CCMEO

COOK COUNTY OFFICE OF THE
MEDICAL EXAMINER

2014
ANNUAL REPORT

Toni Preckwinkle
President
Cook County Board of Commissioners

Stephen J. Cina, M.D.
Chief Medical Examiner

Martha Martinez
Chief Administrative Officer
Bureau of Administration

MAIN OFFICE:

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

HOURS:

The Medical Examiner's Office operates 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.
The office is open to the general public: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday,
except for official Cook County holidays.

IDENTIFICATION HOURS:

11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.
12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., weekends and official Cook County holidays.

www.cookcountyil.gov/medical-examiner

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LETTER FROM THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

2014 has been an exciting year for the Cook County Medical Examiner's Office (CCMEO). With the ongoing support of President Preckwinkle, the Board of Commissioners and the Advisory Committee, we have been able to achieve the major goals of my three-year strategic plan ahead of schedule. We anticipate great things in the years to come.

Some highlights of 2014 include the construction and implementation of a state-of-the-art cooler. This facility allows for the dignified storage of our patients while they await final disposition. It is the largest in the nation with capacity for 275 adults and 60 fetal remains. Each space is barcoded and integrated with our case management system allowing us to track the location of our patients in real time.

In August our case management system went live, allowing the CCMEO to leave our logbooks behind and track our patients, specimens and evidence via a Cloud-based system that can be securely accessed by our staff anywhere the Internet is available. Reports, test results, diagrams, photographs and X-rays are instantly available with a few keystrokes to all of our physicians. These are also available to colleagues in law-enforcement. Additionally, all of this information is available for research purposes through state and local data-collection. To improve responsiveness of inquiries by public and/or private parties, this new system provides robust data analysis, barcode tracking of decedents and samples. Perhaps our greatest triumph in 2014 was regaining Provisional Accreditation status from the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME). Through the tireless efforts of our staff and the support of Cook County government, the Office has reduced the 22 Phase II deficiencies found in an internal audit to one as of this date. Our one-year goal is to eliminate this final deficiency and attain full accreditation through NAME.

In this report you will find data detailing the operations of the CCMEO. In addition to performing autopsies and determining the cause and manner of death, you will find information regarding our role in organ and tissue donation, death investigation, the indigent program and drug-related death statistics. This report has been created using data from our old Passport database system and our new LabLynx eLab system. The 2015 report will be automatically produced from LabLynx at the press of a button.

We are excited about how far the CCMEO has come since September 2012. With continued support, we will soon be recognized as the premiere death investigation system in the country.

Respectfully,

Stephen J. Cina, MD, FCAP, D-ABMDI
Chief Medical Examiner

2014 AT-A-GLANCE

Deaths Reported	13,114
Cases Reported	5,809
Cases by Manner of Death	
Accident	1,598
Homicide	559
Natural	3,063
Suicide	471
Undetermined	118
Accidental Drug Overdose	
*Heroin	357
*Morphine or Opiate	82
*Cocaine	163
Autopsied	
Homicides Autopsied	558
Suicides Autopsied	169
Motor Vehicle Accident (MVA) Autopsied	40
Non-MVA Autopsied	846
Naturals Autopsied	940
Undetermined Autopsied	110
Unidentified Autopsied	13
Partial Autopsies	170
Complete Autopsies	2,522
Hospital Autopsies Under ME Jurisdiction	0
Not a Medical Examiner's Case (NAMECs)	7,305
Bodies Transported to ME's Office	4,521
Scene Visits	615
External Examinations	
By a Physician	1,829
By an Investigator	774
Toxicology Cases Performed	4,583
Exhumations	0
Non MVA – Accident Deaths Certified	1,219
MVA – Accidental Deaths Certified	279
Unclaimed/Disclaimed Bodies Buried at County Expense	37
Unclaimed/Disclaimed Bodies Cremated at County Expense	211
Average Number of Bodies in Storage per Day	170
Microscopic Studies	1,397
Formal Neuropathology Studies	82
Formal Cardiac Pathology Studies	17
Donations	
Organ Donations	104
Tissue Donations	246
Cornea Donations	644

* For these statistics, the database picked up the keywords heroin, morphine, opiate or cocaine.
  If someone died of combined drug toxicity (e.g. heroin plus cocaine) it would show up in both counts.

Robert J. Stein Institute of Forensic Medicine
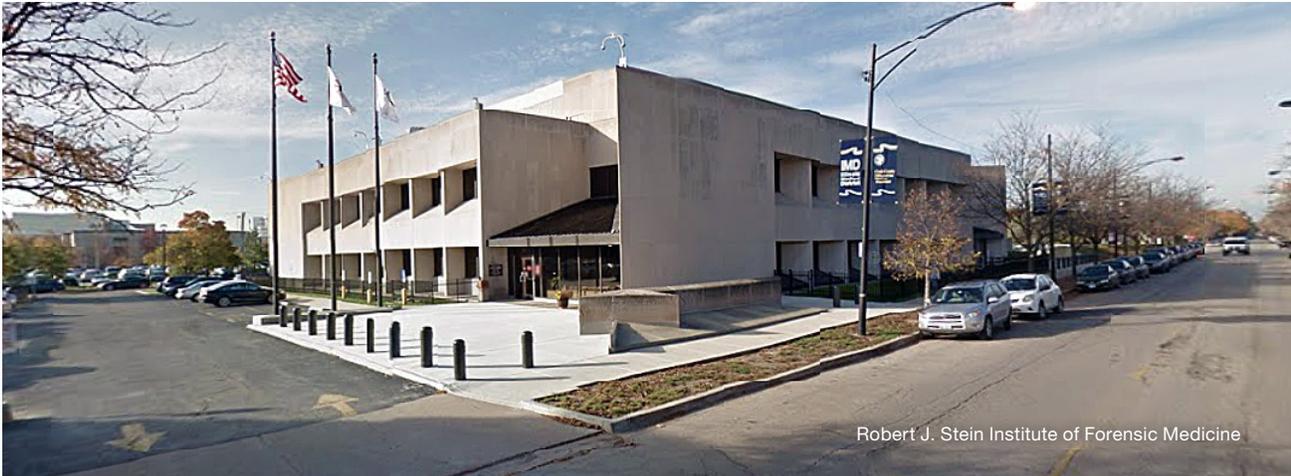
MISSION

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 create 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 vision of improved customer service, transparency, accountability and innovative technology.

HISTORY OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE

As a result of a 1972 referendum, the Office of the Medical Examiner of Cook County 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 particular 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.

Cook County is home to the only Medical Examiner system in Illinois and covers half the population of the state. The Office of the Medical Examiner 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 (ORD. No. 13-0-45, 9-11-2013), the Medical Examiner is both required and empowered to determine the cause and manner of death. The Medical Examiner investigates any human death that falls within any or all of the following categories:

- Criminal violence
- Suicide
- Accident
- Suddenly when in apparent good condition
- Unattended by a practicing licensed physician
- Suspicious or unusual circumstances
- Criminal abortion
- 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 in ten (10) divisions:

- Administration
- Autopsy
- Intake
- Investigations
- Histology
- Pathology
- Photography
- Radiology
- Toxicology
- Medical Records

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 in consultation with pathologists determine if the deceased falls within jurisdiction of the Medical Examiner's Office and performs scene investigations.

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 families as appropriate. Finally, forensic pathologists provide prompt notification to respective agencies such as the Department of Health, of any death due to a reportable disease, unsafe consumer product, and unsafe work environment.

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

PROVIDING 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. On top of this sudden loss, that 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 the staff of 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 2 to 3 hours, or possibly longer, 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 can request copies of postmortem reports through the Medical Examiner's Office Medical Record Department.

INFORMATION RELATED TO PENDING CASES

After the medical examination is complete, it is sometimes necessary for us 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 Medical Records Department will notify the funeral home. 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 CERTIFICATES

Families can obtain certified copies of death certificates by contacting the funeral home or Cook County Clerk's Office of Vital Records. 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.

RECOVERING PROPERTY OF DECEDENTS

The Medical Examiner's Office inventories all personal belongings of the decedent upon arrival to the office. Families can recover personal effects (money, jewelry, wallets, etc.) that belong to the deceased by contacting the Medical Examiner's Office. Property will be turned over to the executor, Power of Attorney (POA), legal next of kin, or the funeral home retained by the legal next of kin. Photo ID's are required to recover property. 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 two years and may be picked up by the family.

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 are able to contact the Medical Examiner's 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 90 days of admission to the Medical Examiner's Office as dictated by the Cook County Medical Examiner Ordinance.

2014 HIGHLIGHTS

STATE-OF-THE-ART COOLER

Construction and utilization of a state-of-the-art laboratory refrigerator allows for the dignified storage of the Medical Examiner's Office patients while they await final disposition.

The new laboratory refrigerator is one of the largest in the nation with capacity for 275 adults and 60 fetal remains. Each space is barcoded and integrated with the case management system allowing to track the location of the patients in real time.

Dr. Cina inside the new laboratory refrigerator

Previous laboratory refrigerator

NEW CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

In 2012, the Medical Examiner's Office received a $175,000 grant from Coverdell National Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program to partially fund and implement a new case management system. The LabLynx System went live on August 11, 2014.

The LabLynx System allows the Medical Examiner's Office to track patients, specimens and evidence. This system provides robust data analysis, barcode tracking of decedents, and samples that enhance customer service. The system provides access to reports, test results, diagrams, photographs, and X-rays to all physicians. This information is also available to colleagues in law-enforcement. Additionally, all of the information tracked by the LabLynx System is available for research purposes through state and local data collection.

The Medical Examiner's Office is now able to integrate the data with a software program to generate reports that will assist with public health awareness, mortality trending, and law-enforcement. Additionally, the system improves the Medical Examiner's Office responsiveness to inquiries by public and/or private parties.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS (NAME) ACCREDITATION UPDATE

The National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) Accreditation Standards have been prepared and revised by NAME for the purpose of improving the quality of the medicolegal investigation of death in this country. Accreditation applies to offices and systems, not individual practitioners. The standards emphasize policies and procedures, not professional work product. The standards represent minimum standards for an adequate medicolegal system, not guidelines. NAME accreditation is an endorsement by NAME that the office or system provides an adequate environment for a medical examiner in which to practice his or her profession and provides reasonable assurances that the office or system well serves its jurisdiction. It is the objective of NAME that the application of these standards will aid materially in developing and maintaining a high caliber of medicolegal investigation of death for the communities and jurisdictions in which they operate.

NAME accreditation is important to the Medical Examiner's Office because:

1. It lends credibility when Medical Examiner's Office staff testifies in court that the office follows nationally accepted standards.

2. It fosters trust with the public.

3. Recent recommendation to the US Attorney General by the National Commission on Forensic Sciences states that all ME / Coroner Offices should be accredited by 2020.

The Medical Examiner's Office was first accredited on Jan 01, 1978. The most recent full accreditation was during the period June 6, 2006 through June 6, 2011. On January 21, 2014, the Medical Examiner's Office received provisional accreditation.

NAME inspects the Medical Examiner's Office on 231 Phase II requirements and 109 Phase I requirements. In order to receive full accreditation, the Medical Examiner's Office must have zero Phase II deficiencies and must have 15 or less Phase I deficiencies. The following shows the progress the Medical Examiner's Office has been making toward full accreditation:

NAME Accreditation Audit:

March 2013:   22 Phase II deficiencies, 18 Phase I deficiencies
January 2014:   4 Phase II deficiencies, 11 Phase I deficiencies
May 2014:   3 Phase II deficiencies, 4 Phase I deficiencies
February 2015:   1 Phase II deficiency, 5 Phase I deficiencies

The goal of the Medical Examiner's Office is to eliminate the final Phase II deficiency and attain full accreditation by end of 2015. The Medical Examiner's Office will apply for full accreditation pending toxicology lab certification with the College of American Pathologists (CAP).

INDIGENT BURIAL:
DIGNIFIED FINAL DISPOSITION

Traditionally, the Medical Examiner's Office buried all indigents at the County's expense. However, in early 2014, Cook County ceased this practice and introduced cremations as the primary means of dignified final disposition. The process of declaring a deceased individual as indigent involves a partnership with support agencies such as the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the Illinois Department of Human Services, and the Cook County Public Administrator. In 2015, the Medical Examiner's Office hired a full-time Indigent Coordinator to manage the indigent disposition process. The County will continue to bury unidentified and fetal remains.

The Medical Examiner's Office expresses a special thank you to Roman F. Szabelski, Executive Director, Catholic Cemeteries, Archdiocese of Chicago, for all his assistance with the indigent burials at Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

Thanks to all the funeral directors who continue to assist the Medical Examiner's Office in laying to rest decedents in a dignified manner through their professionalism and compassion.

Thank you

The following is a list of funeral homes, directors and other individuals who assisted the Cook County Medical Examiner's Office in 2014:

John Ahlgrim, Ahlgrim Funeral Home (Schaumburg)
Roy W. Albrecht, Funeral Director
Augustus Cage, Cage Memorial Chapel
Shirley Calahan, Calahan Funeral Home
Robert Chapelle, Pederson Ryberg Funeral Home
Charles S. Childs, Jr., AA Rayner & Sons
Karen Christianson, Evanston Funeral Service
Mike Cooney, Cooney Funeral Home
Tom Cooney, Cooney Funeral Home
Shannon Crummy, Muzyka & Son Funeral Home
Edwin Cruz, WLS Funeral Home
Cathy Daniel, Northern Illinois Funeral Services
Dawson Davis (Kentucky), Funeral Director
Ben Dirks, McDonald Funeral Home
Gloria Driver, Calahan Funeral Home
Susan Dyer, Funeral Director
Brian Fitzpatrick, Dignity Memorial
Marion Friel, Green Burials of Love
Richard Gaddis, Strang Funeral Home
Ena Garner, Gardner Funeral Home
Phil Gillette, Thompson Funeral Home
Nakia Harrison, Nakia Wallace-Harrison Funeral Services
Karen Hannah, Dignity Memorial
Nick Heston, Pauley-Jones Funeral Home (Iowa)
Rich Hopkins, Strang Funeral Home
Marcus Hudson, Doty-Nash Funeral Home
Dan Jarka, Lawn Funeral Home
Bill Jerry, Dignity Memorial
Geraldine Jones, Dignity Memorial
Val Kaspar, Madison Funeral Home
Peter Kennedy, Dignity Memorial
Dwight Kuligowski, Funeral Director
Greg Lash, Modell Funeral Home
Mike Leavy, Prignano Funeral Home
Spencer Leak, Spencer Leak & Sons
Stephen Leak, Leak & Sons Funeral Home
Chas Freeman, Morizzo Funeral Home
Ross Morizzo, Morizzo Funeral Home
Peter Nichols, Sunset Funeral Home
Dave Palasz, Palasz Removal Service
Alan Panozzo, Panozzo Brothers Funeral Home
Ron Pasco, Dignity Memorial
Don Petkus, Petkus Lemont Funeral Home
Mark Rizzo, Funeral Director
Laura Sambrano, Warren Funeral Home
John G. Schultz, Donnellen Funeral Home (Chicago/South)
Abbey Spaight, Querhammer & Flagg Funeral Home
Mariella Trevino, Trevino Funeral Services
Gerry Weidner, Strang Funeral Home
Roland Weis, Funeral Director
Mark Willhite, Strang Funeral Home
Norman Williams, Unity Funeral Home
Leonard Zielinski, Funeral Director

COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS

LOCAL MEDICAL EDUCATION AGREEMENTS

Resident and Medical Student Rotations

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, in order to determine the cause and manner of death. The following are the institutions which participate in this program:

- Loyola University Chicago Medical Center
- McGaw Medical Center of Northwestern University
- Midwestern University
- Rush University Medical Center
- University of Chicago Medical Center
- University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC)

Mortuary Sciences

The Medical Examiner's Office has agreements with Malcolm X College and Worsham College of Mortuary Science that facilitates the donation of indigent bodies to Malcolm X College for use by mortuary students in furtherance of their study of mortuary science. These agreements are in accordance with the Illinois Cadaver Act and are a revenue generator as the school pays a lab use fee 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.

NATIONAL MEDICAL EDUCATION AGREEMENTS

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

The Medical Examiner's Office also has an agreement with Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences for medical students to observe pathologists conduct examinations including autopsies, in order 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 and the Medical University of Gdansk (Gdansk, Poland) which 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 so common in other countries.

ORGAN/TISSUE DONATION

The Medical Examiner's Office has agreements with two programs related to 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 the Gift of Hope to donate organs and tissue upon consent of the next of kin. The Gift of Hope will occasionally request to procure tissues postmortem at the Medical Examiner's Office. Each organ donor can save up to 7 lives and each tissue donor can improve 50 lives.

CONSULTATIONS

The Medical Examiner's Office requests radiology consultation from John H. Stroger, Jr. Hospital (Cook County Hospital) on complicated cases involving extensive radiology as a means to determine cause and manner of death.

FELLOWSHIP

The Medical Examiner's Office offers a one-year Forensic Pathology fellowship program for two 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 offers a limited 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, contact Mary Marik, Registered Health Information Administrator, at (312) 997-4430.

A LOOK AHEAD

LOCAL MEDICAL EDUCATION AGREEMENTS

The Medical Examiner's Office has the following initiatives in 2015:

- Complete final migration of existing data into the case management system to allow mining for research, media inquiries, public health strategies and policy formation.
- Apply for full accreditation in December 2015.
- Recruit a new Chief Toxicologist to spearhead CAP *(College of American Pathologists)* accreditation and implement new extraction techniques.
- Become fully staffed with 15 full-time assistant medical examiners and two fellows to reduce the average caseload for pathologists.
- Complete 2015 capital renovations including transforming the basement conference room to a state of the art conference center.
- Continue to work with Gift of Hope to increase organ and tissue donation throughout Cook County.
- Interface the IL State Vital Statistics record system with the New Case Management System. This will allow for more accurate tracking of samples and decedents within the ME's Office:
  - o   An improved chain of custody
  - o   Increased research capabilities
  - o   Better tracking of injury disease patterns as it relates to public health implications

This new case management system implementation allows for more efficient use of employees' time. Additional technological advances include the application of an eFax solution that will reduce paper waste.

2014 CASE OVERVIEW CHARTS & MAPS
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GRAPH 1:
COOK COUNTY POPULATION
1960 - 2014 (EST)

Census Bureau Estimates	

Population values:
- 1960: 5,129,725
- 1970: 5,492,369
- 1980: 5,253,655
- 1990: 5,105,067
- 2000: 5,376,741
- 2010: 5,194,675
- 2014 (est): 5,246,456

Y-axis: 4,900,000 – 5,600,000
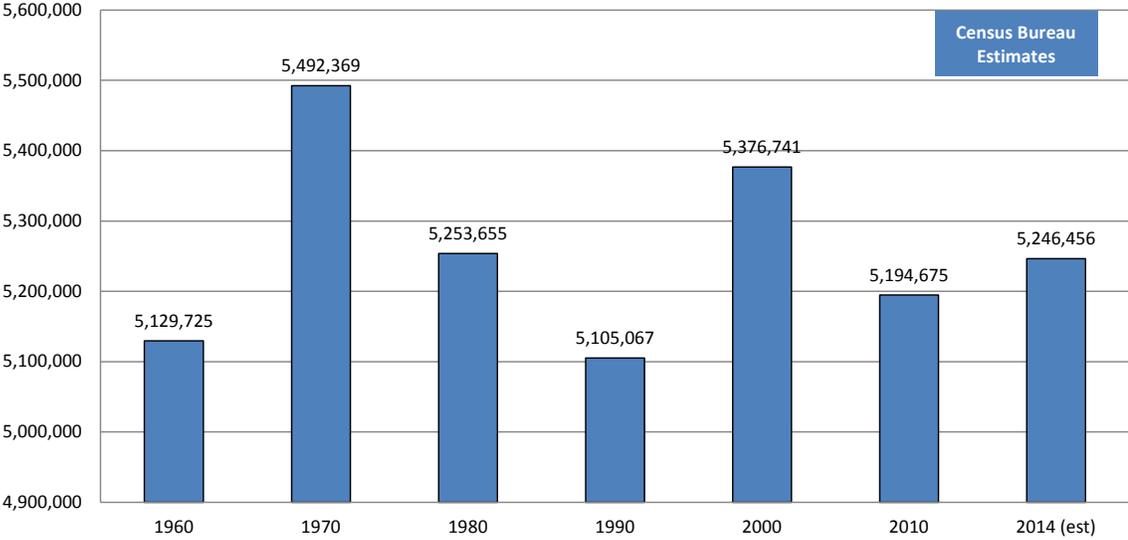
GRAPH 2:
MONTH WHEN INCIDENT RESULTING IN DEATH OCCURRED
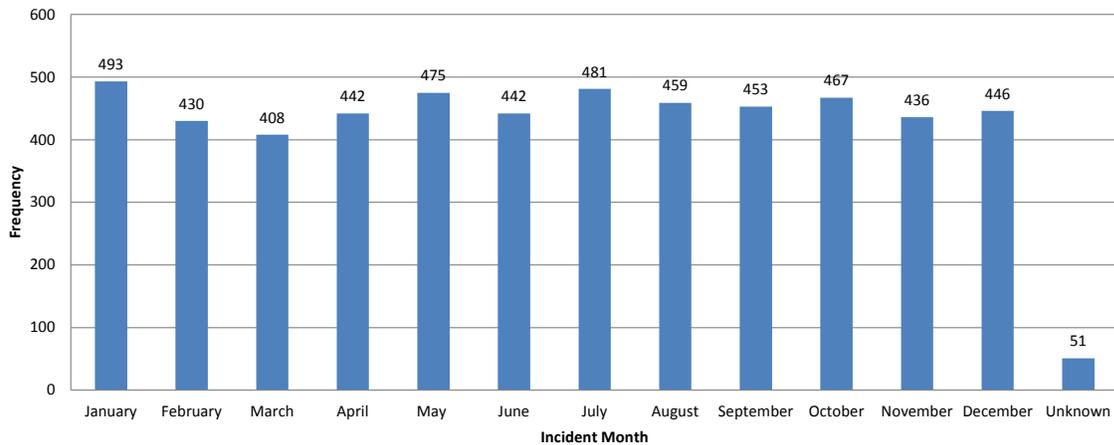
Month	#
January	493
February	430
March	408
April	442
May	475
June	442
July	481
August	459
September	453
October	467
November	436
December	446
Unknown	51
Total	**5,483**

* In 2014, the Medical Examiner's Office used two different systems to track data. The Passport System was replaced by the LabLynx System in August 2014. There is a small discrepancy of deaths due to the migration of data. Reports have been reconciled and all efforts made to maintain accuracy.

GRAPH 3:
DAY OF THE WEEK WHEN INCIDENT RESULTING IN DEATH OCCURRED
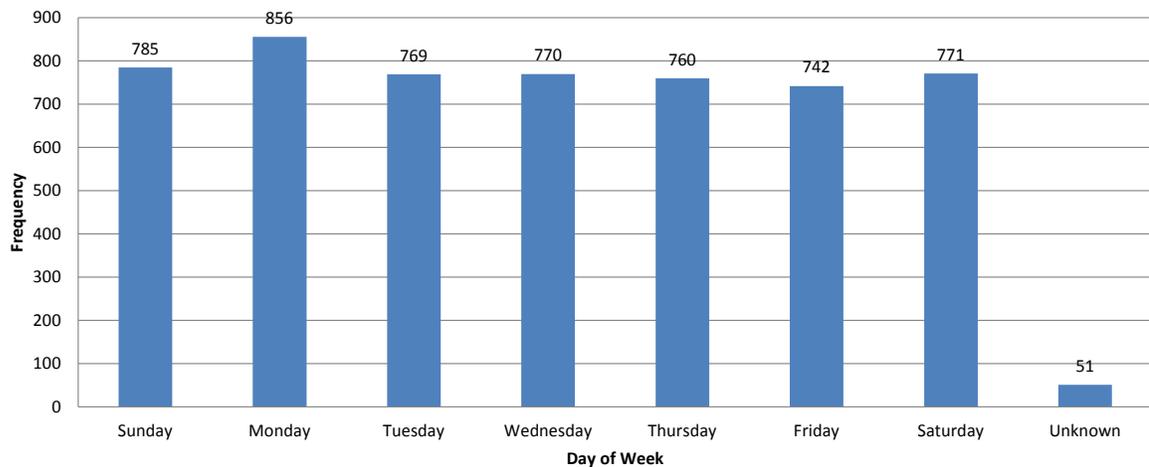
Day of Week	#
Sunday	785
Monday	856
Tuesday	769
Wednesday	770
Thursday	760
Friday	742
Saturday	771
Unknown	51
Total	**5,504**

* In 2014, the Medical Examiner's Office used two different systems to track data. The Passport System was replaced by the LabLynx System in August 2014. There is a small discrepancy of deaths due to the migration of data. Reports have been reconciled and all efforts made to maintain accuracy.

GRAPH 4:
AGE OF DECEDENTS
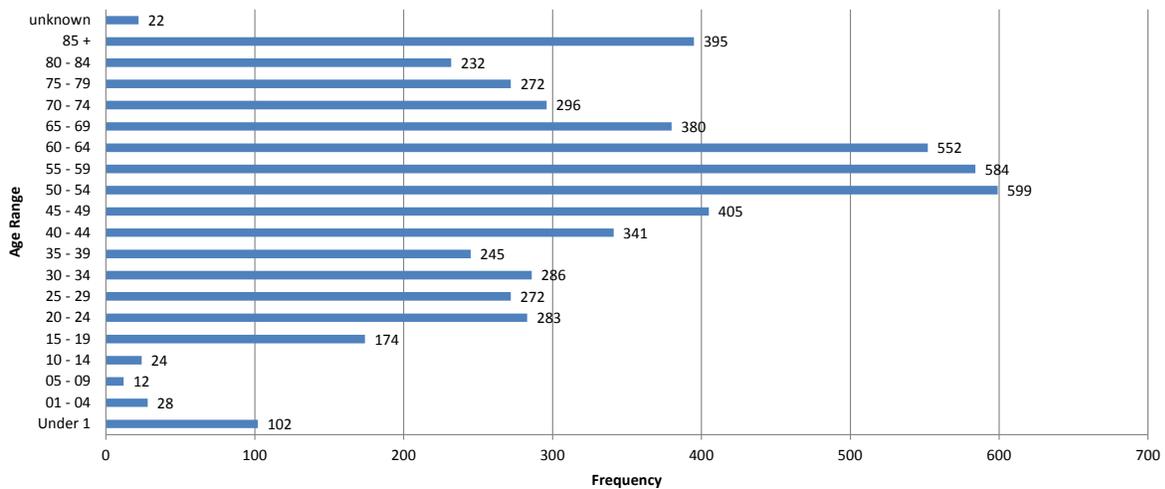
Age Range	#
Under 1	102
01 - 04	28
05 - 09	12
10 - 14	24
15 - 19	174
20 - 24	283
25 - 29	272
30 - 34	286
35 - 39	245
40 - 44	341
45 - 49	405
50 - 54	599
55 - 59	584
60 - 64	552
65 - 69	380
70 - 74	296
75 - 79	272
80 - 84	232
85 +	395
unknown	22
Total	**5,504**

* In 2014, the Medical Examiner's Office used two different systems to track data. The Passport System was replaced by the LabLynx System in August 2014. There is a small discrepancy of deaths due to the migration of data. Reports have been reconciled and all efforts made to maintain accuracy.

GRAPH 5:
RACE OF DECEDENTS
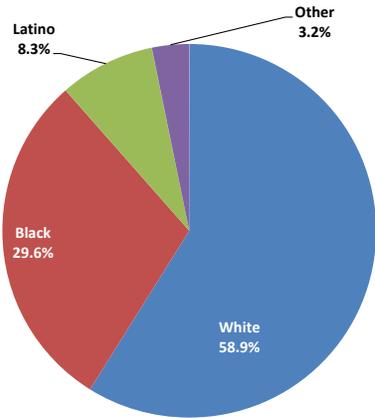
Graph 5a: Race of Decedents
All Cook County Deaths

	Total	% of Total
White	23,843	58.9%
Black	11,986	29.6%
Latino	3,349	8.3%
Other	1,304	3.2%
Total	**40,482**	**100.0%**
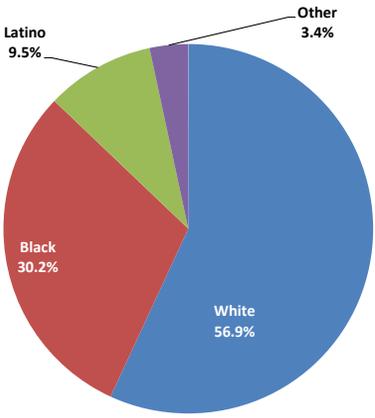
Graph 5b: Race of Decedents
Male Cook County Deaths

	Total	% of Total
White	11,522	56.9%
Black	6,120	30.2%
Latino	1,925	9.5%
Other	679	3.4%
Total	**20,246**	**100.0%**
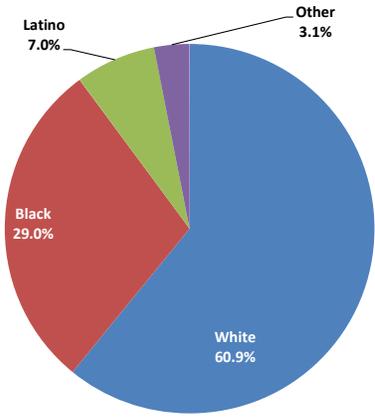
Graph 5c: Race of Decedents
Female Cook County Deaths

	Total	% of Total
White	12,321	60.9%
Black	5,866	29.0%
Latino	1,424	7.0%
Other	625	3.1%
Total	**20,236**	**100.0%**

* Data provided by Illinois Department of Public Health. The data shows there were a total of 40,482 deaths that occurred in Cook County in 2014. The Medical Examiner's Office processed 5,504 of these cases.

GRAPH 6:
GENDER OF DECEDENTS

Gender of Decedents
Medical Examiner Cases

Unknown
0.6%
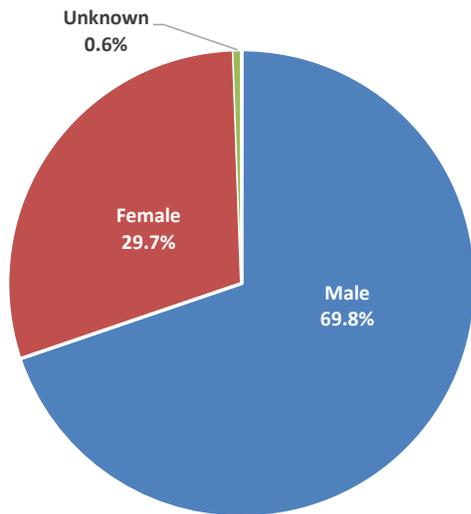
Female
29.7%

Male
69.8%

Gender of Decedents
All Cook County Cases
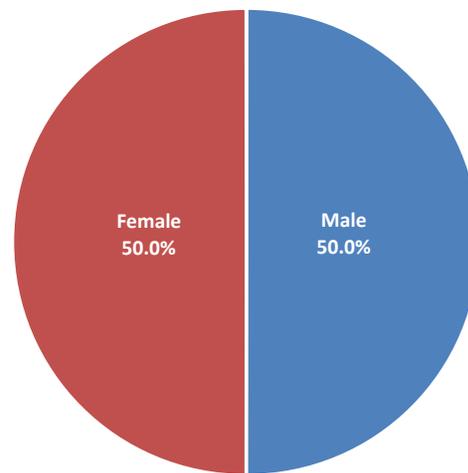
Female
50.0%

Male
50.0%

	Medical Examiner Cases	All Cook County Deaths
Male	3,841	20,246
Female	1,632	20,236
Unknown	31	0
Total	**5,504**	**40,482**

* Data provided by Illinois Department of Public Health. The data shows there were a total of 40,482 deaths that occurred in Cook County in 2014. The Medical Examiner's Office processed 5,504 of these cases.

GRAPH 7:
MANNER OF DEATH
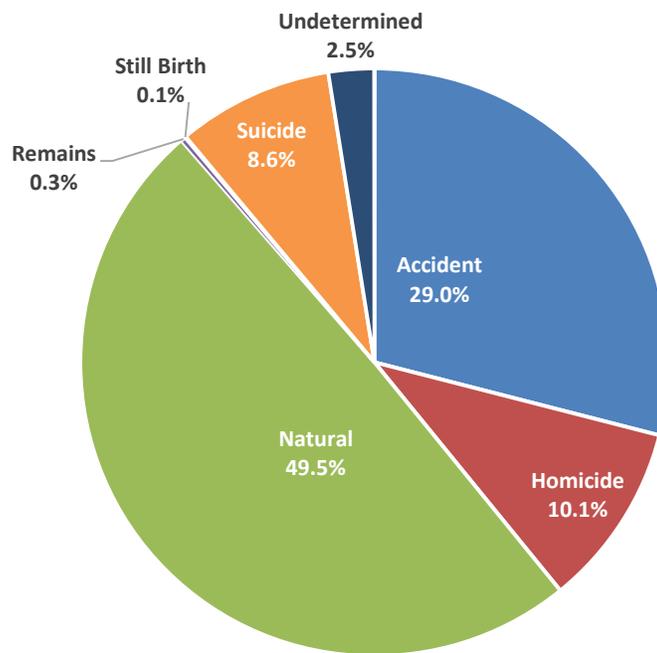
| Manner	#
Accident	1,596
Homicide	558
Natural	2,723
Remains	14
Still Birth	3
Suicide	472
Undetermined	138
Total	**5,504**

* In 2014, the Medical Examiner's Office used two different systems to track data. The Passport System was replaced by the LabLynx System in August 2014. There is a small discrepancy of deaths due to the migration of data. Reports have been reconciled and all efforts made to maintain accuracy.

GRAPH 8:
AUTOPSY STATUS

% of Autopsies Performed on
Bodies Transported to ME's Office

No
40.5%

Yes
59.5%
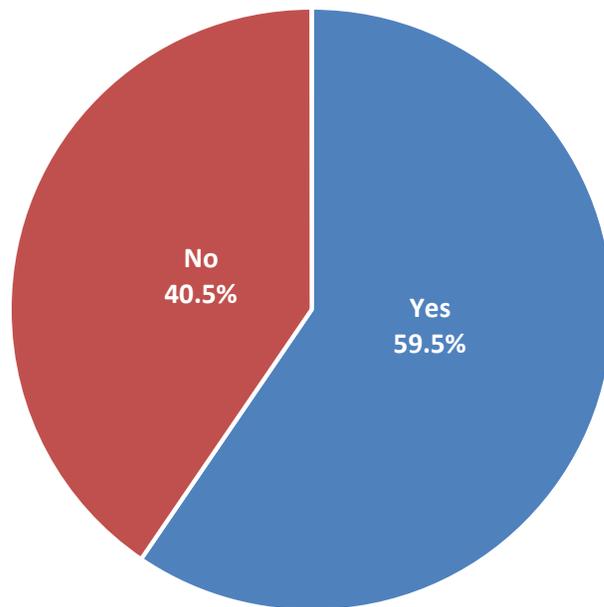
Autopsy Performed	#	%
Yes	2,692	59.5%
No	1,829	40.5%
Total	**4,521**	**100.0%**

* In 2014, the Medical Examiner's Office used two different systems to track data. The Passport System was replaced by the LabLynx System in August 2014. There is a small discrepancy of deaths due to the migration of data. Reports have been reconciled and all efforts made to maintain accuracy.

GRAPH 9:
INJURED AT WORK
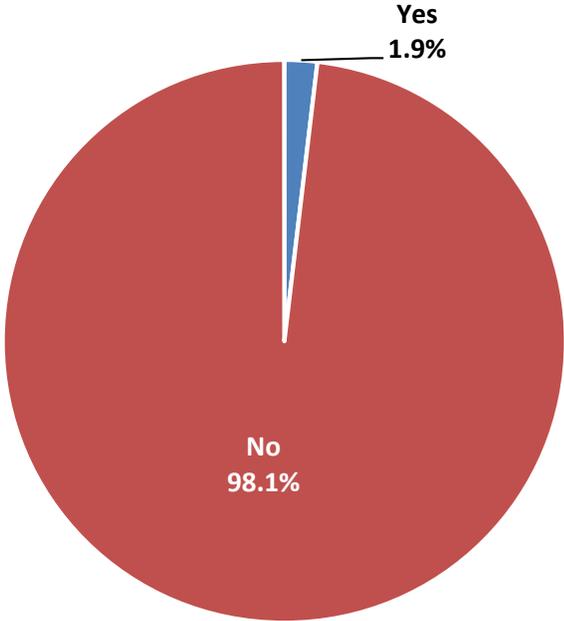
Injured at Work?	#	%
Yes	104	1.9%
No	5,400	98.1%
Total	**5,504**	**100.0%**

* In 2014, the Medical Examiner's Office used two different systems to track data. The Passport System was replaced by the LabLynx System in August 2014. There is a small discrepancy of deaths due to the migration of data. Reports have been reconciled and all efforts made to maintain accuracy.

GRAPH 10:
DEATHS BY MONTH
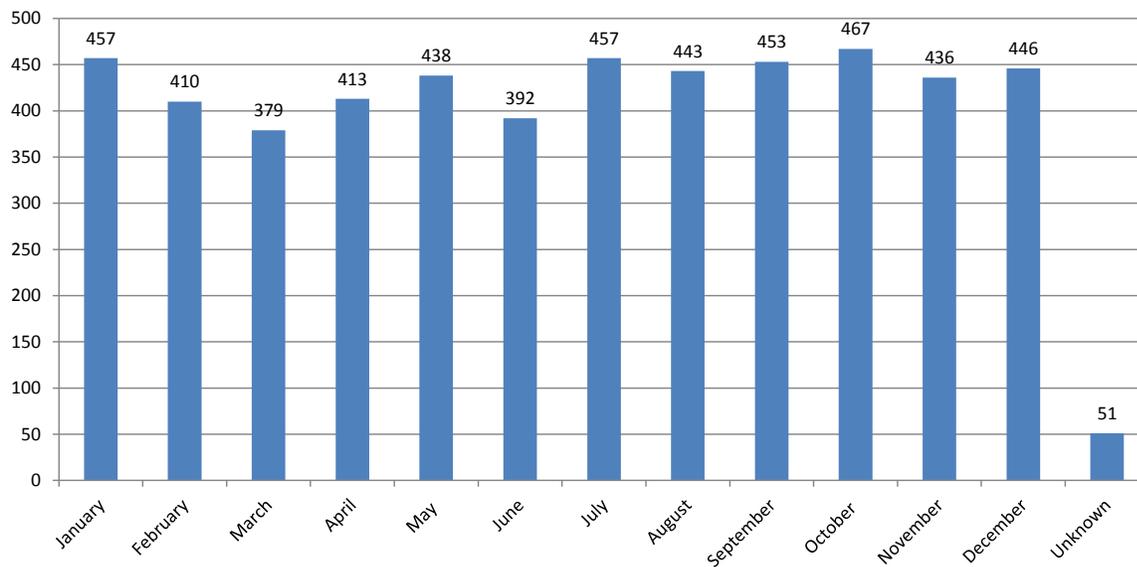
Month	Total
January	457
February	410
March	379
April	413
May	438
June	392
July	457
August	443
September	453
October	467
November	436
December	446
Unknown	51
Total	**5,242**

* In 2014, the Medical Examiner's Office used two different systems to track data. The Passport System was replaced by the LabLynx System in August 2014. There is a small discrepancy of deaths due to the migration of data. Reports have been reconciled and all efforts made to maintain accuracy.

GRAPH 11:
MANNER OF DEATH BY WEEKDAY OF INCIDENT

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Unknown
Accident	250	228	216	226	214	210	234	18
Homicide	107	73	60	68	55	96	95	4
Natural	351	456	402	389	402	358	356	9
Remains	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	10
Still Birth	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
Suicide	61	73	65	78	61	63	64	7
Undetermined	15	24	25	9	28	14	20	3
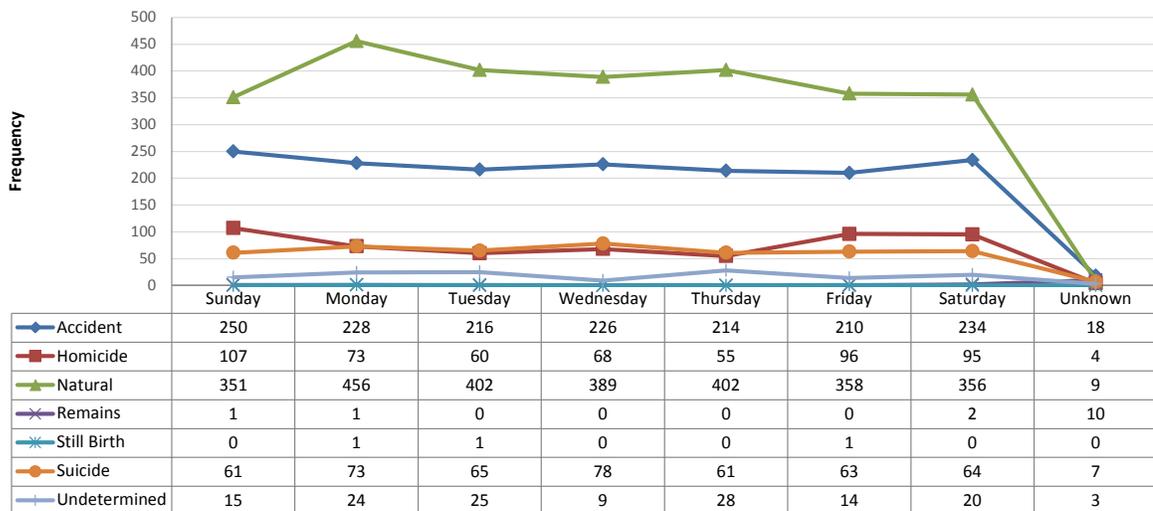
Manner of Death	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Unknown	Total
Accident	250	228	216	226	214	210	234	18	1,596
Homicide	107	73	60	68	55	96	95	4	558
Natural	351	456	402	389	402	358	356	9	2,723
Remains	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	10	14
Still Birth	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	3
Suicide	61	73	65	78	61	63	64	7	472
Undetermined	15	24	25	9	28	14	20	3	138
Total	**785**	**856**	**769**	**770**	**760**	**742**	**771**	**51**	**5,504**

* In 2014, the Medical Examiner's Office used two different systems to track data. The Passport System was replaced by the LabLynx System in August 2014. There is a small discrepancy of deaths due to the migration of data. Reports have been reconciled and all efforts made to maintain accuracy.

GRAPH 12:
MANNER OF DEATH BY AGE OF DECEDENT
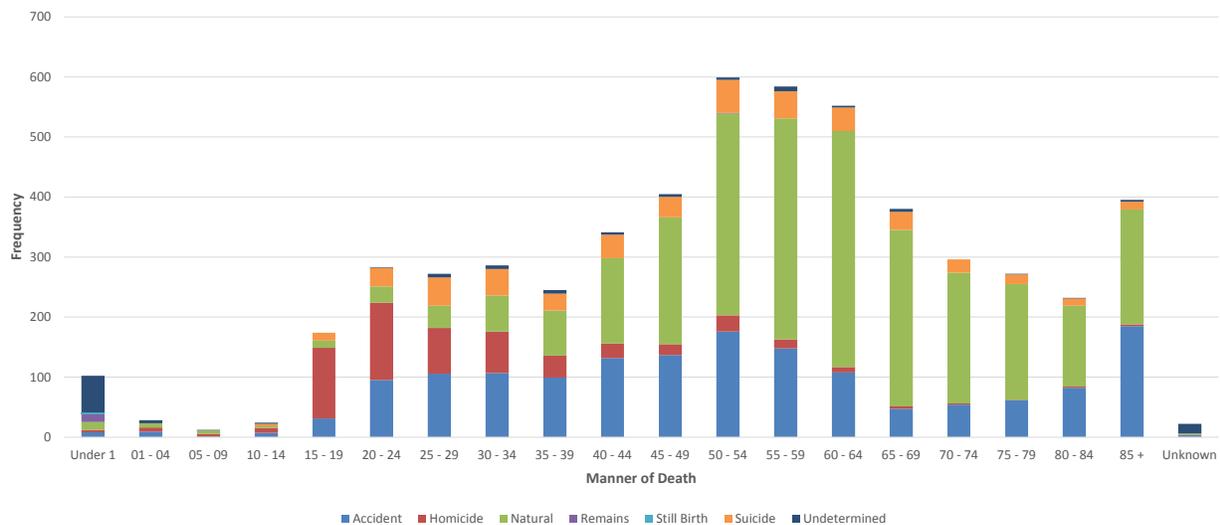
Age	Accident	Homicide	Natural	Remains	Still Birth	Suicide	Undetermined	Total
Under 1	8	4	13	13	3	0	61	102
01 - 04	9	7	7	0	0	0	5	28
05 - 09	1	4	6	0	0	0	1	12
10 - 14	7	8	3	0	0	4	2	24
15 - 19	31	118	12	0	0	13	0	174
20 - 24	95	129	27	0	0	31	1	283
25 - 29	106	76	37	0	0	47	6	272
30 - 34	107	69	60	0	0	44	6	286
35 - 39	99	37	75	0	0	28	6	245
40 - 44	132	24	142	0	0	39	4	341
45 - 49	137	18	211	0	0	34	5	405
50 - 54	176	27	336	1	0	55	4	599
55 - 59	148	15	368	0	0	45	8	584
60 - 64	108	9	393	0	0	39	3	552
65 - 69	47	4	294	0	0	30	5	380
70 - 74	54	2	218	0	0	22	0	296
75 - 79	61	1	193	0	0	16	1	272
80 - 84	82	2	135	0	0	12	1	232
85 +	185	3	191	0	0	13	3	395
Unknown	3	1	2	0	0	0	16	22
Total	**1,596**	**558**	**2,723**	**14**	**3**	**472**	**138**	**5,504**

* In 2014, the Medical Examiner's Office used two different systems to track data. The Passport System was replaced by the LabLynx System in August 2014. There is a small discrepancy of deaths due to the migration of data. Reports have been reconciled and all efforts made to maintain accuracy.

GRAPH 13:
MANNER OF DEATH BY RACE OF DECEDENTS

Manner of Death
All Cook County Deaths

Suicide 1.2%
Accident 3.9%
Homicide 1.4%
Unknown 0.4%
Natural 93.2%

Manner of Death
White

Suicide 1.3%
Accident 3.5%
Homicide 0.2%
Unknown 0.2%
Natural 94.8%

Manner of Death
Black

Suicide 0.5%
Accident 4.0%
Homicide 3.5%
Unknown 0.6%
Natural 91.4%

Manner of Death
Latino

Suicide 2.0%
Accident 6.6%
Homicide 2.6%
Unknown 0.8%
Natural 88.1%

Manner of Death
Other

Suicide 1.8%
Accident 2.5%
Homicide 0.7%
Unknown 0.3%
Natural 94.7%

	Natural	Accident	Suicide	Homicide	Unknown	Total	% of Total
White	22,607	832	313	40	51	23,843	58.9%
Black	10,956	474	64	422	70	11,986	29.6%
Latino	2,949	220	66	88	26	3,349	8.3%
Other	1,235	33	23	9	4	1,304	3.2%
Total	37,747	1,559	466	559	151	40,482	100.0%

* Data provided by Illinois Department of Public Health. The data shows there were a total of 40,482 deaths that occurred in Cook County in 2014. The Medical Examiner's Office processed 5,504 of these cases.

GRAPH 14:
RACE BY MANNER OF DEATH
OF DECEDENTS

All Deaths by Race of Decedents
All Cook County Deaths

Latino 8.3%
Black 29.6%
White 58.9%

Homicides
by Race of Decedents

Other 1.6%
White 7.2%
Latino 15.7%
Black 75.5%

Suicides
by Race of Decedents

Other 4.9%
Latino 14.2%
Black 13.7%
White 67.2%
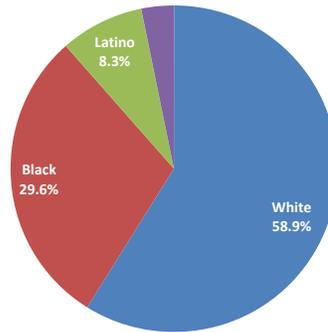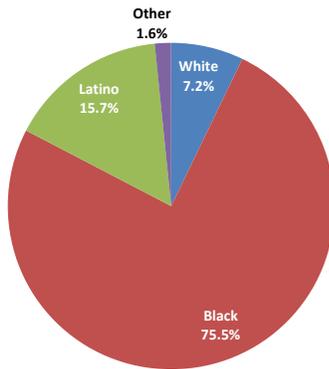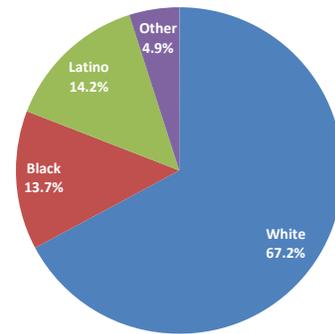
Accidents
by Race of Decedents

Other 2.1%
Latino 14.1%
Black 30.4%
White 53.4%
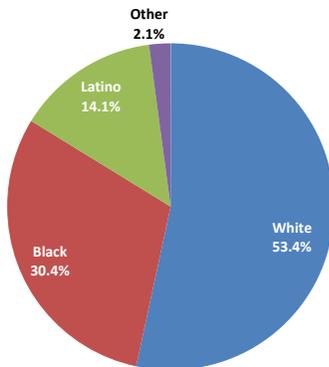
Natural Deaths
by Race of Decedents

Other 3.3%
Latino 7.8%
Black 29.0%
White 59.9%

	Natural	Accident	Suicide	Homicide	Unknown	Total	% of Total
White	22,607	832	313	40	51	23,843	58.9%
Black	10,956	474	64	422	70	11,986	29.6%
Latino	2,949	220	66	88	26	3,349	8.3%
Other	1,235	33	23	9	4	1,304	3.2%
Total	37,747	1,559	466	559	151	40,482	100.0%

* Data provided by Illinois Department of Public Health. The data shows there were a total of 40,482 deaths
that occurred in Cook County in 2014. The Medical Examiner's Office processed 5,504 of these cases.

GRAPH 15:
MANNER OF DEATH BY GENDER OF DECEDENTS
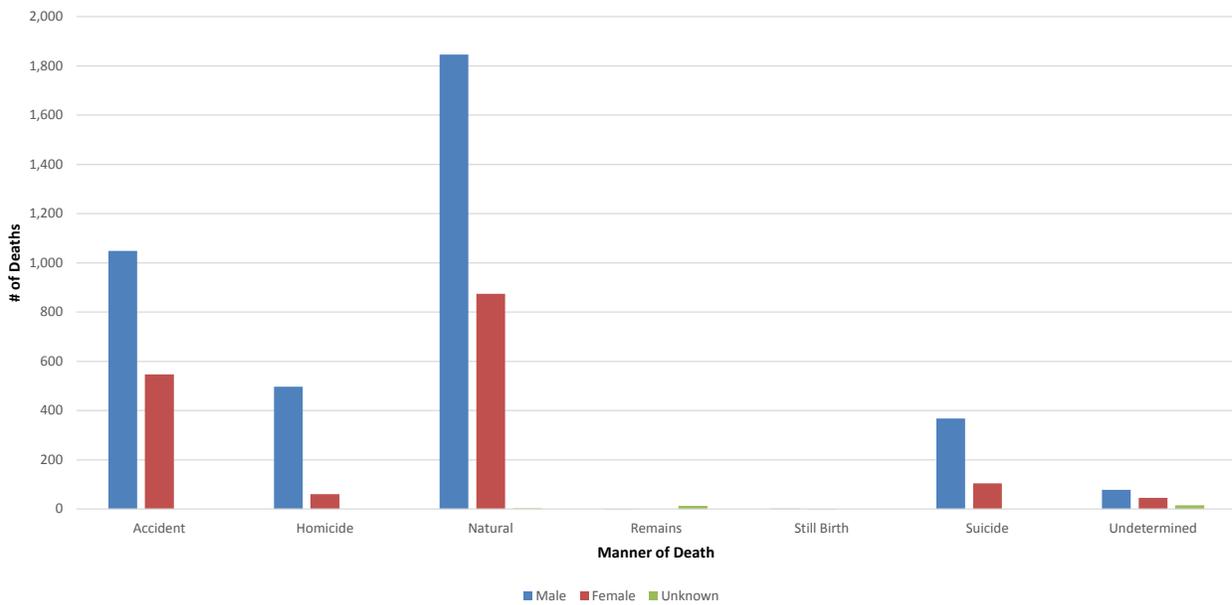
Manner of Death	Male	Female	Unknown	Total	% of Total
Accident	1,049	547	0	1,596	29.0%
Homicide	497	61	0	558	10.1%
Natural	1,846	874	3	2,723	49.5%
Remains	1	0	13	14	0.3%
Still Birth	2	1	0	3	0.1%
Suicide	368	104	0	472	8.6%
Undetermined	78	45	15	138	2.5%
Total	**3,841**	**1,632**	**31**	**5,504**	**100.0%**

* In 2014, the Medical Examiner's Office used two different systems to track data. The Passport System was replaced by the LabLynx System in August 2014. There is a small discrepancy of deaths due to the migration of data. Reports have been reconciled and all efforts made to maintain accuracy.

GRAPH 16:
HOMICIDES BY GENDER
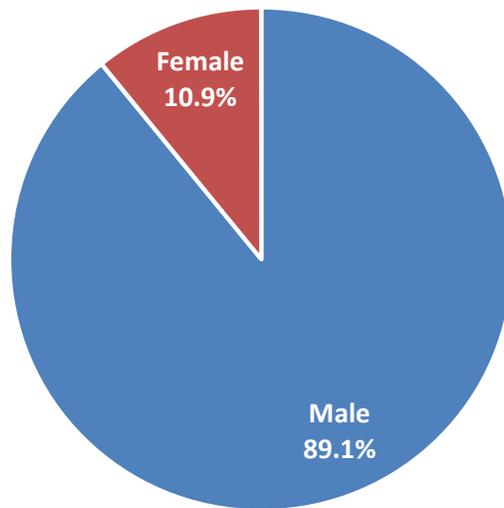
Female
10.9%

Male
89.1%

	# of Homicides
Male	498
Female	61
Total	**559**

* In 2014, the Medical Examiner's Office used two different systems to track data. The Passport System was replaced by the LabLynx System in August 2014. There is a small discrepancy of deaths due to the migration of data. Reports have been reconciled and all efforts made to maintain accuracy.

GRAPH 17:
HOMICIDES

Graph 17a: Homicides by Age

Age	Frequency
Under 1	4
01 - 04	7
05 - 09	4
10 - 14	8
15 - 19	118
20 - 24	130
25 - 29	76
30 - 34	69
35 - 39	37
40 - 44	23
45 - 49	18
50 - 54	27
55 - 59	15
60 - 64	9
65 - 69	4
70 - 74	1
75 - 79	1
80 - 84	1
85 +	3
Unknown	1
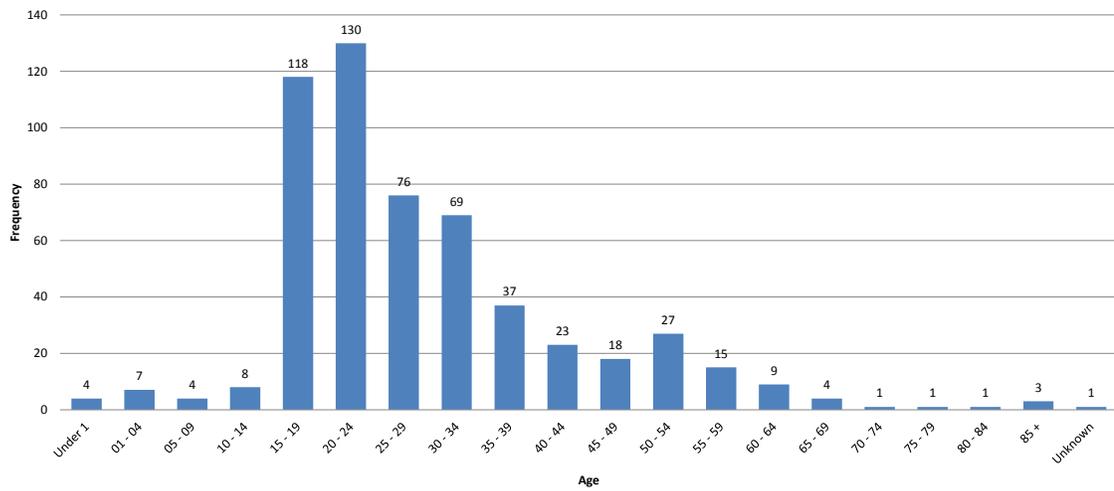
Graph 17b: Homicides by Race and Age
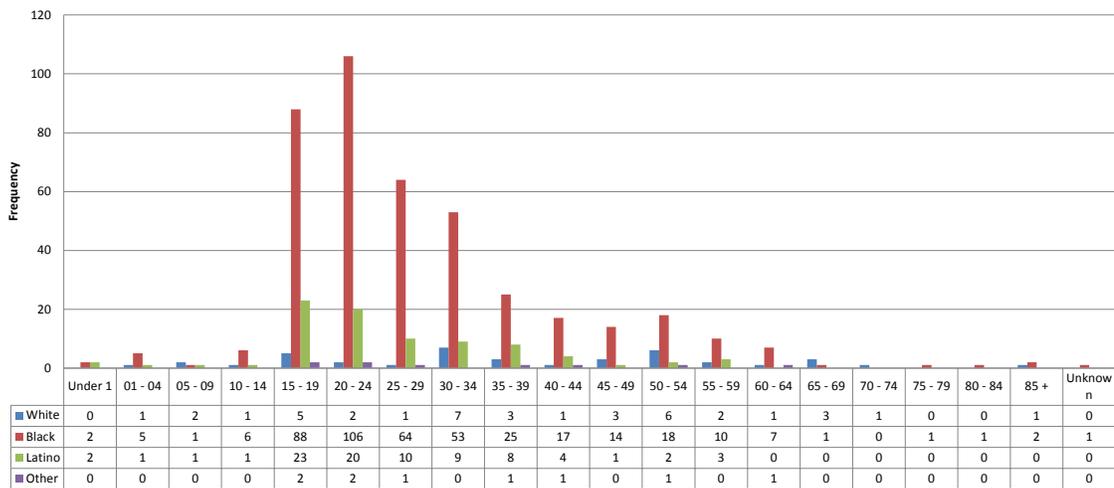
	Under 1	01 - 04	05 - 09	10 - 14	15 - 19	20 - 24	25 - 29	30 - 34	35 - 39	40 - 44	45 - 49	50 - 54	55 - 59	60 - 64	65 - 69	70 - 74	75 - 79	80 - 84	85 +	Unknown
White	0	1	2	1	5	2	1	7	3	1	3	6	2	1	3	1	0	0	1	0
Black	2	5	1	6	88	106	64	53	25	17	14	18	10	7	1	0	1	1	2	1
Latino	2	1	1	1	23	20	10	9	8	4	1	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

* In 2014, the Medical Examiner's Office used two different systems to track data. The Passport System was replaced by the LabLynx System in August 2014. There is a small discrepancy of deaths due to the migration of data. Reports have been reconciled and all efforts made to maintain accuracy.

Graph 17c: Homicides by Gender and Age
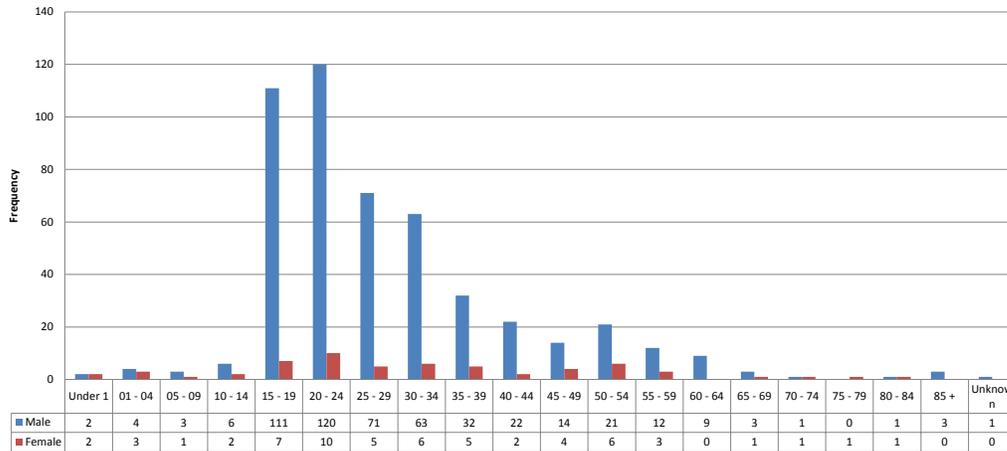
	Under 1	01 - 04	05 - 09	10 - 14	15 - 19	20 - 24	25 - 29	30 - 34	35 - 39	40 - 44	45 - 49	50 - 54	55 - 59	60 - 64	65 - 69	70 - 74	75 - 79	80 - 84	85 +	Unknown
Male	2	4	3	6	111	120	71	63	32	22	14	21	12	9	3	1	0	1	3	1
Female	2	3	1	2	7	10	5	6	5	2	4	6	3	0	1	1	1	1	0	0

* In 2014, the Medical Examiner's Office used two different systems to track data. The Passport System was replaced by the LabLynx System in August 2014. There is a small discrepancy of deaths due to the migration of data. Reports have been reconciled and all efforts made to maintain accuracy.

HOMICIDE HOTSPOTS
(DATA FROM 8/1/2014 TO 12/31/2014)
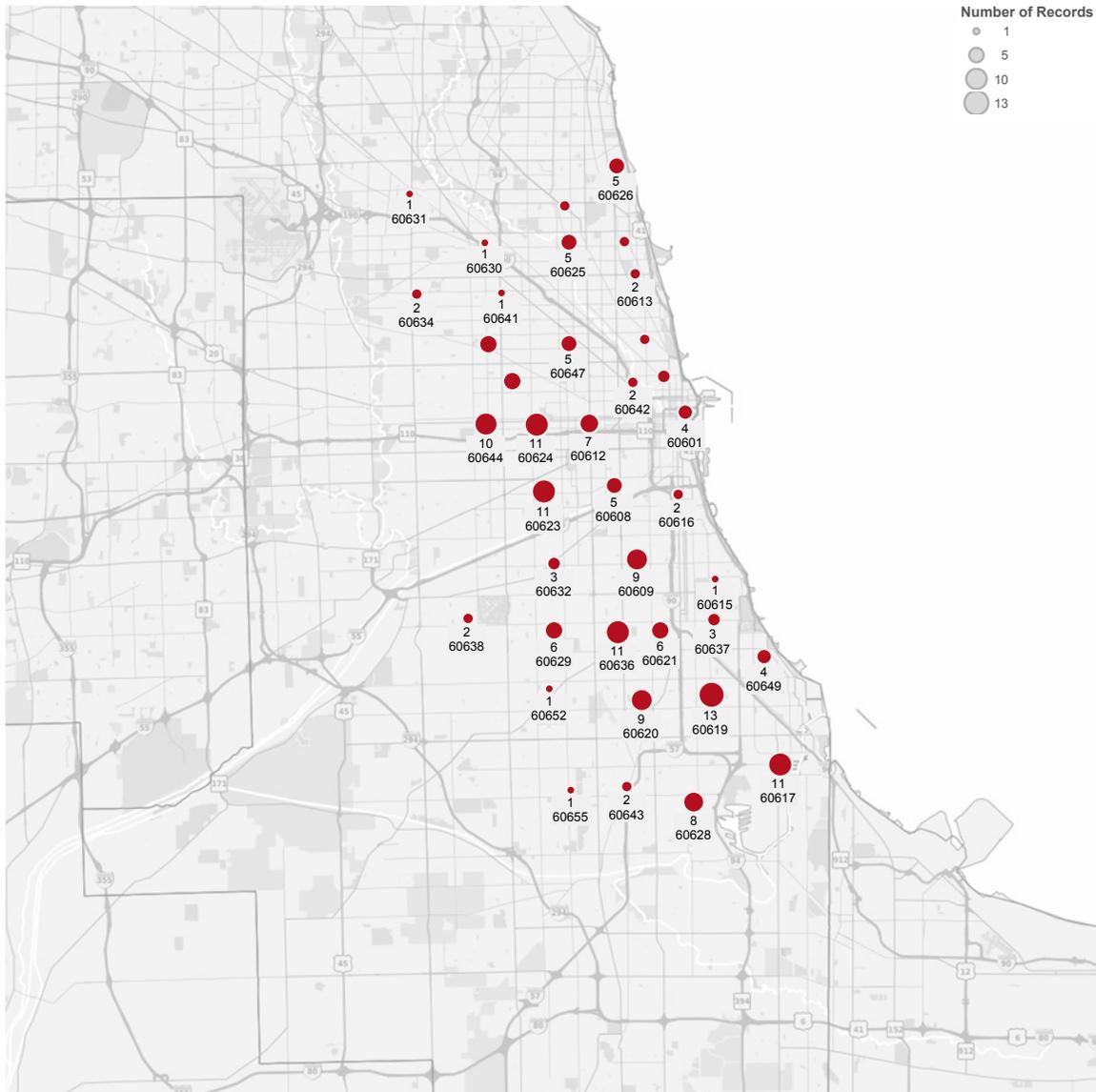
Map based on Longitude (generated) and Latitude (generated). Size shows sum of Number of Records. The marks are labeled by sum of Number of Records and INCIDENTZIP. The data is filtered on INCIDENT_DATE and MANNERNAME. The INCIDENT_DATE filter ranges from 8/1/2014 1:00:00 AM to 12/31/2014 11:59:00 PM. The MANNERNAME filter keeps HOMICIDE. The view is filtered on INCIDENTZIP, which keeps 38 members.

MAP 2:
HOMICIDE BY ZIP CODE
(DATA FROM 8/1/2014 TO 12/31/2014)
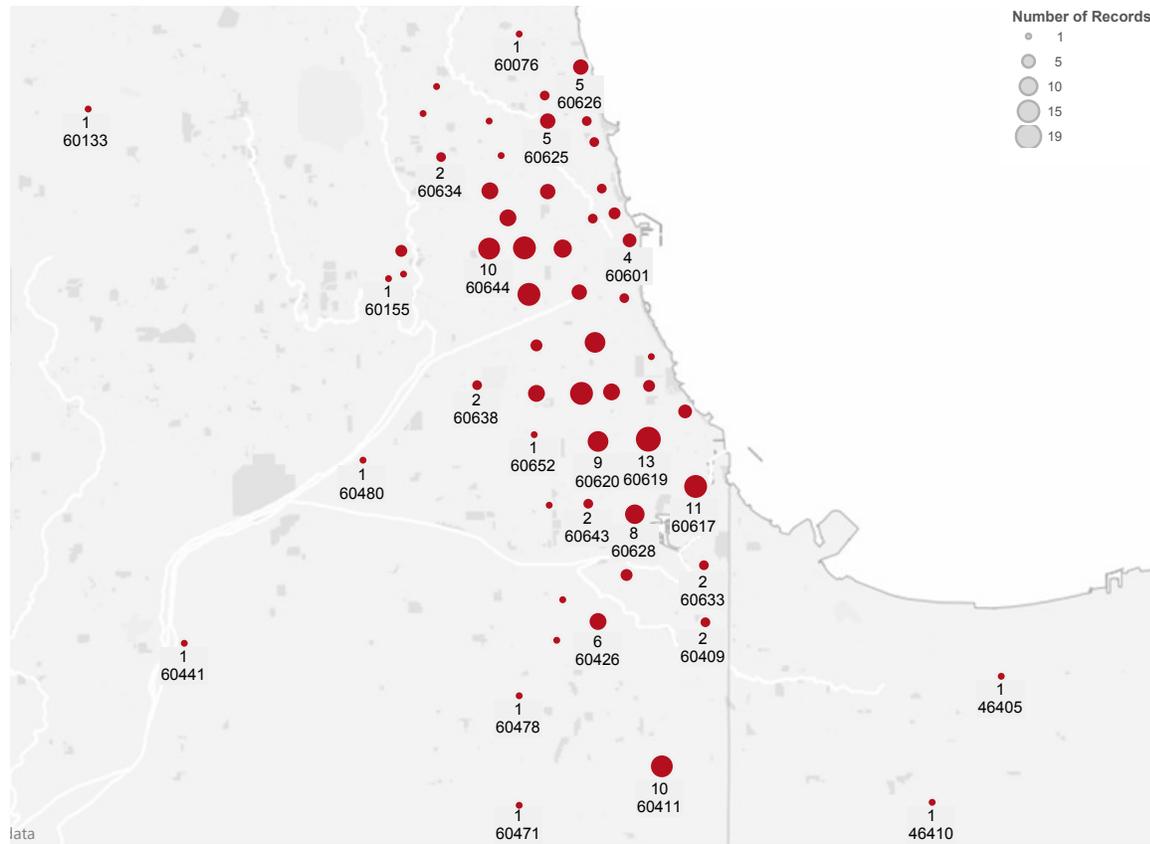
Map based on Longitude (generated) and Latitude (generated). Size shows sum of Number of Records. The marks are labeled by sum of Number of Records and INCIDENTZIP. The data is filtered on INCIDENT_DATE and MANNERNAME. The INCIDENT_DATE filter ranges from 8/1/2014 1:00:00 AM to 12/31/2014 11:59:00 PM. The MANNERNAME filter keeps HOMICIDE.

MAP 3:
HEROIN HOTSPOTS
(DATA FROM 8/1/2014 TO 12/31/2014)
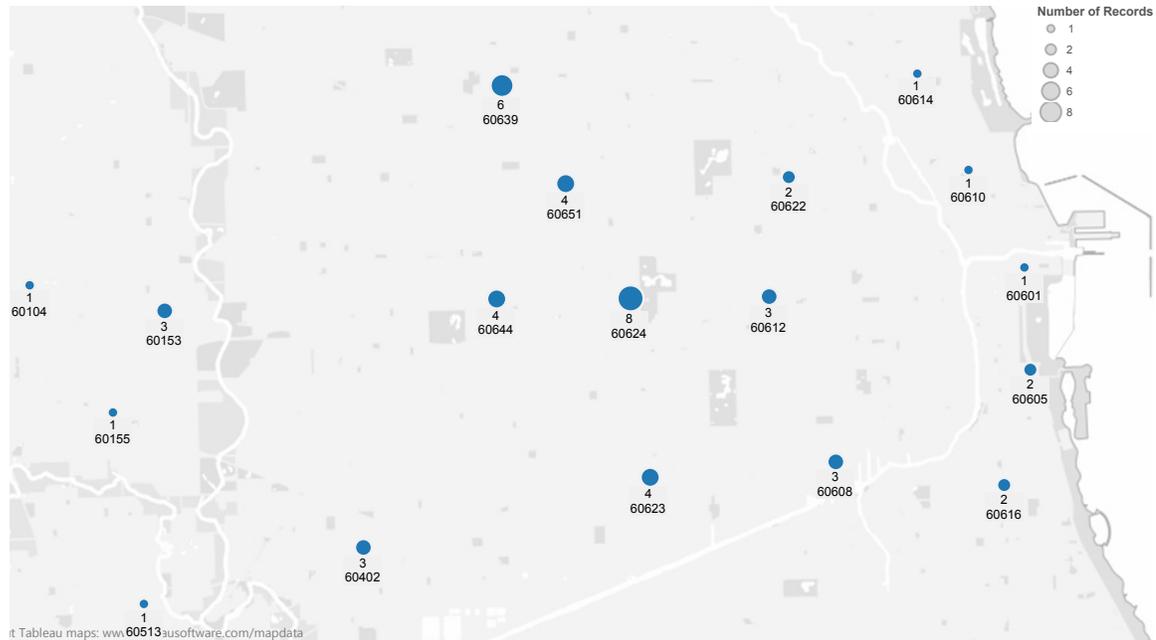
Map based on Longitude (generated) and Latitude (generated). Size shows sum of Number of Records. The marks are labeled by sum of Number of Records and INCIDENTZIP. The data is filtered on INCIDENT_DATE and CAUSE_COMBINED. The INCIDENT_DATE filter ranges from 8/1/2014 12:00:00 AM to 12/31/2015 12:00:00 AM. The CAUSE_COMBINED filter has multiple members selected.

MAP 4:
HEROIN DEATHS BY ZIP CODE
(DATA FROM 8/1/2014 TO 12/31/2014)
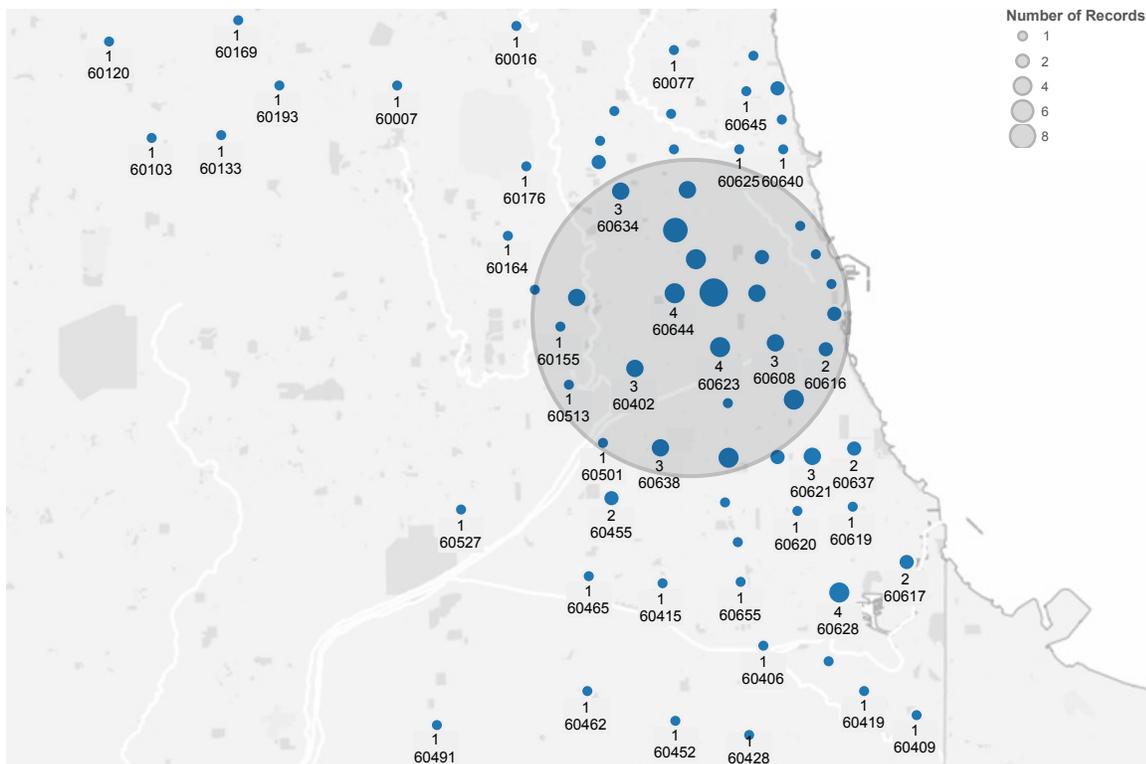
Map based on Longitude (generated) and Latitude (generated). Size shows sum of Number of Records. The marks are labeled by sum of Number of Records and INCIDENTZIP. The data is filtered on INCIDENT_DATE and CAUSE_COMBINED. The INCIDENT_DATE filter ranges from 8/1/2014 12:00:00 AM to 12/31/2015 12:00:00 AM. The CAUSE_COMBINED filter has multiple members selected.

MAP 5:
COLD DEATHS
(DATA FROM 8/1/2014 TO 1/1/2015)
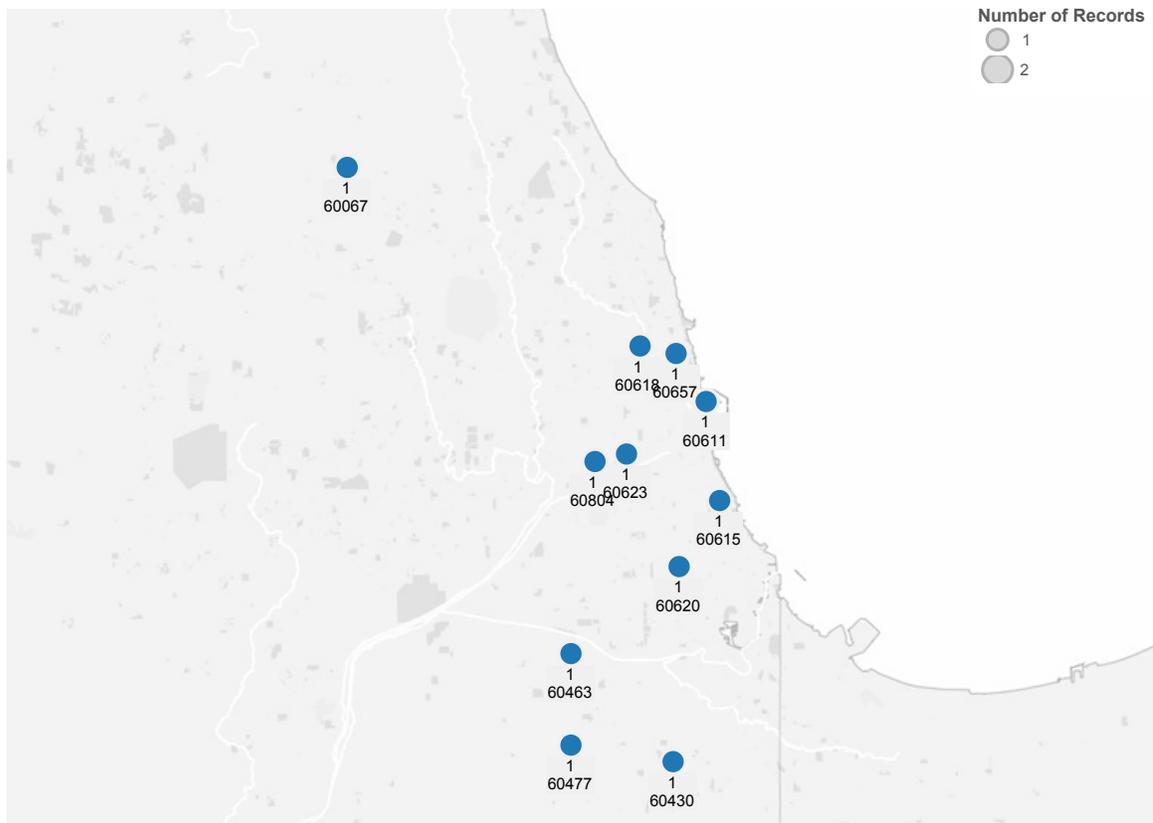
Number of Records
○ 1
○ 2

1
60067

1
60618

1
60657

1
60611

1
60804

1
60623

1
60615

1
60620

1
60463

1
60477

1
60430

Map based on Longitude (generated) and Latitude (generated). Size shows sum of Number of Records. The marks are labeled by sum of Number of Records and INCIDENTZIP. The data is filtered on INCIDENT_DATE and coldrelated. The INCIDENT_DATE filter ranges from 8/1/2014 12:39:00 AM to 1/1/2015 10:20:00 AM. The coldrelated filter keeps True.

INFANT DEATHS HOTSPOTS
(DATA FROM 8/1/2014 TO 12/31/2014)
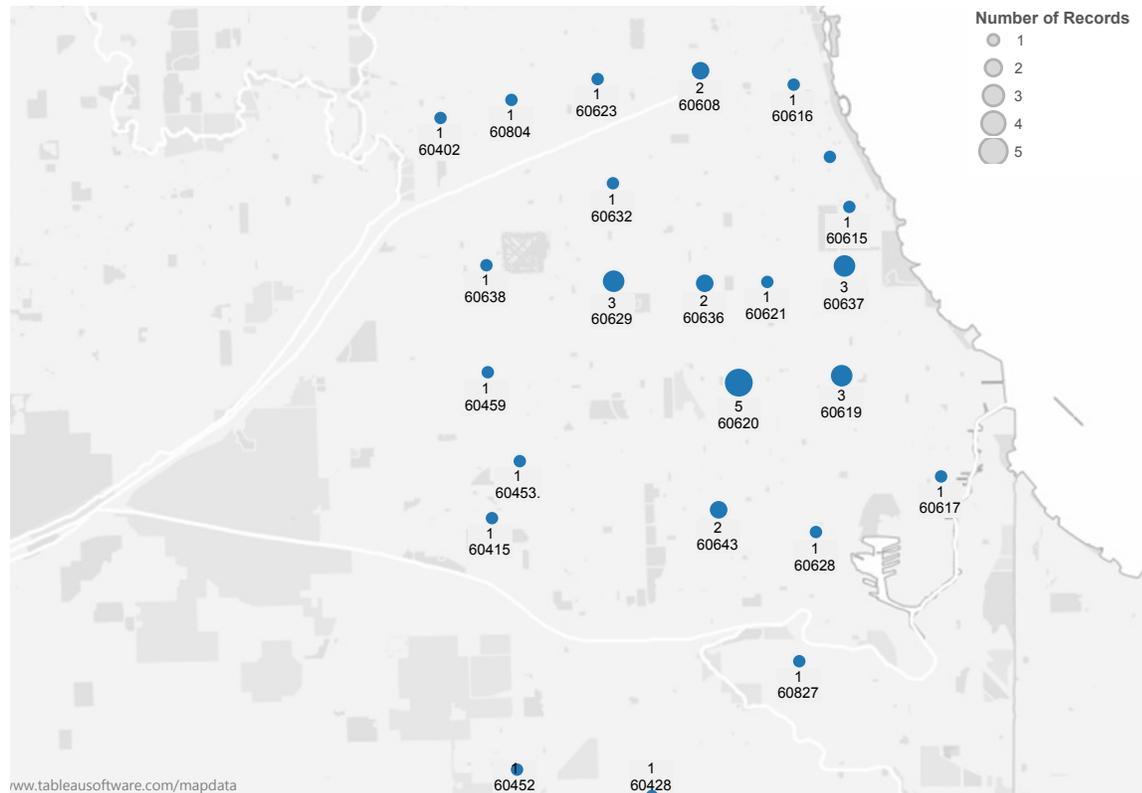
Map based on Longitude (generated) and Latitude (generated). Size shows sum of Number of Records. The marks are labeled by sum of Number of Records and INCIDENTZIP. The data is filtered on INCIDENT_DATE and CASEPLAYERAGE. The INCIDENT_DATE filter ranges from 8/1/2014 12:39:00 AM to 12/31/2015 10:20:00 AM. The CASEPLAYERAGE filter ranges from 0 to 0

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