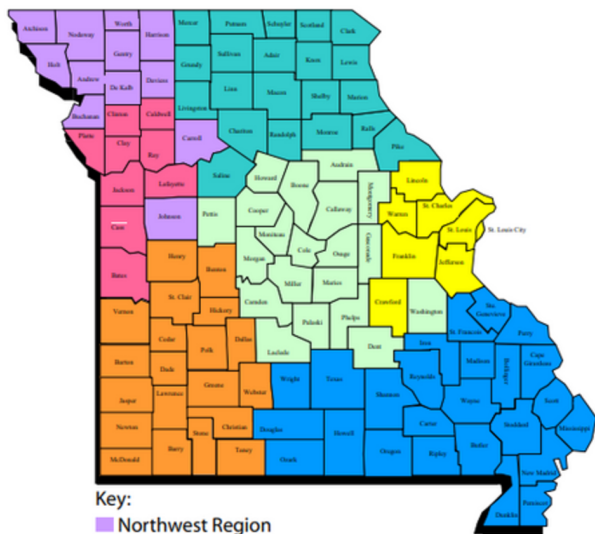


This is an **11% decrease**
compared to 2022.

Number of Drug Overdose Deaths Over Time (Missouri Statewide)



TOTAL NUMBER OF DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS BY REGION

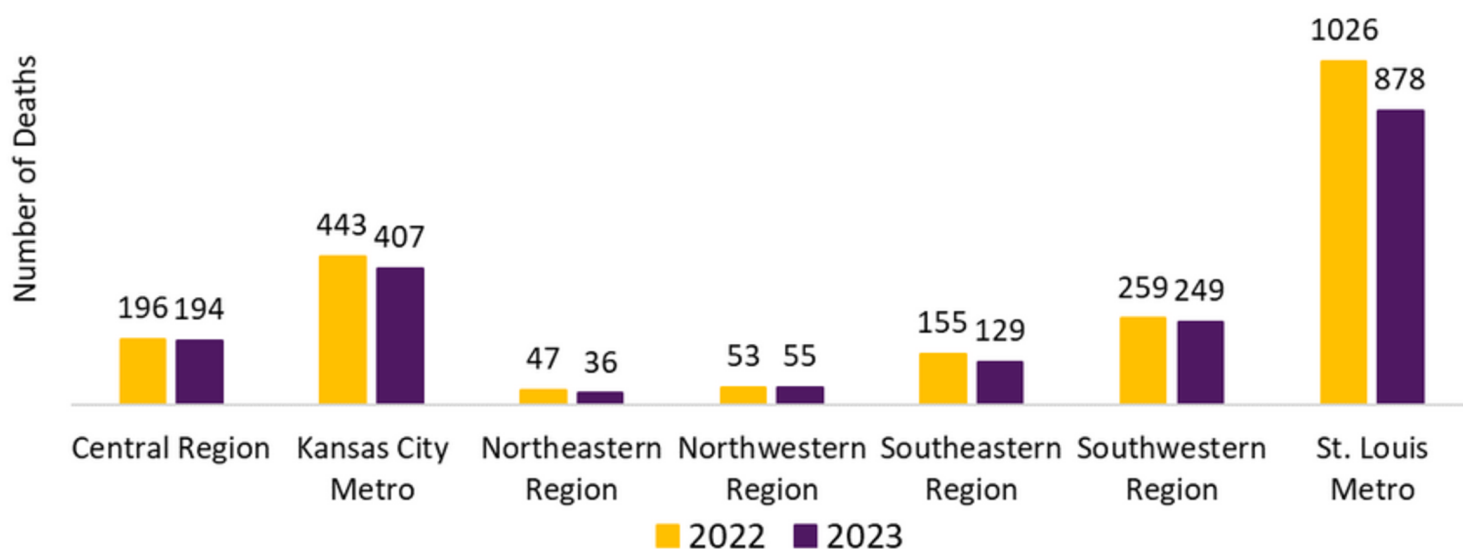


Key:

- Northwest Region
- Northeast Region
- Kansas City Metro Region
- Central Region
- St. Louis Metro Region
- Southwest Region
- Southeast Region

- Each region except for the Northwestern Region experienced decreases in the total number of overdose deaths in 2023 compared to 2022.
- The Northeastern Region showed the highest decrease (-23%) in overdose deaths in 2023, followed by the Southeastern Region (-17%).
- The St. Louis Metro Region continues to have the highest total number of overdose deaths within the state although it experienced a 14% decrease in deaths in 2023 compared to 2022.

Number of Missouri Drug Overdose Deaths by Region, 2022 vs 2023

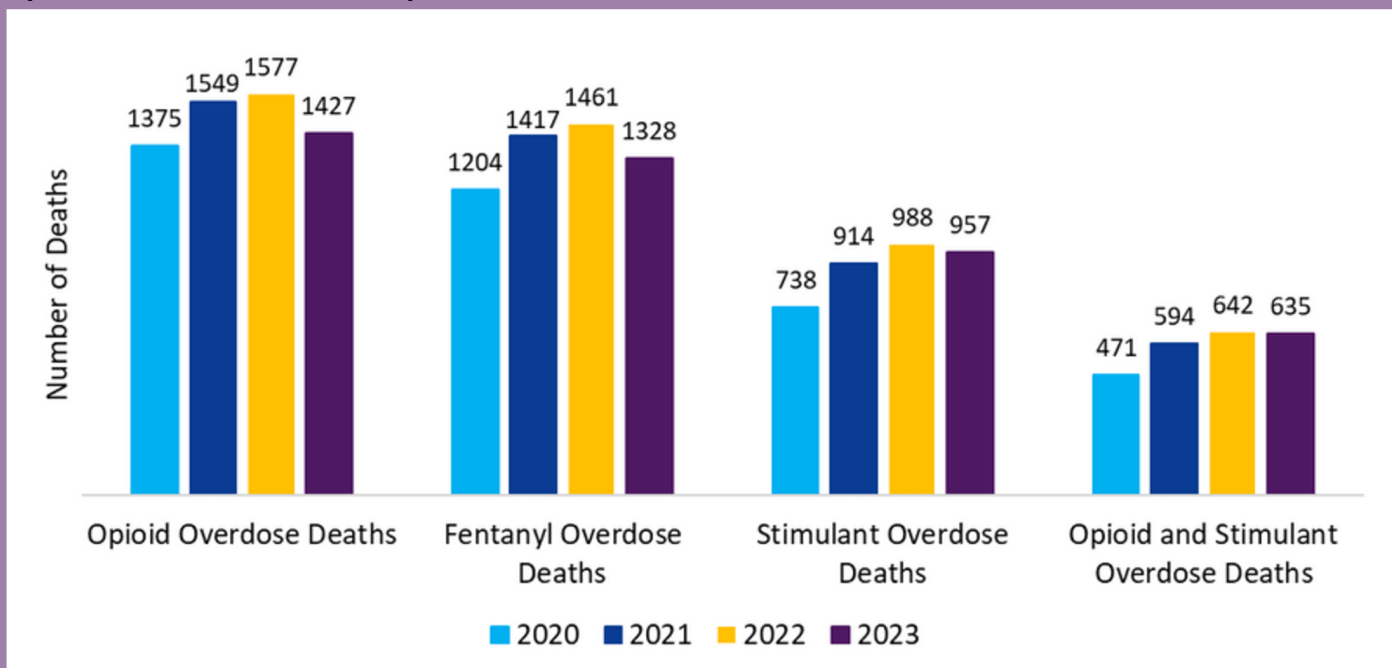


TYPES OF DRUGS INVOLVED IN OVERDOSE DEATHS

Statewide

- Overdose deaths across all drug types decreased in number in 2023 compared to 2022.
- The total number of overdose deaths involving stimulants decreased
 - In combination with opioids (-1%)
 - Stimulants without opioids (-3%)
- Similar to 2022, fentanyl continues to be present in 68% of all overdose deaths.

Number of Overdose Deaths by **Drug Type**, 2020-2023
(Missouri Statewide)



2023



73% of all deaths involved an **opiod**

Fentanyl was involved in **almost all (93%)** of these deaths



About half of all deaths involved a **stimulant** (like meth)



1 in 3 deaths involved **both opioids and stimulants**

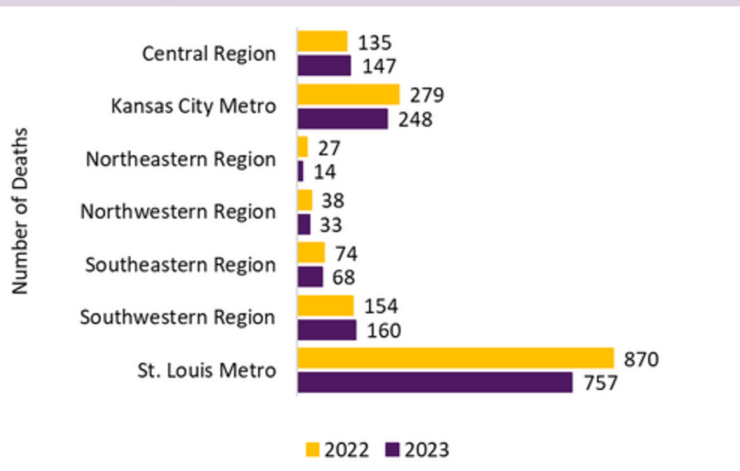
TYPES OF DRUGS INVOLVED IN OVERDOSE DEATHS

By Region

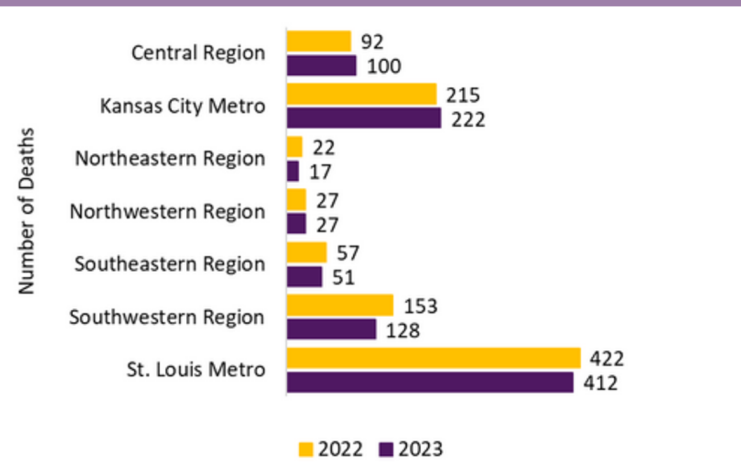
- The Central and Southwestern Regions were the only two regions to increase in the number of drug overdoses involving opioids in 2023 compared to 2022.
- Fentanyl continues to be present in the majority of all opioid overdose deaths across all regions.
- The Central and St. Louis Metro Regions were the only two regions to experience increases in combination opioid and stimulant overdose deaths in 2023.

Number of Overdose Deaths by Drug Type, 2022 vs 2023 (by Region)

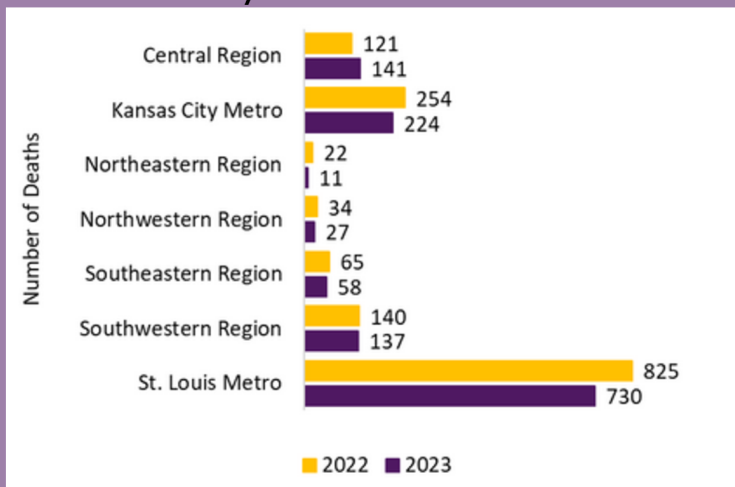
Opioid Overdose Deaths



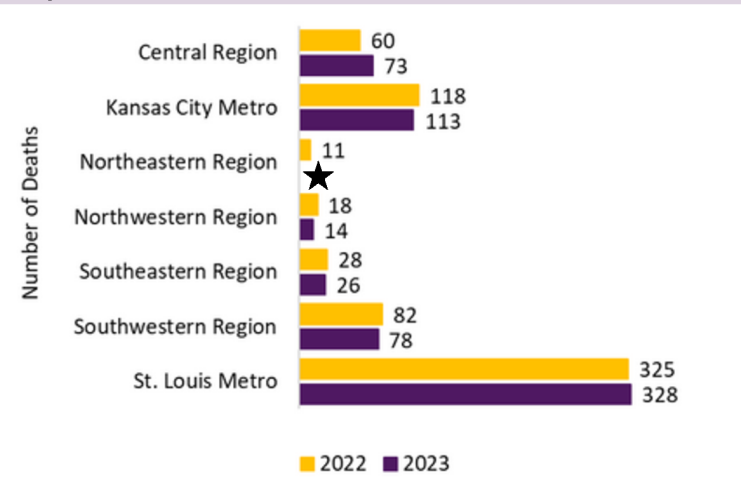
Stimulant Overdose Deaths



Fentanyl Overdose Deaths



Opioid and Stimulant Overdose Deaths



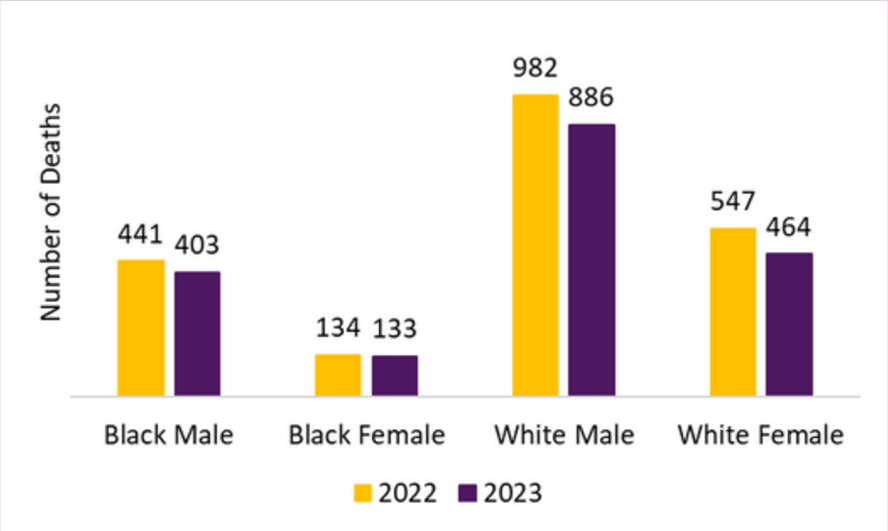
*Numbers less than 5 are not represented on graph

NUMBER OF DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS BY RACE AND SEX

Statewide

- Among Black and White males and females, all race/sex demographics experienced a decrease in the total number of drug overdose deaths in 2023 compared to 2022. White females (-15%) and White males (-10%) showed the largest decreases, followed by Black males (-9%) and Black females (-1%).

Number of Drug Overdose Deaths by **Race/Sex**
2022 vs 2023 (*Missouri Statewide*)



Number of Drug Overdose Deaths by **Race and Sex (separately)**,
2022 vs 2023 (*Missouri Statewide*)

	Black	White	Male	Female
2022	575	1529	1423	681
2023	536	1350	1289	597
Percent Change	-7%	-12%	-9%	-12%

NUMBER OF DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS BY RACE AND SEX

By Region

- The St. Louis Metro Region accounted for 69% of all drug overdose deaths for Black individuals in Missouri in 2023.

Number of Missouri Drug Overdose Deaths by **Race and Sex**, 2022 vs 2023
(By Region)

	Black			White			Male			Female		
	2022	2023	% Change	2022	2023	% Change	2022	2023	% Change	2022	2023	% Change
Central Region	21	33	+57%	171	157	-8%	129	129	0%	63	61	-3%
Kansas City Metro	114	96	-16%	297	287	-3%	287	263	-8%	124	120	-3%
Northeastern Region	7	6	-14%	40	28	-30%	28	28	0%	19	6	-68%
Northwestern Region	*supp	*supp	*supp	49	51	+4%	43	28	-35%	9	26	+189%
Southeastern Region	15	11	-27%	139	117	-16%	99	84	-15%	55	44	-20%
Southwestern Region	12	16	+33%	238	225	-5%	151	157	+4%	99	84	-15%
St. Louis Metro	402	371	-8%	595	485	-18%	685	600	-12%	312	256	-18%

*Numbers less than five are suppressed (*supp)

DRUG OVERDOSE MORTALITY RATES BY RACE AND SEX

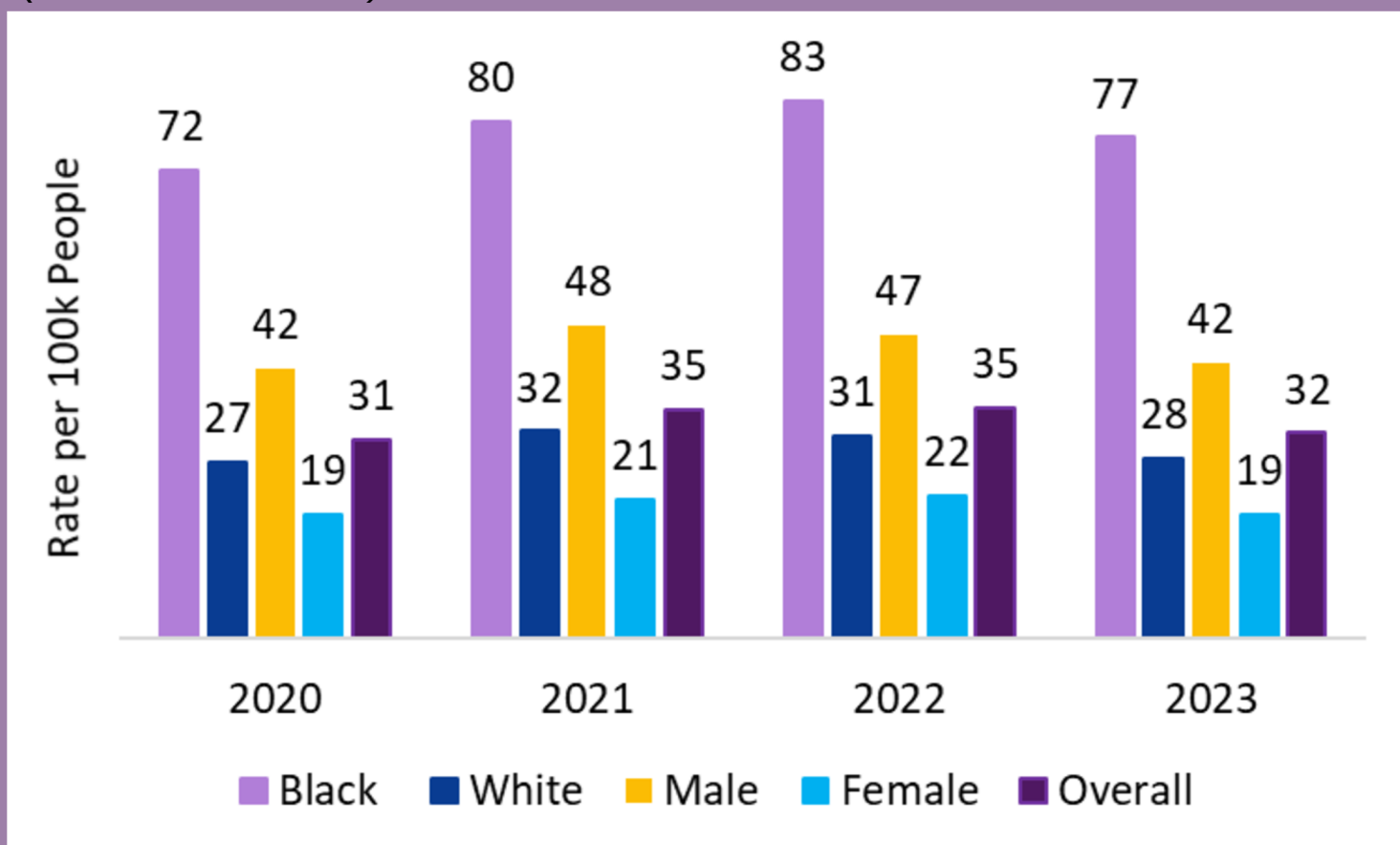
- Among Black and White males and females, all demographic groups experienced mortality rate decreases in 2023 compared to 2022.
- Black individuals across Missouri continue to be disproportionately affected by overdose deaths, with a mortality rate 2.75 times higher than White individuals in 2023.
- Males continue to be more affected than females, with a mortality rate 2.2 times higher than females in 2023.



Mortality rates provide an estimate of how often deaths occur in a population. This makes it easier to compare the outcomes of groups with different population sizes.

Statewide

Drug Overdose **Mortality Rates** by **Race and Sex** per 100k people, 2020-2023
(Missouri Statewide)



Rates calculated using the DP05|ACS 5-Year Demographic and Housing Estimate Data Profiles (2020/2021/2022)

DRUG OVERDOSE MORTALITY RATES BY RACE/SEX

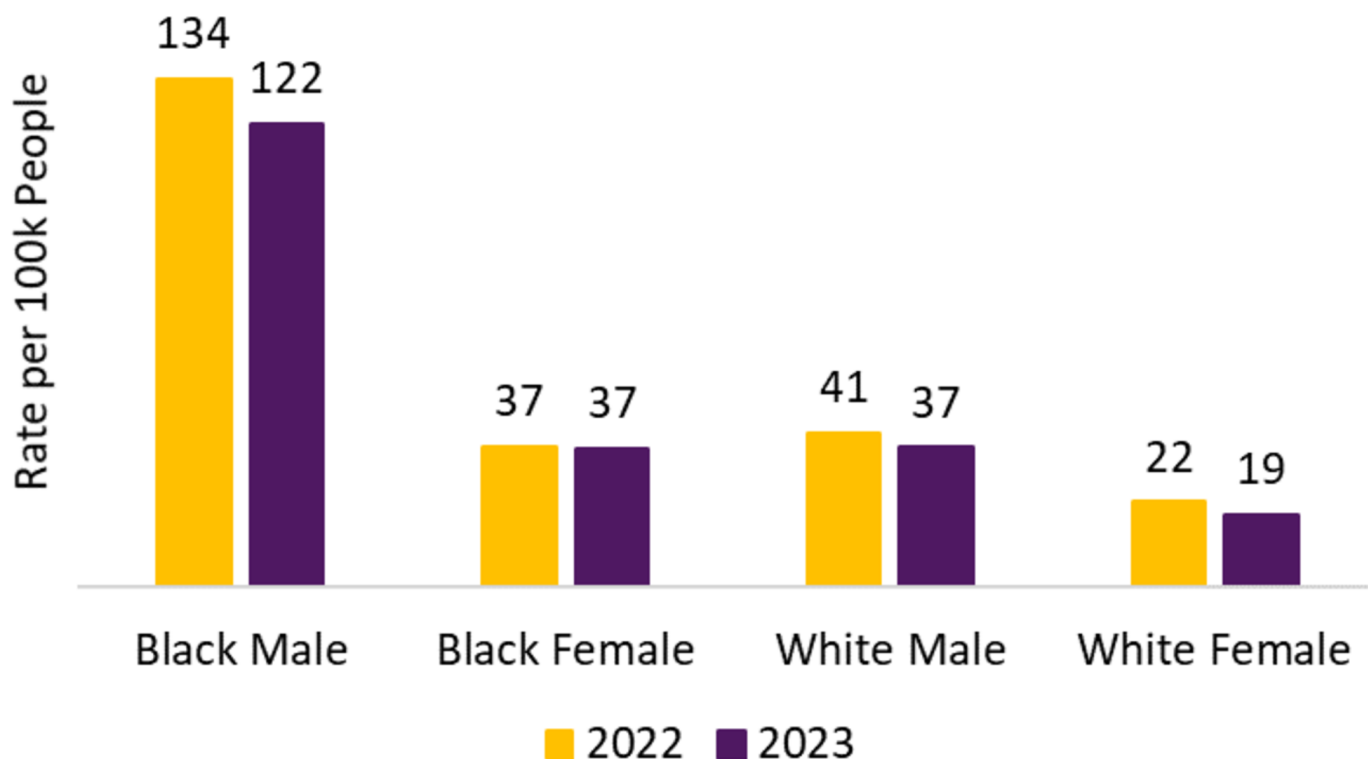
- Among Black and White males and females, all demographic groups experienced decreases in the mortality rate in 2023 compared to 2022, except for Black females whose mortality rate didn't change.
- Black males across Missouri continue to be disproportionately affected by overdose deaths, with a mortality rate over three times higher than that of White males and Black females, and over six times higher than White females.



Mortality rates provide an estimate of how often deaths occur in a population. This makes it easier to compare the outcomes of groups with different population sizes.

Statewide

Drug Overdose **Mortality Rates** by **Race/Sex** per 100k people, 2022-2023
(Missouri Statewide)



Rates calculated using the B01001A|ACS 5-Year Sex by Age Estimate Data Profiles (2021)

DRUG OVERDOSE MORTALITY RATES OVERALL, BY REGION

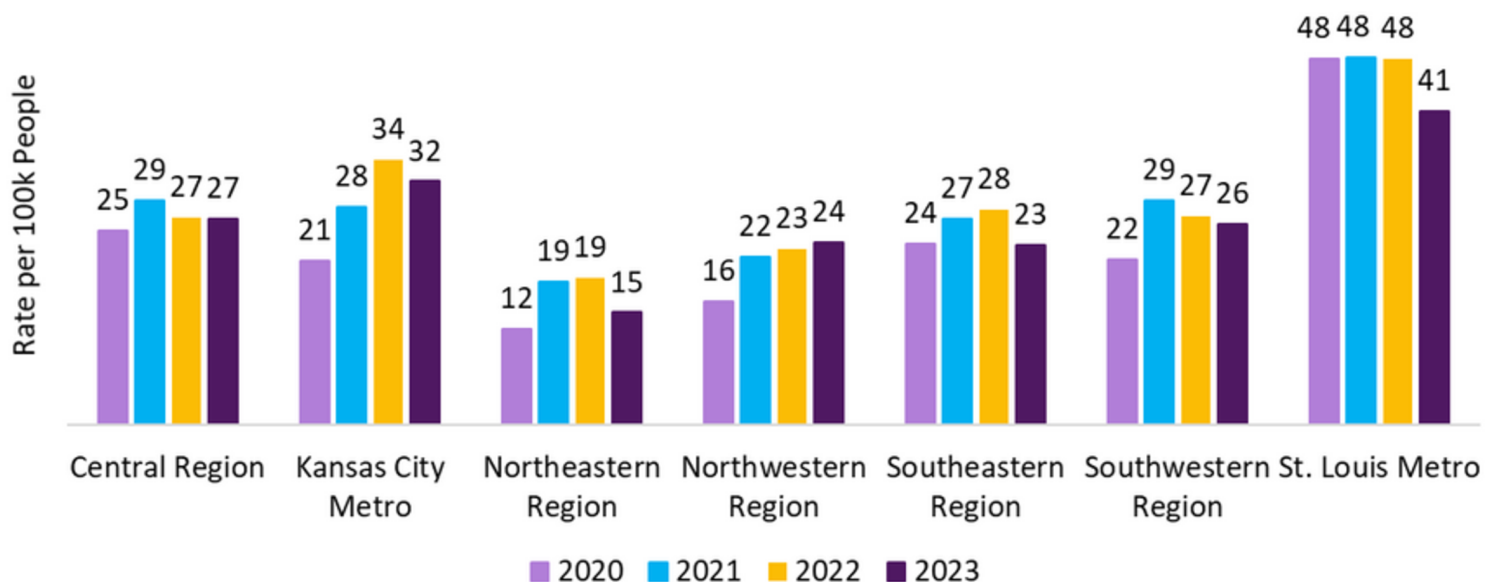
- The overall drug overdose mortality rates decreased for the Kansas City, Northeastern, Southeastern, Southwestern, and St. Louis Metro Regions in 2023 compared to 2022.
 - The Central Region remained the same in 2023.
 - The Northwestern Region increased in 2023.
- The St. Louis Metro continues to have the highest mortality rate across all regions.



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By Region

Missouri Drug Overdose **Mortality Rates** per 100k people, 2020–2023
(By Region)



Rates calculated using the DP05|ACS 5-Year Demographic and Housing Estimate Data Profiles (2020/2021/2022)

OVERDOSE MORTALITY RATES BY RACE AND SEX

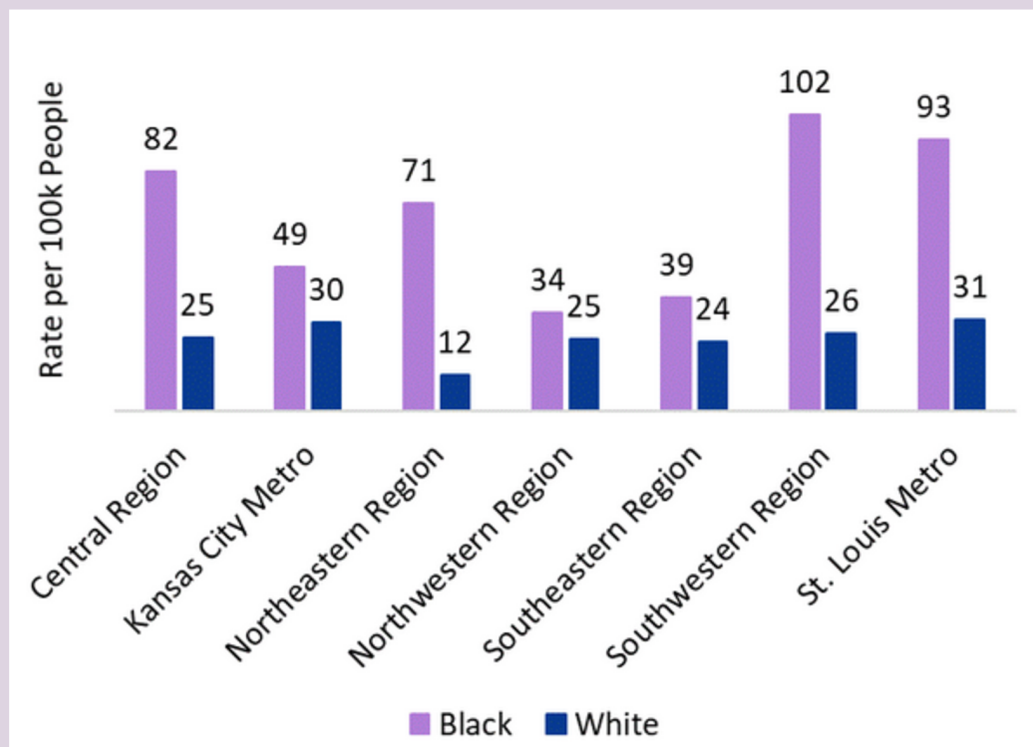
- The overall drug overdose mortality rate for Black individuals was higher than White individuals in every region of Missouri.
- In the Southwestern Region, deaths among Black individuals increased from 12 in 2022 to 16 in 2023, which increased the mortality rate to 102 per 100k people- the highest across all regions in 2023.
 - The St. Louis Metro had the next highest mortality rate for Black individuals at 93 per 100k people with 371 drug overdose deaths.
- The St. Louis Metro Region had the highest mortality rate among White individuals in 2023 of all Missouri's regions, slightly higher than the rate in the Kansas City Metro Region.



Mortality rates provide an estimate of how often deaths occur in a population. This makes it easier to compare the outcomes of groups with different population sizes.

By Region

Drug Overdose **Mortality Rates** by **Race** per 100k people
2023 (*By Region*)



Rates calculated using the DP05|ACS 5-Year Demographic and Housing Estimate Data Profiles (2022)