

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER



Executive Summary

**Clinton County • Eaton County • Ingham County • Ionia County
Isabella County • Livingston County • Shiawassee County**

We are pleased to present our 2024 Annual Report. This report reflects the work of the Office of the Medical Examiner during the 2024 calendar year. Only those deaths that fall within the geographical jurisdiction of the medical examiner, which is based on the county in which death was pronounced, are included.

We pride ourselves on providing outstanding service to the communities we serve. Our commitment to excellence was recognized in 2009, when our office was granted full accreditation by the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME), and that full accreditation status was renewed by NAME in 2023. We have developed a regional system that delivers standardized death investigations. Thanks to leadership provided by University of Michigan Health-Sparrow Forensic Pathology, there is an expected process which ensures quality, compassionate care when people need it most.

It would not be possible for the Office of the Medical Examiner to operate efficiently without our dedicated staff, including our investigators, who are essential to our success and to whom we are grateful for their service. The investigators are listed by county in the text of this report.

UM Health-Sparrow Forensic Pathology

Office of the Medical Examiner • 2024 Staff

Michael A. Markey, M.D.

*Medical Examiner
& Medical Director*

David S. Moons, M.D.

Deputy Medical Examiner

Christopher A. Hauch, M.D.

Deputy Medical Examiner

Michelle A. Fox, D-ABMDI

*Chief Investigator
& Supervisor*

Debra Parsons

*Team Advisor
& Autopsy Assistant*

Holly Marsh

Administrative Assistant

Krystin Smith

*Autopsy Assistant
& In-House Investigator*

Amanda Wallace, D-ABMDI

*Autopsy Assistant
& In-House Investigator*

Jacob Stair

*Autopsy Assistant
& In-House Investigator*

Amanda Bukovick

Medical Examiner Investigator

Jessica Nicholson

Medical Examiner Investigator

Karen Phelps

Medical Examiner Investigator

Marissa Timko

Medical Examiner Investigator

Medical Examiner Services

Investigation of Deaths

As the Office of the Medical Examiner for seven counties in Michigan, we perform autopsies and other postmortem examinations as an important part of the death investigation process. Each county in Michigan has a licensed physician, appointed by the County Commissioners to serve as medical examiner, who is responsible for investigating deaths as defined by the Michigan Compiled Laws.

In general, the deaths investigated by our office include those that are thought to result from injury or poisoning (such as homicide, suicide and accidental deaths), and those deaths that are sudden, unexpected and not readily explainable at the time of death. Because deaths occur around the clock, the Office of the Medical Examiner is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

The typical sequence of events that occurs following a death is:

- A death is reported to the on-call Medical Examiner Investigator (MEI).
- The MEI assesses whether we have legal authority and duty to investigate the death.
- The death scene is visited and investigated, if indicated.
- Investigative information is obtained about the decedent's medical and social history, as well as other information surrounding the events that were associated with the death.
- If an examination is indicated, the body is transported to the Forensic Pathology Laboratory at UM Health-Sparrow Lansing in Lansing, MI.
- If the investigator believes the death does not require a postmortem examination, the on-call Medical Examiner or Chief Investigator may be contacted to discuss the case before the body is released to the funeral home.
- An investigative report is written by the MEI.
- When applicable, the decedent's primary care physician is contacted and notified of the death, and medical history is confirmed.
- A death certificate is generated by either the decedent's personal physician, the attending physician in the medical facility or the assigned Medical Examiner or Deputy Medical Examiner.
- If a postmortem examination is performed, following receipt and review of all appropriate test results and records, a postmortem examination report is written.
- Permanent records are maintained for future use, as needed, and distributed to those who have requested a copy of the report and are authorized to receive the report.

Some deaths require additional follow-up investigations, which are conducted by our in-house investigators based at UM Health-Sparrow Lansing. For 2024, these investigations were performed by Michelle Fox, Amanda Bukovick, Jessica Nicholson, Karen Phelps, Krystin Smith, Jacob Stair, Marissa Timko and Amanda Wallace.

Death Certification

The primary focus of our investigation is to determine the cause and manner of death and to clarify circumstances surrounding the death. The cause of death is related to the underlying disease or injury that resulted in the individual's death. The manner of death, in the state of Michigan, is limited to these five options: natural, accident, suicide, homicide, or indeterminate. In addition, information gathered during the investigation and/or evidence collected may be critical for future legal proceedings.

Case Management Approach

A board-certified forensic pathologist is assigned to each death and determines the level of medical investigation required. Cases are handled by one of the following approaches:

- **Direct release** – The body is released directly from the scene to the funeral director. The MEI is typically at the scene and views the body. Based upon scene and medical history information, and in consultation with the on-call medical examiner or chief investigator, a decision may be made to release a body directly to the funeral home chosen by the family, without further examination.
- **External examination** – An external examination includes a detailed record of external observations of the body and in many cases laboratory/toxicology testing. A report of the external exam and laboratory findings is written by the responsible pathologist.
- **Autopsy** – An autopsy includes an external examination as described above, as well as an internal examination. This internal examination may be a “limited” or “partial” autopsy, or a “full” or “complete” autopsy. A limited autopsy is an internal examination within a specific anatomic boundary (e.g., head-only examination). Most often, limited autopsies are performed to recover a foreign body, surgical hardware or answer specific questions. A full autopsy includes internal examination of all organs and body cavities. An autopsy usually includes laboratory/toxicology testing and may include histologic examination and additional examination by a subspecialty consultant (e.g., cardiac or neuropathologist). A report of examination and laboratory findings is written by the responsible pathologist.

Decision to Autopsy

The medical examiners and deputy medical examiners use standards established by NAME to determine whether an autopsy is indicated. The standards, most recently revised in October 2023, state:

The forensic pathologist shall perform a forensic autopsy when:

- The death is known or suspected to have been caused by apparent criminal violence.
- The death is unexpected and unexplained in an infant or child.
- The death is associated with police action.
- The death is apparently non-natural and in custody of a local, state or federal institution.
- The death is due to acute workplace injury.*
- The death is caused by apparent electrocution.*
- The death is by apparent intoxication by alcohol, drugs or poison, unless a significant interval has passed and the medical findings and absence of trauma are well documented.
- The death is caused by unwitnessed or suspected drowning.*
- The body is unidentified and the autopsy may aid in identification.
- The body is skeletonized.
- The body is charred.
- The forensic pathologist deems a forensic autopsy is necessary to determine cause or manner of death, document injuries/disease or collect evidence.
- The deceased is involved in a motor vehicle incident, and an autopsy is necessary to document injuries and/or determine the cause of death.

**Unless sufficient antemortem medical evaluation has adequately documented findings and issues of concern that would otherwise have required autopsy performance.*

Accreditation

All of the medical examiner offices operated by UM Health-Sparrow Forensic Pathology are accredited by NAME.

Manner of Death

Guidelines for classifying the manner of death include:

- Natural deaths are due solely or nearly totally to disease and/or the aging process.
- Accident applies when an injury or poisoning (such as a drug overdose) causes death, and there is little or no evidence that the injury or poisoning occurred with intent to harm or cause death. In essence, the fatal outcome was unintentional.
- Suicide results from an injury or poisoning as a result of an intentional self-inflicted act committed to do self-harm or cause the death of one's self.
- Homicide occurs when the death results from a volitional act committed by another person to cause fear, harm or death. Intent to cause death is a common element but is not required for classification as a homicide. It has to be emphasized that the classification of homicide for the purpose of death certification is a "neutral" term and neither indicates nor implies criminal intent, which remains a determination within the province of legal processes.
- Indeterminate is a classification used when the information pointing to one manner of death is no more compelling than one or more other competing manners of death, in thorough consideration of all available information.

In general, when death involves a combination of natural processes and external factors, such as injury or poisoning, preference is given to the non-natural manner of death.

Cremation Permit Authorizations

Michigan law requires funeral directors to obtain a signed cremation permit from the medical examiner. Our office reviews thousands of cremation permit requests each year. We review the death certificates to ensure that deaths that should have been reported to our office were, in fact, reported. Deaths that were not properly reported are investigated before cremation is authorized.

Testimony at Trials

The medical examiner, deputy medical examiners and investigators are often called upon to provide testimony in criminal and civil matters. They meet regularly with members of law enforcement, prosecutors, defense attorneys and civil litigators.

Public Health and Safety Issues

Although the primary purpose of the medical examiner's office is to conduct death investigations, the information obtained from individual death investigations may also be studied collectively to gather data that may inform public health and safety issues. Our office participates with the Michigan Child Death Review process, opiate prevention initiatives and opiate death review teams, providing significant information with the goal of preventing future deaths.

Referrals to Gift of Life

We work closely with Gift of Life, Michigan's organ and tissue recovery program. Appropriate cases are referred to Gift of Life so that families who wish to consider tissue donation can do so. Recovered bone, skin, corneas and other tissues help improve the lives of seriously injured and sick recipients.

Unclaimed Investigations

When a death occurs, there is not always someone available who is willing and able to claim the decedent and arrange for final disposition with a funeral director. Our team works diligently to find next of kin or someone willing to make final arrangements. When no one can be located, we work with the State of Michigan and area funeral directors to arrange a cremation. Each year our office works with the Diocese of Lansing to have unclaimed remains interred with dignity and respect at St. Joseph Cemetery in Lansing.

Comment on Methods and Terms

This annual report reflects the activities of our medical examiner offices during a given calendar year. With rare exception (e.g., deaths reported to the wrong medical examiner office), the data include only those cases over which the county's medical examiner can exercise jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction is determined by where the individual was pronounced dead rather than the county of residence or the county in which the incident leading to death might have occurred. Furthermore, the data reflect the calendar year in which the deaths were reported to the respective medical examiner's offices, regardless of the year in which the death actually occurred. The category "Total Deaths in the County" is based upon numbers provided by that county clerk's office. Occasionally, these numbers may change after the time of publication of this report.

For "Accidental Deaths," the subcategory "Vehicle" consists of deaths that were classified as transportation-related fatalities and include all forms of transport; drivers/operators, passengers and pedestrians; this category does not include types of death that might otherwise fall into a different sub classification, such as vehicle fires and traumatic asphyxia.

Clinton County

Medical Examiner

Michael A. Markey, M.D.

Deputy Medical Examiners

Christopher A. Hauch, M.D.

David S. Moons, M.D.

Chief Investigator

Michelle A. Fox, D-ABMDI

Medical Examiner Investigators

Kenneth Barnes

Aaron Campbell

Chad Chambers

Aubrey Pintar

Frank Robinson

Jacob Scheib, J.D.

Stephanie Scheib

Krystin Smith

Daniel Sowles, D-ABMDI

Jacob Stair

Mary Stevens

Amanda Wallace, D-ABMDI

Thomas Wodarek, D-ABMDI

Clinton County

Summary of Cases

On October 1, 2022, Clinton County entered into an agreement with UM Health-Sparrow Forensic Pathology to provide medical examiner services. Due to limited data from prior years, this report only includes data for 2023 and 2024 which are the first full years we served as the Clinton County Medical Examiner's Office.

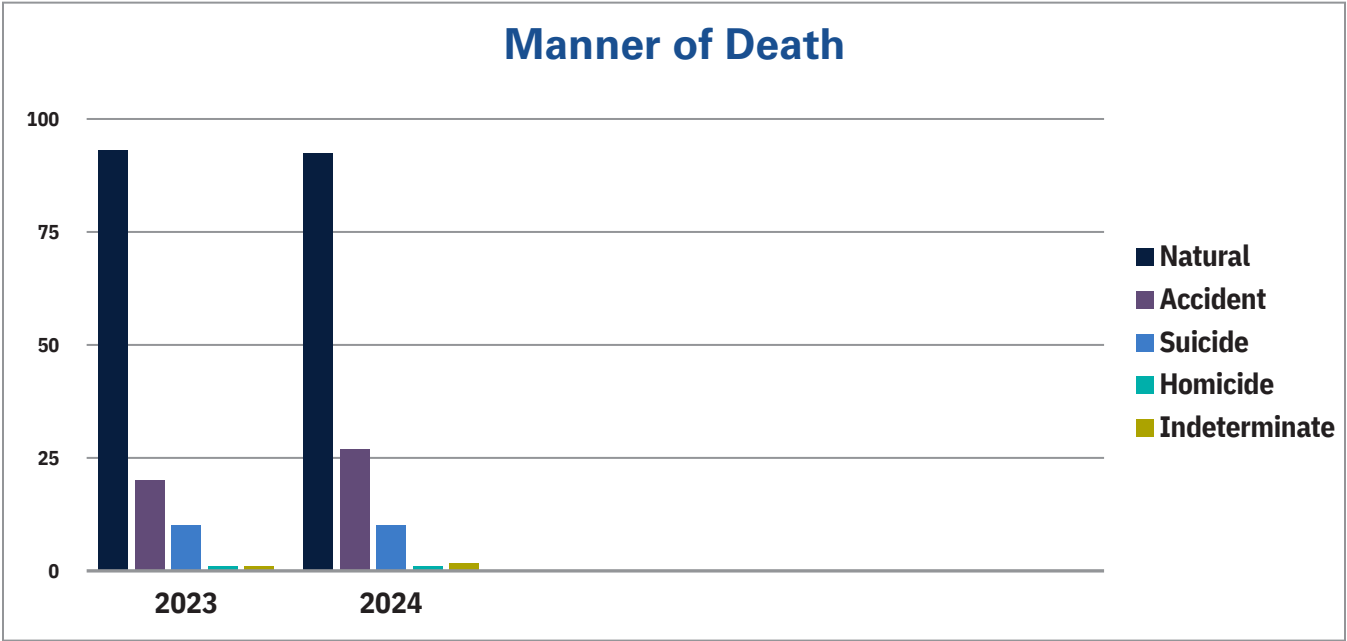
Summary of Cases	2023	2024
TOTAL DEATHS IN THE COUNTY	452	493
DEATHS REPORTED TO THE ME	125	133
CASES ACCEPTED FOR INVESTIGATION ¹	121	125
MEI SCENE INVESTIGATIONS	119	115
DEATH CERTIFICATES SIGNED BY THE ME	57	60
BODIES TRANSPORTED TO UM HEALTH-SPARROW	50	45
COMPLETE AUTOPSY	30	30
LIMITED AUTOPSY	4	6
EXTERNAL EXAMINATION	8	7
STORAGE ONLY	8	2
UNCLAIMED BODIES	3	1
REFERRALS TO GIFT OF LIFE	60	73
TISSUE/CORNEA DONORS	5	13
CREMATION PERMITS REVIEWED	292	303

¹ Not every case that is reported to the Medical Examiner's office falls within our jurisdiction. We accept cases for investigation based on the circumstances surrounding the death and the law that governs the Medical Examiner's authority (MCL 52.202).

Clinton County

Manner of Death

Manner of Death	2023	2024
NATURAL	93	92
ACCIDENT	20	27
SUICIDE	10	10
HOMICIDE	1	1
INDETERMINATE	1	2
TOTAL	125	132 ²

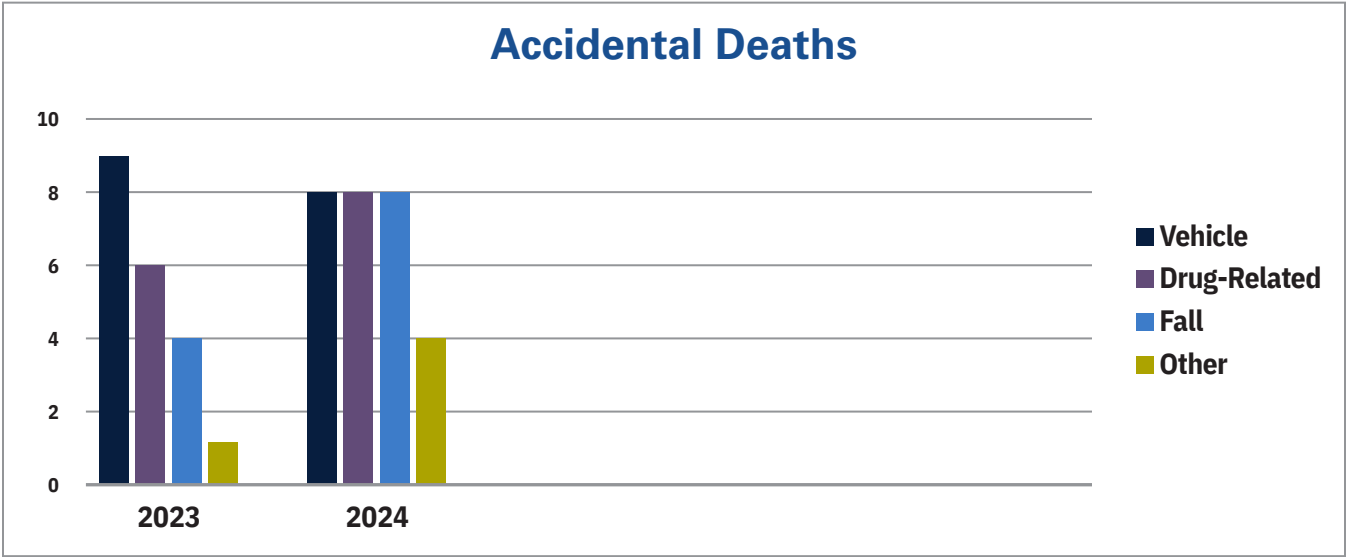


2 One case was a single bone found in a cemetery and 2 stillbirths; no manner of death included

Clinton County

Accidental Deaths

Accidental Deaths	2023	2024
VEHICLE	9	8
DRUG-RELATED	6	8
FALL	4	8
ASPHYXIA	1 ³	3
OTHER	0	1
TOTAL	20	27 ⁴



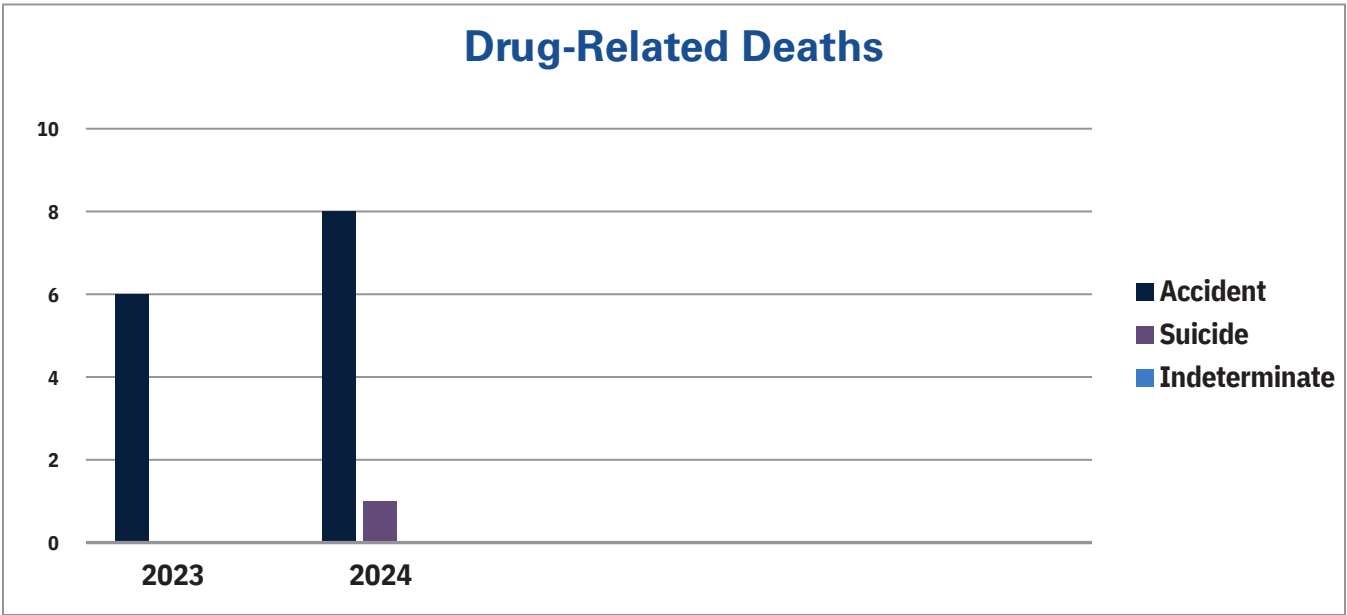
3 One drowning (submerged in river)
 4 One death is counted in 2 categories; one was a bone found in a cemetery

Clinton County

Drug-Related Deaths

For purposes of this report, drug-related fatalities are deaths in which an overdose of a combination of drugs or a single drug caused or contributed to the death. These deaths do not include situations in which intoxication might have been a factor in an incident leading to death, such as motor vehicle crashes, falls, choking while eating or environmental exposures.

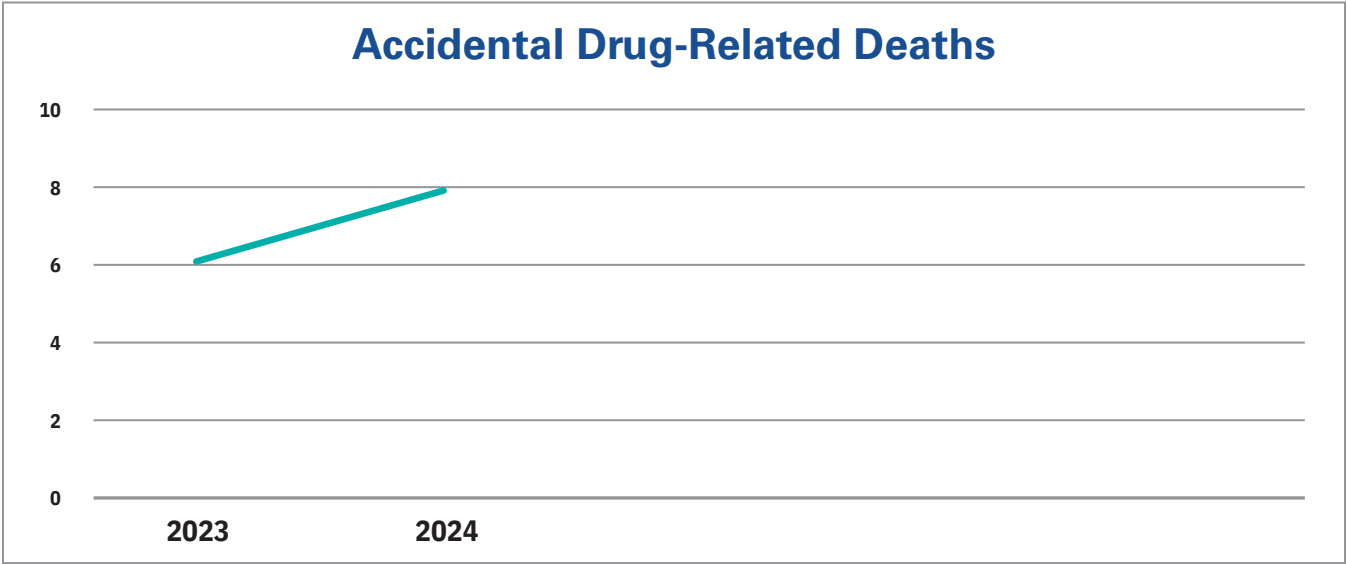
Drug-Related Deaths	2023	2024
ACCIDENT	6	8
SUICIDE	0	1
INDETERMINATE	0	0
TOTAL	6	9



Clinton County

Drug-Related Deaths

2024 Drug-Related Deaths Summary	
TOTAL	9 cases
SEX	3 female, 6 male
RACE	9 White
AGE RANGE	35-60 years
AVERAGE AGE	49.7 years
MEDIAN AGE	48 years
OPIOID-RELATED	5 cases (55.5% Drug-Related Deaths)
MANNER OF DEATH	8 accidents, 1 suicide



Clinton County

Suicides

Suicide Totals by Year	2023	2024
SUICIDES	10	10

Suicide Methods	2023	2024
FIREARM	5	8
HANGING	2	1
MOTOR VEHICLE	0	0
SHARP FORCE INJURY	0	0
DRUG INTOXICATION	0	1
OTHER	3 ⁵	0

Suicides by Age	2023	2024
0-17	0	0
18-25	0	0
26-44	5	6
45-64	2	1
65+	3	3

⁵ One asphyxia (bag over head/nitrogen gas inhalation); one carbon monoxide (generator exhaust inhalation); one fire/inhalation of products of combustion

Clinton County

Deaths of Children

Deaths of Children by Age	2023	2024
Stillborn	0	2
<1 year	1	0
1-5	1	0
6-10	0	0
11-17	1	1
TOTAL	3	3

Manner of Death	2023	2024
NATURAL	0	3
ACCIDENT	2	0
SUICIDE	0	0
HOMICIDE	0	0
INDETERMINATE	1	0

Clinton County

Deaths of Children

2024 Deaths of Children Summary				
Manner	Number of Deaths	Age	Sex	Cause of Death
STILLBORN	2	-	Female	Intrauterine Fetal Demise; uncertain cause
		-	Male	Intrauterine Fetal Demise; uncertain cause
NATURAL	1	13 years	Male	Complications of large intestinal obstruction
ACCIDENT	0			
HOMICIDE	0			
SUICIDE	0			
INDETERMINATE	0			

Eaton County

Medical Examiner

Michael A. Markey, M.D.

Deputy Medical Examiners

Christopher A. Hauch, M.D.

David S. Moons, M.D.

Chief Investigator

Michelle A. Fox, D-ABMDI

Medical Examiner Investigators

Kenneth Barnes

Erica Betts, D.O., MPH

Aaron Campbell

Chad Chambers

Joy Dempsey, D-ABMDI

Lynne Mark, D-ABMDI

Aubrey Pintar

Chole Quinnan

Frank Robinson

Jacob Scheib, J.D.

Stephanie Scheib

Krystin Smith

Daniel Sowles, D-ABMDI

Jacob Stair

Mary Stevens

Jaime Updyke

Amanda Wallace, D-ABMDI

Eaton County

Summary of Cases

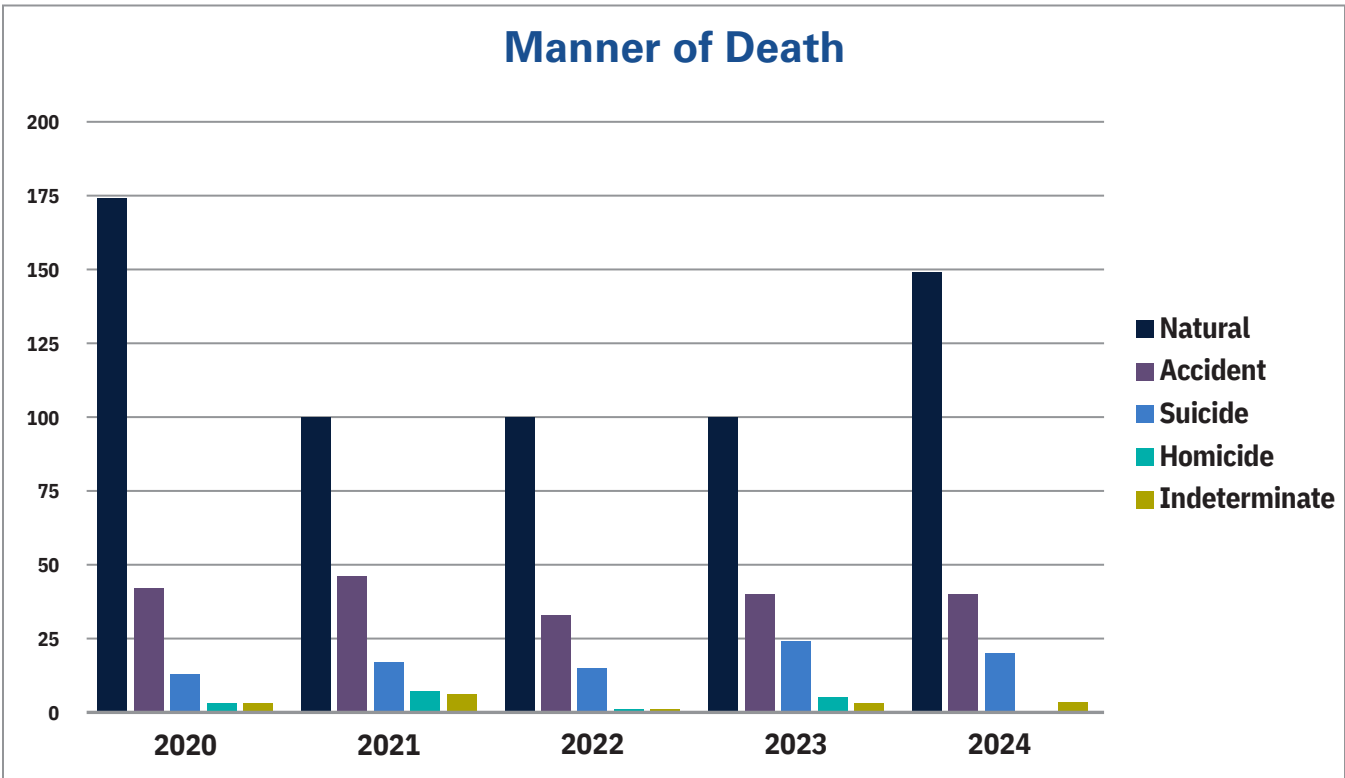
Summary of Cases	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
TOTAL DEATHS IN THE COUNTY	866	844	811	817	753
DEATHS REPORTED TO THE ME	235	262	241	223	213
CASES ACCEPTED FOR INVESTIGATION ⁶	212	230	219	201	190
MEI SCENE INVESTIGATIONS	201	94	197	186	175
DEATH CERTIFICATES SIGNED BY THE ME	102	122	94	102	98
BODIES TRANSPORTED TO UM HEALTH-SPARROW	91	98	72	85	79
COMPLETE AUTOPSY	66	73	52	54	45
LIMITED AUTOPSY	6	9	6	4	8
EXTERNAL EXAMINATION	7	7	5	15	16
STORAGE ONLY	11	9	9	12	10
UNCLAIMED BODIES	4	2	5	3	10
REFERRALS TO GIFT OF LIFE	62	102	104	119	106
TISSUE/CORNEA DONORS	18	21	9	15	9
CREMATION PERMITS REVIEWED	544	538	543	532	532

⁶ Not every case that is reported to the Medical Examiner's office falls within our jurisdiction. We accept cases for investigation based on the circumstances surrounding the death and the law that governs the Medical Examiner's authority (MCL 52.202).

Eaton County

Manner of Death

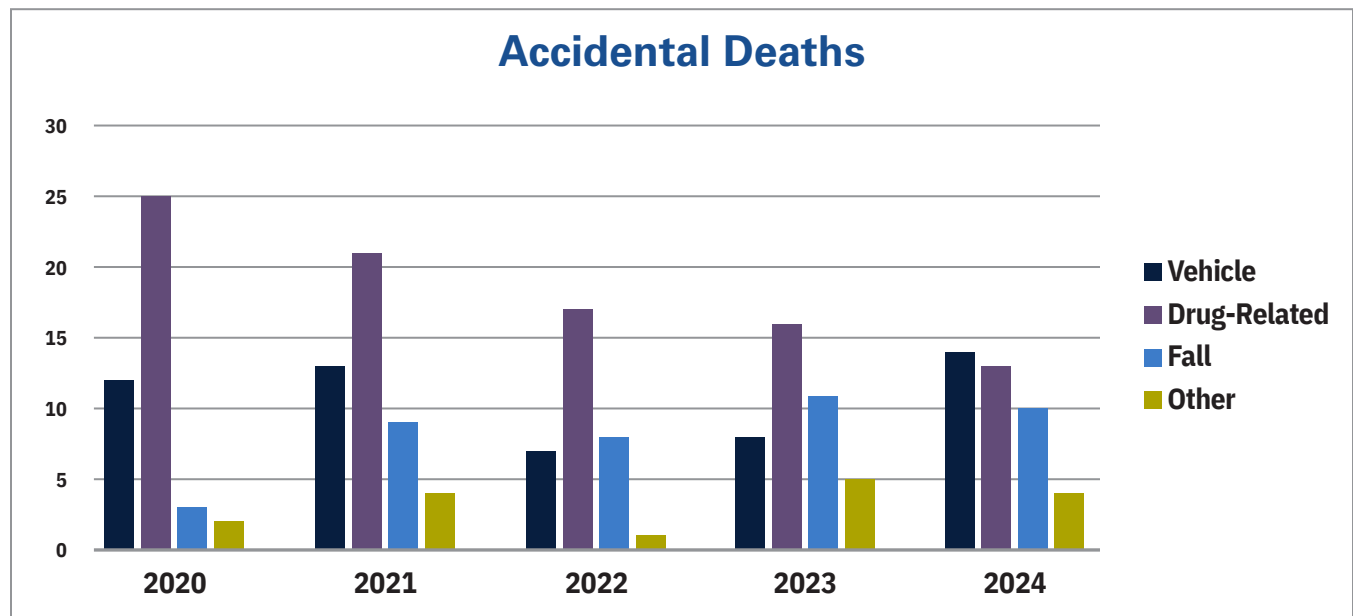
Manner of Death	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
NATURAL	174	186	191	151	149
ACCIDENT	42	46	33	40	40
SUICIDE	13	17	15	24	20
HOMICIDE	3	7	1	5	0
INDETERMINATE	3	6	1	3	4
TOTAL	235	262	241	223	213



Eaton County

Accidental Deaths

Accidental Deaths	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
VEHICLE	12	13	7	8	14
DRUG-RELATED	25	21	17	16	13
DROWNING	0	3	0	0	1 ⁷
FALL	3	9	8	11	10
ASPHYXIA	2	1	0	0	2
OTHER	0	0	1 ⁸	5 ⁹	1 ¹⁰
TOTAL	42	46 ¹¹	33	40	40



⁷ Drowning is also a motor vehicle accident included both categories

⁸ Injuries from farm equipment

⁹ Two inhalation of products of combustion (carbon monoxide), indoor generator use; one inhalation of smoke/products of combustion (carbon monoxide), house fire; one electrocution (contact with power lines while tree trimming); one blunt force injuries (struck by falling tree)

¹⁰ One inhalation of products of combustion (carbon monoxide)

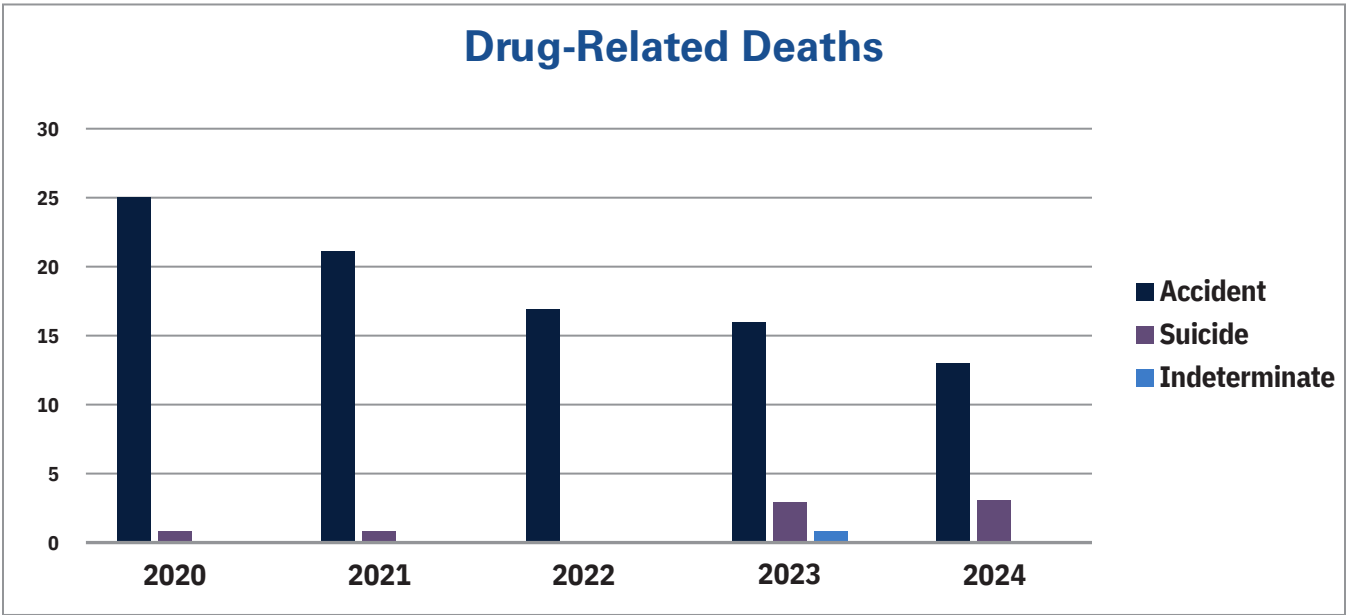
¹¹ Drowning associated with drug intoxication included in both categories

Eaton County

Drug-Related Deaths

For purposes of this report, drug-related fatalities are deaths in which an overdose of a combination of drugs or a single drug caused or contributed to the death. These deaths do not include situations in which intoxication might have been a factor in an incident leading to death, such as motor vehicle crashes, falls, choking while eating or environmental exposures.

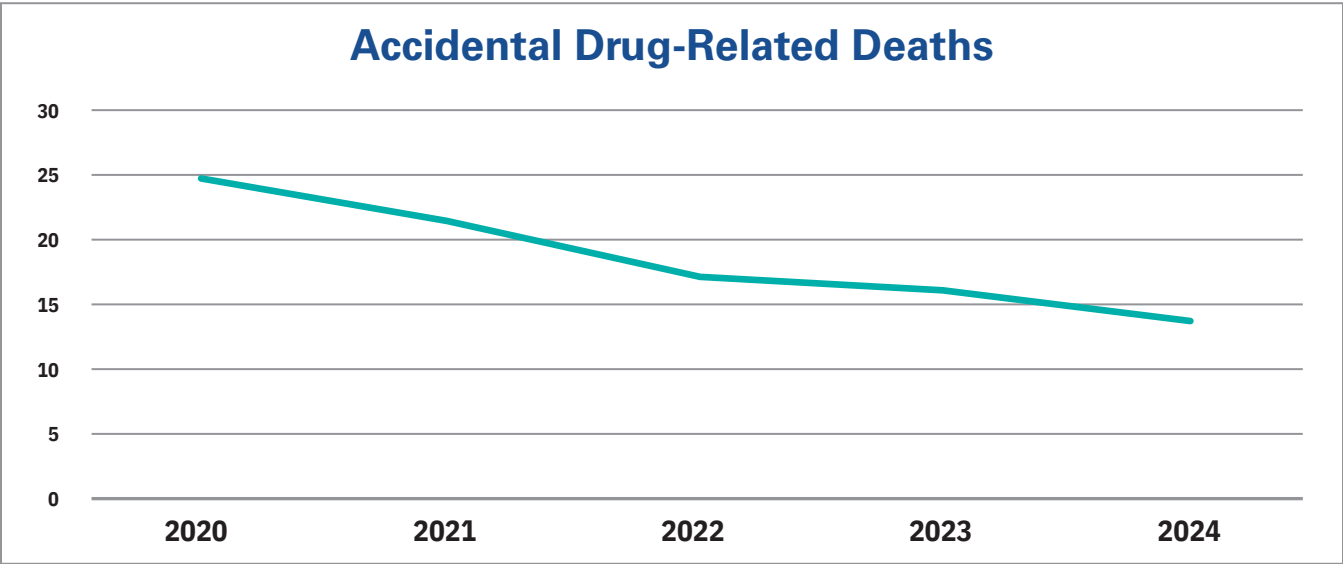
Drug-Related Deaths	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
ACCIDENT	25	21	17	16	13
SUICIDE	1	1	0	3	3
INDETERMINATE	0	0	0	1	0
TOTAL	26	22	17	19	16



Eaton County

Drug-Related Deaths

2024 Drug-Related Deaths Summary	
TOTAL	16 cases
SEX	6 female, 10 male
RACE	13 white, 3 Black
AGE RANGE	24-64 years
AVERAGE AGE	44.1 years
MEDIAN AGE	39.5 years
OPIOID-RELATED	6 cases (37.5% Drug-Related Deaths)
MANNER OF DEATH	13 accidents, 3 suicides



Eaton County

Suicides

Suicide Totals by Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
SUICIDES	13	17	15	24	20

Suicide Methods	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
FIREARM	7	11	9	16	10
HANGING	4	5	4	4	4
DRUG INTOXICATION	1	1	0	3	3
SHARP FORCE INJURY	0	0	1	0	1
OTHER	1 ¹²	0	1 ¹³	1 ¹⁴	2 ¹⁵

Suicides by Age	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
0-17	0	1	1	1	0
18-25	1	2	1	3	2
26-44	3	7	5	8	8
45-64	7	4	4	6	7
65+	2	3	4	6	3

¹² Carbon monoxide inhalation

¹³ Blunt force injuries- Struck by train

¹⁴ Jump from height

¹⁵ One motor vehicle accident; one jump from height

Eaton County

Deaths of Children

Deaths of Children by Age	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Stillborn	0	1	0	0	0
<1 year	0	1	0	2	0
1-5	0	2	2	0	1
6-10	0	0	0	0	2
11-17	3	2	2	1	0
TOTAL	3	6	4	3	3

Manner of Death	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
NATURAL	0	0	2	0	0
ACCIDENT	3	3	1	0	3 ¹⁶
SUICIDE	0	1	1	1	0
HOMICIDE	0	1	0	0	0
INDETERMINATE	0	0	0	2	0

¹⁶ Two cases where part of the same incident

Eaton County

Deaths of Children

2024 Deaths of Children Summary				
<i>Manner</i>	<i>Number of Deaths</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Cause of Death</i>
STILLBORN	0			
NATURAL	0			
ACCIDENT	3	1 year	Female	Motor vehicle crash ¹⁷
		6 years	Female	Motor vehicle crash ¹⁸
		6 years	Male	Motor vehicle crash
HOMICIDE	0			
SUICIDE	0			
INDETERMINATE	0			

¹⁷ One of two deaths resulting from a single motor vehicle crash
¹⁸ One of two deaths resulting from a single motor vehicle crash

Ingham County

Medical Examiner

Michael A. Markey, M.D.

Deputy Medical Examiners

Christopher A. Hauch, M.D.

David S. Moons, M.D.

Chief Investigator

Michelle A. Fox, D-ABMDI

Medical Examiner Investigators

Kenneth Barnes

Erica Betts, D.O., MPH

Amanda Buckovick

Aaron Campbell

Chad Chambers

Joy Dempsey, D-ABMDI

Nigel Heftye

Mary Kueppers

Lynne Mark, D-ABMDI

Jessica Nicholson

Karen Phelps

Aubrey Pintar

Chole Quinnan

Brett Ramsden, D-ABMDI

Frank Robinson

Jacob Scheib

Stephanie Scheib

Krystin Smith

Daniel Sowles, D-ABMDI

Jacob Stair

Mary Stevens

Marissa Timko

Paul Tuttle

Jamie Updyke

Amanda Wallace, D-ABMDI

Kim Wheeler

Ingham County

Summary of Cases

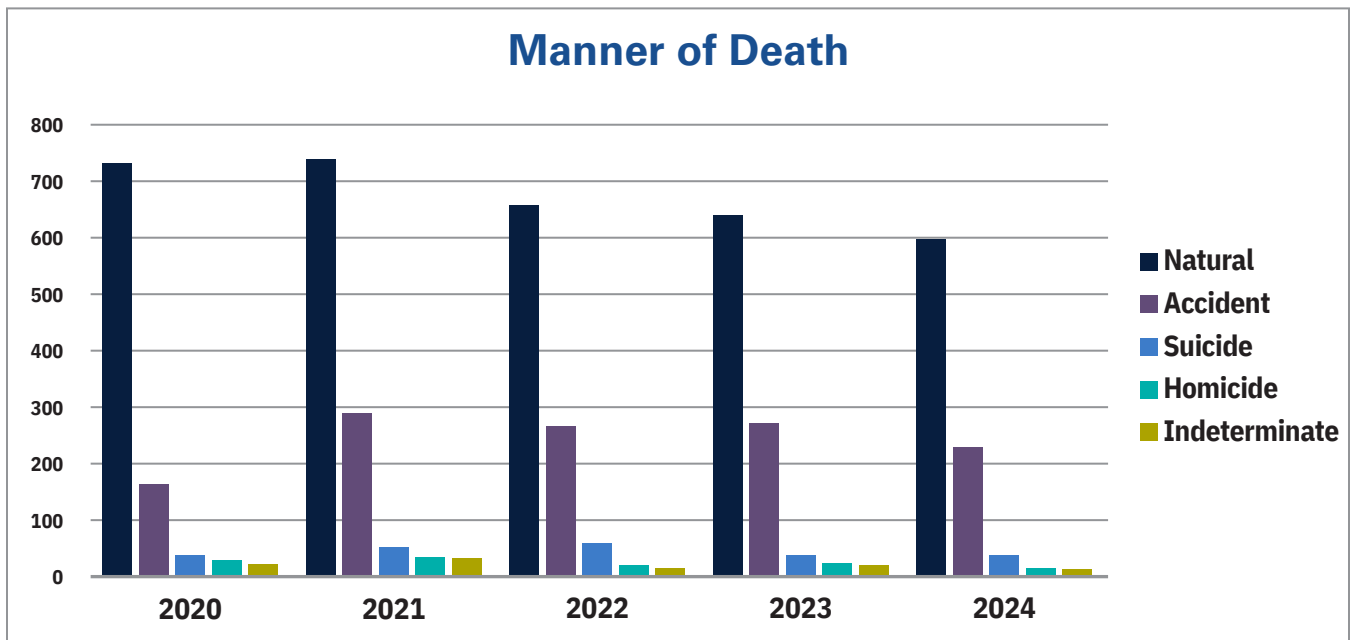
Summary of Cases	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
TOTAL DEATHS IN THE COUNTY	3,468	3,754	3,317	3,213	3,025
DEATHS REPORTED TO THE ME	1,087	1,138	1,035	1,003	892
CASES ACCEPTED FOR INVESTIGATION ¹⁹	840	971	908	890	808
MEI SCENE INVESTIGATIONS	572	775	779	753	694
DEATH CERTIFICATES SIGNED BY THE ME	504	606	531	539	471
BODIES TRANSPORTED TO UM HEALTH-SPARROW	313	334	287	382	473
COMPLETE AUTOPSY	273	310	262	267	189
LIMITED AUTOPSY	24	22	26	17	16
EXTERNAL EXAMINATION	59	66	57	58	40
STORAGE ONLY	53	63	42	40	44
UNCLAIMED BODIES	18	25	26	28	27
REFERRALS TO GIFT OF LIFE	294	375	524	573	546
TISSUE/CORNEA DONORS	54	52	81	77	54
CREMATION PERMITS REVIEWED	2,483	2,730	2,631	2,464	2,359

¹⁹ Not every case that is reported to the Medical Examiner's office falls within our jurisdiction. We accept cases for investigation based on the circumstances surrounding the death and the law that governs the Medical Examiner's authority (MCL 52.202).

Ingham County

Manner of Death

Manner of Death	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
NATURAL	728	730	666	643	599
ACCIDENT	271	290	276	280	225
SUICIDE	39	56	60	39	37
HOMICIDE	26	31	19	21	14
INDETERMINATE	22	28	13	18	13
TOTAL	1,086	1,135	1,034	1,003 ²⁰	888 ²¹



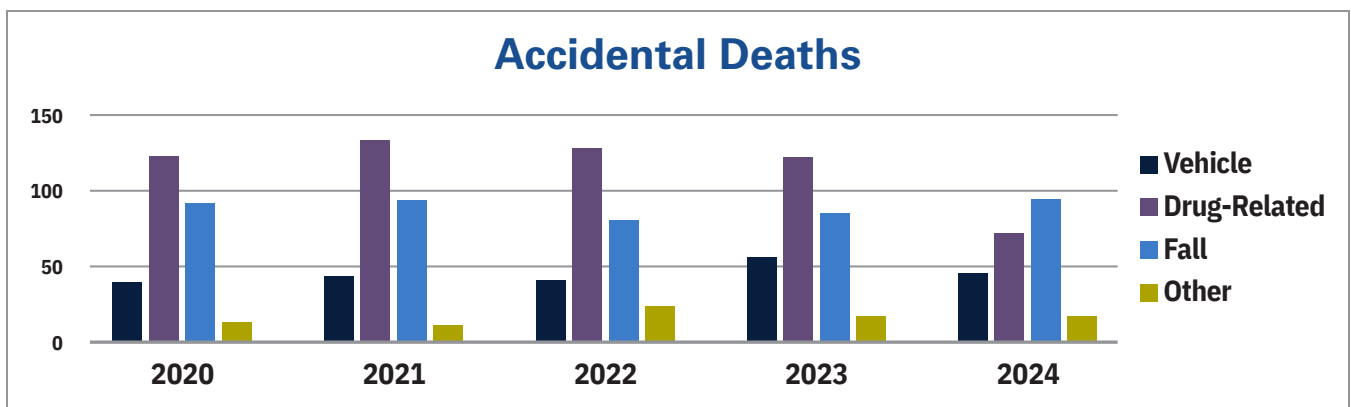
²⁰ Two stillbirths; no manner of death included

²¹ Four stillbirths; no manner of death included

Ingham County

Accidental Deaths

Accidental Deaths	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
VEHICLE	40	46	43	56	45
DRUG-RELATED	124	138	131	122	72
DROWNING	1	6 ²²	7 ²³	2	2
FALL	93	94	77	85	94
FIRE	2	0	2	3	2
ASPHYXIA	2 ²⁴	3 ²⁵	0	3 ²⁶	2 ²⁷
CHOKING	3	2	8	4	6
HYPOTHERMIA	4	1	2	0	1
OTHER	2 ²⁸	2 ²⁹	8 ³⁰	5 ³¹	4 ³²
TOTAL	271	290 ³³	276 ³⁴	280	225



22 One associated with drug intoxication (included in both categories)

23 Two associated with drug intoxication (included in both categories)

24 Two infants in unsafe sleep environments

25 Two infants in unsafe sleep environment; one child compressed beneath trailer

26 One positional; two traumatic/mechanical due to compression (one beneath vehicle, one beneath debris from tornado)

27 One hanging; one traumatic/mechanical due to compression (beneath tractor)

28 One pedestrian struck by train; One injuries from compaction in refuse vehicle

29 One thermal injury from smoking; one carbon monoxide intoxication associated with drug intoxication (included in both categories)

30 Two carbon monoxide intoxication; two sharp force injuries; two pedestrians struck by trains; two blunt force injuries

31 One remote firearm injury; three animal related (two dog; one bovine); one industrial incident injury

32 Two carbon monoxide intoxication, one animal attack, one therapeutic complication

33 Two are in more than one category

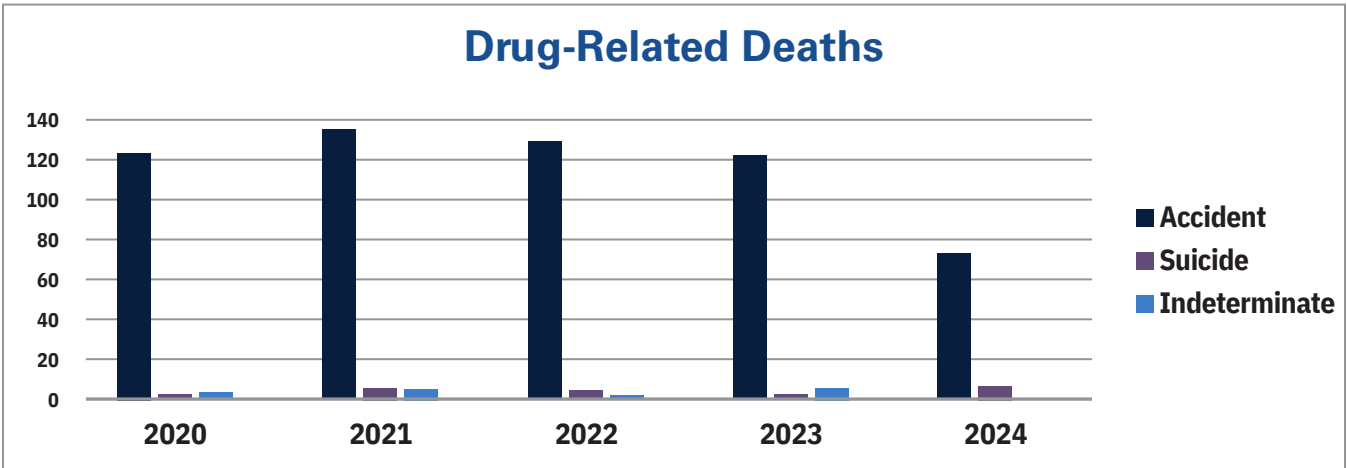
34 Two are in more than one category

Ingham County

Drug-Related Deaths

For purposes of this report, drug-related fatalities are deaths in which an overdose of a combination of drugs or a single drug caused or contributed to the death. These deaths do not include situations in which intoxication might have been a factor in an incident leading to death, such as motor vehicle crashes, falls, choking while eating or environmental exposures.

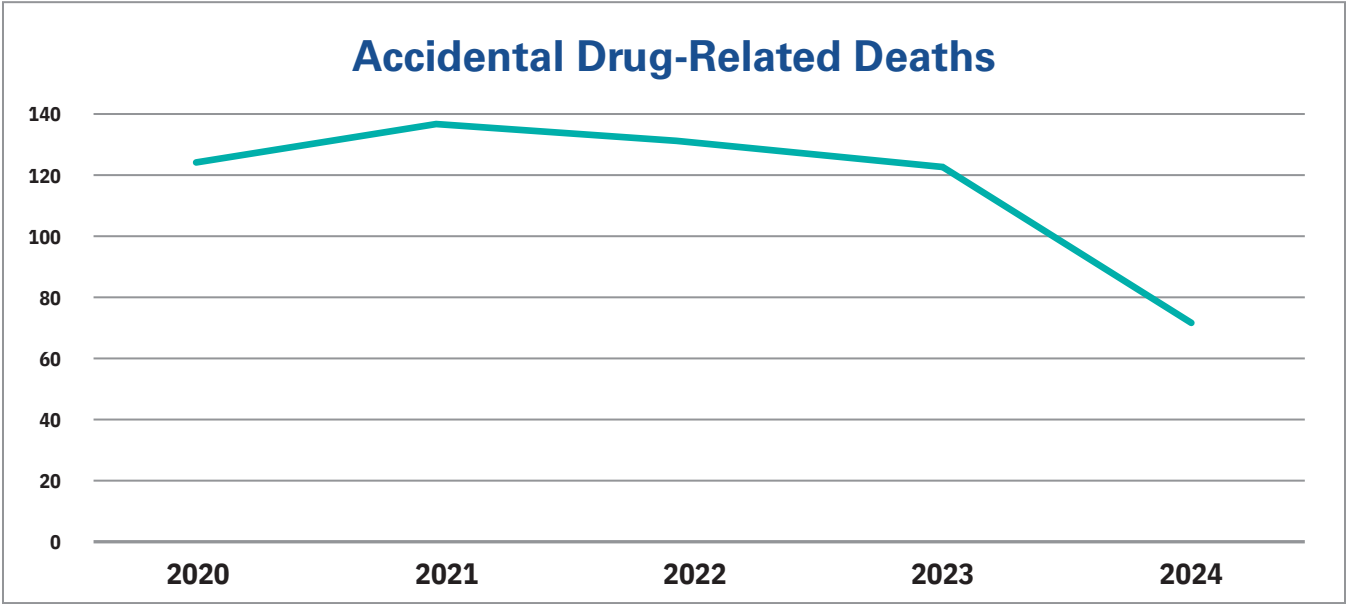
Drug-Related Deaths	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
ACCIDENT	124	138	131	122	73
SUICIDE	3	6	5	3	7
INDETERMINATE	4	7	1	6	0
TOTAL	131	151	137	131	80



Ingham County

Drug-Related Deaths

2024 Drug-Related Deaths Summary	
TOTAL	80 cases
SEX	28 female, 52 male
RACE	57 White, 22 Black, 1 other
AGE RANGE	20-87 years
AVERAGE AGE	47.2 years
MEDIAN AGE	45 years
OPIOID-RELATED	50 cases (62.5% of Drug-Related Deaths)
MANNER OF DEATH	70 accidents, 7 suicides, 0 indeterminate



Ingham County

Suicides

Suicide Totals by Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
SUICIDES	39	56	60	39	37

Suicide Methods	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
FIREARM	21	28	34	24	15
HANGING	13	15	15	5	11
DRUG INTOXICATION	3 ³⁵	6	5	3	7
SUFFOCATION	0	1	1	1	0
SHARP FORCE INJURY	1	1	1	1	2
JUMP FROM HEIGHT	0	1	0	1	2
MOTOR VEHICLE CRASH	0	1	0	0	1
CARBON MONOXIDE	1	1	1	1	0
STRUCK BY TRAIN	1	0	0	1	0
OTHER	0	2 ³⁶	3 ³⁷	2 ³⁸	0

Suicides by Age	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
0-17	2	2	3	0	2
18-25	5	7	9	8	6
26-44	13	29	18	16	13
45-64	15	11	16	11	8
65+	4	7	14	4	8

³⁵ One combined drug intoxication and stab wound- classified in both methods

³⁶ One insecticide poisoning; one neck trauma due to fall associated with suicide attempt via hanging

³⁷ One pedestrian struck by a motor vehicle; one ingestion of sodium nitrate; one ingestion of yew plant components

³⁸ One pedestrian struck by vehicle; one ingestion of sodium nitrite

Ingham County

Deaths of Children

Deaths of Children by Age	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Stillborn	1	1	1	2	4
<1 year	11	10	5	6	8
1-5	3	2	3	2	2
6-10	2	2	1	1	1
11-17	7	10	6	7	6
TOTAL	24	25	16	18	21

Manner of Death	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
NATURAL	5	3	5	5	0
ACCIDENT	4	7	2	5	3
SUICIDE	2	2	3	0	2
HOMICIDE	4	7	1	2	4
INDETERMINATE	8	5	4	4	8

Ingham County

Deaths of Children

2024 Deaths of Children Summary				
<i>Manner</i>	<i>Number of Deaths</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Cause of Death</i>
STILLBORN	4	-	Male	Intrauterine Fetal Demise; uncertain cause
		-	Female	Intrauterine Fetal Demise; uncertain cause
		-	Female	Intrauterine Fetal Demise; uncertain cause
		-	Female	Intrauterine Fetal Demise; uncertain cause
NATURAL	0			
ACCIDENT	3	5 years	Male	Drowning
		14 years	Female	Motor vehicle crash; passenger
		17 years	Male	Motor vehicle crash; passenger
HOMICIDE	4	1 year	Male	Caregiver neglect
		6 years	Male	Blunt force injuries to abdomen
		14 years	Male	Gunshot wounds
		17 years	Male	Gunshot wound to the head
SUICIDE	2	15 years	Male	Hanging
		16 years	Female	Hanging
INDETERMINATE	8	14 days	Female	SUID
		1 month	Male	SUID; bed sharing
		3 months	Male	Undetermined
		3 months	Male	SUID; potential unsafe sleep
		8 months	Female	SUID
		8 months	Male	SUID
		10 months	Male	SUID
		10 months	Female	SUID

Ionia County

Medical Examiner

Michael A. Markey, M.D.

Deputy Medical Examiners

Christopher A. Hauch, M.D.

David S. Moons, M.D.

Chief Investigator

Michelle A. Fox, D-ABMDI

Medical Examiner Investigators

James Buxton

Nigel Heftye

Taylor Hoekwater

Zachary Jahnke, CCEMT-P

Aubrey Pintar

Chole Quinnan

Marvin Raap

Frank Robinson

Derek Schroeder

Bill Simpson Sr., D-ABMDI

Daniel Sowles, D-ABMDI

Mitchell Tolan, D-ABMDI

Amanda Wallace, D-ABMDI

Thomas Wodarek, D-ABMDI

Ionia County

Summary of Cases

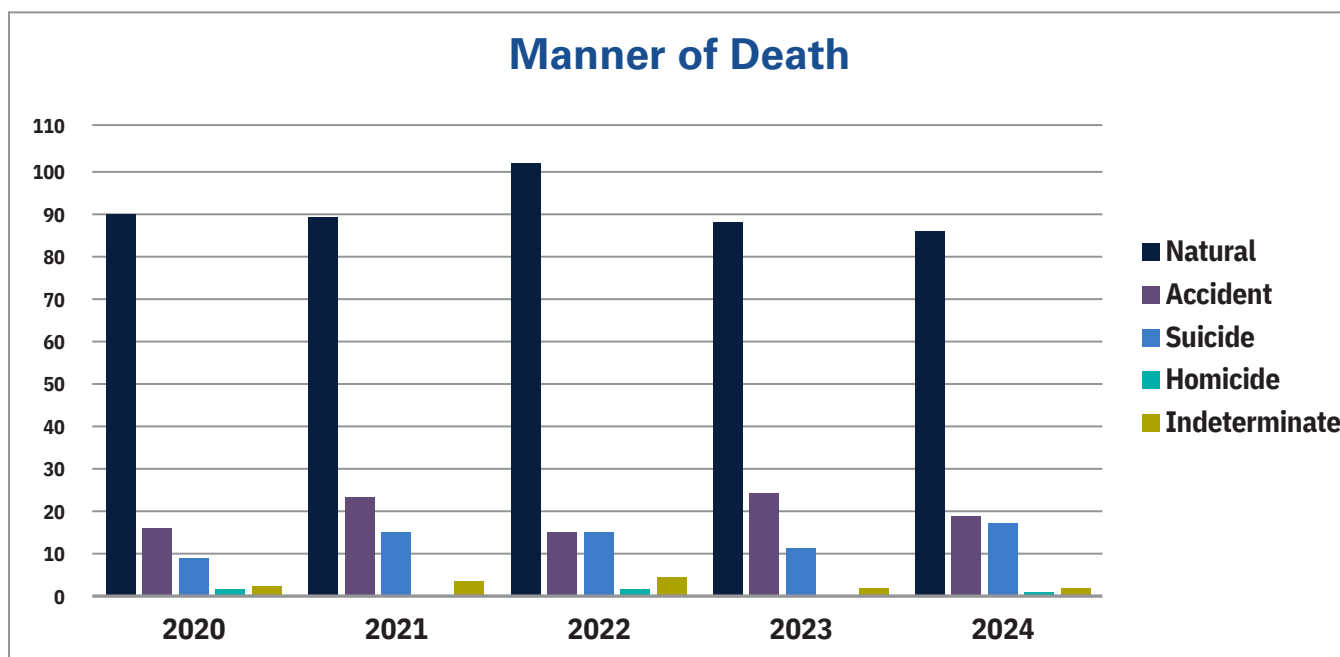
Summary of Cases	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
TOTAL DEATHS IN THE COUNTY	409	398	419	398	382
DEATHS REPORTED TO THE ME	119	130	137	126	129
CASES ACCEPTED FOR INVESTIGATION ³⁹	110	124	122	117	117
MEI SCENE INVESTIGATIONS	107	119	122	108	117
DEATH CERTIFICATES SIGNED BY THE ME	43	67	51	58	64
BODIES TRANSPORTED TO UM HEALTH-SPARROW	34	57	47	43	50
COMPLETE AUTOPSY	21	43	32	28	32
LIMITED AUTOPSY	5	5	9	2	5
EXTERNAL EXAMINATION	5	3	2	7	9
STORAGE ONLY	3	6	4	6	4
UNCLAIMED BODIES	4	1	1	0	1
REFERRAL TO GIFT OF LIFE	38	59	68	71	60
TISSUE/CORNEA DONORS	18	14	13	7	5
CREMATION PERMITS REVIEWED	281	281	305	276	277

³⁹ Not every case that is reported to the Medical Examiner's office falls within our jurisdiction. We accept cases for investigation based on the circumstances surrounding the death and the law that governs the Medical Examiner's authority (MCL 52.202).

Ionian County

Manner of Death

Manner of Death	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
NATURAL	90	89	102	88	86
ACCIDENT	16	23	15	24	21
SUICIDE	9	15	15	11	19
HOMICIDE	1	0	1	0	1
INDETERMINATE	2	3	4	2	2
TOTAL	118	130	137	126 ⁴⁰	129

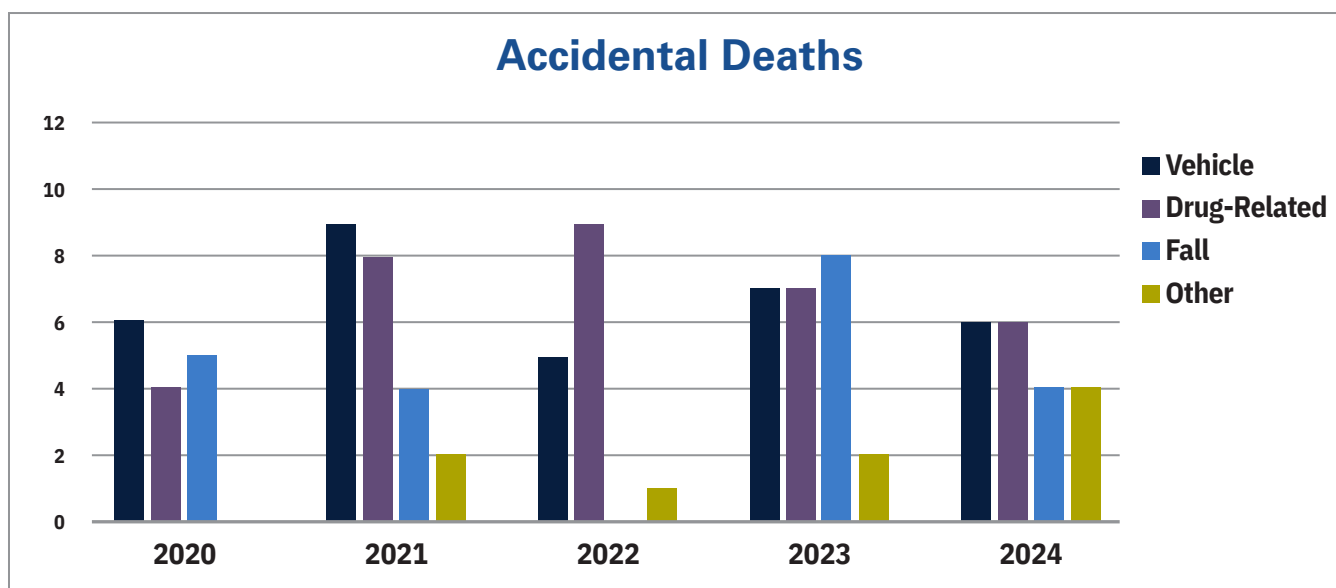


⁴⁰ One stillbirth with no manner of death

Ionia County

Accidental Deaths

Accidental Deaths	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
VEHICLE	6	9	5	7 ⁴¹	6
DRUG-RELATED	4	8	9	7	6
DROWNING	1	0	0	0	1
FALL	5	4	0	8	4
ASPHYXIA	0	0	1 ⁴²	2 ⁴³	2 ⁴⁴
OTHER	0	2 ⁴⁵	0	0	2 ⁴⁶
TOTAL	16	16	15	24	21



41 Includes one fire/burn death following motor vehicle crash

42 Mechanical - lawnmower rollover

43 Two asphyxia via choking on food

44 One asphyxia via choking and one mechanical/traumatic tractor rollover

45 Two injuries from falling trees

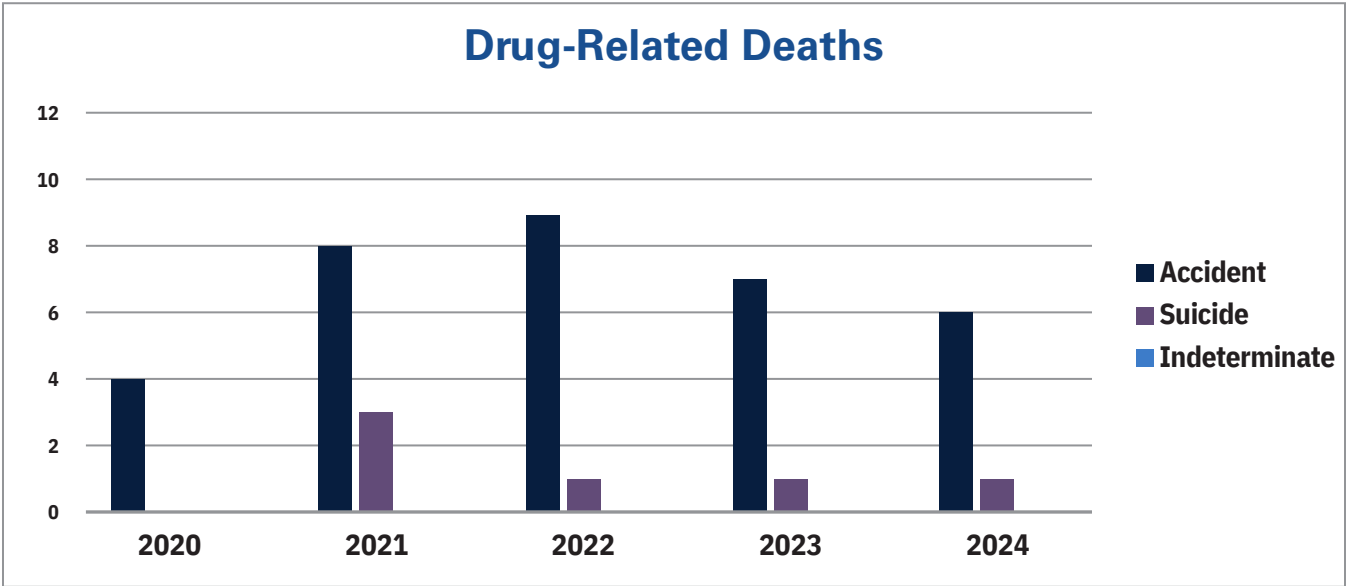
46 One fire and one entangled on electric fence

Ionia County

Drug-Related Deaths

For purposes of this report, drug-related fatalities are deaths in which an overdose of a combination of drugs or a single drug caused or contributed to the death. These deaths do not include situations in which intoxication might have been a factor in an incident leading to death, such as motor vehicle crashes, falls, choking while eating or environmental exposures.

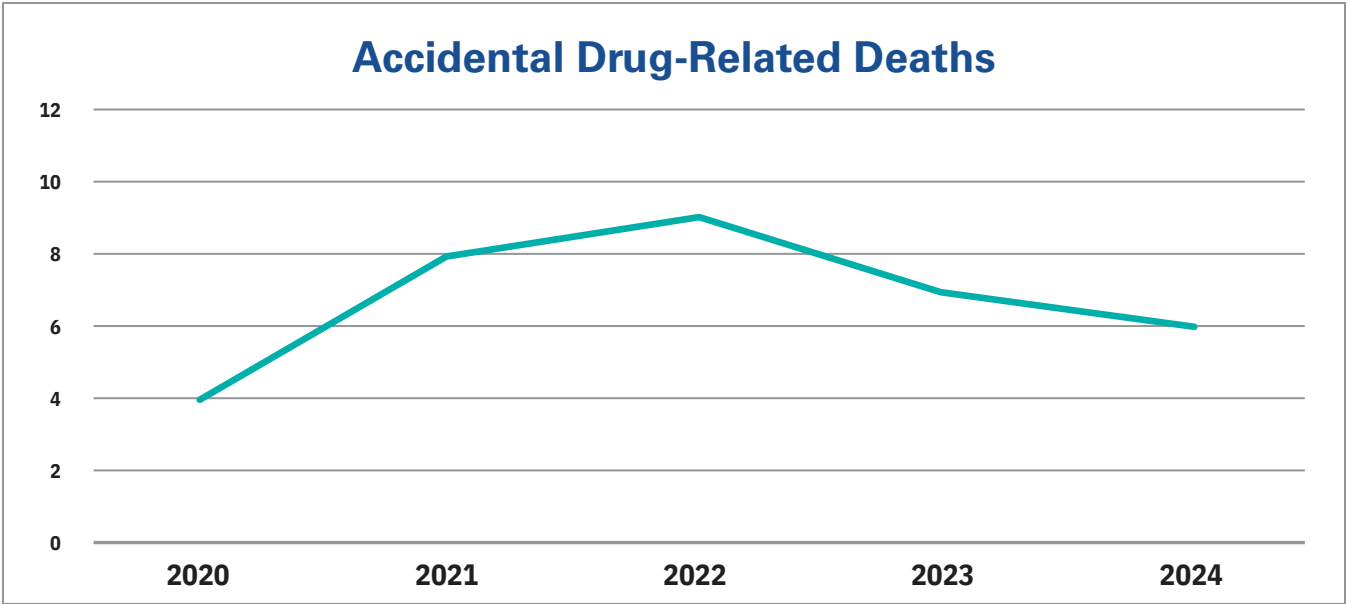
Drug-Related Deaths	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
ACCIDENT	4	8	9	7	6
SUICIDE	0	3	1	1	1
INDETERMINATE	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	4	11	10	8	7



Ionia County

Drug-Related Deaths

2024 Drug-Related Deaths Summary	
TOTAL	7 cases
SEX	1 female, 6 male
RACE	6 White, 1 Black
AGE RANGE	27-53 years
AVERAGE AGE	40.3 years
MEDIAN AGE	37 years
OPIOID-RELATED	6 cases (85.7% of Drug-Related Deaths)
MANNER OF DEATH	6 accidents, 1 suicide



Ionia County

Suicides

Suicide Totals by Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
SUICIDES	9	15	15	11	19

Suicide Methods	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
FIREARM	5	6	8	3	10
HANGING	4	3	3	5	7
DRUG INTOXICATION	0	3	1	1	1
CARBON MONOXIDE	0	1	0	0	0
MOTOR VEHICLE	0	1	2 ⁴⁷	1 ⁴⁸	0
OTHER	0	1 ⁴⁹	1 ⁵⁰	1 ⁵¹	1 ⁵²

Suicides by Age	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
0-17	0	2	1	0	1
18-25	2	1	4	2	2
26-44	2	5	4	6	6
45-64	4	6	5	3	8
65+	1	1	1	0	2

47 One motor vehicle crash; one drowning after intentionally driving vehicle into a drainage ditch

48 Pedestrian struck by motor vehicle after walking into traffic

49 Self-inflicted stab wound

50 Poisoning via ingestion of sodium nitrate

51 Self-inflicted sharp force/incised wound of upper extremity

52 Self-inflicted stab wound

Ionian County

Deaths of Children

Deaths of Children by Age	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Stillborn	1	0	0	1	0
<1 year	2	1	2	1	0
1-5	1	0	0	0	0
6-10	1	0	0	0	0
11-17	0	2	2	0	3
TOTAL	5	3	4	2	3

Manner of Death	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
NATURAL	1	0	0	0	0
ACCIDENT	2	0	1	0	2
SUICIDE	0	2	1	0	1
HOMICIDE	0	0	0	0	0
INDETERMINATE	1	1	2	1	0

Ionia County

Deaths of Children

2024 Deaths of Children Summary				
Manner	Number of Deaths	Age	Sex	Cause of Death
STILLBORN	0			
NATURAL	0			
ACCIDENT	2	15 years	Female	Motor vehicle crash, passenger
		16 years	Female	Motor vehicle crash, passenger
HOMICIDE	0			
SUICIDE	1	15 years	Female	Gunshot wound
INDETERMINATE	0			

Isabella County

Medical Examiner

Michael A. Markey, M.D.

Deputy Medical Examiners

Christopher A. Hauch, M.D.

David S. Moons, M.D.

Chief Investigator

Michelle A. Fox, D-ABMDI

Medical Examiner Investigators

Mindy Bailey

Zachary Brown

Lindsey Clark

Kari Duman

Taylor Maylee Hoekwater, D-ABMDI

Lynette Mongar

Tiffany Pickler

Frank Robinson

Erin Schorle

Bill Simpson, D-ABMDI

Daniel Sowles, D-ABMDI

Jacob Stair

Cody Terrian

Michelle Thompson

Amanda Wallace, D-ABMDI

Isabella County

Summary of Cases

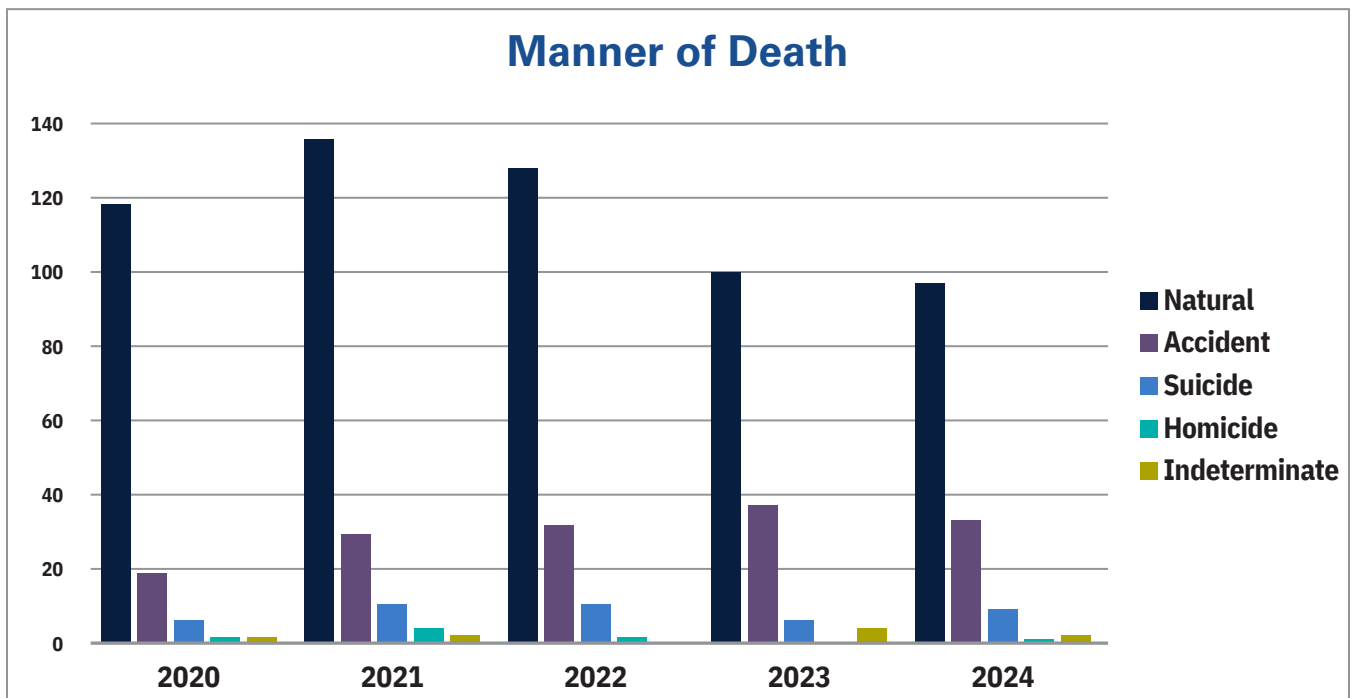
Summary of Cases	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
TOTAL DEATHS IN THE COUNTY	603	624	605	599	527
DEATHS REPORTED TO THE ME	148	183	170	147	143
CASES ACCEPTED FOR INVESTIGATION ⁵³	128	150	138	128	121
MEI SCENE INVESTIGATIONS	115	119	124	111	115
DEATH CERTIFICATES SIGNED BY THE ME	50	73	76	76	69
BODIES TRANSPORTED TO UM HEALTH-SPARROW	39	57	52	55	47
COMPLETE AUTOPSY	29	42	41	46	40
LIMITED AUTOPSY	2	6	4	3	1
EXTERNAL EXAMINATION	6	5	4	6	5
STORAGE ONLY	1	4	3	1	1
UNCLAIMED BODIES	1	5	1	2	4
REFERRALS TO GIFT OF LIFE	48	60	66	58	54
TISSUE/CORNEA DONORS	6	7	19	6	8
CREMATION PERMITS REVIEWED	384	409	426	445	389

⁵³ Not every case that is reported to the Medical Examiner's office falls within our jurisdiction. We accept cases for investigation based on the circumstances surrounding the death and the law that governs the Medical Examiner's authority (MCL 52.202).

Isabella County

Manner of Death

Manner of Death	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
NATURAL	119	137	127	100	97
ACCIDENT	19	29	31	37	33
SUICIDE	6	10	10	6	9
HOMICIDE	2	4	2	0	1
INDETERMINATE	2	2	0	4	2
TOTAL	148	182	170	147	143 ⁵⁴

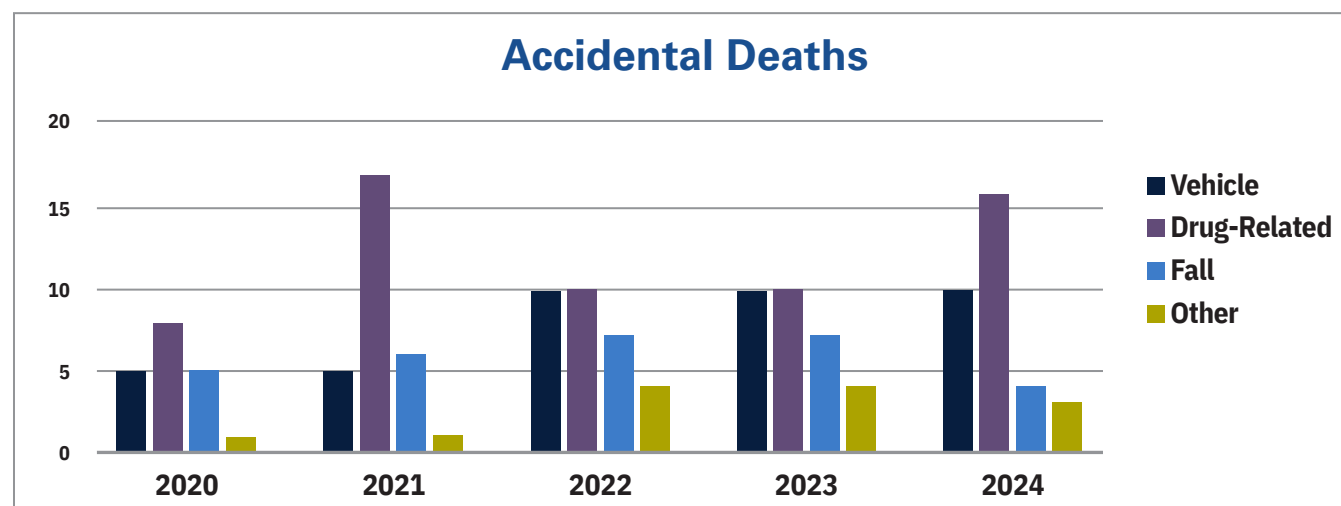


⁵⁴ Native American remains found at construction site

Isabella County

Accidental Deaths

Accidental Deaths	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
VEHICLE	5	5	10	8 ⁵⁵	10
DRUG-RELATED	8	17	10	19	16
DROWNING	0	0	0	1	0
FALL	5	6	7	7	4
ASPHYXIA	1	0	4	2	1
FIRE	0	0	0	1 ⁵⁶	0
OTHER	0	1 ⁵⁷	0	0	2 ⁵⁸
TOTAL	19	29	31	37	33



⁵⁵ One post motor vehicle crash included in both fire and vehicle categories

⁵⁶ One post motor vehicle crash included in both fire and vehicle categories

⁵⁷ One industrial injury

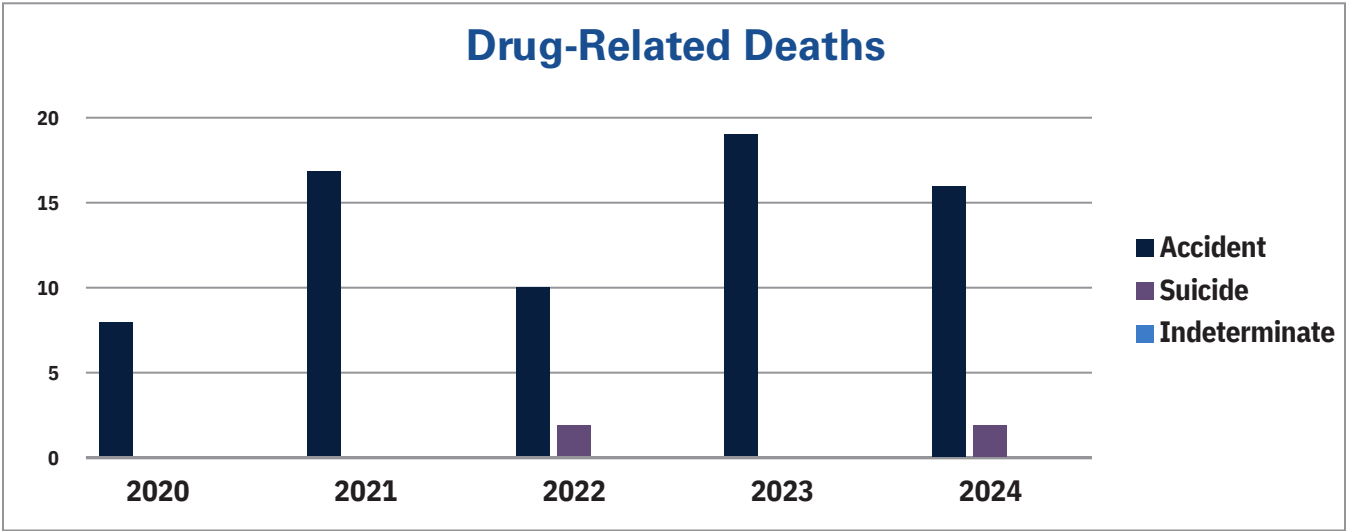
⁵⁸ One head struck by boat lift, one run over by machinery

Isabella County

Drug-Related Deaths

For purposes of this report, drug-related fatalities are deaths in which an overdose of a combination of drugs or a single drug caused or contributed to the death. These deaths do not include situations in which intoxication might have been a factor in an incident leading to death, such as motor vehicle crashes, falls, choking while eating or environmental exposures.

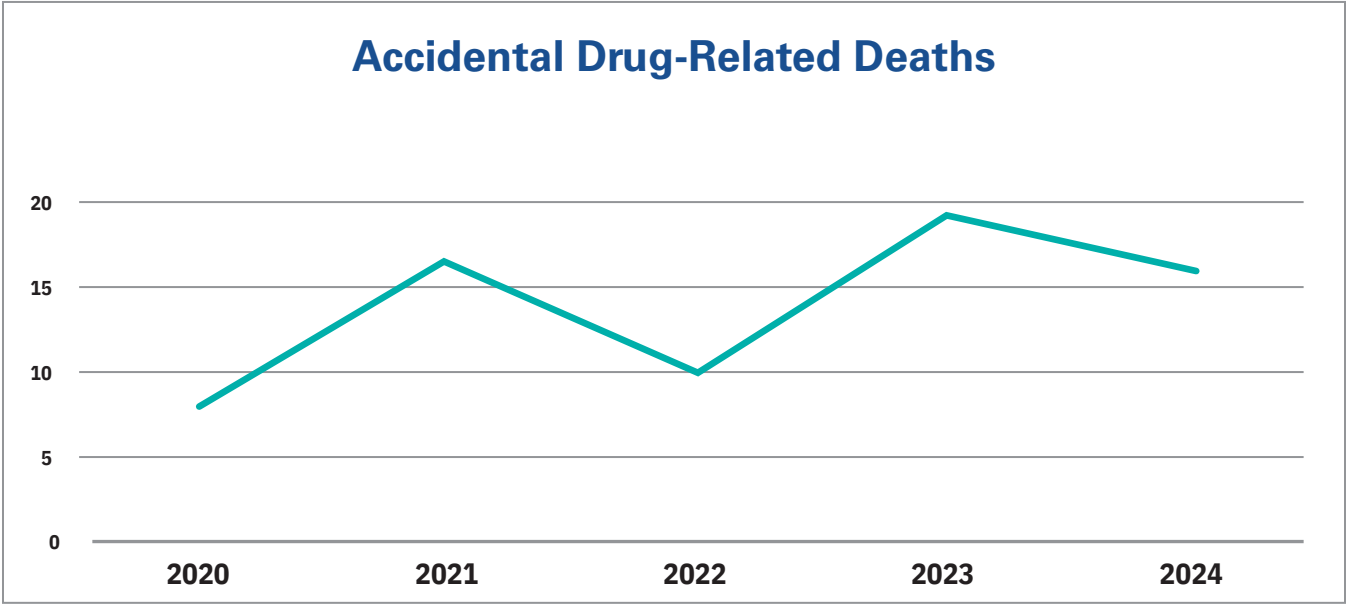
Drug-Related Deaths	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
ACCIDENT	8	17	10	19	16
SUICIDE	0	0	2	0	2
INDETERMINATE	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	8	17	12	19	18



Isabella County

Drug-Related Deaths

2024 Drug-Related Deaths Summary	
TOTAL	18 cases
SEX	4 female, 14 male
RACE	14 White, 1 Black, 3 Native American
AGE RANGE	15-70 years
AVERAGE AGE	45.1 years
MEDIAN AGE	44 years
OPIOID-RELATED	9 cases (50% of Drug-Related Deaths)
MANNER OF DEATH	16 accidents, 2 suicides



Isabella County

Suicides

Suicide Totals by Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
SUICIDES	6	10	10	6	9

Suicide Methods	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
FIREARM	3	5	5	3	3
HANGING	3	4	2	3	1
DRUG INTOXICATION	0	0	2	0	2
MOTOR VEHICLE/FIRE	0	0	1	0	1
OTHER	0	1 ⁵⁹	0	0	2 ⁶⁰

Suicides by Age	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
0-17	1	0	2	0	0
18-25	1	2	0	0	1
26-44	1	4	2	2	4
45-64	2	1	2	2	2
65+	1	3	4	2	2

⁵⁹ Sharp force injury

⁶⁰ One asphyxia due to helium and plastic bag, one sharp force injury

Isabella County

Deaths of Children

Deaths of Children by Age	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Stillborn	0	0	0	0	0
<1 year	3	1	1	1	1
1-5	1	1	1	0	0
6-10	0	0	0	0	1
11-17	2	3	3	0	1
TOTAL	6	5	5	1	3

Manner of Death	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
NATURAL	2	0	0	0	0
ACCIDENT	2	2	2	0	2
SUICIDE	1	0	2	0	0
HOMICIDE	0	2	1	0	1
INDETERMINATE	1	1	0	1	0

Isabella County

Deaths of Children

2024 Deaths of Children Summary				
Manner	Number of Deaths	Age	Sex	Cause of Death
STILLBORN	0			
NATURAL	0			
ACCIDENT	0	2 months	Male	Asphyxia-unsafe sleep position
		15 years	Male	Overdose
HOMICIDE	0	6 years	Male	Gunshot wound
SUICIDE	0			
INDETERMINATE	0			

Livingston County

Medical Examiner

Michael A. Markey, M.D.

Deputy Medical Examiners

Christopher A. Hauch, M.D.

David S. Moons, M.D.

Chief Investigator

Michelle A. Fox, D-ABMDI

Medical Examiner Investigators

Dennis Bakka

Jonathan Black, D-ABMDI

Amanda Bukovick

Richard Cruz, D-ABMDI

Tim Davids

Scott Demoff

Diana French, D-ABMDI

John Kelley

Eric LaPres, D-ABMDI

Shannon Leinenger

Raeann Lescoe

Edwin Moore, D-ABMDI

Troy Murrish, D-ABMDI

Krystin Smith

Jacob Stair

Daniel Taylor

Amanda Wallace, D-ABMDI

Livingston County

Summary of Cases

On Sept. 20, 2022, Livingston County entered into an agreement with UM Health-Sparrow Forensic Pathology to provide medical examiner services. Due to limited data from prior years, this report only includes data for 2023 and 2024 which are the first full years we served as the Livingston County Medical Examiner's Office.

Summary of Cases	2023	2024
TOTAL DEATHS IN THE COUNTY	1340	1380
DEATHS REPORTED TO THE ME	357	357
CASES ACCEPTED - INVESTIGATION ⁶¹	320	343
MEI SCENE INVESTIGATIONS	313	343
DEATH CERTIFICATES SIGNED BY THE ME	126	141
BODIES TRANSPORTED TO UM HEALTH-SPARROW	88	102
COMPLETE AUTOPSY	66	59
LIMITED AUTOPSY	10	9
EXTERNAL EXAMINATION	12	22
STORAGE ONLY	16 ⁶²	11
UNCLAIMED BODIES	0	2
REFERRALS TO GIFT OF LIFE	183	161
TISSUE/CORNEA DONORS	17	9
CREMATION PERMITS REVIEWED	963	1,043

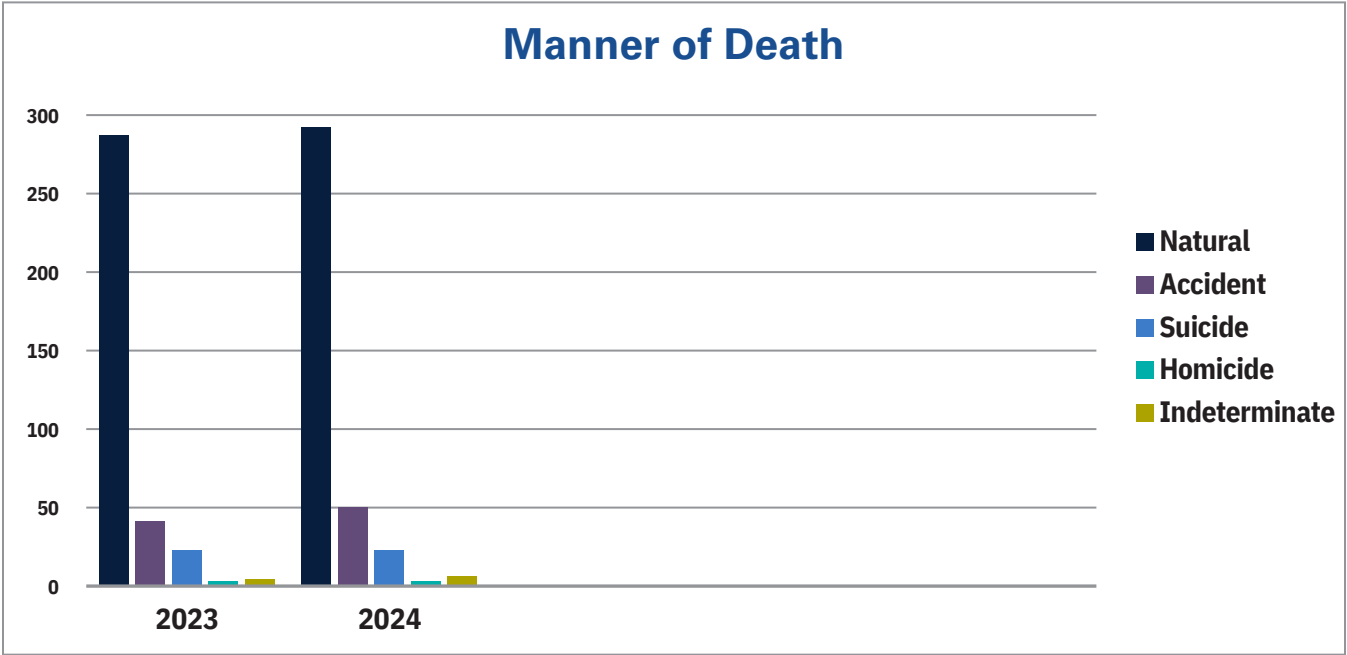
⁶¹ Not every case that is reported to the Medical Examiner's office falls within our jurisdiction. We accept cases for investigation based on the circumstances surrounding the death and the law that governs the Medical Examiner's authority (MCL 52.202).

⁶² 12 sent to UM Health-Sparrow Lansing morgue, three sent to Genoa EMS, one sent to Trinity Health

Livingston County

Manner of Death

Manner of Death	2023	2024
NATURAL	287	292
ACCIDENT	41	50
SUICIDE	23	23
HOMICIDE	2	2
INDETERMINATE	3	6
TOTAL	356 ⁶³	374 ⁶⁴

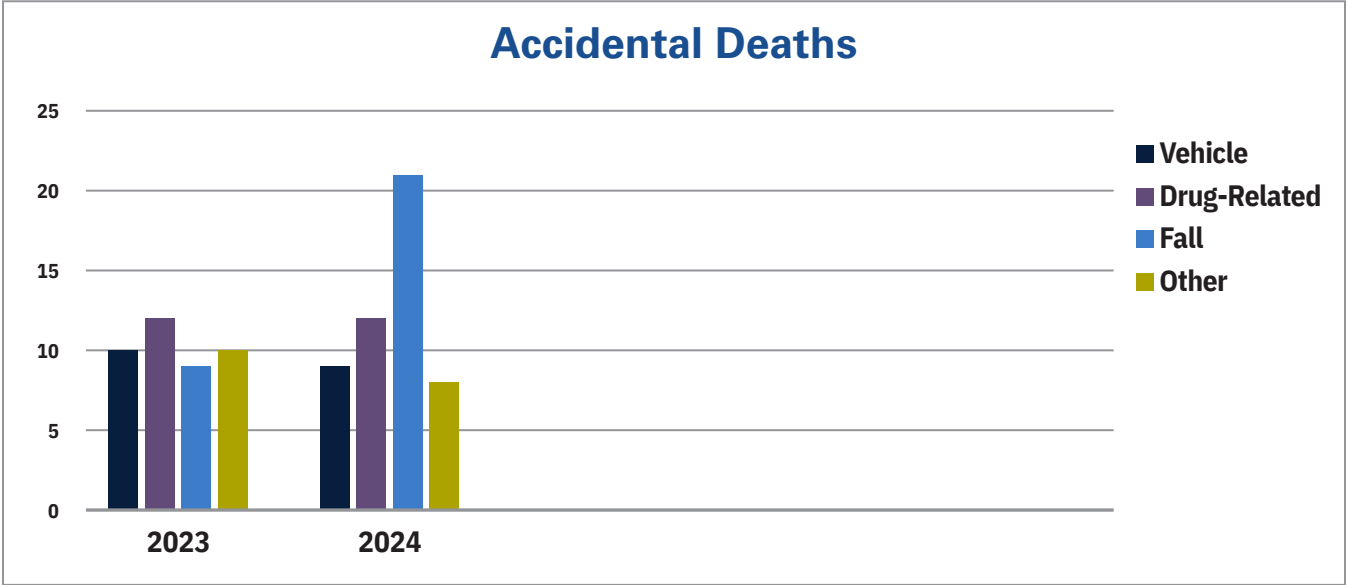


63 One non-human remains (bone)
 64 One human skull

Livingston County

Accidental Deaths

Accidental Deaths	2023	2024
VEHICLE	10	9
DRUG-RELATED	12	12
DROWNING	4	3
FALL	9	21
FIRE	1	1
ASPHYXIA	2 ⁶⁵	0
HYPOTHERMIA	0	2
OTHER	3 ⁶⁶	2 ⁶⁷
TOTAL	41	50



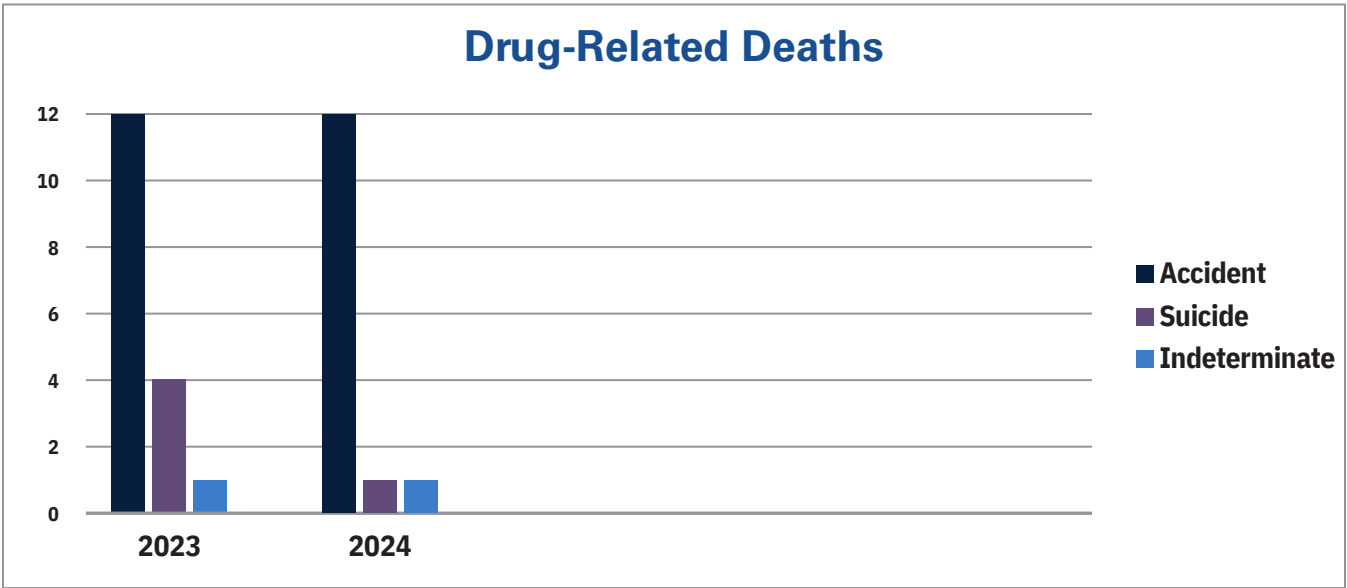
65 One infant (unsafe sleep); one adult (positional asphyxia)
66 One electrocution; one inhalation of products of combustion (carbon monoxide); one dog mauling
67 One inhalation of products of combustion (carbon monoxide); one gunshot

Livingston County

Drug-Related Deaths

For purposes of this report, drug-related fatalities are deaths in which an overdose of a combination of drugs or a single drug caused or contributed to the death. These deaths do not include situations in which intoxication might have been a factor in an incident leading to death, such as motor vehicle crashes, falls, choking while eating or environmental exposures.

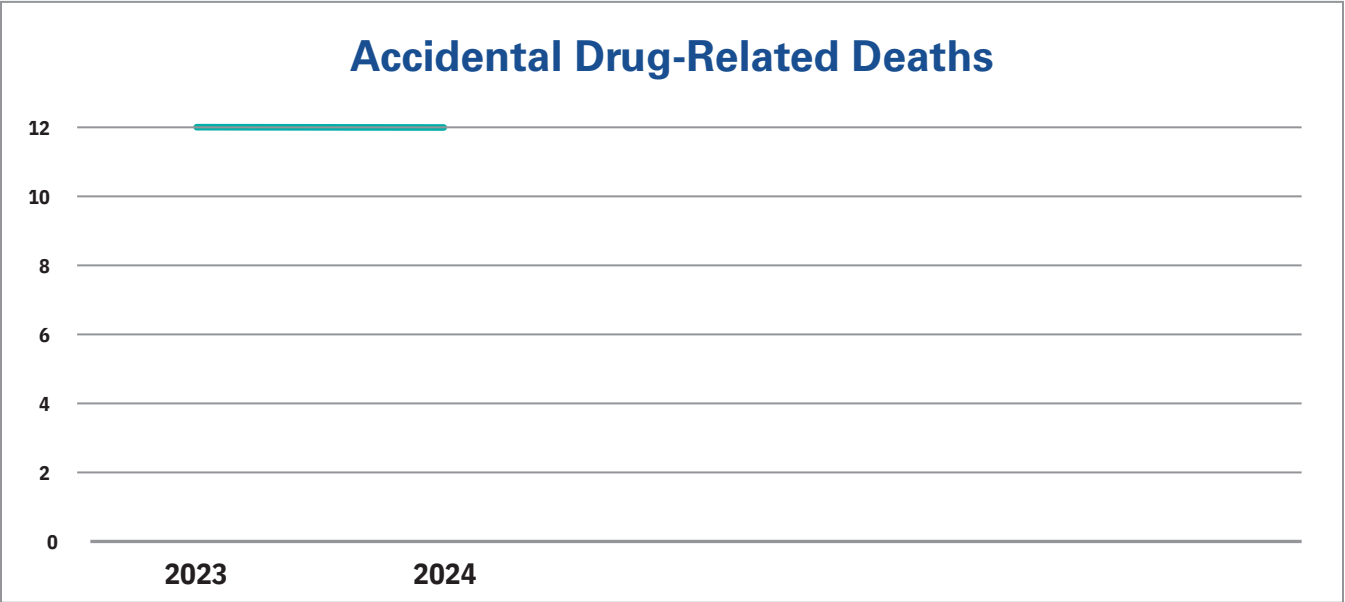
Drug-Related Deaths	2023	2024
ACCIDENT	12	12
SUICIDE	4	1
INDETERMINATE	1	1
TOTAL	17	14



Livingston County

Drug-Related Deaths

2024 Drug-Related Deaths Summary	
TOTAL	14 cases
SEX	5 female, 9 male
RACE	13 White, 1 Asian
AGE RANGE	25-65 years
AVERAGE AGE	46.7 years
MEDIAN AGE	51 years
OPIOID-RELATED	9 cases (64.3% of Drug-Related Deaths)
MANNER OF DEATH	12 accidents, 1 suicide, 1 indeterminate



Livingston County

Suicides

Suicide Totals by Year	2023	2024
SUICIDES	23	23

Suicide Methods	2023	2024
FIREARM	13	12
HANGING	3	7
DRUG INTOXICATION	4	1
CARBON MONOXIDE	1	1
OTHER	2 ⁶⁸	2 ⁶⁹

Suicides by Age	2023	2024
0-17	1	2
18-25	1	2
26-44	9	7
45-64	9	7
65+	3	6

68 One sharp force injury; one jump from height
 69 One motor vehicle accident; one crossbow injury to the head

Livingston County

Deaths of Children

Deaths of Children by Age	2023	2024
Stillborn	0	0
<1 year	2	1
1-5	0	0
6-10	1	0
11-17	2	3
TOTAL	5	4

Manner of Death	2023	2024
NATURAL	1	1
ACCIDENT	2	1
SUICIDE	1	2
HOMICIDE	0	0
INDETERMINATE	1	0

Livingston County

Deaths of Children

2024 Deaths of Children Summary				
Manner	Number of Deaths	Age	Sex	Cause of Death
STILLBORN	0			
NATURAL	1	2 months	Male	Heritable-Genetic-Congenital
ACCIDENT	1	16 years	Female	Motor vehicle crash
HOMICIDE	0			
SUICIDE	2	12 years	Female	Hanging
		15 years	Male	Self-Inflicted crossbow injury to head
INDETERMINATE	0			

Shiawassee County

Medical Examiner

Michael A. Markey, M.D.

Deputy Medical Examiners

Christopher A. Hauch, M.D.

David S. Moons, M.D.

Chief Investigator

Michelle A. Fox, D-ABMDI

Medical Examiner Investigators

Mark Pendergraff

April Archer

Laura Bohms

Lynn Carpenter

Keith Hansen

Lisa Higbee

Alanna Pendergraff

Nicole Perdue

Danielle Perry

Chloe Quinnan

Frank Robinson

Krystin Smith

Daniel Sowles, D-ABMDI

Jacob Stair

Kayla Stammersky

Amanda Wallace, D-ABMDI

Shiawassee County

Summary of Cases

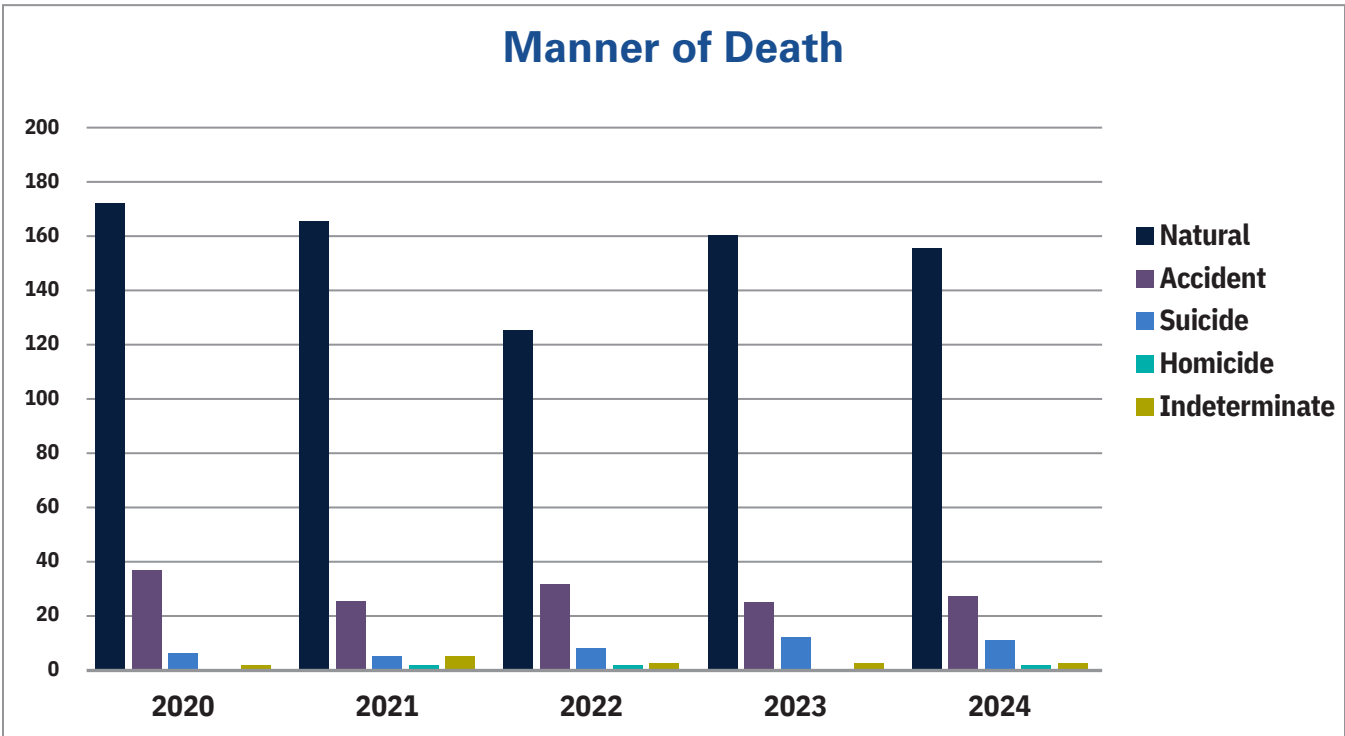
Summary of Cases	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
TOTAL DEATHS IN THE COUNTY	730	804	836	783	780
DEATHS REPORTED TO THE ME	219	200	220	199	196
CASES ACCEPTED - INVESTIGATION ⁷⁰	182	162	191	178	167
MEI SCENE INVESTIGATIONS	152	143	162	156	167
DEATH CERTIFICATES SIGNED BY THE ME	75	72	81	78	72
BODIES TRANSPORTED TO UM HEALTH-SPARROW	52	41	51	46	46
COMPLETE AUTOPSY	43	31	40	26	29
LIMITED AUTOPSY	4	3	5	5	7
EXTERNAL EXAMINATION	3	3	3	9	6
STORAGE ONLY	1	2	1	6	4
UNCLAIMED BODIES	2	2	2	0	2
REFERRALS TO GIFT OF LIFE	24	28	81	84	58
TISSUE/CORNEA DONORS	4	2	11	18	1
CREMATION PERMITS REVIEWED	466	538	543	565	519

⁷⁰ Not every case that is reported to the Medical Examiner's office falls within our jurisdiction. We accept cases for investigation based on the circumstances surrounding the death and the law that governs the Medical Examiner's authority (MCL 52.202).

Shiawassee County

Manner of Death

Manner of Death	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
NATURAL	172	166	175	160	155
ACCIDENT	38	24	32	25	27
SUICIDE	7	4	8	12	11
HOMICIDE	0	1	1	0	1
INDETERMINATE	1	5	2	2	2
TOTAL	218	200	220 ⁷¹	199	196 ⁷²



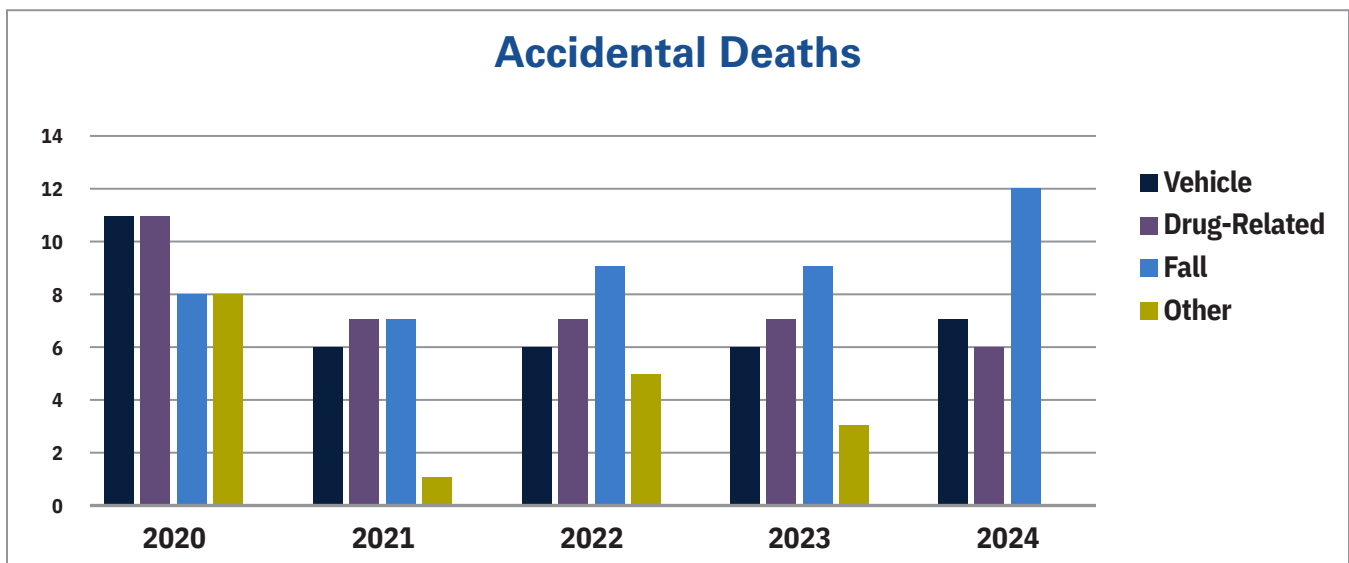
⁷¹ Two stillbirth cases with no manner of death

⁷² One stillbirth; case with no manner of death

Shiawassee County

Accidental Deaths

Accidental Deaths	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
VEHICLE	11	6	8	6 ⁷³	9
DRUG-RELATED	11	7	12	7	6
DROWNING	3	1	0	0	0
FALL	8	7	7	9	12
FIRE	1	0	0	0	0
ASPHYXIA	2	0	2	3 ⁷⁴	0
HYPOTHERMIA	2	0	1	0	0
OTHER	0	3	2 ⁷⁵	0	0
TOTAL	38	24	32	25	27



⁷³ Does not include one traumatic asphyxia case due to person being run over by own vehicle

⁷⁴ One motor vehicle traumatic asphyxia case; two choking on food

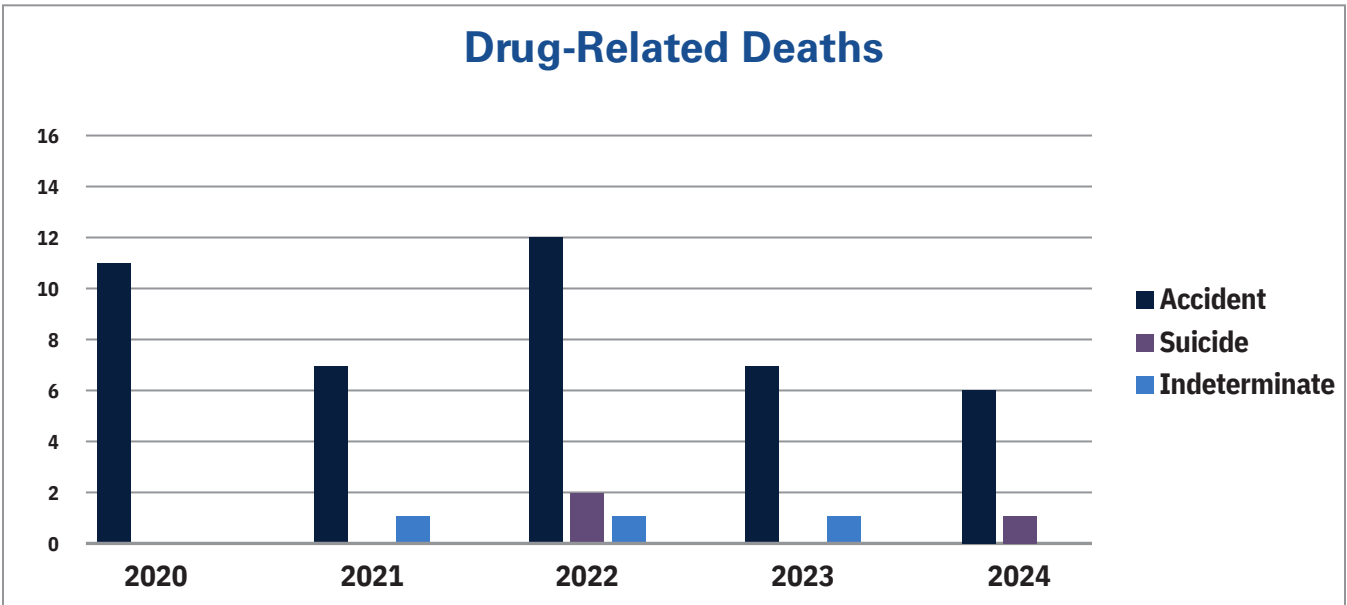
⁷⁵ One remote diving injury; one remote snowmobile crash

Shiawassee County

Drug-Related Deaths

For purposes of this report, drug-related fatalities are deaths in which an overdose of a combination of drugs or a single drug caused or contributed to the death. These deaths do not include situations in which intoxication might have been a factor in an incident leading to death, such as motor vehicle crashes, falls, choking while eating or environmental exposures.

Drug-Related Deaths	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
ACCIDENT	11	7	12	7	6
SUICIDE	0	0	2	0	1
INDETERMINATE	0	1	1 ⁷⁶	1	0
TOTAL	11	8	15	8	7

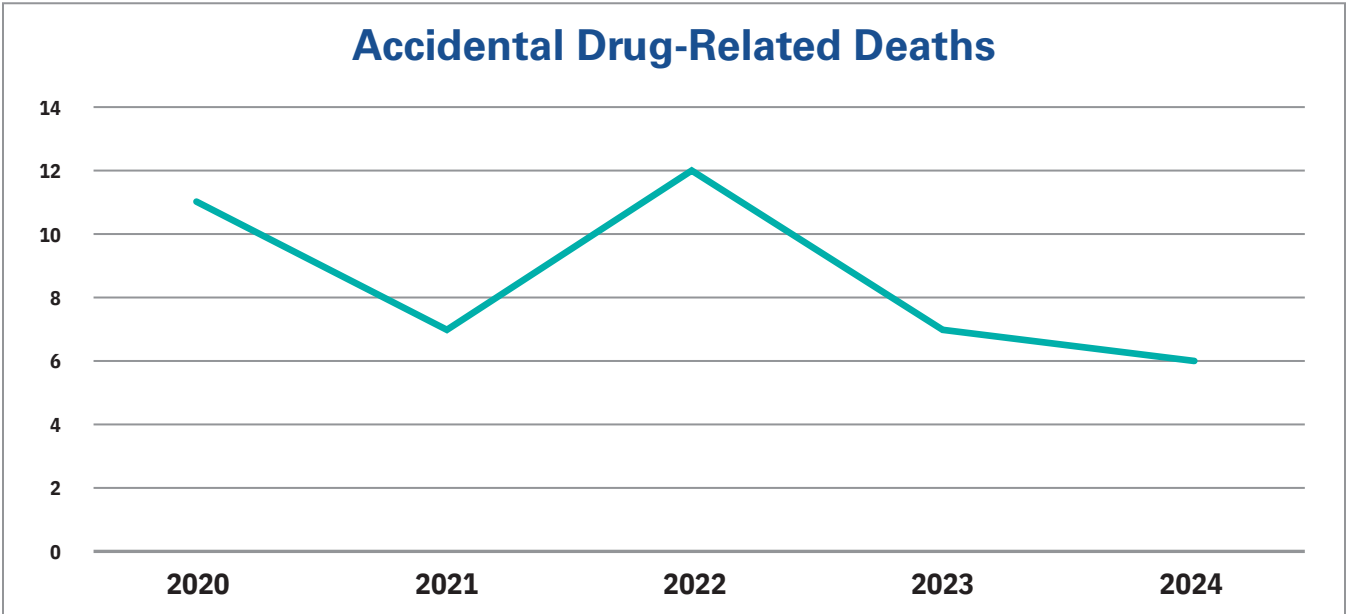


⁷⁶ One-year-old ingested fentanyl

Shiawassee County

Drug-Related Deaths

2024 Drug-Related Deaths Summary	
TOTAL	7 cases
SEX	3 female, 4 male
RACE	5 White, 1 Black, 1 Asian
AGE RANGE	12-50 years
AVERAGE AGE	33.4 years
MEDIAN AGE	35 years
OPIOID-RELATED	5 cases (71% of Drug-Related Deaths)
MANNER OF DEATH	6 accidents, 1 suicide



Shiawassee County

Suicides

Suicide Totals by Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
SUICIDES	7	4	8	12	11

Suicide Methods	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
FIREARM	4	3	6	7	8
HANGING	3	1	0	4	2
DRUG INTOXICATION	0	0	2	0	1
CARBON MONOXIDE	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER	0	0	0	1 ⁷⁷	0

Suicides by Age	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
0-17	0	0	0	0	1
18-25	2	1	0	2	1
26-44	2	0	4	3	3
45-64	3	1	3	4	5
65+	0	2	1	3	1

⁷⁷ Asphyxia (bag placed over head with helium inhalation)

Shiawassee County

Deaths of Children

Deaths of Children by Age	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Stillborn	1	2	2	0	1
<1 year	0	2	3	0	1
1-5	0	1	1	0	0
6-10	0	0	0	0	1
11-17	0	0	0	1	1
TOTAL	1	5	6	1	4

Manner of Death	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
NATURAL	0	0	2	0	1
ACCIDENT	0	1	0	1	0
SUICIDE	0	0	0	0	1
HOMICIDE	0	0	0	0	0
INDETERMINATE	0	2	2	0	1

Shiawassee County

Deaths of Children

2024 Deaths of Children Summary				
<i>Manner</i>	<i>Number of Deaths</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Cause of Death</i>
STILLBORN	1	25 weeks gestation	Female	Intrauterine Fetal Demise
NATURAL	1	7 years	Female	Lung infection
ACCIDENT	0			
HOMICIDE	0			
SUICIDE	1	12 years	Female	Overdose
INDETERMINATE	1	3 months	Male	SUID

Comparisons Across Counties

<i>2024 Comparisons Across Counties</i>	<i>Clinton</i>	<i>Eaton</i>	<i>Ingham</i>	<i>Ionia</i>	<i>Isabella</i>	<i>Livingston</i>	<i>Shiawassee</i>
POPULATION ⁷⁸	80,050	109,494	290,427	66,250	64,072	196,976	67,982
TOTAL DEATHS	493	753	3,025	382	527	1,380	780
DEATHS REPORTED TO THE ME (% OF TOTAL DEATHS)	133 (30%)	213 (28.3%)	892 (29.5%)	129 (31.7%)	143 (27.1%)	357 (26.6%)	196 (25.1%)
CASES ACCEPTED FOR INVESTIGATION	125	190	808	117	121	343	167
MEI SCENE INVESTIGATION	115	175	694	117	115	343	167
DEATH CERTIFICATES SIGNED BY THE ME	60	98	471	64	69	141	72
TOTAL EXAMS (% OF CASES ACCEPTED)	43 (34.4%)	69 (36.3%)	245 (30.3%)	46 (39.3%)	46 (38%)	90 (26.2%)	42 (25.1%)
NATURAL DEATHS (% OF DEATHS REPORTED)	92 (74%)	149 (70%)	603 (67.6%)	86 (66.7%)	97 (67.8%)	292 (81.8%)	155 (79%)
ACCIDENTAL DEATHS (% OF DEATHS REPORTED)	25 (18.8%)	40 (18.8%)	225 (25.2%)	21 (16.3%)	33 (23.1%)	50 (14%)	27 (13.7%)
SUICIDE DEATHS (% OF DEATHS REPORTED)	10 (7.5%)	20 (9.4%)	37 (4.1%)	19 (14.7%)	9 (6.3%)	23 (6.4%)	11 (5.6%)
HOMICIDE DEATHS (% OF DEATHS REPORTED)	1 (0.8%)	0 (0%)	14 (1.6%)	1 (0.8%)	1 (0.7%)	2 (0.6%)	1 (0.5%)
INDETERMINATE DEATHS (% OF DEATHS REPORTED)	2 (1.5%)	4 (1.9%)	13 (1.6%)	2 (1.6%)	2 (1.4%)	6 (1.7%)	2 (1%)
DRUG-RELATED DEATHS (% OF DEATHS REPORTED)	6 (6%)	13 (6.1%)	72 (8.1%)	6 (4.7%)	16 (11.2%)	12 (3.4%)	6 (3.1%)
REFERRALS TO GIFT OF LIFE	73	106	546	60	54	161	84
TISSUE/CORNEA DONORS	13	9	54	5	8	9	3
UNCLAIMED BODIES	1	10	27	4	4	2	2

⁷⁸ (2024) Data taken from senate.michigan.gov/sfa/economics/michiganpopulationbycounty.pdf



UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
HEALTH-SPARROW
MICHIGAN MEDICINE

UofMHealthSparrow.org