January 10, 2024

Subject: Report on 2021 Accidental Overdose Deaths

The enclosed report provides data of accidental overdose deaths in the City and County of San Francisco from January 1, 2021, to December 31, 2021. The number of accidental overdose deaths in 2021 was 642.

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. 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.

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 Administrator
enclosures: Accidental Drug Overdose Data Reports for January 2021 through December 2021
Accidental Drug Overdose Data Reports for January 2021 through December 2021
JAN-DEC 2021

Gender
- 41% Female
- 59% Male
- 0% Non-Binary

Race
- 82.9% Asian
- 17.1% Black

Age
- 6% <15
- 13% 15-24
- 25% 25-34
- 48% 35-44
- 13% 45-54
- 6% 55-64
- 1% 65+

Fixed Address
- 71% Yes*
- 25% No
- 4% Unknown

Fixed Address Location
- 23% Tenderloin (94102)
- 17% SOMA (94103)
- 13% Inner Mission (94110)
- 9% Others (non-SF Location)
- 34% Others (SF Location)
- 6% Others

Death Location
- 20% Tenderloin (94102)
- 19% SOMA (94103)
- 10% Inner Mission (94110)
- 17% Polk/Russian Hill (94109)
- 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.

“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 identify 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.

*See Fixed Address Location

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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.
**Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death**

- **Gender**
  - Female: 8 (12%)
  - Male: 58 (88%)
  - Non-Binary: 0 (0%)

- **Race**
  - Asian: 11 (18%)
  - Black: 36 (62%)
  - Latinx: 9 (15%)
  - Native American: 1 (2%)
  - White: 8 (15%)
  - Other/Unknown: 1 (2%)

- **Age**
  - <15: 13 (21%)
  - 15-24: 28 (47%)
  - 25-34: 9 (15%)
  - 35-44: 3 (5%)
  - 45-54: 3 (5%)
  - 55-64: 1 (2%)
  - >=65: 3 (5%)

- **Fixed Address**
  - Yes*: 65 (99%)
  - No: 2 (3%)
  - Unknown: 2 (3%)

- **Fixed Address Location**
  - Tenderloin (94102): 12 (35%)
  - SOMA (94103): 21 (62%)
  - Inner Mission (94110): 3 (9%)
  - Western Addition (94115): 3 (9%)
  - Others (SF Location): 3 (9%)
  - Others (non-SF Location): 1 (3%)

- **Death Location**
  - Tenderloin (94102): 9 (20%)
  - SOMA (94103): 12 (23%)
  - Inner Mission (94110): 7 (15%)
  - Polk/Russian Hill (94109): 2 (5%)
  - Others: 13 (35%)

**Office of the Chief Medical Examiner**
City and County of San Francisco

**January 2021**

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BILL AND RECONCILING  DESR-0020044/SG

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

FEBRUARY 2021

Gender
- 12 Female (17%)
- 58 Male (83%)
- 0 Non-Binary (0%)

Race
- 32 Asian (5)
- 5 Black (16%)
- 1 Latinx (0%)
- 1 Native American (0%)
- 21 White (46%)
- 7 Other/Unknown (14)

Age
- 5 <15 (0%)
- 15-24 (6%)
- 25-34 (19%)
- 35-44 (19%)
- 45-54 (7%)
- 55-64 (7%)
- 65+ (33%)

Fixed Address
- 58 Yes* (66%)
- 22 No (31%)
- 2 Unknown (3%)

Fixed Address Location
- 10 Tenderloin (94102) (17%)
- 9 SOMA (94103) (20%)
- 7 Inner Mission (94110) (7%)
- 5 Polk/Russian Hill (94109) (15%)
- 7 Others (SF Location) (30%)
- 2 Others (non-SF Location) (11%)

Debt Location
- 14 Tenderloin (94102) (16%)
- 11 SOMA (94103) (21%)
- 14 Inner Mission (94110) (10%)
- 9 Polk/Russian Hill (94109) (20%)
- 15 Others (33%)

Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death

*See Fixed Address Location

0.00% Acc. Overdoses Open 100.0% Acc. Overdoses Closed

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

0-1-Feb 28-Feb

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

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MARCH 2021

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

Gender
- 12% Female
- 88% Male
- 0% Non-Binary

Race
- 0% Asian
- 31% Black
- 19% Latinx
- 0% Native American
- 46% White
- 4% Other/Unknown

Age
- 2% <15
- 15% 15-24
- 15% 25-34
- 23% 25-34
- 23% 35-44
- 23% 45-54
- 12% 45-54
- 12% 55-64
- 8% 55-64
- 4% >=65
- 0% Unknown

Fixed Address
- 75% Yes*
- 23% No
- 2% Unknown
*See Fixed Address Location

Fixed Address Location
- 21% Tenderloin (94102)
- 23% SOMA (94103)
- 5% Inner Mission (94110)
- 8% Polk/Russian Hill (94109)
- 36% Others (SF Location)
- 8% Others (non-SF Location)

Death Location
- 25% Tenderloin (94102)
- 23% SOMA (94103)
- 6% Inner Mission (94110)
- 13% Polk/Russian Hill (94109)
- 33% 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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JUNE 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.

Fixed Address
- 78% Yes*
- 12% No
- 10% Unknown

*See Fixed Address Location

Total Deaths
- 50 Acc. Overdoses Open
- 0 Acc. Overdoses Closed

*See Fixed Address Location

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**AUGUST 2021**

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

**Gender**
- 19% Female
- 81% Male
- 0% Non-Binary

**Race**
- 0% Asian
- 23% Black
- 9% Latinx
- 2% Native American
- 60% White
- 6% Other/Unknown

**Age**
- 0% <15
- 11% 15-24
- 13% 25-34
- 19% 35-44
- 19% 45-54
- 34% 55-64
- 23% 65+

**Fixed Address**
- 62% Yes*
- 36% No
- 2% Unknown

*See Fixed Address Location

**Fixed Address Location**
- 31% Tenderloin (94102)
- 17% SOMA (94103)
- 14% Inner Mission (94110)
- 13% Polk/Russian Hill (94109)
- 28% Others (SF Location)
- 3% Others (non-SF Location)

**Death Location**
- 25% Tenderloin (94102)
- 19% SOMA (94103)
- 15% Inner Mission (94110)
- 15% Polk/Russian Hill (94109)
- 28% Others

**Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death**

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NOVEMBER 2021

Gender
- 15% Female
- 85% Male
- 0% Non-Binary

Race
- 4% Asian
- 28% Black
- 15% Latinx
- 1% Native American
- 43% White
- 11% Other/Unknown

Age
- 0% <15
- 17% 15-24
- 16% 25-34
- 26% 35-44
- 11% 45-54
- 15% 55-64
- 4% >=65

Fixed Address
- 80% Yes*
- 13% No
- 7% Unknown

Fixed Address Location
- 15% Tenderloin (94102)
- 16% SOMA (94103)
- 14% Polk/Russian Hill (94109)
- 7% Inner Mission (94110)
- 35% Others (SF Location)
- 12% Others (non-SF Location)

Death Location
- 19% Tenderloin (94102)
- 20% SOMA (94103)
- 15% Polk/Russian Hill (94109)
- 9% Inner Mission (94110)
- 37% Others

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*Gender" refers to gender at time of death.

"Total Deaths" represents all accidental overdoses including ones for drugs not specified above.
**DECEMBER 2021**

**Gender**
- Female: 17%
- Male: 83%
- Non-Binary: 0%

**Race**
- Asian: 4%
- Black: 26%
- Latinx: 9%
- Native American: 0%
- White: 49%
- Other/Unknown: 11%

**Age**
- <15: 0%
- 15-24: 26%
- 25-34: 21%
- 35-44: 17%
- 45-54: 21%
- 55-64: 17%
- >=65: 0%

**Fixed Address**
- Yes*: 74%
- No: 21%
- Unknown: 6%

**Fixed Address Location**
- Tenderloin (94102): 21%
- SOMA (94103): 13%
- Polk/Russian Hill (94109): 15%
- Other (94112): 10%
- Others (SF Location): 33%
- Others (non-SF Location): 8%

**Death Location**
- Tenderloin (94102): 19%
- SOMA (94103): 17%
- Polk/Russian Hill (94109): 21%
- Inner Mission (94110): 8%
- Others: 36%

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