

Table 5: Drug-related deaths by sex, age and underlying cause of death ¹, Scotland, 2012

	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)
(a) New coding rules						
All deaths	581	26	365	65	0	125
Males	416	19	280	31	0	86
Females	165	7	85	34	0	39
Under 25	46	4	28	3	0	11
25-34	171	10	116	14	0	31
35-44	199	11	137	13	0	38
45-54	115	1	64	19	0	31
55 and over	50	0	20	16	0	14
Males						
Under 25	33	4	18	2	0	9
25-34	136	8	97	8	0	23
35-44	148	7	109	7	0	25
45-54	72	0	45	6	0	21
55 and over	27	0	11	8	0	8
Females						
Under 25	13	0	10	1	0	2
25-34	35	2	19	6	0	8
35-44	51	4	28	6	0	13
45-54	43	1	19	13	0	10
55 and over	23	0	9	8	0	6
(b) Old coding rules						
All deaths	581	381	72	65	0	63
Males	416	297	48	31	0	40
Females	165	84	24	34	0	23
Under 25	46	33	5	3	0	5
25-34	171	126	18	14	0	13
35-44	199	156	17	13	0	13
45-54	115	61	17	19	0	18
55 and over	50	5	15	16	0	14
Males						
Under 25	33	22	4	2	0	5
25-34	136	105	15	8	0	8
35-44	148	120	13	7	0	8
45-54	72	46	9	6	0	11
55 and over	27	4	7	8	0	8
Females						
Under 25	13	11	1	1	0	0
25-34	35	21	3	6	0	5
35-44	51	36	4	6	0	5
45-54	43	15	8	13	0	7
55 and over	23	1	8	8	0	6

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.