

San Diego County Medical Examiner  
**Methamphetamine Related Deaths  
in San Diego County**

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total</i>
<b>1995</b>	<b>150</b>
<b>1996</b>	<b>124</b>
<b>1997</b>	<b>156</b>
<b>1998</b>	<b>110</b>
<b>1999</b>	<b>108</b>
<b>2000</b>	<b>140</b>
<b>2001</b>	<b>150</b>
<b>2002</b>	<b>166</b>
<b>2003</b>	<b>210</b>
<b>2004</b>	<b>205</b>

(Methamphetamine related deaths = all deaths investigated by the County Medical Examiner in which Methamphetamine was detected in the body at the time of the death or fatal event including all accidents, homicides and suicides in San Diego County)

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**Methamphetamine Related Deaths - *Manner***  
**2004**

<i>Manner</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>% of Meth. related deaths</i>			<i>% all deaths of this manner</i>		
		2004	(2003	2002)	2004	(2003	2002)
<b>Accident (Drug Related)</b>	103	50%	(45%	44%)			
<b>Accident (Motor Vehicle)</b>	24	12%	(11%	17%)	7%	(7%	8%)
<b>Accident (Other)</b> (3 falls, 3 trapped under car while working on car, 3 drownings, 2 house fires, 1 autoerotic asphyxia, 1 CO while working on boat engine)	13	6%	(6%	5%)			
<b>Natural with methamphetamine present</b>	6	3%	(3%	7%)			
<b>Homicide</b> (3 of 6 officer involved shootings)	31	15%	(17%	13%)	21%	(22%	12%)
<b>Suicide</b>	20	10%	(16%	12%)	6%	(10%	6%)
<b>Undetermined</b> (including 3 breast feeding infants)	6	3%	(1%	1%)			
<b>Perinatal/Fetal Death</b> (ME jurisdiction is not generally assumed in these cases unless maternal or fetal trauma is suspected)	2	1%	(1%	1%)			
<b><i>TOTAL</i></b>	<b><i>205</i></b> 210 in 2003)				<b><i>7.8% of all ME cases</i></b> (7.9% in 2003) (6.8% in 2002)		

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**Deaths Due to Drug Intoxication**  
*Drug Related Accidents*  
 2004

<i>Accident – Drug Related</i>	<i>Total</i>
<b>Overdose on Methamphetamine Only (3 ingested baggies of methamphetamine)</b>	9
<b>Overdose on Another Drug(s) plus Methamphetamine*</b>  (Including Morphine/Heroin-20, Cocaine, Alcohol, Diazepam, other prescription meds, MDMA.)	29
<b>Contributing Chronic Natural Disease</b> (36 with cardiac disease, 1 chronic asthma) (2 also had end stage alcoholic liver disease)	37
<b>Acute Natural Disease with methamphetamine intoxication as a contributing factor</b> (15 brain hemorrhage, 4 acute cardiac, 2 brain infarct d/t thrombosis/dissection, 2 ruptured aortic dissections, 2 GI hemorrhage d/t liver disease, 1 acute asthma, 2 meningococemia)	28
<b><i>TOTAL</i></b>	<b><i>103</i></b>

\*Other drugs listed with most frequently detected drugs first.

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**Methamphetamine Related Deaths - Age**  
 2004

<i>Age</i>	<i># Of Deaths</i>	<i>% Of Total</i>	<i>% Of Total (2003)</i>	<i>% Of Total (2002)</i>
<b>&lt; 1 Year</b>	5*	2%	<1%	<1%
<b>1-19 Years</b>	9	4%	4%	4%
<b>20-29 Years</b>	36	18%	22%	22%
<b>30-39 Years</b>	51	25%	24%	28%
<b>40-49 Years</b>	61	30%	30%	32%
<b>50-59 Years</b>	40	20%	16%	13%
<b>60 + Years (oldest 69)</b>	3	1%	2%	1%
<b><i>TOTAL</i></b>	<b>205</b>			

(\* including the 2 meth. positive fetal/neonatal deaths investigated by the ME in 2004- these cases are only investigated by the ME if they are unattended deaths or there is a suspicion of fetal or maternal trauma)

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**Methamphetamine Related Deaths – *Manner vs. Age***  
**2004**

<i>Manner</i>	<i>&lt;1 Year</i>	<i>1-19 Years</i>	<i>20-29 Years</i>	<i>30-39 Years</i>	<i>40-49 Years</i>	<i>50-59 Years</i>	<i>60 + Years</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>
<b>Accidental (Drug Related)</b>			5	26	38	33	1	<b>103</b>
<b>Accidental (Motor Vehicle)</b>		3	7	7	4	2	1	<b>24</b>
<b>Accidental (Other)</b>			2	3	6	1	1	<b>13</b>
<b>Natural with methamphetamine present</b>				1	3	2		<b>6</b>
<b>Homicide</b>		6	15	3	6	1		<b>31</b>
<b>Suicide</b>			5	10	4	1		<b>20</b>
<b>Undetermined</b>	3		2	1				<b>6</b>
<b>Fetal/Perinatal Death</b>	2							<b>2</b>
<b><i>TOTAL</i></b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>205</b>

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**Methamphetamine Related Deaths – *Ethnicity and Gender***  
 2004

<i>Ethnicity</i>	<i># Of Deaths</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>% of Total Meth. Deaths</i>
<b>American Indian</b>	5	2	3	2%
<b>Black</b>	11	8	3	5%
<b>Filipino</b>	6	5	1	3%
<b>Guamanian</b>	2	1	1	1%
<b>Hawaiian</b>	2	2	0	1%
<b>Hispanic</b>	52	49	3	25%
<b>Laotian</b>	2	2	0	1%
<b>White</b>	121	87	34	60%
<b>Other</b>	4	3	1	2%
<b><i>TOTAL</i></b>	<b><i>210</i></b>	<b><i>164</i></b>	<b><i>46</i></b>	