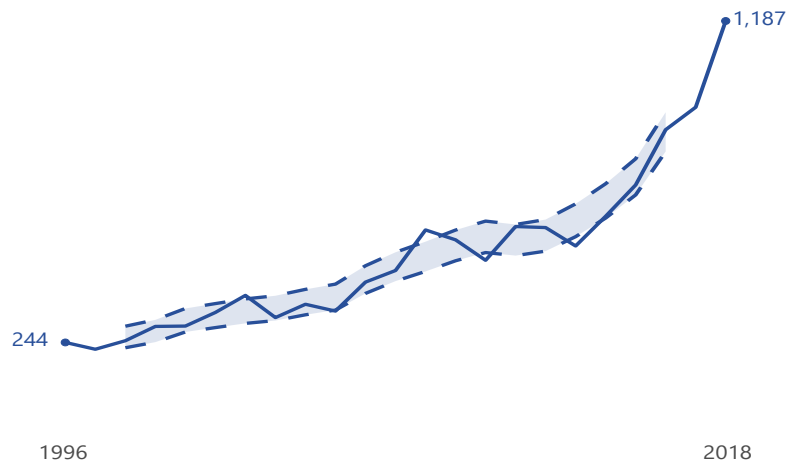


### Drug-related deaths continue to increase

The number of drug-related deaths increased by 27% in 2018 to reach 1,187 - the largest number ever recorded and more than double the number recorded a decade ago.

\* The shaded area shows the likely range of variation around the 5-year moving average

Trend in drug-related deaths, 1996 to 2018

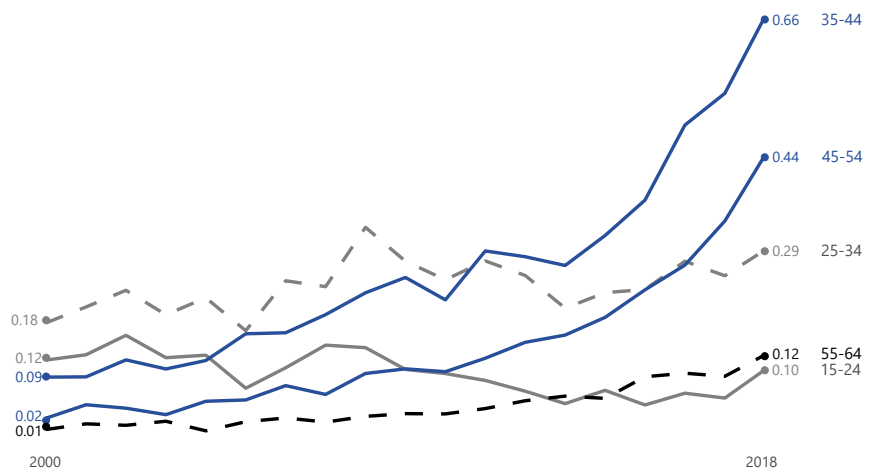


### Largest increases in 35-54 year olds

Most of the increase in drug-related death rates has occurred in the 35-44 year old and 45-54 year old age groups.

\* Rates per 1,000 population

Drug-related death rates by age group, 2000 to 2018



### Death rates vary geographically

Greater Glasgow & Clyde had the highest rate at 0.23 per 1,000 population, followed by Tayside and Ayrshire & Arran with rates of 0.18 and 0.17 per 1,000 population respectively.

\* Rates are based on 5-year averages to reduce year-to-year fluctuations.

Drug-related death rates by Health Board, 2014-2018

