

City & County of San Francisco  
London N. Breed, Mayor



Office of the City Administrator  
Carmen Chu, City Administrator  
David Serrano Sewell, Executive Director  
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

September 18, 2023

**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, 2023, to August 31, 2023. The preliminary number of accidental overdose deaths in August 2023 is 84.

The preliminary number of accidental overdose deaths involving Xylazine from January 1, 2023 to August 31, 2023, is 19.

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 September 13, 2023, and are subject to change as the OCME finalizes the manner and cause of each death.

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, fixed address location, and death location.

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 and alcohol-involved accidental overdose where the death has been certified.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Luke N. Rodda".

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

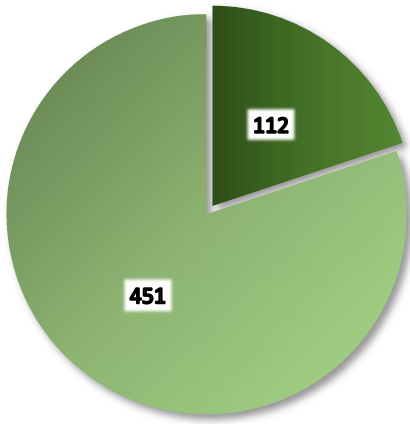
cc: Office of the City Administrator  
enclosures: Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Reports for January 2023 through August 2023

**Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report for  
January 2023 through August 2023**



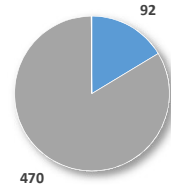
Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report  
as of testing to September 13, 2023

# JAN-AUG 2023



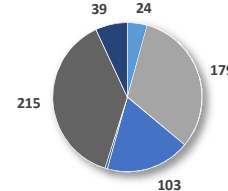
19.89% ■ Acc. Overdoses Open  
80.11% ■ Acc. Overdoses Closed

## Gender



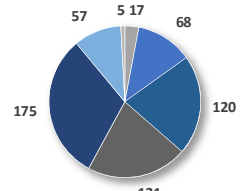
16.3% ■ Female  
83.5% ■ Male  
0.2% ■ Non-Binary

## Race



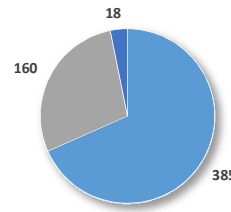
4% ■ Asian  
32% ■ Black  
18% ■ Latinx  
1% ■ Native American  
38% ■ White  
7% ■ Other/Unknown

## Age



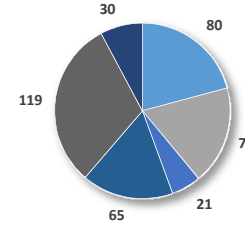
0% ■ <15  
12% ■ 25-34  
21% ■ 45-54  
10% ■ >=65  
3% ■ 15-24  
21% ■ 35-44  
31% ■ 55-64  
1% ■ Unknown

## Fixed Address



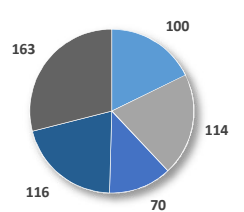
68% ■ Yes\*  
28% ■ No  
3% ■ Unknown  
\*See Fixed Address Location

## Fixed Address Location

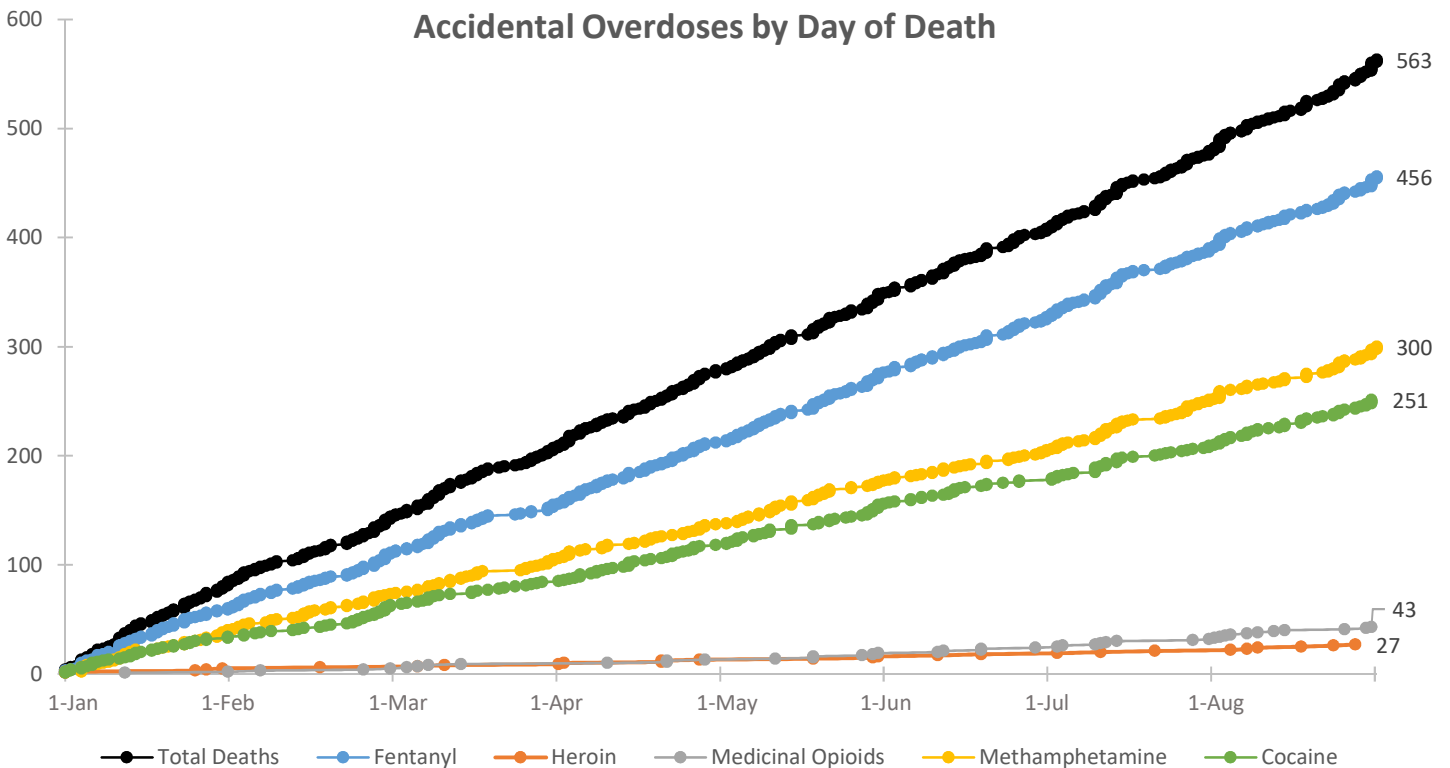


21% ■ Tenderloin (94102)  
18% ■ SOMA (94103)  
5% ■ Inner Mission (94110)  
17% ■ Polk/Russian Hill (94109)  
31% ■ Others (SF Location)  
8% ■ Others (non-SF Location)

## Death Location



18% ■ Tenderloin (94102)  
20% ■ SOMA (94103)  
12% ■ Inner Mission (94110)  
21% ■ Polk/Russian Hill (94109)  
29% ■ Others



"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.

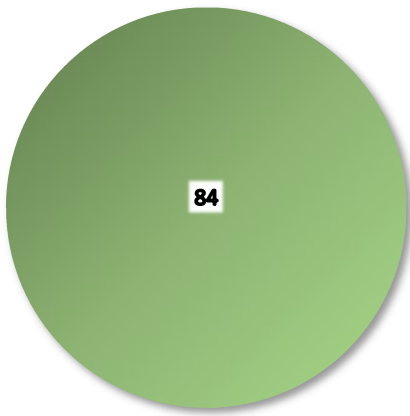
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**PLEASE NOTE THIS DATA IS PRELIMINARY INFORMATION AND SUSCEPTIBLE TO CHANGE**

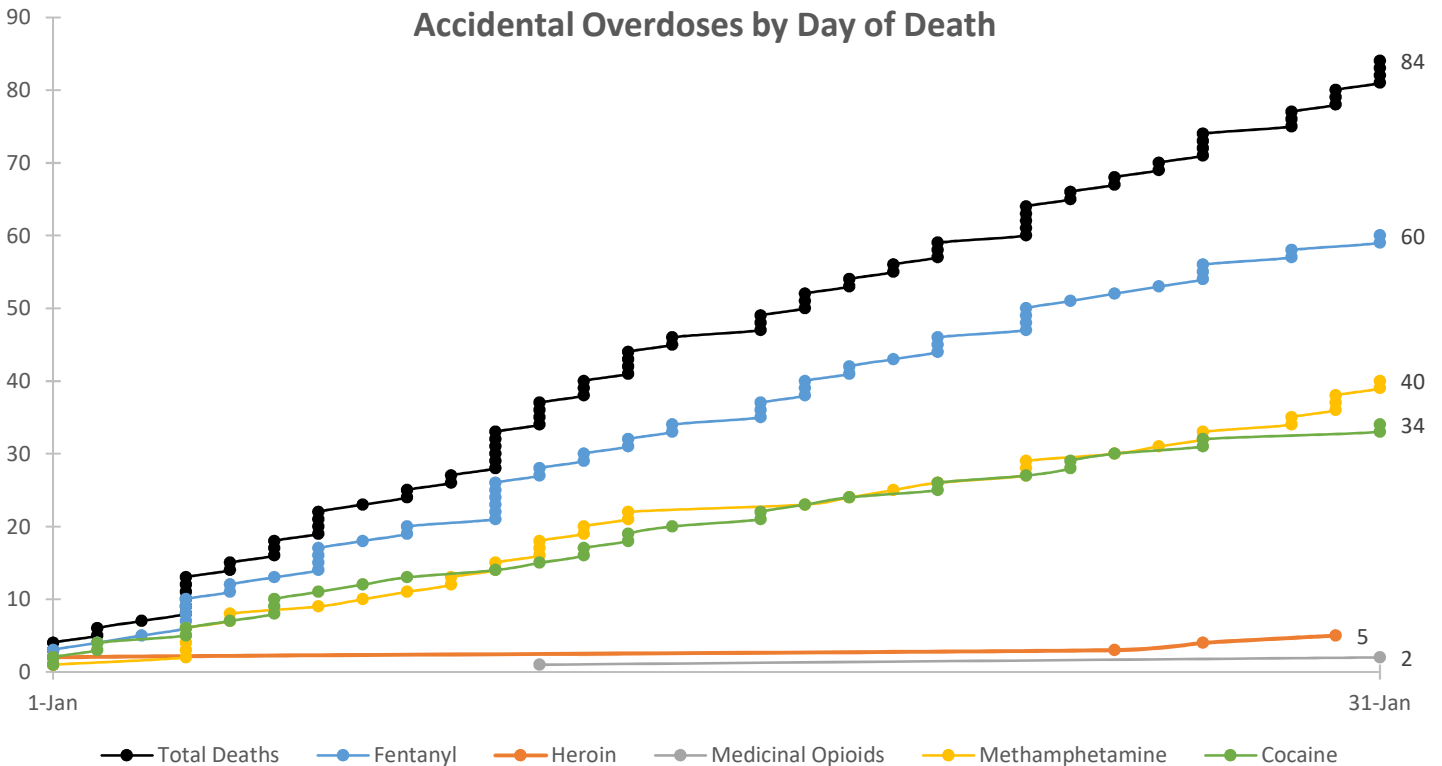
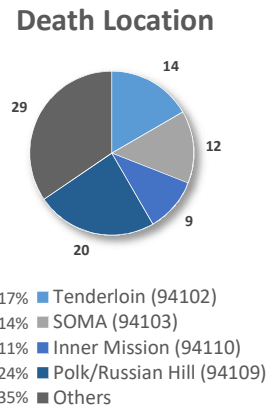
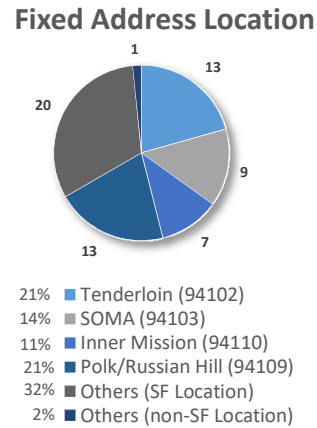
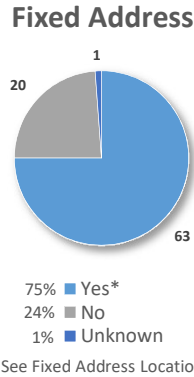
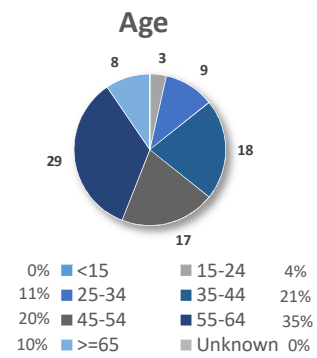
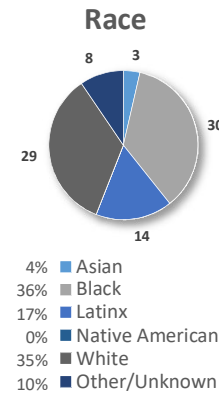
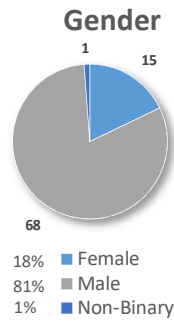


Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report  
as of testing to September 13, 2023

# JANUARY 2023



0.00% Acc. Overdoses Open  
100.00% Acc. Overdoses Closed

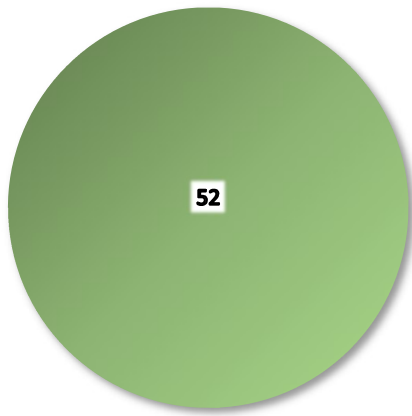


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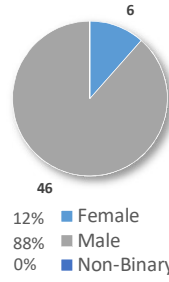
Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report  
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# FEBRUARY 2023

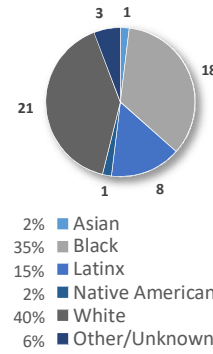


0.00% ■ Acc. Overdoses Open  
100.00% ■ Acc. Overdoses Closed

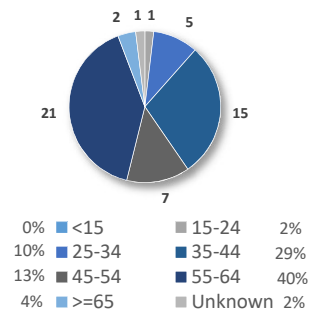
Gender



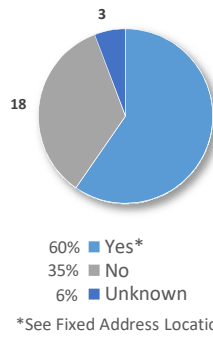
Race



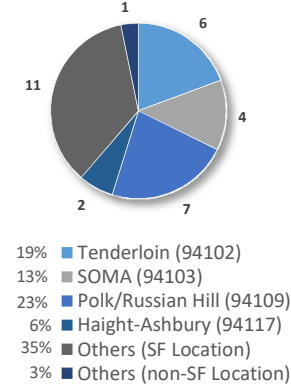
Age



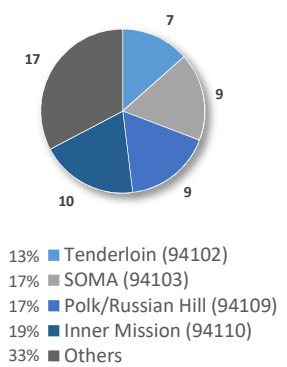
Fixed Address



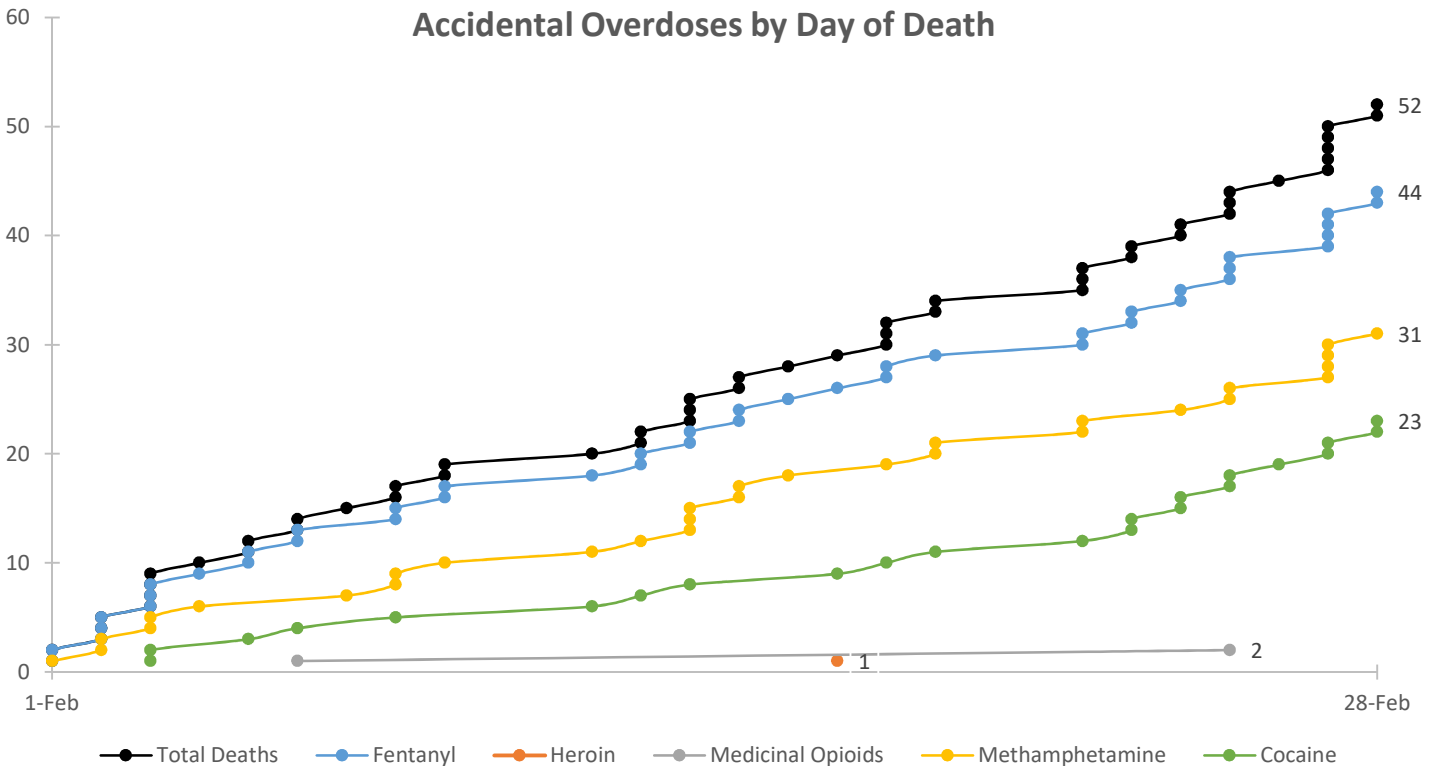
Fixed Address Location



Death Location



## Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death



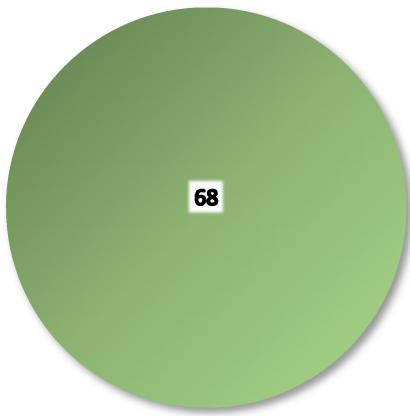
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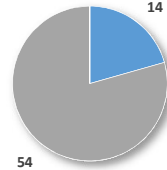
Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report  
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# MARCH 2023



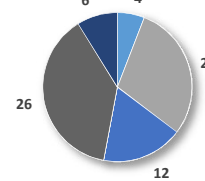
0.00% Acc. Overdoses Open  
100.00% Acc. Overdoses Closed

### Gender



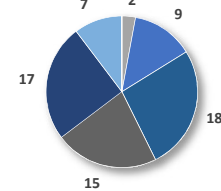
21% Female  
79% Male  
0% Non-Binary

### Race



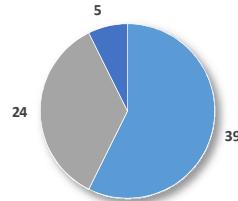
6% Asian  
29% Black  
18% Latinx  
0% Native American  
38% White  
9% Other/Unknown

### Age



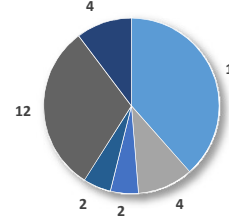
0% <15  
13% 25-34  
22% 45-54  
10% >=65  
3% 15-24  
26% 35-44  
25% 55-64  
0% Unknown

### Fixed Address



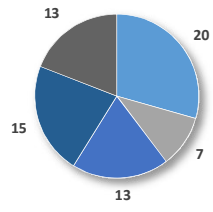
57% Yes\*  
35% No  
7% Unknown  
\*See Fixed Address Location

### Fixed Address Location



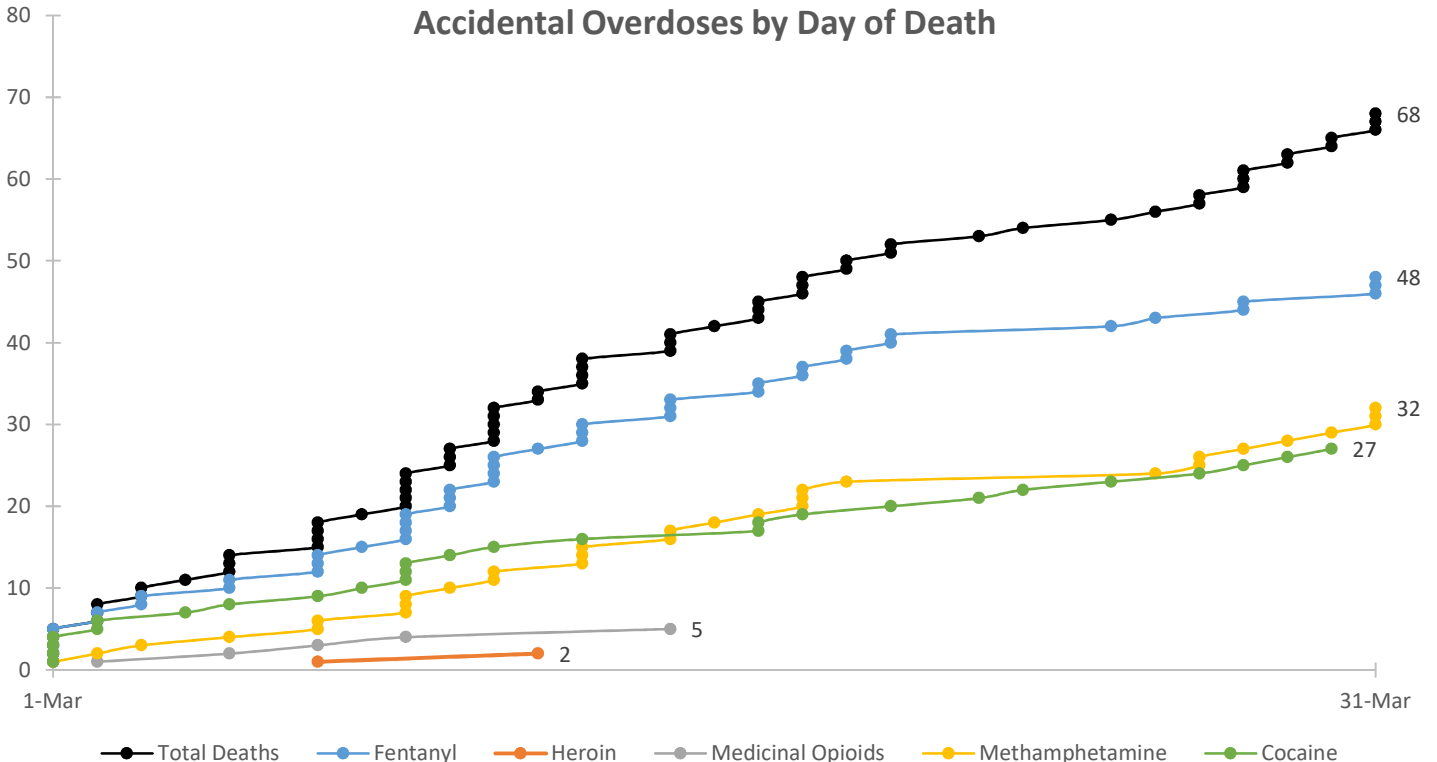
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10% SOMA (94103)  
5% Inner Mission (94110)  
5% Polk/Russian Hill (94109)  
31% Others (SF Location)  
10% Others (non-SF Location)

### Death Location



29% Tenderloin (94102)  
10% SOMA (94103)  
19% Inner Mission (94110)  
22% Polk/Russian Hill (94109)  
19% Others

## Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death



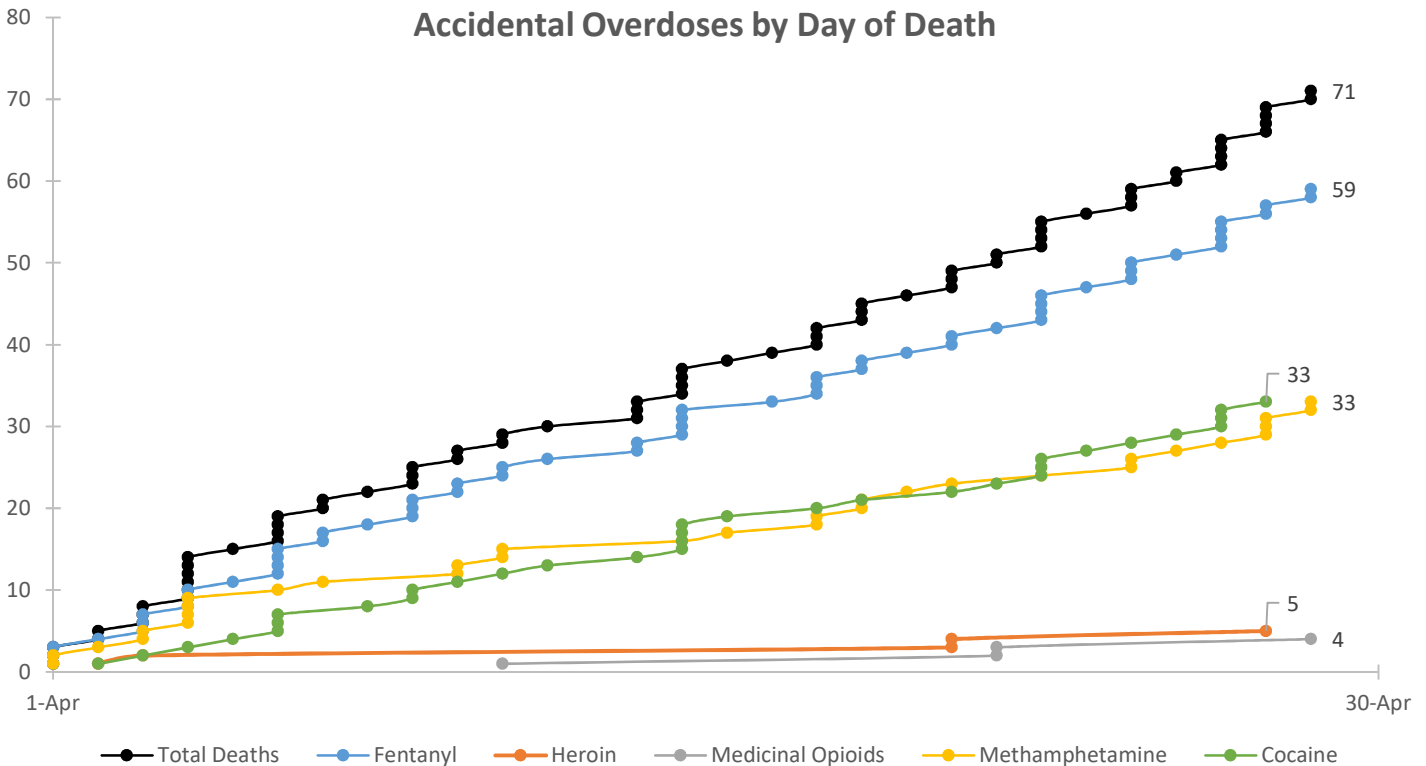
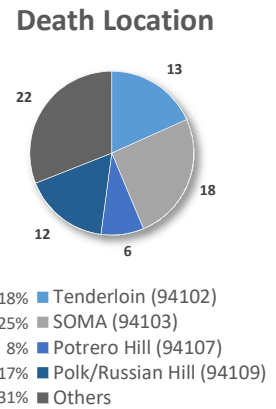
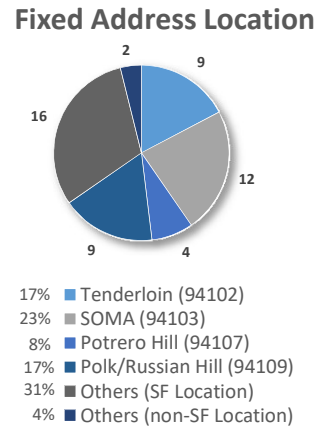
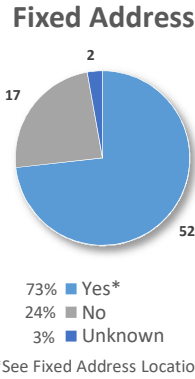
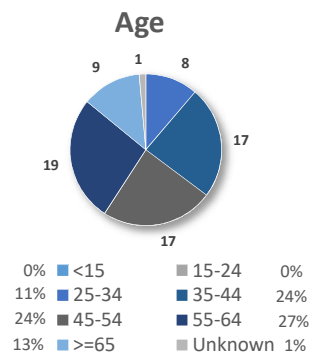
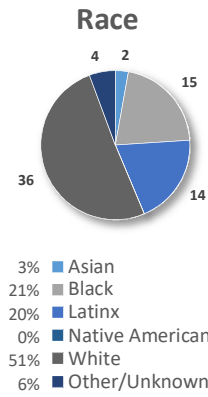
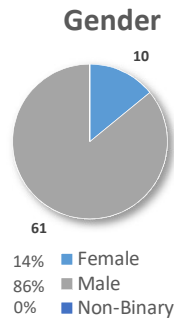
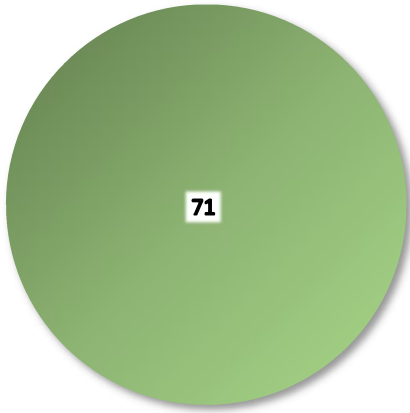
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as of testing to September 13, 2023

# APRIL 2023

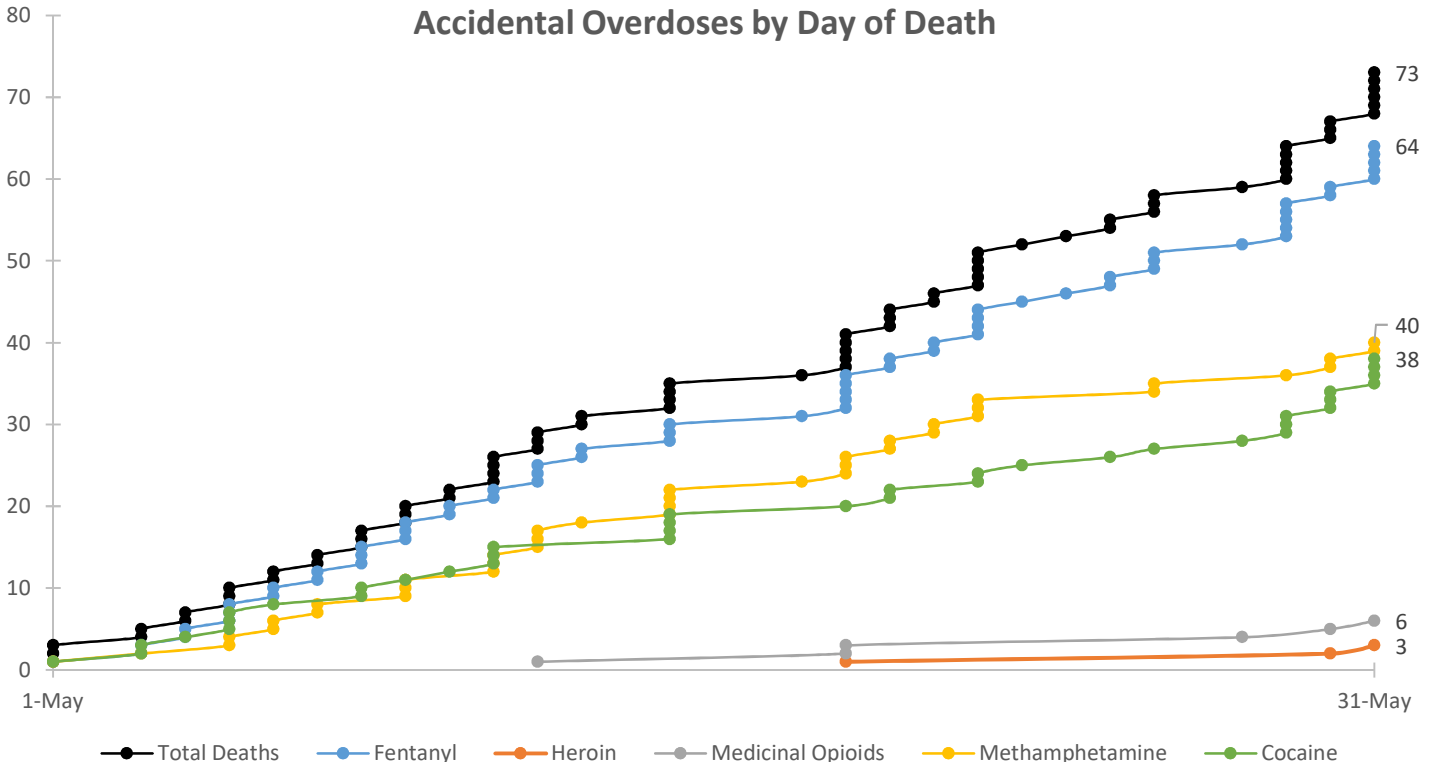
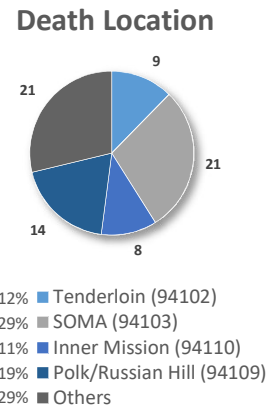
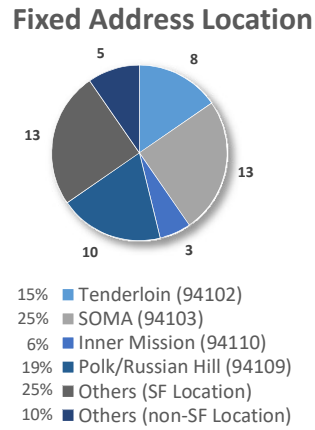
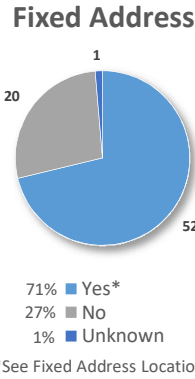
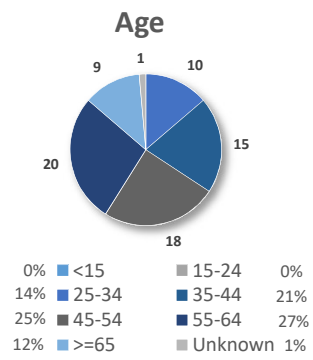
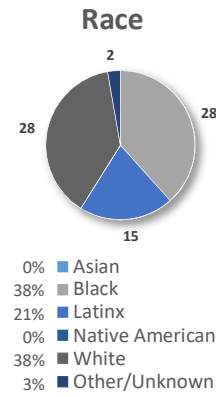
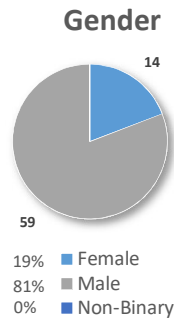
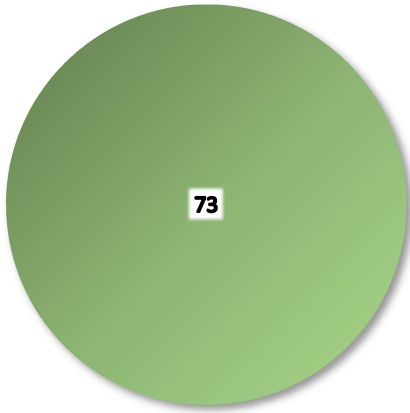


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Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report  
as of testing to September 13, 2023

**MAY  
2023**



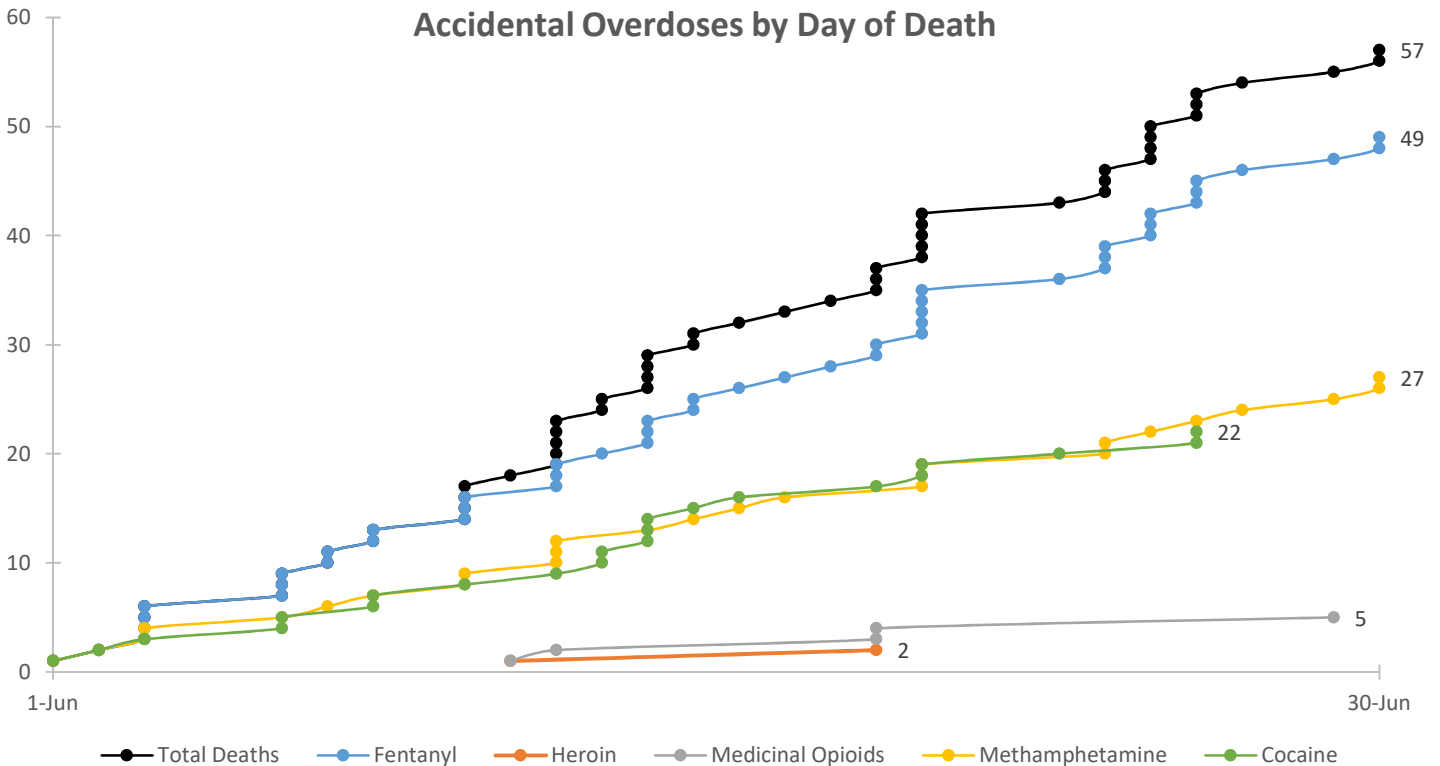
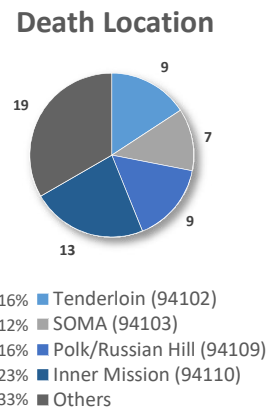
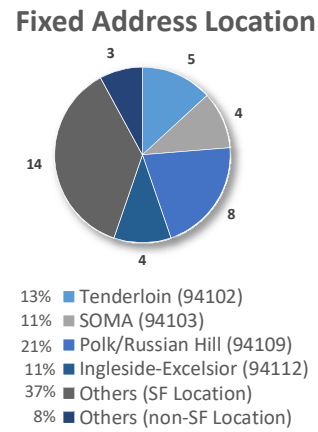
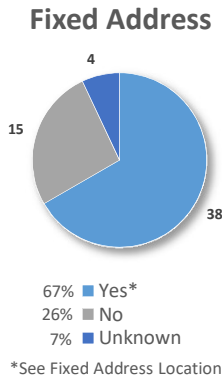
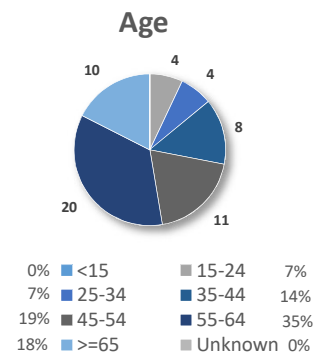
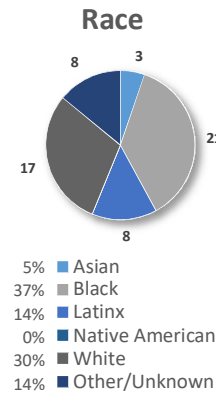
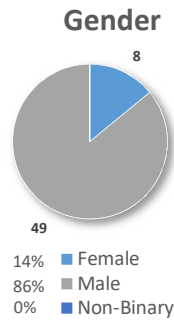
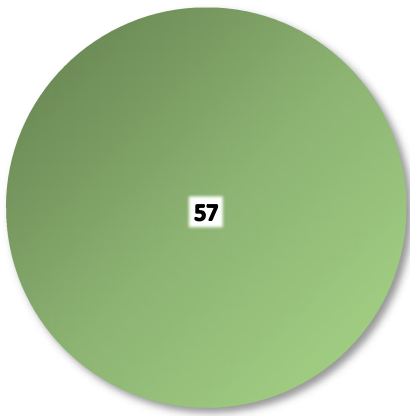
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Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report  
as of testing to September 13, 2023

**JUNE  
2023**

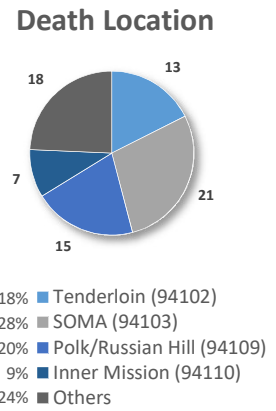
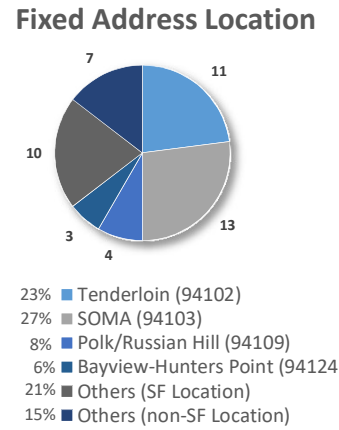
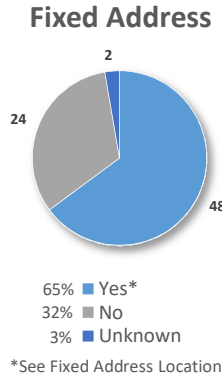
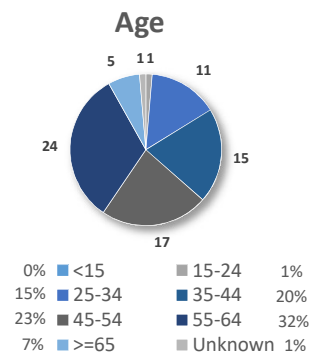
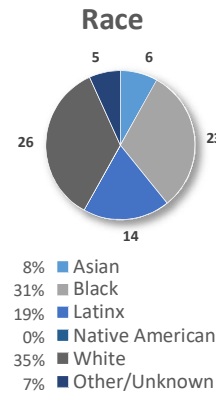
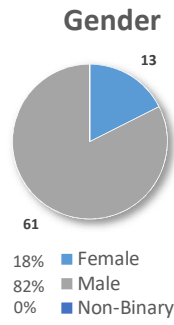
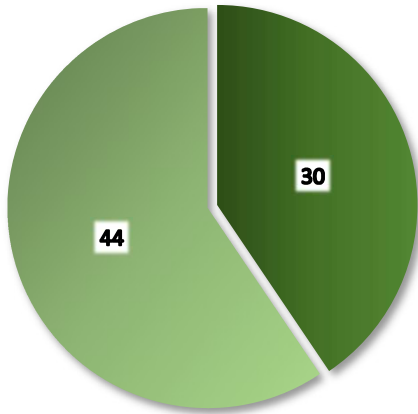


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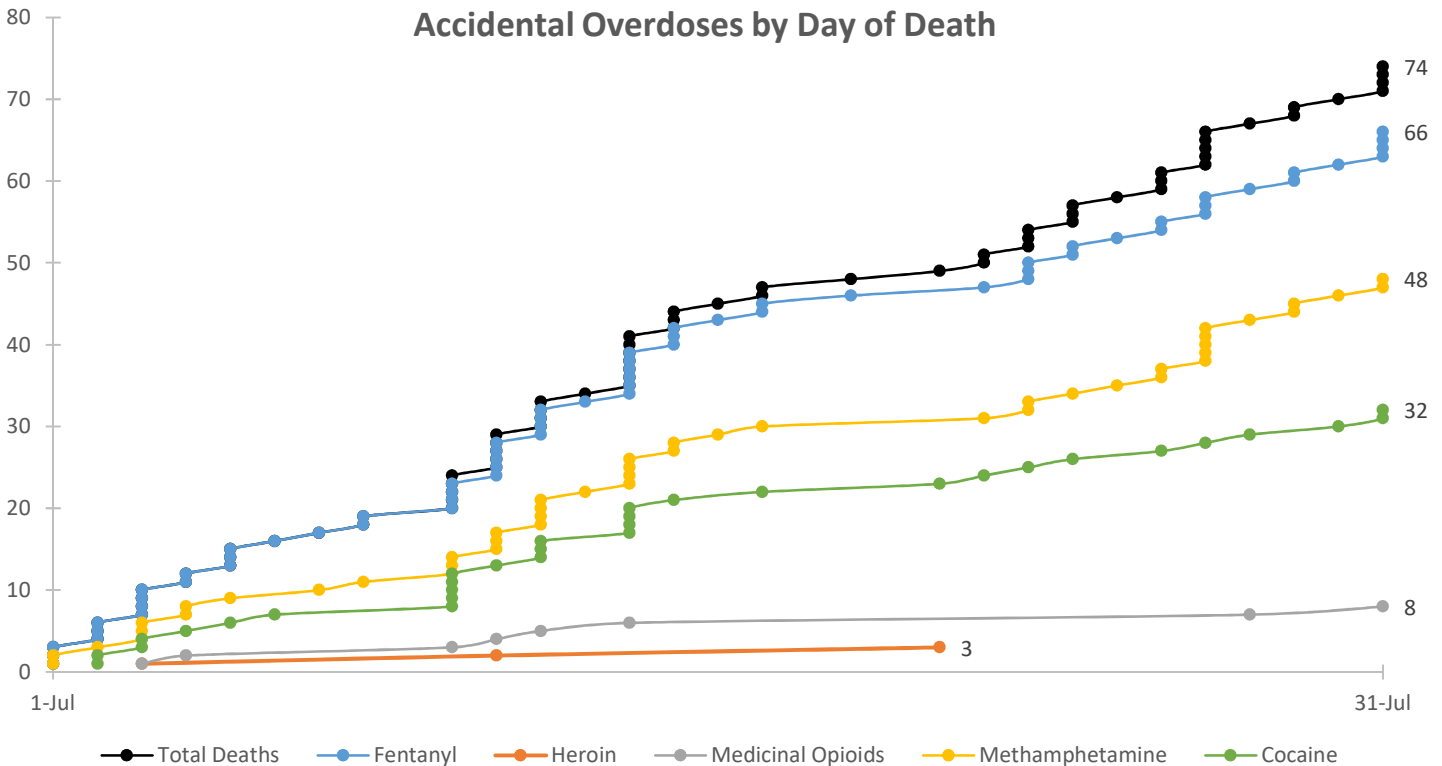


Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report  
as of testing to September 13, 2023

**JULY  
2023**



## Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death

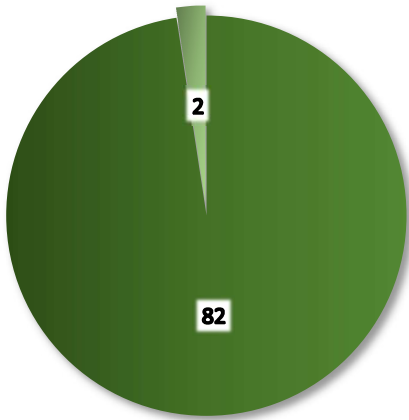


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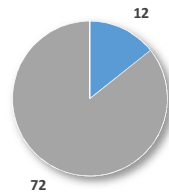
Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report  
as of testing to September 13, 2023

# AUGUST 2023



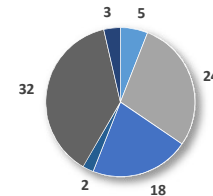
97.62% ■ Acc. Overdoses Open  
2.38% ■ Acc. Overdoses Closed

## Gender



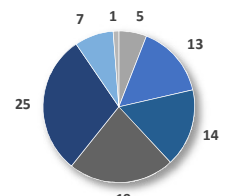
14% ■ Female  
86% ■ Male  
0% ■ Non-Binary

## Race



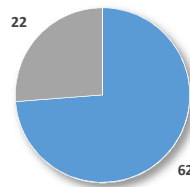
6% ■ Asian  
29% ■ Black  
21% ■ Latinx  
2% ■ Native American  
38% ■ White  
4% ■ Other/Unknown

## Age



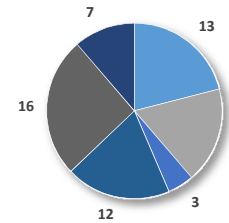
0% ■ <15  
15% ■ 15-24  
23% ■ 25-34  
8% ■ >=65  
6% ■ 35-44  
17% ■ 45-54  
30% ■ 55-64  
1% ■ Unknown

## Fixed Address



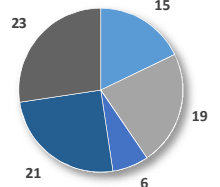
74% ■ Yes\*  
26% ■ No  
0% ■ Unknown  
\*See Fixed Address Location

## Fixed Address Location



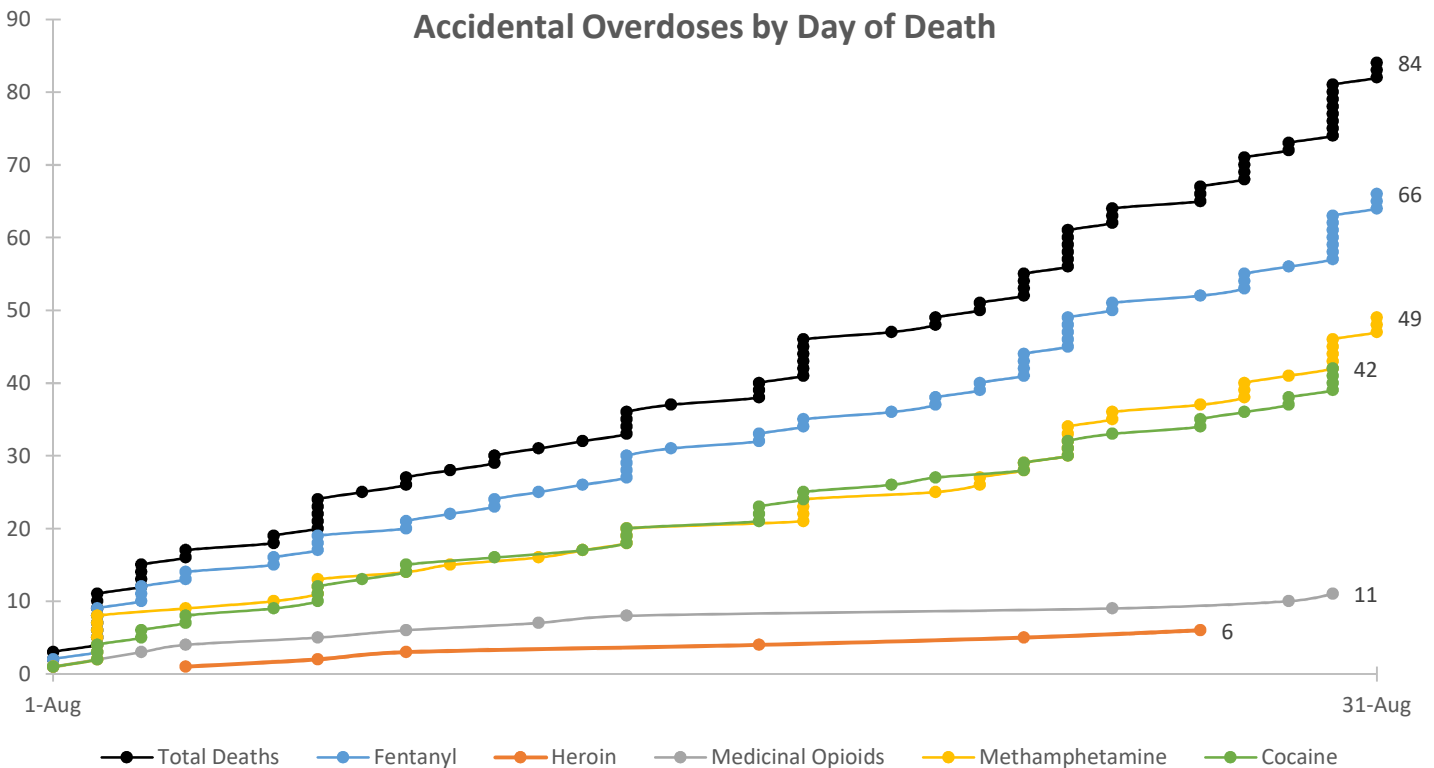
21% ■ Tenderloin (94102)  
18% ■ SOMA (94103)  
5% ■ Potrero Hill (94107)  
19% ■ Polk/Russian Hill (94109)  
26% ■ Others (SF Location)  
11% ■ Others (non-SF Location)

## Death Location



18% ■ Tenderloin (94102)  
23% ■ SOMA (94103)  
7% ■ Potrero Hill (94107)  
25% ■ Polk/Russian Hill (94109)  
27% ■ Others

## Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death



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PLEASE NOTE THIS DATA IS PRELIMINARY INFORMATION AND SUSCEPTIBLE TO CHANGE