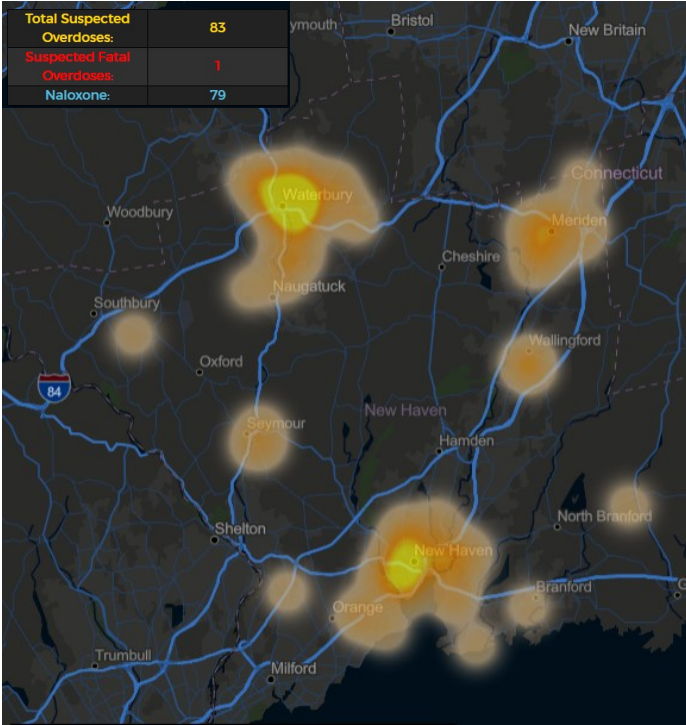
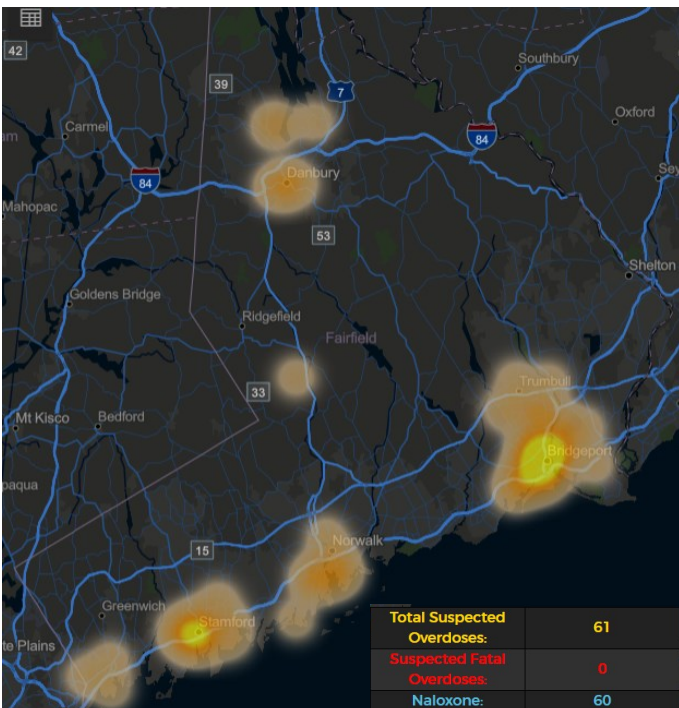


### Connecticut Opioid Heat Map



In the month of July 2023, significant overdose activity was noted in New Haven and Fairfield County. New Haven county can be seen depicted in the heat map above and Fairfield county is below .

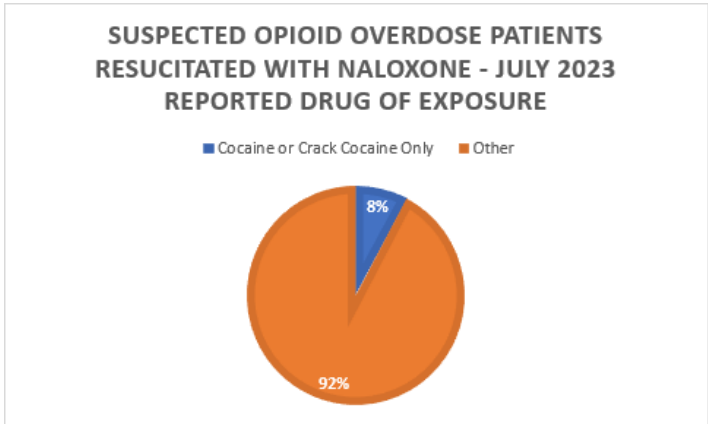


### Fentanyl Contaminated Cocaine in Connecticut - July 2023

In July of 2023, the Connecticut Poison Control Center (CPCC) received 25 reports from emergency medical responders involving 30 overdose patients,\* who were resuscitated with naloxone, but stated they only used cocaine or crack. These patients all had classic opioid toxidrome symptoms such as depressed consciousness, agonal breathing, and pinpoint pupils, yet after resuscitation they insisted, they had not used opioids.

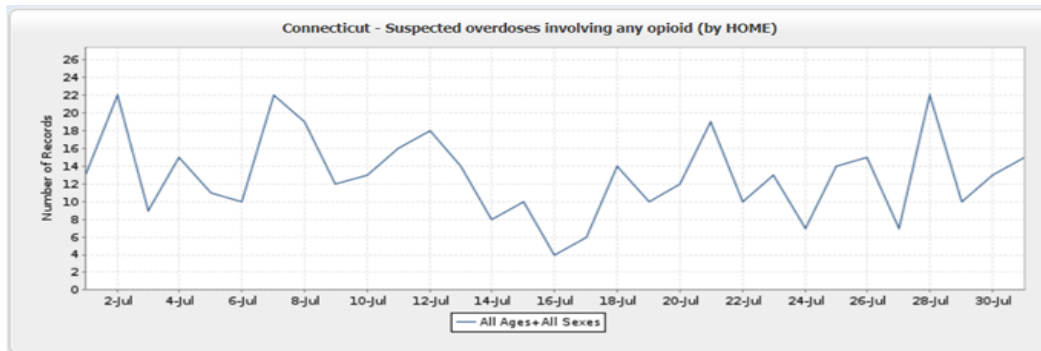
Among the July cases was a quintuple overdose of college students at a party in Fairfield County, and two cases of double overdoses where both victims at each scene claimed they only snorted cocaine yet required naloxone for resuscitation.

The EMS reports were made as part of the Connecticut Statewide Opioid Reporting Directive (SWORD) which requires EMS responders to report suspected opioid overdoses to the CPCC. The EMS providers answer a series of questions and provide a narrative of the call. These 25 reports represented 7.7% of all reported patients who received naloxone (326) and 7% of all reported suspected opioid overdoses in July 2023. SWORD data should not be considered a complete accounting of all overdoses. SWORD does not include overdoses where EMS was not called or when EMS was called but failed to report the overdoses to the CPCC. EMS compliance with reporting varies across the state. The drug of exposure is also self-reported. This data does not include patients who admitted using cocaine and an opioid nor does it include patients who denied any drug use after naloxone resuscitation.



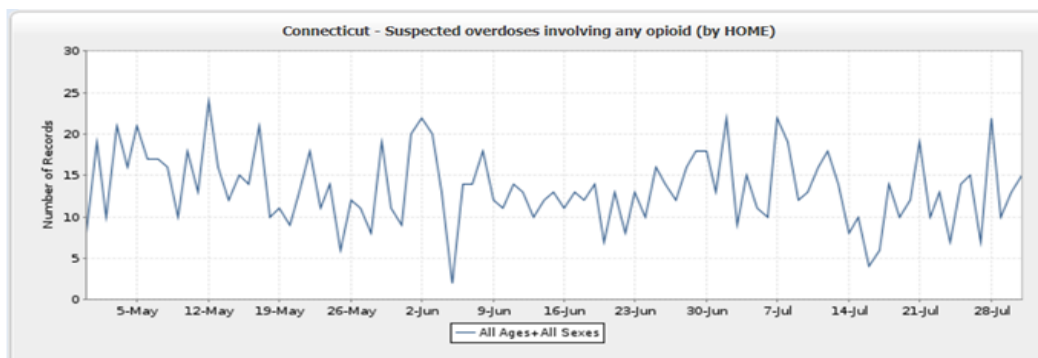
**Right >:** Suspected Overdoses Involving Any Opioid, totaled by day, for the previous 30 days:

Information sourced from EpiCenter system, August 2023.



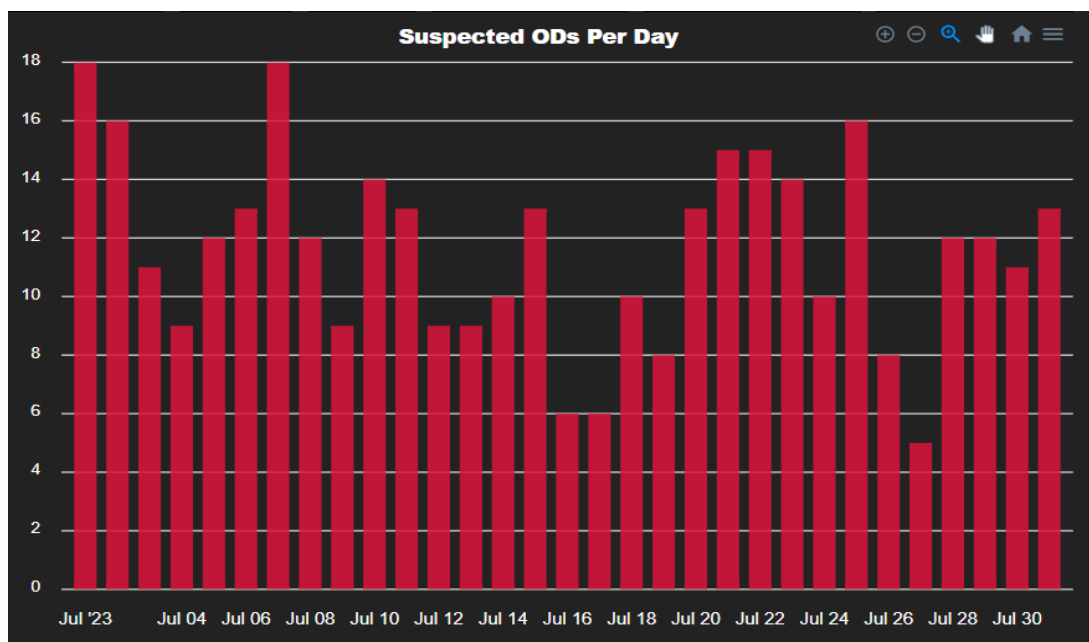
**Left: <** Suspected overdoses involving any opioid by day previous 3 months

Information sourced from EpiCenter system, August 2023.



**Right >:** This graph represents EMS reported opioid overdoses by incident day during February 2023.

This graph was sourced from OD-MAP in August 2023.



## SWORD Statewide Reporting June 2023

In the month of July 2023, there were 360 calls to the Connecticut Poison Control Center (CPCC) for SWORD. Of these calls, 323 were non-fatal and 9 were reported as fatalities. There were 327 total naloxone administrations: 185 non-fatal multiple doses of naloxone administered, 138 non-fatal single dose naloxone, 27 non-fatal with no naloxone administered and one non-fatal naloxone administration unknown. Of the nine fatalities, three received multiple doses of naloxone, one received a single dose, and four with no naloxone administered.

The 360 cases involved suspected overdoses from all of our counties: Fairfield 61, Hartford 147, Litchfield 8, Middlesex 17, New Haven 83, New London 29, Tolland five and Windham 10.

\*Numbers subject to change

An analysis of the 25 patients showed 17 (68%) required multiple doses of naloxone. Eighteen (72%) said they used cocaine (16-snort, 2-IV) and 28% reported crack use (smoked). Nineteen (76%) of the patients had no previously reported SWORD overdose. Of the six with reported previous SWORD overdose, only one reported using an opioid in their previous overdose.

Ages ranged from 19 to 62. Twenty patients were male (80%) and 5 were female (20%). Five (20%) received naloxone by bystanders. Twenty-four (96%) were taken to the hospital.

The overdoses occurred in 20 different zip codes and six different counties. Hartford (8), New Haven (7), New London (4), Fairfield (3) Litchfield (1), Middlesex (1), and Windham (1).

Like other states on the east coast, the predominant opioid is fentanyl, which has almost completely supplanted heroin. The fentanyl comes in powdered form that is cut with adulterants and is indistinguishable from white heroin or cocaine by sight. Many Connecticut dealers sell both cocaine and fentanyl.

We believe these reports demonstrate that cross contamination of cocaine with small amounts of fentanyl is contributing to the number of overdoses and deaths in the

state. People who use cocaine and buy from dealers who also trade in fentanyl should be particularly wary of our state's contaminated illicit drug supply. They should never use cocaine (or fentanyl) alone and always have naloxone present.

\*\*\*

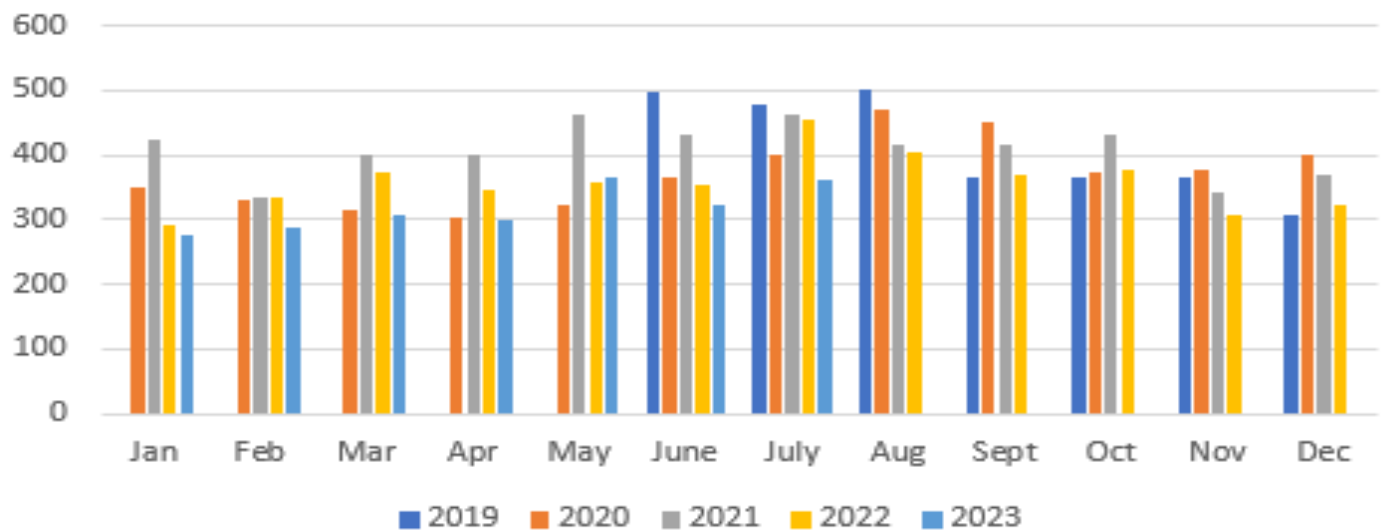
Notes:

1.\*5 additional patients from multi-overdose scenes were mentioned in the SWORD reports, but CPCC did not receive individual reports for these patients, so they are excluded from the above statistics.

2. In May of 2023, the CPCC received 21 reports of patients who insisted they only used cocaine requiring naloxone to reverse their respiratory depression. In October of 2021, the CPCC received 28 of these reports. They represented 6.4% and 6.5% of all monthly cases where naloxone was administered.

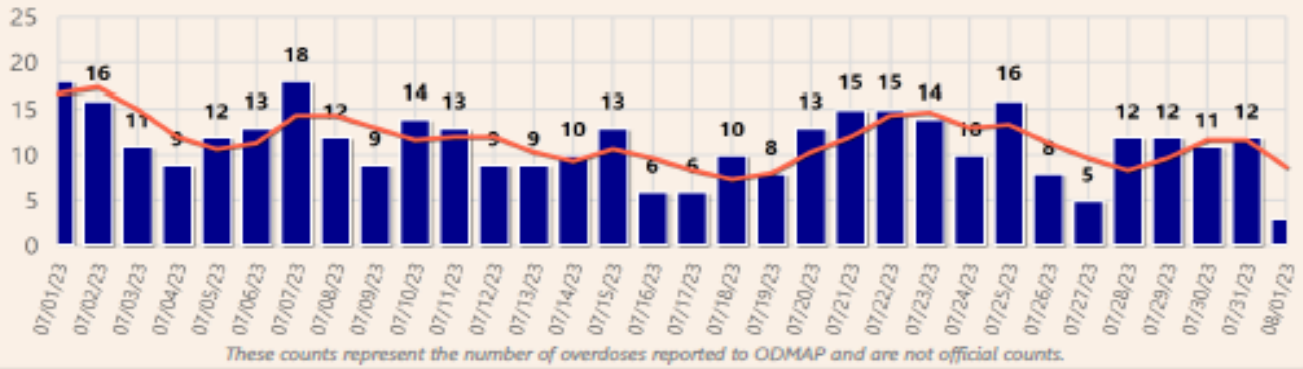
3. According to the Connecticut Medical Examiner's Office (OCME), the presence of cocaine in overdose deaths has increased every year since 2012. In 2022, cocaine was present in 47% of all overdose deaths, and fentanyl was present in 85% of all overdose deaths. Cocaine and fentanyl were present together in 45% of all opioid deaths.

## Suspected Overdoses by month June 2019-July 2023



**ODMAP Suspected Overdose Submissions - In the Last Month**

■ Entries Per Day    — 3-Day Moving Avg

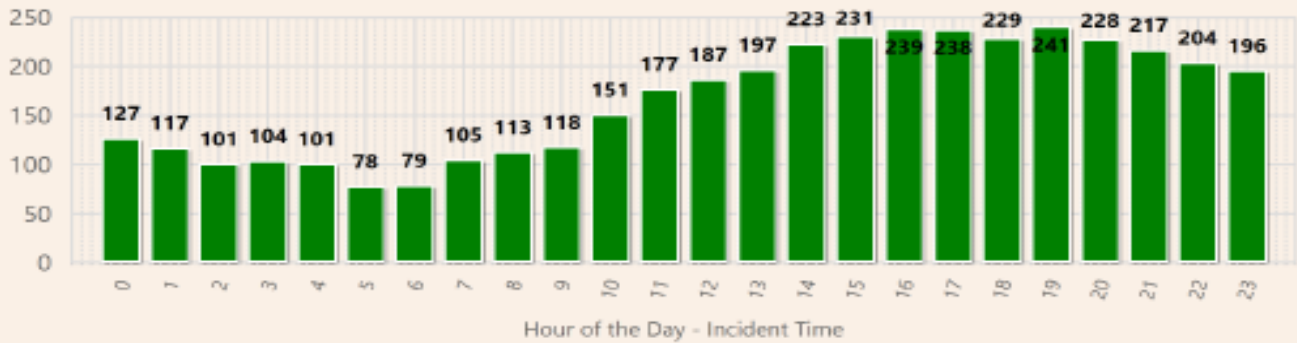


**ODMAP Suspected OD Submissions by day.**

This graph shows total suspected overdoses called in each day during the time period. The red line running horizontally shows a 3-day moving average of call-ins.

**ODMAP Suspected Overdose Submissions - All Data Submitted**

■ Per Hour of the Day



**Cumulative (June 2019—July 2023) Overdoses by the Hour of the Day**

This graph shows the hour of the day suspected overdose incidents have occurred statewide since the SWORD program began on June 1, 2019.

Do you need help accessing ODMAP [Click here to contact the ODMAP Helpdesk](#), or call (301) 489-1744



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Hartford, CT 06134  
860-509-7975

**Department of Public Health  
Office of Emergency Medical Services**

[Click here](#) to contact OEMS regarding the SWORD program,

ODMAP, or feedback, [Click here](#) to check out the SWORD page on our website

*Thank you for your participation!*

