

EATON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEMBERS

Tim Barnes
Blake Mulder
Terrance Augustine
Brandon Haskell
Jeanne Pearl-Wright
Jane Whitacre
Mark J. Mudry
Joseph Brehler



MEMBERS

Brian Droscha
Dairus Reynnet
Wayne Ridge
Brian Lautzenheiser
Jim Mott
Jeremy Whittum
Barbara Rogers

1045 Independence Blvd, Charlotte, MI 48813

EATON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS/PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2021, 4:00 P.M.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' ROOM, COUNTY COURTHOUSE, CHARLOTTE

AGENDA

1. Call to Order.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Agenda Additions and Changes.
4. Approval of October 7, 2021 Minutes.
5. Limited Public Comment.
6. Sheriff's Office Update.
7. Monthly Reports.
 - Reimbursement
 - Jail Census
 - Court Security
8. Community Corrections.
 - Appointment
 - Revised By-Laws
9. Central Dispatch Update.
10. Emergency Services Update.
11. ORV Ordinance Update.
12. Miscellaneous.
13. Limited Public Comment.
14. Adjournment.

A quorum of the Board of Commissioners may be present at this meeting.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2021

4:00 P.M.

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Commissioner Tim Barnes, Vice-Chairman Commissioner Wayne Ridge, Commissioner Brian Droscha, Commissioner Brandon Haskell, Commissioner Mark Mudry, Commissioner Dairus Reynnet, and Commissioner Jane Whitacre

ALSO PRESENT:

Chairman Jeremy Whittum, Controller John Fuentes, Undersheriff Jeff Cook, Deputy Dispatch Director Kelly Cunningham, Emergency Management Coordinator Ryan Wilkinson, and Jerri Nesbitt

The October 7, 2021 regular meeting of the Public Safety Committee was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chairman Barnes.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given by all, led by Commissioner Ridge.

AGENDA ADDITIONS AND CHANGES

There were no additions or changes to the agenda. Commissioner Whitacre moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Haskell seconded. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Controller Fuentes reported an update to the Central Dispatch Update portion of the Minutes pertaining to the Rave Alert systems in the Charlotte and Eaton Rapids schools. Update was made to reflect, the “cities of”. Commissioner Droscha moved to approve the Minutes of the September 2, 2021 as updated. Commissioner Reynnet seconded. Motion carried.

LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

SHERIFF’S OFFICE UPDATE

Undersheriff Cook highlighted the major incidents that occurred in September 2021.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Controller Fuentes presented the monthly reimbursement, jail census, and court security reports. Parole Violator housing program did not meet projected revenues. The unfavorable variance is

anticipated to be absorbed through expenditure savings. Revenues from the WRAP program are as projected. There were no significant changes in the jail census. WRAP program participant numbers remained stable and MDOC inmate numbers increased slightly. The adopted budget takes these numbers into account. There were no unusual incidents to report from court security.

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Controller Fuentes spoke on behalf of Eaton County Prosecutor Doug Lloyd requesting a Resolution recognizing October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Commissioner Haskell made a motion to recommend approval to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Ridge seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CENTRAL DISPATCH UPDATE

Central Dispatch Deputy Director Cunningham reported that Fire & EMS radio updates are in the process of being completed via Wi-Fi. Mobile and base radio updates must be done physically and are expected to be completed by the end of the year. MPSCS is updating law enforcement radios with the Calhoun County encryption keys. Clinton County is expecting to join the MPSCS in December, which will require further updates to the radios.

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT HB5026

HB5026 is an amendment to the 9-1-1 Service Enabling System Act. Support is requested to increase the 9-1-1 fee for pre-paid phones from 5 percent to 6 percent. The legislation would also continue fees collected for the next 2 years. Commission Droscha made a motion to recommend approval of the resolution to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Haskell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

EMERGENCY SERVICES UPDATE

Emergency Management Coordinator Wilkinson reported his appointment to the position of Secretary to the International Association of Emergency Managers-USA Region 5. This is a 2-year appointment. All K-12 school districts within the County are required to conduct 10 drills throughout the school year by September 15th. Eaton County had 100 percent participation and compliance. The Emergency Management Performance Plan has been completed and sent in. The Operation Silver Thaw 2021 Exercise is scheduled for Tuesday, December 7, 2021. The exercise is all virtual with field operations being simulated. Participants include Eaton, Clinton, and Ingham Counties, Delta and Delhi Townships, Michigan State University and Lansing Police Departments.

ORV ORDINANCE UPDATE

Controller Fuentes provided an update on the consultation with the Eaton County Road Commission which is required as part of the consideration for the development of an ORV Ordinance. Committee Chairman Barnes has signed a letter that is being sent to Townships requesting their input. Discussion Held. Commissioner Droscha indicated he did not feel such an ordinance was necessary for the County. Further discussion held.

MISCELLANEOUS

Committee Chairman Barnes invited attendance to a presentation he is giving on October 28th, at Central Dispatch from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on air flight trauma responses.

LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Commissioner Barnes adjourned the meeting at 4:42 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Public Safety Committee will be held on Thursday, November 4, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. in the Board of Commissioners' Room of the County Courthouse located at 1045 Independence Blvd., Charlotte, MI 48813.

Commissioner Tim Barnes
Chairperson, Public Safety Committee

JAIL COUNT SUMMARY
Oct-21

Day	Building Total	Eaton County Pop.	Female Inmates	MDOC	WRAP	% of Capacity	% of Eaton County Pop
1	215	176	27	11	27	57%	82%
2	216	178	27	11	26	58%	83%
3	223	185	28	11	26	60%	83%
4	224	186	28	11	26	60%	83%
5	218	179	29	12	26	58%	82%
6	215	177	28	12	25	57%	83%
7	213	175	28	12	25	57%	82%
8	218	180	27	12	25	58%	83%
9	216	174	28	17	24	58%	81%
10	221	179	27	17	24	59%	81%
11	219	177	27	17	24	59%	81%
12	215	173	27	17	24	57%	81%
13	216	174	27	17	24	58%	81%
14	210	176	27	7	26	56%	84%
15	213	178	27	8	26	57%	84%
16	210	175	27	8	26	56%	84%
17	216	180	26	9	26	58%	84%
18	217	181	26	9	26	58%	84%
19	208	173	27	9	25	56%	83%
20	209	177	26	9	22	56%	85%
21	204	172	27	9	22	55%	85%
22	207	173	25	12	21	55%	84%
23	206	172	24	12	21	55%	84%
24	211	177	22	12	21	56%	84%
25	204	170	21	12	21	55%	84%
26	193	159	20	12	21	52%	83%
27	192	158	19	12	21	51%	83%
28	193	160	19	11	21	52%	83%
29	197	164	20	12	20	53%	83%
30	192	159	21	12	20	51%	83%
31	195	162	22	12	20	52%	83%

TOTAL			784	364	732	56%	45%
-------	--	--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Bldg Total	6506
Avg/Day	210

Eaton Cty. Total	5230
Avg/Day	169

Housing Total	364
Avg/Day	12

Female Total	784
Avg/Day	25

November 4, 2021

Public Safety Committee Appointment

Community Corrections Advisory Board –

Clint Auer (circuit court probation agent or a district court probation agent) –
to a term for the duration of the position

**BY-LAWS
OF
EATON COUNTY COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS
ADVISORY BOARD**

Adopted: _____

**EATON COUNTY
COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ADVISORY BOARD
BY-LAWS**

PREAMBLE:

The Eaton County Board of Commissioners has appointed the Community Corrections Advisory Board, referred to as "CCAB", to exercise the functions, powers and duties described in the Michigan Community Corrections PA 511 Act of 1988.

The CCAB adopts these By-Laws to govern the exercise of its functions, powers and duties.

ARTICLE I Functions, Powers and Duties

The functions, powers and duties of the CCAB shall be:

- (a) Develop a comprehensive community corrections plan, monitor the plan, recommend improvements and modifications, perform annual evaluations of the program and activities in that plan, and prepare an annual report.
- (b) Provide for the management of the Community Corrections Plan.
- (c) Develop a process for receipt of proposals, a proposal review and selection criteria which present no conflicting interest with the CCAB, County Commission or Office of Community Alternatives or local programs under consideration.
- (d) Establish a system for data analysis as required by the Office of Community Alternatives and provide information and reports as required by the Office of Community Alternatives.
- (e) Comply with minimum standards, program, and fiscal monitoring system adopted by the State Community Corrections Board.
- (f) Develop a system for evaluating and monitoring the effectiveness of the community corrections programs in accordance to the guidelines developed by the State Community Corrections Board.
- (g) Adopt program policies and procedures for the operation of the CCAB and local programs.
- (h) Maintain and review by-laws, subject to approval by the County Board, which set forth membership criteria set forth in the Community Corrections Act and detail the purpose, structure and expectations of the CCAB
- (i) Develop an on-going public education and information program and implement public information activities, which inform and educate the general public regarding the need for diversion of qualified offenders from confinement and the benefits these programs bring to the community.
- (j) Determine the possible sources for funding of the program activity specified in the comprehensive plan.
- (k) Recommend to the County Board that contracts be entered into for services or provide services directly as identified in the comprehensive plan.

- (l) Regularly monitor activities under the comprehensive plan for compliance with the Office of Community Alternatives operating standards and initiate corrective actions in cases of noncompliance.
- (m) Respond to requests by the Office of Community Alternatives and ensure that any required corrective actions are taken.
- (n) Develop safeguards to prevent duplication of existing public and private services to meet the needs of clients.
- (o) Encourage local planning activities in order to promote greater interagency coordination and more effective program development.
- (p) The CCAB shall not be responsible for determinations of individual offender eligibility or termination.

ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Appointment of Membership

The CCAB shall consist of as many members as required by the Community Corrections PA 511 Act of 1988. All appointments shall be made by the County Board of Commissioners, with the advice and recommendations of the CCAB.

Section 2: Length of Term

All members of the CCAB shall serve for a term of two years from the date of their appointment and shall remain in office until their successors are duly appointed. There is no limitation to the number of terms served by a member.

Section 3: Vacancies

Vacancies occurring as a result of expiration of term in office, resignation, death or disqualification, shall be filled by the County Board of Commissioners for the remainder of the term.

Section 4: Attendance

Any member who cannot attend a regularly scheduled CCAB meeting, may appoint a designee.

ARTICLE III SELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 1: Officers

The officers for the CCAB are the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and such other officers as the board from time to time may determine and elect. The duties of the secretary shall be fulfilled by the county's Community Corrections Manager.

Section 2: Elections

The election of officers shall take place at the first meeting of the CCAB held during the calendar year. All officers shall hold office for two years or until their successor has been elected and assumed office. Election of officers shall be by a majority vote of a quorum of the CCAB.

Section 3: Duties

The chairperson shall have such powers and duties as may be described by custom parliamentary law for the office. The chairperson shall perform duties as may be set by the board from time to time.

The vice-chairperson, in the absence or disability of the chairperson, will preside at meetings and take over other duties of the chairperson as necessary. In addition, the vice-chairperson shall perform such duties as may be assigned by the chairperson or the CCAB.

ARTICLE IV MEETINGS

Section 1: Regular Meetings

The regular meetings of the CCAB shall be held at least two (2) times a year at a date, time and place designated by the CCAB.

Section 2: Special Meetings

Special meetings of the CCAB may be called by the chairperson of the CCAB, or by petition of four members of the CCAB and shall be preceded by at least three (3) days written notification to all members. The chairperson shall fix the time and place for all special meetings.

Section 3: Quorum

A quorum shall consist of the majority of CCAB members for the transaction of business. A majority vote of the quorum shall be sufficient for the adoption of any motion except to amend these by-laws.

Section 4: Open Meetings

All meetings of the CCAB or its sub-committees shall be open to the public. The dates of the regular meetings of the CCAB and of the meetings of any standing committees will be on file in the office of the County Clerk and posted on the Eaton County website.

ARTICLE V LOCATION

Section 1: Address

The business location and mailing address for the Eaton County Community Corrections Advisory Board is:

Eaton County Community Corrections
Eaton County Courthouse
1045 Independence Blvd.
Charlotte, Michigan
48813

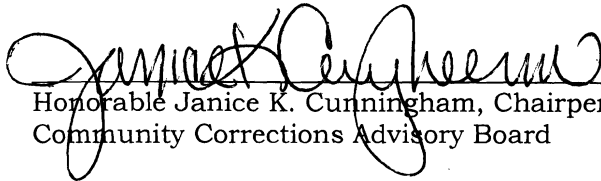
ARTICLE VI ADOPTION OF AND AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS

Adoption of the By-Laws shall be upon the 2/3 vote of the CCAB members, and such adoption shall be subject to the approval of the County Board of Commissioners. Proposed changes to the By-Laws of the CCAB may be enacted by a two-thirds vote of the Eaton County Community Corrections Advisory Board at a regularly scheduled or special Board meeting, provided at least fifteen (15) days' notice of the proposed amendments have been given to members of the Board.

Proposed amendments approved by the Advisory Board shall then be forwarded to the Board of Commissioners, for final ratification.

ARTICLE VIII EFFECTIVE DATE

These By-Laws shall take effect immediately upon approval of the CCAB and the County Board of Commissioners.



Honorable Janice K. Cunningham, Chairperson
Community Corrections Advisory Board

Date: 11/3/2024

Jeremy Whittum, Chairperson
Eaton County Board of Commissioners

Date: _____

Diana Bosworth, Eaton County Clerk/Register of Deeds

Date: _____



Eaton County Central Dispatch

911 Courthouse Dr. | Charlotte MI 48813
Phone: 517-543-4913 | Fax: 517-543-3036

Kelley Cunningham, *Director*

Monthly Report: October 2021

- 12,320 total telephone calls
 - 4,501 on emergency lines
 - 7,819 on non-emergency lines
- 14 text-to-911 sessions
- 7,717 Incidents
 - 5,463 Law Enforcement
 - 1,479 EMS
 - 775 Fire
- 6 addresses issued

Training

- The ECCD Tactical Dispatch Team attended the Eaton County Sheriff's Department's Special Response Team training.
- Director Cunningham attended the Peninsula Fiber Network End User Group Meeting in Gaylord, MI.
- Supervisor D'Huyvetter & Telecommunicator Brown attended the 5th Annual North American Active Assailant Conference in Troy, MI.
- Director Cunningham, Supervisor Carranco, Telecommunicator Bialkowski, and Telecommunicator S. Jones attended the Michigan Public Safety Telecommunications Conference in Kalamazoo, MI.
- Commissioner Barnes provided training on Air Medical Transports to the ECCD Supervisory Team. Afterward, Commissioner Barnes arranged for Air Care to fly in for a meet and greet.

Technology and Radios

- Radio Manager Imeson and Supervisor D'Huyvetter are still updating the mobile and base radios at each department.

Operations

- Director Cunningham, Supervisor Thacker, and Communication Training Officer Kelley conducted oral boards for the vacant Telecommunicator position.
- There are currently four (4) telecommunicators in the training program, and one (1) will have completed the training program in the next week.
- We have a hiring process open for the vacant Deputy Director position.

Outreach

- Administrative Assistant Ewing and Telecommunicator B. Jones were present at the drive-through fire department open house at Mount Hope Park in Delta Township.
- Administrative Assistant Ewing and Telecommunicator B. Jones passed out Smart911 & RAVE Alert material at the Eaton Rapids Downtown Trick-or-Treating event.
- Administrative Assistant Ewing passed out Smart911 & RAVE Alert material at the Grand Ledge Library during the Bridge Street Trick-or-Treating event.
- Administrative Assistant Ewing passed out Smart911 & RAVE Alert material at the Olivet Fire Department Open House.
- ECCD is working with several partners on a traffic safety demonstration held in Delta Township on November 9th.

October 2021



Rave Report

Usage & Outreach (10/01/2021 - 10/31/2021)	
Inbound 911 Calls	15,678
User-Initiated Tickets	12
Safety Profile Pops	419
Guardian Profile Pops	5
Tickets With Chat	213
Tickets With Chat Response	39
Tickets With Video Sharing	0
Notes Added	0
Tickets with Notes Available	17
Tickets with RapidSOS Location	11,497
Tickets with RapidSOS Data	5,093
Facility Profile Pops	234
Panic Button Activity	43
Safety Profiles Created	29
Facility Profiles Created And Approved	0
Pending Approvals	0
Total Safety Profiles Created	9,363
Total Facility Profiles Created And Approved	71

Yours Truly,

Kelley M. Cunningham

Kelley M. Cunningham
Director

Eaton County Central Dispatch

Total Calls For Service

October 2021				
Type Agency	Month To Date		Year To Date	
	Calls	%/Total	Calls	%/Total
EMS	1,479	19.2%	13,354	17.9%
Fire	775	10.0%	6,797	9.1%
Police	5,463	70.8%	54,484	73.0%
Total Calls	7,717	100.0%	74,635	100.0%

Eaton County Central Dispatch

Fire Calls For Service

October 2021				
Agency	Month To Date		Year To Date	
	Calls	%/Total	Calls	%/Total
Bellevue Fire	25	3.2%	270	4.0%
Benton Twp. Fire	38	4.9%	249	3.7%
Charlotte Fire	97	12.5%	832	12.2%
Delta Fire	260	33.5%	2,409	35.4%
Eaton Rapids City	78	10.1%	594	8.7%
Eaton Rapids Twp.	79	10.2%	601	8.8%
Grand Ledge Fire	51	6.6%	562	8.3%
Hamlin Twp Fire	15	1.9%	142	2.1%
Olivet Fire	22	2.8%	228	3.4%
Roxand Twp. Fire	12	1.5%	132	1.9%
Sunfield Fire	23	3.0%	229	3.4%
Vermontville Fire	15	1.9%	149	2.2%
Windsor Fire	46	5.9%	305	4.5%
Outside Agencies*	14	1.8%	95	1.4%
<i>LTFD</i>				
Total Fire Calls	775	100.0%	6,797	100.0%

* Agencies Outside Eaton County

Eaton County Central Dispatch

EMS Calls For Service

October 2021				
Agency	Month To Date		Year To Date	
	Calls	%/Total	Calls	%/Total
Benton Twp. EMS	107	7.2%	879	6.6%
Delta Twp. EMS	484	32.7%	4,539	34.0%
Eaton Area EMS	536	36.2%	4,959	37.1%
Grand Ledge EMS	176	11.9%	1,630	12.2%
Vermontville EMS	18	1.2%	166	1.2%
Windsor Twp. EMS	129	8.7%	944	7.1%
Outside Agencies* <i>DLHE, LANS, LIFE LTEM, MARE, NEMS</i>	29	2.0%	237	1.8%
Total EMS Calls	1,479	100.0%	13,354	100.0%

* Agencies Outside Eaton County

Eaton County Central Dispatch

Police Calls For Service

October 2021				
Agency	Month To Date		Year To Date	
	Calls	%/Total	Calls	%/Total
Bellevue Police	41	0.8%	641	1.2%
Charlotte Police	710	13.0%	7,288	13.4%
Eaton County Sheriff	2,950	54.0%	30,285	55.6%
<i>Delta</i>	1,660	30.4%	17,133	31.4%
<i>Out County</i>	1,136	20.8%	11,770	21.6%
<i>Animal Control</i>	154	2.8%	1,584	2.9%
Eaton Rapids Police	347	6.4%	3,623	6.6%
Grand Ledge Police	413	7.6%	4,100	7.5%
Michigan State Police	743	13.6%	5,850	10.7%
Olivet Police	56	1.0%	329	0.6%
Pottersville Police	193	3.5%	2,267	4.2%
Outside Agencies*	10	0.2%	101	0.2%
<i>DNR, ME</i>				
Total Police Calls	5,463	100.0%	54,484	100.0%

Eaton County 911 Phone Calls Received in 2021			
Month	911	Non-emergency	Total Calls
January	3,639	6,093	9,732
February	3,464	5,981	9,445
March	4,004	6,900	10,904
April	4,041	6,668	10,709
May	4,370	6,944	11,314
June	4,701	8,248	12,949
July	4,695	8,465	13,160
August	4,870	7,898	12,768
September	4,286	7,615	11,901
October	4,501	7,819	12,320
November			-
December			-
TOTAL	42,571	72,631	115,202

Eaton County New Builds

Date Issued	Certificate #	New Address	City	Zip Code	Permit Type
October 1, 2021	2021-96	6390 MILLS HWY	EATON RAPIDS	48827	NEW BUILD
October 4, 2021	2021-97	11380 TRAVERSE DR	EATON RAPIDS	48827	NEW BUILD
October 5, 2021	2021-98	6035 W GRAND LEDGE HWY	SUNFIELD	48890	ELECTRICAL ONLY
October 11, 2021	2021-99	3288 N MASON RD	VERMONTVILLE	49096	NEW BUILD
October 12, 2021	2021-100	5094 WINDSOR HWY	POTTERVILLE	48876	NEW BUILD
October 18, 2021	2021-101	831 N MARKETPLACE BLVD	LANSING	48917	NEW BUILD



Campus Connections Training and Exercise Workshop

Eaton County Emergency Management participated in the first annual Campus Connections Training and Exercise Workshop at Michigan State University with college and university partners from around the state. Emergency Manager Ryan Wilkinson was one of the organizers of this event. The event consisted of speakers from the state Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division, the International Association of Emergency Managers Colleges/Universities Caucus, Central Michigan University and culminated with a tabletop exercise. All partners involved found the day to be very informational and beneficial to their programs. We hope to expand on this in the future!

Eaton County Active Violence Incident (AVI) Partners attend the North American Active Assailant Conference in Troy, Michigan

Fourteen law enforcement officers, dispatchers and the emergency manager attended the North American Active Assailant Conference in Troy, Michigan. This was made possible through a project utilizing Homeland Security Grant Program Funds. Workshops included presentations the importance of Public Information Officers, collaborative response to civil unrest, and Telecommunicators roles and responsibilities. Briefings included speakers from the Gilroy Garlic Festival Incident (California), the Henry Pratt Company Incident (Illinois), the Mosque Attacks (Christchurch, New Zealand) and more.

REMINDER! Silver Thaw 2021 Functional Exercise Scheduled for December 7, 2021.

This exercise is a functional exercise planned for one day virtually for Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs) in the tri-county (mid-Michigan) area. Exercise play is limited to virtual EOCs.

November 4, 2021

Local Unit Correspondence:

Village of Bellevue and Bellevue Township have previously communicated their support for a County ordinance. Since last meeting's communication the City of Lansing communicated its opposition. (Attached)

Road Commission:

The Road Commission Engineer/Manager has indicated that the Road Commission would exercise its authority, MCL 324.81131(4) to close certain roads based on factors including; traffic volumes, speed limits and other safety factors. A detailed list of roads closed to ORV's has not been provided.

Public Notice requirements:

Not less than 45 days before a public hearing on the ordinance, the county clerk shall send notice of the public hearing, by certified mail, to the county road commission, to the legislative body of each township and municipality located within the county, to the state transportation department if the road intersects a highway, and, if state forestland is located within the county, to the department.

Identified Differences (Designated Roads):

From Barry County Ordinance (May 1, 2016)

D. A township board of a township in the County may adopt an ordinance authorizing the operation of ORV's on the maintained portion of 1 or more roads located within the township, pursuant to MCL 324.81131(3), or to close any roads within the boundaries of the township to the operation of ORVs permitted by the County, pursuant to MCL 324.81131(4).

E. An ORV may not be operated on any City or Village road surface, roadway, shoulder, or right-of-way in Barry County, unless allowed by City or Village ordinance.

OR

From Ionia County Ordinance (March 24, 2015)

d) A township board of a township in the County may adopt an ordinance to close any roads within the boundaries of the township to the operation of ORVs permitted by the County, pursuant to MCL 324.81131(3).

Materials include several documents related to the issue provided by Commissioner Droscha for the Committee's review, from the Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association, Specialty Vehicle Institute of America, Consumer Federal of America and Consumer Product Safety Commission.



VILLAGE OF BELLEVUE

201 N. Main St.
Bellevue, MI 49021
269-763-9571 • Fax 269-763-9571
bellevuemi@bellevuemi.net • www.bellevuemi.net

Date: August 2, 2021

To: Eaton County Public Safety Committee

From: Village of Bellevue Council

STATE of MICHIGAN, COUNTY of EATON
FILED

AUG 16 2021

DIANA BOSWORTH
EATON COUNTY CLERK

The Village of Bellevue Council would like to inform you that we are in full support of Eaton County adopting an ORV Ordinance to allow the use of ORV's on Eaton County roadways.

If you have any questions, please contact Village Hall at (269)763-9571 or 201 N Main St. Bellevue, MI 49021.

Thank you in advance for your consideration,

Mark Goodrich, Village Council President

Village Hall
269-763-9571

Police Department
269-763-9429

Public Works
269-763-3036

Wastewater Plant
269-763-3370

Andy Schor
Mayor



City Hall - 9th Floor
124 W. Michigan Avenue
Lansing, MI 48933-1694
PH: 517.483.4141 – FAX: 517.483.6066
Lansing.Mayor@lansingmi.gov

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN

October 15, 2021

Timothy Barnes
Chairperson, Eaton County Public Safety Committee
Eaton County Board of Commissioners
1045 Independence Blvd.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Dear Commissioner Barnes:

Thank you for your letter informing me that the Commission is considering an ordinance to provide for the operation of off-road vehicles (ORV's) on county roads. I appreciate your initiative in reaching out to stakeholders on this important decision.

The City of Lansing opposes the passage of this ordinance. The City has an existing problem with unlicensed operators, driving usually unregistered ORV's on city streets and in parks. Drivers believe that due to the safety risk, police officers will not pursue an illegally operating ORV. If they see an officer, they generally flee the area at high speeds, creating a serious risk to their safety and the safety of others. If this ordinance were to pass, it would likely lead to confusion in the areas where Lansing and Eaton County overlap and specifically, cause more issues in the Hunter's Ridge/Fulton/Fine Park area where we are already dealing with issues related to inappropriate use of the park. Adding the potential for ORV's to be in the area would further complicate enforcement of an already difficult situation.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer our input. I have always appreciated how our respective counties and the City of Lansing have collaborated to provide the best possible services and amenities that residents have come to expect.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "AS", is written over a horizontal line.

Andy Schor
Mayor

**TOWNSHIP OF BROOKFIELD
EATON COUNTY
MICHIGAN**

**808 E. Five Point Hwy.
Charlotte, MI 48813**

**SUPERVISOR
Nolan B. Spotts**

**CLERK
Deborah L. Granger**

**TREASURER
Helene Larson**

**TRUSTEE
Jim Orr**

**TRUSTEE
Marshall Williams**

October 28, 2021

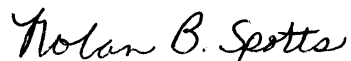
Timothy Barnes, Chairperson of Public Safety Committee
c/o John Fuentes, Controller
Eaton County Commissioners
1045 Independence Blvd.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Dear Mr. Barnes:

Thank you for the October 7, 2021 letter regarding the Off Road Vehicle (ORV) ordinance being discussed by the Eaton County Commissioners and Eaton County Road Commission.

Brookfield Township's farmers rely on ORV for transportation of moving equipment from fields and checking on their crops. The township does not support any changes in the ORV ordinance.

Sincerely,



Nolan B. Spotts
Supervisor

9/2/2021

To whom it may concern,

My husband and I own a farm in Eaton County and the surrounding area. We fully support the proposal to allow the use of ATV/UTV's on the roadways. Owning a farm it is imperative that we are able to access all of our property via the roadways at any time. Especially when we have a rainy season and cannot use the heavier vehicles to get into the fields. Please consider voting yes on this proposal for everyone in Eaton County for work or pleasure. Thank you for taking the time to consider my request.

Laura Coats
9277 Coats Rd
Springport MI 49284
989-942-1765
Brookfield Township, Eaton County.

Scott & Carrie Twichell
9422 Wilcox Road
Eaton Rapids, MI 48827

September 2, 2021

To Whom it May Concern:

We are unable to attend the Public Safety Committee meeting; however, we would like to state our support in the request for a county wide ORV ordinance.

We believe residents should be allowed to ride ORV's within the county as long as they are handling them in a responsible manner.

Please reach out to us if any questions.

Thanks in advance for your consideration.

Scott and Carrie Twichell

PH: 517-441-1621

September 2, 2021

Eaton County Public Safety Committee,

We are in full support of enacting an ORV ordinance in Eaton County. Many other counties have allowed it for years. We live 8 miles outside of Charlotte's city limits and have owned ORV's for years. Many of our friends and neighbors own ORV's (Side by Sides) as well. The local farmers have been able to use theirs for years and we hope that it is finally time to allow others to do so as well.

By disallowing the use of ORV's in Eaton County, our residents are forced to leave town and head to other counties that will allow us to lawfully ride our ORVs on Public land and road sides. This removes potential revenue from our Eaton County as we spend our money elsewhere on weekends and holidays.

It should be an easy ordinance to enact, following the rules and guidelines that other counties in Michigan have already been using. This can be done safely, as proven elsewhere.

We are sorry that we are not able to be there today in-person to help state our thoughts and wishes as residents of Eaton County and submit this letter in lieu of being there in-person.

Please consider the ORV Ordinance put in front of you today. This will be beneficial to the happiness of so many people in our great county as well as creating another revenue source that is so needed.

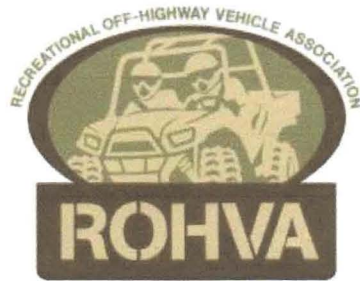
Thank you for your consideration,

Anthony Eldridge and Rhonda Eldridge

829 E Bellevue Hwy.

Charlotte, MI 48813

Phone: (517) 574-3627



POSITION IN OPPOSITION TO ON-HIGHWAY OPERATION OF ROVs

The Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association (ROHVA) is a not-for-profit trade association formed to promote the safe and responsible use of recreational off-highway vehicles (ROVs) manufactured or distributed in North America. ROHVA also serves as the primary resource for information on ROVs. An ROV – sometimes referred to as a side-by-side or UTV – is a motorized off-highway vehicle designed to travel on four or more non-highway tires, with a steering wheel, non-straddle seating, seat belts, an occupant protective structure, and engine displacement up to 1,000cc. Current models are designed with seats for a driver and one or more passengers.

ROVs are designed, manufactured and sold for off-highway use only. On-highway vehicles must be manufactured and certified to comply with U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS). These safety standards consist of extensive and detailed compliance requirements. Since ROVs are not intended to be used on-highway, they are not designed, equipped or tested to meet such standards. Permitting street use of ROVs, including modified vehicles, would be in conflict with manufacturers' intentions on their proper use, and would be contrary to federal safety requirements.

Riding on public streets and highways introduces the possibility of the ROV colliding with a car or truck, an obviously dangerous situation.

ROHVA emphasizes that ROVs are not designed, manufactured, or in any way intended for use on public streets or highways and urges that on-highway use of ROVs be prohibited and law enforcement efforts be strengthened to eliminate this practice.



RECREATIONAL
OFF-HIGHWAY
VEHICLE
ASSOCIATION

The Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association (ROHVA) was formed to promote the safe and responsible use of recreational off-highway vehicles (ROVs) manufactured or distributed in North America.

© 2021 Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association



POSITION IN OPPOSITION TO ON-ROAD OPERATION OF ATVs

The Specialty Vehicle Institute of America (SVIA) is the national not-for-profit trade association representing manufacturers and distributors of all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) in the United States. SVIA's major goal is to promote the safe and responsible use of ATVs.

Tens of millions of ATV users ride their ATVs in a safe and appropriate manner every day. In addition to their popularity for responsible outdoor recreation, they are tremendously useful products and have become an essential tool for farmers, law enforcement officials, the military and others.

The majority of accidents and injuries are caused by misuse of the ATV. Ninety-two percent of ATV-related fatalities involve behaviors that the Industry warns against in its rider education programs, in all literature and on vehicle labels. These behaviors include children riding adult-sized ATVs, operating on paved roads, operating without a helmet or other protective safety gear, carrying passengers on single-rider ATVs and operating under the influence of alcohol.

ATVs are designed, manufactured and sold for off-road use only. On-road vehicles must be manufactured and certified to comply with U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS). These safety standards consist of extensive and detailed compliance requirements. Since ATVs are not intended to be used on-road, they are not designed, equipped or tested to meet such standards. Permitting on-road use of ATVs, including modified ATVs, would be in conflict with manufacturers' intentions for their proper use, and would be contrary to federal safety requirements.

The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety has analyzed U.S. Department of Transportation's Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) data on ATV rider fatalities occurring on public roads. In 2013, the most recent year for which the data is available, 319 ATV riders were killed on public roads. This is an increase from 2012 when 304 riders were killed on public roads and from 2011 when there were 305 ATV rider fatalities occurring on public roads. Eighty-nine percent of the fatalities occurring on public roads were on rural roads. Of those, sixty-eight percent were on minor roads.

ATV fatalities occurring on public roads comprise a significant portion of total ATV-related fatalities, as reported by the Consumer Product Safety Commission. If ATVs could be kept off of public roads, as urged by SVIA and as contained in our Model State ATV Legislation, a large percentage of ATV-related injuries and deaths would be prevented.

CPSC's *2014 Annual Report of ATV Deaths and Injuries*, the most recent available, found that estimated ATV-related fatalities have declined each year from 2007 through 2014 but noted that data collection for 2012-2014 is ongoing. As a percentage of total ATV-related fatalities, on-road fatalities were an alarming 48.7 percent of the total in 2011 (the latest year of complete data available from CPSC). This is even though ATVs are not manufactured for or intended to be operated on highways and vehicle labels and owner's manuals clearly warn against such use.

Imagine the progress that could be made in reducing ATV-related injuries and deaths if states were to enact and enforce laws to prohibit ATV use on highways.

Riding on public roads introduces the possibility of the ATV colliding with a car or truck, an obviously dangerous situation. Another CPSC study of 3,200 ATV-related deaths that occurred between 1985 and

1996 found that the most frequently reported hazard pattern (56 percent of all ATV incidents) involved collisions and 35 percent of these involved collisions with motorized vehicles.

SVIA emphasizes that ATVs are not designed, manufactured, or in any way intended for use on public streets, roads or highways and urges that on-highway use of ATVs be prohibited and that law enforcement efforts be strengthened to eliminate this dangerous practice.

It should be noted that for purposes of prohibiting ATV use on public roads, SVIA does not consider such public thoroughfares as logging roads, woodland trails or other unimproved ways to be public streets, roads, or highways and the prohibition on allowing on-road use of ATVs should not be meant to apply to a road that is part of a designated trail system permitting ATV operation.



Since 1983, the Specialty Vehicle Institute of America® (SVIA) has promoted the safe and responsible use of All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) through rider training programs, public awareness campaigns, and state legislation. SVIA also serves as a resource for ATV research, statistics, and vehicle standards. SVIA, based in Irvine, California, is a not-for-profit trade association sponsored by Arctic Cat, BRP, Honda, Kawasaki, KYMCO, Polaris, Suzuki, Textron Specialized Vehicles and Yamaha. For membership information, call 949.727.3727; for safety information or to enroll in an ATV RiderCourseSM, call 1.800.887.2887 or visit www.atvsafety.org.

The All-Terrain Vehicle Safety Institute® (ASI®), a not-for-profit division of the Specialty Vehicle Institute of America® (SVIA®), was formed in 1988 to implement an expanded national program of all-terrain vehicle (ATV) safety education and awareness. ASI's primary goal is to promote the safe and responsible use of ATVs, thereby reducing accidents and injuries that may result from improper ATV operation by the rider.

Featured Stories

UTV maker groups want them off paved roads due to safety

December 10, 2020

By Carter Pape

Two national lobbying groups that represent manufacturers of off-highway vehicles said in position papers recently forwarded to local officials that they were opposed to on-highway use of OHVs and all-terrain vehicles. Additionally, a federal commission on consumer safety published guidance in 2016 and again in 2018 that Americans should not drive the vehicles on paved, public roads.



Two UTVs start a ride on Hell's Revenge, near the entrance of Sand Flats Recreation Area. Vehicles like these are allowed on Utah roads, as long as they have appropriate permitting and inspections, but industry groups recommend against their use on paved roads. Photo by Carter Pape

The industry groups, the Specialty Vehicle Institute of America and the Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association, represent member companies like Polaris, Can-Am, Yamaha, Kawasaki, and other manufacturers and distributors of ATVs, UTVs, and the broader category of ROVs (recreational off-highway vehicles).

The position papers state clearly the associations' opposition to "on-highway operation of ROVs," as the ROHVA paper put it.

"ROHVA emphasizes that ROVs are not designed, manufactured, or in any way intended for use on public streets, roads or highways and urges that on-highway use of ROVs be prohibited and law enforcement efforts be strengthened to eliminate this practice," the association said.

The position paper from SVIA was worded even more strongly, citing statistics from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission that a disproportionate number of ATV-related fatalities happen on paved, public roads. In 2014, more than half of ATV-related deaths were on-road, and nearly one third of ATV deaths from 2010 to 2013 were on-road.

The Specialty Vehicle Institute said the rate of on-road deaths was “a disproportionately high number given that off-road use far outweighs on-road use” when it comes to ATVs.

“SVIA urges that on-highway use of ATVs be prohibited and that law enforcement efforts be strengthened to eliminate the dangerous practice,” the association said.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission issued guidance in 2016 against using such vehicles on paved public roads and disseminated similar advice in 2018 against using ATVs anywhere except off-road areas.

“Even if your county or town law permits ATVs to be driven on paved public roads, we urge you to take caution and keep your ATVs off these roads,” said Ann Marie Buerkle, CPSC acting chair in 2018. “Off-road vehicles are not designed to be driven on paved surfaces, and collisions with cars and other on-road vehicles can be deadly for ATV operators.”

Similar advice in 2016 specifically named these vehicles — a category that encompasses UTVs and side-by-sides — as presenting a risk if driven on paved, public roads.

“The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission urges riders to keep all off-road vehicles off roads,” the commission said in 2016. “This includes all-terrain vehicles, recreational off-highway vehicles, side-by-sides, dirt bikes, and other utility vehicles.”

ATVs on Roadways: A Safety Crisis

Rachel Weintraub | Legislative Director and Senior Counsel

Michael Best | Policy Advocate

March 2014



The Consumer Federation of America is an association of nearly 300 nonprofit consumer groups that was established in 1968 to advance the consumer interest through research, advocacy and education.

For more than a decade, CFA has taken a lead on ATV safety, addressing issues such as the safety of three-wheel ATVs, death and injury rates of children riding adult sized ATVs, voluntary safety standards, and drafting model state legislation that, among other things, would ban ATVs from public roads.

Acknowledgments: CFA would like to thank Stephen Oesch for his invaluable assistance in developing this report. CFA would also like to thank Michelle Styczynski for her assistance.

Executive Summary

In spite of warnings from manufacturers, federal agencies, and consumer and safety advocates that all terrain vehicles (ATVs) are unsafe on roadways, for several years an increasing number of states have passed laws allowing ATVs on public roads. The majority of ATV deaths take place on these roads and action is needed to reverse this dangerous trend.

An ATV is an “off-road, motorized vehicle having three or four low-pressure tires, a straddle seat for the operator, and handlebars for steering control.”¹ Even though the definition of ATVs specifically includes that they are designed for off-road use and the warnings from manufacturers, the trade association, and labels required by federal law indicate that ATVs should never be operated on roads, many riders do not follow these instructions.

Unfortunately, this dangerous riding practice is increasingly being encouraged by the 35 states (69 percent of jurisdictions) that allow ATVs to be legally operated on public roads. Consumers are told by manufacturers, the federal government, consumer and public health and safety advocates, and the ATV trade association that riding ATVs on roads is dangerous, but the majority of states are sending a very different, contradictory and dangerous message by legalizing ATV use on roads.

- **A Majority of States Allow ATVs on Roads:** 35 states, or 69 percent of states, either allow ATVs on certain roads, roads as authorized by the entity having jurisdiction over the road system, limited stretches of roads, or roads if certain requirements are met, or on the shoulder of roads.
- **Ten Year Trend Toward Allowing ATVs on Roads:** Since 2004, 22 states, or 63 percent, of those states that allow ATVs on roads, have enacted laws increasing legal ATV access to roads in some way. Four states passed such laws in 2013 alone.
- **Vast Majority of States Delegate ATV Access Issues to Local Jurisdictions:** 31 of the 35 states, or 89 percent of those states that allow ATVs on paved roads, delegate some or all of the decisions about ATV access to local jurisdictions with authority over those roads.

These conflicting messages are leading to consumer confusion about what constitutes safe riding practices—and it is very unsafe to ride ATVs on roads. The fatality statistics on roads are alarming:

- **Consumer Product Safety Commission Data: 65 percent of ATV Deaths Occur on Roads:** Data from the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) from 2007 (the most recent complete data), as analyzed by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS),² 492 of 758 deaths where location was listed (93 percent of deaths)—or 65 percent of ATV rider deaths — occurred on roads. The CPSC’s data also indicates that between 1998 and 2007, there was a greater increase in on-road than off-road deaths.
- **Fatality Analysis Reporting System Data: 74 percent of ATV Deaths on Public Roads are on Paved Roads:** Of the fatal crashes taking place on public roadways (as opposed to a shoulder or median for instance) from 2007 to 2011, the surface was paved in 74 percent of instances according to a recent analysis of Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) data by IIHS.

1. Consumer Product Safety Commission 2011 Annual Report of ATV-Related Deaths and Injuries. <http://www.cpsc.gov/en/Media/Documents/Research-Statistics/Injury-Statistics/Sports/ATV/2011-Annual-ATV-Report/>

2. The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety is an independent non-profit scientific and educational organization dedicated to reducing the losses from crashes on the nation's roads. <http://www.iihs.org/iihs/about-us>

- **FARS Data: 19 Percent Decline in Fatalities on Public Roads from 2008 to 2011—May be Due to Recession:** The December 2013 IIHS report posits that, like with the overall reduction in motor vehicle fatalities since 2007, this reduction may have roots in the plummeting sales of vehicles from 2007 to 2012. In 2007, 752,000 ATVs were sold compared to 289,000 in 2012.

CFA's report calls for immediate action at the municipal, county, state, and federal level to prohibit ATVs on roadways.

- **State Laws:** States should pass laws prohibiting ATV use on all roadways. State laws should not permit local jurisdictions to have authority to pass laws about ATV access.
- **Municipal and County Ordinances:** Where state laws allow local jurisdictions to make decisions regarding ATV access to public roads, those jurisdictions should not expand the permissible range of ATVs on roads.
- **National Highway Traffic Safety Administration:** ATVs are not under NHTSA's jurisdiction; however, since states are increasingly passing laws permitting on-road use and ATV deaths are occurring primarily on roads, NHTSA should take concrete steps to address ATV safety including: sharing data with the CPSC; and expanding its current grant programs that fund enforcement efforts to ATVs.
- **The Consumer Product Safety Commission:** As the agency responsible for ATV safety, the CPSC should be a strong voice in opposing the operation of ATVs on roads and in educating consumers about the dangers of on-road ATV use. Additionally, the CPSC could improve ATV death data by including ATV death data on private versus public roads.
- **The ATV Industry:** All segments of the ATV industry need to prioritize opposition to laws and ordinances allowing ATVs on roads.
- **All ATV Stakeholders:** All those interested in and working on ATV safety need to work together to prioritize opposition to efforts to expand ATV operation on roads.



History of ATV Safety in the United States

Consumer and public health advocates have a long history of advocating for regulatory changes to make ATVs safer to use.

Imminently Dangerous Consumer Products: In 1987, in the midst of a spike in ATV-related injuries and deaths (as well as a rulemaking that the CPSC ultimately abandoned), the CPSC asked a federal court to declare ATVs to be “imminently dangerous consumer products.”³ The lawsuit was settled on the day it was filed by a consent decree which did end the manufacture of the dangerous three-wheel ATV, but did not include important elements such as the requirement that manufacturers offer financial incentives to encourage owners of three-wheel ATVs to return them to dealers. This guaranteed that the dangerous “three-wheelers” would remain in use nationwide.

ATV Action Plans: When the consent decree expired in 1998, the CPSC and the major manufacturers entered into voluntary, company-specific agreements, known generally as ATV Action Plans. These agreements recommended that children under sixteen not ride adult-size ATVs, required warning labels, described information that had to be included in owner’s manuals and reiterated that the industry would make formal training available to purchasers of new ATVs.⁴ Unfortunately, and not as a surprise to consumer advocates who objected to the action plans, these plans proved inadequate to curb the rising rates of death and injuries to children from ATV incidents. Unlike the consent decrees before them, these action plans were not enforceable by the Commission: the companies could pull out at any time provided they gave the Commission 60 days notice.



CFA and Natural Trails and Waters Coalition Petition to Consumer Product Safety Commission: In 2002, Consumer Federation of America, the Natural Trails and Waters Coalition, and other groups⁵ filed a petition with the CPSC, urging the agency to ban the sale of adult-size ATVs for use by children. After holding ATV hearings across the country, CPSC rejected the petition but initiated a rulemaking on ATVs that has still not been finalized.

SVIA/ANSI Standard: In 1990, the Specialty Vehicle Institute of America (SVIA), the trade association for ATV manufacturers, published the first voluntary standard for ATVs, Four Wheel All-Terrain Vehicles - Equipment, Configuration, and Performance Requirements, ANSI/SVIA 1-1990. Many of the provisions of the voluntary standard included provisions that were in the consent decree and the subsequent ATV Action Plans. The voluntary standard was revised and published in 2001 and again in 2007 (ANSI/SVIA 1-2007 American National Standard for Four Wheel All-Terrain Vehicles). The 2007 revision, like previous versions of the standard includes provisions on design, configuration, and performance aspects of ATVs. The 2007 version also includes provisions not previously included such as: definition and requirements for Type II (tandem) ATVs; requirements for labels, owner’s manuals, hang tags, and a compliance certification for all ATVs; and definitions and requirements for new categories of Type I (single-rider) ATVs (category “Y-10” and category “T”). The category Y-10 ATV is a youth model intended for use by children age 10 and older. The category “T” ATV is a transitional ATV intended for recreational use by an operator age 14 or older under adult supervision or by an operator age 16

3. *United States of America v. U.S. v. Polaris Industries, L.P.* 1987 WL 33507, 1 (D.D.C., 1987).

4. U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, All-Terrain Vehicles: Commission Resolution, Federal Register 63 (236), December 9, 1998, page 67861.



5. The groups that filed the petition include: Consumer Federation of America (CFA), the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP), Bluewater Network, the Center for Injury Research and Policy (CIRP) at Columbus Children’s Hospital, Columbus, Ohio, the Danny Foundation for Crib & Child Product Safety, Kids In Danger, National Association of Orthopaedic Nurses, and U.S. PIRG.

and older.⁶ The standard was again revised in 2010. CFA has objected to provisions in the SVIA/ANSI standard for failure to address safety concerns, especially the youth and transitional ATV models. The maximum speeds selected for these ATVs are not based on scientific or medical evidence of what speed a child of a certain age could safely reach. The CPSC has been involved in this voluntary standard process.

Efforts to ban adult-size ATVs for children have been unsuccessful as have efforts to require ATVs to be more stable. The ANSI/SVIA standard moved backwards for safety by creating a new "youth model" ATV for 14- to 16-year-olds that is capable of traveling at speeds up to 38 miles per hour.

Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act: In 2008, the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA) became law. The CPSIA contained a section addressing ATVs that included making the previously voluntary SVIA/ANSI standard mandatory. The SVIA standard includes provisions about warning labels, instructional manuals, and also includes a requirement for warning labels cautioning riders to keep ATVs off of public roads. The CPSIA also banned the importation or distribution in commerce of three-wheel ATVs until a three-wheel safety standard is promulgated.⁷ The CPSIA called for the rulemaking on ATVs, which began in 2005, to be finalized.

On August 12, 2011, Congress passed H.R. 2715 which amended the CPSIA and which again directed the CPSC to complete the ATV rulemaking by August 12, 2012. The rule has not yet been completed.

6. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Voluntary Standards, March 18 2011. <http://www.cpsc.gov/en/Regulations-Laws-Standards/Voluntary-Standards/Topics/All-Terrain-Vehicles/>

7. PUBLIC LAW 110-314—AUG. 14, 2008. Sec. 232. <http://www.cpsc.gov/PageFiles/129663/cpsia.pdf>

Regulation of ATVs

ATVs are not primarily manufactured for on-road use and do not meet the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) statutory definition of motor vehicle. NHTSA, therefore, does not regulate ATV use on roads.⁹ The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has jurisdiction over ATVs.

ATVs are not Designed to be Operated on Public Roads

The high center of gravity, narrow wheelbase, and low pressure tires that are designed to handle off-road conditions are a major safety concern on-road:

- **Tipping Danger:** A high center of gravity and narrow wheel base leads ATVs to be prone to rollovers when negotiating turns. In fact a December 2013 Insurance Institute of Highway Safety (IIHS) analysis of Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) data indicated that 56 percent of fatal single-vehicle ATV incidents on public roads involved a rollover.¹⁰ NHTSA's FARS system provides data about traffic fatalities on public roads.
- **Low Pressure Tires are not Suitable for Road Use:** Knobby low pressure ATV tires are explicitly designed for off-road use and may not interact properly with a road surface.

These design factors "increase the risk of operators losing control of the vehicle on roadway surfaces, particularly at roadway speeds, and/or when making right angle traffic turns."¹¹

Industry, Regulators, Advocates all Agree that ATVs Should not be Used on Roads

ATV manufacturer instruction manuals and warning labels, and the ATV trade association, the Specialty Vehicle Institute of America's (SVIA) written materials and statements, make clear that ATVs should not be operated on public roads. Honda goes beyond other manufacturers' warnings by including a warning that advises riders to get off their ATV and walk it across the road when a crossing is necessary.

- **ATV Trade Association Recommends Against Using ATVs on Paved Roads:** The ATV Safety Institute, a non-profit division of the SVIA, the trade association for ATV manufacturers, advises riders to "[n]ever ride on paved roads except to cross when done safely and permitted by law..."¹²
- **Individual Manufacturers Warn Against Driving ATVs on all Roads and Paved Surfaces:** ATV manufacturer manuals contain various warnings against riding ATVs on roads including:
 - **Polaris Sportsman 570:** "Operating an ATV on paved surfaces (including sidewalks, paths, parking lots and driveways) may adversely affect the handling of the ATV and could result in loss of control and accident or rollover. Avoid operating the ATV on pavement. ATV tires are designed for off-road use. If it's

9. 49 USC 30102(a)(6). <http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/49/30102>

10. Williams, Oesch, McCartt, Teoh, Sims, On-Road All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Fatalities in the United States, Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, Dec. 2013. <http://www.iihs.org/frontend/iihs/documents/masterfiledocs.ashx?id=2056>

11. Denning, Harland, Ellis, Jennissen, More fatal all-terrain vehicle crashes occur on the roadway than off: increased risk-taking characterizes roadway fatalities, Injury Prevention, Dec. 2012. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3717765/>

12. ASI Golden Rules. <http://www.atvsafety.org/>

unavoidable, travel slowly and avoid sudden turns or stops." The manual also warns against ever operating on public streets due to the risk of collisions: "Never operate the ATV on any public street, road or highway, including dirt and gravel roads."¹³

- **Kawasaki KFX90:** "Never operate an ATV on any paved surfaces, including sidewalks, drive ways, parking lots and streets," and "[n]ever operate an ATV on any public street, road or highway, even a dirt or gravel one."¹⁴
- **Yamaha Raptor 350:** "Always avoid operating an ATV on any paved surfaces, including sidewalks, driveways parking lots and streets," and "[n]ever operate an ATV on any public street, road or highway, even a dirt or gravel one"¹⁵
- **Honda TRX420TM:** "Your ATV is designed and manufactured for off-road use only. The tires are not made for pavement, and the ATV does not have turn signals and other features required for use on public roads. If you need to cross a paved or public road, get off and walk your ATV across," and "[y]ou should never ride your ATV on public streets, roads or highways, even if they are not paved. Drivers of street vehicles may have difficulty seeing and avoiding you, which could lead to a collision."¹⁶
- **The Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act Requires ATV Warning Labels that Clearly Warn Against Riding on Public Roads:** The Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act, which passed in 2008, codified existing voluntary standards for ATVs, making the ANSI/SVIA standard mandatory. This created a federal requirement for all ATVs to have a variety of warning labels, including one which warns ATV riders to: "NEVER USE ON PUBLIC ROADS."¹⁷
- **SVIA has Advocated Against Expanding the Legal Use of ATVs on Roads:**
 - **SVIA Has Opposed Ordinances that would Increase ATV use on Roadways:** "SVIA opposed the legislation passed in Washington State earlier this year to allow licensing of ATVs for street use and urges the Board to reject allowing such use on county roads."¹⁸
 - **SVIA's Model State Legislation Includes a Prohibition Against On-Road Use:** Among other things, the model legislation prohibits "[o]peration on any public street, road, or highway except for purposes of crossing, as specified."¹⁹

13. Polaris Sportsman 570 2014 Owners Manual. http://cdn.polarisindustries.com/polaris/common/parts-manuals/9924113r01_lo_res.pdf

14. Kawasaki KFX90 Owner's Manual. http://www.kawasaki-techinfo.net/showOM.php?view_lang=EN&spec=US&book_no=99987-1802&lang_code=EN

15. Yamaha Raptor 350 Owner's Manual. <http://tinyurl.com/kceqngj>

16. 2012 Honda TRX420TM Owner's manual on file at CFA Office.

17. 15 USC 2089(a)(1) establishes the American National Standard ANSI/SVIA as a mandatory standard. <http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/15/2089> See CPSC All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) Presentation February 2010 for an example of the warning label. <http://tinyurl.com/naplldr>

18. SVIA Letter to Kittitas County Board of Commissioners, November 6, 2013.

19. SVIA Model State ATV Legislation. <http://www.svia.org/Relations/Legislation.aspx>

Recommendations

Given that ATVs are not designed to be driven on roads, that industry, the CPSC and consumer and safety advocates are in agreement that ATVs should not be operated on roads, and that most ATV deaths take place on roads, states should be working to restrict ATV access to public roads. Unfortunately that is not the case. The majority of states allow some access to public roads for recreational purposes—and the trend is for more states to allow such access.

To reverse this trend, all entities with an interest in ATV safety must clearly inform state and local officials about how dangerous ATVs are on roads.

- **State Laws:** States should pass bright-line laws prohibiting ATV use on all roadways, including the shoulder or any other part of the right of way, within a state. Further, state laws should not permit local jurisdictions to have authority to pass laws about ATV access. Local control of ATV access leads to rider confusion as to what is allowed where, to problems with enforcement of laws, and to increased operation of laws on roads.
- **Municipal and County Ordinances:** Where state laws allow local jurisdictions to make decisions regarding ATV access to public roads, those jurisdictions should not expand the permissible range of ATVs on public roads.
- **National Highway Traffic Safety Administration:** ATVs are not primarily manufactured for on-road use and do not meet NHTSA's statutory definition of a motor vehicle.³³ However, since states are increasingly passing laws permitting on-road use and ATV deaths are occurring primarily on roads, NHTSA should take concrete steps to address ATV safety including:
 - **Data and Expertise Sharing:** NHTSA should share data with the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to ensure that all on-road ATV fatalities are captured. NHTSA could also share its vehicle and highway safety expertise with CPSC as the Commission evaluates the ATV on roads issue.
 - **Highway Safety Grant Program:** The grants that fund long standing state programs to increase highway safety are relevant to reducing ATV crashes on roads. NHTSA could expand its current programs that fund enforcement efforts to increase helmet use and decrease alcohol use on roads to ATVs.
- **The Consumer Product Safety Commission Needs to Prioritize ATV Road Use as a Safety Issue:** As the agency responsible for ATV safety, the CPSC should be a strong voice in opposing the operation of ATVs on roads and in educating consumers about the dangers of on road ATV operation. Additionally, the CPSC could:
 - **Release More Data:** The CPSC could improve ATV death data by including how many deaths occur on private versus public roads to clarify the location of ATV deaths and better inform researchers. This change would also make the CPSC's and NHTSA's data more compatible.
 - **Speed the Release of Data:** The most complete data available from CPSC is from 2007 and the last ATV Annual Report of ATV-Related Deaths and Injuries has data only up to 2011. More recent data would assist those working on ATV safety.

33. 49 USC 30102(a)(6). <http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/49/30102>

- **All Segments of the ATV Industry Need to Prioritize Opposition to Laws and Ordinances Allowing ATVs on Roads:** The ATV industry needs to speak in a unified voice in opposition to proposed laws that would allow ATVs on roads, and must communicate to relevant lawmakers why ATVs should not operate on public roads; why proposed rules to expand ATV operation to roads should be opposed; and why existing laws that allow ATVs on roads must be repealed.
- **Consumer and Public Safety Advocates, the ATV industry and Federal Regulators:** All those with an interest in ATV safety need to work together to communicate the hazards of operating ATVs on roads and should work together to oppose state laws and local ordinances that compromise safety by increasing ATV access to roads.



United States
**CONSUMER PRODUCT
SAFETY COMMISSION**

All-Terrain Vehicle Safety

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) urges all consumers using ATVs to understand the risks and necessary safety measures of ATVs before riding them.

CPSC's 2018 annual ATV report on deaths and injuries finds there were 81,800 ATV-related emergency department-treated injuries reported in 2018. More than a quarter of those injuries were sustained by children under 16 years old, the highest of any age group. ATVs become more dangerous when children drive adult-sized vehicles, or when passengers ride on ATVs built for only one rider.

The report includes ATV fatality data from 1982-2016, which is the most recent year when CPSC reporting is considered complete. In 2016 alone, there were 591 reported ATV-related fatalities. Children under 16 years old accounted for 65 of the fatalities in 2016, and nearly half of these children were under 12 years of age. In addition, there were more than 15,700 total fatalities since 1982, and that number could continue to rise with additional reporting.

Even if a locality allows people to drive off-road vehicles on paved public roads, ATVs are not designed for that purpose. ATVs can be unwieldy on

paved surfaces, and the risk of collision with a car, truck, or other vehicle is significantly higher, increasing a rider's chances of injury or death.

If you are going to ride an ATV, CPSC recommends key safety tips to follow:

- Get hands-on training from a qualified instructor, *e.g.*, in an ATV Safety Institute (ASI) course.
- Always wear a helmet and other protective gear, such as eye protection, boots, gloves, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt.
- Never ride with more passengers than there are seats. Most ATVs are designed for one rider.
- Riders younger than 16 should only drive age-appropriate youth model ATVs, and never adult ATVs.
- Off-road vehicles are designed to be driven only on off-road terrain, not paved surfaces.
- Never ride on public roads except to cross where permitted by law.
- Avoid drinking alcohol before or while driving an ATV, because alcohol can impair judgment and response time.

To learn more about data on ATV injuries and deaths by state, visit www.ATVsafety.gov.

Office of the Medical Examiner

2020 Annual Report

Executive Summary

**Eaton County • Ingham County • Ionia County
Isabella County • Shiawassee County**

We are pleased to present our 2020 Annual Report. This report reflects the work of the Office of the Medical Examiner during the 2020 calendar year. Only those deaths that fall within the geographical jurisdiction of the Medical Examiner, which is based on the county in which death was pronounced, are included.

We pride ourselves on providing outstanding service to the communities we serve. Our commitment to excellence was recognized in 2009, when our office was granted full accreditation by the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME), and that full accreditation status was renewed by NAME in 2020. We have developed a regional system that delivers consistency and standardization. Thanks to leadership provided by Sparrow Forensic Pathology, there is an expected process which ensures quality, compassionate care when people need it most.

It would not be possible for the Office of the Medical Examiner to operate efficiently without our dedicated staff, including our investigators, who are essential to our success and to whom we are grateful for their service. The investigators are listed by county in the text of this report.

Sparrow Forensic Pathology

Office of the Medical Examiner • 2020 Staff

Michael A. Markey, M.D.
Medical Examiner & Medical Director

Patrick A. Hansma, D.O.
Deputy Medical Examiner

David S. Moons, M.D.
Deputy Medical Examiner

Michelle A. Fox, D-ABMDI
Chief Investigator & Supervisor

Holly Marsh
Administrative Assistant

Krystin Smith
Autopsy Assistant & In-House Investigations

Antoinette Vicks
Autopsy Assistant & In-House Investigations

Amanda Wallace
Autopsy Assistant & In-House Investigations

Debra Parsons
Team Advisor & Autopsy Assistant

Kelsey Daniels
Autopsy Assistant

Claire Mutch
Autopsy Assistant

Medical Examiner Services

Investigation of Deaths

As the Office of the Medical Examiner for five counties in Michigan, we perform autopsies and other postmortem examinations as an important part of the death investigation process. Each county in Michigan has a licensed physician, appointed by the County Commissioners to serve as Medical Examiner, who is responsible for investigating deaths as defined by the Michigan Compiled Laws.

In general, the deaths investigated by our office include those that are thought to result from injury or poisoning (such as homicide, suicide, and accidental deaths), and those deaths that are sudden, unexpected, and not readily explainable at the time of death. Because deaths occur around the clock, the Office of the Medical Examiner is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

The typical sequence of events that occurs following a death is:

- » A death is reported to the on-call Medical Examiner Investigator (MEI).
- » The MEI assesses whether we have legal authority and duty to investigate the death.
- » The death scene is visited and investigated, if indicated.
- » Investigative information is obtained about the decedent's medical and social history, as well as other information surrounding the events that were associated with the death.
- » If an examination is indicated, the body is transported to the Forensic Pathology Laboratory at Sparrow Hospital in Lansing, MI.
- » If the investigator believes the death does not require a postmortem examination, the on-call Medical Examiner or Chief Investigator may be contacted to discuss the case before the body is released to the funeral home.
- » An investigative report is written by the MEI.
- » When applicable, the decedent's primary care physician is contacted and notified of the death, and medical history is confirmed.
- » A death certificate is generated by either the decedent's personal physician, the attending physician in the medical facility, or the assigned Medical Examiner or Deputy Medical Examiner.
- » If a postmortem examination is performed, following receipt and review of all appropriate test results and records, a postmortem examination report is written.
- » Permanent records are maintained for future use, as needed, and distributed to those who have requested a copy of the report and are authorized to receive the report.

Some deaths require additional follow-up investigations, which are conducted by our In-House Investigators based at Sparrow Hospital. For 2020, this function was performed by Michelle Fox, Krystin Smith, Antoinette Vicks, and Amanda Wallace.

Death Certification

The main focus of our investigation is to determine the cause and manner of death and to clarify circumstances surrounding the death. The cause of death is related to the underlying disease or injury that resulted in the individual's death. The manner of death, in the state of Michigan, is limited to these five options: natural, accident, suicide, homicide, or indeterminate. In addition, information gathered during the investigation of event(s) before death and/or evidence collected may be critical for future legal proceedings.

Case Management Approach

A board-certified Forensic Pathologist is assigned to each death and determines the level of medical investigation required. Cases are handled by one of the following approaches:

- » **Direct Release** – The body is released directly from the scene to the funeral director. The MEI is typically at the scene and views the body. Based upon scene and medical history information, and generally in consultation with the on-call Medical Examiner or Chief Investigator, a decision may be made to release a body directly to the funeral home chosen by the family, without further examination.
- » **External Examination** – An external examination includes a detailed record of external observations of the body and in many cases laboratory/toxicology testing. A report of external exam and laboratory findings is written by the responsible pathologist.
- » **Autopsy** – An autopsy includes an external examination as described above, as well as an internal examination. This internal examination may be a “limited” or “partial” autopsy, or a “full” or “complete” autopsy. A limited autopsy is an internal examination within a specific anatomic boundary (e.g., head-only examination). Most often, limited autopsies are performed to recover a foreign body, surgical hardware, or answer specific questions. A full autopsy includes internal examination of all organs and body cavities. An autopsy usually includes laboratory/toxicology testing and may include histologic examination and additional examination by a subspecialty consultant (e.g., cardiac or neuropathologist). A report of examination and laboratory findings is written by the responsible pathologist.

Decision to Autopsy

The Medical Examiners and Deputy Medical Examiners use standards established by the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) to determine whether an autopsy is indicated. The standards, most recently revised in September 2016, state:

The forensic pathologist shall perform a forensic autopsy when:

- » The death is known or suspected to have been caused by apparent criminal violence.
- » The death is unexpected and unexplained in an infant or child.
- » The death is associated with police action.
- » The death is apparently non-natural and in custody of a local, state, or federal institution.
- » The death is due to acute workplace injury.*
- » The death is caused by apparent electrocution.*
- » The death is by apparent intoxication by alcohol, drugs, or poison, unless a significant interval has passed, and the medical findings and absence of trauma are well documented.
- » The death is caused by unwitnessed or suspected drowning.*
- » The body is unidentified and the autopsy may aid in identification.
- » The body is skeletonized.
- » The body is charred.
- » The forensic pathologist deems a forensic autopsy is necessary to determine cause or manner of death, or document injuries/disease, or collect evidence.
- » The deceased is involved in a motor vehicle incident and an autopsy is necessary to document injuries and/or determine the cause of death.

**Unless sufficient antemortem medical evaluation has adequately documented findings and issues of concern that would otherwise have required autopsy performance.*

Accreditation

All of the Medical Examiners' Offices that contract for services with Sparrow Forensic Pathology are accredited by the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME).

Manner of Death

Guidelines for classifying the manner of death include:

- » Natural deaths are due solely or nearly totally to disease and/or the aging process.
- » Accident applies when an injury or poisoning (including drug overdoses) causes death, and there is little or no evidence that the injury or poisoning occurred with intent to harm or cause death. In essence, the fatal outcome was unintentional.
- » Suicide results from an injury or poisoning as a result of an intentional self-inflicted act committed to do self-harm or cause the death of one's self.
- » Homicide occurs when the death results from a volitional act committed by another person to cause fear, harm, or death. Intent to cause death is a common element but is not required for classification as a homicide. It has to be emphasized that the classification of homicide for the purpose of death certification is a “neutral” term and neither indicates nor implies criminal intent, which remains a determination within the province of legal processes.
- » Indeterminate is a classification used when the information pointing to one manner of death is no more compelling than one or more other competing manners of death, in thorough consideration of all available information.

In general, when death involves a combination of natural processes and external factors, such as injury or poisoning, preference is given to the non-natural manner of death.

Cremation Permit Authorizations

Michigan law requires funeral directors to obtain a signed cremation permit from the Medical Examiner. Our office reviews thousands of cremation permit requests each year. We review the death certificates to ensure that deaths that should have been reported to our office were, in fact, reported. Deaths that were not properly reported are investigated before cremation is authorized.

Testimony at Trials

The Medical Examiner and Deputy Medical Examiners are often called upon to provide testimony in criminal and civil matters. They meet regularly with members of law enforcement, prosecutors, defense attorneys, and civil litigators.

Public Health and Safety Issues

Although the major purpose of the Medical Examiner's Office is to conduct death investigations, the information obtained from individual death investigations may also be studied collectively to gather information that may be used to address public health and safety issues. Our office participates with the Michigan Child Death Review process in all counties, providing significant information regarding how children died, with the goal of preventing future deaths.

Education

We have a strong affiliation with Michigan State University. We routinely have medical students from Michigan State University (and occasionally other medical schools) rotate through our office to gain experience and exposure to forensic pathology. We provide lectures to forensic science students at the university. Additionally, we participate in many programs designed to teach youth about careers in forensic pathology.

Comment on Methods and Terms

This annual report reflects the activities of our medical examiner offices during a given calendar year. With rare exception (e.g., deaths reported to the wrong medical examiner office), the data include only those cases over which the county's medical examiner can exercise jurisdiction. Jurisdiction is determined by where the individual was pronounced dead rather than the county of residence or the county in which the incident leading to death might have occurred. Furthermore, the data reflects the calendar year in which the deaths were reported to the respective medical examiner offices, regardless of the year in which the death actually occurred. The category "Total Deaths in the County" is based upon numbers provided by that County Clerk's Office. Occasionally, these numbers may change after the time of publication of this report.

The category "Referrals to Gift of Life" refers to the number of deaths in our medical examiner database that were automatically referred to the organ/tissue procurement agency using pre-established criteria.

For "Accidental Deaths," the subcategory "Vehicle" consists of deaths that were classified as transportation-related fatalities and include all forms of transport; drivers/operators, passengers, and pedestrians; this category does not include types of death that might otherwise fall into a different sub classification, such as vehicle fires and traumatic asphyxia.

Eaton County

Medical Examiner

Michael A. Markey, M.D.

Deputy Medical Examiners

Patrick A. Hansma, D.O.

David S. Moons, M.D.

Chief Investigator

Michelle A. Fox, D-ABMDI

Medical Examiner Investigators

Kenneth Barnes

Erica Betts, D.O., MPH

Mark Chojnowski

Wade Doane

Kevin Hearld

Lynne Mark, D-ABMDI

Jessica Nicholson

Karen Phelps

Brett Ramsden

Daniel Sowles, D-ABMDI

Mary Stevens

Eaton County

Summary of Cases

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
TOTAL DEATHS IN THE COUNTY	817	783	817	710	866
DEATHS REPORTED TO THE ME	170	191	201	184	235
CASES ACCEPTED FOR INVESTIGATION ¹	154	176	185	161	212
MEI SCENE INVESTIGATIONS	158	187	193	170	201
DEATH CERTIFICATES SIGNED BY THE ME	84	91	102	66	102
BODIES TRANSPORTED TO SPARROW	78	85	99	58	91
COMPLETE AUTOPSY	64	56	74	39	66
LIMITED AUTOPSY	2	4	5	6	6
EXTERNAL EXAMINATION	7	13	11	7	7
STORAGE ONLY	5	12	9	6	11
UNCLAIMED BODIES	2	4	3	3	4
REFERRALS TO GIFT OF LIFE	61	53	63	75	62
TISSUE/CORNEA DONORS	16	11	11	17	18
CREMATION PERMITS REVIEWED	452	450	498	411	544

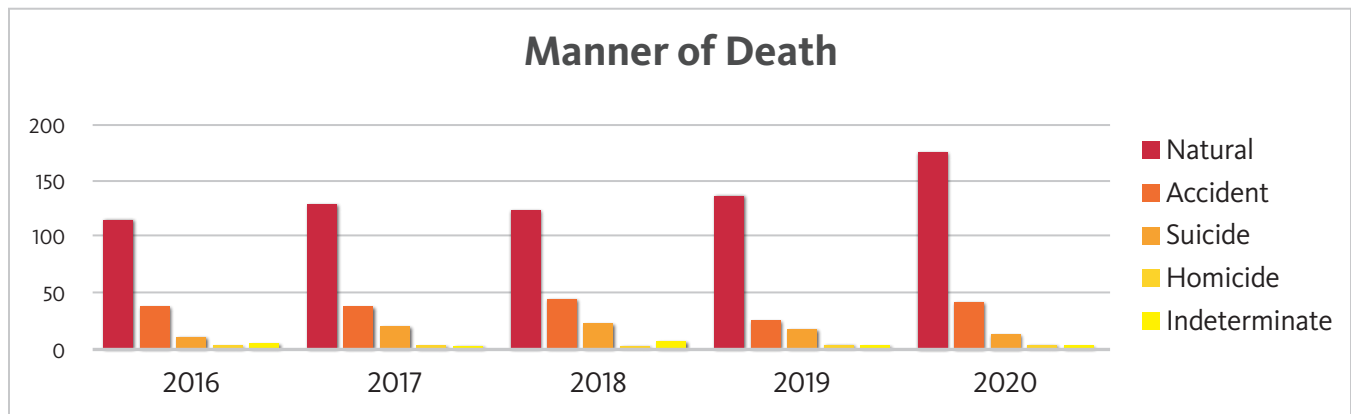
¹ Not every case that is reported to the Medical Examiner's office falls within our jurisdiction. We accept cases for investigation based on the circumstances surrounding the death and the law that governs the Medical Examiner's authority (MCL 52.202). We declined jurisdiction in 23 cases that were reported to us in 2020.

Eaton County

Manner of Death

The data on the following pages refers to those deaths that were reported to the Medical Examiner's Office.

Manner of Death	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
NATURAL	116	128	124	136	174
ACCIDENT	36	38	44	25	42
SUICIDE	11	20	22	18	13
HOMICIDE	2	3	2	3	3
INDETERMINATE	4	2	8	2	3
TOTAL	170 ²	191	201 ³	184	235

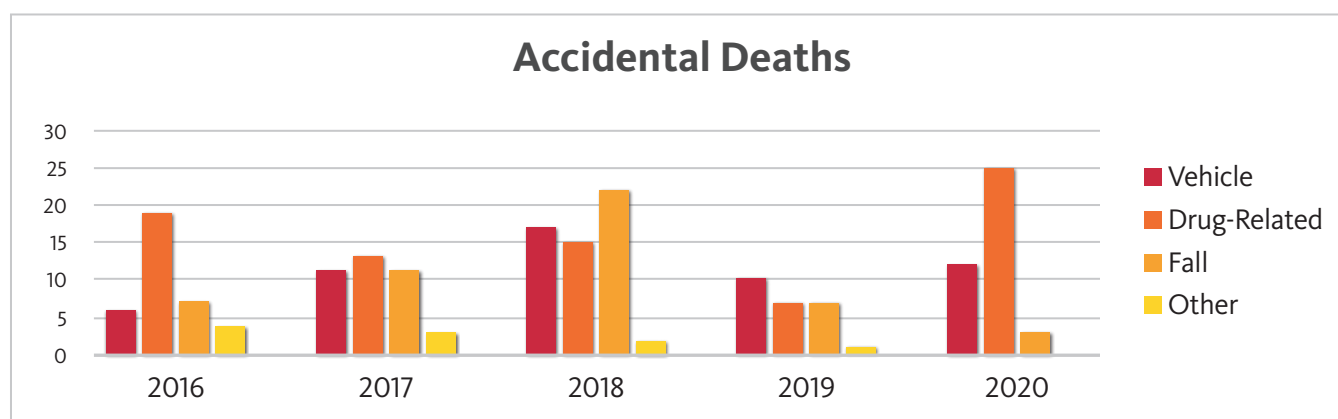


² Cases with no manner of death: (1) non-human bones

³ Includes one case of mummified fetal remains for which a manner of death was not assigned

Eaton County Accidental Deaths

Accidental Deaths	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
VEHICLE	6	11	17 ⁴	10	12
DRUG-RELATED	19	13	15 ⁵	7	25
DROWNING	0	1	1	1	0
FALL	7	11	11	7	3
FIRE	0	0	0	0	0
ASPHYXIA	0	0	0	0	2
HYPOTHERMIA	2	0	0	0	0
OTHER	2 ⁶	2 ⁷	2 ⁸	0	0
TOTAL	36	38	44	25	42



⁴ Does not include on car passenger listed in other category (see below)

⁵ Does not include two drowning cases in which ethanol intoxication was involved (categorized as drowning); includes one case of ethanol intoxication with associated hypothermia

⁶ (1) rib fractures due to injury from neck brace, (1) ruptured quadriceps tendon following syncopal episode

⁷ (1) natural disease complicated by environmental exposure, (1) delayed complications of anaphylaxis

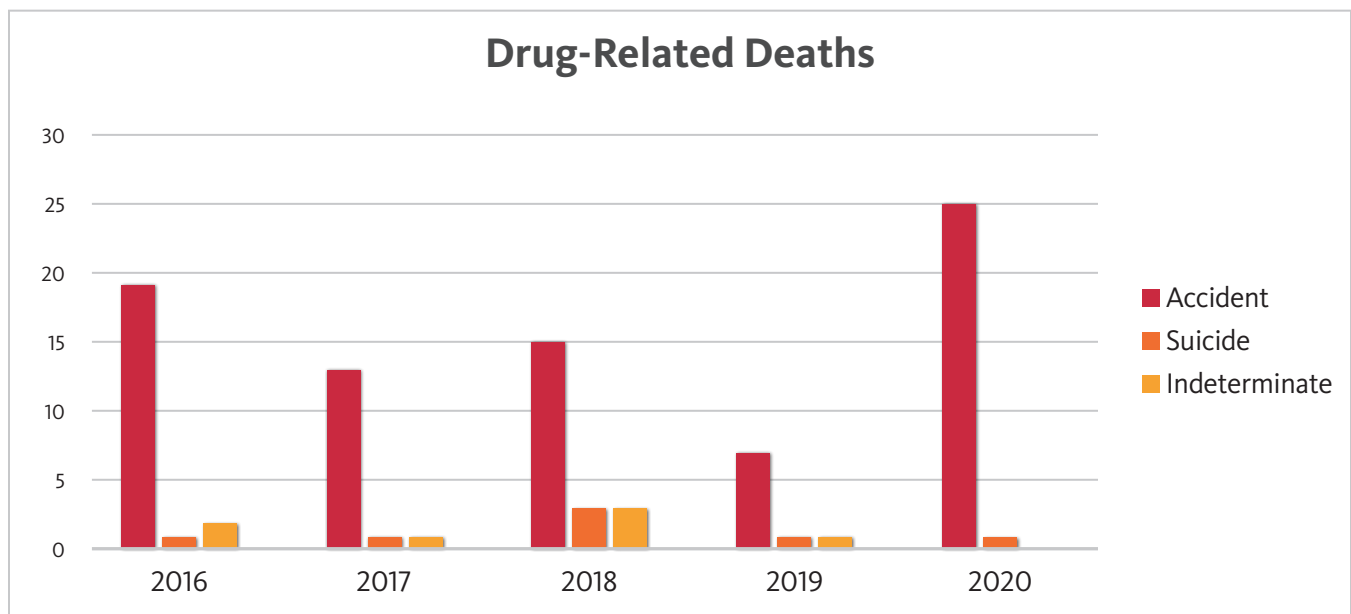
⁸ (1) injuries sustained when struck by falling tree branch, (1) head injury due to head striking car window; not in car crash

Eaton County

Drug-Related Deaths

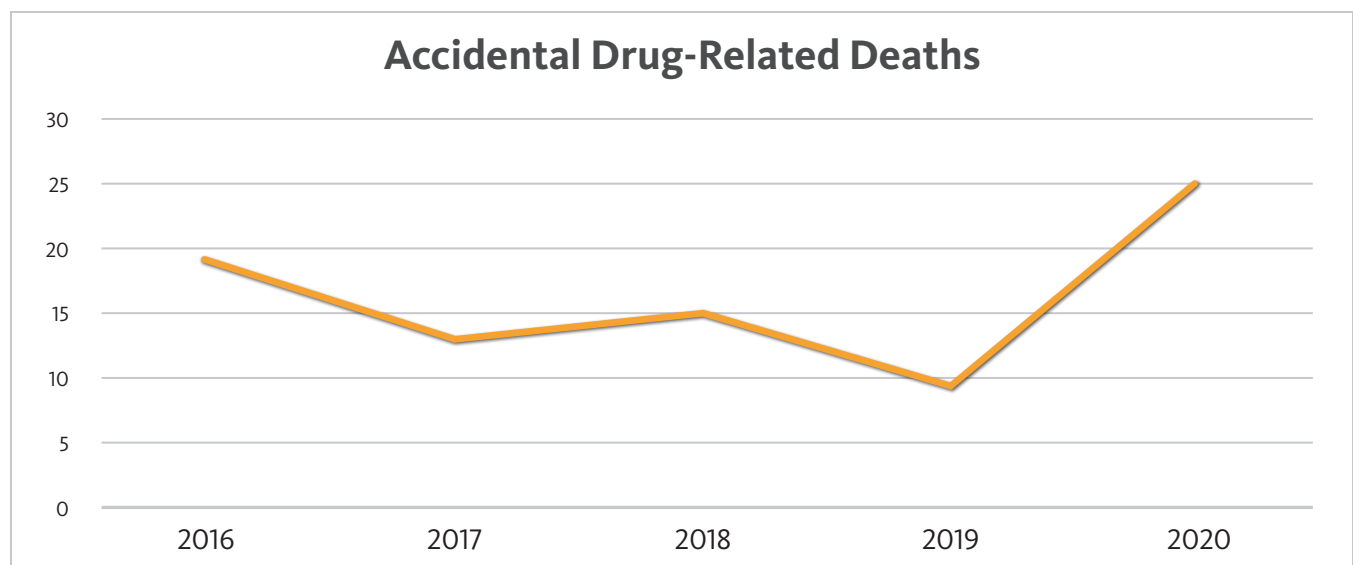
For purposes of this report, drug-related fatalities are deaths in which an overdose of a combination of drugs or a single drug caused or contributed to the death. These deaths do not include situations in which intoxication might have been a factor in an incident leading to death, such as motor vehicle crashes, falls, choking while eating, or environmental exposures.

Manner of Death	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
ACCIDENT	19	13	15	7	25
SUICIDE	1	1	3	1	1
INDETERMINATE	2	1	3	1	0
TOTAL	22	15	21	9	26



Eaton County Drug-Related Deaths

2020 Drug-Related Deaths Summary	
TOTAL	26 cases
SEX	10 female, 16 male
RACE	20 white, 6 black
AGE RANGE	19-67 years
AVERAGE AGE	38.7 years
MEDIAN AGE	35 years
OPIOID-RELATED	23 cases involved an opiate or opioid (88%)
MANNER OF DEATH	25 accidents, 1 suicide, 0 indeterminate



Eaton County

Suicides

Suicide Totals by Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
SUICIDES	11	20	22	18	13

Suicide Methods	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
FIREARM	9	12	9	11	7
HANGING	1	7	5	4	4
DRUG INTOXICATION	1	1	3	1	1
SHARP FORCE INJURY	0	0	3	1	0
SUFFOCATION	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER	0	0	2 ⁹	1 ¹⁰	1 ¹¹

Suicides by Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
0-17	2	1	0	1	0
18-25	0	4	4	3	1
26-44	1	6	6	7	3
45-64	6	7	5	4	7
65 +	2	2	7	3	2

⁹ (1) carbon monoxide inhalation (1) ethylene glycol ingestion

¹⁰ Drowning

¹¹ Carbon monoxide inhalation

Eaton County

Reported Deaths of Children

Deaths of Children by Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Stillborn	0	0	2 ¹²	0	0
<1 year	0	1	1	0	0
1-5	0	0	1	1	0
6-10	0	0	0	4	0
11-17	2	2	1	2	3
TOTAL	2	3	5	7	3

Manner of Death	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
NATURAL	0	0	0	2	0
ACCIDENT	0	1	1	4	3
SUICIDE	2	1	0	1	0
HOMICIDE	0	0	0	0	0
INDETERMINATE	0	1	2	0	0

¹² Includes one mummified fetal remains discovered in a funeral home

Eaton County

Reported Deaths of Children

2020 Reported Deaths of Children Summary			
<i>Age</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Manner</i>
15 years	M	Blunt Force Injuries (Motor Vehicle Collision)	Accident
16 years	M	Blunt Force Injuries (Motor Vehicle Collision)	Accident
17 years	M	Airway Obstruction (Choked on Food)	Accident

Ingham County

Medical Examiner

Michael A. Markey, M.D.

Deputy Medical Examiners

Patrick A. Hansma, D.O.

David S. Moons, M.D.

Chief Investigator

Michelle A. Fox, D-ABMDI

Medical Examiner Investigators

Kenneth Barnes

Erica Betts, D.O., MPH

Kathleen Brooks

Mark Chojnowski

Joy Dempsey, D-ABMDI

Matt Greene

Alyson Lipp

Lynne Mark, D-ABMDI

Jessica Nicholson

Karen Phelps

Brett Ramsden, D-ABMDI

Daniel Sowles, D-ABMDI

Mary Stevens

Ingham County

Summary of Cases

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
TOTAL DEATHS IN THE COUNTY	2655	2872	2870	3066	3468
DEATHS REPORTED TO THE ME	824	916	888	936	1087
CASES ACCEPTED FOR INVESTIGATION ¹³	660	677	647	742	965
MEI SCENE INVESTIGATIONS	677	752	709	775	572
DEATH CERTIFICATES SIGNED BY THE ME	424	422	393	477	504
BODIES TRANSPORTED TO SPARROW	267 ¹⁴	250	325	275	313
COMPLETE AUTOPSY	286	232	220	276	273
LIMITED AUTOPSY	9	12	13	13	24
EXTERNAL EXAMINATION	46	42	31 ¹⁵	44	59
STORAGE ONLY	32	55	61	47	53
UNCLAIMED BODIES	20	34	28	13	18
REFERRALS TO GIFT OF LIFE	308	326	292	264	294
TISSUE/CORNEA DONORS	95	92	48	51	54
CREMATION PERMITS REVIEWED	1721	1920	1934	2154	2483

¹³ Not every case that is reported to the Medical Examiner's Office falls within our jurisdiction. We accept cases for investigation based on the circumstances surrounding the death and the law that governs the Medical Examiner's authority (MCL 52.202). We declined jurisdiction in 247 cases that were reported to us in 2020.

¹⁴ In previous years, this number was listed as the sum of exams (complete, limited, external) and bodies for storage only. In 2016, this number was obtained from the contracted transport provider, and thus excludes decedents who died at Sparrow hospital and would have been transported to Sparrow morgue by Sparrow staff regardless of their status as a ME or non-ME case.

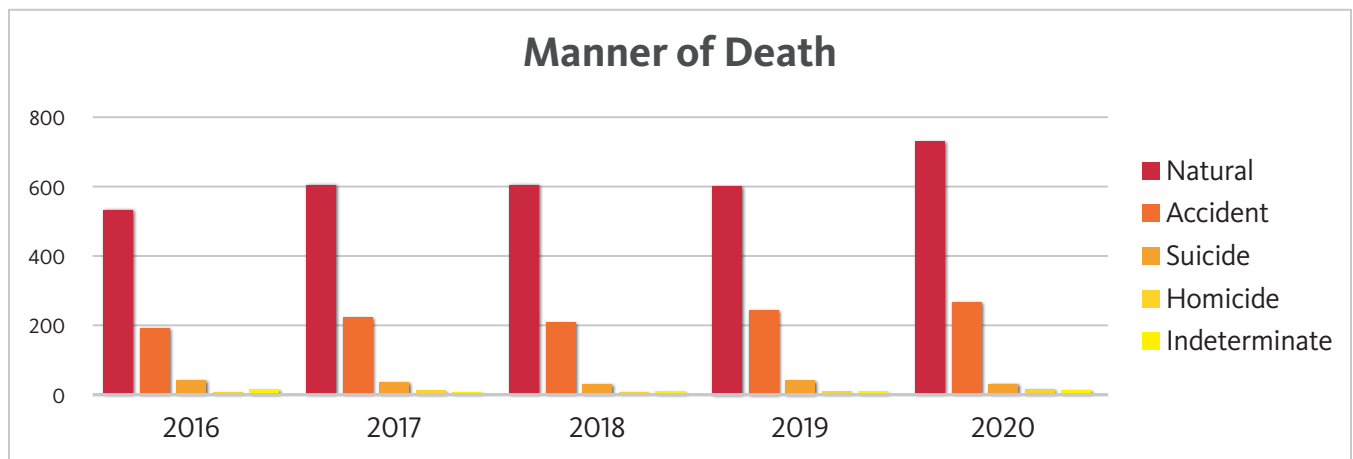
¹⁵ (1) case examined by anthropology only for identification

Ingham County

Manner of Death

The data on the following pages refers to those deaths that were reported to the Medical Examiner's Office.

Manner of Death	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
NATURAL	535	605	608	598	728
ACCIDENT	199	231	210	251	271
SUICIDE	51	44	38	51	39
HOMICIDE	13	20 ¹⁶	12	16	26
INDETERMINATE	22	16 ¹⁷	16	18	22
TOTAL	820 ¹⁸	916 ¹⁹	884 ²⁰	934 ²¹	1086 ²²



¹⁶ Based on new investigative information, one manner of death was changed from indeterminate to homicide on Dec. 6, 2018

¹⁷ Based on new investigative information, one manner of death was changed from indeterminate to homicide on Dec. 6, 2018

¹⁸ Cases with no manner of death: (3) stillbirths; (1) human bone of no contemporary forensic interest

¹⁹ Cases with no manner of death: (1) stillbirth

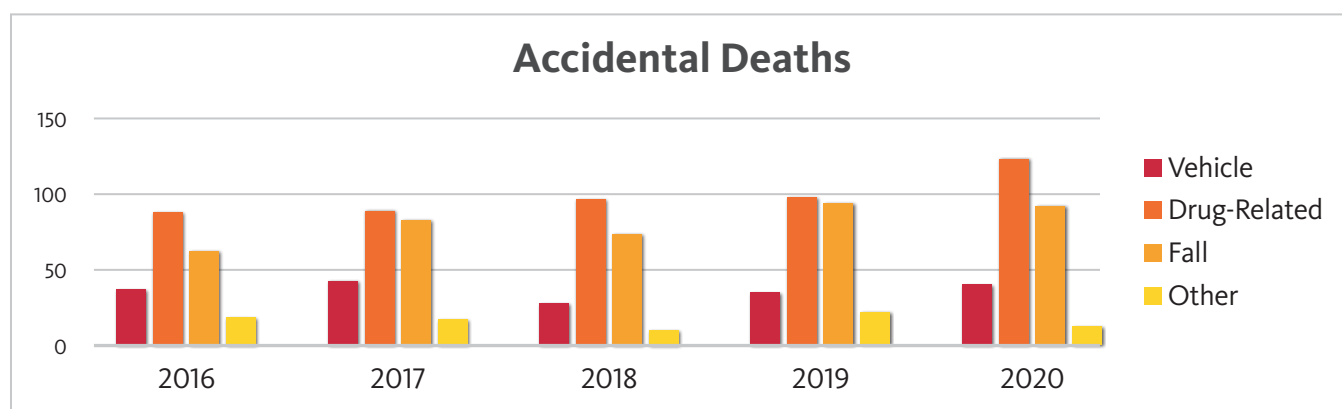
²⁰ Cases with no manner of death: (2) stillbirths; (1) non-human animal remains; (1) cremation permit authorization for death outside of country

²¹ Cases with no manner of death: (2) stillbirths

²² Cases with no manner of death: (1) stillbirth

Ingham County Accidental Deaths

Accidental Deaths	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
VEHICLE	36	43	29	35	40
DRUG-RELATED	88	89	97	98	124
DROWNING	3	3	2	3	1
FALL	63	83	73	95	93
FIRE	1	0	2	5	2
ASPHYXIA	3	4	3	8 ²³	5 ²⁴
HYPOTHERMIA	2 ²⁵	1	0	0	4
OTHER	3 ²⁶	9 ²⁷	4 ²⁸	7 ²⁹	2 ³⁰
TOTAL	199	231	210	251	271



23 (6) choking on food, (2) infant in unsafe sleep environment

24 (3) choking on food, (2) infant in unsafe sleep environment

25 Both decedents also acutely intoxicated with ethanol (these cases not included in the drug-related category)

26 (1) heart disease associated with anabolic androgenic steroid use; (1) methadone therapy contributing to complications of chronic ethanol abuse; (1) carbon monoxide intoxication

27 (1) complications of injury from boxing; (1) fall from bicycle; (1) multiple injuries-struck by falling chimney; (1) pneumonia associated with acute on chronic ethanol use; (1) ingestion of poisonous mushroom; (1) rectal perforation from enema; (1) fell into wedged position on railroad-blunt and compression injuries; (1) esophageal rupture from acute on chronic ethanol use

28 (1) carbon monoxide intoxication; (1) injuries from airplane crash; (2) remote neck injuries - one wrestling and one swimming

29 (2) injuries from plane crash; (1) burns from hot coffee; (1) carbon monoxide; (1) hypothermia; (1) bicycle crash; (1) therapeutic injury

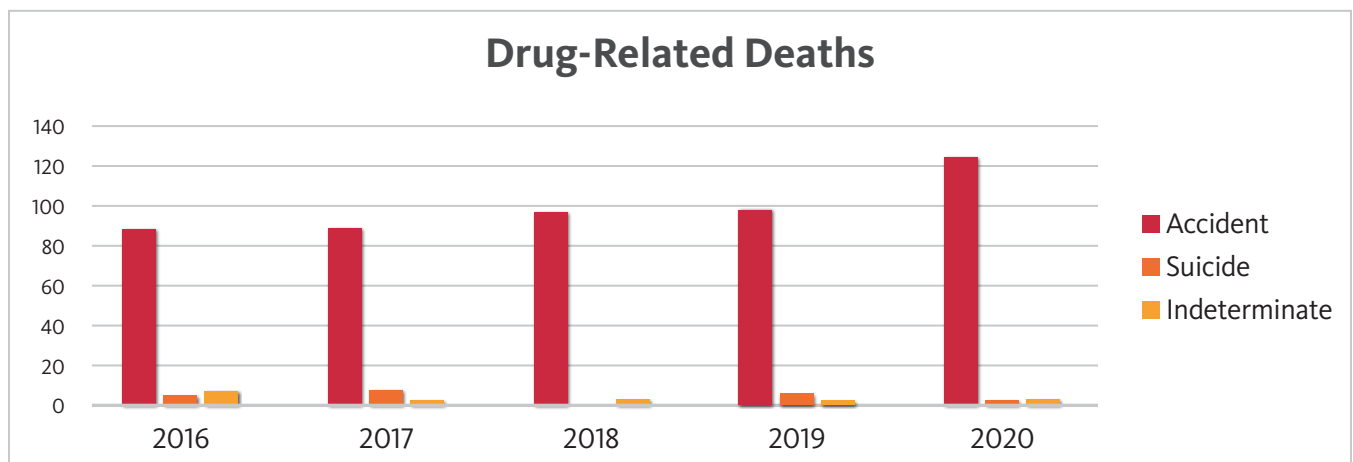
30 (1) pedestrian struck by train; (1) Injuries from compaction in refuse vehicle

Ingham County

Drug-Related Deaths

For purposes of this report, drug-related fatalities are deaths in which an overdose of a combination of drugs or a single drug caused or contributed to the death. These deaths do not include situations in which intoxication might have been a factor in an incident leading to death, such as motor vehicle crashes, falls, choking while eating, or environmental exposures.

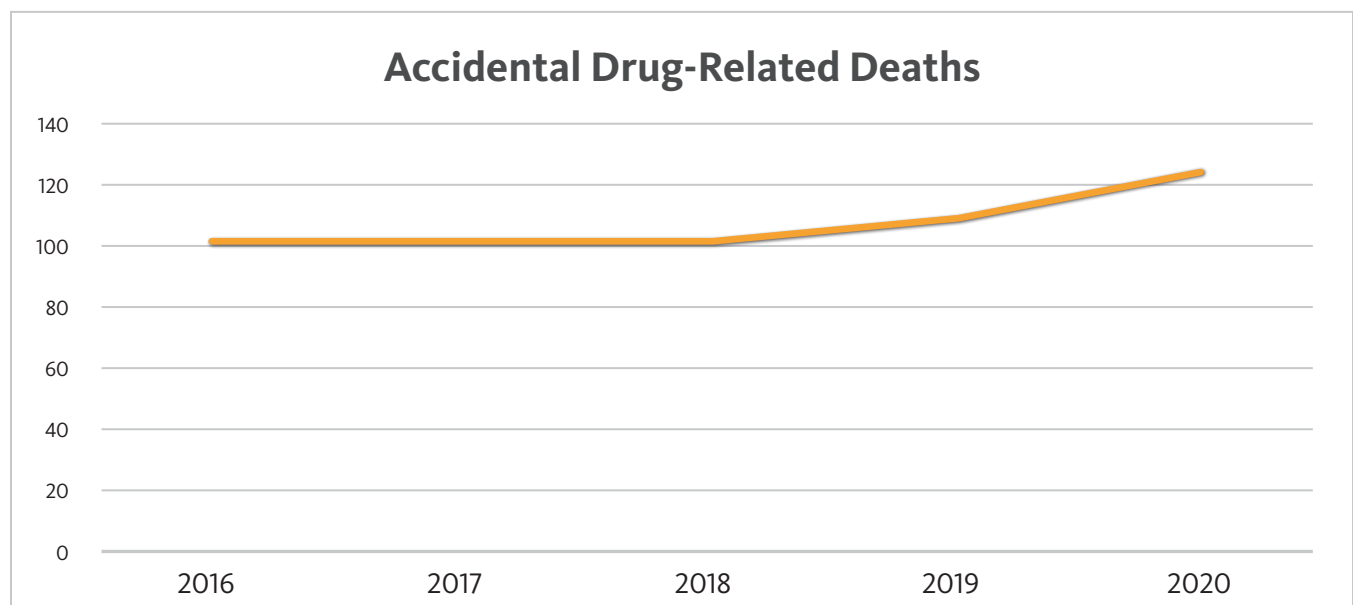
Manner of Death	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
ACCIDENT	88	89	97	98	124
SUICIDE	6	8	0	7	3
INDETERMINATE	8	4	4	4	4
TOTAL	102	101	101	109	131



Ingham County

Drug-Related Deaths

2020 Drug-Related Deaths Summary	
TOTAL	131 cases
SEX	44 female, 87 male
RACE	102 white, 28 black, 1 Native American
AGE RANGE	1-74 years
AVERAGE AGE	42.4 years
MEDIAN AGE	39 years
OPIOID-RELATED	115 cases involved an opiate or opioid (88%)
MANNER OF DEATH	124 accidents, 3 suicides, 4 indeterminate



Ingham County

Suicides

Suicide Totals by Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
SUICIDES	51	44	38	51	39

Suicide Methods	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
FIREARM	26	18	21	20	21
HANGING	10	13	13	20	13
DRUG INTOXICATION	6	8	0	7	3 ³¹
SUFFOCATION	3	1	1	0	0
SHARP FORCE INJURY	1	1	0	0	1 ³²
JUMP FROM HEIGHT	3	2	2	0	0
DROWNING	0	0	0	0	0
MOTOR VEHICLE CRASH	1	1	0	0	0
CARBON MONOXIDE	0	0	0	0	1
STRUCK BY TRAIN	0	0	1	1	1
OTHER	1 ³³	0	0	3 ³⁴	0

Suicides by Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
0-17	3	2	3	2	2
18-25	9	9	10	13	5
26-44	21	12	12	14	13
45-64	7	18	7	18	15
65 +	11	3	6	4	4

³¹ (1) combined drug intoxication and stab wound classified in both methods

³² (1) combined drug intoxication and stab wound classified in both methods (footnotes 31 and 32 are one case)

³³ Penetrating head trauma-shot self with nail gun

³⁴ (1) jump from moving vehicle; (1) Ingestion of household cleaning product; (1) puncture of dialysis fistula

Ingham County

Reported Deaths of Children

Sudden Unexplained Infant Death (SUID) refers to the death of an infant less than one year of age in which investigation, autopsy, medical history, review, and appropriate laboratory testing fails to identify a specific cause of death. SUID includes deaths that meet the definition of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS).

Deaths of Children by Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Stillborn	3	1	3	2	1
<1 year	10	8	3	13	11
1-5	6	3	4	8	3
6-10	2	1	3	5	2
11-17	10	4	8	7	7
TOTAL	31	17	21	35	24

Manner of Death	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
NATURAL	9	7	7	8	5
ACCIDENT	5	4	5	12	4
SUICIDE	3	2	3	2	2
HOMICIDE	4	1	2	2	4
INDETERMINATE	7	2	1	9	8

Ingham County

Reported Deaths of Children

2020 Reported Deaths of Children Summary			
Age	Sex	Cause of Death	Manner
0	F	Intrauterine Fetal Demise	N/A (Stillbirth)
hours	M	Congenital Abnormalities	Natural
1 month	M	Undetermined Causes (potential unsafe sleep)	Indeterminate
2 months	M	Undetermined Causes (reported bed sharing)	Indeterminate
2 months	F	Undetermined Causes (reported bed sharing)	Indeterminate
3 months	F	Potential Asphyxia/Suffocation (wedged-unsafe sleep)	Accident
3 months	M	Undetermined (found in car seat)	Indeterminate
3 months	F	Undetermined Causes (reported bed sharing)	Indeterminate
5 months	M	Undetermined Causes (reported bed sharing)	Indeterminate
7 months	M	Hirschsprungs Disease	Natural
7 months	M	Undetermined Causes (no reported bed sharing)	Undetermined
10 months	F	Potential Asphyxia/Suffocation (reported bed sharing)	Accident
1 year	F	Fentanyl Intoxication	Indeterminate
4 years	M	Carbon Monoxide Inhalation (fire related)	Homicide
5 years	F	Myocarditis due to Influenza B	Natural
6 years	M	Blunt Force Injuries to Head	Homicide
8 years	M	Carbon Monoxide Inhalation (fire related)	Homicide
13 years	M	Hanging	Suicide
14 years	M	Blunt Force Injuries (motor vehicle crash-passenger)	Accident
15 years	F	Hanging	Suicide
15 years	F	Congenital Abnormalities	Natural
16 years	M	Congenital Abnormalities	Natural
17 years	M	Blunt Force Injuries (motor vehicle crash-passenger)	Accident
17 years	M	Gun Shot Wound	Homicide

Ionia County

Medical Examiner

Michael A. Markey, M.D.

Deputy Medical Examiners

Patrick A. Hansma, D.O.

David S. Moons, M.D.

Chief Investigator

Michelle A. Fox, D-ABMDI

Medical Examiner Investigators

Erica Betts, D.O., MPH

James Buxton

Joy Dempsey, D-ABMDI

Katharine Dernocoeur

Matthew Kasper, D-ABMDI

Derek Schroeder

John Sigg

Bill Simpson Sr., D-ABMDI

Dan Sowles, D-ABMDI

Mitchell Tolan, D-ABMDI

Thomas Wodarek

Ionia County

Summary of Cases

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2019
TOTAL DEATHS IN THE COUNTY	324	348	328	333	409
DEATHS REPORTED TO THE ME	95	113	96	111	119
CASES ACCEPTED FOR INVESTIGATION ³⁵	92	110	90	107	110
MEI SCENE INVESTIGATIONS	92	109	92	109	107
DEATH CERTIFICATES SIGNED BY THE ME	47	59	50	48	43
BODIES TRANSPORTED TO SPARROW	38	54	44	39	34
COMPLETE AUTOPSY	33	36	33	25	21
LIMITED AUTOPSY	2	2	5	6	5
EXTERNAL EXAMINATION	2	13	5	3	5
STORAGE ONLY ³⁶	1	3	1	5	3
UNCLAIMED BODIES	1	1	1	2	4
REFERRAL TO GIFT OF LIFE	34	49	24	32	38
TISSUE/CORNEA DONORS	13	9	9	12	18
CREMATION PERMITS REVIEWED	196	221	214	212	281

³⁵ Not every case that is reported to the Medical Examiner's Office falls within our jurisdiction. We accept cases for investigation based on the circumstances surrounding the death and the law that governs the Medical Examiner's authority (MCL 52.202). We declined jurisdiction in nine cases that were reported to us in 2020.

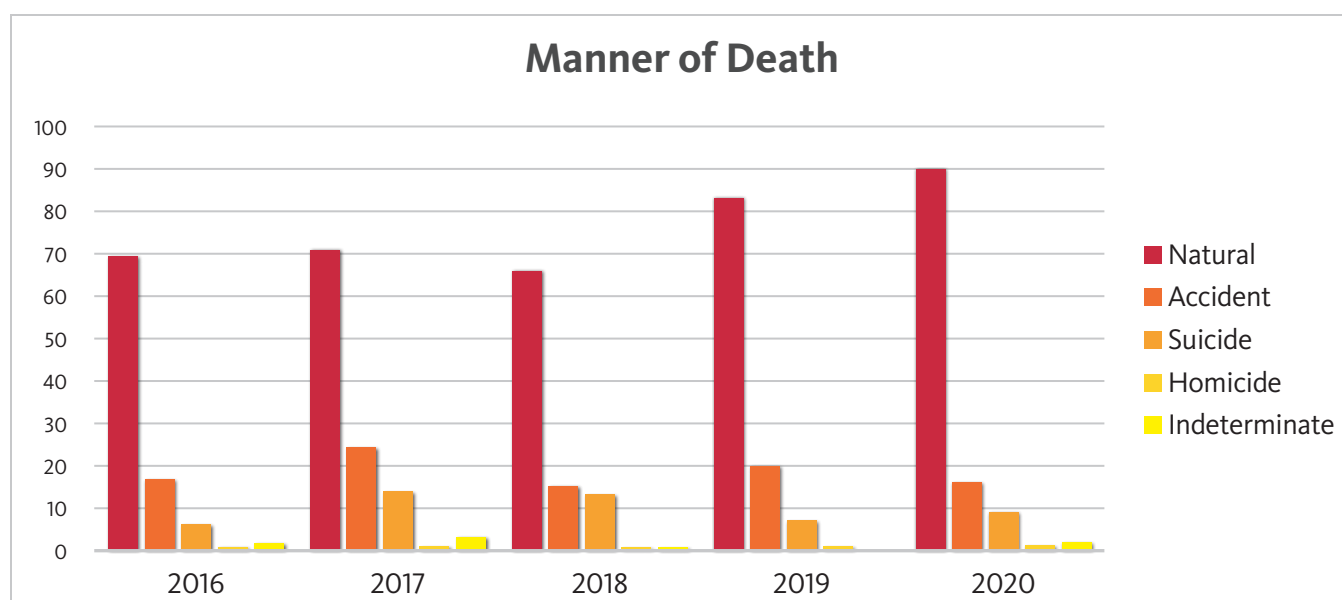
³⁶ (1) case not included due to not falling under medical examiner jurisdiction-sent for storage from Sparrow Ionia

Ionia County

Manner of Death

The data on the following pages refers to those deaths that were reported to the Medical Examiner's Office.

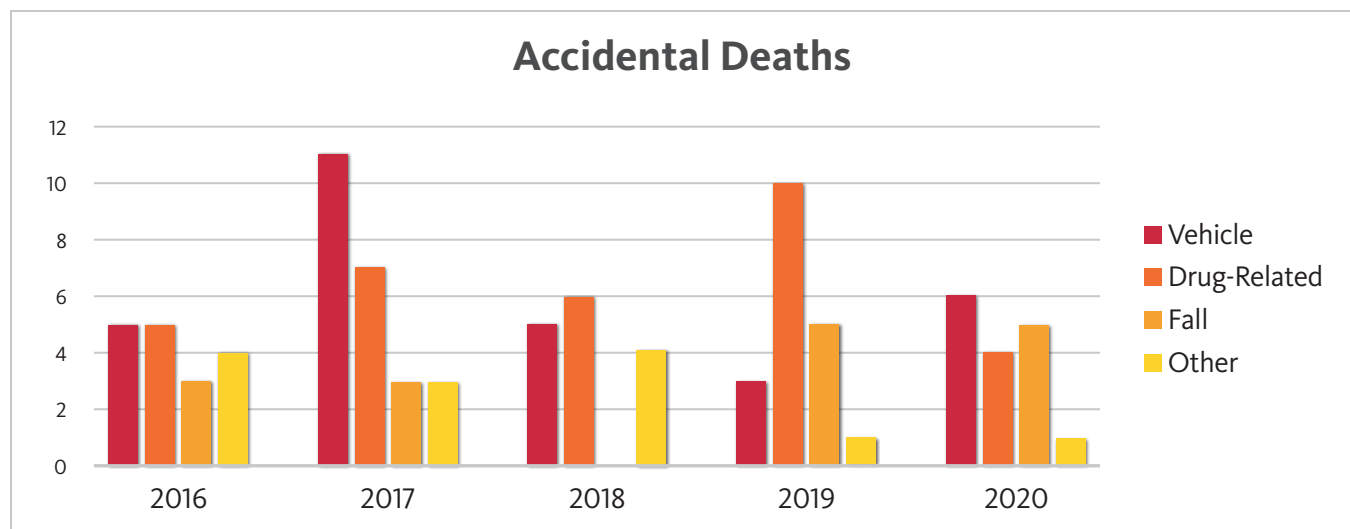
Manner of Death	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
NATURAL	69	71	66	83	90
ACCIDENT	17	24	15	20	16
SUICIDE	6	14	13	7	9
HOMICIDE	1	1	1	1	1
INDETERMINATE	2	3	1	0	2
TOTAL	95	113	96	111	118 ³⁷



³⁷ Cases with no manner of death: stillbirth

Ionia County Accidental Deaths

Accidental Deaths	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
VEHICLE	5	11	5	3	6
DRUG-RELATED ³⁸	5	7	6	10	4
DROWNING	0	1	4	0	1
FALL	3	3	0	5	5
FIRE	2	1	0	0	0
ASPHYXIA	1	1	0	1	0
TOTAL	17	24	15	19 ³⁹	16



³⁸ (1) motor vehicle related fatality in 2018 had drug intoxication listed as a contributing condition; as the death was not directly related to the toxic effects of the drug(s) it is not included as a drug fatality in this report.

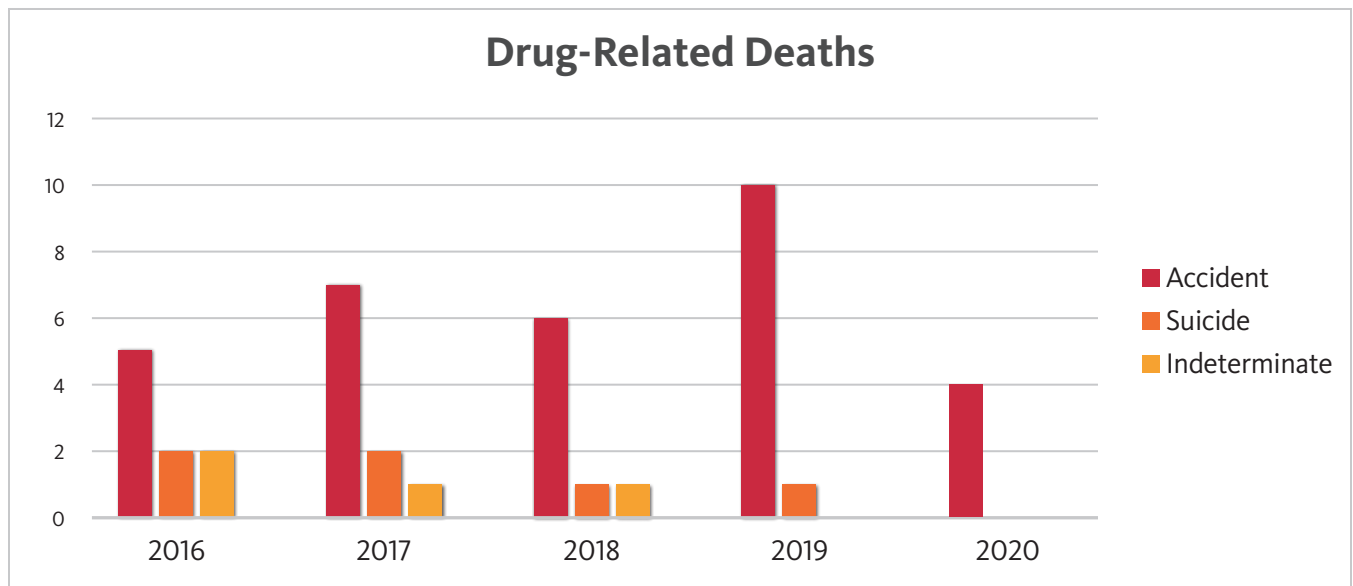
³⁹ (1) carbon monoxide

Ionia County

Drug-Related Deaths

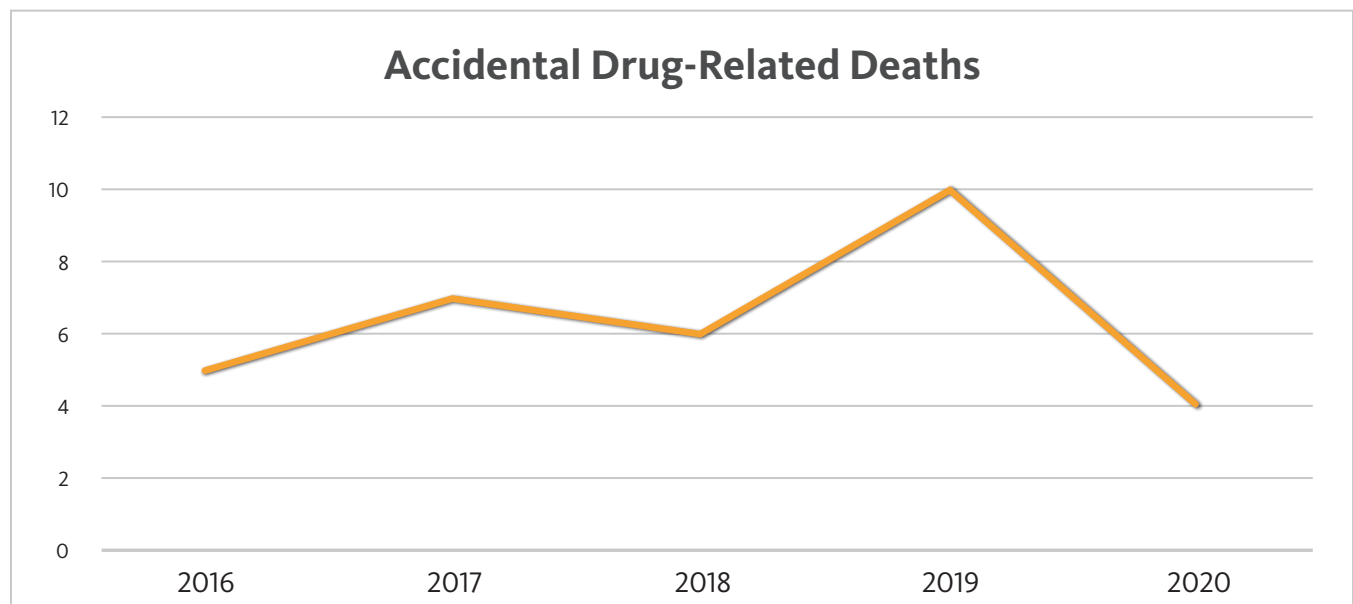
For purposes of this report, drug-related fatalities are deaths in which an overdose of a combination of drugs or a single drug caused or contributed to the death. These deaths do not include situations in which intoxication might have been a factor in an incident leading to death, such as motor vehicle crashes, falls, choking while eating, or environmental exposures.

Manner of Death	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
ACCIDENT	5	7	6	10	4
SUICIDE	2	2	1	1	0
INDETERMINATE	2	1	0	0	0



Ionia County Drug-Related Deaths

2020 Drug-Related Deaths Summary	
TOTAL	4 cases
SEX	1 female, 3 male
RACE	4 white
AGE RANGE	24-57 years
AVERAGE AGE	44.5 years
MEDIAN AGE	48.5 years
OPIOID-RELATED	3 cases involved an opiate or opioid (75%)
MANNER OF DEATH	4 accidents and 0 suicide



Ionia County

Suicides

Suicide Totals by Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
SUICIDES	6	14	13	7	9

Suicide Methods	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
FIREARM	4	3	9	4	5
HANGING	0	6	3	2	4
DRUG INTOXICATION	2	2	1	1	0
CARBON MONOXIDE	0	2	0	0	0
MOTOR VEHICLE	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER	0	1 ⁴⁰	0	0	0

Suicides by Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
0-17	0	0	0	0	0
18-25	0	2	0	2	2
26-44	4	4	5	3	2
45-64	0	5	6	1	4
65 +	2	3	2	1	1

⁴⁰ (1) pedestrian struck by train

Ionía County

Reported Deaths of Children

Sudden Unexplained Infant Death (SUID) refers to the death of an infant less than one year of age in which investigation, autopsy, medical history, review, and appropriate laboratory testing fails to identify a specific cause of death. SUID includes deaths that meet the definition of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS).

Deaths of Children by Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Stillborn	0	0	0	0	1
<1 year	0	1	1	0	2
1-5	0	0	0	0	1
6-10	0	0	0	0	1
11-17	0	2	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	3	1	0	5

Manner of Death	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
NATURAL	0	1	0	0	1
ACCIDENT	0	0	0	0	2
SUICIDE	0	0	0	0	0
HOMICIDE	0	1	0	0	0
INDETERMINATE	0	1	1	0	1

2020 Reported Deaths of Children Summary			
Age	Sex	Cause of Death	Manner
13 weeks	M	Intrauterine Fetal Demise	N/A
2 hours	F	Complications of Delivery-Meconium Aspiration	Natural
5 months	M	Undetermined (probable sleep related)	Indeterminate
2 years	M	Drowning (swimming pool)	Accident
10 years	M	Positional Asphyxia (Motor Vehicle Crash)	Accident

Isabella County

Medical Examiner

Michael A. Markey, M.D.

Deputy Medical Examiners

Patrick A. Hansma, D.O.

David S. Moons, M.D.

Chief Investigator

Michelle A. Fox, D-ABMDI

Medical Examiner Investigators

Zachary Brown

Kari Duman

Taylor Maylee Hoekwater, D-ABMDI

Philip Nartker

Robert Schumacker

Bill Simpson Sr., D-ABMDI

Shelly Travis

Isabella County

Summary of Cases

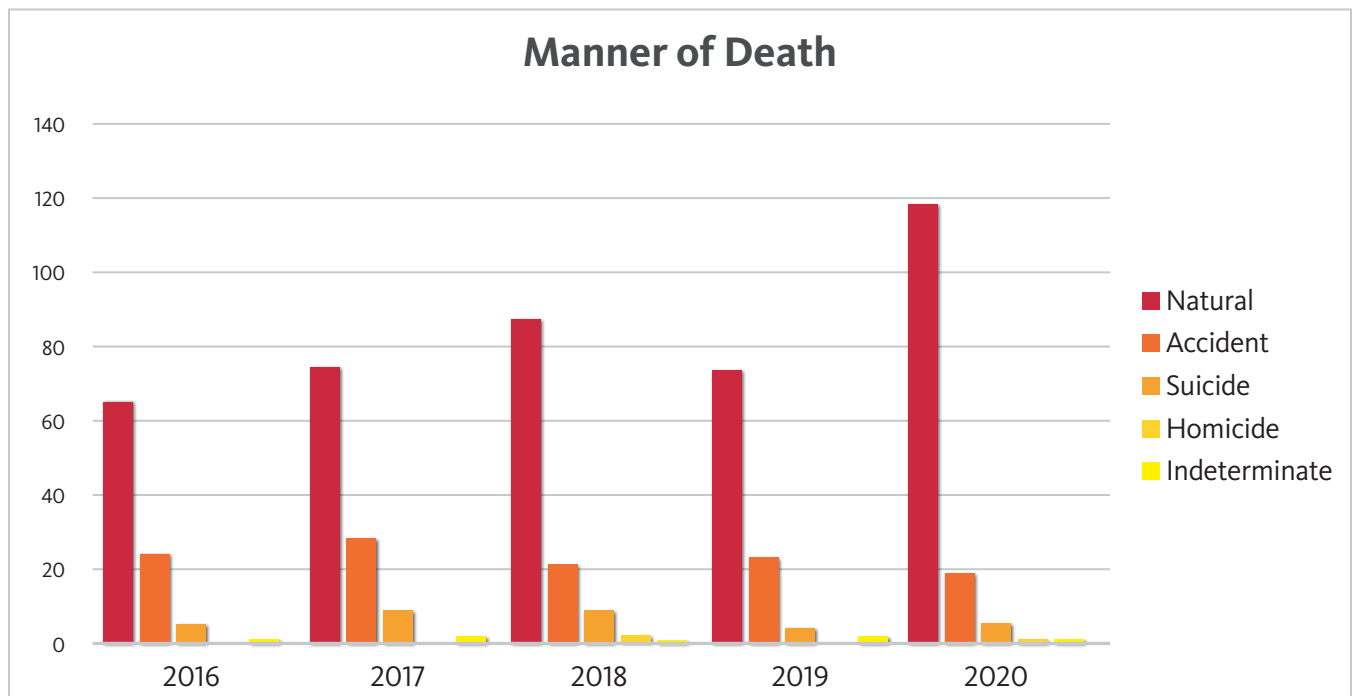
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
TOTAL DEATHS IN THE COUNTY	507	528	549	479	603
DEATHS REPORTED TO THE ME	100	118	125	106	148
CASES ACCEPTED FOR INVESTIGATION ⁴¹	91	110	106	96	128
MEI SCENE INVESTIGATIONS	93	105	111	92	115
DEATH CERTIFICATES SIGNED BY THE ME	48	56	50	47	50
BODIES TRANSPORTED TO SPARROW	41	45	42	39	39
COMPLETE AUTOPSY	35	38	28	33	29
LIMITED AUTOPSY	1	2	4	2	2
EXTERNAL EXAMINATION	3	5	6	3	6
STORAGE ONLY	2	0	4	1	1
UNCLAIMED BODIES	2	1	1	1	1
REFERRALS TO GIFT OF LIFE	40	51	38	28	48
TISSUE/CORNEA DONORS	8	10	2	9	6
CREMATION PERMITS REVIEWED	267	315	352	310	384

⁴¹ Not every case that is reported to the Medical Examiner's Office falls within our jurisdiction. We accept cases for investigation based on the circumstances surrounding the death and the law that governs the Medical Examiner's authority (MCL 52.202). We declined jurisdiction in 20 cases that were reported to us in 2020.

Isabella County

Manner of Death

Manner of Death	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
NATURAL	66	75	88	74	119
ACCIDENT	25	29	22	24	19
SUICIDE	6	10	10	5	6
HOMICIDE	0	0	3	0	2
INDETERMINATE	2	3	1	2	2
TOTAL	100 ⁴²	118 ⁴³	124 ⁴⁴	105 ⁴⁵	148



⁴² Case with no manner of death: stillbirth

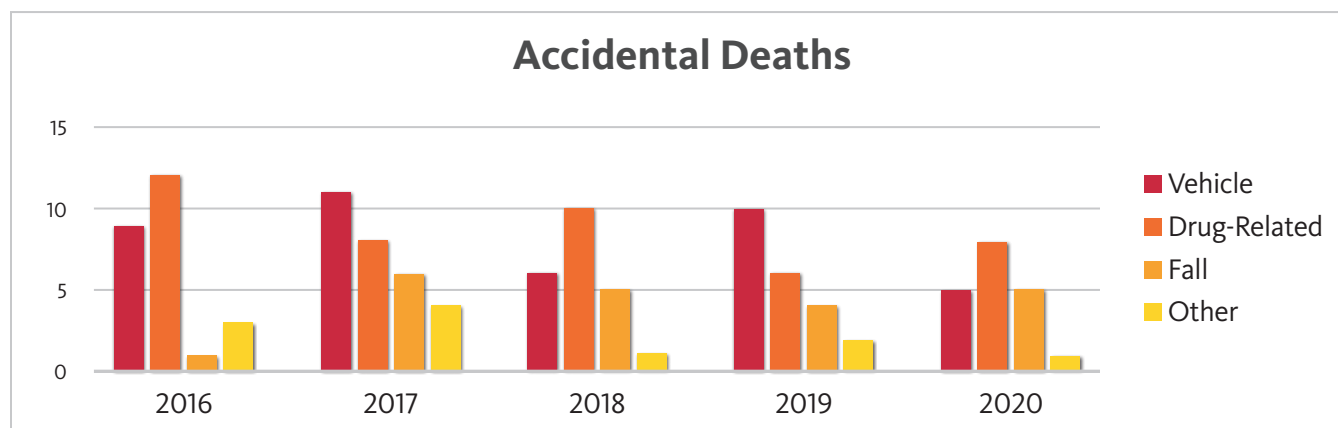
⁴³ Case with no manner of death: stillbirth

⁴⁴ Case with no manner of death: stillbirth in another county; reported to office due to burial in county

⁴⁵ Case with no manner of death: blood clot specimen-unknown if it is of human origin

Isabella County Accidental Deaths

Accidental Deaths	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
VEHICLE	9	11	6 ⁴⁶	10	5
DRUG-RELATED	12	8	10 ⁴⁷	6	8
DROWNING	0	2	1 ⁴⁸	1	0
FALL	1	6	5	4	5
ASPHYXIA	0	2	0	1	1
HYPOTHERMIA	1	0	0	0	0
FIRE	0	0	0	1	0
FALLING TREE	1	0	0	0	0
PINNED IN MACHINERY	1	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	25	29	22	24	19



⁴⁶ (1) motor vehicle death was due to a post-crash fire (included here as a vehicle fatality and not as a fire fatality)

⁴⁷ (1) drowning while intoxicated with drugs (included here as a drowning fatality and not a drug intoxication death as the death was not directly related to the toxic effects of the drug(s) it is not included as a drug fatality in this report)

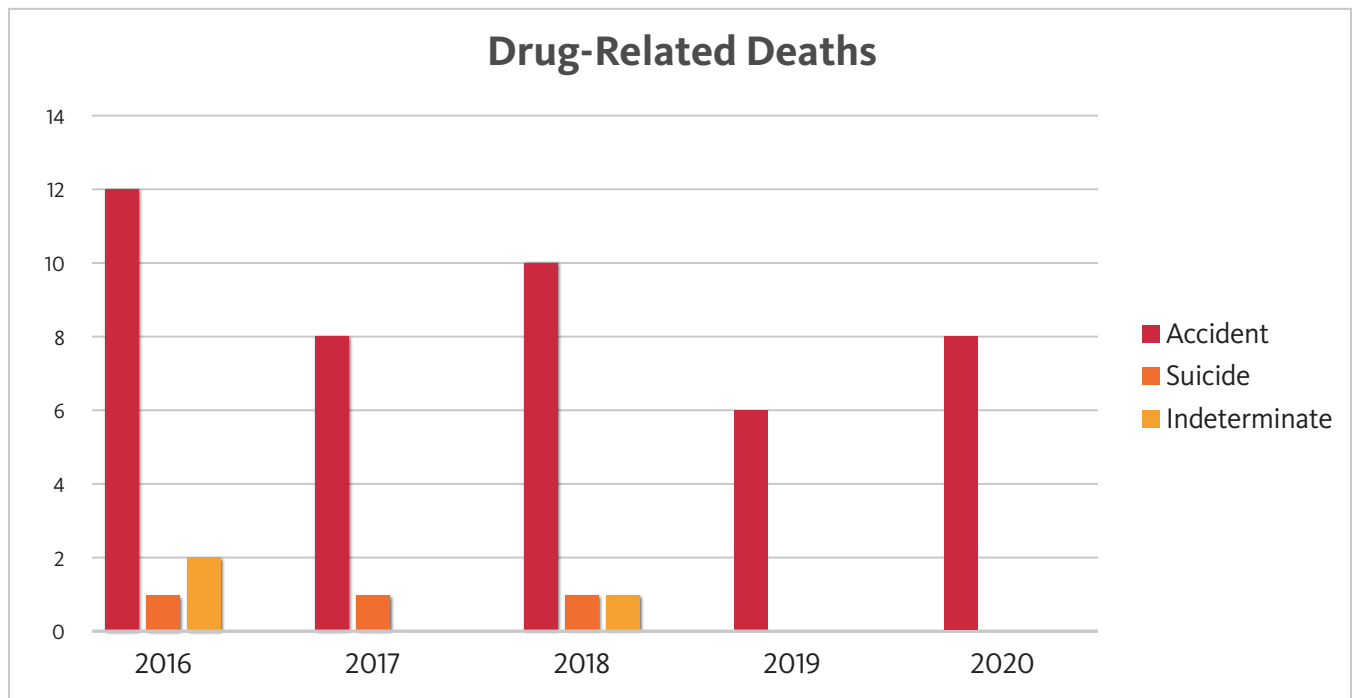
⁴⁸ (1) drowning while intoxicated with drugs (included here as a drowning fatality)

Isabella County

Drug-Related Deaths

For purposes of this report, drug-related fatalities are deaths in which an overdose of a combination of drugs or a single drug caused or contributed to the death. These deaths do not include situations in which intoxication might have been a factor in an incident leading to death, such as motor vehicle crashes, falls, choking while eating, or environmental exposures.

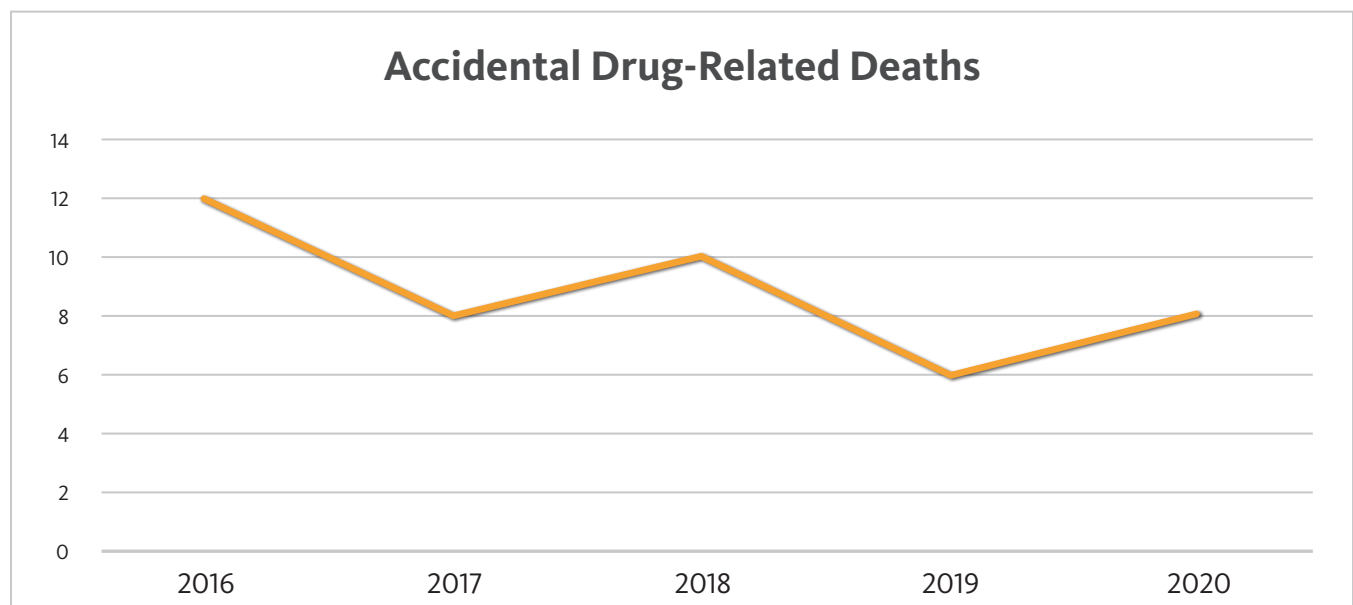
Manner of Death	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
ACCIDENT	12	8	10	6	8
SUICIDE	1	1	1	0	0
INDETERMINATE	2	0	1	0	0



Isabella County

Drug-Related Deaths

2020 Drug-Related Deaths Summary	
TOTAL	8 cases
SEX	4 female, 4 male
RACE	5 white, 3 Native American
AGE RANGE	23-45 years
AVERAGE AGE	33 years
MEDIAN AGE	32 years
OPIOID-RELATED	8 cases involved an opiate or opioid (100%)
MANNER OF DEATH	8 accidents



Isabella County

Suicides

Suicide Totals by Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
SUICIDES	6	10	10	5	6

Suicide Methods	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
FIREARM	3	7	5	4	3
HANGING	1	2	3	1	3
ASPHYXIA	1	0	0	0	0
DRUG INTOXICATION	1 ⁴⁹	1	1	0	0
MOTOR VEHICLE/FIRE	0	0	1	0	0

Suicides by Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
0-17	0	0	0	0	1
18-25	1	0	2	0	1
26-44	3	3	3	1	1
45-64	2	6	4	3	2
65 +	0	1	1	1	1

⁴⁹ Reported in previous annual reports as two drug related suicides, only one has been certified for 2016

Isabella County

Reported Deaths of Children

Sudden Unexplained Infant Death (SUID) refers to the death of an infant less than one year of age in which investigation, autopsy, medical history, review, and appropriate laboratory testing fails to identify a specific cause of death. SUID includes deaths that meet the definition of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS).

Deaths of Children by Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Stillborn	1	1	0	0	0
<1 year	0	0	0	1	3
1-5	0	1	0	4	1
6-10	0	0	0	0	0
11-17	0	1	1	0	2
TOTAL	1	3	1	5	6

Manner of Death	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
NATURAL	0	0	0	0	2
ACCIDENT	0	2	1	4	2
SUICIDE	0	0	0	0	1
HOMICIDE	0	0	0	0	0
INDETERMINATE	0	0	0	1	1

2020 Reported Deaths of Children Summary			
Age	Sex	Cause of Death	Manner
minutes	M	Congenital Abnormalities	Natural
1 month	M	Asphyxia/Suffocation (unsafe sleep)	Accident
2 months	F	Trisomy 18	Natural
2 years	F	Acute Hepatitis (undetermined etiology)	Indeterminate
16 years	F	Hanging	Suicide
17 years	F	Blunt Force Injuries (Motor Vehicle Crash)	Accident

Shiawasse County

Medical Examiner

Michael A. Markey, M.D.

Deputy Medical Examiners

Patrick A. Hansma, D.O.

David S. Moons, M.D.

Chief Investigator

Michelle A. Fox, D-ABMDI

Medical Examiner Investigators

Mark Pendergraff, D-ABMDI

April Archer

Dennis Campbell

Lynn Carpenter

Wade Doane

Lawrence Goff

Shane Grinnell

Laura Hammersley

Savannah Kryza

Alanna Pendergraff

Shiawassee County

Summary of Cases

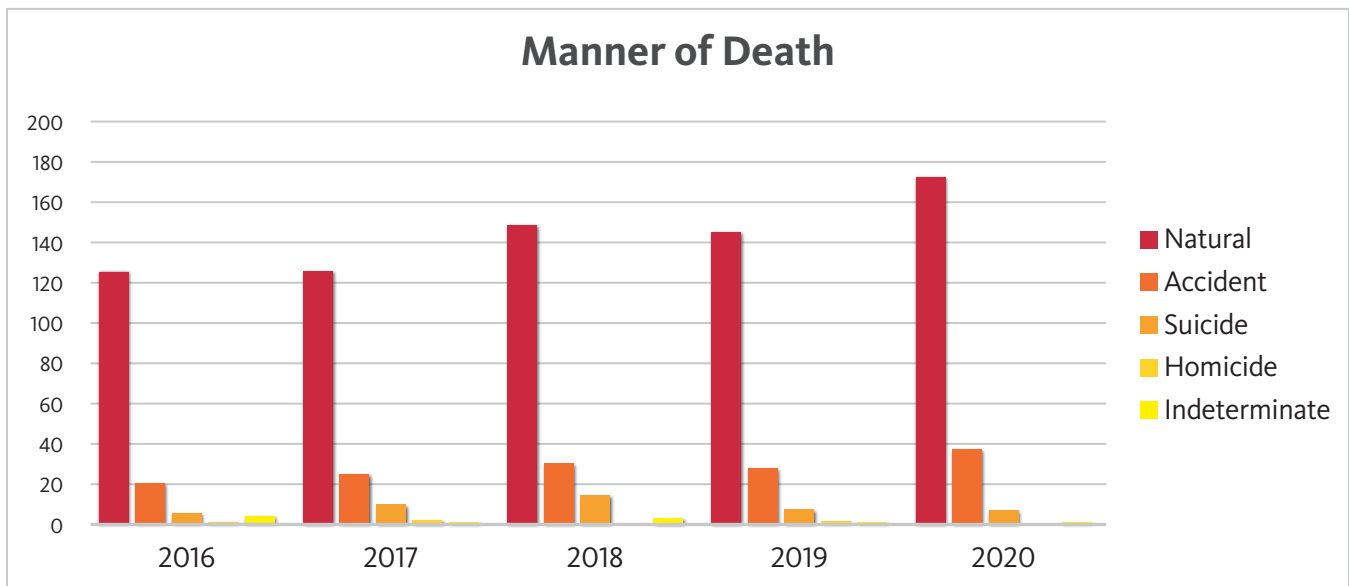
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2019
TOTAL DEATHS IN THE COUNTY	629	618	704	708	730
DEATHS REPORTED TO THE ME	158	168	200	185	219
CASES ACCEPTED - INVESTIGATION ⁵⁰	130	151	175	162	182
MEI SCENE INVESTIGATIONS	133	151	180	160	152
DEATH CERTIFICATES SIGNED BY THE ME	64	66	74	69	75
BODIES TRANSPORTED TO SPARROW	48	57	57	52	52
COMPLETE AUTOPSY	44	41	40	41	43
LIMITED AUTOPSY	1	7	8	6	4
EXTERNAL EXAMINATION	2	3	5	0	3
UNCLAIMED BODIES	1	0	1	1	1
STORAGE ONLY	1	6	4	5	2
REFERRALS TO GIFT OF LIFE	43	44	40	41	24
TISSUE/CORNEA DONORS	15	8	6	11	4
CREMATION PERMITS REVIEWED	375	356	436	439	466

⁵⁰ Not every case that is reported to the Medical Examiner's Office falls within our jurisdiction. We accept cases for investigation based on the circumstances surrounding the death and the law that governs the Medical Examiner's authority (MCL 52.202). We declined jurisdiction in 37 cases that were reported to us in 2020.

Shiawassee County

Manner of Death

Manner of Death	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
NATURAL	125	125	148	145	172
ACCIDENT	21	26	31	28	38
SUICIDE	6	11	15	8	7
HOMICIDE	1	3	0	2	0
INDETERMINATE	4	1	4	1	1
TOTAL	158 ⁵¹	168 ⁵²	198 ⁵³	184 ⁵⁴	218 ⁵⁵



⁵¹ Cases with no manner of death: stillbirth

⁵² Cases with no manner of death: (1) stillbirth; (1) found "trophy" human skull of no contemporary forensic interest

⁵³ Cases with no manner of death: stillbirth

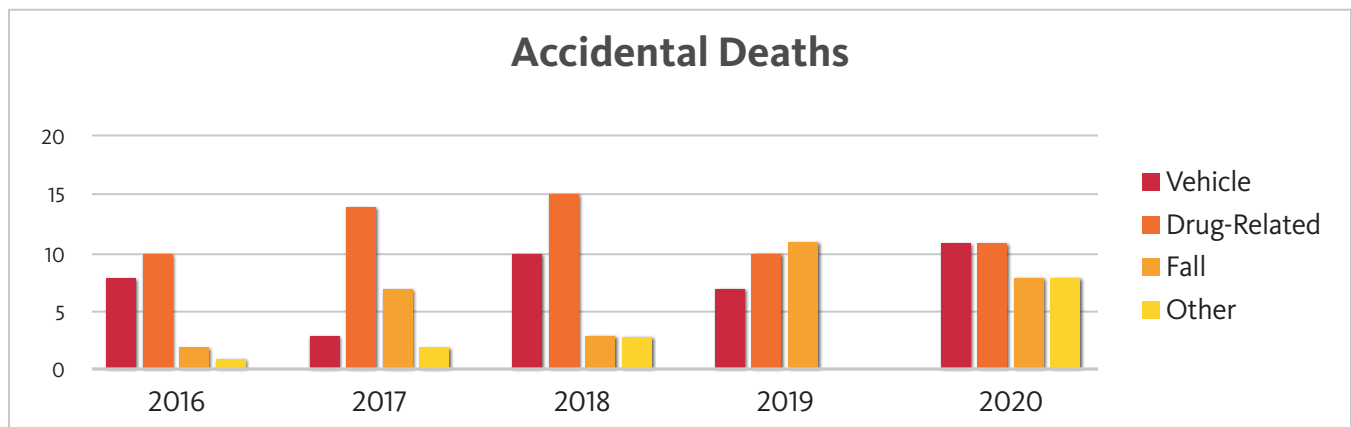
⁵⁴ Cases with no manner of death: stillbirth

⁵⁵ Cases with no manner of death: stillbirth

Shiawassee County

Accidental Deaths

Accidental Deaths	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
VEHICLE	8	3	10	7	11
DRUG-RELATED	10	14	15	10	11
DROWNING	0	0	1	0	3
FALL	2	7	3	11	8
FIRE	1	1	0	0	1
ASPHYXIA	0	0	0	0	2
HYPOTHERMIA	0	0	1	0	2
OTHER	0	1 ⁵⁶	1 ⁵⁷	0	0
TOTAL	21	26	31	28	38



⁵⁶ Hypothermia complicated by multiple drug intoxication, blunt head trauma, and cardiopulmonary disease

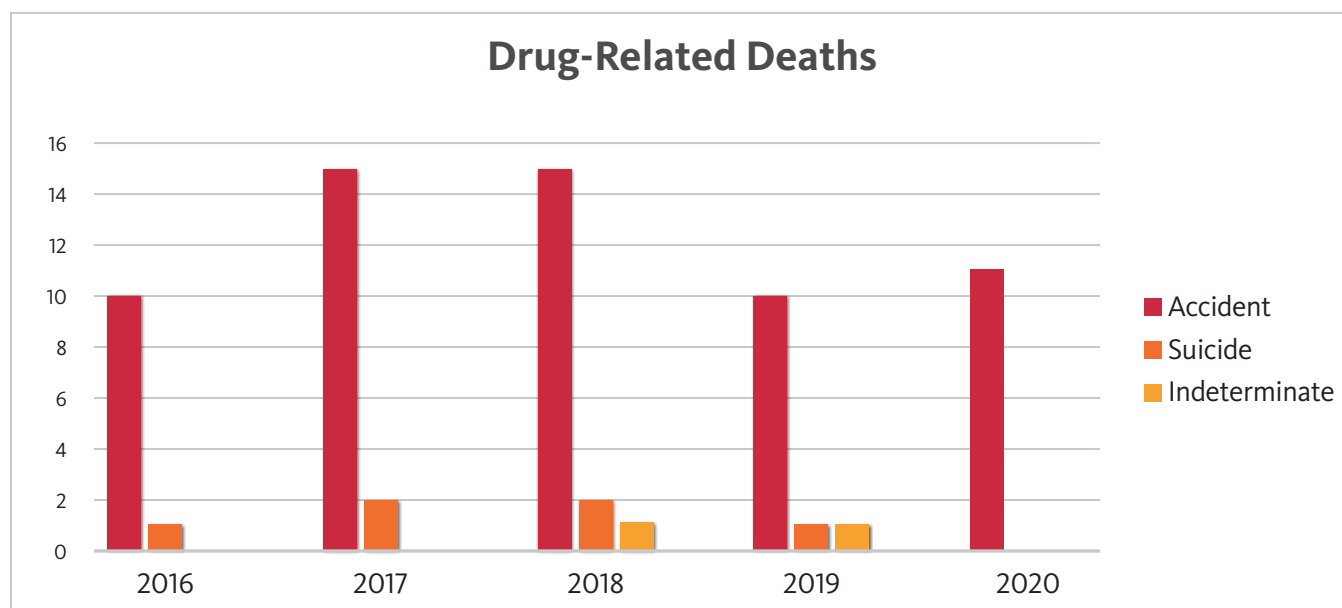
⁵⁷ Blunt force head trauma-car fell from jack

Shiawassee County

Drug-Related Deaths

For purposes of this report, drug-related fatalities are deaths in which an overdose of a combination of drugs or a single drug caused or contributed to the death. These deaths do not include situations in which intoxication might have been a factor in an incident leading to death, such as motor vehicle crashes, falls, choking while eating, or environmental exposures.

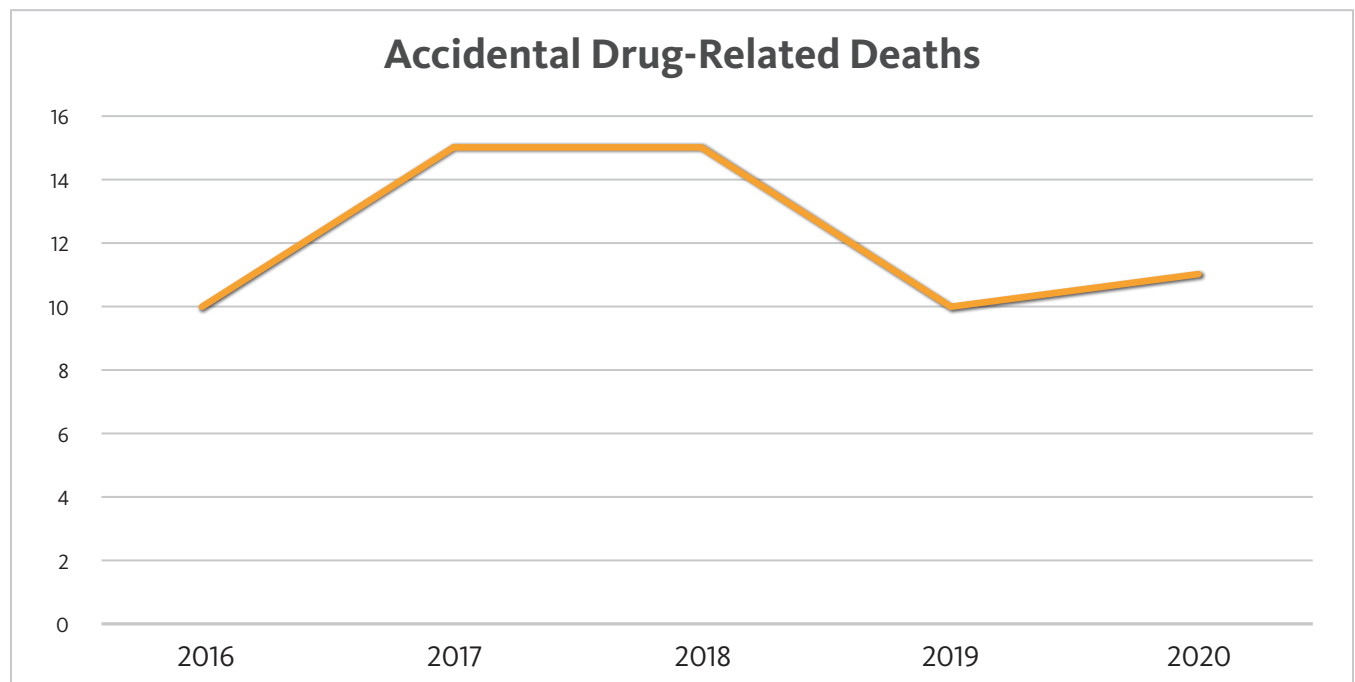
Manner of Death	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
ACCIDENT	10	15 ⁵⁸	15	10	11
SUICIDE	1	2	2	1	0
INDETERMINATE	0	0	1	1	0
TOTAL	11	17	18	12	11



⁵⁸ (1) case is multifactorial – hypothermia complicated by multiple drug intoxication, blunt head injuries, and cardiopulmonary disease (explains discrepancy in total number of accidental drug-related deaths between this chart and that on previous page)

Shiawassee County Drug-Related Deaths

2020 Drug-Related Deaths Summary	
TOTAL	11 cases
SEX	1 female, 10 male
RACE	11 white
AGE RANGE	24-53 years
AVERAGE AGE	37.5 years
MEDIAN AGE	36 years
OPIOID-RELATED	11 cases involved an opiate or opioid (100%)
MANNER OF DEATH	11 accidents, 0 suicides



Shiawassee County

Suicides

Suicide Totals by Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
SUICIDES	6	11	15	8	7

Suicide Methods	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
FIREARM	3	9	12	6	4
HANGING	1	0	1	0	3
DRUG INTOXICATION	1	2	2	1	0
CARBON MONOXIDE	0	0	0	1	0
MOTOR VEHICLE	0	0	0	0	0
STRUCK BY TRAIN	1 ⁵⁹	0	0	0	0

Suicides by Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
0-17	0	0	2	0	0
18-25	0	1	1	0	2
26-44	1	3	2	6	2
45-64	5	4	6	1	3
65 +	0	3	4	1	0

⁵⁹ Motor vehicle parked on train tracks – struck by train in motor vehicle

Shiawassee County

Reported Deaths of Children

Deaths of Children by Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Stillborn	1	1	2 ⁶⁰	1	1
<1 year	2	1	0	0	0
1-5	0	0	0	0	0
6-10	1	0	0	0	0
11-17	0	0	4	1	0
TOTAL	4	2	8	2	1

Manner of Death	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
NATURAL	0	0	1	0	0
ACCIDENT	1	0	1	1	0
SUICIDE	0	0	2	0	0
HOMICIDE	1	0	0	0	0
INDETERMINATE	1	1	2	0	0

2020 Reported Deaths of Children Summary			
Age	Sex	Cause of Death	Manner
0	U	Intrauterine Fetal Demise	N/A (Stillbirth)

⁶⁰ (2) additional mummified previable infants/fetuses were discovered (unable to determine is stillborn or died after birth); therefore, age is not classified on these two cases

Comparisons Across Counties

	<i>Eaton</i>	<i>Ingham</i>	<i>Ionia</i>	<i>Isabella</i>	<i>Shiawassee</i>
POPULATION	110,268	292,406	64,697	69,872	68,122
TOTAL DEATHS	866	3468	409	603	730
DEATHS REPORTED TO THE ME (% OF TOTAL DEATHS)	235 (27.1%)	1,087 (31.3%)	119 (29.1%)	148 (24.8%)	219 (30%)
CASES ACCEPTED FOR INVESTIGATION	212	965	110	128	182
MEI SCENE INVESTIGATION	201	572	107	115	152
DEATH CERTIFICATES SIGNED BY THE ME	102	504	43	50	75
TOTAL EXAMS (% OF CASES ACCEPTED)	79 (37.2%)	356 (36.9%)	31 (28.2%)	37 (28.9%)	50 (27.5%)
NATURAL DEATHS (% OF DEATHS REPORTED)	174 (74%)	728 (67%)	90 (75.6%)	119 (80.4%)	172 (78.5%)
ACCIDENTAL DEATHS (% OF DEATHS REPORTED)	42 (17.9%)	271 (24.9%)	16 (13.4%)	19 (12.9%)	38 (17.4%)
SUICIDES (% OF DEATHS REPORTED)	13 (5.5%)	39 (3.6%)	9 (7.6%)	6 (4%)	7 (3.2%)
HOMICIDES (% OF DEATHS REPORTED)	3 (1.3%)	26 (2.4%)	1 (0.8%)	2 (1.4%)	0 (0%)
INDETERMINATE (% OF DEATHS REPORTED)	3 (1.3%)	22 (2%)	2 (1.7%)	2 (1.4%)	1 (0.5%)
DRUG-RELATED DEATHS (% OF DEATHS REPORTED)	26 (11.1%)	131 (12.1%)	4 (3.4%)	8 (7.4%)	11 (5.9%)
REFERRALS TO GIFT OF LIFE	62	294	38	48	24
TISSUE/CORNEA DONORS	18	54	18	6	4
UNCLAIMED BODIES	4	18	4	1	1

Additional Information

In the five counties for which Sparrow Forensic Pathology served as the Office of the Medical Examiner in 2020:

- » No bodies were exhumed for examination
- » No cases remained unidentified at the time a final disposition
- » Toxicology testing was performed in 554 of the 572 (96.9%) examinations performed⁶¹

⁶¹ Toxicology testing is performed in nearly all cases in which an examination is performed. Exceptions to this may include (but are not limited to): cases sent in for identification purposes only, apparent natural deaths sent in for external examination to rule out trauma, and cases for which adequate toxicology specimens cannot be obtained (due to prolonged stay in hospital following initial event or decomposition).



1.800.Sparrow | Sparrow.org

Sparrow complies with applicable federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.
ATTENTION: If you speak a language other than English, language assistance services are free of charge and available to you. Call **517.364.3935**.
ATENCIÓN: Si habla un idioma distinto del inglés, hay servicios gratuitos de asistencia con el idioma, disponibles para usted. Llame al **517.253.2405**.
تنبيه: إذا كنت تتحدث لغة بخلاف الإنجليزية، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية مجانية ومتاحة لك. اتصل برقم **517.253.2406**.