**Scotland**

In 2015 there were 706 drug-related deaths in Scotland.
This is the highest level ever recorded.
Males accounted for 69% of the deaths.
Most deaths occurred in the 35–44 age group.

**England and Wales**

In 2015 there were 3,674 drug poisoning deaths.
67% of these involved illegal drugs.
This is the highest level since records began in 1993.
Darker areas show higher levels of deaths. The highest level was in the North East. The lowest in the East Midlands.

**Comparing the Years...**

Graph showing deaths per million population from 1995 to 2015 for males and females.

**Deaths by substance...**

Deaths involving heroin and morphine have more than doubled since 2012, partly driven by a rise in heroin purity and availability over the last 3 years. Age is also a factor in the record levels of drug deaths, as heroin users are getting older and they often have other conditions, such as lung disease and hepatitis, that make them particularly vulnerable.

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