FRESNO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

2020

CORONER UNIT STATISTICS

Margaret Mims, Sheriff-Coroner

Lt. Robert Woodrum, Unit Commander

Report Prepared by Deputy Coroner, Jeff Gentry

3333 E. American Avenue, Suite G, Fresno, CA 93725

Coroner Unit Staff:

Commander: Lt. Robert Woodrum

Chief Forensic Pathologist: Dr. Venu Gopal, Forensic Pathologist: Dr. Michael Chambliss

Deputy Coroner Supervisor: Kelly Matlock

Deputy Coroner II: Sarah Davis, Loretta Andrews, Imron Ramos, Jeff Gentry, Leticia Funderburk

Forensic Technician: Ophelie Kompaore, George Franco, Catherine Prieto, Martin Kams

Summary:

The Fresno County Sheriff's Office (Coroner Unit) investigates all suspicious, unnatural and unexpected deaths that occur in Fresno County. Our six coroner investigators are responsible for death investigations in all 6,011 square miles of Fresno County. Our two Forensic Pathologist's determine both cause and manner of death in all coroner case death investigations.

In 2020, there were 9134 deaths in Fresno County. Of those deaths, 5309 were reported to the Coroner Unit for review. The Coroner Unit accepted 1235 of those reported deaths as coroner cases and performed an examination, toxicology or medical record review to determine the cause and manner of death.

In 2020 the Coroner Unit observed an increase in total Fresno County deaths, deaths reported, coroner case investigations and bodies transported to the coroner morgue. There were an increased number of deaths due to homicide, motor vehicle accident and overdose.

A 2020 Fresno County COVID-19 death summary is included in this report.

All reported statistics subject to change pending additional death investigation.

CORONER UNIT STATISTICS – OVERALL (2020):

LEGEND:

OVERALL CORONER UNIT STATISTICS: PG. 3 – 7

- TOTAL FRESNO COUNTY DEATHS: PG. 3
- CORONER CASE INVESTIGATIONS: PG. 4
- PATHOLOGIST EXAMINATIONS: PG. 5
- BODIES TRANSPORTED TO CORONER MORGUE: PG. 5

ACCIDENT - MOTOR VEHICLE RELATED: PG. 8 – 9

- MVA (INVESTIGATING AGENCY): PG. 9

ACCIDENT - OVERDOSE: PG. 10 - 13

- SINGLE DRUG OVERDOSE: PG. 11
- COMBINED DRUG OVERDOSE: PG. 12
- DRUG OVERDOSE TRENDS: PG. 13

ACCIDENT - OTHER: PG. 14

SUICIDE: PG. 15 - 19

- SUICIDE BY ZIP CODE: PG. 18
- SUICIDE TRENDS: PG. 19

HOMICIDE: PG. 20 - 25

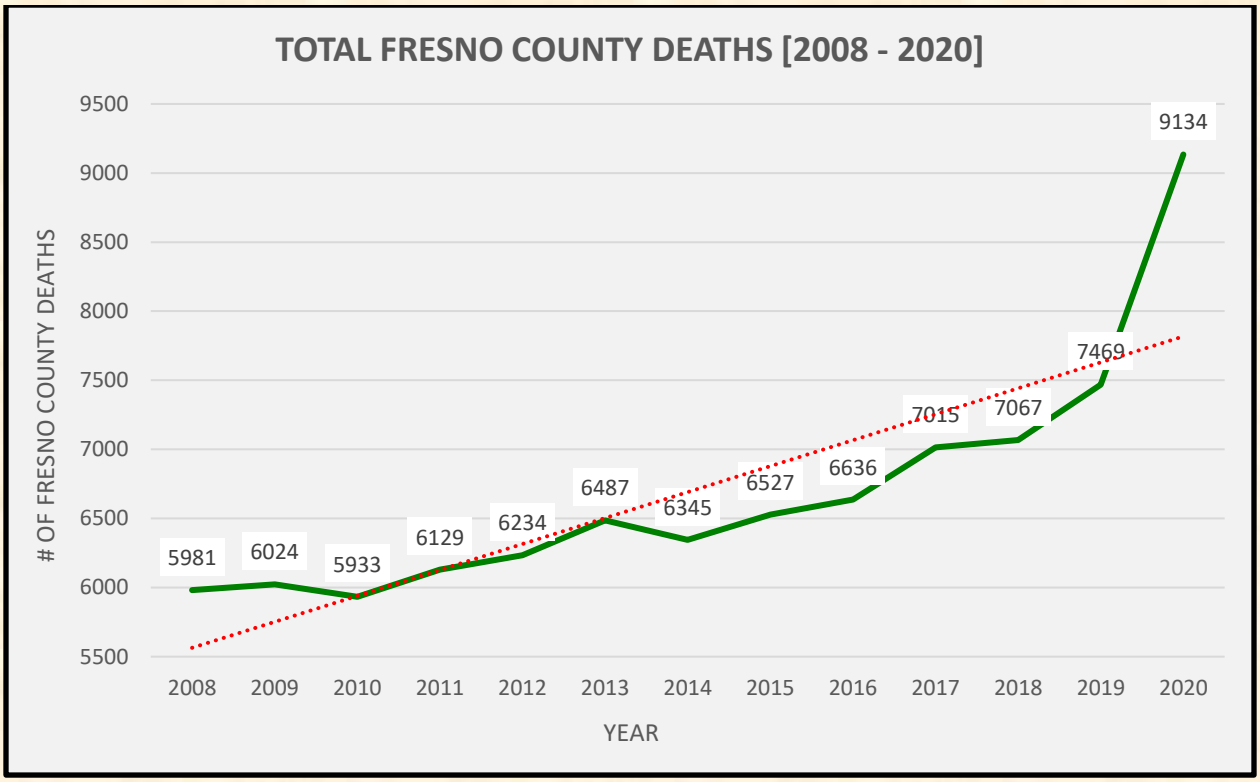
- HOMICIDE BY ZIP CODE: PG. 23
- HOMICIDE TRENDS: PG. 24
- OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING: PG. 25

IN CUSTODY: PG. 26

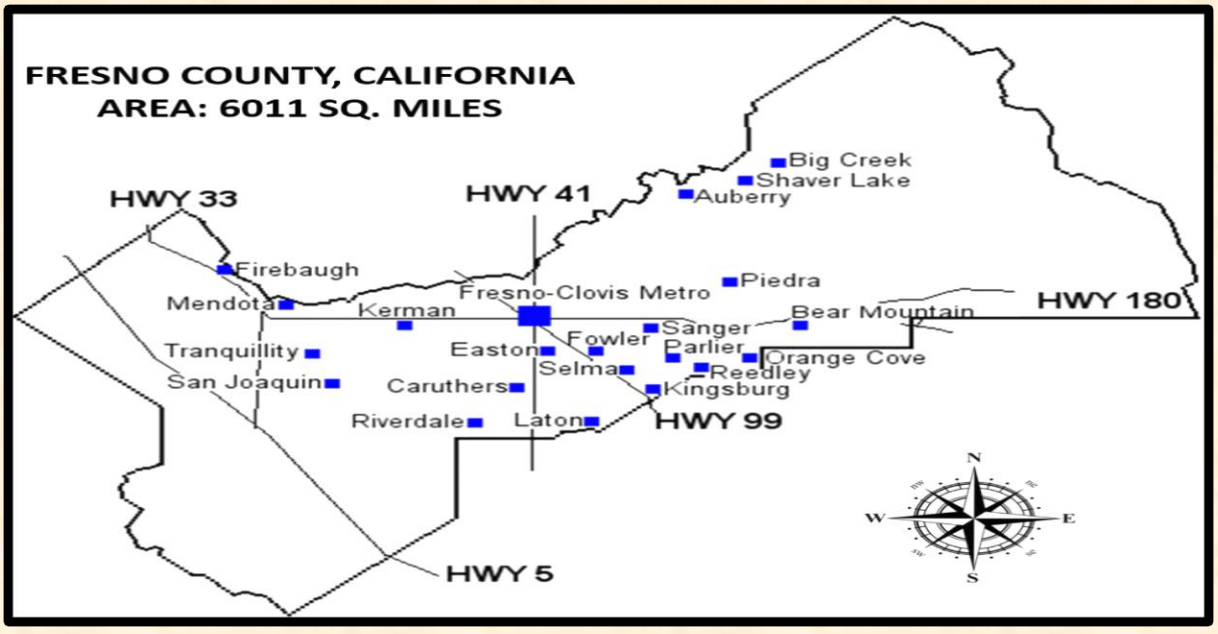
COVID-19: PG. 27 – 31

CORONER UNIT STATISTICS – OVERALL (2020):

➢ TOTAL FRESNO COUNTY DEATHS (2020): 9134

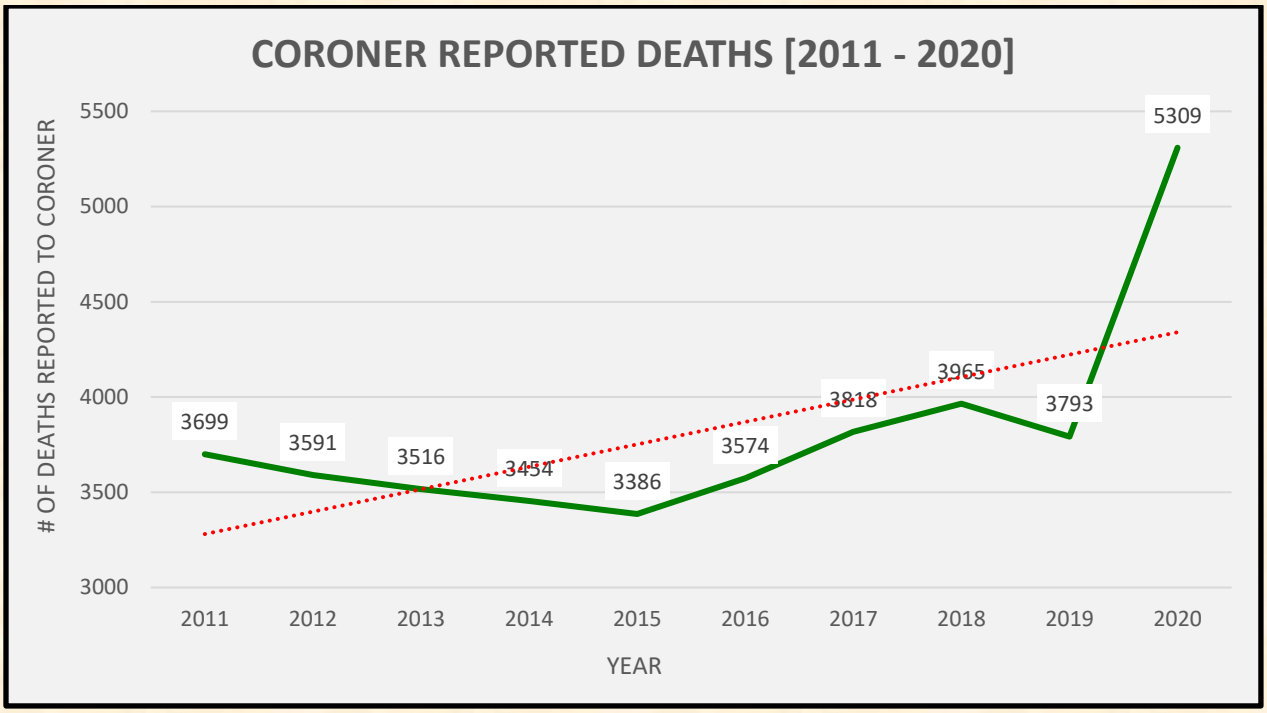


➢ FRESNO COUNTY MAP:

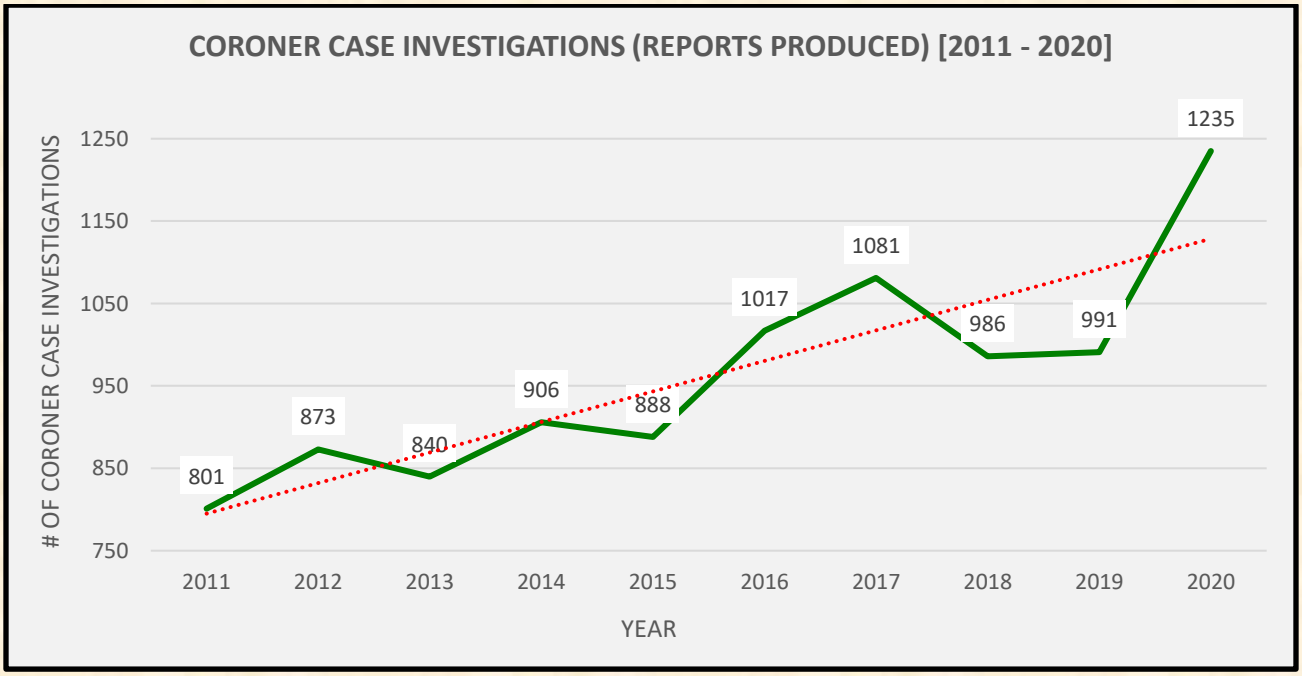


CORONER UNIT STATISTICS – OVERALL (2020):

- **CORONER REPORTED DEATHS (2020): 5309**

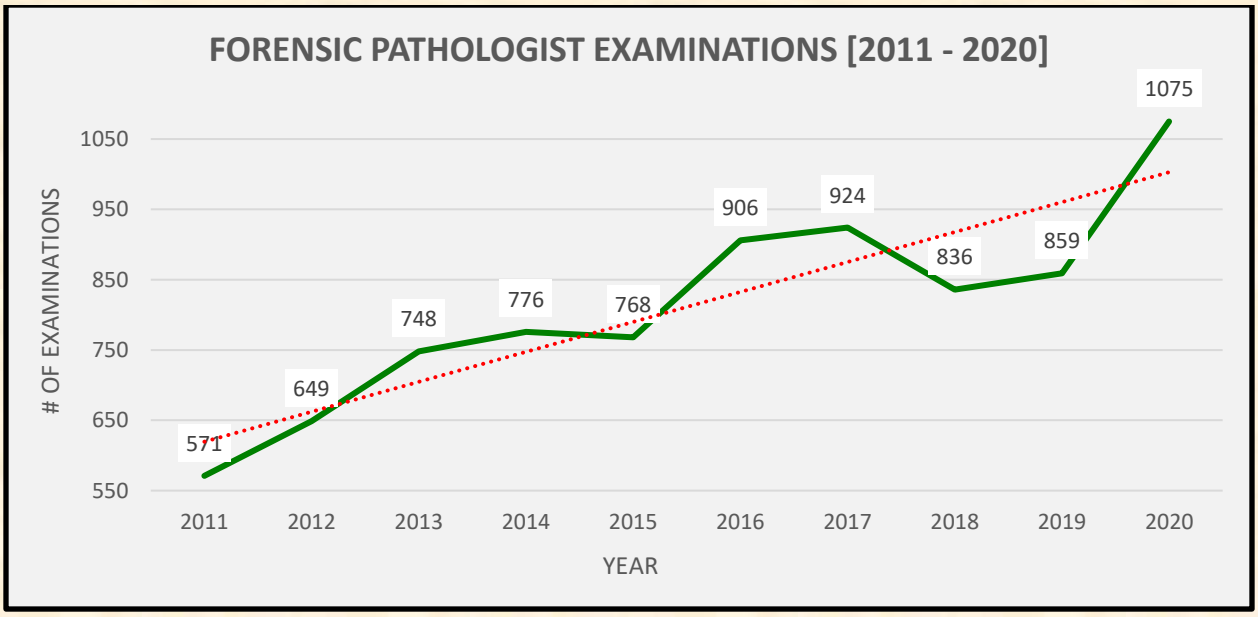


- **CORONER CASE INVESTIGATIONS (REPORTS PRODUCED) (2020): 1235**



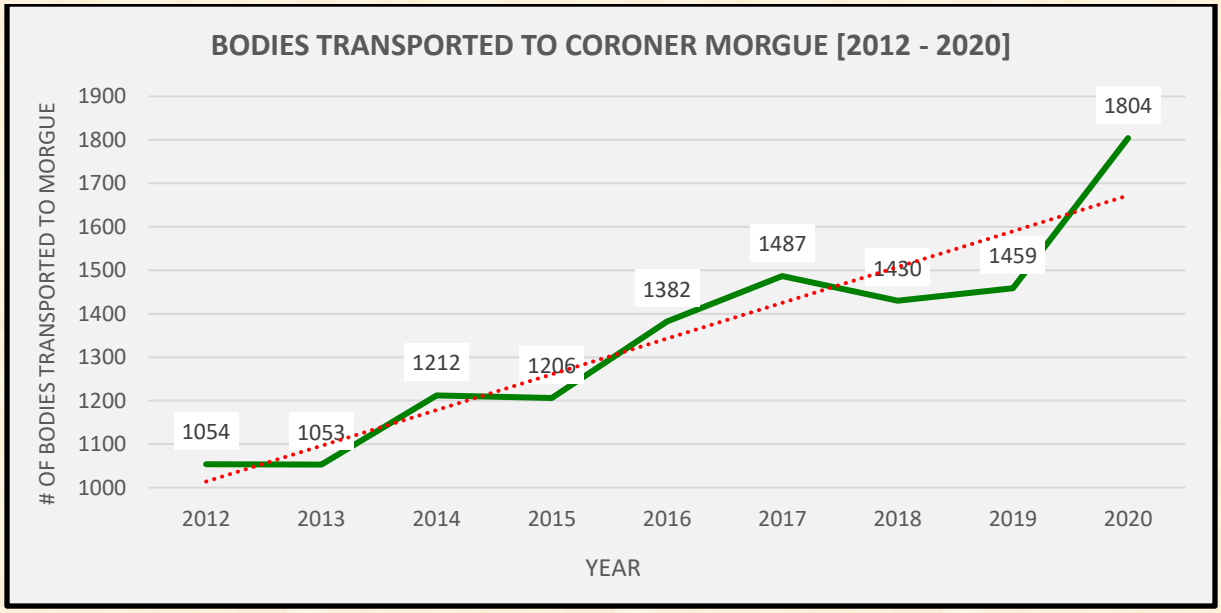
CORONER UNIT STATISTICS – OVERALL (2020):

TOTAL FORENSIC PATHOLOGIST EXAMINATIONS (2020): 1075



- **AUTOPSY EXAMINATIONS (2020): 447**
- **EXTERNAL EXAMINATIONS / TOXICOLOGY / MEDICAL RECORD REVIEW: 628**

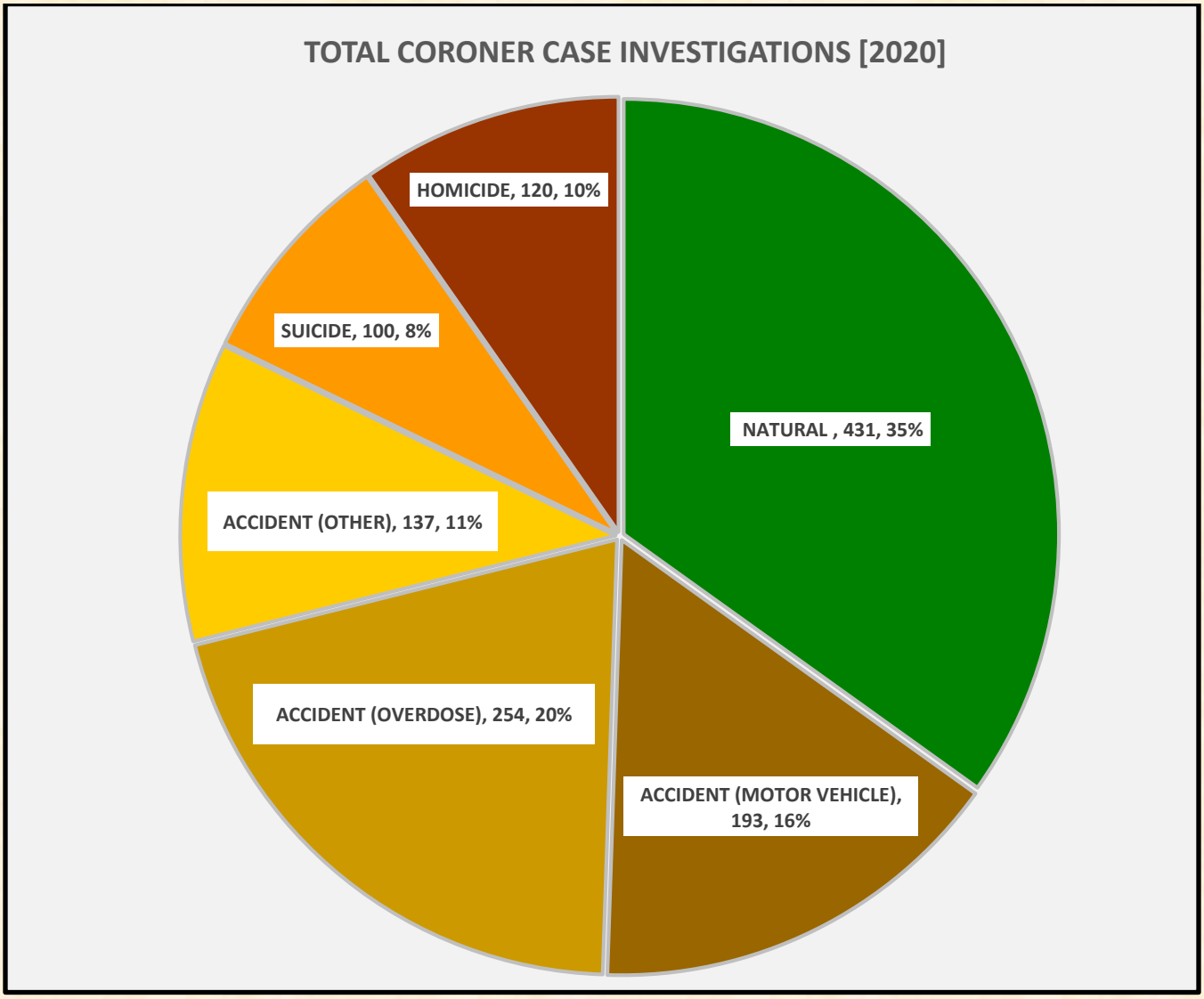
BODIES TRANSPORTED TO CORONER MORGUE (2020): 1804



CORONER UNIT STATISTICS – OVERALL (2020):

TOTAL CORONER CASES: 1235

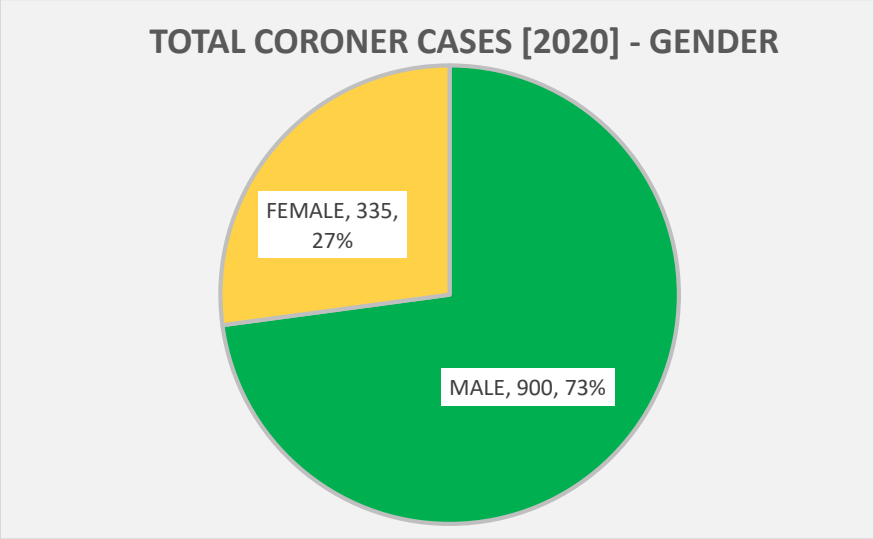
- **NATURAL: 431**
- **ACCIDENT: 584**
  - **MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT: 193**
  - **OVERDOSE: 254**
  - **OTHER ACCIDENTS: 137**
- **SUICIDE: 100**
- **HOMICIDE: 120**



CORONER UNIT STATISTICS – OVERALL (2020):

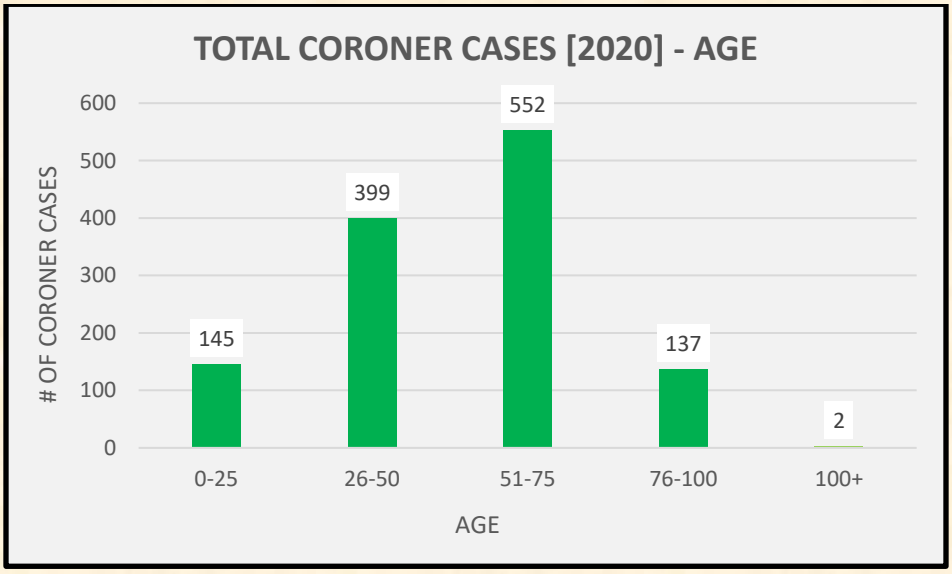
TOTAL CORONER CASES: 1235

- **MALE: 900**
- **FEMALE: 335**



AGE DISTRIBUTION (YEARS):

- **0-25: 145**
- **26-50: 399**
- **51-75: 552**
- **76-100: 137**
- **101+: 2**

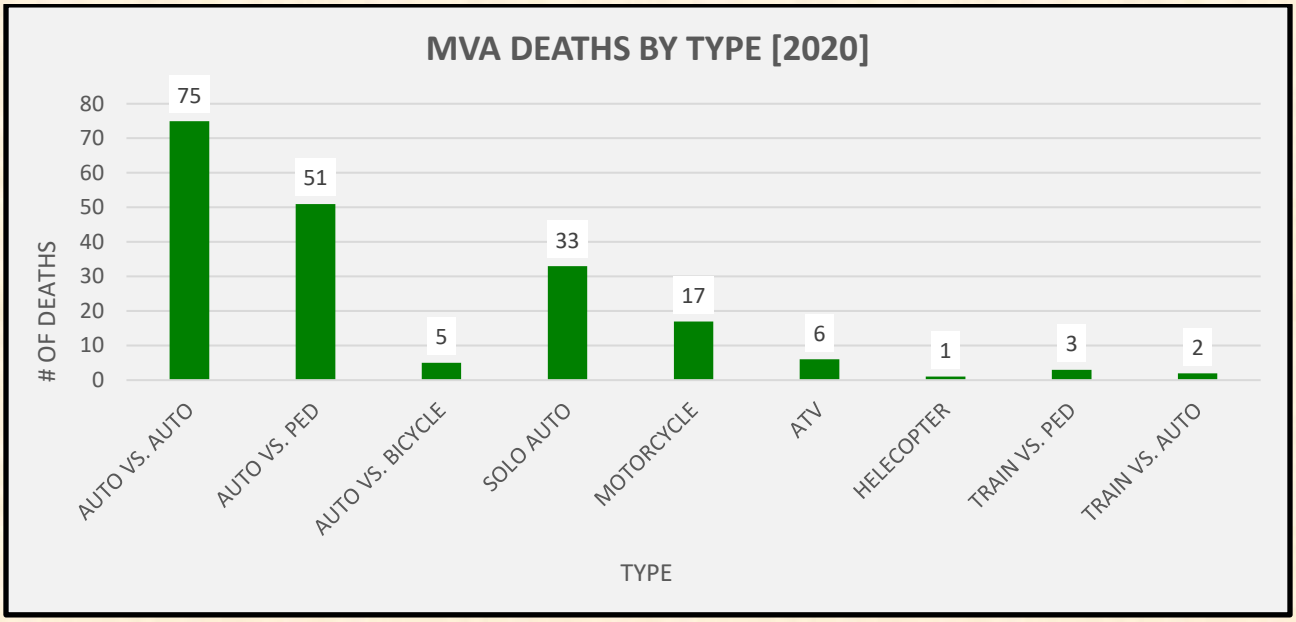


- **AVERAGE AGE OF CORONER CASE (2020): 52 YEARS OLD**

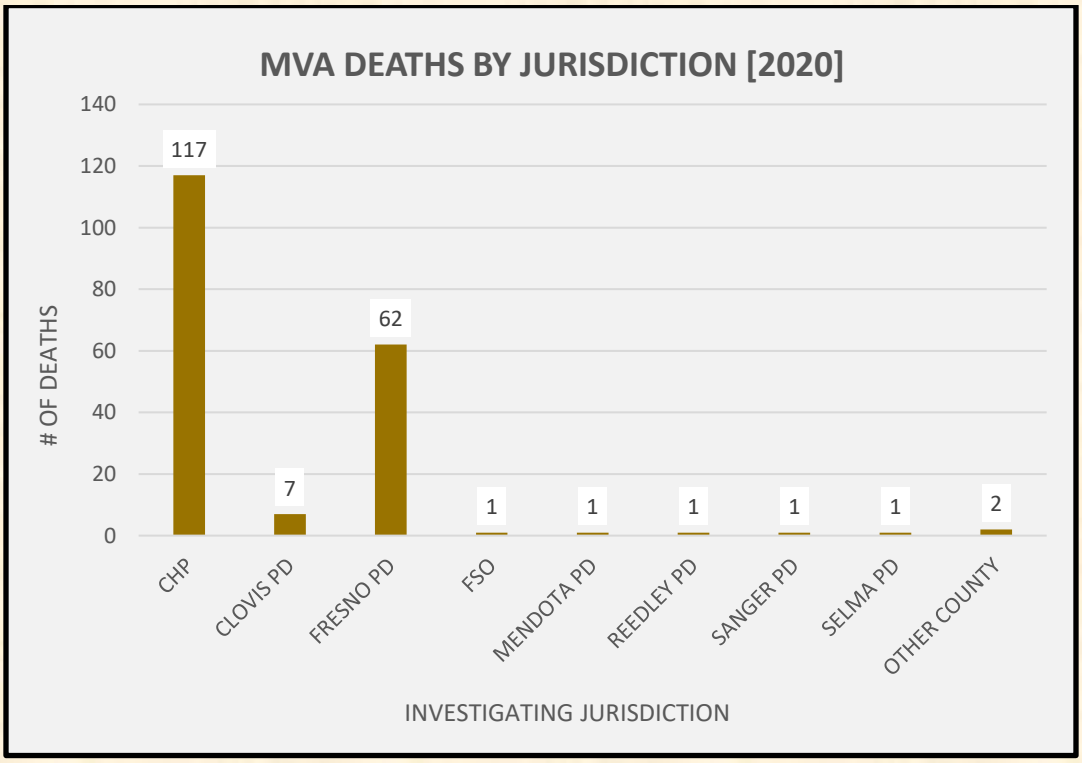
CORONER UNIT ACCIDENT DEATH INVESTIGATIONS – MOTOR VEHICLE (2020):

TOTAL MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT (MVA) RELATED DEATHS (2020): 193

MVA DEATHS BY TYPE:



MVA DEATHS BY JURISDICTION:



CORONER UNIT ACCIDENT DEATH INVESTIGATIONS – MOTOR VEHICLE (2020):

TOTAL MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT RELATED DEATHS (2020): 193

- **AUTO VS. AUTO OR SOLO VEHICLE: 108**
  - CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL: 80
  - FRESNO PD: 22
  - CLOVIS PD: 3
  - REEDLEY PD: 1
  - OUT OF COUNTY ACCIDENT: 2

- **AUTO VS. PEDESTRIAN: 51**
  - CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL: 20
  - FRESNO PD: 29
  - MENDOTA PD: 1
  - SANGER PD: 1

- **TRAIN VS AUTO: 2**
  - FRESNO PD: 1
  - SELMA PD: 1

- **TRAIN VS. PEDESTRIAN: 3**
  - FRESNO PD: 3

- **MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENT: 17**
  - CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL: 10
  - FRESNO PD: 4
  - CLOVIS PD: 3

- **AUTO VS. BICYCLE: 5**
  - CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL: 1
  - FRESNO PD: 3
  - CLOVIS PD: 1

- **ATV ACCIDENT: 6**
  - CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL: 6

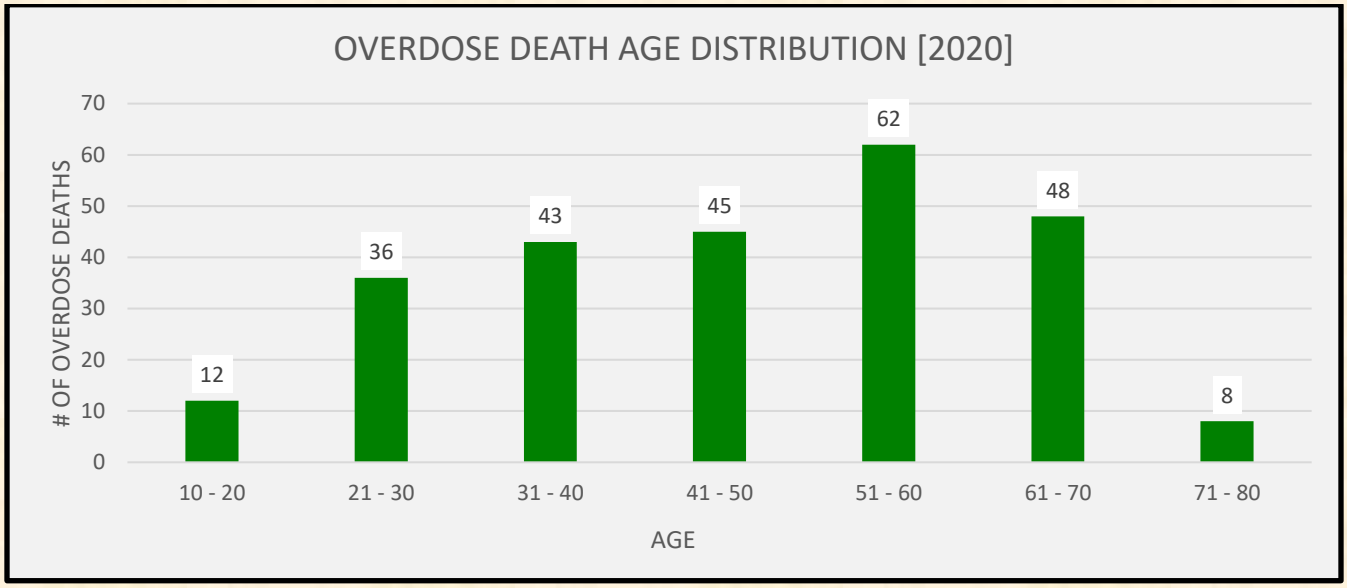
- **HELICOPTER ACCIDENT: 1**
  - FRESNO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE: 1

CORONER UNIT ACCIDENT DEATH INVESTIGATIONS - OVERDOSE (2020):

TOTAL ACCIDENT OVERDOSE DEATHS (2020): 254

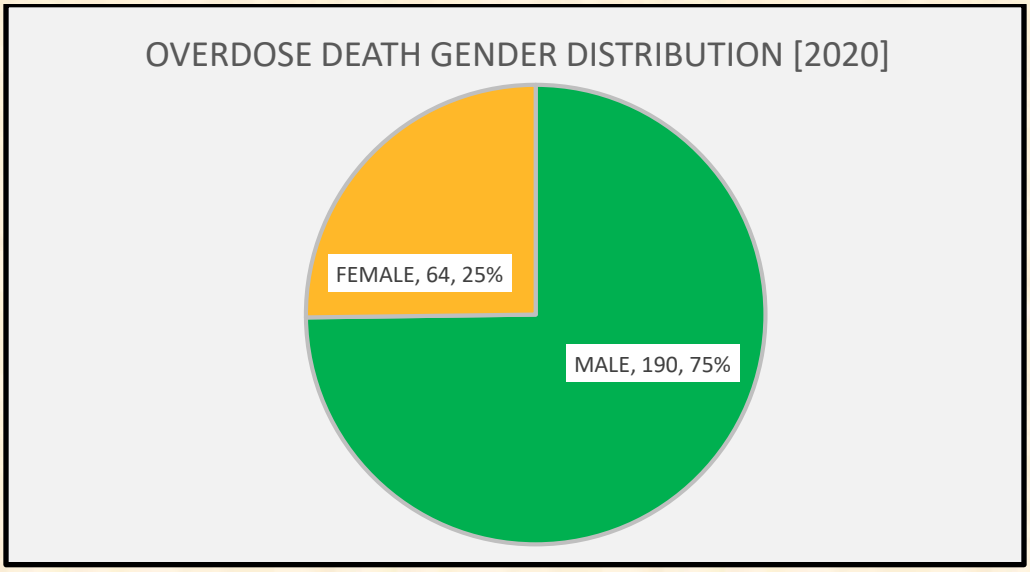
- **SINGLE DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS: 184**
- **COMBINED DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS: 56**
- **PENDING (REQUIRE ADDITIONAL INVESTIGATION): 14**

OVERDOSE DEATH - AGE DISTRIBUTION:



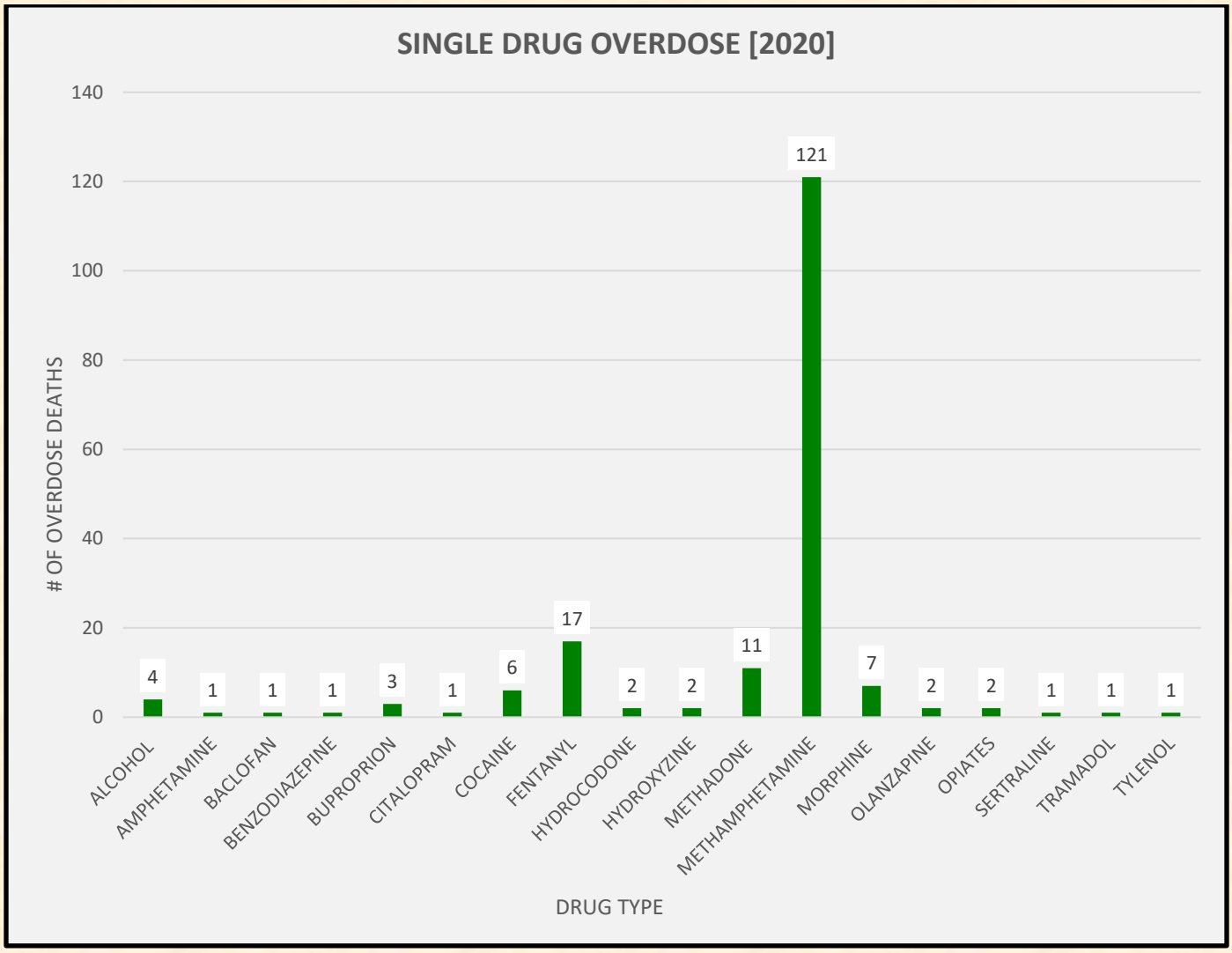
- **AVERAGE AGE OF OVERDOSE DEATH: 47 YEARS**
- **YOUNGEST OVERDOSE DEATH: 18 YEARS**
- **OLDEST OVERDOSE DEATH: 75 YEARS**

OVERDOSE DEATH - GENDER DISTRIBUTION:



CORONER UNIT ACCIDENT DEATH INVESTIGATIONS - OVERDOSE (2020):

SINGLE DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS: 184



- **METHAMPHETAMINE WAS PRESENT IN (121) 66% OF SINGLE DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS.**
- **FENTANYL WAS PRESENT IN (17) 9% OF SINGLE DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS.**

- **DRUG OVERDOSE STATISTICS CURRENT AS OF 03/10/2021.**

CORONER UNIT ACCIDENT DEATH INVESTIGATIONS - OVERDOSE (2020):

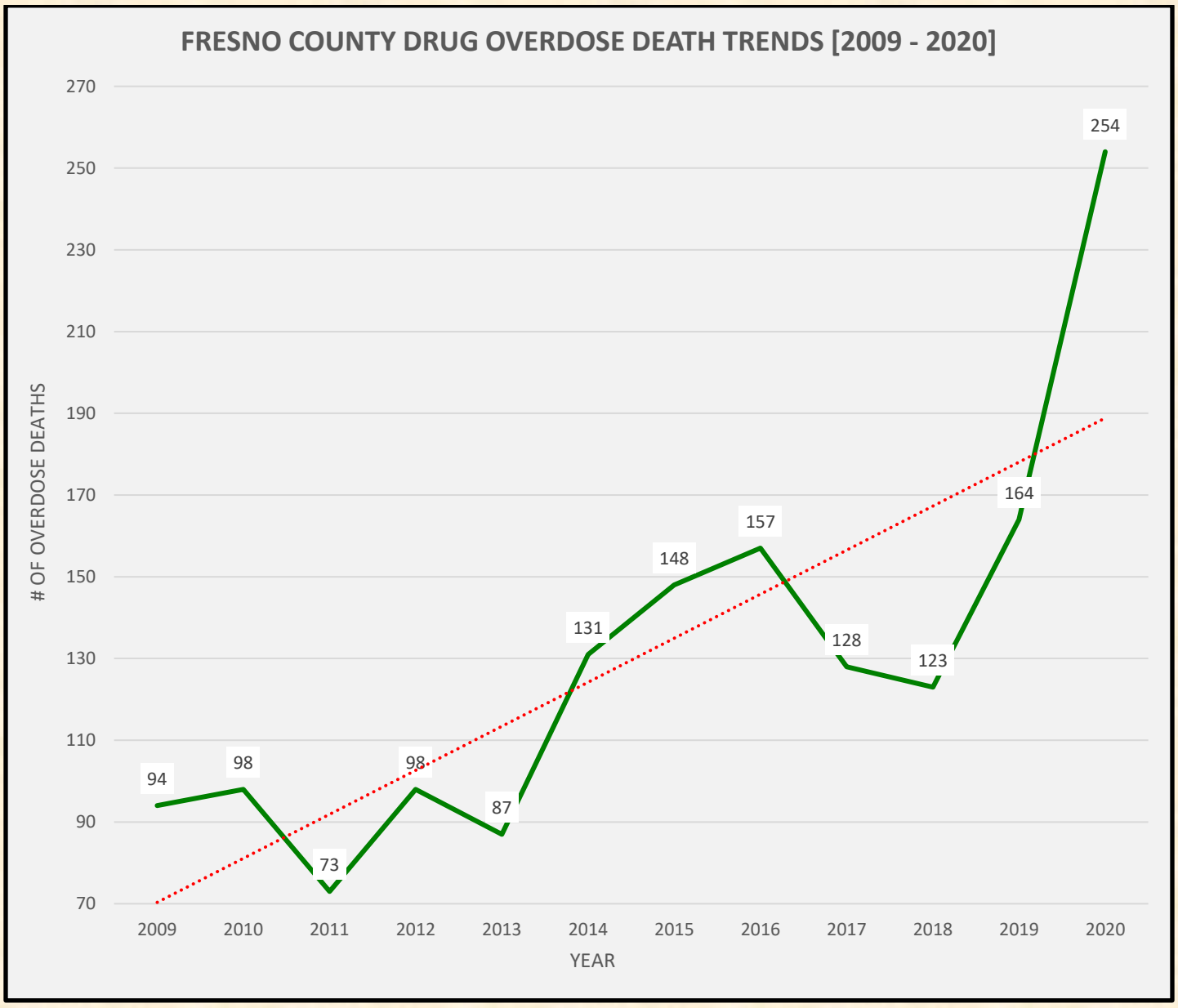
COMBINED DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS: 56

- **ACETAMINOPHEN AND FENTANYL AND DOXYLAMINE: 1**
- **ALCOHOL AND COCAINE: 2**
- **ALCOHOL AND DIPHENHYDRAMINE: 1**
- **ALCOHOL AND FENTANYL: 2**
- **ALCOHOL AND METHAMPHETAMINE: 2**
- **ALCOHOL AND METHAMPHETAMINE AND MORPHINE: 1**
- **ALCOHOL AND METHAMPHETAMINE AND OXYCODONE: 1**
- **ALCOHOL AND ZOPICLONE: 1**
- **ALPRAZOLAM AND AMPHETAMINE AND GABAPENTIN AND MORPHINE AND QUETIAPINE: 1**
- **ALPRAZOLAM AND FENTANYL: 3**
- **ALPRAZOLAM AND FENTANYL AND OXYCODONE: 1**
- **ALPRAZOLAM AND METHADONE: 1**
- **ALPRAZOLAM AND METHADONE AND MORPHINE: 1**
- **ALPRAZOLAM AND MORPHINE: 1**
- **ALPRAZOLAM AND AMPHETAMINE: 1**
- **AMIODARONE AND METHAMPHETAMINE: 1**
- **AMITRIPTYLINE AND CYCLOBENZAPRINE AND HYDROCODONE: 1**
- **AMITRIPTYLINE AND GABAPENTIN AND HYDROCODONE AND TRAMADOL: 1**
- **CARISOPRODOL AND HYDROCODONE AND MEPROBAMATE: 1**
- **COCAETHYLENE AND FENTANYL: 1**
- **COCAINE AND FENTANYL: 3**
- **COCAINE AND FENTANYL AND METHAMPHETAMINE: 2**
- **COCAINE AND LEVAMISOLE AND METHADONE: 1**
- **COCAINE AND MORPHINE: 1**
- **DESMETHYLVENLAFAXINE AND METHADONE AND OLANZIPINE: 1**
- **DULOXETINE AND QUETIAPINE: 1**
- **ESCITALOPRAM AND FENTANYL: 1**
- **FENTANYL AND HYDROCODONE AND METHAMPHETAMINE: 1**
- **FENTANYL AND HYDROXYBUPROPION: 1**
- **FENTANYL AND METHAMPHETAMINE: 2**
- **FLUOXETINE AND METHAMPHETAMINE: 1**
- **HYDROCODONE AND HYDROXYZINE: 1**
- **HYDROCODONE AND METHAMPHETAMINE: 1**
- **METHADONE AND METHAMPHETAMINE: 5**
- **METHAMPHETAMINE AND MORPHINE: 7**
- **METHAMPHETAMINE AND OPIATES: 1**
- **METHAMPHETAMINE AND PHENCYCLIDINE: 1**

- **METHAMPHETAMINE WAS PRESENT IN (27) 48% OF COMBINED DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS.**
- **FENTANYL WAS PRESENT IN (18) 32% OF COMBINED DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS.**
- **ALCOHOL WAS PRESENT IN (10) 18% OF COMBINED DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS.**

CORONER UNIT ACCIDENT DEATH INVESTIGATIONS - OVERDOSE (2020):

FRESNO COUNTY TOTAL DRUG OVERDOSE TRENDS [2009 – 2020]



THERE WERE 254 DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS IN 2020

- **SINGLE DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS: 184**
- **COMBINED DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS: 56**
- **PENDING (REQUIRE ADDITIONAL INVESTIGATION): 14**

CORONER UNIT ACCIDENT DEATH INVESTIGATIONS – OTHER ACCIDENTS (2020):

OTHER ACCIDENT DEATHS: 137

FALL: 93

- WHILE HIKING: 2
- OFF HORSE: 3
- DOWN STAIRS: 1
- OTHER: 87

FIRE: 11

DROWNING: 15

- RESIDENCE POOL: 7
- BATHTUB: 1
- CANAL: 2
- POND: 1
- KINGS RIVER: 1
- SHAVER LAKE: 1
- REEDLEY BEACH: 2

CHOKING: 1

- ON FOOD: 1

ALTITUDE RELATED: 1

BEE STING: 1

GUNSHOT WOUND: 1

HANGING: 1

STRUCK BY OBJECT: 1

TREE CUTTING: 2

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT: 5

- TRACTOR: 1
- CRUSHED BY OBJECT: 1
- ELECTROCUTION: 1
- MACHINE RELATED: 1
- VEHICLE RELATED: 1

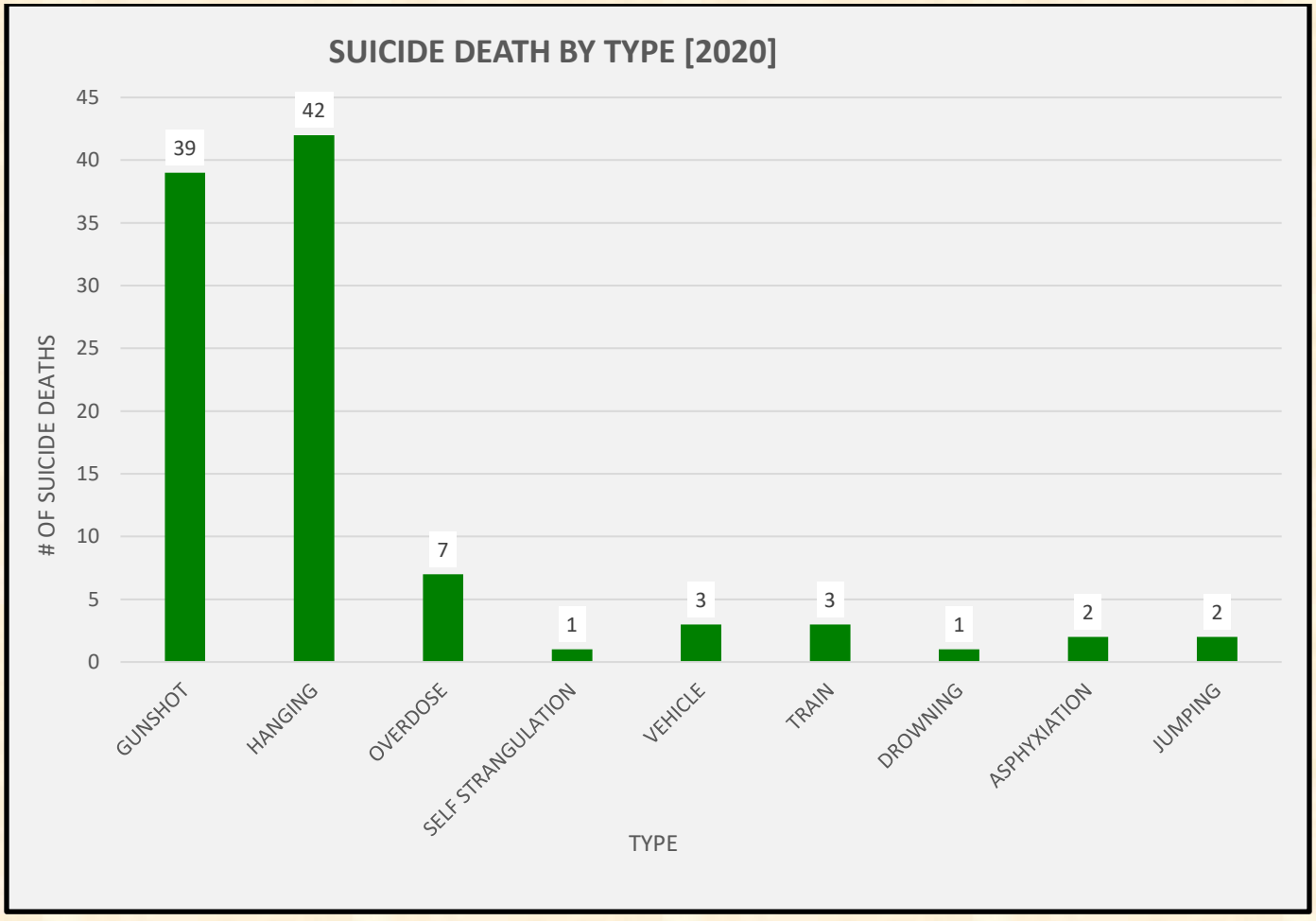
OTHER ACCIDENT: 5

CORONER UNIT SUICIDE DEATH INVESTIGATIONS (2020):

TOTAL SUICIDE DEATHS (2020): 100

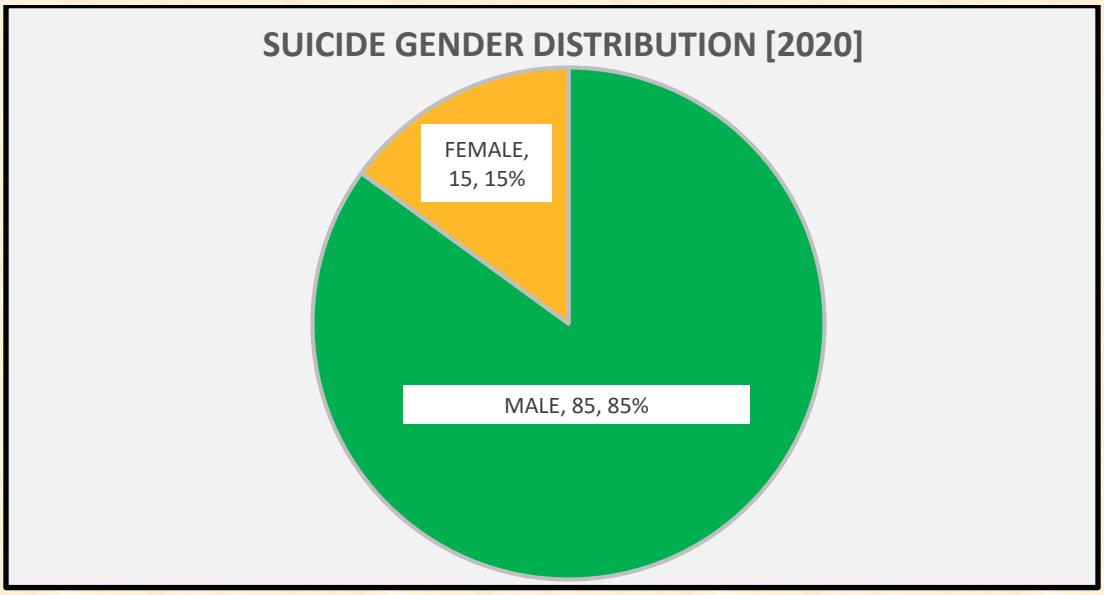
SUICIDE DEATH BY TYPE

- **GUNSHOT: 39**
- **HANGING: 42**
- **OVERDOSE: 7**
- **LIGATURE SELF-STRANGULATION: 1**
- **VEHICLE: 3**
- **TRAIN: 3**
- **DROWNING: 1**
- **ASPHYXIATION (CARBON MONOXIDE): 2**
- **JUMPING: 2**

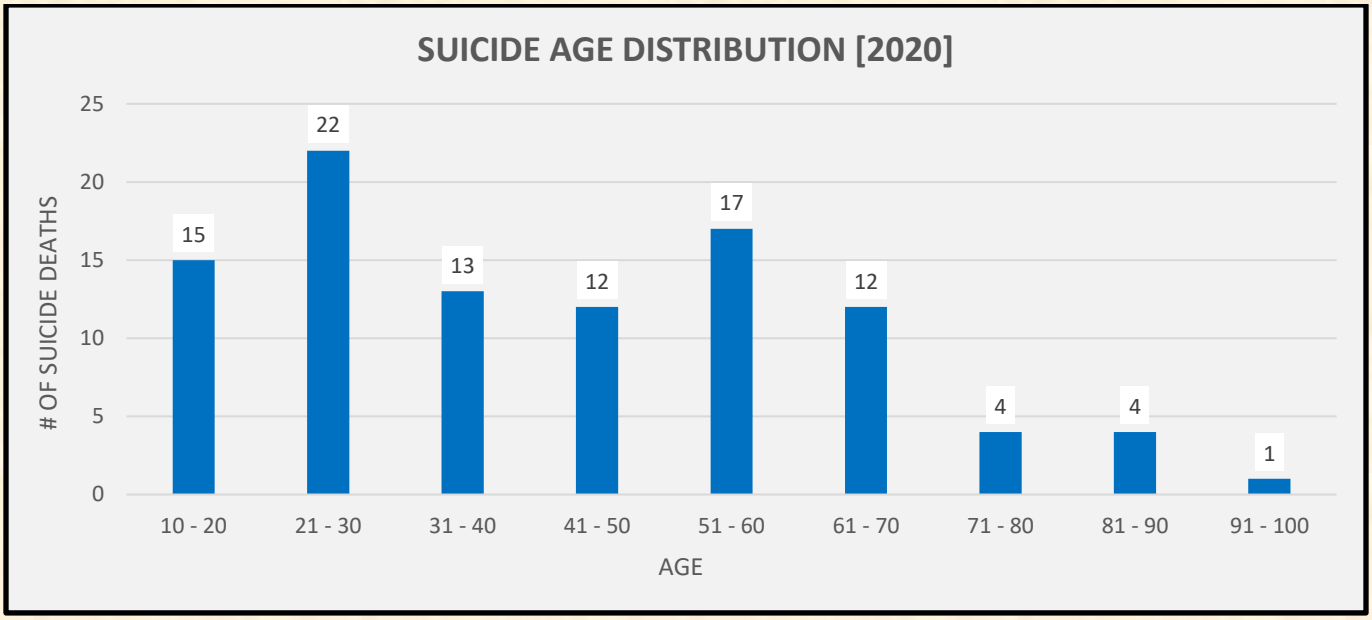


CORONER UNIT SUICIDE DEATH INVESTIGATIONS (2020):

SUICIDE - GENDER DISTRIBUTION:



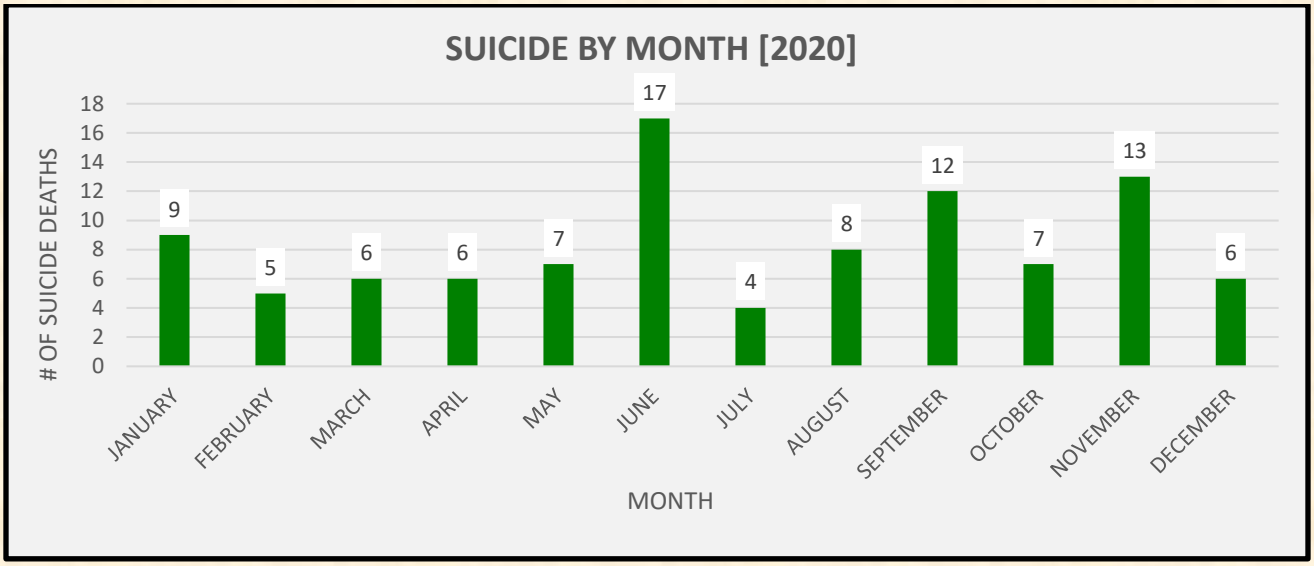
SUICIDE - AGE DISTRIBUTION:



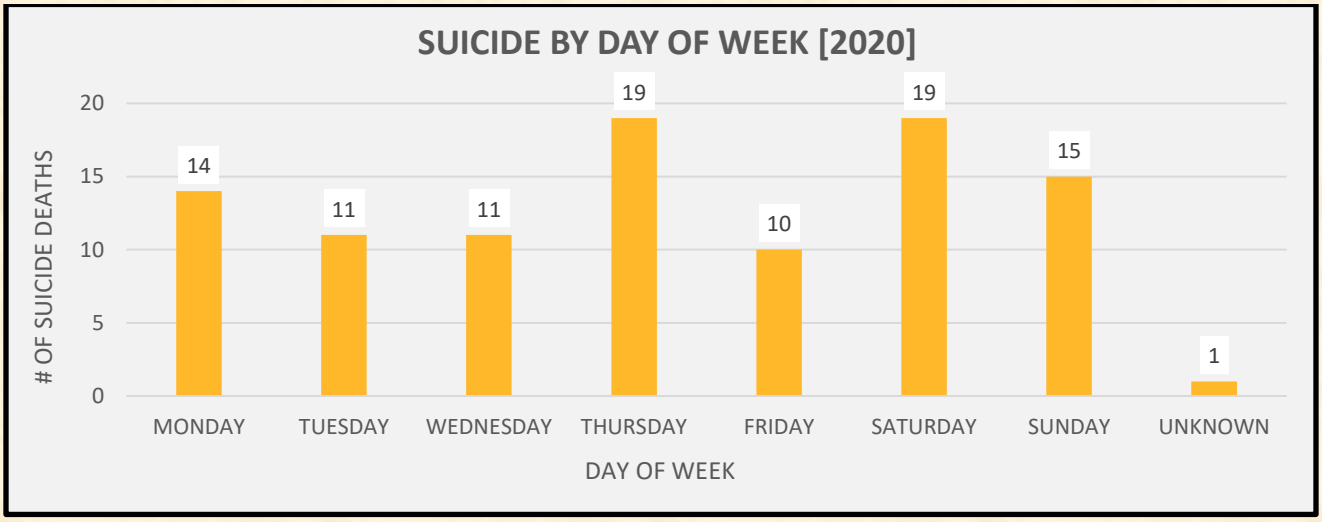
- **YOUNGEST SUICIDE: 13 YEARS**
- **OLDEST SUICIDE: 95 YEARS**
- **AVERAGE SUICIDE AGE: 42 YEARS**

CORONER UNIT SUICIDE DEATH INVESTIGATIONS (2020):

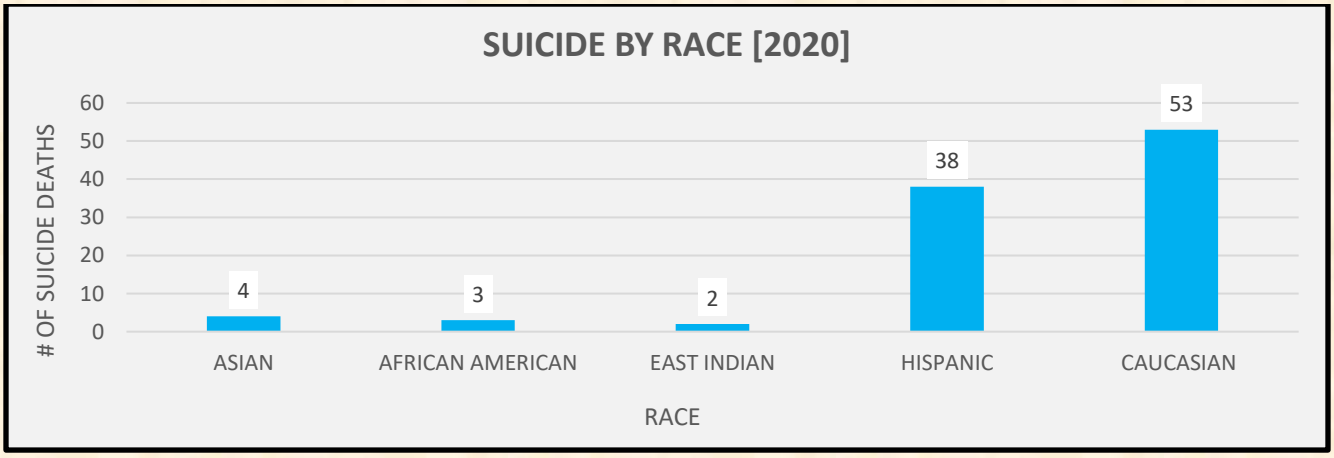
SUICIDE BY MONTH DISTRIBUTION:



SUICIDE BY DAY OF WEEK DISTRIBUTION:



SUICIDE BY RACE DISTRIBUTION:



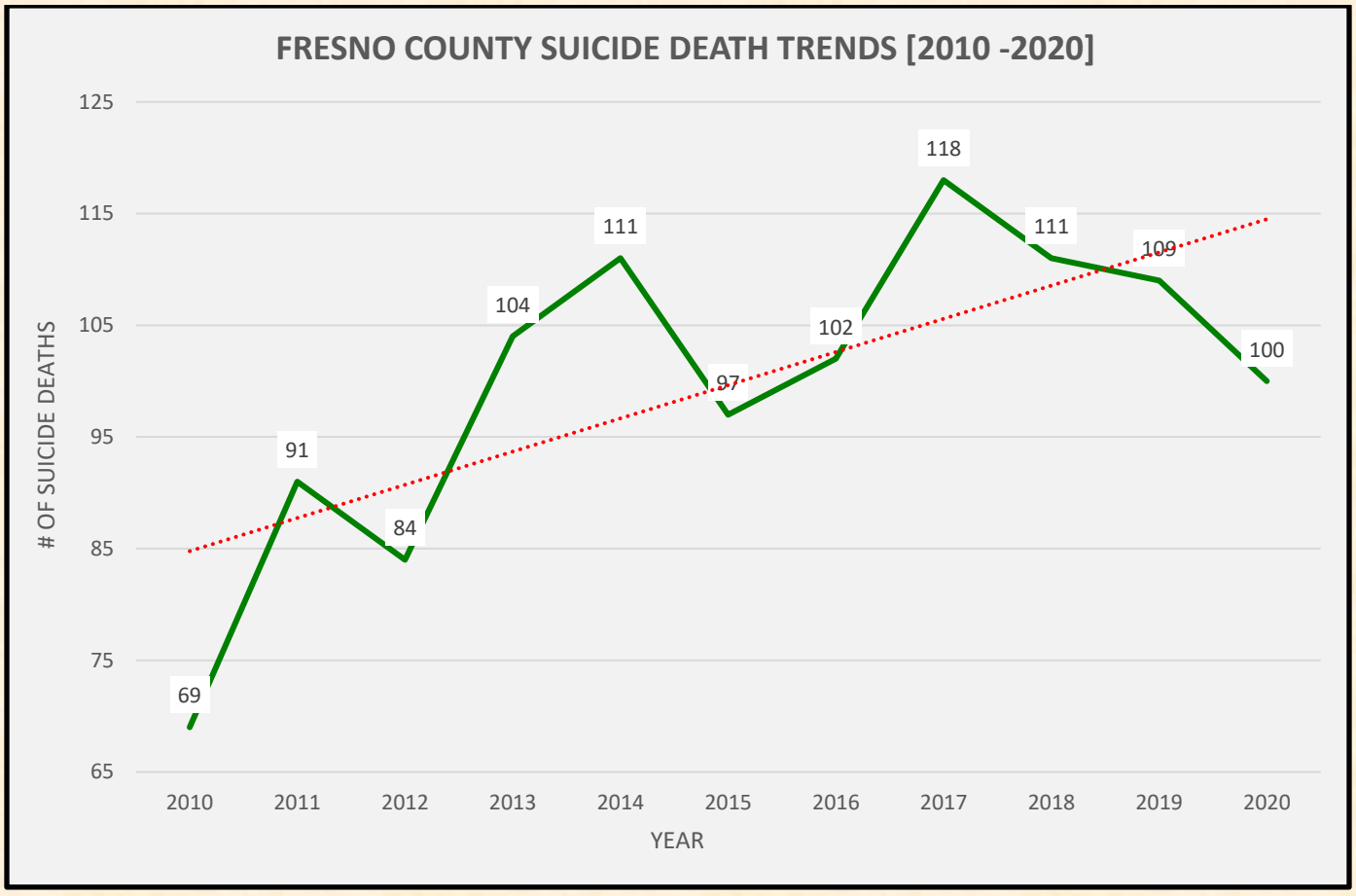
CORONER UNIT SUICIDE DEATH INVESTIGATIONS (2020):

SUICIDE BY ZIP CODE DISTRIBUTION:

FRESNO COUNTY SUICIDE DEATHS [2020]

FRESNO	COALINGA	SQUAW VALLEY
93701: 1	93210: 2	93675: 1
93702: 2	**SHAVER**	**REEDLEY**
93703: 3	93634: 2	93654: 1
93704: 3	**DUNLAP**	**SELMA**
93705: 9	93621: 1	93662: 1
93706: 4	**FOWLER**	**SANGER**
93710: 3	93625: 1	93657: 3
93711: 4	**MENDOTA**	
93720: 5	93640: 2	
93721: 6	**CLOVIS**	
93722: 11	93611: 5	
93723: 3	93612: 5	
93725: 4	93619: 5	
93726: 4	**TOLLHOUSE**	
93727: 2	93667: 1	
93728: 4	**KERMAN**	
93737: 1	93630: 1	

CORONER UNIT SUICIDE DEATH INVESTIGATIONS (2020):



FRESNO COUNTY SUICIDE TRENDS (2010 – 2020)

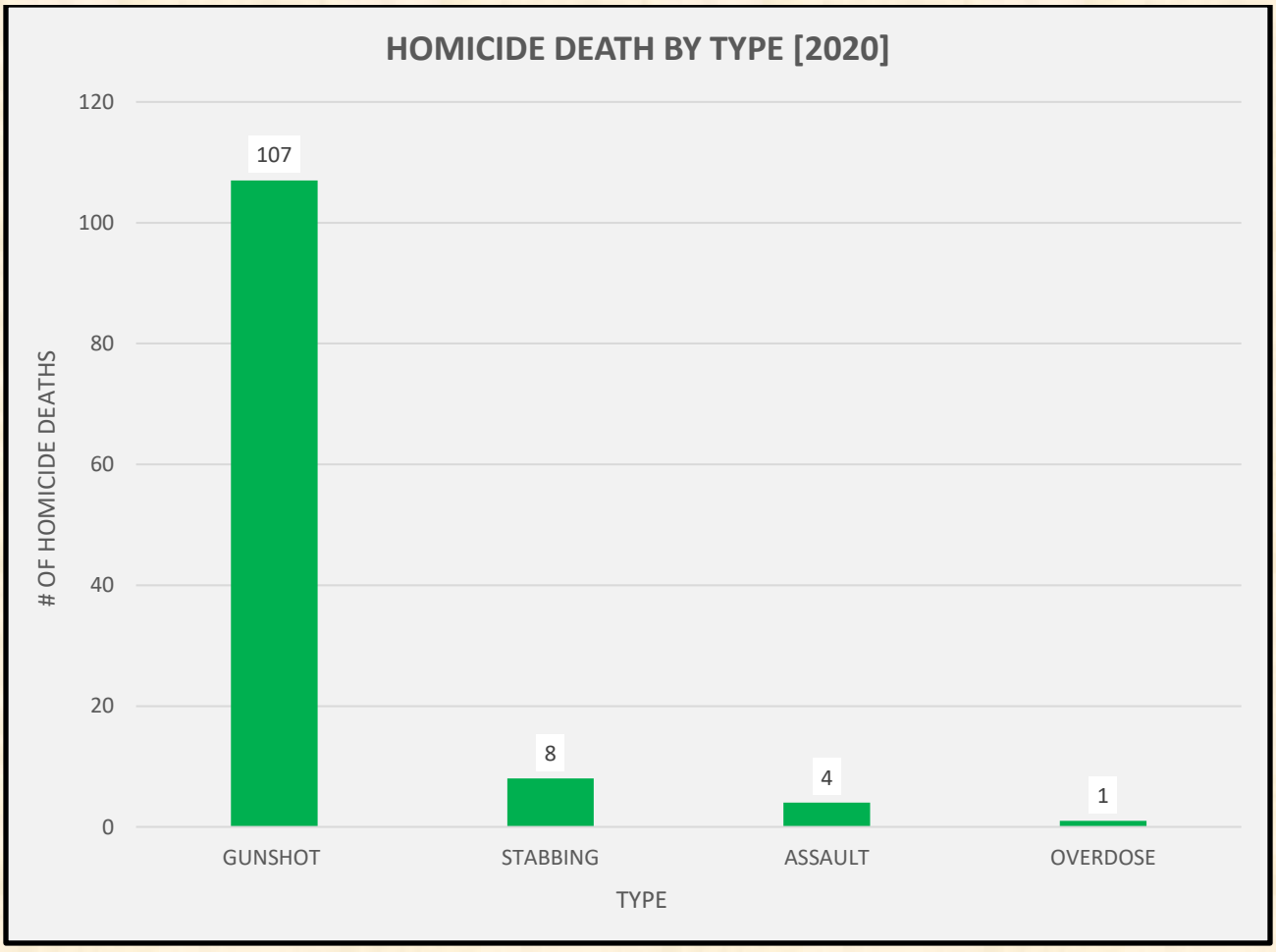
- **2010: 69**
- **2011: 91**
- **2012: 84**
- **2013: 104**
- **2014: 111**
- **2015: 97**
- **2016: 102**
- **2017: 118**
- **2018: 111**
- **2019: 109**
- **2020: 100**

CORONER UNIT HOMICIDE DEATH INVESTIGATIONS (2020):

TOTAL HOMICIDE DEATHS: 120

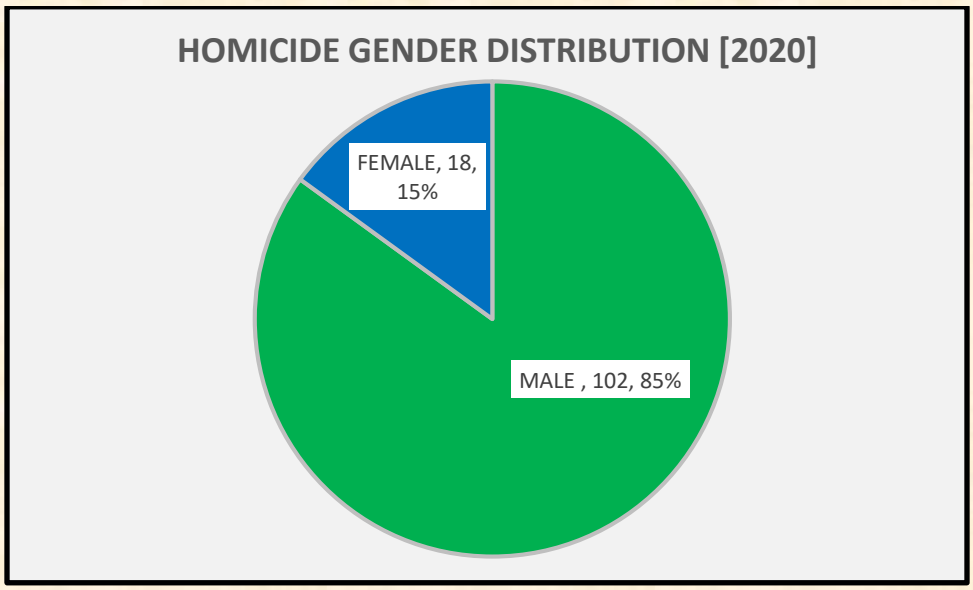
HOMICIDE DEATH BY TYPE:

- **GUNSHOT: 107**
- **STABBING: 8**
- **ASSAULT: 4**
- **OVERDOSE: 1**

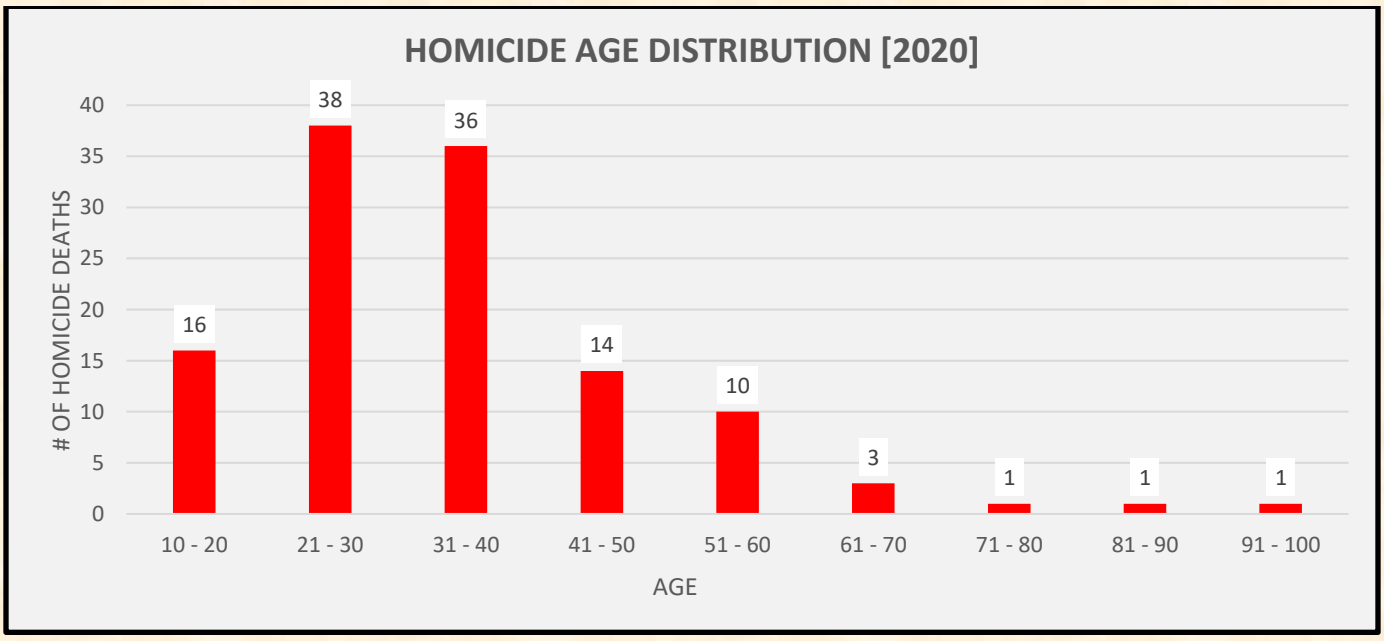


CORONER UNIT HOMICIDE DEATH INVESTIGATIONS (2020):

HOMICIDE - GENDER DISTRIBUTION:



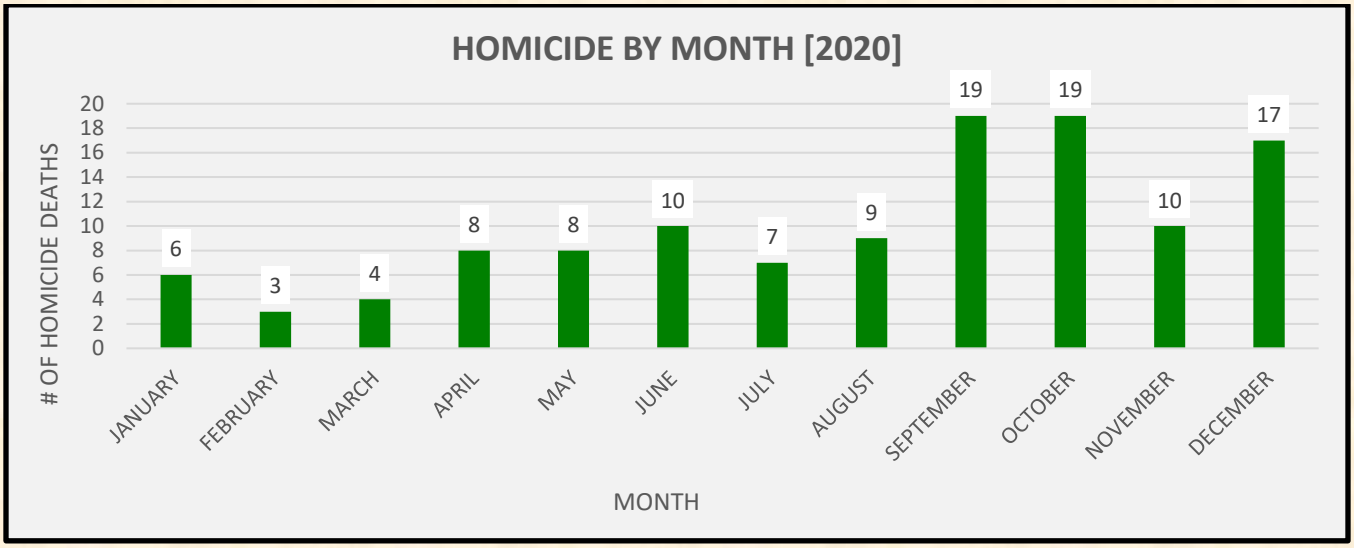
HOMICIDE - AGE DISTRIBUTION:



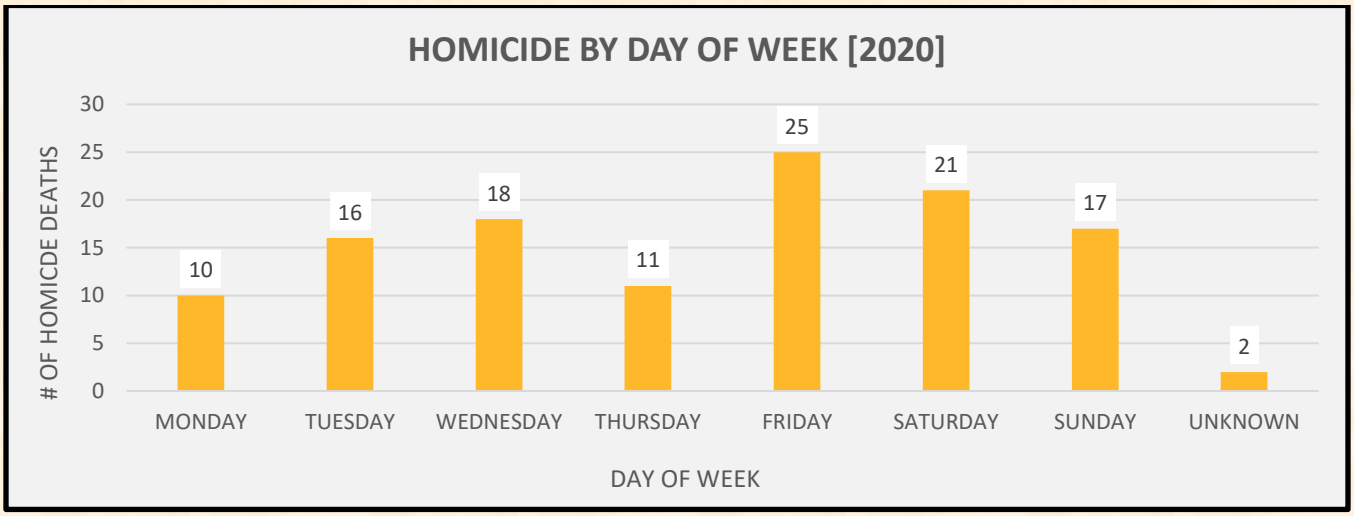
- **YOUNGEST HOMICIDE: 16 YEARS**
- **OLDEST HOMICIDE: 97 YEARS**
- **AVERAGE HOMICIDE AGE: 35 YEARS**

CORONER UNIT HOMICIDE DEATH INVESTIGATIONS (2020):

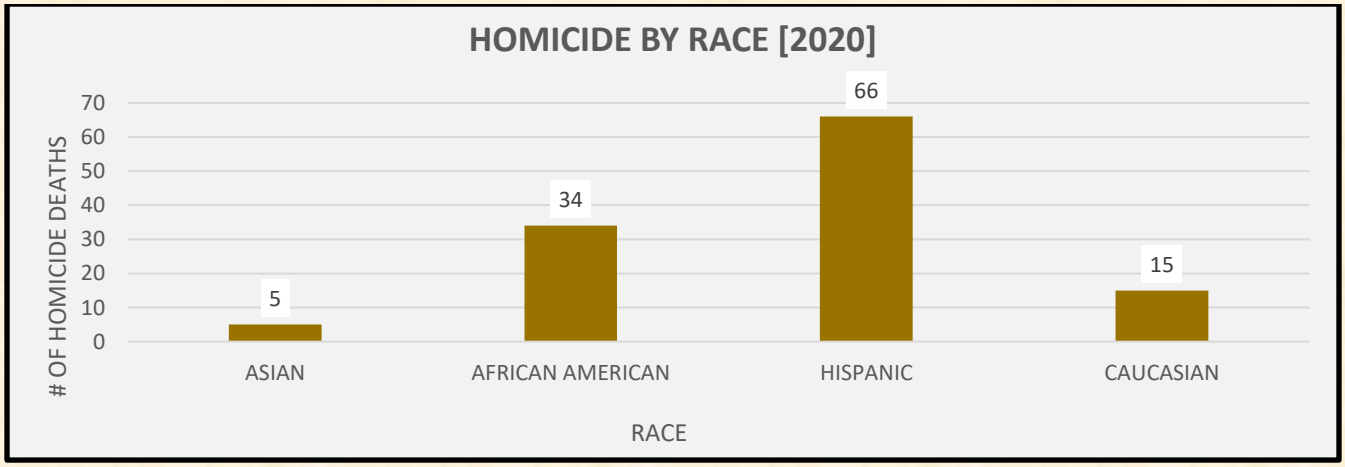
HOMICIDE BY MONTH DISTRIBUTION:



HOMICIDE BY DAY OF WEEK DISTRIBUTION:



HOMICIDE BY RACE DISTRIBUTION:



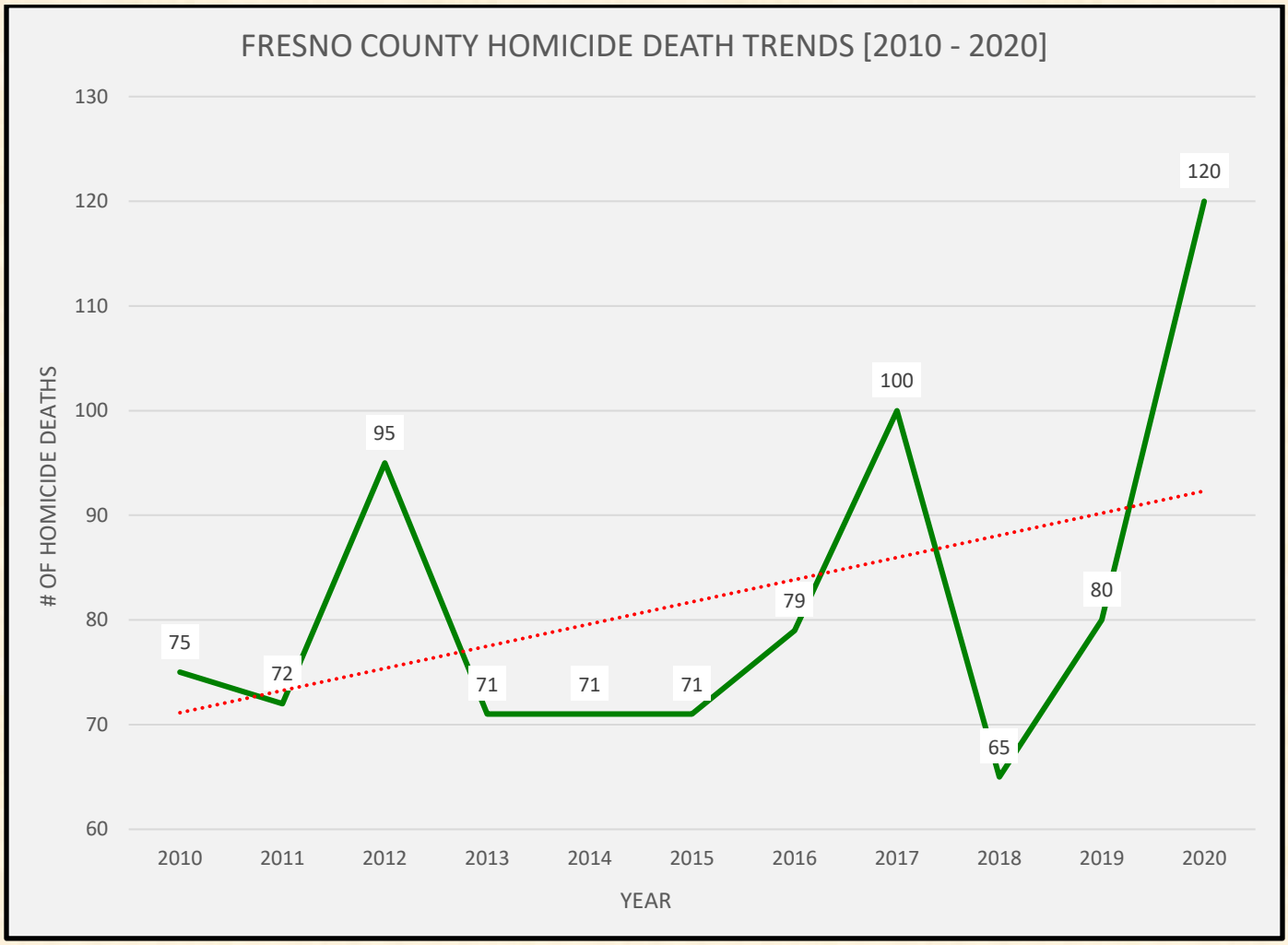
CORONER UNIT HOMICIDE DEATH INVESTIGATIONS (2020):

HOMICIDE BY ZIP CODE DISTRIBUTION:

FRESNO COUNTY HOMICIDE DEATHS (2020)

FRESNO	**COALINGA**	**SANGER**
93701: 4	93210: 2	93657: 2
93702: 15	**CLOVIS**	**SELMA**
93703: 5	93611: 1	93662: 1
93704: 7	93612: 1	**HURON**
93705: 8	**FOWLER**	93234: 3
93706: 16	93625: 2	**CARUTHERS**
93710: 3	**REEDLEY**	93609: 1
93711: 1	93630: 1	**KINGSBURG**
93721: 5	**PARLIER**	93631: 1
93722: 4	93648: 2	**SAN JOAQUIN**
93723: 1	**PINEDALE**	93660: 3
93725: 3	93650: 1	**TOLLHOUSE**
93726: 3	**RAISIN CITY**	93667: 1
93727: 6	93652: 1	**UNKNOWN: 2**
93728: 12	**SQUAW VALLEY**	
	93675: 2	

CORONER UNIT HOMICIDE DEATH INVESTIGATIONS (2020):

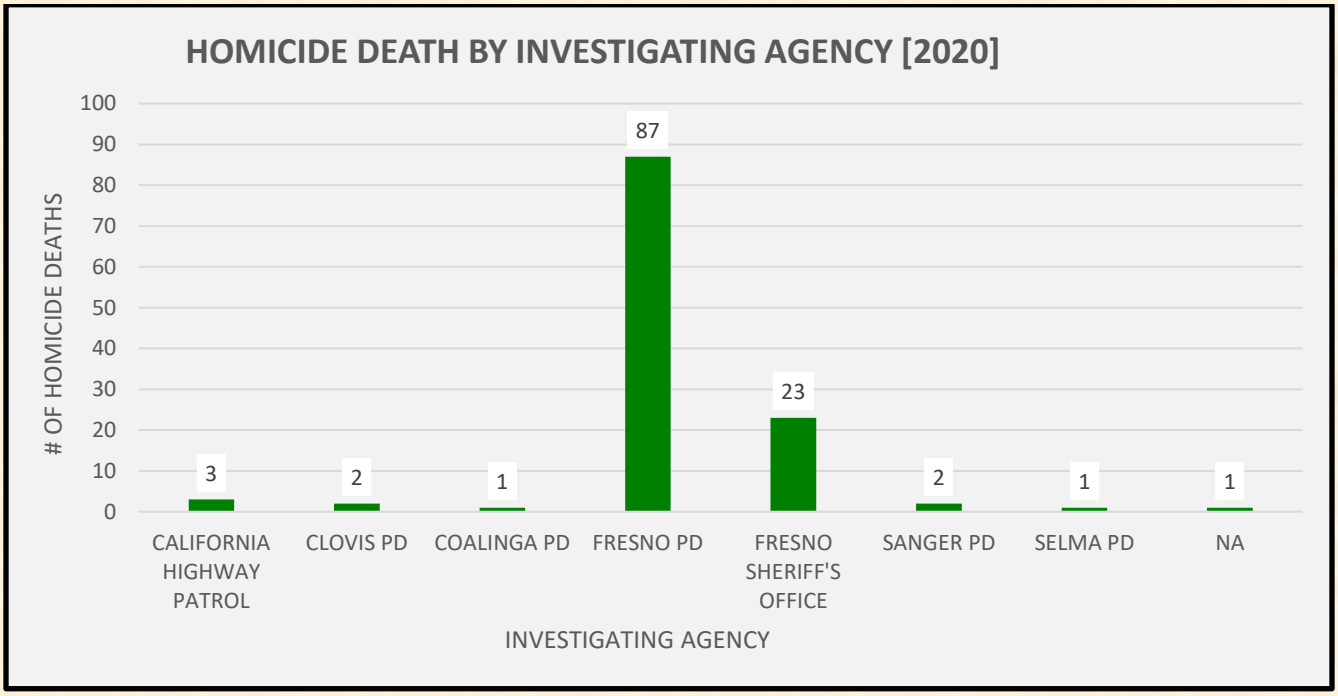


FRESNO COUNTY HOMICIDE TRENDS [2010 – 2020]

- **2010: 75**
- **2011: 72**
- **2012: 95**
- **2013: 71**
- **2014: 71**
- **2015: 71**
- **2016: 79**
- **2017: 100**
- **2018: 65**
- **2019: 80**
- **2020: 120**

CORONER UNIT HOMICIDE DEATH INVESTIGATIONS (2020):

HOMICIDE BY INVESTIGATING AGENCY DISTRIBUTION:



OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING DEATHS (2020):

- **TOTAL: 6**

INVESTIGATING AGENCY

- **FRESNO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE: 1**
- **FRESNO POLICE DEPARTMENT: 4**
- **CLOVIS POLICE DEPARTMENT: 1**

AGENCY INVOLVED IN SHOOTING

- **FRESNO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE: 1**
- **FRESNO POLICE DEPARTMENT: 3**
- **CLOVIS POLICE DEPARTMENT: 1**
- **FRESNO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE AND CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL: 1**

CORONER UNIT IN-CUSTODY DEATH INVESTIGATIONS (2020):

IN CUSTODY DEATHS (2020): 18

<u>LOCATION / TYPE:</u>

FRESNO COUNTY JAIL: 11

- **NATURAL: 6**
- **SUICIDE: 4**
- **HOMICIDE: 1**

PLEASANT VALLEY STATE PRISON (COALINGA): 1

- **NATURAL: 1**

COALINGA STATE HOSPITAL: 6

- **NATURAL: 5**
- **OVERDOSE: 1**

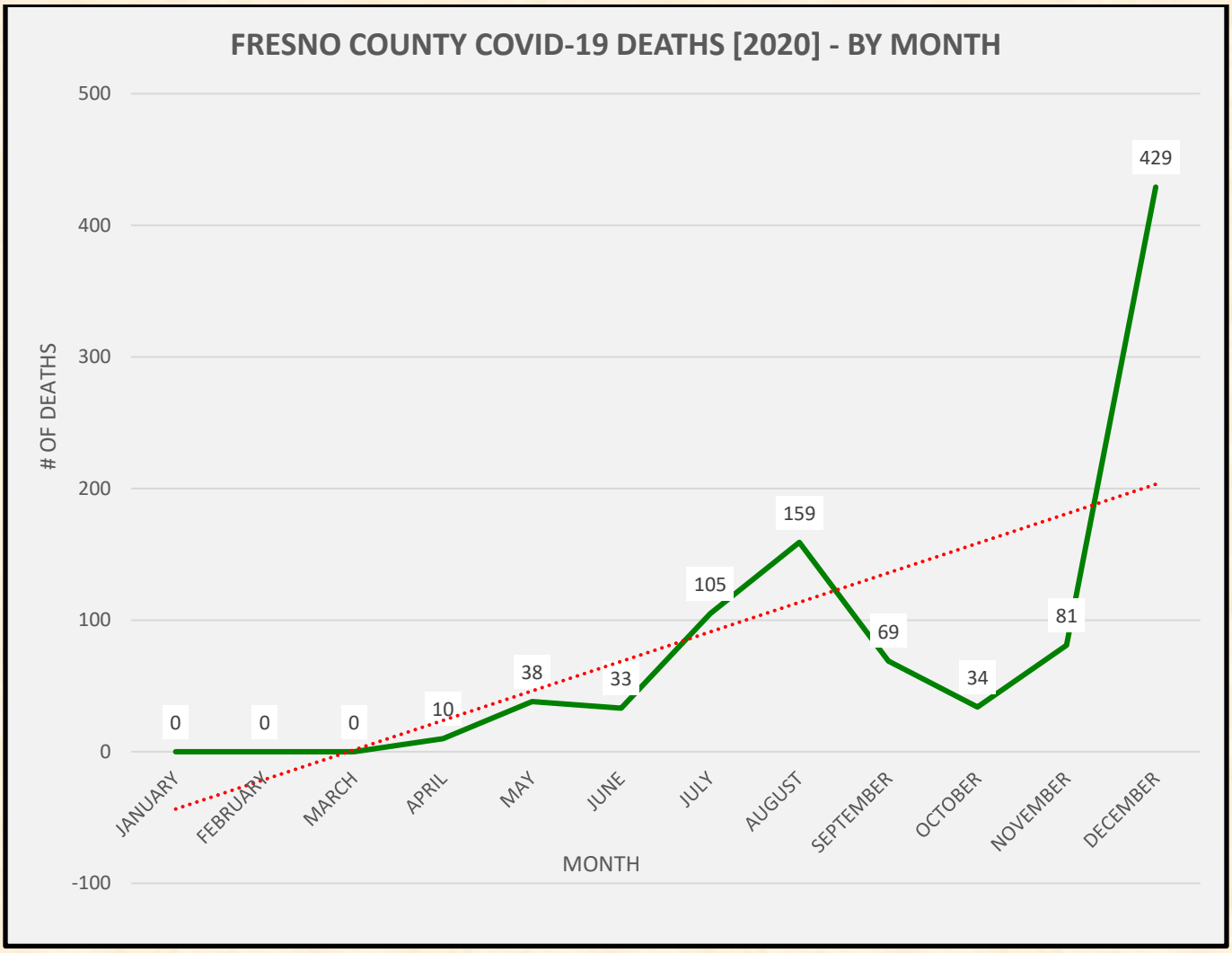
IN CUSTODY DEATH - GENDER DISTRIBUTION:

- **MALE: 17**
- **FEMALE: 1**

FRESNO COUNTY COVID-19 DEATH SUMMARY (2020):

TOTAL FRESNO COUNTY COVID-19 DEATHS [2020]: 958

- **COVID-19 LISTED AS PRIMARY CAUSE OF DEATH: 883**
- **COVID-19 LISTED AS CONTRIBUTING FACTOR: 75**



COVID-19 WAS LISTED AS THE PRIMARY CAUSE OF DEATH ON 883 DEATH CERTIFICATES

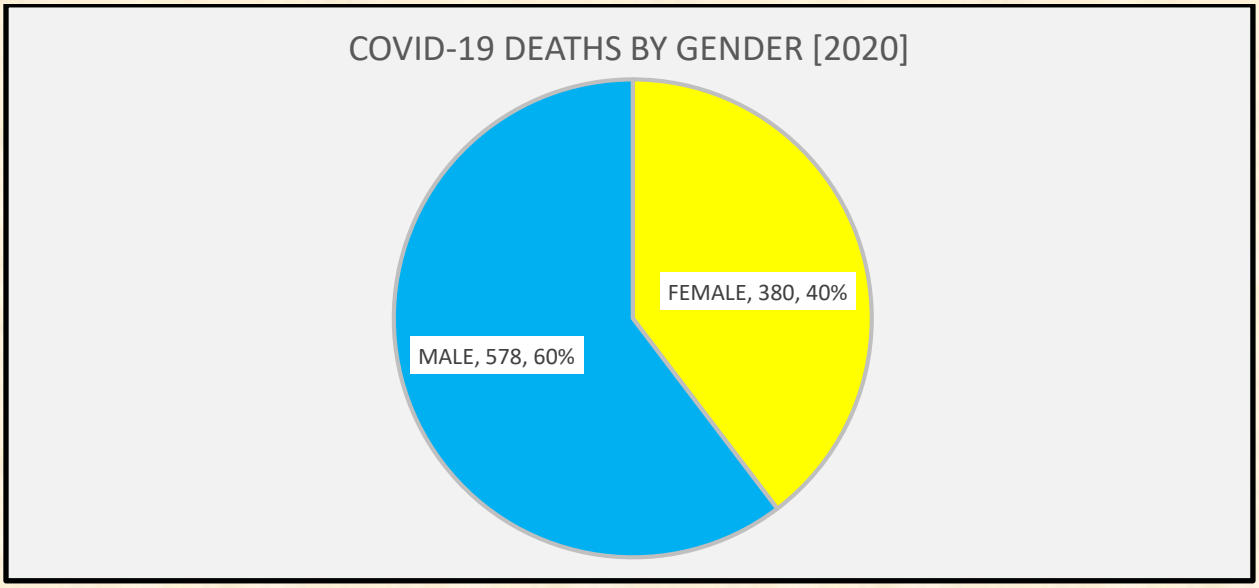
- **595 OF THE 883 DEATHS HAD OTHER CONTRIBUTING MEDICAL CONDITIONS**

*** TOTALS MAY DIFFER FROM FRESNO COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH AS THEIR COUNT ONLY INCLUDES FRESNO COUNTY RESIDENTS.**

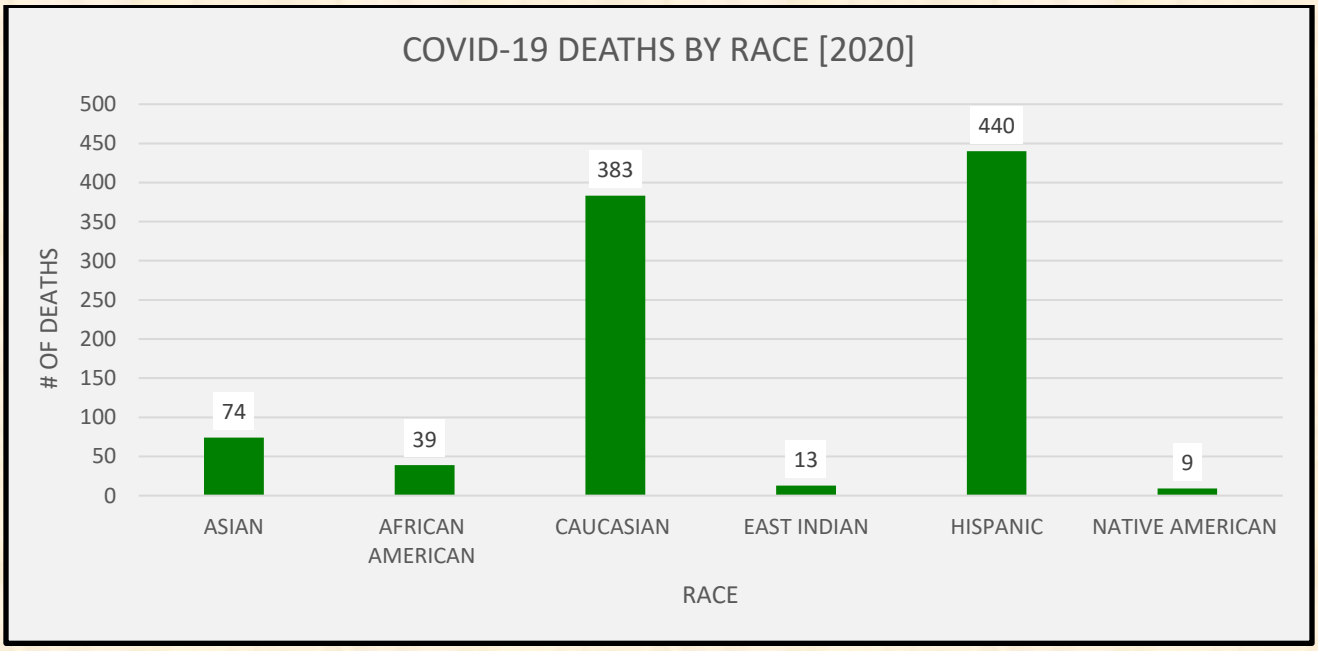
***COVID-19 STATISTICS GENERATED FROM 2020 FRESNO COUNTY FILED DEATH CERTIFICATES.**

FRESNO COUNTY COVID-19 DEATH SUMMARY (2020):

COVID-19 DEATHS BY GENDER:



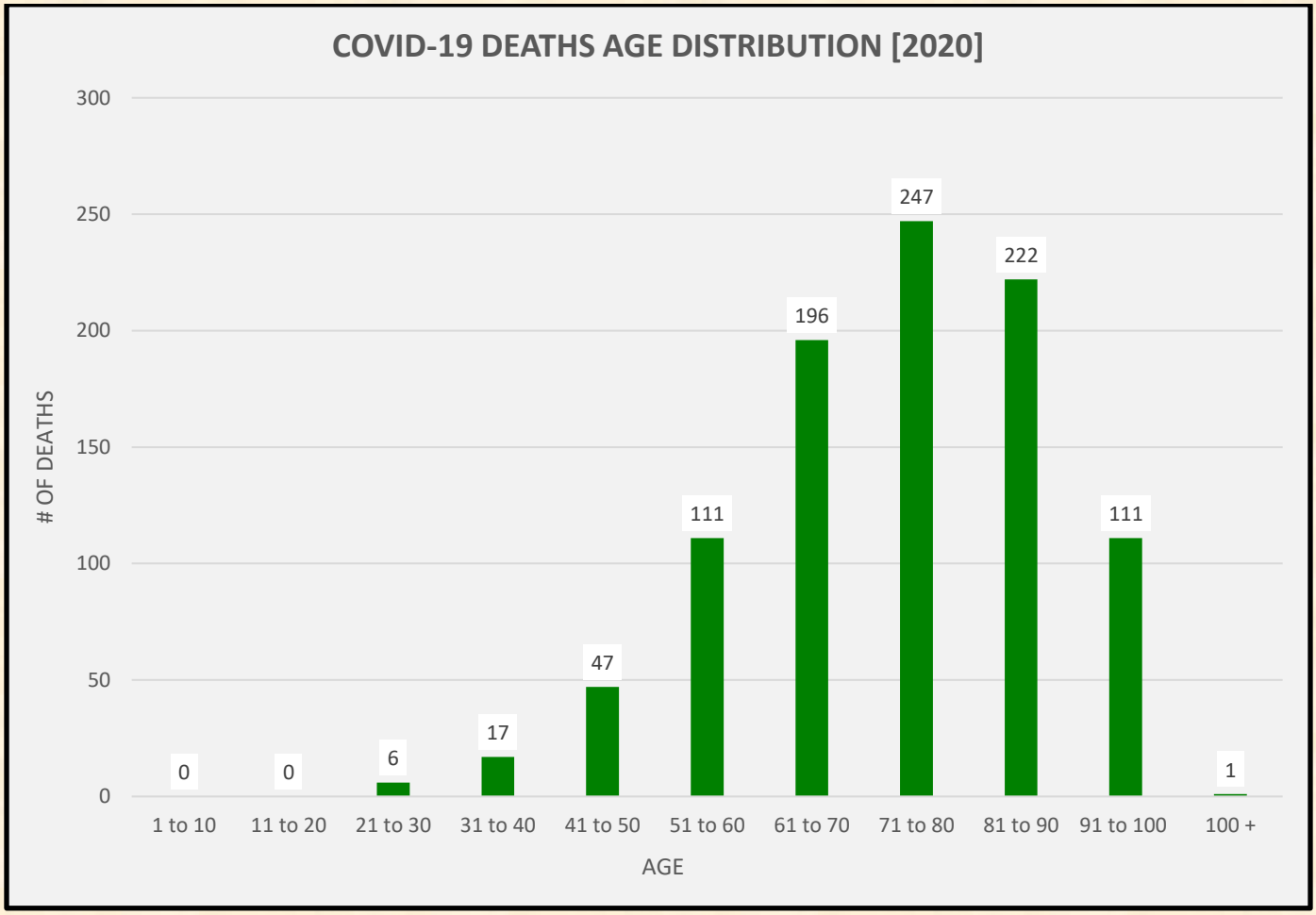
COVID-19 DEATHS BY RACE:



***COVID-19 STATISTICS GENERATED FROM 2020 FRESNO COUNTY FILED DEATH CERTIFICATES.**

FRESNO COUNTY COVID-19 DEATH SUMMARY (2020):

COVID-19 DEATHS AGE DISTRIBUTION:

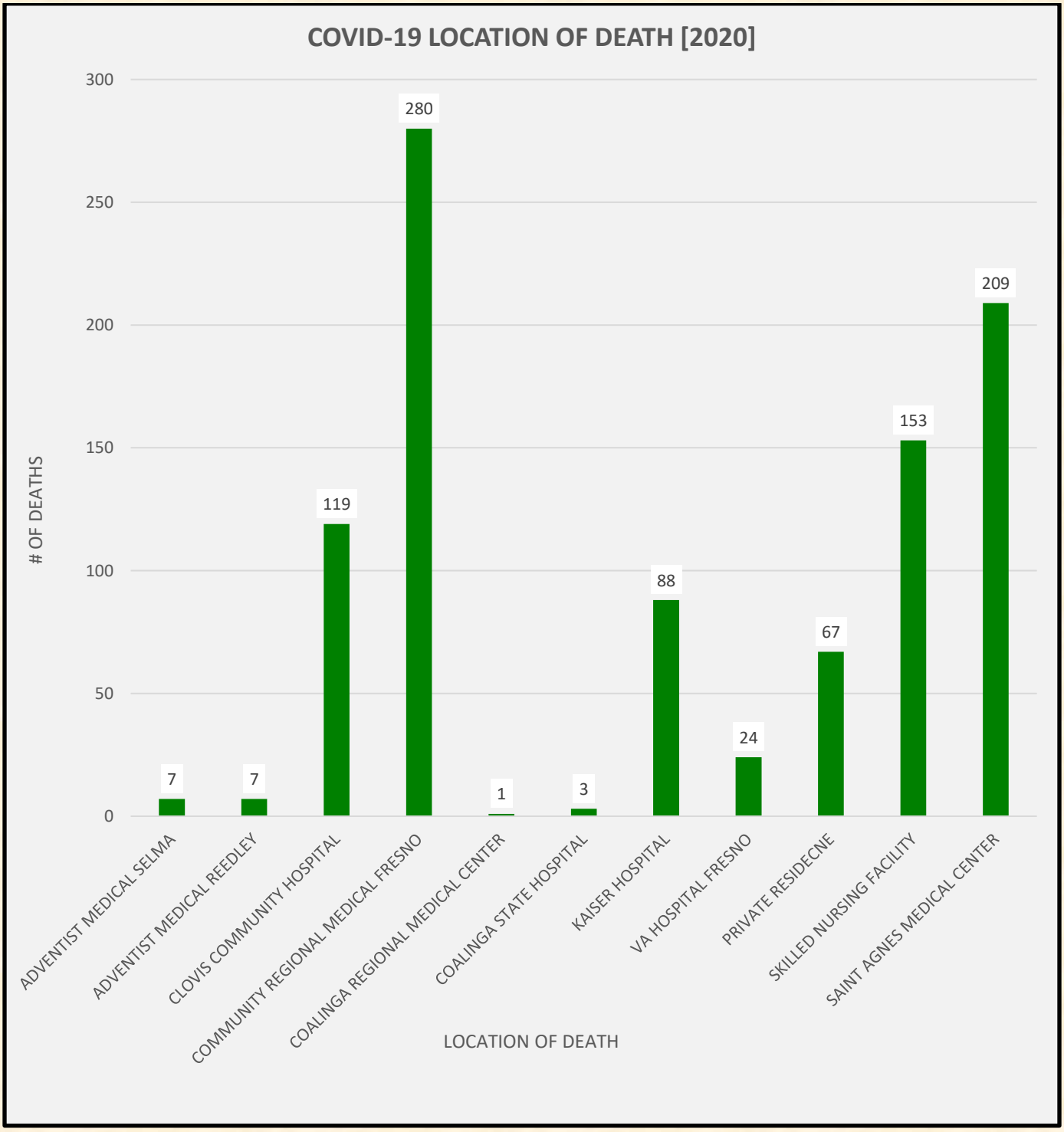


- **YOUNGEST COVID-19 DEATH IN FRESNO COUNTY: 20 YEARS**
- **OLDEST COVID-19 DEATH IN FRESNO COUNTY: 104 YEARS**
- **AVERAGE AGE COVID-19 DEATH IN FRESNO COUNTY: 73 YEARS**

***COVID-19 STATISTICS GENERATED FROM 2020 FRESNO COUNTY FILED DEATH CERTIFICATES.**

FRESNO COUNTY COVID-19 DEATH SUMMARY (2020):

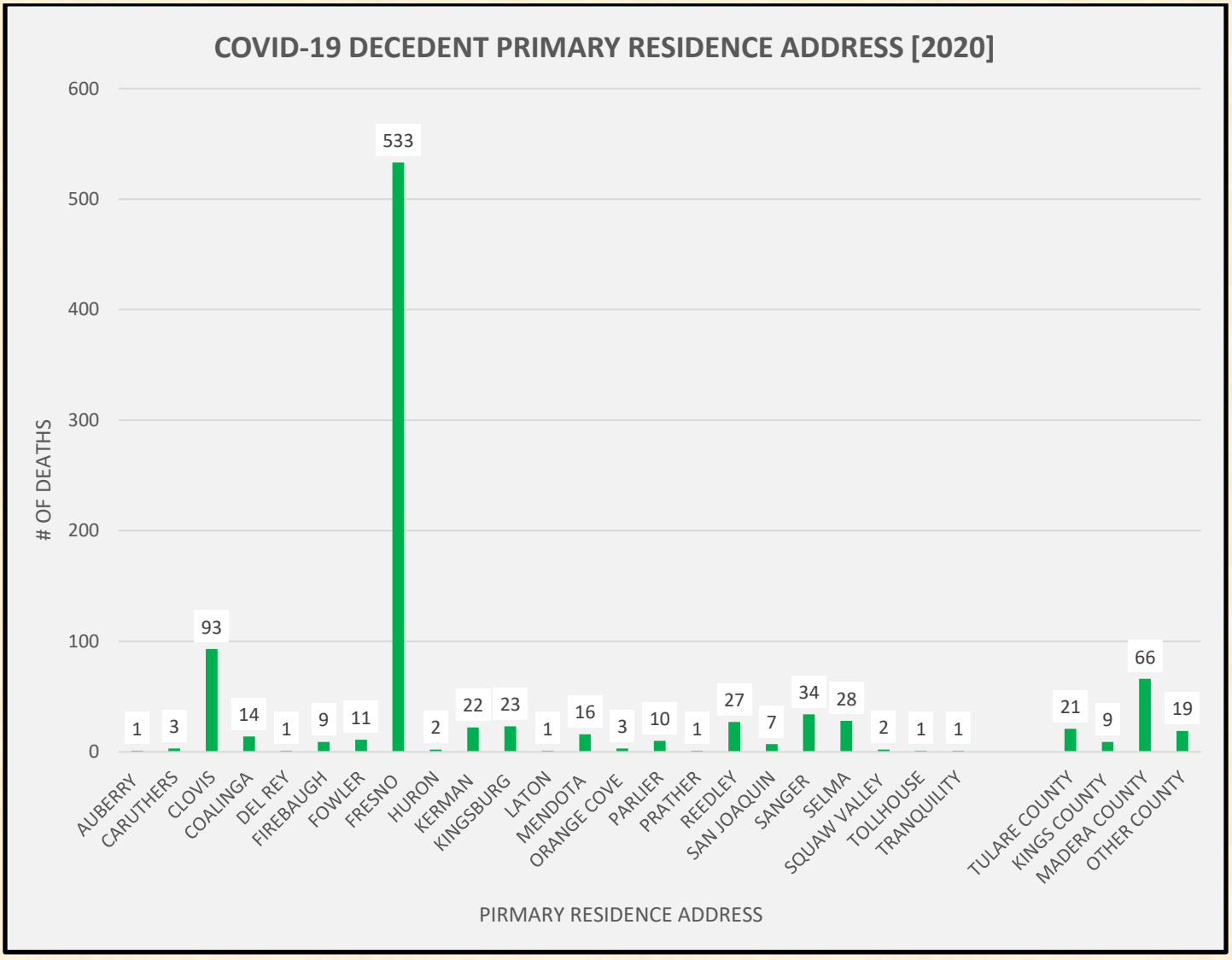
COVID-19 LOCATION OF DEATH:



***COVID-19 STATISTICS GENERATED FROM 2020 FRESNO COUNTY FILED DEATH CERTIFICATES.**

FRESNO COUNTY COVID-19 DEATH SUMMARY (2020):

COVID-19 DECEDENT PRIMARY RESIDENCE ADDRESS:



IN 2020 THERE WERE 958 FRESNO COUNTY COVID-19 DEATHS

- **115 OF THESE DECEDENTS HAD A PRIMARY ADDRESS OUTSIDE OF FRESNO COUNTY**

***COVID-19 STATISTICS GENERATED FROM 2020 FRESNO COUNTY FILED DEATH CERTIFICATES.**

SEAL OF THE SHERIFF-CORONER OF FRESNO COUNTY
SHERIFF
EUREKA
FRESNO COUNTY
Established 1856