



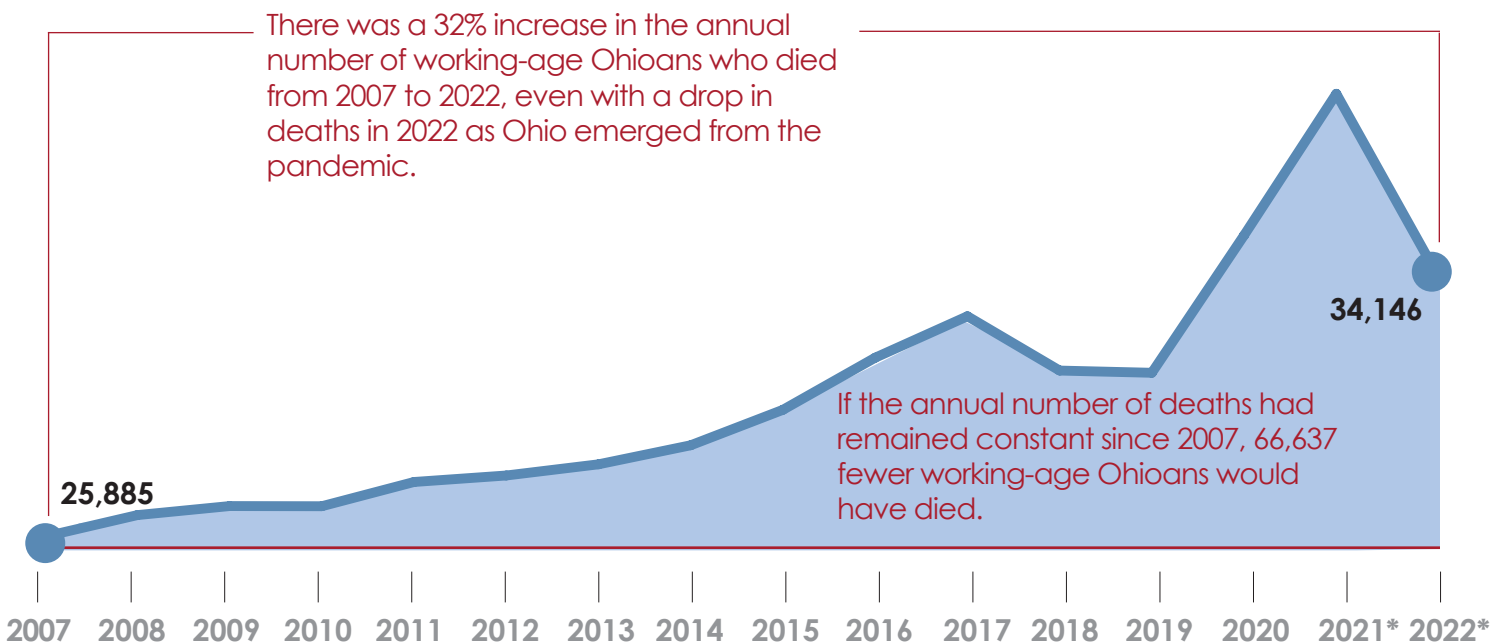
Data Snapshot

Updated death trends among working-age Ohioans

Ohioans between the ages of 15 and 64 are dying at a much higher rate than they were 15 years ago. These mostly preventable deaths have a tremendous impact on Ohio families, communities and society. In addition, the loss of a large number of working-age adults negatively affects Ohio's economy and businesses.

What are the trends in death among working-age Ohioans?

Annual number of deaths from all causes among working-age Ohioans, 15-64 years old



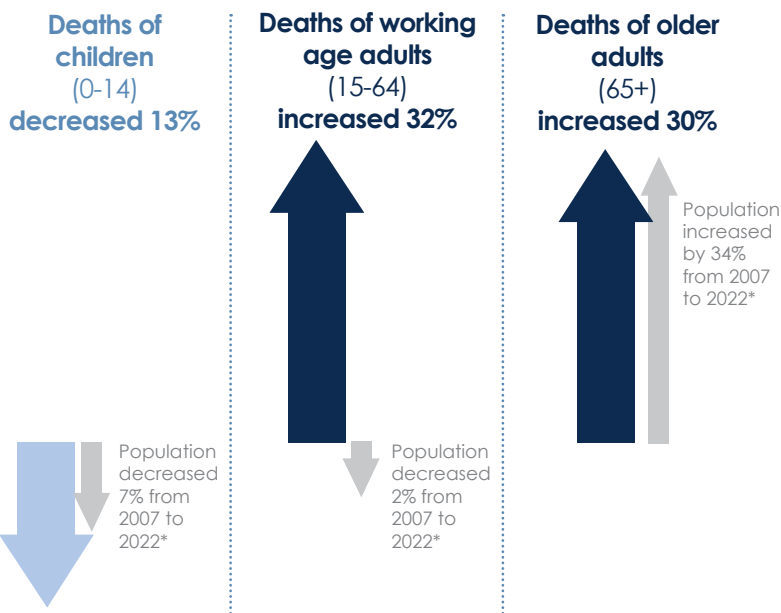
*Data is preliminary

Note: All death data is reported as of Sept. 5, 2023

Data source: Ohio Department of Health, Public Health Data Warehouse

Although the overall population of working-age adults in Ohio decreased by 2% from 2007 to 2022, the number of deaths in that age group increased by more than 32% during that time. The trend stands out from deaths among other age groups of Ohioans, which more closely matched population trends.

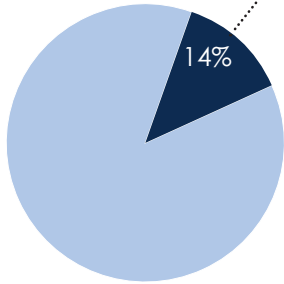
Percent change in number of deaths in Ohio compared to overall population change from 2007 to 2022*, by age



* 2021 and 2022 data is preliminary
 Note: All death data is reported as of Sept. 5, 2023
 Data source: Ohio Department of Health, Public Health Data Warehouse

What are the leading causes of death among working-age Ohioans?

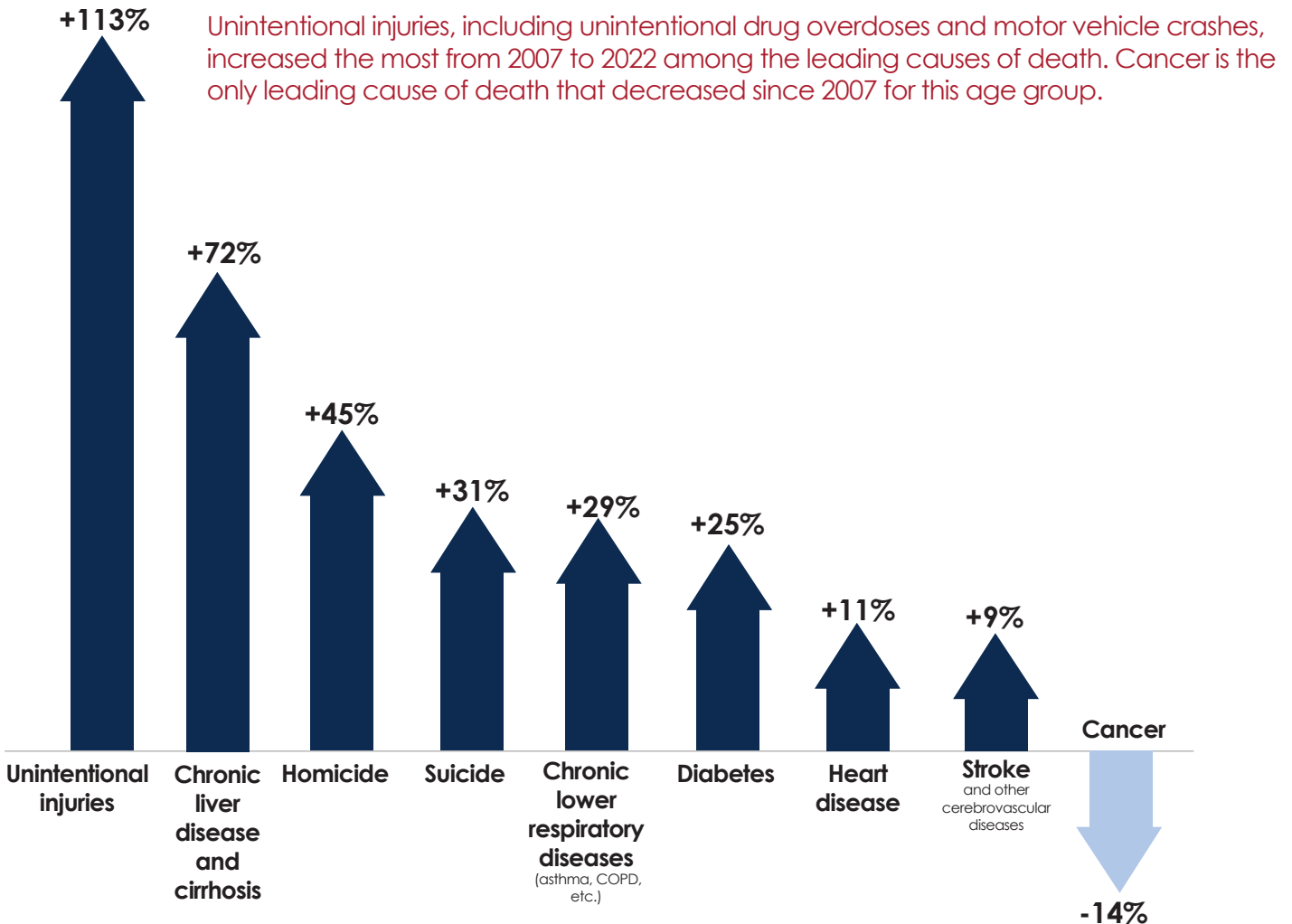
Unintentional drug overdose deaths continue to play a major role in Ohio's increased death rate, accounting for 14 percent of all deaths among Ohioans ages 15-64 in 2022.



| Top 10 leading causes of death in 2022* (ages 15-64) | |
|---|-------|
| 1. Unintentional injuries | 6,486 |
| Unintentional drug overdoses | 4,629 |
| Motor vehicle crashes | 1,032 |
| Other | 825 |
| 2. Cancer | 6,471 |
| 3. Heart disease | 5,654 |
| 4. COVID-19 | 1,936 |
| 5. Suicide | 1,416 |
| 6. Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis | 1,236 |
| 7. Chronic lower respiratory diseases (asthma, COPD, etc.) | 1,209 |
| 8. Diabetes | 1,179 |
| 9. Stroke and other cerebrovascular diseases | 843 |
| 10. Homicide | 810 |

*Data is preliminary
Note: All data is reported as of Sept. 5, 2023
Data source: Ohio Department of Health, Public Health Data Warehouse

What is driving the trend?



Note: All 2022 data is preliminary and is reported as of Sept. 5, 2023
Data source: Ohio Department of Health, Public Health Data Warehouse

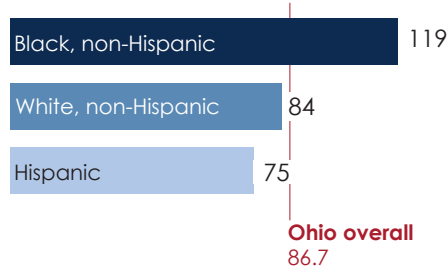
HPIO uses standardized categories for causes of death from the CDC's National Center for Health Statistics. More information is available on [HPIO's website](#).

Who is most affected?

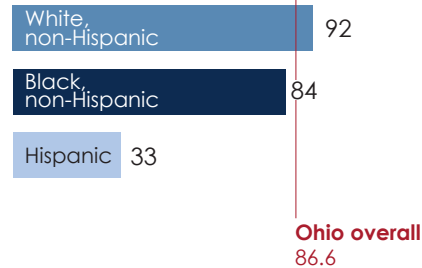
Every Ohioan should have the opportunity to live a long and healthy life, free from community conditions and experiences that expose them to harm. However, many Ohioans continue to face barriers to health in their homes, schools, workplaces and communities. Those unhealthy conditions lead to higher rates of deaths for certain groups of working-age Ohioans. For seven of the 10 top leading causes of death, the rate was higher among Black Ohioans than white or Hispanic Ohioans. In addition, for nine of the top 10 leading causes of death, the rate for men was higher than the rate for women.

Number of deaths per 100,000 population for top four leading causes of death in Ohio, by race/ethnicity, working-age Ohioans (15-64 years old), 2022*

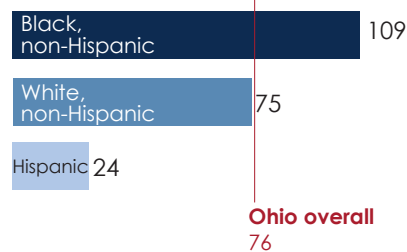
Unintentional injuries



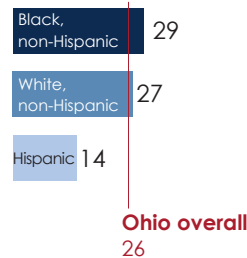
Cancer



Heart disease



COVID-19



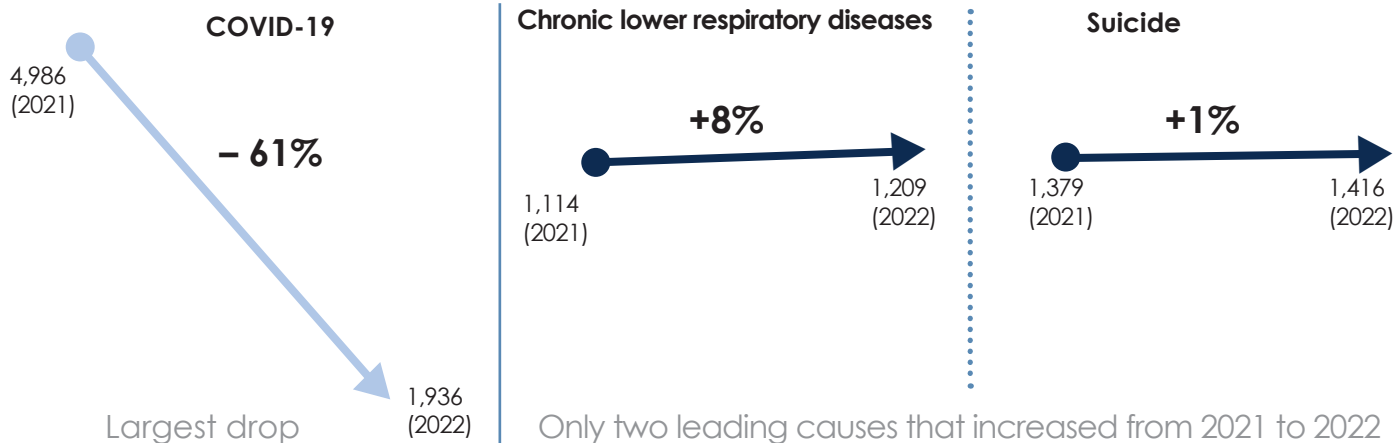
* 2022 data is preliminary

Note: Data is not age-adjusted. All data is reported as of Sept. 5, 2023

Data source: Ohio Department of Health, Public Health Data Warehouse

What changed from 2021 to 2022?

Deaths from most leading causes decreased from 2021 to 2022*, with the largest drop in COVID-19 deaths. The only two causes that increased were death from chronic lower respiratory diseases (asthmias, COPD, etc.), which are often related to smoking, and suicide.



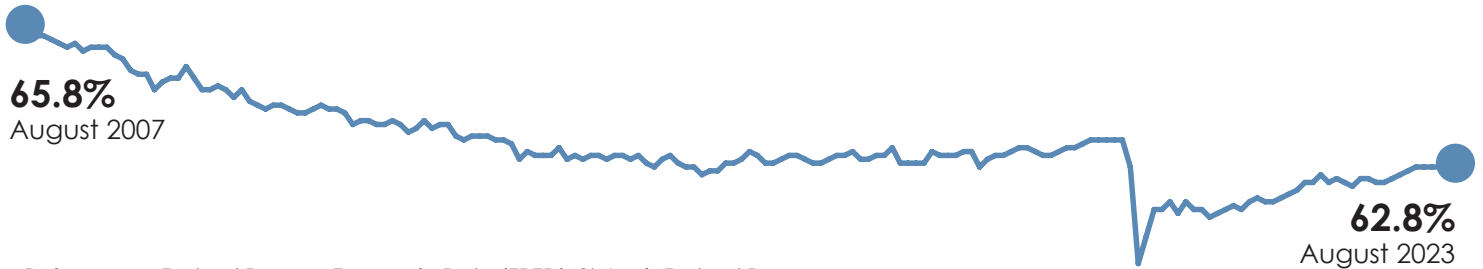
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Data source: Ohio Department of Health, Public Health Data Warehouse

What is the economic impact?

Monthly labor force participation rate in Ohio from August 2007 to August 2023

The long-term decline in Ohio's labor force participation has made it more difficult for Ohio employers to fill open positions. The sharp increase in deaths among working-age Ohioans in recent years makes it even more challenging to maintain staffing levels. After hitting a low of 61.4% in September 2020, however, the rate began to recover over the past three years.



Data source: Federal Reserve Economic Data (FRED), St. Louis Federal Reserve



Tip of the iceberg

Deaths are the tip of the iceberg, signaling broad problems below the surface that affect even more Ohioans. The increasing death rate among working-age Ohioans indicates that issues such as mental health, addiction, chronic disease and violence are not being adequately addressed.

What can be done about it?

Improvement is possible

- There are many effective strategies to address substance use, promote mental health and support access to healthy food and physical activity, all of which can help reduce deaths among working-age Ohioans.
- Public and private partners can work together to ensure more Ohio workers have the opportunity to live a healthy and productive life.

HPIO resources

- [HPIO's addiction-related policy briefs](#) (including resources on alcohol and tobacco use and drug overdoses)
- [2023 Health Value Dashboard](#)
- [Unlocking Ohio's economic potential: The impact of eliminating racial disparities on Ohio businesses, governments and communities](#)