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**11 December 2023**

**Original: Spanish**

# **“Emerging Synthetic Drugs in the Hemisphere” Mexico's Situation**

# "Emerging Synthetic Drugs in the Hemisphere"

## Mexico's Situation

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National Commission on Mental Health and Addictions



**SALUD**  
SECRETARÍA DE SALUD



**CONASAMA**  
COMISIÓN NACIONAL DE SALUD MENTAL  
Y ADICCIONES



**2023**  
AÑO DE  
*Francisco*  
**VILLA**  
EL REVOLUCIONARIO DEL PUEBLO

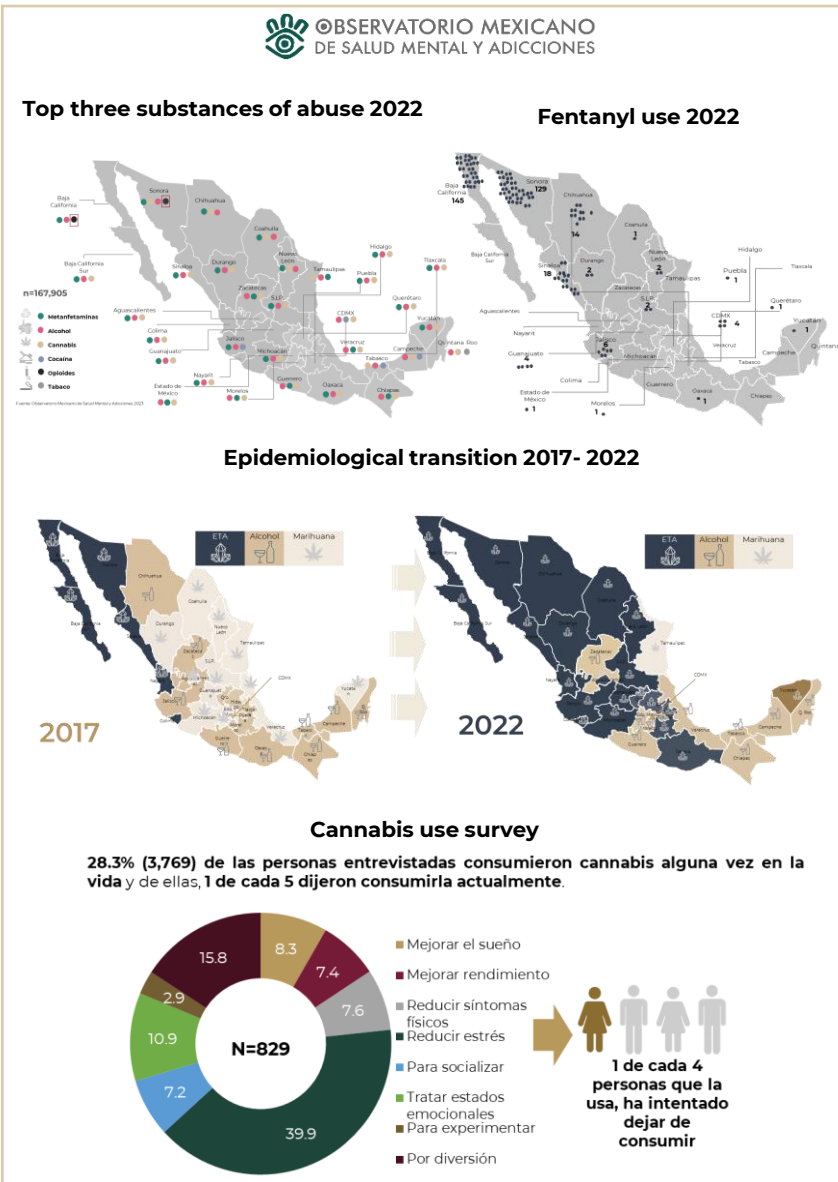
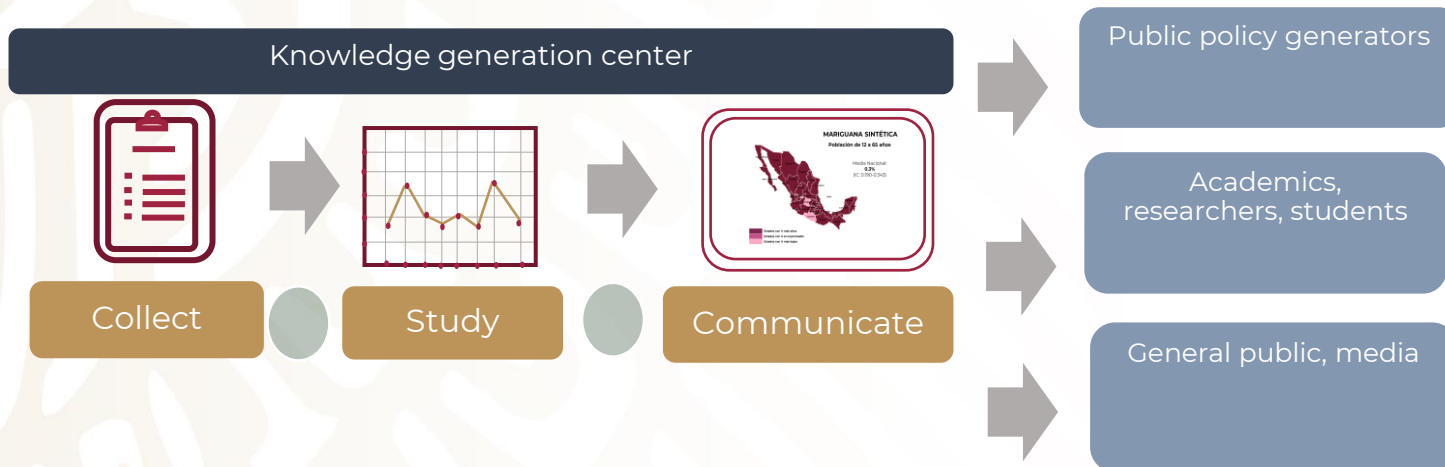
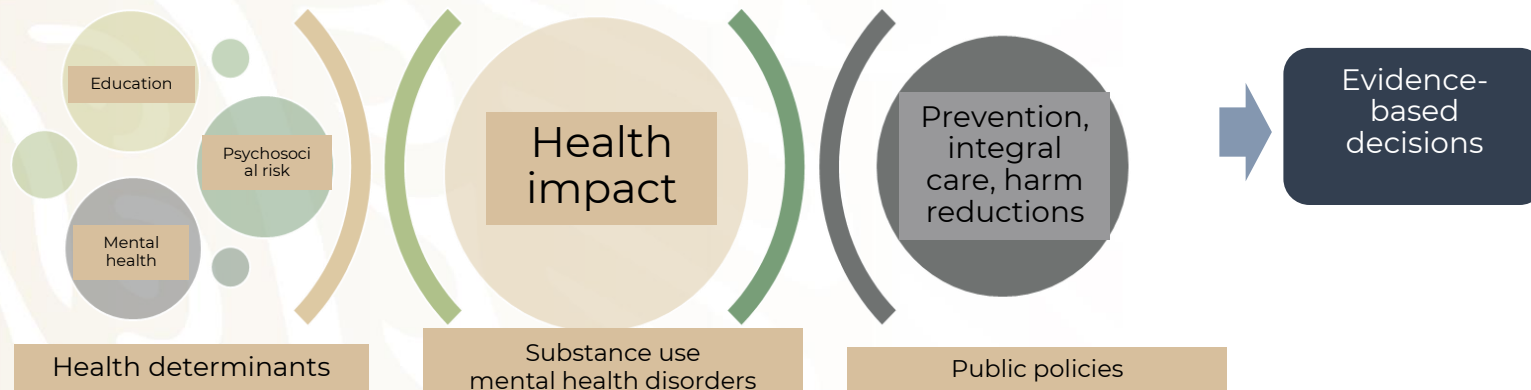
# Mexican Mental Health and Addictions Observatory



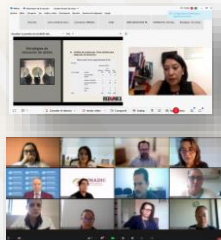
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**Objective: to have reliable, objective, comparable, and updated information on drug use and mental health.**



**Project to Strengthen the Mexican Mental Health and Addictions Observatory 2022-2024**  
**CONASAMA-INL-CICAD**



**Technical Assistance from the Inter-American Observatory on Drugs**

# Fentanyl in Mexico



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## Background

**2017**

Cases detected  
on the northern  
border.

**1 case in  
treatment  
centers**

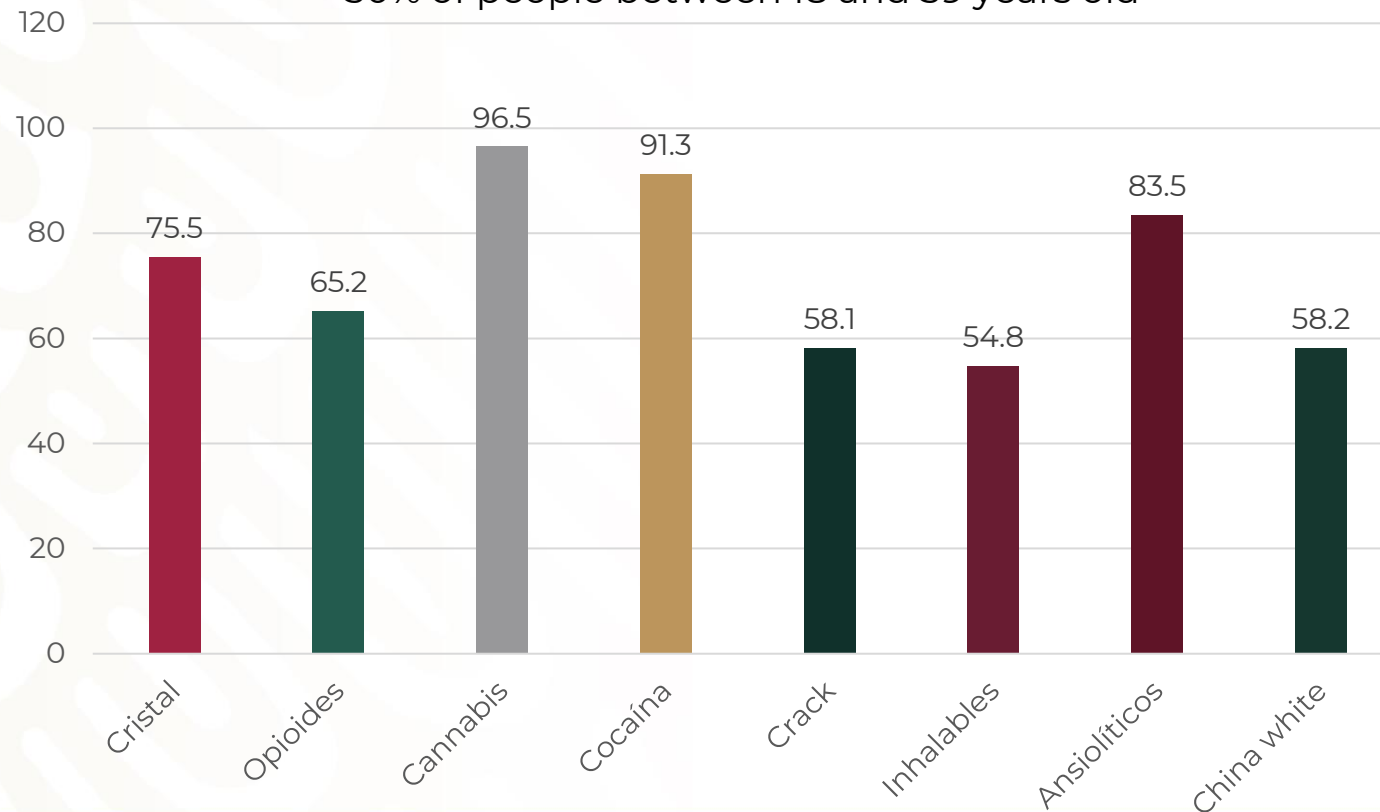
**Care  
Network  
(more than  
2,000  
centers)**

Six hundred interviews in treatment centers  
in Baja California and Sonora.

89.7% are men and 10.2% are women

68% with primary education

50% of people between 18 and 39 years old



Only 6  
people  
reported  
having used  
fentanyl.  
(M30)



More potent  
Heroin  
(possible  
combination  
with  
Fentanyl)



# Fentanyl in Mexico



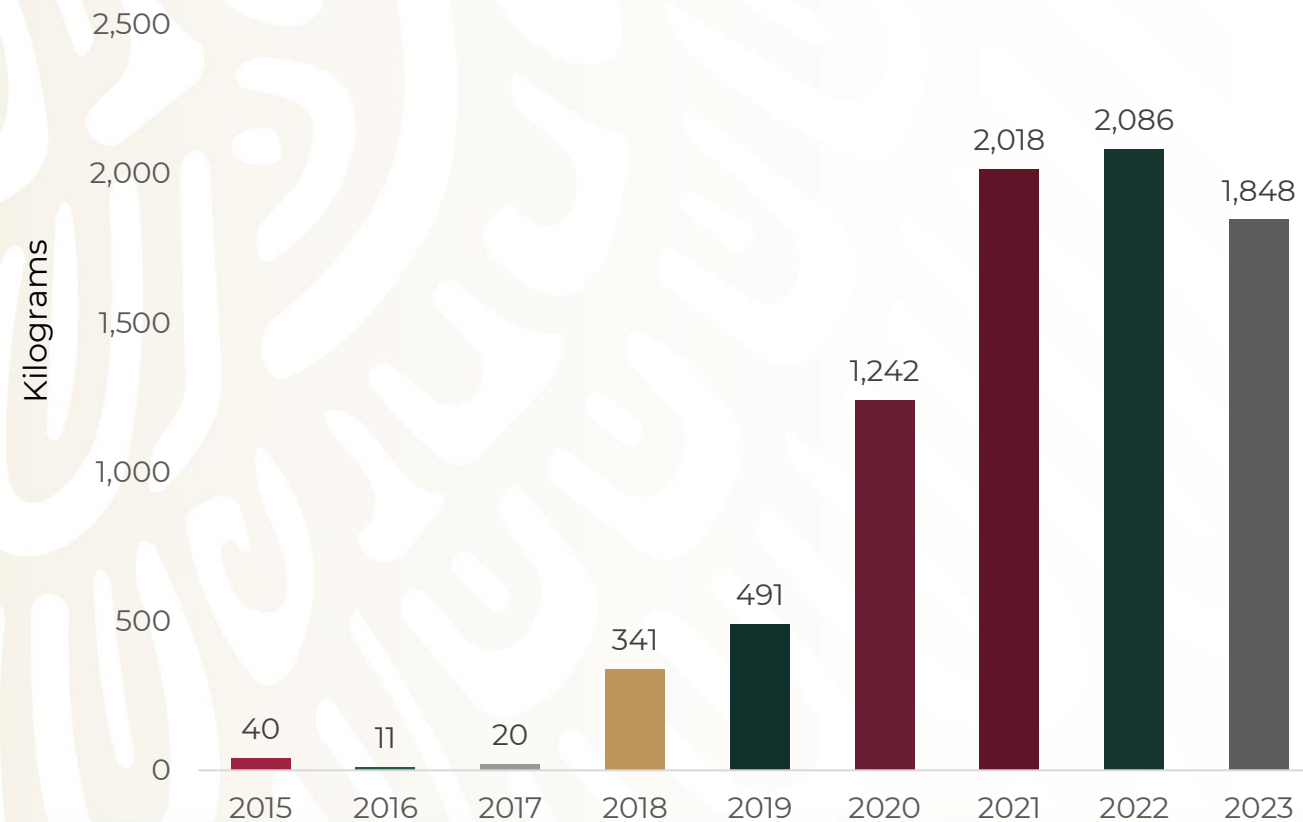
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2015-2023

As of 2018, the volume of Fentanyl seizures is growing, and these are concentrated in the north of the country.

Seizures 2015-2023



Entities with the largest seizures



\*Source: Results of the National Effort, Government of Mexico.

\*\*Source: Attorney General's Office.

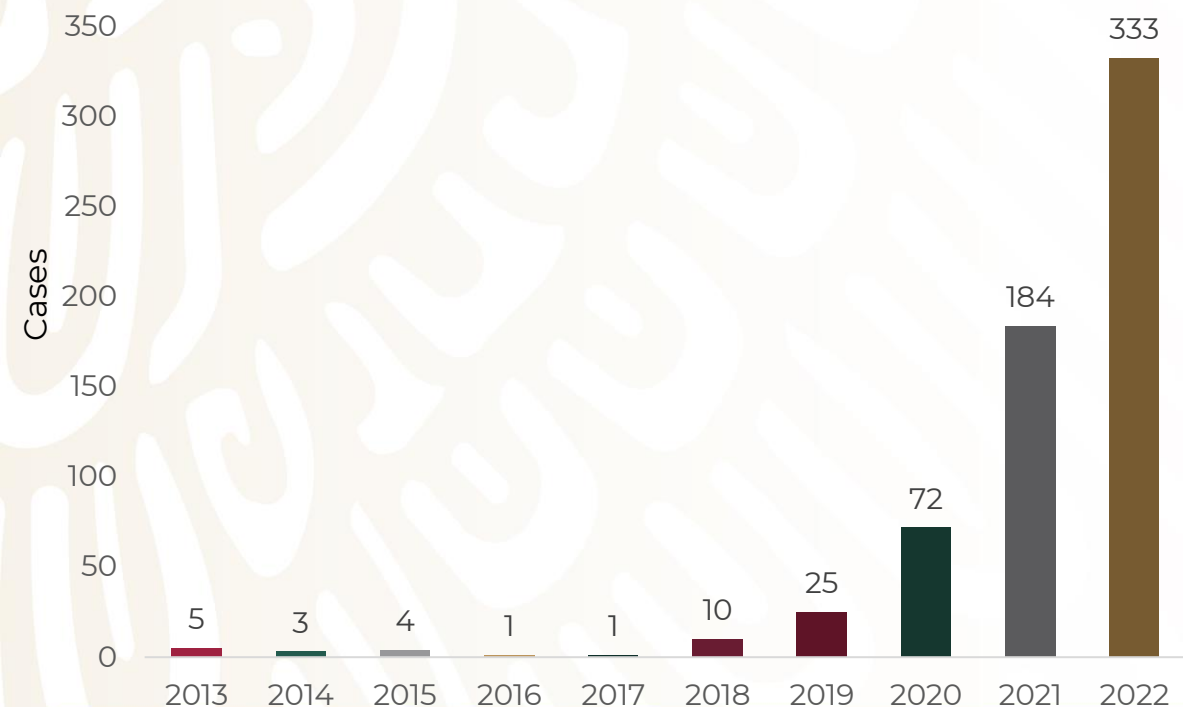


# Fentanyl in Mexico

**2013-2022**

The demand for care grew considerably in the northern border localities.

Demand for care 2013-2023



Entities with the highest demand for care



Application of Fentanyl Rapid Test Strips for Harm Reduction Services in Baja California and Sonora (2019-2022)  
(\*Fentanyl Test Strips)

**REDUMEX**  
RED MEXICANA DE REDUCCIÓN DE DAÑOS verter

Reactive	554 (56.2%)
Non-reactive	414 (42%)
Total	968 (100%)



**2023**  
AÑO DE  
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\* Type of substances analyzed: heroin, crystal meth, cocaine, and M30 tablets.

# Fentanyl use 2022-2023



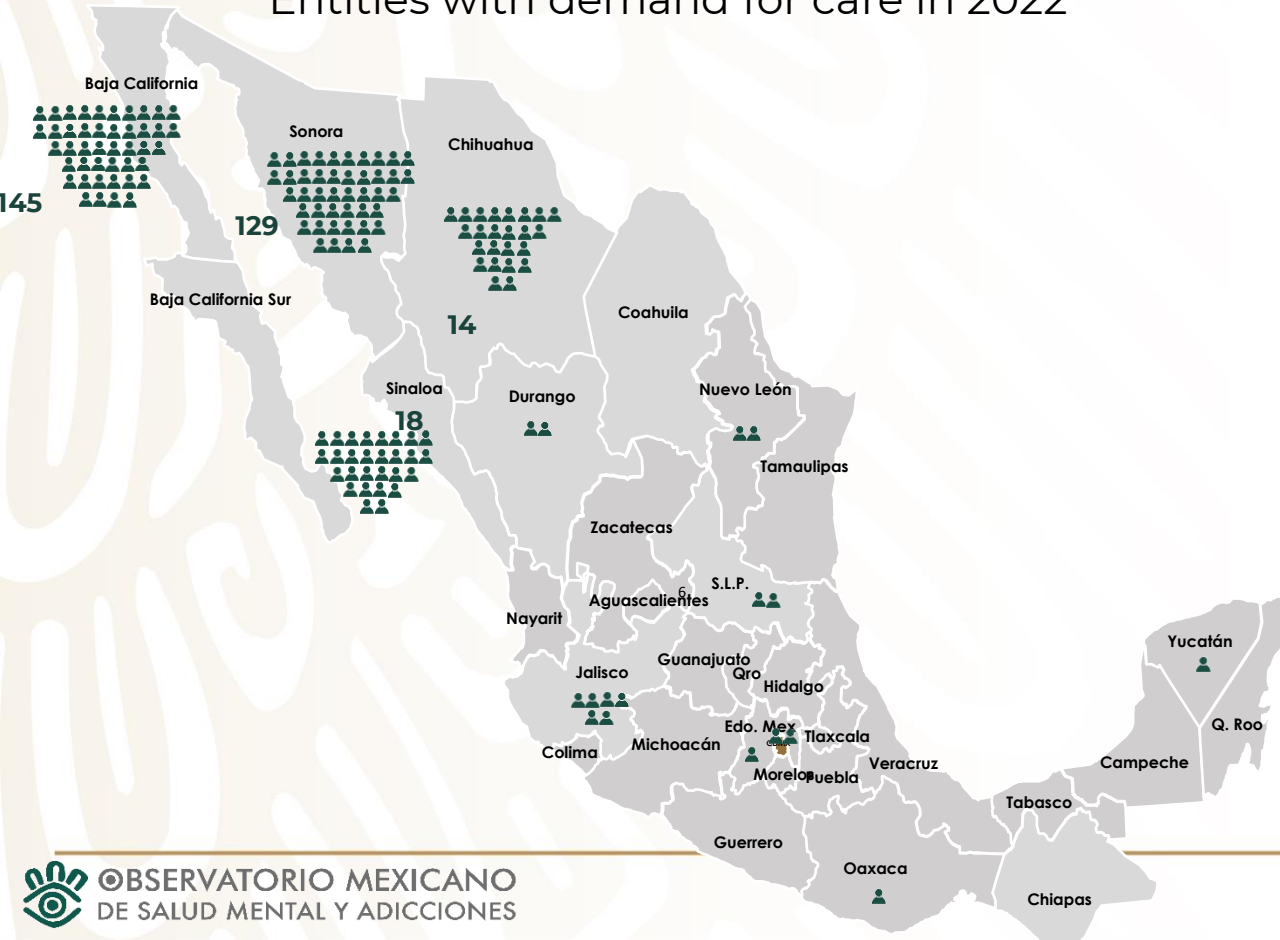
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**2022-2023**

The main entities in which Fentanyl was present in 2022 were Baja California (145 cases), Sonora (129 cases), Sinaloa (18 cases), and Chihuahua (14 cases). Demand has grown in recent years but remains focused on certain localities.

## Entities with demand for care in 2022

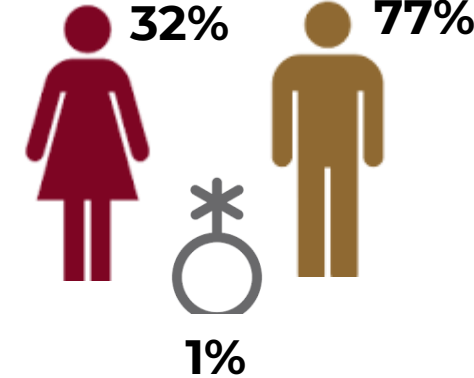


## Sentinel surveillance in care centers 2023

**98 cases of use** (not necessarily the cause of the attention).

### Type of use

Experimental: 23%.  
Habitual: 38%.  
Impact drug: 33%.



### Names

Fentanyl, M30, China white

### Main presentations

Crystals, tablets, powder

### Main combinations Crystal

methamphetamine, heroin

### Main forms of use

Smoked, injected, ingested

**People know that the substance they are using is Fentanyl.**



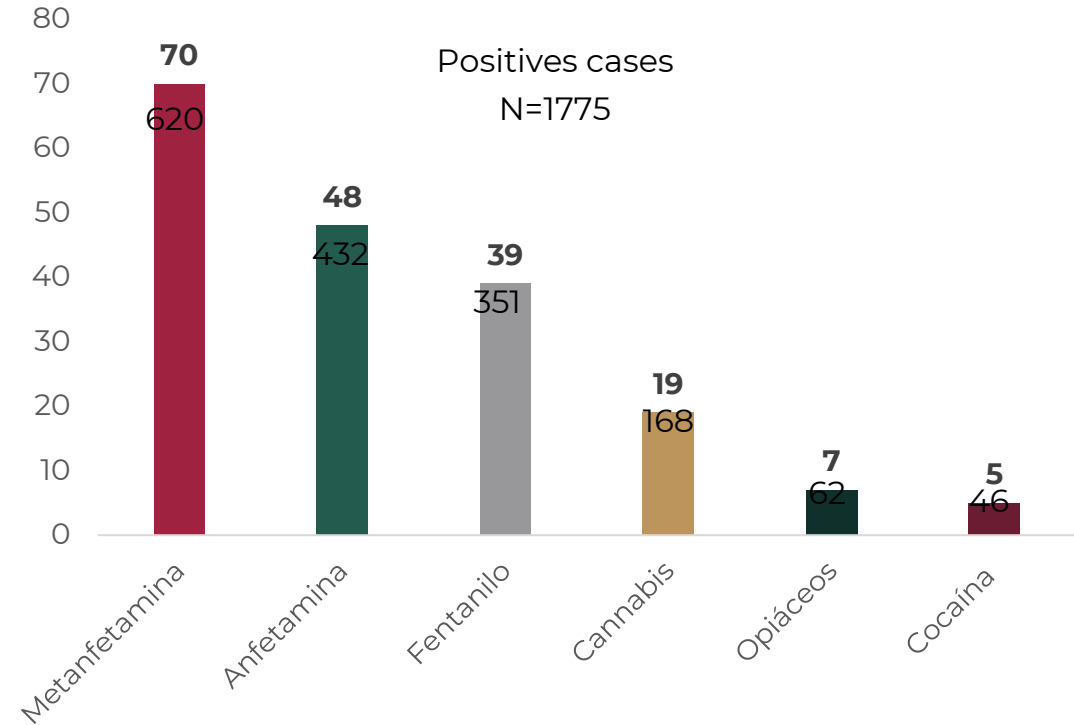
# Emergencies and deaths associated with the use of Fentanyl



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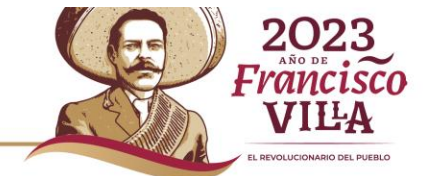
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Baja California Forensic Medical Service has been analyzing biological samples from bodies since 2022 to detect substances.



In 71% (249) of the presumptive cases of Fentanyl\* presence, the deaths were related to cardiorespiratory system impairment (IRA and EAP).

The use of the emergent code will provide a reliable registry.



Source: Forensic Medical Service of Baja California.

\* substances detected by test strips.

**2023**

Implementation of an emerging use code to determine morbidity and mortality associated with the use of fentanyl.

## **U94**

**U94.** Fentanyl intoxication

**U94.0** Accidental Fentanyl intoxication

**U94.1** Intentional self-inflicted Fentanyl intoxication

**U94.2** Fentanyl intoxication as an assault by a third party

**U94.3** Fentanyl intoxication as an assault by a third party

**U94.3** Fentanyl intoxication as an adverse reaction

**U94.9** Fentanyl intoxication of undetermined intent

The codes are mandatory for use in the generation of national statistics.

Mexican Center for the Classification of Diseases

Technical exchange

CEMECE  
DGIS, SSA

Observatory

Awareness

Mexican Mental Health and Addictions Observatory



**OBSERVATORIO MEXICANO**  
DE SALUD MENTAL Y ADICCIONES



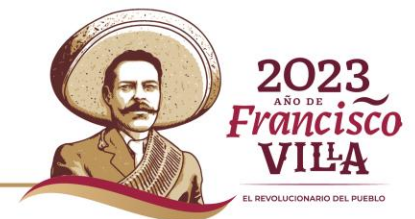
# Some reflections

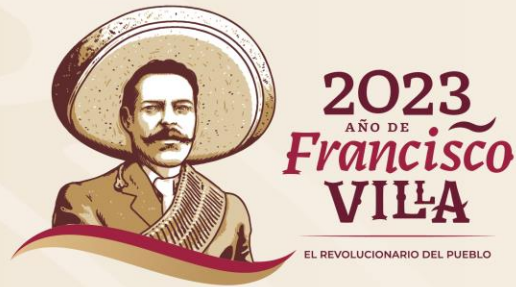


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- Monitoring of Fentanyl use is done consistently, as in the case of methamphetamine (since 2012).
- Having objective, reliable sources of information and a National Observatory on Drugs is necessary.
- Mexico is at a decisive moment for the implementation of timely policies.
- Local harm reduction measures are essential for people who use these substances.





**Thank you very much for your attention!**



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