

Fremont County Coroner
2017 Mid-Year Summary (as of 07/03/2017)
And Fiscal 2016-17 Year end

- A. **TOTALS:** There have been 175 recorded deaths for Fremont County for the first half of 2017:
1. 54% were Coroner Cases (95)
 2. In 2017, compared to 2016, the case load has increased by 21 (95 compared to 74 in 2016).
- B. **CASES:** So far for the 1st half of 2017, the total of cases “non-natural” in manner (accident, homicide, suicide, undetermined) is 32% of the total coroner cases. Of those:
1. The number of **accidental** deaths is 18, four more than the first half of 2016.
 2. The number of deaths by **suicide** is 5, five less (or half) than the first half of 2016.
 3. The number of deaths by **homicide** is 7, five more than the first half of 2016.
- C. **Motor-vehicle/Traffic deaths:** There have been 13 vehicular deaths so far in 2017, **11 more** than the first half of 2016 (2).
1. All of the deaths were drug and/or alcohol related, with one pending toxicology.
 2. One ATV and two motorcycle deaths had no helmets in use.
 3. Only one person was using their vehicular seatbelt.
 4. One incident accounted for 5 deaths, another incident for 3 deaths.
- D. **NOTES:**
1. Accidental death totals in 2015 (42) were the highest on record since 1979, at 2 ½ times the national average for our population, they totaled less in 2016 (30), but are trending higher again this year.
 2. Suicides appear to be trending lower after a three year continual rise and are currently at the national average for our population.
 3. Homicides are up, but six of those were motor vehicle related in two incidents..
- E. **DRUGS AND ALCOHOL:**
1. Drugs and Alcohol related deaths in the first half of 2017 account for 31% of all Coroner cases, and 77% of the non-natural deaths. This is up a bit from the 73% in non-natural deaths for the first half of 2016, and will rise once the nine pending toxicology results are received.
 2. Drugs and/or alcohol were involved in 6 of 7 homicides, 4 of 5 suicides, and 89% of the accidental deaths.
 3. **Alcohol remains the number one drug in related deaths (20 of 30 non-natural), but Cannabis related deaths have now moved to #2 over prescription drugs for the first time since we have been tracking this since 2005. Cannabis was related in 12 of 30 non-natural deaths versus 4 for prescription drugs. This is mostly due to being an intoxicant while driving (8 of the 12).**

2016-17 FISCAL YEAR END:

1. Once all billing for June is completed, best estimate is that our FYE 2017 budget will end at about 8% under budget (roughly about \$30,000).
3. Keep in mind that the newly approved FYE 2018 budget is based on averages, and we are already above 2016 in case numbers, with an anticipated surge in August for the eclipse. Any other unusual fatality events outside our average case load will be dealt with on an individual basis for costs.