Drug and alcohol use in Los Angeles County: the numbers

Public figures on overdose deaths, fentanyl, methamphetamine, alcohol harm and the treatment gap in Los Angeles County, with national comparisons.

KEY FINDINGS

2,298

Los Angeles County recorded 2,298 accidental drug overdose and poisoning deaths in 2025, 6% fewer than in 2024.

LA County Department of Public Health, 2026

-30%

Overdose deaths in Los Angeles County have fallen nearly 30% since the 2022 peak of 3,220 deaths.

LA County Department of Public Health, 2026

-10%

Fentanyl related deaths in the county fell 10% from 2024 to 2025, after a 37% drop the year before.

LA County Department of Public Health, 2025 and 2026

77%

Men accounted for 77% of Los Angeles County overdose deaths in 2025, and adults ages 40 to 64 for 53%.

LA County Department of Public Health, 2026

2,816

Alcohol caused an estimated 2,816 deaths in Los Angeles County in 2022, plus 51,325 emergency department visits.

LA County Substance Abuse Prevention and Control, 2025

69,973

U.S. drug overdose deaths fell to an estimated 69,973 in 2025, almost 14% fewer than in 2024.

CDC National Center for Health Statistics, provisional, 2026

16%

Of the 47.2 million people in the U.S. who needed substance use treatment in 2025, about 7.6 million (16%) received it.

SAMHSA, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2025

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SOURCES

LA County Department of Public Health news releases, June 25, 2025 and June 25, 2026; LA County SAPC, alcohol outlet density and consequences report (2022 data), January 2025; CDC NCHS, provisional overdose deaths, May 13, 2026; SAMHSA, 2025 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, July 2026. Full method, tables and links: https://blackburnmonitoring.com/guides/los-angeles-drug-and-alcohol-statistics/