

**COUNTY OF SPOKANE, STATE OF WASHINGTON**



**MEDICAL EXAMINER  
2007 ANNUAL REPORT**

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# 2007 ANNUAL REPORT

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**Section 1: Overview**

**Mission Statement**

*“A regional forensic medicine center striving for continued excellence in providing scientific, compassionate, and professional services in the investigation of unexpected death.”*

**Introduction**

*The Spokane County Medical Examiner’s Office has been in existence for nine full years. In April of 2004, the office received full accreditation from the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME). Roughly 50 Medical Examiner/Coroner Offices in the United States are accredited. The office has been the recipient of 4 Federal Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement grants, totaling approximately \$ 200,000.00. The office employees 2 forensic pathologists, an office manager, 4 full time investigators, 2 administrative staff and one autopsy room technician, as well as part time employees. For more information about the Medical Examiner’s Office, visit our web site at [www.spokanecounty.org/medexaminer](http://www.spokanecounty.org/medexaminer).*

**Foreword**

*Information presented in this annual report has been compiled on deaths that were reported to the Spokane County Medical Examiner’s Office in 2007. This summarized report presents data in a variety of formats with the objective of providing useful information to diverse groups in the community.*

*Referral Caseload: Currently the Spokane County Medical Examiner’s Office performs autopsies for 12 “outside” counties in Eastern Washington and the Idaho panhandle. In 2007 a total of 138 autopsies were performed for the following referral counties, Adams, Asotin, Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, Ferry, Kootenai, Lincoln, Nez Perce, Pend Oreille, Shoshone and Stevens. This is a mutually beneficial arrangement. The surrounding counties can take advantage of forensic expertise and an excellent accredited forensic pathology facility. Spokane County receives payment from outside counties for these services, revenues for autopsies totaled \$213,900 in 2007.*

**OUTSIDE COUNTY AUTOPSIES**

2007	138
2006	146
2005	144
2004	168
2003	151
2002	145
2001	163
2000	132
1999	139

**Standard Annual Reports Data as Identified by the National Association of Medical Examiners (N.A.M.E.)**

The Spokane County Medical Examiner's Office achieved the distinction of Accreditation by the National Association of Medical Examiners in April, 2004. The National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) is the national professional organization of forensic pathologists, physician medical examiners, medical death investigators, death investigation system administrators, and consultants who perform the official duties of medicolegal investigation of deaths of public interest in the United States. Most members work as Medical Examiners or Coroners. Accreditation is a rigorous process, and requires a lengthy inspection by an independent Medical Examiner appointed by the organization. The accreditation requirements are 28 pages long, and include an estimated 300 items covering things such as how specimens are labeled, and the qualifications of staff members. The Spokane County Medical Examiner's Office is accredited for a 5 year period, until 2009. Please refer to the following chart for data required by the National Association of Medical Examiners.

<b>Scene visits by Medical Examiners or Medical Examiner Investigators</b>	<b>391</b>
<b>Bodies transported by order of the office</b>	<b>462</b>
<b>Total bodies transported to the Forensic Institute</b>	<b>584</b>
<b>Total external autopsies</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Total partial autopsies</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Total complete autopsies</b>	<b>520</b>
<b>Hospital autopsies retained under Medical Examiner jurisdiction</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Cases where toxicology was performed</b>	<b>520</b>
<b>Bodies unidentified after examination</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Organ donations</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Tissue donations</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Cornea donations</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Bone donations</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Unclaimed bodies</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Exhumations</b>	<b>1</b>

### **Acknowledgment...**

*The Medical Examiner's Office wishes to express, once again, their sincere and deepest appreciation to Eileen Egeland, Analyst Programmer of the Spokane County Information Systems Department, for her assistance and support in the development of this statistical report.*

### **Criteria for Reportable Deaths**

1. Persons who die suddenly when in apparent good health and without medical attendance within 36 hours preceding death.
2. Circumstances that indicate death was caused in part or entirely by unnatural or unlawful means.
3. Suspicious circumstances.
4. Unknown or obscure causes.
5. Deaths caused by any injury whatsoever, whether the primary cause or contributing cause.
6. Violent contagious disease, with public health risk.
7. Unclaimed bodies.
8. Premature and stillborn infants where suspicious circumstances exist.
9. All deaths in children.

### ***Function of the Medical Examiner's Office***

The Medical Examiner's Office serves the living by investigating deaths typically that are unnatural and / or unexpected. This task begins with careful investigation at the scene of death, supplemented when appropriate, by autopsy examination, toxicology and other testing. The Medical Examiner's Office helps the community by determining the cause and manner of death, recognizing and collecting evidence needed for adjudication, defining public health and product safety risks and providing compassionate services to families including notification of next of kin.

### ***Spokane County Medical Examiner Cases in 2007***

In 2007, there were 4,266 deaths in Spokane County (based on the latest census of 446,706, this represents 1% of the population). Of these deaths, 3,298 (77% of all deaths) were reported to the Medical Examiner by medical and law enforcement personnel. Based on analysis of the scene and circumstances of death, and the decedent's medical history, the Medical Examiner assumed jurisdiction in 566 (17%) of these reported deaths, or in 13% of all deaths in the county. These reporting figures and autopsy percentages are similar to other Medical Examiner jurisdictions nationally.

There were deaths reported to the Medical Examiner in which jurisdiction was not assumed. The number of deaths reported to the Medical Examiner's Office was significantly greater than recorded during the years as a coroner's system (before January 1, 1999). The number has also steadily increased during the Medical Examiners years (1999 to present), reflecting efforts by the Medical Examiner's Office to educate reporting agencies and encourage appropriate reporting of deaths to the Medical Examiner. All nursing home and adult care facilities deaths are reported to the Medical Examiner's Office allowing for appropriate agency analysis. This progressive Spokane County Medical Examiner Policy has been adopted recently by other Medical Examiner systems around the state.

### ***Forensic Unit***

The Forensic Unit works in the Sherriff's department and provides crime scene documentation, fingerprint comparison and photo documentation. The Medical Examiner's office often partners with this group in the collection and preservation of evidence.

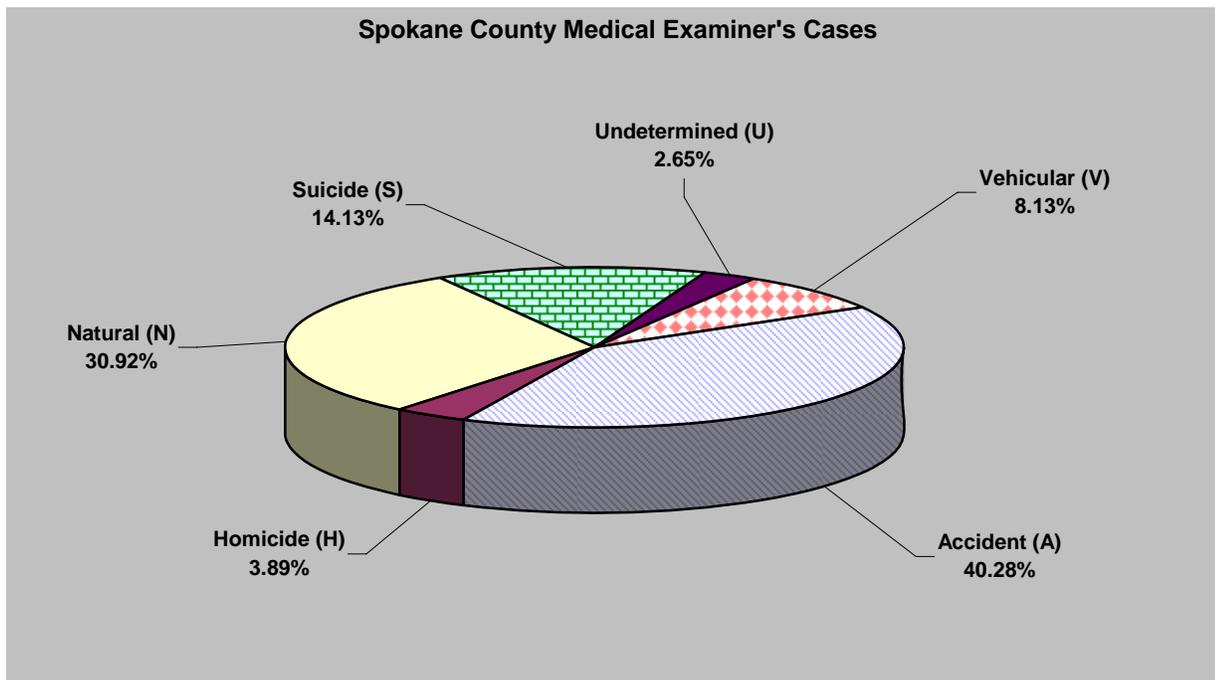
### ***Chaplaincy Program***

The Medical Examiner, by convention and practice in Spokane County, is responsible for identifying next-of-kin and for facilitating the locating and notifying next-of-kin. The Medical Examiner's Office is fortunate to have the assistance of the Chaplains from the Spokane Police Department and Spokane County Sheriff's Office in locating and notifying family members. The staff of the Medical Examiner's Office recognizes that the Chaplains have considerable experience and professional training to help in this difficult and emotional endeavor.

**Section 2: Total Cases**

**Total Cases for 2007**

Cases By Manner Of Death	Number Of Deaths	Percent Of Total
Accident (A)	228	40.28%
Homicide (H)	22	3.89%
Natural (N)	175	30.92%
Suicide (S)	80	14.13%
Undetermined (U)	15	2.65%
Vehicular (V)	46	8.13%
<b>Total Spokane County Population</b>		446,706
<b>Total Deaths in Spokane County</b>		4,266
<b>Total Deaths Reported to the Medical Examiner 2007</b>		3,298
<b>Total Non-Jurisdictional Cases</b>		2,732
<b>Total Spokane County Medical Examiner Cases</b>		566
<b>Total Spokane County Autopsies Performed</b>		430



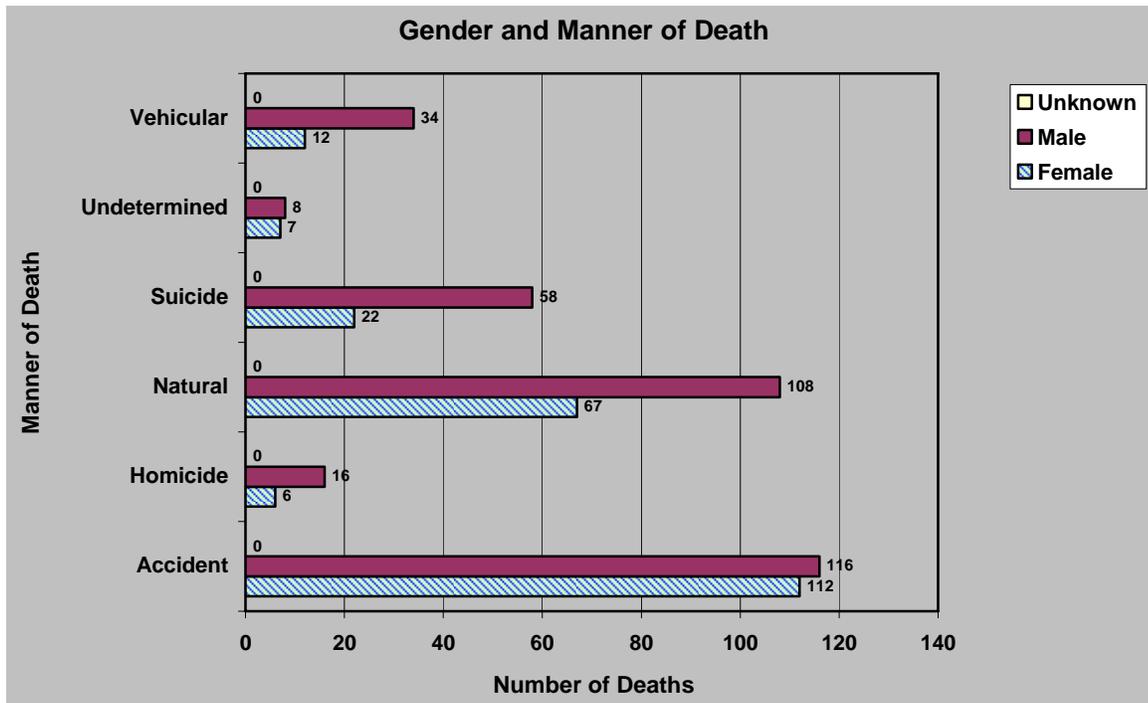
	Jurisdiction not Assumed	Outside Agency Deaths Reported (Adult Care Facilities, Nursing Homes, Hospice, etc)	Spokane County Autopsies Completed	Referral County Autopsies Completed
January	85	162	36	11
February	69	152	29	8
March	82	136	34	9
April	74	146	50	11
May	75	160	32	13
June	66	137	38	10
July	84	129	38	13
August	74	152	39	13
September	74	136	33	12
October	80	155	32	17
November	94	154	39	9
December	94	162	32	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>951</b>	<b>1781</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>138</b>

In addition to the Spokane County autopsies, the Chief Medical Examiner and Deputy Medical Examiner performed 138 autopsies for neighboring referral counties.

***Total Cases by Gender and Manner of Death***

**Gender and Manner Of Death**

Sex	A	H	N	S	U	V	Total	Percent
Female	112	6	67	22	7	12	226	39.93%
Male	116	16	108	58	8	34	340	60.07%
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
<b>Total</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>566</b>	



Predominance of male gender in all categories of death coming under the jurisdiction of the Medical Examiners Office reflects the experience of most death investigation systems.

**Total Cases by Race and Manner of Death**

**Race and Manner of Death**

Race	A	H	N	S	U	V	Total
Asian	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Black	0	2	6	0	0	0	8
Caucasian	192	15	151	77	9	36	480
Hispanic	1	2	1	1	1	1	7
Native American	4	0	5	2	2	0	13
Other	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Unknown	29	3	12	0	2	8	54
<b>Total</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>566</b>

These reflect the demographics of Spokane County, where the Caucasian race predominates statistically.

**Total Cases by Age Group and Manner of Death**

		<b>Age and Manner of Death</b>					
<b>Age Group (Years)</b>		<b>A</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>V</b>
<b>0 to 9</b>	22	2	3	9	0	6	2
<b>10 to 19</b>	19	3	1	2	3	0	10
<b>20 to 29</b>	44	12	2	7	12	0	11
<b>30 to 39</b>	58	24	6	9	12	5	2
<b>40 to 49</b>	99	41	4	35	14	1	4
<b>50 to 59</b>	110	34	2	50	16	1	7
<b>60 to 69</b>	67	19	2	35	7	1	3
<b>70 to 79</b>	48	21	1	19	5	0	2
<b>80 to 89</b>	70	49	0	7	9	0	5
<b>90 to 99</b>	26	21	1	2	2	0	0
<b>100 to 109</b>	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>46</b>

Accidental deaths predominate in almost all age groups, except the very young and the 50-79 group where natural deaths are more frequent. One death is not included in this chart, because the male decedent has not been identified and his exact age is unknown.

**Total Cases by Age Group and Gender****Gender and Age Group**

<b>Age Group (Years)</b>		<b>Female</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
<b>0 to 9</b>	22	12	10	0
<b>10 to 19</b>	19	3	16	0
<b>20 to 29</b>	44	12	32	0
<b>30 to 39</b>	58	23	35	0
<b>40 to 49</b>	99	36	63	0
<b>50 to 59</b>	110	39	71	0
<b>60 to 69</b>	67	26	41	0
<b>70 to 79</b>	48	24	24	0
<b>80 to 89</b>	70	37	33	0
<b>90 to 99</b>	26	13	13	0
<b>100 to 109</b>	2	1	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>0</b>

Males exceed females in each age group excluding 0 to 9. The slight female predominance at 0 to 9 in 2007 is not typical in Spokane County or in the nation and may be a statistical aberration. The male predominance is typical of the experience of most Medical Examiner offices. One male decedent is not included in this chart as he is unidentified and his exact age is unknown.

### Section 3: Multi-Year Comparison

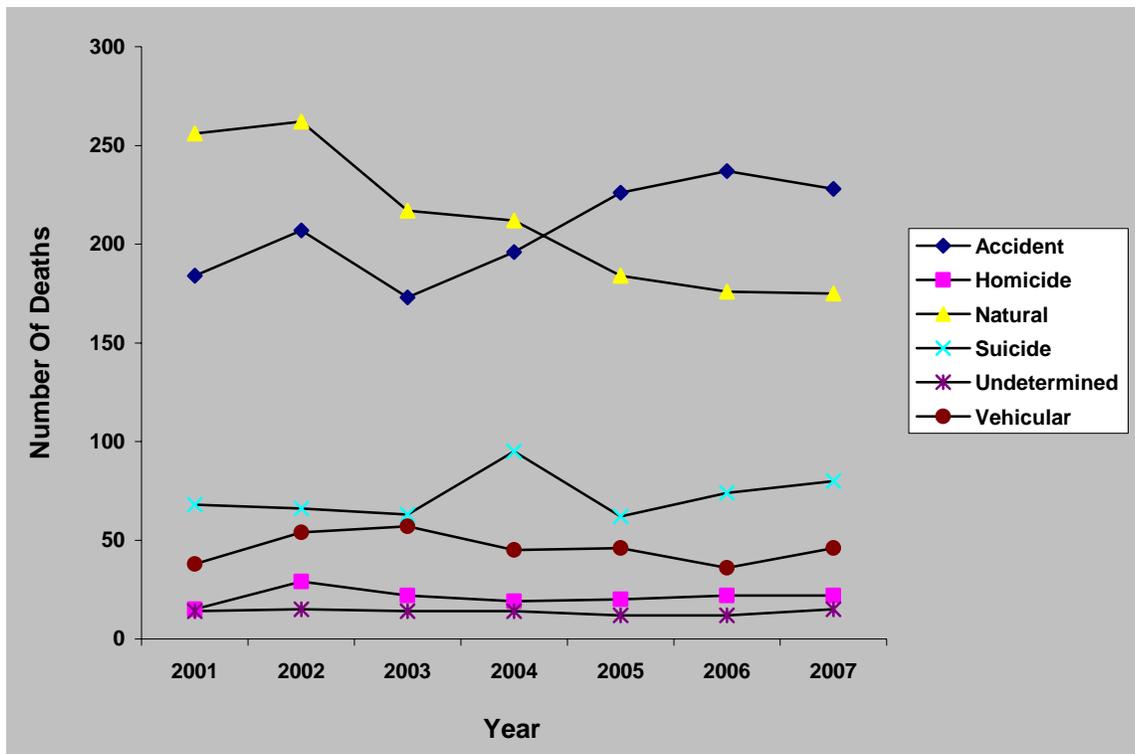
The Medical Examiner's Office replaced the coroner's system on January 1, 1999. From 1999 to present, the cases which have fallen under the jurisdiction of the Medical Examiner System have ranged from a low of 550 to a high of 633, with the number of autopsies performed consistently near 400.

As seen in the comparison chart on the following page, the Medical Examiner System has assumed jurisdiction in an increasing number of accident cases. This increase may be attributed to improved reporting techniques, and to an increase in the number of deaths attributed to "overdose". The federal government data classified overdose deaths as "poisoning deaths". Federal data indicates that poisoning deaths have increased significantly in the last 5 years. Most of the poisoning death increases have resulted from prescription drug deaths. The number of natural deaths identified by the Medical Examiner System has increased (compared to the Coroner System). Deaths classified as homicides, suicides and undetermined have remained relatively constant. Accidents have increased in number and proportion, and fewer deaths are certified as natural.

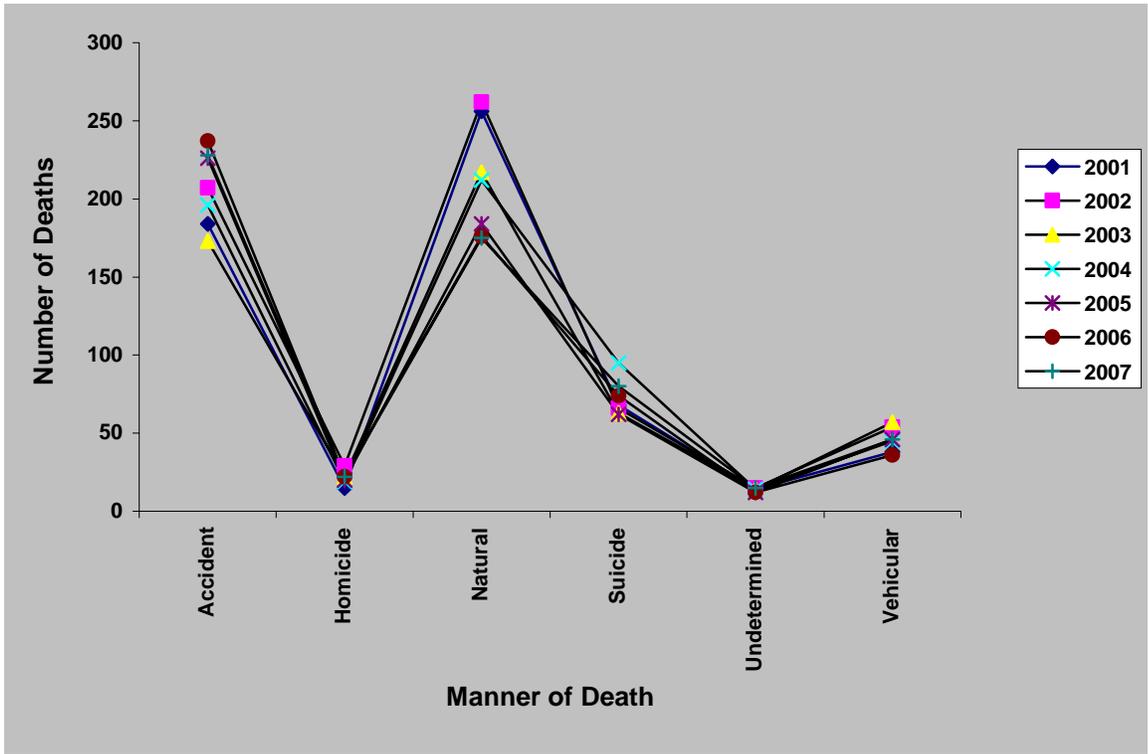
**Manner Of Deaths Comparison**

**Comparison of Manners of Death 2001 - 2007**

Manner of Death	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Accident	184	207	173	196	226	237	228
Homicide	15	29	22	19	20	22	22
Natural	256	262	217	212	184	176	175
Suicide	68	66	63	95	62	74	80
Undetermined	14	15	14	14	12	12	15
Vehicular	38	54	57	45	46	36	46
<b>Total</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>633</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>566</b>



Homicide may not mirror the Police Department reports of death, because the Medical Examiner certification of homicide is broader in some situations and more narrow in others. The Medical Examiner is using these classifications for the purposes of statistical analysis on death certificates.



**Comparison of Manners of Death as Percentage of Total Annual Medical Examiner's Cases 2001 - 2007**

Manner of Death	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Accident	32.00%	32.70%	31.68%	33.73%	41.09%	42.55%	40.28%
Homicide	2.61%	4.58%	4.03%	3.27%	3.64%	3.95%	3.89%
Natural	44.52%	41.39%	39.74%	36.49%	33.45%	31.60%	30.92%
Suicide	11.83%	10.43%	11.54%	16.35%	11.27%	13.29%	14.13%
Undetermined	2.43%	2.37%	2.56%	2.41%	2.18%	2.15%	2.65%
Vehicular	6.61%	8.53%	10.44%	7.75%	8.36%	6.46%	8.13%

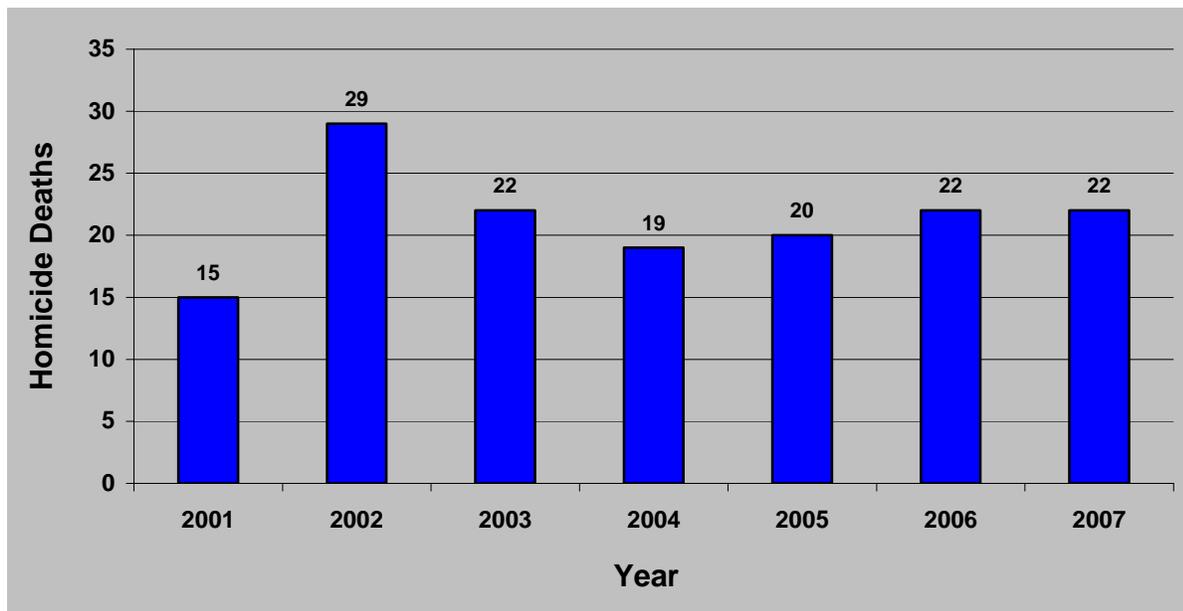
Ideally, a Medical Examiner System strives to keep the percentage of “undetermined” manner of death cases to less than five percent. This requires thorough investigation and autopsy. In the Spokane County Medical Examiner’s Office, every “undetermined” manner case is reviewed as part of the office Performance Improvement Program.

**Homicidal Methods Comparison**

**Comparison of Homicidal Methods 2001 - 2007**

Method Used	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Asphyxia	1	0	2	0	0	1	0
Blunt Impact	1	6	0	3	2	2	3
Child Abuse	1	2	3	1	2	2	3
Firearms	7	16	7	7	7	5	9
Homicidal Violence	2	1	5	3	4	2	1
Other	0	2	1	2	2	4	4
Stabbing	3	2	4	2	3	4	2
Strangulation	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>22</b>

**Homicides 2001 - 2007**

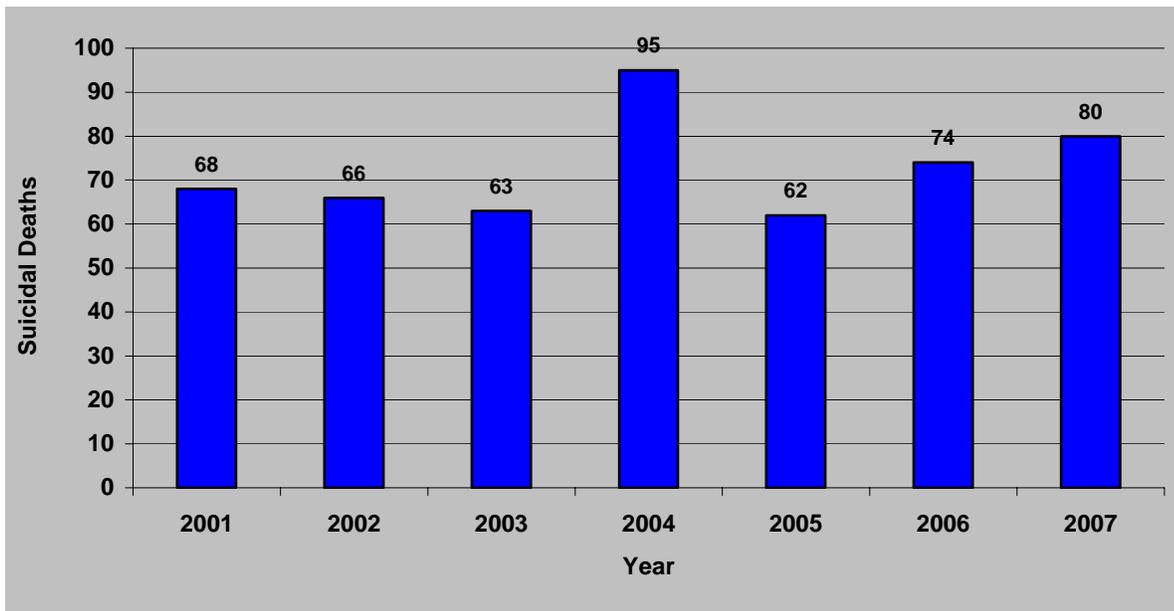


***Suicidal Methods Comparison***

**Comparison of Suicidal Methods 2001 - 2007**

<b>Method Used</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
Carbon Monoxide	4	3	4	3	5	4	7
Drowning	1	0	1	1	0	4	0
Drugs/Poisons	12	9	16	24	20	19	19
Firearms	37	41	24	50	21	37	32
Hanging	12	9	10	15	14	8	17
Jumping from Height	1	0	6	0	0	1	3
Other	0	2	1	2	0	1	2
Plastic Bag	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Stab/incised wound	1	1	0	0	2	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>80</b>

**Suicides 2001 - 2007**



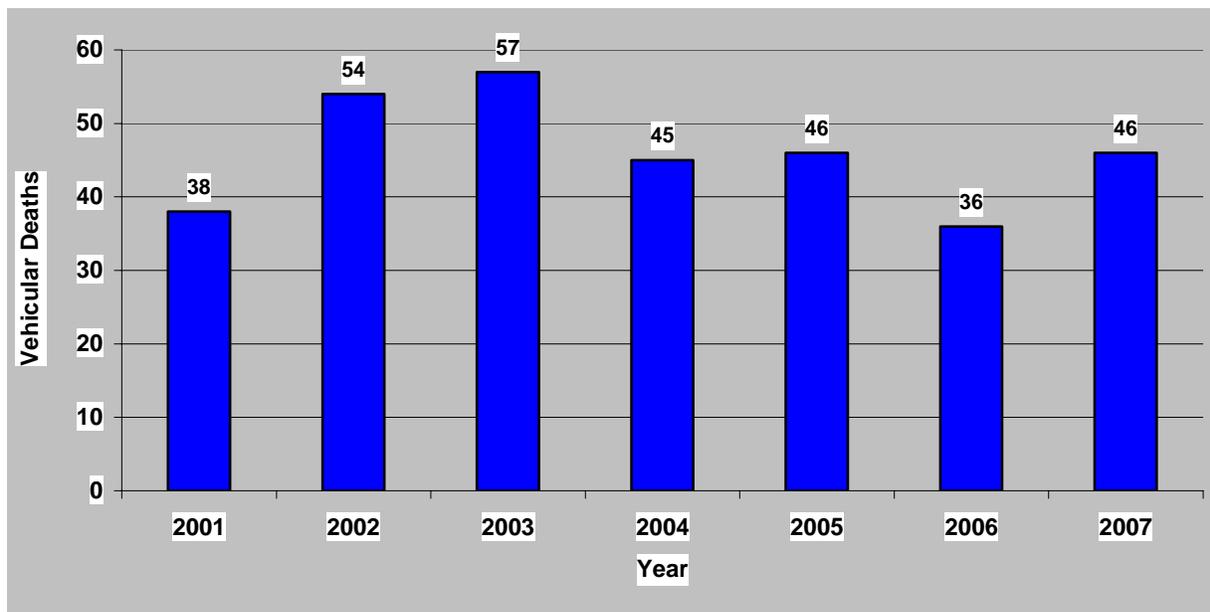
### ***Vehicular Deaths Comparison***

Vehicular-related fatalities are separated from other accidents because some community groups have special needs in examining vehicular-related deaths.

### **Comparison of Vehicular Deaths 2001 - 2007**

<b>Vehicle Circumstances</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
Automobile Driver	20	26	23	20	17	18	14
Automobile Passenger	8	13	12	7	15	8	12
Bicyclist	0	0	2	0	3	2	1
Motorcycle Driver	0	4	11	10	5	6	5
Motorcycle Passenger	0	0	2	3	0	0	1
Other	2	2	1	0	0	1	2
Pedestrian	7	9	6	4	5	1	9
Unknown	1	0	0	1	1	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>46</b>

### **Vehicular Deaths 2001 - 2007**



**Accidental Deaths Comparison**

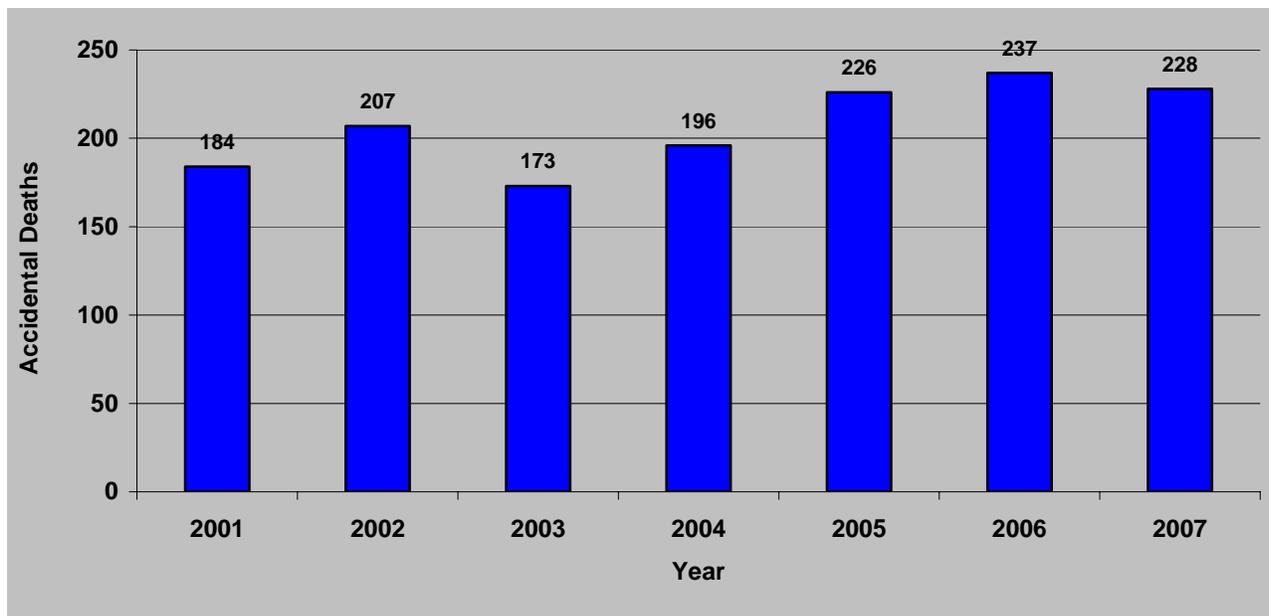
**Comparison of Accidental Deaths 2001 - 2007**

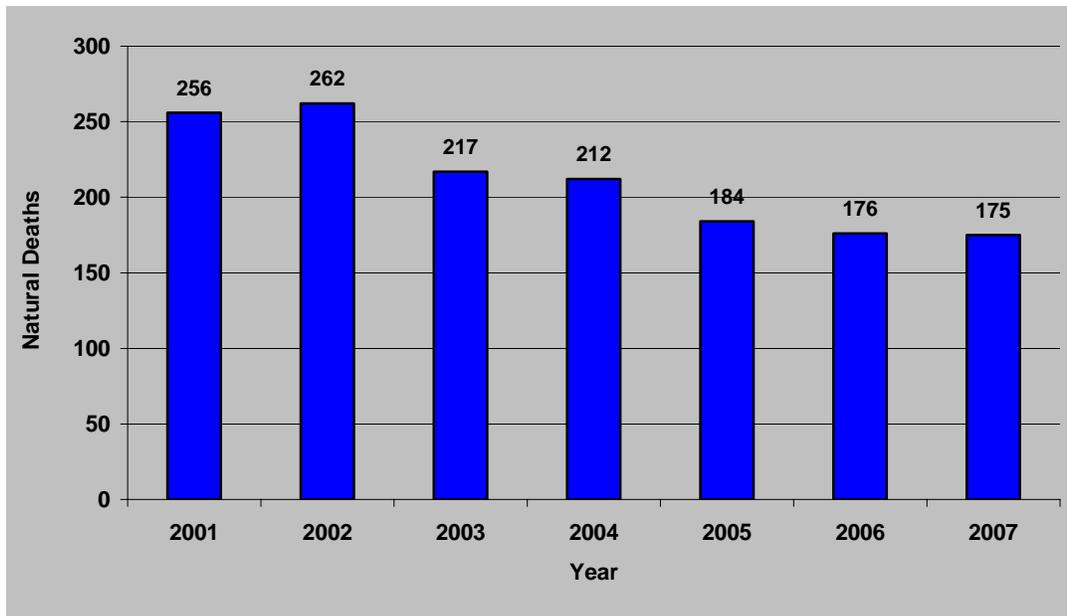
Accident Circumstances	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Aircraft	3	0	1	1	0	0	0
Alcohol Abuse	1	2	2	1	2	2	1
Anaphylaxis	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Asphyxiation	5	9	3	4	7	8	5
Aspiration	4	0	0	0	3	3	3
Bicycle Fall	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
Boating	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Choking	1	0	0	2	0	2	1
Dog Bite	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Drowning	5	13	7	7	4	12	3
Drugs	45	49	56	70	48	47	38
Prescribed Drugs	0	0	0	0	35	50	61
Electrocution	1	0	1	1	0	1	0
Fall	98	114	85	93	102	97	101
Farm	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Fire/burns	2	4	0	3	3	0	1
Firearms	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Hyperthermia	2	0	0	0	0	2	1
Hypothermia	1	2	3	2	5	2	4
Industrial Accident	3	3	3	2	3	2	2
Motorcycle Driver (race track)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	7	6	7	6	13	4	2
Struck by Object	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
Surgical Procedure	1	2	1	1	1	0	0
Therapy Complication	0	2	1	1	0	3	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>228</b>

While deaths due to illicit drugs declined somewhat in 2007, prescription drug deaths increased from 50 in 2006 to 61 in 2007. Cumulative deaths due to illicit or prescription drugs leveled in 2007. Please see the following link to overdose data: [Overdose data 2007.pdf](#)

*Accidental Deaths Comparison*

**Accidental Deaths 2001 - 2007**

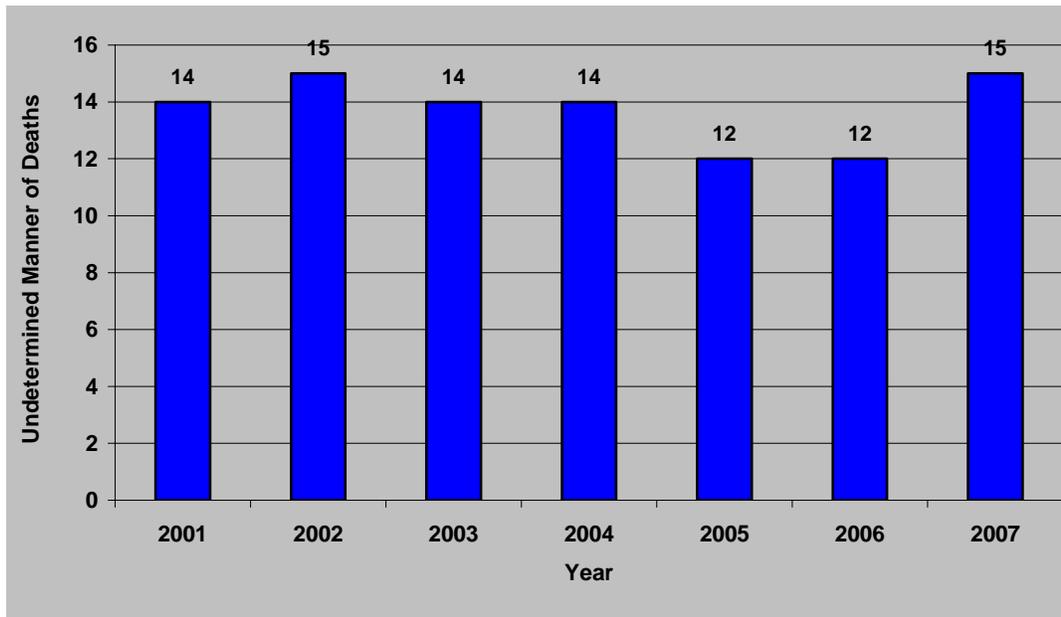


**Natural Deaths Comparison****Natural Deaths 2001 - 2007**

The focus of the Medical Examiner's Office has shifted somewhat from the investigation of natural, but unexpected deaths to accidental deaths in the last six years. This shift is partly because of an increase in prescription drug deaths, considered "accidents" usually and partly due to an increased reporting of falls in elderly citizens which sometimes result in death.

### *Undetermined Deaths Comparison*

#### Deaths of Undetermined Manner 2001 - 2007

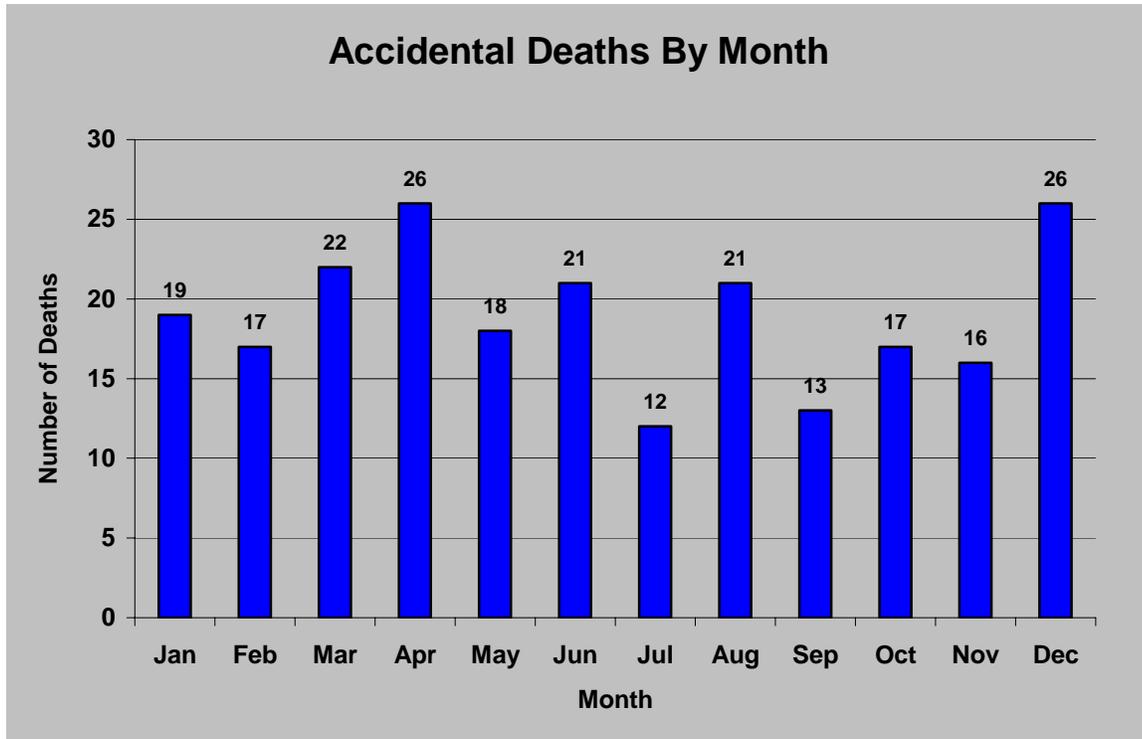


Ideally the Medical Examiner Systems use the undetermined manner of death category in less than five percent of cases. This reflects fullest utilization of available investigative and autopsy tools. In 2007, the undetermined classification was used in 2.7% of Spokane Medical Examiner cases.

Section 4: Manner of Death

**ACCIDENT**

*Accidental Deaths by Month*



*Accident Mode by Gender***Accident Mode By Gender**

<b>Accident Mode</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Total</b>
Alcohol Abuse	1	0	1
Asphyxiation	0	5	5
Aspiration	1	2	3
Choking	0	1	1
Drowning	0	3	3
Drugs	16	22	38
Fall	59	42	101
Farm	0	1	1
Fire/burns	1	0	1
Firearms	0	1	1
Hyperthermia	0	1	1
Hypothermia	2	2	4
Industrial Accident	0	2	2
Other	1	1	2
Prescribed Drugs	28	33	61
Therapy Complication	3	0	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>228</b>

**Accident Mode by Gender and Age Group**

**Accident Mode, Gender and Age Group**

Accident Mode	Sex	<1	1-9	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90-99	>=100	Total
Alcohol Abuse	F	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Alcohol Abuse Total</b>														<b>1</b>
Asphyxiation	M	0	0	2	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	5
<b>Asphyxiation Total</b>														<b>5</b>
Aspiration	F	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Aspiration	M	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
<b>Aspiration Total</b>														<b>3</b>
Choking	M	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Choking Total</b>														<b>1</b>
Drowning	M	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
<b>Drowning Total</b>														<b>3</b>
Drugs	F	0	0	0	3	3	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	16
Drugs	M	0	0	0	6	4	6	5	1	0	0	0	0	22
<b>Drugs Total</b>														<b>38</b>
Fall	F	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	4	9	31	10	1	59
Fall	M	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	3	7	16	10	1	42
<b>Fall Total</b>														<b>101</b>
Farm	M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
<b>Farm Total</b>														<b>1</b>
Fire/burns	F	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Fire/burns Total</b>														<b>1</b>
Firearms	M	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Firearms Total</b>														<b>1</b>
Hyperthermia	M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Hyperthermia Total</b>														<b>1</b>
Hypothermia	F	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
Hypothermia	M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
<b>Hypothermia Total</b>														<b>4</b>
Industrial Accident	M	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
<b>Industrial Accident Total</b>														<b>2</b>
Other	F	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Other	M	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Other Total</b>														<b>2</b>
Prescribed Drugs	F	0	0	1	0	7	6	7	6	1	0	0	0	28
Prescribed Drugs	M	0	0	0	2	7	14	8	2	0	0	0	0	33
<b>Prescribed Drugs Total</b>														<b>61</b>
Therapy Complication	F	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	3
<b>Therapy Complication Total</b>														<b>3</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>228</b>

Falls that result in mortality are significantly correlated with increasing age. Illicit drug deaths peak in middle age in the county. In 2007, prescription drug deaths also were most common in middle age.

**HOMICIDE**

In 2007 the recorded 22 homicides represents no increase from the previous year. Firearms accounted for single largest method of homicide. Firearms also accounted for the largest number of deaths by suicide. The most frequent age group of homicide victims in 2007 was 30-39 years.

**Homicide Deaths by Month**



*Homicide Deaths by Method, Gender, and Age Group*

**Homicide Mode, Gender and Age Group**

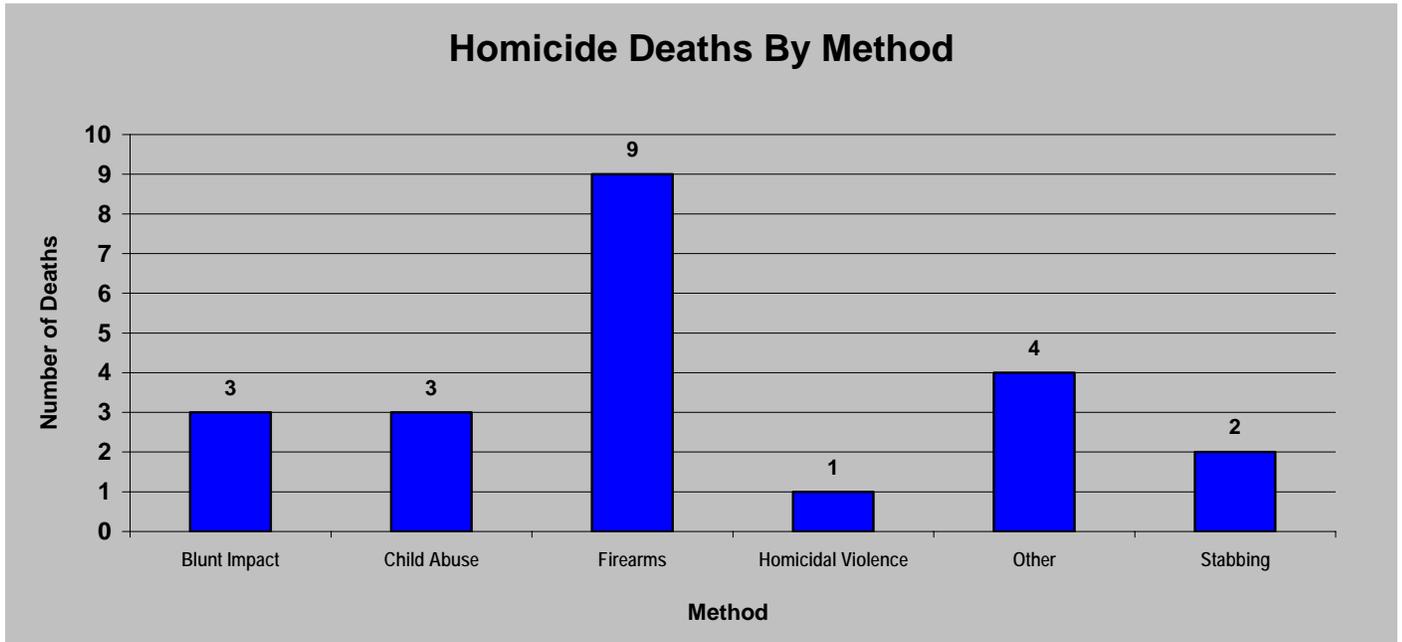
Homicide Method	Sex	<1	1-9	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90-99	>=100	Total
Blunt Impact	M	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	3
<b>Blunt Impact Total</b>														<b>3</b>
Child Abuse	F	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
<b>Child Abuse Total</b>														<b>3</b>
Firearms	F	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Firearms	M	0	0	1	2	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	8
<b>Firearms Total</b>														<b>9</b>
Homicidal Violence	M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Homicidal Violence Total</b>														<b>1</b>
Other	F	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
Other	M	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
<b>Other Total</b>														<b>4</b>
Stabbing	M	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
<b>Stabbing Total</b>														<b>2</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22</b>

*Homicide Deaths by Age Group*



This graph is limited statistically by the small number of total deaths it represents.

*Homicide Deaths by Method*

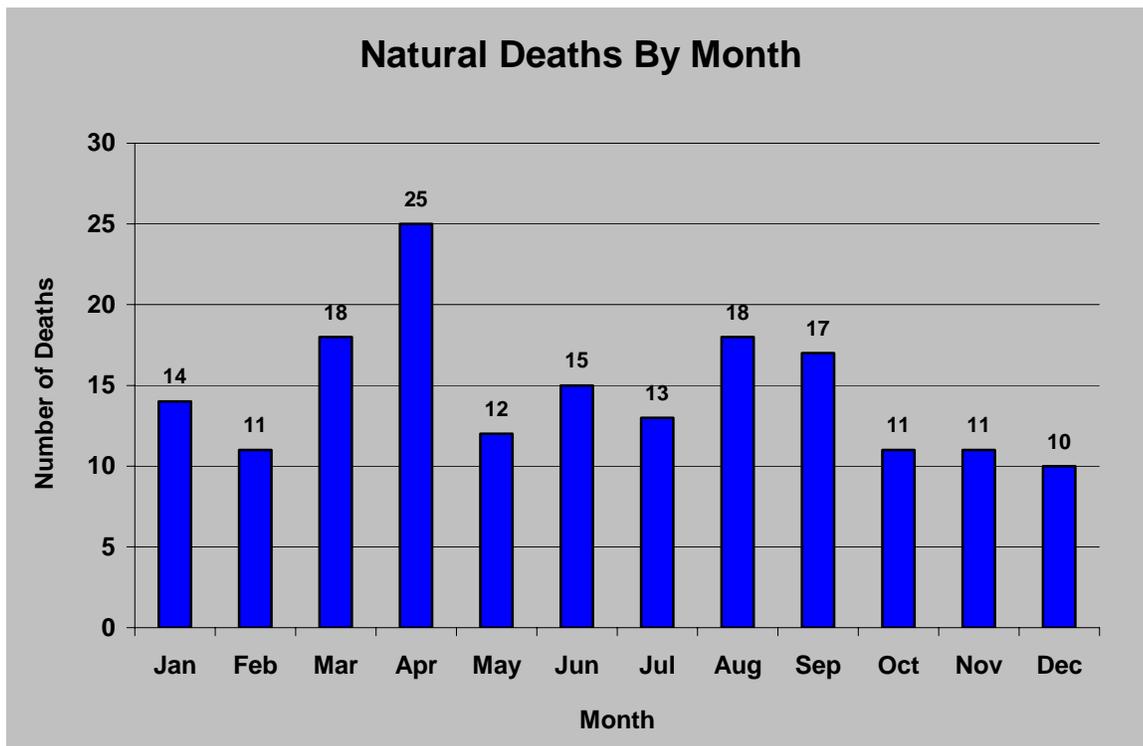


This graph is subject to limitations based on the small total number of decedents represented in the graph.

**NATURAL**

Typically, the Medical Examiner’s Office assumes jurisdiction in cases of natural death when the death occurs in a young age group without medical history and is therefore unexpected.

**Natural Deaths by Month**



**Natural Deaths by Disease Process**

**Natural Deaths by Disease Process**

AA= Alcohol Abuse  
 C= Cardiovascular  
 CNV= Central Nervous System  
 M= Malignancy  
 OF= Organ Failure  
 O= Other  
 R= Respiratory  
 S= Seizure Disorder  
 U= Undetermined

( Total # of Natural Deaths including those not examined by full autopsy. )

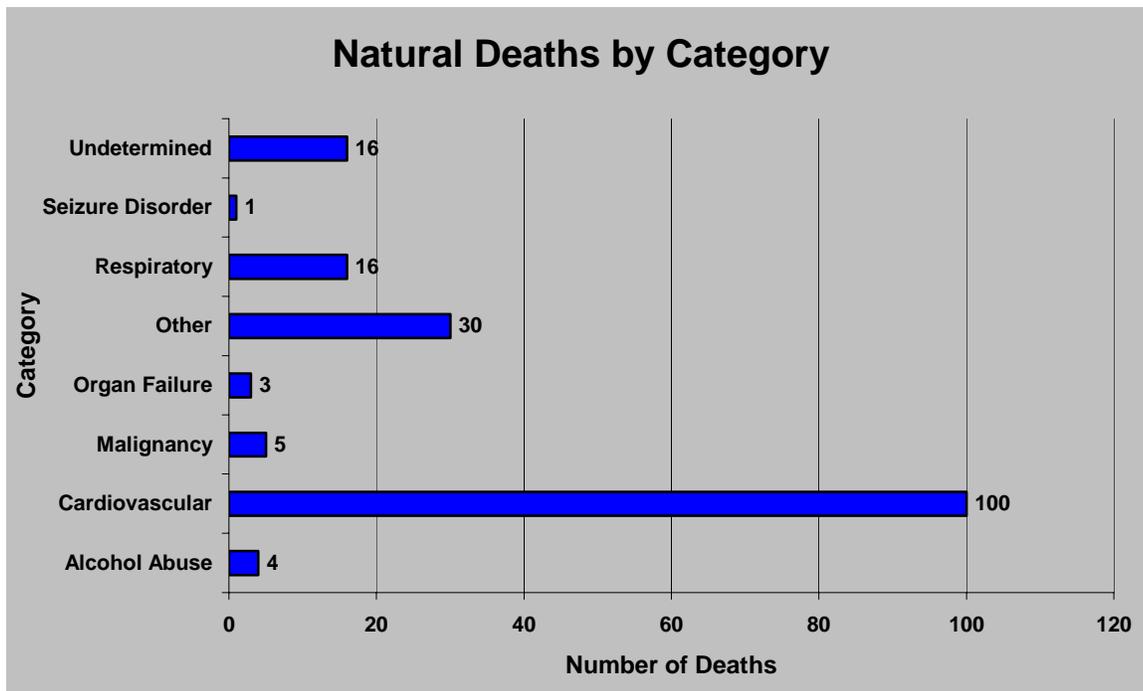
	AA	C	M	OF	O	R	S	U	TOTAL
Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease		66							66
Cardiac Dysrhythmia		5							5
Cardiac Tamponade		3							3
Cardiomyopathy		14							14
Cerebral Aneurysm		1							1
Cerebral Hemorrhage					2				2
Chronic Alcoholism	1								1
Chronic alcoholism/cirrhosis					1				1
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease						7			7
Cirrhosis of The Liver				1					1
Congenital Abnormality					1				1
Coronary Thrombosis		1							1
Diabetes Mellitus					5				5
Diverticulosis of Colon					1				1
Emphysema						1			1
End Stage Renal Disease				1					1
From History							1		1
Gastro Intestinal Bleed	2								2
Gastrointestinal Bleed					2				2
Hemopericardium		1							1
Hypertensive heart disease		2							2
Lung Cancer			2						2
Myocardial Infarction		5							5
Myocardial Ischemia	1								1
Other			2	1	6	1			10
Pancreatitis					3				3
Pericarditis		1							1
Peritonitis					1				1
Pneumonia						5			5
Prostate Cancer			1						1
Pulmonary embolism						2			2
Septicemia					1				1
SIDS					6				6
Subarachnoid Hemorrhage					1				1
undetermined								16	16
Ventricular Fibrillation		1							1
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>175</b>

“Undetermined Natural Cause” is sometimes assigned to a death in a very elderly person, without evidence of injury, with little or no medical history, when an autopsy is not performed.

## Natural Deaths by Category

The high proportion of deaths related to the cardiovascular system is typical of national statistics defining the categories of natural deaths. By convention, in most Coroner and Medical Examiner systems, alcohol abuse is considered “natural”.

### *Cause of Natural Deaths by Category*



### *Natural Deaths by Disease Process and Gender*

#### Disease Process By Gender

Disease Process	Female	Male	Unknown	Total
Alcohol Abuse	1	3	0	4
Cardiovascular	34	66	0	100
Drug Abuse	0	1	0	1
Malignancy	0	5	0	5
Organ Failure	1	2	0	3
Other	15	15	0	30
Respiratory	9	6	0	15
Seizure Disorder	1	0	0	1
Undetermined	6	10	0	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>175</b>

*Natural Deaths by Gender and Age Group*

**Natural Death Gender and Age Group**

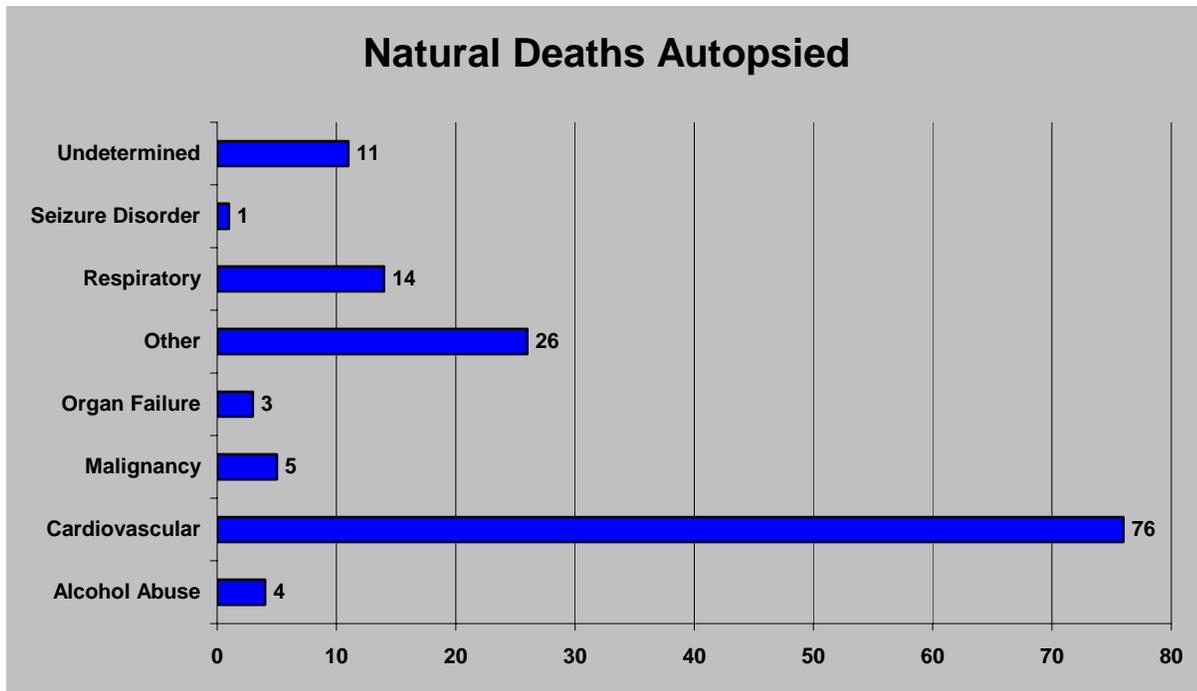
<b>Disease Process</b>	<b>Sex</b>	<b>&lt;1</b>	<b>1-9</b>	<b>10-19</b>	<b>20-29</b>	<b>30-39</b>	<b>40-49</b>	<b>50-59</b>	<b>60-69</b>	<b>70-79</b>	<b>80-89</b>	<b>90-99</b>	<b>&gt;=100</b>	<b>Total</b>
Alcohol Abuse	F	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Alcohol Abuse	M	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
<b>Alcohol Abuse Total</b>														<b>4</b>
Cardiovascular	F	0	0	0	2	3	7	7	6	9	0	0	0	34
Cardiovascular	M	0	0	0	2	3	12	24	17	5	2	1	0	66
<b>Cardiovascular Total</b>														<b>100</b>
Drug Abuse	M	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Drug Abuse Total</b>														<b>1</b>
Malignancy	M	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	5
<b>Malignancy Total</b>														<b>5</b>
Organ Failure	F	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Organ Failure	M	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
<b>Organ Failure Total</b>														<b>3</b>
Other	F	2	1	0	1	1	3	4	2	0	1	0	0	15
Other	M	4	0	0	1	2	4	3	0	1	0	0	0	15
<b>Other Total</b>														<b>30</b>
Respiratory	F	0	0	0	0	0	3	4	1	0	1	0	0	9
Respiratory	M	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	6
<b>Respiratory Total</b>														<b>15</b>
Seizure Disorder	F	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Seizure Disorder Total</b>														<b>1</b>
Undetermined	F	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	1	0	6
Undetermined	M	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	5	2	0	0	0	10
<b>Undetermined Total</b>														<b>16</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>175</b>

**Natural Deaths by Disease Process (Autopsied)**

**Disease Process in Autopsied Deaths**

AA= Alcohol Abuse                      OF= Organ Failure  
 C= Cardiovascular                    O= Other  
 CNV= Central Nervous System       R= Respiratory  
 M= Malignancy                        SD= Seizure Disorder  
     U= Undetermined

	AA	C	M	OF	O	R	S	U	Total
Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease	0	46	0	0	0	0	0	0	46
Cardiac Dysrhythmia	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Cardiac Tamponade	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Cardiomyopathy	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
Cerebral Aneurysm	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Cerebral Hemorrhage	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Chronic Alcoholism	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Chronic alcoholism/cirrhosis	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	5
Cirrhosis of The Liver	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Coronary Thrombosis	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Diabetes Mellitus	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	4
Diverticulosis of Colon	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Emphysema	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
End Stage Renal Disease	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
From History	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Gastro Intestinal Bleed	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Gastrointestinal Bleed	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Hemopericardium	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Hypertensive heart disease	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Lung Cancer	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Myocardial Infarction	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Myocardial Ischemia	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Other	0	0	2	1	4	1	0	0	8
Pancreatitis	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
Pericarditis	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Peritonitis	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Pneumonia	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	5
Prostate Cancer	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Pulmonary embolism	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Septicemia	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
SIDS	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	6
Subarachnoid Hemorrhage	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
undetermined	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>140</b>

*Natural Deaths Autopsied*

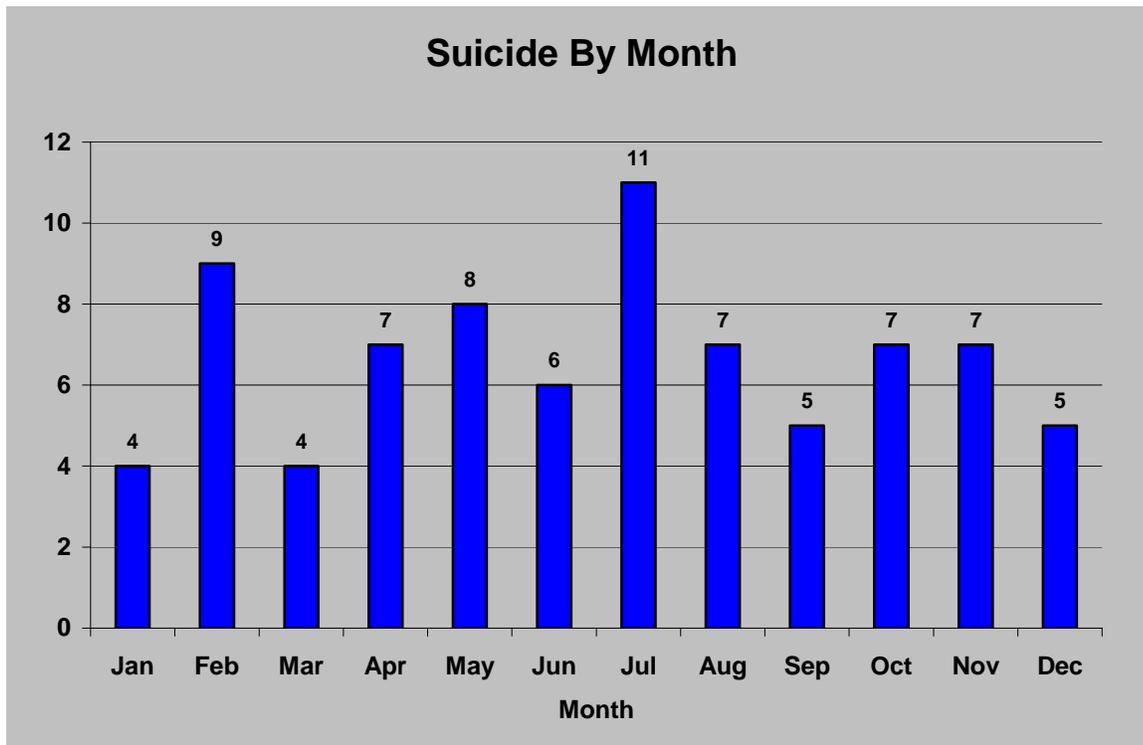
The numbers of cardiovascular deaths reflect the fact that the first symptom of significant heart disease is often a fatal heart attack. The natural manners of death with “undetermined” cause, are deaths in which the scene investigation was highly suggestive of a natural death. However complete autopsies, including microscopic examination of biopsies and toxicology testing did not show cause of death. Some of these deaths might be a result of “chemical” failures of systems at a submicroscopic level. No toxicology laboratory can detect all poisons, and unidentified toxins could have caused some of these deaths.

**SUICIDE**

Suicides are those deaths caused by intentional, self-inflicted injuries. In Spokane County there were (80) suicides in 2007, up (6) from 2006.

The highest concentration (64/80) of all suicides fell within the 20-59 age groups. However, looking at suicides in persons (50) years and older, in 2007 these age groups represented 38% (39/80) of all suicides occurring in Spokane County. Nationally, suicide deaths in older Americans are associated statistically with illness and declining health. Three suicides occurred in teenagers, and 12 in the 20-29 age group.

***Suicide Deaths by Month***



*Suicide Method by Gender and Age Group*

**Suicide Method Gender and Age Group**

<b>Suicide Method</b>	<b>Sex</b>	<b>&lt;1</b>	<b>1-9</b>	<b>10-19</b>	<b>20-29</b>	<b>30-39</b>	<b>40-49</b>	<b>50-59</b>	<b>60-69</b>	<b>70-79</b>	<b>80-89</b>	<b>90-99</b>	<b>&gt;=100</b>	<b>Total</b>
Carbon Monoxide	F	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	3
Carbon Monoxide	M	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	4
<b>Carbon Monoxide Total</b>														<b>7</b>
Drugs/Poisons	F	0	0	0	3	2	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	11
Drugs/Poisons	M	0	0	0	2	1	1	3	0	0	1	0	0	8
<b>Drugs/Poisons Total</b>														<b>19</b>
Firearms	F	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
Firearms	M	0	0	0	1	3	2	6	4	4	7	2	0	29
<b>Firearms Total</b>														<b>32</b>
Hanging	F	0	0	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	5
Hanging	M	0	0	1	1	2	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	12
<b>Hanging Total</b>														<b>17</b>
Jumping	M	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	3
<b>Jumping Total</b>														<b>3</b>
Other	M	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
<b>Other Total</b>														<b>2</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>80</b>

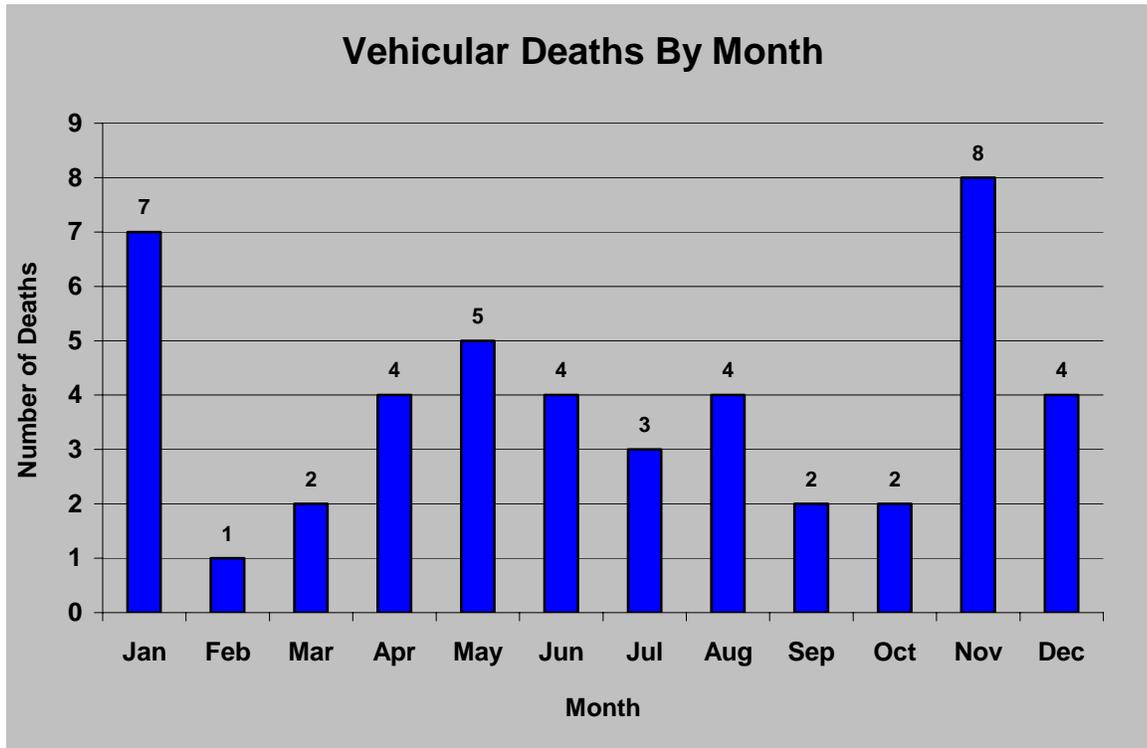
As has been the case in many Medical Examiner years, gunshot wounds remain the most frequent suicide method partly because of the inherent lethality of firearm injuries. Gunshot wounds are followed by intentional overdoses, then suicidal hangings.

**VEHICULAR**

During the calendar year of 2007, the Medical Examiner’s Office participated in the investigation of (46) deaths categorized as vehicular. This represents more than a 28% increase over 2006.

The deaths more frequent in the late fall and early winter months. In vehicle collisions there were 26 deaths, 14 drivers and 12 passengers. One bicyclist, 5 motorcycle drivers, one motorcycle passenger and nine pedestrians died, one death was an ATV driver, and 4 deaths categorized as vehicular in which it is unknown whether the individual was the driver or the passenger.

***Vehicular Deaths by Month***



*Vehicular Deaths by Method, Gender, and Age Group*

**Vehicular Method Gender and Age Group**

Vehicular Method	Sex	<1	1-9	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90-99	>=100	Total
Automobile Driver	F	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	2	0	0	5
Automobile Driver	M	0	0	2	4	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	9
<b>Automobile Driver Total</b>														<b>14</b>
Automobile Passenger	F	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	3
Automobile Passenger	M	0	0	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	9
<b>Automobile Passenger Total</b>														<b>12</b>
Bicyclist	M	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Bicyclist Total</b>														<b>1</b>
Motorcycle Driver	F	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Motorcycle Driver	M	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	4
<b>Motorcycle Driver Total</b>														<b>5</b>
Motorcycle Passenger	F	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Motorcycle Passenger Total</b>														<b>1</b>
Other	M	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
<b>Other Total</b>														<b>2</b>
Pedestrian	F	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Pedestrian	M	0	0	3	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	8
<b>Pedestrian Total</b>														<b>9</b>
Unknown	F	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Unknown	M	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Unknown Total</b>														<b>2</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>46</b>

*Traffic Fatalities and Use of Restraint*

**Traffic Fatalities and Use of Restraint**

Circumstances	Restrained	Unrestrained	Unknown	Total
Automobile Driver	8	5	1	14
Automobile Passenger	6	6	0	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>26</b>

**UNDETERMINED**

“Undetermined” manner is used to designate that a death does not exactly fit the categories natural, suicide, homicide, accident, or overlaps between two categories. An example is a death due to medication overdose. In some such deaths the determination between accident and suicide cannot be made as the decedent’s intent is not clear. Information concerning the circumstances may be lacking because of the absence of background information, or because of a delay between death and discovery of the body. If an extensive investigation and autopsy cannot clarify the circumstances, the death is placed in this category. There were (15) undetermined deaths in Spokane County in 2007.

Although the cause of death was established in more than half of these deaths, the manner still could not be established. Again, the reason for undetermined manner is lack of information or conflicting information.

**Undetermined Deaths**

**Manner-Undetermined Deaths 2007**

Number	Cause of Death	Month	Sex	Age	Race
1	prematurity of undetermined etiology following maternal drug use	Jan	M	4 days	Caucasian
2	asphyxia; inhalation of carbon monoxide	Feb	M	62	Caucasian
3	self-inflicted gunshot wound to head	Mar	M	33	Caucasian
4	acute intoxication; combined effects of diphenhydramine and benzodiazepine	Apr	F	34	Caucasian
5	probable freshwater drowning	Jun	M	36	Unknown
6	sudden unexplained infant death	Jun	F	19 days	Native American
7	undetermined after complete autopsy	Jun	M	NULL	Unknown
8	hydrocodone and acetaminophen toxicity	Jul	F	38	Caucasian
9	Hypoxic encephalopathy following cardiopulmonary d/t combined drug toxicity d/t simultaneous use of fentanyl and cyclobenzaprine	Aug	F	50	Caucasian
10	sudden unexplained infant death	Aug	M	5 mos	Native American
11	cerebral edema with herniations; dt- epidural and subdural hematomas; dt- fractures of the skull; dt- blunt head injury	Aug	F	5	Hispanic
12	sudden unexplained infant death	Sep	F	8 mos	Other
13	combined drug toxicity; dt- simultaneous use of	Sep	M	34	Caucasian
14	hypoxic encephalopathy; dt- hyperthermia and dehydration; dt- unknown etiology	Nov	M	1	Caucasian
15	combined drug toxicity; dt- simultaneous use of methadone, hydrocodone, benzodiazepines, diphenhydramine, propoxyphene, meperidine, and	Nov	F	42	Caucasian

In general, in the gunshot wounds and overdose deaths listed above, it could not be determined if the decedent had suicidal intent.

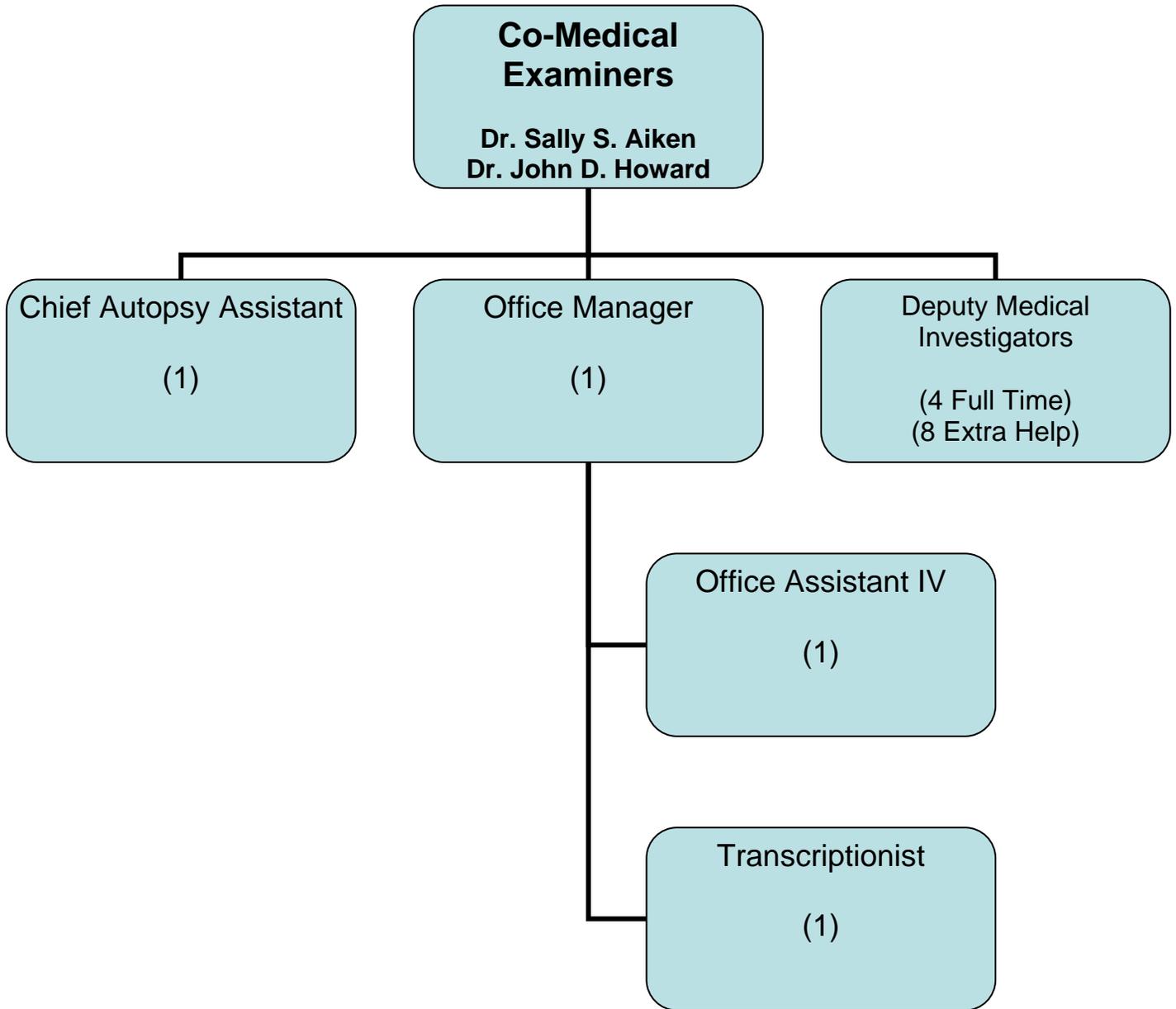
## Glossary of Terms

<b>Blood Alcohol Level</b>	The concentration of ethanol (alcohol) found in blood following ingestion. Measured in grams per 100 ml of blood or grams % In the State of Washington, 0.08 grams % is considered the legally intoxicated concentration while driving.
<b>Prescription Drug</b>	Therapeutic drug or Medicine: A substance, other than food, used in the prevention, diagnosis, alleviation, treatment, or cure of disease. Illicit drug: A drug used non-medically for personal stimulation/depression/euphoria, use or abuse.
<b>Drug Caused Death</b>	Death directly caused by a drug or drugs in combination with each other or with alcohol, including psychiatric drugs or therapeutic drugs for conditions such as asthma or epilepsy
<b>Jurisdiction</b>	The jurisdiction of the Medical Examiner's Office extends to all reportable deaths occurring within the boundaries of Spokane County, whether or not the incident leading to the death (such as an accident) occurred within the county. Also included are people who are transferred to Spokane area hospitals from surrounding Counties/States, who then expire in Spokane.
<b>Manner</b>	A statistical classification of the way in which the cause of death came about (accident, homicide, suicide, natural, or undetermined).
<b>Manner: Accident</b>	Death other than natural, where there is no evidence of intent, i.e., unintentional. In this report, vehicle accidents are identified separately.
<b>Manner: Homicide</b>	Death due to the acts of another.
<b>Manner: Natural</b>	Death caused solely by organic disease. If natural death is hastened by injury (such as a fall), the manner of death will not be considered natural.
<b>Manner: Suicide</b>	Death as a result of a purposeful action, with intent (explicit or implicit) to end one's life.
<b>Manner: Traffic</b>	Unintentional deaths of drivers (automobile, bicycle or motorcycle), passengers, and pedestrians involving motor vehicles on public roadways. By convention, and at the direction of state vital records, accidents involving motor vehicles on private property (such as driveways) are not included in this category.
<b>Manner: Undetermined</b>	Manner assigned when there is insufficient evidence or information to assign to accident, homicide, suicide, or natural categories, or when two plausible manners are equally likely.

<b>Opiate</b>	A broad class of drugs including morphine, heroin, and synthetic medicine such as methadone.
<b>Poison</b>	Any substance, either taken internally or applied externally, that is injurious to health or dangerous to life.
<b>Fetal Death/Perinatal</b>	Category of deaths that occur within the uterus (fetal) or shortly before, during, or shortly after birth (perinatal).
<b>Race</b>	The racial categories used in this report are: Caucasian, African American, Native American, Asian, Hispanic, and Other.

Organizational Chart

Spokane County  
Medical Examiner's Office



## 2007 Overdose Data

The total number of deaths attributed to overdose in 2007 is 123. Of these 123 deaths 99 were accidental, 19 were suicide and 5 were undetermined. Six deaths were attributed to methadone intoxication only. The methadone was prescribed to the decedent in 3 of the 6 deaths. Methadone was a contributing factor in 49 deaths, of these 49 deaths, there were 35 cases in which the methadone was not prescribed to the decedent and it is unknown how the decedent obtained the methadone. There were 6 deaths due to illicit drug use only. Of all 123 deaths there were 71 in which the drugs were prescribed to the decedent, in the other 52 deaths, it is unknown how the decedent obtained the prescription. There were 60 female deaths and 63 male deaths attributed to overdose.

Male/Female	Age	Accident	Suicide	Undetermined	Cause of Death	Toxicology Results	Methadone	Methadone obtained	Medication Diverted
Female	34			X	Acute intoxication due to the combined effects of diphenhydramine and benzodiazepines	Diphenhydramine and Benzodiazepines	n/a	n/a	n/a
Female	50			X	Hypoxic encephalopathy following cardiopulmonary arrest due to combined drug toxicity due to the simultaneous use of Fentanyl and Cyclobenzaprine	Fentanyl and Cyclobenzaprine	n/a	prescribed	n/a
Female	38			X	Hydrocodone and Acetaminophen toxicity	Hydrocodone and Acetaminophen	n/a	n/a	n/a
Female	49		X		Combined Drug Intoxication	Oxycodone, Methocarbonol, Trazadone	n/a	n/a	n/a
Female			X		Combined Drug Intoxication	Methadone, Methamphetamine, Alprazolam	.46 mg/L	prescribed	n/a
Female	51		X		liver failure; Acetaminophen intoxication	Acetaminophen	n/a	n/a	n/a
Female	38		X		Liver failure and lobar pneumonia due to combined acetaminophen and diphenhydramine intoxication	acetaminophen and diphenhydramine	n/a	n/a	n/a
Female	24		X		Combined Drug Intoxication; Ingestion of Carisoprodol, meprobamate, Promethazine, Hydrocodone, Alprazolam, Morphine, and Acetaminophen	Carisoprodol, meprobamate, Promethazine, Hydrocodone, Alprazolam, Morphine, and Acetaminophen	n/a	n/a	n/a
Female	22		X		Combined drug toxicity due to simultaneous use of Codeine, Ethanol, Meperidine, Gabapentin, Venlafaxine, and other medications	Codeine, Ethanol, Meperidine, Gabapentin, Venlafaxine, and other medications	n/a	n/a	n/a
Female	43		X		Combined drug toxicity due to simultaneous use of valproic acid and benzodiazepines	valproic acid and benzodiazepines	n/a	n/a	n/a
Female	23	X			Acute Intoxication; combined effects of ethanol, cocaine, and cocaethylene	Ethanol, Cocaine, Cocaethylene	n/a	n/a	n/a
Female	39	X			Acute Intoxication; combined effects of Hydrocodone, Propoxyphene, Benzodiazepines	Hydrocodone, Propoxyphene, Benzodiazepines	n/a	n/a	n/a
Female	34	X			Methadone Intoxication	Methadone, Citalopram, Acetametaphine	.34 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	n/a
Female	53	X			Combined Drug Intoxication	Morphine, Cyclobenzaprine, Chlorpheniramine	n/a	n/a	n/a
Female	21	X			Acute Cocaine Intoxication	Cocaine	n/a	n/a	n/a

Female	60	X		Combined Drug Toxicity; use of diphenhydramine, diazepam, oxycodone, hydrocodone, and citalopram- contributory - internal bleeding associated with perirectal hematoma and thrombosed hemorrhoids	Diphenhydramine, Diazepam, Oxycodone, Hydrocodone, and Citalopram	n/a	prescribed	n/a
Female	53	X		Combined drug toxicity due to the simultaneous use of Ethanol, Oxycodone, and Zolpidem	Ethanol, Oxycodone, and Zolpidem	n/a	n/a	n/a
Female	60	X		Meprobate toxicity	Meprobate, Imipramine	n/a	n/a	n/a
Female	42	X		Methadone Toxicity	Methadone	4.14 mg/L	prescribed	n/a
Female	36	X		Combined drug toxicity due to the simultaneous use of Methadone and Hydrocodone	Methadone and Hydrocodone	.92 mg/L	prescribed	n/a
Female	33	X		Combined drug toxicity due to the use of Methadone, Quetianine, Diazepam, Alprazolam, and Oxycodone	Methadone, Quetianine, Diazepam, Alprazolam, and Oxycodone	.43 mg/L	prescribed	n/a
Female	28	X		Acute Methamphetamine	Methamphetamine	n/a	n/a	n/a
Female	53	X		Intracerebral hemorrhage (left basal ganglia) due to hypertension and methamphetamine	Methamphetamine	n/a	n/a	n/a
Female	43	X		Methamphetamine toxicity - contributory - diabetes mellitus and dilated cardiomyopathy	Methamphetamine	n/a	n/a	n/a
Female	66	X		Combined drug toxicity due to the use of Morphine, Hydromorphone, Cyclobenzaprine, Gabapentin, and Lorazepam	Morphine, Hydromorphone, Cyclobenzaprine, Gabapentin, and Lorazepam	n/a	n/a	n/a
Female	52	X		Combined drug toxicity due to the use of Opiate, Doxepin, and Citalopram	Opiate, Doxepin, and Citalopram	n/a	n/a	n/a
Female	51	X		Pneumonia due to metabolic acidosis with respiratory and renal failure due to probable serotonin syndrome due to probable sertraline toxicity	Sertraline	n/a	n/a	n/a
Female	48	X		Complications of insulin dependent diabetes mellitus- contributory- combined medications use; Sertraline, Trazodone, and Quinine/quinidine	Sertraline, Trazodone, and Quinine	n/a	n/a	n/a
Female	47	X		Tramadol toxicity	Tramadol	n/a	n/a	n/a
Female	75	X		Tramadol toxicity	Tramadol	n/a	n/a	n/a
Female	61	X		Combined drug toxicity; use of Tramadol, Nortriptyline, Citalopram, and Ethanol - contributory- dilated cardiomyopathy	Tramadol, Nortriptyline, Citalopram, and Ethanol	n/a	prescribed	n/a
Female	60	X		Acute Intoxication: combined effects of Venlafaxine, Diphenhydramine, Sertraline, Amitriptyline, Benzodiazepines, and Trazodone	Venlafaxine, Diphenhydramine, Sertraline, Amitriptyline, Benzodiazepines, and Trazodone	n/a	n/a	n/a
Female	59	X		Cerebral edema due to hypoxic encephalopathy due to probable opiate toxicity	topimate, citalopram, nicotine/cotinine, opiate, acetone, barbituate, tricyclic anti depressant	n/a	n/a	n/a
Female	47	X		Multiple organ system failure due to Acetaminophen toxicity	hydrocodone, hydromorphone, acetaminophen, morphine, diphenhydramine, diazepam	n/a	n/a	n/a
Female	24		X	Combined drug toxicity due to simultaneous use of Carisprodol and Tramadol	Carisprodol and Tramadol	n/a	n/a	Tramadol
Female	39	X		Combined drug toxicity due to simultaneous use of Methadone, Alprazolam, and Sertraline	Methadone, Alprazolam, and Sertraline	.80 mg/L	prescribed	Alprazolam and Sertraline

Female	42			X	Combined drug toxicity due to the simultaneous use of Methadone, Hydrocodone, Benzodiazepines, Diphenhydramine, Propoxyphene, Meperidine, and Meprobamate	Methadone, Hydrocodone, Benzodiazepines, Diphenhydramine, Propoxyphene, Meperidine, and Meprobamate	.35 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone
Female	32		X		Combined drug toxicity due to simultaneous use of Methadone, Chlorpheniramine, Benzodiazepines, and other medications	Methadone, Chlorpheniramine, Benzodiazepines, and other medications	.63 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone
Female	61		X		Combined drug toxicity due to Methadone, Hydrocodone, Promethazine, and Gabapentin	Methadone, Hydrocodone, Promethazine, and Gabapentin	.50 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone
Female	59	X			Acute Intoxication; combined effects of Methadone, Promethazine, Hydrocodone, Gabapentin, and Fluoxetine	Methadone, Promethazine, Hydrocodone, Gabapentin, and Fluoxetine	.94 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone
Female	33	X			Combined drug toxicity due to the simultaneous use of Ethanol and Methadone	Ethanol and Methadone	.13 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone
Female	40	X			Acute Intoxication; the combined effects of Methadone and Benzodiazepines	Methadone and Benzodiazepine	.30 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone
Female	31	X			Combined drug toxicity due to the simultaneous use of Methadone, Promethazine, Citalopram, Mirtazipine, and Clonazepam	Methadone, Promethazine, Citalopram, Mirtazipine, and Clonazepam	1.26 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone
Female	49	X			Combined drug toxicity due to the simultaneous use of Methadone, Benzodiazepines, Citalopram, Bupropion, and Promethazine	Methadone, Benzodiazepines, Citalopram, Bupropion, and Promethazine	.22 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone
Female	42	X			Combined drug toxicity due to simultaneous use of Methadone, Cocaine, Dextromethorphan, Gabapentin, and Paroxetine	Methadone, Cocaine, Dextromethorphan, Gabapentin, and Paroxetine	.25 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone
Female	60	X			Acute Intoxication ; combined effects of methadone, diphenhydramine, and lorazepam	Methadone, Diphenhydramine, and Lorazepam	.55 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone
Female	55	X			Combined drug toxicity due to the use of Methadone, Sertraline, Temazepam, and Lorazepam	Methadone, Sertraline, Temazepam, and Lorazepam	.32 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone
Female	30	X			Combined drug toxicity; due to - simultaneous use of Propoxyphene, Hydrocodone, Methadone, Carbamazepine, and Benzodiazepines	Propoxyphene, Hydrocodone, Methadone, Carbamazepine, and Benzodiazepines	<.10 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone
Female	31	X			Herniation of the brain due to hypoxic encephalopathy following cardiopulmonary arrest due to acute Methadone intoxication	Methadone, Citalopram, and Topiramate	.22 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone
Female	54	X			Combined drug toxicity due to the use of Methadone and Alprazolam	Methadone and Alprazolam	.36 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone and Alprazolam
Female	43	X			Combined drug toxicity; use of Methadone and Hydrocodone	Methadone and Hydrocodone	.28 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone and Hydrocodone
Female	18	X			Hypoxic Encephalopathy; Intoxication; combined effects of Methadone, Hydrocodone, Codeine	Methadone, Hydrocodone, Codeine	.32 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone, Hydrocodone, Codeine

Female	45	X			Combined drug toxicity; use of Methadone, Methamphetamine, Trazodone, Paroxetine, Propoxyphen, Diphenhydramine, and Acetaminophen - contributory- chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, bronchitis, and asthma	Methadone, Methamphetamine, Trazodone, Paroxetine, Propoxyphen, Diphenhydramine, and Acetaminophen	.77 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone, Trazadone, Propoxyphen, Paroxetine
Female	52		X		Combined drug toxicity due to simultaneous use of Midazolam, Diazepam, and Sufentanil	Midazolam, Diazepam, and Sufentanil	n/a	n/a	Midazolam, Diazepam, and Sufentanil
Female	31	X			Combined drug toxicity due to the use of Oxycodone, Methamphetamine, and Alprazolam	Oxycodone, Methamphetamine, and Alprazolam	n/a	n/a	Oxycodone
Female	54	X			Acute Intoxication; combined effects of oxycodone, hydrocodone, hydromorphone, topiramate, diltiazem	Oxycodone, Hydrocodone, Hydromorphone, Topiramate, Diltiazem	n/a	n/a	Oxycodone, Hydrocodone, Hydromorphone, Topiramate, and Diltiazem
Female	51	X			Hepatocellular necrosis; Acetaminophen toxicity	Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone, Oxycodone, Morphine, Hydromorphone, and Phenytoin	n/a	prescribed	Percocet
Female	54	X			Propoxyphene toxicity	Propoxyphene, Diphenhydramine, Ethanol, and Tramadol	n/a	n/a	Tramadol
Female	41	X			Combined alcohol, opiate, and barbituate toxicity	Alcohol, Opiates, and Barbituates	n/a	unknown/not prescribed	
Male	49	X			Acute Intoxication; combined effects of Ethanol, Methadone, and Oxycodone	Ethanol, Methadone, Oxycodone	.71 mg/L	prescribed	n/a
Male	45	X			Methamphetamine Intoxication	Methamphetamine	n/a	n/a	n/a
Male	38		X		Complications of liver failure;liver necrosis; acetaminophen toxicity	Acetaminophen	n/a	n/a	n/a
Male	52		X		Combined drug toxicity due to the simultaneous use of Bupropion and Salicylates	Bupropion and Salicylates	n/a	n/a	n/a
Male	24		X		Combined drug toxicity; use of Cocaine, Methadone, Citalopram, and Clonazepam	Cocaine, Methadone, Citalopram, and Clonazepam	1.17 mg/L	prescribed	n/a
Male	88		X		Acute Hydrocodone and Acetaminophen	Hydrocodone and Acetaminophen	n/a	n/a	n/a
Male	51		X		Combined drug toxicity due to the simultaneous use of Oxycodone and Amitriptyline	Oxycodone and Amitriptyline	n/a	n/a	n/a
Male	46	X			Severe ASCVD; contributing factor is acute methamphetamine intoxication	Methamphetamine	n/a	n/a	n/a
Male	37	X			Acute Intoxication; Combined effects of Methamphetamine and Ethanol	Methamphetamine and Ethanol	n/a	n/a	n/a
Male	27	X			Acute Intoxication; combined effects of Methamphetamine and Opiates	Methamphetamine, Opiate	n/a	n/a	n/a
Male	27	X			Lobar Pneumonia; Acute intoxication;combined effects of morphine and diphenhydramine	Morphine, Diphenhydramine	n/a	n/a	n/a
Male	54	X			Acute Intoxication due to the combined effects of Morphine, Oxycodone, and Amitriptyline	Morphine, Oxycodone, and Amitriptyline	n/a	n/a	n/a
Male	65	X			Nitrite toxicity	Nitrites	n/a	n/a	n/a
Male	55	X			Cocaine Toxicity	Cocaine	n/a	n/a	n/a
Male	59	X			Cocaine Toxicity	Cocaine	n/a	n/a	n/a
Male	42	X			Intracerebral hemorrhage; Cocaine use	Cocaine	n/a	n/a	n/a

Male	56	X			Combined drug toxicity due to simultaneous use of Cocaine and Methadone	Cocaine and Methadone	.68 mg/L	prescribed	n/a
Male	50	X			Disseminated intravascular coagulation due to cocaine and opiate toxicity	Cocaine and Opiates	n/a	n/a	n/a
Male	42	X			Combined alcohol and drug toxicity due to the use of Ethanol, Diazepam, hydrocodone, Hydromorphone, Oxycodone, and Acetaminophen	Ethanol, Diazepam, hydrocodone, Hydromorphone, Oxycodone, and Acetaminophen	n/a	n/a	n/a
Male	46	X			combined alcohol and drug toxicity due to the use of Ethanol, Hydrocodone, Citalopram, and Amitriptyline- Contributory- atherosclerotic heart disease	Ethanol, Hydrocodone, Citalopram, and Amitriptyline	n/a	prescribed	n/a
Male	37	X			Combined drug toxicity due to the simultaneous use of Heroin and Methadone	Heroin and Methadone	<.10 mg/L	prescribed	n/a
Male	28	X			Combined drug toxicity due to simultaneous use of Heroin, Benzodiazepine, and Ethanol	Heroin, Benzodiazepine, and Ethanol	n/a	n/a	n/a
Male	64	X			Severe Atherosclerotic coronary vascular disease with a contributory factor of combined drug toxicity due to the use of multiple medications including Hydroxyzine, Nortriptyline, and Doxepin	Hydroxyzine, Nortriptyline, and Doxepin	n/a	n/a	n/a
Male	59	X			Acute Methadone Intoxication	Methadone	3.2 mg/L	prescribed	n/a
Male	54	X			Methadone Toxicity	Methadone	1.42 mg/L	prescribed	n/a
Male	27	X			Acute Intoxication; combined effects of Methadone, orazepam, hydrocodone, and hydromorphone	Methadone, Lorazepam, Hydrocodone, and Hydromorphone	.45 mg/L	prescribed	n/a
Male	49	X			Severe atherosclerotic coronary vascular disease with a contributing factor of acute methamphetamine intoxication	Methamphetamine	n/a	n/a	n/a
Male	55	X			Morphine toxicity	Morphine	n/a	n/a	n/a
Male	49	X			Combined drug toxicity due to the use of Morphine, Hydrocodone, Diazepam, and Paroxetine	Morphine, Hydrocodone, Diazepam, and Paroxetine	n/a	n/a	n/a
Male	50	X			Combined drug toxicity due to the use of Morphine, Hydromorphone, Cyclobenzaprine, and Gabapentin	Morphine, Hydromorphone, Cyclobenzaprine, and Gabapentin	n/a	n/a	n/a
Male	22	X			Hypoxic encephalopathy due to cardiac arrest due to combined drug toxicity due to simultaneous use of opiate and cocaine	Opiate and Cocaine	n/a	n/a	n/a
Male	49	X			Herniation of the brain due to hypoxic encephalopathy following respiratory arrest due to probable combined Oxycodone and Benzodiazepine intoxication	Oxycodone and Benzodiazepine	n/a	n/a	n/a
Male	46	X			Combined drug toxicity; use of Paroxetine, Venlafaxine, Propoxyphene, Norpropoxyphene, Cyclobenzaprine, Acetaminophen, and Butalbital	Paroxetine, Venlafaxine, Propoxyphene, Norpropoxyphene, Cyclobenzaprine, Acetaminophen, and Butalbital	n/a	n/a	n/a
Male	40	X			Salicylate toxicity- contributory - bronchitis and coronary artery disease	Salicylates	n/a	n/a	n/a
Male	57	X			Encephalopathy with coma due to probable serotonin syndrome	Serotonin	n/a	n/a	n/a
Male	47	X			Opiate Toxicity		n/a	n/a	n/a

Male	51		X		Acute Intoxication; combined effects of Oxycodone, Hydrocodone, Alprazolam, and other medications	Oxycodone, Hydrocodone, Alprazolam, Carisoprodol, and Venlafaxin	n/a	n/a	n/a
Male	37	X			Combined Drug Intoxication; Hydrocodone, Diazepam, Alprazolam, Diphenhydramine, Doxylamine, Chlorpheniramine, Dextromethorphan, Propoxyphine, and Tramodal	Hydrocodone, Diazepam, Alprazolam, Diphenhydramine, Doxylamine, Chlorpheniramine, Dextromethorphan, Propoxyphine, and Tramodal	n/a	n/a	All 9 medications found in toxicology
Male	30	X			Combined drug toxicity due to the simultaneous use of Methadone, Cyclobenzaprine, Amitriptyline, Citalopram, Topiramate, and Alprazolam	Methadone, Cyclobenzaprine, Amitriptyline, Citalopram, Topiramate, and Alprazolam	.40mg/L	prescribed	Alprazolam?
Male	37	X			Combined drug toxicity due to the use of Hydrocodone, Morphine, and Citalopram	Hydrocodone, Morphine, and Citalopram	n/a	n/a	Hydrocodone and Morphine
Male	30	X			Combined drug toxicity due to simultaneous use of Cocaine, Hydrocodone, Hydromorphone, Venlafaxine, Acetaminophen, and Diphenhydramine	Cocaine, Hydrocodone, Hydromorphone, Venlafaxine, Acetaminophen, and Diphenhydramine	n/a	n/a	Hydrocodone, and Hydromorphone
Male	34			X	Combined drug toxicity due to the simultaneous use of Methadone, Vanlafaxine, Diphenhydramine, Tramadol, and Benzodiazepine	Methadone, Vanlafaxine, Diphenhydramine, Tramadol, and Benzodiazepine	.48mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone
Male	20		X		Acute Intoxication; combined effects of methadone and paroxetine	Methadone and Paroxetine	.64 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone
Male	38	X			Methadone Intoxication	Methadone, Paroxetine, Hydroxyzine	.40 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone
Male	45	X			Acute Methadone Intoxication	Methadone, Sertraline	.42 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone
Male	33	X			Combined drug toxicity due to simultaneous use of Cocaine and Methadone.	Cocaine and Methadone	.27 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone
Male	27	X			Combined drug and alcohol toxicity due to the use of Heroin, Methadone, Hydroxyzine, Promethazine, and Ethanol	Heroin, Methadone, Hydroxyzine, Promethazine, and Ethanol	.10mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone
Male	54	X			Acute Methadone Intoxication	Methadone	.72 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone
Male	49	X			Combined drug toxicity due to the simultaneous use of Methadone and Ethanol	Methadone	.13 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone
Male	32	X			Hypoxic Encephalopathy; Cardiac arrest with resuscitation; Methadone toxicity- contributory- alcohol use and dilated cardiomyopathy	Methadone & Diazepam	.67 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone
Male	48	X			Combined drug toxicity due to the simultaneous use of Methadone and Cocaine	Methadone and Cocaine	.35 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone
Male	43	X			Acute Intoxication; combined effects of Methadone, cyclobenzaprine, benzodiazepines, and aprazolam	Methadone, cyclobenzaprine, benzodiazepines, and aprazolam	.72 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone
Male	64	X			Combined drug toxicity due to simultaneous use of Methadone, Diphenhydramine, Lorazepam, Alprazolam, and Paroxetine	Methadone, Diphenhydramine, Lorazepam, Alprazolam, and Paroxetine	.37 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone
Male	47	X			Combined drug toxicity due to simultaneous use of Methadone, Clonazepam, and Citalopram	Methadone, Clonazepam, and Citalopram	.24 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone & Citalopram
Male	46	X			Combined drug toxicity due to the use of Methadone, Hydrocodone, Alprazolam, Amitriptyline, Fluoxetine, Clonazepam, and Ethanol	Methadone, Hydrocodone, Alprazolam, Amitriptyline, Fluoxetine, Clonazepam, and Ethanol	.42 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone and Alprazolam

Male	32	X		Acute Intoxication; combined effects of Methadone and Benzodiazepine	Methadone and Benzodiazepine	.17 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone and Benzodiazepines
Male	28	X		Acute Intoxication; Combined effects of Methamphetamine, Methadone, Diphenhydramine, and Hydrocodone	Methamphetamine, Methadone, Diphenhydramine, and Hydrocodone	.26 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone and Hydrocodone
Male	48	X		Combined drug toxicity, use of Methadone, Amitriptyline, and Clonazepam	Methadone, Amitriptyline, and Clonazepam	.18 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone, Amitriptyline
Male	20	X		Combined Drug Intoxication	Methadone, Morphine, Hydrocodone	.11 mg/L	unknown/not prescribed	Methadone, Morphine, and Hydrocodone
Male	34	X		Acute Opiate Intoxication	Morphine, Quetiapine, Valproic Acid	n/a	n/a	morphine
Male	46	X		Combined Drug Intoxication	Opiates, Alprazolam, Zopiclone	n/a	n/a	morphine & Codeine
Male	54	X		Combined Drug Intoxication	Opiates, Alprazolam, Promethazine	n/a	n/a	Oxycodone, Hydromorphone, and Tramadol
Male	52	X		Combined drug toxicity due to the use of Morphine, Oxycodone, Pseudoephedrine, Amitriptyline, Citalopram, and Methylphenidate	Morphine, Oxycodone, Pseudoephedrine, Amitriptyline, Citalopram, and Methylphenidate	n/a	n/a	unk
Male	45		X	Acute Acetaminophen intoxication	Acetaminophen	n/a	n/a	