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2016 Summit County Deaths Breakdown by Manner and Cause of Death

Natural -

Cardiac- 23
High altitude pulmonary edema: 2
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease: 2
Cerebral hemorrhage: 2
Aortic aneurysm: 2
Pulmonary embolism: 1
Cancer: 2
Hospice: 12

Accidental -

Overdose: 4
Sepsis-burn related: 1
Subdural bleed from fall: 1
Blunt force trauma, ski related: 7
Blunt force trauma, motor vehicle crash: 8
Positional asphyxiation - 1

Suicide-

Overdose: 2
Hanging: 1
Asphyxiation: 2
Drowning: 1
Gunshot wound: 5
Motor vehicle crash: 2

Undetermined-

Medical related probable cause

Transfers and Autopsies

- There were 24 autopsies in 2016, compared to 26 in 2015.
- There were 10 transfer-of-jurisdiction cases in 2016, compared to 9 in 2015, meaning that the original incident causing the death occurred in Summit County but the death occurred in another county, following transport out of Summit to a facility in the Denver area for treatment.

TRENDS AND OBSERVATIONS

2016 was another busy year for the Summit County Coroner's Office with a recorded 82 deaths. In 2015, we had 87 deaths, and in 2014 there were 60.

The Colorado population continues to grow, the economy is strong, and people are traveling to Summit County in high numbers, which is reflected in activity levels by our office.

Of the 82 deaths in 2016, 40 were Summit County residents, and 42 were from out of the county, state or country. The cause of death for the majority of visitors remains cardiac related; our high altitude can be very hard on the body, especially if there is an underlying undiagnosed cardiac condition.

As in previous years, the most common manner of death remains natural, with cardiac leading in cause.

Of the hospice cases, 7 were cancer related, and the remainder were other natural disease processes.

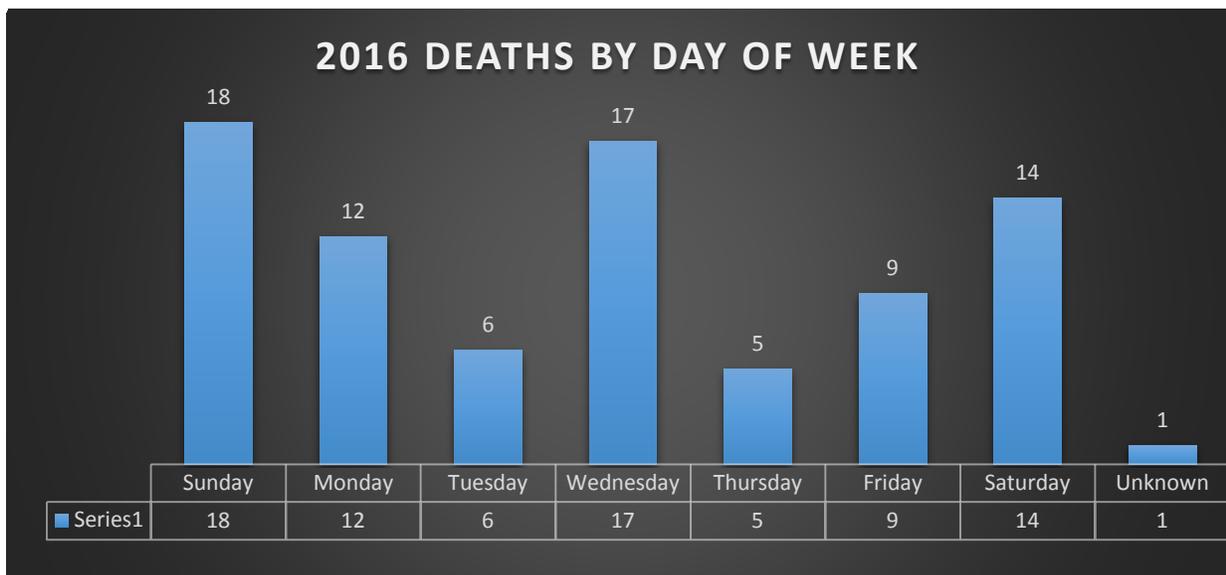
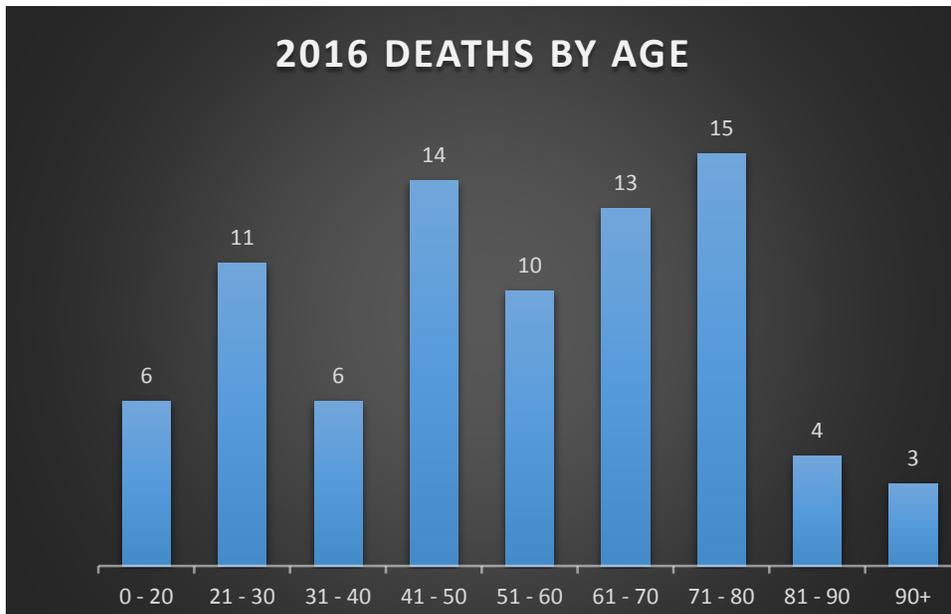
Accidental deaths totaled 22, identical to 2015. The leading cause this year was motor vehicle crashes, which claimed the lives of 8 people. Accidental overdoses decreased from 7 in 2015 to 4 in 2016, two of which were due to unintentional methamphetamine ingestion. In these two cases, drugs that we had been purchased for recreational use were cut with methamphetamine unbeknownst to the buyers, who ingested them, resulting in cardiac arrest.

Snow-sports related deaths totaled 7 in 2016. Of the 7 deaths, 5 were skiers and 2 were snowboarders. Five of the deceased were wearing helmets; the other 2 were not.

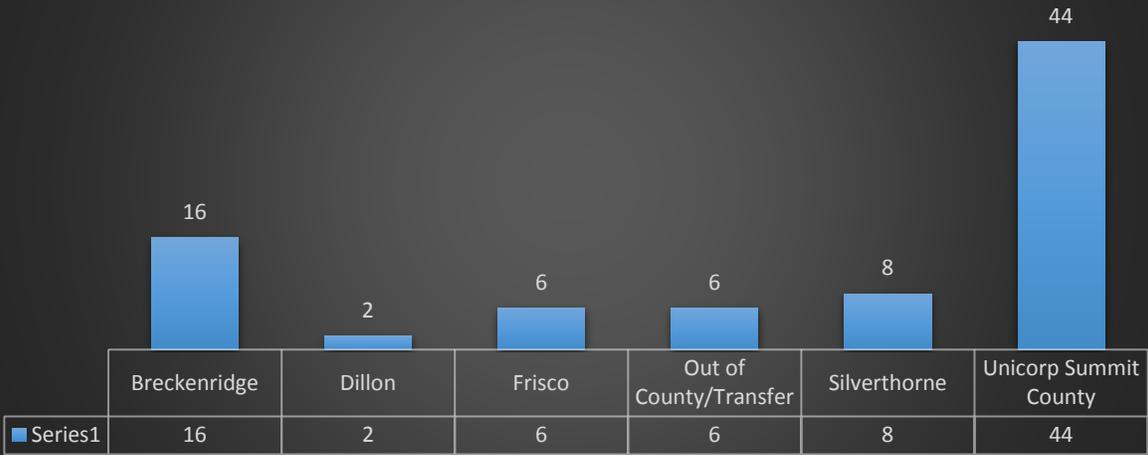
Suicides totaled 13 in 2016, up slightly from 10 the previous year. The leading cause continues to be gunshot wounds. There were 2 suicides by motor vehicle; no one else was injured or killed in either case.

As in previous years, alcohol and drugs continue to play a part in many deaths. Toxicology testing reveals that many decedents have alcohol and marijuana in their systems. In such cases, drugs and/or alcohol are not listed as a primary cause of death, but as a significant condition on the death certificate.

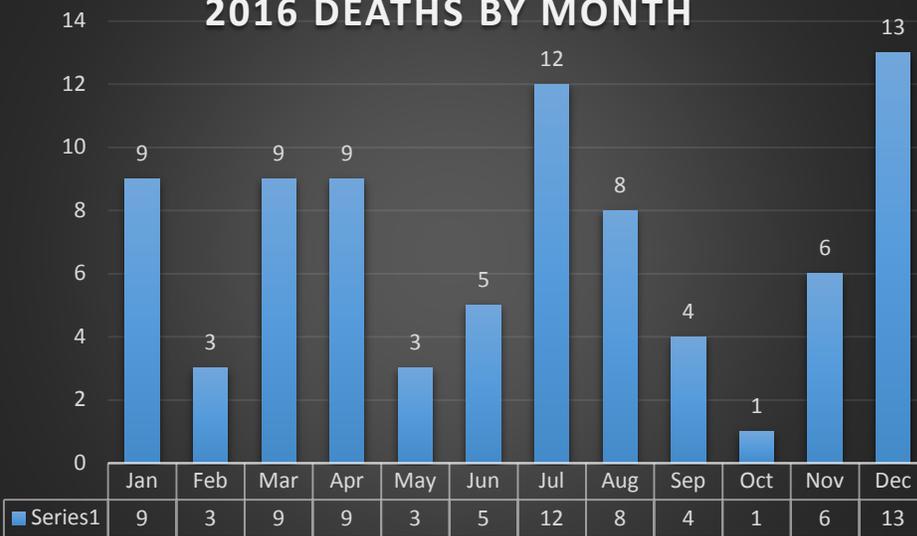
2016 SCOC DEATH STATS



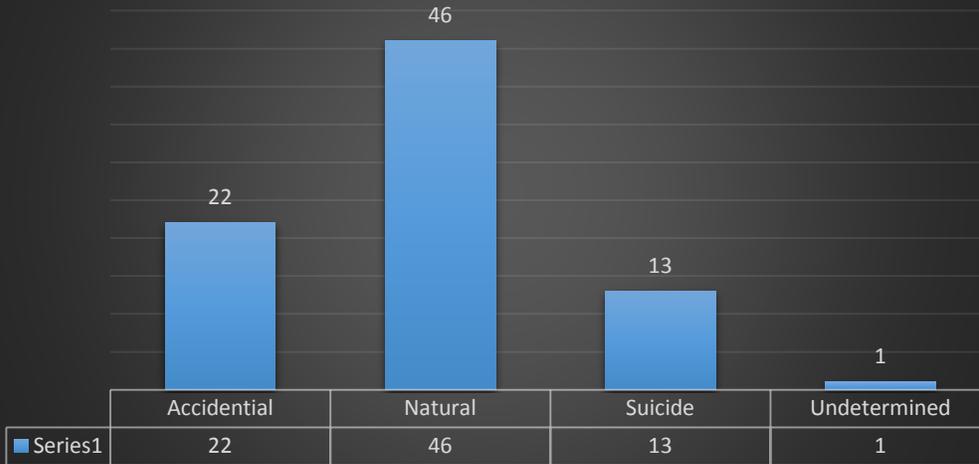
2016 DEATHS BY JURISDICTION



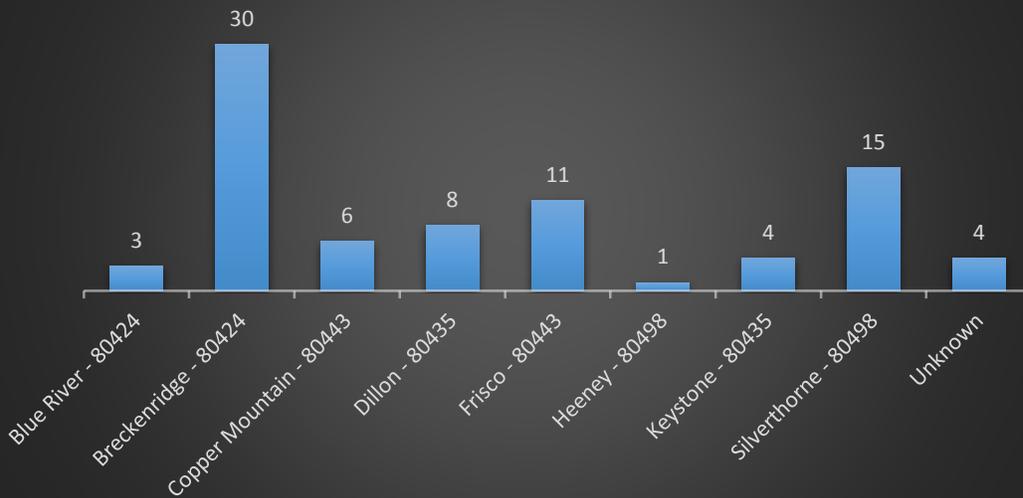
2016 DEATHS BY MONTH



2016 DEATHS BY MANNER



2016 DEATHS BY ZIPCODE



2016 DEATHS BY GENDER

Male Deaths, 57



Female deaths,
25



