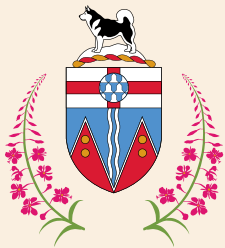


Yukon  
Coroner's  
Service

2024-2025

# Annual Report



## Yukon Coroner's Service

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**Yukon Coroner's Service**

Regulatory Services

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Any questions can be directed to the Yukon Coroner's Service.

Dear Minister Lang,

Pursuant to Section 4(d) of the Coroners Act, it is my privilege to submit and provide public access to the first Annual Report of the Chief Coroner for the period of April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025.

In addition, I have completed general data going back to 2000 and compiled case data information for the reporting years of 2021, 2022 and 2023.

Sincerely,

**Heather P. Jones**  
Chief Coroner  
Yukon Territory



## Contents

Published by	2
Mandate	4
Historical background	4
General notification requirement	5
Manner of death	6
Investigative capacity of Coroner Services	6
Inquests	7
Summary	8
Statistical summary of investigated deaths: 2024-2025	9
APPENDIX A: Annual reporting 2000-2025	13
APPENDIX B: General date 2000-2017	15
APPENDIX C: Specific data tables 2000-2017	15
APPENDIX D: April 1, 2021-March 31, 2022	21
APPENDIX E: April 1, 2022-March 31, 2023	26
APPENDIX F: April 1, 2023-March 31, 2024	31
APPENDIX G: Drug toxicity death 2016-2015	35

## Mandate

Yukon Coroner's Service (YCS) is an independent and publicly accountable investigation of death agency. YCS is mandated by legislation to review all sudden, unexpected or questionable deaths occurring in the Yukon. We are a fact-finding service mandated to serve the deceased, the families of the deceased and society as a whole.

## Historical background

The office of the coroner is one of the oldest institutions known to English law. The role of the coroner in England has been noted in references dating back to the time of the Saxon King Alfred in 925 A.D, but the evolution of the office is more evident after the Norman Conquest, when the coroner played an important role in the administration of justice. It is generally accepted that the office was not regularly instituted until the end of the 12th century. One of the first statutes concerning coroners was the Statute of Westminster of 1276. The title of the office has varied from "coronator" during the time of King John to "crownor", a term still used occasionally in Scotland.

One of the early functions of the office was to enquire into sudden and unexpected deaths. It was the duty of the coroner to establish the facts relating to the death. This function of the office of coroner was modified throughout the years and is the basis for all coroner systems. The rapid industrialization of the 19th century and the associated increase in workplace accidents led to demands that the coroner also serve a preventative function. This also remains an important responsibility of the coroner service.

There are two death investigation systems in Canada:

- the coroner system; and
- the medical examiner system.

Currently the Yukon, Northwest Territories, Nunavut, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island operate under coroner systems. Alberta, Manitoba, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland provide services under medical examiner systems. The coroner and the medical examiner both collect medical and other evidence to determine the cause and manner of death. Both systems also hold investigative, administrative and preventative responsibilities. The coroner system differs only in its judicial responsibilities.

In the next 750 years since the first statutes concerning the responsibilities of a coroner, the basic questions to be addressed by the service remain:

- Who was the deceased?
- How, when, where and by what means did the person die?

Yukon Coroner's Service (YCS) provides a multi-disciplinary approach to the investigation of death which protects the civil rights of all persons who may have had some connection with the death of the deceased. The coroner receives the information from a variety of sources before examining the investigative material, determining facts, and coming to a decision concerning the death of an individual. The coroner can also make recommendations that may prevent similar deaths.

In the Yukon, YCS is an independent office that operates within the budget approved by the Department of Justice. Financial details are available through government reporting documents.

The chief coroner's office is located in Whitehorse and currently there are 20 appointed investigating coroners throughout the Yukon who graciously give of their time to provide services in the communities in which they reside. All investigating coroners are appointed by the Commissioner in Executive Council (Order-in-Council) and serve indefinite terms.

## General notification requirement

Legislation indicates that the following circumstances of death must be reported to YCS:

- Resulting from violence, negligence, malpractice, misconduct or accident.
- Resulting from self-inflicted injury.
- Sudden and unexpected when the person appeared to be in good health.
- From a cause other than disease or sickness.
- From disease or sickness for which the person was not being treated by a medical practitioner.
- In circumstances following which the body is not available because:
  - it has been destroyed;
  - it is in a place from which it cannot be recovered; or
  - it cannot be located.
- Under any other circumstances that warrant an investigation.

YCS is responsible for the investigation of all reported deaths in order to determine the identity of the deceased and the facts as to how, when, where and by what means the deceased came to their death. The system, therefore, is a vital part of public safety in initially determining whether such reported deaths are due to natural causes, accident, suicide or homicide.

Of importance, new in the 2021 legislation are sections 24 and 34:

- Section 24 indicates that the chief coroner may investigate a death that occurred outside of the Yukon if the facts and circumstances related to the death:
  - a) have a substantial connection to the Yukon; and
  - b) are such that, had the death occurred in the Yukon, it would have been a death of which notification was required
- Section 34 directs a coroner to refrain or stop investigating the death if before or during their investigation it becomes evident that notification is (or was) not required.

## Manner of death

The coroner or an inquest jury determines the cause and manner of death. All deaths investigated by YCS are classified in one of five distinct categories: natural, accidental, suicide, homicide or undetermined.

- **Natural:** a death due primarily from disease of the body or age alone, and not due to, or accelerated by, injuries or unusual environmental factors. This includes known complications due to disease or treatment for a disease.
- **Accidental:** an unforeseen death that results from an unintentional or unexpected occurrence, incident or event. It includes death due to complications reasonably attributed to the accident. An accidental death is caused by an external factor, where death or harm was not foreseen or expected.
- **Suicide:** is a death resulting from self-inflicted injury with the intent to cause death. A death is classified as a suicide if there is clear evidence that the person intended to die **and** that the person understood the consequences of their actions at the time of the self-inflicted injury.
- **Homicide:** a death due to an intentional action by another person that is intended to cause harm. It is a neutral term that does not assign fault or blame in the way we might understand it in the criminal law sense.
- **Undetermined:** a death that cannot reasonably be classified as natural, accidental, suicide or homicide due to insufficient evidence or inability to otherwise determine. This classification is appropriate where there is equal evidence for two or more classifications. This classification is only to be used as a last resort.

## Investigative capacity of Coroner Services

For investigative purposes under the Coroners Act, YCS has available on request the assistance of the RCMP acting within their respective detachment jurisdictions or specialties. Should a case be investigated under the *Criminal Code*, YCS provides assistance and resources to RCMP. Also available to YCS are the services of forensic pathologists and through the Provincial Toxicology Centre in Vancouver. Where circumstances warrant, further specialized expertise may be provided by classes of [other] persons prescribed<sup>1</sup>:

- nurses
- dentists
- forensic dentists
- phlebotomists
- DNA analysis
- forensic anthropologists

Of note, and of great pride to YCS, is that since 2017 we have had the services of a local dentist who became forensically trained to provide forensic dental analysis here in the Yukon.

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<sup>1</sup> section 6 of Coroners Regulations

## Inquests

One of the most difficult decisions the chief coroner has to make is whether or not to hold an inquest. An inquest is a formal court proceeding that allows for the public presentation of all evidence relating to a death.

Actions during an inquest are guided by the Coroners Act. A presiding coroner is appointed from a list compiled by the Minister of Justice<sup>1</sup> and a six-person jury hears the facts of the case. An inquest does not make any finding of legal responsibility, nor does it assign blame. It has the effect of drawing public attention to the many contributing causes of sudden and unexpected deaths. It is expected that the inquest's jury will make recommendations directed toward avoiding deaths in similar circumstances. The chief coroner is then responsible for bringing the findings and recommendations arising out of an inquest to the attention of appropriate persons, agencies and government departments.

The chief coroner will make the determination to hold an inquest<sup>2</sup> in considering the following:

- Whether the identity of the deceased, when and where they died and the cause, manner and circumstances of the death are known.
- Whether the public have an interest in being informed of the circumstances surrounding the death and whether an inquest would serve that purpose.
- Whether an inquest would bring dangerous practices or conditions to the knowledge of the public.
- Whether an inquest would lead to recommendations to avoid preventable deaths.

In the Yukon, all deaths occurring “while detained or in custody in a correctional centre, in a place of temporary detention or in a youth custody facility; or while detained by or in the custody of a peace officer” leads to a mandatory inquest<sup>3</sup>.

Further, the family member of deceased person or another interested person may make a formal request that the Minister of Justice direct that an inquest be held<sup>4</sup>.

From 2023 until 2025, there have been six inquests conducted. You can view inquest details, jury recommendations and the Chief Coroner responses to the recommendations at [yukoncoronerservice.ca/inquests](https://yukoncoronerservice.ca/inquests).

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<sup>1</sup> Section 10, Coroner's Act

<sup>2</sup> Section 40, Coroner's Act

<sup>3</sup> Section 41, Coroner's Act

<sup>4</sup> Section 43, Coroner's Act

## Summary

The Yukon Territory has a population of approximately 47,170 (Yukon Bureau of Statistics March 31, 2025), more than half of which lives in Whitehorse. The remainder of the populace is scattered in various communities through the 483,000 square kilometres of the Territory.

YCS investigates about 33 per cent of the total of all deaths occurring in the Yukon Territory. A high percentage of the investigated deaths are determined to be from natural causes. In almost half of the cases, the coroner orders autopsies and toxicology requests for approximately 68 per cent of cases, and inquests are ordered in slightly less than one per cent of all investigated deaths. This is consistent with what is seen in other jurisdictions across Canada.

Appreciation is expressed to all law enforcement agencies and to all other related agencies who have, through the years, co-operated and assisted in the investigations which have been processed through YCS. Also, deep gratitude is expressed to all investigating coroners who have shown, without fail, a high level of dedication and professionalism, frequently under challenging circumstances and adverse conditions.

The information provided in this annual report is presented for the fiscal year 2024–25 with the addition of annual reporting since the Coroners Act came into force in August 2021.

Further, a general historical statistical context is provided from April 1, 2000. The data from April 1, 2000 to March 31, 2017 was only held in handwritten ledgers created by YCS. In April of 2017, a basic data collection digital system was created for better management. A full data management system is yet to be part of YCS assets. However, given the value of the information held by this office, a system capable of full analysis will enhance the interpretation of reportable deaths and the many ways these impact the well-being of all Yukoners.

In 2016, the province of British Columbia declared a public health emergency due to opioid related deaths. Shortly after, Yukon Coroner's Service investigated its first opioid-related death, and by then a national crisis had been identified.

Yukon tracks the data for all deaths by location (Whitehorse and other Yukon community), gender and age. Substance use deaths also track ethnicity (First Nation or other) and represents the Yukon's contribution to national data-sharing.

Appendix G provides interpretation of the deaths due to toxic substances. The data represents what the Yukon has submitted on the national front, since the 2016 opioid crisis was declared. This data is separately presented in calendar years to coincide with statistical reporting by other coroners and medical examiners across Canada. This facilitates data sharing and comparison with other provincial, territorial and federal government agencies.

## Statistical summary of investigated deaths: 2024-2025

### Manner of death, autopsies and toxicology

Manner of death	Investigations <sup>1</sup>	%	Autopsies	Toxicology
Natural	51	47.7	17	22
Accidental	45	42.1	35	42
Suicide	8	7.5	4	8
Homicide	1	0.9	1	1
Undetermined	1	0.9	-	1
Section 34	1	0.9	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>74</b>

<sup>1</sup> S.34 of the Coroners Act requires that an investigation be ended if during the investigation the coroner determines that the death is not one for which the coroner should have been notified.

### Deaths by month

April	7
May	7
June	11
July	5
August	16
September	11
October	12
November	10
December	7
January	9
February	7
March	5

### Deaths by community

	Natural	Accidental	Suicide	Homicide	Undetermined	Section 34	Total
Whitehorse	32	30	4	1	-	1	68
Other Yukon communities	19	15	4		1		39
<b>Total</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>107</b>

**Natural deaths by age and gender**

Age group	Male	Female	Total
0-9	-	-	-
10-19	-	-	-
20-29	1	-	1
30-39	-	1	1
40-49	1	-	1
50-59	8	-	8
60-69	11	5	16
70-79	12	4	16
80+	7	1	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>51</b>

**Natural deaths by cause and gender**

	Male	Female	Total
Aortic dissection	1	-	1
Cardiovascular disease	20	4	24
Cancer	2	-	2
Diabetes	2	-	2
Deep vein thrombosis	-	1	1
Pulmonary disease	11	5	16
Renal disease	1	-	1
<b>Substance use</b>			
Alcohol	2	-	2
<b>Other</b>	1	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>51</b>

**Accidental deaths by age and gender**

Age group	Male	Female	Total
0-9	2	1	3
10-19	-	-	-
20-29	3	4	7
30-39	4	1	5
40-49	8	4	12
50-59	8	1	9
60-69	4	2	6
70-79	2	1	3
80+	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>45</b>

**Accidental deaths by cause and gender**

	Male	Female	Total
<b>Asphyxia</b>			
MVI <sup>1</sup> -driver	-	1	1
Unsafe sleep	-	1	1
<b>Blunt force injury</b>			
MVI-driver	3	2	5
MVI-passenger		1	1
MVI-bicycle	1	-	1
MVI-animal	1	-	1
ATV/Skidoo	1	-	1
MVI-aviation-passenger	1	-	1
Fall	1	1	2
<b>Drowning</b>	1	-	1
MVI-driver	1	-	1
MVI-passenger	2	1	3
<b>Hypothermia</b>	4	1	5
<b>Smoke inhalation</b>	1	-	1
<b>Substance use</b>			
Alcohol	1	-	1
Drugs	11	3	14
Drugs and alcohol	2	3	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>45</b>

<sup>1</sup> Motor Vehicle Incident

**Suicide deaths by age and gender**

Age group	Male	Female	Total
0-9	-	-	-
10-19	-	1	1
20-29	1	-	1
30-39	3	-	3
40-49	1	-	1
50-59	-	1	1
60-69	-	-	-
70-79	1	-	1
80+	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>

**Homicide deaths by age and gender**

Age group	Male	Female	Total
0-9	-	-	-
10-19	1	-	-
20-29	-	-	-
30-39	-	-	-
40-49	-	-	-
50-59	-	-	-
60-69	-	-	-
70-79	-	-	-
80+	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>

**Homicide deaths by cause and gender**

	Male	Female	Total
Pending	1	-	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>

**Undetermined manner of death by age and gender**

Age group	Male	Female	Total
0-9	-	-	-
10-19	-	-	-
20-29	-	-	-
30-39	-	-	-
40-49	-	-	-
50-59	-	-	-
60-69	-	-	-
70-79	1	-	-
80+	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>

**Suicide deaths by cause and gender**

	Male	Female	Total
<b>Asphyxia</b>			
Hanging	3	1	4
Inhalation of toxic substance	1	-	1
<b>Drug toxicity</b>	1	1	2
<b>Gunshot wound</b>	1	-	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>

## APPENDIX A

### Annual Reporting: 2000-2025

Investigations of deaths occurring in the territory by Coroner's Service		Total deaths in the Yukon	Yukon population June 30 <sup>1</sup>	Whitehorse population June 30 <sup>1</sup>	Percentage of Yukon deaths reportable
April 1 - March 31					
2000-2001	53	140	30,776	22,738	38%
2001-2002	51	129	30,272	22,476	40%
2002-2003	51	151	30,063	22,192	34%
2003-2004	58	145	29,967	22,213	40%
2004-2005	44	150	30,627	22,795	29%
2005-2006	54	161	31,240	23,267	34%
2006-2007	53	185	31,803	23,751	29%
2007-2008	56	172	32,276	24,124	33%
2008-2009	50	187	33,378	24,969	27%
2009-2010	52	198	34,124	25,618	26%
2010-2011	51	170	34,667	26,304	30%
2011-2012	59	199	35,246	26,780	30%
2012-2013	73	204	35,862	27,323	36%

<sup>1</sup> from Yukon Statistical Review 2002 to Yukon Statistical Review 2023

<b>Investigations of deaths occurring in the territory by Coroner's Service</b>		<b>Total deaths in the Yukon</b>	<b>Yukon population June 30<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Whitehorse population June 30<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Percentage of Yukon deaths reportable</b>
<b>April 1 - March 31</b>					
<b>2013-2014</b>	<b>71</b>	200	36,526	27,889	36%
<b>2014-2015</b>	<b>56</b>	198	36,667	27,962	28%
<b>2015-2016</b>	<b>62</b>	204	37,343	28,872	30%
<b>2016-2017</b>	<b>92</b>	229	37,858	29,258	40%
<b>2017-2018</b>	<b>78</b>	226	38,455	29,758	35%
<b>2018-2019</b>	<b>81</b>	250	40,643	31,687	32%
<b>2019-2020</b>	<b>90</b>	265	41,436	32,342	33%
<b>2020-2021</b>	<b>100</b>	278	42,230	33,033	36%
<b>2021-2022</b>	<b>115</b>	355	42,985	33,752	32%
<b>2022-2023</b>	<b>93</b>	295	43,995	34,995	32%
<b>2023-2024</b>	<b>98</b>	307	45,187	35,766	32%
<b>2024-2025</b>	<b>107</b>	315	47,170*	37,740*	34%

\* to March 30, 2025

## APPENDIX B

General data from April 1, 2000 – March 31, 2017

Manner of death	Investigations	%	Autopsies	Toxicology
Natural	525	53.4	234 (46%)	261 (48%)
Accidental	311	31.6	197 (63%)	277 (89%)
Suicide	92	9.4	24 (26%)	62 (67%)
Homicide	25	2.5	25 (100%)	25 (100%)
Undetermined	30	3.1	30 (100%)	28 (93%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>983</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>510 (52%)</b>	<b>653 (66%)</b>

## APPENDIX C

Specific data from April 1, 2017 – March 31, 2021

Manner of death	Investigations	%	Autopsies	Toxicology
Natural	196	56.2	74 (38%)	105 (54%)
Accidental	91	26.1	51 (56%)	86 (94%)
Suicide	36	10.2	4 (11%)	25 (69%)
Homicide	15	4.3	15 (100%)	15 (100%)
Undetermined	11	3.2	11 (100%)	9 (82%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>155 (44%)</b>	<b>240 (69%)</b>

### Deaths by month

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	Total
April	8	8	10	7	33
May	13	5	8	9	35
June	6	8	2	11	27
July	7	6	9	15	37
August	3	3	8	8	22
September	8	7	8	3	26
October	5	5	12	5	27
November	6	10	8	5	29
December	6	10	9	8	33
January	3	4	4	14	25
February	9	8	6	8	31
March	4	7	6	7	24
<b>Total</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>349</b>

### All deaths by age group

Age group	Male	Female	Totals
0-9	4	3	7
10-19	4	4	8
20-29	19	17	36
30-39	25	12	37
40-49	28	9	37
50-59	70	14	84
60-69	46	14	60
70-79	39	21	60
80+	12	8	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>349</b>

### Deaths by community

Community	Natural	Accidental	Suicide	Homicide	Undetermined	Total
Whitehorse	131	62	23	10	9	235
Other Yukon communities	65	29	13	5	2	114
<b>Total</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>349</b>

**Natural deaths by age and gender**

Age group	Male	Female	Total
0-9	-	-	-
10-19	-	-	-
20-29	2	1	3
30-39	5	1	6
40-49	12	4	16
50-59	47	8	55
60-69	32	12	44
70-79	37	17	54
80+	10	8	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>196</b>

**Natural deaths by cause and gender**

	Male	Female	Total
Cardiovascular disease/related	77	24	101
Pulmonary disease/illness	23	10	33
<b>Substance use</b>			
Alcohol	22	9	31
<b>Other</b>			
Abdominal aneurysm	2	1	3
Anemia	1	-	1
Appendicitis	1	-	1
Brain hemorrhage	3	1	4
Cancer-related	3	2	5
Cholecystitis	1	-	1
COVID-19	1	-	1
Diabetes	5	-	5
Pancreatitis	1	-	1
Renal disease	1	-	1
Sepsis	4	4	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>196</b>

## Accidental deaths by age and gender

Age group	Male	Female	Total	First Nation	Non-First Nation
0-9	2	2	4	3	1
10-19	1	2	3	-	3
20-29	9	11	20	12	8
30-39	8	9	17	10	7
40-49	12	5	17	8	9
50-59	12	1	13	3	10
60-69	6	2	8	1	7
70-79	3	4	7	-	7
80+	2	-	2	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>53</b>

## Accidental deaths by cause and gender

	Male	Female	Total
Asphyxia	2	-	2
Animal attack	1	2	3
<b>Blunt force injury</b>			
MVI <sup>1</sup> -driver	11	5	16
MVI-passenger	-	2	2
MVI-motorcycle	2	-	2
MVI-snowmobile	1	-	1
MVI-boat	1	1	2
MVI-pedestrian	1	-	1
MVI-aviation	4	1	5
Fall	2	1	3
Carbon monoxide poisoning	2	2	4
Drowning	-	1	1
Hypothermia	3	3	6
Smoke inhalation	3	1	4
<b>Substance toxicity</b>			
Alcohol	2	1	3
Drug	18	11	29
Mixed drug and alcohol	1	4	5
Unsafe sleep practice	1	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>91</b>

<sup>1</sup> Motor Vehicle Incident

**Suicide deaths by age and gender**

Age group	Male	Female	Total
0-9	-	-	-
10-19	2	1	3
20-29	6	3	9
30-39	7	-	7
40-49	5	1	6
50-59	3	1	4
60-69	7	-	7
70-79	-	-	-
80+	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>36</b>

**Suicide deaths by cause and gender**

	Male	Female	Total
<b>Asphyxia</b>			
Hanging	11	4	16
Inhalation of toxic substance	1	1	2
<b>Blunt force injuries</b>			
Jump from height	1	-	1
<b>Drowning</b>	2	1	3
<b>Drug toxicity</b>	1	-	1
<b>Gunshot wound</b>	13	-	13
<b>Incised wound</b>	1	-	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>36</b>

### Homicide deaths by age and gender

Age group	Male	Female	Total
0-9	-	-	-
10-19	1	1	2
20-29	2	1	3
30-39	2	1	3
40-49	2		2
50-59	2	3	5
60-69	-	-	-
70-79	-	-	-
80+	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>15</b>

### Undetermined manner deaths by age and gender

Age group	Male	Female	Total
0-9	2	1	3
10-19	-	-	-
20-29	-	1	1
30-39	2		2
40-49	1	1	2
50-59	2	-	2
60-69	1	-	1
70-79	-	-	-
80+	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>

### Homicide deaths by cause and gender

	Male	Female	Total
Blunt force injury	4	4	8
Gunshot	3	-	3
Stabbing	2	-	2
Pending	0	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>15</b>

## APPENDIX D

### Data from April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022

Manner of death	Investigations <sup>1</sup>	%	Autopsies	Toxicology
Natural	57	49.6	18 (32%)	28 (49%)
Accidental	40	34.8	15 (38%)	40 (100%)
Suicide	11	9.5	2 (18%)	9 (82%)
Homicide	4	3.5	4 (100%)	4 (100%)
Undetermined	3	2.6	3 (100%)	3 (100%)
Section 34	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>42 (37%)</b>	<b>84 (73%)</b>

<sup>1</sup> S.34 of the Coroners Act requires that an investigation be ended if during the investigation the coroner determines that the death is not one for which the coroner should have been notified.

### Death by month

April	7
May	6
June	7
July	17
August	8
September	7
October	9
November	21
December	6
January	14
February	7
March	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>115</b>

### Deaths by community

Community	Natural	Accidental	Suicide	Homicide	Undetermined	Total
Whitehorse	37	27	5	1	3	73
Other Yukon communities	20	13	6	3	-	42
<b>Total</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>115</b>

**Natural deaths by age and gender**

Age group	Male	Female	Total
0-9	-	-	-
10-19	-	-	-
20-29	-	-	-
30-39	-	1	1
40-49	4	2	6
50-59	7	2	9
60-69	14	8	22
70-79	12	3	15
80+	3	1	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>57</b>

**Natural deaths by cause and gender**

	Male	Female	Total
Appendicitis	1	-	1
Aortic dissection	-	1	1
Cancer	1	-	1
Cardiovascular disease	24	7	31
COVID-19	3	2	5
Epilepsy	-	1	1
Gastrointestinal	1	-	1
Multiple organ failure	1	-	1
Pulmonary	4	2	6
Sepsis	-	2	2
Substance use			
Drugs	1	-	1
Alcohol	3	2	5
Undetermined	1	-	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>57</b>

### Accidental deaths by age and gender

Age group	Male	Female	Total
0-9	1	1	2
10-19	-	-	-
20-29	5	4	9
30-39	6	7	13
40-49	8	1	9
50-59	2	1	3
60-69	2	1	3
70-79	1	-	1
80+	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>40</b>

### Accidental deaths by cause and gender

	Male	Female	Total
<b>Asphyxia</b>			
Unsafe sleep practice	1	1	2
<b>Blunt force injury</b>			
MVI <sup>1</sup> -driver	1	1	2
Fall	2		2
Explosion	-	1	1
<b>Drowning</b>	1	-	1
<b>Hypothermia</b>	1	-	1
<b>Multiple traumatic injuries</b>			
Workplace	3	-	3
<b>Substance toxicity</b>			
Alcohol	1	1	2
Drugs	12	6	18
Mixed alcohol and drugs	3	5	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>40</b>

<sup>1</sup> Motor Vehicle Incident

**Suicide deaths by age and gender**

Age group	Male	Female	Total
0-9	-	-	-
10-19	-	-	-
20-29	2	-	2
30-39	3	1	4
40-49	-	-	-
50-59	2	-	2
60-69	3	-	3
70-79	-	-	-
80+	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>

**Suicide deaths by cause and gender**

	Male	Female	Total
Asphyxia due to hanging	4	1	5
Drowning	1	0	1
Gunshot wound	4	-	4
Incised wound	1	-	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>

### Homicide deaths by age and gender

Age group	Male	Female	Total
0-9	-	-	-
10-19	-	-	-
20-29	1	1	2
30-39	-	-	-
40-49	-	1	1
50-59	-	-	-
60-69	-	-	-
70-79	1	-	1
80+	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>

### Undetermined manner deaths by age and gender

Age group	Male	Female	Total
0-9	-	-	-
10-19	-	-	-
20-29	1	1	2
30-39	-	-	-
40-49	1	-	1
50-59	-	-	-
60-69	-	-	-
70-79	-	-	-
80+	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>

### Homicide deaths by cause and gender

	Male	Female	Total
Blunt force injuries	-	1	1
Gunshot injuries	1	1	2
Multiple traumatic injuries	1	-	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>

## APPENDIX E

### Data from April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2023

Manner of death	Investigations <sup>1</sup>	%	Autopsies	Toxicology
Natural	49	52.6	18 (37%)	19 (38%)
Accidental	30	32.2	22 (73%)	25 (83%)
Suicide	5	5.4	2 (40%)	4 (80%)
Homicide	6	6.5	6 (100%)	6 (100%)
Undetermined	1	1.1	0	0
Section 34	2	2.2	1 (50%)	1 (50%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>49 (53%)</b>	<b>55 (59%)</b>

<sup>1</sup> S.34 of the Coroners Act requires that an investigation be ended if during the investigation the coroner determines that the death is not one for which the coroner should have been notified.

### Death by month

April	8
May	7
June	6
July	10
August	8
September	7
October	6
November	10
December	4
January	13
February	10
March	4

### Deaths by community

Community	Natural	Accidental	Suicide	Homicide	Undetermined	Section 34	Total
Whitehorse	33	24	3	4	-	[2]	66
Other Yukon Communities	17	5	2	2	1	-	27
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>[2]</b>	<b>93</b>

## Natural deaths by age and gender

Age group	Male	Female	Total
0-9	1	-	1
10-19	-	-	-
20-29	-	-	-
30-39	-	-	-
40-49	1	2	3
50-59	6	1	7
60-69	8	6	14
70-79	9	4	13
80+	7	4	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>49</b>

## Natural deaths by cause and gender

	Male	Female	Total
Brain hemorrhage	1	1	2
Cardiovascular disease	17	8	25
COVID-19	1	2	3
Diabetes	2	-	2
<b>Substance use</b>			
Alcohol	6	2	8
<b>Pulmonary</b>	4	2	6
<b>Renal failure</b>	1	-	1
<b>Other</b>	-	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>49</b>

### Accidental deaths by age and gender

Age group	Male	Female	Total
0-9	1	-	1
10-19	-	-	-
20-29	3	1	4
30-39	5	2	7
40-49	4	2	6
50-59	3	3	6
60-69	3	-	3
70-79	-	-	-
80+	1	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>29</b>

### Accidental deaths by cause and gender

	Male	Female	Total
<b>Asphyxia</b>			
MVI <sup>1</sup> -passenger	1	-	1
<b>Blunt force injury</b>			
MVI-driver	1	-	1
MVI-passenger	1	-	1
Fall	1	1	2
<b>Brain hemorrhage</b>	1	-	1
<b>Brain injury</b>	1	-	1
<b>Hypothermia</b>	1	2	3
<b>Smoke inhalation</b>	-	1	1
<b>Substance use</b>			
Alcohol	1	-	1
Drugs	7	3	10
Drugs and alcohol	5	2	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>29</b>

<sup>1</sup> Motor Vehicle Incident

### Suicide deaths by age and gender

Age group	Male	Female	Total	First Nation	Non-First Nation
0-9	-	-	-	-	-
10-19	-	-	-	-	-
20-29	-	-	-	-	-
30-39	1	-	-	-	1
40-49	2	-	-	-	2
50-59	-	-	-	-	-
60-69	1	-	-	-	1
70-79	1	-	-	-	1
80+	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5</b>

### Homicide deaths by age and gender

Age group	Male	Female	Total
0-9	-	-	-
10-19	-	-	-
20-29	1	-	1
30-39	2	1	3
40-49	2	-	2
50-59	-	-	-
60-69	-	-	-
70-79	-	-	-
80+	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>

### Suicide deaths by cause and gender

	Male	Female	Total
Drowning	1	-	1
Gunshot injury	4	-	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5</b>

### Homicide deaths by cause and gender

	Male	Female	Total
Mixed drug toxicity	-	1	1
Gunshot injury	1	-	1
Pending	4	-	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>

**Undetermined manner deaths by age and gender**

<b>Age group</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>First Nation</b>	<b>Non-First Nation</b>
0-9	-	-	-	-
10-19	-	-	-	-
20-29	1	-	-	1
30-39	-	-	-	-
40-49	-	-	-	-
50-59	-	-	-	-
60-69	-	-	-	-
70-79	-	-	-	-
80+	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>

## APPENDIX F

### Data from April 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024

Manner of death	Investigations	%	Autopsies	Toxicology
Natural	52	53.1	19 (37%)	25 (48%)
Accidental	40	40.8	29 (73%)	37 (93%)
Suicide	4	4.1	0	3 (75%)
Homicide	1	1.0	1 (100%)	1 (100%)
Undetermined	1	1.0	1 (100%)	1 (100%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>98</b>		<b>50 (51%)</b>	<b>67 (68%)</b>

### Death by month

April	8
May	8
June	7
July	4
August	10
September	6
October	14
November	7
December	10
January	11
February	9
March	4

### Deaths by community

Community	Natural	Accidental	Suicide	Homicide	Undetermined	Total
Whitehorse	34	33	2	1	1	71
Other Yukon communities	18	7	2	-	-	27
<b>Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>98</b>

### Natural deaths by age and gender

Age group	Male	Female	Total
0-9	-	-	-
10-19	-	-	-
20-29	2	-	2
30-39	1	-	1
40-49	3	2	5
50-59	3	4	7
60-69	8	6	14
70-79	14	5	19
80+	3	1	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>52</b>

### Natural deaths by cause and gender

	Male	Female	Total
Aortic dissection	-	2	2
Cardiovascular disease	19	9	28
Cancer	1	1	2
COVID-19	1	-	1
Diabetes	1	-	1
Deep vein thrombosis	-	1	1
Multi-organ failure	1	-	1
Pulmonary	5	3	8
Seizure disorder	1	-	1
Sepsis	-	1	1
Substance use			
Alcohol	5	1	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>52</b>

## Accidental deaths by age and gender

Age group	Male	Female	Total	First Nation	Non-First Nation
0-9	-	-	-	-	-
10-19	-	-	-	-	-
20-29	6	4	10	6	4
30-39	4	7	11	6	5
40-49	3	-	4	2	2
50-59	4	2	6	4	2
60-69	4	-	4	-	4
70-79	4	1	5	1	3
80+	-	1	1	-	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>21</b>

## Accidental deaths by cause and gender

	Male	Female	Total
<b>Blunt force injury</b>			
MVI <sup>1</sup> -driver	2	2	4
MVI-passenger	-	1	1
Motorcycle	2	-	2
ATV/Skidoo	2	-	2
MVI-pedestrian	1	-	1
Fall	1	2	3
<b>Hypothermia</b>	1	-	1
<b>Multiple severe injuries</b>			
Explosion	1	-	1
<b>Substance use</b>			
Alcohol		1	1
Drugs	13	7	20
Drugs and alcohol	1	2	3
<b>Thermal injuries</b>	1	-	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>40</b>

<sup>1</sup> Motor Vehicle Incident

### Suicide deaths by age and gender

Age group	Male	Female	Total
0-9	-	-	-
10-19	-	-	-
20-29	1	1	2
30-39	1	-	1
40-49	-	-	-
50-59	-	-	-
60-69	-	-	-
70-79	-	-	-
80+	1	-	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>

### Homicide deaths by age and gender

Age group	Male	Female
0-9	-	-
10-19	-	-
20-29	-	-
30-39	-	-
40-49	-	1
50-59	-	-
60-69	-	-
70-79	-	-
80+	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>

### Undetermined manner deaths by age and gender

Age group	Male	Female
0-9	-	-
10-19	-	-
20-29	-	-
30-39	-	-
40-49	-	-
50-59	1	-
60-69	-	-
70-79	-	-
80+	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>

### Suicide deaths by cause and gender

	Male	Female	Total
Gunshot injury	2	1	3
Sharp injury	1	-	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>

### Homicide deaths by cause and gender

	Male	Female	Total
Blunt force injuries	-	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

## APPENDIX G

### Drug toxicity deaths: April 1, 2016 to December 31, 2025

This data is separately presented in **calendar years** to coincide with statistical reporting by other coroner and medical examiners across Canada. This facilitates data sharing and comparison with other provincial/territorial and federal government agencies.

Further, this data indicates the location of the death (Whitehorse or other Yukon community) and an indication of ancestry (First Nation or other) of those lost to toxic substances.

In April 2016, British Columbia declared a public health emergency in response to the increased 'drug poisonings' which reflected local and national concerns. April 2016 was the start of data collecting both in this jurisdiction and nationally.

## 2016 calendar year

### All substance toxicity deaths

Total	Gender		First Nation ancestry	Whitehorse	Other Yukon community
	Male	Female			
7	6	1	5	4	3

### Opioid-involved deaths

Total	Gender		First Nation ancestry	Whitehorse	Other Yukon community
	Male	Female			
7	6	1	5	4	3

### Other substances involved

<b>Cocaine</b>	3	<b>Benzodiazepines</b>	
<b>Opioids</b>		Diazepam	1
Codeine	1	Oxazepam	1
Hydromorphone	1	Temazepam	1
Methadone	1	<b>Alcohol</b>	2
Morphine	3	<b>Other</b>	
Oxycodone	1	Acetaminophen	1

## 2017 calendar year

### All substance toxicity deaths

Total	Gender		First Nation ancestry	Whitehorse	Other Yukon community
	Male	Female			
7	6	1	1	7	0

### Opioid-involved deaths

Total	Fentanyl	Gender		First Nation ancestry	Whitehorse	Other Yukon community
		Male	Female			
7	5	6	1	1	7	0

### Other substances involved

Cocaine	5
Opioids	
Carfentanil	1
Codeine	1
Cyclopropyl fentanyl	1
Methadone	1
U-47700 <sup>1</sup>	1
Benzodiazepines	
Alprazolam	1
Alcohol	2
Other	
Acetaminophen	1
MDMA <sup>2</sup>	1
Quetiapine	1

<sup>1</sup> synthetic opioid

<sup>2</sup> methylenedioxymethamphetamine

## 2018 calendar year

### All drug toxicity deaths

Total	Gender		First Nation ancestry	Whitehorse	Other Yukon community
	Male	Female			
9	3	6	3	8	1

### Opioid-involved deaths

Total	Fentanyl	Gender		First Nation ancestry	Whitehorse	Other Yukon community
		Male	Female			
5	4	3	2	1	5	0

### Other substances involved

Cocaine	5
Opioids	
Codeine	2
Cyclopropyl fentanyl	4
Morphine	2
Oxycodone	1
U-47700 <sup>1</sup>	3
Alcohol	2
THC (various formats)	1
Other	
Acetaminophen	1
MDMA <sup>2</sup>	1
Trazodone	1
Quetiapine	2

<sup>1</sup> synthetic opioid

<sup>2</sup> methylenedioxymethamphetamine

## 2019 calendar year

### All drug toxicity deaths

Total	Gender		First Nation ancestry	Whitehorse	Other Yukon community
	Male	Female			
6	4	2	2	5	1

### Opioid-involved deaths

Total	Fentanyl	Gender		First Nation ancestry	Whitehorse	Other Yukon community
		Male	Female			
4	3	3	1	2	4	0

### Other substances involved

Cocaine	5
Opioids	
Methadone	1
Morphine	1
Benzodiazepines	
Alprazolam	1
Alcohol	2
Other	
Acetaminophen	1
Gabapentin	1
Ketamine	1
Trazodone	1

## 2020 calendar year

### All drug toxicity deaths

Total	Gender		First Nation ancestry	Whitehorse	Other Yukon community
	Male	Female			
14	7	7	7	12	2

### Opioid-involved deaths

Total	Fentanyl	Gender		First Nation ancestry	Whitehorse	Other Yukon community
		Male	Female			
10	8	6	4	4	9	1

### Other substances involved

Cocaine	12
<b>Opioids</b>	
Codeine	1
Methadone	1
Morphine	2
Heroin	1
<b>Benzodiazepines</b>	
Clonazepam	1
Diazepam	1
Etizolam	1
<b>Alcohol</b>	3
<b>THC (various formats)</b>	4
<b>Other</b>	
Duloxetine	1

## 2021 calendar year

### All drug toxicity deaths

Total	Gender		First Nation ancestry	Whitehorse	Other Yukon community
	Male	Female			
25	16	9	11	21	4

### Opioid-involved deaths

Total	Fentanyl	Gender		First Nation ancestry	Whitehorse	Other Yukon community
		Male	Female			
24	24	16	8	10	20	4

### Other substances involved

Cocaine	17
<b>Opioids</b>	
Acetyl fentanyl	3
Carfentanyl	2
Codeine	1
Morphine	1
4-ANPP <sup>1</sup>	14
<b>Benzodiazapines</b>	
Etizolam	5
Flualprazolam	1
<b>Alcohol</b>	12
<b>THC (various formats)</b>	8
<b>Other</b>	
Acetaminophen	1
Gabapentin	1
Sertraline	1
Quetiapine	4
9-Hydroxyriseridone	1

<sup>1</sup> despropionylfentanyl: an impurity arising from the synthesis of illicit fentanyl-also a minor metabolite of fentanyl

## 2022 calendar year

The Government of Yukon declared a Substance Use Health Emergency on January 20, 2022 in response to the increased numbers of deaths and substance involved injuries in the Territory.

### All drug toxicity deaths

Total	Gender		First Nation ancestry	Whitehorse	Other Yukon community
	Male	Female			
24	14	10	16	20	4

### Opioid-involved deaths

Total	Fentanyl	Gender		First Nation ancestry	Whitehorse	Other Yukon community
		Male	Female			
20	19	10	10	10	17	3

### Other substances involved

<b>Cocaine</b>	19
<b>Opioids</b>	
Codeine	1
Hydromorphone	1
Oxycodone	1
4-ANPP <sup>1</sup>	10
<b>Benzodiazapines</b>	
Diazepam	1
Etizolam	3
Flualprazolam	3
<b>Alcohol</b>	7
<b>THC (various formats)</b>	7
<b>Other</b>	
Cyclobenzaprine	1
Fluoxetine	1
Gabapentin	1
Olanzapine	1

<sup>1</sup> despropionylfentanyl: an impurity arising from the synthesis of illicit fentanyl-also a minor metabolite of fentanyl

## 2023 calendar year

### All drug toxicity deaths

Total	Gender		First Nation ancestry	Whitehorse	Other Yukon community
	Male	Female			
23	14	9	16	22	1

### Opioid-involved deaths

Total	Fentanyl	Gender		First Nation ancestry	Whitehorse	Other Yukon community
		Male	Female			
20	19	13	7	14	19	1

### Other substances involved

Cocaine	21
<b>Opioids</b>	
Acetyl fentanyl	4
Hydromorphone	2
Morphine	1
Para-fluorofentanyl	8
4-ANPP <sup>1</sup>	7
<b>Benzodiazapines</b>	
Bromazolam	3
Diazepam	1
Etizolam	3
<b>Alcohol</b>	6
<b>THC (various forms)</b>	6
<b>Other</b>	
Buprenorphine	1
Gabapentin	1
Trazodone	1

<sup>1</sup> despropionylfentanyl: an impurity arising from the synthesis of illicit fentanyl-also a minor metabolite of fentanyl

## 2024 calendar year

### All drug toxicity deaths

Total	Gender		First Nation ancestry	Whitehorse	Other Yukon community
	Male	Female			
16	10	6	12	15	1

### Opioid-involved deaths

Total	Fentanyl	Gender		First Nation ancestry	Whitehorse	Other Yukon community
		Male	Female			
15	14	9	6	12	14	1

### Other substances involved

Cocaine	14
Opioids	
Acetyl fentanyl	1
Hydromorphone	1
Morphine	2
Para-fluorofentanyl	6
4-ANPP <sup>1</sup>	7
Benzodiazapines	
Bromazolam	5
Diazepam	1
Alcohol	6
THC (various forms)	4
Other	
Aripiprazole	1
Gabapentin	1
Paliperidone	1
Trazodone	1

<sup>1</sup> despropionylfentanyl: an impurity arising from the synthesis of illicit fentanyl-also a minor metabolite of fentanyl

## 2025 calendar year

### All drug toxicity deaths

Total	Gender		First Nation ancestry	Whitehorse	Other Yukon community
	Male	Female			
18	9	9	9	13	5

### Opioid-involved deaths

Total	Fentanyl	Gender		First Nation ancestry	Whitehorse	Other Yukon community
		Male	Female			
15	13	8	7	1	11	4

### Other substances involved

<b>Cocaine</b>	14
<b>Opioids</b>	
Buprenorphine	1
Codeine	2
Methadone	1
Morphine	1
Para-fluorofentanyl	5
Tramadol	1
4-ANPP <sup>1</sup>	2
<b>Benzodiazapines</b>	
Bromazolam	5
Diazepam	1
Etizolam	1
<b>Alcohol</b>	7
<b>THC (various forms)</b>	5
<b>Other</b>	
Amitriptyline	1
Amlodipine	2
Bupropion	2
Clozapine	1
Gabapentin	1
Methamphetamine	1
Quetiapine	1

<sup>1</sup> despropionylfentanyl: an impurity arising from the synthesis of illicit fentanyl-also a minor metabolite of fentanyl

## Totals 2016 – 2025

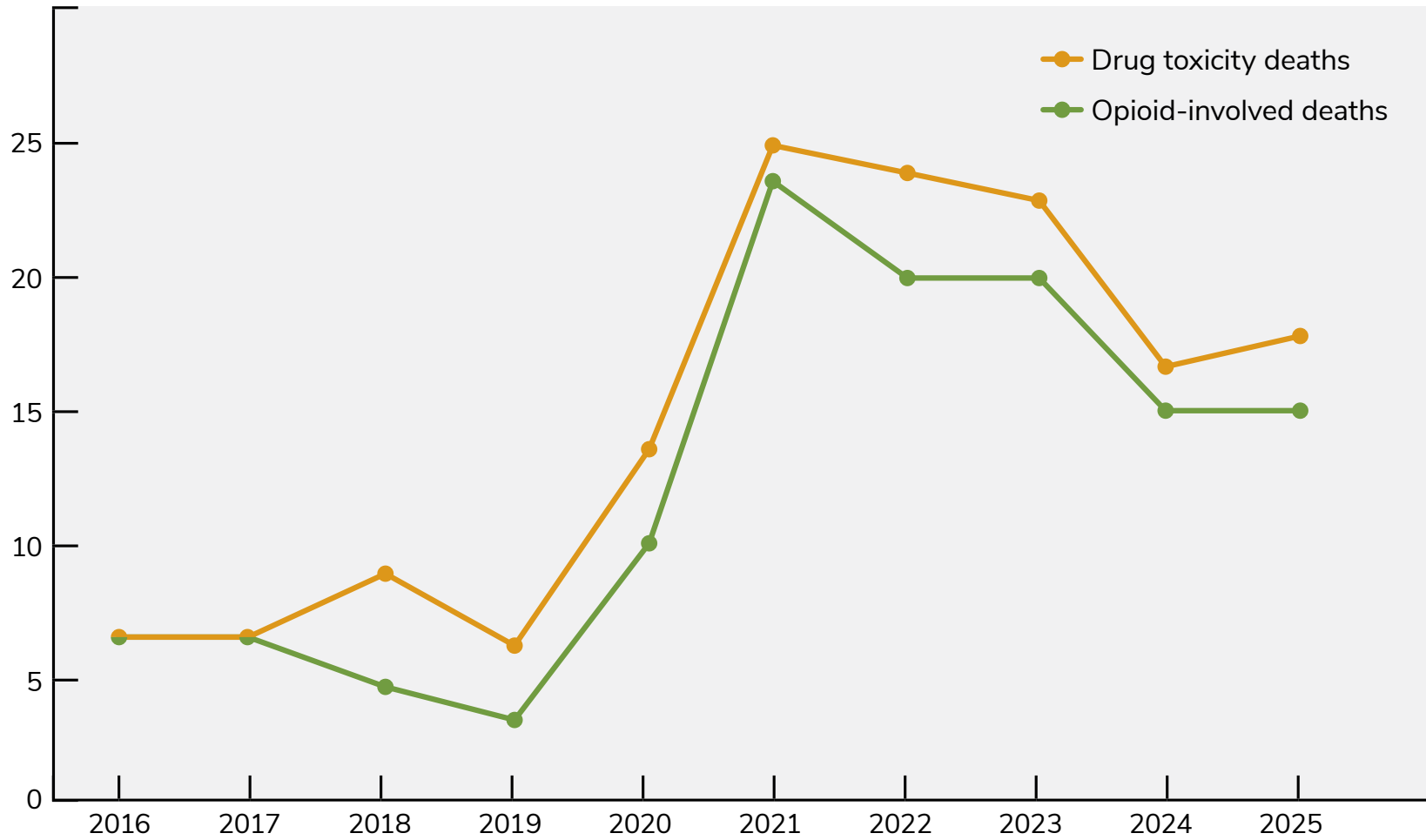
### All drug toxicity deaths

Total	Gender		First Nation ancestry	Whitehorse	Other Yukon community
	Male	Female			
149	89	60	82	127	22

### Opioid-involved deaths

Total	Fentanyl	Gender		First Nation ancestry	Whitehorse	Other Yukon community
		Male	Female			
127	113	82	45	70	110	17

**Total drug toxicity deaths and opioid-involved deaths**



**Yukon Coroner's Service**

Regulatory Services

Department of Justice

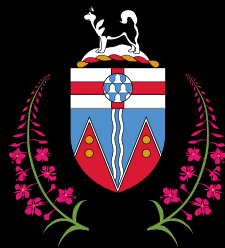
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Any questions can be directed to the Yukon Coroner's Service.



**Yukon  
Coroner's  
Service**

[yukoncoronerservice.ca](http://yukoncoronerservice.ca)