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## The reality of assisted dying in Oregon (updated to 2023)<sup>1</sup>

v6

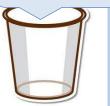


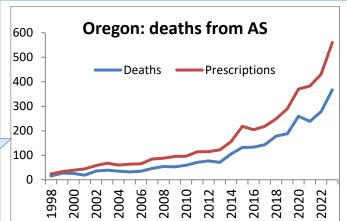
Assisted deaths have more than quadrupled in the last 10 years<sup>1</sup>

The US is 43<sup>rd</sup> in end-of-life care rankings (↓34 places since 2015)<sup>3, 4</sup>



Only 13% of assisted deaths had seen a specialist palliative care team<sup>5</sup>

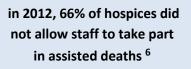




Complications occurred in 1 in 16 (6.1%).<sup>1</sup>

Drug cocktails of 4-5 drugs used. On their 4<sup>th</sup> mixture in 8yrs which have caused prolonged deaths <sup>1</sup>

NO ENTRY

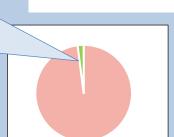


Much official information is missing such as 72% of data on complications<sup>1</sup> Source material is destroyed 1yr after death<sup>7</sup>

In 2023, 43% felt being a burden was a reason for requesting an assisted death compared with 12% in 1998 <sup>2</sup>

Less than 2% of Oregon doctors prescribe (one wrote 51 prescriptions).

Not known if 101 deaths were because of previous prescription



## References

- 1. Oregon DWDA official annual reports
- 2. Oregon DWDA reports 25 years. BMJ Supportive & Palliative Care. 2023; doi:10.1136/spcare-2023-004292
- 3. Finkelstein EA, et al.. Cross country comparison of expert assessments of the quality of death and dying 2021. Journal of Pain and Symptom Management, 2021; https://doi.org/10.1016/i.jpainsymman.2021.12.015
- The 2015 Quality of Death Index: ranking palliative care across the world. London: Economist Intelligence Unit, 2015.
- Ganzini L, et al . Physicians experiences with the Oregon Death with Dignity Act. New England Journal of Medicine, 342: 557-63, 2000.
- 6. Campbell CS, Cox JC. Hospice-assisted death? A study of Oregon Hospices on death with dignity. *American Journal* of Hospice and Palliative Medicine, 2012; **29**(3): 227-35
- Oregon Health Authority : Frequently Asked Questions : Death with Dignity Act : State of Oregon (see Q: Are participating patients reported to the Oregon Health Authority by name?)