Wayne County Health Department
2018 Drug Overdose Data Wayne County:
Summary

Wayne County Overdose Death Rate in 2018 dips in half since 2016.

While 2016 seen the highest death rates in Wayne County due to drug overdoses 35.3, 2018 saw a tremendous drop, 17.6 in death rates due to overdoses. See Figure 1.

Figure 1
Age Adjusted Drug Overdose Death Rates for Ohio and Wayne County

In 2018, compared to the 2016 and 2017 Wayne County saw a shorter range in age 24-61. While there some younger people that died in 2016, the trend is showing that overdose deaths are occurring younger. The median age for those dying of an overdose was only 32 years compared 2016 and 2017 which was 42 and 37 respectively. If you look at the average,
the trend is the same. In 2018, the average is younger, 36.7 years compared to 2016 and 2017, 40.9 years and 42.0 years respectively. See Figure 2.

![Figure 2. Overdose Deaths by Age](image)

Source: Wayne County Health Department Vital Statistics Unit

**Fentanyl Deaths Dominate in 2018 but Significantly Down;**

**Methamphetamine Up by Percentage of Deaths**

As previously mentioned, the death rate from 2018 is down half from 2016 and that trend is the same for fentanyl and other related opiates. These types of opiates are down from being a causative agent in 10 deaths in 2018 compared to 21 deaths in 2016 and 2017 each. See Figure 3. Also Methamphetamine was present in over one third of the deaths in 2018 (35%) compared to 2016 (27%) and 2017 (20%). One other interesting thing to note is that in 2018, a higher percentage of deaths, 37% involved only a single drug compared to 2016 (27%) and 2017 (24%).
Figure 3.
Drug Category Involvement in Overdose Deaths

Source: Wayne County Health Department Vital Statistics Unit