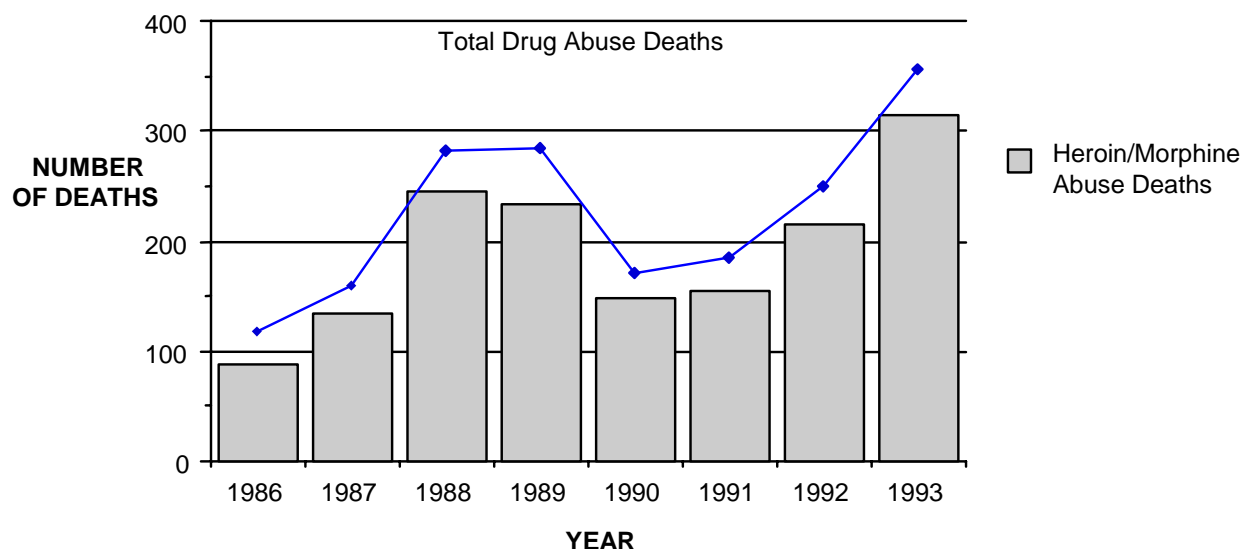


1993 Heroin/Morphine Abuse Deaths in Maryland Reach 8-Year High

Data from the State of Maryland's Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) show that the number of heroin/morphine abuse deaths in 1993 is the highest level seen in the past 8 years. Heroin/morphine abuse deaths increased dramatically over the previous year--from 214 in 1992 to 314 in 1993, a 47% increase. Because heroin/morphine abuse deaths have accounted for over three quarters of total drug abuse deaths in the state of Maryland since 1986, this large increase in heroin/morphine abuse deaths accounts for most of the rise in total drug abuse deaths (from 249 in 1992 to 356 in 1993).

Total Number of Drug Abuse Deaths and Number of Heroin/Morphine Abuse Deaths in Maryland, 1986-1993**



** The OCME defines a "drug abuse death" as a death that can be directly attributable to or is caused by, illicit drug intoxication.

SOURCE: Adapted by the Center for Substance Abuse Research (CESAR) from data from the State of Maryland's Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

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