## Eighteenth Annual Report on Deaths Among Persons Experiencing Homelessness (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023) New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene New York City Department of Homeless Services

Prepared and submitted pursuant to Local Law 7 (LL7), which was originally named and passed as Local Law 63 (LL63) by the New York City Council in 2005 before being replaced in 2012 with LL7, requiring the City of New York to track and report deaths of persons experiencing homelessness in the city, this annual report provides detailed analyses of patterns and trends regarding deaths among New Yorkers experiencing homelessness.

#### **Executive Summary**

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The City of New York, through the New York City (NYC) Department of Social Services (DSS)/Department of Homeless Services (DHS) works to prevent homelessness, provide temporary emergency shelter, and help individuals and families transition into permanent and supportive housing. In addition, the NYC Department of Social Services/Human Resources Administration (HRA) helps New Yorkers in need. Negative social factors such as poverty and racism, compounded by the stressors of housing instability, put persons experiencing homelessness at a greater likelihood of having physical health and mental health conditions that are poorly controlled, when compared to the general public, resulting in poor health outcomes for this population.

This report has been prepared and submitted pursuant to Local Law 7 (LL7), which was originally named and passed as Local Law 63 (LL63) by the New York City Council in 2005 before being replaced in 2012 with LL7, requiring the City of New York to track and report deaths of persons experiencing homelessness in New York City. This annual report provides detailed analyses of patterns and trends regarding deaths among New Yorkers experiencing homelessness by fiscal year. This information provides critical insight into the health issues of this population and is essential for better understanding their health challenges. Through these analyses, DSS develops and implements innovative and critically needed services and interventions, such as the implementation and expansion of its comprehensive Opioid Overdose Prevention Program and naloxone administration trainings. In addition, DHS implemented a Harm Reduction Strategic Plan aiming at reducing the harmful impacts of substance use. Lastly, in the last year and half, DHS developed and implemented a Complex Care program that provides comprehensive services and care coordination to DHS clients with very complex issues.

Through the City's Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH), the City of New York registers all deaths. At the same time, the Office of Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) is responsible for investigating deaths in NYC that may be suspicious, unusual, violent, or criminal in nature. The OCME also investigates cases where the decedent's homelessness status is in question and leverages information from the death scene, DHS administrative data, the decedent's family, and the police.

At the beginning of fiscal year 2023 (FY23), the NYC DSS, comprised of DHS and HRA, maintained all available records on the persons experiencing homelessness for whom they provide temporary housing in NYC. These include families with children under 18 years old, adult families with no minor children, and single adults experiencing homelessness. These data exclude single individuals or families under the age of 18 who may be experiencing homelessness, as those populations are served by the City's

Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD). In FY23, as Emergency Executive Order 224 outlined, the DHS Shelter System neared its highest ever recorded population and was not designed to serve the influx of asylum seekers arriving to New York City from the Southern border. New York City pursued a whole of government approach, enlisting agencies that contribute their unique expertise in delivering in this emergency, including the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation and the NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD), who started providing shelter to asylum seekers. Since spring 2022, over 173,900 migrants have arrived in NYC and been provided shelter by DHS, H+H and HPD.

However, the data presented in this report have been compiled and vetted solely by DSS-DHS-HRA, OCME, and DOHMH, including being cross-checked against NYC death certificates and analyzed by the DOHMH Bureau of Vital Statistics. The FY23 report is the result of a collaborative effort informed by the programmatic activities of HRA and DHS, the investigations of the OCME and DHS, and the data on deaths reported to DOHMH. Data regarding migrants who may have died in FY23 and were at H+H or HPD facilities have not been obtained from these agencies.

## Summary

During the period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 (Fiscal Year 2023, FY23), there were 734 deaths among persons experiencing homelessness, as identified by DHS and OCME.<sup>1</sup> In FY23, the highest number (n=237; 32%) of deaths were reported in the second quarter (October 1-December 31, 2022). HRA separately reported 106 deaths during FY23. Per Article 27-F of the New York State Public Health Law, which prohibits disclosure of information that could reasonably identify someone as having an HIV-related illness or AIDS, HRA reported deaths are not linked to death certificates, and this report does not include any identifiable information. As a result, findings from the two groups of deaths are reported separately.

**Deaths among persons experiencing homelessness (excludes HRA data).** The number of deaths among persons experiencing homelessness increased by 7% in FY23 (n=734), compared to the number of deaths reported in FY22 (n=684).

Of the 734 deaths, the majority were among males (79%; n=583), and persons aged 45 to 64 years (48%; n=355), similar to prior years. Non-sheltered individuals accounted for 44% of decedents (n=325), an increase of 89% compared to FY22 (n=172); note that this category includes individuals who were unstably housed, but not persistently experiencing street homelessness at the time of death. The remaining 409 deaths were among sheltered residents, more than half of whom died in a hospital (55%, n=226). The 409 sheltered decedents represent a decrease of 20% from FY22 (n=512).

Location of death was categorized as those deaths occurring in a hospital, shelter, outdoors (see Table 1 in the Appendix), and all other places (including subway, abandoned buildings, friends' homes, etc.).

- Among all decedents, most people died in a hospital (53%; n=391), up 3 percentage points from FY22 (50%, n=345); there were 82 deaths that occurred outdoors (11%), similar to 78 (11%) in FY22, and 127 (17%) deaths at other locations, similar to 106 (15%) in FY22.
- Among sheltered residents, 33% (n=134) died in shelters, up 3 percentage points from FY22 (30%, n=155); 55% died in a hospital (n=226), up 5 percentage points from FY22 (50%; n=257).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For the eighteenth annual report, no HPD deaths were included in the report per LL7's definition that HPD clients must also be DHS clients.

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- Among non-sheltered decedents, 51% (n=165) died in a hospital, similar to FY22 (51%; n=88), and 71 (22%) died outdoors, a drop of 2 percentage points from FY22 (24%; n=41).
- There were 38 (9%) deaths in other locations among sheltered residents compared to 89 (27%) among non-sheltered persons.
- Drug-related deaths remained the leading cause of death among persons experiencing homelessness, consistent with citywide and national trends, up 4 percentage points from 329 (48%) in FY22 to 380 (52%) in FY23.
- In FY23 there were 5 COVID-19 deaths, down from 13 in FY22. The definition of a COVID-19 death was changed within DOHMH during FY23 to only include those with COVID-19 as the underlying cause of death and not include deaths matched to positive COVID-19 lab results. All 5 COVID-19 deaths were among the non-sheltered.
- Deaths due to alcohol misuse/dependence remained similar in FY23 (n=19; 3%), compared to FY22 (n=22; 3%).
- Deaths due to heart disease increased by almost 50% to 94 (13%) in FY23 compared to 63 (9%) in FY22 but was similar to prior years in proportion of all deaths.
- In FY23, the top five leading causes of death were drug-related (52%; n=380), heart disease (13%; n=94), accidents (excluding drug overdose) (6%; n=42), cancer (4%; n=28), and alcohol misuse/dependence (3%; n=19).
- The majority of deaths reported in this document were investigated by OCME (87%; n=638), similar to prior years.
- There were 17 infant deaths in FY23, 11 females and 6 males, up from 5 in FY22. Six were due to sudden infant death syndrome. Most of the others were related to congenital anomalies or complications of prematurity.

**Deaths among persons experiencing homelessness reported by HRA.** There were 106 deaths reported by HRA in FY23, 25 (19%) less than in FY22. The majority of decedents were male (74%; n=78) and between the ages of 45 to 64 years (54%; n=57). These individuals most commonly died in HIV/AIDS Services Administration (HASA) housing (42%; n=44) and hospitals (22%; n=23).

## Methods

**Definitions.** LL7 defines a "person experiencing homelessness" as "a person who at the time of death did not have a known street address of a private residence at which he or she was known or reasonably believed to have resided," a subset of which includes persons residing in NYC DSS-DHS homeless shelters, as well as those deemed to be experiencing unsheltered homelessness, which may also be known as "street homelessness," as well as those persons without a fixed address.

The majority of persons defined by LL7 as experiencing homelessness were residing in "homeless shelters," defined here as:

- (i) a residence operated by or on behalf of the Department of Social Services/Department of Homeless Services (DSS-DHS)
- (ii) an emergency residence operated by or on behalf of the Department of Social Services/Human Resources Administration (DSS-HRA), which is available primarily for persons experiencing homelessness with HIV or AIDS related illness

Table M1 describes the criteria used for sheltered and non-sheltered homeless decedents reported by DHS and OCME. Note that some of the tens of thousands of new migrants provided shelter by H+H, HPD 4

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and New York City Emergency Management (NYCEM) could have died and not be identified as homeless decedents since DOHMH did not receive data from these agencies for matching.

| Sheltered decedent   | Non-Sheltered decedent  |
|--|---|
| <ul> <li>A person who was a DHS shelter/Safe<br/>Haven/Stabilization Bed resident at the time of<br/>death or was a DHS shelter resident within 30<br/>days prior to death but intended to come back<br/>to the shelter/had not yet exited shelter to</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>A person who was not a DHS shelter/Safe<br/>Haven/Stabilization Bed resident at the<br/>time of death, but who also lacked a fixed<br/>permanent address.</li> </ul>   |
| housing.   | <ul> <li>A deceased person experiencing<br/>homelessness who was known to outreach</li> </ul>   |
| Exclusion Criteria<br>- Decedents placed in (based on case record)   | team(s)/drop-in center(s).  |
| permanent housing, skilled nursing facility,<br>hospice care, HASA housing (emergency &<br>transitional housing), or family reunification, are<br>not considered persons experiencing<br>homelessness and are excluded from this group.                          | <ul> <li>OCME may categorize a person as<br/>experiencing unsheltered homelessness<br/>based on on-site investigation (location<br/>where deceased was found, appearance,<br/>personal hygiene, etc.), hospital reports, or<br/>family confirmation, including confirming<br/>none of the 'sheltered' criteria were met.</li> </ul> |

## Table M1: Criteria for Shelter Residency Status

#### **Data Collection and Analysis**

For FY23, DHS and OCME provided data on deaths among persons experiencing homelessness. OCME is responsible for investigating NYC deaths that may be due to external causes and/or unusual or suspicious circumstances (e.g., deaths that occurred outdoors). External causes of death are those which are not due to natural causes and include, but are not limited to, drug overdose, accidents, homicides, and suicides. Data presented herein were compiled from OCME and DHS, matched against NYC death certificates, and analyzed by the DOHMH Bureau of Vital Statistics. H+H and HPD did not provide data on migrants who may have died.

The data consist of reported deaths among persons known to DHS at the time of death and autopsy reports from OCME for those individuals, as well as individuals not known to DHS at the time of death for reasons specified above (i.e., without a fixed address/residence, but not residing in NYC DHS shelter or known to NYC DHS outreach teams). These reported deaths are validated and deduplicated. Article 27-F of the New York State Public Health Law prohibits disclosure of information that could reasonably identify someone as having an HIV-related illness or AIDS. As a result, HRA decedents are reported separately.

Case reports from DHS, OCME, and HRA were compiled and analyzed to describe characteristics and trends. Only DHS and OCME case reports were matched against NYC DOHMH Vital Statistics death certificates. DOHMH followed up with agencies to obtain any missing data elements. Some cases determined not to meet the LL7 case definition of persons experiencing homelessness were removed.

The LL7 report provides trends in the number of deaths by shelter status, OCME investigation status, and location of death, as well as by demographic factors such as age group and sex. The report also provides data on the leading causes of death. The cause of death is reported on the death certificate as text fields, which are then coded by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics' SuperMICAR software, which classifies conditions according to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD) published by the World Health Organization. Standardized codes allow for national and international comparisons. A single underlying cause is assigned based on the reported chain of events leading to death. See below for a table describing terminology used in this report to refer to drug-related deaths.

## Table M2: Terminology for Drug-related Deaths

| Terminology for Drug-related Deaths |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|                                     | <b>Drug-related</b><br>Umbrella term to describe underlying cause of deaths due to Chronic Drug<br>Use and Accidental Drug Overdose |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                                     | Chronic Drug Use Accidental Drug Overdose   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Definition                          | Chronic drug use, long-term impact  | Accidental drug overdose, acute event, sudden, excess drug use |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ICD-10 terminology                  | Mental and behavioral disorders due to<br>the use of psychoactive substance<br>excluding alcohol and tobacco                        | Accidental (unintentional) drug-<br>poisoning                  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ICD-10 codes                        | F11-F16, F18-19 X40-X42, X44  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Manner of Death                     | Natural   | Accidental   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Results

Overall, DHS and OCME reported 734 deaths among persons experiencing homelessness in NYC, representing an increase of 7% in the overall number of deaths compared to FY22 (n=684).

#### Trend in the Number of Deaths



Figure 1. Deaths among Persons Experiencing Homelessness by Reporting Agency and Year, July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2023

The number of deaths among DHS clients has ranged between 125 in FY07 and 734 in FY23 (Figure 1). Within FY23, the second quarter (October 1- December 31, 2022) had the highest number of deaths (n=237); see Table 2 in the Appendix.



Figure 2. Percent of Deaths among Persons Experiencing Homelessness Reported by DHS and OCME Investigated by OCME, July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2023

In FY23, the OCME investigated the majority of deaths among persons experiencing homelessness (87%; n=638), in range with previous years (81% to 91%) (Figure 2). Among the 409 sheltered decedents, 79% (n=325) were investigated by OCME. Among the non-sheltered decedents, 96% (n=313) were investigated by OCME (Table 2).

Figure 3. Percent of Deaths among Persons Experiencing Homelessness Reported by DHS and OCME by Shelter Residency Status, July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2023



#### **DHS and OCME reported decedents**

Of the 734 deaths in FY23, 56% (n=409) of decedents were sheltered and 44% (n=325) were non-sheltered (Figure 3, Table 2). Of the non-sheltered decedents experiencing homelessness, 159 (49%) were known to DHS and confirmed by outreach teams to be experiencing unsheltered homelessness and residing on the streets. The proportion of deaths among sheltered decedents decreased by 19 percentage points in FY23, compared to FY22 (75%, n=512). The number of deaths among unsheltered persons increased by 89% from 172 (25%) in FY22 to 325 (44%) in FY23.

#### Location of death

The location of death (shelter, hospital, outdoors, or other place) stratified by borough, Community District, and shelter residency status are shown in Table 3 and 4a. Categories of outdoor and other place of death are provided in Table 1. HRA-reported deaths, stratified by location of death, are presented separately in Table 4b by borough only, as Community District is not available for these deaths.

Overall, 53% (n=391) of the persons experiencing homelessness died in a hospital in FY23, up three percentage points from FY22 (50%; n=345). The overall percent of outdoor deaths remained flat in FY23 (11%; n=82), compared to FY22 (11%; n=78).

#### Non-sheltered decedents

Among non-sheltered decedents, hospital deaths accounted for 51% (n=165) of deaths, followed by other places (27%; n=89), and outdoors (22%; n=71) (Figure 4, Table 4a). The number of outdoor deaths among non-sheltered individuals increased in FY23 to 71 from 41 in FY22, a 73% increase (Figure 4). Of the 89 non-sheltered decedents who died in other places, the majority died in a friend or family member's apartment (n=29, compared to 7 in FY22),) or a subway car/subway platform/train station (n=25, compared to 16 in FY22), followed by public space in a building (n=23, compared to 10 in FY22), ), hotel/motel room(n=6), abandoned building (n=5), and one in another, not elsewhere classified location.

#### **Sheltered decedents**

Deaths in hospitals accounted for over half (55%; n=226) of deaths among sheltered decedents, similar to FY22 (50%; n=257) (Figure 4, Table 4a). The next most frequent location of death was shelter (33%; n=134), a 3 percentage points increase from FY22 (30%; n=155), followed by other places (9%; n=38) and outdoors (3%; n=11). The majority of shelter decedents resided in shelters located in Brooklyn (32%; n=131), followed by the Bronx (27%; n=110), Manhattan (23%; n=93), Queens (18%; n=72), and 3 in Staten Island (Table 3).

## **HRA reported decedents**

The 106 HRA-reported deaths died in HASA housings (42%; n=44), hospitals (22%; n=23), and other places (37%; n=39) (Table 4b). The majority of deaths among HRA clients occurred in Brooklyn (42%; n=44), followed by the Bronx (34%, n=36), Manhattan (20%; n=21), Queens (4%, n=4), and Staten Island (1%, n=1) (Table 4b).



#### **Demographic Characteristics**

#### DHS and OCME reported deaths

The majority (48%; n=355) of deaths occurred among persons aged 45 to 64 years (Figure 5a, 5b, Table 5). The proportion of decedents aged 65 years and older was 12% (n=89), similar to FY22 (12%; n=84). Decedents aged 1 to 24 years accounted for 4% (n=29) of deaths. There were 17 infant deaths (2%) in FY23, 12 more than in FY22.

In FY23, males accounted for 79% of all deaths (N=583), where 51% (n=299) of these deaths were in males aged 45 to 64, followed by 32% (n=189) in males aged 25 to 44. Females accounted for 21% (n=151) of all deaths, where 37% (n=56) of these deaths were in females aged 45 to 64, 35% (n=53) were in females aged 25 to 44, and 14% were in females aged 65 or older.



## Figure 5a. Male Deaths among Persons Experiencing Homelessness Reported by DHS and OCME, by Age Group (in years), July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2023

Figure 5b. Female Deaths among Persons Experiencing Homelessness Reported by DHS and OCME, by Age Group (in years), July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2023



#### **HRA Reported Deaths**

Among the 106 HRA reported deaths, 74% (n=78) were male and 26% (n=28) were female. The age group 45 to 64 years accounted for 54% (n=57) of decedents, followed by those aged 25 to 44 years, 31% (n=33), and 65 years and older, 14% (n=15) (Table 5).

#### Leading Cause of Death (DHS and OCME reported)

In FY23, the proportion of homeless deaths attributed to drug use increased to 52% (n=380) from 48% (n=329) in FY22, an increase of 4 percentage points, and it remains the leading cause of death (Figure 6a, Table 6a). Drug-related deaths include underlying cause of death codes that capture deaths due to chronic and/or unspecified drug use and/or accidental drug intoxication (overdose) (see table M2 in Methods). The number of accidental drug overdose deaths increased by 48 deaths (15% increase), from 321 in FY22 to 369 in FY23 (Figure 6d, Table 7).

COVID-19 was the eleventh leading cause of death in FY23, accounting for less than 1% of deaths (n=5) (Table 6a).

Heart disease ranked as the second leading cause of death with an increase of 5 percentage points in FY23 (13%; n=94) compared to FY22 (9%; n=63). Accidents (excluding drug overdose) were third (6%; n=42), an increase compared to FY22 (9%; n=59). Cancer was the fourth leading cause of death (4%, n=28), similar in proportion to FY22 (3%, n=19). Alcohol misuse/dependence (n=19; 3%) was the fifth leading cause of death, a similar proportion to FY22 (n=22; 3%). The proportion of deaths due to homicide remained similar (3%; n=18) in FY23, compared to FY22 (2%; n=15). At the time of this report, cause of death had not yet been determined for 23 decedents in FY23. See Table 6a for the complete list of leading causes of death.



Figure 6a. Leading Cause of Death<sup>†</sup> among DHS and OCME Reported Decedents, July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2023

\*Use of or poisoning by psychoactive substance (Mental and Behavior Disorders Due to the Use of, or Accidental Poisoning by, Psychoactive Substances Excluding Alcohol and Tobacco)

\*\*Excluding Accidental Drug Overdose

\*\*\*Mental and Behavioral Disorders due to the Use of Alcohol

+Leading causes of death for each reporting year have been altered to reflect the current reporting year's five leading causes.

#### Leading Causes of Death by Sex (DHS and OCME reported)

Among both males (n=315; 54%) and females (n=65; 43%), drug-related deaths were the leading cause of death in FY23 (Figure 6b and 6c, Table 6a). See Table 6a for the complete list of leading causes of death by sex.



#### Figure 6b. Leading Cause of Death<sup>†</sup> among DHS and OCME Reported Male Decedents, July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2023

\*Use of or poisoning by psychoactive substance (Mental and Behavior Disorders Due to the Use of, or Accidental Poisoning by, Psychoactive Substances Excluding Alcohol and Tobacco)

\*\*Excluding Accidental Drug Overdose

\*\*\*Mental and Behavioral Disorders due to the Use of Alcohol

+Leading causes of death for each reporting year have been altered to reflect the current reporting year's five leading causes.

#### Figure 6c. Leading Cause of Death<sup>+</sup> among DHS and OCME Reported Female Decedents, July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2023



\*Use of or poisoning by psychoactive substance (Mental and Behavior Disorders Due to the Use of, or Accidental Poisoning by, Psychoactive Substances Excluding Alcohol and Tobacco)

\*\*Excluding Accidental Drug Overdose

\*\*\*Mental and Behavioral Disorders due to the Use of Alcohol

+Leading causes of death for each reporting year have been altered to reflect the current reporting year's five leading causes.

#### Figure 6d. Drug-related deaths among DHS and OCME Reported Decedents, by Type, July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2023



#### Leading Causes of Death by Shelter Status (DHS and OCME reported)

In FY23, the leading cause of death among sheltered decedents was drug-related (48%; n=198), followed by heart disease (15%; n=63), cancer (5%; n=22), homicide (4%; n=15), accidents (excluding drug overdose) (3%; n=11), chronic liver disease (2%; n=10), and suicide (2%; n=9) (Table 6b).

Among unsheltered decedents, the leading causes of death were drug-related (56%; n=182), followed by heart disease (10%; n=31), by accidents (excluding drug overdose) (10%; n=31), alcohol misuse/dependence (5%; n=16), cancer (2%; n=6), suicide (2%; n=5), and COVID-19 (2%; n=5) (Table 6b).

#### Leading Causes of Death by Shelter Status and Location of Death (DHS and OCME reported)

Among the 325 unsheltered persons who died in FY23:

- More than a fifth (22%; n=71) occurred outdoors (Table 4a), including deaths from drug-related causes (59%; n=42), alcohol misuse/dependence (10%; n=7), heart disease (7%; n=5), accidents (excluding drug overdose) (7%; n=5), cancer (3%; n=2), suicide (3%; n=2) and homicide (1%; n=1), in addition to other causes not ranked as leading causes of death (10%; n=7) (Table 4a).
- A total of 89 deaths (27%) occurred in other locations (not outdoors or in a hospital) (Table 4a), including deaths from drug-related causes (62%; n=55), accidents (excluding drug overdose) (8%; n=7), and heart disease (8%; n=7). There were two deaths each (2%) due to suicide, alcohol misuse/dependence, and aneurysms, and there was one death each (1%) due to cancer, COVID-19, and chronic lower respiratory disease, as well as other causes not ranked as leading causes of death (12%; n=11).
- The remaining deaths (51%; n=165), occurred in hospitals, including drug-related deaths (52%; n=85), accidents (excluding drug overdose) (12%; n=19), heart disease (12%; n=19), alcohol misuse/dependence (4%; n=7), COVID-19 (2%; n=4), three deaths each (2%) due to cancer and flu/pneumonia, two deaths each (1%) due to homicide and diabetes, and one death each (1%) due to suicide, HIV, chronic liver disease, septicemia, and chronic lower respiratory disease, as well as 16 (10%) from other causes not ranked as leading causes of death.

Among the 409 decedents who were living in a shelter at the time of death:

- One-third (33%; n=134) of deaths occurred in a shelter, including 82 (61%) drug-related deaths (all of which were accidental overdoses), 31 (23%) from heart disease, three (2%) from diabetes, two deaths each (1%) due to cancer, suicide, and chronic liver disease, and one death each due to alcohol misuse/dependence, 'pregnancy, childbirth, and the puerperium' causes, aneurysms, and congenital malformations and deformations. There were 8 deaths (6%) from other causes not ranked as leading causes of death.
- Most deaths (55%; n=226) occurred in a hospital (more than any other setting), including 81 (36%) drug-related, 30 (13%) from heart disease, 20 (9%) from cancer, 15 (7%) from homicide, 9 (4%) from accidents (excluding drug overdose), 8 (4%) from chronic liver disease, 6 (3%) from flu/pneumonia, 5 (2%) from certain conditions originating in the perinatal period, 4 deaths each (2%) due to suicide and septicemia, 3 deaths each (1%) due to nephritis and congenital malformations and deformations, two deaths each due to alcohol misuse/dependence and diabetes, and one death each due to stroke, viral hepatitis, hypertension, chronic lower respiratory disease, and complications of medical and surgical care. There were 29 deaths (13%) due to other causes not ranked as leading causes of death.
- 11 (3%) deaths occurred outdoors: 9 (82%) were drug related, one was suicide, and one was pending cause of death.
- 38 (9%) deaths occurred in other places (excluding shelter, outdoors, or hospital). Of those, 26 (68%) were drug-related, and two deaths each (5%) were due to heart disease, suicide, and accidents (excluding drug overdose). There was one death each (3%) due to flu/pneumonia, hypertension, and chronic lower respiratory disease, and three deaths (8%) did not have causes ranked as leading causes of death.

## Leading Causes of Death among Infants Experiencing Homelessness (DHS and OCME reported)

There were 17 infant deaths reported in FY23, 12 more than in FY22. Six were male and 11 were female. Four died within the first month after birth, and 13 died in the post-neonatal period. Causes of infant deaths include 6 with sudden infant death syndrome, two with adenovirus infection, and one death each due to certain conditions originating in the prenatal period; homicide; complications of medical and surgical care; hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy; undetermined intent; newborn complications of placenta, cord, and membranes; cardiovascular disorders originating in the perinatal period; congenital malformations and deformations; and 'short gestation and low birthweight', as well as one pending cause of death. Since reporting began in 2005, 153 deaths among infants experiencing homelessness have been reported.

## External Causes of Death (DHS and OCME reported)

External causes of death are those which are not due to natural causes and include, but are not limited to, drug overdose, accidents, homicides, and suicides. The annual number of deaths due to external causes has ranged between 52 in FY07 and 466 in this report (Figure 7). Of the 466 deaths due to external causes, 50% (n=232) occurred among residents of shelters and 50% (n=234) among non-sheltered persons (Figure 7, Table 6d). Among deaths due to external causes, most (79%; n=369) were due to accidental drug overdose, followed by homicide (4%; n=18), suicide (3%; n=14), exposure to excessive natural cold and railway accidents (each 2%; n=10), falls (2%; n=8), motor vehicle accidents (2%; n=7). There were three deaths each due to poisoning by noxious substance and other non-transport accidents, and one death each due to complications of medical and surgical care and smoke, fire, and flames. (Figure 7, Tables 6c, 6d). Additionally, for 5% (n=22) of the deaths, it could not be determined if the intent was homicide, suicide, or accidental.

Causes of external deaths have historically varied somewhat between sheltered and non-sheltered persons. Among sheltered persons, 82% (n=191) of external deaths were due to accidental drug overdose versus 76% (n=178) among non-sheltered persons. Among non-sheltered persons, 4% (n=9) of deaths were due to exposure to excessive natural cold versus less than 1% (n=1) among sheltered persons. There were 15 (6%) homicide deaths among sheltered persons versus 3 (1%) among the non-sheltered. There were 9 (4%) suicide deaths among the sheltered population versus 5 (2%) among the non-sheltered (Table 6d).



Figure 7. Most Frequent External Causes of Death among DHS and OCME Reported Decedents, July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2023

\*Prior to 2007, the manner of some overdose deaths was coded as natural rather than external, underestimating those due to external causes. As a result, we have used cause of death codes provided by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) to correct the first and second reporting year data for this change in coding. See Special Section: New York City Changes from Manual to Automated Cause-of-Death Coding (page 75): <a href="https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/vs/2007sum.pdf">https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/vs/2007sum.pdf</a> for more information.

#### TABLES

| Outdoor Deaths                 | Other Deaths                                 |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Sidewalk/Street                | Friend or Family Member's Apartment          |
| Expressway                     | Subway Car/ Subway Platform/Train<br>Station |
| Outside of Building Entrance   | Abandoned Building                           |
| Park Area                      | Public Space in a Building <sup>+</sup>      |
| Street Homeless Condition      | Motel/Hotel Room                             |
| Vehicle                        | Drop-in Center                               |
| Vacant Lot                     | Building Vestibule                           |
| Bank/Shore of in Body of Water | Place of Employment                          |
| Construction Site              | Storage Facility                             |
| Roof of Building               | Other, not otherwise specified               |

\* In the 1st annual report, subway and train deaths were categorized as outdoor; this was changed in the 2nd annual report based on discussions between agencies reporting these deaths.

<sup>†</sup>Public spaces in buildings include lobbies, stairwells, elevators, and roofs.

|          |     |       | Deaths Reported by |     |          |      |     |          |      |       |
|----------|-----|-------|--------------------|-----|----------|------|-----|----------|------|-------|
|          |     |       |                    |     | Shelt    | HRA* |     |          |      |       |
|          |     | Total |                    |     | Sheltere | ed   | Nor | n-Shelte | ered |       |
| Month of |     |       | Non-               |     |          | Non- |     |          | Non- |       |
| Death    | All | OCME  | OCME               | All | OCME     | OCME | All | OCME     | OCME | Total |
| Total    | 734 | 638   | 96                 | 409 | 325      | 84   | 325 | 313      | 12   | 106   |
| JUL22    | 41  | 34    | 7                  | 30  | 24       | 6    | 11  | 10       | 1    | 9     |
| AUG22    | 50  | 43    | 7                  | 32  | 25       | 7    | 18  | 18       | 0    | 6     |
| SEP22    | 61  | 56    | 5                  | 31  | 28       | 3    | 30  | 28       | 2    | 17    |
| OCT22    | 69  | 63    | 6                  | 39  | 33       | 6    | 30  | 30       | 0    | 11    |
| NOV22    | 70  | 59    | 11                 | 39  | 31       | 8    | 31  | 28       | 3    | 7     |
| DEC22    | 98  | 88    | 10                 | 42  | 34       | 8    | 56  | 54       | 2    | 13    |
| JAN23    | 71  | 59    | 12                 | 32  | 23       | 9    | 39  | 36       | 3    | 7     |
| FEB23    | 55  | 49    | 6                  | 31  | 25       | 6    | 24  | 24       | 0    | 9     |
| MAR23    | 53  | 47    | 6                  | 30  | 25       | 5    | 23  | 22       | 1    | 1     |
| APR23    | 57  | 46    | 11                 | 35  | 24       | 11   | 22  | 22       | 0    | 6     |
| MAY23    | 55  | 47    | 8                  | 34  | 26       | 8    | 21  | 21       | 0    | 11    |
| JUN23    | 54  | 47    | 7                  | 34  | 27       | 7    | 20  | 20       | 0    | 9     |

\* All HRA deaths occurred to homeless individuals placed in Single Room Occupancy (SRO). SROs are not considered homeless shelters by HRA,

but they are included in this report because they are homeless shelter residents according to Local Law No. 63 of 2005 (codified at New York

City Administrative Code Section 17-190) definitions #2 Homeless shelter resident and #3 Homeless shelter were classified as homeless sheltered residents. See: <u>http://webdocs.nyccouncil.info/attachments/66681.htm</u>

HRA homeless sheltered deaths are reported separately and should not be added to other homeless sheltered deaths as there may be duplication. To comply with Article 27-F of the New York state Public Health Law which prohibits disclosure of any information that could reasonably identify someone having an HIV related illness or AIDS, personal identifiers on HRA homeless deaths were not provided; hence corresponding death certificates could not be reviewed to determine whether deaths were also reported by OCME.

Table 3: Deaths among Sheltered Persons Experiencing Homelessness Reported by DHS and OCME, by Community District of Shelter, July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

| ,         | <u>ier, sury 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023</u>      | Deaths among Sheltered Persons<br>Experiencing Homelessness |
|-----------|---|---|
| Borough   | Community District of Shelter                 | Reported by DHS and OCME                                    |
| Total     | Community District of Shelter                 | 409   |
|           | Total   | 93  |
| Manhattan | Battery Park, Tribeca (01)                    | 0   |
|           | Greenwich Village, SOHO (02)                  | 1   |
|           | Lower East Side (03)                          | 14  |
|           | Chelsea, Clinton (04)                         | 16  |
|           | Midtown Business District (05)                | 7   |
|           | Murray Hill (06)                              | 23  |
|           | Upper West Side (07)                          | 3   |
|           | Upper East Side (08)                          | 1   |
|           | Manhattanville (09)                           | 2   |
|           | Central Harlem (10)                           | 3   |
|           | East Harlem (11)                              | 17  |
|           | Washington Heights (12)                       | 6   |
| Bronx     | Total   | 110   |
|           | Mott Haven (01)                               | 16  |
|           | Hunts Point (02)                              | 9   |
|           | Morrisania (03)                               | 23  |
|           | Concourse, Highbridge (04)                    | 17  |
|           | University/Morris Heights (05)                | 17  |
|           | East Tremont (06)                             | 6   |
|           | Fordham (07)                                  | 6   |
|           | Riverdale (08)                                | 0   |
|           | Unionport, Soundview (09)                     | 4   |
|           | Throgs Neck (10)                              | 3<br>0  |
|           | Pelham Parkway (11)                           |   |
|           | Williamsbridge (12)                           | 9   |
| Brooklyn  | Total   | 131   |
|           | Williamsburg, Greenpoint (01)                 | 18  |
|           | Fort Greene, Brooklyn Heights (02)            | 5   |
|           | Bedford Stuyvesant (03)                       | 8   |
|           | Bushwick (04)                                 | 3   |
|           | East New York (05)                            | 14  |
|           | Park Slope (06)                               | 9   |
|           | Sunset Park (07)                              | 13  |
|           | Crown Heights North (08)                      | 3   |
|           | Crown Heights South (09)                      | 10  |
|           | Bay Ridge (10)                                | 0   |
|           | Bensonhurst (11)<br>Borough Park (12)         | 0   |
|           | J ( )   | 5   |
|           | Coney Island (13)                             | 1 2   |
|           | Flatbush, Midwood (14)<br>Sheepshead Bay (15) | 2   |
|           | Brownsville (16)                              | 30  |
|           | East Flatbush (17)                            |   |
|           |   | 3   |
|           | Canarsie (18)                                 | /   |

Table 3 (continued): Deaths among Sheltered Persons Experiencing Homelessness Reported by DHS and OCME, by Community District of Shelter, July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

| Deveush       | Community District of Sholton  | Deaths among Sheltered Persons<br>Experiencing Homelessness |
|---------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Borough       | Community District of Shelter  | Reported by DHS and OCME                                    |
| Queens        | Total                          | 72  |
|               | Astoria, Long Island City (01) | 11  |
|               | Sunnyside, Woodside (02)       | 10  |
|               | Jackson Heights (03)           | 3   |
|               | Elmhurst, Corona (04)          | 4   |
|               | Ridgewood, Glendale (05)       | 4   |
|               | Rego Park, Forest Hills (06)   | 0   |
|               | Flushing (07)                  | 1   |
|               | Fresh Meadows, Briarwood (08)  | 3   |
|               | Woodhaven (09)                 | 1   |
|               | Howard Beach (10)              | 4   |
|               | Bayside (11)                   | 0   |
|               | Jamaica, St. Albans (12)       | 13  |
|               | Queens Village (13)            | 13  |
|               | The Rockaways (14)             | 5   |
| Staten Island | Total                          | 3   |
|               | Port Richmond (01)             | 3   |
|               | Willowbrook, South Beach (02)  | 0   |
|               | Tottenville (03)               | 0   |

# Table 4a: Deaths among Persons Experiencing Homelessness Reported by DHS and OCME, by Location of Death (Community District), July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

|           |   | Deaths Reported by DHS and OCME |         |          |          |       |       |         |                |          |       |        |         |           |          |        |
|-----------|---|---------------------------------|---------|----------|----------|-------|-------|---------|----------------|----------|-------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|
|           |   | Shelter Re                      |         |          |          |       |       |         | sidency Status |          |       |        |         |           |          |        |
|           |   |                                 |         | Total    |          |       |       |         | Sheltere       | d        |       |        | Ν       | Ion-Shelt | ered     |        |
|           | Community District                      |                                 |         |          |          |       |       |         | Location       | of Death |       |        |         | Location  | of Death |        |
| Borough   | of Death                                | Total                           | Shelter | Hospital | Outdoors | Other | Total | Shelter | Hospital       | Outdoors | Other | Total  | Shelter | Hospital  | Outdoors | Other  |
| Total     |   | 734                             | 134     | 391      | 82       | 127   | 409   | 134     | 226            | 11       | 38    | 325    | 0       | 165       | 71       | 89     |
| Manhattan | Total                                   | 264                             | 32      | 161      | 25       | 46    | 134   | 32      | 88             | 1        | 13    | 130    | 0       | 73        | 24       | 33     |
|           | Battery Park, Tribeca (01)              | 15                              | 0       | 11       | 1        |       |       | 0       | 3              | 0        | 0     | 12     | 0       | 8         | 1        | 3      |
|           | Greenwich Village, SOHO                 | 23                              | 0       | 18       | 1        | 4     | 4     | 0       | 3              | 0        | 1     | 19     | 0       | 15        | 1        | 3      |
|           | Lower East Side (03)                    | 9                               | 2       | 0        | 2        | 5     | 3     | 2       | 0              | 0        | 1     | 6      | 0       | 0         | 2        | 4      |
|           | Chelsea, Clinton (04)                   | 25                              | 7       | 11       | 4        | 3     | 13    | 7       | 6              | 0        | 0     | 12     | 0       | 5         | 4        | 3      |
| [         | Midtown Business District               | 11                              | 3       | 0        | 0        | 8     | 7     | 3       | 0              | 0        | 4     | 4      | 0       | 0         | 0        | 4      |
| [         | Murray Hill (06)                        | 66                              | 10      | 54       | 2        | 0     | 38    | 10      | 28             | 0        | 0     | 28     | 0       | 26        | 2        | 0      |
|           | Upper West Side (07)                    | 4                               | 1       | 0        | 1        | 2     | 2     | 1       | 0              | 0        | 1     | 2      | 0       | 0         | 1        | 1      |
| [         | Upper East Side (08)                    | 8                               | 0       | 8        | 0        | 0     |       |         | 6              | 0        | 0     | 2      | 0       | 2         | 0        |        |
|           | Manhattanville (09)                     | 18                              | 0       | 15       | -        | -     |       |         | 8              | -        | 1     | -      | -       | 7         | 0        | _      |
|           | Central Harlem (10)                     | 26                              | 3       | 13       |          |       |       |         | 9              | -        |       |        | 0       | 4         | -        | 3      |
|           | East Harlem (11)                        | 35                              | 5       | 17       |          |       | -     |         | 14             |          | 0     | -      | 0       | 3         |          |        |
|           | Washington Heights (12)                 | 23                              | 1       | 14       | 4        | 4     | -     | 1       | 11             | 0        |       | 10     | -       | 3         | 4        | -      |
|           | Unknown Commnity Distrct                | 1                               | 0       | 0        |          | -     | -     | -       | 0              | 0        | 0     |        | 0       | 0         | 1        | 0      |
| Bronx     | Total                                   | 159                             | 27      | 79       |          |       |       |         | 57             |          | 9     |        | 0       | 22        | 12       | 29     |
|           | Mott Haven (01)                         | 43                              | 4       | 25       |          |       |       | 4       | 19             |          |       |        | 0       | 6         |          | 8      |
|           | Hunts Point (02)                        | 7                               | 5       | 0        |          | -     | -     |         | 0              | -        | -     |        |         | 0         | 2        | 0      |
|           | Morrisania (03)                         | 8                               |         | 0        |          | -     |       |         | 0              |          | 0     |        |         | 0         | 0        | -      |
|           | Concourse, Highbridge (04)              | 19                              | 4       | 11       |          |       |       |         | 9              |          | 1     | 5      |         | 2         | 2        | 1      |
|           | University/Morris Heights               | 8                               | 2       | 0        |          |       |       | 2       | 0              |          | 1     | 4      | 0       | 0         |          | 3      |
|           | East Tremont (06)                       | 24                              | 2       | 14       |          | -     |       | 2       | 9              |          |       |        | 0       | 5         |          | 5      |
|           | Fordham (07)                            | 13                              | 2       | 7        |          | -     |       |         | 6              |          |       | -      |         | 1         |          | 1      |
|           | Riverdale (08)                          | 1                               | 0       | 0        |          |       |       |         | 0              | -        | -     |        |         | 0         | -        |        |
|           | Unionport, Soundview (09)               | 5                               | 0       | 0        |          | -     |       |         | 0              | -        | 0     | -      |         | 0         |          | 3      |
|           | Throgs Neck (10)                        | 0                               | 0       | 0        | -        | -     |       |         | 0              | -        | 0     | -      | -       | 0         | -        |        |
|           | Pelham Parkway (11)                     | 15                              | 0       | 13       |          |       |       |         | 9              |          | -     |        |         | 4         | -        |        |
|           | Williamsbridge (12)                     | 16                              | 1       | 9        |          | -     |       | 1       | 5              |          | 0     | -      |         | 4         | -        |        |
| Brooklyn  | Total                                   | 192                             | 45      | 98       |          |       |       | 45      | 55             |          | 10    | 77     | 0       | 43        | 17       | 17     |
|           | Williamsburg, Greenpoint                | 10                              | 6       | 0        |          | 3     |       |         | 0              | -        | 0     |        |         | 0         |          | 3      |
|           | Fort Greene, Brooklyn                   | 10                              | 2       | 6        |          |       |       | 2       | 2              | -        | 0     | -      |         | 4         |          | 1      |
|           | Bedford Stuyvesant (03)                 | 26                              | 4       | 20       |          |       |       | 4       | 12             |          |       | 9      |         | 8         |          |        |
|           | Bushwick (04)                           | 8                               |         | 7        |          |       |       | 0       | 1              | -        | -     |        |         | 6         | -        |        |
|           | East New York (05)                      | 12                              | 5       | 0        | _        |       |       | 5       | 0              |          | 0     | -      |         | 0         | -        |        |
|           | Park Slope (06)                         | 13                              | 2       | 10       | -        |       |       |         | 6              |          | 1     | 4      |         | 4         | -        | -      |
|           | Sunset Park (07)                        | 22                              | 5       | 12       |          | -     |       |         | 7              |          | 0     | -      |         | 5         |          | 0      |
|           | Crown Heights North (08)                | 4                               | 1       | 0        |          |       |       |         | 0              |          |       |        | 0       | 0         |          | 0      |
| -         | Crown Heights South (09)                | 11                              | 4       | 7        |          | -     | -     |         | 5              |          | -     |        |         | 2         | -        |        |
|           | Bay Ridge (10)                          | 1                               | 0       | 0        |          |       | -     |         | 0              | -        | -     |        | 0       | 0         | -        |        |
| -         | Bensonhurst (11)                        | 2                               | 0       | 0        |          | 1     |       | 0       | 0              | -        | 1     | 1      | -       | 0         |          | 0      |
|           | Borough Park (12)                       | 3<br>11                         | 0       | 4        |          |       | -     |         | -              |          |       |        |         | -         | -        |        |
|           | Coney Island (13)                       | 11                              | 0       | 3        |          |       |       |         | 1              |          |       | 9      |         | 3         |          |        |
| -         | Flatbush, Midwood (14)                  | / /                             |         | 3        |          |       |       |         | 0              | -        | -     | -      |         | 3         |          | 2<br>0 |
|           | Sheepshead Bay (15)<br>Brownsville (16) | 0<br>18                         | 12      | 0        |          |       |       |         | 0              |          | -     |        |         | 0         |          | 3      |
| -         | East Flatbush (17)                      |                                 | 12      | 27       |          |       |       | 12      | 19             | -        | 2     | 4<br>9 |         | 8         |          |        |
| -         |   | 30<br>4                         | 1       | 27       |          |       |       |         | 19             |          |       |        | 0       | 8         |          |        |
|           | Canarsie (18)                           | 4                               | 1       | 2        | 0        | 1     | 3     | 1       | 2              | 0        | 0     | 1      | 0       | 0         | 0        |        |

# Table 4a (continued): Deaths among Persons Experiencing Homelessness Reported by DHS and OCME, by Location of Death (Community District), July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

|         |                                | Deaths Reported by DHS and OCME |         |          |           |       |       |                          |          |               |       |                   |         |          |          |       |  |
|---------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------|----------|-----------|-------|-------|--------------------------|----------|---------------|-------|-------------------|---------|----------|----------|-------|--|
|         |                                | Total                           |         |          |           |       |       | Shelter Residency Status |          |               |       |                   |         |          |          |       |  |
|         |                                | Iotai                           |         |          | Sheltered |       |       |                          |          | Non-Sheltered |       |                   |         |          |          |       |  |
|         | Community District             |                                 |         |          |           |       |       |                          | Location | of Death      | -     | Location of Death |         |          |          |       |  |
| Borough | of Death                       | Total                           | Shelter | Hospital | Outdoors  | Other | Total | Shelter                  | Hospital | Outdoors      | Other | Total             | Shelter | Hospital | Outdoors | Other |  |
| Queens  | Total                          | 107                             | 30      | 47       | 17        | 13    | 61    | 30                       | 25       | 2             | 4     | 46                | 0       | 22       | 15       | 9     |  |
|         | Astoria, Long Island City (01) | 8                               | 3       | 3        | 1         | 1     | 6     | 3                        | 2        | 0             | 1     | 2                 | 0       | 1        | 1        | 0     |  |
|         | Sunnyside, Woodside (02)       | 7                               | 6       | 0        | 1         | 0     | 6     | 6                        | 0        | 0             | 0     | 1                 | 0       | 0        | 1        | 0     |  |
|         | Jackson Heights (03)           | 3                               | 1       | 0        | 1         | 1     | 2     | 1                        | 0        | 1             | 0     | 1                 | 0       | 0        | 0        | 1     |  |
|         | Elmhurst, Corona (04)          | 16                              | 1       | 10       | 4         | 1     | 8     | 1                        | 7        | 0             | 0     | 8                 | 0       | 3        | 4        | 1     |  |
|         | Ridgewood, Glendale (05)       | 1                               | 1       | 0        | 0         | 0     | 1     | 1                        | 0        | 0             | 0     | 0                 | 0       | 0        | 0        | 0     |  |
|         | Rego Park, Forest Hills (06)   | 4                               | 0       | 2        | 1         | 1     | 2     | 0                        | 2        | 0             | 0     | 2                 | 0       | 0        | 1        | 1     |  |
|         | Flushing (07)                  |                                 | _       | 3        | 2         | 1     | 1     | 0                        | 1        | 0             | 0     | 5                 | 0       | 2        | 2        | 1     |  |
|         | Fresh Meadows, Briarwood       | 10                              | 1       | 7        | 0         | 2     | 5     | 1                        | 4        | 0             | 0     | 5                 | 0       | 3        | 0        | 2     |  |
|         | Woodhaven (09)                 | 15                              | 0       | 13       | 2         | 0     | 5     | 0                        | 5        | 0             | 0     | 10                | 0       | 8        | 2        | 0     |  |
|         | Howard Beach (10)              | 3                               | 2       | 0        | 0         | 1     | 2     | 2                        | 0        | 0             | 0     | 1                 | 0       | 0        | 0        | 1     |  |
|         | Bayside (11)                   |                                 | 0       | 0        | 0         | 0     | 0     | 0                        | 0        | 0             | 0     | 0                 | 0       | 0        | 0        | 0     |  |
|         | Jamaica, St. Albans (12)       |                                 | 6       | 3        | 1         | 2     | 9     | 6                        | 1        | 1             | 1     | 3                 | 0       | 2        | 0        | 1     |  |
|         | Queens Village (13)            | 12                              | 9       | 0        | 1         | 2     | 11    | 9                        | 0        | 0             | 2     | 1                 | 0       | 0        | 1        | 0     |  |
|         | The Rockaways (14)             | 9                               | 0       | 6        | 2         | 1     | 3     | 0                        | 3        | 0             | 0     | 6                 | 0       | 3        | 2        | 1     |  |
|         | Corona Park (81)               | 1                               | 0       | 0        | 1         | 0     | 0     | 0                        | 0        | 0             | 0     | 1                 | 0       | 0        | 1        | 0     |  |
| Staten  | Total                          | 12                              | 0       | 6        | 3         | 3     | 3     | 0                        | 1        | 0             | 2     | 9                 | 0       | 5        | 3        | 1     |  |
| Island  | Port Richmond (01)             |                                 | -       |          | 2         | 2     | 3     | 0                        | 1        | 0             | 2     | 5                 | 0       | 3        | 2        | 0     |  |
|         | Willowbrook, South Beach       | 2                               | 0       | 2        | 0         | 0     | 0     | 0                        | 0        | 0             | 0     | 2                 | 0       | 2        | 0        | 0     |  |
|         | Tottenville (03)               | 2                               | 0       | 0        | 1         | 1     | 0     | 0                        | 0        | 0             | 0     | 2                 | 0       | 0        | 1        | 1     |  |

|               | Deaths Reported by HRA*      |                   |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---------------|------------------------------|-------------------|----|----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|               |                              | Sheltered         |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|               |                              | Location of Death |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Borough       | Total Shelter Hospital Other |                   |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total         | 106                          | 44                | 23 | 39 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Manhattan     | 21                           | 8                 | 8  | 5  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bronx         | 36                           | 19                | 7  | 10 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Brooklyn      | 44                           | 14                | 7  | 23 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Queens        | 4                            | 3                 | 0  | 1  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Staten Island | 1                            | 0                 | 1  | 0  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table 5: Deaths among Persons Experiencing Homelessness by Reporting Agency, Age, and Sex, July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023\*

| Age Category | Deaths Reported by DHS and OCME |       |      |     |        |     |       | Deaths Reported by HRA* |      |     |        |     |  |  |
|--------------|---------------------------------|-------|------|-----|--------|-----|-------|-------------------------|------|-----|--------|-----|--|--|
|              | Total                           |       | Male |     | Female |     | Total |                         | Male |     | Female |     |  |  |
|              | All                             | All % |      | %   | All    | %   | All   | %                       | All  | %   | All    | %   |  |  |
| All Ages     | 734                             | 100   | 583  | 100 | 151    | 100 | 106   | 100                     | 78   | 100 | 28     | 100 |  |  |
| <1           | 17                              | 2     | 6    | 1   | 11     | 7   | 0     | 0                       | 0    | 0   | 0      | 0   |  |  |
| 1-24         | 29                              | 4     | 19   | 3   | 10     | 7   | 1     | 1                       | 0    | 0   | 1      | 4   |  |  |
| 25-44        | 242                             | 33    | 189  | 32  | 53     | 35  | 33    | 31                      | 27   | 35  | 6      | 21  |  |  |
| 45-64        | 355                             | 48    | 299  | 51  | 56     | 37  | 57    | 54                      | 43   | 55  | 14     | 50  |  |  |
| ≥65          | 89                              | 12    | 68   | 12  | 21     | 14  | 15    | 14                      | 8    | 10  | 7      | 25  |  |  |
| Unknown      | 2                               | 0     | 2    | 0   | 0      | 0   | 0     | 0                       | 0    | 0   | 0      | 0   |  |  |

\*All HRA deaths occurred to homeless placed in Single Room Occupancy (SRO). SROs are not considered homeless shelters by HRA, but they are included in this report because they are homeless shelter residents according to Local Law No. 63 of 2005 (codified at New York City Administrative Code Section 17-190) definitions #2 "Homeless shelter resident" and #3 "Homeless shelter". See: <u>http://webdocs.nyccouncil.info/attachments/66681.htm</u>

HRA homeless sheltered deaths are reported separately and should not be added to other homeless sheltered deaths as there may be duplication. To comply with Article 27-F of the New York state Public Health Law which prohibits disclosure of any information that could reasonably identify someone having an HIV related illness or AIDS, personal identifiers on HRA homeless deaths were not provided, including community district of death.

\*\*Female includes transgender females

## Table 6a: Leading Causes of Death among Persons Experiencing Homelessness Reported by DHS and OCME, by Sex, July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

|       |   |      |     |     | 9   | Sex |      |
|-------|---|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
|       |   | Tota | al  | M   | ale | Fen | nale |
|       | Cause of Death  | All  | %   | All | %   | All | %    |
| Rank* | Total   | 734  | 100 | 583 | 100 | 151 | 100  |
| 1     | Drug related  | 380  | 52  | 315 | 54  | 65  | 43   |
| 2     | Heart disease   | 94   | 13  | 74  | 13  | 20  | 13   |
| 3     | Accidents (excluding drug overdose)                             | 42   | 6   | 37  | 6   | 5   | 3    |
| 4     | Cancer  | 28   | 4   | 18  | 3   | 10  | 7    |
| 5     | Mental disorders due to alcohol use (alcohol misuse/dependence) | 19   | 3   | 19  | 3   | 0   | 0    |
| 6     | Homicide  | 18   | 2   | 16  | 3   | 2   | 1    |
| 7     | Suicide   | 14   | 2   | 10  | 2   | 4   | 3    |
| 8     | Chronic liver disease   | 11   | 1   | 7   | 1   | 4   | 3    |
| 9     | Influenza/pneumonia   | 10   | 1   | 7   | 1   | 3   | 2    |
| 10    | Diabetes  | 7    | 1   | 3   | 1   | 4   | 3    |
| 11    | Certain conditions originated in the pernatal period            | 5    | 1   | 1   | 0   | 4   | 3    |
| 11    | Septicemia  | 5    | 1   | 2   | 0   | 3   | 2    |
| 11    | COVID-19  | 5    | 1   | 5   | 1   | 0   | 0    |
| 13    | Congenital Malformations  | 4    | 1   | 2   | 0   | 2   | 1    |
| 13    | Chronic lower respiratory diseases                              | 4    | 1   | 3   | 1   | 1   | 1    |
| 15    | Nephritis, Nephrotic Syndrome and Nephrisis                     | 3    | 0   | 3   | 1   | 0   | 0    |
| 15    | Aortic aneurysms  | 3    | 0   | 2   | 0   | 1   | 1    |
| 17    | Hypertension  | 2    | 0   | 1   | 0   | 1   | 1    |
| 18    | Pregnancy, Childbirth, and the Puerperium                       | 1    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 1   | 1    |
| 18    | Complications of Medical and Surgical Care                      | 1    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 1   | 1    |
| 18    | Stroke  | 1    | 0   | 1   | 0   | 0   | 0    |
| 18    | Viral Hepatitis   | 1    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 1   | 1    |
| 18    | HIV   | 1    | 0   | 1   | 0   | 0   | 0    |
|       | Pending final determination**                                   | 23   | 3   | 17  | 3   | 6   | 4    |
|       | All other causes  | 52   | 7   | 39  | 7   | 13  | 9    |

\*Because of ties some ranks do not appear.

\*\*Includes cases where the cause or manner of death are still under investigation by the OCME.

## Table 6b: Leading Causes of Death among Persons Experiencing Homelessness Reported by DHS and OCME, by Shelter Residency Status, July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

|       |   |      | Status |       |       |        |         |
|-------|---|------|--------|-------|-------|--------|---------|
|       |   | Tota | al     | Shelt | tered | Non-Sh | eltered |
|       | Cause of Death  | All  | %      | All   | %     | All    | %       |
| Rank* | Total   | 734  | 100    | 409   | 100   | 325    | 100     |
| 1     | Drug related  | 380  | 52     | 198   | 48    | 182    | 56      |
| 2     | Heart disease   | 94   | 13     | 63    | 15    | 31     | 10      |
| 3     | Accidents (excluding drug overdose)                             | 42   | 6      | 11    | 3     | 31     | 10      |
| 4     | Cancer  | 28   | 4      | 22    | 5     | 6      | 2       |
| 5     | Mental disorders due to alcohol use (alcohol misuse/dependence) | 19   | 3      | 3     | 1     | 16     | 5       |
| 6     | Homicide  | 18   | 2      | 15    | 4     | 3      | 1       |
| 7     | Suicide   | 14   | 2      | 9     | 2     | 5      | 2       |
| 8     | Chronic liver disease   | 11   | 1      | 10    | 2     | 1      | 0       |
| 9     | Influenza/pneumonia   | 10   | 1      | 7     | 2     | 3      | 1       |
| 10    | Diabetes  | 7    | 1      | 5     | 1     | 2      | 1       |
| 11    | Certain conditions originated in the pernatal period            | 5    | 1      | 5     | 1     | 0      | 0       |
| 11    | Septicemia  | 5    | 1      | 4     | 1     | 1      | 0       |
| 11    | COVID-19  | 5    | 1      | 0     | 0     | 5      | 2       |
| 13    | Congenital Malformations  | 4    | 1      | 4     | 1     | 0      | 0       |
| 13    | Chronic lower respiratory diseases                              | 4    | 1      | 2     | 0     | 2      | 1       |
| 15    | Nephritis, Nephrotic Syndrome and Nephrisis                     | 3    | 0      | 3     | 1     | 0      | 0       |
| 15    | Aortic aneurysms  | 3    | 0      | 1     | 0     | 2      | 1       |
| 17    | Hypertension  | 2    | 0      | 2     | 0     | 0      | 0       |
| 18    | Pregnancy, Childbirth, and the Puerperium                       | 1    | 0      | 1     | 0     | 0      | 0       |
| 18    | Complications of Medical and Surgical Care                      | 1    | 0      | 1     | 0     | 0      | 0       |
| 18    | Stroke  | 1    | 0      | 1     | 0     | 0      | 0       |
| 18    | Viral Hepatitis   | 1    | 0      | 1     | 0     | 0      | 0       |
| 18    | HIV   | 1    | 0      | 0     | 0     | 1      | 0       |
|       | Pending final determination**                                   | 23   | 3      | 13    | 3     | 10     | 3       |
|       | All other causes  | 52   | 7      | 28    | 7     | 24     | 7       |

\*Because of ties some ranks do not appear.

\*\*Includes cases where the cause or manner of death are still under investigation by the OCME.

Table 6c: External Causes of Death\*\* Among Persons Experiencing Homelessness Reported by DHS and OCME, by Sex, July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

|       |  |     |     | Sex |     |     |     |  |
|-------|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--|
|       |  | To  | tal | Ma  | ale | Fem | ale |  |
|       | External Cause of Death                    | All | %   | All | %   | All | %   |  |
| Rank* | Total                                      | 466 | 100 | 387 | 100 | 79  | 100 |  |
| 1     | Accidental drug overdose                   | 369 | 79  | 306 | 79  | 63  | 80  |  |
| 2     | Undetermined intent                        | 22  | 5   | 18  | 5   | 4   | 5   |  |
| 3     | Homicide                                   | 18  | 4   | 16  | 4   | 2   | 3   |  |
| 4     | Suicide                                    | 14  | 3   | 10  | 3   | 4   | 5   |  |
| 5     | Railway accidents                          | 10  | 2   | 10  | 3   | 0   | 0   |  |
| 5     | Exposure to excessive natural cold         | 10  | 2   | 8   | 2   | 2   | 3   |  |
| 7     | Falls                                      | 8   | 2   | 8   | 2   | 0   | 0   |  |
| 8     | Motor vehicle accidents                    | 7   | 2   | 6   | 2   | 1   | 1   |  |
| 9     | Other non-transport accidents              | 3   | 1   | 2   | 1   | 1   | 1   |  |
| 9     | Poisoning by noxious substance             | 3   | 1   | 3   | 1   | 0   | 0   |  |
| 11    | Complications of Medical and Surgical Care | 1   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 1   | 1   |  |
| 11    | Smoke, Fire, and Flames                    | 1   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 1   | 1   |  |

\*Because of ties some ranks do not appear.

\*\*External causes of death include accidents, suicide, assault, legal intervention, events of undetermined intent, operations of war and their sequelae, and complications of medical and surgical care.

## Table 6d: External Causes of Death<sup>\*\*</sup> among Persons Experiencing Homelessness Reported by DHS and OCME, by Shelter Residency Status, July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

|       |                                       |     |     | Shelter Residency Status |      |        |         |  |  |
|-------|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|--------------------------|------|--------|---------|--|--|
|       |                                       | То  | tal | Shelt                    | ered | Non-Sh | eltered |  |  |
|       | External Cause of Death               | All | %   | All                      | %    | All    | %       |  |  |
| Rank* | Total                                 | 466 | 100 | 232                      | 100  | 234    | 100     |  |  |
| 1     | Accidental drug overdose              | 369 | 79  | 191                      | 82   | 178    | 76      |  |  |
| 2     | Undetermined intent                   | 22  | 5   | 5                        | 2    | 17     | 7       |  |  |
| 3     | Homicide                              | 18  | 4   | 15                       | 6    | 3      | 1       |  |  |
| 4     | Suicide                               | 14  | 3   | 9                        | 4    | 5      | 2       |  |  |
| 5     | Railway accidents                     | 10  | 2   | 2                        | 1    | 8      | 3       |  |  |
| 5     | Exposure to excessive natural cold    | 10  | 2   | 1                        | 0    | 9      | 4       |  |  |
| 7     | Falls                                 | 8   | 2   | 4                        | 2    | 4      | 2       |  |  |
| 8     | Motor vehicle accidents               | 7   | 2   | 1                        | 0    | 6      | 3       |  |  |
| 9     | Other non-transport accidents         | 3   | 1   | 1                        | 0    | 2      | 1       |  |  |
| 9     | Poisoning by noxious substance        | 3   | 1   | 1                        | 0    | 2      | 1       |  |  |
| 11    | Complications of Medical and Surgical | 1   | 0   | 1                        | 0    | 0      | 0       |  |  |
| 11    | Smoke, Fire, and Flames               | 1   | 0   | 1                        | 0    | 0      | 0       |  |  |

\*Because of ties some ranks do not appear.

\*\*External causes of death include accidents, suicide, assault, legal intervention, events of undetermined intent, operations of war and their sequelae, and complications of medical and surgical care.

## Table 7: Select Causes of Death among Persons Experiencing Homelessness Reported by DHS and OCME, by Shelter Residency Status and Location of Death, July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2023

|                     | FY20                     |           |                   |                          | FY21      |                   |                          | FY22      |                   |                          | FY23      |                   |  |  |
|---------------------|--------------------------|-----------|-------------------|--------------------------|-----------|-------------------|--------------------------|-----------|-------------------|--------------------------|-----------|-------------------|--|--|
| Cause / Location of | Shelter Residency Status |           |                   |  |  |
| Death               | Total                    | Sheltered | Non-<br>Sheltered |  |  |
| Drug Related Total  | 131                      | 100       | 31                | 237                      | 194       | 43                | 329                      | 258       | 71                | 380                      | 198       | 182               |  |  |
| In shelter          | 47                       | 47        | 0                 | 100                      | 100       | 0                 | 99                       | 99        | 0                 | 82                       | 82        | 0                 |  |  |
| In hospital         | 42                       | 33        | 9                 | 84                       | 63        | 21                | 131                      | 97        | 34                | 166                      | 81        | 85                |  |  |
| Outdoor             | 22                       | 8         | 14                | 24                       | 10        | 14                | 31                       | 17        | 14                | 51                       | 9         | 42                |  |  |
| Other location      | 20                       | 12        | 8                 | 29                       | 21        | 8                 | 68                       | 45        | 23                | 81                       | 26        | 55                |  |  |
| Accidental Drug     | 128                      | 98        | 30                | 223                      | 187       | 36                | 321                      | 253       | 68                | 369                      | 191       | 178               |  |  |
| In shelter          | 47                       | 47        | 0                 | 99                       | 99        | 0                 | 99                       | 99        | 0                 | 82                       | 82        | 0                 |  |  |
| In hospital         | 40                       | 32        | 8                 | 71                       | 57        | 14                | 123                      | 92        | 31                | 155                      | 74        | 81                |  |  |
| Outdoor             | 22                       | 8         | 14                | 24                       | 10        | 14                | 31                       | 17        | 14                | 51                       | 9         | 42                |  |  |
| Other location      | 19                       | 11        | 8                 | 29                       | 21        | 8                 | 68                       | 45        | 23                | 81                       | 26        | 55                |  |  |
| Chronic Drug Use    | 3                        | 2         | 1                 | 14                       | 7         | 7                 | 8                        | 5         | 3                 | 11                       | 7         | 4                 |  |  |
| In shelter          | 0                        | 0         | 0                 | 1                        | 1         | 0                 | 0                        | 0         | 0                 | 0                        | 0         | 0                 |  |  |
| In hospital         | 2                        | 1         | 1                 | 13                       | 6         | 7                 | 8                        | 5         | 3                 | 11                       | 7         | 4                 |  |  |
| Outdoor             | 0                        | 0         | 0                 | 0                        | 0         | 0                 | 0                        | 0         | 0                 | 0                        | 0         | 0                 |  |  |
| Other location      | 1                        | 1         | 0                 | 0                        | 0         | 0                 | 0                        | 0         | 0                 | 0                        | 0         | 0                 |  |  |
| Homicide Total      | 16                       | 11        | 5                 | 22                       | 18        | 4                 | 15                       | 10        | 5                 | 18                       | 15        | 3                 |  |  |
| In shelter          | 1                        | 1         | 0                 | 0                        | 0         | 0                 | 0                        | 0         | 0                 | 0                        | 0         | 0                 |  |  |
| In hospital         | 10                       | 9         | 1                 | 18                       | 16        | 2                 | 10                       | 7         | 3                 | 17                       | 15        | 2                 |  |  |
| Outdoor             | 4                        | 1         | 3                 | 2                        | 1         | 1                 | 4                        | 2         | 2                 | 1                        | 0         | 1                 |  |  |
| Other location      | 1                        | 0         | 1                 | 2                        | 1         | 1                 | 1                        | 1         | 0                 | 0                        | 0         | 0                 |  |  |
| Cold-related Total  | 4                        | 0         | 4                 | 16                       | 7         | 9                 | 19                       | 7         | 12                | 10                       | 1         | 9                 |  |  |
| In shelter          | 0                        | 0         | 0                 | 0                        | 0         | 0                 | 0                        | 0         | 0                 | 0                        | 0         | 0                 |  |  |
| In hospital         | 3                        | 0         | 3                 | 12                       | 5         | 7                 | 13                       | 4         | 9                 | 9                        | 1         | 8                 |  |  |
| Outdoor             | 1                        | 0         | 1                 | 4                        | 2         | 2                 | 3                        | 3         | 0                 | 1                        | 0         | 1                 |  |  |
| Other location      | 0                        | 0         | 0                 | 0                        | 0         | 0                 | 3                        | 0         | 3                 | 0                        | 0         | 0                 |  |  |
| Heart disease Total | 103                      | 83        | 20                | 105                      | 77        | 28                | 63                       | 50        | 13                | 94                       | 63        | 31                |  |  |
| In shelter          | 37                       | 37        | 0                 | 38                       | 37        | 1                 | 29                       | 29        | 0                 | 31                       | 31        | 0                 |  |  |
| In hospital         | 56                       | 44        | 12                | 46                       | 32        | 14                | 26                       | 20        | 6                 | 49                       | 30        | 19                |  |  |
| Outdoor             | 7                        | 1         | 6                 | 11                       | 3         | 8                 | 6                        | 1         | 5                 | 5                        | 0         | 5                 |  |  |
| Other location      | 3                        | 1         | 2                 | 10                       | 5         | 5                 | 2                        | 0         | 2                 | 9                        | 2         | 7                 |  |  |
| Accidents Total     | 35                       | 19        | 16                | 47                       | 24        | 23                | 59                       | 34        | 25                | 42                       | 11        | 31                |  |  |
| In shelter          | 0                        | 0         | 0                 | 3                        | 3         | 0                 | 2                        | 2         | 0                 | 0                        | 0         | 0                 |  |  |
| In hospital         | 22                       | 14        | 8                 | 27                       | 13        | 14                | 37                       | 19        | 18                | 28                       | 9         | 19                |  |  |
| Outdoor             | 6                        | 2         | 4                 | 8                        | 3         | 5                 | 9                        | 7         | 2                 | 5                        | 0         | 5                 |  |  |
| Other location      | 7                        | 3         | 4                 | 9                        | 5         | 4                 | 11                       | 6         | 5                 | 9                        | 2         | 7                 |  |  |
| Suicides Total      | 12                       | 8         | 4                 | 16                       | 12        | 4                 | 10                       | 8         | 2                 | 14                       | 9         | 5                 |  |  |
| In shelter          | 1                        | 1         | 0                 | 10                       | 1         | 0                 | 10                       | 1         | 0                 | 2                        | 2         | 0                 |  |  |
| In hospital         | 3                        | 1         | 2                 | 6                        | 4         | 2                 | 1                        | 1         | 0                 | 5                        | 4         | 1                 |  |  |
| Outdoor             | 2                        | 2         | 0                 | 6                        | 4         | 2                 | 3                        | 2         | 1                 | 3                        | 1         | 2                 |  |  |
| Other location      | 6                        | 4         | 2                 | 3                        | 3         | 0                 | 5                        | 4         | 1                 | 4                        | 2         | 2                 |  |  |