



RICHARD A. JORGENSEN, MD, FACS
CORONER
DU PAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Public Safety Announcement: DuPage Overdose Statistics 2020

On Wednesday, May 13, 2020 DuPage County Coroner Richard Jorgensen, M.D. reported on preliminary data indicating an alarming increase in overdose deaths in DuPage County, followed by an in-depth review of all deaths due to overdose in the first six (6) months of 2020. This Public Service Announcement is a follow up for the entire year of 2020.

A thorough investigation and review of every overdose case has been undertaken to understand the circumstances and cause of this rise in overdose deaths. Personal, demographic and toxicological information was collected and reviewed to identify trends on who and how these overdoses occurred in the hope of fostering a better understanding of the problem and identifying potential solutions both on a personal and societal level.

Opioid Overdose Death Data:

Overall Deaths 1/1/2019-6/30/2019 -46

Overall Deaths 1/1/2020-6/30/2020 -70 (52% increase)

Overall deaths 7/1/2020-12/31/2020 -42

Total Opioid Overdoses for 2020: 112 (17% over 2019)

Cocaine Only = 6

Non Opioid overdoses = 18

Age

<19=0

20-29 = 41

30-39 = 32

40-49 = 18

50-59 = 13

60-69 = 7

70-79 = 1

Sex:

Female =24%

Male =76%

Past Years:

2015

36 = Heroin alone

7 = Heroin/Fentanyl mixture

8 = Fentanyl alone

Total deaths=51

2016

36 = Heroin alone

26 = Heroin/Fentanyl mixture

16 = Fentanyl alone

17 = Opioid based Prescription Medications

Total deaths (illegal Drugs) = 78

Total deaths (all opioids) = 95

2017

23 = Heroin alone

32 = Heroin/Fentanyl mixture

17 = Fentanyl alone

23 = Opioid based Prescription Medications

Total deaths (illegal Drugs) = 72

Total deaths (all opioids) = 95

2018

17 = Heroin alone

34 = Heroin/Fentanyl mixture

30 = Fentanyl alone

17 = Opioid based Prescription Medications

Total deaths (illegal Drugs) = 81 (13% increase over totals in 2017)

Total deaths (all opioids) = 98 (3% increase over totals in 2017)

2019

13 = Heroin alone

42 = Heroin/Fentanyl mixture

33 = Fentanyl alone

8 = Opioid based Prescription Medications

Total deaths (illegal Drugs) = 88 (8.6% increase over totals in 2018)

Total deaths (all opioids) = 96 (2% decrease over totals in 2018)