



Jennifer Banek, MS, CRNA

Lake County Coroner

JBanek@lakecountyil.gov

TO: THE LAW AND JUDICIAL COMMITTEE
FROM: CORONER JENNIFER BANEK
DATE: OCTOBER 14, 2022
RE: CORONER'S INVESTIGATION REPORT FOR AUGUST 2022

Coroner's Monthly Report of Investigations conducted for the month of AUGUST 2022 ⁽¹⁾:

Non-Coroner's Cases ⁽²⁾	404
<u>Coroner's Case: ⁽³⁾</u>	<u>47</u>
Total Death Investigations:	451

Total death investigations for AUGUST 2021: 484

- Of the total Coroner's Cases for August 2022 (47), the Manner of Death (or suspected Manner of Death) is outlined in the following pages.
- Of the 47 Coroner's Cases a total of 42 had further forensic examination (Autopsy) conducted by the Lake County Coroner's Forensic Pathologist, Eimad Zakariya, M.D., in conjunction with the Lake County Coroner's Autopsy Technician and Deputy Coroner Investigators.
- The Lake County Coroner's Office Toxicology Laboratory conducted 30 toxicology tests and, as a result, 25 samples were sent to an outside laboratory for further quantitative/qualitative or expanded testing.
 - In addition, the Lake County Coroner's Office Toxicology Laboratory conducted 149 toxicology tests for various outside agencies including the Lake County Jail and Probation Services.
- The Lake County Coroner's Office Issued 271 Permits for Cremation to area funeral homes in August 2022.
- Coroner Office Investigators completed and closed 70.21% of August Cases within 60 days of the date of the case. As of August 31, 2022 case closure rates within 60 days are 80.13% for the calendar year.
 - Delays in toxicology results from NMS Laboratories.
 - Case closure statistics outlined on following pages.

(1) As forensic reports such as Autopsy Reports, Toxicology Reports and other investigative agency reports may take 4 – 8 weeks for completion, Coroner Banek is presenting statistical data that is more complete than more recent months data.

(2) Non-Coroner's Cases:

Cases reported to the Office of Coroner where Minimal Investigation is needed; primarily consisting of review of medical history, medical records, and discussion with health care providers involved in the case.

(3) Coroner's Cases

Thorough investigation as to the cause of death, with subsequent Case Conference to determine the manner of death (i.e., homicide, suicide, accidental, or undetermined). Where required and mandated by Illinois Statute by type of death, select cases may be sent to an Inquest by Jury.

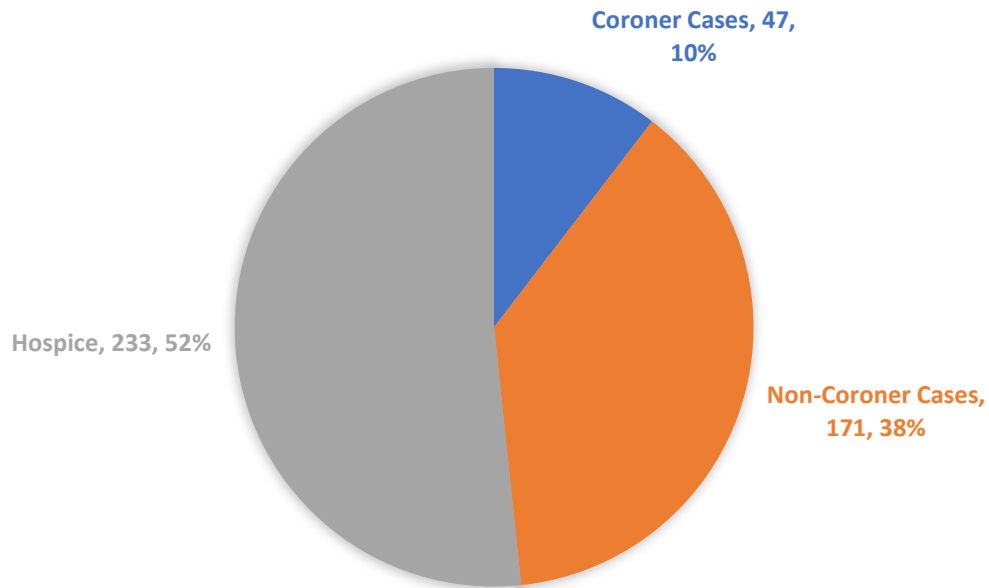


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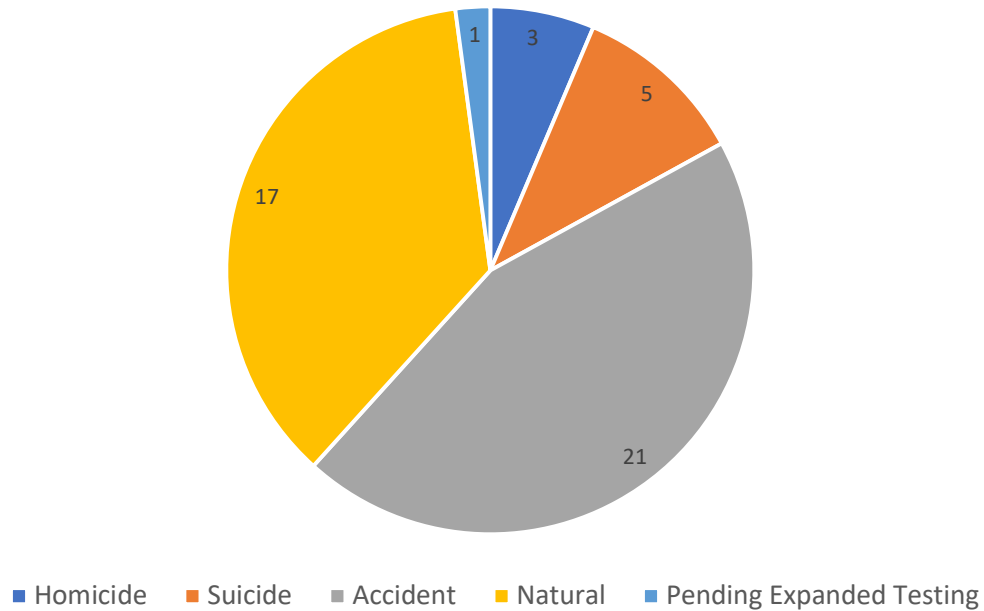
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AUGUST 2022 OVERALL CASES



AUGUST 2022 CORONER CASES

This data includes Suspected Manner of Death in Cases still pending finalization.



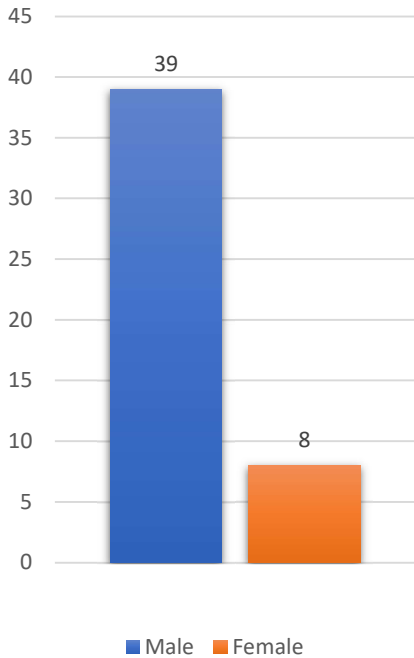


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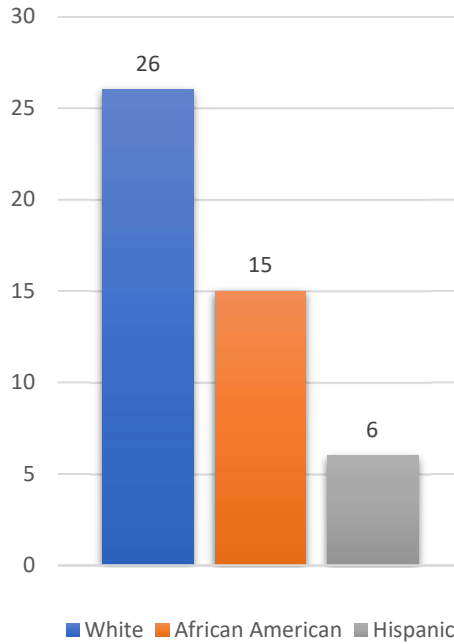
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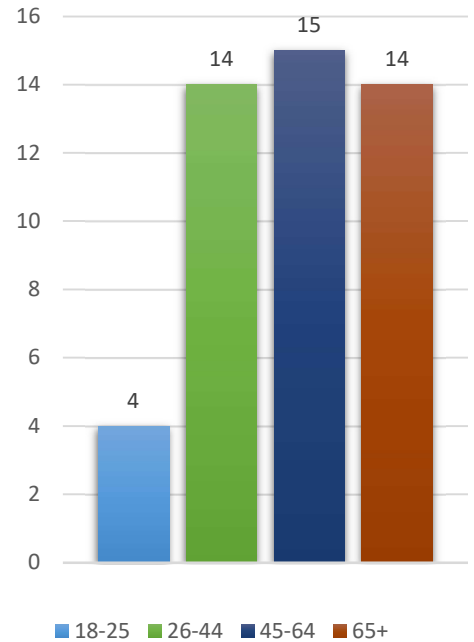
Coroner Cases/Gender



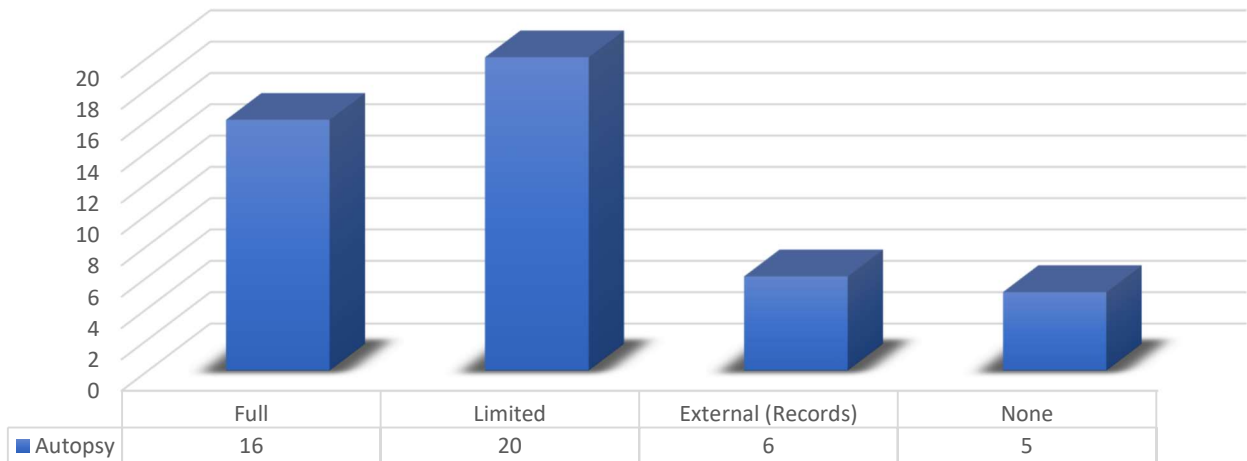
Coroner Cases/Race



Coroner Cases/Age



Autopsies August 2022



Autopsy Types:
Full – A complete external and internal examination is completed by the Forensic Pathologist with a written report.
Limited – A Complete external, and in some cases limited internal examination, is completed by the Forensic Pathologist with a written report.
External – No Physical examination is completed however medical records from an external agency (hospital, nursing facility or physician) are reviewed by the Forensic Pathologist with a written report.
None – No physical examination or medical record review is necessary. Most of these cases are signed by the deceased's physician however family or physician information is not available at the time of death warranting a response from the Coroner's Office.



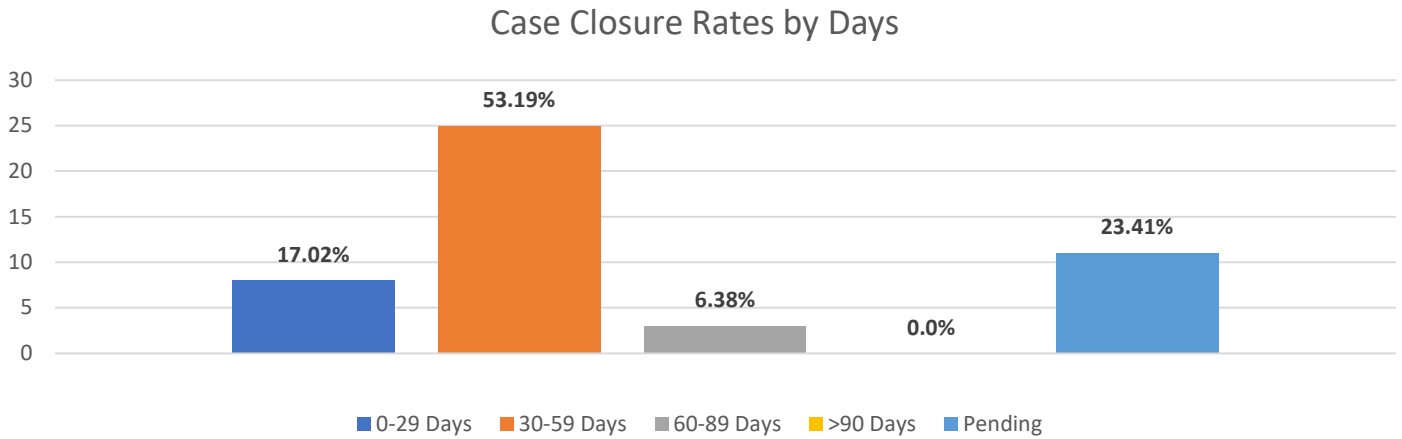
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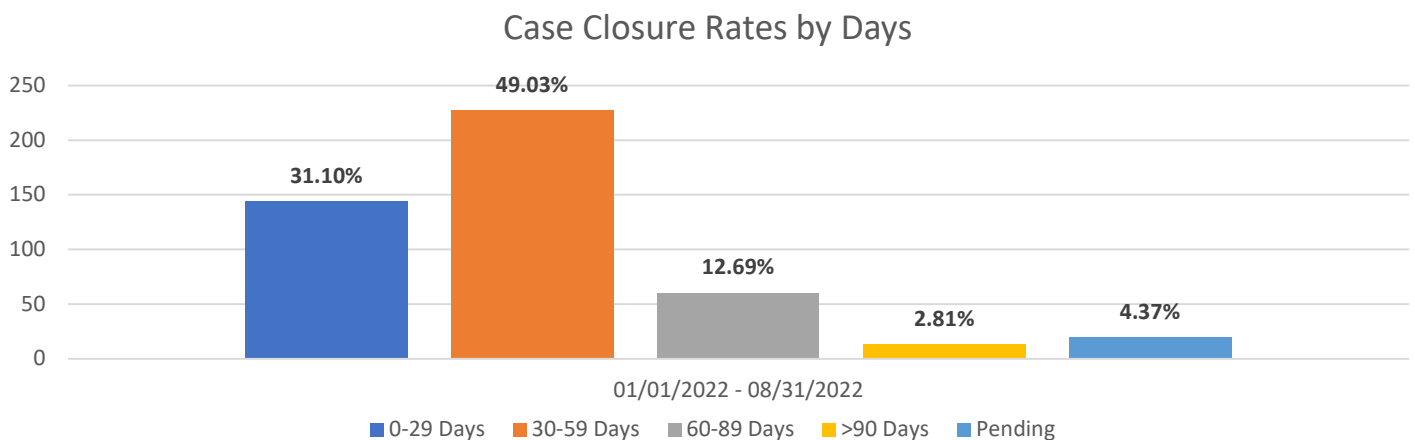
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Case Closure Status

Coroner's Case Closure Rate August 1, 2022 – August 31, 2022:



Coroner's Case Closure Rate January 1, 2022 – August 31, 2022





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Coroner's Case Closure Rate December 1, 2020 – August 31, 2022:

Case Closure Rates by Days

