

US Stock Express

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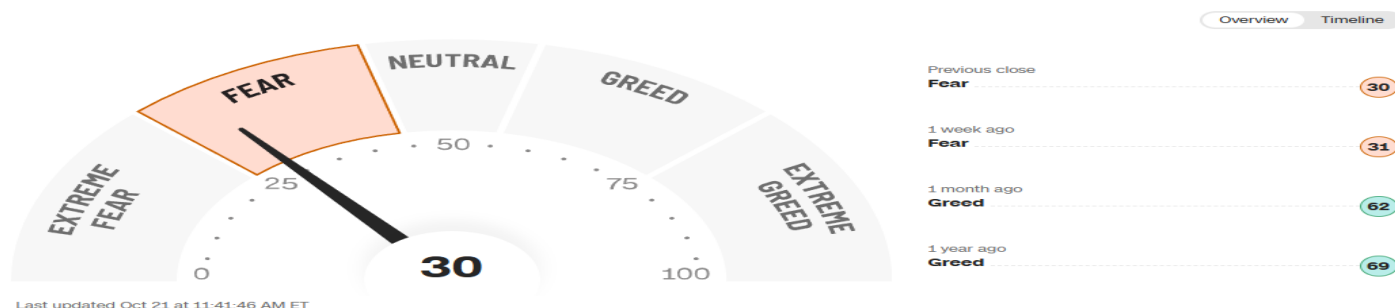
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Copy trading cannot replicate another trader's background or psychological state.*

Fear & Greed Index

What emotion is driving the market now?
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North East West South is **NEWS**

The US and Australia have signed a deal intended to boost supplies of rare earths and other critical minerals, as the Trump administration looks for ways to counter China's dominance of the market. Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said the deal would support a pipeline of \$8.5bn (A\$13bn; £6.3bn) "ready-to-go" projects that would expand his country's mining and processing abilities. It includes \$1bn to be invested by the two countries in projects in the US and Australia over the next six months, a framework text says. The US and Australia have been working on these issues since Trump's first term, but Albanese said the latest agreement would take the partnership to the "next level". It is a start but won't shake China dominance any time soon.

NASA may sideline SpaceX and choose a different company to land its astronauts on the moon later this decade, acting space agency chief Sean Duffy suggested during TV appearances Monday.

Sanae Takaichi, Japan's newly appointed Prime Minister, is scheduled to meet U.S. President Donald Trump during his official visit to Tokyo from October 27 to 29, 2025

Myanmar's military said it has captured a notorious cyber fraud complex on the Thai-Myanmar border, describing it as key territory lost during the civil war. The KK complex, located south of the border town of Myawaddy, has been a hub for cyber fraud, money laundering, and human trafficking for the past five years.

US President Trump has begun demolishing portions of the White House East Wing to create a grand banquet hall. The project will cost \$250 million.

U.S. fentanyl overdose deaths, synthesis, and geopolitics

You're asking about numbers, chemistry, enforcement, geopolitics, and what can actually help. I'll give you the trend and then the hard truths about incentives and realistic options.

U.S. fentanyl deaths and trend

- Scale and recent counts:** Fentanyl and other synthetic opioids have become the leading driver of U.S. overdose deaths. In 2021, overall drug overdoses exceeded 107,000, with synthetic opioids (primarily fentanyl) responsible for most of them. In 2023, about 72,776 overdose deaths involved fentanyl, the second-highest ever recorded. ¹ ²
- Since 2000:** Detailed annual fentanyl-involved counts became prominent in the 2010s as illicitly manufactured fentanyl surged. The cumulative total since 2000 is in the hundreds of thousands, driven heavily by the spike after 2013; exact multi-year sums depend on CDC series definitions, but recent annual fentanyl-involved deaths alone have been in the tens of thousands per year. ²

Fentanyl-involved overdose deaths trend (selected years)

Year	Fentanyl-involved deaths (approx.)
2019	Rising sharply (pre-pandemic surge)
2021	Majority of >107,000 total overdoses attributed to synthetic opioids
2023	72,776

Sources: ¹ ²

Note: CDC's provisional series and categorization can differ across years; 2023 figure is fentanyl-involved overdoses. For a full year-by-year series back to 1999, see CDC/ NVSS and compiled datasets (e.g., Statista). ²

[GPT-5 is here - OpenAI](#)

What fentanyl is synthesized from and whether the U.S. can ban components

- **Chemistry basics:** Fentanyl is a fully synthetic opioid first made in 1960. Illicit production uses precursor chemicals and relatively straightforward organic synthesis to yield very potent end products, often pressed into counterfeit pills or mixed into powders. Lethal doses can be as low as a couple milligrams, and uneven pill-pressing magnifies risk. [3](#) [4](#)
- **Banning precursors:** The U.S. can schedule and restrict fentanyl precursors and analogues, but clandestine producers adapt rapidly by shifting to new precursors and analog modifications. Enforcement helps but chemistry work-arounds and global supply chains limit the effectiveness of bans alone. [3](#) [4](#) [3](#) [4](#)

China's promises and enforcement reality

- **China's role and commitments:** China has announced strict control regimes on fentanyl-related substances and precursors, including white papers claiming "rigorous control" and notable results, and periodic moves to tighten controls amid U.S. pressure. [5](#) [6](#)
- **Practical constraints:** Small chemical manufacturers can act as shadow suppliers; with each enforcement step, illicit actors innovate to evade controls. Mail shipments, re-labeling, and routing through third countries complicate enforcement and verification. The dynamic is a cat-and-mouse game rather than a switch China can simply flip. [7](#)
- **Leverage and incentives:** Beijing's cooperation often aligns with broader trade and diplomatic negotiations. While promises can be genuine, enforcement varies and verification is hard for the U.S. to supervise end-to-end across China's vast industrial base. [5](#) [7](#) [5](#) [6](#) [7](#)



What the U.S. can do under these constraints

- **Domestic demand reduction:** Expand treatment access (medications for opioid use disorder), harm reduction (naloxone distribution, test strips), and recovery support. These measures cut deaths even when supply adapts. ¹
- **Targeted enforcement:** Focus on pill-press machines, distribution networks, and major trafficking nodes; improve interdiction tech at borders for small parcels and mixed loads. ⁸
- **International pressure and monitoring:** Use designations, sanctions, and joint task forces with Mexico and China to target specific firms and brokers, plus better chemical tracking and end-user verification. Expect incremental gains, not a silver bullet. ^{7 8 9}
- **Data transparency:** Invest in rapid overdose surveillance and product testing to respond quickly to supply changes (e.g., xylazine mixtures), which keeps mortality from spiking when markets shift. ^{3 1 3 7 8 9}

Canada and Mexico context

- **Canada severity:** Canadian officials have said fentanyl is killing more people per capita in Canada than in the U.S., and national reporting has noted recent declines in overdoses amid harm-reduction debates. The “zombie” label is a stigmatizing street nickname tied to sedative effects and adulterants; it’s not a clinical term and risks dehumanizing people. ^{10 11}
- **Sources and routes:** Most fentanyl reaching the U.S. is linked to supply chains involving Mexico (production and trafficking) with precursor chemicals sourced internationally, including China. Canada is not a major source of fentanyl entering the U.S., despite political rhetoric; the flows are primarily across the southern border and through parcel networks. ^{8 9 12 8 9 10 11 12}

Trump–Xi and APEC prospects

- **Agenda and likelihood:** Fentanyl is among the top issues Trump has flagged alongside rare earths and soybeans. Reports indicate plans for a meeting at the APEC summit, with tariffs and fentanyl flows clouding negotiations. Any “solution” will likely be incremental: commitments on precursor controls, task forces, and specific firm crackdowns—useful but not decisive without sustained follow-through. ^{13 14 15}
- **Expectations:** Side-meeting outcomes tend to produce joint statements and working groups rather than immediate, verifiable decreases in overdoses. Real impact hinges on continued monitoring, enforcement against named entities, and complementary U.S. domestic measures. ^{14 15 13 14 15}

Direct answers



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- **How many people in the U.S. have died of fentanyl overdose since 2000?** The cumulative total is in the hundreds of thousands, with recent annual fentanyl-involved deaths alone reaching 72,776 in 2023; exact multi-year sums depend on CDC series definitions and are best drawn from full year-by-year datasets. ²
- **Can the U.S. ban original components?** It can and does restrict precursors, but illicit producers adapt chemistry and sourcing quickly, so bans help but don't stop supply by themselves. ³ ⁴
- **Is it too hard for China to prevent exports?** It's difficult to fully prevent due to small manufacturers, evolving precursors, parcel shipping, and third-country routing; cooperation can reduce flows but is inherently imperfect. ⁵ ⁷
- **Is overdose more serious in Canada than the U.S.?** Canada's public safety minister stated the per-capita fentanyl fatality rate is higher in Canada; trends are complex and vary by province, with recent declines reported. ¹⁰ ¹¹
- **Are Canada/Mexico the largest importers beyond China or cooperating with China?** Mexico plays a major role in production/trafficking into the U.S., often using precursors sourced from China; Canada is not a major source for U.S. inflows. ⁸ ⁹ ¹²
- **Will Trump likely solve it at APEC?** Expect incremental agreements and enforcement pledges rather than a definitive fix; durable progress requires sustained cooperation and strong U.S. domestic strategies. ¹⁴ ¹⁵

If you want, I can pull a fuller year-by-year table from 1999 onward to estimate a precise cumulative figure.

¹ Addiction Group

² Statista

³ The Center for Forensic Science Research & Education

⁴ Reuters

⁵ The State Council Information Office of China

⁶ The Independent

⁷ Council on Foreign Relations

⁸ Council on Foreign Relations

⁹ Fortune

¹⁰ RTHK

¹¹ CBC

¹² Newsweek

¹³ Invezz

¹⁴ Times of India

¹⁵ AsiaOne

US Fentanyl Overdose Deaths from 2000 to Present

Based on data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), overdose deaths involving synthetic opioids other than methadone—primarily fentanyl and its analogs—have risen dramatically since the early 2010s. Prior to that, annual deaths were relatively low (typically under 3,000 per year). The cumulative total from 2000 through 2024 is approximately 495,000 deaths. This figure uses final data through 2023 and provisional estimates for 2024, which show a significant decline of about 20% from 2023 levels due to factors like improved enforcement, reduced potency in seized pills, and public health interventions. Note that these numbers reflect deaths where fentanyl was involved, often in combination with other substances, and are based on ICD-10 coding for synthetic opioids (T40.4). [progressivepolicy.org](#) +3 more

Annual Trend in Fentanyl-Involved Overdose Deaths (2000–2024)

To illustrate the trend, here's a table of annual deaths (rounded estimates based on CDC/NIDA data; 2024 is provisional and partial-year adjusted):

Year	Deaths
2000	782
2001	957
2002	1,185
2003	1,400
2004	1,664
2005	1,947
2006	2,628
2007	2,213
2008	2,306
2009	2,946
2010	3,007
2011	2,666
2012	3,105
2013	3,105
2014	5,544
2015	9,580
2016	19,413
2017	28,466
2018	31,335
2019	36,359
2020	56,516
2021	70,601
2022	73,654
2023	74,702
2024	60,000 (est.)

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The trend shows stability at low levels from 2000–2013, followed by exponential growth peaking around 2022–2023 (driven by illicit fentanyl flooding the market), and a recent downturn in 2024. If you'd like me to generate a visual chart (e.g., line or bar graph) based on this data, please confirm.

Fentanyl Synthesis and Potential US Bans on Components

Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid produced through chemical synthesis, not derived from opium poppies like some other opioids. Common synthesis routes include the Janssen method and Siegfried method, using precursor chemicals such as:

- N-phenethyl-4-piperidone (NPP)
- 4-anilino-N-phenethyl-4-piperidine (ANPP)
- Norfentanyl
- 4-aminopiperidine (4-AP)
- 1-boc-4-aminopiperidine (1-boc-4-AP)
- 4-piperidone
- 1-boc-4-piperidone
- Propionyl chloride
- Phenethyl bromide
- Sodium borohydride



These precursors are often simple organic compounds with legitimate industrial or pharmaceutical uses (e.g., in dyes, pesticides, or other medications). [unodc.org](#) [+4 more](#)

The US can and does regulate these precursors under the Controlled Substances Act (CSA). Many are already designated as List I chemicals by the DEA, requiring registration, record-keeping, and limits on sales to prevent diversion into illicit production. However, a complete ban is challenging because they have non-narcotic applications, and illicit manufacturers can adapt by using unregulated analogs or alternative synthesis methods. International control through bodies like the UN's International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) has placed some under global scheduling, but enforcement varies.

[dea.gov](#) [+2 more](#)

China's Promises on Fentanyl Exports: Challenges and Intent

China has been a major source of fentanyl precursors and finished fentanyl, often shipped directly or via third countries like Mexico. In 2019, following US pressure, China scheduled fentanyl as a class and agreed to stricter controls. Further commitments came in 2023–2024, including joint working groups, information sharing, and crackdowns on precursor exports during US–China summits. However, enforcement remains limited due to: [congress.gov](#) +2 more

- **Clandestine labs:** Production occurs in underground facilities, making detection hard. [brookings.edu](#) [pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov](#)
- **Small-package mailing:** Chemicals are shipped in low volumes via international mail, evading customs. [usitc.gov](#)
- **Analog development:** Traffickers create unscheduled variants to skirt laws.

Regarding intent, some analyses suggest China's cooperation is inconsistent and tied to broader geopolitics. Bilateral efforts stalled in 2020 amid unrelated US actions (e.g., Hong Kong sanctions), and visibility into China's internal enforcement is low. Critics argue China uses fentanyl as leverage in trade negotiations, offering promises for tariff relief but delivering partial or delayed action, as US oversight inside China is minimal. For instance, despite 2024 commitments, precursor flows persist via India or Mexico. Substantiated reports from DEA and Treasury indicate ongoing involvement of Chinese firms in supplying cartels, with sanctions imposed on networks. [congress.gov](#)



What the US Can Do

Under such circumstances, the US has several options, many already in use:

- **Diplomatic and economic pressure:** Impose tariffs linked to fentanyl progress, as Trump has done, or sanction Chinese entities (e.g., Treasury actions against suppliers). [whitehouse.gov](#) +2 more
- **Border and enforcement enhancements:** Expand operations like DEA's Plaza Spike targeting Mexican cartels and improve mail screening. [cbp.gov](#)
- **International partnerships:** Work with Mexico (e.g., seizing labs) and India (emerging precursor source) via trilateral talks. [americanimmigrationcouncil.org](#)
- **Domestic measures:** Increase precursor controls, fund addiction treatment, and promote harm reduction (e.g., naloxone distribution).
- **Multilateral efforts:** Push for global scheduling of more precursors through the UN.

Overdose Situation in Canada and "Zombie" References

Canada's opioid crisis is severe on a per-capita basis, comparable to or exceeding the US in some metrics. From 2016 to mid-2025, Canada reported over 53,000 apparent opioid toxicity deaths (mostly fentanyl-related), with ~7,000–8,000 annually in recent years. Adjusted for population (Canada ~40 million vs. US ~330 million), Canada's rate is similar or higher (e.g., ~20–25 deaths per 100,000 vs. US ~22–32). Fentanyl involvement rose from 26% of opioid deaths in 2014 to 63% by 2016 and higher since. The crisis is acute in provinces like British Columbia, with visible homelessness and public drug use. health-infobase.canada.ca +3 more

The "zombie" term often refers to users of "tranq" (xylazine mixed with fentanyl), causing severe sedation and flesh-rotting ulcers, leading to a zombie-like appearance. This is prominent in Canadian cities like Vancouver and Toronto, complicating the overdose crisis, though it's also an issue in the US. sciencedirect.com +2 more



Canada and Mexico's Role in Fentanyl Imports

Mexico is the primary transit and production hub for fentanyl entering the US, using precursors mostly sourced from China (and increasingly India). Cartels like Sinaloa and Jalisco synthesize fentanyl in labs, often with Chinese-supplied equipment. Canada plays a minor role in imports, with some fentanyl entering via mail or ports, but it's not a major producer or transit country—more a consumer affected by similar supply chains. Cooperation with China involves indirect flows: precursors go to Mexico, then finished product to the US/Canada. congress.gov +4 more

Prospects for Trump-Xi APEC Meeting on Fentanyl

The 2025 APEC summit in South Korea (October–November) could include a Trump-Xi sideline meeting, where fentanyl is likely to be discussed amid ongoing trade tensions. Trump has explicitly linked tariffs on China, Canada, and Mexico to fentanyl control, using them as leverage. Prospects for resolution are mixed: Progress on trade, TikTok, or other issues could yield concessions, but insufficient enforcement advances have clouded high-level summits. Trump may push for concrete actions like company sanctions, but outcomes depend on broader US-China relations. euractiv.com +5 more



World Observation

Day 1337
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Fentanyl

Why there is a rise in demand of fentanyl? In terms of business, it is because of the low cost and flexibility. It can be made in laboratory and no need to plant in the golden triangle of Cambodia and Myanmar, no need to wait for harvest time, no need to use ships to sent overseas, just mail it out as small parcels, and give a label of whatsoever medicine, thus can easily pass the custom. Thus no need to ignite another Opium War as in 1842, no need to cede Hong Kong to UK and generate another Pearl of the Orient.

So those famers producing drugs in Golden Triangle area all changed their job to internet fraud such as the KK Complex, and the amount of fraudulence always breaks world record high as in stock market.

It is not easy to ban them practically. US gives pressure to China to clear up all the lobotomies. Inside China, the society control is much stricter than western countries, but still hard to prevent them at 100% level. China also uses this as a chip for tariff talk. When US raises such a question, China can accept but US must take a step backward like the sanction of semiconductor. After the promise, whether China is launching out in full force or half done level, it needs time to prove it. So, after several months of grace period, it will be another story. China will also observe what the attitude of US is, and US also will be in such observation.

In the coming APEC of Korea, the Trump/Xi side meeting will have 2 major topics which are rare earth and fentanyl. In the negotiation of rare earth,

China is in the position of sure win, please refer to the analysis of AI on previous days. In fentanyl talk, it surely will have good news to come out. China will make their promise on the request of US, so the stock market will go up. How about the actual effect, it takes time to observe.

One thing is more important, in the Donald Trump 1.0 trade talk of 2019, they agreed to establish a special unit that is US squadron can enter China to work with Chinese police to carry out the agreement. But just 2 weeks after the agreement signed, Covid-19 burst out and such a case never carried out. The agreement took 2 years to talk about and China has nearly 200 points to do while US only 30 points. This time they do not have such talks, and thus not likely to come out again.

Fentanyl is originally for medical usage, but the peculiar is easily addicted. In Canada, the case is more serious, the death is even more than US in per capita ratio. Addictors on the street are known as zombie, but they are not real zombie as in Hollywood movie. It is a new kind of fentanyl mixed with tranq. So, the problem does not lie totally in China, but Mexico and Canada also plays their part.

After Trump won the general election in November, at first he aimed at the 25% tariff of Canada and Mexico, mainly due to fentanyl, so it is a serious problem, but later say 60% tariff on China. And later full turbo on Liberation Day.

So even now people are waiting for the Trump/Xi side-meeting in APEC, even there is a big black candlestick when Trump announced 100% tariff on China, 3 major indexes still running upward with the 50-SMA as support, that is the uptrend is still integral, no symptom of changing. Anyway, the preparation is still as before, when looking good upon the Trump/Xi meeting, just buy now, when looking bad sell now. Do it before too late.