



# Oregon State Police

Oregon State Medical Examiner

## Drug and Alcohol Deaths - 2021

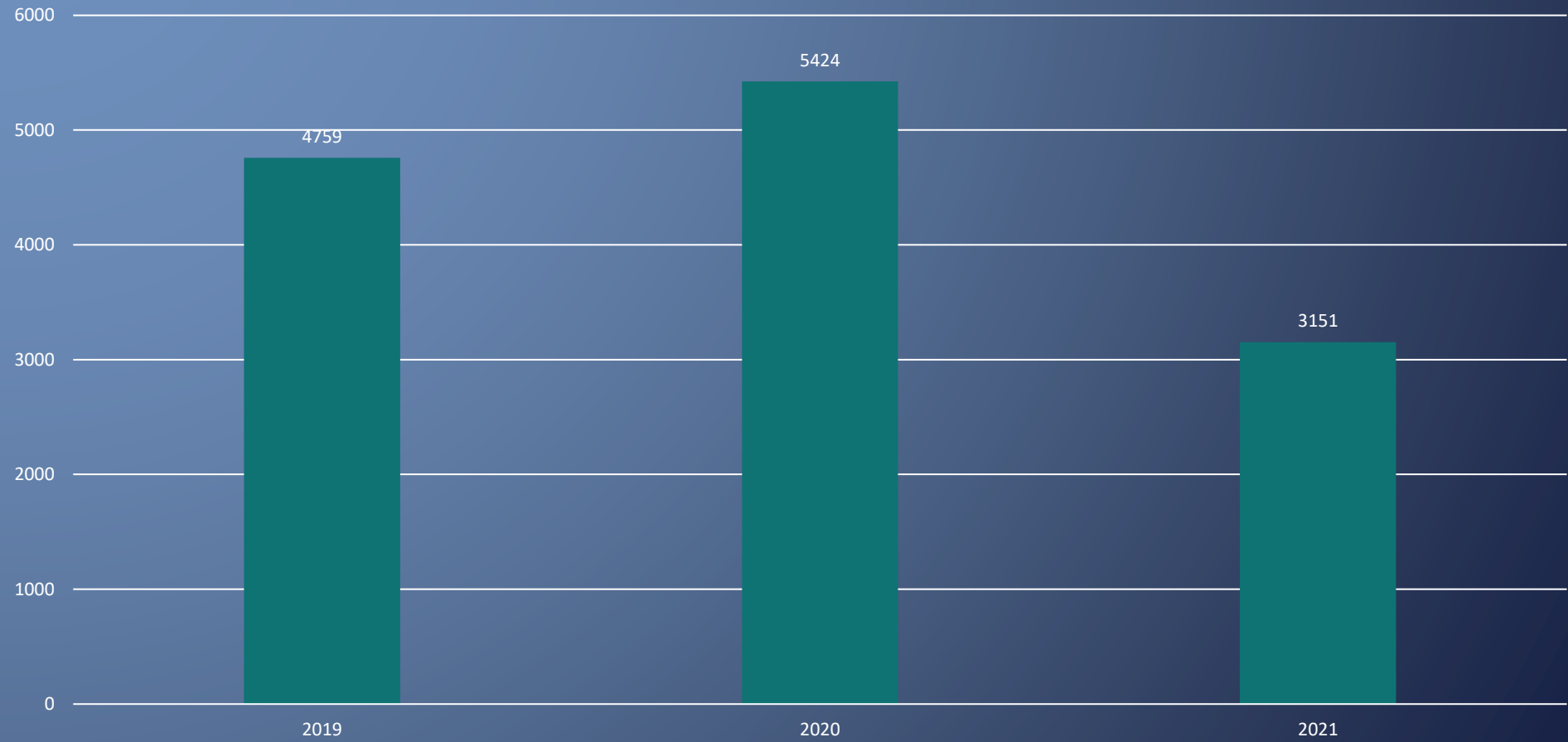
Presented by: Sean Hurst, M.D.  
Chief Medical Examiner – Medical Examiner Division

# Medical Examiner: Caseload Drivers

- Population increases: As population increases so do deaths falling under medical examiner jurisdiction
- Drug overdoses: Continued rise in methamphetamine, heroin, and other opioid overdoses
- Requests for autopsies
- County Medical Examiner for Multnomah, Clackamas, Washington, Columbia, Harney, Lane, Wheeler, Douglas, Coos, Curry, Jackson, Josephine, and Klamath Counties
- Limited capacity in current facilities
- Reduced forensic pathologist workforce in 2022



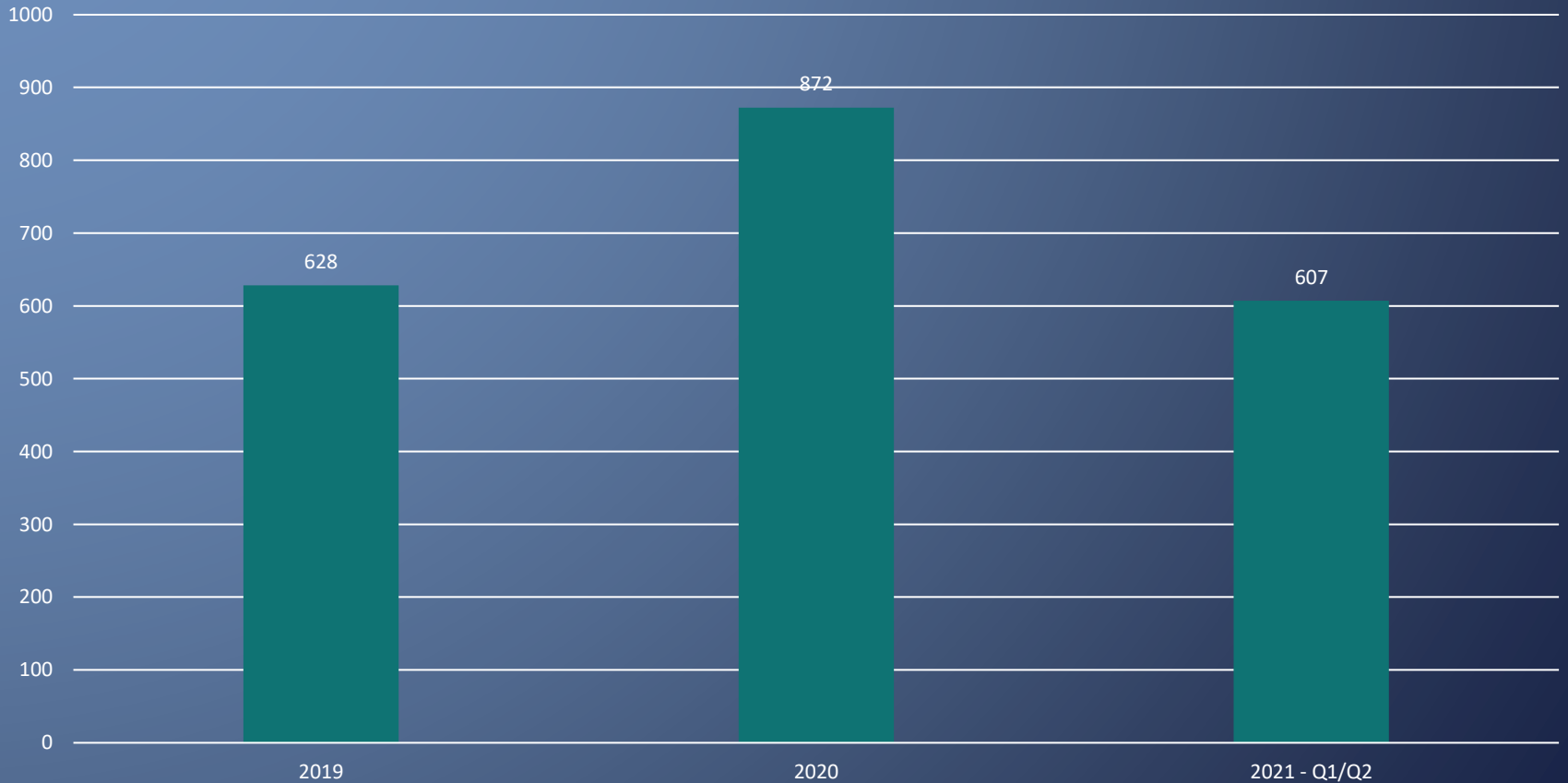
# Medical Examiner System - Total Cases



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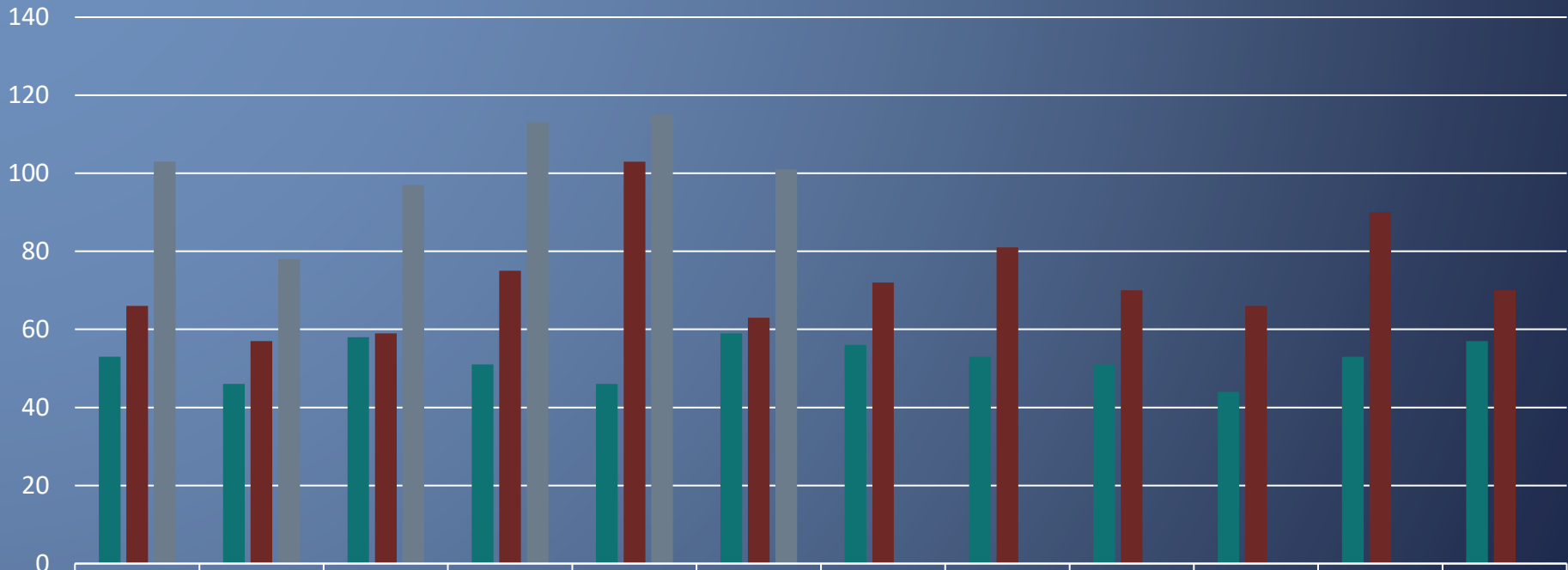
# Deaths due to Drug Toxicity

Deaths



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# Deaths Due to Drug Toxicity



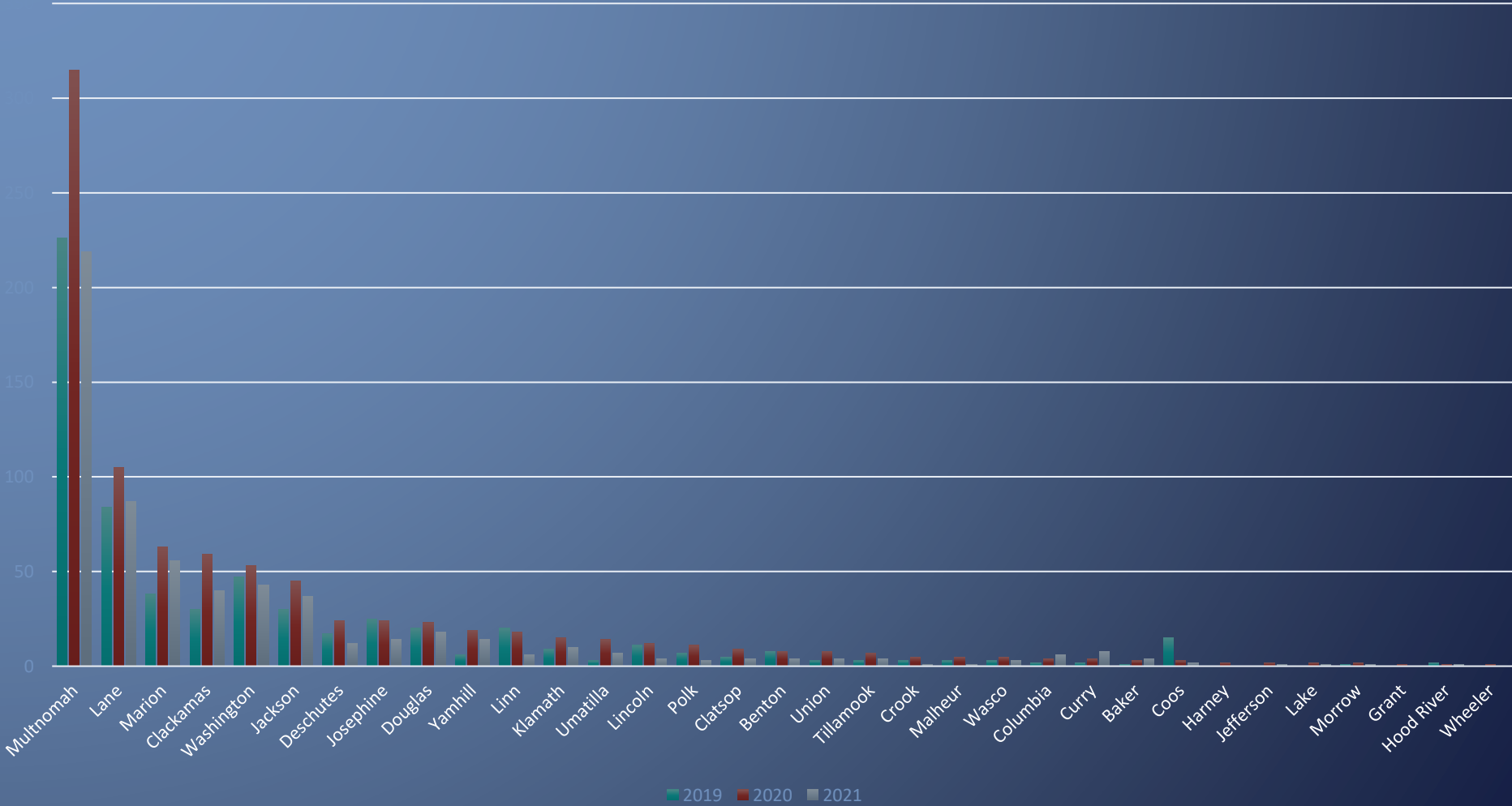
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
2019	53	46	58	51	46	59	56	53	51	44	53	57
2020	66	57	59	75	103	63	72	81	70	66	90	70
2021	103	78	97	113	115	101						

■ 2019 ■ 2020 ■ 2021



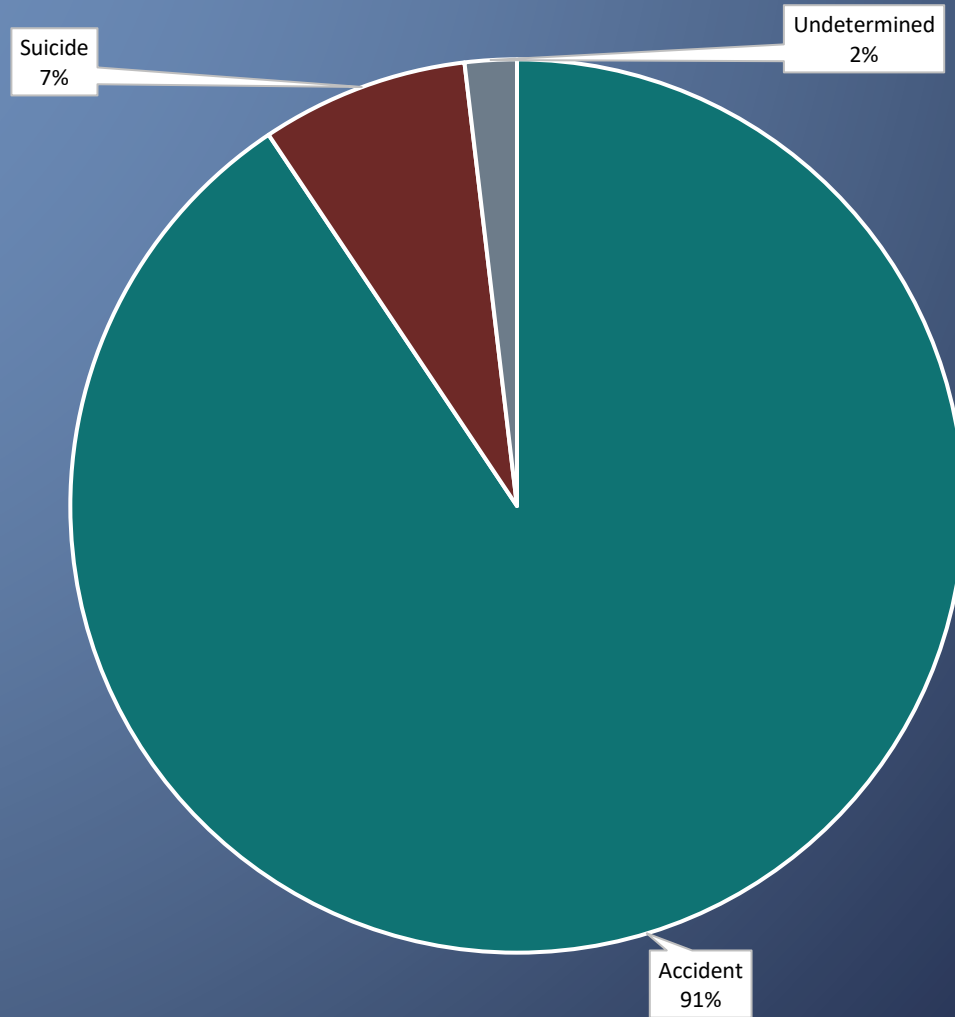
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# County Distribution of Drug Deaths



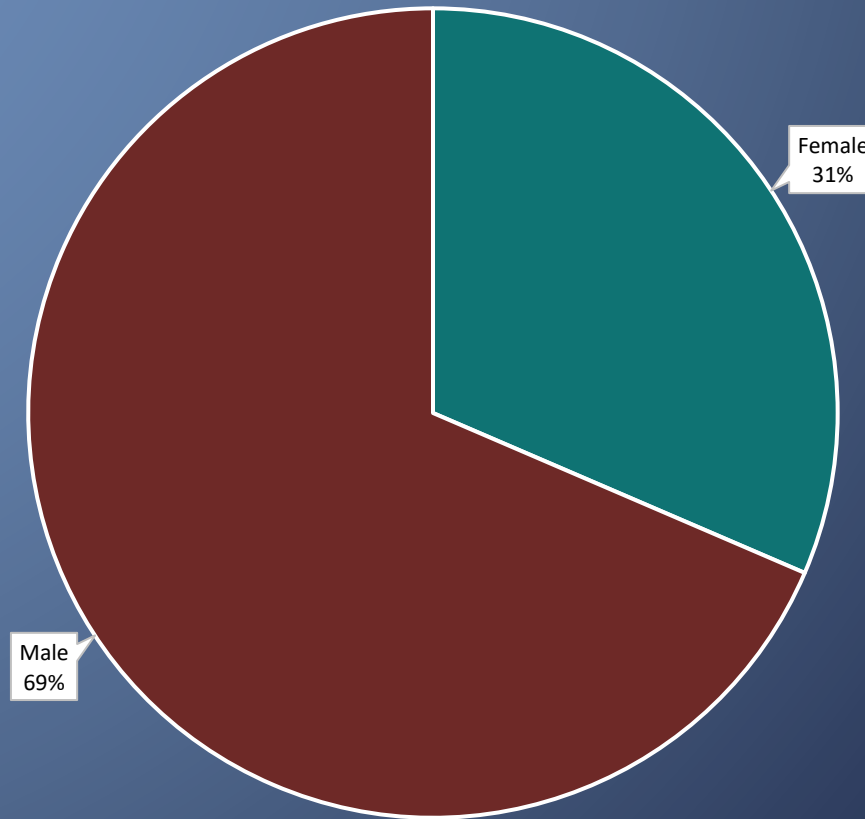
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# Manner of Death



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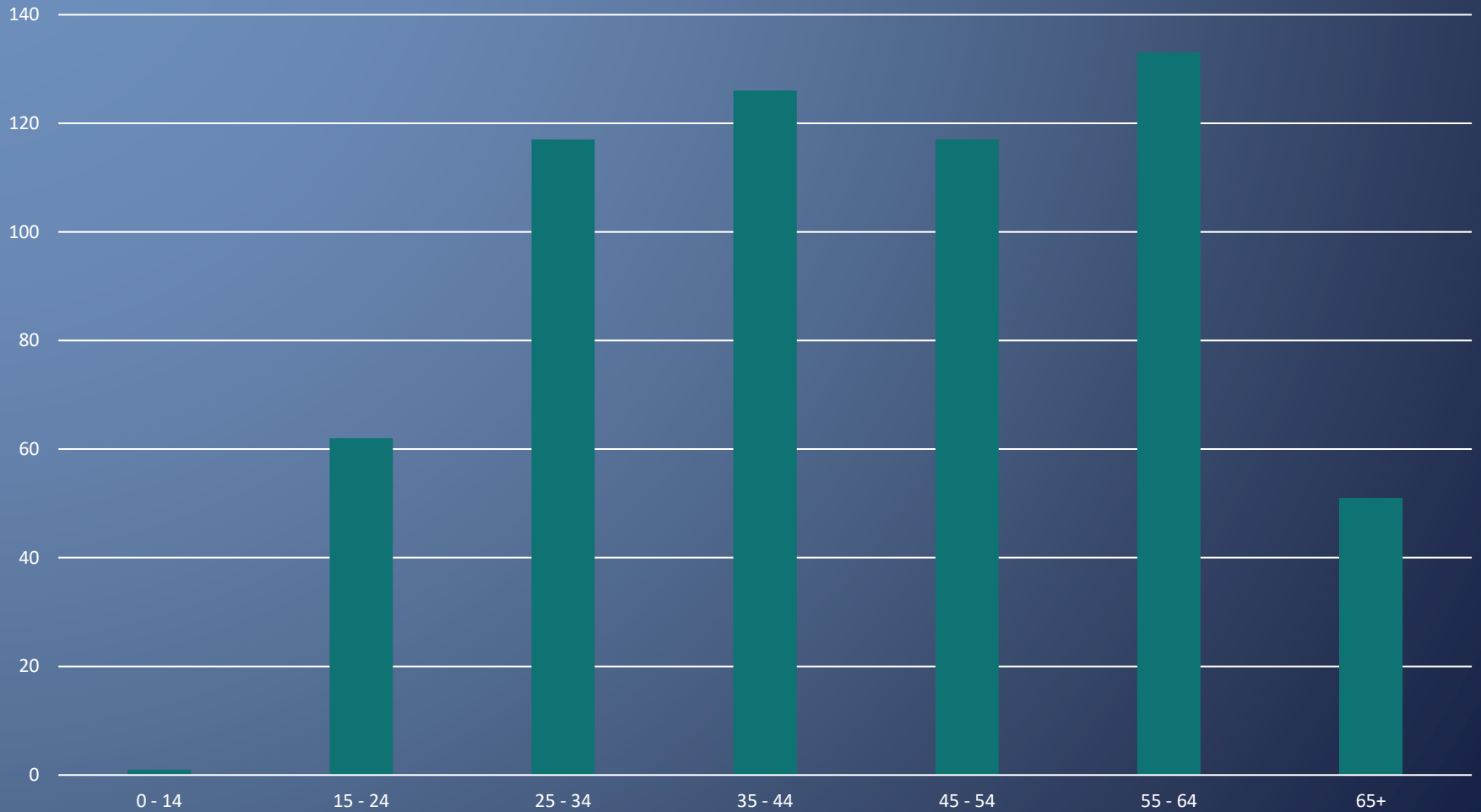
# Gender Distribution



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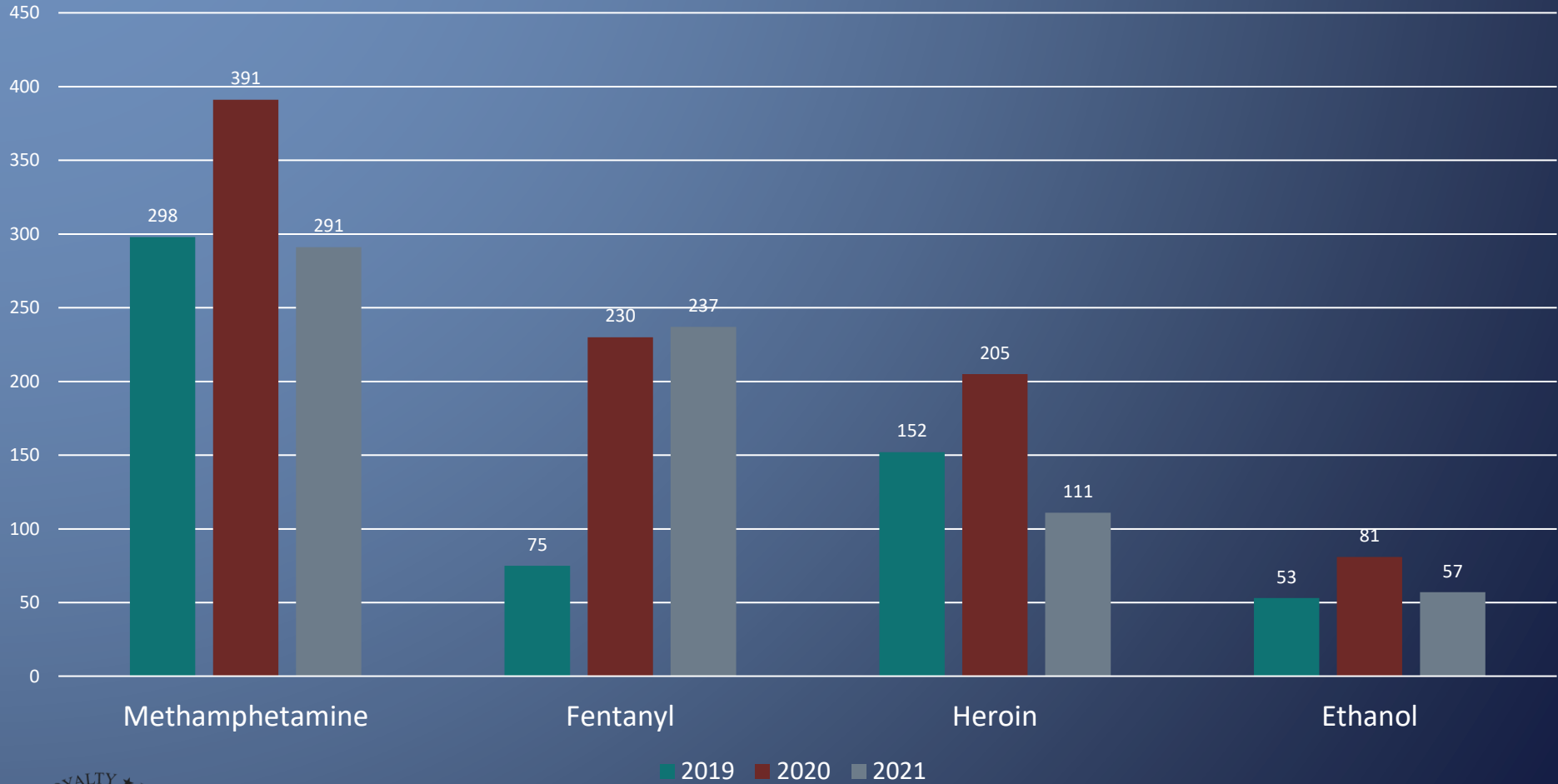


# Age Distribution



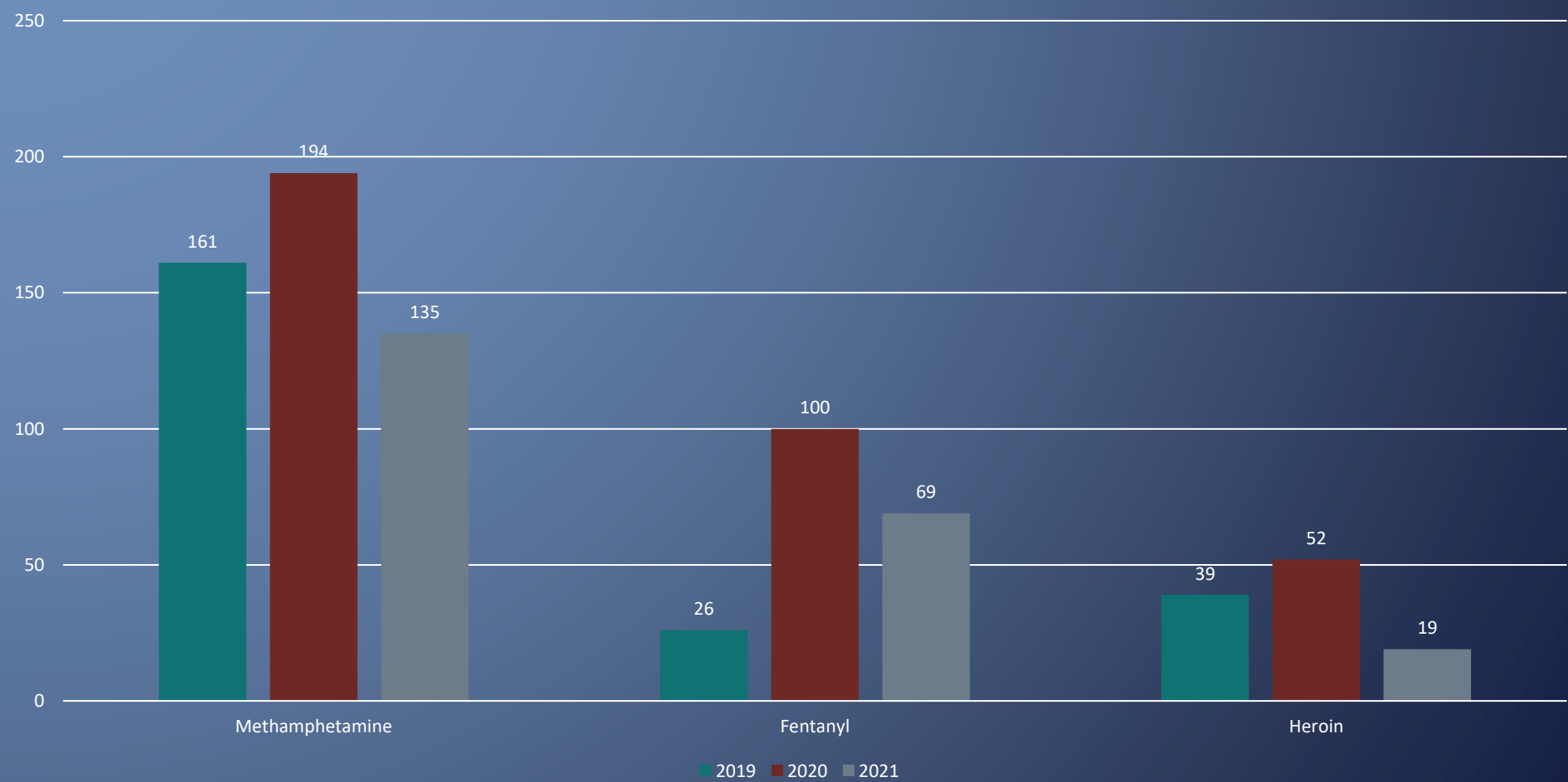
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# Drug Deaths - Total



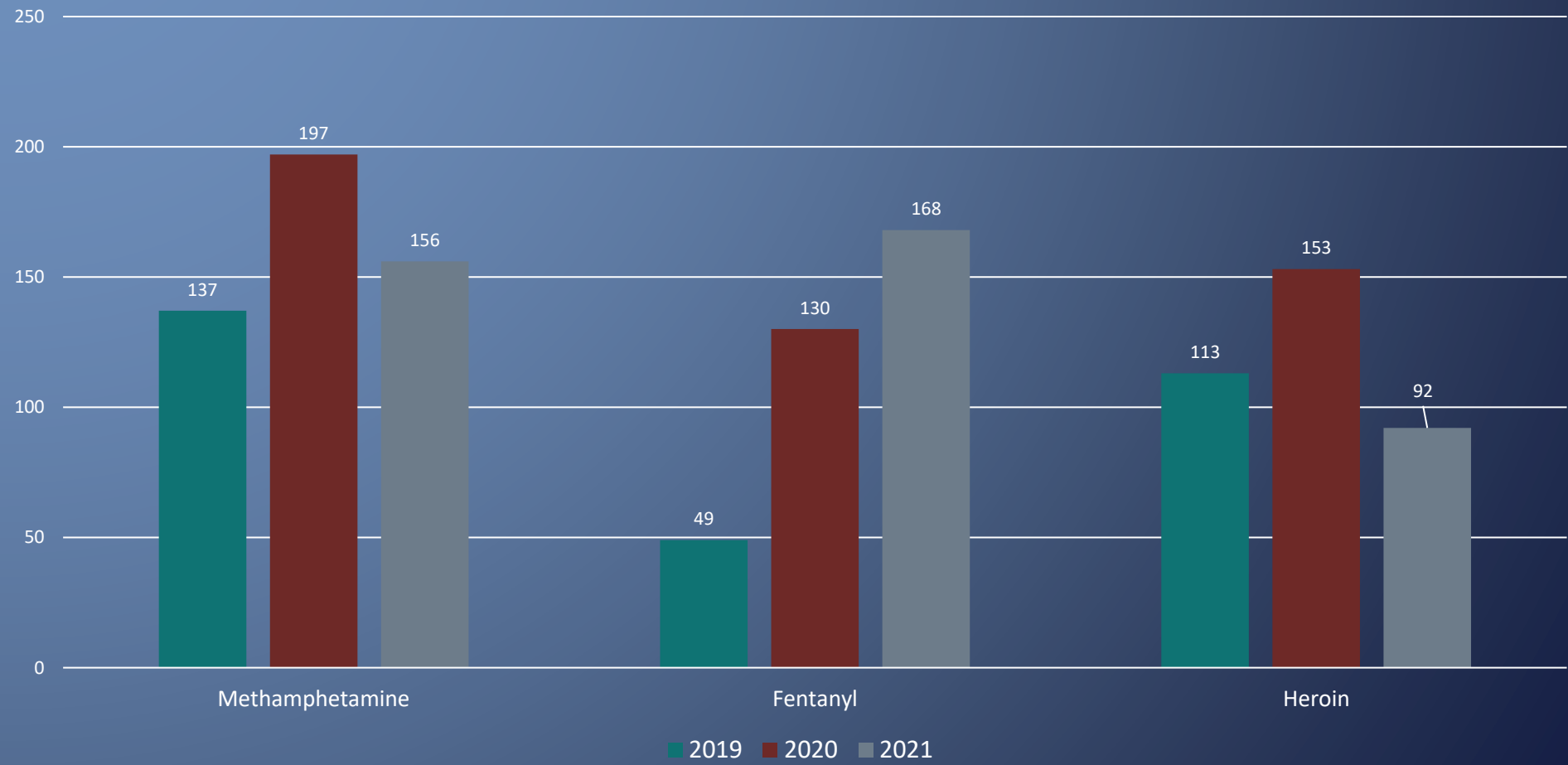
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# Single Agent Drug Deaths



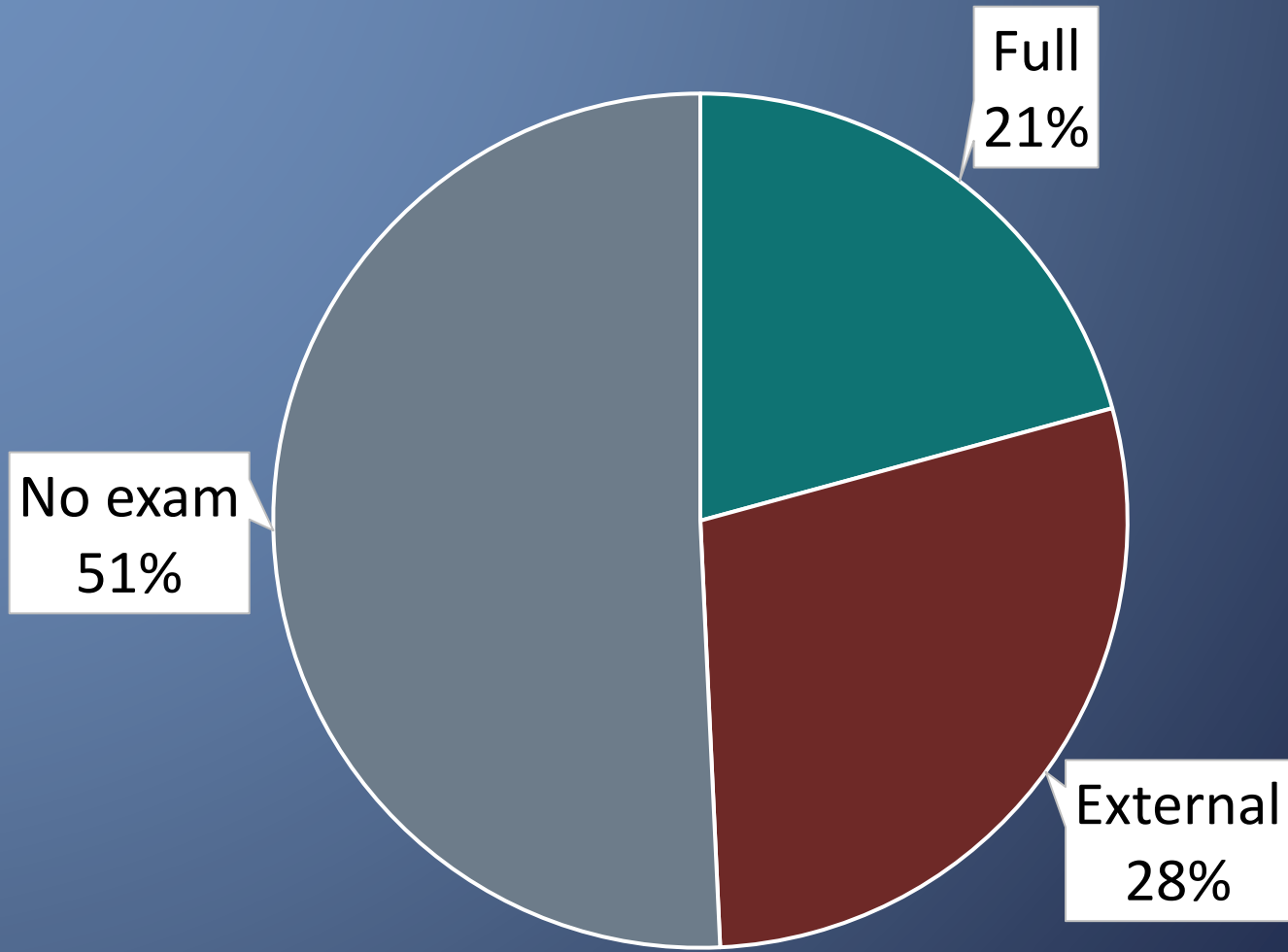
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# Multiagent Drug Deaths



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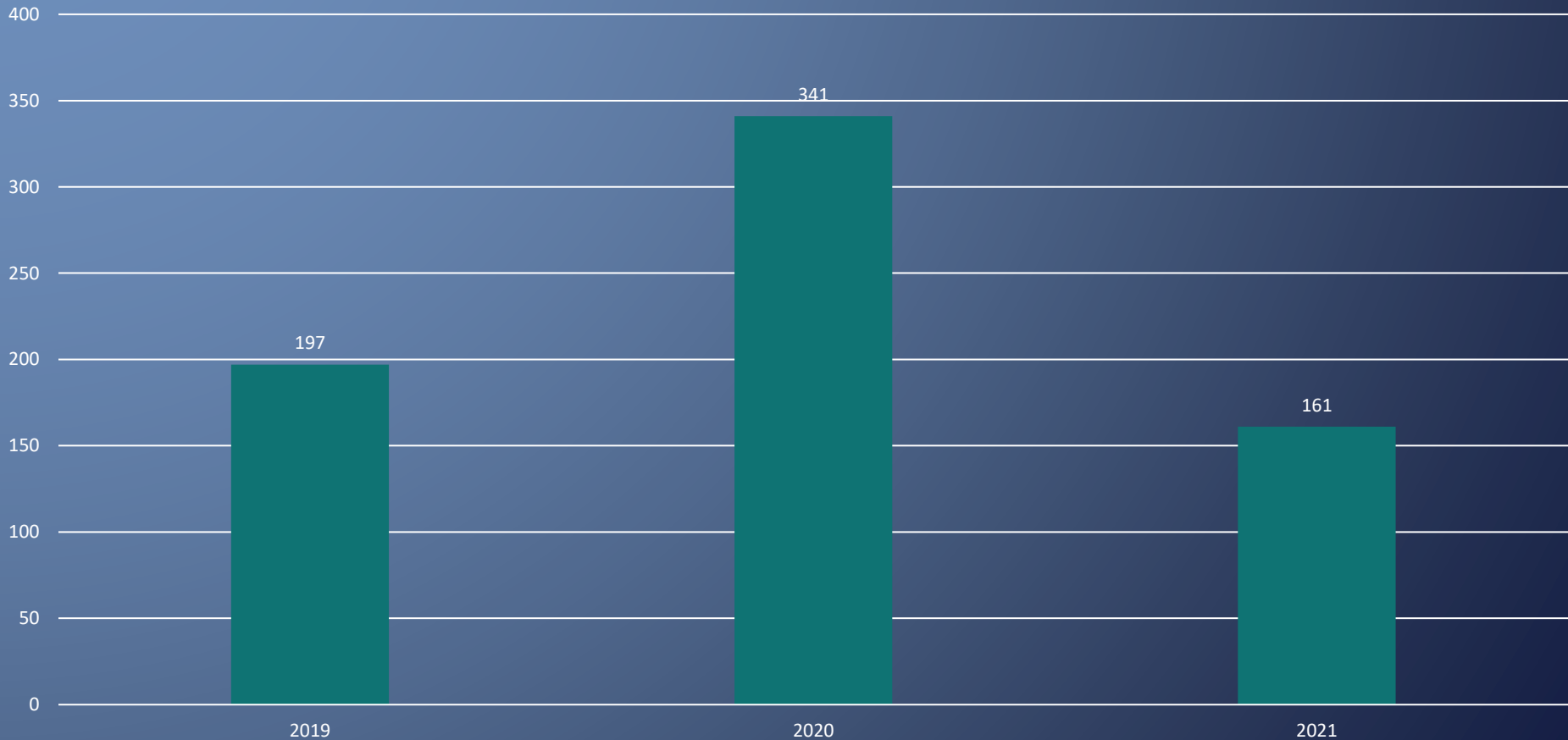
# Exam Type - 2021



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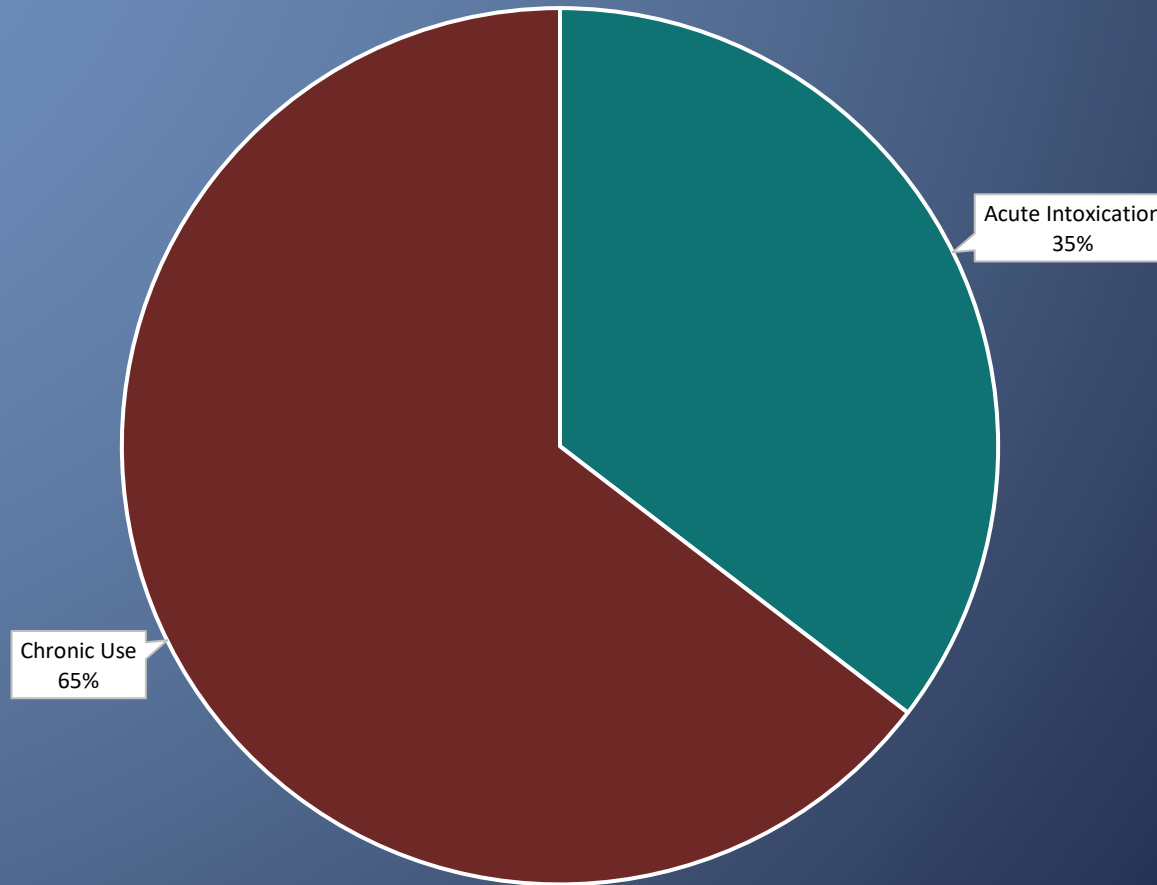
# Ethanol-Related Deaths

Ethanol Deaths - Total



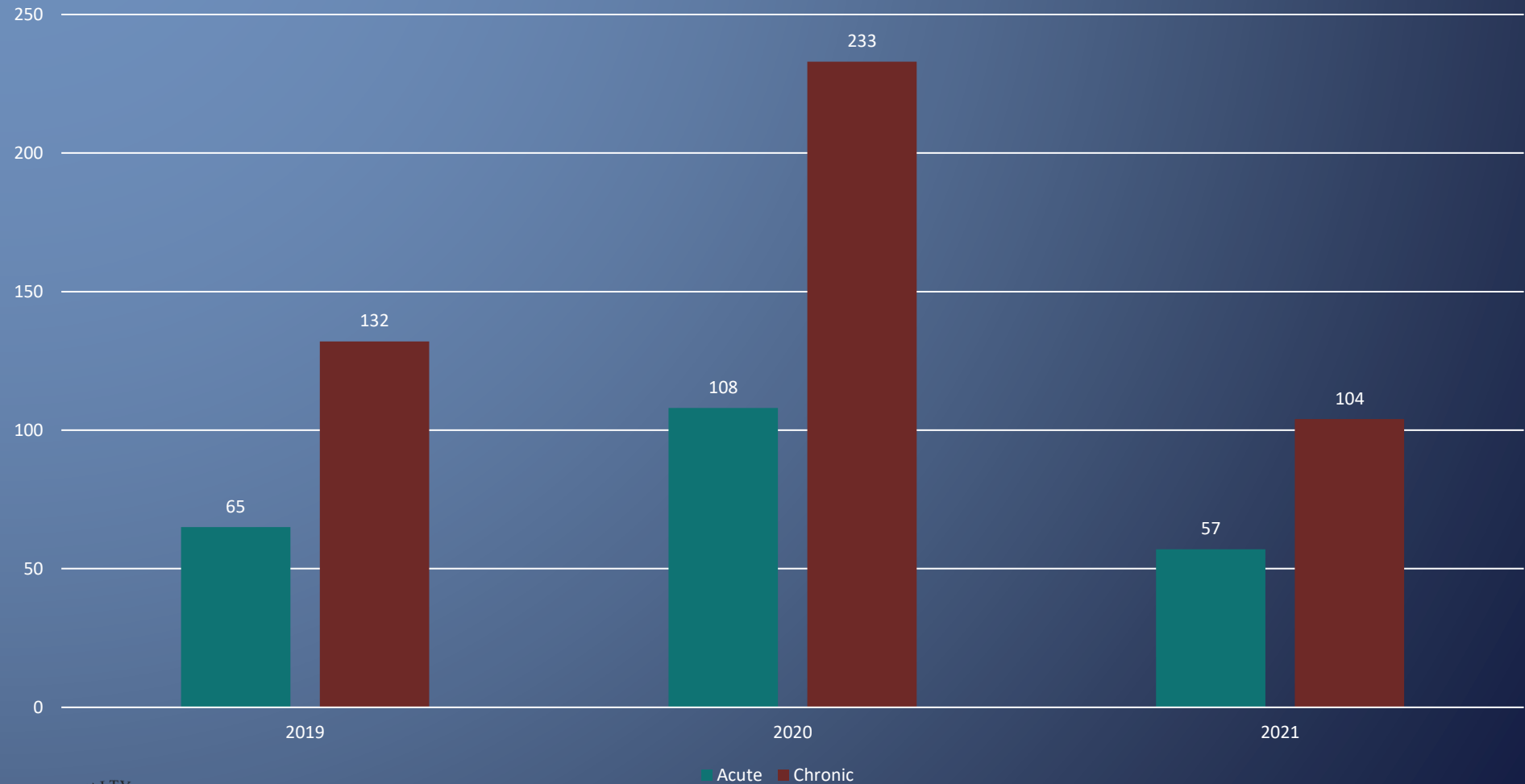
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# Ethanol-Related Deaths



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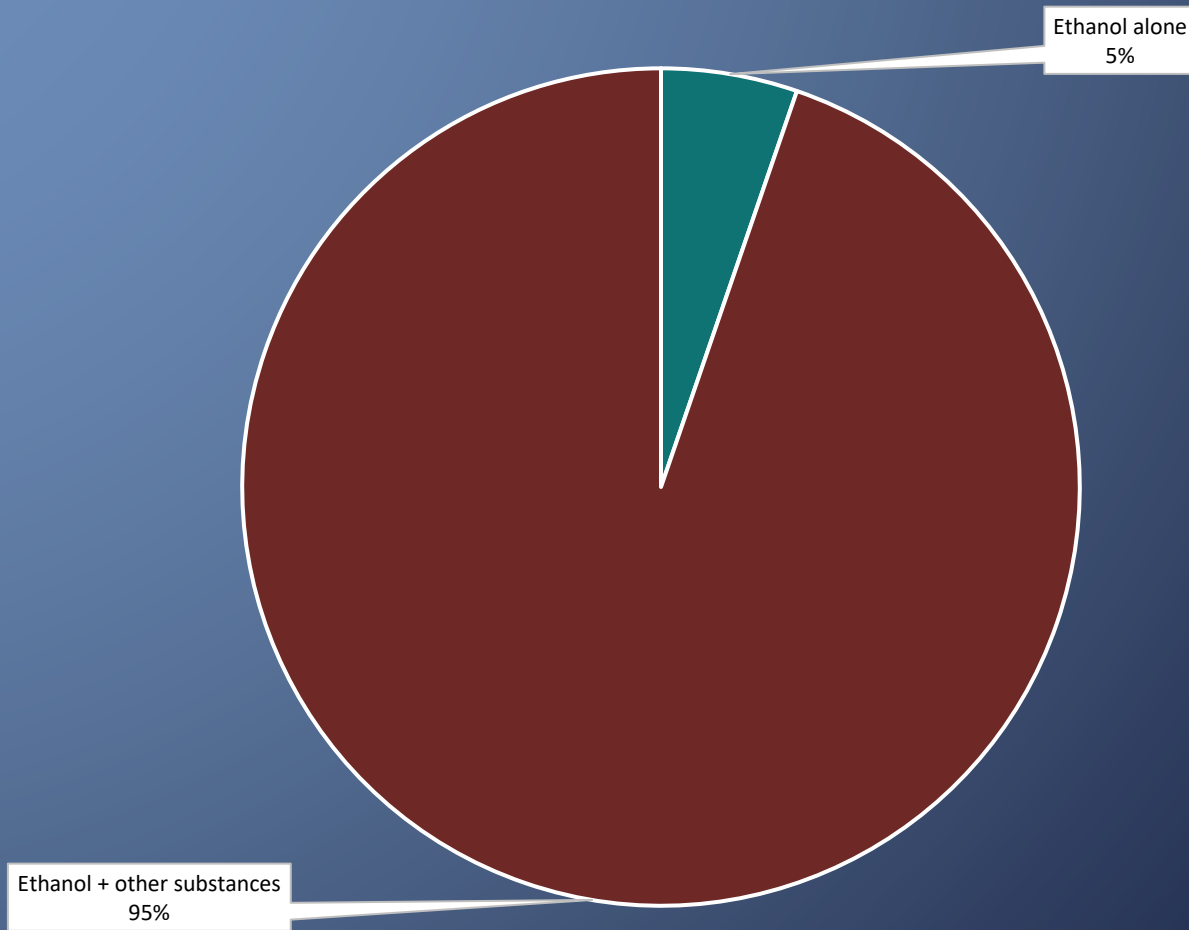
# Ethanol-Related Deaths



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# Acute Ethanol-Related Deaths



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# Future Goals

- More timely and detailed mortality data:
  - Continuing education for case reporting and information management system usage
  - Recruitment of Research Analyst
- Planning for new autopsy facility in Springfield area



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