March 18, 2022

Subject: Report on Accidental Overdose Deaths

The enclosed report provides preliminary data of accidental overdose deaths in the City and County of San Francisco from January 1, 2021, to February 28, 2022. The preliminary number of accidental overdose deaths in February 2022 is 50.

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 March 15, 2022, 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 for open cases 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-likely 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. Closed casework included any drug-involved accidental overdose where the death has been certified.

Sincerely,

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

cc:   Office of the City Administrator
enclosures:  Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Reports for January 2022 through February 2022
            Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Reports for January 2021 through December 2021
Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Reports for January 2022 through February 2022
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 out of 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 those for drugs not specified above.

PLEASE NOTE THIS DATA IS PRELIMINARY INFORMATION AND SUSCEPTIBLE TO CHANGE
Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report
as of testing to March 15, 2022

JANUARY 2022

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Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death

Accidents. 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.

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Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Reports for January 2021 through December 2021
**Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report**

**as of testing to March 15, 2022**

**JAN-DEC 2021**

- Gender: 18% Female, 82% Male
- Race: 4% Asian, 29% Black, 13% Latinx, 1% Native American, 48% White, 7% Other/Unknown
- Age: 0% <15, 14% 15-24, 22% 25-34, 22% 35-44, 24% 45-54, 27% 55-64

- Fixed Address: 72% Yes (see residence), 25% No, 4% Unknown
- Residence: 22% Tenderloin (94102), 17% SOMA (94103), 6% Inner Mission (94110), 13% Nob Hill (94109), 42% Others
- Location of Death: 20% Tenderloin (94102), 20% SOMA (94103), 17% Nob Hill (94109), 10% Inner Mission (94110), 33% 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.
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Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report
as of testing to March 15, 2022

FEBRUARY 2021

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 testing to March 15, 2022**

**MARCH 2021**

- **Gender**: 11% Female, 89% Male
- **Race**: 2% Asian, 30% Black, 19% Latinx, 0% Native American, 45% White, 4% Other/Unknown
- **Age**: 2% <15, 15% 15-24, 25-34, 23% 45-54, 23% 55-64, 23% 65+
- **Fixed Address**: 75% Yes (see residence), 23% No, 2% Unknown
- **Residence**: 20% Tenderloin (94102), 25% SOMA (94103), 5% Inner Mission (94110), 8% Nob Hill (94109), 43% Others
- **Location of Death**: 25% Tenderloin (94102), 23% SOMA (94103), 13% Nob Hill (94109), 6% Inner Mission (94110), 34% Others

**Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death**

- **Total Deaths**: 63.95% Other Causes, 0.00% Acc. Overdoses Open, 36.05% Acc. Overdoses Closed

"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.

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"Gender" refers to gender at time of death.

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Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report
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APRIL 2021

Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death

Accidental Overdoses by Drug

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MAY 2021

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.

Location of Death

Fixed Address

Restoration

Gender

Race

Age

Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death

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Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report
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JUNE 2021

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 testing to March 15, 2022

JULY 2021

Gender
- 15% Female
- 85% Male

Race
- 31% Asian
- 13% Black
- 0% Native American
- 44% White
- 6% Other/Unknown

Age
- 0% <15
- 13% 15-24
- 25% 25-34
- 12% 25-34
- 29% 35-44
- 17% 45-54
- 13% 45-54
- 4% 55-64

Fixed Address
- 62% Yes (see residence)
- 31% No
- 8% Unknown

Residence
- 34% Tenderloin (94102)
- 31% Inner Mission (94110)
- 19% Nob Hill (94109)
- 9% Japantown (94115)
- 6% Others

Location of Death
- 31% Tenderloin (94102)
- 12% Inner Mission (94110)
- 15% Nob Hill (94109)
- 12% SOMA (94103)
- 33% Others

Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death

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Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death

Accidental Overdoses by Drug

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

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

Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report  
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SEPTEMBER 2021

Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death

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**OCTOBER 2021**

61.02% Other Causes  
11.02% Acc. Overdoses Open  
27.97% Acc. Overdoses Closed  
74% Yes (see residence)  
20% No  
7% Unknown  

Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death

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NOVEMBER 2021

Gender
- Female: 15%
- Male: 85%

Race
- Asian: 4%
- Black: 29%
- Latinx: 15%
- Native American: 0%
- White: 40%
- Other/Unknown: 12%

Age
- <15: 0%
- 15-24: 17%
- 25-34: 17%
- 35-44: 15%
- 45-54: 21%
- 55-64: 21%
- >=65: 0%

Fixed Address
- Yes (see residence): 79%
- No: 13%
- Unknown: 8%

Residence
- Tenderloin (94102): 15%
- SOMA (94103): 17%
- Marina (94123): 7%
- Nob Hill (94109): 15%
- Others: 46%

Location of Death
- Tenderloin (94102): 15%
- Inner Mission (94110): 8%
- Nob Hill (94109): 15%
- SOMA (94103): 21%
- Others: 38%

Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death

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

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DECEMBER 2021

Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death

Acc. Overdoses Open vs Acc. Overdoses Closed

Accidental Overdoses by Drug

Accidental Overdoses by Residence

Accidental Overdoses by Gender

Accidental Overdoses by Age

Accidental Overdoses by Race

Accidental Overdoses by Location

Accidental Overdoses by Fixed Address

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