

FENTANYL TEST STRIPS

Year One: Changing Behavior and Restoring Lives

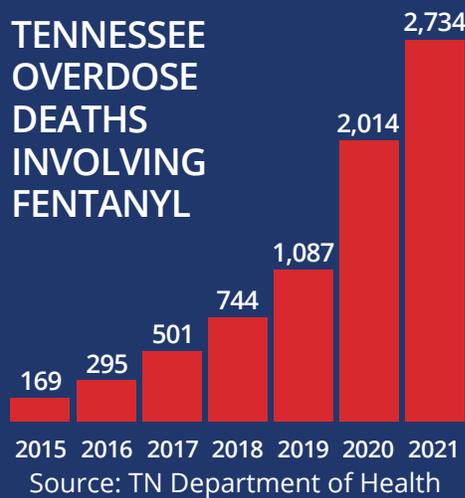


Fentanyl is a man-made opioid that's many times stronger than morphine or heroin that's driving huge increases in overdoses and sadly, more Tennesseans than ever dying. These deaths are preventable with knowledge and tools. In March 2022, the Tennessee General Assembly passed legislation that allowed for the individual use of equipment that detects synthetic opioids, such as fentanyl. The most common of these tools are fentanyl test strips. TDMHSAS added this low cost, life-saving tool to its overdose prevention program supporting existing efforts to distribute naloxone (Narcan) to people at risk of overdose, and the results have been tremendous.

WHY IT MATTERS

The goal of this work is to reduce overdose deaths and empower people to make safer decisions with the goal of connecting them with treatment and recovery resources when they are ready.

TENNESSEE OVERDOSE DEATHS INVOLVING FENTANYL

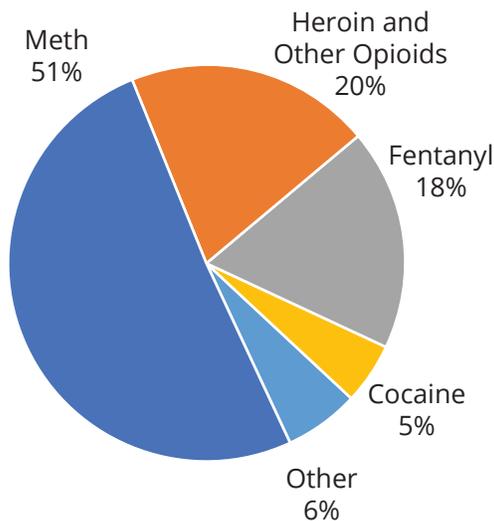


Number of Test Strips Distributed in First Year (July 2022 - June 2023)

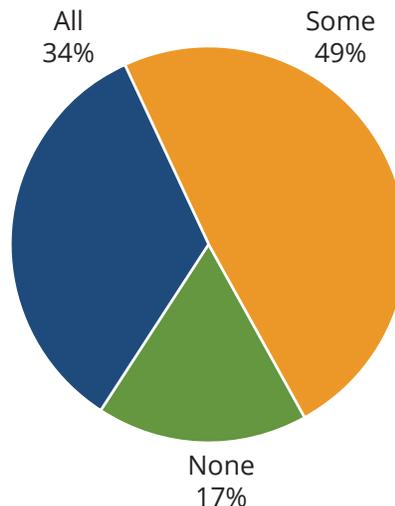
126,000

In the first year of this effort, the department collected voluntary data submissions from people who used the test strips, and the results are detailed below.

SUBSTANCES TESTED



AMOUNT OF POSITIVE FTS IN A KIT



OUR DATA OUTPERFORM PREVIOUS STUDIES*

