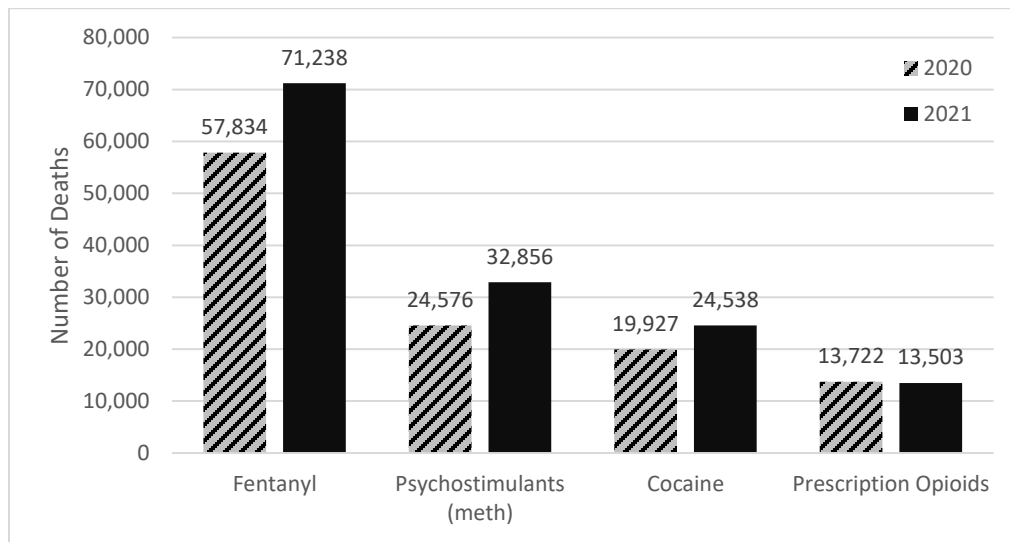


IT'S ABOUT PAIN

OPIOID DEATHS—WHAT'S THE CAUSE? PRESCRIPTIONS? METH? HEROIN? FENTANYL?



Source: U.S. Overdose Deaths In 2021 Increased Half as Much as in 2020 – But Are Still Up 15%. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/nchs_press_releases/2022/202205.htm. Published May 11, 2022.

Please note that between 2020 and 2021,

- There was a 10,000 case increase in the number of overdose deaths from fentanyl.
- 3000 additional deaths occurred due to methamphetamines.
- Another 3000 died from overdoses of heroin.
- But the number of overdose deaths from prescription opioids, DECREASED by 219.
- The percentage of overall overdose deaths due to prescriptions dropped from 12.7% to 9.5%.

One wonders why there is so much focus on prescribers, fillers, and users of prescription opioids when

1. 90% of the overdoses are due to illegal use of fentanyl, methamphetamine, and heroin.
2. Things are worse regarding statistics for 2022.
3. Additionally, in 2023, xylazine's involvement has soared from around 3% to over 10%, and is skyrocketing.