

Educational Outreach: The Dangers of Fentanyl

The Office of the Special Narcotics Prosecutor for the City of New York



Responding to the Epidemic: *A Four-Pronged Approach*

- **Reduce supply:** Improve law enforcement coordination and strategic targeting.
- **Treatment:** Revise and broaden outreach strategies to reach diverse demographics and offer treatment to people suffering from substance use disorder.
- **Harm Reduction:** Offer services to help prevent overdoses and reduce collateral damage resulting from drug use.
- **Prevention:** Robust informational campaigns designed to reach potential users BEFORE opioid addiction begins.

Multiple Choice Question

What has caused the most deaths in NYC from **2010-2023**?

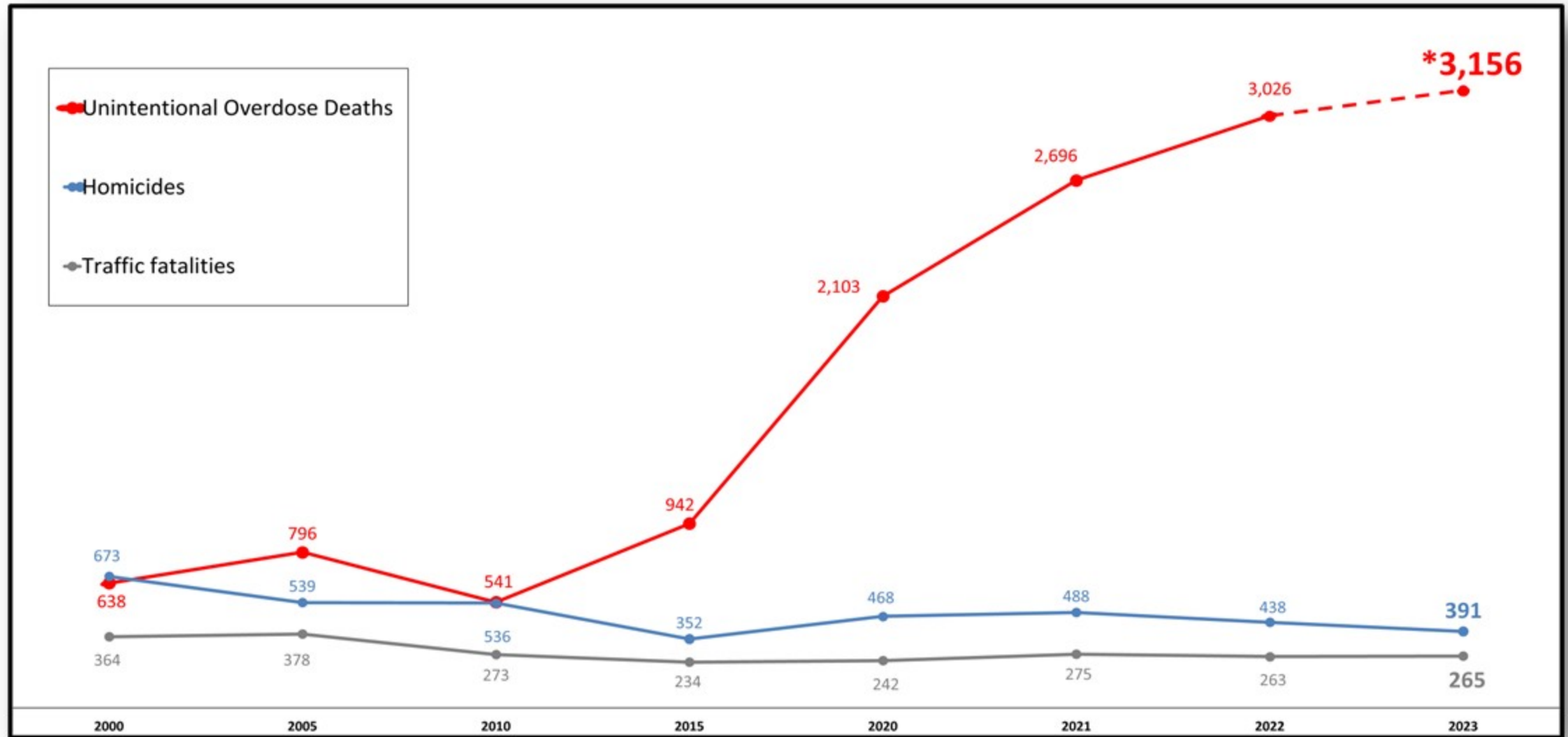
A. Homicides

B. Car Accidents

C. Drug Overdoses



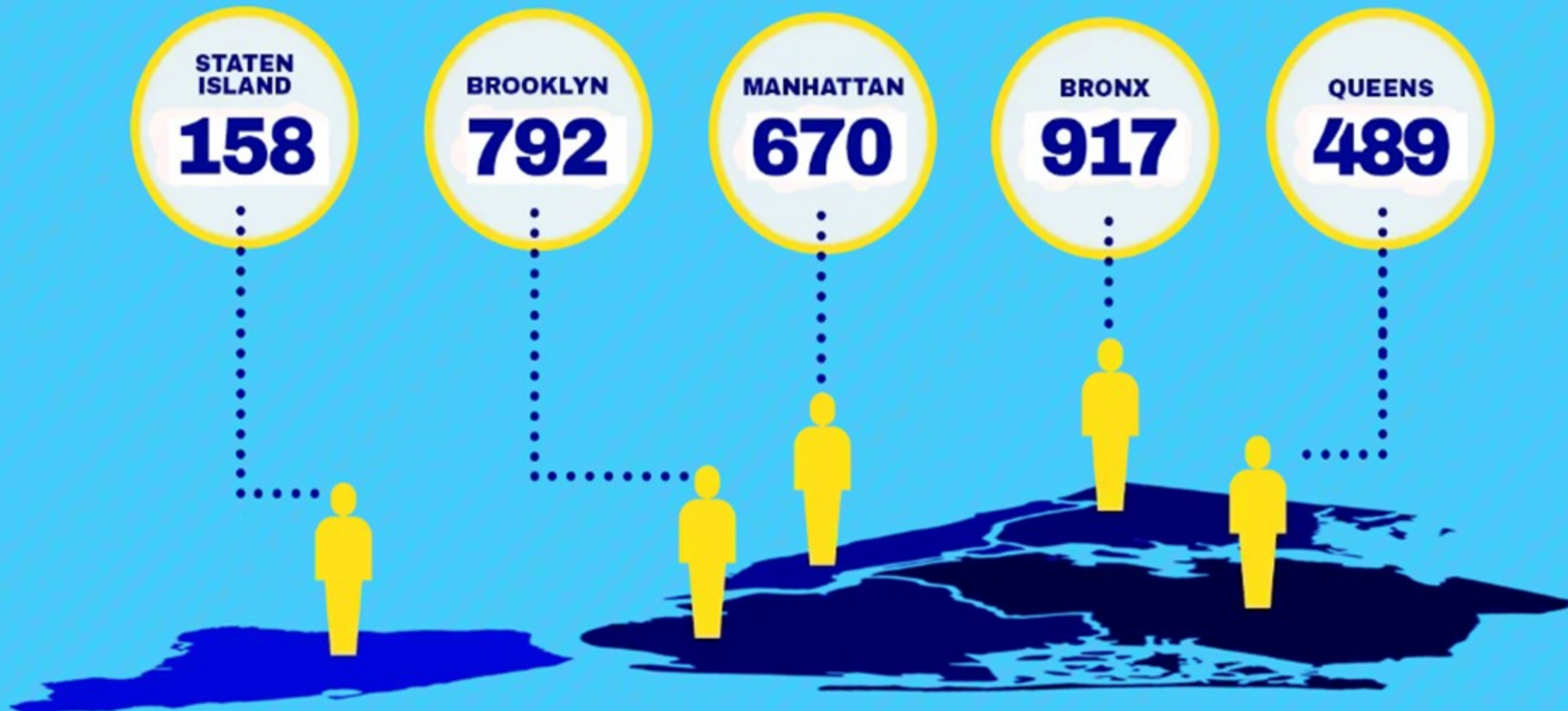
Fentanyl Linked to **80%** of NYC Overdose Deaths, Far Exceeds Homicides and Traffic Fatalities



Overdose data sources: 2000-2022 New York City Department of Mental Health and Hygiene, 2023 CDC predicted number of deaths, 12 months ending in December 2023

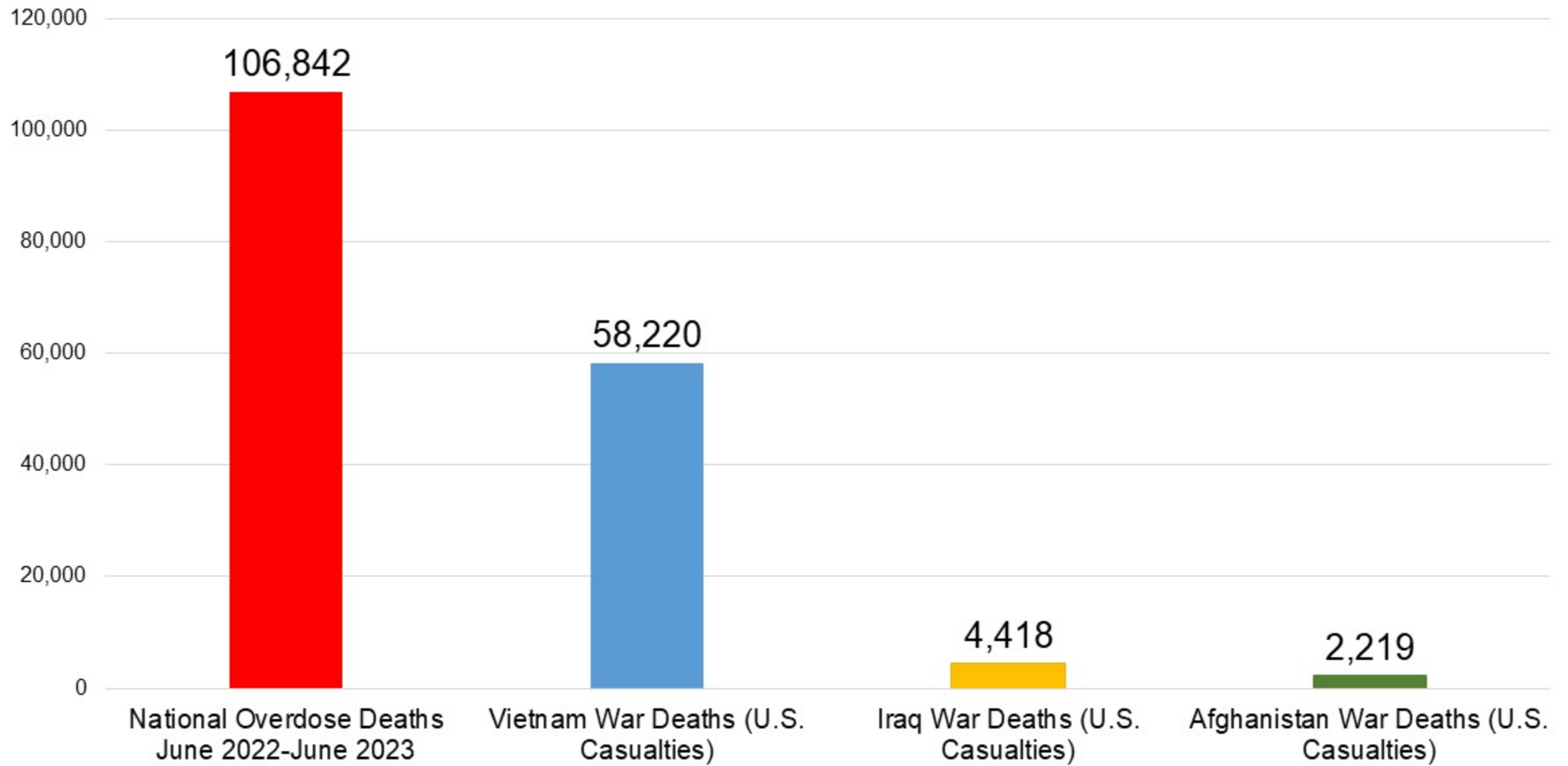
2022 NYC OVERDOSE DEATHS

A fatal overdose occurs every 3 hours in NYC



Source: New York Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, 2022

National Overdose Deaths vs. War Deaths



Stadium capacity: 107,601



Teen drug overdoses hit record high, driven by fentanyl poisoning: report

By Bryan Llenas, Fox News

Published Jan. 12, 2024, 5:44 p.m. ET

- A record number of high school teens died of drug overdoses in 2022 **driven primarily by fentanyl poisonings from counterfeit pills.**
- Average of **22 adolescents ages 14 to 18 years old died each week in the U.S. from drug overdoses** in 2022.
- At least **75% of adolescent drug overdose deaths are from fentanyl poisonings**, researchers found.
- Total of 1,125 teens died of drug overdose or poisoning in 2022, making it **the third-leading cause of death for teenagers** across the country.



DEA



- Laboratory testing in 2024 indicates **5** out of every **10** pills seized by DEA contain a lethal dose of fentanyl.
- In 2023, DEA seized more than **80 million** fentanyl-laced fake pills and nearly 12,000 pounds of fentanyl powder. The 2023 seizures are equivalent to more than **390 million lethal doses of fentanyl**.

The New York Times

May 19, 2022

Fentanyl Tainted Pills Bought on Social Media Cause Youth Drug Deaths to Soar

Teenagers and young adults are turning to Snapchat, TikTok and other social media apps to find Percocet, Xanax and other pills. The vast majority are laced with deadly doses of fentanyl, police say.

Give this article



- As to pills not purchased from a licensed pharmacy: “The vast majority are laced with deadly doses of fentanyl, police say.”
- “Overdoses are now the leading cause of preventable death among people ages 18 to 45, ahead of suicide, traffic accidents and gun violence, according to federal data.”



In the News

JEWELS' STORY

Michael K. Williams' cause of death revealed by medical examiner

By Tina Moore and Mark Lungariello

Published Sep. 24, 2021 | Updated Sep. 24, 2021, 5:08 p.m. ET



Michael K. Williams was found dead in his NYC home earlier this month.

Rodrigo Varela/Getty Images

- The New York City medical examiner confirmed actor Michael K. Williams died of a drug overdose, The Post learned.
- Williams' cause of death was acute intoxication from a deadly mix of **fentanyl**, p-fluorofentanyl, heroin and cocaine, a spokeswoman for the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner said.
- His death was ruled accidental.

'The Hills' star Audrina Patridge's 15-year-old niece's cause of death revealed

By Francesca Bacardi

Published Nov. 13, 2023, 7:58 a.m. ET



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- Audrina Patridge's late niece Sadie's cause of death has been determined to be a drug overdose, police sources told TMZ.
- She was 15 when she died in February 2023.
- Sources say that they're trying to figure out how the late teenager was able to procure the narcotics, adding that they've learned she allegedly used Snapchat to procure Percocet that was laced with **fentanyl**.

Fentanyl Contributed to Coolio's Death, Medical Examiner Says

Coolio's death was accidental, according to the Los Angeles County medical examiner, who also said that the rapper had a heart condition and asthma.

Share full article



Coolio performing during Riot Fest in Chicago last year. Daniel BoczarSKI/Getty Images



By McKenna Oxenden

April 6, 2023

The New York Times

- Coolio, the gritty rapper best known for his hit “Gangsta’s Paradise,” died from the effects of **fentanyl**, heroin and methamphetamine, according to the Los Angeles County medical examiner.
- The medical examiner, who ruled the Sept. 28 death accidental, also cited other “significant conditions”: Coolio, 59, had a history of asthma and had cardiomyopathy, a disease that can make it harder for the heart to pump blood. He had also recently used phencyclidine, a drug known for its mind-altering effects, records show.

MUST READS

Prince Died With 'Exceedingly High' Level Of Fentanyl, Report States

MARCH 27, 2018 · 9:59 AM ET

 Merrit Kennedy



Images of the music superstar at Prince's Paisley Park Museum in Chanhassen, Minn. His death has been ruled accidental by the local medical examiner.

Adam Bettcher/Getty Images



- Prince had an extremely high level of **fentanyl** in his body at the time of his death at his home in Minnesota in April 2016.
- Toxicology report indicates that "concentration of **fentanyl** in Prince's blood was 67.8 micrograms per liter." ... "fatalities have been documented in people with blood levels ranging from three to 58 micrograms per liter."
- Death ruled an accident.

A Family's Desperate Plea to End the Fentanyl Epidemic



- A freshman at Brooklyn Tech, Sasha Tarelkine was a victim of **fentanyl poisoning** at the age of 14 years old.
- Sasha started hanging out with a new group of peers and started experimenting with **vapes, alcohol, and marijuana.**
- Not long before Sasha's death, a friend gave her morphine, and she got hooked right away. A week later, she received a fatal dose laced with **fentanyl**.

Source: <https://families4newyork.com/nyc-voices/familys-fentanyl-tragedy>

Death of baby in Staten Island home in March ruled homicide after autopsy results

Friday, June 16, 2023

- 2-month-old baby found dead in a Staten Island home in March. The baby had methamphetamine in his system and fentanyl was found in his bottle.
- Officers found the baby unresponsive with no obvious signs of trauma. The baby, his mother and a man had fallen asleep together. Police say the mother reported him unconscious about 12 hours later. He was taken to Staten Island University South Hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Death of boy, 1, on Staten Island ruled homicide; caused by fentanyl, cocaine, M.E. rules

Published: May. 03, 2023

- The death of a 16-month-old boy in Stapleton has been ruled a homicide after it was determined that the baby fatally overdosed on the combined effects of fentanyl, acetyl fentanyl and cocaine.
- A man told police that he put the baby down in a bed around midnight. The man was sleeping next to the baby when he woke up around 4 a.m. and noticed that the child was unresponsive and called 911. The child had a nose bleed, but no obvious signs of trauma.

Death of 1-year-old boy at drug-riddled Bronx day care ruled homicide by fentanyl overdose: officials

By Amanda Woods

Published Sep. 29, 2023 | Updated Sep. 29, 2023, 6:50 p.m. ET

- 1-year-old boy dies of a fentanyl overdose at a Bronx day care.
- Defendants ran a fentanyl-peddling operation out of the basement facility, leading to his death and to three other children being injured.
- Nicholas Feliz Dominici was inside the Divino Niño Daycare in Kingsbridge on Sept. 15 when he died of acute fentanyl intoxication, believed to be from the children's lunches being prepared using the same bowls, pans and sponges that were used to package the drugs.
- The manner of death was determined to be a homicide, according to the ME's office.



Ohio State warns of 'fake Adderall' pills after student dies, two sent to hospital



- Ohio State University officials sounded the alarm over the circulation of "fake Adderall" pills laced with **fentanyl** following the death of a student and the hospitalization of two others.
- OSU President said another student was hospitalized in critical condition, while a third had been released from the hospital.



May 6, 2022, 7:24 AM EDT

By Chantal Da Silva



- Charlie Ternan was 22 years old and three weeks away from his college graduation when he was the victim of **fentanyl poisoning**.
- Charlie was familiar with **Xanax** and sometimes took one when he had time to chill and play video games. He also knew about **Percocet**, which he had been prescribed after his 2018 back surgery.
- In May 2020, Charlie purchased a **Percocet** online because his back was hurting. But it wasn't real. It was a "**fentapill**." It is believed that **Charlie died within 30 minutes of taking the pill**.
- Song for Charlie is a national family-run nonprofit charity dedicated to raising awareness about '**fentapills**' — fake pills made of **fentanyl**.

Source: <https://songforcharlie.org/>

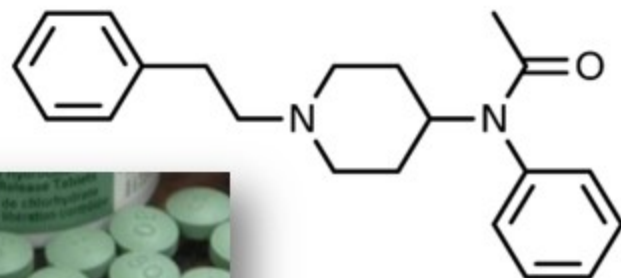
A close-up photograph of a hand wearing a blue nitrile glove. The hand is holding a clear, rectangular plastic bag filled with a white, powdery substance. The background is dark, and the lighting is focused on the hand and the bag. The text "What is Fentanyl?" is overlaid in white, bold font across the center of the image.

What is Fentanyl?

What is Fentanyl?

Fentanyl is a **dangerous synthetic opioid** that is used for surgeries and in illegal narcotics

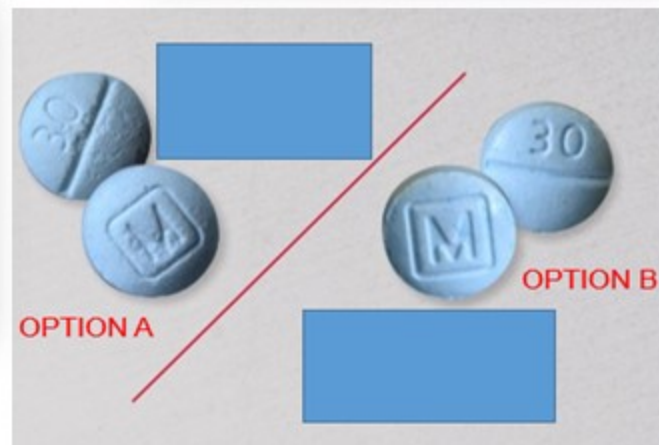
- It gives the user a sense of euphoria
- It stops people's breathing before they even realize it
- It comes in many different forms e.g. powder, pills, etc.
- **Fentanyl is often mixed with other drugs, like cocaine, without the user being aware.**
 - The user could be getting what they think is **Adderall, Oxycontin or Percocet** without knowing that it is actually laced with fentanyl.



Fentanyl pills



Fentanyl powder



Types of Opioids

| Type of Opioid | Where they come from | Examples |
|--|--|--|
| Natural opioids (made from the plant) | Alkaloids, that occur in plants such as the opium poppy | morphine codeine |
| Semi-synthetic man-made opioids | Created in labs from natural opioids | Hydrocodone, oxycodone, heroin |
| Fully synthetic Man-made opioids | Completely man-made | Fentanyl Methadone, tramadol |

Medical Grade Fentanyl Lab vs. Illicit Fentanyl Lab



Source: U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)

Why is Fentanyl so Deadly?

A dose the size of a few grains of salt can kill you



Why is Fentanyl so Deadly?

A dose the size of a few grains of salt can kill you



Why is Fentanyl so Deadly?

Many users do not know they are taking fentanyl



Why is Fentanyl so Deadly?

Fentanyl is fast-acting and quickly overcomes the victim

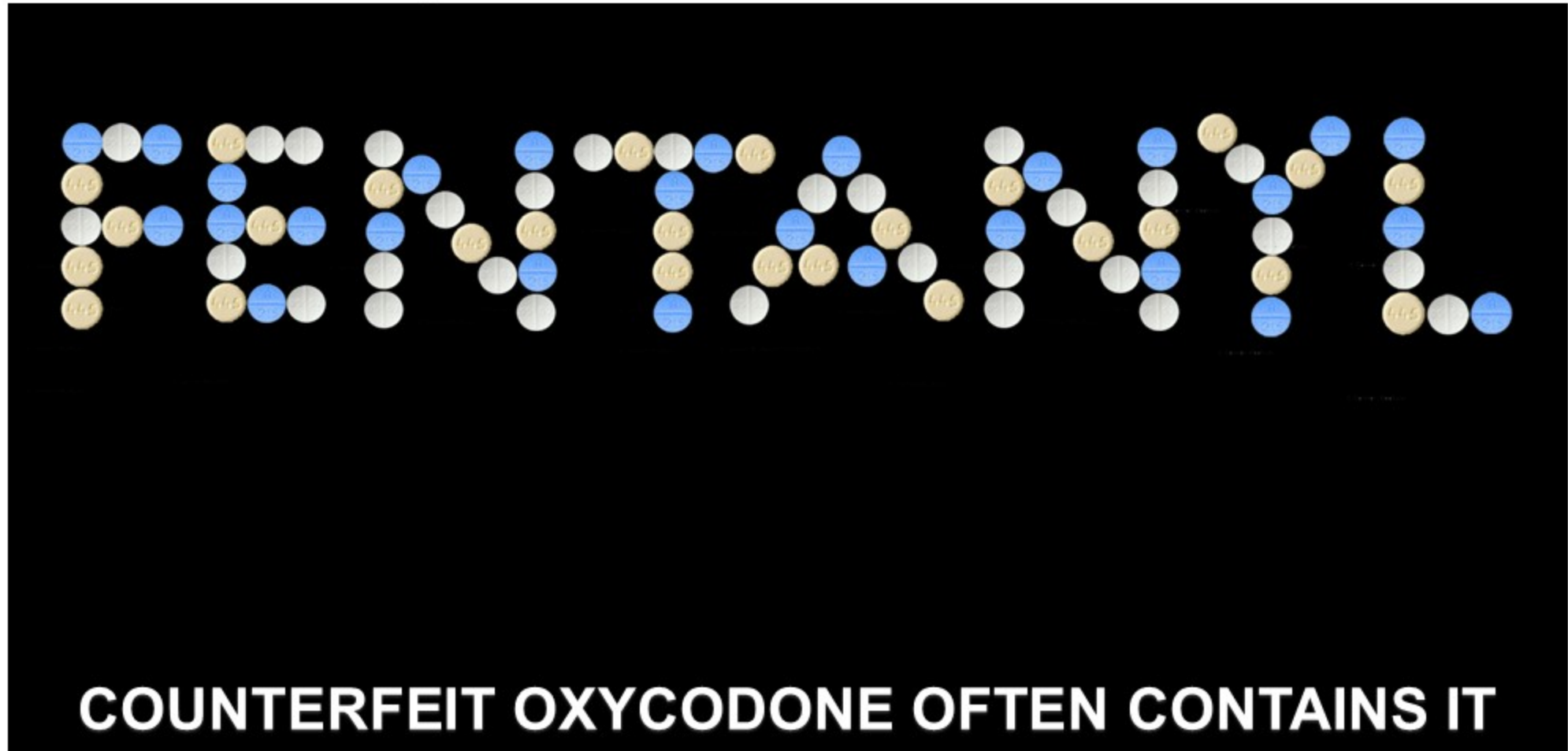


FENTANYL

COUNTERFEIT XANAX OFTEN CONTAINS IT

Why is Fentanyl so Deadly?

Brain damage can result from non-fatal overdoses



COUNTERFEIT OXYCODONE OFTEN CONTAINS IT