

# Orange Child Death Review Team

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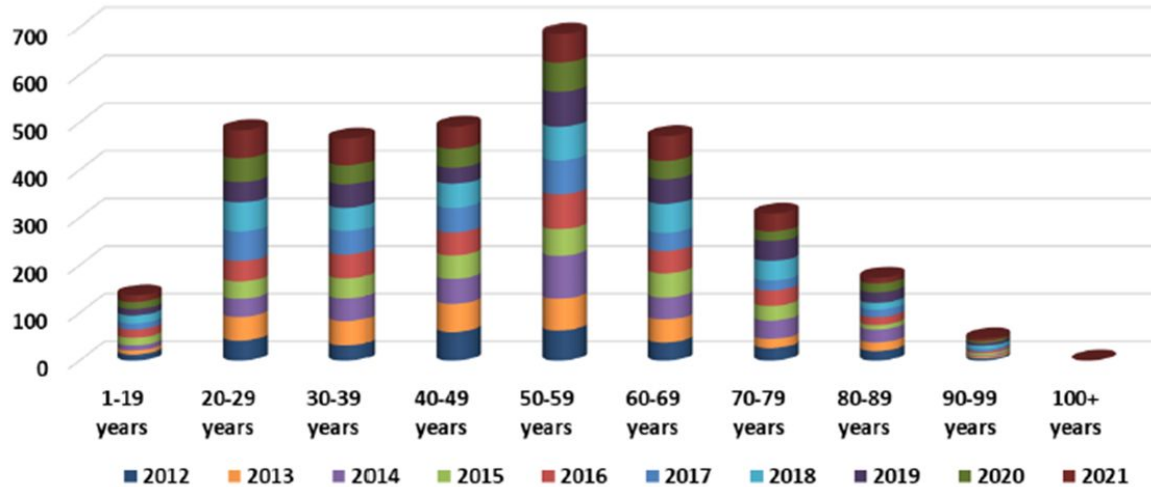
- What is CDRT?
- Review suicides and identify risk factors for completed suicide
- Use of CDRT to acutely recognize increase in suicide rates in Orange County



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### Suicide Deaths by Age - A Ten Year Comparison



	1-19 years
2021	14
2020	15
2019	13
2018	17
2017	13
2016	17
2015	16
2014	11
2013	8
2012	13

## OC Coroner Annual Report 2021



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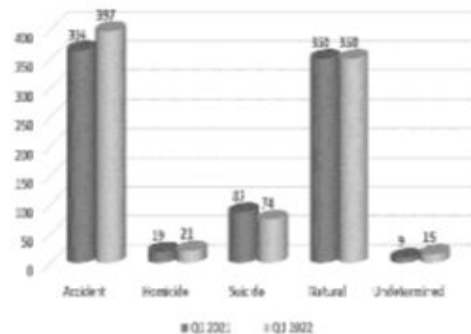




<b>Total cases</b>	<b>861</b>
(+14% from 849 in 2021)	
Q1 Total includes 4 cases pending and 13 cases undetermined	
<b>Accidents</b>	<b>397</b>
(+9%)	
<b>Homicide</b>	<b>21</b>
(+10%)	
<b>Suicide</b>	<b>74</b>
(-14%)	
<b>Natural</b>	<b>350</b>
(0%)	

## MANNER OF DEATH

Comparing Quarter 1 of 2021 to 2022, accidental deaths have increased by 9%, accidental deaths have increased by 9%, homicides were up by 10%, suicides were down by 14%, and natural deaths falling under the jurisdiction of the Coroner remained the same.



### Accidents

Unintentional prescription and illicit drug related deaths increased in 2022 to 57% of all accidental deaths when compared to the same time frame in 2021. Traffic related deaths accounted for 30% while falls were at 18%.



Unplanned deaths due to illicit or prescription drugs and/or ethanol toxicity increased by 8% in the first quarter of 2022 compared to the same time period. In 2021 (210 to 227).

Methamphetamine appeared in 61% of all overdose cases which was a 13% increase compared to the first quarter of 2021.

Fentanyl related deaths also showed a 9% increase (154 to 168).



Falls decreased 3% in 2022 compared to 2021 (63 to 60) which makes them the third highest of all accidental death cases. Some fatal falls were most prevalent at 43% of all falls in 2022 which is 3% lower than 2021.

Vehicle related deaths increased by 14% in comparison to 2021 (70 to 80) with Auto vs. Auto up 29% from 2021 (17 to 22).

Pedestrian deaths accounted for 23% of all vehicular deaths in Quarter 1 of 2022 while in 2021 they were at 41%.

Motorcycle related deaths saw a 43% increase (7 to 10).

### Homicides

**10% INCREASE**

In 62% of the cases a firearm was used.

### Suicides

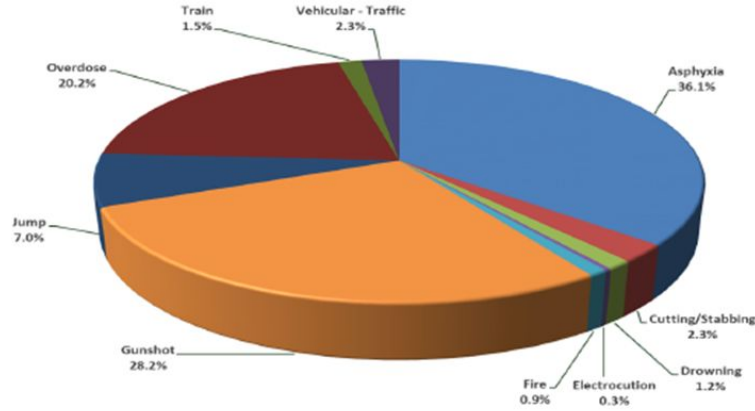
In Quarter 1 of 2022 there was a 14% decrease in suicides compared to Quarter 1 of 2021.

During this time frame gunshot was the leading method at 31% followed by asphyxia at 28%.

The work of the Coroner Division is largely based on Government Code § 27481, which states that all unnatural deaths including homicides, suicides, accidents, and deaths in custody are under the coroner/medical examiner's jurisdiction to investigate. Also falling under our jurisdiction are infectious diseases reaching epidemic proportions, deaths in state or local institutions, and deaths believed to be natural but that occurred suddenly and unexpectedly where the decedent had not seen their health care provider in the last 30 days of life. Note: All deaths that fall under § 27481 are also subject to whether the facts indicate the death occurred under natural circumstances and the physician of record has sufficient knowledge to reasonably state the cause of death occurred under natural circumstances. Therefore, not every death that falls under one of these categories will be investigated by the Coroner's office. See Govt Code § 27488.

\*Due to some cases still under investigation within the quarter, manner of death counts and associated insights may adjust slightly as those cases are closed

### Suicide Deaths by Cause, 2021



Type of Suicide	Number of Cases
Asphyxia	123
Cutting/Stabbing	8
Drowning	4
Electrocution	1
Fire	3
Gunshot	96
Jump	24
Overdose	69
Train	5
Vehicular - Traffic	8



# Mental Health Connection

- Majority with hx depression/SI
- Many known to friends/family
- Some under current treatment at time of suicide
- Significant number with no previous history but with life stressors(social/school)
- Developmental disorders



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