

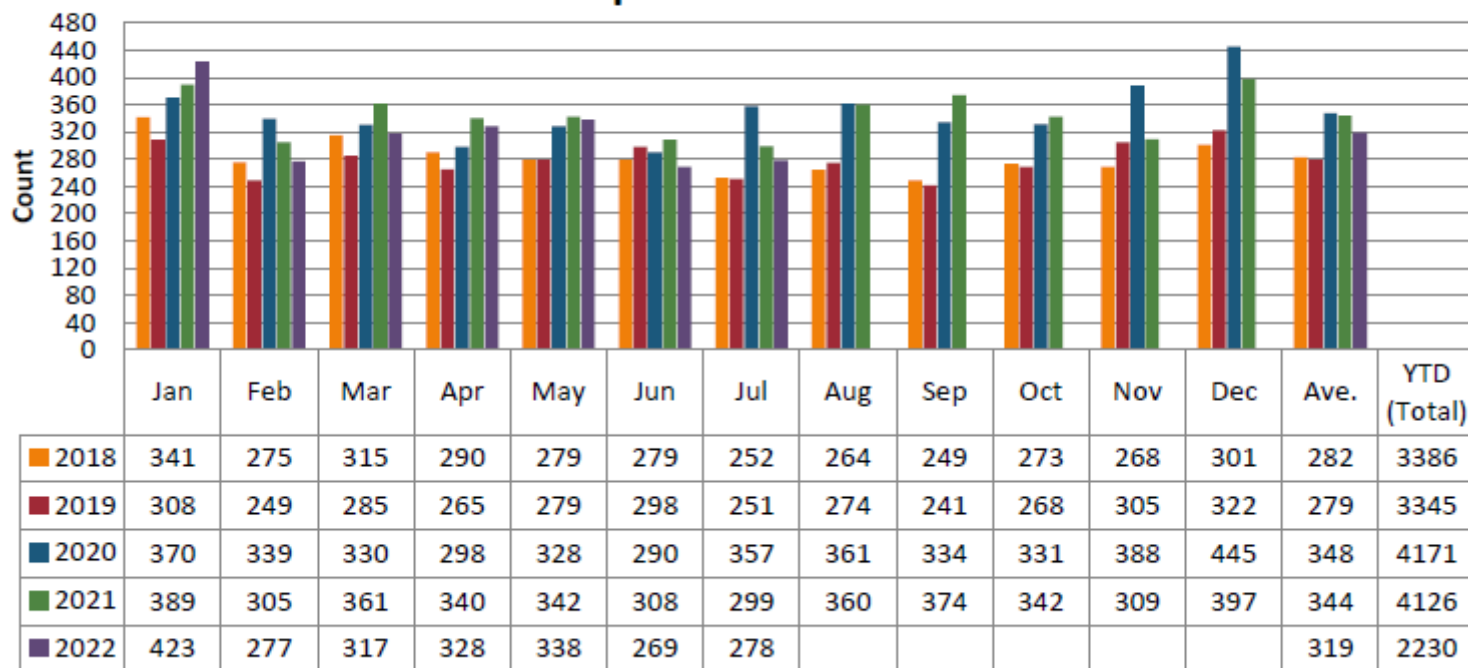
SEDGWICK COUNTY REGIONAL FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER  
Wichita, Kansas

**ADVISORY BOARD QUARTERLY  
REPORT  
August 19, 2022**

---

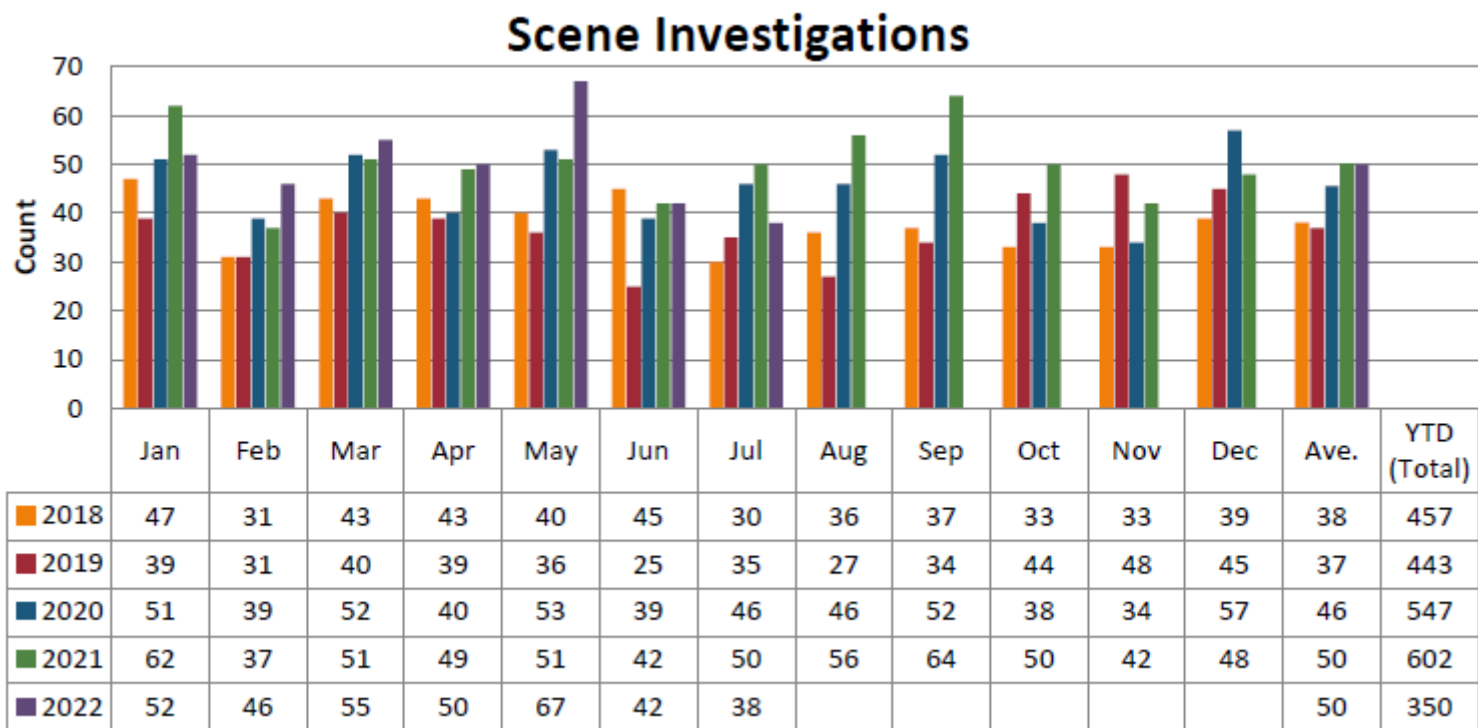
# Medical Investigations

## Reported Deaths



2019-2021: up 23%

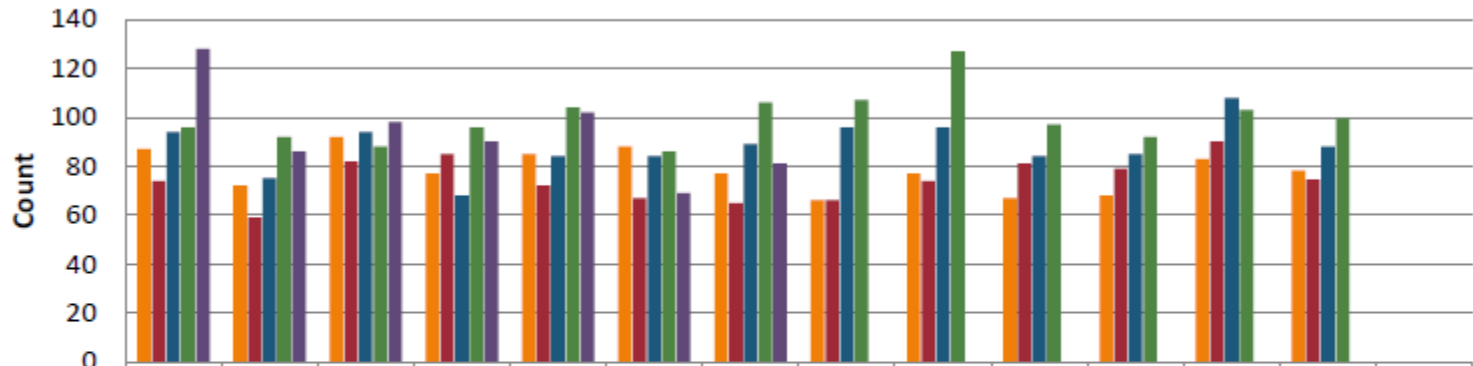
# Medical Investigations



2019-2021: up 36%

# Pathology

## Autopsy Cases Received by Death Reported Year

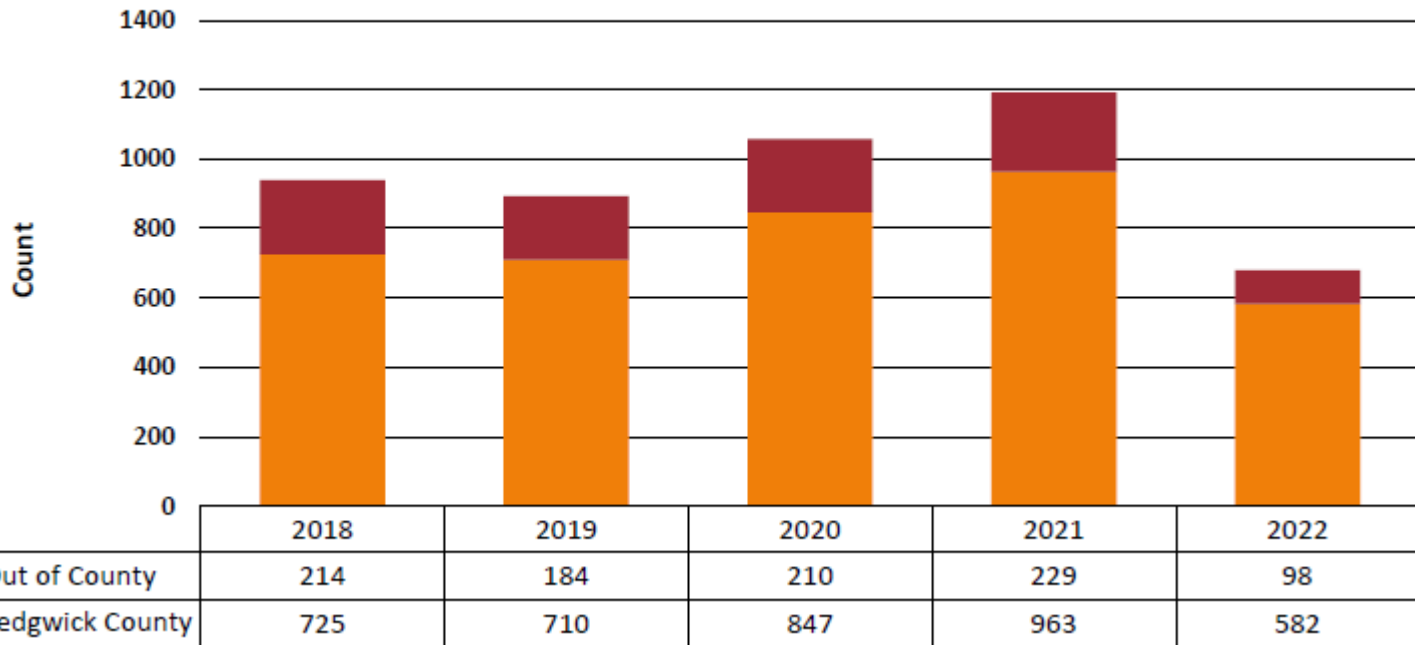


	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ave.	YTD (Total)
2018	87	72	92	77	85	88	77	66	77	67	68	83	78	939
2019	74	59	82	85	72	67	65	66	74	81	79	90	75	894
2020	94	75	94	68	84	84	89	96	96	84	85	108	88	1057
2021	96	92	88	96	104	86	106	107	127	97	92	103	100	1194
2022	128	86	98	90	102	69	81							654

2019-2021: up 34%

# Pathology

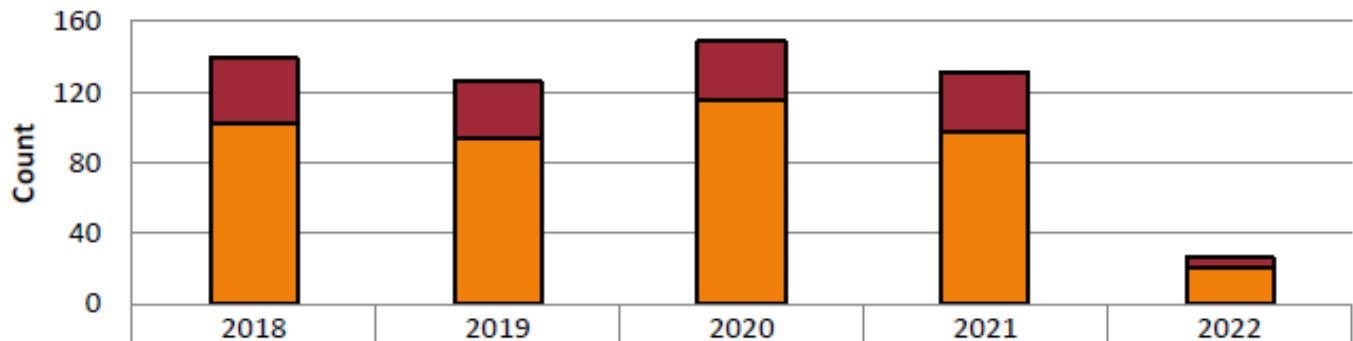
## Autopsy Cases Sedgwick County vs. Out of County



2021 = 24% 2022 = 17%

# Pathology

## Count of Suicides by Examination Year



Other Counties	37	32	34	33	6
Sedgwick	102	94	115	98	20
Total	139	126	149	131	26

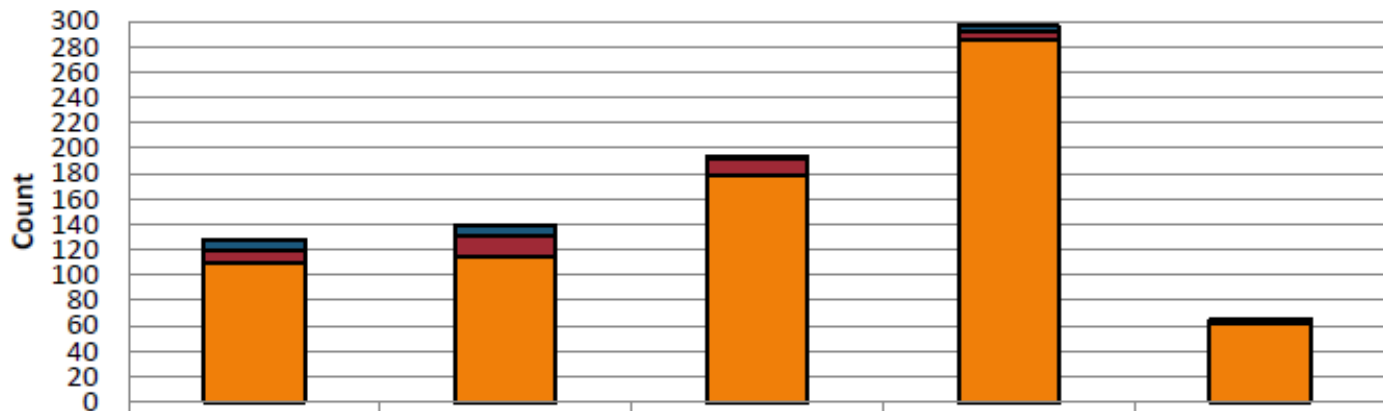
14%

14%

11%

# Pathology

Overdose Count by Manner of Death by Death Year



	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Other	1	0	0	0	0
Undertermined	8	9	3	4	0
Suicide	10	15	12	7	3
Accidental	109	115	179	285	62
Total	128	139	194	296	65

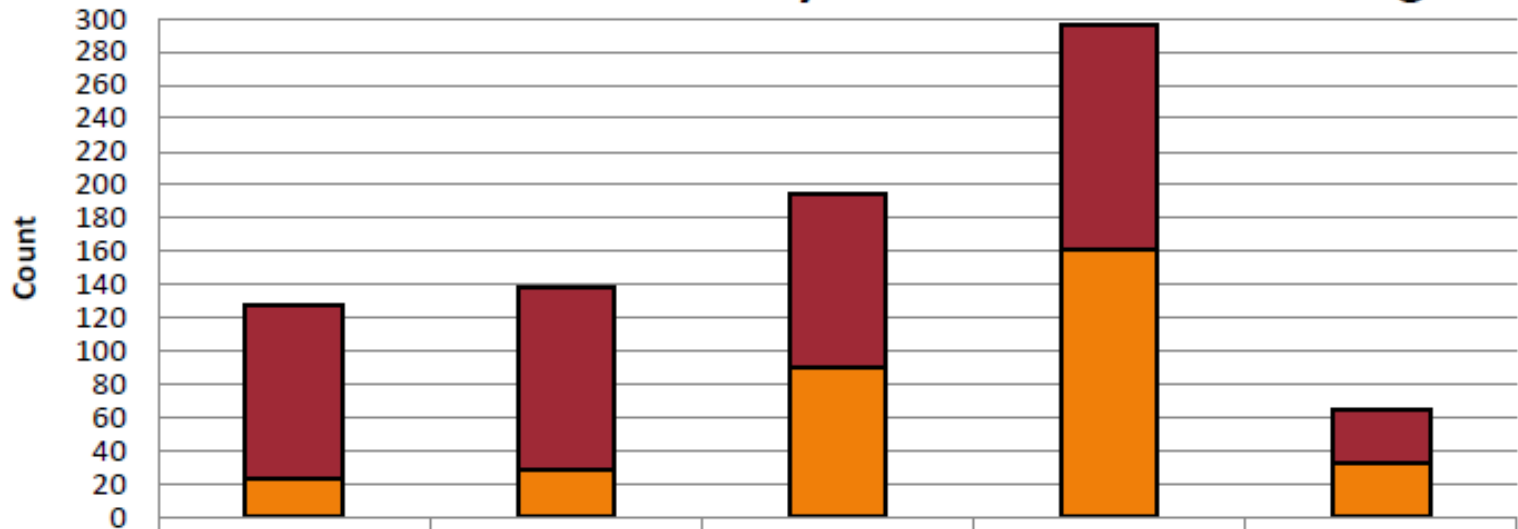
16%

18%

24%

# Pathology

## Overdose Count: Fentanyl Related vs. Other Drugs



	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Other Drugs	105	111	104	135	32
Fentanyl Related	23	28	90	161	33
Total	128	139	194	296	65

20%

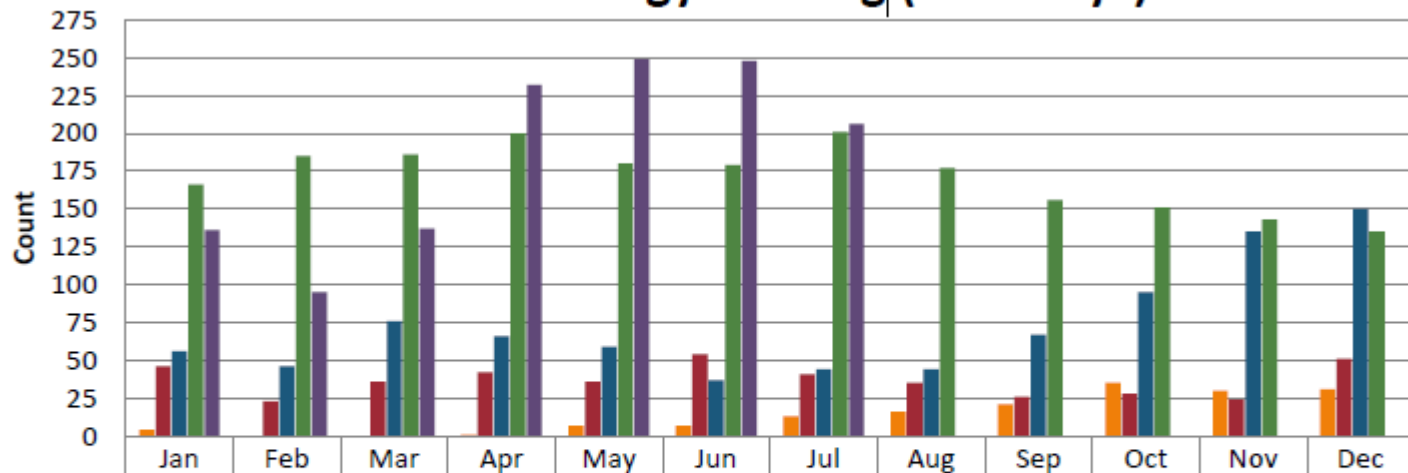
46%

55%



# Toxicology

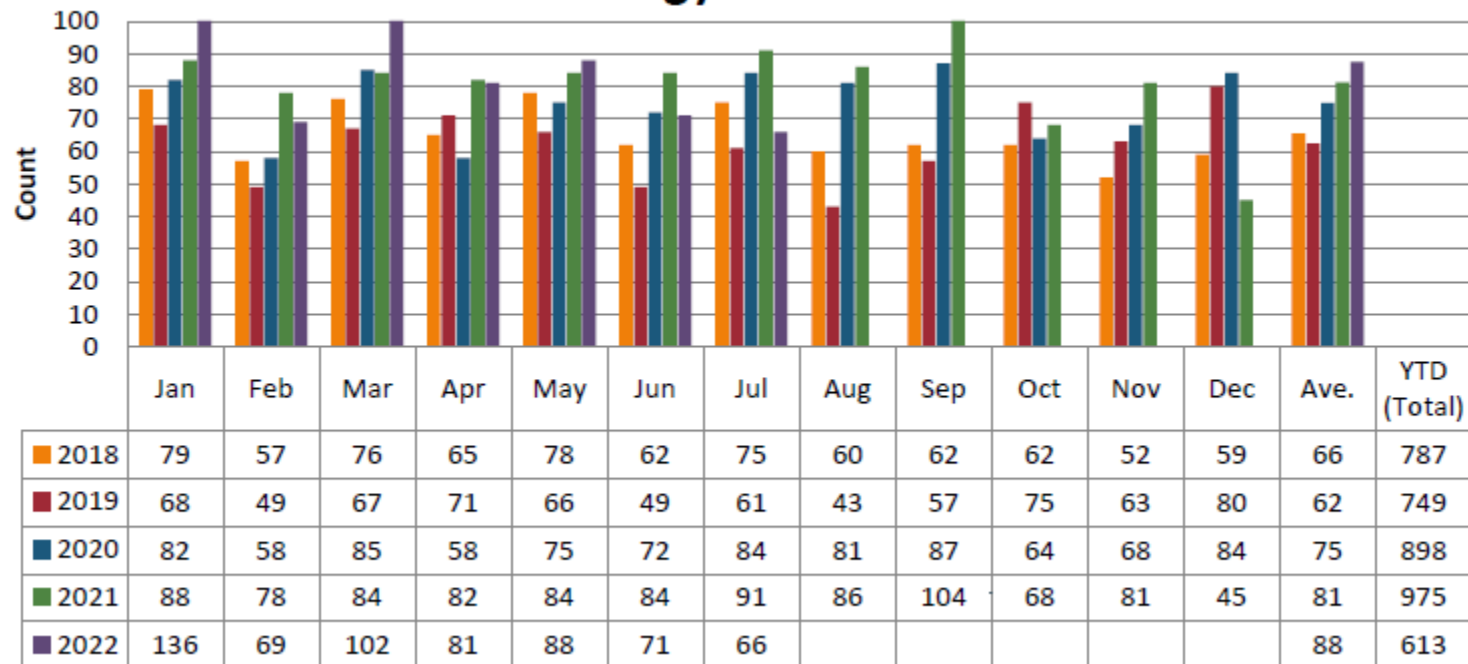
## PM - Toxicology Backlog (> 60 Days)



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
PM ('18)	4	0	0	1	7	7	13	16	21	35	30	31
PM ('19)	46	23	36	42	36	54	41	35	26	28	24	51
PM ('20)	56	46	76	66	59	37	44	44	67	95	135	150
PM ('21)	166	185	186	200	180	179	201	177	156	151	143	135
PM ('22)	136	95	137	232	249	248	206					

# Toxicology

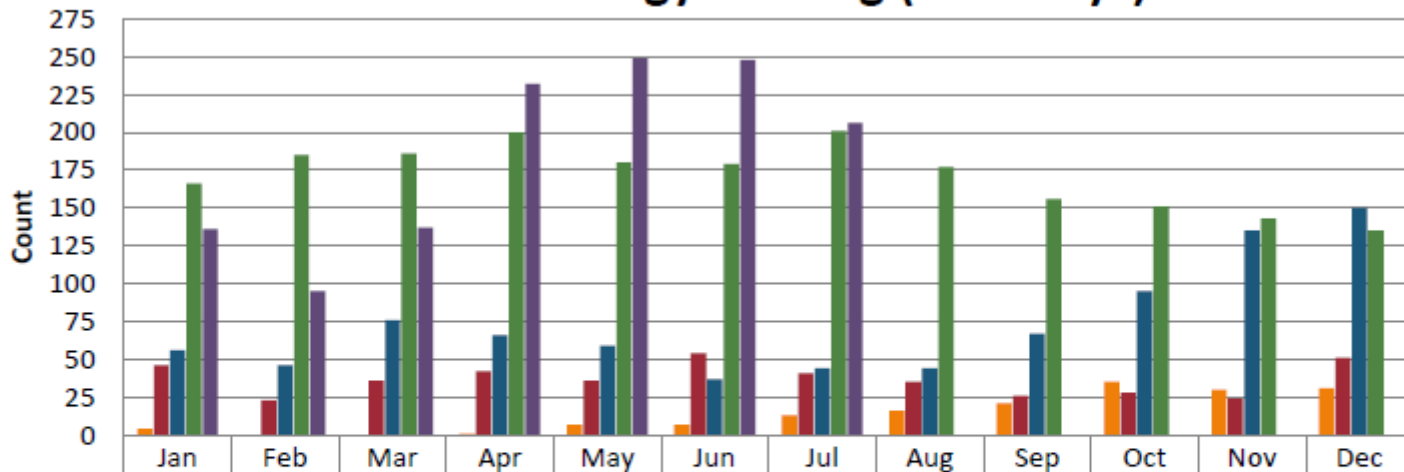
## PM Toxicology Cases Submitted



2019 – 2021 = 30%

# Toxicology

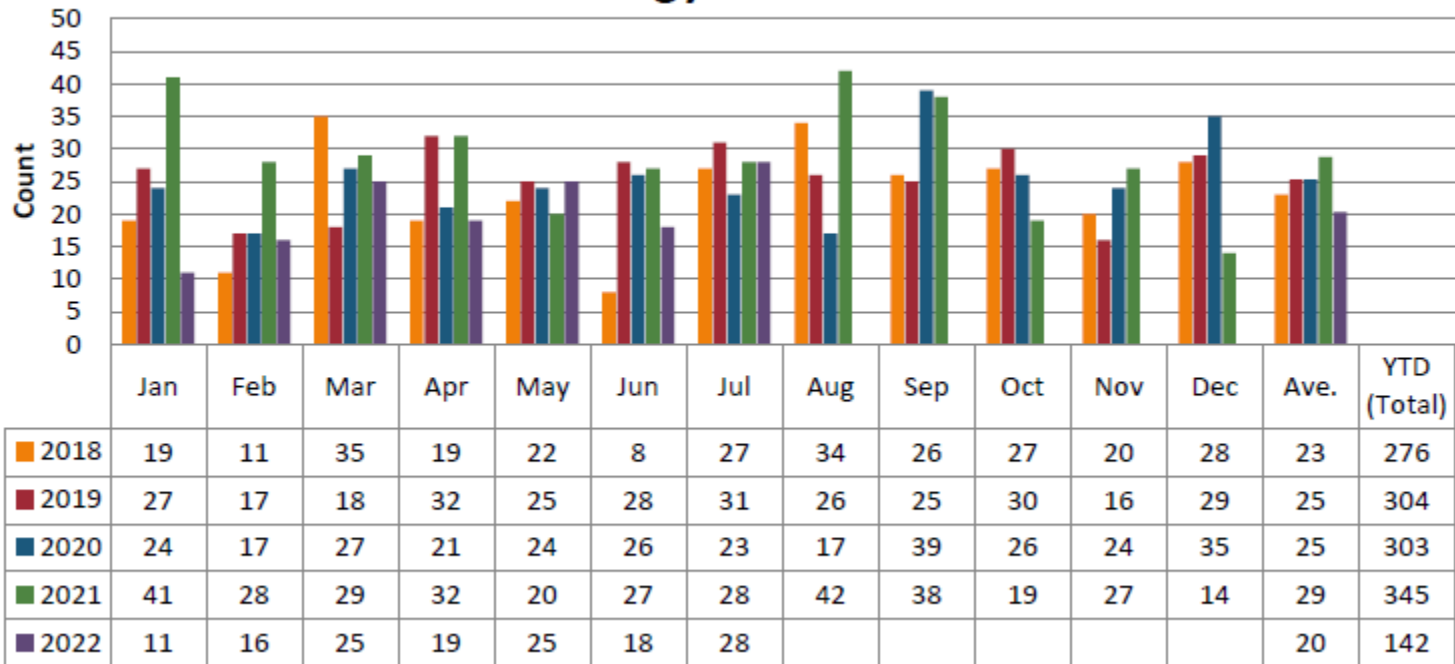
## PM - Toxicology Backlog (> 60 Days)



PM ('18)	4	0	0	1	7	7	13	16	21	35	30	31
PM ('19)	46	23	36	42	36	54	41	35	26	28	24	51
PM ('20)	56	46	76	66	59	37	44	44	67	95	135	150
PM ('21)	166	185	186	200	180	179	201	177	156	151	143	135
PM ('22)	136	95	137	232	249	248	206					

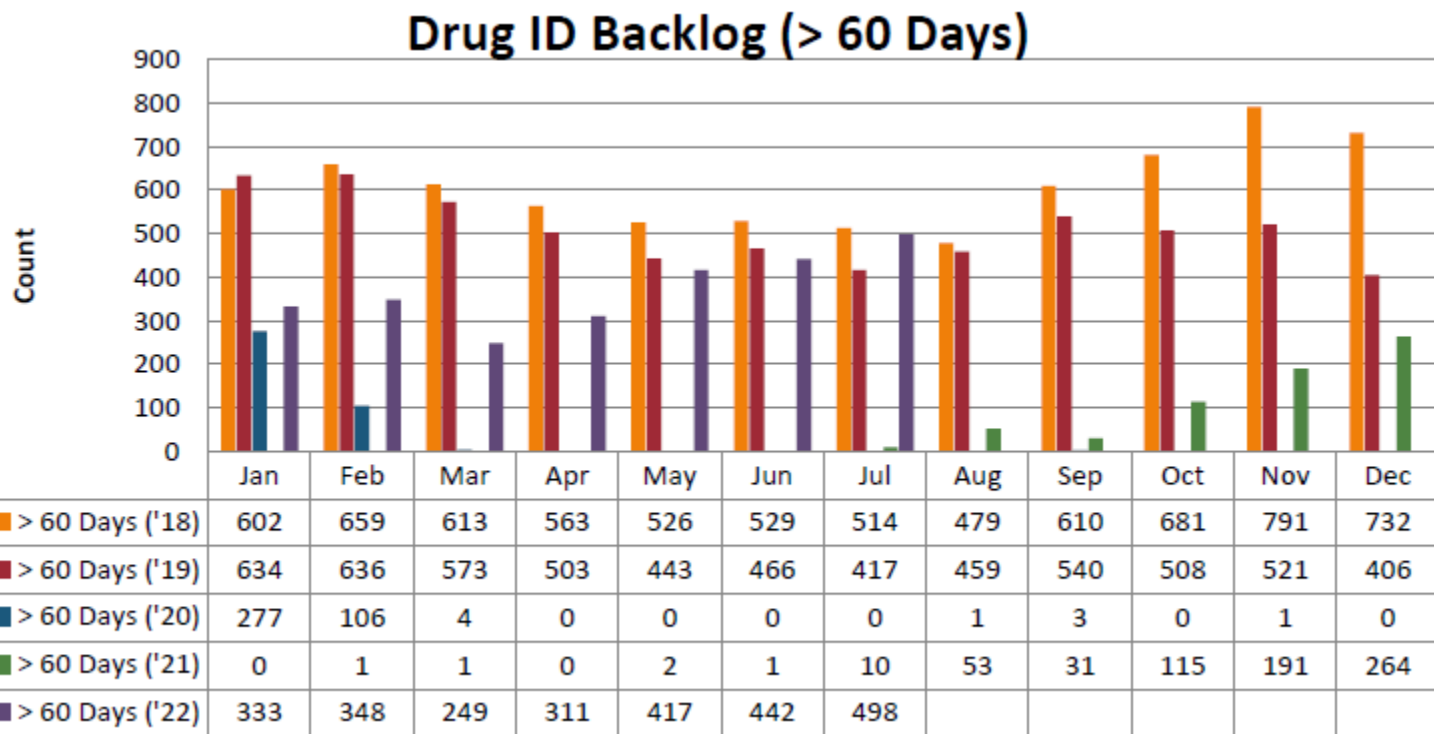
# Toxicology

## HPT Toxicology Cases Submitted



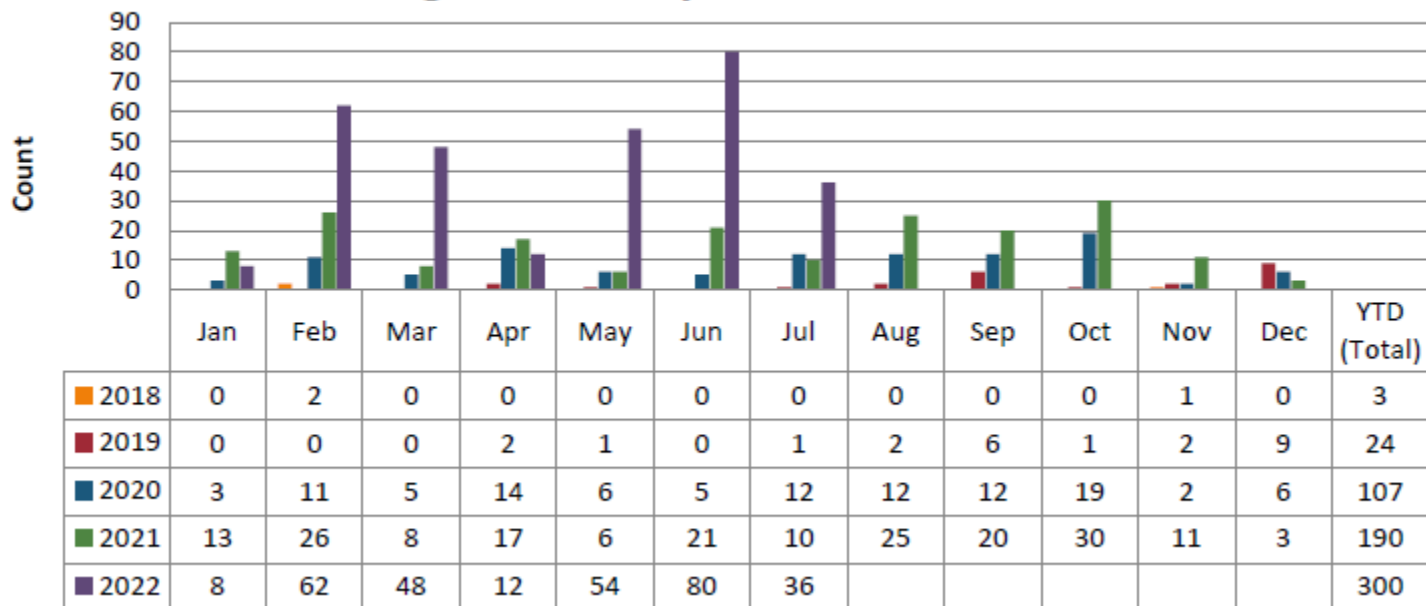
2019 – 2021 = 13%

# Drug Identification

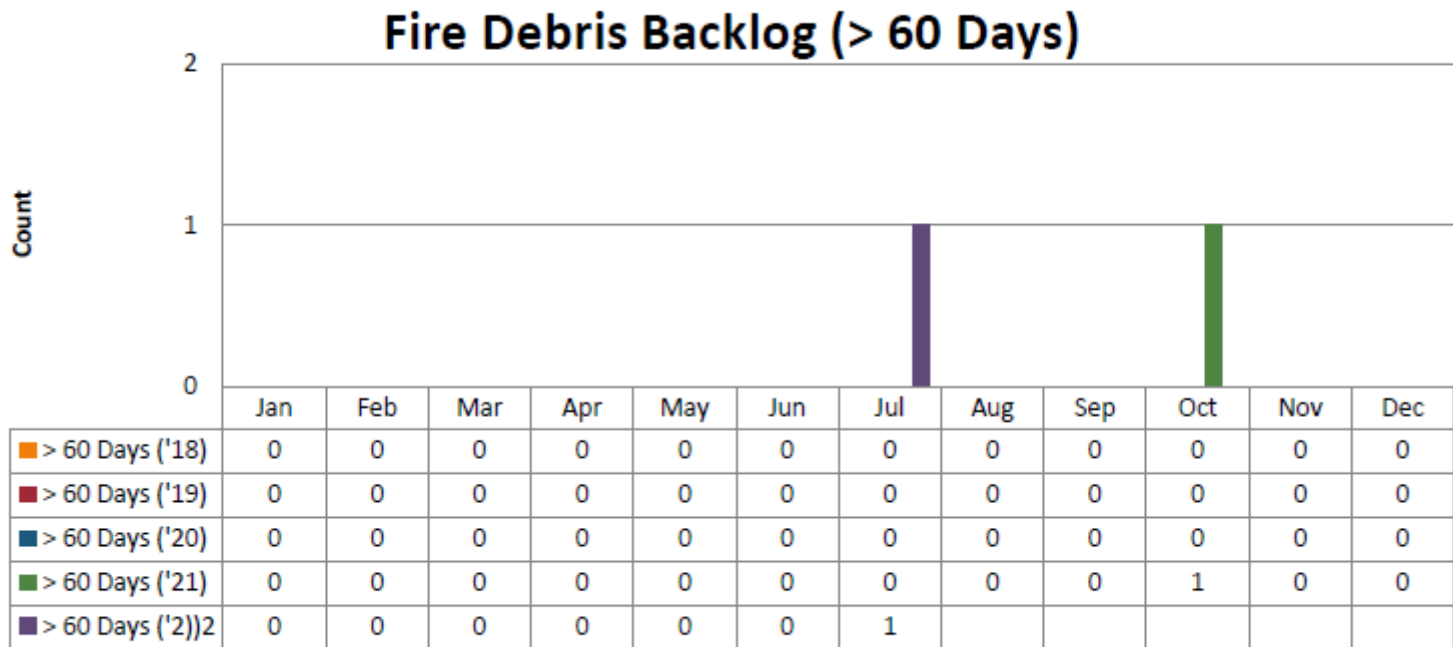


# Drug Identification

## Drug ID Fentanyl Positive Exhibits

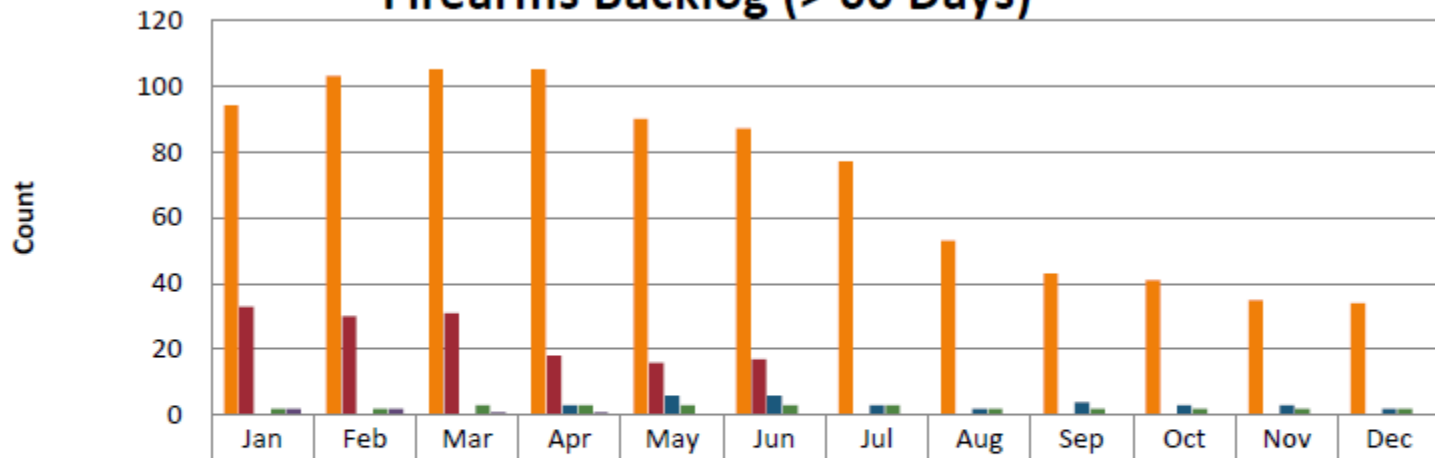


# Fire Debris



# Firearms

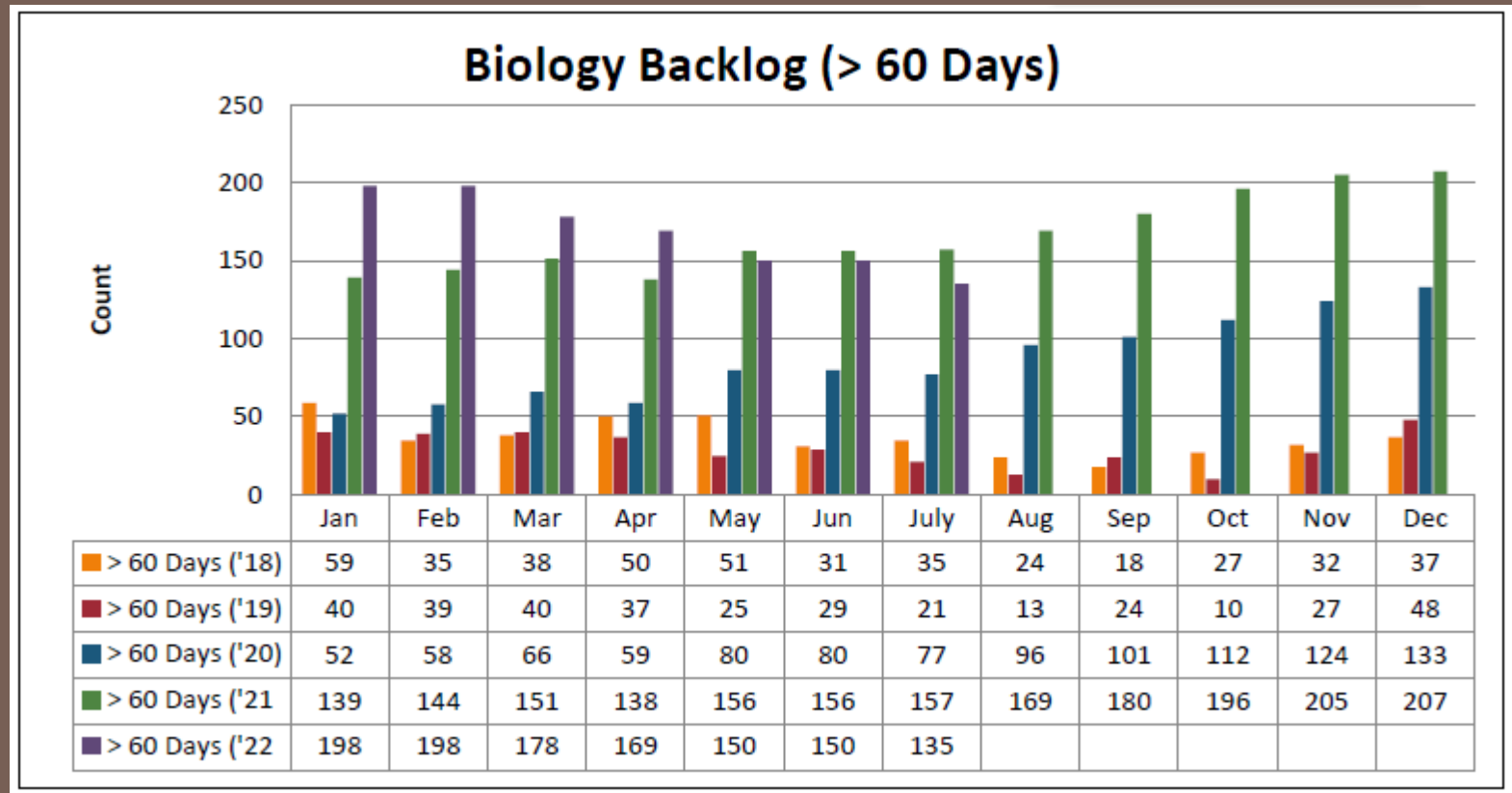
## Firearms Backlog (> 60 Days)



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
> 60 Days ('18)	94	103	105	105	90	87	77	53	43	41	35	34
> 60 Days ('19)	33	30	31	18	16	17	0	0	0	0	0	0
> 60 Days ('20)	0	0	0	3	6	6	3	2	4	3	3	2
> 60 Days ('21)	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2
> 60 Days ('22)	2	2	1	1	0	0	0					

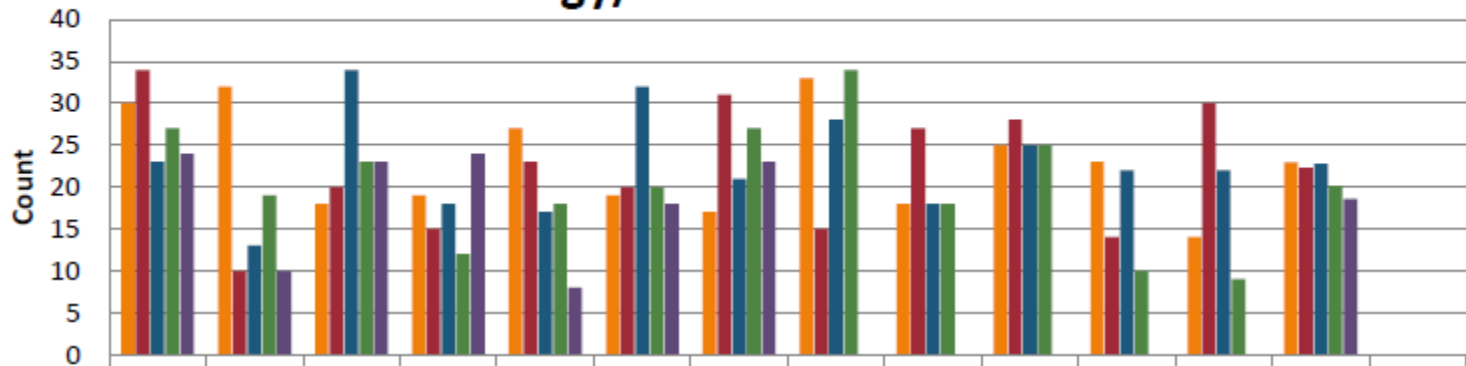


# Biology / DNA



# Biology / DNA

## Biology/DNA Cases Submitted



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ave.	YTD (Total)
2018	30	32	18	19	27	19	17	33	18	25	23	14	23	275
2019	34	10	20	15	23	20	31	15	27	28	14	30	22	267
2020	23	13	34	18	17	32	21	28	18	25	22	22	23	273
2021	27	19	23	12	18	20	27	34	18	25	10	9	20	242
2022	24	10	23	24	8	18	23						19	130

# Summary

## Quarterly Summary:

- Tox and DNA backlogs down slightly
- Tox instrumentation is at end-of-life, seeking funding for replacements
- Staffing in Investigations has become critical:
  - One Medical Investigator begins leave in September
  - One Medical Investigator resignation effective Sept. 22
- Locum Tenens Deputy Coroner assigned 32 cases so far
- Firearms Examiner nearing completion of training
- Lab has participated in fentanyl crisis town hall meetings
- Tox lab outsourced >100 post mortem cases using KDHE grant funding, project period closing end of August

# Summary

## 2023 County Manager Recommended Budget Impacts:

- Adjust Coroner/Deputy Coroner pay (\$99,739)
- Resources for unclaimed bodies (\$44,109)
- Two Medical Investigators – not funded

## ARPA requests

- Two LC/MS-MS instruments in Tox (\$500,000) – not funded
- LODOX x-ray imaging system for Path (\$287,500) – not funded

## CIP requests

- DNA Addition – still prioritized

# Summary

## 2023 Grants Submitted:

- Coverdell Formula (\$86,800)
- Coverdell Competitive (\$276,250)
- CEBR (approx. \$265,084)

# Discussion

Questions?

Please submit to [Shelly.Steadman@sedgwick.gov](mailto:Shelly.Steadman@sedgwick.gov)

# Forensic Science Center



Mission: The Forensic Science Center strives to provide the highest quality medicolegal and advanced forensic laboratory services to Sedgwick County. Death Investigation and Forensic Autopsy services are conducted in a compassionate and objective manner to achieve accurate certification of cause and manner of death. The Forensic Laboratory services provide unbiased and accurate analytical testing to support the resolution of criminal cases. As an independent agency operating under the Division of Public Safety, the Forensic Science Center collaborates with public health and criminal justice stakeholders to reduce crime and prevent deaths.