2019 MONTANA MEDICAL EXAMINER'S REPORT June 30, 2020



OVERVIEW:

The Montana Medical Examiner's Office (MTMEO) is a bureau within the Montana Department of Justice, Forensic Science Division. It was created in the 1980s to provide death investigation resources for county coroners, law enforcement agencies, and county attorneys on behalf of Montana's citizens. Montana is the fourth largest state in the United States, encompassing 147,040 square miles, and has an estimated population of 1,062,305 for 2018. This report summarizes the statistical results of the MTMEO cases performed during the 2019 calendar year.

OUR VISION STATEMENT:

We strive to create a partnership between Medical Examiners and Coroners to promote the health, well-being, and safety of the citizens of Montana through education, service, and compassionate, professional death investigation.

RECENT PROJECTS COMPLETED:

The Montana Medical Examiner's office recently completed the following projects and goals:

- Establishment of a new morgue facility in Billings as of January 2019
- Acquired an additional forensic pathologist for the Billings office March 2019
- Upgraded the Missoula facility with new autopsy sink stations and increased body storage capacity with an NIJ federal grant

CURRENT PROJECTS:

The Montana Medical Examiner's office is currently focused on the following projects and goals:

- Actively promote opportunities to continuously improve death investigation and establish more uniform practices among the counties, including the implementation of a statewide death investigation database
- Develop, implement, and revise standard operating procedures to follow National Association of Medical Examiner Association guidelines for death investigations
- Become accredited through NAME

SUMMARY OF 2019:

In 2019 the Montana Medical Examiner's Office employed four forensic pathologists, two autopsy assistants, and three part-time autopsy assistants. Administrative support was provided by the Forensic Science Division. Two pathologists work at the State crime laboratory in Missoula to serve the needs of coroners in western Montana. Two pathologists work at a new State morgue facility in Billings to serve the needs of coroners in Eastern Montana. During calendar year 2019 a total of 657 postmortem examinations were performed (Missoula 359, Billings 298). Our pathologists responded to a limited number of scene investigations and recoveries. We provided court testimony and made educational presentations at the annual Montana Coroner Advanced and Basic Coroner trainings. Informational meetings took place with coroners, law enforcement, county attorneys, organ and tissue procurement agencies, and funeral directors.

Based on recommendations that appear in the Scientific Working Group on Medicolegal Death Investigation (SWGMDI) "an autopsy rate of one per 1000 population might be considered as a best-case scenario formula for ensuring that medicolegal autopsies are performed in numbers that need public health, public safety, justice system, medical quality assurance and other needs." Generally, the need for a postmortem examination (autopsy) in Montana is determined by the county coroner per Title 46, Chapter 4, Part 1 of Montana Code Annotated. NAME inspection data for all offices published in the SWGMDI 2013 report listed an average autopsy rate of 0.5 per 1,000 persons for offices of all types and 0.7 per 1,000 persons in facility surveys. Utilizing our current data, the autopsy rate per 1,000 population in Montana is 6.1% across all counties. Some counties meet or exceed the 1.0 per 1,000 population recommendations while some counties are below the recommendations. Results by county are listed in Total Autopsies by County table beginning on page 3.

The MTMEO costs roughly \$1.34 per resident based on FY2020 budget. This is substantially less than the \$3.75 per resident recommendation cited in a Scientific Working Group on Medicolegal Death Investigation (SWGMDI) Center Construction Report. The MTMEO continues to provide quality service to the State at a very reasonable cost.

Montana death investigations are served through a county coroner system with support by the State Medical Examiner's office. The following statistical information represents only those cases that coroners delivered for autopsy or examination and cannot encompass all deaths in the State. At the discretion of county coroners, selected suicides, overdoses, traffic fatalities, and well-established natural deaths are not submitted for autopsy.

The following tables and graphs outline 2019 activity as well as comparisons to prior years:

2019 AUTOPSY CASE TYPES:

Туре	# Cases	% of Total
External	48	7%
Full	570	87%
Partial	28	4%
Skeletal	11	2%
Grand Total	657	100%

TOTAL AUTOPSIES BY COUNTY:

Montana consists of 56 counties. Approximately 2/3 of the population resides in the western half of the State, which is served by the Missoula office. The eastern half contains the State's largest city, Billings, with a city population of 111,150 (2018.) Vital Statistics does not yet have population and death statistics for 2019.

	AUTOPSIES BY COUNTY								
County	2019 Autopsy Count	2018 Autopsy Count	2019 vs 2018 Autopsies	2019 % of Total Autopsies	Number of Deaths 2018*	2018 Autopsies % of Total Deaths	Population (2018)*	2018 Deaths % of Total County Population	
Beaverhead	1	2	-1	0.2%	88	2.3%	9404	0.9%	
Big Horn	23	19	4	3.5%	134	14.2%	13338	1.0%	
Blaine	4	2	2	0.6%	54	3.7%	6807	0.8%	
Broadwater	7	3	4	1.1%	59	5.1%	6085	1.0%	
Butte/Silver Bow	25	21	4	3.8%	411	5.1%	34993	1.2%	
Carbon	13	13	0	2.0%	105	12.4%	10714	1.0%	
Carter	1	0	1	0.2%	18	0.0%	1238	1.5%	
Cascade	26	34	-8	4.0%	895	3.8%	81643	1.1%	
Chouteau	0	2	-2	0.0%	63	3.2%	5745	1.1%	
Custer	5	1	4	0.8%	140	0.7%	11586	1.2%	
Daniels	0	2	-2	0.0%	25	8.0%	1747	1.4%	
Dawson	4	2	2	0.6%	88	2.3%	8680	1.0%	
Deer Lodge	6	7	-1	0.9%	124	5.6%	9131	1.4%	
Fallon	0	2	-2	0.0%	29	6.9%	2920	1.0%	
Fergus	10	6	4	1.5%	131	4.6%	11113	1.2%	
Flathead	43	40	3	6.5%	934	4.3%	102106	0.9%	
Gallatin	32	31	1	4.9%	552	5.6%	111876	0.5%	
Garfield	0	1	-1	0.0%	15	6.7%	1268	1.2%	
Glacier	15	21	-6	2.3%	133	15.8%	13747	1.0%	
Golden Valley	1	1	0	0.2%	6	16.7%	826	0.7%	

Grand Total	657	612	45	98%	9986	6.1%	1,062,305	0.9%
State/Other/Natl Park	12		12	1.8%				
Yellowstone Hospital/Out of	139	138	1	21.2%	1592	8.7%	160137	1.0%
Wibaux	1	0	1	0.2%	15	0.0%	1034	1.5%
Wheatland	2	2	0	0.3%	36	5.6%	2236	1.6%
Valley	6	2	4	0.9%	95	2.1%	7437	1.3%
Treasure	0	0	0	0.0%	9	0.0%	679	1.3%
Toole	3	1	2	0.5%	70	1.4%	4853	1.4%
Teton	2	4	-2	0.3%	55	7.3%	6162	0.9%
Sweet Grass	0	3	-3	0.0%	28	10.7%	3710	0.8%
Stillwater	4	8	-4	0.6%	83	9.6%	9534	0.9%
Sheridan	2	1	1	0.3%	40	2.5%	3424	1.2%
Sanders	4	3	1	0.6%	149	2.0%	11844	1.3%
Rosebud	5	11	-6	0.8%	97	11.3%	9063	1.1%
Roosevelt	18	9	9	2.7%	120	7.5%	11059	1.1%
Richland	10	2	8	1.5%	90	2.2%	10913	0.8%
Ravalli	33	26	7	5.0%	467	5.6%	43172	1.1%
Prairie	0	0	0	0.0%	22	0.0%	1087	2.0%
Powell	8	4	4	1.2%	78	5.1%	6968	1.1%
Powder River	0	1	-1	0.0%	16	6.3%	1716	0.9%
Pondera	0	3	-3	0.0%	89	3.4%	5972	1.5%
Phillips	4	5	-1	0.6%	70	7.1%	4074	1.7%
Petroleum	1	0	1	0.2%	2	0.0%	513	0.4%
Park	11	10	1	1.7%	141	7.1%	16736	0.8%
Musselshell	3	8	-5	0.5%	75	10.7%	4651	1.6%
Missoula	61	63	-2	9.3%	891	7.1%	118791	0.8%
Mineral	5	2	3	0.8%	51	3.9%	4316	1.2%
Meagher	1	2	-1	0.2%	25	8.0%	1866	1.3%
McCone	0	2	-2	0.0%	20	10.0%	1675	1.2%
Madison	2	3	-1	0.3%	65	4.6%	8768	0.7%
Lincoln	9	2	7	1.4%	245	0.8%	19794	1.2%
Liberty	0	1	-1	0.0%	15	6.7%	2430	0.6%
Lewis & Clark	41	40	1	6.2%	604	6.6%	68700	0.9%
Lake	43	32	11	6.5%	315	10.2%	30250	1.0%
Judith Basin	0	1	-1	0.0%	23	4.3%	1952	1.2%
Jefferson	2	5	-3	0.3%	108	4.6%	12097	0.9%
Hill	8	4	4	1.2%	150	2.7%	16347	0.99

^{*}Source: Montana Vital Records, most recent confirmed numbers

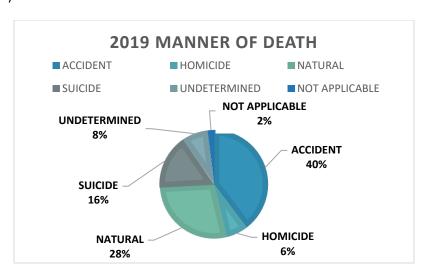
MANNER OF DEATH:

Manner is used to distinguish whether a death is considered natural or unnatural. If deemed unnatural, the death is typically categorized as either accident, suicide, homicide, or in the absence of a clear result, undetermined.

AUTOPSIES BY MANNER:

MANNER	COUNT	% OF TOTAL
ACCIDENT	261	40%
HOMICIDE	43	7%
NATURAL	183	28%
SUICIDE	107	16%
UNDETERMINED	51	8%
NOT APPLICABLE*	12	2%
GRAND TOTAL	657	100%

^{*}includes brain donations for research and skeletal remains (including some non-human)



GENDER DETAILS:

GENDER	COUNT	% OF TOTAL	2018 Population	Per 10,000 Population
Female	189	29%	527,453	3.6
Male	457	70%	534,852	8.5
Non-Human	4	1%	-	-
Unknown	7	1%	-	-
Grand Total	657	100%	1,062,305	

2019 MANNER BY GENDER						
MANNER	MALE	FEMALE	TRANSGENDER	UNKNOWN		
ACCIDENT	185	75	1	-		
HOMICIDE	30	13	-	-		
NATURAL	134	49	-	-		
SUICIDE	72	35	-	-		
UNDETERMINED	35	14	-	2		
NOT APPLICABLE		3	-	9		
GRAND TOTAL	456	189	1	11		
% OF TOTAL	69%	29%	0.2%	2%		

ANCESTRY:

Based upon Montana's Census and Economic Information Center, the following ancestry groups comprise Montana's population in 2018: Caucasians 87.4%, Native Americans 7.3%, Hispanics 3.2%, Asian/Pacific Islanders 1.1%, and Black/African Americans 1%.

2018 Population Data					
Туре	Population	% of Total			
Caucasian	928,767	87.4%			
Native American	77,367	7.3%			
Hispanic	33,693	3.2%			
Asian/Pacific Islande	12,157	1.1%			
Black	10,321	1.0%			
Grand Total	1,062,305	100.0%			
Source: MT Dept of Con					

Although comprising 12.6% of the population, Non-Caucasian citizens accounted for 23% of homicides, 16% of autopsied suicides, 18% of autopsied accidents, and 21% of

autopsied overdoses in 2019. In addition, and significantly, for deaths of children under 20 years, Non-Caucasians represented 28% of the total cases.

AUTOPSY TOTALS BY ANCESTRY:

ANCESTRY	# OF CASES	% OF TOTAL
Hispanic	8	1%
Unknown	8	1%
Native American/Alaskan	99	15%
Caucasian	529	81%
Asian	2	<1%
Black	6	<1%
Mixed	1	<1%
Non-Human (skeletal)	4	<1%
Total	657	100%

ANCESTRY BY SELECTED MANNER:

		% of		% of		% of		% of
Ancestry	Accident	Total	Homicide	Total	Suicide	Total	Overdose	Total
Caucasian	213	82%	33	77%	90	84%	88	79%
Black	2	1%	1	2%	2	2%	3	3%
Hispanic	1	0.4%	2	5%	3	3%	1	1%
Native								
American	42	16%	7	16%	12	11%	18	16%
Asian/Pacific								
Islander	1	0.4%	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%
Mixed	1	0.4%	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%
Grand Totals	260	100%	43	100%	107	100%	112	100%

HOMICIDES PER 10,000 POPULATION BY ANCESTRY:

Ancestry	Homicide	% of Total	Per 10,000 Population
Caucasian	33	77%	0.4
Black	1	2%	1.0
Hispanic	2	5%	0.6
Native American	7	16%	0.9
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	0%	-
Mixed	0	0%	-
Grand Totals	43	100%	

INFANT (2 YEARS OR LESS) DEATHS PER 10,000 POPULATION BY ANCESTRY:

Ancestry	# of Cases	% of Total	Per 10,000 Population
Caucasian	20	71%	6
Hispanic	2	7%	18
Native American	6	21%	13
Grand Total	28	100%	

CHILD UNDER 20 DEATHS PER 10,000 POPULATION BY ANCESTRY:

	# of	% of	Per 10,000
Ancestry	cases	Total	Population
Caucasian	48	72%	2
Other	3	4%	4
Native American	16	24%	5
Grand Total	67	100%	

2019 CASE ANCESTRY BY COUNTY FOR TOP 15 COUNTIES:

		% of Total		Native					
County	# of Cases	Cases	Caucasian	American	Asian	Black	Hispanic	Mixed	Unknown
Yellowstone	139	21.2%	119	17	-	3	-	-	-
Missoula	61	9.3%	57	2	-	1	-	1	
Flathead	43	6.5%	34	3	1	-	4	-	1
Lake	43	6.5%	27	13	-	-	1	-	2
Lewis & Clark	41	6.2%	40	-	-	-	-	-	1
Ravalli	33	5.0%	33	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gallatin	32	4.9%	31	1	-	-	-	-	-
Cascade	26	4.0%	18	7	-	1	-	-	-
Butte - Silver Bow	25	3.8%	23	-	1	-	-	-	1
Big Horn	23	3.5%	4	19	-	-	-	-	-
Roosevelt	18	2.7%	3	14	-	-	-	-	1
Glacier	15	2.3%	3	12	-	-	-	-	-
Carbon	13	2.0%	13	-	-	-	-	-	-
Park	11	1.7%	10	-	-	-	-	-	1
Fergus	10	1.5%	9	-	-	-	-	-	1
Total	533	81%	424	88	2	5	5	1	8

AGE RANGES OF DECEDENTS BY MANNER:

AGE	MANNER	# OF CASES	% OF 653 (HUMAN) CASES
Infants =2</td <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>			
years	Accident	4	
	Homicide	4	
	Natural	2	
	Undetermined	18	
		28	4%
Child 3-12	Accident	3	
	Homicide	2	
	Natural	4	
	Undetermined	1	
		10	2%
Teen 13-19	Accident	12	
	Homicide	2	
	Natural	3	
	Suicide	11	
	Undetermined	1	
		29	4%
Adult 20-65	Accident	195	

	Homicide	34	
	Natural	139	
	Suicide	80	
	Undetermined	21	
	Research	2	
		471	72%
Adult Senior			
66+	Accident	47	
	Homicide	1	
	Natural	35	
	Suicide	16	
	Undetermined	9	
		108	17%
Unknown Age	Undetermined	7	
		7	1%

DEATHS ATTRIBUTABLE TO ALCOHOL OR DRUG INTOXICATION:

Medical Examiners performed 657 autopsies in death investigation cases. The toxicology section would have performed testing on most those cases. It was determined that 139 of those cases had toxicology results of significance. Below is a breakdown of the identified substances and corresponding drug results. The data below does not include deaths where the coroner did not have an autopsy performed.

Toxicology Related Case Breakdown by Cause of Death (Autopsied cases only)						
Cause of Death	# of cases	Comments				
Acute Ethanol Intoxication	2	Mean Ethanol: 0.49 g/dL				
Complications of chronic ethanoluse	30					
Acute, Single Drug Intoxication						
1. Methamphetamine	21	Mean: 3.1 mg/L / Range: 0.23-9.9 mg/L				
2. Heroin	9	Determined by 6-momoacetylmorphine confirmation				
3. Fentanyl	1	12.2 ng/mL				
4. Oxycodone	1	0.35 mg/L and ethanolat 0.041 g/dL				
5. Methadone	1	1.7 mg/L				
6. Mitragynine	1	180 ng/mL				
7. Buprenorphine	1	7.8 ng/mL				
8. Cocaine	1	Detected				
9. Clozapine	1	2900 ng/mL				
Diphenhydramine	2	6.6 mg/L and 40 mg/L				
11. Salicylate	1	1300 microgram/mL				
12. Hydroxyzine	1	2.2 mg/L				
Acute, Poly-Drug Combinations	59	Some cases may fall into multiple categories				
		Methamphetamine found in 29 cases (mean: 0.94 mg/L)				
		Heroin use found in 15 cases				
		Methamphetamine and Heroin combo in 10 cases				
		Cocaine and Heroin combo in 2 cases				
		Fentanylfound in 8 cases (mean: 12 ng/mL)				
		Oxycodone found in 7 cases (mean: 0.25 mg/L)				
		Hydrocodone found in 3 cases (mean: 0.21 mg/L)				
		Methadone found in 9 cases (mean: 0.36 mg/L)				
		Mitragynine found in 7 cases (mean: 765 ng/mL)				
B 1W 1 G 11 1		Miscellaneous CNS depressants found in 13 cases				
Drug and Weather Combinations	7	Hypothermia associated with Methamphetamine (1 case) or				
		and Cocaine intoxication (1 case)				
		Hypothermia associated with acute ethanol intoxication (5				
* • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	-	cases)				
Inhalant Intoxication	2	1,1-Difluoroethane				

OVERDOSE DEATHS BY COUNTY- TOP 10*

COUNTY	# OF CASES	% OF TOTAL
Yellowstone	31	28%
Cascade	12	11%
Missoula	10	9%
Gallatin	7	6%
Butte	6	5%
Flathead	6	5%
Lewis & Clark	6	5%
Lake	5	5%
Glacier	4	4%
Ravalli	4	4%

^{*}Carbon monoxide cases not included

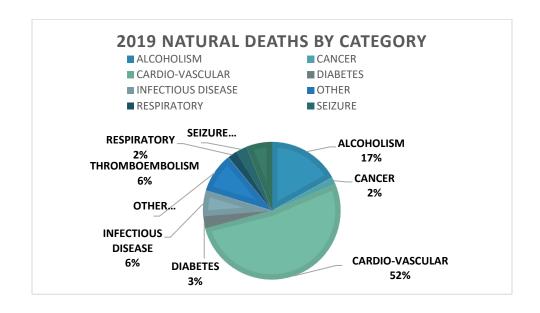
SUICIDES AND HOMICIDES ATTRIBUTABLE TO FIREARMS:

In 2019, 70% of the homicide cases, 61% of the autopsied suicides, and 14% of all casework involved a firearm.

MANNER	# OF CASES
Homicide	30
Suicide	65
Grand Total	95
% OF TOTAL CASES	14%

NATURAL DEATHS BY CATEGORY:

CATEGORY	# OF CASES
CARDIO-VASCULAR	96
OTHER	17
ALCOHOLISM	31
THROMBOEMBOLISM	11
DIABETES	5
INFECTIOUS DISEASE	11
RESPIRATORY	4
SEIZURE	5
Grand Total	183
% OF TOTAL CASES	28%



2019 TURN-AROUND TIMES:

Turn-Around Time represents the number of days between the postmortem examination and the completion of the autopsy report. 78% of our reports in 2019 were completed within 90 days.

LESS THAN 60	333	51%
60-90	178	27%
91-120	62	9%
OVER 120	84	13%
TOTAL	657	100%

FOUR YEAR TRENDS (2016-2019)

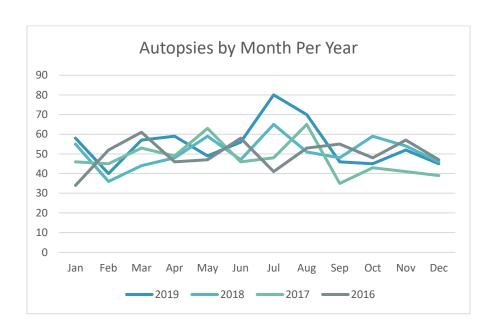
The Montana State Medical Examiner's office initiated a process to maintain better statistical information beginning in 2015. We have now completed 4 years with which we can make annual comparisons and watch for trends. Again, these comparisons are only based on the cases submitted to the office and not all investigated deaths in the State.

AUTOPSIES BY TYPE PER YEAR								
Type 2019 2018 2017 2010								
Full	570	546	530	540				
Partial	28	20	15	12				
External	47	37	22	37				
Skeletal	11	8	7	10				
Disinterred	0	0	1	0				
Coroner Case Review	1	1	0	0				
TOTAL CASES	657	612	575	599				

Skeletal remains are submitted to the UM Anthropology Department for analysis.

CASES BY MONTH PER YEAR:

Month	2019	2018	2017	2016
Jan	58	55	46	34
Feb	40	36	45	52
Mar	57	44	53	61
Apr	59	48	49	46
May	49	59	63	47
Jun	56	47	46	58
Jul	80	65	48	41
Aug	70	51	65	53
Sep	46	48	35	55
Oct	45	59	43	48
Nov	52	54	41	57
Dec	45	46	39	47
Total	657	612	573	599

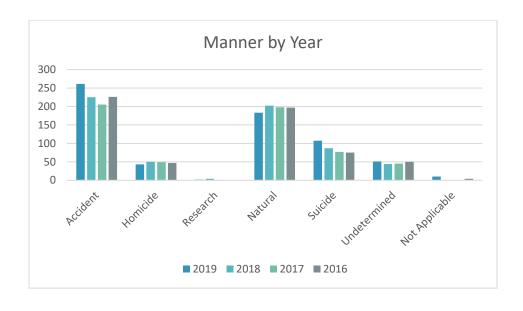


MANNER OF DEATH BY YEAR:

MANNER	2019	2018	2017	2016
Accident	261	225	205	226
Homicide	43	50	49	47
Research *	2	4	1	
Natural	183	202	198	197
Suicide	107	87	77	75
Undetermined	51	44	45	50
Not Applicable**	10			4
Grand Total	656	612	575	599

^{*}Brain Removals

^{**}Skeletal human and non-human remains



DEATHS UNDER 20 YEARS BY MANNER:

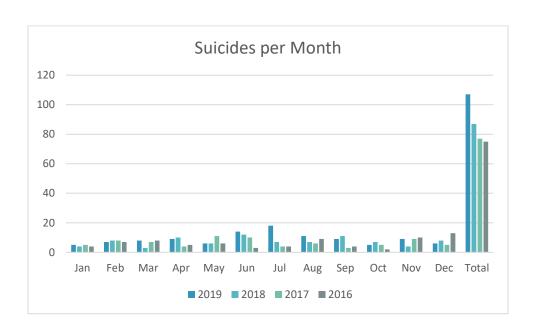
AGE	MANNER	2019	2018	2017	2016
Infants<+2 years	Accident	4	4	4	7
	Homicide	4	3	5	6
	Natural	2	3	5	5
	Undetermined	18	13	16	15
Child 3-12	Accident	3	7	3	4
	Homicide	2	1	0	3
	Natural	4	2	0	2
	Undetermined	1	2	0	0
	Suicide	0	0	0	1
Teen 13-19	Accident	12	11	4	12
	Homicide	2	0	1	3
	Natural	3	5	3	2
	Suicide	11	6	5	3
	Undetermined	1	2	2	0
Grand Totals		67	59	48	63

FIREARMS DEATHS BY MANNER BY YEAR

MANNER	2019	2018	2017	2016
Accident	2			
Homicide	30	24	25	25
Suicide	65	48	51	46
Undetermined	1	1	3	3
Grand Total	98	73	79	74
% OF TOTAL CASES	14%	12%	14%	12%

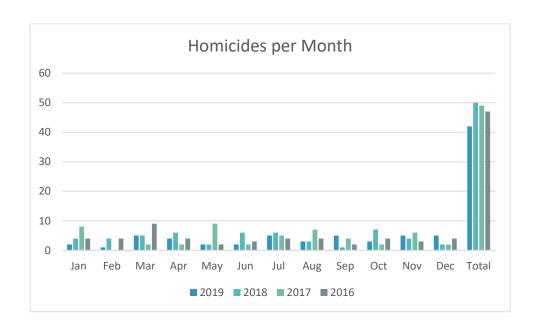
SUICIDES BY MONTH PER YEAR:

Month	2019	2018	2017	2016
Jan	5	4	5	4
Feb	7	8	8	7
Mar	8	3	7	8
Apr	9	10	4	5
May	6	6	11	6
Jun	14	12	10	3
Jul	18	7	4	4
Aug	11	7	6	9
Sep	9	11	3	4
Oct	5	7	5	2
Nov	9	4	9	10
Dec	6	8	5	13
Total	107	87	77	75



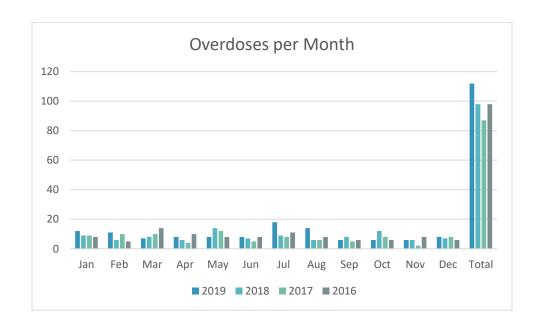
HOMICIDES BY MONTH PER YEAR:

Month	2019	2018	2017	2016
Jan	2	4	8	4
Feb	1	4	0	4
Mar	5	5	2	9
Apr	4	6	2	4
May	2	2	9	2
Jun	2	6	2	3
Jul	5	6	5	4
Aug	3	3	7	4
Sep	5	1	4	2
Oct	4	7	2	4
Nov	5	4	6	3
Dec	5	2	2	4
Total	43	50	49	47



OVERDOSE DEATHS BY MONTH PER YEAR:

Month	2019	2018	2017	2016
Jan	12	9	9	8
Feb	11	6	10	5
Mar	7	8	10	14
Apr	8	6	4	10
May	8	14	12	8
Jun	8	7	5	8
Jul	18	9	8	11
Aug	14	6	6	8
Sep	6	8	5	6
Oct	6	12	8	6
Nov	6	6	2	8
Dec	8	7	8	6
Total	112	98	87	98



OVERDOSE DEATHS BY COUNTY PER YEAR-TOP 10 COUNTIES:

COUNTY	2019	2018	2017	2016
Yellowstone	31	23	22	18
Cascade	12	9	3	5
Missoula	10	11	11	14
Gallatin	7	3	7	2
Butte	6	6	3	10
Flathead	6	9	6	12
Lewis & Clark	6	6	8	7
Lake	5	2	5	3
Glacier	4	2	2	3
Ravalli	4	7	4	3

HOMICIDE DEATHS BY COUNTY PER YEAR

COUNTY	2019	2018	2017	2016
Big Horn		1	6	2
Broadwater	1		1	
Butte/SilverBow				4
Carter			1	
Carbon		1		4
Cascade	6	5	8	5
Chouteau				1
Custer	1	1		
Dawson			1	
Deer Lodge		1	1	1
Flathead	4	4	1	2
Gallatin	3	1	3	4
Glacier		2	3	1
Granite				1
Hill	2	1		1
Jefferson			1	
Lake	3	2	1	1
Lewis & Clark	2	5	3	4
Liberty				1
Lincoln	2		2	2
Madison	1			
Missoula	3	5	5	1
Musselshell				1

Park				2
Phillips		1		1
Pondera		1		
Powell	1			
Ravalli	1		1	
Richland	2			1
Roosevelt		1	2	4
Rosebud		1		2
Sanders		2	1	
Toole	2			
Valley		1		
Yellowstone	9	14	8	1
Totals	43	50	49	47

SUICIDE DEATHS BY COUNTY PER YEAR

COUNTY	2019	2018	2017	2016
Beaverhead		1		2
Big Horn	2	4	1	1
Blaine	1			
Broadwater	2	1		
Butte/SilverBow	3		1	6
Carbon	4	1		
Carter			1	
Cascade	1	3	4	4
Chouteau				1
Custer				1
Daniels			1	1
Dawson	1	2		
Deer Lodge	2	1	3	1
Fallon				1
Fergus	1		1	
Flathead	7	4	4	3
Gallatin	7	3	2	2
Glacier	2	4	1	2
Granite		1	1	2
Hill	1	1	1	

Jefferson	1			
Lake	5	7	9	6
Lewis & Clark	3	12	3	2
Liberty				1
Madison	1		1	
Mineral			1	
Missoula	7	8	9	11
Musselshell		3		3
Park	1	1	2	2
Powell	1	1		
Prairie			1	1
Ravalli	8	8	7	2
Richland	1			
Roosevelt	2		2	1
Rosebud	2	1	1	
Sanders			2	
Sheridan	1			
Stillwater	1	2	1	
Sweetgrass				1
Toole				3
Wheatland		1	1	
Yellowstone	39	17	16	15
Totals	107	87	77	75

^{*}Yellowstone County saw an overall increase of 20% in suicides in 2019 versus prior years, of which a larger portion of cases were autopsied.

Questions or inquiries regarding the information provided in this report can be addressed by contacting our main office at:

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