



PIMA COUNTY

OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER

Annual Report 2018



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***NON-MEDICAL EXAMINER COUNTIES – PIMA COUNTY PERFORMS EXAMINATIONS ON FEE-FOR-SERVICE BASIS BUT DOES NOT SERVE AS APPOINTED MEDICAL EXAMINER FOR THESE 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 2018 there were 9,816 deaths in Pima County; of these 2,774 (28%) 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 82 fully accredited Medical Examiner's Offices across the United States. The PCOME has the distinction of being one of two fully accredited offices 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 2,774 reports of deaths from Pima County and 506 reports from 13 additional Arizona counties in 2018. Jurisdiction was declined in 1,108 of these cases. A total of 1,837 decedents were transported to the PCOME for examination or storage in 2018.

Examinations

Pima County forensic pathologists and anthropologists performed 1,260 autopsies, 444 external examinations, 335 death certifications, 154 anthropologic examinations, and reviewed 6,954 death certificates for cremations in 2018.

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. Seven 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 132 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 two pathology post-sophomore fellows rotated through the PCOME for month-long rotations in 2018. 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 four anthropology interns trained at our facility in 2018.

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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 PCOME. Involvement of the PCOME in the legal system generally consists of pretrial interviews, depositions and courtroom testimony. In 2018, 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

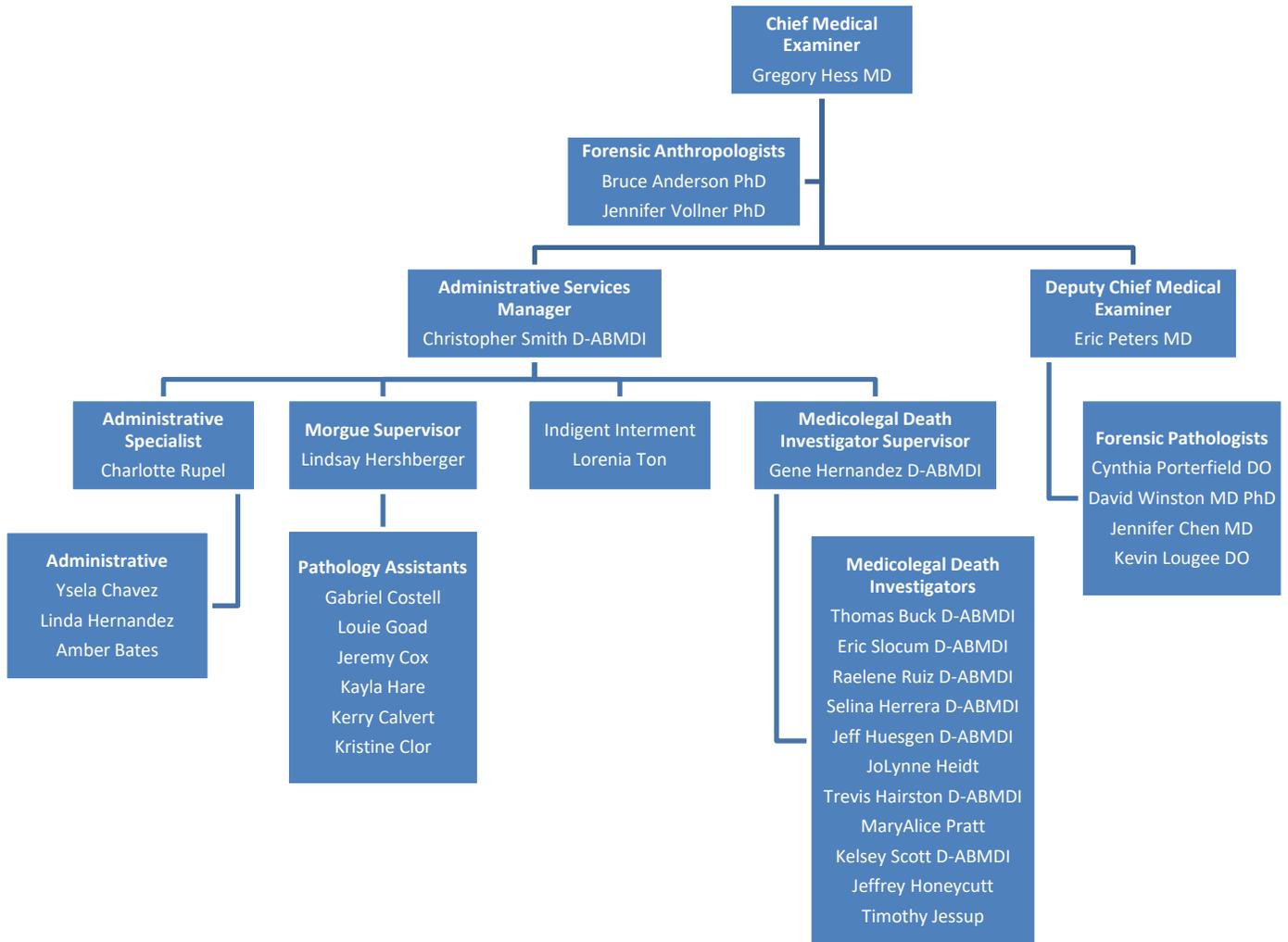
Pursuant to A.R.S §36-861, the PCOME refers death notifications to, and partners with, Donor Network of Arizona (DNA) and other associated tissue research agencies for the coordination and procurement of anatomic gifts. The importance of supporting the efforts of the organ and tissue transplant and research 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 2018 was no different. The release of tissues and corneas was granted 97% of the time.

Organ Donations with PCOME Involvement 2018

Heart	Lungs	Liver	Kidneys	Pancreas	Sm. Intestine	Total
14	25	32	76	7	0	154

Tissue Donation with PCOME Involvement 2018

Tissue	Heart	Ocular
118	47	64

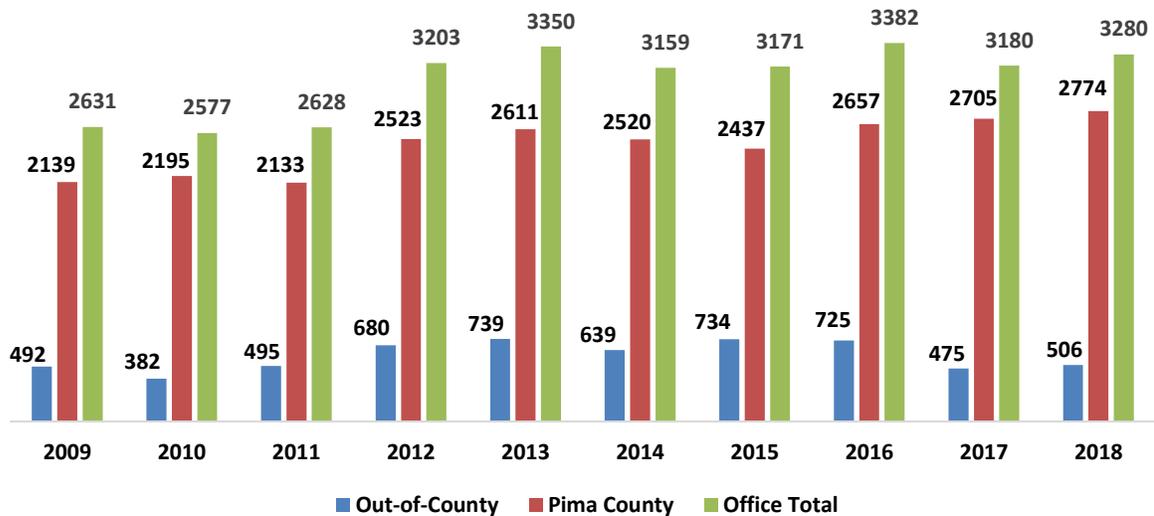


**OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2018**

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 (28), Cochise (280), Coconino (2), Gila (13), Graham (18), Greenlee (3), La Paz (30), Maricopa (1), Navajo (40), Pinal (23), Santa Cruz (52), Yavapai (2) and Yuma (16) counties in addition to Pima County (2,774).

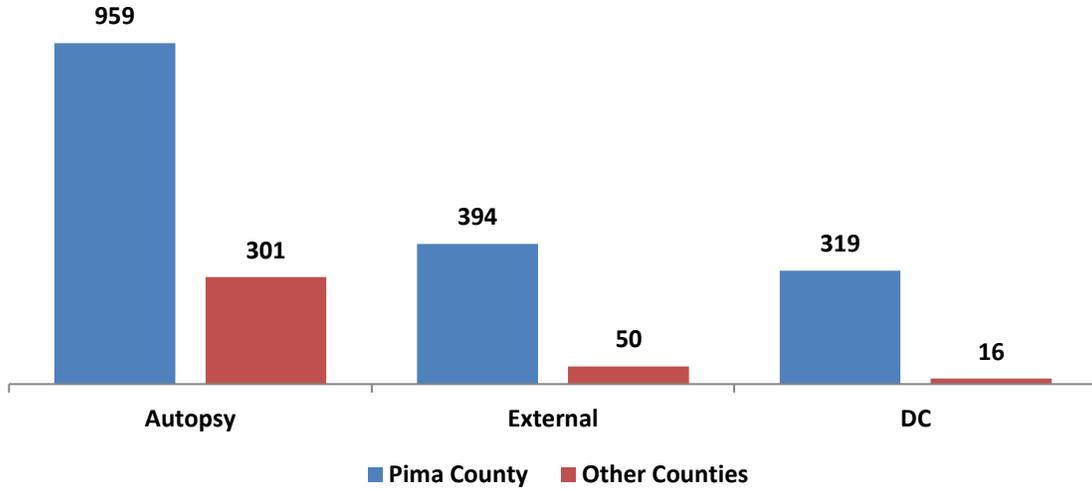
Total Reported Deaths 2009 - 2018



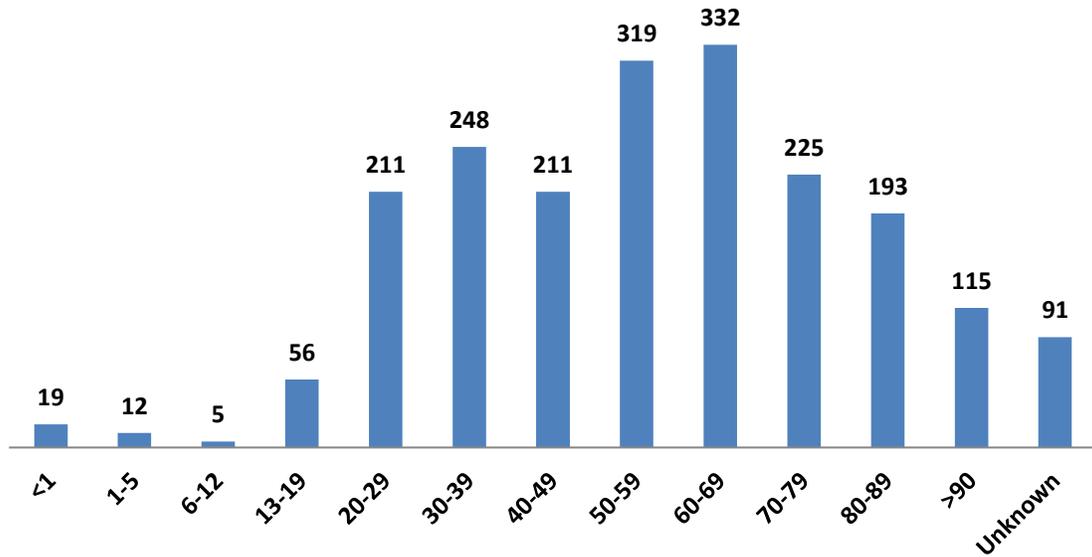
MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

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 2018, for Pima and all other counties listed above, 1,260 autopsies, 444 external examinations and 335 DC cases were performed or certified at the PCOME. Pima County alone accounted for 959 autopsies, 394 external examinations and 319 DC cases.

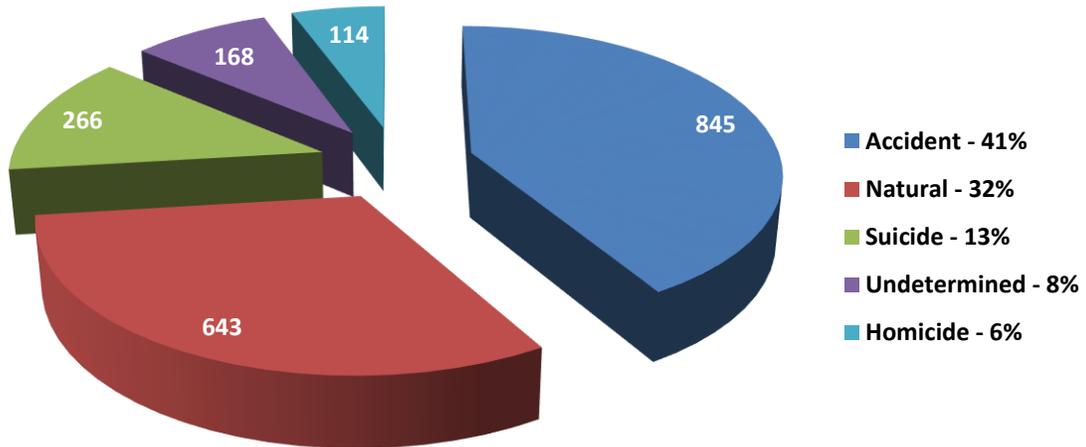
2018 Medical Examiner Cases



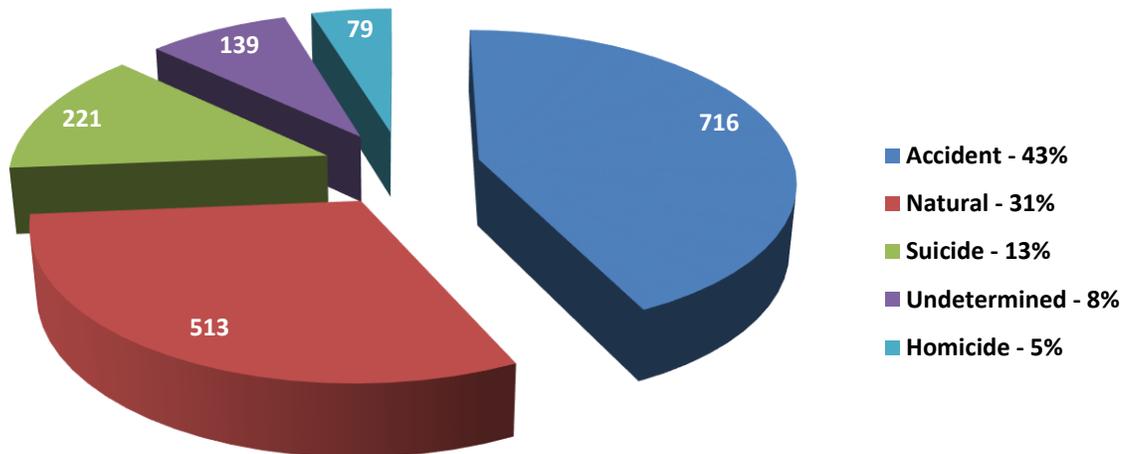
Medical Examiner Cases by Age - 2018



ME Cases (all counties) by Manner of Death - 2018



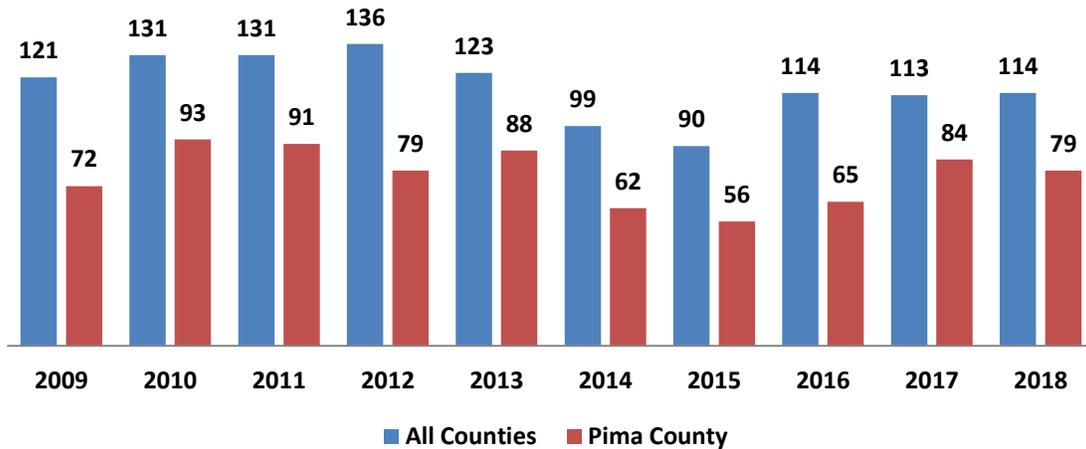
ME Cases (Pima only) by Manner of Death - 2018



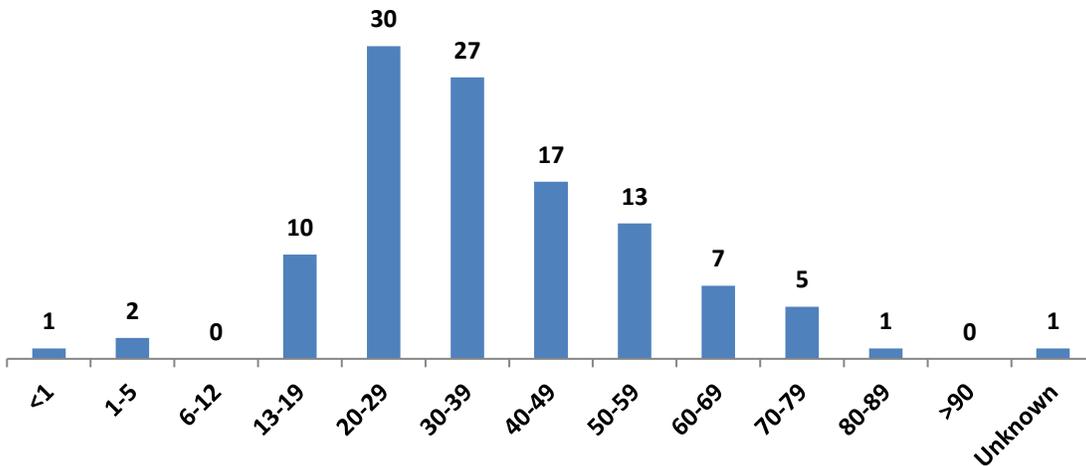
HOMICIDE DEATHS

The PCOME certified 114 deaths as homicide in 2018, 79 from Pima County and 35 from other counties. Homicide totals from 2009 – 2018 are compared below. Homicide victims were most frequently male (83%), between 20-29 years of age (26%) and died as the result of firearms (71%).

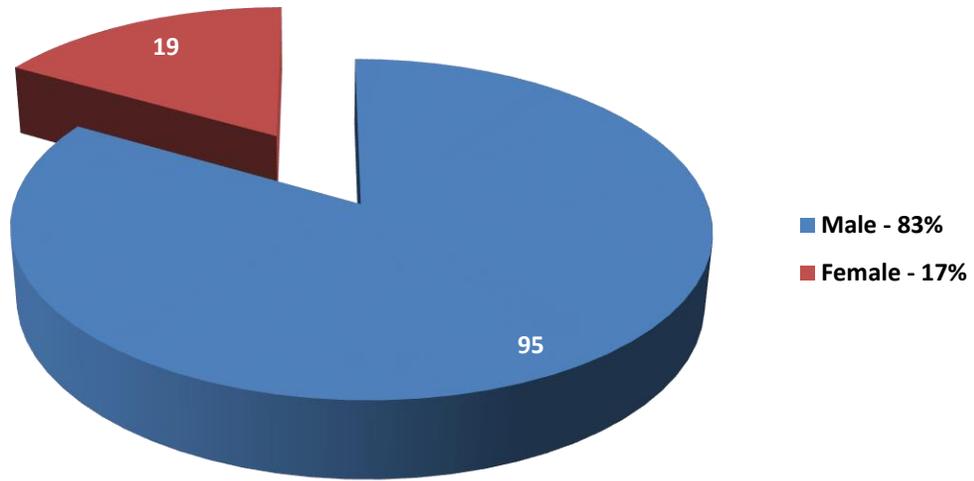
Homicide Deaths 2009 - 2018



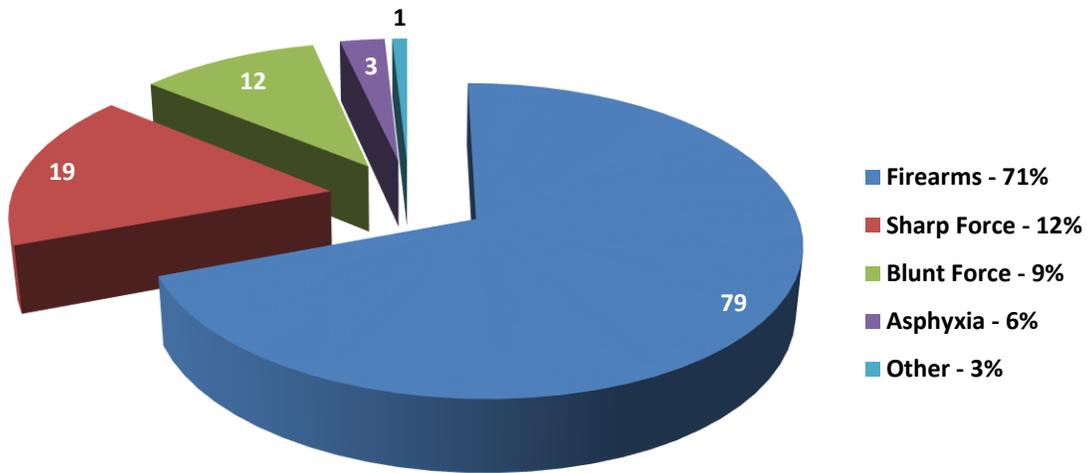
Homicide Deaths by Age 2018



Homicide Deaths by Sex 2018



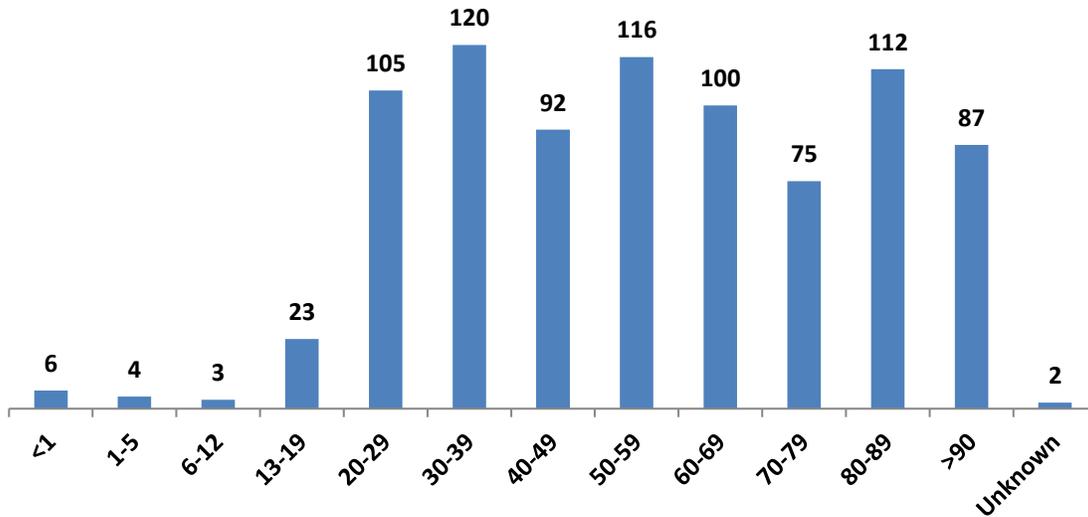
Homicide Deaths by Cause 2018



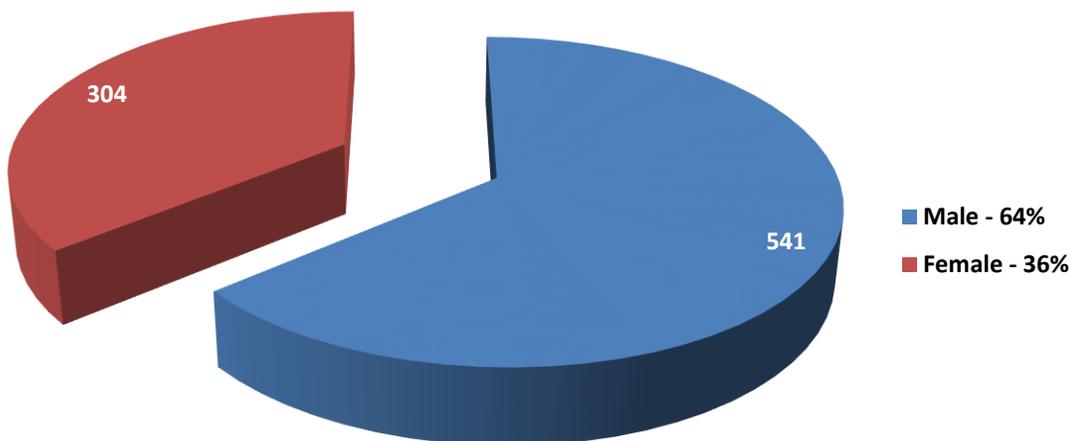
ACCIDENT DEATHS

Deaths due to accidents accounted for 41% of the ME deaths investigated by the PCOME in 2018. Accident victims were most frequently males (64%), between 30-39 years of age (14%) and died as the result of an overdose (34%).

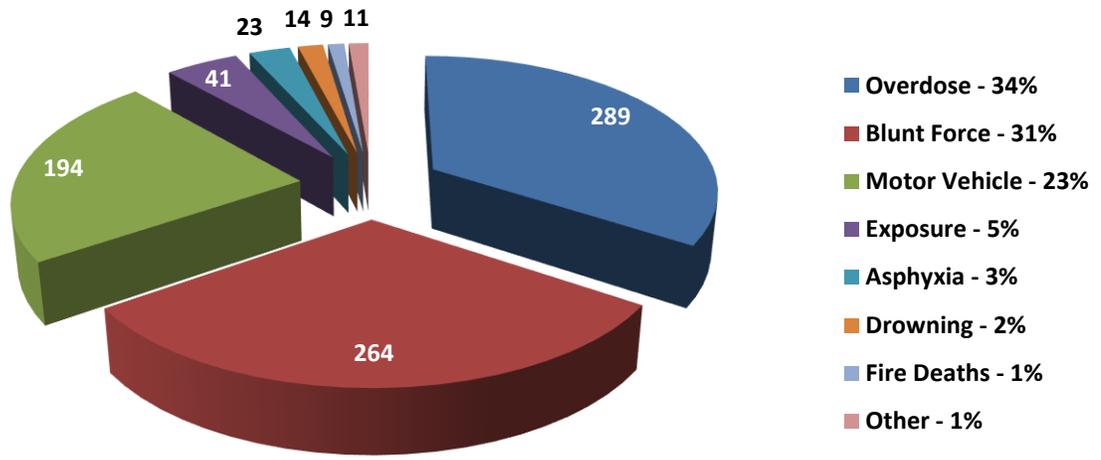
Accident Deaths by Age 2018



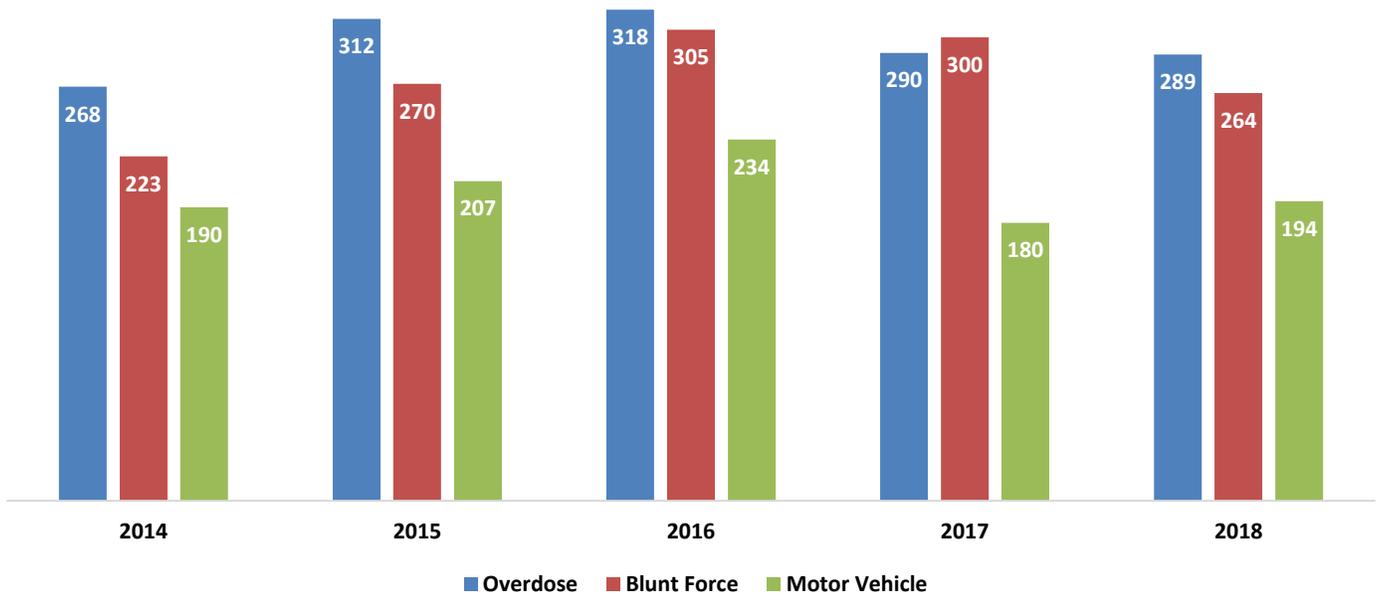
Accident Deaths by Sex 2018



Accident Deaths by Cause 2018



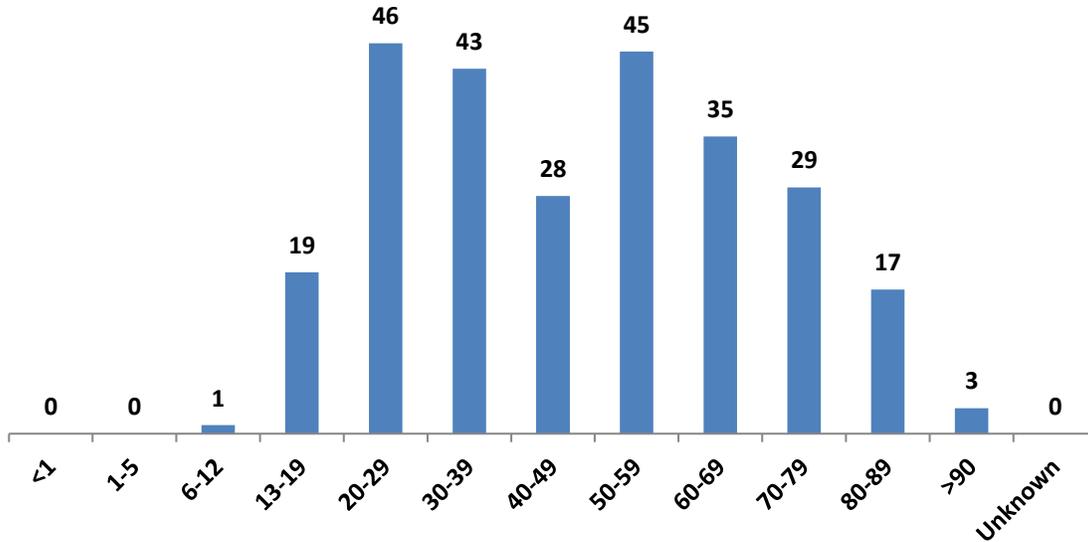
Accident Death by Cause (Top 3) 2014 - 2018



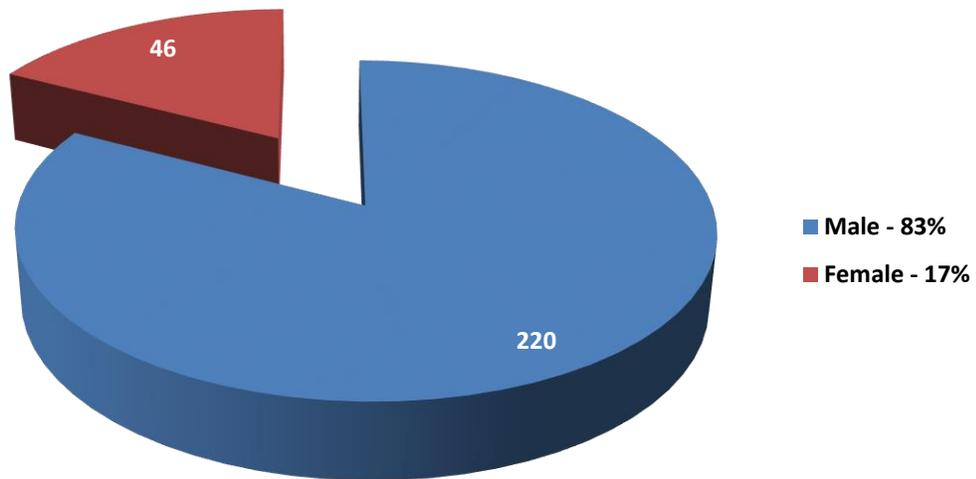
SUICIDE DEATHS

Suicide deaths accounted for 13% of the ME deaths investigated by the PCOME in 2018. Suicide victims were most frequently males (83%), between 20-29 years of age (17%) and died as the result of firearms (58%).

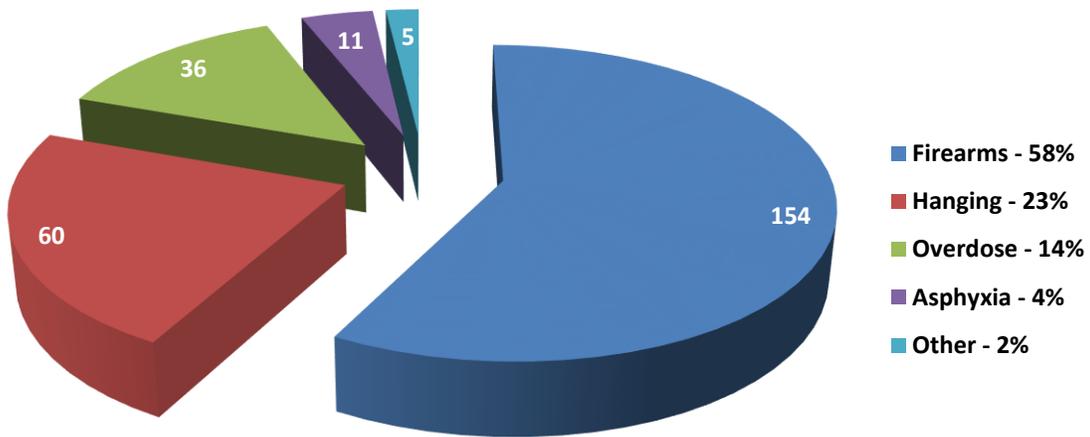
Suicide Deaths by Age 2018



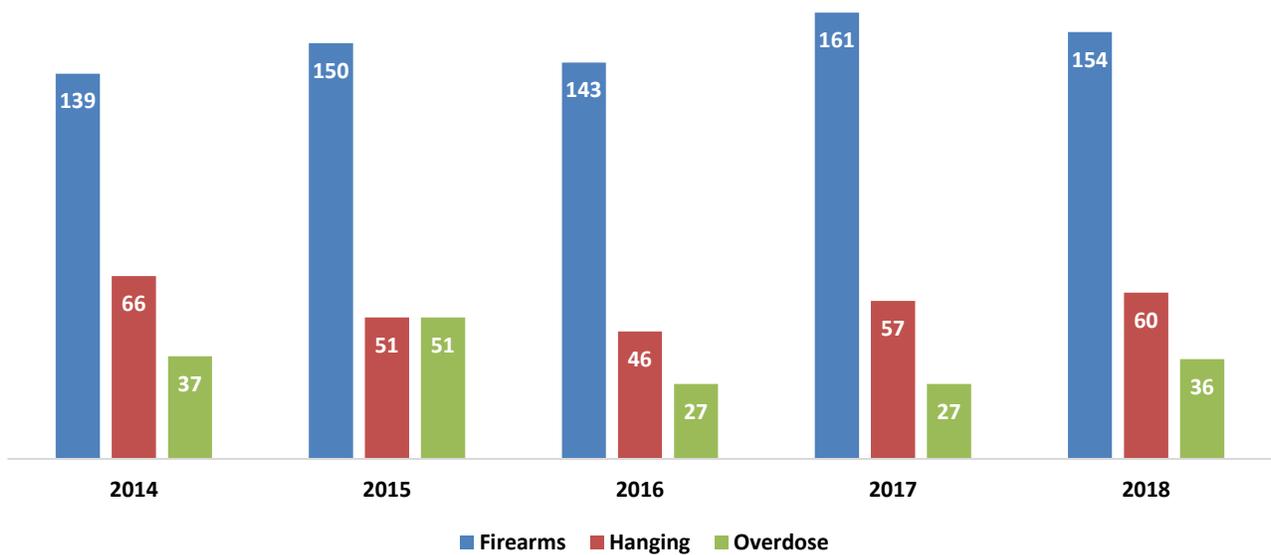
Suicide Deaths by Sex 2018



Suicide Deaths by Cause 2018



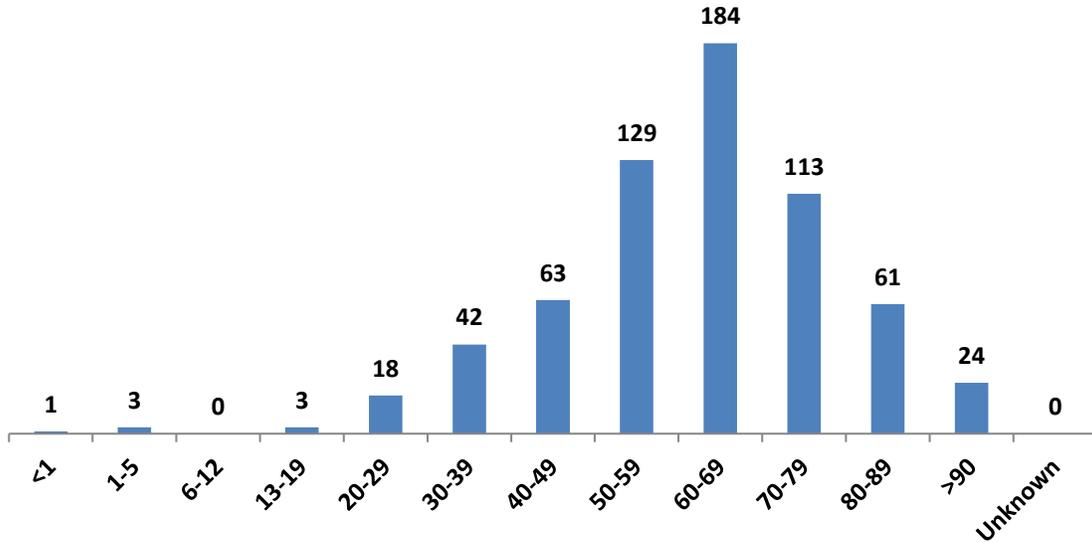
Suicide Deaths by Cause (Top 3) 2014 - 2018



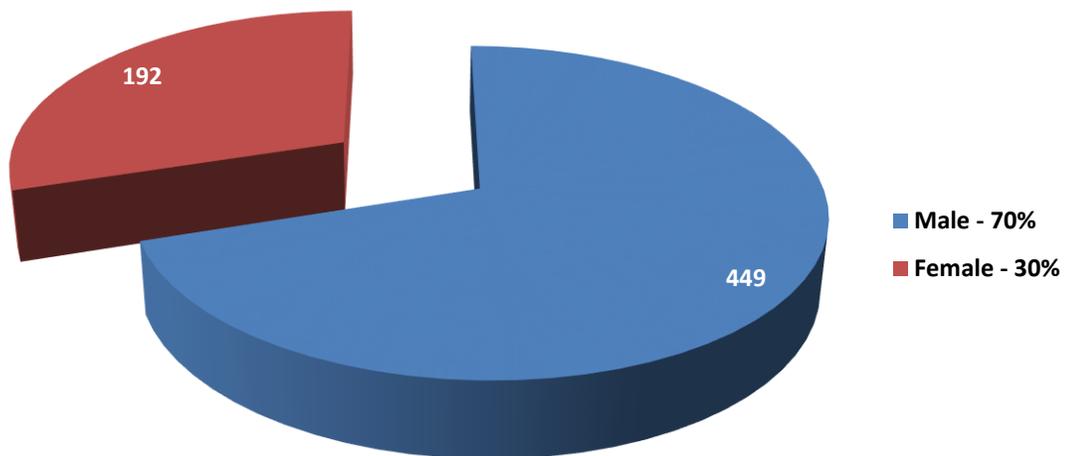
NATURAL DEATHS

Natural deaths accounted for 32% of the ME deaths investigated by the PCOME in 2018. Individuals who died from natural causes were most frequently males (70%), between 60-69 years of age (29%) and died as the result of cardiovascular disease (55%).

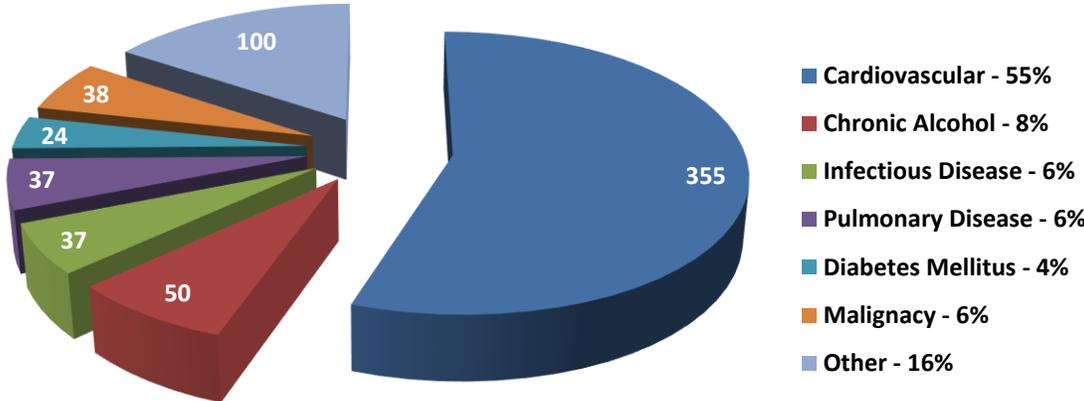
Natural Deaths by Age 2018



Natural Deaths by Sex 2018



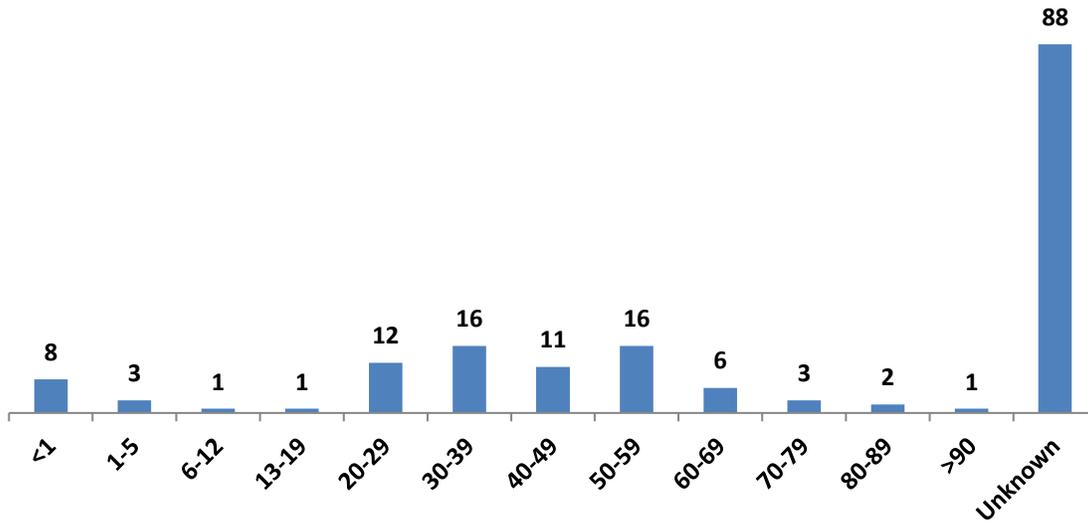
Natural Deaths by Cause 2018



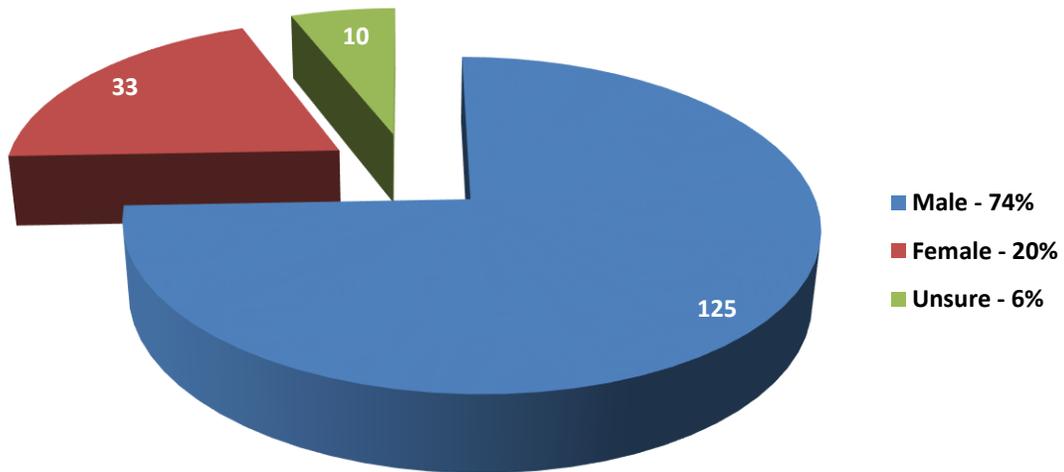
UNDETERMINED MANNER OF DEATH

Deaths in which the manner of death was undetermined accounted for 8% of the ME deaths investigated by the PCOME in 2018. Individuals who died with an undetermined manner were most frequently males (74%), of unknown age (52%) and died from undetermined causes (83%). Many of these deaths represent skeletal remains of undocumented border crossers who died in the deserts of southern Arizona.

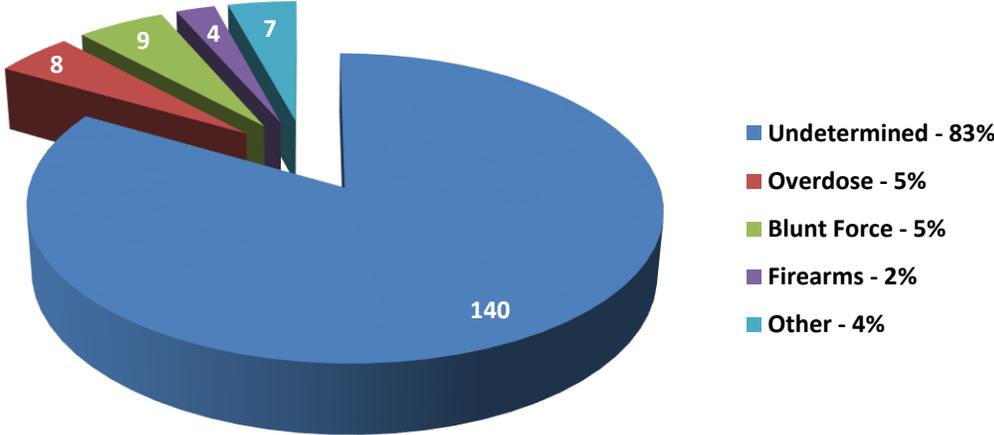
Undetermined Manner of Death by Age 2018



Undetermined Manner of Death by Sex 2018



Undetermined Manner of Death by Cause 2018



OVERDOSE DEATHS

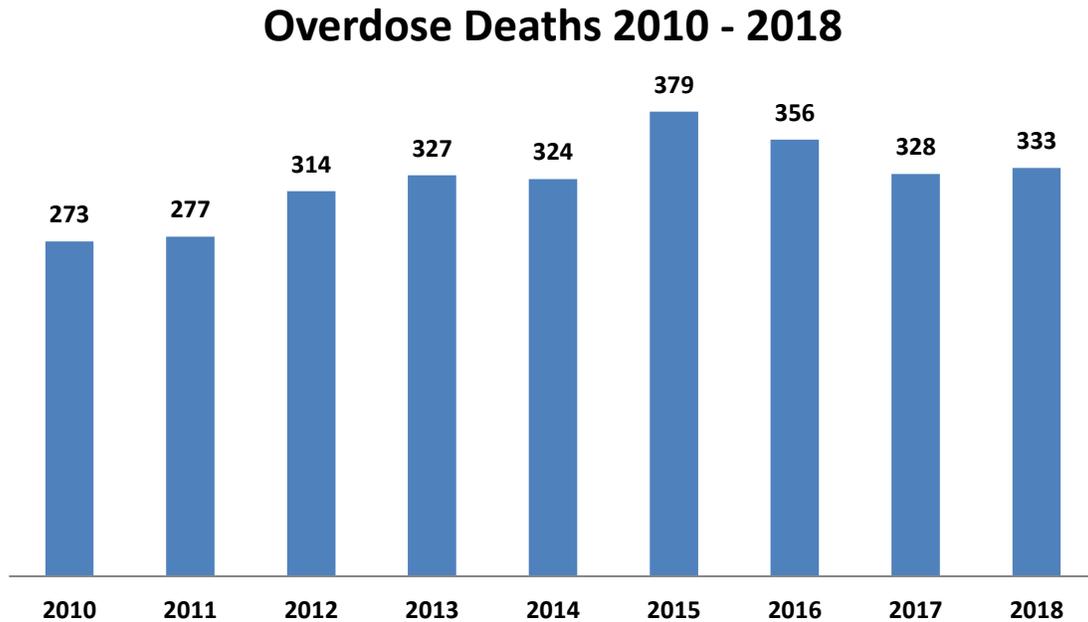
There were 333 deaths attributed to an overdose of either a single drug (189 deaths, 57%) or a combination of drugs (144 deaths, 43%) in 2018. Overdose deaths commonly involved males (70%) between the ages of 30-39 (22%). The majority of these deaths were classified as accidents (87%).

Opiate drugs (heroin, oxycodone, methadone, hydrocodone, morphine, oxymorphone, hydromorphone, tramadol, opiate unspecified) and fentanyl (a synthetic opioid narcotic) contributed to the majority of overdose deaths (203 deaths, 61%), 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 2018 followed by heroin.

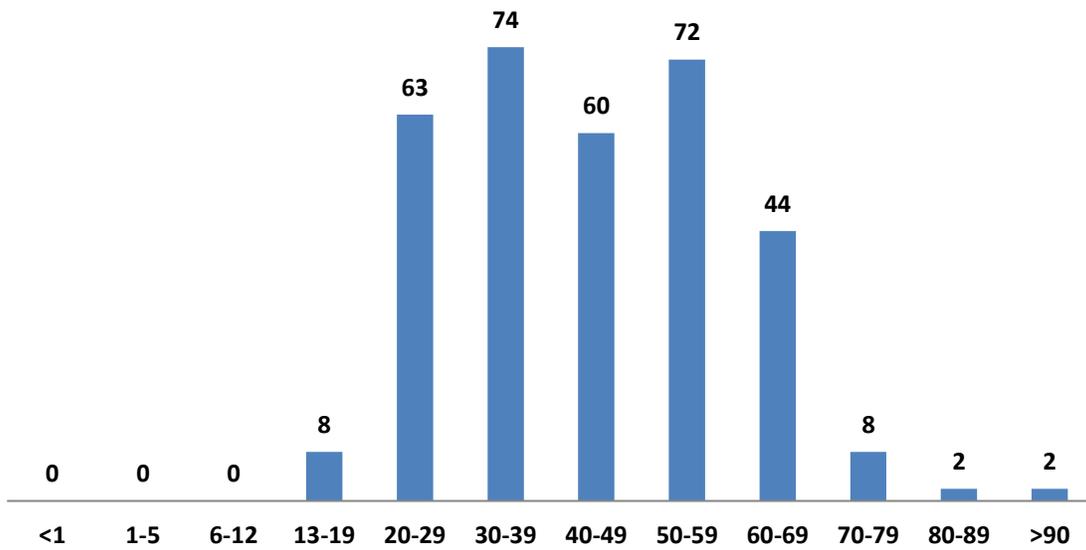
The number of heroin deaths is likely underreported as heroin is rapidly metabolized to morphine by the body and if the metabolite indicative for heroin (6-monoacetylmorphine) is not present on the toxicology report these deaths may be classified as either morphine intoxication or opiate intoxication.

Acute alcohol (ethanol) intoxication alone, not as component of a poly-drug overdose, accounted for 12 overdose (4%) deaths in 2018.

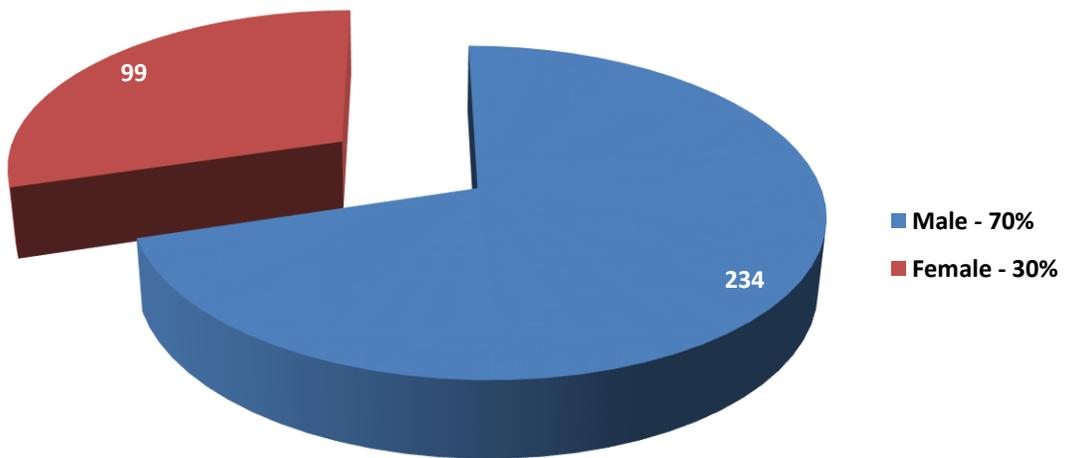
Fentanyl related deaths continued to increase (643% increase) from a low of 7 deaths in 2014 to 52 deaths in 2018.



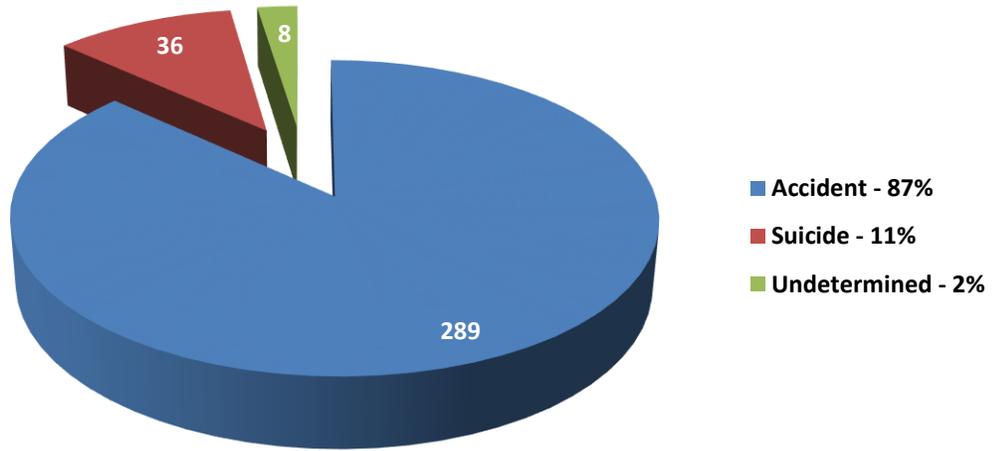
Overdose Deaths by Age 2018



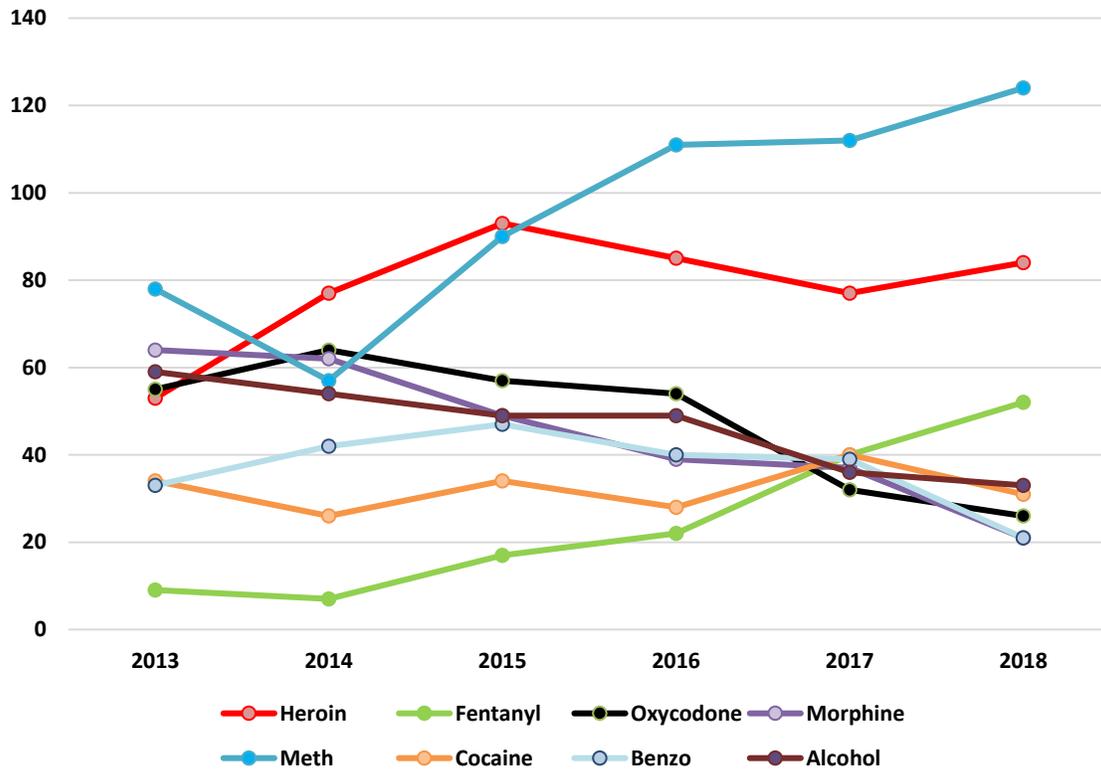
Overdose Deaths by Sex 2018



Overdose Deaths by Manner 2018

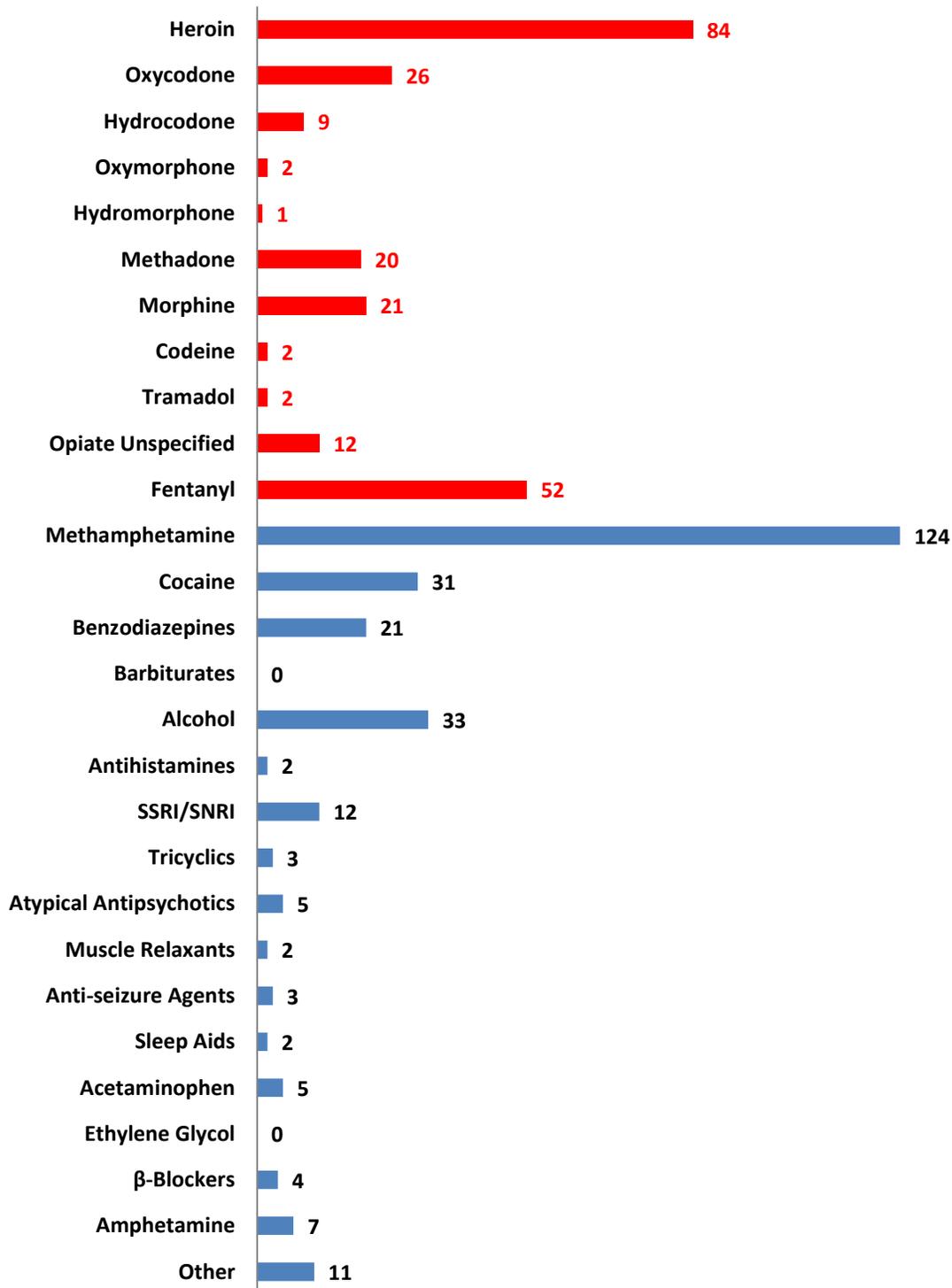


Select Drugs by Year 2013 - 2018



Overdose Deaths by Drug 2018

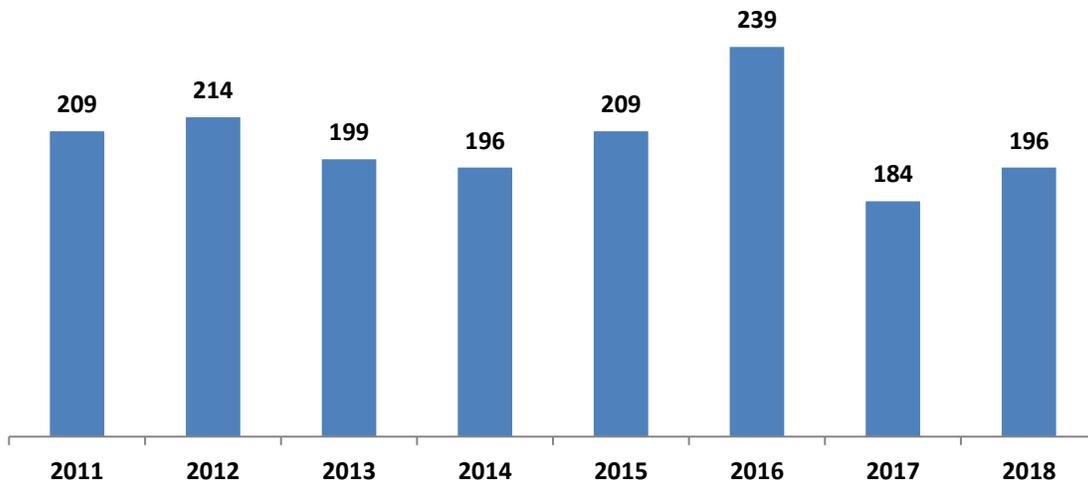
Opiate compounds are red



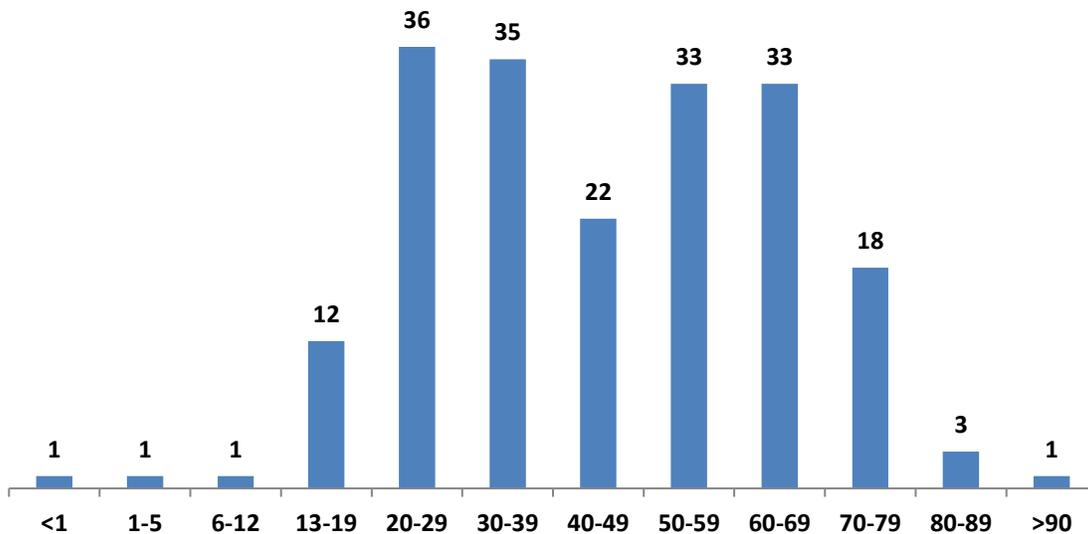
MOTOR VEHICLE RELATED FATALITIES

Motor vehicle related fatalities accounted for 196 total deaths in 2018. The majority, 110 deaths, were occupants of a motor vehicle involved in an accident (MVA). Of the remaining, 23 were motorcycle accidents (MCA), 57 were pedestrians or bicyclists struck by vehicles and 6 were operating an all-terrain vehicle (ATV). Individuals who died from motor vehicle related fatalities were most frequently males (69%) and between 20-29 years of age (23%).

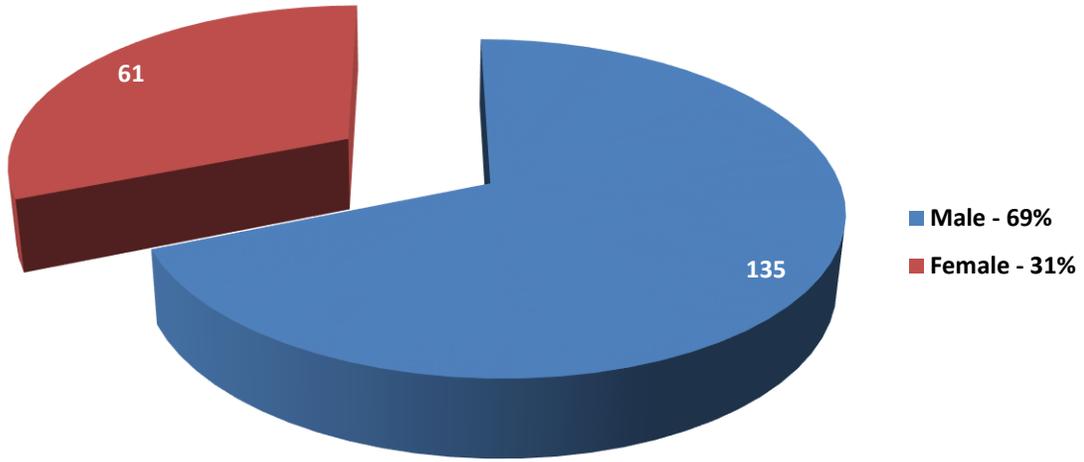
Motor Vehicle Fatalities by Year 2011 - 2018



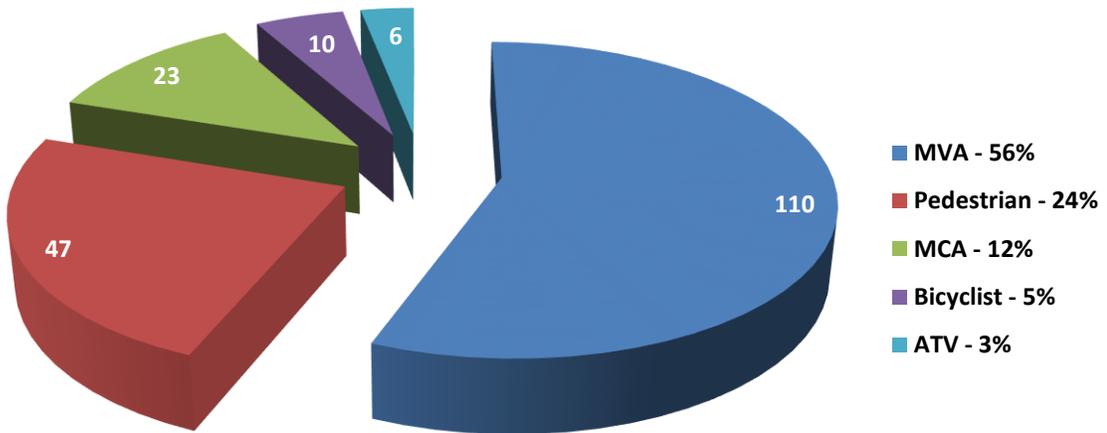
Motor Vehicle Fatalities by Age 2018



Motor Vehicle Fatalities by Sex 2018



Motor Vehicle Fatalities by Type 2018





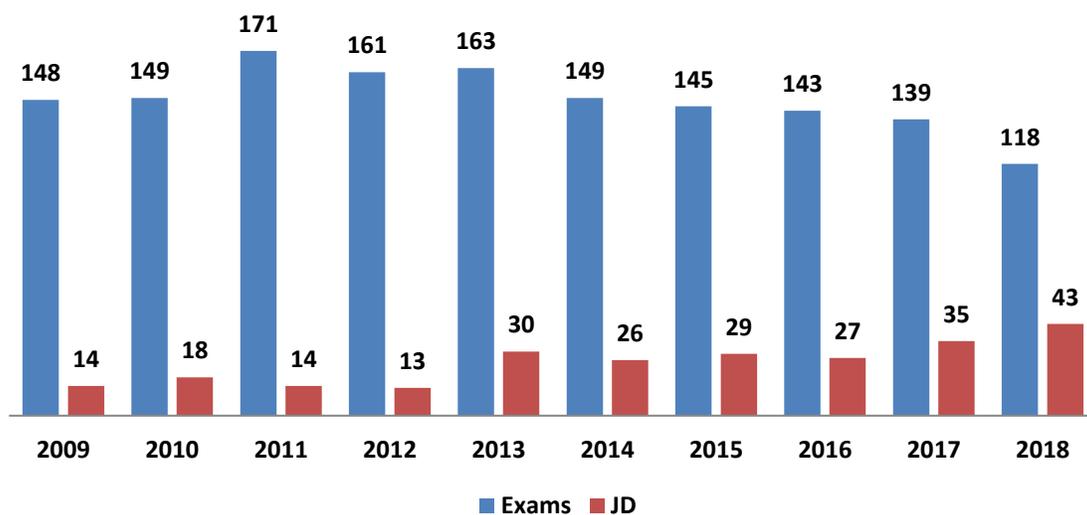
W.H. BIRKBY FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY LABORATORY

Forensic Anthropologists at the W.H. Birkby Forensic Anthropology Laboratory within the PCOME performed 118 examinations (biological profiles, trauma evaluations, dental examinations and examinations for identification) in 2018 on human remains of forensic significance. An additional 43 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.

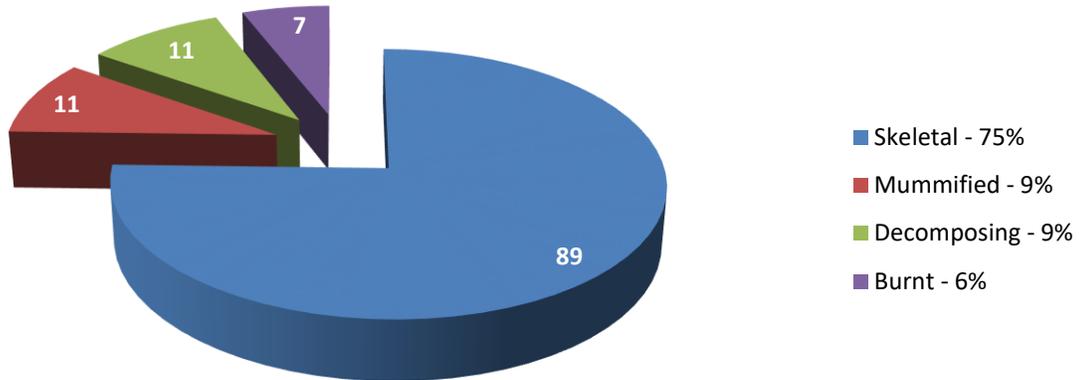
The extent of postmortem decomposition of a particular set of remains is important when performing a Forensic Anthropology (FA) examination. Remains examined by Forensic Anthropologists were categorized as minimally decomposed, decomposing, mummified, skeletal or burnt. In 2018, skeletal remains comprised 75% 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.

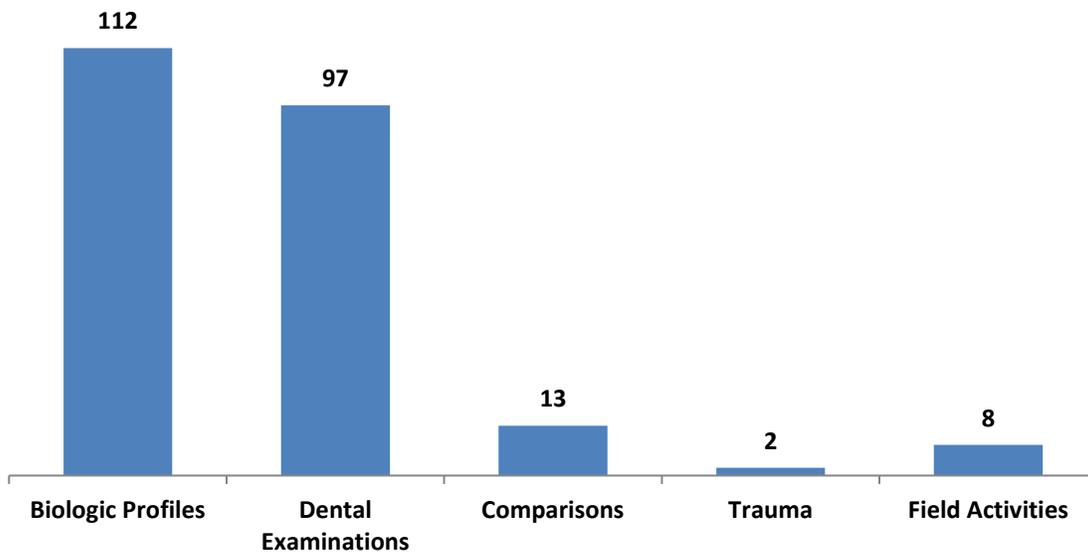
Number of FA Exams 2009 - 2018



FA Exam by Condition of Remains 2018



FA Examination by Type 2018



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 (164 recoveries per year on average from 2002 - 2018). The PCOME has received 2,943 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.

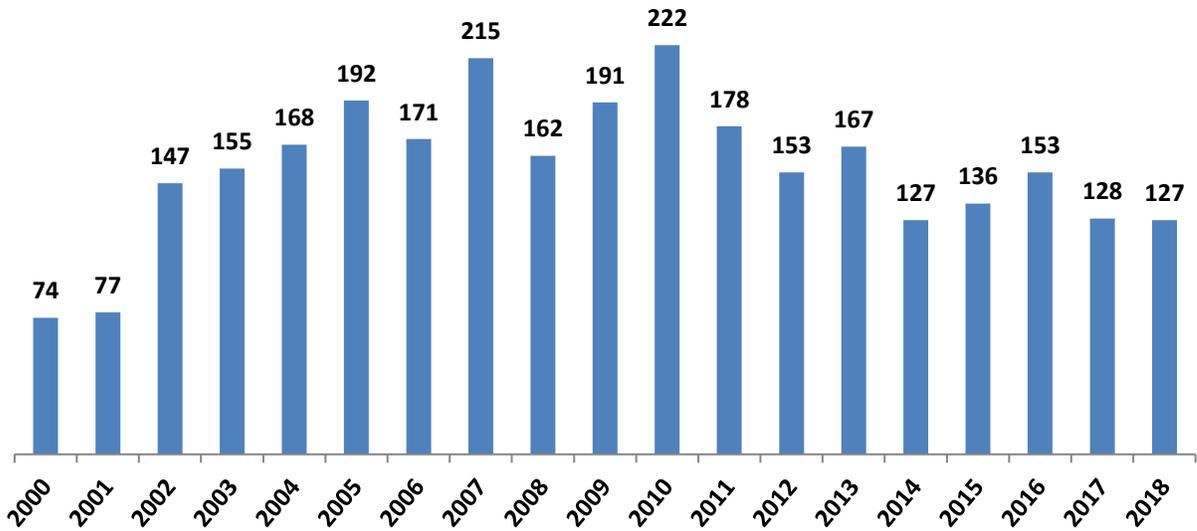
There were 127 UBC recoveries in calendar year 2018. As is the historic norm, UBC recoveries peaked during the warmer months (May – August) with 62 recoveries (49% of total for year) in 2018. Many remains are not identifiable due to postmortem changes and efforts by some UBCs to obscure their identities. Of the decedents who were identified, 60% (26 decedents) were between 20-39 years of age. Additionally, 84% (107) of the recovered remains, identified or unidentified, were males, 9% (11) were females and in 7% (9) 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 2018, 18 remains (condition 1) were found within less than a day of death (14%), 31 remains (conditions 2-4) were found with a few days up to a few weeks from death (24%), and skeletal remains (body conditions 5-7) accounted for 78 (61%) of the recovered remains.

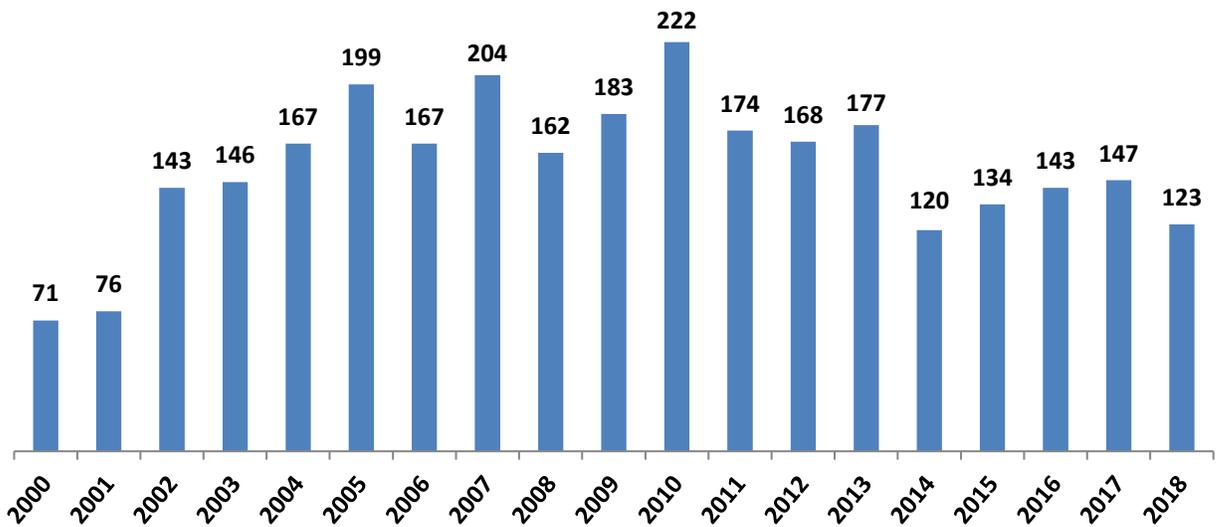
The cause of death was undetermined in 78% (99) of cases, primarily due to limitations of examination of decomposed and skeletal remains. Of the remainder, environmental exposure to extremes in heat or cold combined with dehydration comprised 20% (25) of deaths. Other, less frequent, causes of death included drowning (2 cases), and blunt force injuries (1 case).

In 2018, 21 (49%) of identified UBCs were of Mexican nationality, followed by Guatemalans (15 or 35%), Hondurans (4 or 9%), one Salvadoran (1 or 2%), one Peruvian (1 or 2%) and one Indian National (1 or 2%). Since 2000, identified UBCs of Mexican nationality have been the most numerous (1,554, 82%), followed by Guatemalans (200, 11%) and Salvadorans (52, 2%). Of the 2,943 decedents since 2000, 1,892 (64%) have been identified. As of December 31, 2018, 1050 decedents remain unidentified.

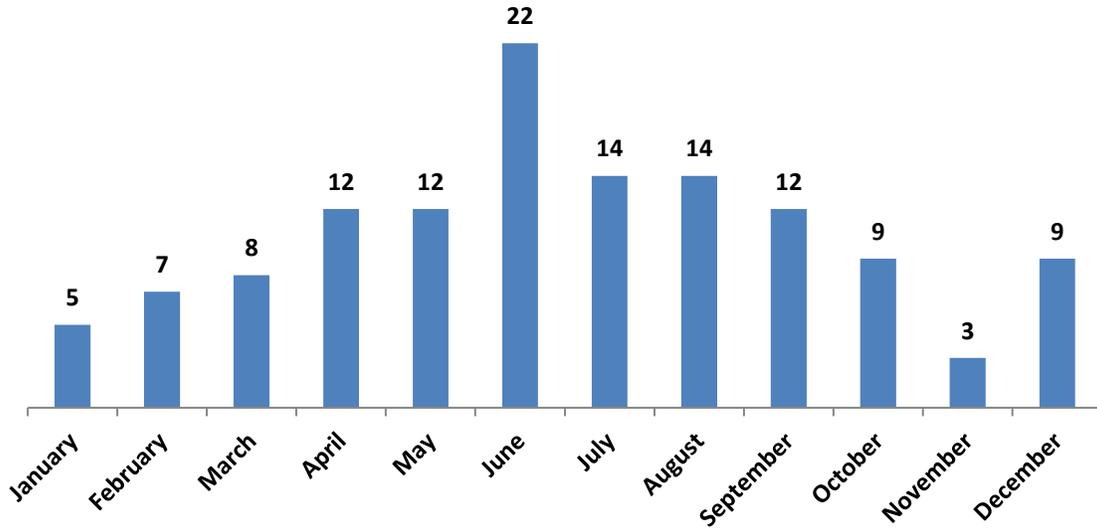
UBC Recoveries CY2000 - 2018



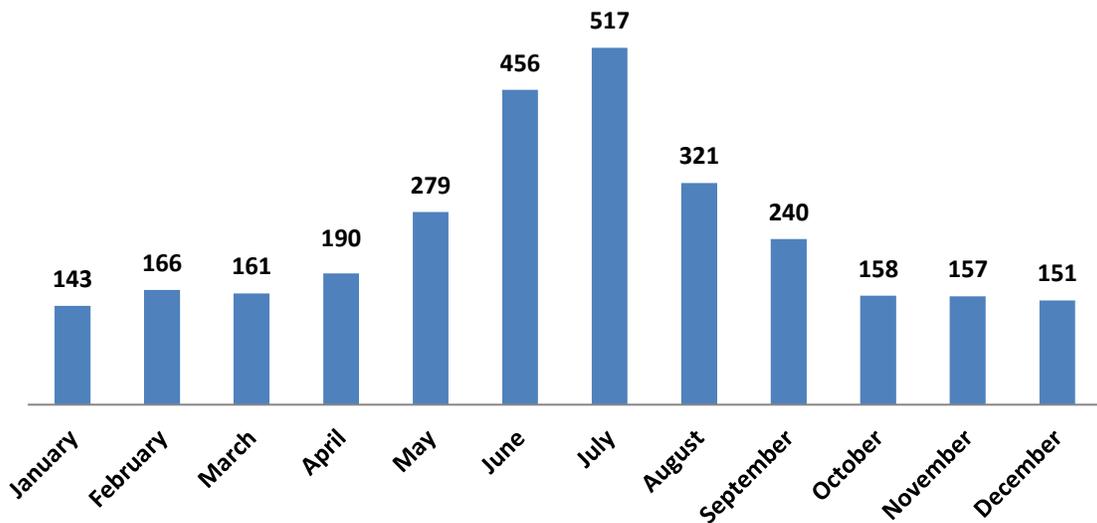
UBC Recoveries FedFY2000 - 2018



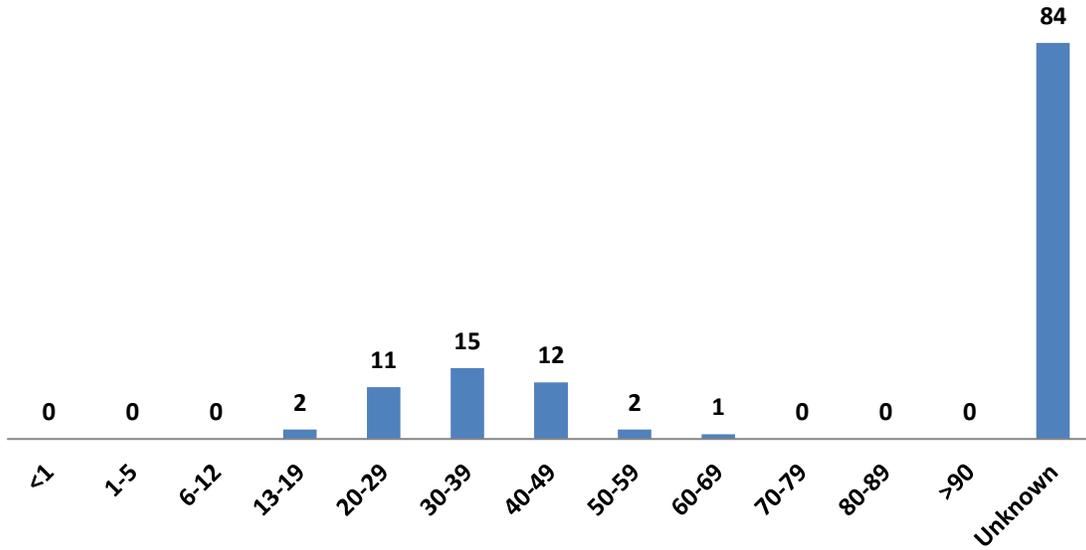
UBC Recoveries by Month 2018



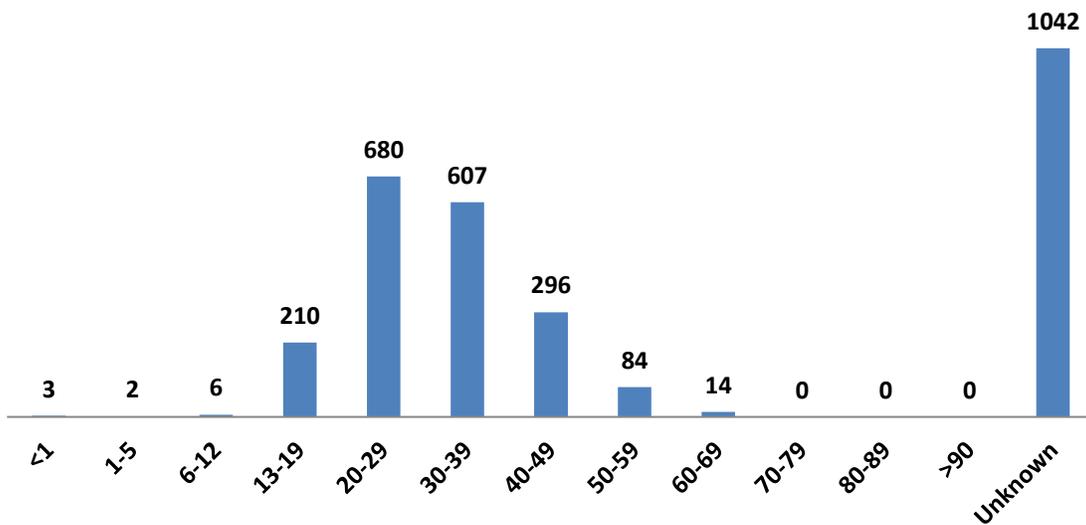
UBC Recoveries by Month 2000 - 2018



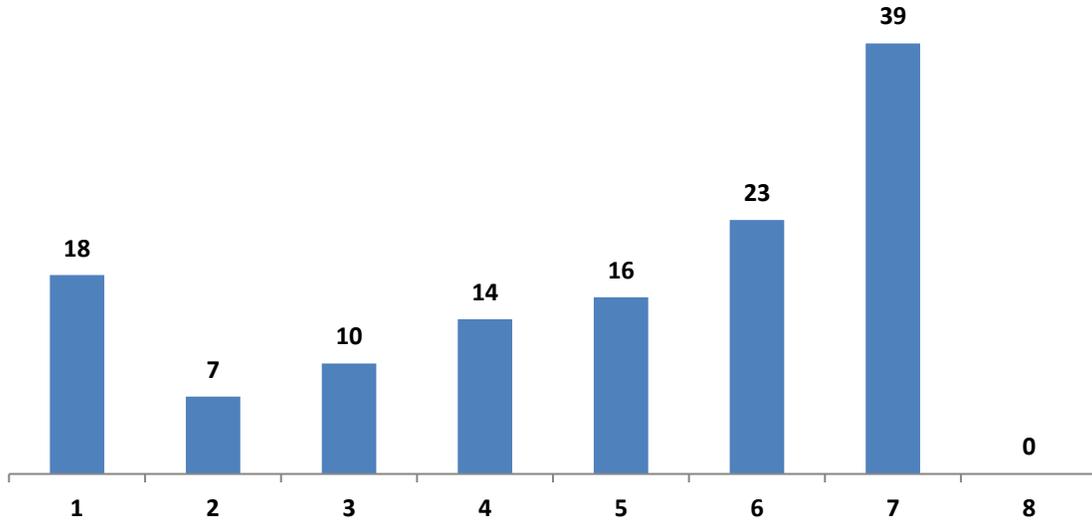
UBC Recoveries by Age 2018



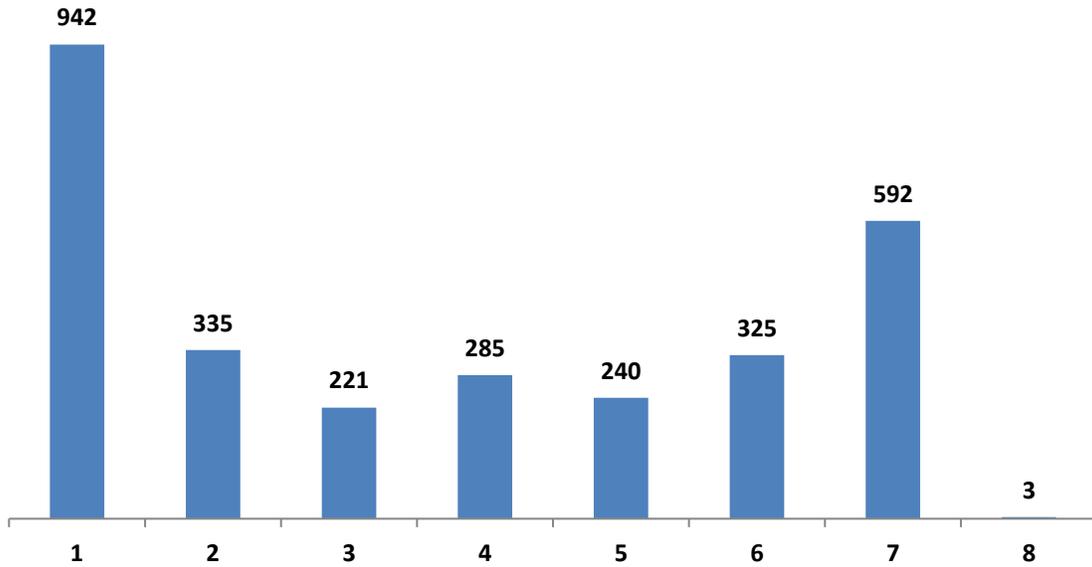
UBC Recoveries by Age 2000 - 2018



Condition of Recovered UBC Remains 2018

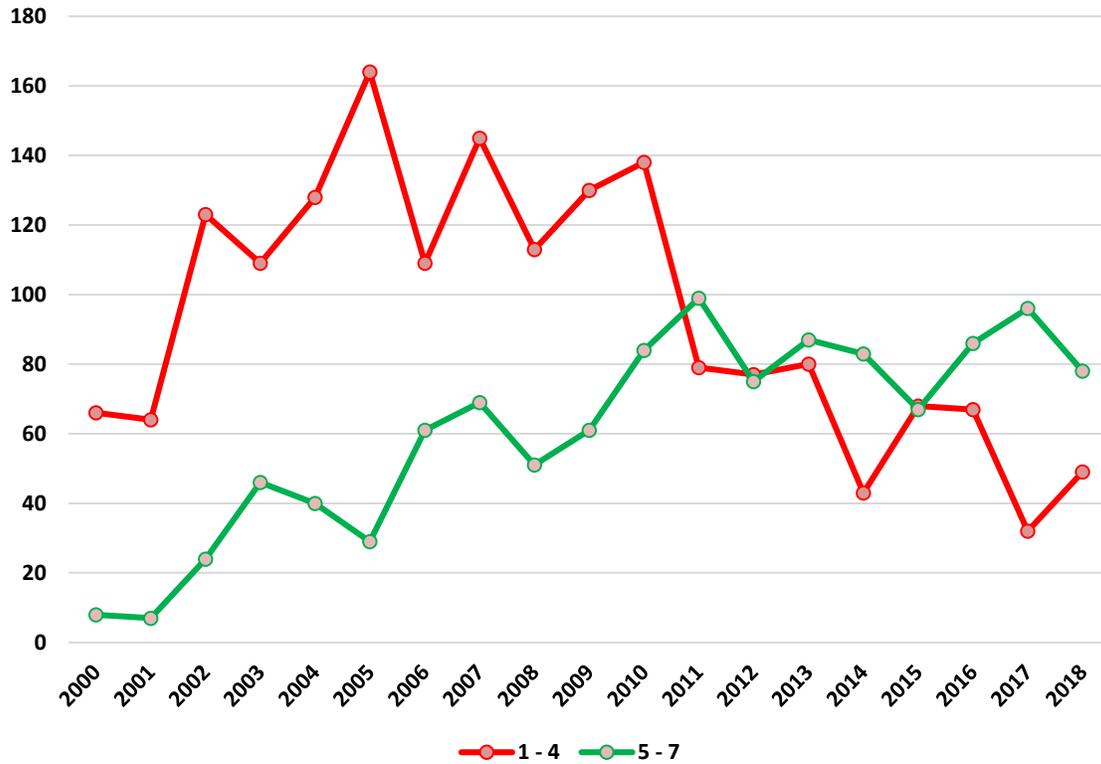


Condition of Recovered UBC Remains 2000 - 2018



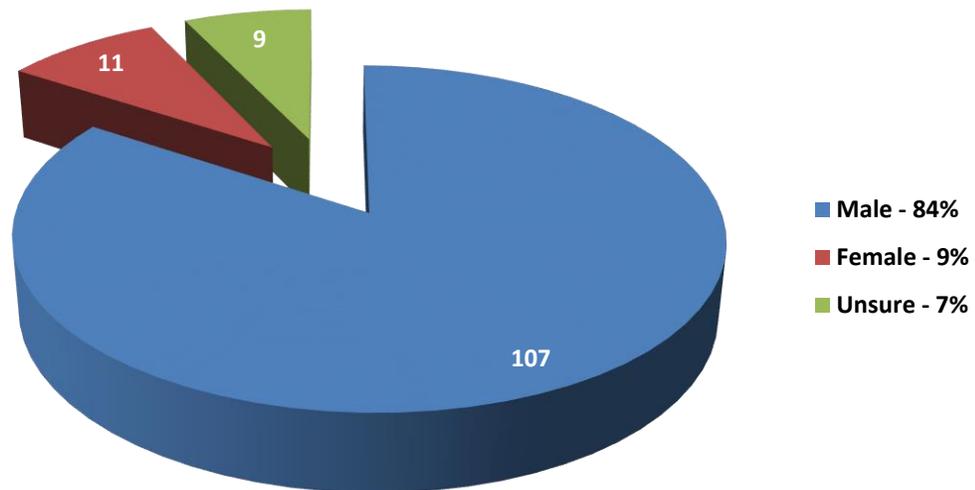
- 1 - Fully fleshed (PMI < 1 day)
- 2 - Decomposed (PMI < week)
- 3 - Decomposition with focal skeletonization (PMI < 3 weeks)
- 4 - Mummification with skeletonization (PMI < 5 weeks)
- 5 - Skeletonization with articulation/ligamentous attachments (PMI < 3 months)
- 6 - Complete skeletonization with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

Pooled Body Conditions of Recovered UBC Remains by Year 2000 - 2018

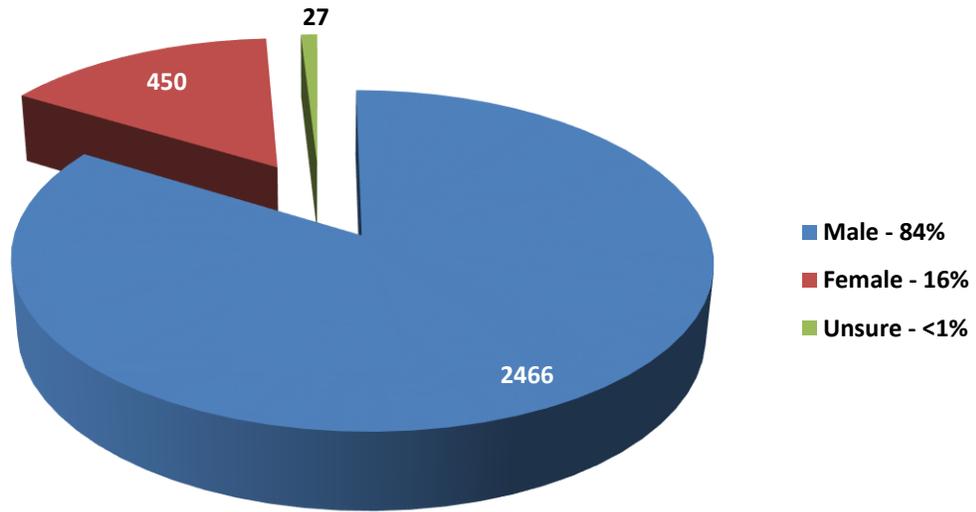


1 – 4 represents not fully skeletal remains with a likely PMI of ≤ 3 months
 5 – 7 represents fully skeletal remains with a likely PMI of ≥ 3 months

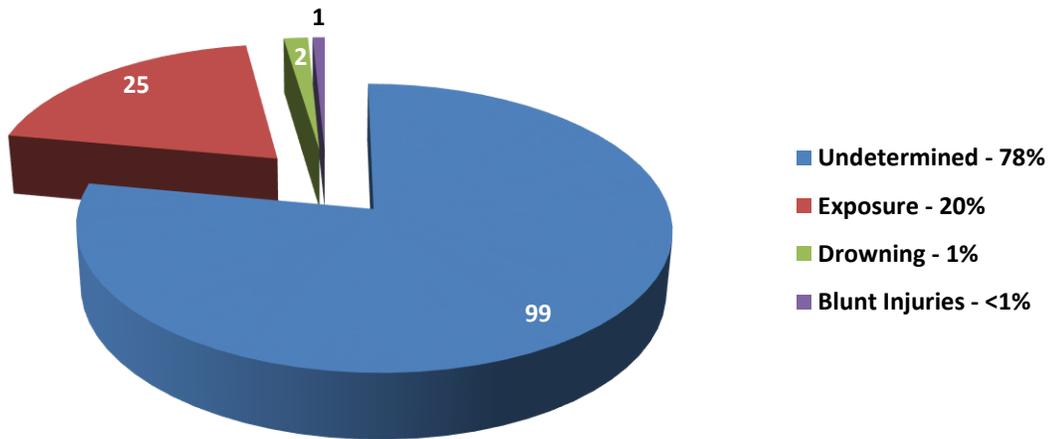
UBC Recoveries by Sex 2018



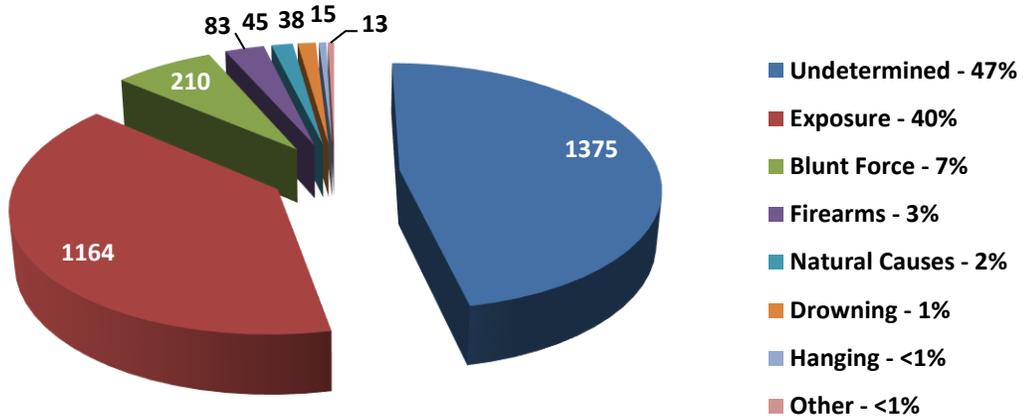
UBC Recoveries by Sex 2000 - 2018



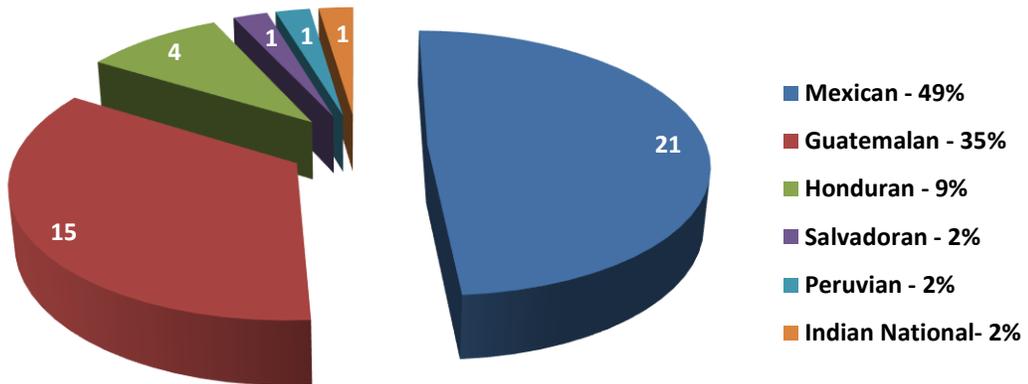
UBC Recoveries by Cause 2018



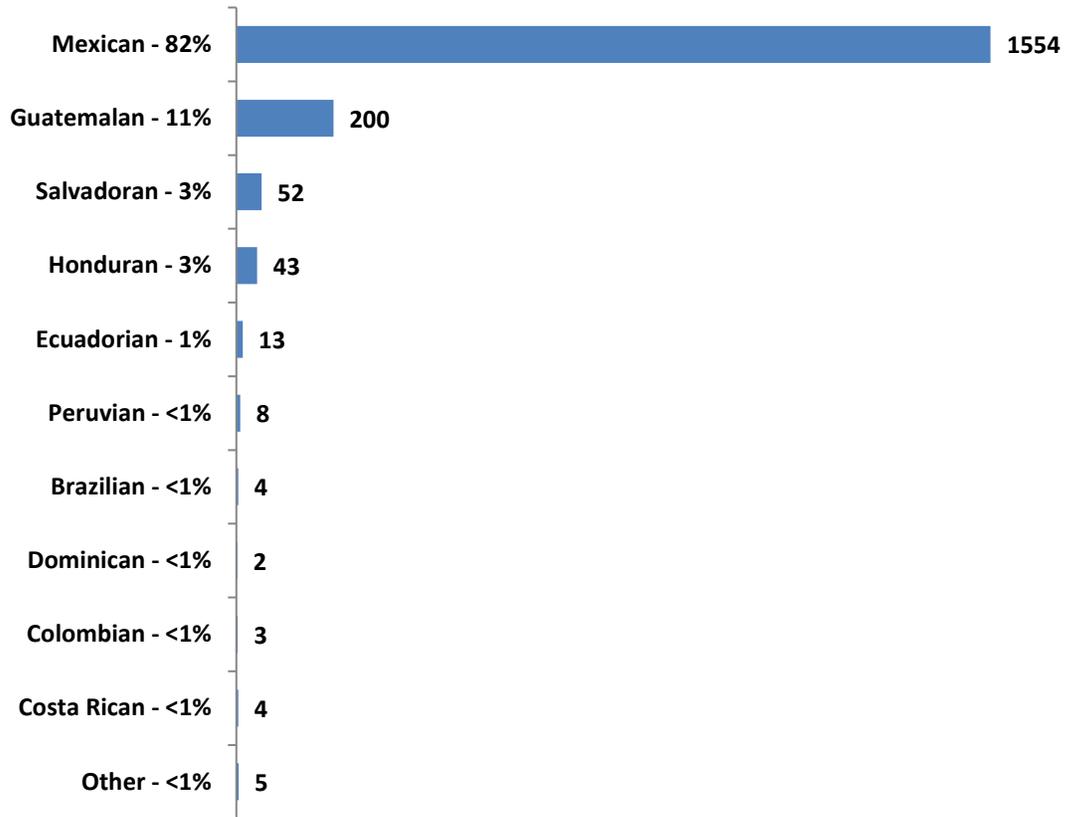
UBC Recoveries by Cause 2000 - 2018



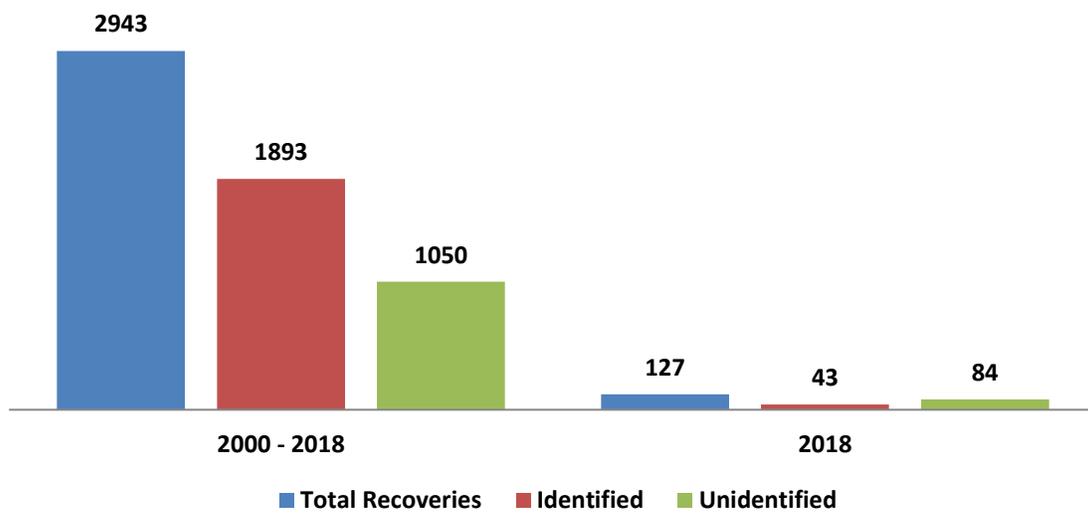
Identified UBC Recoveries by Nationality 2018



Identified UBC Recoveries by Nationality 2000 - 2018



Identified vs Unidentified UBC Recoveries



UBC Methods of Identification 2000 - 2018

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
Visual	20	22	68	45	51	56	50	71	57	68	64	22	21	31	12	13	13	5	8	697
Circumstantial	28	30	29	36	37	34	23	31	21	15	14	18	10	8	5	9	3	0	3	354
Fingerprints	12	4	19	22	25	41	25	31	15	20	17	27	29	13	8	19	43	21	31	422
DNA	1	2	3	16	16	18	16	19	20	25	54	35	31	45	36	35	12	10	0	394
Dental	0	0	2	0	2	1	0	2	0	1	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	14
Radiography	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	3	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	11
Identified	61	58	121	120	133	150	114	157	114	129	151	102	94	100	61	77	71	37	42	1893
Unidentified	13	19	26	35	35	42	57	58	48	62	71	76	59	67	66	59	82	91	85	1050
Total UBCs	74	77	147	155	168	192	171	215	162	191	222	178	153	167	127	136	153	128	127	2943
% Identified	82%	75%	82%	76%	79%	76%	68%	73%	70%	68%	67%	57%	61%	59%	47%	54%	44%	23%	33%	64%

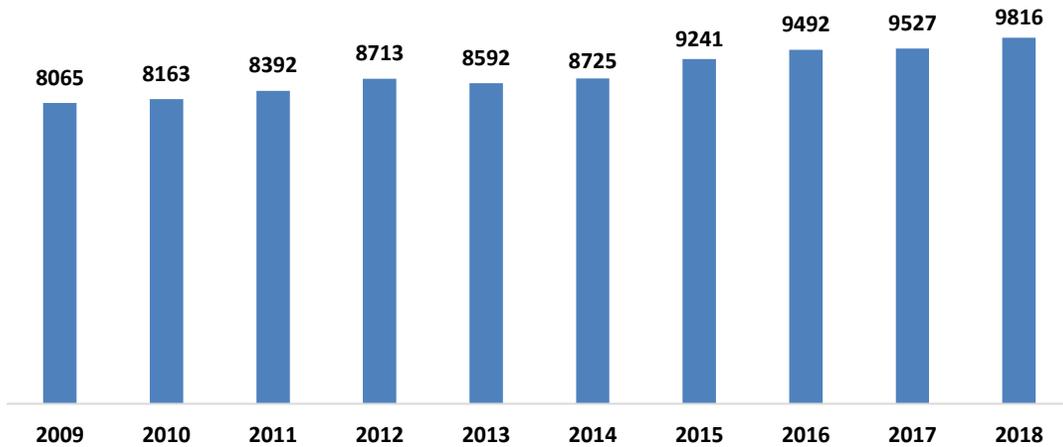
PIMA COUNTY

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 2018 there were 9,816 deaths in Pima County; of these 2,774 (28%) were reported to the PCOME for investigation.



Pima County Mortality by Year 2009 - 2018*

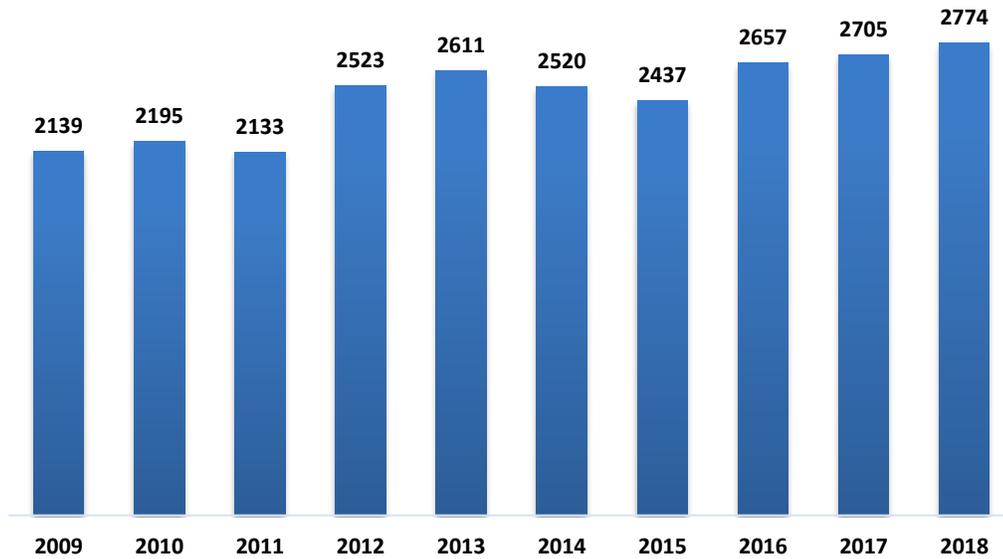


*Arizona Department of Vital Statistics as of 06/06/19

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 2009 - 2018

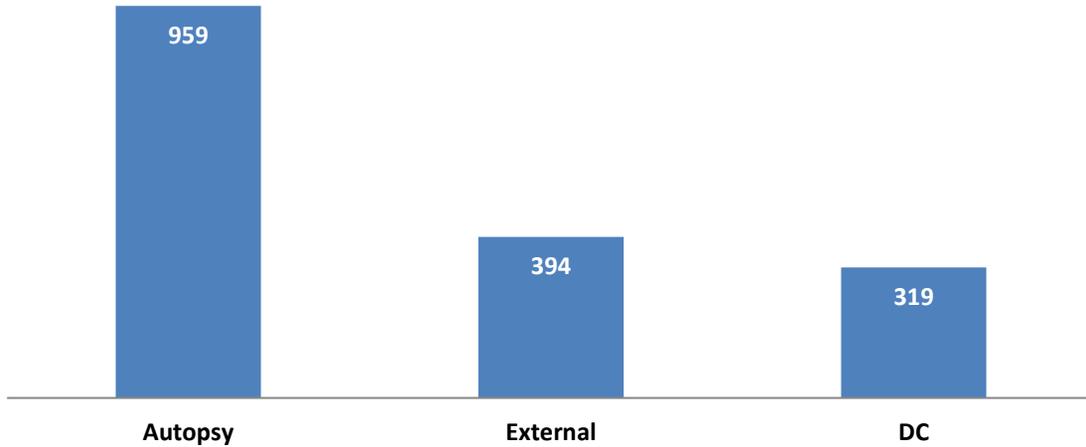


MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

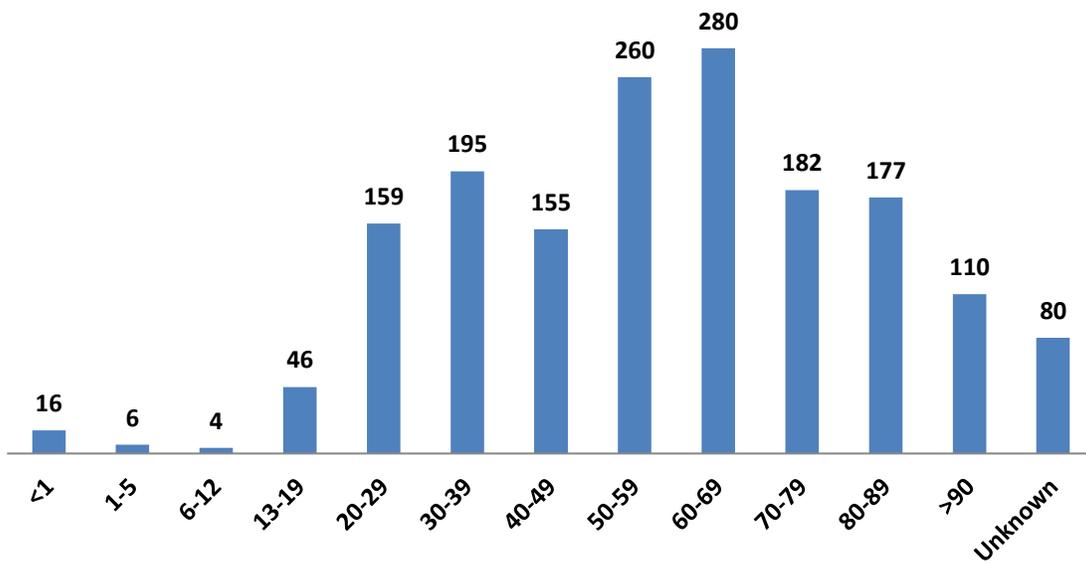
The PCOME considers all cases in which the cause and manner of death are determined by this office as “medical examiner cases.” Those cases include autopsies, external examinations and death certificate (DC) cases. Autopsies are examinations where a decedent is examined both externally and internally 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 2018, 959 autopsies, 394 external examinations and 319 DC cases were performed on deaths from Pima County.



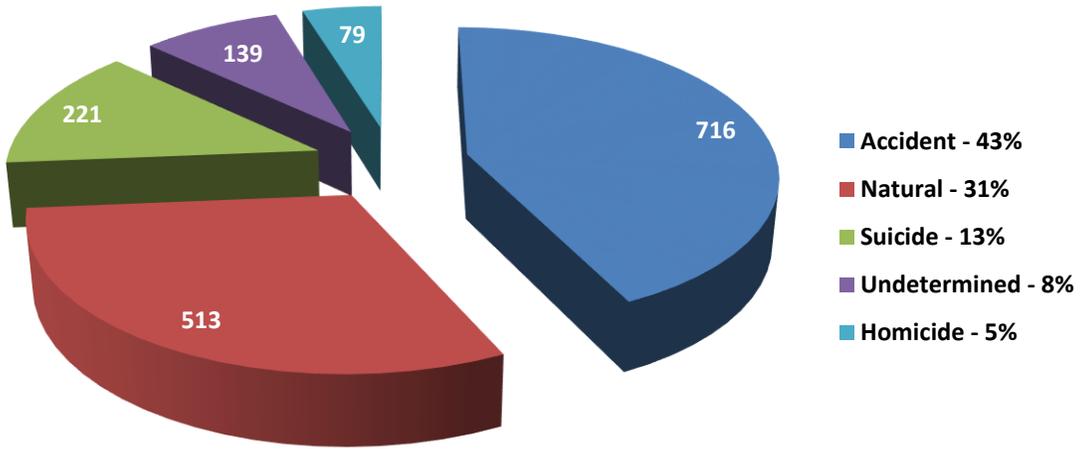
2018 Pima County Medical Examiner Cases



Pima County Medical Examiner Cases by Age 2018



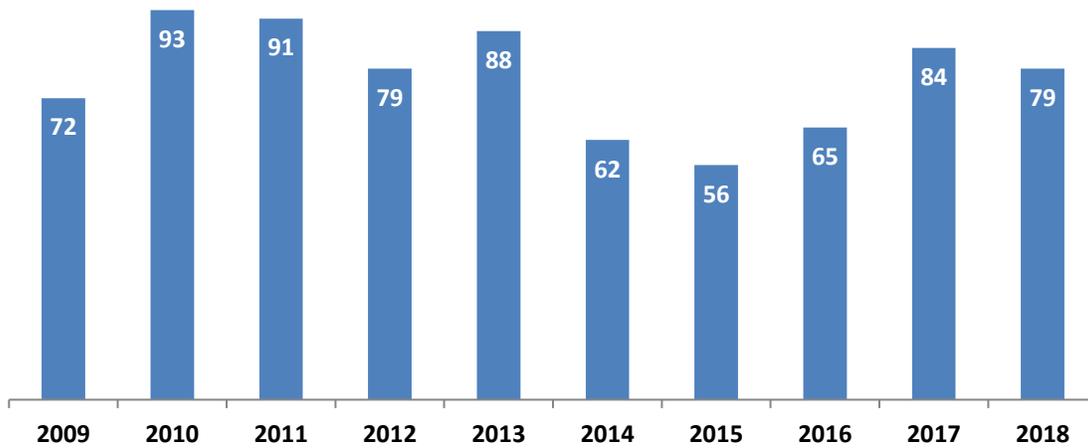
Pima County ME Cases by Manner of Death 2018



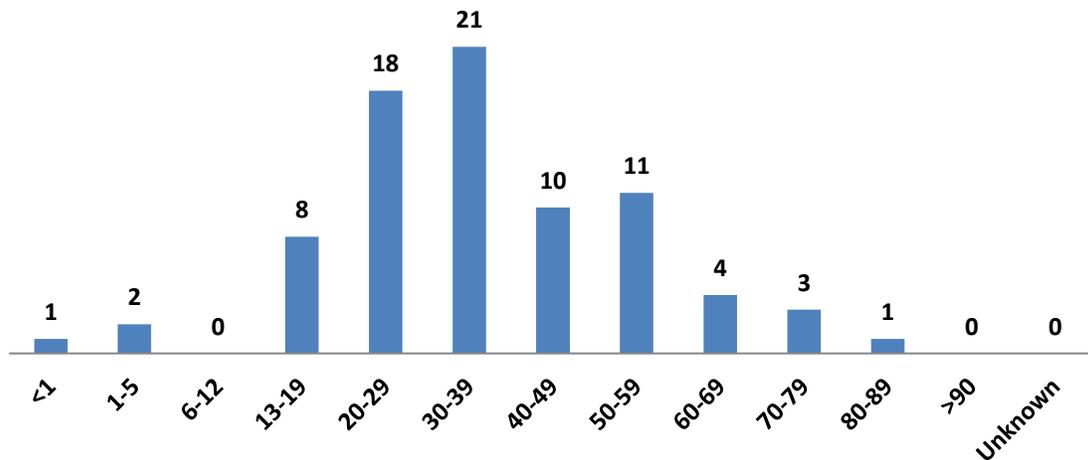
HOMICIDE DEATHS

The PCOME examined 84 homicides from Pima County in 2018; 5% of total Pima County deaths certified. Homicide totals from 2009 – 2018 are compared below. Homicide victims were most frequently male (84%), between 30-39 years of age (27%) and died as the result of firearms (68%).

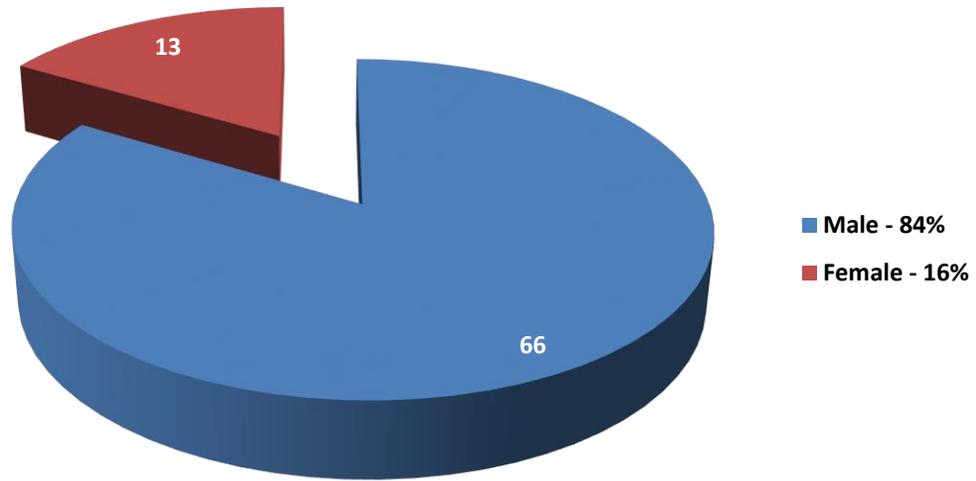
Pima County Homicide Deaths 2009 - 2018



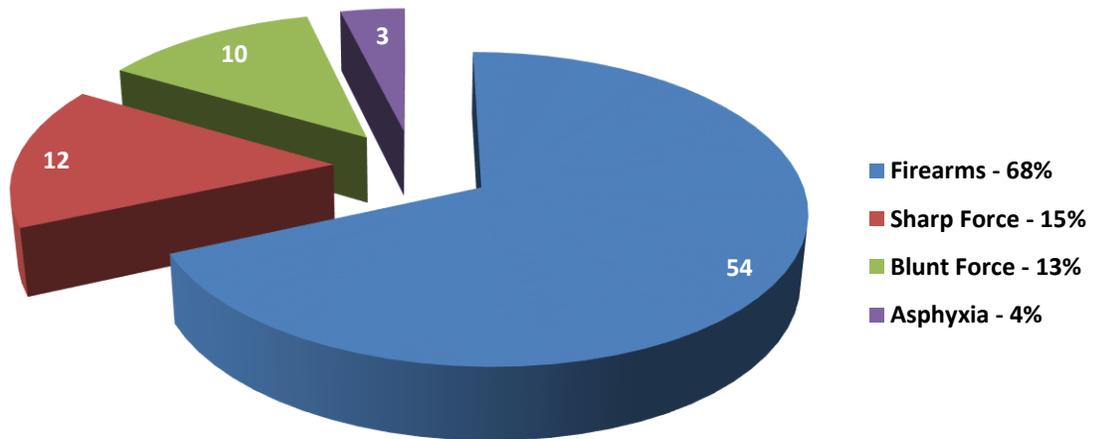
Pima County Homicide Deaths by Age 2018



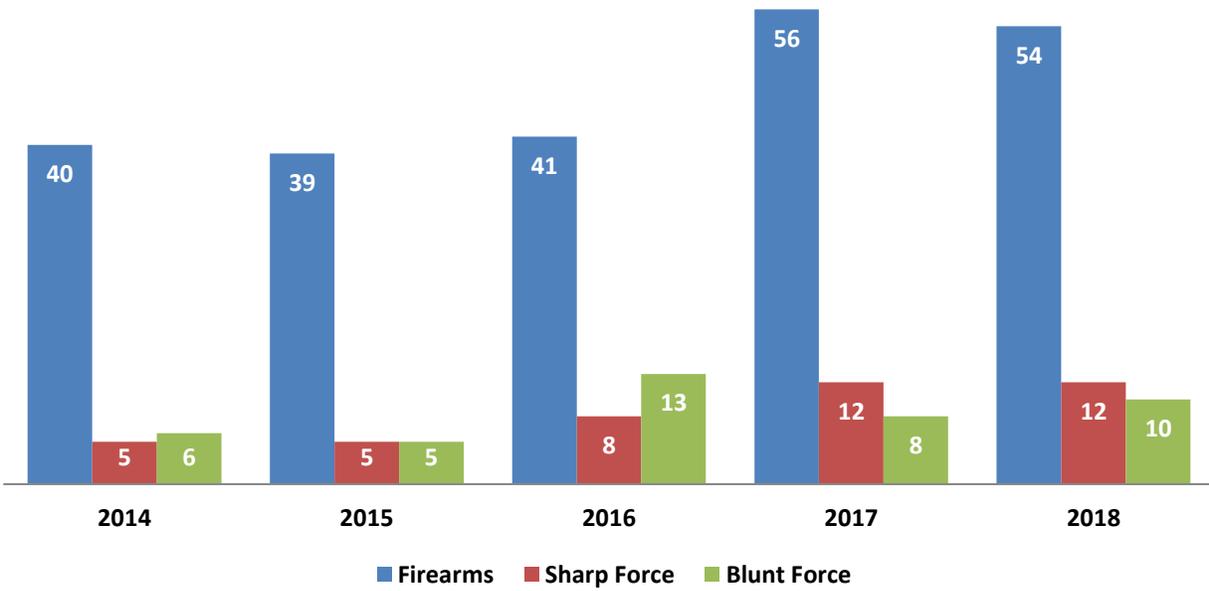
Pima County Homicide Deaths by Sex 2018



Pima County Homicide Deaths by Cause 2018



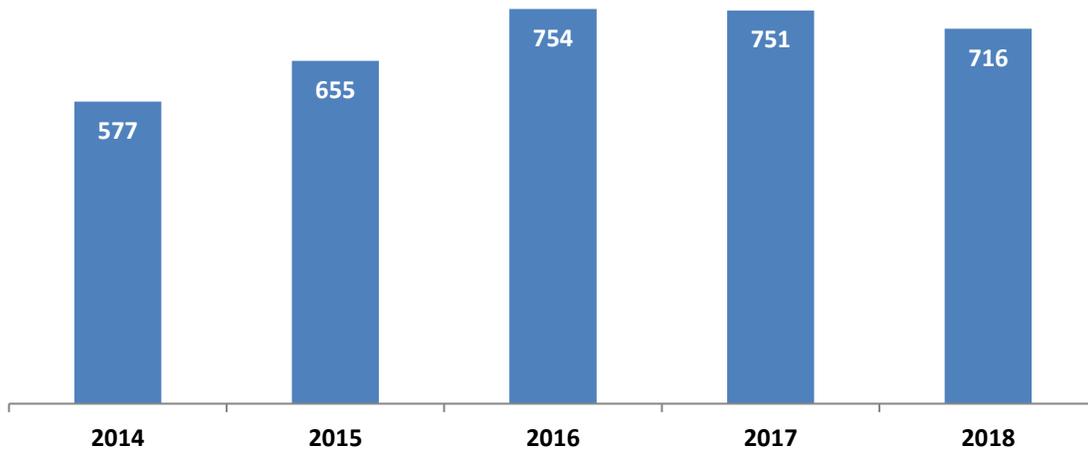
Pima County Homicide Deaths by Cause (Top 3) 2014 - 2018



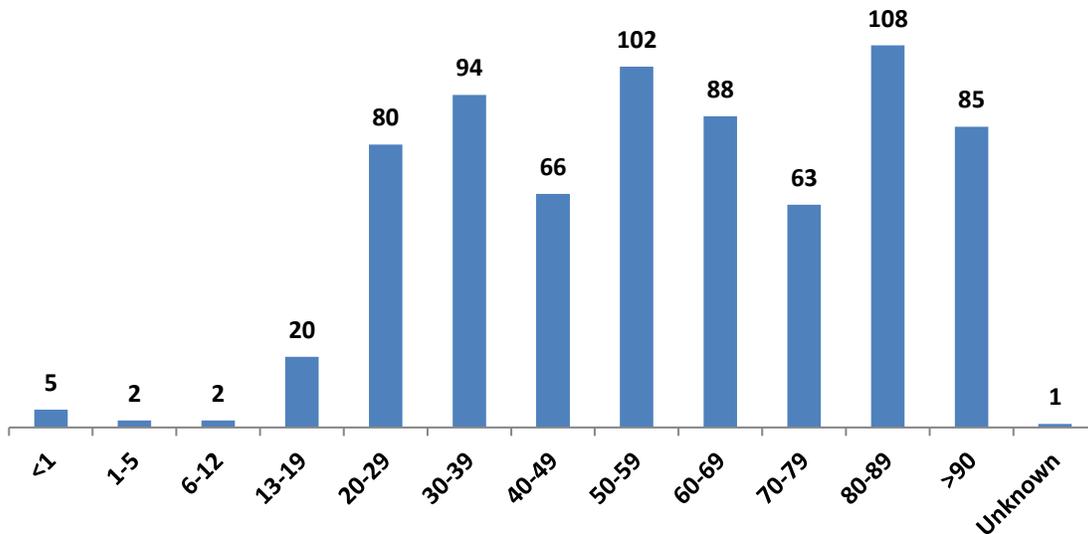
ACCIDENT DEATHS

Deaths due to accidents accounted for 43% of the Pima County deaths investigated by the PCOME in 2018. Accident victims were most frequently males (62%), over 80 years of age (27%) and died as the result of blunt force injuries (35%) often as the result of such conditions as complications of a hip fracture or intracranial hemorrhage from a fall.

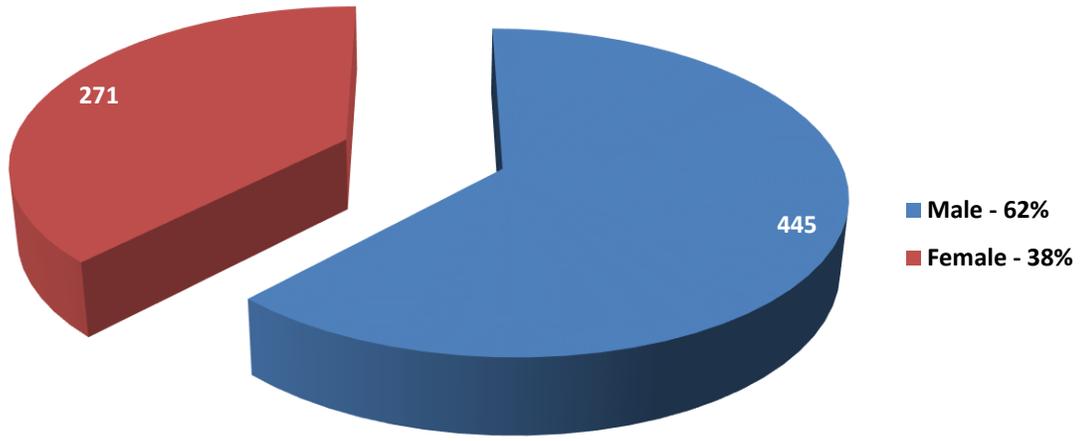
Pima County Accident Deaths 2014 - 2018



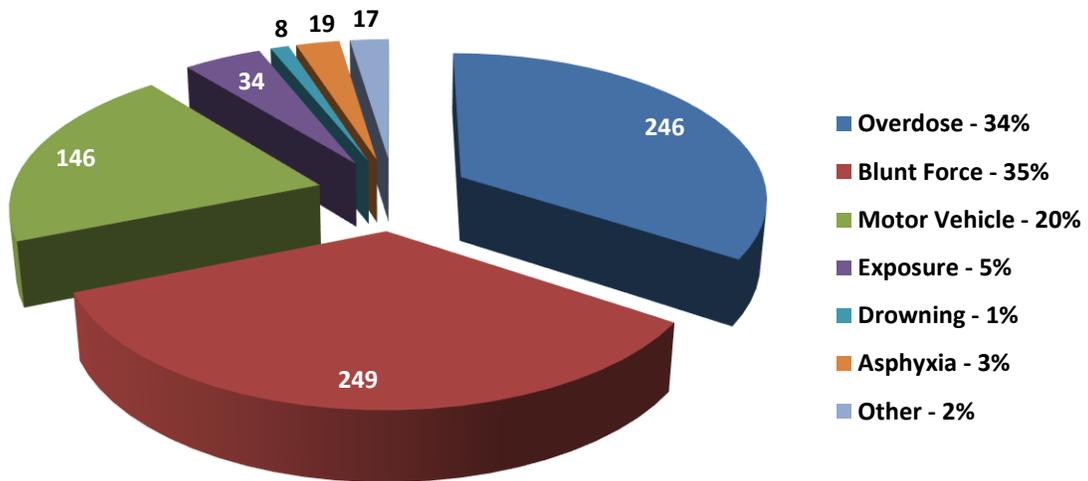
Pima County Accident Deaths by Age 2018



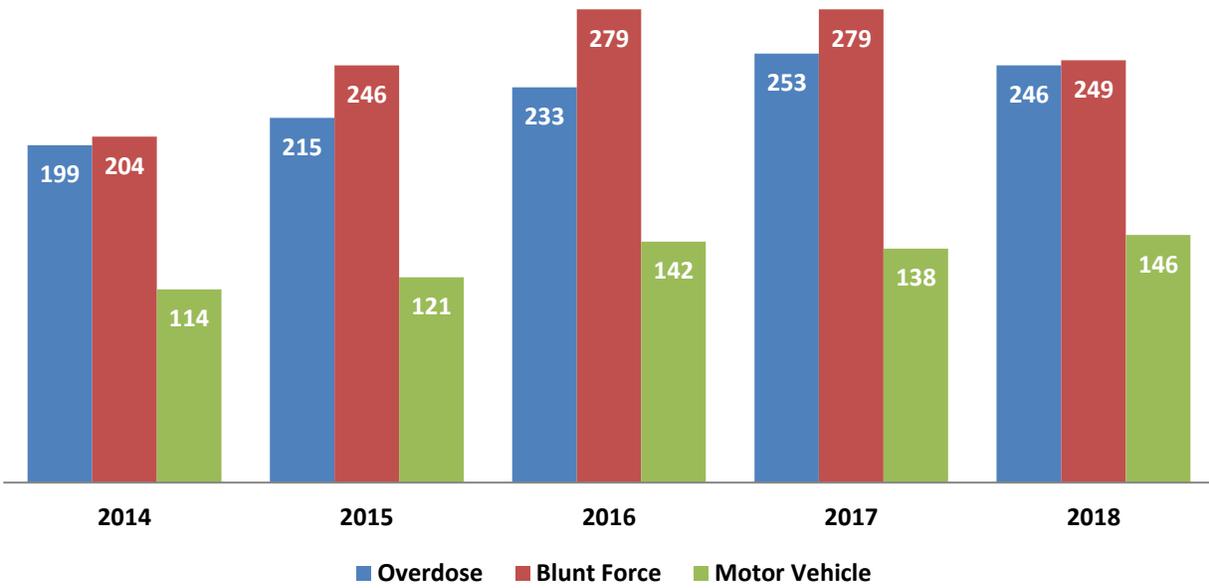
Pima County Accident Deaths by Sex 2018



Pima County Accident Deaths by Cause 2018



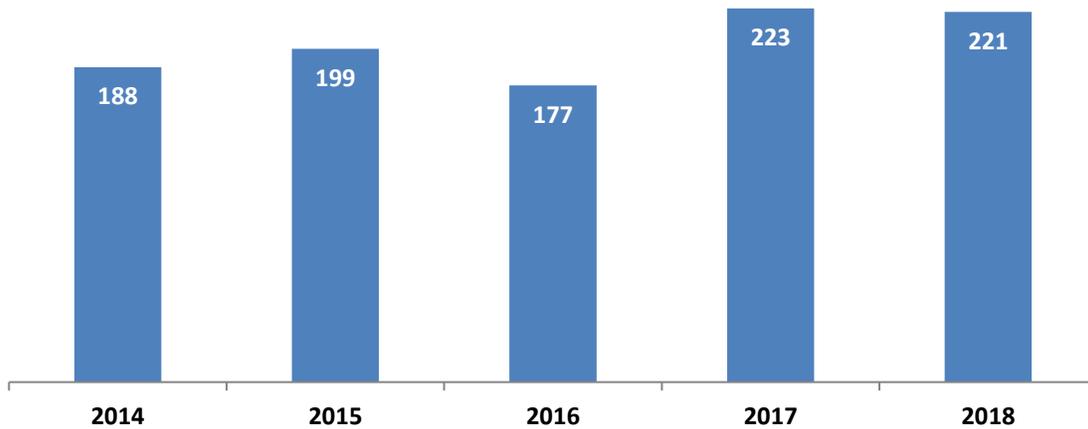
Pima County Accident Deaths by Cause (Top 3) 2014 - 2018



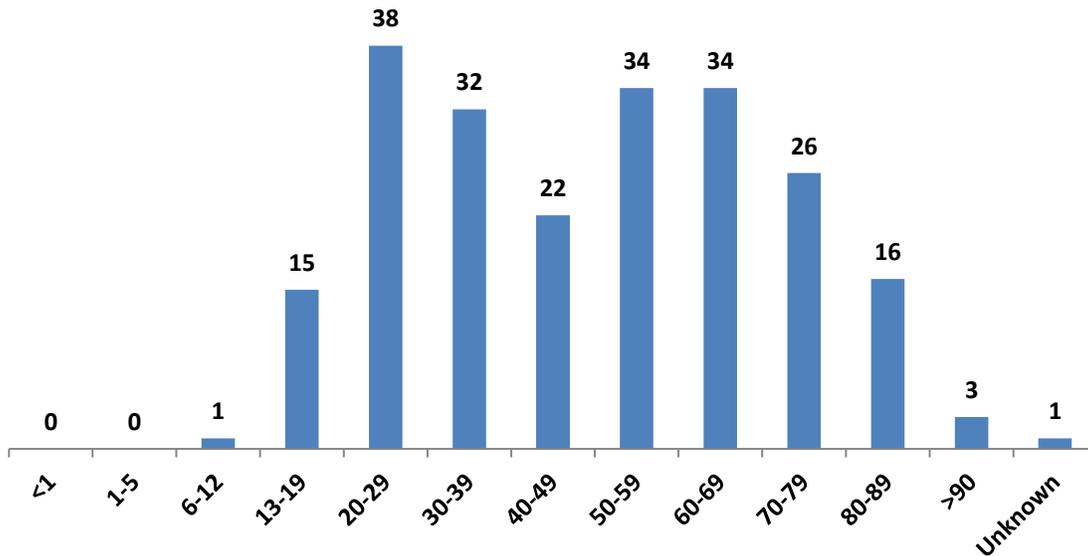
SUICIDE DEATHS

Deaths due to suicide accounted for 13% of the Pima County deaths investigated by the PCOME in 2018. Suicide victims were most frequently males (83%), between 20-29 years of age (17%) and died as the result of firearms (57%).

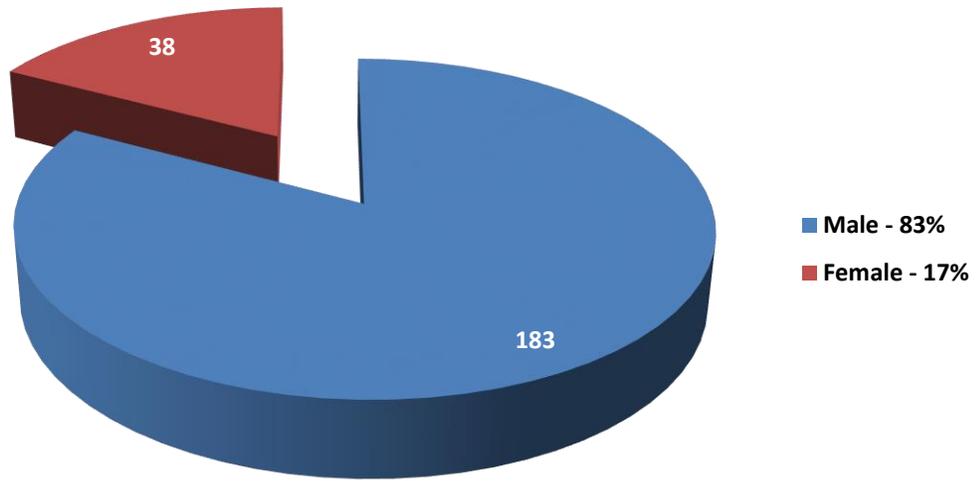
Pima County Suicide Deaths 2014 - 2018



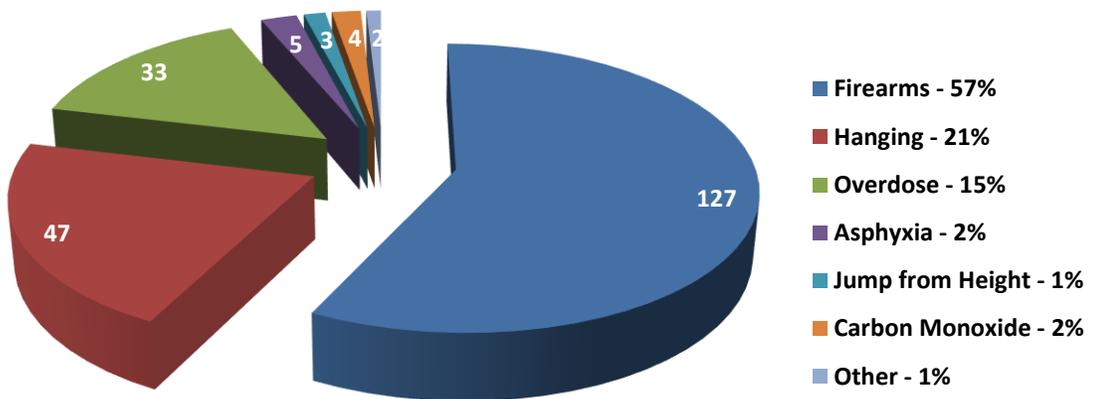
Pima County Suicide Deaths by Age 2018



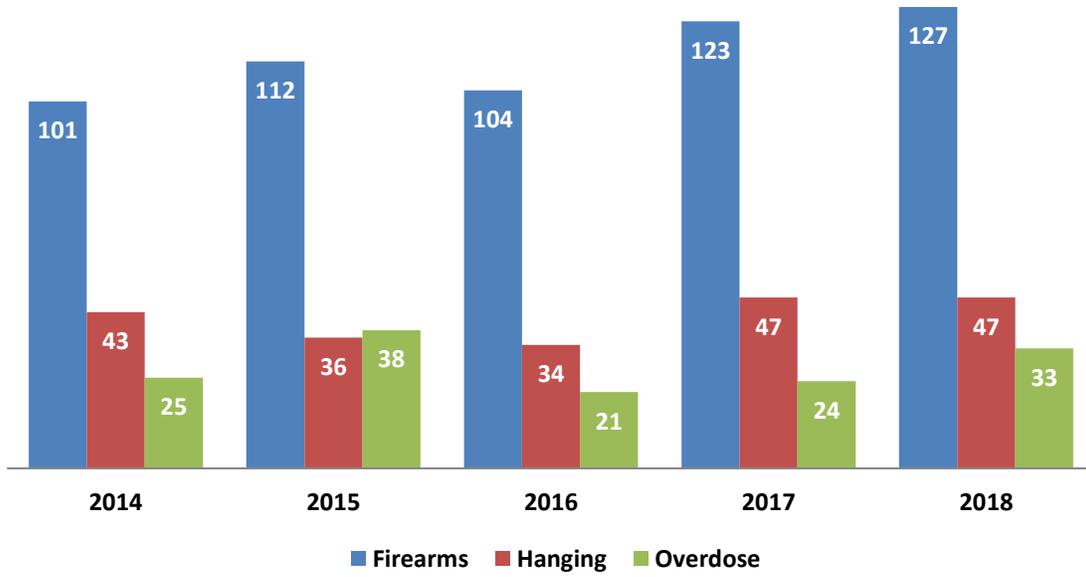
Pima County Suicide Deaths by Sex 2018



Pima County Suicide Deaths by Cause 2018



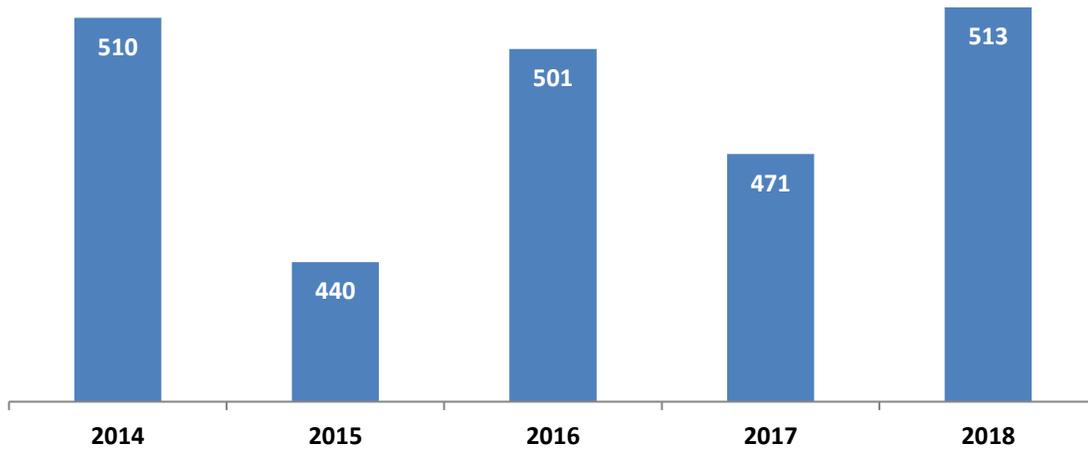
Pima County Suicide Deaths by Cause (Top 3) 2014 – 2018



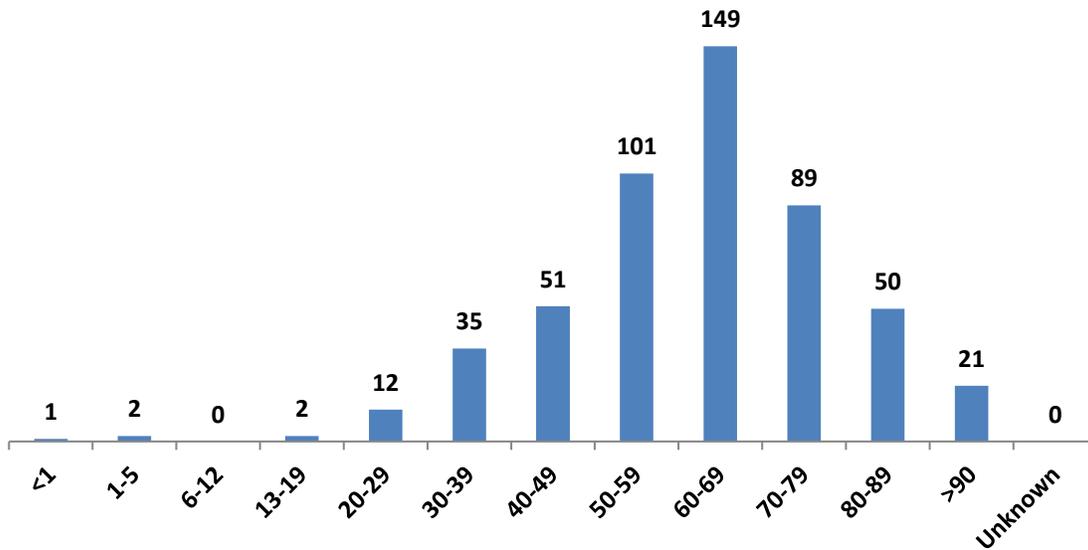
NATURAL DEATHS

Deaths due to natural causes accounted for 31% of the Pima County deaths investigated by the PCOME in 2018. Individuals who died from natural causes were most frequently males (70%), between 60-69 years of age (29%) and died as the result of cardiovascular disease (54%).

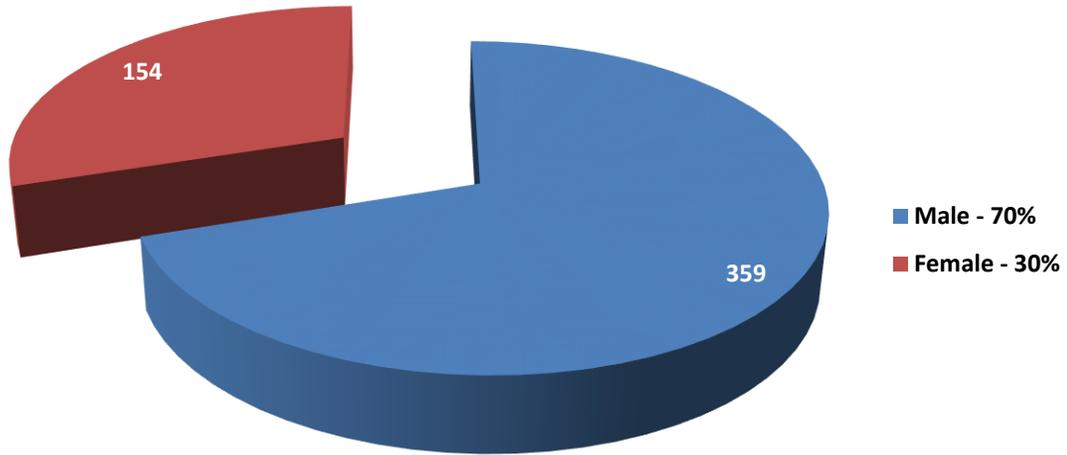
Pima County Natural Deaths 2014 - 2018



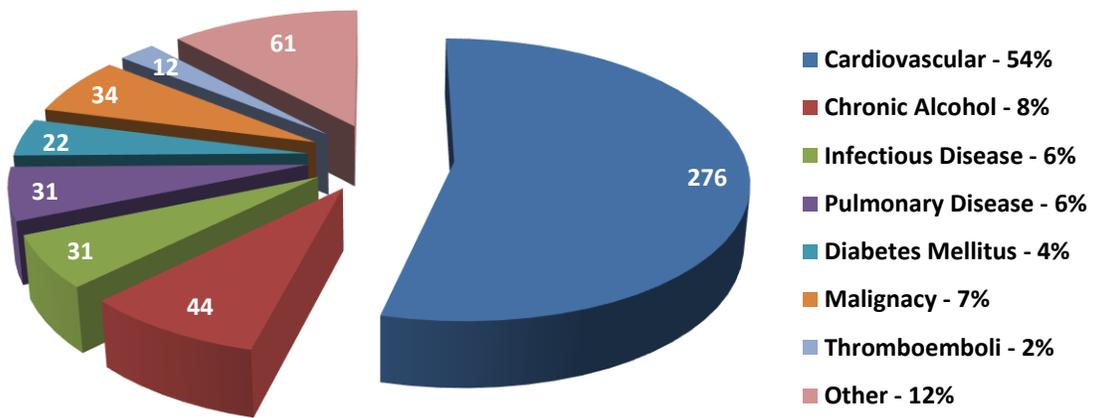
Pima County Natural Deaths by Age 2018



Pima County Natural Deaths by Sex 2018



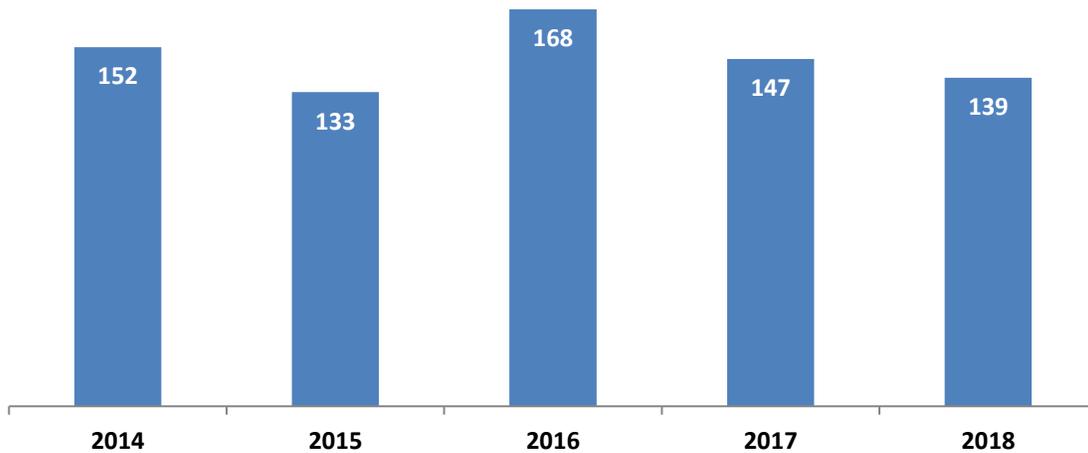
Pima County Natural Deaths by Cause 2018



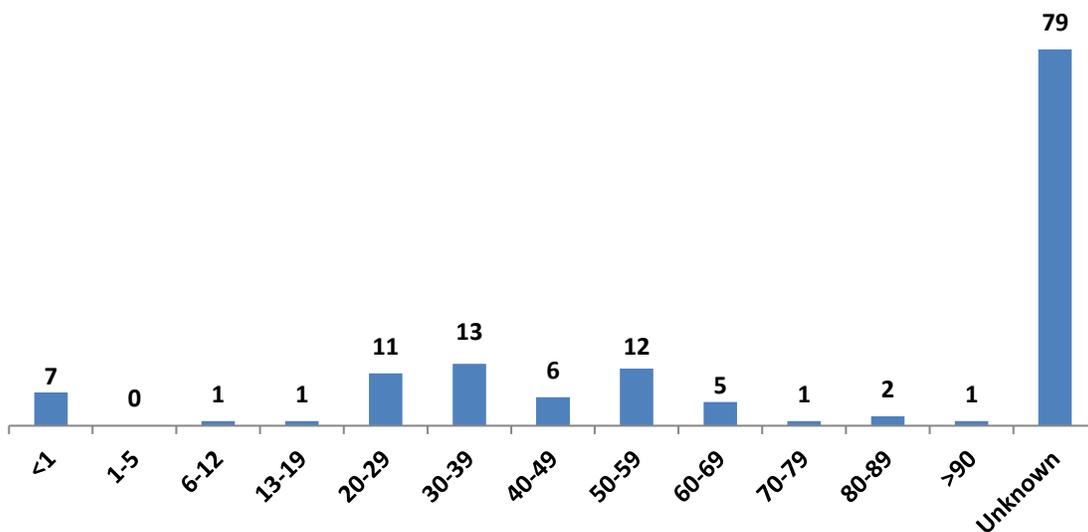
UNDETERMINED MANNER OF DEATH

Deaths of undetermined manner accounted for 8% of the Pima County deaths investigated by the PCOME in 2018. Individuals who died with an undetermined manner were most frequently males (75%), of unknown age (57%) and died from undetermined causes (86%). Many of these deaths represent skeletal remains of UBCs who died in the deserts of southern Arizona.

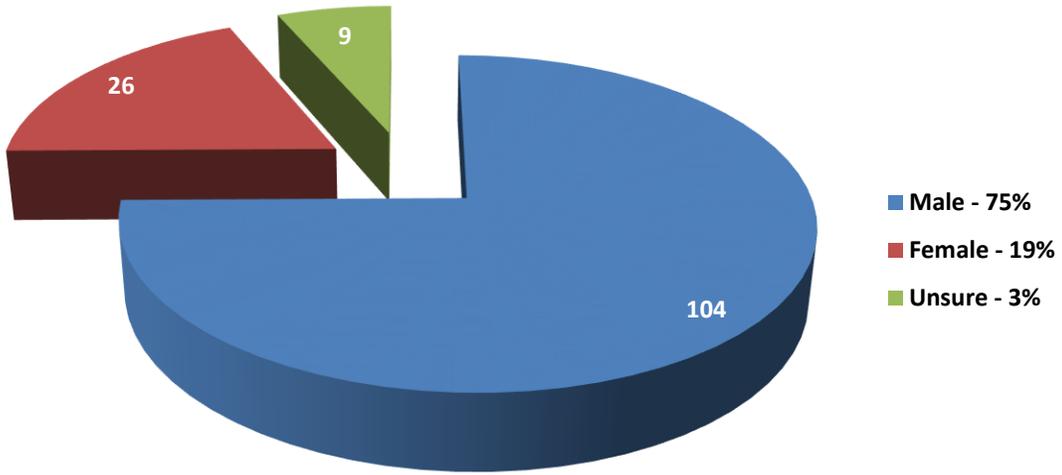
Pima County Undetermined Manner 2014 - 2018



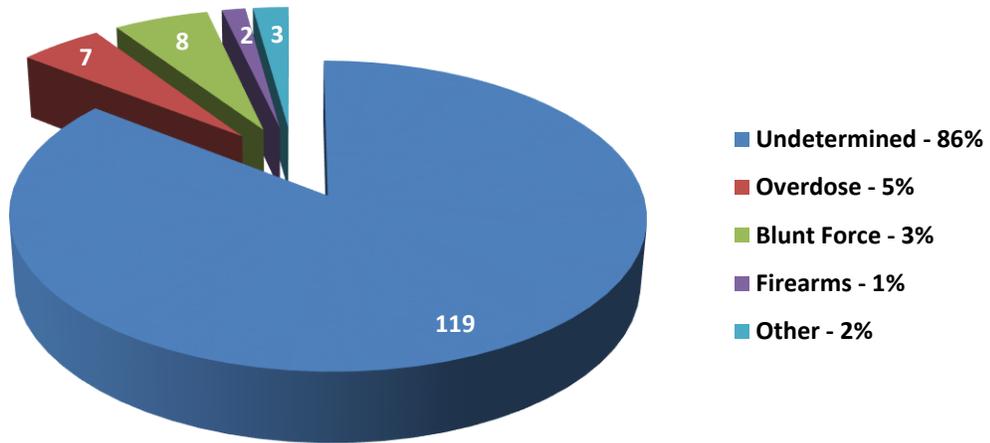
Pima County Undetermined Manner of Death by Age 2018



Pima County Undetermined Manner of Death by Sex 2018



Pima County Undetermined Manner of Death by Cause 2018



PIMA COUNTY OVERDOSE DEATHS IN 2018

There were 286 deaths attributed to an overdose of either a single drug (158 deaths, 55%) or a combination of drugs (128 deaths, 45%) in 2018. Overdose deaths commonly involved males (71%) between the ages of 50-59 (22%). The majority of these deaths were classified as accidents (86%).

Opiate compounds are typically heroin, oxycodone, methadone, hydrocodone, morphine, oxycodone, hydromorphone, tramadol, codeine, fentanyl (a synthetic opioid narcotic) and clandestinely manufactured fentanyl analogs. In 2018 an opiate compound contributed to 181 (63%) of the 286 total overdose deaths. Opiate compounds, which contributed to an overdose death in 2018, are indicated in red in the Pima County Overdose Deaths by Drug 2018 figure.

The number of heroin deaths is likely underreported as heroin is rapidly metabolized to morphine by the body and if the metabolite 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 2018. Contributing to 35% of all 2018 overdoses, followed by heroin (26%).

Acute alcohol (ethanol) intoxication alone, not as component of a poly-drug overdose, accounted for 7 overdose (2%) deaths in 2018 and was a contributor in 27 additional deaths.

OVERDOSE TRENDS

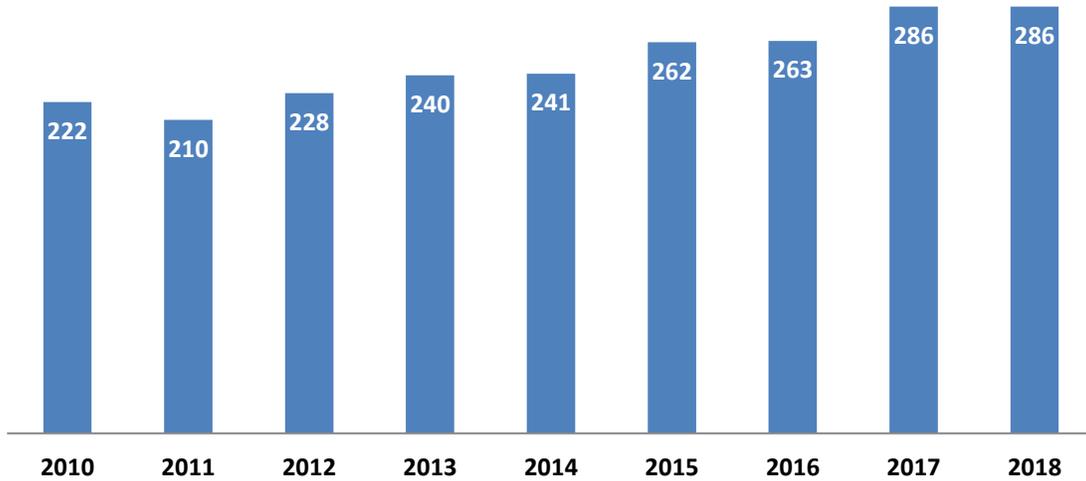
Overdose deaths in Pima County increased 29% overall from 2010 (222) to 2018 (286), punctuated by plateaus from 2013 (240) to 2014 (241), from 2015 (262) to 2016 (263) and again from 2017 (286) to 2018 (286). The PCOME has not historically reported overdose deaths in which an opiate compound was a component of the death separately from the total number of overdose deaths. However, 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 and decreased to 181 (63%) in 2018.

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 45 deaths in 2018, an 800% increase in the number of deaths involving fentanyl from 2014. One of the 45 fentanyl deaths in 2018 was a fentanyl analog, acetyl fentanyl.

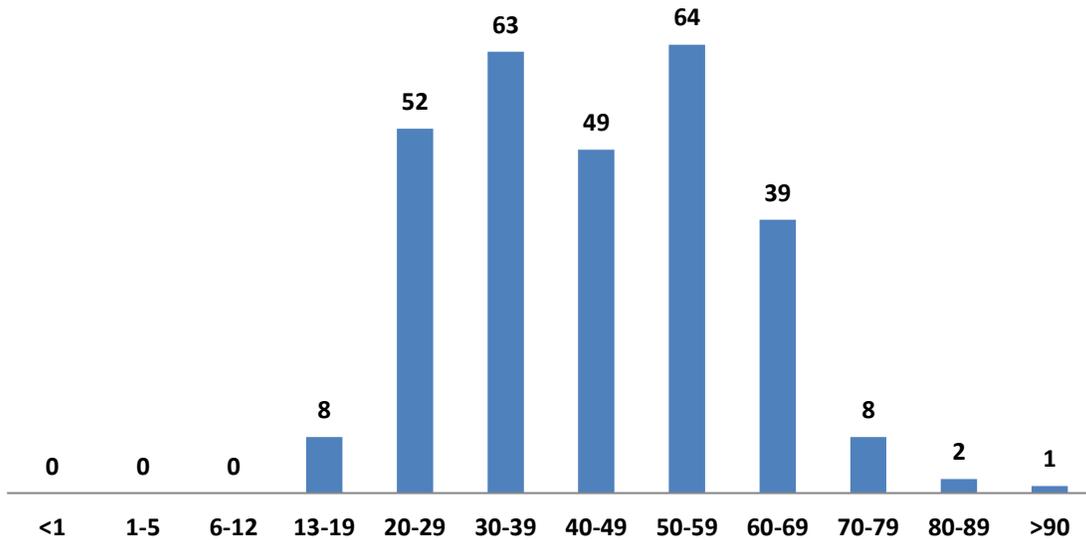


Interestingly, methamphetamine related deaths have also increased in frequency from 38 deaths in 2014 to 101 deaths in 2018, a 166% increase. The largest decrease is in oxycodone deaths, a 41% decrease from 2014 (39 deaths) to 2018 (23 deaths).

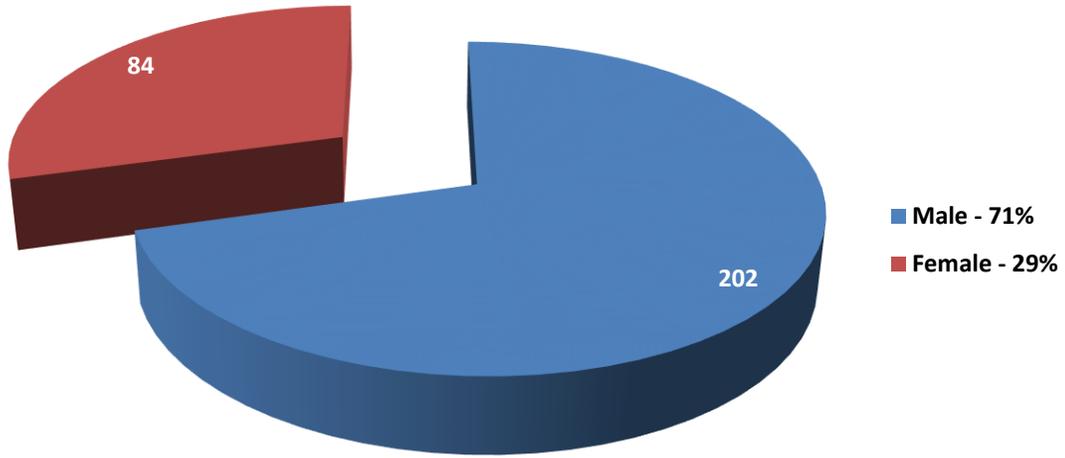
Pima County Overdose Deaths 2010 - 2018



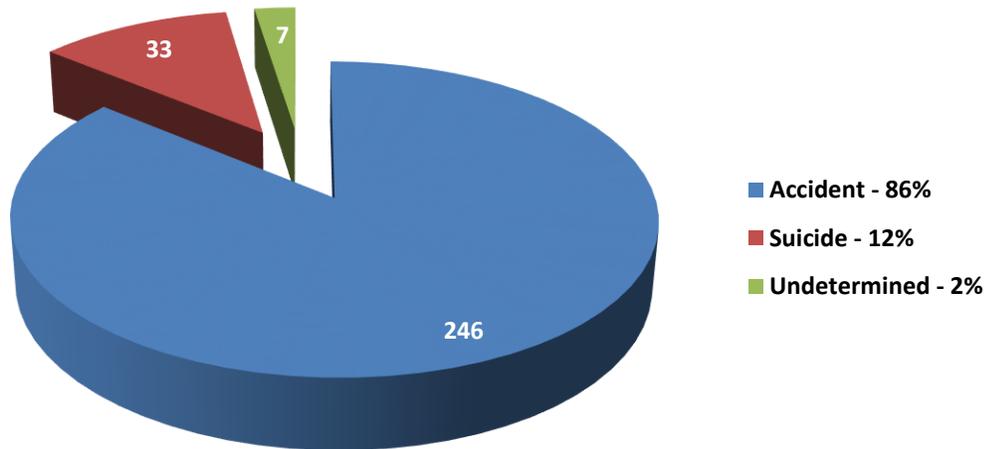
Pima County Overdose Deaths by Age 2018



Pima County Overdose Deaths by Sex 2018

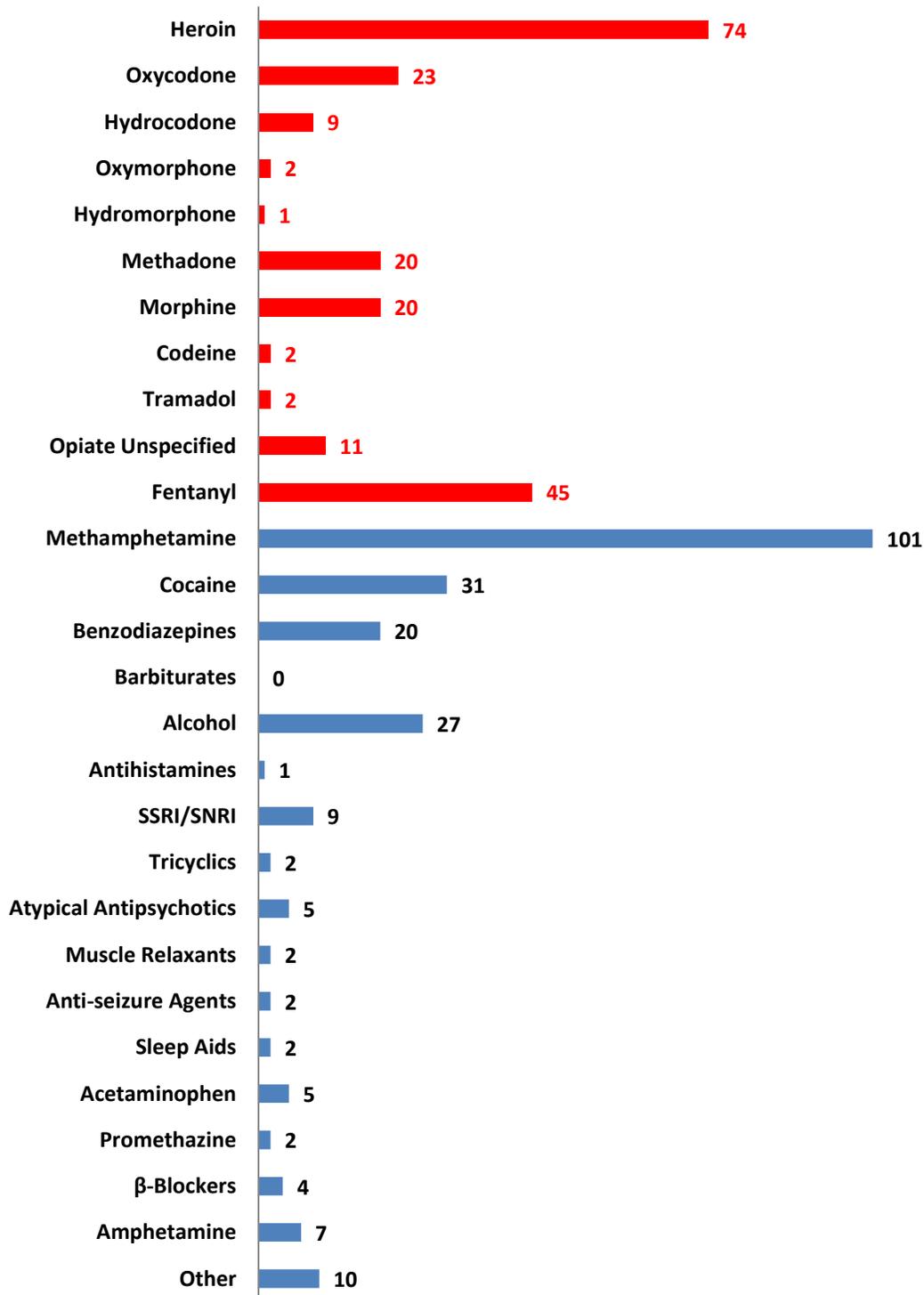


Pima County Overdose Deaths by Manner 2018

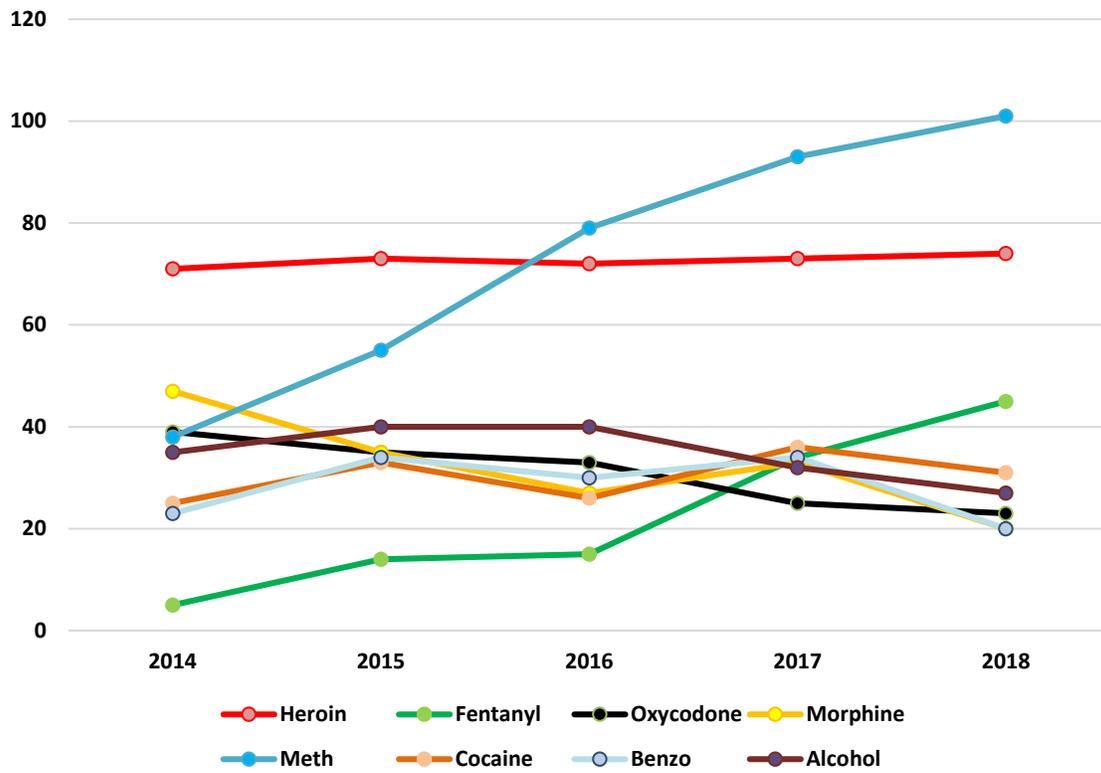


Pima County Overdose Deaths by Drug 2018

Opiate compounds are red



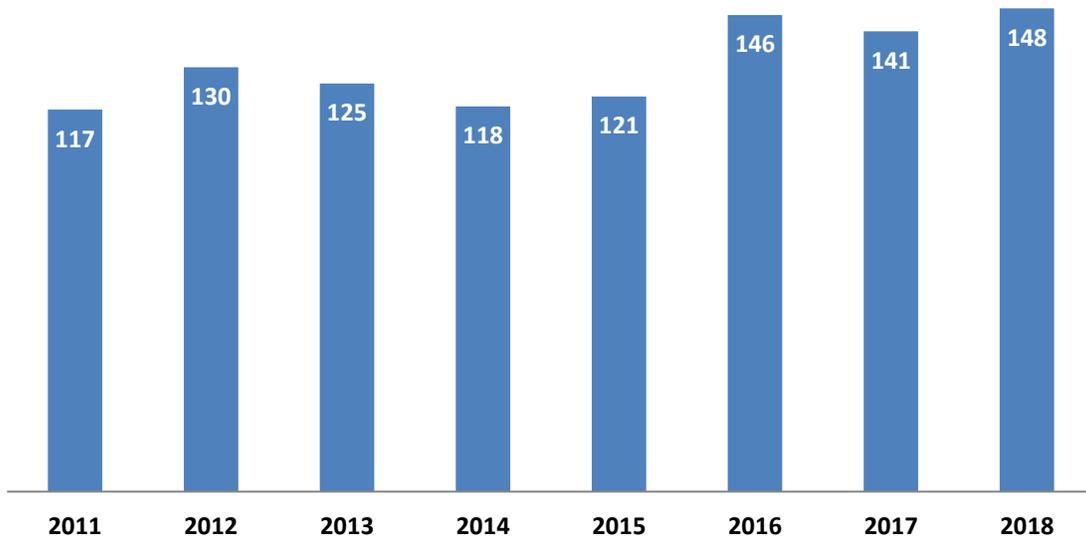
Pima County Overdoses by drug by year 2014 - 2018



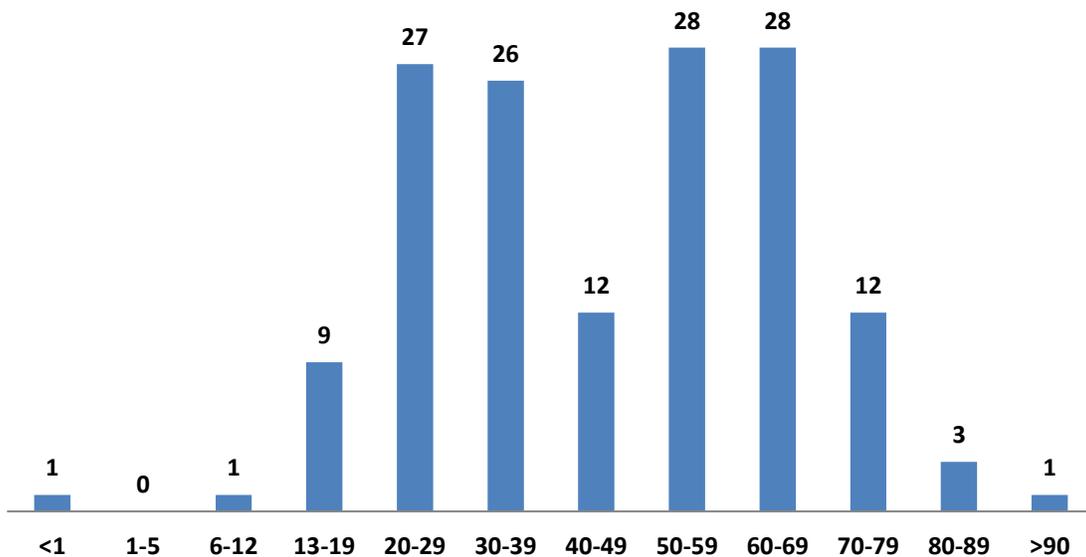
PIMA COUNTY MOTOR VEHICLE RELATED FATALITIES

Motor vehicle related fatalities accounted for 148 total deaths in Pima County in 2018. The majority, 79 deaths, were occupants of a motor vehicle involved in an accident (MVA). Of the remaining, 18 were motorcycle accidents (MCA), 47 were pedestrians or bicyclists struck by vehicles, and 4 were all-terrain vehicle (ATV) accidents. Individuals who died from motor vehicle related fatalities were most frequently males (68%) and between 50-69 years of age (38%).

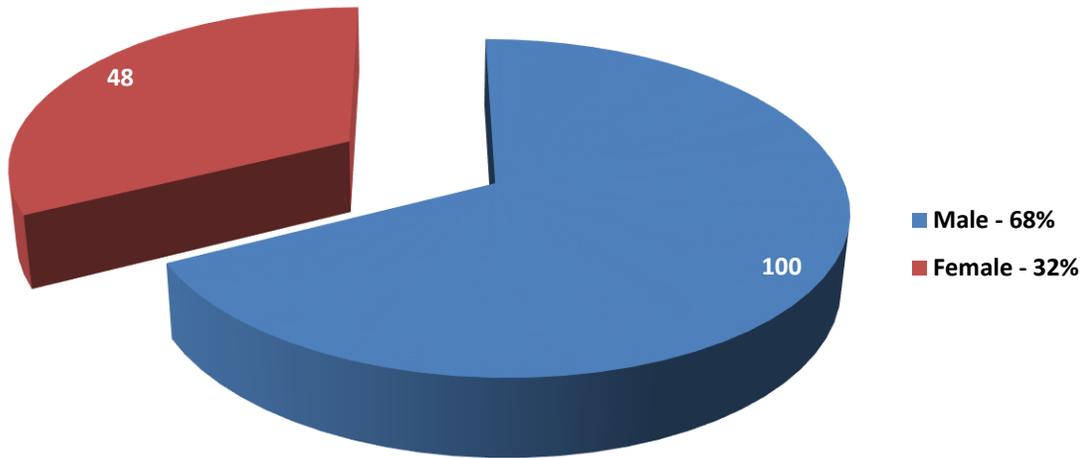
Pima County Motor Vehicle Fatalities 2011 - 2018



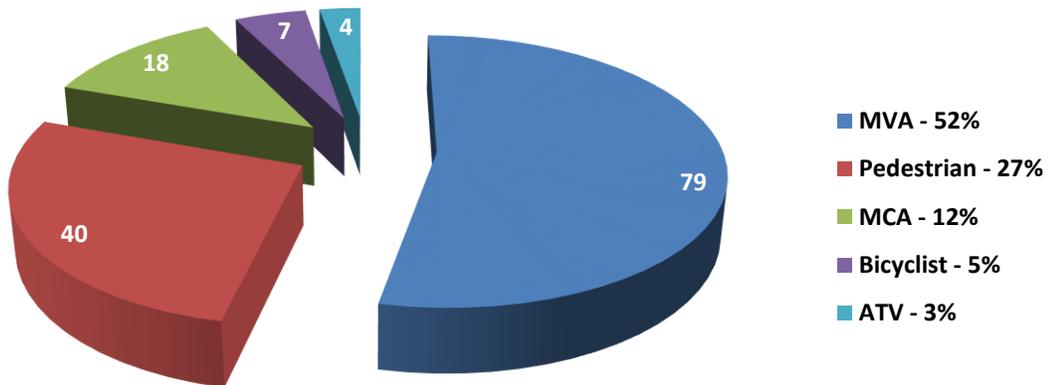
Pima County Motor Vehicle Fatalities by Age 2018



Pima County Motor Vehicle Fatalities by Sex 2018



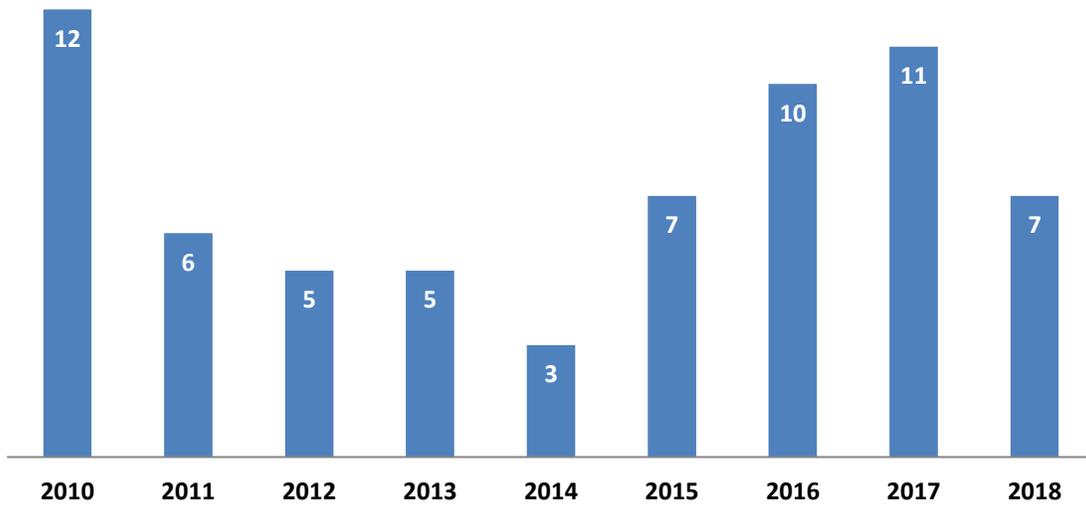
Pima County Motor Vehicle Fatalities by Type 2018



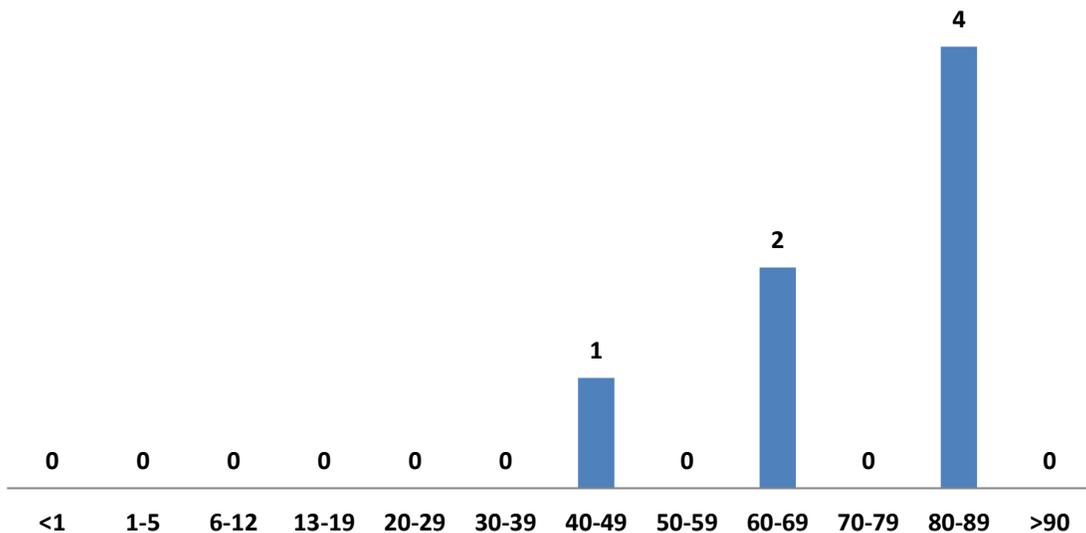
PIMA COUNTY HEAT RELATED FATALITIES

Heat (hyperthermia) related fatalities accounted for 7 total deaths in Pima County in 2018, excluding undocumented border crosser deaths. For environmental deaths involving UBCs, please reference the UBC section on page 30 of this report. Individuals who died from heat related causes were most frequently males (57%) and between 80-89 years of age (57%).

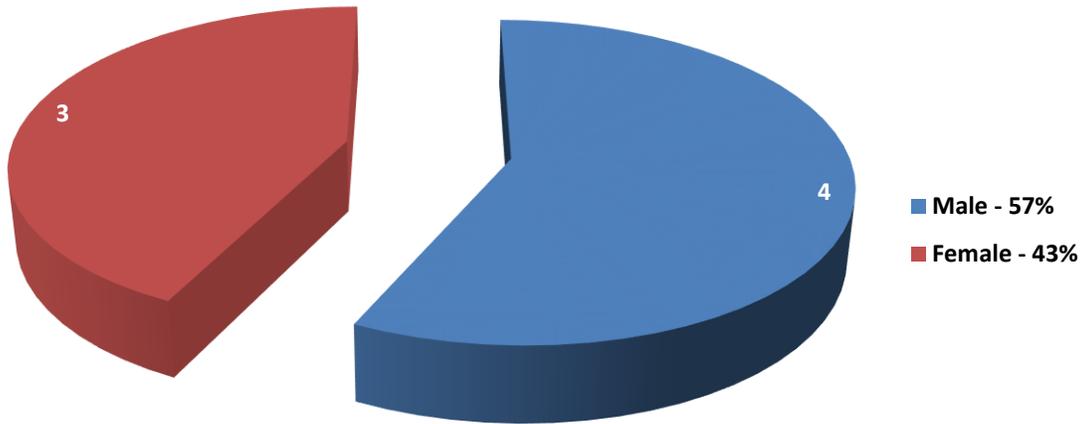
Pima County Heat Related Fatalities 2010 - 2018



Pima County Heat Related Fatalities by Age 2018



Pima County Heat Related Fatalities by Sex 2018



COCHISE COUNTY

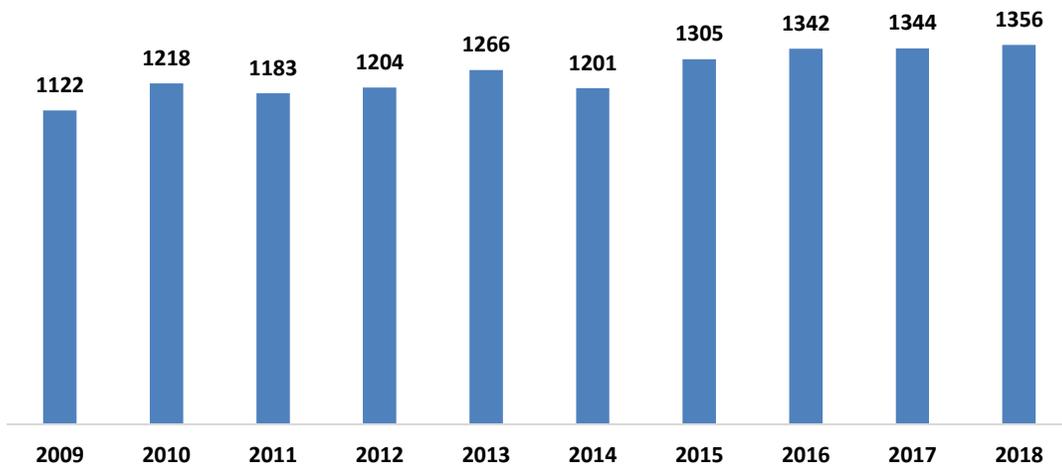
Cochise County contracts with the PCOME to certify deaths that fall under the jurisdiction of the medical examiner in Cochise County. Cochise County does not maintain an in-county Medical Examiner’s office to conduct death scene investigations, transport remains, or triage deaths reportable to the medical 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 2018 there were 1,356 deaths in Cochise County; of these 280 (21%) were reported to the PCOME for investigation.

Cochise County Mortality by Year 2009 - 2018*

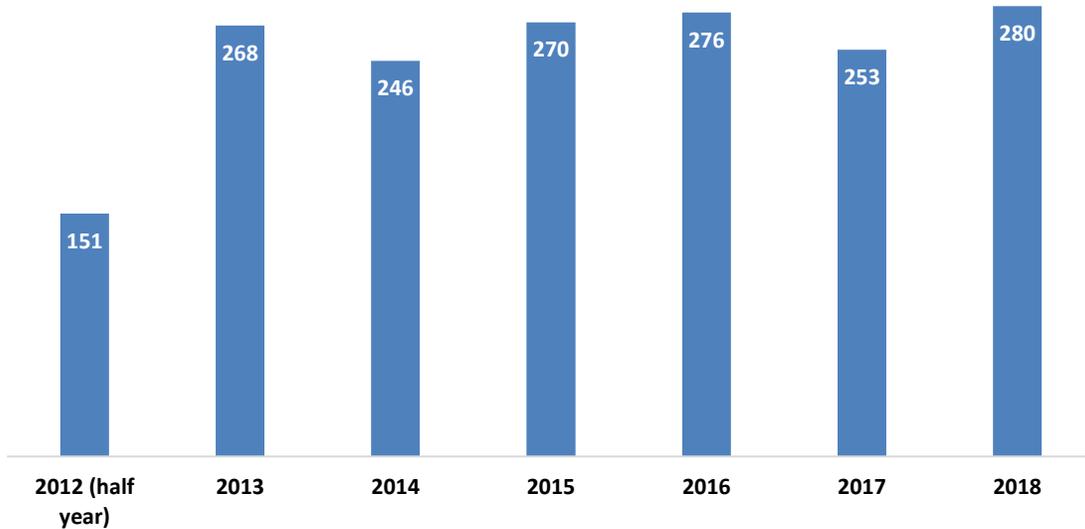


*Arizona Department of Vital Statistics as of 06/06/2019

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 - 2018

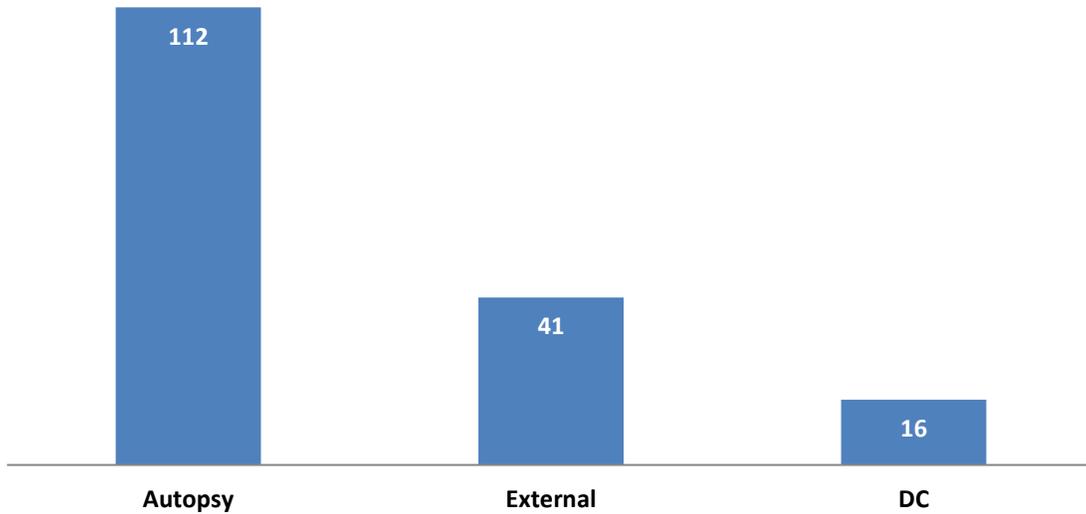


MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

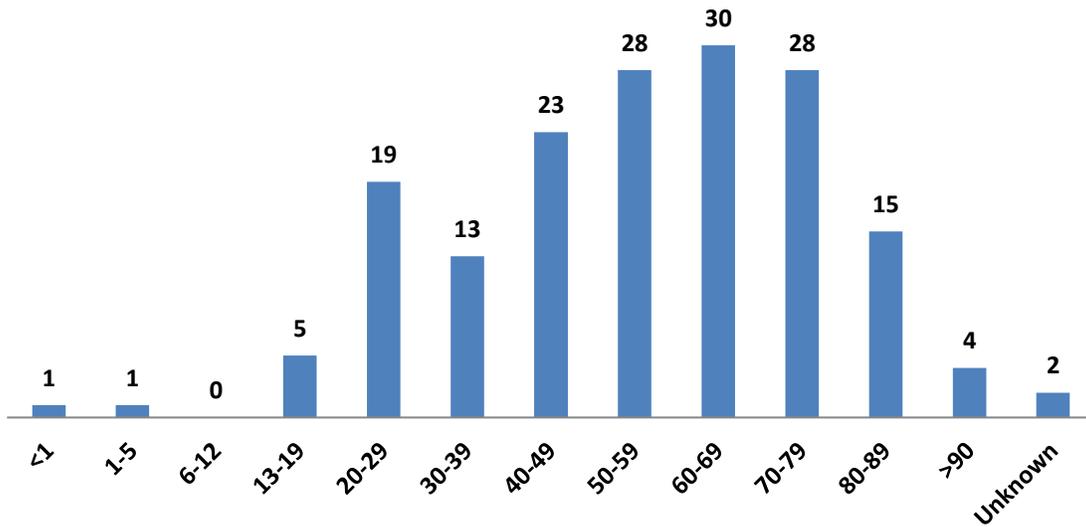
The PCOME considers all cases in which the cause and manner of death are determined by this office as “medical examiner cases.” Those cases include autopsies, external examinations and death certificate (DC) cases. Autopsies are examinations where a decedent is examined both externally and internally 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 2018, 112 autopsies, 41 external examinations and 16 DC cases were performed on deaths from Cochise County.



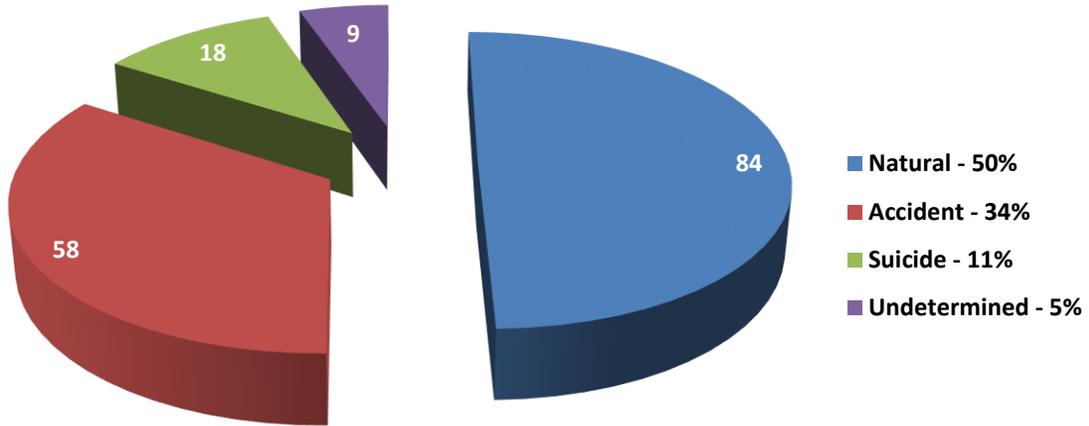
Cochise County Medical Examiner Cases 2018



Cochise County Medical Examiner Cases by Age 2018



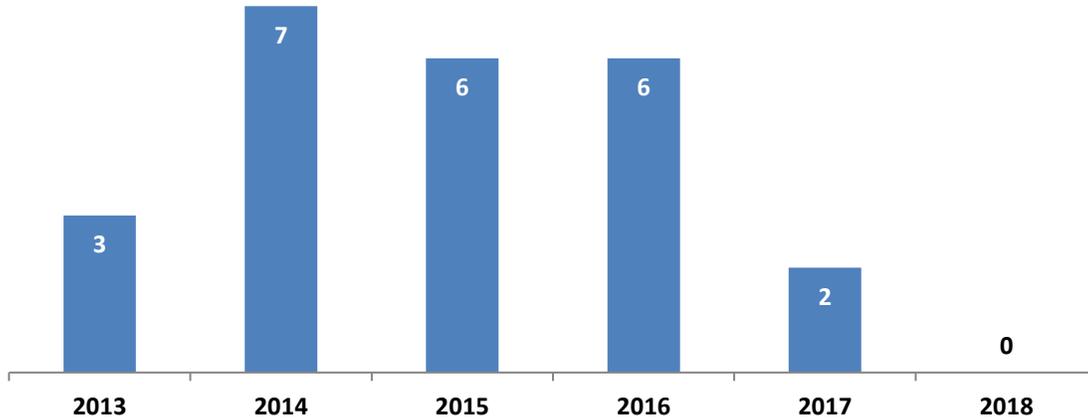
Cochise County ME Cases by Manner of Death 2018



HOMICIDE DEATHS

The PCOME did not certify any decedents pronounced in Cochise County in 2018 as manner of death homicide. Homicide totals from 2013 – 2018 are compared below.

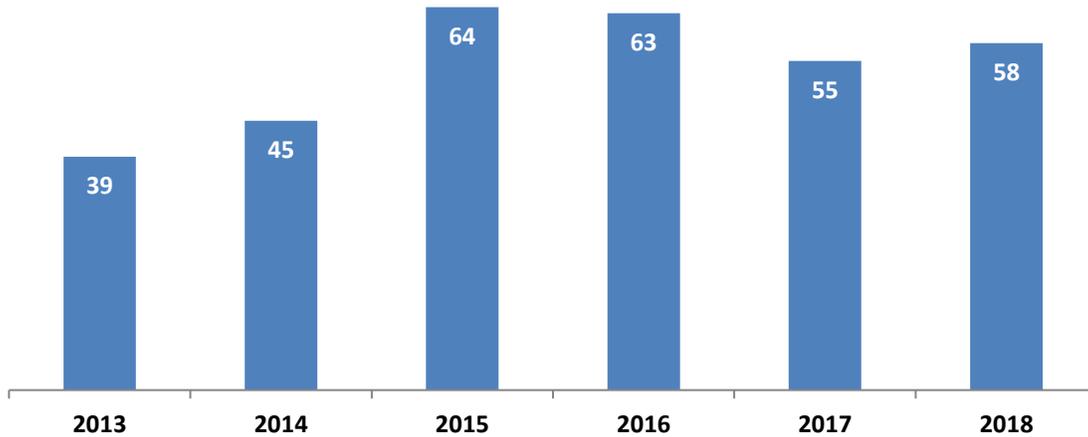
Cochise County Homicide Deaths 2013 - 2018



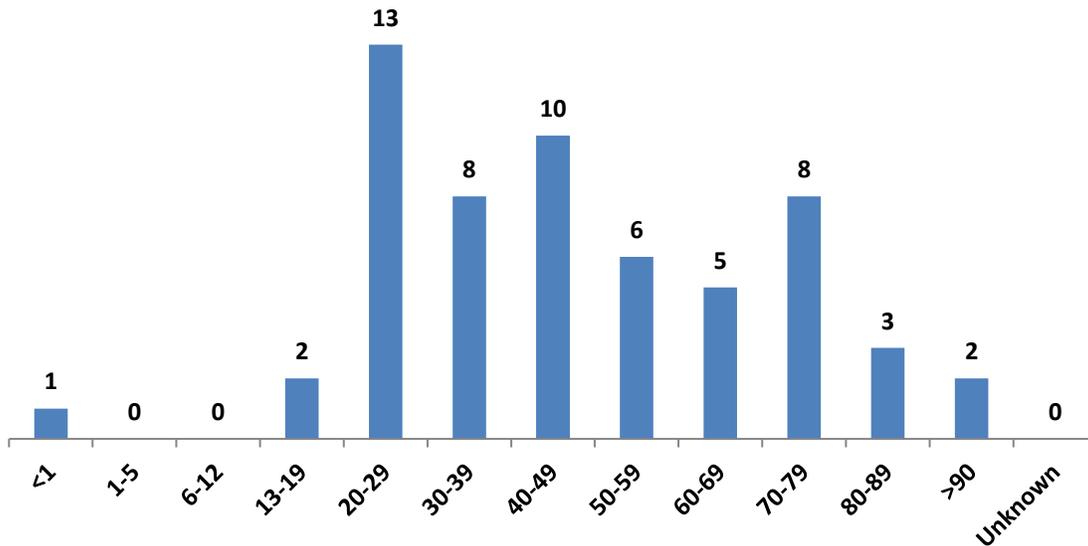
ACCIDENT DEATHS

The PCOME examined 58 accident deaths from Cochise County in 2018; 34% of total Cochise County deaths certified. Accident victims were most frequently males (76%), between 20-29 years of age (22%) and died as the result of an overdose (38%).

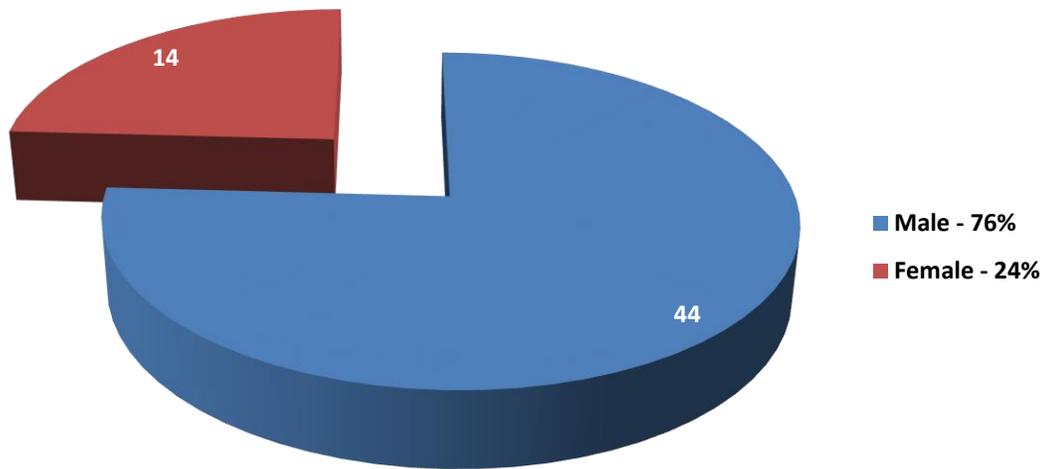
Cochise County Accident Deaths 2013 - 2018



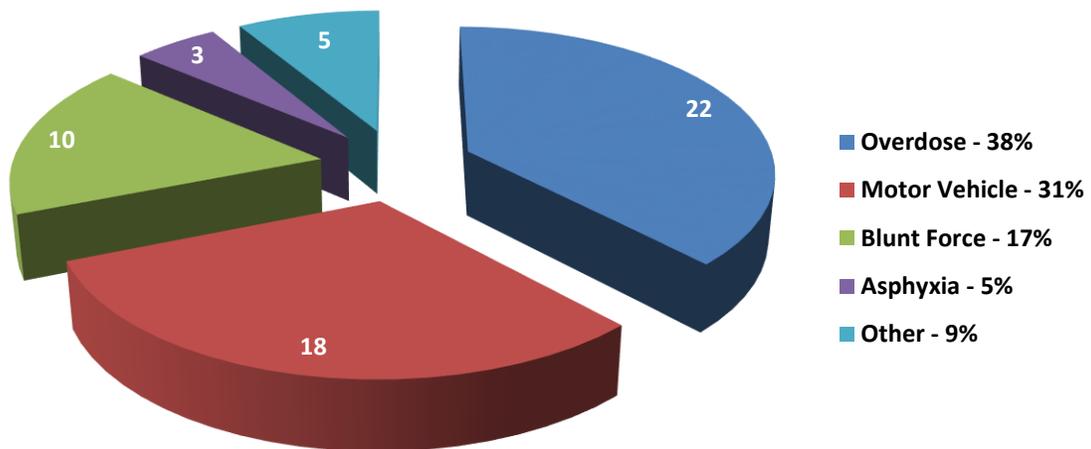
Cochise County Accident Deaths by Age 2018



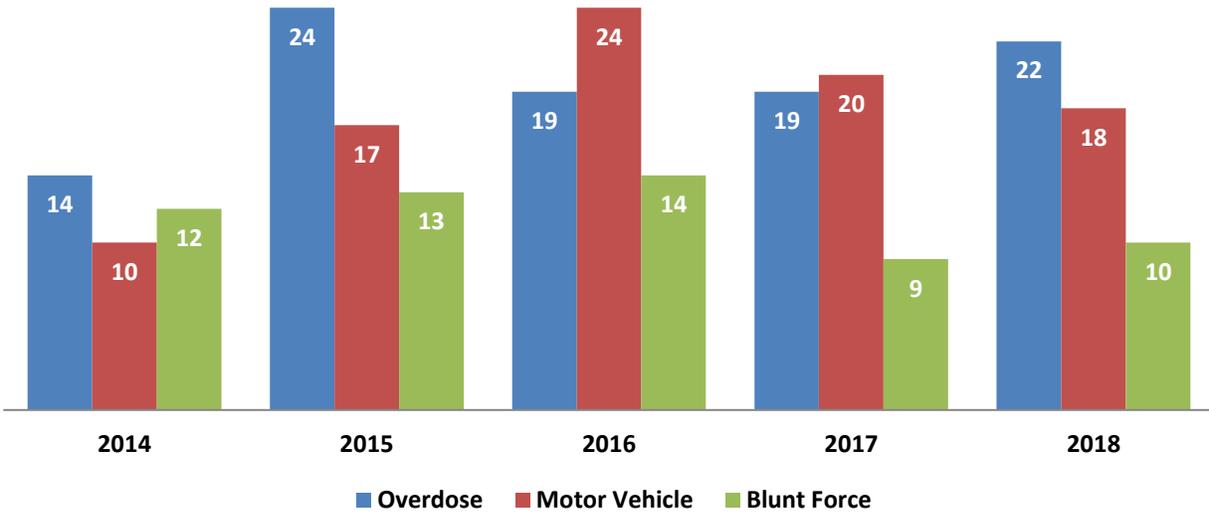
Cochise County Accident Deaths by Sex 2018



Cochise County Accident Deaths by Cause 2018



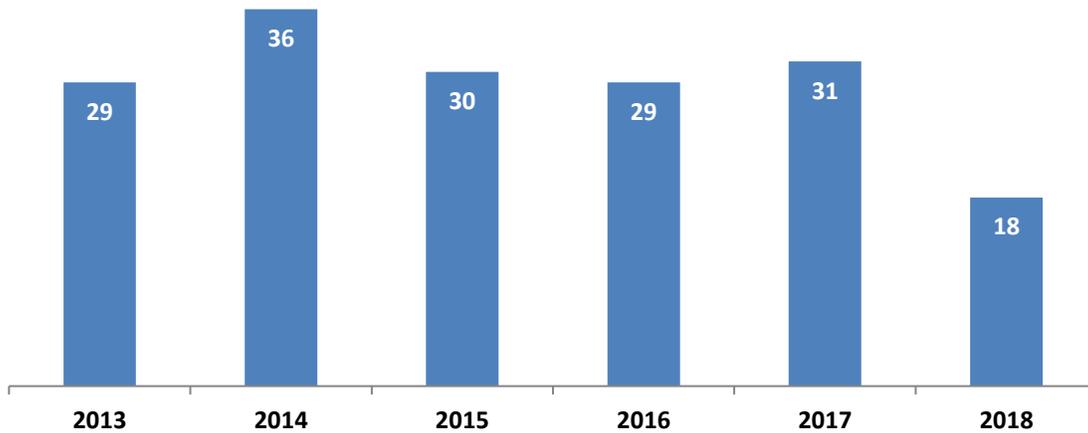
Cochise County Accident Deaths by Cause (Top 3) 2014 - 2018



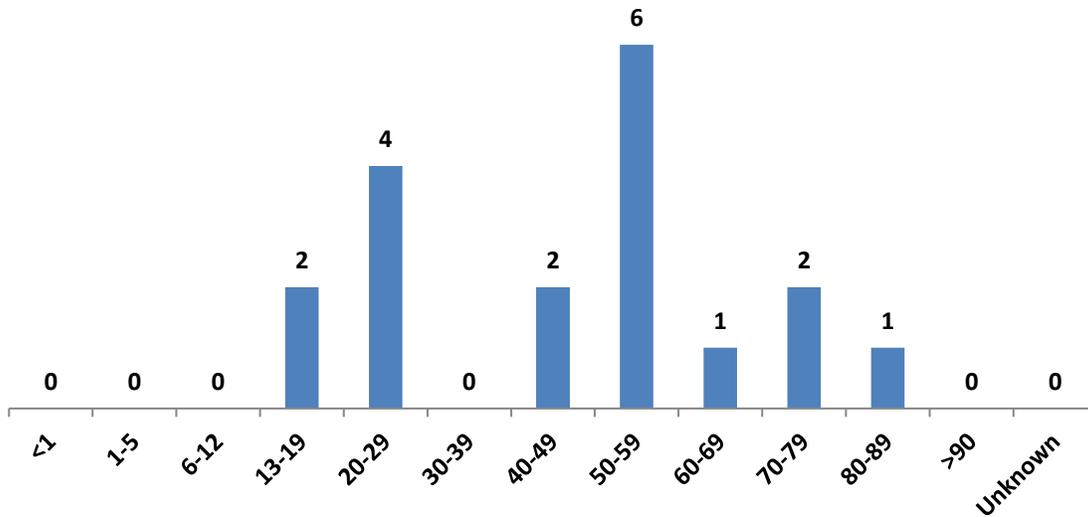
SUICIDE DEATHS

The PCOME examined 18 suicide deaths from Cochise County in 2018; 11% of total Cochise County deaths certified. Suicide victims were most frequently males (83%), between 50-59 years of age (33%) and died as the result of firearms (78%).

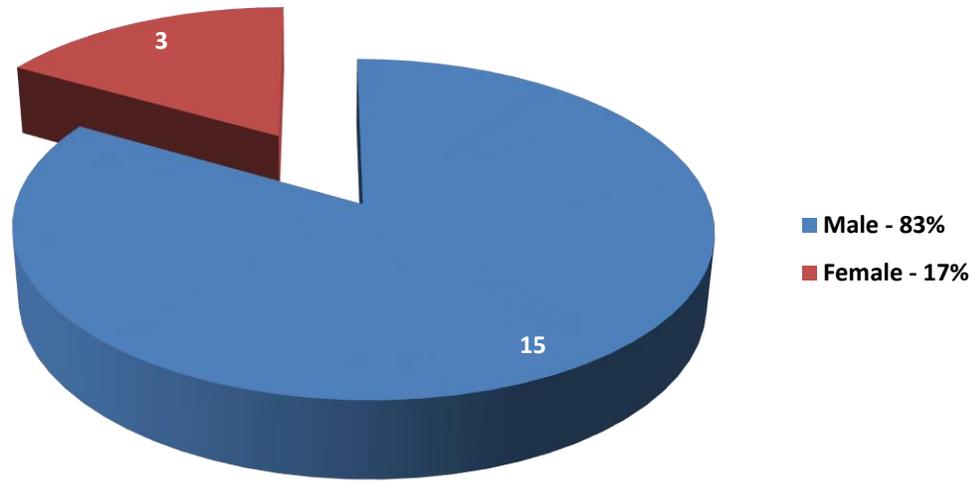
Cochise County Suicide Deaths 2013 - 2018



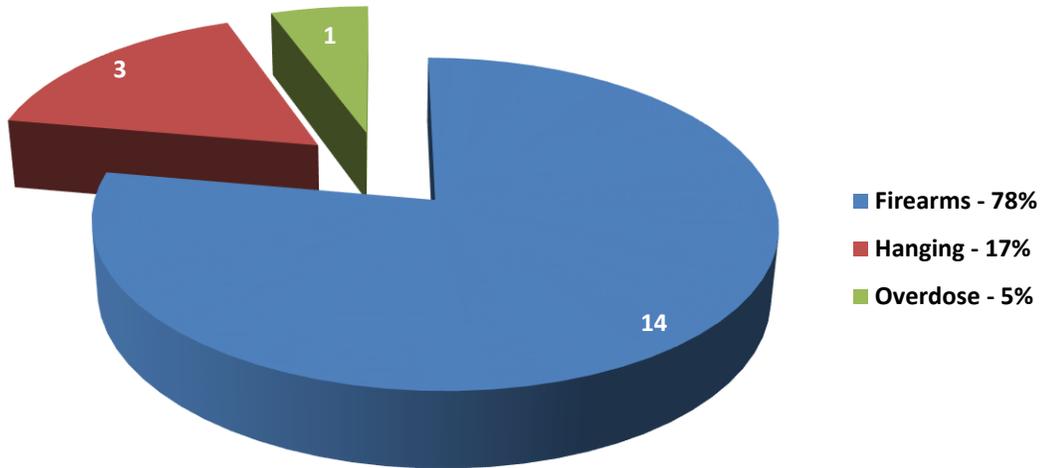
Cochise County Suicide Deaths by Age 2018



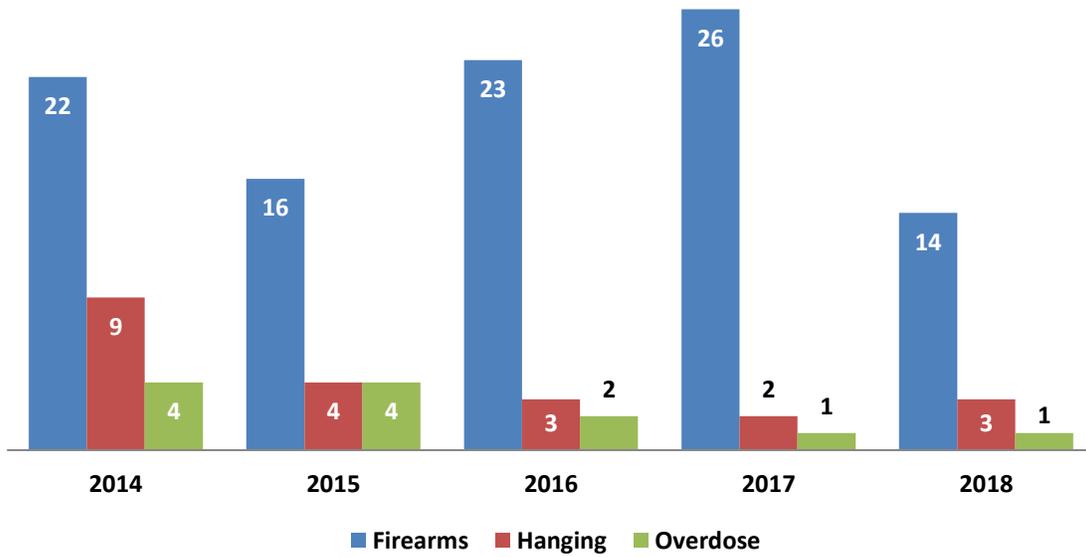
Cochise County Suicide Deaths by Sex 2018



Cochise County Suicide Deaths by Cause 2018



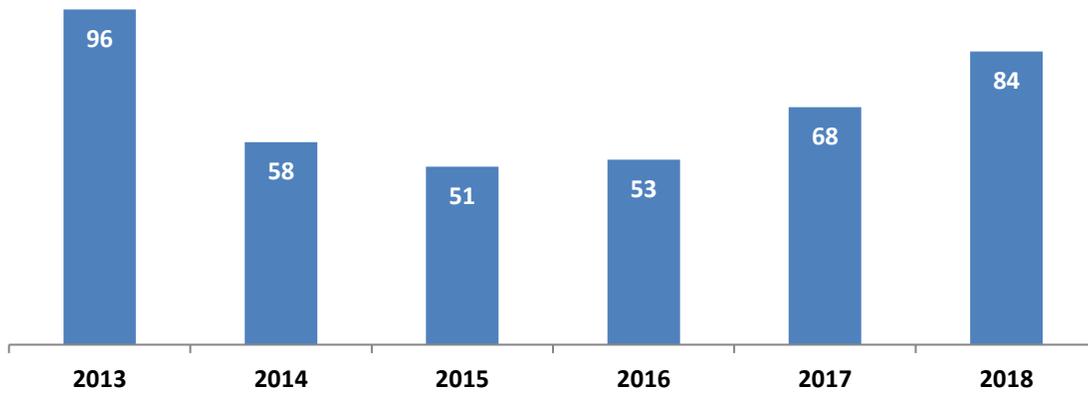
Cochise County Suicide Deaths by Cause (Top 3) 2014 - 2018



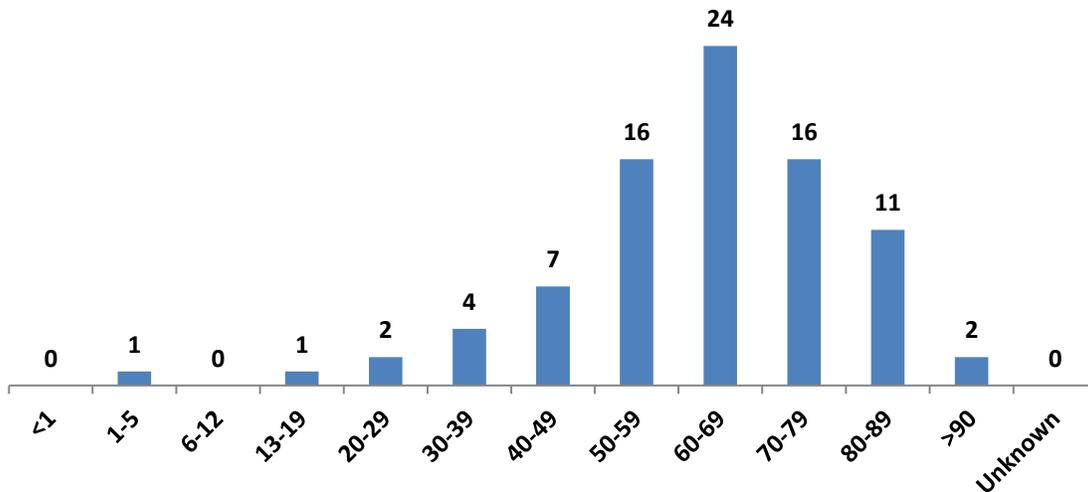
NATURAL DEATHS

The PCOME examined 84 natural deaths from Cochise County in 2018; 50% of total Cochise County deaths certified. Individuals who died from natural causes were most frequently males (68%), between 60-69 years of age (29%) and died as the result of cardiovascular disease (71%).

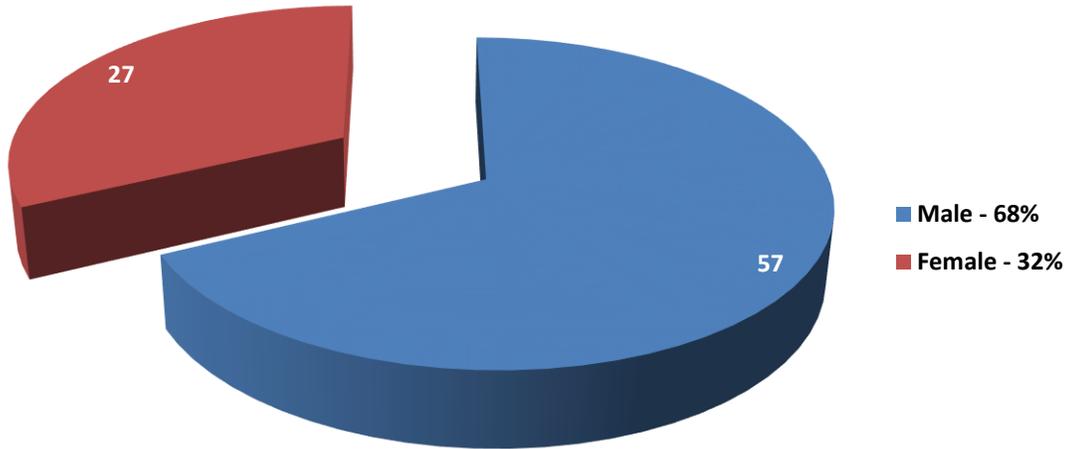
Cochise County Natural Deaths 2013 - 2018



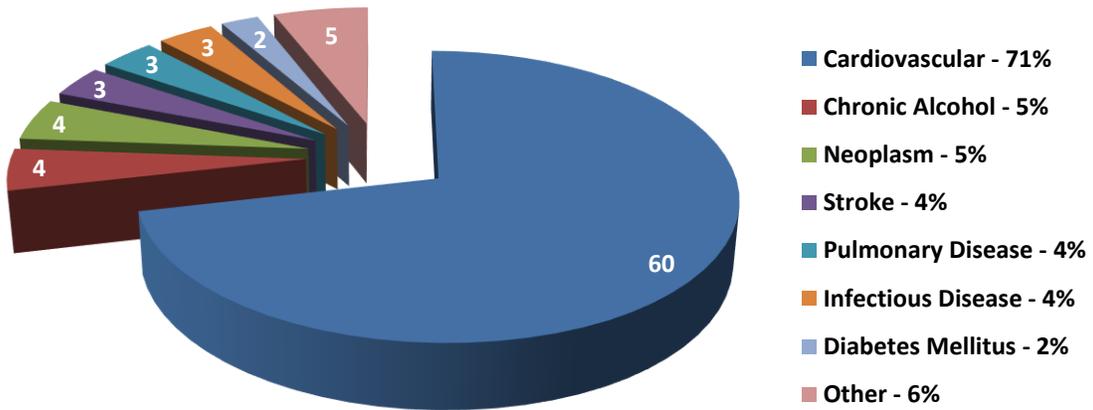
Cochise County Natural Deaths by Age 2018



Cochise County Natural Deaths by Sex 2018



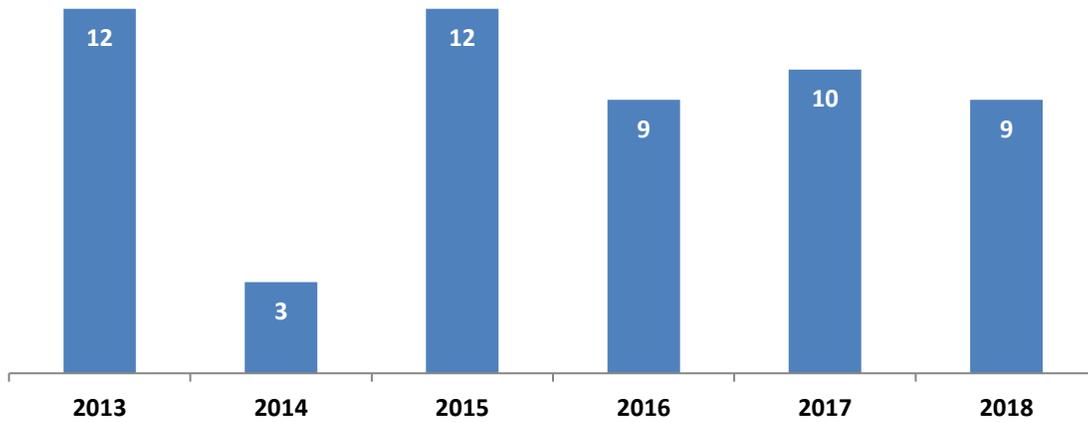
Cochise County Natural Deaths by Cause 2018



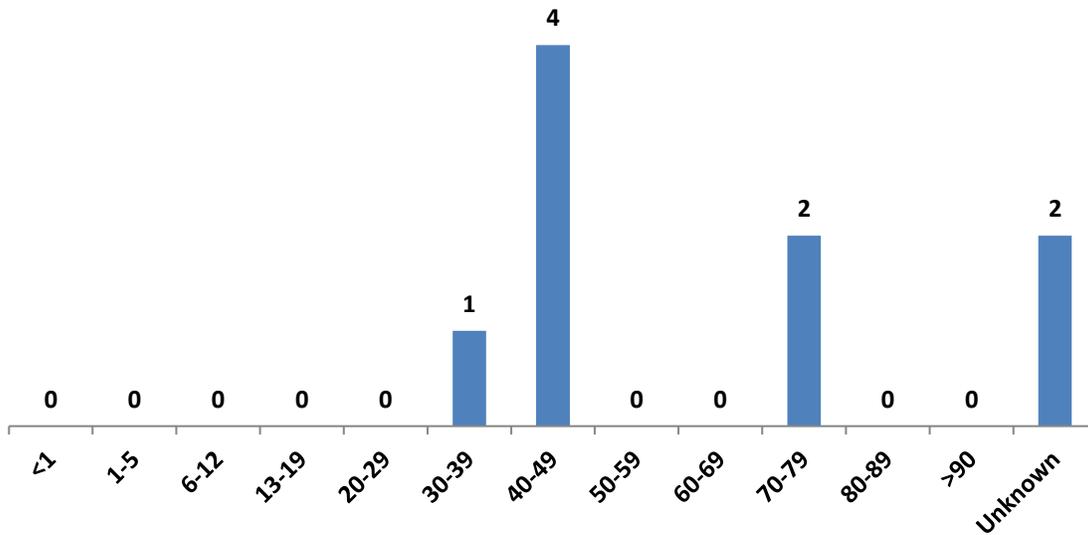
UNDETERMINED MANNER OF DEATH

The PCOME examined 9 undetermined deaths from Cochise County in 2018; 5% of total Cochise County deaths certified. Individuals who died with an undetermined manner were most frequently males (66%), between 40-49 years of age (44%) and died from undetermined causes (66%). Some of these deaths represent skeletal remains of UBCs who died in the deserts of southern Arizona.

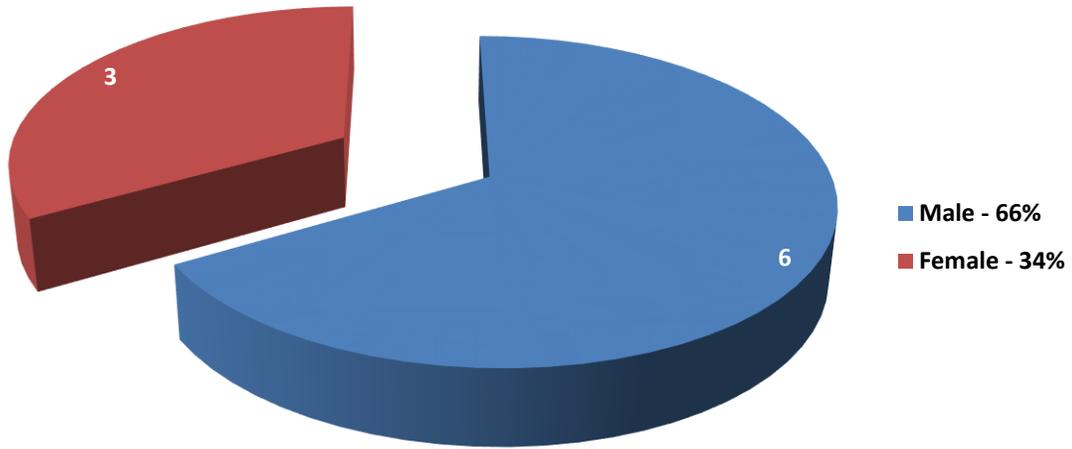
Cochise County Undetermined Manner 2013 - 2018



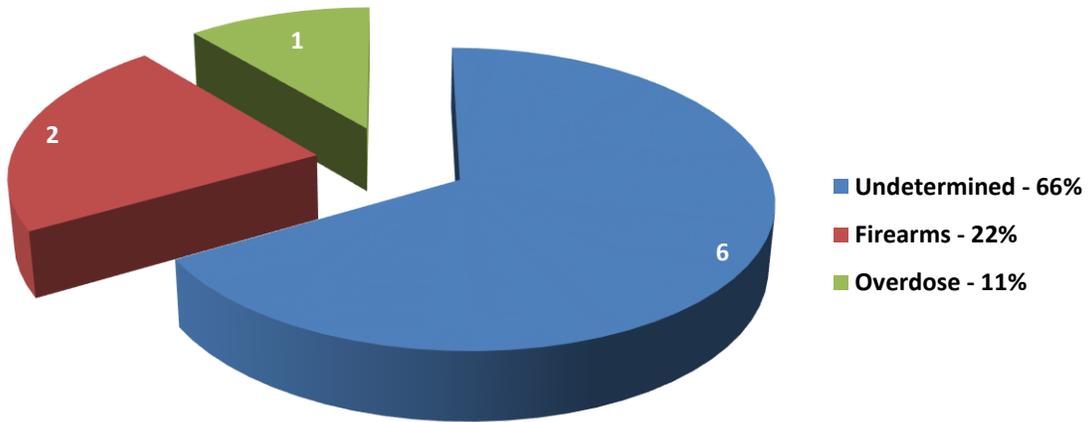
Cochise County Undetermined Manner of Death by Age 2018



Cochise County Undetermined Manner of Death by Sex 2018



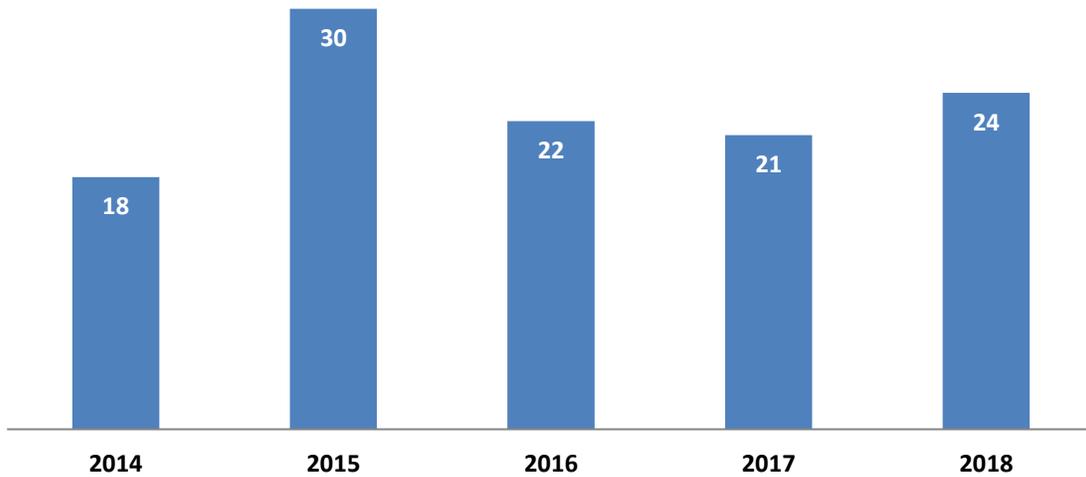
Cochise County Undetermined Manner of Death by Cause 2018



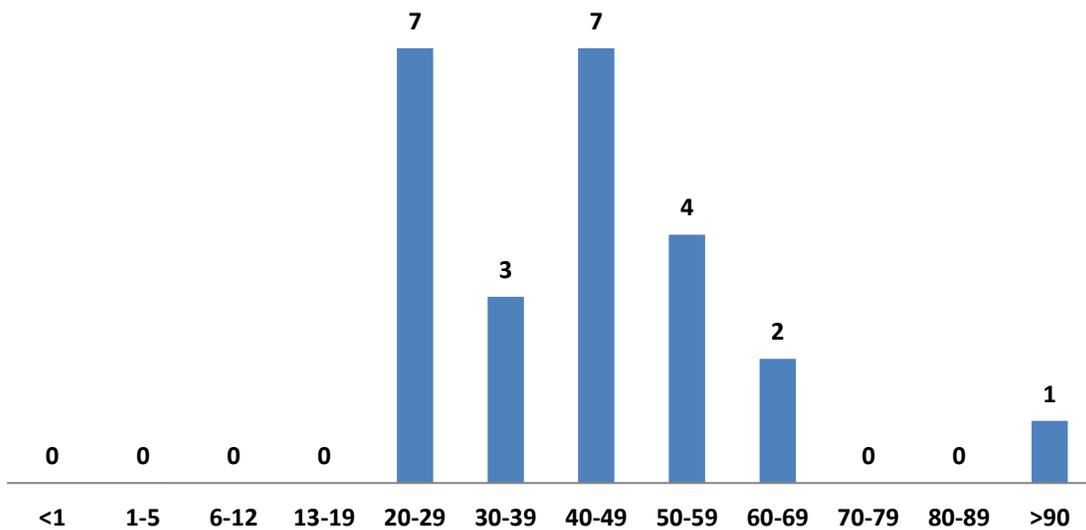
OVERDOSE DEATHS

There were 24 deaths attributed to an overdose of either a single drug (15 deaths, 63%) or a combination of drugs (9 deaths, 37%) in 2018. Overdose deaths commonly involved males (71%) between the ages of 20-29 and 40-49, each 29% or 58% combined. The majority of these deaths were classified as accidents (92%).

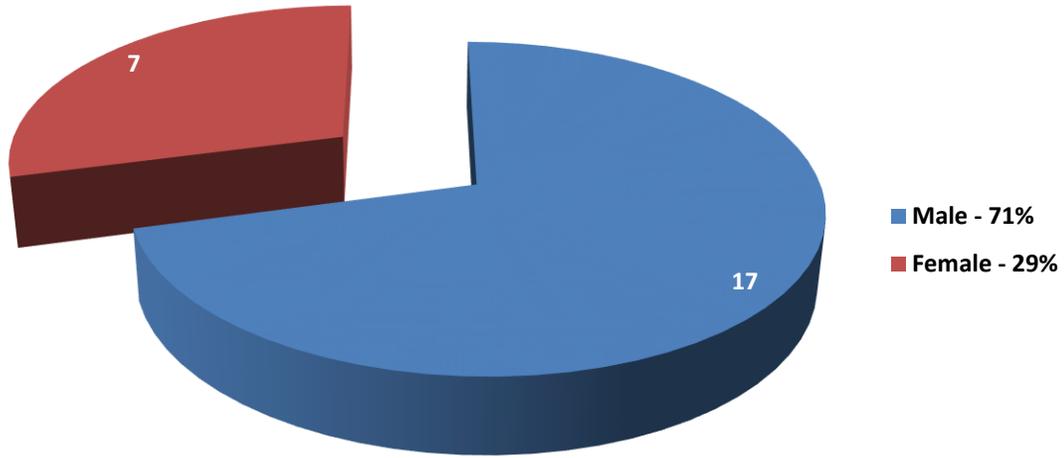
Cochise County Overdose Deaths 2014 - 2018



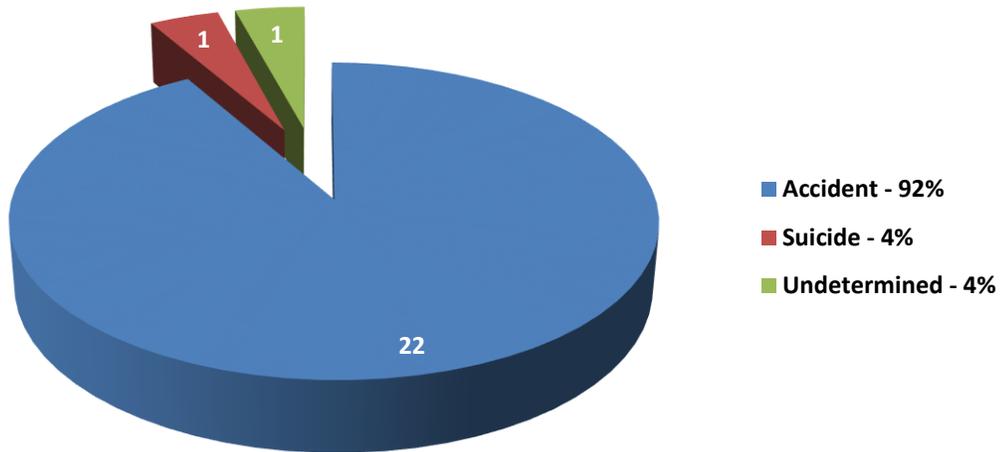
Cochise County Overdose Deaths by Age 2018



Cochise County Overdose Deaths by Sex 2018

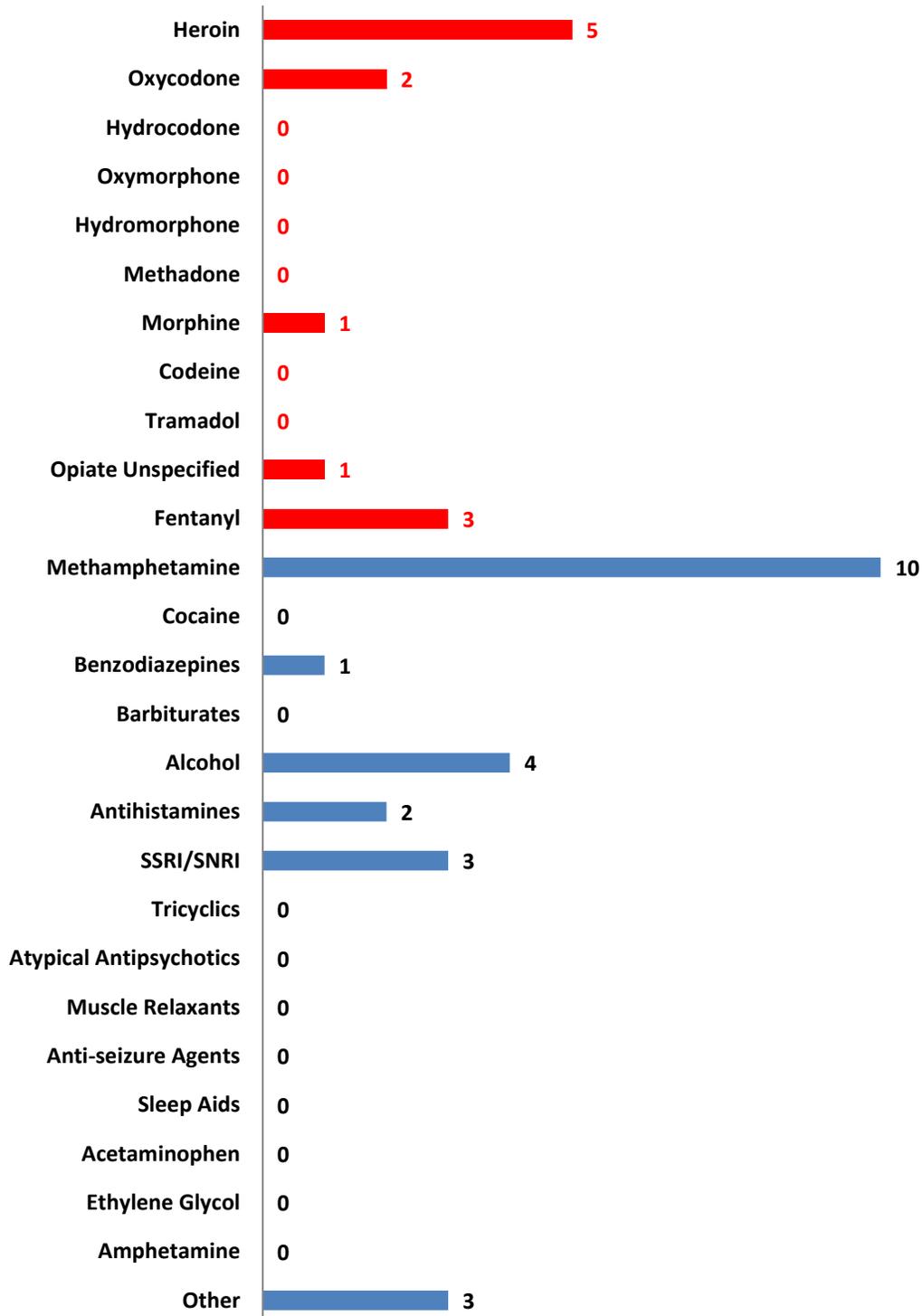


Cochise County Overdose Deaths by Manner 2018

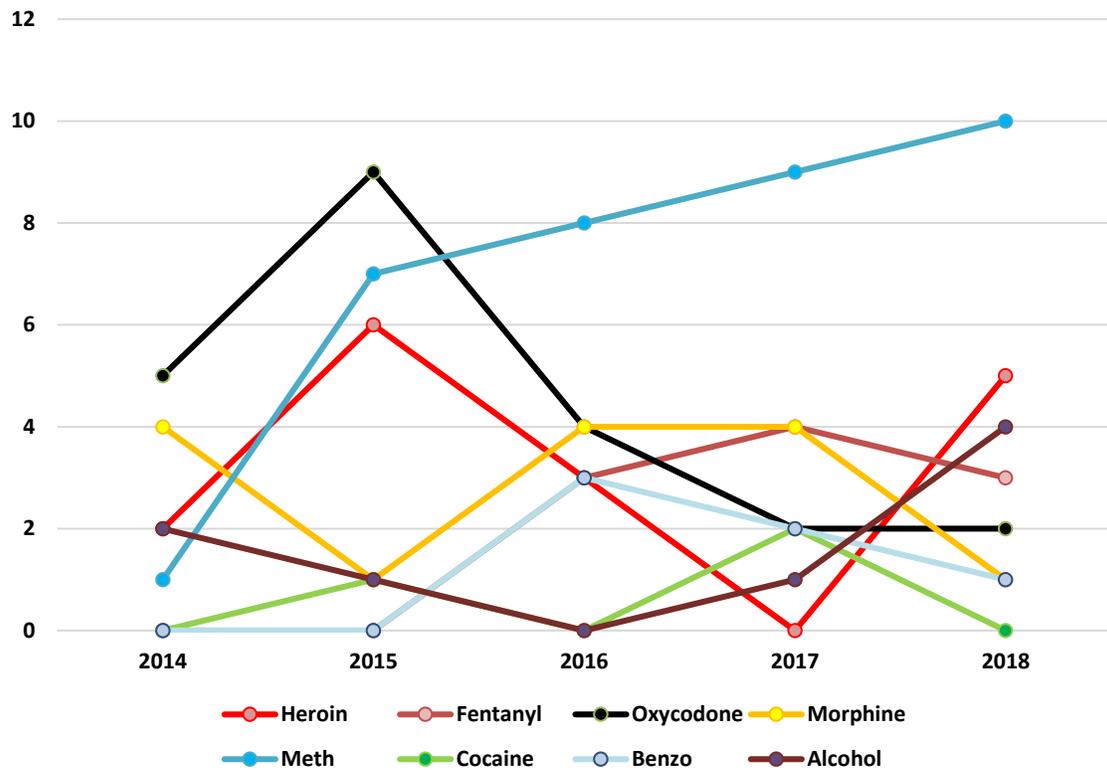


Cochise County Overdose Deaths by Drug 2018

Opiate compounds are **red**



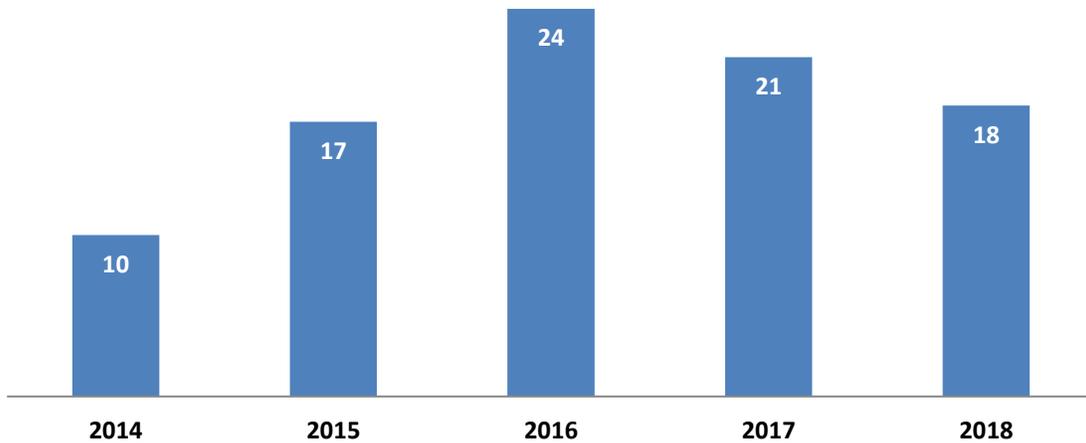
Cochise County Overdoses by drug by year 2014 - 2018



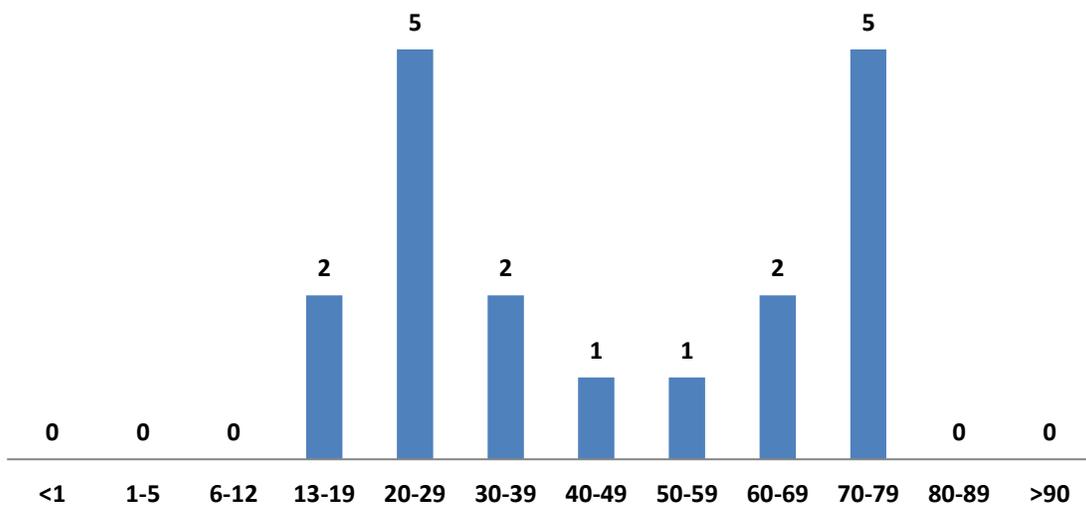
MOTOR VEHICLE RELATED FATALITIES

Motor vehicle related fatalities accounted for 18 total deaths in Cochise County in 2018. The majority, 11 deaths, were occupants of a motor vehicle involved in an accident (MVA). Of the remaining, 4 were motorcycle accidents (MCA), 2 were bicyclists struck by vehicles, and 1 was a pedestrian struck by a vehicle. Individuals who died from motor vehicle related fatalities were most frequently males (83%) and between 20-29 or 70-79 years of age, each 28% or 56% combined.

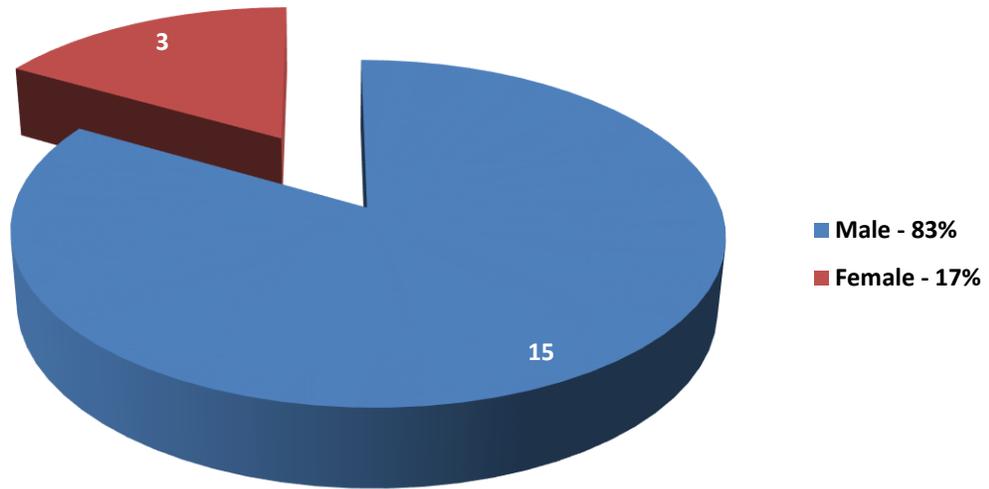
Cochise County Motor Vehicle Fatalities 2014 - 2018



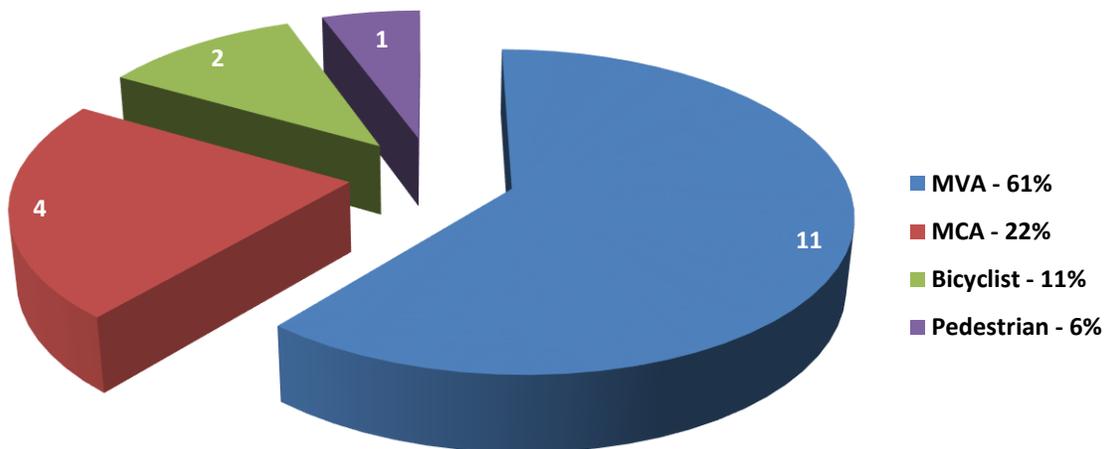
Cochise County Motor Vehicle Fatalities by Age 2018



Cochise County Motor Vehicle Fatalities by Sex 2018



Cochise County Motor Vehicle Fatalities by Type 2018



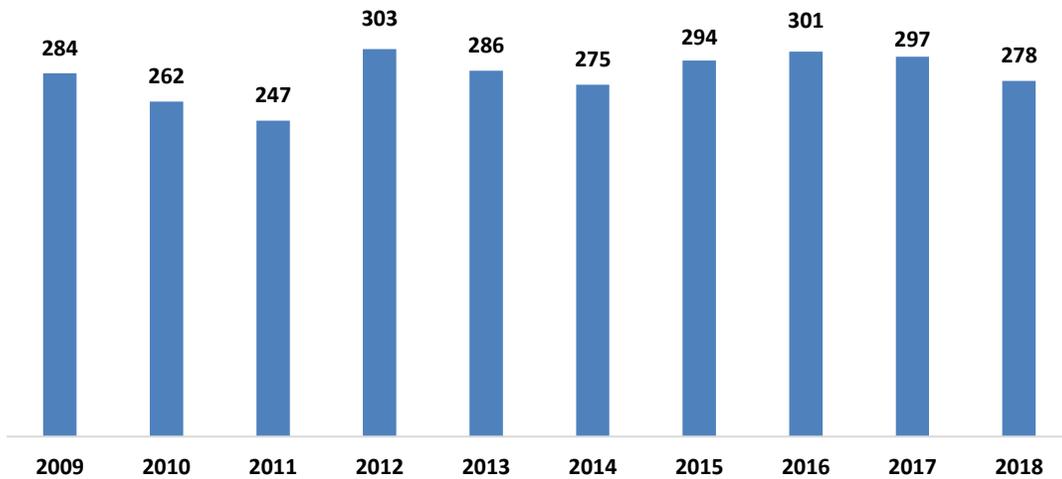
SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

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.



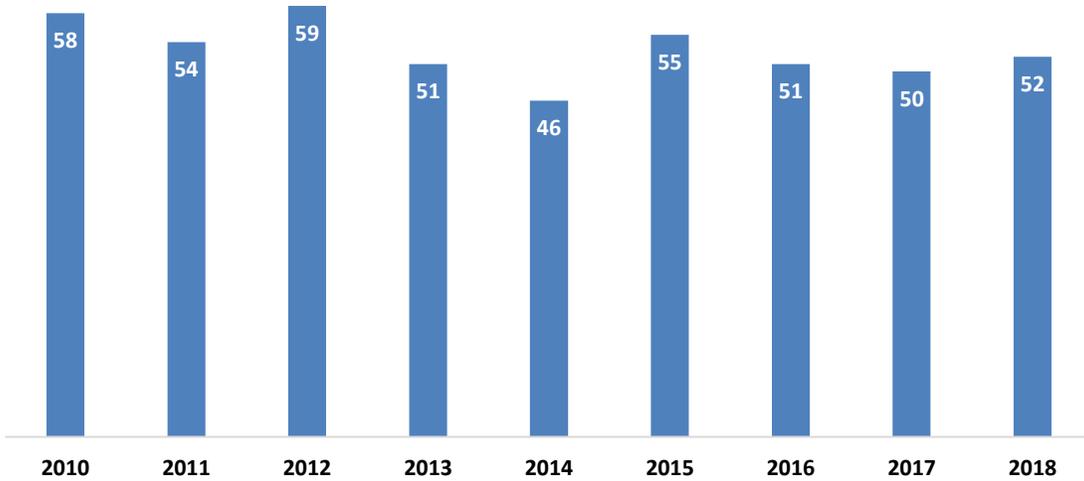
In calendar year 2018 there were 278 deaths in Santa Cruz County; of these 52 (19%) were reported to the PCOME for investigation and/or examination. Some pertinent statistics regarding these deaths are detailed in the tables below.

Santa Cruz County Mortality by Year 2009 - 2018*

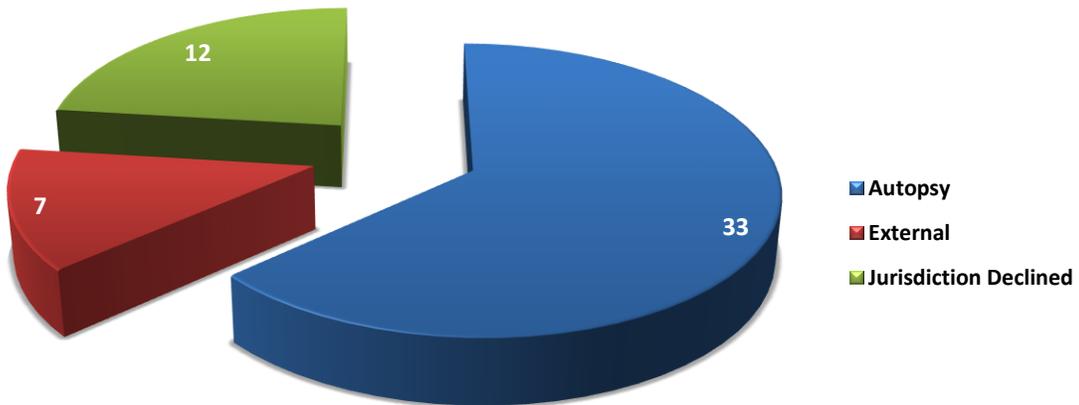


*Arizona Department of Vital Statistics as of 06/06/2019

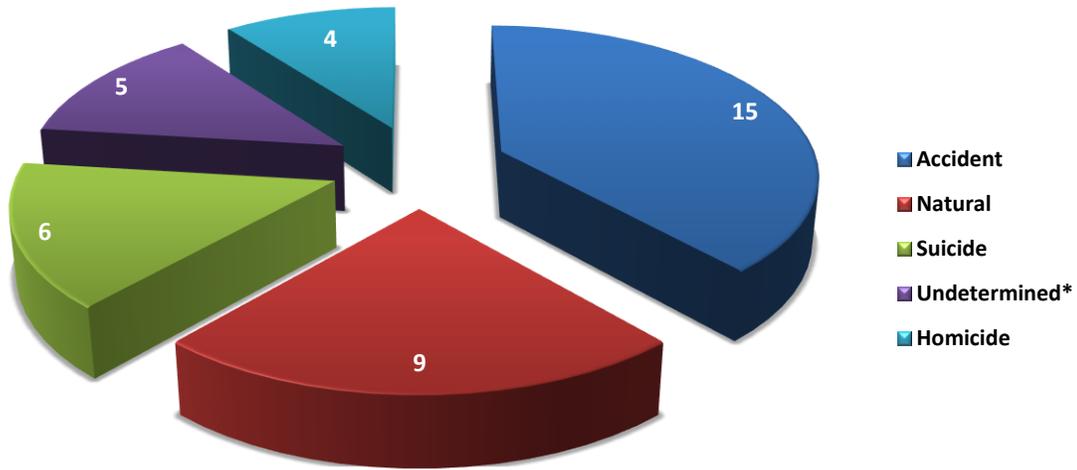
Santa Cruz County Deaths Reported to the PCOME 2010 - 2018



Santa Cruz County Deaths by Type of Exam 2018

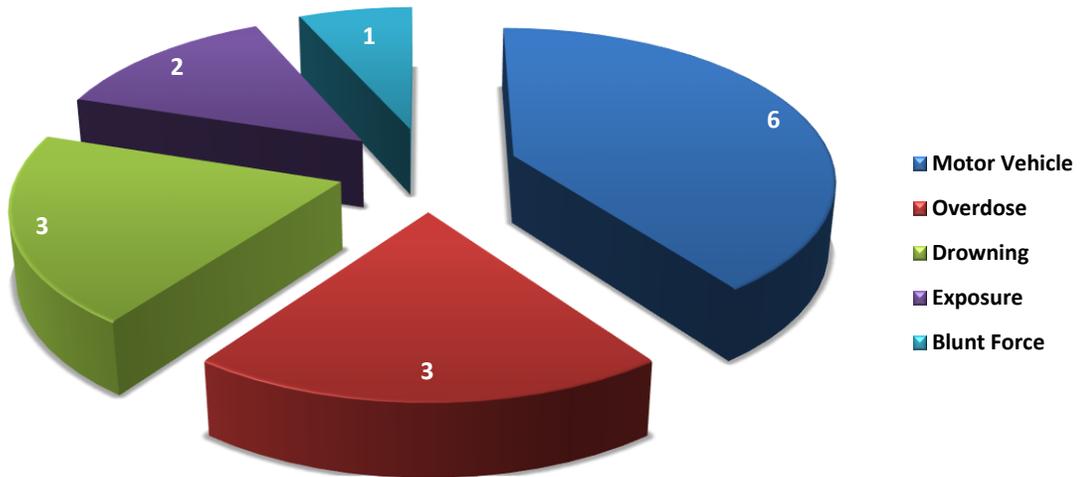


Santa Cruz County Deaths by Manner of Death 2018

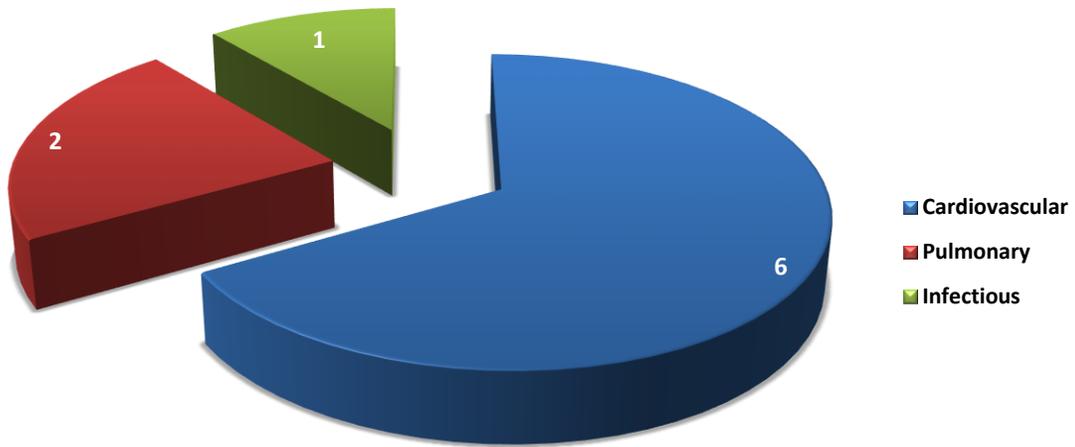


*All Undetermined manner of death certifications involved decomposed or skeletal remains of suspected UBCs

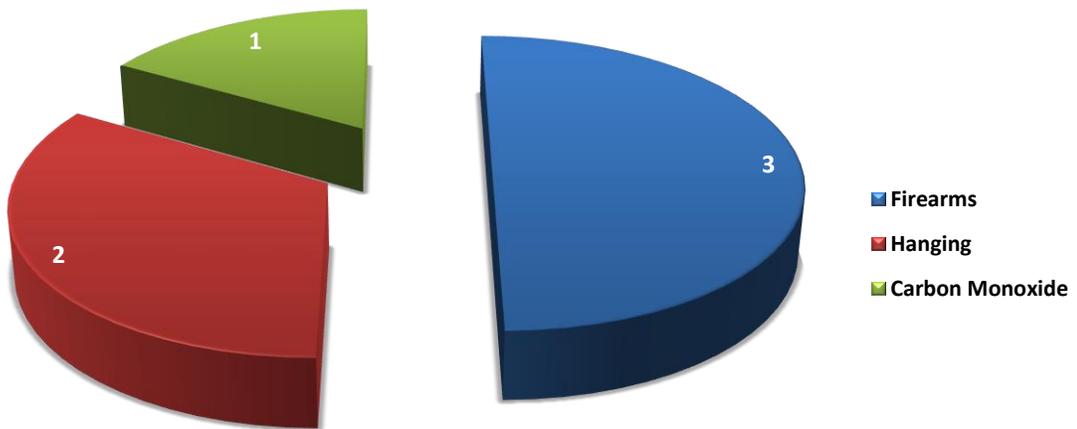
Santa Cruz County Accident Deaths by Type 2018



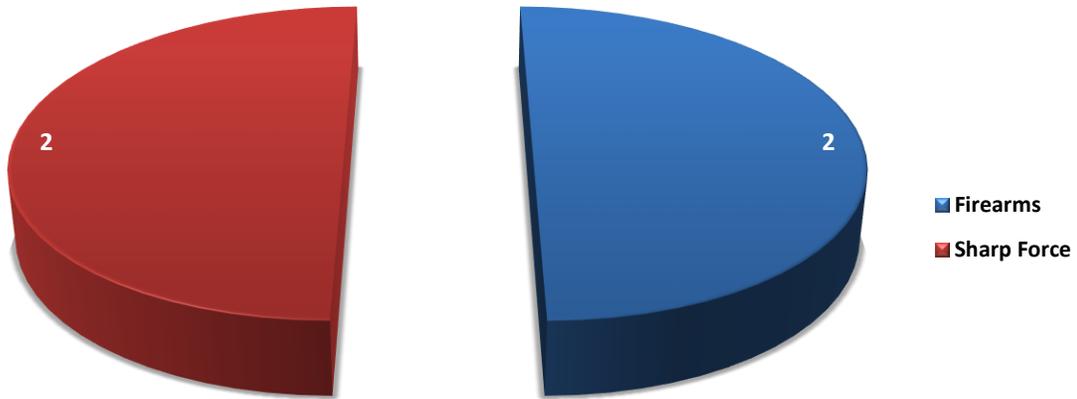
Santa Cruz County Natural Deaths by Type 2018



Santa Cruz County Suicide Deaths by Type 2018



Santa Cruz County Homicide Deaths by Type 2018



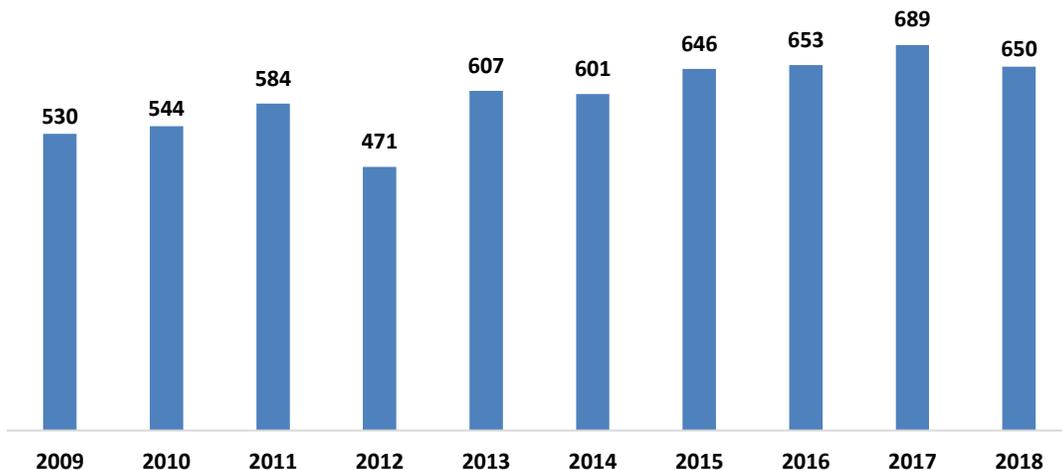
APACHE COUNTY

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).



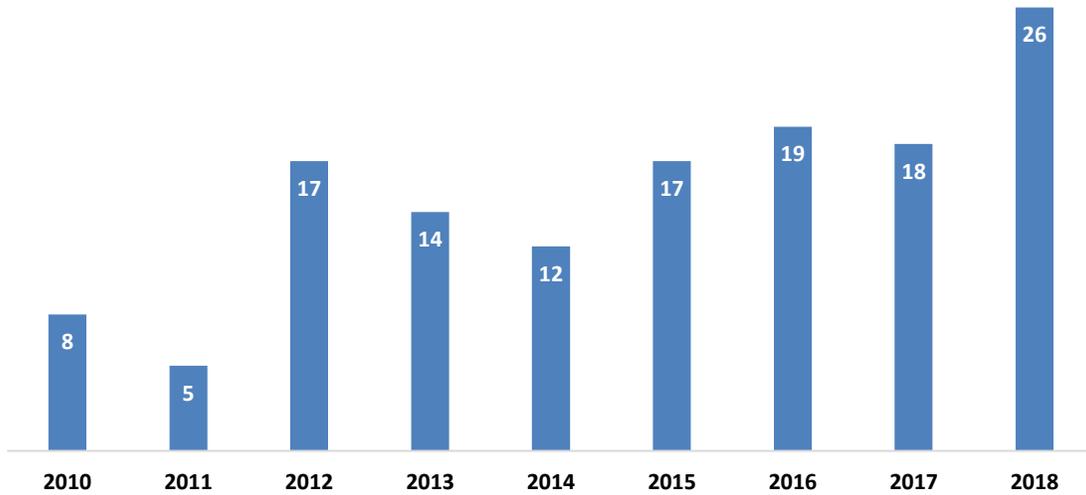
Twenty six deaths from Apache County were reported to the PCOME in 2018, 23 of which required autopsy examinations. Some pertinent statistics regarding these deaths are detailed in the tables and graphs below.

Apache County Mortality by Year 2009 - 2018*

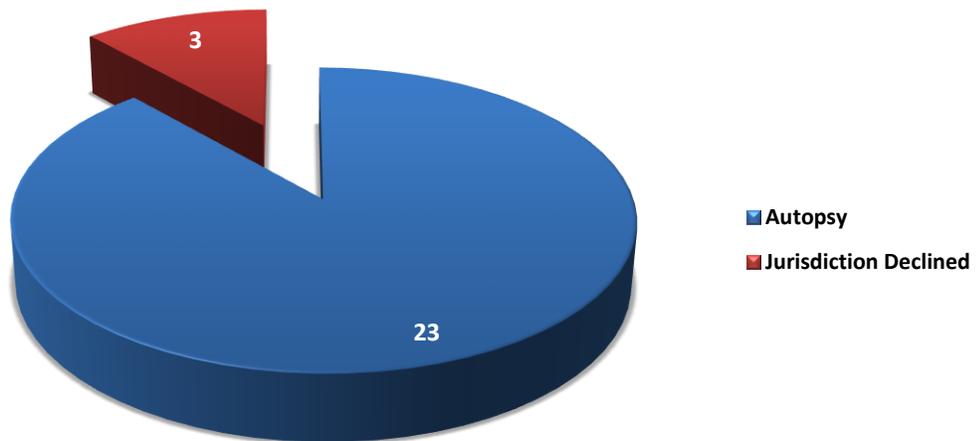


*Arizona Department of Vital Statistics as of 06/06/19

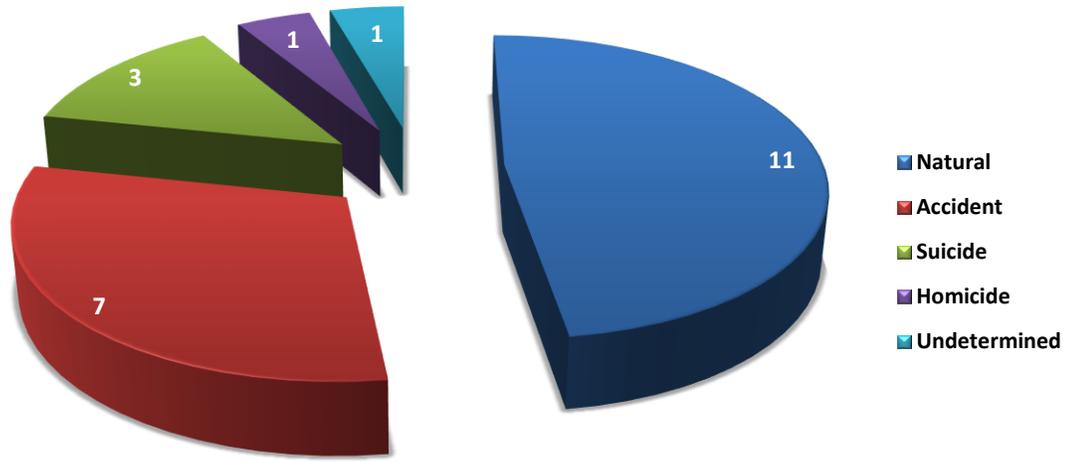
Apache County Deaths Reported to the PCOME 2010 - 2018



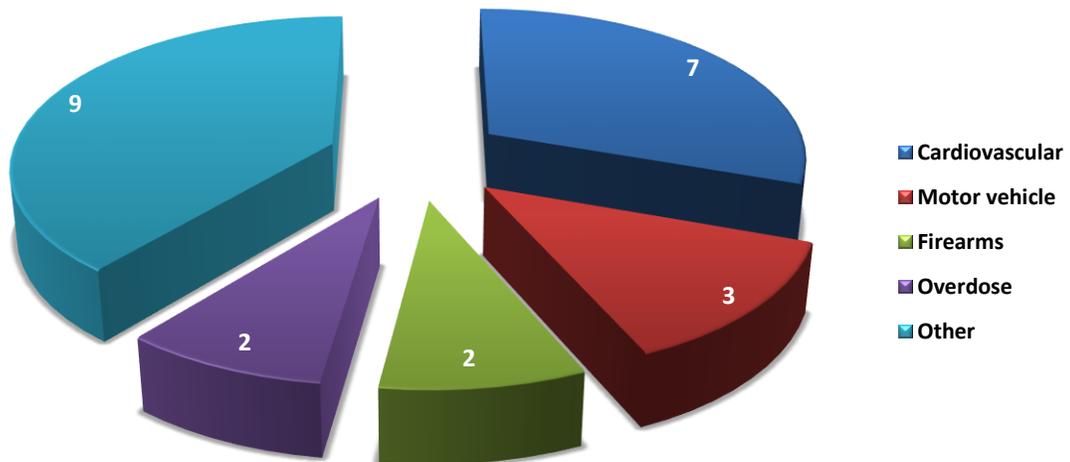
Apache County Deaths by Type of Exam 2018



Apache County Deaths by Manner of Death 2018



Apache County Deaths by Type of Death 2018



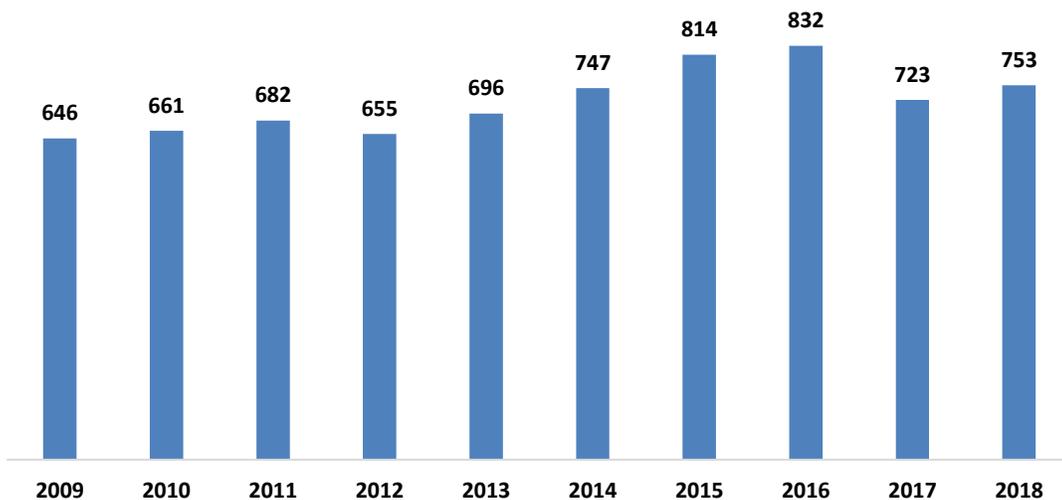
GILA COUNTY

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).



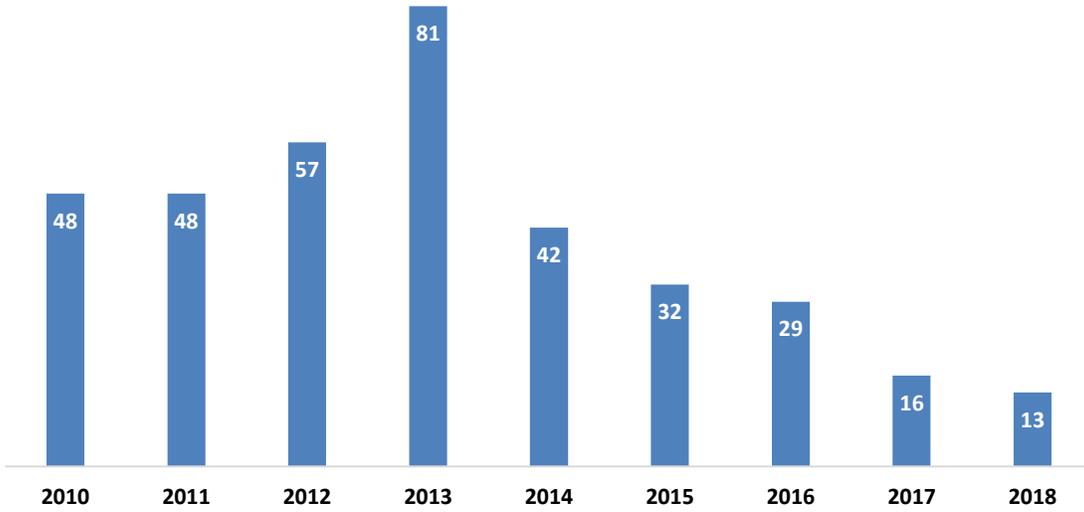
Thirteen deaths from Gila County were reported to the PCOME in 2018, 12 of which required autopsy examinations. Some pertinent statistics regarding these deaths are detailed in the tables and graphs below.

Gila County Mortality by Year 2009 - 2018*

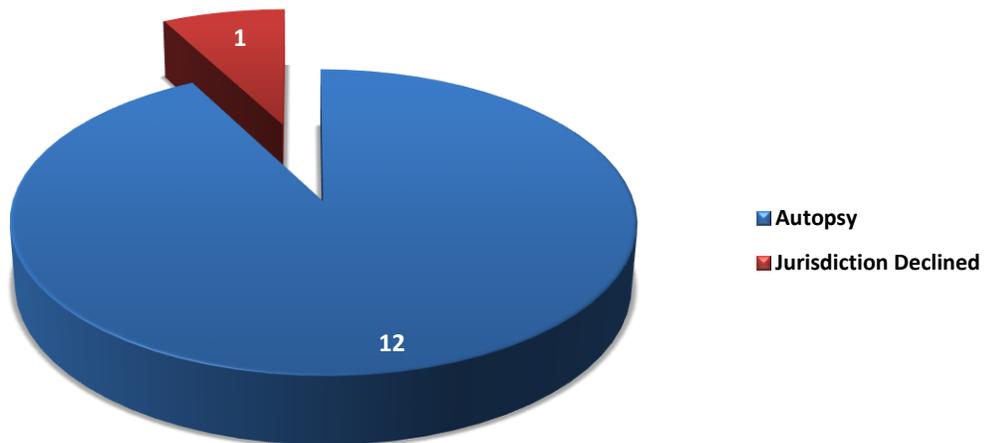


*Arizona Department of Vital Statistics as of 06/06/2019

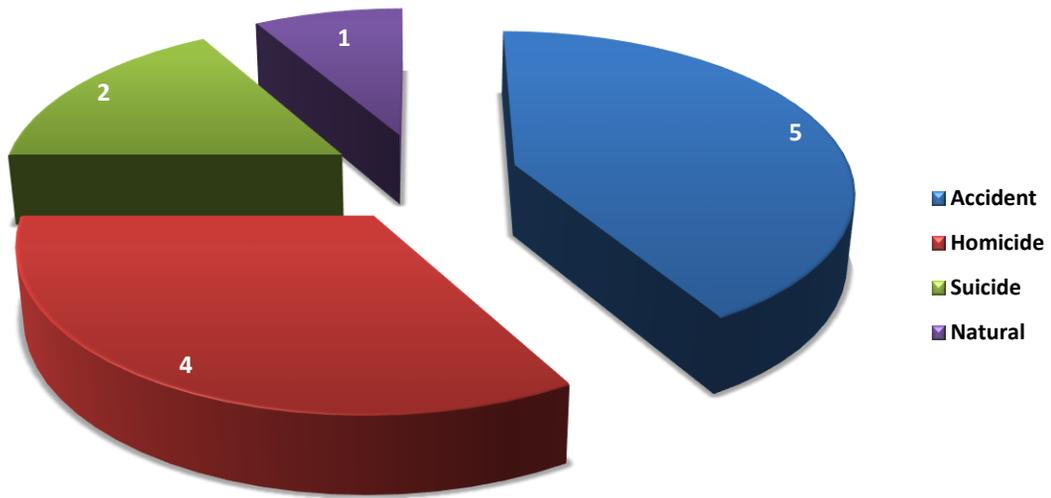
Gila County Deaths Reported to the PCOME 2010 - 2018



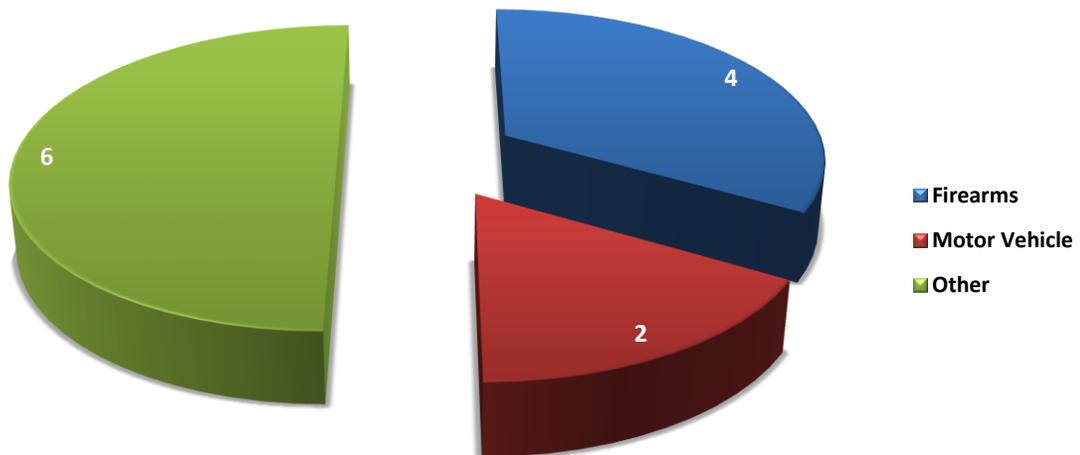
Gila County Deaths by Type of Exam 2018



Gila County Deaths by Manner of Death 2018



Gila County Deaths by Type of Death 2018



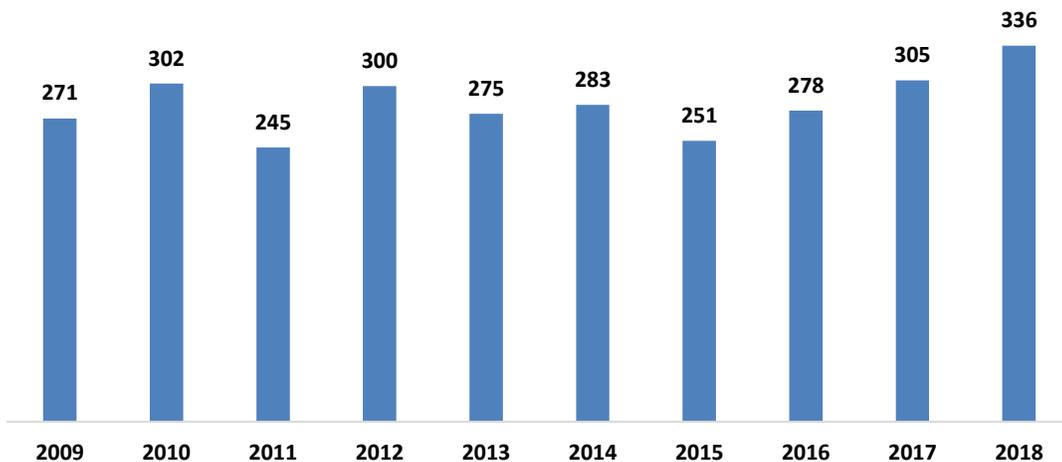
GRAHAM COUNTY

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).



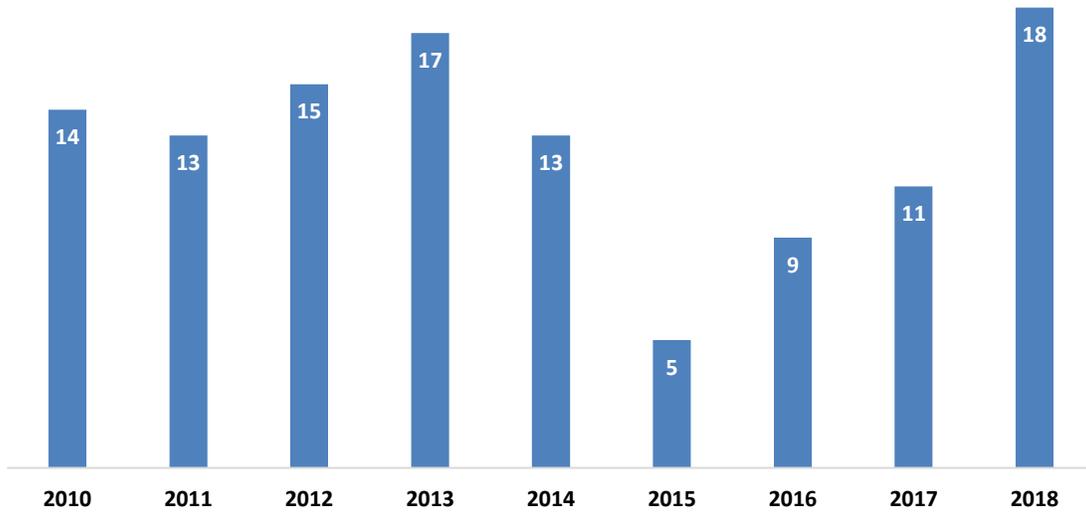
Eighteen deaths from Graham County were reported to the PCOME in 2018, 17 of which required autopsy examinations. Some pertinent statistics regarding these deaths are detailed in the tables and graphs below.

Graham County Mortality by Year 2009 - 2018*

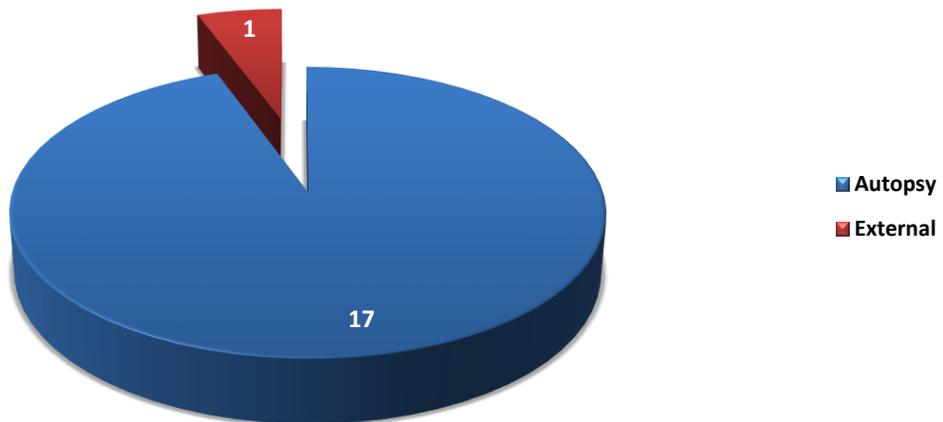


*Arizona Department of Vital Statistics as of 06/06/2019

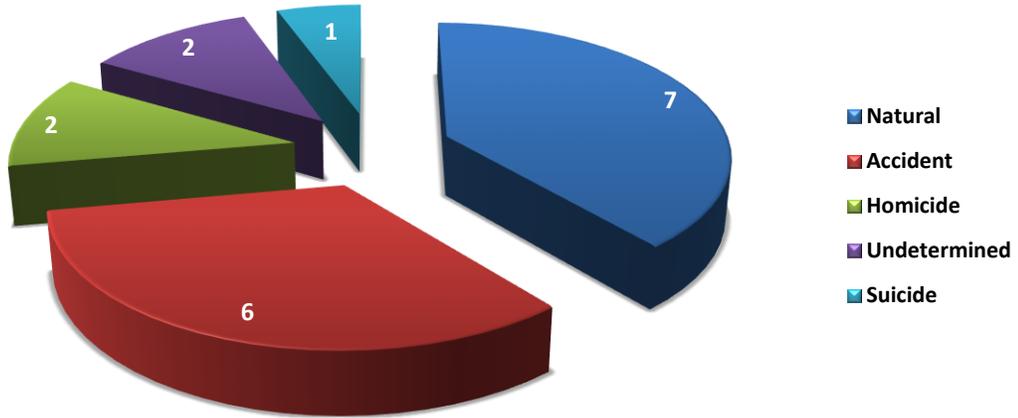
Graham County Deaths Reported to the PCOME 2010 - 2018



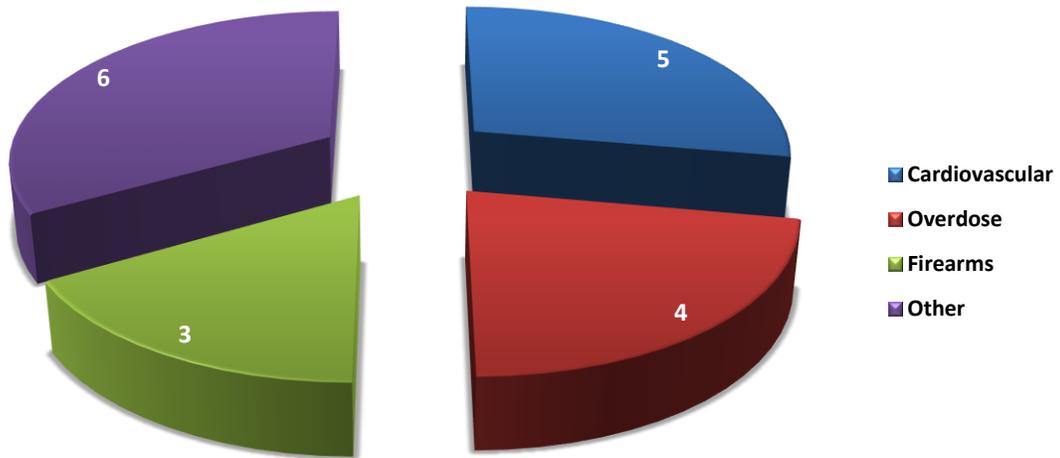
Graham County Deaths by Type of Exam 2018



Graham County Deaths by Manner of Death 2018



Graham County Deaths by Type of Death 2018



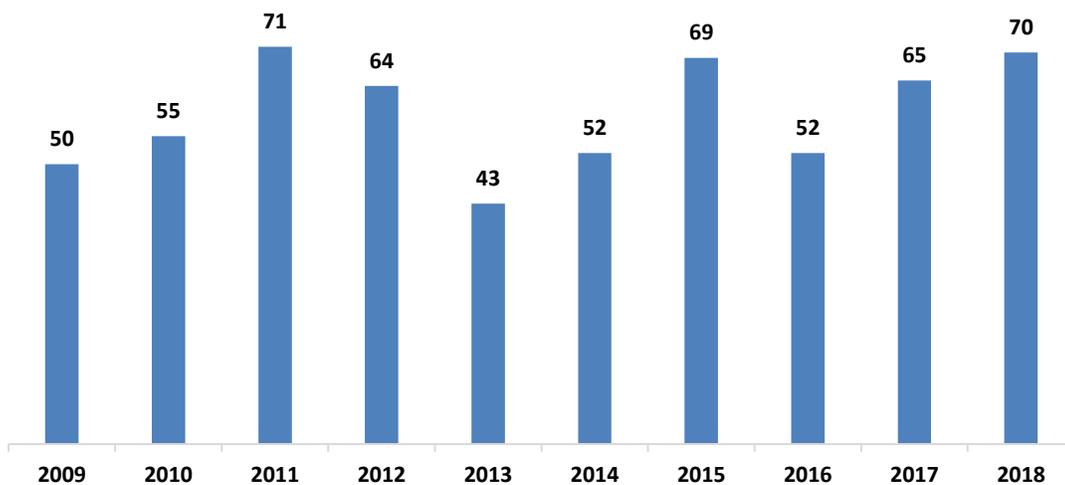
GREENLEE COUNTY

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).



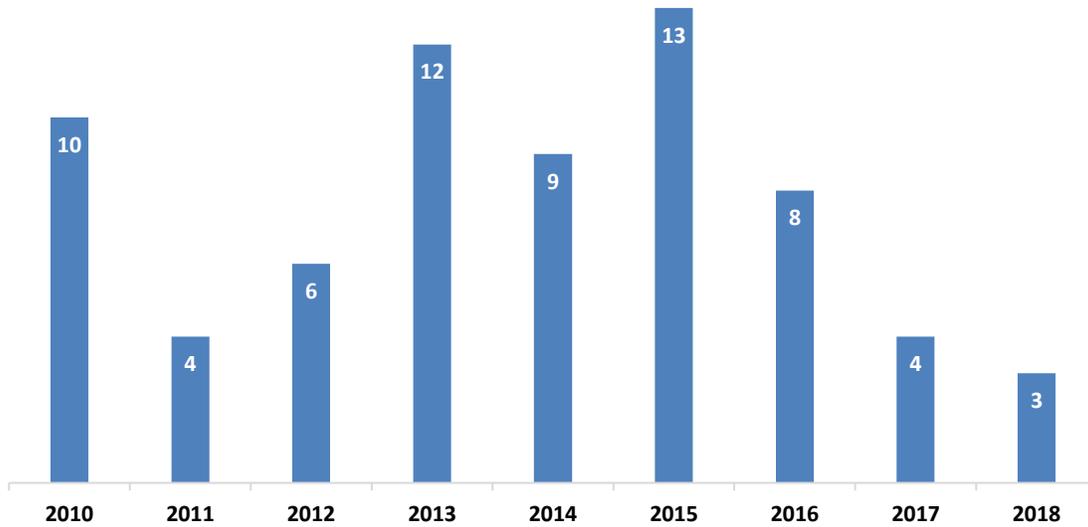
Three deaths from Greenlee County were reported to the PCOME in 2018, two of which required autopsy examinations. Some pertinent statistics regarding these deaths are detailed in the tables and graphs below.

Greenlee County Mortality by Year 2009 - 2018*

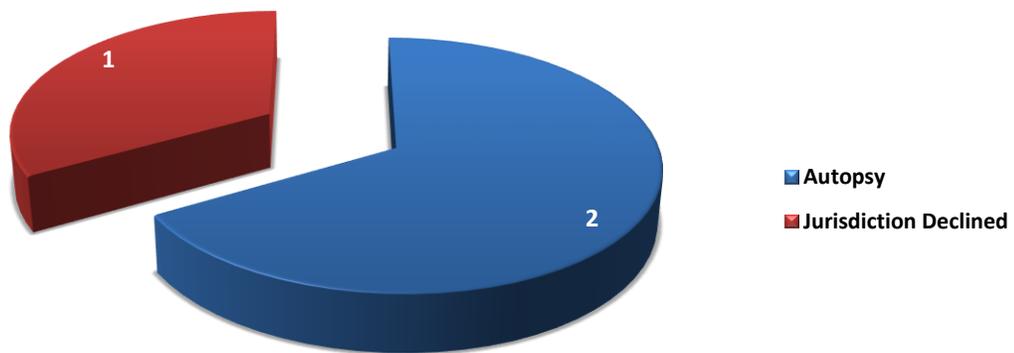


*Arizona Department of Vital Statistics as of 06/06/2019

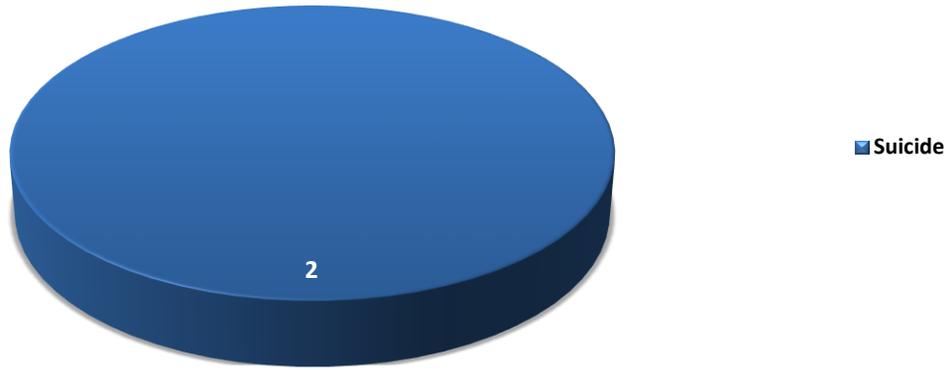
Greenlee County Deaths Reported to the PCOME 2010 - 2018



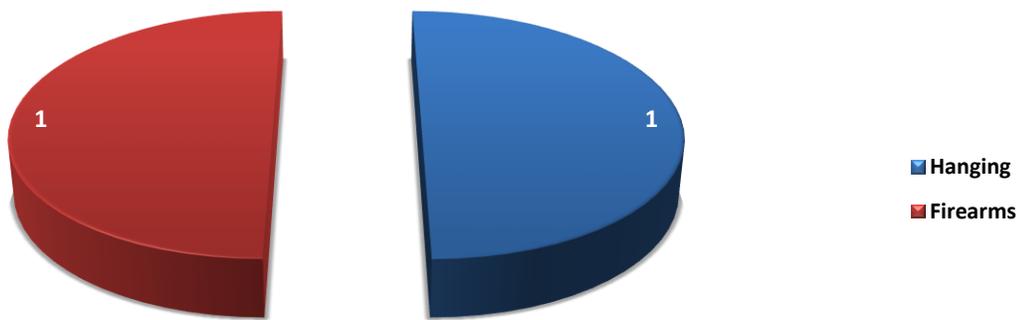
Greenlee County Deaths by Type of Exam 2018



Greenlee County Deaths by Manner of Death 2018



Greenlee County Deaths by Type of Death 2018



LA PAZ COUNTY

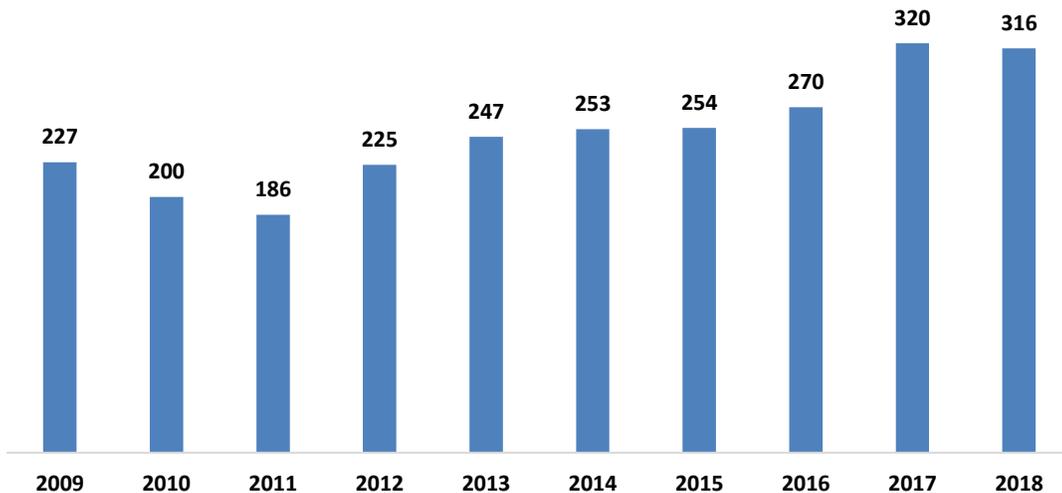
La Paz County contracts with an appointed non-Forensic Pathologist physician(s), termed an Alternate Medical Examiner(s) (AME) (A.R.S. §11-591), who triages, investigates and certifies deaths that fall under the jurisdiction of the medical examiner in La Paz County. The La Paz County AME does not perform 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).

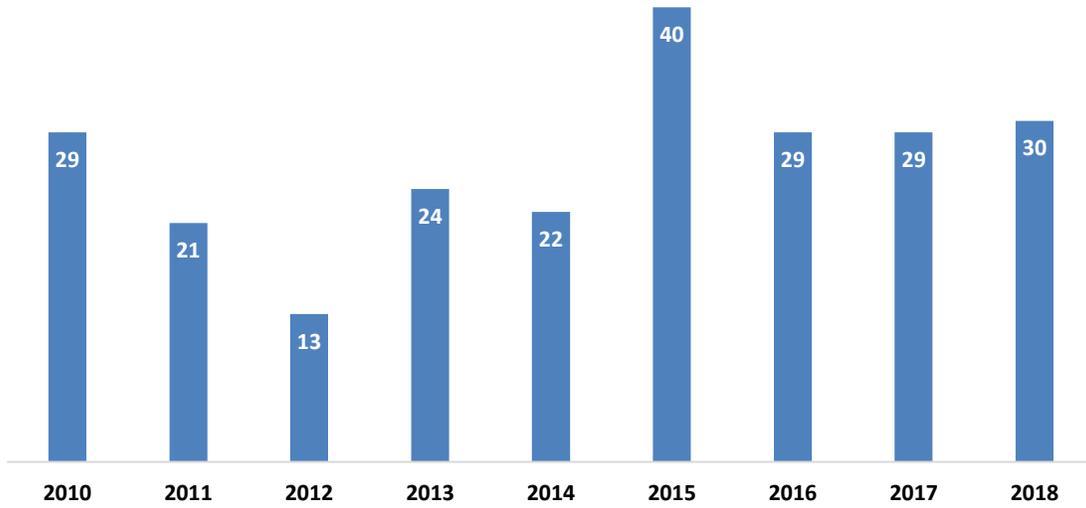
Thirty deaths from La Paz County were reported to the PCOME in 2018, 27 of which required autopsy examinations. Some pertinent statistics regarding these deaths are detailed in the tables and graphs below.

La Paz County Mortality by Year 2009 - 2018*

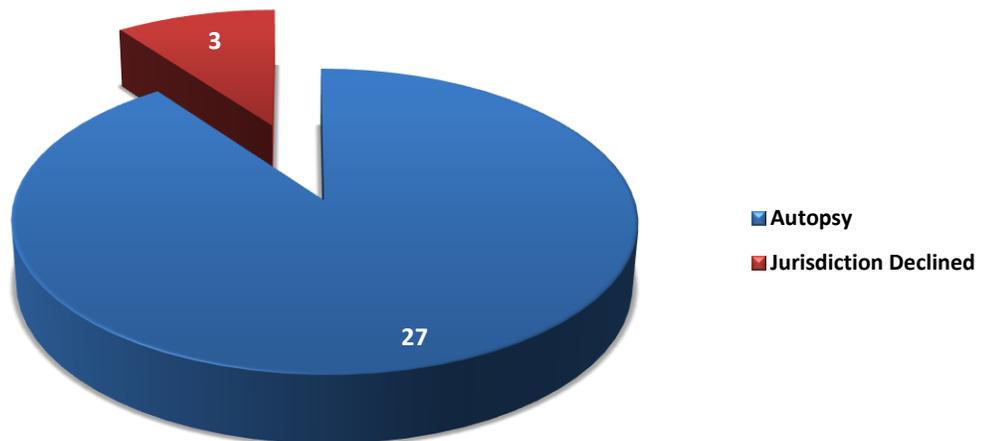


*Arizona Department of Vital Statistics as of 06/06/2019

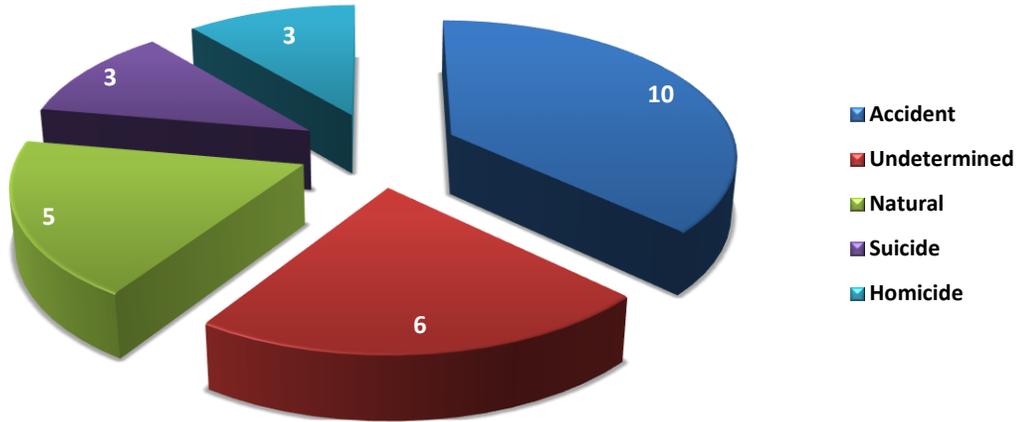
La Paz County Deaths Reported to the PCOME 2010 - 2018



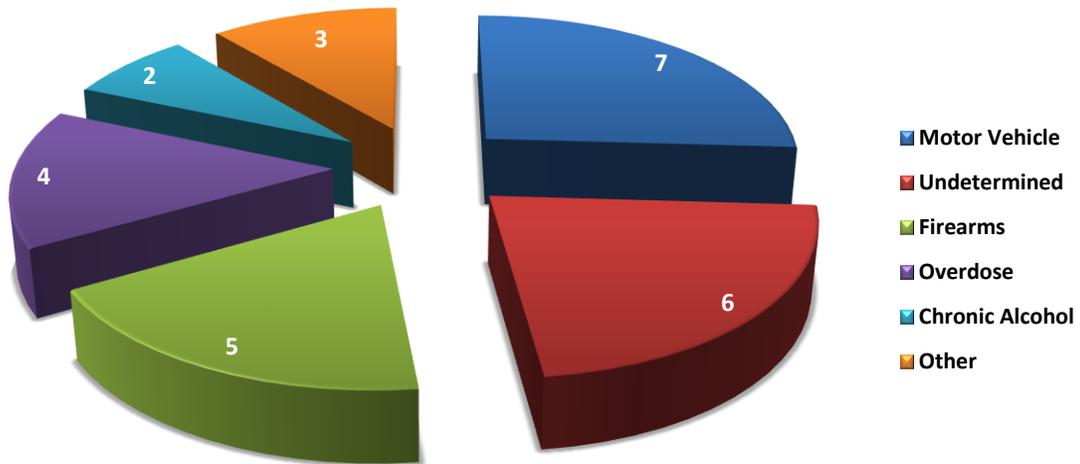
La Paz County Deaths by Type of Exam 2018



La Paz County Deaths by Manner of Death 2018

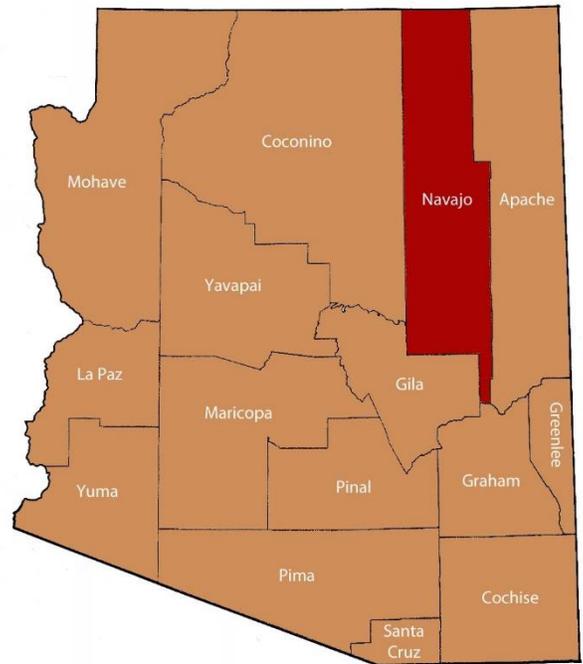


La Paz County Deaths by Type of Death 2018



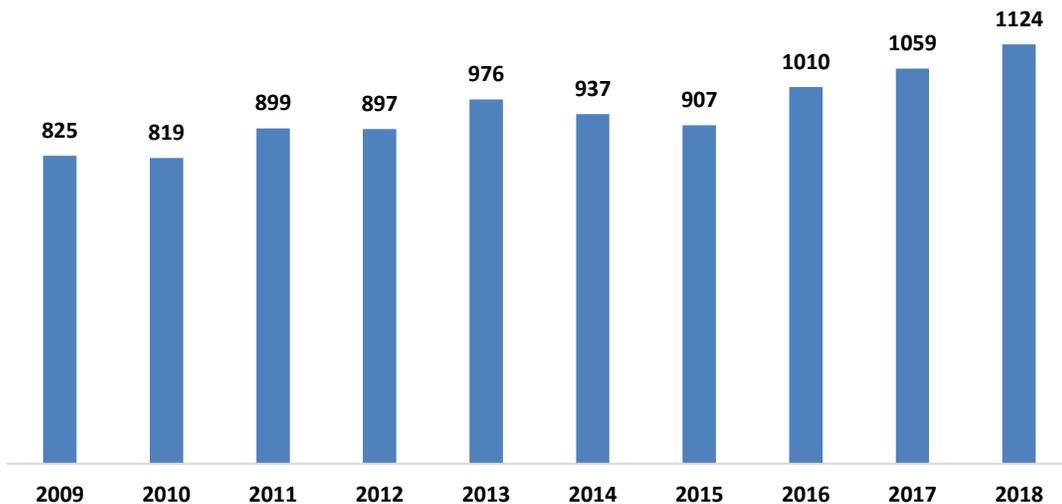
NAVAJO COUNTY

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).



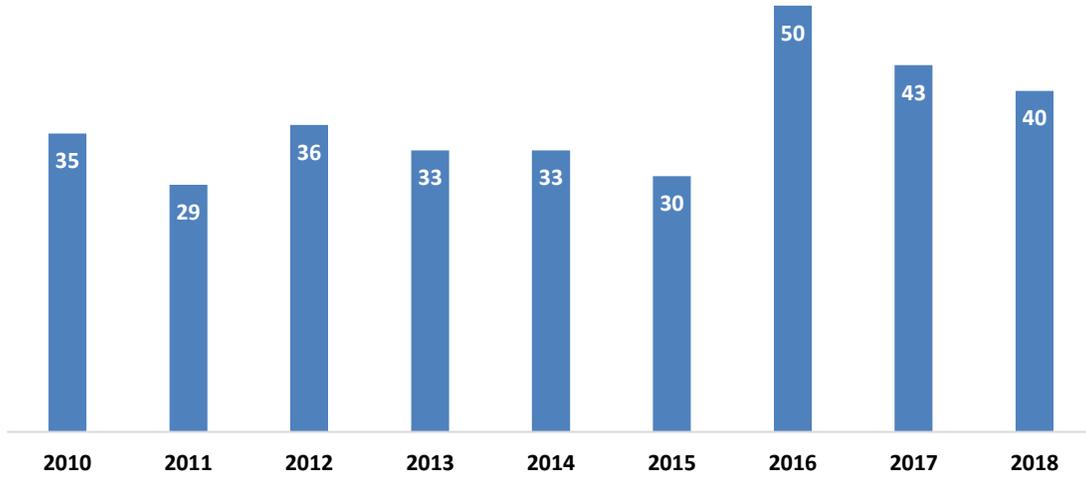
Forty deaths from Navajo County were reported to the PCOME in 2018, 38 of which required autopsy examinations. Some pertinent statistics regarding these deaths are detailed in the tables and graphs below.

Navajo County Mortality by Year 2009 - 2018*

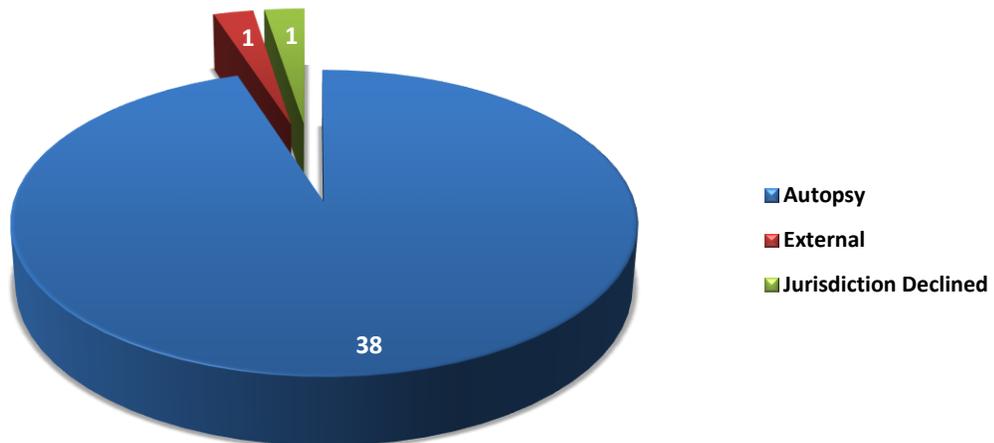


*Arizona Department of Vital Statistics as of 06/06/2019

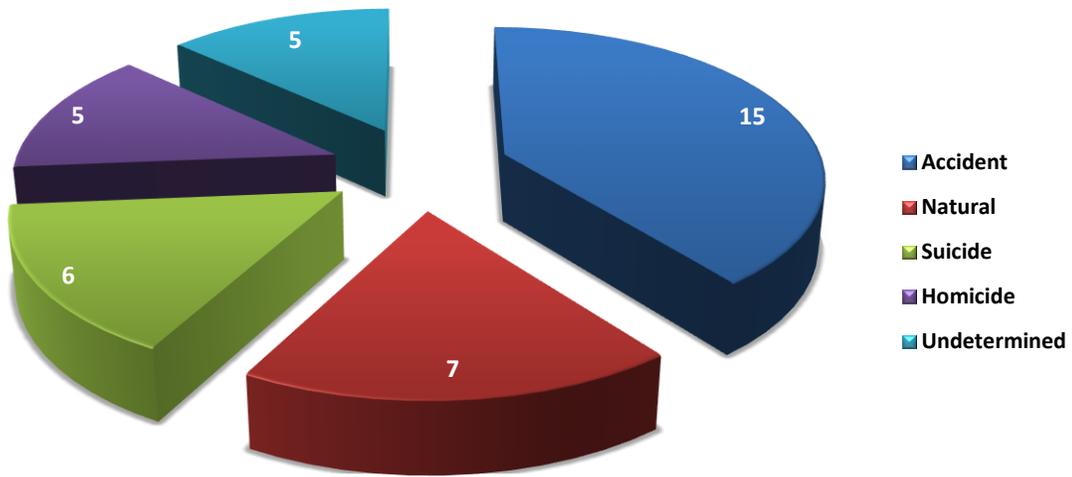
Navajo County Deaths Reported to the PCOME 2010 - 2018



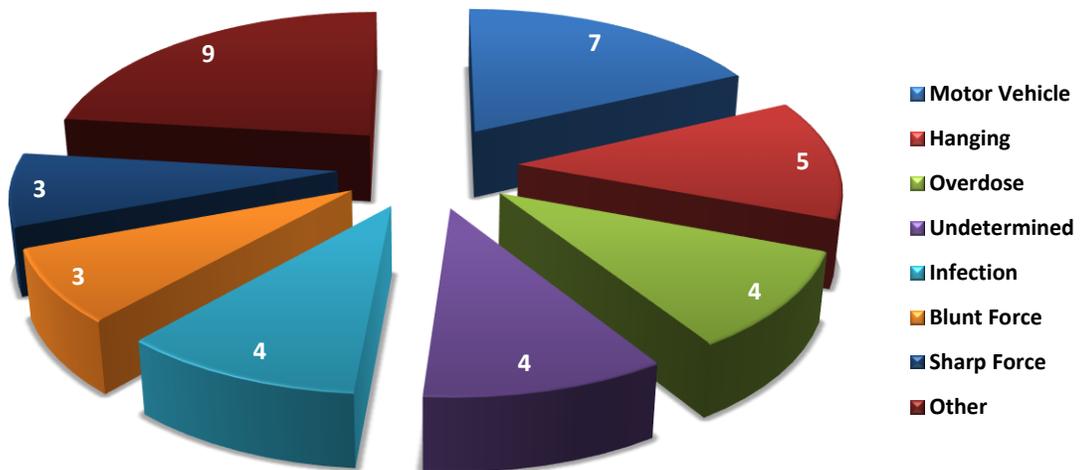
Navajo County Deaths by Type of Exam 2018



Navajo County Deaths by Manner of Death 2018

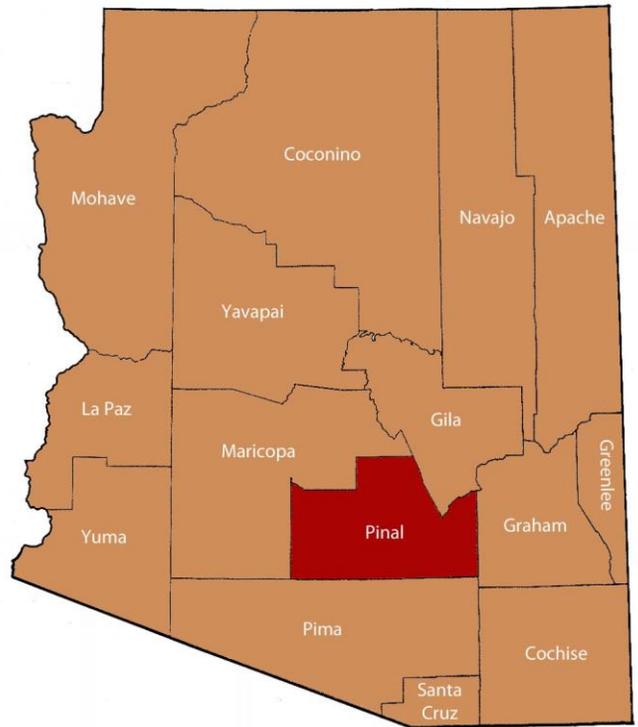


Navajo County Deaths by Type of Death 2018



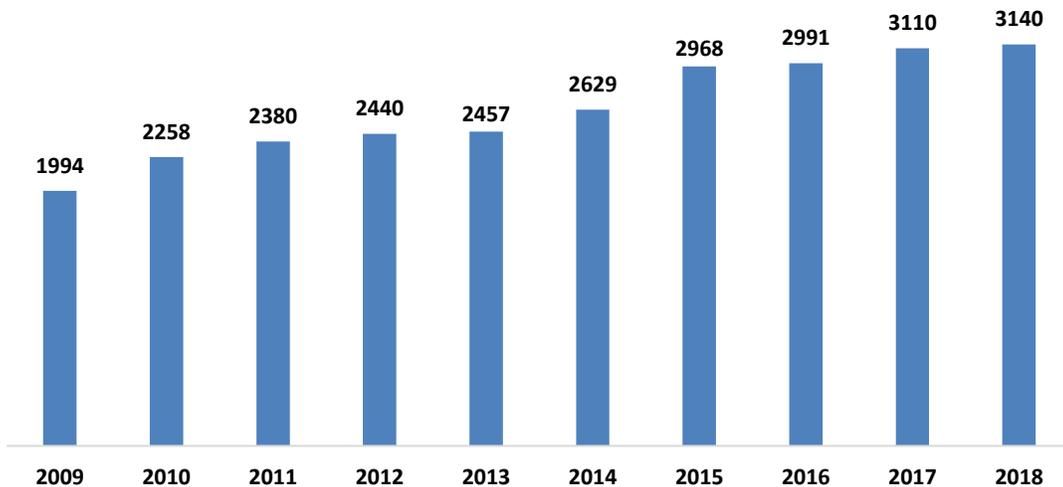
PINAL COUNTY

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.



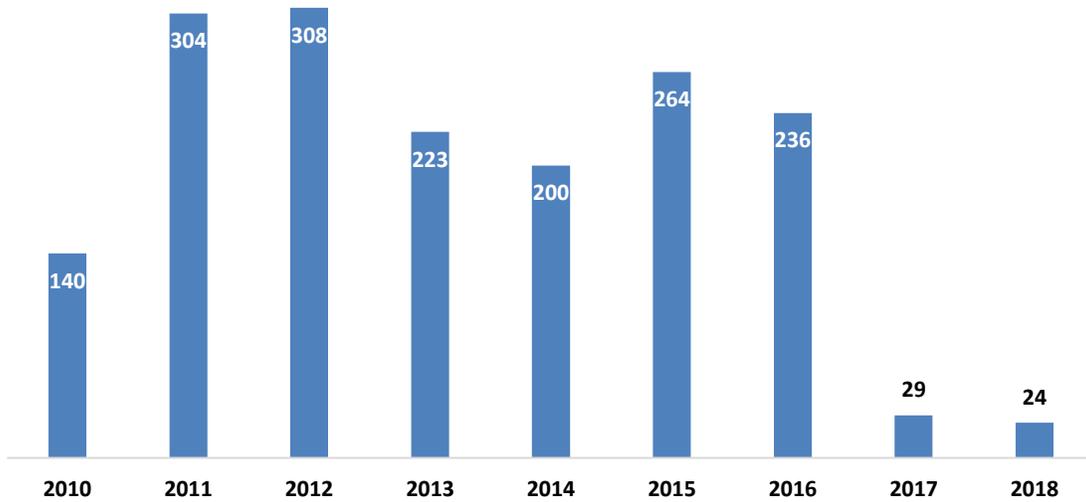
Twenty-four deaths from Pinal County were reported to the PCOME in 2018, 20 of which required autopsy examinations. Some pertinent statistics regarding these deaths are detailed in the tables and graphs below.

Pinal County Mortality by Year 2009 - 2018*

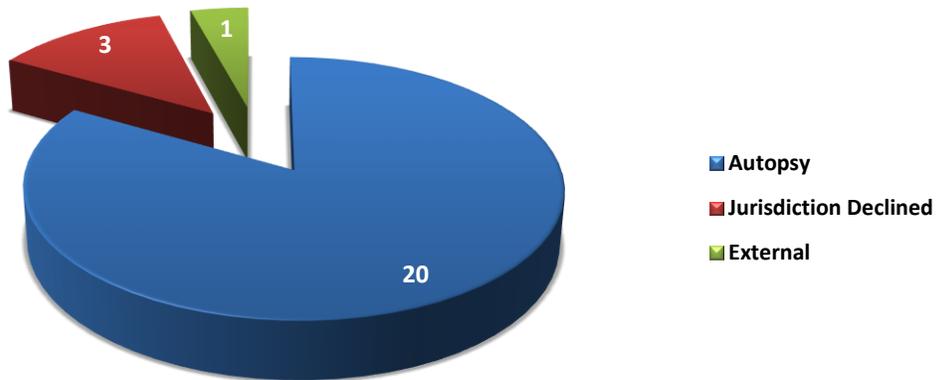


*Arizona Department of Vital Statistics as of 06/06/2019

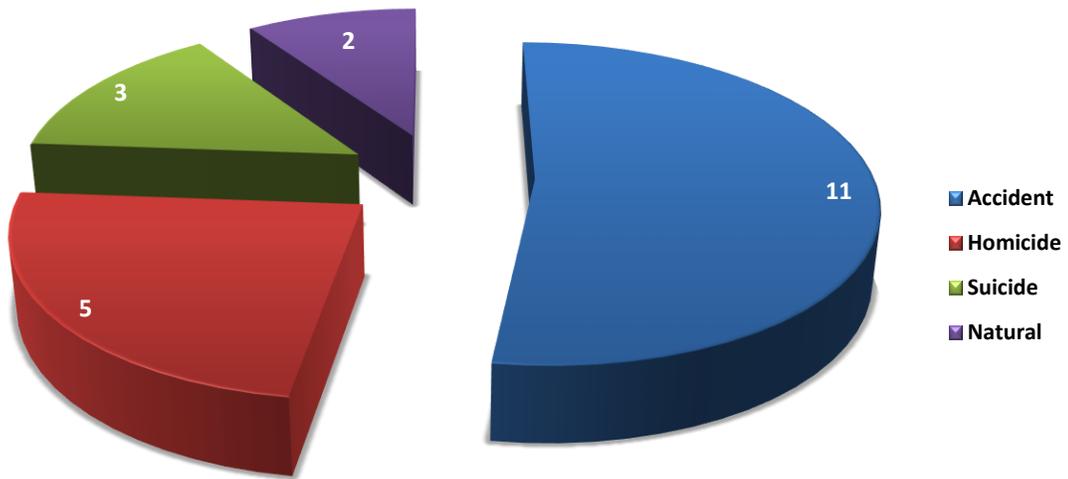
Pinal County Deaths Reported to the PCOME 2010 - 2018



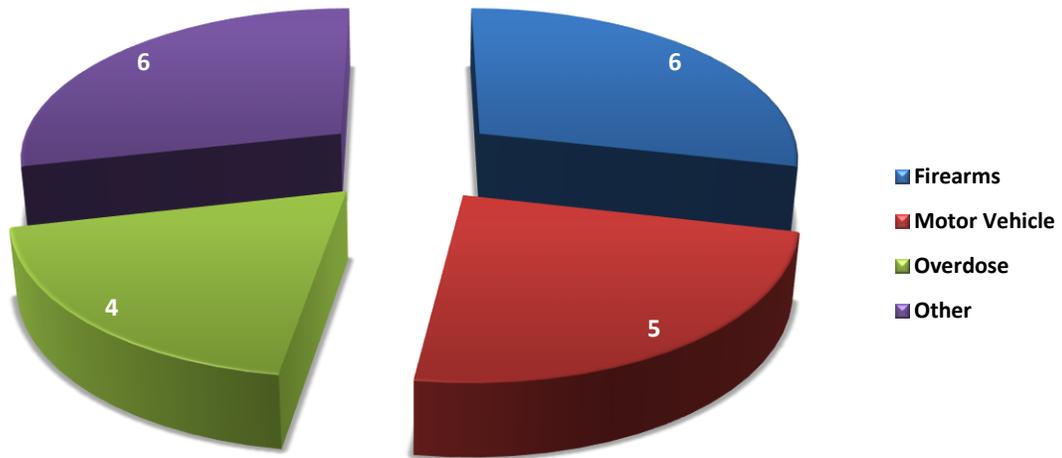
Pinal County Deaths by Type of Exam 2018



Pinal County Deaths by Manner of Death 2018



Pinal County Deaths by Type of Death 2018



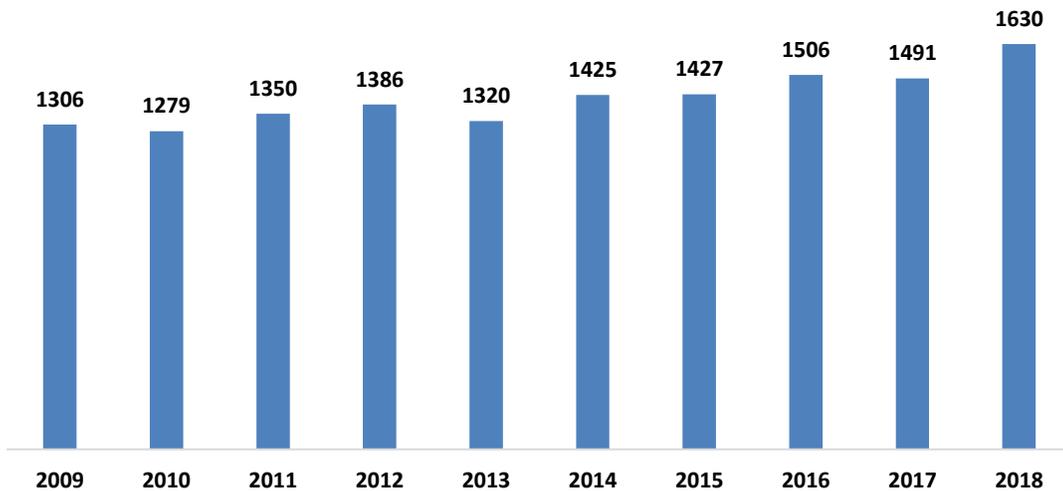
YUMA COUNTY

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.

Sixteen deaths from Yuma County were reported to the PCOME in 2018, all 16 of which required autopsy examinations. Some pertinent statistics regarding these deaths are detailed in the tables below.

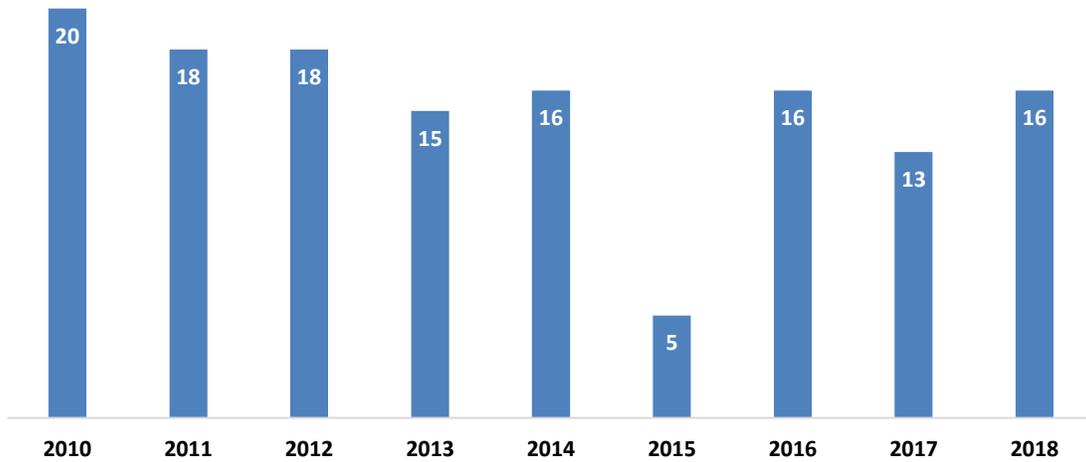


Yuma County Mortality by Year 2009 - 2018*

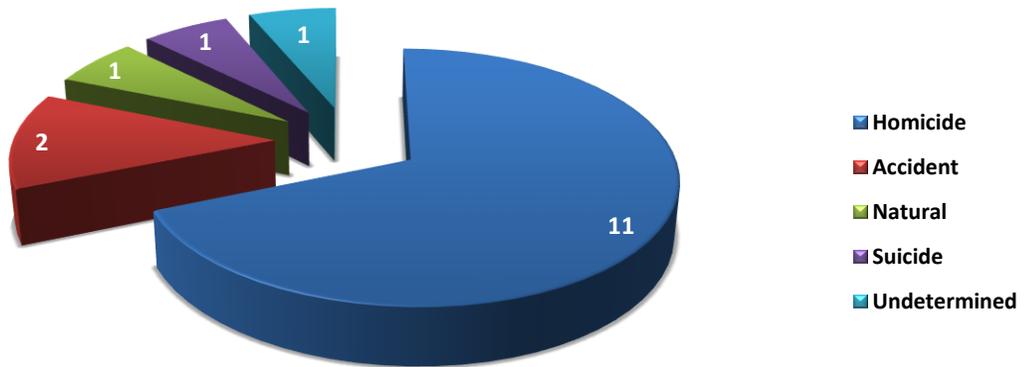


*Arizona Department of Vital Statistics as of 06/06/2019

Yuma County Deaths Reported to the PCOME 2010 - 2018



Yuma County Deaths by Manner of Death 2018



Yuma County Deaths by Type of Death 2018

