

Heat-Associated Deaths in Maricopa County, AZ Preliminary Report for 2018

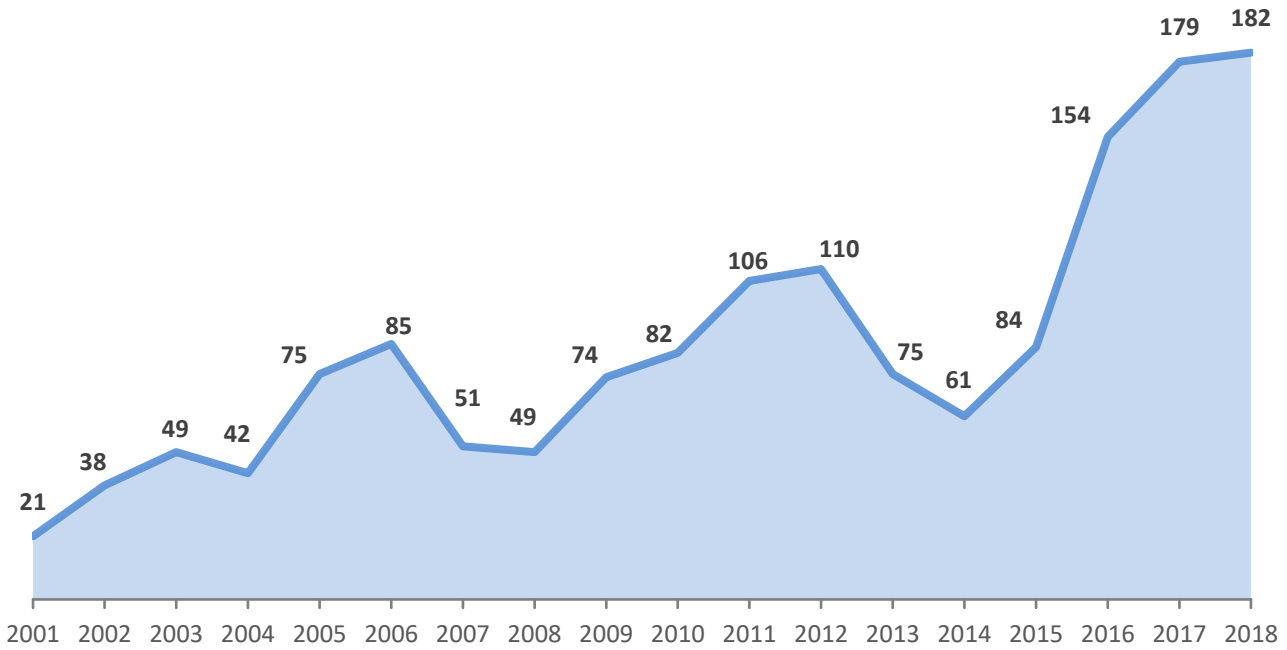


Photograph by Dan Sorensen:

<http://www.dansorensenphotography.com/>

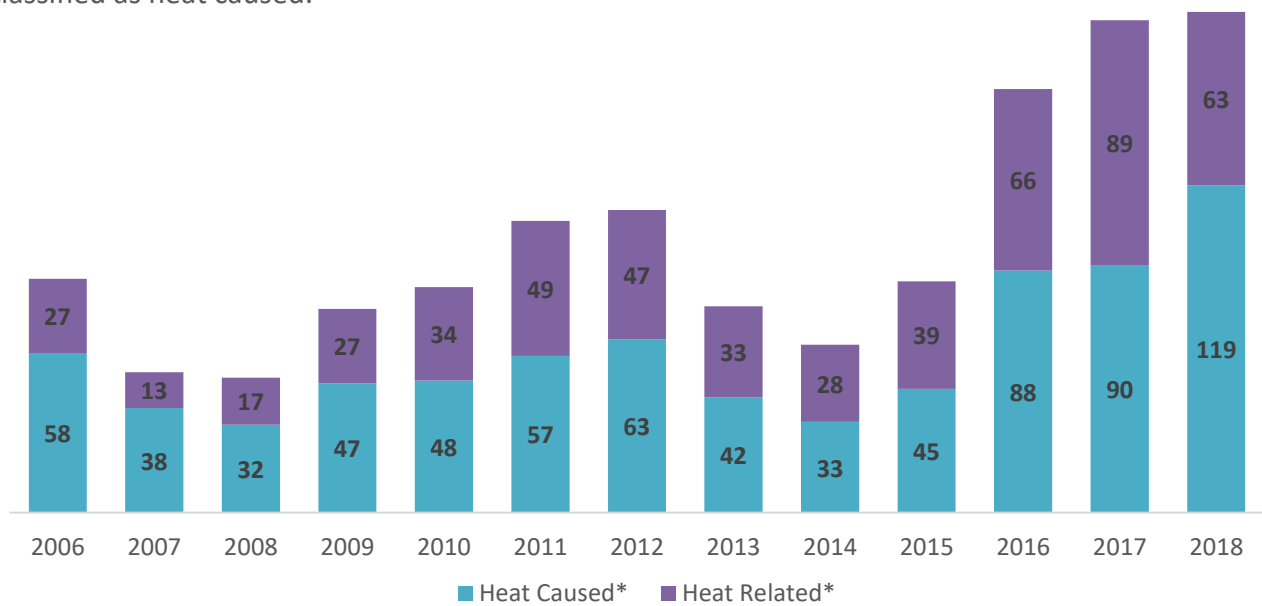
Heat-Associated Deaths by Year

Graph 1. There were 182 heat-associated deaths reported in 2018.



Data Sources: Maricopa County, Office of Vital Registration and Office of Medical Examiner; Arizona Department of Health Services, Office of Vital Registration

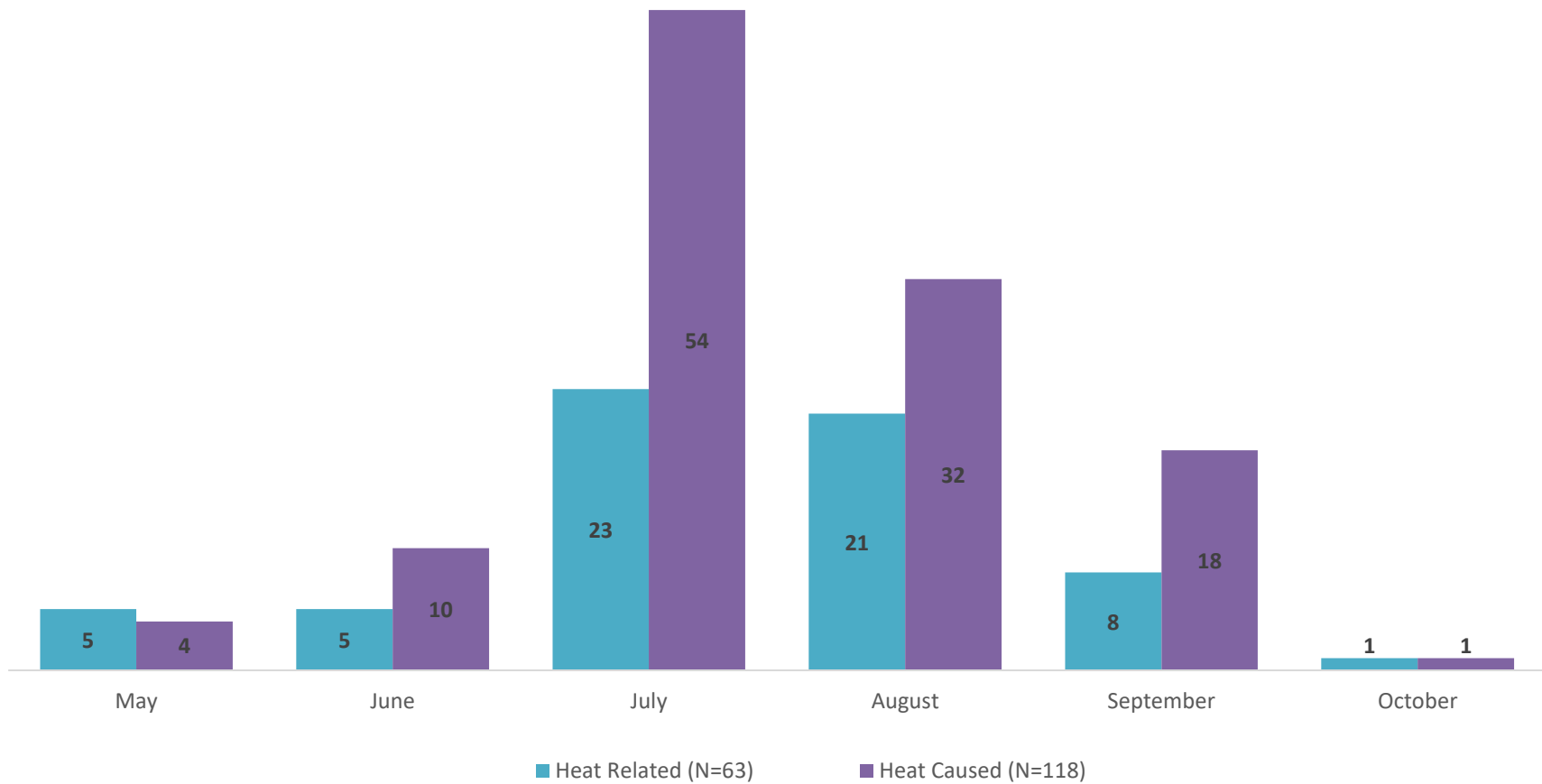
Graph 2. Fifty-nine percent of heat-associated deaths since 2006 have been classified as heat caused.



*Heat Caused refers to cases where environmental heat was directly involved in the sequence of conditions causing death, whereas Heat Related refers to cases in which environmental heat contributed to the death.

Heat-Associated Deaths by Month

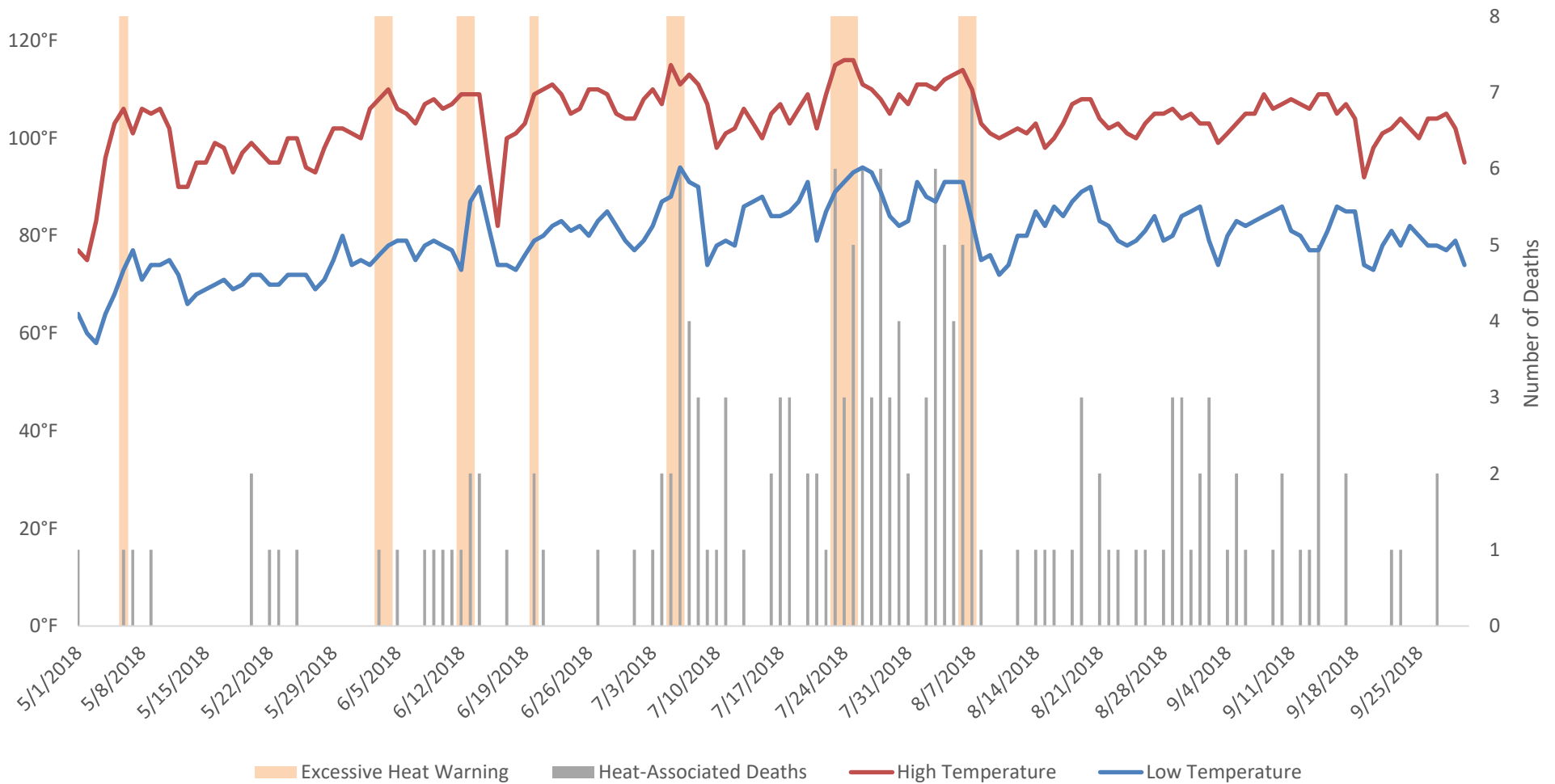
Graph 3. Eighty-six percent of all heat-associated deaths occurred in the months of July, August, and September (N=156).



Heat-Associated Deaths and Temperatures

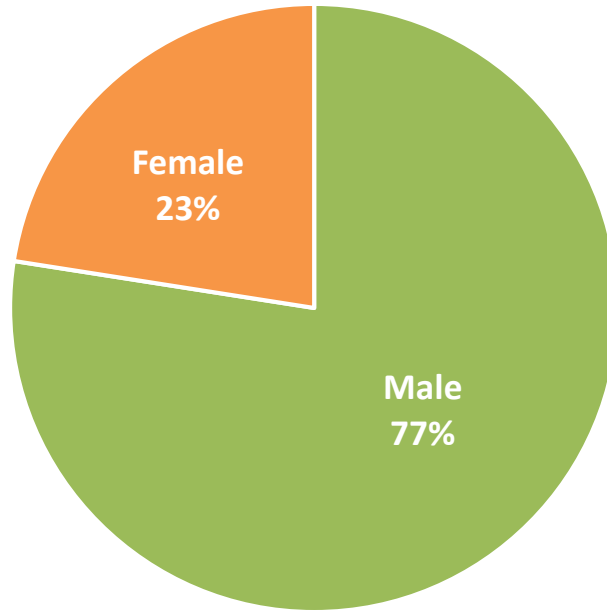
- Seven excessive heat warnings were issued for Maricopa County by the National Weather Service in 2018
- The highest daily maximum temperature in 2018 was 116°F and occurred July 24th and July 25th

Graph 4. Twenty-three percent (N=41) of heat-associated deaths occurred on days for which an excessive heat warning has been issued.

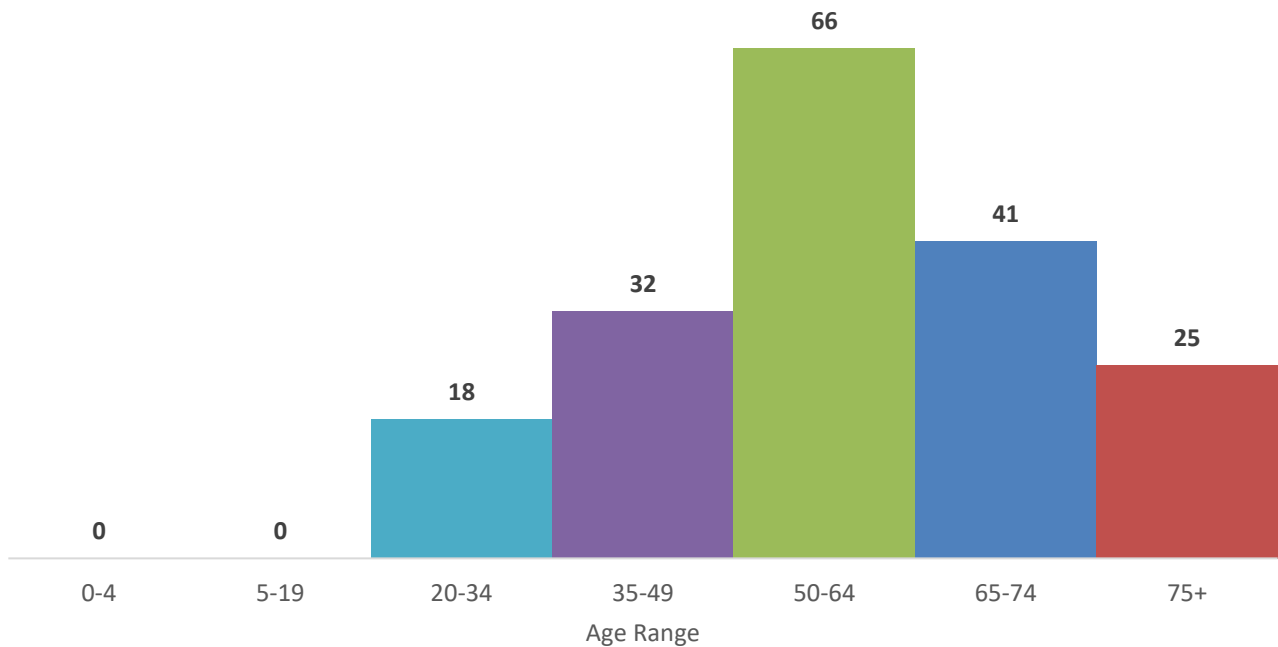


Heat-Associated Deaths by Demographic

Graph 5. The majority of heat-associated deaths occurred among males.

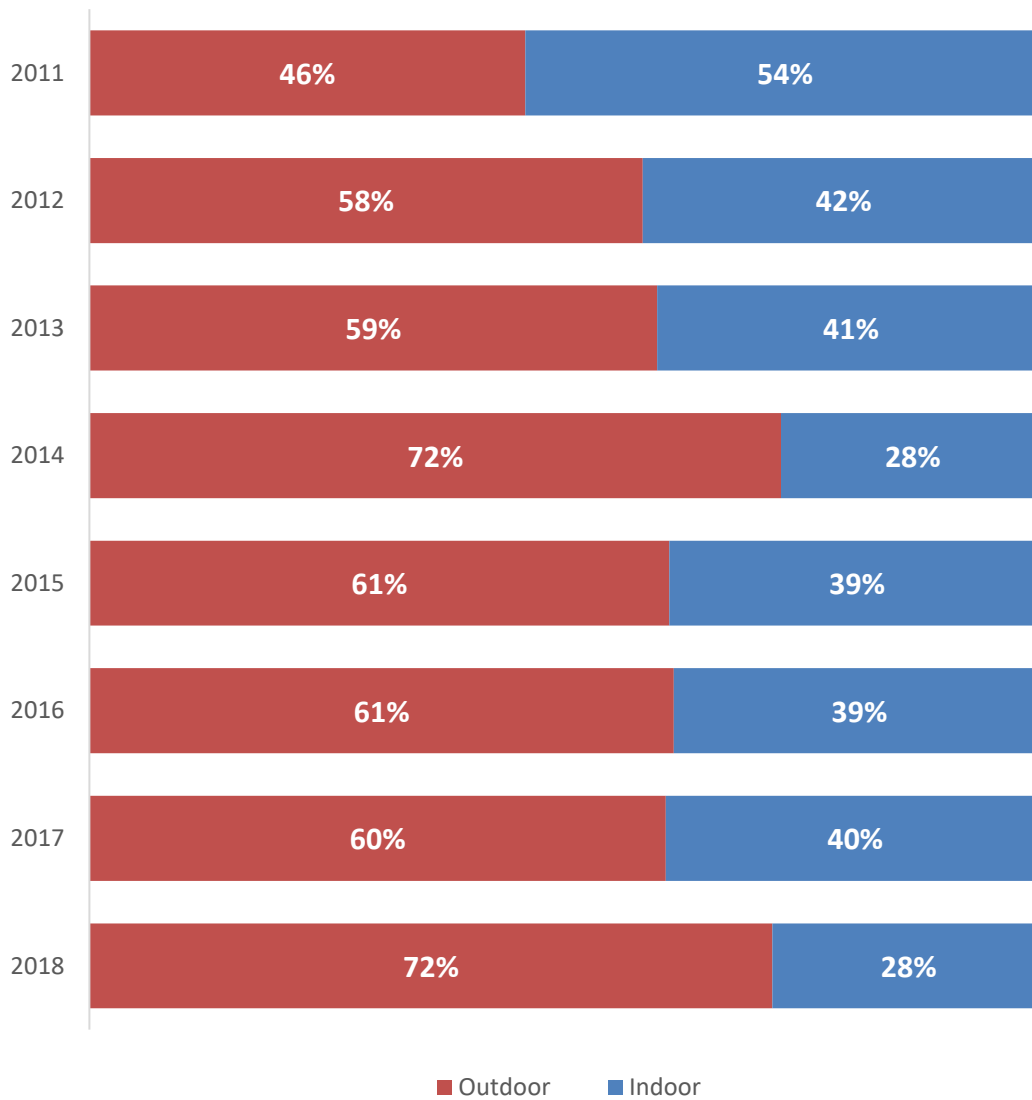


Graph 6. There were no heat-associated deaths among individuals under twenty years of age in 2018.



Heat-Associated Deaths by Place of Injury

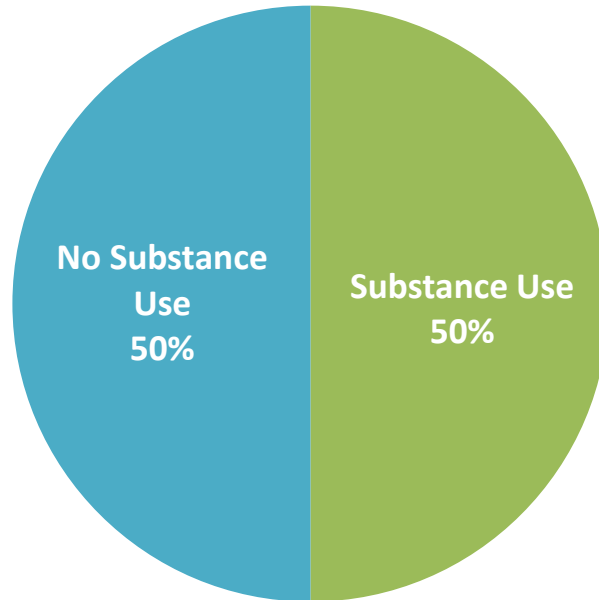
Graph 7. A lower proportion of deaths occurred indoors than in previous years.



- The majority of indoor deaths occurred in those age 65 and older whereas the majority of outdoor deaths occurred in those under the age of 65.

Heat-Associated Deaths by Substance Use

Graph 8. Half of all cases (N=91) involved substance use (drugs and/or alcohol) as a cause of death or a contributing factor.



Heat-Associated Deaths and Homelessness

Graph 26. Among cases with known living situation, homeless individuals accounted for thirty-five percent of heat-associated deaths in 2018.

