

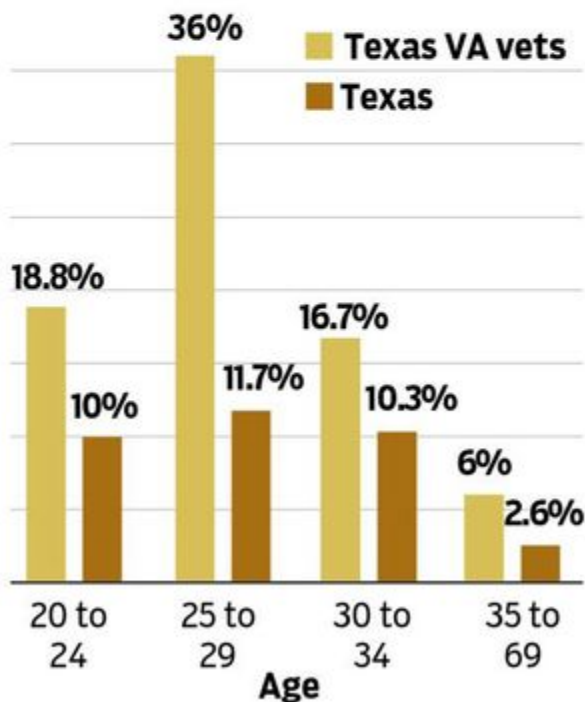
Medications present in veteran overdose cases

Among 47 Texas veterans who died of an overdose, opioids were the most prevalent drugs listed in autopsy and medical examiner reports.

Drugs involved	Cases
Total overdoses	47
Prescription drugs	40
Opioids	34
Opioids and Benzodiazepines together	17
Illegal drugs alone	6

Drug deaths by age group, 2003-11

Among all causes of death, drug-related deaths were most prevalent among veterans under age 35, and the percentages surpassed those for similar deaths among all Texans.



Note: Includes suicides involving drugs

Robert Calzada

Sources: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Texas Department of State Health Services, analysis by Statesman Investigative Team