



**PIMA COUNTY**

---

**OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER**

# **Annual Report 2017**



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**\*MEDICAL EXAMINER COUNTIES**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Pima County Office of the Medical Examiner (PCOME) investigates any death in Pima County that is sudden, violent, unexpected, or in which the cause of death is unknown. The PCOME also serves as the Medical Examiner (ME) for Cochise and Santa Cruz Counties and performs examinations as needed for eight additional counties. In 2017 there were 9,460 deaths in Pima County; of these 2,705 (29%) were reported to the PCOME for investigation. This annual report consists of four main sections. The first is an overview of the activities and notable events of the office over the course of the report year. The second is a statistical review of the types of all cases processed by the office regardless of the county of death. The third is a breakdown of certain death classifications for the three counties for which the PCOME is the appointed medical examiner. The fourth is a breakdown of certain death classifications for deaths reported to the PCOME from counties in which the PCOME is not the appointed medical examiner.

## **OVERVIEW**

The PCOME was fully accredited by the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) following a two-day inspection in October 2011. This accreditation was effective from October 24, 2011 through October 24, 2016 and required annual accreditation verifications. The office was re-inspected in January 2017 and received continued full accreditation valid through October 25, 2021. NAME accredited offices represent the highest quality of death investigation systems. There are 74 fully accredited Medical Examiner's Offices across the United States. The PCOME has the distinction of being the sole fully accredited office in Arizona.

### Reportable Deaths

Arizona Revised Statute §11-593 delineates ten circumstances in which a death is reportable to the PCOME.

1. Death when not under the current care of a health care provider as defined pursuant to section 36-301.
2. Death resulting from violence.
3. Unexpected or unexplained death.
4. Death of a person in a custodial agency as defined in section 13-4401.
5. Unexpected or unexplained death of an infant or child.
6. Death occurring in a suspicious, unusual or non-natural manner, including death from an accident believed to be related to the deceased's occupation or employment.
7. Death occurring as a result of anesthetic or surgical procedures.
8. Death suspected to be caused by a previously unreported or undiagnosed disease that constitutes a threat to public safety.
9. Death involving unidentifiable bodies.

### Investigations

Our 11 medical investigators processed 2,705 reports of deaths from Pima County and 475 reports from 13 additional Arizona counties in 2017. Jurisdiction was declined in

1037 of these cases. A total of 1,759 decedents were transported to the PCOME for examination or storage in 2017.

### Examinations

Pima County forensic pathologists and anthropologists performed 1,240 autopsies, 410 external examinations, 384 death certifications, 174 anthropologic examinations, and reviewed 6,555 death certificates for cremations in 2017.

### Education, Training and Activities

#### 1) *Medicolegal Death Investigators*

Calendar year 2012 saw a transition from the term Forensic Medical Investigator (FMI) to Medicolegal Death Investigator (MDI) for our 11 MDIs in keeping with national norms. Ten MDIs, our MDI Supervisor, and Administrative Supervisor are certified by the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators to provide competent medicolegal death investigations. PCOME Forensic Pathologists lecture to the MDIs on varying topics monthly. In accordance with our MDI quality assurance and performance improvement program, 10% of reports are reviewed by a pathologist monthly and 10% of reports are peer reviewed quarterly.

#### 2) *Community education, presentations and media interviews*

The PCOME receives numerous requests from various groups, organizations, individuals and schools for presentations regarding a host of forensic issues annually. Not all requests can be honored due to time and personnel constraints, but examples of educational activities include but are not limited to: presentations at local primary and secondary schools; lectures at various institutions and departments at the University of Arizona; presentations and tours for humanitarian organizations; and the teaching of a 3-credit-hour death investigation class at Pima Community College. The Chief Medical Examiner recorded 233 media interviews, emails and phone calls over the calendar year. Pima County's Forensic Anthropologists and Pathologists gave numerous platform and poster presentations to various organizations and at national anthropologic and forensic conferences.

#### 3) *University of Arizona College of Medicine, Department of Pathology and School of Anthropology*

PCOME Forensic Pathologists hold clinical appointments with the Department of Pathology at the University of Arizona, College of Medicine, where they are involved with pathology resident and medical student teaching. Four pathology residents, four medical students and three pathology post-sophomore fellows rotated through the PCOME for month-long rotations in 2017. Funded by the Department of Pathology, the PCOME began a Forensic Pathology training program in 2016; the only such training program offered in Arizona. Our Forensic Anthropologists hold academic appointments at the University of Arizona and five anthropology interns trained at our facility in 2017.

### Law Enforcement and Legal System

The availability of our pathologists to assist or advise law enforcement personnel in their investigations and the legal system in its proceedings is an important function of the

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PCOME. Involvement of the PCOME in the legal system generally consists of pretrial interviews, depositions and courtroom testimony. In 2017, the office’s six forensic pathologists and two anthropologists participated in a number of pretrial interviews, depositions and jury trials not only for Pima County but also for out-of-county cases.

Organ and Tissue Donation

Pursuant to A.R.S §36-861, the PCOME refers death notifications to, and partners with, Donor Network of Arizona (DNA) and other associated tissue research agencies for the coordination and procurement of anatomic gifts. The importance of supporting the efforts of the organ and tissue transplant and research communities in Arizona cannot be understated. Anatomic gifts can be life saving for organ and tissue recipients and these donations are always in short supply. The authorization for the procurement of organs was granted in 100% of cases. The PCOME has long been the state leader in percentage of release on tissue and ocular cases and 2017 was no different. The release of tissues and corneas was granted 95% of the time.

Organ Donations with PCOME Involvement 2017

|       |       |       |         |          |               |       |
|-------|-------|-------|---------|----------|---------------|-------|
| Heart | Lungs | Liver | Kidneys | Pancreas | Sm. Intestine | Total |
| 9     | 5     | 28    | 58      | 7        | 0             | 107   |

The total lives saved through organ donation involving deaths investigated by the PCOME in 2017 were 99 with 107 organs being transplanted.

Cornea Donations with PCOME Involvement 2017

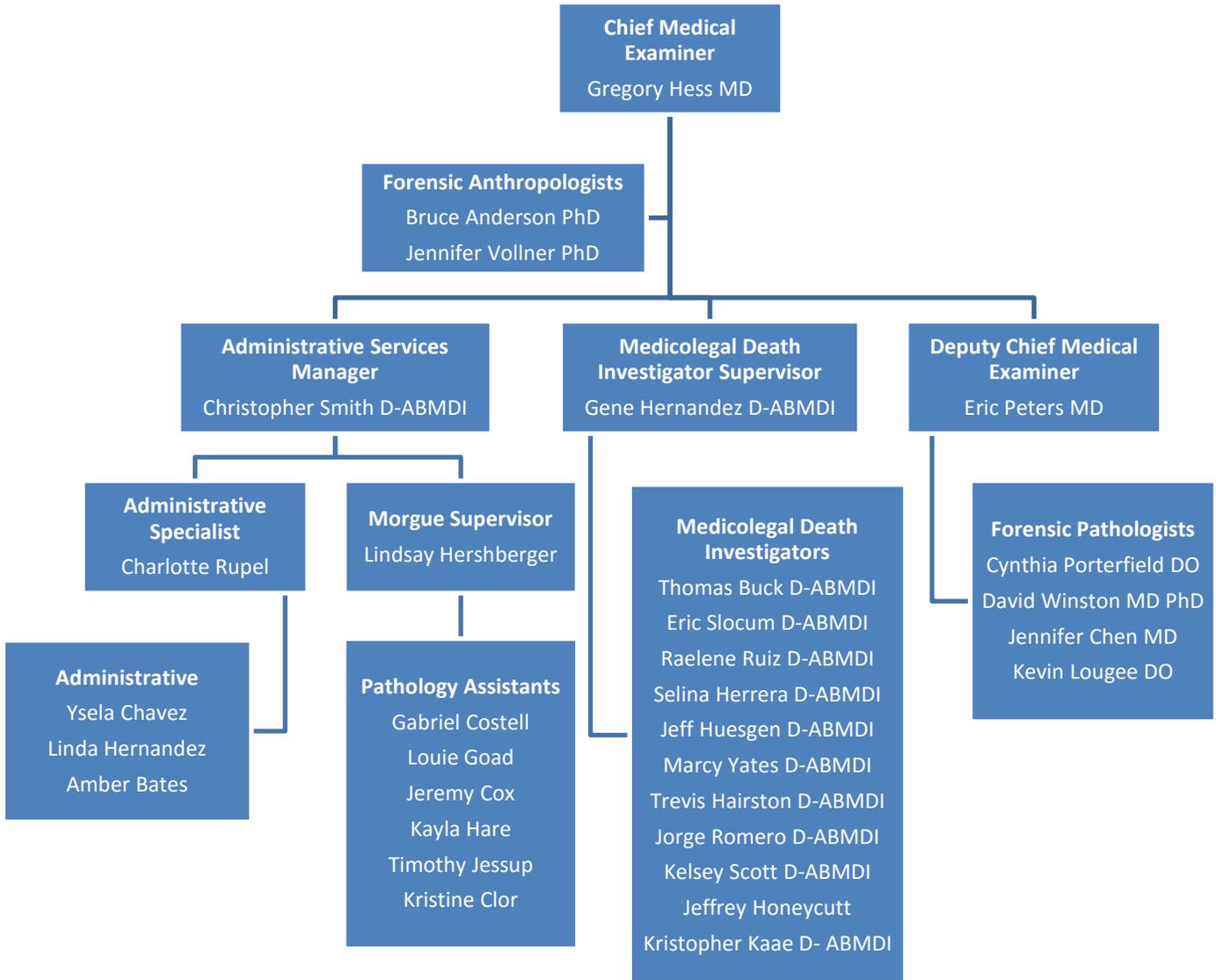
|                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Corneas Recovered | Corneas Transplanted |
| 266               | 160                  |

Tissue Donation with PCOME Involvement 2017

|      |      |          |       |            |
|------|------|----------|-------|------------|
| Bone | Skin | Vascular | Heart | Aortoiliac |
| 97   | 70   | 25       | 45    | 15         |

Heart Valve Transplants

In 2017, there were 26 heart valves transplanted that had PCOME involvement. Of those 26, 14 were from non-hospital death referrals. Most heart valve transplants involve pediatric patients (73%) across the United States.

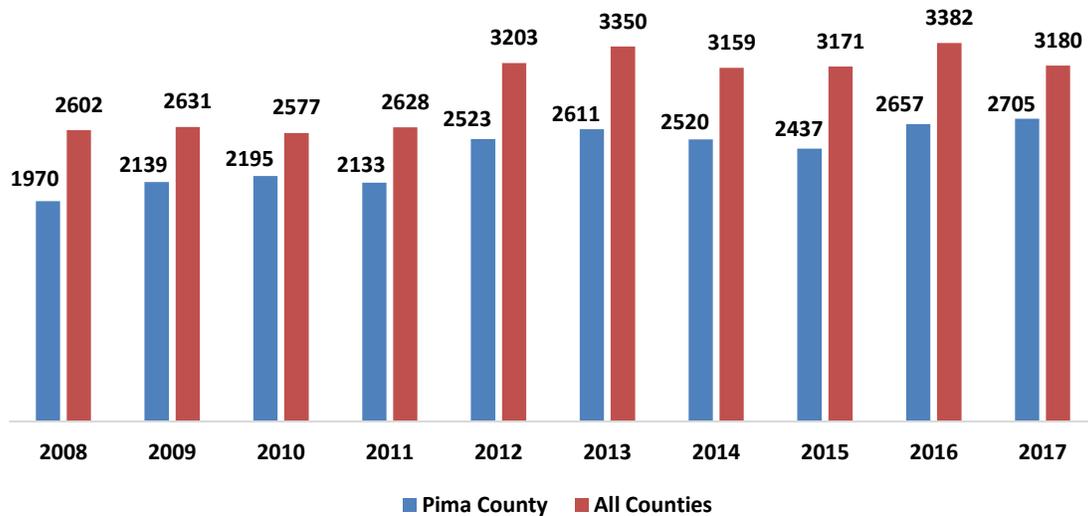


**OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER  
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2017**

## TOTAL CASES

The total cases handled by the PCOME in a given year are the sum of the ME cases (autopsies, external examinations, and death certificate cases), cases in which jurisdiction was declined, and the number of cases stored at our facility during the calendar year (storage cases). “All Counties” includes cases examined at the PCOME from Apache (18), Cochise (253), Coconino (3), Gila (16), Graham (11), Greenlee (4), La Paz (29), Maricopa (1), Navajo (43), Pinal (29), Santa Cruz (50), Yavapai (5) and Yuma (13) counties in addition to Pima County (2,705).

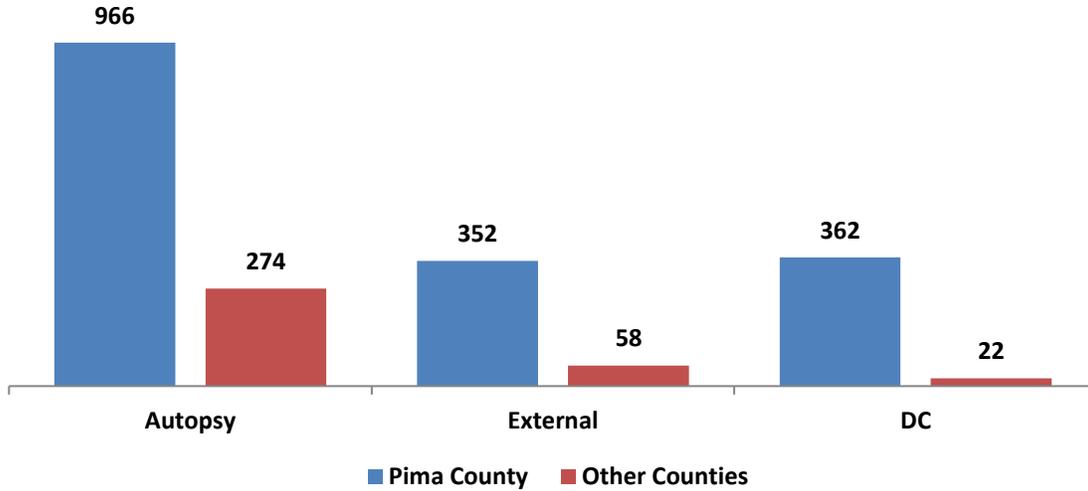
**Total Cases 2008 - 2017**



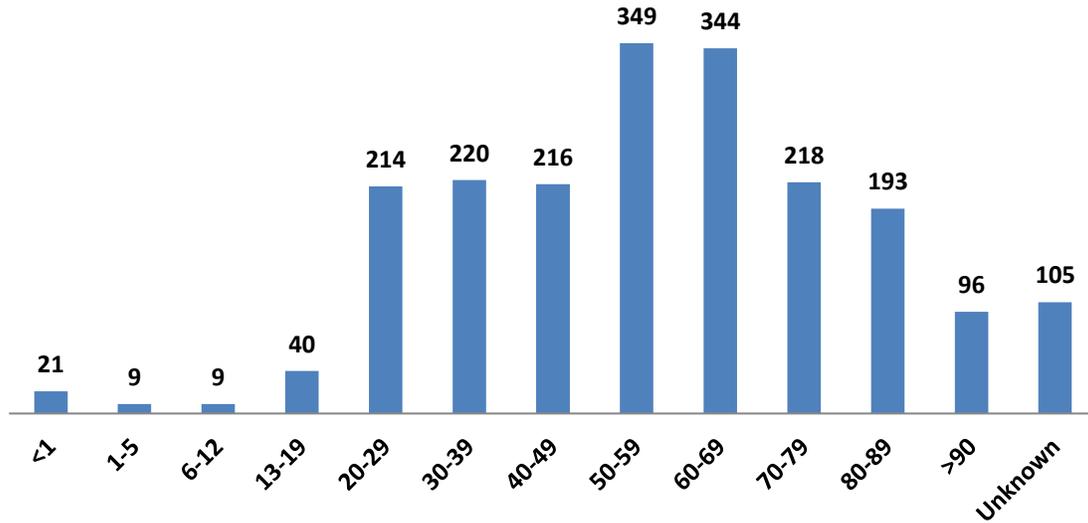
## MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

The PCOME considers all cases in which the cause and manner of death are determined by this office as “medical examiner cases.” Those cases include autopsies, external examinations and death certificate (DC) cases. Autopsies are examinations where a decedent is examined both externally and internally for evidence of injury or natural disease which may have caused or contributed to the individual’s death. External examinations consist of an external examination of the body without the internal examination. A DC case involves review of the medical records, law enforcement reports and any other information that may be necessary to determine the cause and manner of death without physical examination of the decedent. In 2017, for Pima and all other counties listed above, 1,240 autopsies, 410 external examinations and 384 DC cases were performed or certified at the PCOME. Pima County alone accounted for 966 autopsies, 352 external examinations and 362 DC cases.

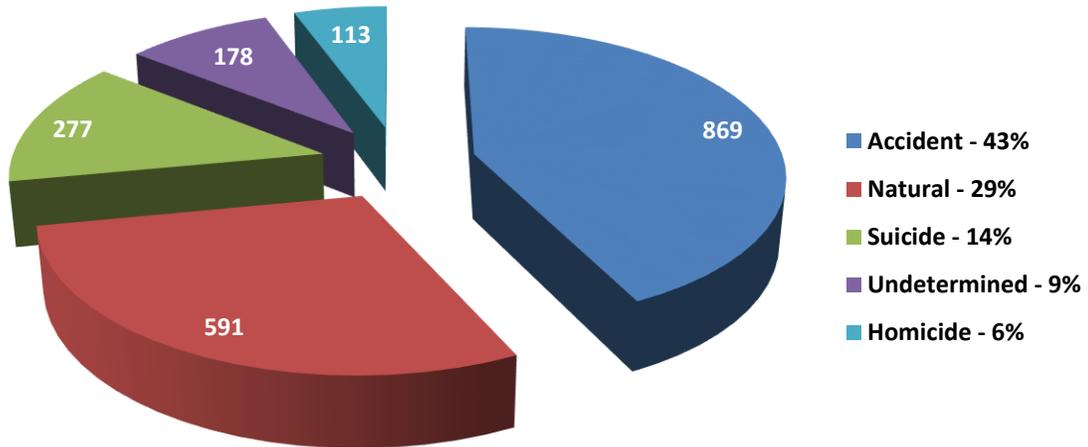
## 2017 Medical Examiner Cases



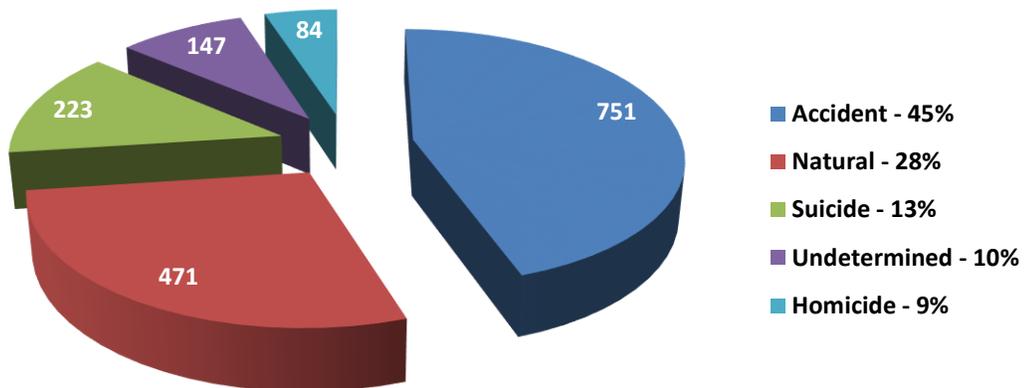
## Medical Examiner Cases by Age - 2017



### ME Cases (all counties) by Manner of Death - 2017



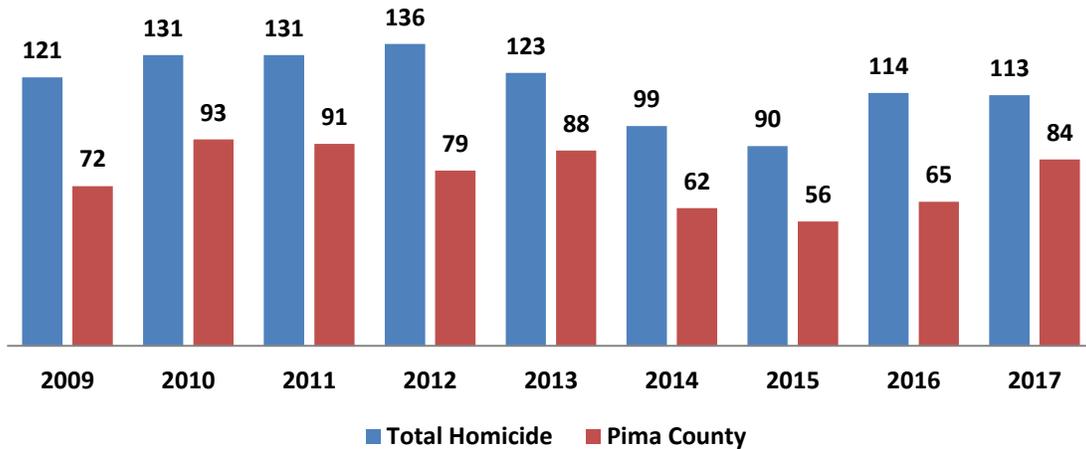
### ME Cases (Pima only) by Manner of Death - 2017



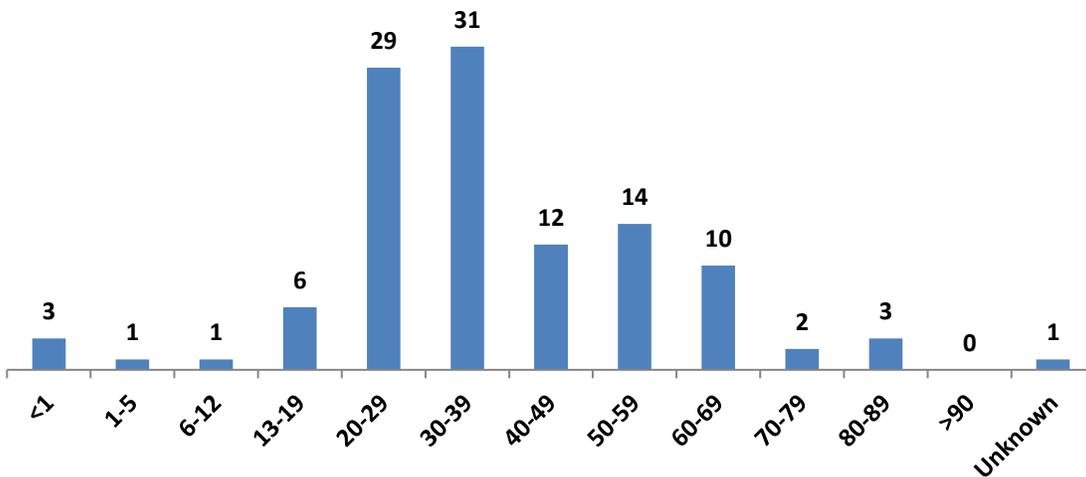
## HOMICIDE DEATHS

The PCOME certified 113 deaths as homicide in 2017, 84 from Pima County and 29 from other counties. Homicide totals from 2009 – 2017 are compared below. Homicide victims were most frequently male (78%), between 30-39 years of age (27%) and died as the result of firearms (71%).

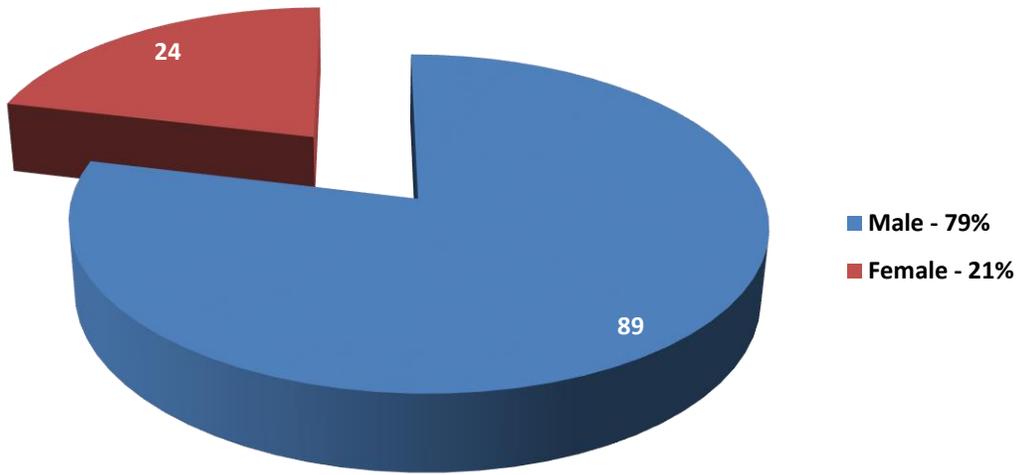
### Homicide 2009 - 2017



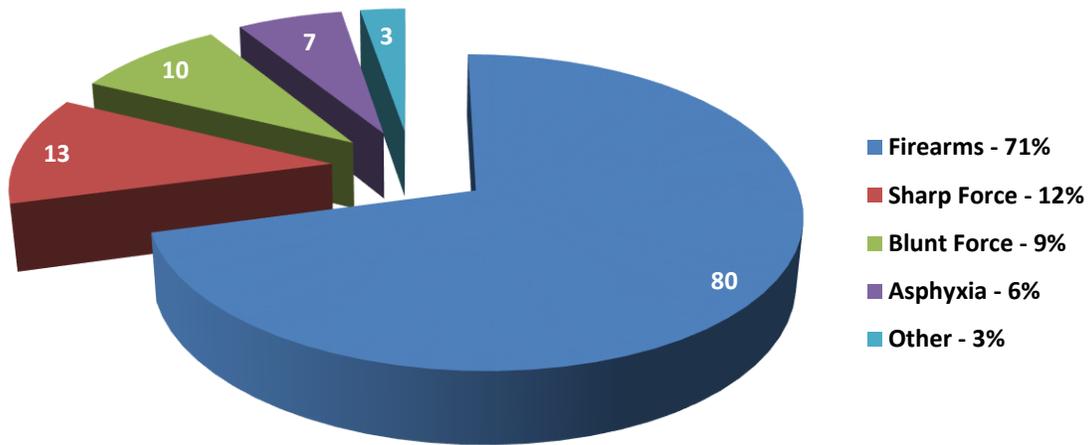
### Homicide by Age 2017



### Homicide by Sex 2017



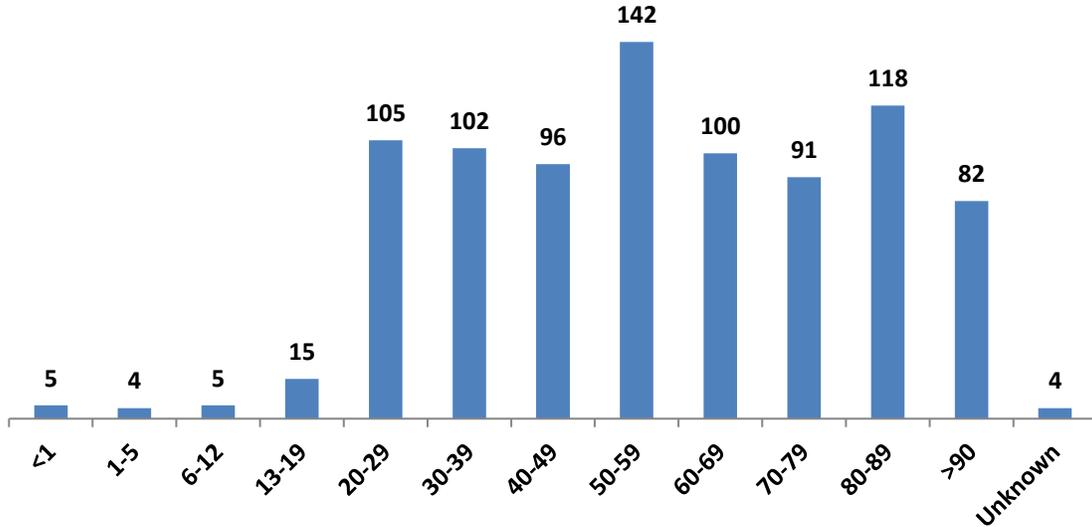
### Homicide by Cause 2017



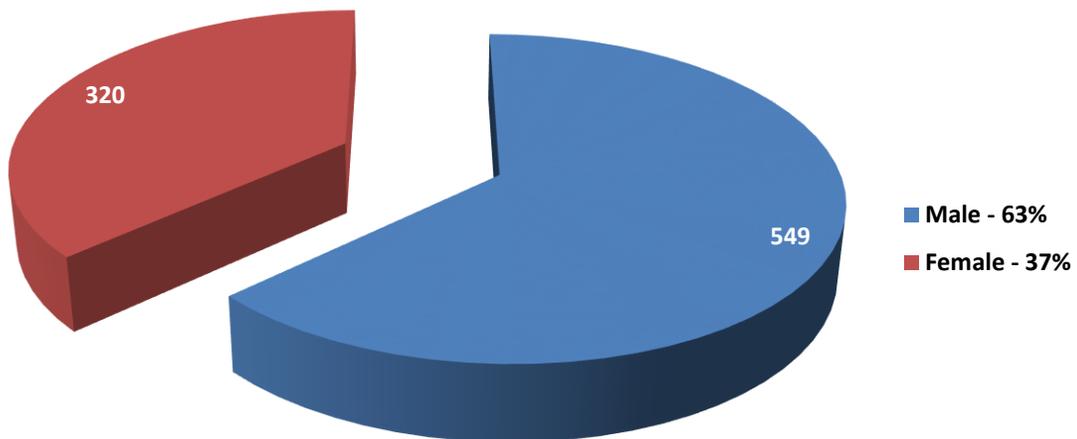
## ACCIDENT DEATHS

Deaths due to accidents accounted for 43% of the ME deaths investigated by the PCOME in 2017. Accident victims were most frequently males (63%), between 50-59 years of age (16%) and died as the result of blunt force injuries (34%).

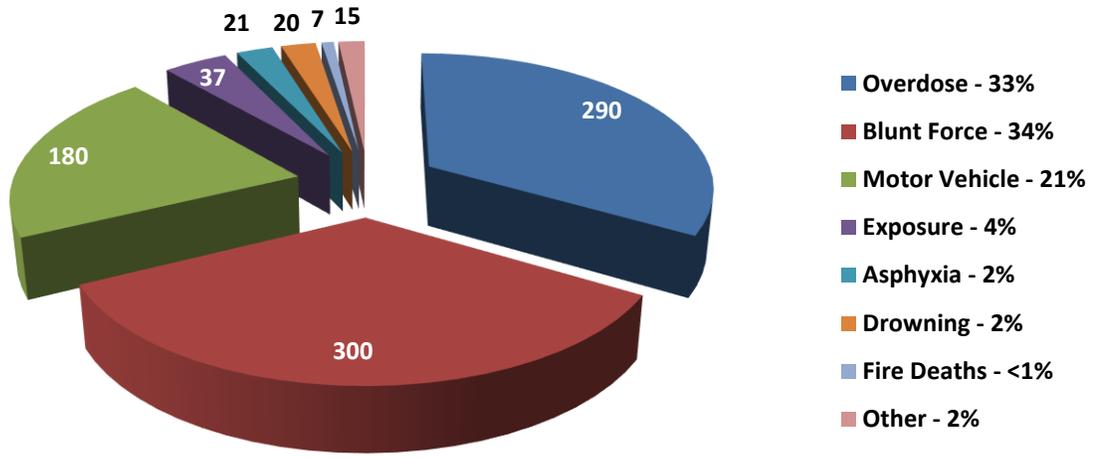
### Accident by Age 2017



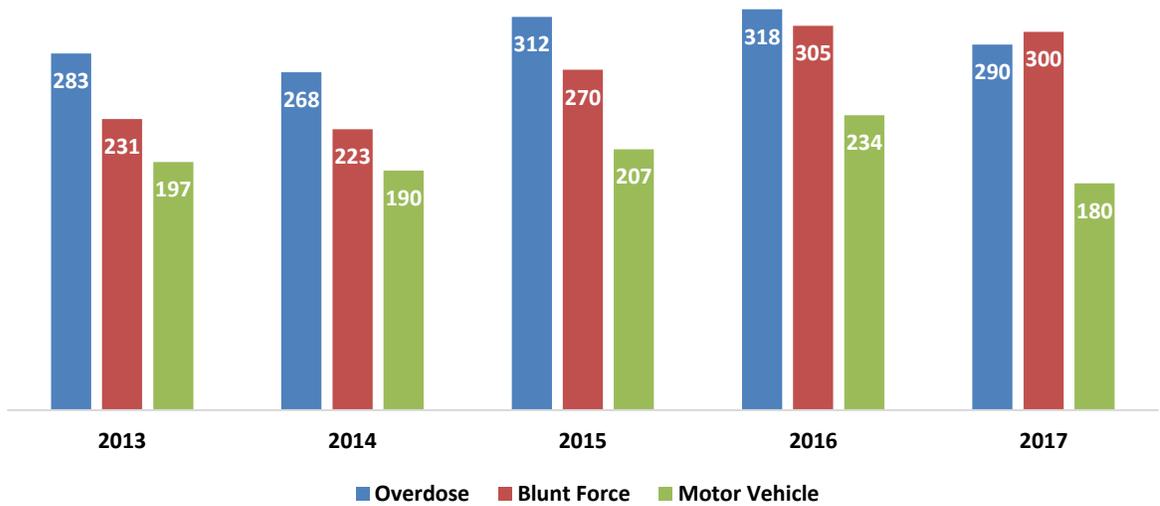
### Accident by Sex 2017



### Accident by Cause 2017



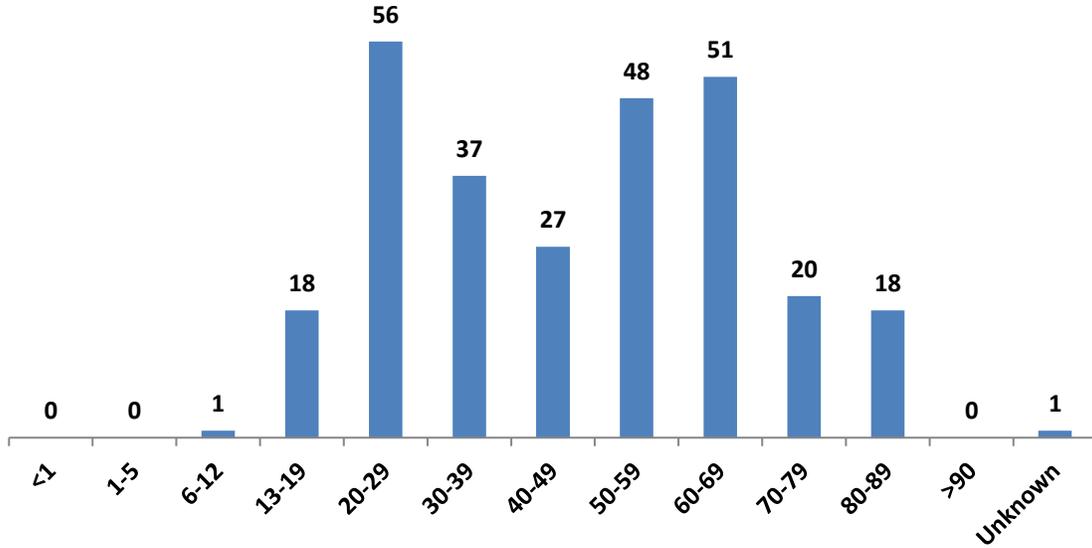
### Accident by Cause (Top 3) 2013 - 2017



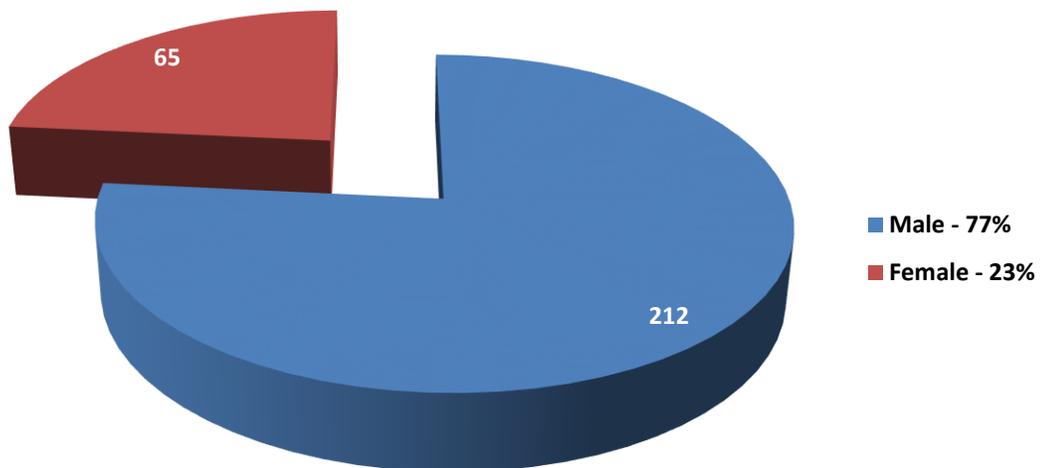
## SUICIDE DEATHS

Suicide deaths accounted for 14% of the ME deaths investigated by the PCOME in 2017. Suicide victims were most frequently males (77%), between 20-29 years of age (20%) and died as the result of firearms (58%).

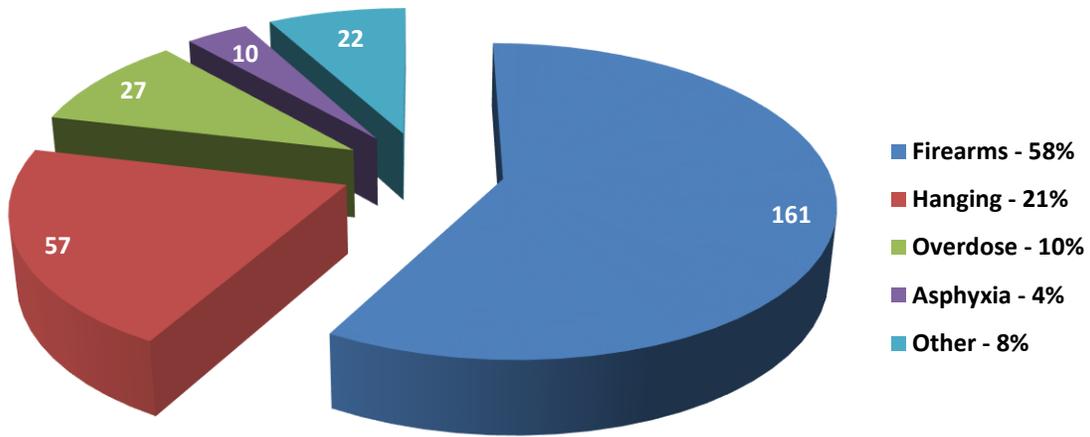
### Suicide by Age 2017



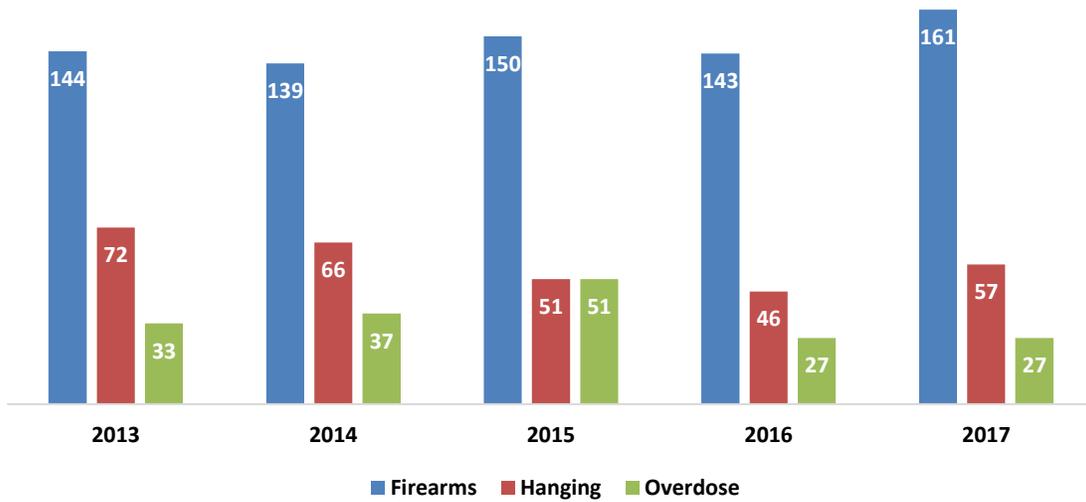
### Suicide by Sex 2017



### Suicide by Cause 2017



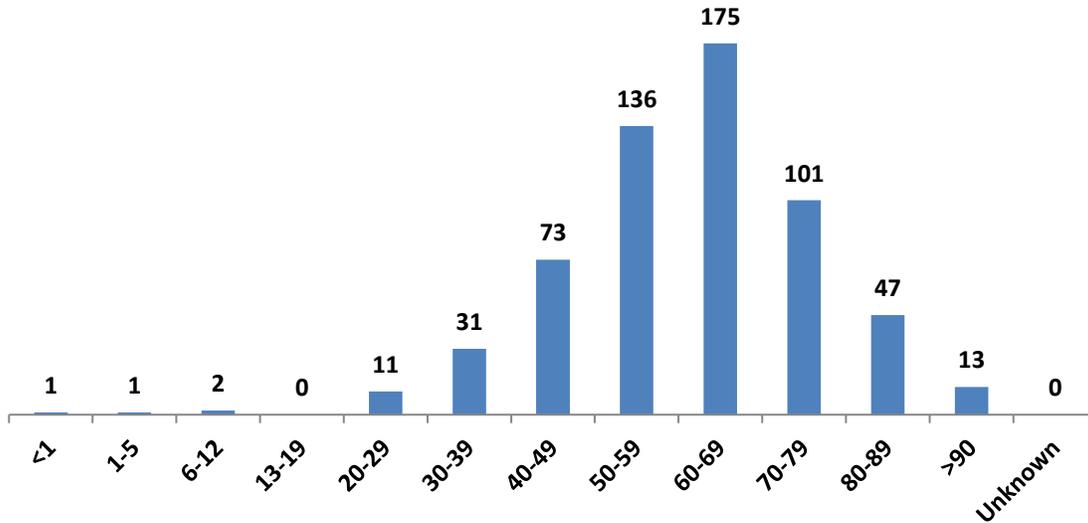
### Suicide by Cause (Top 3) 2013 - 2017



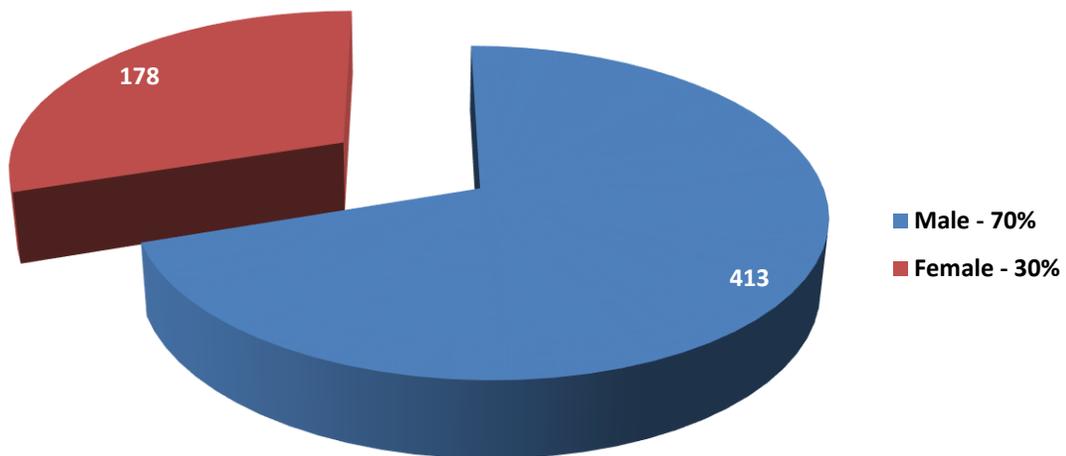
## NATURAL DEATHS

Natural deaths accounted for 29% of the ME deaths investigated by the PCOME in 2017. Individuals who died from natural causes were most frequently males (70%), between 60-69 years of age (30%) and died as the result of cardiovascular disease (60%).

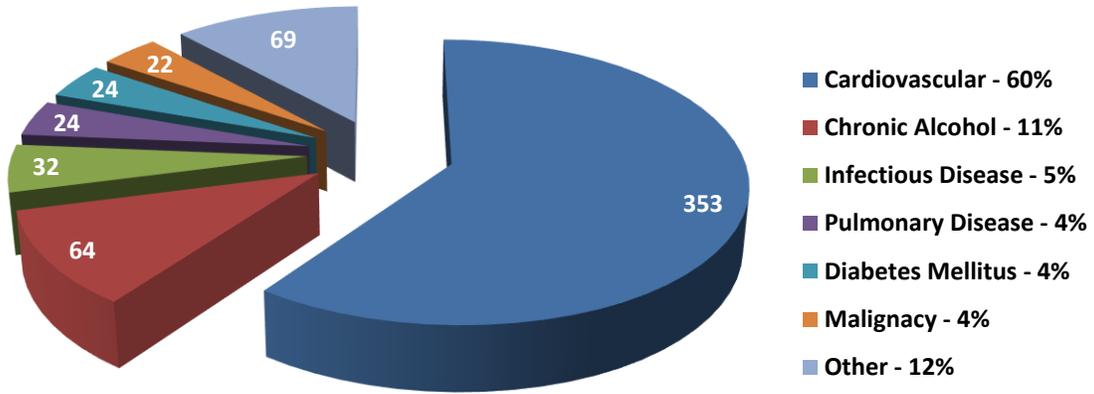
### Natural Deaths by Age 2017



### Natural Deaths by Sex 2017



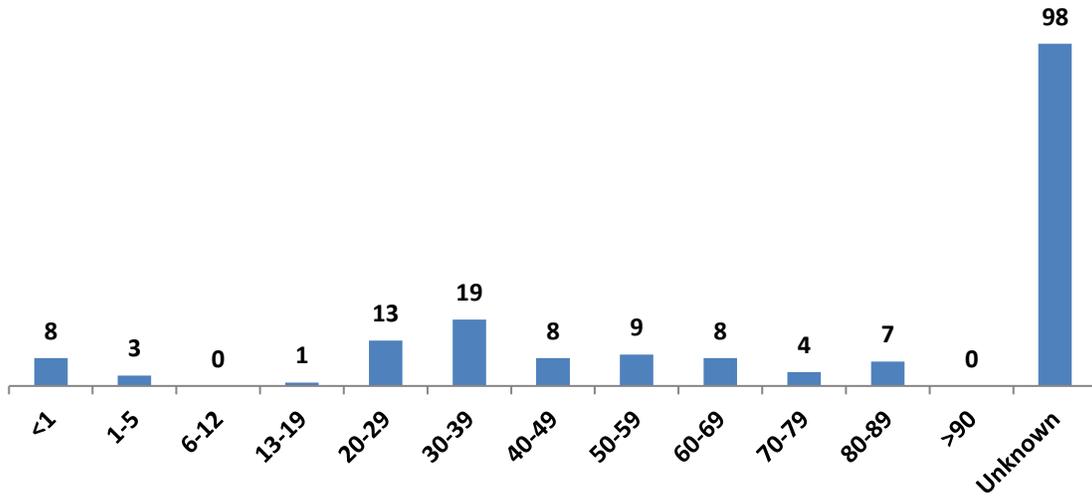
### Natural Deaths by Cause 2017



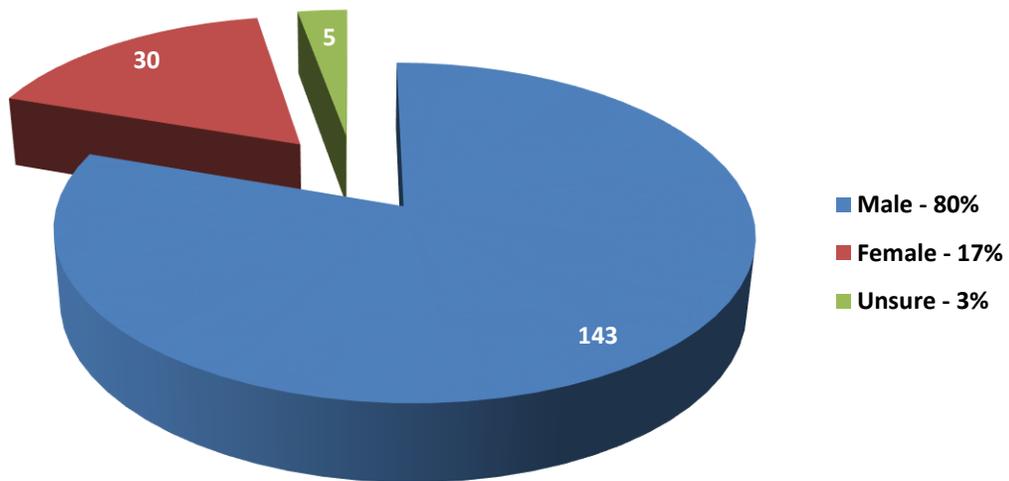
## UNDETERMINED MANNER OF DEATH

Deaths in which the manner of death was undetermined accounted for 9% of the ME deaths investigated by the PCOME in 2017. Individuals who died with an undetermined manner were most frequently males (80%), of unknown age (55%) and died from undetermined causes (87%). Many of these deaths represent skeletal remains of undocumented border crossers who died in the deserts of southern Arizona.

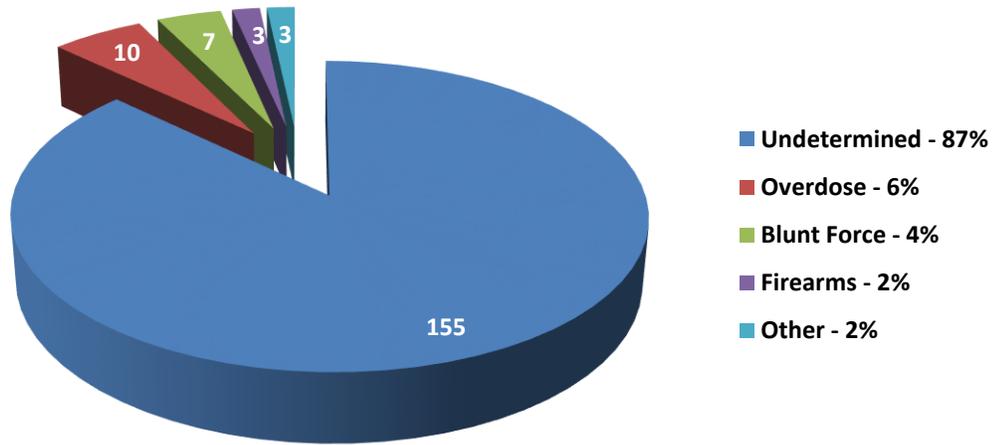
### Undetermined Manner of Death by Age 2017



### Undetermined Manner of Death by Sex 2017



### Undetermined Manner of Death by Cause 2017



## OVERDOSE DEATHS

There were 328 deaths attributed to an overdose of either a single drug (177 deaths, 54%) or a combination of drugs (151 deaths, 46%) in 2017. Overdose deaths commonly involved males (66%) between the ages of 50-59 (27%). The majority of these deaths were classified as accidents (89%).

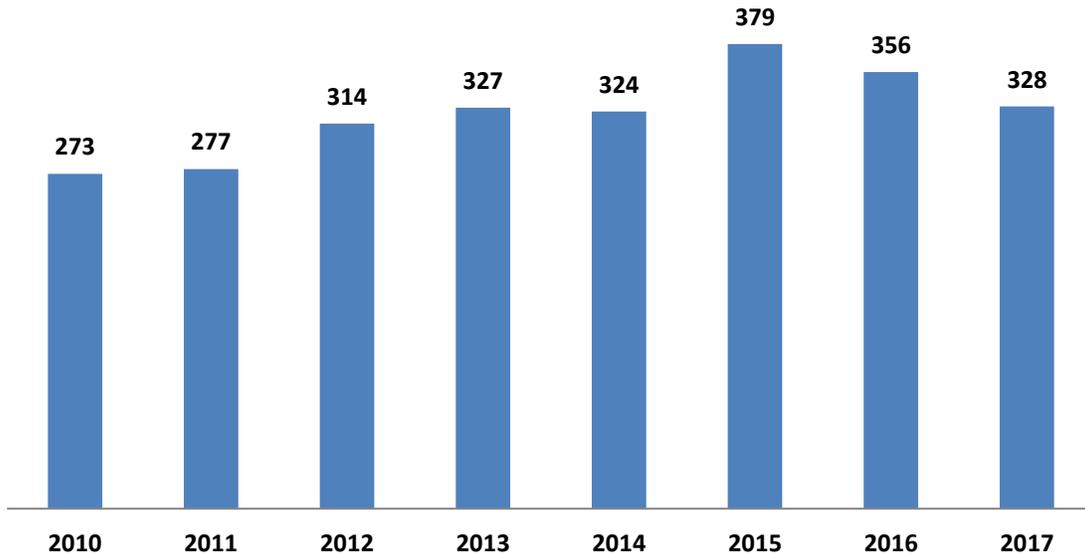
Opiate drugs (heroin, oxycodone, methadone, hydrocodone, morphine, oxymorphone, hydromorphone, tramadol, opiate unspecified) and fentanyl (a synthetic opioid narcotic) accounted for the majority of overdose deaths (218 deaths, 66%), either as a single drug or as a component of a poly-drug overdose. Methamphetamine was the most commonly abused illicit drug contributing to death in 2017 followed by heroin.

The number of heroin deaths is likely underreported as heroin is rapidly metabolized to morphine by the body and if the parent compound indicative for heroin (6-monoacetylmorphine) is not present on the toxicology report these deaths may be classified as either morphine intoxication or opiate intoxication.

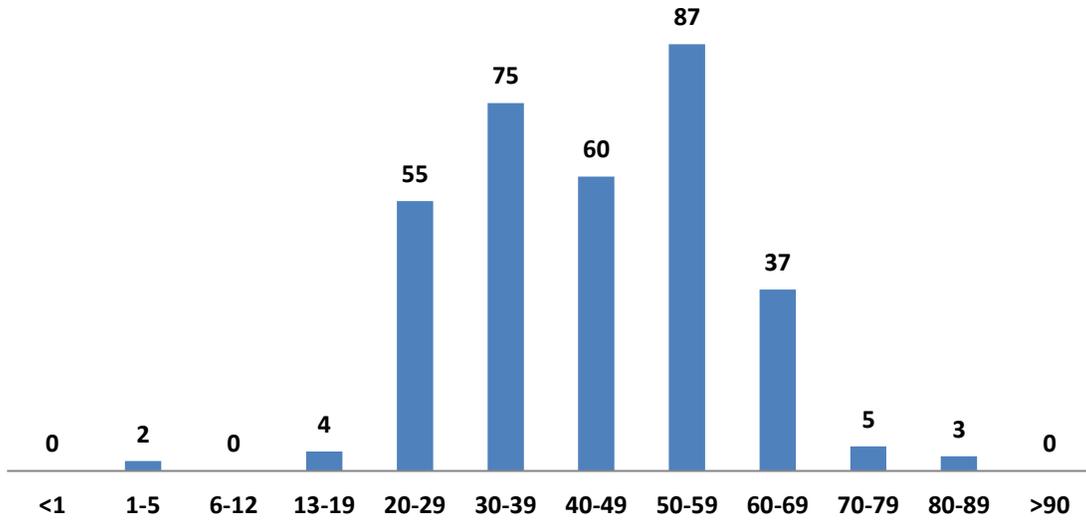
Acute alcohol (ethanol) intoxication alone, not as component of a poly-drug overdose, accounted for 7 overdose (2%) deaths in 2017.

Fentanyl related deaths continued to increase from 7 deaths in 2014 to 40 deaths in 2017.

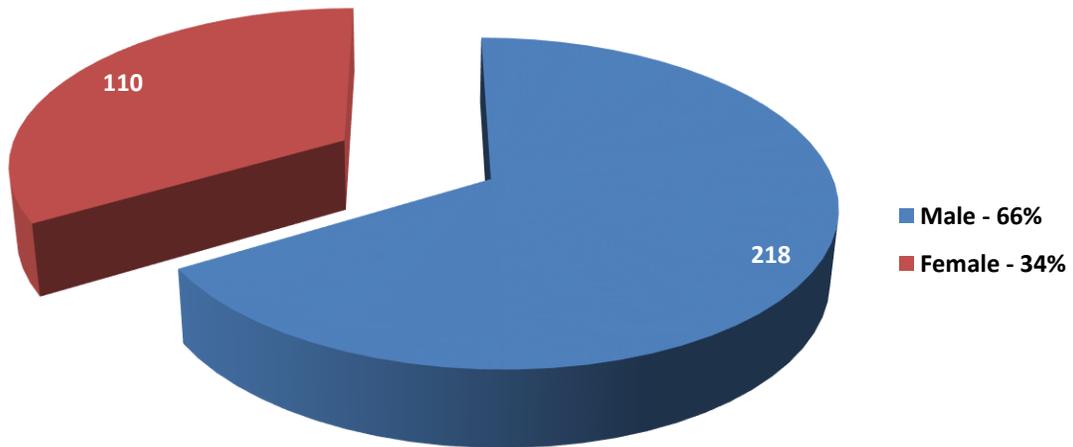
### Overdose Deaths 2010 - 2017



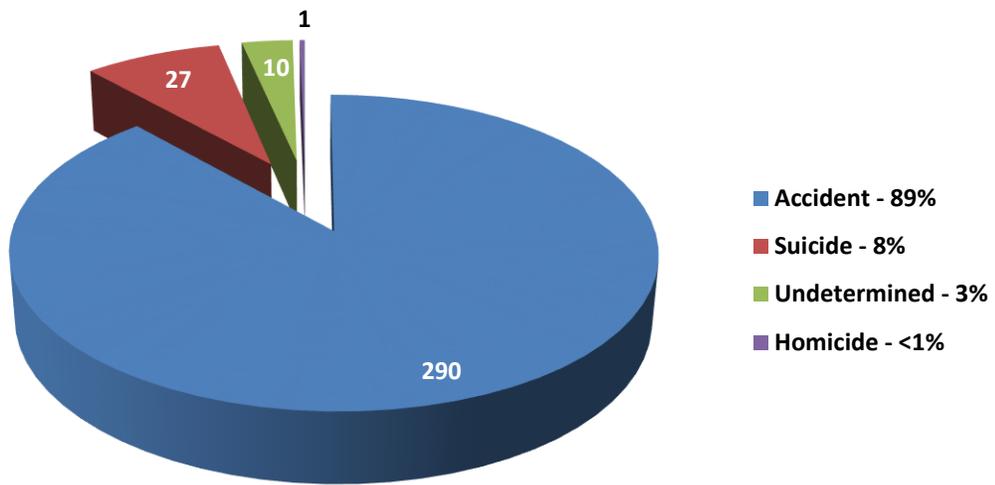
### Overdose Deaths by Age 2017



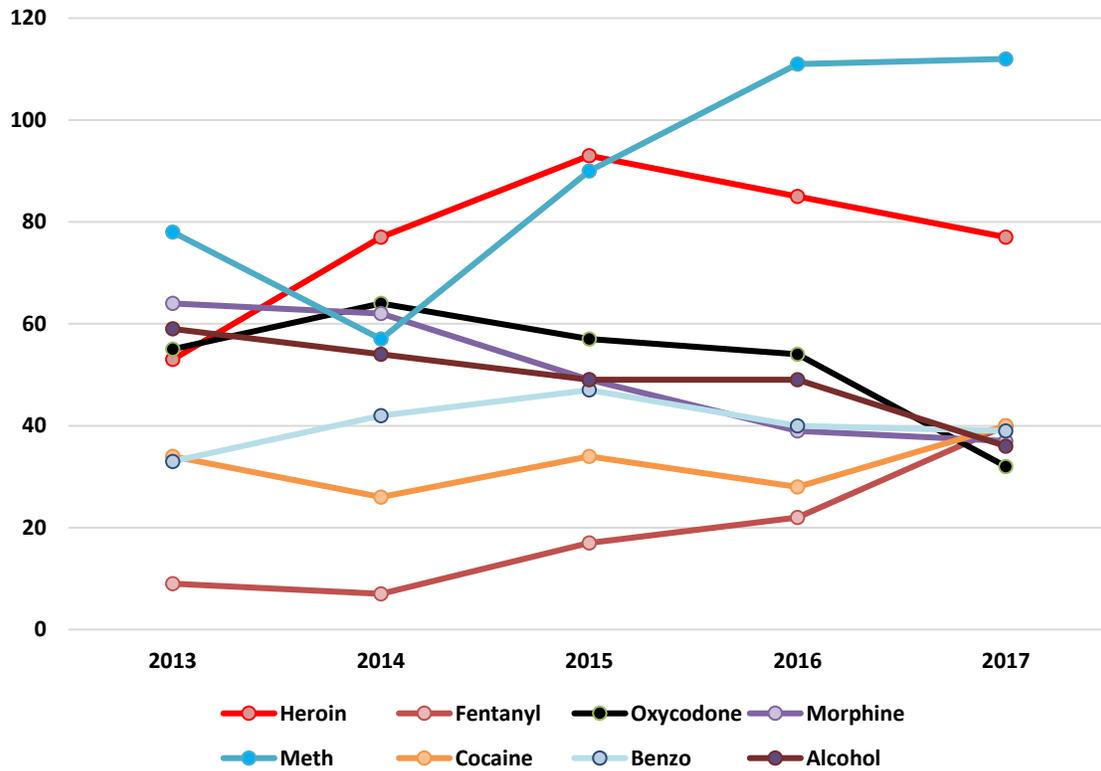
### Overdose Deaths by Sex 2017



### Overdose Deaths by Manner 2017

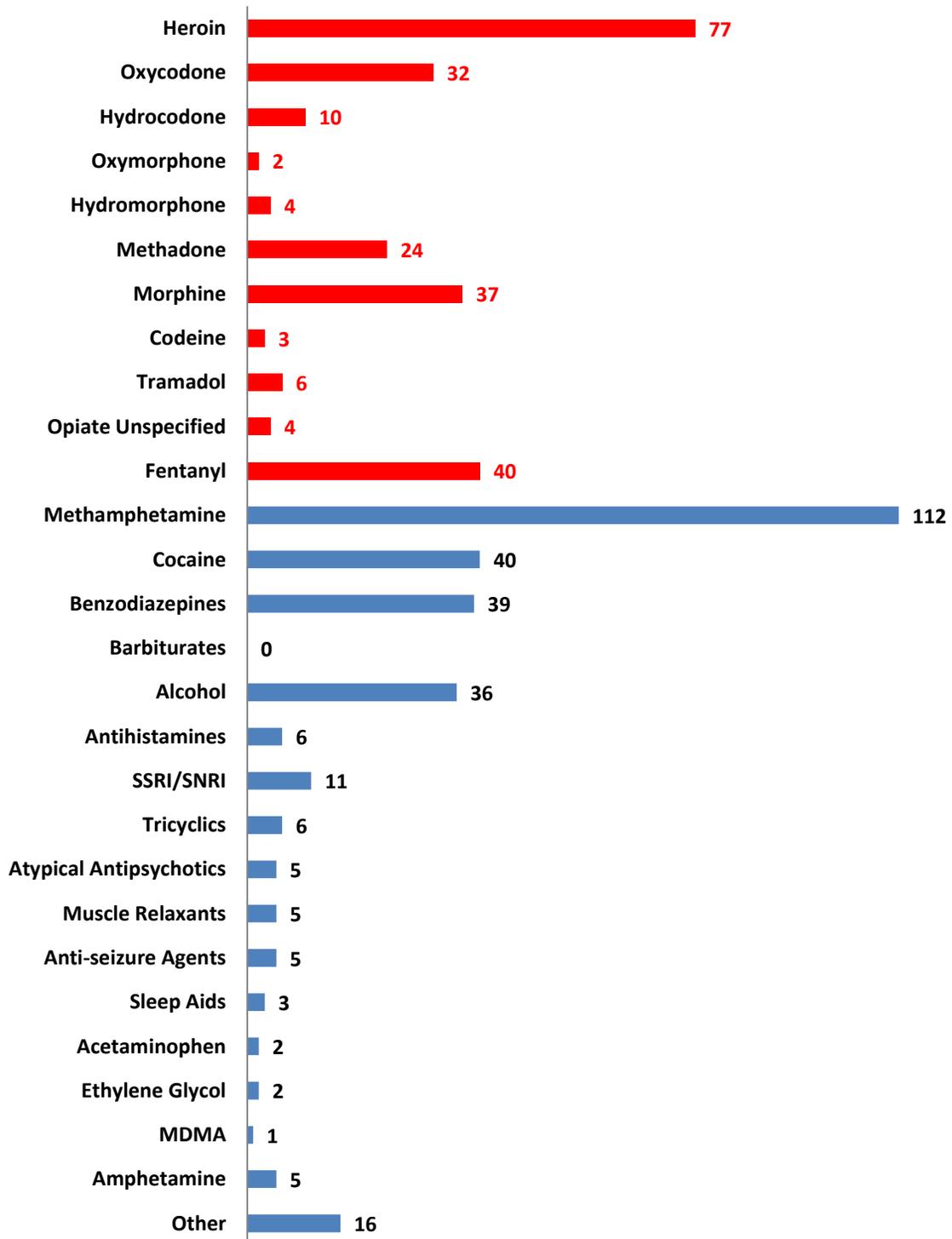


### Select Drugs by Year 2013 - 2017



## Overdose Deaths by Drug 2017

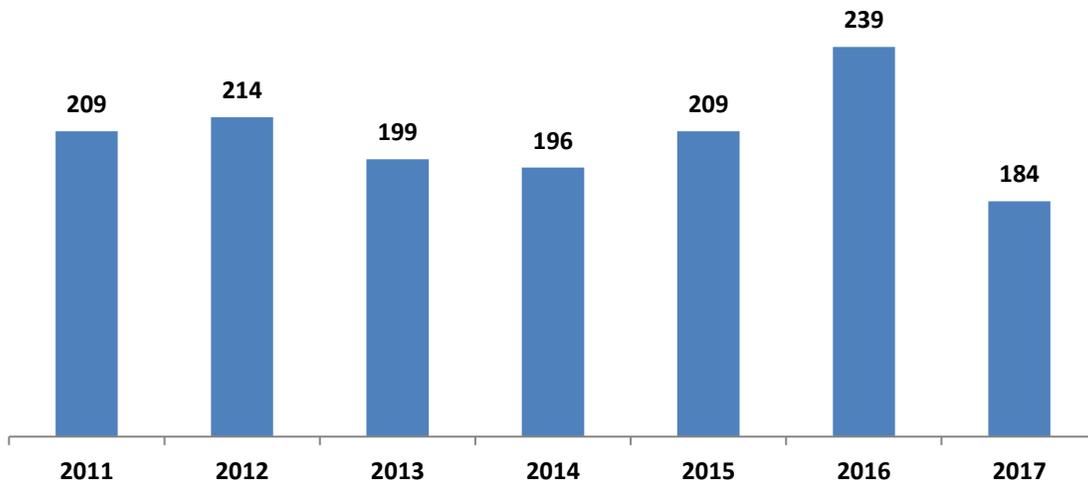
Opiate compounds are red



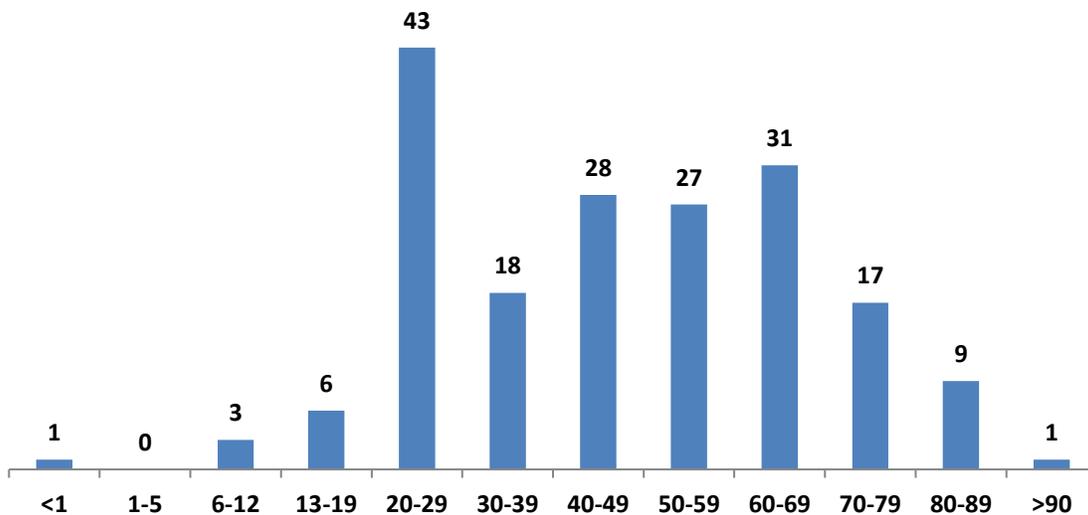
## MOTOR VEHICLE RELATED FATALITIES

Motor vehicle related fatalities accounted for 184 total deaths in 2017. The majority, 92 deaths, were occupants of a motor vehicle involved in an accident (MVA). Of the remaining, 32 were motorcycle accidents (MCA), 56 were pedestrians or bicyclists struck by vehicles and 4 were operating an all-terrain vehicle (ATV). Individuals who died from motor vehicle related fatalities were most frequently males (71%) and between 20-29 years of age (23%).

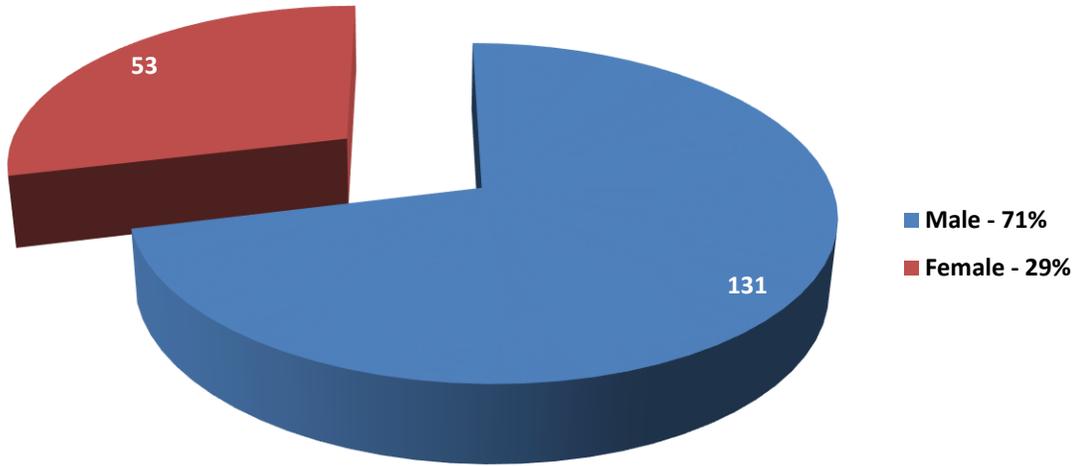
### Motor Vehicle Fatalities by Year 2011 - 2017



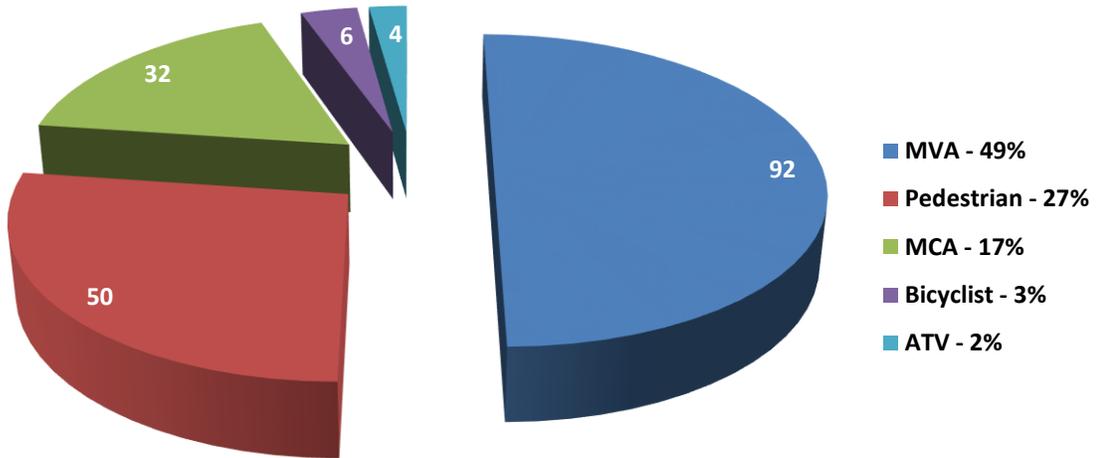
### Motor Vehicle Fatalities by Age 2017



### Motor Vehicle Fatalities by Sex 2017



### Motor Vehicle Fatalities by Type 2017





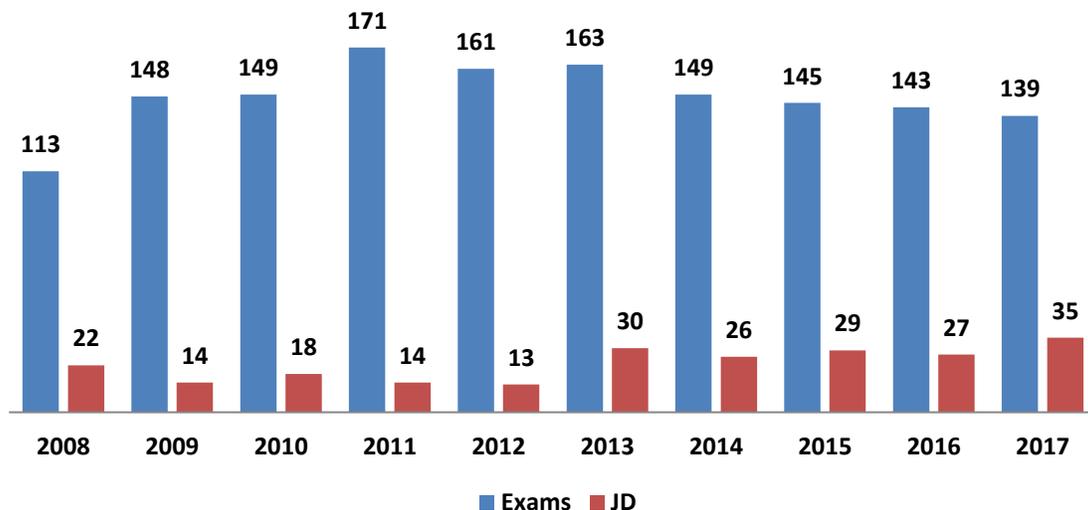
## W.H. BIRKBY FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY LABORATORY

Forensic Anthropologists at the W.H. Birkby Forensic Anthropology Laboratory within the PCOME performed 139 examinations (biological profiles, trauma evaluations, dental examinations and examinations for identification) in 2017 on human remains of forensic significance. An additional 35 examinations were performed on remains ultimately deemed non-human, prehistoric or otherwise not forensically significant and these remains were classified as jurisdiction declined (JD) cases.

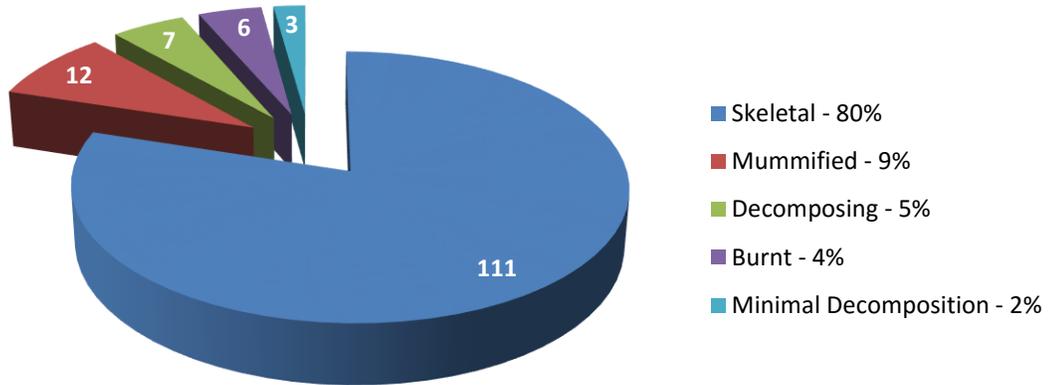
The extent of postmortem decomposition of a particular set of remains is important when performing a Forensic Anthropology (FA) examination. Remains examined by Forensic Anthropologists were categorized as minimally decomposed, decomposing, mummified, skeletal or burnt. In 2017, skeletal remains comprised 80% of FA examinations. Five main types of exams are performed: biologic profiles, dental examinations, trauma evaluations, comparisons to antemortem information and field activities.

Biological profiles refer to charting, measurements, descriptions, radiographs and photographs taken to estimate sex, age, ancestry, stature and postmortem interval of a set of remains. Dental examinations entail charting, descriptions, radiographs and photographs in an effort to preserve dental information. Trauma examinations entail charting, measurements, descriptions, radiographs and photographs to characterize the nature of an injury, implement used to cause injury to the bone, age of injury, etc. Comparisons are evaluation of postmortem distinctive skeletal characteristics or dental information to antemortem information for purposes of identification. Field activities are exhumations or other excursions from the office to assist local law enforcement with the recovery of remains. It is common for a particular set of remains to receive more than one type of examination.

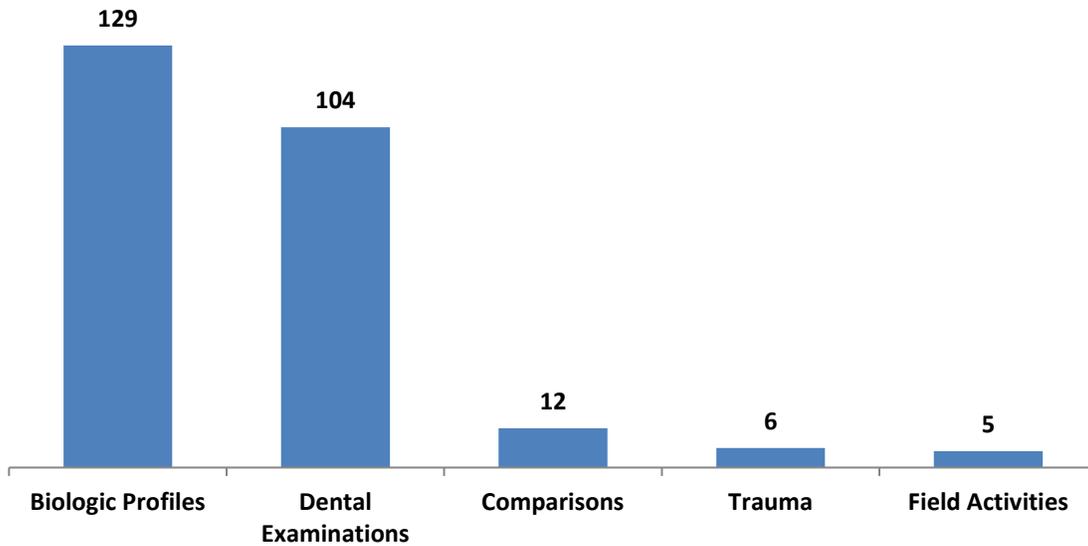
### Number of FA Exams 2008 - 2017



### FA Exam by Condition of Remains 2017



### FA Examination by Type 2017



## **UNDOCUMENTED BORDER CROSSER (UBC) REMAINS**

The term ‘UBC’ refers to foreign nationals who die attempting to cross the southern Arizona desert without permission from the United States government. Calendar year (CY) 2010 saw the highest number of UBC recoveries (222) recorded at the PCOME as compared to the annual average (167 recoveries per year on average from 2002 - 2017). The PCOME has received 2,816 recovered remains of suspected UBCs since 2000. The recoveries per year are adjusted annually to account for the association of remains found months or years apart later discovered to be that of the same individual.

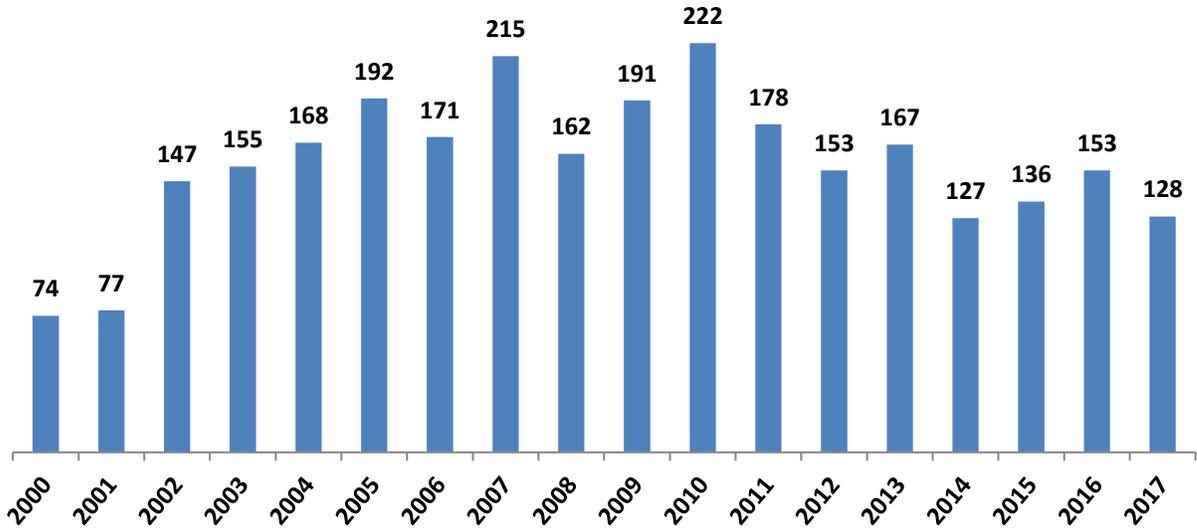
There were 128 UBC recoveries in calendar year 2017. As is the historic norm, UBC recoveries peaked during the warmer months (May – August) with 57 recoveries (45% of total for year) in 2017. Many remains are not identifiable due to postmortem changes and efforts by some UBCs to obscure their identities. Of the decedents who were identified, 81% (26 decedents) were between 20-39 years of age. Additionally, 94% (120) of the recovered remains, identified or unidentified, were males, 2% (3) were females and in 4% (5) the sex was unable to be determined.

Since the exact date and time of death of found remains are often unknown, PCOME staff determine a ‘postmortem interval (PMI)’, which is an assessment of what period of time elapsed from death to recovery of the remains. A 1-8 body condition scale was developed in 2013 to provide a more objective measure of the PMI. The PMI is an estimate and therefore subject to error. The PMIs for the body condition categories are listed following the Condition of Recovered UBC Remains table on page 34 of this report. In 2017, 11 remains (condition 1) were found within less than a day of death (9%), 21 remains (conditions 2-4) were found with a few days up to a few weeks from death (16%), and skeletal remains (body conditions 5-7) accounted for 96 (75%) of the recovered remains.

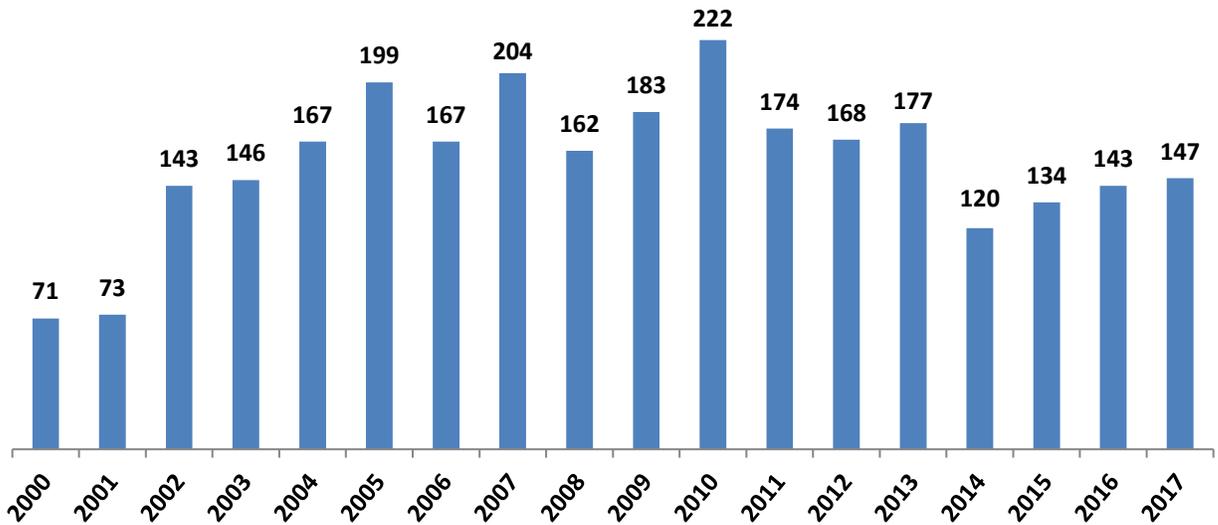
The cause of death was undetermined in 85% (109) of cases, primarily due to limitations of examination of decomposed and skeletal remains. Of the remainder, environmental exposure to extremes in heat or cold combined with dehydration comprised 12% (15) of deaths. Other, less frequent, causes of death included gunshot wound injuries (1 case), a hanging (1 case) and pulmonary embolism (1 case).

In 2017, 18 (56%) of identified UBCs were of Mexican nationality, followed by Guatemalans (7 or 22%), Hondurans (5 or 14%), and Salvadorans (2 or 6%). Since 2000, identified UBCs of Mexican nationality have been the most numerous (1,520, 83%), followed by Guatemalans (175, 10%) and Salvadorans (51, 3%). Of the 2,816 decedents since 2000, 1,824 (64%) have been identified. As of December 31, 2017, 992 decedents remain unidentified.

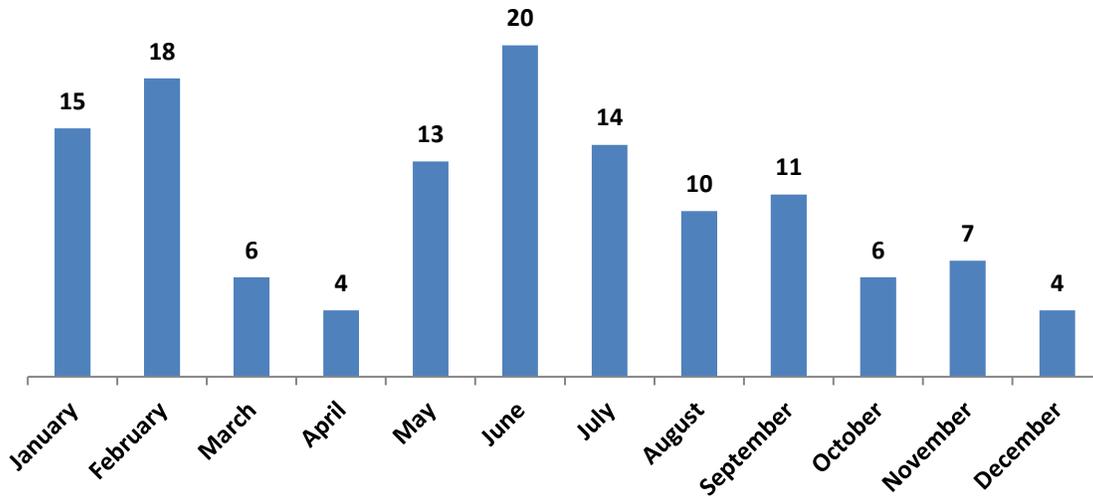
### UBC Recoveries CY2000 - 2017



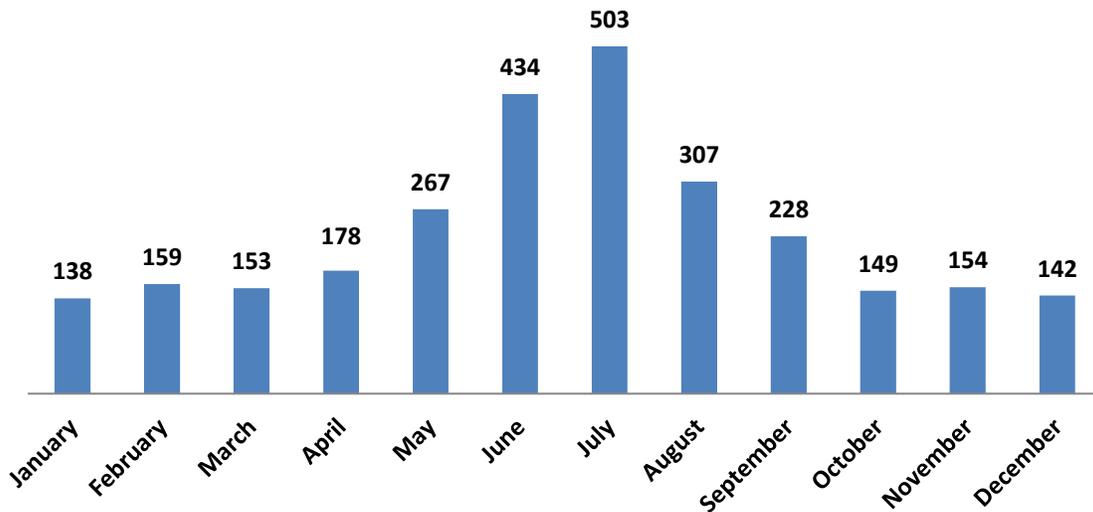
### UBC Recoveries FedFY2000 - 2017



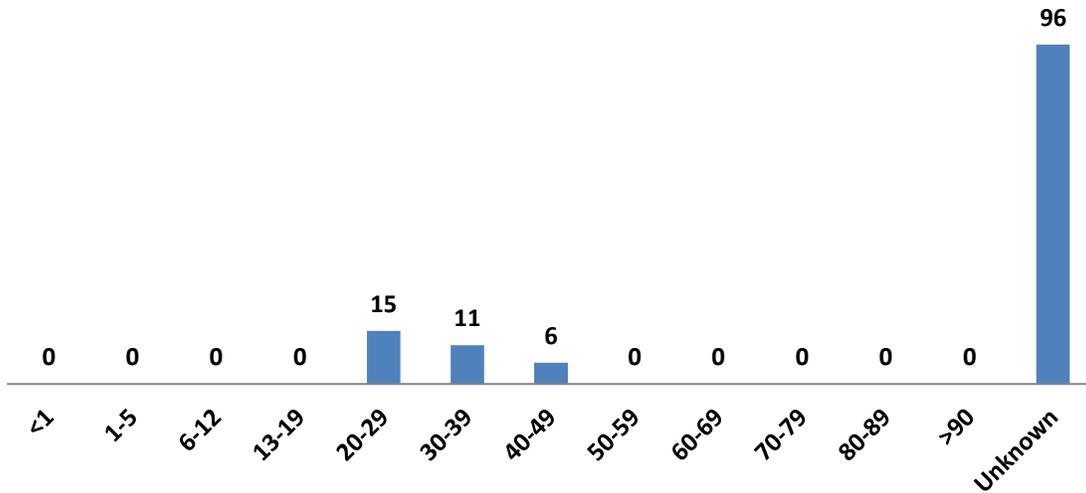
### UBC Recoveries by Month 2017



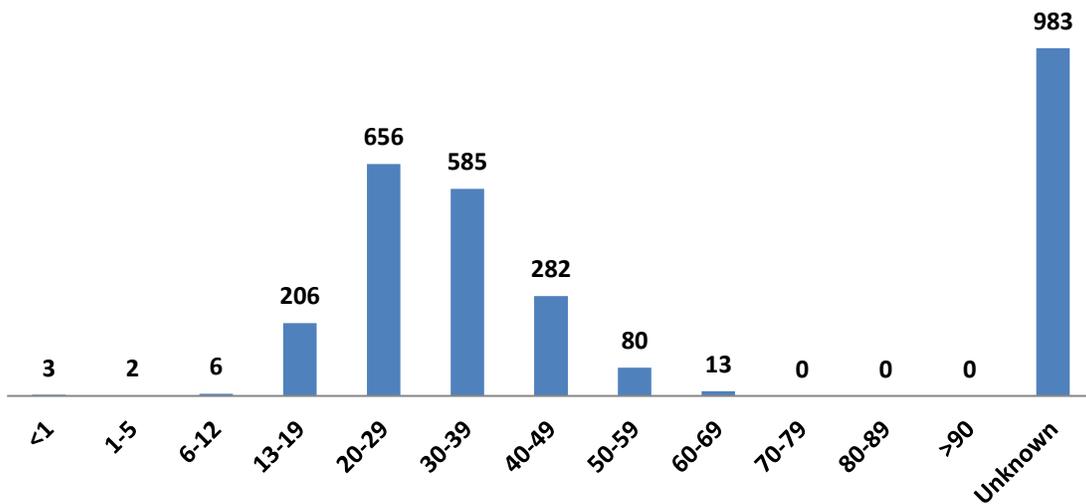
### UBC Recoveries by Month 2000 - 2017



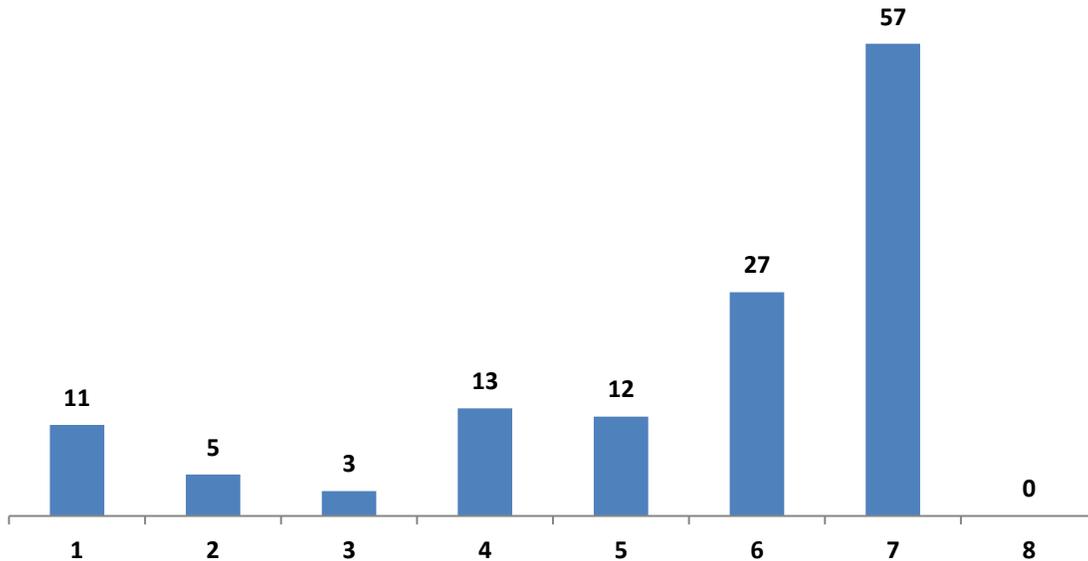
### UBC Recoveries by Age 2017



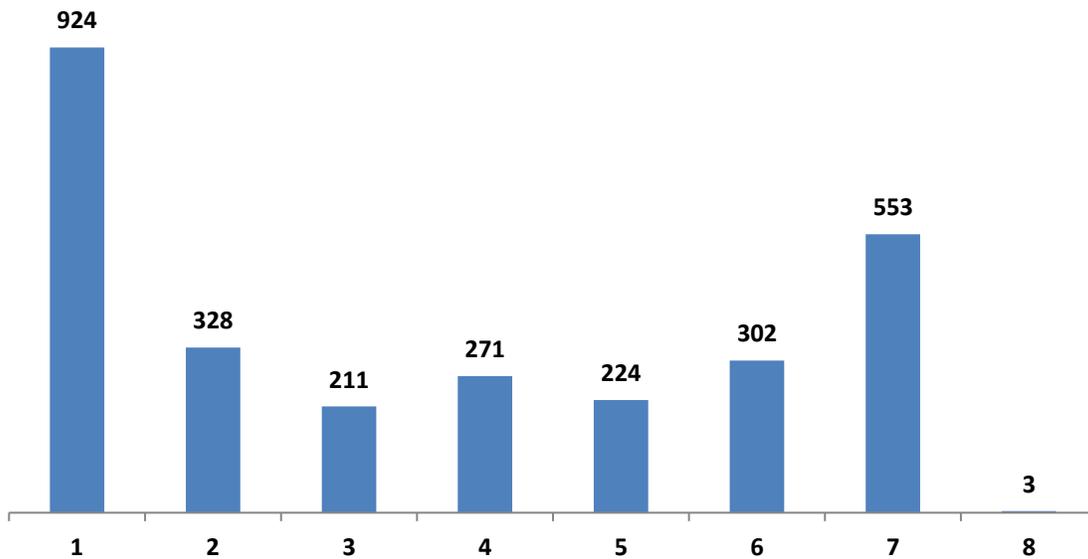
### UBC Recoveries by Age 2000 - 2017



### Condition of Recovered UBC Remains 2017

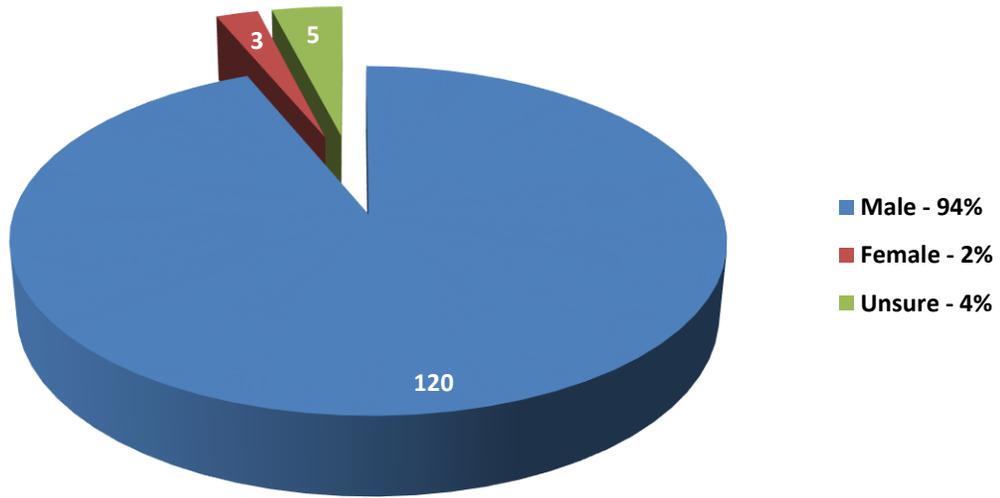


### Condition of Recovered UBC Remains 2000 - 2017

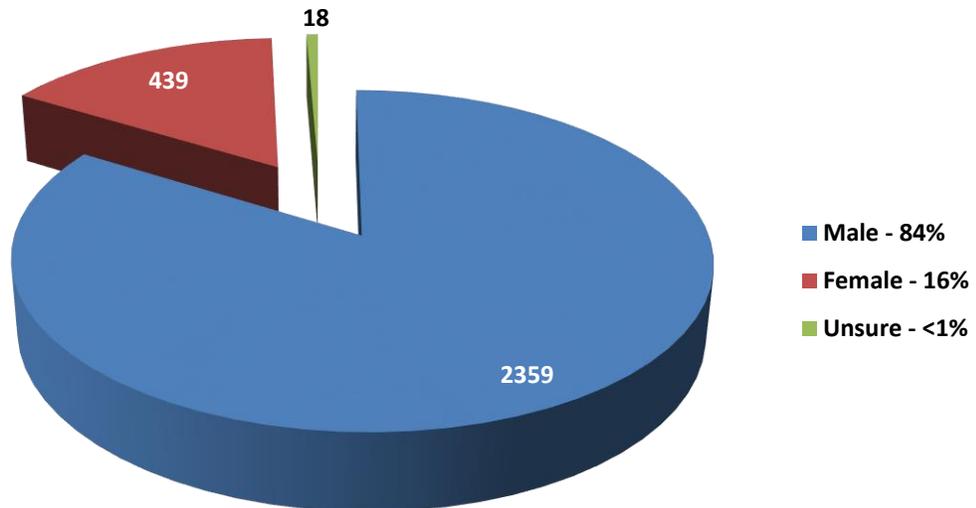


- 1 - Fully fleshed (PMI < 1 day)
- 2 - Decomposed (PMI < week)
- 3 - Decomposition with focal skeletonization (PMI < 3 weeks)
- 4 - Mummification with skeletonization (PMI < 5 weeks)
- 5 - Skeletonization with articulation/ligamentous attachments (PMI < 3 months)
- 6 - Complete skeletonization with disarticulation (PMI < 6-8 months)
- 7 - Complete skeletonization with bone degradation (PMI > 6-8 months)
- 8 - Other

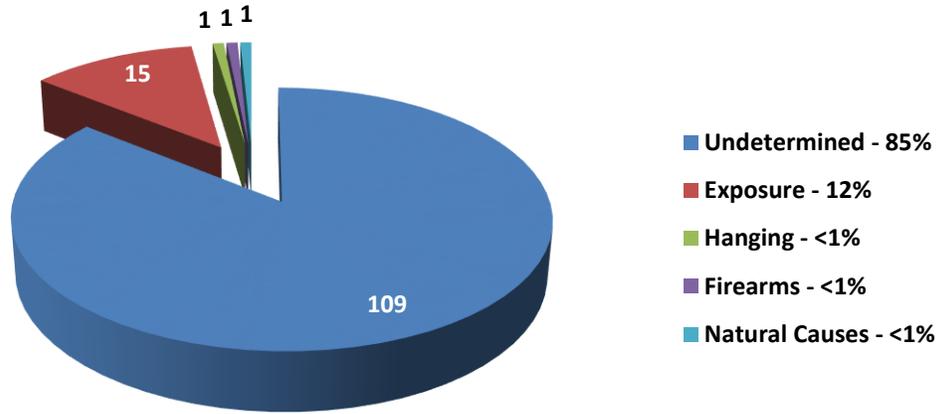
### UBC Recoveries by Sex 2017



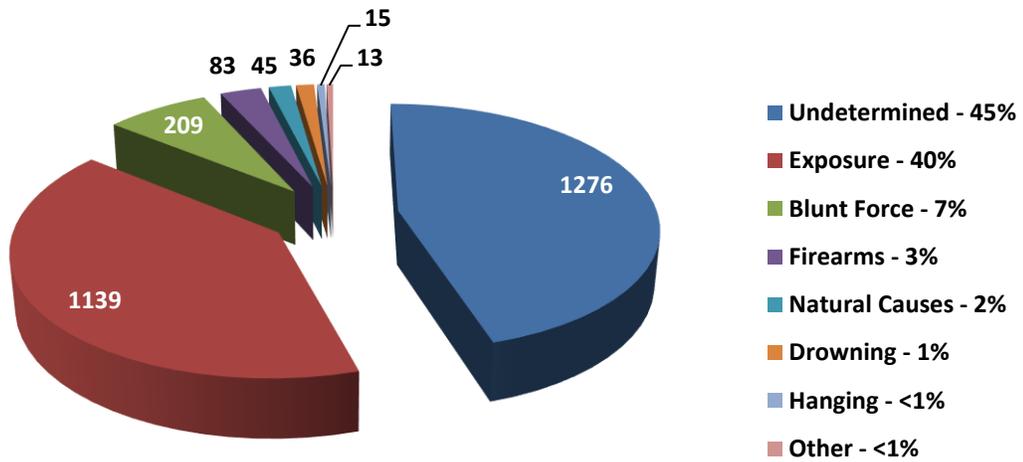
### UBC Recoveries by Sex 2000 - 2017



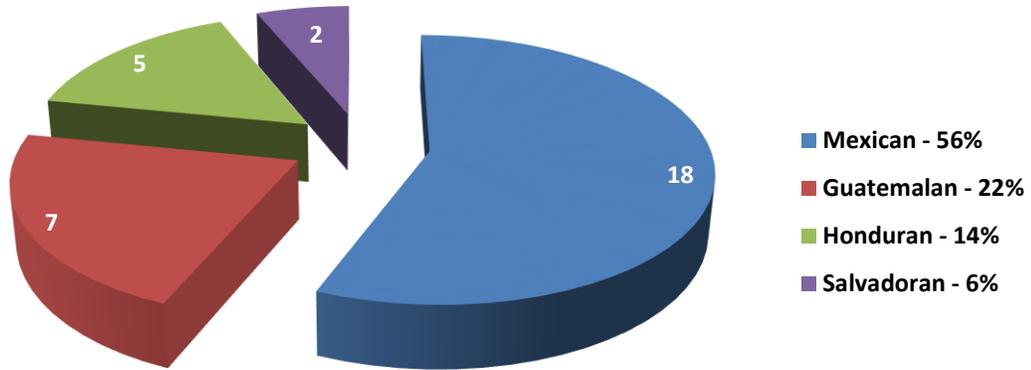
### UBC Recoveries by Cause 2017



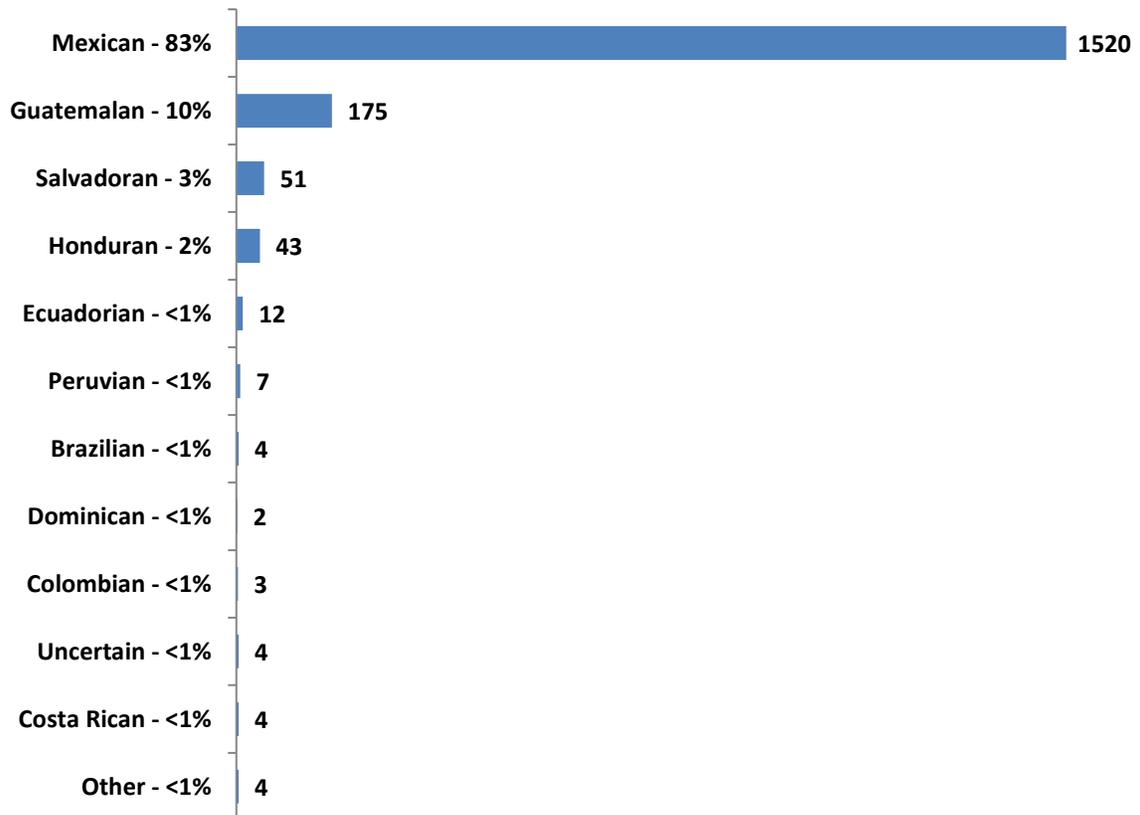
### UBC Recoveries by Cause 2000 - 2017



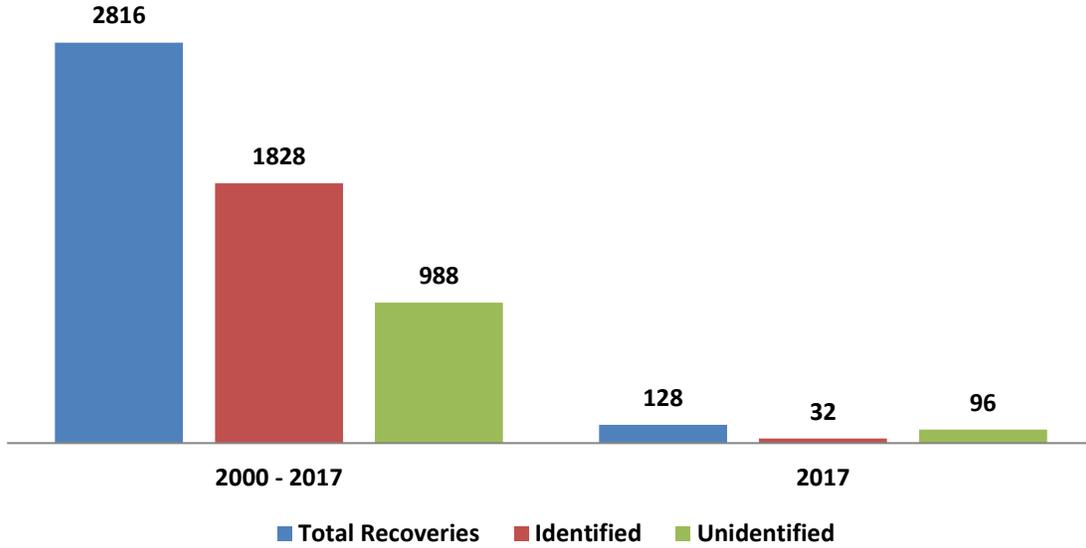
### Identified UBC Recoveries by Nationality 2017



### Identified UBC Recoveries by Nationality 2000 - 2017



### Identified vs Unidentified UBC Recoveries



### UBC Methods of Identification 2000 - 2017

|                | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | Total |
|----------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| Visual         | 20   | 22   | 68   | 45   | 51   | 56   | 50   | 71   | 57   | 68   | 64   | 22   | 21   | 31   | 12   | 13   | 13   | 5    | 689   |
| Circumstantial | 28   | 30   | 29   | 36   | 37   | 34   | 23   | 31   | 20   | 16   | 14   | 17   | 11   | 8    | 5    | 9    | 2    | 0    | 350   |
| Fingerprints   | 12   | 4    | 19   | 22   | 25   | 41   | 24   | 31   | 15   | 19   | 16   | 27   | 31   | 14   | 8    | 19   | 42   | 18   | 387   |
| DNA            | 1    | 2    | 3    | 16   | 16   | 14   | 19   | 18   | 21   | 25   | 53   | 35   | 27   | 43   | 34   | 32   | 10   | 6    | 375   |
| Dental         | 0    | 0    | 2    | 0    | 2    | 1    | 0    | 2    | 0    | 1    | 1    | 0    | 2    | 2    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 1    | 14    |
| Radiography    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 1    | 2    | 0    | 0    | 3    | 1    | 0    | 1    | 0    | 1    | 1    | 0    | 1    | 0    | 0    | 11    |
| Identified     | 61   | 58   | 121  | 120  | 133  | 146  | 116  | 156  | 114  | 129  | 149  | 101  | 93   | 99   | 59   | 74   | 67   | 32   | 1828  |
| Unidentified   | 13   | 19   | 26   | 35   | 35   | 46   | 55   | 59   | 48   | 62   | 73   | 77   | 60   | 68   | 68   | 62   | 86   | 96   | 988   |
| Total UBCs     | 74   | 77   | 147  | 155  | 168  | 192  | 171  | 215  | 162  | 191  | 222  | 178  | 153  | 167  | 127  | 136  | 153  | 128  | 2816  |
| % Identified   | 82%  | 75%  | 82%  | 76%  | 79%  | 76%  | 68%  | 73%  | 70%  | 68%  | 67%  | 57%  | 61%  | 59%  | 47%  | 54%  | 44%  | 23%  | 65%   |

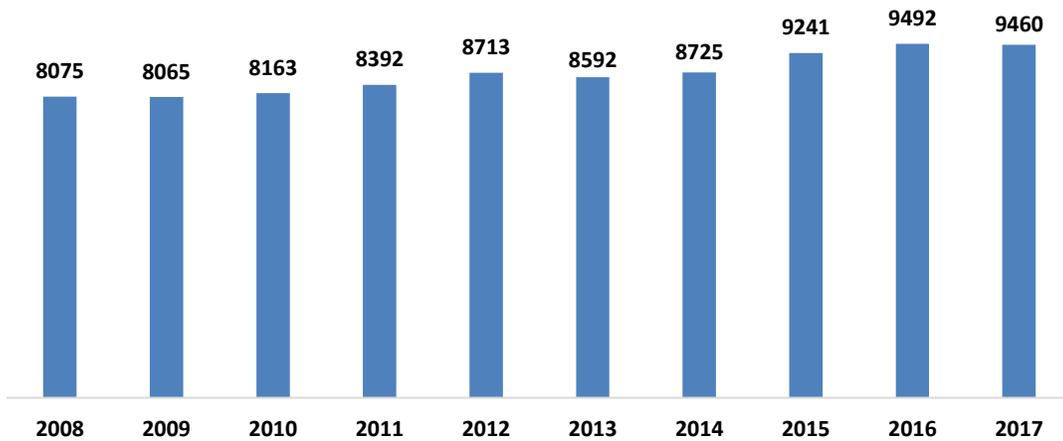
# PIMA COUNTY

## TOTAL MORTALITY

The number of deaths reported to the medical examiner’s office in a given period is a reflection of the total population that the office serves. In 2017 there were 9,460 deaths in Pima County; of these 2,705 (29%) were reported to the PCOME for investigation.



### Pima County Mortality by Year 2008 - 2017\*

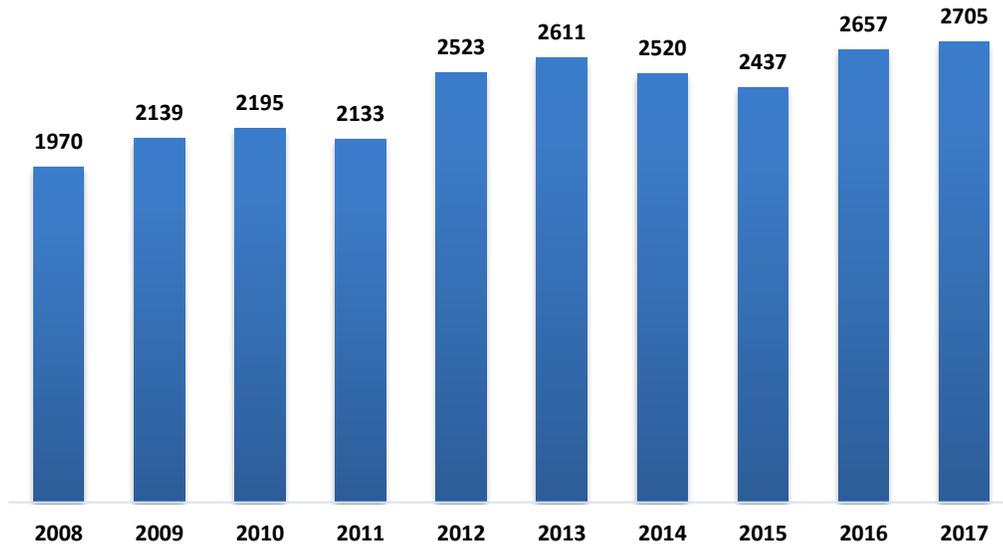


\*Arizona Department of Vital Statistics as of 06/12/18

## TOTAL CASES

The total cases handled by the PCOME from Pima County in a given year are the sum of the ME cases (autopsies, external examinations, and death certificate cases), cases in which jurisdiction was declined, and the number of cases stored at our facility during the calendar year (storage cases).

### Total Cases from Pima County 2008 - 2017

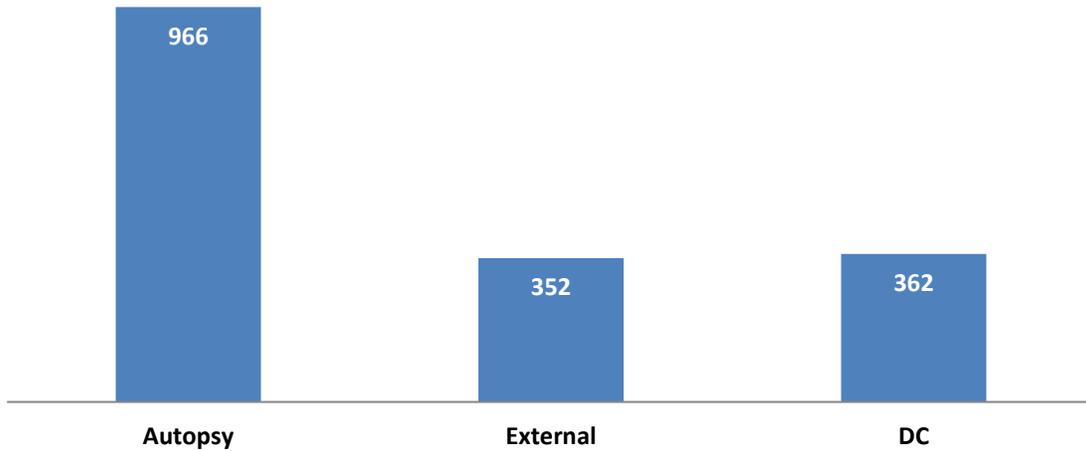


## MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

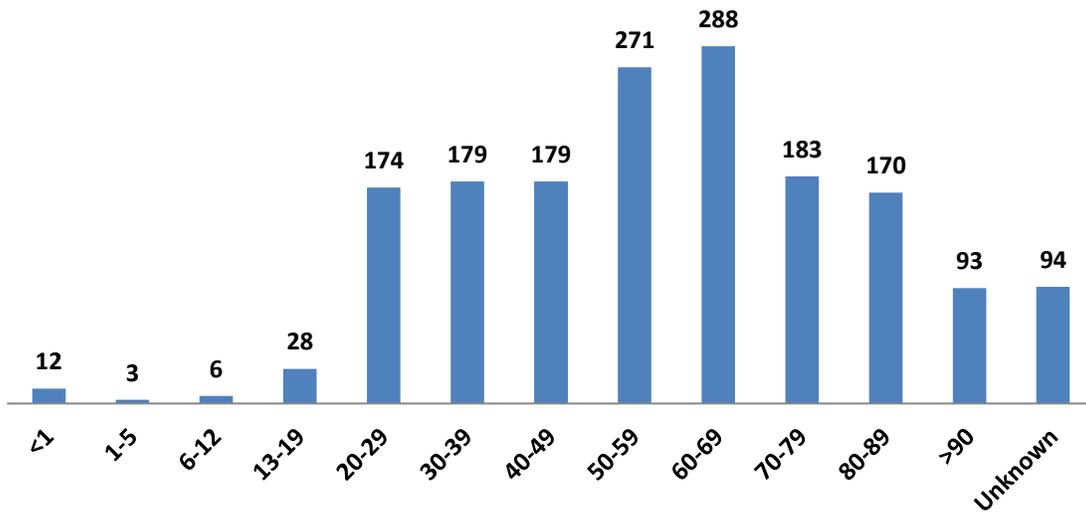
The PCOME considers all cases in which the cause and manner of death are determined by this office as “medical examiner cases.” Those cases include autopsies, external examinations and death certificate (DC) cases. Autopsies are examinations where a decedent is examined both externally and internally for evidence of injury or natural disease which may have caused or contributed to the individual’s death. External examinations consist of an external examination of the body without the internal examination. A DC case involves review of the medical records, law enforcement reports and any other information that may be necessary to determine the cause and manner of death without physical examination of the decedent. In 2017, 966 autopsies, 352 external examinations and 362 DC cases were performed on deaths from Pima County.



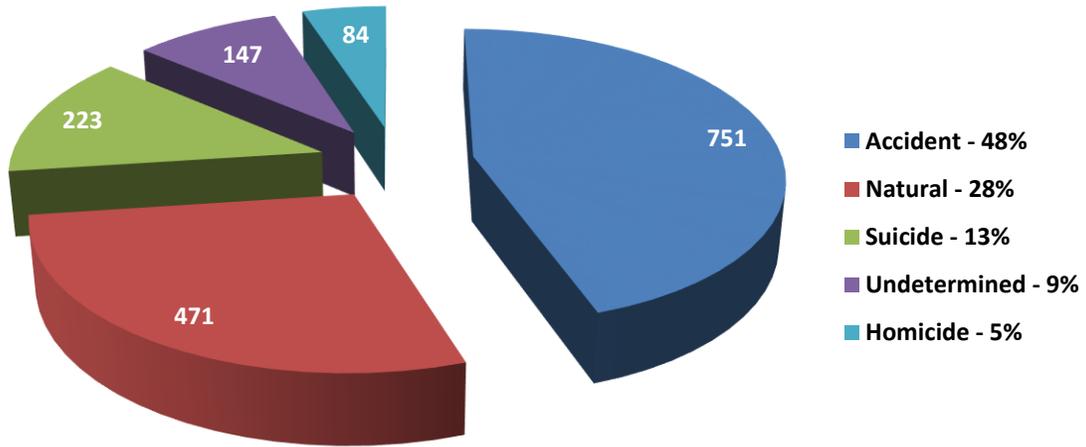
## 2017 Pima County Medical Examiner Cases



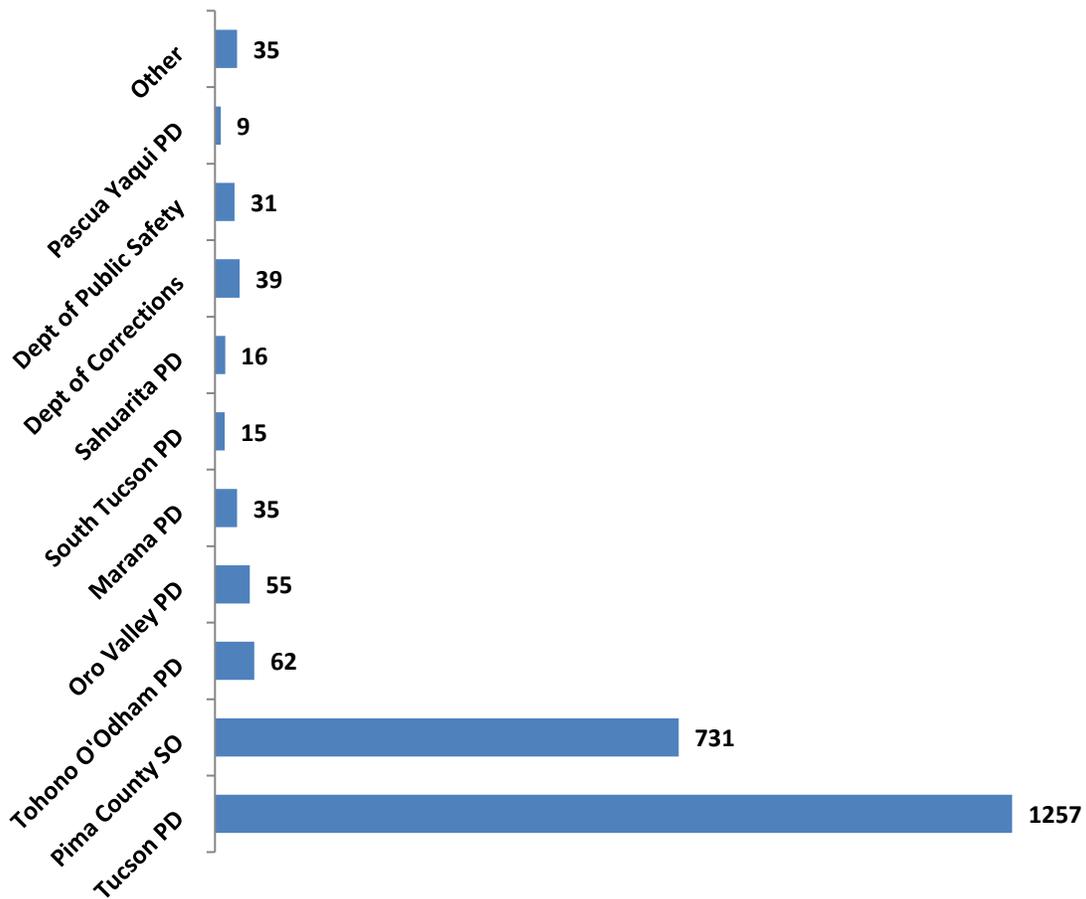
## Pima County Medical Examiner Cases by Age 2017



### Pima County ME Cases by Manner of Death 2017



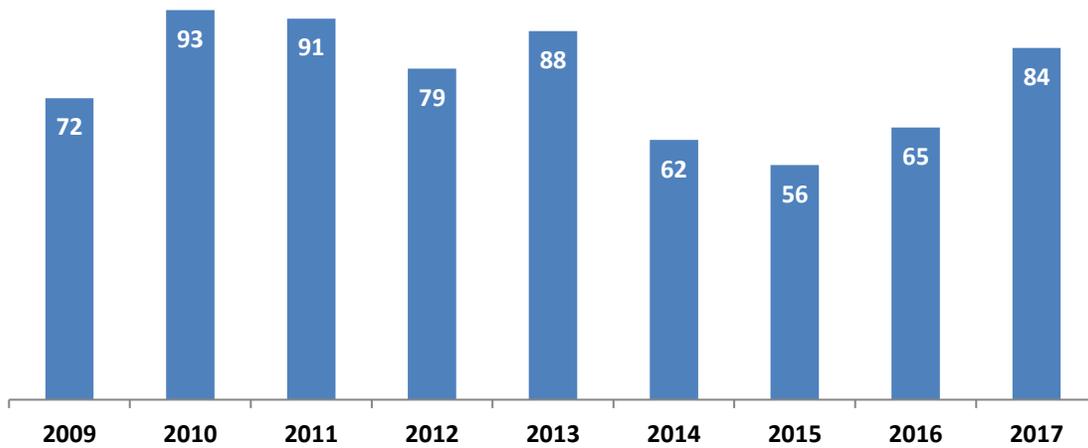
### Pima County Deaths by Law Enforcement Agency 2017



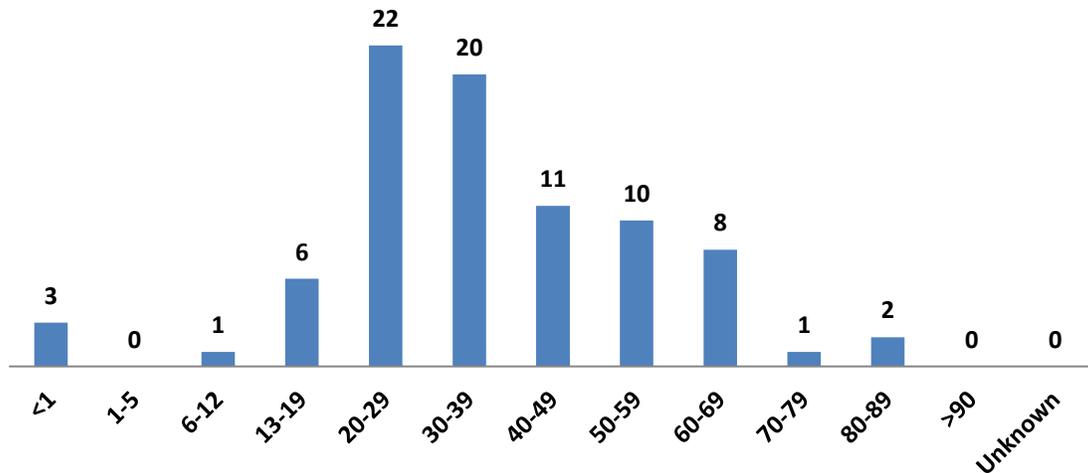
## HOMICIDE DEATHS

The PCOME examined 84 homicides from Pima County in 2017; 5% of total Pima County deaths certified. Homicide totals from 2009 – 2017 are compared below. Homicide victims were most frequently male (77%), between 20-39 years of age (50%) and died as the result of firearms (67%).

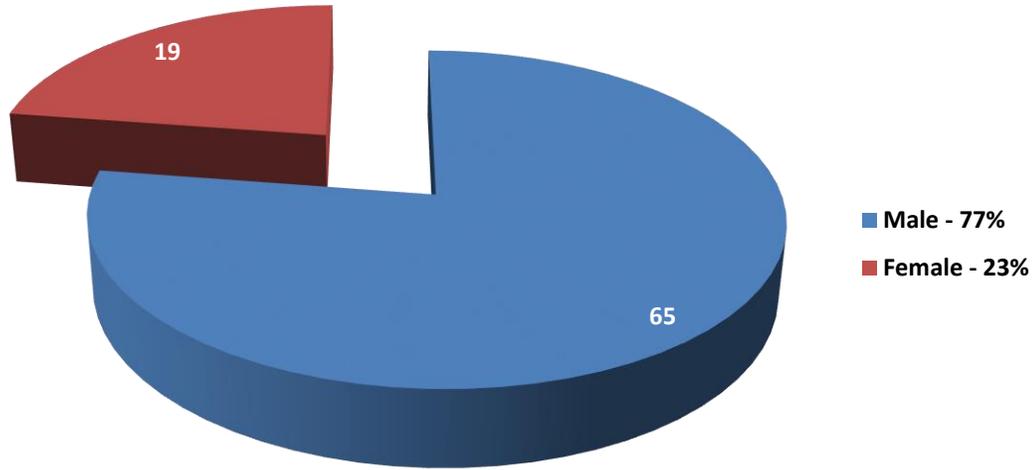
### Pima County Homicide 2009 - 2017



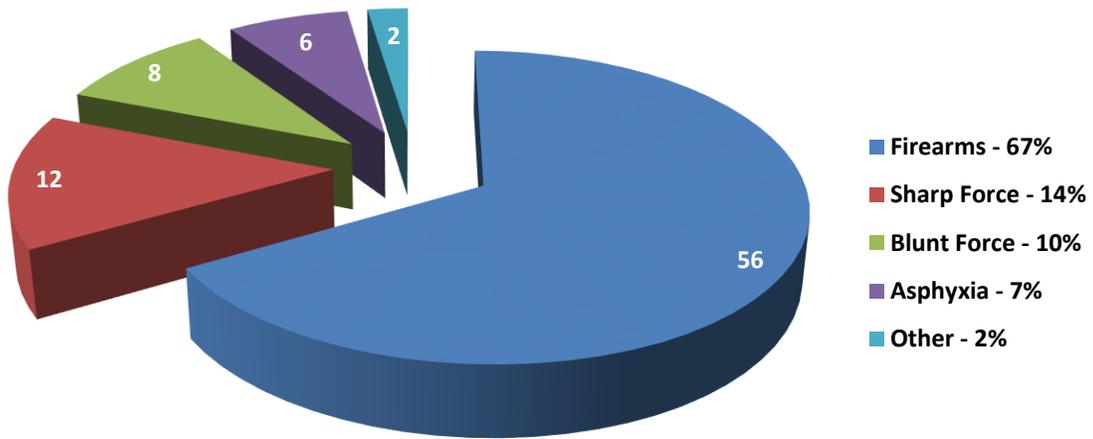
### Pima County Homicide by Age 2017



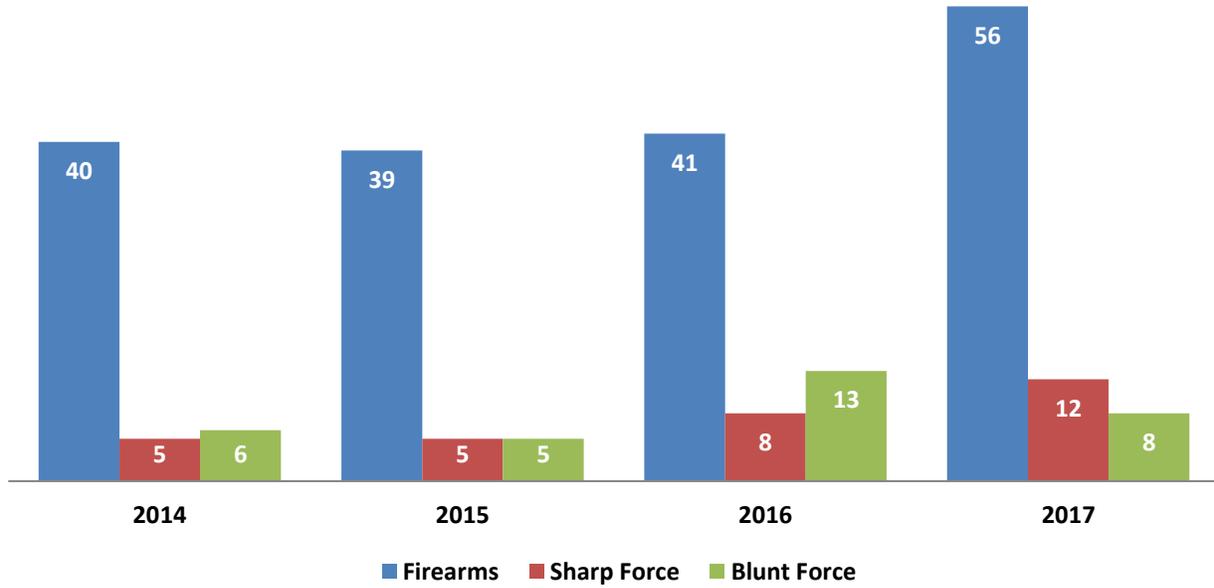
### Pima County Homicide by Sex 2017



### Pima County Homicide by Cause 2017



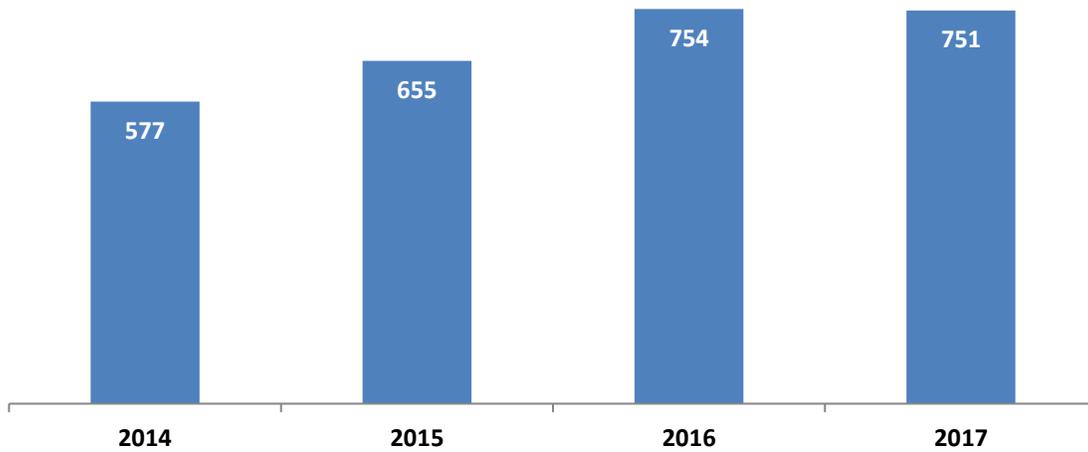
### Pima County Homicide by Cause (Top 3) 2014 - 2017



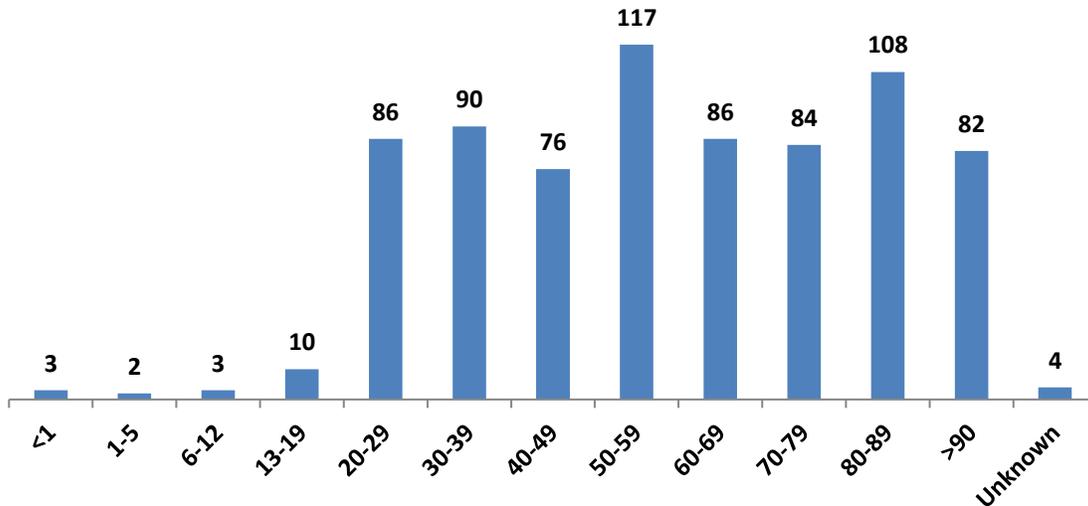
## ACCIDENT DEATHS

Deaths due to accidents accounted for 48% of the Pima County deaths investigated by the PCOME in 2017. Accident victims were most frequently males (64%), over 80 years of age (25%) and died as the result of blunt force injuries (37%) often as the result of such conditions as complications of a hip fracture or intracranial hemorrhage from a fall.

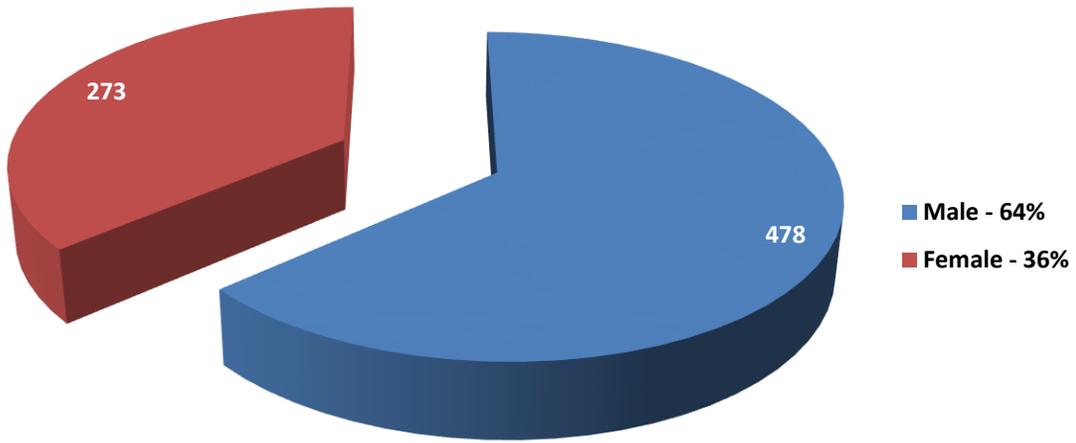
### Pima County Accident 2014 - 2017



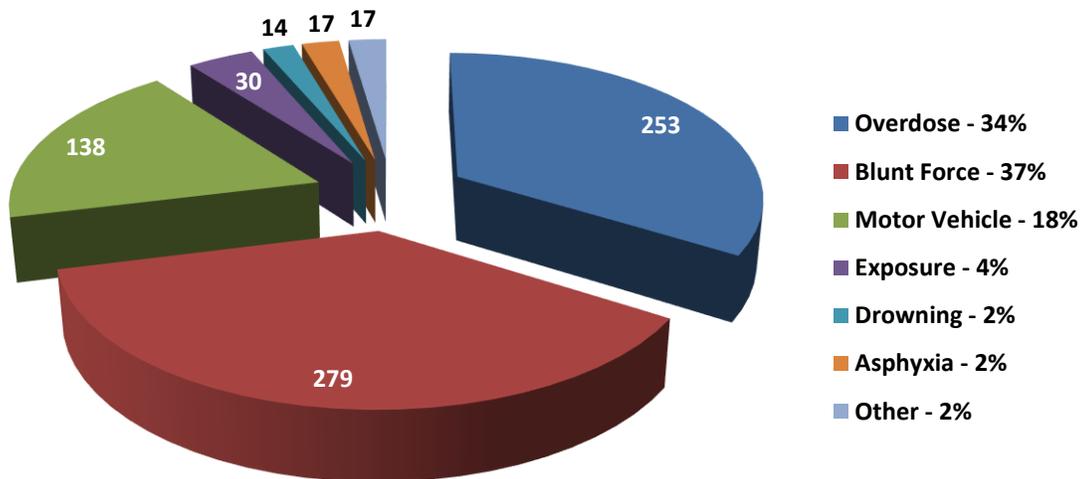
### Pima County Accident by Age 2017



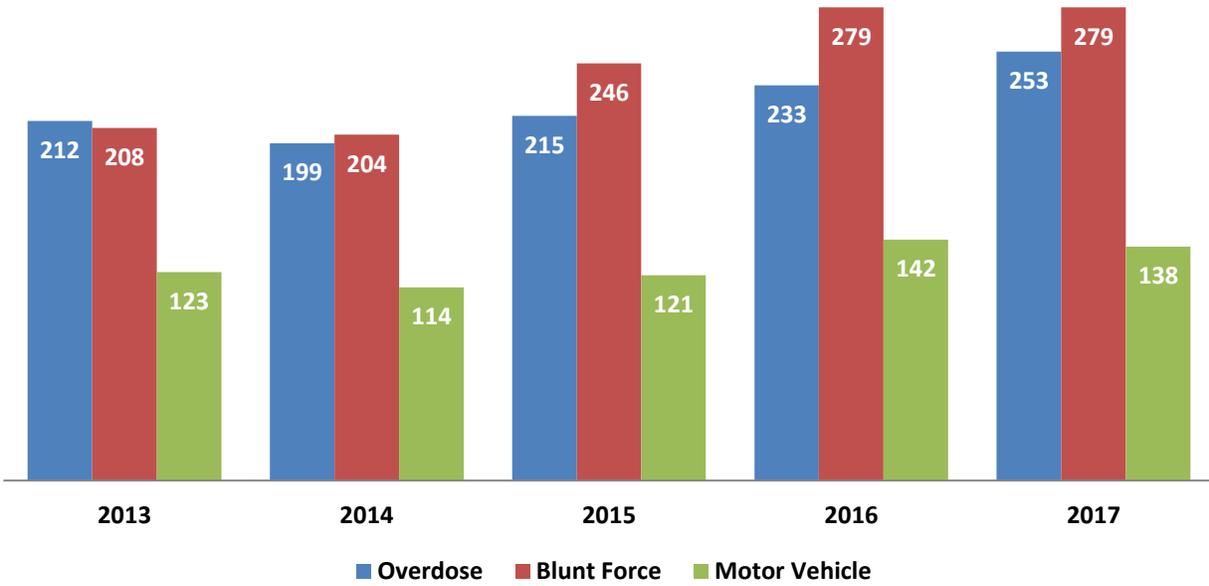
### Pima County Accident by Sex 2017



### Pima County Accident by Cause 2017



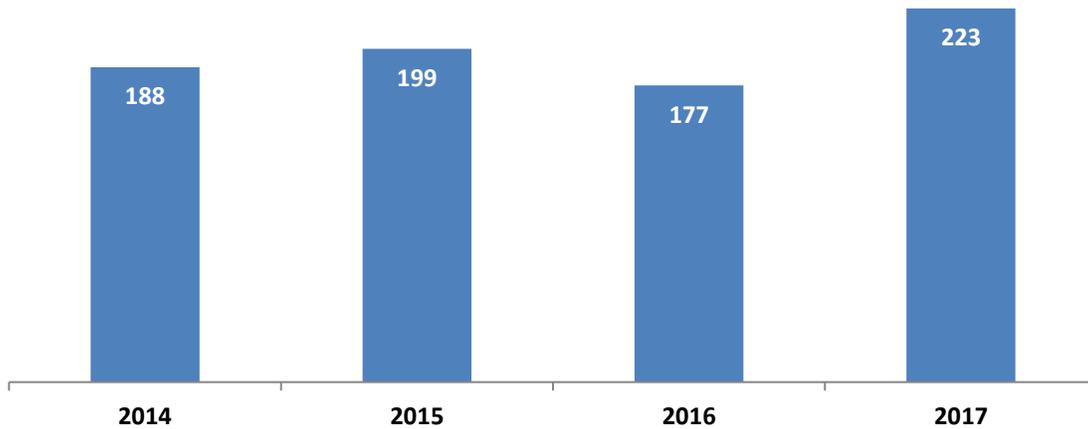
## Pima County Accident by Cause (Top 3) 2013 - 2017



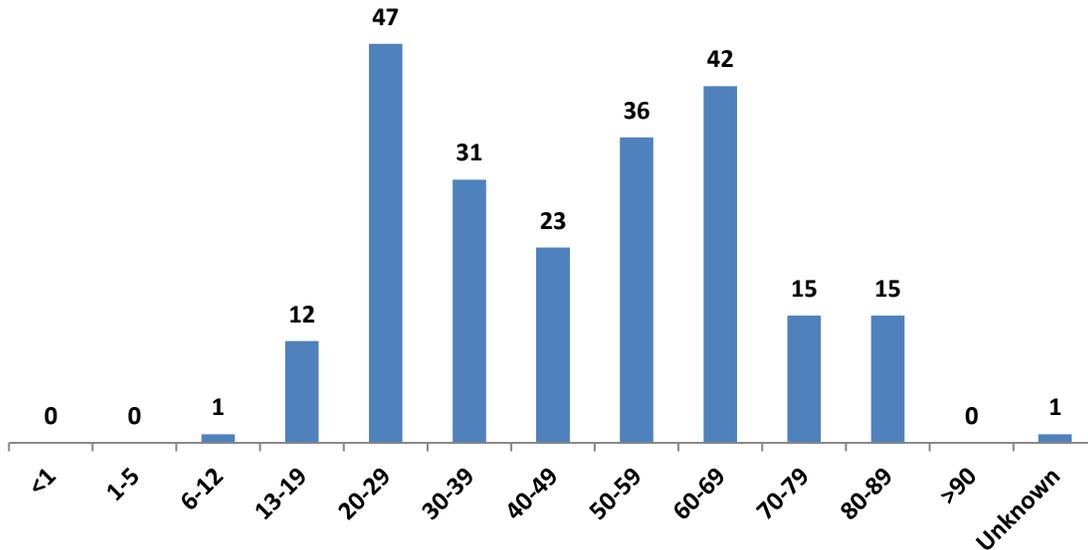
## SUICIDE DEATHS

Deaths due to suicide accounted for 13% of the Pima County deaths investigated by the PCOME in 2017. Suicide victims were most frequently males (77%), between 20-29 years of age (21%) and died as the result of firearms (55%).

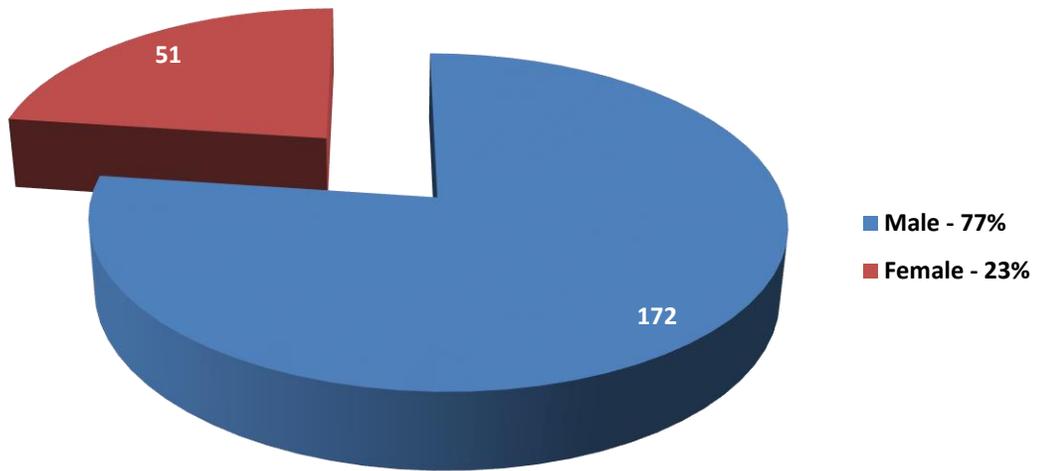
### Pima County Suicide 2014 - 2017



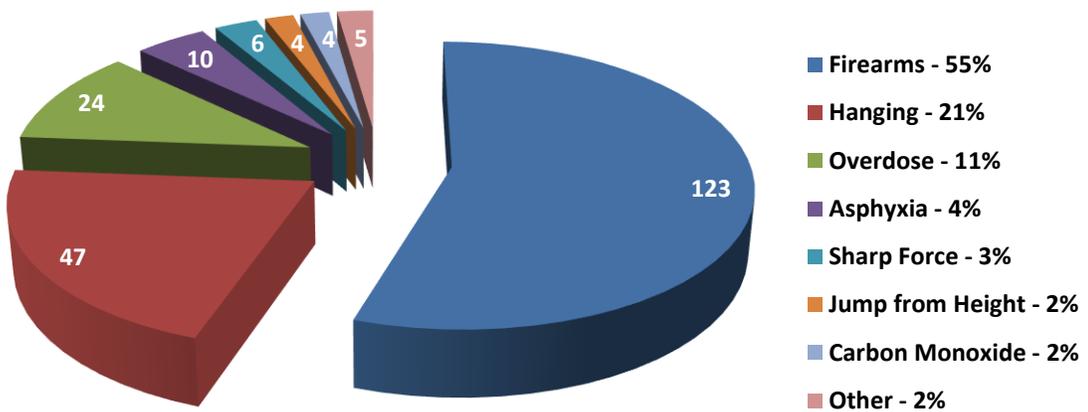
### Pima County Suicide by Age 2017



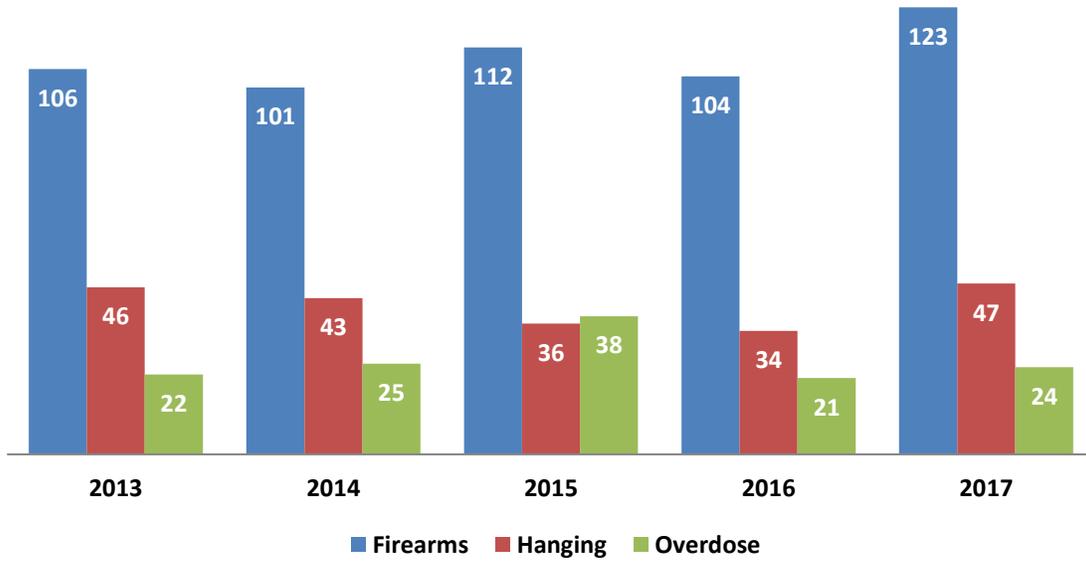
### Pima County Suicide by Sex 2017



### Pima County Suicide by Cause 2017



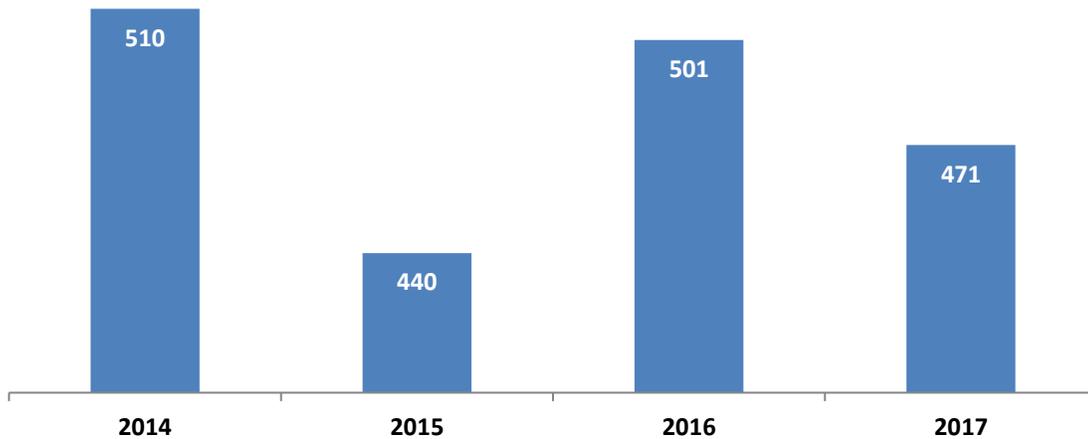
## Pima County Suicide by Cause (Top 3) 2013 – 2017



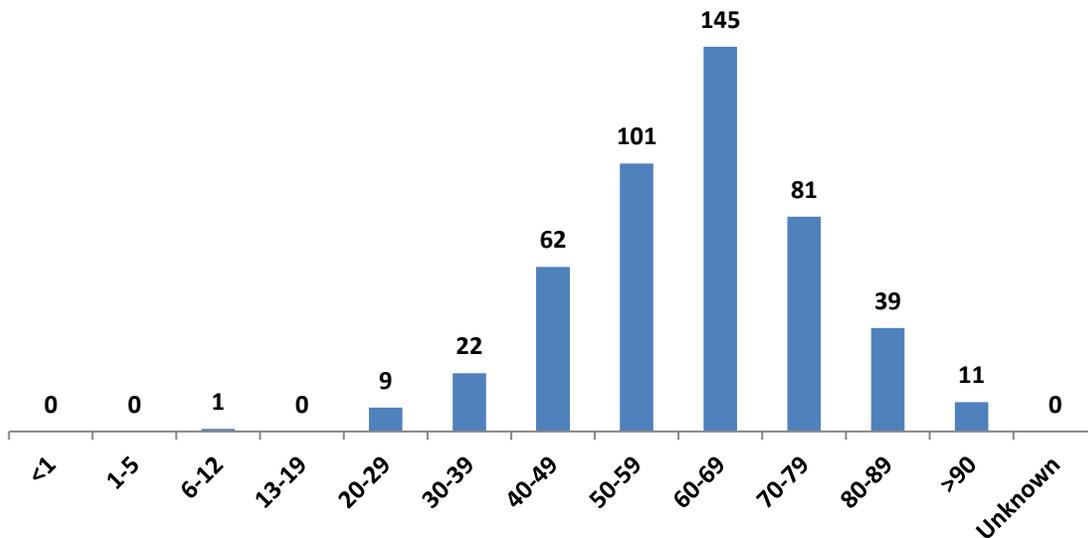
## NATURAL DEATHS

Deaths due to natural causes accounted for 28% of the Pima County deaths investigated by the PCOME in 2017. Individuals who died from natural causes were most frequently males (70%), between 60-69 years of age (31%) and died as the result of cardiovascular disease (58%).

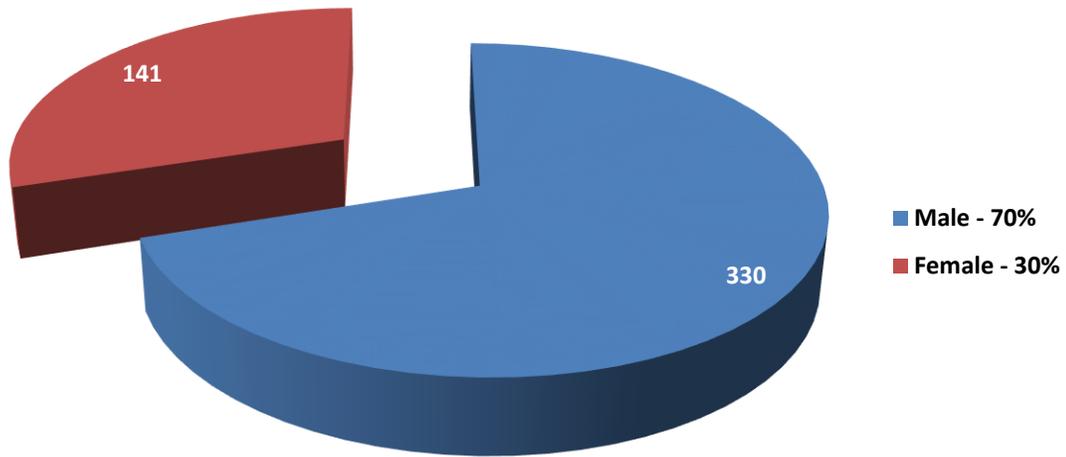
### Pima County Natural Deaths 2014 - 2017



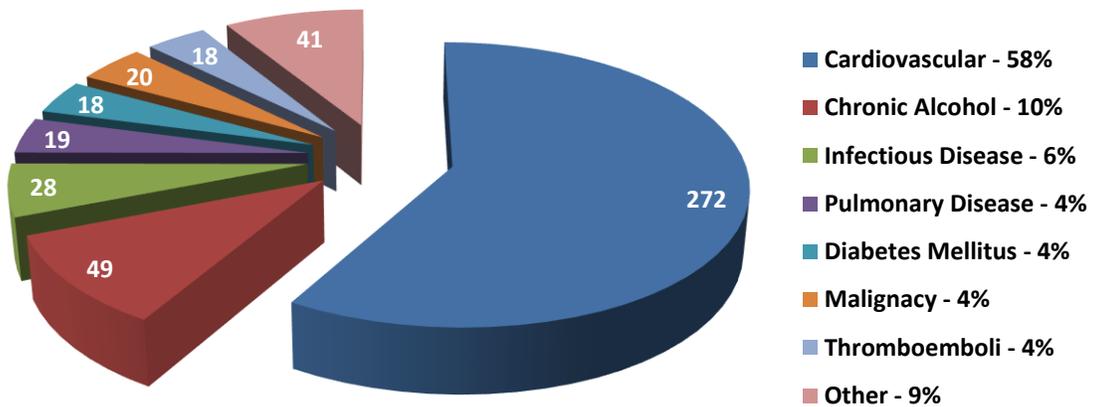
### Pima County Natural Deaths by Age 2017



### Pima County Natural Deaths by Sex 2017



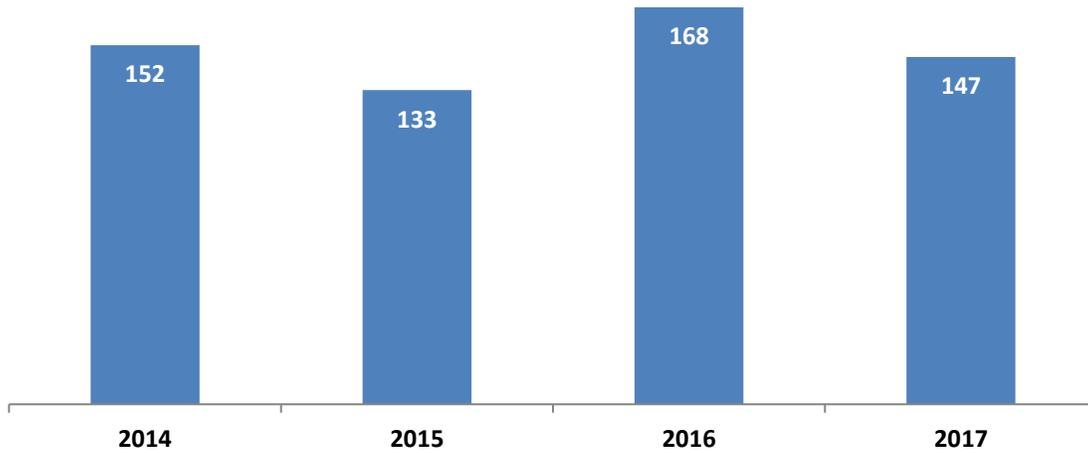
### Pima County Natural Deaths by Cause 2017



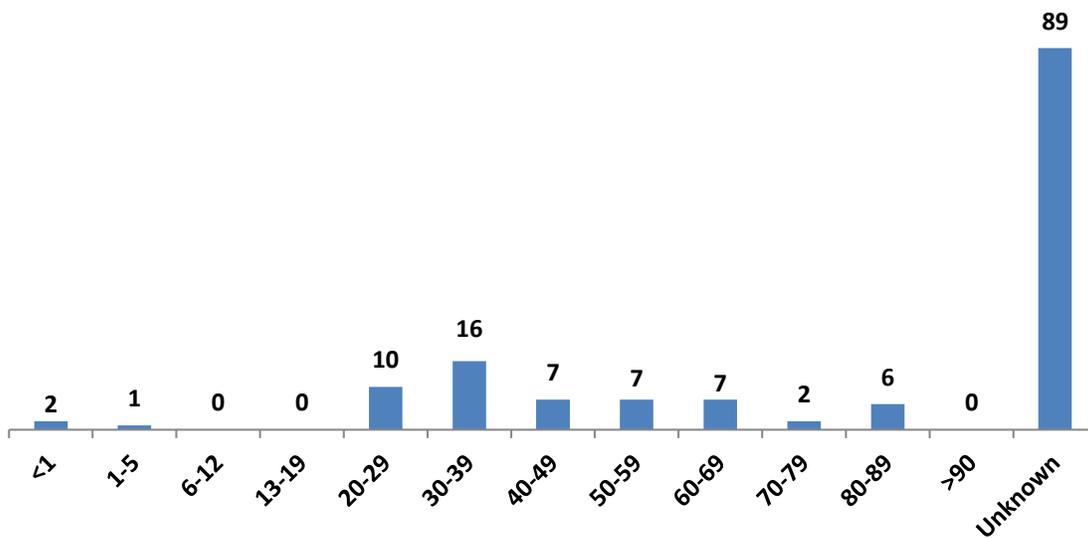
## UNDETERMINED MANNER OF DEATH

Deaths of undetermined manner accounted for 9% of the Pima County deaths investigated by the PCOME in 2017. Individuals who died with an undetermined manner were most frequently males (81%), of unknown age (61%) and died from undetermined causes (88%). Many of these deaths represent skeletal remains of UBCs who died in the deserts of southern Arizona.

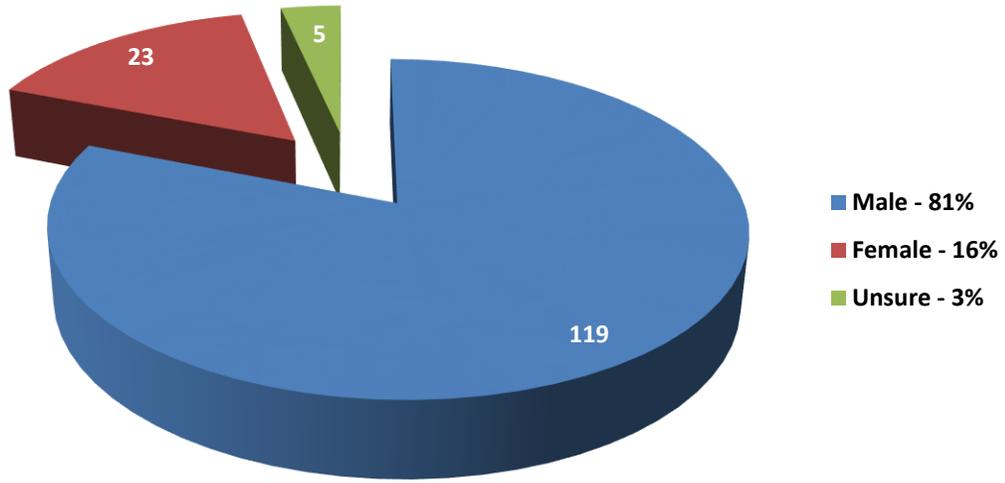
### Pima County Undetermined Manner 2014 - 2017



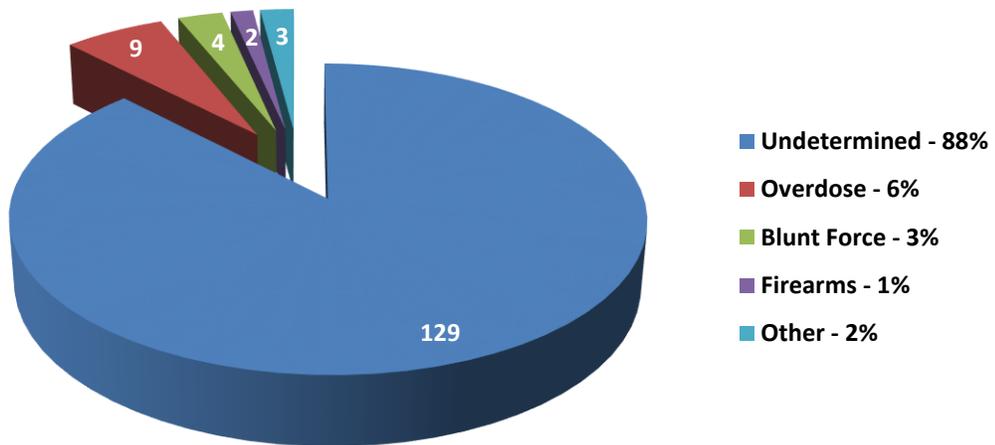
### Pima County Undetermined Manner of Death by Age 2017



### Pima County Undetermined Manner of Death by Sex 2017



### Pima County Undetermined Manner of Death by Cause 2017



## PIMA COUNTY OVERDOSE DEATHS IN 2017

There were 286 deaths attributed to an overdose of either a single drug (150 deaths, 52%) or a combination of drugs (136 deaths, 48%) in 2017. Overdose deaths commonly involved males (69%) between the ages of 50-59 (27%). The majority of these deaths were classified as accidents (88%).

Opiate compounds are typically heroin, oxycodone, methadone, hydrocodone, morphine, oxymorphone, hydromorphone, tramadol, codeine, fentanyl (a synthetic opioid narcotic) and clandestinely manufactured fentanyl analogs. In 2017 an opiate compound contributed to 189 (66%) of the 286 total overdose deaths. Opiate compounds, which contributed to an overdose death in 2017, are indicated in red in the Pima County Overdose Deaths by Drug 2017 figure.

The number of heroin deaths is likely underreported as heroin is rapidly metabolized to morphine by the body and if the parent compound indicative for heroin (6-monoacetylmorphine) is not present on the toxicology report these deaths may be classified as either morphine intoxication (morphine) or opiate intoxication (opiate unspecified).

Methamphetamine was the most commonly abused illicit drug in 2017. Contributing to 33% of all 2017 overdoses, followed by heroin (26%).

Acute alcohol (ethanol) intoxication alone, not as component of a poly-drug overdose, accounted for 5 overdose (2%) deaths in 2017 and was a contributor in 27 additional deaths.

## OVERDOSE TRENDS

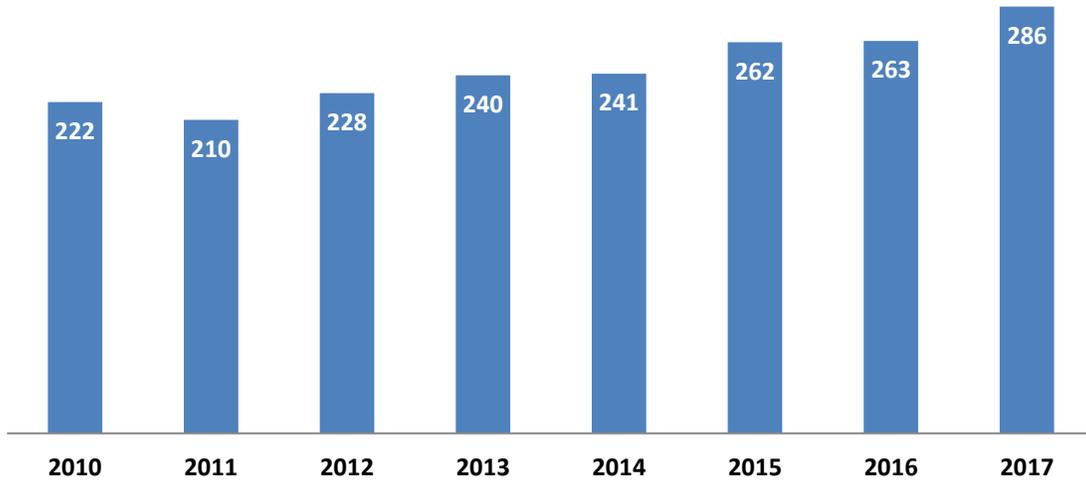
Overdose deaths in Pima County increased 29% overall from 2010 (222) to 2017 (286), punctuated by plateaus from 2013 (240) to 2014 (241) and again from 2015 (262) to 2016 (263). The PCOME has not historically reported overdose deaths in which an opiate compound was a component of the death separately from the total number of overdose deaths. That stated, 2016 overdose deaths were re-examined and an opiate compound contributed to 175 (67%) of the 263 total overdose deaths in 2016 either as a single or poly-drug overdose. In 2017 an opiate or an opiate compound contributed to 189 (66%) of the 286 total overdose deaths as described above.

Pima County is experiencing an increase in the number of synthetic opiate deaths (fentanyl type compounds), but not to the same magnitude that other regions of the country. Fentanyl contributed to 5 overdose deaths in 2014 in contrast to 34 deaths in 2017, a 580% increase in the number of deaths involving fentanyl from 2014. One of the 34 fentanyl deaths in 2017 was a fentanyl analog, cyclopropyl fentanyl.

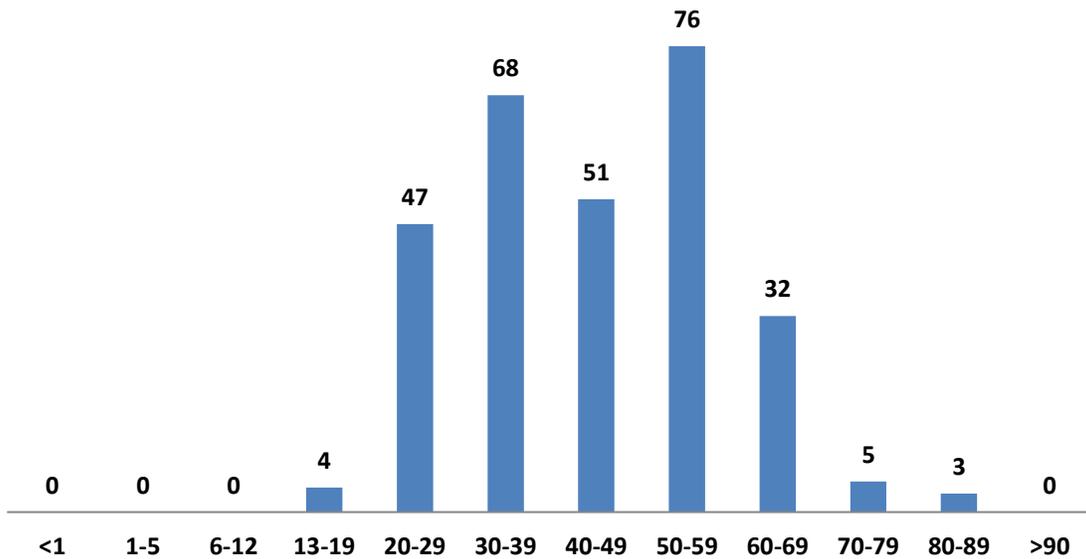


Interestingly, methamphetamine related deaths have also increased in frequency from 38 deaths in 2014 to 93 deaths in 2017, a 148% increase. The largest decrease is in oxycodone deaths, a 36% decrease from 2014 (39 deaths) to 2017 (25 deaths).

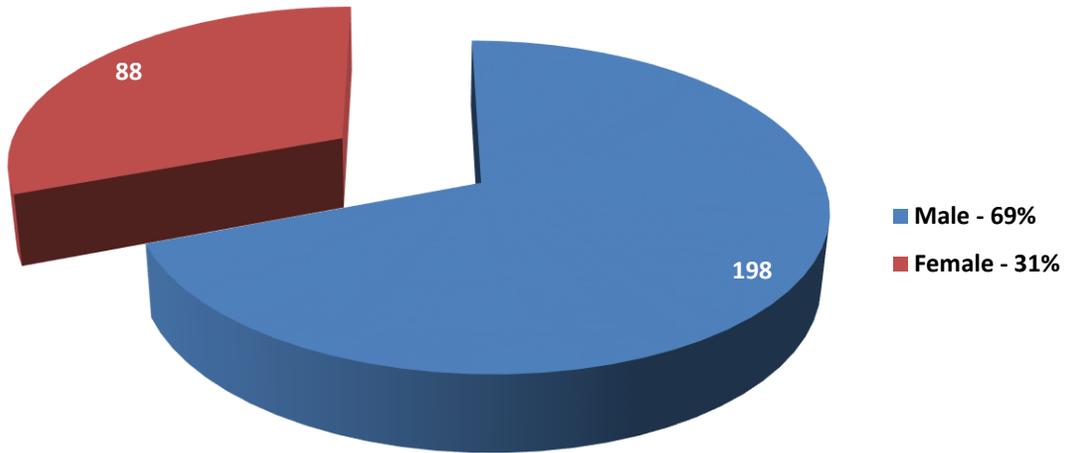
### Pima County Overdose Deaths 2010 - 2017



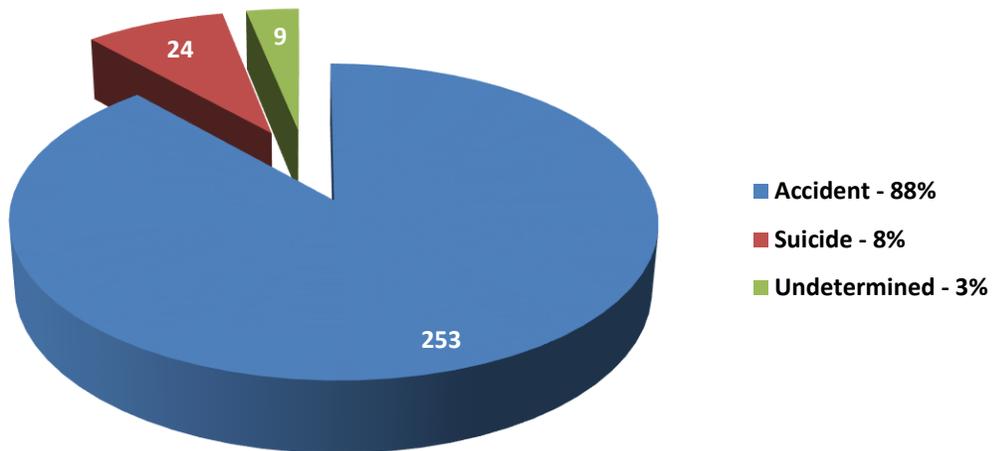
### Pima County Overdose Deaths by Age 2017



### Pima County Overdose Deaths by Sex 2017

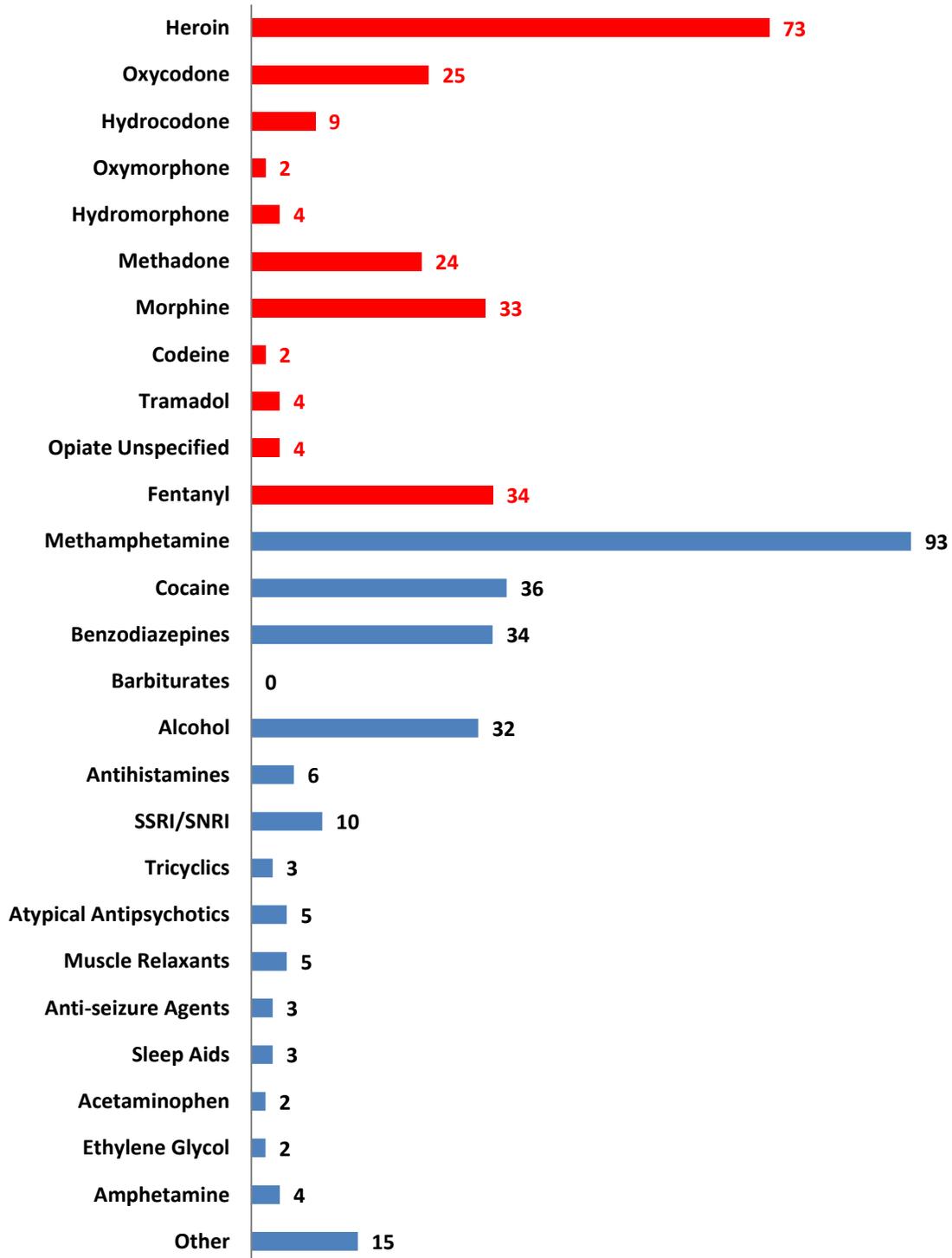


### Pima County Overdose Deaths by Manner 2017

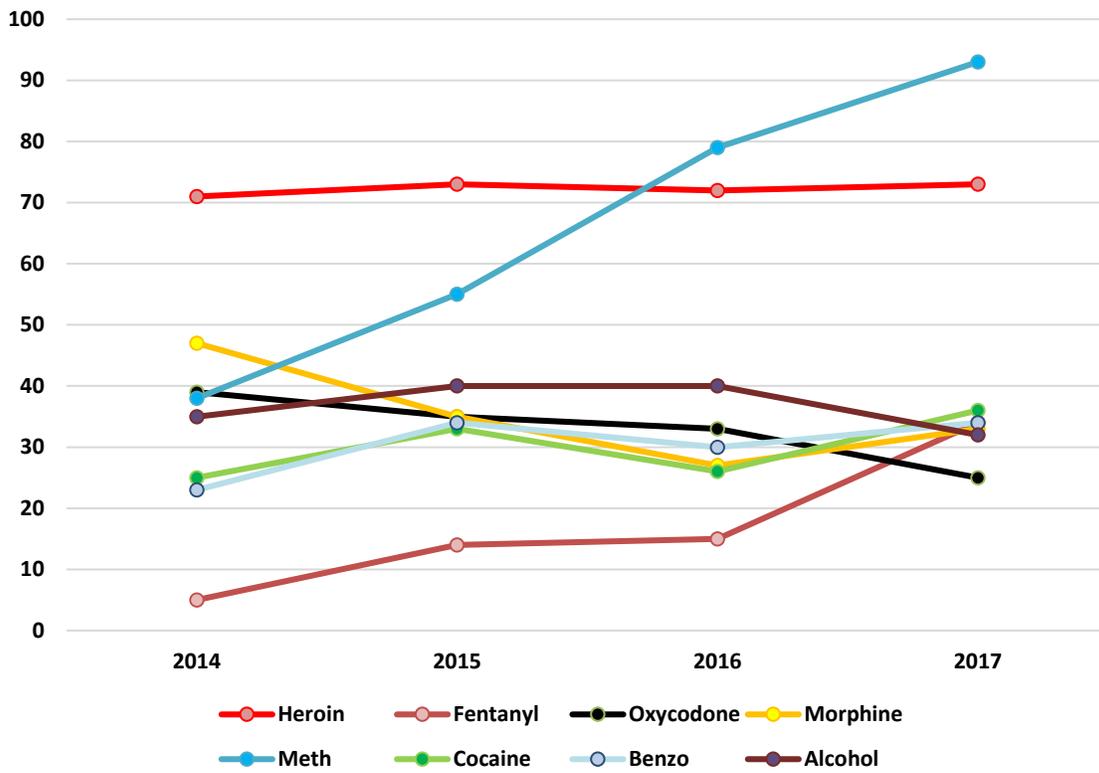


## Pima County Overdose Deaths by Drug 2017

Opiate compounds are **red**



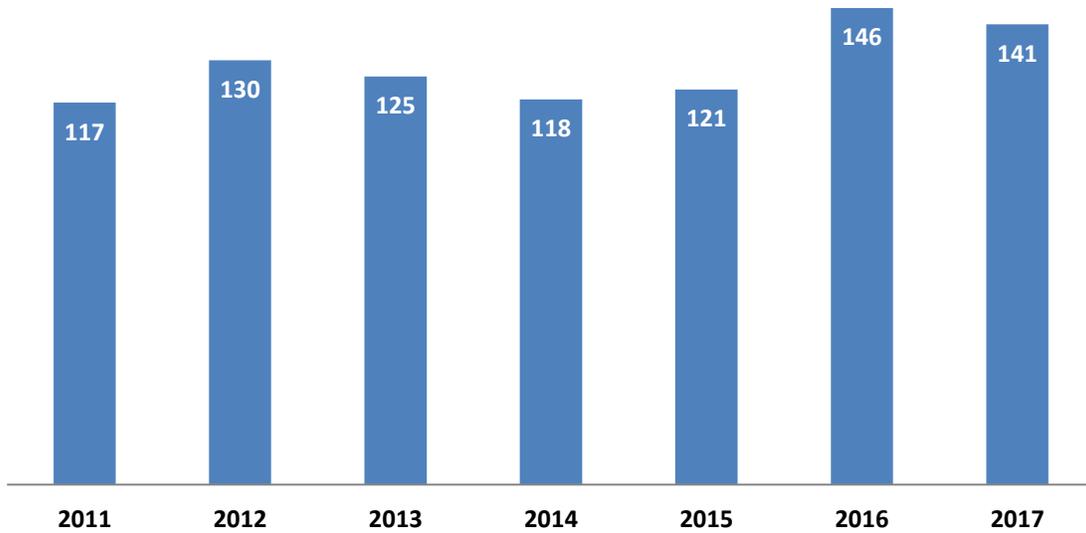
## Pima County Overdoses by drug by year 2014 - 2017



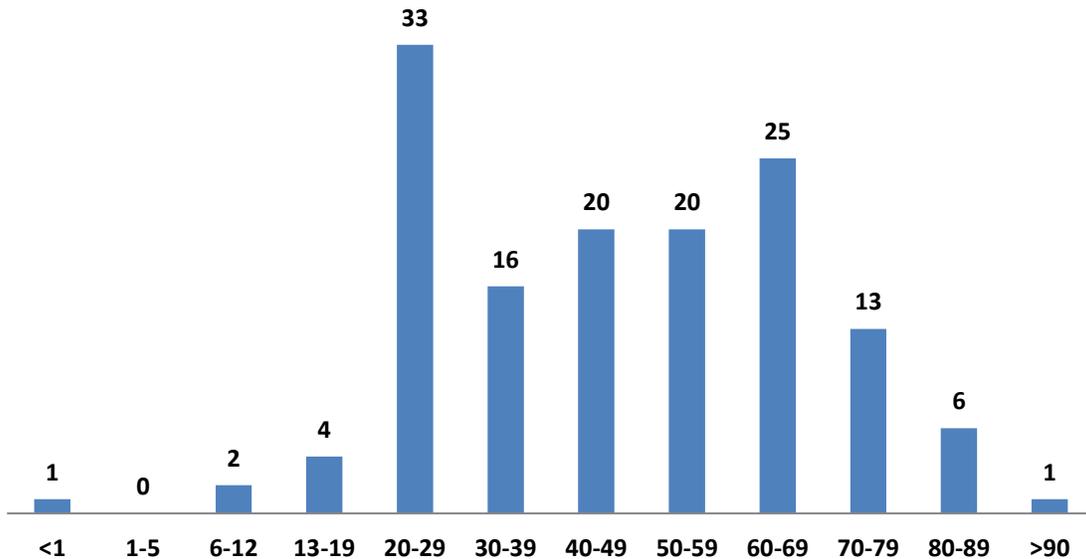
## PIMA COUNTY MOTOR VEHICLE RELATED FATALITIES

Motor vehicle related fatalities accounted for 141 total deaths in Pima County in 2017. The majority, 68 deaths, were occupants of a motor vehicle involved in an accident (MVA). Of the remaining, 25 were motorcycle accidents (MCA), 45 were pedestrians or bicyclists struck by vehicles, and 3 were all-terrain vehicle (ATV) accidents. Individuals who died from motor vehicle related fatalities were most frequently males (74%) and between 20-29 years of age (23%).

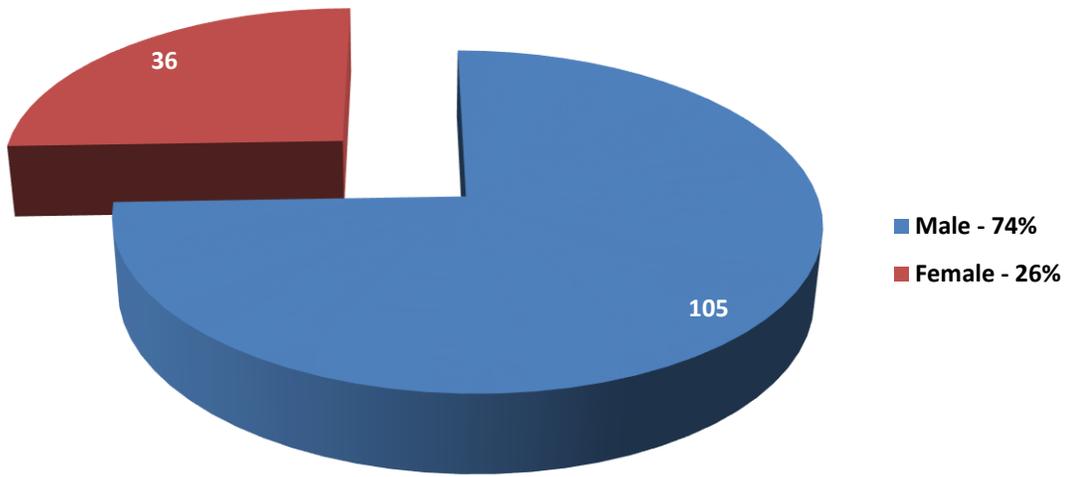
### Pima County Motor Vehicle Fatalities 2011 - 2017



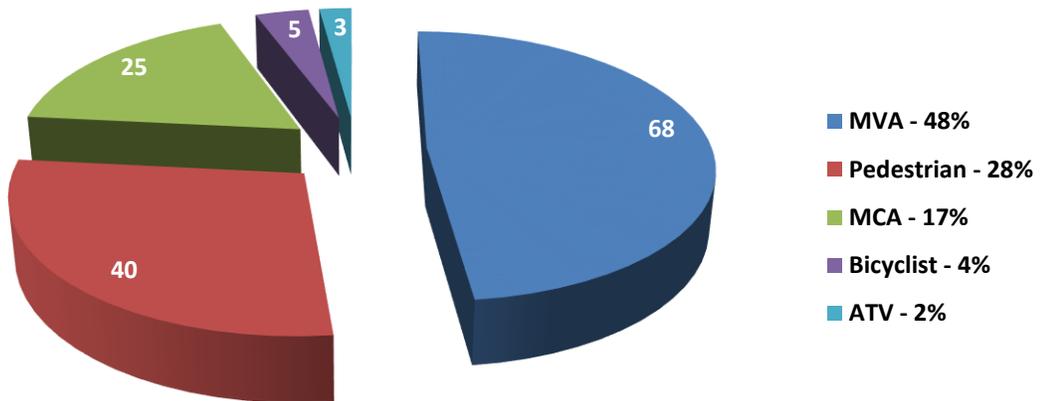
### Pima County Motor Vehicle Fatalities by Age 2017



### Pima County Motor Vehicle Fatalities by Sex 2017



### Pima County Motor Vehicle Fatalities by Type 2017



## COCHISE COUNTY

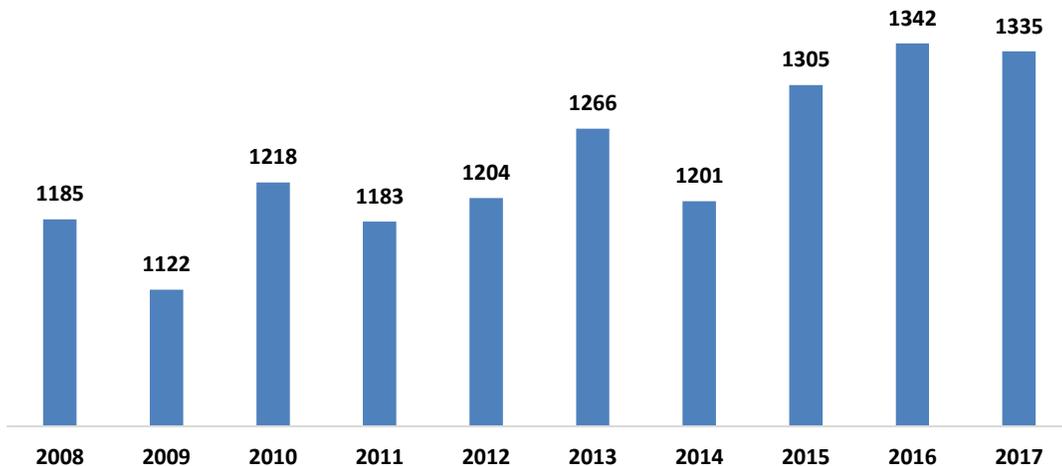
Cochise County contracts with the PCOME to certify deaths that fall under the jurisdiction of the medical examiner in Cochise County. Cochise County does not maintain an in-county Medical Examiner’s office to conduct death scene investigations, transport remains, or triage deaths reportable to the medical examiner. Cochise County does provide third party transportation services, local law enforcement death scene investigation and archival support for examinations that occurred prior to July 1, 2012. The PCOME works closely with Cochise County law enforcement agencies, the public fiduciary office and funeral homes to facilitate investigations, disposition of remains and transportation respectively. The PCOME is also involved as needed with mass fatality planning, child fatality review, or other medical examiner related issues in Cochise County.



### TOTAL MORTALITY

The number of deaths reported to the medical examiner’s office in a given period is a reflection of the total population that the office serves. In 2017 there were 1,335 deaths in Cochise County; of these 253 (19%) were reported to the PCOME for investigation.

### Cochise County Mortality by Year 2008 - 2017\*

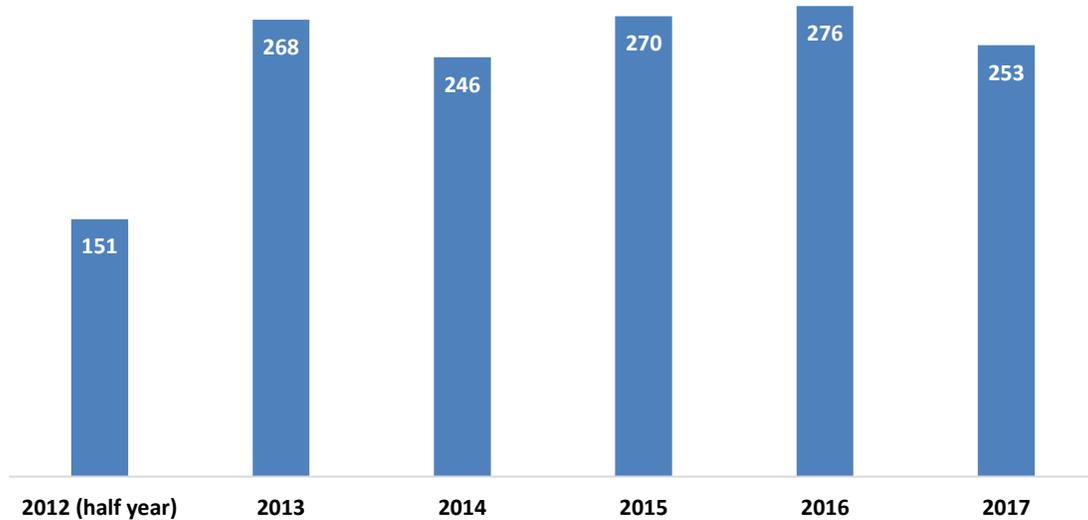


\*Arizona Department of Vital Statistics as of 06/12/2018

## TOTAL REPORTED DEATHS

The total cases investigated by the PCOME from Cochise County in a given year are the sum of the ME cases (autopsies, external examinations, and death certificate cases) and cases in which jurisdiction was declined.

**Cochise County Deaths Reported to the PCOME 2012 - 2017**

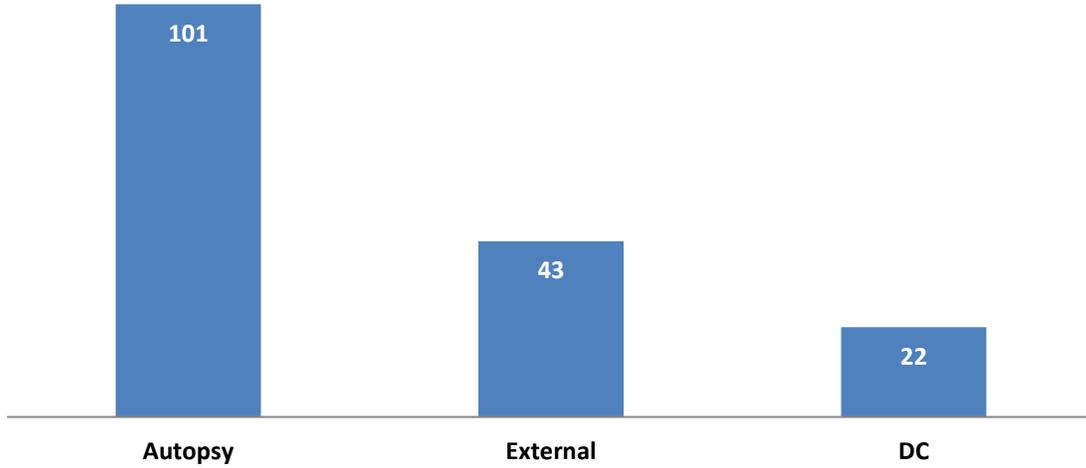


## MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

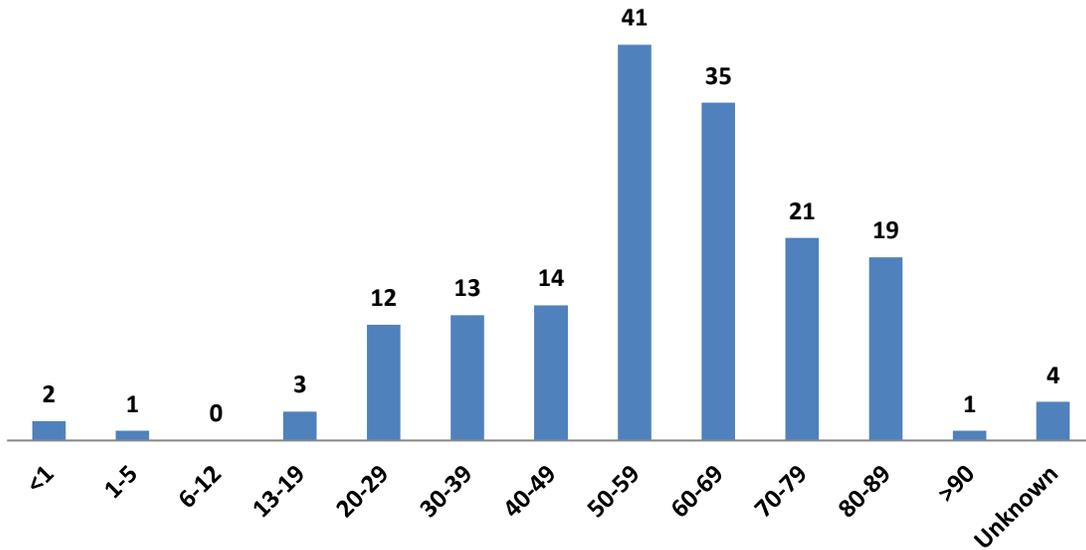
The PCOME considers all cases in which the cause and manner of death are determined by this office as “medical examiner cases.” Those cases include autopsies, external examinations and death certificate (DC) cases. Autopsies are examinations where a decedent is examined both externally and internally for evidence of injury or natural disease which may have caused or contributed to the individual’s death. External examinations consist of an external examination of the body without the internal examination. A DC case involves review of the medical records, law enforcement reports and any other information that may be necessary to determine the cause and manner of death without physical examination of the decedent. In 2017, 101 autopsies, 43 external examinations and 22 DC cases were performed on deaths from Cochise County.



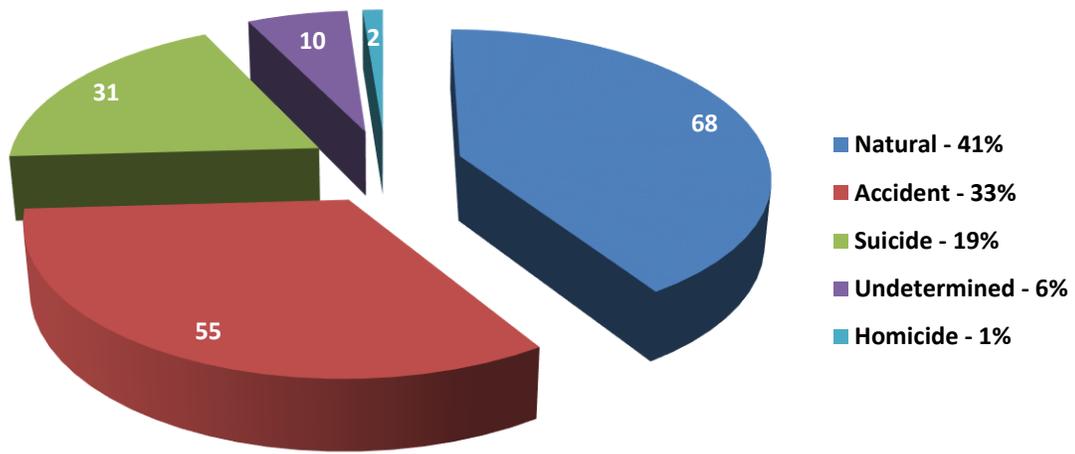
## Cochise County Medical Examiner Cases 2017



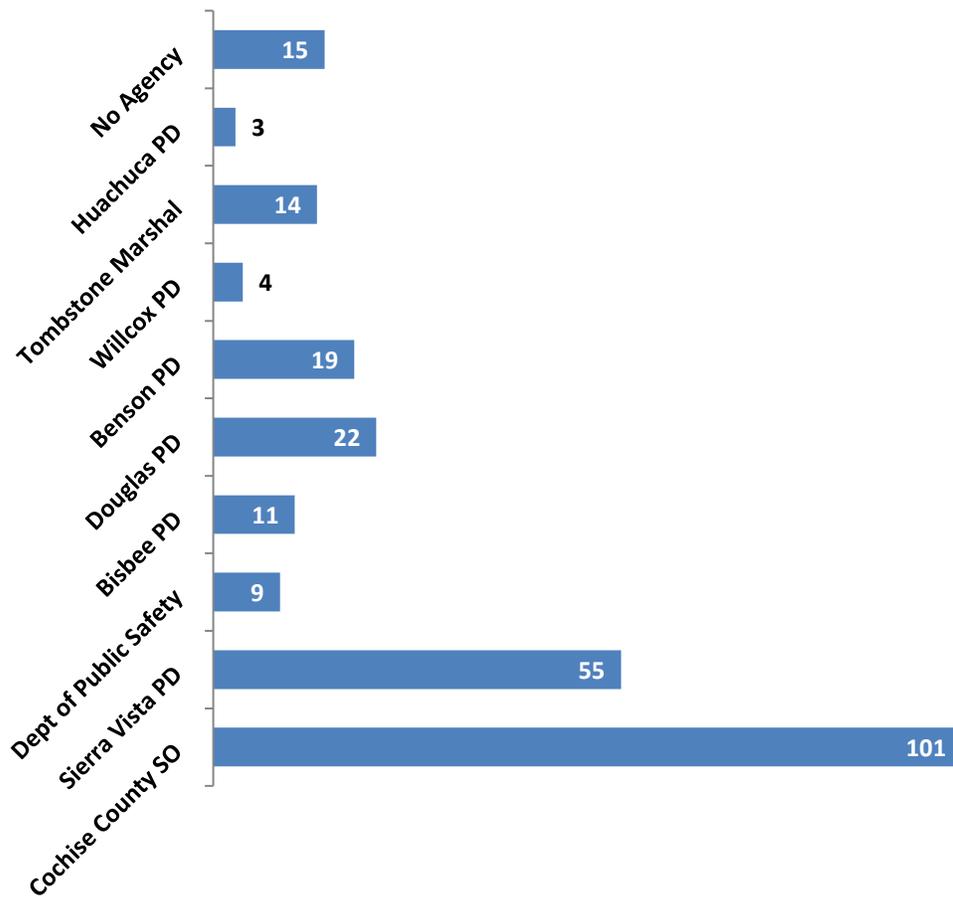
## Cochise County Medical Examiner Cases by Age 2017



### Cochise County ME Cases by Manner of Death 2017



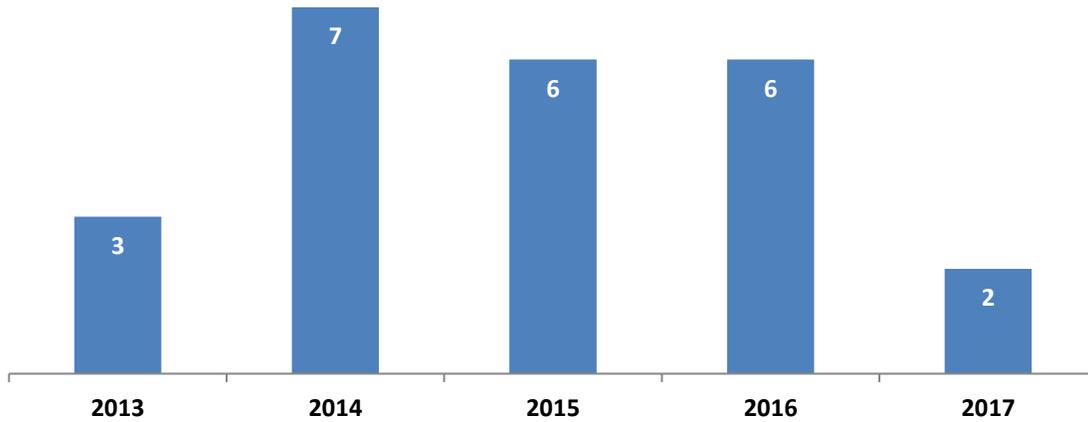
### Cochise County Deaths by Law Enforcement Agency 2017



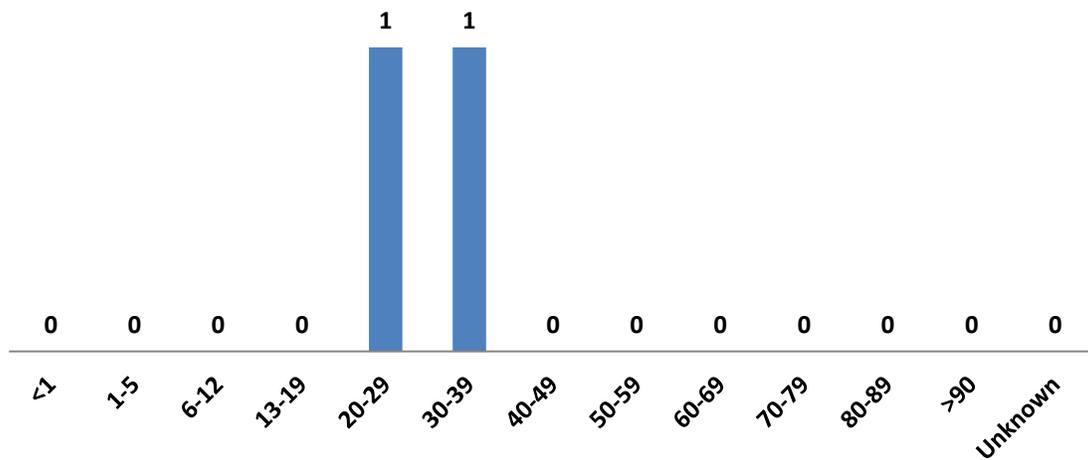
## HOMICIDE DEATHS

The PCOME examined two homicides from Cochise County in 2017; 1% of total Cochise County deaths certified. Homicide totals from 2013 – 2017 are compared below. Homicide victims were most frequently male (100%), between 20-39 years of age (100%) and died as the result of firearms (100%).

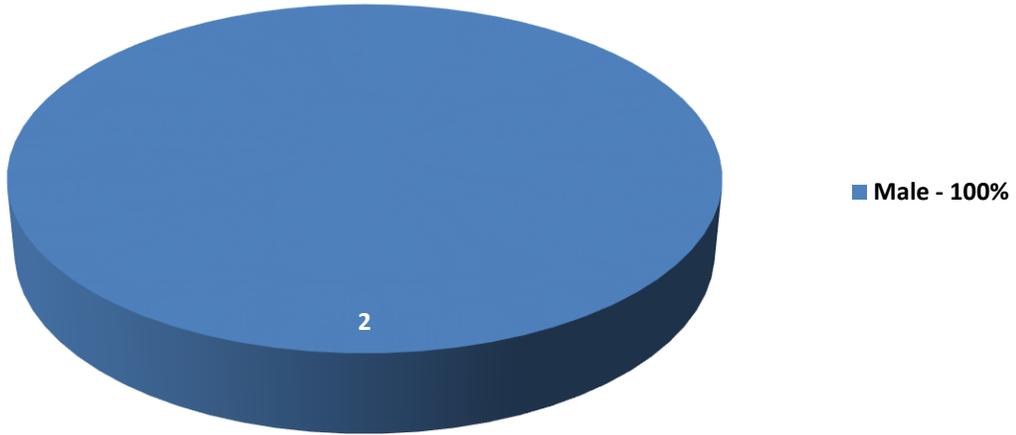
### Cochise County Homicide 2013 - 2017



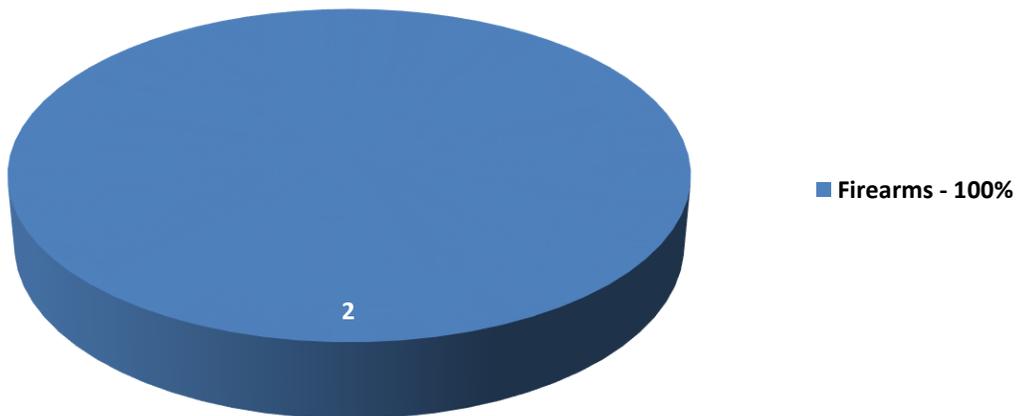
### Cochise County Homicide by Age 2017



### Cochise County Homicide by Sex 2017



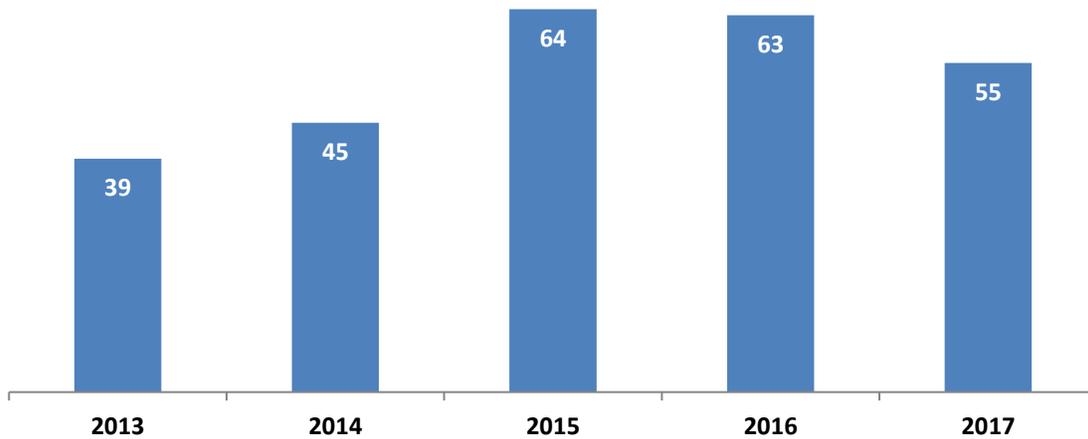
### Cochise County Homicide by Cause 2017



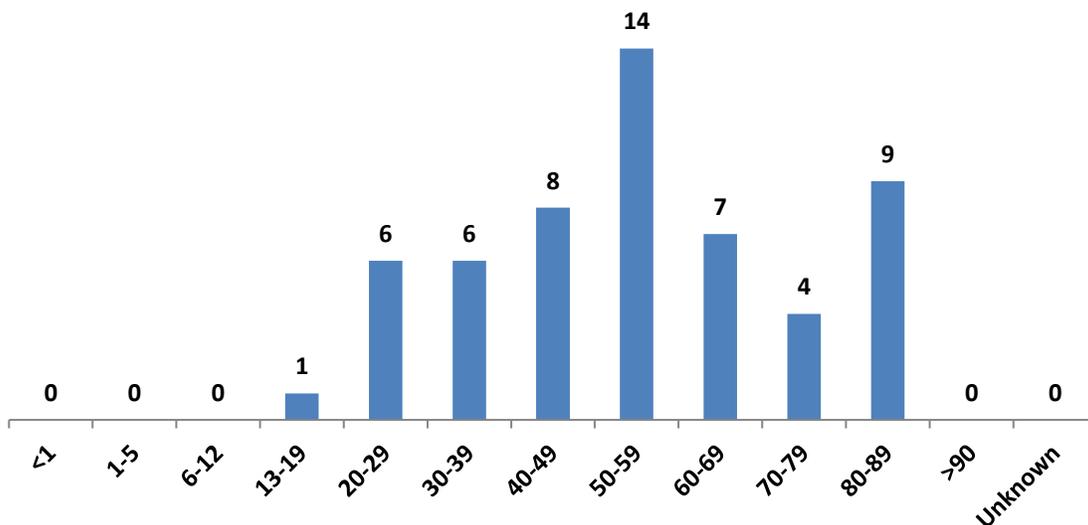
## ACCIDENT DEATHS

The PCOME examined 55 accident deaths from Cochise County in 2017; 33% of total Cochise County deaths certified. Accident victims were most frequently males (65%), between 50-59 years of age (25%) and died as the result of motor vehicle trauma (36%).

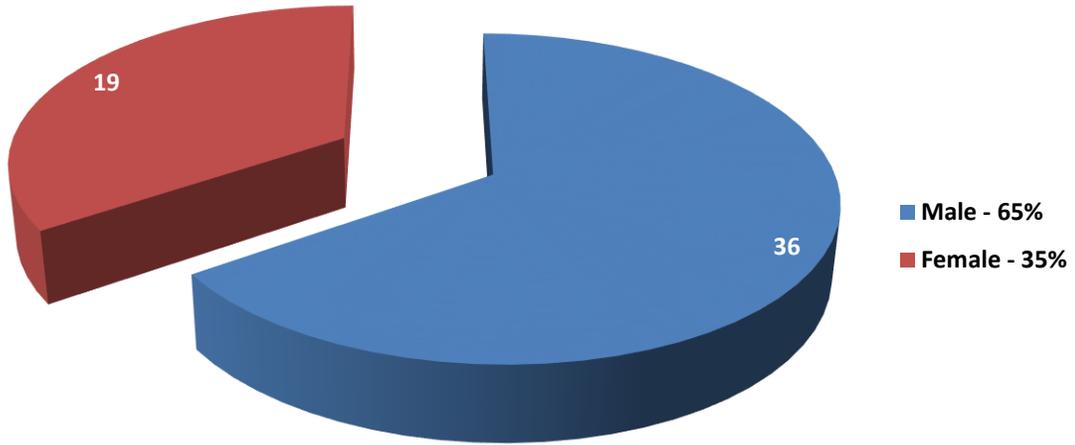
### Cochise County Accident 2013 - 2017



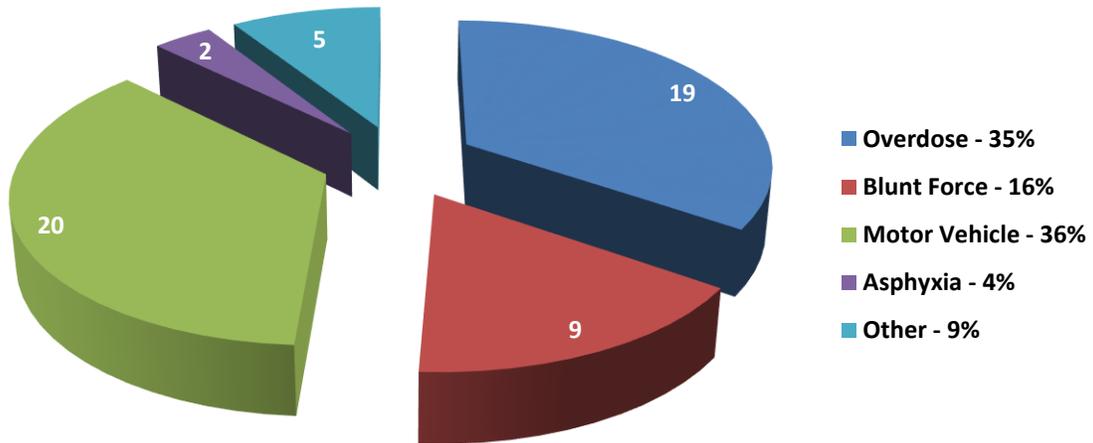
### Cochise County Accident by Age 2017



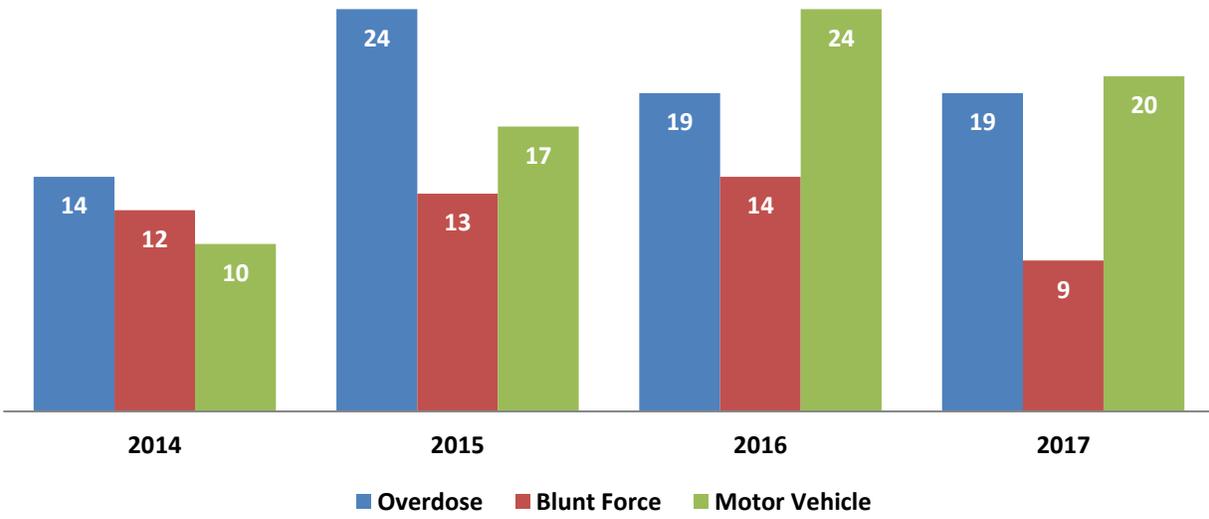
### Cochise County Accident by Sex 2017



### Cochise County Accident by Cause 2017



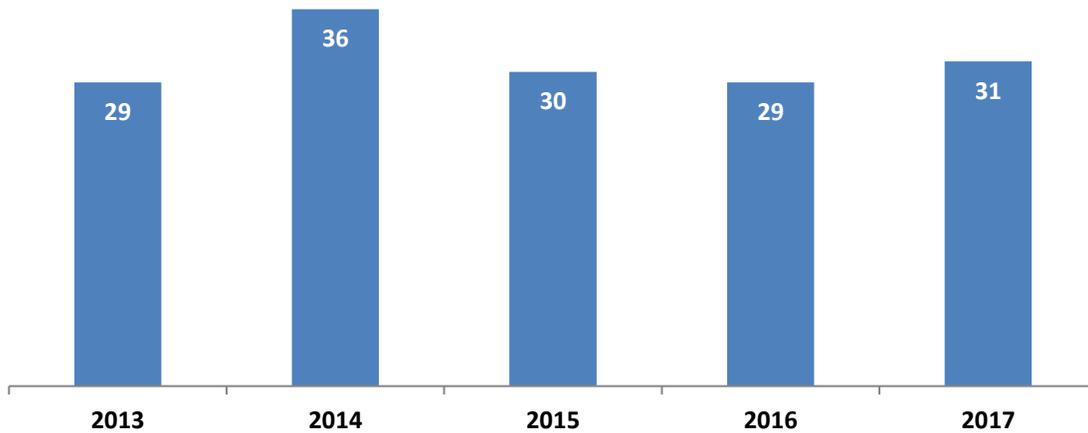
### Cochise County Accident by Cause (Top 3) 2014 - 2017



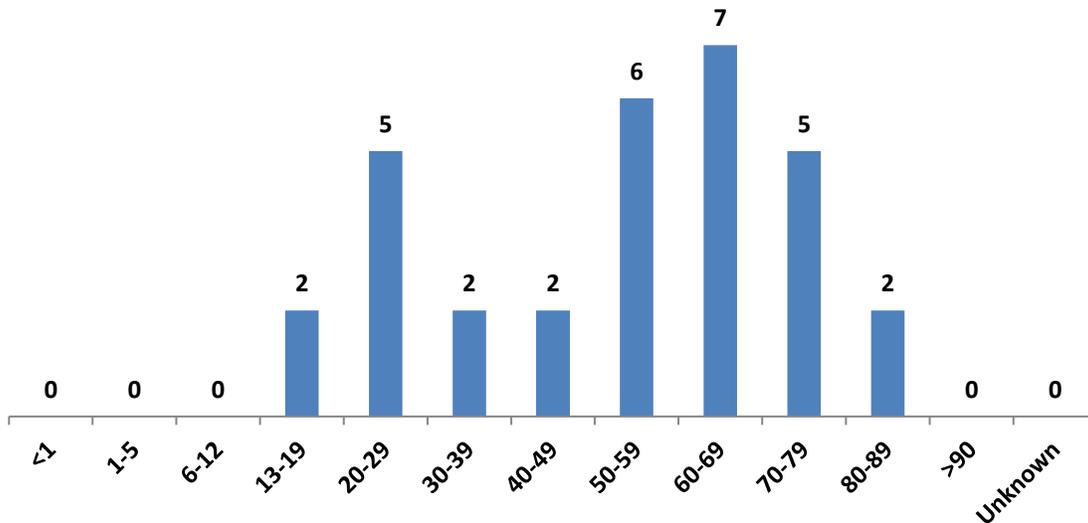
## SUICIDE DEATHS

The PCOME examined 31 suicide deaths from Cochise County in 2017; 19% of total Cochise County deaths certified. Suicide victims were most frequently males (84%), between 60-69 years of age (23%) and died as the result of firearms (84%).

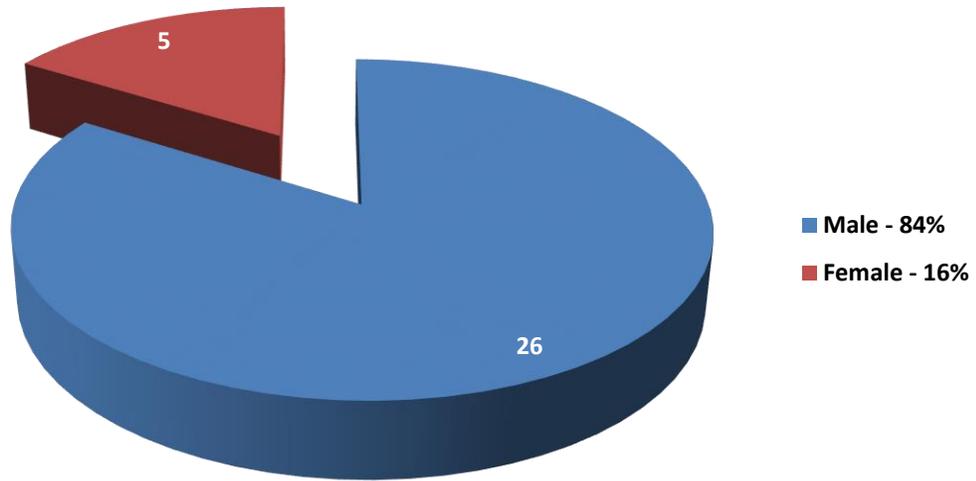
### Cochise County Suicide 2013 - 2017



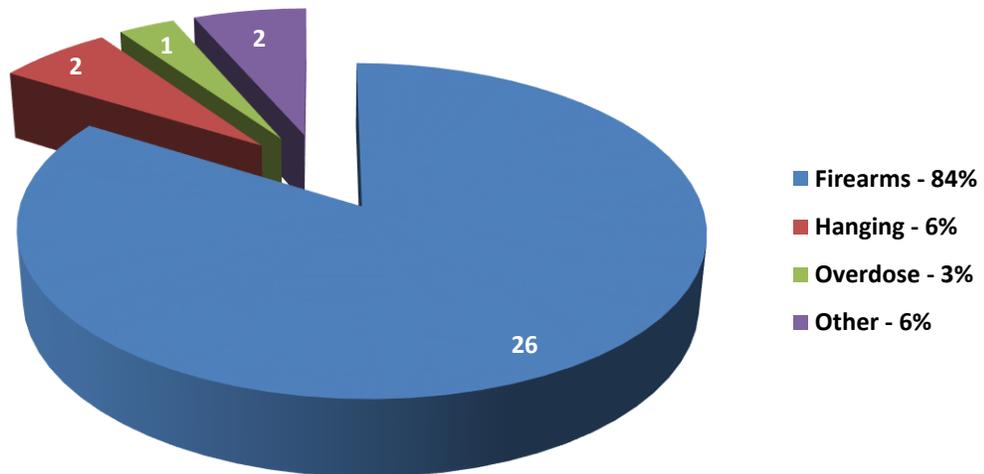
### Cochise County Suicide by Age 2017



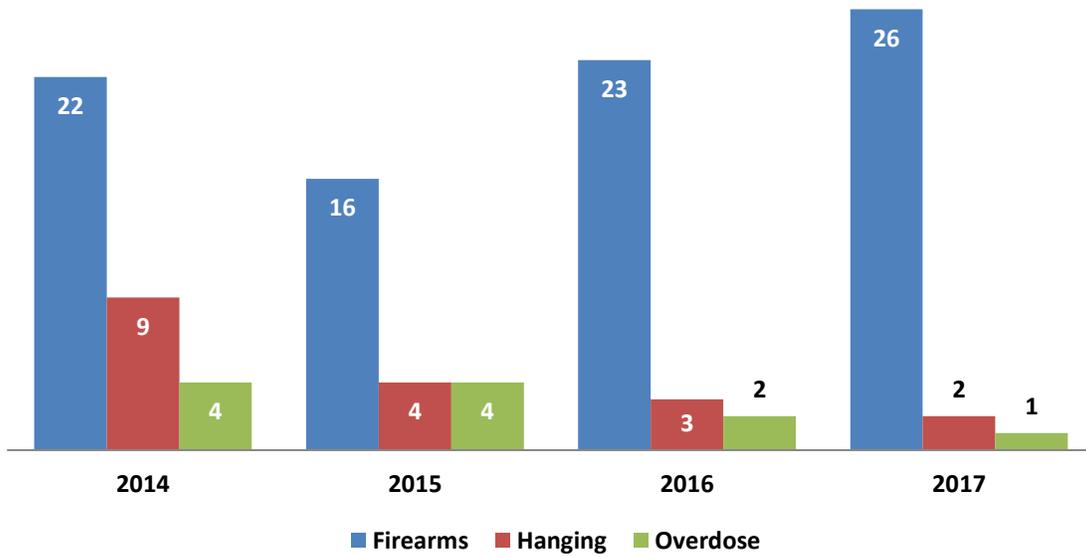
### Cochise County Suicide by Sex 2017



### Cochise County Suicide by Cause 2017



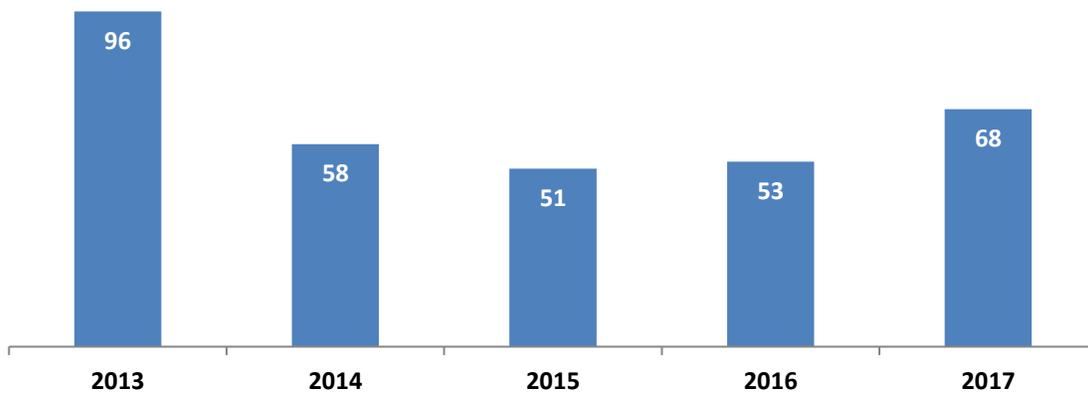
### Cochise County Suicide by Cause (Top 3) 2014 - 2017



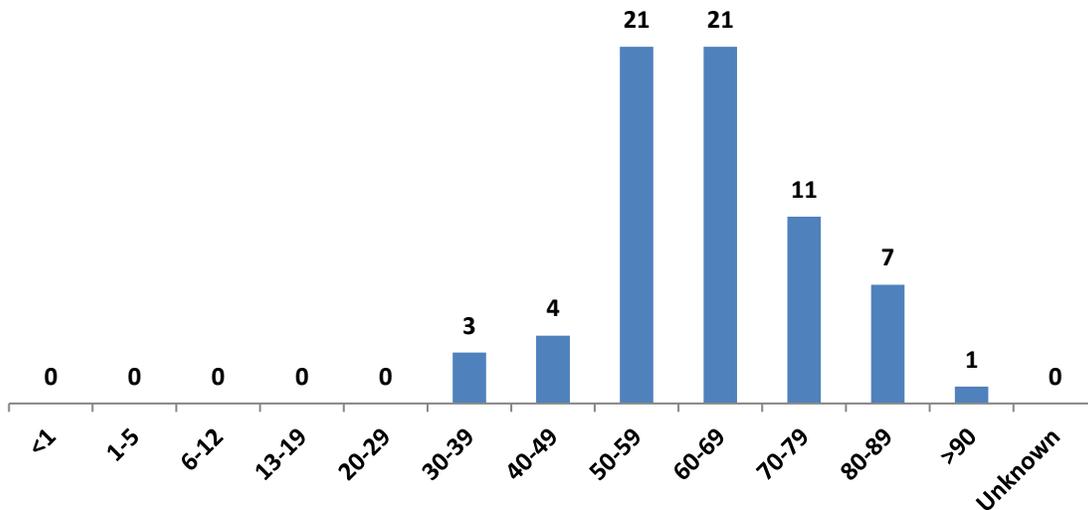
## NATURAL DEATHS

The PCOME examined 68 natural deaths from Cochise County in 2017; 41% of total Cochise County deaths certified. Individuals who died from natural causes were most frequently males (69%), between 50-69 years of age (62%) and died as the result of cardiovascular disease (69%).

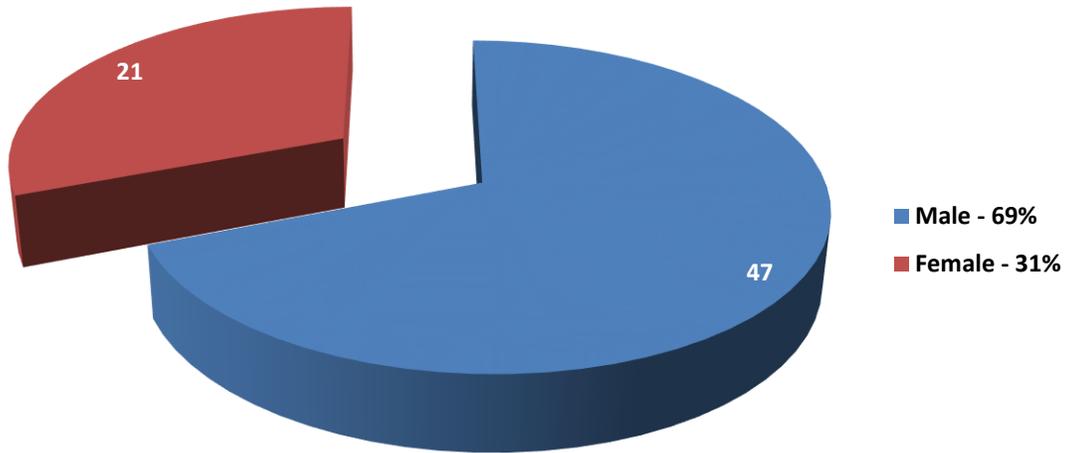
### Cochise County Natural 2013 - 2017



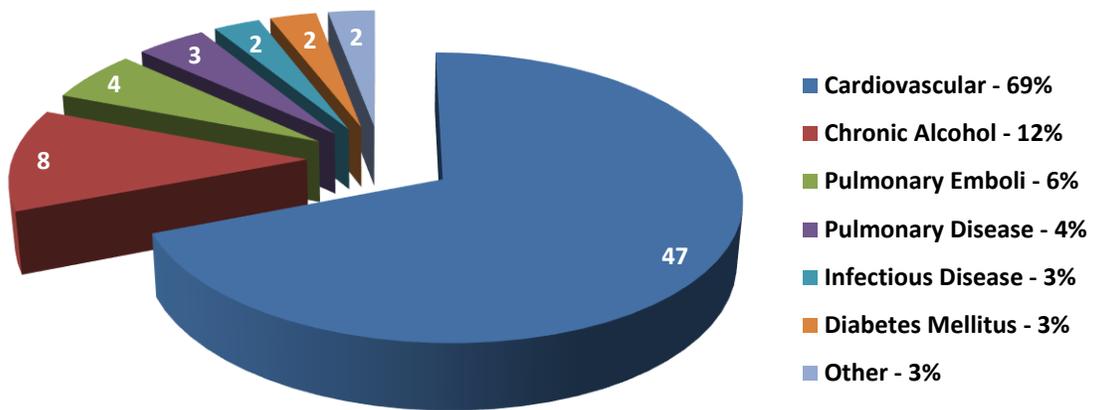
### Cochise County Natural Deaths by Age 2017



### Cochise County Natural Deaths by Sex 2017



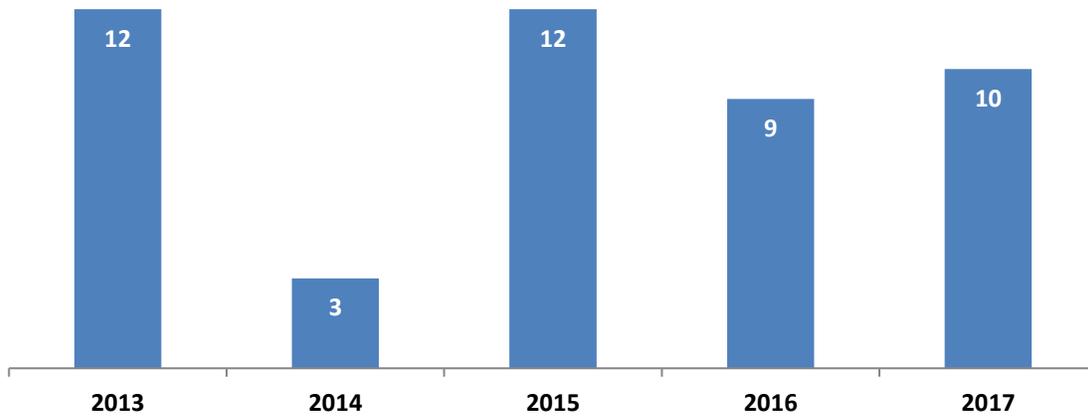
### Cochise County Natural Deaths by Cause 2017



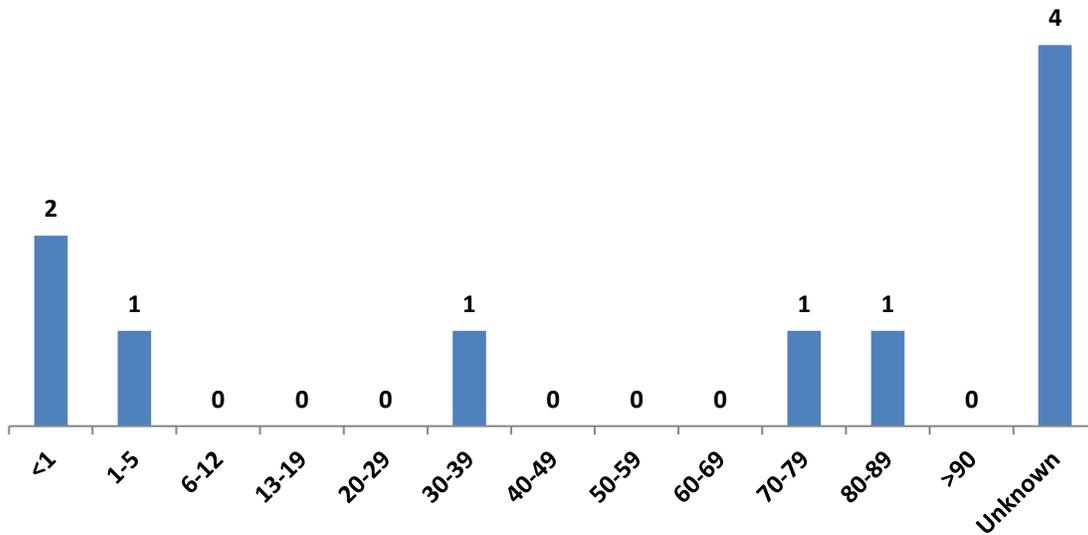
## UNDETERMINED MANNER OF DEATH

The PCOME examined 10 undetermined deaths from Cochise County in 2017; 6% of total Cochise County deaths certified. Individuals who died with an undetermined manner were most frequently males (80%), of unknown age (40%) and died from undetermined causes (90%). Many of these deaths represent skeletal remains of UBCs who died in the deserts of southern Arizona.

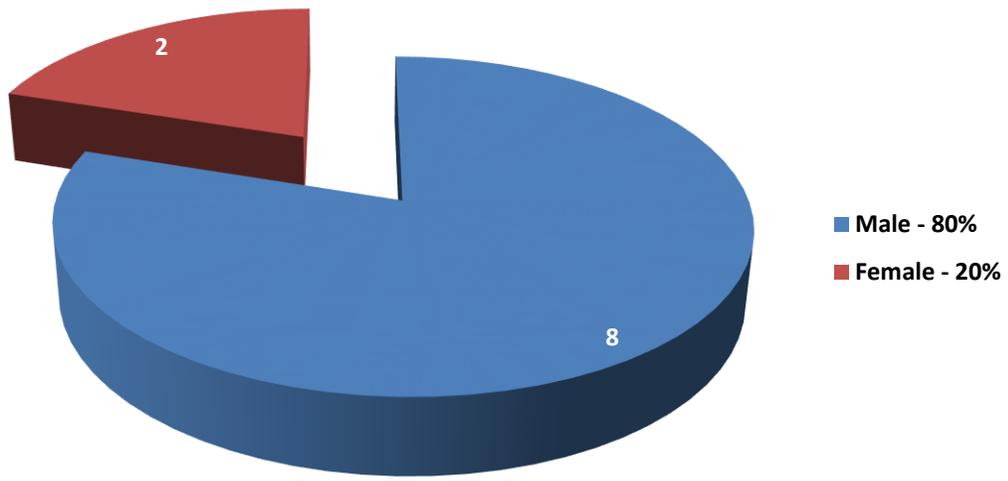
### Cochise County Undetermined 2013 - 2017



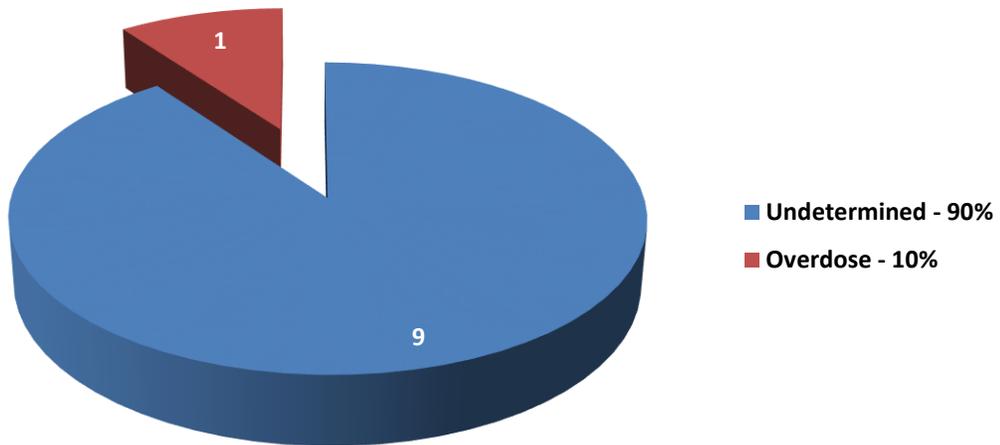
### Cochise County Undetermined Manner of Death by Age 2017



**Cochise County Undetermined Manner of Death by Sex 2017**



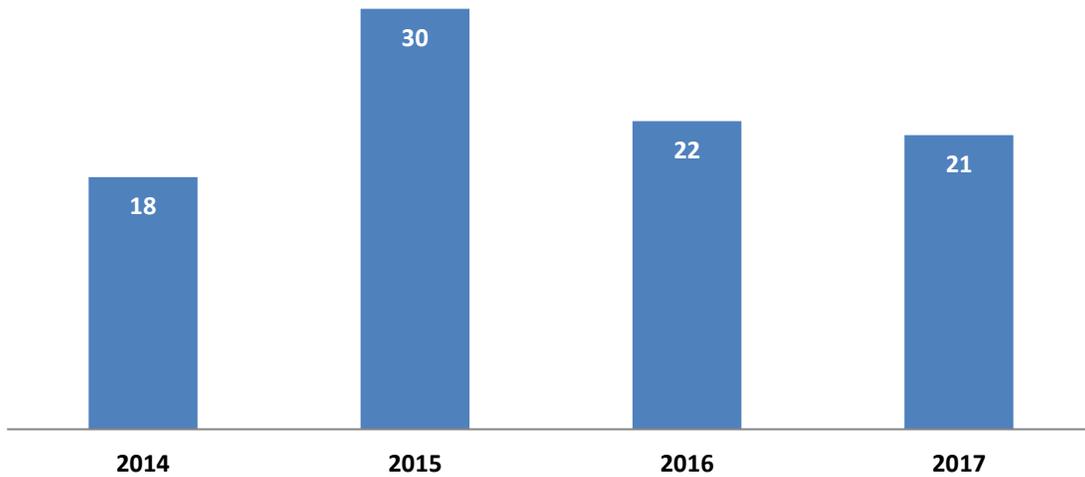
**Cochise County Undetermined Manner of Death by Cause 2017**



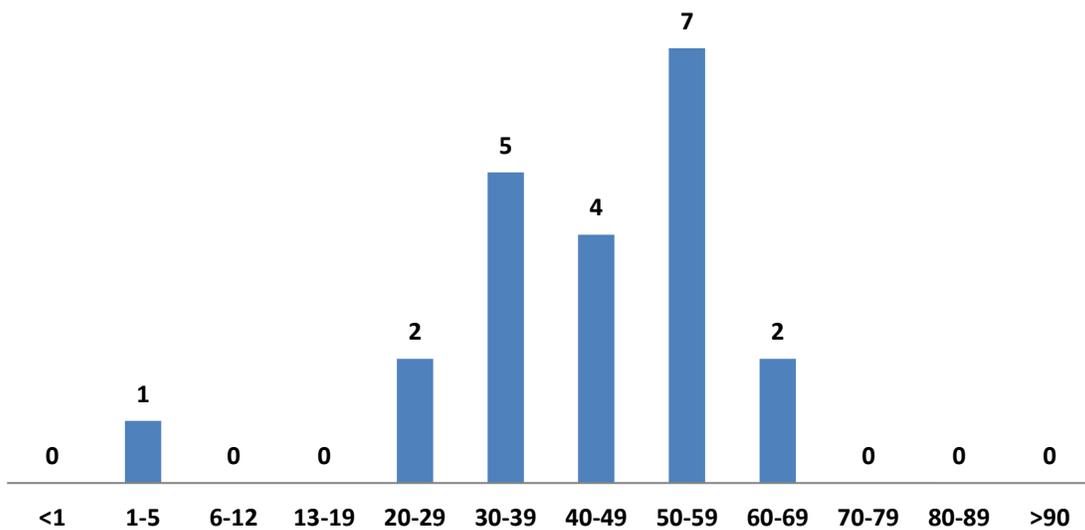
## OVERDOSE DEATHS

There were 21 deaths attributed to an overdose of either a single drug (13 deaths, 62%) or a combination of drugs (8 deaths, 38%) in 2017. Overdose deaths commonly involved males (57%) between the ages of 50-59 (33%). The majority of these deaths were classified as accidents (90%).

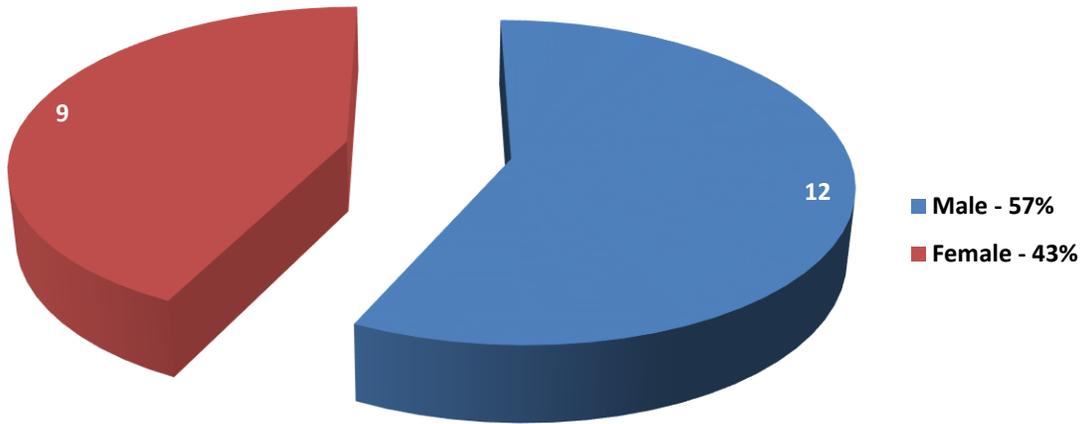
### Cochise County Overdose Deaths 2014 - 2017



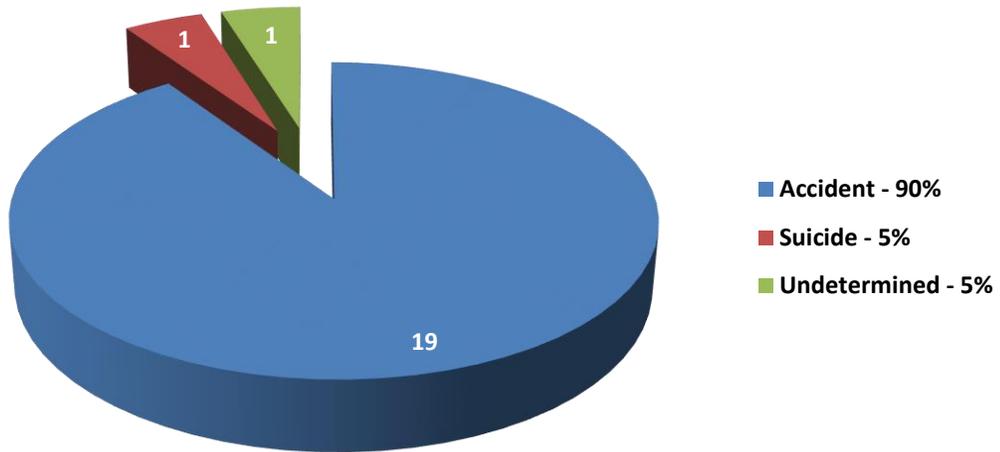
### Cochise County Overdose Deaths by Age 2017



### Cochise County Overdose Deaths by Sex 2017

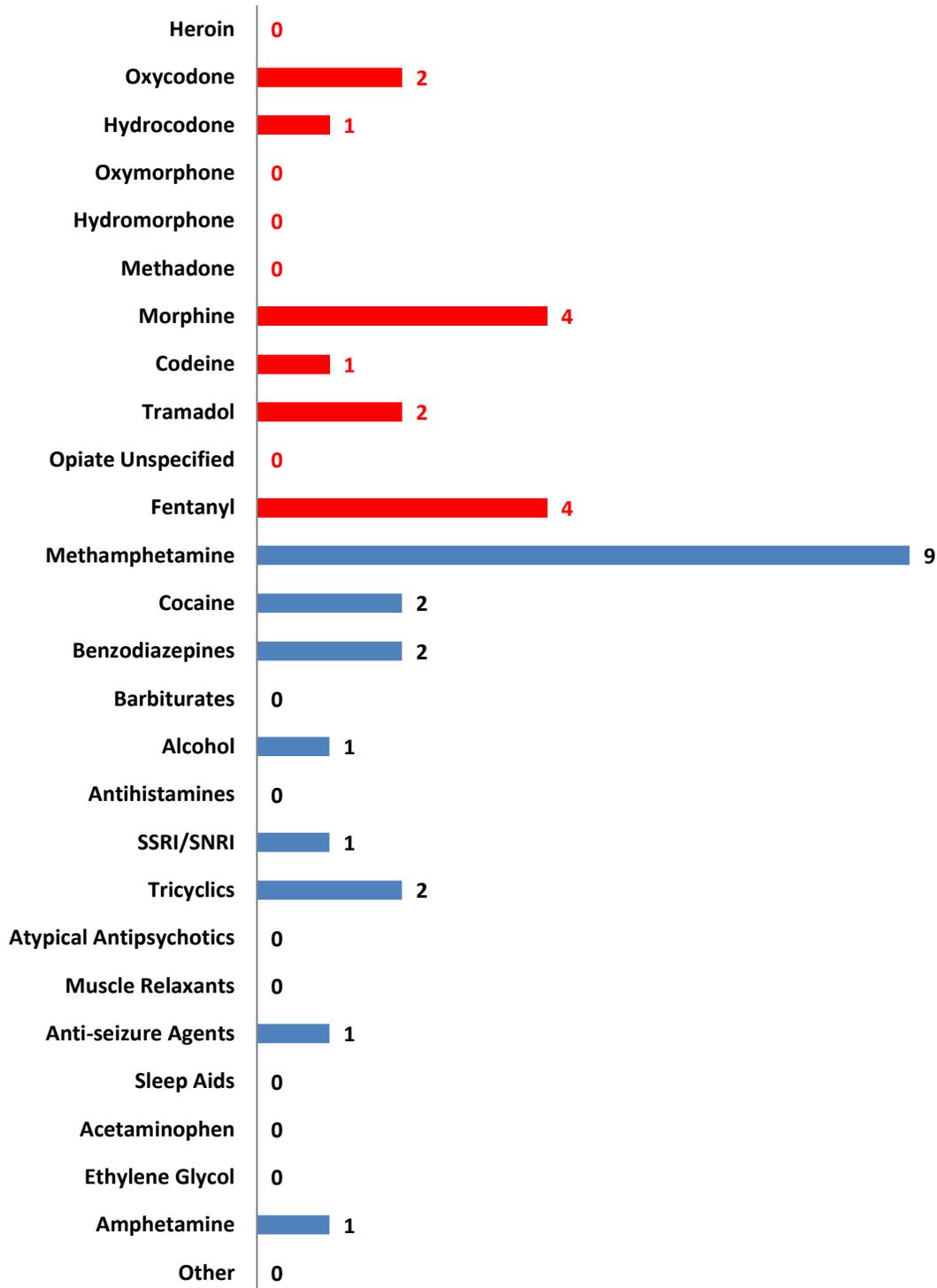


### Cochise County Overdose Deaths by Manner 2017

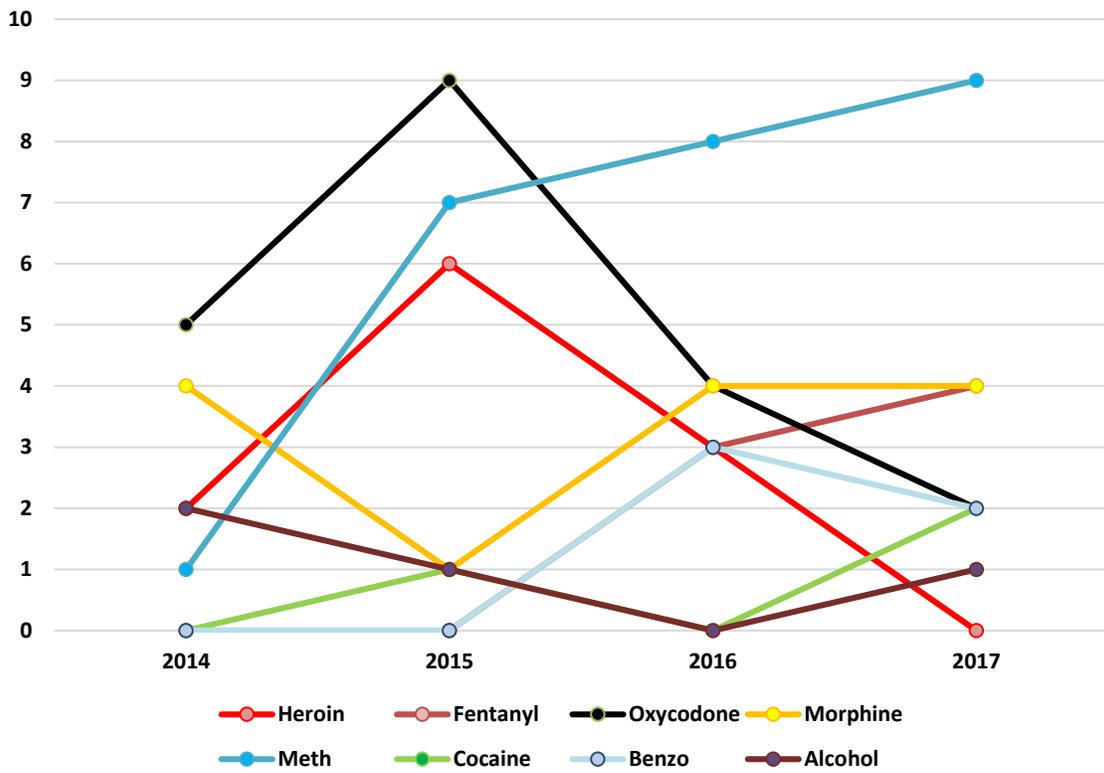


## Cochise County Overdose Deaths by Drug 2017

Opiate compounds are **red**



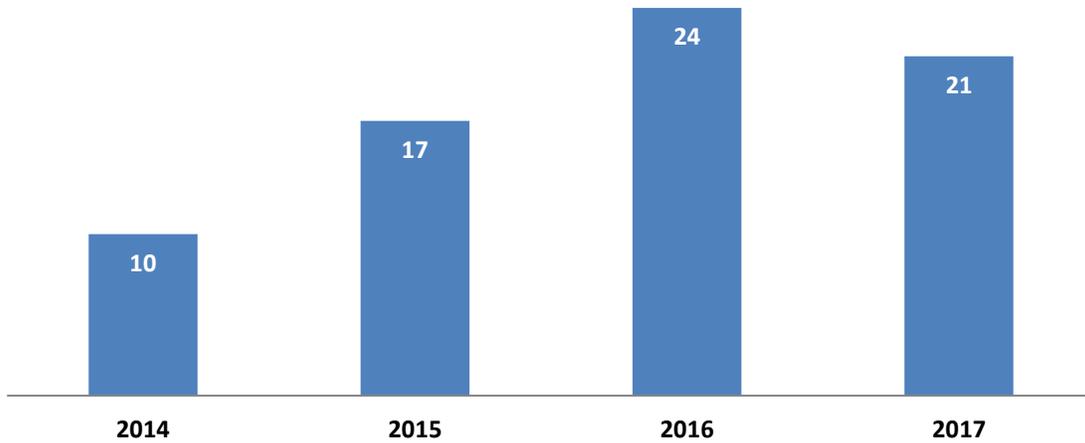
## Cochise County Overdoses by drug by year 2014 - 2017



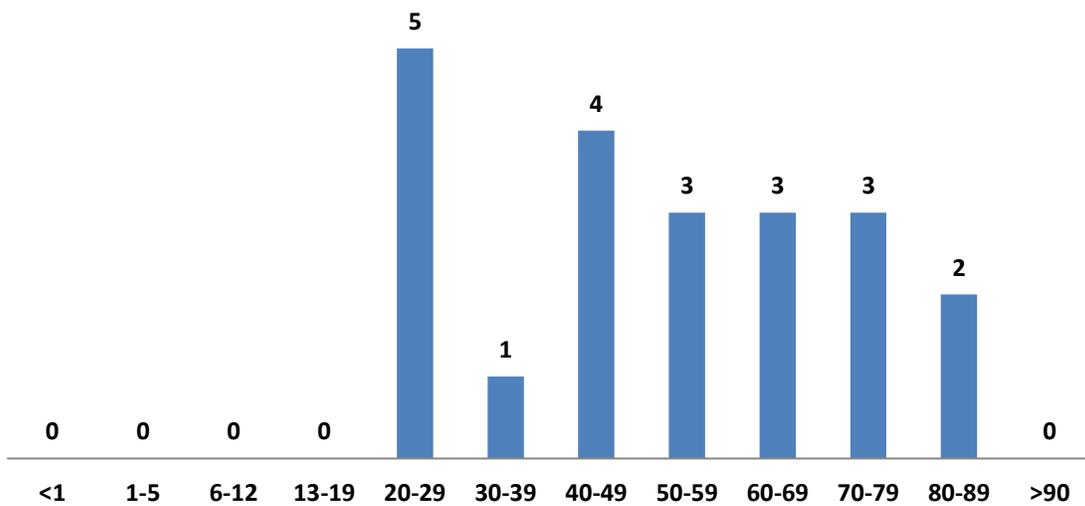
## MOTOR VEHICLE RELATED FATALITIES

Motor vehicle related fatalities accounted for 21 total deaths in Cochise County in 2017. The majority, 11 deaths, were occupants of a motor vehicle involved in an accident (MVA). Of the remaining, 4 were motorcycle accidents (MCA), 4 were pedestrians struck by vehicles, 1 involved an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) and 1 was a pedestrian struck by a vehicle. Individuals who died from motor vehicle related fatalities were most frequently males (62%) and between 20-29 years of age (24%).

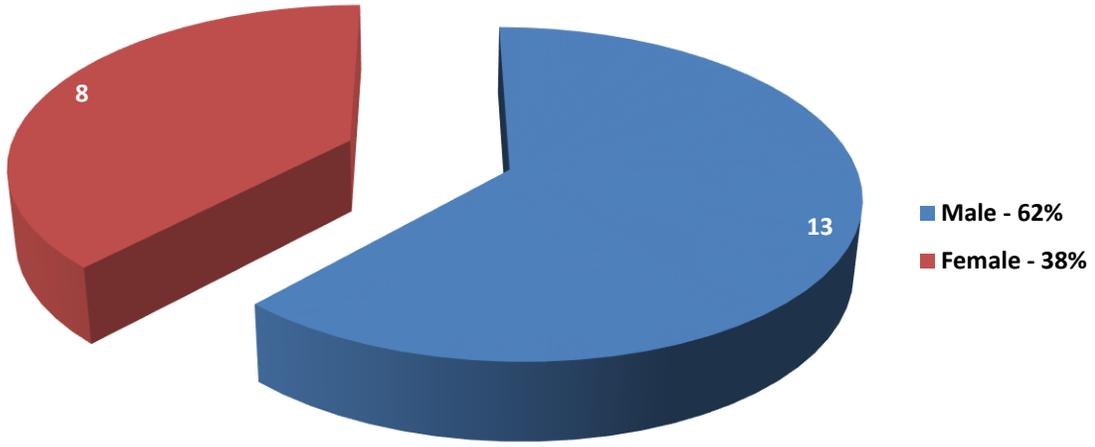
**Cochise County Motor Vehicle Fatalities 2014 - 2017**



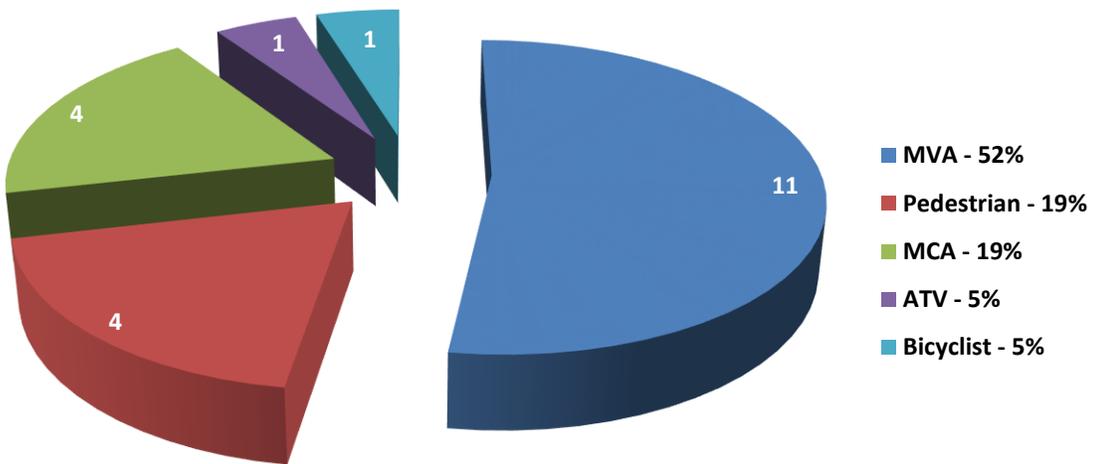
**Cochise County Motor Vehicle Fatalities by Age 2017**



### Cochise County Motor Vehicle Fatalities by Sex 2017



### Cochise County Motor Vehicle Fatalities by Type 2017



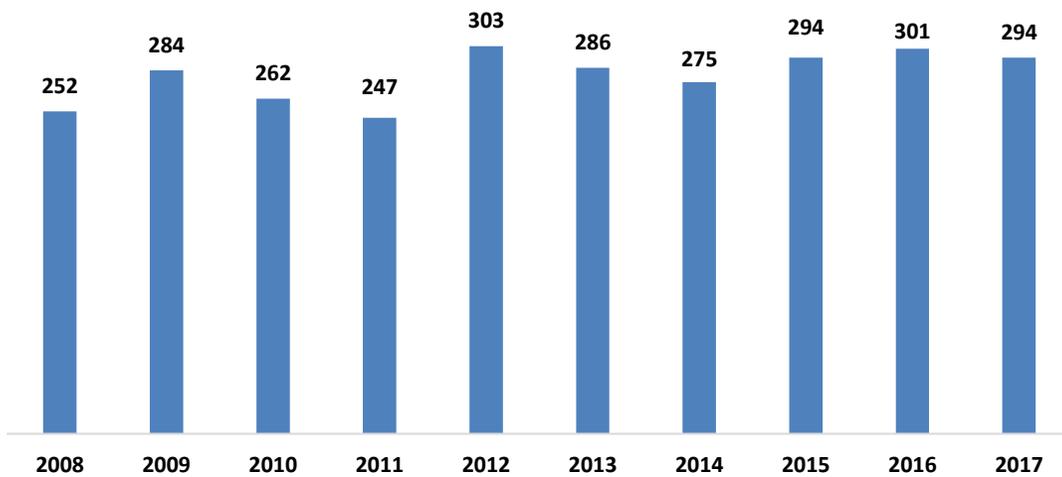
## SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

Santa Cruz County does not maintain an in-county Medical Examiner’s office to conduct death scene investigations, transport or examine remains, or certify deaths reportable to the medical examiner. Nor does Santa Cruz County appoint or contract with an Alternate Medical Examiner. The PCOME acts as the de-facto appointed ME for Santa Cruz County. When deaths occur in Santa Cruz County pursuant to A.R.S. §11-593, Santa Cruz County law enforcement agencies investigate the circumstances of the death and notify the PCOME as necessary.



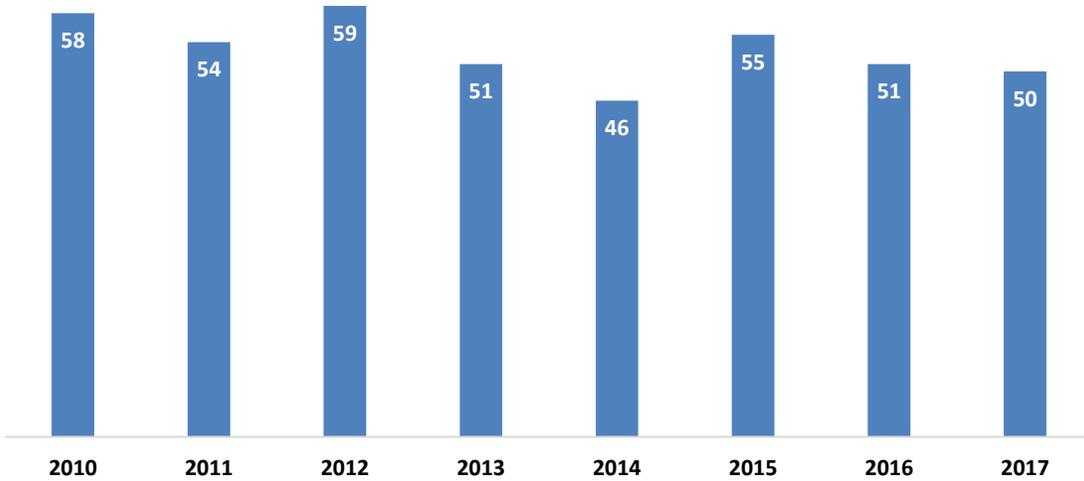
In calendar year 2017 there were 294 deaths in Santa Cruz County; of these 50 (17%) were reported to the PCOME for investigation and/or examination. Some pertinent statistics regarding these deaths are detailed in the tables below.

**Santa Cruz County Mortality by Year 2008 - 2017\***

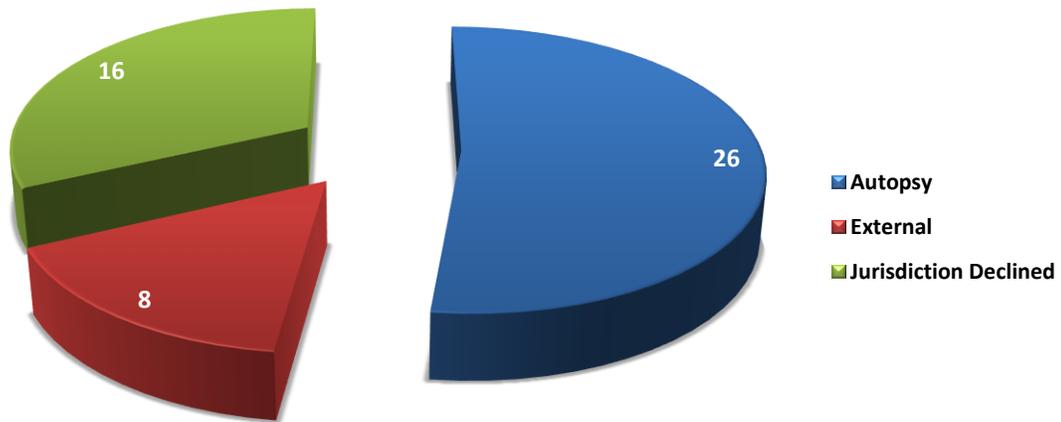


\*Arizona Department of Vital Statistics as of 06/12/2018

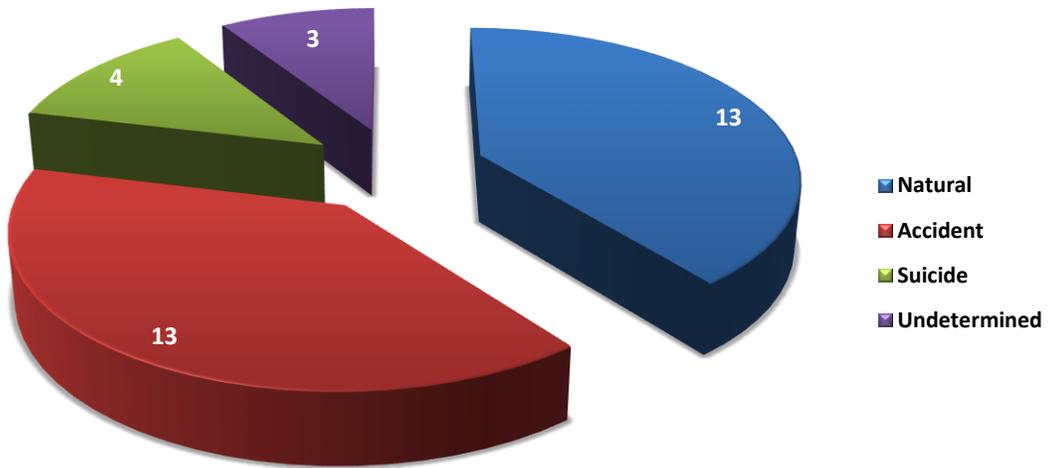
**Santa Cruz County Deaths Reported to the PCOME 2010 - 2017**



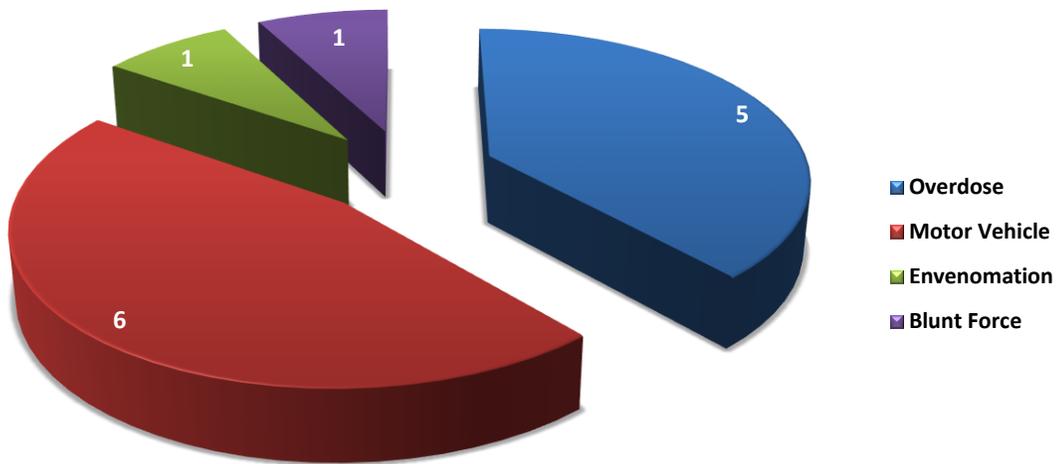
**Santa Cruz County Deaths by Type of Exam 2017**



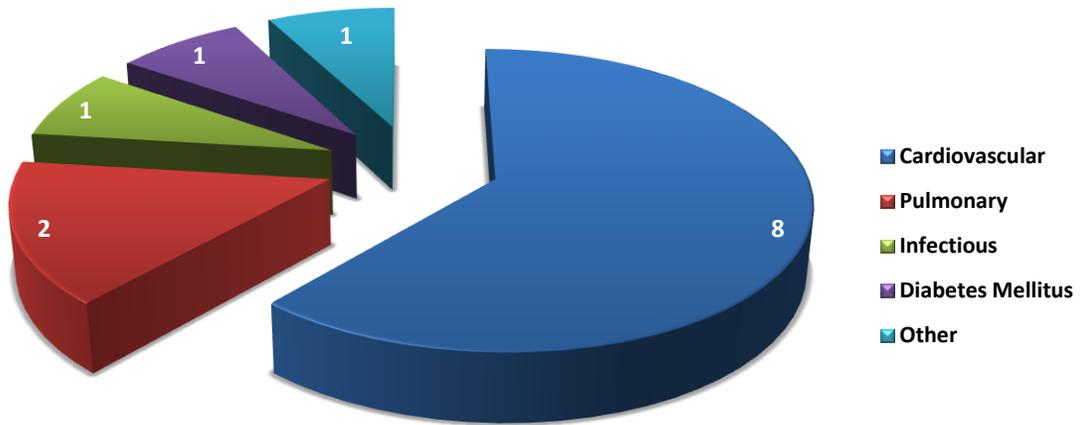
### Santa Cruz County Deaths by Manner of Death 2017



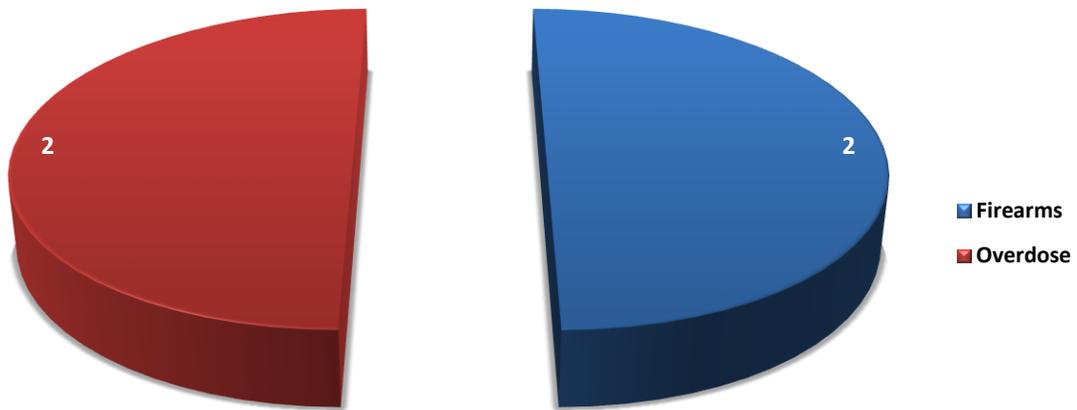
### Santa Cruz County Accidents by Type 2017



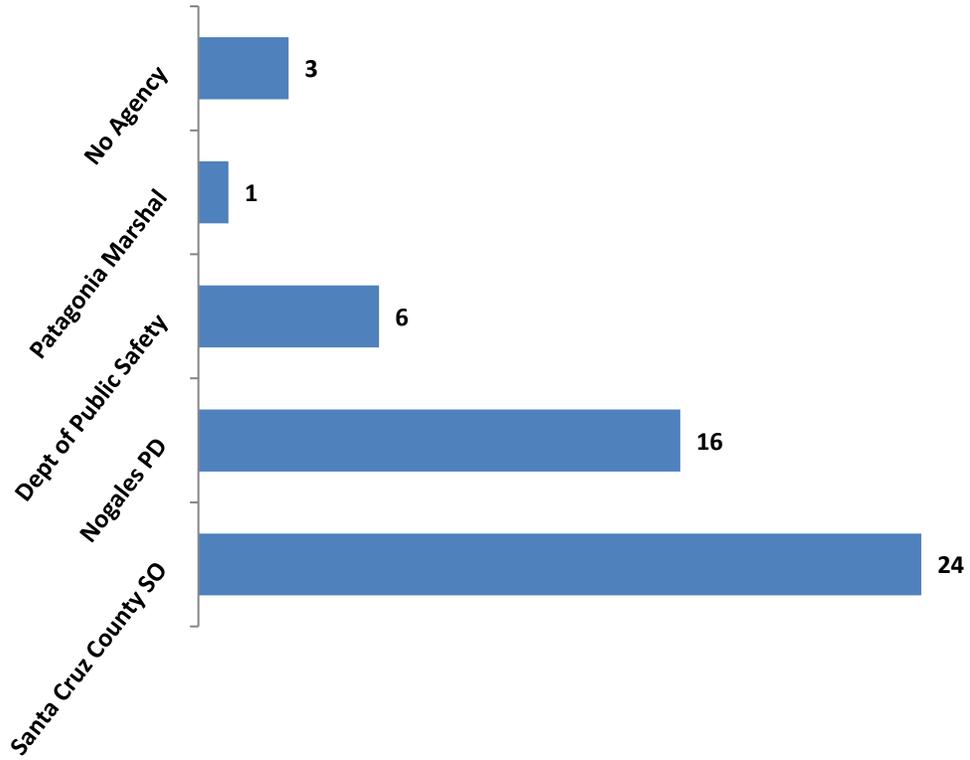
### Santa Cruz County Naturals by Type 2017



### Santa Cruz County Suicides by Type 2017



### Santa Cruz County Deaths by Law Enforcement Agency 2017



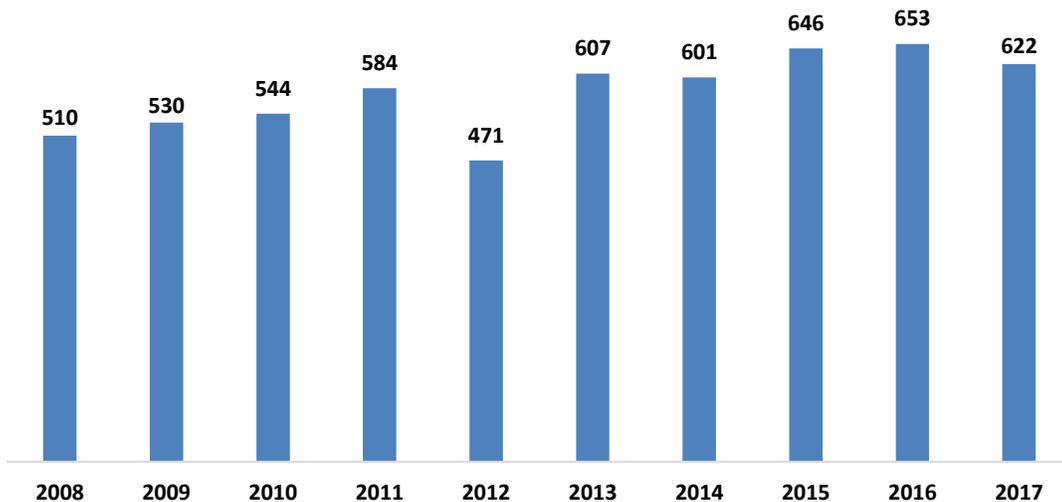
## APACHE COUNTY

Apache County contracts with an appointed non-Forensic Pathologist physician(s), termed an Alternate Medical Examiner(s) (AME) (A.R.S. §11-591); who triages, investigates and certifies deaths that fall under the jurisdiction of the medical examiner in Apache County. The Apache County AME does not perform autopsy examinations and if the AME deems an autopsy is necessary to certify the cause and manner of death, the decedent may be referred to the PCOME for an examination and death certification. The PCOME is not aware of how many deaths occurring in Apache County are reported to the Apache County AME, nor the total number or types of deaths certified by the AME. The PCOME only has a record of deaths reported to, or referred for examination to Pima County. Deaths on Native American tribal lands do not have to be reported through the respective death investigation system of that County and may be reported directly to the PCOME as necessary for the needs of the appropriate agency investigating that death (Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), FBI or local tribal police departments).



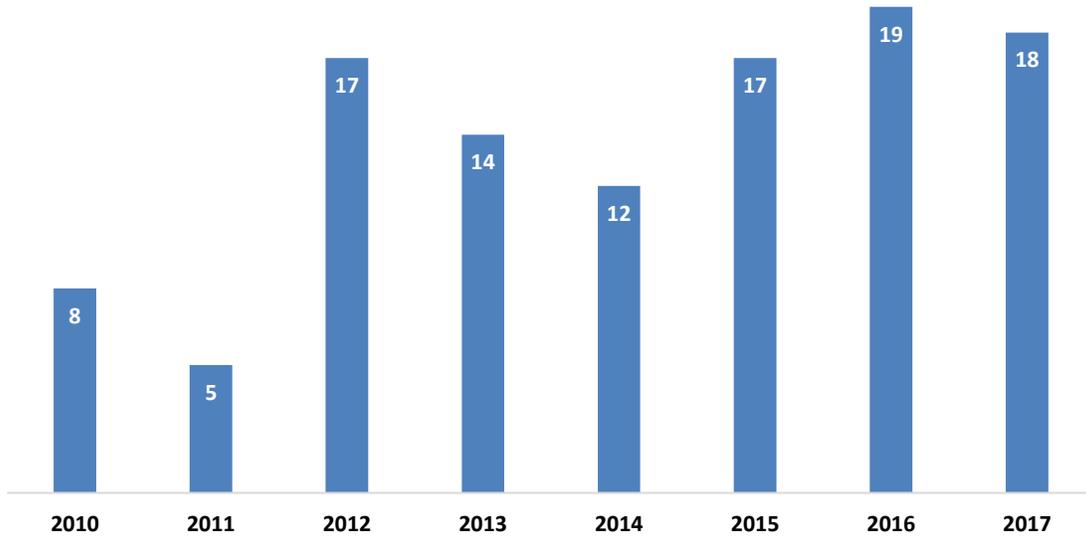
Eighteen deaths from Apache County were reported to the PCOME in 2017, 15 of which required autopsy examinations. Some pertinent statistics regarding these deaths are detailed in the tables and graphs below.

**Apache County Mortality by Year 2008 - 2017\***

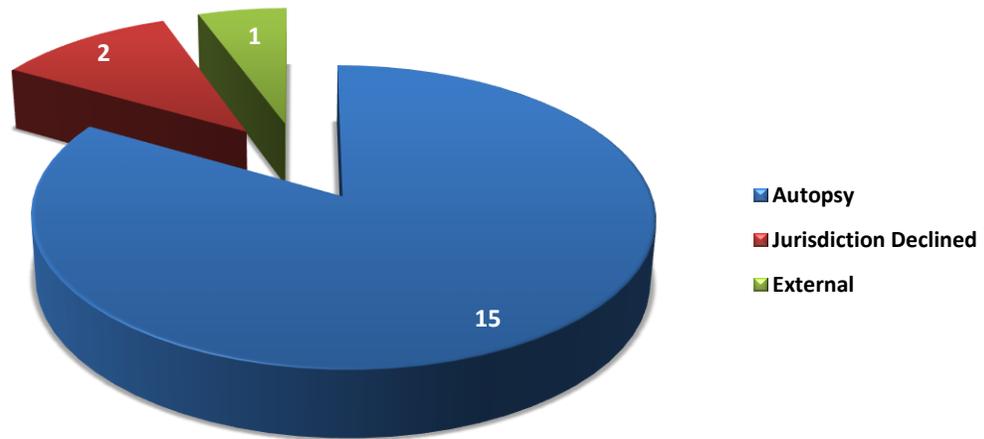


\*Arizona Department of Vital Statistics as of 06/12/18

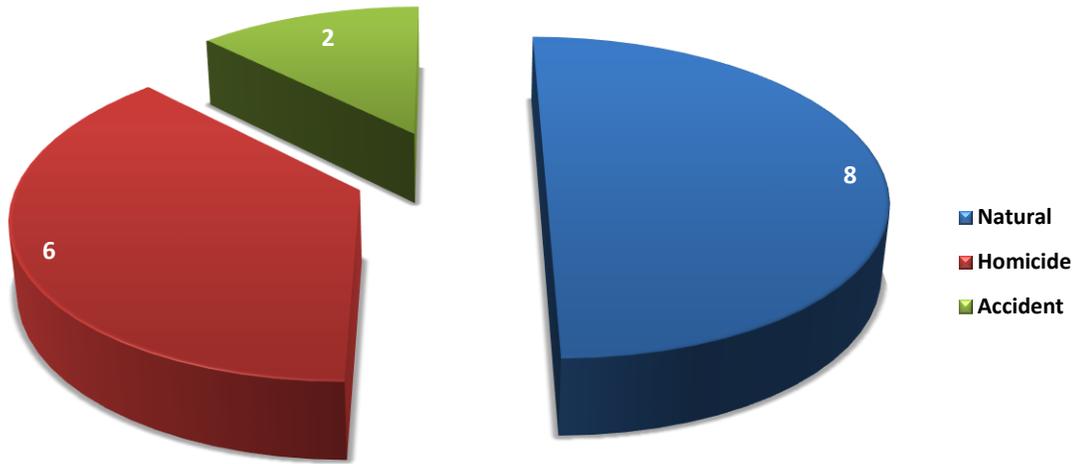
### Apache County Deaths Reported to the PCOME 2010 - 2017



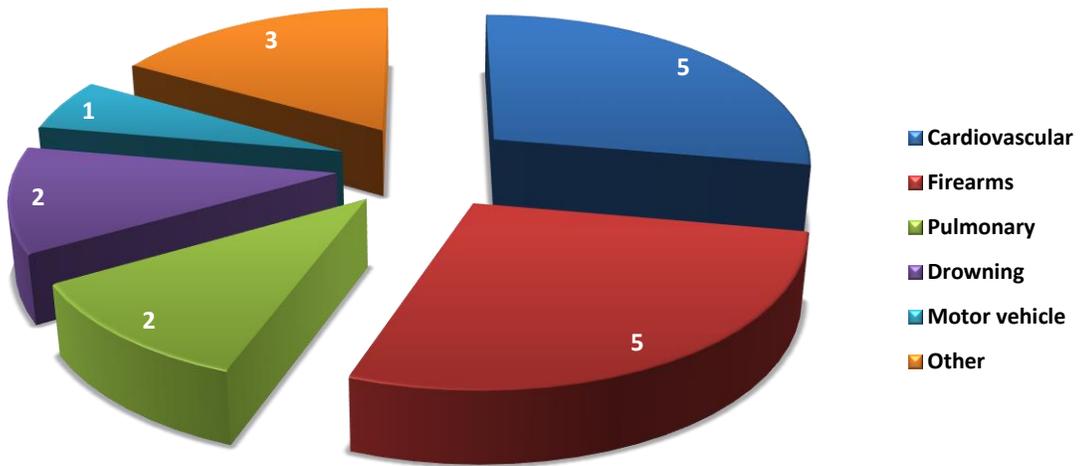
### Apache County Deaths by Type of Exam 2017



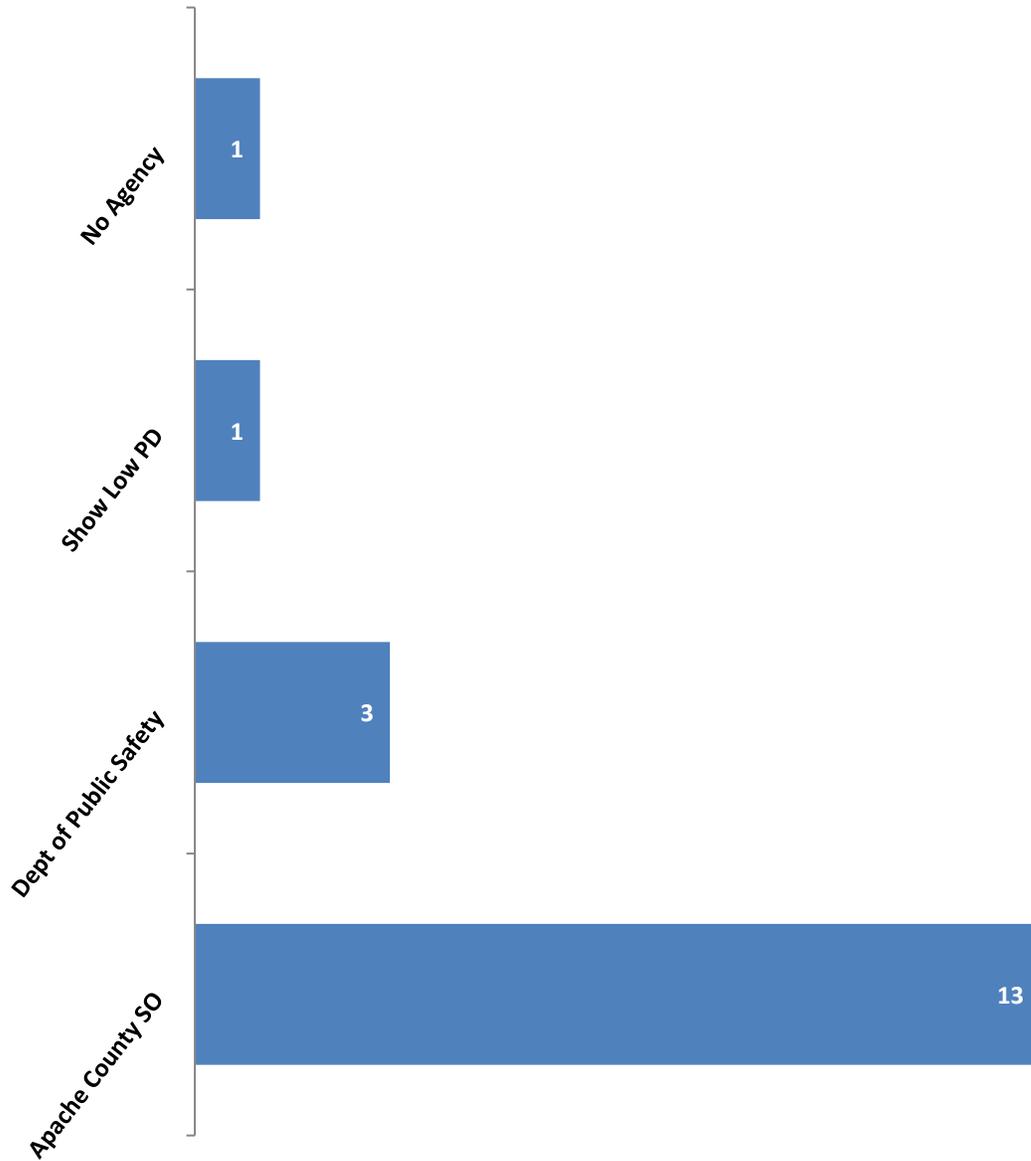
### Apache County Deaths by Manner of Death 2017



### Apache County Deaths by Type of Death 2017

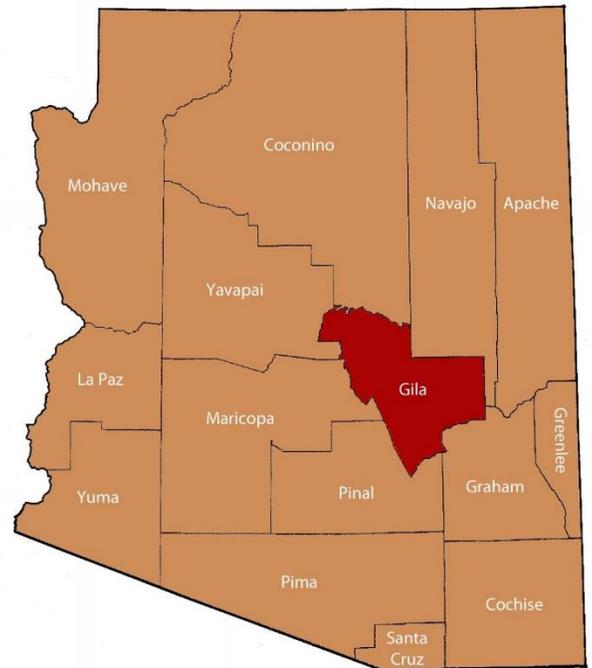


### Apache County Deaths by Law Enforcement Agency 2017



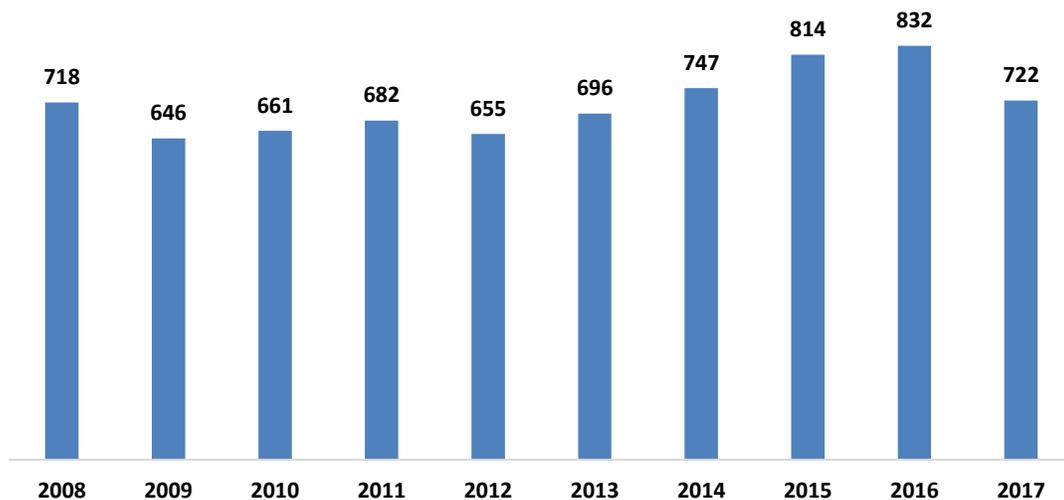
## GILA COUNTY

Gila County contracts with an appointed Forensic Pathologist Medical Examiner, who triages, investigates and certifies deaths that fall under the jurisdiction of the medical examiner (ME) in Gila County. The Gila County ME performs some autopsy examinations in Payson if the ME deems an autopsy is necessary to certify the cause and manner of death. Additionally, the ME may refer some decedents from Gila County to the PCOME for an examination and death certification as necessary. The PCOME is not aware of how many deaths occurring in Gila County are reported to the ME, nor the total number or types of deaths certified by the ME. The PCOME only has a record of deaths reported to, or referred for examination to Pima County. Deaths on Native American tribal lands do not have to be reported through the respective death investigation system of that County and may be reported directly to the PCOME as necessary for the needs of the appropriate agency investigating that death (BIA, FBI or local tribal police departments).



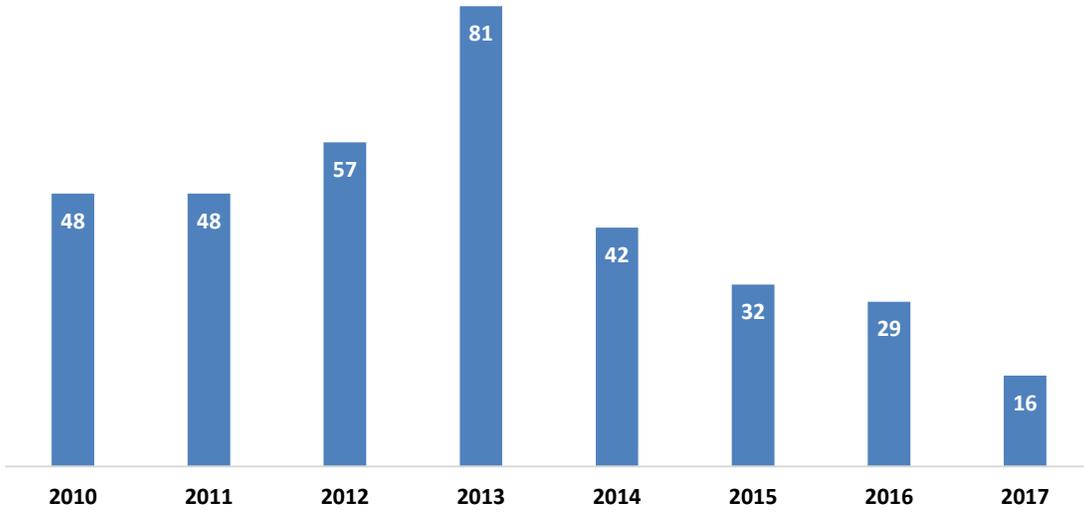
Sixteen deaths from Gila County were reported to the PCOME in 2017, 15 of which required autopsy examinations. Some pertinent statistics regarding these deaths are detailed in the tables and graphs below.

**Gila County Mortality by Year 2008 - 2017\***

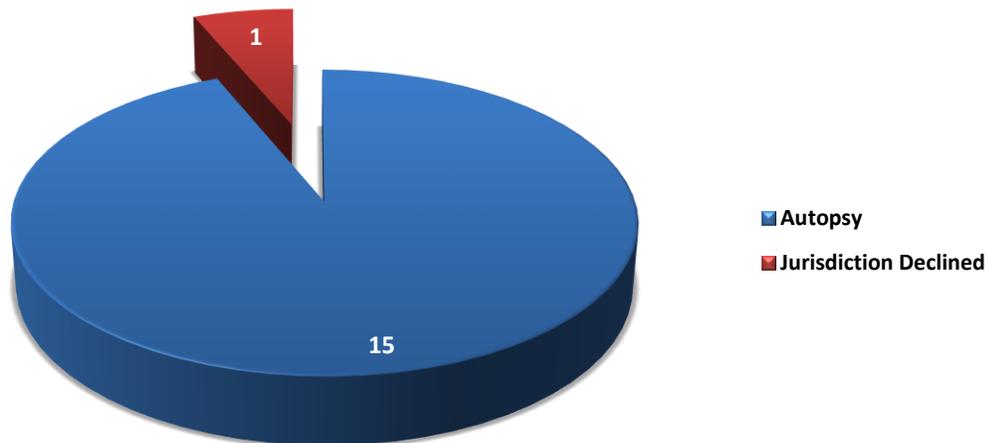


\*Arizona Department of Vital Statistics as of 06/12/2018

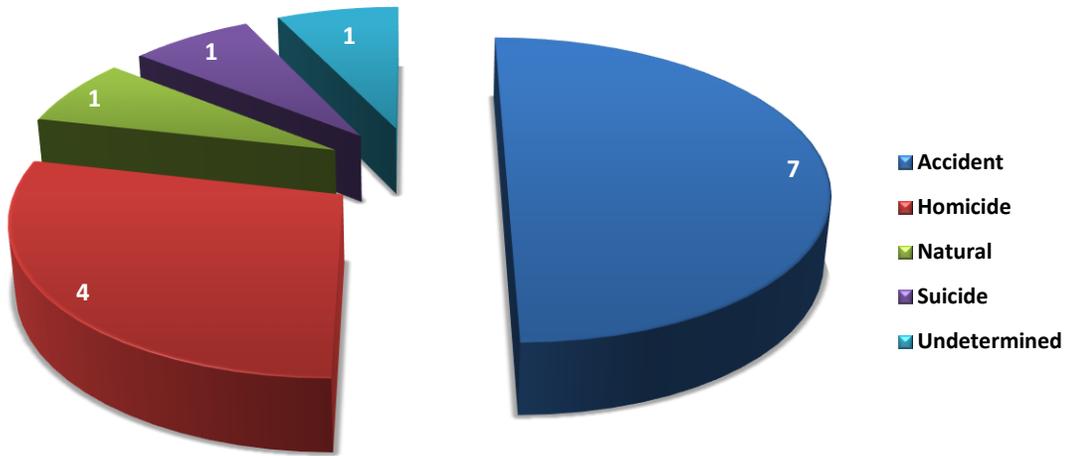
### Gila County Deaths Reported to the PCOME 2010 - 2017



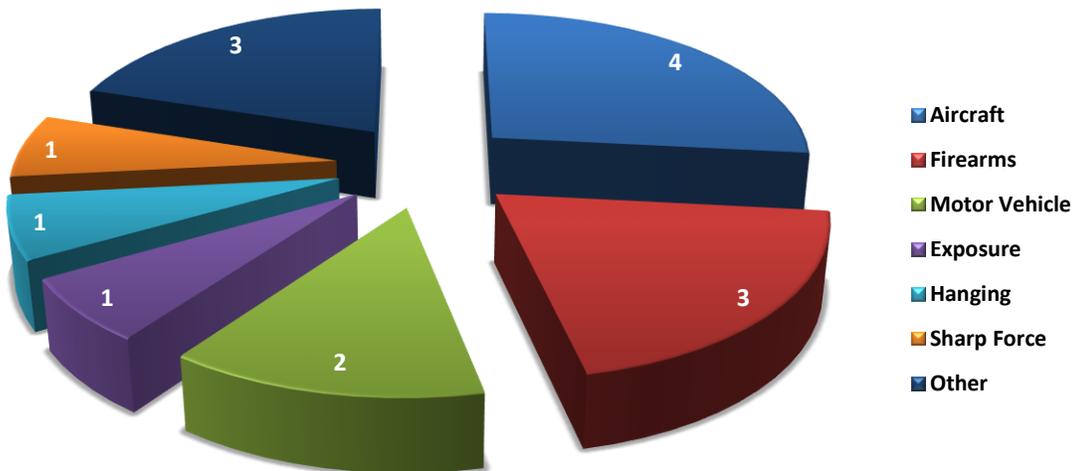
### Gila County Deaths by Type of Exam 2017



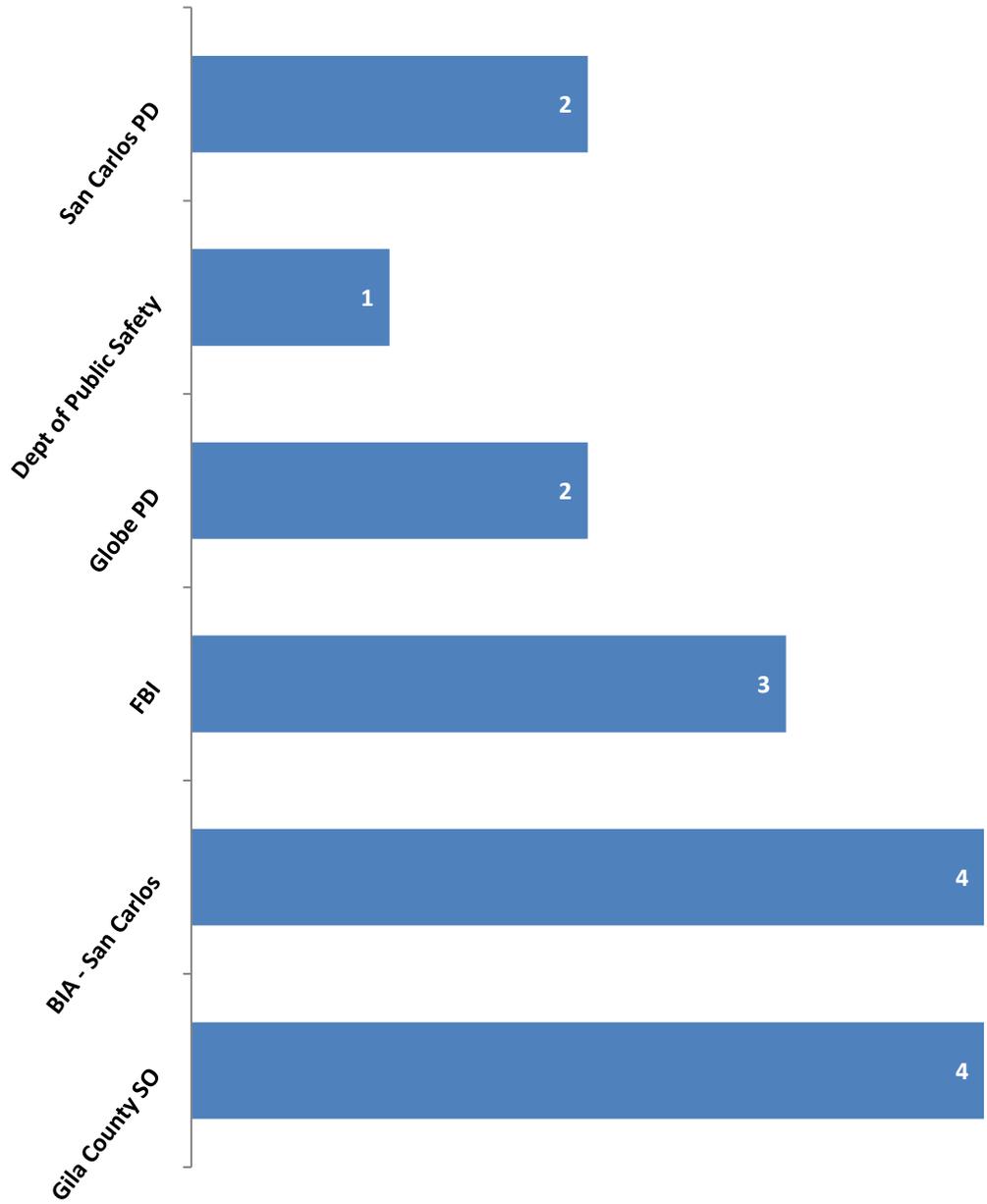
### Gila County Deaths by Manner of Death 2017



### Gila County Deaths by Type of Death 2017



### Gila County Deaths by Law Enforcement Agency 2017



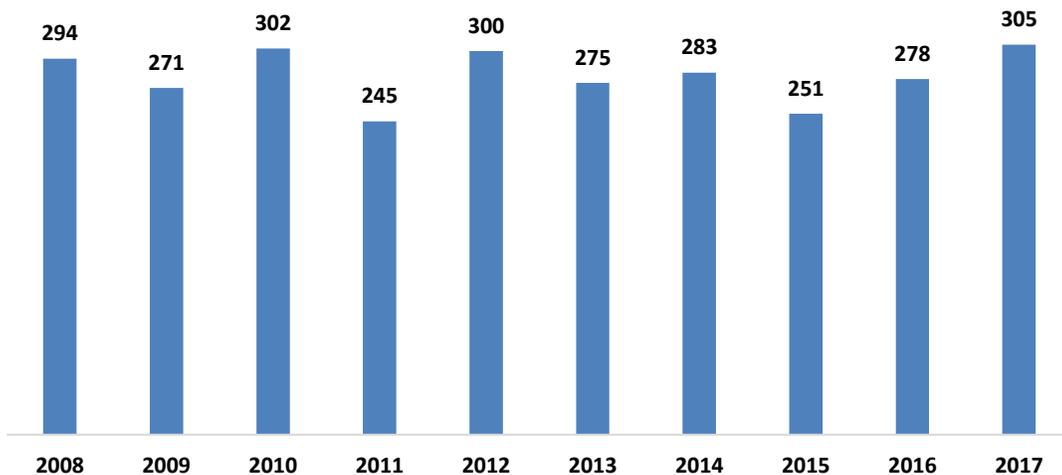
## GRAHAM COUNTY

Graham County contracts with an appointed non-Forensic Pathologist physician(s), termed an Alternate Medical Examiner(s) (AME) (A.R.S. §11-591), who triages, investigates and certifies deaths that fall under the jurisdiction of the medical examiner in Graham County. The Graham County AME does not perform autopsy examinations and if the AME deems an autopsy is necessary to certify the cause and manner of death, the decedent may be referred to the PCOME for an examination and death certification. The PCOME is not aware of how many deaths occurring in Graham County are reported to the Graham County AME, nor the total number or types of deaths certified by the AME. The PCOME only has a record of deaths reported to, or referred for examination to Pima County. Deaths on Native American tribal lands do not have to be reported through the respective death investigation system of that County and may be reported directly to the PCOME as necessary for the needs of the appropriate agency investigating that death (BIA, FBI or local tribal police departments).



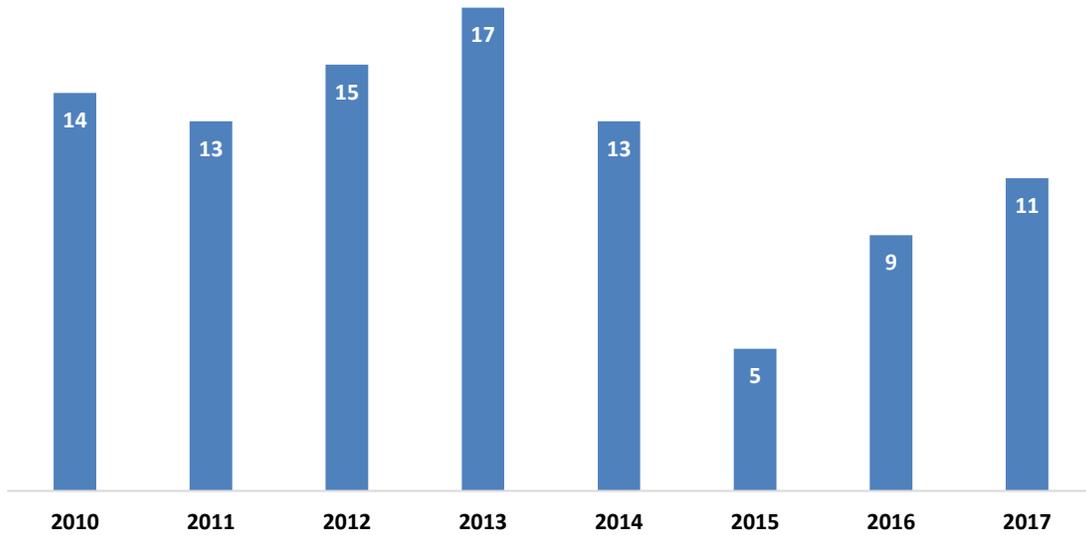
Eleven deaths from Graham County were reported to the PCOME in 2017, ten of which required autopsy examinations. Some pertinent statistics regarding these deaths are detailed in the tables and graphs below.

**Graham County Mortality by Year 2008 - 2017\***

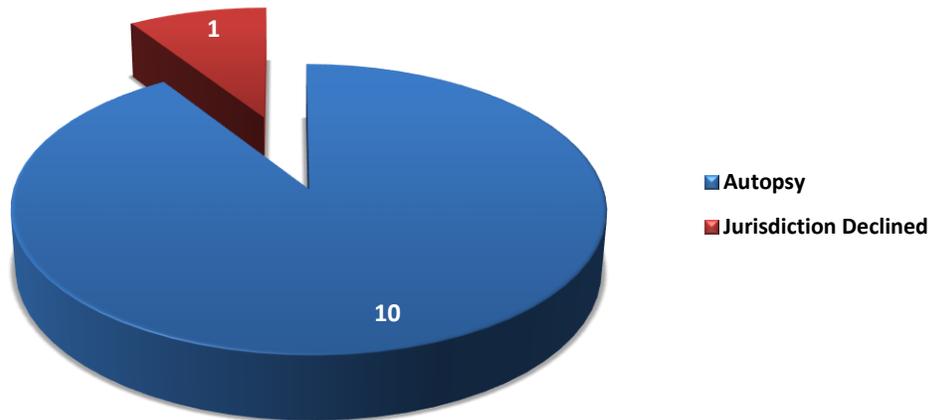


\*Arizona Department of Vital Statistics as of 06/12/2018

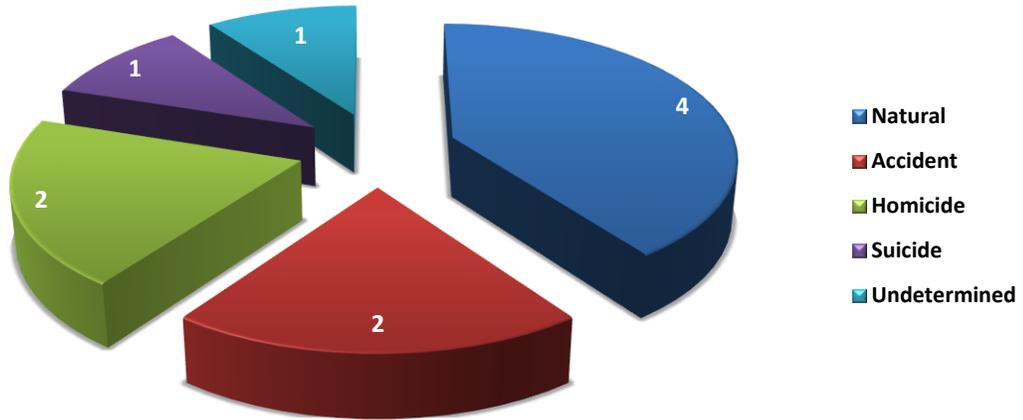
### Graham County Deaths Reported to the PCOME 2010 - 2017



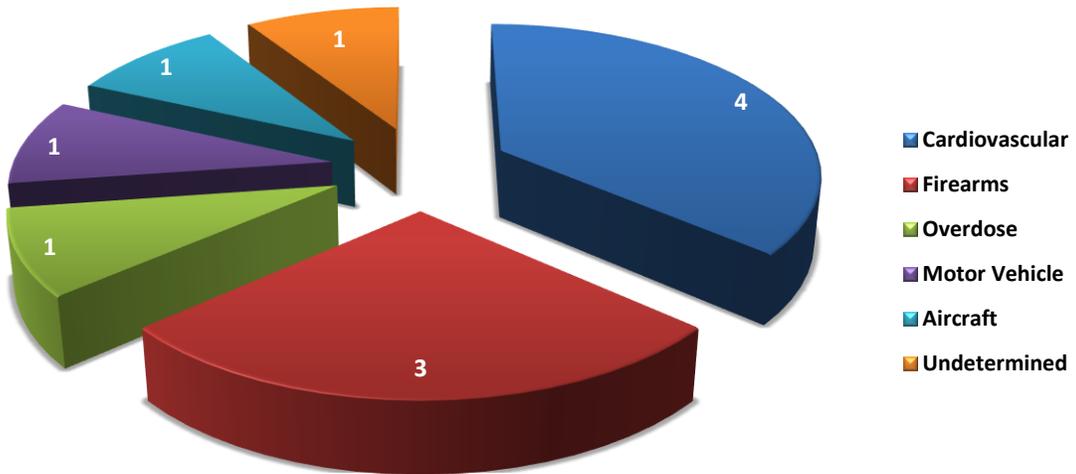
### Graham County Deaths by Type of Exam 2017



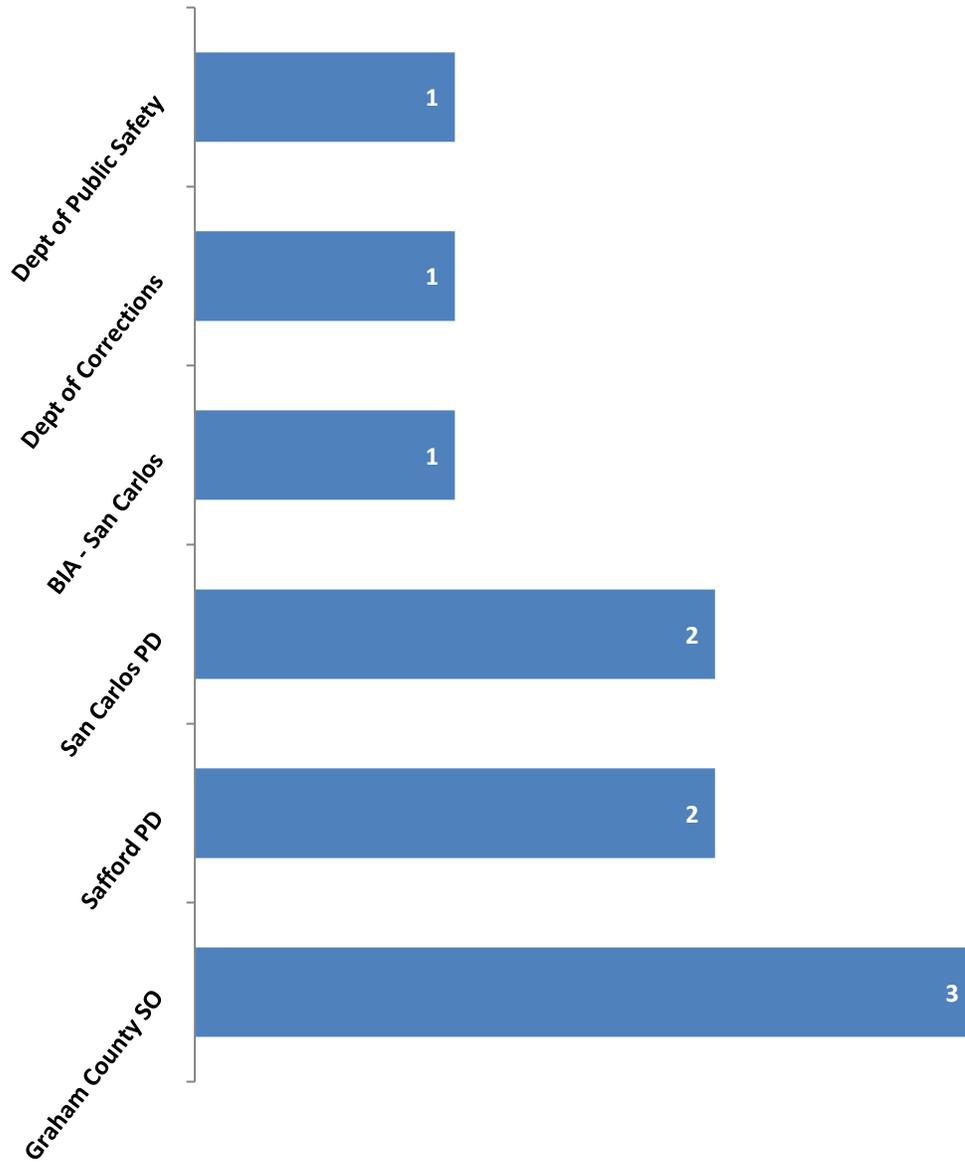
### Graham County Deaths by Manner of Death 2017



### Graham County Deaths by Type of Death 2017



### Graham County Deaths by Law Enforcement Agency 2017



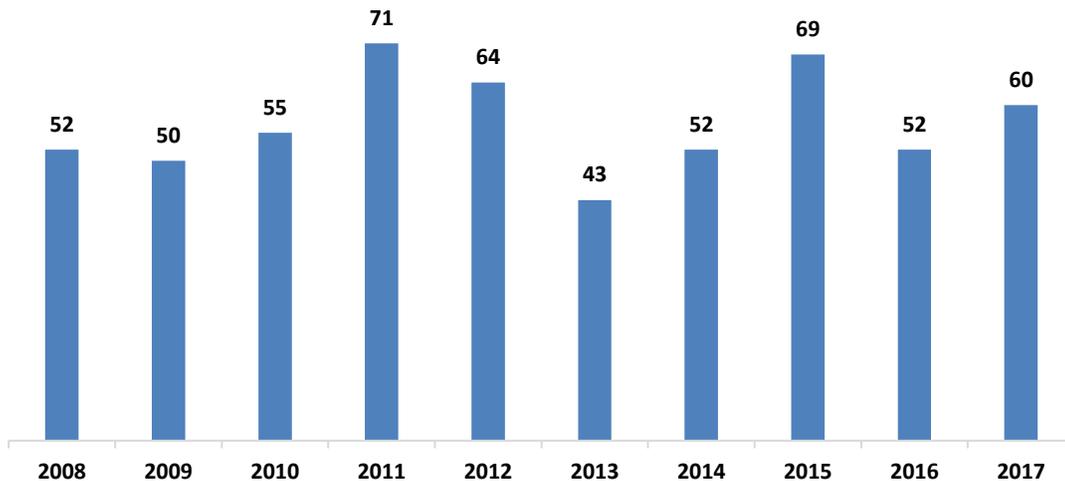
## GREENLEE COUNTY

Greenlee County contracts with an appointed non-Forensic Pathologist physician(s), termed an Alternate Medical Examiner(s) (AME) (A.R.S. §11-591), who triages, investigates and certifies deaths that fall under the jurisdiction of the medical examiner in Greenlee County. The Greenlee County AME does not perform autopsy examinations and if the AME deems an autopsy is necessary to certify the cause and manner of death, the decedent may be referred to the PCOME for an examination and death certification. The PCOME is not aware of how many deaths occurring in Greenlee County are reported to the Greenlee County AME, nor the total number or types of deaths certified by the AME. The PCOME only has a record of deaths reported to, or referred for examination to Pima County. Deaths on Native American tribal lands do not have to be reported through the respective death investigation system of that County and may be reported directly to the PCOME as necessary for the needs of the appropriate agency investigating that death (BIA, FBI or local tribal police departments).



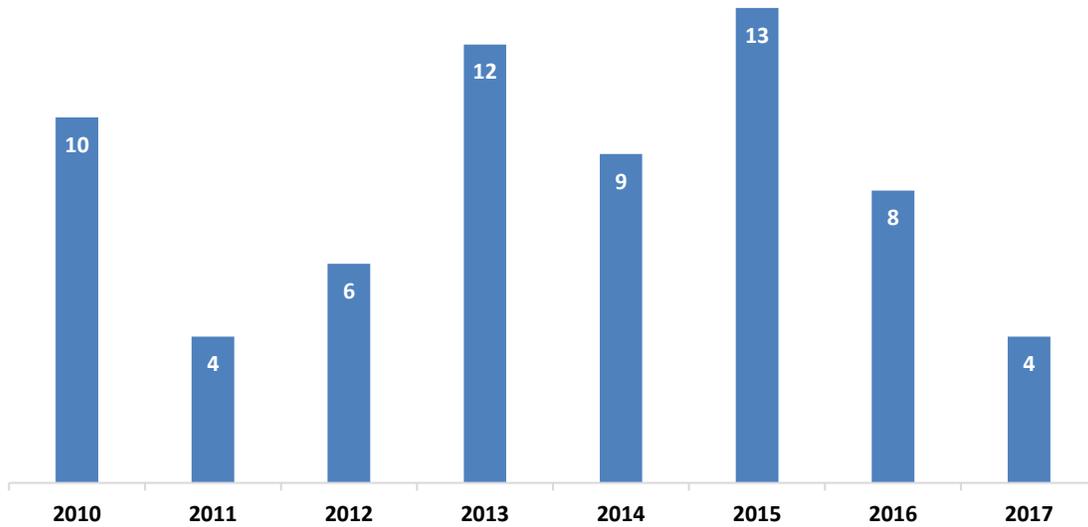
Four deaths from Greenlee County were reported to the PCOME in 2017, all of which required autopsy examinations and all of which were reported by the Greenlee County Sheriff’s Office. Some pertinent statistics regarding these deaths are detailed in the tables and graphs below.

**Greenlee County Mortality by Year 2008 - 2017\***

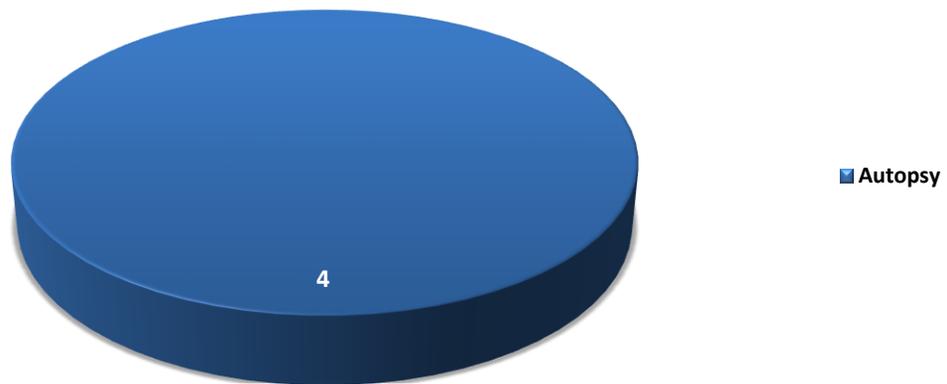


\*Arizona Department of Vital Statistics as of 06/12/2018

### Greenlee County Deaths Reported to the PCOME 2010 - 2017



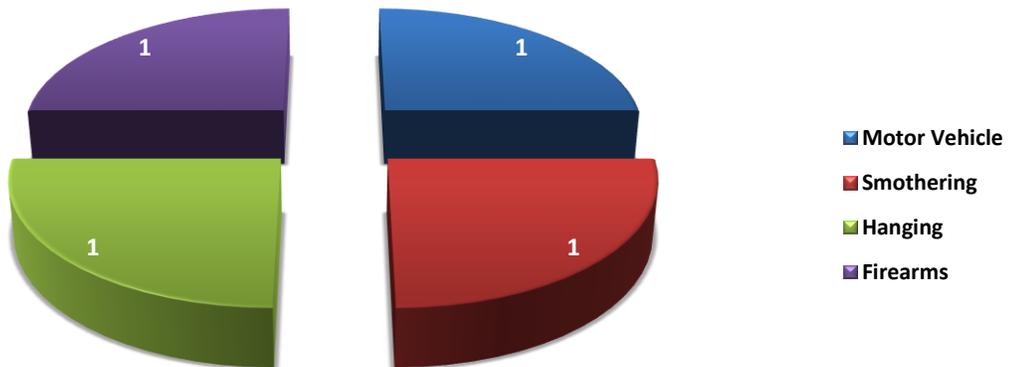
### Greenlee County Deaths by Type of Exam 2017



### Greenlee County Deaths by Manner of Death 2017



### Greenlee County Deaths by Type of Death 2017



## LA PAZ COUNTY

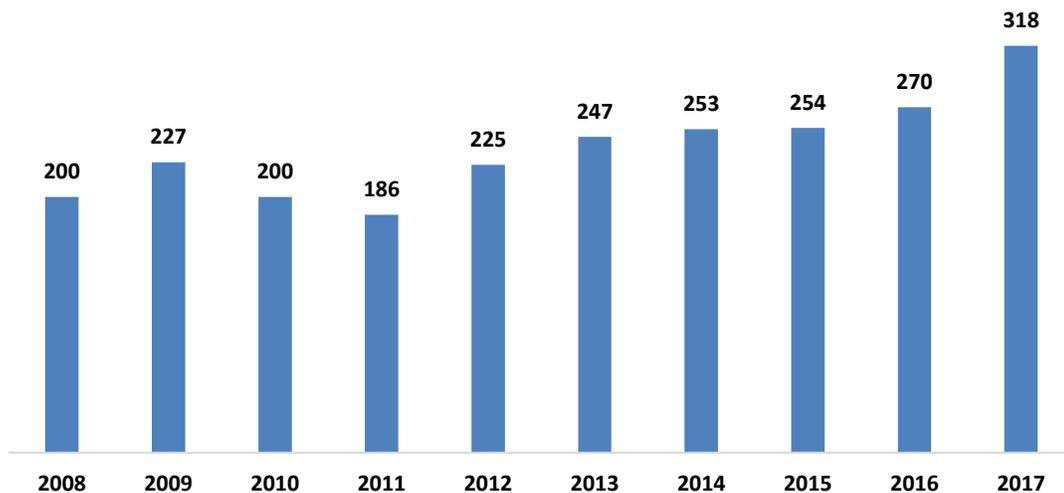
La Paz County contracts with an appointed non-Forensic Pathologist physician(s), termed an Alternate Medical Examiner(s) (AME) (A.R.S. §11-591), who triages, investigates and certifies deaths that fall under the jurisdiction of the medical examiner in La Paz County. The La Paz County AME does not perform autopsy examinations and if the AME deems an autopsy is necessary to certify the cause and manner of death, the decedent may be referred to the PCOME for an examination and death certification. The PCOME is not aware of how many deaths occurring in La Paz County are reported to the La Paz County AME, nor the total number or types of deaths certified by the AME. The PCOME only has a record of deaths reported to, or referred for examination to Pima County.



Deaths on Native American tribal lands do not have to be reported through the respective death investigation system of that County and may be reported directly to the PCOME as necessary for the needs of the appropriate agency investigating that death (BIA, FBI or local tribal police departments).

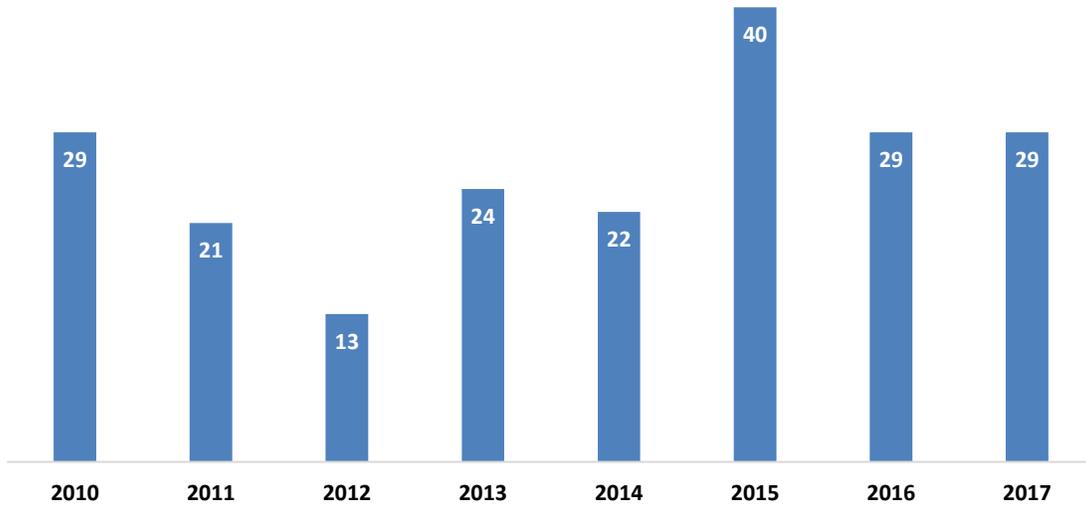
Twenty nine deaths from La Paz County were reported to the PCOME in 2017, 26 of which required autopsy examinations. Some pertinent statistics regarding these deaths are detailed in the tables and graphs below.

**La Paz County Mortality by Year 2008 - 2017\***

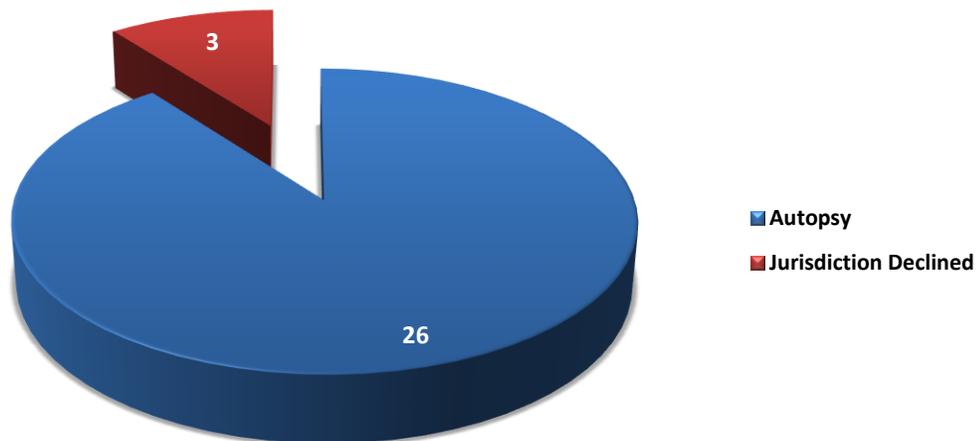


\*Arizona Department of Vital Statistics as of 06/12/2018

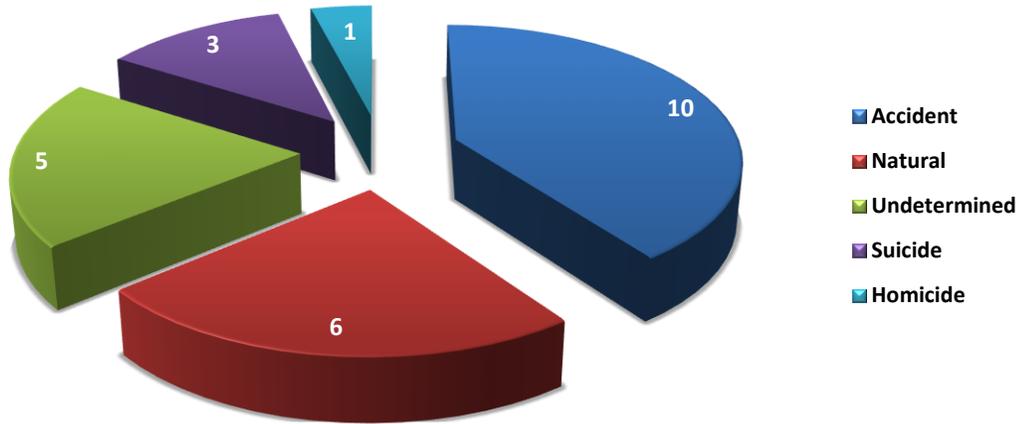
### La Paz County Deaths Reported to the PCOME 2010 - 2017



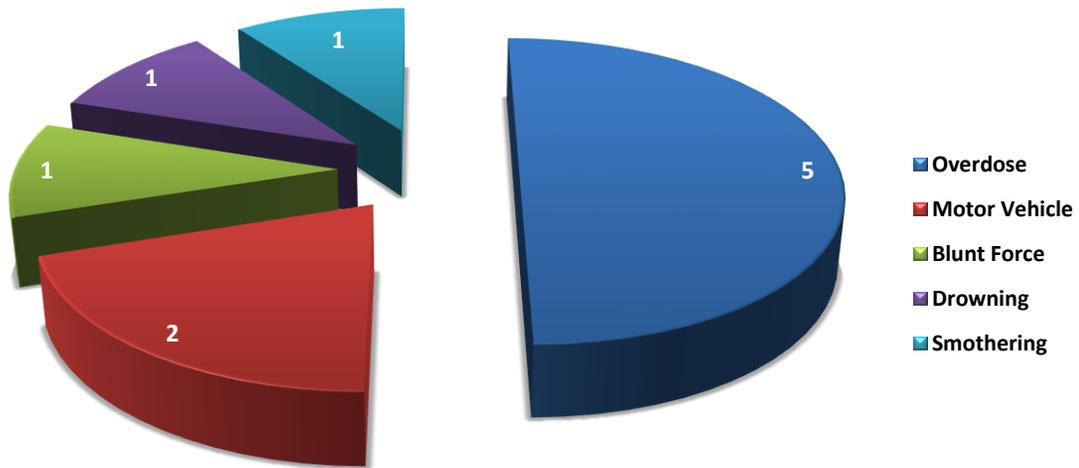
### La Paz County Deaths by Type of Exam 2017



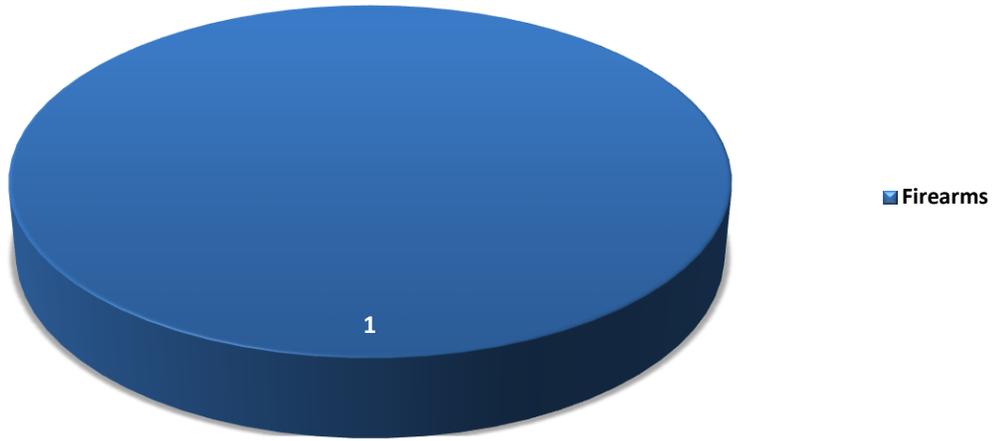
### La Paz County Deaths by Manner of Death 2017



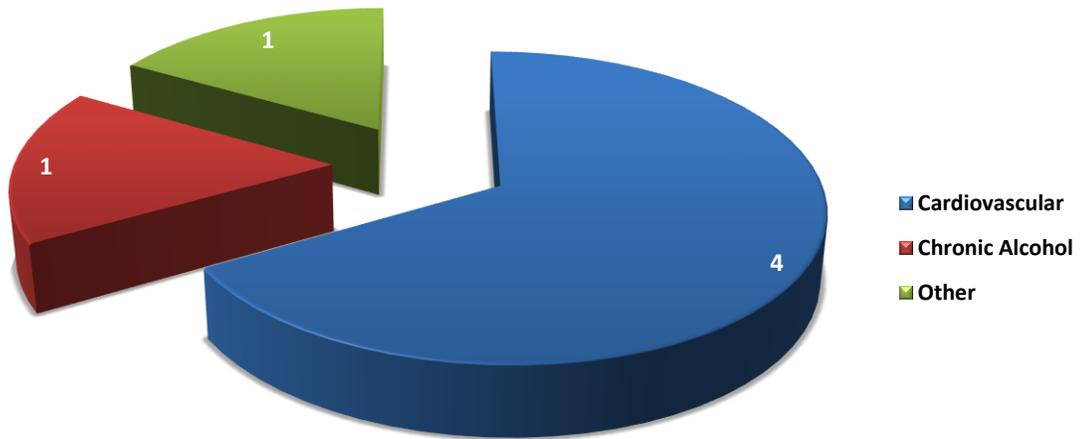
### La Paz County Accidents by Type 2017



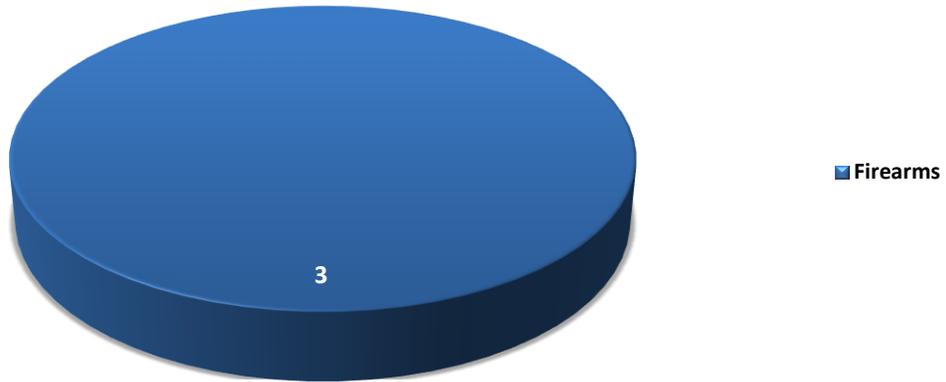
### La Paz County Homicides by Type 2017



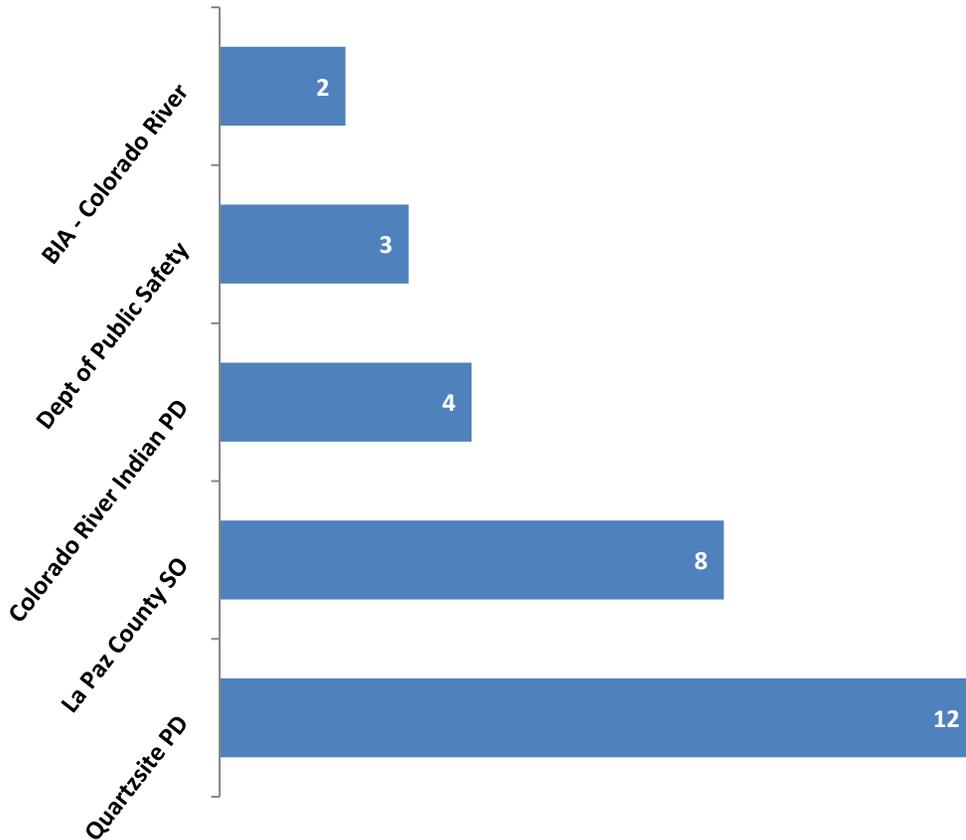
### La Paz County Naturals by Type 2017



### La Paz County Suicides by Type 2017

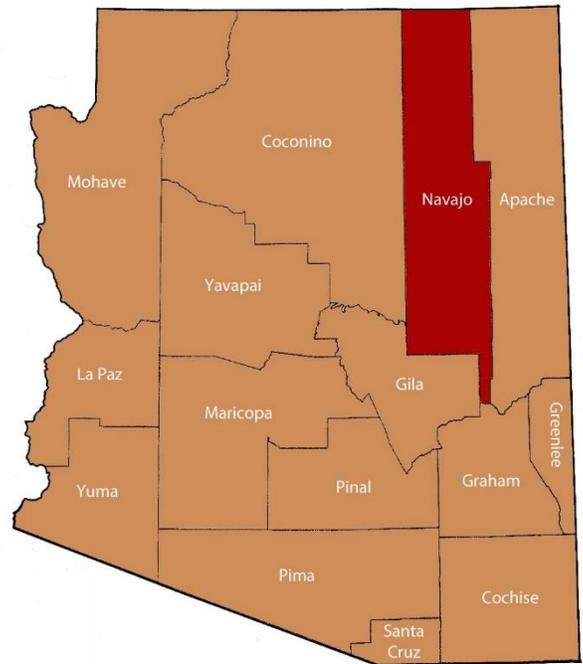


### La Paz County Deaths by Law Enforcement Agency 2017



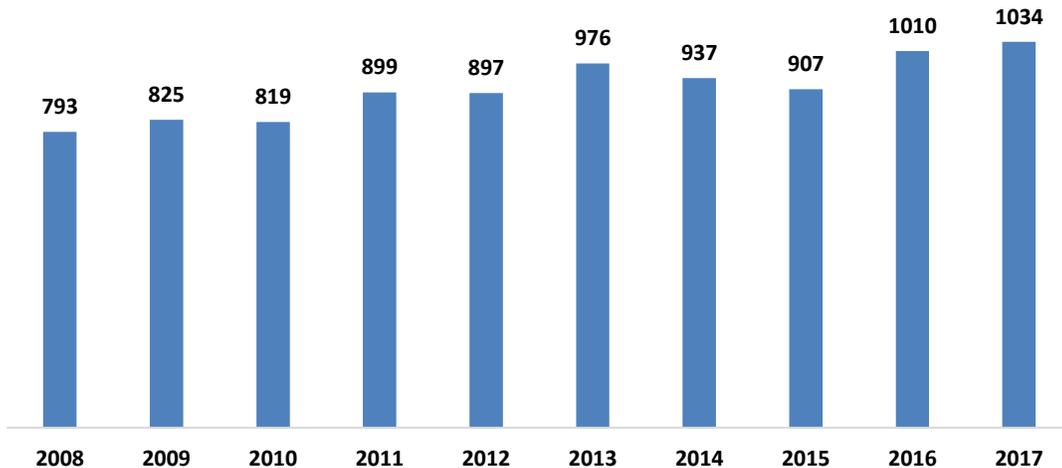
## NAVAJO COUNTY

Navajo County contracts with an appointed non-Forensic Pathologist physician(s), termed an Alternate Medical Examiner(s) (AME) (A.R.S. §11-591), who triages, investigates and certifies deaths that fall under the jurisdiction of the medical examiner in Navajo County. The Navajo County AME does not perform autopsy examinations and if the AME deems an autopsy is necessary to certify the cause and manner of death, the decedent may be referred to the PCOME for an examination and death certification. The PCOME is not aware of how many deaths occurring in Navajo County are reported to the Navajo County AME, nor the total number or types of deaths certified by the AME. The PCOME only has a record of deaths reported to, or referred for examination to Pima County. Deaths on Native American tribal lands do not have to be reported through the respective death investigation system of that County and may be reported directly to the PCOME as necessary for the needs of the appropriate agency investigating that death (BIA, FBI or local tribal police departments).



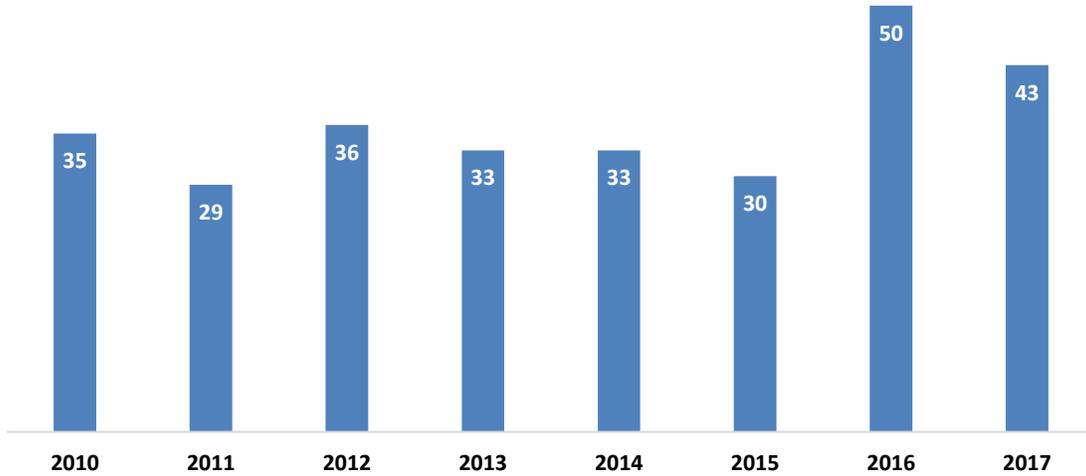
Forty-three deaths from Navajo County were reported to the PCOME in 2017, all of which required autopsy examinations. Some pertinent statistics regarding these deaths are detailed in the tables and graphs below.

**Navajo County Mortality by Year 2008 - 2017\***

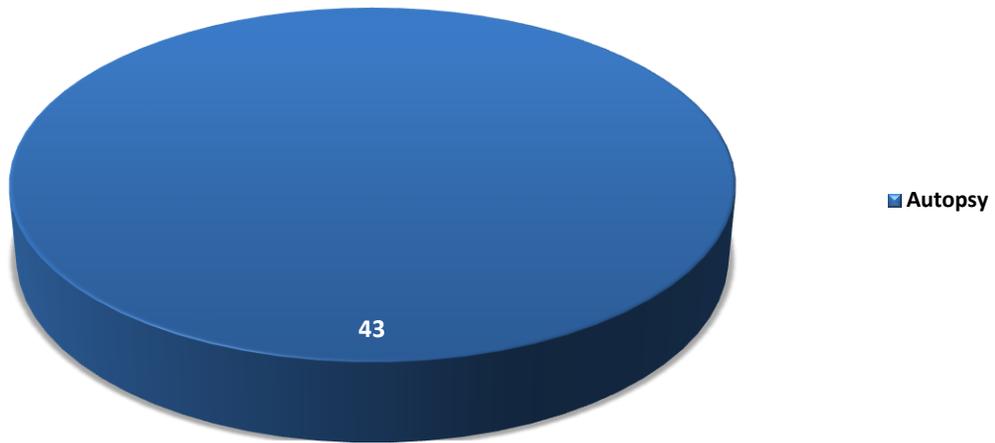


\*Arizona Department of Vital Statistics as of 06/12/2018

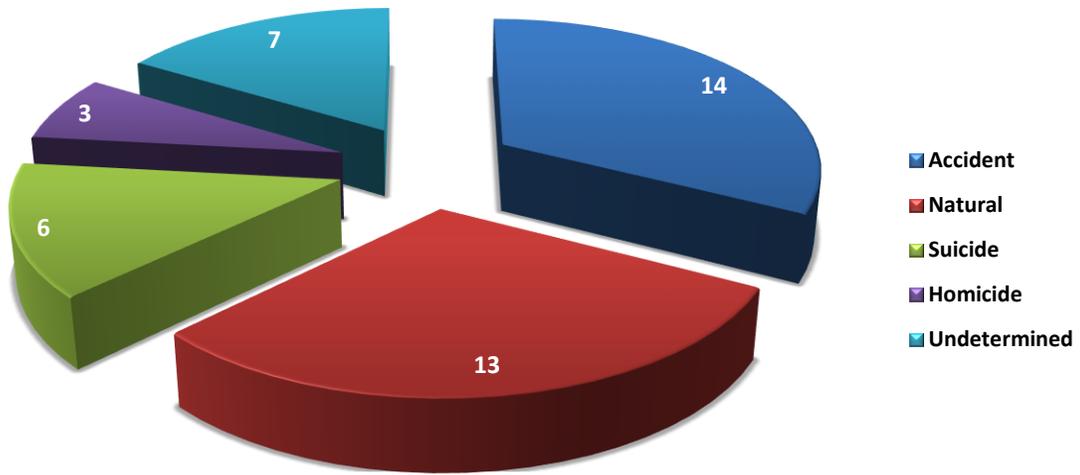
### Navajo County Deaths Reported to the PCOME 2010 - 2017



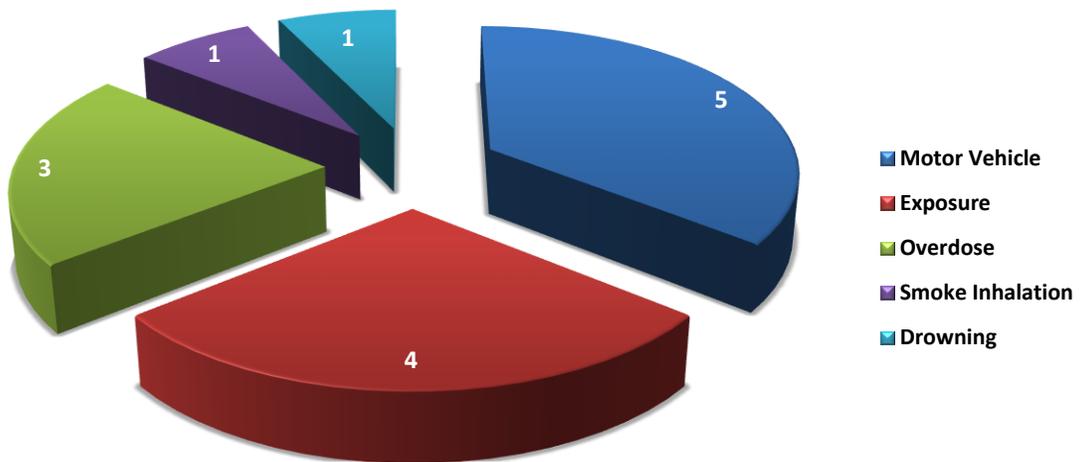
### Navajo County Deaths by Type of Exam 2017



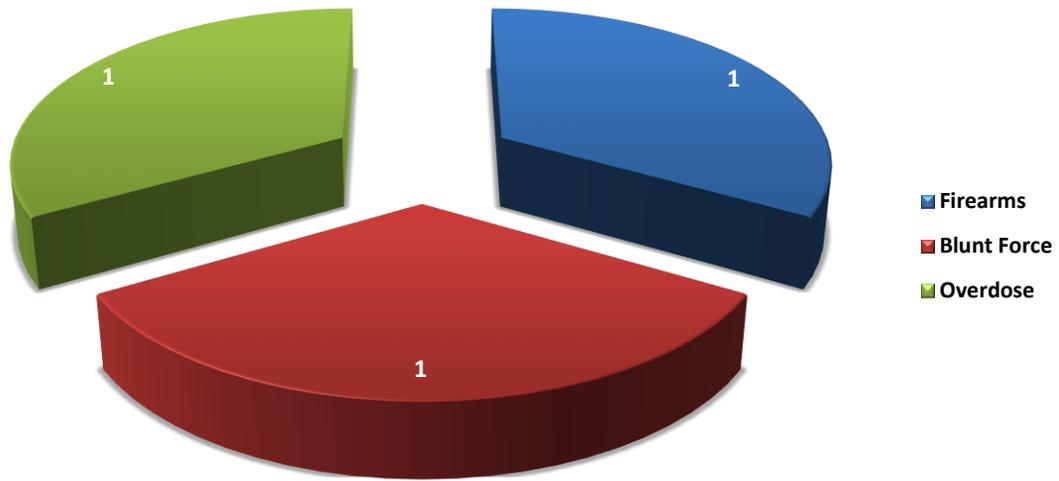
### Navajo County Deaths by Manner of Death 2017



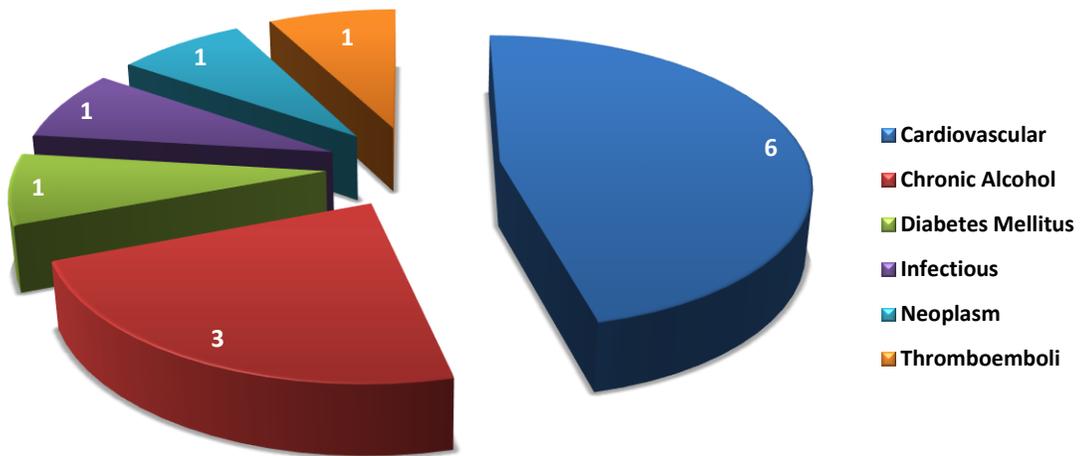
### Navajo County Accidents by Type 2017



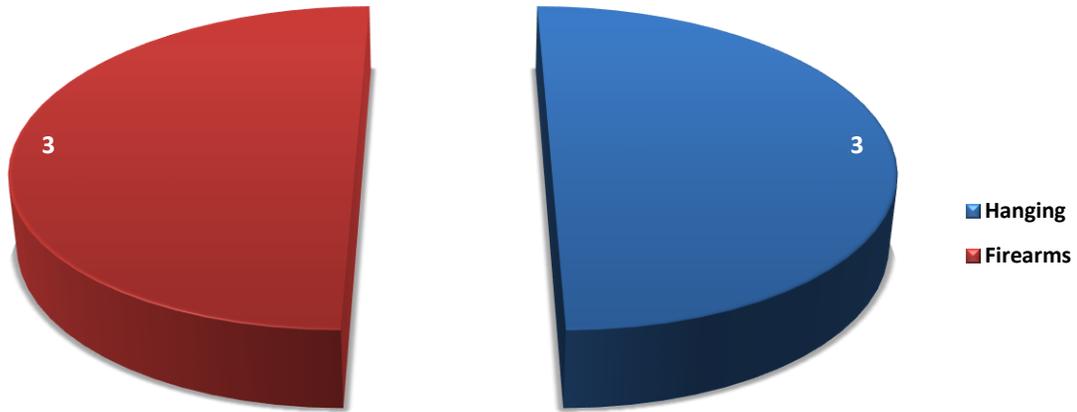
### Navajo County Homicides by Type 2017



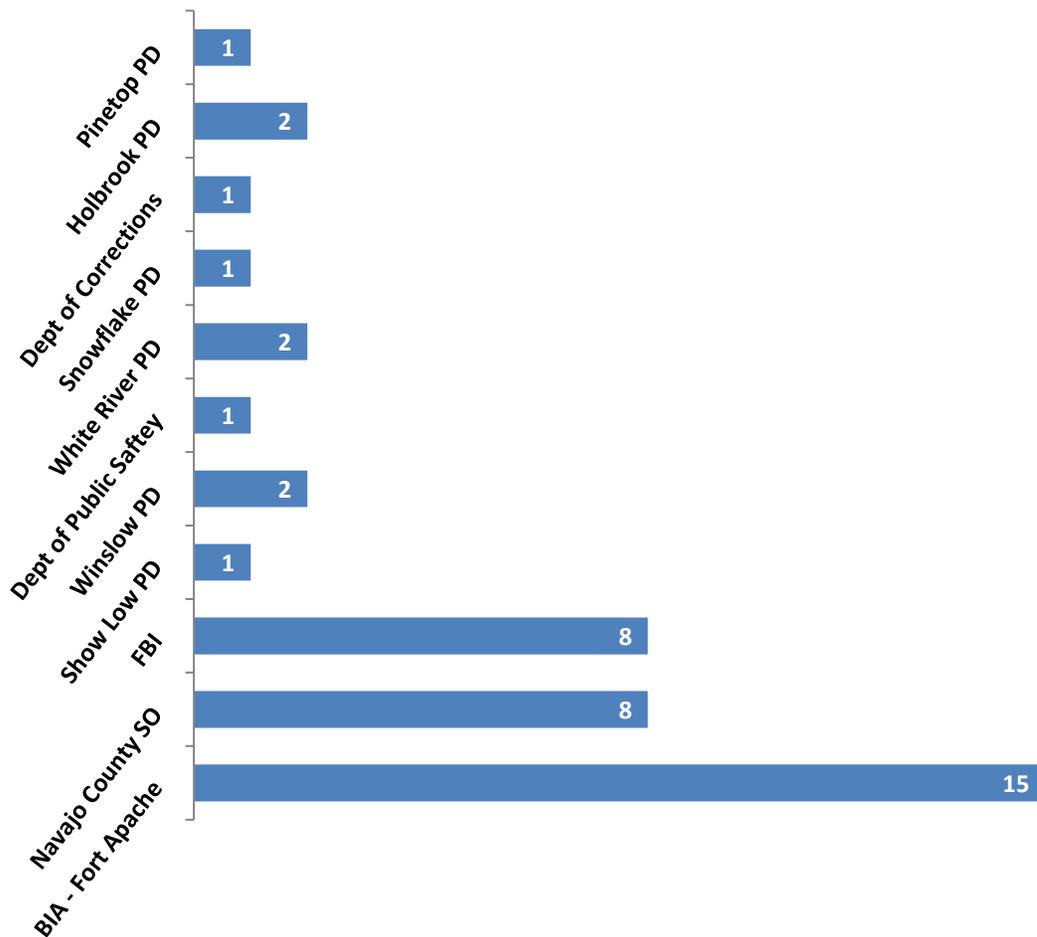
### Navajo County Naturals by Type 2017



### Navajo County Suicides by Type 2017

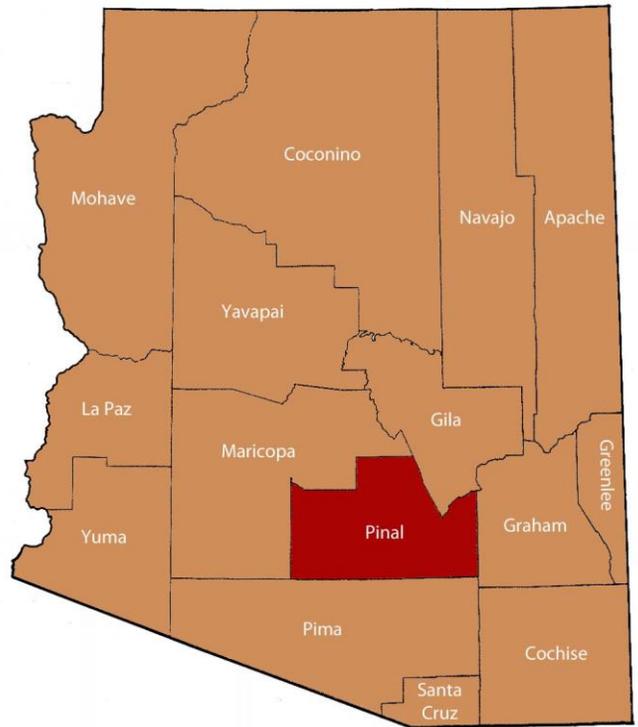


### Navajo County Deaths by Law Enforcement Agency 2017



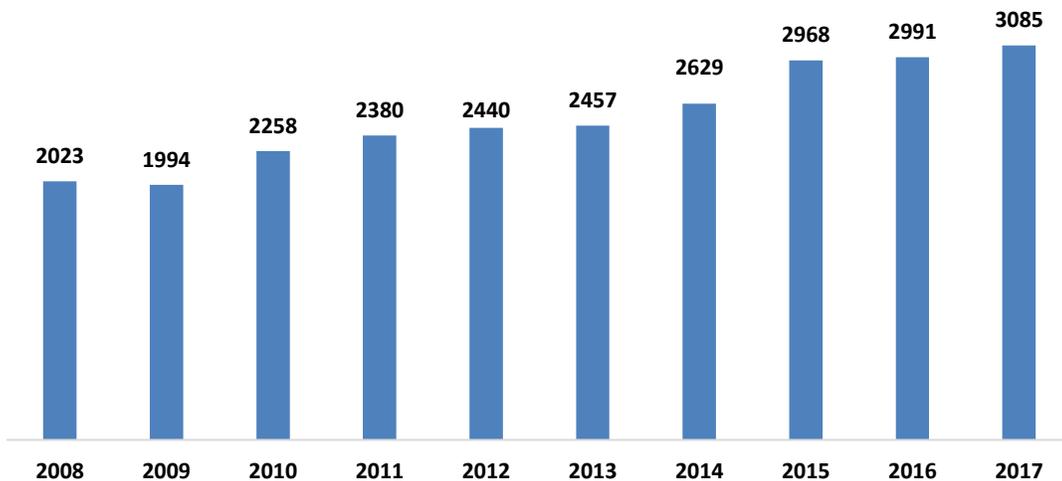
## PINAL COUNTY

Pinal County appointed a Medical Examiner in December 2016 and maintains its own Medical Examiner’s office staffed to conduct death scene investigations, transport remains, perform examinations and triage deaths reportable to the ME as stated in A.R.S §11-593 above. Deaths on Native American tribal lands do not have to be reported through the respective death investigation system of that County and may be reported directly to the PCOME as necessary for the needs of the appropriate agency investigating that death (BIA, FBI or local tribal police departments). The Pinal County Medical Examiner’s Office historically issues its own annual report. Please reference that report for details concerning deaths occurring in Pinal County that are not referred to the PCOME.



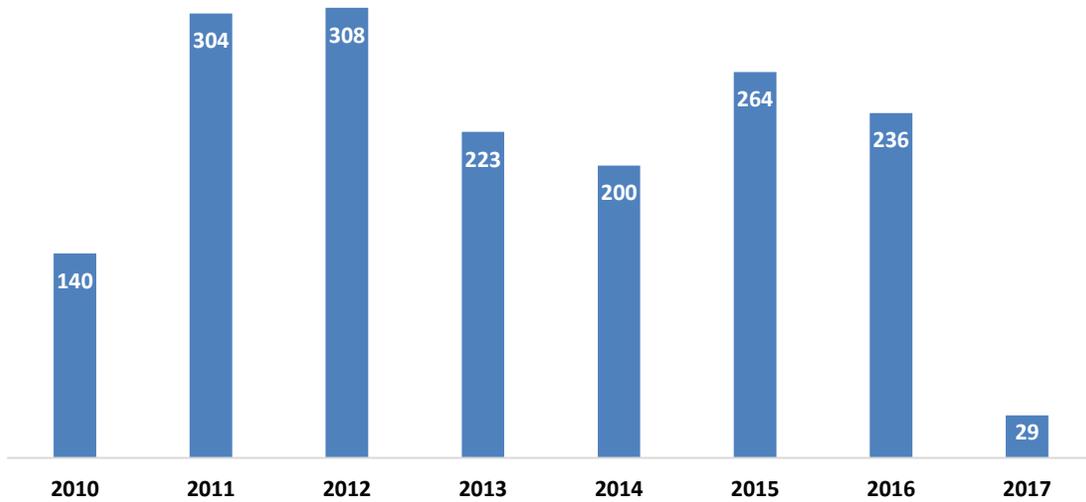
Twenty-nine deaths from Pinal County were reported to the PCOME in 2017, 22 of which required autopsy examinations. Some pertinent statistics regarding these deaths are detailed in the tables and graphs below.

**Pinal County Mortality by Year 2008 - 2017\***

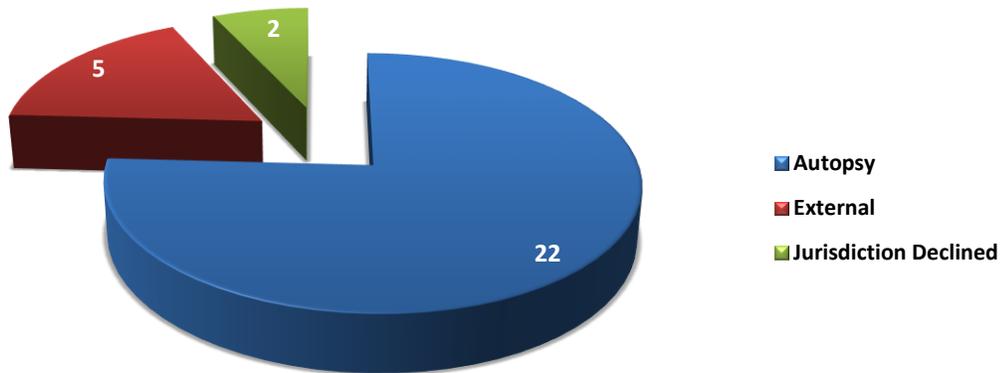


\*Arizona Department of Vital Statistics as of 06/12/2018

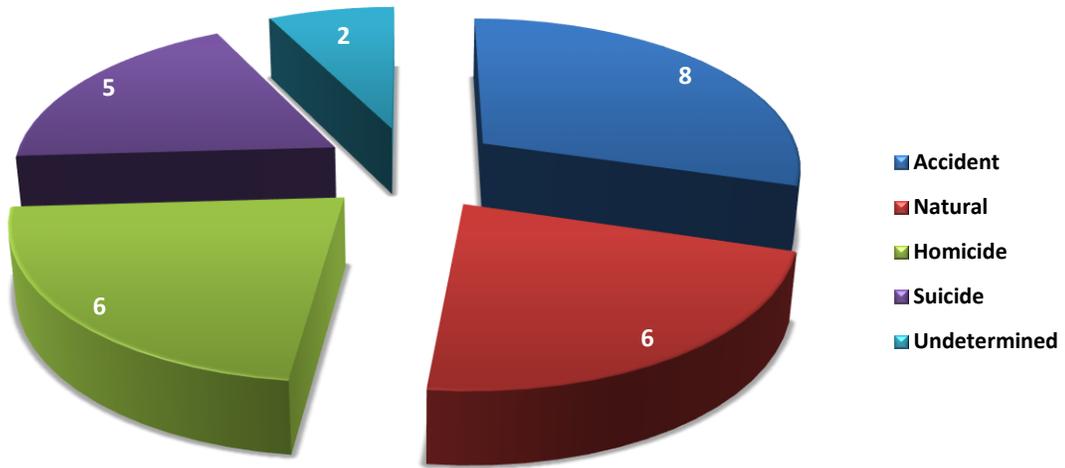
### Pinal County Deaths Reported to the PCOME 2010 - 2017



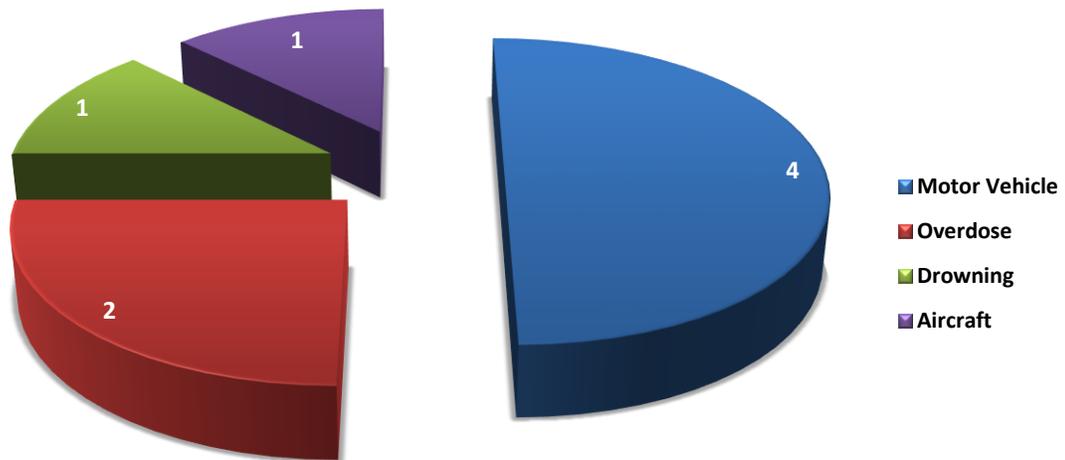
### Pinal County Deaths by Type of Exam 2017



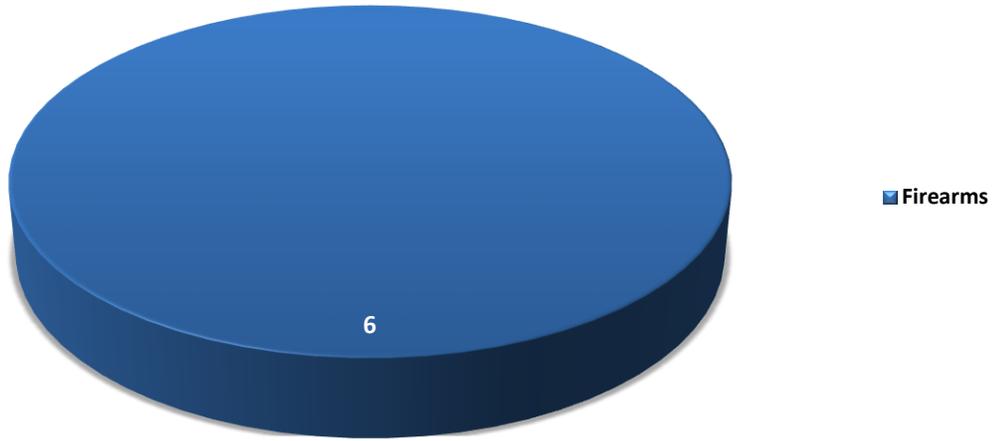
### Pinal County Deaths by Manner of Death 2017



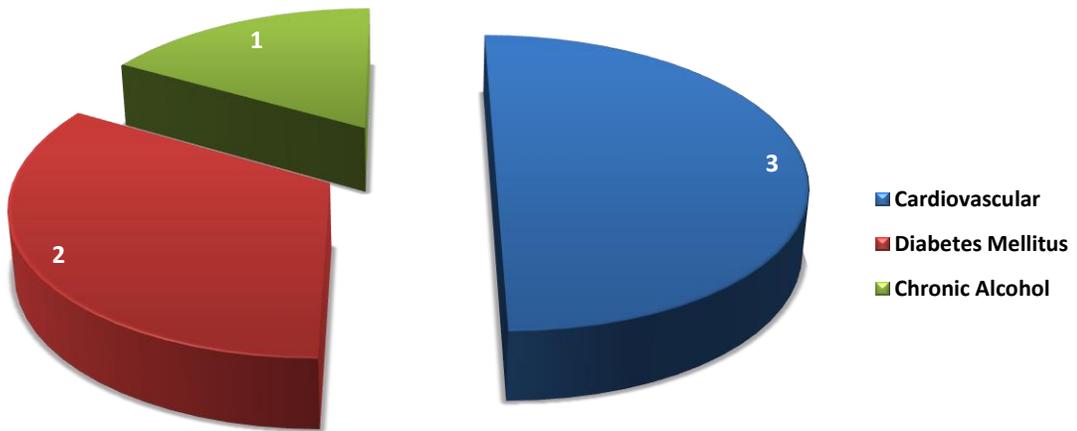
### Pinal County Accidents by Type 2017



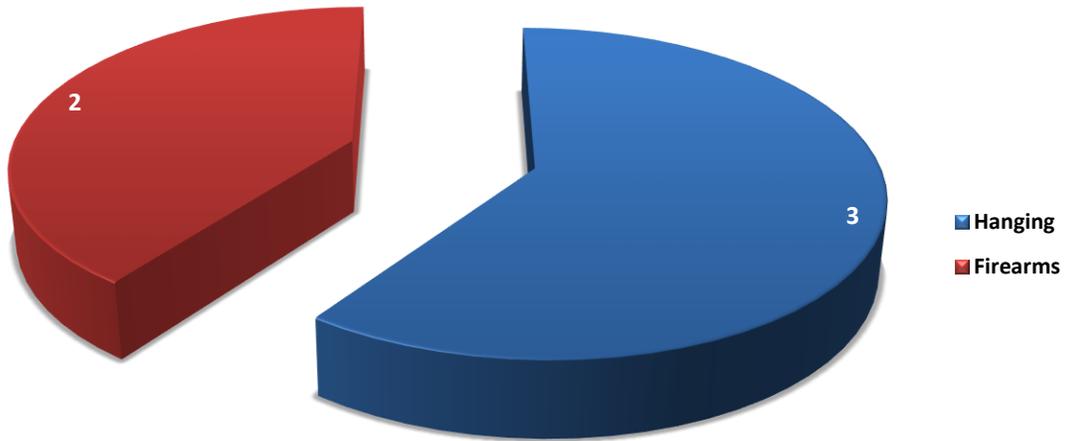
### Pinal County Homicides by Type 2017



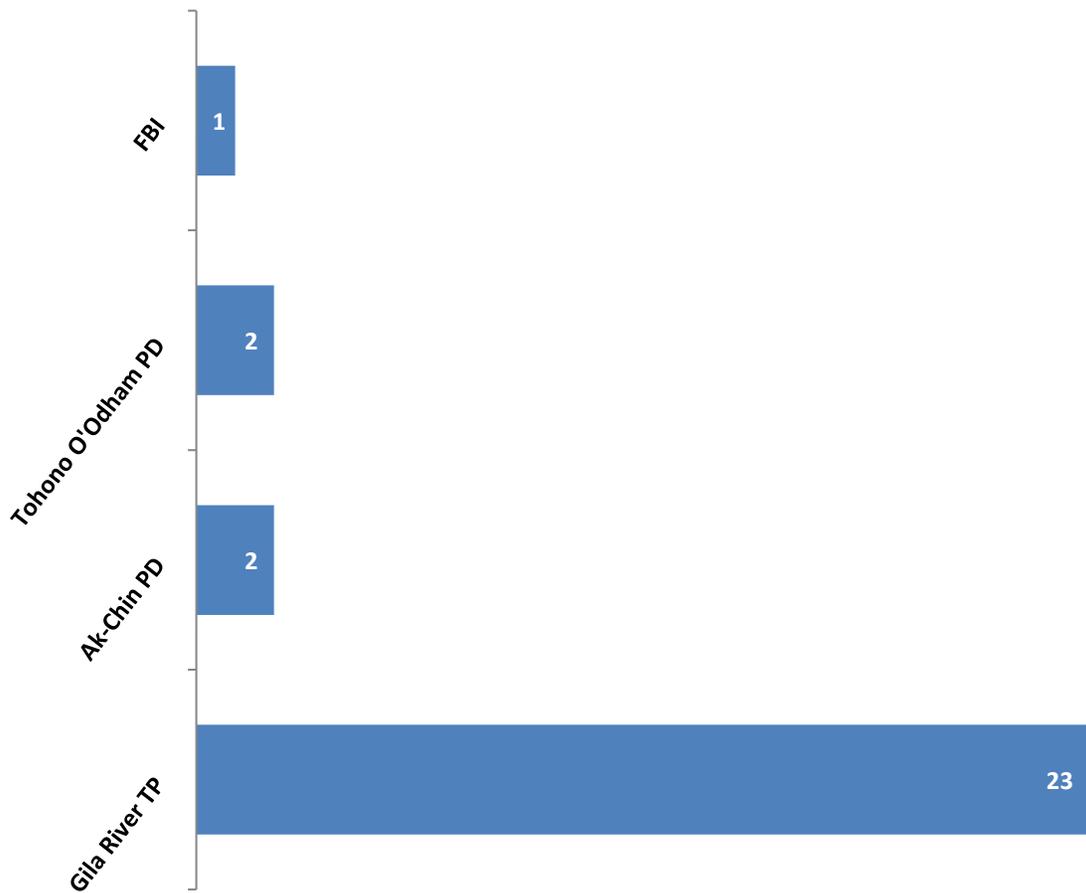
### Pinal County Naturals by Type 2017



### Pinal County Suicides by Type 2017



### Pinal County Deaths by Law Enforcement Agency 2017



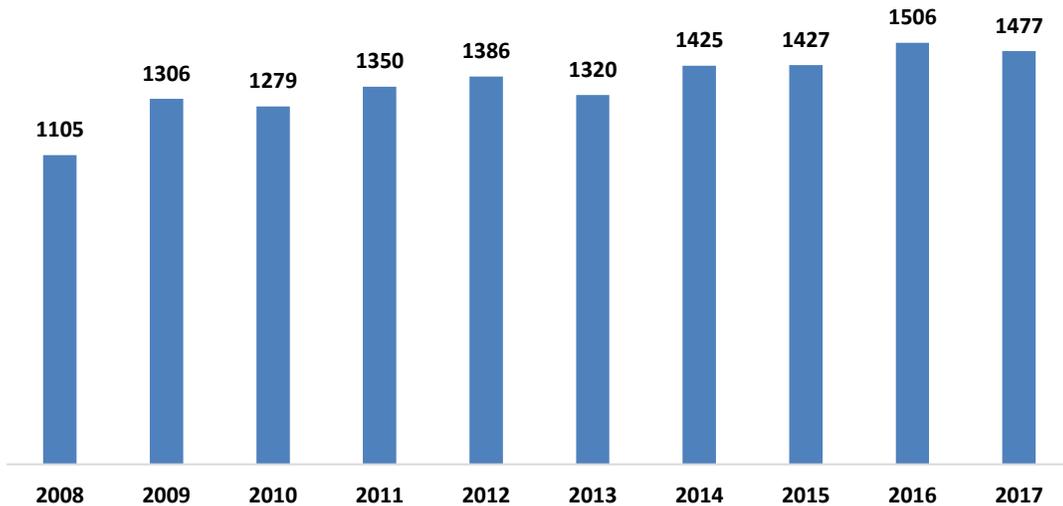
## YUMA COUNTY

Yuma County contracts with, and appoints the pathology group at Yuma Regional Medical Center, as Medical Examiner for Yuma County. Some decedents (typically suspected homicides) are referred to the PCOME for an examination and death certification at the discretion of the Yuma County Medical Examiner’s Office. The Yuma County Medical Examiner’s Office issues its own Annual Report. Please reference that report for details concerning deaths occurring in Yuma County that are not referred to the PCOME.

Thirteen deaths from Yuma County were reported to the PCOME in 2017, all 13 of which required autopsy examinations. Some pertinent statistics regarding these deaths are detailed in the tables below.

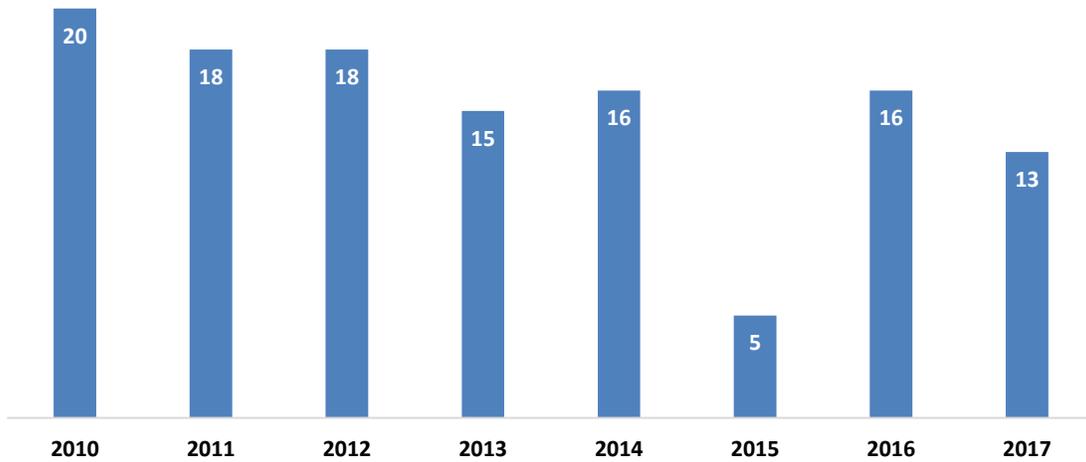


**Yuma County Mortality by Year 2008 - 2017\***

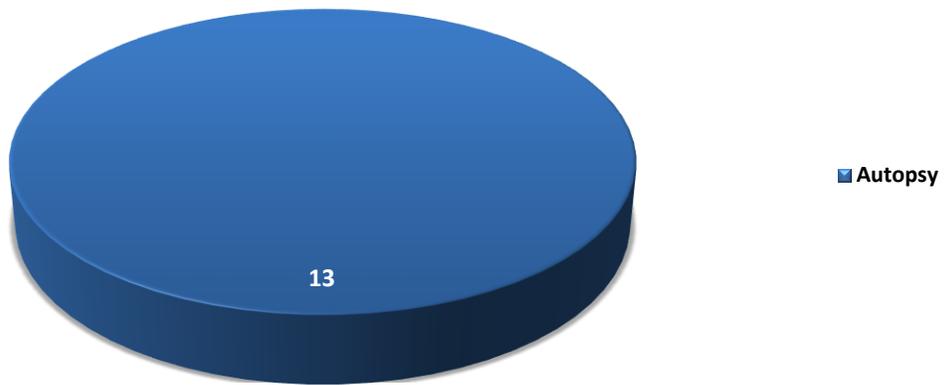


\*Arizona Department of Vital Statistics as of 06/12/2018

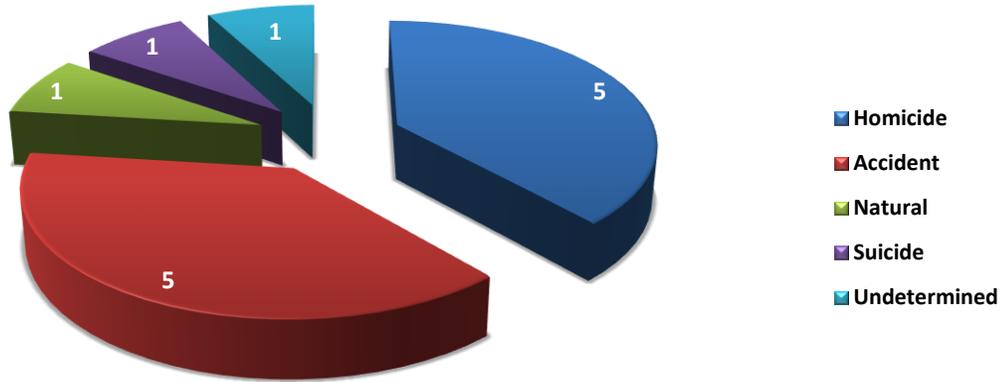
### Yuma County Deaths Reported to the PCOME 2010 - 2017



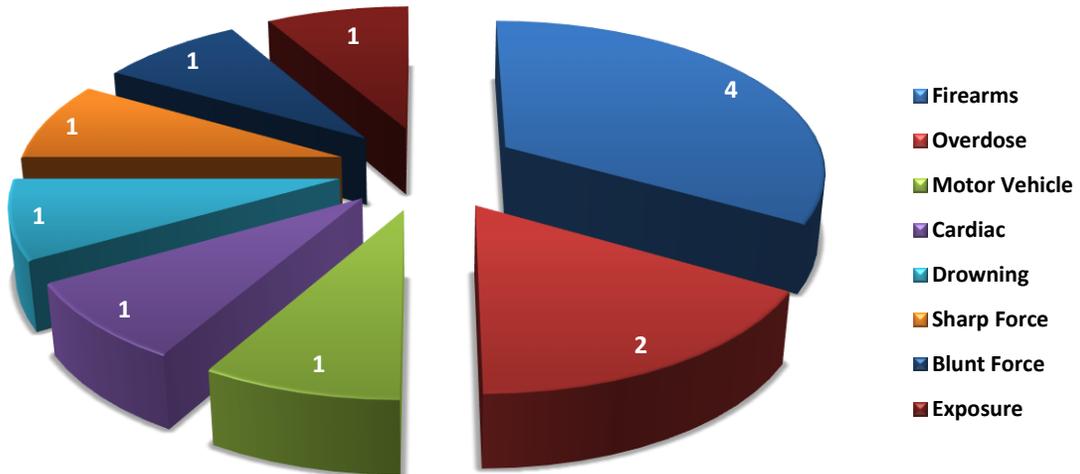
### Yuma County Deaths by Type of Exam 2017



### Yuma County Deaths by Manner of Death 2017



### Yuma County Deaths by Type of Death 2017



### Yuma County Deaths by Law Enforcement Agency 2017

