



Maine Drug Monitoring Initiative

Maine Information and Analysis Center



4 September 2024

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2024-0000842

(U) Purpose: *This Maine Drug Monitoring Initiative (DMI) report is a collection of information obtained from various sources and partners, including but not limited to public health, law enforcement, and EMS. The MIAC welcomes the sharing of information that your agency believes may be beneficial to this report and to other agencies.*

(U) Public Health Risk – Carfentanil

Carfentanil is a tranquilizing agent primarily used for large animals such as elephants.¹ Carfentanil is estimated to be 100 times more powerful than fentanyl and 10,000 times stronger than morphine. Due to the inexpensive manufacturing and high potency of carfentanil, it is sometimes mixed with other illicit substances, such as heroin and cocaine². Carfentanil, like fentanyl, is commonly found in a powder form or pressed into pills along with other illicit substances.³ Carfentanil has been reported in the illicit drug market in multiple states including New Hampshire.

Kansas (KS): Sedgwick County's Regional Forensic Science Center in KS confirmed four deaths in 2024 from carfentanil.³

New Hampshire (NH): In August 2024, NH emergency officials warned that carfentanil is becoming more prevalent in New England and has been detected in two fatal overdoses in NH in 2024.⁴

New York (NY): The NY State Department of Health issued a [Public Health Alert⁵](#) on 7 June 2024, after the Department's Drug Checking Program detected a dangerous mix of substances identified in Central NY. Two samples were tested from bags labeled "Super Mario" and were found to have a combination of fentanyl, xylazine, and trace amounts of heroin and carfentanil.

(U) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND NEWS

(U) Five Quick Facts: Carfentanil

(U) The Drug Enforcement Administration released a fact sheet highlighting the dangers of Carfentanil. For additional information, please visit [Five Quick Facts: Carfentanil | Get Smart About Drugs](#).

(U) Maine Drug Data Hub

(U) The Maine Drug Data Hub is a collaboration between multiple state departments, the Governor's Office and the University of Maine. The collection of state and community information on the hub provides resources, data, and visualizations to inform Mainers about efforts to reduce drug use and drug overdose as well as to track progress towards reaching the goals outlined in [Maine's Opioid Response 2023 – 2025 Strategic Action Plan](#). For additional information, please visit, [Maine Drug Data Hub](#).

(U) Opioid Response Summit

(U) Governor Janet Mills' 6th Annual Opioid Response Summit was held on 25 July 2024, bringing together health care providers, policy experts, state and federal government leaders, affected individuals and families, advocates, law enforcement officials, and members of the public to discuss strategies to help Maine people impacted by the opioid crisis. For additional information, please visit [At Opioid Response Summit, Governor Mills Urges Maine People to Continue Fight Against Opioid Epidemic | Office of Governor Janet T. Mills](#).

(U) Sources:

¹DEA Issues Carfentanil Warning to Police and Public (2016, September 16). DEA. Retrieved August 16, 2024, from [DEA Issues Carfentanil Warning To Police And Public](#)

²Carfentanil. Addiction Center. Retrieved August 16, 2024, from [Carfentanil: Dangers, Symptoms, And Signs Of Overdose \(addictioncenter.com\)](#)

³Heilman, M. and Stitt, B. (2024, July 24). *Deadly, Potent Carfentanil a Growing Concern in Sedgewick County*. MSN. Retrieved August 16, 2024, from [Deadly, potent carfentanil a growing concern in Sedgwick County \(msn.com\)](#)

⁴Garris, T. (2024, August 13). *Overdose Deaths Drop in NH cities as Officials Warn of Powerful Opioid*. WMUR9.ABC. Retrieved August 16, 2024, from [Overdose deaths drop in NH cities as officials warn of powerful opioid \(wmur.com\)](#)

⁵New York State Department of Health (2024, June 7). Public Health Alert: Drug Checking Programs. Retrieved August 16, 2024, from [2024-06-07 health alert.pdf \(ny.gov\)](#)

⁶New York State Department of Health (2024, June 7). New York State Department of Health Issues Public Health Alert for Carfentanil Detected In Drug Samples From Central New York. Retrieved August 16, 2024, from [New York State Department of Health Issues Public Health Alert for Carfentanil Detected In Drug Samples From Central New York \(ny.gov\)](#)