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# Drug Related Deaths Wales 2023

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Communicable Disease Inclusion Health Programme**

**27 March 2025**

# Contents

- **Naloxone**
- **Drug-related Deaths**

# Data on Naloxone in Wales 2023

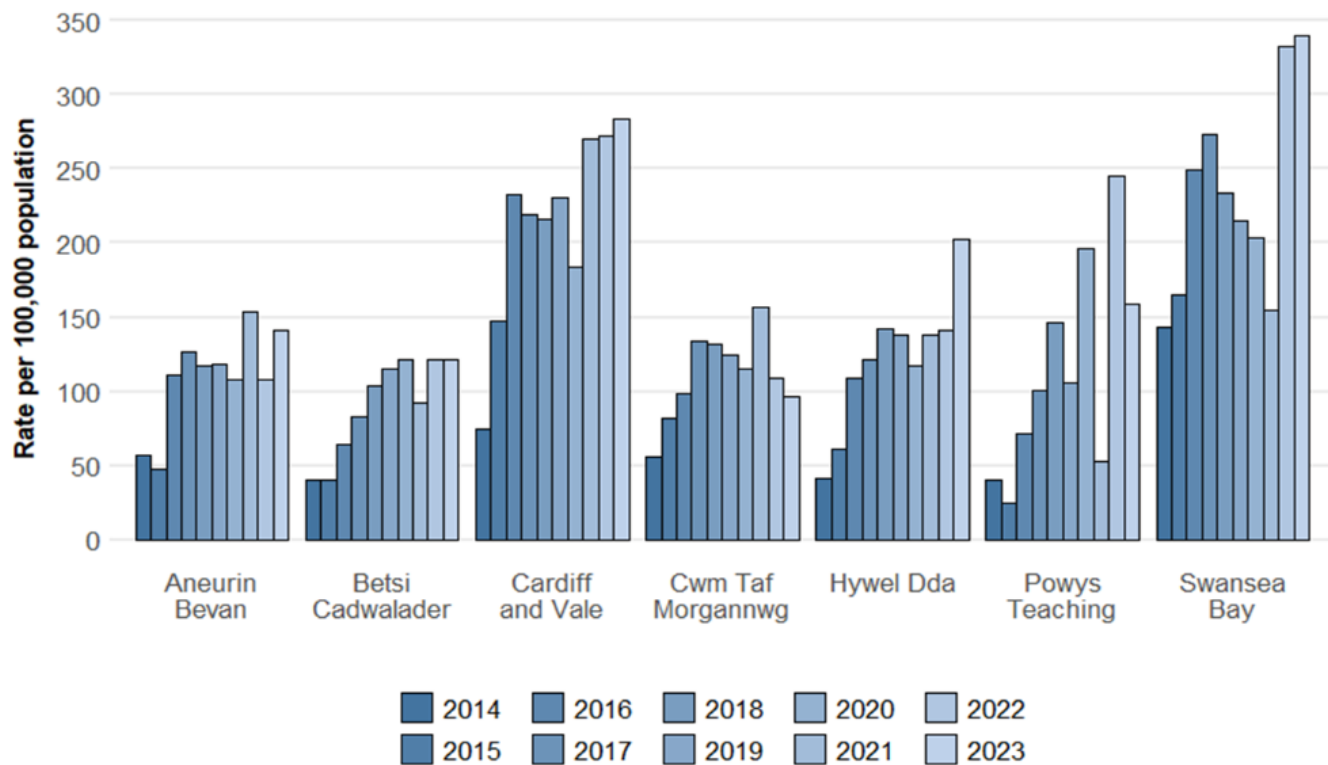
# Supply rate of THN to new and existing individuals

**Table 1: Number of sites, individuals supplied and THN kits provided by year, 2014 to 2023**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of Sites</b>	<b>Total individuals supplied</b>	<b>New individuals supplied</b>	<b>THN kits provided</b>
<b>2014</b>	45	1,232	800	2,107
<b>2015</b>	52	1,578	914	2,878
<b>2016</b>	58	2,545	1,370	4,131
<b>2017</b>	63	2,982	1,509	4,246
<b>2018</b>	54	3,042	1,326	4,441
<b>2019</b>	74	2,993	1,344	4,410
<b>2020</b>	63	2,809	1,062	4,584
<b>2021</b>	63	2,990	1,408	5,161
<b>2022</b>	77	3,572	1,862	6,610
<b>2023</b>	87	3,681	2,145	6,350

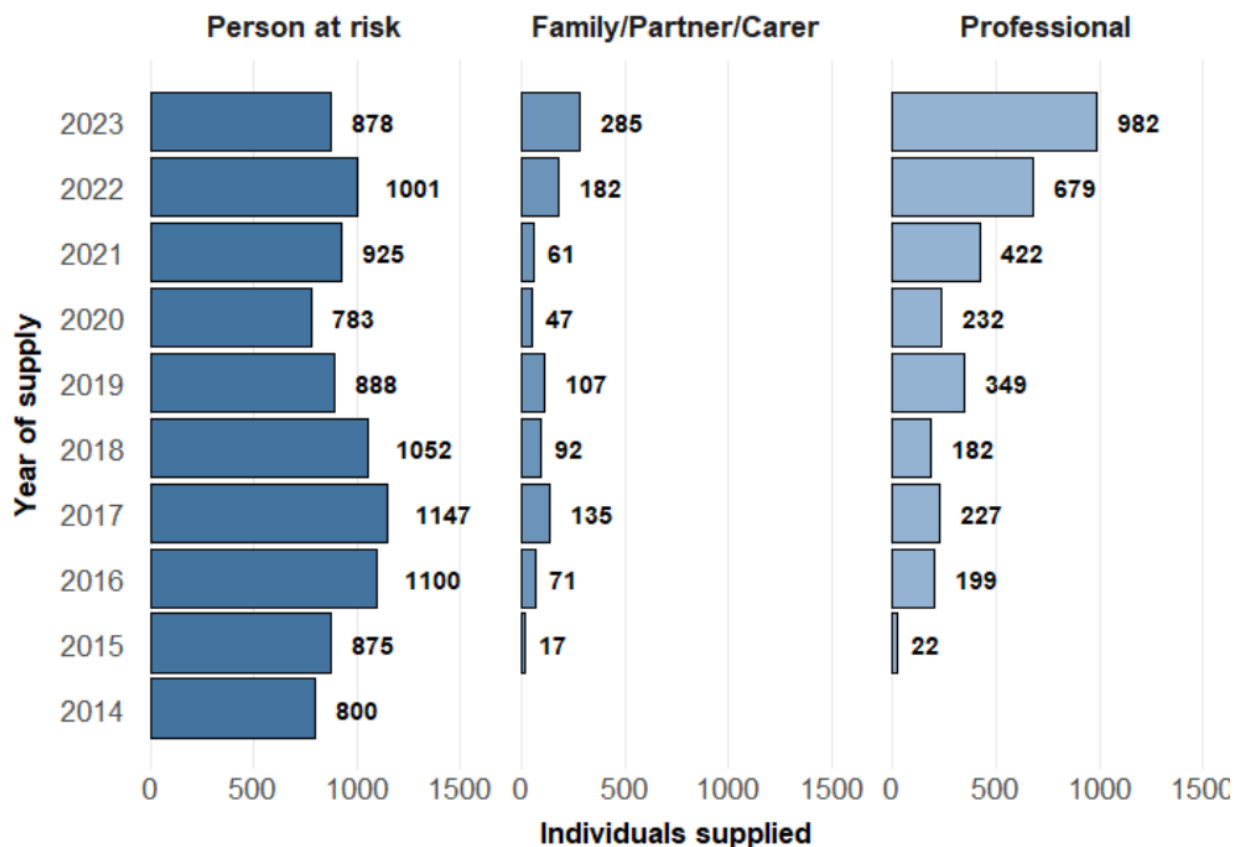


# THN by health board area of residence (EASR per 100,000 population)



Source: Harm Reduction Database September 2024

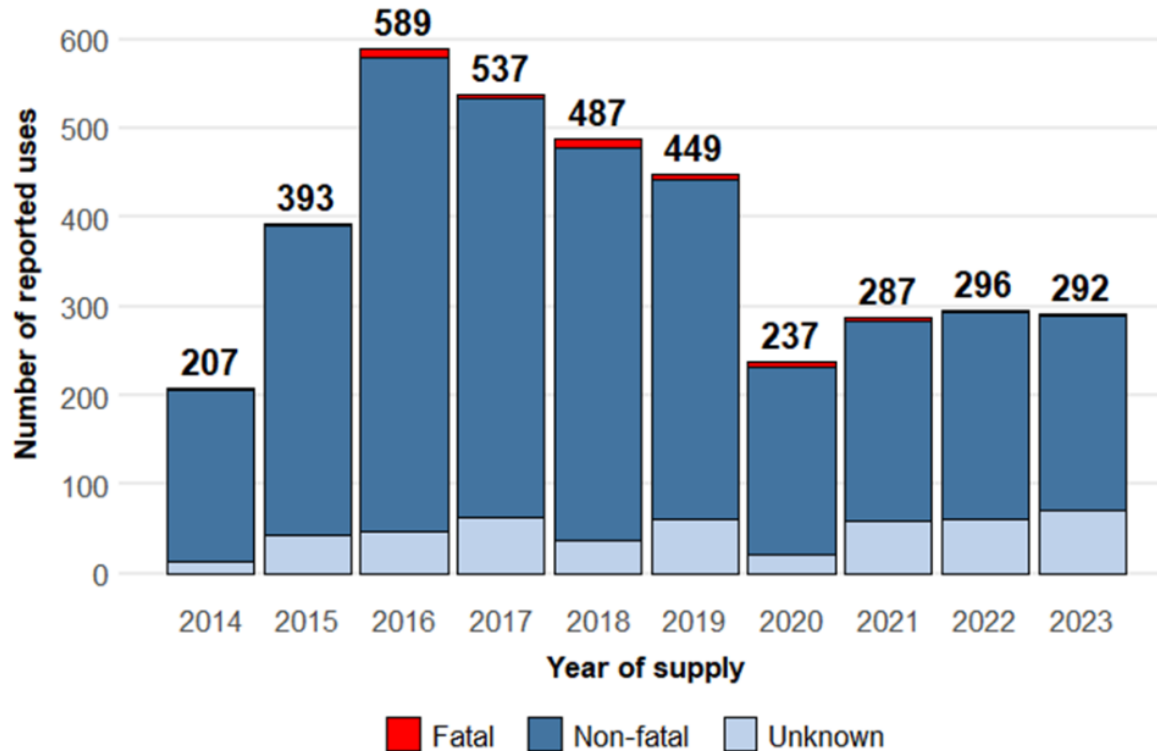
# THN supply to new individuals by role



Source: Harm Reduction Database September 2024



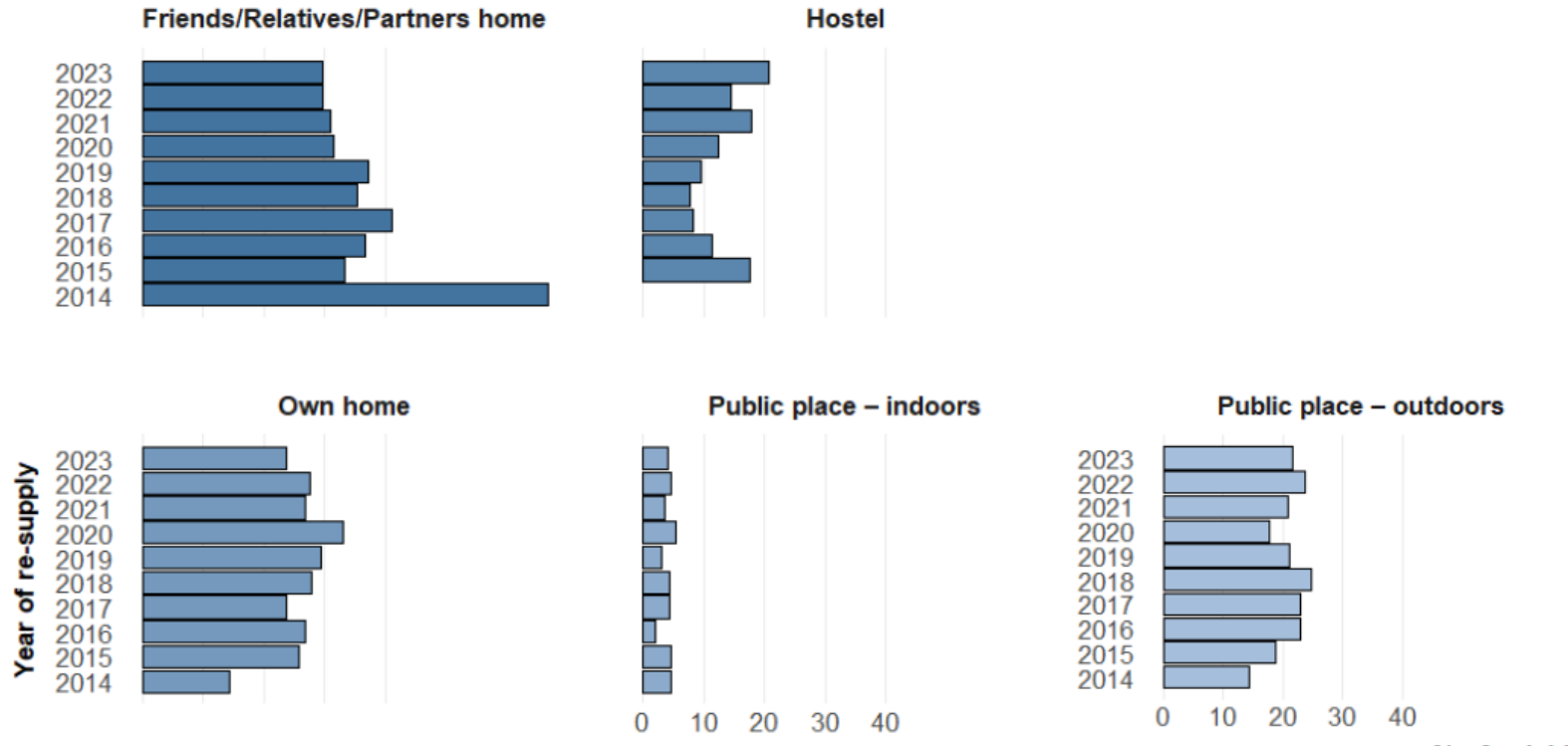
# Number of reported uses of THN recorded at time of re-supply by outcome and year 2014 to 2023



Source: Harm Reduction Database September 2024



# Settings in which THN was used



% of opioid poisoning events

Source: Harm Reduction Database September 2024





# THN and Prisons

**Table 7: Number of THN supply events conducted within prison setting, by prison and year**

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
HMP Berwyn	-	-	-	3	22	97	186	181	79	-
HMP Cardiff	83	146	256	270	233	163	151	198	230	144
HMP Eastwood Park*	-	-	43	223	229	184	57	73	122	44
HMP Parc	87	38	32	59	98	50	22	-	-	3
HMP Stoke Heath*	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-
HMP Swansea	91	116	149	237	191	125	42	11	41	50
<b>Total</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>794</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>619</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>472</b>	<b>241</b>

\* THN supplied to Welsh residents within Prison population



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# **Drug Misuse Deaths in Wales registered in 2023**



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**377**

**318 (2022)**

Drug poisoning deaths in Wales

**253**

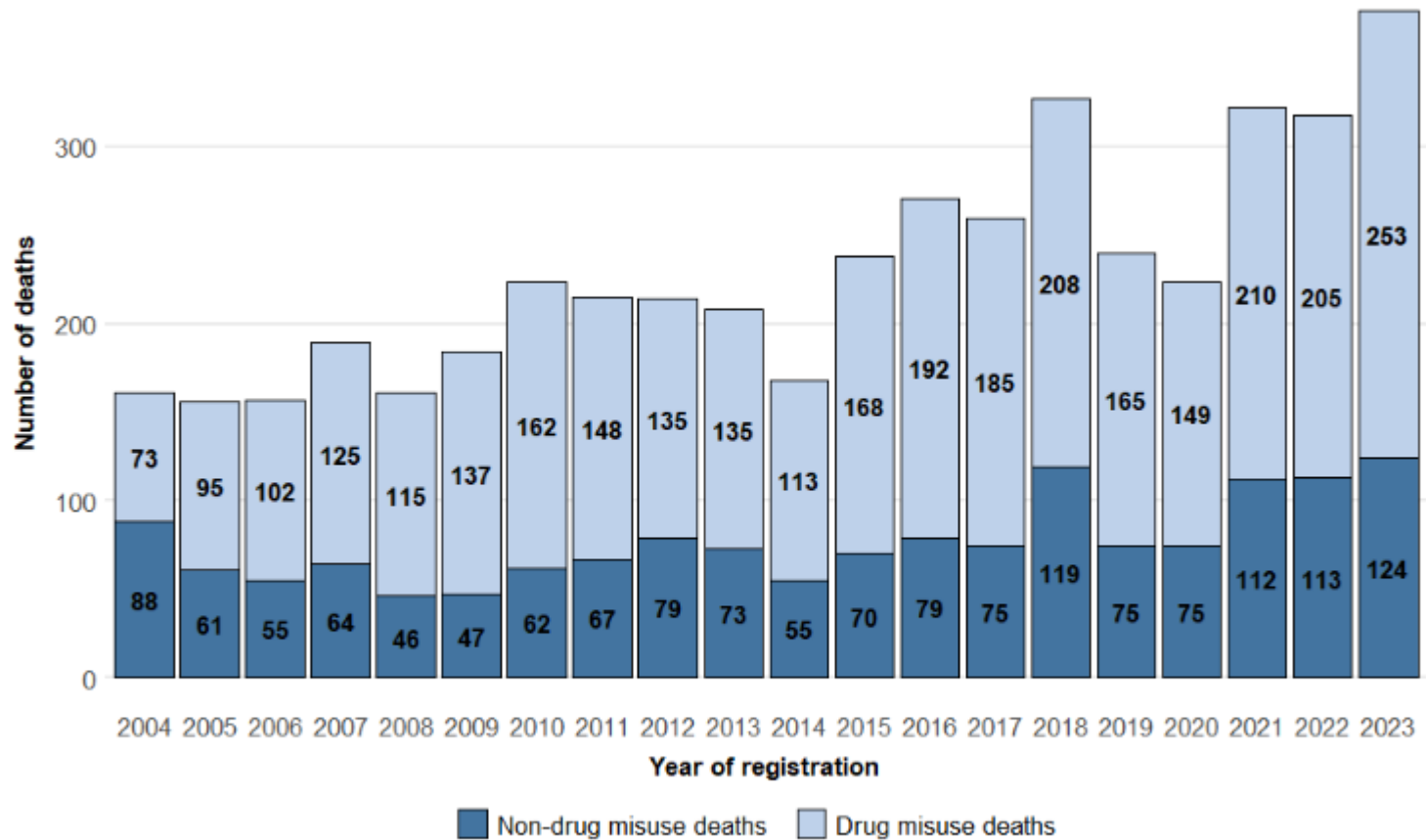
**205 (2022)**

Drug misuse deaths



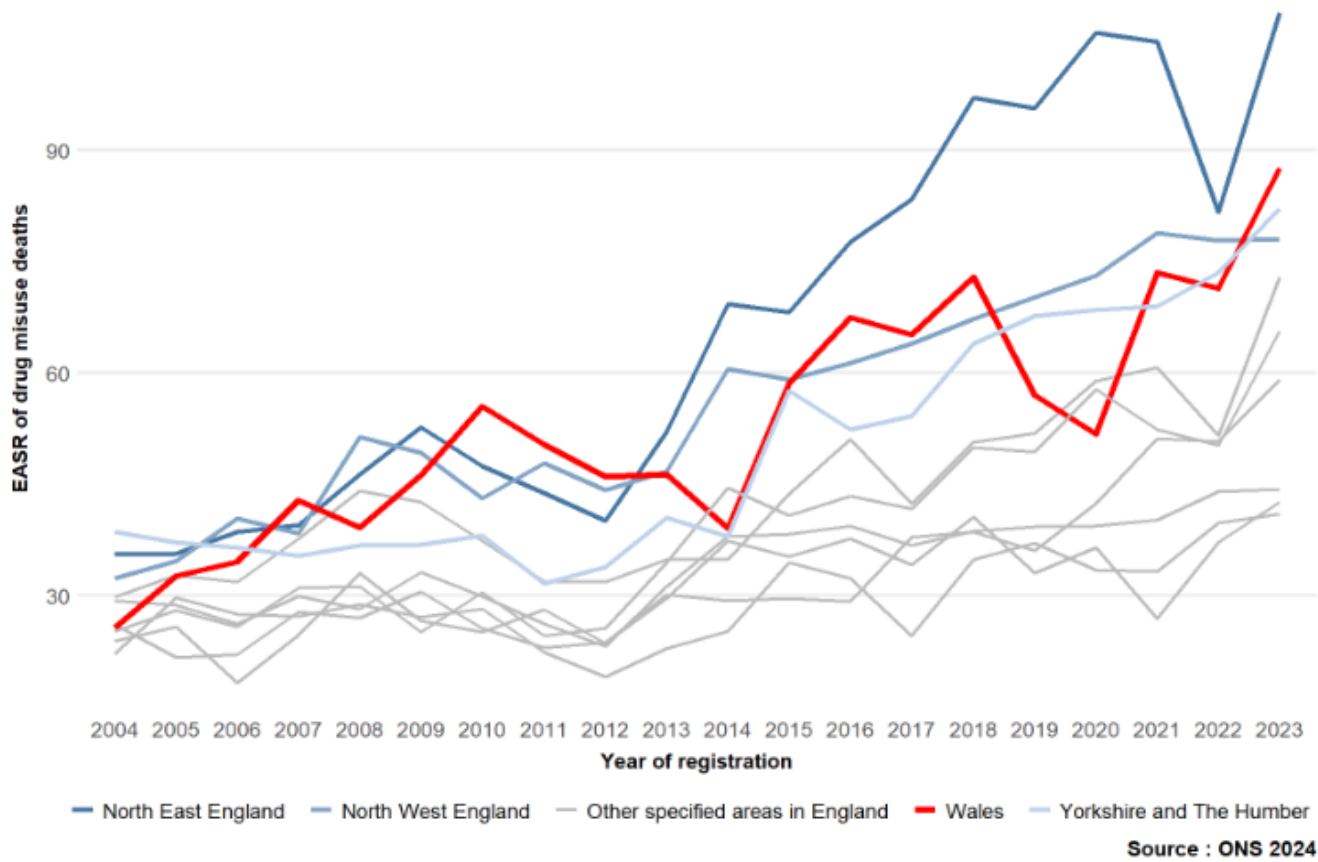
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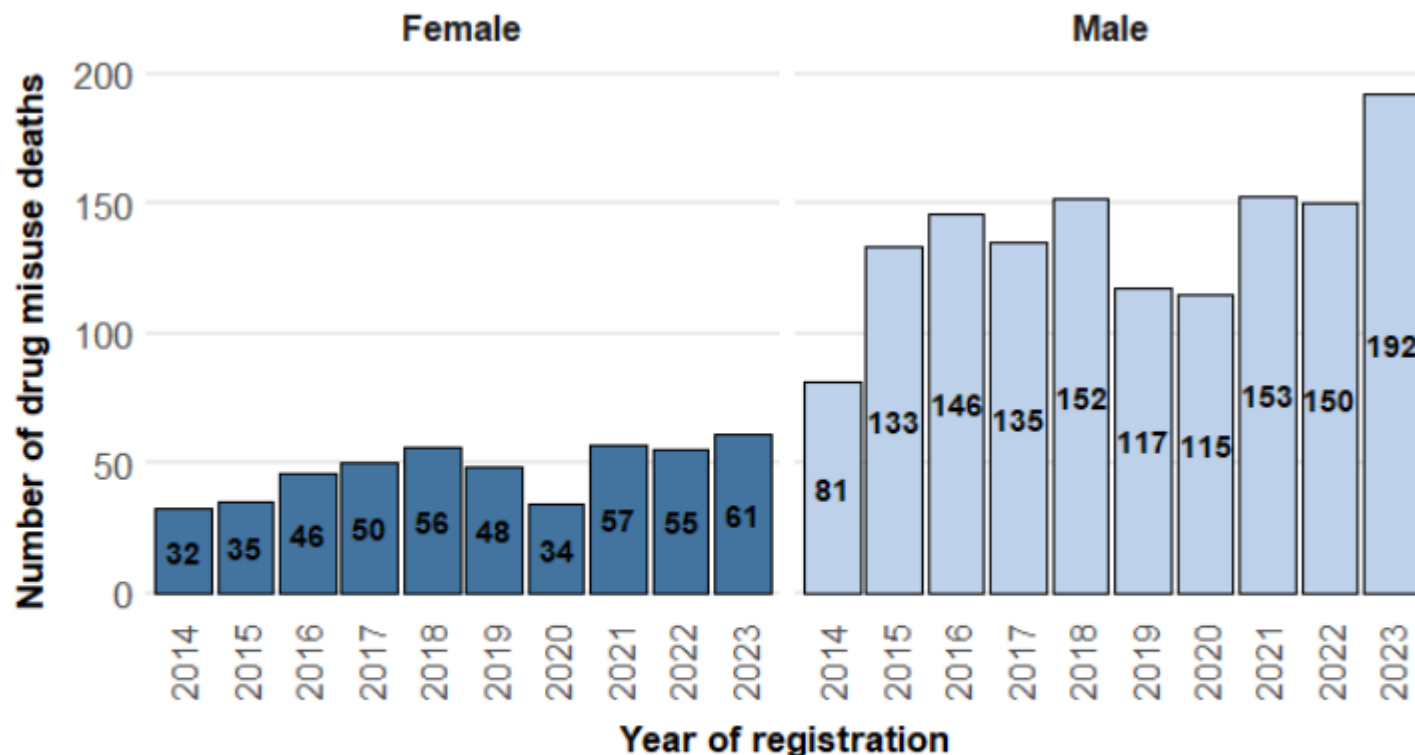


Source : ONS 2024





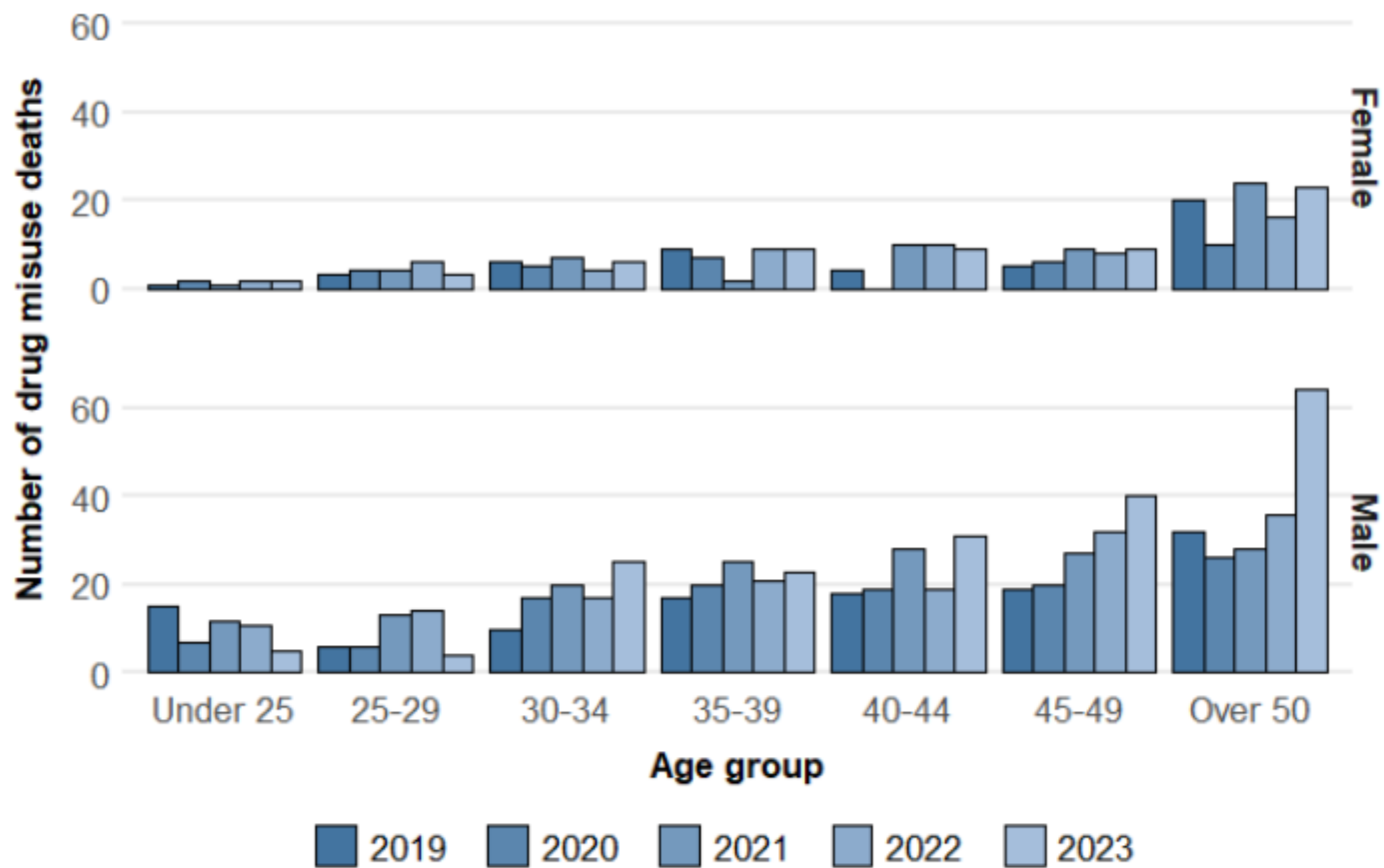
**Figure 14: Rate of drug misuse deaths per million population in Wales compared to specified regions in England, 2004 to 2023**



Source : ONS 2024

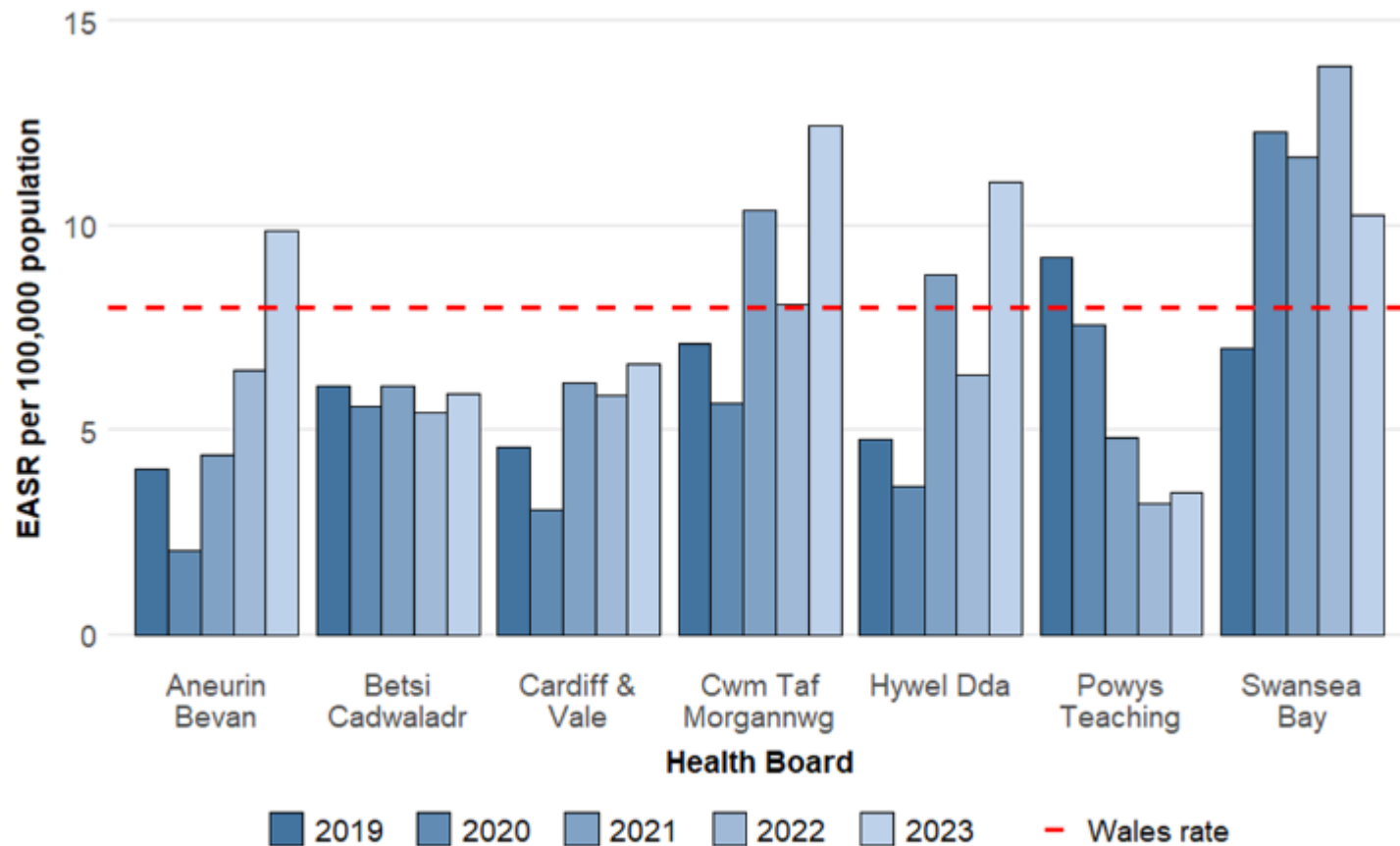
**Figure 18: Drug misuse deaths by sex and year of registration, 2014 to 2023, Wales**





Source : ONS 2024

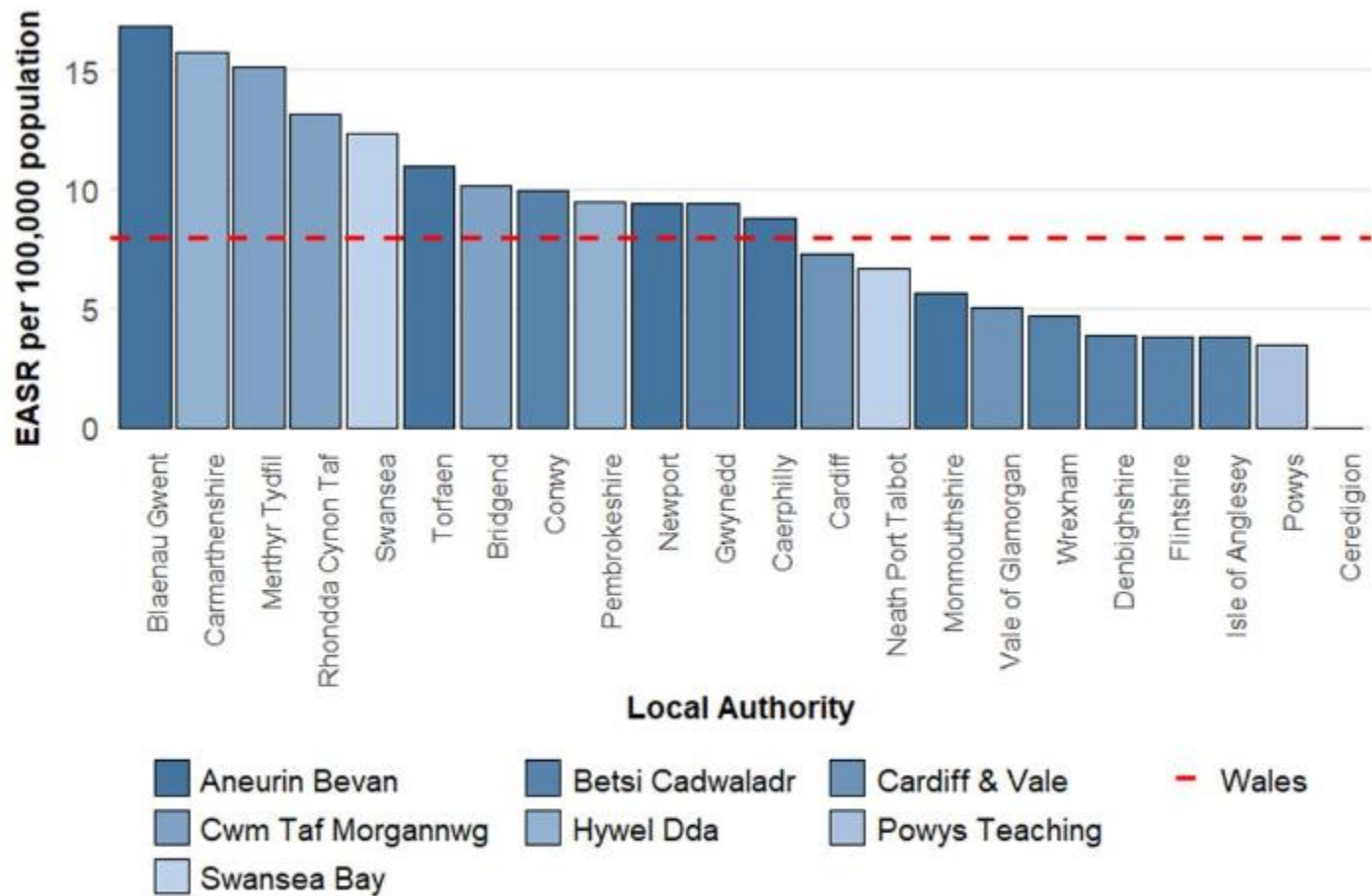
**Figure 19: Drug misuse deaths by age group, sex and year of registration, 2019 to 2023**



Source : ONS 2024

**Figure 36: EASR of drug misuse deaths per 100,000 population by health board, 2019 to 2023**

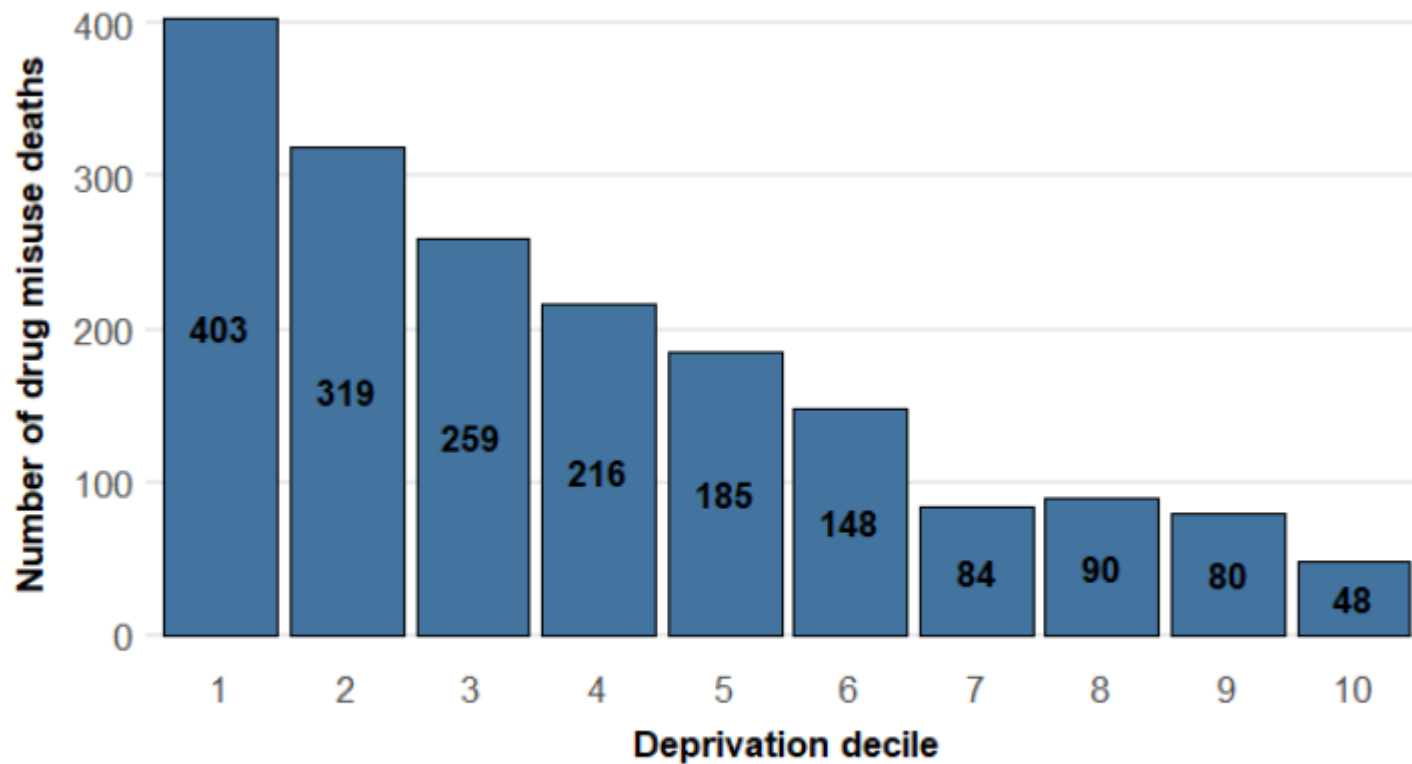




Source : ONS 2024

**Figure 37: EASR of drug misuse deaths per 100,000 population in Wales by local authority, 2023**





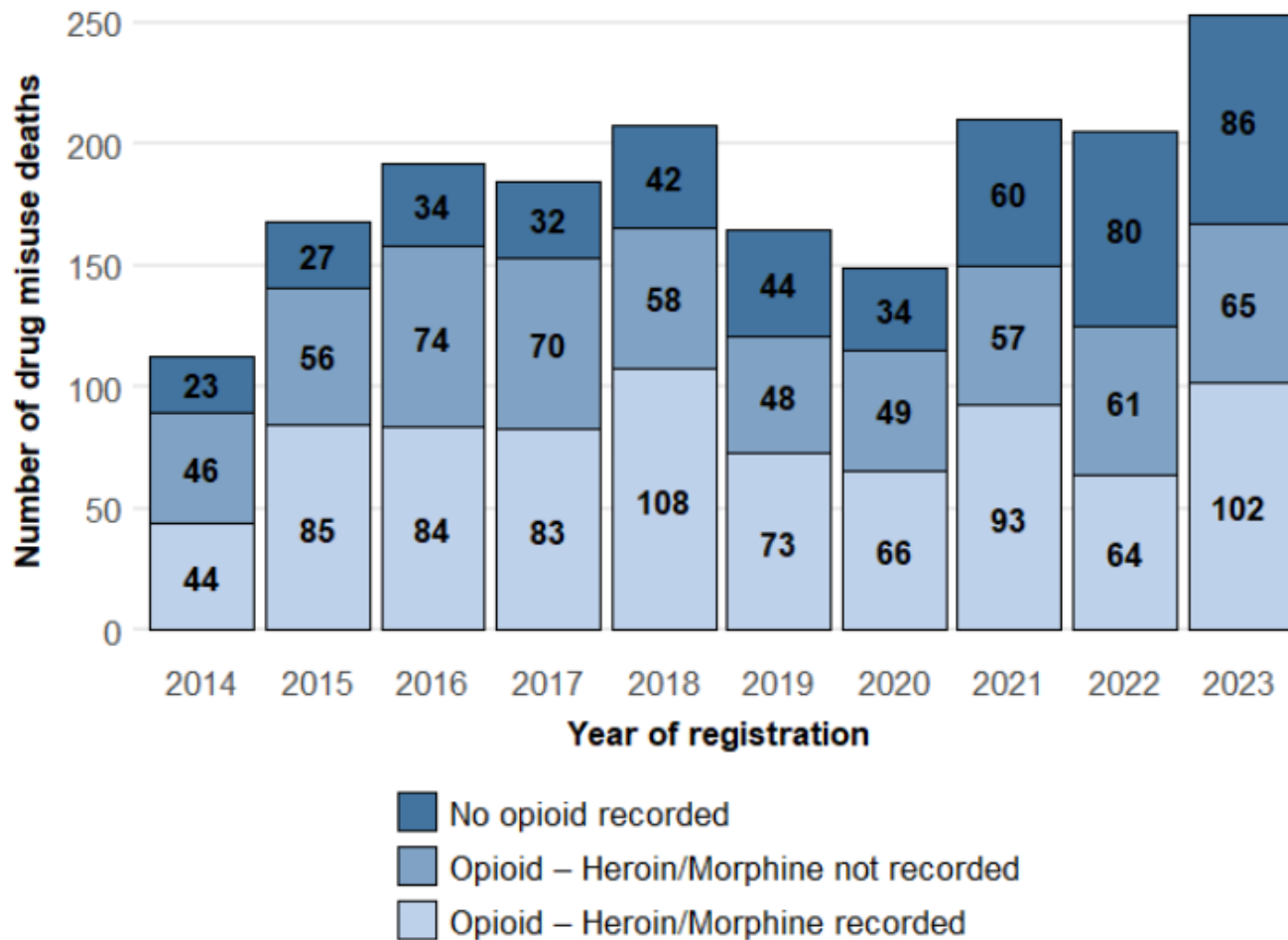
Source : ONS 2024

**Figure 17: Cumulative number of drug misuse deaths by deprivation decile, 2014 to 2023 (1 = highest rank of deprivation to 10 = lowest rank of deprivation)**



# Substances

- Opioids remain the most common substances reported in Wales - 167 deaths (66%)
  - 61% involved heroin/morphine



Source : ONS 2024

Figure 25: Drug misuse deaths in Wales, by substance group and year of death registration, 2014 to 2023



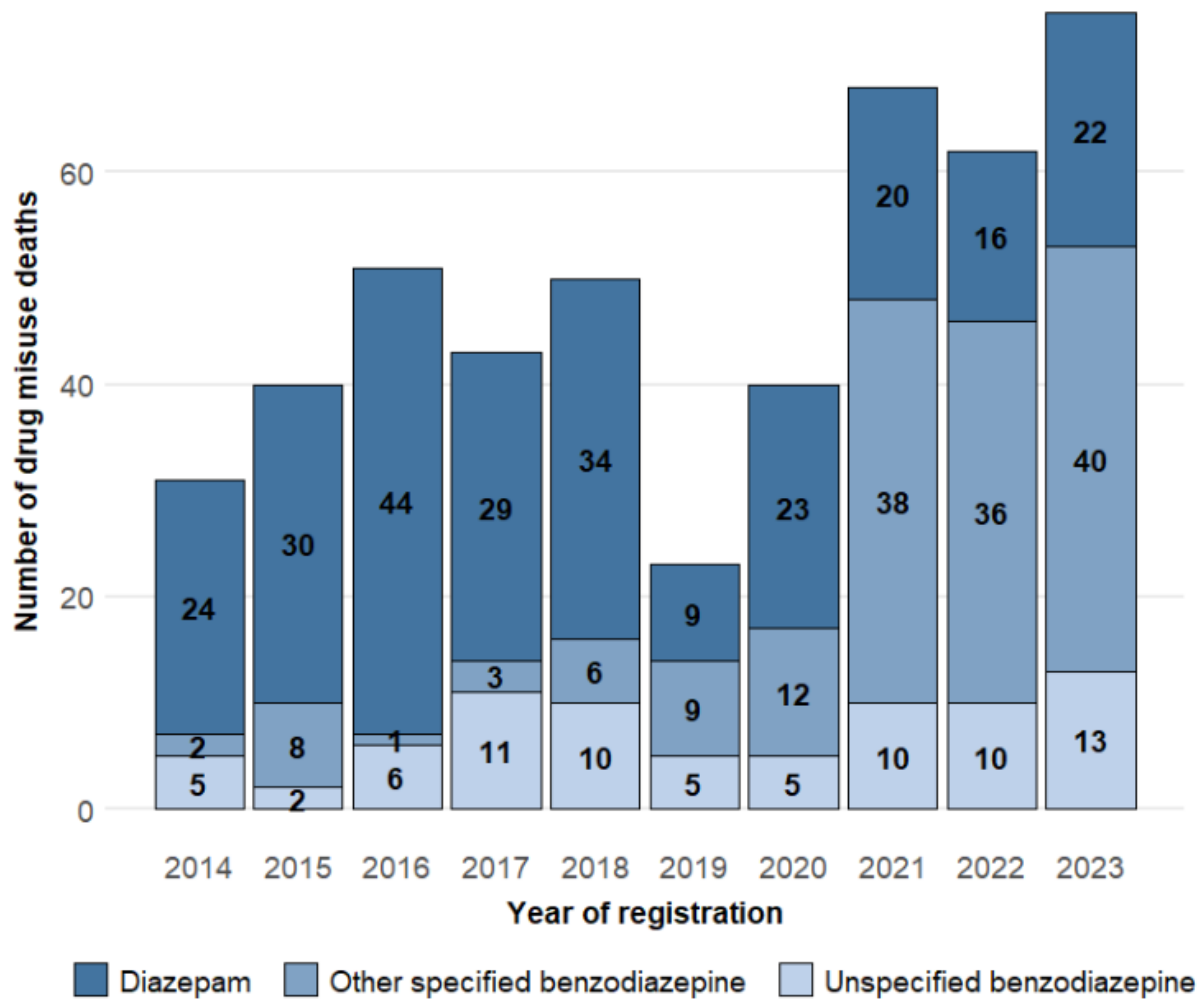
# Substances

- Opioids remain the most common substances reported in Wales - 167 deaths (66%)
  - 61% involved heroin/morphine
- Benzodiazepines were reported in 29% of drug misuse deaths registered in 2023 (n = 74)



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Source : ONS 2024

**Figure 30: Deaths involving benzodiazepines by year of registration and substance, 2014 to 2023**



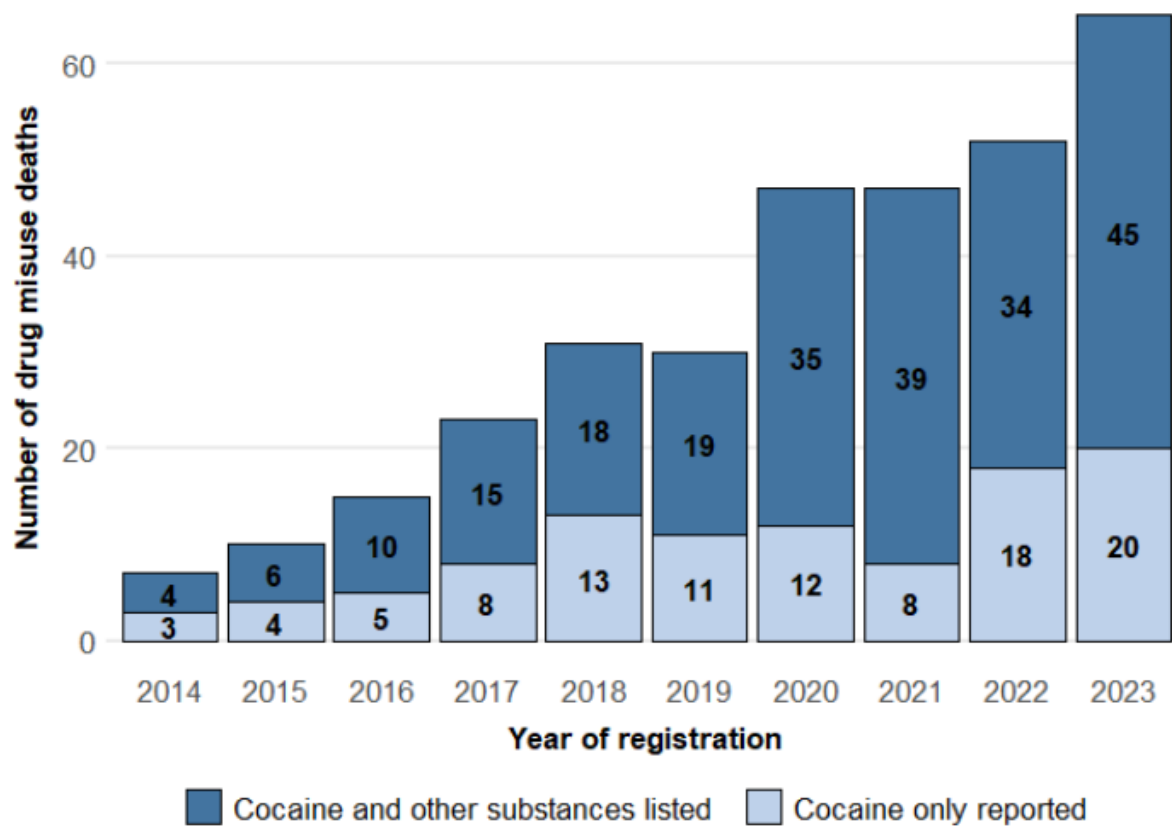
# Substances

- Opioids remain the most common substances reported in Wales - 167 deaths (66%)
  - 61% involved heroin/morphine
- Benzodiazepines were reported in 29% of drug misuse deaths registered in 2023 (n = 74)
- Cocaine was recorded in 26% of drug misuse deaths (n=65)



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Source : ONS 2024

**Figure 32: Drug misuse deaths involving cocaine as the only substance reported, and cocaine alongside at least one other substance, by year of death registration, 2014 to 2023**

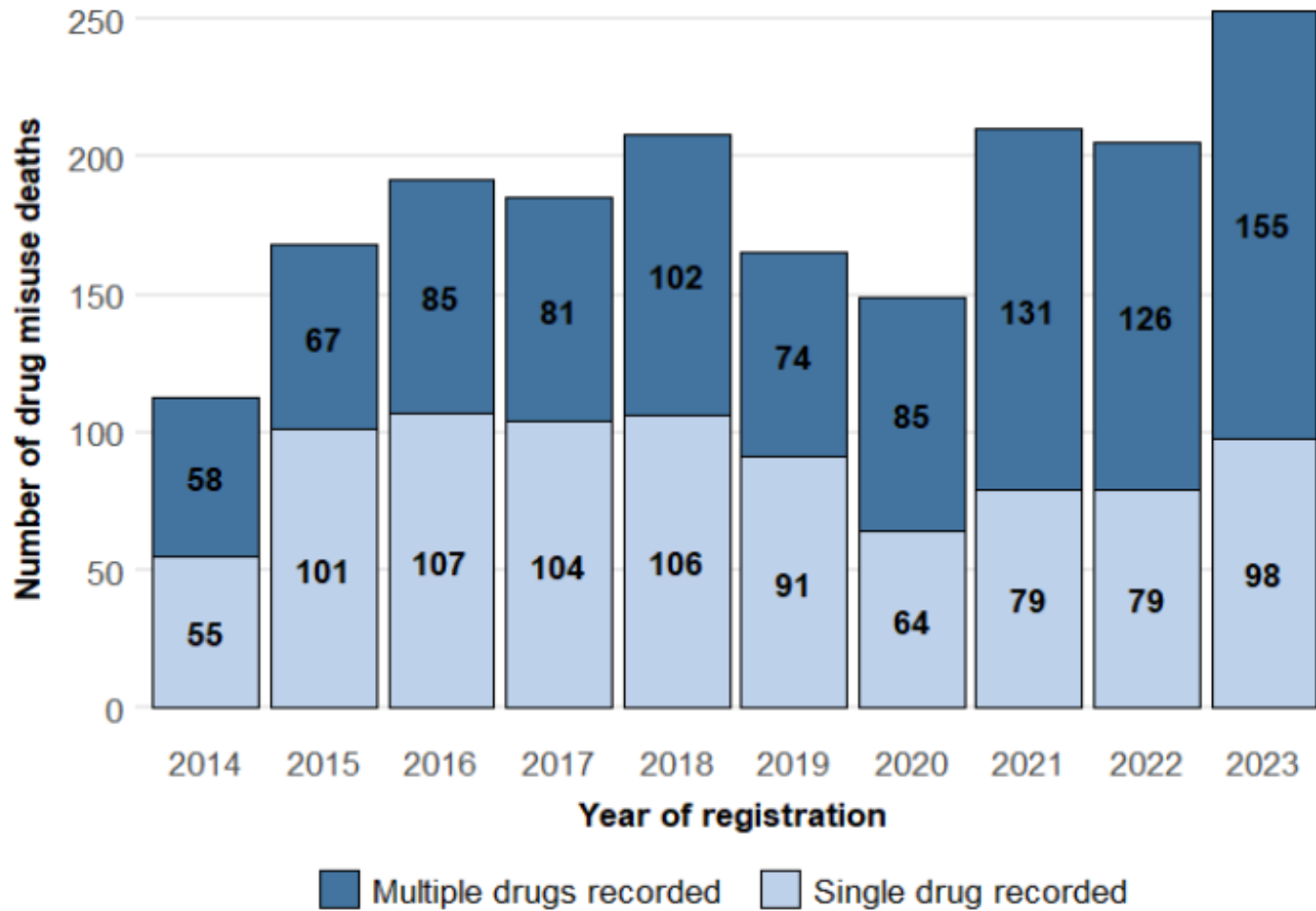




# Substances

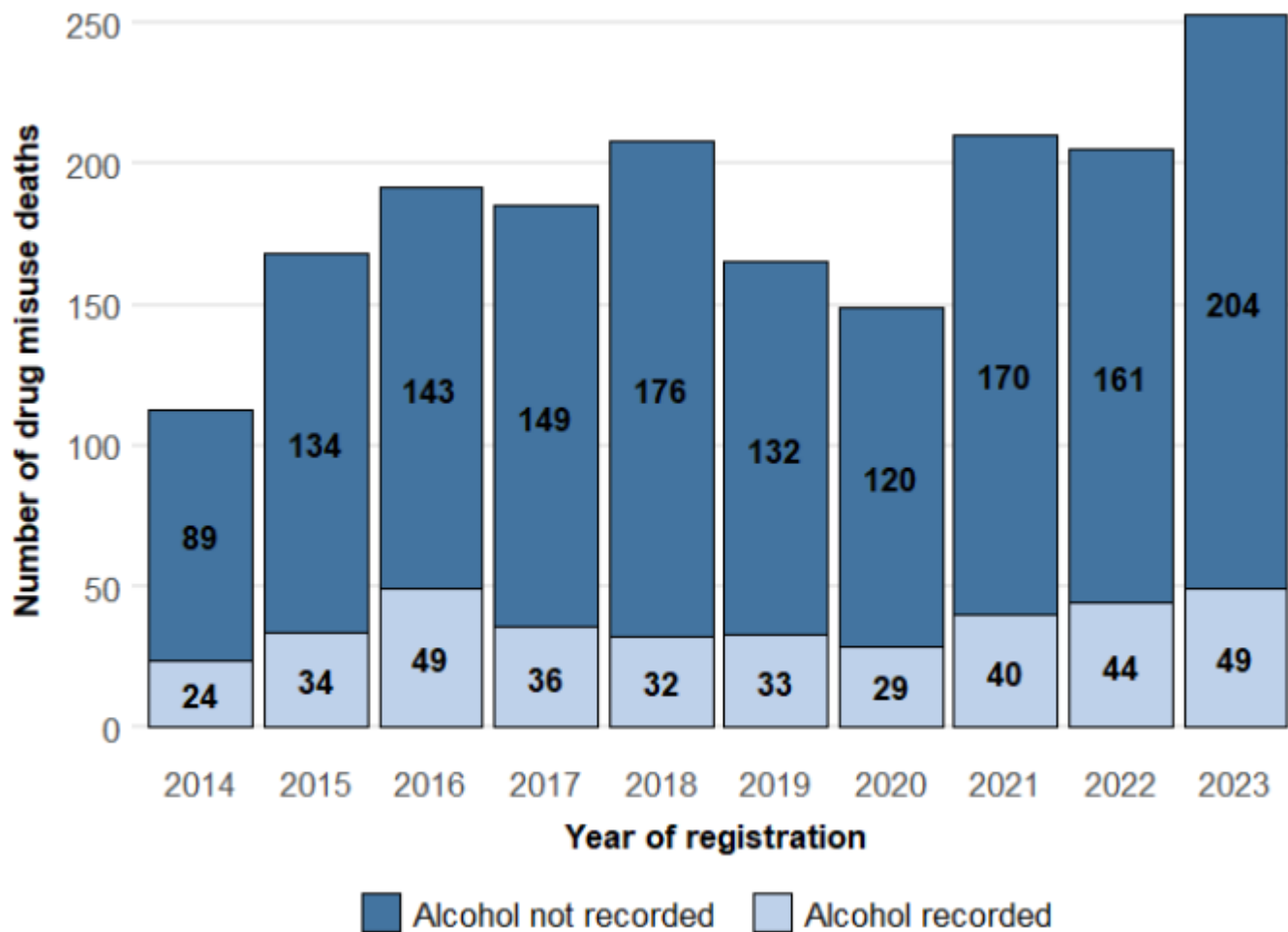
- Opioids remain the most common substances reported in Wales - 167 deaths (66%)
  - 61% involved heroin/morphine
- Benzodiazepines were reported in 29% of drug misuse deaths registered in 2023 (n = 74)
- Cocaine was recorded in 26% of drug misuse deaths (n=65)
- Poly-drug use was reported in 61% per cent (n=155) of drug misuse deaths





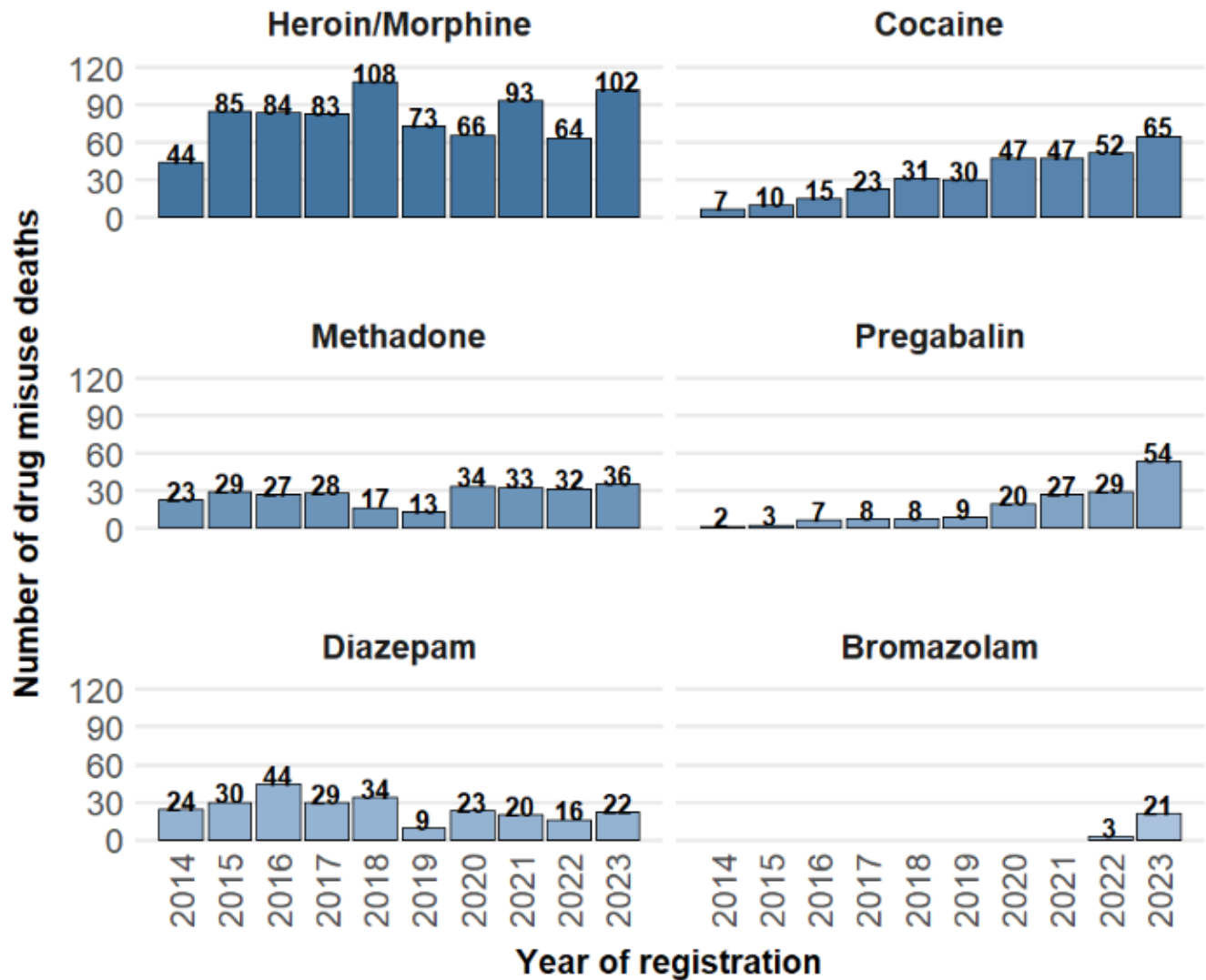
Source : ONS 2024





Source : ONS 2024





Source : ONS 2024



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