

**New Mexico loses hundreds of lives each year to Chinese-made fentanyl flooding across our open border, yet Martin Heinrich voted against \$800 million to crack down on illegal fentanyl smuggling across the southern border, leaving New Mexicans to suffer the consequences. Heinrich is too dangerous for New Mexico.**

**China plays a key role in the flow of fentanyl into the U.S.**

- **The House Select Committee on China indicated “China plays a key role in the flow of fentanyl into the U.S.”** “The House Select Committee on China pointed to findings indicating that China plays a key role in the flow of fentanyl into the U.S., and lawmakers made several recommendations to curb the crisis.” (Zoe Richards and Ken Dilanian, “China is funding the U.S. fentanyl crisis, House panel says in new report,” [NBC News](#), 04/16/24)
- **Republican Mike Gallagher and Democrat Raja Krishnamoorthi have argued China is complicit in fueling the fentanyl crisis in the U.S.** “The report was released just ahead of a scheduled hearing Tuesday at which Chairman Mike Gallagher, R-Wis., and ranking member Raja Krishnamoorthi, D-Ill., are expected to detail what they argue is China's complicity in fueling the fentanyl crisis in the U.S.” (Zoe Richards and Ken Dilanian, “China is funding the U.S. fentanyl crisis, House panel says in new report,” [NBC News](#), 04/16/24)

**U.S. officials have identified China as the main source of the key ingredients drug cartels in Mexico use to synthesize fentanyl.**

- **U.S. officials have identified China as the main source of the key ingredients drug cartels in Mexico use to synthesize fentanyl.** “U.S. officials have identified China as the main source of the key ingredients drug cartels in Mexico use to synthesize fentanyl, while China has suggested the U.S. has fallen short in its efforts to suppress domestic demand for opioids.” (Zoe Richards and Ken Dilanian, “China is funding the U.S. fentanyl crisis, House panel says in new report,” [NBC News](#), 04/16/24)

**The U.S. has long accused China of “flooding the country with deadly drugs like fentanyl” and the Chinese government reportedly provides subsidies to companies openly trafficking illicit synthetic drugs.**

- **The U.S. has long accused China of “flooding the country with deadly drugs like fentanyl.”** “The US government has long accused China of flooding the country with deadly drugs like fentanyl, a synthetic opioid up to 50 times stronger than heroin, claims the Chinese government denies. The US says Chinese-made opioids are fueling the worst drug crisis in the country's history. In 2022 more than 70,000 Americans died from fentanyl overdoses.” (Danny Vincent, “Why a deluge of Chinese-made drugs is hard to curb,” [BBC](#), 04/18/24)
- **Reportedly the Chinese government provides subsidies to companies openly trafficking illicit synthetic drugs.** “According to a report published by the US select committee on the

Chinese Communist Party, the Chinese government provides subsidies to companies openly trafficking illicit synthetic drugs. The report found tens of thousands of posts online advertising illegal drugs and pre-cursors.” (Danny Vincent, “Why a deluge of Chinese-made drugs is hard to curb,” [BBC](#), 04/18/24)

- **Reportedly “wholly state owned” companies are “involved in the trafficking of drugs.”** “The study claims that ‘wholly state owned’ companies are involved in the trafficking of drugs. The Chinese government has consistently denied knowledge of the illegal drug trade.” (Danny Vincent, “Why a deluge of Chinese-made drugs is hard to curb,” [BBC](#), 04/18/24)
- **HEADLINE: “Why a deluge of Chinese-made drugs is hard to curb.”**

## Why a deluge of Chinese-made drugs is hard to curb

18 April 2024

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**Danny Vincent**  
BBC News, Hong Kong

(Danny Vincent, “Why a deluge of Chinese-made drugs is hard to curb,” [BBC](#), 04/18/24)

### New Mexico’s drug-overdose death rate was the sixth highest in the nation in 2021 and fentanyl deaths have surged.

- **New Mexico’s drug-overdose death rate was the sixth highest in the nation in 2021.** “New Mexico’s drug-overdose death rate was the sixth highest in the nation in 2021.” (“Addressing Substance Use Disorders,” [New Mexico Legislative Finance Committee](#), 08/24/23)
- **Fentanyl deaths surged in New Mexico after 2019.** “New Mexico’s drug-overdose death rate was the sixth highest in the nation in 2021.” (“Addressing Substance Use Disorders,” [New Mexico Legislative Finance Committee](#), 08/24/23)
- **Methamphetamine and fentanyl are now the most common causes of drug overdose deaths in New Mexico.** “According to the Department of Health (DOH), methamphetamine and fentanyl are now the most common causes of drug overdose deaths in New Mexico, and the Commonwealth Fund, a healthcare advocacy organization, reported fentanyl and other synthetic opioids now play a role in 70 percent of overdose deaths nationwide.” (“Addressing Substance Use Disorders,” [New Mexico Legislative Finance Committee](#), 08/24/23)
- **56% of New Mexico overdose rates involved fentanyl in 2021.** “DOH reports 56 percent of New Mexico overdose rates involved fentanyl in 2021. Fentanyl has driven the increase in drug-overdose deaths since 2019, though overdose deaths involving methamphetamines have also increased.” (“Addressing Substance Use Disorders,” [New Mexico Legislative Finance Committee](#), 08/24/23)

### In 2021, 574 New Mexicans died from an overdose involving fentanyl, approximately 1.57 people per day.

- **In 2021, 574 New Mexicans died from an overdose involving fentanyl.** “In 2021, 574 New Mexicans died from an overdose involving fentanyl, and 488 New Mexicans died from an overdose involving methamphetamines.” (“Addressing Substance Use Disorders,” [New Mexico Legislative Finance Committee](#), 08/24/23)
- **In total, 1,029 New Mexicans died of drug overdoses in 2021, roughly three people per day.** “In total, 1,029 New Mexicans died of drug overdoses in 2021, roughly three people per day.” (“Addressing Substance Use Disorders,” [New Mexico Legislative Finance Committee](#), 08/24/23)

**In March 2021, Martin Heinrich voted against an amendment to provide \$300 million for U.S. Customs and Border Protection narcotic and opioid detection efforts.**

- **In March 2021, Heinrich voted against S. Amdt. 1383.** (S. Amdt. 1383, [Vote Number 89](#), Rejected 48-50-2, Heinrich Voted Nay, 3/6/21)
- **The amendment failed with a 48-50 vote.** (S. Amdt. 1383, [Vote Number 89](#), Rejected 48-50-2, Heinrich Voted Nay, 3/6/21)
- **S. Amdt. 1383 would have provided \$300 million for U.S. Customs and Border Protection narcotic and opioid detection.** “Young, R-Ind., amendment no. 1383 to the Schumer, D-N.Y., substitute amendment no. 891 to the bill that would provide \$300 million for U.S. Customs and Border Protection narcotic and opioid detection activities and strike a section that would provide \$570 million for emergency paid leave for federal employees unable to work due to COVID-19.” (Vote Number 89, [CQ Summary](#), 3/6/21)

**In August 2022, Martin Heinrich was the deciding vote to kill an amendment that would provide \$500 million to U.S. Customs and Border Protection for narcotic and drug detection.**

- **In 2022, Heinrich voted against Graham Amendment No. 5487.** (H.R. 5376, [Vote Number 321](#), Failed 50-50, Heinrich voted Nay, 8/7/22)
- **The amendment failed with a 50-50 vote.** (H.R. 5376, [Vote Number 321](#), Failed 50-50, Heinrich voted Nay, 8/7/22)
- **The amendment would provide \$500 million to U.S. Customs and Border Protection for narcotic and opioid detection.** “Appropriation.—In addition to amounts otherwise available, there is appropriated to U.S. Customs and Border Protection for fiscal year 2022, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, \$500,000,000, which shall remain available until September 30, 2027, to acquire, deploy, operate, and maintain nonintrusive inspection capabilities, including chemical screening devices, to identify, in an operational environment, synthetic opioids and other narcotics at purity levels that are not more than 10 percent.” (CQ Federal, [Floor Amendment No. 5487 \(5194\) to HR 5376: Amendment Text](#), 8/6/22)

**Martin Heinrich has repeatedly touted his efforts to crack down on fentanyl smuggling and attacking Republicans as hypocrites on the issue.**

- **Heinrich said “in every corner of our state” fentanyl is “killing New Mexico’s children, and their cousins, uncles, aunts.”** “His remarks, as prepared for delivery, are below: Many of us are painfully aware of the devastation the fentanyl epidemic is causing. In New Mexico, we’re seeing the toll of this crisis play out in every corner of our state. It’s killing New Mexico’s children, and their cousins, uncles, aunts, and classmates.” (Press Release, “Heinrich: ‘Enough Is Enough.’ Pushes For Immediate Action To Tackle The Fentanyl Crisis,” [Office of Senator Martin Heinrich](#), 03/22/24)
- **In agreeing to a debate, Heinrich touted his efforts to crack down on the fentanyl supply chain.** “These debates will highlight the clear choice voters have this fall,’ Heinrich continued. ‘While I have a record of delivering real results—like capping insulin prices for Medicare enrollees, securing unprecedented investments in early childhood education, and cracking down on the fentanyl supply chain—my opponent has spent her career making millions of dollars for companies that sold out working families. She left New Mexico 50 years ago and only returned to further the extreme agenda of Donald Trump and Mitch McConnell. New Mexicans deserve a senator who is committed to raising wages, lowering costs, and creating good-paying jobs here at home, not someone out of touch with our values and needs.’” (“Senator Martin Heinrich Agrees To Two Debates This Fall,” [Office of Senator Martin Heinrich](#), 07/24/24)
- **Heinrich attacked Republicans for opposing a border deal “that would have cracked down on fentanyl and fentanyl precursors.”**



**Martin Heinrich**  
@MartinHeinrich

Republicans are killing a border deal that would have cracked down on fentanyl and fentanyl precursors. They own this hypocrisy.

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([Martin Heinrich Twitter](#), 02/06/24)