

Annual  
Report

2018

---

## Jefferson County Coroner/Medical Examiner's Office



Jefferson County Coroner/Medical Examiner's Office

1515 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, Suite 220

Birmingham, Alabama 35233

Office: 205-930-3603

Fax: 205-930-3595

Email: [Coroner@jccal.org](mailto:Coroner@jccal.org)

Webpage: [www.jccal.org/coroner](http://www.jccal.org/coroner)

---

Published: April 2019

## Table of Contents

Table of Contents.....	1
Introduction .....	5
Mission.....	5
Death Statistics .....	5
Death Certificates .....	5
History.....	6
Medicolegal Death Investigation.....	7
Organizational Chart.....	8
Section 1: Summary Data.....	9
2017-2018 Comparison.....	9
Historical Summary: Year of Death, 2000-2018.....	10
Historical Summary: Manner of Death, 2000-2018 .....	10
Section 2: 2018 Total Case Data .....	11
General Statistics and Notable Trends.....	11
Map: Total Deaths Reported by Law Enforcement Agency and Jurisdiction, 2018 .....	11
Total Deaths Reported by Law Enforcement Agency and Jurisdiction, 2018.....	12
Total Assumed Cases by Law Enforcement Agency and Manner of Death, 2018 .....	13
Percentage of Assumed Cases by Manner of Death, 2018.....	14
Total Assumed Cases by Manner of Death and Type of Examination, 2018.....	14
Total Assumed Cases by Race, 2018.....	15
Total Assumed Cases by Race and Manner of Death, 2018.....	15
Total Assumed Cases by Gender and Age Group, 2018 .....	16
Total Assumed Cases by Gender and Manner of Death, 2018.....	16
Total Assumed Cases by Month of Death, 2018.....	17
Death Certificate Reviews of Declined Cases, 2018.....	17
Section 3: Manner of Death: Assumed Jurisdiction.....	18
Accident.....	18
Total Number of Accidental Deaths by Year of Death 2000-2018 .....	18
Total Number of Accidental Deaths by Law Enforcement Agency, 2018.....	19
Total Number of Accidental Deaths by Gender and Age Group, 2018.....	20

Total Number of Accidental Deaths by Gender and Race, 2018..... 20  
Percentage of Accidental Deaths by Race, 2018 ..... 21  
Total Number of Accidental Deaths by Month of Death, 2018..... 21  
Total Number of Accidental Deaths by Means of Death, 2018..... 22  
Homicide ..... 23  
Total Number of Homicides by Year of Death 2000-2018..... 23  
Total Number of Homicides by Law Enforcement Agency, 2018 ..... 24  
Total Number of Homicides by Gender and Age Group, 2018 ..... 25  
Total Number of Homicides by Gender and Race, 2018..... 25  
Percentage of Homicides by Race, 2018..... 26  
Total Number of Homicides by Month of Death, 2018..... 26  
Total Number of Homicides by Means of Death, 2018..... 27  
Natural..... 28  
Total Number of Natural Deaths by Year of Death 2000-2018 ..... 28  
Total Number of Natural Deaths by Law Enforcement Agency, 2018 ..... 29  
Total Number of Natural Deaths by Gender and Age Group, 2018 ..... 30  
Total Number of Natural Deaths by Gender and Race, 2018..... 30  
Percentage of Natural Deaths by Race, 2018 ..... 31  
Total Number of Natural Deaths by Month of Death, 2018..... 31  
Total Number of Natural Deaths by Means of Death, 2018..... 32  
Suicide ..... 33  
Total Number of Suicide Deaths by Year of Death 2000-2018 ..... 33  
Total Number of Suicide Deaths by Law Enforcement Agency, 2018..... 34  
Total Number of Suicide Deaths by Gender and Age Group, 2018..... 35  
Total Number of Suicide Deaths by Gender and Race, 2018..... 35  
Percentage of Suicide Deaths by Race, 2018 ..... 36  
Total Number of Suicide Deaths by Month of Death, 2018 ..... 36  
Total Number of Suicide Deaths by Means of Death, 2018..... 37  
Undetermined ..... 38  
Total Number of Undetermined Deaths by Year of Death 2000-2018..... 38  
Total Number of Undetermined Deaths by Law Enforcement Agency, 2018..... 39  
Total Number of Undetermined Deaths by Gender and Age Group, 2018..... 40

Total Number of Undetermined Deaths by Gender and Race, 2018..... 40

Percentage of Undetermined Deaths by Race, 2018 ..... 41

Total Number of Undetermined Deaths by Month of Death, 2018 ..... 41

Total Number of Undetermined Deaths by Means of Death, 2018 ..... 42

Section 4: Infant/Juvenile Deaths ..... 43

    Historical Summary ..... 43

        Total Number of Infant and Juvenile Deaths by Year of Death 2000-2018 ..... 43

    Infant Deaths ..... 44

        Total Number of Infant Deaths by Law Enforcement Agency, 2018 ..... 44

        Total Number of Infant Deaths by Gender and Age, 2018 ..... 45

        Total Number of Infant Deaths by Gender and Race, 2018 ..... 45

        Percentage of Infant Deaths by Race, 2018..... 46

        Total Number of Infant Deaths by Month of Death, 2018 ..... 46

        Total Number of Infant Deaths by Means of Death, 2018 ..... 47

        Total Number of Infant Deaths by Manner of Death and Race, 2018..... 47

        Total Number of Infant Deaths by Manner of Death and Gender, 2018..... 48

    Juvenile Deaths ..... 49

        Total Number of Juvenile Deaths by Law Enforcement Agency, 2018 ..... 49

        Total Number of Juvenile Deaths by Gender and Age, 2018 ..... 50

        Total Number of Juvenile Deaths by Gender and Race, 2018..... 50

        Percentage of Juvenile Deaths by Race, 2018 ..... 51

        Total Number of Juvenile Deaths by Month of Death, 2018..... 51

        Total Number of Juvenile Deaths by Means of Death, 2018..... 52

        Total Number of Juvenile Deaths by Manner of Death and Race, 2018 ..... 52

        Total Number of Juvenile Deaths by Manner of Death and Gender, 2018 ..... 53

Section 5: Motor Vehicle Deaths ..... 54

    Total Number of Motor Vehicle Deaths by Year of Death 2000-2018 ..... 54

    Total Number of Motor Vehicle Deaths by Law Enforcement Agency, 2018..... 55

    Total Number of Motor Vehicle Deaths by Gender and Age Group, 2018..... 56

    Total Number of Motor Vehicle Deaths by Gender and Race, 2018 ..... 56

    Percentage of Motor Vehicle Deaths by Race, 2018 ..... 57

    Total Number of Motor Vehicle Deaths by Month of Death, 2018 ..... 57

---

Total Number of Motor Vehicle Deaths by Means of Death, 2018 .....	58
Section 6: Overdose Deaths.....	59
Overview .....	59
General Statistics and Notable Trends.....	60
Historical Summary .....	60
Total Number of Overdose Deaths by Year of Death 2000-2018 .....	60
Historical Summary: Means of Death, 2014-2018 .....	61
Historical Summary: Manner of Death, 2010-2018.....	62
Historical Summary: Illicit Drugs/Poisons, 2010-2018.....	62
2018 Overdose Deaths .....	63
Total Number of Overdose Deaths by Law Enforcement Agency, 2018 .....	63
Total Number of Overdose Deaths by Gender and Age Group, 2018.....	64
Total Number of Overdose Deaths by Gender and Race, 2018.....	64
Percentage of Overdose Deaths by Race, 2018 .....	65
Total Number of Overdose Deaths by Month of Death, 2018.....	65
Heroin, 2018 .....	66
Fentanyl, 2018.....	67
Most Common Prescription Medications Causing Death: 2010-2018.....	68
References .....	69
End of Report .....	69

## Introduction

The Jefferson County Coroner/Medical Examiner's Office (JCCMEO) is notified by law enforcement agencies and medical facilities to investigate approximately 33% of the deaths occurring in Jefferson County. Pursuant to State of Alabama, 45-37-60, (Act 79-454, p. 739, §1-10) notification is made when there is suspicion of criminal violence or criminal neglect, when death occurs in suspicious or unusual circumstances, when deaths are thought to result from trauma or violence, in any prison or penal institution, when in police custody, or deaths due to disease constituting a hazard to public health when requested in writing by the County Health Officer.



The Jefferson County Coroner/Medical Examiner's Office is fully accredited by the National Association of Medical Examiners [www.thename.org](http://www.thename.org).



American Board of  
Medicolegal Death Investigators

The JCCMEO medicolegal death investigators are certified through the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators [www.abmdi.org](http://www.abmdi.org).

## Mission

The mission of the Coroner/Medical Examiner office is to establish the identity of human remains and to determine the cause, manner, and circumstances surrounding death in all sudden and unexpected deaths occurring within Jefferson County, Alabama.

## Death Statistics

This report contains aggregate data of the cases investigated by this office. This report does not contain data on all deaths that occurred within Jefferson County, but rather only those deaths that were investigated by the Jefferson County Coroner/Medical Examiner's Office.

You can visit the Alabama Department of Public Health website to obtain data on all deaths that occurred within Jefferson County, Alabama [www.adph.org/healthstats](http://www.adph.org/healthstats).

## Death Certificates

The Coroner's Office cannot provide copies of death certificates; death certificates must be obtained through the Jefferson County Department of Health or the State of Alabama Vital Records office.

Jefferson County Department of Health  
1400 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue South  
Birmingham, Alabama 35233  
(205) 933-9110  
<http://www.jcdh.org>

State of Alabama Vital Records  
P.O. Box 5625  
Montgomery, Alabama 36103-5625  
(334) 206-5418  
[www.adph.org/vitalrecords](http://www.adph.org/vitalrecords)



## History



Jefferson County operated under an elected coroner system since the county's inception in 1819 until 1931. In a coroner system the County Coroner was elected to office by the citizens of Jefferson County and was typically a lay person with no formal training in medicolegal death investigation.

On May 27, 1931, the office of County Coroner was abolished by Act of State Legislature. The office was subsequently reestablished with the position of County Coroner being an appointed position by the Jefferson County Commission and not an elected position by the citizens of the county. The Act referred to the coroner as the "Agent, County Commission, as Coroner".

In January 1977, by Act of State Legislature, the office of County Coroner and the coroner system in Jefferson County was abolished and the Jefferson County Coroner/Medical Examiner's Office (JCCMEO) was established. This was the end of the coroner system and the beginning of the medical examiner system in Jefferson County. The new law required the Coroner/Medical Examiner of Jefferson County to be a board certified forensic pathologist.

On July 26, 1979, pursuant to State of Alabama Act 79-454, the office of County Coroner in Jefferson County was once again abolished and the Jefferson County Coroner/Medical Examiner's Office (JCCMEO) as it is known today was established. As with the previous Act, the new Jefferson County Coroner/Medical Examiner Act set forth that the Coroner/Medical Examiner shall be an appointed position by the Jefferson County Commission and that the Coroner/Medical Examiner shall be a board certified forensic pathologist. The act also established a new regulatory commission, the "Jefferson County Coroner/Medical Examiner's Commission", to promulgate rules and regulations governing the reviews and investigations of the Coroner/Medical Examiner's Office and the conditions upon which such investigations shall be conducted. The act also retained in the office all the authority vested in coroners by the state laws of Alabama.

The Coroner retained a physical office on the second floor of the [Jefferson County Courthouse](#) and at the [Bessemer Courthouse](#) until 1977, when at that time both offices were consolidated and moved to its current location at [Cooper Green Mercy Health Services](#).

## Medicolegal Death Investigation



A medicolegal death investigation is an official investigation or inquest into the manner, cause, and circumstances surrounding death. As it applies a medicolegal death investigation is a combination of medicine and law, with a purpose to answer the questions of death. The answers obtained in these investigations can assist with criminal and civil litigation, insurance claims, the distribution of estates, and the health and safety of the public. These investigations are performed by trained medicolegal death investigators (MDIs) and can represent multiple different disciplines. The MDI investigators can be a coroner, deputy coroner, forensic pathologist, morgue technologist, forensic odontologist, forensic anthropologist, forensic toxicologist, or a criminalist.

At the JCCMEO these investigations are begun by deputy coroners who are formally trained MDIs. When a death is reported to the JCCMEO it is the responsibility of the deputy coroner to determine if the death falls under the statutory jurisdiction of the JCCMEO and if so, will jurisdiction be assumed or declined. Pursuant to State of Alabama Code 11-5-35 (*Act 2006-581, p. 1527, §6.*) the Jefferson County Coroner/Medical Examiner's Office only has the authority to certify a death if the offense, occurrence, or incident that ultimately resulted in the death occurred within the geographical boundaries of Jefferson County, Alabama. Therefore, if the sequence of events that ultimately resulted in the death began in a county or state other than Jefferson County, Alabama then the coroner's office of that county should be notified of the death.

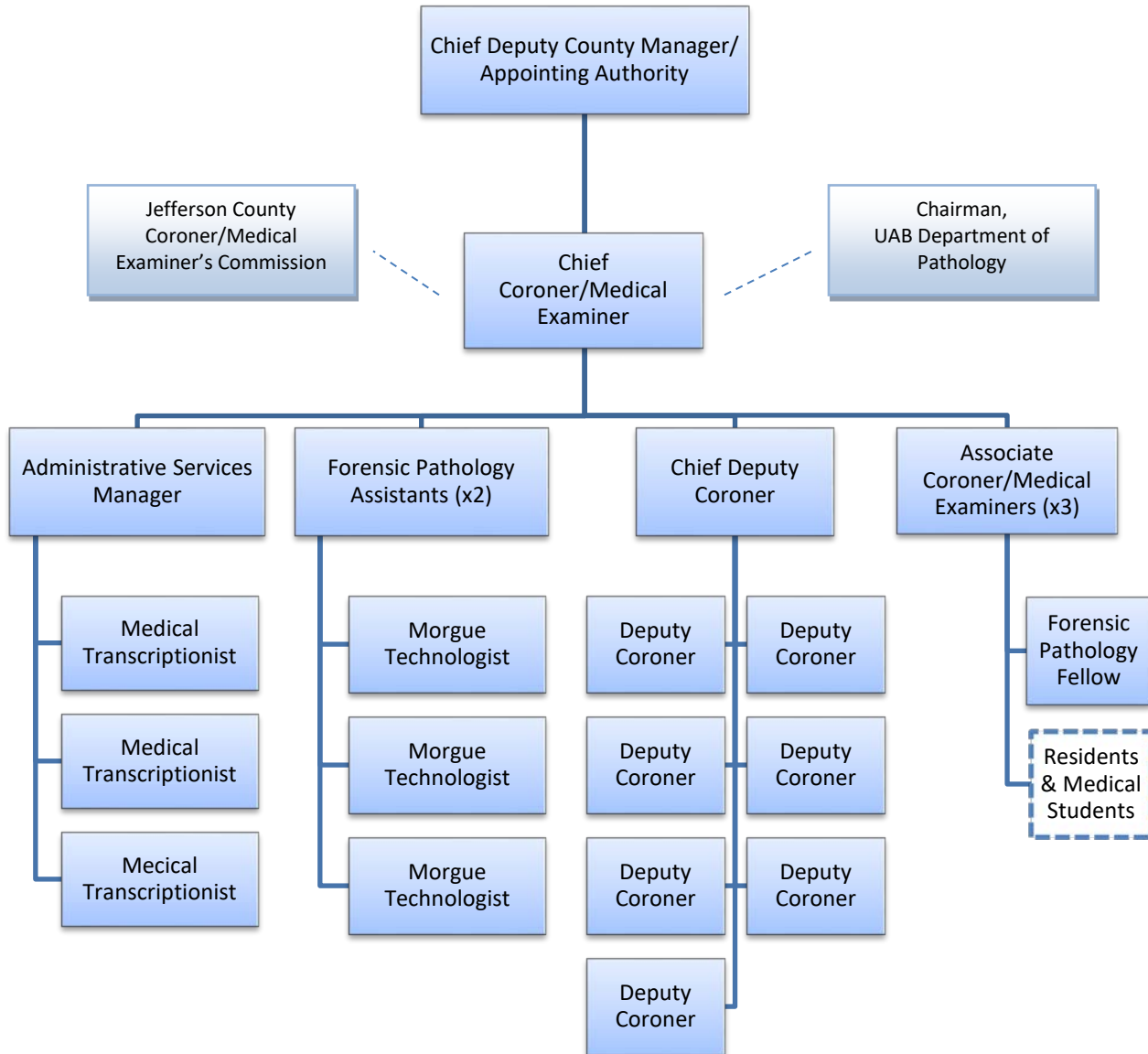
Declined Jurisdiction: Jurisdiction is declined if investigators (i.e. law enforcement, paramedics, and/or medical staff, and the deputy coroner) find no signs of foul play, injury, and/or evidence of current substance abuse associated with the death and; if the decedent has a documented significant medical history and is currently under the care of a primary care physician.

Assumed Jurisdiction: Jurisdiction is assumed if there is suspicion of criminal violence or criminal neglect, when death occurs in suspicious or unusual circumstances, when deaths are thought to result from trauma or violence, in any prison or penal institution, when in police custody, or a death due to disease constituting a hazard to public health when requested in writing by the County Health Officer.

If jurisdiction is to be assumed a deputy coroner in most cases responds to the scene of the death to begin the investigation. The decedent is transported from the scene to the JCCMEO for examination, which is usually completed within 24 hours from the time of death by one of the forensic pathologist on staff. An examination/autopsy is necessary to accurately determine cause, manner, and circumstances surrounding the death, so to satisfy statutory requirements, for the good of public health, and to assist with potential civil and criminal litigation. Depending on the circumstances surrounding the death and the evidence that is needed to substantiate the death an autopsy may not be performed in every case, but rather a less invasive external examination is performed. The final examination/autopsy report is usually available 4-6 weeks after the date of death.



### Organizational Chart



## Section 1: Summary Data

### 2017-2018 Comparison

Table 1.1: previous year comparison data.

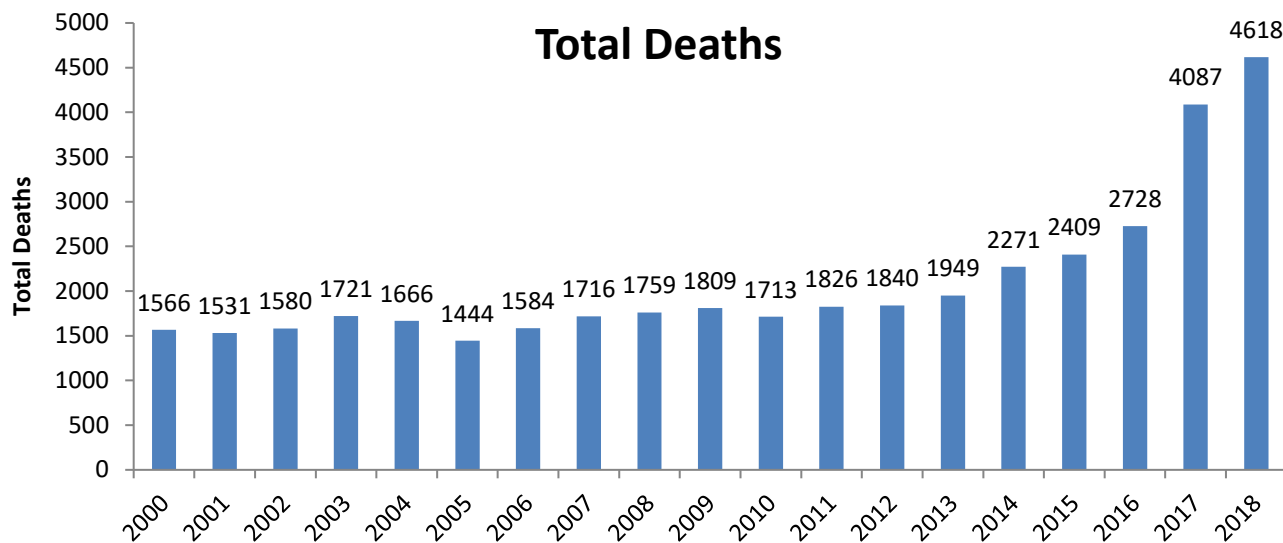
	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
Total cases reported to the JCCMEO:	4,087	4,618
<b>Jurisdiction Assumed:</b>	967	908
Accident	415	384
Homicide	172	161
Natural	248	260
Suicide	107	85
Undetermined	22	15
Pending	0	0
Stillborn <sup>1</sup>	3	2
Human-tissue <sup>2</sup>	0	1
<b>Jurisdiction Declined:</b>	3,120	3710
Natural	824	860
Cremation	1,200	1242
Hospice	991	1428
Safekeeping	101	174
Non-human	4	6
<b>Death Certificate Reviews of Declined Cases:</b>	191	163
<b>Total bodies transported by JCCMEO:</b>	1,068	1,082
Examination	967	908
Safekeeping	101	174
<b>Total Examinations:</b>	967	908
Autopsies	662	608
Externals	305	300
No examination performed	0	0
<b>Organ/Tissue procurements:</b>		
Organ/Tissue	16	30
Corneas	28	28
<b>Toxicology performed:</b>		
Yes	910	850
No	57	58
<b>Total scenes visited by investigators:</b>	659	601
Unclaimed bodies (county burials):	57	54
Exhumations:	0	0
Unidentified remains (cumulative total):	50	48

<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to State of Alabama Vital Records rules, stillborn deaths are not assigned a manner of death.

<sup>2</sup> Tissue of no forensic value.

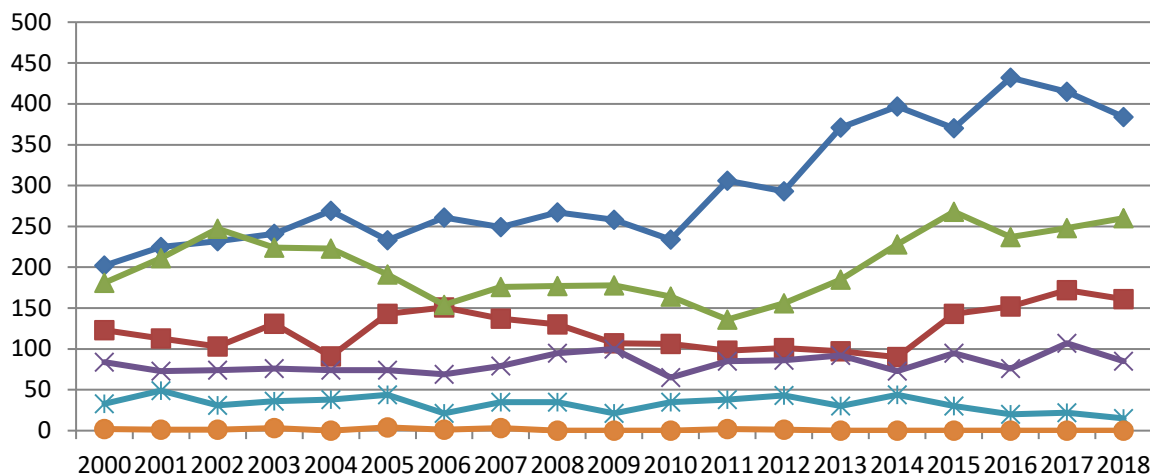
### Historical Summary: Year of Death, 2000-2018

Figure 1.1: represents the total number of cases reported to the JCCMEO by year of death.



### Historical Summary: Manner of Death, 2000-2018

Figure 1.2: represents the total number of cases by manner of death, includes only Assumed cases.



	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
◆ Accident	202	225	232	241	269	233	261	249	267	258	234	306	293	371	397	370	432	415	384
■ Homicide	123	113	103	131	91	143	151	137	130	107	106	98	101	97	90	143	152	172	161
▲ Natural	181	211	247	224	223	191	154	176	177	178	164	136	156	185	228	268	237	248	260
✕ Suicide	84	73	74	76	74	74	69	79	95	100	65	85	86	92	73	95	76	107	85
* Undetermined	33	49	31	36	38	44	21	35	35	21	35	38	43	30	44	30	20	22	15
● Pending	2	1	1	3	0	4	1	3	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

## Section 2: 2018 Total Case Data

### General Statistics and Notable Trends

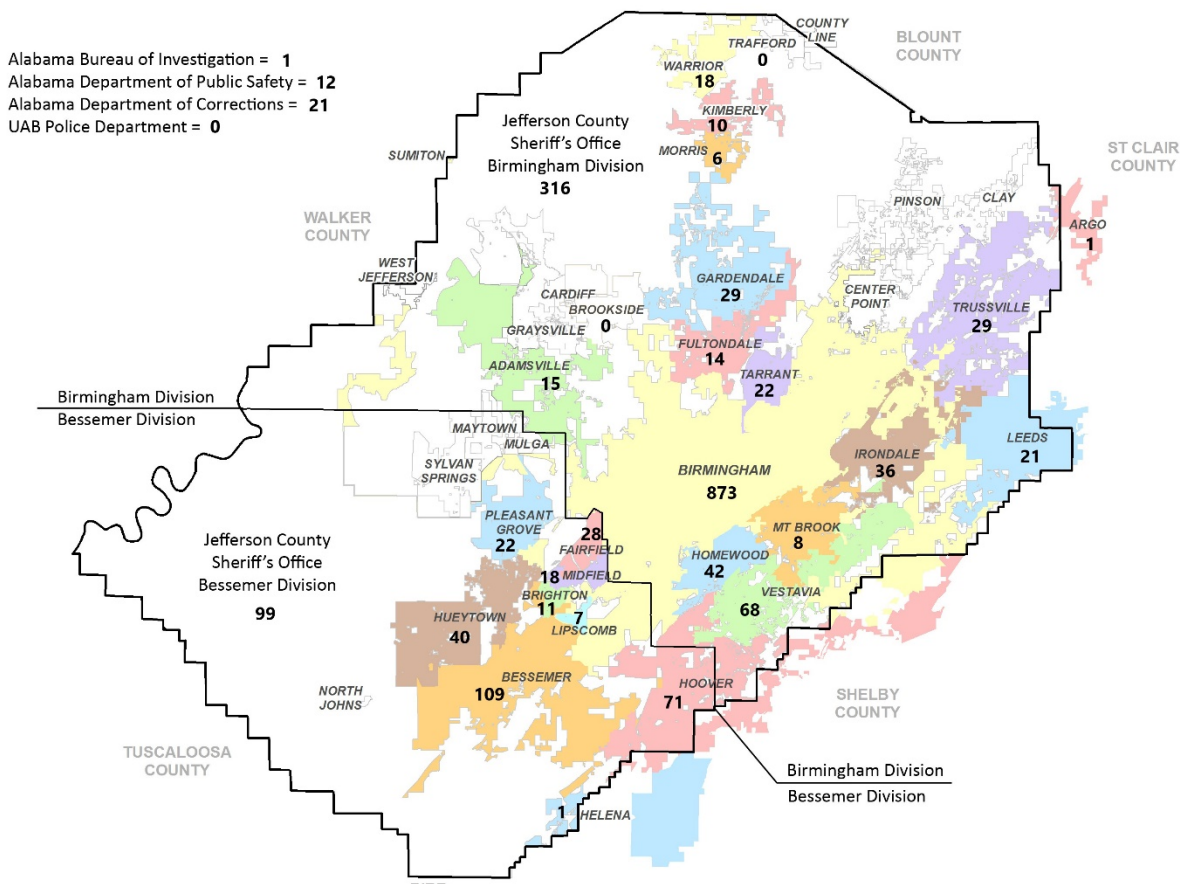
There was a 12.9% increase in the total number of deaths reported to the JCCMEO this past year, from 4,087 deaths in 2017 to 4,618 deaths in 2018. This increase was primarily seen in reported Hospice deaths, where there was a 44% increase from 991 cases in 2017 to 1,428 cases in 2018.

There was a 6.1% decrease in the total number of deaths where jurisdiction was assumed, from 967 cases in 2017 to 908 cases in 2018.

The total number of homicide, suicide, and undetermined deaths examined by the JCCMEO decreased in 2018 compared to 2017; while natural deaths increased in 2018.

### Map: Total Deaths Reported by Law Enforcement Agency and Jurisdiction, 2018

Figure 2.1: N=1,948, represents total deaths reported, by law enforcement jurisdiction; includes Assumed, Declined, Safekeeping, and Non-human cases. It excludes Cremations and Hospice deaths which are typically reported to the JCCMEO by mortuaries and Hospice companies.



### Total Deaths Reported by Law Enforcement Agency and Jurisdiction, 2018

Table 2.1: N=1,948, represents the total deaths reported to the JCCMEO. Table includes Assumed, Declined, Safekeeping, and Non-human cases. It excludes Cremations and Hospice deaths which are typically reported to the JCCMEO by mortuaries and Hospice companies.

<u>Law Enforcement Agency</u>	<u>Assumed</u>	<u>Declined</u>	<u>Safekeeping</u>	<u>Non-human</u>	<u>Total</u>
Alabama Bureau of Investigation	1	0	0	0	1
Alabama Dept. of Public Safety	12	0	0	0	12
Alabama Dept. of Corrections	21	0	0	0	21
Adamsville Police Department	7	8	0	0	15
Argo Police Department	0	1	0	0	1
Bessemer Police Department	42	53	14	0	109
Birmingham Police Department	444	340	86	3	873
Brighton Police Department	6	4	1	0	11
Brookside Police Department	0	0	0	0	0
Fairfield Police Department	15	13	0	0	28
Fultondale Police Department	3	11	0	0	14
Gardendale Police Department	11	16	2	0	29
Helena Police Department	0	0	1	0	1
Homewood Police Department	18	21	3	0	42
Hoover Police Department	32	29	10	0	71
Hueytown Police Department	15	19	6	0	40
Irondale Police Department	22	11	3	0	36
Jefferson County Sheriff's Office	169	219	25	2	415
Kimberly Police Department	4	6	0	0	10
Leeds Police Department	12	8	1	0	21
Lipscomb Police Department	5	2	0	0	7
Midfield Police Department	10	8	0	0	18
Morris Police Department	2	4	0	0	6
Mountain Brook Police Department	4	4	0	0	8
Pleasant Grove Police Department	5	12	5	0	22
Tarrant Police Department	13	7	1	1	22
Trafford Police Department	0	0	0	0	0
Trussville Police Department	14	14	1	0	29
UAB Police Department	0	0	0	0	0
Vestavia Hills Police Department	16	39	13	0	68
Warrior Police Department	5	11	2	0	18
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>908</b>	<b>860</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1,948</b>

### Total Assumed Cases by Law Enforcement Agency and Manner of Death, 2018

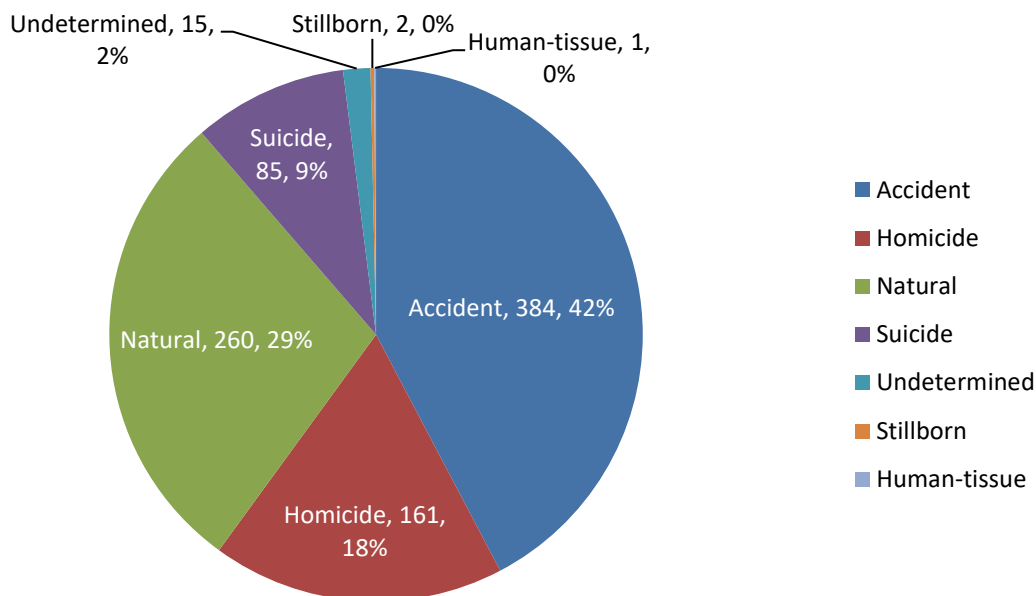
Table 2.2: N=908, represents all Assumed cases by law enforcement agency and manner of death.

<u>Law Enforcement Agency</u>	<u>Accident</u>	<u>Homicide</u>	<u>Natural</u>	<u>Suicide</u>	<u>Undetermined</u>	<u>Stillborn<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>Human Tissue<sup>2</sup></u>	<u>Total</u>
Alabama Bureau of Investigation	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Alabama Dept. of Public Safety	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
Alabama Dept. of Corrections	1	0	20	0	0	0	0	21
Adamsville Police Department	4	0	2	1	0	0	0	7
Argo Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bessemer Police Department	14	9	13	6	0	0	0	42
Birmingham Police Department	185	109	115	24	9	1	1	444
Brighton Police Department	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	6
Brookside Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fairfield Police Department	4	8	2	1	0	0	0	15
Fultondale Police Department	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3
Gardendale Police Department	2	1	5	3	0	0	0	11
Helena Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Homewood Police Department	8	1	4	5	0	0	0	18
Hoover Police Department	18	2	5	6	1	0	0	32
Hueytown Police Department	8	0	5	2	0	0	0	15
Irondale Police Department	8	2	10	2	0	0	0	22
Jefferson County Sheriff's Office	74	25	44	23	3	0	0	169
Kimberly Police Department	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	4
Leeds Police Department	2	0	7	3	0	0	0	12
Lipscomb Police Department	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	5
Midfield Police Department	5	1	4	0	0	0	0	10
Morris Police Department	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Mountain Brook Police Department	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	4
Pleasant Grove Police Department	1	0	3	0	0	1	0	5
Tarrant Police Department	7	1	3	2	0	0	0	13
Trafford Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trussville Police Department	7	0	3	3	1	0	0	14
UAB Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vestavia Hills Police Department	9	0	5	2	0	0	0	16
Warrior Police Department	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	5
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>908</b>



### Percentage of Assumed Cases by Manner of Death, 2018

Figure 2.2: N=908, represents number and percentage of cases by manner of death, includes only Assumed jurisdiction.<sup>1,2</sup>



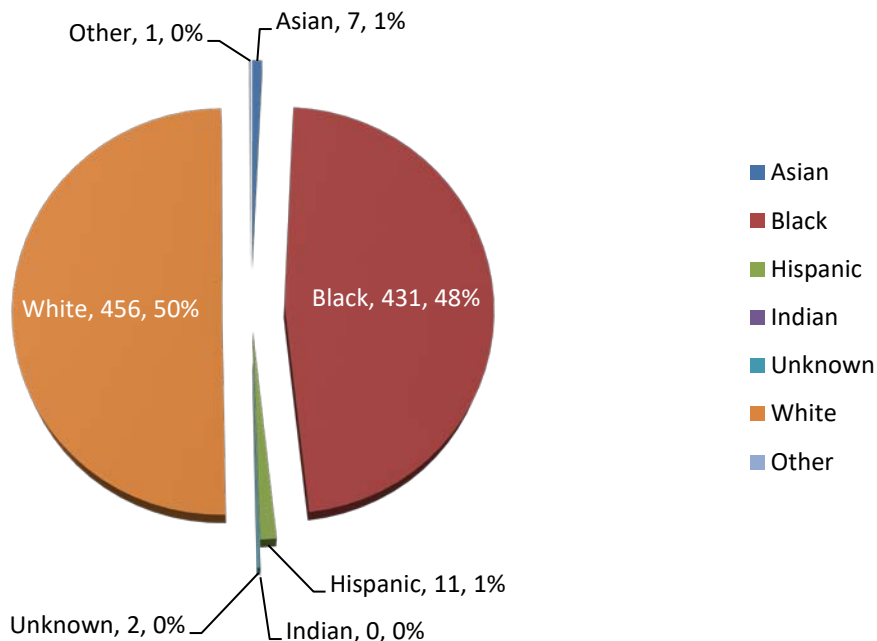
### Total Assumed Cases by Manner of Death and Type of Examination, 2018

Table 2.3: N=908, represents all Assumed cases by manner of death and type of examination performed.

Examination	Accident	Homicide	Natural	Suicide	Undetermined	Stillborn <sup>1</sup>	Human-tissue <sup>2</sup>	Total
Autopsy	374 / 97%	161 / 100 %	139 / 53%	18 / 21%	14 / 93%	2 / 100%	0 / 0%	608
External	110 / 28%	0 / 0%	121 / 47%	67 / 79%	1 / 7%	0 / 0%	1 / 100%	300
No Exam	0 / 0%	0 / 0%	0 / 0%	0 / 0%	0 / 0%	0 / 0%	0 / 0%	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>908</b>

### Total Assumed Cases by Race, 2018

Figure 2.3: N=908, represents all Assumed cases by race, with totals and percentages.



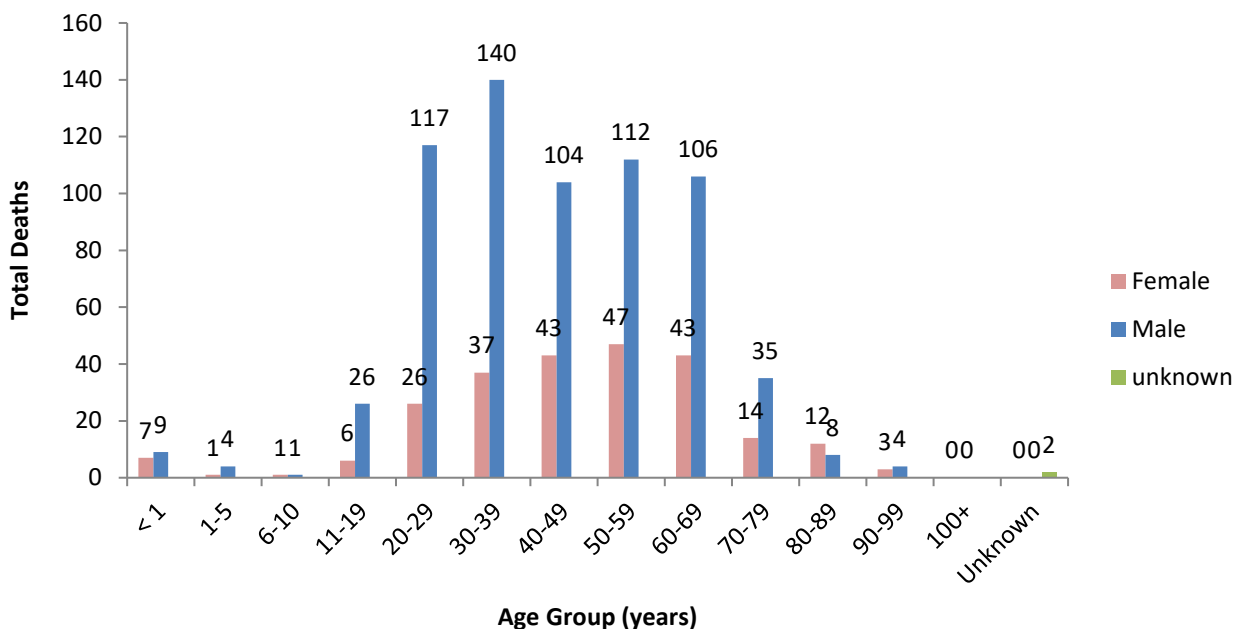
### Total Assumed Cases by Race and Manner of Death, 2018

Table 2.4: N=908, represents all Assumed cases by race and manner of death.

Race	Accident	Homicide	Natural	Suicide	Undetermined	Stillborn <sup>1</sup>	Human-tissue <sup>2</sup>	Total
Asian	1	2	3	1	0	0	0	<b>7</b>
Black	147	133	125	18	6	2	0	<b>431</b>
Hispanic	9	1	0	1	0	0	0	<b>11</b>
Indian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Other	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
Unknown	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	<b>2</b>
White	227	25	131	65	8	0	0	<b>456</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>908</b>

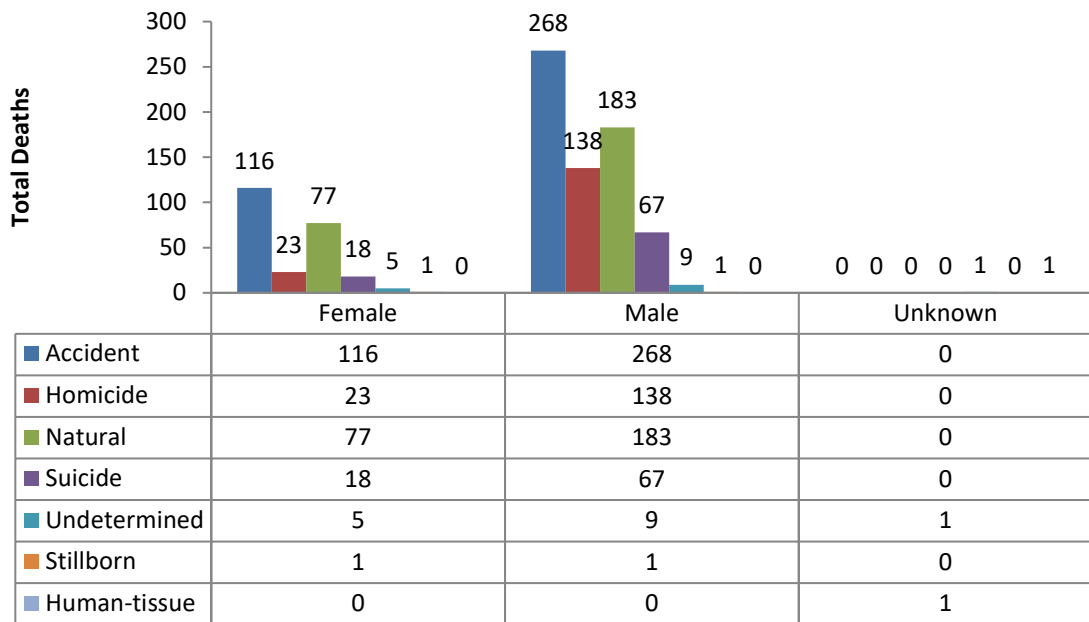
### Total Assumed Cases by Gender and Age Group, 2018

Figure 2.4: N=908, represents all Assumed cases by gender and age group.



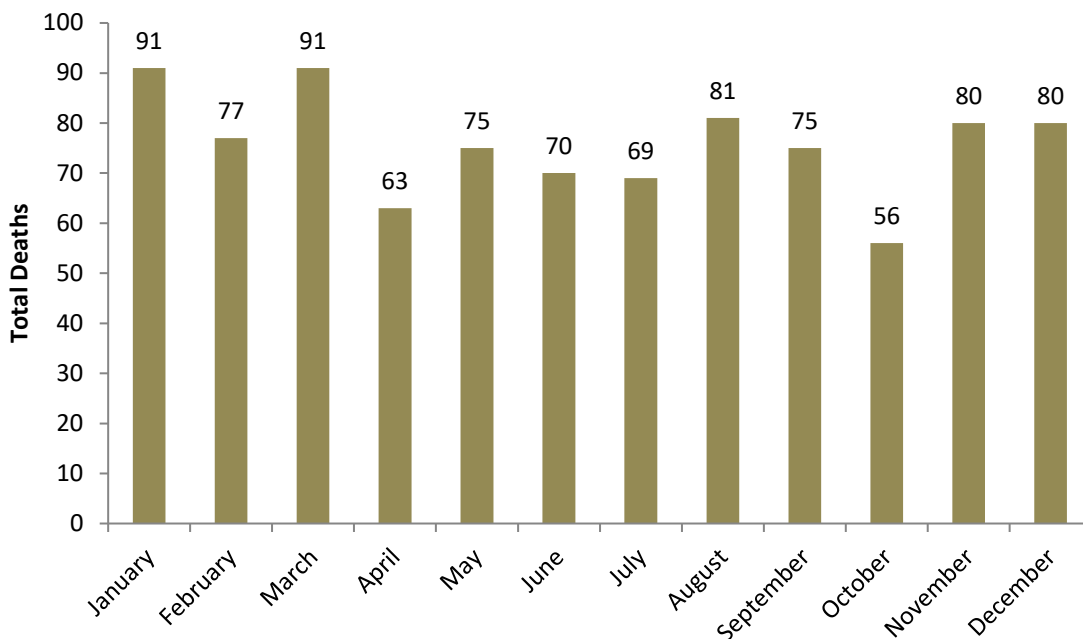
### Total Assumed Cases by Gender and Manner of Death, 2018

Figure 2.5: N=908, represents all Assumed cases by gender and manner of death.<sup>1,2</sup>



### Total Assumed Cases by Month of Death, 2018

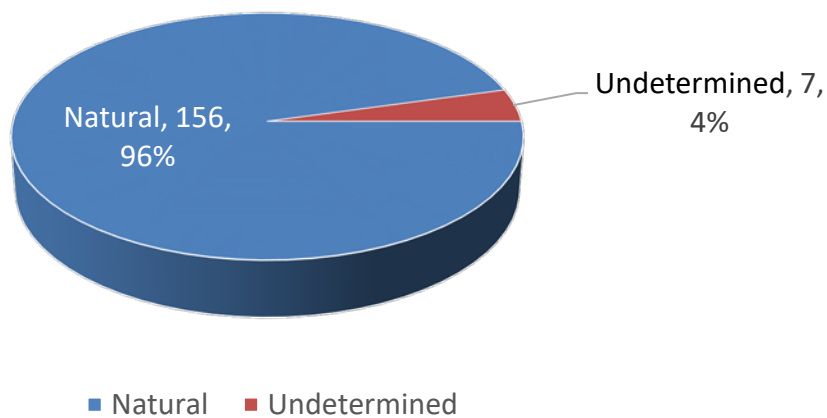
Figure 2.6: N=908, represents all Assumed cases by month of death.



### Death Certificate Reviews of Declined Cases, 2018

Figure 2.7: N=163, represents all death certificate reviews (D.C.R.) of declined jurisdiction cases, by manner of death.

Death Certificate Reviews: Manners of Death



### Section 3: Manner of Death: Assumed Jurisdiction

#### Accident

Accidental deaths accounted for 42% of the deaths investigated by the JCCMEO in 2018, and represents the largest percentage of all manners of death.

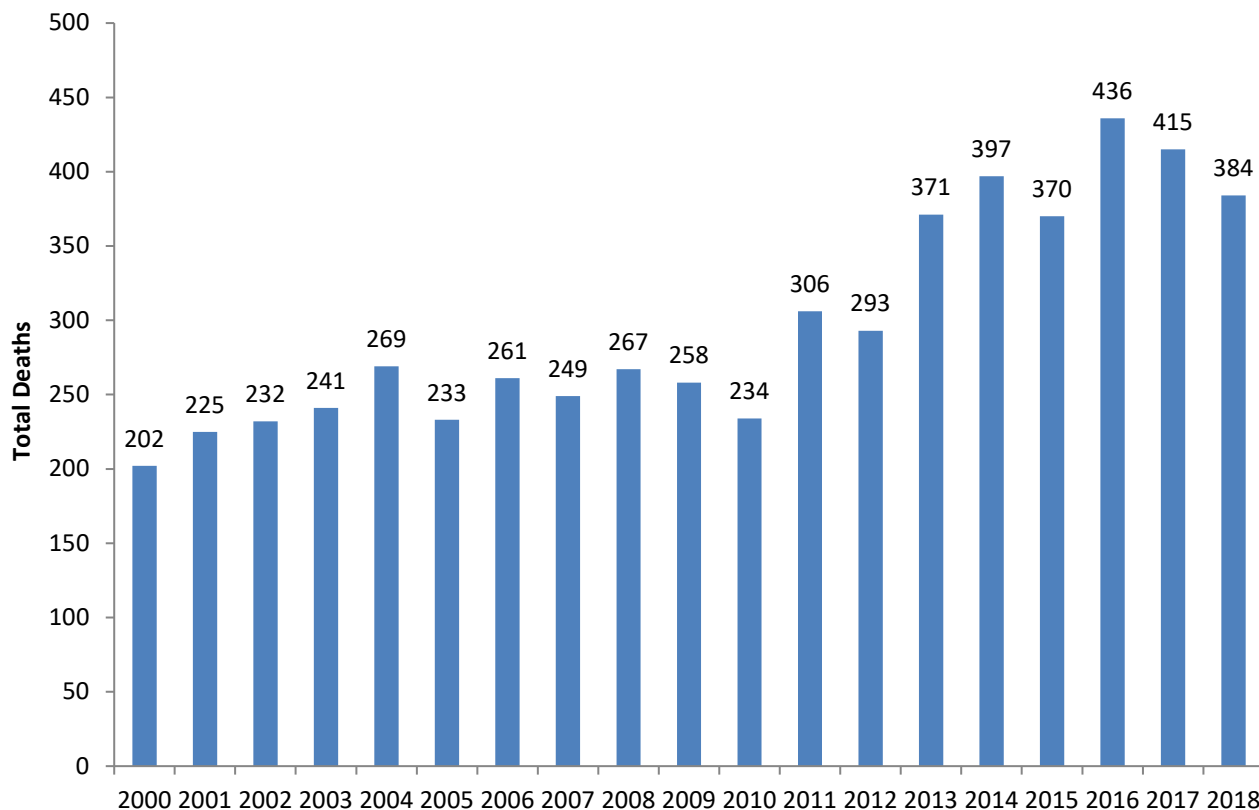
There was a 7.4% decrease in the total number of accidental deaths, from 415 deaths in 2017 to 384 deaths in 2018.

Drug deaths were the most common cause of accidental death in 2018 accounting for 57% of the deaths, followed by motor vehicle deaths at 28.1% of the deaths.

The most common race was white representing 59.1% of the accidental deaths, while male was the most common gender representing 69.8% of the accidental deaths.

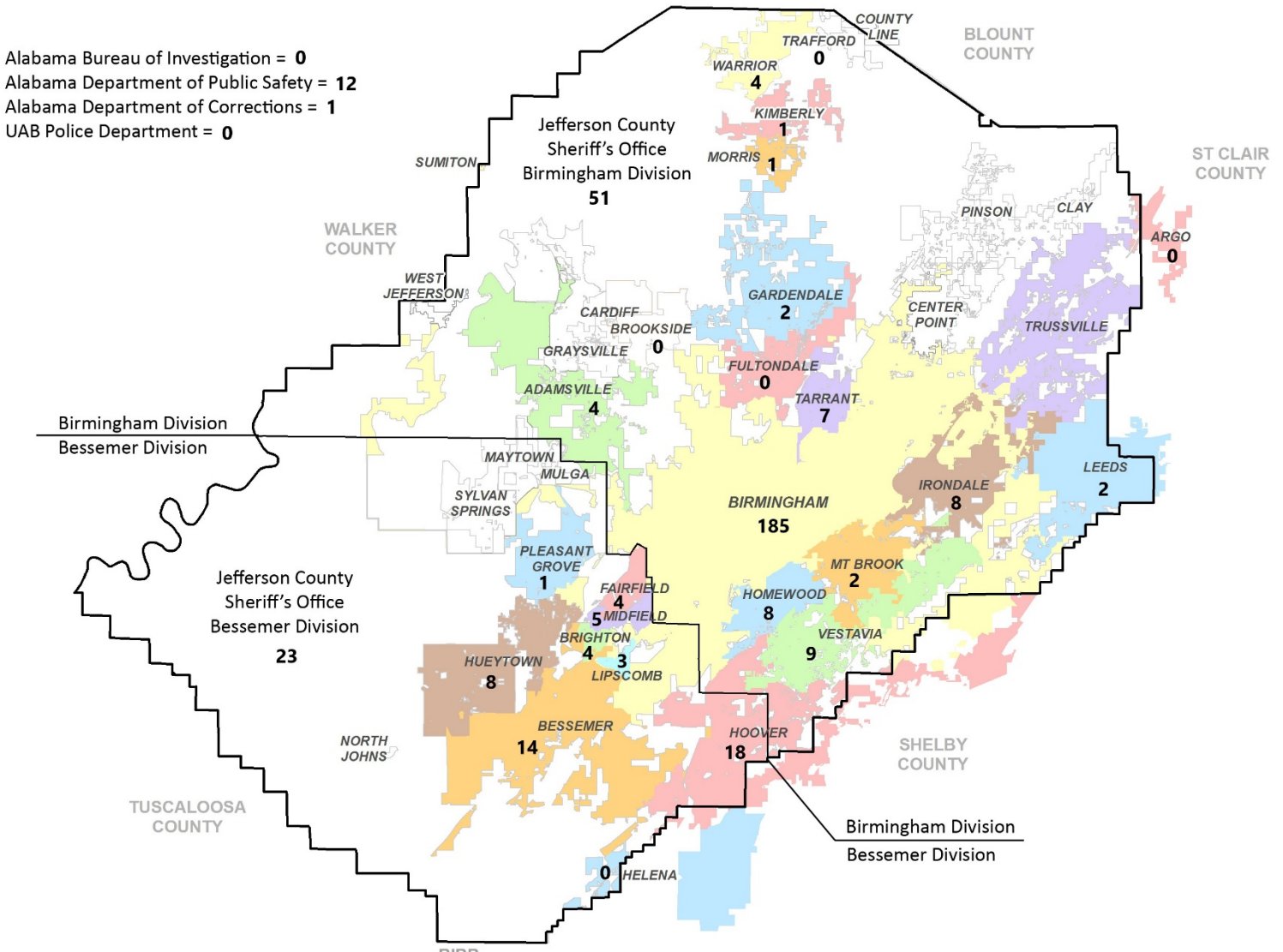
#### Total Number of Accidental Deaths by Year of Death 2000-2018

Figure 3.1: represents all accidental deaths investigated by the JCCMEO.



**Total Number of Accidental Deaths by Law Enforcement Agency, 2018**

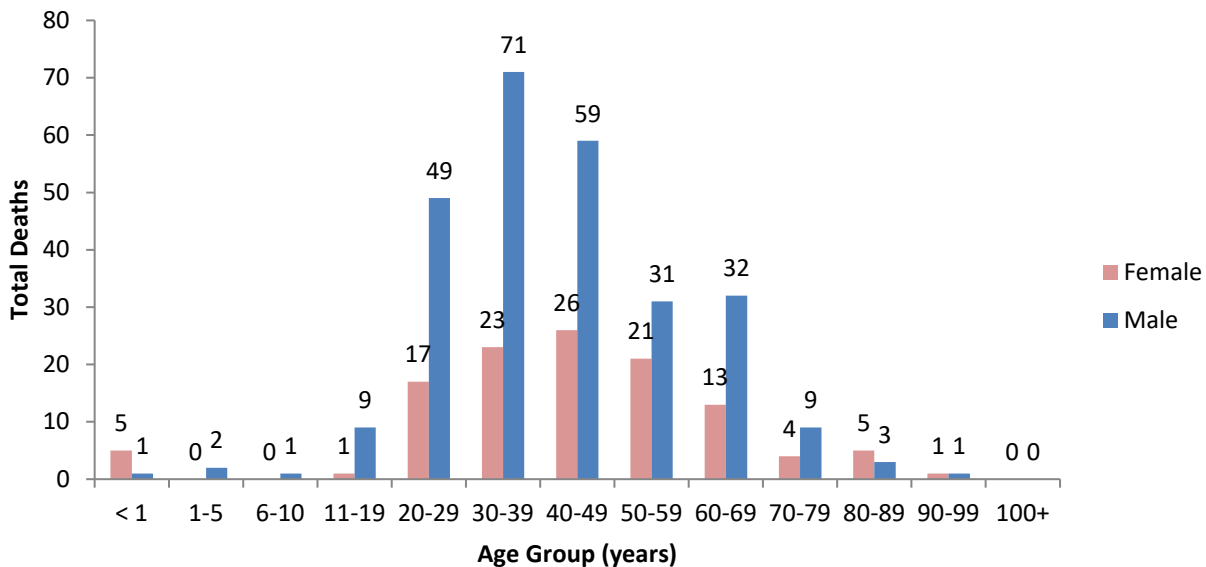
Figure 3.2: N=384, represents all accidental deaths by law enforcement agency.





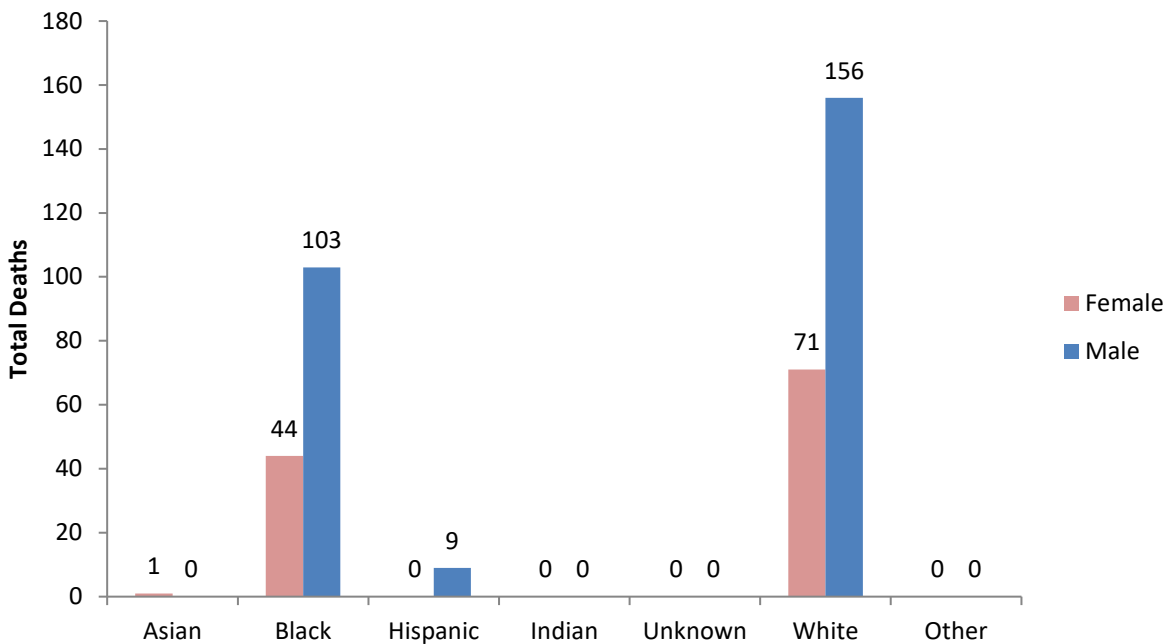
### Total Number of Accidental Deaths by Gender and Age Group, 2018

Figure 3.3: N=384, represents all accidental deaths by gender and age group.



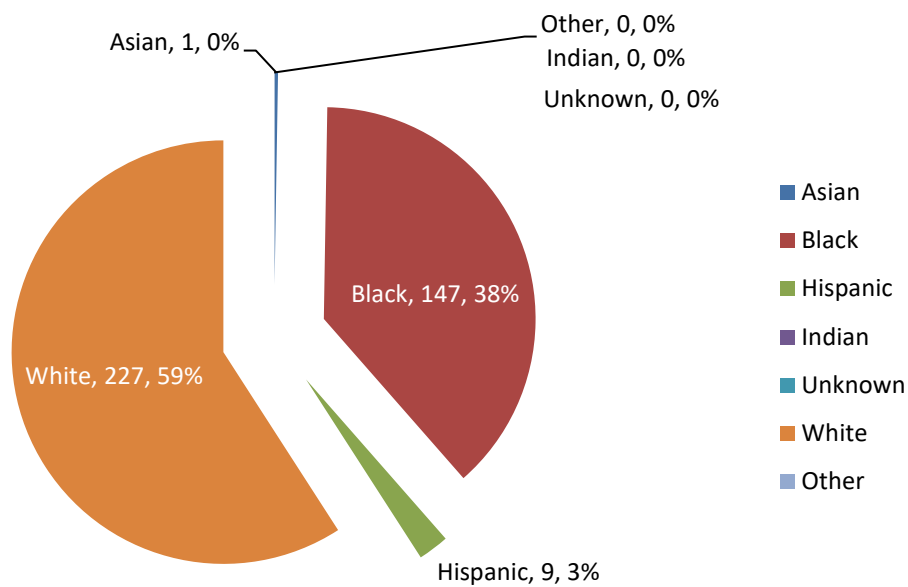
### Total Number of Accidental Deaths by Gender and Race, 2018

Figure 3.4: N=384, represents all accidental deaths by gender and race.



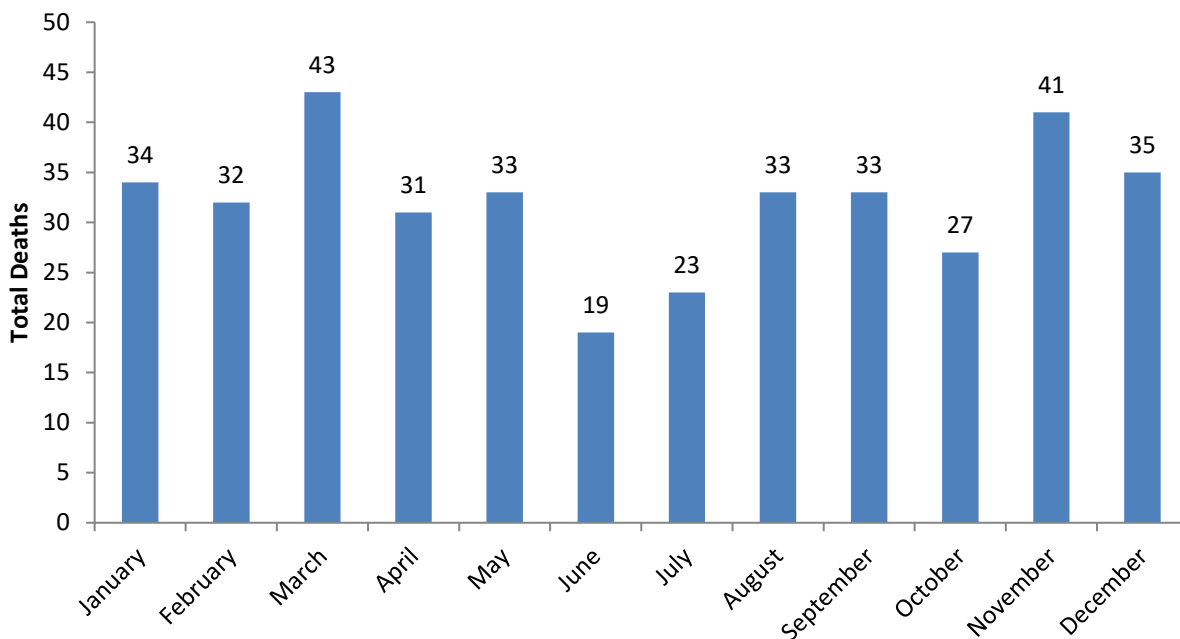
### Percentage of Accidental Deaths by Race, 2018

Figure 3.5: N=384, represents all accidental deaths by race.



### Total Number of Accidental Deaths by Month of Death, 2018

Figure 3.6: N=384, represents all Accidental deaths by month of death.



**Total Number of Accidental Deaths by Means of Death, 2018**

Table 3.1: N=384, represents all Accidental deaths by means of death.

Means of Death	Total	Means of Death	Total
Asphyxia:		Fire:	
Motor vehicle	2	Home	8
Food	2	Apartment	4
Bandage	1	Automobile	1
Blunt		Other	2
Tree	1	Firearm:	
Unknown	1	Handgun	1
Carbon monoxide		Rifle	1
Generator	1	Iatrogenic: Medical procedure/treatment	
Motor vehicle	1	Dialysis catheter	1
Co-sleeping:		Motor vehicle:	
Bed	5	Bicycle	1
Couch	1	Pedestrian	26
Drowning:		Single vehicle	31
Lake	2	Multiple vehicles	46
Pool	1	Sharp: Knife	1
Drug:		Train: Pedestrian	1
Opioid	172	Motor vehicle	4
Other drugs –Rx and illicit drugs	55	Pedestrian	1
Ethanol (alcohol) – acute toxicity	1	<b>Total</b>	<b>384</b>
Electrocution: Electrical switch	1		
Exposure:	3		
Fall:			
Bed	1		
Building	1		
Driveway	1		
Tree	1		
Parking lot	1		
Floor	2		
Balcony	1		
Stairs	3		
Rock quarry	1		
Unknown	1		
Falling Object: Pipe	1		

## Homicide

Homicides accounted for 17.7% of the deaths investigated by the JCCMEO in 2018.

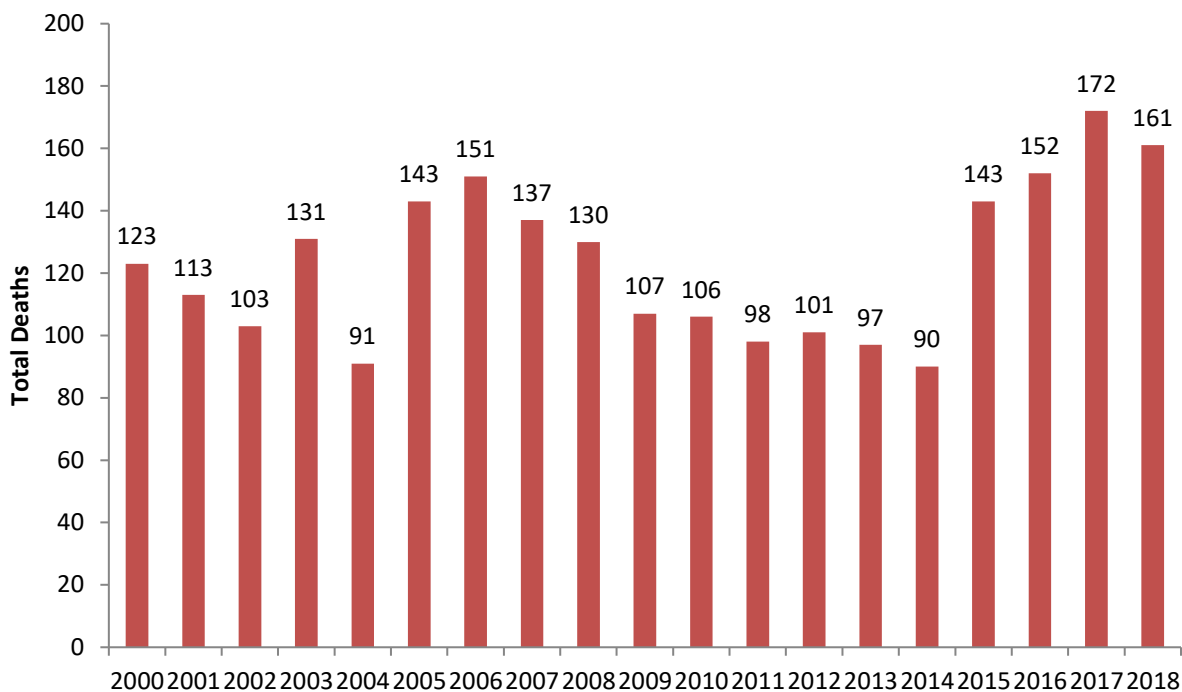
There was a 6.4% decrease in the total number of homicides, from 172 deaths in 2017 to 161 deaths in 2018; and is the second highest year since the year 2000.

Death due to firearms was the most common cause of homicide in 2018 accounting for 87% of the deaths, followed by blunt force and sharp force trauma both representing 5% of the deaths respectively.

The most common race was black representing 82.6% of the homicides, while males were the most common gender representing 85.7% of homicide deaths.

### Total Number of Homicides by Year of Death 2000-2018

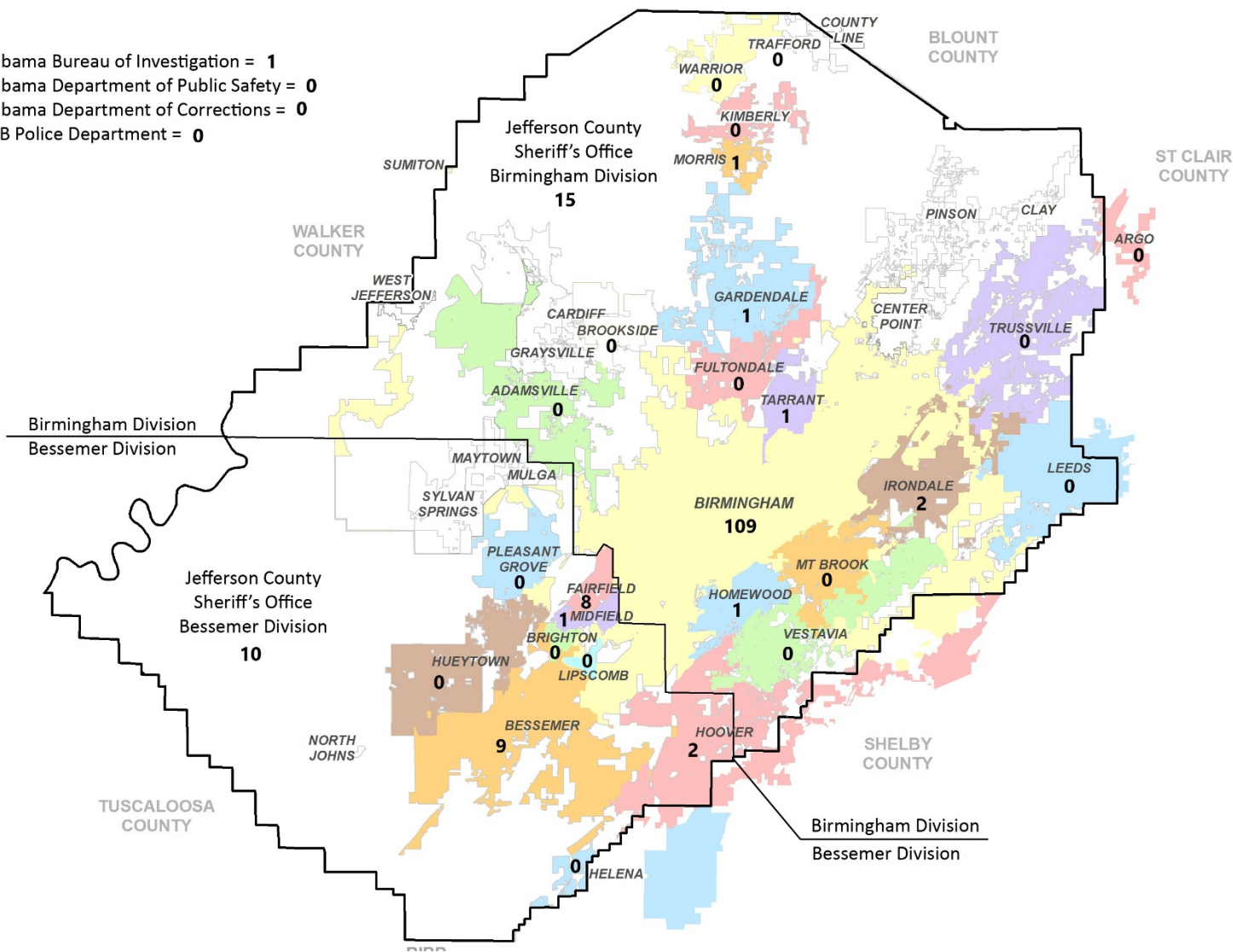
Figure 3.7: represents all homicides investigated by the JCCMEO.



**Total Number of Homicides by Law Enforcement Agency, 2018**

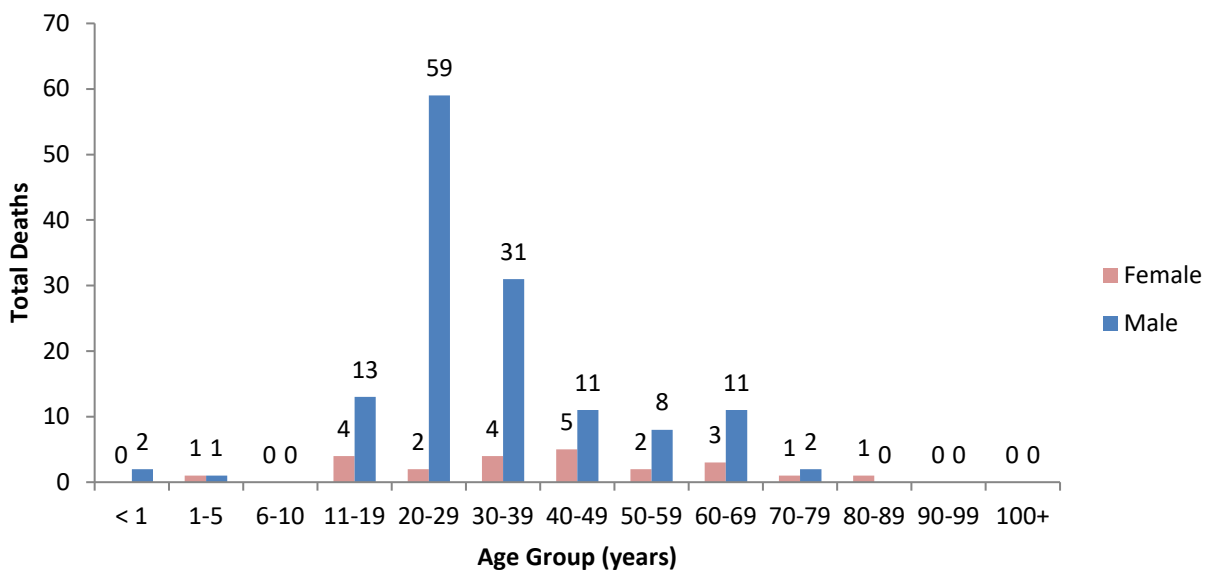
Figure 3.8: N=161, represents all homicide deaths by law enforcement agency.

Alabama Bureau of Investigation = 1  
 Alabama Department of Public Safety = 0  
 Alabama Department of Corrections = 0  
 UAB Police Department = 0



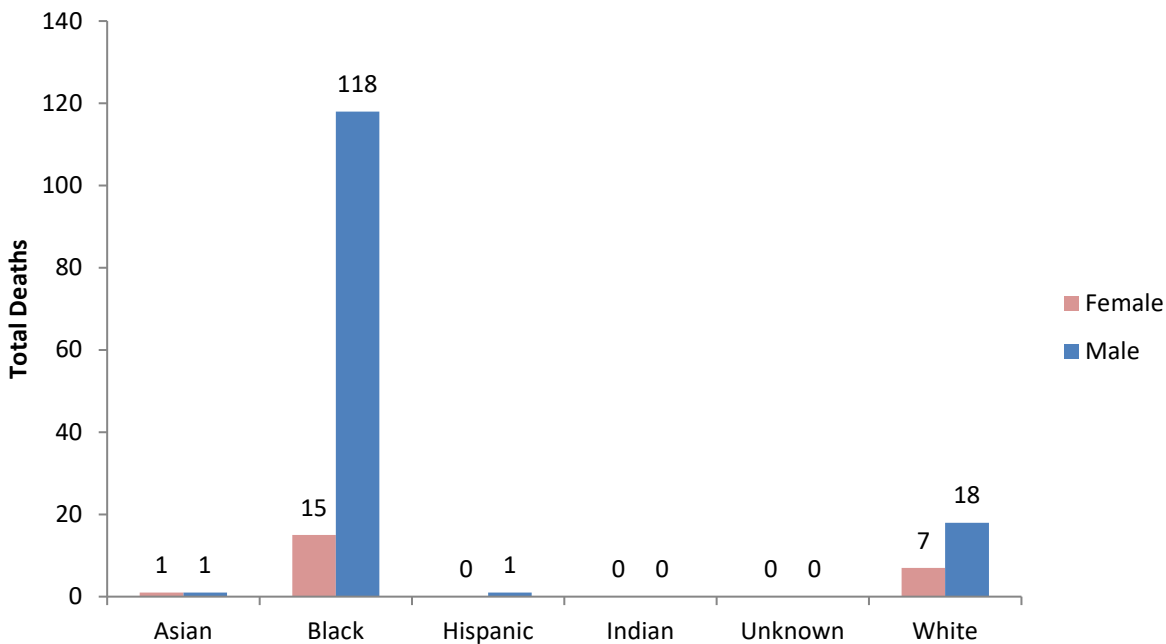
**Total Number of Homicides by Gender and Age Group, 2018**

Figure 3.9: N=161, represents all homicides by gender and age group.



**Total Number of Homicides by Gender and Race, 2018**

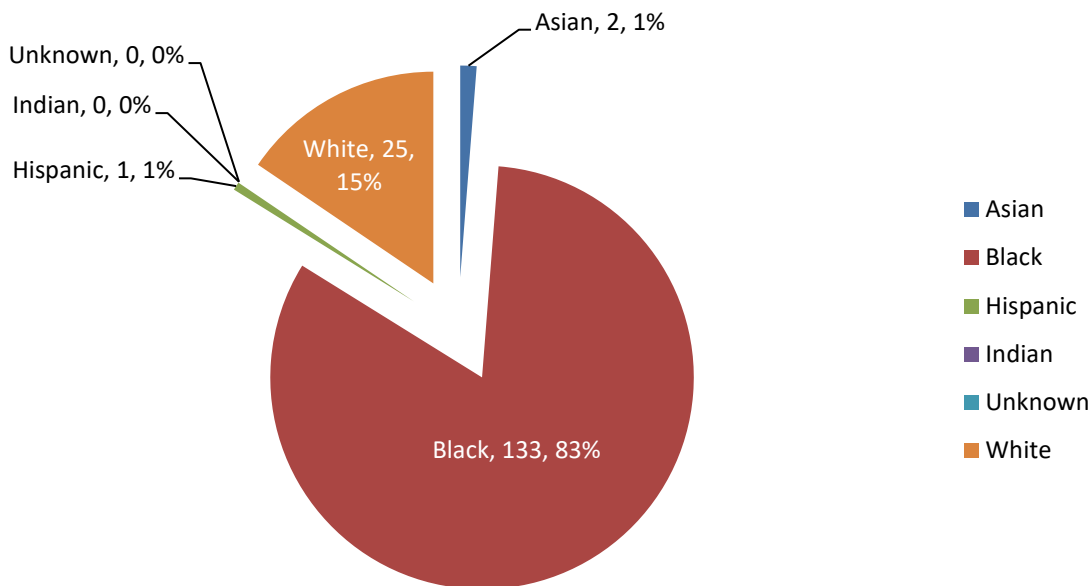
Figure 3.10: N=161, represents all homicides by gender and race.





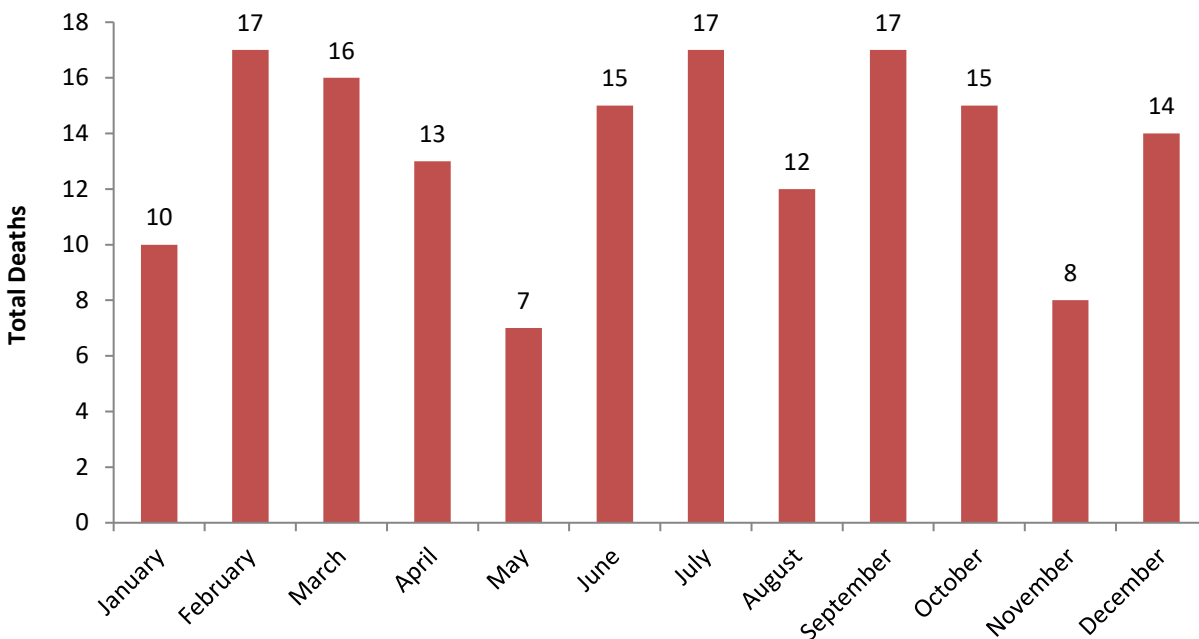
**Percentage of Homicides by Race, 2018**

Figure 3.11: N=161, represents all homicides by race.



**Total Number of Homicides by Month of Death, 2018**

Figure 3.12: N=161, represents all homicides by month of death.



**Total Number of Homicides by Means of Death, 2018**

Table 3.2: N=161, represents all Homicides by means of death and weapon type.

Means of Death	Total
Asphyxia:	
Unknown	1
Blunt:	
Bat	1
Barbell weight	1
Cord/hatchet/iron	1
Unknown	5
Drowning: Bathtub	1
Fall: Asphalt roadway	1
Fire: Apartment	1
Firearm:	
Handgun	78
Handgun/Rifle	2
Rifle	14
Shotgun	4
Unknown	42
Motor vehicle	1
Sharp:	
Knife	7
Screwdriver	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>161</b>

## Natural

Natural deaths accounted for 28.6% of the deaths investigated by the JCCMEO in 2018.

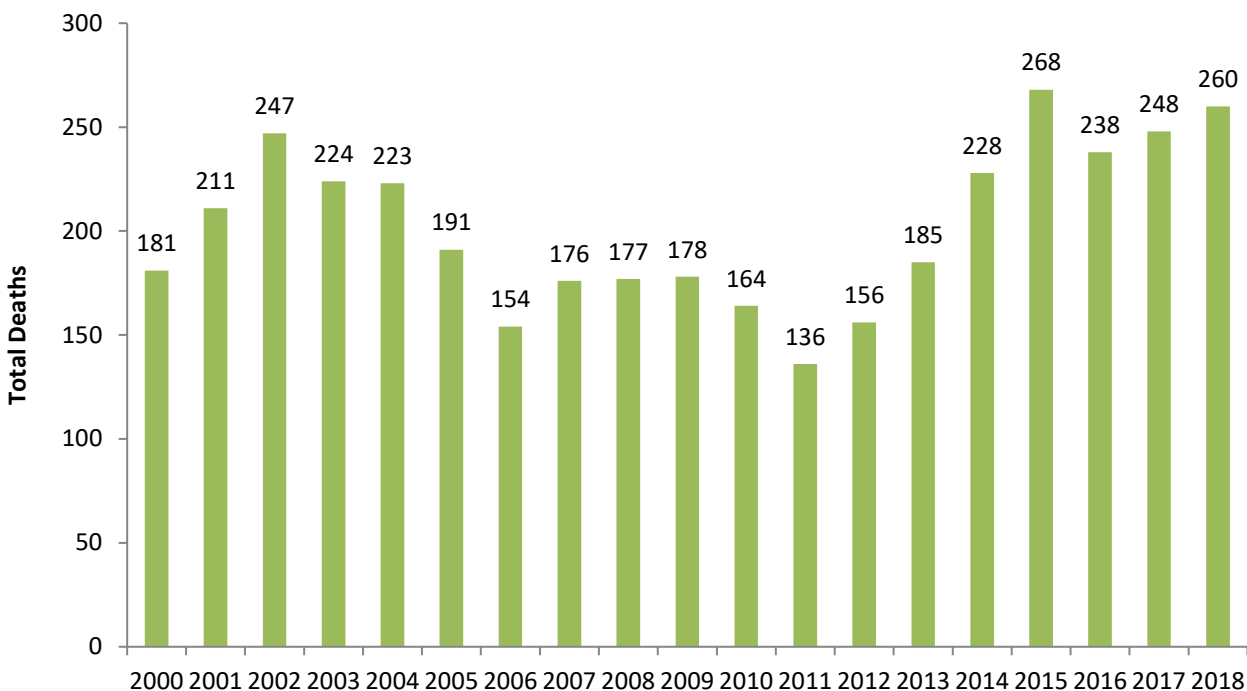
There was a 4.8% increase in the total number of natural deaths, from 248 deaths in 2017 to 260 deaths in 2018 and; is the second highest year since year 2000.

Deaths due to heart disease were the most common cause of natural death in 2018 accounting for 56.5% of the deaths, followed by chronic substance abuse accounting for 15% of the deaths.

The most common race was white representing 50.3% of the natural deaths, while males were the most common gender representing 70.3% of natural deaths.

### Total Number of Natural Deaths by Year of Death 2000-2018

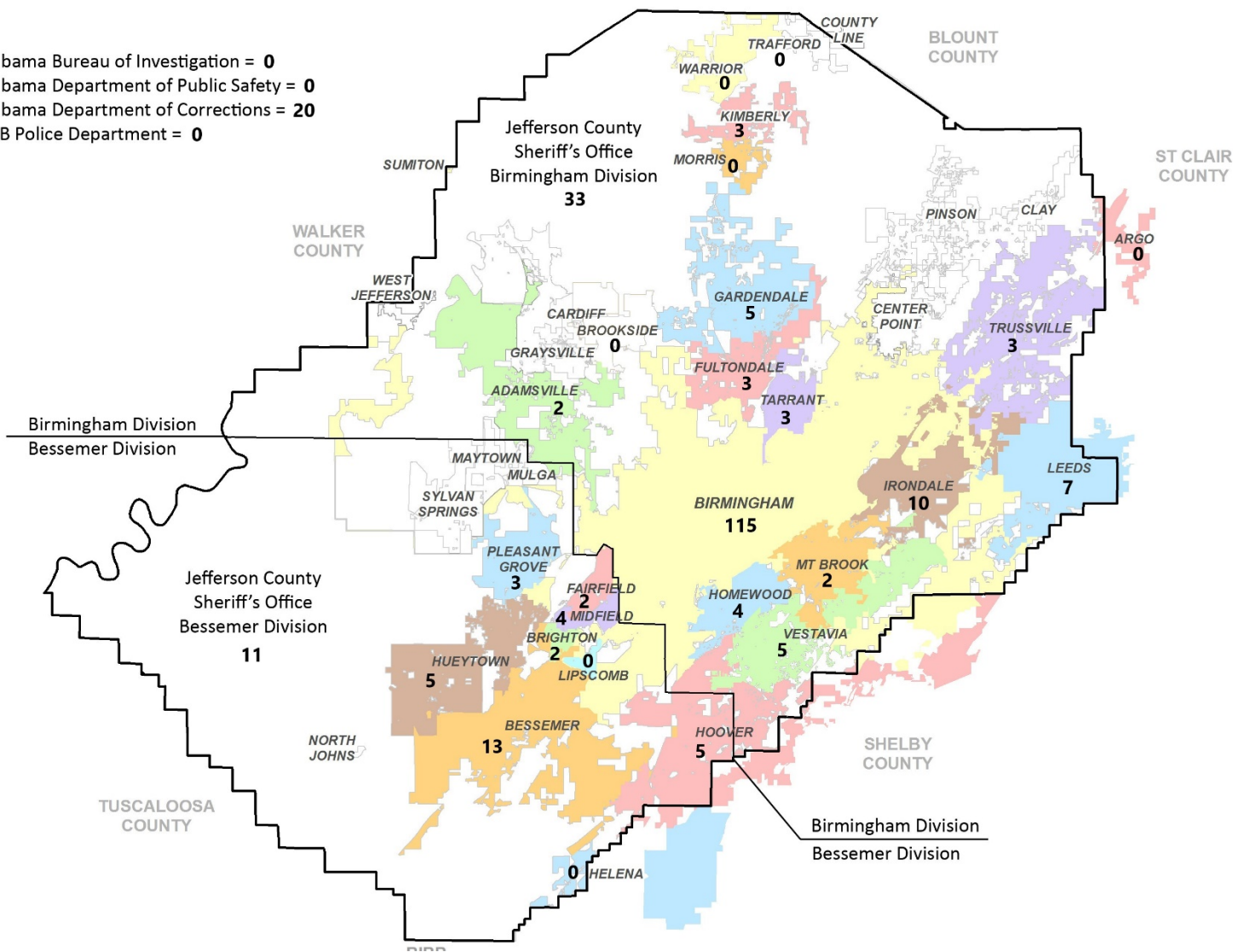
Figure 3.13: represents all natural deaths investigated by the JCCMEO.



**Total Number of Natural Deaths by Law Enforcement Agency, 2018**

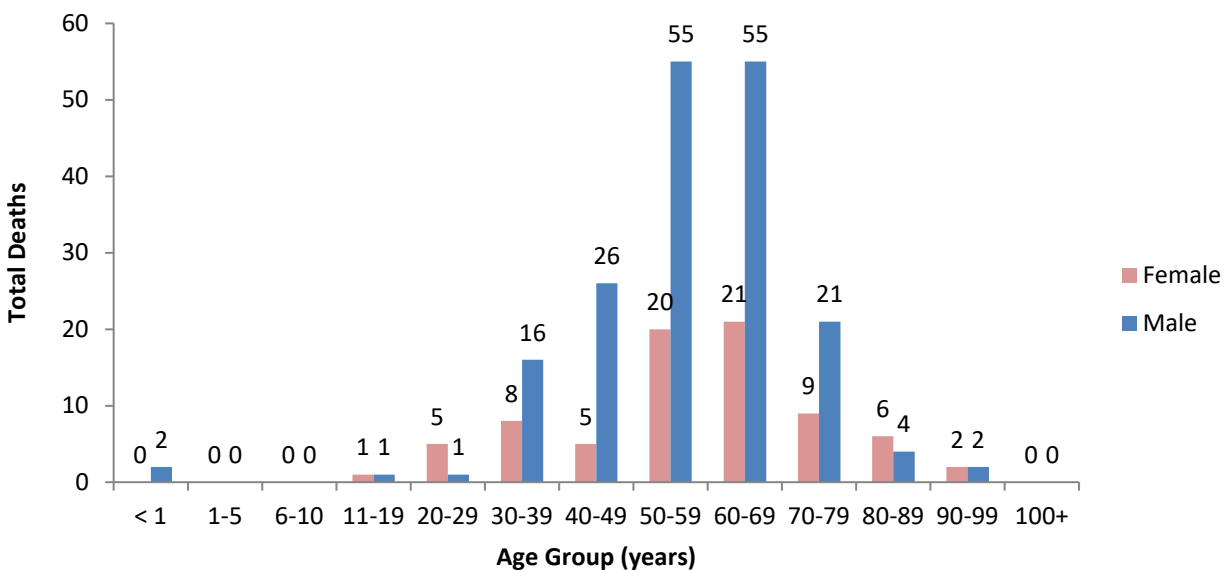
Figure 3.14: N=260, represents all natural deaths by law enforcement agency.

Alabama Bureau of Investigation = 0  
 Alabama Department of Public Safety = 0  
 Alabama Department of Corrections = 20  
 UAB Police Department = 0



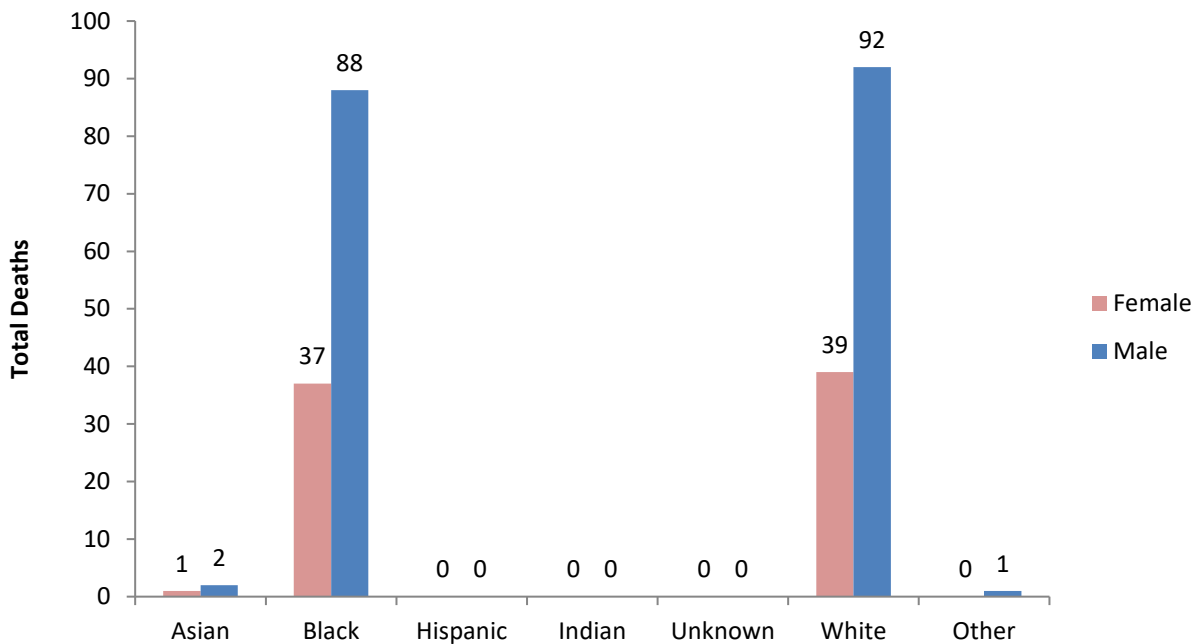
**Total Number of Natural Deaths by Gender and Age Group, 2018**

Figure 3.15: N=260, represents all natural deaths by gender and age group.



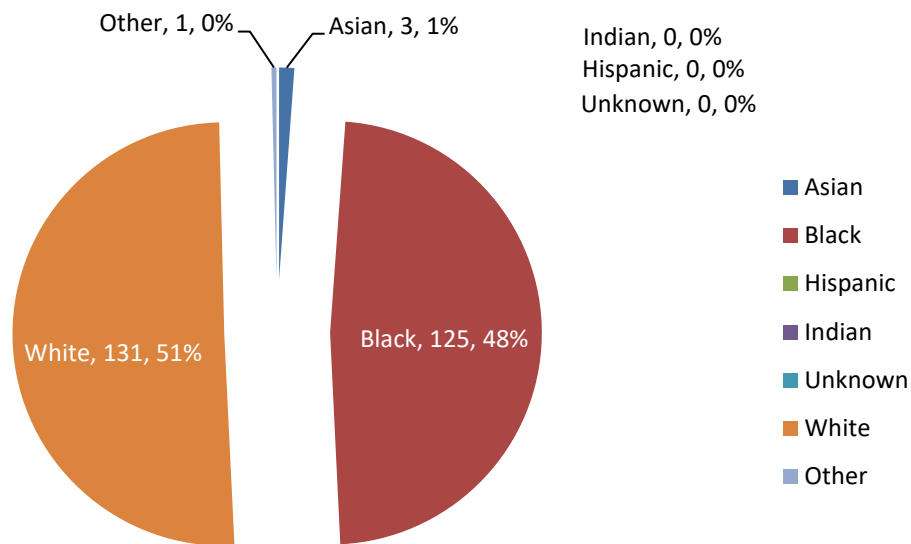
**Total Number of Natural Deaths by Gender and Race, 2018**

Figure 3.16: N=260, represents all natural deaths by gender and race.



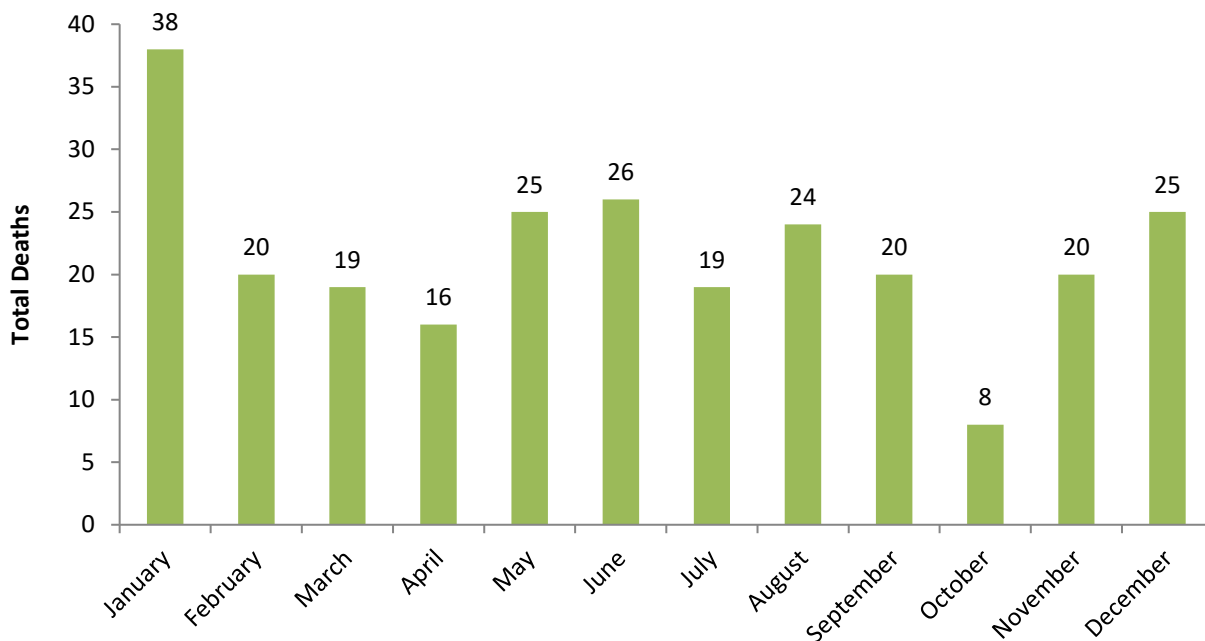
**Percentage of Natural Deaths by Race, 2018**

Figure 3.17: N=260, represents all natural deaths by race.



**Total Number of Natural Deaths by Month of Death, 2018**

Figure 3.18: N=260, represents all natural deaths by month of death.



**Total Number of Natural Deaths by Means of Death, 2018**

Table 3.3: N=260, represents all natural deaths by means of death.

Means of Death	Total
Heart:	
Coronary artery atherosclerosis	34
Hypertensive heart disease	36
Arteriosclerotic cardiovascular disease	56
Other heart disease	21
Lungs:	
Pneumonia	9
COPD / asthma	2
Pulmonary thromboembolism	6
Liver: Hepatic abscess	1
Brain:	
Seizure disorder (epilepsy)	3
Meningitis	0
Nontraumatic intracranial hemorrhage	7
Malignancy NOS (includes all organ systems)	10
Chronic substance (ethanol/drug) use	39
Diabetes	7
Gastrointestinal bleeding	4
Other	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>260</b>

## Suicide

Suicide deaths accounted for 9.4% of the deaths investigated by the JCCMEO in 2018.

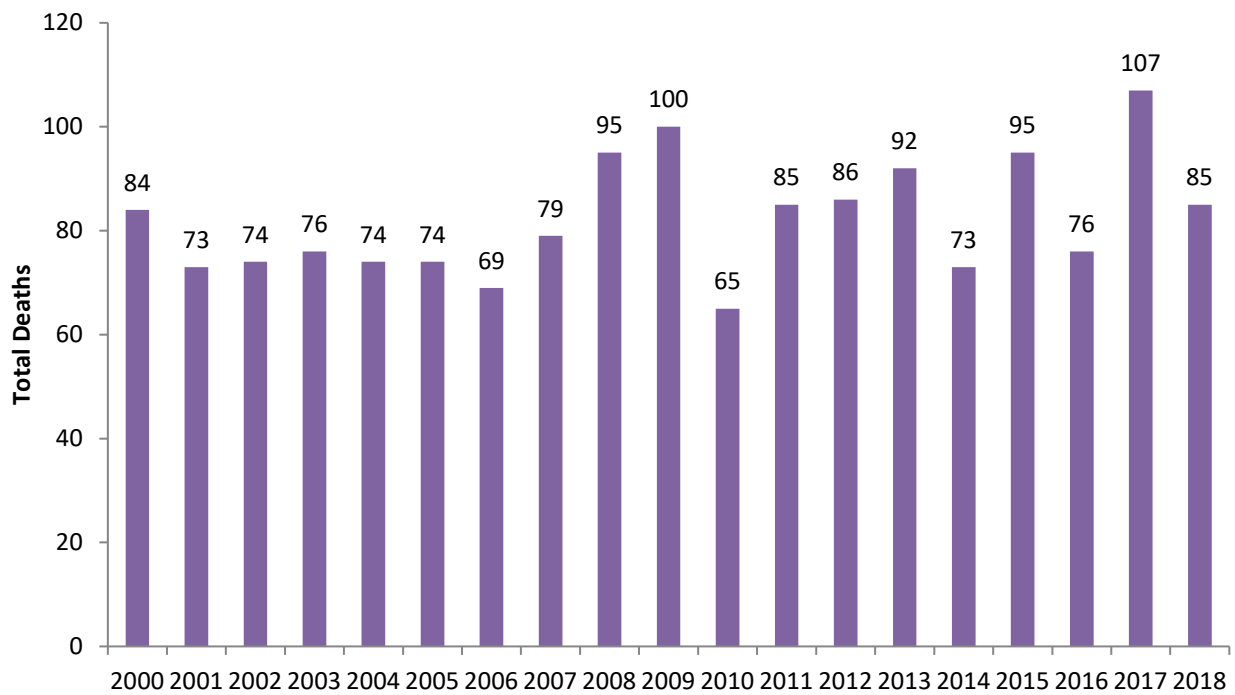
There was a 20.6% decrease in the total number of suicide deaths, from 107 deaths in 2017 to 85 deaths in 2018.

Deaths due to gunshot wounds were the most common cause of suicide death in 2018 accounting for 67% of the deaths and, followed by deaths due to hanging accounting for 17.6% of the suicide deaths.

The most common race was white representing 76.5% of the suicide deaths, while males were the most common gender representing 78.8% of suicide deaths.

### Total Number of Suicide Deaths by Year of Death 2000-2018

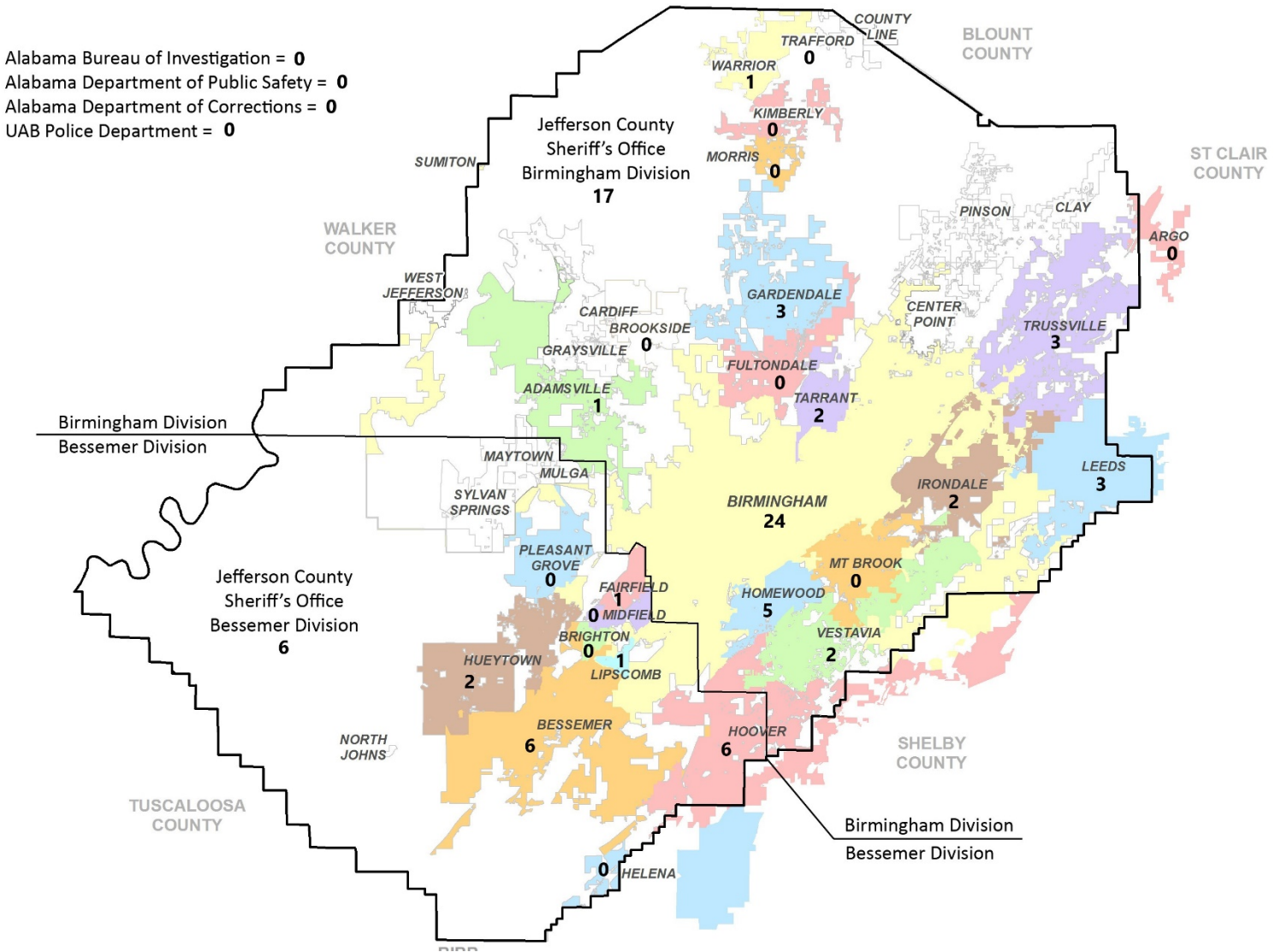
Figure 3.19: represents all suicide deaths investigated by the JCCMEO.





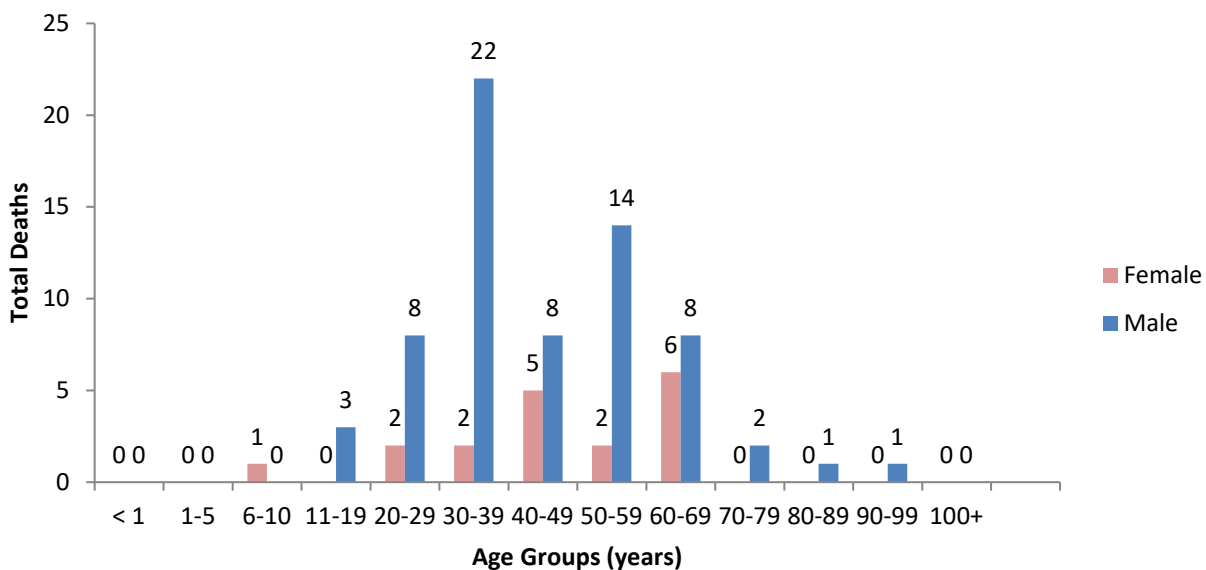
**Total Number of Suicide Deaths by Law Enforcement Agency, 2018**

Figure 3.20: N=85, represents all suicide deaths by law enforcement agency.



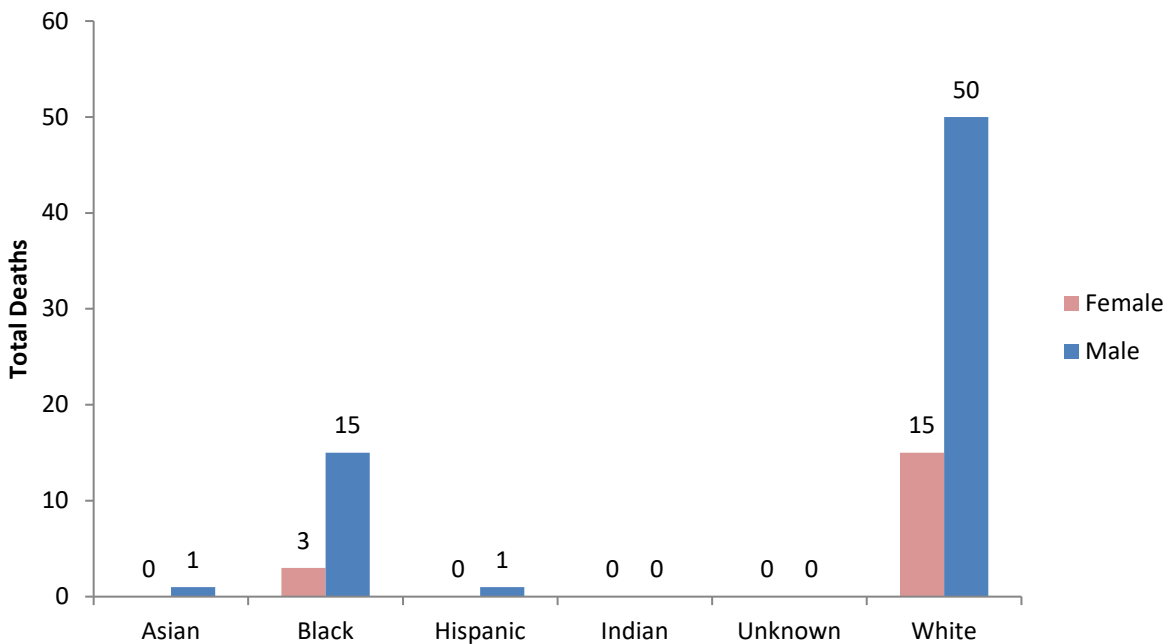
**Total Number of Suicide Deaths by Gender and Age Group, 2018**

Figure 3.21: N=85, represents all suicide deaths by gender and age group.



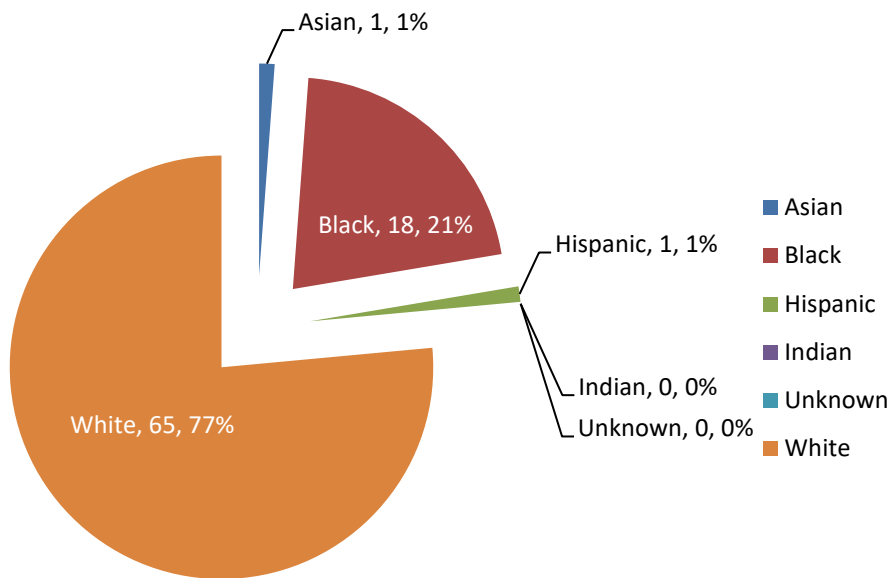
**Total Number of Suicide Deaths by Gender and Race, 2018**

Figure 3.22: N=85, represents all suicide deaths by gender and race.



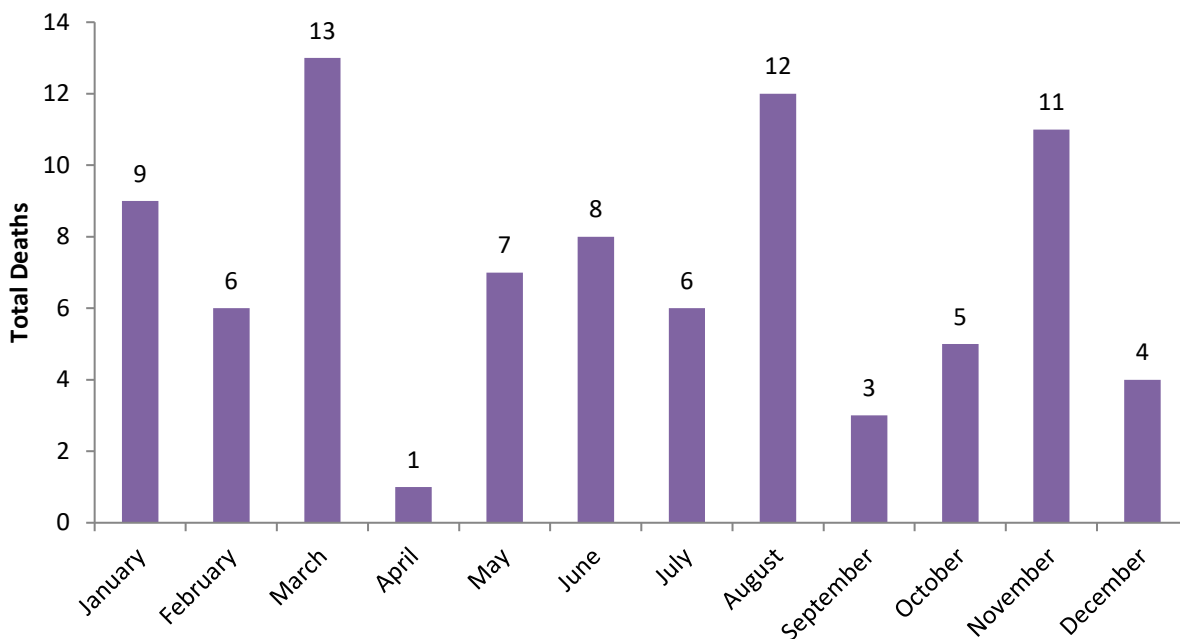
**Percentage of Suicide Deaths by Race, 2018**

Figure 3.23: N=85, represents all suicide deaths by race.



**Total Number of Suicide Deaths by Month of Death, 2018**

Figure 3.24: N=85, represents all suicide deaths by month of death.



**Total Number of Suicide Deaths by Means of Death, 2018**

Table 3.4: N=85, represents all suicide deaths by means of death.

Means of Death	Total
Asphyxia:	
Bag	1
Belt	1
Nitrogen gas	1
Carbon Monoxide:	
Charcoal grill	1
Motor vehicle	1
Drug:	
Drug (opioid)	1
Drug (other)	5
Fall:	
Bridge	1
Parking deck	1
Firearm:	
Handgun	49
Rifle	1
Shotgun	7
Hanging:	
Bandana	1
Belt	4
Dog leash	1
Electrical cord	2
Nylon strap	1
Pants	1
Rope	4
Sheet	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>85</b>

## Undetermined

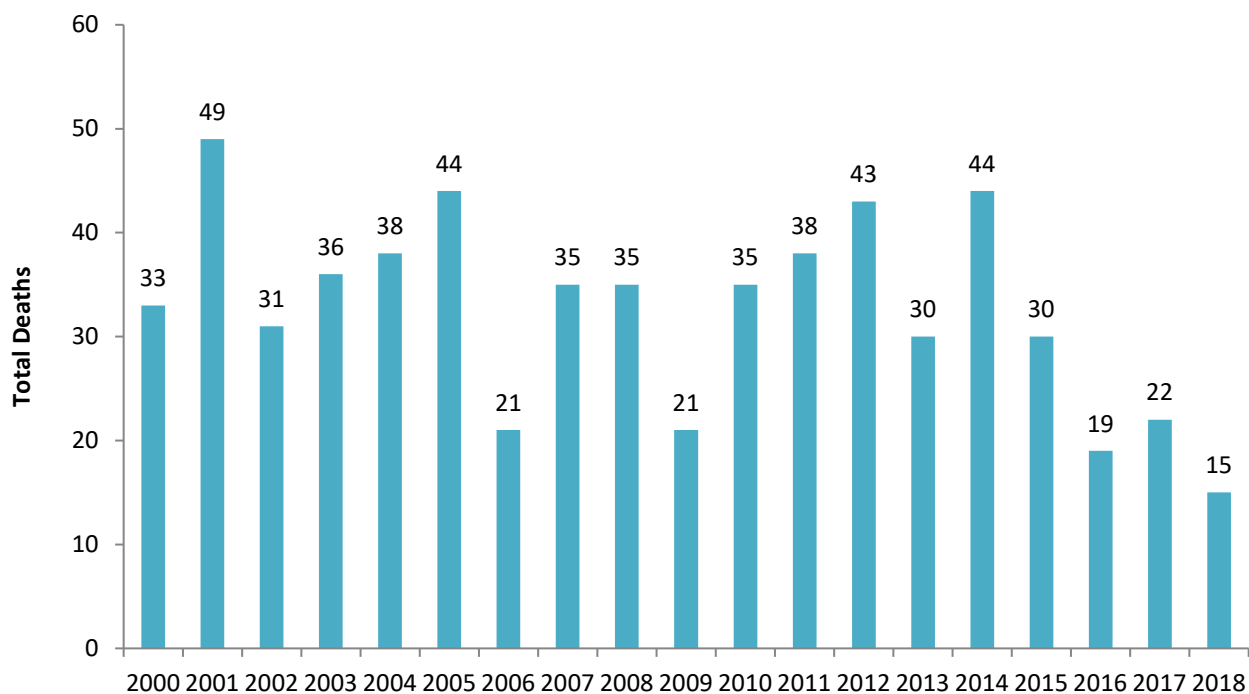
Undetermined deaths accounted for 1.7% of the deaths investigated by the JCCMEO in 2018.

There was a 31.8% decrease in the total number of undetermined deaths, from 22 deaths in 2017 to 15 deaths in 2018.

Undetermined was the most common means of Undetermined death, accounting for 73.3% of the deaths.

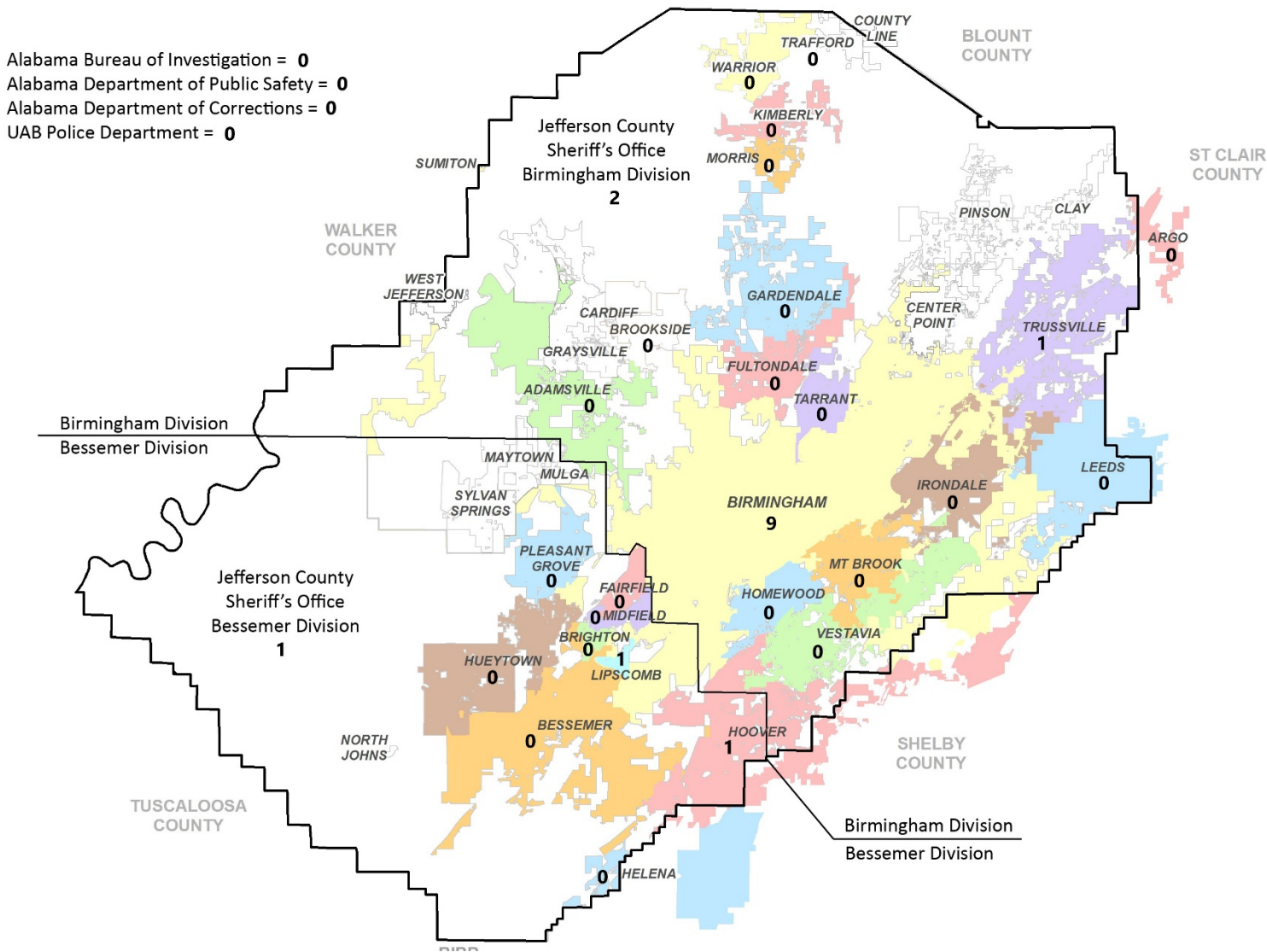
### Total Number of Undetermined Deaths by Year of Death 2000-2018

Figure 3.25: represents all undetermined deaths investigated by the JCCMEO.



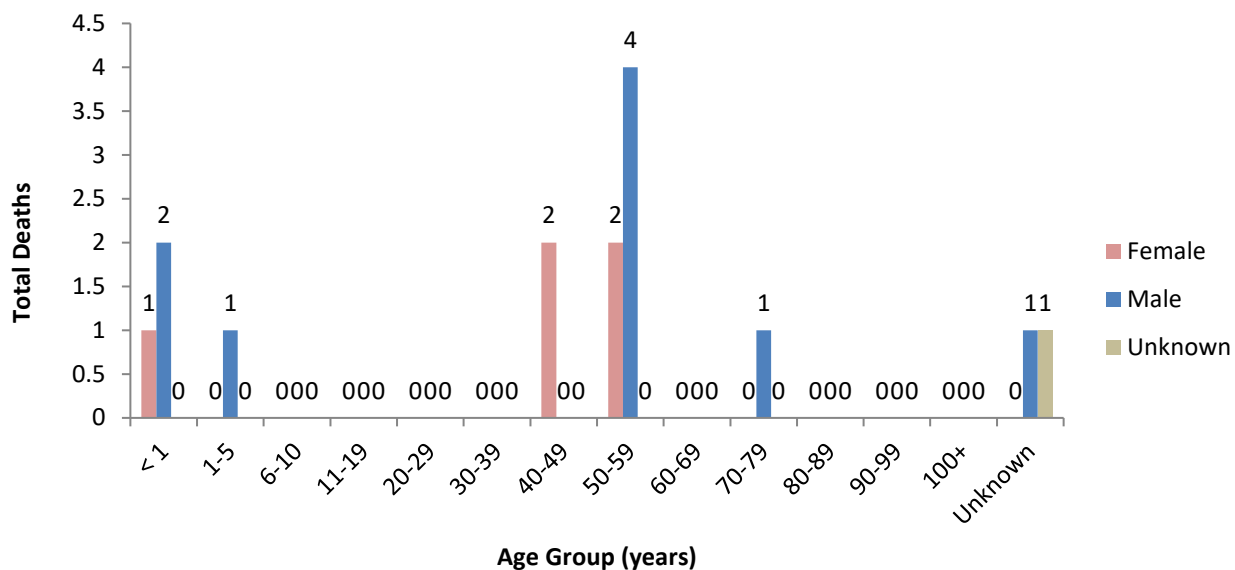
**Total Number of Undetermined Deaths by Law Enforcement Agency, 2018**

Figure 3.26: N=15, represents all undetermined deaths by law enforcement agency.



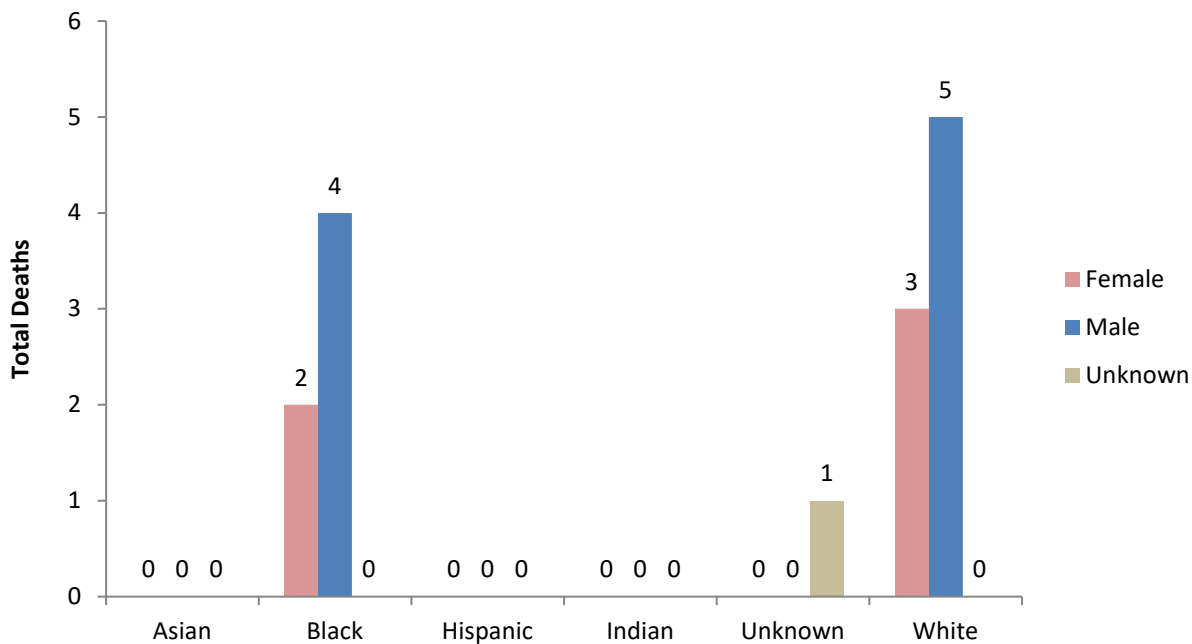
**Total Number of Undetermined Deaths by Gender and Age Group, 2018**

Figure 3.27: N=15, represents all undetermined deaths by gender and age group.



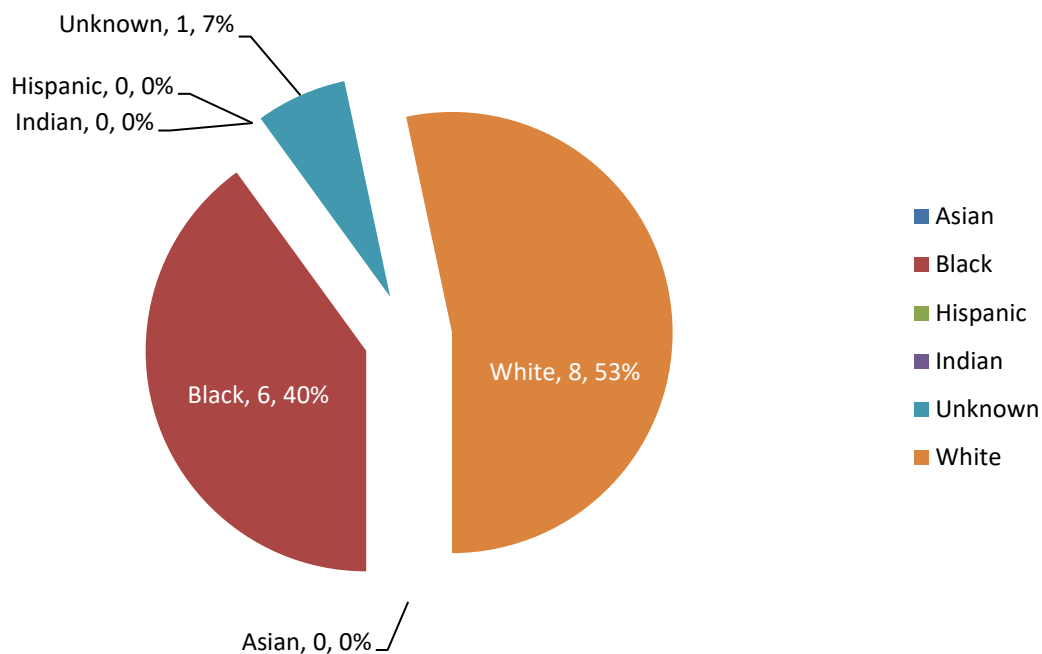
**Total Number of Undetermined Deaths by Gender and Race, 2018**

Figure 3.28: N=15, represents all undetermined deaths by gender and race.



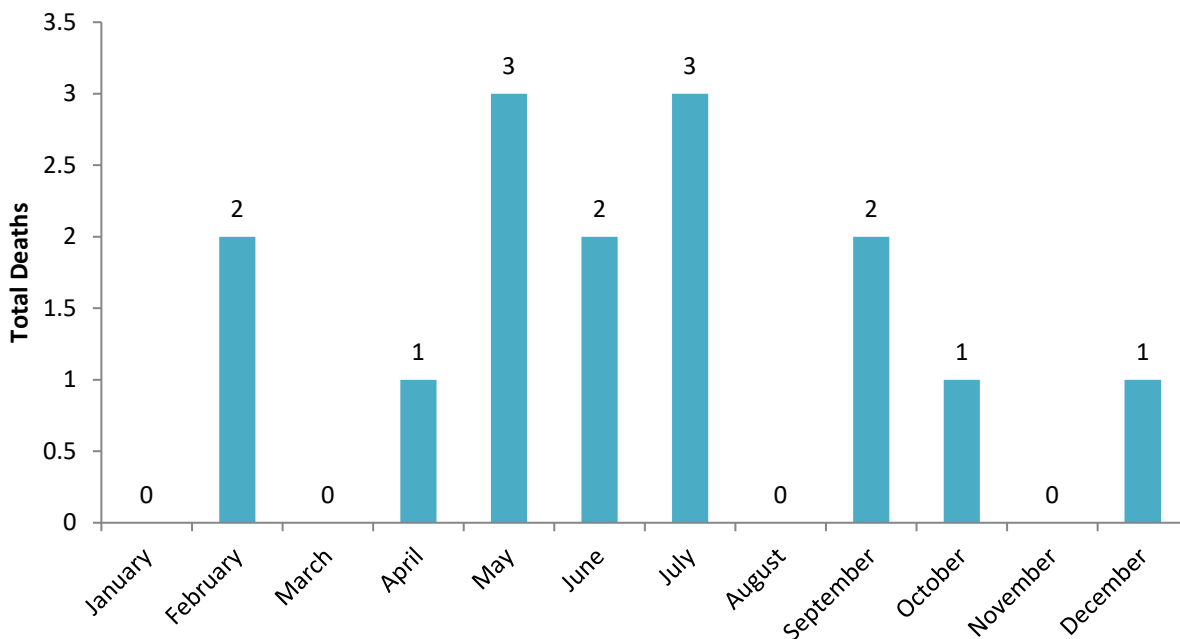
### Percentage of Undetermined Deaths by Race, 2018

Figure 3.29: N=15, represents all undetermined deaths by race.



### Total Number of Undetermined Deaths by Month of Death, 2018

Figure 3.30: N=15, represents all undetermined deaths by month of death.





**Total Number of Undetermined Deaths by Means of Death, 2018**

Table 3.5: N=15, represents all undetermined deaths by means of death.

Means of Death	Total
Drug: Opioid	2
Fire: House	1
Undetermined: Bed	1
Crib	1
Undetermined	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>

## Section 4: Infant/Juvenile Deaths

Infant/Juvenile deaths accounted for 4% of the deaths investigated by the JCCMEO in 2018. There was a 40% decrease in the total number of infant/juvenile deaths, from 60 deaths in 2017 to 36 deaths in 2018. Infant deaths decreased 35%, from 23 deaths in 2017 to 15 deaths in 2018 and, juvenile deaths decreased 43.2%, from 37 deaths in 2017 to 21 deaths in 2018.

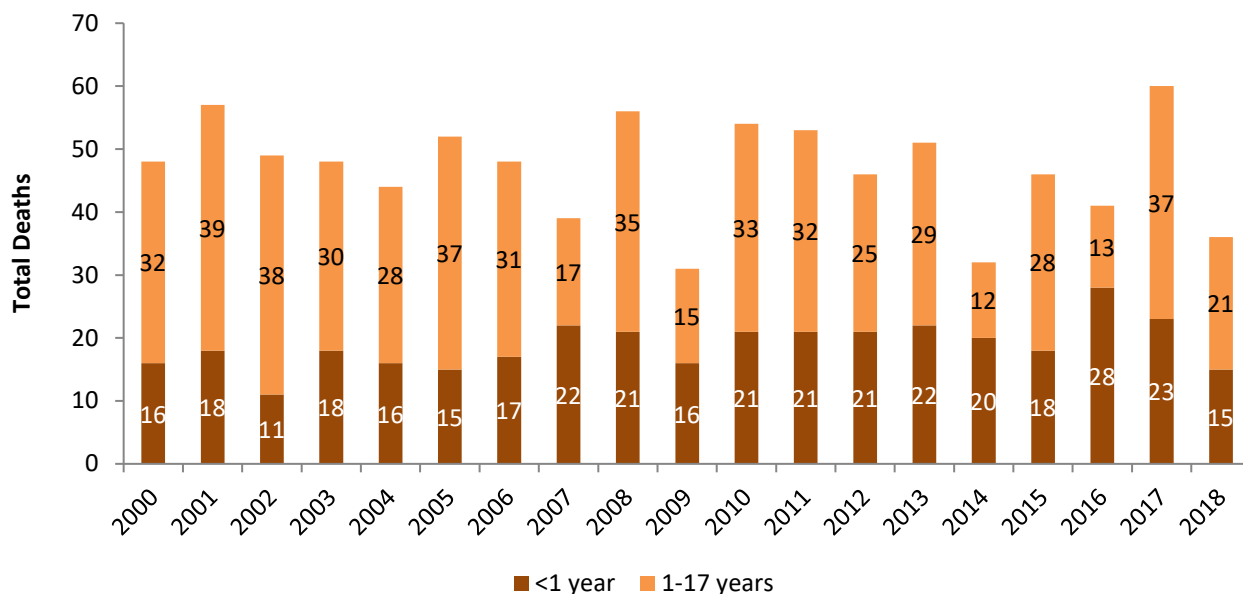
Infants (<1 year of age): Deaths due to co-sleeping was the most common means of infant death in 2018, accounting for 6 of the 15 or 40% of the infant deaths. Accidental death was the most common manner of infant death, accounting for 40% of the deaths. The most common race was black representing 93.3% of the infant deaths, with white accounting for only 6.7% of the infant deaths. Infants 1 month of age had the highest mortality rate accounting for 26.7% of the deaths.

Juveniles (1–17 years of age): Deaths due to firearms was the most common means of juvenile death in 2018, accounting for 52.4% of the deaths. Homicide was the most common manner of death, accounting for 42.9% of the juvenile deaths. The most common race was black representing 76.2% of the juvenile deaths, with white accounting for remaining 23.8% of the juvenile deaths.

### Historical Summary

#### Total Number of Infant and Juvenile Deaths by Year of Death 2000-2018

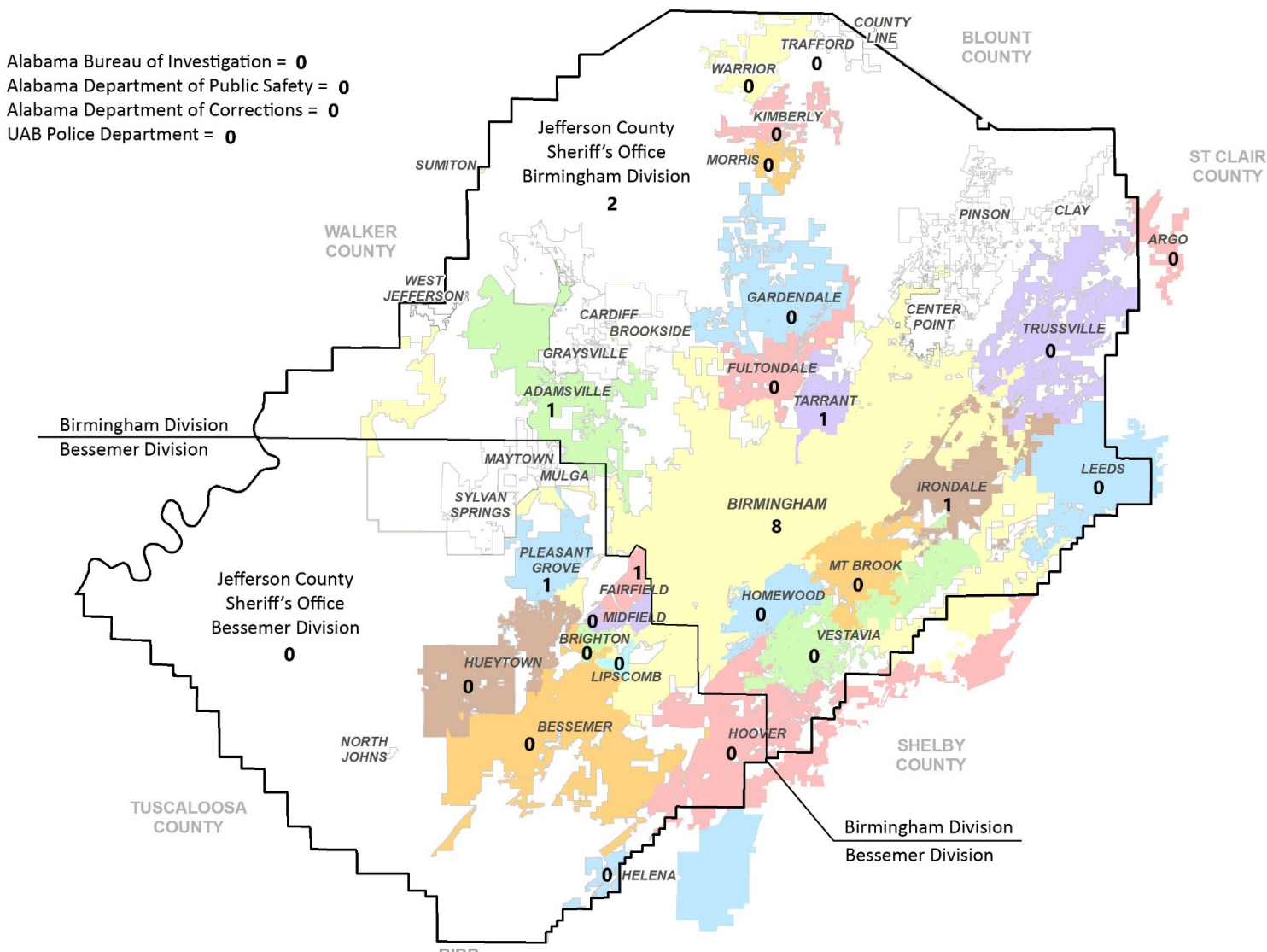
Figure 4.1: represents all infant deaths (<1 year of age) and juvenile deaths (1-17 years of age) investigated by the JCCMEO.



## Infant Deaths

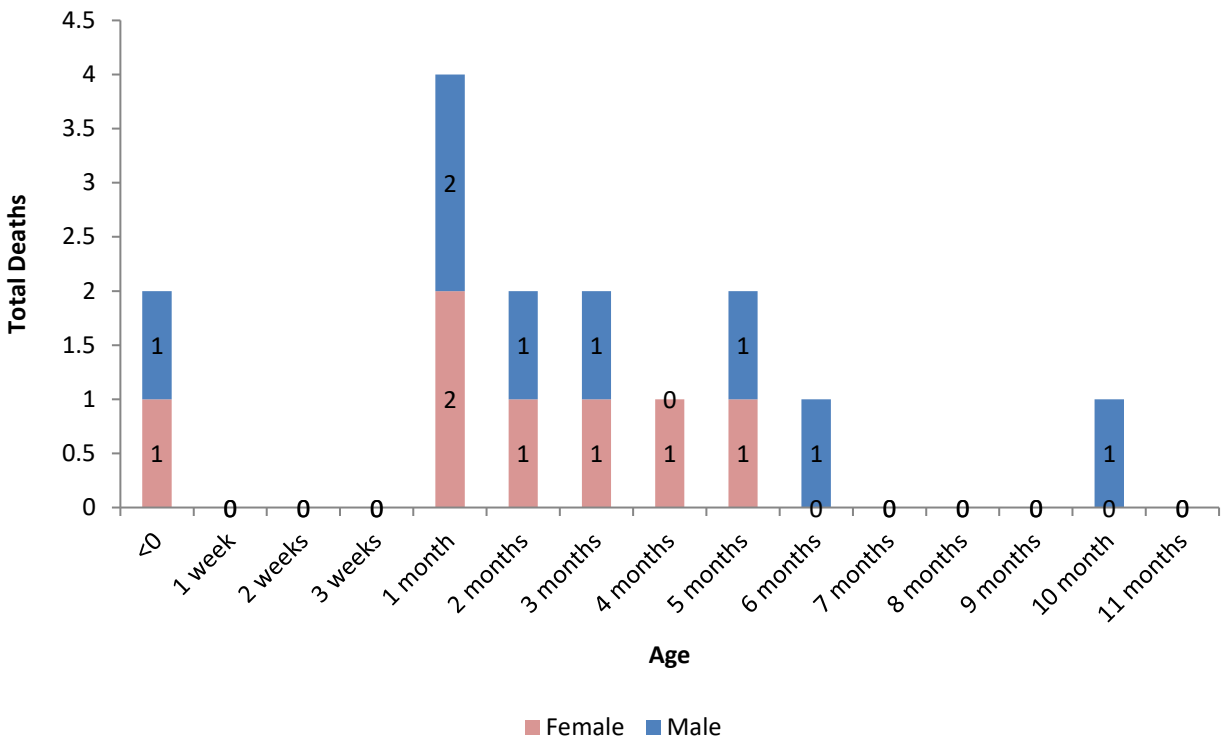
### Total Number of Infant Deaths by Law Enforcement Agency, 2018

Figure 4.2: N=15, represents all infant deaths (<1 year of age) by law enforcement agency.



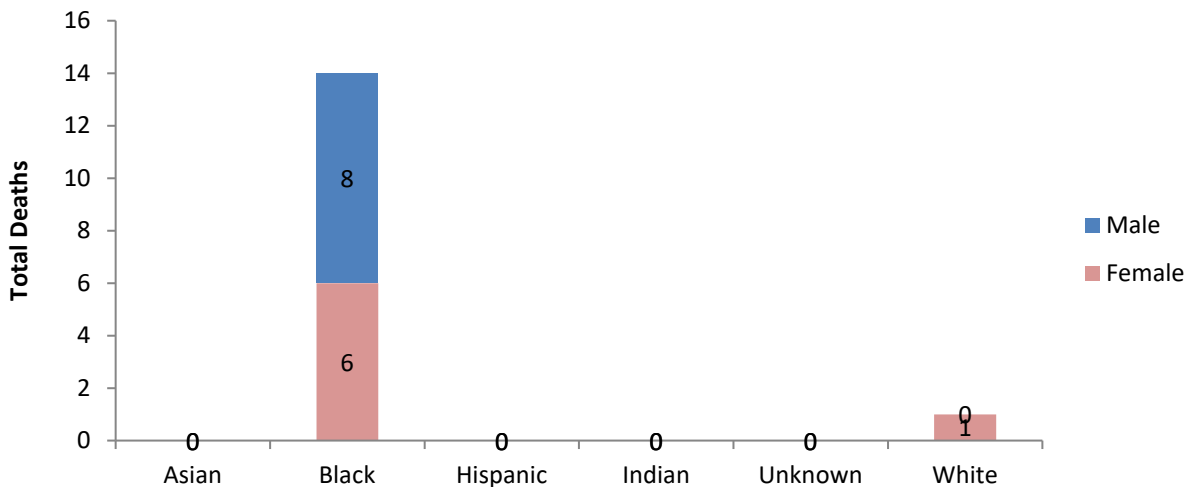
**Total Number of Infant Deaths by Gender and Age, 2018**

Figure 4.3: N=15, represents all infant deaths (<1 year of age) by gender and age.



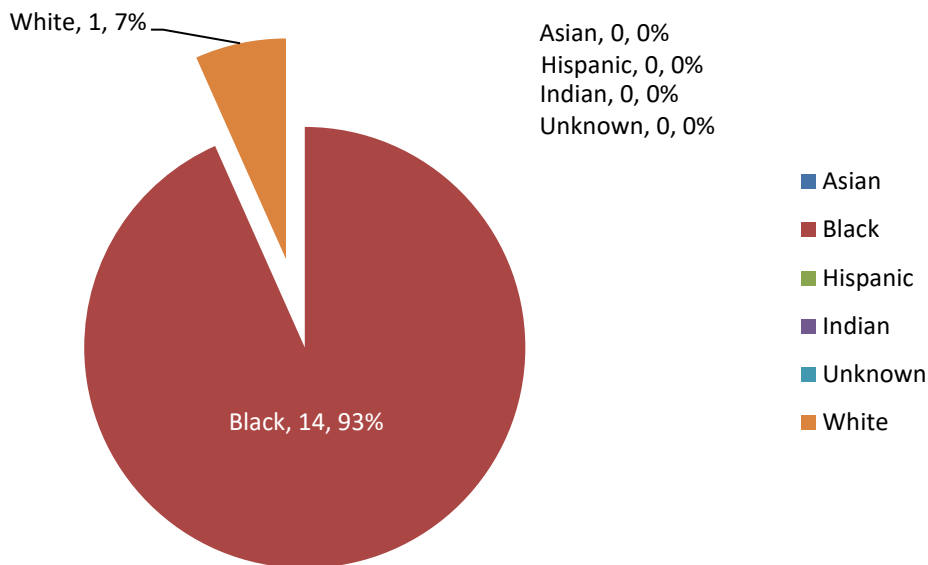
**Total Number of Infant Deaths by Gender and Race, 2018**

Figure 4.4: N=15, represents all infant deaths (<1 year of age) by gender and race.



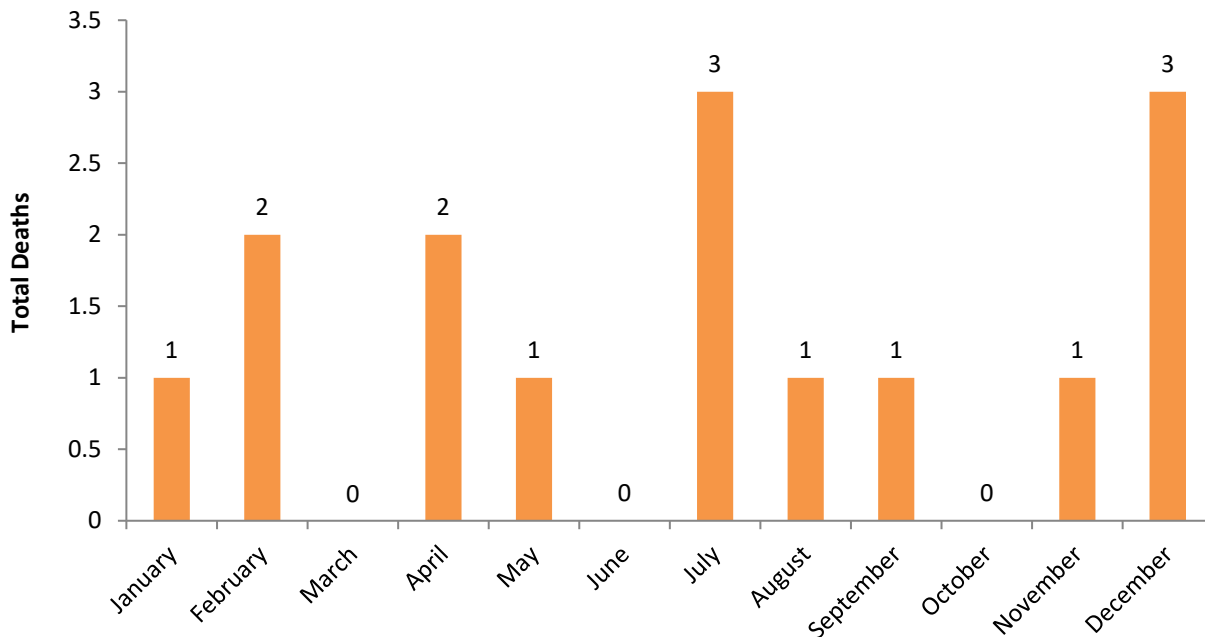
### Percentage of Infant Deaths by Race, 2018

Figure 4.5: N=15, represents all infant deaths (<1 year of age) by race.



### Total Number of Infant Deaths by Month of Death, 2018

Figure 4.6: N=15, represents all infant deaths (<1 year of age) by month of death.



**Total Number of Infant Deaths by Means of Death, 2018**

Table 4.1: N=15, represents all infant deaths (<1 year of age) by means of death.

Means of Death	Total
Blunt: Unknown type	1
Co-sleeping:	
Bed	5
Couch	1
Drowning: bathtub	1
Firearm:	
Handgun	1
Unknown	1
Natural:	
Primary peritonitis ( <i>E. coli</i> )	1
Pneumonia	1
Undetermined:	
Bed	1
Crib	1
Undetermined	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>

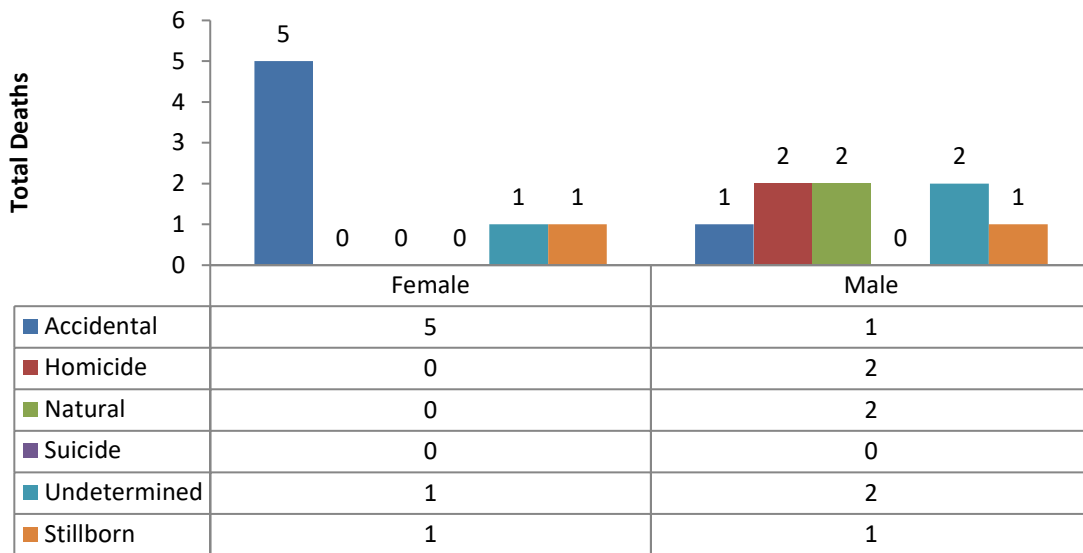
**Total Number of Infant Deaths by Manner of Death and Race, 2018**

Table 4.2: N=15, represents all infant deaths (<1 year of age) by manner of death and race.<sup>1</sup>

Race	Accident	Homicide	Natural	Suicide	Undetermined	Stillborn <sup>1</sup>	Total
Asian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Black	5	2	2	0	3	2	14
Hispanic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Indian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
White	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>15</b>

**Total Number of Infant Deaths by Manner of Death and Gender, 2018**

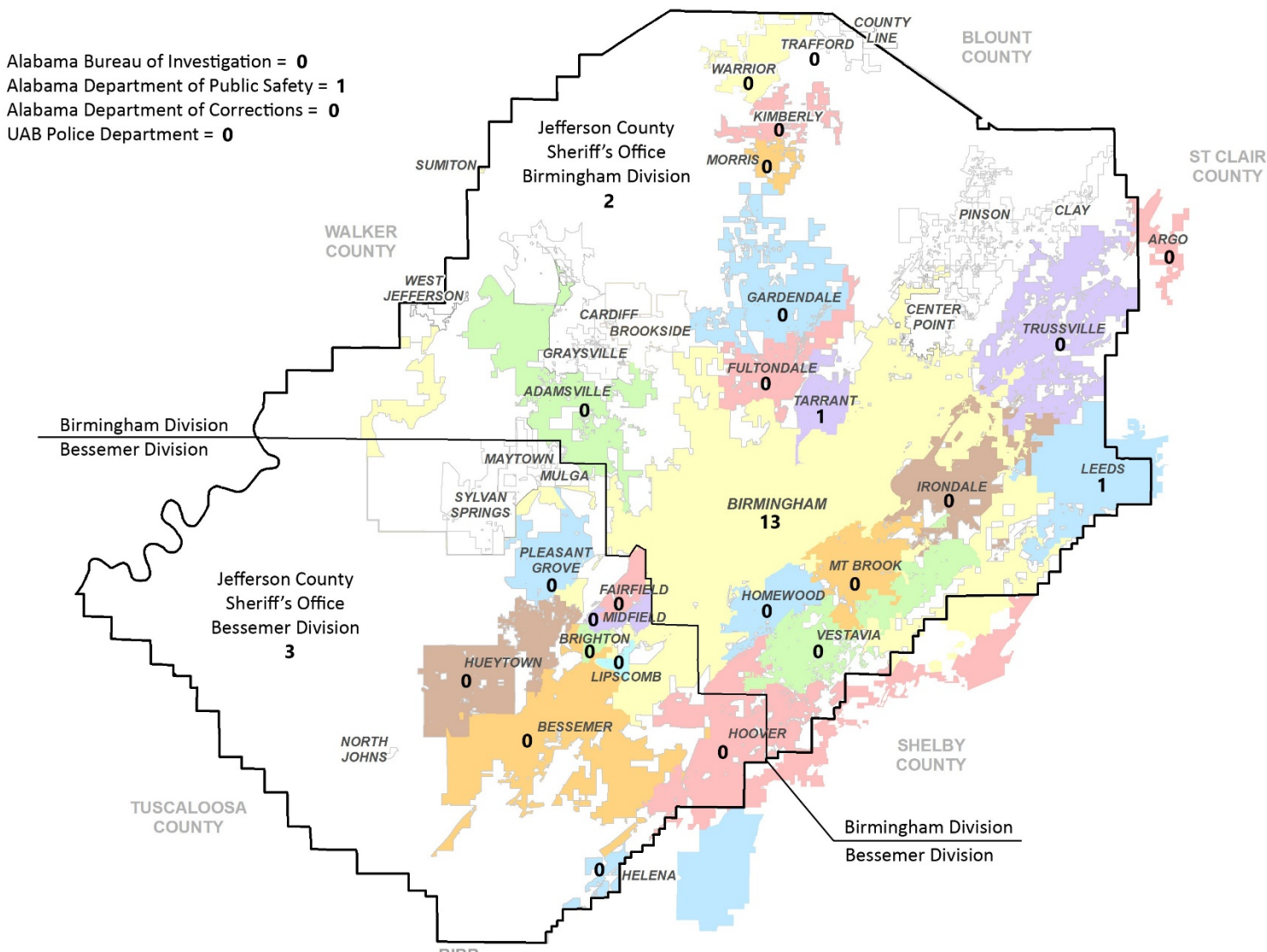
Figure 4.7: N=15, represents all infant deaths (<1 year of age) by manner of death and gender.<sup>1</sup>



## Juvenile Deaths

### Total Number of Juvenile Deaths by Law Enforcement Agency, 2018

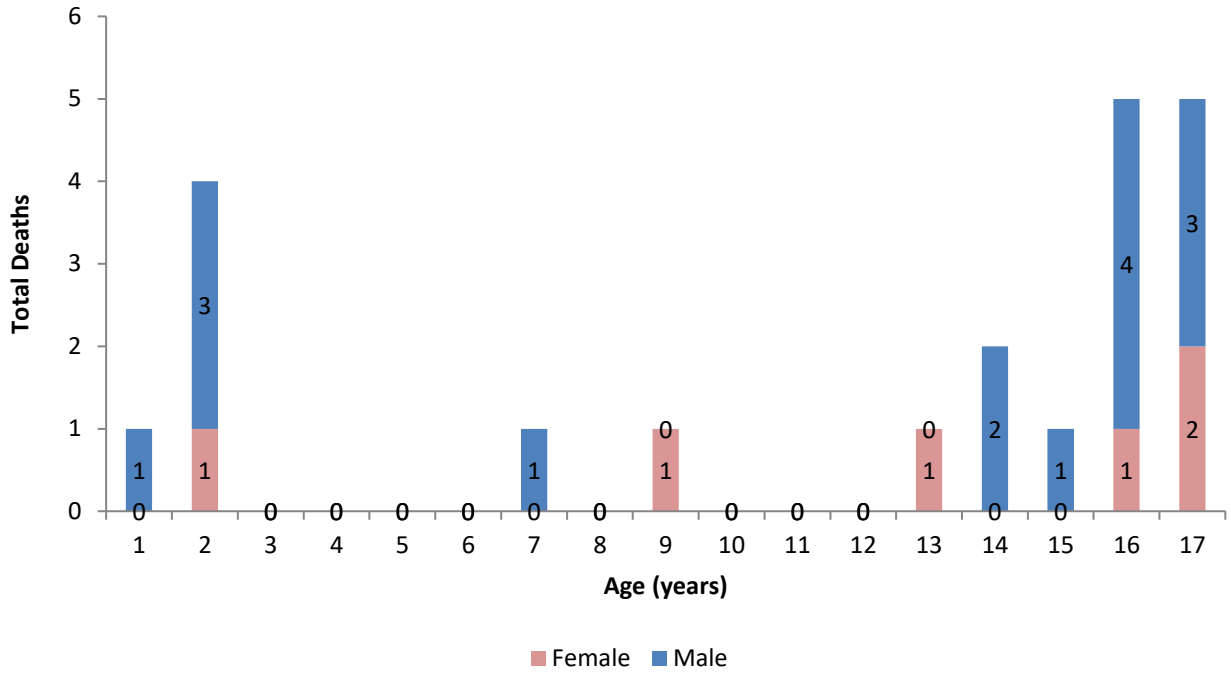
Figure 4.8: N=21, represents all juvenile deaths (1-17 years of age) by law enforcement agency.





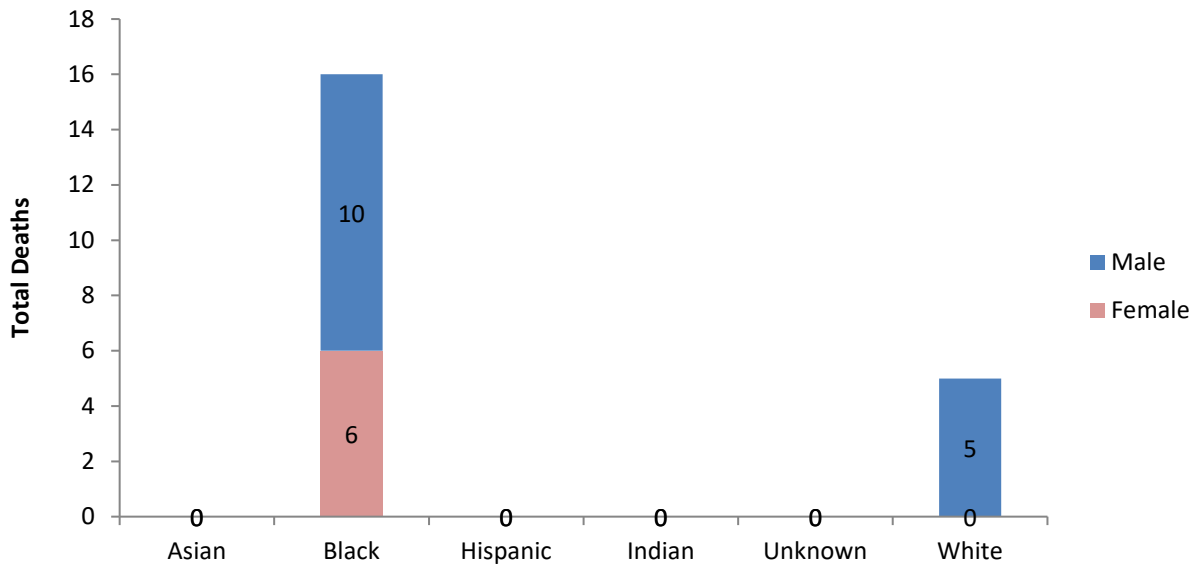
**Total Number of Juvenile Deaths by Gender and Age, 2018**

Figure 4.9: N=21, represents all juvenile deaths (1-17 years of age) by gender and age.



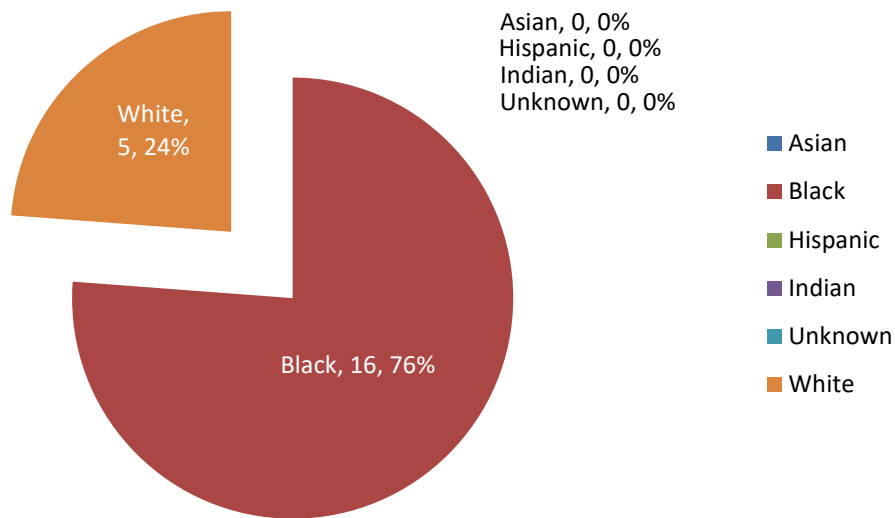
**Total Number of Juvenile Deaths by Gender and Race, 2018**

Figure 4.10: N=21, represents all juvenile deaths (1-17 years of age) by gender and race.



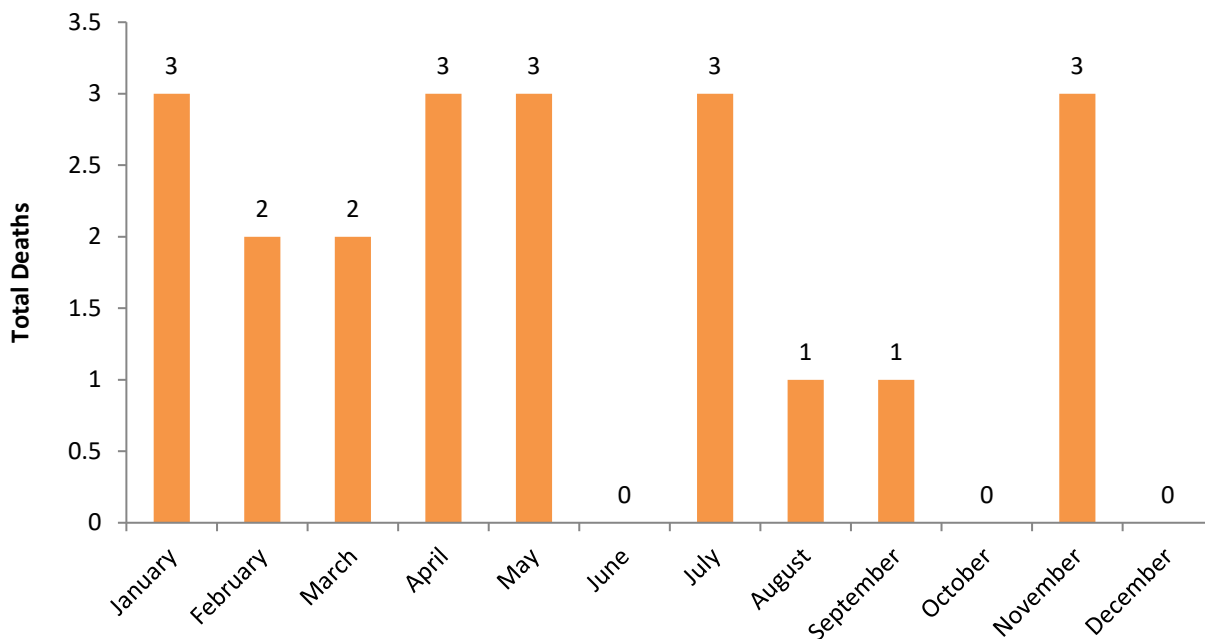
### Percentage of Juvenile Deaths by Race, 2018

Figure 4.11: N=21, represents all juvenile deaths (1-17 years of age) by race.



### Total Number of Juvenile Deaths by Month of Death, 2018

Figure 4.12: N=21, represents all juvenile deaths (1-17 years of age) by month of death.



**Total Number of Juvenile Deaths by Means of Death, 2018**

Table 4.3: N=21, represents all juvenile deaths (1-17 years of age) by means of death.

Means of Death	Total
Asphyxia: bandage	1
Blunt:	
Barbell weight	1
Drowning: Pool	1
Drug: Opioid	1
Fire: Bonfire	1
Gun:	
Handgun	5
Rifle	1
Handgun/rifle	1
Unknown	4
Hanging:	
Bandana	1
Motor vehicle:	
Motor vehicle	3
Natural:	
Heart disease	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>

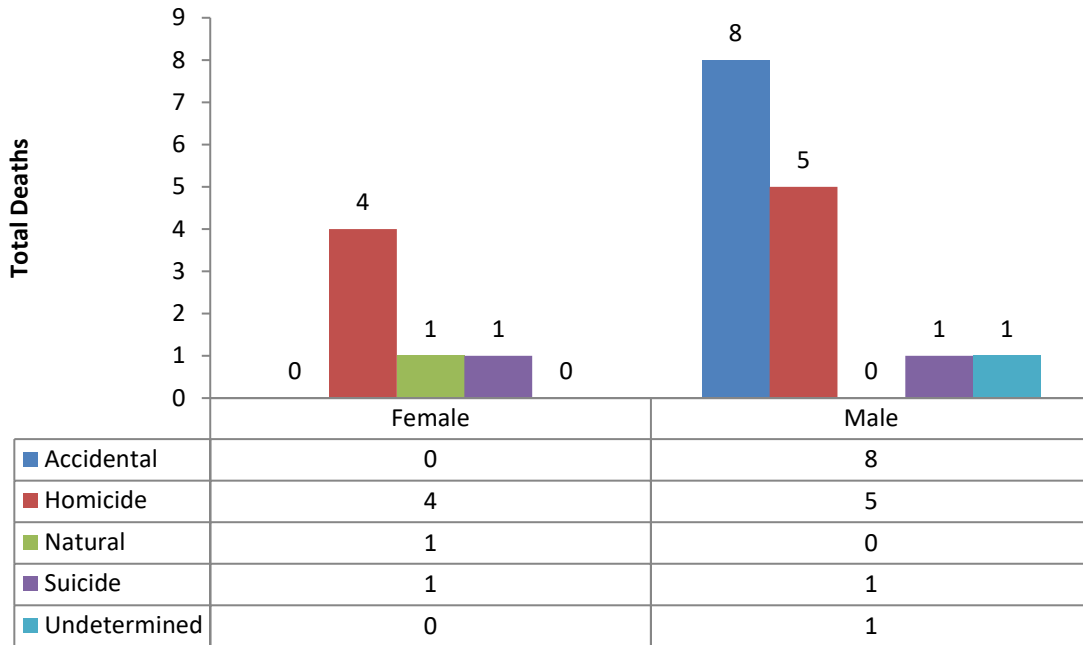
**Total Number of Juvenile Deaths by Manner of Death and Race, 2018**

Table 4.4: N=21, represents all juvenile deaths (1-17 years of age) by manner of death and race.

Race	Accident	Homicide	Natural	Suicide	Undetermined	Total
Asian	0	0	0	0	0	0
Black	6	8	1	1	0	16
Hispanic	0	0	0	0	0	0
Indian	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0
White	2	1	0	1	1	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>21</b>

**Total Number of Juvenile Deaths by Manner of Death and Gender, 2018**

Figure 4.13: N=21, represents all juvenile deaths (1-17 years of age) by manner of death and gender.



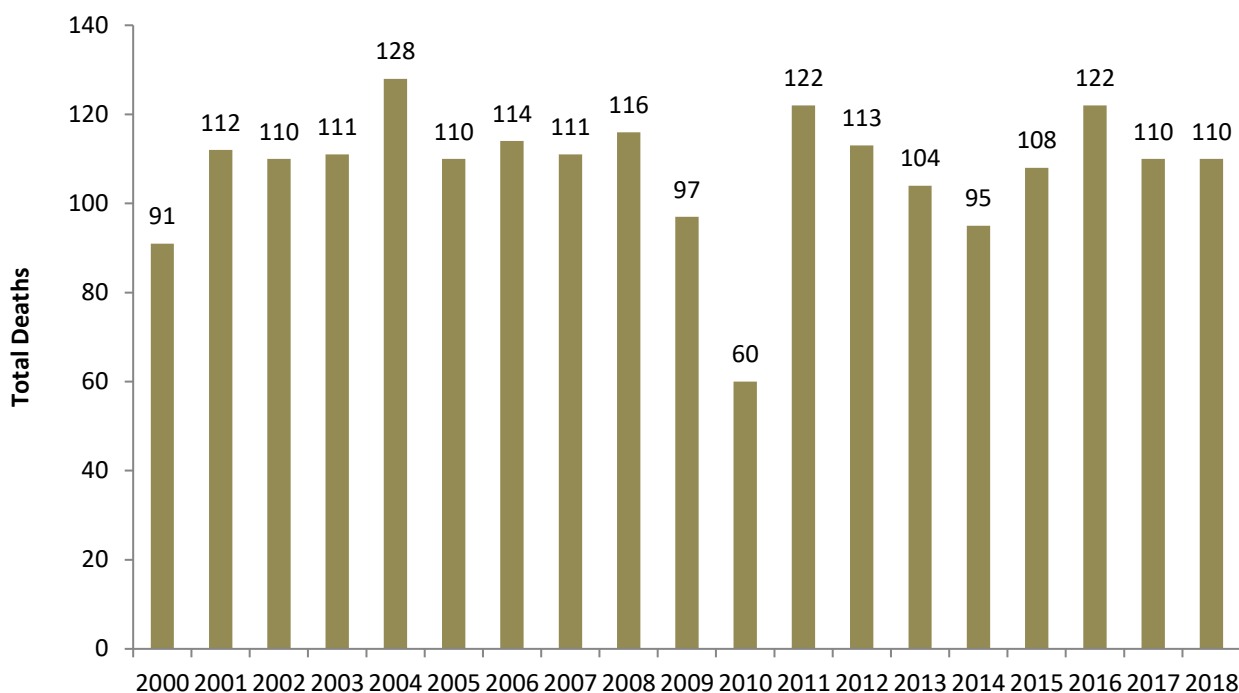
## Section 5: Motor Vehicle Deaths

Motor vehicle deaths accounted for 12.1% of the deaths investigated by the JCCMEO in 2018 which, is the same number of motor vehicle deaths for 2017 the previous year. For the purpose of this report motor vehicle deaths include airplane, all-terrain vehicle, automobile, motorcycle, train, and pedestrian deaths.

Multiple-vehicle collisions were the most common means of motor vehicle death, accounting for 41.8% of the deaths, followed by single vehicle collisions accounting for 28.2% of the deaths and motor vehicle-pedestrian collisions accounting for 24.5% of the deaths.

### Total Number of Motor Vehicle Deaths by Year of Death 2000-2018

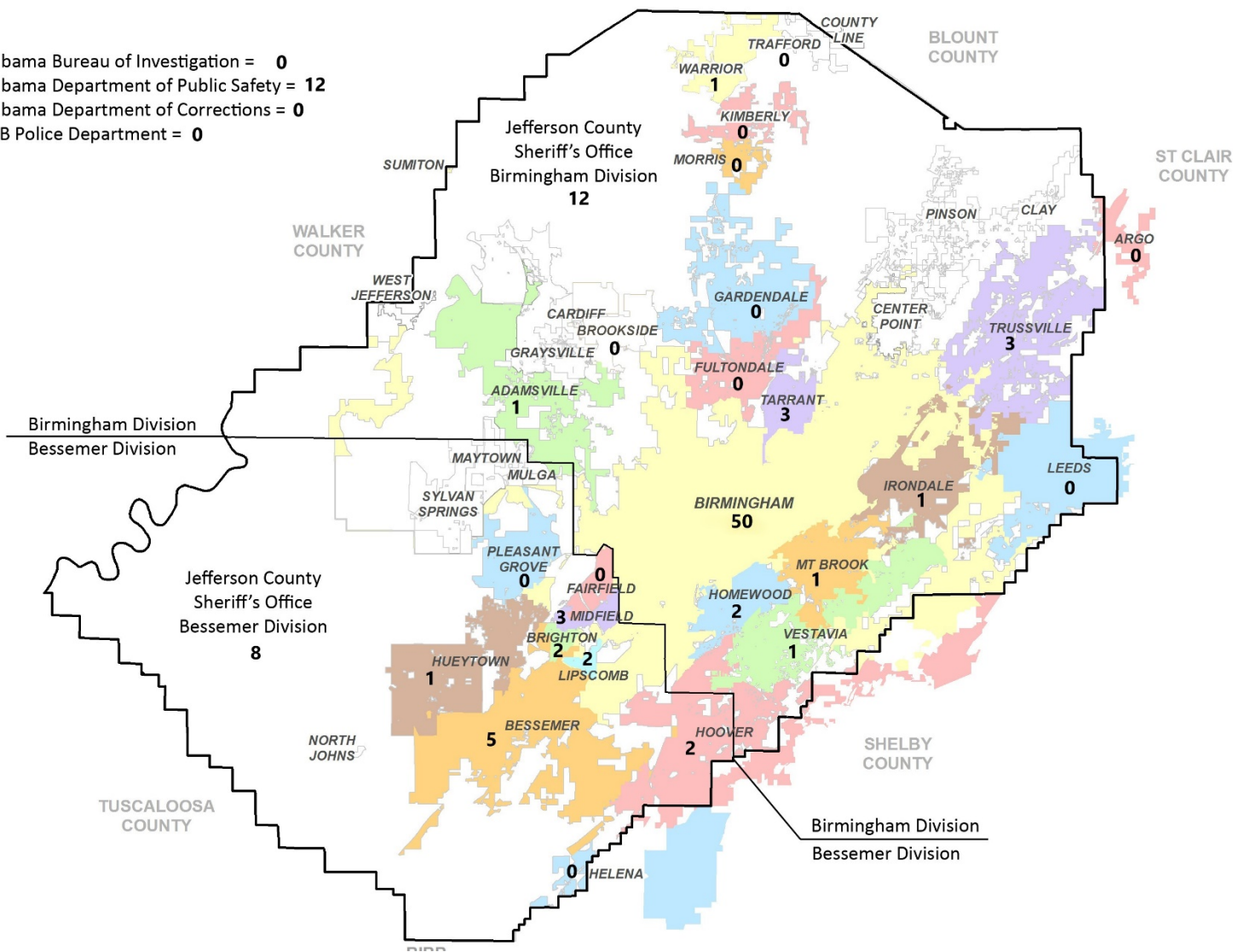
Figure 5.1: represents all motor vehicle deaths investigated by the JCCMEO.



### Total Number of Motor Vehicle Deaths by Law Enforcement Agency, 2018

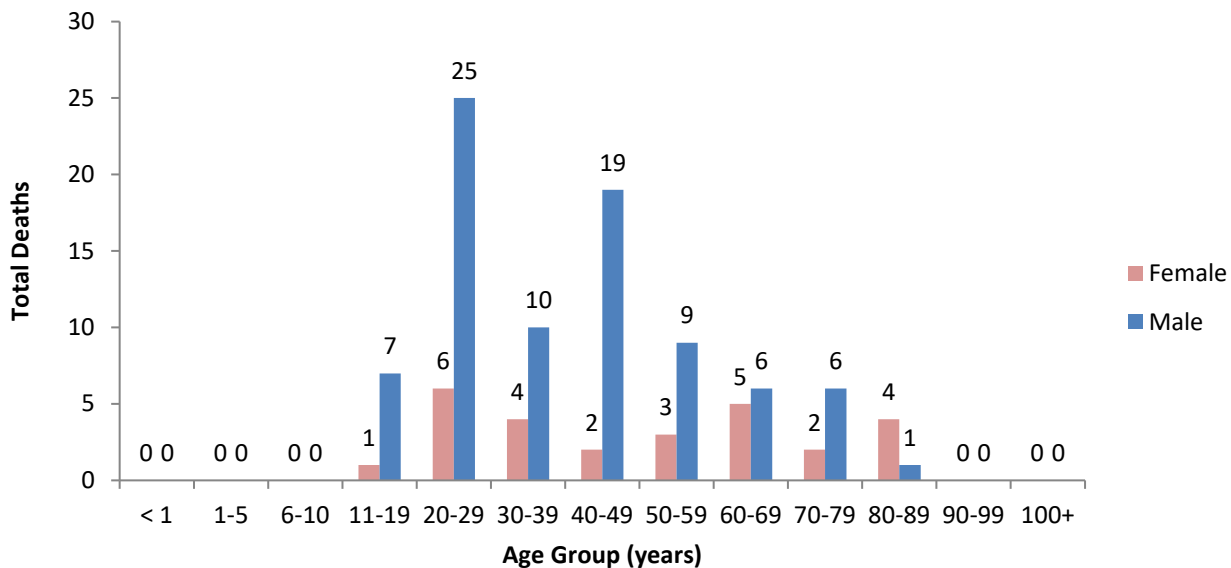
Figure 5.2: N=110, represents all motor vehicle deaths by law enforcement agency.

Alabama Bureau of Investigation = 0  
 Alabama Department of Public Safety = 12  
 Alabama Department of Corrections = 0  
 UAB Police Department = 0



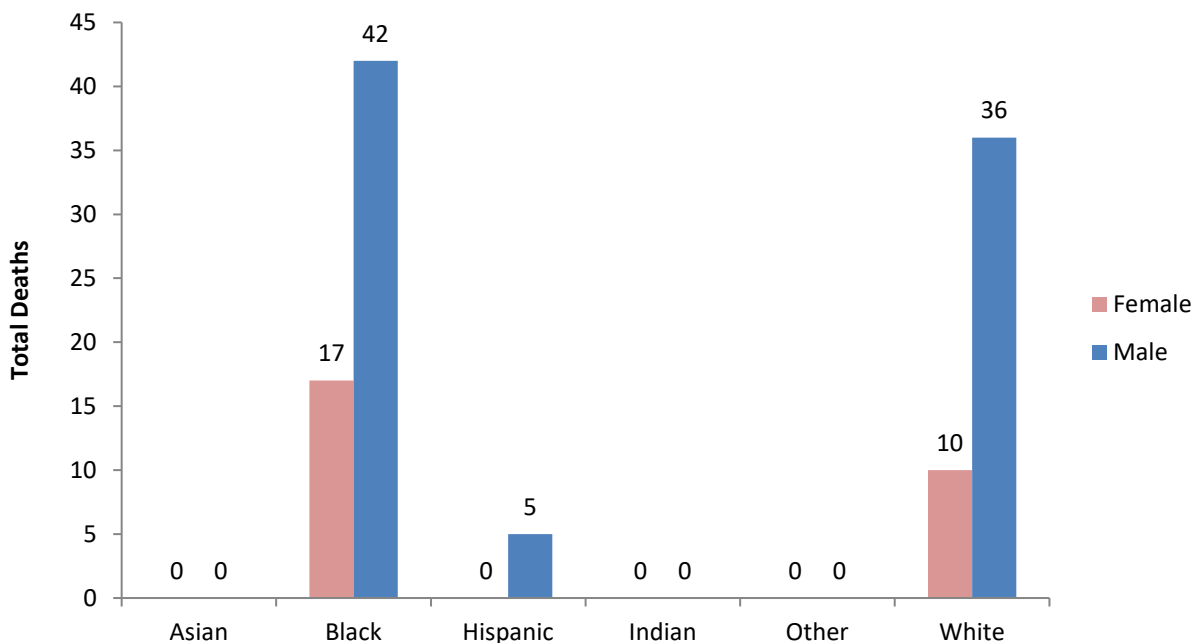
### Total Number of Motor Vehicle Deaths by Gender and Age Group, 2018

Figure 5.3: N=110, represents all motor vehicle deaths by gender and age group.



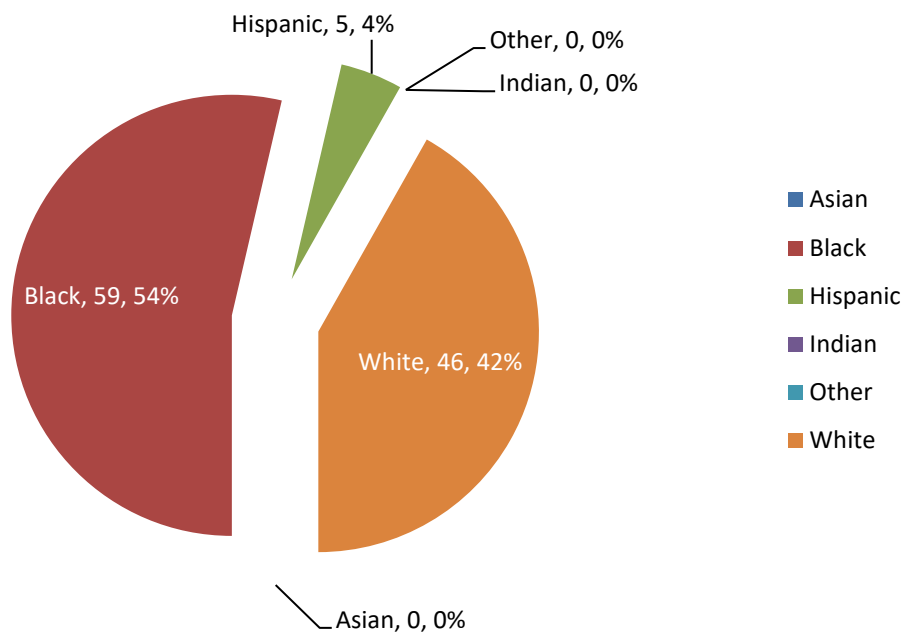
### Total Number of Motor Vehicle Deaths by Gender and Race, 2018

Figure 5.4: N=110, represents all motor vehicle deaths by gender and race.



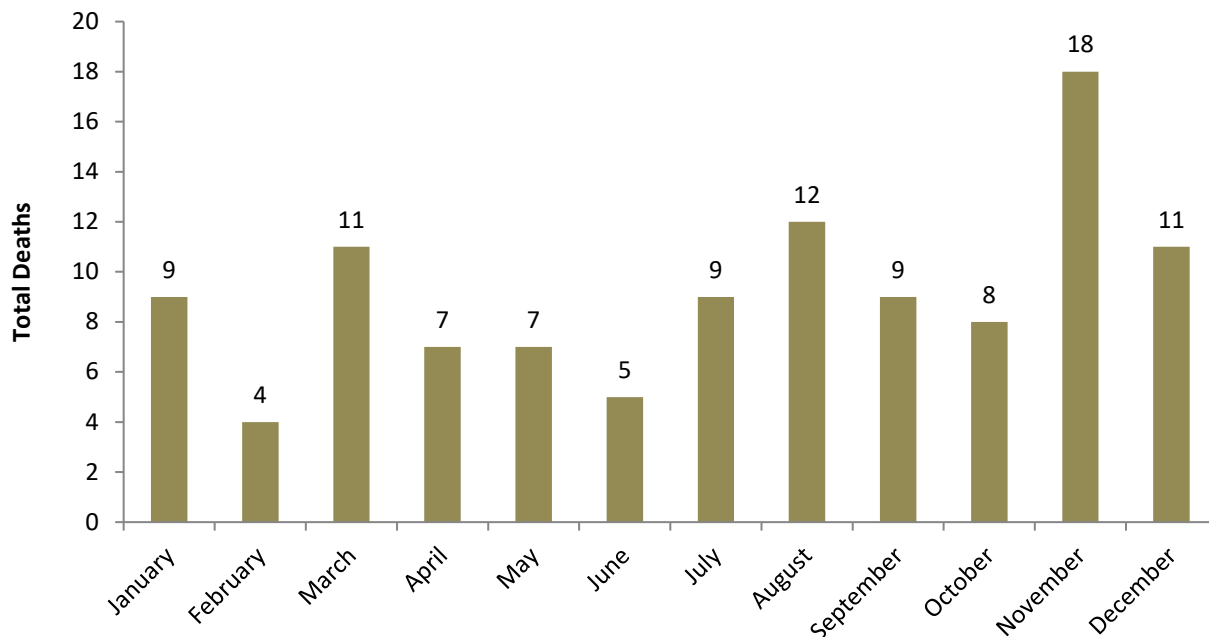
### Percentage of Motor Vehicle Deaths by Race, 2018

Figure 5.5: N=110, represents all motor vehicle deaths by race.



### Total Number of Motor Vehicle Deaths by Month of Death, 2018

Figure 5.6: N=110, represents all motor vehicle deaths by month of death.





### Total Number of Motor Vehicle Deaths by Means of Death, 2018

Table 5.1: N=110, represents all motor vehicle deaths by means of death.

Means of Death	Total
Motor-vehicle:	
Bicycle	1
Single vehicle	31
Multiple vehicles	46
Train	4
Pedestrian:	
Motor vehicle	27
Train	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>110</b>

## Section 6: Overdose Deaths

### Overview

The data in this section represent all overdose deaths investigated by the Jefferson County Coroner/Medical Examiner's Office in the 2018 calendar year where the direct cause of death was due to an overdose/toxic level of illicit drug(s), prescription medication(s), ethanol (alcohol), or other poison(s).

This section does not reflect data on other types of deaths where drugs or ethanol contributed to the death, but was not the direct cause of death. An example of a death that would not be included in this section would be a motor vehicle fatality where the decedent/driver of the vehicle was intoxicated, but the immediate cause of death was trauma due to the collision.

For the purpose of this report overdoses have been categorized into the following three Means of Death:

- Drug - refers to all overdoses where the direct cause of death was due to illicit drug(s) or, the direct cause of death was due to prescription medication(s) in combination with illicit drug(s). This category of overdoses does not include illicit or prescription opioids. For the purpose of this report "illicit drugs" refers to illegal street type drugs (i.e. cocaine, methamphetamine, etc.).
- Drug-Opioid – refers to all overdose deaths where the direct cause of death included either illicit opioid(s) (i.e. heroin, non-pharmaceutical fentanyl, etc.) and/or prescription opioid(s).
- Ethanol (alcohol) – refers to all overdoses where the direct cause of death was due to a toxic level of ethanol (alcohol).

Often drug overdoses are found to be a combination of illicit drugs, prescription medications, ethanol (alcohol), and/or other poisons; therefore a single death might be represented multiple times in this section. Because of this it is important to recognize that in the following graphs and tables the totals for each of the drugs represents the number of occurrences that particular drug was found to be either the single cause of death or a component in conjunction with another drug(s) that combined was the cause of death.

## General Statistics and Notable Trends

There was a 15.2% decrease in the total drug deaths this past year, from 269 drug deaths in 2017 to 228 drug deaths in 2018.

There was a 14.4% decrease in opioid deaths, from 201 deaths in 2017 to 172 deaths in 2018.

There was a 34.6% decrease in fentanyl deaths, from 104 deaths in 2017 to 68 deaths in 2018.

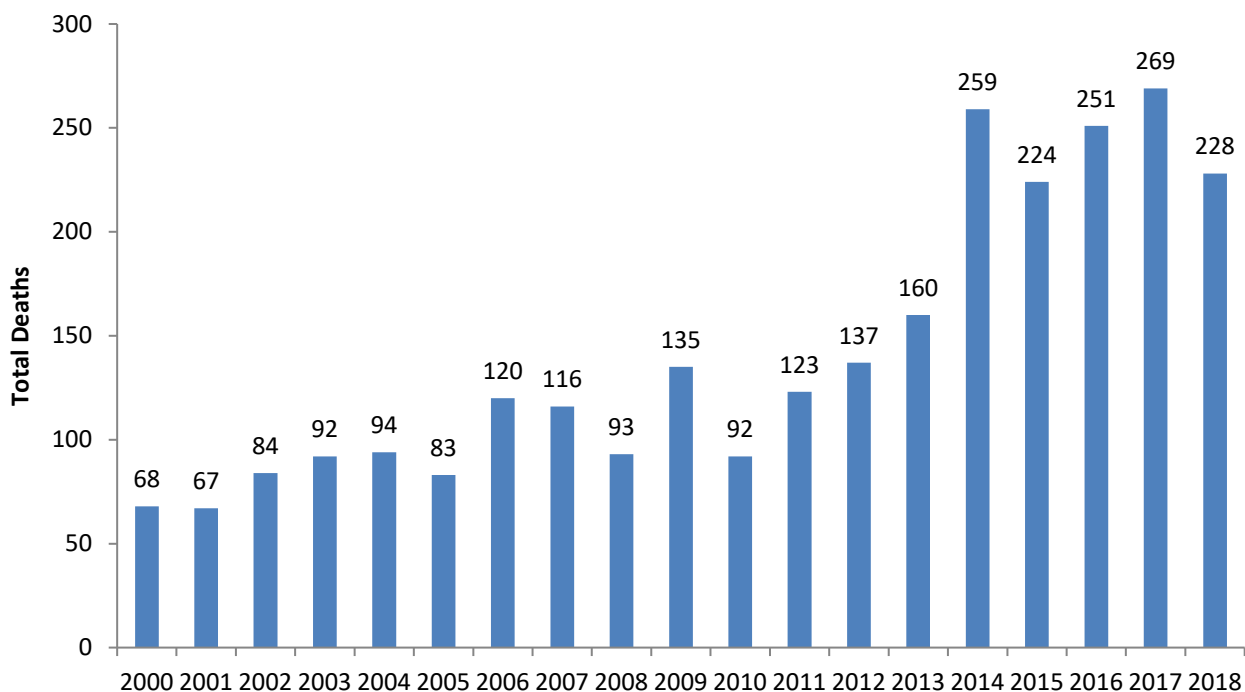
There was a 5.1% increase in heroin deaths, from 98 deaths in 2017 to 103 deaths in 2018.

Methamphetamine deaths have continued to rise for the third straight year, from 35 deaths in 2017 to 44 deaths in 2018.

## Historical Summary

### Total Number of Overdose Deaths by Year of Death 2000-2018

Figure 6.1: represents all overdose deaths investigated by the JCCMEO.

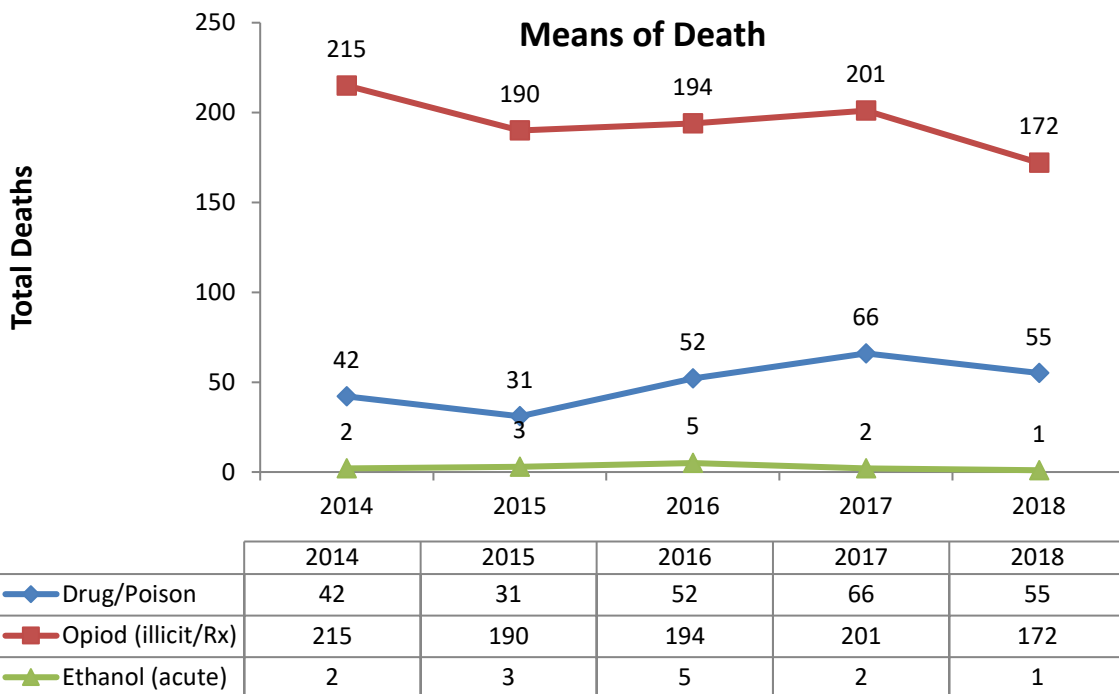


**Historical Summary: Means of Death, 2014-2018**

Table 6.1: represents all overdoses by means of death, 2014-2018.

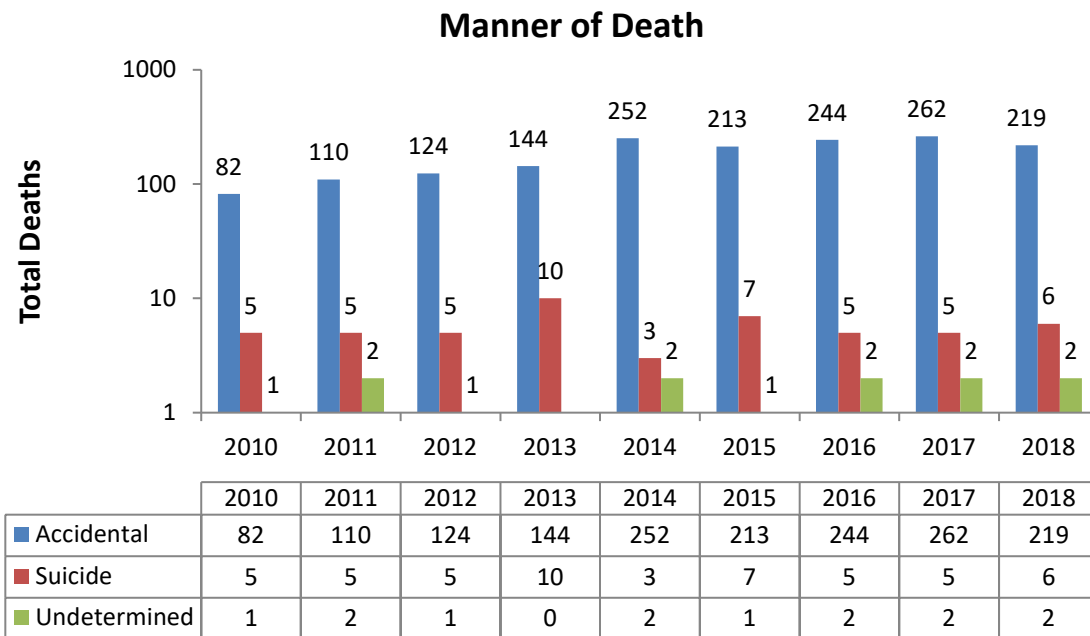
Year	Drug/ Poison	Opioid (illicit/Rx)	Ethanol (acute)	=	Total Overdose Deaths
2014	42	215	2	=	259
2015	31	190	3	=	224
2016	52	194	5	=	251
2017	66	201	2	=	269
2018	55	172	1	=	228

Figure 6.2: represent all overdoses by means of death, 2014-2018.



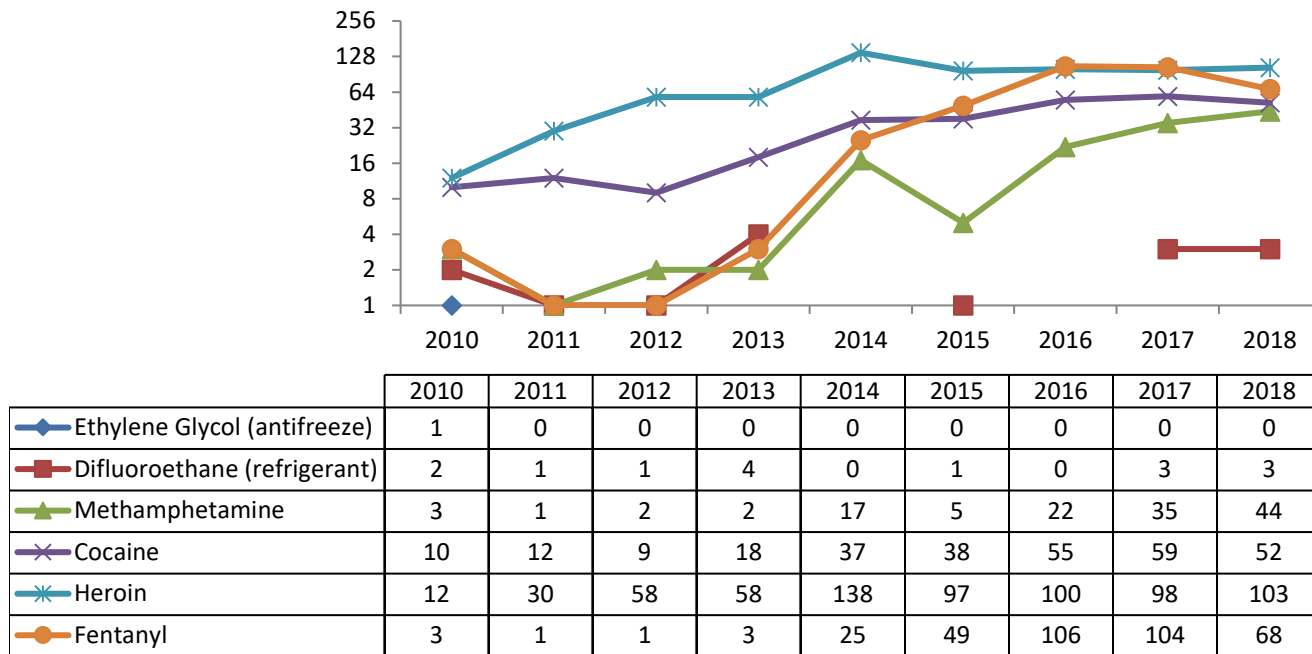
**Historical Summary: Manner of Death, 2010-2018**

Figure 6.3: represents all overdoses by manner of death.



**Historical Summary: Illicit Drugs/Poisons, 2010-2018**

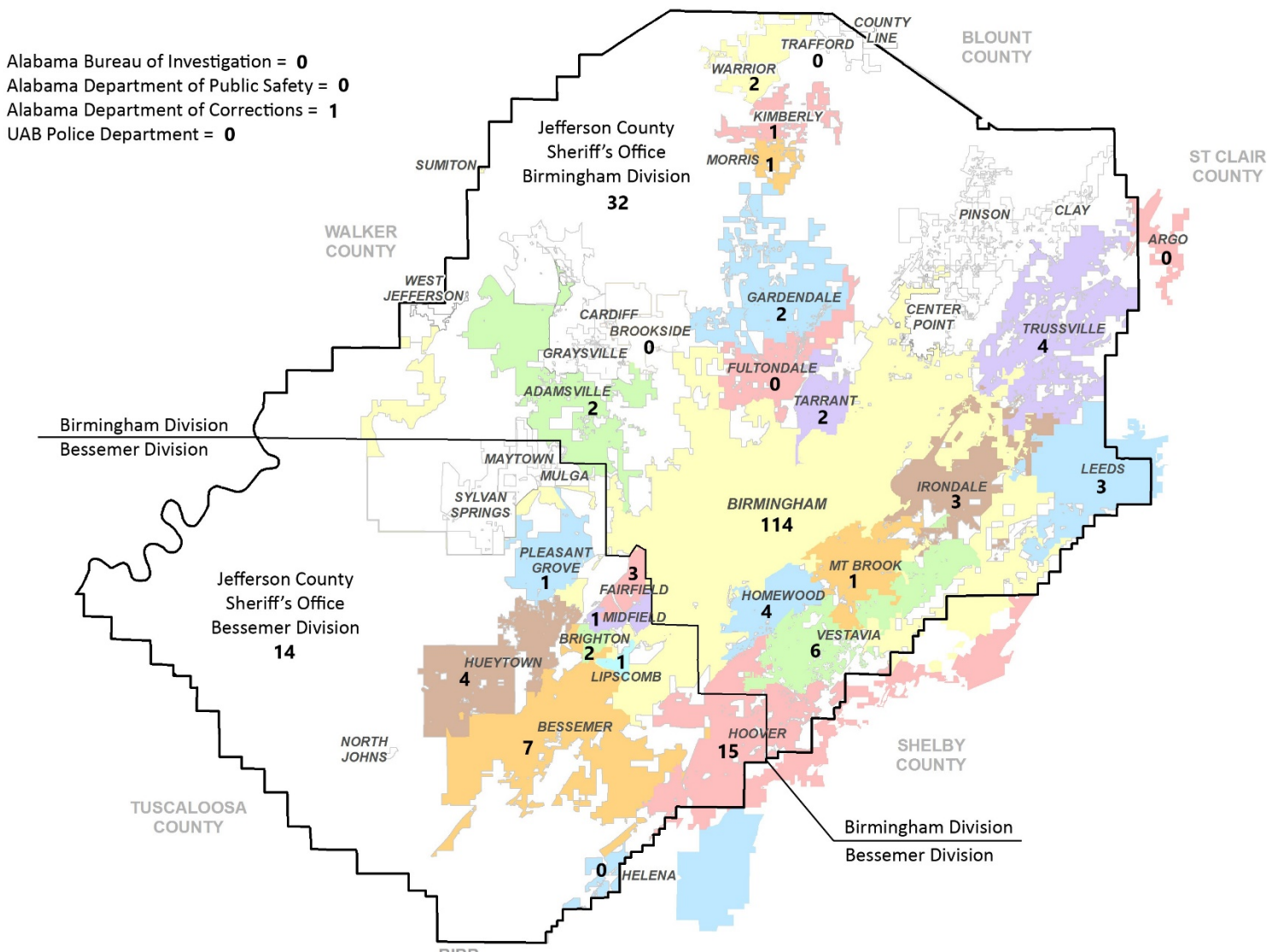
Figure 6.4: represents illicit drugs and poisons.



## 2018 Overdose Deaths

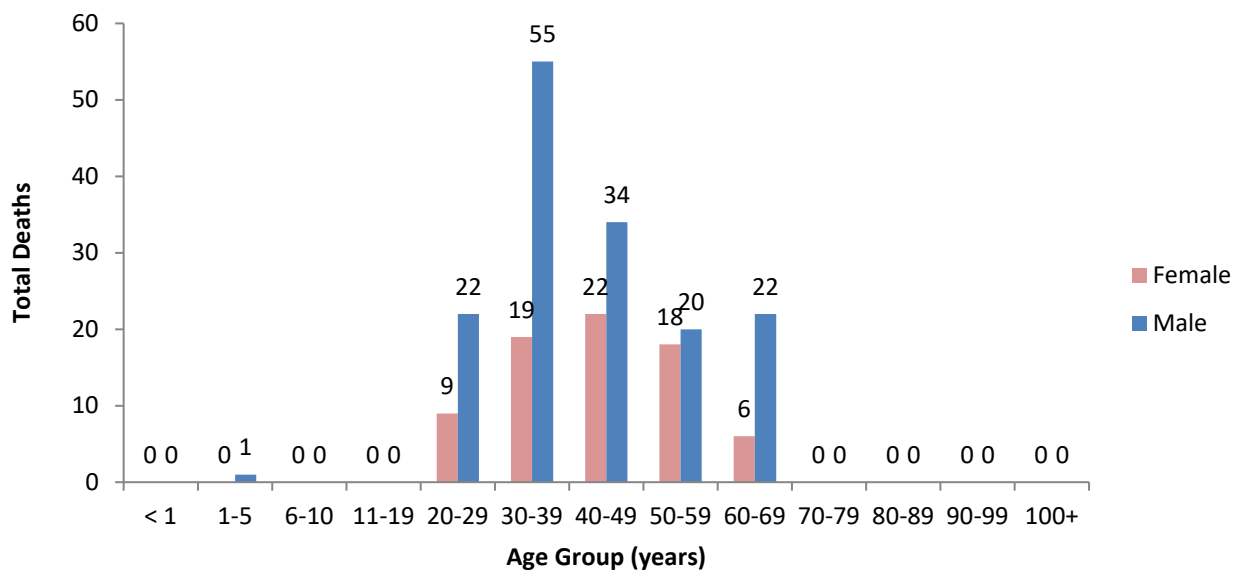
### Total Number of Overdose Deaths by Law Enforcement Agency, 2018

Figure 6.5: N=228, represents all overdose deaths by law enforcement agency.



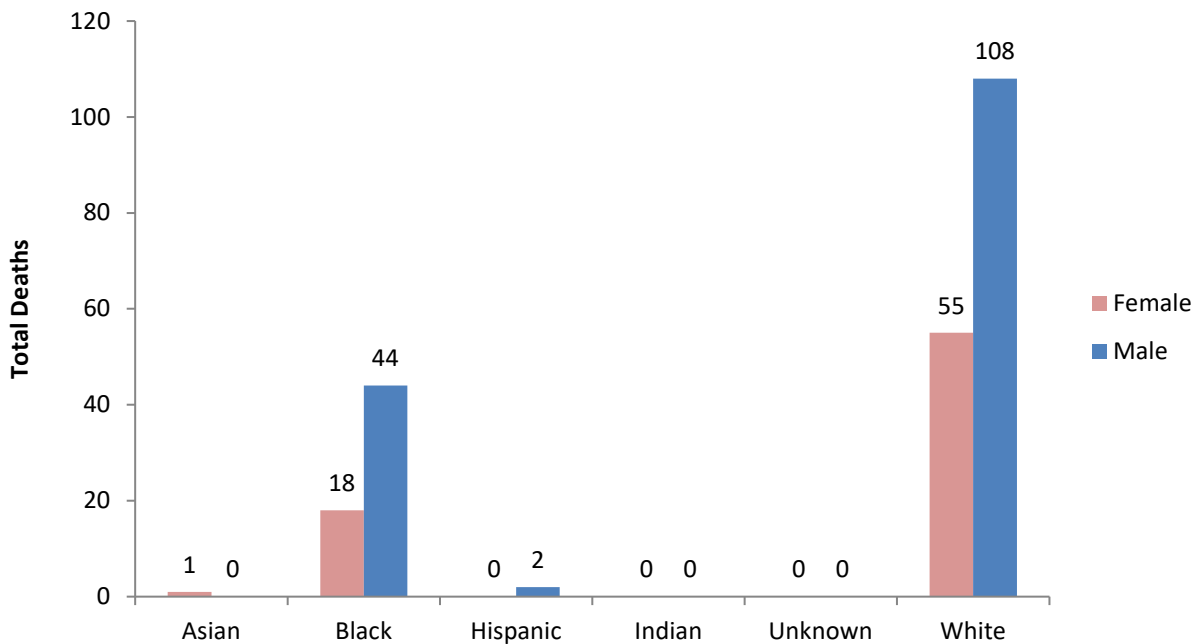
**Total Number of Overdose Deaths by Gender and Age Group, 2018**

Figure 6.6: N=228, represents all overdose deaths by gender and age group.



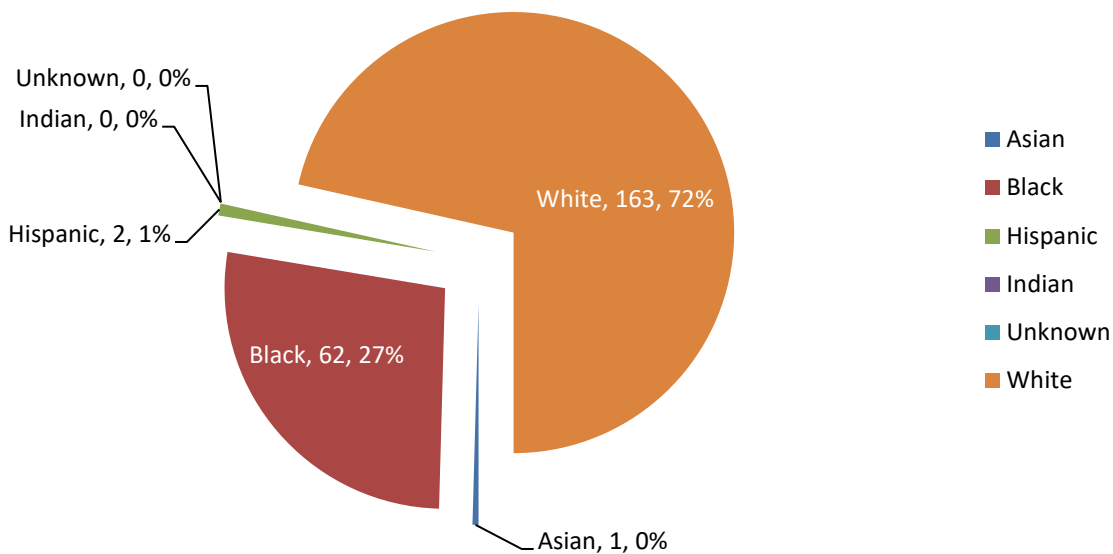
**Total Number of Overdose Deaths by Gender and Race, 2018**

Figure 6.7: N=228, represents all overdose deaths by gender and race.



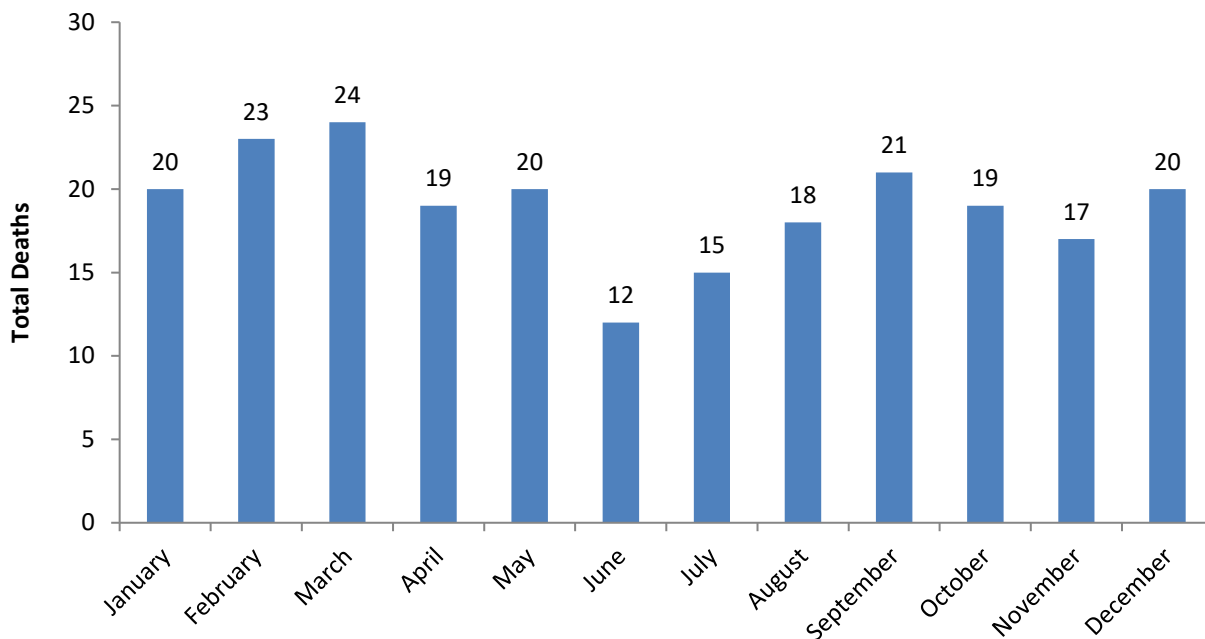
### Percentage of Overdose Deaths by Race, 2018

Figure 6.8: N=228, represents all overdose deaths by race.



### Total Number of Overdose Deaths by Month of Death, 2018

Figure 6.9: N=228, represents all overdose deaths by month of death.



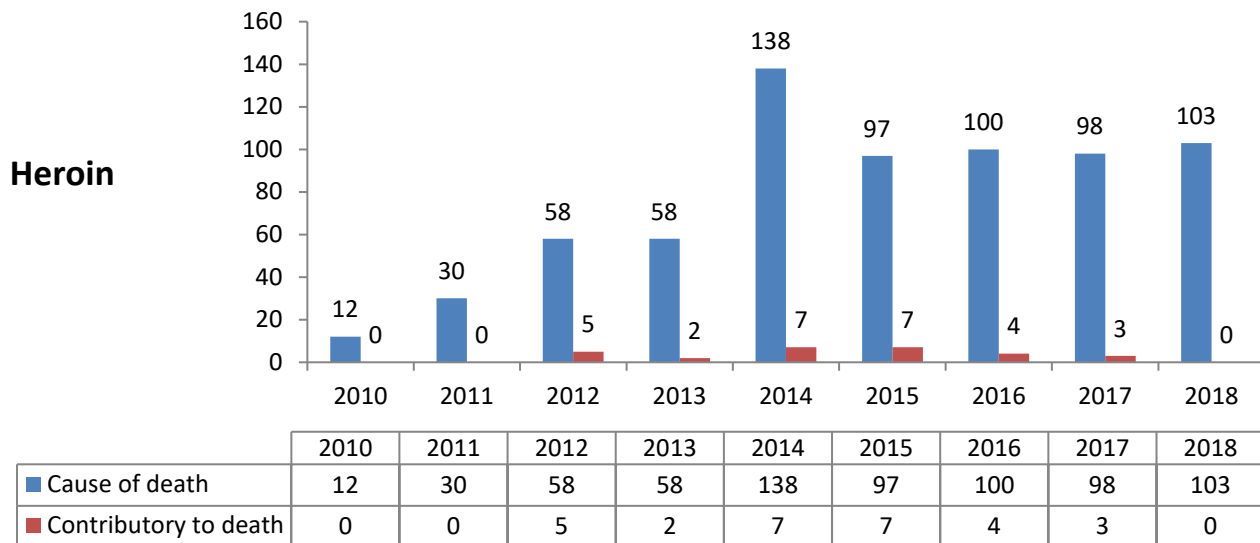


**Heroin, 2018**

Table 6.2, N= 103, represents the number of deaths where heroin as a single component or combined in conjunction with another drug(s) was the cause of death in 2018.

Month		Age		Race		Gender		Law Enforcement Agency	
January	6	0-19	0	W	85	M	82	Bessemer	2
February	12	20-29	22	B	16	F	21	Birmingham	50
March	12	30-39	39	H	1			Fairfield	3
April	11	40-49	21	A	1			Hoover	5
May	9	50-59	11	I	0			Irondale	3
June	10	60-69	10					Jefferson County	28
July	11	70-79	0					Midfield	1
August	9	80+	0					Morris	1
September	9							Pleasant Grove	1
October	4							Tarrant	1
November	5							Trussville	2
December	5							Vestavia Hills	4
								Warrior	2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>103</b>		<b>103</b>		<b>103</b>		<b>103</b>		<b>103</b>

Figure 6.10: includes all cases from 2010-2018 where heroin as a single component or combined with other drugs was the direct cause or contributing factor in the death.

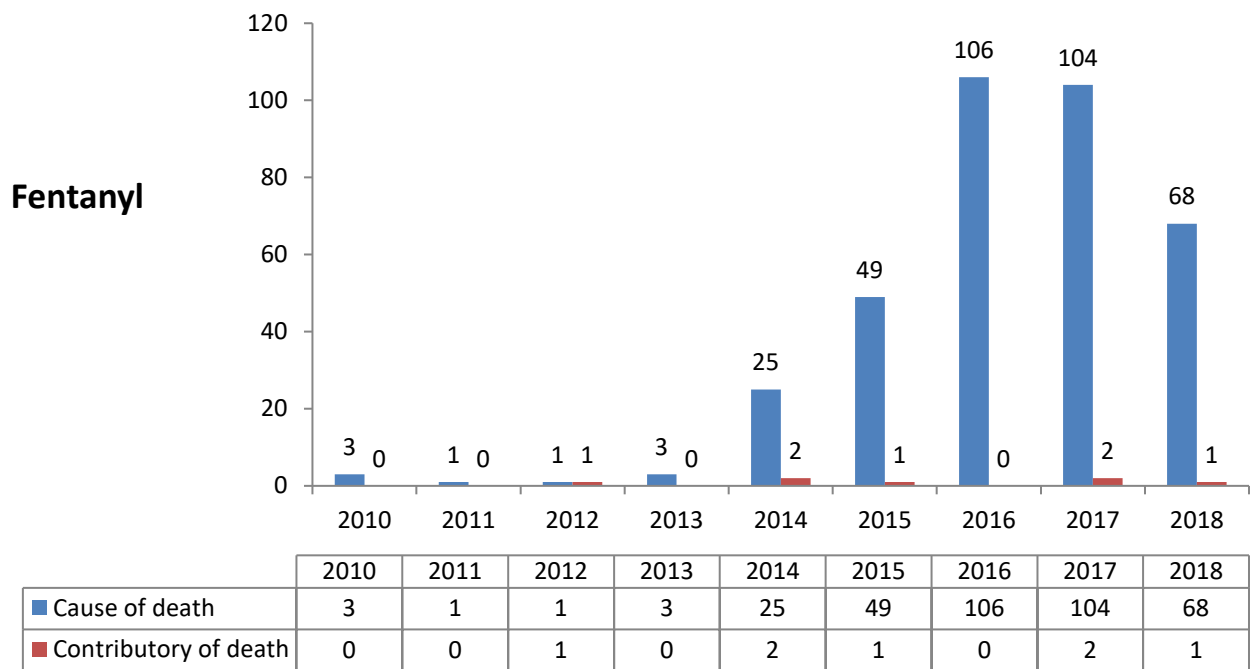


**Fentanyl, 2018**

Table 6.3, N= 68, represents the number of deaths where fentanyl as a single component or combined in conjunction with another drug(s) was the cause of death in 2018.

Month		Age		Race		Gender		Law Enforcement Agency	
January	10	0-19	0	W	34	M	45	Adamsville	1
February	4	20-29	9	B	33	F	23	Bessemer	2
March	6	30-39	27	H	1			Birmingham	44
April	7	40-49	19	A	0			Gardendale	2
May	4	50-59	8	I	0			Homewood	1
June	1	60-69	5					Hoover	2
July	4	70-79	0					Hueytown	2
August	6	80+	0					Jefferson County	6
September	5							Leeds	1
October	6							Lipscomb	1
November	10							Midfield	1
December	5							Trussville	2
								Vestavia Hills	3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>68</b>		<b>68</b>		<b>68</b>		<b>68</b>		<b>68</b>

Figure 6.11: includes all cases from 2010-2018 where fentanyl as a single component or combined with other drugs was the direct cause or contributing factor in the death.



### Most Common Prescription Medications Causing Death: 2010-2018

Table 6.4: Rx medications and Rx opioids. A single death might contain multiple drugs therefore; a single death might be represented multiple times in this table. The total for each drug represents the number of occurrences for that calendar year where that particular drug was found to be either the single cause of death or a component in conjunction with another drug(s) that combined was the cause of death. Also, the deaths represented in this table might be a result of a combination of prescription drug(s) and illicit drug(s). Often drug overdoses are found to be a combination of both prescription and illicit drugs.

Prescription Medications	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>Opioids:</b>									
Hydrocodone	8	7	8	12	28	11	13	15	12
Hydromorphone (Dilaudid)	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	1	1
Fentanyl	3	1	1	3	25	49	106	104	68
Methadone	22	13	11	21	21	17	16	7	9
Morphine	10	17	12	5	7	3	5	3	0
Oxycodone	4	8	4	13	21	11	12	11	8
Tramadol	2	0	1	6	5	3	3	9	5
<b>Benzodiazepines:</b>									
Alprazolam (Xanax)	5	3	7	12	32	8	31	28	15
Clonazepam (Klonopin)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Diazepam (Valium)	3	1	2	7	11	5	3	6	4
<b>Barbiturates:</b>									
Butalbital	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Phenobarbital	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
<b>Antidepressants:</b>									
Citalopram (Celexa)	4	2	1	1	2	0	1	5	1
Nortriptyline (Palmelor)	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Velafaxine (Effexor)	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Other:</b>									
Acetaminophen (Tylenol)	2	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	0
Amphetamine	3	0	1	0	2	1	2	0	2
Carisoprodol (Soma)	1	3	0	2	4	0	0	0	1
Fluoxetine (Prozac)	3	2	1	1	1	4	1	3	0
Gabapentin	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Promethazine (Phenergan)	0	0	1	3	4	1	0	2	1
Quetiapine (Seroquel)	1	0	0	2	2	1	1	1	2
Sertraline (Zoloft)	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	1	1
Trazodone (Oleptro)	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0
Gamma-Hydroxybutyrate (GHB)	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2

## References

1. Pursuant to State of Alabama Vital Records rules, stillborn deaths are not assigned a manner of death.
2. Tissue of no forensic value.

**End of Report**