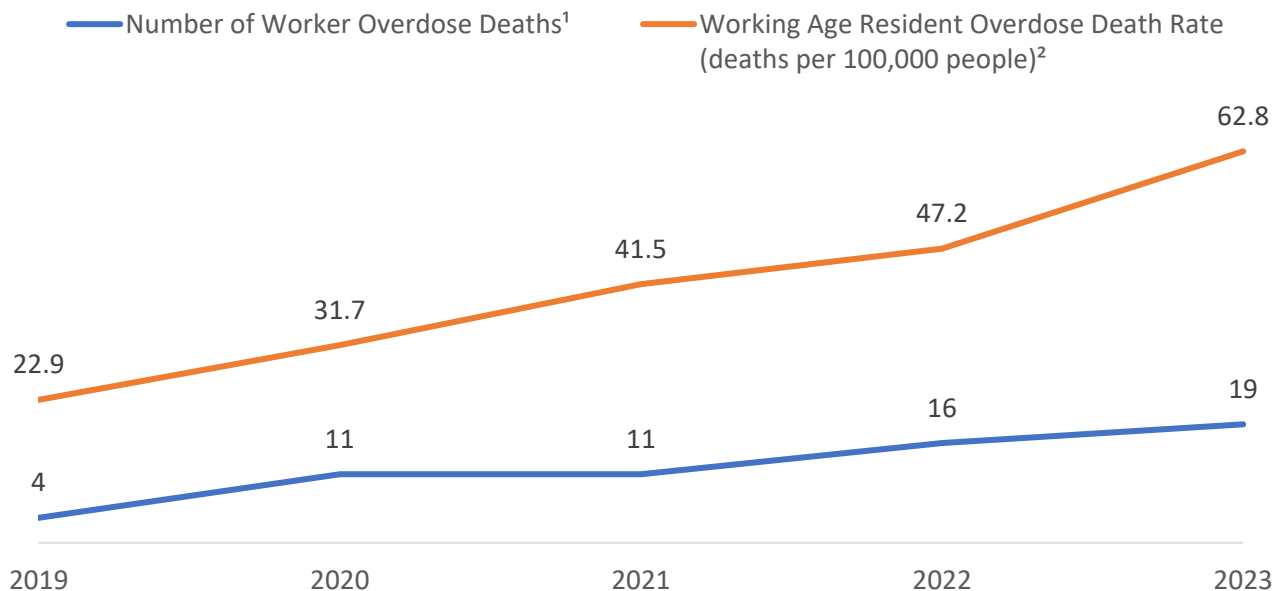


Washington State Worker and Working Age Resident Overdose Deaths, 2019–2023



Among *workers* who died of an overdose³ at work, in work status, or while being compensated for work:

- Sixty-one died and the number of annual overdose deaths increased nearly five times over this period. The majority (92%) were men.
- The industry sectors with the highest number of deaths were Construction (13), Accommodations and Food Services (9), Retail (7), Manufacturing (7) and Transportation and Warehousing (5).⁴
- Nearly half (47%) of deaths were due to fentanyl exclusively. Where two or more drugs contributed to deaths, fentanyl was detected in 85% of cases. Workers who overdosed were commonly found in vehicles and restrooms.

Among *residents of working age* who died of an overdose:

- Over 10,000 died and the overdose death rate more than doubled over this period. The majority (70%) were men.
- Thirty percent who died were found at their places of residence. Those who overdosed were also commonly found in vehicles.

1. A *worker* is a Washington State worker at a workplace, in work status, or being compensated for work. Worker overdose death case counts from [Washington Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation \(WA FACE\)](#).
2. *Working age residents* are Washington State residents aged 16 to 65 years old. Working age resident overdose death rates use case counts from Washington State Vital Statistics and state population estimates from the US Bureau of Census [American Community Survey](#).
3. Overdose deaths are defined by the [National Center for Health Statistics](#) as “deaths resulting from unintentional or intentional overdose of a drug, being given the wrong drug, taking a drug in error, or taking a drug inadvertently.”
4. Industry sector classifications are based on [North American Industrial Classification System \(NAICS\)](#) code system.