

Opioid Epidemic Community Impact Mid-Year Report 2022

Monterey County Health Department,
Behavioral Health Bureau

Andrew Heald, LMFT
Behavioral Health Services Manager II

Monterey County Prescribe Safe
Reb Close, M.D.



Drug Related Overdose and Death Epidemic Continues....

December 2020-December 2021: More than 107,000 overdose related deaths reported in U.S.

California- ODMAP 4,890 suspected fatal overdoses

Monterey County- ODMAP 110 suspected fatal overdoses

National, State and Local drug overdose epidemic continues to worsen. Progression continues to involve illicit fentanyl, methamphetamine, cocaine often in combination or adulterated forms.



Fentanyl & Psychostimulants



Fentanyl – Synthetic opioid, similar to morphine yet 50-100x more potent, developed by German pharmaceutical company in 1960 used intravenously during interoperative surgical procedures. Synthetic opioids, particularly fentanyl, are the most common drugs involved in overdose deaths in the United States

- Psychostimulants class of drugs that work by accelerating brain activity, increasing levels of dopamine, serotonin, norepinephrine boosting alertness, energy and attention
- Methamphetamine and cocaine are illicit psychostimulants that are commonly mixed with opiates to intensify the users high. This practice of combining opiates and stimulants known as “speedball”. Past heroin/cocaine mixed, present methamphetamine and fentanyl.
- Overdose deaths involving psychostimulants other than cocaine-largely methamphetamine-more than doubled between 2016-2019
- Data shows that concurrent use of opioids and methamphetamine is on the rise and suggests the problem will likely get worse.

Number of Pills Containing Fentanyl Seized by Law Enforcement in the United States, 2018 – 2021



Estimates based on data reported by the Office of National Drug Control Policy's High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas program

Reference: JJ Palamar, et al. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*. DOI: 10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2022.109398 (2022)

Legit or Counterfeit?



MONTEREY COUNTY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
SALUD MENTAL

Avanzando Juntos Forward Together



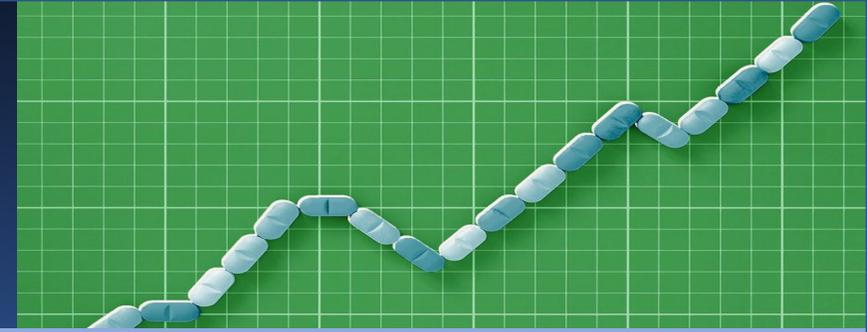
Authentic oxycodone M30 tabs (top) vs. counterfeit oxycodone M30 tabs containing fentanyl (bottom)

Authentic Adderall tablets (top/middle) vs. counterfeit Adderral tabs containing methamphetamine (bottom/middle)

Authentic Xanax Tablets (white) vs. counterfeit Xanax tablets containing fentanyl (yellow)

- ❖ High school & college students purchase Adderall and Xanax through online internet market places/social media
- ❖ Some begin using prescription stimulants, described as “study drugs”, to improve academic abilities
- ❖ Counterfeit pills are produced in substandard conditions with no quality control

Monterey County Impact



- ❑ 2017 and 2018: Monterey County Health Department reported a total of 16 opioid-related death, ***second lowest opioid-related death rate in California***
- ❑ October 2019: Arrival of fentanyl-laced pills central coast fueled a significant number of overdose deaths in a two-week period, including a 16-year-old girl in Seaside
- ❑ Counterfeit pills, such as M-30 began to flood the illicit drug market in Monterey County. September 2021, local law enforcement in partnership with federal government, confiscated 60 pounds of methamphetamine, seven pounds of cocaine and heroin, 25,000 fentanyl pills in Castroville
- ❑ 2021-2022: Evolution of Illicit Fentanyl. Close of 2021 colleagues at CHOMP collected a sample of fentanyl from a patient in ER appearing to be pink powder. 2022 Monterey County Police Department confiscated fentanyl that looks like rainbow colored candy, consistency of marshmallow. Clearly, target for dealers is becoming much younger using population.
- ❑ First 6 months of 2022: More than 50% of suspected fatal OD involved fentanyl

Evolution of Illicit Fentanyl 2021



MONTEREY COUNTY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
SALUD MENTAL

Avanzando Juntos Forward Together



Evolution of Illicit Fentanyl 2022



MONTEREY COUNTY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
SALUD MENTAL

Avanzando Juntos Forward Together

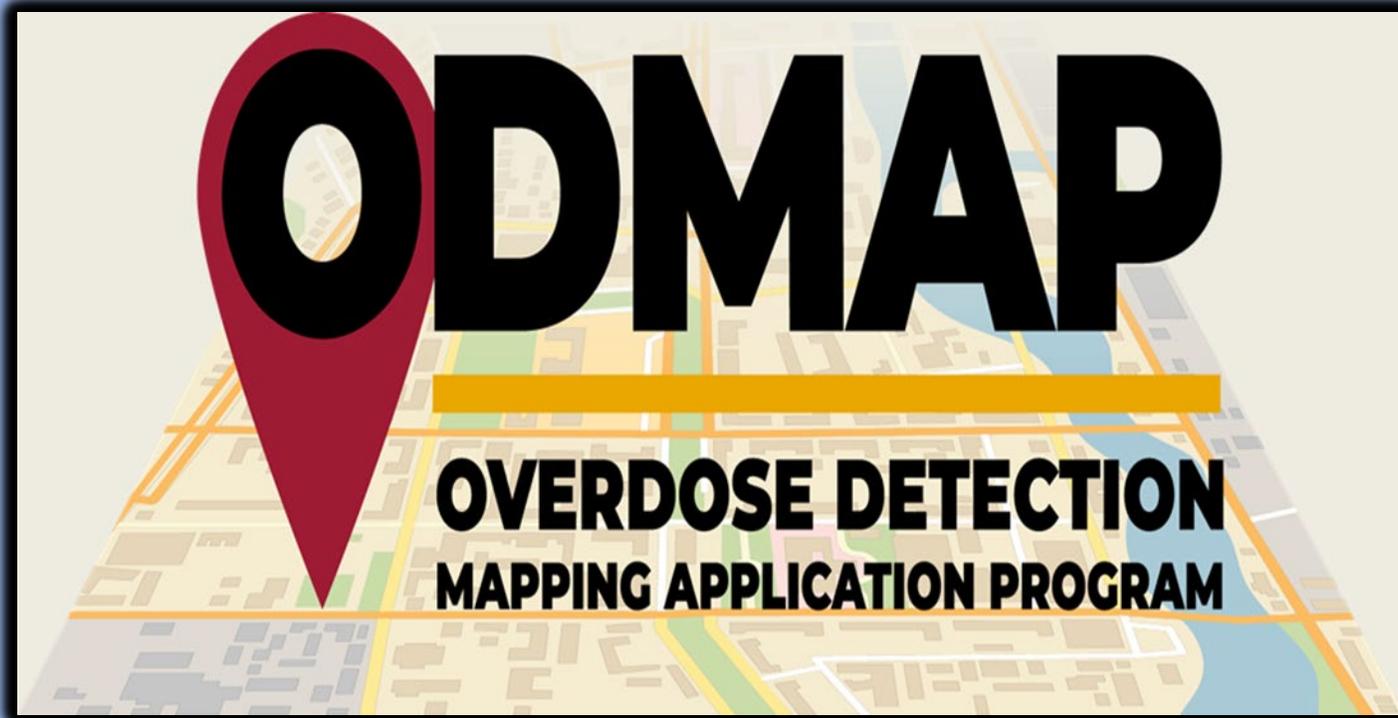


Monterey Police Department

1h · 🌐

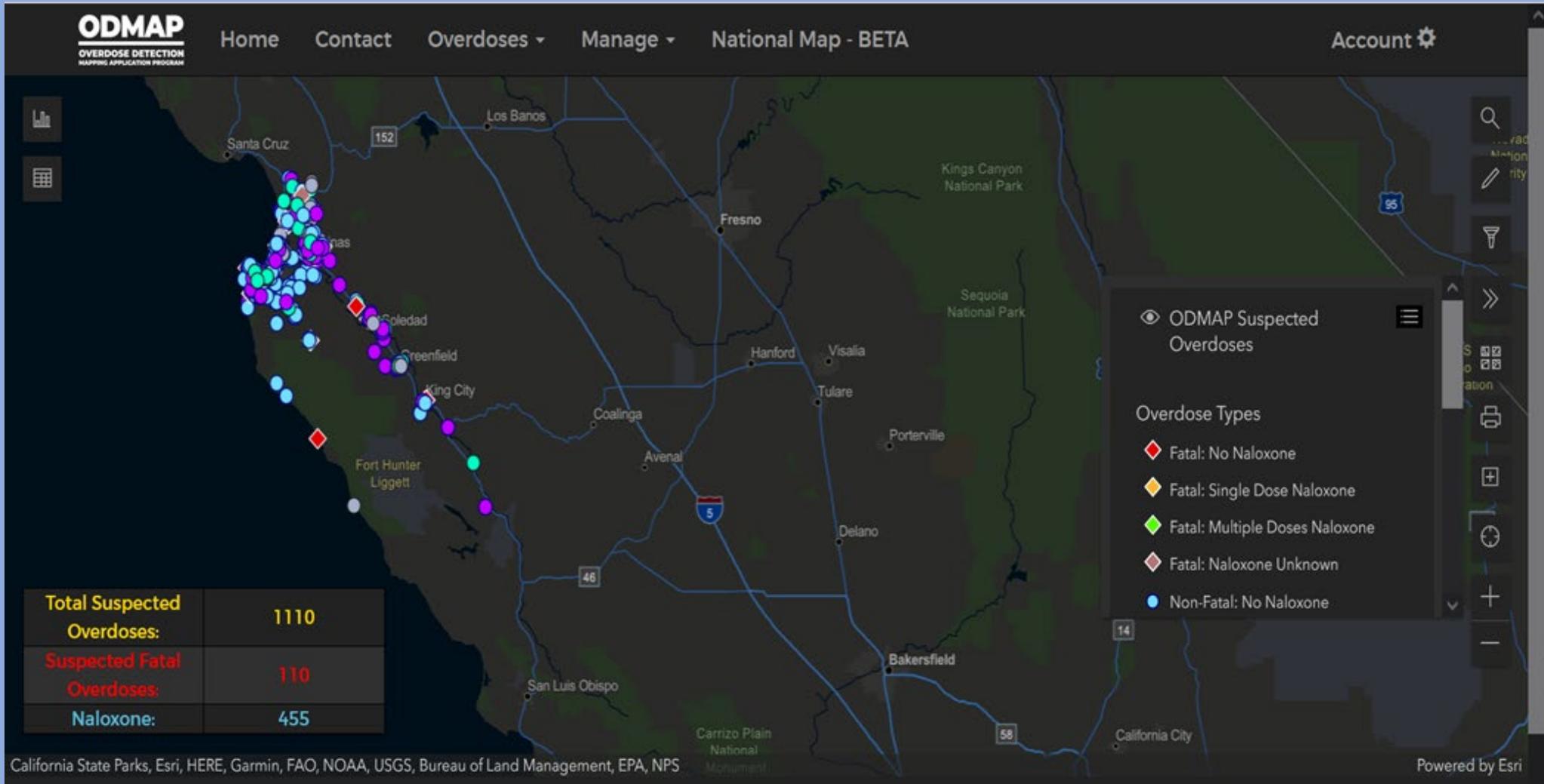
Sadly we are now seeing Fentanyl in rainbow/candy coloring. We encourage parents to speak with their children about the dangers of this deadly drug. Just one use can be fatal.



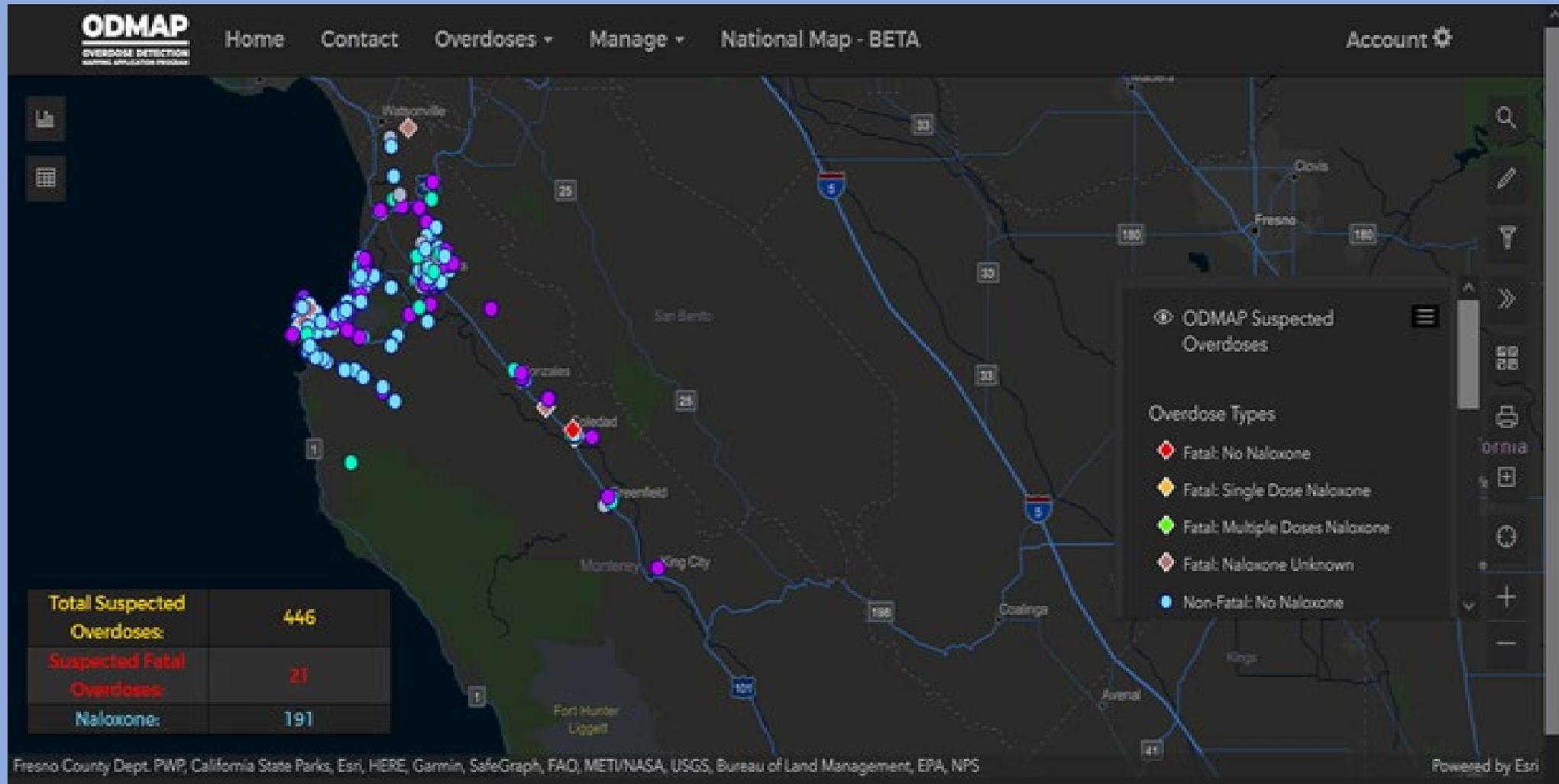


- ✓ 2019 Monterey County began using ODMAP to track overdose incidents in response to sudden increase in opioid overdoses within our communities
- ✓ Web Based System is designed to provide critical information to relevant stakeholders in real time. Spike alerts can be set up to notify agencies by email if an area exceeds predetermined overdose incident threshold in 24-hour period
- ✓ **July 2022: EMS began entering data at time of incident**, providing significant advantages in use of real time data increasing potential for developing coordinated response among healthcare providers.

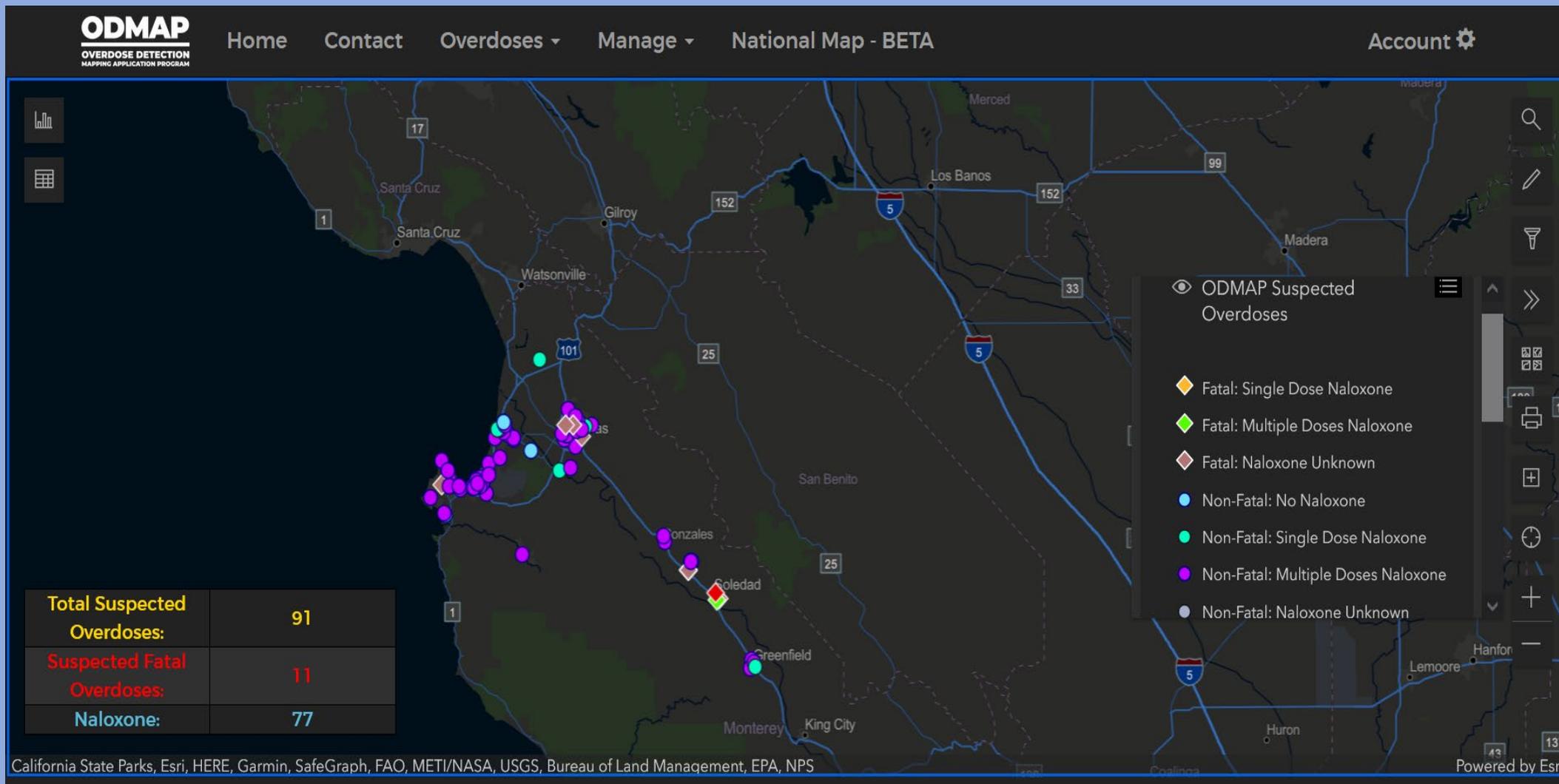
Monterey County Total Suspected Overdoses: January-December 2021



Monterey County ODMAP: January-June 2022



Monterey County ODMAP: Fentanyl January-June 2022



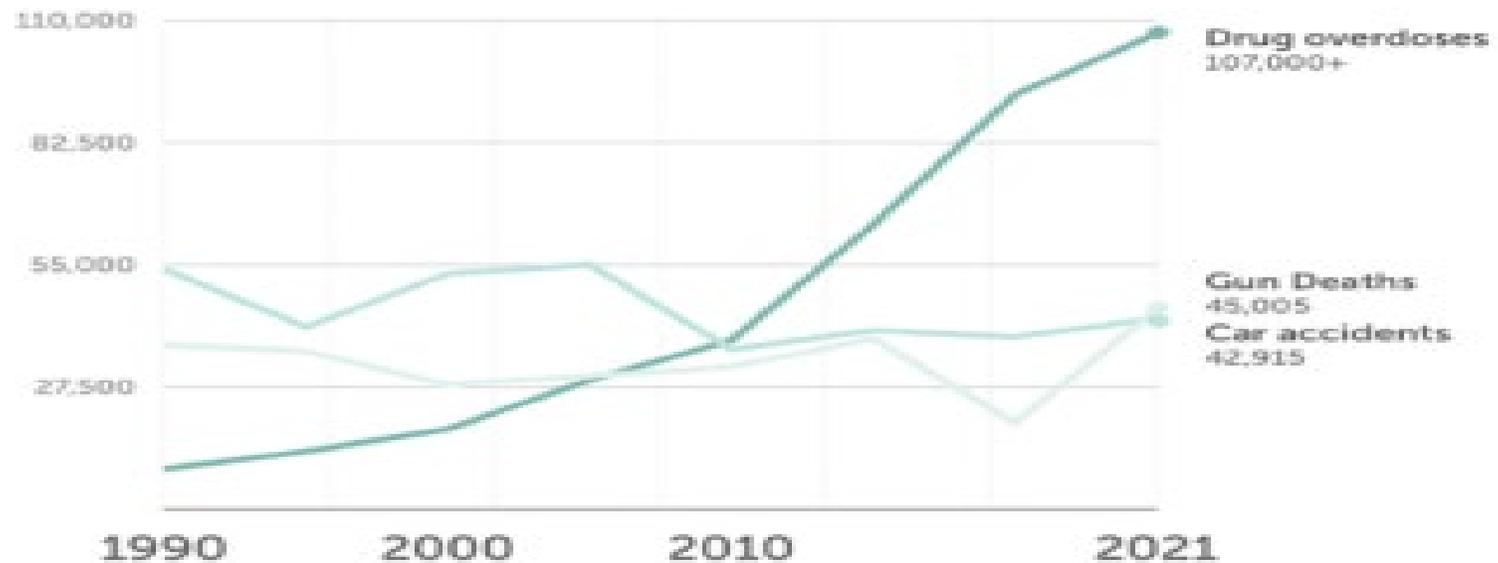
US Death Rates 2021

Drug overdoses, Gun Deaths & Car accidents

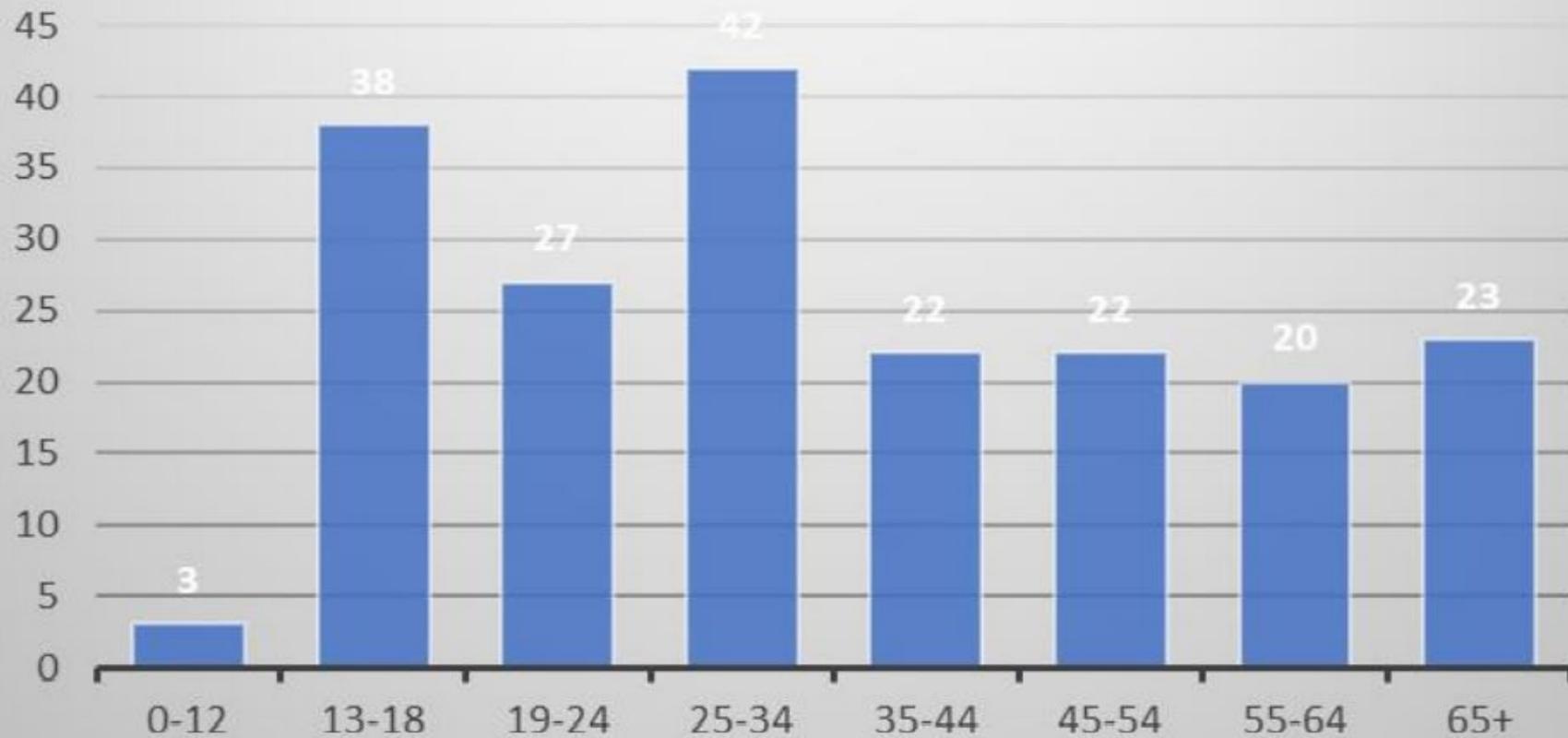


~~SHATTER~~PROOF

Over 107,000 people lost their lives due to overdose in 2021.

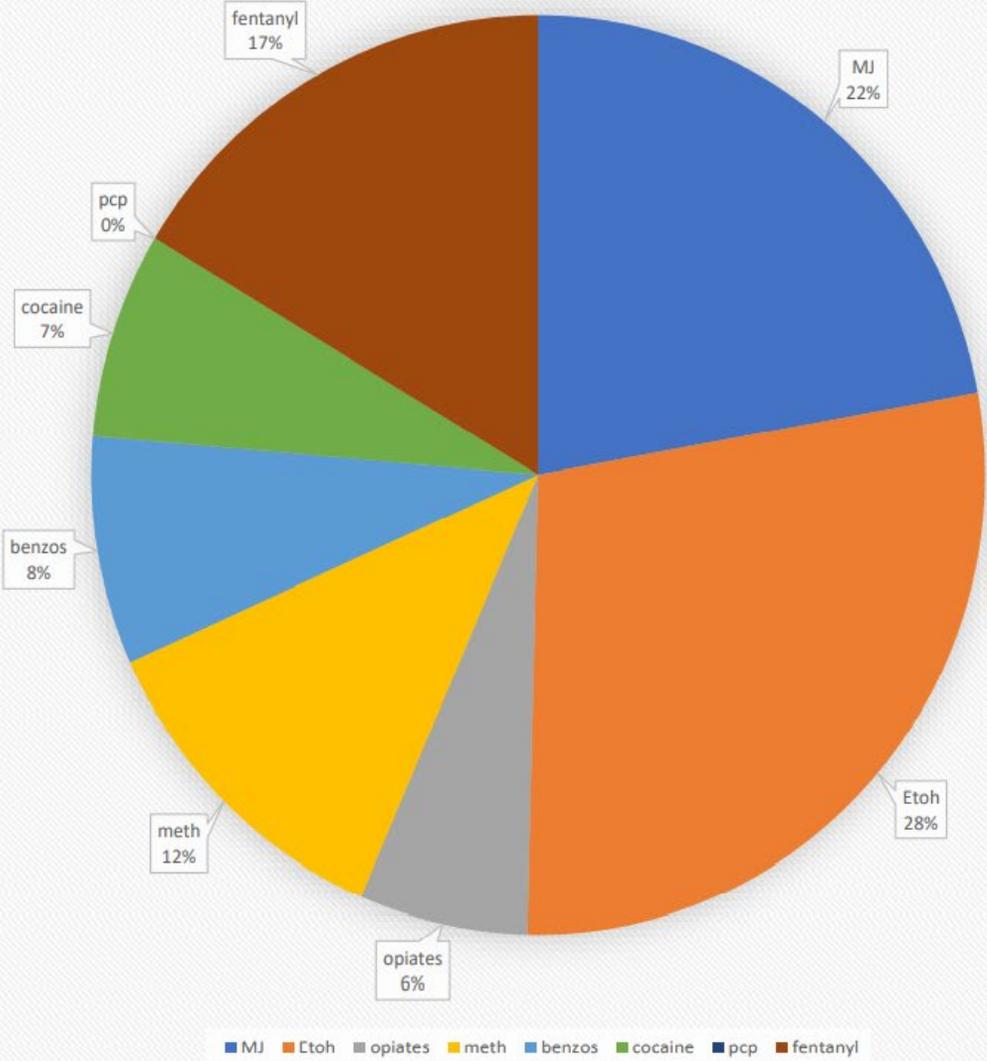


Q1Q2 Age Distribution of CHOMP OD Patients in 2022

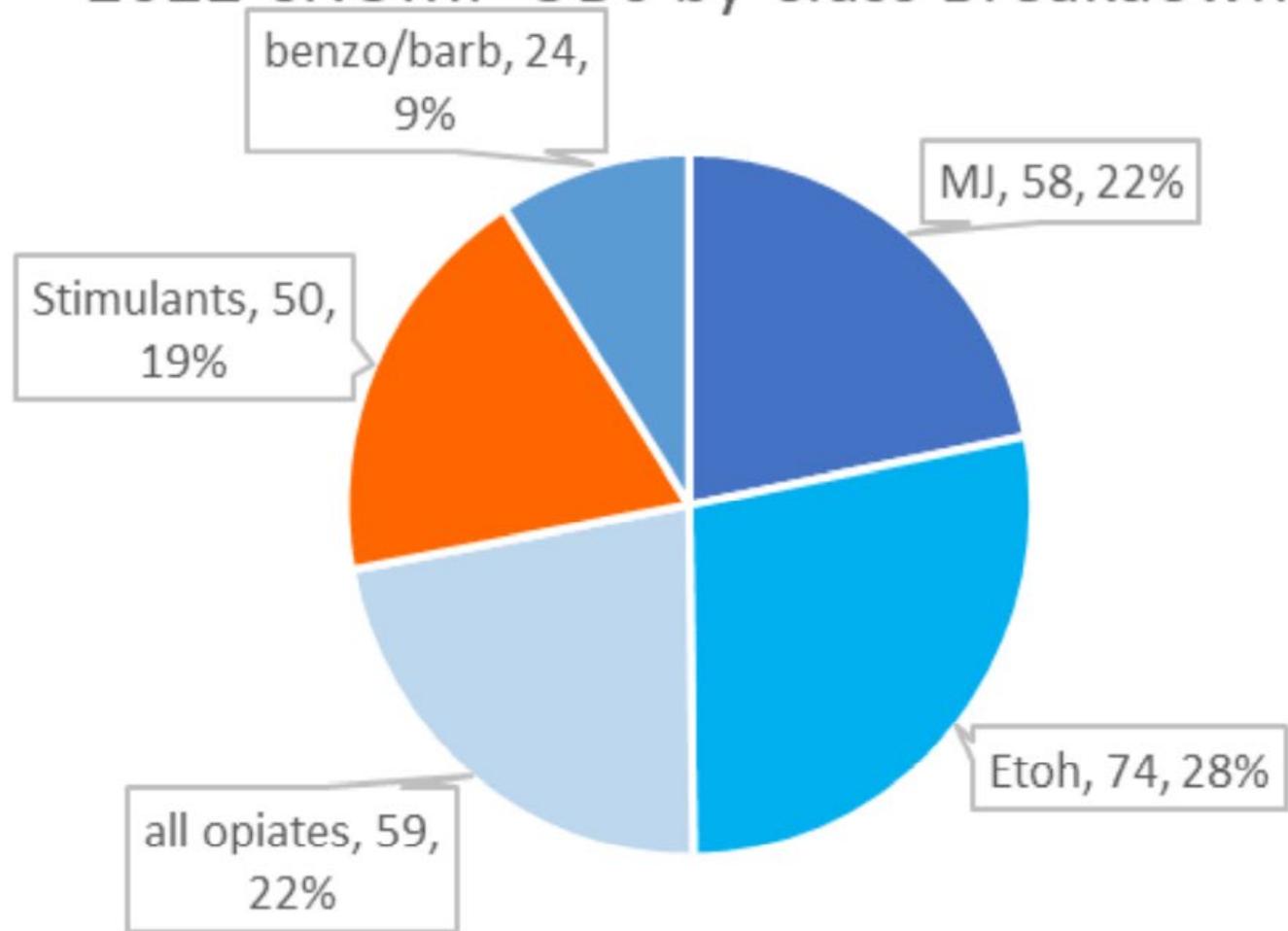


197 cases

2022 CHOMP overdoses by Substance

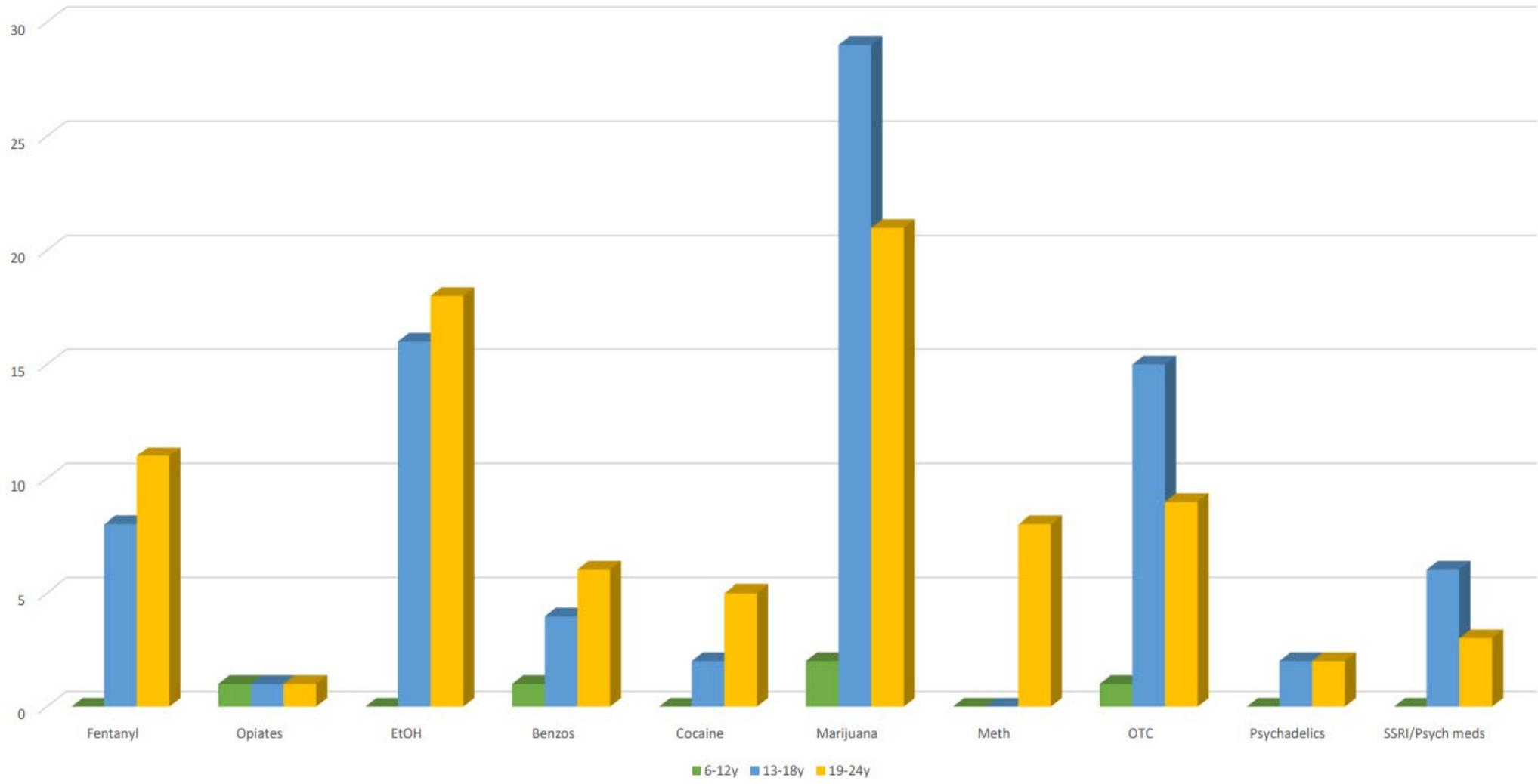


2022 CHOMP ODs by Class Breakdown

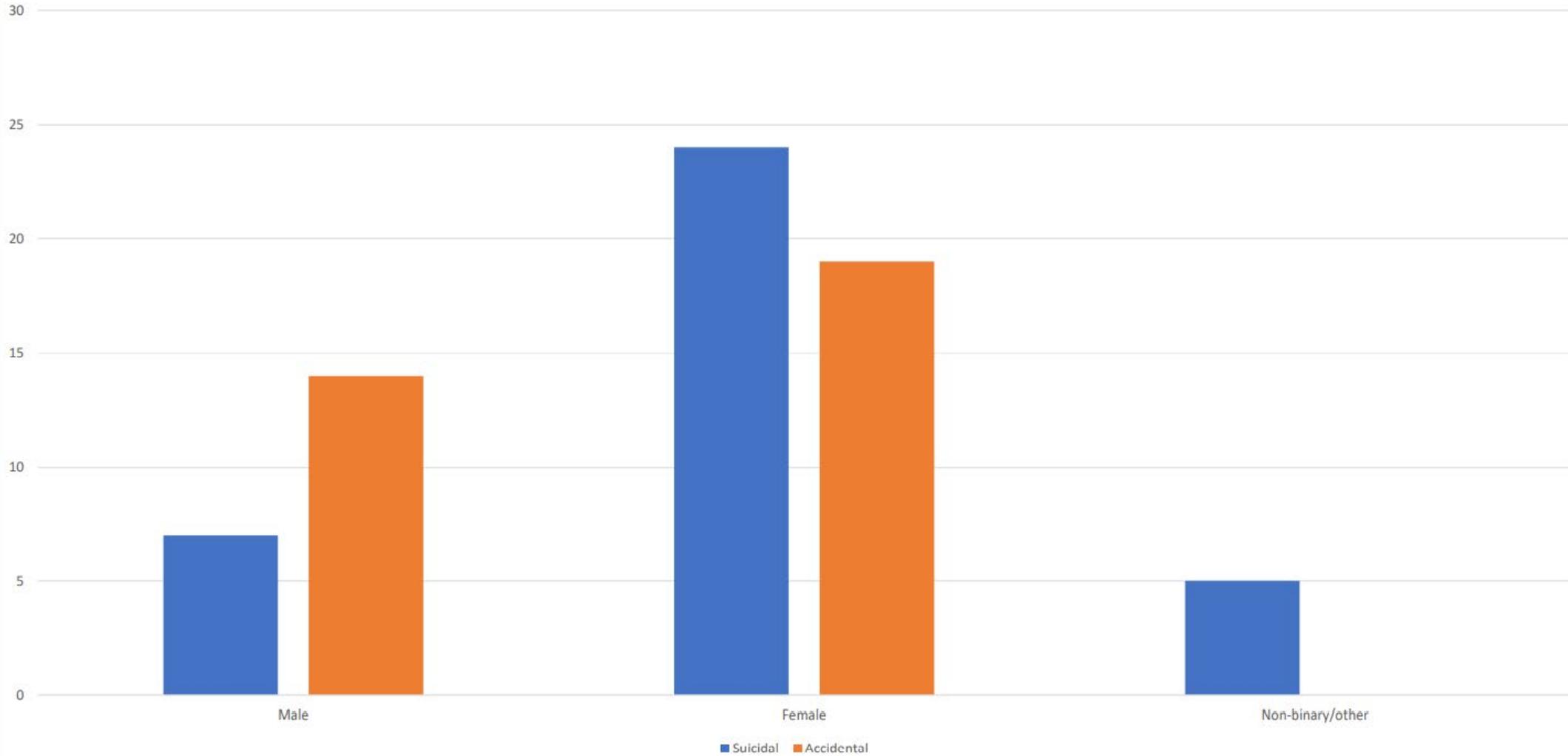


■ MJ ■ Etoh ■ all opiates ■ Stimulants ■ benzo/barb

YOUTH DATA: OVERDOSE + SUBSTANCE RELATED EVENTS
SUBSTANCE BY AGE GROUP (AGES 6-24Y)
CHOMP ED 2022



**YOUTH DATA: OVERDOSE + SUBSTANCE RELATED EVENTS
GENDER BY INTENT (AGES 6-24Y)
CHOMP ED 2022**



Treatment Data



MONTEREY COUNTY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
SALUD MENTAL

Avanzando Juntos Forward Together

- **FY 2019-20:** More than 30% of beneficiaries who received treatment services from county treatment providers were treated for opioid use disorders.
400 individuals diagnosed with an opioid use disorder received methadone maintenance, detoxification. 124 individuals received withdrawal management services (medication for addiction treatment).
- **FY 2020-21:** More than 30% of beneficiaries who received treatment services from county treatment providers were treated for opioid use disorders.
429 individuals diagnosed with an opioid disorder received methadone maintenance, detoxification
168 individuals received withdrawal management services (medication for addiction treatment).
- **Mid-Year 2022:** 216 individuals diagnosed with opioid disorder received methadone maintenance, detoxification services. 46 individuals received withdrawal management services (medication for addiction treatment).

Prevention & Intervention Services



MONTEREY COUNTY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
SALUD MENTAL

Avanzando Juntos Forward Together

Naloxone Distribution Project: Fall 2018 DHCS funding from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to address opioid crisis by reducing opioid overdose related deaths through distribution of Narcan. 2022: **2400 doses** have been brought in for distribution to community members. Since 2018, **1,080** doses distributed by MCBH to county contracted treatment providers/access to treatment clinics.

Safe Medication Disposal Bins: Spring 2021 Montage Health Prescribe Safe donated 4 bins to County Health Department. Designated collection sites include Monterey County Behavioral Health Access Clinics in Seaside, Salinas, Soledad and King City. **2021** collection: **698 lbs**; **2022** collection: **803 lbs**

Medication for Addiction Treatment: Provision of medications, combined with behavioral health counseling, to treat addiction to opioids such as heroin and prescription pain medication containing opiates. Blocks euphoric effects of alcohol and opioids, reduces psychological cravings and stabilizes body functions. County treatment providers use MAT, physicians in community. Buprenorphine, Suboxone, Naltrexone, Acamprosate

Prevention & Intervention



MONTEREY COUNTY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
SALUD MENTAL

Avanzando Juntos Forward Together

Prevention/Early Intervention: Sun Street Centers prevention programs focus on educating/empowering young members of our community and family members. Prevention service staff presented to 818 youth/parents in south county on topics including gateway drugs, bullying, drugged driving, opioid/street drugs & Narcan. Served total of 18 schools this year and collaborated in Town Hall/Fentanyl Education with Supervisor Lopez and the cities of Soledad and King. Partnership with Gonzales P.D. provide bi-annual take back prescription drug location for past 11 years.

Counseling & Case Management Services: Therapeutic support addressing both mental health and substance use issues provided within regional centers and clinics throughout the county by registered, certified and/or licensed counselors. Treatment for adults and youth who are dependent upon opioids involves both medication and behavioral therapy. CHS, DTH, SSC, VHA.

Substance Use Navigators: Partnership with local hospitals to utilize SUNs to engage patients who present to ER with SUD issues has been innovative and promising. Navigators serve as case coordinators for patients and are responsible for providing initial brief assessments, introducing and linking patients to available treatment resources within community, and assisting with access to other resources/services. All 4 Monterey County hospitals have partnered with California Bridge to Treatment for financial, educational and operational support.

Initiatives and Collaboratives



MONTEREY COUNTY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
SALUD MENTAL

Avanzando Juntos Forward Together

- ❑ **MAT Criminal Justice System:** MCBH partnership with Valley Health Associates, Sheriff's Office and their contracted provider WellPath developing program to expand availability/use of Medication for Addiction Treatment services in county jail. Program screen/identify individuals with co-existing, serious MH and SUD issues; initiate induction of MAT while in custody, transition to ongoing opioid treatment services upon release. First participants began receiving counseling/medication services during the past couple of weeks.
- ❑ **Transitional Housing Expansion:** Network provider opened new 10-bed Sober Living Environment for men in Salinas. Estimated take up to five years for individuals who are receiving treatment for substance use addiction to reach sustained recovery. First 30 to 90 days following initial treatment are the most critical period for preventing relapse, extremely important to provide structured, supportive aftercare as a central component of the treatment planning process. Focus on expanding RRs during next several years.

*MHBG/Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) Appropriations grant

*SABG/Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA)

Initiatives and Collaboratives



MONTEREY COUNTY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
SALUD MENTAL

Avanzando Juntos Forward Together

- ❑ **CDC- Drug Free Communities:** five-year grant awarded to Montage Health from White House and CDC Drug Free Communities Initiative. Montage Health and a group of 12 key partner organizations will collaborate on tailored strategies to prevent drug and alcohol misuse among youth and adolescents. Goals include 1.) establishing collaborative relations among community stakeholders to address youth substance use and 2.) reduce substance use among youth
- ❑ **Substance Use Response Team:** multi-disciplinary team to include first responders, law enforcement, emergency medical personnel, mental health and substance use disorder counselors to provide appropriate and immediate care to overdose victims and link these individuals to appropriate post-incident support services
- ❑ **South County Specific Outreach:** Partnership among Sun Street Centers, law enforcement and elected officials hosting community events to increase awareness and distribution of Narcan. Soledad PD assisting in identification/entry of ODMAP overdose incident data.

Initiatives and Collaboratives



MONTEREY COUNTY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
SALUD MENTAL

Avanzando Juntos Forward Together

- ❑ **Fentanyl Test Strips:** CSUMB Campus Health Center-Health Promotion & Education Team/Student Housing working on plan to distribute DetectaChem fentanyl test strips in residence halls as harm reduction effort.
- ❑ **MAT Advisory Group:** Group of key stakeholders established by Monterey County Prescribe Safe & Safe Prescribe Santa Cruz County to address current addiction treatment services and practices, promote collaboration among service providers, and improve access to medications for addiction treatment to members of community at high risk for relapse/overdose

Resources



MONTEREY COUNTY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
SALUD MENTAL

Avanzando Juntos Forward Together

- ❖ Monterey County Behavioral Health 24/7 Toll-Free Line:
1-888-258-6029 TYY/TDD: 831-796-1788
- ❖ Monterey County Behavioral Health Plan Medi-Cal Substance Use Treatment Providers:
<https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/home/showpublisheddocument/101365>
- ❖ Montage Health/Prescribe Safe:
<https://www.montagehealth.org/about/prescribe-safe/>