

2020

COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER ANNUAL REPORT

Toni Preckwinkle
President, Cook County
Board of Commissioners

Tanya S. Anthony
Chief Administrative Officer

Ponni Arunkumar, M.D.
Chief Medical Examiner



**COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE
ROBERT J. STEIN INSTITUTE OF FORENSIC MEDICINE**

2121 West Harrison Street
Chicago, Illinois 60612-3705
Phone: (312) 666-0500

OFFICE HOURS:

The Medical Examiner's Office operates 24 hours per day, seven days per week.
The office is open to the public: 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday,
except on official Cook County holidays.

IDENTIFICATION HOURS:

11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.
12 p.m. to 4 p.m., weekends and official Cook County holidays.

www.cookcountyil.gov/agency/medical-examiner

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message from the Chief Medical Examiner	2
Cases At A Glance	3-4
Mission, Vision and History of the Medical Examiner's Office	5
Medical Examiner's Office Operations	6-8
2020 Highlights	9-10
Collaborative Efforts	11-12
A Look Ahead	13
Charts and Graphs	14-95
Acknowledgements	96

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

Honorable Toni Preckwinkle, Cook County Board of Commissioners
and Residents of Cook County,

The year 2020 is marked by COVID-19 pandemic deaths, along with an increase in deaths due to gun violence and opioid overdoses. The Cook County Medical Examiner's Office (CCMEO) handled more than 16,000 deaths in Cook County, an unprecedented number of cases. Approximately half of those deaths were due to COVID-19 infection. Meanwhile, the County saw a more than 45% increase in homicides as well as a 41% increase in opioid overdose deaths over 2019.

In 2020, Cook County broke its record for gun-related homicides with a total of 882. The previous record, set in 1994, was 838. Gun-related homicide deaths in Cook County exceeded the total in Los Angeles and New York combined in 2020. Our forensic pathologists and staff actively participate in local and regional task forces created to address these crises. Detailed information is included in the tables and maps in this report.

The Medical Examiner's Office started a new process for families and funeral directors to obtain reports and cremation permits which will lead to timely and efficient processing of these requests.

The CCMEO maintains full accreditation with the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) and is conformed to International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 17020 and 17025 requirements attaining the highest level of credibility available to U.S. and international medicolegal death investigation offices.

Enclosed in this annual report is data detailing the operations of the Medical Examiner's Office. In addition to performing autopsies and determining cause and manner of death, information is available regarding our role in organ and tissue donation, death investigation, the indigent disposition program and drug-related death statistics.

In 2020, the Office was awarded a federal grant (\$153,093) to fund toxicology testing. The Office was also awarded the Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Site-based Program Grant (\$381,018) in 2018, funding an epidemiologist to assist with statistical analysis.

I am forever grateful to the tireless efforts of our staff who continue to deal with a tremendous caseload with the support of Cook County Government. It has been and continues to be an honor to serve the residents of Cook County.

Respectfully,



Ponni Arunkumar, MD
Chief Medical Examiner



COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES AT A GLANCE

2020

Number of Deaths
in Cook County

52,298



Number of Medical Examiner Cases

16,047

Cases by Manner of Death:

Natural	10,995
Accident	3,334
Homicide	986
Suicide	453
Undetermined	132
Pending	29

Number of Deaths
Investigated

24,934

Number Non-Medical
Examiner Cases

8,885

Average Number of Bodies
in Storage per Day

203

Scene Visits

349

Complete Autopsies

4,051

Partial Autopsies

167

Unclaimed Bodies

773

Number of Bodies
Transported to the Office

6,952

Number of Bodies
Transported by the Office

0

Exhumations

0

Unidentified Autopsied

10

COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES AT A GLANCE

Homicides Autopsied		983
Suicides Autopsied		156
Non-Motor Vehicle Accident (MVA) Deaths Certified		2,995
MVA Deaths Certified		339
Non-MVA Deaths Autopsied		1,995
MVA Deaths Autopsied		53
Naturals Autopsied		746
Undetermined Autopsied		128
Unidentified Autopsied		10
Opioid-Related Deaths		1,840
Gun-Related Homicides		884
Latino	148	
Non-Latino (NL) White	29	
NL Black	702	
NL Asian	3	
NL American Indian	0	
NL Other	2	
External Examinations		3,194
By Physician	2,521	
By Investigator	673	
Hospital Autopsies under ME Jurisdiction		0
Cases Where Toxicology Was Performed		4,443
Bodies Unidentified After Examination		10
Organ Donations		154
Tissue Donations		164
Cornea Donations		583
Microscopic Studies		667
Formal Neuropathology Studies		67
Formal Cardiac Pathology Studies		64

COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE

MISSION

The mission of the Cook County Medical Examiner's Office is to ensure public health and safety by performing autopsies and postmortem examinations to determine cause and manner of death for individuals who die in Cook County.

VISION & COMMITMENT

It is the intent of the Cook County Medical Examiner's Office to maintain a regional forensic center of excellence for the practice and advancement of forensic science for the Midwest. Through the recruitment of high-quality staff, training of current staff and improvements to the existing facility, the Medical Examiner's Office is embracing President Preckwinkle's mission to serve as good stewards of public resources, placing a special emphasis on our core values – equity, engagement and excellence.

HISTORY OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE

Because of a 1972 referendum, the Cook County Medical Examiner's Office was established on December 6, 1976, and the Office of the Coroner was abolished.

A medical examiner differs from a coroner in that a medical examiner is an appointed official who is required to have pertinent qualifications, while a coroner is an elected official who is not required to have any qualifications.

In Cook County, the medical examiner must be a physician licensed to practice medicine in the State of Illinois and certified by the American Board of Pathology in anatomic and forensic pathology.

In Cook County, the President of the Board of Commissioners, with the advice and consent of the Board of Commissioners, appoints the medical examiner.

The Cook County Office is the only Medical Examiner system in Illinois, with a jurisdiction of approximately 5.2 million people. The Medical Examiner's Office plays a vital role in the administration of justice and protection of public health.

MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE OPERATIONS

JURISDICTION

Under Illinois law and local ordinance, the Medical Examiner's Office is both required and empowered to determine the cause and manner of death. The Office investigates any human death that falls within any or all the following categories:

- Criminal violence
- Suicide
- Accident
- Suddenly when in apparent good condition
- Unattended by a practicing licensed physician
- Suspicious or unusual circumstances
- Unlawful fetal death as provided in Public Act 101-0013 of the 101st General Assembly of Illinois
- Poisoning or attributable to an adverse reaction to drugs and/or alcohol
- Disease constituting a threat to public health
- Injury or toxic agent resulting from employment
- During some medical diagnostic or therapeutic procedures
- In any prison or penal institution
- When involuntarily confined in jail, prison hospitals or other institutions or in police custody
- When any human body is to be cremated, dissected or buried at sea
- When a dead body is brought into a new medico-legal jurisdiction without proper medical certification

DEPARTMENTS

The Medical Examiner's Office is organized into eight divisions:

- Administration
- Forensic Technician
- Investigations
- Histology
- Medical Records
- Pathology
- Photography
- Radiology

PRIMARY MEDICAL EXAMINER FUNCTIONS

Death Investigations

The Investigations Division answers initial calls from mandated reporters concerning the death of an individual within the County. Investigators determine if the deceased falls within the jurisdiction of the Medical Examiner's Office and performs scene investigations when warranted

Autopsies and Postmortem Examinations

Forensic pathologists perform complete autopsy examinations or external examinations as necessary to determine cause and manner of death. Forensic pathologists also provide expert testimony in criminal and civil matters at deposition or trial. Forensic pathologists meet with law enforcement, state's attorneys, public defenders and family as appropriate. Finally, forensic pathologies provide prompt notification to respective agencies, such as the Department of Public Health, of any death due to a reportable disease, unsafe consumer product and unsafe work environment.

MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE OPERATIONS

Other Services Provided

Other services provided by the Medical Examiner's Office include:

- Providing Vital Statistics with cause and manner of death for inclusion on the death certificate
- Preparing toxicology reports which list any foreign substance found in body
- Coordinating and obtaining consultations when appropriate
- Processing cremation permits for funeral directors
- Teaching medical students, pathology residents, law enforcement personnel and international observers
- Conducting award-winning research
- Providing statistics to third parties to optimize public health

Information for Families

In addition to its vital role in law enforcement and public health, one of the most important duties of the Medical Examiner's Office is to provide information to families who have lost a loved one – often suddenly and unexpectedly. Adding to the stress of coping with a sudden loss, this may be the first-time families have dealt with the Medical Examiner's Office.

The Medical Examiner's Office works with families to assist them through the process. The Medical Examiner's Office investigators and clerical staff are there to help, and forensic pathologists can assist family members trying to understand how the death occurred. In some situations, the Medical Examiner will not be able to discuss details of the case until the autopsy report is issued.

Autopsies and External Examinations

An autopsy is a thorough examination of the body, inside and out, performed to document or rule out injuries and diseases. The autopsy procedure is performed by a medical doctor with special forensic training in recognizing the appearance of injuries and the effects of diseases. An autopsy may take several hours to perform and is often followed by laboratory tests, some of which can take months to complete. In cases where an autopsy may not be warranted, an examination of only the external surfaces of the body is performed.

Requesting an Autopsy Report

Families may request copies of postmortem reports through the Medical Examiner's Online Portal or by contacting the Medical Records Department.

Information related to Pending Cases

After the medical examination is complete, it is sometimes necessary to perform further analysis, be it medical or investigative in nature, to determine the exact cause and manner of death. In this instance, a "pending" death certificate will be issued. Disposition of the deceased may take place with this pending death certificate. Once the forensic pathologist has determined the final cause of death, the Pathology Department will notify the families of the cause and manner of death. At this point, the funeral home can obtain certified copies of the final death certificate for the family through the Illinois Department of Vital Records.

Death Certificate

Families may obtain certified copies of death certificates by contacting the funeral home or the Cook County Clerk's Office. There are some suburbs which operate their own registrar. Families are advised to call the funeral home or the Medical Examiner's Office for the contact information of the registrar that handled a decedent's death certificate.

MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE OPERATIONS

Recovering Property of Descendants

The Medical Examiner's Office inventories all personal belongings of the decedent upon arrival to the Office. Property will be turned over to the funeral home retained by the legal next of kin. The Medical Examiner's Office may ask the requestor to provide a birth certificate, marriage license or other papers to prove the relationship to the deceased. Unclaimed property will be held by the Medical Examiner's Office for one year. After one year, the property is subject to sale by auction.

Virtual Cemetery

The final disposition sites of the indigents buried/cremated by the Medical Examiner's Office can now be found on the open data portal for Cook County Government.

In February 2014, the Medical Examiner's Office began utilizing cremation as a dignified alternative to burial for indigent remains. Cremated remains are kept at the Medical Examiner's Office for one year and may be picked up by the family or willing persons who are authorized to do so.

Unidentified Persons

The Medical Examiner's Office has a website to provide up-to-date descriptions of unidentified remains whose cases have been processed. Individuals may contact the Medical Examiners' Office Investigations Department regarding matching one of the unidentified bodies to the identity of a missing person.

Unclaimed Persons

If someone is a next of kin to an unclaimed person, they can contact our Indigent Coordinator to claim that person. Unclaimed indigents will be cremated at the County's expense within 60 days of admission to the Medical Examiner's Office as dictated by the Cook County Medical Examiner Ordinance.

2020 HIGHLIGHTS

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Medical Examiner's Office was recognized for its Regional Drug Overdose Data Collaboration in the health category. The purpose of the program is to improve public health by analyzing opioid deaths to detect demographic trends, areas affected and emerging drug trends. This has helped public health efforts like access to naloxone, public outreach, overdose prevention education and resource allocation to combat the opioid epidemic. Opioid briefs and scientific journal publications are prepared that help make the community and regional leaders aware of trends and geographic areas most affected.



TWO FELLOW GRADUATES

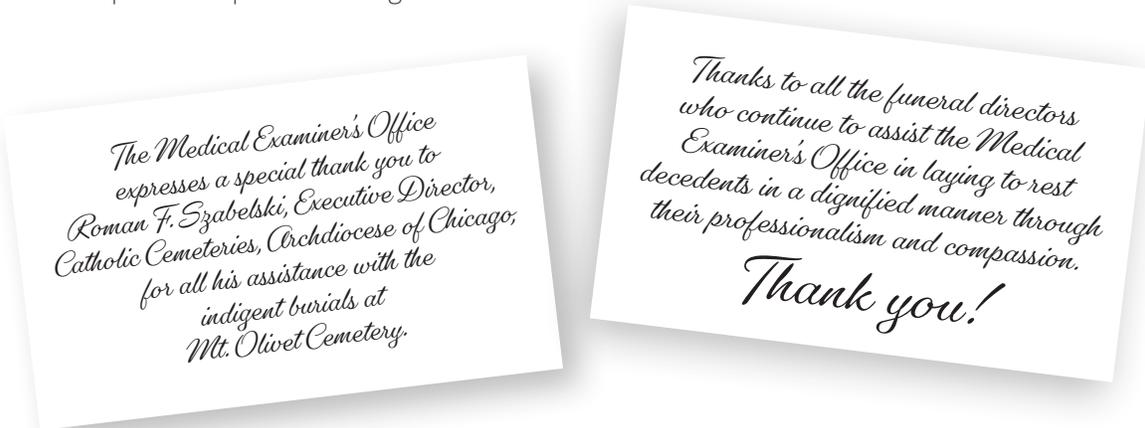
Fellows Claire Sorensen and David Waters completed their one-year forensic pathology fellowship at the CC-MEO on June 30, 2019. They both are continuing their careers at the CCMEO as Assistant Medical Examiners. We congratulate them for their excellent work ethic and are grateful they have decided to continue serving the residents of Cook County.



2020 HIGHLIGHTS

INDIGENT BURIAL: DIGNIFIED FINAL DISPOSITION

In 2014, the CCMEO transitioned from burying indigent decedents to utilizing cremation for dignified final disposition. In 2015, a full-time indigent coordinator was hired to manage this indigent disposition process. Since its inception in 2014, the indigent cremation program has cremated more than 3,500 indigent decedents and streamlined the process. This is made possible with partnerships with support agencies such as the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Cook County Public Administrator, Cook County Sheriff's Police Department, Cook County Funeral Director Association, Archdiocese of Catholic Cemeteries, foreign consulates, faith organizations and community support. In 2018, the CCMEO started a new process for burying unclaimed veterans by utilizing a county contract to enlist the services of local funeral homes who transport unclaimed veterans to Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery. This has led to the timely and respectful burial of indigent and unclaimed veterans with a 37% decrease in overall time held at CCMEO. As the CCMEO looks forward, we will continue to cremate indigent decedents, strive to eliminate unnecessary wait in disposition and provide a dignified final disposition option for indigents.



The following is a list of funeral homes, directors and other individuals who assisted the CCMEO in 2020:

Funeral Home	Director
Pedersen Ryberg Fh	Bob Chapelle
Sambrano Funeral & Cremation	Laura Sambrano
Evanston Fh	Phil Gillette
Aquagreen Dispositions	Ryan Cattoni
Northlake Fh	Leonard Zielinski
Hultgren Fh	Tim Hultgren
Barr Fh	Tim Harrington
Ygee Fs	Yvette Green
Ygee Fs	Tokeisha Tharp
Angelus Fh	
Brady Gill Fh	Tim Gill
Johnson Fh	Linds Brooks
Hultgren Fh	Susan Dyer Hultgren & Miles Fogle
Evanston Fh	Roland Weis
Northlake Fh	Leonard Zielinski
Hultgren Fh	Tim Hultgren
Aquagreen Dispositions	Ryan Cattoni
Laura Sambrano	Laura Sambrano
Evanston Fh	

COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS

LOCAL MEDICAL EDUCATION AGREEMENTS

The Medical Examiner's Office has agreements with several universities in which medical students and residents participate in one to three-month rotations to observe pathologists conducting examinations, including autopsies, to determine the cause and manner of death. The following are the institutions that participate in this program:

- Loyola University Chicago Medical Center
- Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago
- McGaw Medical Center of Northwestern University
- Midwestern University
- Rush University Medical Center
- University of Chicago Medical Center
- University of Illinois at Chicago

NATIONAL MEDICAL EDUCATION AGREEMENTS

The Medical Examiner's Office has an agreement with Des Moines University for students with interest in forensic medicine to observe autopsies and learn about the practice of forensic medicine.

The Medical Examiner's Office also has agreements with Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences, Concordia University and Eastern Virginia Medical School for medical students to observe pathologists conduct examinations including autopsies to determine the cause and manner of death.

INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL EDUCATION AGREEMENTS

The Medical Examiner's Office has an agreement with the University of Rome, Department of Anatomy, Histology, Forensic Medicine and Orthopedics, the Medical University of Gdansk (Gdansk, Poland) and the Postgraduate Institute of Medicine, University of Colombo, in Colombo, Sri Lanka, that allows visiting professors to rotate through the Medical Examiner's Office and gain valuable experience on examinations, especially in the examination of gunshot victims – a process that is not common in other countries.

PATHOLOGISTS' ASSISTANT ROTATIONS

The Medical Examiner's Office has an agreement with Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science that facilitates pathologist assistant students to observe pathologists conducting examinations, including autopsies.

MORTUARY SCIENCES

The Medical Examiner's Office has agreements with Malcolm X College and Worsham College of Mortuary Science that facilitate the donation of indigent bodies for use by mortuary students to further their study of mortuary science. These agreements are in accordance with the Illinois Cadaver Act and generate lab-use fees to the Medical Examiner's Office.

GRIEF COUNSELING

The Medical Examiner's Office entered into an agreement in November 2013 with the University of Illinois Jane Addams School of Social Work that allows students to assist the families of patients by providing grief counseling.

COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS

PUBLIC POLICY

The Medical Examiner's Office entered into an agreement with the University of Chicago-Harris School of Public Policy to support the Medical Examiner's Office in projects related to homicide and opioid death.

ILLINOIS VIOLENT DEATH REPORTING SYSTEM

The Medical Examiner's Office shares data with the Illinois Violent Death Reporting System (IVDRS). The IVDRS links data from various public health and criminal justice sources to present the fullest possible picture of the circumstances surrounding violent death in Illinois. IVDRS helps Illinois policymakers analyze violence-related deaths, identify risk factors and develop prevention efforts.

ORGAN/TISSUE DONATION

Anatomical Gift Association of Illinois

The Medical Examiner's Office and the Anatomical Gift Association of Illinois facilitate donations of indigent bodies for medical teaching in accordance with the Illinois Cadaver Act.

Gift of Hope

The Medical Examiner's Office has an agreement with Gift of Hope to donate organs and tissue upon consent of the next of kin. Gift of Hope will occasionally request to procure tissues postmortem at the Medical Examiner's Office. Each organ donor can save up to seven lives and each tissue donor can improve 50 lives.

CONSULTATIONS

The Medical Examiner's Office requests radiology consultation from John H. Stroger, Jr. Hospital of Cook County on complicated cases involving extensive radiology to determine cause and manner of death. The Office requests neuropathology and cardiac pathology consultation from Northwestern Hospital, anthropology consultation from anthropologists at Loyola University and University of Chicago, and dental consultation from Dr. Sanford Block.

FELLOWSHIP

The Medical Examiner's Office annually offers a one-year forensic pathology fellowship program for three graduates of an accredited residency program in general pathology. This program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME).

The selected fellows receive training in scene investigation, forensic toxicology, firearms, odontology, autopsy techniques, injury pattern recognition and anthropology. In addition to this training, the selected fellows each perform approximately 250 autopsies during the program.

TOURS

The Medical Examiner's Office limits the number of tours of the facility out of respect for the deceased and their families and to avoid any disruption to daily operations. Tours are provided to students in health-related fields, fire personnel, law enforcement personnel and trainees, and government agencies involved in the medicolegal justice system. For more information, call Registered Health Information Administrator Mary Marik at (312) 997-4430.

A LOOK AHEAD

The Medical Examiner's Office has the following initiatives in 2021:

- Increase the number of assistant medical examiners to reduce the average caseload per pathologist.
- Capital improvements including the renovation of the investigations department and intercom expansion throughout the building.
- Continue to work with Gift of Hope to increase organ and tissue donation throughout Cook County.
- Maintain National Association of Medical Examiner's accreditation and accreditation with the International Standards Organization.

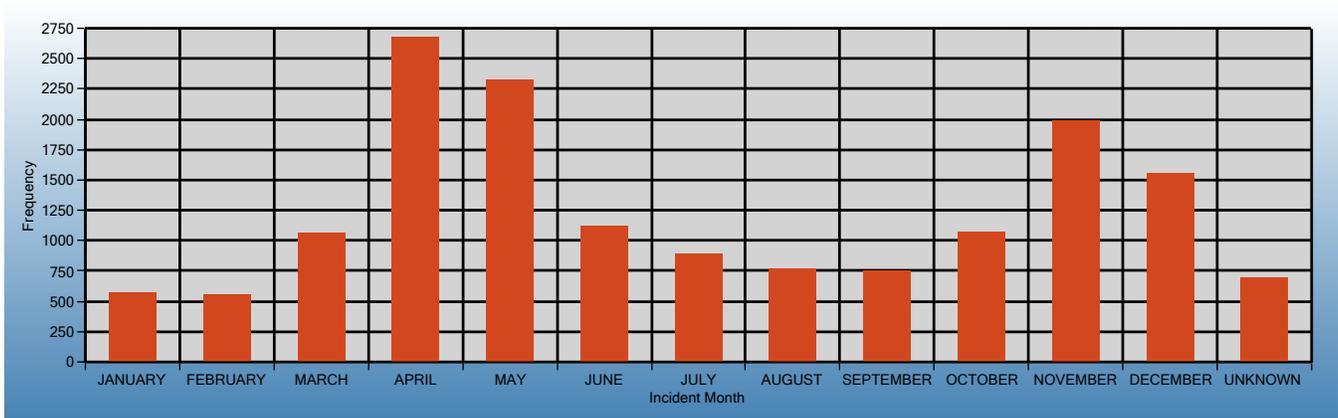
CHARTS AND GRAPHS



COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 1. MONTH WHEN INCIDENT OCCURRED

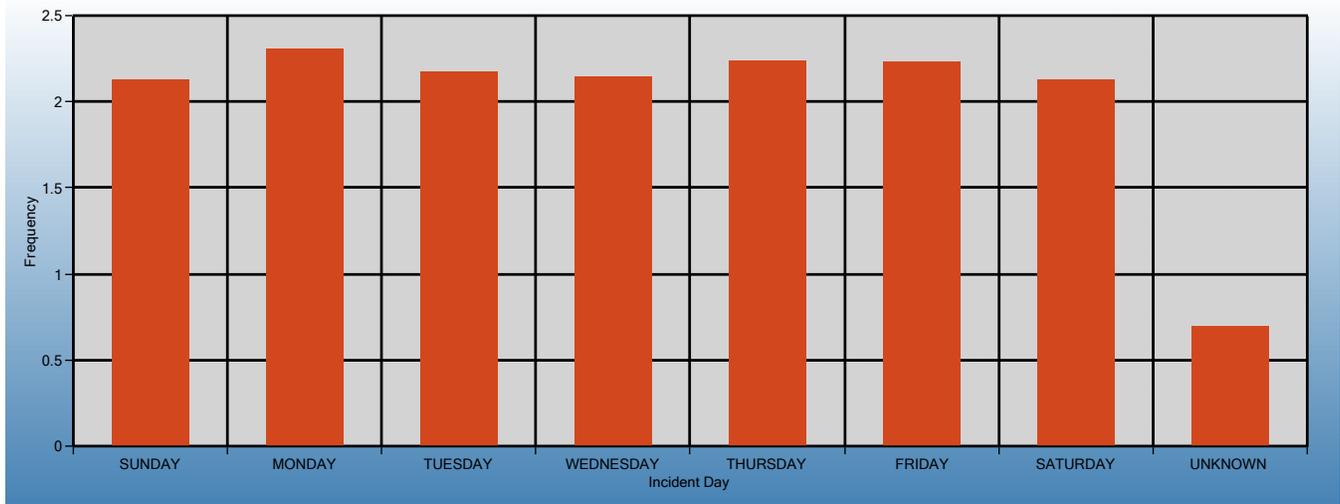
I_MONTH	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
JANUARY	571	3.56%	571	3.56%
FEBRUARY	553	3.45%	1124	7.00%
MARCH	1062	6.62%	2186	13.62%
APRIL	2682	16.71%	4868	30.34%
MAY	2328	14.51%	7196	44.84%
JUNE	1123	7.00%	8319	51.84%
JULY	891	5.55%	9210	57.39%
AUGUST	772	4.81%	9982	62.20%
SEPTEMBER	752	4.69%	10734	66.89%
OCTOBER	1071	6.67%	11805	73.57%
NOVEMBER	1993	12.42%	13798	85.98%
DECEMBER	1554	9.68%	15352	95.67%
UNKNOWN	695	4.33%	16047	100.00%



COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 2. DAY OF THE WEEK WHEN INCIDENT OCCURRED

I_DAY	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
SUNDAY	2128	13.26%	2128	13.26%
MONDAY	2308	14.38%	4436	27.64%
TUESDAY	2174	13.55%	6610	41.19%
WEDNESDAY	2145	13.37%	8755	54.56%
THURSDAY	2239	13.95%	10994	68.51%
FRIDAY	2231	13.90%	13225	82.41%
SATURDAY	2127	13.25%	15352	95.67%
UNKNOWN	695	4.33%	16047	100.00%



COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 3. AGE OF DECEDENTS

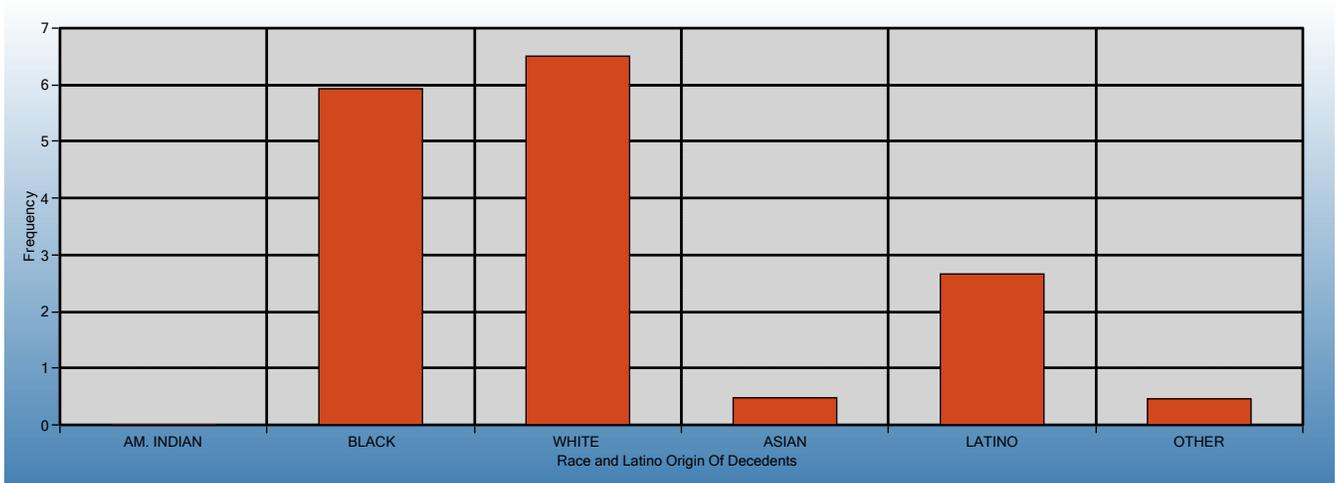
AGE	Frequency	Percent
UNDER 1	72	0.45%
01 to 04	25	0.16%
05 to 09	18	0.11%
10 to 14	33	0.21%
15 to 19	208	1.30%
20 to 24	422	2.63%
25 to 29	579	3.61%
30 to 34	532	3.32%
35 to 39	596	3.71%
40 to 44	626	3.90%
45 to 49	780	4.86%
50 to 54	945	5.89%
55 to 59	1268	7.90%
60 to 64	1524	9.50%
65 to 69	1528	9.52%
70 to 74	1514	9.43%
75 to 79	1336	8.33%
80 to 84	1250	7.79%
85 & OLDER	2732	17.02%
UNKNOWN	59	0.37%



COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 4. RACE AND LATINO ORIGIN OF DECEDENTS

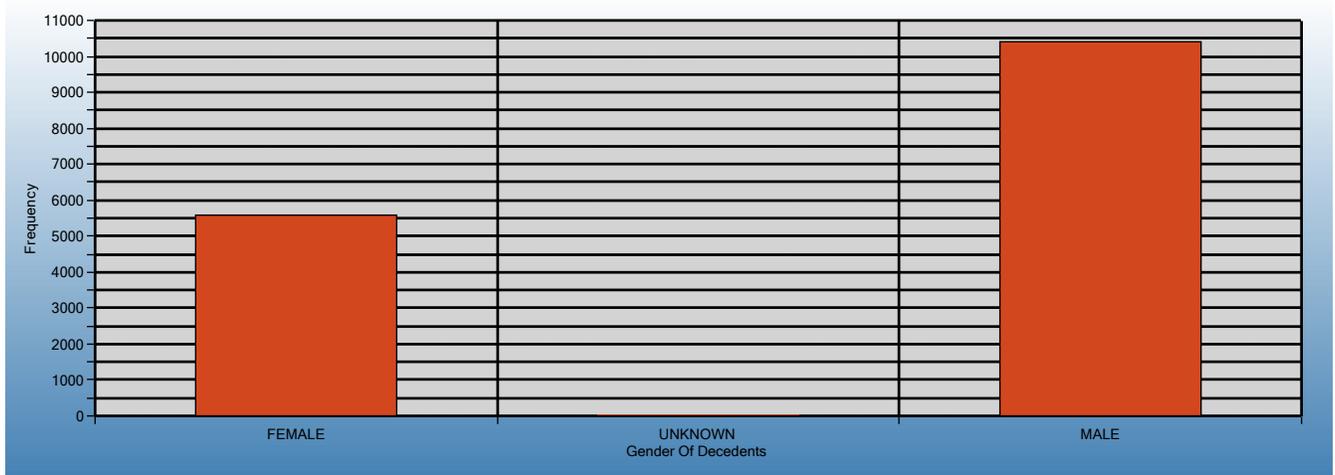
RACE	Frequency	Percent
AM. INDIAN	9	0.06%
BLACK	5931	36.96%
WHITE	6506	40.54%
ASIAN	478	2.98%
LATINO	2663	16.60%
OTHER	460	2.87%



COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 5. GENDER OF DECEDENTS

GENDER	Frequency	Percent
MALE	10408	64.86%
FEMALE	5585	34.80%
UNKNOWN	54	0.34%



COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 6. MANNER OF DEATH

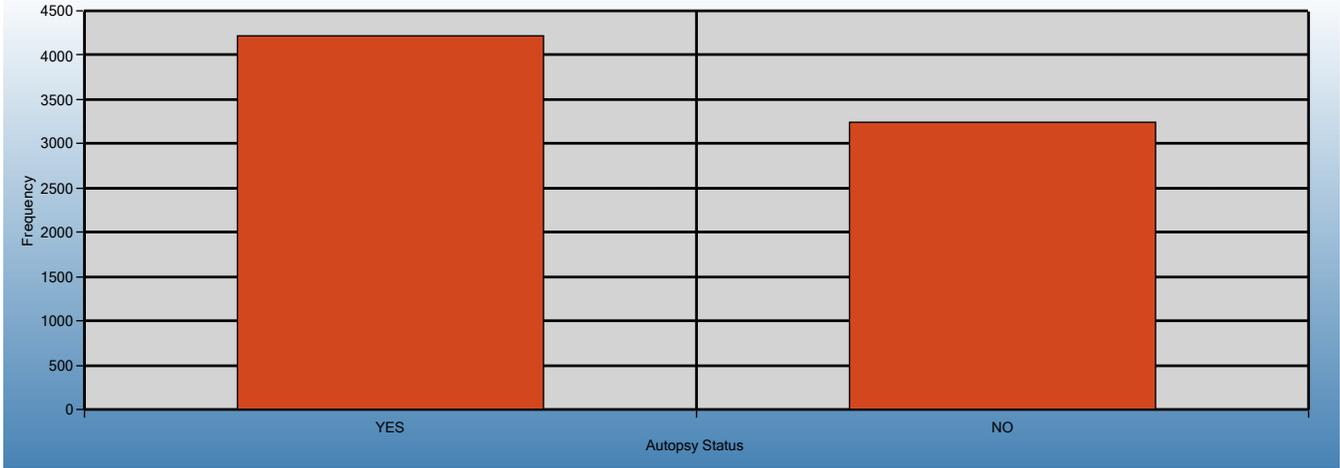
MANNER	Frequency
ACCIDENT	3,334
HOMICIDE	986
NATURAL	10,995
PENDING	29
SUICIDE	453
UNDETERMINED	132



COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 7. AUTOPSY STATUS

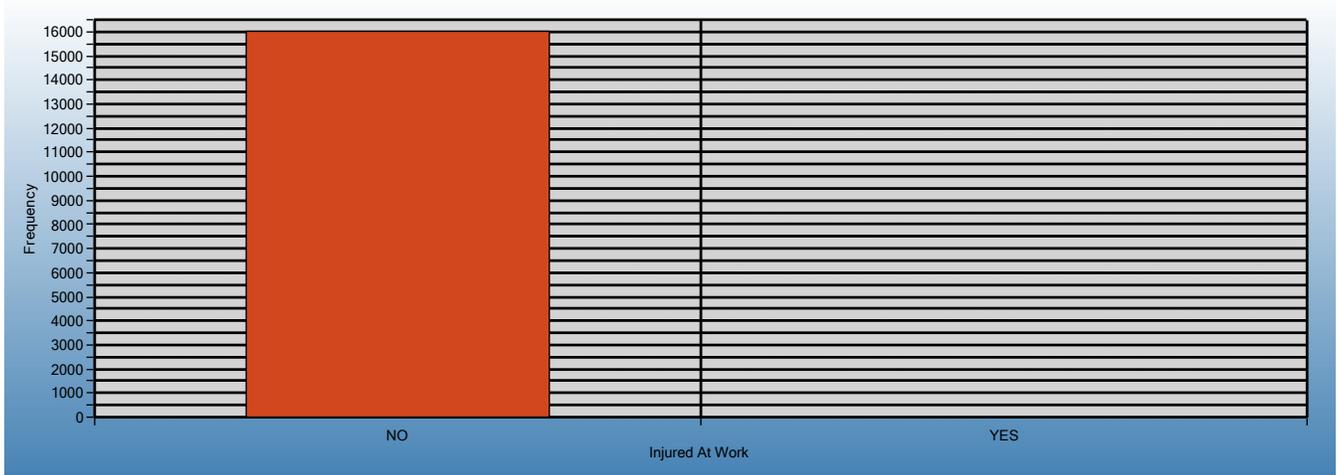
AUTOPSY	Frequency	Percent
YES	4218	56.53%
NO	3243	43.47%



COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 8. INJURED AT WORK

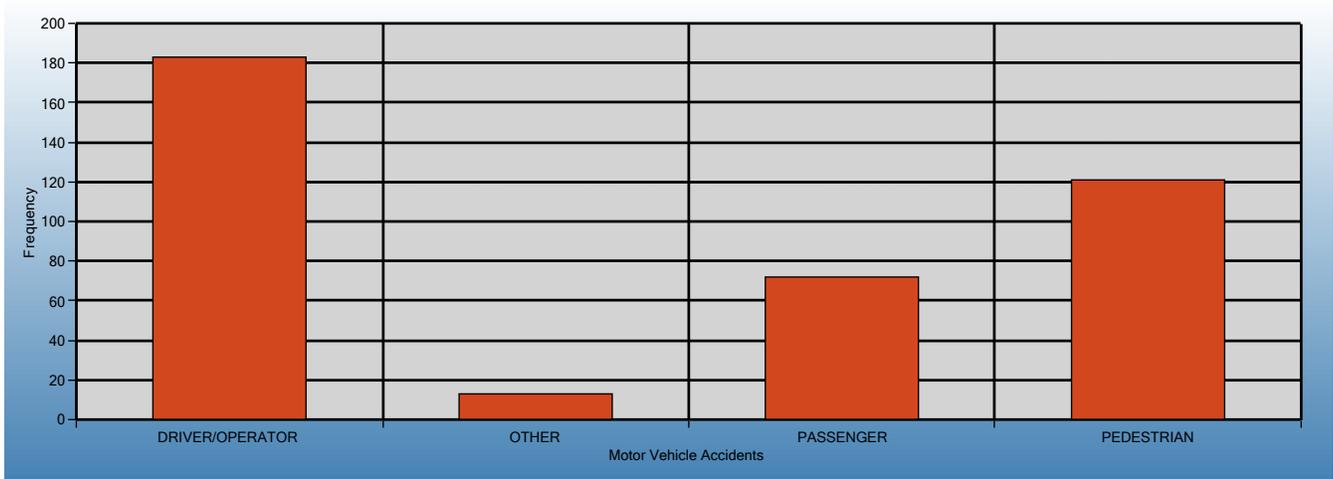
WORK_INJ	Frequency	Percent
YES	27	0.17%
NO	16020	99.83%



COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 9. MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS

STATUS	Frequency	Percent
DRIVER/OPERATOR	183	47.04%
OTHER	13	3.34%
PASSENGER	72	18.51%
PEDESTRIAN	121	31.11%

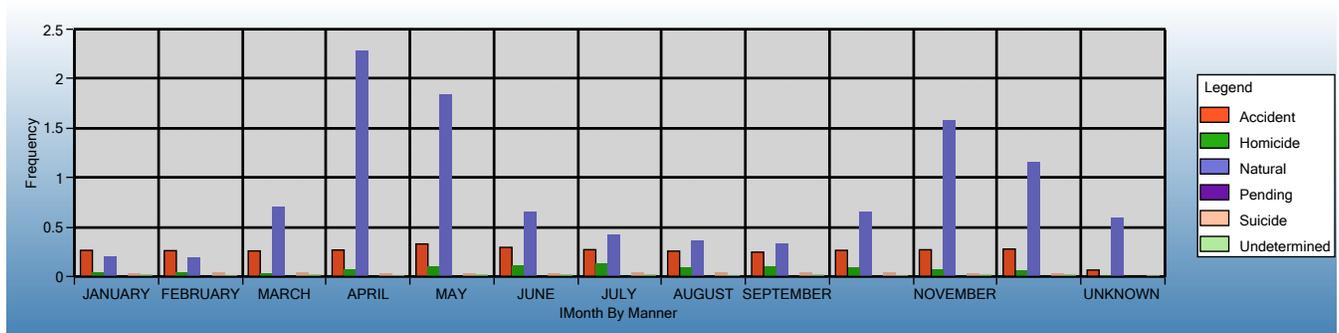


COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 10. MANNER OF DEATH BY MONTH OF INCIDENT

Table of I MONTH by MANNER

I_MONTH	MANNER						Total
	ACCIDENT	HOMICIDE	NATURAL	PENDING	SUICIDE	UNDETERMINED	
JANUARY	265	44	203	2	36	21	571
FEBRUARY	261	46	195	0	39	12	553
MARCH	259	35	707	0	42	19	1062
APRIL	268	73	2288	1	35	17	2682
MAY	329	99	1843	5	29	23	2328
JUNE	295	116	656	1	36	19	1123
JULY	272	130	424	2	44	19	891
AUGUST	257	90	360	1	47	17	772
SEPTEMBER	247	104	338	4	41	18	752
OCTOBER	265	96	659	1	38	12	1071
NOVEMBER	271	77	1583	5	32	25	1993
DECEMBER	278	60	1158	4	29	25	1554
UNKNOWN	66	16	596	0	5	12	695
Total	3333	986	11010	26	453	239	16047

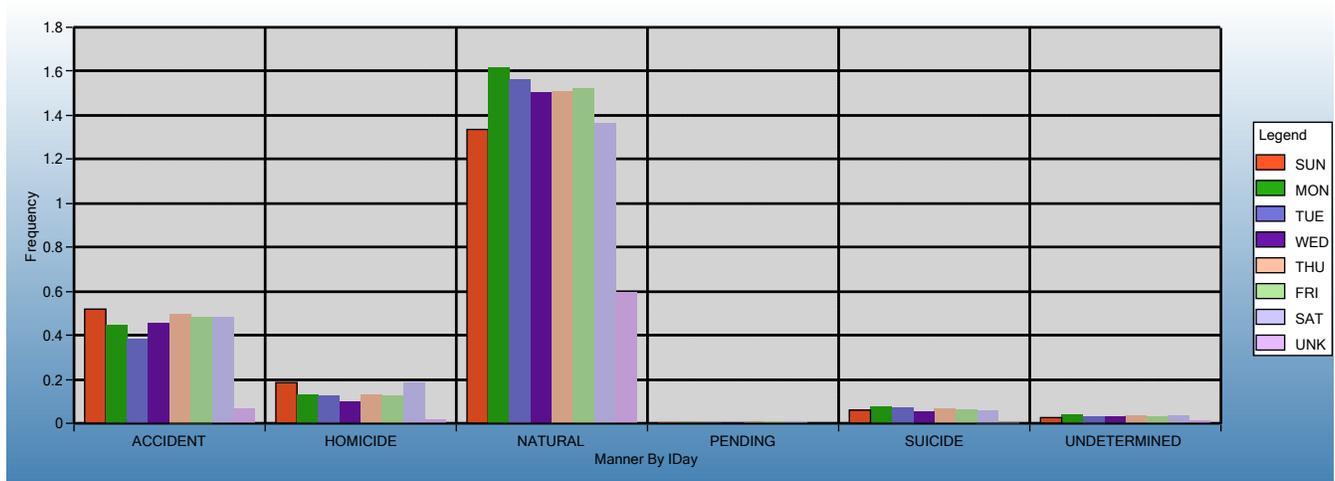


COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 11. MANNER OF DEATH BY WEEKDAY OF INCIDENT

Table of MANNER by I DAY

MANNER	I_DAY								Total
Frequency	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	UNKNOWN	
ACCIDENT	519	446	381	457	498	484	482	66	3333
HOMICIDE	185	129	123	96	130	125	182	16	986
NATURAL	1336	1618	1562	1506	1509	1521	1362	596	11010
PENDING	2	2	3	2	2	7	8	0	26
SUICIDE	60	75	73	53	65	63	59	5	453
UNDETERMINED	26	38	32	31	35	31	34	12	239
Total	2128	2308	2174	2145	2239	2231	2127	695	16047

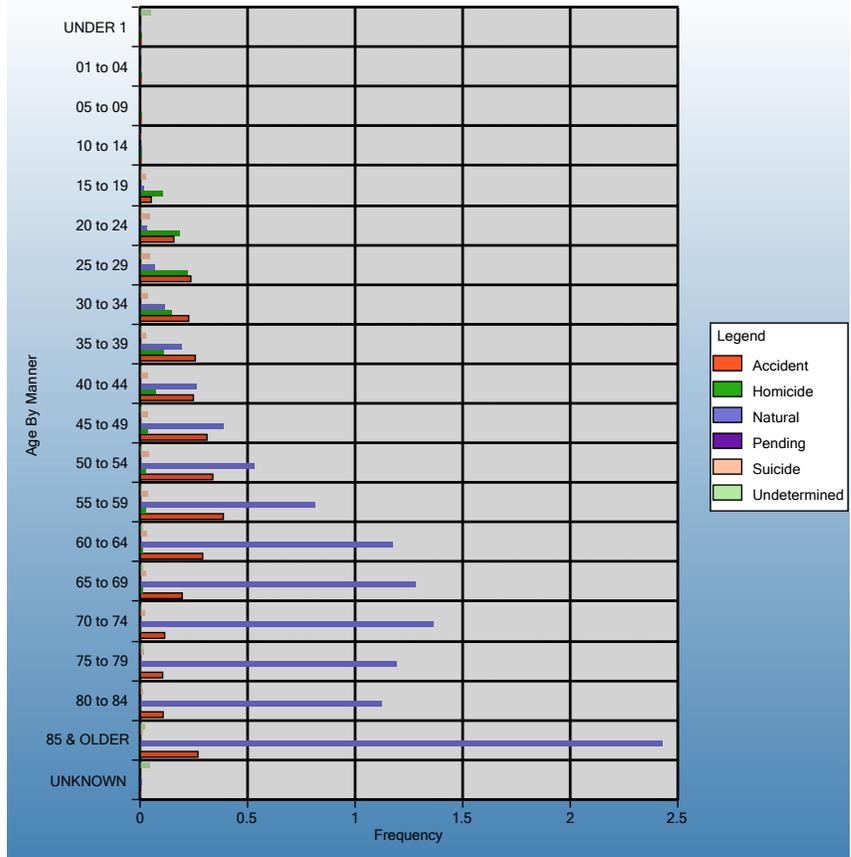


COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 12. MANNER OF DEATH BY AGE OF DECEDENT

Table of AGE by MANNER

AGE	MANNER						Ttl
	ACC	HOM	NAT	PEN	SUI	UND	
Frequency							
UNDER 1	8	6	5	2	0	51	72
01 to 04	9	8	4	0	0	4	25
05 to 09	9	7	1	0	1	0	18
10 to 14	8	6	9	0	9	1	33
15 to 19	52	107	18	1	26	4	208
20 to 24	157	183	30	1	44	7	422
25 to 29	236	219	69	1	47	7	579
30 to 34	226	145	114	2	35	10	532
35 to 39	257	110	195	3	25	6	596
40 to 44	248	72	261	3	36	6	626
45 to 49	311	34	387	3	35	10	780
50 to 54	338	26	529	1	41	10	945
55 to 59	387	25	814	1	35	6	1268
60 to 64	291	14	1175	2	29	13	1524
65 to 69	196	11	1279	4	25	13	1528
70 to 74	114	5	1366	0	23	6	1514
75 to 79	105	4	1194	1	18	14	1336
80 to 84	107	1	1125	0	12	5	1250
85 & OLDER	269	2	2429	0	12	20	2732
UNKNOWN	5	1	6	1	0	46	59
Total	3333	986	1101	26	453	239	16047

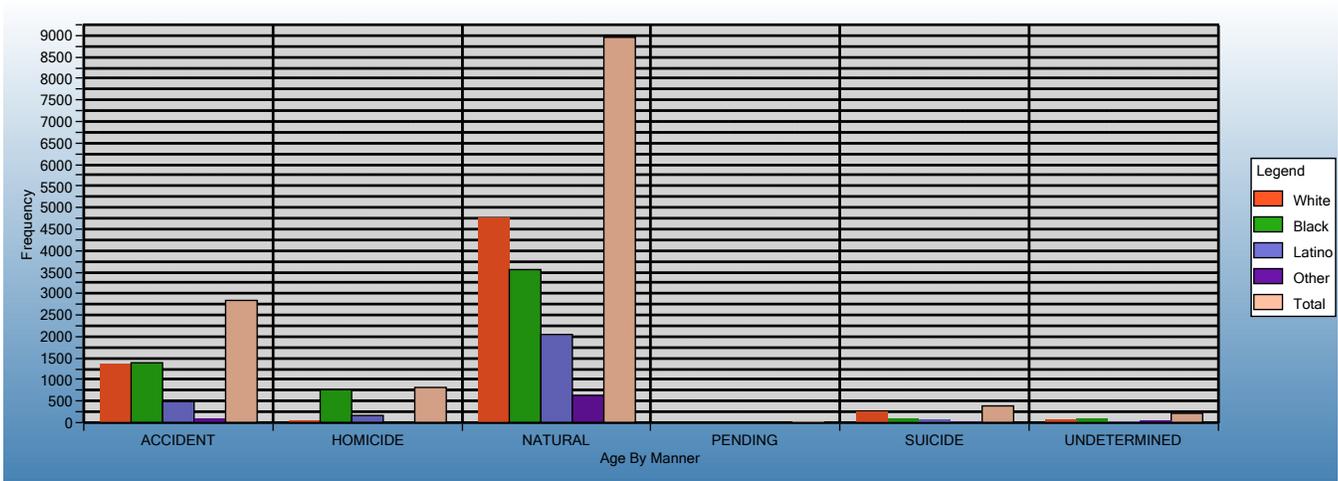


COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 13. MANNER OF DEATH BY RACE AND LATINO ORIGIN

Table of MANNER by RACE

MANNER	RACE				Total
	WHITE	BLACK	LATINO	OTHER	
ACCIDENT	1359	1393	491	90	2842
HOMICIDE	46	766	167	7	819
NATURAL	4766	3558	2050	636	8960
PENDING	6	16	3	1	23
SUICIDE	263	98	64	28	389
UNDETERMINED	66	100	23	50	216
Total	6506	5931	2798	812	13249

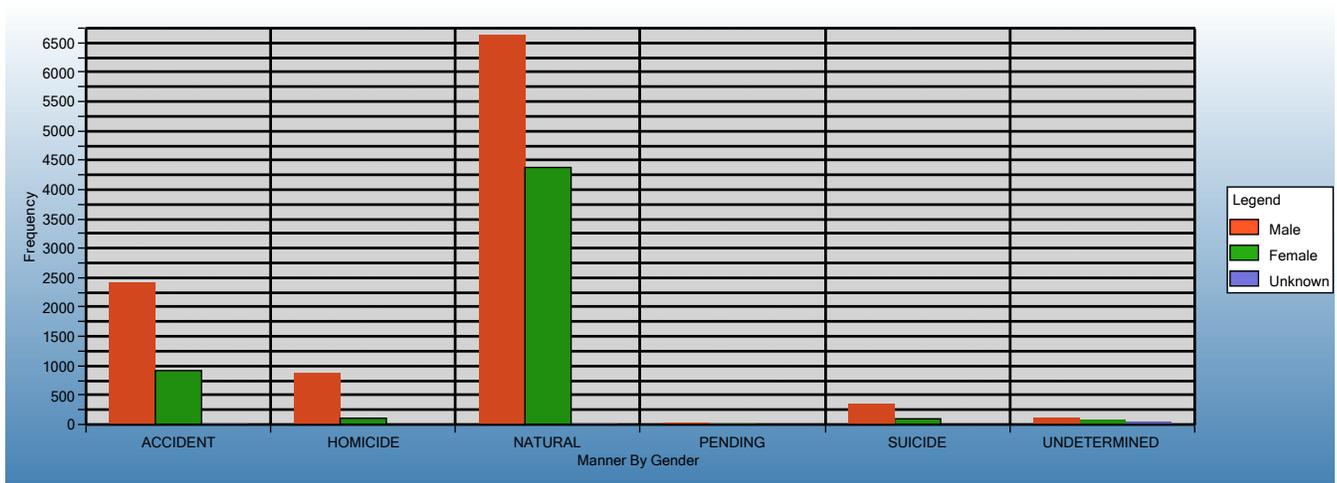


COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 14. MANNER OF DEATH BY GENDER OF DECEDENT

Table of MANNER by GENDER

MANNER	GENDER			Total
	MALE	FEMALE	UNKNOWN	
ACCIDENT	2413	918	2	3333
HOMICIDE	877	108	1	986
NATURAL	6626	4379	5	11010
PENDING	20	6	0	26
SUICIDE	356	97	0	453
UNDETERMINED	116	77	46	239
Total	10408	5585	54	16047



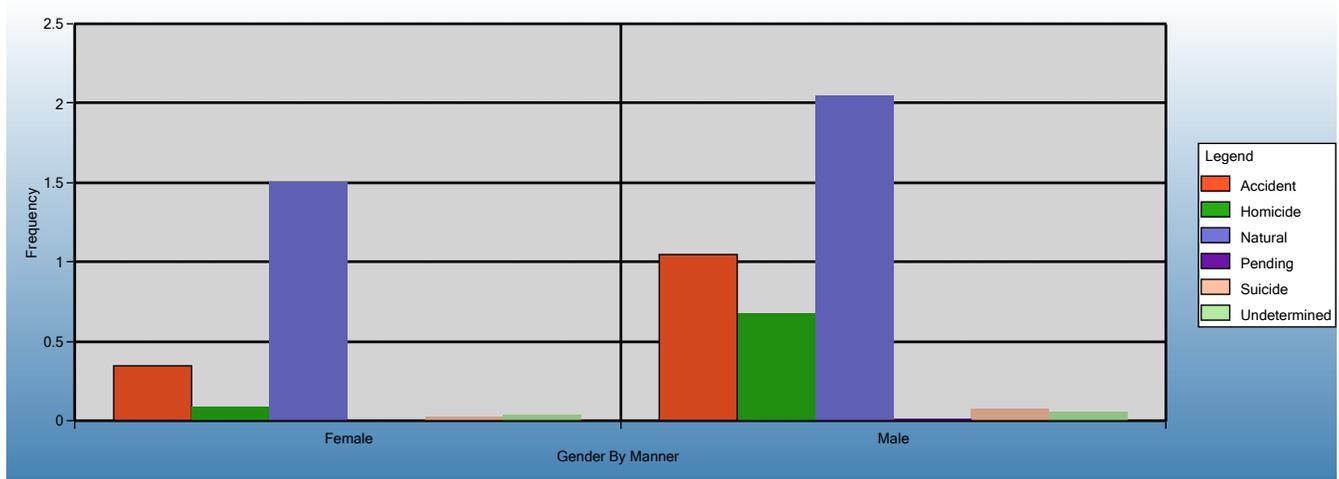
COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 15. MANNER OF DEATH BY RACE AND LATINO ORIGIN AND GENDER OF

RACE: BLACK

Table of GENDER by MANNER

GENDER	MANNER						Total
Frequency	ACCIDENT	HOMICIDE	NATURAL	PENDING	SUICIDE	UNDETERMINED	
Female	346	87	1506	2	23	39	2003
Male	1047	679	2051	14	75	58	3924
Total	1393	766	3557	16	98	97	5927



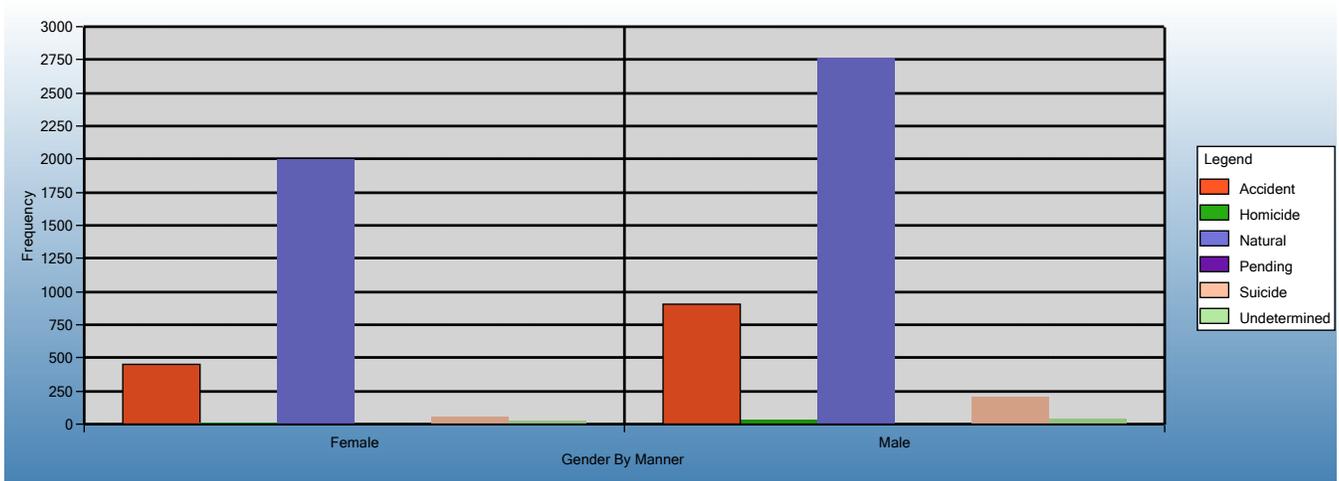
COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 15. MANNER OF DEATH BY RACE AND LATINO ORIGIN AND GENDER OF

RACE: WHITE

Table of GENDER by MANNER

GENDER	MANNER						Total
	ACCIDENT	HOMICIDE	NATURAL	PENDING	SUICIDE	UNDETERMINED	
Female	452	10	2000	3	54	25	2544
Male	906	36	2766	3	209	40	3960
Total	1358	46	4766	6	263	65	6504



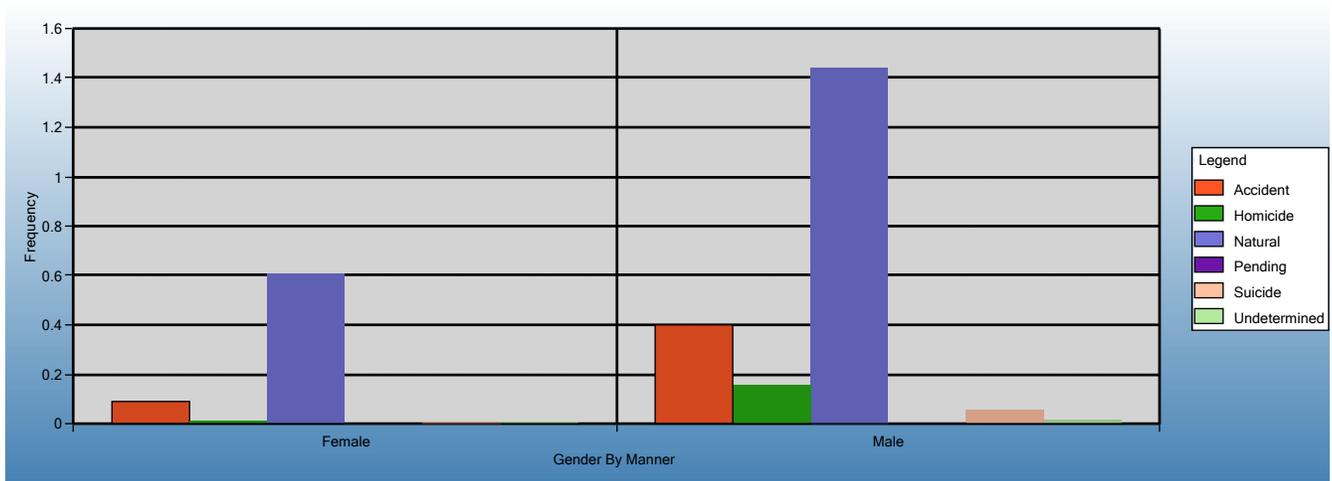
COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 15. MANNER OF DEATH BY RACE AND LATINO ORIGIN AND GENDER OF

RACE: LATINO

Table of GENDER by MANNER

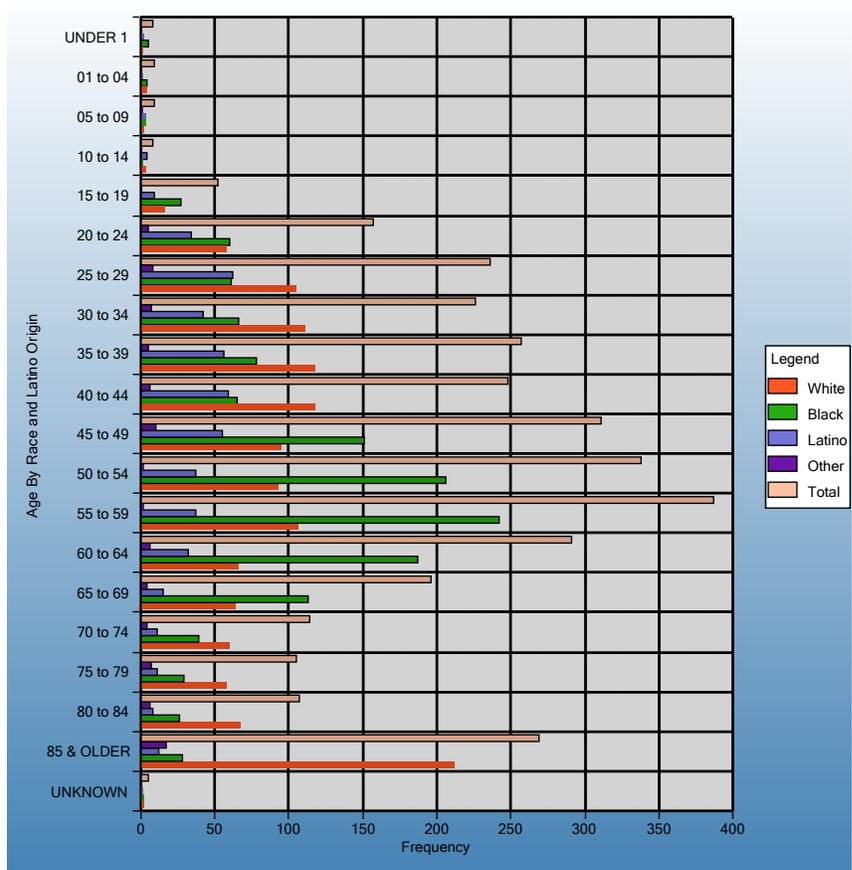
GENDER	MANNER						Total
	ACCIDENT	HOMICIDE	NATURAL	PENDING	SUICIDE	UNDETERMINED	
Female	90	11	607	1	9	7	725
Male	400	156	1442	2	55	16	2071
Total	490	167	2049	3	64	23	2796



COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 16. AGE AND RACE AND LATINO ORIGIN OF DECEDENTS BY GENDER

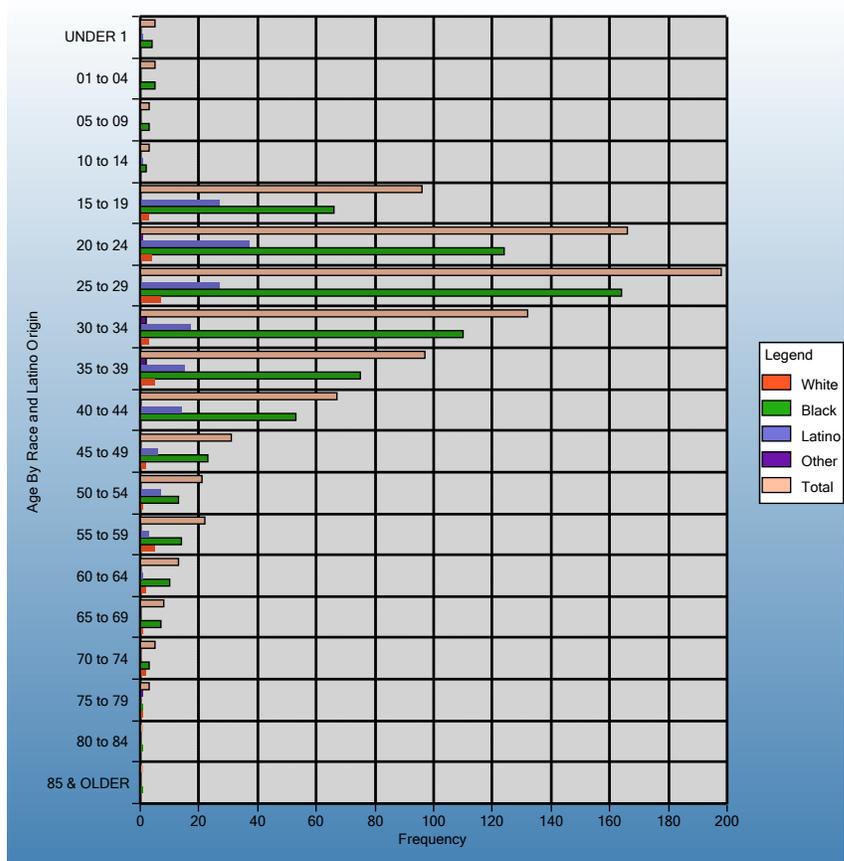
Manner	ACCIDENT	Gender	ALL		
Table of AGE by RACE AND ETHNICITY					
AGE	RACE				
Frequency	WHITE	BLACK	LATINO	OTHER	TTL
UNDER 1	1	5	2	0	8
01 to 04	4	4	1	0	9
05 to 09	2	3	3	1	9
10 to 14	3	1	4	0	8
15 to 19	16	27	9	0	52
20 to 24	58	60	34	5	157
25 to 29	105	61	62	8	236
30 to 34	111	66	42	7	226
35 to 39	118	78	56	5	257
40 to 44	118	65	59	6	248
45 to 49	95	151	55	10	311
50 to 54	93	206	37	2	338
55 to 59	106	242	37	2	387
60 to 64	66	187	32	6	291
65 to 69	64	113	15	4	196
70 to 74	60	39	11	4	114
75 to 79	58	29	11	7	105
80 to 84	67	26	8	6	107
85 & OLDER	212	28	12	17	269
UNKNOWN	2	2	1	0	5
Total	1359	1393	491	90	333



COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 16. AGE AND RACE AND LATINO ORIGIN OF DECEDENTS BY GENDER

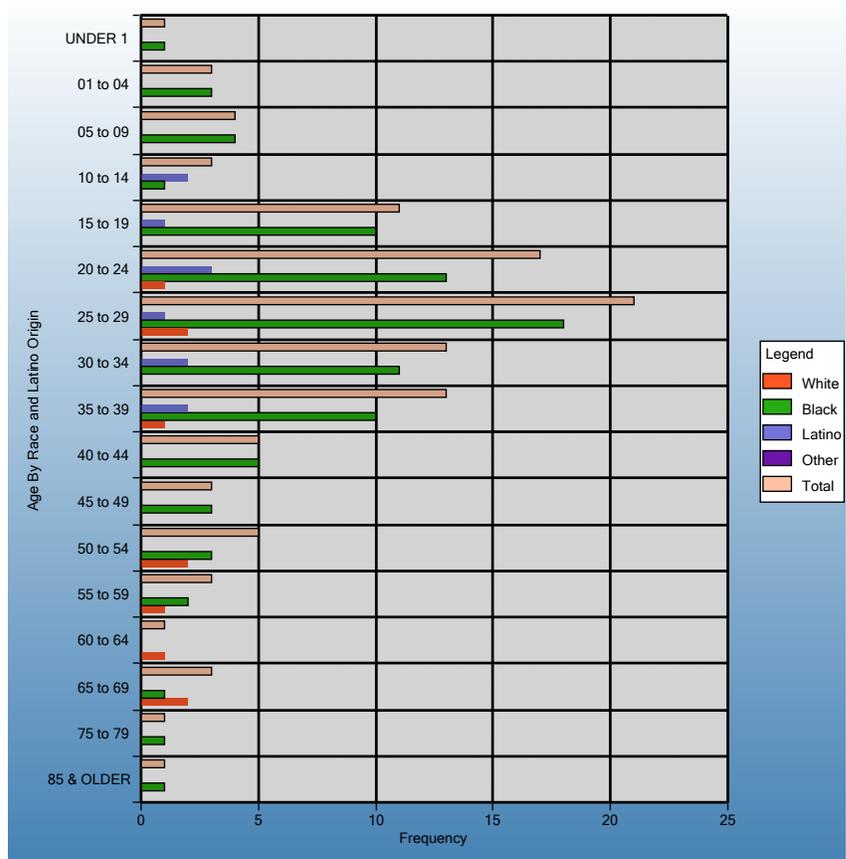
Manner	HOMICIDE	Gender MALE			
Table of AGE by RACE AND ETHNICITY					
AGE	RACE				
Frequency	WHITE	BLACK	LATINO	OTHER	TTL
UNDER 1	0	4	1	0	5
01 to 04	0	5	0	0	5
05 to 09	0	3	0	0	3
10 to 14	0	2	1	0	3
15 to 19	3	66	27	0	96
20 to 24	4	124	37	1	166
25 to 29	7	164	27	0	198
30 to 34	3	110	17	2	132
35 to 39	5	75	15	2	97
40 to 44	0	53	14	0	67
45 to 49	2	23	6	0	31
50 to 54	1	13	7	0	21
55 to 59	5	14	3	0	22
60 to 64	2	10	1	0	13
65 to 69	1	7	0	0	8
70 to 74	2	3	0	0	5
75 to 79	1	1	0	1	3
80 to 84	0	1	0	0	1
85 & OLDER	0	1	0	0	1
Total	36	679	156	6	877



COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 16. AGE AND RACE AND LATINO ORIGIN OF DECEDENTS BY GENDER

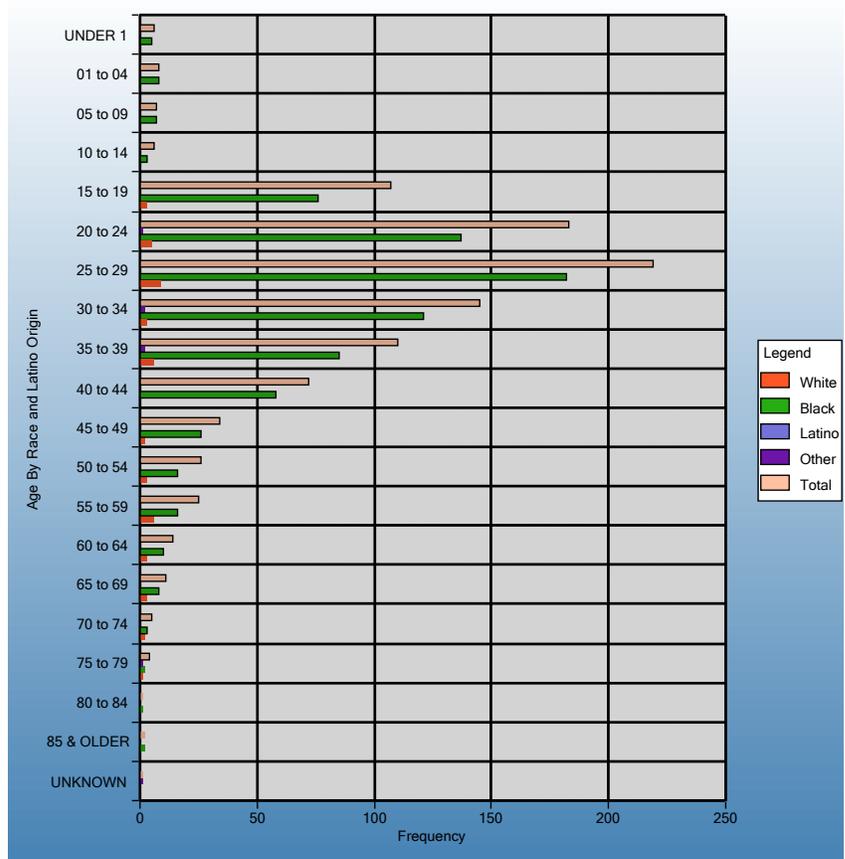
Manner	HOMICIDE	Gender	FEMALE		
Table of AGE by RACE AND ETHNICITY					
AGE	RACE				
Frequency	WHITE	BLACK	LATINO	OTHER	TTL
UNDER 1	0	1	0	0	1
01 to 04	0	3	0	0	3
05 to 09	0	4	0	0	4
10 to 14	0	1	2	0	3
15 to 19	0	10	1	0	11
20 to 24	1	13	3	0	17
25 to 29	2	18	1	0	21
30 to 34	0	11	2	0	13
35 to 39	1	10	2	0	13
40 to 44	0	5	0	0	5
45 to 49	0	3	0	0	3
50 to 54	2	3	0	0	5
55 to 59	1	2	0	0	3
60 to 64	1	0	0	0	1
65 to 69	2	1	0	0	3
75 to 79	0	1	0	0	1
85 & OLDER	0	1	0	0	1
Total	10	87	11	0	108



COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 16. AGE AND RACE AND LATINO ORIGIN OF DECEDENTS BY GENDER

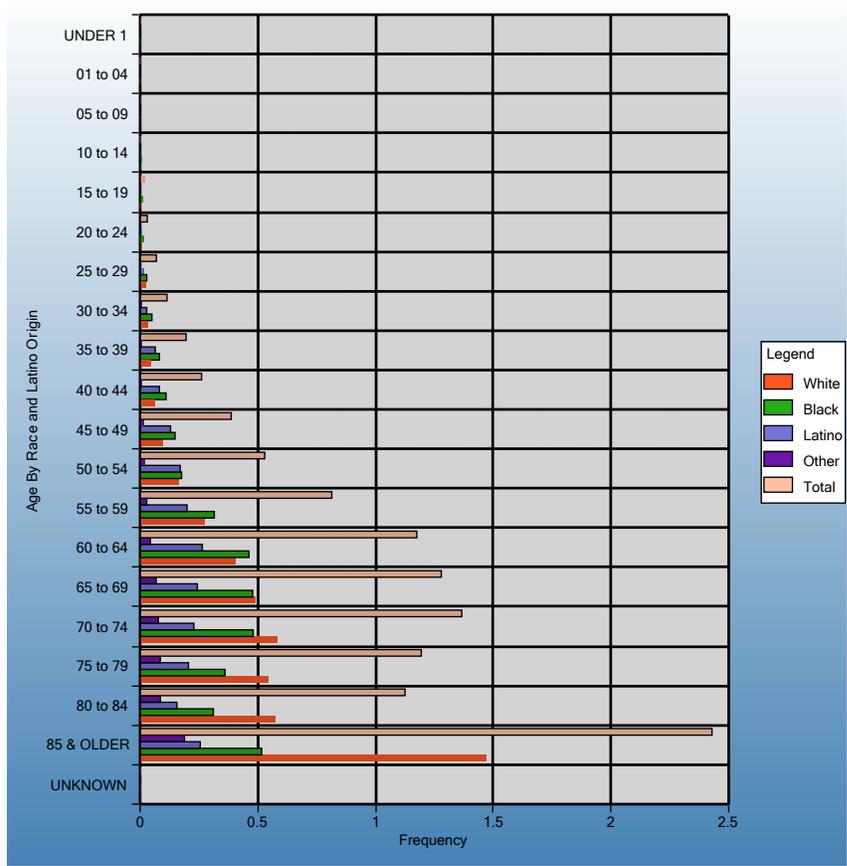
Manner	HOMICIDE	Gender	ALL		
Table of AGE by RACE AND ETHNICITY					
AGE	RACE				
Frequency	WHITE	BLACK	LATINO	OTHER	TTL
UNDER 1	0	5	1	0	6
01 to 04	0	8	0	0	8
05 to 09	0	7	0	0	7
10 to 14	0	3	3	0	6
15 to 19	3	76	28	0	107
20 to 24	5	137	40	1	183
25 to 29	9	182	28	0	219
30 to 34	3	121	19	2	145
35 to 39	6	85	17	2	110
40 to 44	0	58	14	0	72
45 to 49	2	26	6	0	34
50 to 54	3	16	7	0	26
55 to 59	6	16	3	0	25
60 to 64	3	10	1	0	14
65 to 69	3	8	0	0	11
70 to 74	2	3	0	0	5
75 to 79	1	2	0	1	4
80 to 84	0	1	0	0	1
85 & OLDER	0	2	0	0	2
UNKNOWN	0	0	0	1	1
Total	46	766	167	7	986



COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 16. AGE AND RACE AND LATINO ORIGIN OF DECEDENTS BY GENDER

Manner	NATURAL	Gender				ALL
Table of AGE by RACE AND ETHNICITY						
AGE	RACE					
Frequency	WHITE	BLACK	LATINO	OTHER	TTL	
UNDER 1	1	4	0	0	5	
01 to 04	0	4	0	0	4	
05 to 09	0	1	0	0	1	
10 to 14	1	5	2	1	9	
15 to 19	4	10	2	2	18	
20 to 24	5	17	7	1	30	
25 to 29	22	28	15	4	69	
30 to 34	31	50	28	5	114	
35 to 39	44	82	64	5	195	
40 to 44	62	110	82	7	261	
45 to 49	96	148	129	14	387	
50 to 54	162	176	170	21	529	
55 to 59	272	315	199	28	814	
60 to 64	406	462	264	43	1117	
65 to 69	490	478	243	68	1279	
70 to 74	581	480	228	77	1366	
75 to 79	544	360	205	85	1194	
80 to 84	572	311	156	86	1125	
85 & OLDER	1470	516	255	188	2429	
UNKNOWN	3	1	1	1	6	
Total	4766	3558	2050	636	11010	

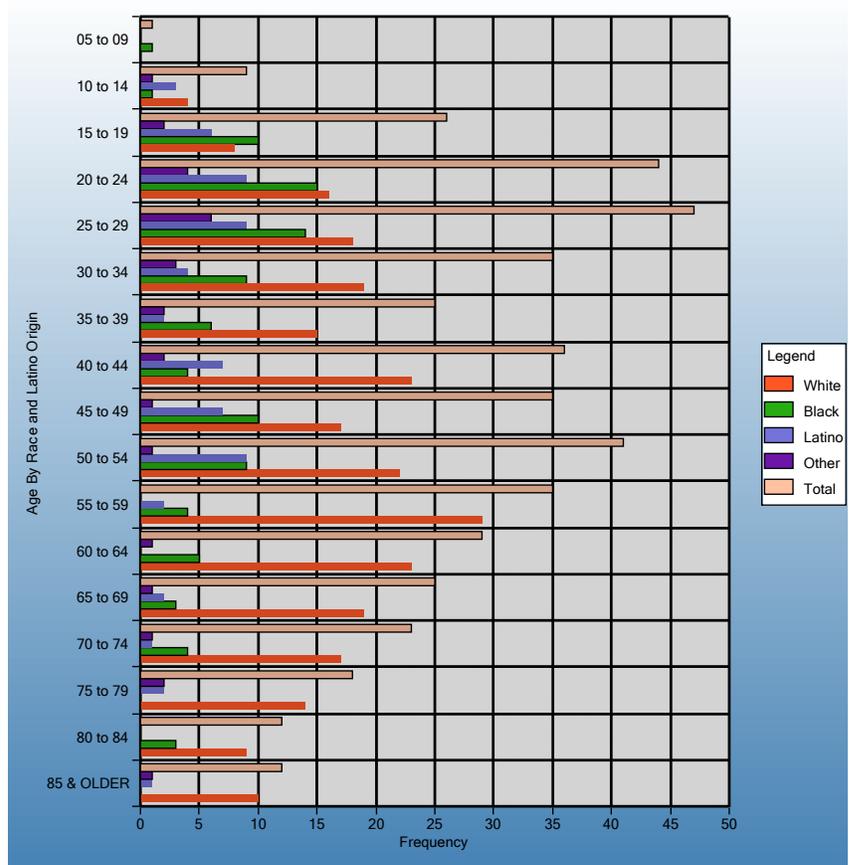


COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 16. AGE AND RACE AND LATINO ORIGIN OF DECEDENTS BY GENDER

Manner SUICIDE Gender ALL
Table of AGE by RACE AND ETHNICITY

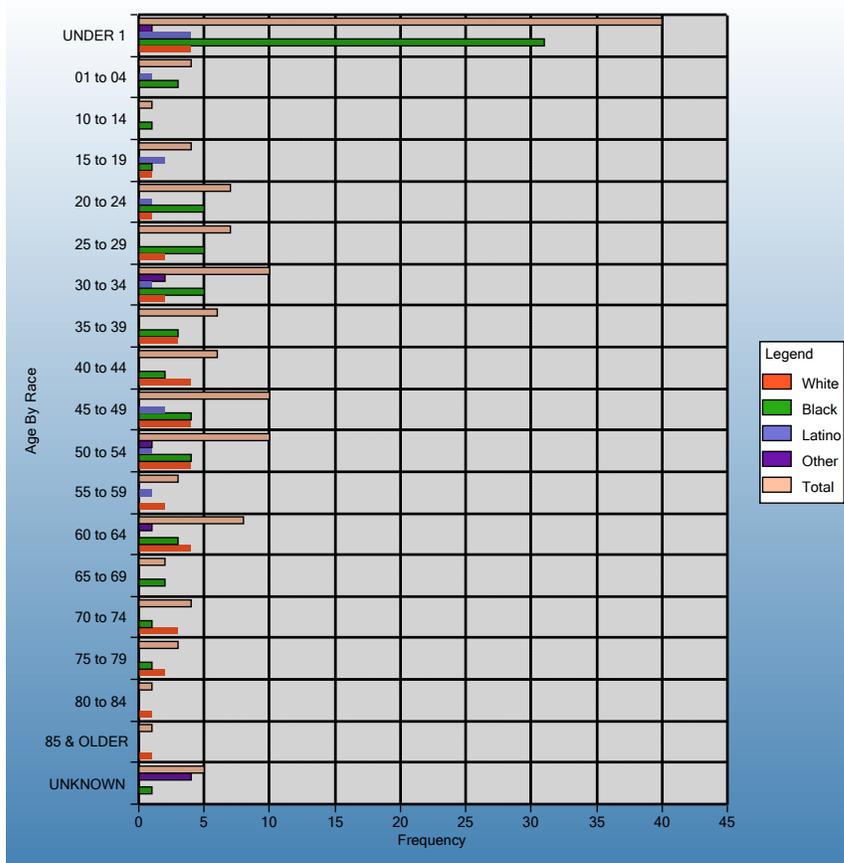
AGE	RACE				TTL
	WHITE	BLACK	LATINO	OTHER	
05 to 09	0	1	0	0	1
10 to 14	4	1	3	1	9
15 to 19	8	10	6	2	26
20 to 24	16	15	9	4	44
25 to 29	18	14	9	6	47
30 to 34	19	9	4	3	35
35 to 39	15	6	2	2	25
40 to 44	23	4	7	2	36
45 to 49	17	10	7	1	35
50 to 54	22	9	9	1	41
55 to 59	29	4	2	0	35
60 to 64	23	5	0	1	29
65 to 69	19	3	2	1	25
70 to 74	17	4	1	1	23
75 to 79	14	0	2	2	18
80 to 84	9	3	0	0	12
85 & OLDER	10	0	1	1	12
Total	263	98	64	28	453



COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 16. AGE AND RACE AND LATINO ORIGIN OF DECEDENTS BY GENDER

Manner	UNDETERMINED	Gender	ALL		
Table of AGE by RACE AND ETHNICITY					
AGE	RACE				
Frequency	WHITE	BLACK	LATINO	OTHER	TTL
UNDER 1	4	31	4	1	40
01 to 04	0	3	1	0	4
10 to 14	0	1	0	0	1
15 to 19	1	1	2	0	4
20 to 24	1	5	1	0	7
25 to 29	2	5	0	0	7
30 to 34	2	5	1	2	10
35 to 39	3	3	0	0	6
40 to 44	4	2	0	0	6
45 to 49	4	4	2	0	10
50 to 54	4	4	1	1	10
55 to 59	2	0	1	0	3
60 to 64	4	3	0	1	8
65 to 69	0	2	0	0	2
70 to 74	3	1	0	0	4
75 to 79	2	1	0	0	3
80 to 84	1	0	0	0	1
85 & OLDER	1	0	0	0	1
UNKNOWN	0	1	0	4	5
Total	38	72	13	9	132

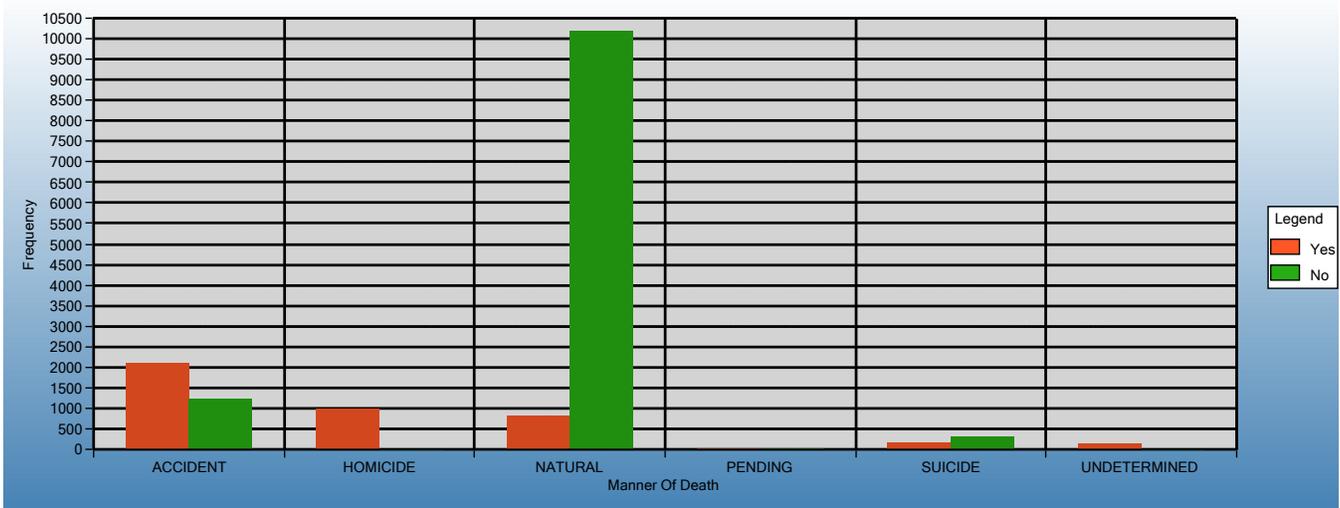


COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 17. MANNER OF DEATH BY AUTOPSY STATUS

Table of MANNER by AUTOPSY

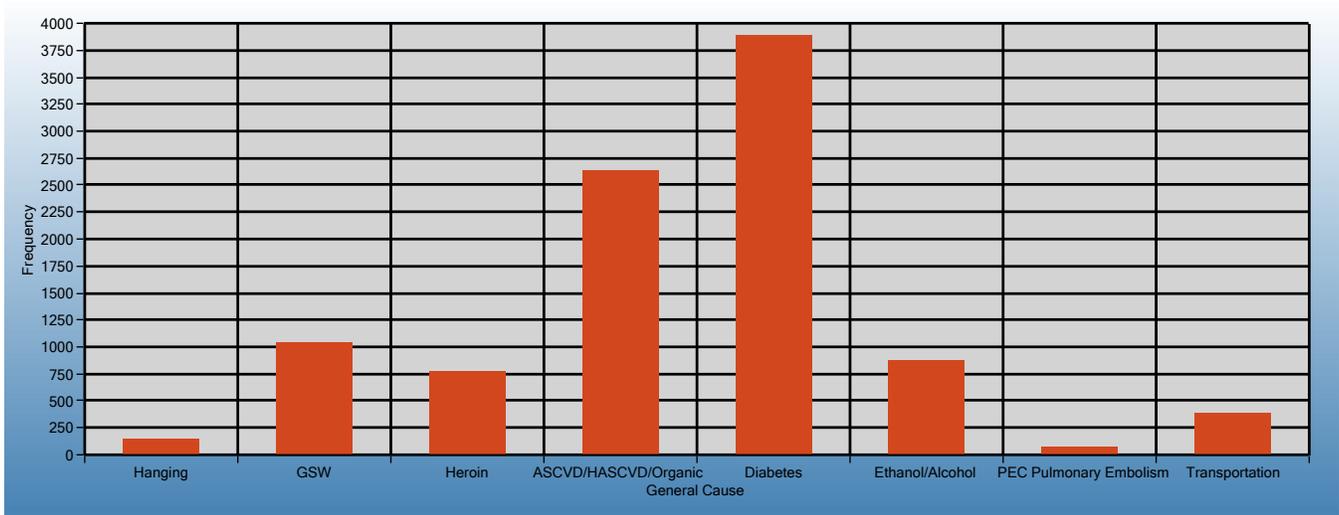
MANNER	AUTOPSY		Total
	YES	NO	
ACCIDENT	2103	1230	3333
HOMICIDE	983	3	986
NATURAL	819	10191	11010
PENDING	20	6	26
SUICIDE	156	297	453
UNDETERMINED	129	3	132
Total	4210	11730	15940



COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 18. CAUSE OF DEATH (GENERAL)

Cause	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Diabetes	3892	24.25%	24.25%
ASCVD/HASCVD/Organic	2635	16.42%	40.67%
GSW	1042	6.49%	47.17%
Ethanol/Alcohol	880	5.48%	52.65%
Heroin	776	4.84%	57.49%
Transportation	389	2.42%	59.91%
Hanging	150	0.93%	60.85%
PEC Pulmonary Embolism	73	0.45%	61.30%

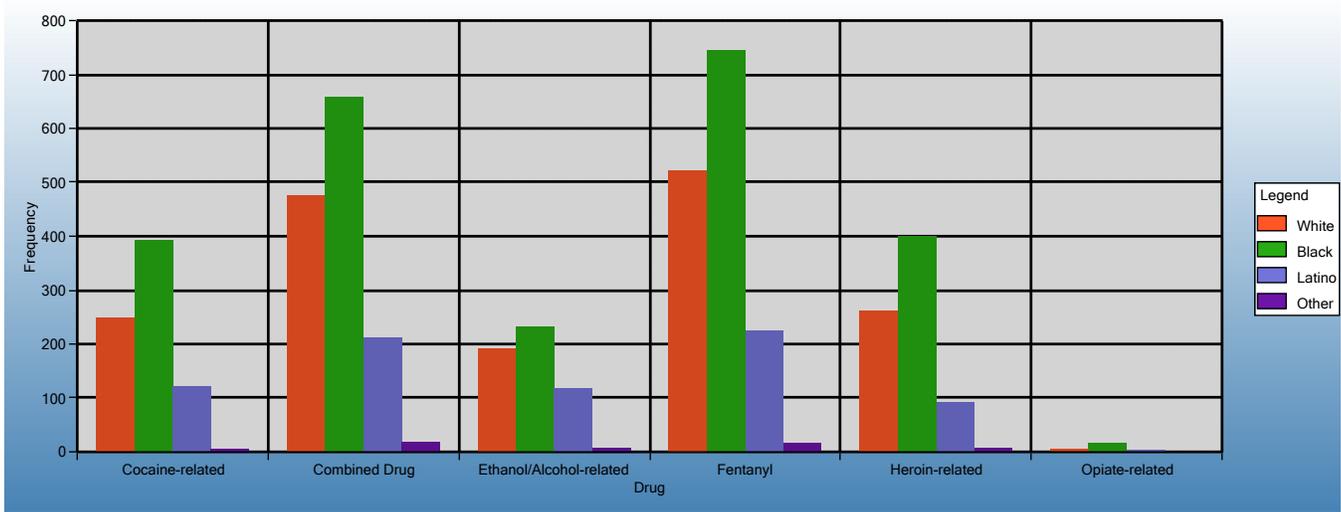


COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 19. FREQUENT CAUSES OF ACCIDENTAL OVERDOSE RACE AND LATINO ORIGIN

DRUG	White	Black	Latino	Other	Total
Cocaine-related	249	393	121	6	769
Combined Drug	475	658	212	19	1364
Ethanol/Alcohol-related	192	233	117	7	549
Fentanyl	522	744	225	17	1508
Heroin-related	262	400	92	8	762
Opiate-related	5	16	3	0	24

* Note: Some deaths may be counted twice (e.g. heroin and alcohol toxicity)

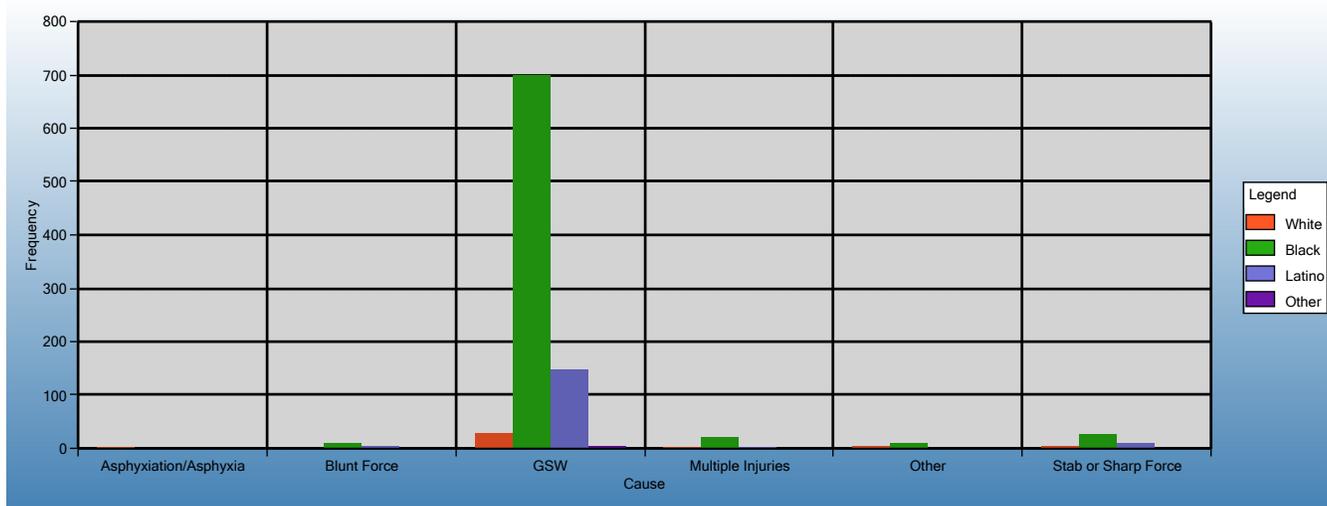


COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 20. FREQUENT CAUSES OF DEATH FOR HOMICIDE BY RACE AND LATINO ORIGIN

CAUSE	White	Black	Latino	Other	Total
Asphyxiation/Asphyxia	3	1	1	0	5
Blunt Force	1	11	5	1	18
GSW	29	699	148	5	881
Multiple Injuries	3	22	3	0	28
Other	5	11	1	0	17
Stab or Sharp Force	5	26	11	1	43

Note: There are cases counted under both Stab or Sharp Force and Blunt Force causes

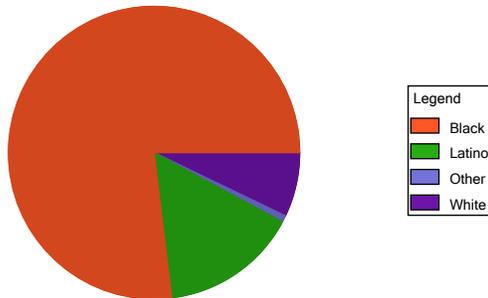


COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

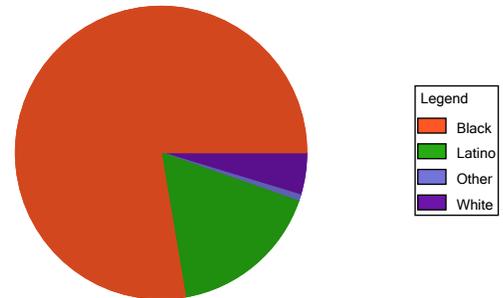
TABLE 21. FREQUENCY OF HOMICIDES BY RACE AND LATINO ORIGIN

	2019		2020	
	#	% of Total	#	% of Total
White	48	7.10%	46	4.67%
Black	520	76.92%	766	77.69%
Latino	103	15.24%	167	16.94%
Other	5	0.74%	7	0.71%
Total	676	100%	986	100%

2019 HOMICIDES



2020 HOMICIDES



COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 22. FREQUENCY OF GUNSHOT WOUND HOMICIDES BY RACE AND LATINO ORIGIN

	2019		2020	
	#	% of Total	#	% of Total
White	28	4.79%	29	3.29%
Black	472	80.82%	699	79.34%
Latino	80	13.70%	148	16.80%
Other	4	0.68%	5	0.57%
Total	584	100%	881	100%

COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

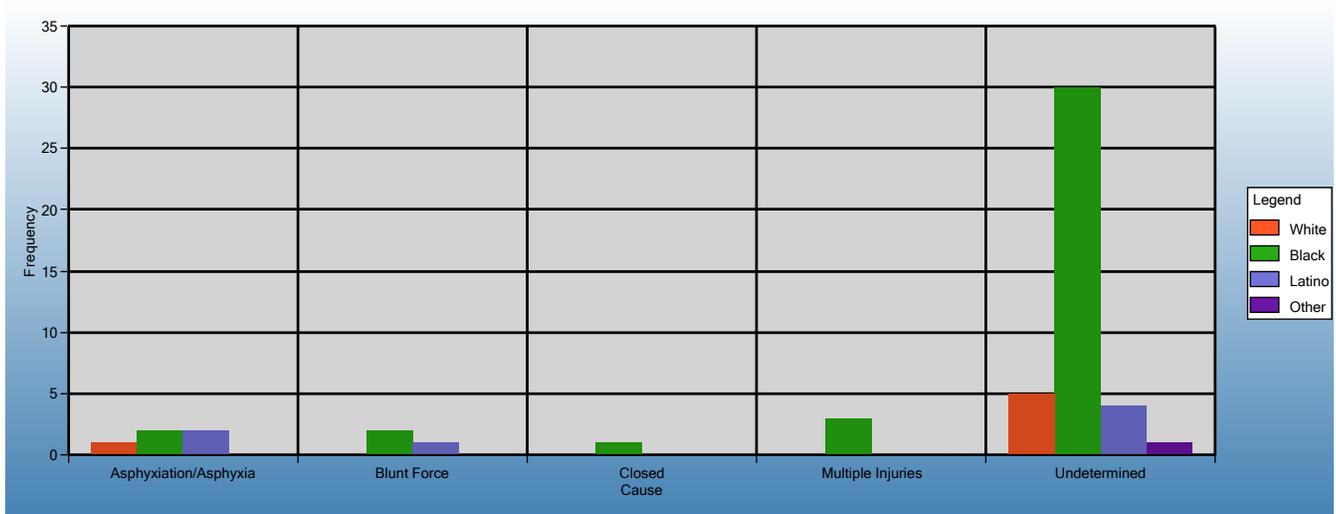
TABLE 23. FREQUENCY OF HOMICIDES FROM GUNSHOT WOUND BY RACE AND LATINO ORIGIN

	2019	2020
	% of Total	% of Total
White	4.33%	2.97%
Black	72.95%	71.69%
Latino	12.36%	15.18%
Other	0.62%	0.51%
Total	90.26%	90.36%

COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 24. FREQUENT CAUSES OF INFANT DEATH BY RACE AND LATINO
2020 ORIGIN

CAUSE	White	Black	Latino	Other	Total
Asphyxiation/Asphyxia	1	2	2	0	5
Blunt Force	0	2	1	0	3
Closed	0	1	0	0	1
Multiple Injuries	0	3	0	0	3
Undetermined	5	30	4	1	40

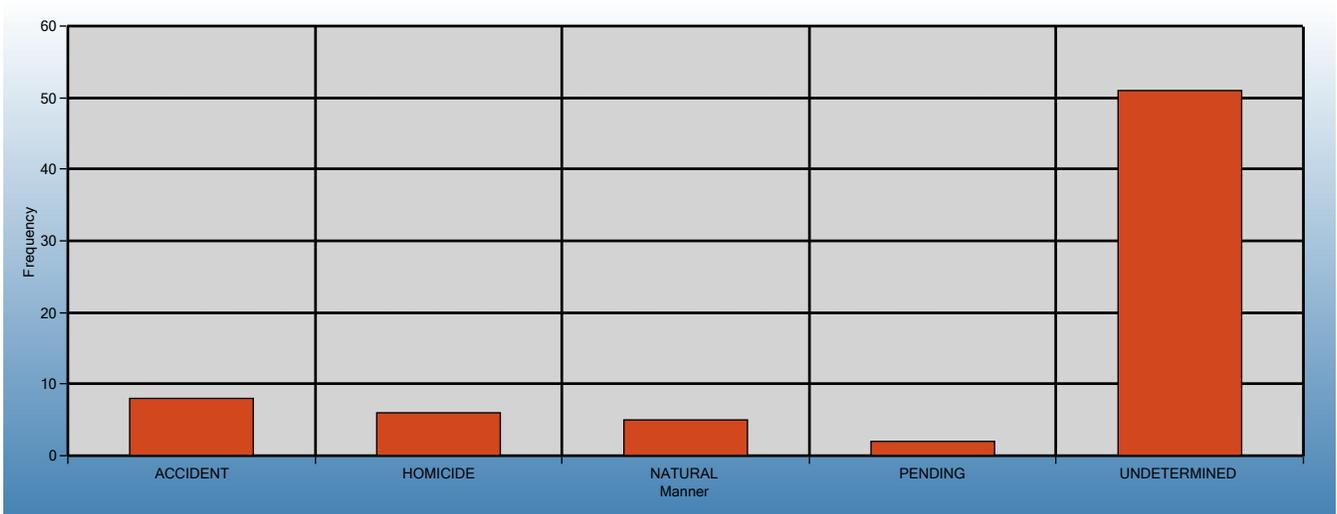


COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

TABLE 25. INFANT DEATHS BY MANNER

Table of INFANT DEATHS by MANNER

MANNER	Frequency
ACCIDENT	8
HOMICIDE	6
NATURAL	5
PENDING	2
UNDETERMINED	51
Total	72



DEMOGRAPHICS OF GUN HOMICIDES

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Gun homicides	525	805	744	597	582	884

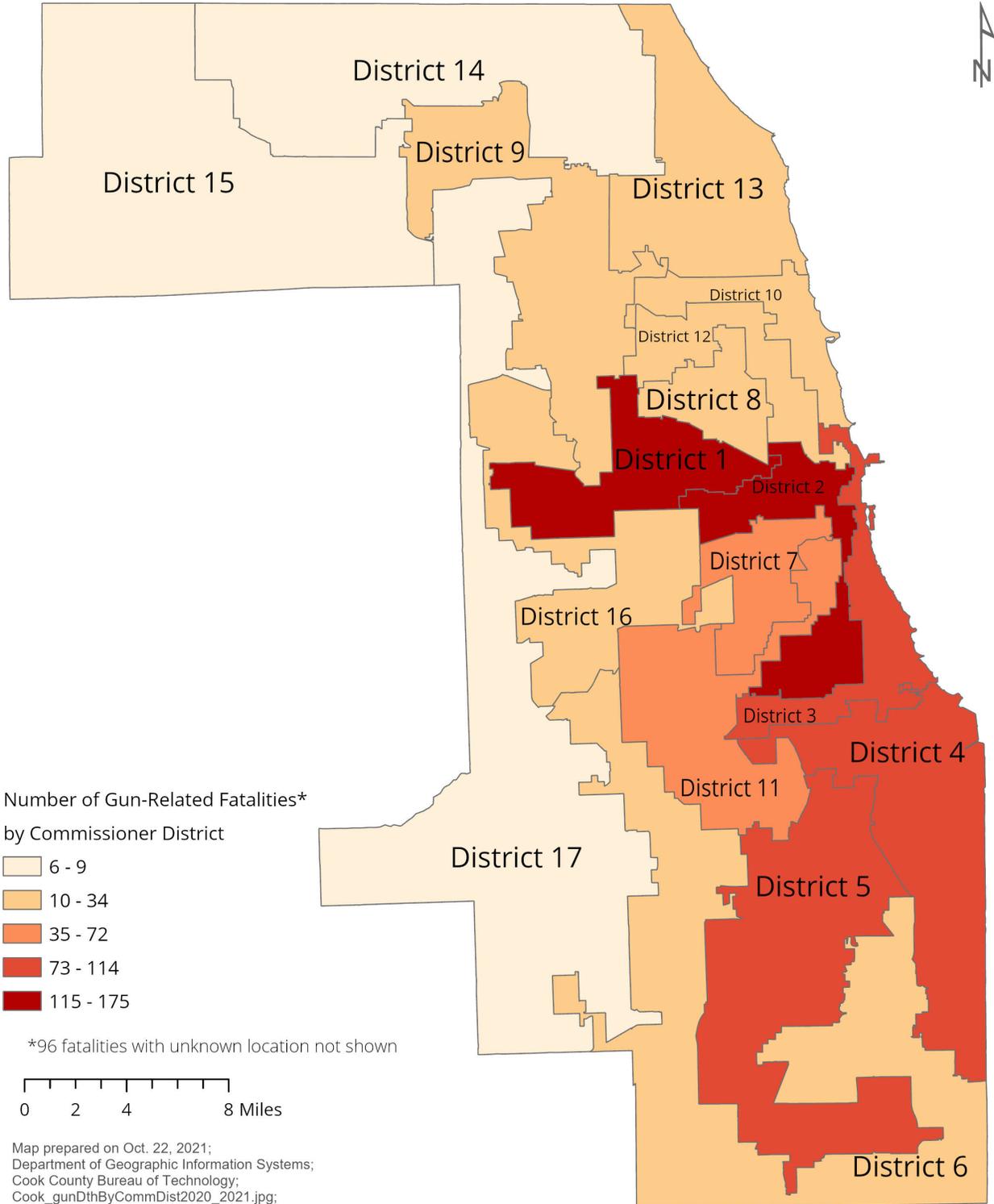
Gender	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Male	495	750	680	547	522	813
Female	30	55	64	54	60	71

Race/Ethnicity	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
White (non-Hispanic)	25	35	27	28	28	29
Black (non-Hispanic)	421	641	589	492	470	702
Hispanic/Latino	67	125	125	78	80	148

Age Range	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
0-14	16	15	12	10	3	16
15-24	239	360	331	221	234	280
25-34	166	247	247	212	201	343
35-44	67	112	90	89	80	159
45-54	22	42	37	36	41	48
55-64	16	22	18	20	17	28
65-74	1	4	6	10	4	6
75-84	2	2	2	2	2	3
85-94	1	0	1	1	0	1

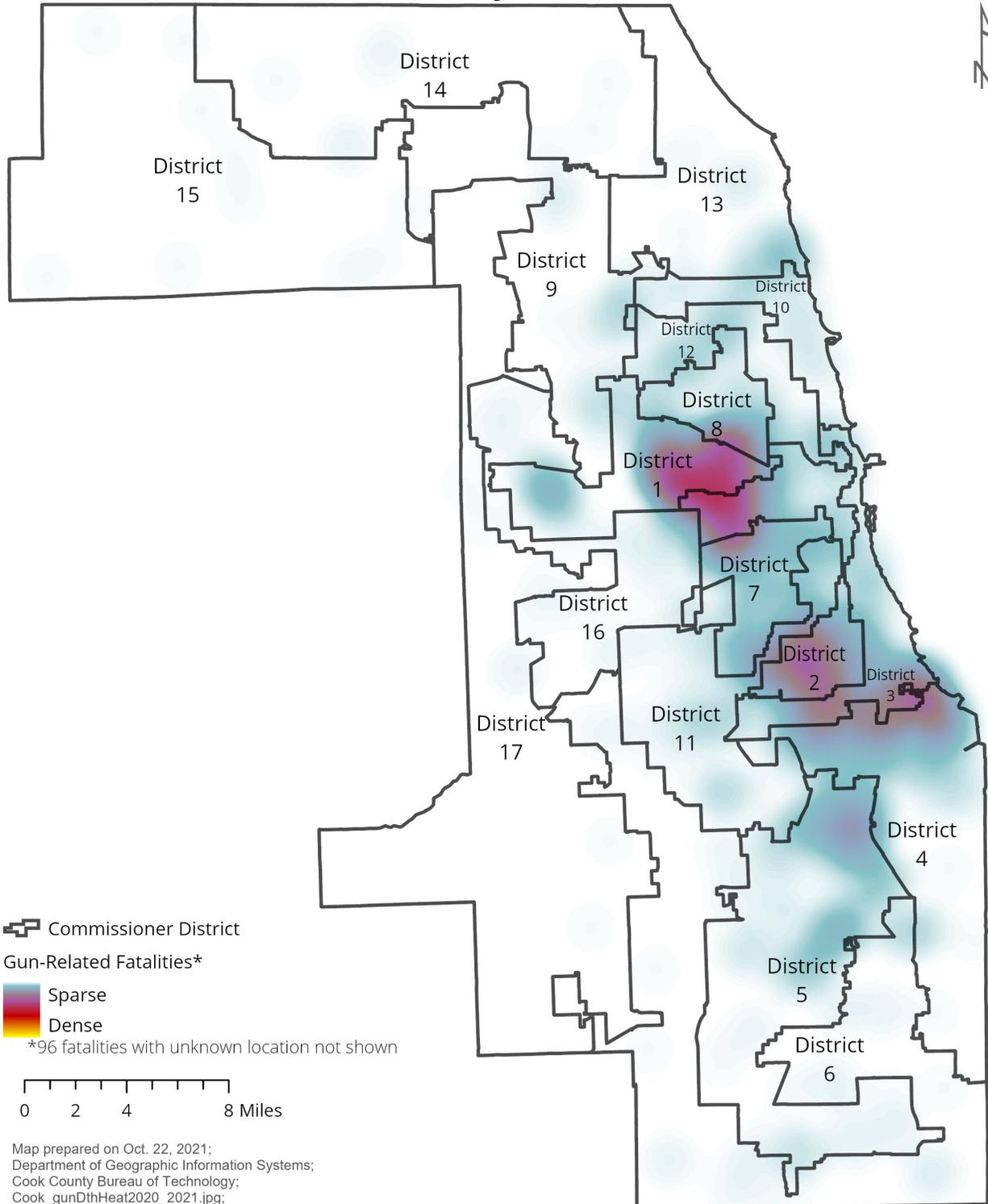
GUN-RELATED DEATHS BY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT

Gun-Related Fatalities by Commissioner District in Cook County, 2020 (N=1051)



GUN-RELATED DEATHS BY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT

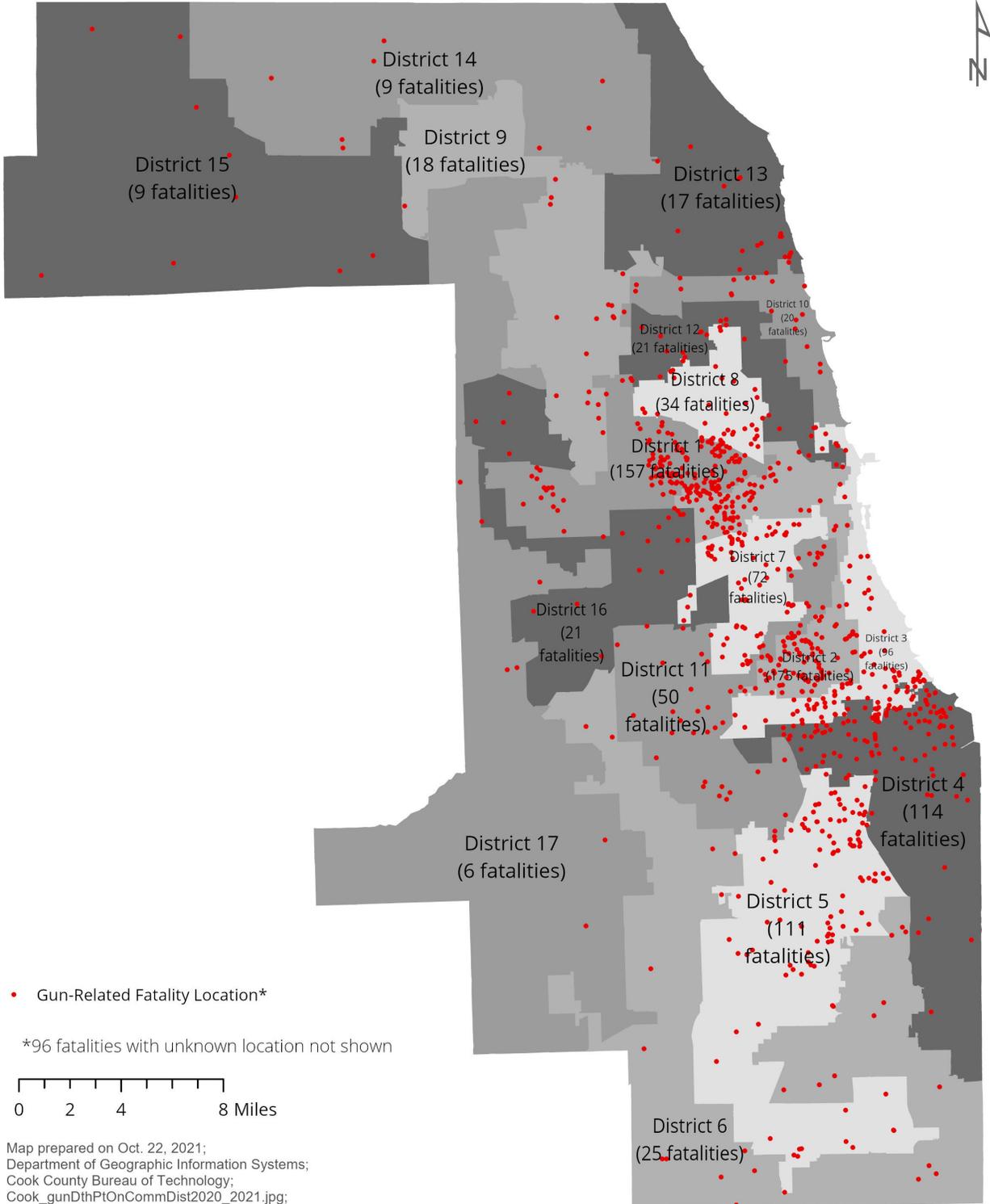
Gun-Related Fatality Concentration in Cook County, 2020 (N=1051)



Map prepared on Oct. 22, 2021;
Department of Geographic Information Systems;
Cook County Bureau of Technology;
Cook_gunDthHeat2020_2021.jpg;
©2021 Cook County Government
You are not entitled to repackage, resell or distribute this map without the written permission of the Cook County Board of Commissioners.

GUN-RELATED DEATHS BY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT

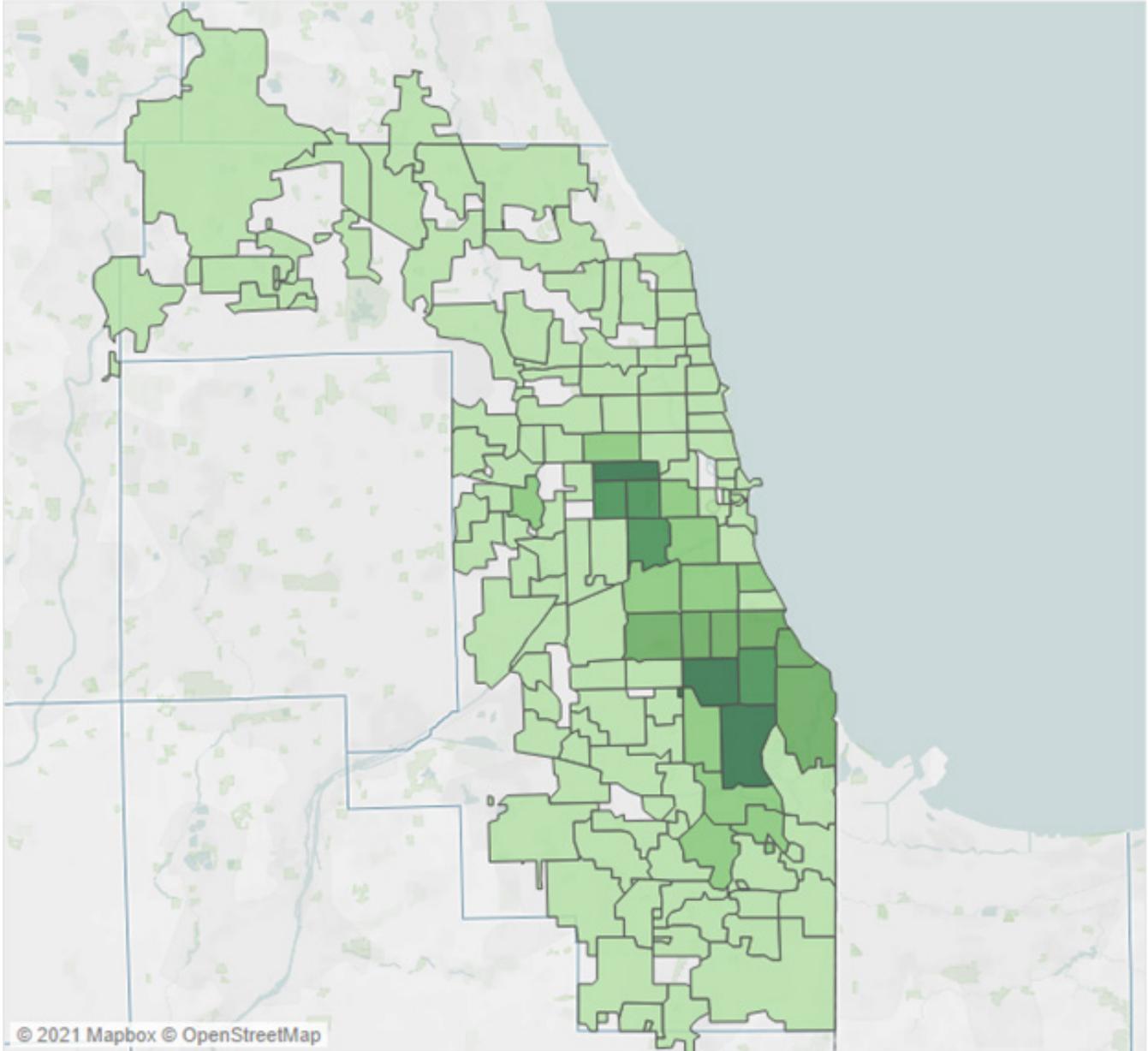
Gun-Related Fatality Incident Locations in Cook County, 2020 (N=1051)



Map prepared on Oct. 22, 2021;
Department of Geographic Information Systems;
Cook County Bureau of Technology;
Cook_gunDthPtOnCommDist2020_2021.jpg;
©2021 Cook County Government
You are not entitled to repackage, resell or distribute this map without the written permission of the Cook County Board of Commissioners.

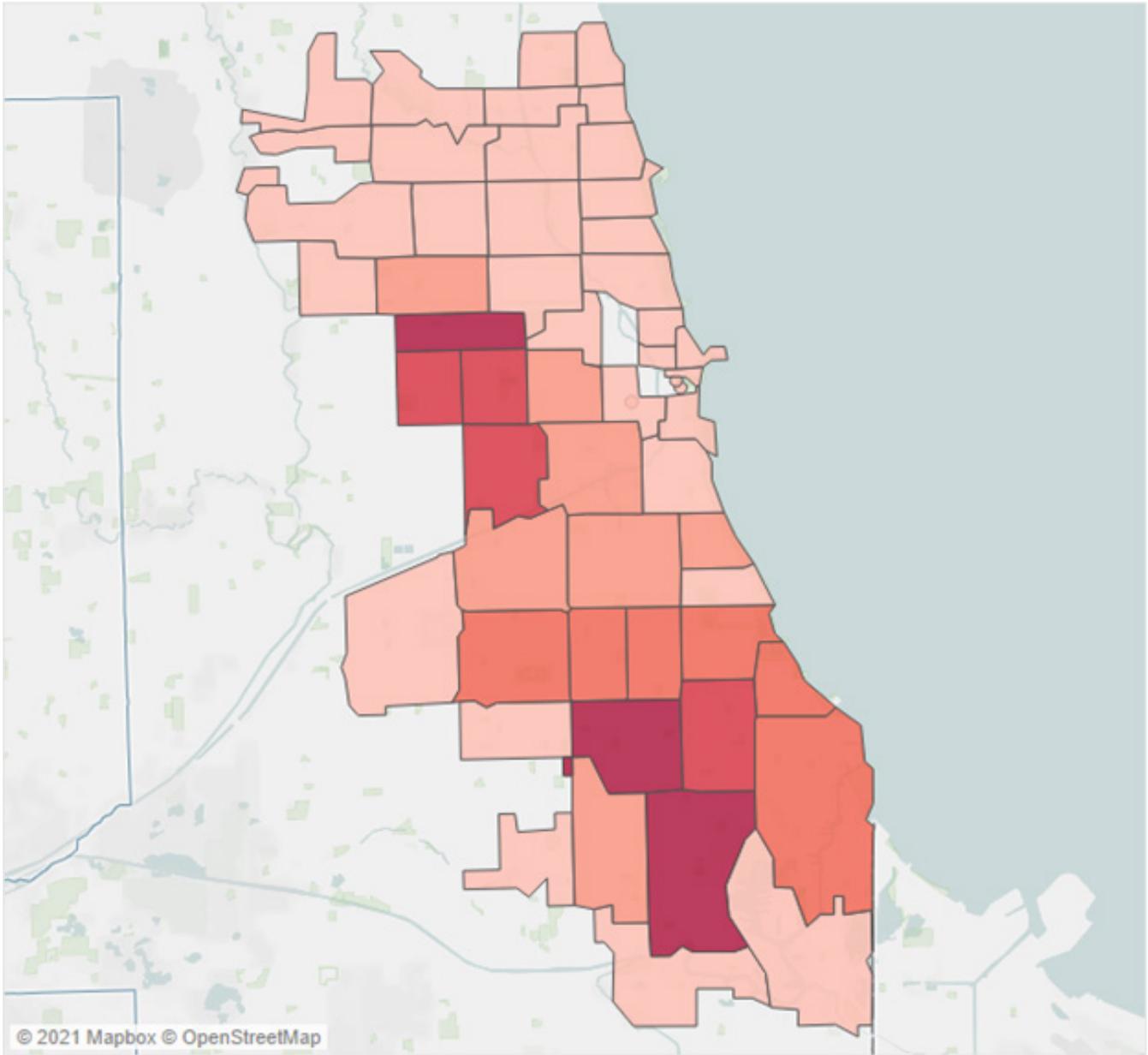
HOMICIDE CASES BY ZIPCODE COOK COUNTY, IL

Geographic Distribution of Homicide Cases by Residence Zipcode in Cook County, 2020



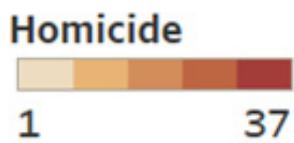
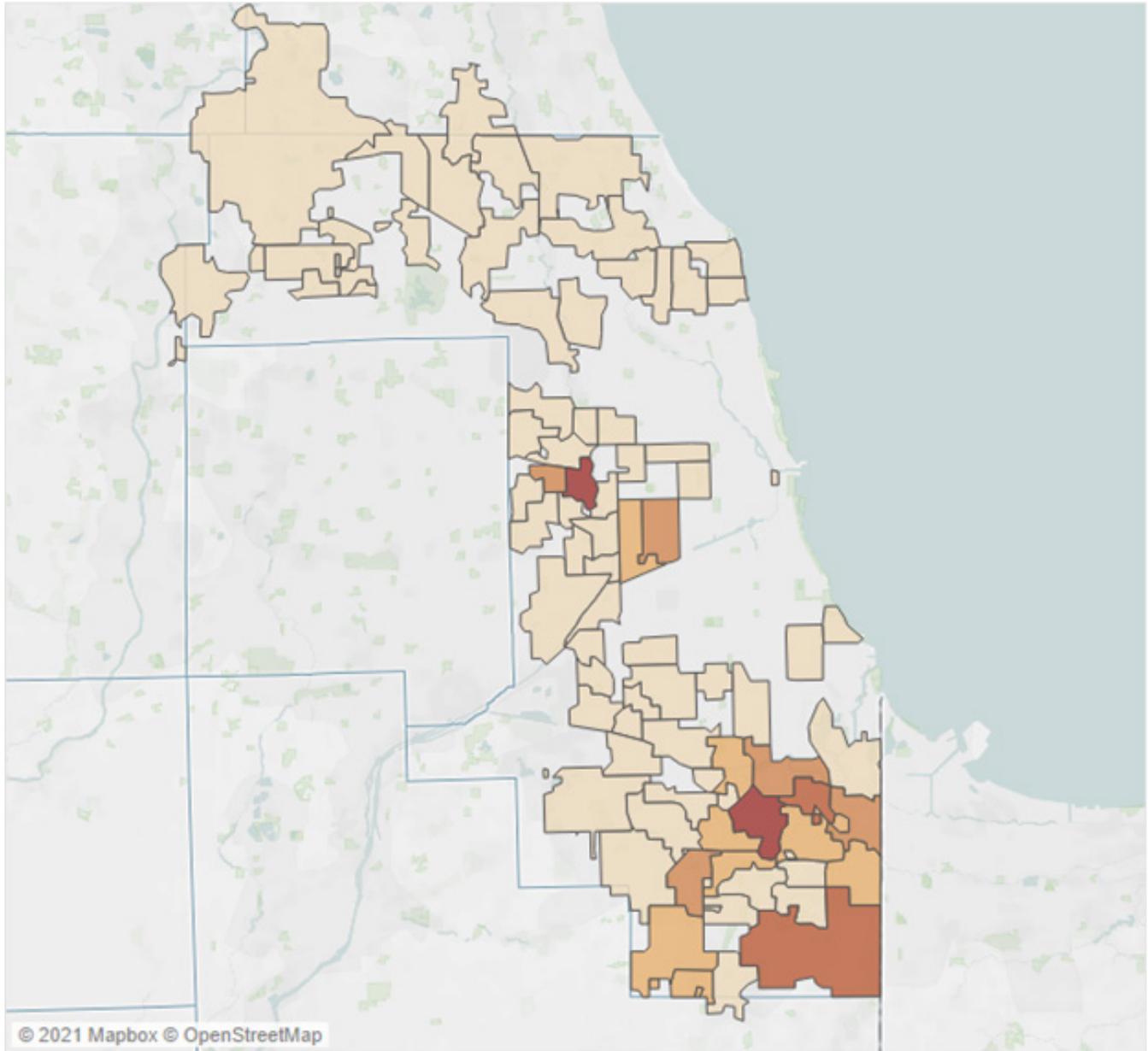
HOMICIDE CASES BY ZIPCODE CITY OF CHICAGO

Geographic Distribution of Homicide Cases by Residence Zipcode in City of Chicago, 2020



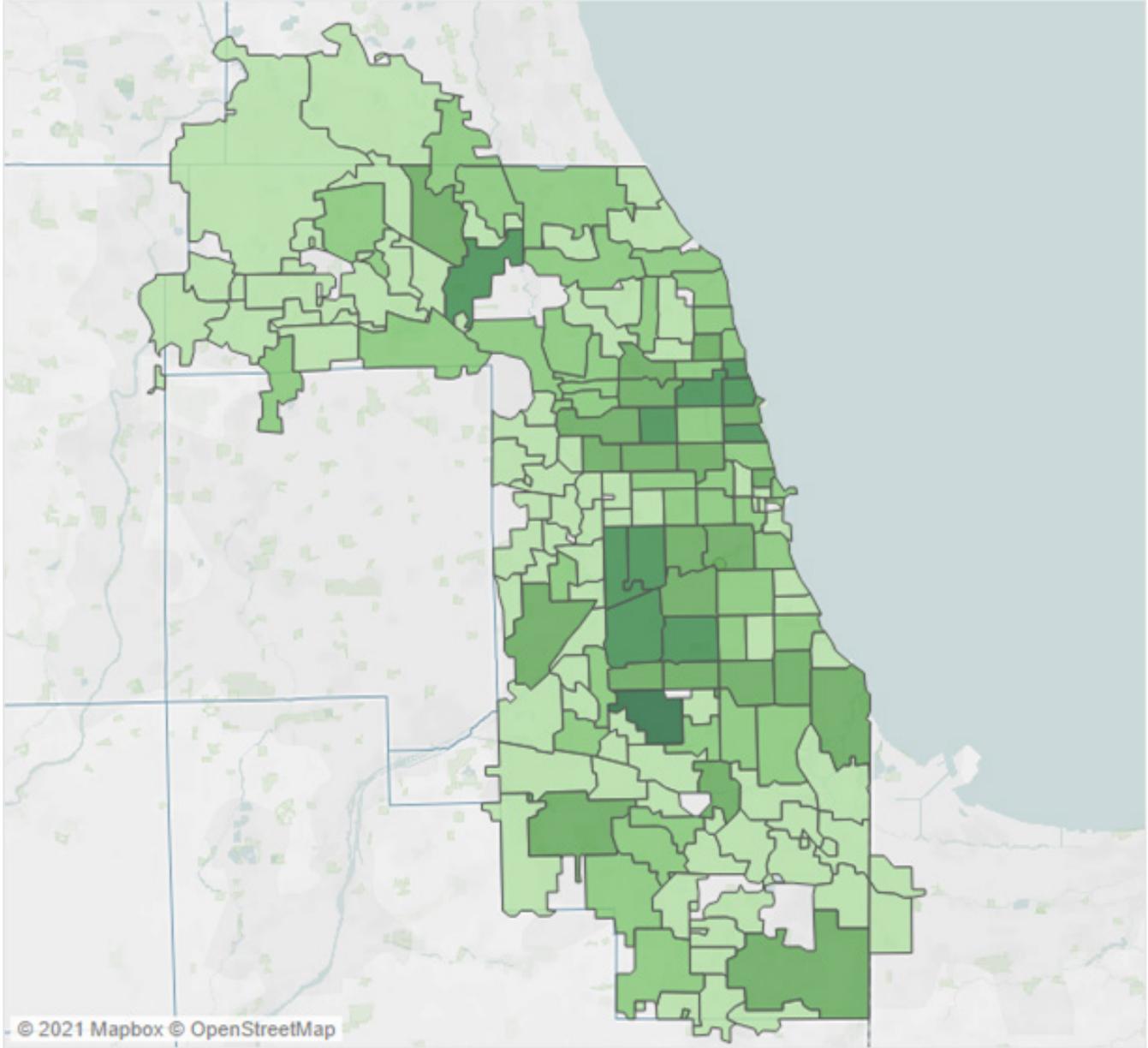
HOMICIDE CASES BY ZIPCODE SUBURBAN COOK COUNTY, IL

Geographic Distribution of Homicide Cases by Residence Zipcode in Suburban Cook County, 2020



SUICIDE CASES BY ZIPCODE COOK COUNTY, IL

Geographic Distribution of Suicide Cases by Residence Zipcode in Cook County, 2020



Suicide

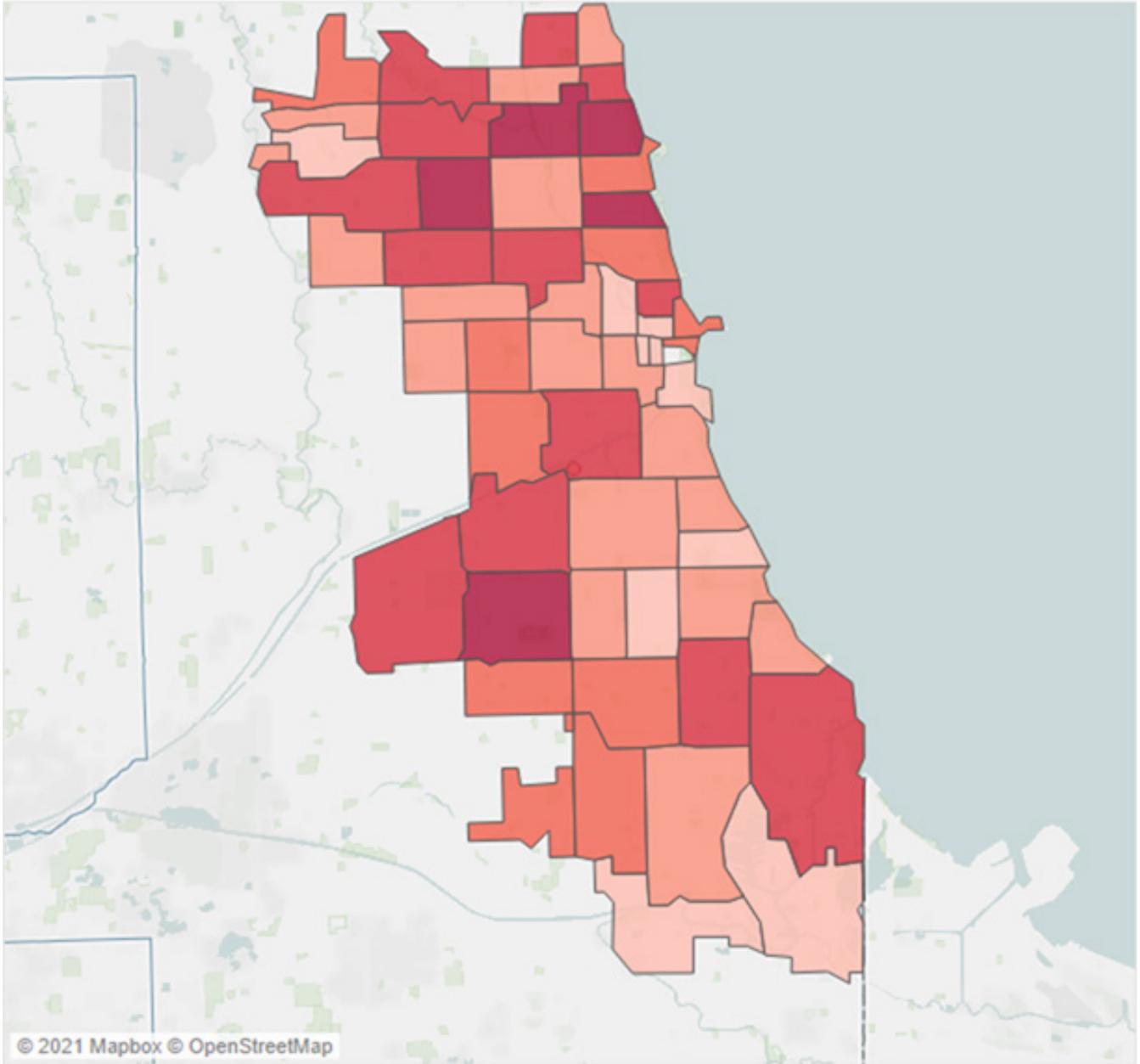


1

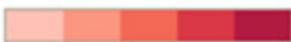
25

SUICIDE CASES BY ZIPCODE CITY OF CHICAGO

Geographic Distribution of Suicide Cases by Residence Zipcode in City of Chicago, 2020



Suicide

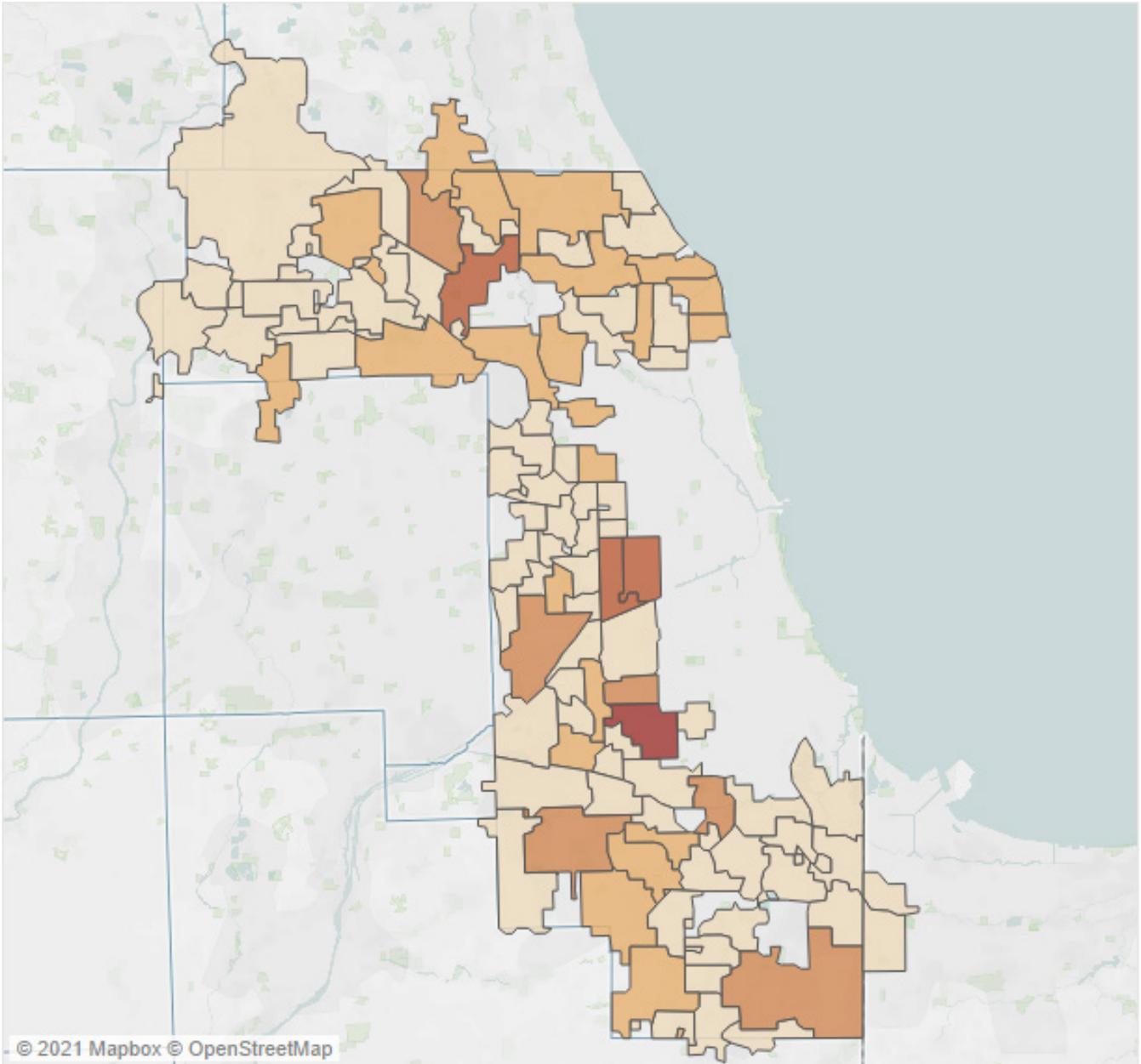


1

20

SUICIDE CASES BY ZIPCODE SUBURBAN COOK COUNTY, IL

Geographic Distribution of Suicide Cases by Residence Zipcode in Suburban Cook County, 2020



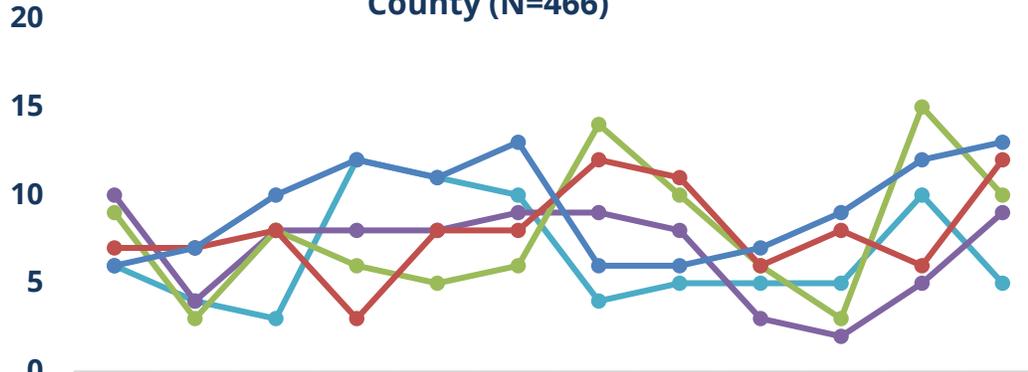
Suicide



INFANT DEATH

CCMEO investigated a total of 80 infant deaths in 2020.

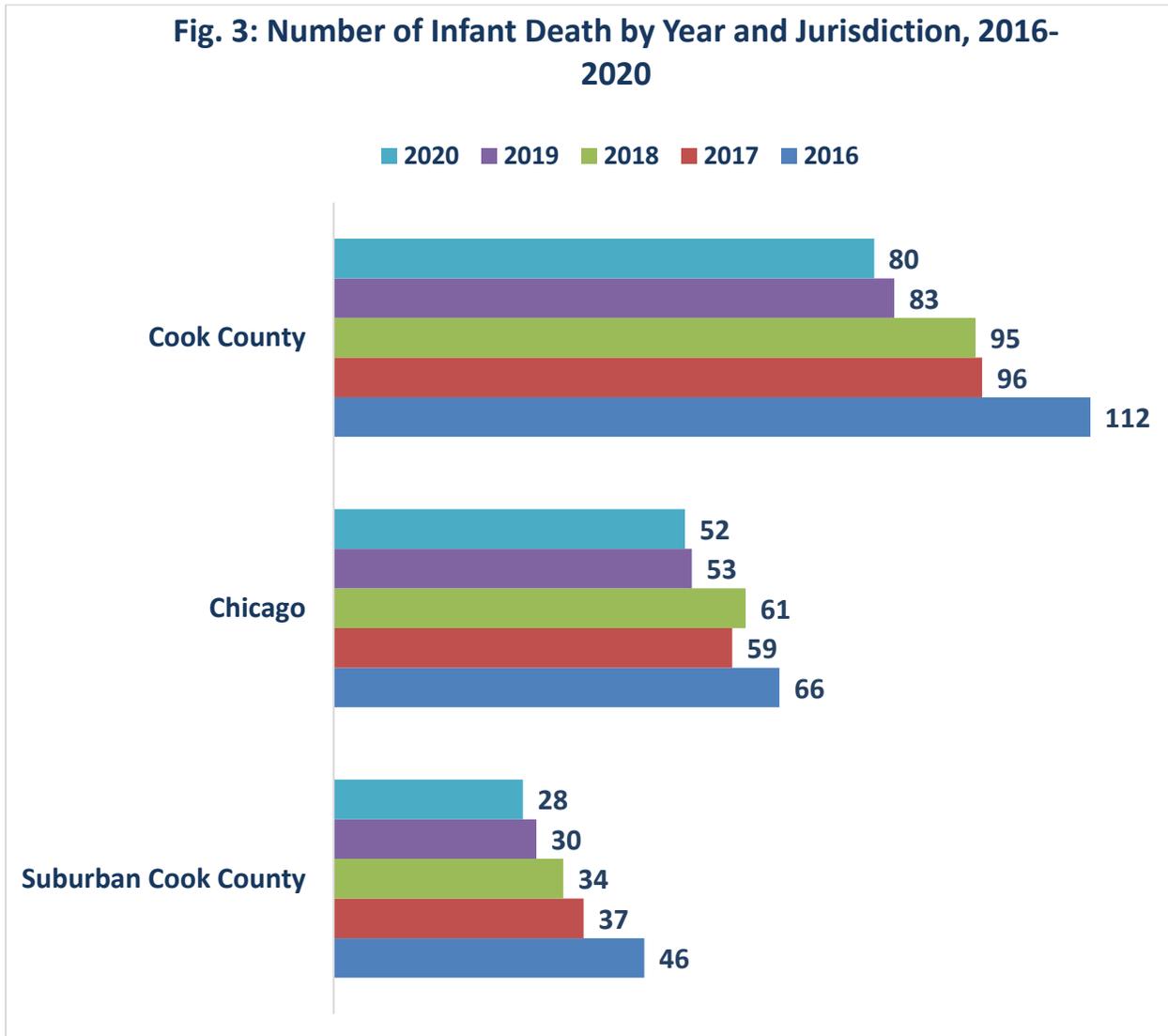
Fig. 1: Number of Infant Death by Month and Year in Cook County (N=466)



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
2020 (n=80)	6	4	3	12	11	10	4	5	5	5	10	5
2019 (n=83)	10	4	8	8	8	9	9	8	3	2	5	9
2018 (n=95)	9	3	8	6	5	6	14	10	6	3	15	10
2017 (n=96)	7	7	8	3	8	8	12	11	6	8	6	12
2016 (n=112)	6	7	10	12	11	13	6	6	7	9	12	13

INFANT DEATH BY JURISDICTION

The breakdown of infant deaths by jurisdiction and year is shown in Figure 3. From 2019 to 2020, the number of infant deaths in Cook County and City of Chicago decreased by 3.6% and 1.9%, respectively.



INFANT DEATH

Infant Deaths in Cook County, Suburban Cook County and City of Chicago, 2020

	Cook County (Jan 2020-Dec 2020)			Suburban Cook County (Jan 2020-Dec 2020)			City of Chicago (Jan 2020-Dec 2020)		
	n	%	Rate ¹	n	%	Rate ²	n	%	Rate ³
Race/Ethnicity									
Latino	9	11.3%	NA	3	10.7%	NA	6	11.5%	NA
NL White	8	10.0%	NA	5	17.9%	NA	3	5.8%	NA
NL Black	61	76.3%	NA	18	64.3%	NA	43	82.7%	NA
NL Asian	0	0.0%	NA	0	0.0%	NA	0	0.0%	NA
NL Am. Indian	0	0.0%	NA	0	0.0%	NA	0	0.0%	NA
NL Other	1	1.3%	NA	1	3.6%	NA	0	0.0%	NA
NL Unknown	1	1.3%	NA	1	3.6%	NA	0	0.0%	NA
Sex									
Female	29	36.3%	1	13	46.4%	1	16	30.8%	1
Male	49	61.3%	2	14	50.0%	1	35	67.3%	2
Unknown	2	2.5%	NA	1	3.6%	NA	1	1.9%	NA
Age Group									
0 month	22	27.5%	NA	7	25.0%	NA	15	28.8%	NA
1 month	16	20.0%	NA	5	17.9%	NA	11	21.2%	NA
2 months	13	16.3%	NA	6	21.4%	NA	7	13.5%	NA
3 months	8	10.0%	NA	2	7.1%	NA	6	11.5%	NA
4 months	7	8.8%	NA	2	7.1%	NA	5	9.6%	NA
5 months	4	5.0%	NA	1	3.6%	NA	3	5.8%	NA
6 months	3	3.8%	NA	1	3.6%	NA	1	1.9%	NA
7 months	2	2.5%	NA	1	3.6%	NA	2	3.8%	NA
8 months	3	3.8%	NA	3	10.7%	NA	0	0.0%	NA
9 months	2	2.5%	NA	0	0.0%	NA	2	3.8%	NA
10 months	0	0.0%	NA	0	0.0%	NA	0	0.0%	NA
11 months	0	0.0%	NA	0	0.0%	NA	0	0.0%	NA
12 months	0	0.0%	NA	0	0.0%	NA	0	0.0%	NA
Total	80	100%		28	100%		52	100%	

¹ The number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births by sex. The source for infant live birth in Cook County is: United States Department of Health and Human Services (US DHHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Division of Vital Statistics, Natality public-use data 2007-2019, on CDC WONDER Online Database, October 2020. Accessed at <http://wonder.cdc.gov/natality-current.html> on Jul 22, 2021.

² The denominator of race, sex, and age group categories in Suburban Cook County found from the difference from Cook County and City of Chicago.

³ The number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births by sex. The source for infant live birth in City of Chicago is: Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), Data & Statistics, Vital Statistics, Birth Statistics, 2019 Birth Statistics. Accessed at <https://dph.illinois.gov/data-statistics/vital-statistics/birth-statistics> on Jul 22, 2021.

INFANT DEATH

Fig. 4: Infant Death by Primary Cause in Cook County, 2020

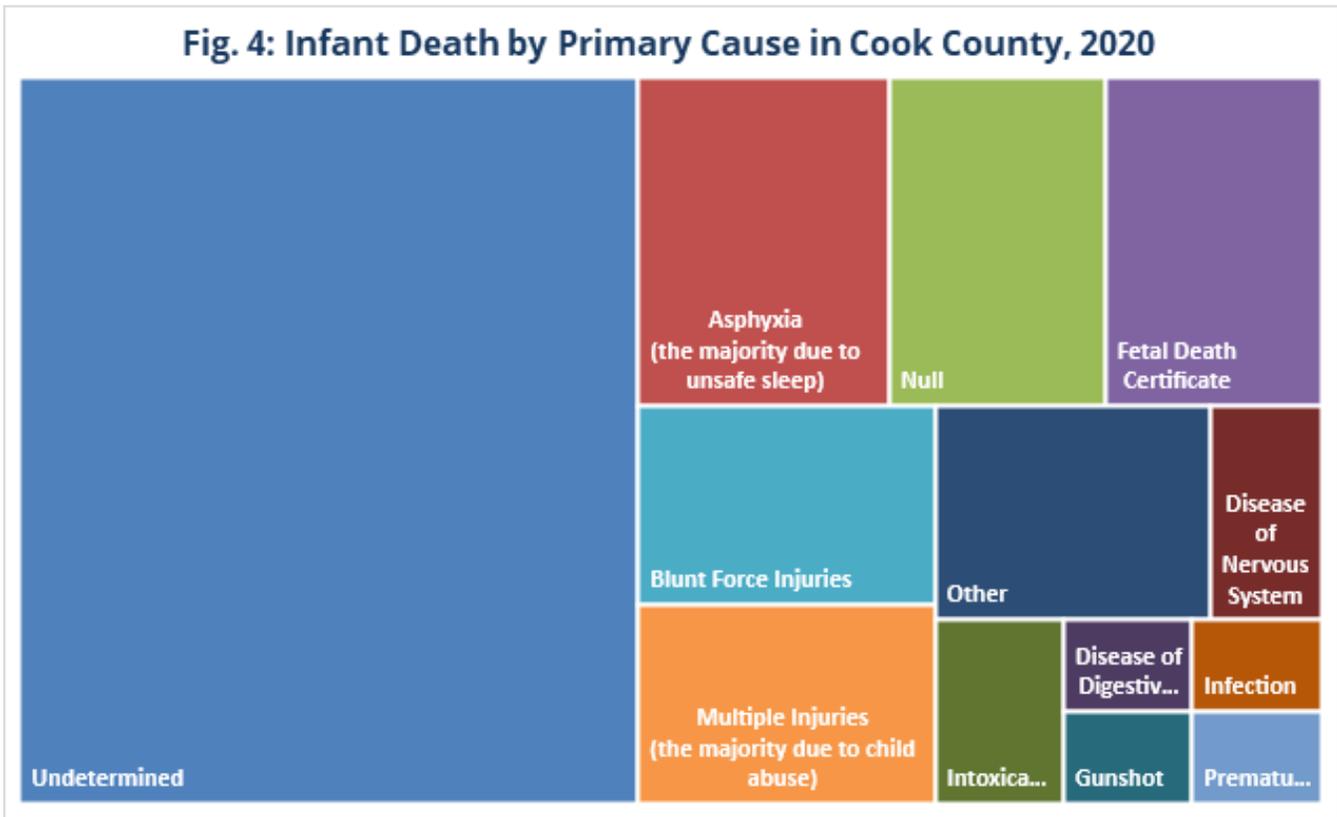
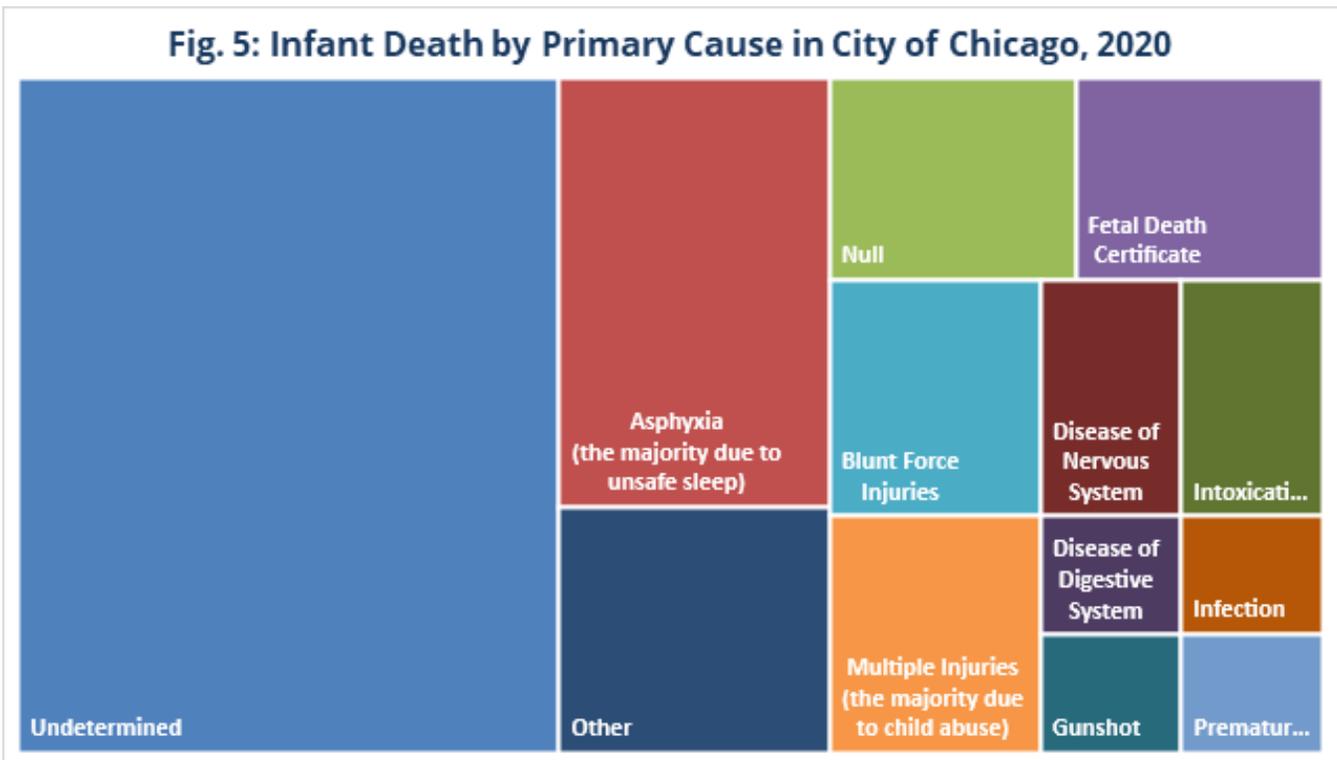
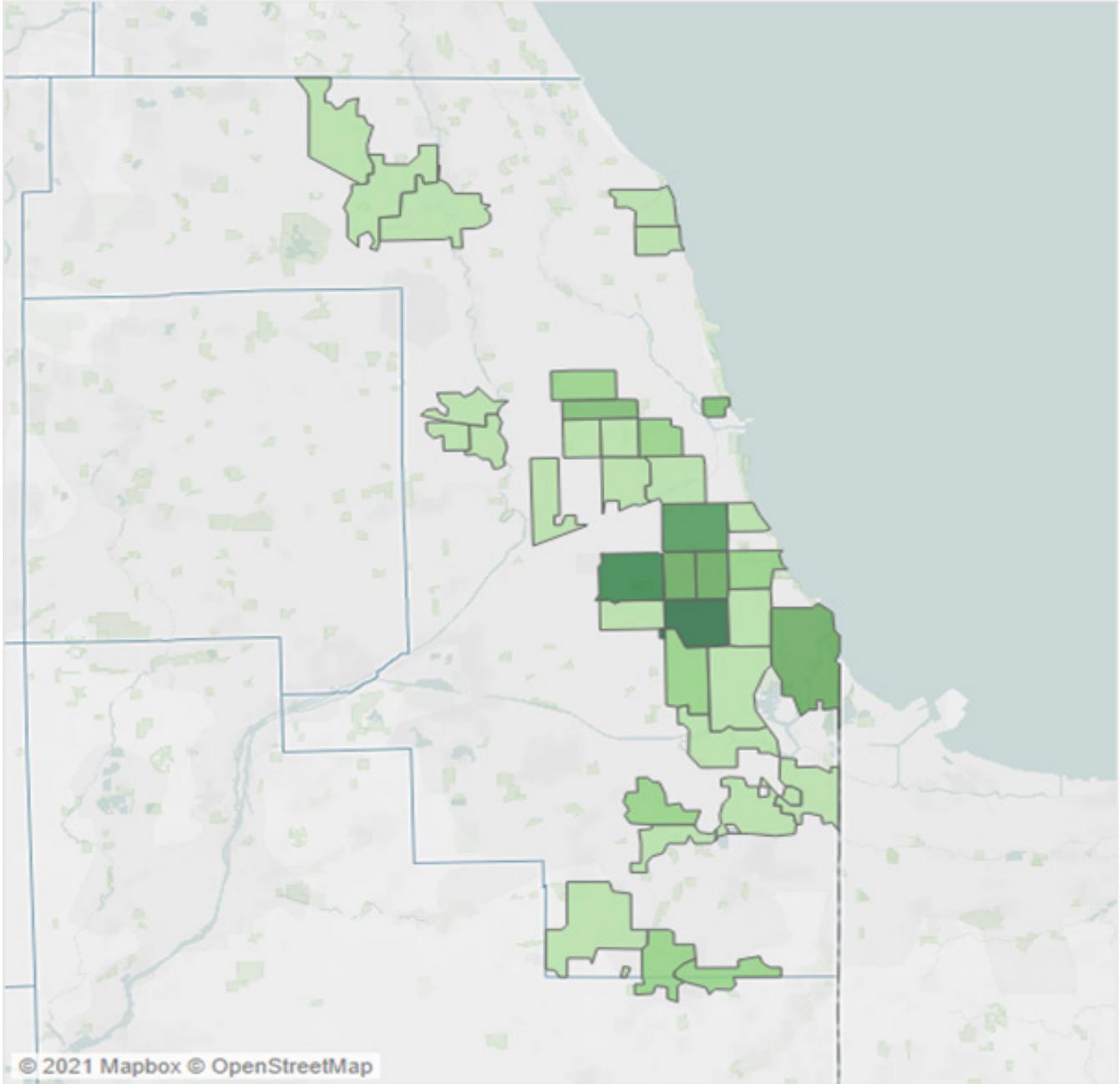


Fig. 5: Infant Death by Primary Cause in City of Chicago, 2020



INFANT DEATH BY ZIPCODE COOK COUNTY. IL

Geographic Distribution of Infant Mortality by Residence Zipcode in Cook County, 2020

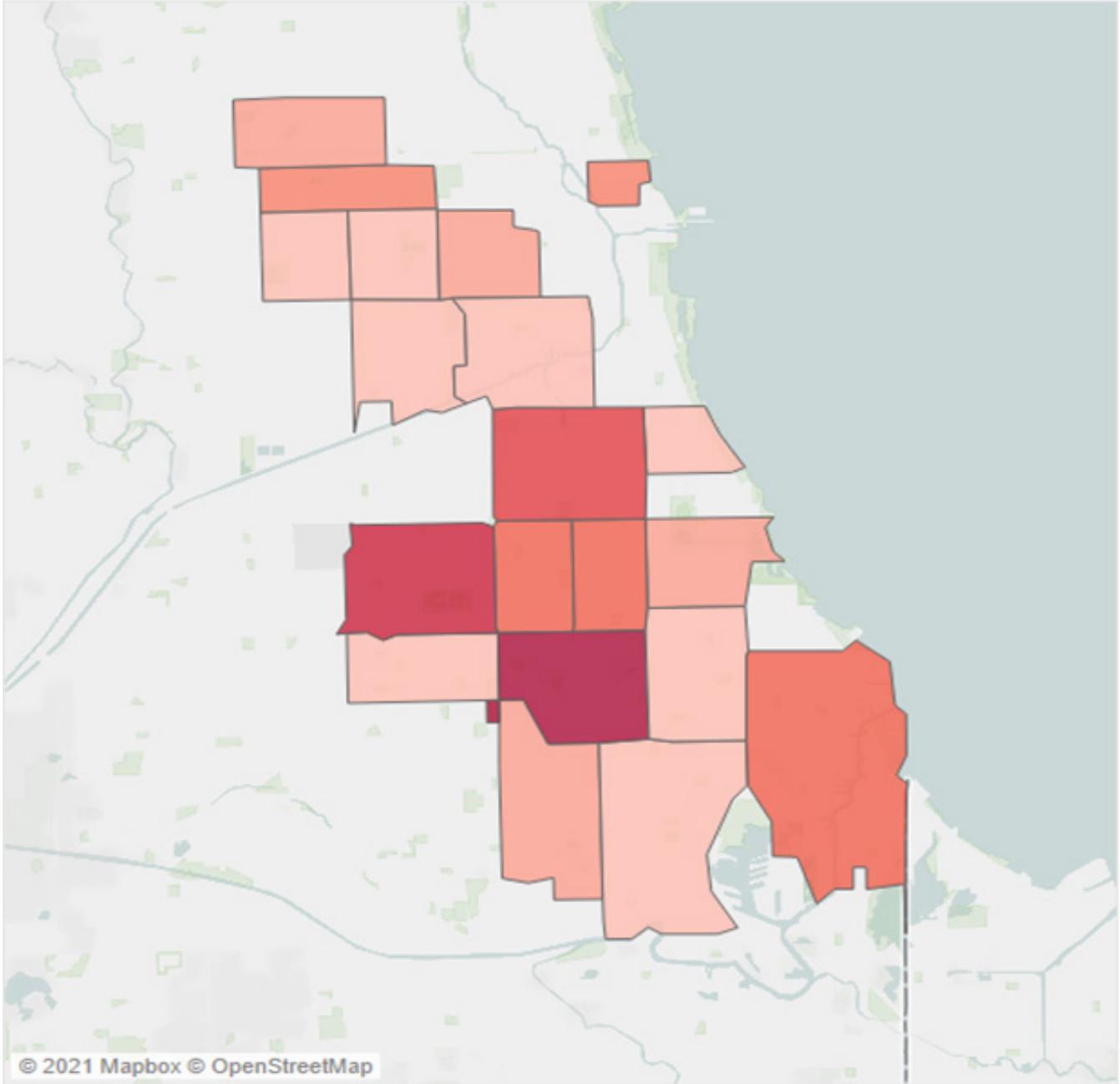


Infant Mortality



INFANT DEATH BY ZIPCODE CITY OF CHICAGO

Geographic Distribution of Infant Mortality by Residence Zipcode in City of Chicago, 2020

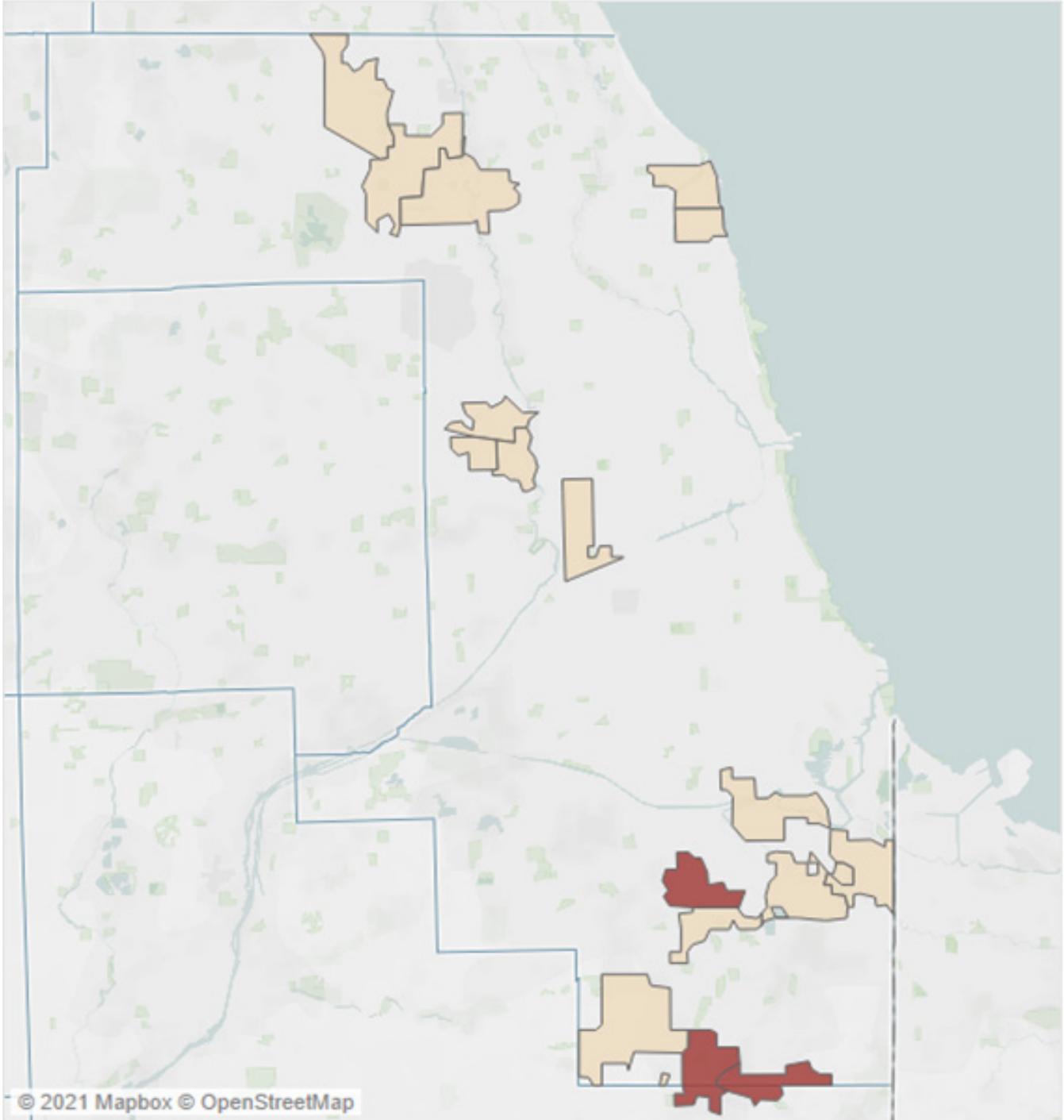


Infant Mortality



INFANT DEATH BY ZIPCODE SUBURBAN COOK COUNTY. IL

Geographic Distribution of Infant Mortality by Residence Zipcode in Suburban Cook County, 2020



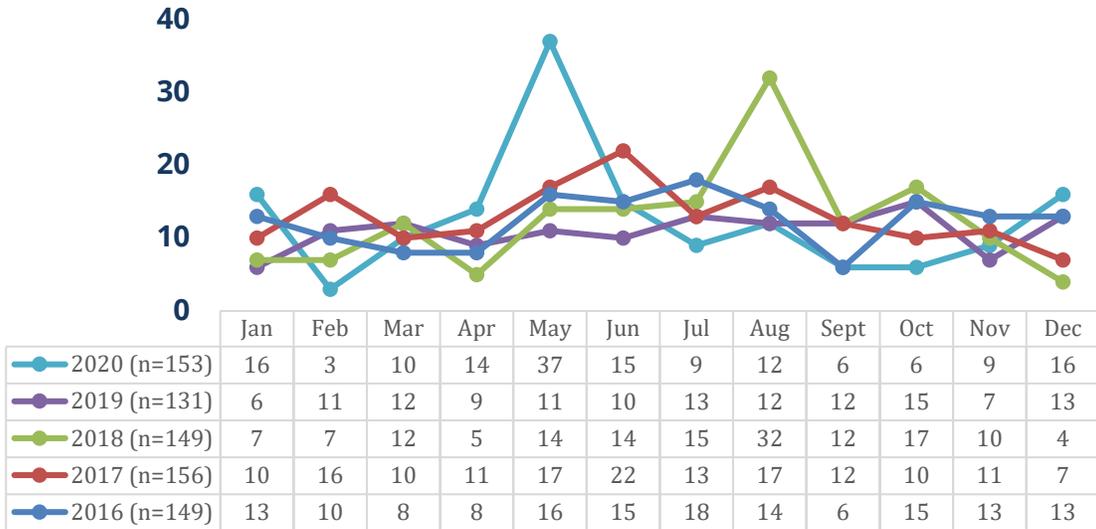
Infant Mortality



CHILD DEATH

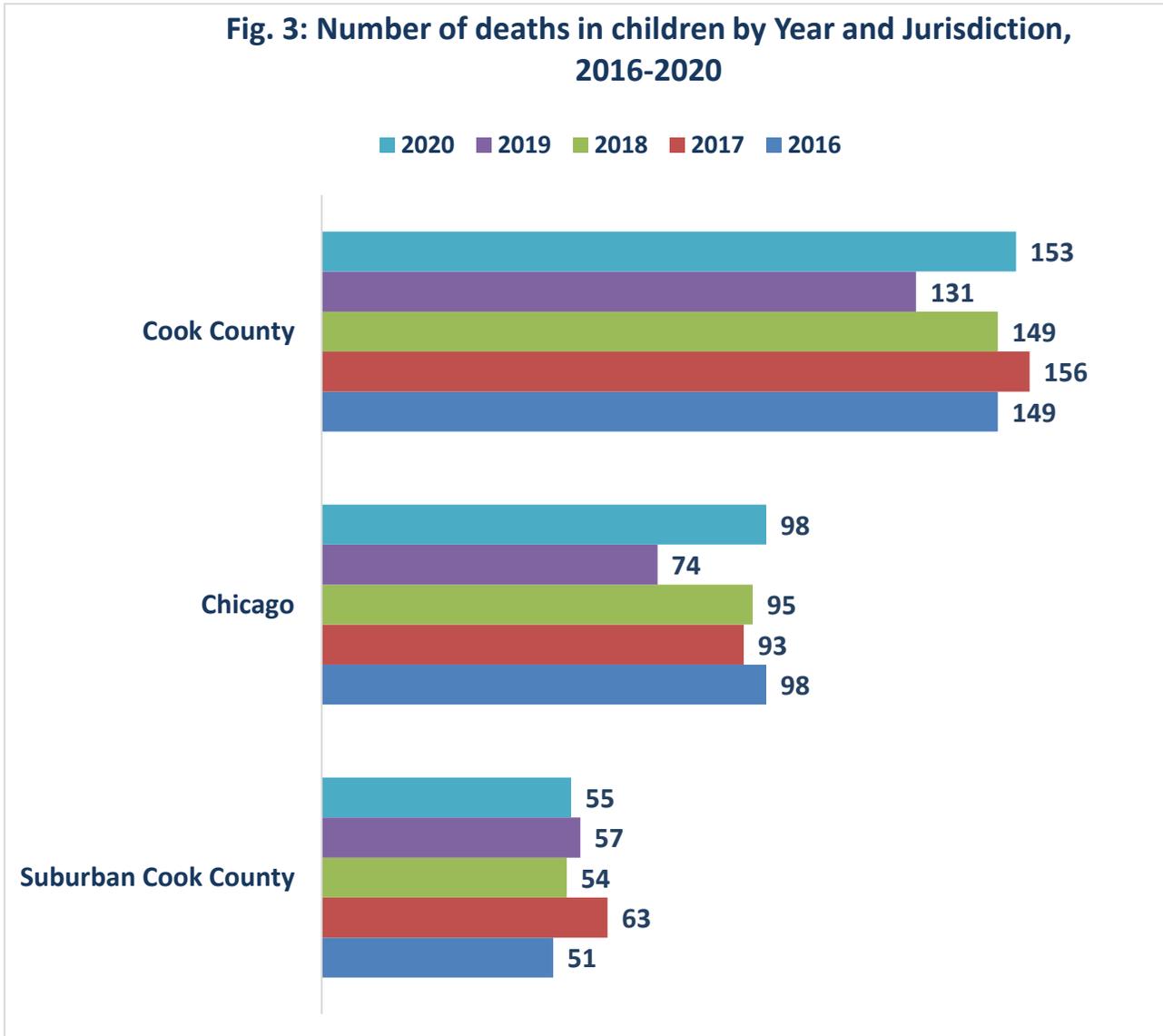
Deaths in children. CCMEO investigated a total of 153 child deaths in 2020. The breakdown of children deaths by month and year is shown in Figure 1.

Fig. 1: Children (2-17 year old) Death by Month and Year in Cook County (N=738)



CHILD DEATH BY JURISDICTION

Deaths in children by Jurisdiction. The breakdown of children deaths by jurisdiction and year is shown in Figure 3. From 2019 to 2020, the number of children deaths in Cook County and the City of Chicago increased by 16.8% and 32.4%, respectively.



CHILD DEATH

Characteristics of Deaths in children in Cook County, Suburban Cook County, and City of Chicago

	Cook County (Jan 2020-Dec 2020)			Suburban Cook County (Jan 2020-Dec 2020)			City of Chicago (Jan 2020-Dec 2020)		
	n	%	Rate	n	%	Rate	n	%	Rate
Race/Ethnicity									
Latino	36	23.5%	NA	10	18.2%	NA	26	26.5%	NA
NL White	29	19.0%	NA	24	43.6%	NA	5	5.1%	NA
NL Black	84	54.9%	NA	18	32.7%	NA	66	67.3%	NA
NL Asian	3	2.0%	NA	2	3.6%	NA	1	1.0%	NA
NL Am. Indian	0	0.0%	NA	0	0.0%	NA	0	0.0%	NA
NL Other	1	0.7%	NA	1	1.8%	NA	0	0.0%	NA
NL Unknown	0	0.0%	NA	0	0.0%	NA	0	0.0%	NA
Sex									
Female	38	24.8%	NA	11	20.0%	NA	27	27.6%	NA
Male	114	74.5%	NA	43	78.2%	NA	71	72.4%	NA
Unknown	1	0.7%	NA	1	1.8%	NA	0	0.0%	NA
Age Group									
2-5	22	14.4%	NA	8	14.5%	NA	14	14.3%	NA
6-10	17	11.1%	NA	5	9.1%	NA	12	12.2%	NA
11-15	53	34.6%	NA	21	38.2%	NA	32	32.7%	NA
16-20	61	39.9%	NA	21	38.2%	NA	40	40.8%	NA
Total	153	100%		55	100%		98	100%	

CHILD DEATH

Fig. 4: Children Death by Primary Cause in Cook County, 2020

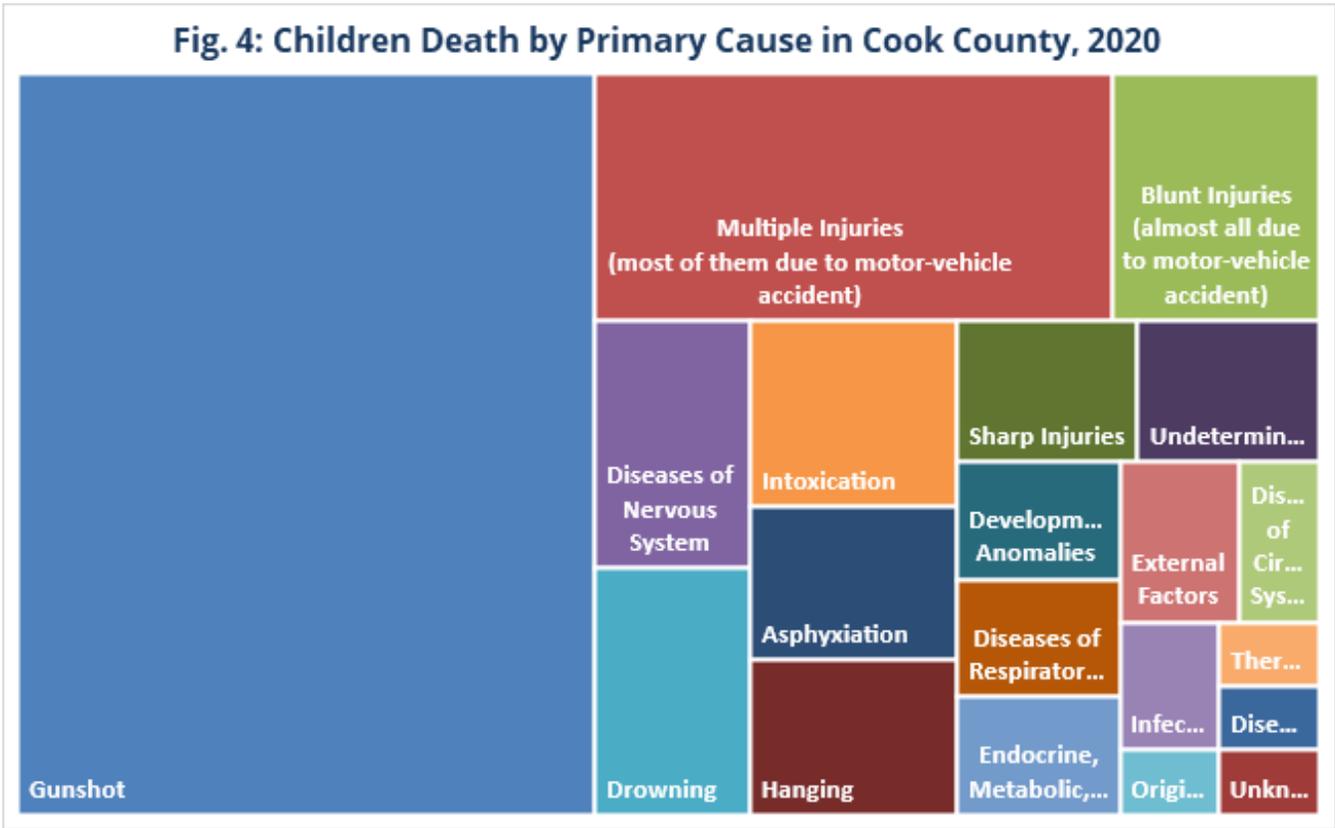
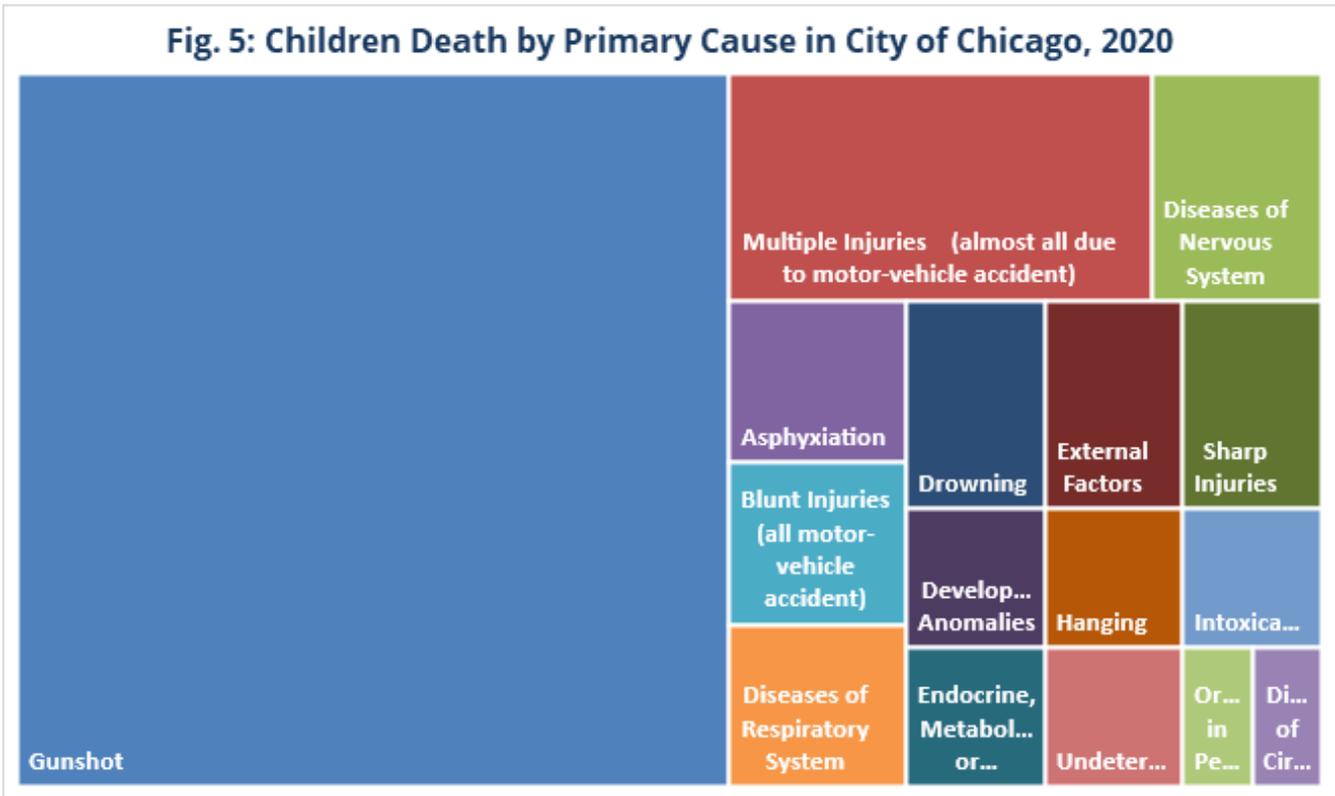
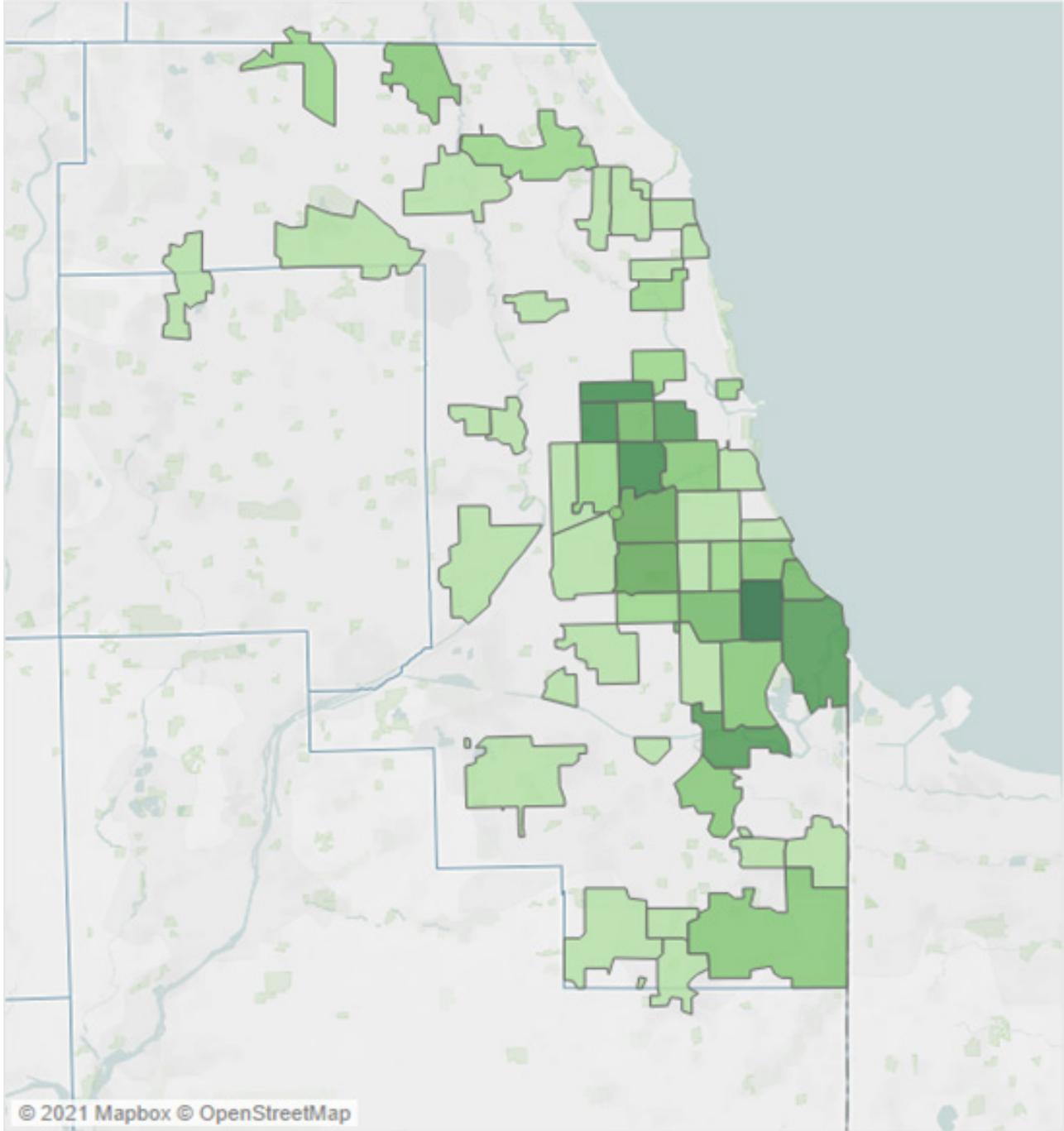


Fig. 5: Children Death by Primary Cause in City of Chicago, 2020



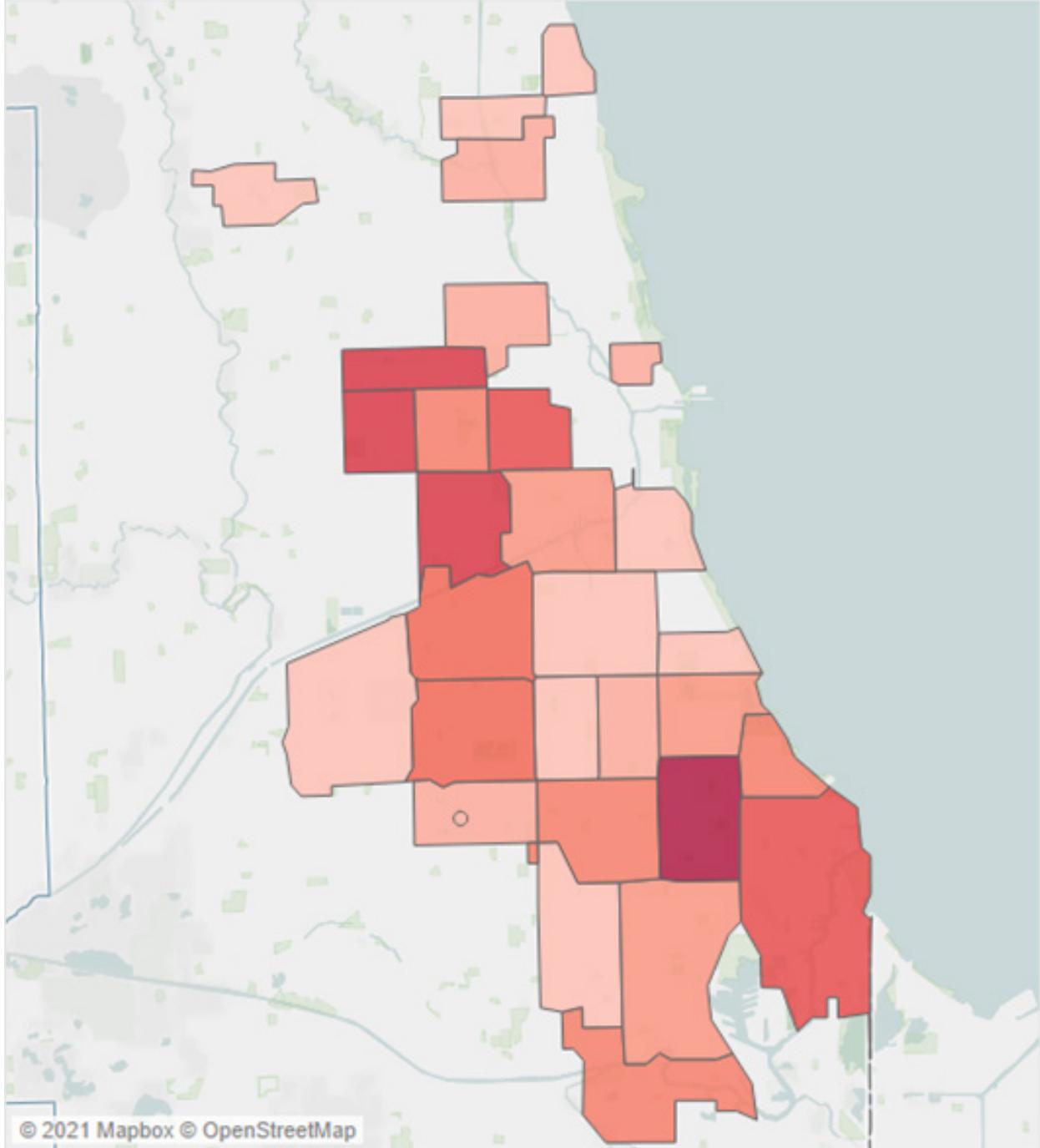
CHILD DEATH BY ZIPCODE COOK COUNTY, IL

Geographic Distribution of Child Mortality by Residence Zipcode in Cook County, 2020



CHILD DEATH BY ZIPCODE COOK COUNTY, IL

Geographic Distribution of Child Mortality by Residence Zipcode in City of Chicago, 2020

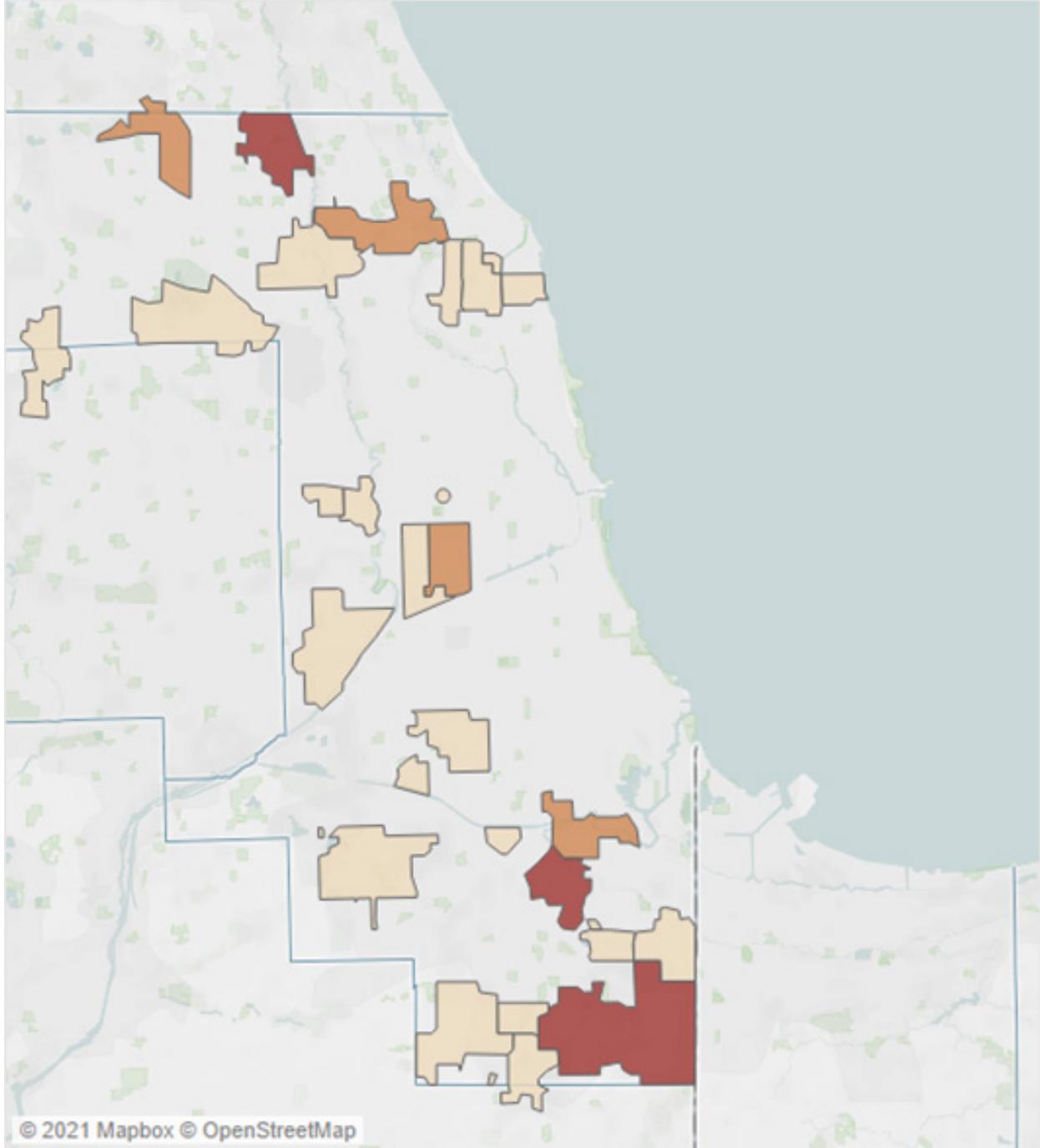


Child Mortality



CHILD DEATH BY ZIPCODE COOK COUNTY, IL

Geographic Distribution of Child Mortality by Residence Zipcode in Suburban Cook County, 2020



Child Mortality



OPIATE DEATH

Drug	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Opiates	647	1081	1167	1138	1295	1840
Heroin-related	497	693	787	680	666	778
Fentanyl-related	103	560	669	847	961	1533

Gender	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Male	471	802	890	849	967	1414
Female	176	280	276	289	328	426

Race/Ethnicity	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
White (non-Hispanic)	514	554	489	534	654
Black (non-Hispanic)	399	482	492	593	894
Hispanic/Latino	157	121	153	153	272

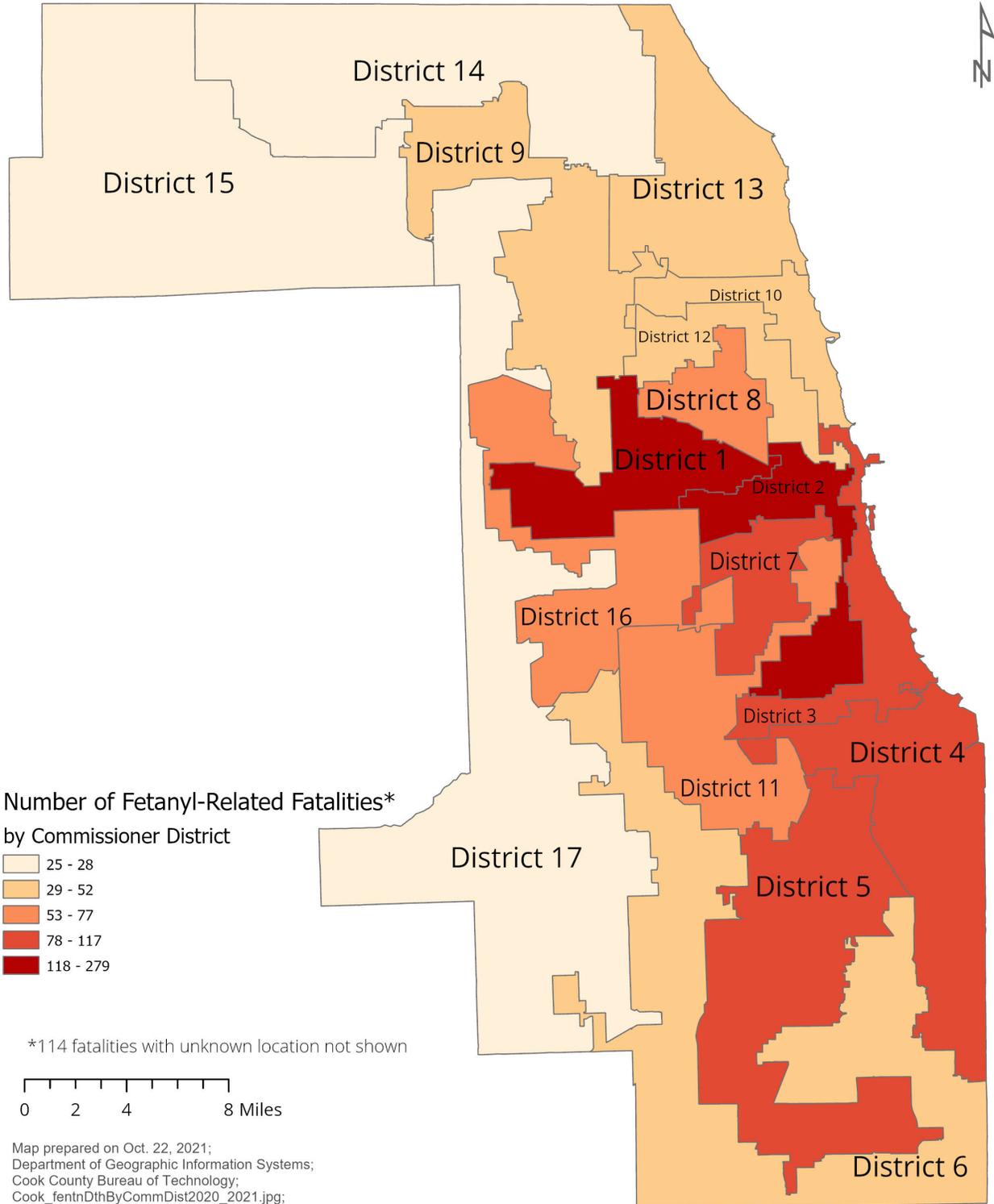
Age Range	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
15-24	47	82	71	71	60	95
25-34	140	248	236	231	212	314
35-44	131	226	242	234	259	377
45-54	173	299	328	296	390	480
55-64	135	199	239	258	294	437
65-74	14	25	43	45	72	120
75-84	0	6	5	0	3	12

Opioid⁴ Overdose Deaths. CCMEO investigated a total of 1835 fatal opioid overdoses from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020. The breakdown of fatal opioid overdoses by month and year is shown in Figure 1. Fatal opioid overdoses increased by 41.5% from 2019 (n=1296) to 2020 (n=1,835).

⁴ List of opioids: acetorphone, anaileridine, ANPP, alphaprodine, bromodol, buprenorphine, bromphine, cinnamoyloxycodone, clonitazene, codeine, desomorphine, dezocine, dihydrocodeine, enadoline, etonitazene, fentan, heroin, hydrocodone, hydromorphone, isotonitazene, loperamide, meperidine, methadone, metopon, mitragynine, morphine, opiate, opioid, oxycodone, oxymorphone, pethidine, phenomorphan, phenazocine, phenaridine, spiradoline, tapentadol, tilidine, tramadol, U-47700

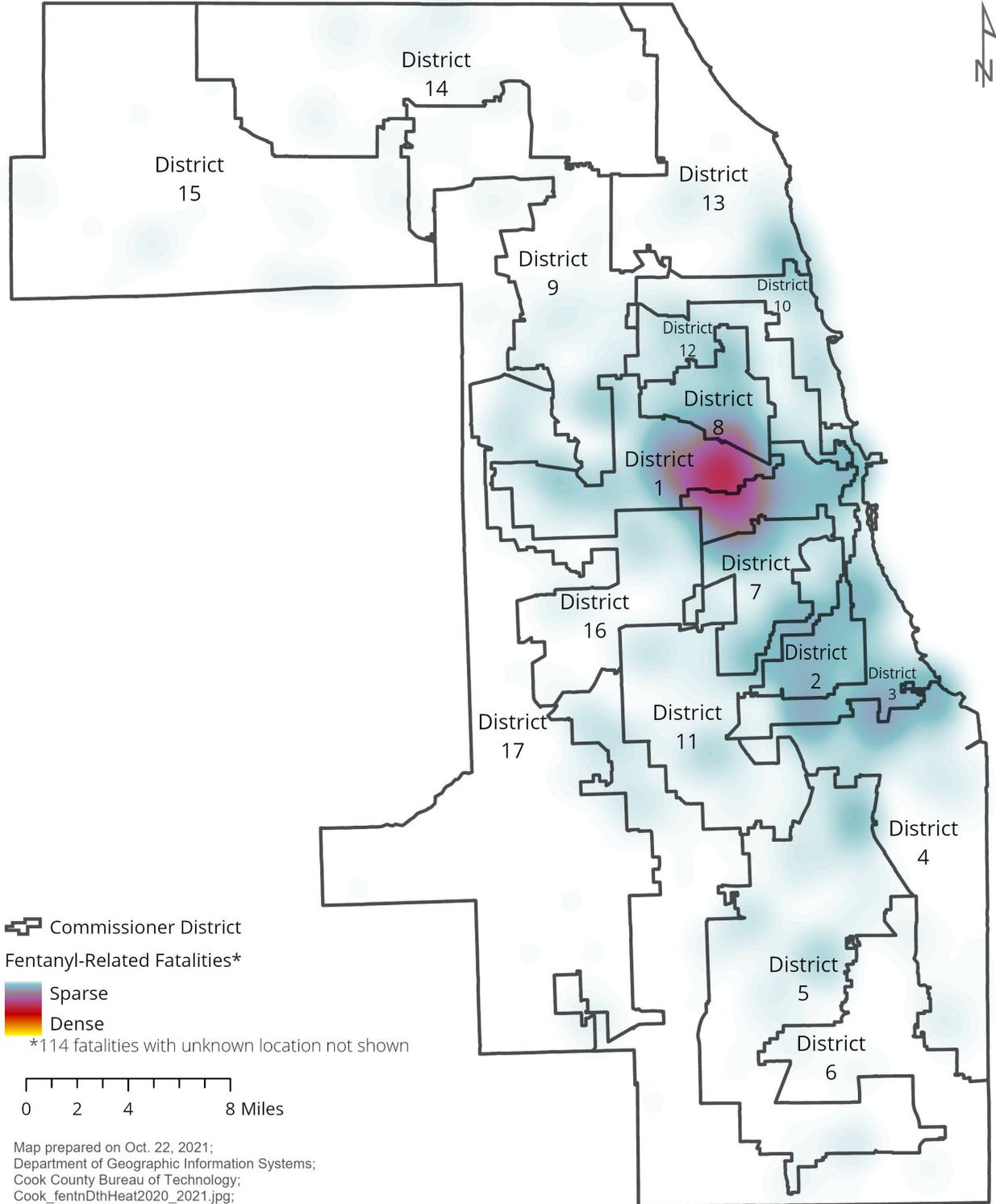
OPIATE DEATH BY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT

Fentanyl-Related Fatalities by Commissioner District in Cook County, 2020 (N=1533)



OPIATE DEATH BY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT

Fentanyl-Related Fatality Concentration in Cook County, 2020 (N=1533)



Commissioner District

Fentanyl-Related Fatalities*

Sparse

Dense

*114 fatalities with unknown location not shown

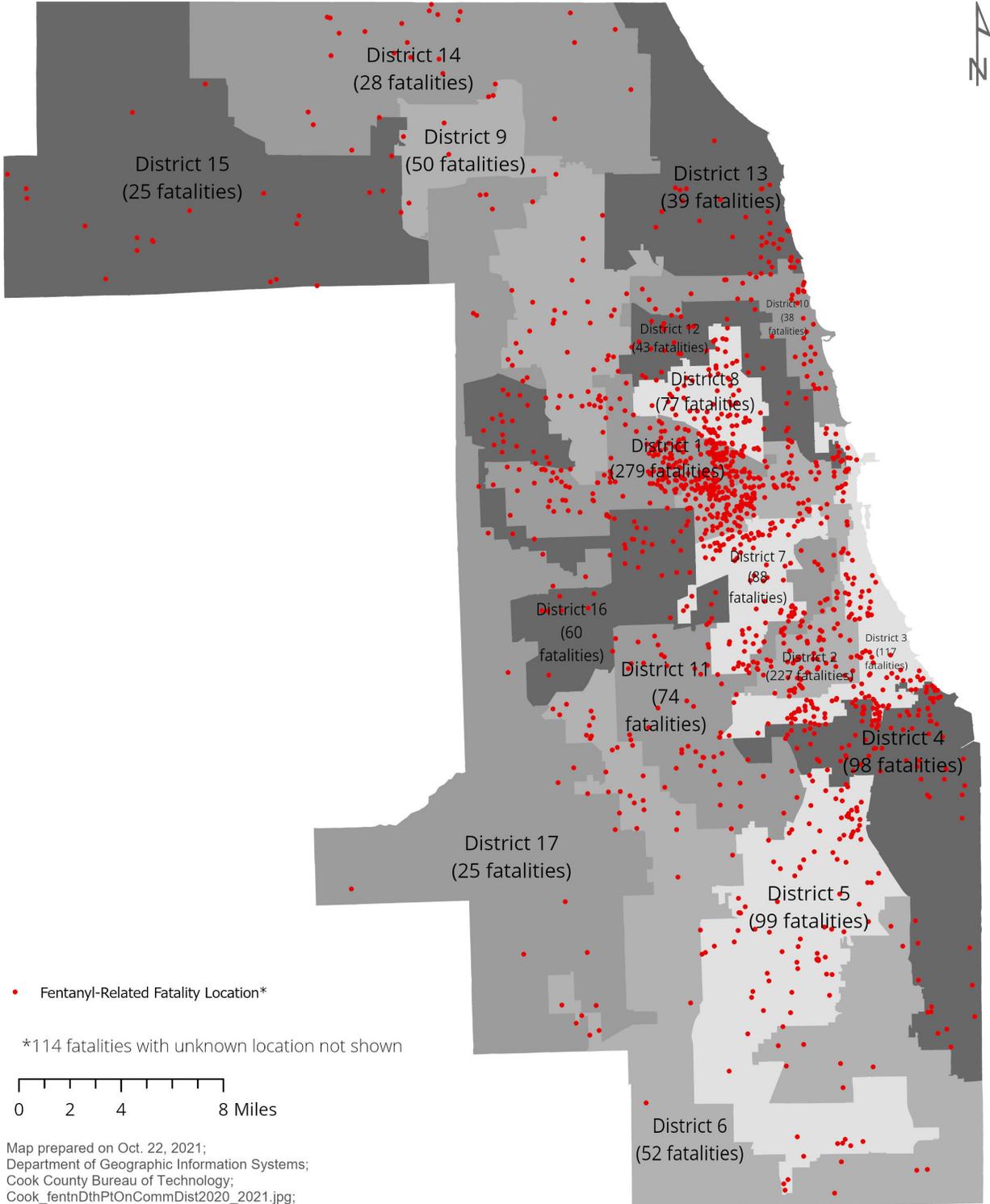
0 2 4 8 Miles

Map prepared on Oct. 22, 2021;
Department of Geographic Information Systems;
Cook County Bureau of Technology;
Cook_fentnDthHeat2020_2021.jpg;
©2021 Cook County Government

You are not entitled to repackage, resell or distribute this map without the written permission of the Cook County Board of Commissioners.

OPIATE DEATH BY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT

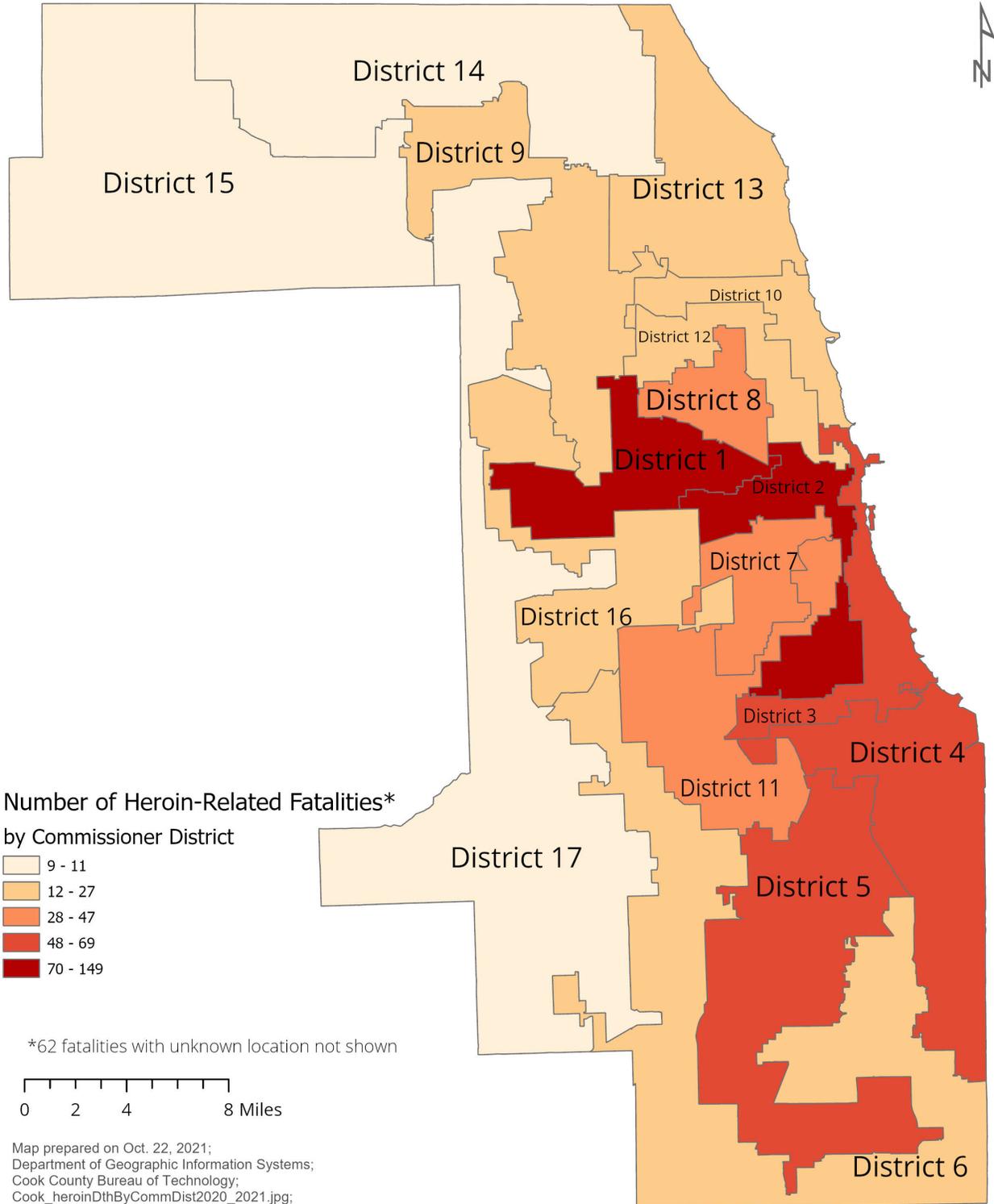
Fentanyl-Related Fatality Incident Locations in Cook County, 2020 (N=1533)



Map prepared on Oct. 22, 2021;
Department of Geographic Information Systems;
Cook County Bureau of Technology;
Cook_fentnDthPtOnCommDist2020_2021.jpg;
©2021 Cook County Government
You are not entitled to repackage, resell or distribute this map without the written permission of the Cook County Board of Commissioners.

OPIATE DEATH BY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT

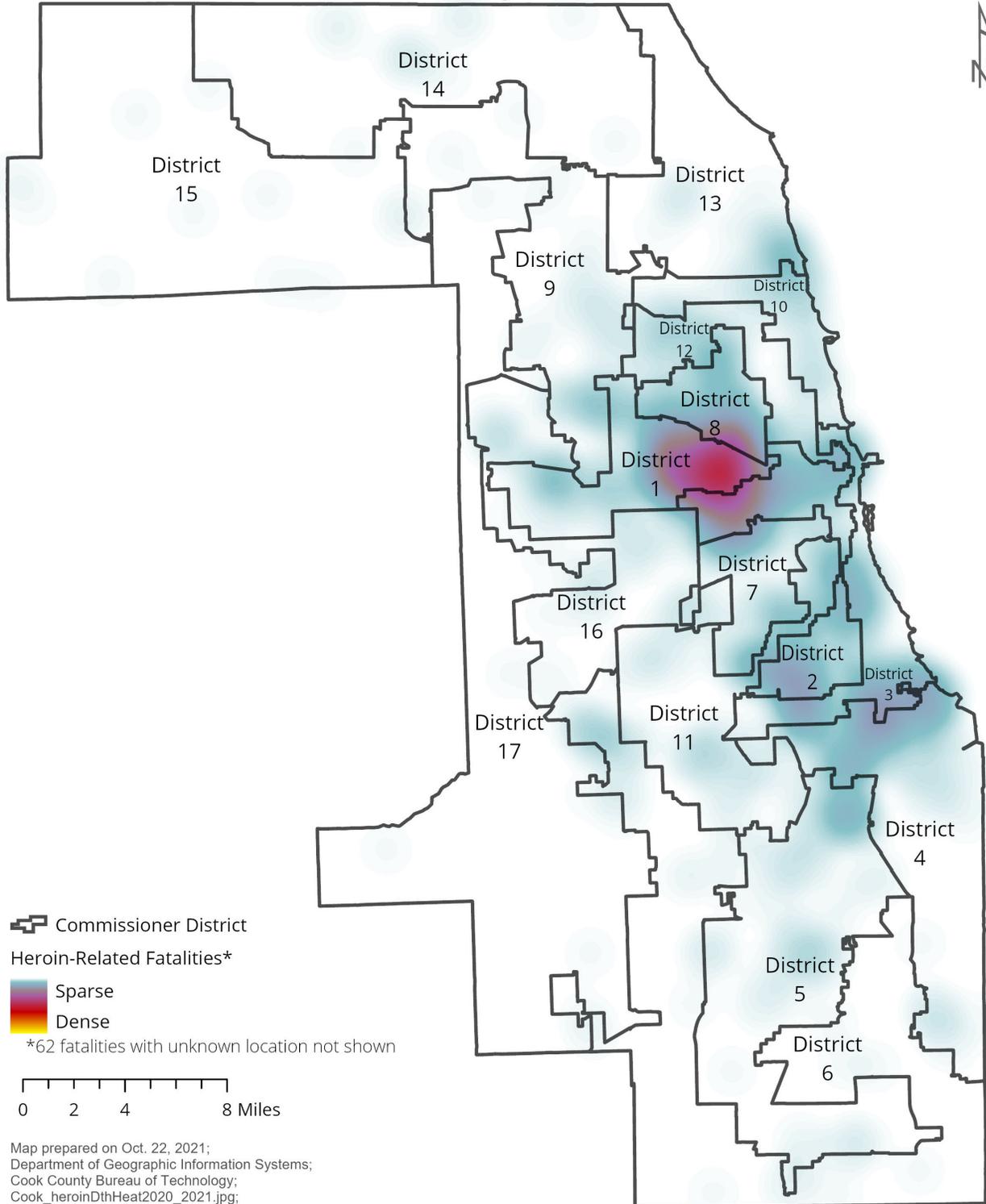
Heroin-Related Fatalities by Commissioner District in Cook County, 2020 (N=779)



Map prepared on Oct. 22, 2021;
Department of Geographic Information Systems;
Cook County Bureau of Technology;
Cook_heroinDthByCommDist2020_2021.jpg;
©2021 Cook County Government
You are not entitled to repackage, resell or distribute this map without the written permission of the Cook County Board of Commissioners.

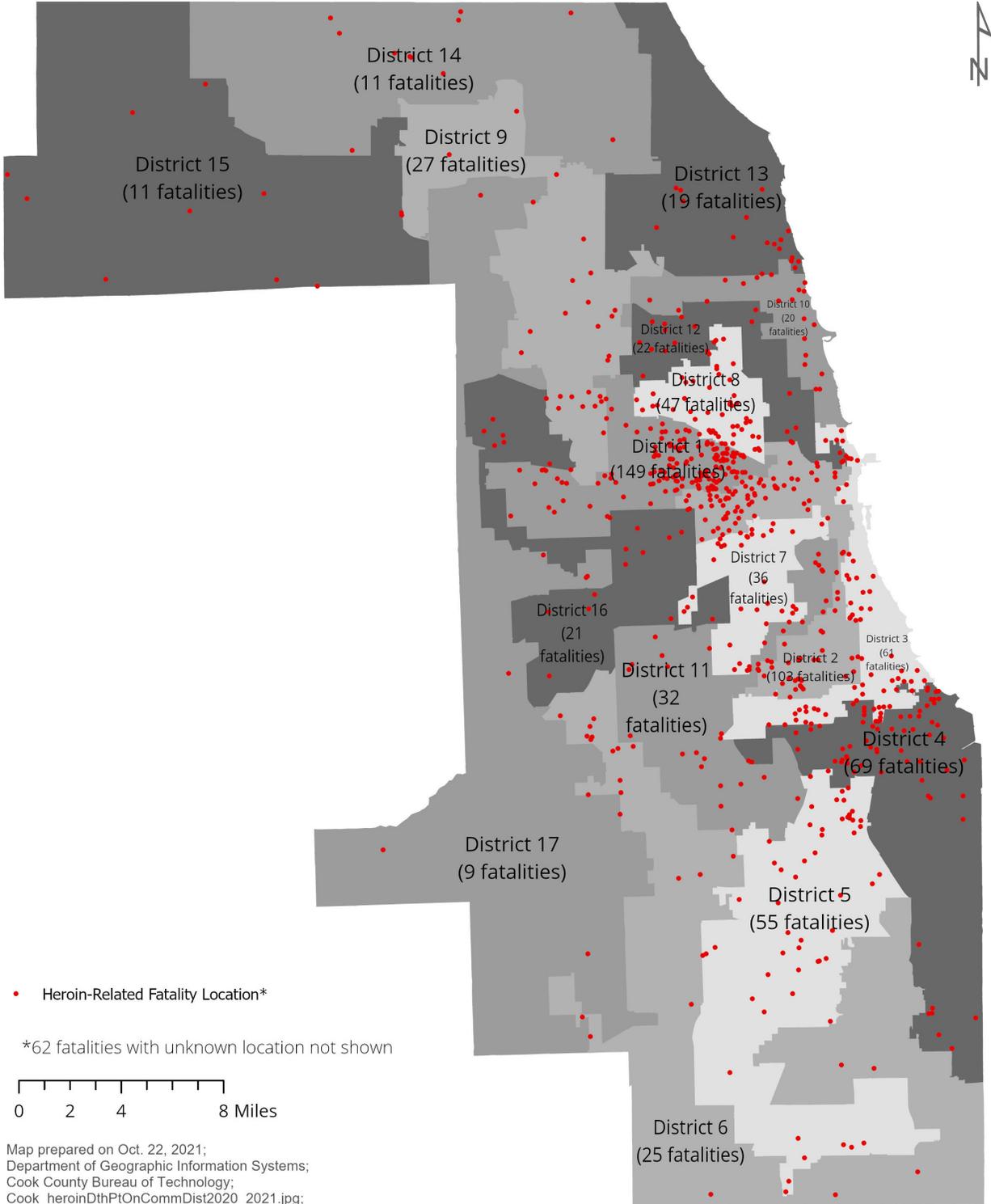
OPIATE DEATH BY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT

Heroin-Related Fatality Concentration in Cook County, 2020 (N=779)



OPIATE DEATH BY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT

Heroin-Related Fatality Incident Locations in Cook County, 2020 (N=779)

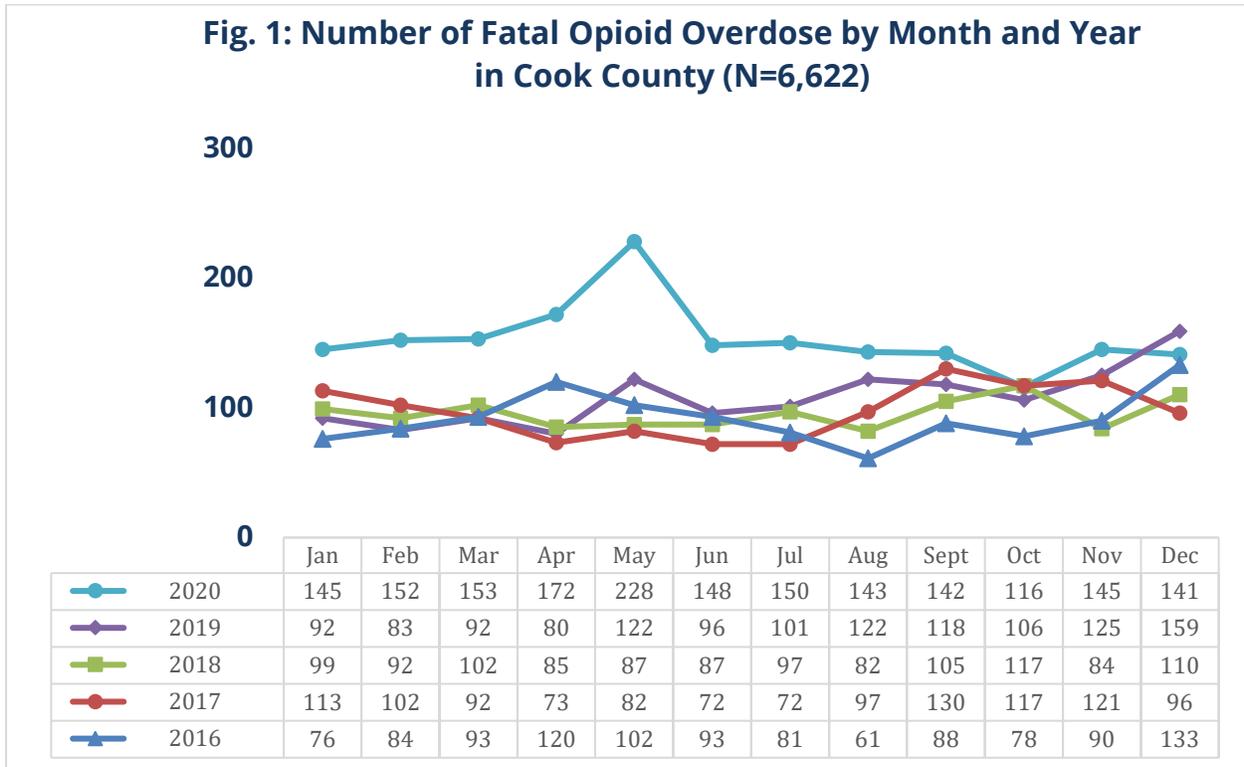


Map prepared on Oct. 22, 2021;
Department of Geographic Information Systems;
Cook County Bureau of Technology;
Cook_heroinDthPtOnCommDist2020_2021.jpg;
©2021 Cook County Government

You are not entitled to repackage, resell or distribute this map without the written permission of the Cook County Board of Commissioners.

OPIATE DEATH

Fig. 1: Number of Fatal Opioid Overdose by Month and Year in Cook County (N=6,622)



Fatal opioid overdoses did not show a consistent trend in 2020⁵. In 2020, the highest and lowest number of fatal opioid overdoses was in May (n=228) and October (n=116), respectively.

⁵ Please note that all 2020 cases have not been closed and the number of fatal overdoses is subject to change.

OPIATE DEATH

Characteristics of Fatal Opioid Overdose Cases in Cook County, Suburban Cook County and City of Chicago, 2020

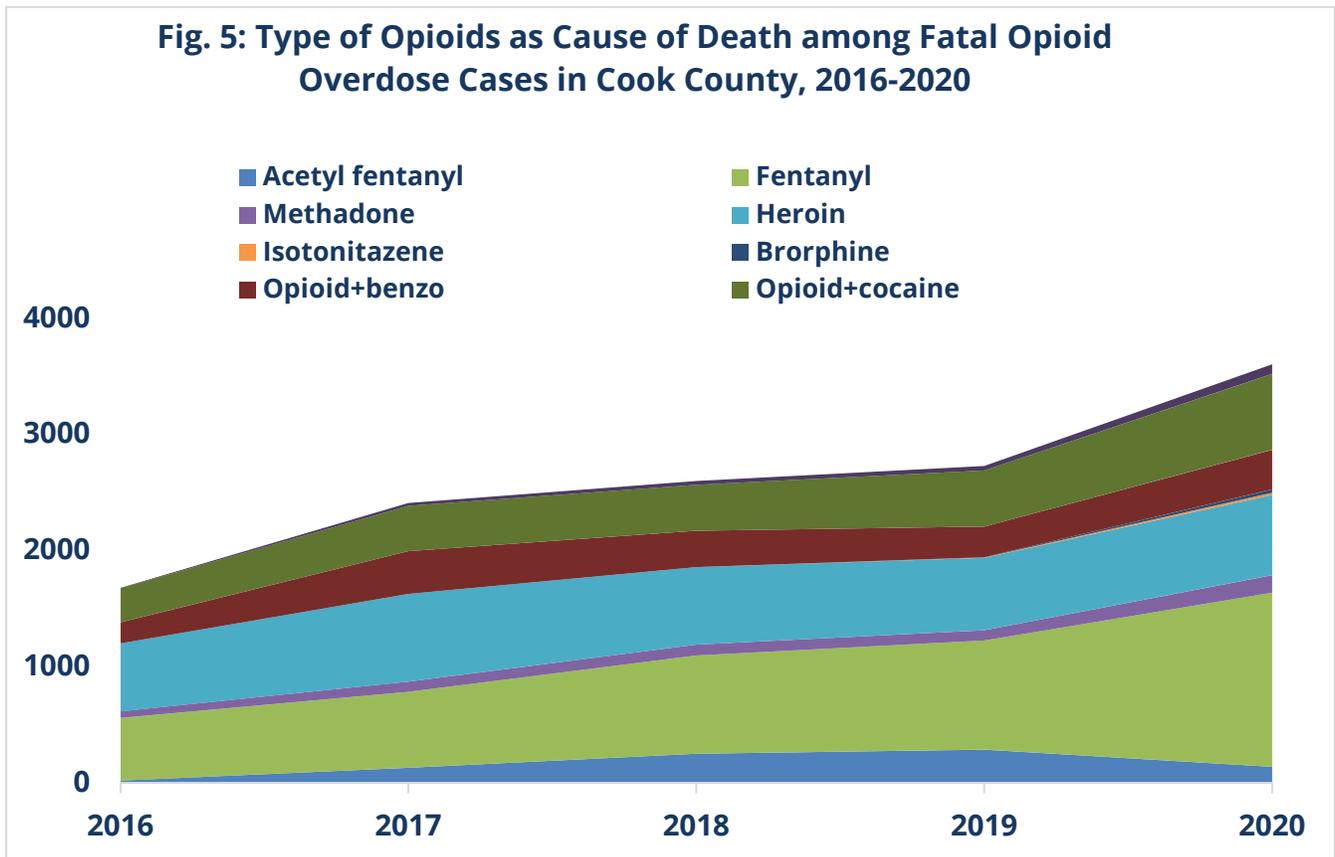
	Cook County (Jan 2020-Dec 2020)			Suburban Cook County (Jan 2020-Dec 2020)			City of Chicago (Jan 2020-Dec 2020)		
	n	%	Rate ⁶	n	%	Rate ⁷	n	%	Rate ⁸
Race/Ethnicity									
Latino	272	14.8%	21	103	13.6%	19	169	15.7%	6
NL White	652	35.5%	30	405	53.4%	32	247	23.0%	27
NL Black	891	48.6%	75	240	31.6%	58	651	60.5%	85
NL Asian	10	0.5%	3	7	0.9%	3	3	0.3%	2
NL Am. Indian	1	0.1%	16	0	0.0%	0	1	0.1%	59
NL Other	4	0.2%	29	4	0.5%	53	0	0.0%	0
NL Unknown	5	0.3%	NA	0	0.0%	NA	5	0.5%	NA
Sex									
Female	422	23.0%	16	187	24.6%	14	235	21.8%	17
Male	1413	77.0%	56	572	75.4%	48	841	78.2%	64
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Age Group									
Under 20	20	1.1%	1.6	9	1.2%	1.5	11	1.0%	1.8
20-29	237	12.9%	30.7	135	17.8%	42.9	102	9.5%	22.3
30-39	341	18.6%	44.1	188	24.8%	59.8	153	14.2%	33.4
40-49	424	23.1%	63.03	191	25.2%	59.8	233	21.7%	66.5
50-59	517	28.2%	83.7	169	22.3%	52.5	348	32.3%	117.4
60-69	261	14.2%	46.1	58	7.6%	19.5	203	18.9%	75.4
70-79	30	1.6%	9.7	6	0.8%	4.1	24	2.2%	14.8
80+	5	0.3%	2.4	3	0.4%	2.4	2	0.2%	2.5
Total	1,835	100%		759	100%		1,076	100%	

⁶ The denominator of race, sex and age group categories in Cook County found from the following report: U.S. Census Bureau (2019). *American Community Survey 1-year estimates*. Retrieved from *Census Reporter Profile page for Cook County, IL* <<http://censusreporter.org/profiles/050000US17031-cook-county-il/>>

⁷ The denominator of race, sex and age group categories in Suburban Cook County found from the difference from Cook County and City of Chicago.

⁸ The denominator of race, sex and age group categories in City of Chicago found from the following report: U.S. Census Bureau (2019). *American Community Survey 1-year estimates*. Retrieved from *Census Reporter Profile page for Chicago city, Cook County, IL* <http://censusreporter.org/profiles/060000US1703114000-chicago-city-cook-county-il/>

OPIATE DEATH

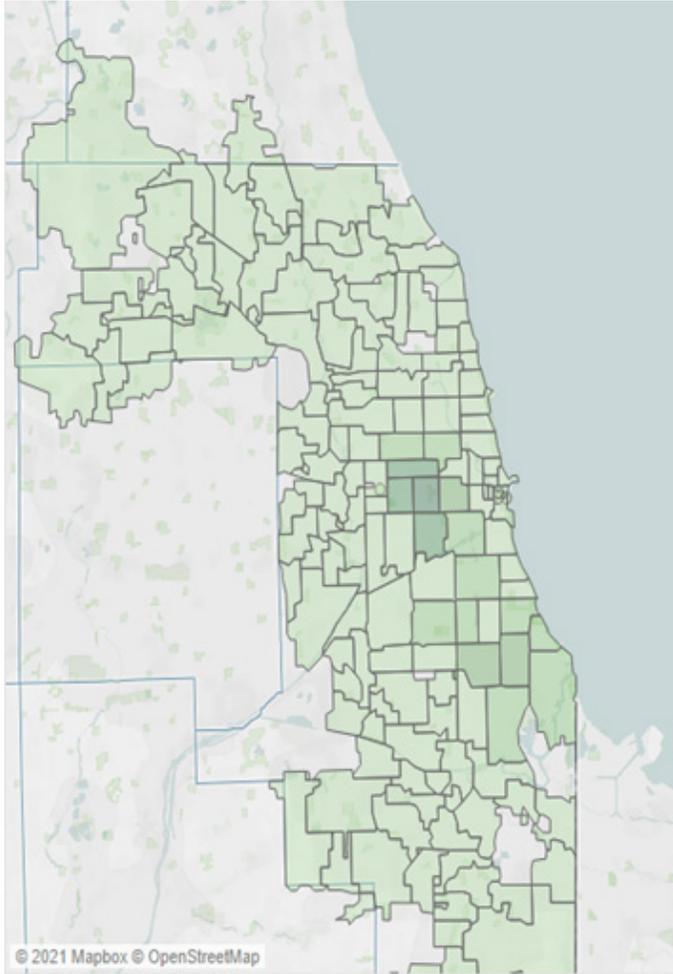


Type of opioid as cause of death is shown in Figure 5. Acetyl fentanyl showed an increasing consistent trend from 2016 to 2019 and dropped in 2020. Methadone and fentanyl showed the highest increase (68% and 59%) from 2019 to 2020.

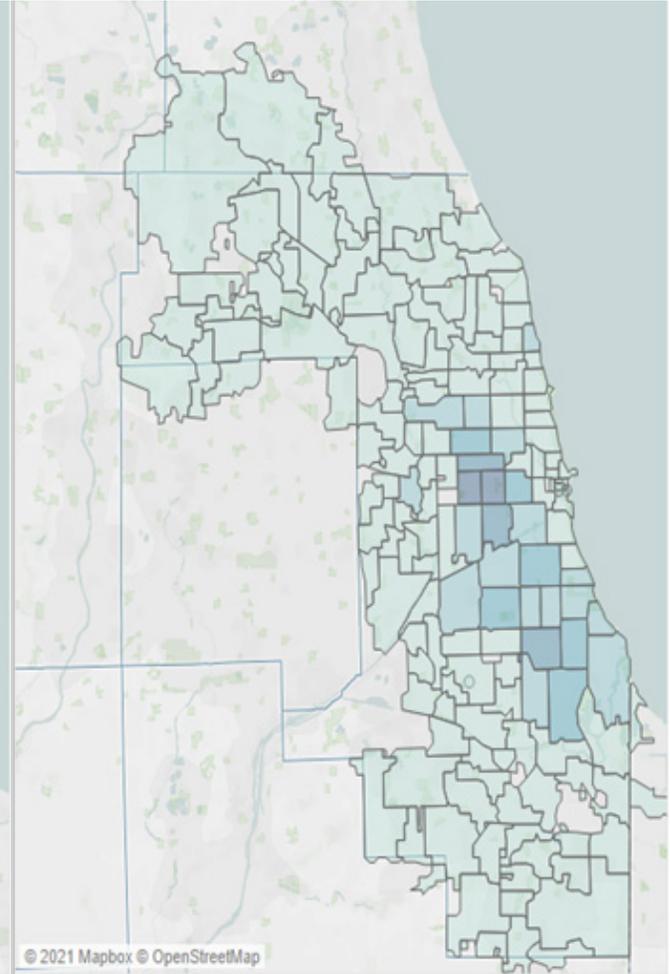
When looking at polysubstance use, opioid overdoses involving benzodiazepines (264 vs. 340), cocaine (484 vs. 654) and methamphetamine (37 vs. 83) showed an increasing trend from 2019 to 2020.

OPIATE DEATH

Geographic Distribution of Fatal Opioid Overdose by Incident Zipcode in Cook County, 2020

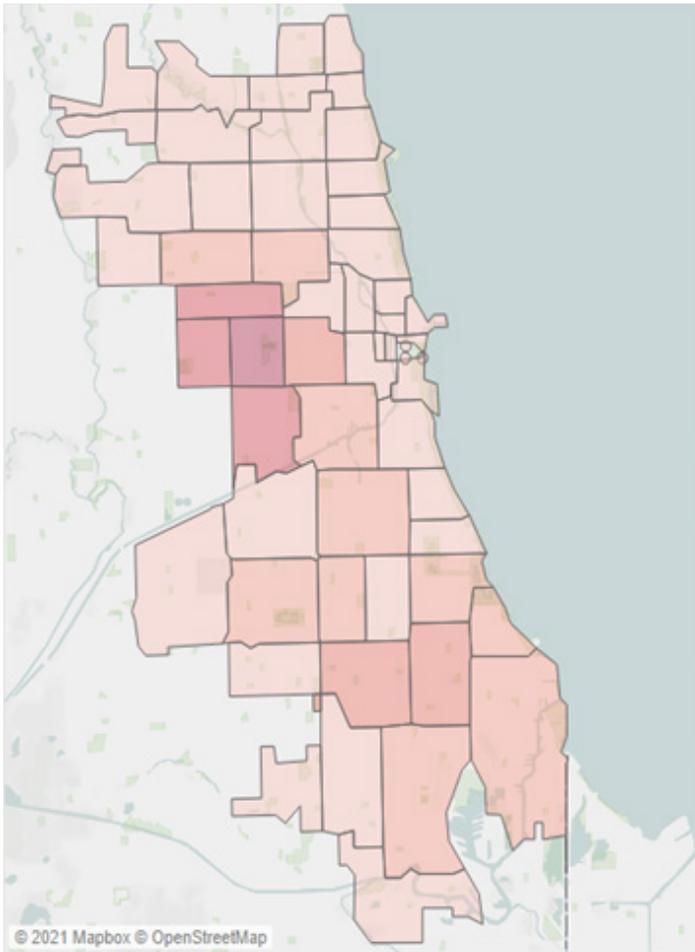


Geographic Distribution of Fatal Opioid Overdose by Residence Zipcode in Cook County, 2020

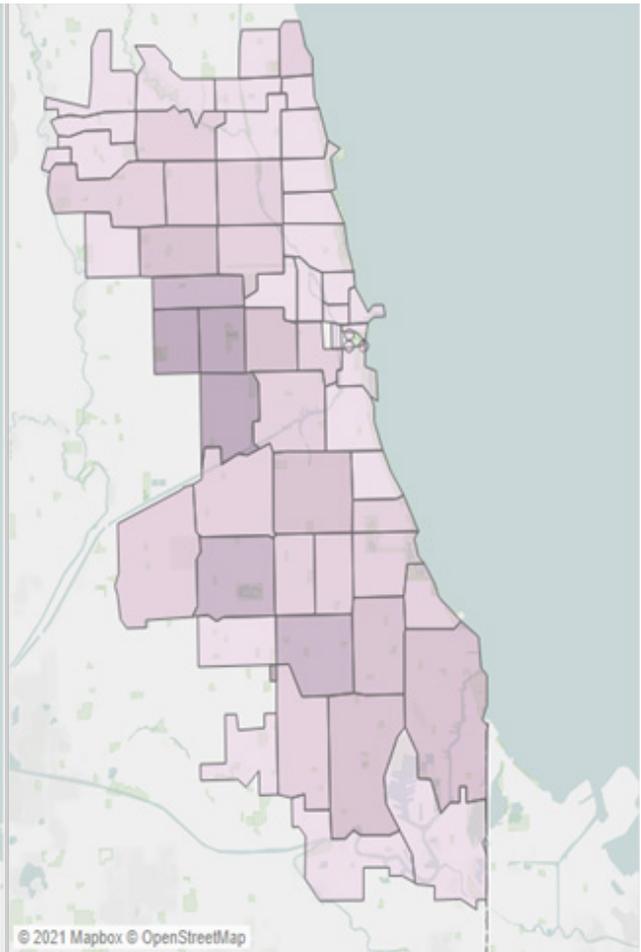


OPIATE DEATH

Geographic Distribution of Fatal Opioid Overdose by Incident Zipcode in City of Chicago, 2020

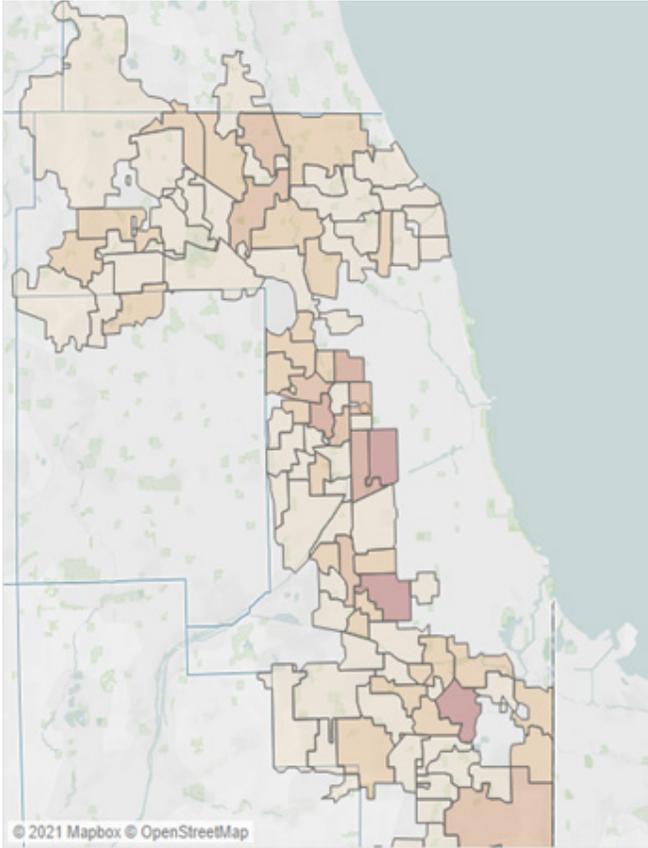


Geographic Distribution of Fatal Opioid Overdose by Residence Zipcode in City of Chicago, 2020

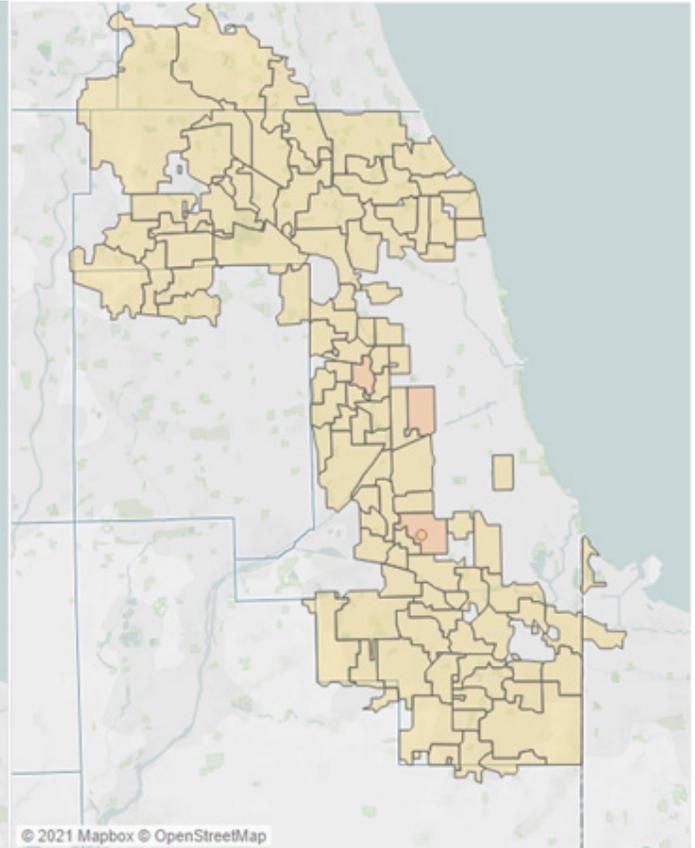


OPIATE DEATH

Geographic Distribution of Fatal Opioid Overdose by Incident Zipcode in Suburban Cook County, 2020

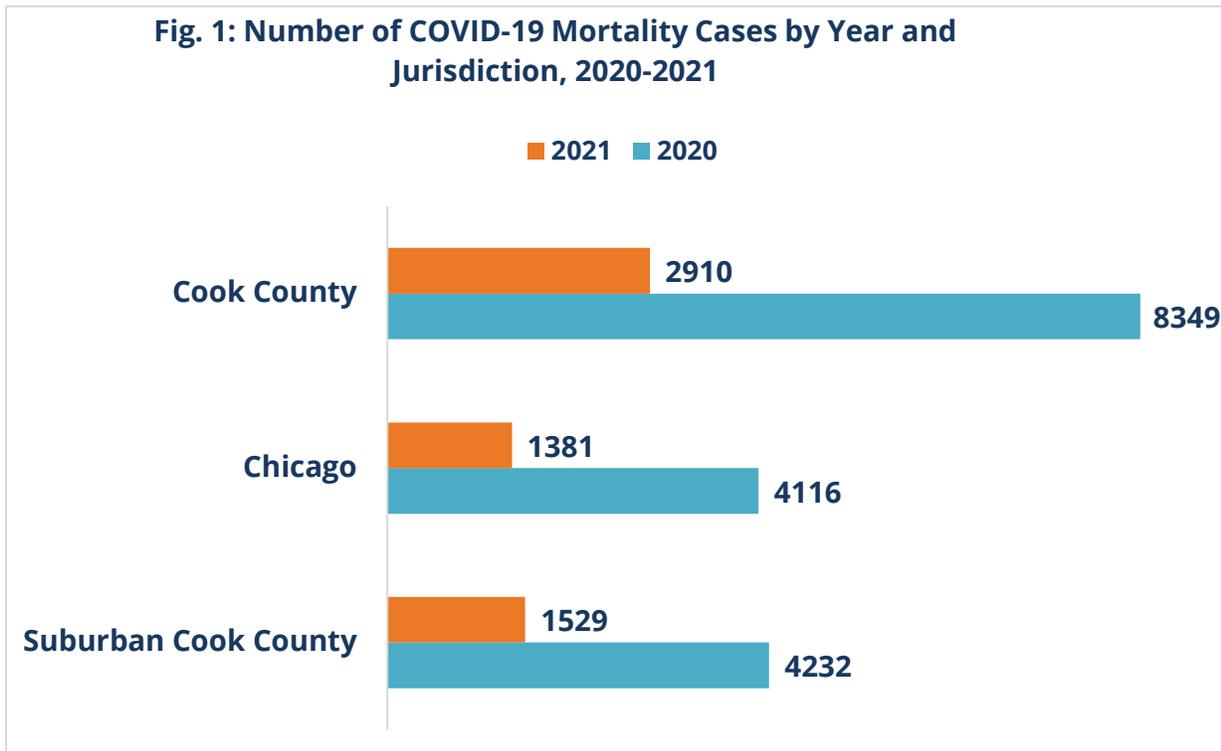


Geographic Distribution of Fatal Opioid Overdose by Residence Zipcode in Suburban Cook County, 2020



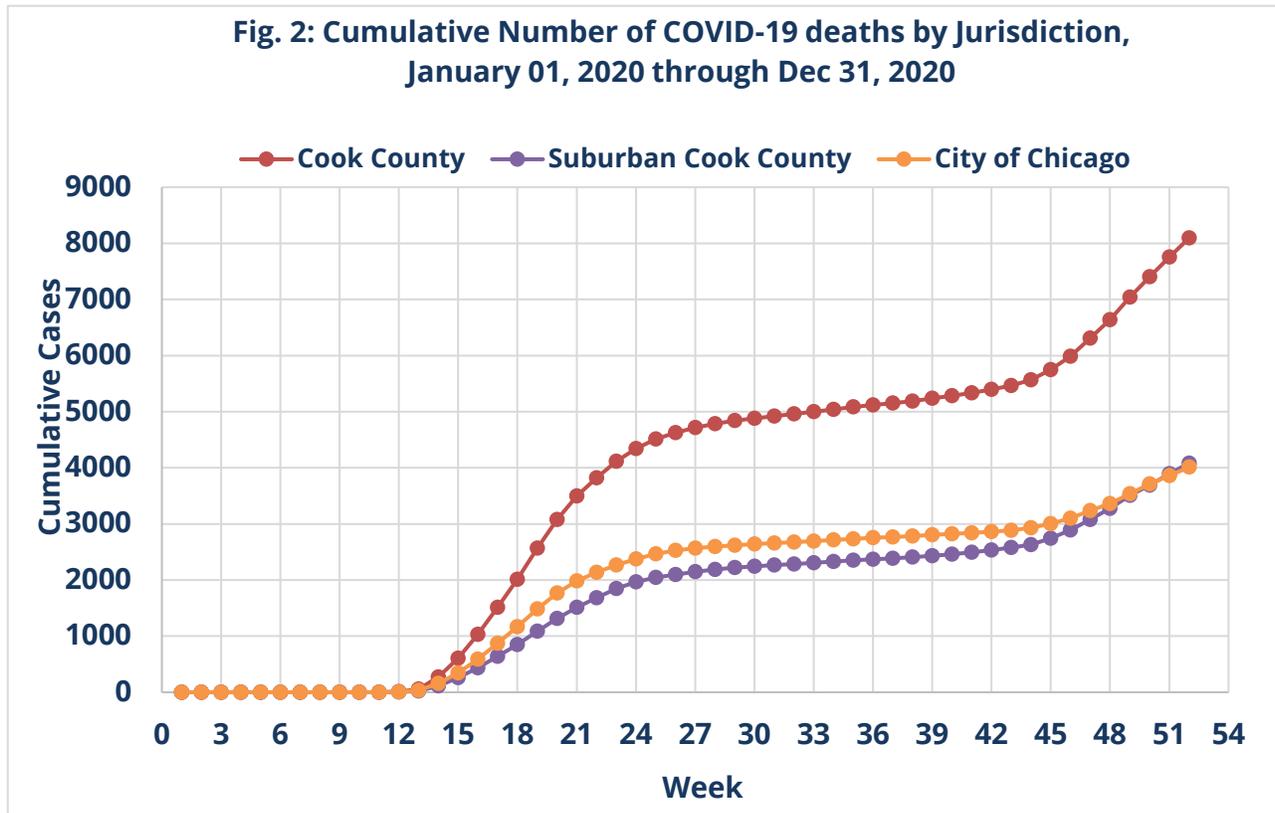
COVID-19 DEATH

3.5. COVID-19 Infection Deaths. Cook County Medical Examiner’s Office (CCMEO) investigated a total of 8,346 COVID-19 infection cases from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020⁹. The breakdown of COVID-19 infection mortality by jurisdiction and year is shown in Figure 1. The number of COVID-19 infection mortality in Suburban Cook County was higher than the City of Chicago in 2020 (4233 vs. 4113).



⁹ Please note that the number COVID-19 infection deaths is subject to change.

COVID-19 DEATH

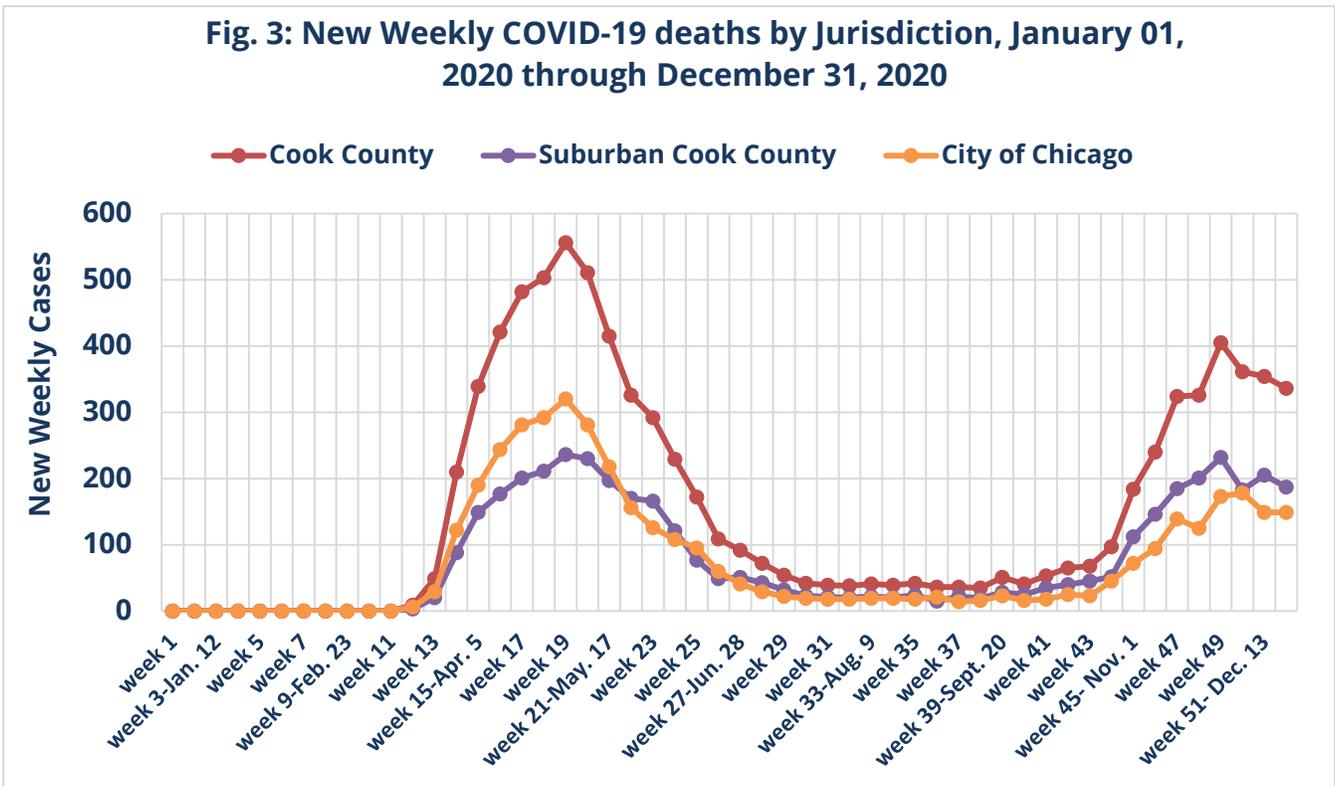


Cumulative number of COVID-19 infection mortality showed an increasing trend in Cook County, however, the magnitude of such an increase was not the same throughout 2020. As seen in the figure above, there was a jump in cumulative number of COVID-19 infection mortality from week 12 (n=9) to week 18 (n=2,013). Such an increase continued rapidly up to week 30. Then, the rate of such an increase leveled off to some extent from week 30 (n=4,883) to week 39 (n=5,240). Finally, the total number of cases increased to 8349 in week 53.

Although the cumulative number of COVID-19 infection mortality in City of Chicago is different from Cook County, the pattern of changes is the same. The biggest jump in number of COVID-19 infection mortality occurred in week 18 (n=1,164). Then, it continued to increase rapidly up to week 24 and leveled off between weeks 30 (n=2,639) to 39 (n=2,808). Following that, the number of COVID-19 infection mortality increased from week 39 (n=2,808) to week 54 (n=4,116).

COVID-19 DEATH

Fig. 3: New Weekly COVID-19 deaths by Jurisdiction, January 01, 2020 through December 31, 2020



New weekly cases of COVID-19 infection mortality fluctuated between January and December of 2020 in Cook County. The number of mortality cases was highest in week 19 (n=556) and then decreased between weeks 20 and 32. Another notable finding is a gradual increase in magnitude of COVID-19 infection mortality started in week 44 and peaked in week of 49.

COVID-19 DEATH

Characteristics of COVID-19 Infection deaths in Cook County, Suburban Cook County, and City of Chicago, 2020

	Cook County (Jan 2020-Dec 2020)			Suburban Cook County (Jan 2020- Dec 2020)			City of Chicago (Jan 2020- Dec 2020)		
	n	%	Rate ¹⁰	n	%	Rate ¹¹	n	%	Rate ¹²
Race/Ethnicity									
Latino	1788	21.4%	135	610	14.4%	112	1178	28.6%	44
NL White	3620	43.4%	167	2480	58.6%	195	1140	27.7%	126
NL Black	2370	28.4%	200	808	19.1%	195	1562	37.9%	203
NL Asian	332	4.0%	86	204	4.8%	101	128	3.1%	69
NL Am. Indian	4	0.0%	64	0	0.0%	0	4	0.1%	237
NL Other	146	1.7%	1063	87	2.1%	1149	59	1.4%	957
NL Unknown	89	1.1%	NA	44	1.0%	NA	45	1.1%	NA
Sex									
Female	3625	43.4%	136	1955	46.2%	151	1670	40.6%	121
Male	4716	56.5%	187	2274	53.7%	190	2442	59.3%	185
Unknown	8	0.1%	NA	4	0.1%	NA	4	0.1%	NA
Age Group									
Under 20	8	0.1%	0.6	4	0.1%	0.6	4	0.1%	0.6
20-29	38	0.5%	4.9	13	0.3%	4.1	25	0.6%	5.5
30-39	146	1.7%	18.8	50	1.2%	15.9	96	2.3%	21.0
40-49	332	4.0%	49.6	112	2.6%	35.1	220	5.3%	62.8
50-59	758	9.1%	122.6	299	7.1%	92.9	459	11.2%	154.9
60-69	1650	19.8%	291.2	745	17.6%	250.7	905	22.0%	335.2
70-79	2089	25.0%	676.0	1020	24.1%	692.1	1069	26.0%	661.4
80+	3328	39.9%	1615.5	1990	47.0%	1589.6	1338	32.5%	1655.6
Total	8,349	100%		4,232	100%		4,116	100%	

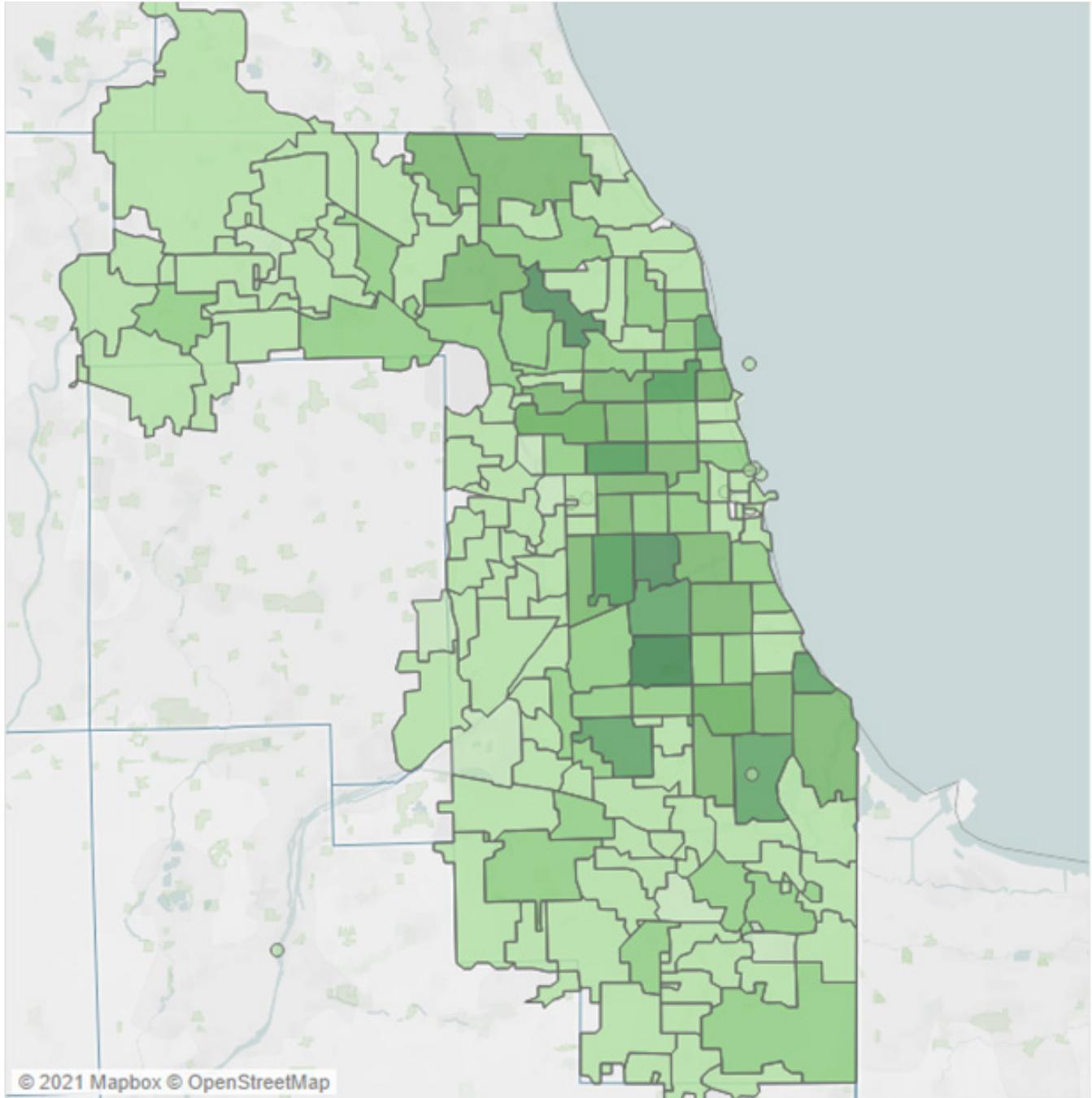
¹⁰ The denominator of race, sex and age group categories in Cook County found from the following report: U.S. Census Bureau (2019). *American Community Survey 1-year estimates*. Retrieved from *Census Reporter Profile page for Cook County, IL* <<http://censusreporter.org/profiles/05000US17031-cook-county-il/>>

¹¹ The denominator of race, sex and age group categories in Suburban Cook County found from the difference from Cook County and City of Chicago.

¹² The denominator of race, sex and age group categories in City of Chicago found from the following report: U.S. Census Bureau (2019). *American Community Survey 1-year estimates*. Retrieved from *Census Reporter Profile page for Chicago city, Cook County, IL* <http://censusreporter.org/profiles/06000US1703114000-chicago-city-cook-county-il/>

COVID-19 DEATH BY ZIPCODE COOK COUNTY, IL

Geographic Distribution of COVID-19 Mortality by Residence Zipcode in Cook County, 2020



COVID-19 Mortal..

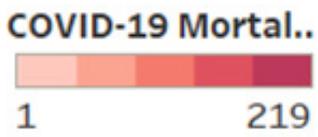
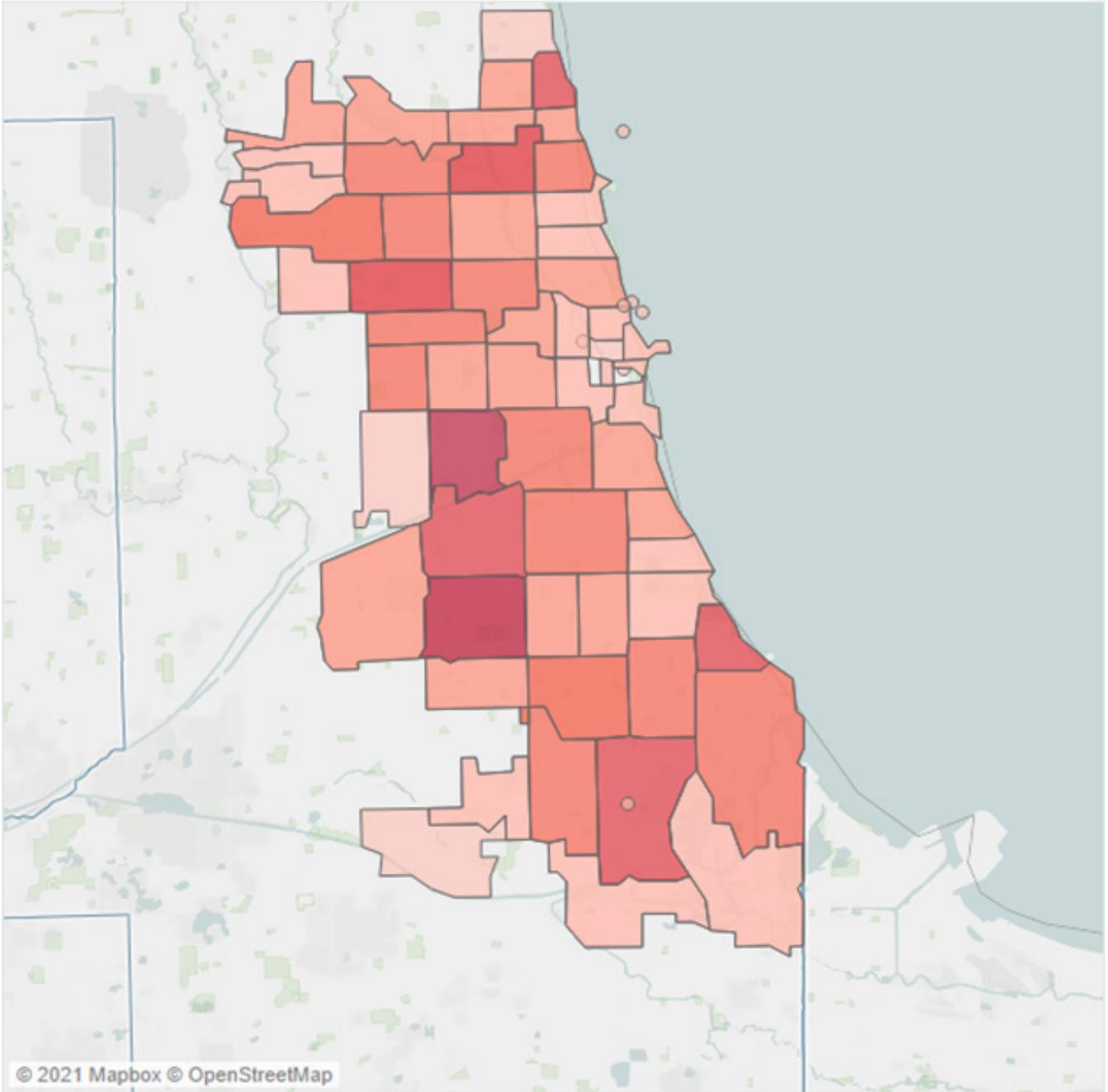


1

219

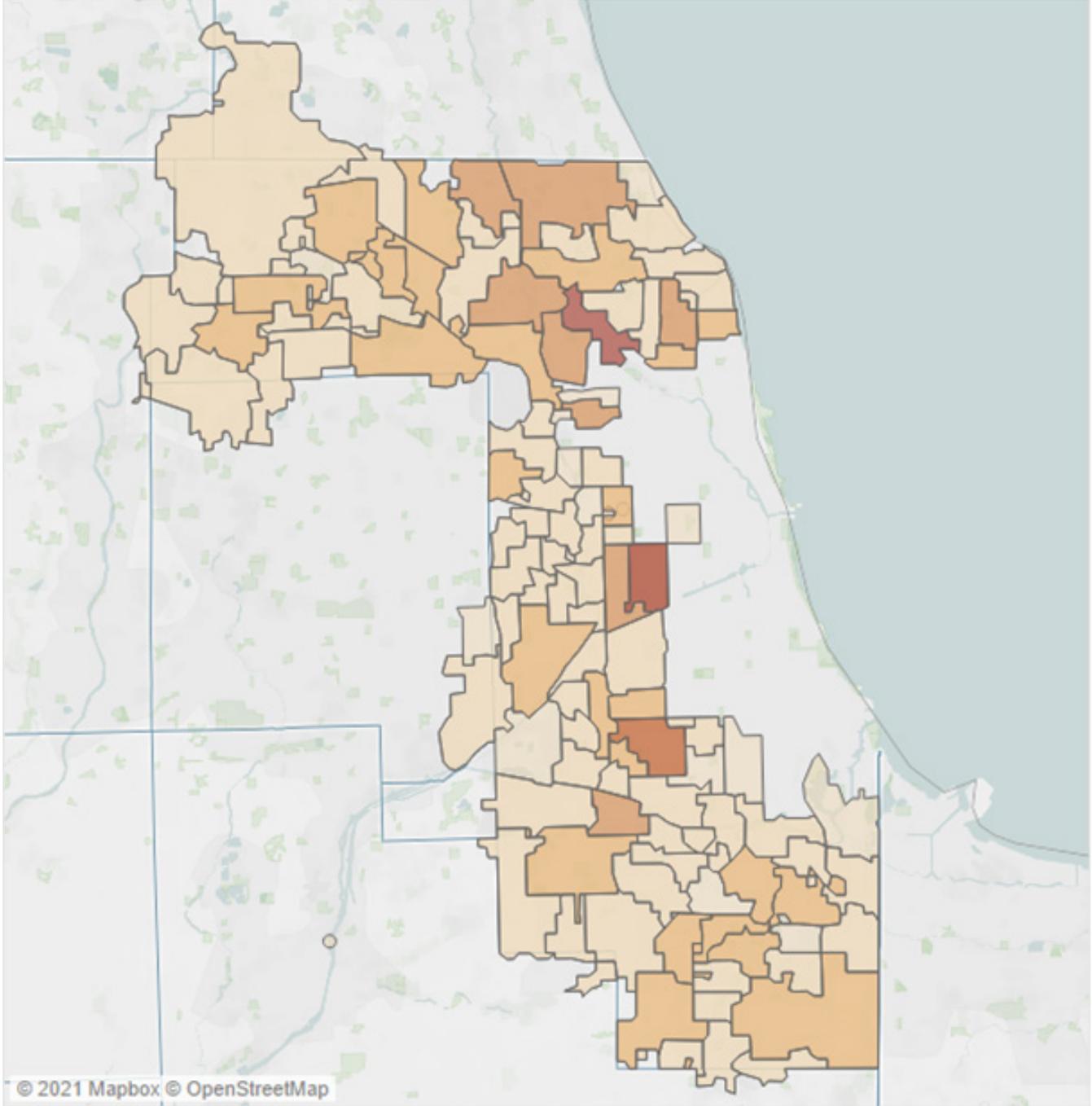
COVID-19 DEATH BY ZIPCODE CITY OF CHICAGO

Geographic Distribution of COVID-19 Mortality by Residence Zipcode in City of Chicago, 2020



COVID-19 DEATH BY ZIPCODE SUBURBAN COOK COUNTY, IL

Geographic Distribution of COVID-19 Mortality by Residence Zipcode in Suburban Cook County



COVID-19 Mortal..

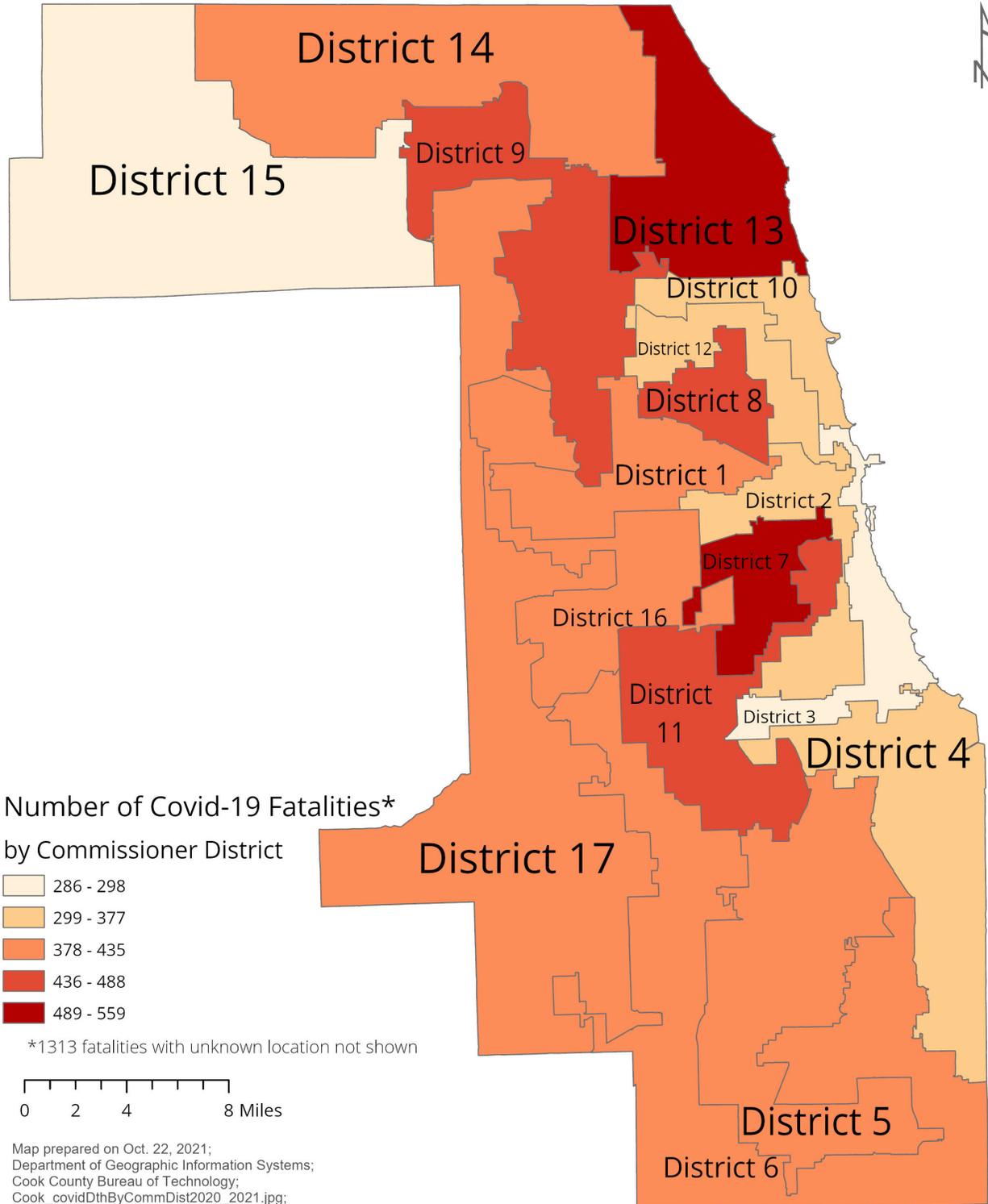


1

190

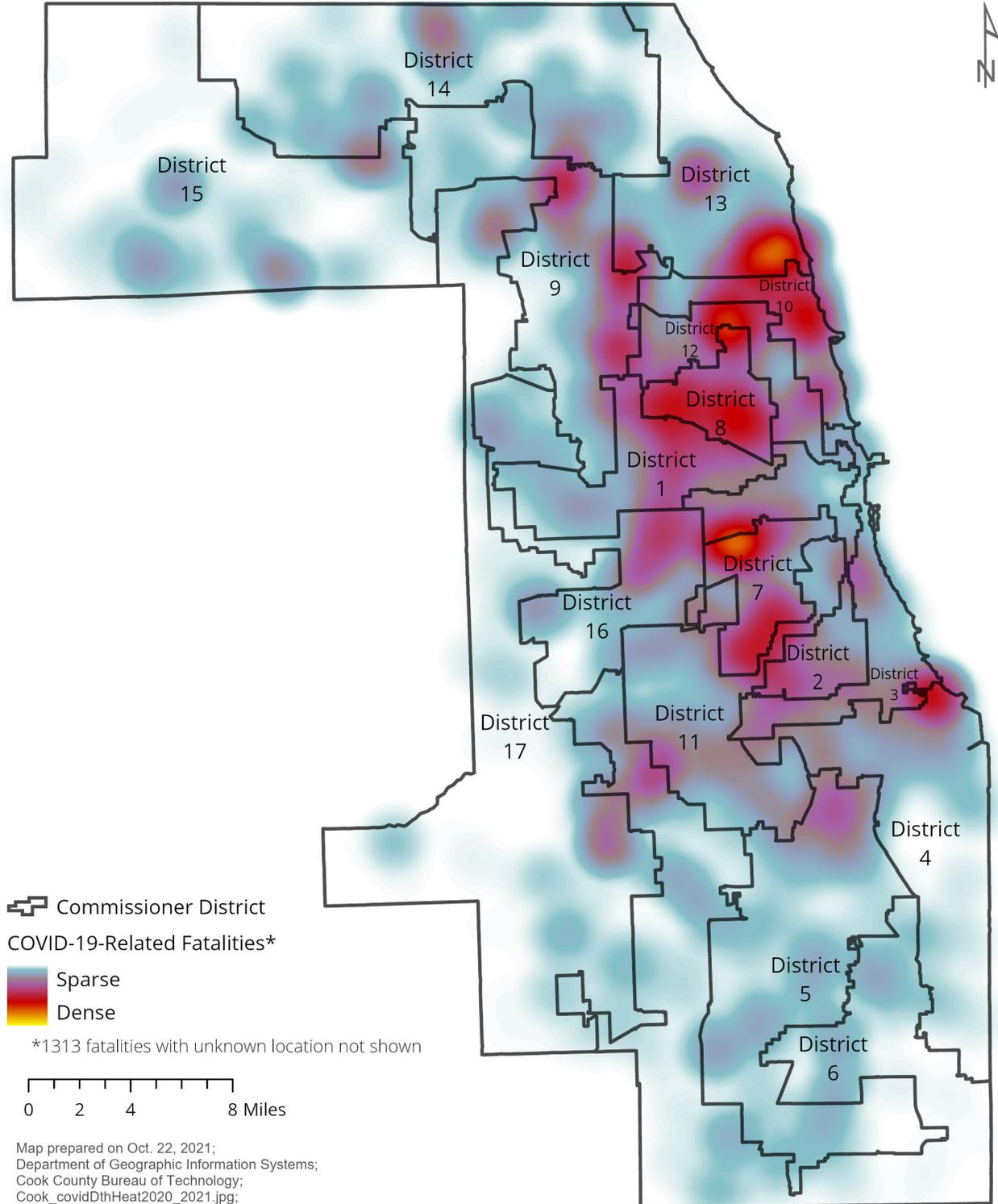
COVID-19 DEATH BY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT

COVID-19-Related Fatalities by Commissioner District in Cook County, 2020 (N=8321)



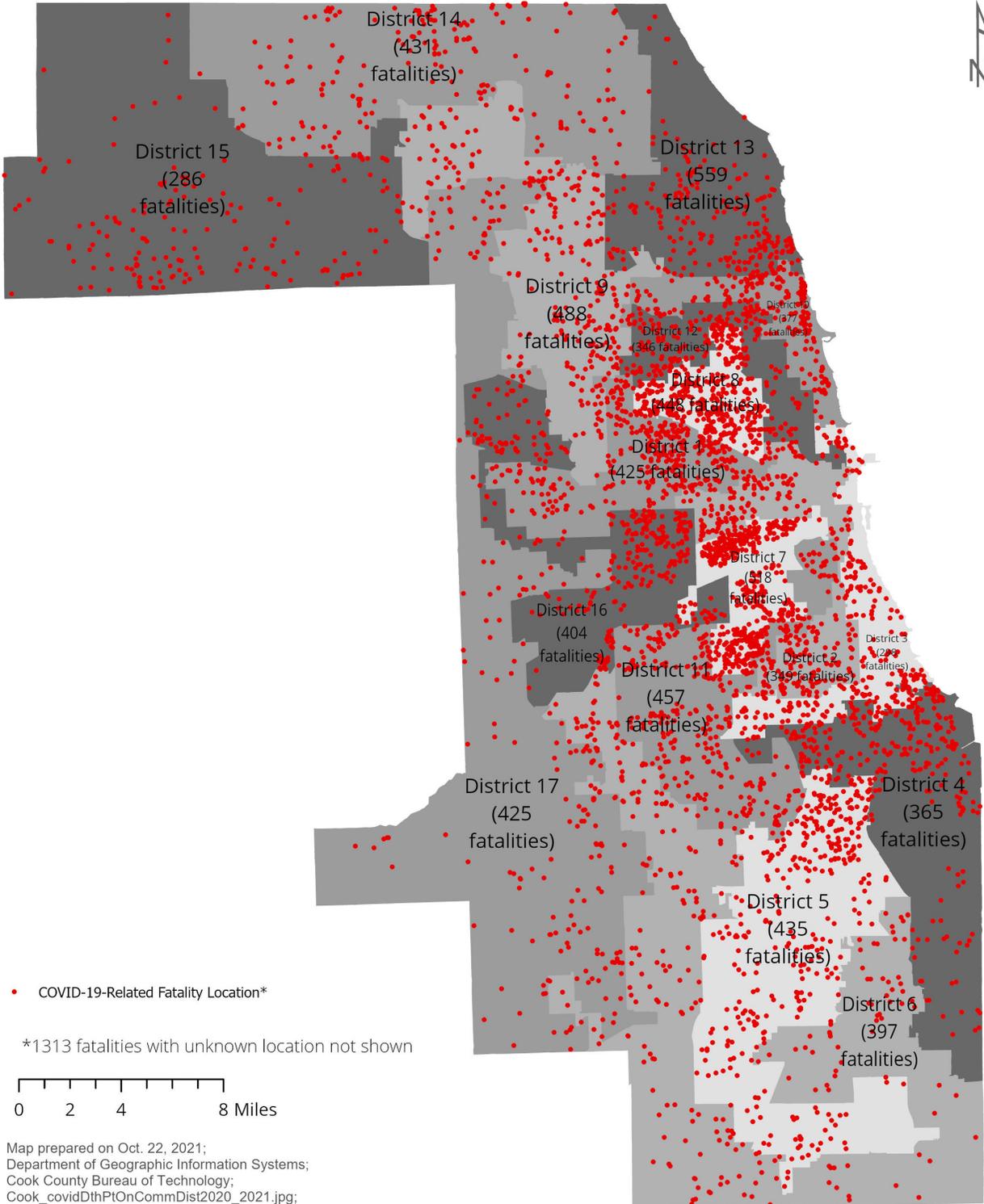
COVID-19 DEATH BY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT

COVID-19-Related Fatality Concentration in Cook County, 2020 (N=8321)



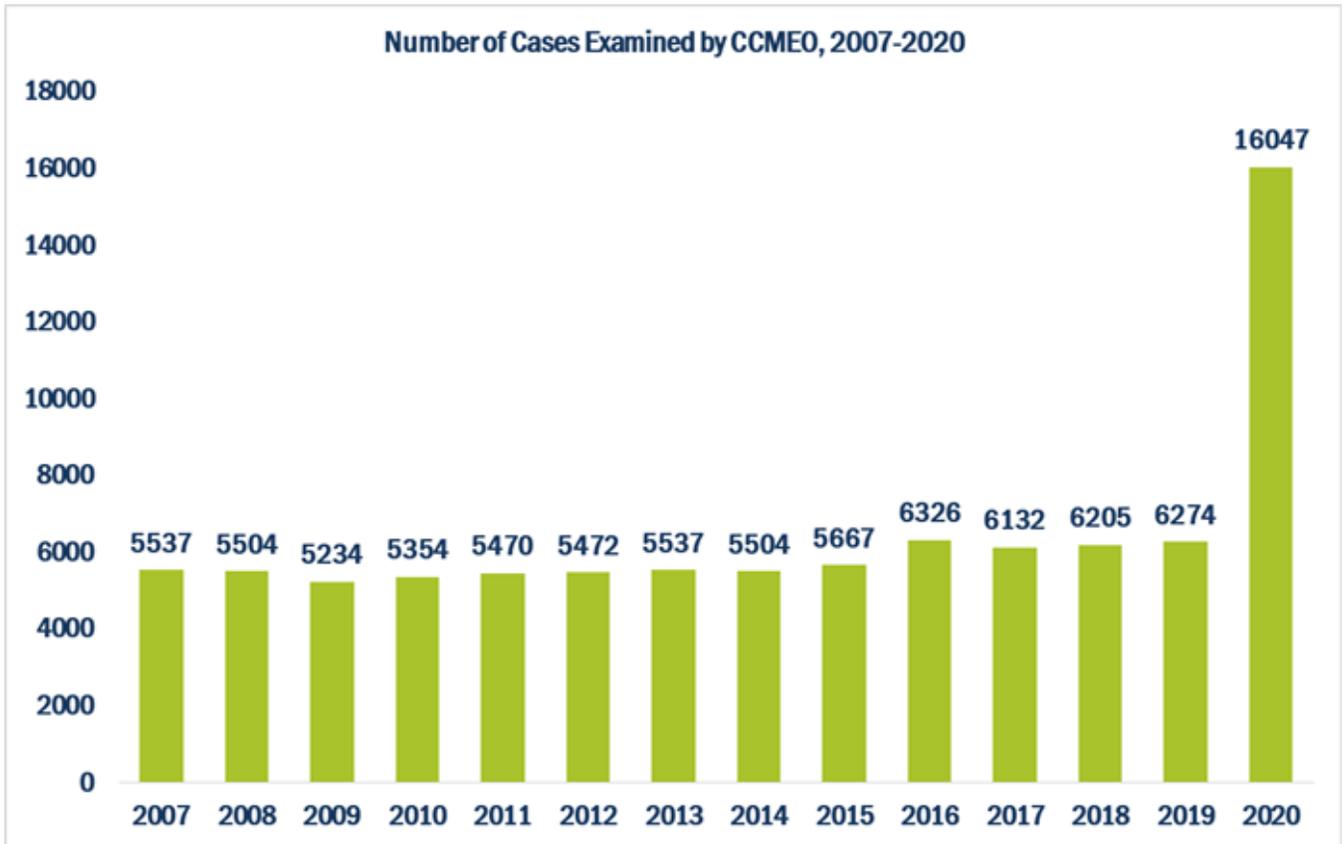
COVID-19 DEATH BY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT

COVID-19-Related Fatality Incident Locations in Cook County, 2020 (N=8321)



Map prepared on Oct. 22, 2021;
Department of Geographic Information Systems;
Cook County Bureau of Technology;
Cook_covidDthPtOnCommDist2020_2021.jpg;
©2021 Cook County Government
You are not entitled to repackage, resell or distribute this map without the written permission of the Cook County Board of Commissioners.

MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

REPORT PREPARED BY:

Mojde Mir

Epidemiologist

Cook County Medical Examiner's Office

Martin Burciaga

Graphic Designer

Cook County Bureau of Administration

EDITING, REVIEW, AND COMMENTS:

Dr. Ponni Arunkumar

Chief Medical Examiner

Cook County Medical Examiner's Office

Rebeca Perrone

Indigent Coordinator

Cook County Medical Examiner's Office

Natalia Derevyanny

Director of Communications

Cook County Bureau of Administration

Brittany Hill

Public Information Officer

Cook County Bureau of Administration

Recommended Citation

Cook County Medical Examiner's Office. Cook County. 2020 Annual Report. Chicago, IL. August 2021.

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Toni Preckwinkle
President

Brandon Johnson
1st District

Dennis Deer
2nd District

Bill Lowry
3rd District

Stanley Moore
4th District

Deborah Sims
5th District

Donna Miller
6th District

Alma E. Anaya
7th District

Luis Arroyo Jr.
8th District

Peter N. Silvestri
9th District

Bridget Gainer
10th District

John P. Daley
11th District

Bridget Degnen
12th District

Larry Suffredin
13th District

Scott R. Britton
14th District

Kevin B. Morrison
15th District

Frank J. Aguilar
16th District

Sean Morrison
17th District

