

CY2022 Fatal Overdoses of VADOC Releases and Former Supervisees

Research - Evaluation Unit

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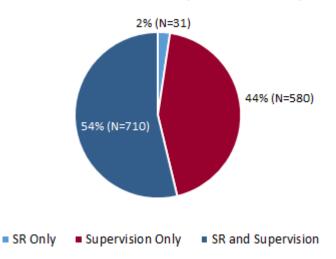
Introduction

To determine how many VADOC releases died from an overdose in Virginia in CY2022, data from the Virginia Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) was matched to VirginiaCORIS data. The data provided by OCME contains fatal overdose records for CY2022. Out of the 2,619 individuals who fatally overdosed, 1,321 (50%) were able to be uniquely matched to VirginiaCORIS records. Not everyone who was matched to VirginiaCORIS data was released from state responsible (SR) incarceration. Matches also include those who were on community supervision and never had an SR incarceration. Matches who were on community supervision could have come from an SR incarceration or could have been sentenced to community supervision by the courts.

Population Summary

Of those 1,321 individuals who were able to be uniquely matched, 710 (54%) had at least one SR incarceration in Virginia and were supervised by VADOC Probation and Parole (P&P) at some point; 580 were only on supervision at some point; and 31 had only prior SR incarcerations. In mutually inclusive totals, 741 individuals had at least one prior SR incarceration and 1,290 were supervised by VADOC P&P at some point. Of the 741 with prior SR incarcerations, 405 (55%) were released between FY2017 and FY2023. The 336 individuals with prior SR incarcerations who were not releases between FY2017 and FY2023 were released prior to FY2017.

CY2022 Fatal Overdoses Population Summary



SR Releases Who Fatally Overdosed in CY2022

Characteristics of FY2017 to FY2023 of SR Releases³ Who Fatally Overdosed in CY2022

Of the 405 FY2017 to FY2023 SR releases who fatally overdosed in CY2022, 333 (82%) were male and 72 (18%) were female. One hundred and eighty-nine (47%) had no evidence of having a mental health impairment and 115 (28%) had evidence of having a mental health impairment.⁴ Of the 405 SR releases, 184 (45%) scored 'High' on the COMPAS Risk of General Recidivism Scale and 255 (63%) scored 'Highly

¹ 76 (3%) records were matched using only an identifier variable; 54 (2%) were matched using an SSN only; 1,191 (45%) were matched using the identifier variable and an SSN; six (<1%) matched to more than one OffenderId; and 1,292 (49%) were unable to be matched. The identifier variable is a combination of the first seven letters of the last name, first four letters of the first name, year of birth, and month of birth.

² The definition of an SR incarceration has changed with time, but at the time of this analysis an SR incarceration requires a Virginia felony conviction with a sentence of one year or more or a parole violation with a sentence of two years or more.

³ There were 16 SR inmates who fatally overdosed while incarcerated in CY2022. These 16 inmates were not counted as FY2022 or FY2023 releases, but if they were released at some point prior to their SR incarceration term which ended in CY2022 or had been supervised at some point by VADOC P&P then they were included in the analysis.

⁴ Only approved mental health codes in VirginiaCORIS were used.

Probable' on the COMPAS Substance Abuse Needs Scale. State responsible (SR) incarcerations are based on the sentence imposed by the courts and some SR inmates may remain in local/regional jails for their entire incarceration due to DOC capacity relative to the population at the time of incarceration. Less than one-half (47%) spent at least a portion of their most recent SR release term in a VADOC facility; of those, over one-half spent two years or less in a DOC facility (57%). Over one-third (35%) of SR releases had a most serious offense (MSO) of larceny/fraud and just under one-half (48%) had a crime type of property/public order.

Characteristics of SR Releases Who Fatally Overdosed in CY2022†			
Total Number of SR Releases	405		
Gender	Number of Releases		
Male	333 (82%)		
Female	72 (18%)		
Mental Health*			
No Evidence of Impairment	189 (47%)		
Evidence of Impairment	115 (28%)		
Not Reported	101 (25%)		
COMPAS Risk of General Recidivism**			
Low	65 (16%)		
Medium	117 (29%)		
High	184 (45%)		
Not Reported	39 (10%)		
COMPAS Substance Abuse Needs**			
Unlikely	44 (11%)		
Probable	67 (16%)		
Highly Probable	255 (63%)		
Not Reported	39 (10%)		
Crime Type	05 (249/)		
Violent	86 (21%)		
Property/Public Order	193 (48%)		
Drug	126 (31%)		
Most Serious Offense (MSO)	-,		
Homicide—2nd	1 (<1%)		
Manslaughter	1 (<1%)		
Abduction	3 (1%)		
Rape/Sexual Assault	3 (1%)		
Robbery	22 (5%)		
Assault	46 (11%)		
Weapons	10 (2%)		
Arson	3 (1%)		
Burglary/B&E	29 (7%)		
Larceny/Fraud	143 (35%)		
Sex Offense	3 (1%)		
DUI	6 (1%)		
Habitual Offender	9 (2%)		
Drug Bossession	70 (17%)		
Drug Possession Length of Stay (LOS)	56 (14%)		
Total Number of SR Releases with DOC LOS	189		
1 Year or Less	52 (28%)		
Between 1 and 2 Years	55 (29%)		
Between 2 and 3 Years	27 (14%)		
Between 3 and 4 Years	27 (14%) 17 (9%)		
Between 4 and 5 Years	8 (4%)		
5+ Years	30 (16%)		
Total Number of Jail Only SR Releases	216		
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† All characteristics listed are from VirginiaC	•		
* The last mental health code from the most	recent release		
before fatal overdose was used.			
** Scores from the last COMPAS from the mo	ost recent release		
before fatal overdose were used.			

Drug Test History and Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment History of FY2017 to FY2023 SR Releases Who Fatally Overdosed in CY2022

The drug histories of FY2017 to FY2023 SR releases, including all drug tests during all incarceration and supervision periods prior to SR release, were examined. At the time of release, 358 out of 405 SR releases from FY2017 to FY2023 had drug test histories, 268 of which had at least one positive drug test (75%). Of those with a history of positive drug tests, the majority of SR releases had their last positive drug test two or more years prior to release (64%).

Time from Last Positive Drug Test to SR Release For CY2022 Fatal Overdoses			
	Number of Releases		
Total Number of SR Releases	405		
Has Drug Test History	358 (88%)		
No Drug Test History	47 (12%)		
Total Number of SR Releases with Positive Drug Tests	268		
90 Days or Less	5 (2%)		
90 Days to 6 Months	6 (2%)		
6 Months to 1 Year	20 (7%)		
1 to 2 Years	65 (24%)		
2+ Years	172 (64%)		

More than one-half (54%) of FY2017 to FY2023 SR releases tested positive at least once for cocaine at some point and almost one-half (45%) tested positive at least once for opioids⁵ at some point.

Positive Drug Tests of FY2017-FY2023 SR Releases Who Fatally Overdosed in CY2022			
Substance*	Number of Releases		
Total Number of SR Releases	405		
Cocaine	219 (54%)		
Opioids**	182 (45%)		
Amphetamines	94 (23%)		
Marijuana	159 (39%)		
Fentanyl	85 (21%)		
Buprenorphine	83 (20%)		
* SR releases may be in multiple substance categories because they are counted once for			
each substance they tested positive for.			
** The Opioids category does not include fentanyl and bup	renorphine.		

Forty-nine of the 189 (26%) SR releases from a DOC facility had participated in a substance use disorder (SUD) program during their release term of incarceration, 44 of which completed at least one program (90%).

Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment Participation of SR Releases Who Fatally			
Overdosed in CY2022			
SUD Treatment History*	Number of Releases		
Total Number of SR Releases from a DOC Facility	189		
Number of Inmates Who Participated in at least one SUD Program**	49 (26%)		
Number of Inmates Who Completed at least one SUD Program**	44 (23%)		
* Inmates who attended at least one Substance Abuse Treatment (SUD) program session			
during their last release term of incarceration prior to CY2022 fatal overdose were included.			
** SUD programs included: Cognitive Therapeutic Community, Matrix Model, CBI-SA,			
Helping Women Recover, and Criminal Conduct & Substance Abuse Tr	eatment for Women.		

⁵ The opioid category used does not include fentanyl and buprenorphine.

SR Incarceration Release Year by Time from Release to CY2022 Fatal Overdose for FY2017 to FY2023 SR Releases

The average time from release date to CY2022 overdose death date was 836 days (2.3 years). The median time from release to overdose date was 764 days (2.1 years). Only one year of overdose deaths (CY2022) was matched to all SR releases, resulting in SR releases from FY2017 having longer times to fatal overdose than FY2023 releases. FY2022 releases comprised almost one-quarter (24%) of FY2017 to FY2023 DOC releases who overdosed in CY2022.

Fiscal Year of Release	Number of Releases Who Overdosed in CY2022*	Average (Days)	Median (Days)	Minimum (Days)	Maximum (Days
2017	37 (9%)	2,012	2,009	1,750	2,361
2018	51 (13%)	1,622	1,616	1,326	1,847
2019	56 (14%)	1,250	1,236	984	1,551
2020	61 (15%)	911	903	601	1,221
2021	66 (16%)	570	563	214	900
2022	97 (24%)	169	148	1	480
2023	37 (9%)	46	28	1	175
Total	405	836	764	1	2,361

FY2022 releases had the greatest number of overdose related deaths in CY2022 (N=97). FY2017 and FY2023 had the same number of overdose-related deaths (N=37). FY SR releases closer to the CY2022 match year had proportionally more overdose deaths. However, this does not necessarily mean there were more overdose deaths in those years because it would require additional data on overdose deaths for that time period to determine trends. This is due to the inability to compare to overdose data for other years because only CY2022 fatal overdoses were analyzed. Also, only one-half of FY2023 releases would have been released by the end of CY2022 causing further limitations when comparing fiscal year of release. Additionally, one-third of the fatal overdoses analyzed occurred within one year of release which leads to earlier years missing critical overdose data due to only analyzing CY2022 fatal overdoses. These limitations lead to conclusions being drawn from data that does not fully allow the follow-up periods of different fiscal years to be analyzed in a comparable way. This can be seen in the table below where many fiscal years have follow-up periods that are not applicable.

Time from Release to CY2022 Overdose Death Date by Release Year							
	Years Between Release Date and CY2022 Overdose Death Date						
Fiscal Year of Release	1 year or less	1 to 2 years	2 to 3 years	3 to 4 years	4 to 5 years	More than 5 years	Total
2017	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	3 (6%)	34 (92%)	37 (9%)
2018	N/A	N/A	N/A	6 (11%)	42 (84%)	3 (8%)	51 (13%)
2019	N/A	N/A	9 (13%)	42 (74%)	5 (10%)	N/A	56 (14%)
2020	N/A	7 (12%)	45 (66%)	9 (16%)	N/A	N/A	61 (15%)
2021	11 (8%)	41 (68%)	14 (21%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	66 (16%)
2022	85 (64%)	12 (20%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	97 (24%)
2023	37 (28%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	37 (9%)
Total	133 (33%)	60 (15%)	68 (17%)	57 (14%)	50 (12%)	37 (9%)	405

Fatal overdoses within one year of release were examined for FY2022 releases due to the large number of overdoses. Over two-thirds of overdoses occurred within six months of release (70%). The lowest percentage of overdoses in the first year of release occurred between month nine through one year after release (11%).

Months from Release to CY2022 Fatal Overdose by FY2022 Releases Who Overdosed			
Months After Release	Number of Releases		
Within 1 month	16 (19%)		
Between 2 and 3 months	17 (20%)		
Between 3 and 6 months	26 (31%)		
Between 6 and 9 months	17 (20%)		
Between 9 months and 1 year	9 (11%)		
Total 85			

Time from FY2017 to FY2023 SR Release to CY2022 Fatal Overdose by Previous Incarceration Type

Due to capacity constraints, not all SR inmates are brought into a VADOC facility. SR inmates do not include local responsible (LR) inmates who are also in jails. The table below shows the previous incarceration type by the time from release date to the fatal overdose date. Of the CY2022 overdose data analyzed, the largest percentage of DOC facility releases and Jail Only SR releases died from an overdose within one year post release (29% and 37%, respectively). Releases who died from an overdose more than five years post release comprised the smallest percentage of DOC facility releases and Jail Only releases (10% and 8%, respectively). Overall, almost two-thirds of releases who died from an overdose died within three years of release (65%).

Time from Release to CY2022 Overdose Death Date by Previous Incarceration Type					
Years Between Release Date and CY2022 Overdose Death Date	DOC Facility Release	Jail Only	Total		
1 year or less	54 (29%)	79 (37%)	133 (33%)		
1 to 2 years	31 (16%)	29 (13%)	60 (15%)		
2 to 3 years	29 (15%)	39 (18%)	68 (17%)		
3 to 4 years	30 (16%)	27 (13%)	57 (14%)		
4 to 5 years	26 (14%)	24 (11%)	50 (12%)		
More than 5 years	19 (10%)	18 (8%)	37 (9%)		
Total	189	216	405		

Analysis of Former Supervisees Who Fatally Overdosed in CY2022

Overview of Former Supervisees

Of the 1,321 individuals who were able to be uniquely matched, 1,290 individuals had been supervised by VADOC Probation and Parole (P&P) at some point. The 710 former supervisees who also had at least one previous SR incarceration are included in this analysis. Gender, mental health impairment, COMPAS scores, most serious offense (MSO), crime type, and drug testing information were examined. The time between release from supervision to fatal overdose data was also examined.

Characteristics of Former Supervisees Who Fatally Overdosed in CY2022

Of the 1,290 former supervisees who fatally overdosed in CY2022, 978 (76%) were male. One hundred and seventy-four (14%) had no evidence of having a mental health impairment and 122 (10%) had evidence of having a mental health impairment.⁶ Of the 1,290 former supervisees, 378 (29%) scored 'High' on the 6 Only approved mental health codes in VirginiaCORIS were used.

COMPAS Risk of General Recidivism Scale and 669 (52%) scored 'Highly Probable' on the COMPAS Substance Abuse Needs Scale. More than one-quarter (29%) of former supervisees had an MSO of drug possession and more than one-third (40%) had a drug crime type.

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Characteristics of Former Supervisees Who	o Fatally Overdosed in CY2022†		
Total Number of Supervisees	1.290		
Gender	Number of Supervisees		
Male	978 (76%)		
Female	312 (24%)		
Mental Health*			
No Evidence of Impairment	174 (14%)		
Evidence of Impairment	122 (10%)		
Not Reported	994 (77%)		
COMPAS Risk of General Recidivism**			
Low	275 (21%)		
Medium	355 (28%)		
High	378 (29%)		
_			
Not Reported	282 (22%)		
COMPAS Substance Abuse Needs**			
Unlikely	150 (12%)		
Probable	188 (15%)		
Highly Probable	669 (52%)		
Not Reported	283 (22%)		
Crime Type			
Violent	167 (13%)		
Property/Public Order	473 (37%)		
• •			
Drug	509 (40%)		
Not Reported	141 (11%)		
Most Serious Offense (MSO)			
Manslaughter	3 (<1%)		
Abduction	10 (1%)		
Rape/Sexual Assault	9 (1%)		
Robbery	28 (2%)		
Assault	96 (7%)		
Weapons	21 (2%)		
Arson	6 (<1%)		
Burglary/B&E	59 (5%)		
	, ,		
Larceny/Fraud	294 (23%)		
Conspiracy	5 (<1%)		
Sex Offense	10 (1%)		
DUI	16 (1%)		
Habitual Offender	13 (1%)		
Other Non-Violent	70 (5%)		
Drug Sales	141 (11%)		
Drug Possession	368 (29%)		
Not Reported	141 (11%)		
† All characteristics listed are from Virginia	•		
† All characteristics listed are from Virginia	•		
* The last mental health code from the mo	st recent release from		
* The last mental health code from the mos supervision before fatal overdose were use	st recent release from ed.		
* The last mental health code from the mo	st recent release from ed. nost recent release from		

Drug Test History of Former Supervisees Who Fatally Overdosed in CY2022

For former supervisees who were able to be matched, 1,021 out of 1,290 (79%) had drug test histories. Of those with drug test histories, 754 (74%) had at least one positive drug test. The largest percentage of former supervisees had their last positive drug test more than two years prior to being released from supervision or their fatal overdose date (30%). Almost one-quarter (23%) of the former supervisees who fatally overdosed in CY2022 who had at least one positive drug test fatally overdosed within 90 days of their last positive drug test.

Time from Last Positive Drug Test to Supervision End Date or CY2022 Fatal Overdose Date of Former Supervisees			
	Number of Supervisees		
Total Number of Supervisees	1,290		
Has Drug Test History	1,021 (79%)		
No Drug Test History	269 (21%)		
Total Number of Supervisees with Positive Drug Tests	754		
90 Days or Less	171 (23%)		
90 Days to 6 Months	79 (10%)		
6 Months to 1 Year	127 (17%)		
1 to 2 Years	148 (20%)		
2+ Years	229 (30%)		

The drug histories of former supervisees who fatally overdosed in CY2022, including all drug tests during incarceration and supervision periods, were examined. More than one-third (36%) of former supervisees tested positive at least once for cocaine at some point and almost one-third (30%) tested positive at least once for

opioids⁷ at some point.

Positive Drug Tests of Former Supervisees Who Fatally Overdosed in CY2022		
Substance*	Number of Supervisees	
Total Number of Supervisees	1,290	
Cocaine	465 (36%)	
Opioids**	382 (30%)	
Amphetamines	181 (14%)	
Marijuana	351 (27%)	
Fentanyl	179 (14%)	
Buprenorphine	128 (10%)	
* Former supervisees may be in multiple substance categories because they are counted		
once for each substance they tested positive for.		
** The Opioids category does not include fentanyl and buprenorphine.		

Time from Supervision Release to CY2022 Fatal Overdose

Shown in the table on the next page is the number and percentage of supervision releases who fatally overdosed and the amount of time between release from supervision and the fatal overdose date. The largest percentage of former supervisees who fatally overdosed after being released from supervision died more than 10 years after release (32%) while the smallest percentage of supervision releases died within one to two years of release and four to six years of release (10%). The average number of days from supervision release to fatal overdose was 2,935 days (\approx 8 years) and the median number of days was 2,180 days (\approx 6 years). The minimum number of days from supervision release to overdose was 2 days and the maximum was 16,570 days (45.4 years). Due to the wide range and very high outliers, the median is a better indicator for this measure.

Time from Release from Supervision to CY2022 Overdose Date		
Years Between Supervision Release Date and CY2022 Overdose Date	Number of Supervisees	
1 year or less	108 (14%)	
1 to 2 years	75 (10%)	
2 to 4 years	126 (16%)	
4 to 6 years	78 (10%)	
6 to 10 years	141 (18%)	
More than 10 years	243 (32%)	
Total	771	

⁷ The opioid category used does not include fentanyl and buprenorphine.

Characteristics of Supervisees Who Fatally Overdosed While On Supervision in CY2022

Of the 1,290 former supervisees who fatally overdosed in CY2022, 519 (40%) were on supervision at the time of their fatal overdose. Of the 519 supervisees who fatally overdosed while on supervision in CY2022, 107 (21%) had pending violations and 30 (6%) were absconders at the time of fatal overdose. Of the 519 supervisees, 387 (75%) had at least one positive drug test at some point. Almost one-half (47%) tested positive for cocaine at some point and over two-fifths (43%) tested positive for opioids other than buprenorphine and fentanyl at some point. Over one-quarter (28%) tested positive for fentanyl at some point. Over one-quarter (29%) fatally overdosed within 90 days of their last positive drug test, while over one-third (35%) fatally overdosed two years or more after their last positive drug test. One-quarter of the 471 supervisees who were drug tested fatally overdosed within 30 days of their last collection date. Five hundred supervisees who fatally overdosed on supervision in CY2022 had at least one documented contact with their probation officer. Over three-fifths (62%) fatally overdosed within 90 day of their last contact with their probation officer.

Characteristics of Supervisees Who Fatally Overdosed While on Supervision CY2022	
Total Number of Supervisees	519
	Number of Supervisees
Pending Violation*	107 (21%)
Absconder**	30 (6%)
Substance†	
Cocaine	245 (47%)
Opioids††	221 (43%)
Amphetamines	115 (22%)
Marijuana	181 (35%)
Fentanyl	147 (28%)
Buprenorphine	84 (16%)
Time from Last Positive Drug Test to Fatal Overdose	
No Drug Test History	48 (9%)
No Positive Drug Tests	84 (16%)
Number of Supervisees with Positive Drug Tests	387
90 Days or Less	112 (29%)
90 Days to 6 Months	43 (11%)
6 Months to 1 Year	43 (11%)
1 to 2 Years	54 (14%)
2+ Years	135 (35%)
Time from Last Drug Test Collection to Fatal Overdos	e
Number of Supervisees with Drug Test Histories	471
Less Than 30 Days	119 (25%)
30 and 90 Days	94 (20%)
90 days and 6 Months	58 (12%)
6 Months and 1 year	64 (14%)
1 and 2 Years	45 (10%)
2+ vears	91 (19%)
Time from Last Officer Contact to Fatal Overdose‡	
Number of Supervisees with At Least One Contact	500
Less Than 30 Days	187 (37%)
30 and 90 Days	122 (24%)
90 days and 6 Months	46 (9%)
6 Months and 1 year	58 (12%)
1 and 2 Years	47 (9%)
2+ years	40 (8%)
* Violations which were submitted in CY2020 or later	. ,
fatal overdose were included.	and were pending at the time (
** Status at the time of fatal overdose.	
† Former supervisees may be in multiple substance of	categories because they are
counted once for each substance they have ever test	
tounted once for each substance they have ever test the Opioids category does not include fentanyl ar	
‡ Contact types examined include home contact, init	the state of the s
**	The second secon
contact, personal contact, personal home contact, an	iu personai office contact.

The table below shows the breakdown of these supervisees by region and district. Every P&P district had at least one supervisee fatally overdose in CY2022. Of the three main regions, the Central Region had the highest number of fatal overdoses on supervision (N=203) and the Western Region had the lowest number of fatal overdoses (N=114). Richmond P&P had the highest number of fatal overdoses while on supervision out of any probation district (N=42), followed by Virginia Beach P&P (N=33) and Henrico P&P (N=30). Accomac P&P, Alexandria P&P, and Wytheville P&P had the lowest number of fatal overdoses in CY2022 (N=1).

Location Name Number of Supervisees	
Central Region	203 (39%)
Alexandria P&P	1 (<1%)
Arlington P&P	2 (<1%)
Ashland P&P	11 (2%)
Charlottesville P&P	19 (4%)
Chesterfield P&P	22 (4%)
Culpeper P&P	11 (2%)
Fairfax P&P	10 (2%)
Farmville P&P	4 (1%)
Fredericksburg P&P	23 (4%)
Henrico P&P	30 (6%)
Leesburg P&P	4 (1%)
Manassas P&P	10 (2%)
Richmond P&P	42 (8%)
South Boston P&P	6 (1%)
Winchester P&P	8 (2%)
Eastern Region	172 (33%)
Accomac P&P	1 (<1%)
Chesapeake P&P	28 (5%)
Emporia P&P	14 (3%)
Franklin P&P	3 (1%)
Gloucester P&P	6 (1%)
Hampton P&P	5 (1%)
Newport News P&P	13 (3%)
Norfolk P&P	18 (3%)
Petersburg P&P	9 (2%)
Portsmouth P&P	25 (5%)
Suffolk P&P	12 (2%)
Virginia Beach P&P	33 (6%)
Warsaw P&P	3 (1%)
Williamsburg P&P	2 (<1%)
Western Region	114 (22%)
Abingdon P&P	10 (2%)
Bedford P&P	2 (<1%)
Danville P&P	7 (1%)
Fincastle P&P	7 (1%)
Harrisonburg P&P	5 (1%)
Lynchburg P&P	5 (1%)
Martinsville P&P	13 (3%)
Norton P&P	3 (1%)
Radford P&P	16 (3%)
Roanoke P&P	25 (5%)
Rocky Mount P&P	6 (1%)
Staunton P&P	6 (1%)
Tazewell P&P	8 (2%)
Wytheville P&P	1 (<1%)
Other Region	30 (6%)
Administrative P&P	7 (1%)
Operations Logistics Unit	23 (4%)
Total	519

Conclusion

The majority of SR releases and those who had a history of supervision who overdosed in CY2022 were male (82% and 76%, respectively). The largest percentage scored 'Highly Probable' on the COMPAS Substance Abuse Needs Scale (63% and 52%, respectively). The largest percentage of SR releases had a crime type of property/public order (48%), while the largest percentage of former supervisees had a drug crime type (40%).

More than one-half (54%) of SR releases tested positive for cocaine at some point and almost one-half tested positive for opioids other than fentanyl and buprenorphine at some point (45%). Over one-third (36%) of former supervisees tested positive for cocaine at some point and almost one-third (30%) of former supervisees tested positive for opioids excluding fentanyl and buprenorphine at some point. Out of the 405 FY2017 to FY2023 SR releases who fatally overdosed in CY2022, 268 (66%) had at least one positive drug test prior to release. Of the 1,021 former supervisees who fatally overdosed in CY2022 with drug test histories, 754 (74%) had at least one positive drug test prior to fatally overdosing.

The average time from release for FY2017 to FY2023 SR releases to CY2022 overdose death date was 836 days (2.3 years), while the median time from release to overdose death date was 764 days (2.1 years). Of the release years examined, FY2022 releases had the greatest number of fatal overdoses in CY2022 (N=97). The largest percentage of DOC facility releases and Jail Only releases died from an overdose within one year post release (29% and 37%, respectively). Almost two-thirds of the releases examined who died from an overdose died within three years of release (65%). Five hundred and nineteen supervisees fatally overdosed while on community supervision and 771 former supervisees fatally overdosed during CY2022. Of those 771 former supervisees who overdosed, the largest percentage (32%) died more than 10 years after their release from supervision.

There were 519 supervisees who died on supervision during CY2022. Almost one-half (47%) tested positive for cocaine at some point and three-quarters had at least one positive drug test, of which, over one-quarter (29%) fatally overdosed within 90 days of their last positive drug test. Of the 500 supervisees who fatally overdosed while on supervision with a documented contact, over three-fifths (62%) fatally overdosed within 90 day of their last contact with their probation officer.

The limitations of only having overdose death information for CY2022 causes conclusions to be drawn from data that does not encompass all fiscal years examined equally. Having more years of overdose data to compare with VADOC data would allow for a more complete analysis.

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