

San Diego County Substance Use and Overdose Prevention Taskforce (SUOPT)

2023 Annual Report Card



SUOPT REPORT CARD KEY INDICATORS

		Indicator	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Death-Related Data	1	Total Count of all Unintentional Deaths Caused by Drugs (Prescription and Illicit) and/or Alcohol	578	645	976	1,309	1,300
	2	Unintentional Fentanyl-Caused Deaths <i>Note: Count includes both prescribed and illicitly obtained fentanyl</i>	92	151	462	814	815
		◦ % of Total Unintentional Overdose Deaths (Indicator 1)	16%	23%	47%	62%	63%
		◦ Rate per 100,000 residents ¹	2.7	4.1	13.1	23.0	23.3
	3	Unintentional Opioid-Caused Deaths (excluding cases that involve fentanyl only) <i>Note: Count includes both prescribed and illicitly obtained pharmaceutical opioids.</i>	215	215	215	187	105
		◦ % of Total Unintentional Overdose Deaths (Indicator 1)	37%	33%	22%	14%	8%
		◦ Rate per 100,000 residents ¹	6.2	6.1	6.2	5.4	3.0
	4	Unintentional Methamphetamine-Caused Deaths	328	377	551	757	803
		◦ % of Total Unintentional Overdose Deaths (Indicator 1)	57%	58%	56%	58%	62%
		◦ Rate per 100,000 residents ¹	9.4	10.6	15.6	21.6	23.3
	5	Unintentional Deaths Caused by Both Fentanyl and Methamphetamine	23	56	210	443	495
		◦ % of Total Unintentional Overdose Deaths (Indicator 1)	4%	9%	22%	34%	38%
		◦ Rate per 100,000 residents ¹	0.7	1.5	5.9	12.7	14.4
Emergency Department (ED) Data	6	Drug Overdose Emergency Department (ED) Encounters	6,384	6,361	6,795	7,593	Available in 2024
		◦ Rate per 100,000 residents	192.2	190.8	204.0	229.0	
	7	Opioid Overdose ED Encounters	1,804	1,987	2,492	3,027	
		◦ Rate per 100,000 residents	54.3	59.6	74.8	91.3	
	8	Amphetamine Overdose ED Encounters	567	621	683	717	
		◦ Rate per 100,000 residents	17.1	18.6	20.5	21.6	
	9	Opioid & Amphetamine Overdose ED Encounters	79	89	101	149	
		◦ Rate per 100,000 residents ¹	2.4	2.7	3.0	4.5	
Treatment Data	10	Percent of BHS Clients with Opioids as Primary Substance Used	35.8%	36.4%	41.3%	42.5%	40.4%
		Percent of BHS Clients with Methamphetamine as Primary Substance Used	27.7%	28.2%	25.7%	25.3%	25.6%
Prescribing Data	11	Annual Number of Dispensed Pills Per County Resident					
		◦ Opioid Prescriptions	27.4	22.8	20.6	18.9	19.8
		◦ Benzodiazepines	9.8	8.5	8.0	7.2	10.1
		◦ Stimulants	5.1	5.1	5.3	5.8	6.2

[1] Rates are limited to deaths occurring among San Diego County residents. However, the total death counts include all deaths, regardless of residence.

DEFINITIONS AND SOURCES FOR REPORT CARD KEY INDICATORS

1. **Total Count of all Unintentional Deaths Caused by Drugs (Prescription and Illicit) and/or Alcohol.** These deaths are unintentional/accidental overdose deaths in which drugs, medication, and/or alcohol were determined to be a causative factor in death. Additionally, these data represent only deaths examined by the County of San Diego Department of the Medical Examiner and those that had toxicology. There are over 32,000 deaths each year in San Diego County, the Department of the Medical Examiner investigates around 4,400 deaths each year. Source: County of San Diego Department of the Medical Examiner.
2. **Unintentional Fentanyl-Caused Deaths.** These deaths are accidental overdose deaths in which fentanyl alone or with other drugs and/or alcohol was a causative factor in death. As opposed to the previous decade in which misused prescription fentanyl caused most of these deaths, in recent years, illicitly manufactured and obtained fentanyl has been responsible for almost all of these deaths. Source: County of San Diego Department of the Medical Examiner.
3. **Unintentional Opioid-Caused Deaths (excluding cases that involve fentanyl only).** These deaths are unintentional/accidental overdose deaths in which a prescription or illicitly obtained pharmaceutical opioid drug alone or with other drugs and/or alcohol was a causative factor in death. This indicator excludes those opioid-caused deaths where the only opioid present was fentanyl. Source: County of San Diego Department of the Medical Examiner.
4. **Unintentional Methamphetamine-Caused Deaths.** These deaths are accidental overdose deaths in which methamphetamine alone or with other drugs and/or alcohol was a causative factor in death. Source: County of San Diego Department of the Medical Examiner.
5. **Unintentional Deaths Caused by Both Fentanyl and Methamphetamine.** These deaths are accidental overdose deaths in which methamphetamine and fentanyl alone or with other drugs and/or alcohol was a causative factor in death. Source: County of San Diego Department of the Medical Examiner.
6. **Drug Overdose Emergency Department (ED) Encounters:** Diagnoses are coded for any mention of drug poisoning/overdose in the encounter record. ED encounters include patients who were admitted and discharged from the emergency department, as well as those who were admitted into the emergency department and then subsequently hospitalized for inpatient care. Data Source: California Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI), Emergency Department and Patient Discharge Data, 2018-2021.
7. **Opioid Overdose Emergency Department (ED) Encounters:** Diagnoses are coded for any mention of opioid poisoning/overdose in the encounter record. ED encounters include patients who were admitted and discharged from the emergency department, as well as those who were admitted into the emergency department and then subsequently hospitalized for inpatient care. Data Source: California Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI), Emergency Department and Patient Discharge Data, 2018-2021.
8. **Amphetamine Overdose Emergency Department (ED) Encounters.** Diagnoses are coded for any mention of amphetamine poisoning/overdose in the encounter record; it is likely that most amphetamine mentions among ED discharges and hospitalizations are in fact methamphetamine. ED encounters include patients who were admitted and discharged from the emergency department, as well as those who were admitted into the emergency department and then subsequently hospitalized for inpatient care. Source: California Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI), Emergency Department and Patient Discharge Data, 2018-2021.
9. **Opioid & Amphetamine Overdose Emergency Department (ED) Encounters:** Diagnoses are coded for any mention of opioid and amphetamine poisoning/overdose in the encounter record. ED encounters include patients who were admitted and discharged from the emergency department, as well as those who were admitted into the emergency department and then subsequently hospitalized for inpatient care. Data Source: California Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI), Emergency Department and Patient Discharge Data, 2018-2021.
10. **Percent of BHS Clients with Opioids/Methamphetamine as Primary Substance Used.** Total clients to publicly funded drug treatment in San Diego County and the percentage who identify opioids or methamphetamine as primary substance used. This data is limited to County of San Diego Behavioral Health Services (BHS) clients who received SUD treatment services from a BHS provider. Opioids include heroin, oxycodone/OxyContin, non-prescription methadone, and other opioids or synthetics. Source: County of San Diego, Health and Human Services; Behavioral Health Services.
11. **Annual Number of Dispensed Pills Per County Resident.** The numbers of dispensed pills are derived from filled prescriptions reported to the state, and do not include prescriptions filled at the VA, any military or tribal hospitals and clinics, or in-hospital patient medications. Three principle groups of medicine are included: Pain medications, or morphine-related pain medications such as OxyContin or hydrocodone; anti-anxiety medications, or benzodiazepines such as Valium or Ativan; stimulants, or ADHD medication such as Ritalin, Adderall. Pain medication includes only pills; solution-based prescriptions are 2.5% of all pain medication and are not included. Population figures used to calculate per person rates are based on US Census and SANDAG population projection data across all ages. Source: Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System (CURES), California Department of Justice.

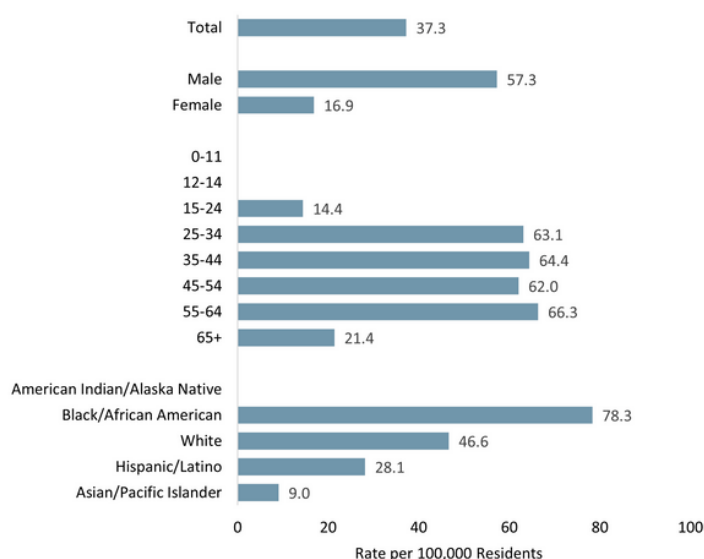
Facilitation services for the Substance Use and Overdose Prevention Taskforce (SUOPT) are provided through HHSA, Behavioral Health Services, in a contract with the Center for Community Research.

2023 DRUG OVERDOSE INJURY AND DEATH REPORT

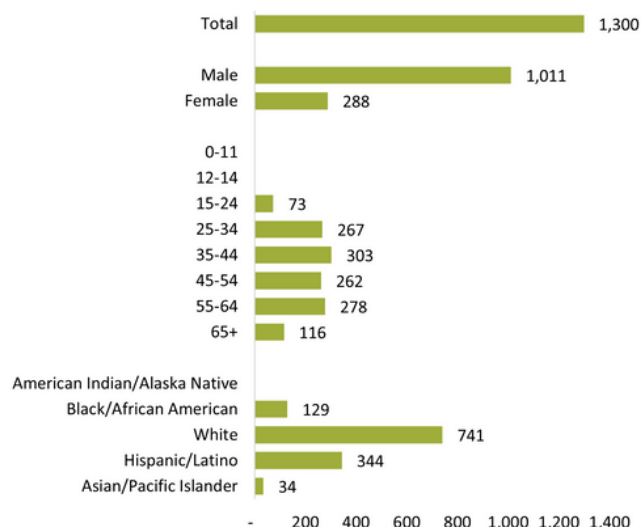
As the nature and complexity of the drug overdose epidemic changes over time, access to data can increase awareness to guide **harm reduction strategies** and **prevention efforts**. This report will outline **the fatal and nonfatal overdoses** in San Diego County in the past five years by sociodemographic factors to highlight **disparities** in San Diego County.

In **2021**, the rate of **overdose deaths** in **San Diego County** were **lower** than the **national rate** and **higher** than the rate in **California**. Nationally and locally, the rates of overdose deaths have increased over time. In 2022, the rate of people who died from an **overdose death** was **2.2 times higher** than the rate in 2018 in San Diego County. This increase also occurred among **nonfatal overdoses** as the rate of **emergency department encounters** in 2021 was **1.2 times higher** than the rate in 2018. There were a total of 6 accidental overdose deaths in 2022 among those under the age of 18, all of which were fentanyl-related.

Unintentional Overdose Death Rates¹ in San Diego County, 2022



Unintentional Overdose Death Counts in San Diego County, 2022

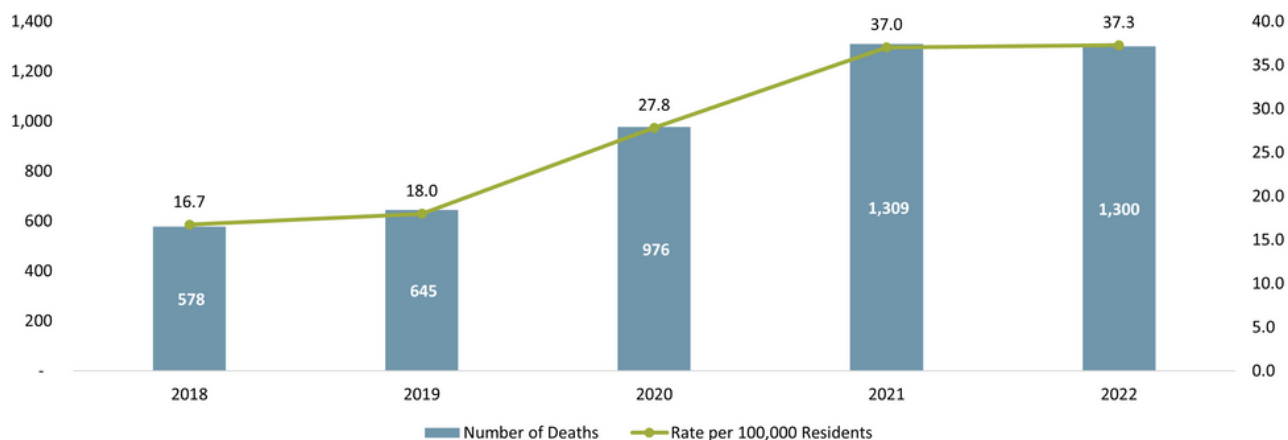


From **2018 to 2022**, the rate of **unintentional overdose deaths** among San Diego County residents had **increased by 123%**. In 2022, rates were highest among **males**, those aged **55-64 years**, and **non-Hispanic Black residents**.

[1] Rates are limited to deaths occurring among San Diego County residents. However, the total death counts include all deaths, regardless of residence.

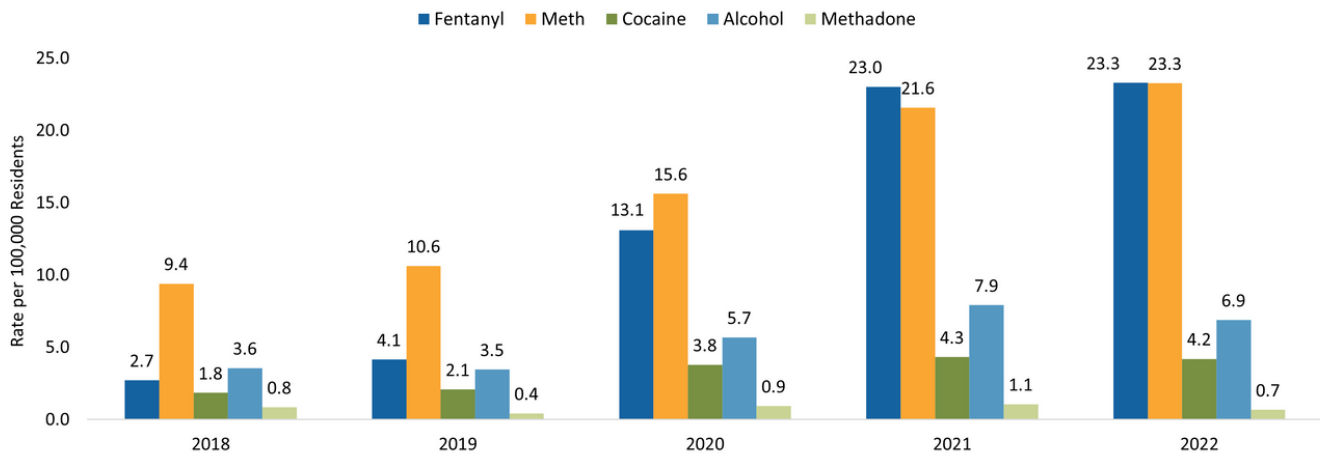
Section I. Drug Overdose Trends

Number and Rate per 100,000 Residents of Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths (Prescription and Illicit) and/or Alcohol in San Diego County, 2018-2022

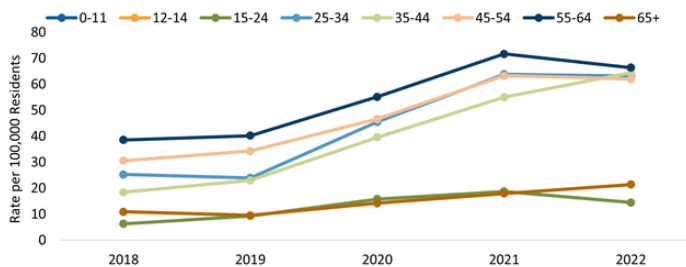


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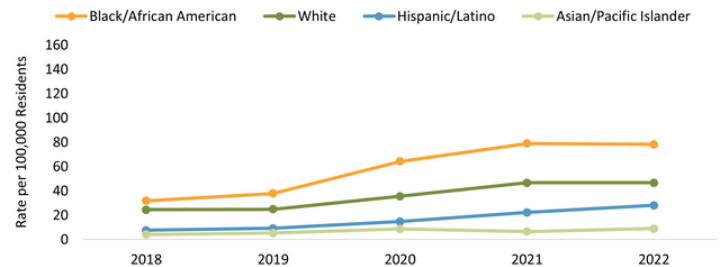
Rates of Top 5 Substances Identified in Unintentional Deaths Caused by Drugs (Prescription and Illicit) and/or Alcohol in San Diego County, 2018-2022



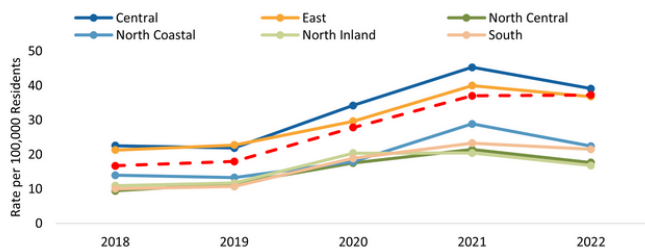
Overdose Death Rates Among San Diego County Residents by Age, 2018-2022



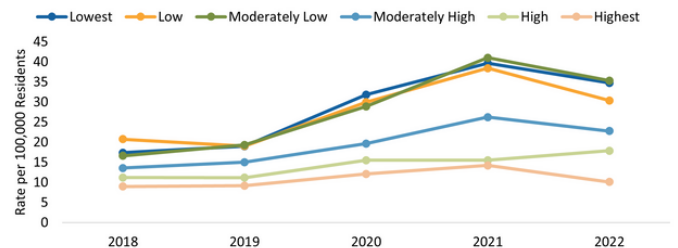
Overdose Death Rates Among San Diego County Residents by Race/Ethnicity, 2018-2022



Overdose Death Rates Among San Diego County Residents by Region, 2018-2022



Overdose Death Rates Among San Diego County Residents by Socioeconomic Status, 2018-2022



The rates of **unintentional overdose deaths**[1] vary by sociodemographic factors in San Diego County. In **2022**, those with the **highest** rates of unintentional overdose deaths were **55-64 year-olds**, **non-Hispanic Black**, lived in **Central and East** regions, and lived in **moderately low** income neighborhoods[2].

From **2018 to 2022**, those who experienced the **greatest increases** in drug overdose deaths were **35-44 year-olds** (+250%), **Hispanic** (+268%), lived in **South Region** (+114%), and were in **moderately low** income neighborhoods (+113%).

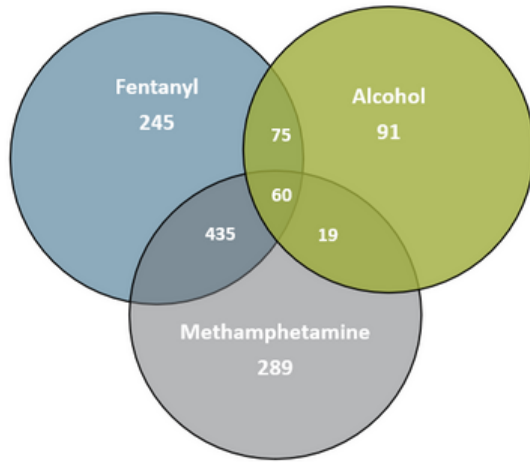
[1] Unintentional overdose death rates include deaths that occurred among San Diego county residents only.

[2] Moderately low income neighborhoods had a median household income in 2021 between \$78,450-\$88,728 in San Diego County.

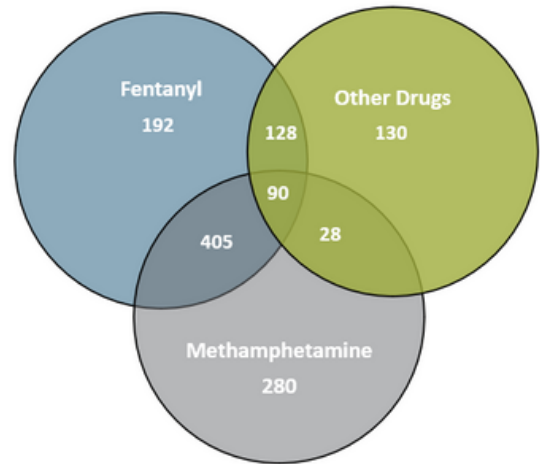
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Section II: Co-Occurrence of Substances Identified in Unintentional Overdose Deaths

Relationship Between Unintentional Methamphetamine, Fentanyl, and Alcohol Caused Deaths in San Diego County, 2022



Relationship Between Unintentional Methamphetamine, Fentanyl, and Other Drugs Caused Deaths in San Diego County, 2022

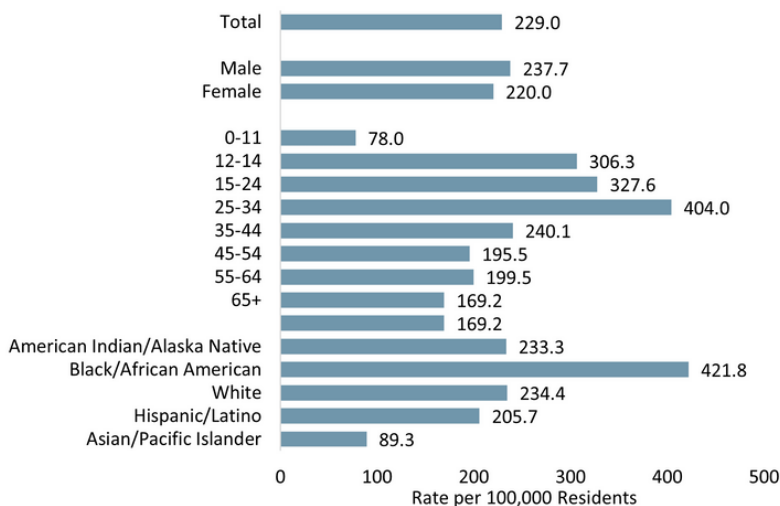


In **2022, 435 (33%)** unintentional overdose deaths involved both **methamphetamine and fentanyl without alcohol**. Additionally, **405 (31%)** overdose deaths involved **methamphetamine and fentanyl without the presence of other drugs** (alcohol, methadone, cocaine).

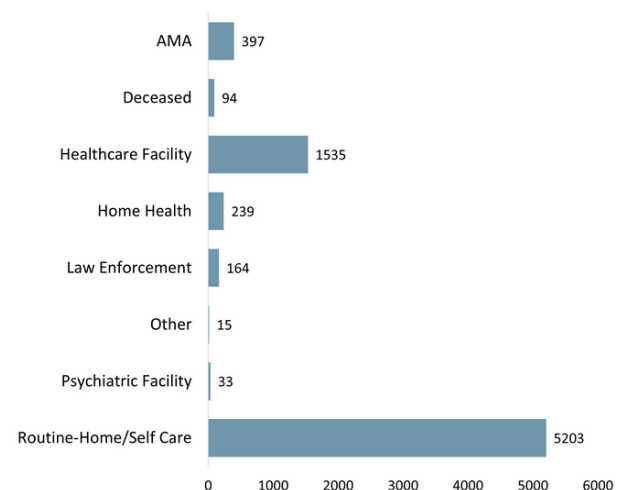
Section III: Emergency Department (ED) Encounters Due to Nonfatal Overdoses

Nonfatal overdose has been associated with **long-term physical and psychological outcomes**. Since 2018, the rates of ED visits due to drug overdoses have **increased at the national, state and local level**. In **San Diego County**, from **2018 to 2021**, the rate of **emergency department (ED) encounters**[3] **due to nonfatal overdoses increased by 19%** with **2021** marking the **highest rate** across all 4 years. Monitoring these trends can guide prevention and harm reduction efforts to reduce drug-related injury and death in San Diego County. *Please note that 2022 ED data will be available in 2024.*

ED Encounter Rates Due to Nonfatal Overdoses in San Diego County, 2021



Discharge Disposition Among Drug Overdose ED Encounters in San Diego County, 2021



[3] ED encounters include those who were admitted into an emergency department in San Diego County and then discharged from the emergency department or subsequently hospitalized.

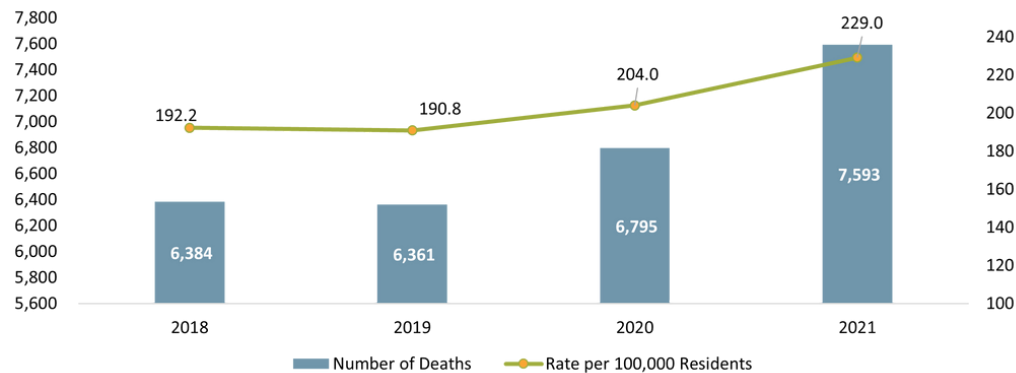
[4] Rates include San Diego County residents who were treated in a county facility.

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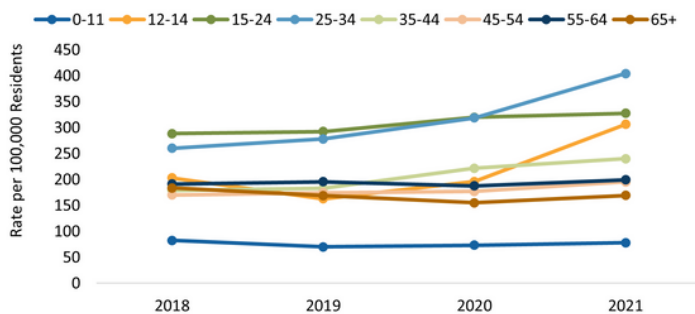
In 2021, **31%** of ED admissions due to nonfatal drug overdose resulted in **hospitalization**. A majority of patients were routinely discharged to their homes or self-care, **followed by** discharge to a healthcare facility or skilled nursing facility. Additionally, there were **465 individuals** who were **admitted** into the **ED 2 or more times** with **any mention of drug overdose** in 2021, representing **9%** of the **total number of individuals** discharged due to drug overdose that year.

The rate [4] of **ED encounters** due to **nonfatal drug overdose** was **229.0 per 100,000** San Diego County residents in **2021** with **males**, those between the ages of **25-34 years**, and **non-Hispanic Black** residents having the highest rates

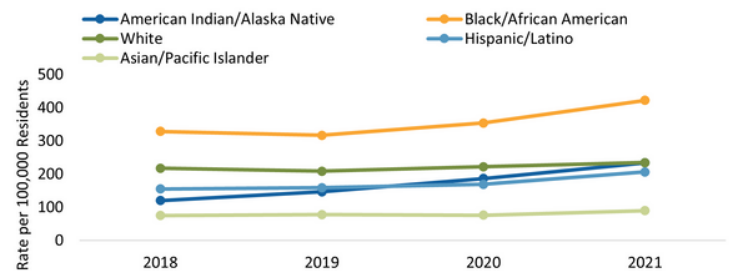
Number and Rate per 100,000 Residents of Nonfatal ED Encounters Due to Overdoses (Prescription and Illicit) and/or Alcohol in San Diego County, 2018-2021



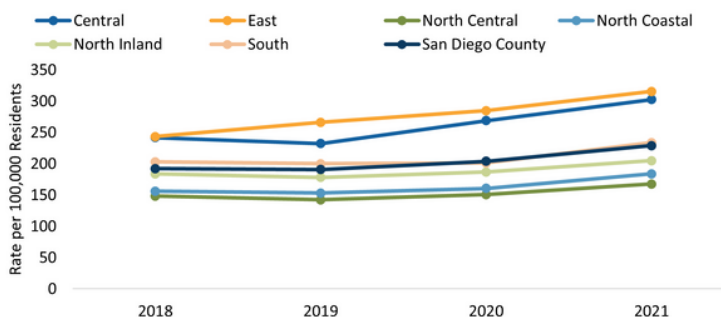
Nonfatal ED Encounter Rates due to Overdose Among San Diego County Residents by Age, 2018-2021



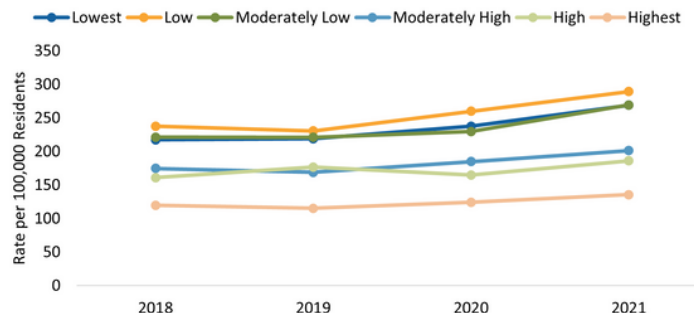
Nonfatal ED Encounter Rates due to Overdose Among San Diego County Residents by Race/Ethnicity, 2018-2021



Nonfatal ED Encounter Rates due to Overdose Among San Diego County Residents by HHS Region, 2018-2021



Nonfatal ED Encounter Rates due to Overdose Among San Diego County Residents by Socioeconomic Status, 2018-2021



[3] ED encounters include those who were admitted into an emergency department in San Diego County and then discharged from the emergency department or subsequently hospitalized.

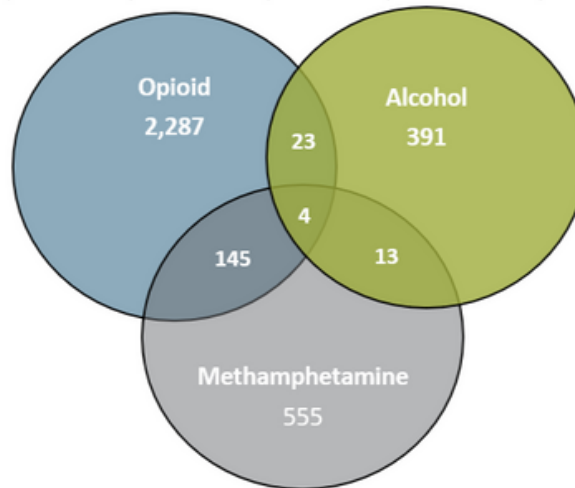
[4] Rates include San Diego County residents who were treated in a county facility.

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The rates of **ED encounters** due to **nonfatal** drug overdose **varied by sociodemographic factors**. From **2018 to 2021**, those who had the **greatest increases** in nonfatal drug overdoses were **25-34 year-olds (+55%)**, **non-Hispanic American Indian/Alaska Native residents (+95%)**, **East region residents (+30%)**, and those living in the **lowest income neighborhoods [5] (+24%)**.

In **2021**, those who had the highest rates of ED encounter due to nonfatal overdose were **25-34 year-olds**, **non-Hispanic Black residents**, residents in **East and Central** regions and those living in **low income neighborhoods [6]**.

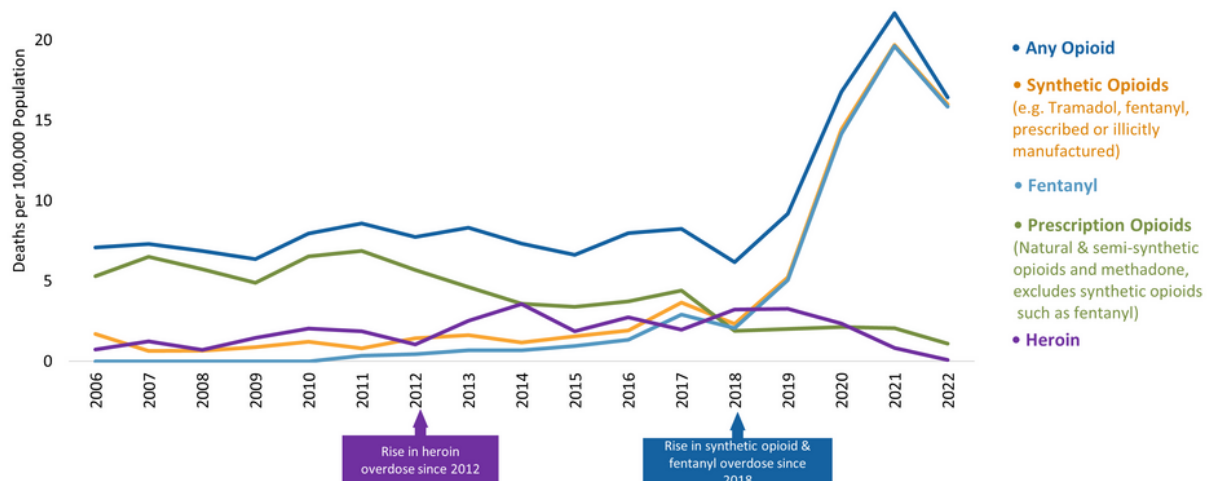
Relationship Between Unintentional Methamphetamine, Opioid, and Alcohol Caused Emergency Department (ED) Encounters in San Diego County, 2021



Section IV: Highlight on Opioids and Fentanyl Injury and Death

The early stages of the opioid epidemic date back to 1999. The first wave began with increased deaths due to prescription opioids, including natural and semi-synthetic opioids, and methadone. The second wave occurred in 2012 as heroin overdose deaths increased in San Diego County. Finally, the third wave, began in 2018 with significant increases in overdose deaths involving synthetic opioids and fentanyl. Fentanyl is 50 times stronger than heroin and 100 times stronger than morphine and is the largest contributor to overdoses in the U.S. currently. It is often combined with other drugs such as methamphetamine, cocaine, and now xylazine which complicates overdose prevention and harm reduction efforts.

Waves of the Rise in Opioid Overdose Deaths in San Diego County, 2006-2022



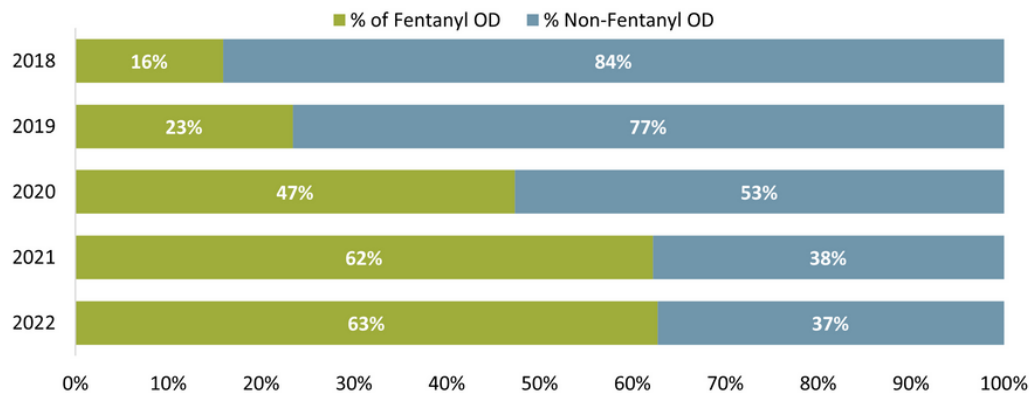
[5] Lowest income neighborhoods had a median household income in 2021 between \$32,421-\$60,436 in San Diego County.

[6] Low income neighborhoods had a median household income in 2021 between \$60,821-\$78,434 in San Diego County

2023 DRUG OVERDOSE INJURY AND DEATH REPORT

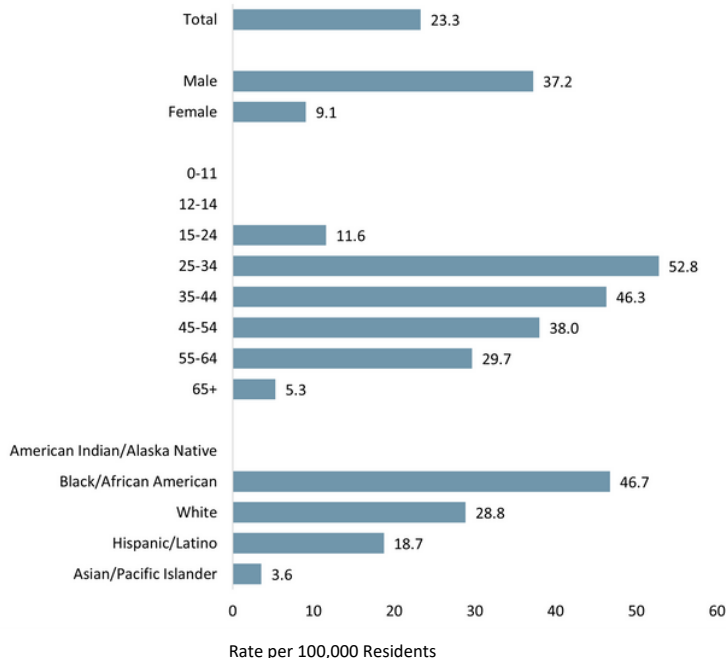
In San Diego County, the **percent** of overdose deaths **attributable to fentanyl** have **increased** over time. In **2018, 1 in 6 (16%)** drug overdose deaths **involved fentanyl**, whereas in **2022, nearly 2 in 3 (63%)** overdose deaths **involved fentanyl** in San Diego County, representing a 4-fold increase.

Percent of Drug Overdose Deaths Attributable to Fentanyl in San Diego County, 2018-2022

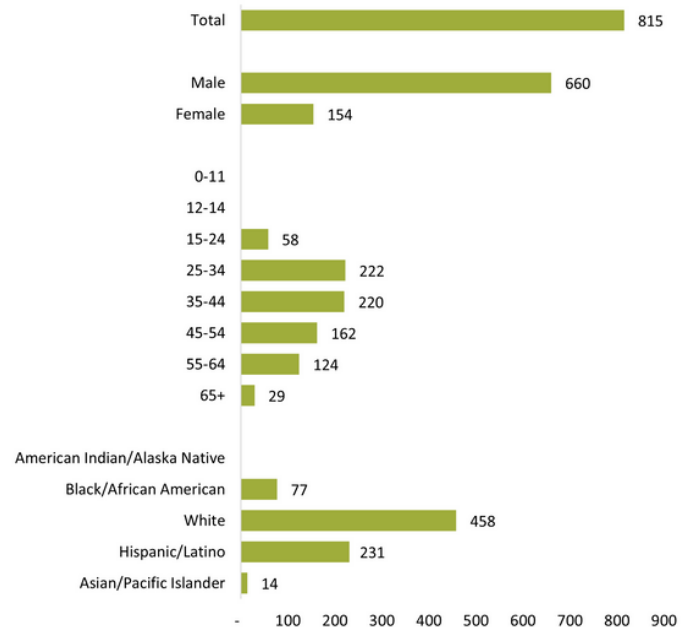


The shift from **prescription opioid** deaths to **illicitly manufactured fentanyl** overdose deaths have **driven** the opioid crisis in San Diego County. **Since 2018, the number of fentanyl overdose deaths have increased by 786%** with **fentanyl** accounting for **63%** of all **drug overdose deaths** in the county, and **93%** of all **opioid deaths in the county**.

Fentanyl Overdose Death Rates¹ in San Diego County, 2022



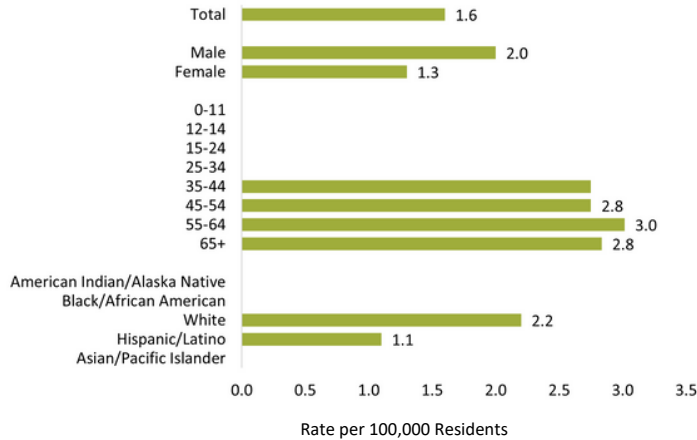
Fentanyl Overdose Death Counts in San Diego County, 2022



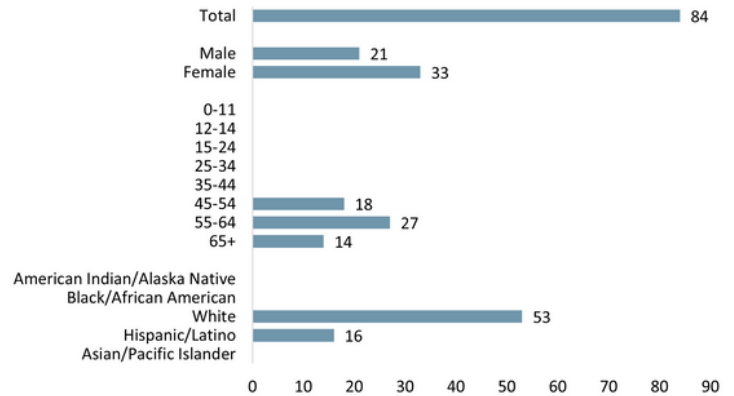
[1] Rates are limited to deaths occurring among San Diego County residents. However, the total death counts include all deaths, regardless of residence.

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Opioid Overdose Death Rates (excluding cases that involve fentanyl only) in San Diego County 2022



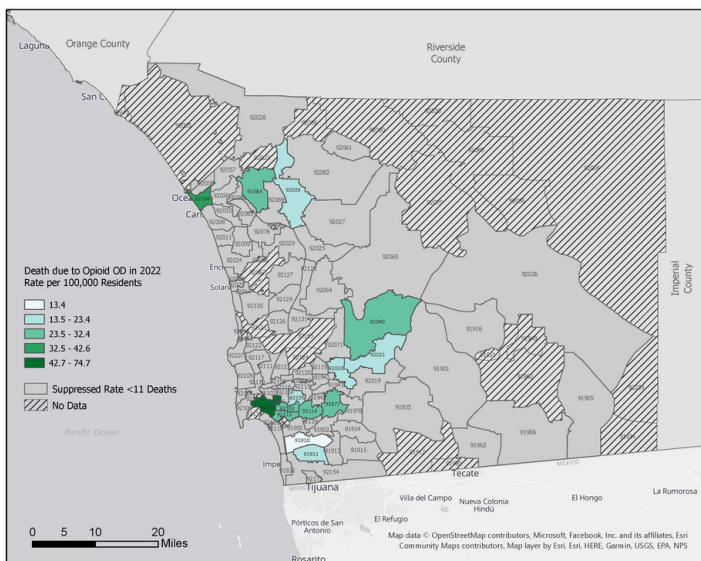
Opioid Overdose Death Counts (excluding cases that involve fentanyl only) in San Diego County 2022



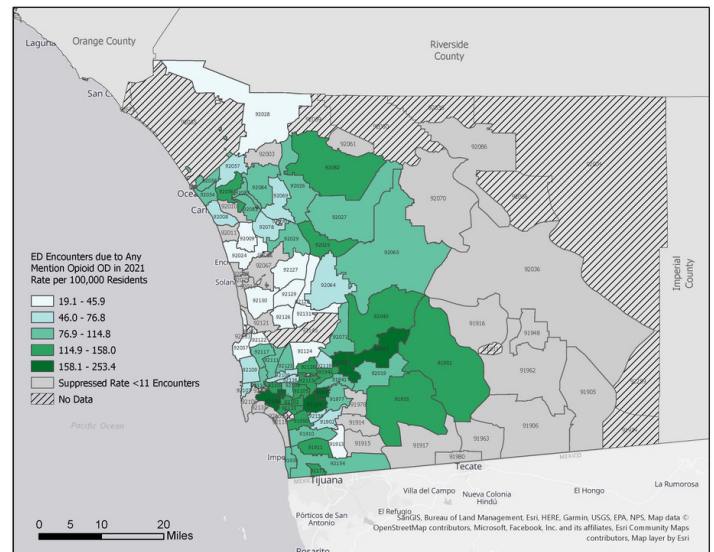
In 2022, the rate of fentanyl overdose death was 23.3 per 100,000 residents whereas the rate of opioid overdose deaths without fentanyl was 1.6 per 100,000 residents. Those who were most affected by fentanyl overdose deaths were males, those aged 25-44 years, and non-Hispanic Black residents. Those who were most affected by opioid deaths (without fentanyl) were males, those aged 55-64 years, and non-Hispanic White residents in 2022.

[1] Rates are limited to deaths occurring among San Diego County residents. However, the total death counts include all deaths, regardless of residence.

Opioid Overdose Deaths by Resident Zip Code in San Diego County, 2022



ED Encounters Due to Any Mention of Nonfatal Opioid Overdose by Resident Zip Code in San Diego County, 2021



Several communities were **disproportionately impacted** by fatal and nonfatal opioid overdoses in San Diego County.

- In 2022, the ZIP Codes with the highest rates of fatal opioid overdoses were 92101 (Central Region-Central San Diego), 92054 (North Coastal Region-Oceanside) and 92040 (East Region-Lakeside).
- In 2021, the rates of ED encounters due to nonfatal opioid overdoses were highest in zip codes 92101 (Central Region-Central San Diego), 92114 (Central Region-Southeastern San Diego), and 91945 (East Region-Lemon Grove).

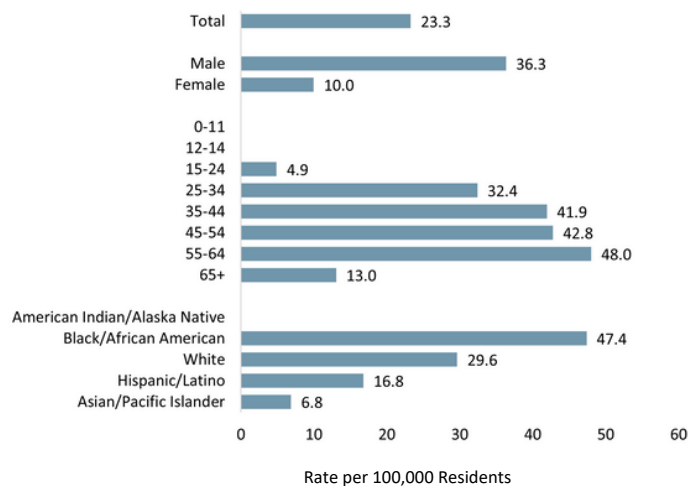
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Section V: Highlight on Methamphetamine Overdose Injury and Death

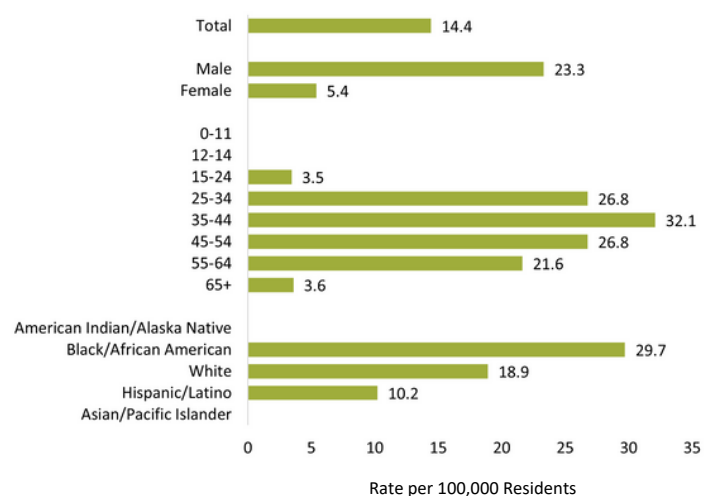
Methamphetamines were the **second most commonly occurring substance** in overdose deaths in San Diego County from **2018 to 2022**. In **2022**, the **methamphetamine overdose death rate was 23.3 per 100,000 residents** (+148% from 2018) while the rate of **fentanyl and methamphetamine overdose deaths were 14.4 per 100,000 residents** (+1,982% from 2018).

In **2022**, those with the **highest methamphetamine overdose death rates** were **males**, those aged **55-64 years**, and **non-Hispanic Black residents**. Those with the **highest rates of overdose death due to co-occurring fentanyl and methamphetamine** were **males**, those aged **35-44 years**, and **non-Hispanic Black residents**.

Methamphetamine Overdose Death Rates¹ in San Diego County 2022

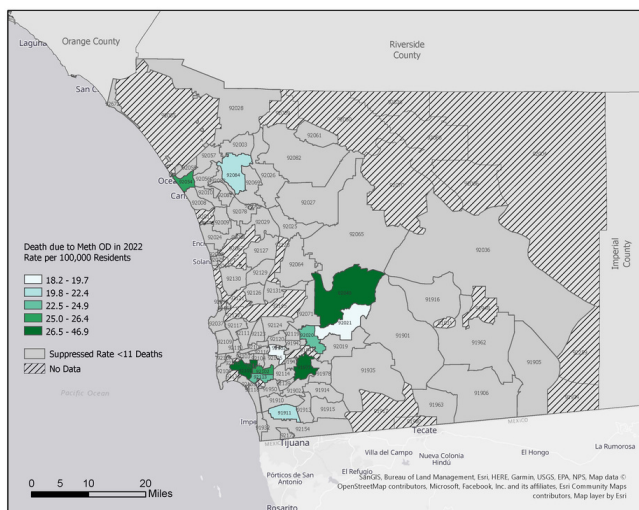


Fentanyl and Methamphetamine Overdose Death Rates¹ in San Diego County 2022

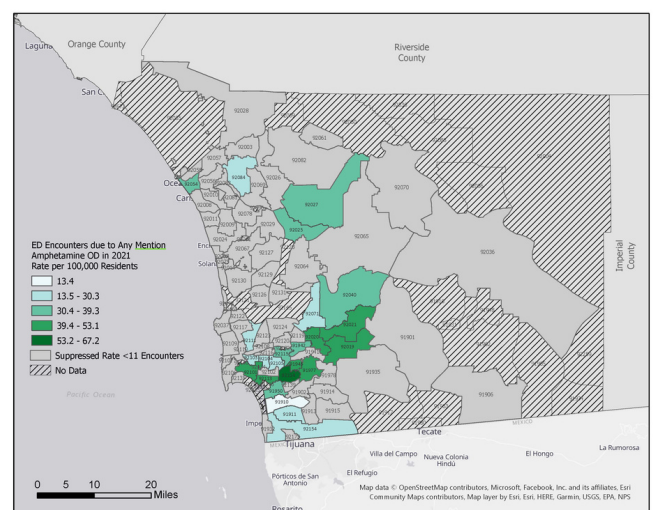


[1] Rates are limited to deaths occurring among San Diego County residents. However, the total death counts include all deaths, regardless of residence.

Methamphetamine Overdose Deaths by Resident Zip Code in San Diego County, 2022



ED Encounters Due to Any Mention of Nonfatal Amphetamine Overdose by Resident Zip Code in San Diego County, 2021

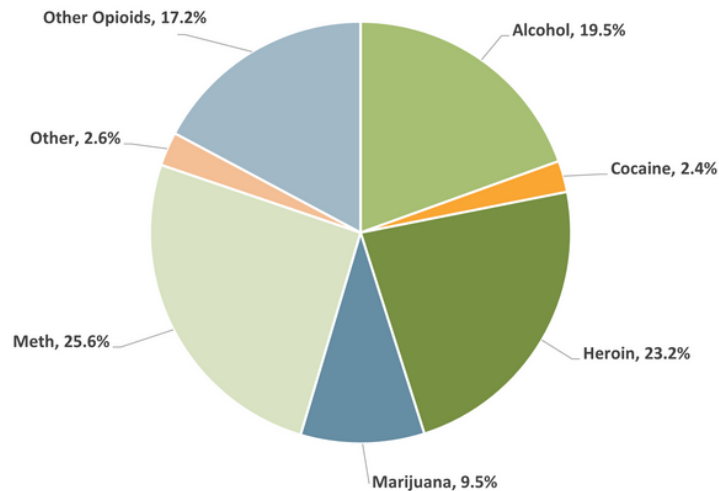


- In **2022**, the zip codes with the **highest rates of methamphetamine overdose deaths** were **92101 (Central Region-Central San Diego)**, **92040 (East Region-Lakeside)**, and **91977 (East Region-Spring Valley)**.
- In **2021**, the rate of ED encounters due to any mention of nonfatal amphetamine overdoses were **highest** in zip codes **92114 (Central Region-Southeastern San Diego)**, **91945 (East Region-Lemon Grove)**, and **92021 (East Region-El Cajon)**.

2023 DRUG OVERDOSE INJURY AND DEATH REPORT

Section VI: County of San Diego Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment Services Data

Primary Substance Used Reported by Patients Admitted to San Diego County Treatment Programs, 2022



In **2022**, there were a total of **13,726** patients admitted at County of San Diego substance use disorder (SUD) treatment facilities. Of these, **25.6%** of all patients had **methamphetamine** reported as the primary substance used followed by **heroin (23.2%)**, **alcohol (19.5%)** and **other opioids (17.2%)**.

Patients Admitted in which Methamphetamine was the Primary Substance Used by Gender, 2022

Gender	Unique Patients	Patients with Methamphetamine as Primary Drug	
Male	9,001	2,306	Male 26%
Female	4,713	1,202	Female 26%
Other	12	3	Other 25%

Patients Admitted in which Methamphetamine was the Primary Substance Used by Age, 2022

Age	Unique Patients	Patients with Methamphetamine as Primary Drug	
Age 11 to 17	641	9	
Age 18 to 25	1,181	295	
Age 26 to 59	10,701	3,066	
Age 60 +	1,203	144	



Patients Admitted where Methamphetamine was the Primary Substance Used by Race/Ethnicity, 2022

Race/Ethnicity	Unique Patients	Patients with Methamphetamine as Primary Drug	
Asian/Pacific Islander	331	153	46%
Black/African American	1,206	352	29%
Hispanic	4,861	1,460	30%
Native American	179	53	30%
Other/Multi-Race	721	212	29%
White	6,425	1,280	20%
Unknown	3	1	33%

In **2022**, there were **3,511 (25.6%)** patients admitted where **methamphetamine** was identified as the primary substance used at County of San Diego SUD treatment facilities. Individuals between the ages of **26-59 (29%)** and those who identified as **Asian/Pacific Islander (46%)** had higher reported percentages of **methamphetamine** as their primary substance used compared to others.

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Patients Admitted in which Opioids* was the Primary Substance Used by Gender, 2022

Gender	Unique Patients	Patients with Opioids as Primary Drug	
Male	9,001	3,596	Male 40%
Female	4,713	1,950	Female 41%
Other	12	4	Other 33%

Patients Admitted in which Opioids* was the Primary Substance Used by Age, 2022

Age	Unique Patients	Patients with Opioids as Primary Drug	
Age 11 to 17	641	16	2%
Age 18 to 25	1,181	333	28%
Age 26 to 59	10,701	4,416	41%
Age 60 +	1,203	785	65%

Patients Admitted where Opioids* was the Primary Substance Used by Race/Ethnicity, 2022

Race/Ethnicity	Unique Patients	Patients with Opioids as Primary Drug	
Asian/Pacific Islander	331	59	18%
Black/African American	1,206	285	24%
Hispanic	4,861	1519	31%
Native American	179	62	35%
Other/Multi-Race	721	277	38%
White	6,425	3,346	52%
Unknown	3	2	67%

In **2022**, there were **5,550 (40.4%) patients admitted** where an **opioid*** was identified as the primary substance used at County of San Diego SUD treatment facilities. Individuals **over the age of 60 (65%)**, those who identified as **female (41%)**, and those who identified as **White (52%)** had higher reported percentages of opioids as their primary substance used compared to others.

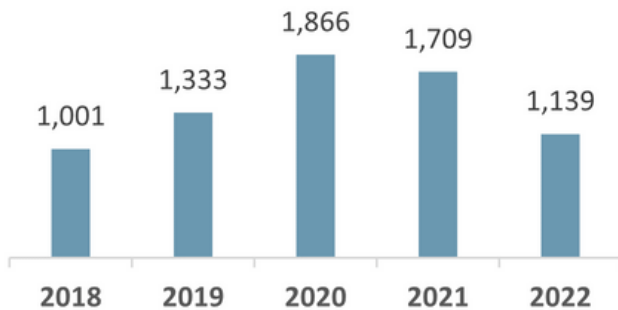
*Opioids include heroin, Oxycodone/OxyContin, non-prescription methadone, and other opioids or synthetics.

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As the drug overdose crisis evolves in both nature and complexity, having access to relevant data becomes crucial to enhancing awareness and guiding future initiatives and interventions. This report will outline key public safety data metrics with information on prosecution efforts; use and availability; arrest trends; and public safety and harm reduction efforts.

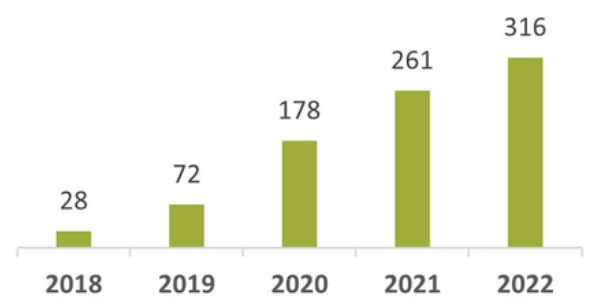
Section I: Federal Prosecution-Related Data

**Federal Methamphetamine Charges,
San Diego and Imperial County, 2018-2022***



Source: United States Attorney's Office

**Federal Fentanyl Charges,
San Diego and Imperial County, 2018-2022***

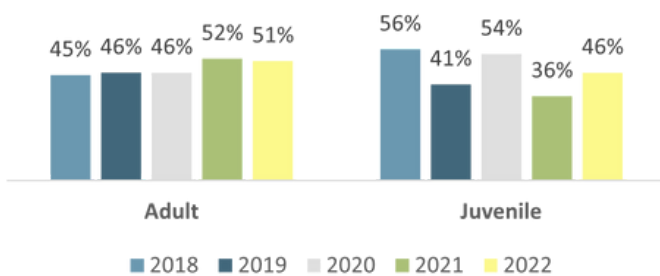


Source: United States Attorney's Office

*Charges included in the count are: 040 - drug trafficking; 045 - simple drug possession; 047 - organized crime drug enforcement task force (OCDETF); and 06F - money laundering/structuring (narcotics).

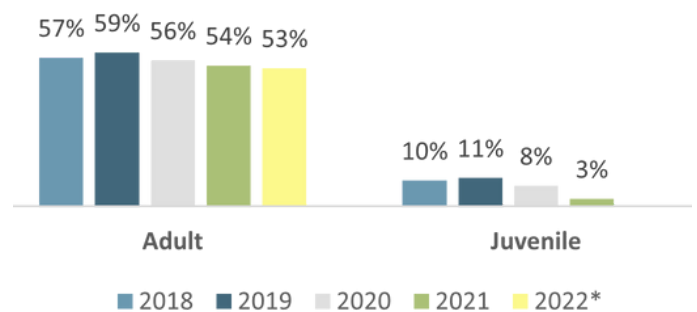
Section II: Use and Availability Data

**San Diego County Arrestees Self Report of
Prescription Misuse, 2018-2022****



Source: Substance Abuse Monitoring, San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG).

**Positive Methamphetamine Tests Among San Diego
County Arrestees, 2018-2022****

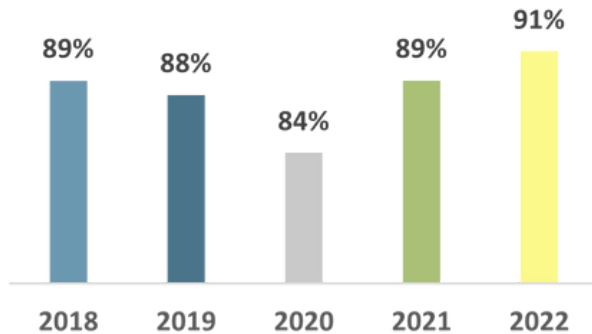


Source: Substance Abuse Monitoring, San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG).

**The 2022 data includes youth who were interviewed at either East Mesa Juvenile Detention Facility or one of the three Achievement Centers (Central, Escondido, and La Mesa). Achievement Center youth were included in the sample because the number of youth booked into Juvenile Hall has decreased considerably. It is important to note that Achievement Center youth have not been adjudicated and Achievement Centers are an alternative to detention. Also because of booking procedures at East Mesa Juvenile Detention Facility, urine samples for drug testing were not obtained and all self-response data are included regardless.

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Percent of Adult Arrestees Reporting Methamphetamine as “Very Easy” or “Easy” to Get, 2018-2022



Source: Substance Abuse Monitoring, San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG).

Methamphetamine Price per Ounce	
2018	\$150-300
2019	\$150-325
2020	\$150-300
2021	\$90-\$250
2022	\$50-\$250

Source: SD-LECC

SANDAG Self-Reported Method of Obtaining Prescription Drugs

	2018		2019		2020*		2021		2022	
	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile
Given	77%	87%	72%	77%	77%	87%	77%	88%	78%	83%
Bought	50%	51%	62%	56%	50%	51%	65%	69%	66%	48%
Stolen	23%	31%	17%	29%	23%	31%	30%	31%	29%	30%

Source: Substance Abuse Monitoring, San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG).

Section III: Arrest-Related Data

Number of Arrests and Citations (Misdemeanor and Felony), San Diego Region, CY 2018-2022

Year	Total Arrests	Methamphetamine Related Arrests	% of Total
2018	94,273	10,141	10.8%
2019	104,104	11,313	11.2%
2020	89,497	7,214	8.1%
2021	83,893	10,948	13.1%
2022	89,765	7,378	8.2%

Source: ARJIS

2023 PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

Number of Arrests and Citations (Misdemeanor and Felony) for Methamphetamine, San Diego County Sheriff's Department: CY 2018-2022

Sheriff's Department	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	% Change (20-21)	Rate per 100,000
City of Del Mar	2	4	0	5	6	+20%	--
City of Encinitas	137	142	80	196	243	+24%	390.1
City of Imperial Beach	116	116	95	135	73	-46%	262.8
City of Lemon Grove	121	267	84	166	127	-23%	482.1
City of Poway	50	81	16	74	94	+27%	192.1
City of San Marcos	240	200	159	255	345	+35%	358.2
City of Santee	211	288	120	216	133	-38%	234.2
City of Solana Beach	12	10	3	19	17	-11%	--
City of Vista	452	516	244	477	358	-25%	346.7
Sheriff's Unincorporated	2,014	2,114	1,162	--	--	--	--
<i>Unincorporated – East Region</i>	--	--	--	1,314	858	-35%	--
<i>Unincorporated – North Region</i>	--	--	--	813	711	-13%	--
<i>Unincorporated – South Region</i>	--	--	--	152	72	-53%	--
<i>Unincorporated – Central Region</i>	--	--	--	71	92	+30%	--
<i>Unincorporated – Other</i>	--	--	--	23	47	+104%	--
Sheriff Total	3,355	3,738	1,963	3,916	3,176	-19%	338.6

Data Source: ARJIS; SANDAG, 2021 Jurisdiction Demographic/Economic Estimates.

-Field (i.e., non-warrant) arrests; 11377/11378/11379 HS (and variants) only.

-Arrest rate per 100,000 population.

-Data reflects the site of the arrest, not the residence of the arrestee. Meaning these data are based on where the arrest occurred, not where the individual arrested resides.

Note: Rates and percent change not calculated for cells with less than 30 cases or Unincorporated Regions.

Number of Arrests and Citations (Misdemeanor and Felony) for Methamphetamine, San Diego Police Department (SDPD): CY 2018-2022

San Diego Police Department	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	% Change (21-22)	Rate per 100,000
Northern Division	--	--	--	304	152	-50.0%	--
Northeastern Division	--	--	--	63	46	-27.0%	--
Eastern Division	--	--	--	353	166	-53.0%	--
Southeastern Division	--	--	--	237	123	-48.1%	--
Central Division	--	--	--	927	464	-49.9%	--
Western Division	--	--	--	732	305	-58.3%	--
Southern Division	--	--	--	195	100	-48.7%	--
Mid-City Division	--	--	--	340	211	-37.9%	--
Northwestern Division	--	--	--	47	13	-72.3%	--
Other	--	--	--	27	32	+18.5%	--
SDPD Total	2,493	3,455	2,140	3,225	1,612	-50.0%	

Data Source: ARJIS; SANDAG, 2021 Jurisdiction Demographic/Economic Estimates.

-Field (i.e., non-warrant) arrests; 11377/11378/11379 HS (and variants) only.

-Arrest rate per 100,000 population.

-Data reflects the site of the arrest, not the residence of the arrestee. Meaning these data are based on where the arrest occurred, not where the individual arrested resides.

Note: Rates not calculated for cells with less than 30 cases.

Note: Other includes arrest made outside of a assigned division.

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Number of Arrests and Citations (Misdemeanor and Felony) for Methamphetamine, All Remaining San Diego County Law Enforcement Agencies: CY 2018-2022

Law Enforcement Agency	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	% Change (21-22)	Rate per 100,000
Carlsbad	233	214	276	274	258	-5.8%	223.4
Chula Vista	870	770	486	539	428	-20.6%	155.9
Coronado	30	30	22	30	19	-36.7%	--
El Cajon	538	721	528	653	468	-28.3%	453.3
Escondido	660	697	504	1,074	646	-39.9%	425.9
La Mesa	1,014	544	158	145	118	-18.6%	198.1
Harbor Police	--	--	--	137	49	-64.2%	--
National City	204	202	123	127	102	-19.7%	162.6
Oceanside	744	942	1,011	828	502	-39.4%	284.0
Grand Total	4,293	4,120	3,108	3,807	2,590	-32.0%	268.0

Data Source: ARJIS; SANDAG, 2021 Jurisdiction Demographic/Economic Estimates.

-Field (i.e., non-warrant) arrests; 11377/11378/11379 HS (and variants) only.

-Arrest rate per 100,000 population.

-Data reflects the site of the arrest, not the residence of the arrestee. Meaning these data are based on where the arrest occurred, not where the individual arrested resides.

Note: Rates not calculated for cells with less than 30 cases.

Methamphetamine Involvement in Domestic Violence Fatalities: Findings from Case Reviews CY 2006-2022

The County of San Diego Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team (DVFRT) selects five to seven domestic violence fatality cases each year for in-depth, multidisciplinary reviews to identify needed improvements in areas such as policy, programming, resource development and awareness. Included in the table below are the findings for methamphetamine use - current and history by the perpetrators and victims in these cases.

	Intimate Partner Victims (n= 127)	Perpetrators (n=127)
Current Meth Use*	25 (19.7%)	26 (20.5%)
No/Unknown Current Meth Use	102 (80.3%)	101 (79.5%)
History of Meth Use**	31 (24.4%)	43 (33.9%)
No/Unknown History of Meth Use	96 (75.6%)	84 (66.1%)

Source: San Diego County DVFRT

* Meth detected at the time of death, as indicated by toxicology screen results.

** Determined when the individual has been known to use methamphetamines at some point in their life, as documented through a review of multidisciplinary case records.

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Section IV: Public Safety and Harm Reduction Strategies

Drug Related Naloxone Use	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Emergency Medical Services	2,113	2,457	4,101	6,295	6,971
Sheriff's Department*	23	111	163	283	283
San Diego Police Department	19	49	61	68	118
Harbor Police Department	--	--	--	--	17
Chula Vista Police Department	--	--	--	--	48
El Cajon Police Department	--	--	--	--	50
San Diego City College Police Department	--	--	--	--	6
La Mesa Police Department	--	--	--	--	12

*These figures reflect the number of persons that had naloxone administered to them because of a suspected overdose incident. Per policy, naloxone should be administered to any individual who presents signs of an opioid overdose or when an opioid overdose is suspected. It is important to note that for all suspected overdose incidents with naloxone deployment, naloxone was deployed without medical confirmation of overdose or medical diagnosis. Therefore, these figures may include incidents that ultimately were due to other types of medical emergencies. 'Uses' represents the total number of individuals who received Naloxone. This includes administration by professional staff and deputies while on patrol, in courthouses, and in the jails.

Pounds of Safely Disposed Medications	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Take Back Events	22,221	26,859	11,100	13,049	8,060
Sheriff's Department Collection Boxes	14,295	14,398	15,494	13,661	11,238

Over the years there have been a number of **new ways** for **San Diego County residents** to **dispose** of **unwanted, expired, or unused medications** through pharmacies, mail-in options, and other healthcare facilities. This expanded access to medication disposal options may be one reason why we are seeing a decrease in pounds of medications disposed through Take Back Events and Sheriff's Department Collection Boxes.

[End of Report]