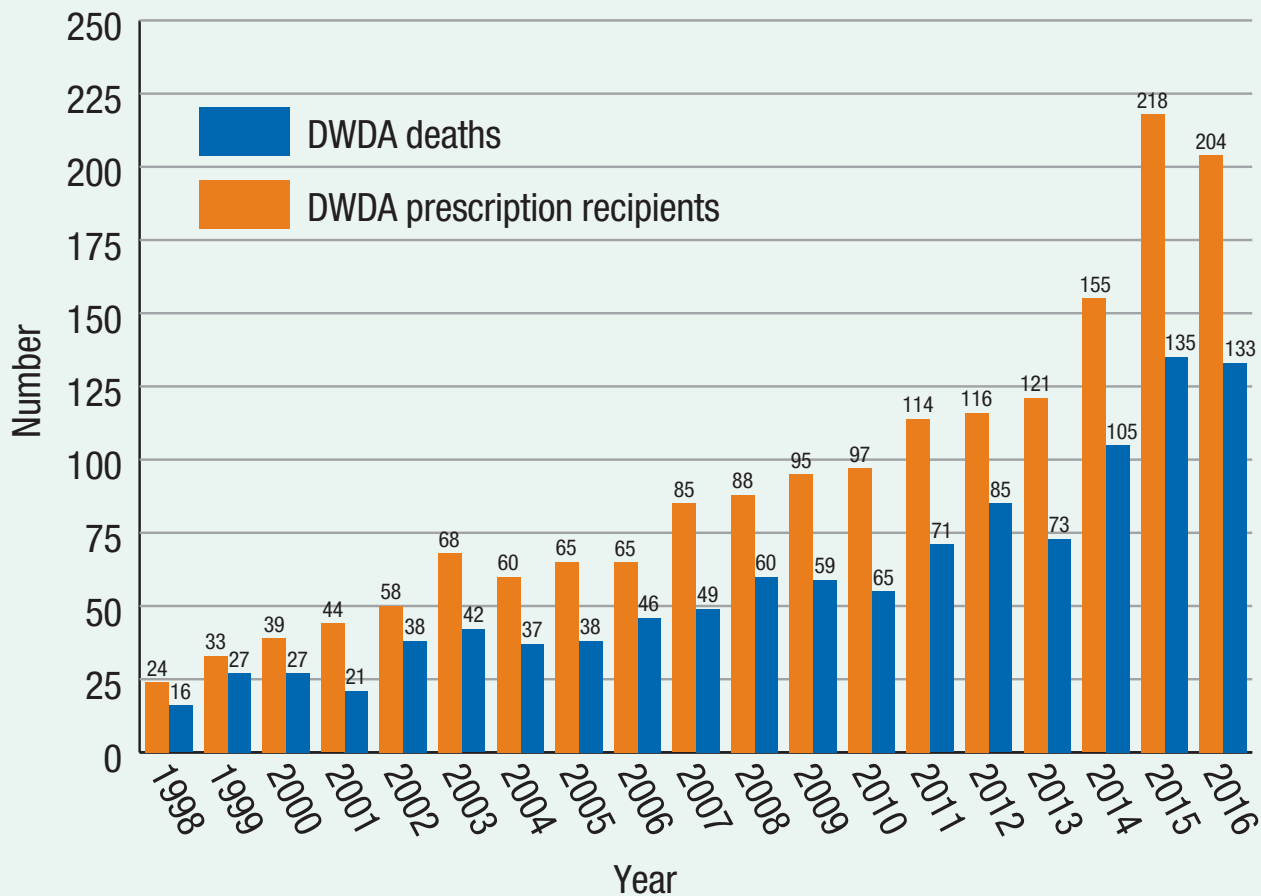


# Introduction

Oregon’s Death with Dignity Act (DWDA), enacted in late 1997, allows terminally-ill adult Oregonians to obtain and use prescriptions from their physicians for self-administered, lethal doses of medications. The Oregon Public Health Division is required by the DWDA to collect compliance information and to issue an annual report. Data presented in this summary, including the number of people for whom DWDA prescriptions were written (DWDA prescription recipients) and the resulting deaths from the ingestion of the medications (DWDA deaths), are based on required reporting forms and death certificates received by the Oregon Public Health Division as of January 23, 2017. More information on the reporting process, required forms, and annual reports is available at: <http://www.healthoregon.org/dwd>.

Figure 1: DWDA prescription recipients and deaths\*, by year, Oregon, 1998–2016



\*As of January 23, 2017