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

April 11, 2024

Subject: Report on 2024 Accidental Overdose Deaths

The enclosed report provides preliminary data of accidental overdose deaths in the City and County of San Francisco from January 1, 2024, to March 31, 2024. During this period, the preliminary number of accidental overdose deaths is 199. The preliminary number of accidental overdose deaths in March 2024 is 61.

The preliminary number of accidental overdose deaths involving Xylazine and Bromazolam from January 1, 2024 to March 31, 2024 is 7 and 3, respectively.

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 April 4, 2024, 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.

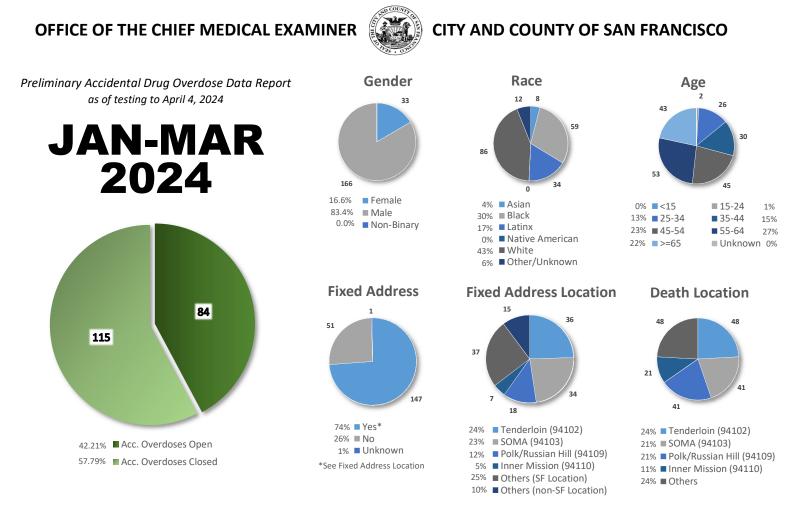
Due to their significance in accidental overdose deaths, the reported drugs for open cases were specific to fentanyl, heroin, medicinal opioids, methamphetamine and cocaine. Their detection in blood was captured to best determine relevance in each case. Medicinal opioid-positive cases required the presence 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,

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

cc:Office of the City Administratorenclosures:Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Reports for January 2024 through March 2024

Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report for January 2024 through March 2024



250 Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death 200 199 150 149 96 100 95 50 14 11 0 1-Feb 1-Jan 1-Mar ---- Fentanvl ----Heroin — Medicinal Opioids ---- Methamphetamine ---- Cocaine

"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.

"Fixed Address" denotes a verifiable address associated with the decedent, which may indicate their residence; it is not intended to verify a decedent's legal domicile, which is a broader legal concept, pertaining to a person's permanent and primary residence for various legal matters.

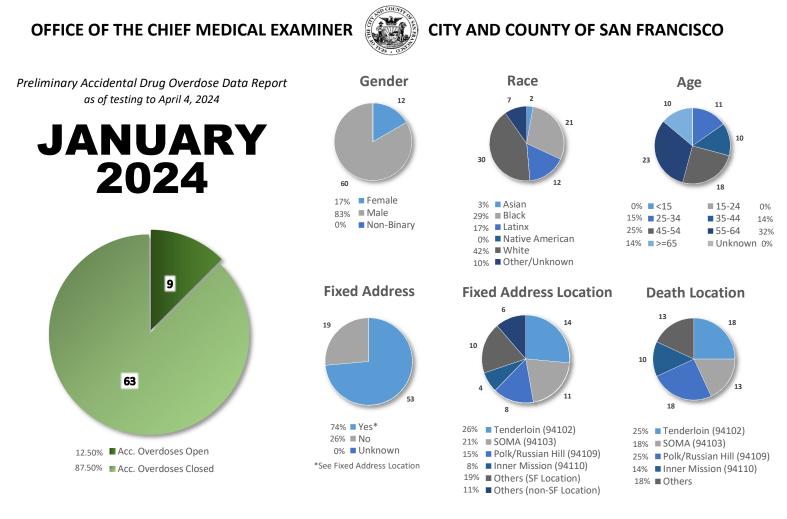
"No Fixed Address" denotes a verifiable address associated with the decedent was unable to be determined (e.g., housing insecurity, multiple addresses in a short timeframe). "Unknown Address" denotes the inability to identifty any reliable address associated with the decedent, or information source.

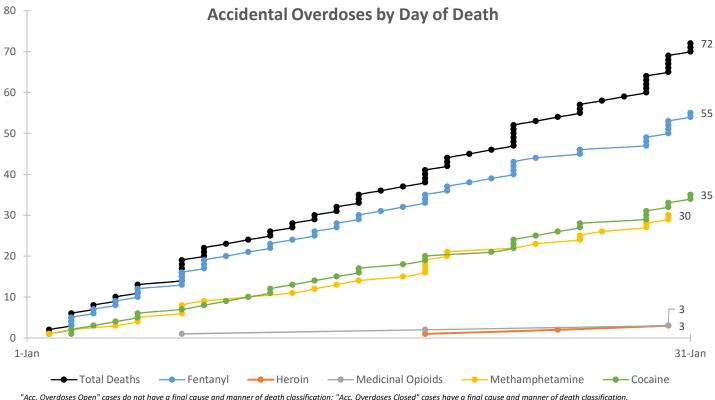
"Death Location" denotes the specific location to which the relevant agencies were called upon to locate the decedent.

For "Fixed Address Location" and "Death Location", the 4 most affected neighborhoods are represented, the "Others (non-SF)" category refers to all out county addresses, and the "Others (SF)" category refers to all other zip codes within the City and County of San Francisco.

"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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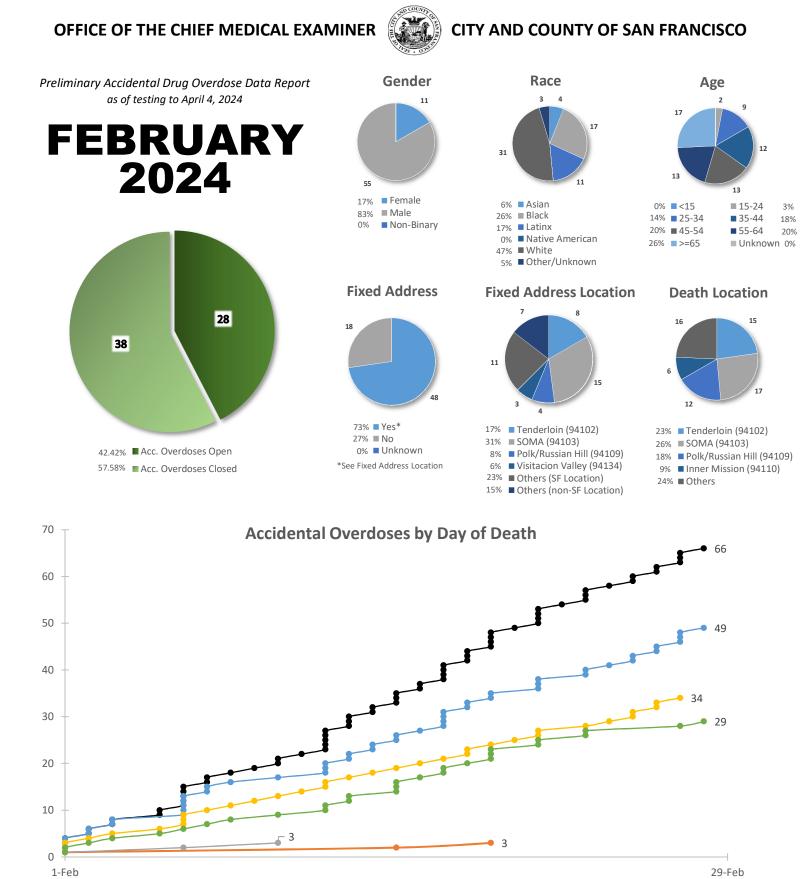
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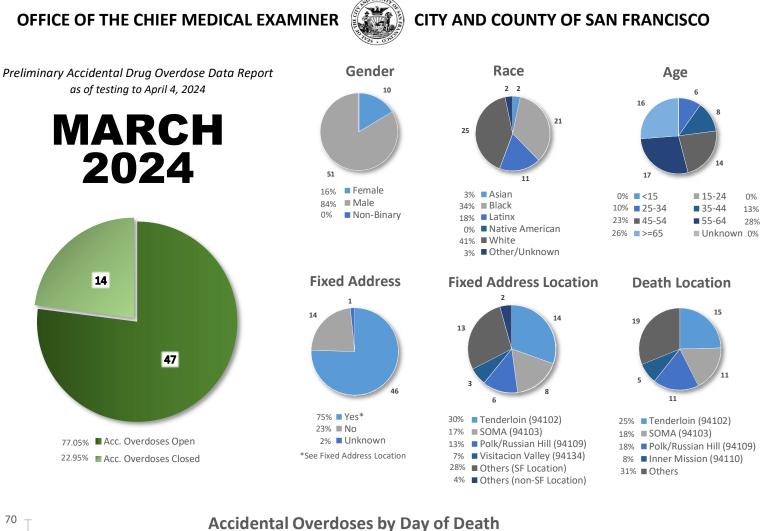
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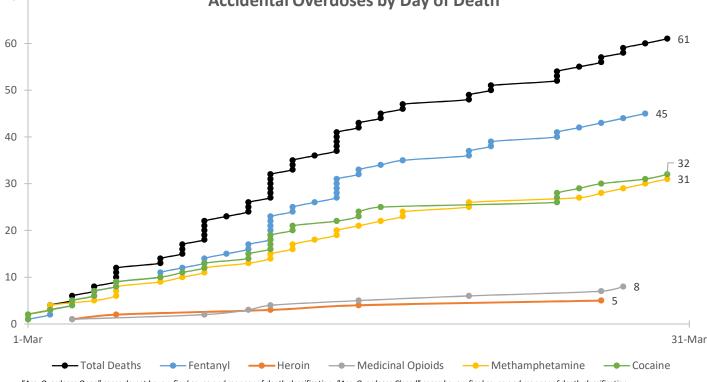
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