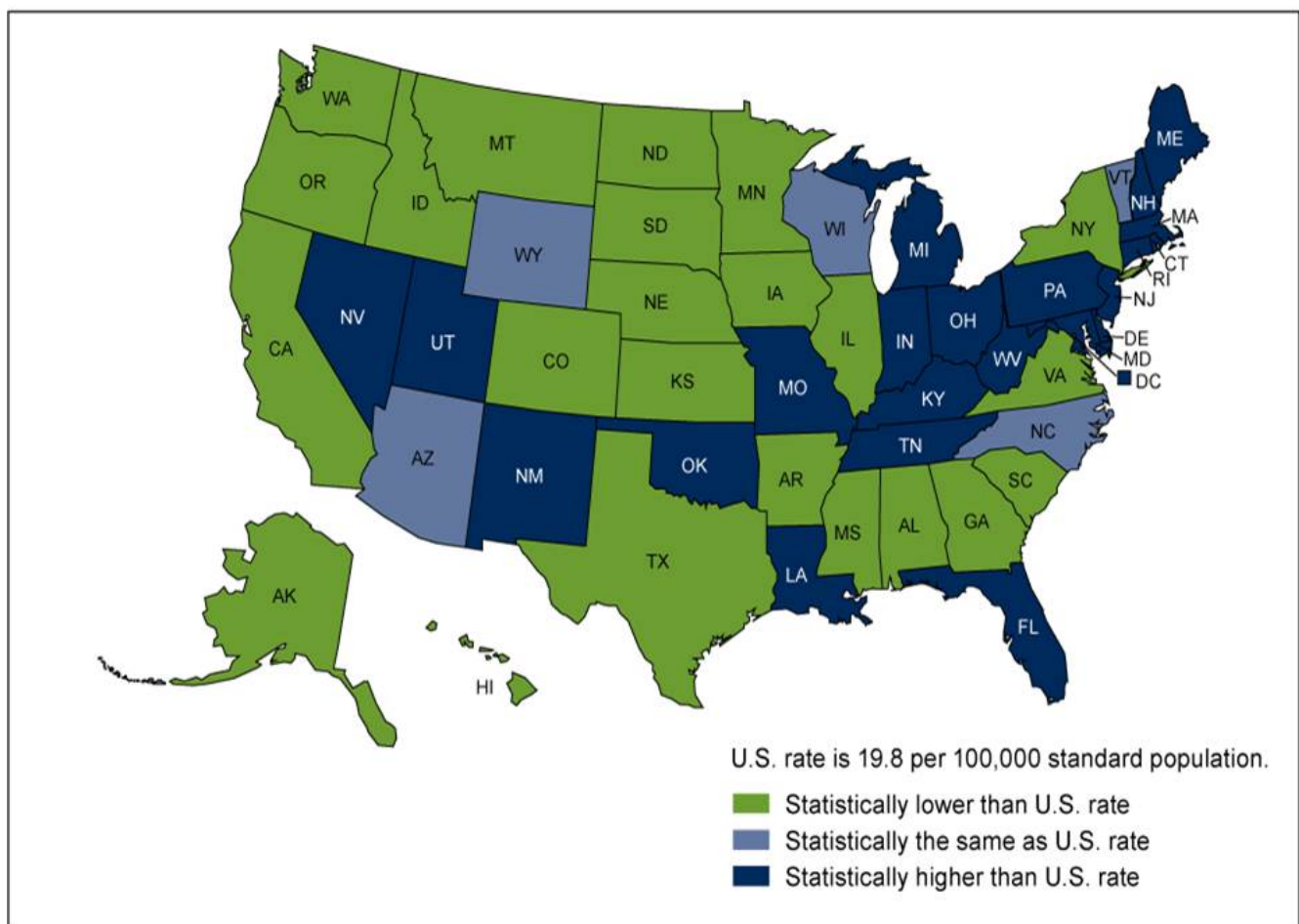


The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) has released a new data brief: *Drug Overdose Deaths in the United States, 1999-2016*. 22 states, including NM plus the District of Columbia, had drug overdose death rates that were higher than the national rate (19.8 per 100,000); 5 states had rates that were comparable to the national rate; and 23 states had lower rates (Figure 3).

- West Virginia (52.0), Ohio (39.1), New Hampshire (39.0), and Pennsylvania (37.9) were the four states with the highest observed age-adjusted drug overdose death rates. The District of Columbia had a rate of 38.8 per 100,000.
- Iowa (10.6), North Dakota (10.6), Texas (10.1), South Dakota (8.4), and Nebraska (6.4) were the five states with the lowest observed age-adjusted drug overdose death rates.
- **New Mexico now stands at 13th from a position of 8th last year when NM had an OD death rate of 24.8. NM's OD death rate appears to be plateauing (25.2), while many other states are seeing their rates continuing to soar.**

Figure 3. Age-adjusted drug overdose death rates, by state: United States, 2016



NOTES: Deaths are classified using the *International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision*. Drug-poisoning (overdose) deaths are identified using underlying cause-of-death codes X40–X44, X60–X64, X85, and Y10–Y14. Access data table for Figure 3 at: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/databriefs/db294_table.pdf#3. SOURCE: NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality.