

# OVERDOSE DATA UPDATE

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October 2023

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# Data Sources & Disclaimers

- “These data were provided by the Ohio Department of Health, through the Ohio Public Health Information Warehouse. The Department specifically disclaims responsibility for any analyses, interpretations, or conclusions from these data.”
- There is up to a 6-month lag-time in the processing of death certificate files so any numbers for deaths reported in 2022 and 2023 should be taken as **provisional**. This is especially true for the months of January - July as we may not have received reports for all deaths that occurred in the last 6 months.
- The Ohio data provided in this presentation is from the Ohio Department of Health Preliminary\* Data Summary: Ohio Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths, published July 2023. This report has the final total counts for overdose deaths through the end of 2021, with preliminary data through December 2022. It is available at: <https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/violence-injury-prevention-program/media/ohio-unintentional-drug-overdose-deaths-preliminary-q3-2023>
- The Greene County overdose death data is from Greene County Public Health Epidemiologist via EpiCenter



# Collective Impact

The goal of Greene County Drug Free Coalition is to reduce drug overdose deaths by 50% when compared to 2017 data.

 **2017**

In 2017 there were 63 unintentional drug overdose deaths.

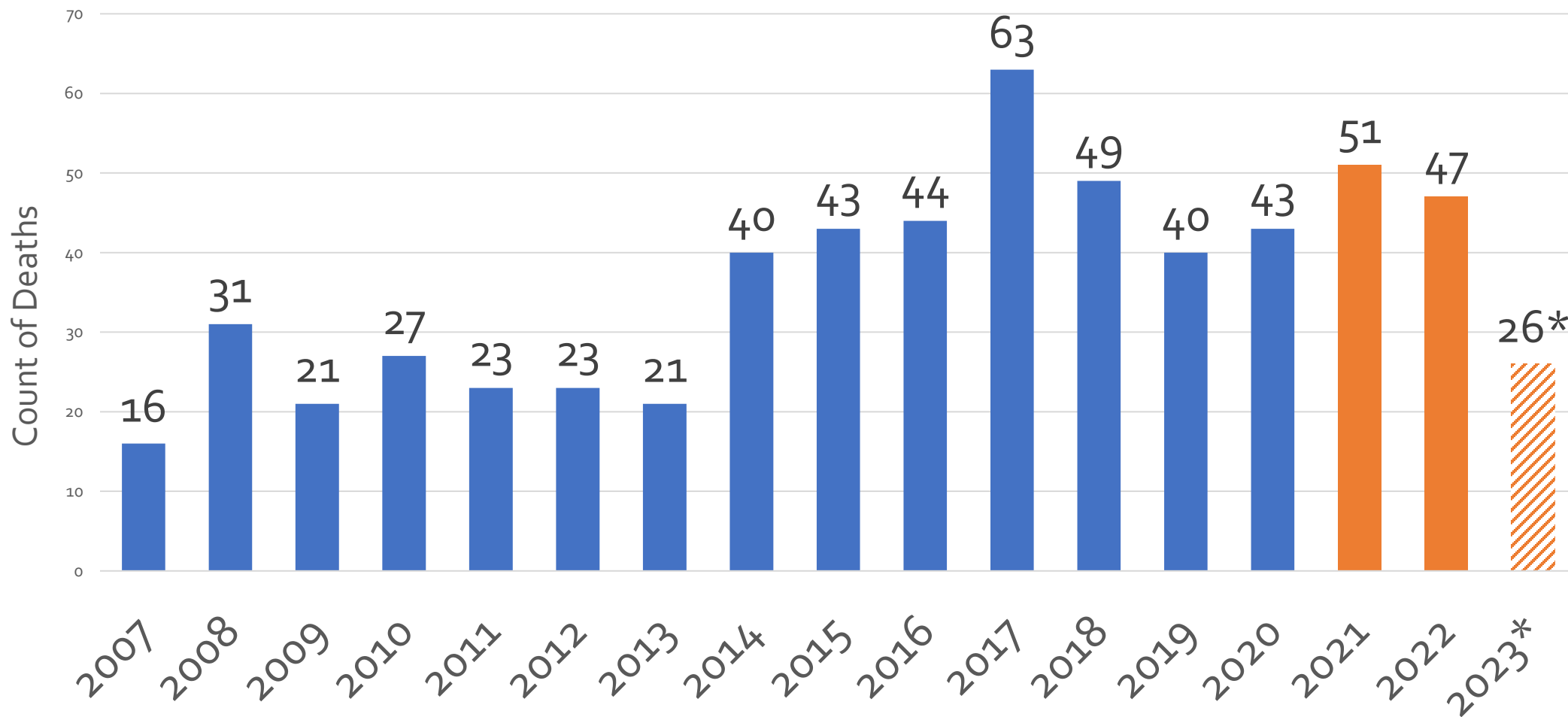
 **2025**

If we meet our goal, by 2025 we would expect to see 31 or fewer deaths per year.

# Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths, Greene County, OH 2007-2023\*



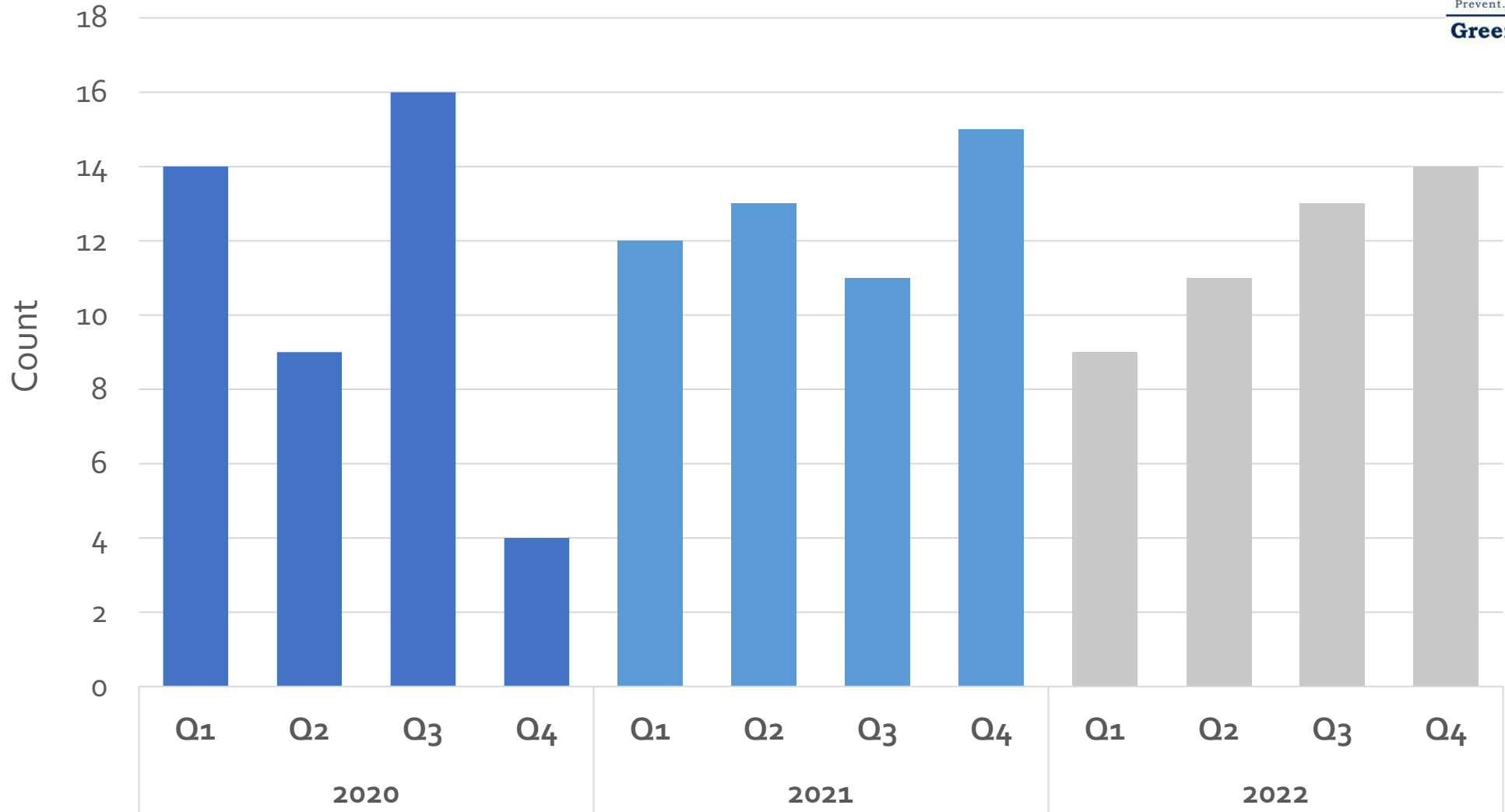
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\* 2023 data as of 8/14/23. Years 2021-2023 are provisional data.



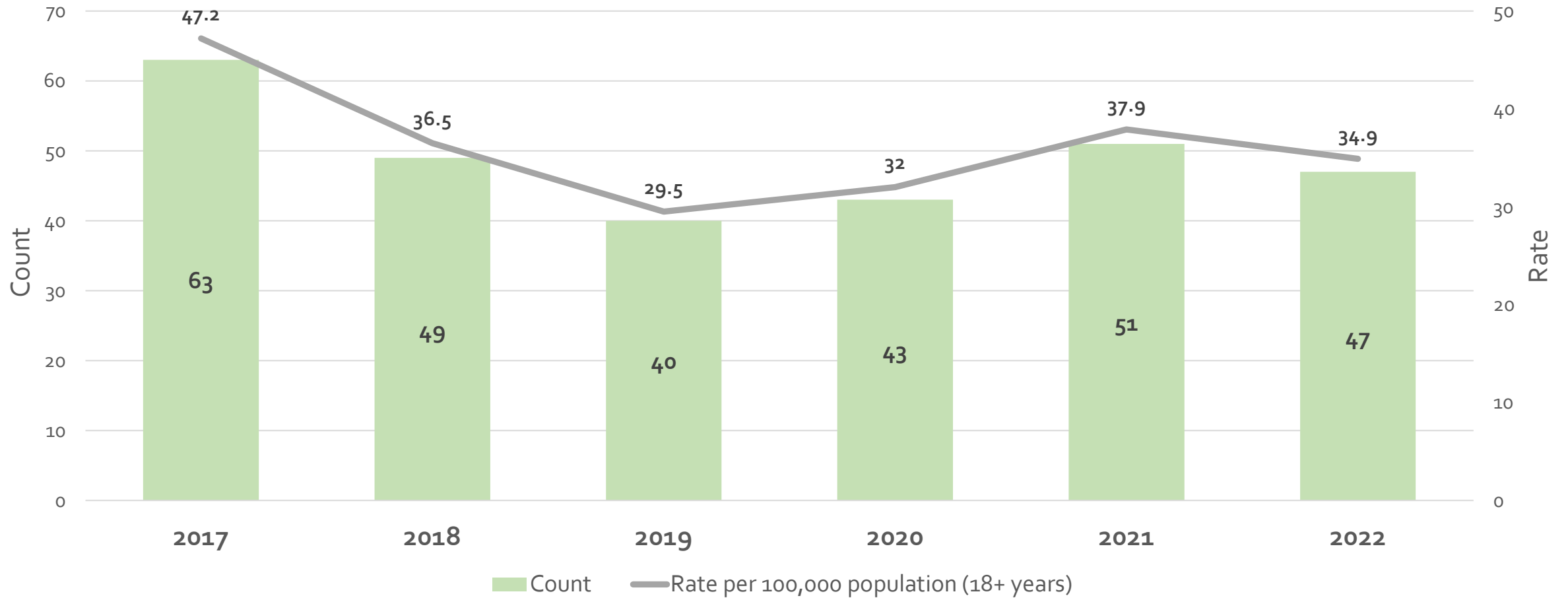
### Greene County Drug Overdose Death Count - by Quarter



# Greene County Drug Overdose Deaths



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# LOCATION

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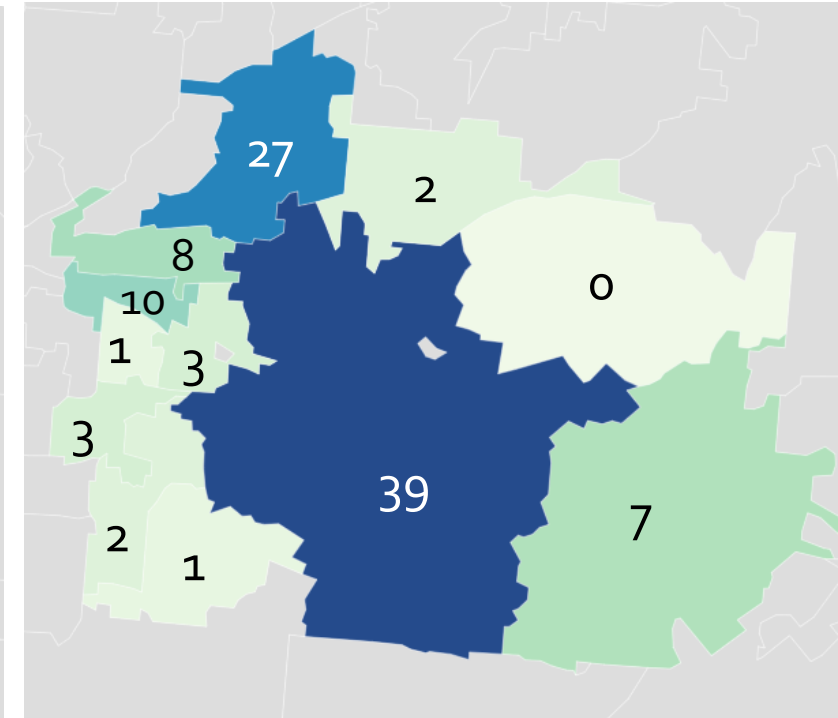
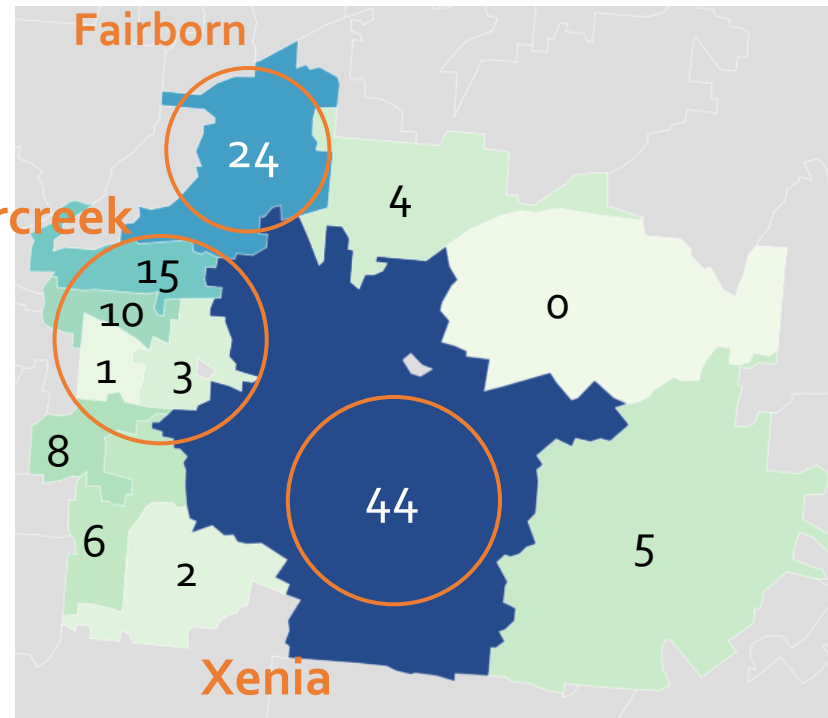
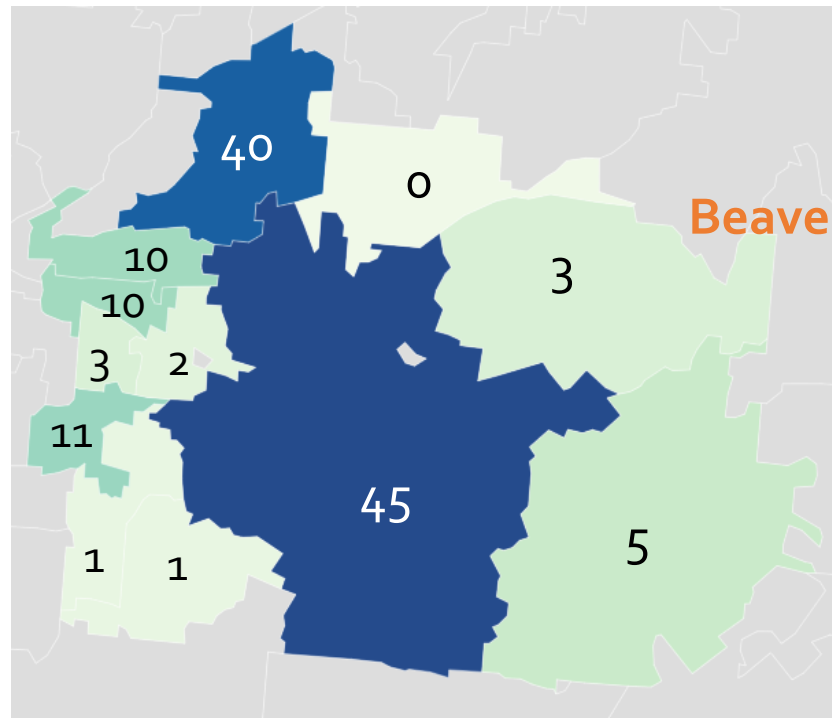
WHERE IS THIS HAPPENING?

# Suspected Opioid Overdoses by Greene County residents ZIP

August '20 – July '21

August '21 – July '22

August '22 – July '23





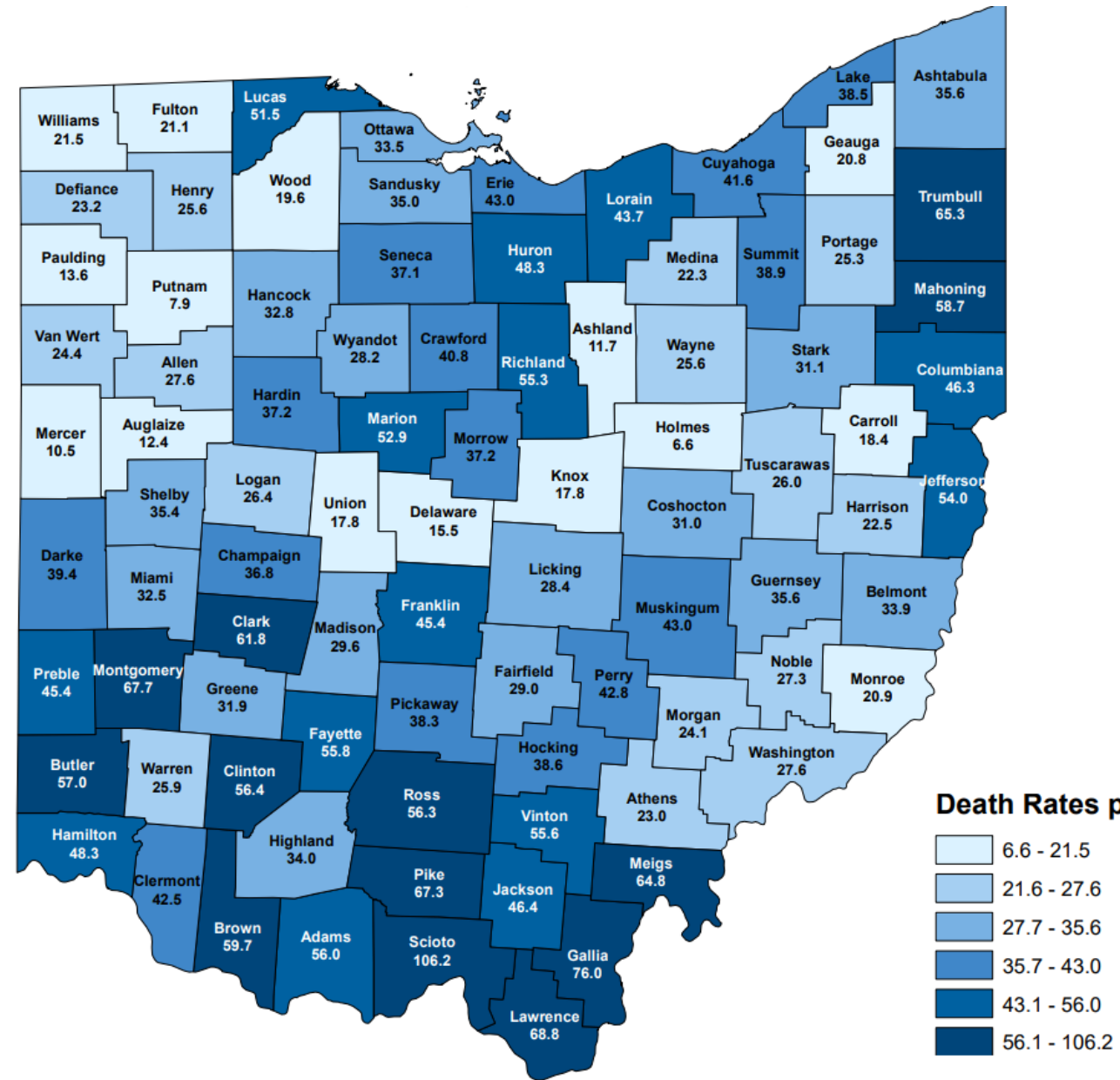


## Average Age-Adjusted Rate of Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths by County, Ohio 2017-2021

1. Scioto
2. Gallia
3. Lawrence
4. Montgomery
5. Pike
- .....
52. Greene

This is an improvement!

Back in 2019 Greene County was #32 for Average Age-Adjusted Rate of Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths



# DRIVING FORCES

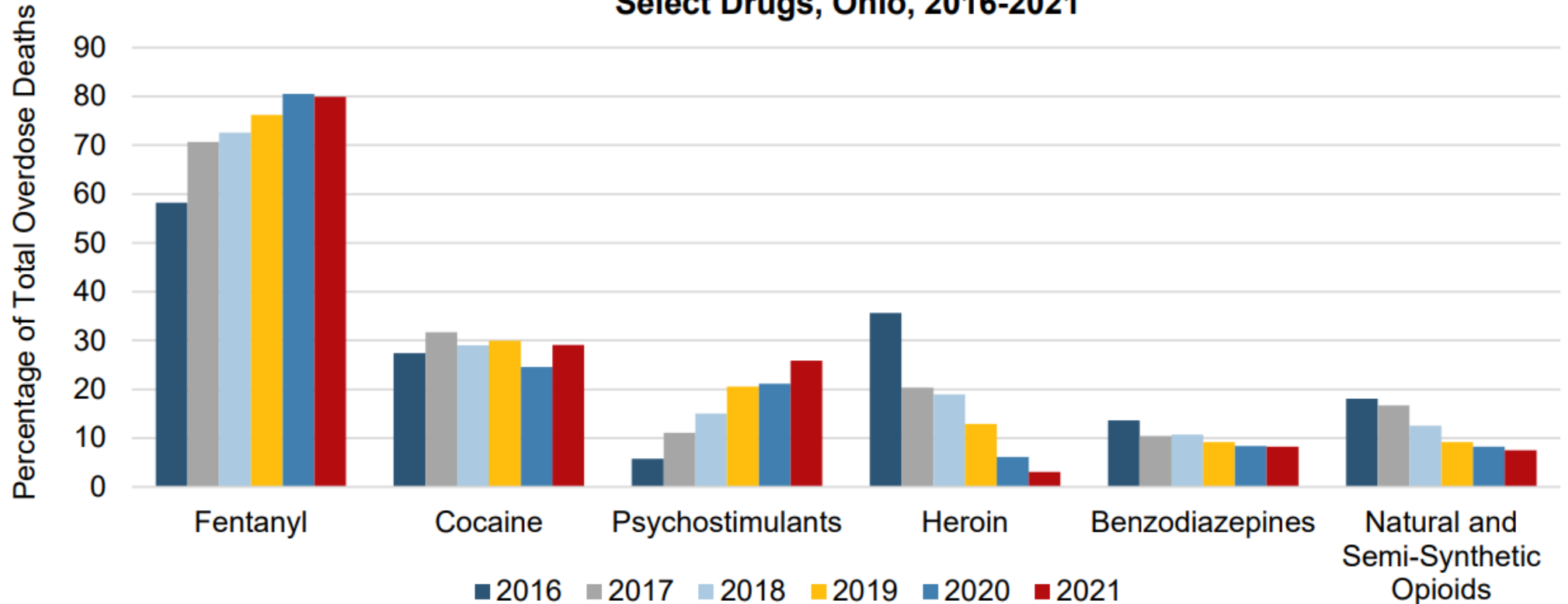
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# Fentanyl



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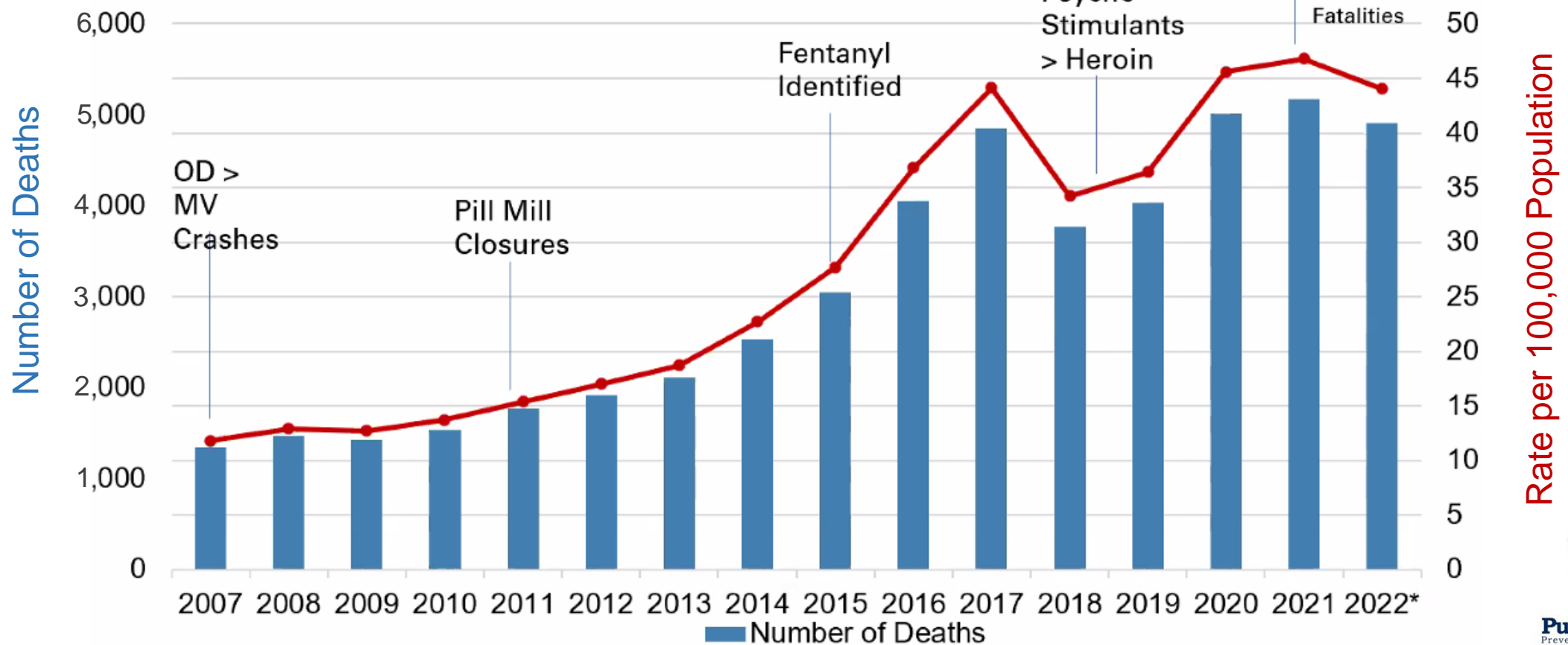
**Figure 10. Percentage of Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths Involving Select Drugs, Ohio, 2016-2021**



Source: Ohio Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics. Analysis: ODH Violence and Injury Prevention Section. Includes Ohio residents who died due to unintentional drug poisoning (underlying cause of death ICD-10 codes X40-X44). Multiple drugs are usually involved in overdose deaths. Therefore, when classifying deaths according to drug involvement, individual deaths may be reported in more than one drug category. Fentanyl includes fentanyl and fentanyl analogs (e.g. carfentanyl). Psychostimulants include methamphetamine and other psychostimulants with potential for abuse (ICD-10 code T43.6). Natural and semi-synthetic opioids (e.g., oxycodone, hydrocodone) correspond to code T40.2.

# Ohio Overdose Deaths with historical context of Fentanyl

**Number and Age-Adjusted Rate of Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths by Year, Ohio, 2007-2022\***



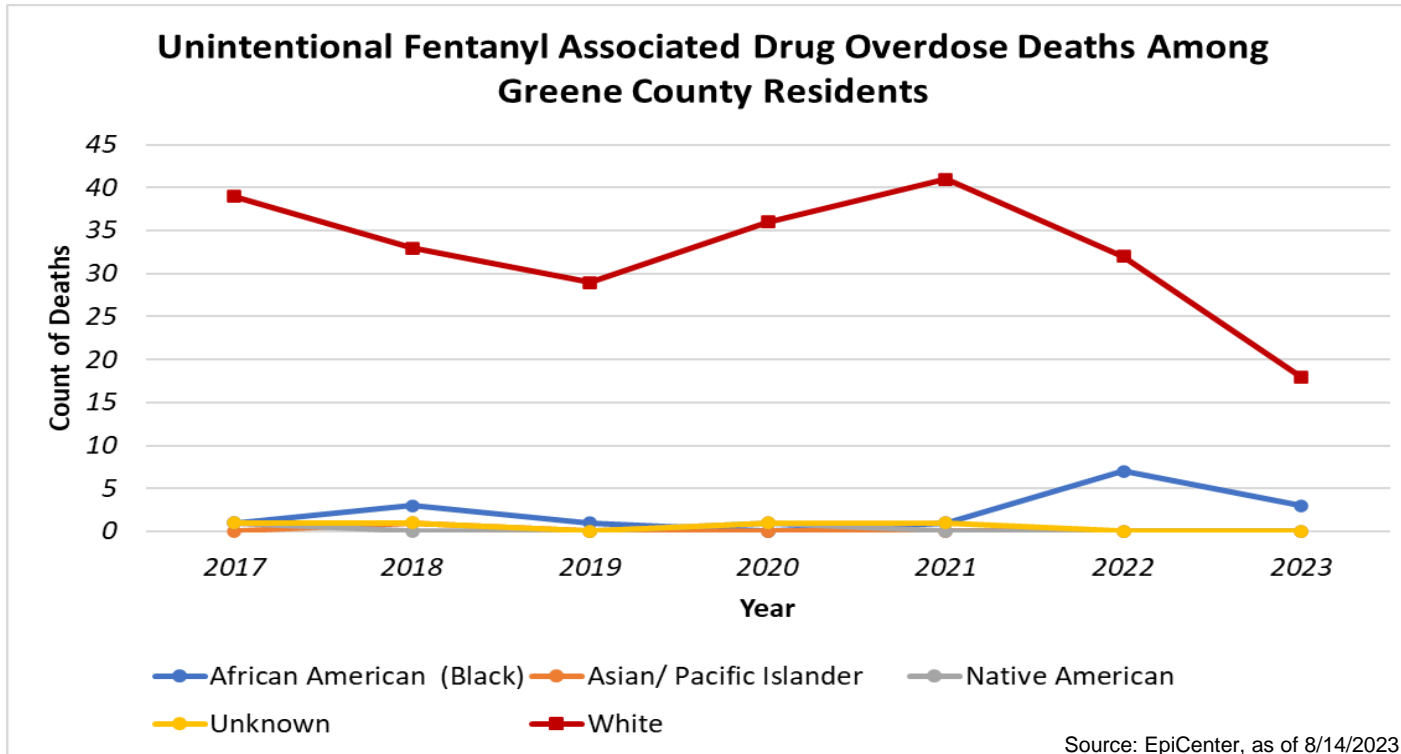
# Overdose Deaths by Drug Involvement Greene County & Ohio

75% of overdose deaths in Greene County had fentanyl as the cause in 2022.

- In 2021 Fentanyl was involved in 80% of Ohio drug overdose deaths, a minimal decrease from 2020 when 81% of deaths involved fentanyl.
- Stimulant involvement in overdose deaths is increasing.
  - In 2021 cocaine was involved in 29% of overdose deaths compared to 25% of deaths in 2020
  - In 2021 psychostimulants were involved in 26% of overdose deaths compared to 21% deaths in 2020
  - The percentage of drug overdose deaths involving heroin has continued to decline, in 2021 heroin was involved in only 3% of drug overdose deaths.
    - This is likely due to fentanyl replacing heroin, people adapting to fentanyl flooding the illicit drug market, and heroin suppliers abandoning producing the labor-intensive heroin for the easier and cheaper fentanyl.



# Racial Disparities of Overdose Deaths in Greene County and Ohio



- Fentanyl involved overdose deaths are increasing in African American/Black population of Greene County as fentanyl is getting laced in most of the illicit supply including psychostimulants and cocaine.
- In 2022, Black/African American Greene County residents accounted for approximately 17.5% of the overdose deaths. According to 2020 Census data the Black/African American population only make up 7.2% of Greene County residents.

Ohio Opioid Overdose Deaths, By Race			
Year	White	Black	Other
2023	76.7%	21.9%	1.5%
2022	76.4%	21.1%	2.5%
2021	80.4%	18.2%	1.4%
2020	81.9%	16.6%	1.5%
2019	83.6%	15.5%	0.9%
2018	86.0%	12.6%	1.4%
2017	87.3%	11.6%	1.2%
2016	90.2%	9.1%	0.7%
2015	90.4%	8.5%	1.1%
2014	90.9%	7.8%	1.2%
2013	90.6%	8.5%	0.9%
2012	91.1%	7.2%	1.7%
2011	90.3%	7.4%	2.3%
2010	92.8%	7.0%	0.2%

Source: Ohio Department of Health Mortality Data  
For comparison purposes, Black residents account for 14% of Ohio's population. White residents account for 83% and residents of other races are 3%

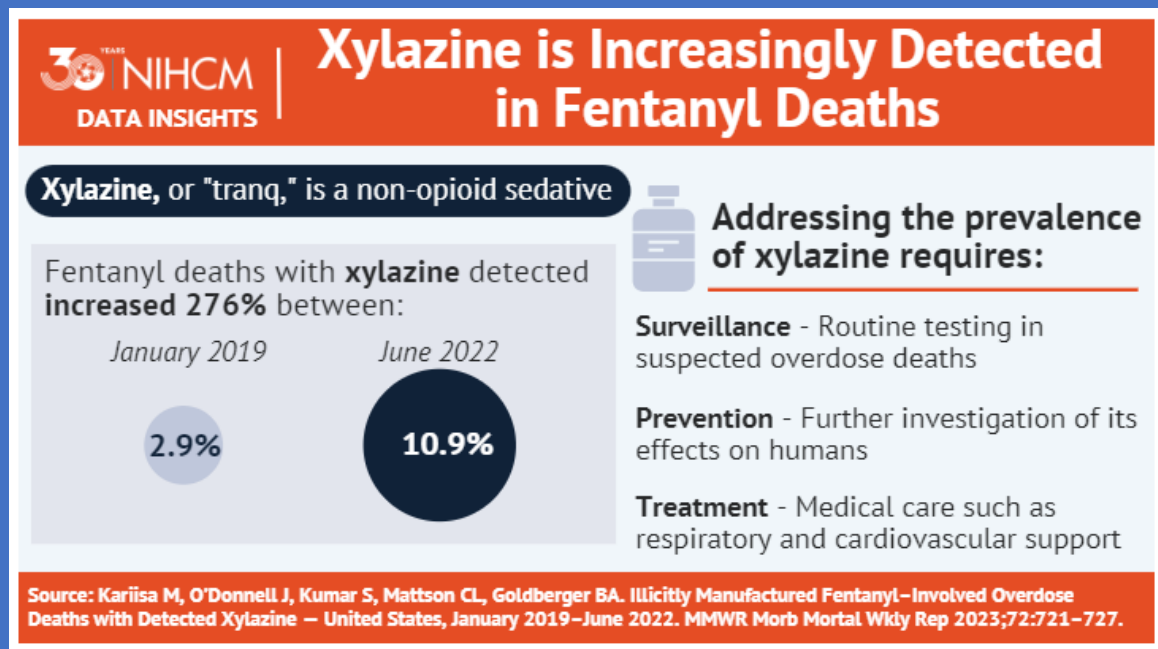
# Emerging Threat: Xylazine



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As of August 2023, there has been 1 confirmed death involving Xylazine in Greene County.

- Xylazine is a non-opioid sedative or tranquilizer that has been historically used in veterinary medicine with animals and is NOT approved for use in humans.
  - It is being mixed with illicit drugs such as cocaine, heroin, and fentanyl and can be hidden in fake pills
- Naloxone will not reverse the effects of xylazine. But because xylazine is often used with opioids, naloxone should still be given in response to any suspected overdose.
  - GIVE RESCUE BREATHS!  
(1 breath every 5 seconds for adult)
  - Rescue breaths are especially important for a suspected overdose when xylazine is involved because naloxone does not reduce the impact xylazine has on breathing



## Millennium Health- Emerging Threat Intelligence Program

- Provides current trends for select substances at the state and county level from highly specific definitive urine drug test from samples submitted by clinicians across multiple specialties as a part of patient care.
- 6-month Reporting Period 11/1/22 – 4/29/2023

Substance Tested	Greene County positivity rate	GC ranking (highest positivity rate = 1)	Ohio Average positivity rate
Non-prescribed Fentanyl	5.6%	20 / 88	5.1%
Methamphetamine	10.3%	25 / 88	5.3%
Cocaine	9.9%	8 / 88	5.0%
Heroin	0.1%	55 / 88	0.2%
Xylazine	7.5%	3 / 88	1.5%
Co-positive: Fentanyl & Xylazine	7.5%	4 / 88	1.5%

Source: Millennium Health - FOIA Exempt Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. §552(B) Emerging Threat Intelligence (ETI)™ - Generated 5/8/2023 9:39:05 AM

Additional Drug Trend Information can be found at Ohio Substance Abuse Monitoring Network <https://mha.ohio.gov/research-and-data/data-and-reports/osam/drug-trend-reports>



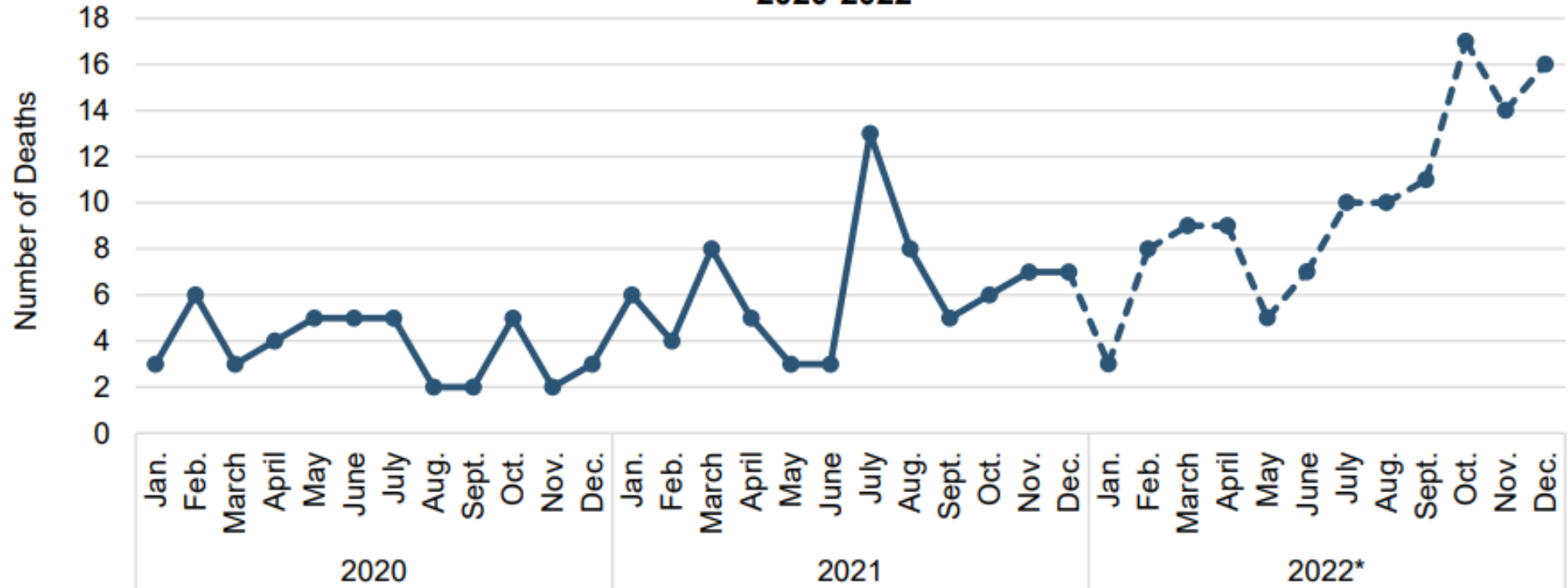
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# Xylazine



**Figure 14. Number of Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths Involving Xylazine<sup>1</sup> Among Ohio Residents Who Died in Ohio by Month, 2020-2022\***



1. Includes Ohio residents who died in Ohio due to unintentional drug poisoning (underlying cause of death ICD-10 codes X40-X44) with the select substances indicated in the death certificate literal fields.

\*\*\* This data is likely underreported because reporting of Xylazine involved overdose deaths is limited by testing capabilities of the coroner's office.

# HARM REDUCTION

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Project DAWN Naloxone Distribution

&

SafeTrade

# Greene County Public Health Naloxone Distribution





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## Mobile Unit

- Check website for location
- **Every Monday 1-4pm**

## Xenia GCPH building

- 360 Wilson Dr, Xenia, 45385
- **Every Wednesday 1-4pm**

## Fairborn WIC building

- 25 S Central Ave, Fairborn, 45324
- **Every Friday 1-4pm**

# SafeTrade

Harm Reduction Program for the prevention of bloodborne infectious diseases

Services include:

- Syringe exchange
- Safe(R) Smoking and Snorting supplies
- Naloxone distribution and education
- HIV, Hepatitis C and Syphilis testing
- Fentanyl and Xylazine Test Strips
- Referrals to substance use treatment
- Education on safe injecting practices
- Wound care supplies and education

# Take Aways

**Overall, number of overdose deaths is slowly decreasing from the peak in Greene County in 2017.**

- In 2022, 47 Greene County residents died from a drug overdose, which is a 25% decrease from 2017.

**Ohio has slightly increased overdose deaths from the original peak in 2017.**

- 2021 has been the highest year for unintentional drug overdose deaths in Ohio
- 5,174 Ohioans died from unintentional drug overdoses in 2021, this is a 5% increase from 2017.



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# Take Aways

## **Fentanyl is still a major factor in drug overdose deaths**

- Illicitly manufactured fentanyl continues to be involved in 75-80% of overdose deaths and is a main contributor in poly-substance deaths involving psychostimulants (meth) and cocaine.
- Fentanyl was involved in nearly 75% of overdose deaths in Greene County in 2022, often in combination with other drugs.

## **Xylazine is complicating overdose deaths and overdoses.**

- Overdoses and overdose deaths are increasingly involving Xylazine, more research, testing and reporting is needed to fully understand the impact of xylazine.

**Recommendation is for everyone to carry Naloxone and get trained on recognizing signs of an overdose and how to use the naloxone and give rescue breaths.**



# Questions?

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