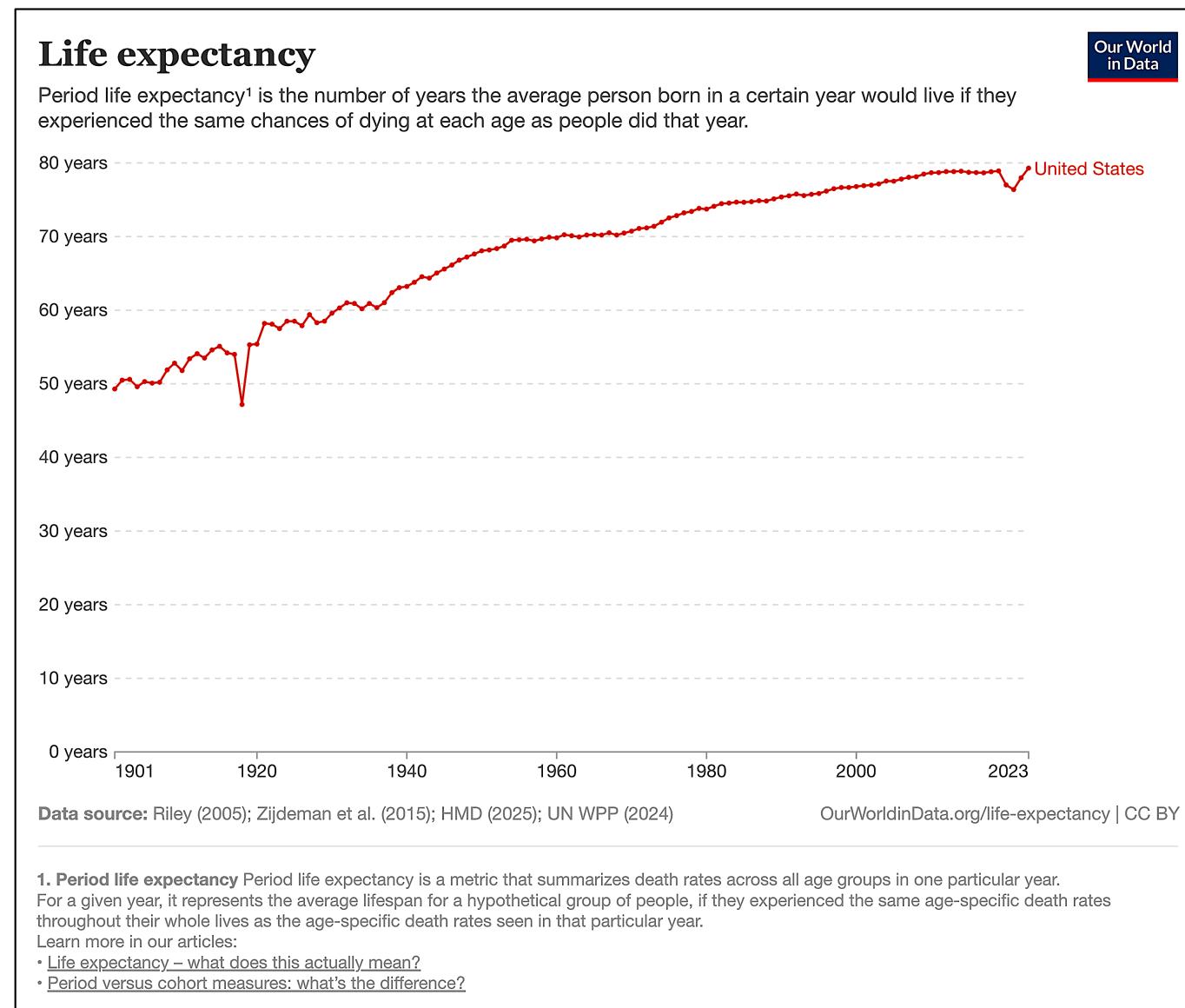


# Life Expectancy by Nation 1900-2023

<https://ourworldindata.org/life-expectancy>

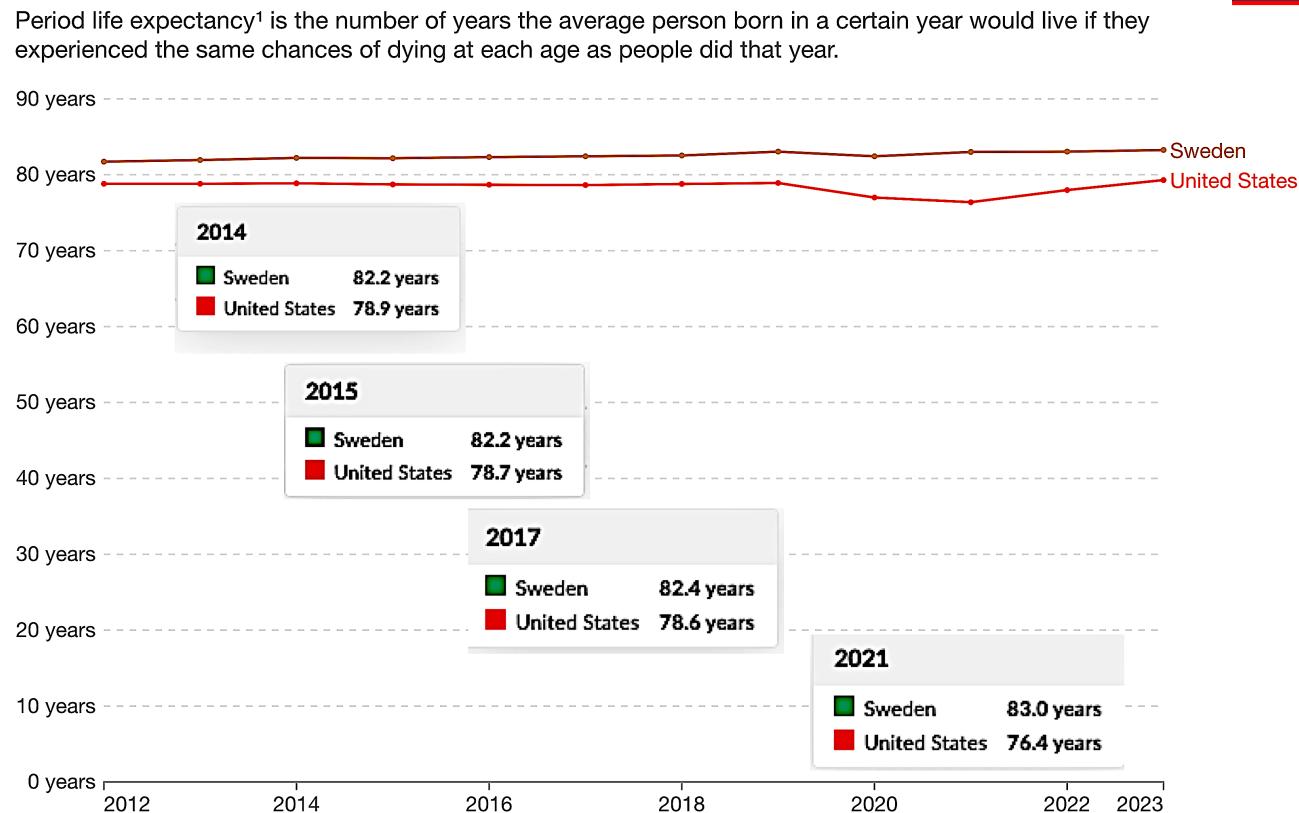


# Life Expectancy by Nation 1900-2023

<https://ourworldindata.org/life-expectancy>

## Life expectancy

Our World  
in Data



Data source: Riley (2005); Zijdeman et al. (2015); HMD (2025); UN WPP (2024)

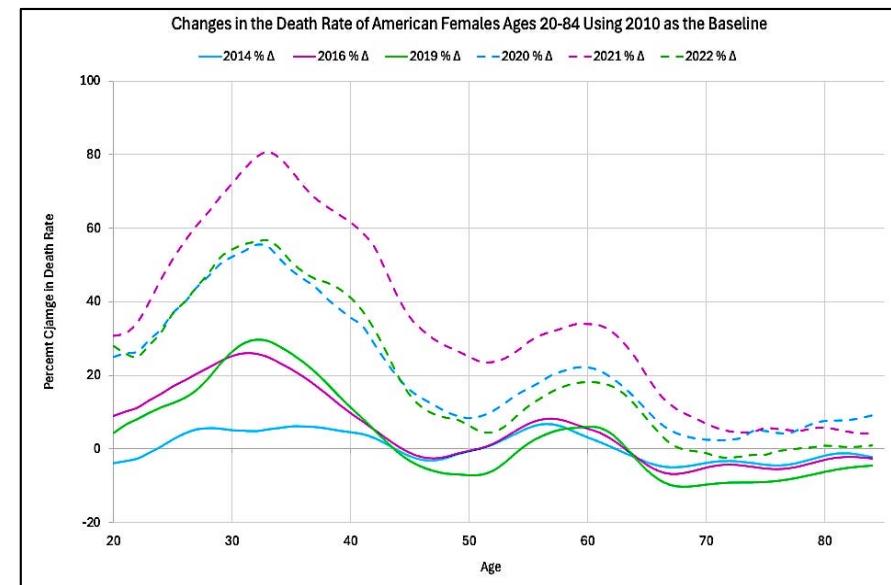
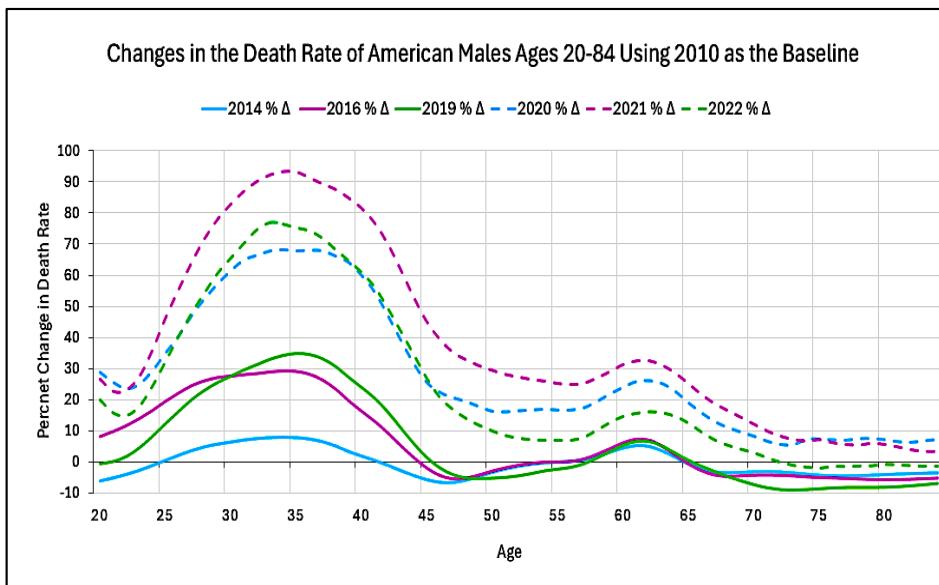
OurWorldinData.org/life-expectancy | CC BY

**1. Period life expectancy** Period life expectancy is a metric that summarizes death rates across all age groups in one particular year. For a given year, it represents the average lifespan for a hypothetical group of people, if they experienced the same age-specific death rates throughout their whole lives as the age-specific death rates seen in that particular year.

Learn more in our articles:

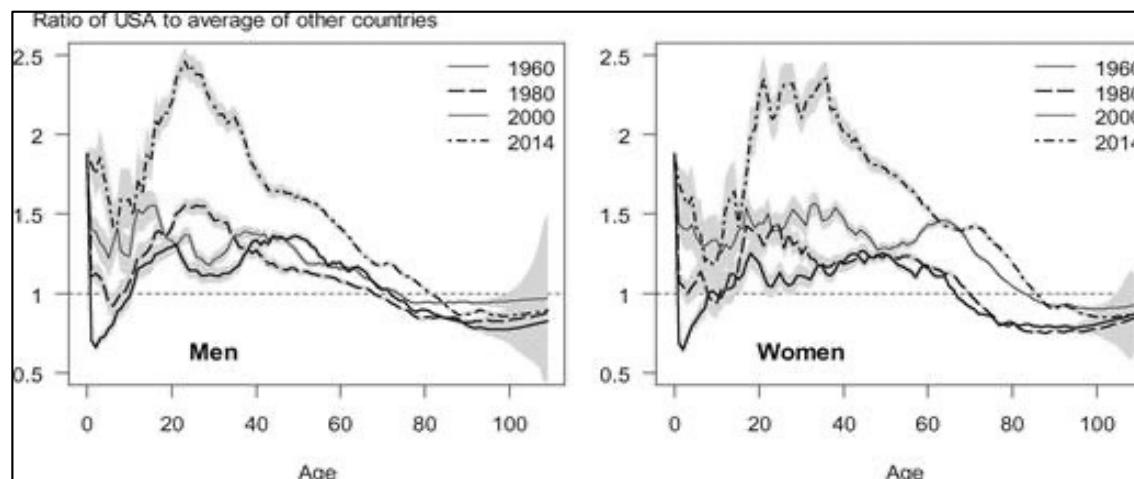
- [Life expectancy—what does this actually mean?](#)
- [Period versus cohort measures: what's the difference?](#)

# Death Rate Comparison by Age and by Year



These numbers are calculated from raw data from the Actuarial Life Table of the US Social Security Administration

<https://www.ssa.gov/oact/STATS/table4c6.html>

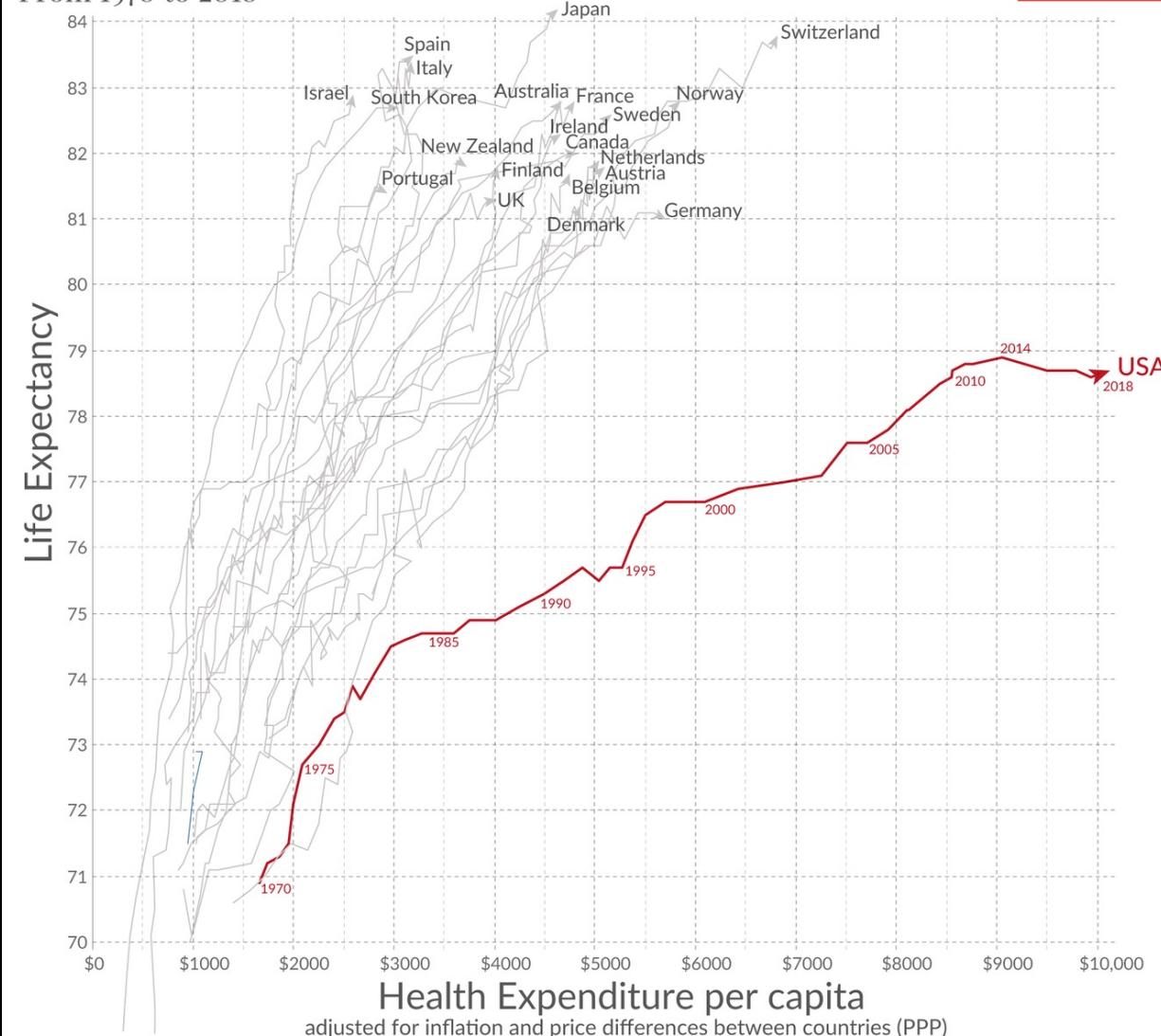


M. Barbieri. Contribution of Drug-Related Deaths to the US Disadvantage in Mortality. *International Journal of Epidemiology*. 48(3) 2019: <https://academic.oup.com/ije/article/48/3/945/5265302?login=false>

# Life expectancy vs. health expenditure

From 1970 to 2018

Our World  
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Data source: OECD — Note: Health spending measures the consumption of health care goods and services, including personal health care (curative care, rehabilitative care, long-term care, ancillary services, and medical goods) and collective services (prevention and public health services as well as health administration), but excluding spending on investments.

Shown is total health expenditure (financed by public and private sources). Licensed under CC-BY by the author Max Roser.

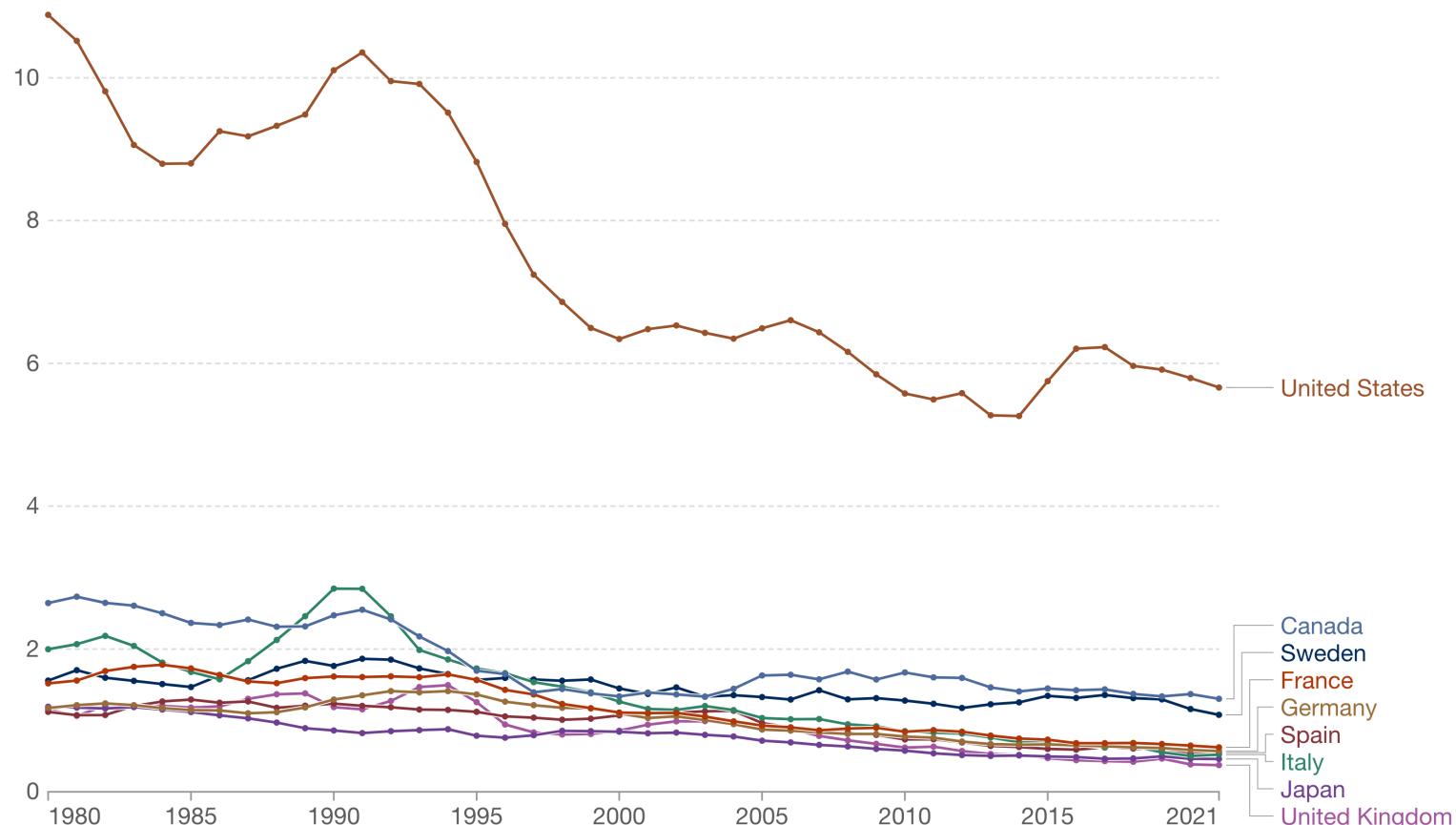
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<https://ourworldindata.org/us-life-expectancy-low>

# Homicide rate, 1980 to 2021

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Annual number of deaths from homicide<sup>1</sup> per 100,000 people.



Data source: IHME, Global Burden of Disease (2024)

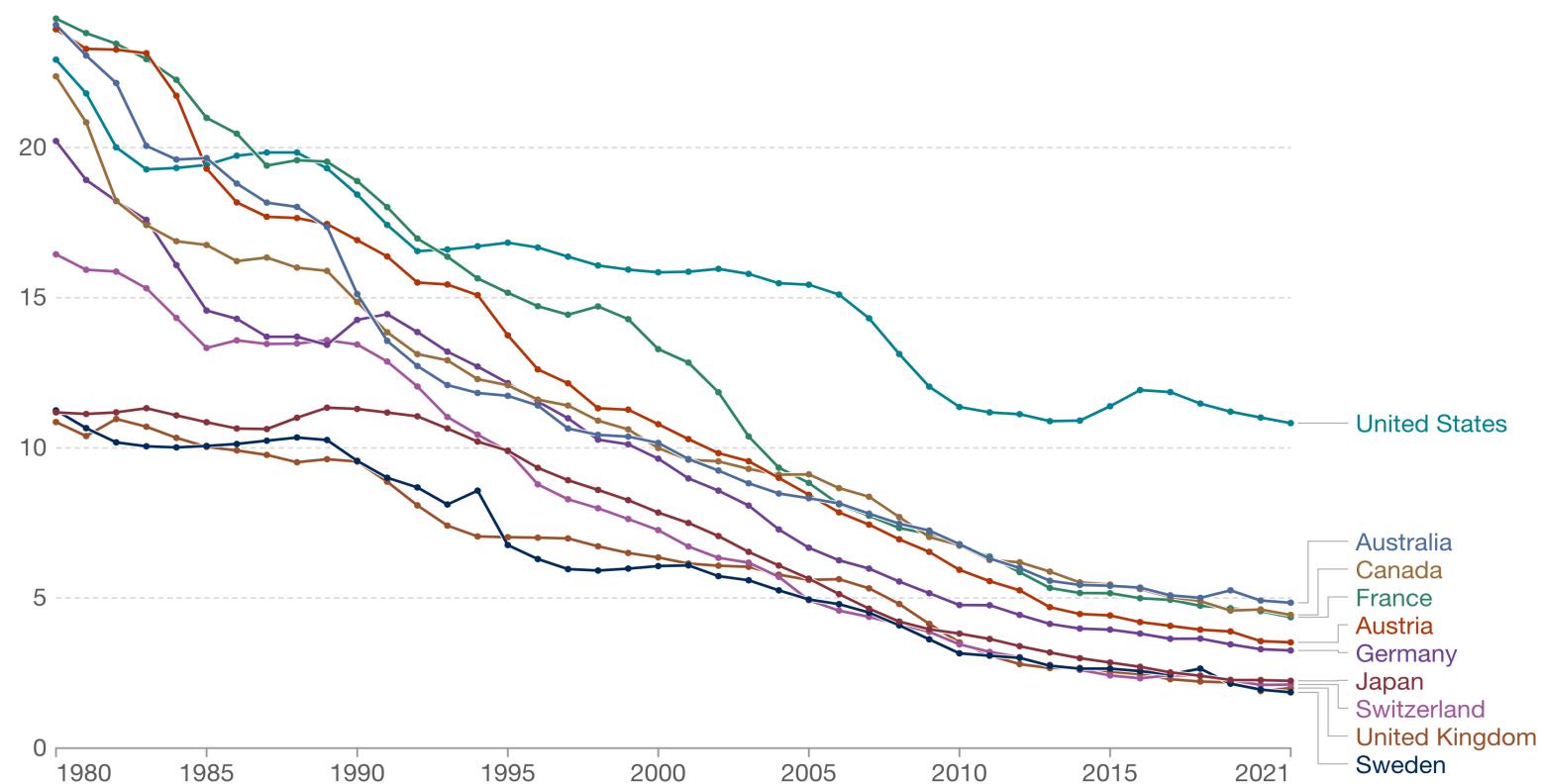
OurWorldinData.org/homicides | CC BY

1. **Homicide:** The killing of a person by another with intent to cause death or injury.

<https://ourworldindata.org/us-life-expectancy-low>

## Death rate from road injuries, 1980 to 2021

The annual number of deaths from road injuries per 100,000 people. Deaths include those from drivers and passengers, motorcyclists, cyclists and pedestrians.



Data source: IHME, Global Burden of Disease (2024)

[OurWorldInData.org/causes-of-death](https://OurWorldInData.org/causes-of-death) | CC BY

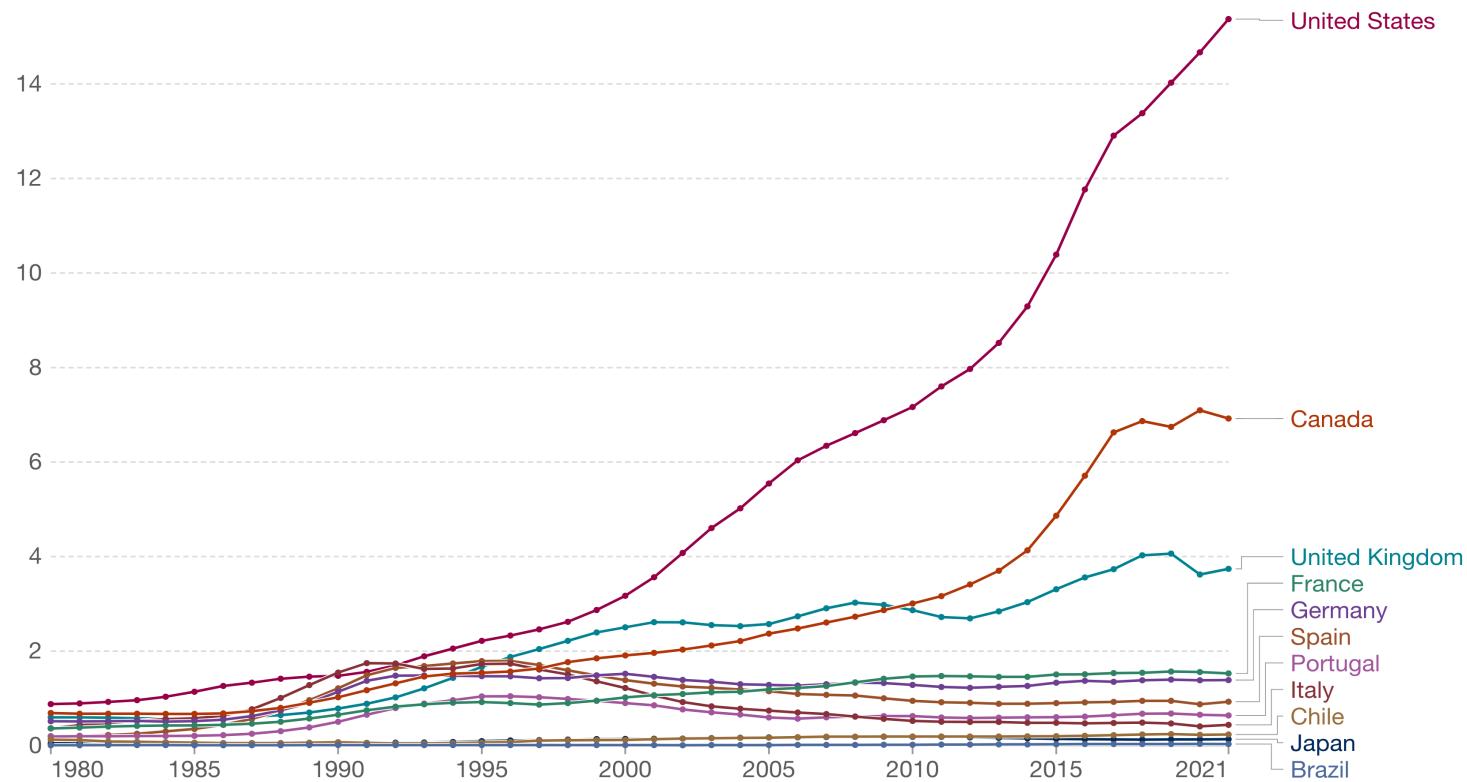
Note: To allow for comparisons between countries and over time, this metric is age-standardized<sup>1</sup>.

**1. Age standardization:** Age standardization is an adjustment that makes it possible to compare populations with different age structures, by standardizing them to a common reference population.  [Read more: How does age standardization make health metrics comparable?](#)

## Opioid use disorder death rate, 1980 to 2021

Our World in Data

Estimated annual number of deaths from opioid use disorders per 100,000 people.



Data source: IHME, Global Burden of Disease (2024)

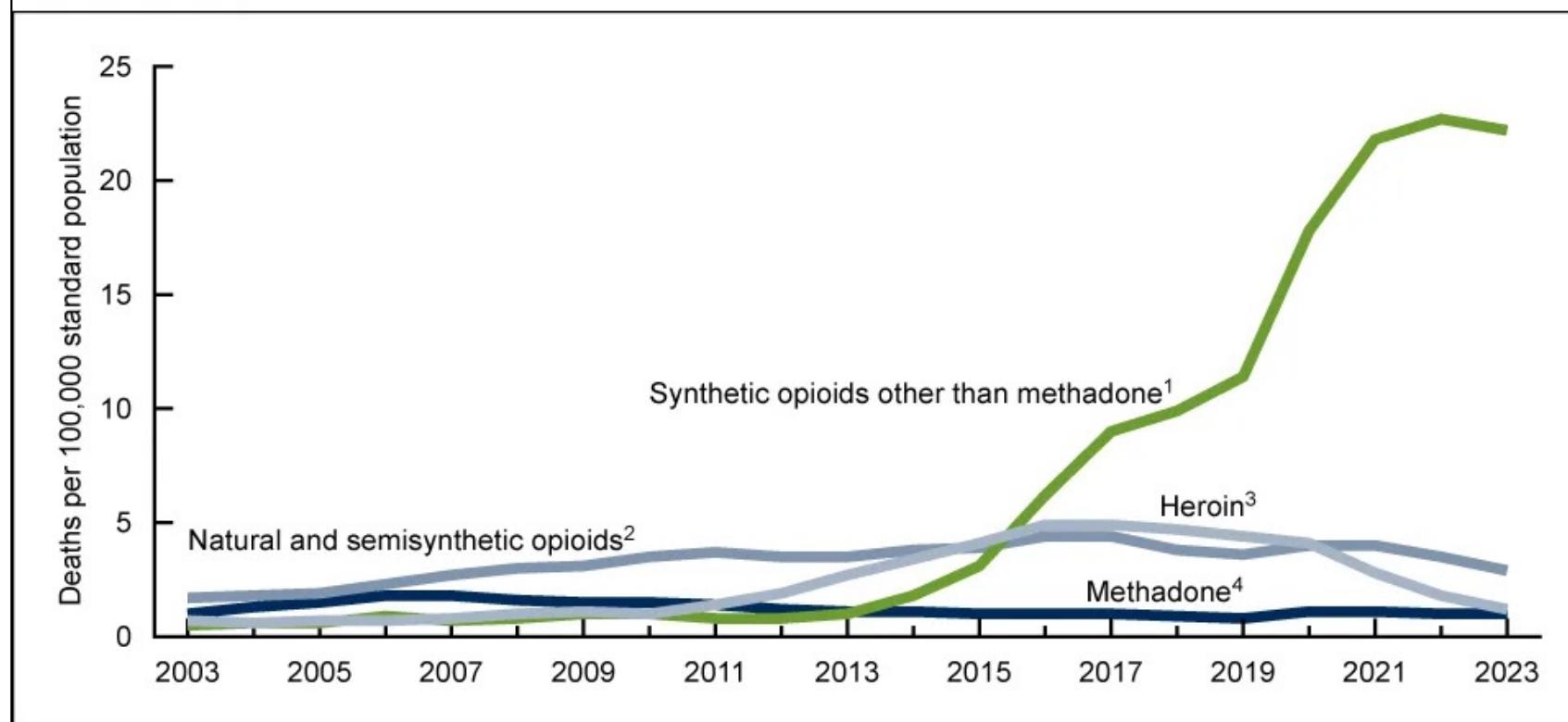
OurWorldinData.org/illicit-drug-use | CC BY

Note: To allow for comparisons between countries and over time, this metric is age-standardized<sup>1</sup>.

1. **Age standardization:** Age standardization is an adjustment that makes it possible to compare populations with different age structures, by standardizing them to a common reference population. Read more: How does age standardization make health metrics comparable?

<https://ourworldindata.org/us-life-expectancy-low>

**Figure 4. Age-adjusted rate of drug overdose deaths involving opioids, by type of opioid: United States, 2003–2023**



<sup>1</sup>No significant trend from 2003 to 2013; significant increasing trend from 2013 to 2021, with different rates of change over time; no significant trend from 2021 to 2023 ( $p < 0.05$ ). Rate in 2023 significantly lower than in 2022 ( $p < 0.05$ ).

<sup>2</sup>Significant increasing trend from 2003 to 2010; no significant trend from 2010 to 2021; significant decreasing trend from 2021 to 2023 ( $p < 0.05$ ).

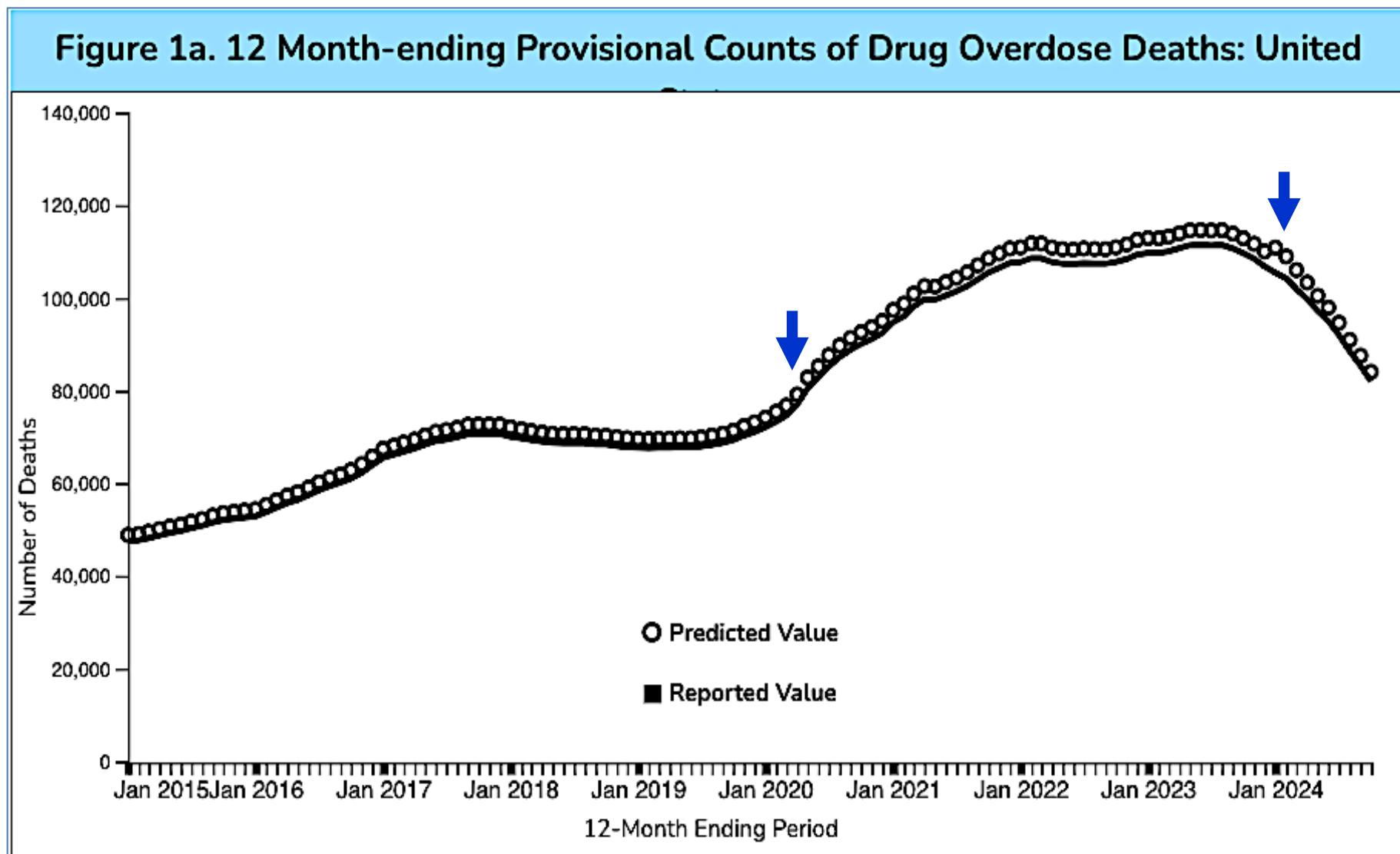
<sup>3</sup>Significant increasing trend from 2003 to 2016, with different rates of change over time; significant decreasing trend from 2016 to 2023, with different rates of change over time ( $p < 0.05$ ).

<sup>4</sup>Significant increasing trend from 2003 to 2006; significant decreasing trend from 2006 to 2017; no significant trend from 2017 to 2023 ( $p < 0.05$ ).

NOTES: Drug overdose deaths are identified using the *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision* underlying cause-of-death codes X40–X44, X60–X64, X85, and Y10–Y14. Drug overdose deaths involving selected drug categories are identified by specific multiple cause-of-death codes: heroin, T40.1; natural and semisynthetic opioids, T40.2; methadone, T40.3; synthetic opioids other than methadone, T40.4. Deaths involving more than one opioid category (such as a death involving both methadone and a natural or semisynthetic opioid) are counted in both categories. The percentage of drug overdose deaths that identified the specific drugs involved varied by year, ranging from 75% to 79% from 2003 to 2013 and increasing from 81% in 2014 to 96% in 2023. Age-adjusted death rates were calculated using the direct method and the 2000 U.S. standard population.

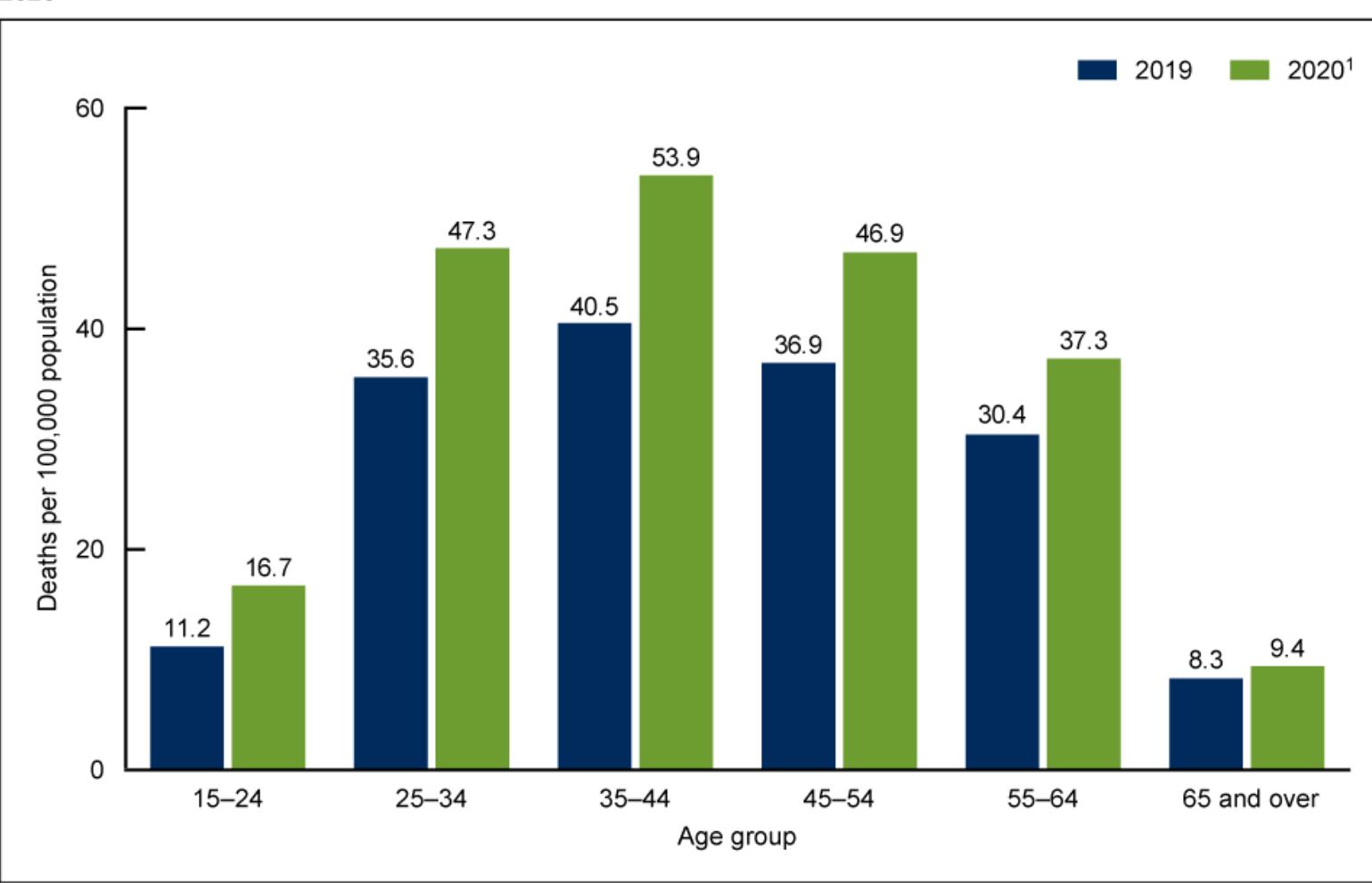
SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, mortality data file.

This interactive chart from the CDC indicates that about 416,000 Americans died from drug overdoses from January of 2020 to January of 2024. This comes out to an average of over 100,000 per year.



Data downloaded from the CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/vsrr/drug-overdose-data.htm>

Figure 2. Drug overdose death rates among those aged 15 and over, by selected age group: United States, 2019 and 2020



<sup>1</sup>Rates in 2020 were significantly higher than in 2019 for all age groups,  $p < 0.05$ .

NOTES: Drug overdose deaths are identified using the *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision* (ICD-10) underlying cause-of-death codes X40–X44, X60–X64, X85, and Y10–Y14. Access data table for Figure 2 at: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/databriefs/db428-tables.pdf#2>.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality.