



OFFICE OF THE CORONER Regan Wood - Coroner

970.668.2964 ph | 970.668.2967 f  
www.SummitCountyCO.gov

360 Peak One Dr., Ste. 200 | PO Box 4923  
Frisco, CO 80443

## 2021 Summit County Deaths Breakdown by Manner and Cause of Death

There were a total of 97 deaths in Summit County in 2021

### **Natural - 61**

COPD – 1  
Acute Heart Failure – 29  
Cancer – 12  
Renal Failure – 5  
Acute Bronchopneumonia – 2  
Pneumonia – 1  
Diabetes Mellitus – 1  
Chronic Ethanol Use – 2  
Severe Periphial Vascular Disease – 1  
Hypervolemic Hyponatremia – 1  
Respiratory Failure – 4  
Cardiomegaly - 1

### **Accidental – 27**

Multiple prescription overdose – 6  
Neck Fracture, Skier vs. Tree – 2  
Multiple Skull Fractures, Skier vs. Tree – 1  
Multiple Blunt Force Trauma- Skier vs. Tree – 2  
Subdural Hematoma, Ski accident - 1  
Neck Fracture, MVA – 1  
TBI – 1  
Acute Alcohol Intoxication – 1  
Acute Heart Failure, Chronic drug use – 1  
Gastrointestinal Hemorrhage – 1  
High Altitude Pulmonary Edema (HAPE) – 1  
Mechanical Asphyxiation – 1  
Asphyxia/ Smoke Inhalation, MVA – 1  
Asphyxiation, Drowning – 1  
Suffocation, Trench Collapse – 1

### **Suicide- 9**

Hanging/Asphyxiation -5  
Gunshot wound – 3  
Prescription Drug Overdose – 1

### **Transfers and Autopsies**

There were 31 autopsies in 2020, compared to 21 in 2020.

There were 6 transfer-of-jurisdiction cases in 2021, compared to 6 in 2020, 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**

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 97 deaths in 2021, 54 were Summit County residents, and 43 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.

Accidental deaths totaled 27, compared to 17 in 2020. Poly-substance overdoses were the leading cause of accidental deaths which claimed the lives of 6 people. There were 1 accidental drownings in 2021 compared to 3 in 2020.

Snow-sports related deaths totaled 6 in 2021 and 4 in 2020. Of the 6 deaths, all were skiers.

Suicides totaled 9 in 2021 which is the same number as in 2020. There were 5 involving hangings, 3 gunshot wounds to the head, and 1 prescription drug overdose.

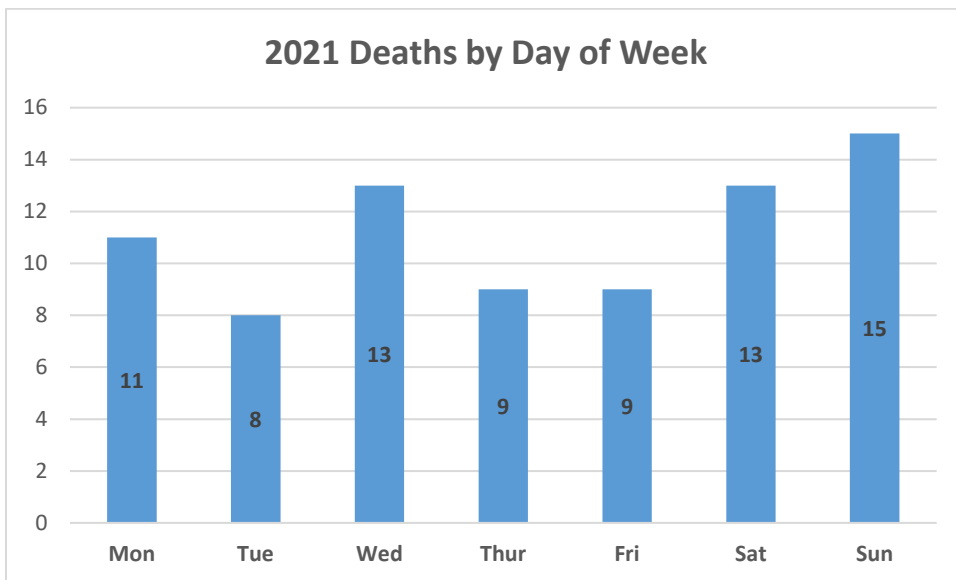
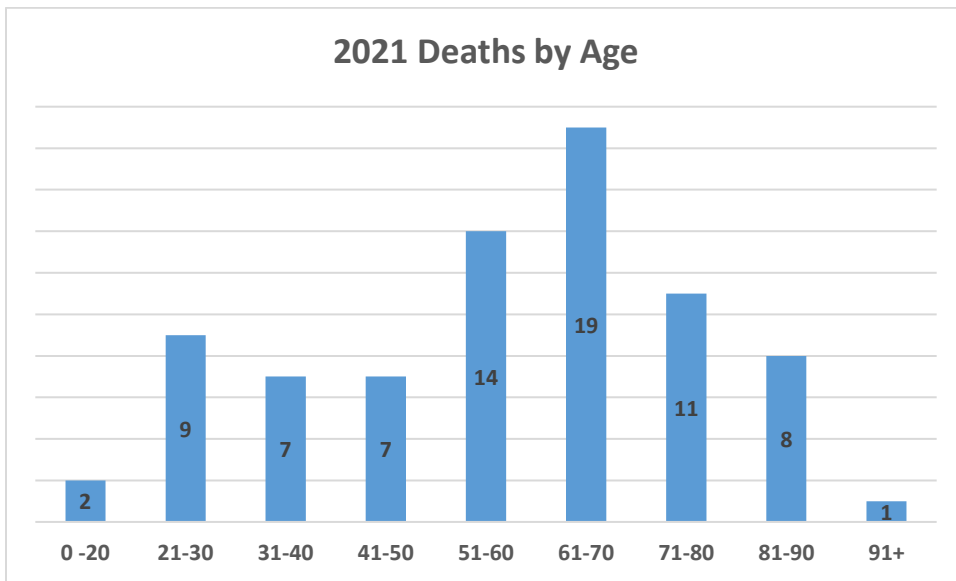
Our suicide rate remained steady at 9 cases as was in 2020.

### **Community Outreach Projects:**

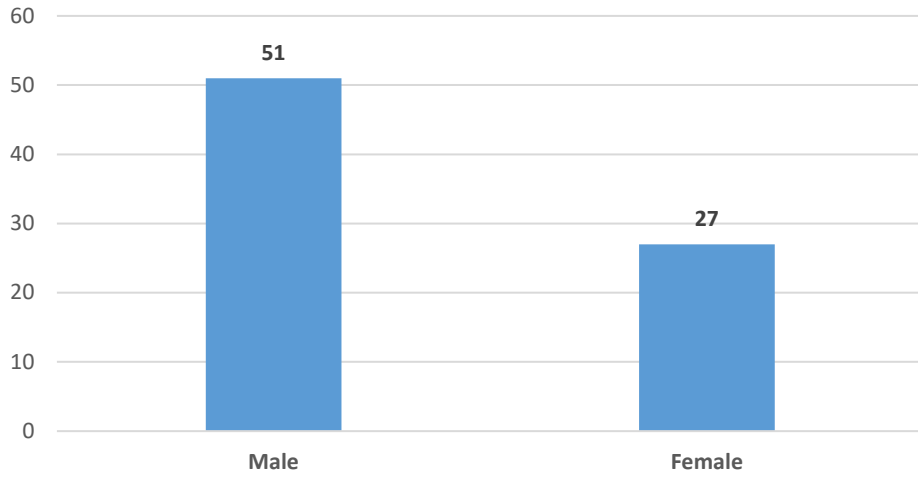
Unfortunately, we were not able to present at any Community Outreach events in 2021 due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. We hope to be able to resume our presentations in the county sooner rather than later.

We also hope to have the Coroner's Ball again in October 2022.

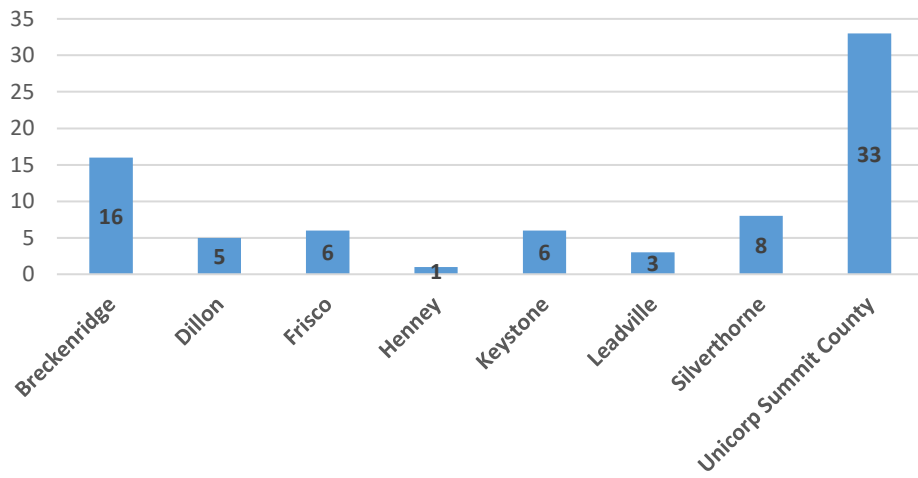
# 2021 SCCO DEATH STATS



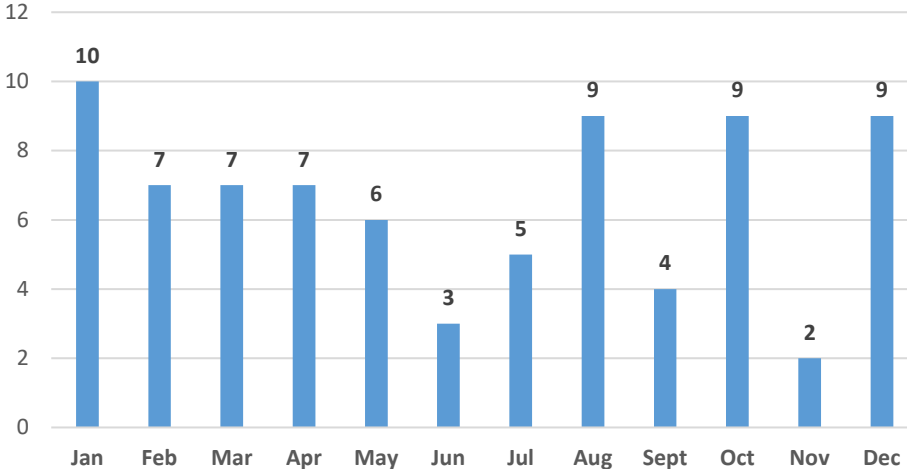
### 2021 Deaths by Gender



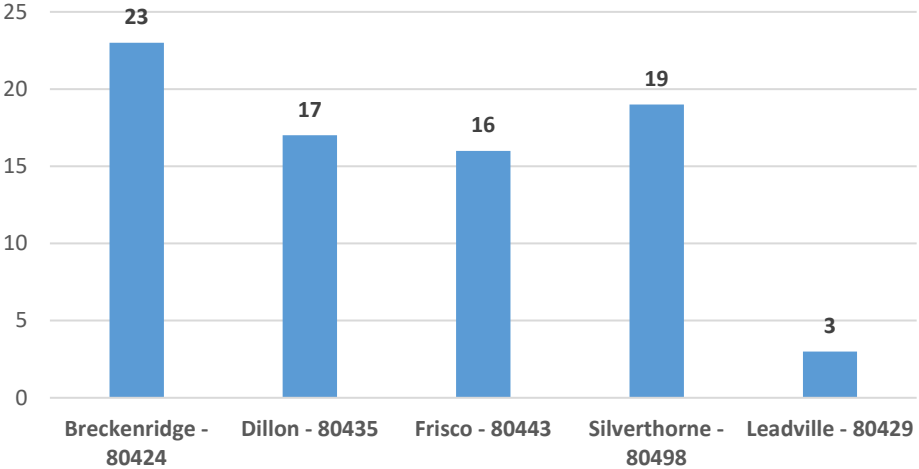
### 2021 Deaths by Jurisdiction



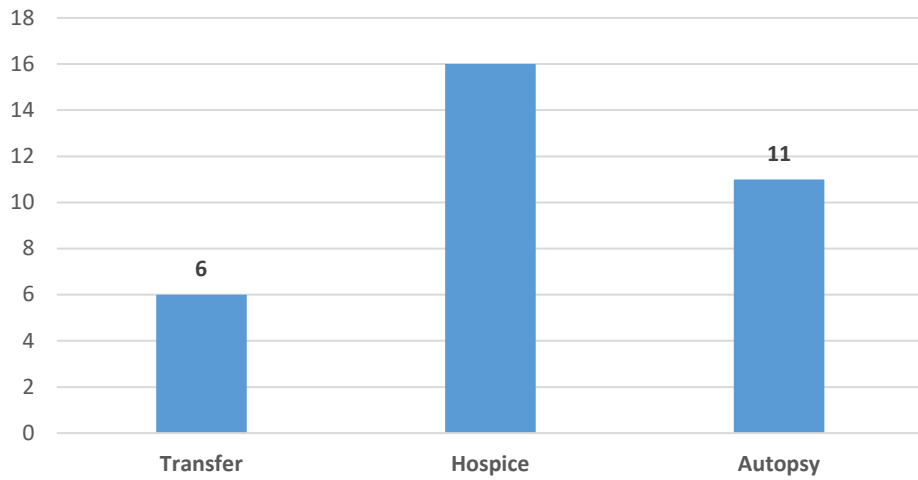
**2021 Deaths by Month**



**2021 Deaths by Zip Code**



### 2021 Autopsies, Hospice, & Transfer Cases



### 2021 Deaths by Manne

