

Annual Report Comparison

January 1 to June 30, 2019 and 2020

Medical Examiner

Note: Events surrounding COVID-19 have sparked questions regarding the number of suicides, traffic-related fatalities, drug-related deaths, etc. This report is meant to provide frequency data comparing **January 1st to June 30th, 2019 and 2020** for the twelve counties served by WMed as the Medical Examiner's Office.

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Reported deaths per 10,000 people

Death rate in 2019 and 2020 for reported deaths. Based on 2019 population estimates. Percent change is meant as a guide and should not be used to conclude statistical significance. **On average, about 1/3 of all deaths occurring in a county are reported to the Medical Examiner. The data in this report includes only those deaths reported to our office.**

Total reported deaths by month

Number of investigated deaths reported to the Medical Examiner's Office by month.

Manner of Death

Accident is when an injury or poisoning causes death without evidence there was an intent to cause harm or death; homicide occurs when death results from a volitional act committed by another to cause harm or death; suicide results from an injury or poisoning as a result of an intentional, self-inflicted act to do self-harm or cause death; natural deaths are due solely or nearly totally to disease and/or the aging process; and, indeterminate is when the information pointing to one manner of death is no more compelling than one or more other competing manners of death in thorough consideration of all available information.

Reported Deaths: Autopsy Status

Once a death has been reported to the Medical Examiner's Office, determination of whether an autopsy is done is based on the National Association of Medical Examiner's Autopsy Performance Standards. The type of autopsy is determined based on the circumstances of death and Michigan law.

Common Unnatural Deaths

Traffic related deaths include fatalities involving motor vehicles (car, ATV, moped, motorcycle) and pedestrians. Fall related deaths indicate the death stemmed from related injuries. Drug related deaths are categorized by opioid only, non-opioid only, and opioid non-opioid to illustrate the types of drugs determined to cause death. This section includes deaths where drugs were the immediate cause of death. Percent change is meant as a guide and should not be used to conclude statistical significance.

Annual Report Highlights

Allegan County, Michigan

Reported deaths per 10,000 people

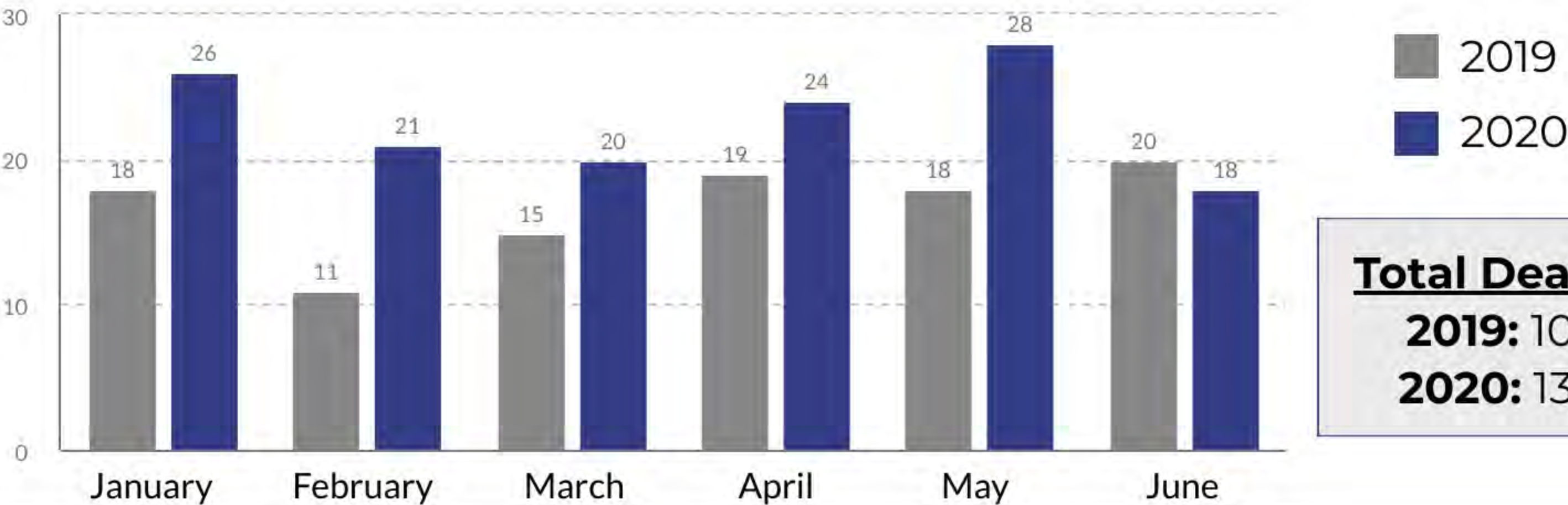
2019: 8.38
reported deaths
per 10,000

2020: 11.60
reported deaths
per 10,000

**Percent
change:** +38%



Total Reported Deaths by Month



Total Deaths
2019: 101
2020: 137

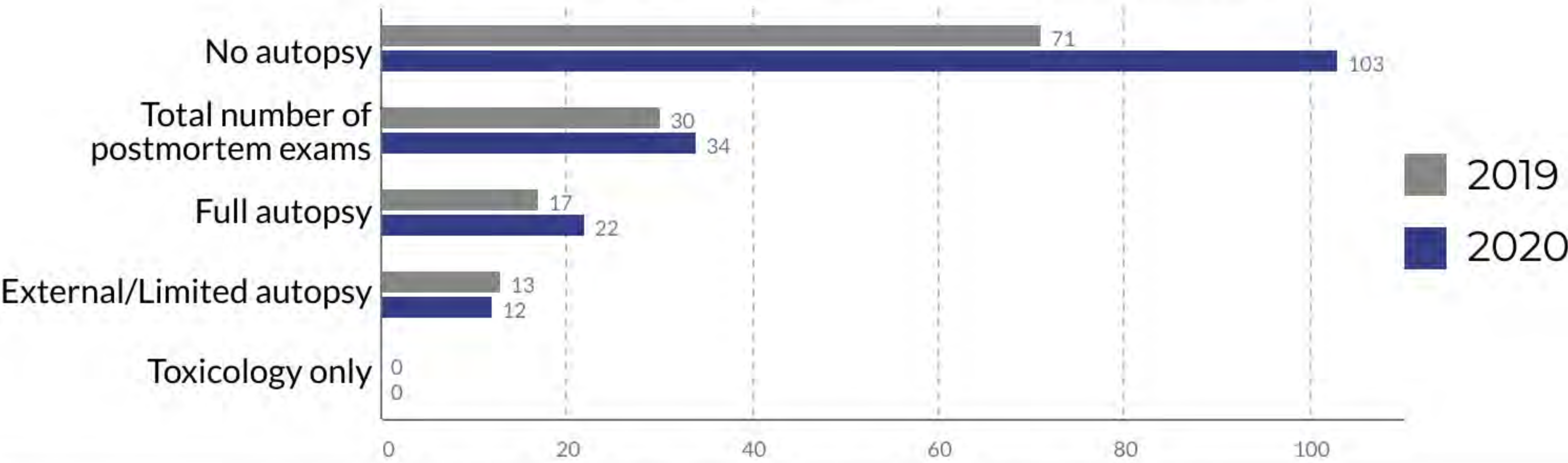
Manner of Death

2019	
Accident.....	21
Homicide.....	0
Natural.....	70
Suicide.....	8
Indeterminate.....	0

2020	
Accident.....	26
Homicide.....	1
Natural.....	100
Suicide.....	8
Indeterminate.....	1

Percent Change	
Accident.....	+24%
Homicide.....	NA
Natural.....	+43%
Suicide.....	0%
Indeterminate.....	NA

Reported Deaths: Autopsy Status



Common Unnatural Deaths

2019	
Traffic related.....	4
Drowning.....	0
Falls.....	7
Drug related.....	7
Opioid only.....	2
Non-opioid only.....	1
Opioid & non-opioid.....	4

2020	
Traffic related.....	6
Drowning.....	0
Falls.....	10
Drug-related.....	8
Opioid only.....	0
Non-opioid only.....	2
Opioid & non-opioid.....	6

Percent Change	
Traffic related.....	+50%
Drowning.....	0%
Falls.....	+43%
Drug-related.....	+14%
Opioid only.....	-100%
Non-opioid only.....	+100%
Opioid & non-opioid.....	+50%

Annual Report Highlights

Barry County, Michigan

Reported deaths per 10,000 people

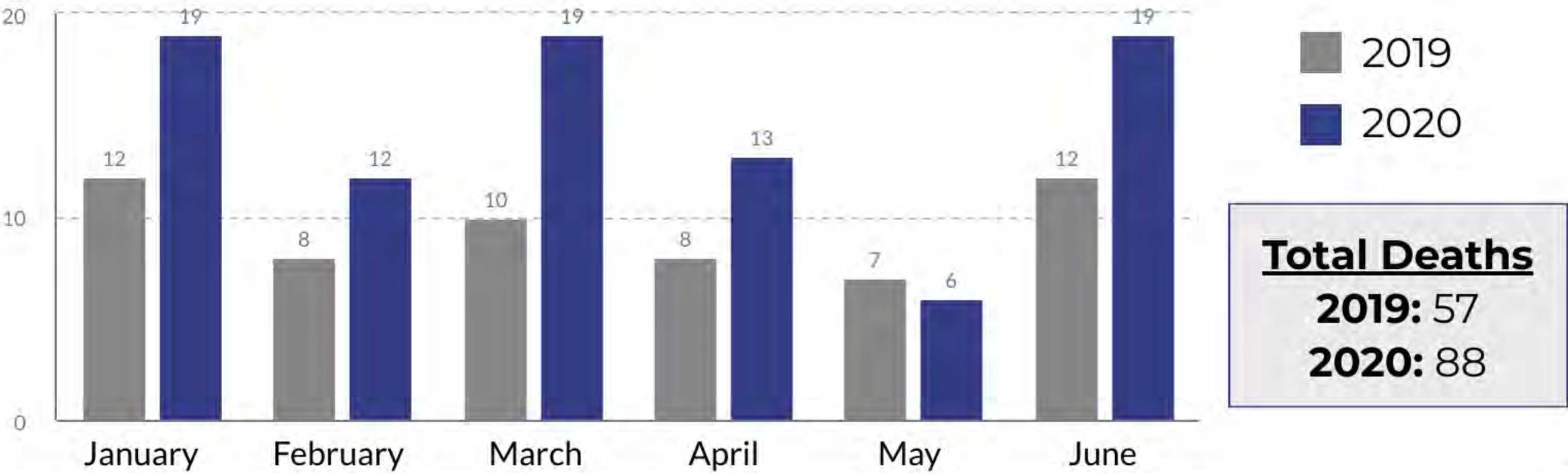
2019: 9.16
reported deaths
per 10,000

2020: 14.14
reported deaths
per 10,000

**Percent
change:** +54%



Total Reported Deaths by Month



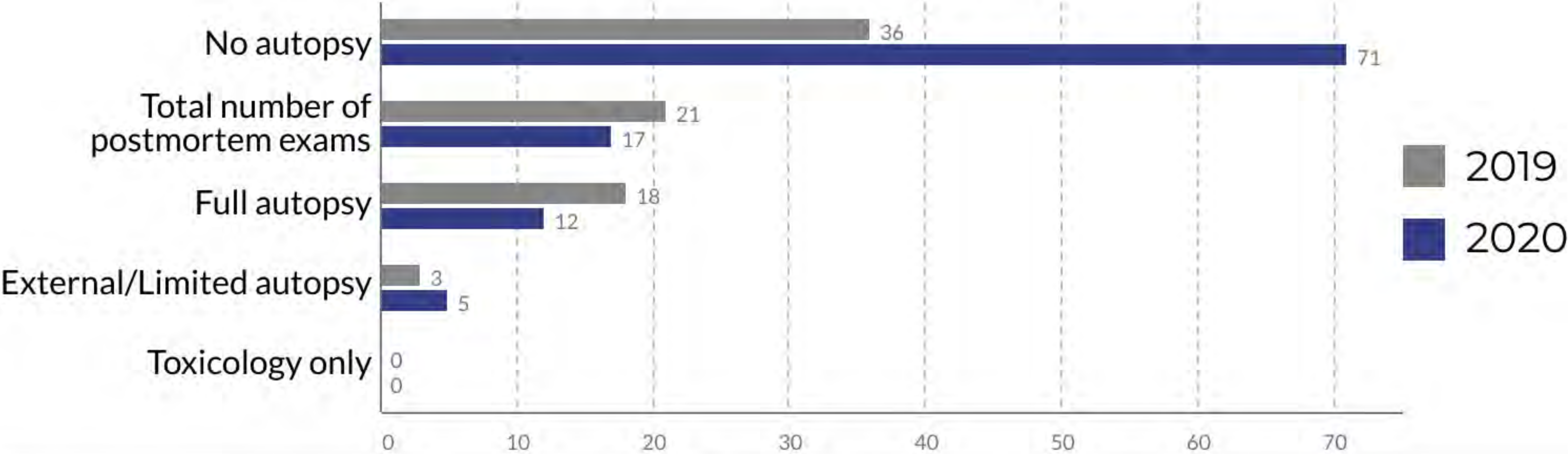
Manner of Death

2019	
Accident.....	12
Homicide.....	2
Natural.....	37
Suicide.....	4
Indeterminate.....	0

2020	
Accident.....	19
Homicide.....	0
Natural.....	63
Suicide.....	4
Indeterminate.....	1

Percent Change	
Accident.....	+58%
Homicide.....	-100%
Natural.....	+62%
Suicide.....	0%
Indeterminate.....	NA

Reported Deaths: Autopsy Status



Common Unnatural Deaths

2019	
Traffic related.....	5
Drowning.....	1
Falls.....	0
Drug related.....	4
Opioid only.....	0
Non-opioid only.....	2
Opioid & non-opioid.....	2

2020	
Traffic related.....	2
Drowning.....	0
Falls.....	7
Drug-related.....	8
Opioid only.....	2
Non-opioid only.....	0
Opioid & non-opioid.....	6

Percent Change	
Traffic related.....	-60%
Drowning.....	-100%
Falls.....	NA
Drug-related.....	+100%
Opioid only.....	NA
Non-opioid only.....	-100%
Opioid & non-opioid.....	+200%

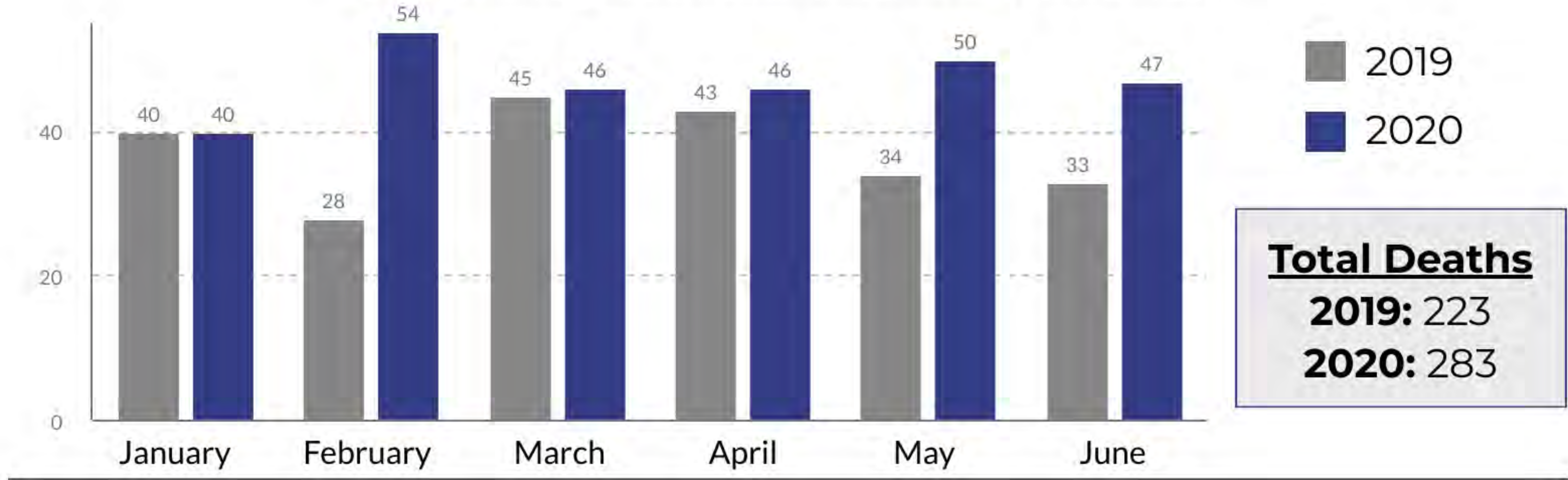
Annual Report Highlights

Berrien County, Michigan

Reported deaths per 10,000 people

2019: 14.54 reported deaths per 10,000	2020: 18.45 reported deaths per 10,000	Percent change: +27% 
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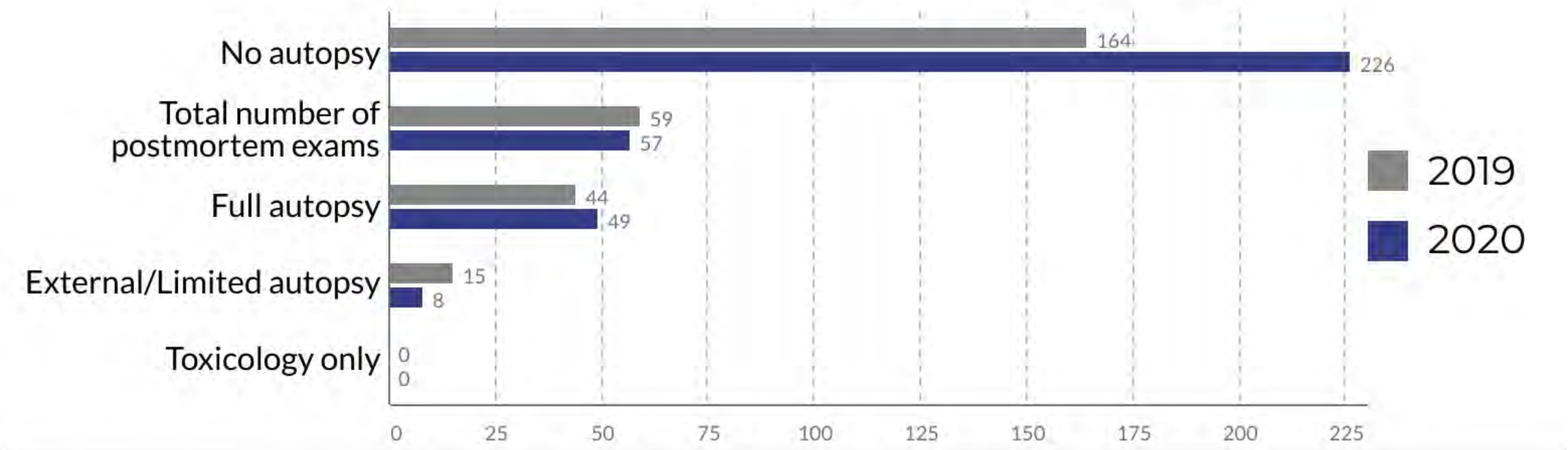
Total Reported Deaths by Month



Manner of Death

2019	2020	Percent Change
Accident..... 38	Accident..... 38	0%
Homicide..... 1	Homicide..... 3	+200%
Natural..... 168	Natural..... 230	+37%
Suicide..... 12	Suicide..... 10	-17%
Indeterminate..... 4	Indeterminate..... 0	-100%

Reported Deaths: Autopsy Status



Common Unnatural Deaths

2019	2020	Percent Change
Traffic related..... 8	Traffic related..... 2	-75%
Drowning..... 2	Drowning..... 5	+150%
Falls..... 8	Falls..... 6	-25%
Drug related..... 15	Drug-related..... 18	+20%
Opioid only..... 4	Opioid only..... 3	-25%
Non-opioid only..... 3	Non-opioid only..... 3	0%
Opioid & non-opioid..... 8	Opioid & non-opioid..... 12	+50%

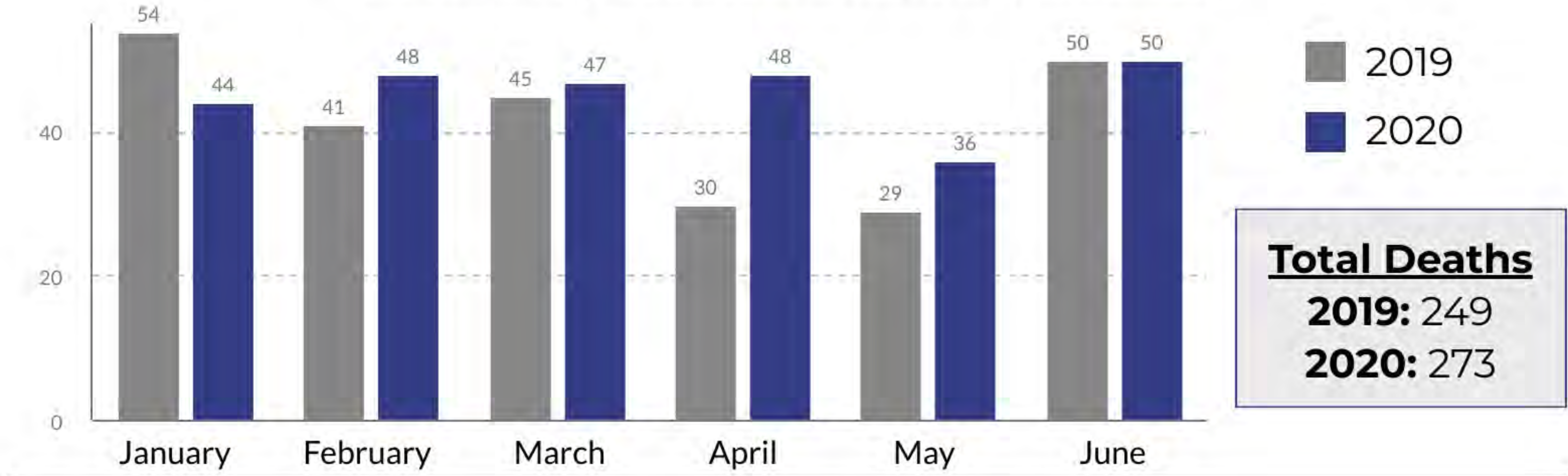
Annual Report Highlights

Calhoun County, Michigan

Reported deaths per 10,000 people

2019: 18.41 reported deaths per 10,000	2020: 20.35 reported deaths per 10,000	Percent change: +11% 
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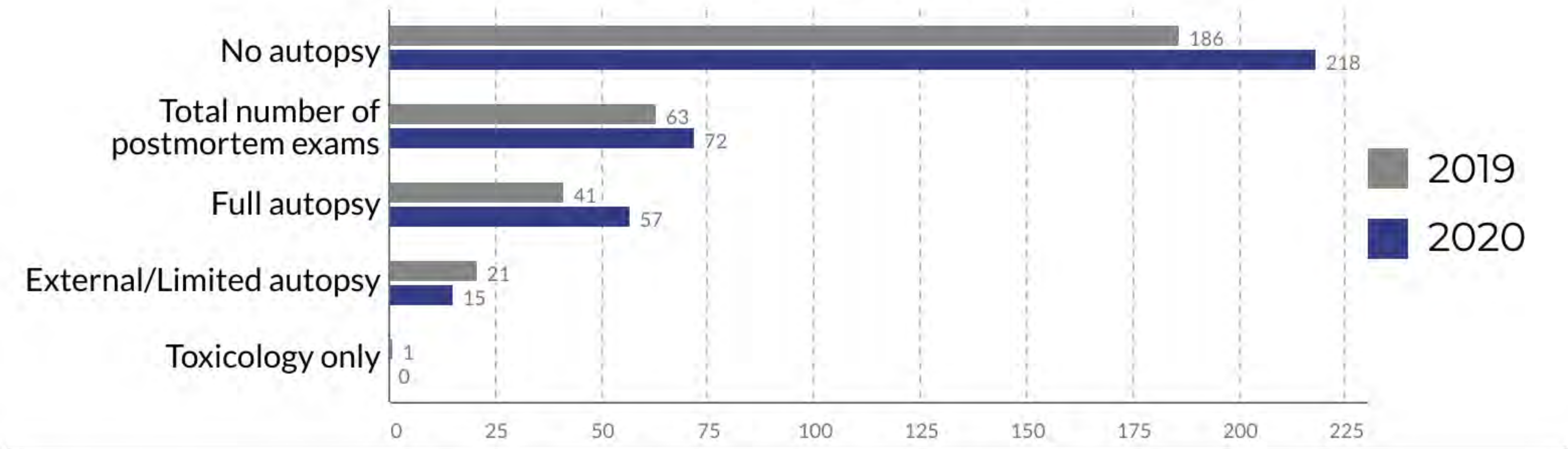
Total Reported Deaths by Month



Manner of Death

2019	2020	Percent Change
Accident..... 42	Accident..... 57	+36%
Homicide..... 2	Homicide..... 6	+200%
Natural..... 187	Natural..... 196	+5%
Suicide..... 12	Suicide..... 7	-42%
Indeterminate..... 4	Indeterminate..... 5	+25%

Reported Deaths: Autopsy Status



Common Unnatural Deaths

2019	2020	Percent Change
Traffic related..... 7	Traffic related..... 10	+43%
Drowning..... 0	Drowning..... 2	NA
Falls..... 10	Falls..... 9	-10%
Drug related..... 18	Drug-related..... 28	+56%
Opioid only..... 6	Opioid only..... 6	0%
Non-opioid only..... 2	Non-opioid only..... 3	+50%
Opioid & non-opioid..... 10	Opioid & non-opioid..... 19	+90%

Annual Report Highlights

Grand Traverse County, Michigan

Reported deaths per 10,000 people

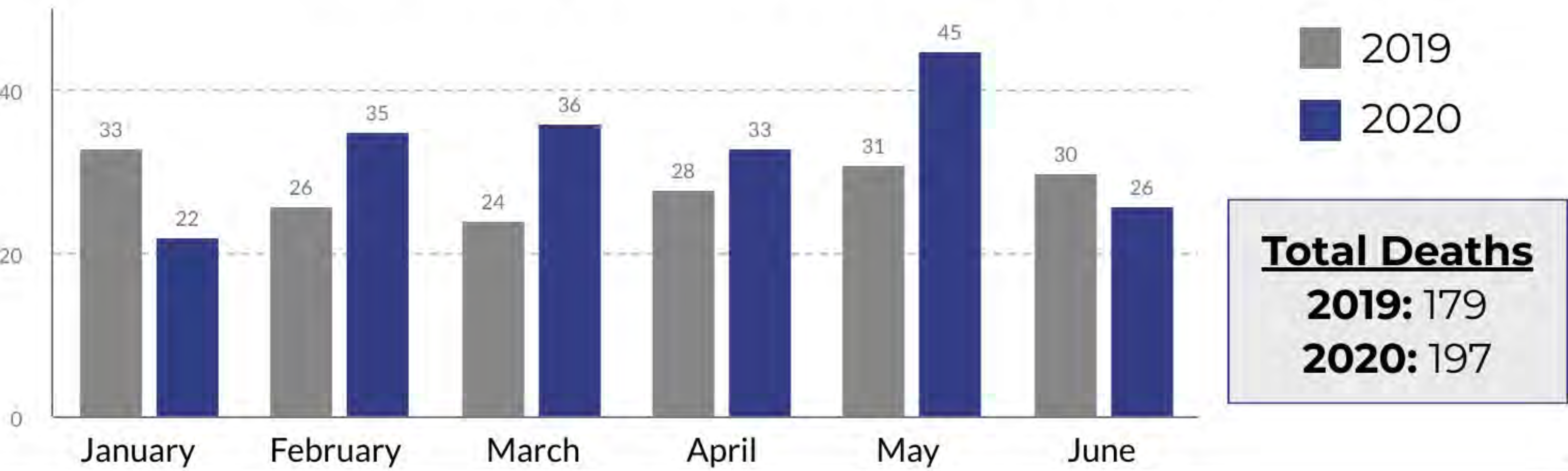
2019: 17.94
reported deaths
per 10,000

2020: 21.16
reported deaths
per 10,000

**Percent
change:** +18%



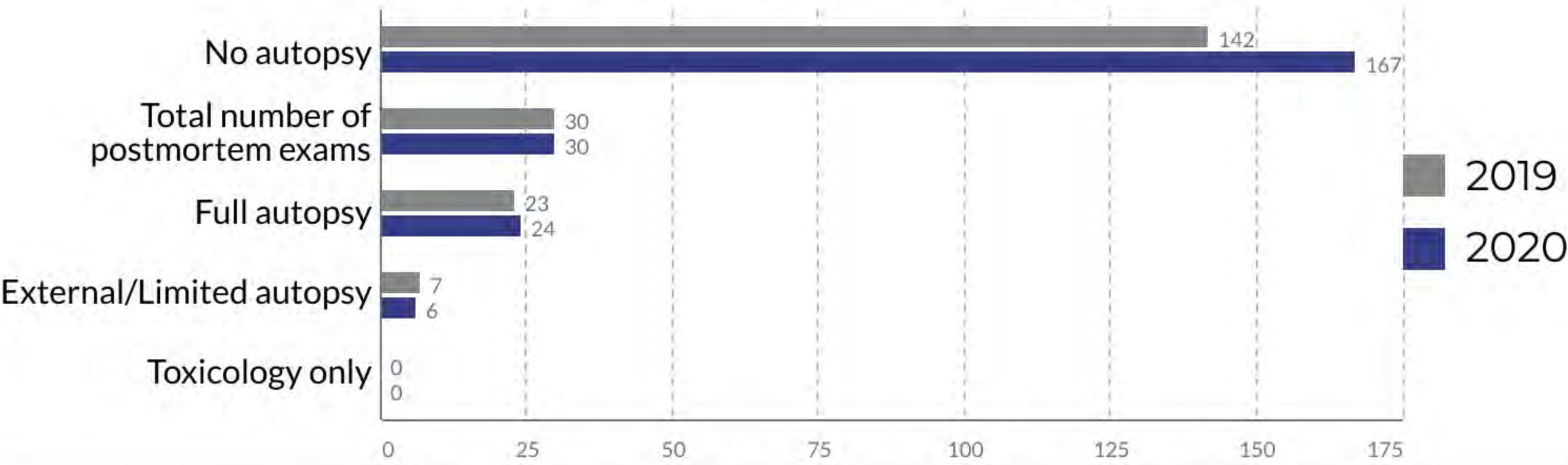
Total Reported Deaths by Month



Manner of Death

2019	2020	Percent Change
Accident..... 30	Accident..... 42	+40%
Homicide..... 3	Homicide..... 1	-67%
Natural..... 120	Natural..... 145	+21%
Suicide..... 11	Suicide..... 6	-45%
Indeterminate..... 3	Indeterminate..... 1	-67%

Reported Deaths: Autopsy Status



Common Unnatural Deaths

2019	2020	Percent Change
Traffic related..... 7	Traffic related..... 9	+29%
Drowning..... 1	Drowning..... 0	-100%
Falls..... 14	Falls..... 17	+21%
Drug related..... 7	Drug-related..... 9	+29%
Opioid only..... 0	Opioid only..... 0	0%
Non-opioid only..... 4	Non-opioid only..... 2	-50%
Opioid & non-opioid..... 3	Opioid & non-opioid..... 7	+133%

Annual Report Highlights

Kalamazoo County, Michigan

Reported deaths per 10,000 people

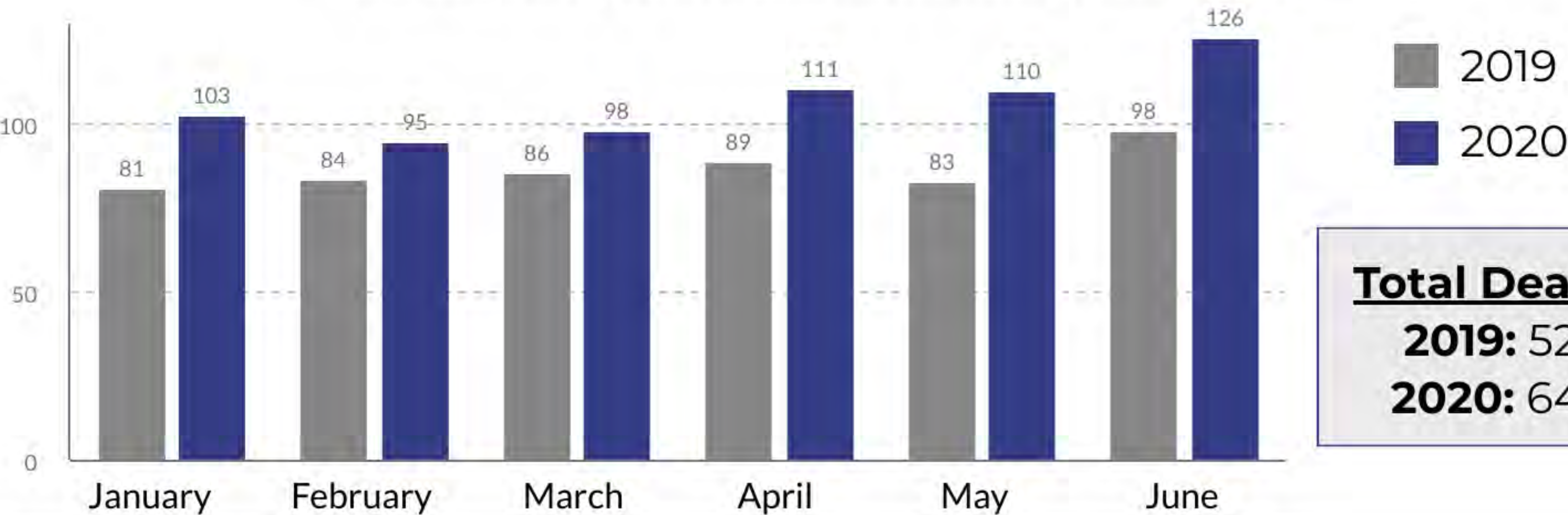
2019: 19.62
reported deaths
per 10,000

2020: 24.26
reported deaths
per 10,000

**Percent
change:** +24%



Total Reported Deaths by Month

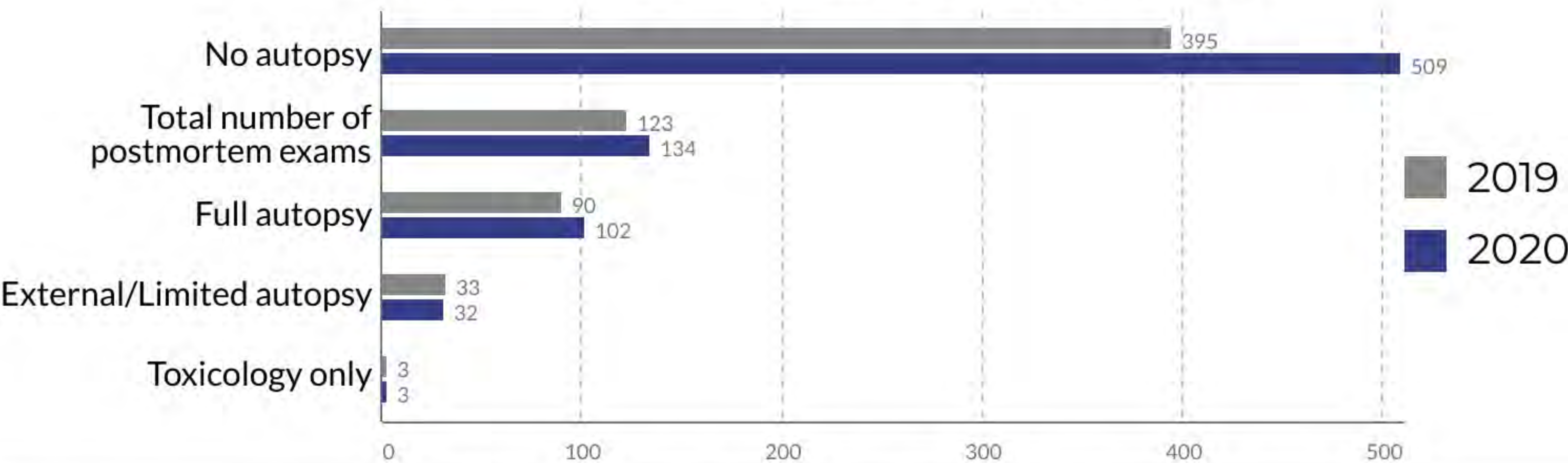


Total Deaths
2019: 521
2020: 643

Manner of Death

2019	2020	Percent Change
Accident.....91	Accident.....141	+55%
Homicide.....9	Homicide.....11	+22%
Natural.....391	Natural.....457	+17%
Suicide.....24	Suicide.....23	-4%
Indeterminate.....5	Indeterminate.....8	+60%

Reported Deaths: Autopsy Status



Common Unnatural Deaths

2019	2020	Percent Change
Traffic related.....20	Traffic related.....16	-20%
Drowning.....5	Drowning.....3	-40%
Falls.....36	Falls.....69	+92%
Drug related.....22	Drug-related.....40	+82%
Opioid only.....4	Opioid only.....7	+75%
Non-opioid only.....5	Non-opioid only.....7	+40%
Opioid & non-opioid.....13	Opioid & non-opioid.....26	+100%

Annual Report Highlights

Leelanau County, Michigan

Reported deaths per 10,000 people

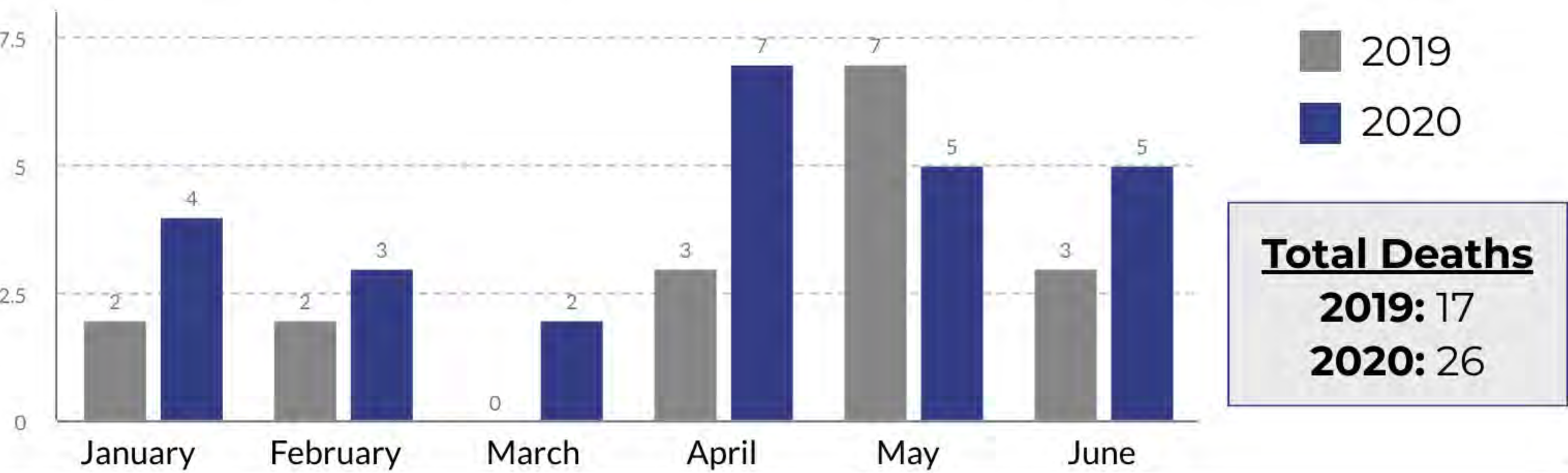
2019: 7.81
reported deaths
per 10,000

2020: 11.95
reported deaths
per 10,000

**Percent
change:** +53%



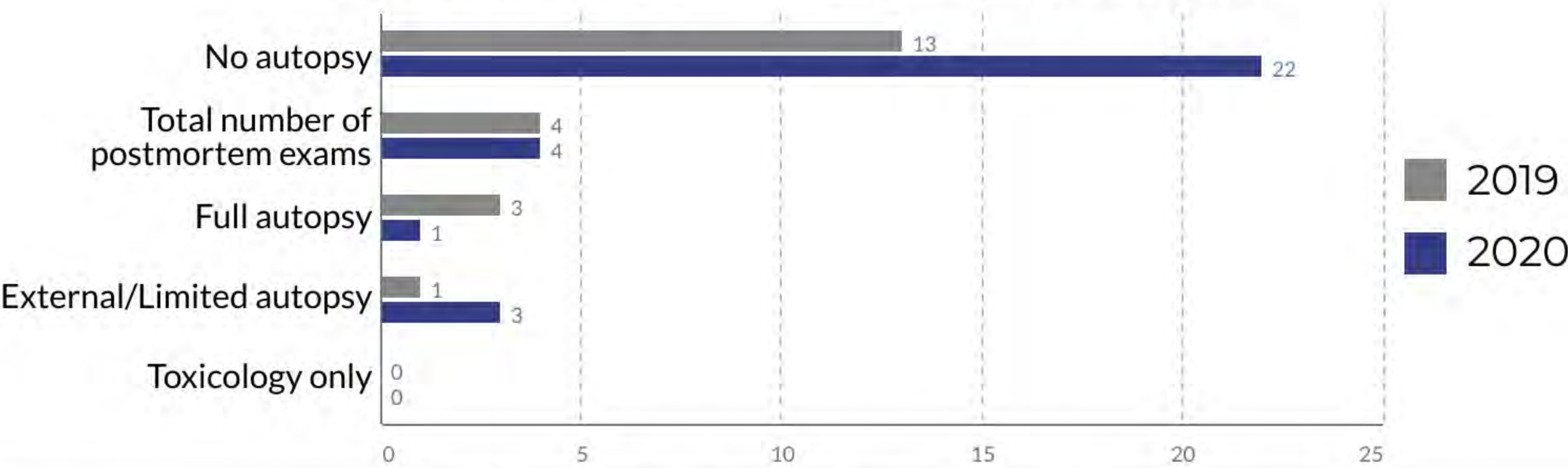
Total Reported Deaths by Month



Manner of Death

2019	2020	Percent Change
Accident..... 2	Accident..... 2	0%
Homicide..... 0	Homicide..... 0	0%
Natural..... 13	Natural..... 21	62%
Suicide..... 2	Suicide..... 3	50%
Indeterminate..... 0	Indeterminate..... 0	0%

Reported Deaths: Autopsy Status



Common Unnatural Deaths

2019	2020	Percent Change
Traffic related..... 1	Traffic related..... 0	-100%
Drowning..... 1	Drowning..... 0	-100%
Falls..... 0	Falls..... 0	0%
Drug related..... 0	Drug-related..... 2	NA
Opioid only..... 0	Opioid only..... 1	0%
Non-opioid only..... 0	Non-opioid only..... 0	0%
Opioid & non-opioid..... 0	Opioid & non-opioid..... 1	NA

Annual Report Highlights

Mason County, Michigan

Reported deaths per 10,000 people

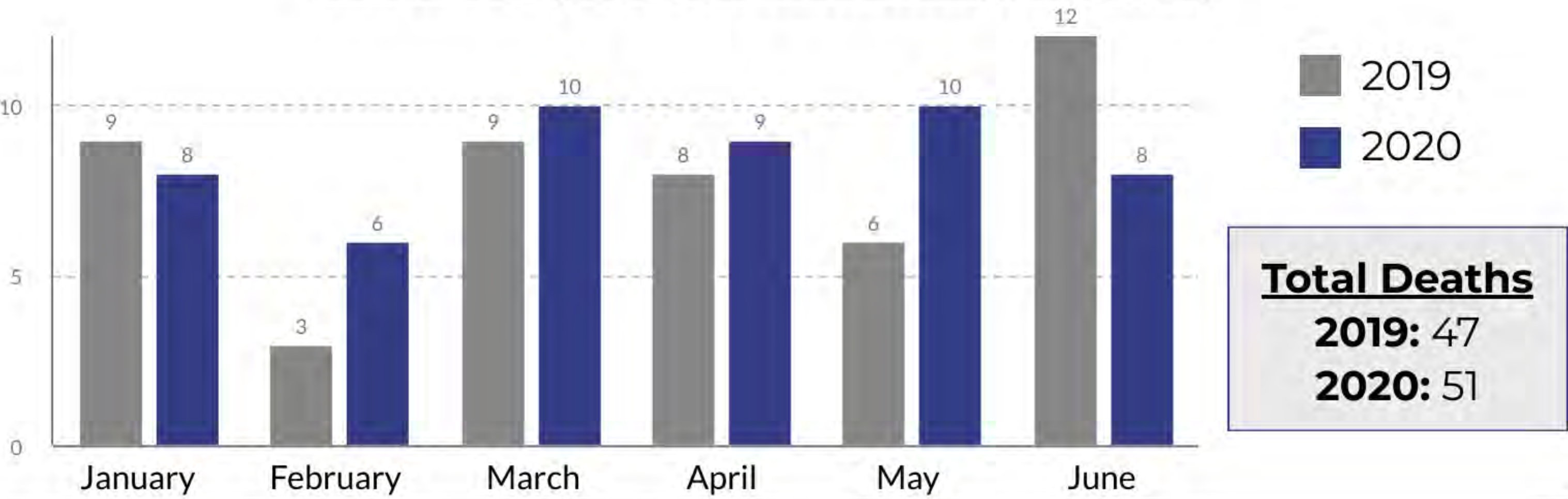
2019: 16.13
reported deaths
per 10,000

2020: 17.50
reported deaths
per 10,000

**Percent
change:** +9%



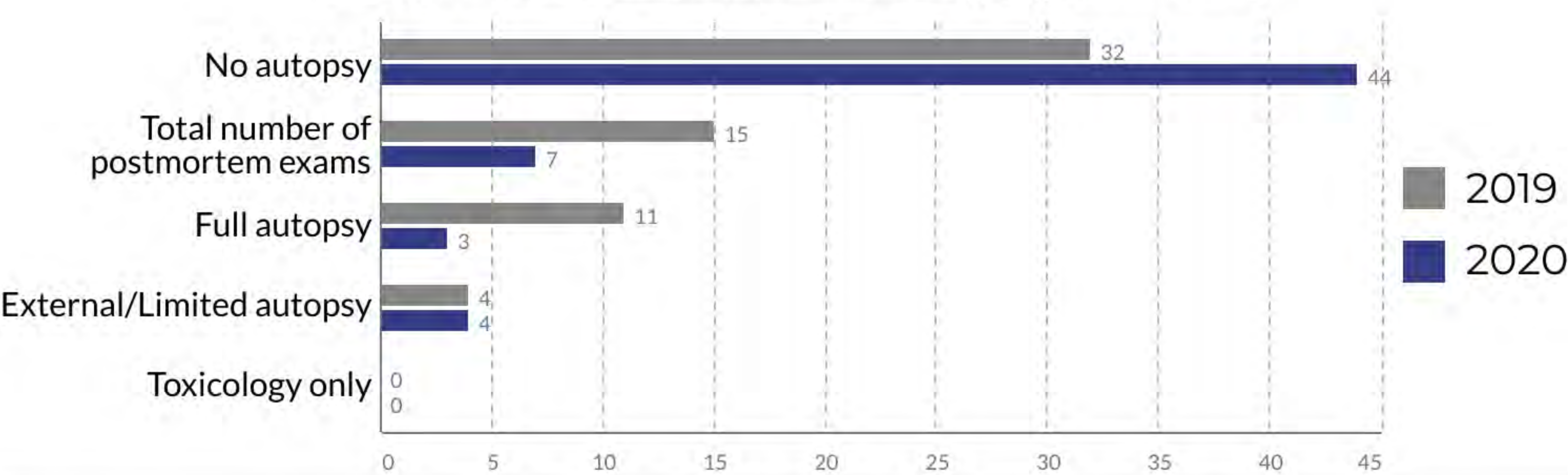
Total Reported Deaths by Month



Manner of Death

2019	2020	Percent Change
Accident..... 6	Accident..... 7	+17%
Homicide..... 1	Homicide..... 0	-100%
Natural..... 37	Natural..... 39	+5%
Suicide..... 2	Suicide..... 4	+100%
Indeterminate..... 1	Indeterminate..... 0	-100%

Reported Deaths: Autopsy Status



Common Unnatural Deaths

2019	2020	Percent Change
Traffic related..... 0	Traffic related..... 1	NA
Drowning..... 0	Drowning..... 0	NA
Falls..... 3	Falls..... 3	0%
Drug related..... 2	Drug-related..... 1	-50%
Opioid only..... 0	Opioid only..... 0	0%
Non-opioid only..... 1	Non-opioid only..... 0	-100%
Opioid & non-opioid..... 1	Opioid & non-opioid..... 1	0%

Annual Report Highlights

Muskegon County, Michigan

Reported deaths per 10,000 people

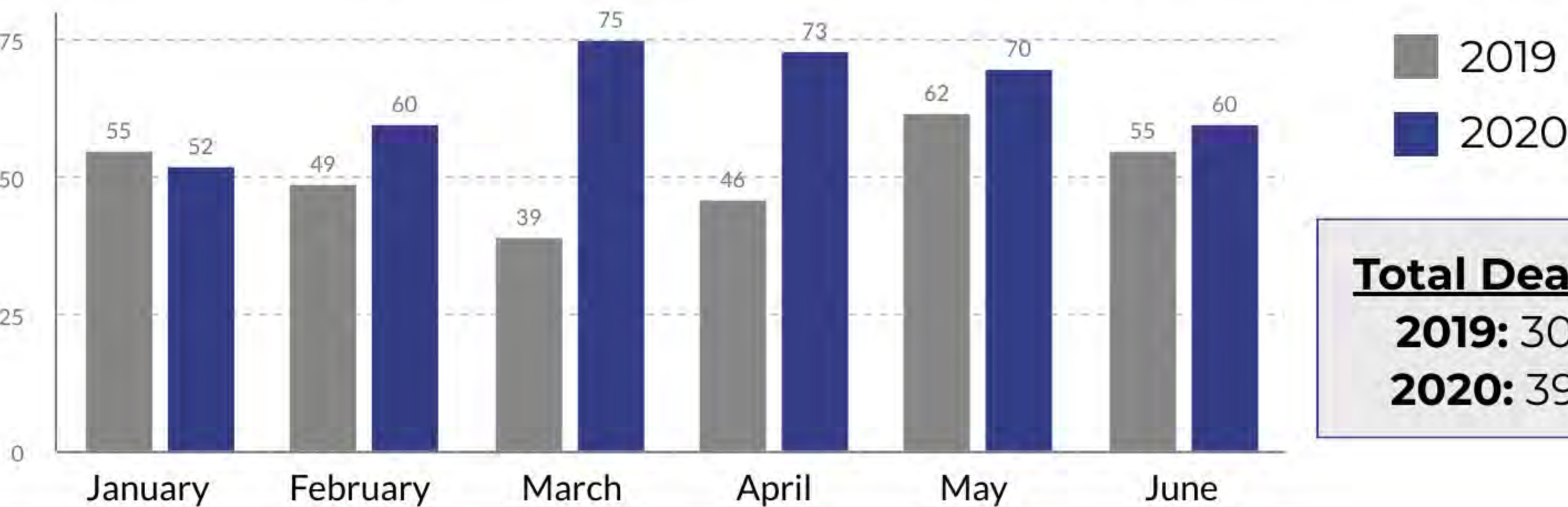
2019: 17.63
reported deaths
per 10,000

2020: 22.50
reported deaths
per 10,000

**Percent
change:** +27%



Total Reported Deaths by Month



Total Deaths
2019: 306
2020: 390

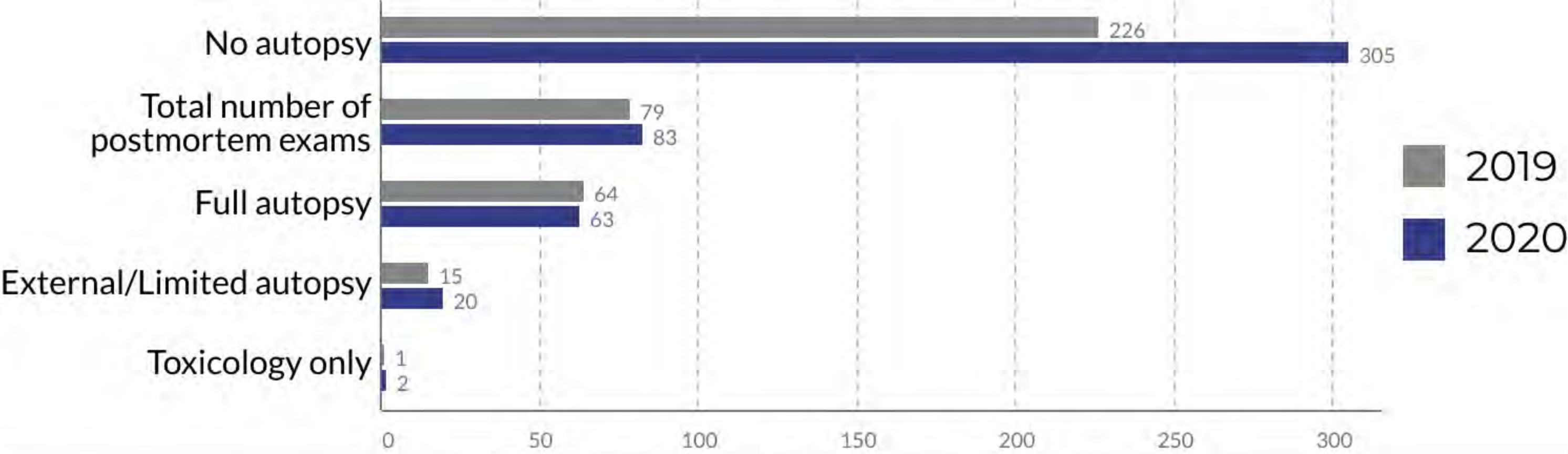
Manner of Death

2019	
Accident.....	67
Homicide.....	9
Natural.....	213
Suicide.....	10
Indeterminate.....	7

2020	
Accident.....	71
Homicide.....	5
Natural.....	295
Suicide.....	15
Indeterminate.....	4

Percent Change	
Accident.....	+6%
Homicide.....	-44%
Natural.....	+38%
Suicide.....	+50%
Indeterminate.....	-43%

Reported Deaths: Autopsy Status



Common Unnatural Deaths

2019	
Traffic related.....	19
Drowning.....	3
Falls.....	26
Drug related.....	20
Opioid only.....	6
Non-opioid only.....	3
Opioid & non-opioid.....	11

2020	
Traffic related.....	7
Drowning.....	3
Falls.....	20
Drug-related.....	35
Opioid only.....	7
Non-opioid only.....	5
Opioid & non-opioid.....	23

Percent Change	
Traffic related.....	-63%
Drowning.....	0%
Falls.....	-23%
Drug-related.....	+75%
Opioid only.....	+17%
Non-opioid only.....	+67%
Opioid & non-opioid.....	+109%

Annual Report Highlights

Osceola County, Michigan

Reported deaths per 10,000 people

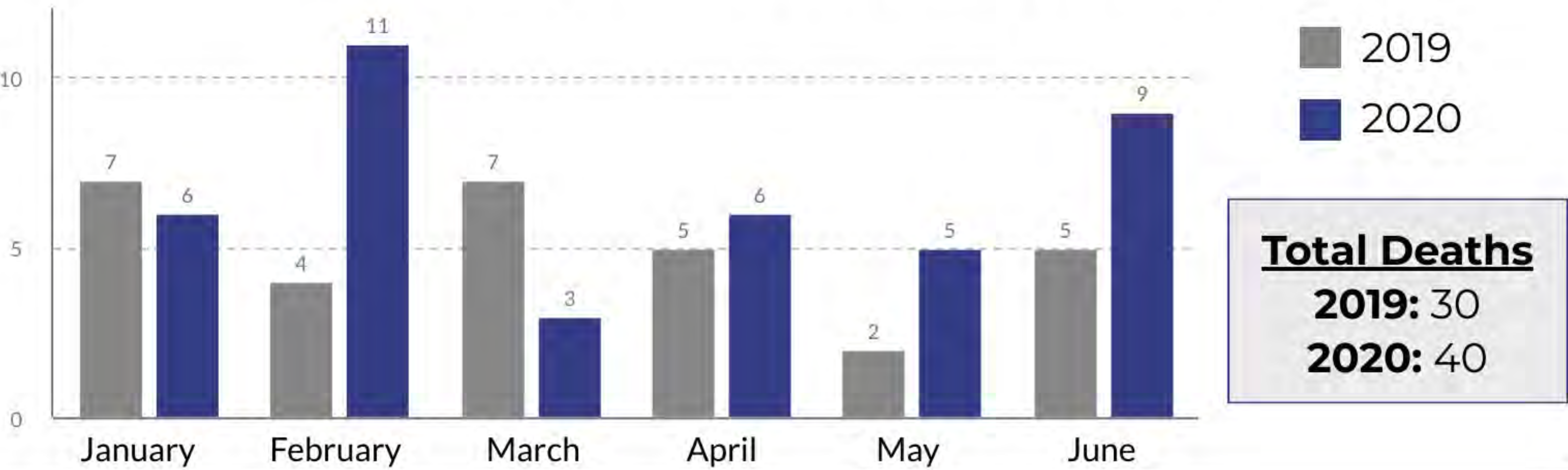
2019: 15.79
reported deaths
per 10,000

2020: 21.06
reported deaths
per 10,000

**Percent
change:** +33%



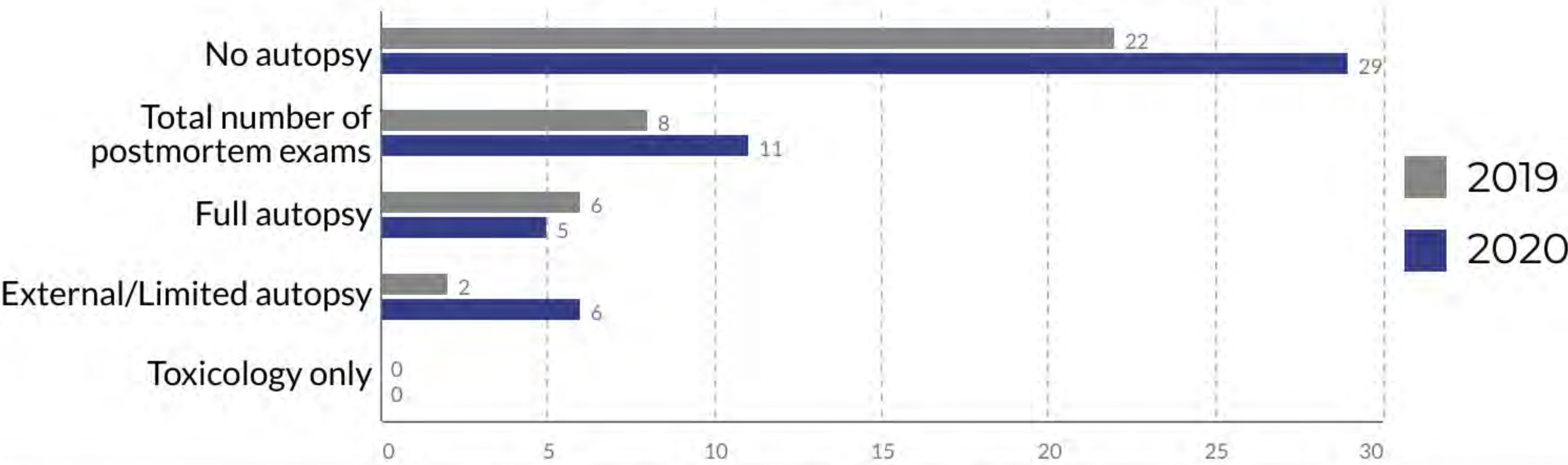
Total Reported Deaths by Month



Manner of Death

2019	2020	Percent Change
Accident..... 4	Accident.....9	+125%
Homicide.....0	Homicide.....1	NA
Natural..... 24	Natural.....27	+13%
Suicide..... 2	Suicide.....3	+50%
Indeterminate.....0	Indeterminate.....0	0%

Reported Deaths: Autopsy Status



Common Unnatural Deaths

2019	2020	Percent Change
Traffic related.....1	Traffic related.....7	+600%
Drowning.....2	Drowning.....0	-100%
Falls.....0	Falls.....1	NA
Drug related..... 1	Drug-related..... 1	0%
Opioid only..... 0	Opioid only.....0	NA
Non-opioid only.....0	Non-opioid only..... 1	NA
Opioid & non-opioid..... 1	Opioid & non-opioid..... 0	-100%

Annual Report Highlights

St. Joseph County, Michigan

Reported deaths per 10,000 people

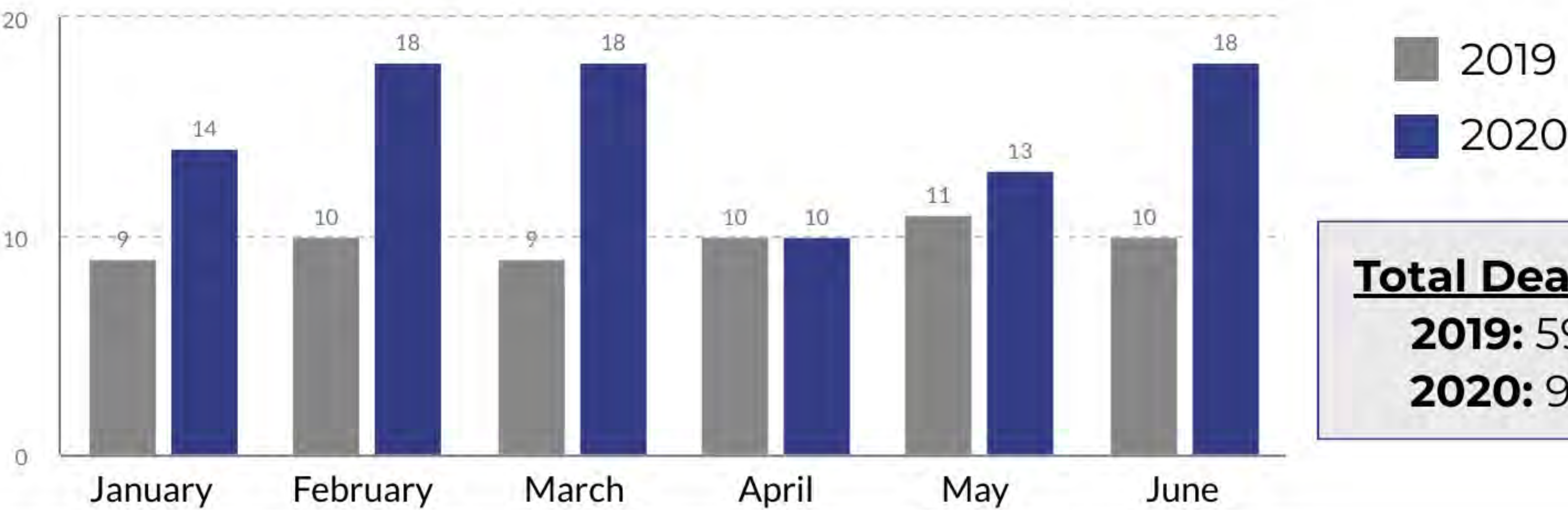
2019: 9.68
reported deaths
per 10,000

2020: 14.93
reported deaths
per 10,000

**Percent
change:** +54%



Total Reported Deaths by Month



Total Deaths
2019: 59
2020: 91

Manner of Death

2019

Accident.....	14
Homicide.....	3
Natural.....	38
Suicide.....	4
Indeterminate.....	0

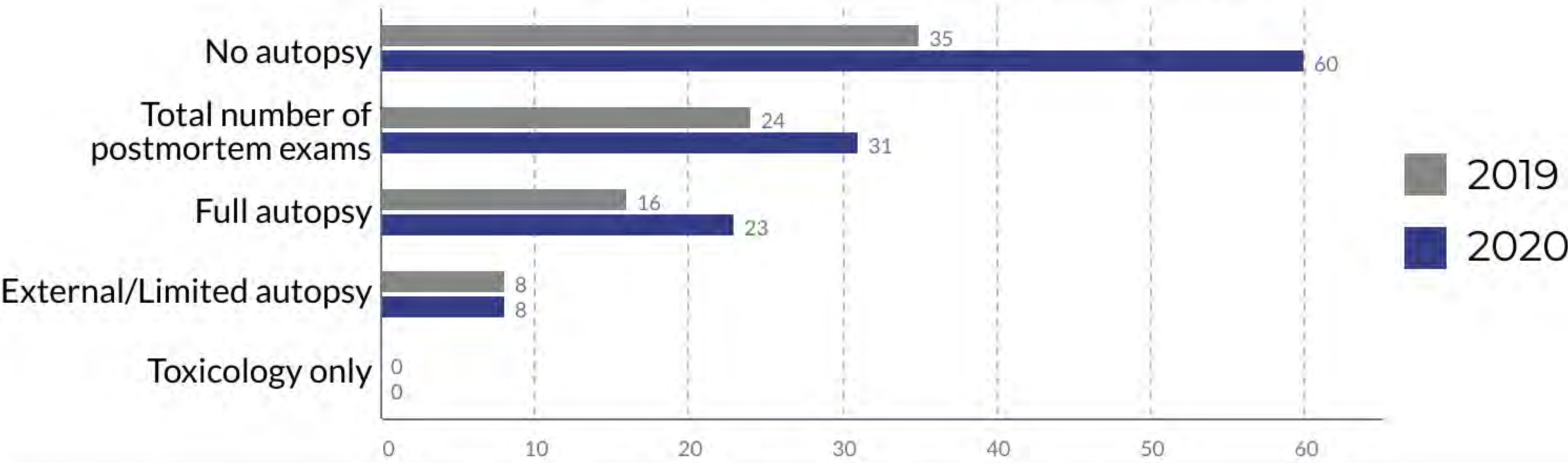
2020

Accident.....	19
Homicide.....	1
Natural.....	65
Suicide.....	4
Indeterminate.....	1

Percent Change

+36%
-67%
+71%
0%
NA

Reported Deaths: Autopsy Status



Common Unnatural Deaths

2019

Traffic related.....	4
Drowning.....	2
Falls.....	2
Drug related.....	3
Opioid only.....	0
Non-opioid only.....	2
Opioid & non-opioid.....	1

2020

Traffic related.....	8
Drowning.....	1
Falls.....	0
Drug-related.....	6
Opioid only.....	2
Non-opioid only.....	0
Opioid & non-opioid.....	4

Percent Change

+100%
-50%
-100%
+100%
NA
-100%
+300%

Annual Report Highlights

Van Buren County, Michigan

Reported deaths per 10,000 people

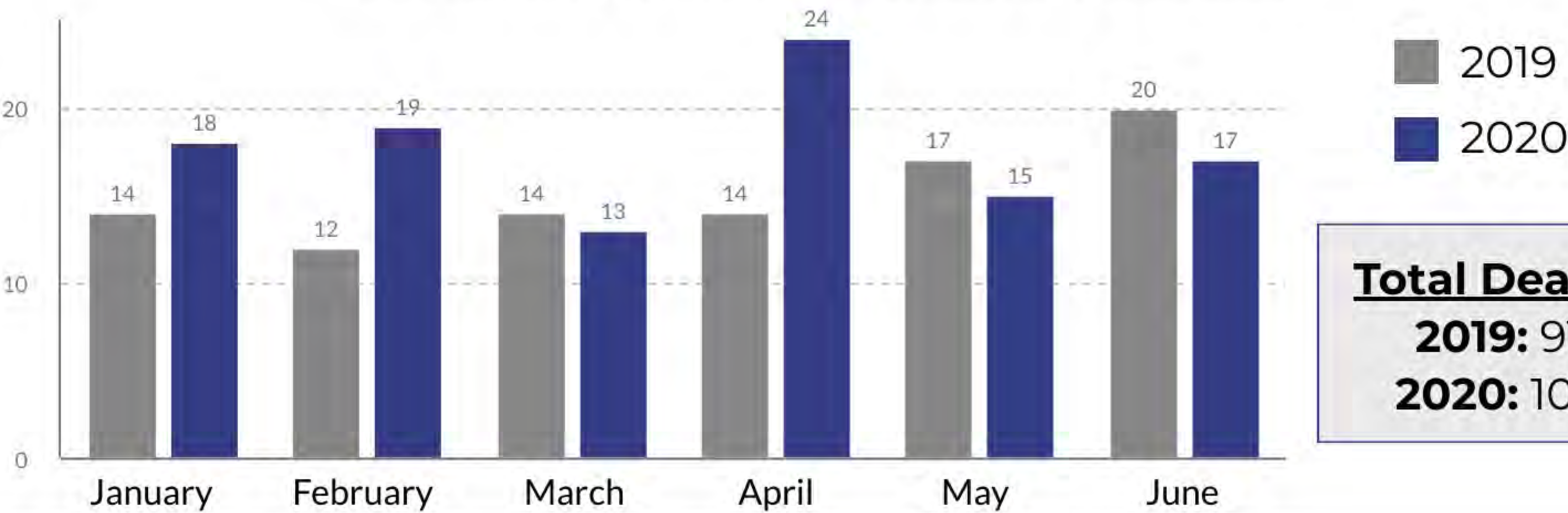
2019: 12.07
reported deaths
per 10,000

2020: 14.06
reported deaths
per 10,000

**Percent
change:** +16%



Total Reported Deaths by Month



Total Deaths
2019: 91
2020: 106

Manner of Death

2019

Accident.....	16
Homicide.....	0
Natural.....	69
Suicide.....	4
Indeterminate.....	2

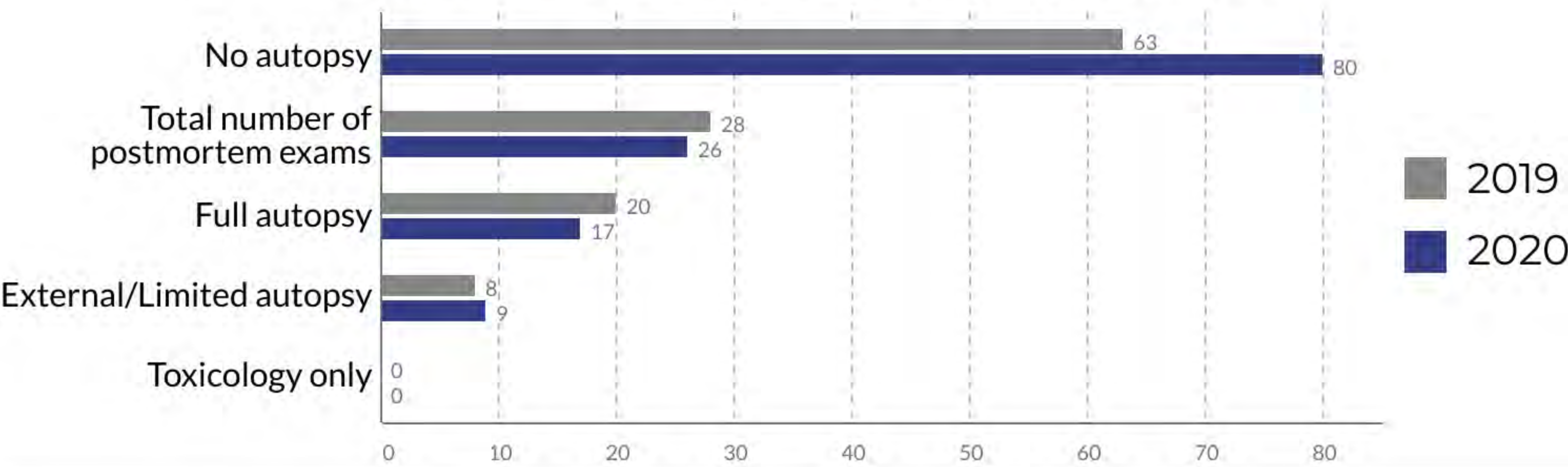
2020

Accident.....	17
Homicide.....	0
Natural.....	84
Suicide.....	3
Indeterminate.....	1

Percent Change

	+6%
	0%
	+22%
	-25%
	-50%

Reported Deaths: Autopsy Status



Common Unnatural Deaths

2019

Traffic related.....	4
Drowning.....	2
Falls.....	3
Drug related.....	5
Opioid only.....	2
Non-opioid only.....	0
Opioid & non-opioid.....	3

2020

Traffic related.....	3
Drowning.....	2
Falls.....	3
Drug-related.....	8
Opioid only.....	2
Non-opioid only.....	3
Opioid & non-opioid.....	3

Percent Change

	-25%
	0%
	0%
	+60%
	0%
	NA
	0%