In 2019, the Pima County Health Department’s Community Mental Health and Addiction program implemented a local Overdose Fatality Review (OFR) committee. The committee conducts confidential case reviews of overdose deaths to strengthen overdose prevention strategies and reduce the number of overdose deaths.

Decedent Demographics by Majority

- 68% Male (assigned sex at birth)
- 51% Age 20-39
- 59% White non-Hispanic
- 95% No prior military service
- 59% High school diploma/GED or less
- 100% Pima County residents

Top 3 drugs contributing to fatal overdoses in 2019:
1. Methamphetamine
2. Fentanyl
3. Heroin

Use of Naloxone by Bystanders & First Responders

- 37 cases reviewed
- 11% of the 337 total overdose deaths in 2019
- 30% First Responder
- 32% First Responder
- 91% Bystander
- 9% Bystander
- 38% Naloxone used
- 30% No record
- 32% Deceased upon arrival

Case Attributes & Risk Factors

- Polysubstance Use: 81%
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 70%
- Substance Use Disorder Diagnosis: 65%
- Chronic Health Condition: 60%
- Bystander Present or In Household: 59%
- Released from Jail/Hospital within 30 Days of DOD: 49%
- Multiple ED/Hospital Visits: 43%
- IV Drug use: 38%
- Previous Overdose: 35%
- History of Suicide Attempt and/or Ideation: 32%
- History of Trauma/Victimization: 27%
- Experiencing Homelessness at Time of Death: 24%
- Undiagnosed Substance Use Disorder: 22%
- >2 Controlled Substance Rx at Time of Death: 22%
- Pain Management: 19%
- History of DUI: 16%
- On Probation/Parole at Time of Death: 14%
- History of Domestic Violence: 11%

Fatal Overdose Location

- Decedent’s residence (59%)
- Other residence (16%)
- Outdoors (16%)
- Non-residential address (8%)

For naloxone visit: PimaHelpline.org/Naloxone
For substance use treatment call: 1-800-662-HELP (4357)