



This Report is dedicated
to all those who have died
in Columbiana County, Ohio in the year 2004
to their families, their loved ones
and their friends

William A. Graham, Jr., M.D., M.B.A.
Columbiana County Coroner

M. Fran Rudibaugh, M.T, AMT & A.B.M.D.I
Chief Forensic Investigator

David Scharf, M.T, ASCP & E.M.T.
Assistant Forensic Investigator

Annual Report – 2004

Office of the Coroner

Columbiana County
8473 County Home Road
Lisbon, Ohio 44432

This publication marks the fourth annual report of the Office of the Coroner for Columbiana County. The report will take a somewhat different approach to reporting the statistics for the year 2004. We can now draw on the data and make observations of the year 2004 and compare it to the years from 1954 until 2003.

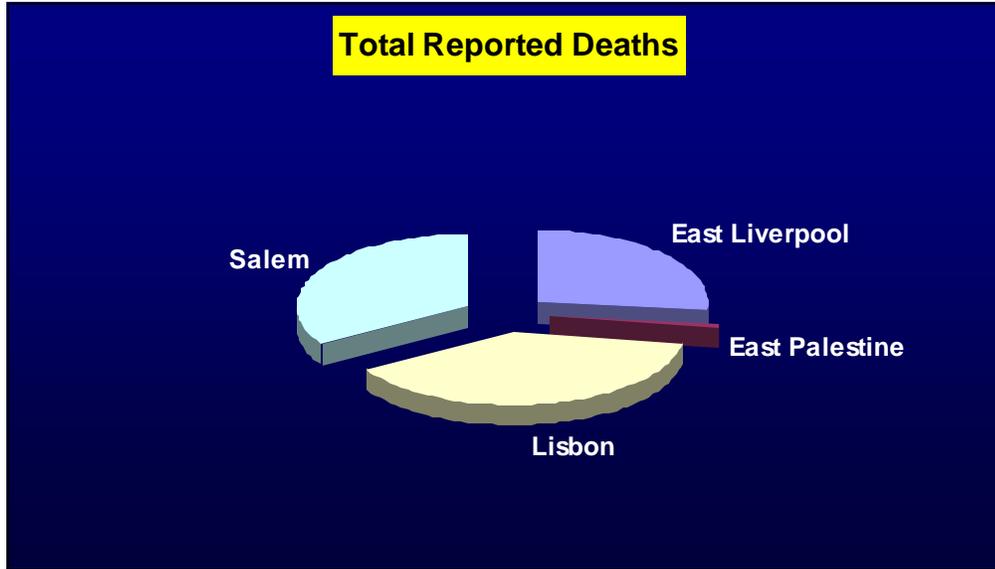
Due to the relentless efforts of our secretary, Mrs. Betsy Pope, the complete “index card file” compiled by Dr. William Kolozsi and his successor, Dr. Anthony Rich, is now available in the Coroner’s database management system. To be exact, there are 5753 cases entered in the database representing known data from the years 1954 through 2004. We will draw some conclusions from this data concerning locations of violent deaths in Columbiana County. This will serve as a follow up to our preliminary conclusions of last year’s report.

We will first report and graph data generated in 2004. We will next compare this data to that data collected from 1989 thru 2003. We will take a look at homicide deaths in Columbiana County from the years 1954 to the present. And lastly, we will review the recent history of the Coroner’s Office from 1934 until the present.

For those readers unfamiliar with the mechanics of statistics, namely **Normal Distribution** and **Standard Deviation (SD)**, we provide a quick review in Appendix A.

Numbers and Percentages

Total reported deaths in 2004



From January 1, 2004 to December 31, 2004 there were 1100 deaths reported in Columbiana County. The figures were obtained from the health departments of the following locations:

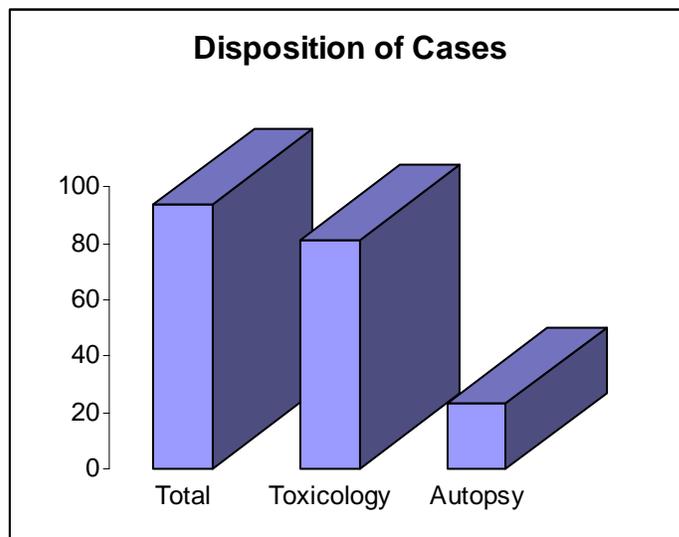
East Liverpool:	294
East Palestine:	10
Lisbon:	425
Salem:	371
Total	1100

Total versus Reported versus Accepted Cases



Of the 1100 deaths, 494 deaths were reported to the Coroner's Office. Of the 494 deaths reported to the Coroner's Office, 108 were accepted.

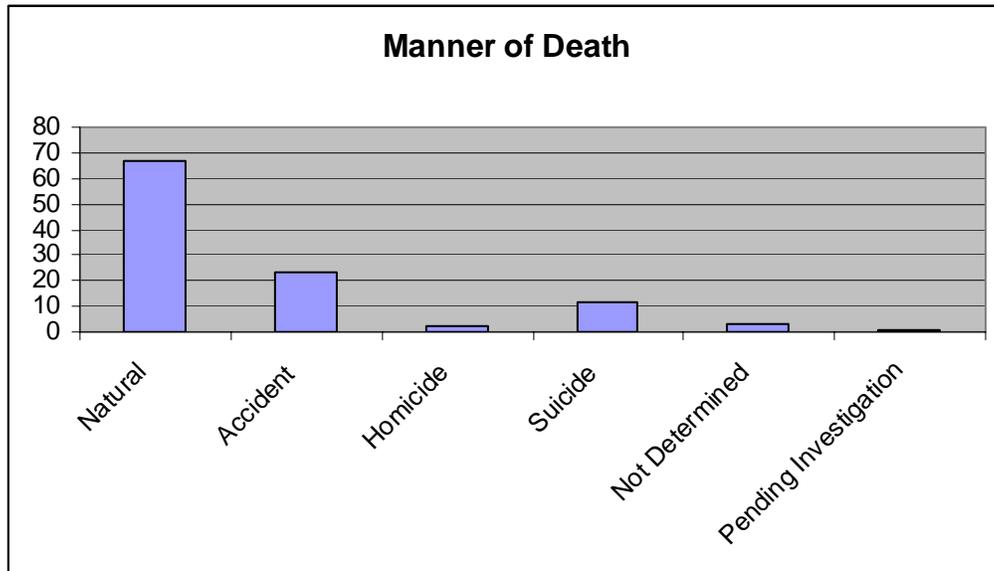
Disposition of cases



Further examination required

Of the 108 deaths accepted as coroner cases, 81 had toxicology performed and 23 autopsies were performed.

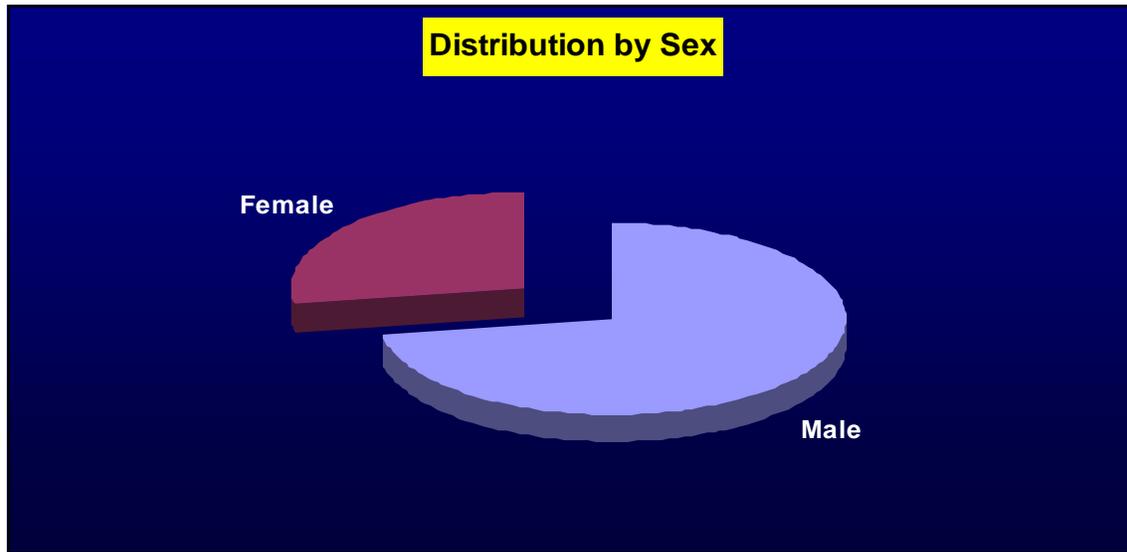
Classification by Manner of Death



Each of the accepted cases was classified as to manner of death after investigation, toxicology and autopsy.

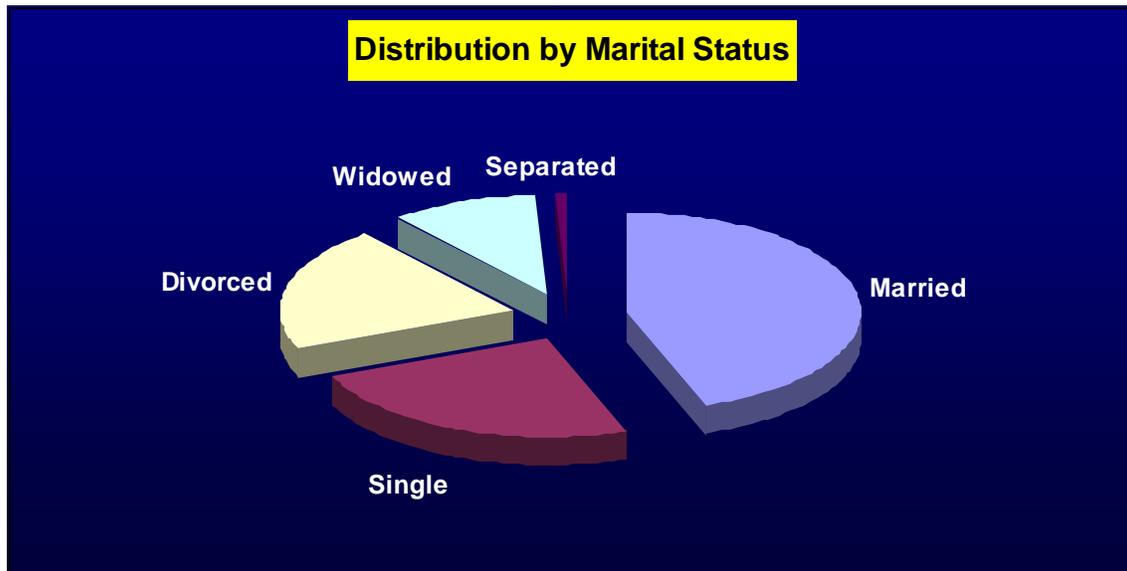
Natural	67
Accident	23
Homicide	2
Suicide	12
Not determined	3
Pending Investigation	1
Total	108

Distribution by Sex in 2004



Of the 108 cases investigated in 2004, 78 were male and 30 were female.

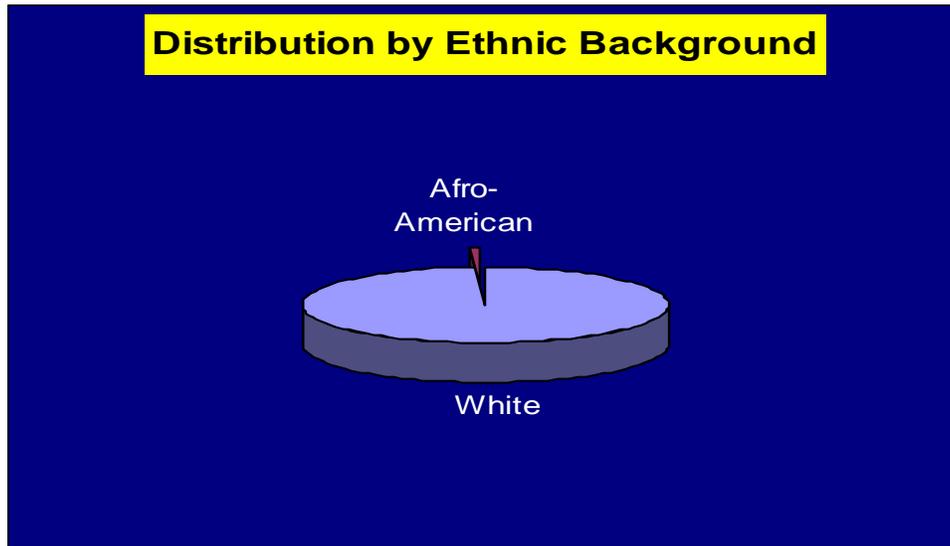
Distribution by Marital Status



Of the 108 cases investigated in 2004, the marital status was as follows:

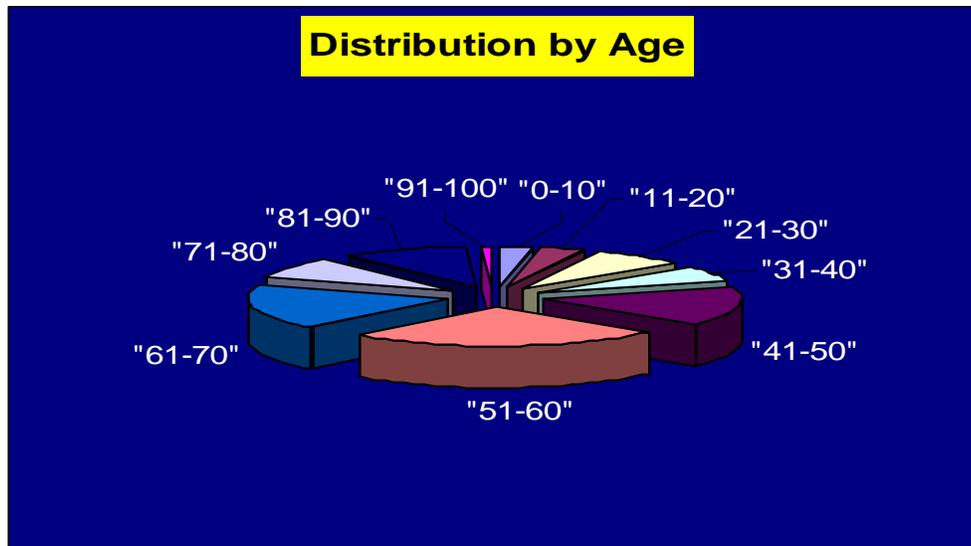
Married	48	44.4%
Single	26	24.1%
Divorced	22	20.4%
Widowed	11	10.2%
Separated	1	0.9%

Distribution by Ethnic Background



The distribution by ethnic background was 107 Caucasian and 1 Afro-American. There were no Hispanic, American Indian, or Asian backgrounds identified.

Distribution by Age



The ages of decedents varied from 0 years (1 month and 18 days) to 92 years of age.

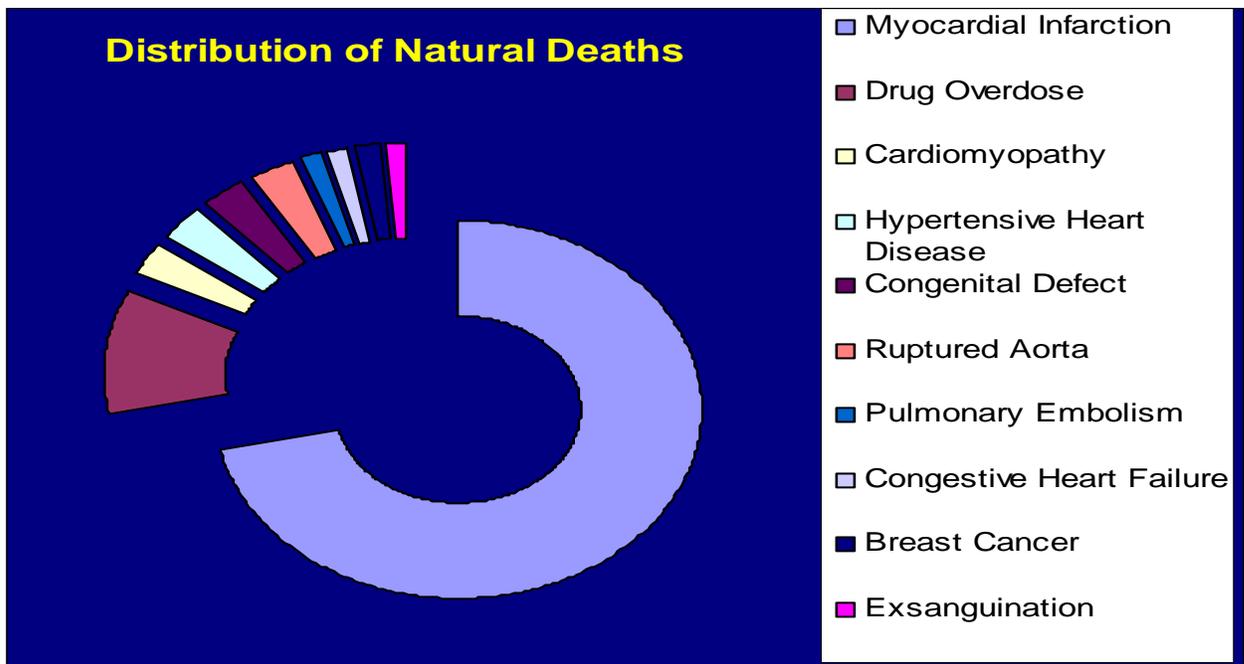
0 to10 years	3	51 to 60 years	28
11 to 20 years	4	61 to 70 years	20
21 to 30 years	8	71 to 80 years	9
31 to 40 years	7	81 to 90 years	11
41 to 50 years	17	91 to 100 years	1

The age distribution by manner of death for 2004 was as follows:

Ages	Natural	Accident	Suicide	Homicide	Not Determined	Total
0-10	1	1			1	3
11-20	1	1	2			4
21-30	4	1		1	1	8*
31-40	5		1	1		7
41-50	14	2	1			17
51-60	20	5	3			28
61-70	13	5	2			20
71-80	4	2	3			9
81-90	4	6			1	11
91-100	1					1
Totals	67	23	12	2	3	108

- In the 21-30 year range there remains one still Pending Investigation

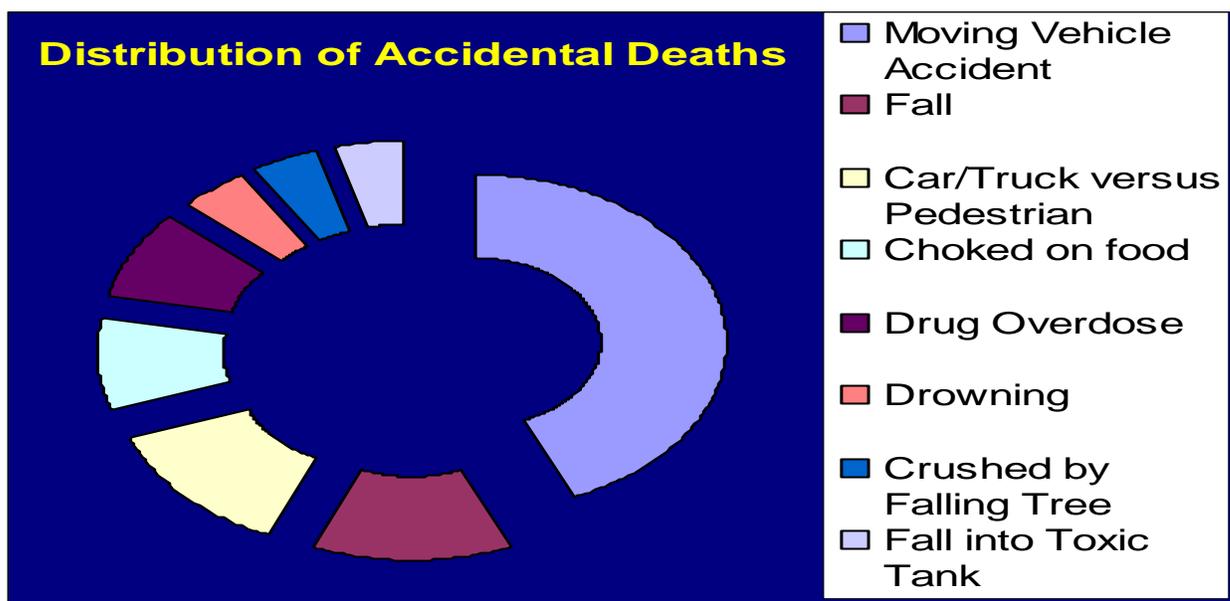
Distribution of Natural Deaths



Looking at the 67 Natural deaths we have:

Myocardial Infarction	48	Pulmonary Embolism	1
Drug Overdose	7	Congestive Heart Failure	1
Cardiomyopathy	2	Breast Cancer	1
Hypertensive Heart Disease	2	Exsanguination	1
Congenital Defects	2		
Ruptured Aorta	2		

Distribution of Accidental Deaths



Looking at the 23 accidental deaths we have:

Moving Vehicle Accident	10	Drug Overdose	2
Fall	3	Drowning	1
Car/Truck versus Pedestrian	3	Crushed by Falling Tree	1
Choked on food	2	Fall into Toxic Tank	1

Distribution of Suicidal Deaths



Looking at the 12 suicidal deaths we have:

Gunshot	6	Stabbing	1
Drug Overdose	3	Carbon Monoxide	1
Hanging	1		

Having seen the data and the graphs of the year 2004 ... we ask the question, "Was this a 'normal' year?" We will answer this question by comparing it to the previous 15 years of data. We will use the statistical tools of **Normal Distribution** and **Standard Deviation (SD)**. Refer to appendix A for a quick refresher course if needed.

Let's look first at the number of cases for the year 2004:

Year	Total Cases	Male	Female	Ratio
1989	94	69	25	0.734043
1990	99	76	23	0.767677
1991	78	51	27	0.653846
1992	90	60	30	0.666667
1993	78	64	14	0.820513
1994	73	50	23	0.684932
1995	89	68	21	0.764045
1996	120	95	25	0.791667
1997	88	66	22	0.750000
1998	88	57	31	0.647727
1999	98	71	27	0.724490
2000	86	56	30	0.651163
2001	96	64	32	0.666667
2002	117	73	44	0.623932
2003	94	66	28	0.702128
2004	108	78	30	0.722222
Sum	1388	986	402	10.649494
Mean	92.53333	65.73333	26.8	0.709966
SD	12.94972	11.12569	6.646159	0.059680
- 3 SD	53.68417	32.35627	6.861523	0.530925
- 2 SD	66.63389	43.48196	13.50768	0.590605
2004	108	78	30	0.722222
+ 2 SD	118.4328	87.98471	40.09232	0.829327
+ 3 SD	131.3825	99.1104	46.73848	0.889008

Both the number of cases and the male to female ratio are well within the -2 SD and +2 SD range.

As we can observe the year was essentially "normal" having only an increase of 15.46667 (108 – 92.53333) over the mean of the years 1989 thru 2003. The ratio of Male to Female is also within 0.011696 (0.722222 – 0.710526) of the mean and is thus "normal".

Now let's look at the number of homicides in the year 2004:

Year	Homicide	Male	Female	Ratio
1989	2	0	2	0.000000
1990	2	0	2	0.000000
1991	0	0	0	
1992	3	1	2	0.333333
1993	2	1	1	0.500000
1994	1	1	0	1.000000
1995	5	3	2	0.600000
1996	3	2	1	0.666667
1997	2	0	2	0.000000
1998	2	1	1	0.500000
1999	1	1	0	1.000000
2000	1	0	1	0.000000
2001	2	1	1	0.500000
2002	4	2	2	0.500000
2003	1	1	0	1.000000
2004	2	1	1	0.500000
Sum	31	14	17	6.6
Mean	2.066667	0.933333	1.133333	0.440000
SD	1.279881	0.883715	0.833809	0.372531
- 3 SD	-1.77298	-1.71781	-1.36809	-0.67759
- 2 SD	-0.4931	-0.8341	-0.53429	-0.30506
2004	2	1	1	0.500000
+ 2 SD	4.626429	2.700764	2.800952	1.185061
+ 3 SD	5.90631	3.584479	3.634761	1.557592

Both the number of homicides and the Male to Female ratio fit well within the – 2 SD and the + 2 SD range.

As we can observe the number of homicides is 0.066667 (2.066667 – 2) below the mean for the years 1989 thru 2003. Also the ratio of Male to Female is only 0.06 (0.5 - 0.44) above the mean for the years 1989 thru 2003. Thus we must say that in statistical terms the year 2004 was “normal”.

The homicides have been recently presented in court. The first was a 21 year old pregnant female, who was struck on the head with an aluminum baseball bat, and who suffered multiple skull fractures, brain contusions and other lethal head trauma. The assailant recently confessed to the homicide and was sentenced to 18 years to life in prison. The second was a 33 year old male, who was struck repeatedly on the head, chest and trunk. The one assailant pled guilty, and his accomplice was tried and found guilty on all counts. Both assailants have been given lengthy prison terms.

The next data set involves Suicides in the year 2004:

Year	Suicide	Male	Female	Ratio
1989	13	12	1	0.923077
1990	11	9	2	0.818182
1991	18	15	3	0.833333
1992	12	10	2	0.833333
1993	12	10	2	0.833333
1994	12	11	1	0.916667
1995	11	9	2	0.818182
1996	17	15	2	0.882353
1997	15	12	3	0.800000
1998	17	9	8	0.529412
1999	8	6	2	0.750000
2000	9	9	0	1.000000
2001	13	11	2	0.846154
2002	12	7	5	0.583333
2003	16	14	2	0.875000
2004	12	9	3	0.750000
Sum	196	159	37	12.242359
Mean	13.06667	10.6	2.466667	0.816157
SD	2.963267	2.667262	1.884776	0.121313
- 3 SD	4.176865	2.598214	-3.18766	0.452217
- 2 SD	7.140132	5.265476	-1.30289	0.57353
2004	12	9	3	0.750000
+ 2 SD	18.9932	15.93452	6.236219	1.058784
+ 3 SD	21.95647	18.60179	8.120995	1.180098

As can be seen from the chart, the number of suicides and the ratio of Male to Female are well within the range of plus or minus 2 SD.

The number of suicides is 1.06667 (12 – 13.06667) below the mean but does not approach the - 2 SD of 7.140132. Also the ratio of Male to Female is .066157 (0.750000 – 0.816157) below the mean but does not approach the - 2 SD of 0.57353. Thus, we must say again that in statistical terms the suicide deaths for 2004 were within “normal” limits.

The Female suicide deaths in the year 2004 were from a relatively violent method ... that of gun shot wound. One female died from drug overdose. The Male suicide deaths ran the gamut from drug overdose, to shooting, to stabbing, to hanging.

In last year’s report we took advantage of a limited subset of the data transcribed from the “card index file” started by Dr. William Kolozsi and carried on by his successor Dr. Anthony Rich. It was indeed a limited subset because it contained only those names

from “Allen to Grafton” and on the other end of the alphabet names from “Wisler to Zwick”. This year’s data includes not just the 2546 cases mentioned above, but the entire database of 5753. Last year we concluded, hesitantly, that:

“Homicides appear to occur more frequently in East Liverpool & Wellsville”

If we use the database functions to analyze the homicides from 1960 through 2004, we find that there were a total of 102 cases. If viewed from the aspect of where the actual deaths took place, then we have the table below:

Homicide's by Death Location

DeathCity	DeathZIP (A-Z)	Number	%
Pittsburgh	15213	1	0.98
Pittsburgh	15219	1	0.98
Chester	26034	1	0.98
East Liverpool	43920	53	51.96
Salineville	43945	4	3.92
Wellsville	43968	4	3.92
Columbiana	44408	8	7.84
East Palestine	44413	2	1.96
Leetonia	44431	2	1.96
Lisbon	44432	2	1.96
Negley	44441	1	0.98
Salem	44460	23	22.55
Alliance	44601	1	0.98

At first blush it would seem that our deduction from last year was correct! But after some analysis, we have to take into account the fact that when a victim is first injured he or she is usually rushed to a local hospital, where he or she expires. Even though East Liverpool has 51.96% of the homicides dying in East Liverpool, they may well have been rushed to the East Liverpool City Hospital from somewhere else. Our records show homicide victims from West Virginia, Pennsylvania and from many other nearby cities accounting, in part, for that large percentage. A similar phenomenon occurred for Salem (22.55%).

Perhaps a more revealing perspective would be to extract the homicide victims by their residence location. Such a table follows below:

Homicides by Residence Location

DeceasedCity	Deceased ZIP (A-Z)	Number	%	Population	Homicides Per 1000
Unknown	Unknown	1	0.98		
Hookstown	15050	1	0.98	2507	0.40
Industry	15052	1	0.98	3938	0.25
Midland	15059	1	0.98	4747	0.21
Pittsburgh	15201	1	0.98	334563	0.00
Jefferson	15344	1	0.98	1218	0.82
Chester	26034	4	3.92	5298	0.76
New Cumberland	26047	1	0.98	6555	0.15
Jasper	35503	1	0.98	12100	0.08
East Liverpool	43920	40	39.22	25504	1.57
Irondale	43932	2	1.96	1110	1.80
Salineville	43945	1	0.98	3324	0.30
Wellsville	43968	6	5.88	8111	0.74
Cleveland	44106	1	0.98	32417	0.03
Ravenna	44266	1	0.98	11771	0.08
Columbiana	44408	5	4.90	9544	0.52
East Palestine	44413	1	0.98	7975	0.13
Lake Milton	44429	1	0.98	2884	0.35
Leetonia	44431	3	2.94	4961	0.60
Lisbon	44432	4	3.92	14245	0.28
Negley	44441	1	0.98	1573	0.64
New Waterford	44445	3	2.94	3348	0.90
North Lima	44452	1	0.98	2724	0.37
Rogers	44455	1	0.98	1689	0.59
Salem	44460	10	9.80	26973	0.37
Youngstown	44512	1	0.98	35875	0.03
Alliance	44601	2	1.96	1075	1.86
Beloit	44609	1	0.98	4020	0.25
Homeworth	44634	1	0.98	2083	0.48
Minerva	44657	1	0.98	10336	0.10
Sebring	44672	1	0.98	5320	0.19
Grand Blanc	48439	1	0.98	8242	0.12
Linden	48451	1	0.98	2861	0.35

We note from this table that not only does East Liverpool have the highest number of Homicides (40), but that it has the highest percentage (39.22) of total homicides. To make the comparison as balanced as possible we calculated the number of homicides per 1000 population, and in this comparison three cities ranked high in the number of homicides per 1000 population ... In order of prominence, we have Alliance (1.86), Irondale (1.80), and finally East Liverpool (1.57). Thus our statistical suggestion of last year was only partially correct. ***Homicides do occur more frequently for residents of East Liverpool.***

The population figures for each community were obtained from the 2000 census figures found on the web. Wherein a zip code is found in more than one county an attempt was made to get credible population data by contacting our County treasurer's office or the

post office servicing that zip code. A relevant case in point is Alliance. The 2000 census gives 23,253 for its total population, but only a small part of the city is in Columbiana County. By contacting the County treasurer's office to find out how many tax bills were sent to that zip code, and then cross checking with the post office servicing that zip code, we arrived at a figure of 1075. Hopefully that estimation (or guess?) is accurate.

For a change in focus we will now look at some of the Coroners who have preceded the present Coroner.

History of the Columbiana County Coroner

This section should be entitled, "History of the Columbiana County Coroner, as far as I've been able to find out ...to this point!" Nevertheless, I have identified five (5) preceding Coroners representing six continuous periods in which they served as coroner. The periods are as follows:

1929-1935	Ernest R. Sturgis
1936	William C. Maple
1936-1945	Arnold W. Devon
1945-1958	Ernest R. Sturgis
1958-1986	William A. Kolozsi, M.D.
1987-1988	Anthony J. Rich, D.O.
1989-Present	William A. Graham, Jr., M.D.

With the exception of Drs. Rich and Graham, all data has been derived from newspaper articles.

Ernest R. Sturgis

Copied from East Liverpool Review (November 20, 1958)



ERNEST R. STURGIS

Mr. Sturgis was a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Sturgis.

"Columbiana County Coroner Ernest R. Sturgis died today at 9:25 a.m. at City Hospital. He was 55.

Mr. Sturgis served 21 years as coroner in two long tenures dating back to 1929. He was elected to his present four year term in November 1956.

Mr. Sturgis first was appointed to the office to succeed the late William Maple, Kensington funeral home operator, who resigned for lack of time to perform the duties. He was re-elected to successive terms, serving through 1935.

Arnold W. Devon, former mayor, then was elected to succeed Mr. Sturgis, serving until 1945. Mr. Sturgis' current series of terms

in the office began in 1945, and he was elected to three succeeding four – year terms, the last two years ago.

A Republican, he was active in his party's affairs. He resided on Calcutta-Smith's Ferry Rd. near Hoppels Corners.

He was born Dec.8, 1902, at Donora. His family came to East Liverpool from Donora prior to World War I when his father took over operation of what was the McQuilkin Funeral Home on Dresden Ave. It later became the Sturgis Funeral Home and since has become the Dawson Funeral Home, operated by Frank A. Dawson.

Mr. Sturgis had been hospitalized several times since he was taken ill last summer. He underwent surgery at Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh and then was removed to his home for convalescence. He entered City Hospital again Oct. 15.

Mr. Sturgis leaves his widow, Mrs. Gertrude Holt Sturgis at Home; a step-son, William C. Owen of Louisville, Ky., and a sister, Mrs. Helen Dixon, of East Liverpool.

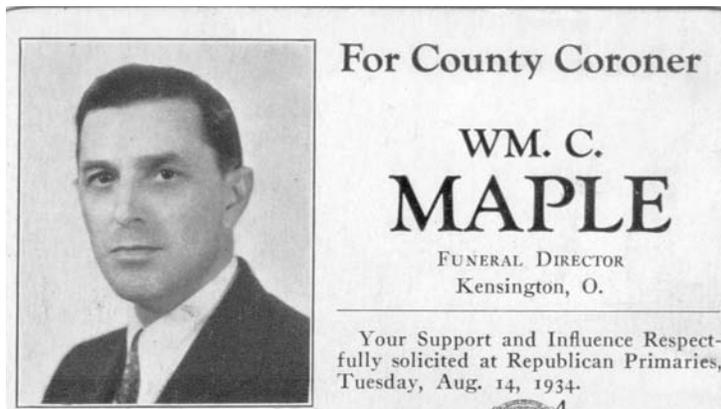
Mr. Sturgis attended East Liverpool public schools and was graduated from Kiski Prep School in Saltsburg, Pa. and the Cincinnati College of Embalming. He also attended Kenyon College.

In his earlier life, Mr. Sturgis was associated with his father for a short time in the operation of the funeral home. Until a few years ago, he was manager of the Duquesne Distributing Co. agency on Dresden Ave.

He was a member of the Ohio State Coroner's Association, which he served two terms as president. He also was a member of the National Coroner's Association, the First Presbyterian Church and Elks Lodge 258."

William C. Maple

Date of Death: April 17, 1953



"William C. Maple, 60, of Kensington, mortician and owner of the Maple Funeral Home, died of a cerebral hemorrhage Friday at 6:35 p.m. in the Central Clinic. He had been ill four days.

Born in Salineville, Jan. 13, 1893, he was the son of Charles and Frances Maple. He had lived in the Kensington vicinity for 33 years and

had been an undertaker for that length of time. He was county coroner about 20 years ago.

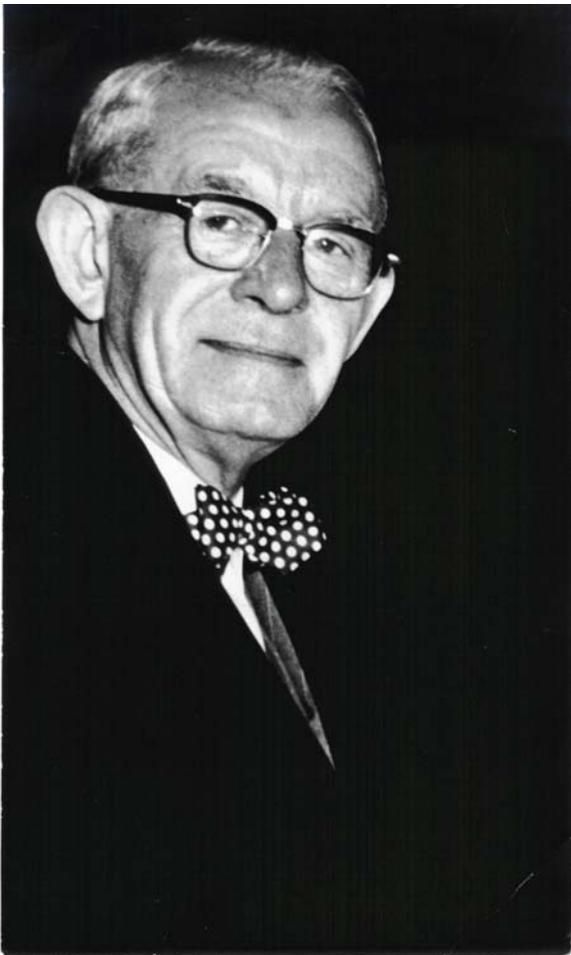
A member of the Kensington Methodist Church, he was affiliated with the Salineville Masonic Lodge; was past patron of Pleasant Valley Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, and was a member of the Lepine-Rush Post, American Legion, and Columbiana County Voiture, 40 & 8. He also belonged to the national, state and district funeral directors associations.

Survivors include his wife, Meda V. Maple; a son, William C. Maple, Jr., of Kensington; daughter, Louise Maple at home; four sisters, Mrs. Edna Powell of Salem, W. Va., Mrs. Grace

Wallace of East Liverpool, Mrs. Elizabeth Hurd of Salineville and Mrs. Sara Cox of Kensington; two brothers, Allen E. Maple of Delmonte, Calif., and Charles L. Maple of Salineville and two grandchildren.

Private funeral service will be held Tuesday at 2 p.m. at the Maple Funeral Home. Internment will be in Grove Hill Cemetery in Hanoverton.

Friends may call Sunday evening and Monday afternoon and evening at the funeral home.”



Arnold W. Devon

Copied from East Liverpool Review (April 2, 1960)

“Arnold W. Devon, former mayor of East Liverpool, ex-Columbiana County coroner and operator of an East End pharmacy bearing his name, died suddenly apparently of a heart attack this morning at his home, 905 Ohio Ave. He was 65.

Mr. Devon was stricken at his home shortly after 10 a.m. and was rushed to City Hospital where he was pronounced dead. He had been at his drugstore on Mulberry St. Friday.

The former mayor had suffered from a heart condition for many years. He announced several months ago he planned to sell his store and retire because of his failing health.

Mr. Devon served four terms as mayor and nine years as county coroner. He was appointed coroner in 1936, serving nine months and then was elected to two full terms in 1936 and 1940.

He was elected to his first term as mayor in 1944 and for part of the term held dual post of mayor and coroner.

Mr. Devon was elected to his second term as mayor in 1950 and suffered a heart seizure shortly before taking office. He was hospitalized a few months later with another attack.

He was re-elected mayor in 1952 and then was defeated by Allan McKeever in 1954. Mr. Devon defeated McKeever in 1956 but lost out to the present mayor, Bert H. Goodballet, for the Democratic nomination in 1957.

When Mr. Devon took office in 1950, three pharmacists held city posts. The late Ralph C. Benedum was postmaster and Leroy J. Wise was police chief.

At that time, Mr. Devon recalled he went to work for Jesse Holloway July 16, 1908, when he was 13. He was employed at the John Carnahan store in 1916 and then entered the Army during World War I.

Returning from service, he went back to Carnahan's and then worked for Charles Larkins, Clarence G. Anderson and Frank Huff in Chester before starting to work for Benedum in 1932, when he passed his state pharmacy examination.

He aided the late William N. Vodrey after Benedum sold out, continuing until he was elected to his first term as mayor.

Mr. Devon was born in East Liverpool, the son of the late William Arnold Devon and Emily Taylor Devon. He was a member of the Second Presbyterian Church, Elks Lodge and American Legion Post 374.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Grace Stillwell Devon; a son, Patrolman William A. Devon at home; a daughter, Mrs. Porter Mackey of Phoenix, Ariz; two brothers, Wilfred Devon of Chester and Lloyd T. Devon of Glendale, Calif.; two sisters, Mrs. Grace Chambers and Mrs. Mabel Hune, both of Glendale, and six grandchildren.

The body was removed to the Dawson Funeral Home. Arrangements are incomplete.”

William A. Kolozsi, M.D.



“Dr. William Anthony Kolozsi, 77, of Highland Ave. died at 9:55 a.m. Monday, Jan. 16, 1995, at the Salem Community Hospital following a brief illness.

He was born April 6, 1917, in Des, Transylvania, a son of the late Bela and Anna Kolozsi.

He served as coroner of Columbiana County from 1956 until retirement in 1986.

He moved to the United States with his parents in 1921, and lived in Cleveland, where he graduated from John Adams High School in 1935. He was the recipient of a scholarship to study at the Royal Hungarian Elizabeth University and Medical School, where he received his medical degree. He remained in Hungary during World War

II, practicing medicine and helping downed American pilots.

He returned to the United States in 1946 and completed his internship at Fairview Park Hospital in Cleveland. From 1947 to 1953, he trained and worked in the Public Health Service at Staten Island, N.Y., completing his education in pathology.

From 1953 to 1954, he was deputy chief of pathology at the U.S. Public Health Service Hospital in Baltimore, Md. During these years, he served with the U.S. Coast Guard and is a veteran of the Korean War.

He moved to Salem in 1954 to become pathologist at the Salem City Hospital. He served as chief of pathology with the hospital until his retirement in 1984. He became chief of pathology at the Salem Clinic and held both positions until the two institutions merged. He served as director of the hospital's School of Medical Technology.

He was a member of St. Paul's Catholic Church and was a fourth degree member of the Knights of Columbus Council 1818. He was a past member of the Salem Kiwanis and Community Concert Association.

He served on the board of directors of the Columbiana County Red Cross and the American Cancer Society. He was instrumental in the advancement of these organizations in Columbiana County. He worked closely with the American Red Cross and was instrumental in starting a centralized blood bank system. He was a member of the Columbiana Council Board of Boy Scouts and was a scout leader many years.

He is survived by his wife, Magda Brogli Kolozsi, whom he married May 16, 1942; a daughter, Mrs. Frank(Agnes) Soo Hoo of Laurel; a son, Dr. William Z. Kolozsi of Salem; three grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

A sister, Madeline Gombos Lowmiller, preceded him in death.

The Rev. Homer G. Oliver will conduct services at 11 a.m. Thursday at the church. Burial will be in Grandview Cemetery.

Friends may call at the Stark Memorial Funeral Home from 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday. A Knights of Columbus Prayer service will be held at 6:45 p.m."



Anthony J. Rich, D.O.

Dr. Anthony J. Rich was deputy coroner and chief deputy coroner for 18 years while William Kolozsi was coroner. Dr. Rich was appointed coroner after the retirement of Dr. Kolozsi and served two successive years as coroner in 1987 and 1988.

Dr. Rich was educated at Ohio State University (1956-1958) and Kent State University (1958-1961) and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts

from Kent. He attended the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine & Surgery and graduated with a Doctor of Osteopathy degree (1961-1965). He followed with a rotating internship at the Chicago Osteopathic Hospital. He has been practicing medicine in East Palestine, Ohio, since 1967. He became Board certified in Family Medicine in 1979 and was re-certified in 1995.

Dr. Rich is licensed to practice medicine in the state of Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, and Illinois. He is a diplomate of the National Board of Medical Examiners. His hospital affiliations include: Salem Central Clinic and Hospital; Salem Community Hospital; and the Cleveland Clinic.

Dr. Rich is a member of the: Columbiana County Medical Association, American Osteopathic Association, American Osteopathic Association of Family Physicians, American College of Legal Medicine, Ohio State Medical Association, Ohio Academy of Family Physicians, and the American College of Legal Medicine.

In addition to being part of the office of coroner for 20 years, Dr. Rich has been the vice president of the Columbiana Heart Association, has been the physician for East Palestine City Schools including its sport program, has served 18 years on the Columbiana County Health Board, and 12 years on the Columbiana County Board of Elections.

Dr. Rich was succeeded by the present coroner, William A. Graham, Jr., M.D., in January 1989.

Summary

The calendar year 2004 was an eventful year. Of the 1100 deaths in the county 494 were reported to the coroner, and of those the coroner accepted 108. Of the 108 accepted cases, 81 had a toxicology performed and another 23 had an autopsy performed. The 108 were classified as follows:

Natural	67
Accident	23
Homicide	2
Suicide	12
Not determined	3
Pending investigation	1
Total	108

Of the 108, 78 were male and 30 were female. The marital status was as follows:

Married	48
Single	26
Divorced	22
Widowed	11
Separated	1

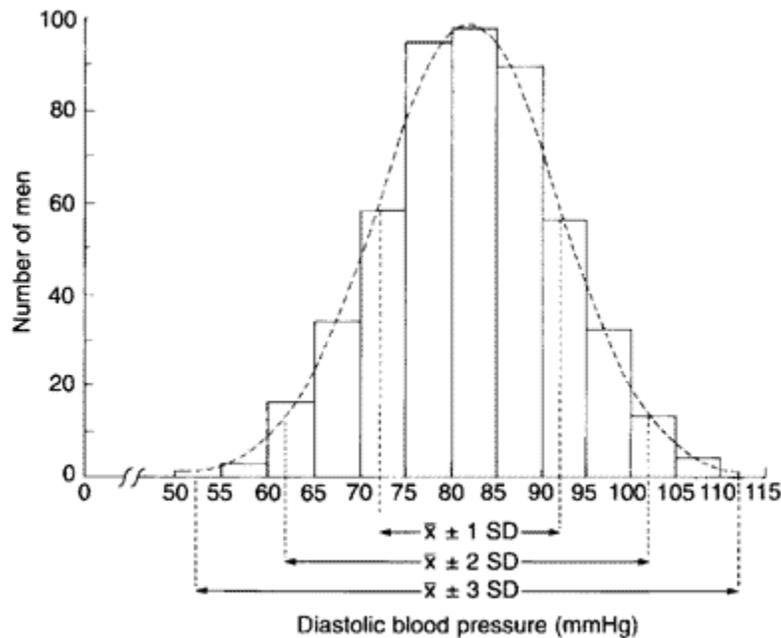
The ethnic background & age distribution by manner of death was described. As in years previous, heart disease was the major “natural” killer, and gunshot the major instrument of suicidal deaths.

We compared 2004 with the 15 years from 1989 through 2003 and found that it was a “normal” year. We also examined the 5753 cases entered in our database concluding that statistically a resident of East Liverpool, Alliance, or Irondale has a greater chance of dying a violent death from homicide than does a resident of any other community in Columbiana County represented by a zip code.

We must acknowledge the help and encouragement offered to us by the Trumbull County and the Cuyahoga County Coroner offices. We also acknowledge the help obtained online from the websites: <http://bmj.com/collections/statsbk/2.shtml> and www.census.gov/cgi-bin/gazetteer for the statistical primer and the census data.

Appendix A:

Many biological measurements conform to a **Normal Distribution** – for example, heights of adult men and women, blood pressures in a healthy population, random errors in many types of laboratory measurements, and biochemical data. The figure below shows a Normal curve calculated from the diastolic blood pressures of 500 men, mean 82 mmHg, **Standard Deviation** 10 mmHg. The ranges representing $\pm 1SD$, $\pm 2SD$, and $\pm 3SD$ about the mean are marked.



The reason why **Standard Deviation (SD)** is such a useful measure of the scatter of the observations is this: if the observations follow a **Normal distribution**, a range covered by one standard deviation above the mean and one standard deviation below it includes about 68% of the observations; a range of two standard deviations above and two below about 95% of the observations; and of three standard deviations above and three below about 99.7% of the observations. Thus, when one encounters statistical values greater than 2SD or 3SD, a **significant observation has been found**.