

Table Y: Drug-related deaths, on the basis of the Office for National Statistics (ONS) 'wide' definition, by selected drugs reported, 2002 to 2012

Drugs ^{1,2}	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
All drug-related deaths (on the 'wide' definition)	566	493	546	480	577	630	737	716	692	749	734
Amphetamines	13	10	10	11	11	12	12	7	3	24	18
Anti-depressants ³	82	83	86	67	93	84	101	97	123	116	121
Anti-psychotics ⁴	8	8	11	5	21	26	25	19	21	32	35
Benzodiazepines ⁵	248	189	140	110	94	109	150	158	124	187	198
Cannabis	35	21	5	6	3	8	1	0	0	0	0
Cocaine	31	30	38	44	33	47	41	33	34	36	31
Diazepam	217	154	113	90	78	79	116	120	94	124	161
Ecstasy-type	20	15	17	10	12	12	5	2	0	9	9
Heroin/diamorphine or Morphine ⁶	250	176	226	194	260	291	327	326	256	207	222
Methadone	100	91	80	71	96	115	171	177	177	275	241
Paracetamol or a compound ⁷	117	85	107	62	53	56	55	43	48	45	37
Temazepam	16	37	5	7	9	4	7	9	3	8	6
Tramadol	6	15	11	16	17	26	32	40	40	34	48
Alcohol	190	168	145	134	151	181	196	187	151	148	136

Footnotes

1) More than one drug may be reported per death. These are mentions of each drug, so do not add up to the overall total. Up to 2007, some pathologists reported only those drugs which they thought caused, or contributed to, the death. With effect from 2008, pathologists report separately:

(a) drugs which were implicated in, or which potentially contributed to, the cause of death; and

(b) other drugs which were present but which were not considered to have had any direct contribution to the death.

The figures for 2008 onwards are on the first basis - i.e. basis (a) - which is now the standard basis for figures for individual drugs. The figures for 2008 have been revised from those published in the 2008 edition.

There may be other differences between years and/or areas in the way in which the information was produced - more information can be found in Section 2 of the commentary.

2) The figures for some of the 'controlled' drugs may differ slightly from those given in earlier tables for two reasons. First, they were produced from what was the then General Register Office for Scotland's new database, rather than the old database (more information can be found in paragraph A4). Second, a small proportion of the deaths which involved controlled drugs were excluded from the figures which appear in the earlier tables, for reasons such as those given in paragraph A3.

3) e.g. amitriptyline, citalopram, dothiepin, fluoxetine, prothaiaden.

4) e.g. chlorpromazine, clozapine, olanzapine.

5) Including diazepam and temazepam (which appear separately below).

6) More information can be found in paragraph 3.3.1 of the commentary.

7) e.g. co-codamol or co-proxamol, or mention of dextropropoxyphene or propoxyphene (even if there is no mention of paracetamol or a compound analgesic).