



Department of Forensic Pathology

Office of the Medical Examiner

2024 Q3 (July 1 – September 30) Drug Report

Published December 11, 2024





Introduction

Drug-Related Deaths - Defined

We define drug deaths as those which result entirely or partially from the physiologic effects of acute toxicity. Therefore, included here are deaths which resulted from a combination of natural disease and acute intoxication (e.g. lung disease complicated by opioid intoxication). Our definition does not include deaths by violence, in which the violent behavior may have been caused or contributed to by intoxication (e.g. death due to injury from motor vehicle crash in which the at-fault driver was intoxicated). We also do not include deaths related to the effects of chronic substance use (e.g. deaths due to alcoholic liver disease or heart disease which may have been contributed to by chronic cocaine use) if not combined with acute toxicity.

Methods

The majority of the drug deaths reported are due to more than one substance, as you will see in the detailed tables that follow. Often, decedents have even more substances present in their body at the time of death or overdose incident than just the substances listed as having caused or contributed to death. After autopsy and review of records, including toxicology report, the medical examiner assigned to the case determines which of the substances present played a causal role in the death. Thus, there may be substances present in a given case which are not included in the cause of death statement.

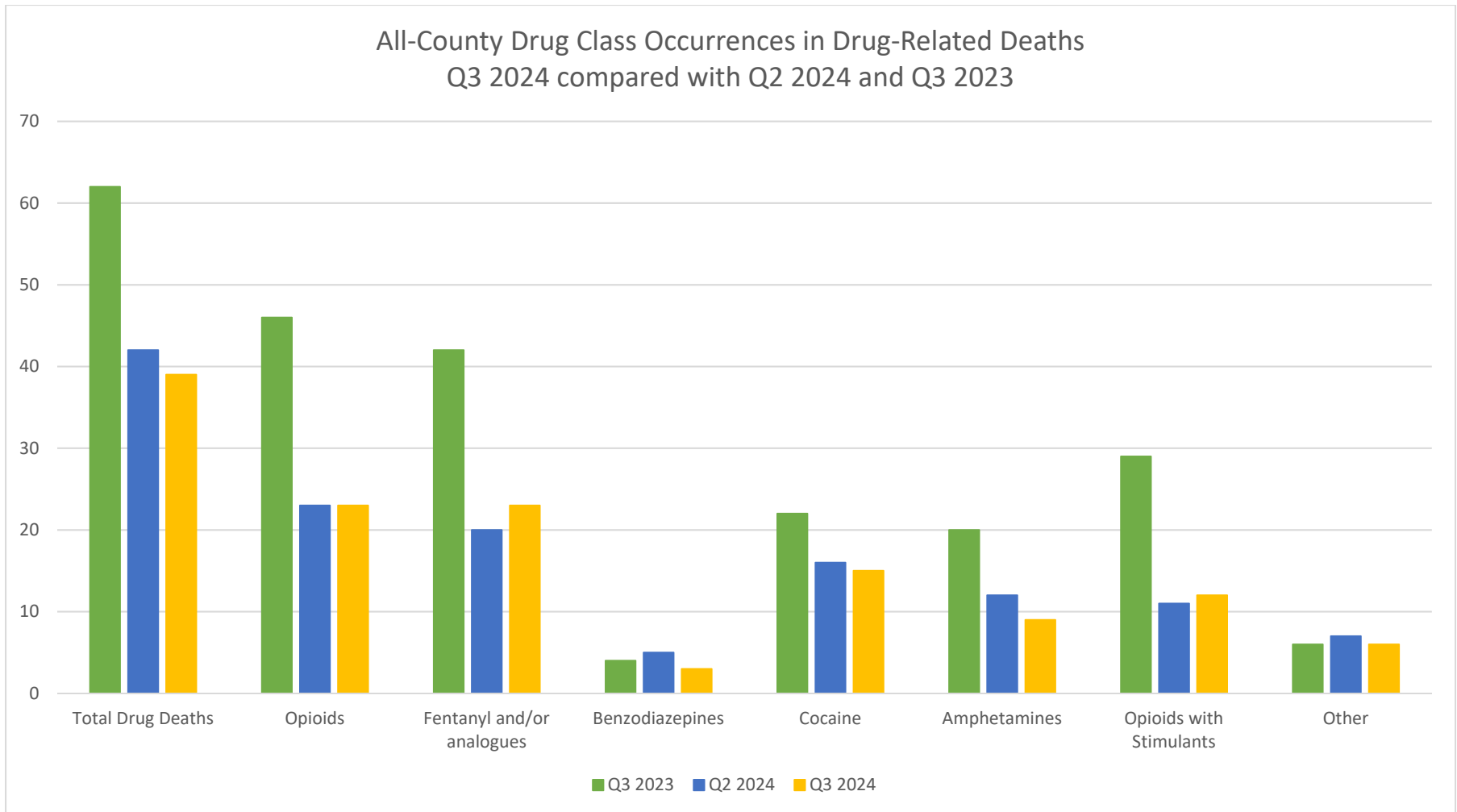
Occasionally, intoxicated decedents survive in the hospital for a time prior to death, following acute drug intoxication. In these cases, all efforts are made to obtain and test the earliest blood and urine available from their time in the hospital for the overdose incident, so that the toxicology results reflect what was in the body at the time the overdose occurred.

New information occasionally becomes available after a “final” cause and manner of death was determined, which sometimes, albeit rarely, results in a change to the “final” cause or manner of death. As such, the statistics contained herein may be subject to change at any time.

The extent of toxicology testing is determined by the medical examiner assigned to the case, based upon the circumstances of death. During the period reported, our office used Axis Forensic Toxicology for toxicology testing.¹

¹ If you have questions about what drugs we are currently capable of detecting, please visit www.axisfortox.com or email michelle.fox@sparrow.org

All-County Drug Class Occurrences in Drug-Related Deaths Q3 2024 compared with Q2 2024 and Q3 2023



This chart describes occurrences in one death of a given class of drug. As most drug-related deaths are due to two or more substances, the same death may fall into multiple categories (e.g. death due to fentanyl and alprazolam intoxication falls into the opioids, benzodiazepines, fentanyl and/or analogues, and opioids with benzodiazepines categories). Multiple of the same class of drug in the same death counts as only one occurrence of that class of drugs (e.g. death due to heroin and hydrocodone intoxication – both of these are opioids so this death falls only in the opioids category, as one occurrence). The “other” category is for occurrences of drug-related deaths due *solely* to drugs which do not fall into the other listed categories.

Clinton County

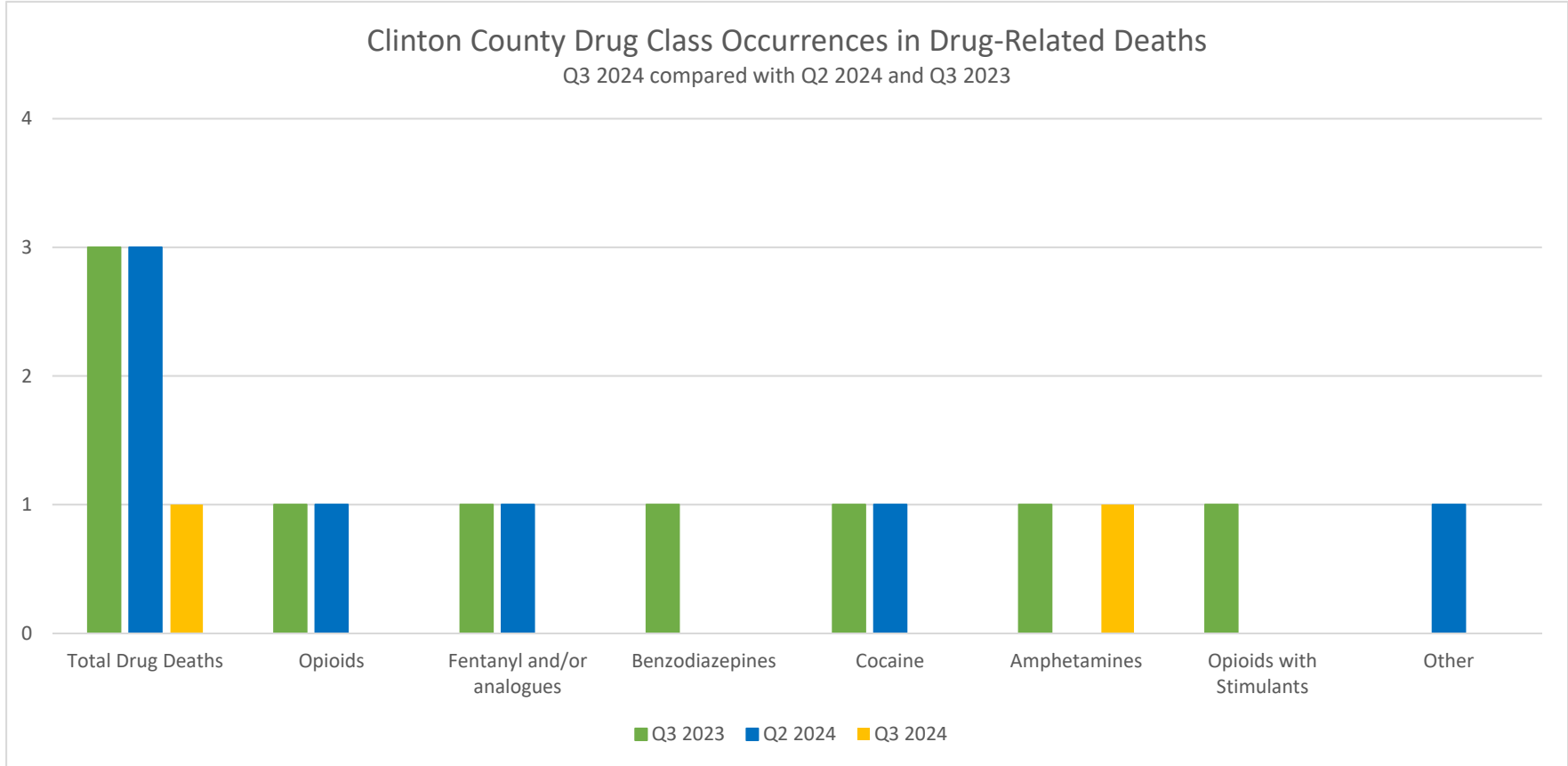
Drug-Related Deaths

2024 Q3 Clinton County Drug-Related Deaths

Sex	Age	Substance(s) Causing Death	Manner of Death
Male	48	ethanol, methamphetamine	Accident

Clinton County

Drug-Related Deaths



This chart describes occurrences in one death of a given class of drug. As most drug-related deaths are due to two or more substances, the same death may fall into multiple categories (e.g. death due to fentanyl and alprazolam intoxication falls into the opioids, benzodiazepines, fentanyl and/or analogues, and opioids with benzodiazepines categories). Multiple of the same class of drug in the same death counts as only one occurrence of that class of drugs (e.g. death due to heroin and hydrocodone intoxication – both of these are opioids so this death falls only in the opioids category, as one occurrence). The “other” category is for occurrences of drug-related deaths due *solely* to drugs which do not fall into the other listed categories.

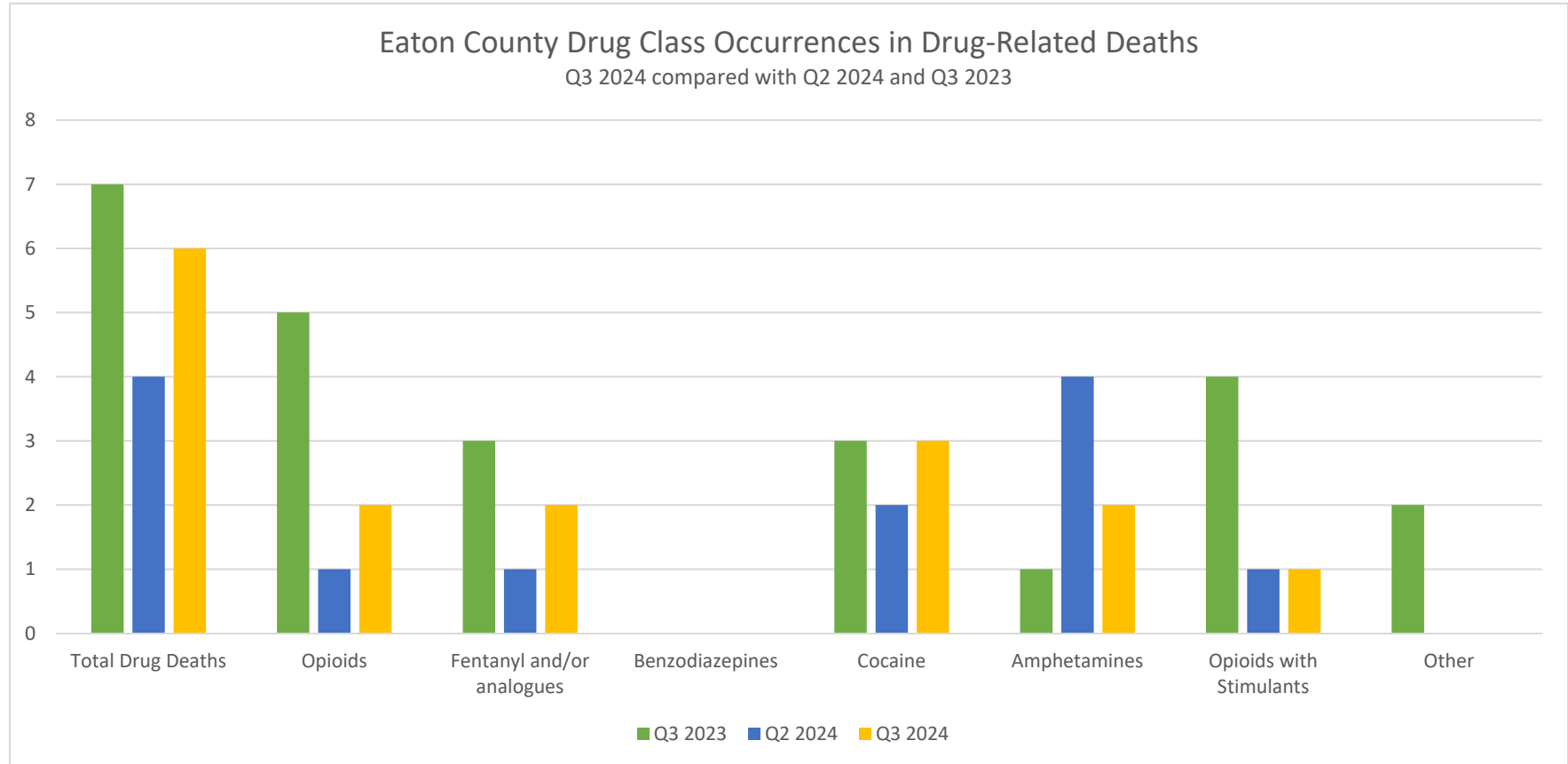
Eaton County

Drug-Related Deaths

2024 Q3 Eaton County Drug-Related Deaths			
Sex	Age	Substance(s) Causing Death	Manner of Death
Male	24	fentanyl, xylazine	Accident
Male	34	cocaine	Accident
Female	39	methamphetamine	Accident
Male	39	fentanyl, methadone, methamphetamine	Accident
Male	62	cocaine	Accident
Male	64	cocaine	Accident

Eaton County

Drug-Related Deaths



This chart describes occurrences in one death of a given class of drug. As most drug-related deaths are due to two or more substances, the same death may fall into multiple categories (e.g. death due to fentanyl and alprazolam intoxication falls into the opioids, benzodiazepines, fentanyl and/or analogues, and opioids with benzodiazepines categories). Multiple of the same class of drug in the same death counts as only one occurrence of that class of drugs (e.g. death due to heroin and hydrocodone intoxication – both of these are opioids so this death falls only in the opioids category, as one occurrence). The “other” category is for occurrences of drug-related deaths due *solely* to drugs which do not fall into the other listed categories.

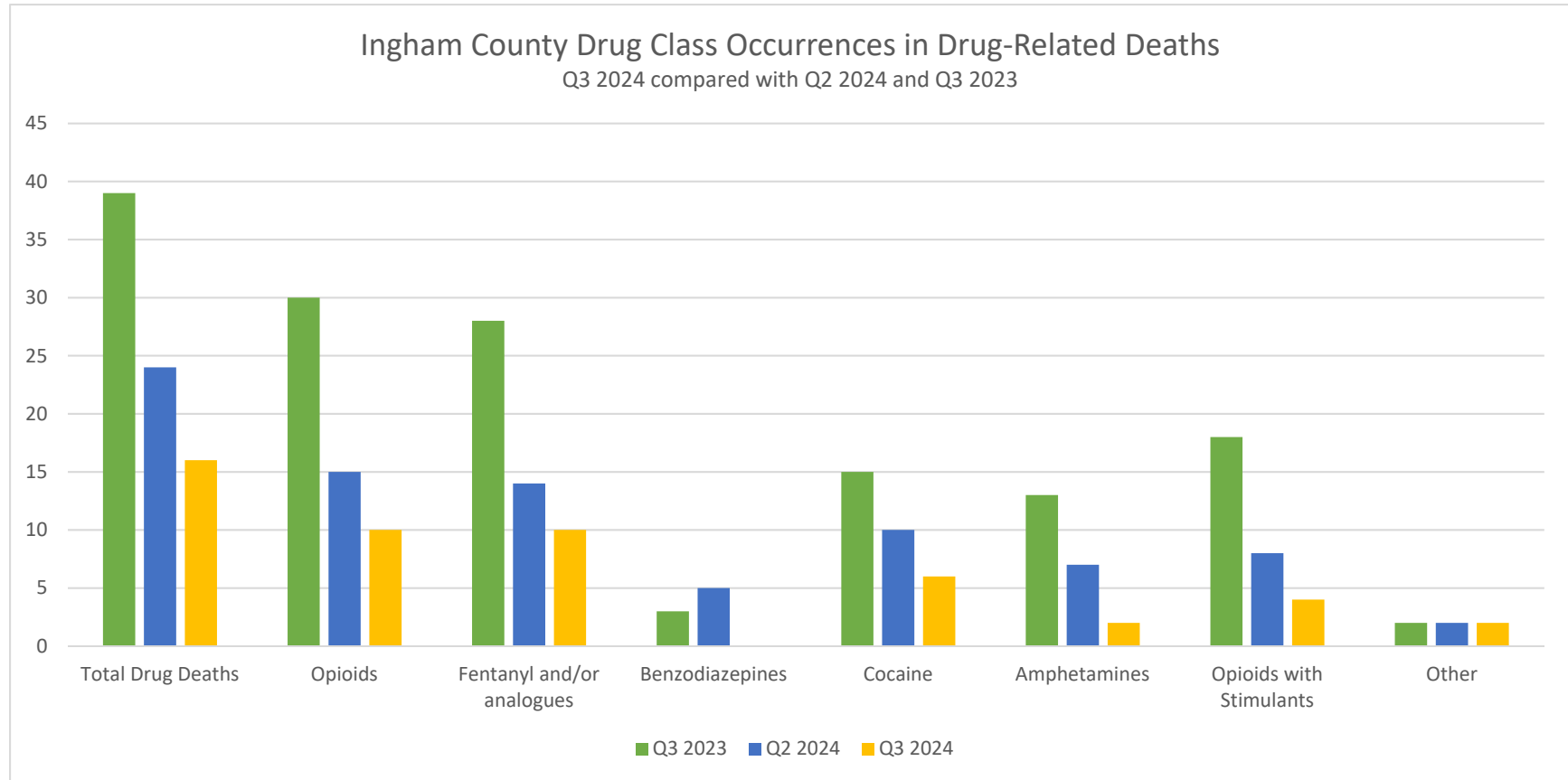
Ingham County

Drug-Related Deaths

2024 Q3 Ingham County Drug-Related Deaths			
Sex	Age	Substance(s) Causing Death	Manner of Death
Female	20	cocaine, fentanyl	Accident
Male	31	fentanyl, methamphetamine	Accident
Female	34	fentanyl	Accident
Female	37	fentanyl	Accident
Male	40	fentanyl, methamphetamine	Accident
Male	41	ethanol, fentanyl	Accident
Male	46	acetyl fentanyl, fentanyl, fluorofentanyl	Accident
Male	47	fentanyl	Accident
Male	52	cocaine	Accident
Male	55	ethanol, gabapentin, hydroxyzine, metoprolol	Suicide
Male	58	cocaine, fentanyl	Accident
Male	58	cocaine	Accident
Male	59	cocaine	Accident
Male	60	acetylfentanyl, cyclobenzaprine, fentanyl, fluorofentanyl, phenobarbital	Accident
Male	65	cocaine, ethanol	Accident
Female	87	acetaminophen	Suicide

Ingham County

Drug-Related Deaths



This chart describes occurrences in one death of a given class of drug. As most drug-related deaths are due to two or more substances, the same death may fall into multiple categories (e.g. death due to fentanyl and alprazolam intoxication falls into the opioids, benzodiazepines, fentanyl and/or analogues, and opioids with benzodiazepines categories). Multiple of the same class of drug in the same death counts as only one occurrence of that class of drugs (e.g. death due to heroin and hydrocodone intoxication – both of these are opioids so this death falls only in the opioids category, as one occurrence). The “other” category is for occurrences of drug-related deaths due *solely* to drugs which do not fall into the other listed categories.

Ionia County

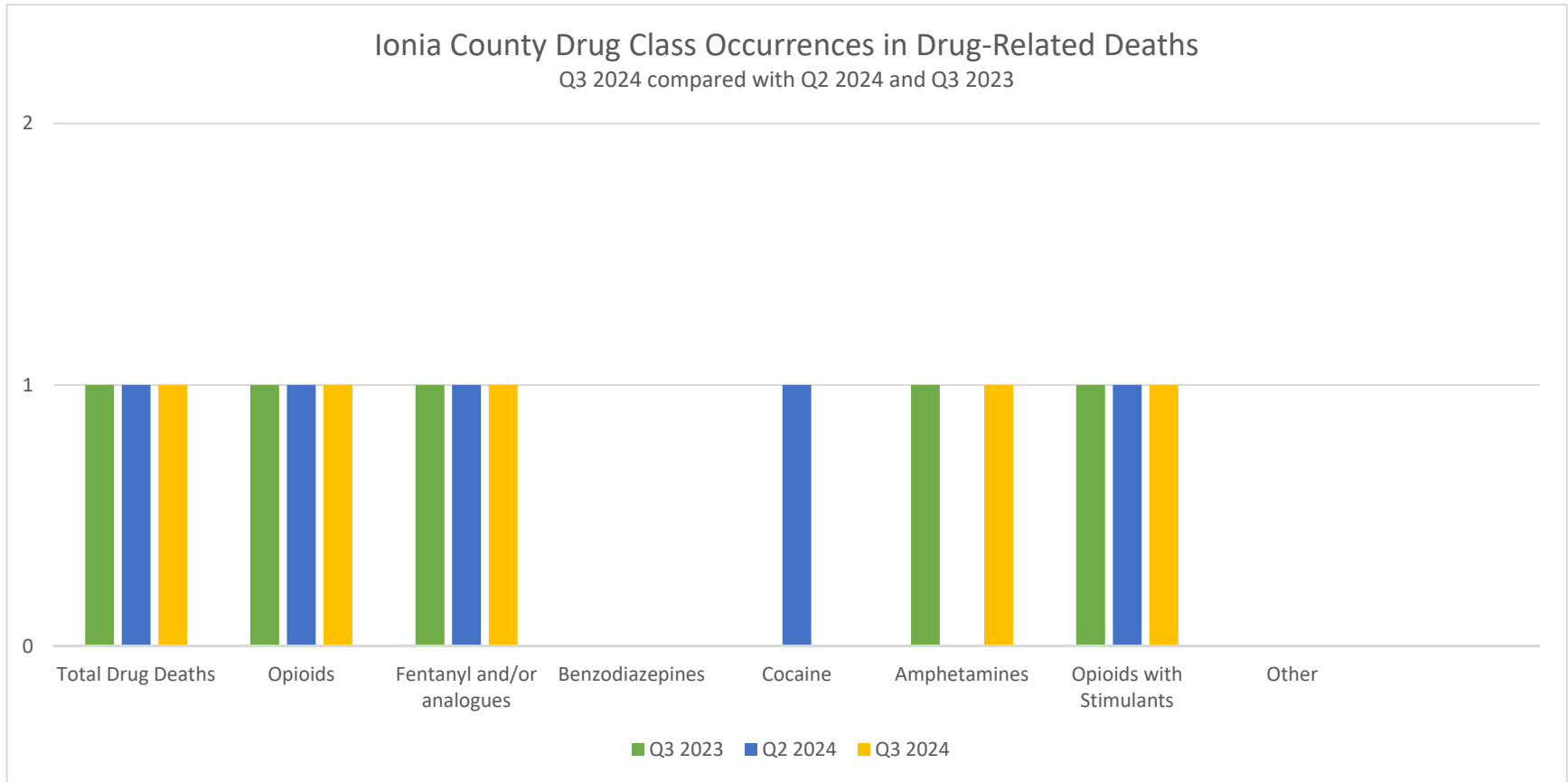
Drug-Related Deaths

2024 Q3 Ionia County Drug-Related Deaths

Sex	Age	Substance(s) Causing Death	Manner of Death
Male	37	fentanyl, methamphetamine	Accident

Ionia County

Drug-Related Deaths



This chart describes occurrences in one death of a given class of drug. As most drug-related deaths are due to two or more substances, the same death may fall into multiple categories (e.g. death due to fentanyl and alprazolam intoxication falls into the opioids, benzodiazepines, fentanyl and/or analogues, and opioids with benzodiazepines categories). Multiple of the same class of drug in the same death counts as only one occurrence of that class of drugs (e.g. death due to heroin and hydrocodone intoxication – both of these are opioids so this death falls only in the opioids category, as one occurrence). The “other” category is for occurrences of drug-related deaths due *solely* to drugs which do not fall into the other listed categories.

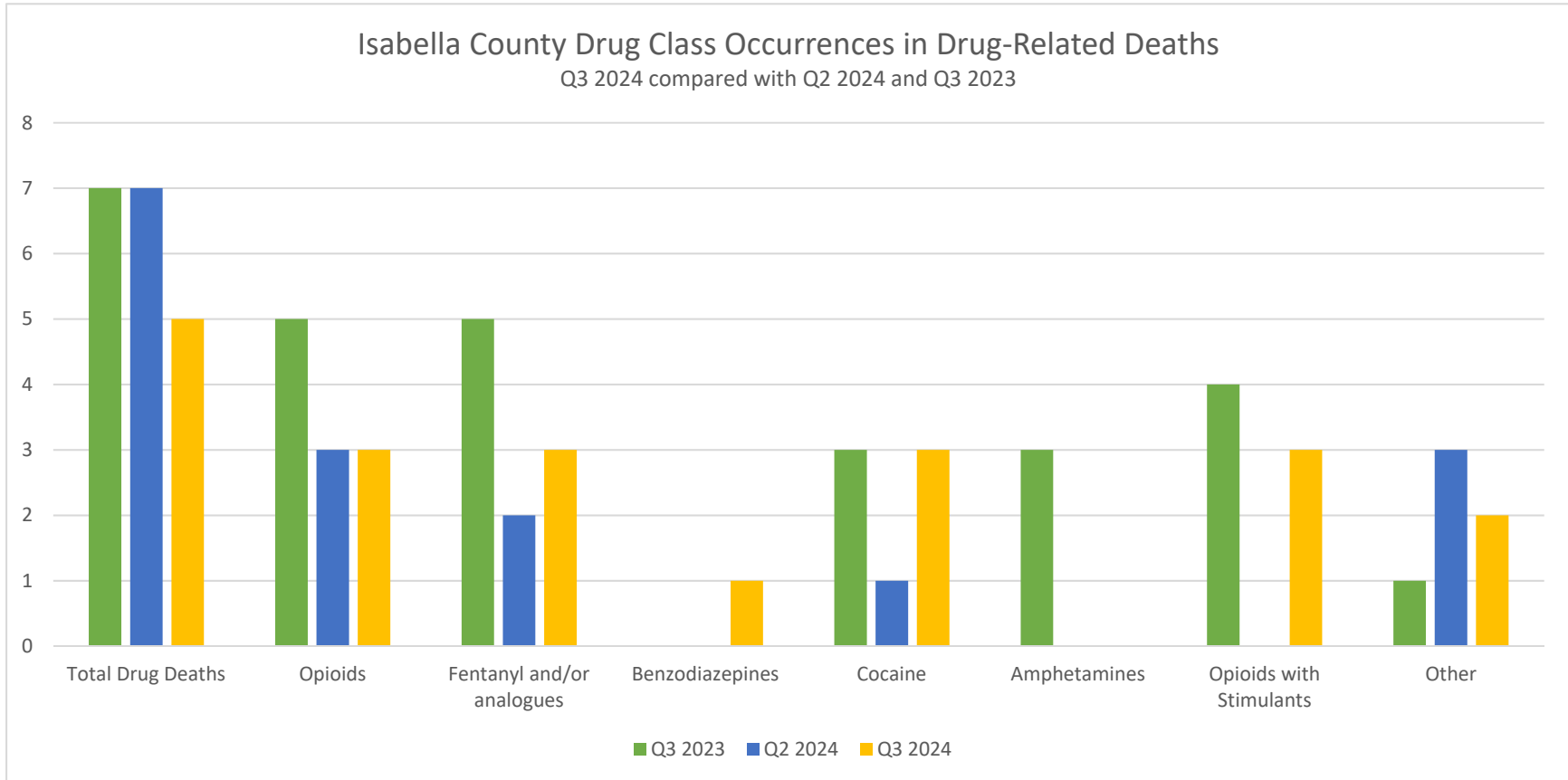
Isabella County

Drug-Related Deaths

2024 Q3 Isabella County Drug-Related Deaths			
Sex	Age	Substance(s) Causing Death	Manner of Death
Male	15	dextromethorphan, diphenhydramine	Accident
Female	28	alprazolam, cocaine, cyclobenzaprine, fentanyl, methadone, mitragynine, morphine	Accident
Male	43	cocaine, fentanyl	Accident
Male	44	cocaine, fentanyl	Accident
Female	67	ethanol, isopropanol	Accident

Isabella County

Drug-Related Deaths



This chart describes occurrences in one death of a given class of drug. As most drug-related deaths are due to two or more substances, the same death may fall into multiple categories (e.g. death due to fentanyl and alprazolam intoxication falls into the opioids, benzodiazepines, fentanyl and/or analogues, and opioids with benzodiazepines categories). Multiple of the same class of drug in the same death counts as only one occurrence of that class of drugs (e.g. death due to heroin and hydrocodone intoxication – both of these are opioids so this death falls only in the opioids category, as one occurrence). The “other” category is for occurrences of drug-related deaths due *solely* to drugs which do not fall into the other listed categories.

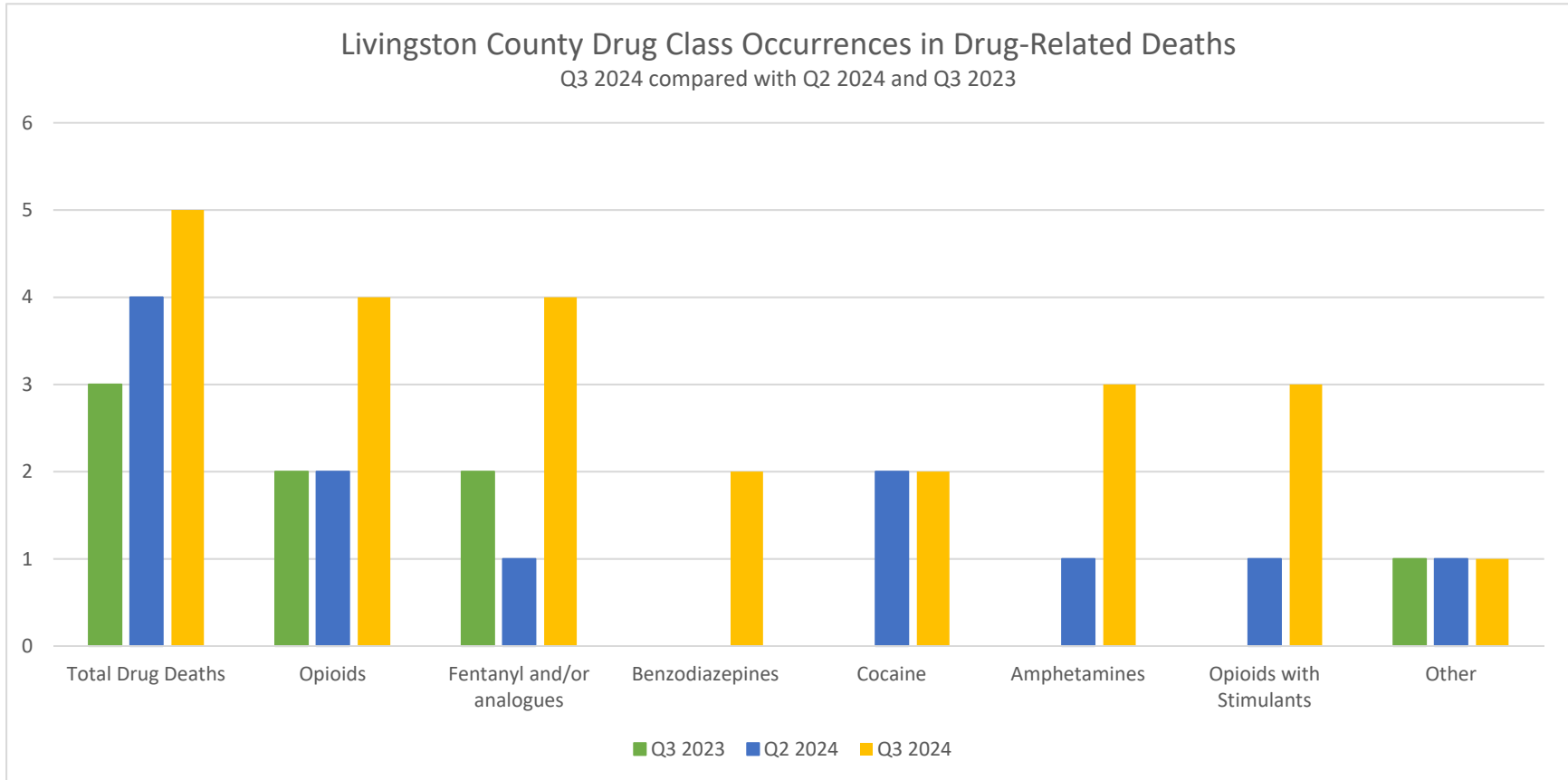
Livingston County

Drug-Related Deaths

2024 Q3 Livingston County Drug-Related Deaths			
Sex	Age	Substance(s) Causing Death	Manner of Death
Male	30	cocaine, fentanyl, methamphetamine	Accident
Male	38	acetylfentanyl, alprazolam, fentanyl, fluorofentanyl, methamphetamine	Accident
Female	49	sertraline	Indeterminate
Male	55	cocaine, fentanyl, methamphetamine	Accident
Male	65	bromazolam, ethanol, fentanyl, hydrocodone	Accident

Livingston County

Drug-Related Deaths



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Shiawassee County

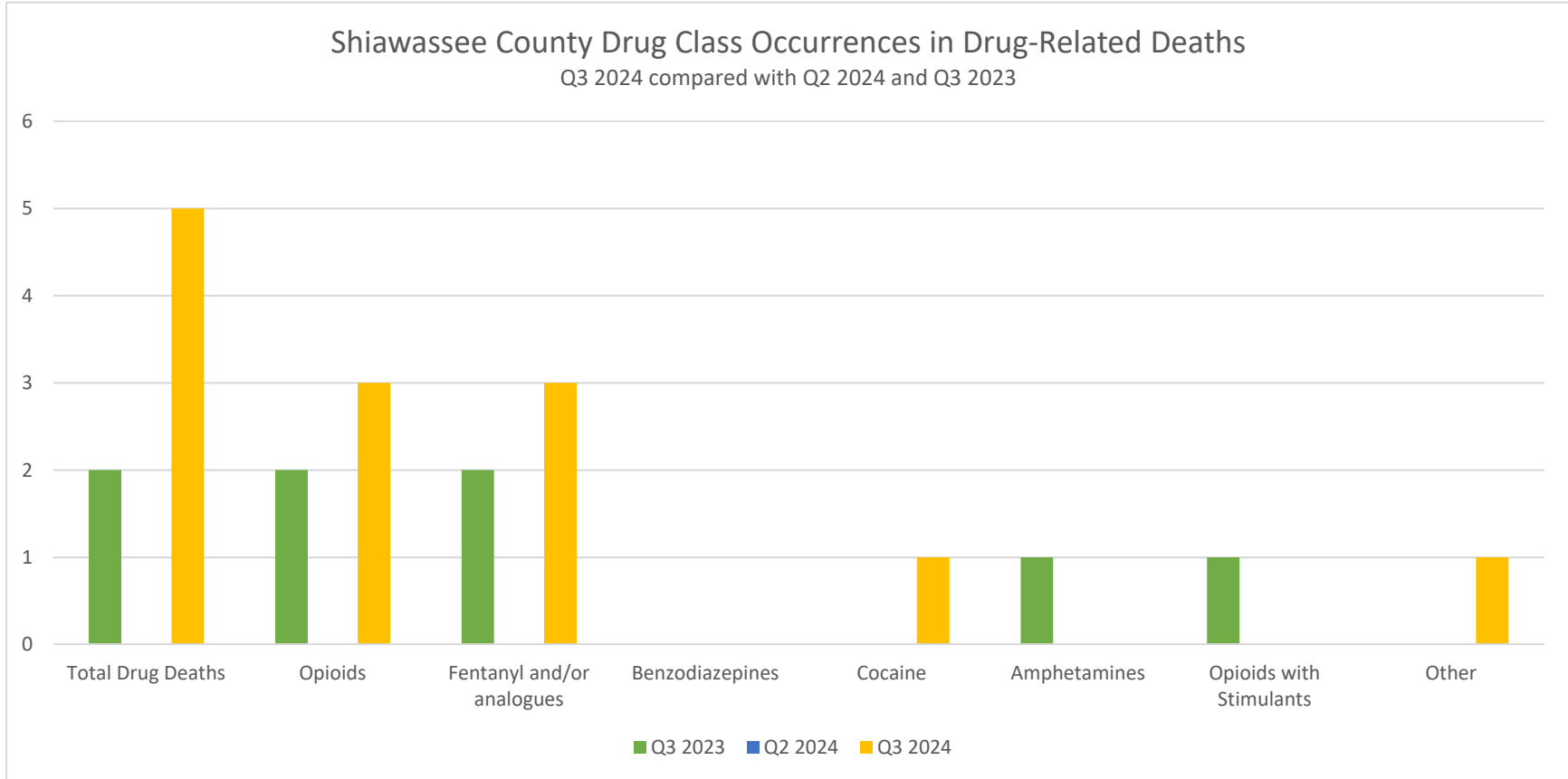
Drug-Related Deaths

2024 Q3 Shiawassee County Drug-Related Deaths			
Sex	Age	Substance(s) Causing Death	Manner of Death
Female	12	bupropion	Suicide
Male	30	cocaine	Pending*
Male	35	acetylfentanyl, fentanyl, gabapentin, xylazine	Accident
Male	37	fentanyl, mitragynine	Accident
Male	50	carfentanil, ethanol, fentanyl	Accident

***This death is still being investigated at this time but was a drug related death**

Shiawassee County

Drug-Related Deaths



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Historical Data

