

# #OnePillKills

## Fentanyl Facts

### Overview of Fentanyl Crisis

Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that is up to 50 times stronger than heroin and 100 times stronger than morphine. It is a major contributor to fatal and nonfatal overdoses in the U.S. TWC created a fentanyl awareness campaign in response to Governor Greg Abbott's directive. We are committed to supporting resources to help end the opioid crisis and fight fentanyl poisoning in the Lone Star State.

### Fentanyl Impact on Texans

- Fentanyl is poisoning our communities with fentanyl-related deaths increasing in Texas by more than 500% in Texas from 2019-2022, according to provisional data from the Texas Department of State Health Services:
  - 2022: 2,012
  - 2019: 317
- One in four Texans has experienced an opioid overdose or knows someone who has.
- In 2020, opioid use in Texas stood at 7.2% while nationally usage was lower at 5.6%.
- The top five counties with the most opioid-related overdose deaths in 2020 were: Harris (489), Dallas (217), Tarrant (165), Bexar (125), and Travis (109).
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 2021 provisional data shows about 66 percent of opioid-related deaths in Texas involve synthetic opioids, such as fentanyl.

### Fentanyl Impact on the Workforce

- According to a National Safety Council survey, 75% of employers report that opioid use has impacted their workplace, while 31% reported an overdose, arrest, near miss or injury due to opioid use.
- In 2021, 77.1% of fatal, unintentional overdoses in the workplace occurred in the prime working age category, those aged 25 to 54.
- Between 2011 and 2021, 35-to-44-year-olds experienced the largest increase of fatal occupational injuries due to an unintentional overdose of nonmedical drugs or alcohol, followed very closely by 25-to-34-year-olds then 45-to-54-year-olds.
- At 61.6%, the three industries with the highest occurrence of drug overdose deaths at work in 2021 were in Trade, Transportation & Utilities; Construction; and Professional & Business Services.
- Construction and Extraction occupations and Transportation and Material moving occupations accounted for 55.8% of all drug overdose deaths in the workplace.

### Resources

**Recovery:** Substance use treatment and recovery services are available for you or loved ones; you can search for a provider and get help with [HHS here](#).

Some communities have Drop-In Centers that provide short-term services to individuals using fentanyl and/or other substances. Some family planning clinics also have services available.

**Preparation:** Naloxone (Narcan is the commonly known brand) is a life-saving medication that can reverse an overdose from fentanyl. If you or someone you know is at risk for opioid overdose, carry naloxone and keep it

at home.

- Naloxone is available without a prescription at [Walgreens](#), [CVS](#), and other pharmacies.

- Any organization in Texas [may request a free, standing order](#) to distribute Naloxone

- Training on how to administer Naloxone and more with [UT Health San Antonio](#)

**Awareness:** [Watch this video](#), and in two minutes, learn what you can do to prevent prescription opioid misuse and overdose to protect yourself and your family.