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*A National Association of Medical Examiner's (N.A.M.E.) accredited office*



**CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

**MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE**

**Heroin/Fentanyl/Cocaine  
Related Deaths in  
Cuyahoga County**

**2021 September UPDATE**

**October 5, 2021**

# CURRENT PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY –

**Fatal Cases due to heroin/fentanyl/analogs in September– at least **37** (6 cases pending testing)**

24 - City of Cleveland Residents

11 - Suburban Residents- Berea, Brecksville, Brook Park, East Cleveland, Euclid, Fairview Park, Garfield Hts., Lakewood (2), Middleburg Hts., Parma, and

2– Out of County – Chesterland (Geauga Co.), Wadsworth (Medina Co.), and

1 - Unknown

## **VICTIMS**

Victims' ages range from under 23 - 72

31 Male victims; 12 Female victims

10 African American victims; 33 Caucasian victims (4 Hispanic victims)

## **TRENDS**

At least **402** victims have died from heroin/fentanyl/analog or in combination through September 2021. This compares to 309 in 2020; 309 in 2019; 307 in 2018 and 426 in 2017. 2021 total is at least **492** fatalities when including cocaine as well.

**Carfentanil: 191 cases in 2017; 24 cases in 2018; 220 in 2019; 63 confirmed in 2020; 5 as of 9/30/21**

Rate of African American deaths involving fentanyl is 29.71% of all victims in 2021, higher than all previous years: 25.00% of all victims in 2020 and 27.80% in 2019, more than double the rate in 2016 (14.5%), and more than the 20.33% in 2017 and 21.61 in 2018. As many as 29 cocaine related deaths occurred in September 2021 with as many as 20 being mixed with Fentanyl, Heroin or both.

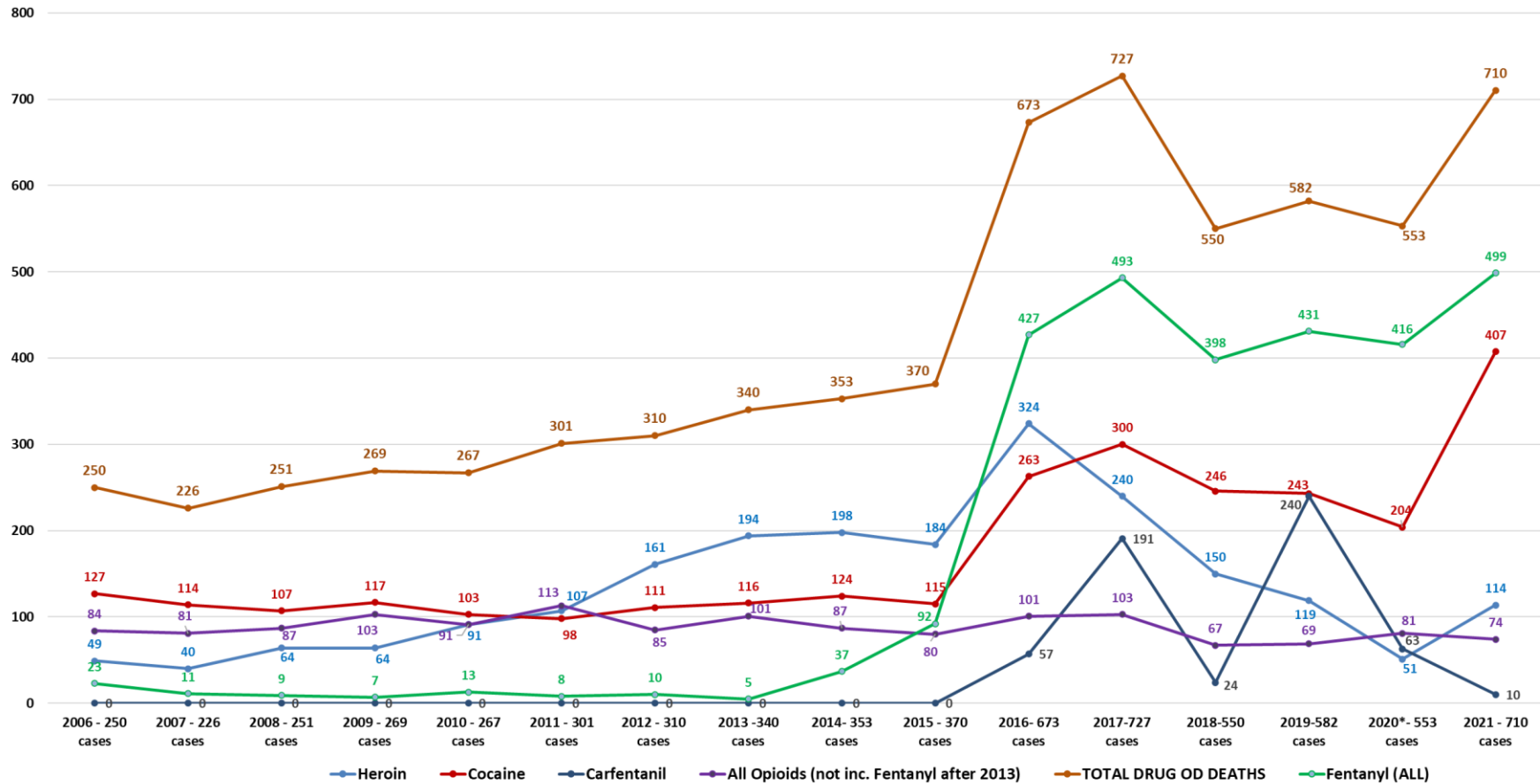
*Source: Cuyahoga County Medical  
Examiner's Office revised 10-5-21*



## Cuyahoga County Overdose Deaths 2006-2021\*

### Most Common Drugs

\*(2021 projections based on data through October 5, 2021)



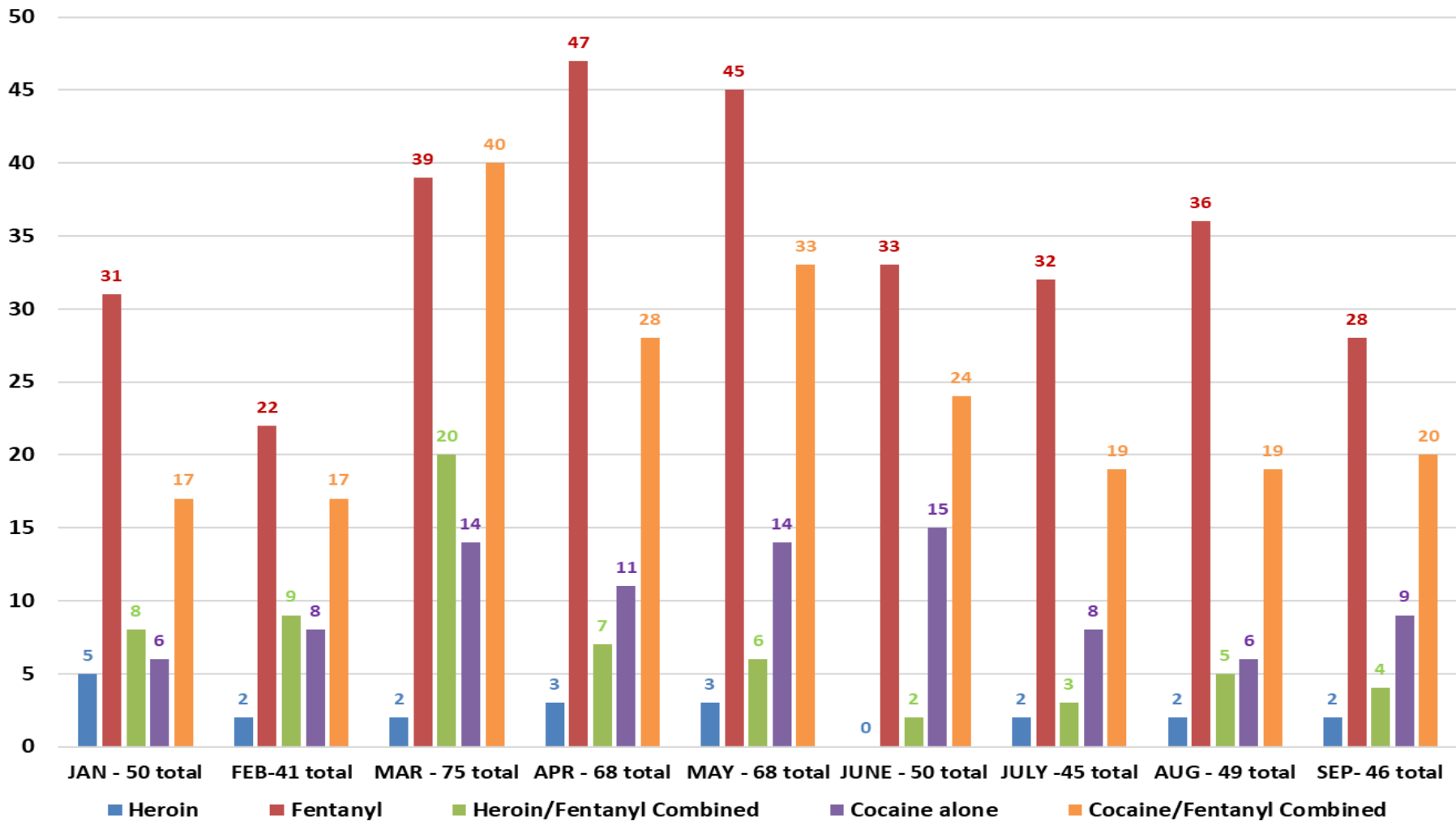
Source: Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office revised 10-5-21



## 2021 CCMEO Overdose Deaths, Most Common Drugs Involved

\*(thru September 30, 2021)

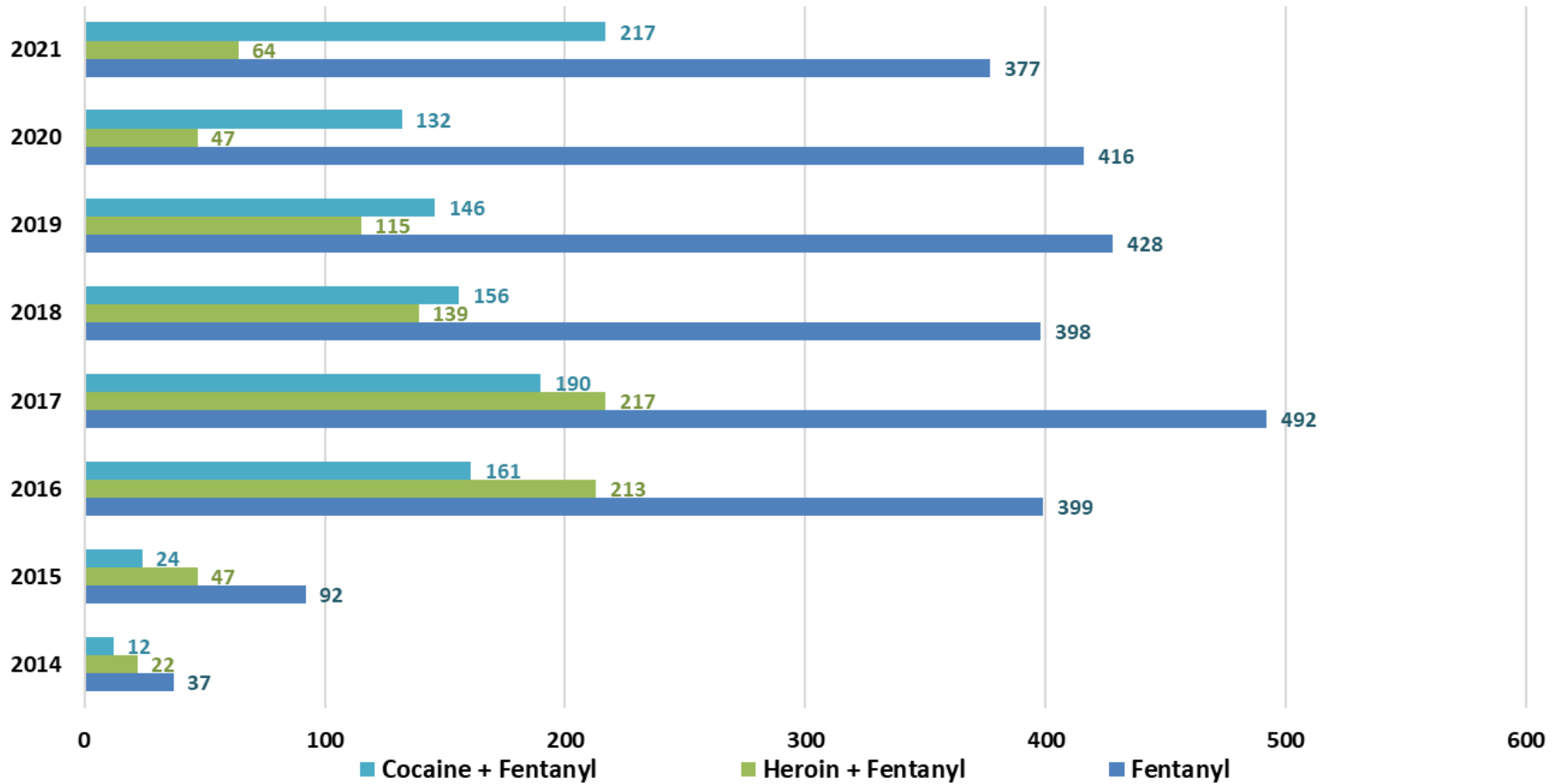
Combined is heroin and fentanyl or cocaine and fentanyl in some combination  
(Fentanyl analogues will be counted under Fentanyl Columns)



Source: Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office revised 10-5-21



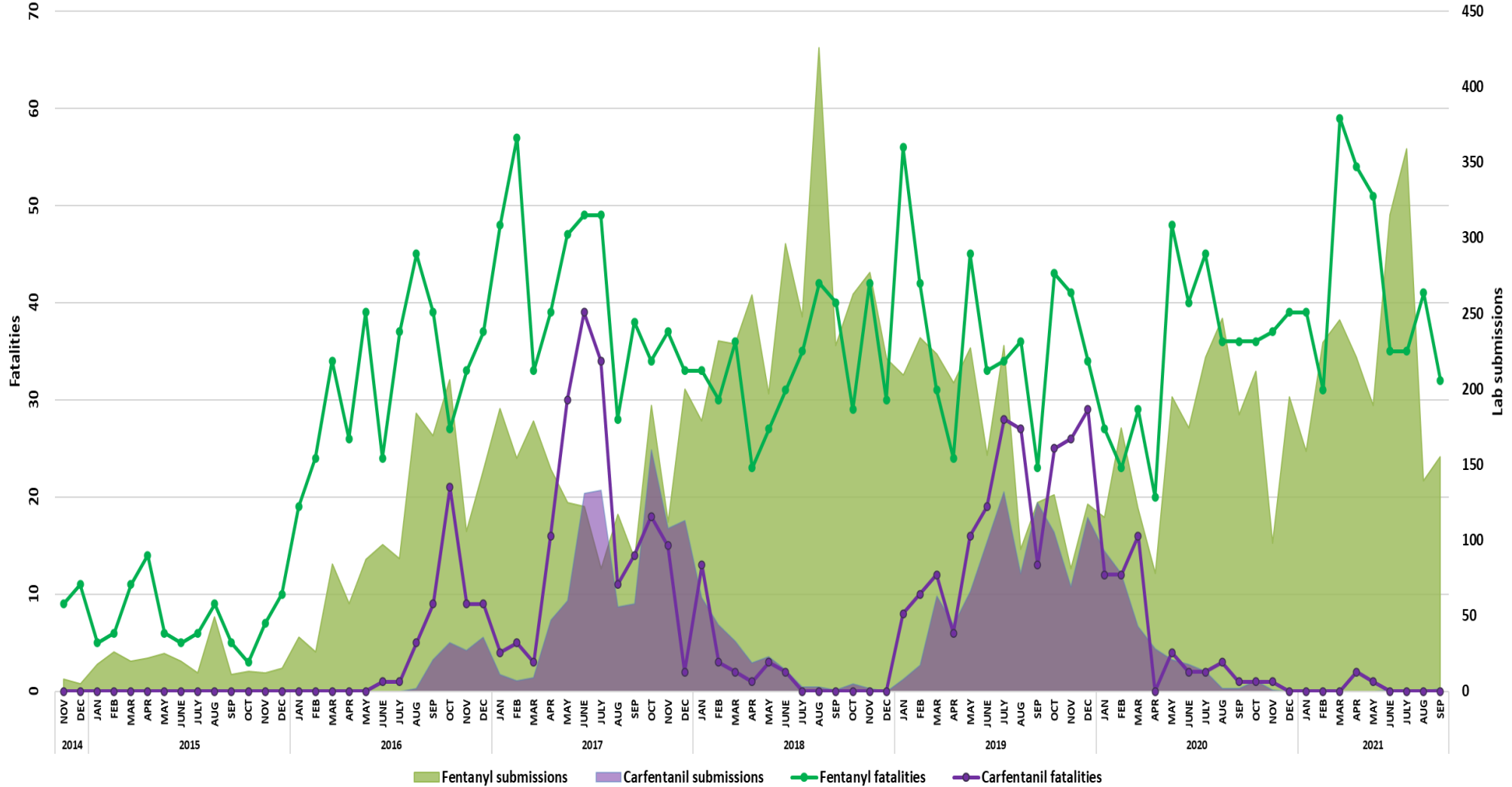
**CCMEO, Proliferation of Heroin/Fentanyl and Cocaine/Fentanyl mixtures in fatalities 2013-2021\* (\* thru September 30, 2021)**



Source: Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office revised 10-5-21



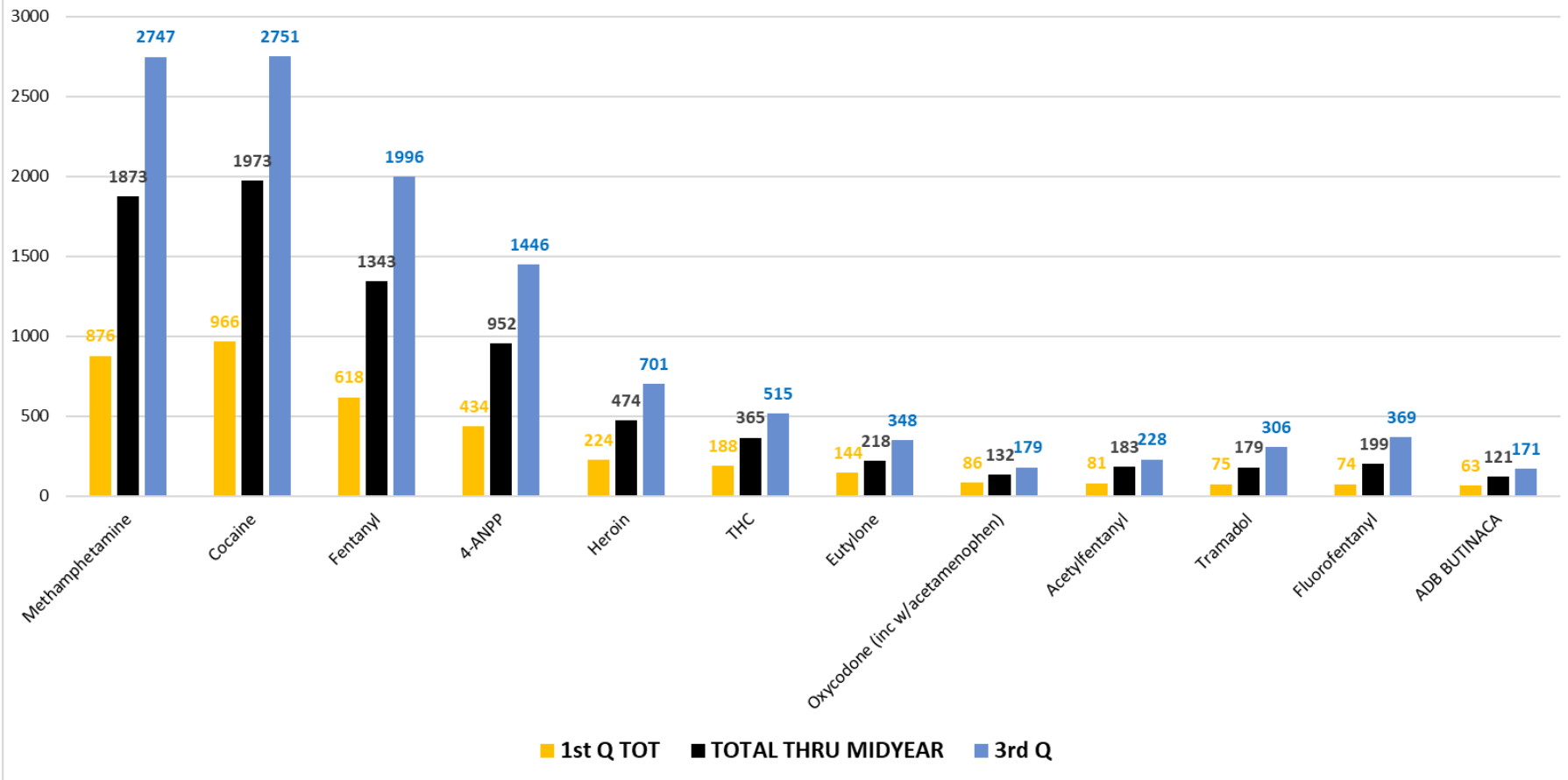
### CCMEO/CCRFSL Relationship of Fentanyl and Carfentanil Fatalities and Fentanyl and Carfentanil Lab Submissions 2014-2021)



Source: Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office revised 10-5-21



### CCRFSL 2021 TOP 12 Drug Submissions Through 3rd Quarter



Source: Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office revised 10-5-21

