

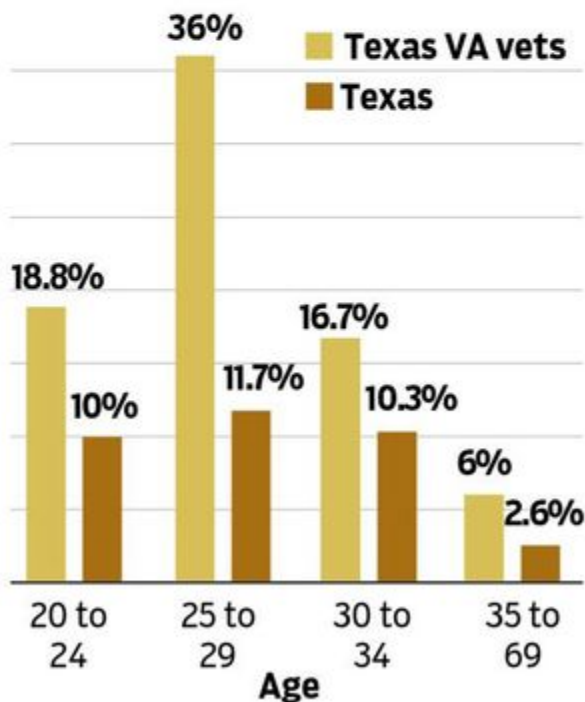
## Medications present in veteran overdose cases

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