

Delaware County Coroner's Office
2011 Annual Report



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The Delaware County Coroner's Office is proud to release its 2011 Annual Report. The purpose of the report is to inform the County Commissioners, Law Enforcement, the Delaware County Health Department, and the general public about the activities of the office, and data pertaining to deaths with-in the county.

Completing Medico-legal Death Investigations is an endeavor that requires staff members to be available 24 hours a day, year round. Staff members complete continuing education and our Board Certified Investigator is required to recertify every 5 years through the American Board of Medico-legal Death Investigators.

The ever increasing changes in society have made the Coroner's Office significantly more important in the role of solving criminal and civil cases, Consumer Product and Safety issues, OSHA cases, and insurance investigations. The Delaware County Coroner's Office continues to be involved in community education by interacting with public schools, civic clubs, presentations for Law Enforcement/EMS, and participating in mock disaster events.

The main goal of the Delaware County Coroner's Office is to provide the highest quality of professionalism, and integrity to Death Investigations and to be respectful to the living as well as the deceased.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Hickman, M.D., D-ABMDI
Delaware County Coroner

Duties of the Coroner's Office

Duties of the Delaware County Coroner's Office include:

- Be available to respond as required 24 hours a day, everyday.
- Determine the cause and manner of death.
- To complete a thorough investigation of the death.
- To positively identify the decedent.
- To accurately document the death scene.
- To complete interviews pertaining to the death.
- To order transport and have the decedent removed from the scene in a dignified manor.
- To make sure that Next of Kin is notified.
- To determine whether an autopsy should be performed and make arraignments for the autopsy.
- To provide the residents of Delaware County with the highest quality of death investigations in a timely manner.

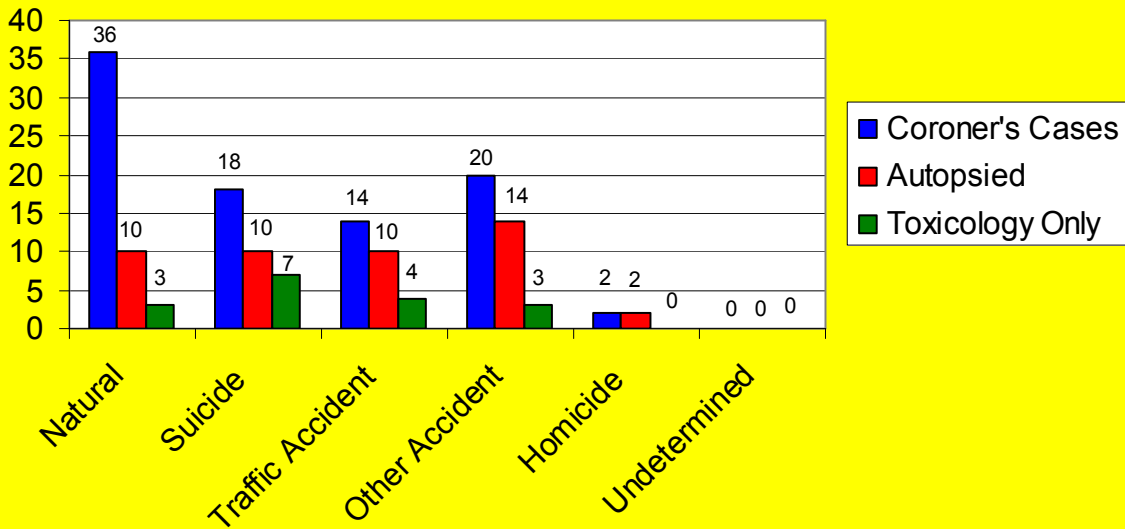
Reportable Deaths

By law, the County Coroner is directed to conduct death investigations on all deaths that are sudden and unexpected. The following is a list of deaths that need to be reported to the County Coroner's Office:

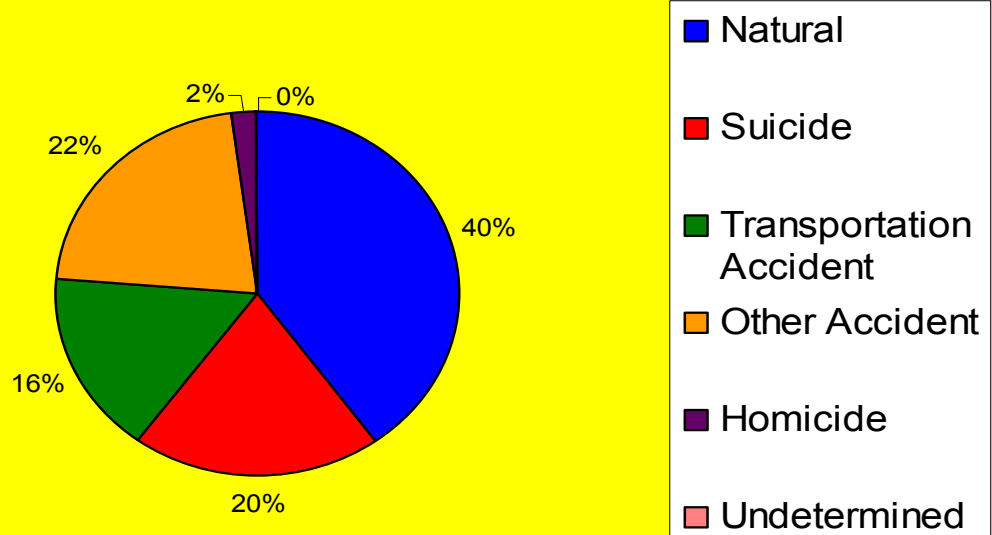
- Homicide
- Suicide
- Accident
- Sudden Death: When the death occurs while in apparent good health or in any suspicious or unusual manner.
- In-Custody death.
- Unknown.
- When in doubt report the case.

2011 Coroner's cases

2011 Coroner's Cases vs. Number of Autopsies/Toxicology Only

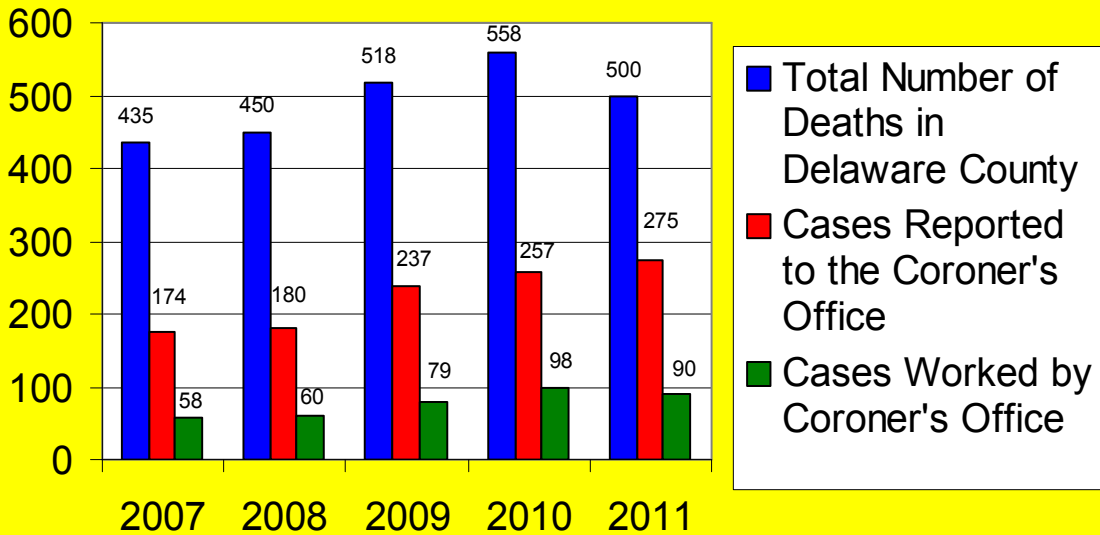


2011 Case by Manner of Death: (Percentage)

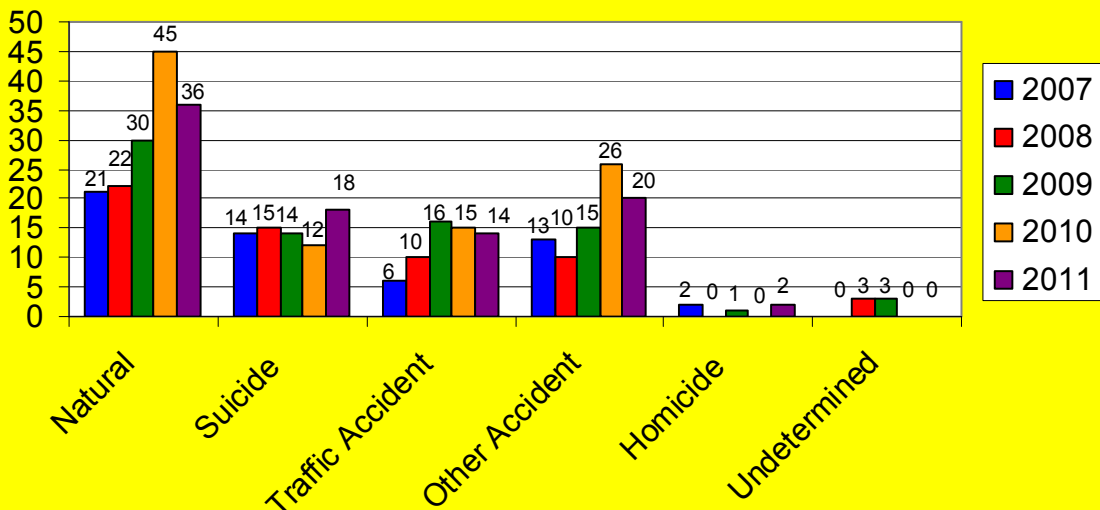


Delaware County Deaths 2007 – 2011

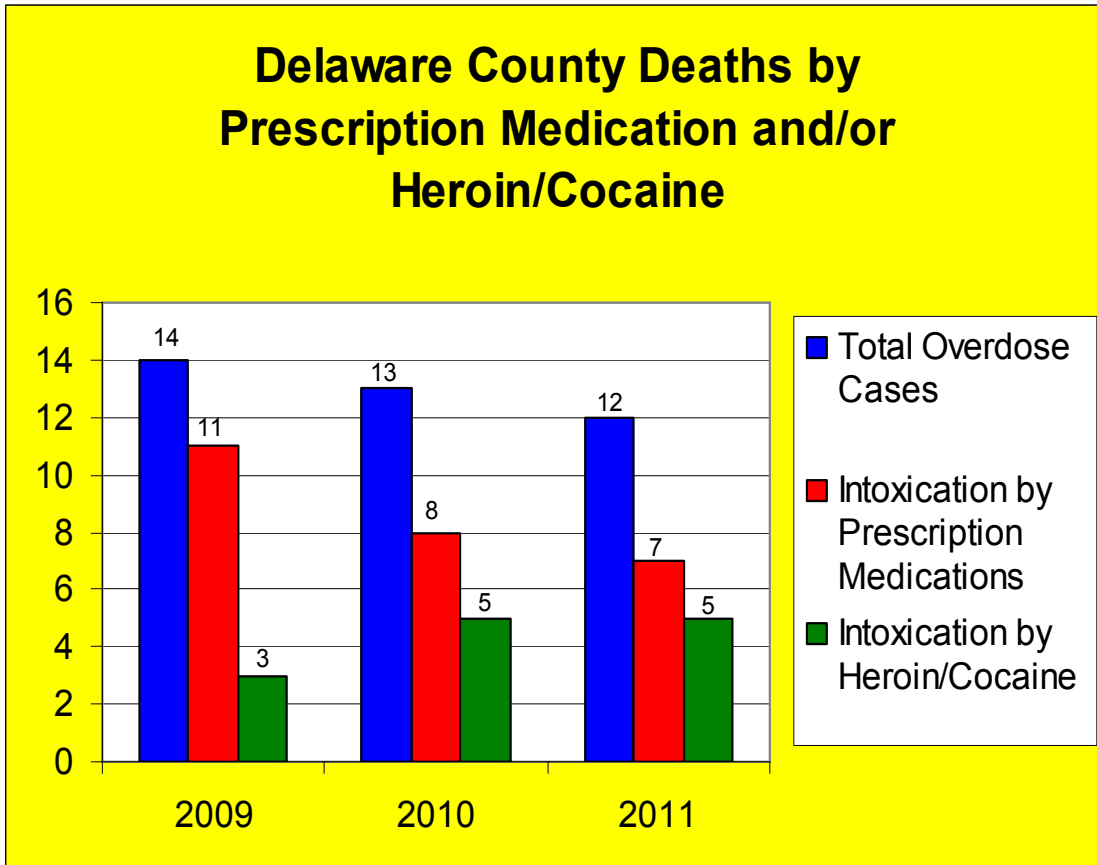
Summary of Delaware County Deaths from 2007 - 2011



5 Year Comparison Manner of Death: 2007 - 2011



Delaware County Overdose Deaths 2009 – 2011



Delaware County Demographics

Delaware County is located in Central Ohio and as of the 2010 census had a population of 174,214.



The county has a total area of 443.10 square miles. The county seat is Delaware with a 2010 census population of 34,753. It borders six counties: Morrow, Knox, Licking, Franklin, Union, and Marion. There are several cities within Delaware County including: Ashley, Delaware, Dublin, Galena, Ostrander, Powell, Sunbury, Westerville, Kilbourne, Lewis Center, and Radnor.

There are also several Townships including: Berkshire, Berlin, Brown, Concord, Delaware, Genoa, Harlem, Kingston, Liberty, Marlboro, Orange, Oxford, Porter, Scioto, Thompson, Trenton, and Troy.