Dramatic Rise in Opioid-Related Deaths, Especially Among Blacks

Drug overdose deaths involving synthetic opioids other than methadone per 100,000 population, by ethnicity, 2013-2017

- **Non-Hispanic Blacks**: 0.5 to 9 deaths per 100,000 population, 18-fold increase in mortality
- **Hispanics**: 0.3 to 3.7 deaths per 100,000 population, 12-fold increase in mortality
- **Non-Hispanic Whites**: 1.3 to 11.9 deaths per 100,000 population, 9-fold increase in mortality


Note: For this measure, lower rates are better.

From 2013 to 2017, non-Hispanic Blacks had an 18-fold increase in mortality due to synthetic opioids other than methadone. Non-Hispanic Whites had a 9-fold increase, and Hispanics had a 12-fold increase.

For more information, go to AHRQ’s Data Spotlight and Data Query Tool.