

Overdose Update and Response

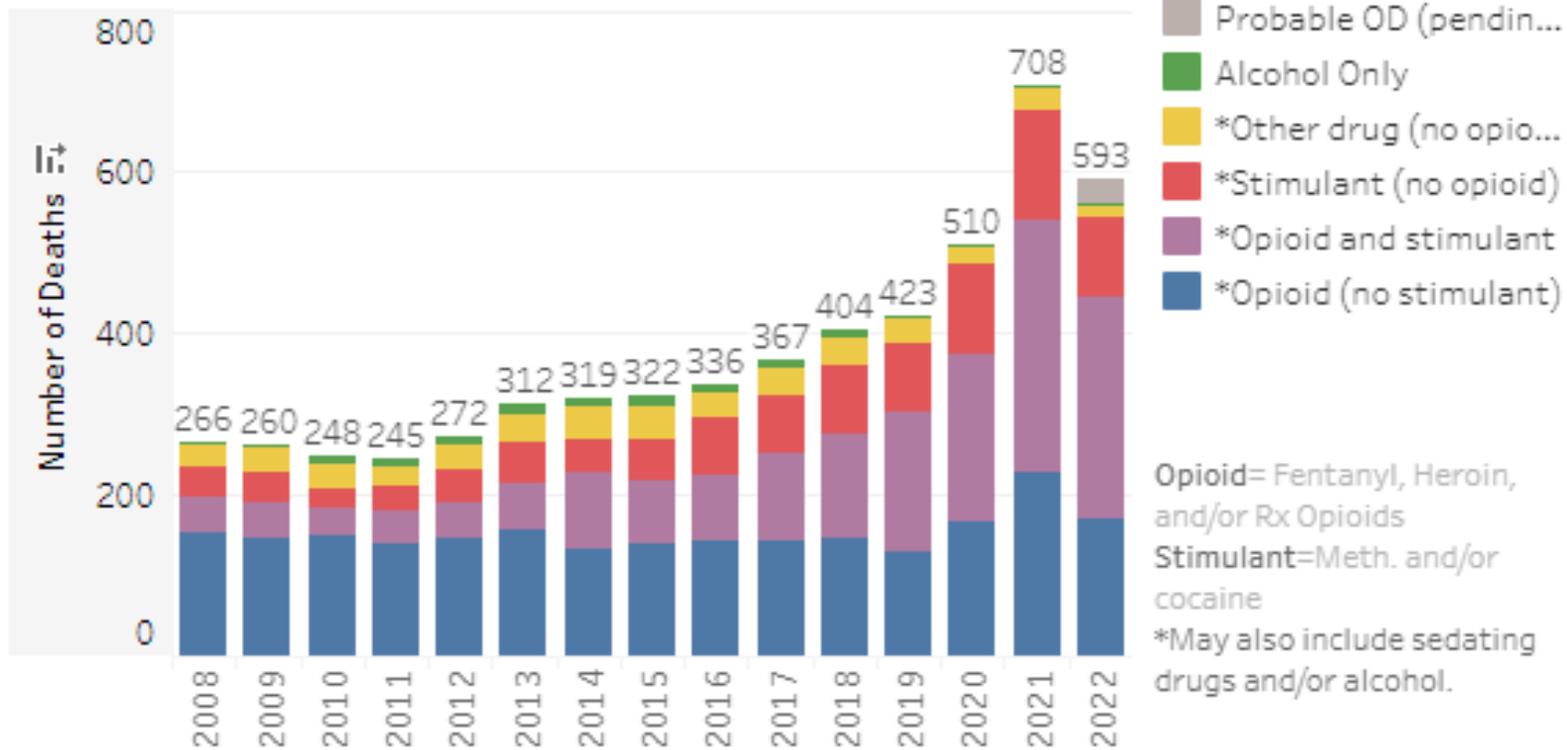
Brad Finegood, MA, LMHC

Strategic Advisor

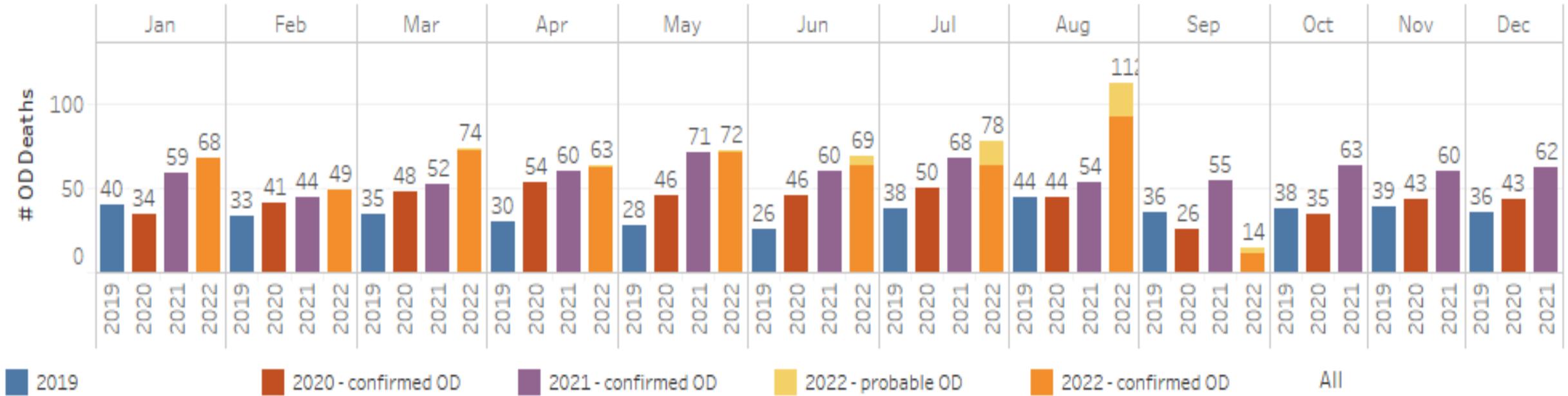
Public Health-Seattle & King County

Drug & Alcohol Poisoning Deaths, King County

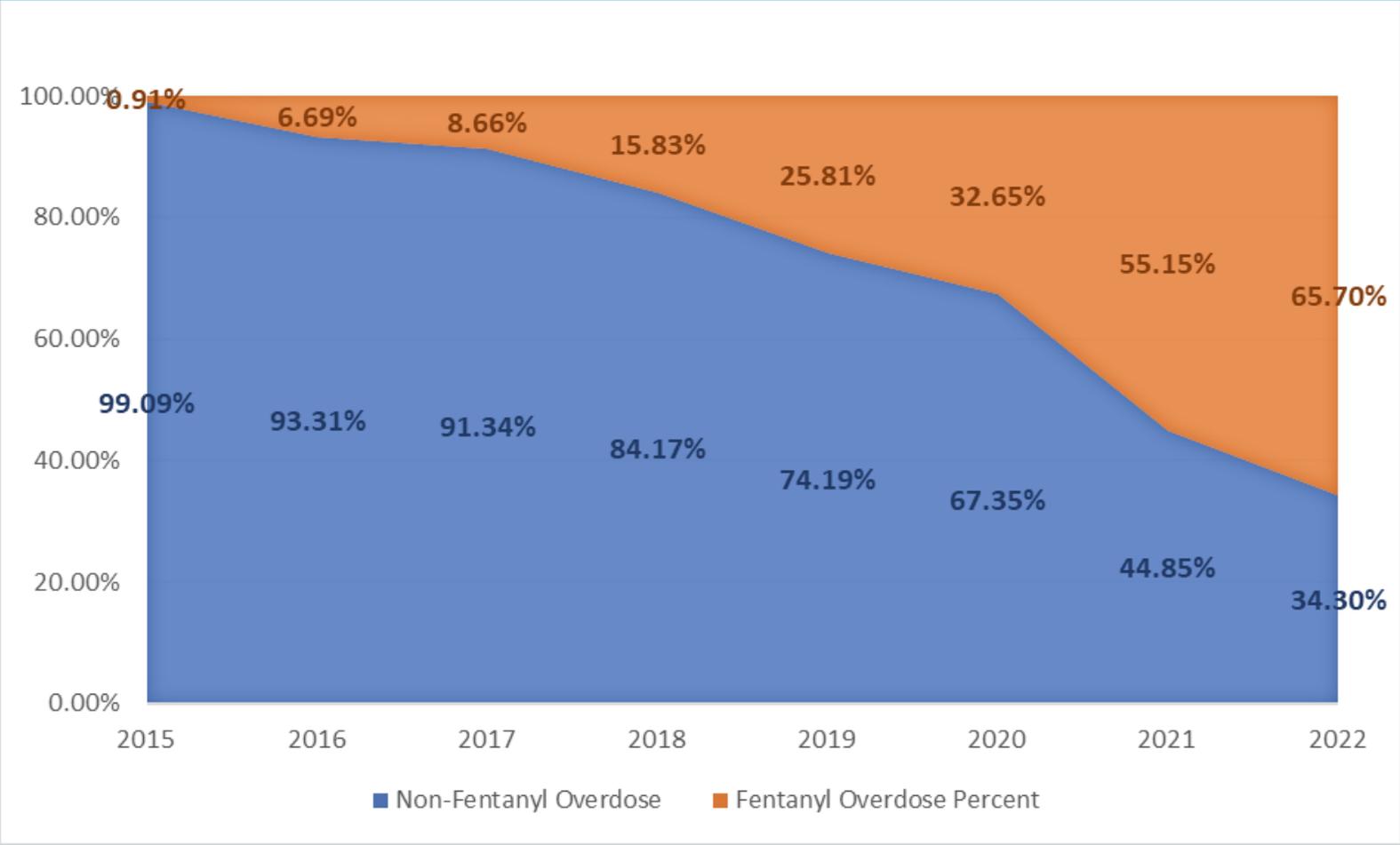
(Note: Bar chart can be viewed in terms of counts or rates; each decedent with a toxicology-confirmed overdose death is represented once.)



Number of Overdose Deaths in King County, 2019-present

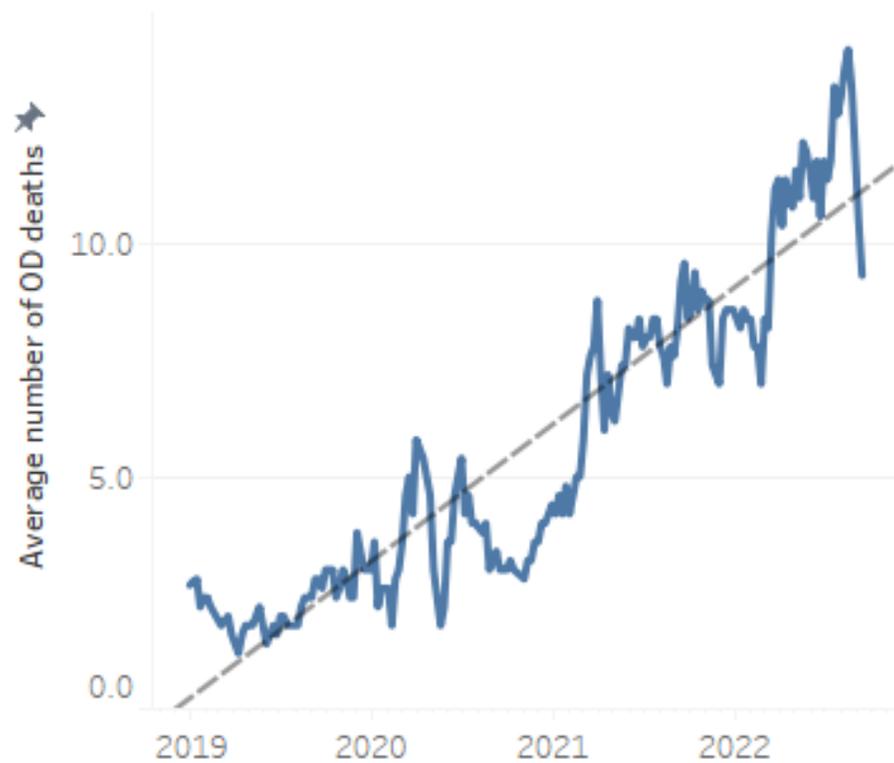


King County Fentanyl Involved Deaths by Year

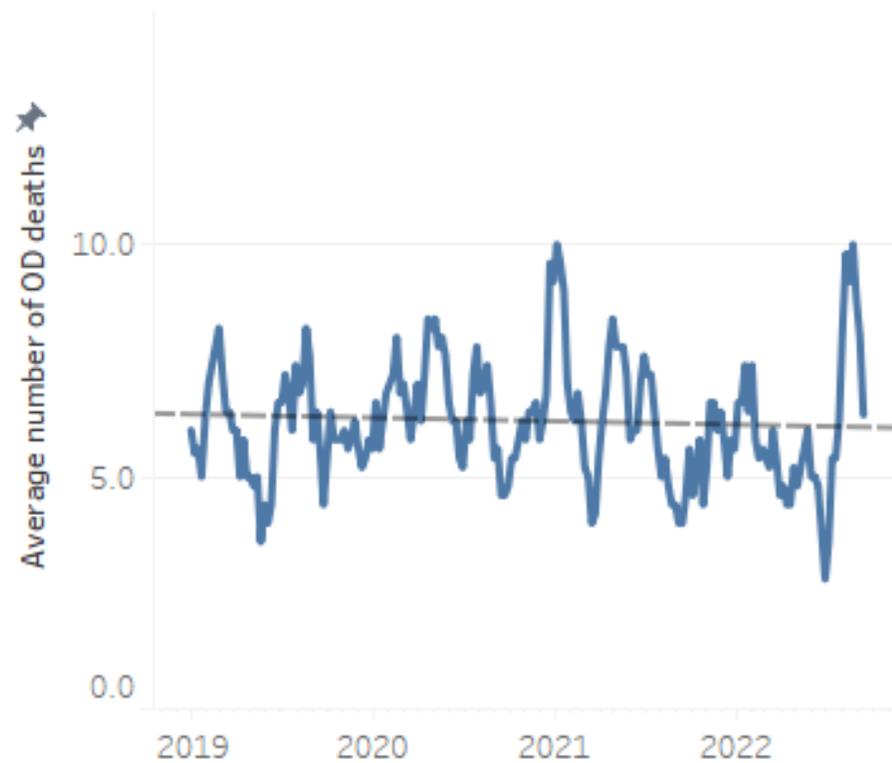


Average weekly overdose deaths, 2019-2022

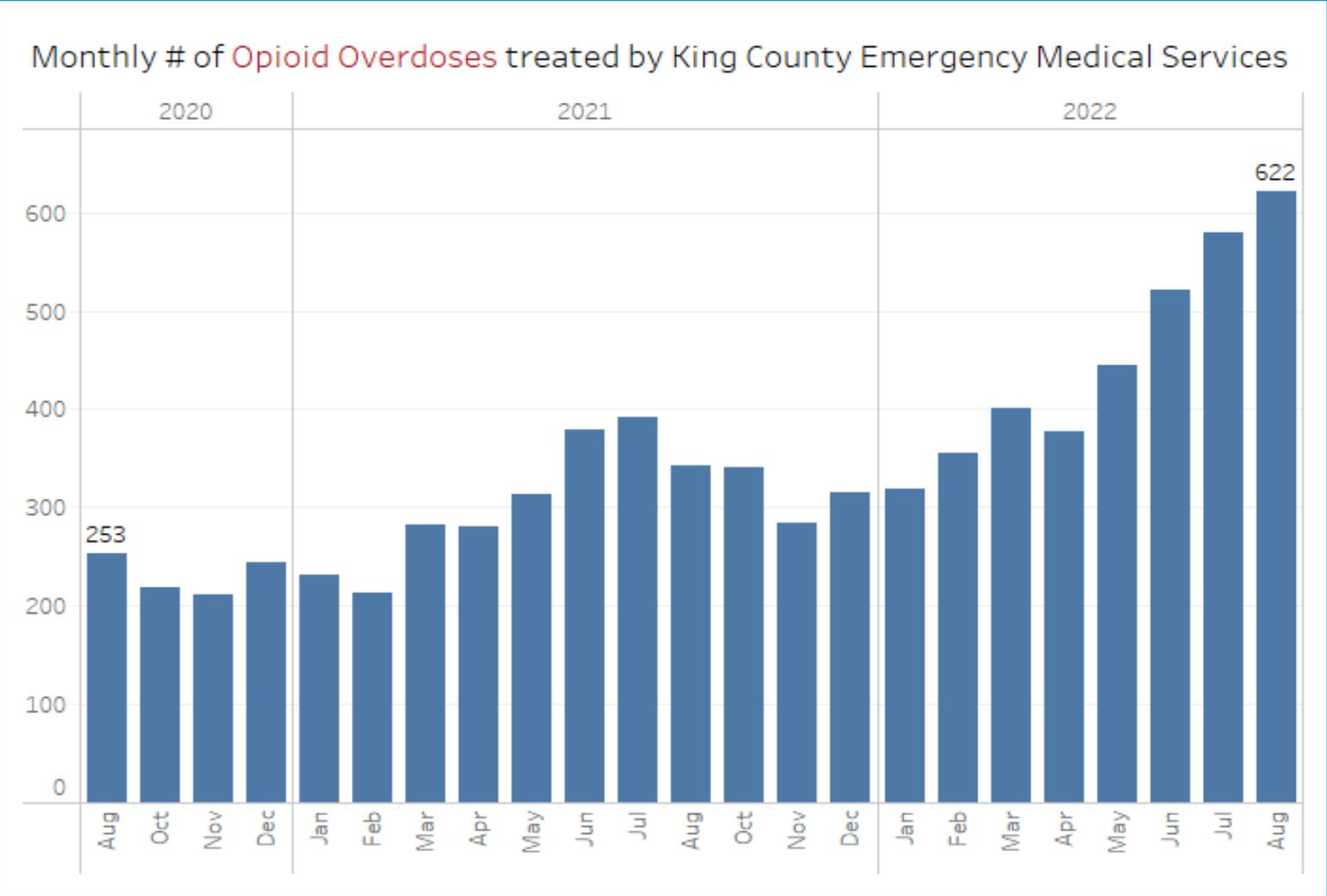
Average weekly number of fentanyl-involved overdose deaths



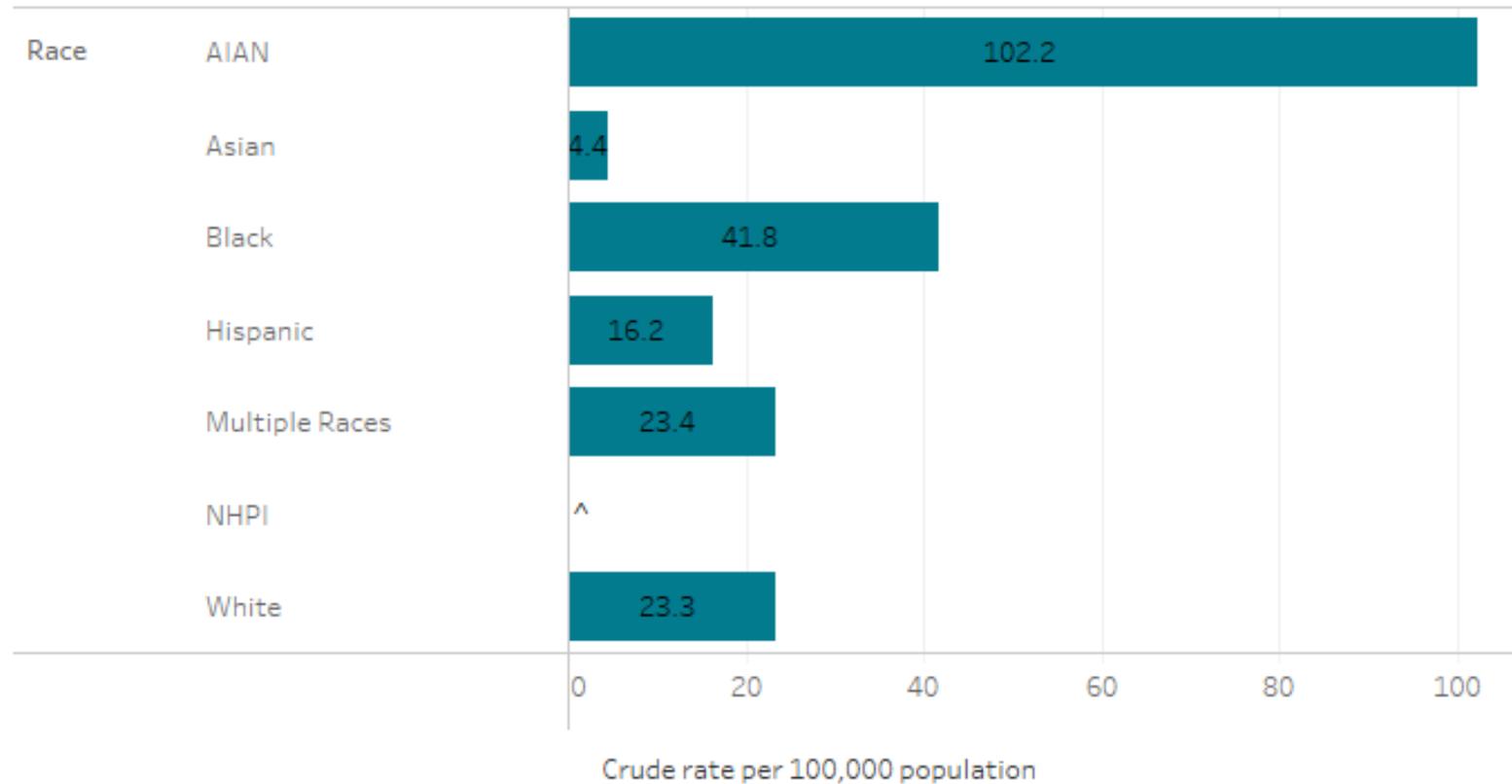
Average weekly number of non-fentanyl involved overdose deaths



Non-fatal overdoses treated by King County EMS, 2020-2022



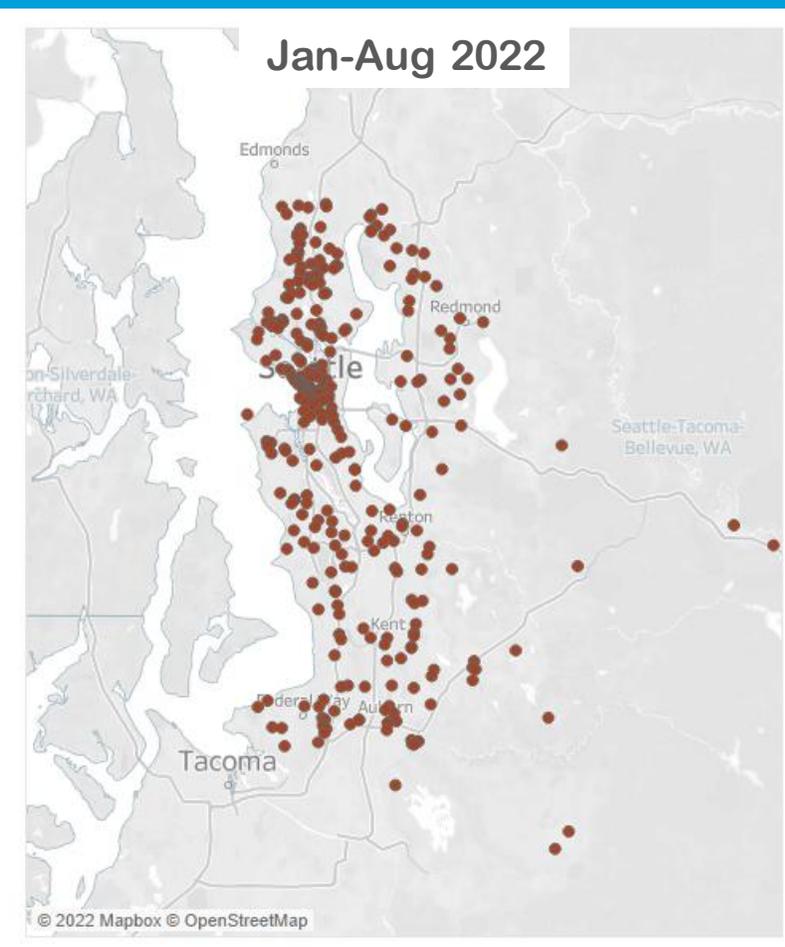
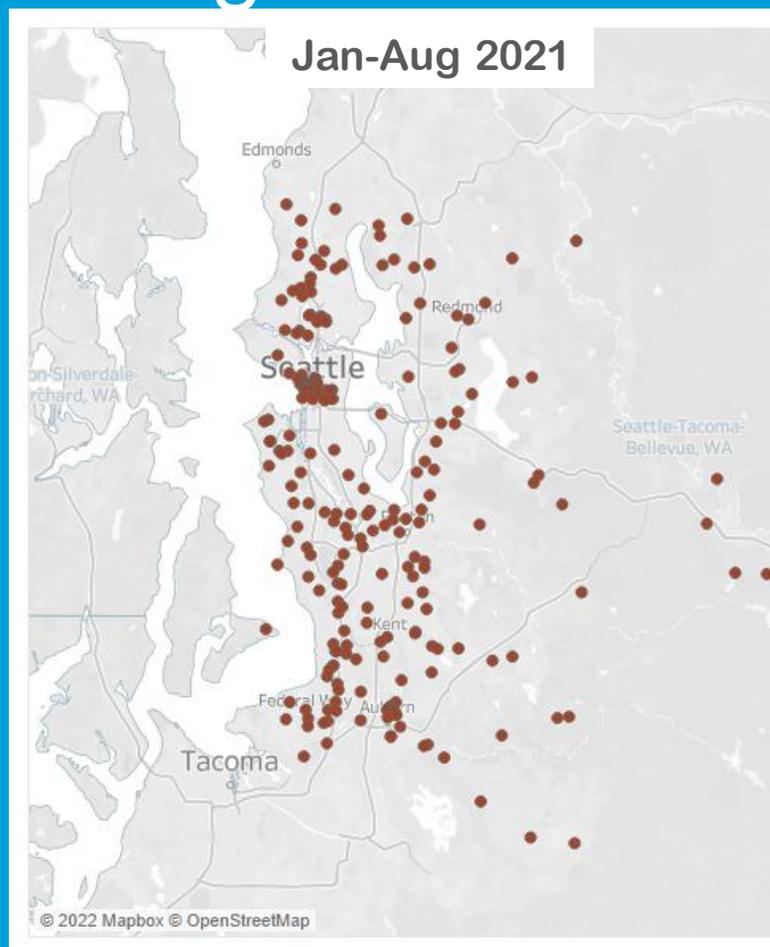
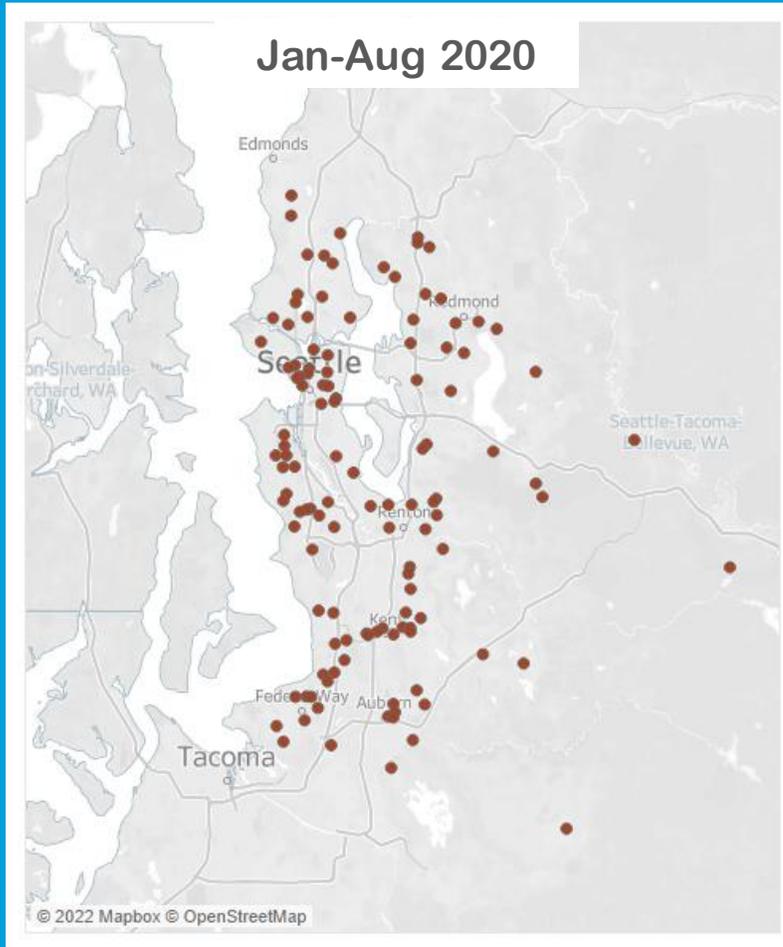
Rate of overdose deaths among King County residents in 2020 from Washington State Vital Statistics data



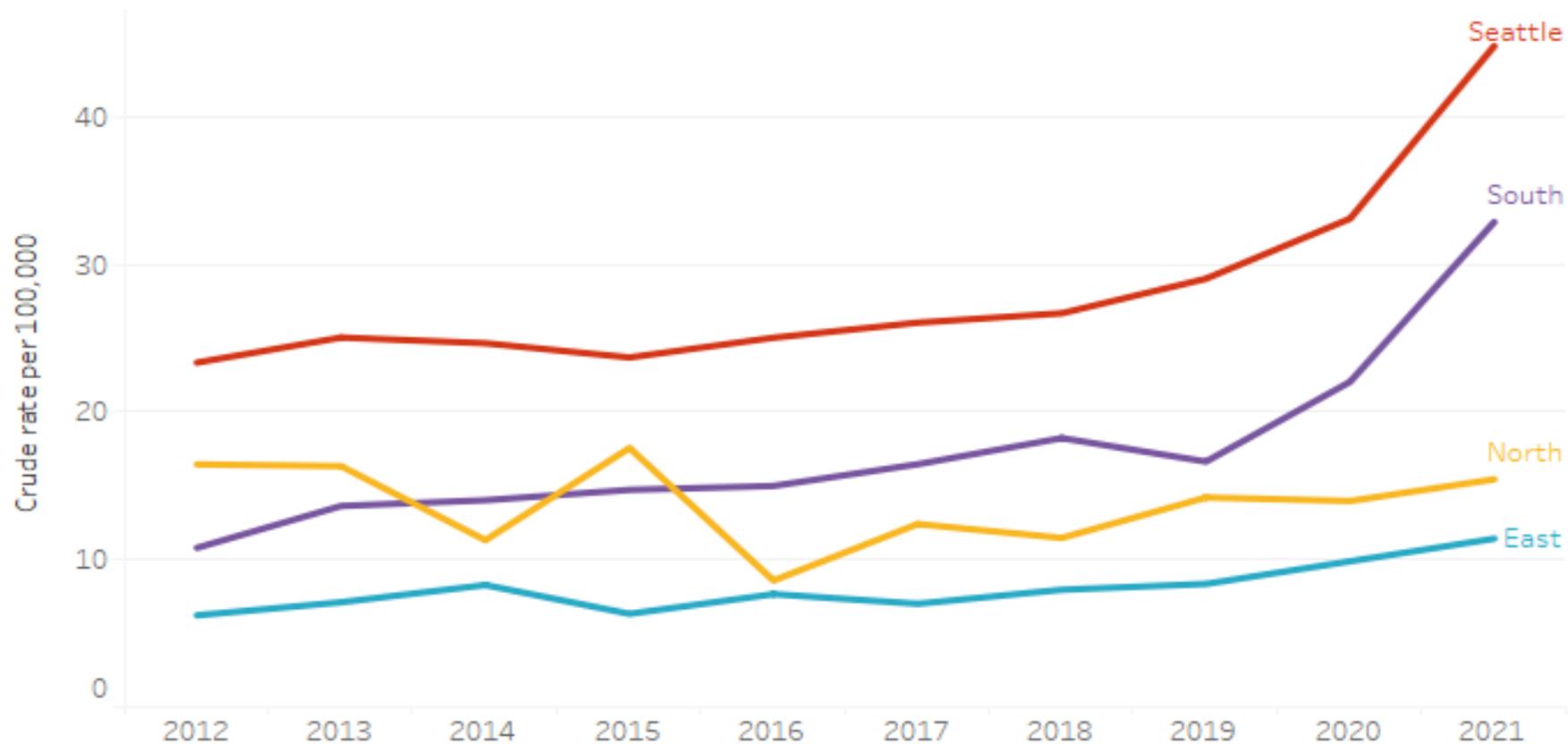
AIAN = American Indian/Alaska Native; NHPI = Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander

^ Data are suppressed to protect confidentiality..

Fatal Fentanyl Overdoses in King County, Jan-Aug 2020-2022



Rate of overdose deaths that occurred in King County in 2012 - 2021 from Medical Examiner's Office data



Note: Gaps in trend lines are for data that are suppressed due to confidentiality

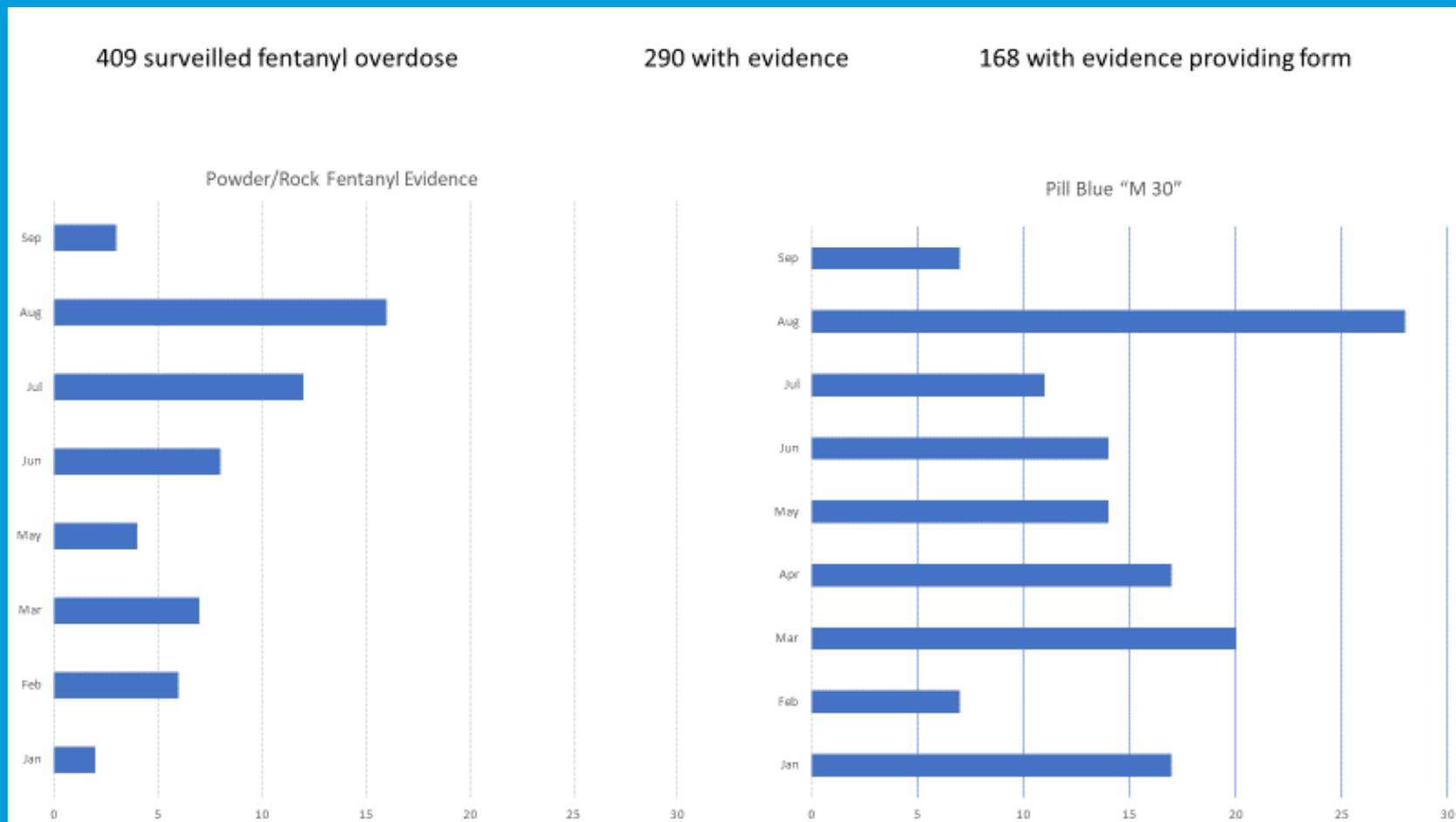
Data source: King County Medical Examiner's Office (MEO); this data represents deaths that occurred in King County and were investigated by the MEO.

Why

- Available in pill form
 - Now in multiple forms
 - Change in who is using fentanyl over the last 3 years.
 - Non-traditional users, non-opioid users, and long-term opioid users.
- Easy routes of administration.
 - Needle to smoking / ingesting
- Cheap and plentiful
- Move from novel substance to becoming ubiquitous
- Powerful
 - Use patterns increase
- Impact on multiple populations.



Fentanyl Form



So what is the response?

**LACED &
LETHAL**

LACED & LETHAL IS YOUR SOURCE FOR INFORMATION ON PILLS AND POWDERS LACED WITH FENTANYL

Overdoses caused by fentanyl-laced substances are on the rise in King County. Learn why and how to keep yourself and your friends safe.

START BY TAPPING ANY OF THE TOPICS BELOW:

Communications Campaigns



SUPPORTING SOMEONE WITH ADDICTION

Feelings of shame make it harder to seek treatment

People struggling with addiction face many challenges, especially the judgment they feel from others. In fact, around 90% never seek or receive treatment because of the shame they feel. This results in keeping their struggle a secret, which makes it even harder to get help. You can make a big difference just by showing your support.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSIDER

OFFICIAL INSIGHTS FROM PUBLIC HEALTH - SEATTLE & KING COUNTY STAFF



TALKING WITH TEENS ABOUT FENTANYL

by Gabriel Spitzer

Versión en español

Updated December 3, 2021

With the first months of school now behind us and young people more used to re-engaging with their peers, it's a good time to have an open and honest conversation with our kids about fentanyl.

This powerful synthetic drug has changed the landscape of drug use in our region. In 2015, just three people died from a fentanyl-related overdose in King County. In 2021, that number is expected to reach 350 or more people.

Especially alarming, there has been a significant increase in overdose deaths among young people. These deaths used to be rare in King County: Between 2008-2018, an average of 4 people aged 19 or younger died each year from overdose. This year, so far, there have been 21

FOLLOW BLOG VIA EMAIL

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Email Address

FOLLOW

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

How Your Teen Can Help Reverse the Overdose Trend in King County

A teen dies from overdose roughly every two weeks in King County. Most of these deaths involved fentanyl.



By Knowing the Signs of an Overdose

- Won't wake up
- Slowed or no breathing
- Heavy gurgling or snoring sounds
- Blue, purple, or gray skin, lips, and nails
- Cold or clammy skin



By Talking with You

They are listening even if you think they aren't. These tools could help prevent another King County overdose death.



By Calling 911

Don't hesitate. The Good Samaritan Law* means you won't get in trouble for calling 911. While waiting for EMS, monitor their breathing.



By Carrying Naloxone

Naloxone is an easy-to-use nasal spray that can reverse the effects of a deadly overdose.



*The Good Samaritan Law does not cover outstanding warrants or felonies.

Talk to your teen today, and learn more at [TalkEvenIf.com](https://www.talkevenif.com)



Posters, postcards and flyers



From January to mid-August 2022, we have sent out 20,102 posters, postcards, and stickers.

Drug Alerts

New evidence of fentanyl being sold in rock form in King County



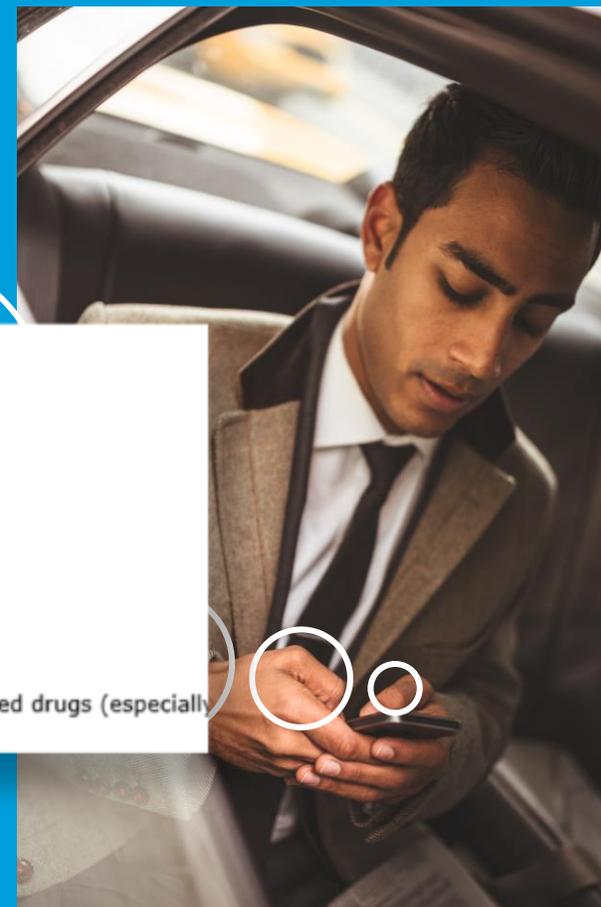
King County, WA <KingCounty@subscriptions.kingcounty.gov>

To ● Finegood, Brad

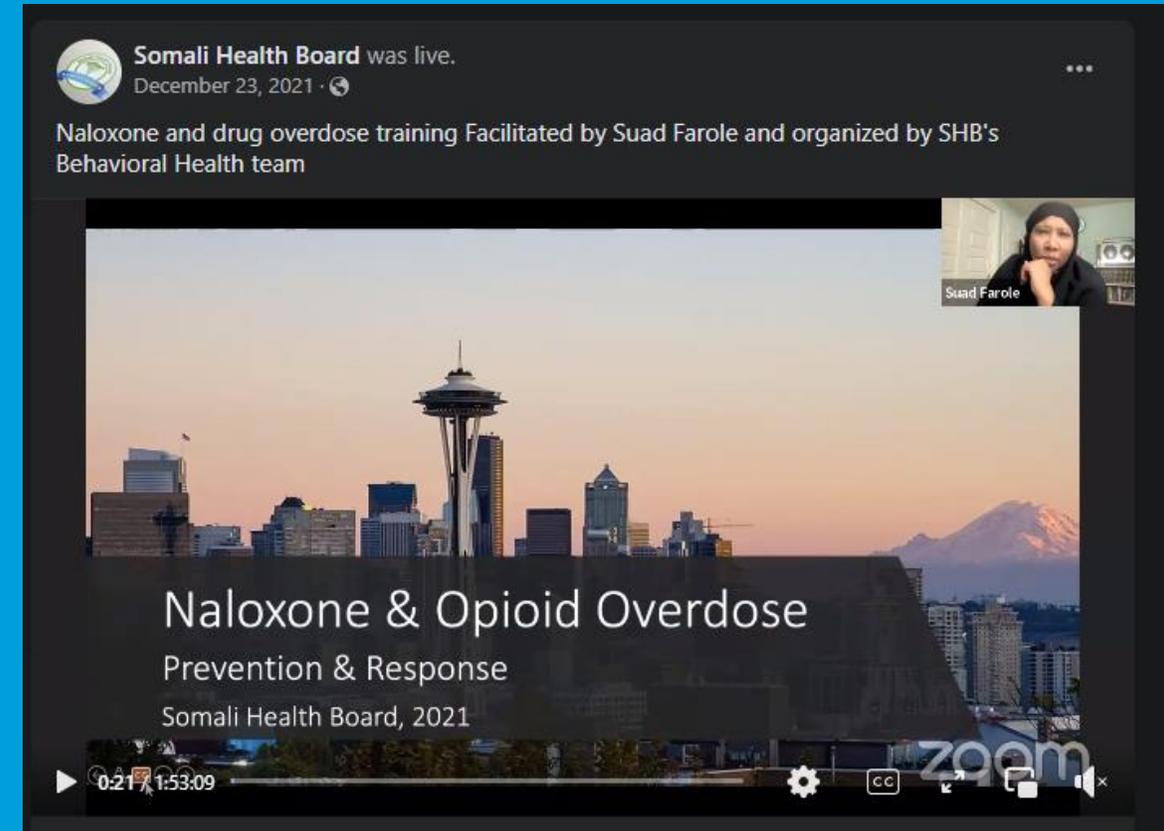


You forwarded this message on 4/21/2022 6:23 PM.

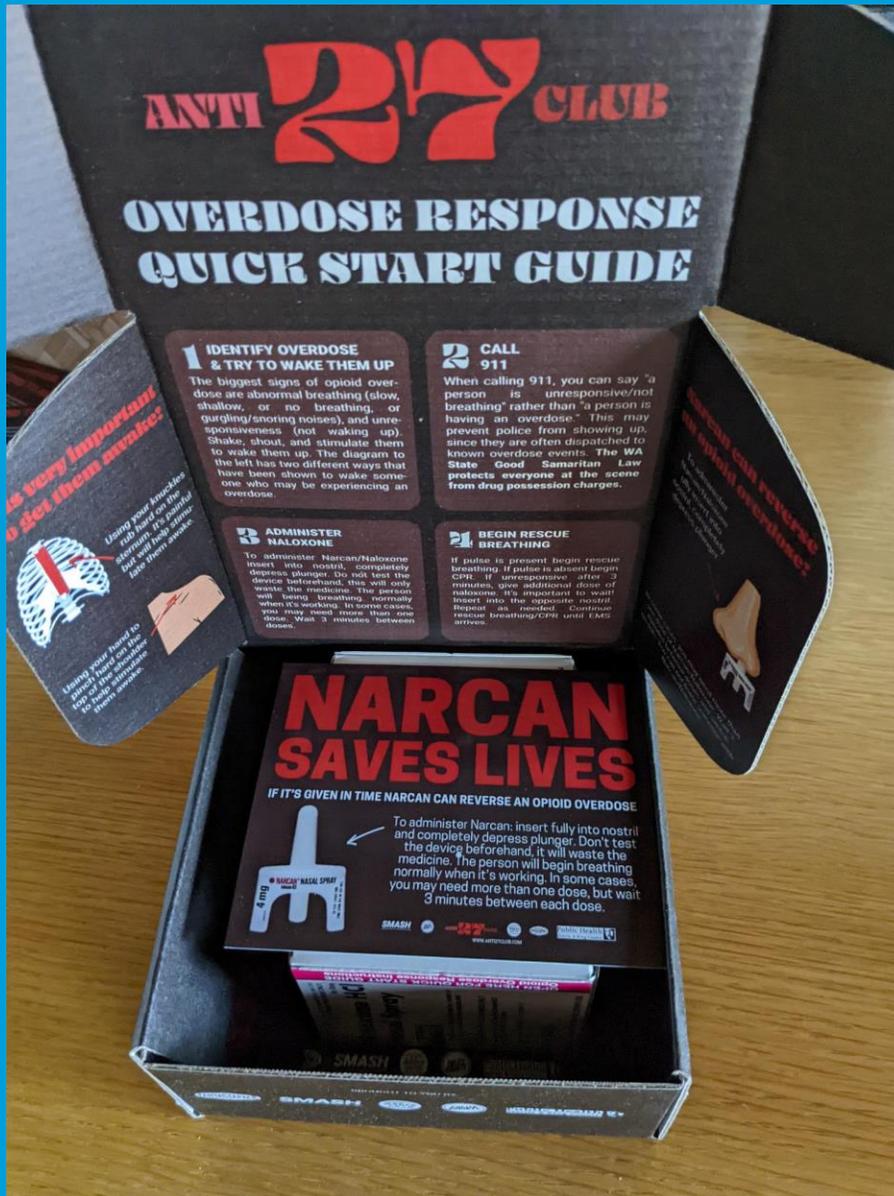
There is new evidence of fentanyl being sold in rock form in King County. If you or someone you know is using rock or powdered drugs (especially



Community Based Train the Trainer



Expansion of Harm Reduction and Overdose Prevention



Next Up and Current Work

- Updated Website and Dashboards
- Post Overdose Follow Up
 - From January to August 2022, we texted or called 788 people who survived a non-fatal overdose and referred 24 people (3%) to services.
 - From May to August 2022, we reached out to 248 families who had a loved one die of an overdose and referred 78 of those families (31%) to services.
- EMS Overdose Prevention
- Continued Buprenorphine Expansion