



**Jennifer Banek, MS, CRNA**

Lake County Coroner

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TO: THE LAW AND JUDICIAL COMMITTEE  
FROM: CORONER JENNIFER BANEK  
DATE: SEPTEMBER 16, 2022  
RE: CORONER'S INVESTIGATION REPORT FOR JULY 2022

Coroner's Monthly Report of Investigations conducted for the month of JULY 2022 <sup>(1)</sup>:

Non-Coroner's Cases <sup>(2)</sup>	380
<u>Coroner's Case: <sup>(3)</sup></u>	<u>67</u>
<b>Total Death Investigations:</b>	<b>447</b>

*Total death investigations for JULY 2021: 451*

- Of the total Coroner's Cases for July 2022 (67), the Manner of Death (or suspected Manner of Death) is outlined in the following pages.
- Of the 67 Coroner's Cases a total of 61 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 53 toxicology tests and, as a result, 41 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 132 toxicology tests for various outside agencies including the Lake County Jail and Probation Services.
- The Lake County Coroner's Office Issued 264 Permits for Cremation to area funeral homes in July 2022.
- Coroner Office Investigators completed and closed 67.17% of July Cases within 60 days of the date of the case. As of July 31, 2022 case closure rates within 60 days are 81.20% 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.



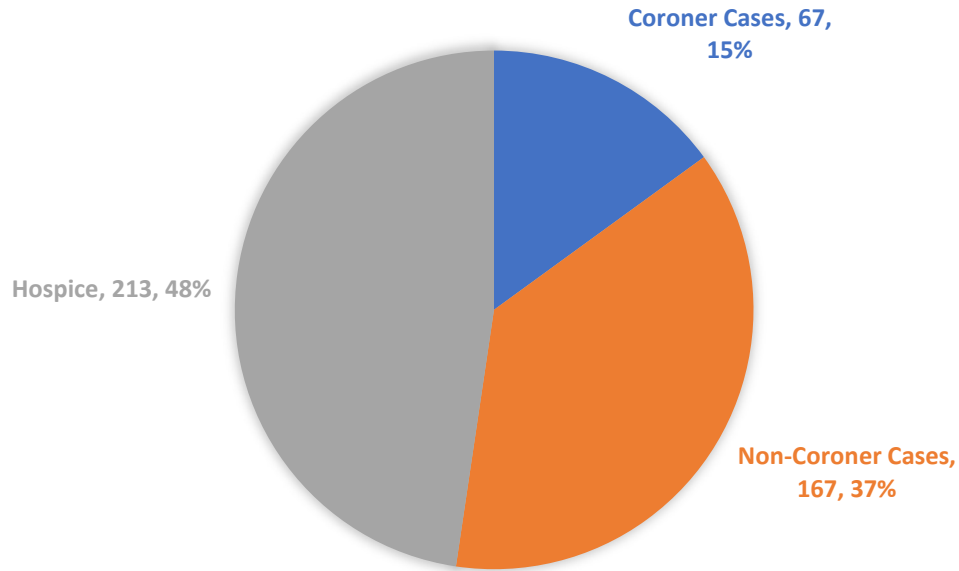
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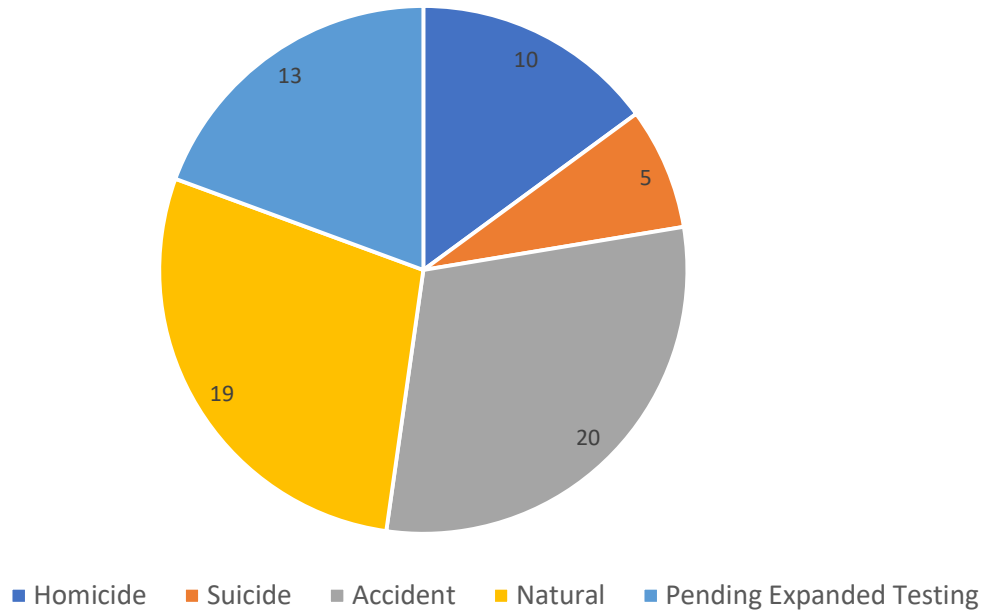
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### JULY 2022 OVERALL CASES



### JULY 2022 CORONER CASES

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



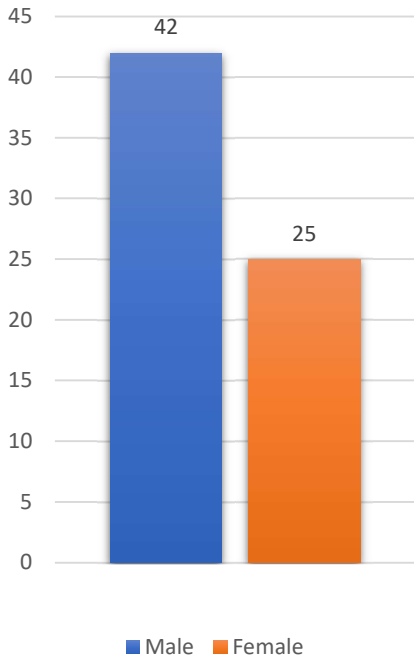


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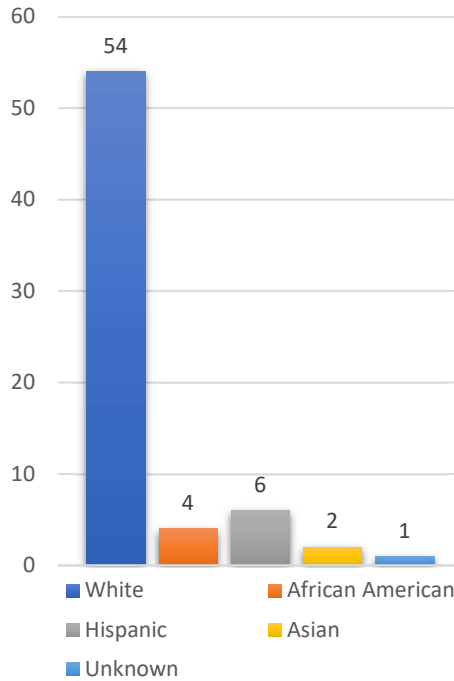
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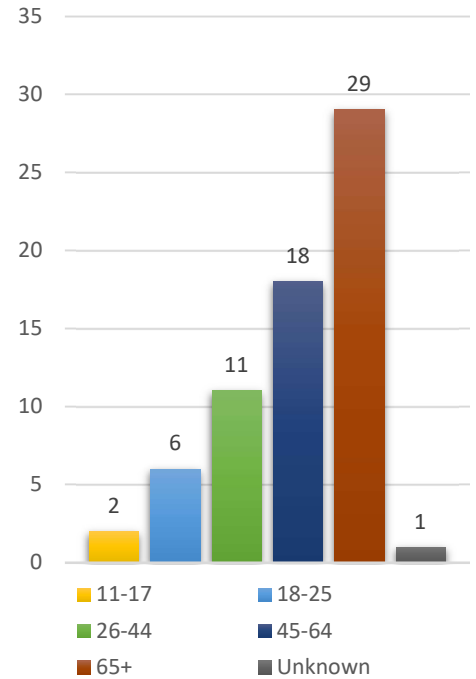
**Coroner Cases/Gender**



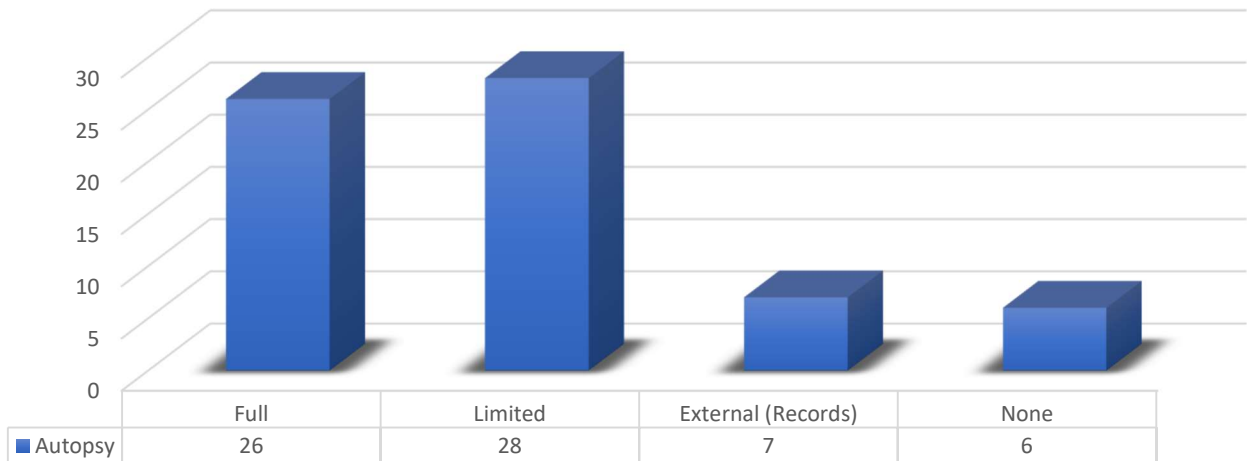
**Coroner Cases/Race**



**Coroner Cases/Age**



### Autopsies July 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.



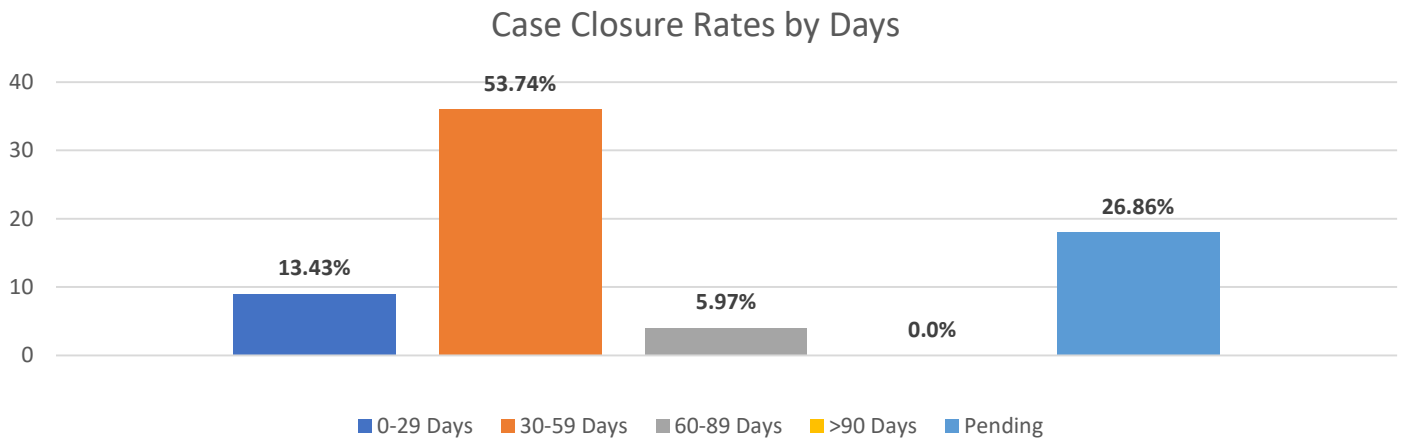
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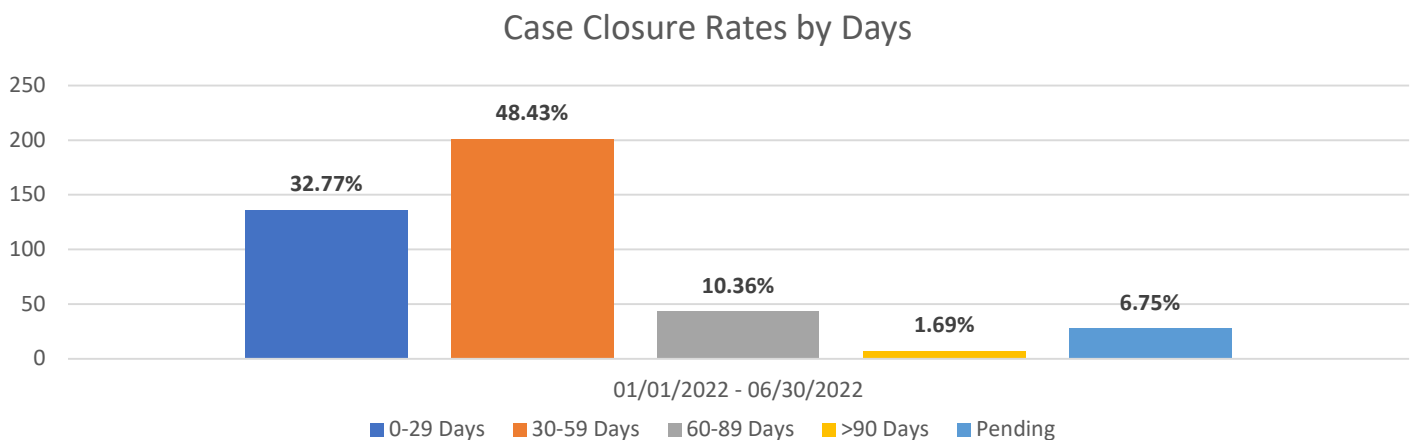
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## Case Closure Status

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



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





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

Case Closure Rates by Days

