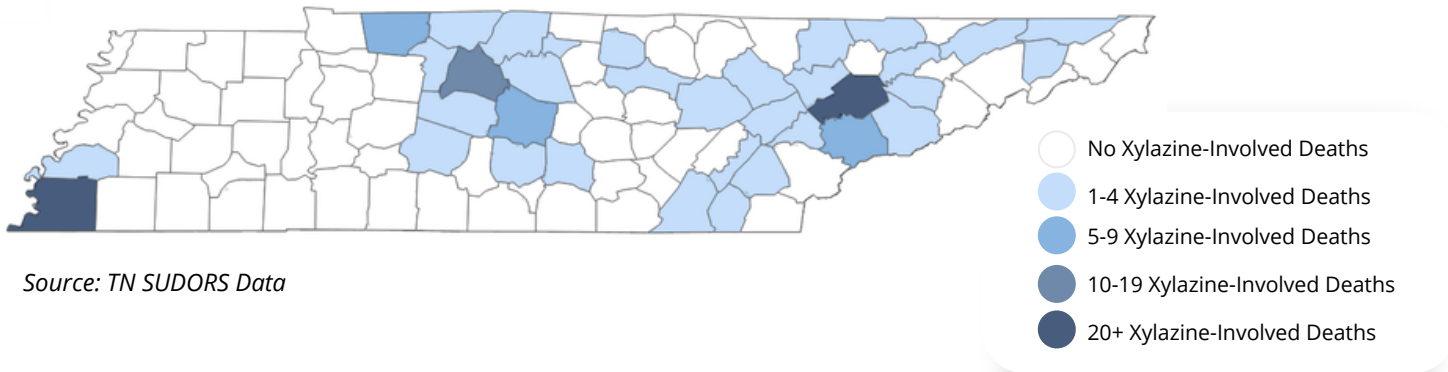


Emerging Trends Brief: Xylazine in Tennessee

Xylazine, a non-opioid veterinary tranquilizer, has been linked to an increasing number of drug overdose deaths nationwide and in Tennessee (TN). Recently, the [US Food and Drug Administration released a warning](#) about the risks associated with xylazine exposure as persons who use illicit drugs may or may not be aware of xylazine's presence in the drug supply. This brief covers basic trends on xylazine-involved deaths in TN captured by the TN State Unintentional Drug Overdose Reporting System (SUDORS).

Xylazine-Involved Deaths in Tennessee by County, 2020-2021

Below are the number of xylazine-involved overdose deaths for Tennessee residents by their county of residence



Source: TN SUDORS Data

Xylazine is not detected by routine toxicology screens



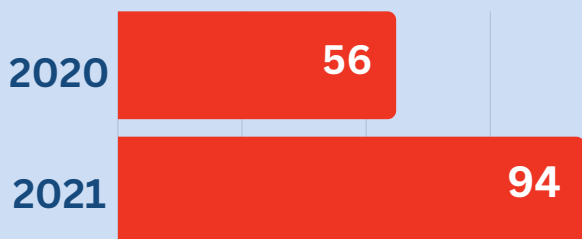
Since Xylazine is not identified by routine toxicology screens, Xylazine is likely under-detected and its full impact in TN unknown

Xylazine-involved deaths occurred at a home more than other locations



Roughly, 2 out of 5 xylazine-deaths occurred at a residential address; many of these deaths were alone

TN Residents with Xylazine-Involved Deaths



Source: TN SUDORS Data

Top Substances also identified in Toxicology with Xylazine:

- 1 Fentanyl
- 2 Methamphetamine
- 3 Delta-9 THC
- 4 Cocaine
- 5 Alprazolam (Xanax)

No overdose deaths in TN involved only xylazine; all involved multiple substances