In New Jersey, overdose is now the leading cause of accidental death. Almost 6,000 people have died from drug overdoses in New Jersey since 2004. More than 700 people died from drug overdoses in New Jersey in 2009 alone. Opioids were involved in more than 75 percent of drug overdose deaths in New Jersey in 2009. The five counties with the highest numbers of drug overdose deaths are Camden, Essex, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean.

2009 Overdose Deaths in New Jersey

- A total of 752 people died in New Jersey from drug overdoses
- 180 people died from prescription opioid overdose
- 110 people died from heroin overdose
- 80 people died from cocaine overdose
- 50 people died from a combination of prescription opioids, heroin and cocaine
- 109 people died from prescription opioids and heroin
- 55 people died from prescription opioids and cocaine
- 65 people died from a combination of heroin and cocaine
- Other drugs accounted for 103 overdose deaths

2009 Overdose Deaths by County

- Atlantic—48
- Bergen—32
- Burlington—35
- Camden—97
- Cape May—15
- Cumberland—13
- Essex—81
- Gloucester—36
- Hudson—41
- Hunterdon—3
- Mercer—22
- Middlesex—73
- Monmouth—69
- Morris—28
- Ocean—63
- Passaic—28
- Salem—4
- Somerset—12
- Sussex—8
- Union—34
- Warren—10

2009 Overdose Deaths by Gender

- Women—208
- Men—543

2009 Overdose Deaths by Race

- Non Hispanic White—559
- Non Hispanic Black—133
- Hispanic—54
- Asian or Pacific Islander—2