



MEMORANDUM

Date: October 10, 2022

To: The Honorable Chair and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: Jan Lesner 
County Administrator

Re: **Office of Medical Examiner Data Dashboards**

The Pima County Office of the Medical Examiner (PCOME) certifies reportable deaths for Pima County and other jurisdictional entities across Arizona. Since 2011, it has been producing an Annual Report, which has been an important source of data to inform the discussions of stakeholders across this community. By its nature, this report is published infrequently and several months into the following year.

During the last year, Dr. Gregory Hess has been improving the timeliness, utility and visibility of the data reported. The PCOME Forensic Epidemiology program has created a series of public facing data dashboards that focus on populations and circumstances that have historically generated interest and inquiries. Although more content is forthcoming, the data dashboards are now live, fully functional and available to the public through the Pima County Office of Medical Examiner [website](#).

JLK/dym

Attachment

c: Francisco García, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator and Chief Medical Officer
Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator
Steve Holmes, Deputy County Administrator
Gregory Hess, MD, Chief Medical Examiner, Office of the Medical Examiner



OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER

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MEMORANDUM

Date: October 7, 2022

To: Jan Leshner
County Administrator

From: Gregory Hess, M.D. 
Chief Medical Examiner

Re: **Data Dashboards –Forensic Epidemiology Program Phase 3**

The Pima County Office of the Medical Examiner (PCOME) certifies categories and types of deaths (homicides, suicides, accidents, firearms, heat, motor vehicle, pedestrians, overdoses, veterans, homeless, infants, migrants, etc.) of high interest to myriad user groups (law enforcement, advocacy organizations, media, government, attorneys, families, etc.).

Historically, we report our findings annually via an “Annual Report”, spanning a calendar year, published approximately six months following the close of the previous calendar year. Our first Annual Report was published in 2011 for calendar year 2010. These reports are relied upon as a primary data reference by user groups listed above for their purposes. The main limitations of the Annual Report are its labor-intensive creation and its annual publication frequency. We have long recognized that our electronic case management system contains data of far more granularity than what we were able to publish in our Annual Report.

Beginning calendar year 2022, we started a Forensic Epidemiology program at the PCOME with the intent to improve our data reporting in phases. Phase 1 was refreshing the formatting, completeness and timeliness of our Annual Report. Phase 2 was adding new reporting categories such as special populations (homeless, veterans, infants, children, adolescents and elder adults), special circumstances (in custody, police involved or both), and modality of death irrespective of manner of death (firearms). Phase 3 was on demand, interactive, timely data reporting via data dashboards. Phase 4 (anticipated 2023) will involve improved heat related death reporting.

The PCOME data dashboards are now live, fully functional and available to anyone through the Pima County website: https://webcms.pima.gov/government/medical_examiner/. Embedded in this memorandum on page 2 is a screen capture of the data dashboard tab from the website for ease of viewing.



Gregory L. Hess, M.D. Chief Medical Examiner

To: Jan Leshner
Re: Data Dashboards –Forensic Epidemiology Program Phase 3
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Indigent Internment Our Doctors Anthropology **Data Dashboards & Reports** Resources

Data Dashboards & Reports

Data Dashboards (updated monthly)

Please refer to our reference guide for information on [how to use the PCOME data dashboards](#).

- [Overview of Cases by County](#)
- [Drownings](#)
- [Firearm Deaths](#)
- [Heat-Caused Deaths](#)
- [In Custody and/or Police-Involved](#)
- [Motor Vehicle-Related Deaths](#)
- [Overdose Deaths](#)
- [Special Populations](#)
- [Undocumented Border Crosser Deaths](#)

Annual Reports

• 2021 Annual Report	• 2014 Annual Report
• 2020 Annual Report	• 2013 Annual Report
• 2019 Annual Report	• 2012 Annual Report
• 2018 Annual Report	• 2011 Annual Report
• 2017 Annual Report	• 2010 Annual Report
• 2016 Annual Report	
• 2015 Annual Report	

Updated monthly, these dashboards provide interactive access to close to real time death certification data to allow users to custom search topics of their specific interest. This a huge step forward in terms of accessibility and data transparency.

Concur:



Francisco Garcia, Deputy County Administrator &
Chief Medical Officer

10 October 2022

Date