FRESNO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

2021

CORONER UNIT STATISTICS

Margaret Mims, Sheriff-Coroner

Lt. Jon Alvarado, Unit Commander

Report Prepared by Jeff Gentry, Deputy Coroner

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

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Coroner Unit Staff:

Commander: Lt. Jon Alvarado

- **Chief Forensic Pathologist: Dr. Venu Gopal**
- **Forensic Pathologist: Dr. Angellee Chen**
- **Forensic Pathologist: Dr. Michael Chambliss**

Deputy Coroner Supervisor: Kelly Matlock

- **Deputy Coroner II: Loretta Andrews, Imron Ramos, Jeff Gentry, Leticia Funderburk, Sarah Davis**
- **Deputy Coroner I: Catherine Prieto, Christian Acosta**

Forensic Technician: George Franco, Monica Prieto, Marcella Halverson, Bianca Alvarado, Ophelie Kompaore

Summary:

The Fresno County Sheriff's Office (coroner unit) investigates all suspicious, unnatural, and unexpected deaths that occur in Fresno County. The deputy coroner investigators are responsible for death investigations in all 6,011 square miles of Fresno County. The forensic pathologists determine both cause and manner of death for all coroner case death investigations.

In 2021, there were 10,925 deaths in Fresno County. Of those deaths, 6085 were reported to the coroner unit for review. The coroner unit accepted 1390 of those reported deaths as coroner cases and performed an examination, toxicology testing, or medical record review to determine the cause and manner of death.

All reported statistics subject to change pending additional death investigation.

Report created 09/13/2022.

LEGEND:

OVERALL CORONER UNIT STATISTICS: PG. 4 – 7

- TOTAL FRESNO COUNTY DEATHS: PG. 4
- CORONER CASE INVESTIGATIONS: PG. 5 - 6
- PATHOLOGIST EXAMINATIONS: PG. 7
- BODIES TRANSPORTED TO CORONER MORGUE: PG. 7

ACCIDENT - MOTOR VEHICLE RELATED: PG. 8

ACCIDENT - OTHER: PG. 8

ACCIDENT - OVERDOSE: PG. 9 - 12

- DRUG OVERDOSE TRENDS: PG. 9
- SINGLE DRUG OVERDOSE: PG. 10
- COMBINED DRUG OVERDOSE: PG. 11
- FENTANYL OVERDOSE TRENDS PG. 12

SUICIDE: PG. 13 - 14

- SUICIDE TRENDS: PG. 13

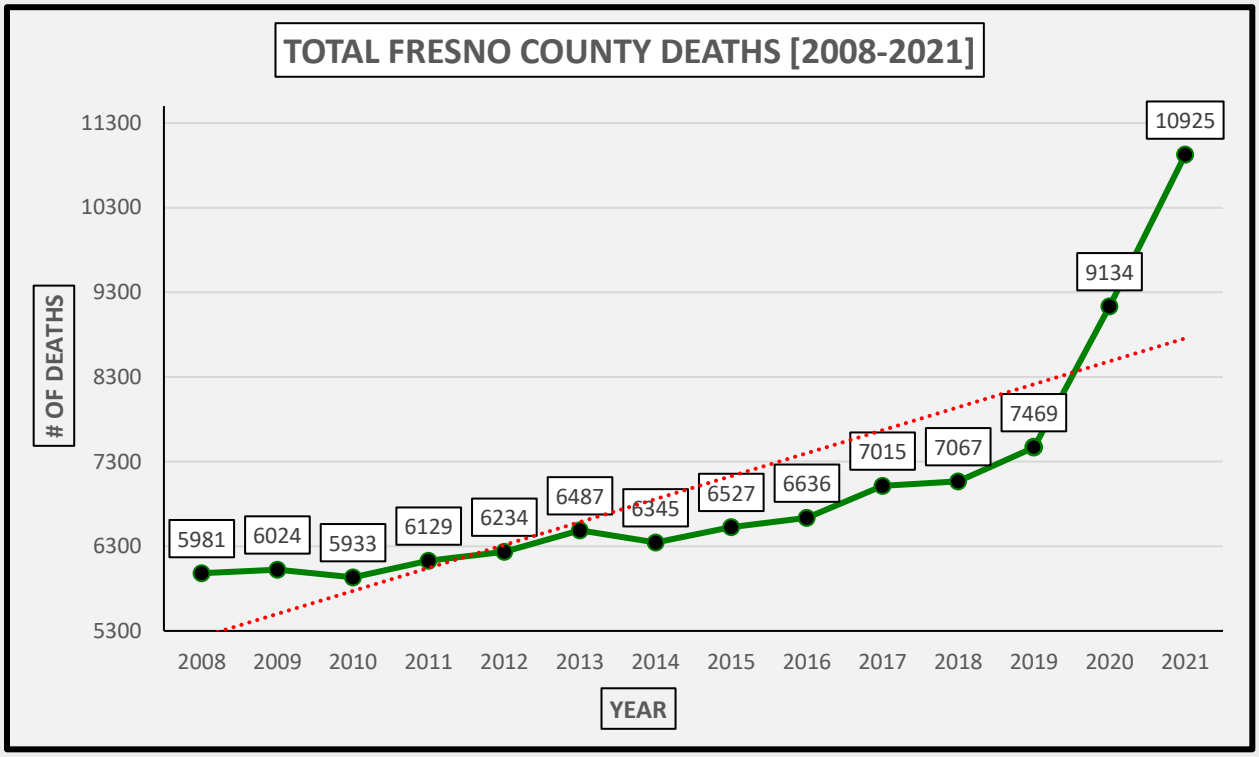
HOMICIDE: PG. 15 - 17

- HOMICIDE TRENDS: PG. 15

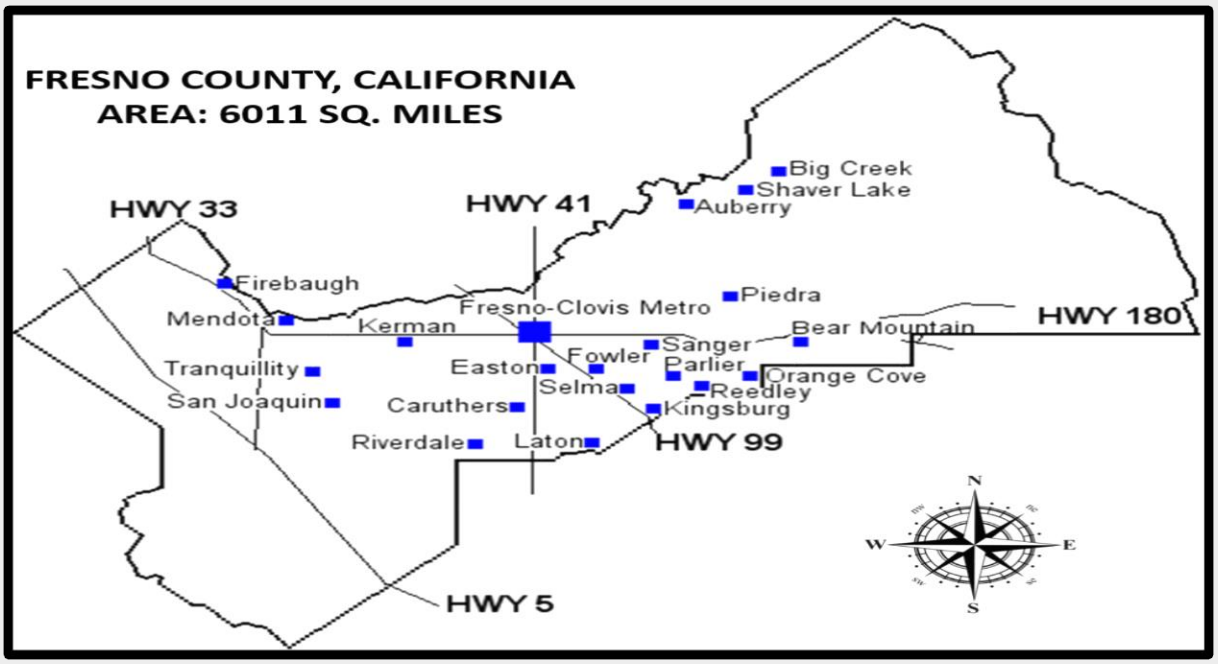
IN CUSTODY / OFFICER INVOLVED DEATHS: PG. 16

OVERALL (2021):

➢ TOTAL FRESNO COUNTY DEATHS (2021): 10925

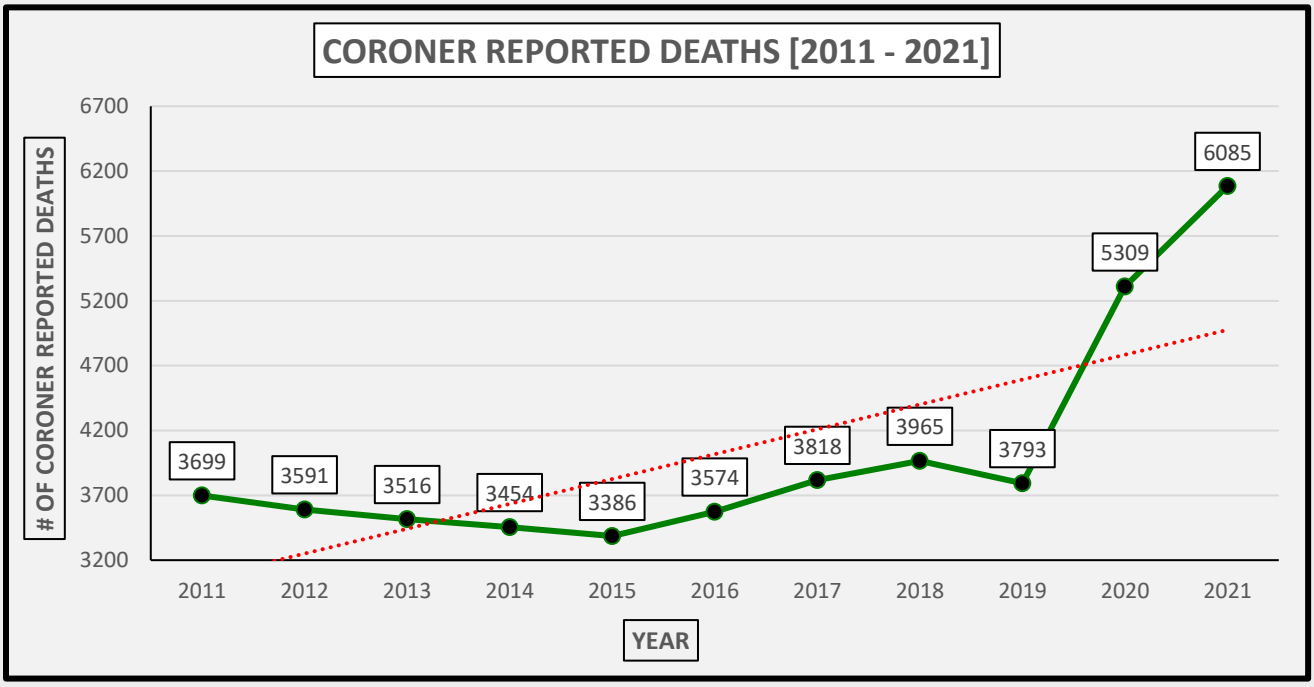


➢ FRESNO COUNTY MAP:

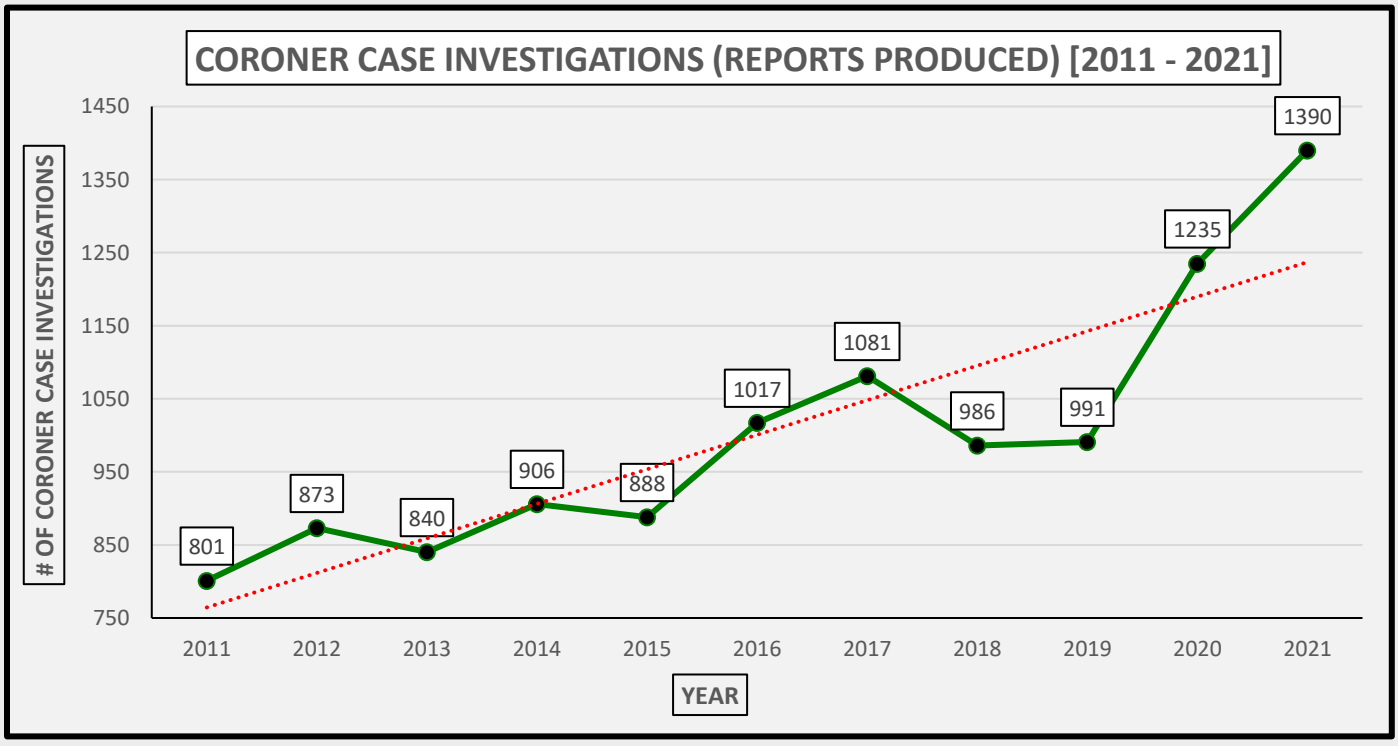


OVERALL (2021):

➢ CORONER REPORTED DEATHS (2021): 6085



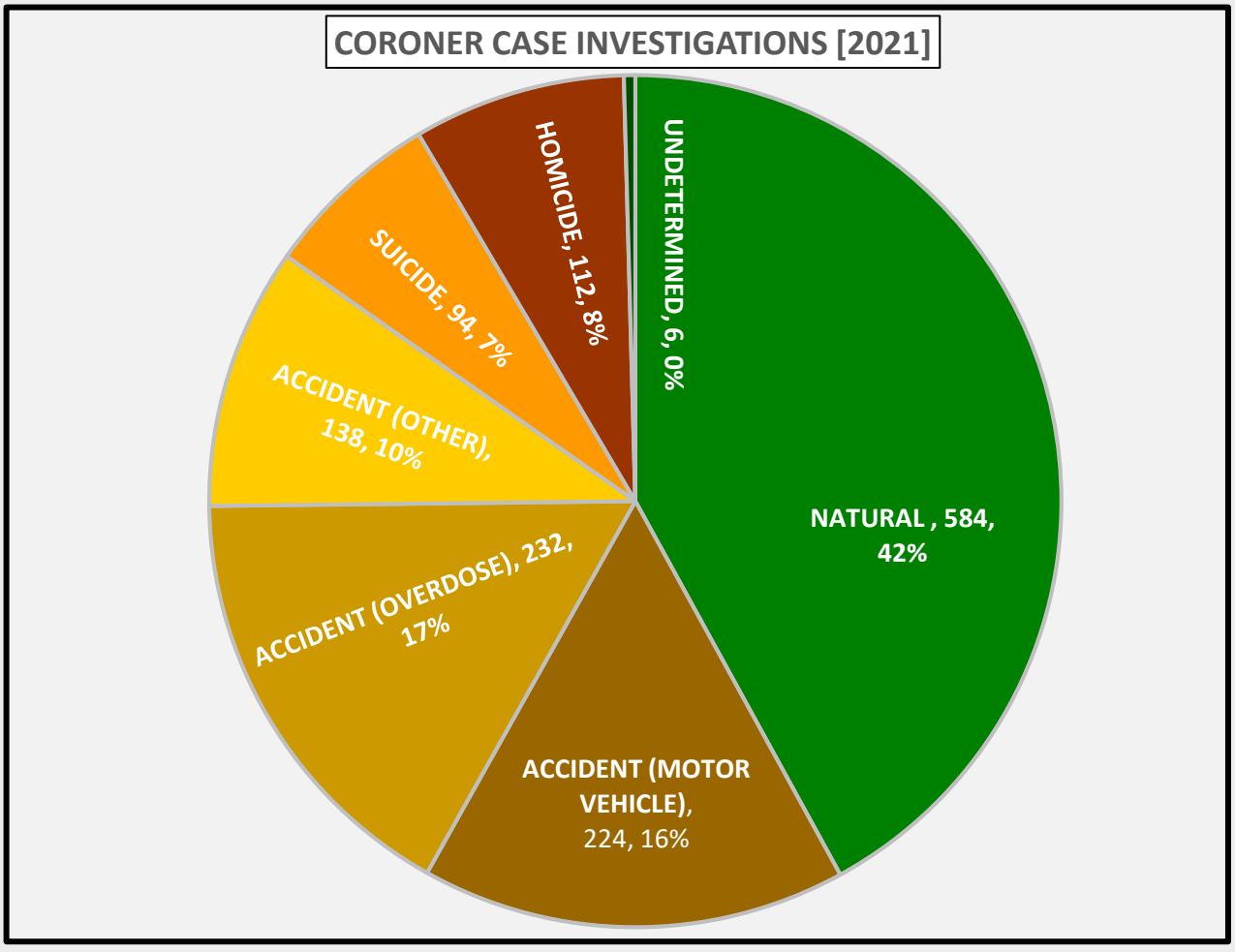
➢ CORONER CASE INVESTIGATIONS (REPORTS PRODUCED) (2021): 1390



OVERALL (2021):

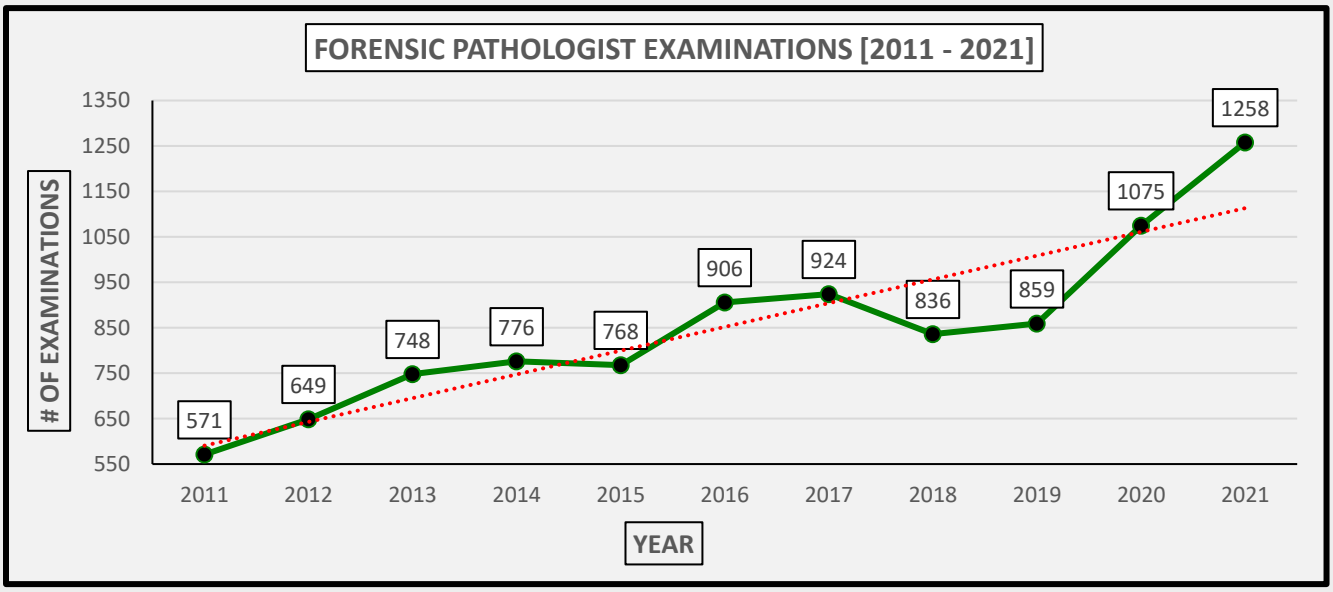
TOTAL CORONER CASES: 1390

- **NATURAL: 584**
- **ACCIDENT: 594**
  - **MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT: 224**
  - **OVERDOSE: 232**
  - **OTHER ACCIDENTS: 138**
- **SUICIDE: 94**
- **HOMICIDE: 112**
- **UNDETERMINED: 6**



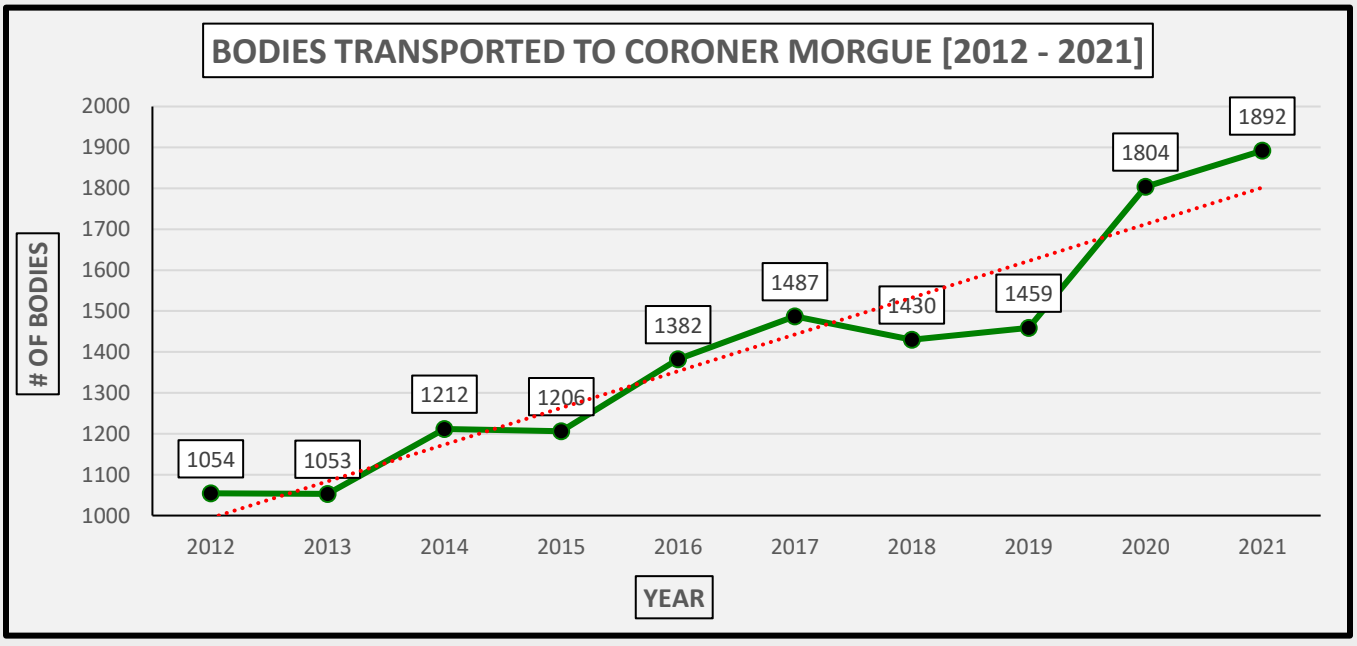
OVERALL (2021):

TOTAL FORENSIC PATHOLOGIST EXAMINATIONS (2021): 1258



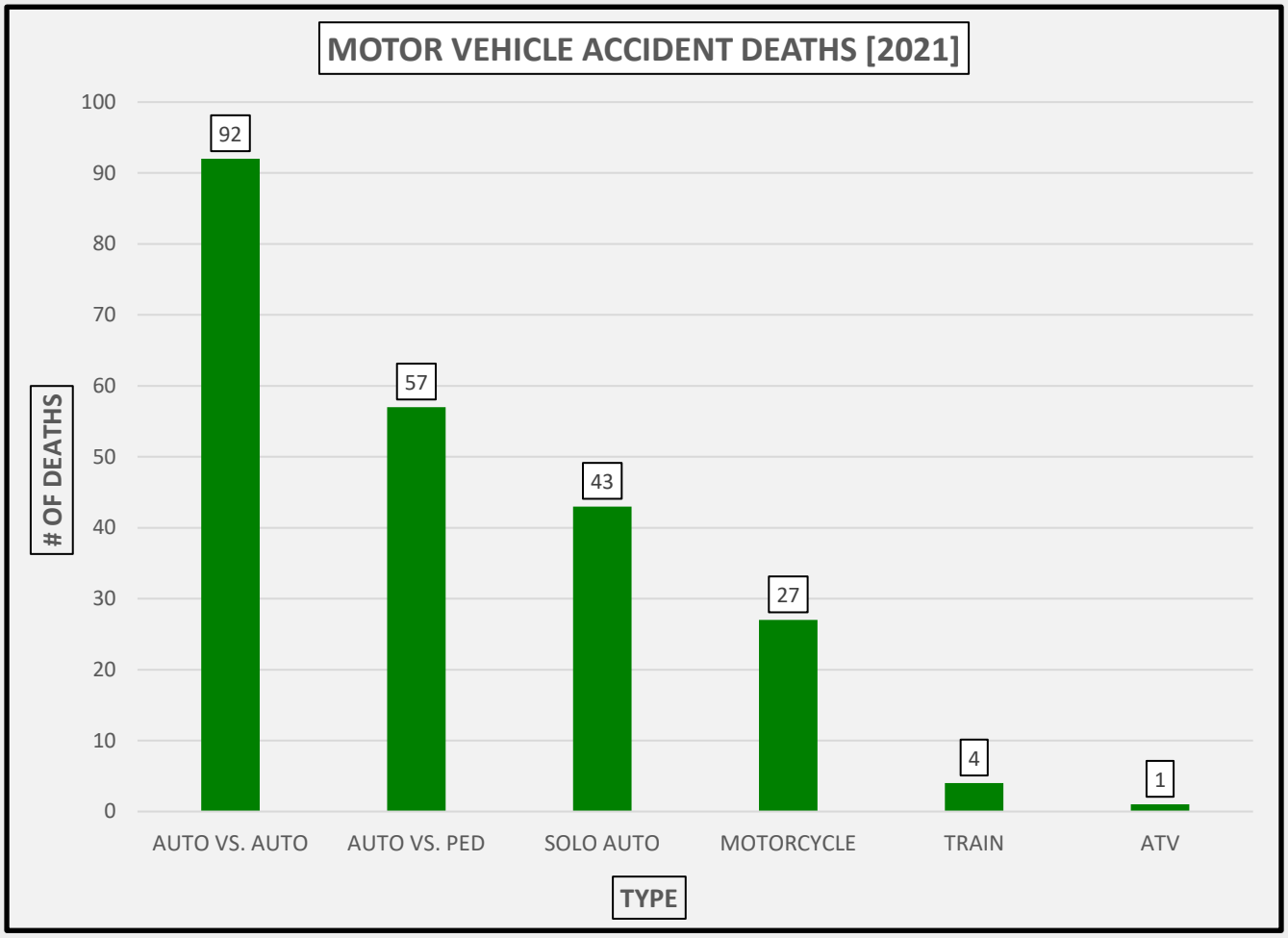
- **AUTOPSY EXAMINATIONS (2021): 501**
- **EXTERNAL EXAMINATIONS / TOXICOLOGY / MEDICAL RECORD REVIEW: 757**

BODIES TRANSPORTED TO CORONER MORGUE (2021): 1892



MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS (2021):

MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT (MVA) DEATHS (2021): 224



- **AUTO VS. AUTO: 92**
- **AUTO VS. PED: 57**
- **SOLO AUTO: 43**
- **MOTORCYCLE: 27**
- **TRAIN: 4**
- **ATV: 1**

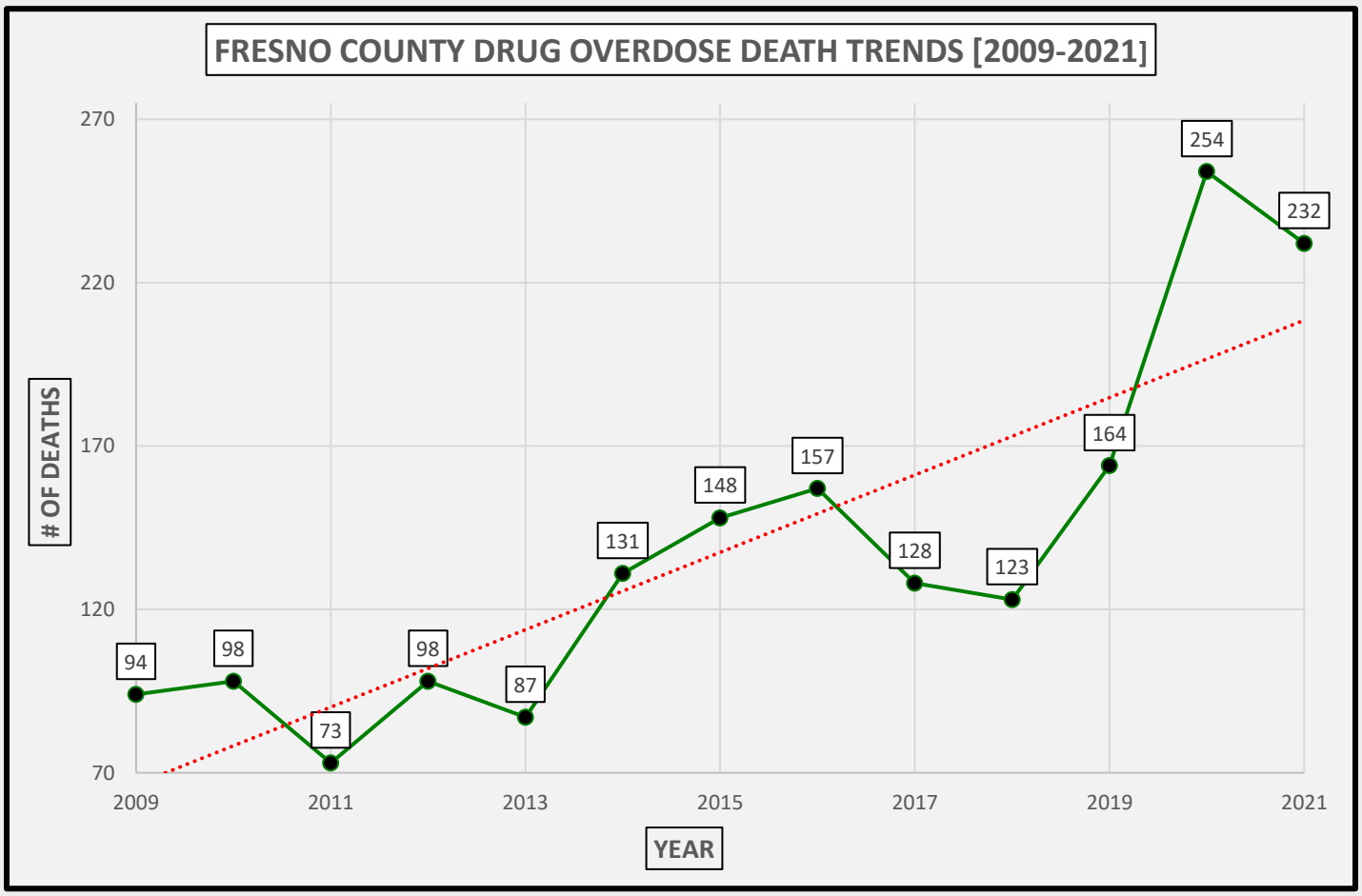
OTHER ACCIDENT DEATHS: 138

ANIMAL RELATED: 1	**ASPHYXIATION: 1**	**FIRE: 14**	**FALL: 79**
CARBON MONOXIDE: 3	**HEAT RELATED: 2**	**INDUSTRIAL: 4**	**CHOKING: 6**
GUNSHOT WOUND: 3	**DROWNING: 10**	**ELECTROCUTION: 2**	**OTHER: 13**

OVERDOSE (2021):

TOTAL ACCIDENT OVERDOSE DEATHS (2021): 232

- **SINGLE DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS: 171**
- **COMBINED DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS: 61**



OVERDOSE (GENDER):

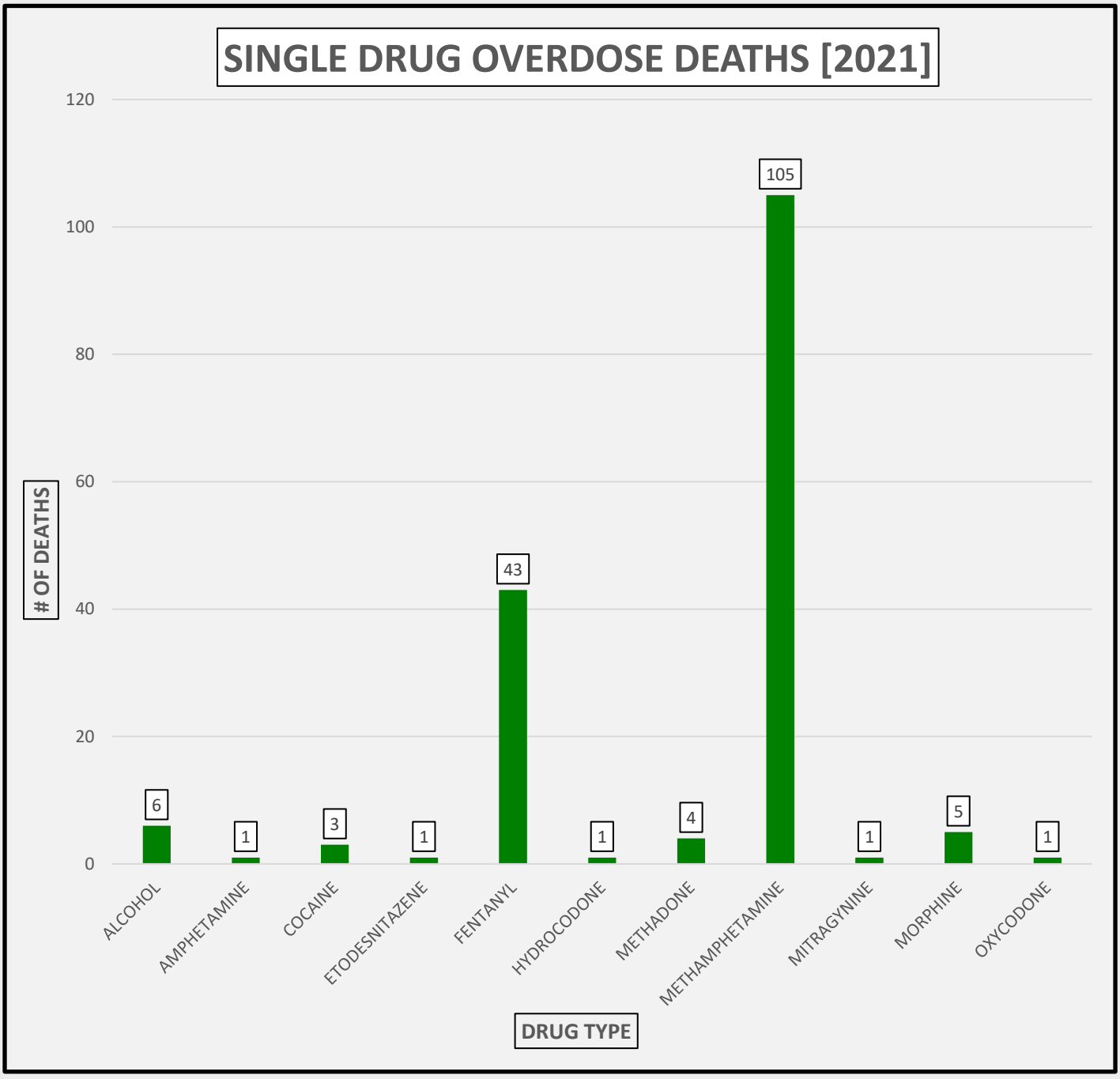
- **MALE: 176**
- **FEMALE: 56**

OVERDOSE AGE RANGE:

- **0-9: 1**
- **10-20: 10**
- **21-30: 44**
- **31-40: 50**
- **41-50: 37**
- **51-60: 52**
- **61-70: 36**
- **71-80: 2**

OVERDOSE (2021):

SINGLE DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS: 171



- **METHAMPHETAMINE WAS PRESENT IN (105) 61% OF SINGLE DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS.**
- **FENTANYL WAS PRESENT IN (43) 25% OF SINGLE DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS.**

OVERDOSE (2021):

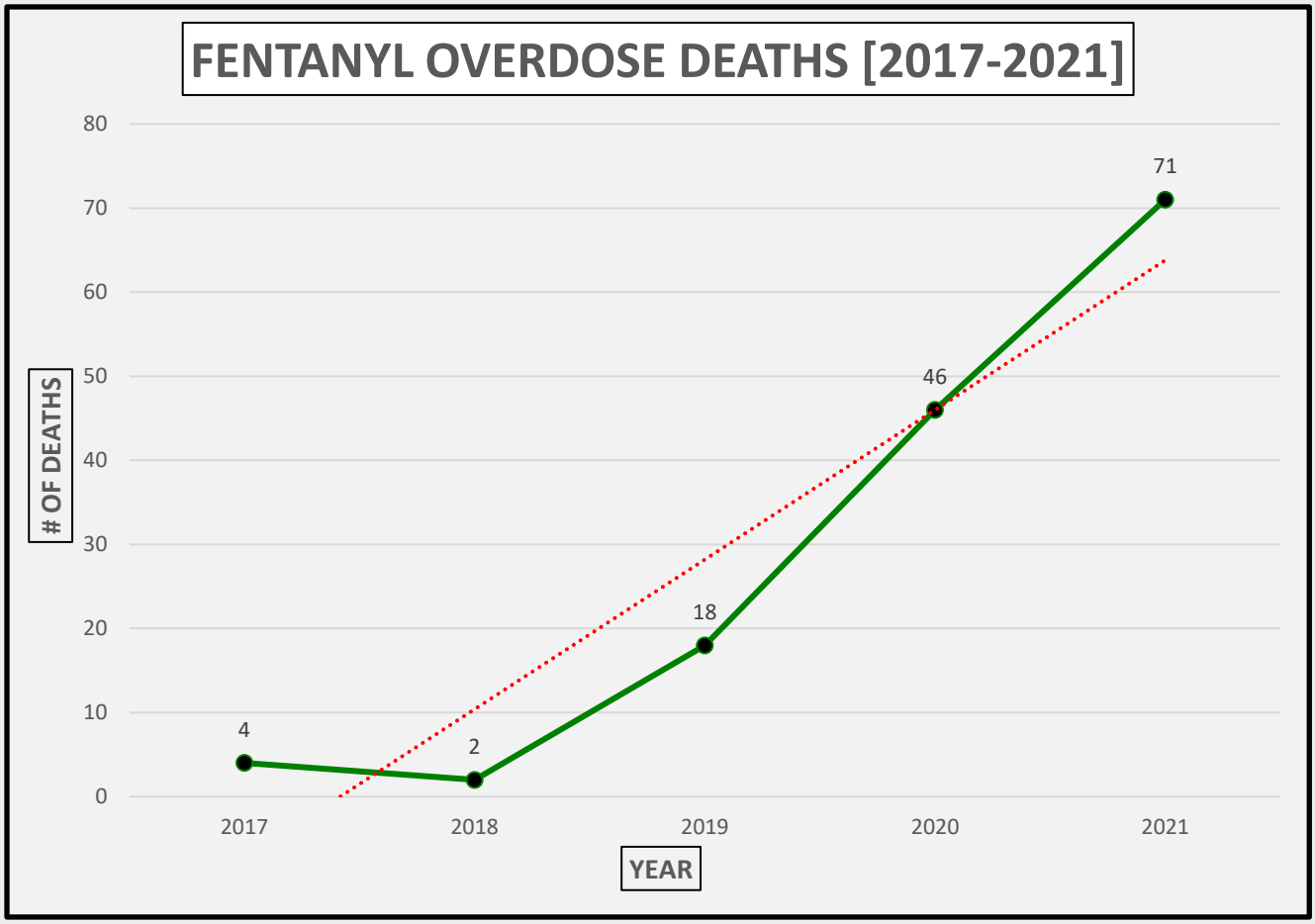
COMBINED DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS: 61

- **ALCOHOL, AMITRIPTYLINE, METHAMPHETAMINE: 1**
- **ALCOHOL, BUPROPION, DIPHENHYDRAMINE, MITRAGYNINE: 1**
- **ALCOHOL, COCAINE: 2**
- **ALCOHOL, DIPHENHYDRAMINE: 1**
- **ALCOHOL, DIPHENHYDRAMINE, HYDROXYZINE: 1**
- **ALCOHOL, FENTANYL: 4**
- **ALCOHOL, LIDOCAINE: 1**
- **ALCOHOL, METHAMPHETAMINE: 4**
- **ALCOHOL, OPIATES: 1**
- **BUPROPION, CITALOPRAM, HYDROXYZINE: 1**
- **CITALOPRAM, HYDROCODONE, LAMOTRIGINE, METHAMPHETAMINE: 1**
- **COCAINE, FENTANYL: 3**
- **COCAINE, METHAMPHETAMINE: 1**
- **DIPHENHYDRAMINE, HYDROXYZINE: 1**
- **DIPHENHYDRAMINE, METHADONE: 1**
- **DIPHENHYDRAMINE, METHAMPHETAMINE: 1**
- **DULOXETINE, TRAMADOL: 1**
- **FENTANYL, GABAPENTIN, VENLAFAXINE: 1**
- **FENTANYL, HEROIN, METHAMPHETAMINE: 1**
- **FENTANYL, MDMA (ECSTASY): 2**
- **FENTANYL, METHADONE, METHAMPHETAMINE: 1**
- **FENTANYL, METHADONE, MORPHINE: 1**
- **FENTANYL, METHAMPHETAMINE: 13**
- **FENTANYL, METHAMPHETMAINE, PHENCYCLIDINE (PCP): 1**
- **FENTANYL, MORPHINE: 1**
- **HYDROCODONE, MORPHINE: 2**
- **HYDROCODONE, OXYCODONE: 1**
- **METHADONE, METHAMPHETAMINE: 1**
- **METHADONE, MORPHINE: 2**
- **METHAMPHETAMINE, MORPHINE: 1**
- **MITRAGRYNINE, PHENTERMINE, TRAMADOL: 1**
- **OPIATES, METHAMPHETAMINE: 5**
- **POLY SUBSTANCE: 1**

- **METHAMPHETAMINE WAS PRESENT IN (28) 45% OF COMBINED DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS.**
- **FENTANYL WAS PRESENT IN (28) 45% OF COMBINED DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS.**
- **ALCOHOL WAS PRESENT IN (15) 25% OF COMBINED DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS.**

OVERDOSE (2021):

FENTANYL OVERDOSE DEATH TRENDS [2017 – 2021]



TOTAL DEATHS INVOLVING FENTANYL [2021]: 71

FENTANYL OVERDOSE GENDER [2021]:

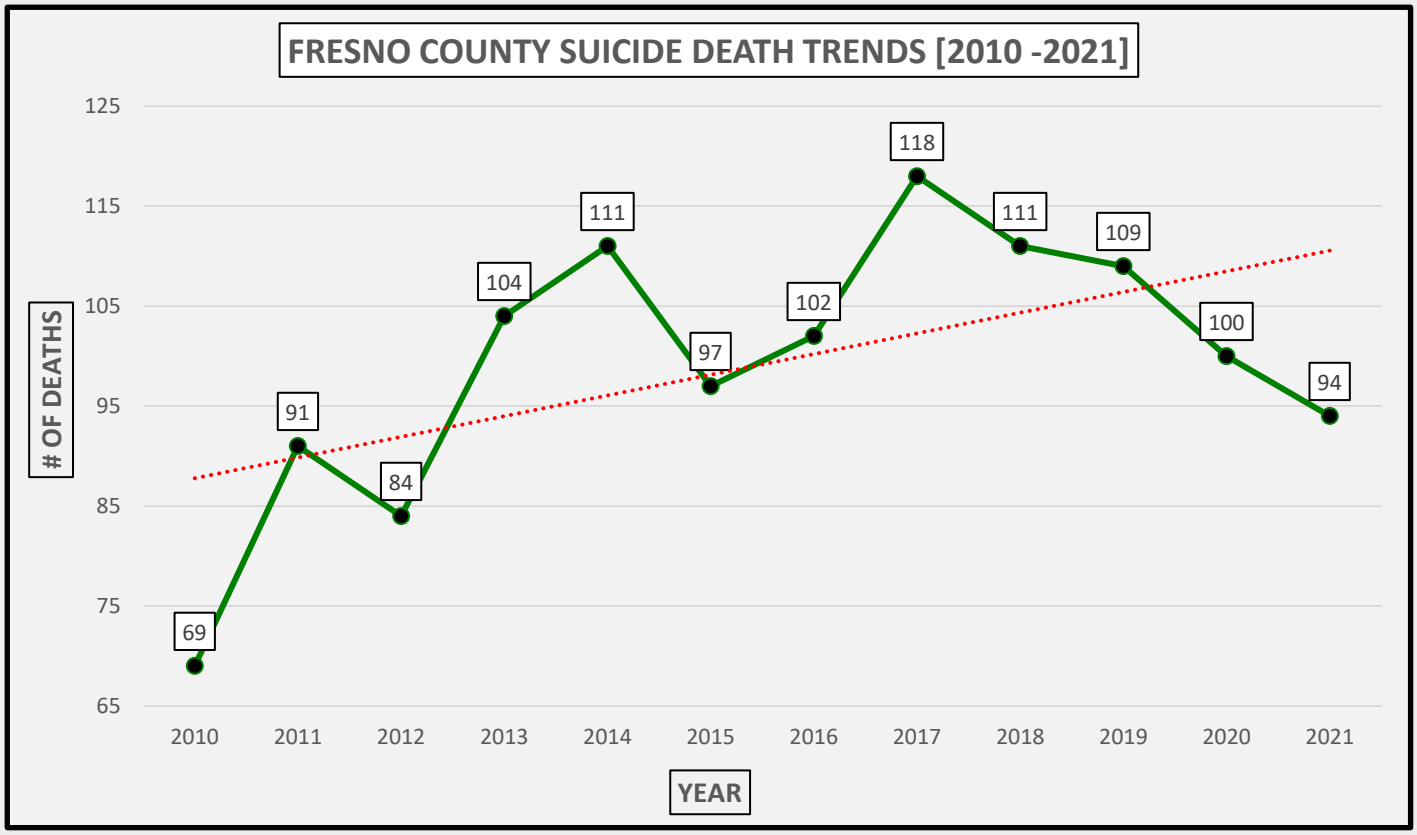
- **MALE: 53**
- **FEMALE: 18**

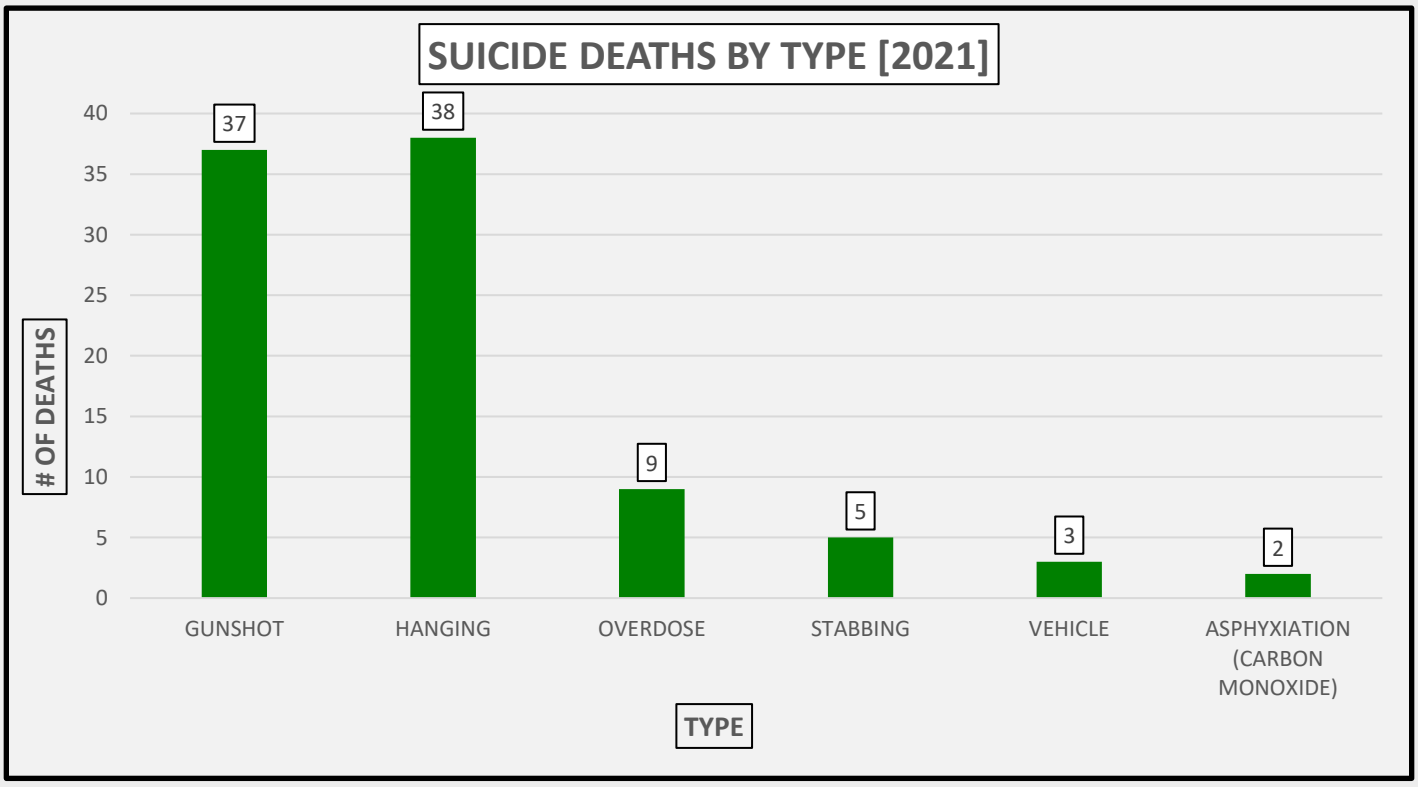
FENTANYL OVERDOSE AGE RANGE [2021]:

- **10-20: 9**
- **21-30: 23**
- **31-40: 17**
- **41-50: 9**
- **51-60: 8**
- **61-70: 5**

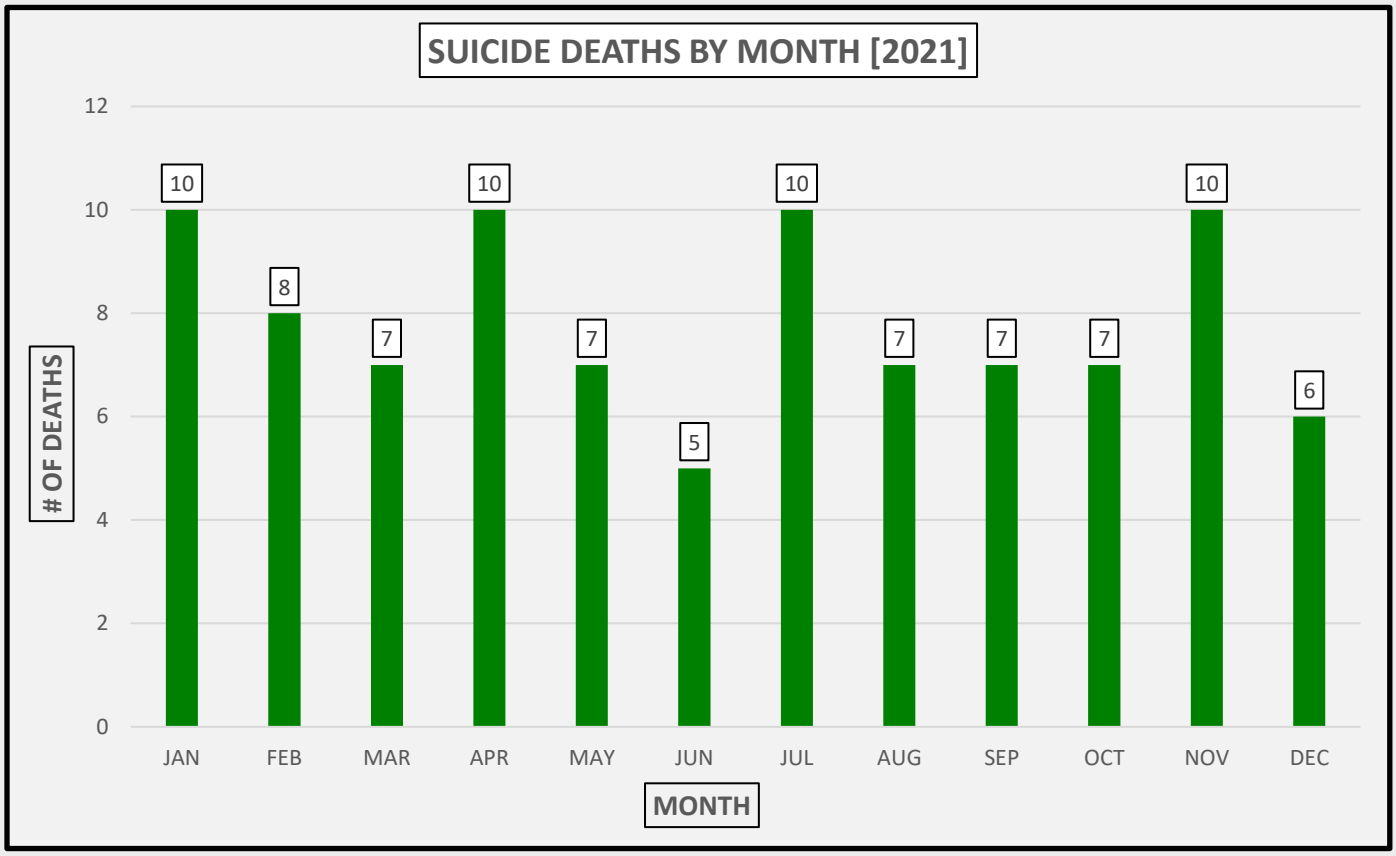
SUICIDE (2021):

SUICIDE DEATHS (2021): 94





SUICIDE (2021):



SUICIDE GENDER [2021] :

- **MALE: 78**
- **FEMALE: 16**

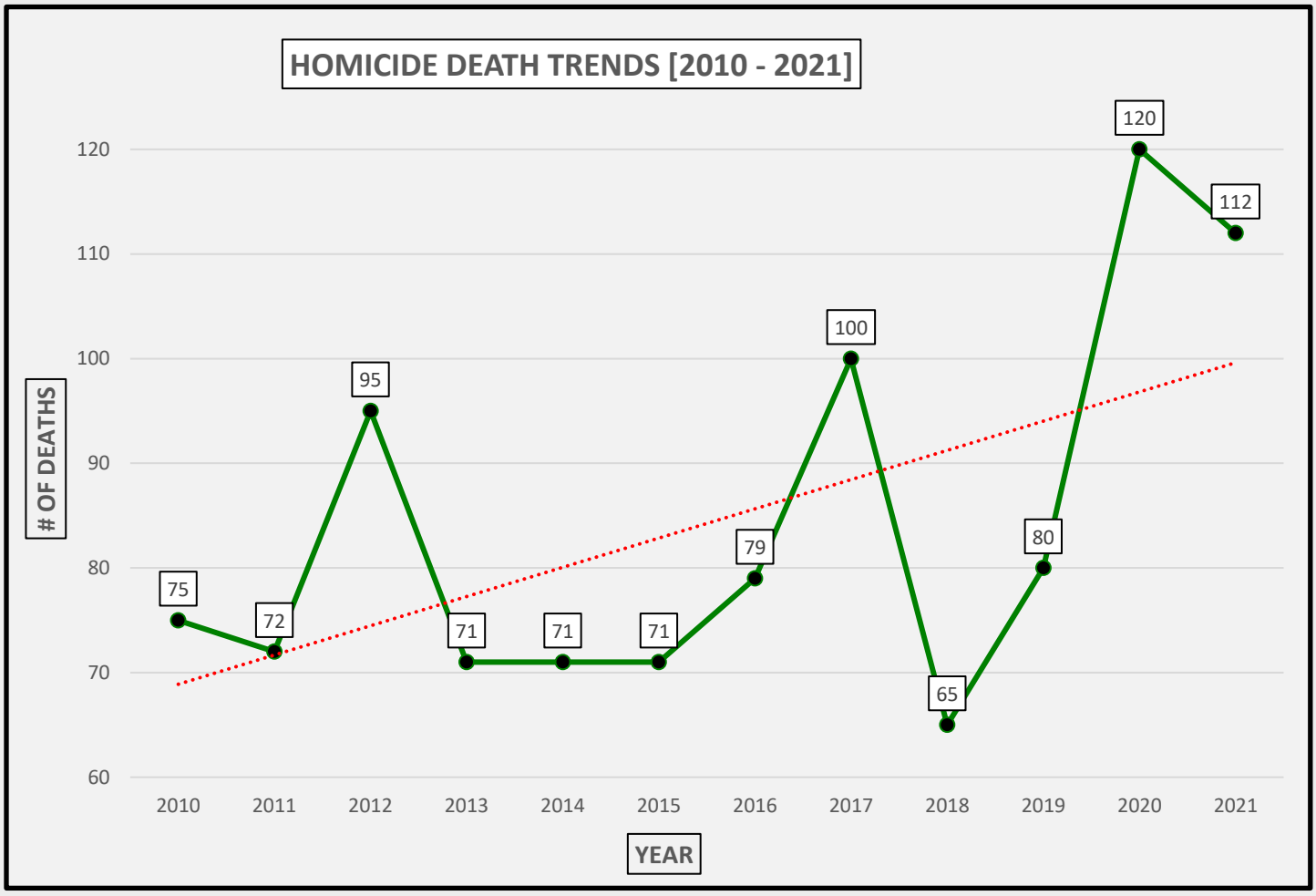
SUICIDE AGE RANGE [2021] :

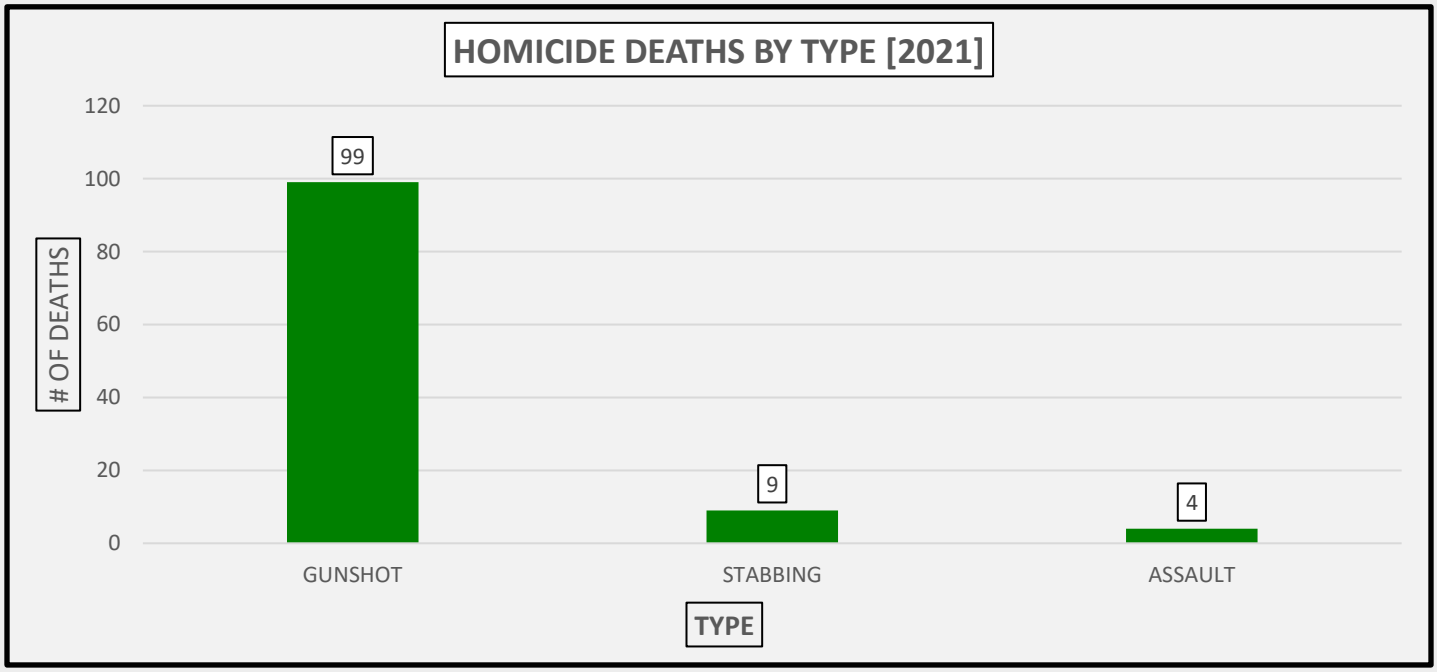
- **10-20: 4**
- **21-30: 19**
- **31-40: 28**
- **41-50: 14**
- **51-60: 10**
- **61-70: 10**
- **71-80: 6**
- **81-90: 3**

- **YOUNGEST SUICIDE: 14 YEARS**
- **OLDEST SUICIDE: 89 YEARS**
- **AVERAGE SUICIDE AGE: 44 YEARS**

HOMICIDE (2021):

HOMICIDE DEATHS (2021): 112





HOMICIDE (2021):

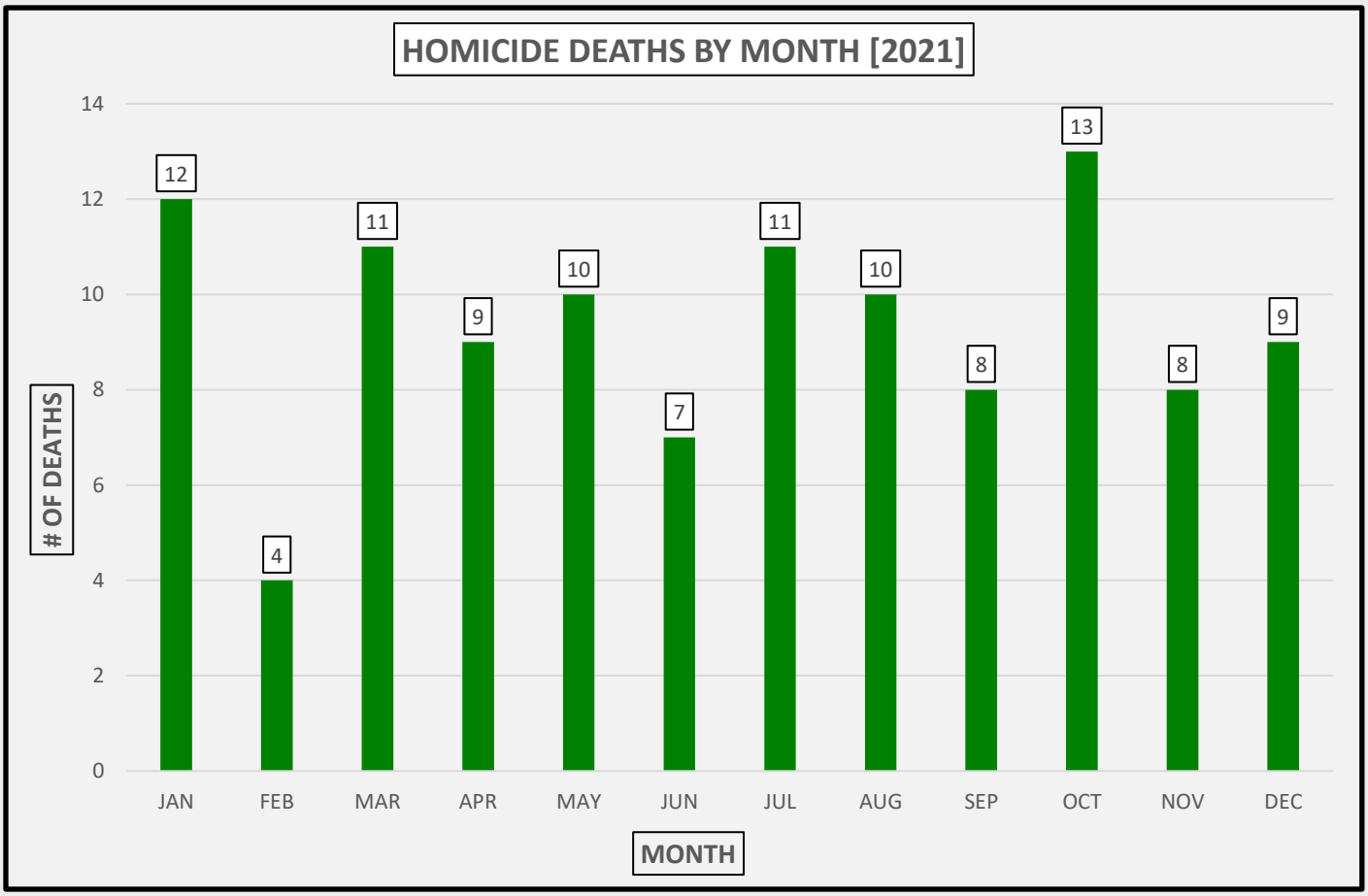
HOMICIDE GENDER [2021] :

- **MALE: 94**
- **FEMALE: 18**

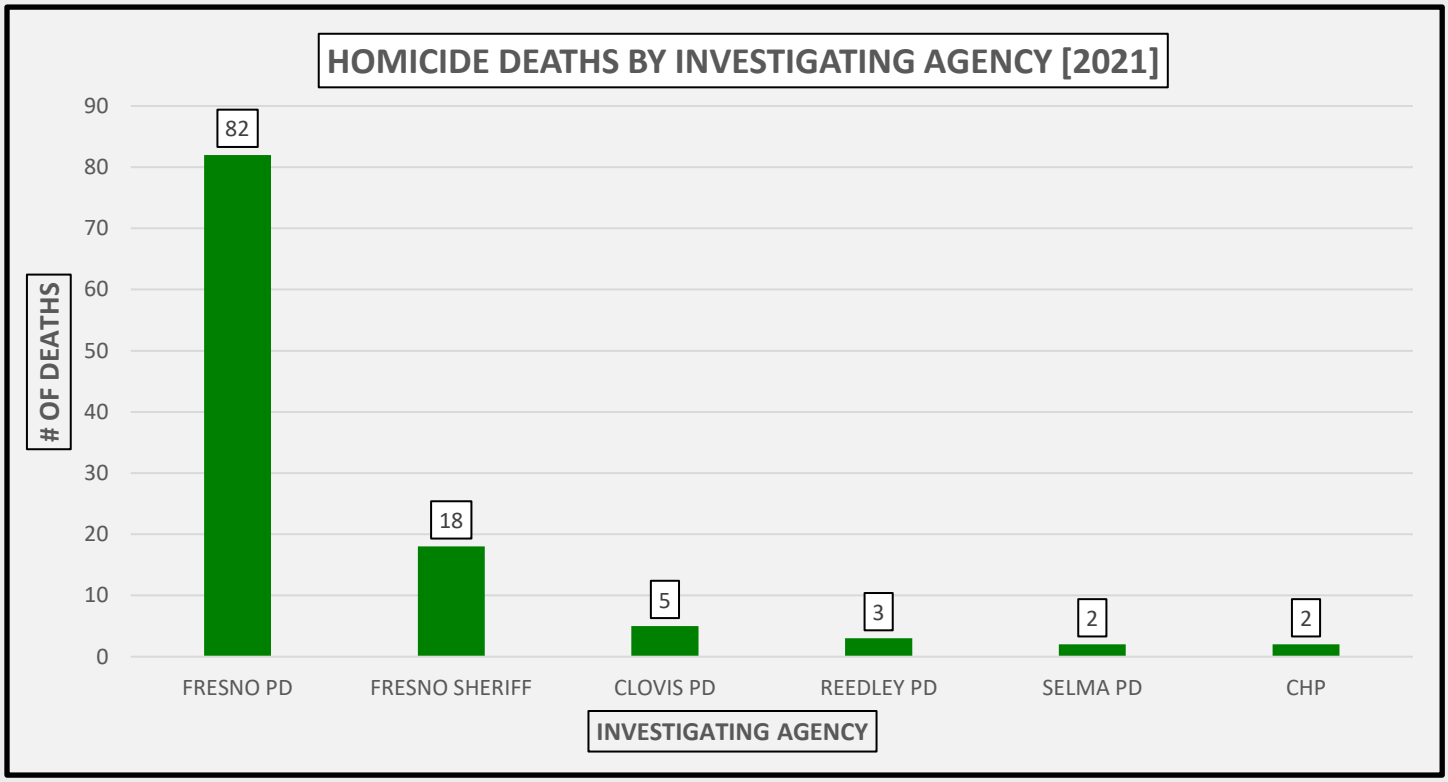
HOMICIDE AGE RANGE [2021] :

- **1-9: 4**
- **10-20: 15**
- **21-30: 38**
- **31-40: 27**
- **41-50: 12**
- **51-60: 8**
- **61-70: 7**
- **71-80: 1**

- **YOUNGEST HOMICIDE: 1 YEAR**
- **OLDEST HOMICIDE: 73 YEARS**
- **AVERAGE HOMICIDE AGE: 33 YEARS**



HOMICIDE (2021):



IN-CUSTODY / OFFICER INVOLVED DEATHS (2021): 17

FRESNO COUNTY JAIL: 5

- **NATURAL: 2**
- **SUICIDE: 1**
- **ACCIDENT: 1**
- **PENDING: 1**

COALINGA STATE HOSPITAL: 7

- **NATURAL: 7**

MENDOTA FEDERAL PRISON: 1

- **SUICIDE: 1**

FRESNO POLICE DEPARTMENT: 4

- **FOLLOWING PURSUIT: 2**
- **OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING: 1**
- **PENDING: 1**

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