

hospitalisations, 202 hospitalisations per 100,000 people) (Figure 2).

In 2021-22, 45% of drug-related hospitalisations in Victoria were due to drug poisoning. Furthermore, 70% of drug poisoning-related hospitalisations were intentional

15 (Figure 1).

The rate of hospitalisations was higher among <u>males</u> than females in 2021-22 (209 versus 201 hospitalisations per 100,000 people, respectively).

In 2021-22, the rate of hospitalisations was highest among the 20-29 age group, followed by the 30-39 and 40-49 age groups (428, 351, and 224 hospitalisations per 100,000 people, respectively). Among males, the rate of drug-related hospitalisations was highest in the 30-39 and 20-29 age groups, and among females in the 20-29 age group.

The highest number and rate of hospitalisations in 2021-22 was observed in <u>major city areas</u> (10,475 4).

Compared to 2020-21, there were significant increases in 2021-22 in the rates of hospitalisations related to:

- amphetamine-type stimulants (including methamphetamine),
- antiepileptic, sedative-hypnotic and antiparkinsonism drugs (including GHB),
- non-opioid analgesics,
- opioids,
- cannabinoids,
- antidepressants, and
- cocaine (Table A23, Appendix).

Figure 3. Age-standardised rate per 100,000 people of drug-related hospitalisations, by principal diagnosis of mental and behavioural disorder due to substance use (A) and external cause of poisoning (B), Victoria, 2002-03 to 2021-22.

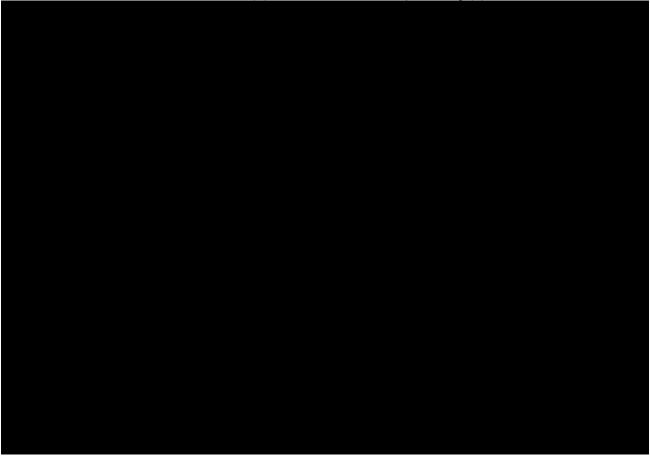
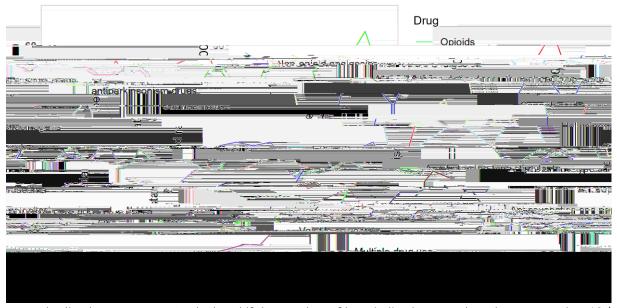


Figure 4. Age-standardised rate per 100,000 people of drug-related hospitalisations, by drug identified in the principal diagnosis, Victoria, 2002-03 to 2021-22.



Note: Age-standardised rates were not calculated if the number of hospitalisations was less than or equal to 10 (please refer to our <u>methods</u> document for details). Suppressed data are visible as gaps in the data series.