



Increase in DRD in 2020

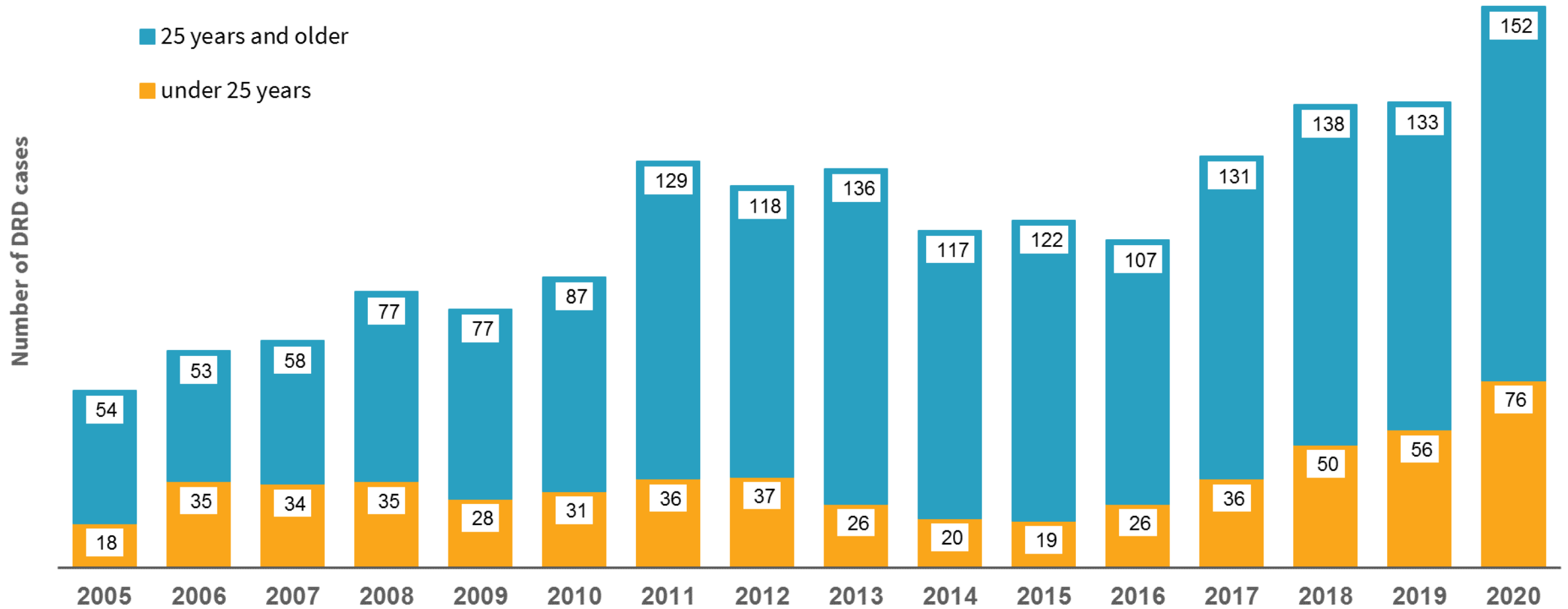
FINLAND

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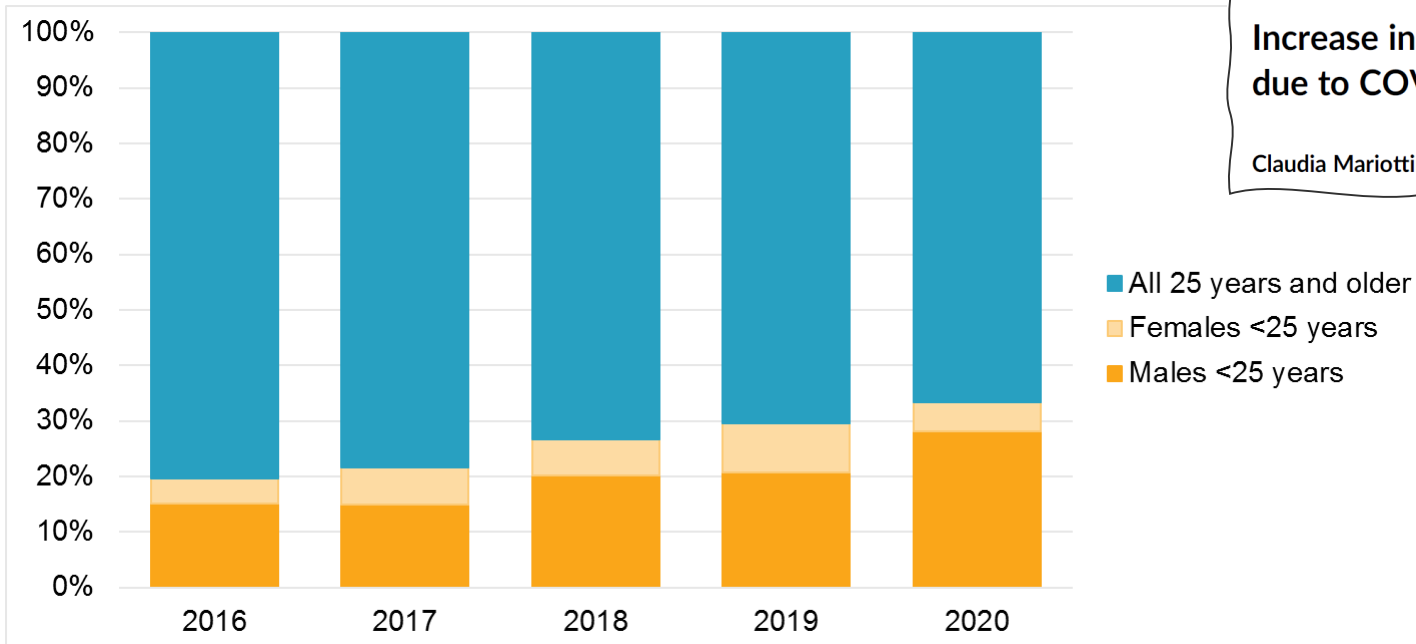
Development of the number of DRD in Finland



Possible drivers

- The recent increase in the number of DRD is almost completely explained by the increase among males under 25-years

- The effects of the covid-19 pandemic
 - Finland has experienced an increase in findings of abused drugs especially in the early months of the pandemic (same as some parts of the US)



SHORT COMMUNICATION

WILEY

Increase in drugs-of-abuse findings in post-mortem toxicology due to COVID-19 restrictions—First observations in Finland

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Authors

Subsc

Home » American Journal of Public Health (AJPH) » July 2021

COVID-19 and the Drug Overdose Crisis: Uncovering the Deadliest Months in the United States, January–July 2020

Joseph Friedman MPH, and Samir Akre BS

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Source data

Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare
Forensic Toxicology Unit
(special mortality register)

- Data on all medico-legal investigations carried out in Finland
- Same data as GMR but with more details on the cases
- No changes in the analytics or in reporting

Responses

- An expert group has been put together to develop practical tools and recommendations for preventing overdose deaths
 1. Easier access and geographic equality with regards to OMT
 2. Drug consumption rooms
 3. Needle and syringe programmes (increase coverage)
 4. Take home naloxone
 5. Removing obstacles from calling the emergency number
 6. Campaigns and communication
 7. Co-operation with the Police