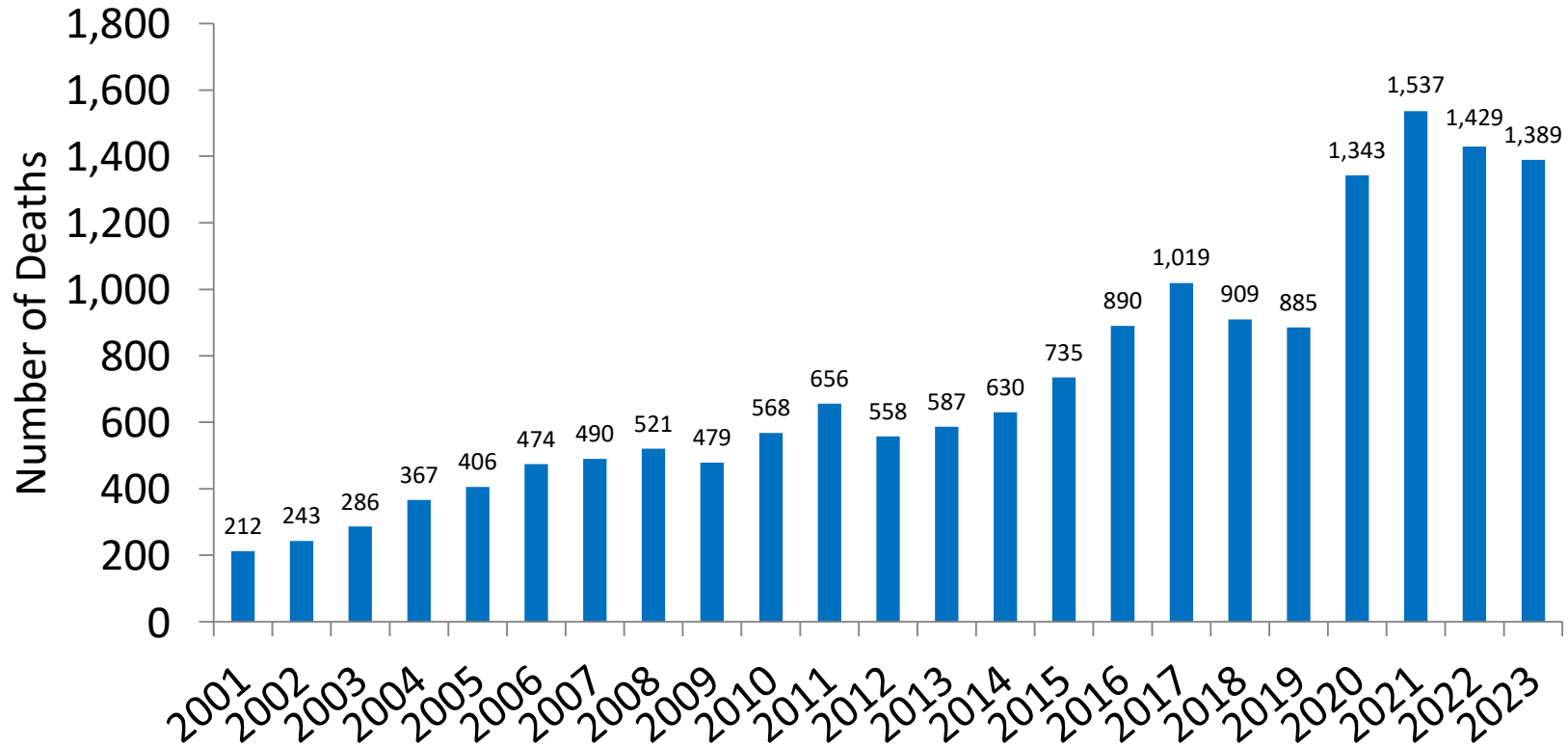


West Virginia Fatal Drug Overdoses: Key Drugs & Demographics

WV Health Statistics Center
August 2024



Drug Overdose Deaths Occurring in West Virginia, 2001-2023

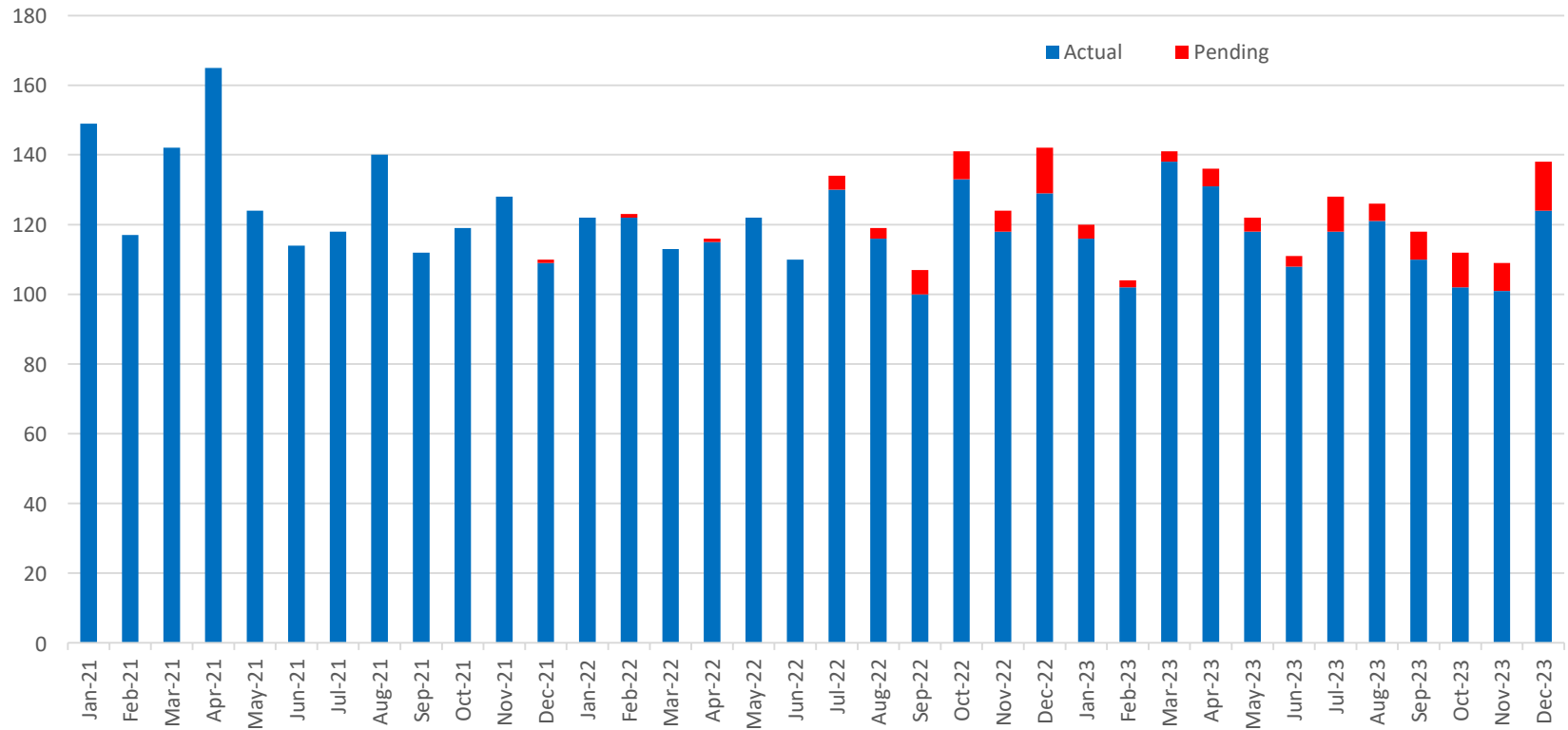


Source: Data from 2021 is preliminary and subject to change. Data from 2022 and 2023 is cumulative and unedited.

WV Health Statistics Center, Vital Statistics System, Drug Overdose Database, 2024.

These statistics include all manners of drug overdose deaths, including accidents, suicides, homicides, and undetermined intent with an underlying cause of death ICD-10 code of X40-X44 (accidents), X60-X64 (suicides), X85 (homicides), or Y10-Y14 (undetermined intent).

WV Drug Overdose Deaths



Note: Data from 2021 is preliminary and subject to change. Data from 2022 and 2023 is cumulative and unedited.
Source: WV Health Statistics Center, Vital Statistics System, Drug Overdose Database, July 2024.

State-Level Drug Overdose Mortality

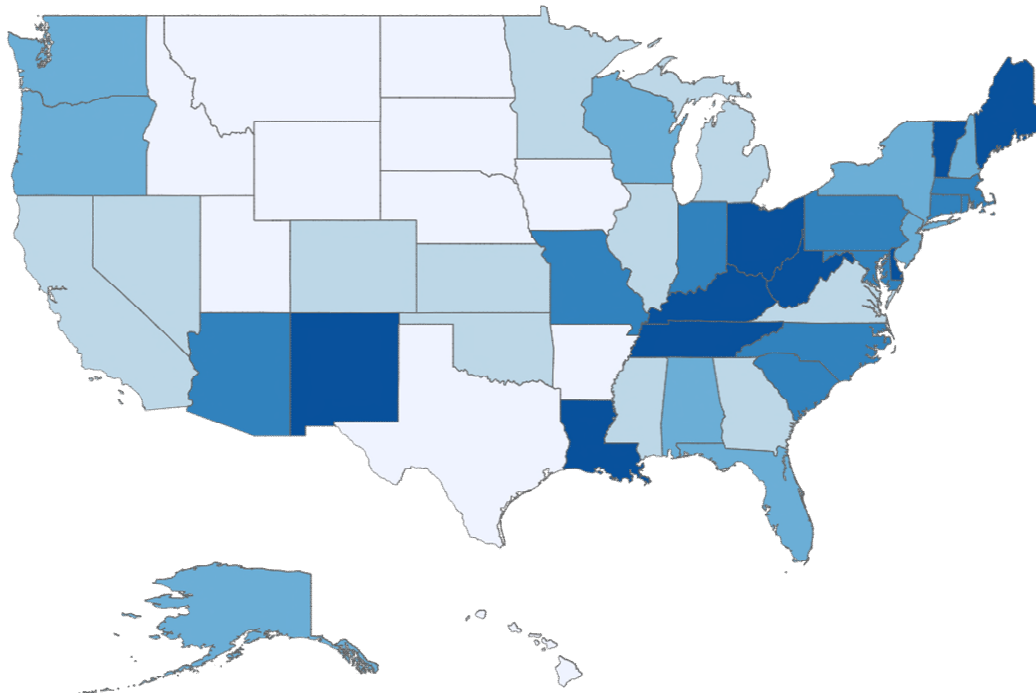
US Resident Drug Overdose Mortality, 2022

Age-Adjusted Rate per 100,000 Population

States with Highest Overdose Mortality Rates

WV: 80.9
DC: 64.3
TN: 56.0
DE: 55.3
LA: 54.5
ME: 54.3
KY: 53.2
NM: 50.3
VT: 45.9
OH: 45.6

US: 32.6



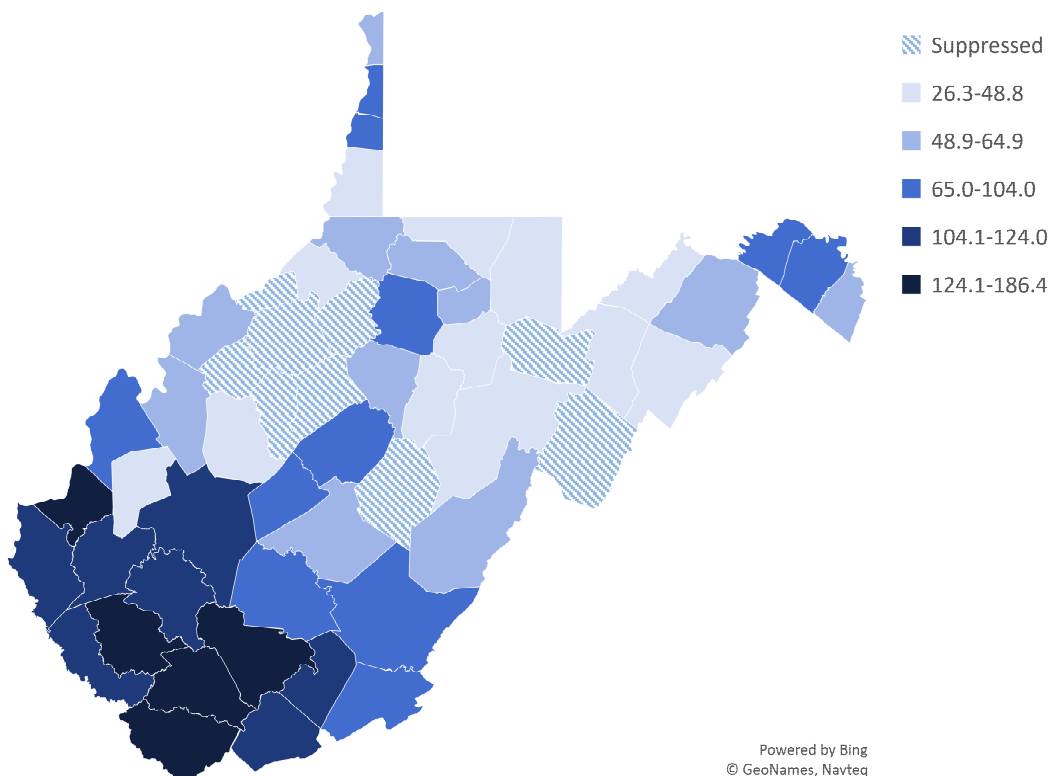
Data classified using quantiles



Drug Overdose Crude Death Rate By County of Residence (2020-2022)

In 2022, the overall West Virginia crude drug overdose mortality rate was **77.3** per 100,000 residents .

McDowell, Logan, and Raleigh counties, all located in the **southern** region of West Virginia, have the highest crude death rates, with McDowell at **186.3**, Logan at **167.5**, and Raleigh at **142.5 per 100,000 population**.



Note: Data from 2021 is preliminary and subject to change. Data from 2022 is cumulative and unedited.

Rates based on counts between 1-11 are unreliable and are suppressed.

Source: WV Health Statistics Center, Vital Statistics System, Drug Overdose Database, July 2024.

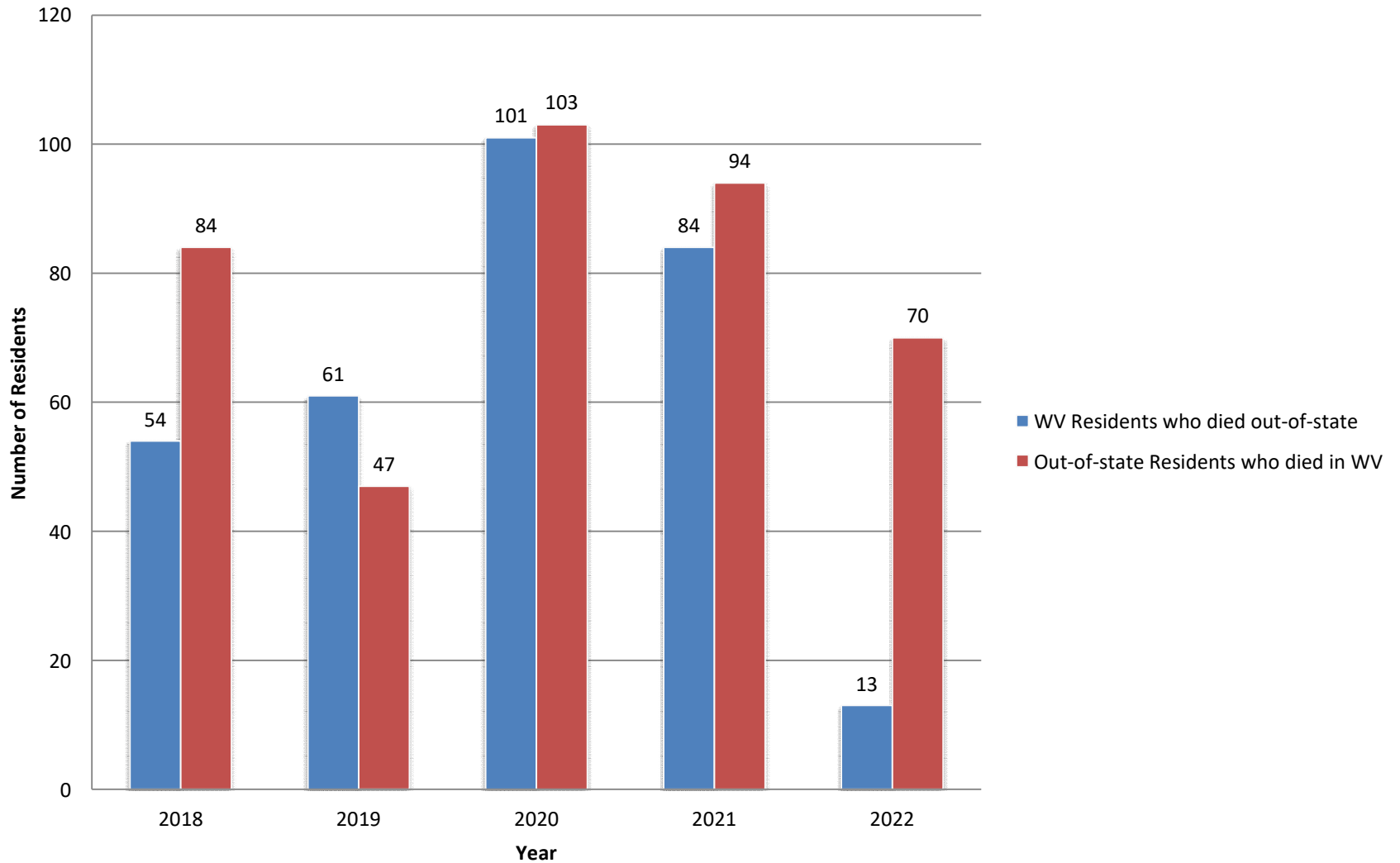
WV Residents: 1,372

- WV Residents who died in West Virginia: 1,359
- WV Residents who died out-of-state: 13
 - Pennsylvania: 4
 - Florida: 2
 - Georgia: 1
 - Indiana: 1
 - Nebraska: 1
 - Ohio: 1
 - Oklahoma: 1
 - South Carolina: 1
 - Tennessee: 1

WV Occurrences: 1,429

- ❑ Out-of-state residents who died **in** West Virginia: 70
 - Ohio: 25
 - Maryland: 11
 - Virginia: 11
 - Pennsylvania: 7
 - North Carolina: 6
 - Kentucky: 4
 - Florida: 2
 - Tennessee: 2
 - Michigan: 1
 - South Carolina: 1

WV Residents Who Died Out-of-State VS Out-of-State Residents Who Died in WV (2018-2022)



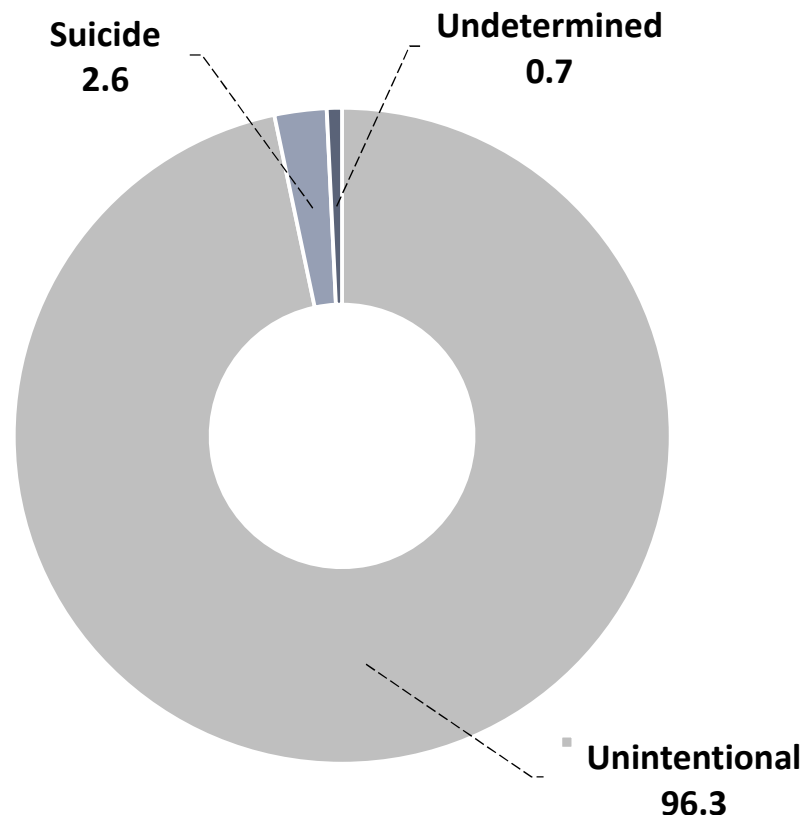
Note: Data from 2021 is preliminary and subject to change. Data from 2022 is cumulative and unedited
Source: WV Health Statistics Center, Vital Statistics System, Drug Overdose Database, July 2024.

Manner of Death: WV occurrences

Fatal Drug Overdoses Occurring in WV, 2018-2022 *by Manner of Death*

96.3% of drug overdose deaths from 2018-2022 were **unintentional**

- During this period, four drug overdose deaths were determined to be homicide (0.07%, *not labeled in figure for clarity*).

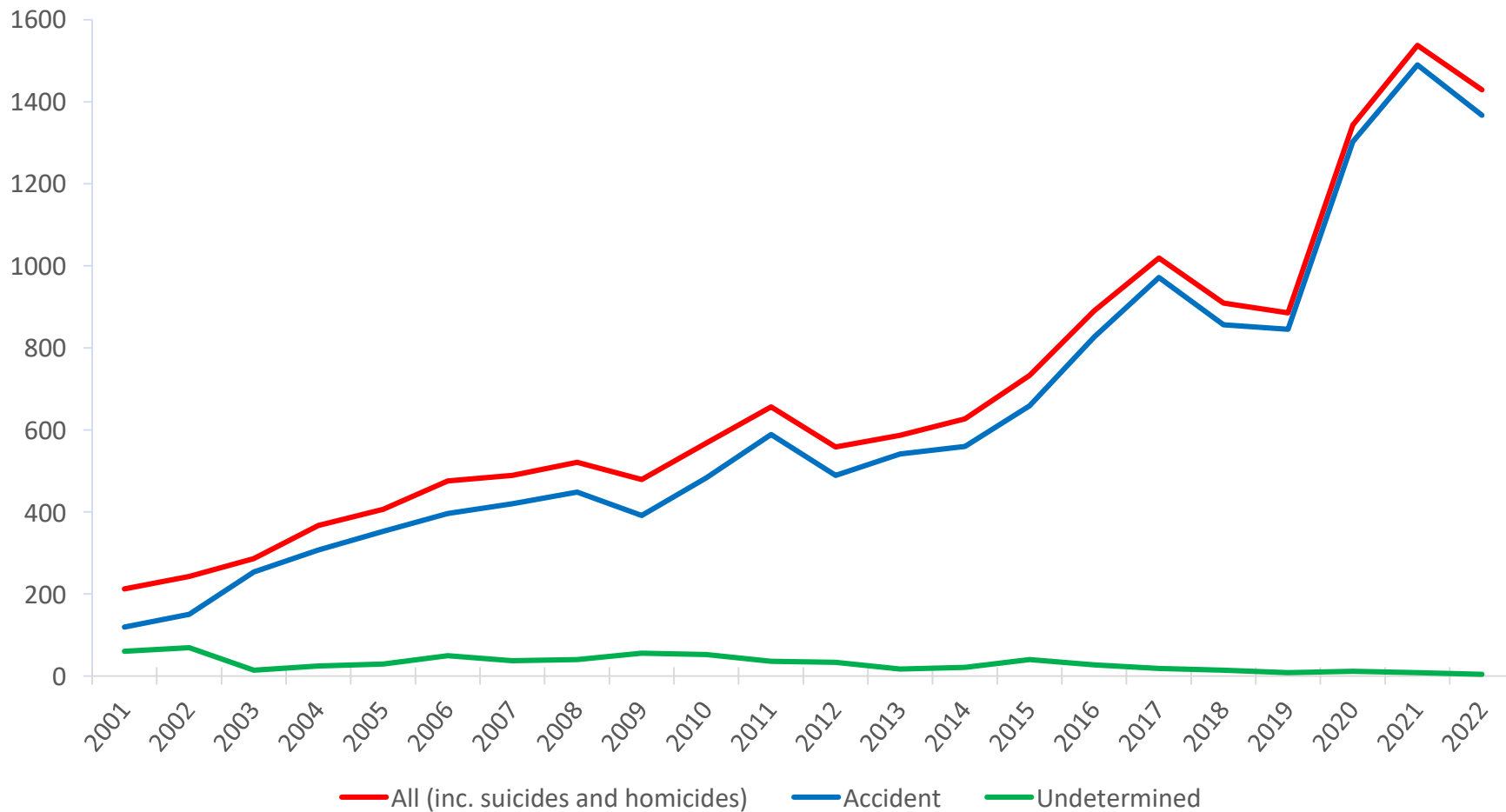


6,103

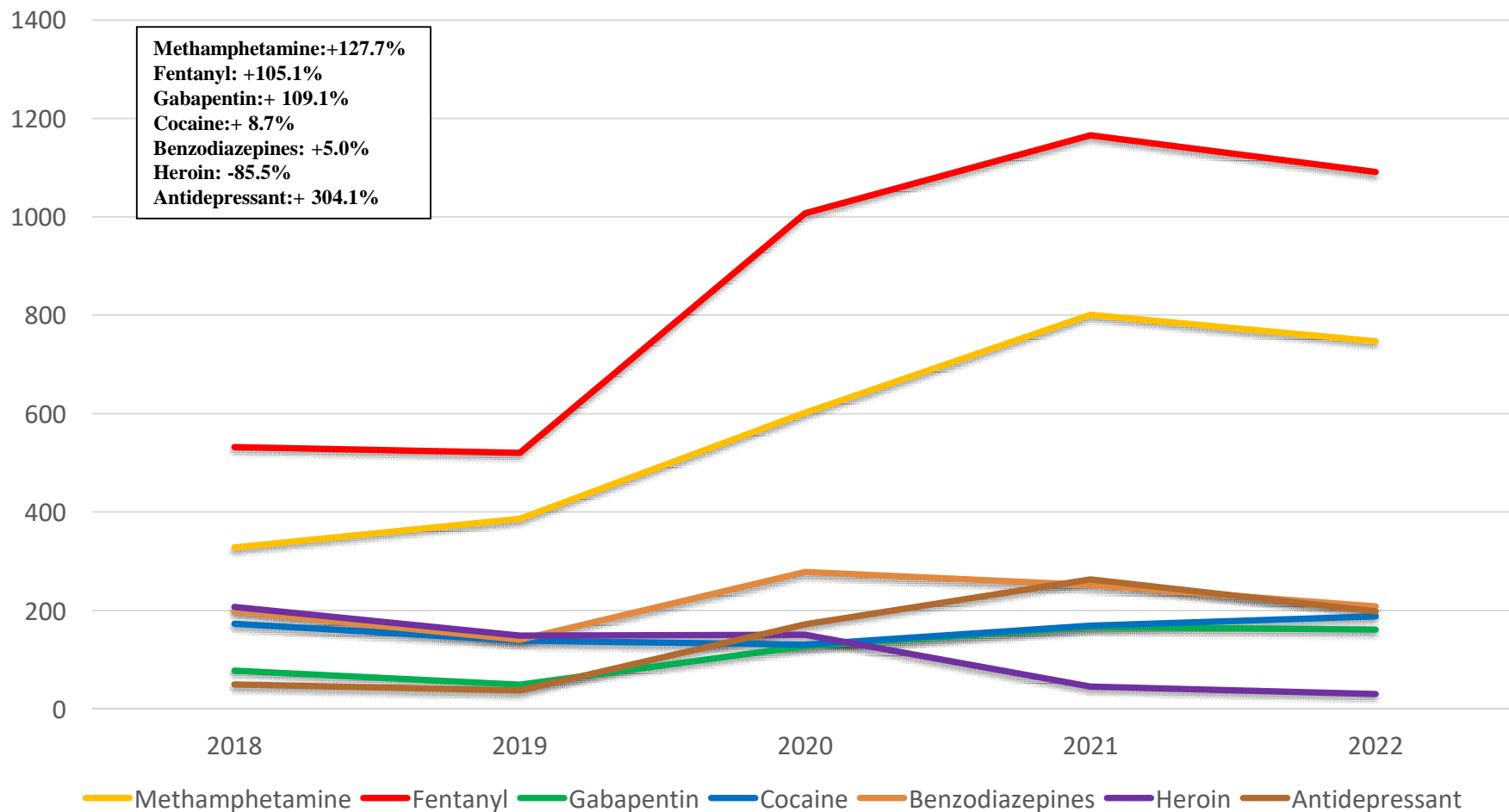
**Drug overdose deaths
from 2018-2022**

Trend in Deaths – By Manner

Fatal Drug Overdoses Occurring in WV, 2001-2022 *By Manner of Death*

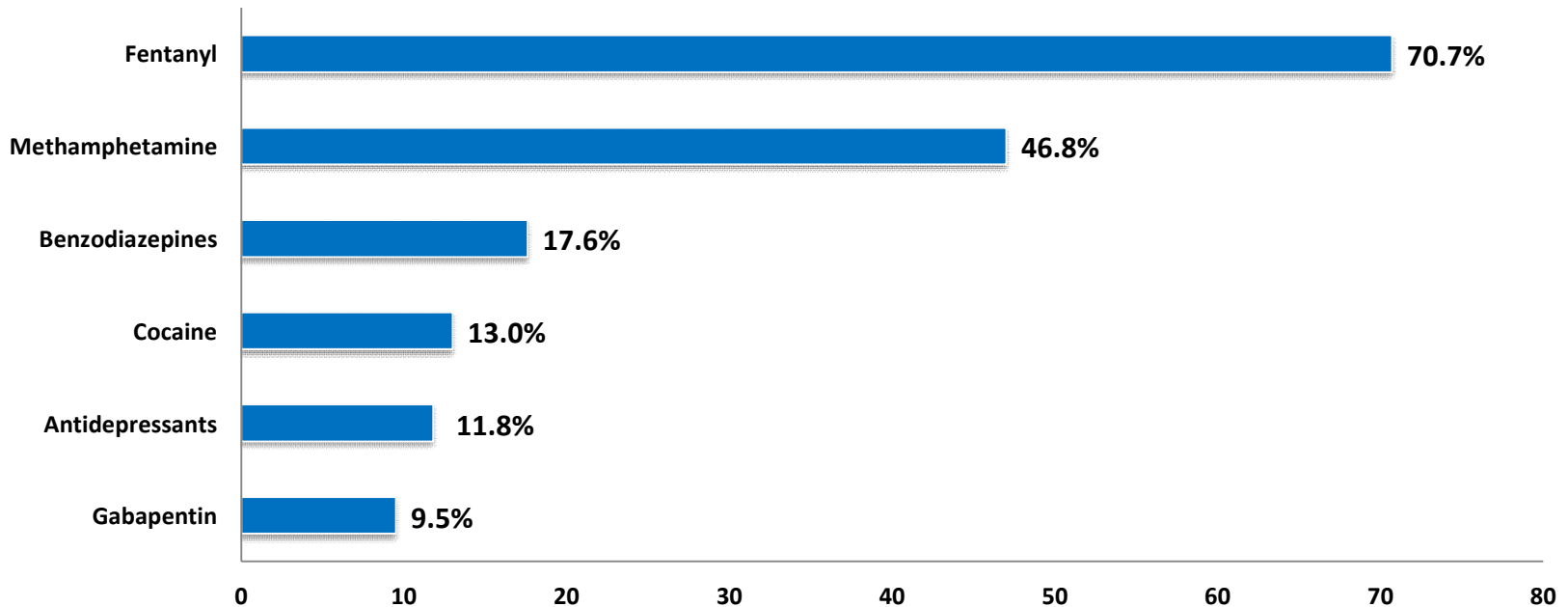


WV Fatal Drug Overdoses for Commonly Occurring Drugs, 2018-2022



Note: Data from 2021 is preliminary and subject to change. Data from 2022 and 2023 is cumulative and unedited.
 Source: WV Health Statistics Center, Vital Statistics System, Drug Overdose Database, July 2024.

Most Common Overdose Drugs Distribution involved in OD deaths, 2018-2022 *West Virginia Occurrences*



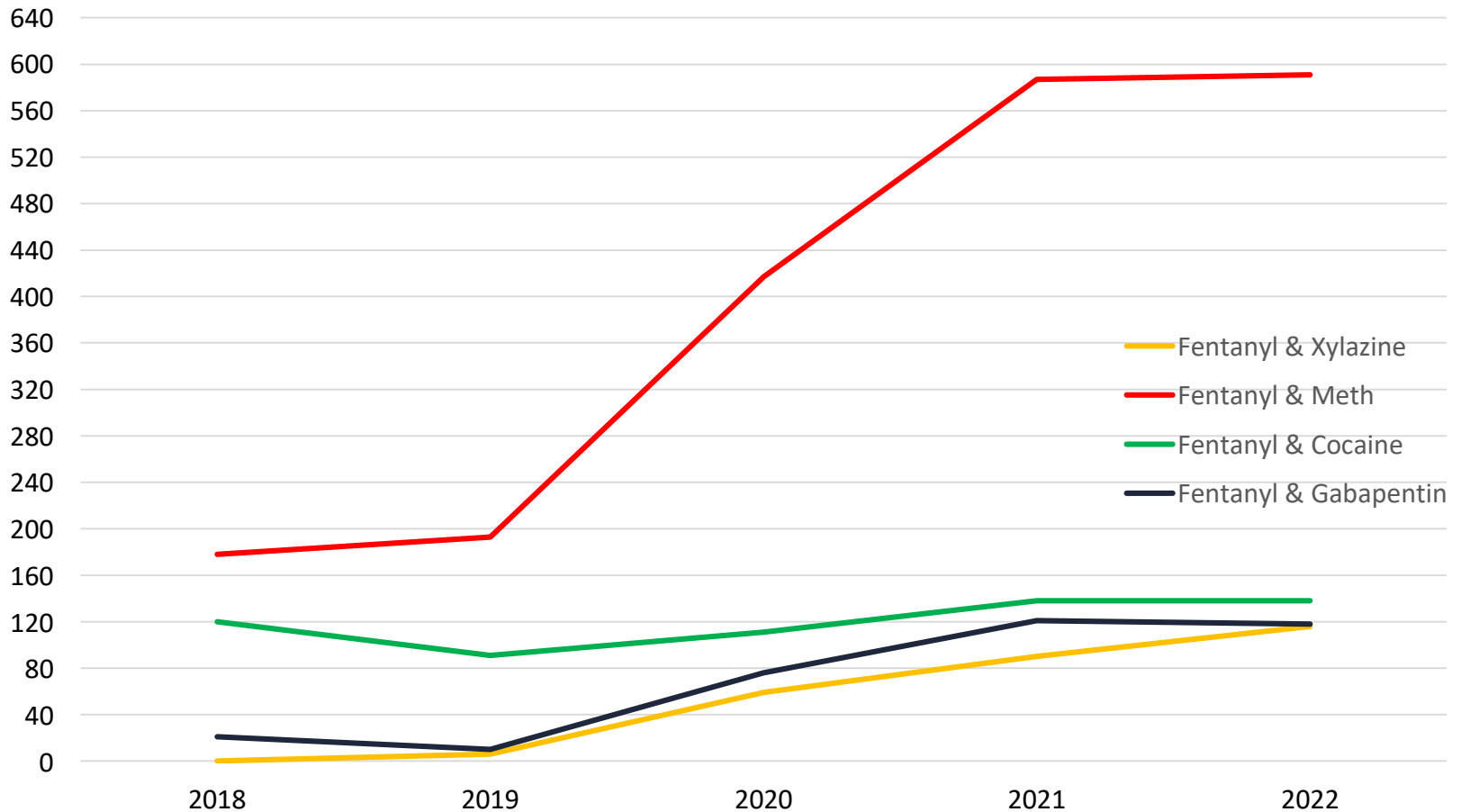
Note:

- Due to the fact that most drug overdose deaths involve multiple substances (polypharmacy), any individual death may involve multiple types of drugs. As such, overdose deaths presented that involve one particular drug are rarely mutually exclusive from other overdose deaths.
- Data from 2021 is preliminary and subject to change. Data from 2022 is cumulative and unedited.

Source: WV Health Statistics Center, Vital Statistics System, Drug Overdose Database, July 2024.

Co-Occurring Drug Use

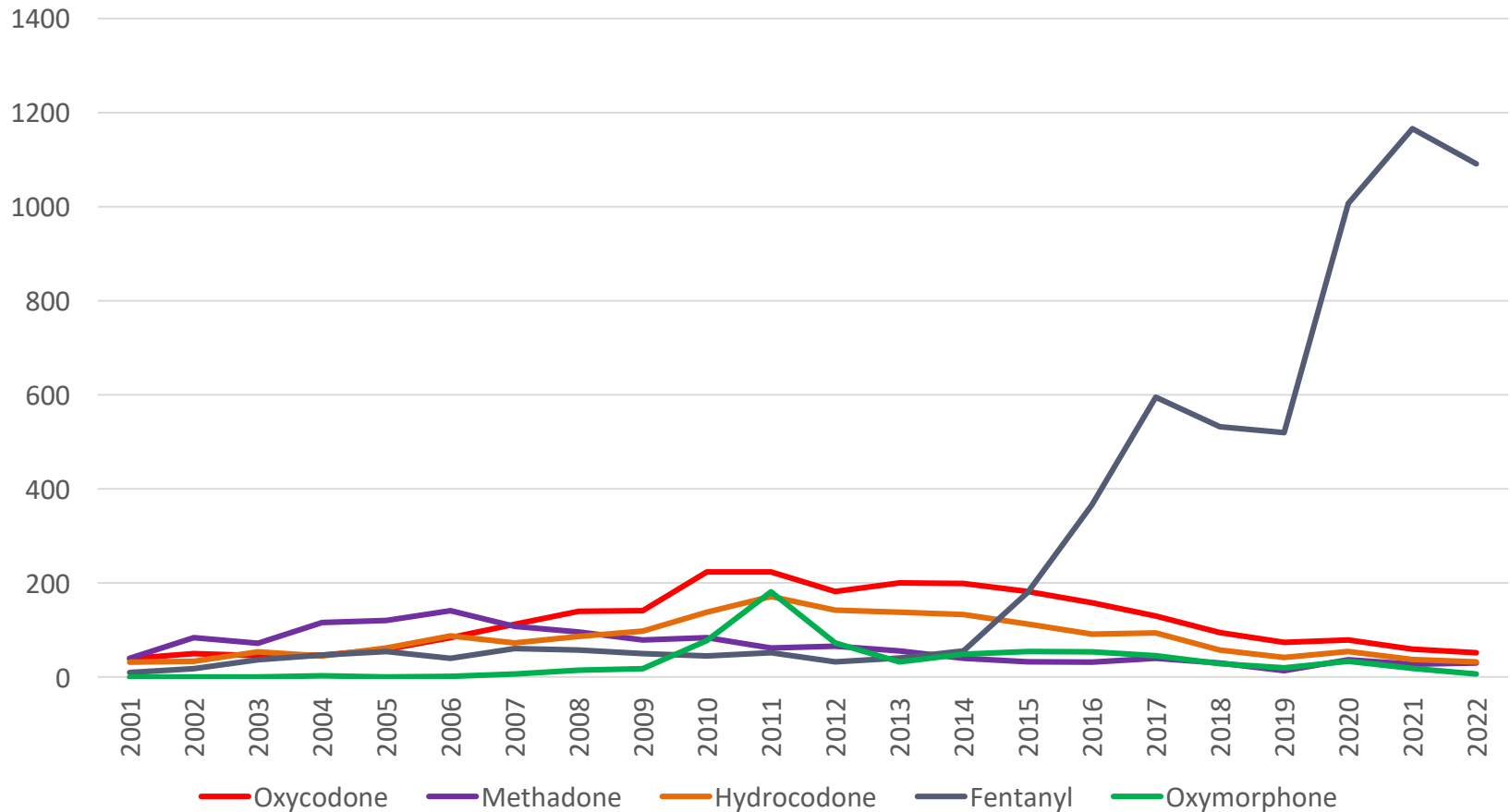
Fatal Drug Overdoses, 2018-2022 *West Virginia Occurrences*



Note: Data from 2021 is preliminary and subject to change. Data from 2022 and 2023 is cumulative and unedited
Source: WV Health Statistics Center, Vital Statistics System, Drug Overdose Database, July 2024.

Trend Analysis – Five Opioids

Fatal Drug Overdoses, 2001-2022 WV Occurrences



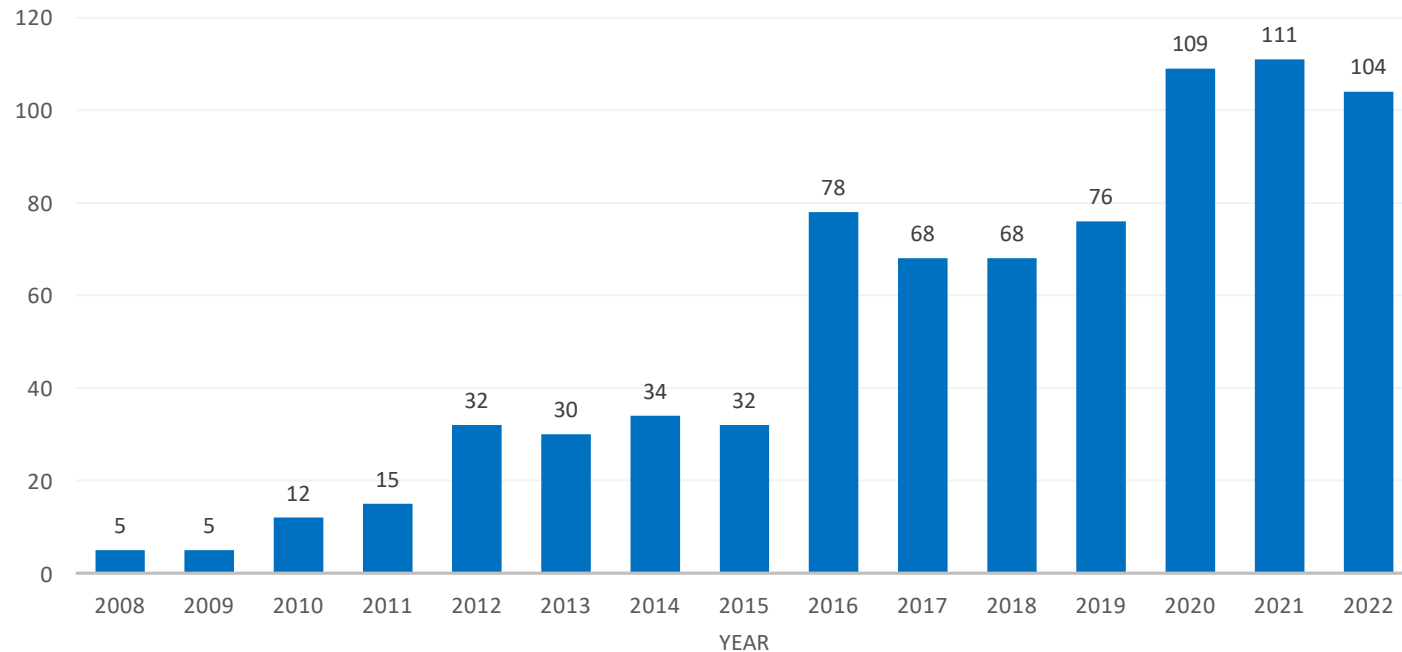
*The rapid increase in fentanyl deaths is due to illicitly-sourced fentanyl and fentanyl analogues. Deaths include any in which the drug was listed in the cause of death and is not limited to overdoses in which the drug was prescribed to the decedent.

Note: Data from 2021 is preliminary and subject to change. Data from 2022 is cumulative and unedited.

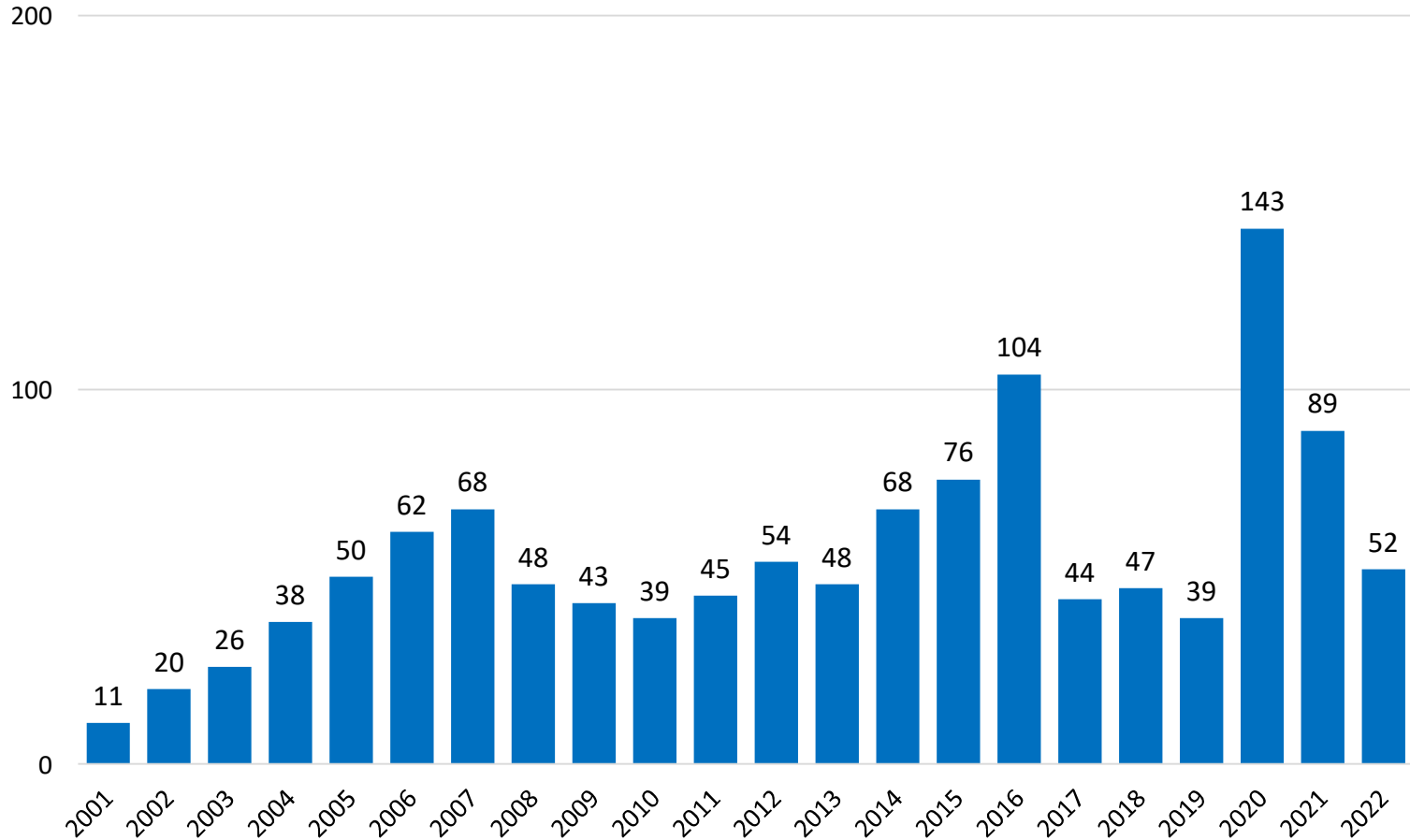
Source: WV Health Statistics Center, Vital Statistics System, July 2024.

Fatal Buprenorphine-Related Overdoses Occurring in WV, 2008-2022

WV Occurrences

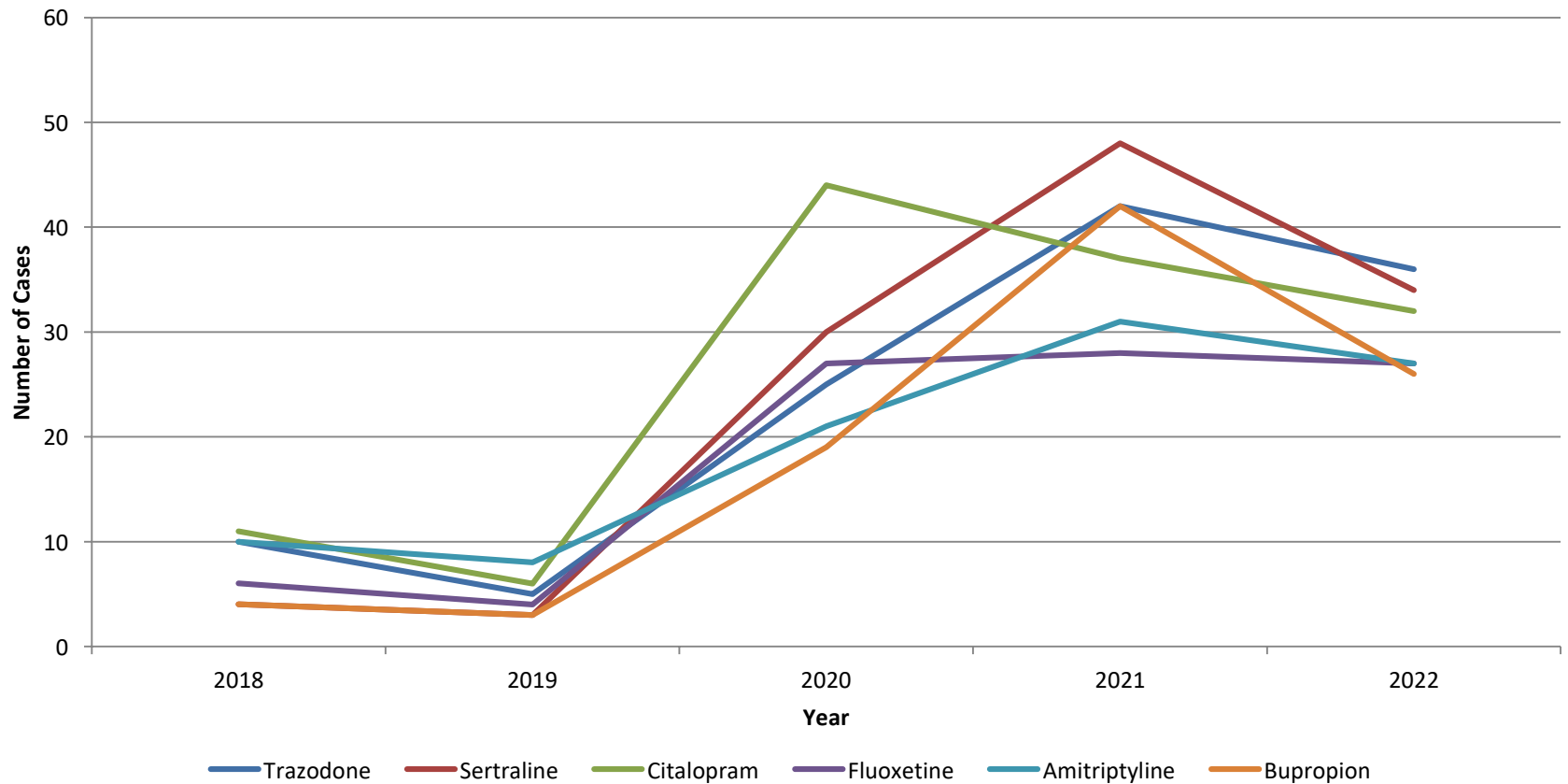


Fatal Morphine-Related Overdoses Occurring in WV, 2001-2022 *WV Occurrences*



Note: Data from 2021 is preliminary and subject to change. Data from 2022 is cumulative and unedited
Source: WV Health Statistics Center, Vital Statistics System, July 2024.

Top 6 Antidepressants Involved in OD Death by Year (2018-2022) *WV Occurrences*

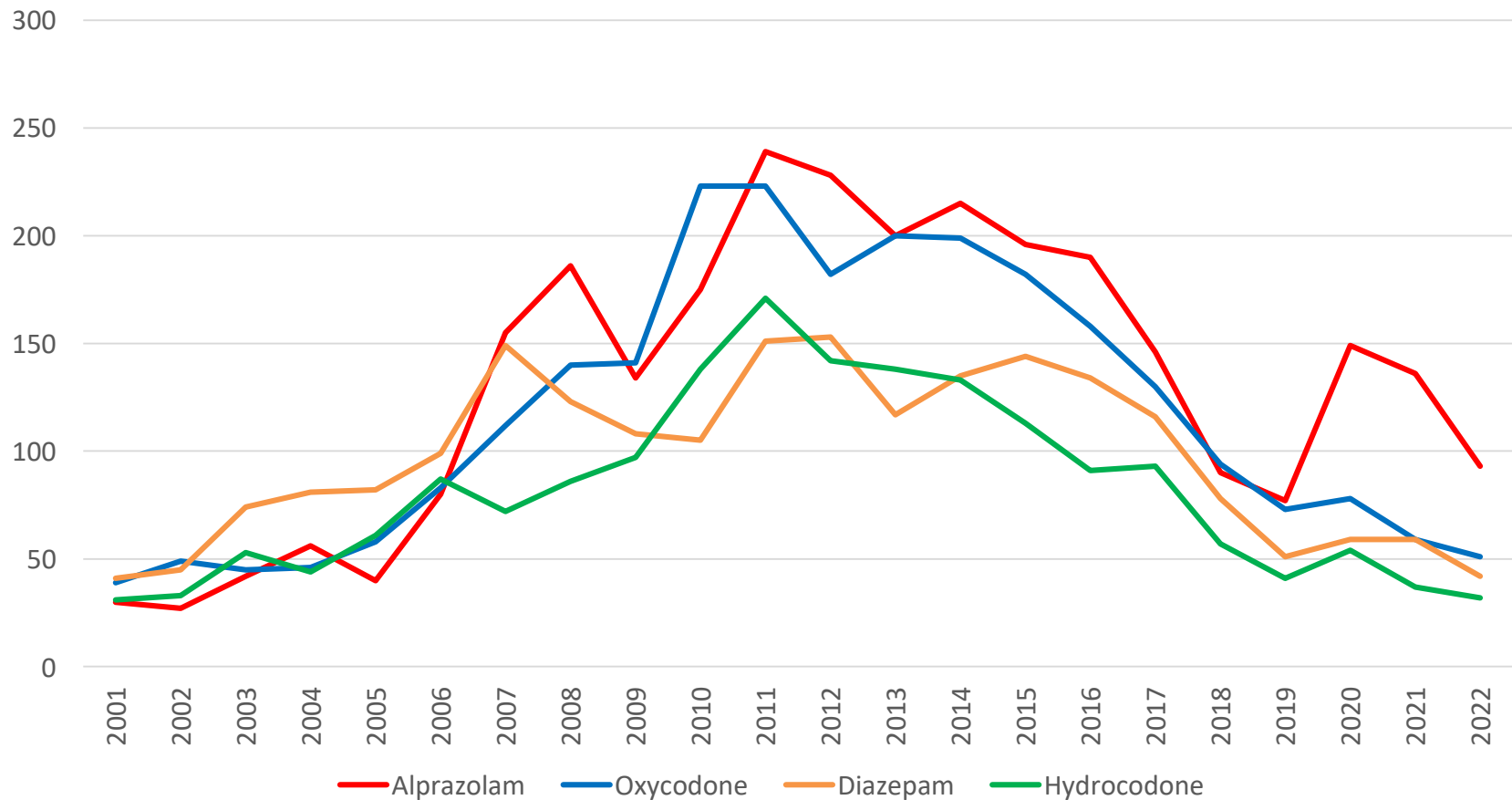


Trend Analysis – Some Drugs Trend Together

Fatal Drug Overdoses Occurring in WV, 2001-2022

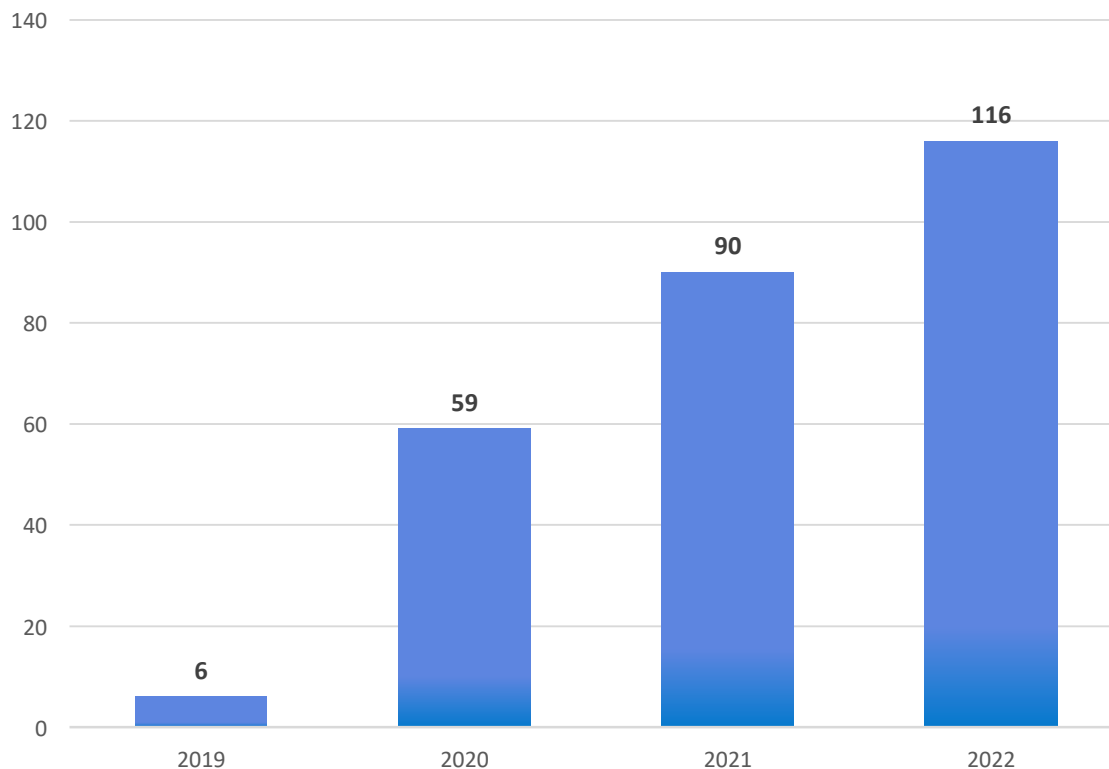
Trends in selected opioids and benzodiazepines

WV Occurrences

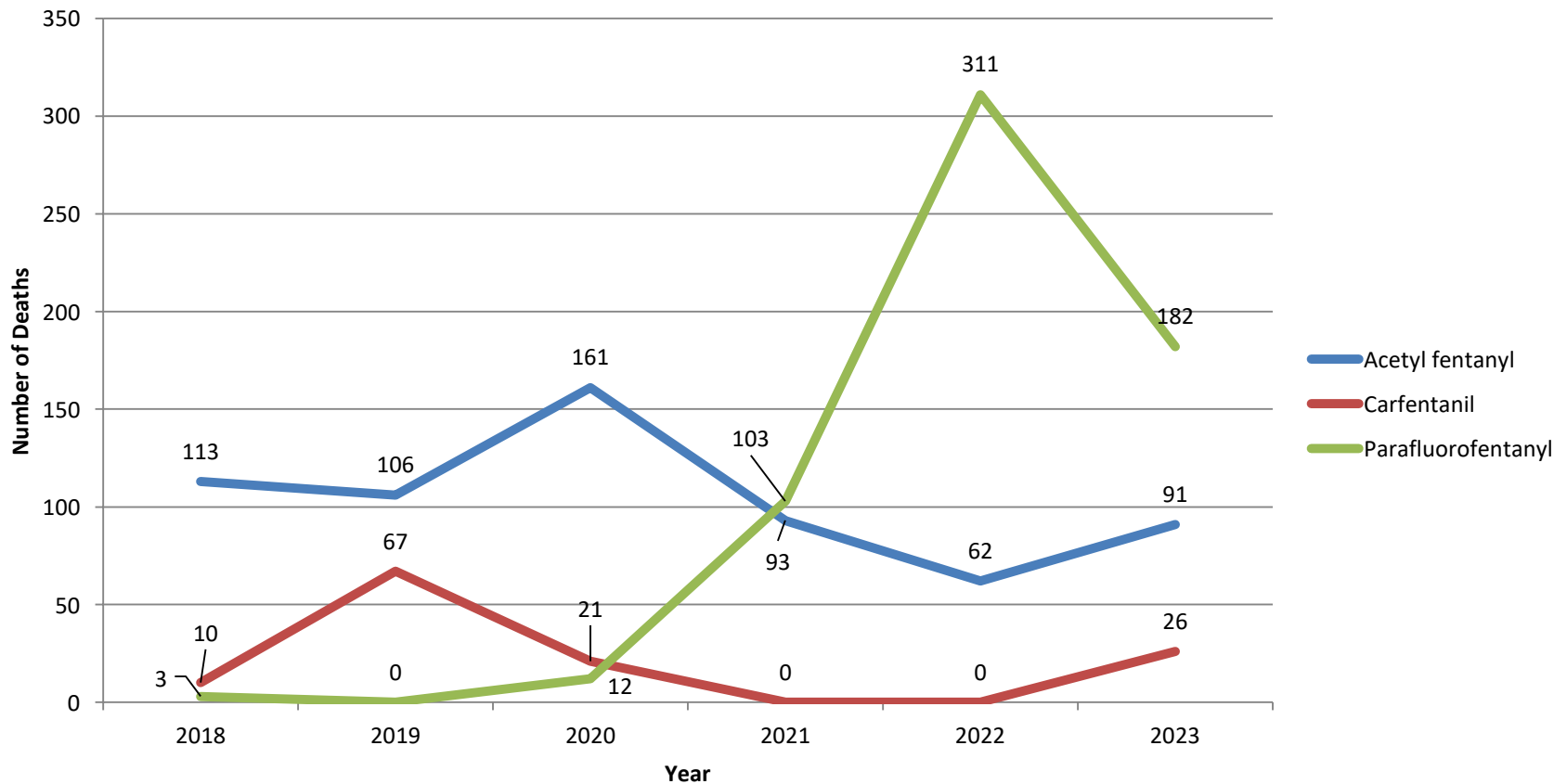


Fatal Xylazine-Related Overdoses Occurring in WV, 2019-2022

WV Occurrences

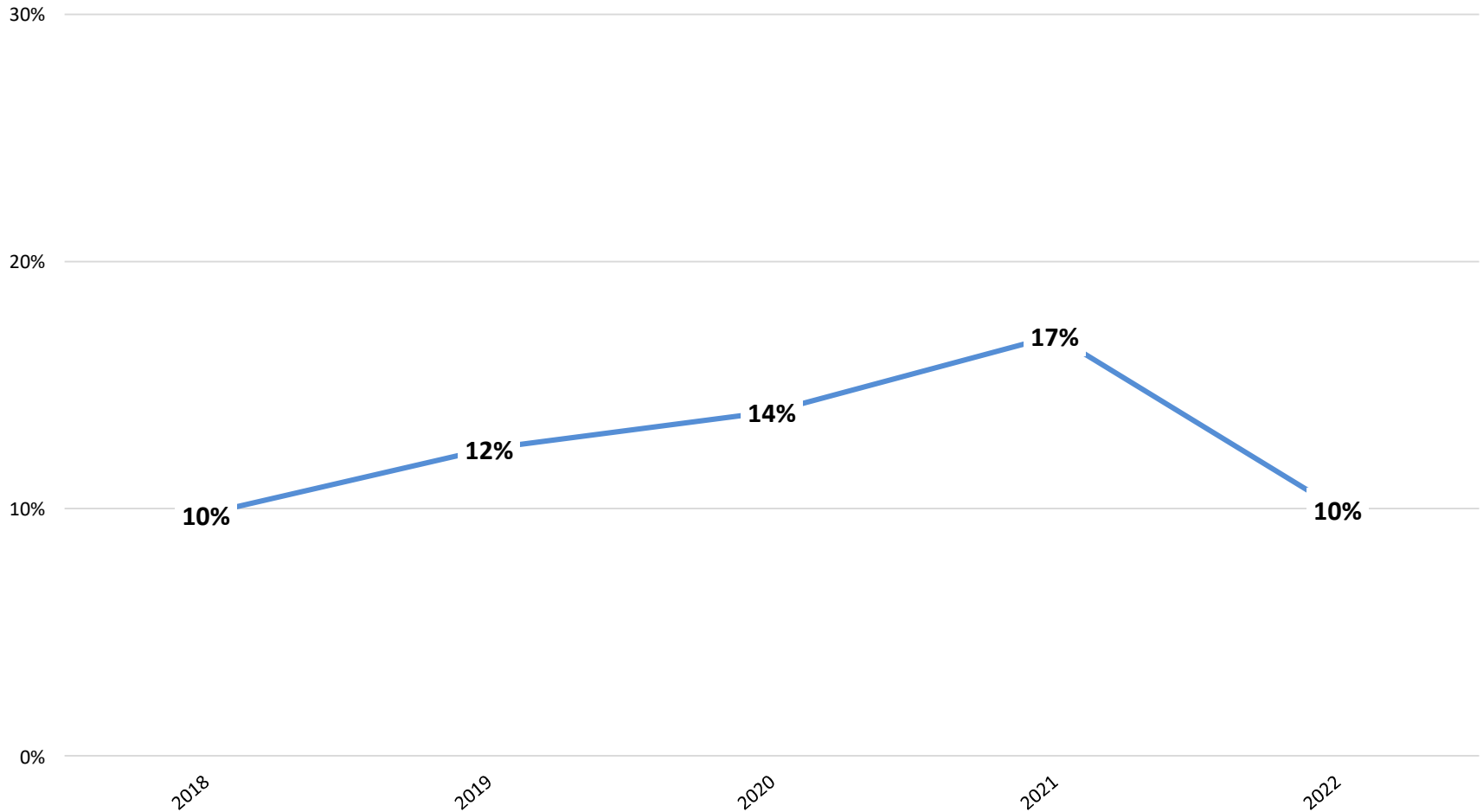


Fentanyl-Analogs Involved in Overdose Deaths Occurring in WV, 2018-2023



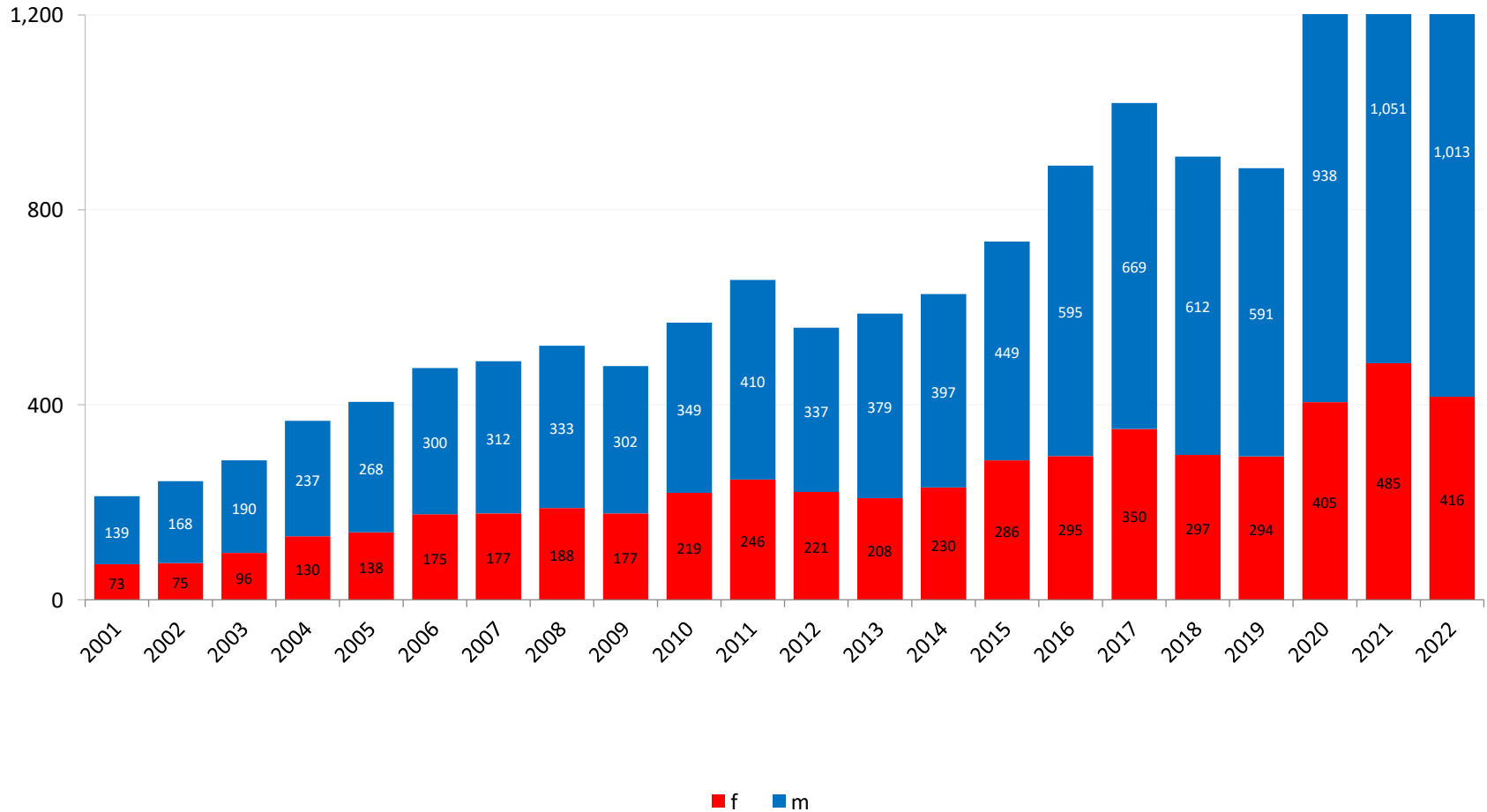
Note: Data from 2021 is preliminary and subject to change. Data from 2022 is cumulative and unedited
 Source: WV Health Statistics Center, Vital Statistics System, July 2024.

Fatal Drug Overdoses Occurring in WV, 2018-2022 *Opioid and Alcohol Co-Use*



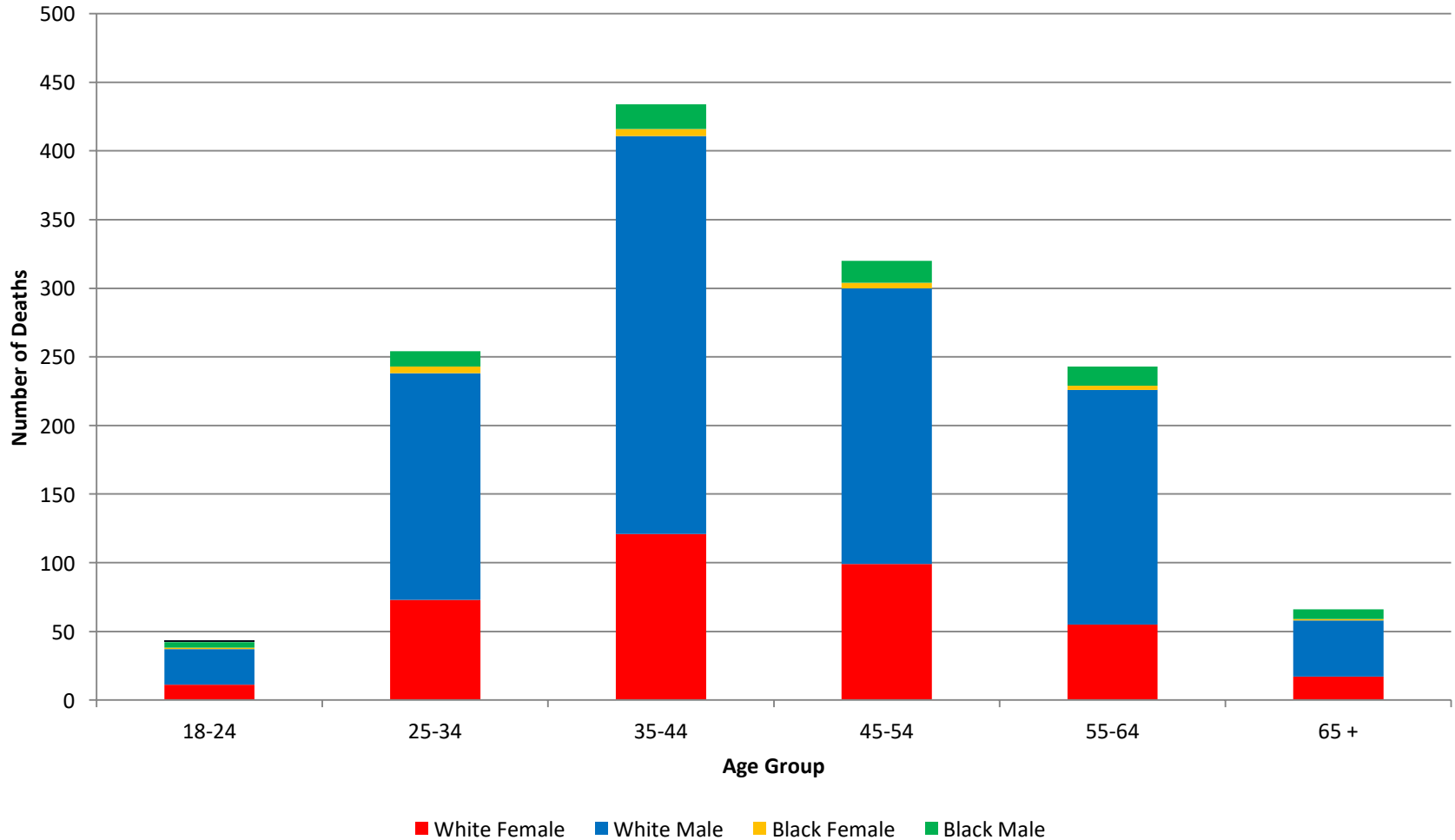
Trend Analysis – By Gender

Fatal Drug Overdoses Occurring in WV by Sex, 2001-2022



Note: Data from 2021 is preliminary and subject to change. Data from 2022 is cumulative and unedited.
Source: WV Health Statistics Center, Vital Statistics System, Drug Overdose Database, July 2024.

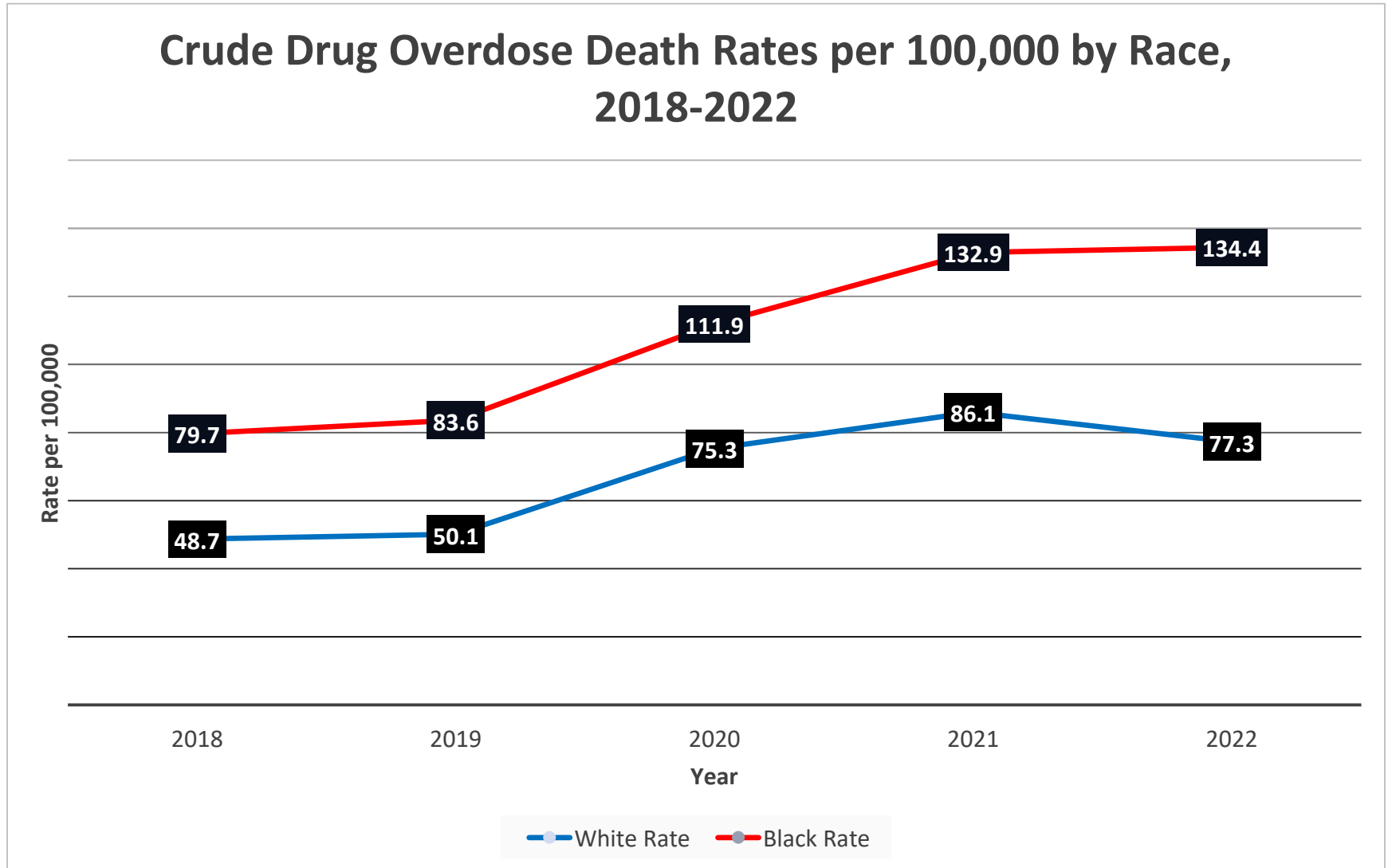
Overdose Deaths by Age Group, Gender and Race, 2022



Note: 2022 data are cumulative and unedited.

Source: WV Health Statistics Center, Vital Statistics System, Drug Overdose Database, July 2024.

WV Residents Drug Overdose Deaths Rates

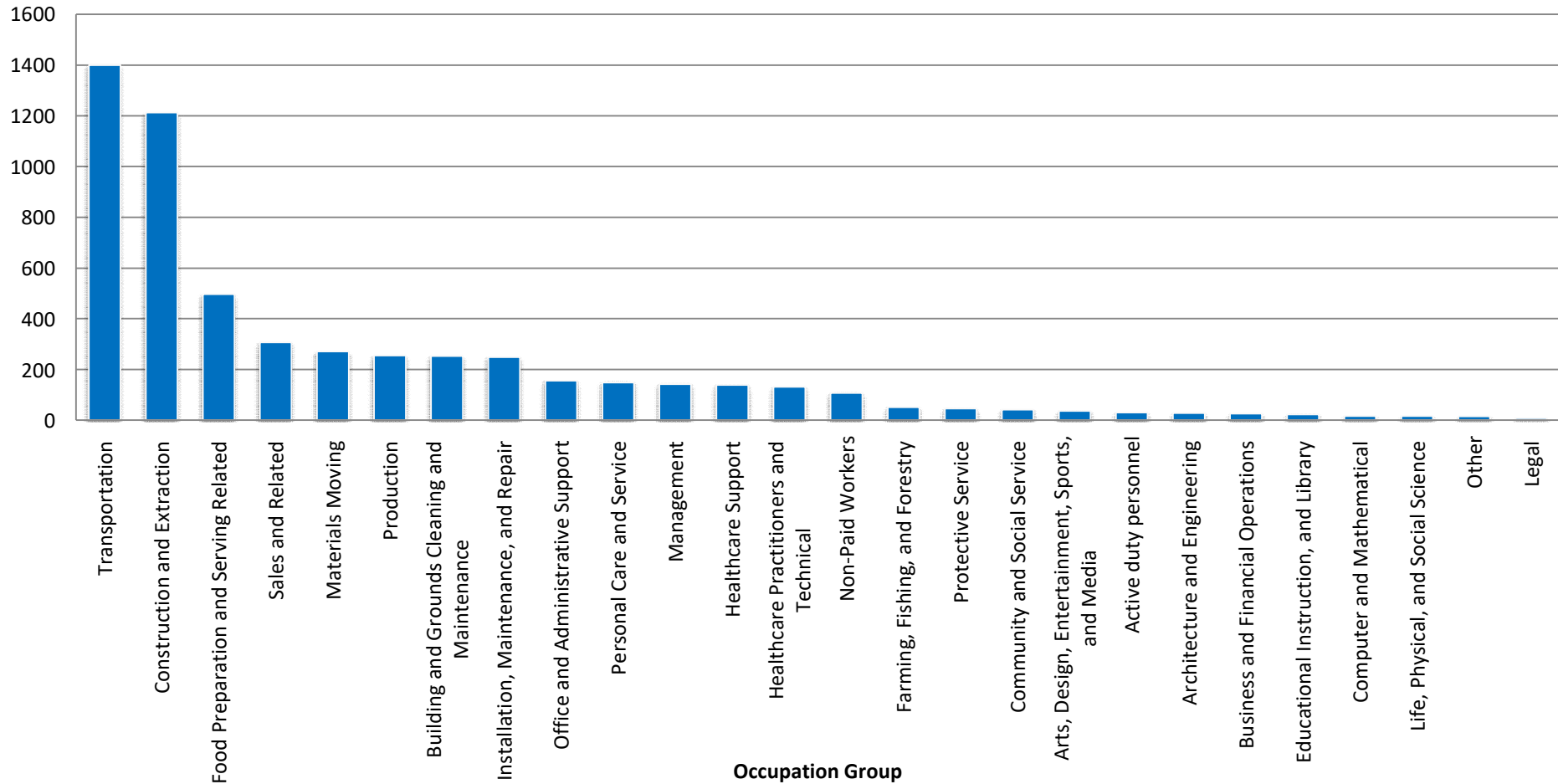


Note: Data from 2021 is preliminary and subject to change. 2022 data are cumulative and unedited.

Source: WV Health Statistics Center, Vital Statistics System, Drug Overdose Database, July 2024.

WV Residents OD Deaths by Occupation

Overdose Deaths By Occupation for WV Residents (2018-2022)



Note: Data from 2021 is preliminary and subject to change. 2022 data are cumulative and unedited—classification based on US census 2018 Occupation codes.

Source: WV Health Statistics Center, Vital Statistics System, Drug Overdose Database, July 2024.

- **Fentanyl & Methamphetamine Dominance:** Lead contributors to overdose deaths.
- **Xylazine: exclusively** in combination with Fentanyl
- **Fentanyl Analogs:**
 - **Parafluorofentanyl (PFF)** had the most cases during the period from 2018 to 2023 followed by **Acetyl Fentanyl**.
 - **Carfentanil:** Resurfaced in 2023 after 2 years absence.
- **Heroin: Decline.**

- RISING TREND (2018-2021):

- The percentage of overdose deaths involving both alcohol and opioids increased from **10% in 2018** to **17% in 2021**.

- RECENT DECLINE (2022):

- This percentage decreased to **10 % in 2022**, indicating a recent decline after the peak in 2021.

Tianeptine, Phencyclidine, Ketamine, Nitazene, Synthetic Cathinone:

-Very low incidence in WV indicating minimal presence.

Unintentional Deaths:

- **Dominant Cause:** Majority of drug-related deaths.
- **Total:** 5,860 deaths over five years.
- **Peaked at** 1,490 in 2021 and decreased to 1,367 in 2022.

Suicide:

- **Low Compared to Unintentional:** Consistently fewer in number.
- **Total:** 156 deaths over five years.
- **Highest:** 35 in 2018.

Undetermined:

- **Generally Low Numbers compared to other categories.**
- **Total:** 45 deaths over five years.
- **Highest:** 14 in 2018, lowest at four in 2022.

Homicide:

- **Very Rare:** Fewest in number.
- **Total:** four deaths over five years.

Summary: Death Rate by County of Residence (2020-2022)

• Highest Rates:

- Predominantly in southern counties.

Counties with the **Highest** Crude Death Rates from 2020-2022:

<input type="checkbox"/> McDowell	186.3
<input type="checkbox"/> Logan	167.5
<input type="checkbox"/> Raleigh	142.5

• Lowest Rates:

- Found mostly in northern and central counties

➤ Demographics of Overdose Deaths (2022)

- ✓ **Male** deaths outnumber **female** deaths in every age category.
 - ✓ **Majority**: White population.
 - ✓ **Second Highest**: Black population.
- Overdose death **rates** for the Black population have been increasing at a higher rate compared to the White population, with the disparity growing between 2020 and 2022.

High-Risk Occupations (2018-2022):

- ✓ Transportation
- ✓ Construction and Extraction
- ✓ Food Preparation and Serving Related

Contact

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Health Statistics Center

WV Department of Health

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