



**REGIONAL MEDICAL
EXAMINER'S OFFICE**

2019 Annual Report

Washoe County
Regional Medical
Examiner's Office



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Chief's Report

History and Current Status

The history of the Medical Examiner's Office can be summed up in the pre-2007 and post-2007 eras. Prior to 2007, the office was the Washoe County Coroner Office (WCCO) and was managed by a layperson coroner. Pathologists were retained on a contract basis to perform autopsies, and frequently also actively practiced hospital pathology at the same time. Effective July 1, 2007, the Board of County Commissioners approved county code changes that established a Medical Examiner system in Washoe County, and the office became known as the Washoe County Medical Examiner-Coroner Office. A forensic pathologist was the Chief Medical Examiner and Coroner, and employed a second forensic pathologist as a full-time Assistant Medical Examiner; numerous part-time locum tenens pathologists from across the country were added over time to handle the increasing regional caseload. A Deputy Chief Medical Examiner position was added in 2015 due to both caseload and the need for succession planning. Dr. Ellen Clark was the first Chief Medical Examiner of the office and retired at the end of 2016 after many years of dedicated service.

The office relocated in January 2017 to the current site, 990 East 9th Street, to a modern, state-of-the-art facility, newly constructed in 2016. The office rebranded at this time the Washoe County Regional Medical Examiner's Office (WCRMEO). Dr. Laura Knight, previously Deputy Chief Medical Examiner from 2015-2016, became Chief Medical Examiner and Coroner in January 2017 and remains in that position. The office is now staffed with four full-time Medical Examiners, including the Chief.

Total deaths reported to WCRMEO in 2019 reached an all-time high of 5,080. This includes Washoe County deaths and all outside referral counties. Total deaths reported has increased steadily over the years; the 2019 total represents a 2% increase over 2018, and a 33% increase over 2015. WCRMEO pathologists also performed more autopsies than any prior year, 853 (full autopsies and head-only autopsies). This number has steadily risen over the years and represents an increase of 44% since 2015.

The board-certified forensic pathologists (Medical Examiners) in the office perform autopsies and other medical examinations. The annual autopsy caseload must be divided in such a way that no individual pathologist is over-burdened, the Chief has sufficient time for administrative duties, and the office can meet per-pathologist caseload requirements for national accreditation. If caseload continues to climb in our growing region, additional pathologists (part-time contractual or full-time) will need to be added to the office's budget.

Future Goals

Future goals and priorities of the office include national accreditation by the National Association of Medical Examiners; continuing partnerships with organ and tissue donation organizations; mass fatality preparedness; and increased academic partnership with the University, including a possible fellowship training program to produce future forensic pathologists. We will continue to be the regional referral center for high quality autopsies, providing services on a contract basis to 18 additional counties in Nevada and Northern California, and the regional center for excellence in medicolegal death investigation. We will continue to conduct high quality mass fatality training exercises, and training conferences on medicolegal death investigation for surrounding county coroners and law enforcement. We will enhance the education of medical students, through cooperation with the University of Nevada-Reno School of Medicine, with a secondary goal of recruiting more future forensic pathologists to the field, in which there is a dire workforce shortage. Finally, and most importantly, we will strive to continue to serve the citizens of Washoe County with diligence, respect, and compassion, at a time when many of them are having the worst day of their lives, having lost a loved one.

Final Words

This report represents the fourth annual statistical and informational report of the Washoe County Regional Medical Examiner's Office. It is my sincere hope that other community agencies, community leaders, law enforcement, regional county coroners, and citizens may find it interesting and useful. Additionally, I hope this data may be of use in prevention efforts, as many of the deaths that come to the attention of the Medical Examiner/Coroner are ultimately preventable.

Yours in service,

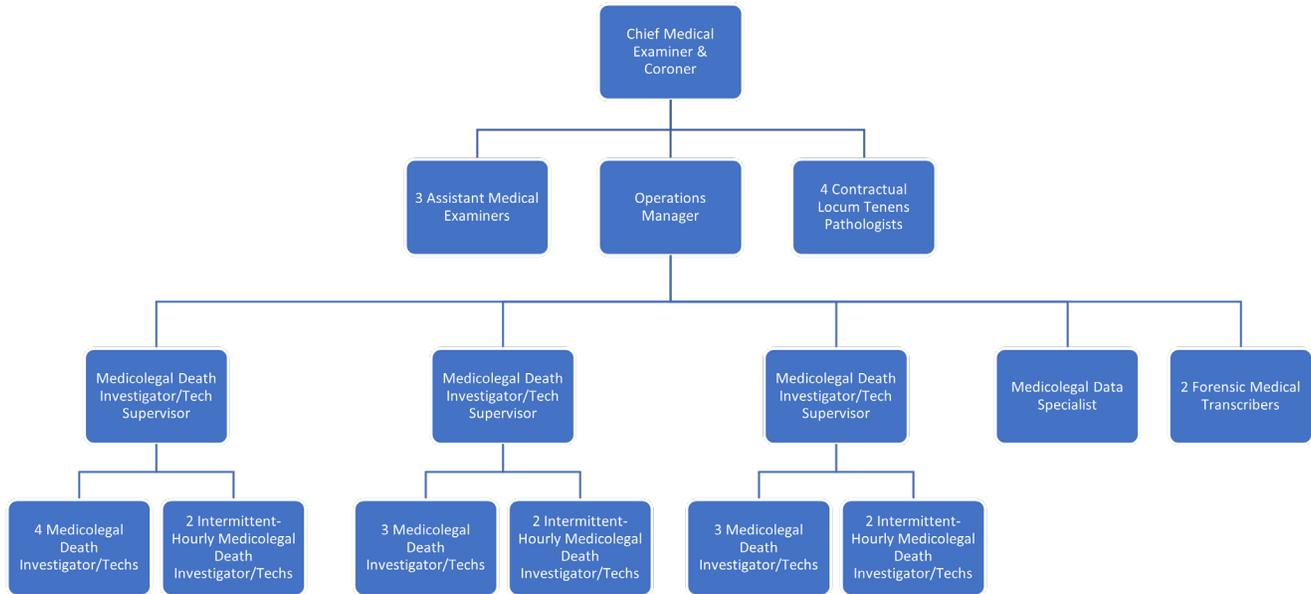


Dr. Laura D. Knight, MD
Chief Medical Examiner & Coroner,
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Introduction

Organizational Chart



Mission Statement

The mission of the Washoe County Regional Medical Examiner's Office (WCRMEO) is to investigate unexpected and unexplained deaths in order to identify and report on the cause and manner of death. We apply scientific investigative techniques and medical procedures, using integrity and compassion, to serve families and public agencies impacted by sudden unexpected death.

Statutory Authority

The WCRMEO is primarily governed by Chapter 259, 440, and 451 of the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and Chapter 35 of the Washoe County Code (WCC). NRS 259 requires that each county have a coroner and WCC 35 creates the Medical Examiner system to fulfill coroner duties.

Description

The Medical Examiner investigates sudden or unexpected deaths, traumatic deaths, and suspicious deaths. Certain categories of sudden death, by law, must be reported to and investigated by this office. All suspicious and many apparent natural death scenes in Washoe County are attended and evaluated by trained Medicolegal Death Investigators employed by the Medical Examiner's Office. Many reported deaths are ultimately determined to be due to natural causes, but a significant number of reported cases are found to be due to accidents, homicidal trauma, and suicides. Of the deaths reported to and falling within the office's jurisdiction in 2018, 68% required autopsy or other medical examination and an additional 32% required detailed review of medical history and circumstances of death. Board-certified forensic pathologists (medical doctors specializing in forensic pathology) conduct these autopsy and medical examinations.

Responsibilities of the office include:

- Determining the cause and manner of death for jurisdictional cases
- Electronic certification of death certificates in all cases of unnatural death and in many cases of natural death
- Conducting investigations of death scenes
- Identifying, collecting and processing evidence in order to ensure scientific integrity and usefulness
- Recognizing unsuspected homicidal violence
- Recognizing and reporting communicable and dangerous diseases, poisonings, and consumer product safety concerns
- Positively identifying the dead
- Notifying the decedent's next of kin and providing proper assistance to grieving families
- Ensuring integrity of the personal property of decedents
- Providing expert legal testimony in criminal and civil matters
- Preparing for and responding to mass disasters
- Assisting in providing for burial of indigent citizens in accordance with law

Community and Academic Involvement

The WCRMEO is very active throughout the community. In 2019, WCRMEO staff made many presentations to the community including the Nevada Law Enforcement Academy, Nevada Department of Public Safety, the Nevada Department of Transportation, the Washoe County Career Fair, the Peer Support Group, and lectures to medical students at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR). The office also holds a two day conference on death scene investigation for law enforcement agencies in the region. Each pathologist in the office has a letter of appointment to teach at the University of Nevada, Reno at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor. In addition, the office hosted educational rotations for dozens of UNR medical students, as well as law enforcement officers, and many others.

Dr. Laura Knight was a co-author and co-presenter on two scientific abstracts presented at a national conference. These abstracts represent collaborations with other forensic pathologists and Medical Examiner offices from across the United States, including important collaborative work with the American Academy of Pediatrics and National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) regarding sudden deaths in infant and children. Dr. Knight was first author on one chapter, and a co-author on 2 other chapters, in the textbook resulting from the national collaboration, *Unexplained Pediatric Deaths: Investigation, Certification, and Family Needs*. Additionally, Dr. Knight co-authored a peer-reviewed scientific article regarding forensic decapitations in the *American Journal of Forensic Medicine & Pathology* with Dr. Marin Pilloud (board-certified forensic anthropologist) and others from the UNR Anthropology Department as part of a strong and ongoing research collaboration. Dr. Knight was also an invited panel member at the NAME annual scientific meeting titled “Learn to Lead in Forensic Pathology from Chief Medical Examiners” and at the Nevada Opioid Response Summit regarding investigation of drug-related deaths, and an invited speaker at the University of Alabama Medical Center regarding organ and tissue donation.

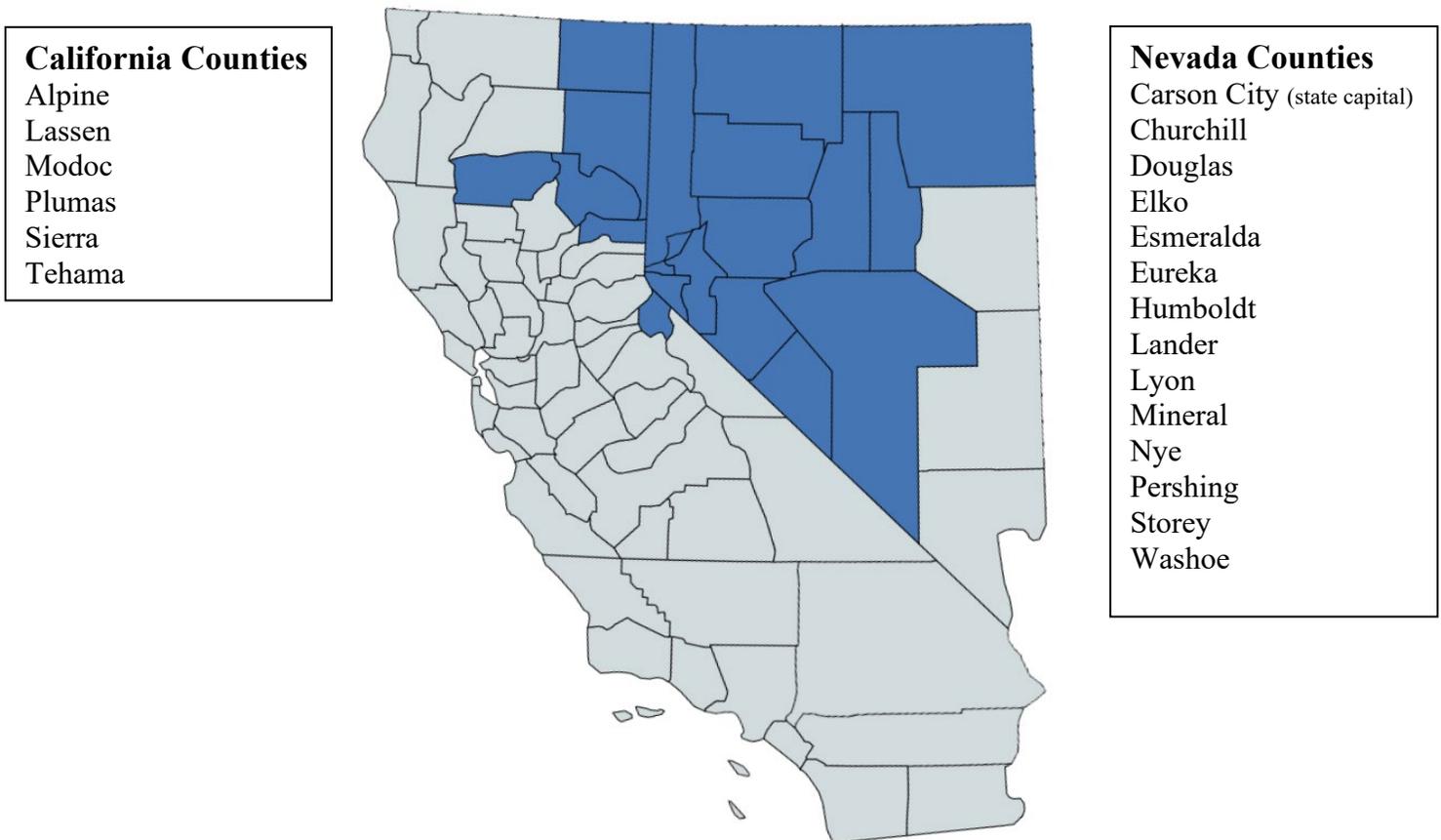
Awards and Honors

In 2019, the Washoe County Regional Medical Examiner's Office won the following awards.

- Hope Strength Life Award from Nevada Donor Network (NDN)
- The Platinum Level Partner Award from NDN and HRSA (US Health Resources and Services Administration) for the office's efforts to promote organ and tissue donation
- Washoe Impact Awards Manager's Choice Award for Tissue Donation Program
- President's Award from the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) to Dr. Laura D. Knight for "special and ongoing service."

Jurisdiction and Service Area

The WCRMEO's primary jurisdiction is Washoe County. However, the office provides services to 13 additional Nevada counties (including the state capital) and 6 California counties through interlocal agreements.



WCRMEO service area highlighted in blue

Examination Types and Descriptions

Autopsy	A full postmortem examination encompassing detailed examination of the exterior and interior of the body, including dissection of internal organs and structures, to determine cause of death. Specimens for additional studies, such as toxicology testing, are obtained during the autopsy.
Limited Autopsy-Head Only	An autopsy examination limited to the external examination of the entire body and internal examination of only the head. Used in select trauma or suspected trauma cases only. Toxicology specimens can be obtained during a limited autopsy.
External Examination	An examination of the exterior of the body that documents identifying features, stigmata of disease, and findings of injury, without accompanying internal dissection. Toxicology specimens such as blood can be obtained during an external examination.
Consultation	Death investigated by the WCRMEO in which no physical examination is performed because the decedent has well-documented medical condition(s) and no primary care physician, or trauma with prolonged hospitalization, determined to be the cause of death. A Medical Examiner reviews medical records and circumstances of death and completes the death certificate.
Jurisdiction Terminated	Natural death from known natural disease that is reported to the WCRMEO but does not fall within its jurisdiction

Manner of Death Types and Descriptions

Natural	Death caused by a natural disease or medical condition
Suicide	Death caused by a purposeful self-action with the intent of ending one's own life
Homicide	Death at the hands of another
Accident	Death caused by an unintentional action or external factor
Undetermined	Death in which the cause of death may or may not be known, but the circumstances in which the death came about are unknown or cannot be determined

General Statistics

Total Cases by Type

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	'18-'19 Percent Change
Autopsies	565	657	740	784	805	3%
Consultations	655	641	534	527	463	-12%
External Exams	316	279	265	269	314	17%
Head-Only Autopsy	27	54	42	48	48	0%
Jurisdiction Terminated	2255	2622	3103	3368	3450	2%
Total Cases Reported	3819	4253	4684	4996	5080	2%

State of Residence for All Reported Cases

Alabama	0	Louisiana	1	Ohio	1
Alaska	0	Maine	0	Oklahoma	0
Arizona	5	Maryland	0	Oregon	7
Arkansas	1	Massachusetts	1	Pennsylvania	1
California	375	Michigan	1	Rhode Island	0
Colorado	1	Minnesota	1	South Carolina	0
Connecticut	0	Mississippi	1	South Dakota	0
Delaware	1	Missouri	1	Tennessee	3
Florida	3	Montana	0	Texas	1
Georgia	1	Nebraska	0	Utah	2
Hawaii	3	Nevada	4568	Vermont	0
Idaho	10	New Hampshire	0	Virginia	0
Illinois	5	New Jersey	0	Washington	7
Indiana	1	New Mexico	1	West Virginia	0
Iowa	1	New York	1	Wisconsin	0
Kansas	2	North Carolina	0	Wyoming	0
Kentucky	0	North Dakota	0	Unknown/Other	73

Total Examination Cases* by Manner of Death

	2015**	2016	2017	2018	2019	'18-'19 Percent Change
Natural	288	326	431	483	511	6%
Accident	237	263	358	352	369	5%
Suicide	137	170	165	165	191	16%
Homicide	34	38	46	42	42	0%
Undetermined	41	27	43	58	52	-10%

*Total Examination Cases comprises all autopsies, limited (head-only) autopsies, and external examinations completed by the WCRMEO.

**Manner of death for cases occurring outside Washoe County limits is not certified by the WCRMEO but rather the local county coroner. The majority of outside county cases are reported back to the WCRMEO by the jurisdiction agency with manner of death after the death is certified. Prior to mid-2015, cases occurring outside Washoe County limits returned no manner of death reporting.

Total Examination Cases* by Sex

	2019	Percentage
Male	842	72%
Female	323	28%
Unknown	2	<1%

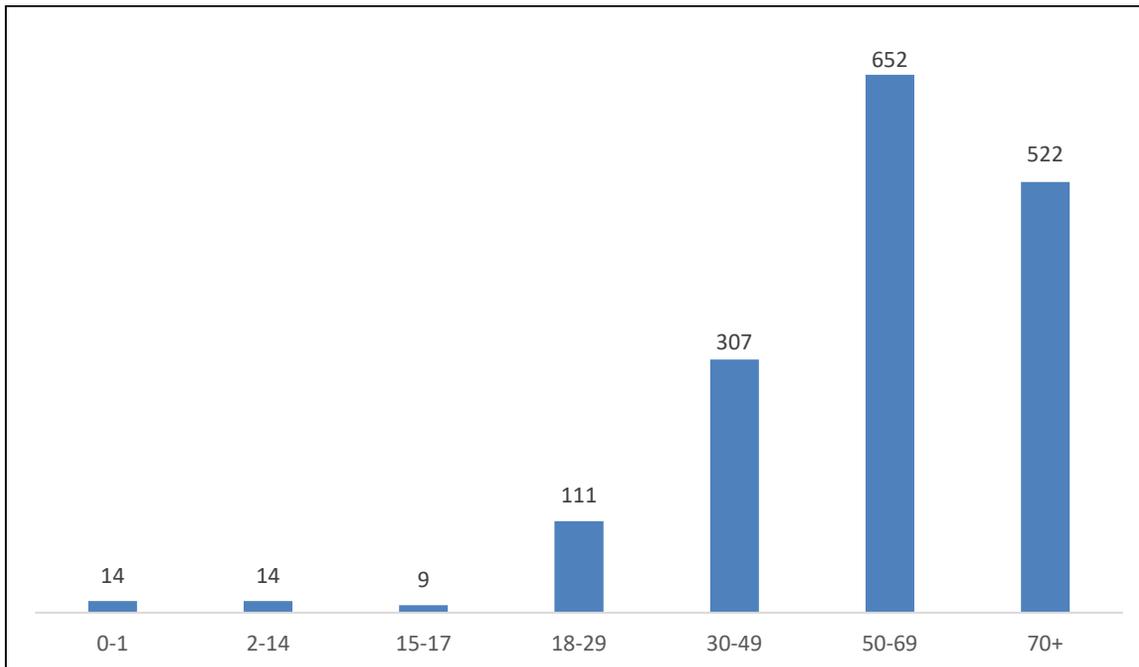
*Total Examination Cases comprises all autopsies, limited (head-only) autopsies, and external examinations completed by the WCRMEO.

Total Examination Cases* by Race

	2019	Percentage
White	993	85%
Hispanic/Lantix/South American	70	6%
Black/African American	49	4%
Asian/Pacific Islander	31	3%
American Indian/Native American	24	2%
Other/Unknown	8	1%

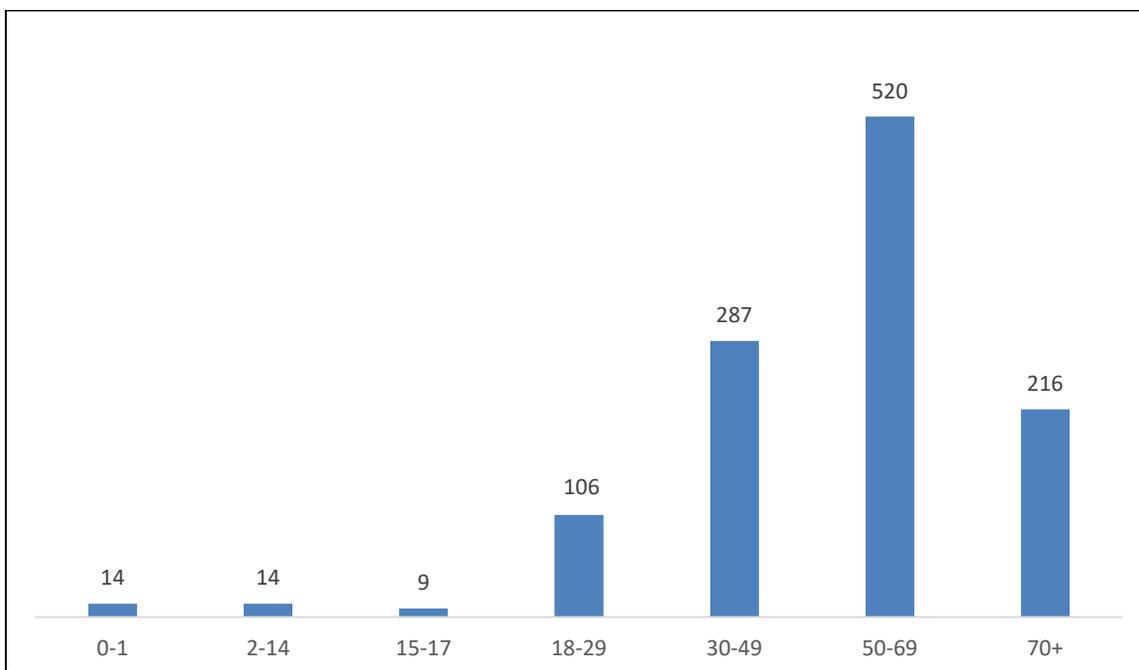
*Total Examination Cases comprises all autopsies, limited (head-only) autopsies, and external examinations completed by the WCRMEO. Race information is reported by next of kin. Multiple races may be reported for a single decedent.

Total ME Jurisdictional Cases* by Age



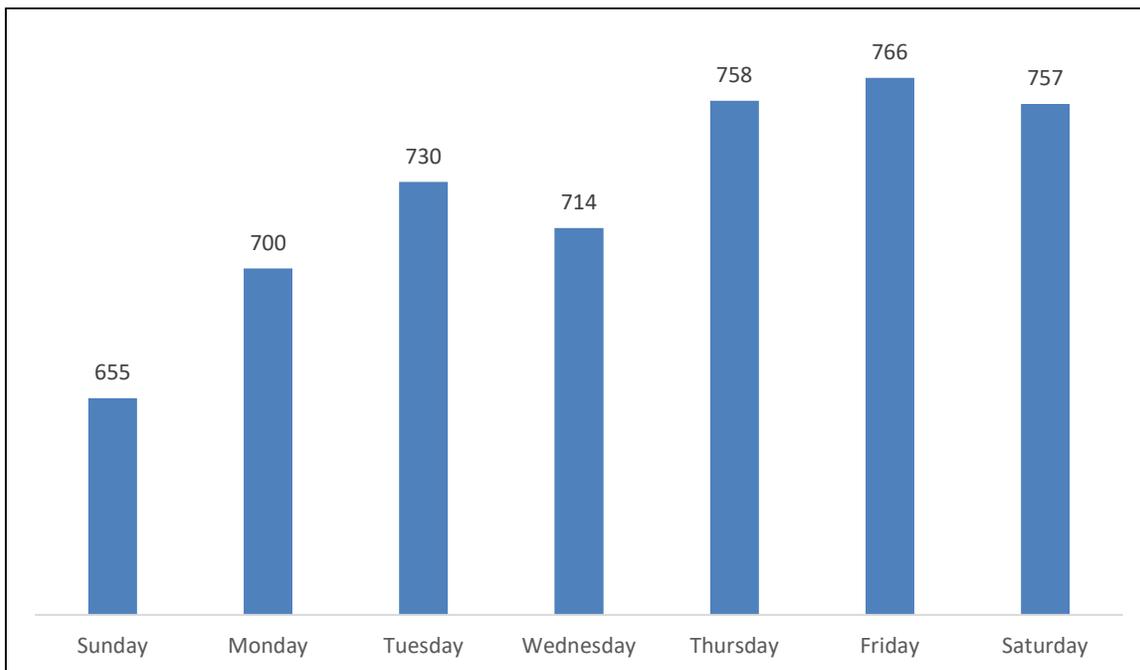
*Total Medical Examiner Jurisdictional Cases comprises all autopsies, limited (head-only) autopsies, External examinations, and consultations completed by the WCRMEO.

Total Examination Cases* by Age

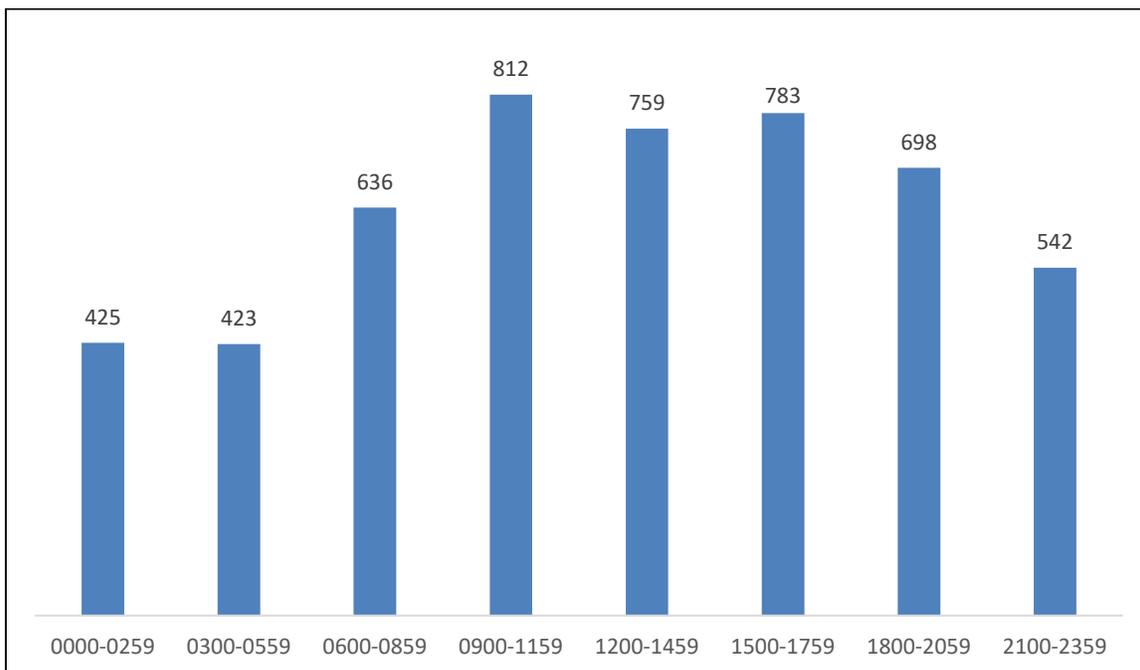


*Total Examination Cases comprises all autopsies, limited (head-only) autopsies, and external examinations completed by the WCRMEO.

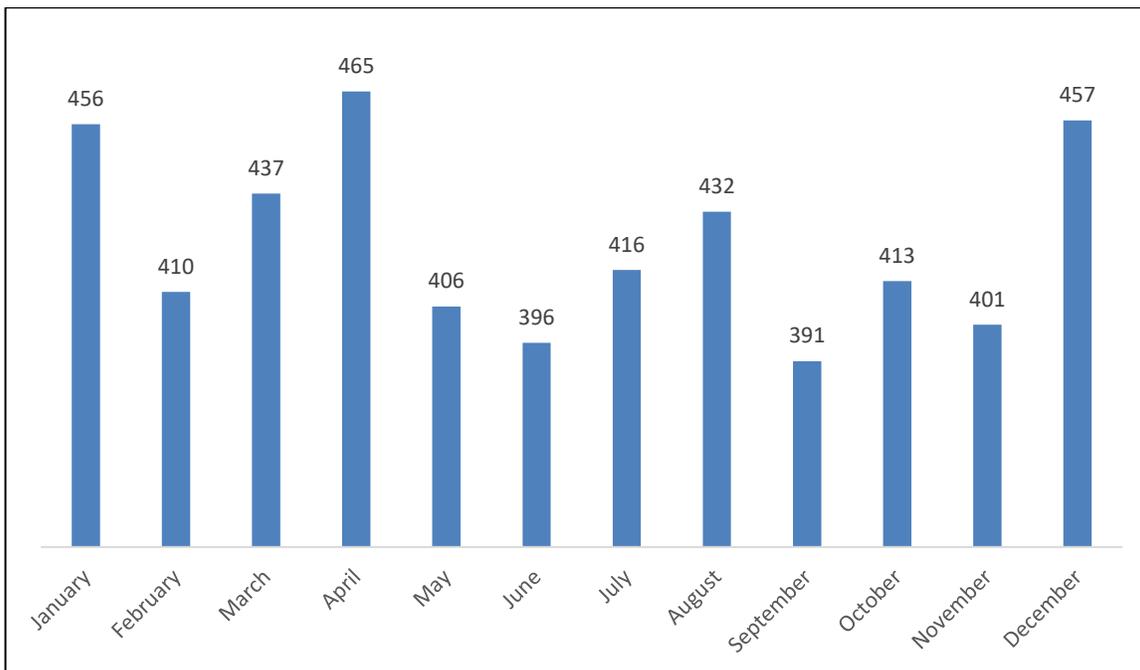
Total Reported Deaths by Day of the Week



Total Reported Deaths by Time of Death



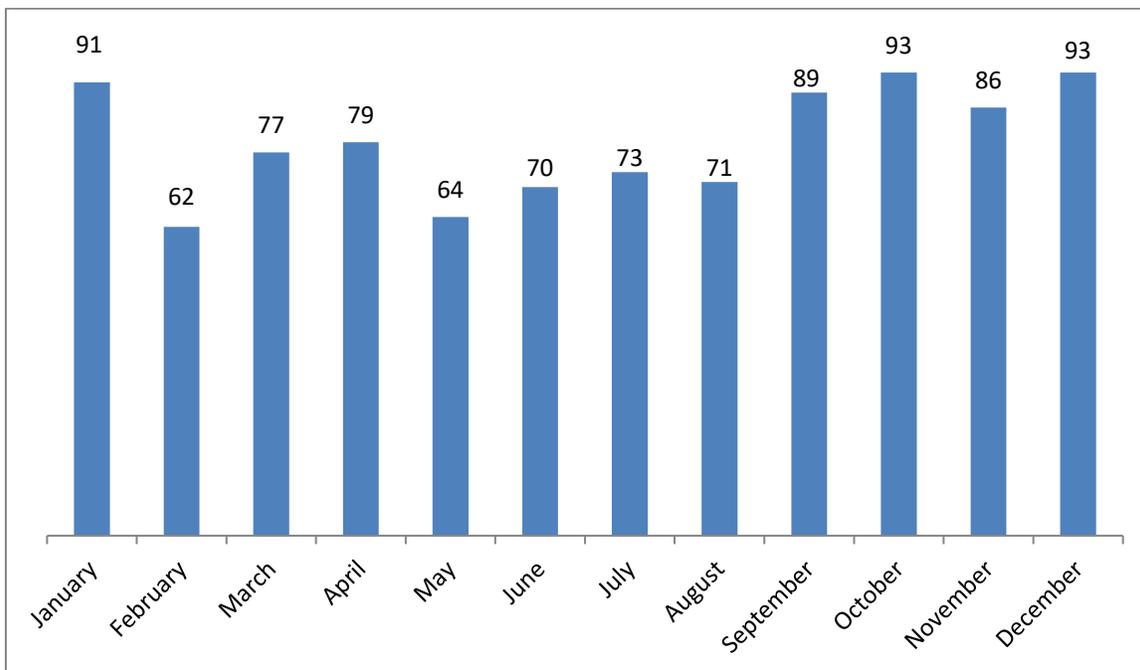
Total Reported Deaths by Month



Scene Responses by Month

948 total scene responses in 2019

803 responses in 2018



Specific Causes & Types of Death

Major Causes of Death, for Each Manner of Death

For All* Autopsy/External Examination and Consultation Cases Performed at WCRMEO

NATURAL

Cause of Death	Number	Percent
Cardiac (Atherosclerotic and/or Hypertensive Cardiovascular Disease, Congestive Heart Failure, Coronary Artery Disease, Cardiomyopathy, Myocardial Infarction)	434	58%
Pulmonary Related Complications	81	11%
Complications of Chronic Alcoholism	67	9%
Complications of Diabetes and/or Ketoacidosis	25	3%
Abdominal and Gastrointestinal Related	24	3%
Cancer	21	3%
Others	99	13%
Total	751	100%

ACCIDENT

Cause of Death	Number	Percent
Complications of blunt force injuries, fractures, & falls	258	44%
Drug intoxication	219	37%
Asphyxia, various types	15	3%
Drowning	15	3%
Hypothermia	7	1%
Others	71	12%
Total	585	100%

SUICIDE

Cause of Death	Number	Percent
Gunshot wound	100	52%
Hanging	59	31%
Drug Intoxication	28	15%
Sharp Force Injuries	2	1%
Blunt Force Injuries (Intentional)	1	1%
Drowning	1	1%

Carbon Monoxide	1	1%
Total	192	100%

HOMICIDE

Cause of Death	Number	Percent
Gunshot Wound(s)	30	70%
Sharp Force Injuries	6	14%
Blunt Force Injuries	6	14%
Thermal Injuries	1	2%
Total	43	100%

UNDETERMINED

Cause of Death	Number	Percent
Undetermined Cause	25	44%
Drug Intoxication	17	30%
Traumatic Injuries (Unexplained)	9	16%
Thermal Injuries and/or Smoke Inhalation	1	2%
Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood	1	2%
Others	4	7%
Total	57	100%

*Includes Washoe County and outside counties covered by interlocal agreement

WASHOE COUNTY HOMICIDES BY AREA*

Injury Location	Number
Reno	18
Sparks	4
Sun Valley	4

* Cases included are only those where injury and death occurred in Washoe County

HOMICIDES BY COUNTY

Cases for counties other than Washoe are only included if the case was referred to WCRMEO by that county's coroner

County of Death	Total
Carson City	2
Douglas	2
Elko	2
Lassen	3
Lyon	1
Nye	1
Pershing	1
Plumas	1
Washoe	30*

*Includes those who were injured in another county but died in a Washoe County hospital

Washoe County Transportation Deaths

There were 63 transportation-related deaths in Washoe County in 2019, down from 77 in 2018, 76 in 2017, and 88 in 2016.

Transportation Deaths, By Sex

Gender	2016	2017	2018	2019	Percentage of Change '18 to '19
Male	66	54	58	41	-29%
Female	22	22	19	22	16%

Transportation Deaths, By Age

Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	Percentage of Change '18 to '19
0-17	3	7	2	2	0%
18-29	20	12	17	13	-24%
30-49	23	14	13	10	-23%
50-69	32	22	21	22	5%
70+	10	21	24	16	-33%

Transportation Deaths, By Role

Role	2016	2017	2018	2019	Percentage of Change '18 to '19
Driver/Operator	49	47	44	35	-20%
Pedestrian	23	15	18	16	-11%
Passenger	12	10	14	10	-29%
Cyclist	1	4	1	2	100%

Washoe County Drug Intoxication Deaths

2019 saw drug intoxication deaths increase significantly, up 20% over 2018. The bulk of 2019 illicit drug-related deaths remained due to methamphetamine; fentanyl-related deaths rose sharply, and a dozen Kratom (mitragynine) associated deaths were seen.

Note: In this reporting, illicit, prescription, and over-the-counter drug death data was stratified in more detail beginning in 2017.

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total Drug Deaths (Washoe County)	125	145	109	133	110	173	169	203
Major Categories*								
Illicit Drugs Only	36	54	41	53	38	78	73	86
Illicit Drugs and Ethanol Combined						1	5	14
Illicit Drugs & Over-the-Counter Drugs Combined						2	1	8
Prescription Drugs Only						34	31	27
Prescription Drugs and Ethanol Combined						11	10	8
Prescription Drugs Only, or Prescription & Over-the-Counter Drugs Combined	77	64	64	65	43	N/A	N/A	N/A
Prescription & Over-the-Counter Drugs Combined						8	4	8
Over-the-Counter Drugs Only, or Over-the-Counter Drugs and Ethanol Combined						6	3	5
Illicit and Prescription Drugs Combined	8	17	2	11	19	22	22	18
Prescription Drugs, Illicit Drugs, & Ethanol Combined						2	4	4
Prescription Drugs, Over-the-Counter Drugs, & Ethanol Combined						1	0	3
Huffing volatiles/intoxicants, with or without other drugs						1	1	11
Illicit Drugs, Prescription Drugs, Over-the-Counter Drugs, & Ethanol Combined								0
Illicit Drugs, Prescription Drugs, and Over-the-Counter Drugs Combined								3
Unable to Determine Specific Drugs Involved						2	0	2
Long Term Effects of Chronic Drug Abuse Without Acute Intoxication						5	16	15
Illicit-involved Deaths, By Drug*								
Methamphetamine (Without Heroin)	25	50	26	43	46	69	82	90
Heroin (Without Methamphetamine)	11	9	12	13	16	13	10	17
Methamphetamine and Heroin	3	4	3	8	9	16	13	15
Fentanyl (Alone)							2	3
Fentanyl (Alone or With Others)								25
Fentanyl and Methamphetamine							1	8

Fentanyl and Heroin							0	1
Cocaine (Alone or With Others)	5	11	4	3	4	5	8	10
Mitragynine (Alone or With Others)								12
Designer Drugs	1	0	0	0	4	9	1	5

*Not inclusive of all intoxication deaths.

Drug Intoxication Deaths, By Age

Age	Number	Percentage
0-17	2	1%
18-29	19	9%
30-49	78	38%
50-69	87	43%
70+	17	8%

Drug Intoxication Deaths, By Sex

Sex	Number	Percentage
Male	137	67%
Female	66	33%

Methamphetamine-related Deaths, By Age

Age	Number	Percentage
0-17	0	0%
18-29	7	7%
30-49	32	30%
50-69	58	55%
70+	8	8%

Methamphetamine-related Deaths, By Sex

Sex	Number	Percentage
Male	73	70%
Female	32	30%

Heroin Intoxication Deaths, By Age

Age	Number	Percentage
0-17	0	0%
18-29	5	16%
30-49	14	44%
50-69	13	41%
70+	0	0%

Heroin Intoxication Deaths, By Sex

Sex	Number	Percentage
Male	25	78%
Female	7	22%

Fentanyl Intoxication Deaths, By Age

Age	Number	Percentage
0-17	0	0%
18-29	9	36%
30-49	12	48%
50-69	4	16%
70+	0	0%

Fentanyl Intoxication Deaths, By Sex

Sex	Number	Percentage
Male	20	80%
Female	5	20%

Washoe County Drug Death Comparison

Type	2016	2017	2018	2019	Percentage of Change '18 to '19
Total Deaths	110	173	169	208	23%
Methamphetamine-related Deaths	55	85	85	105	24%
Heroin-related Deaths	25	29	23	32	39%
Designer Drug-related Deaths	4	9	1	5	400%
Prescription Drug-related Deaths	62	78	71	70	-1%

Statistics on Vulnerable Populations and Other Special Categories

Washoe County Homeless Person Deaths

Deaths of homeless individuals (persons with no fixed address or living quarters) reported to the WCRMEO are specifically tracked in the WCRMEO case database. There were a total of 39 deaths among the homeless in 2019, which is small increase from 37 in 2018. Most of the deaths were accidental in nature or due to natural disease. Female deaths increased significantly in 2019.

Washoe County Homeless Deaths, By Sex

Gender	2016	2017	2018	2019
Male	23	23	32	27
Female	1	4	5	12
Total	24	27	37	39

Washoe County Homeless Deaths, By Age

Age	2016	2017	2018	2019
0-17	0	0	0	0
18-29	1	2	1	3
30-49	6	7	11	14
50-69	14	14	23	17
70+	3	4	2	5

Washoe County Homeless Deaths, By Manner of Death

Manner	2016	2017	2018	2019
Accident	11	12	22	19
Natural	9	9	7	10
Homicide	0	2	3	2
Suicide	2	2	3	4
Undetermined	2	2	2	4

Washoe County Homeless Person Deaths, by Manner of Death, Cause of Death

ACCIDENT

Cause of Death	Number	Percent
Drug-related deaths	12	63%
Blunt Force Injuries	6	32%
Drowning	1	5%

NATURAL

Cause of Death	Number	Percent
Cardiovascular Disease	6	60%
Complications of Chronic Alcoholism	2	20%
Cancer	1	10%
Seizure Disorder	1	10%

HOMICIDE

Cause of Death	Number	Percent
Sharp Force Injuries	1	50%
Blunt Force Injuries	1	50%

SUICIDE

Cause of Death	Number	Percent
Gunshot Wound of Head	1	25%
Hanging/Neck Compression	3	75%

UNDETERMINED

Cause of Death	Number	Percent
Drug Intoxication	1	25%
Blunt Force Injuries	1	25%
Smoke Inhalation and Thermal Injuries	1	25%
Undetermined	1	25%

Law Enforcement-Involved Deaths in Washoe County

Type of Death	Number
In-Custody Deaths (Jail)	4
Officer-Involved Shootings*	1

*For disambiguation purposes: While these deaths from officer-involved shootings occurred within Washoe County, these statistics include Washoe County Sheriff's Office, Reno Police Department, and Sparks Police Department.

Washoe County Incarcerated/In-Custody Deaths, by Manner of Death

Manner	Number	Percent
Natural	1	25%
Accident	0	0%
Homicide	0	0%
Suicide	3	75%
Undetermined	0	0%

Washoe County Pediatric Deaths

A total of 24 deaths of individuals aged 17 and under fell under WCRMEO jurisdiction in Washoe County in 2019.

Washoe County Pediatric Deaths, by Manner of Death

Manner	Number	Percent
Accident	8	33%
Undetermined	5	21%
Natural	5	21%
Suicide	5	21%
Homicide	1	4%

Washoe County Pediatric Causes of Death

Manner	Cause of Death	Number
Accident	Blunt Force	4
	Drowning	1
	Drug Intoxication	1
	Suffocation	1
	Intrauterine Fetal Demise	1
Homicide	Gunshot Wounds	1
Natural	Acute Bronchopneumonia and Tracheobronchitis	1
	Complications of Hantavirus Infection	1
	Complications of Influenza A H3 Infection	1
	Complications Of Kawasaki Disease	1
	Laryngotracheobronchitis	1
Suicide	Hanging	3
	Gunshot Wound	1
	Drug Intoxication	1
Undetermined	Undetermined	4
	Gunshot Wound	1

Washoe County Senior Deaths

In 2019, there were 491 deaths at 65 years of age and older that met the criteria for Medical Examiner jurisdiction. Deaths in seniors present special challenges, such as the need to rule out neglect or abuse, and the propensity for ultimately lethal injury from simple falls.

Senior Deaths, By Sex

Gender	Number	Percent
Female	195	%
Male	296	%

Senior Deaths, By Manner of Death

Manner	Number	Percent
Natural	234	48%
Accident	219	45%
Suicide	26	5%
Homicide	6	1%
Undetermined	6	1%

Causes of Death

Manner	Cause	Number
Natural	Cardiovascular related	165
	Pulmonary related	24
	Other	45
Accident	Fall related	137
	Motor vehicle related	10
	Drug related	13
	Other	59
Suicide	Gunshot Wound	19
	Drug Related	5
	Hanging	2
	Drowning	1
Homicide	Gunshot Wounds	3
	Traumatic Force Injuries	3
Undetermined	Undetermined	1

Other Statistics of Interest⁺

- 1,512 bodies were transported to and stored at the Medical Examiner's Office in 2019, compared to 1,495 bodies in 2018, 1,463 bodies in 2017 and 1,320 bodies in 2016.
- A total of 1,744 bodies were transported on the order of the WCRMEO in 2019.
- There were 118 unclaimed and abandoned decedents reported to the WCRMEO in 2019.
- Toxicology testing was performed on 1,076 cases in 2019, 1,022 cases in 2018, 956 cases in 2017, and 809 cases in 2016.
- There was one 1 case in which a decedent remained unidentified after thorough investigation in 2019. There was 1 case in 2018, and 0 cases in 2017 and 2016.
- 48 organ, 193 tissue, and 101 ocular donations were performed on Medical Examiner cases in 2019, with the full cooperation of the WCRMEO.
- The WCRMEO participated in 0 exhumations in 2019.

⁺Required by the National Association of Medical Examiners for accreditation purposes.