Fentanyl-Related Deaths

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Data Collection and Processing
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Local Medical Examiners and Justices of the Peace

• Determine the cause of death.
• Electronically submit the cause-of-death literal text description to DSHS Vital Statistics using the Texas Electronic Vital Events Registrar (TxEVER) registration system.

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

• Assigns ICD-10 classifications based on the cause-of-death literal text.
• Transmits ICD-10 codes back to the state.

Texas Department of State Health Services

• Performs analysis and reporting based on the ICD-10 codes assigned by CDC.
• DSHS does not determine causes of death.
Drug-Related Deaths
Drug-poisoning deaths are identified by ICD–10 underlying cause-of-death codes to determine the intent of death:

- X40–X44 (unintentional)
- X60–X64 (suicide)
- X85 (homicide)
- Y10–Y14 (undetermined)

Additional ICD-Codes are assigned based on specific drugs and/or drug types.
Determining Opioid-Related Drug Deaths

• Opioid-related fatalities are determined by using the following ICD-10 codes:
  • T40.0 – Opium
  • T40.1 – Heroin
  • T40.2 – Other opioids [semi-synthetic]
  • T40.3 – Methadone
  • T40.4 – Other synthetic narcotics
  • T40.6 – Other and unspecified narcotics

• Fentanyl and fentanyl analogues are classified under T40.4, Other Synthetic Narcotics. T40.4 also includes other synthetic opioids such as Tramadol and Demerol.
Determining Fentanyl-Related Drug Deaths

• There is no specific ICD-10 code for fentanyl.
• Fentanyl and fentanyl analogues are instead identified as records where ‘Fentanyl’ is listed in the literal cause-of-death fields on the death record.
Fentanyl-Related Deaths
Death data for 2021 and 2022 are provisional.
  • Provisional statistics are tabulated based on data that are not yet edited and may be incomplete.
  • The following numbers are subject to change as these data are finalized.
  • Additionally, 2022 data only covers the time period through mid-August.

Data is presented by place of residence.
  • Residence: deaths where the decedent was a resident of Texas at the time of death but could have died anywhere.
### Percentage of Unintentional Synthetic Opioid Deaths Related to Fentanyl, 2018 through August 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Fentanyl related</th>
<th>Fentanyl not related</th>
<th>Total deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>210 (69%)</td>
<td>94 (31%)</td>
<td>304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>317 (83%)</td>
<td>64 (17%)</td>
<td>381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>886 (90%)</td>
<td>95 (10%)</td>
<td>981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>1612 (95%)</td>
<td>80 (5%)</td>
<td>1692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>842 (97%)</td>
<td>28 (3%)</td>
<td>870</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Unintentional Fentanyl-Related Deaths 2018 through 2021
Unintentional Fentanyl-Related Deaths, 2018 - August 2022 by Sex

- Male: 2,789 (72%)
- Female: 1,078 (28%)
Unintentional Fentanyl-Related Deaths, 2018 -August 2022 by Age Group

- Under 18 Years: 85 (2%)
- 18-44 Years: 832 (22%)
- 45-64 Years: 76 (2%)
- 65 Years and Older: 2,874 (74%)
# Unintentional Fentanyl-Related Deaths Involving Other Drugs, 2018 through August 2022

## Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Psychostimulants with Abuse Potential (T43.6)</td>
<td>27 (8.5%)</td>
<td>66 (14.1%)</td>
<td>227 (17.4%)</td>
<td>557 (23.4%)</td>
<td>312 (25.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benzodiazepine (T42.4)</td>
<td>70 (21.9%)</td>
<td>92 (19.6%)</td>
<td>289 (22.2%)</td>
<td>491 (20.6%)</td>
<td>216 (17.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cocaine (T40.5)</td>
<td>52 (16.3%)</td>
<td>90 (19.2%)</td>
<td>218 (16.7%)</td>
<td>392 (16.4%)</td>
<td>203 (16.8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other drugs</td>
<td>124 (38.9%)</td>
<td>141 (30.0%)</td>
<td>277 (21.2%)</td>
<td>507 (21.3%)</td>
<td>248 (20.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No other drug</td>
<td>46 (14.4%)</td>
<td>80 (17.1%)</td>
<td>293 (22.5%)</td>
<td>437 (18.3%)</td>
<td>226 (18.8%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thank you!