

Unintentional Overdoses in Connecticut During COVID-19 Pandemic

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Connecticut Department of Public Health
Keeping Connecticut Healthy



- * Caution: This content may be disturbing to some people viewing it.
- * In order to understand this epidemic, we need to know the burden of the disease statewide and in our communities.
- * Data helps us to discover insights and observe patterns and trends.
- * If we know the data, we can help to prevent further overdoses and addiction, and it strengthens our commitment to finding new and better ways to provide treatment and sustained recovery services.





Overdoses and COVID-19 Pandemic

- DPH has **not** observed higher than expected incidence in nonfatal overdoses since the beginning of COVID-19
- There may be an association between COVID-19 and fatal unintentional drug overdoses
 - * Reviewed data January 1 - May 31, 2020:
 - * Suspected and confirmed fatal drug overdoses
 - * Suspected nonfatal drug overdoses
 - * Number of alerts in EpiCenter syndromic surveillance
 - * ODMAP analysis - No correlation by CT county between COVID-19 and drug overdose reports to CT Poison Control Center by EMS

SWORD Program EMS Data for Suspected Opioid Overdoses

Connecticut

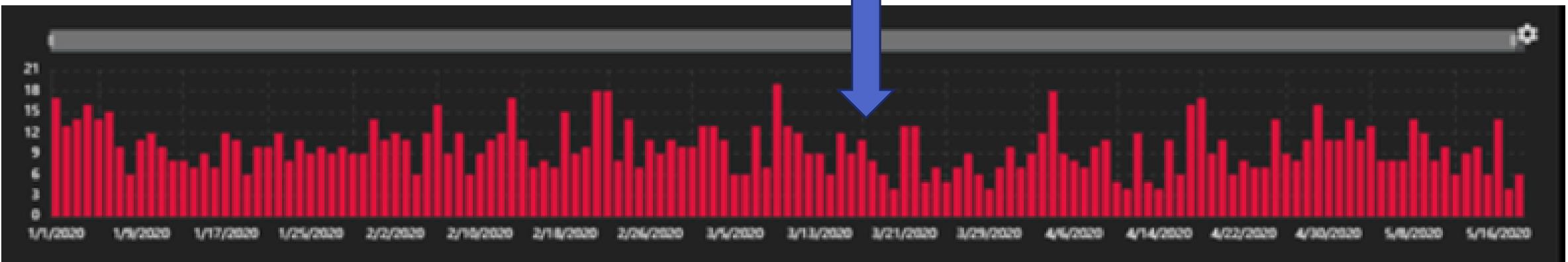
SWORD reported overdoses in Connecticut decreased 10 % post lockdown using the same criteria as HIDTA used to show a national increase.

From January 1 through March 18, there were an average of 11.48 overdoses per day.

From March 19 to May 19, there were 9.677 per day.

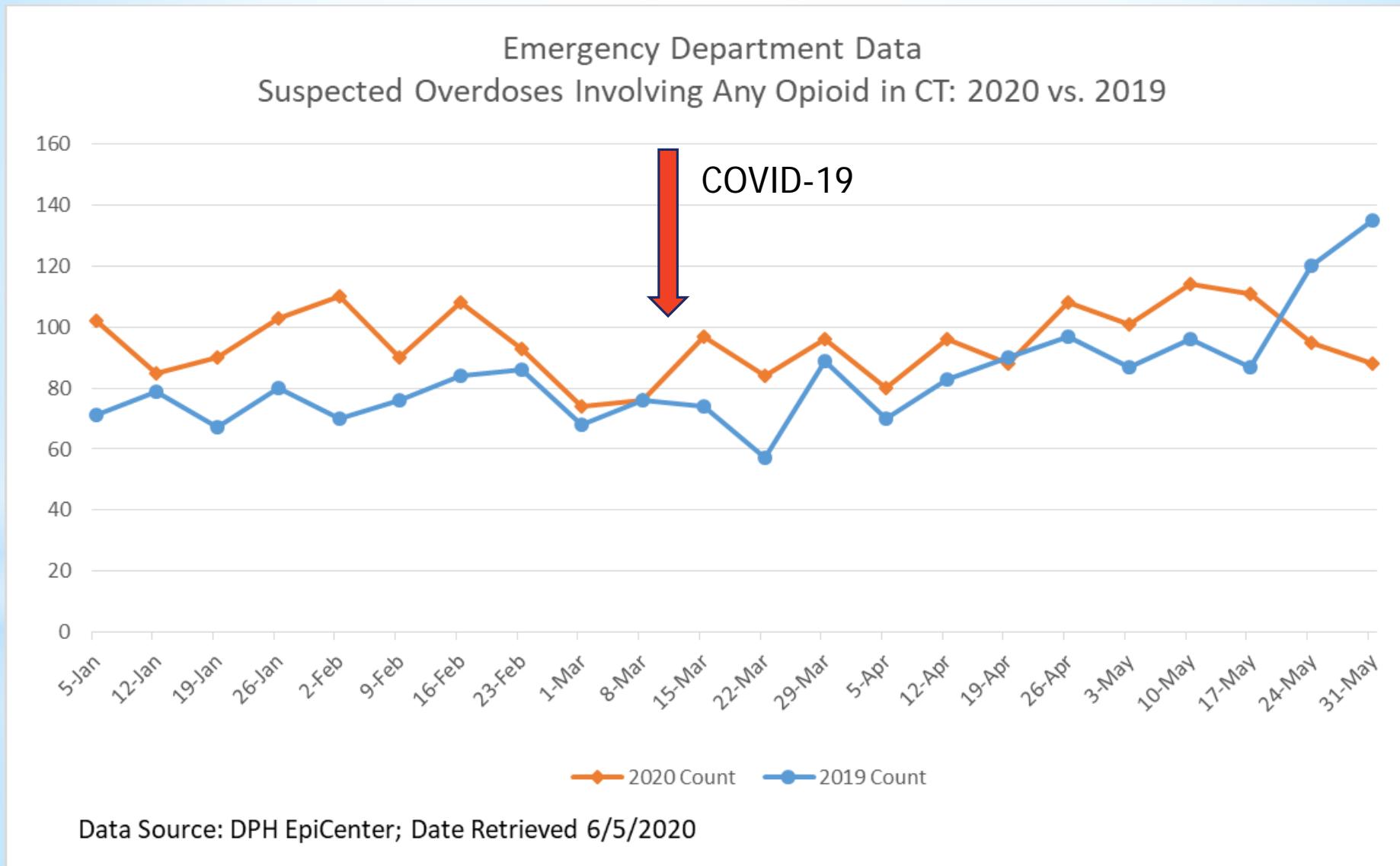
From January 1 through May 19, there were 10.68 per day

March 18 Lockdown Date for W/B HIDTA Analysis



ED Visits for Suspected Opioid Overdoses

Jan - May 2019 and 2020

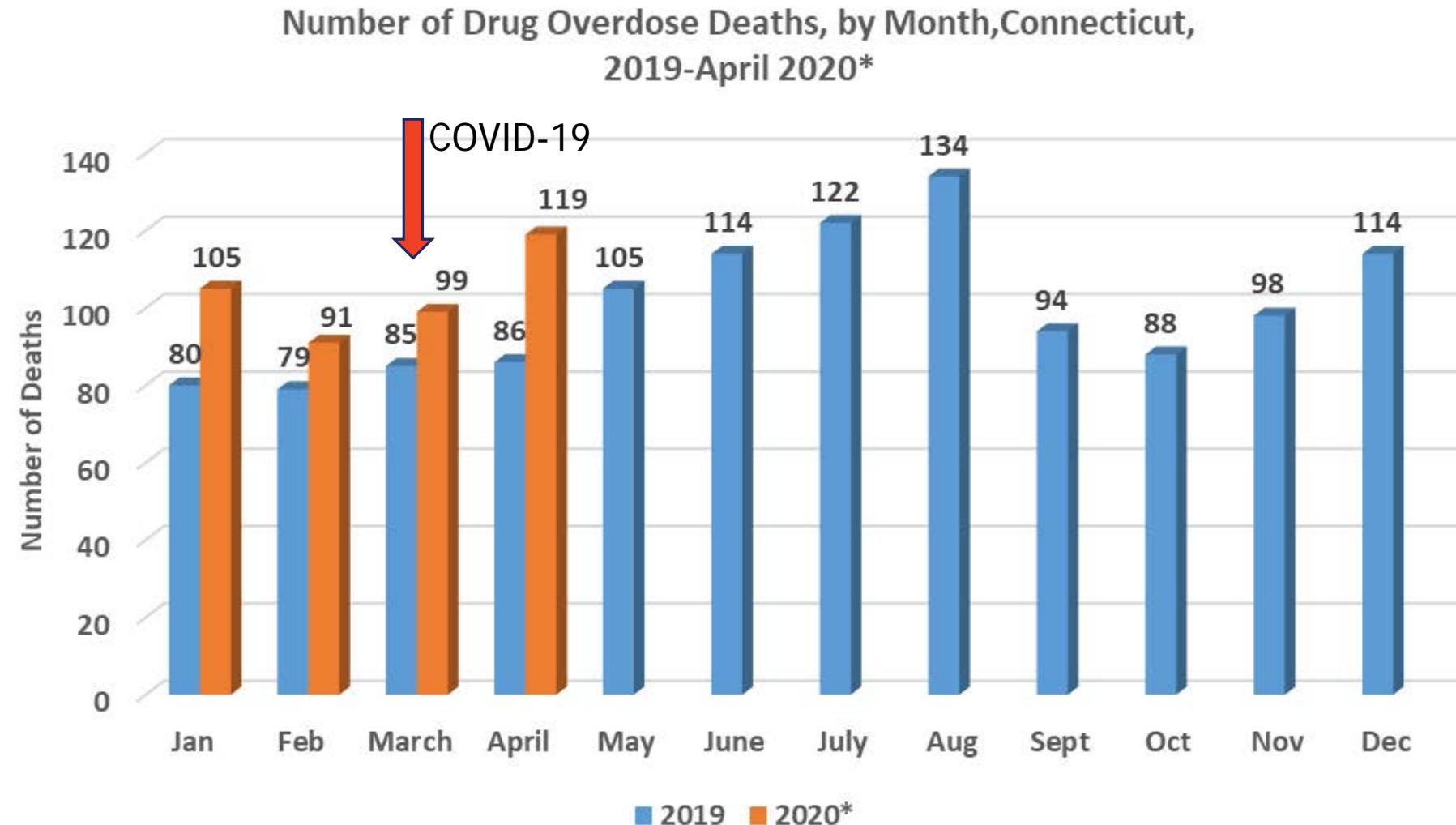


Analysis of Unintentional Overdose Fatalities During COVID-19 Pandemic

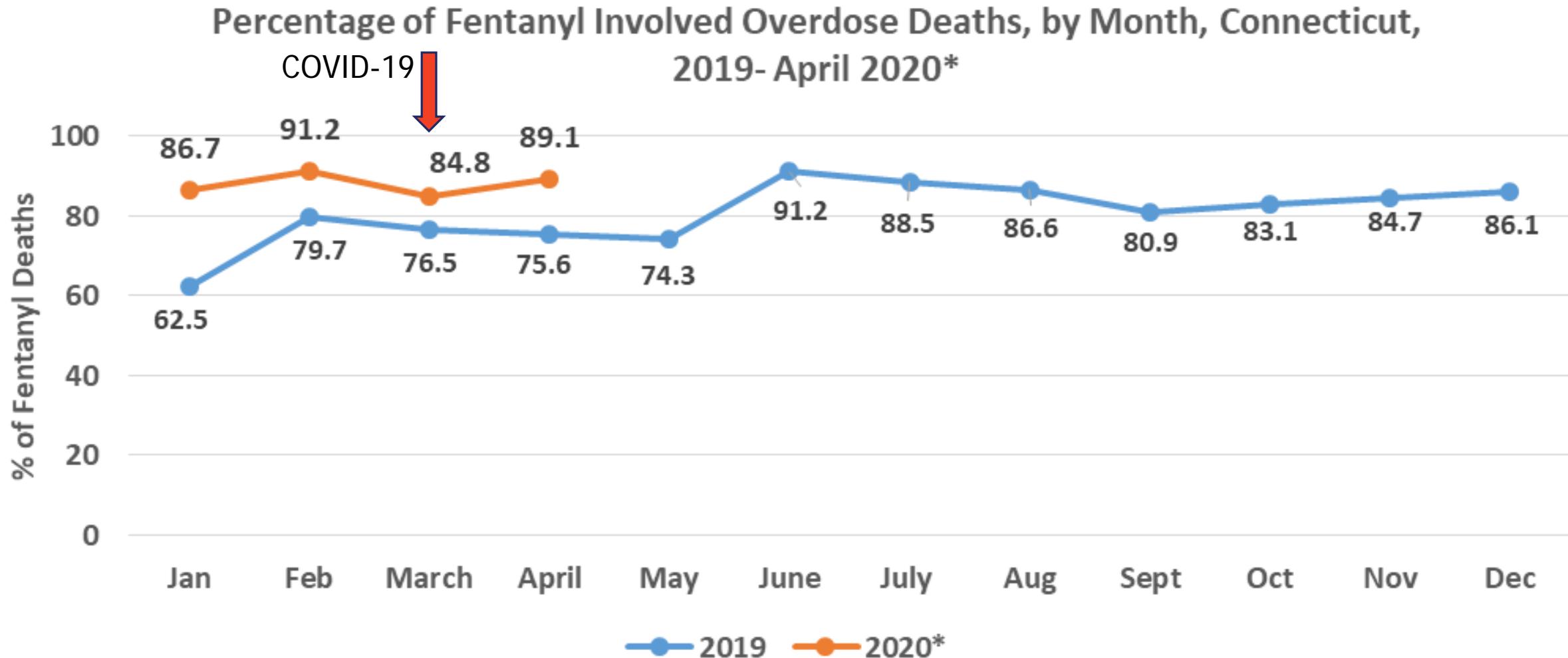
Available on www.ct.gov/dph/injuryprevention

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DPH/Injury-Prevention/Opioid-Overdose-Data/2019-May-2020-Drug-Overdose-Deaths-Monthly-Report.pdf>

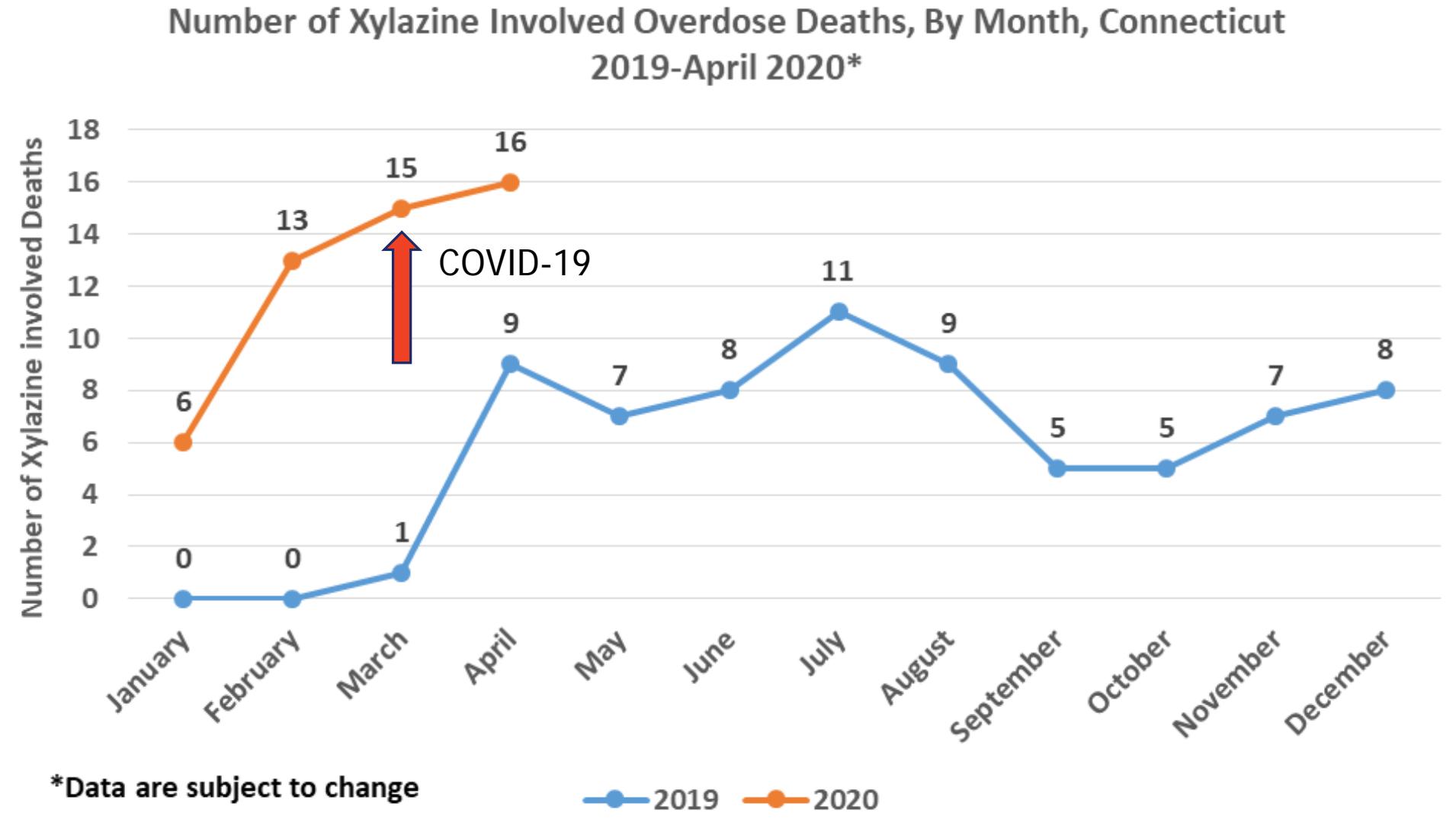
Fatalities Due to UI Drug Overdose, Overall 2019-2020



Fatalities Due to UI Drug Overdose, % Fentanyl 2019-2020



Xylazine: An Emerging Substance in 2019



Questions?

For more information:

Contact Susan Logan at

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www.ct.gov/dph/injuryprevention

Acknowledgements:

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Shobha Thangada, CT DPH IVSU

