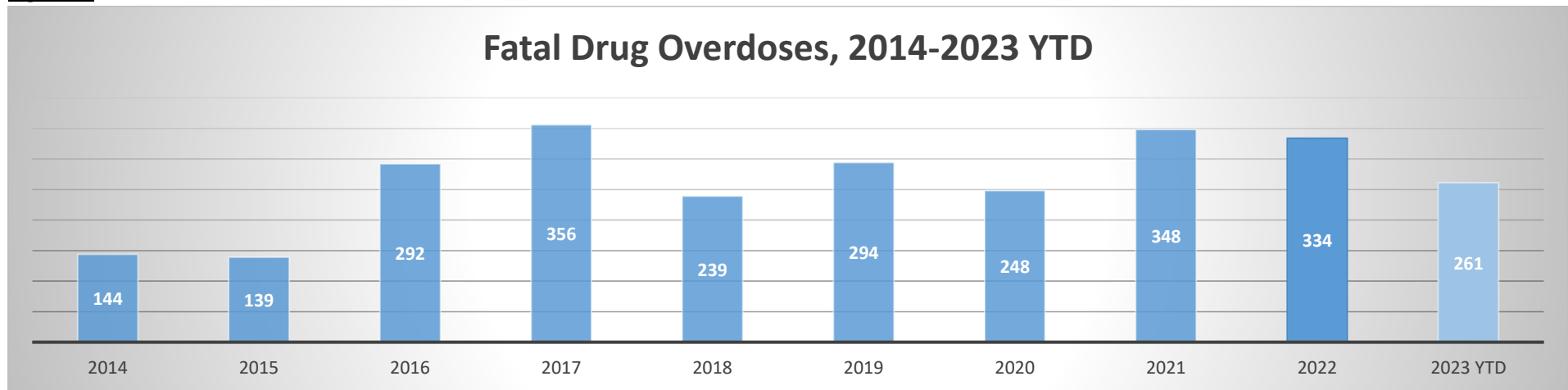


The Drug Overdose Quarterly Report summarizes the drug overdose incidence among Cleveland residents. The metrics in this report include the number of emergency department visits for drug overdoses, data regarding drugs that are causing the overdoses, and deaths due to drug overdoses. This report includes data from July 1<sup>st</sup> through September 30<sup>th</sup> of 2023.

- There were 81 overdose deaths in Quarter 3 (Q3) of 2023. 68% of the overdose deaths were due to opioid use involving fentanyl.
- There were 131 emergency department (ED) visits for suspected drug overdoses. Of these visits, three of them were for repeat overdoses within the same quarter.
- There were 1,690 emergency department visits for substance abuse-related concerns. This was 2.75% of all emergency department visits.

Drug Abuse Indicators	Quarter 3 – 2023	Quarter 2 – 2023	Change	YTD Total	Previous Year Total
Fatal drug overdoses	81	100	-19	261	334
Emergency department visits related to drug overdoses	131	156	-25	444	450
Emergency department visits related to substance abuse	1,690	1,757	-67	5,186	6,015

**Figure 1.**



Data Source: Ohio Vital Statistics. Data as of 12/18/2023. Data is preliminary and subject to change.

**Drug Overdose Quarterly Report**

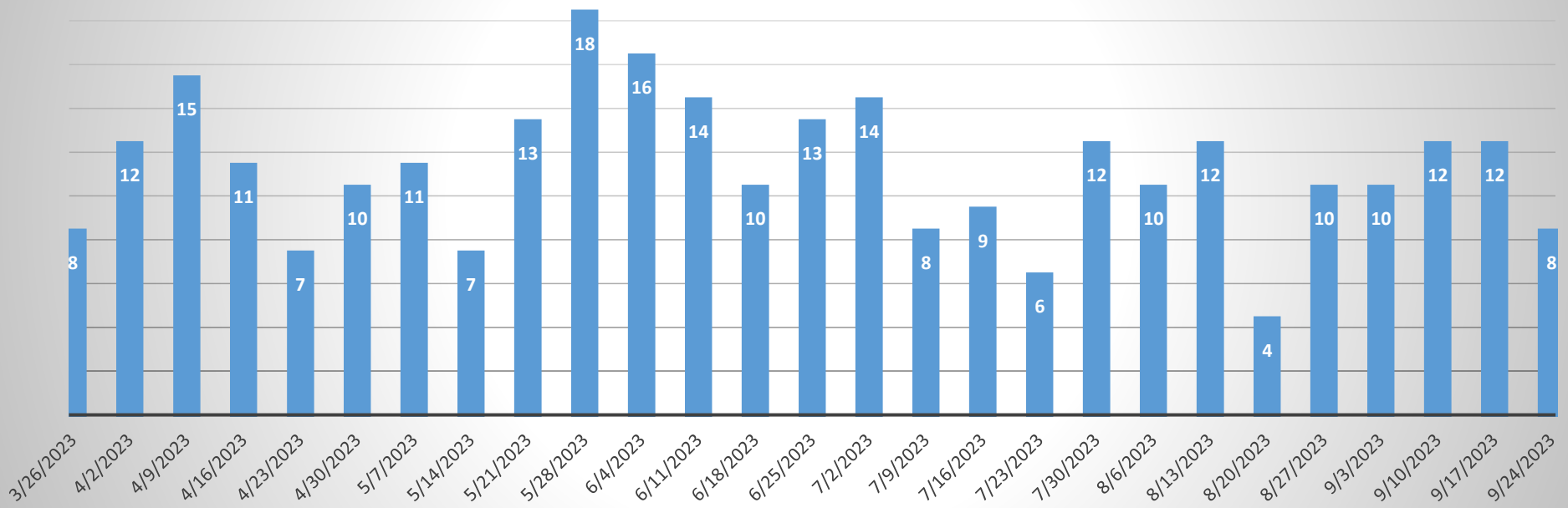
**Drug Overdose Emergency Department Visits**

**Figure 2.**

There were 131 emergency department visits for suspected drug overdoses in Q3 2023, which was lower than last quarter (156 in Q2 2023). Of all suspected drug overdoses emergency department visits in Q3 2023, 32% involved an opioid (15% of which specifically involved heroin), and 13% involved a stimulant such as cocaine or methamphetamine. These overdoses continue to mostly impact residents that are male and between the ages of 30-44 years old.

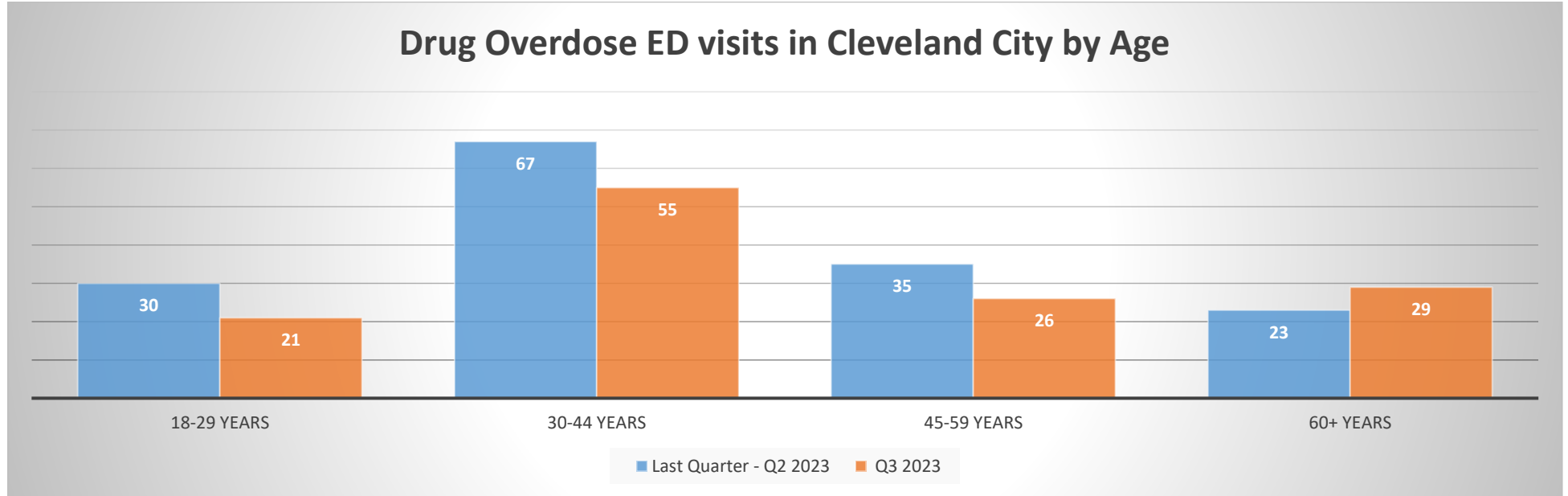
The rate of emergency department visits for suspected drug overdoses in Q3 was highest among residents that live in the ZIP Codes 44102, 44105 and 44109. Approximately 59% of emergency department visits for drug overdoses did not involve opioids or stimulants. The suspected overdoses that did not involve opioids or stimulants, involved alcohol, benzodiazepines, and/or psychiatric medication.

**Drug Overdose ED Visits from 3/26/2023 through 9/30/2023**



\*Counts for drug overdose emergency department visits only includes overdoses caused by psychoactive drugs.  
Data Source: Health Monitoring System: EpiCenter 3.5.23. Data as 12/18/2023. Data is preliminary and subject to change.

**Figure 3.**



**Demographics of Drug Overdose ED Visits**

Sex	
Drug Overdose ED Visits 2020-2022	Drug Overdose ED Visits Q3 2023
Male 68%	Male 66%
Female 32%	Female 31%

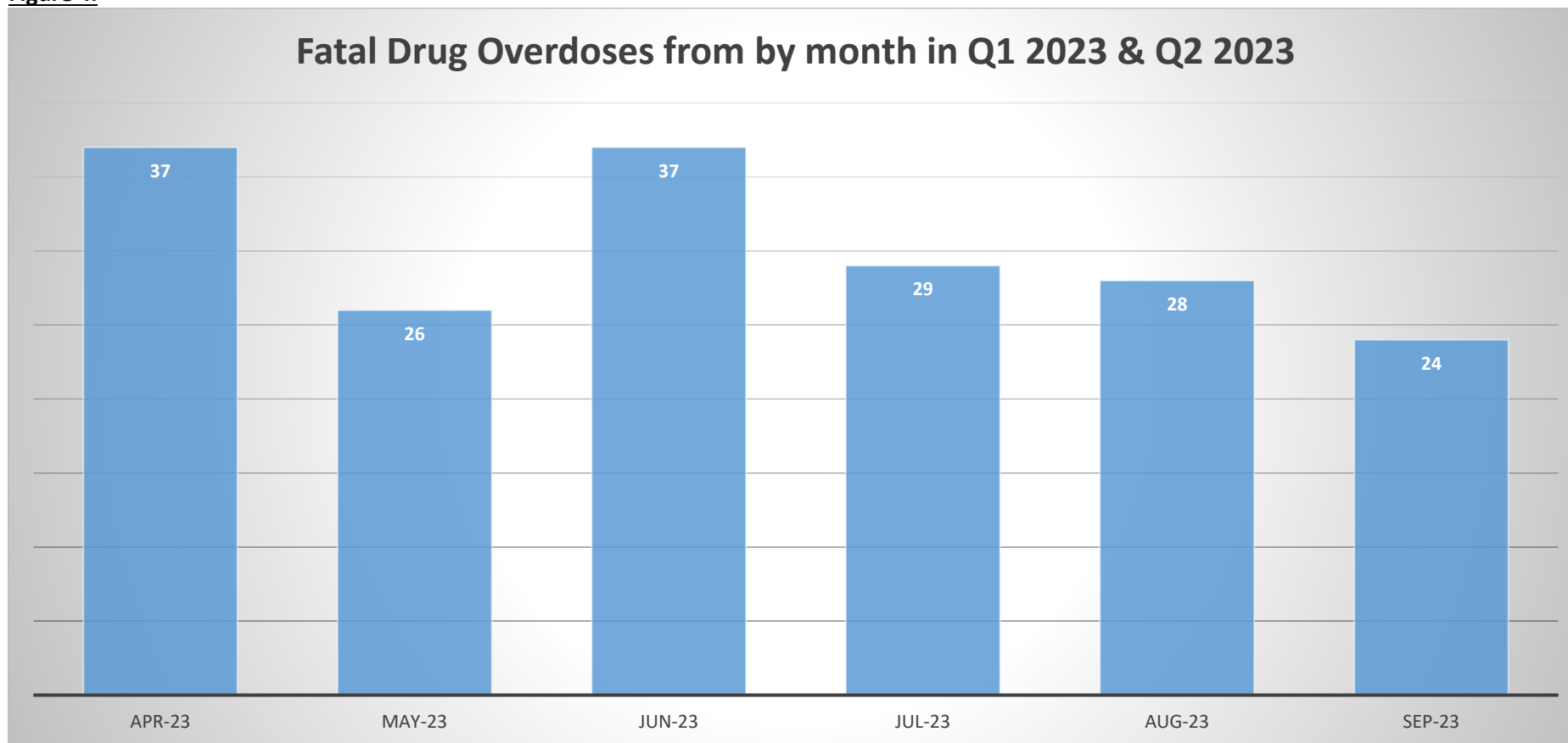
Race	
Drug Overdose ED Visits 2020-2022	Drug Overdose ED Visits Q3 2023
Black/African American 43%	Black/African American 43%
White 47%	White 42%
Other 10%	Other 15%

Ethnicity	
Drug Overdose ED Visits 2020-2022	Drug Overdose ED Visits Q3 2023
Non-Hispanic/Latino 89%	Non-Hispanic/Latino 90%
Hispanic/Latino 10%	Hispanic/Latino 10%
Unknown 1%	Unknown 0.00%

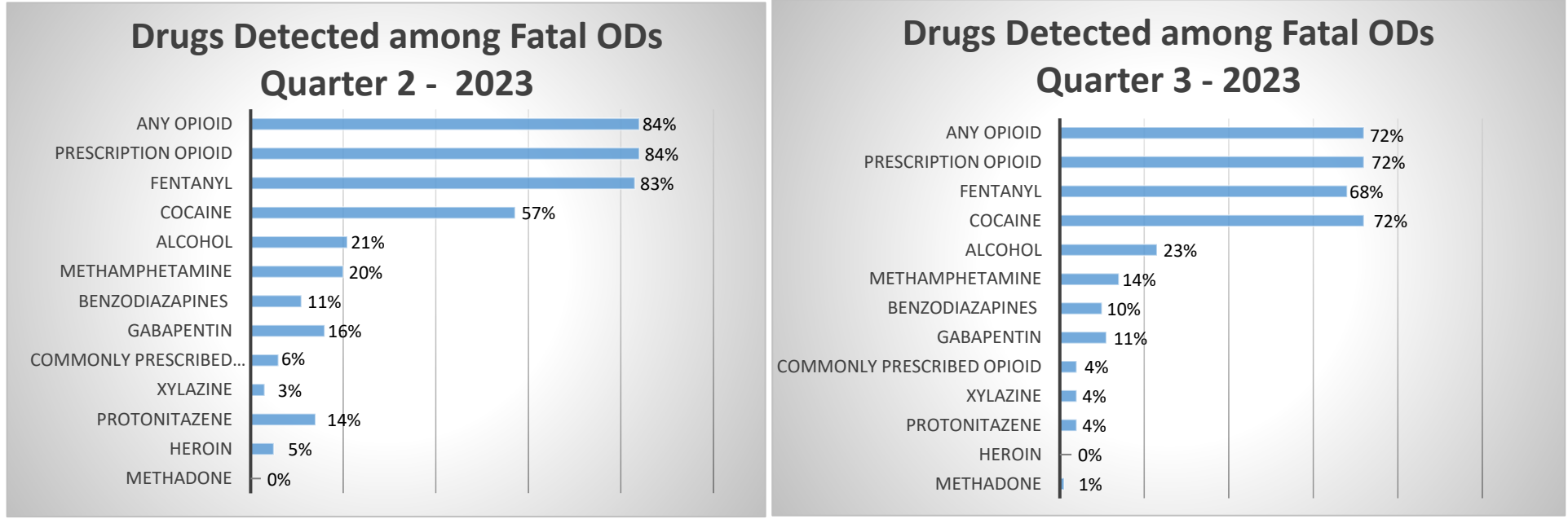
### Fatal Drug Overdoses

There were 81 fatal drug overdoses in Q3 2023, which was higher than the previous quarter (100 deaths in Q2 2023). The drugs detected in fatal overdoses are similar to previous quarters within the last year. There are two trends worth highlighting. A lower percentage of fatal overdoses involved any opioid, including fentanyl. Protonitazene (a synthetic opioid belonging to a group of drugs called the nitazenes) contributed to 14% of fatal overdoses in Q2 and 4% of fatal overdoses in this reporting quarter. Cocaine contributed to the same percentage of fatal overdose as any opioid this reporting quarter. So far in 2023, 44% of fatal drug overdoses involved cocaine and fentanyl; a trend that increased in 2021 and is ongoing. Over 90% of fatal overdoses involved one or more drugs. These overdoses mostly affect residents that are male and between the ages of 30-44 years old. All but two of the fatal drug overdoses were unintentional.

Figure 4.



**Figure 5.**



**Demographics of Fatal Drug Overdoses**

Age Group	
All Fatal ODs 2013-2022	Fatal ODs – Q3 2023
0-17 years 1%	0-17 years 1%
18-29 years 11%	18-29 years 5%
30-44 years 31%	30-44 years 36%
45-59 years 40%	45-59 years 31%
60+ years 19%	60+ years 27%

Sex	
All Fatal ODs 2013-2022	Fatal ODs – Q3 2023
Male 71%	Male 60%
Female 29%	Female 40%

Race	
All Fatal ODs 2013-2022	Fatal ODs – Q3 2023
White 64%	White 54%
Black/African American 35%	Black/African American 44%
Multi-racial 0%	Multi-racial 0%
Unknown 1%	Unknown 1%