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OCME Press Release
2019 Accidental Drug Intoxications
2/14/20

The fatal accidental drug intoxication totals for 2019 and the spreadsheet of deaths by town is on our website: <https://portal.ct.gov/OCME>

The total number of accidental intoxication deaths in 2019 has increased 18% compared to 2018. There continues to be an increase in deaths with fentanyl (29% increase) and cocaine (34%). Fentanyl continues to be the most common drug detected and has increased by 26% since 2018. Overall, 94% of the accidental intoxication deaths involved an opioid. Of the deaths with cocaine, 85% also involved fentanyl.

The ages ranged from 17 to 74 years old (average 43) for deaths involving illicit opioids.

Xylazine, a veterinary tranquilizer, was detected in 71 fentanyl deaths. This is likely being added locally as an adulterant.