



Rocky Mountain HIDTA Overview

for



ONDCP Mission

OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY

ONDCP's mission is to reduce substance use disorder and its consequences by:

- Developing and implementing the *National Drug Control Strategy*
- Coordinating and overseeing the National Drug Control Budget
- Administering the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) and Drug-Free Communities (DFC) Support programs

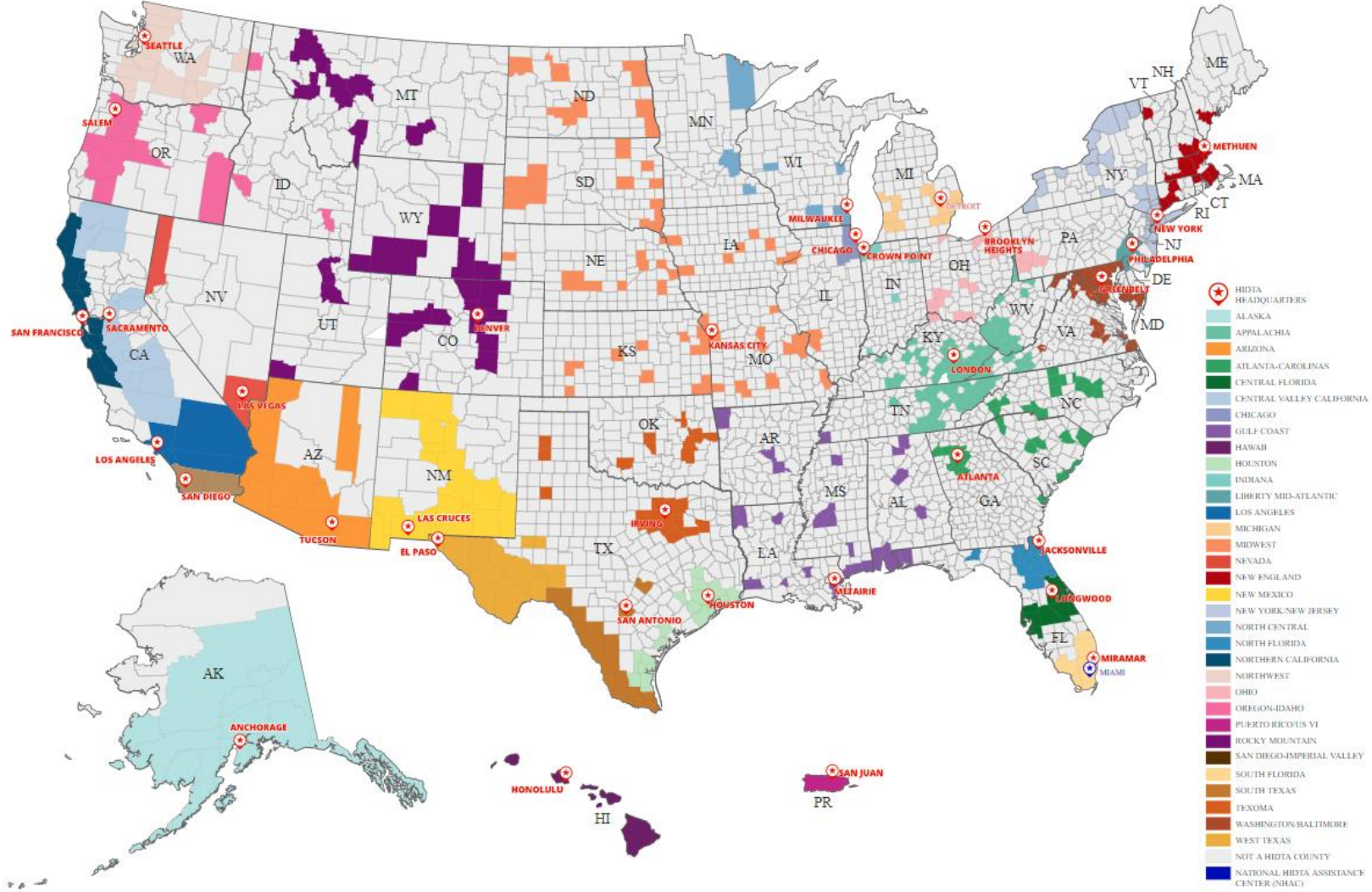


National HIDTA Program

- The placement and structure of the HIDTA Program within ONDCP was part of the original authorizing statute passed by Congress in 1988
- Partnership of federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies
 - Federal grant funds to critical drug trafficking regions of US
- HIDTA is not a typical grant program- funds strategies developed and implemented at the local levels
- Support law enforcement efforts through the HIDTA Program to disrupt and dismantle domestic drug trafficking networks and support initiatives to advance coordinated responses in designated areas



33 HIDTAs

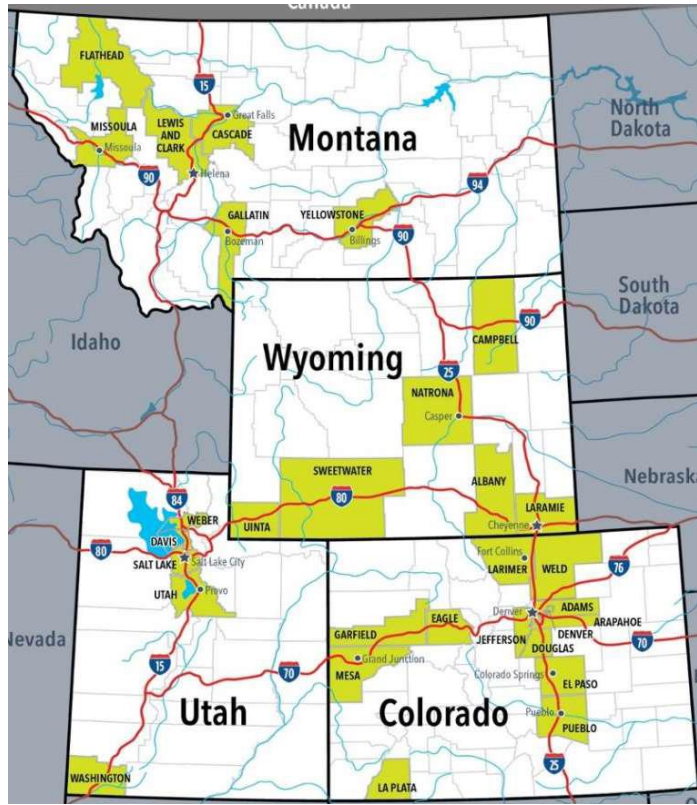


HIDTA's Nationally: 2021

- 26.1 billion dollars (wholesale value) worth of illicit narcotics seized
- 1.7 billion in drug trafficking assets seized
- 31,136 firearms seized from illicit drug trafficking groups
- 8,676 drug trafficking organization disrupted or dismantled
- More than 500 public health agencies were coordinated with under the National Overdose Response Strategy (ORS), which is a partnership between the HIDTA Program and the CDC to focus on reducing drug overdoses



Rocky Mountain HIDTA



- *Four state HIDTA: Montana, Wyoming, Utah and Colorado*
- *Area : 434,000 square miles, 545 miles of border with Canada*
- *Region's population : 11 million, most dense areas are Denver, Colorado Springs, Salt Lake City Metro, Cheyenne and Billings*
- *19 Native American Tribes (UT – 8, MT – 7, CO- 2, WY – 2)*
- *30 counties designated, 31 initiatives: 24 Investigative Task Forces, four DHE and three support groups (Management, ISC, Training)*
- *2022 top drug threat(s) : fentanyl, methamphetamine, pharmaceuticals, heroin, cocaine, marijuana*
- *Dramatic rise in availability of fentanyl is region's most pressing challenge, especially in Colorado.*



Executive Board

Budget & Personnel Sub-Committee

Executive Director

Deputy Director

Intelligence Committee
(Fed, State, Local, Deputy)

Management and Coordination

Training Manager

24 Investigative Task Forces
4 DHE Initiative

ISC/IT Manager

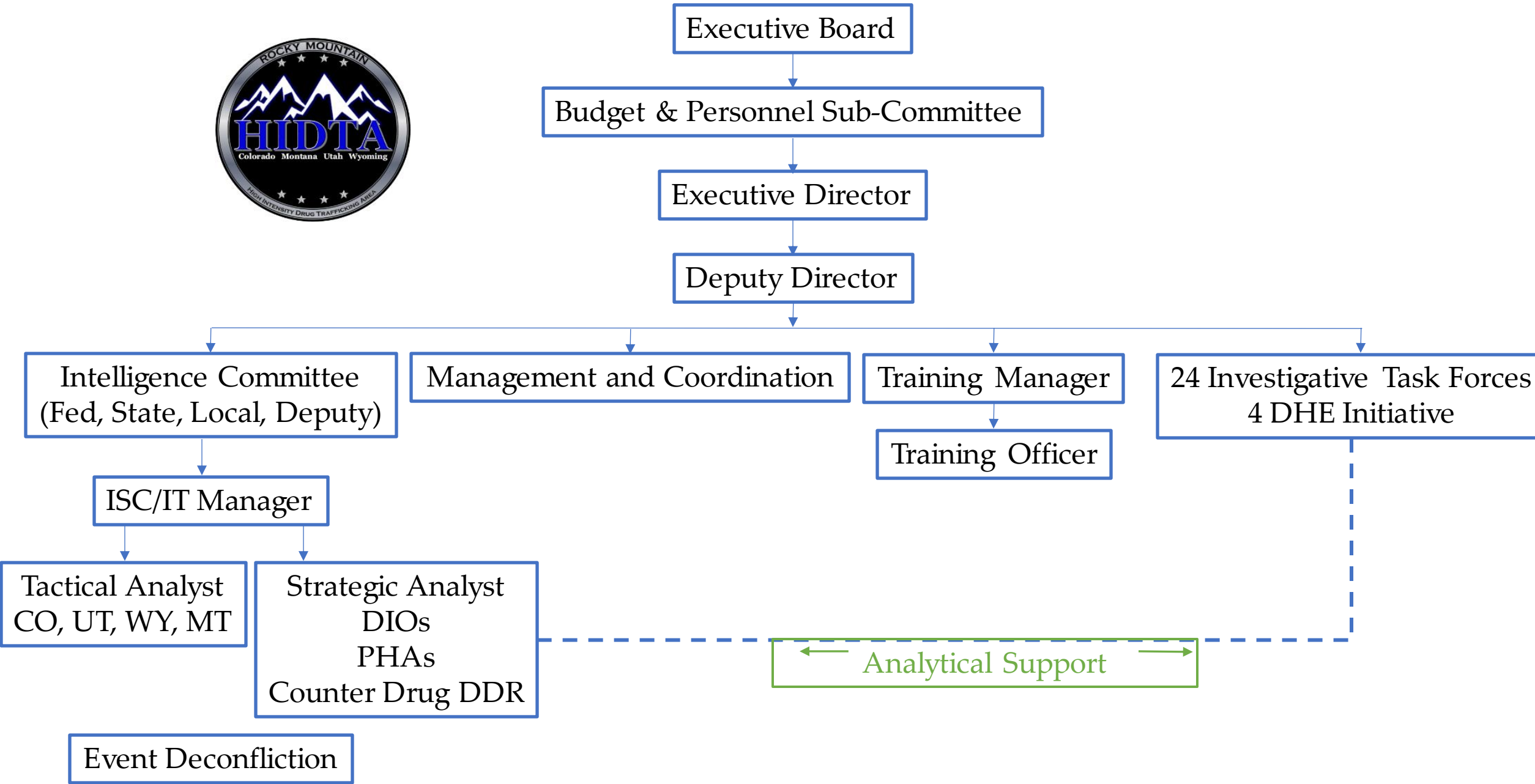
Training Officer

Tactical Analyst
CO, UT, WY, MT

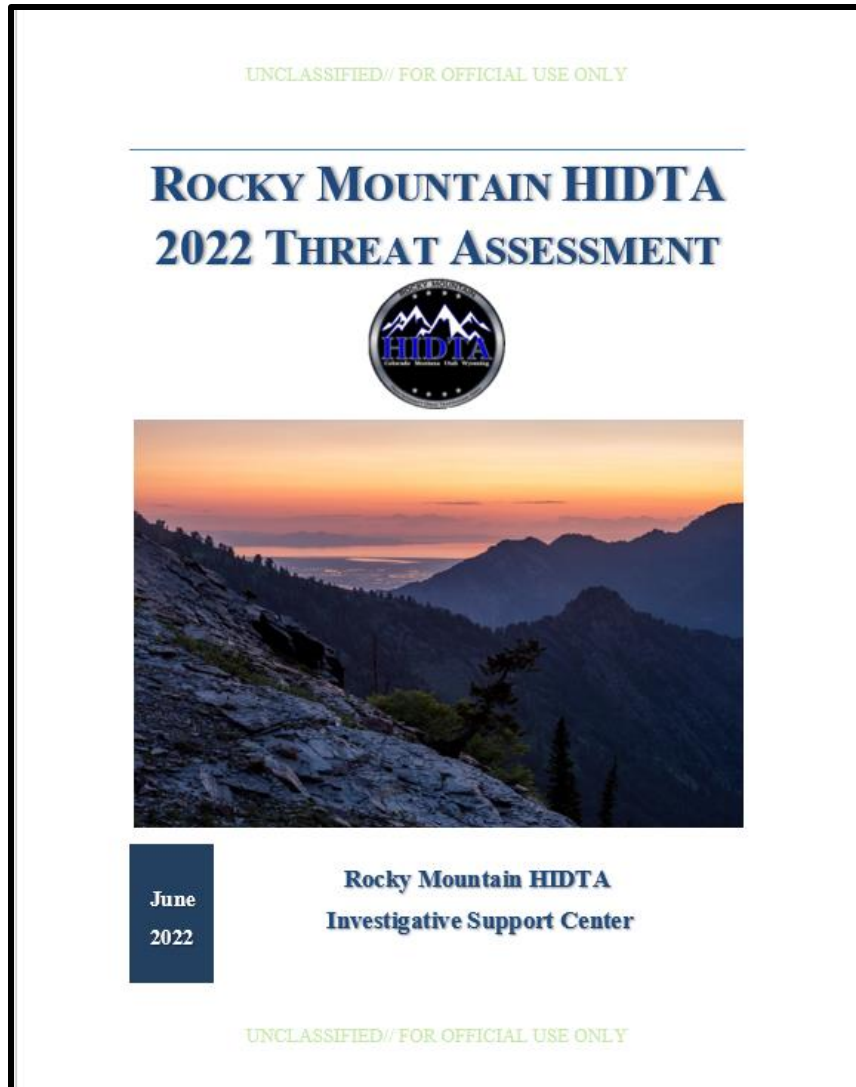
Strategic Analyst
DIOs
PHAs
Counter Drug DDR

Analytical Support

Event Deconfliction



Regional Drug Threats



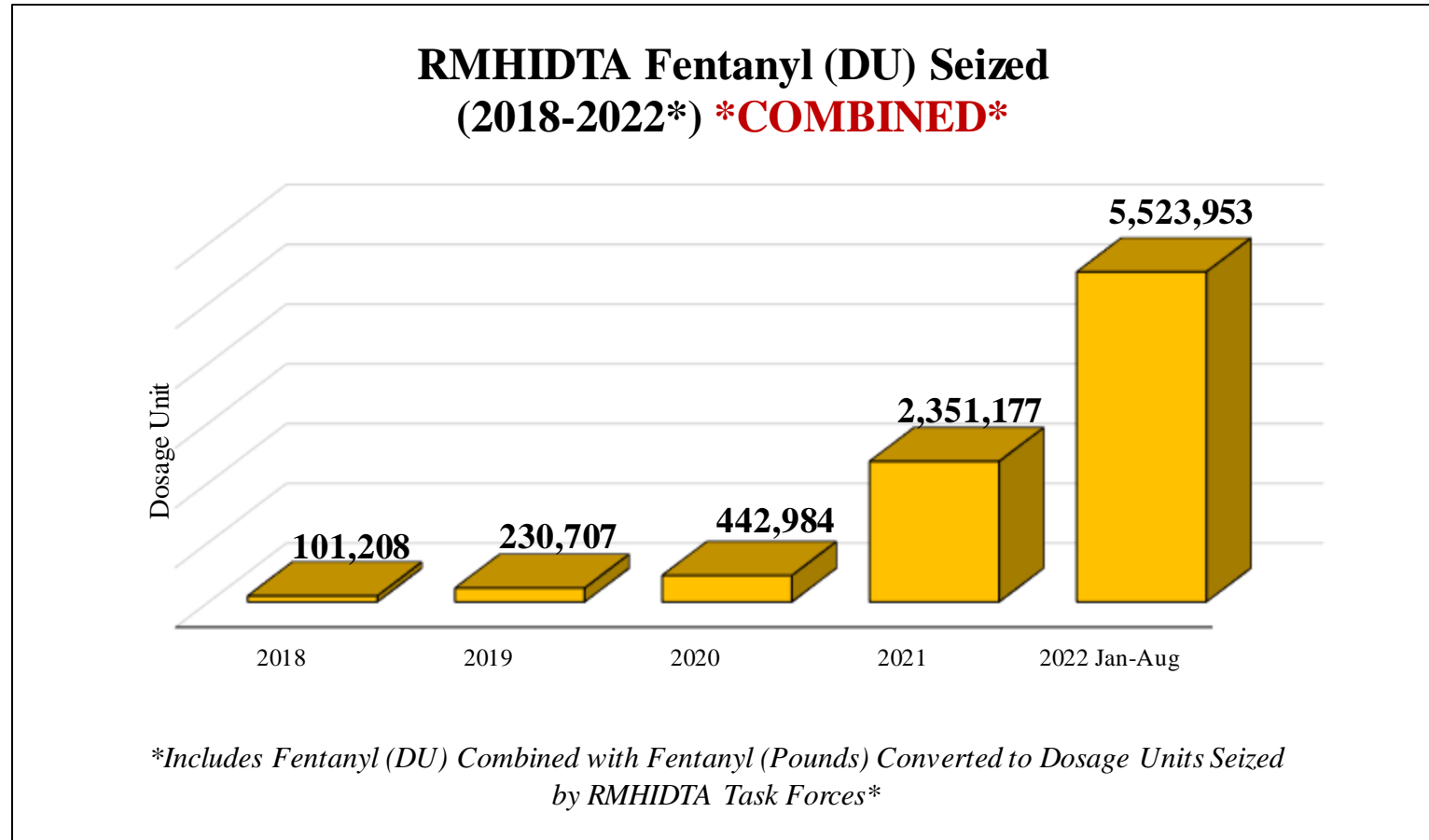
- Rocky Mountain HIDTA Regional Threat Assessment
- 4 State Threat Assessments – CO, MT, UT, WY
- 4 Annual Seizure and Trend Reports
- Quarterly Trend and Price Reports
- Quarterly Statistics
- Special Bulletins



Illicit Fentanyl



Fentanyl



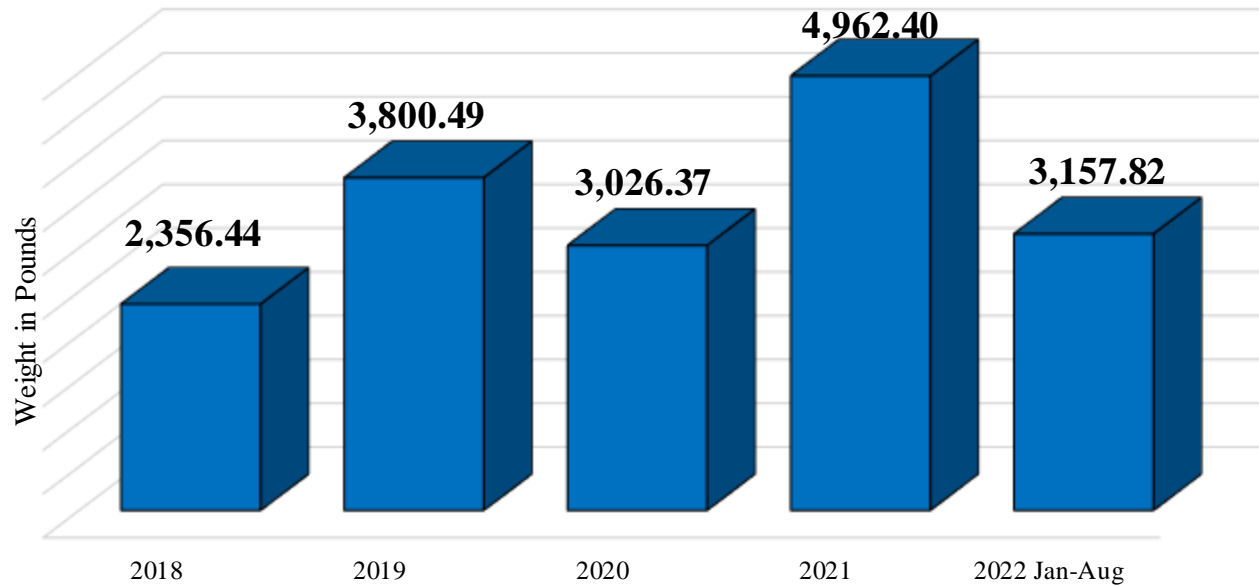
- Fentanyl Overdoses in 2021: **1,169**, a **723% increase** since 2017.
- Fentanyl is commonly mixed with other types of drugs, but increasingly sold separately (mainly pills and sometimes powder) in the last five years.
- Fentanyl, in pill form and powder will increase as a significant drug threat.



Methamphetamine

Methamphetamine

**RMHIDTA Methamphetamine Powder and Ice Seized
(2018-2022*)**

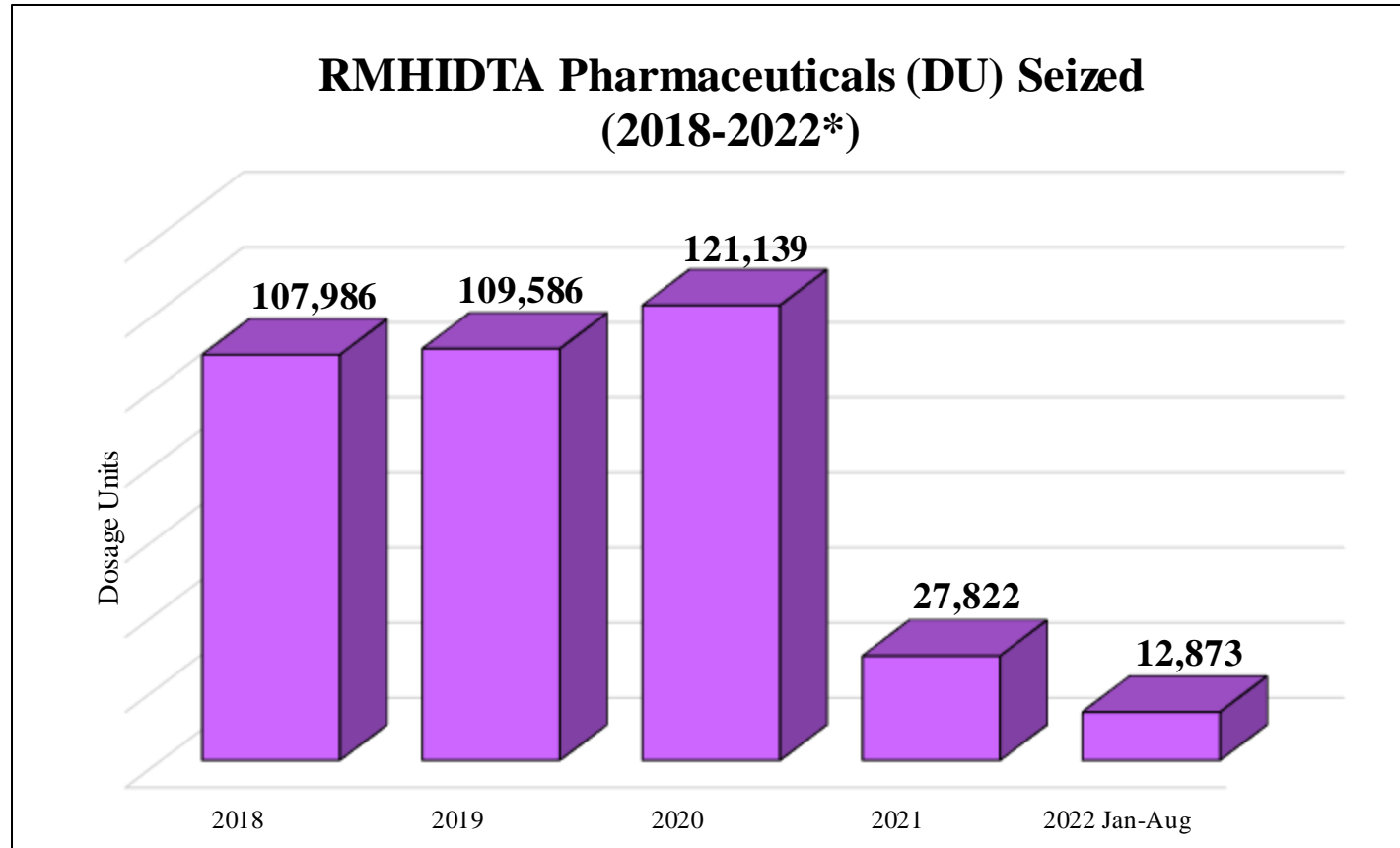


- Methamphetamine Overdoses in 2021: **1,118**, a **122% increase** since 2017.
- RMHIDTA DUCs and task force analysts agree that methamphetamine continues to be the illicit drug causing a significant level of negative impact in local communities based on its prevalence, availability, and health effects.
- Methamphetamine will continue to be a significant drug threat throughout 2023.

Pharmaceutical Drugs



Pharmaceuticals



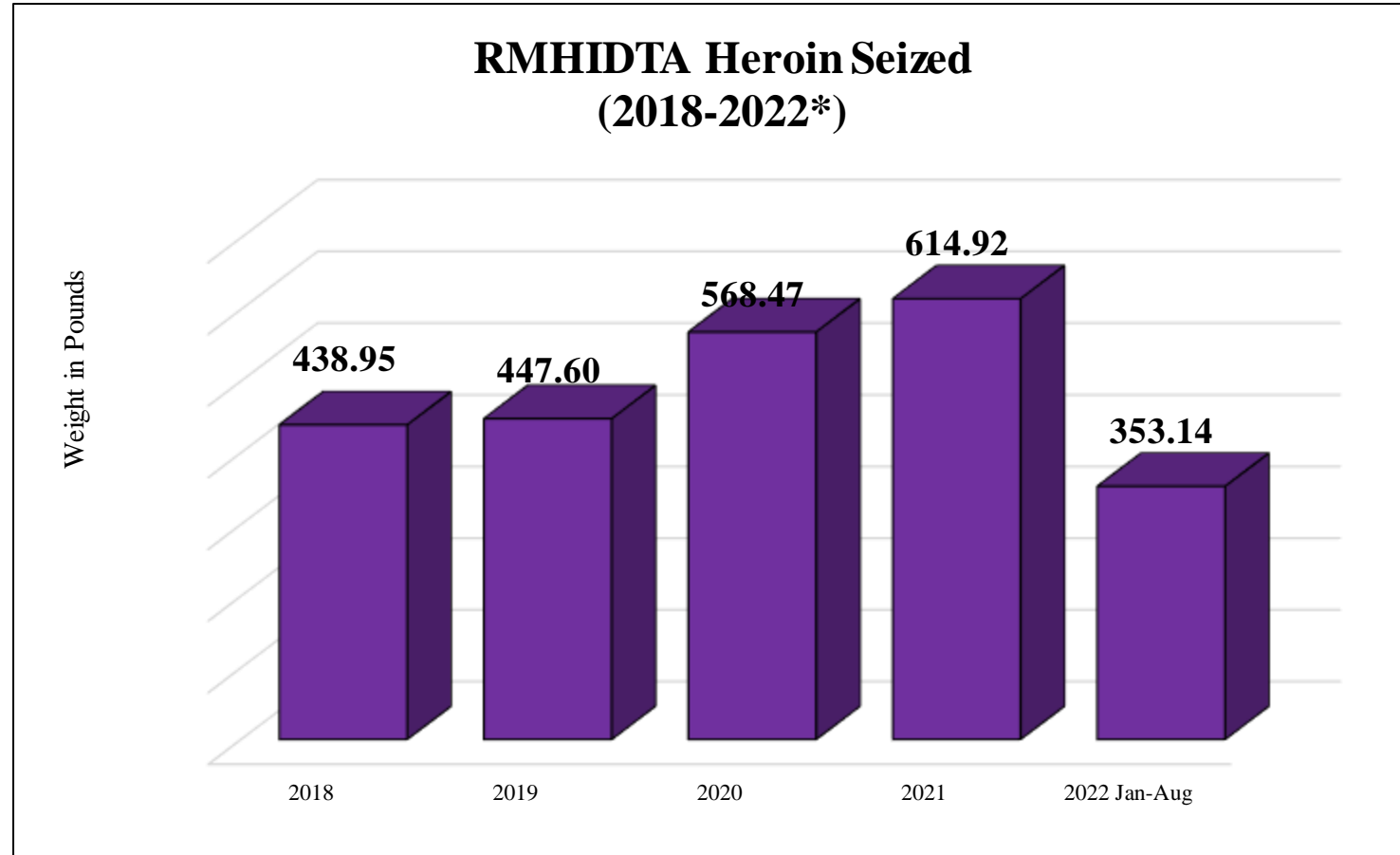
- Sources for prescription drugs continue to include prescribing practices, doctor shopping, prescription forgery and online vendors. The most common types seized by task forces tend to be Alprazolam/Xanax, Amphetamine/Adderall, Buprenorphine/Suboxone, Morphine, and Oxycodone.
- Pharmaceutical drugs continue to be a public health concern. However, much of the public health data shows a slight downward trend in opioid-related issues, including poison control center contact calls, treatment admissions, and hospitalizations.
- Still difficult to assess overdose death trends based on incomplete and/or unavailable public health data.



Heroin



Heroin

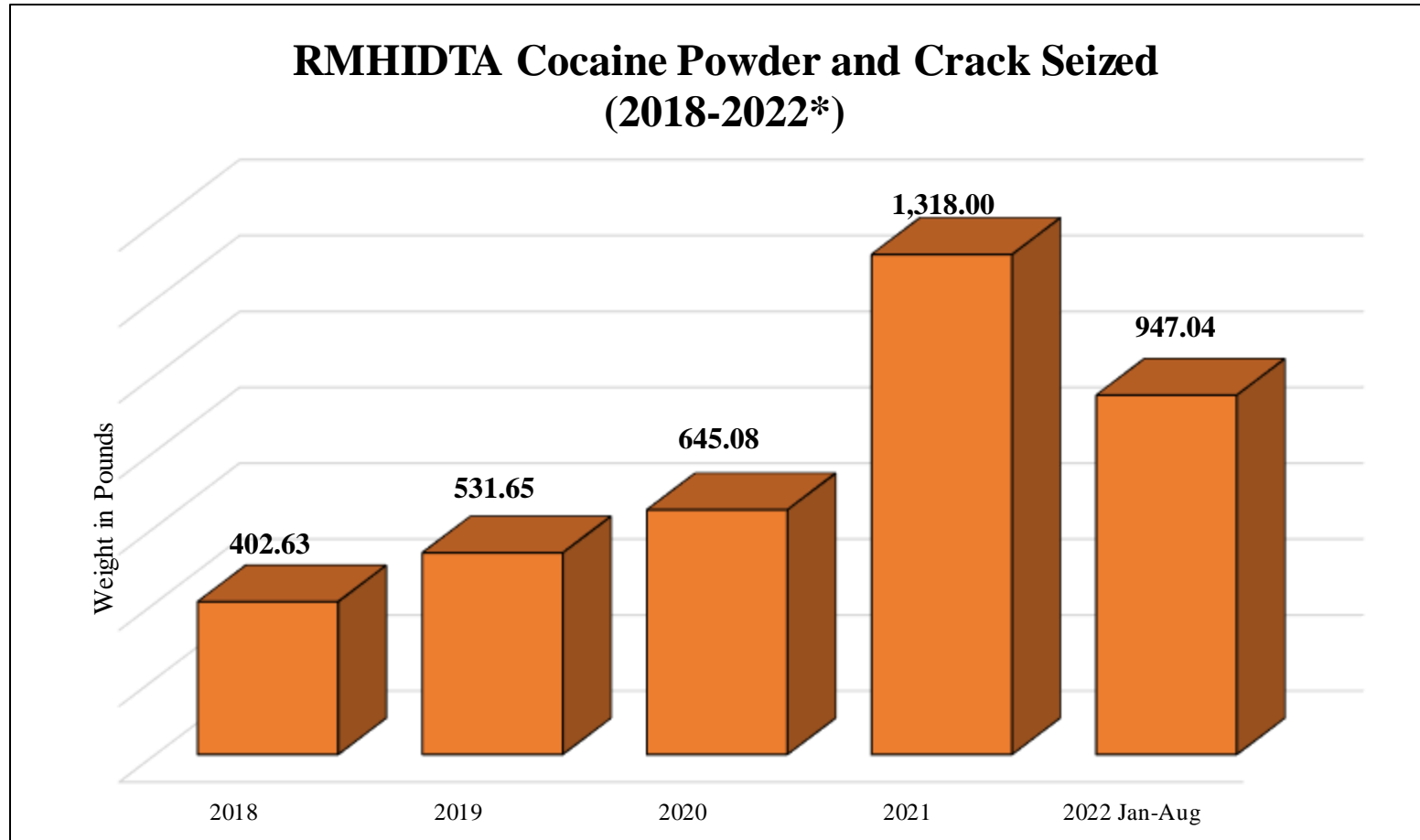


- Heroin Overdoses in 2021: **357**, an **8% decrease** since 2017.
- Heroin-related fatal overdoses slightly fluctuated from 2017 to 2021 but remain high compared to other drugs.
- The heroin market is expected to slightly decrease based on the influx of fentanyl in the region. Fentanyl pills are much cheaper to make than heroin and easier to transport. Some RMHIDTA task forces have reported decreases of heroin in their area of responsibility.



Cocaine

Cocaine

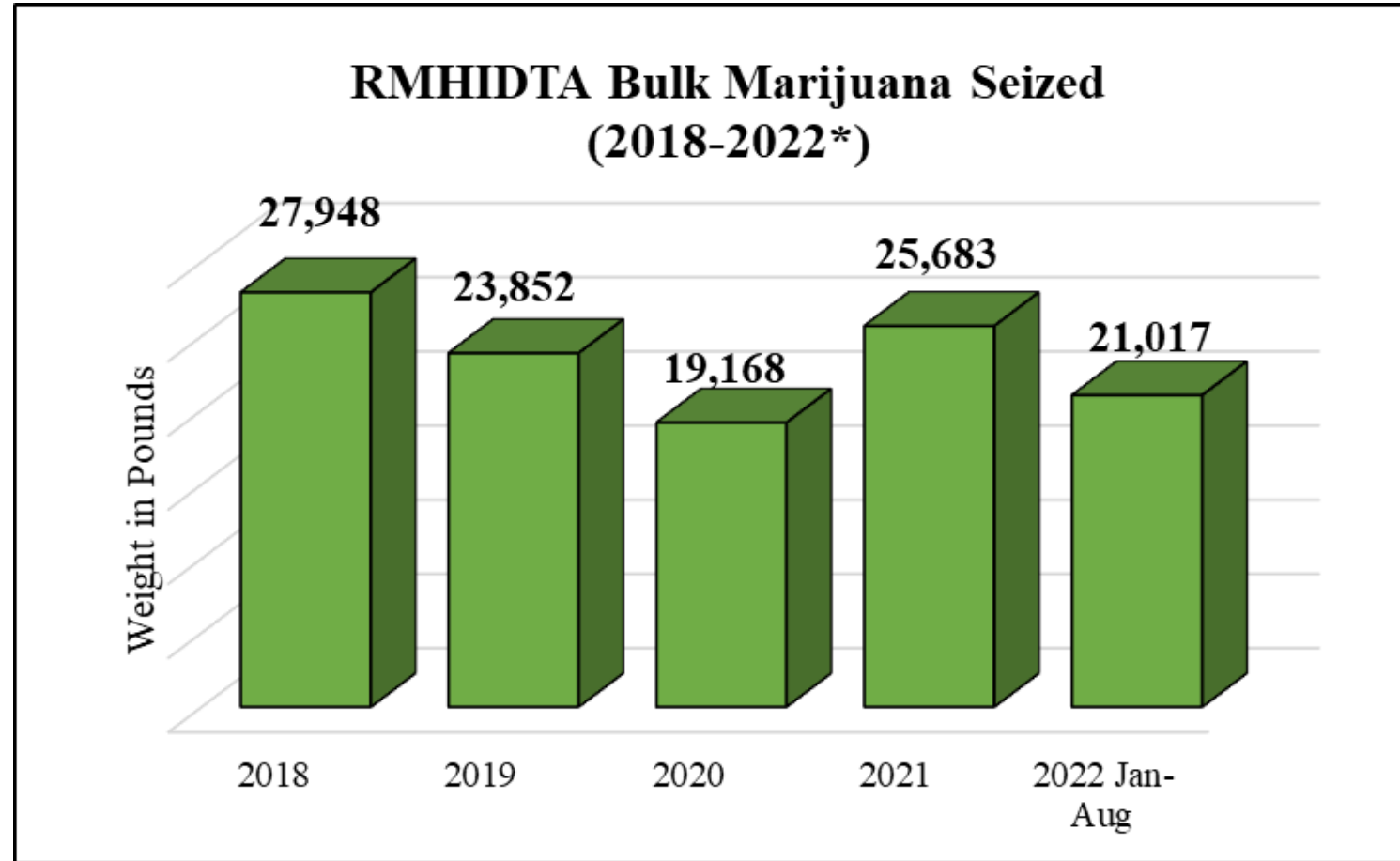


- Cocaine Overdoses in 2021: **324**, a **108% increase** since 2017.
- After a slight dip in seizures in 2018 and 2019 throughout the region, there was a dramatic increase in 2021, the highest quantity seized throughout the five-year period.
- The supply of cocaine will continue to increase in the region, resulting in an increase of public health concerns. Poly drug use remains an issue in the RMHIDTA region, so this drug will be monitored in terms of its overlap with other drugs, specifically fentanyl.

Cannabis



Cannabis



- Colorado has become a source for marijuana, particularly for the Midwest and the East, since legalizing recreational marijuana in 2013.
- RMHIDTA task forces reported an increase in the number of marijuana investigations from 144 in 2017 to 158 in 2021.
- According to RMHIDTA interviews with DUCs in 2021, marijuana is the third most prevalent drug throughout the region.

Increased Coordination and Collaboration to Address Dangerous Trends

Continue to aggressively dismantle or disrupt violent drug trafficking organizations most responsible for distributing dangerous narcotics.

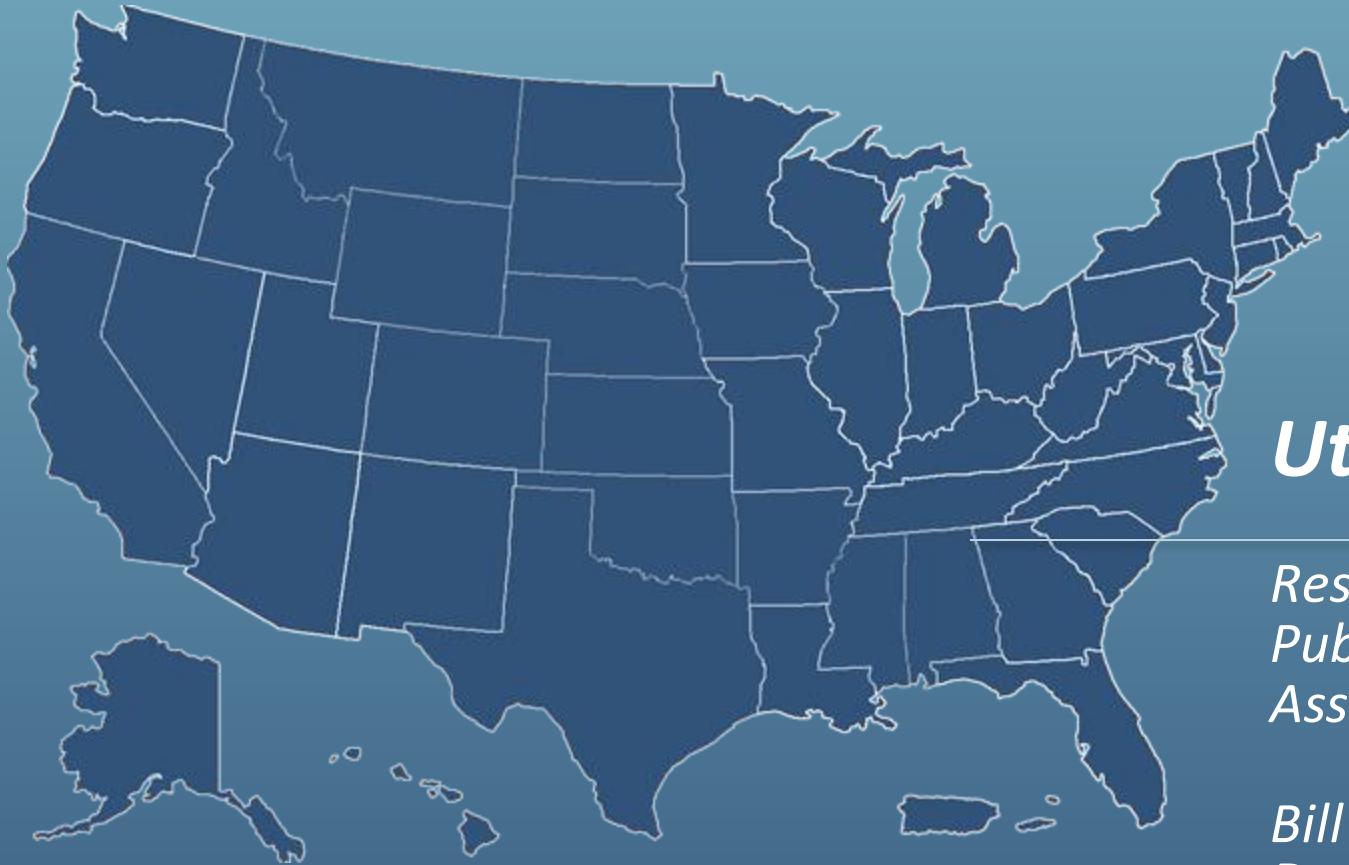
Interface with other HIDTA Programs, ONDCP, National Fusion Centers such as EPIC and HSIN

Regionally deconflict with 28 Law Enforcement Initiatives and RMHIDTA Sub Intelligence Committee for continuity

Locally coordinate directly with each Law Enforcement Initiative on reporting and investigative support

RMHIDTA is also working closely with the public health sector under National Overdose Response Strategy (ORS) to reduce overdose fatalities due to dangerous drug use. Includes Efficient use of DIO- CDC PHA Teams across four state region

A National Network of Public Health Analyst and Drug Intelligence Officer Teams



Utah's State Team

*Reshma Arrington
Public Health Analyst
Assigned to Utah Department of Health*

*Bill Newell & Jay Tinkler
Drug Intelligence Officer
Assigned to Utah Department Of Public Safety*





OVERDOSE RESPONSE STRATEGY

PUBLIC HEALTH | PUBLIC SAFETY | PARTNERSHIP



Collaborate across public health and public safety sectors



Share data, insights, and trends we are seeing related to drug overdose in our communities



Inform and help local communities develop local solutions to reduce overdoses and save lives



History of the ORS



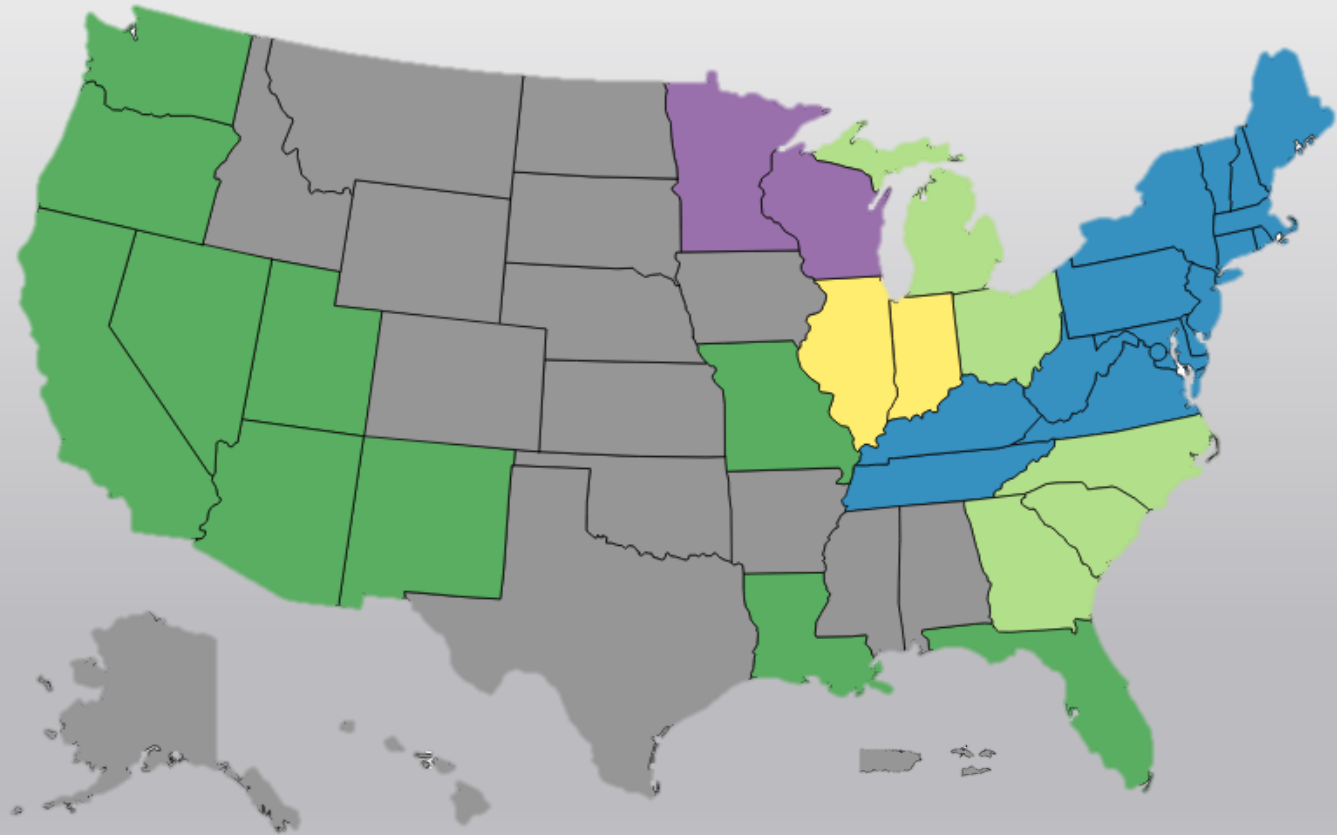
The mission of the Overdose Response Strategy is to help communities reduce fatal and non-fatal drug overdoses by connecting public health and public safety agencies, sharing information, and supporting evidence-based interventions.



ORS Expansion

2020 - 30 DIOs & 25 PHAs

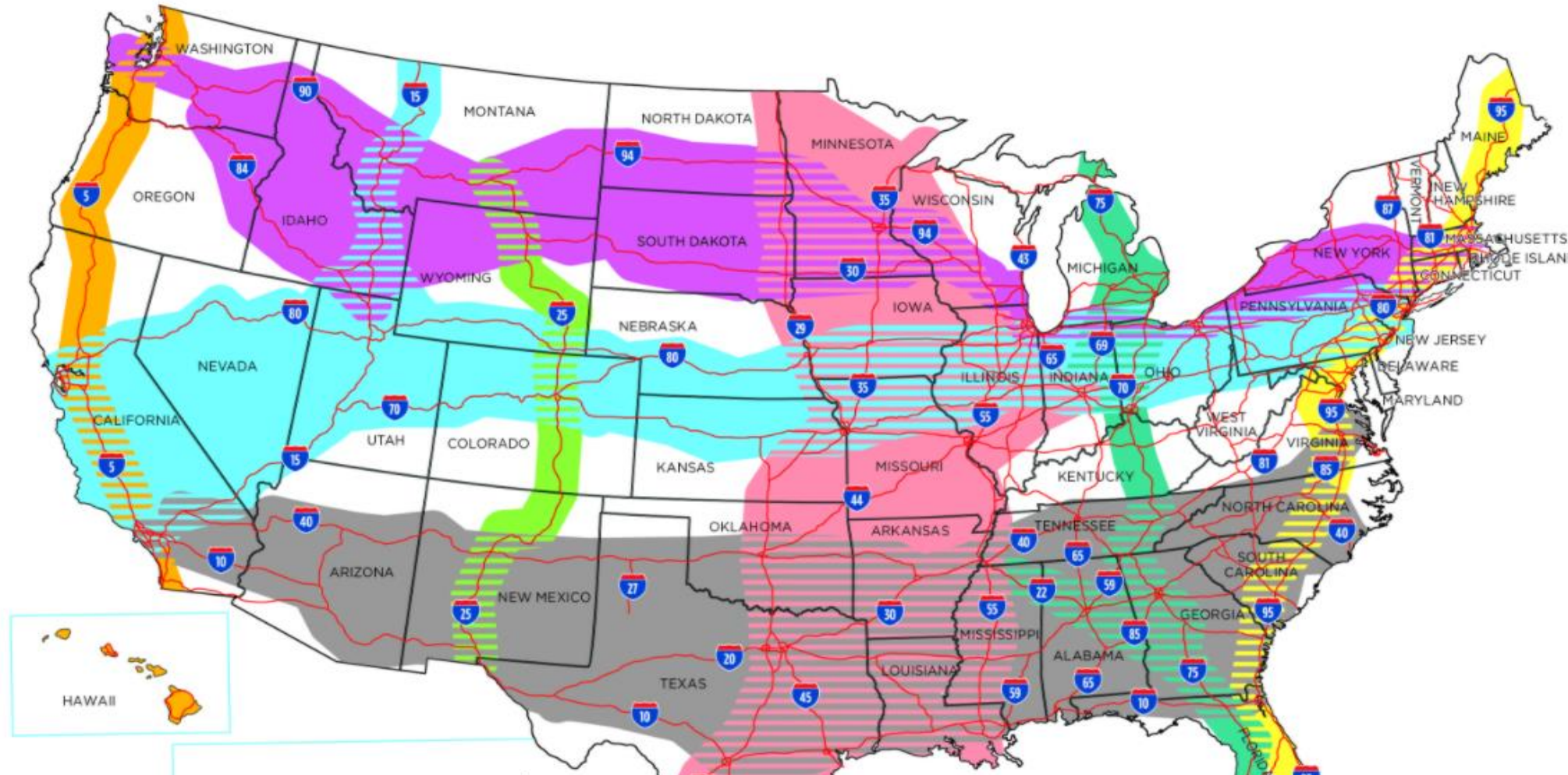
2022 - 60 DIOs & 60 PHAs





DIOs Comprise a National Network of Senior LE Personnel

| State | Drug Intelligence Officer (DIO) |
|--------------------|--|
| ALABAMA | Brian Dixon dixonb@gchidta.org 251-367-0168 |
| ALASKA | Eva McElroy eva.mcelroy@alaska.gov 907-795-9889 |
| ARKANSAS | TBD |
| ARIZONA | Randy Moffitt rmoffitt@azhidta.org 928-284-8899 |
| CALIFORNIA | <p>CENTRAL VALLEY: Ashlee Zarou azarou@sacsheriff.com 916-282-8349</p> <p>LOS ANGELES: Eric Deroian eric.deroian@la.hidta.net 562-292-0757</p> <p>NORTHERN CALIFORNIA: Mark Karandang mkarandang@ncric.ca.gov 628-255-8871</p> <p>SAN DIEGO: Alex DeArmas Alex.deArmas@sdi.hidta.org 619-876-9413</p> |
| COLORADO | Sarah Hoke shoke@rmhidta.org 303-671-2197 |
| CONNECTICUT | Bobby Lawlor rlawlor@nehidta.org 203-379-6517 |
| TEXAS | <p>HOUSTON HIDTA: Wendell Campbell wcampbell@houstonhidta.net 281-906-6064</p> <p>SOUTH TEXAS HIDTA: Fred Delgado fdelgado@stxhidta.net 210-784-6442</p> <p>TEXOMA HIDTA: Steven Toth steven.toth@texomahidta.org 972-374-4830</p> <p>WEST TEXAS HIDTA: Gilbert Garza ggarza@westtexashidta.org 915-730-6794</p> |
| UTAH | Bill Newell billnewell@utah.gov 480-273-3337 |
| VERMONT | James Downes jdownes@nehidta.org 978-802-0753 |
| U.S VIRGIN ISLANDS | Rodney Querrard rquerrard@prvihidta.org 340-642-4364 |
| VIRGINIA | Ed Bane cebane@wb.hidta.org 703-675-3711 |
| WASHINGTON | Mike Mizer 206-890-9988 mmizer@nw.hidta.org |
| WEST VIRGINIA | Bill Winkler winklerb@ahidta.org 304-741-7403 |



- A** West: I-40, I-20, I-10, I-15
East: I-40, I-20, I-10, I-85
- B** I-80, I-70, I-15
- C** I-90, I-94, I-84, I-82
- D** I-5, Rt 99
- E** I-25
- F** I-35, I-44, I-45, I-55, I-29
- G** I-75, I-69, I-22
- H** I-95



DOMESTIC HIGHWAY ENFORCEMENT INITIATIVE





Felony Arrest Notifications (FANs)

Felony Arrest Notifications Overview



What is a Felony Arrest Notification (FAN)?

A Felony Arrest Notification (FAN) is the transmission of information via email about an individual charged with a felony drug offense to a law enforcement agency where the individual permanently resides. By sharing this information, the FAN program partners law enforcement agencies across county, state, and national borders to collaborate and combat drug trafficking within their jurisdiction. Through its network of Drug Intelligence Officers (DIOs) throughout the United States, the Overdose Response Strategy provides unique opportunities to law enforcement agencies to coordinate their drug trafficking interdiction efforts.

Each FAN email that is sent will include:

1. Name of the arrested person
2. Date of birth of arrested person
3. Residence of arrested person (city/town/village and state)
4. Top drug charge
5. Arrest location (city/town/village and state)
6. Arresting agency
7. Attached report or summary (type of drug, amount, guns, etc.)

Should the information provided in a FAN be pertinent to local law enforcement, the DIO will connect the two law enforcement agencies to transmit information, if necessary.

“ These [FANs] are super helpful, living in a small community, all these people we are familiar with, and it lets us know who to focus on. One of the last reports you sent, we locked up the guy less than a week later. ”

- Local Law Enforcement Agency

of FANs by HIDTA DIOs

2020 - 14,924

2021 - 17,852



Utah Drug Monitoring Initiative (DMI) partners

- Utah Dept of Health and Human Services
- Utah Dept of Public Safety – SIAC & SBI
- Office of the Medical Examiner
- Utah State Crime Lab
- Utah Poison Control Center
- Utah Coalition of Opioid Overdose Prevention
- Community Outreach Organizations
- Drug Enforcement Administration
- Utah Naloxone
- EMS/Fire agencies



Overdose Surge Notification | SLCo

Lauren Radcliffe (DHHS) <lradcliffe@utah.gov>
Tue, Aug 30, 5:15 PM

Hello SLCo,

An overdose surge has been identified in your area.

Please review this [Notification Alert](#) to understand the data.

Please let us know how we can support you with national data.

Thank you.

Lauren Radcliffe, MPH
Deputy Health Officer
Overdose Prevention Coordinator | Local Health Department Coordinator
Utah Department of Health & Human Services

Notice: This email message and any accompanying documents contained herein are intended only for the use of the person(s) listed above. If you are not the intended recipient, you should not disseminate, distribute or copy this e-mail. Please notify the sender immediately by e-mail if you have received this e-mail by mistake. If you are not the intended recipient, any distribution or copying of this message is strictly prohibited. If you have received this e-mail by mistake, please delete this message, including from trash, and notify me by telephone or email. Thank you.

(DEA) in St. George reported an increase of fentanyl powder and the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) in Cedar City has reported a significant increase of methamphetamine in their area. Below is a summary of available information.

Description

- Time of Anomaly
 - An aberration in emergency department data was identified between June 19, 2022 and June 25, 2022 and between July 3, 2022 and July 9, 2022.
 - Suspected fatal overdose counts were higher than expected between July 3, 2022 and July 9, 2022.
- Location: Southwest Utah Public Health District (Beaver, Garfield, Iron, Kane and Washington counties)
- Indication
 - ESSENCE (non-fatal overdose): Between July 3, 2022 and July 9, 2022, there were 10 cases with drug related complaints in the Southwest Utah Public Health District. These 10 interactions exceeded the pre-established case threshold (6) for this chief complaint in the Medical Examiner Database (fatal overdoses). On July 9, 2022, four suspected fatal overdoses were reported to the Medical Examiner, signaling an increase in the timeframe based on the exponential (EWMA) control chart. Southwest Utah Public Health District reported a slightly less than one fatal overdose per week.
 - Law Enforcement: The DEA in St. George reported an increase in fentanyl powder, as opposed to fentanyl. Fentanyl powder is often mixed with other substances, such as heroin, adulterating the local drug supply. Cedar City reported a significant increase in overdoses in their area. No increases in overdoses have been reported in other areas.
- Characteristics
 - ESSENCE (week ending July 9, 2022)

| Health Department | Number of Overdoses |
|---|---------------------|
| All Drug | 5 |
| Heroin | 2 |
| Southwest (Beaver, Garfield, Kane and Iron) | 10 |

Unusual cluster of poisoning cases

ALYRENE DOREY <alyrene.dorey@hsc.utah.edu>
Mon, Oct 10, 10:40 AM (2 days ago)

I wanted to alert you that there have been an unusual cluster of cases over the weekend that has landed a number of our community members in the ICU. There are four cases in young men and women that are quite similar and a 5th case in another individual which may or may not be related. Patients reported use of (prescription) a white or purple tinged powder which they believed to be cocaine. They became unresponsive and had prolonged periods in an essentially comatose state, resulting in severe rhabdomyolysis, compressive nerve damage, kidney failure and multiple organ dysfunction. Drug screens were positive for THC, amphetamines, cocaine and fentanyl. Some of these cases were reported to the Poison Control Center and some were reported directly to Mike Moss and I by community physicians who noticed the pattern.

I have IHC MRNs for these patients and am happy to share whatever other information is helpful. Additionally, one of the individuals still has a sample of the powder which is in his sister's possession. Please let me know how to proceed. Happy to talk on the phone this morning if that's easier.

Thanks,

Alyrene Dorey MD
Assistant Professor, Emergency Medicine
Assistant Medical Director, Utah Poison Control Center
Medical Toxicology, University of Utah and Primary Children's Hospitals
610.413.0089

William Newell
I am Ccing the State Crime Lab Director, Amy Lightfoot and her Deputy, Jennifer McNair. If possible can we get this sample to the State Crime Lab?

ALYRENE DOREY
I do not have the sample. A patient's sister has it. Ashley @ 801-971-3727 is the contact information I have been given. Also just curious if you have any other information.

Gillespie, Dustin R.
If it helps, I can have someone from the DEA office make contact and pickup the sample first thing tomorrow morning. Dustin Sent from my iPhone

William Newell
Thanks Dustin. Folks, I looped in Utah DEA Asst-Special Agent in Charge Dustin Gillespie, who has been a great partner and has phenos available.


Amy Lightfoot
Hello everyone! It would be very helpful if the DEA Agent could pick up the sample and make the submission to the lab. State statute is v

Utah's Spike Alert is a multifaceted system which brings in local health departments, state health agents, law enforcement, advocate groups, and political leaders to provide consistent and verifiable information on current overdosing trends in the region.

Collaboration is key!
Successful partnership building has lead to implementation of useful public health notices for local health departments.



Utah Drug Monitoring Initiative




Utah Drug Monitoring Initiative
Annual Report
Analysis of the impact related to illicit drug use
September 2021

This report addresses DHS HSEC Codes: HSEC-5.9.6, HSEC 5.9.7, HSEC 6.2.1, HSEC 1

Attention: "Receipt of this information constitutes acceptance of all terms and conditions of use, handling, storage, further dissemination or destruction. At a minimum, recipient acknowledges a commitment to ca rights, and civil liberties, in the collection, use, analysis, retention, destruction, sharing and can be shared freely without restriction."

Scope Note: This joint report was completed based on information obtained from Health, Utah Office of the Medical Examiner, Utah DPS Crime Laboratories, Utah Po This assessment will focus on data obtained regarding the impact of illicit fentanyl to the most recent data available will be represented. All data obtained from medic and complies with all data sharing agreements. Data may also vary from year to year




Utah Drug Monitoring Initiative
Fentanyl Report
A joint publication of public health and public safety
June 2021

This report addresses DHS HSEC Codes: HSEC-5.9.6, HSEC 5.9.7, HSEC 6.2.1, HSEC 6.2.3 and

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Scope Note: This joint report was completed based on information obtained from the Utah Health, Utah Office of the Medical Examiner, Utah DPS Crime Laboratories, Utah Prison Care This assessment will focus on data obtained regarding the impact of illicit fentanyl use in to the most recent data available will be represented. All data obtained from medical profes and complies with all data sharing agreements. Data may also vary from year to year has identified in this report supersedes all other reported DAN data.

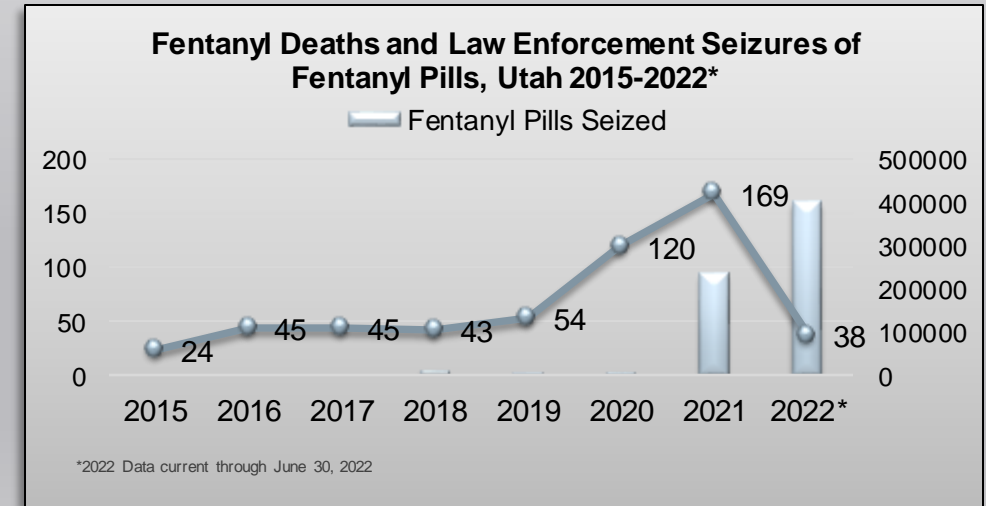
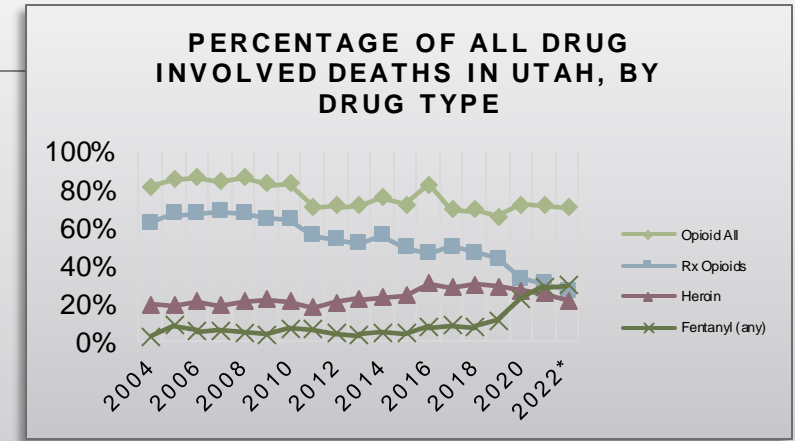


Utah Drug Monitoring Initiative
Methamphetamine Report
Analysis of the impact related to methamphetamine in Utah - 2022
January 2022

This report addresses DHS HSEC Codes: HSEC 5.9.6, HSEC 5.9.7, HSEC 6.2.1, HSEC 6.2.3 and SIAC Standing Information Requirements: UTSIAC-05-04

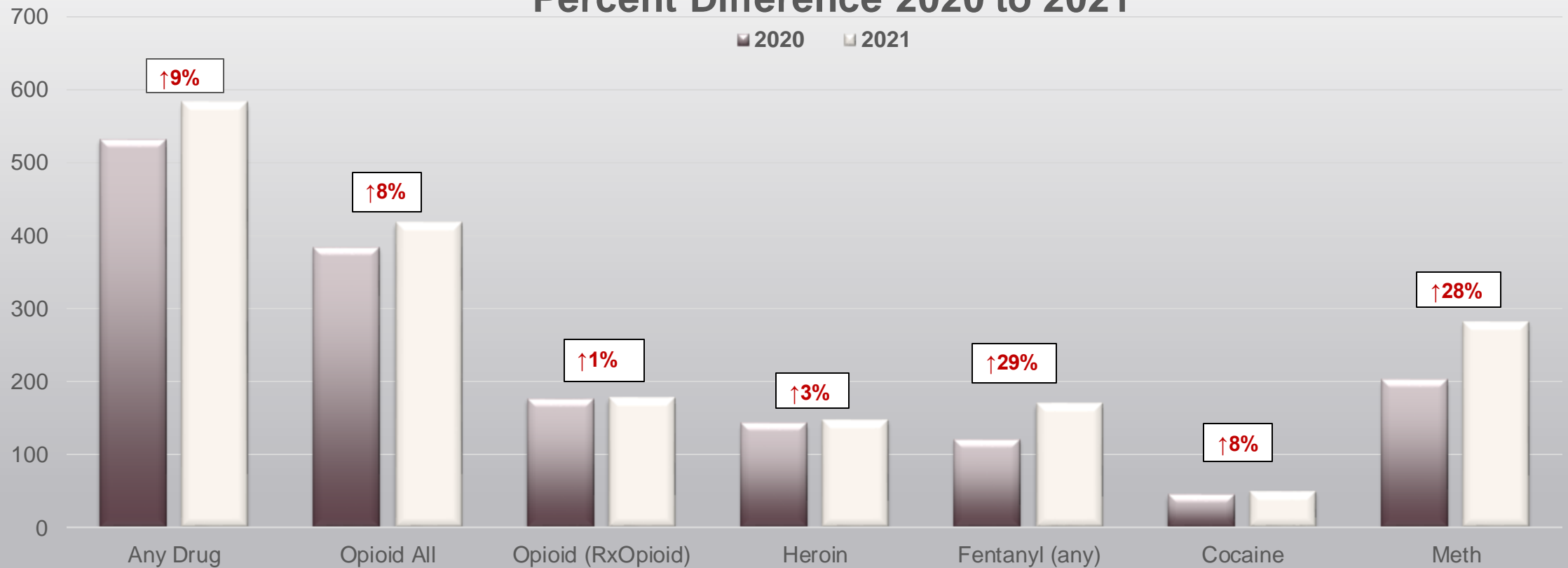
Attention: "Receipt of this information constitutes acceptance of all terms and conditions regarding its use, handling, storage, further dissemination or destruction. At a minimum, recipient acknowledges a commitment to comply with all applicable laws protecting privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties, in the collection, use, analysis, retention, destruction, sharing and disclosure of information." This report is UNCLASSIFIED and can be shared freely without restriction.

Scope Note: This joint report was completed based on information obtained from the Utah Department of Public Safety (DPS), Utah Department of Health, Utah Office of the Medical Examiner, Utah DPS Crime Laboratories, Utah Prison Control Center, and state and local law enforcement agencies. This assessment will focus on data obtained regarding the impact of illicit fentanyl use in Utah. Some data sets are not available to the current year, so the most recent data available will be represented. All data obtained from medical professionals did not include personally identifiable information and complies with all data sharing agreements. Data may also vary from year to year based on methods utilized to compile certain data sets. Data





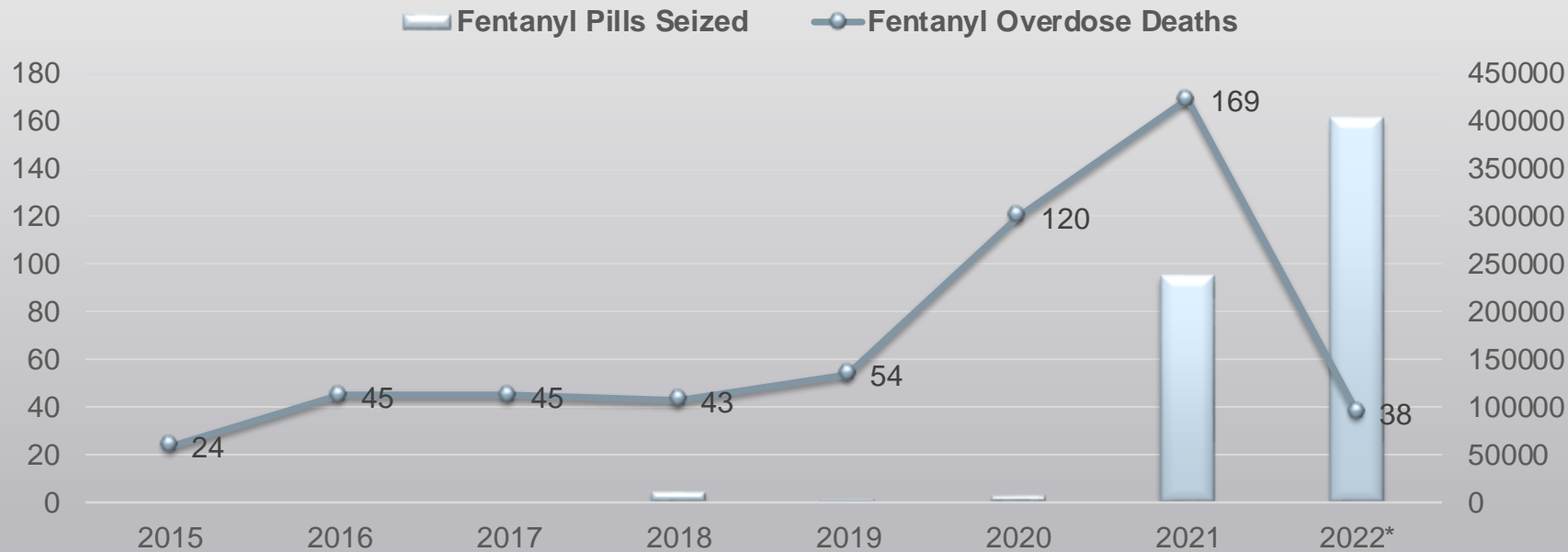
Fatal Drug Overdoses, Utah Percent Difference 2020 to 2021





Utah Law Enforcement Data

Fentanyl Deaths and Law Enforcement Seizures of Fentanyl Pills, Utah 2015-2022*



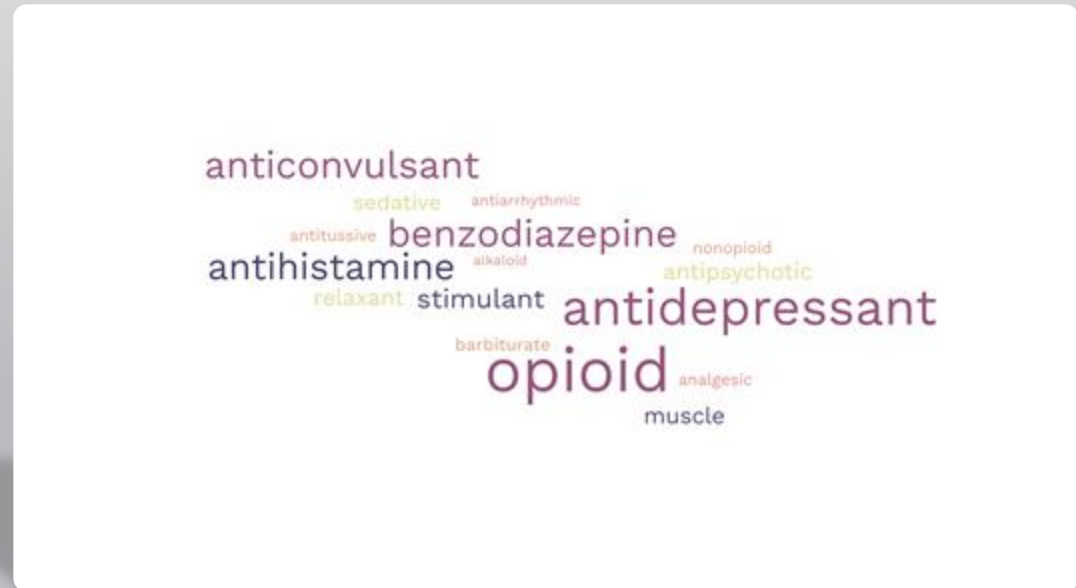
*2022 Data current through June 30, 2022



Fatal Drug Overdoses

- Fatal drug overdose cases in Utah are not mutually exclusive to any one substance. On average, 2 to 3 drugs are found in the system of fatal drug overdose cases, with more than 10 being present in some cases.

| YEAR | Average number of drugs found | Max number of drugs found | Occurrence of max number |
|------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2016 | 2.6 | 10+ | 1 |
| 2017 | 3 | 10+ | 5 |
| 2018 | 3.2 | 10+ | 5 |
| 2019 | 2.99 | 10+ | 5 |
| 2020 | 2.79 | 9 | 1 |
| 2021 | 2.67 | 10+ | 2 |
| 2022 | 2.5 | 7 | 3 |

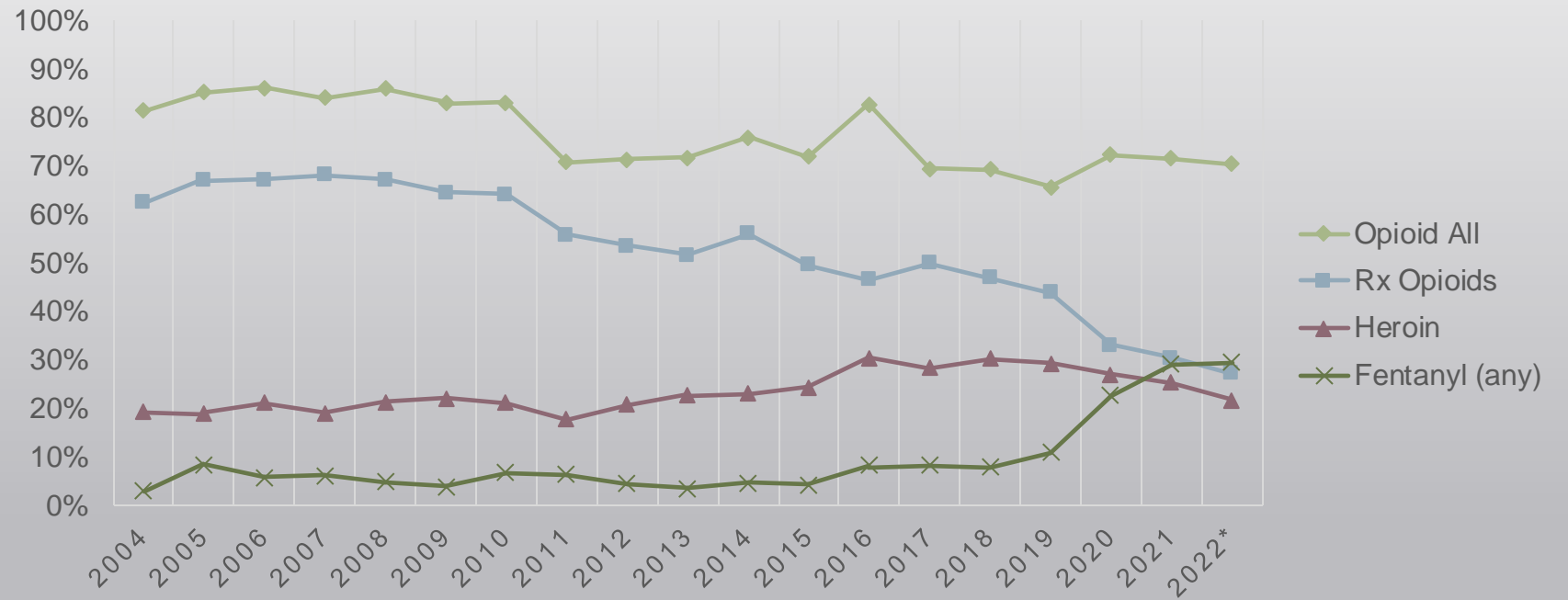




Utah Drug Monitoring Initiative

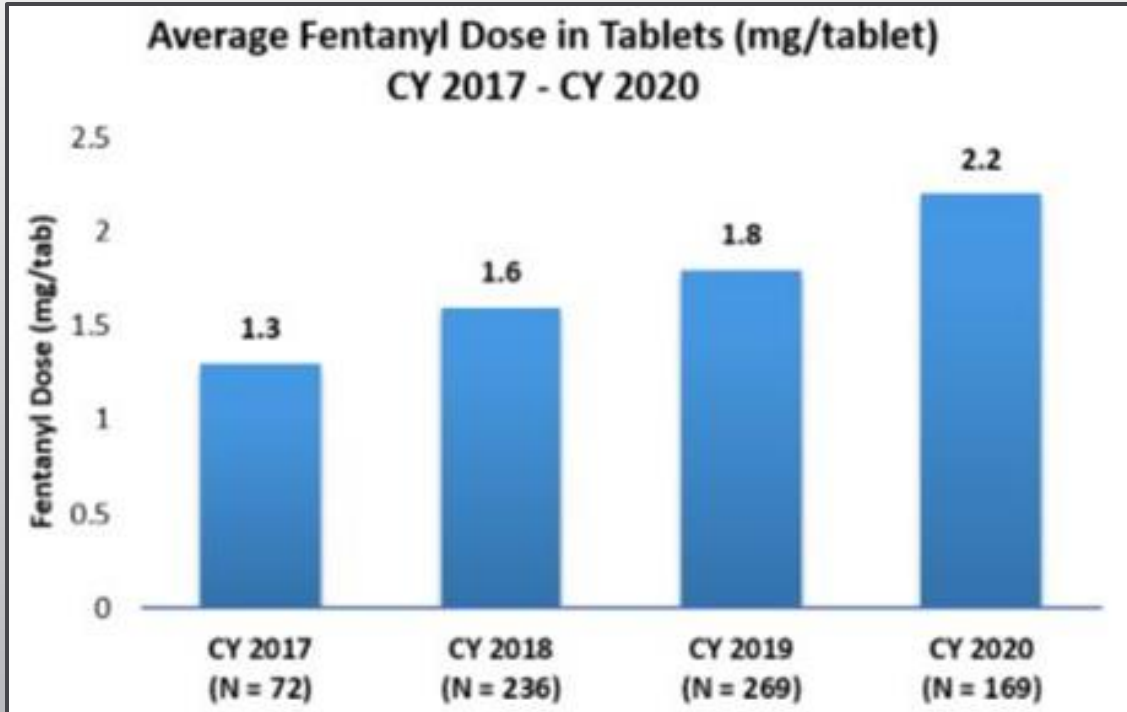
- Though prescription opioid related involvement is trending downward, deaths involving all opioid remain consistently above 70%.
- Fentanyl involved deaths trends continue to increase soaring to nearly 35% in 2022.

DRUG PERCENTAGE INVOLVED IN ALL OVERDOSE DEATHS, BY DRUG TYPE



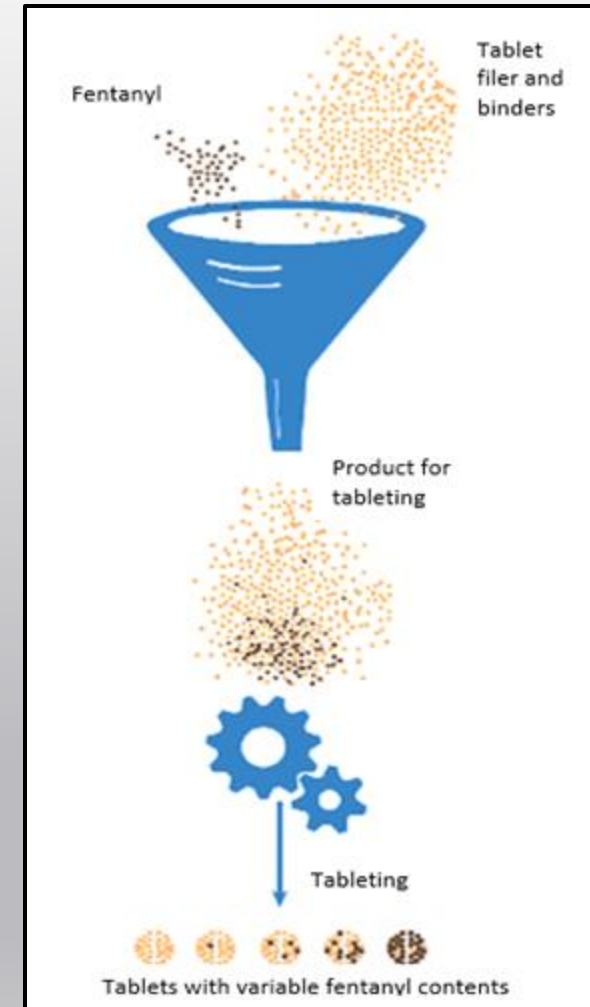
*2022 data current through June 30, 2022

Counterfeit Prescription Pills



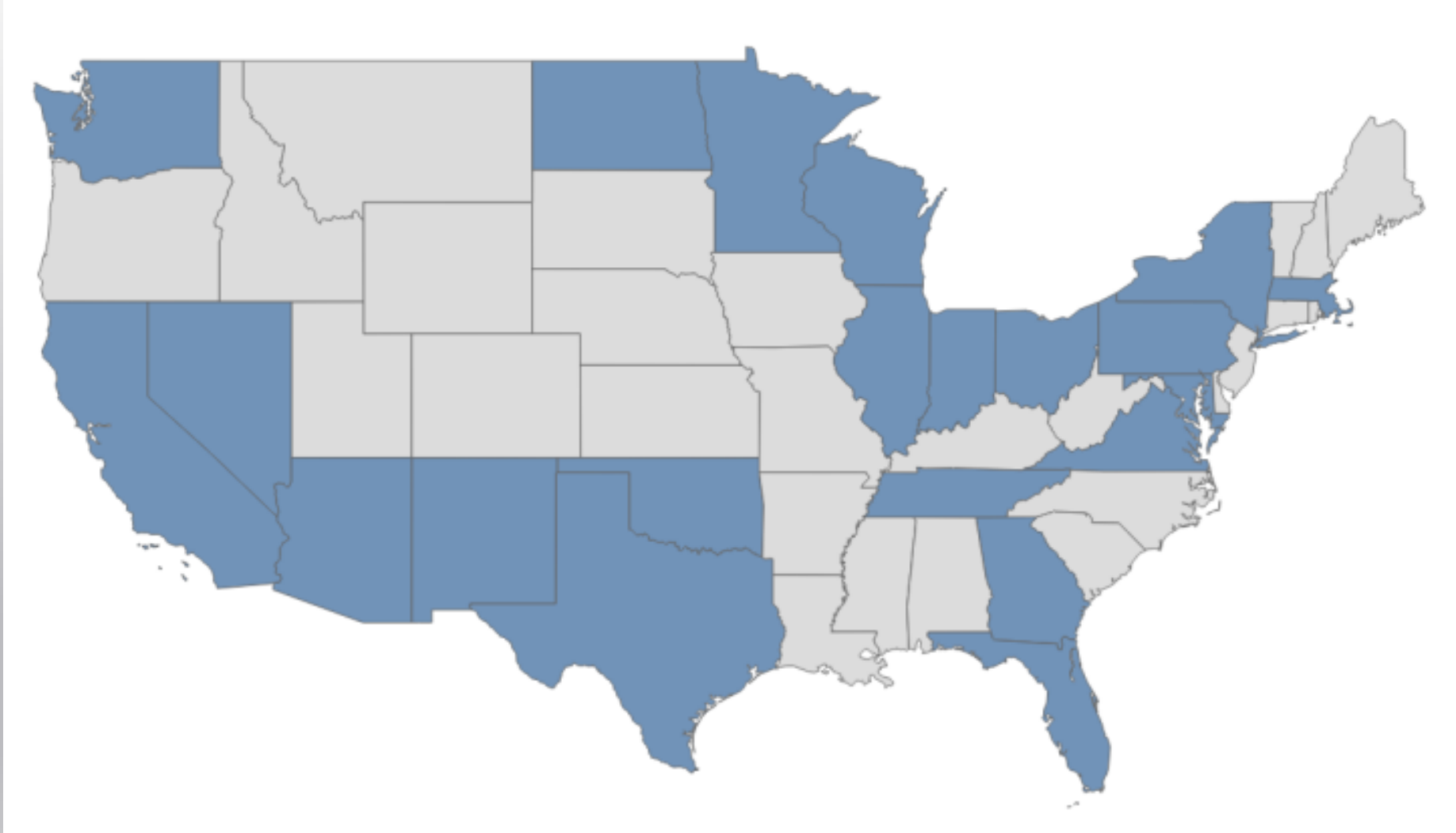
Fentanyl-laced pills concealed in luggage
Source: DEA

Counterfeit tableting process:
unpredictable dosing of fentanyl

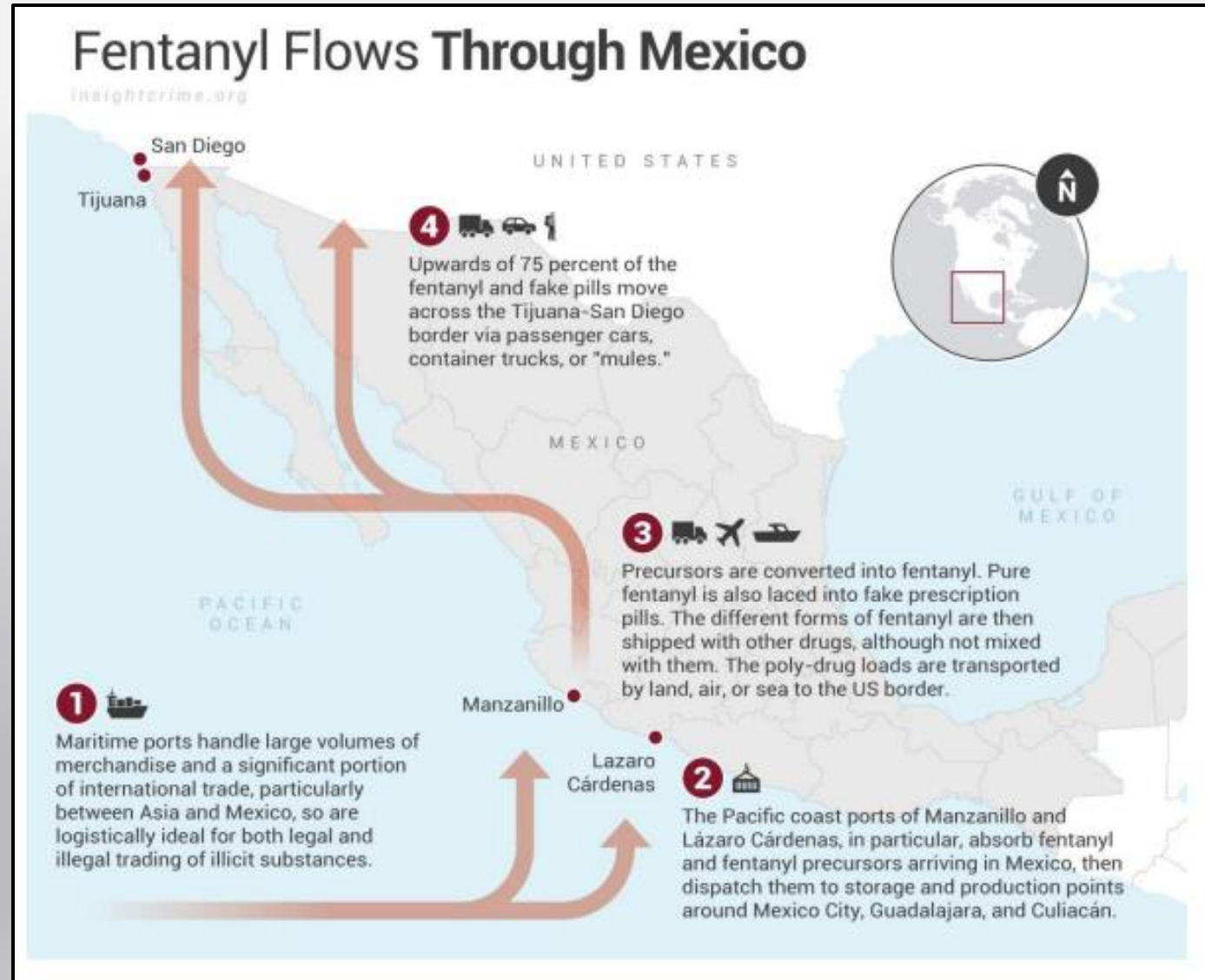




Nationwide Impact – Pills of at least 2mg of Fentanyl



Where does
illicit fentanyl
come from?





Department of Justice

U.S. Attorney's Office

District of Utah

Tuesday, June 1, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thirty-Two Members and Associates of Norteños Charged in Methamphetamine, Heroin and Fentanyl Trafficking with CJNG Drug Cartel

Charges Allege That Leaders Worked with Mexican Drug Cartel CJNG to Distribute More Than 400 Pounds of Methamphetamine, 50 Pounds of Heroin and Thousands of Fentanyl Pills Throughout the Salt Lake Valley

Mexico announces "largest seizure in history" of fentanyl – over a half-ton of lethal drug found at warehouse

Southern Utah deputies seize more than 9,000 pills in fentanyl bust

Written by Jeff Richards | June 7, 2022

Utah deputies seize 8K fentanyl pills worth \$250K

By Pat Reavy, KSL.com | Posted - June 6, 2022 at 5:44 p.m.

Agents Seize Large Quantity of Fentanyl at Checkpoint





Utah Law Enforcement Data

Crime Lab Submissions

- ~60% of fentanyl samples submitted by Utah law enforcement agencies in 2021 were in the form of **counterfeit pills**
 - only 13% had other drugs present
 - Para-Fluorofentanyl, a fentanyl analog, was identified in tablets in 2021
- Methamphetamine was the most common substance submitted in 2021;





DEA: Sharp Increase in Fake Prescription Pills

- Launch of nationwide public awareness campaign, “One Pill can Kill”
- Focus on counterfeit pills
- “Assume it has fentanyl”



Left: Authentic oxycodone M30 tablets (top) vs. counterfeit oxycodone M30 tablets containing fentanyl (bottom). Center: Authentic Adderall tablets (top) vs. counterfeit Adderall tablets containing methamphetamine (bottom). Right: Authentic Xanax tablets (white) vs. counterfeit Xanax tablets containing fentanyl (yellow).

Questions?