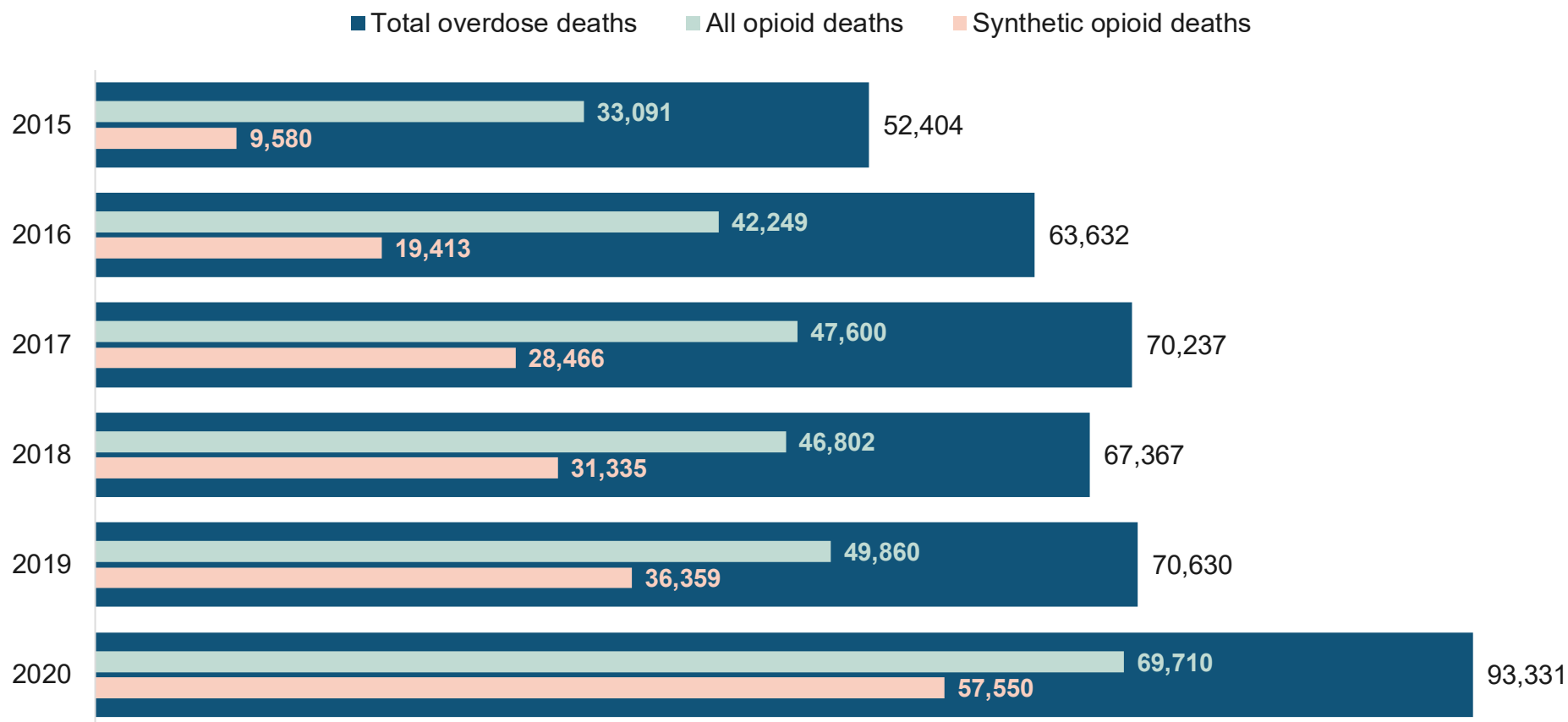


Overdose deaths exploded to more than 90,000 in 2020, and synthetic opioids were involved in more than 60 percent of all overdose deaths.

Annual drug overdose deaths

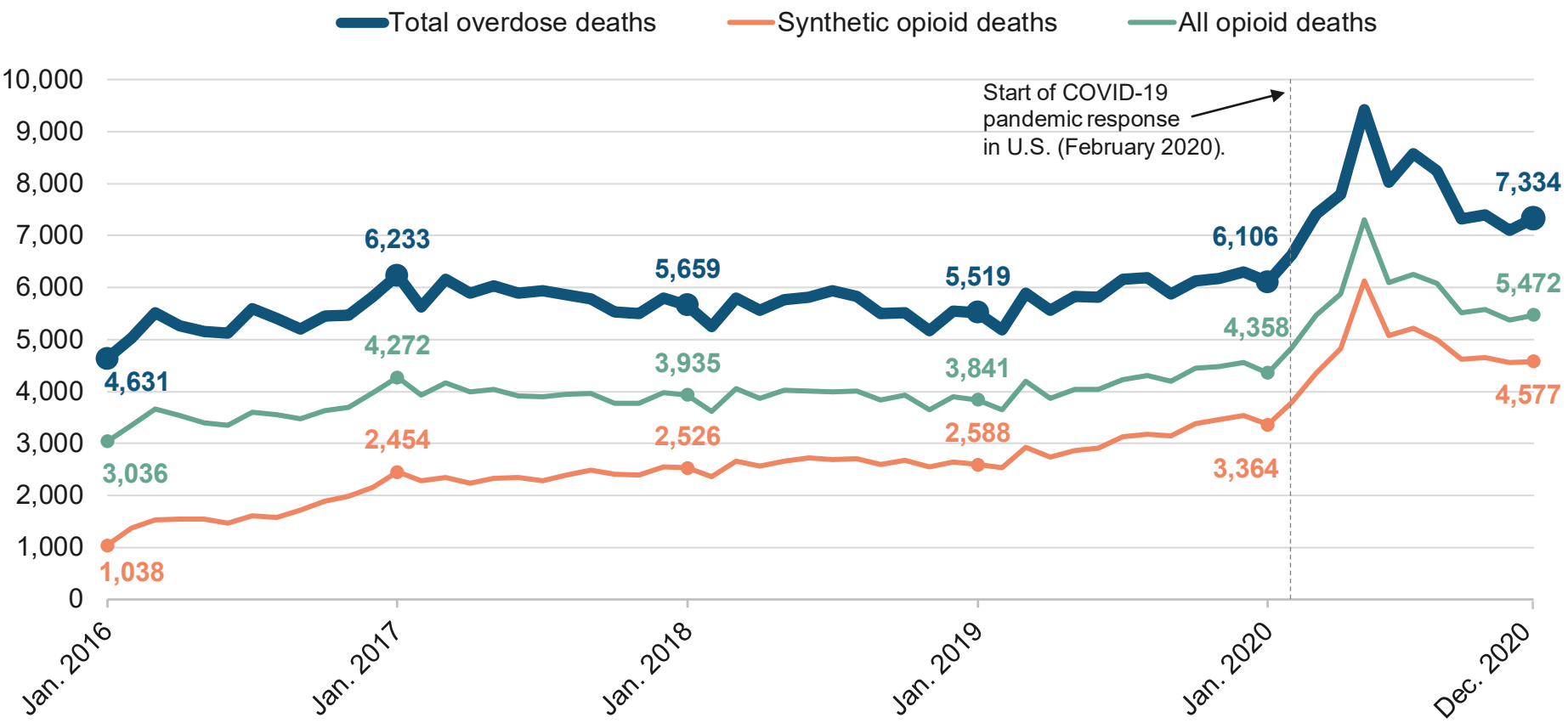


Note: Synthetic opioid deaths exclude those from methadone. Specific drug-class deaths are not mutually exclusive, as some deaths are attributable to multiple drug types.

Data: 2015–2019 — Final data from [CDC WONDER](#); 2020 — National Vital Statistics System, [Provisional Drug Overdose Death Counts](#), Dec. 2020 predicted totals (not final data, subject to change).

Overdose deaths spiked at the start of the pandemic and stayed high through the end of 2020.

Monthly drug overdose deaths

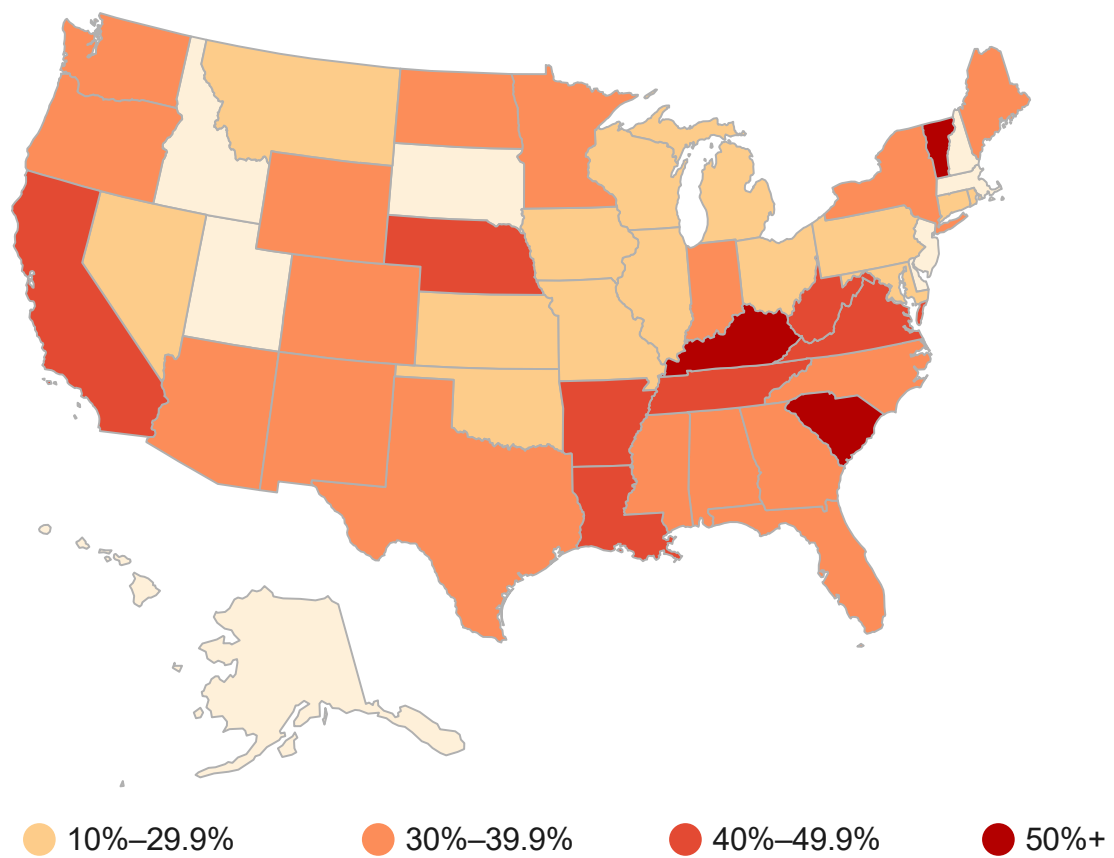


Note: Synthetic opioid deaths exclude those from methadone. Specific drug-class deaths are not mutually exclusive, as some deaths are attributable to multiple drug types.
 Data: 2016–2019 monthly totals — Final data from [CDC WONDER](#); Estimated 2020 monthly totals — Calculations based on National Vital Statistics System, [Provisional Drug Overdose Death Counts](#) (see Data and Methods for details).



Overdose deaths increased significantly in almost every state during 2020.

Estimated percent increase in provisional overdose deaths, Jan.–Dec. 2020 vs. Jan.–Dec. 2019

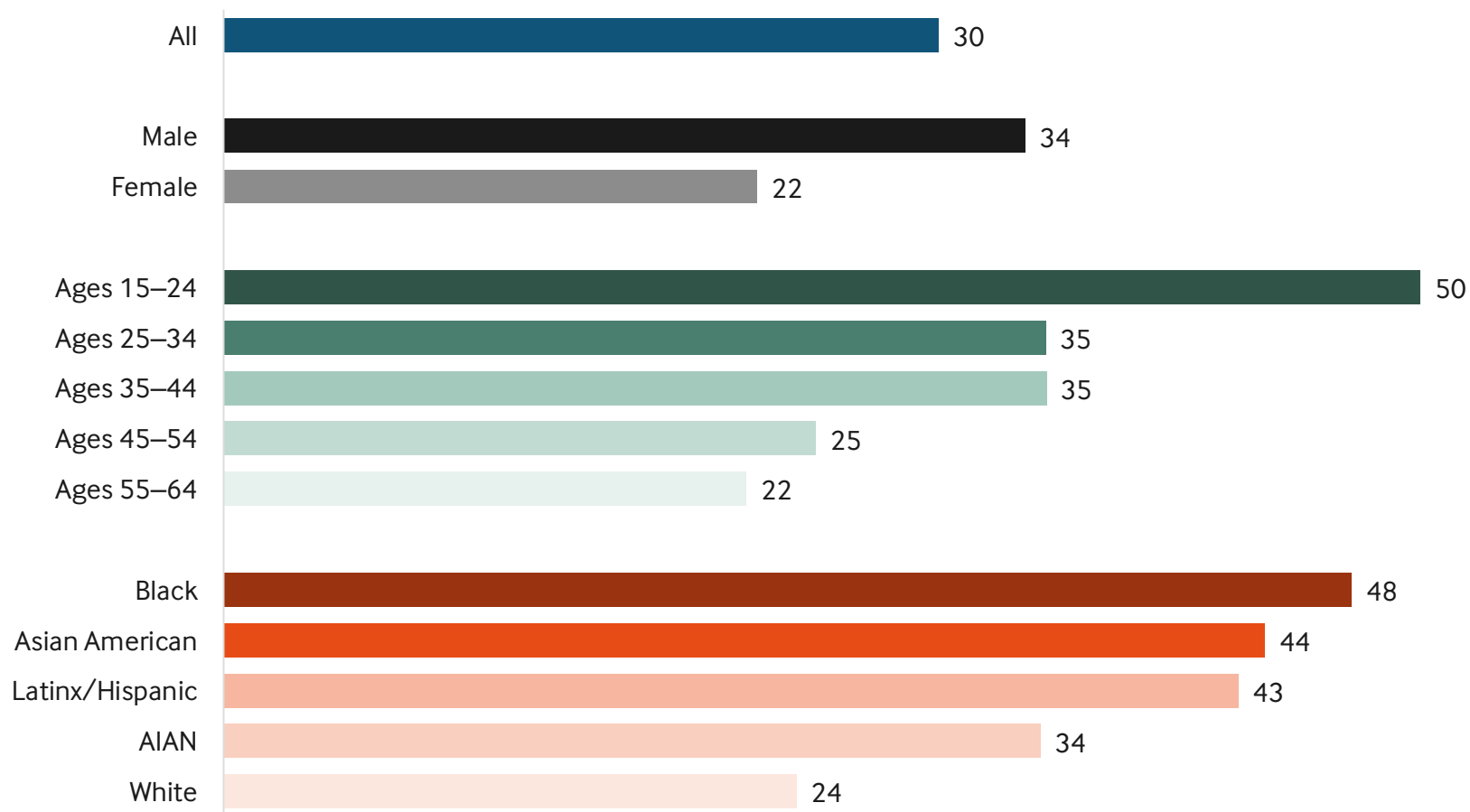


Note: Categories represent percent increase for provisional predicted overdose deaths in 2020 vs. 2019. Predicted totals from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are not final data and are subject to change. The District of Columbia had an estimated increase of 39%, South Dakota had an estimated decrease of -16%, and New Hampshire had an estimated decrease of -1%.

Data: National Vital Statistics System, [Provisional Drug Overdose Death Counts](#).

All demographic groups experienced more overdose deaths through the first nine months of 2020 — particularly males, younger age groups, and communities of color.

Estimated percent increase in provisional overdose deaths, Jan.–Sept. 2020 vs. Jan.–Sept. 2019



Note: AIAN = American Indian and Alaska Native.

Data: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, [Quarterly Provisional Drug Overdose Estimates with Demographics](#), Apr. 2021. Provisional estimates from the CDC are not final data and are subject to change.