

Table 2: Drug-related deaths by underlying cause of death ¹, Scotland, 1996 - 2012

Year	All causes of death	Underlying cause of death (ICD10 codes)				
		Drug abuse (F11-F16, F19)	Accidental poisoning (X40-X44)	Intentional self-poisoning (X60-X64)	Assault by drugs, etc. (X85)	Undetermined intent (Y10-Y14)
annual averages:						
1996-2000	260	189	13	34	0	25
1998-2002	309	227	15	30	0	38
1996	244	175	10	41	0	18
1997	224	142	14	42	0	26
1998	249	179	16	32	0	22
1999	291	227	12	19	1	32
2000	292	220	11	34	0	27
2001	332	227	19	34	0	52
2002	382	280	17	30	0	55
2003	317	216	15	40	0	46
2004	356	232	32	32	0	60
2005	336	204	31	43	0	58
2006	421	280	51	40	0	50
2007	455	299	39	27	0	90
2008	574	370	59	34	0	111
2009	545	380	60	34	0	71
2010	485	312	67	28	0	78
old rules - 2011	584	417	56	36	0	75
old rules - 2012	581	381	72	65	0	63
2008-2012 average (old coding rules)	554	372	63	39	0	80
new coding rules						
2011	584	12	346	36	0	190
2012	581	26	365	65	0	125

Footnote

1) The coding rules were changed with effect from the start of 2011, as explained in paragraph 2.6 of the commentary.

Briefly, 'drug abuse' deaths from 'acute intoxication' were previously counted under 'mental and behavioural disorders due to psychoactive substance use' (unless they were known to be due to intentional self-harm or assault). They are now counted under the appropriate 'poisoning' category.

For example, if the cause of death of a known drug abuser was given as 'adverse effects of heroin' (and it was not intentional self-harm or assault), the underlying cause of death would be coded as follows:

(a) up to 2010 - as 'F11 - mental and behavioural disorders due to use of opioids'

(b) from 2011 - the appropriate 'poisoning' category, such as 'X42 - accidental poisoning by and exposure to narcotics and psychodysleptics (hallucinogens) not elsewhere classified'

National Records of Scotland has estimated what the figures for 2011 onwards would have been, had the data been coded using the old rules.