February 17, 2021

The Honorable London N. Breed, Mayor
City and County of San Francisco

The Honorable Shamann Walton, President
Board of Supervisors

Grant Colfax, M.D., Director
Department of Public Health

Subject: Report on Accidental Overdose Deaths

Dear Mayor Breed, President Walton, and Director Colfax:

The enclosed report provides preliminary data of accidental overdose deaths in the City and County of San Francisco from the recent four months of October 1, 2020, to January 31, 2021. This report satisfies the ordinance’s reporting criteria. For your reference, a supplementary extended January 1, 2020, to January 31, 2021 report is enclosed.

The reports are published by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME), Forensic Laboratory Division, to comply with local and state reporting guidelines and further OCME’s mission to provide neutral data to inform policymakers. Please note, these results are preliminary as of testing to February 16, 2021, and are subject to change as the OCME finalizes the manner and cause of each death. These reports are not intended to replace other death statistics within the City that rely on finalized death certificates.

Pertinent for accurate use of these reports is understanding the source of the data and its subsequent summarization process. Decedent demographic and case information were obtained from the OCME case management system. Additionally, specific details from investigator narratives, forensic toxicology results, and where available, preliminary autopsy findings, were utilized. Collected demographic information included race, gender, age, fixed address status, and locations of residence and death.

Due to their significance in accidental overdose deaths, the reported drugs were specific to fentanyl, heroin, medicinal opioids, methamphetamine and cocaine. Their detection in blood was captured to best determine relevance in each case. Medicinal opioid-positive cases required the presence of codeine, hydrocodone, oxycodone, morphine, hydromorphone, oxymorphone, buprenorphine, tramadol, and/or methadone. Heroin determination was more closely evaluated, requiring the presence of specific heroin markers in blood or urine, expected morphine to codeine ratios, and/or case details consistent with heroin use.

Sincerely,

Luke N. Rodda, Ph.D.
Chief Forensic Toxicologist and Director, Forensic Laboratory Division

cc: Office of the City Administrator
enclosures: Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Reports for October 2020 through January 2021
Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Reports for January 2020 through January 2021
**Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report**
as of February 16, 2021

**OCTOBER 2020**

- **Gender**
  - 23% Female
  - 77% Male

- **Race**
  - 3% Asian
  - 18% Black
  - 13% Latinx
  - 0% Native American
  - 60% White
  - 5% Other/Unknown

- **Age**
  - 0% <15
  - 20% 15-24
  - 23% 25-34
  - 23% 35-44
  - 5% 45-54
  - 5% 55-64
  - 5% >=65

- **Fixed Address**
  - 73% Yes (see residence)
  - 18% No
  - 8% Unknown

- **Residence**
  - 25% Tenderloin (94102)
  - 18% SOMA (94103)
  - 7% Inner Mission (94110)
  - 7% Western Addition (94115)
  - 43% Others

- **Location of Death**
  - 25% Tenderloin (94102)
  - 18% SOMA (94103)
  - 10% Nob Hill (94109)
  - 15% Inner Mission (94110)
  - 32% Others

**Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death**

"Acc. Overdoses Open" cases do not have a final cause and manner of death classification; "Acc. Overdoses Closed" cases have a final cause and manner of death classification.

"No fixed address" denotes community members who may be experiencing homelessness.

"Residence" denotes address where decedent lived; "Location of Death" denotes the location where death was declared. For “Residence” and “Location of Death”, the 4 most affected neighborhoods are represented, the "Others" category refers to all other zip codes within the City and County of San Francisco and any of out county residences.

"Gender" refers to gender at time of death.

"Total Deaths" denotes Accidental Overdoses where one or more drugs contribute to the cause of death; however, every point for each drug series is inclusive, but not necessarily exclusive, of that drug. "Total deaths" represents all accidental overdoses including ones for drugs not specified above.

PLEASE NOTE THIS DATA IS PRELIMINARY INFORMATION AND SUSCEPTIBLE TO CHANGE
Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death

Accidental Overdoses where one or more drugs contribute to the cause of death; however, every point for each drug series is inclusive, but not necessarily exclusive, of that drug. "Total deaths" represents all accidental overdoses including ones for drugs not specified above.

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"Gender" refers to gender at time of death.
Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report  
as of February 16, 2021

DECEMBER 2020

Gender
- 22% Female
- 78% Male

Race
- 7% Asian
- 31% Black
- 12% Latinx
- 2% Native American
- 46% White
- 3% Other/Unknown

Age
- 0% <15
- 20% 15-24
- 20% 25-34
- 24% 35-44
- 24% 45-54
- 8% 55-64
- 8% >=65

Fixed Address
- 75% Yes (see residence)
- 24% No
- 2% Unknown

Residence
- 20% Tenderloin (94102)
- 11% SOMA (94103)
- 9% Inner Mission (94110)
- 7% Sunset (94122)
- 52% Others

Other Causes
- 60.14% Other Causes
- 38.51% Acc. Overdoses Open
- 1.35% Acc. Overdoses Closed

Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death

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Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report as of February 16, 2021

JANUARY 2021

Gender
- 15% Female
- 85% Male

Race
- 2% Asian
- 26% Black
- 11% Latinx
- 2% Native American
- 57% White
- 2% Other/Unknown

Age
- 0% <15
- 13% 15-24
- 21% 25-34
- 22% 35-44
- 13% 45-54
- 10% 55-64
- 3% 65+

Fixed Address
- 70% Yes (see residence)
- 28% No
- 2% Unknown

Residence
- 37% Tenderloin (94102)
- 16% SOMA (94103)
- 5% Inner Mission (94110)
- 5% Castro/Noe Valley (94114)
- 37% Others

Location of Death
- 21% Tenderloin (94102)
- 20% SOMA (94103)
- 13% Nob Hill (94109)
- 10% Inner Mission (94110)
- 36% Others

Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death

"Acc. Overdoses Open" cases do not have a final cause and manner of death classification; "Acc. Overdoses Closed" cases have a final cause and manner of death classification.

"No fixed address" denotes community members who may be experiencing homelessness.

"Residence" denotes address where decedent lived; "Location of Death" denotes the location where death was declared. For "Residence" and "Location of Death", the 4 most affected neighborhoods are represented, the "Others" category refers to all other zip codes within the City and County of San Francisco and any of out county residences.

"Gender" refers to gender at time of death.

"Total Deaths" denotes Accidental Overdoses where one or more drugs contribute to the cause of death; however, every point for each drug series is inclusive, but not necessarily exclusive, of that drug. "Total deaths" represents all accidental overdoses including ones for drugs not specified above.

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Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Reports for January 2020 through January 2021
Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report
as of February 16, 2021

JAN-DEC 2020

57.16% Other Causes
14.32% Acc. Overdoses Open
28.52% Acc. Overdoses Closed

Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death

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"No fixed address" denotes community members who may be experiencing homelessness.

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"Gender" refers to gender at time of death.

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OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report
as of February 16, 2021

JANUARY 2020

Gender
- 24% Female
- 76% Male

Race
- 3% Asian
- 26% Black
- 11% Latinx
- 0% Native American
- 50% White
- 11% Other/Unknown

Age
- 0% <15
- 21% 15-24
- 31% 25-34
- 21% 35-44
- 18% 45-54
- 16% 55-64
- 4% 65+

Fixed Address
- 79% Yes (see residence)
- 21% No
- 0% Unknown

Residence
- 27% Tenderloin (94102)
- 13% SOMA (94103)
- 7% Ingleside (94112)
- 7% North Beach (94133)
- 47% Others

Location of Death
- 26% Tenderloin (94102)
- 8% North Beach (94133)
- 8% Nob Hill (94109)
- 16% Inner Mission (94110)
- 42% Others

Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death

Acc. Overdoses Open: 69.84%
Acc. Overdoses Closed: 30.16%

"Acc. Overdoses Open" cases do not have a final cause and manner of death classification; "Acc. Overdoses Closed" cases have a final cause and manner of death classification.

"No fixed address" denotes community members who may be experiencing homelessness.

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"Gender" refers to gender at time of death.

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Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report as of February 16, 2021

FEBRUARY 2020

Gender
- Female: 23%
- Male: 77%

Race
- Asian: 5%
- Black: 28%
- Latinx: 7%
- Native American: 0%
- White: 58%
- Other/Unknown: 2%

Age
- 0% <15
- 16% 15-24
- 21% 25-34
- 21% 35-44
- 9% 45-54
- 2% 55-64
- 1% 65+

Fixed Address
- Yes (see residence): 65%
- No: 35%
- Unknown: 0%

Residence
- Tenderloin (94102): 32%
- SOMA (94103): 14%
- Inner Mission (94110): 11%
- Bayview (94124): 11%
- Others: 32%

Location of Death
- Tenderloin (94102): 35%
- SOMA (94103): 12%
- Nob Hill (94109): 12%
- Inner Mission (94110): 19%
- Others: 23%

Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death

Acc. Overdoses Open: 61.95%
Acc. Overdoses Closed: 38.05%

Other Causes
- 0.00%

Accidental Overdoses where one or more drugs contribute to the cause of death; however, every point for each drug series is inclusive, but not necessarily exclusive, of that drug. "Total deaths" represents all accidental overdoses including ones for drugs not specified above.

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Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death

- Total Deaths
- Fentanyl
- Heroin
- Medicinal Opioids
- Methamphetamine
- Cocaine

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*No fixed address* denotes community members who may be experiencing homelessness.

*Residence* denotes address where decedent lived; *Location of Death* denotes the location where death was declared. For *Residence* and *Location of Death*, the 4 most affected neighborhoods are represented, the *Others* category refers to all other zip codes within the City and County of San Francisco and any of our county residences.

*Gender* refers to gender at time of death.

*Total Deaths* denotes Accidental Overdoses where one or more drugs contribute to the cause of death; however, every point for each drug series is inclusive, but not necessarily exclusive, of that drug. *Total deaths* represents all accidental overdoses including ones for drugs not specified above.

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Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report
as of February 16, 2021

APRIL 2020

Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death

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"Gender" refers to gender at time of death.

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OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER  CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report
as of February 16, 2021

MAY 2020

Gender
- Female: 12%
- Male: 88%

Race
- Asian: 4%
- Black: 26%
- Latinx: 16%
- Native American: 0%
- White: 52%
- Other/Unknown: 1%

Age
- <15: 0%
- 15-24: 10%
- 25-34: 20%
- 35-44: 28%
- 45-54: 28%
- 55-64: 28%
- >=65: 7%

Fixed Address
- Yes (see residence): 61%
- No: 39%
- Unknown: 0%

Residence
- Tenderloin (94102): 24%
- SOMA (94103): 29%
- Inner Mission (94110): 7%
- Lake Merced (94132): 36%
- Others: 19%

Location of Death
- Tenderloin (94102): 19%
- SOMA (94103): 25%
- Nob Hill (94109): 16%
- Inner Mission (94110): 16%
- Others: 25%

Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death

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"Gender" refers to gender at time of death.

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**Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report**
as of February 16, 2021

**JUNE 2020**

**Gender**
- 7% Female
- 93% Male

**Race**
- 4% Asian
- 18% Black
- 26% Latinx
- 0% Native American
- 46% White
- 6% Other/Unknown

**Age**
- 0% <15
- 8% 15-24
- 26% 25-34
- 26% 35-44
- 24% 45-54
- 24% 55-64
- 10% >=65

**Fixed Address**
- 72% Yes (see residence)
- 26% No
- 1% Unknown

**Residence**
- 29% Tenderloin (94102)
- 12% SOMA (94103)
- 8% Chinatown (94108)
- 10% Nob Hill (94109)
- 42% Others

**Location of Death**
- 24% Tenderloin (94102)
- 18% SOMA (94103)
- 18% Nob Hill (94109)
- 10% Inner Mission (94110)
- 31% Others

**Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death**

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"Gender" refers to gender at time of death.

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Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death

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Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report
as of February 16, 2021

AUGUST 2020

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER  CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

Gender
- 30% Female
- 70% Male

Race
- 4% Asian
- 28% Black
- 18% Latinx
- 0% Native American
- 41% White
- 8% Other/Unknown

Age
- 0% <15
- 21% 15-24
- 23% 25-34
- 23% 35-44
- 5% 45-54
- 8% 55-64
- 4% 65+

Fixed Address
- 76% Yes (see residence)
- 18% No
- 6% Unknown

Residence
- 24% Tenderloin (94102)
- 15% SOMA (94103)
- 13% Inner Mission (94110)
- 11% Nob Hill (94109)
- 37% Others

Location of Death
- 18% Tenderloin (94102)
- 13% SOMA (94103)
- 13% Inner Mission (94110)
- 17% Nob Hill (94109)
- 31% Others

Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death

Acc. Overdoses Open
- 51.37% Other Causes
- 19.18% Acc. Overdoses Open
- 29.45% Acc. Overdoses Closed

Acc. Overdoses Closed
- 19.18% Other Causes
- 76% Yes (see residence)
- 18% No
- 6% Unknown

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"Gender" refers to gender at time of death.
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**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER  CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO**

**Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report**

as of February 16, 2021

**SEPTEMBER 2020**

- **Gender**: 14% Female, 86% Male
- **Race**: 7% Asian, 25% Black, 24% Latinx, 0% Native American, 39% White, 5% Other/Unknown
- **Age**: 0% <15, 17% 15-24, 35-44 32%, 15% 45-54, 55-64 24%
- **Fixed Address**: 83% Yes (see residence), 15% No, 2% Unknown
- **Residence**: 24% Tenderloin (94102), 10% SOMA (94103), 8% Inner Mission (94110), 14% Nob Hill (94109), 43% Others
- **Location of Death**: 22% Tenderloin (94102), 15% SOMA (94103), 19% Nob Hill (94109), 7% Inner Mission (94110), 37% Others
- **Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death**

Accidental Overdoses where one or more drugs contribute to the cause of death; however, every point for each drug series is inclusive, but not necessarily exclusive, of that drug. Total deaths represent all accidental overdoses including ones for drugs not specified above.

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*Gender* refers to gender at time of death.

Please note this data is preliminary information and susceptible to change.
Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death

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Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death

- **Total Deaths**
- **Fentanyl**
- **Heroin**
- **Medicinal Opioids**
- **Methamphetamine**
- **Cocaine**

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Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report  
as of February 16, 2021

DECEMBER 2020

Gender
22% Female  
78% Male

Race
7% Asian  
31% Black  
12% Latinx  
2% Native American  
46% White  
3% Other/Unknown

Age
0% <15  
20% 15-24  
24% 25-34  
24% 35-44  
8% 45-54  
8% 55-64  
8% >=65

Fixed Address
75% Yes (see residence)  
24% No  
2% Unknown

Residence
20% Tenderloin (94102)  
11% SOMA (94103)  
9% Inner Mission (94110)  
7% Sunset (94122)  
52% Others

Location of Death
19% Tenderloin (94102)  
15% SOMA (94103)  
12% Nob Hill (94109)  
12% Inner Mission (94110)  
42% Others

Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death

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"Gender" refers to gender at time of death.

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JANUARY 2021

Gender
- 15% Female
- 85% Male

Race
- 23% Asian
- 26% Black
- 3% Native American
- 2% Latinx
- 2% White
- 2% Other/Unknown

Age
- 0% <15
- 21% 15-24
- 22% 25-34
- 13% 35-44
- 13% 45-54
- 20% 55-64
- 33% >=65

Fixed Address
- 70% Yes (see residence)
- 28% No
- 2% Unknown

Residence
- 37% Tenderloin (94102)
- 16% SOMA (94103)
- 5% Inner Mission (94110)
- 5% Castro/Noe Valley (94114)
- 37% Others

Location of Death
- 21% Tenderloin (94102)
- 20% SOMA (94103)
- 13% Nob Hill (94109)
- 10% Inner Mission (94110)
- 36% Others

Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death

Accidental Overdoses Open: 63.03%
Accidental Overdoses Closed: 36.97%
Unknown: 0.00%

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"No fixed address" denotes community members who may be experiencing homelessness.

"Residence" denotes the address where the decedent lived; "Location of Death" denotes the location where death was declared. For "Residence" and "Location of Death", the 4 most affected neighborhoods are represented, the "Others" category refers to all other zip codes within the City and County of San Francisco and any of out county residences.

"Gender" refers to gender at time of death.

"Total Deaths" denotes Accidental Overdoses where one or more drugs contribute to the cause of death; however, every point for each drug series is inclusive, but not necessarily exclusive, of that drug. "Total deaths" represents all accidental overdoses including ones for drugs not specified above.

PLEASE NOTE THIS DATA IS PRELIMINARY INFORMATION AND SUSCEPTIBLE TO CHANGE