

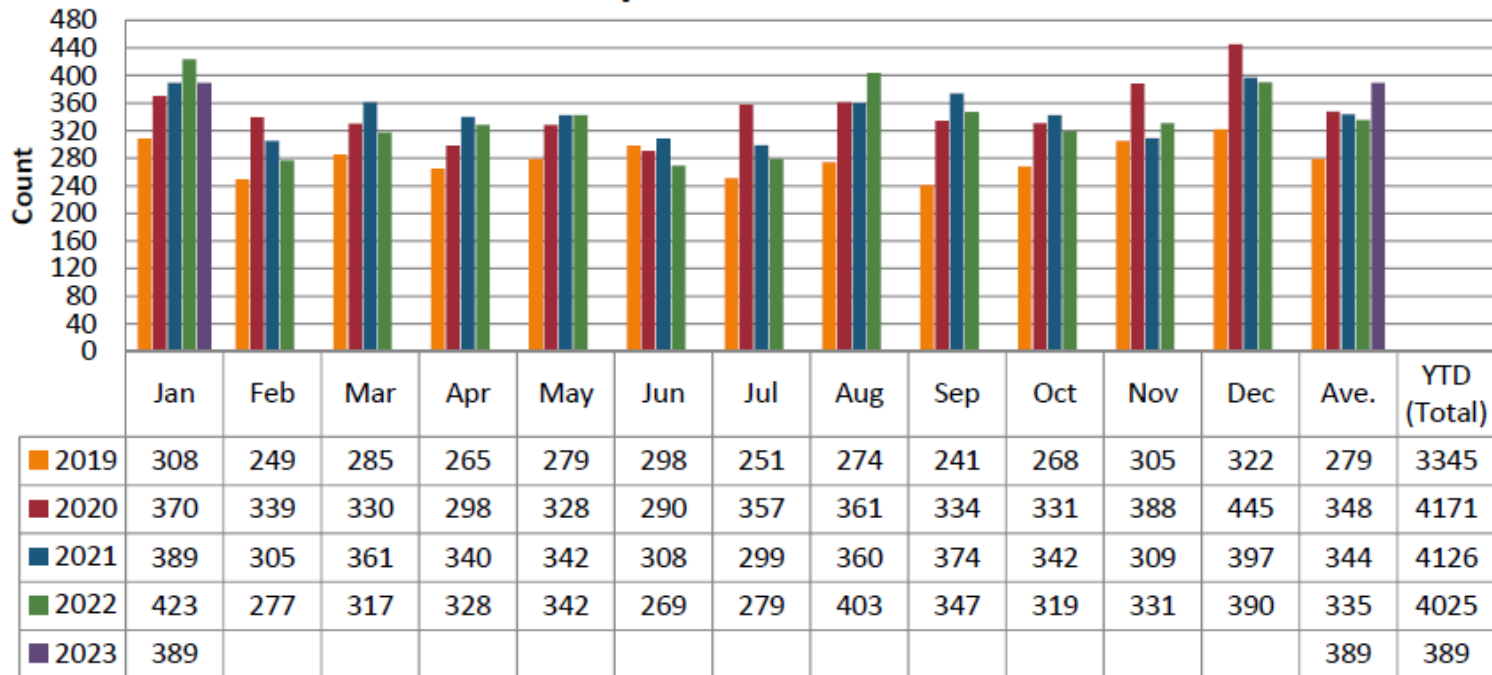
SEDGWICK COUNTY REGIONAL FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER  
Wichita, Kansas

**ADVISORY BOARD QUARTERLY  
REPORT  
February 16, 2023**

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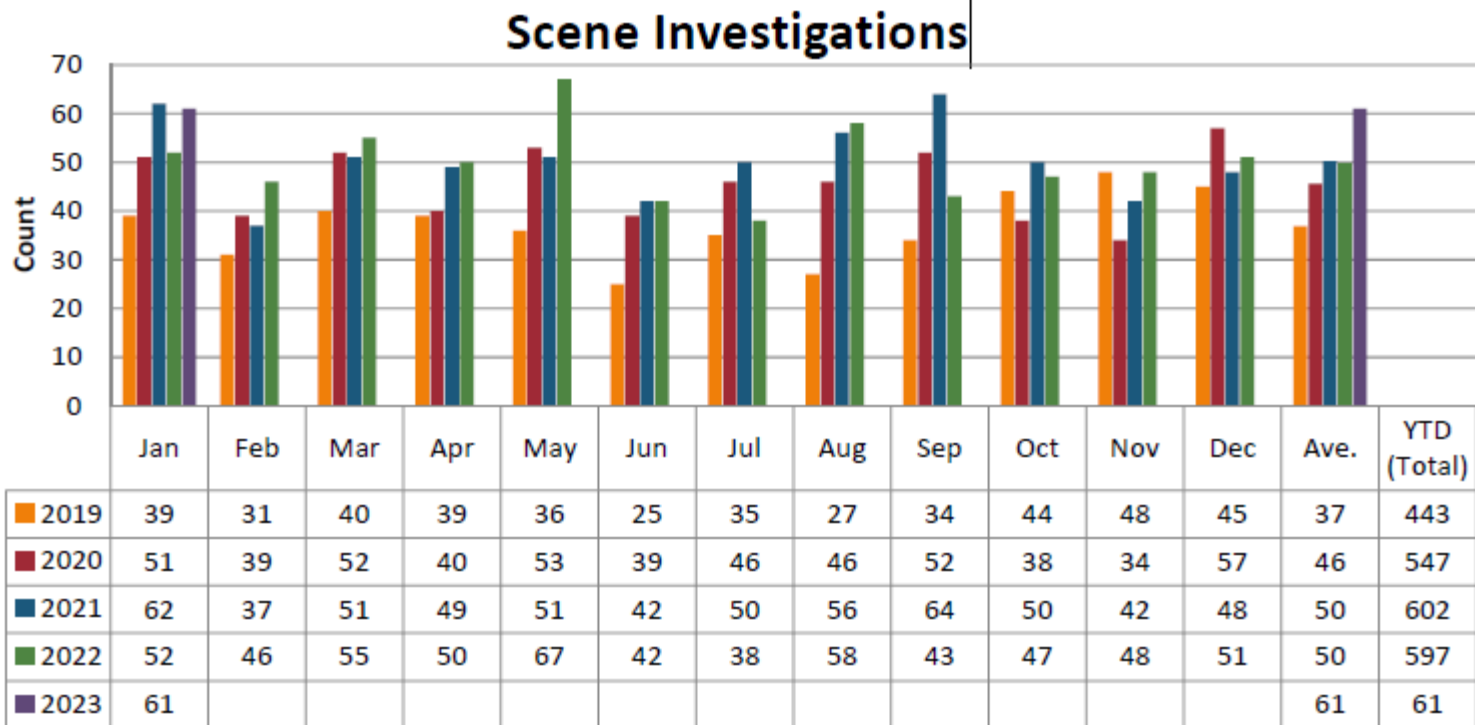
# Medical Investigations

## Reported Deaths



2019-2022: up 20%

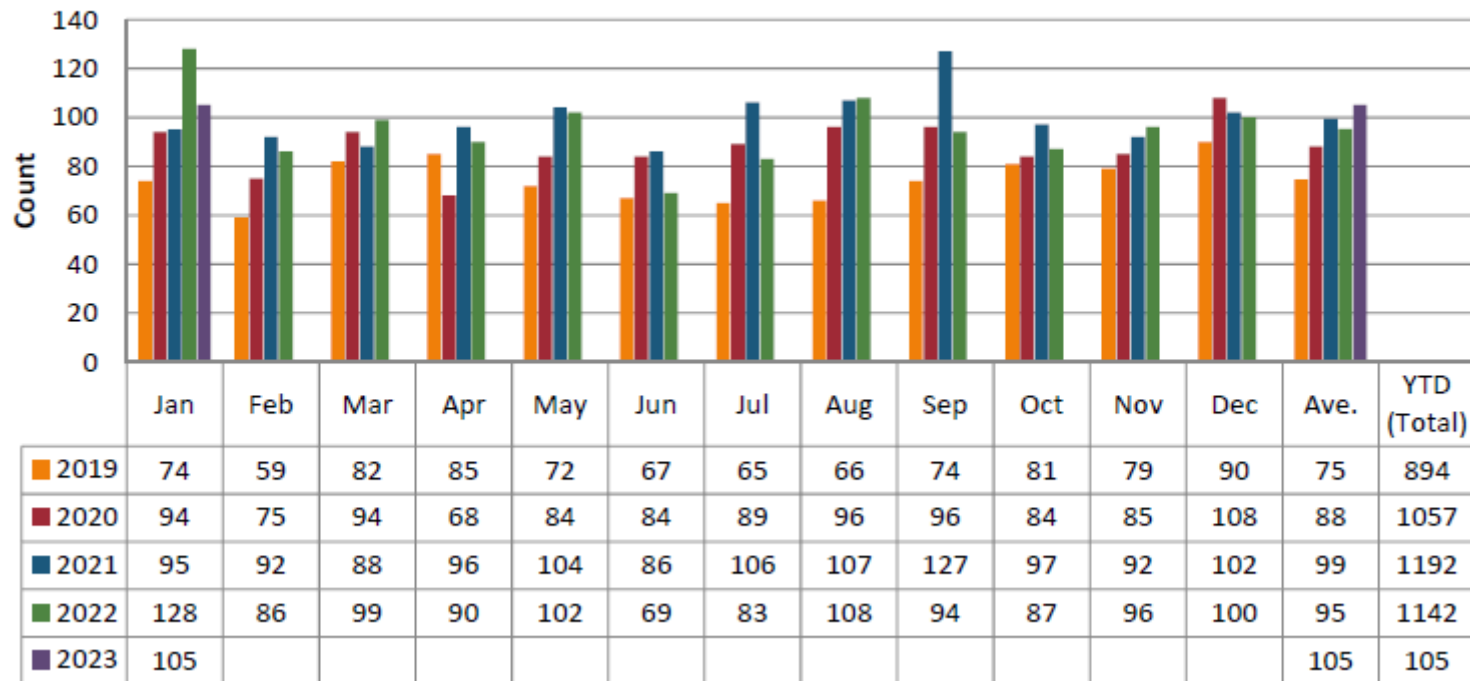
# Medical Investigations



2019-2022: up 35%

# Pathology

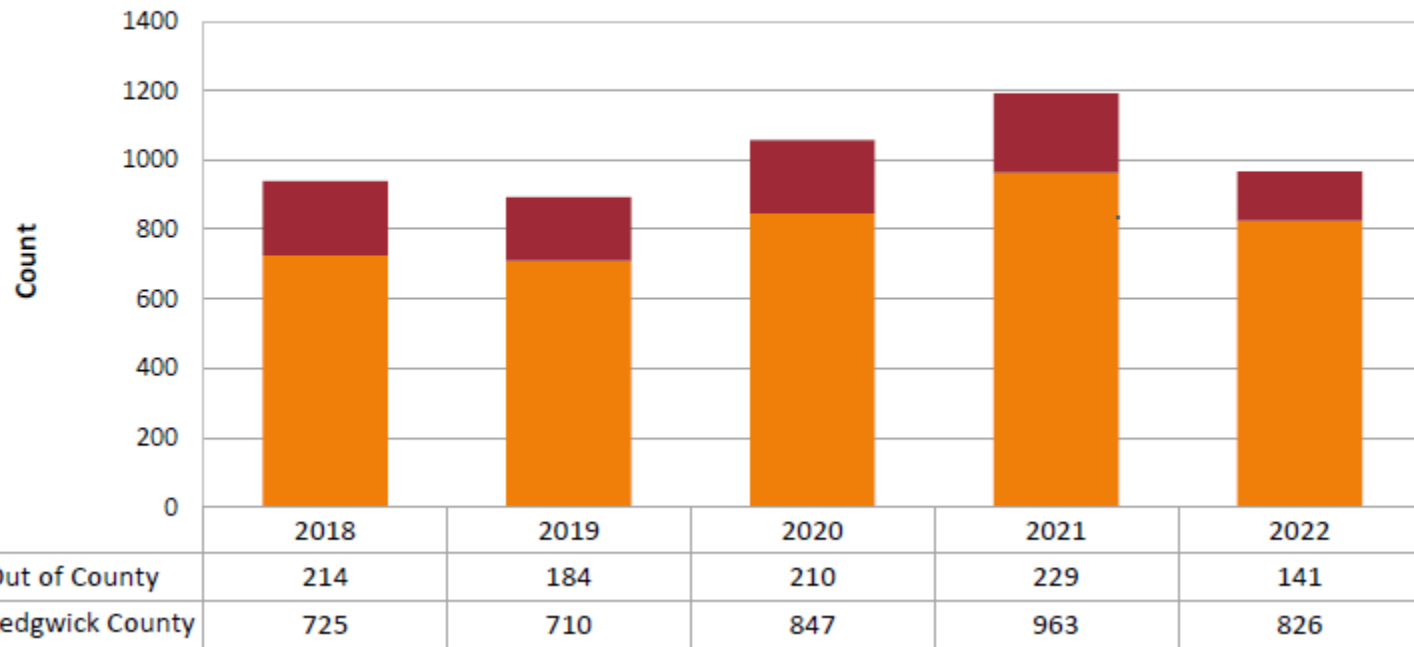
## Autopsy Cases Received by Death Reported Year



2019-2022: up 28%

# Pathology

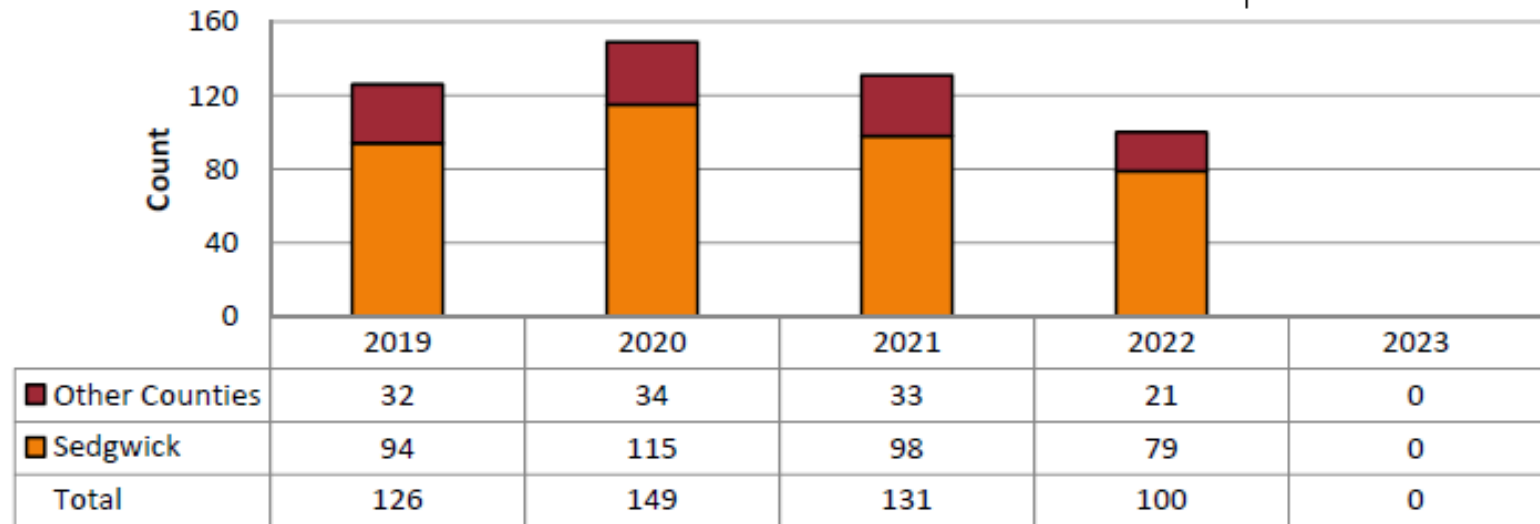
## Autopsy Cases Sedgwick County vs. Out of County



2021 = 24% 2022 = 17%

# Pathology

## Count of Suicides by Examination Year



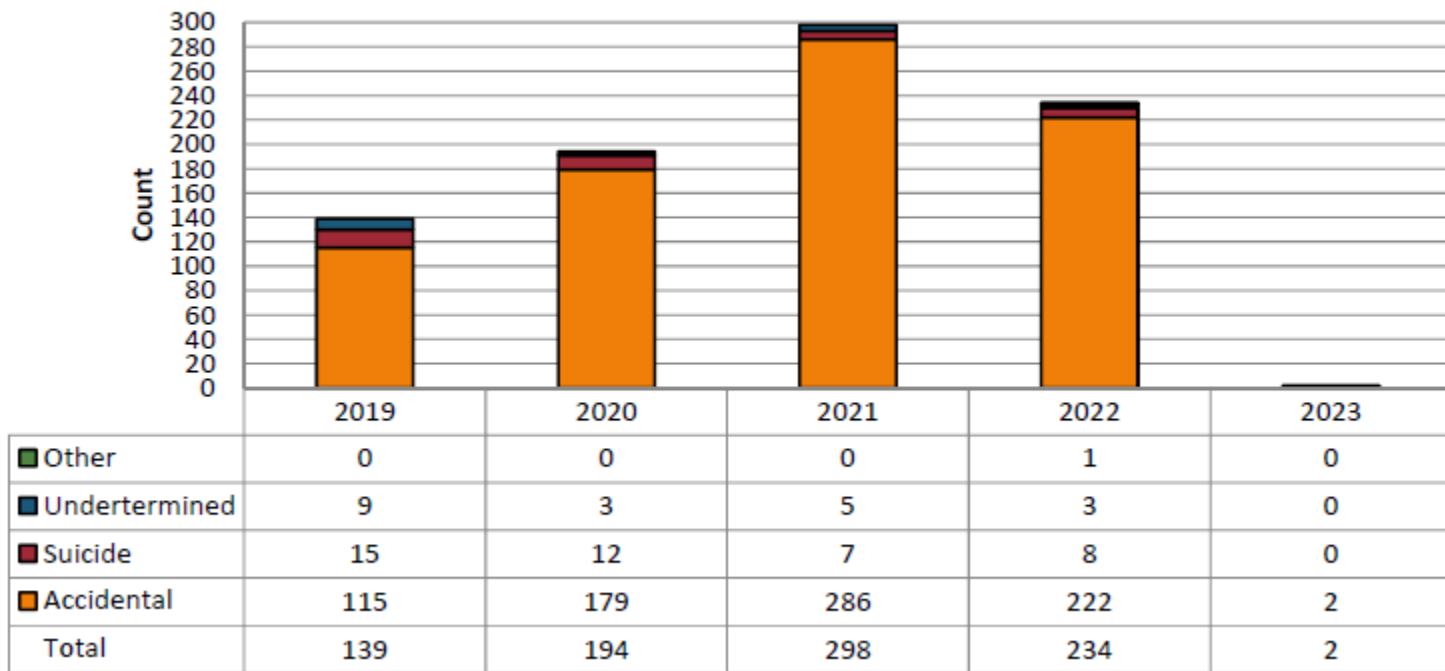
14%

14%

11%

# Pathology

Overdose Count by Manner of Death by Death Year



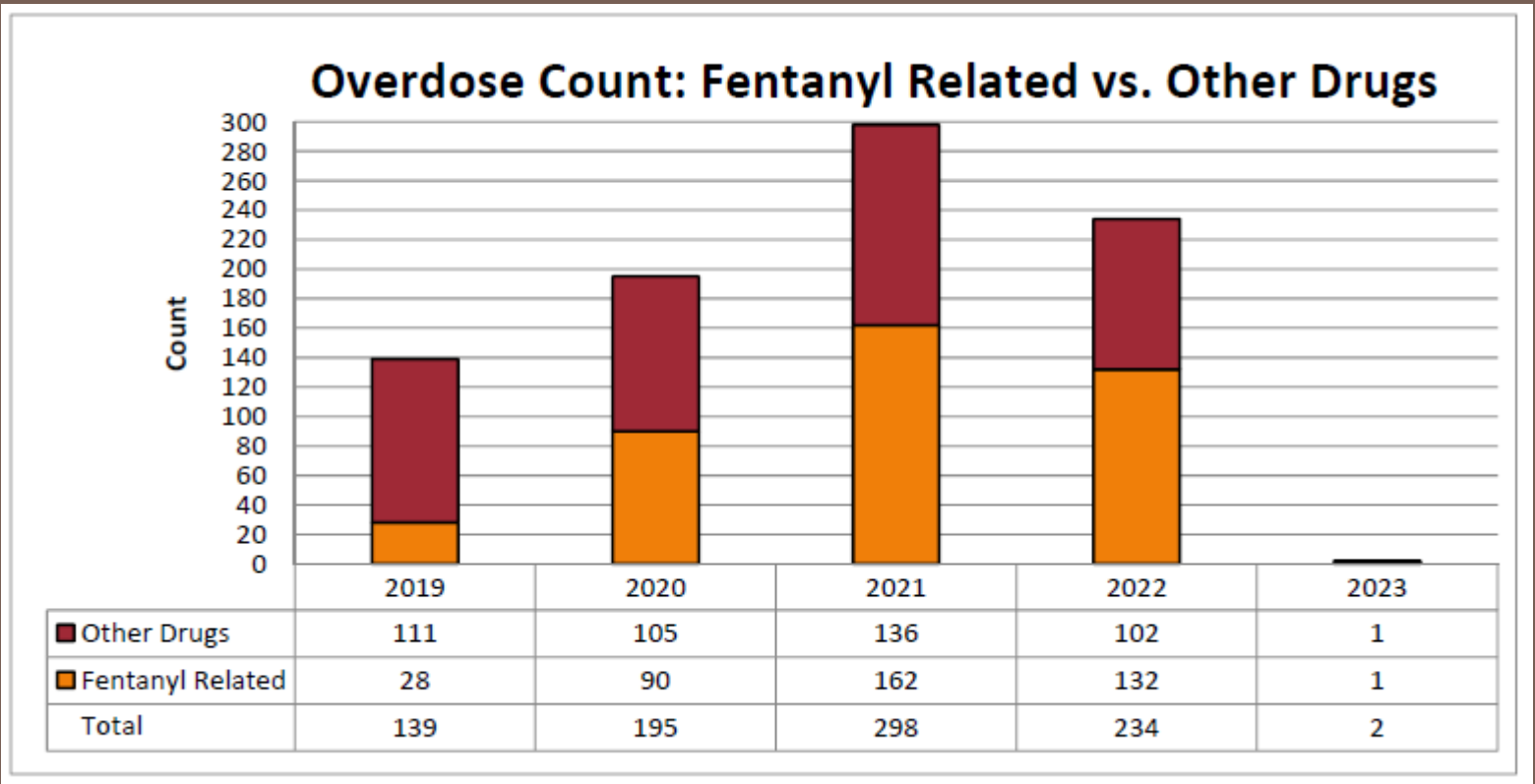
16%

18%

25%

239  
reports  
pending

# Pathology



20%

46%

55%

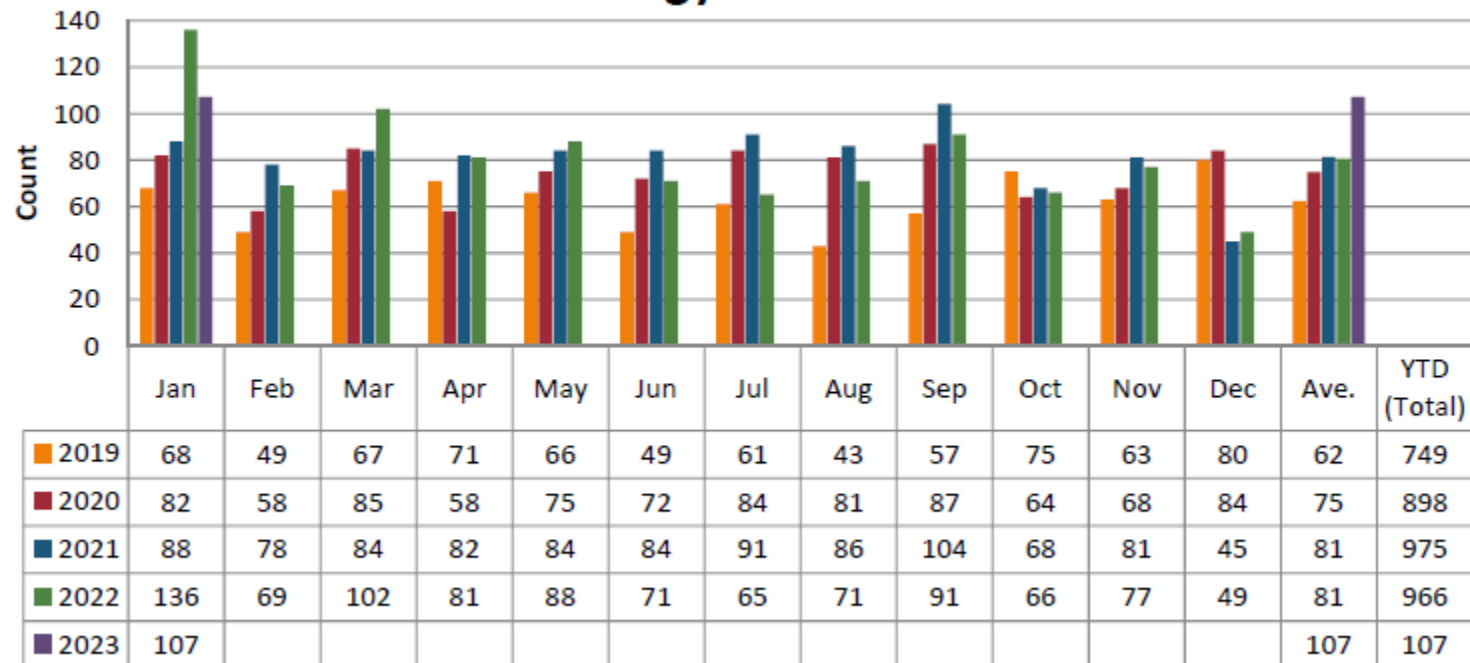
56%





# Toxicology

## PM Toxicology Cases Submitted

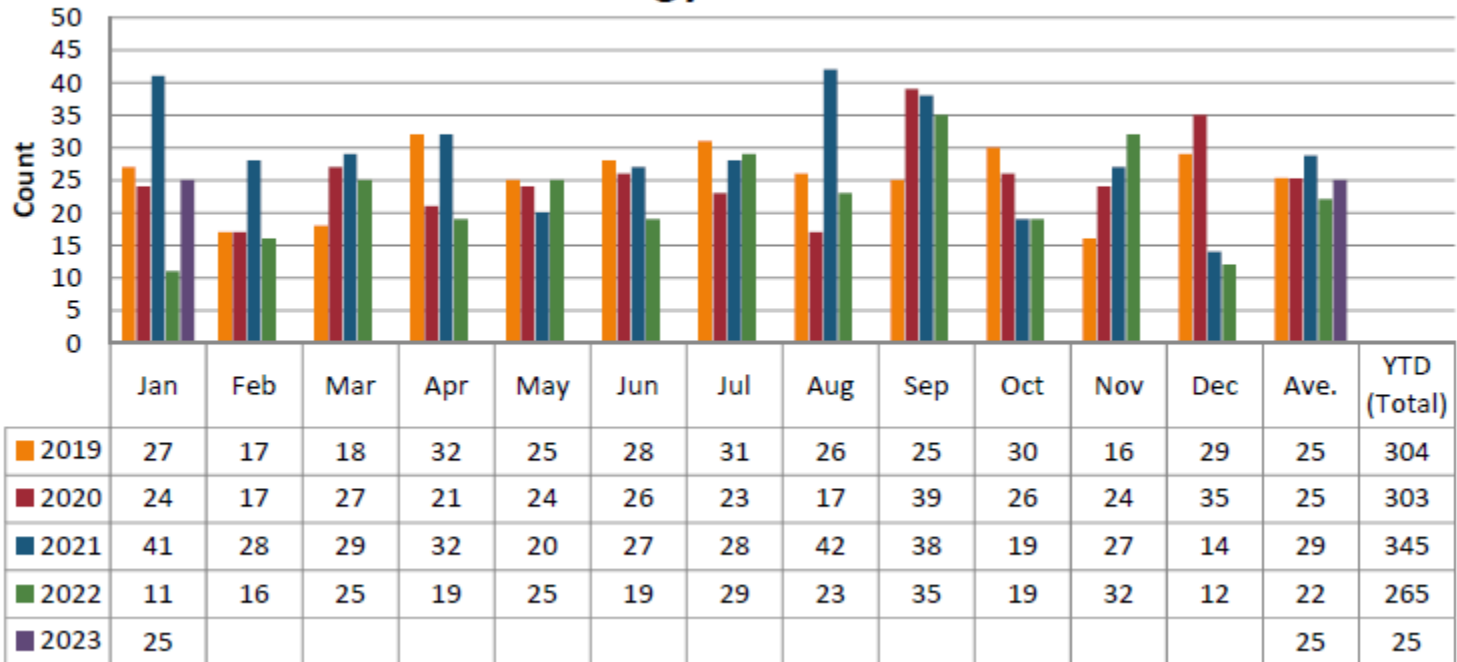


2019 – 2022 = 29%



# Toxicology

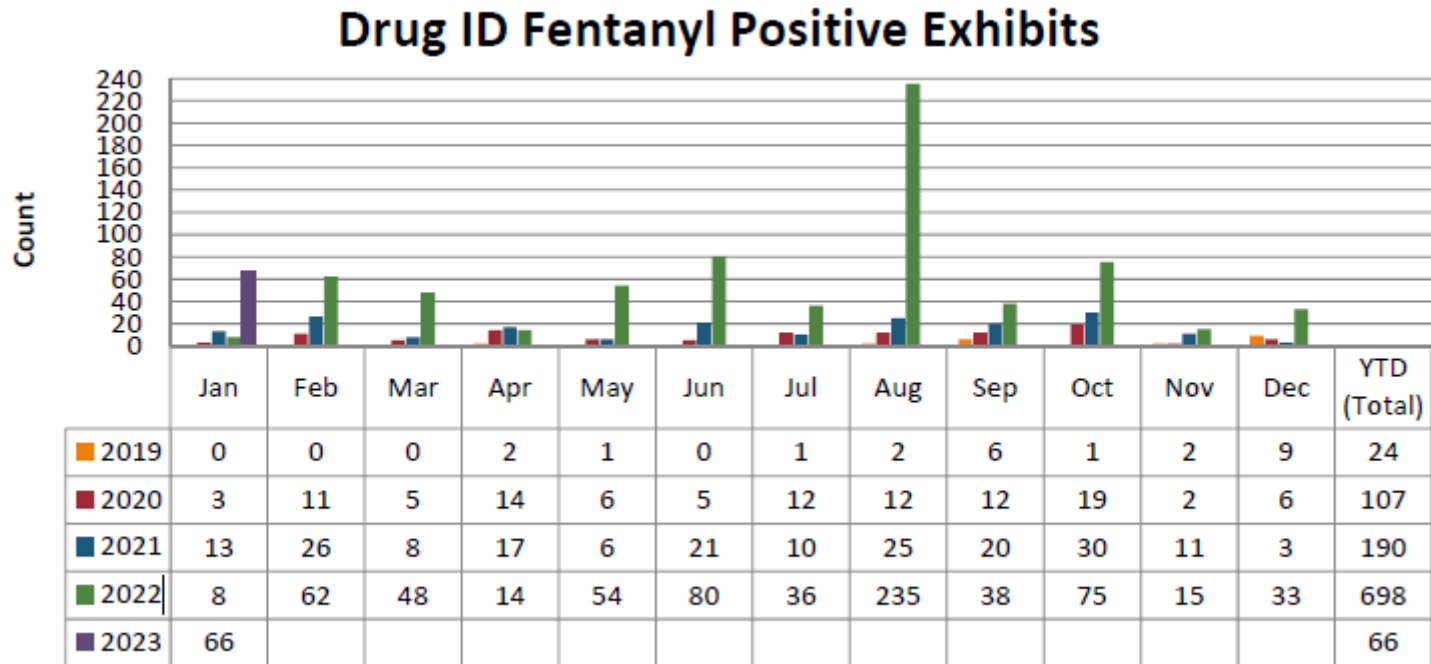
## HPT Toxicology Cases Submitted



2019 – 2021 = -13%



# Drug Identification



Up 267% from 2021





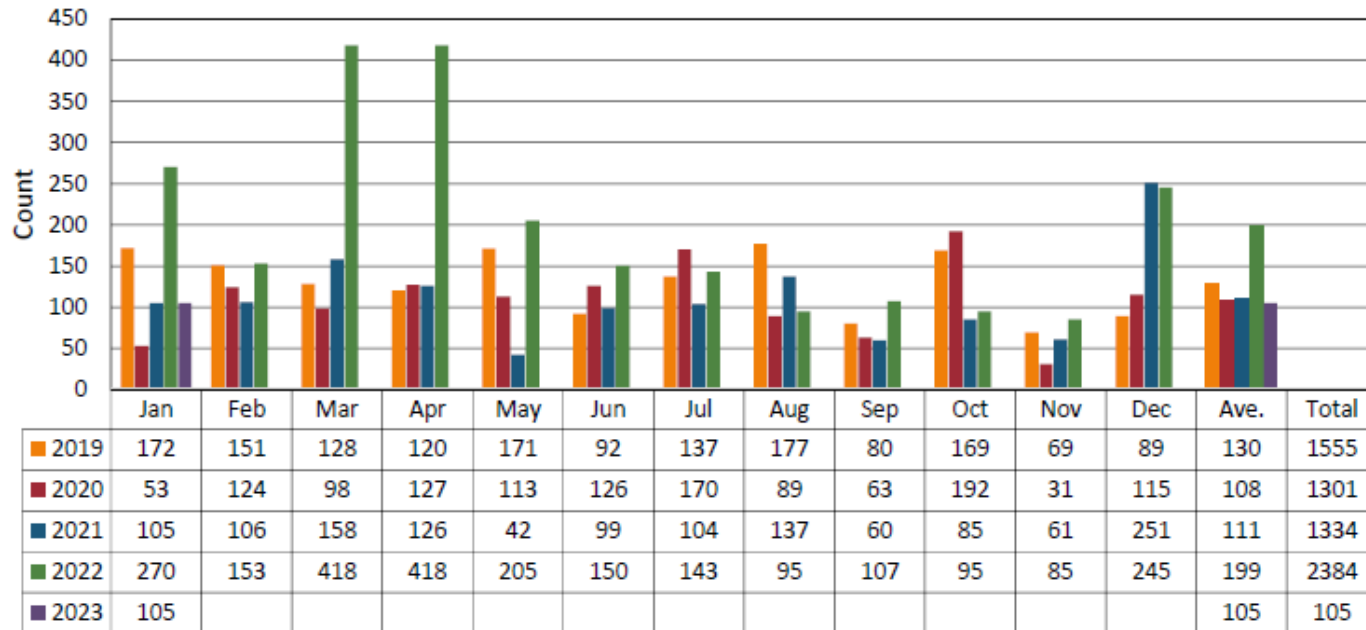






# Biology / DNA

## Biology/DNA Samples Analyzed



Up 53% from 2019

# Summary

## Quarterly Summary:

- DNA backlog continues to decrease
- Competitive Grant –purchased LC-MS/MS; validation is underway
- Tox lab continuing to outsource with JAG and Coverdell grant funds; backlog similar to last quarter
- Staffing in Investigations continues to be critical:
  - Vacancy in Drug ID and Toxicology
- Chief Tox began Jan 2, 2023, assisting with validation and competency testing underway
- Fentanyl submissions continue to rise, backlog 1000+
- Permanent Forensic Pathologist start date is July 11, 2023
- Locum Tenens Deputy Coroner contract extended

# Summary

## 2024 Budget Scenarios:

- LC-MS/MS replacement (2<sup>nd</sup> instrument)
- Add one MI
- Equipment Replacement Program
- Drug ID Scientist in 2025
- LODOX full body scan in 2026

## CIP requests

- DNA Addition – should begin in 2023!

# Summary

## 2023 Grants Submitted:

- Coverdell Formula (\$86,800) → (\$95,700) pending
- Coverdell Competitive (\$426,250) → received \$414,277!
- CEBR (approx. \$265,084) → received!

# 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.