

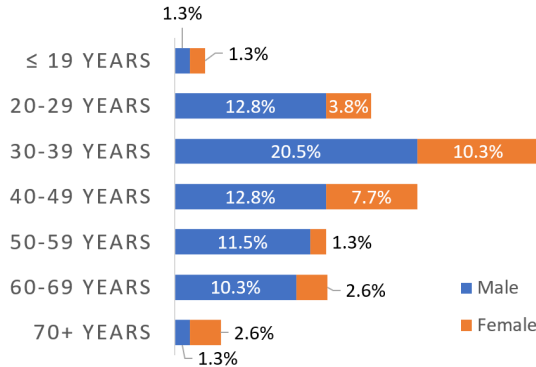
## Substance Use in Pueblo County

Someone died in Pueblo County of a drug overdose every week in 2021. These deaths are preventable.

### Key findings

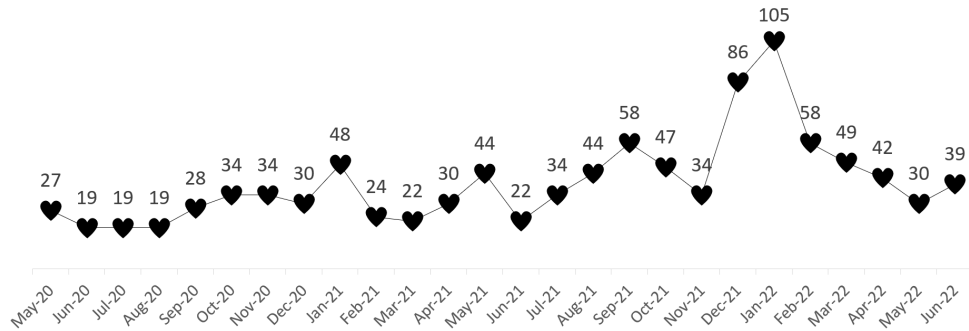
- The overdose death rate in 2021 in Pueblo County was 46.1 per 100,000.
- Most overdose deaths, over 31% in 2021, occurred among individuals aged 30-39 (Graph A).
- Males made up a higher percentage, 71% in 2021, of fatal overdose deaths (Graph A).
- Almost half of all fatal drug overdoses, 56% in 2021, involved more than one substance (polydrug use).
- Fentanyl's presence in the drug supply continues to increase. In 2021, 19% of drug overdoses involved fentanyl.
- From 2020 to 2021, 701 lives were saved in Pueblo County with the use of Naloxone/Narcan. (Graph B).
- In 2021, an average of 41 lives were saved each month with Naloxone/Narcan.

A. Overdose Deaths By Age and Gender



Data Source: Pueblo County Coroner Timeframe: 2021

B. Number of Lives Saved Each Month With Naloxone



Data Source: Pueblo Harm Reduction Agencies Timeframe: May 2020 - June 2022

**Want to dive into the data further? Check out the extended Data Brief at [county.pueblo.org/public-health-department/substance-use-data-pueblo-county](https://county.pueblo.org/public-health-department/substance-use-data-pueblo-county)**

## **Definitions**

### **Polydrug use:**

The use of more than one drug or type of drug at the same time or one after another.<sup>1</sup>

### **Overdose death rate:**

The number of overdose deaths occurring among the population during a given year per 100,000.

### **Naloxone:**

Medication that treats opioid overdoses rapidly in an emergency situation. When Naloxone was first approved to reverse opioid overdoses, its brand name was Narcan®. There are now many other formulations and brand names for Naloxone, but many people continue to call all of these products “Narcan.”<sup>2</sup>

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## **References**

- 1)Alcohol and Drug Foundation. <https://adf.org.au/reducing-risk/polydrug-use/#:~:text='Polydrug%20use'%20is%20a%20term,such%20as%20alcohol%20and%20medications>
- 2)NIDA. <https://nida.nih.gov/publications/drugfacts/naloxone>

**For more information or additional questions, email [data@pueblocounty.us](mailto:data@pueblocounty.us)**