



VENTURA COUNTY

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

A Department of Ventura County Healthcare Agency

August 2017

# DRUG AND ALCOHOL- RELATED DEATHS VENTURA COUNTY

2008-2016

---

Ventura County Health Care Agency  
Alcohol and Drug Programs

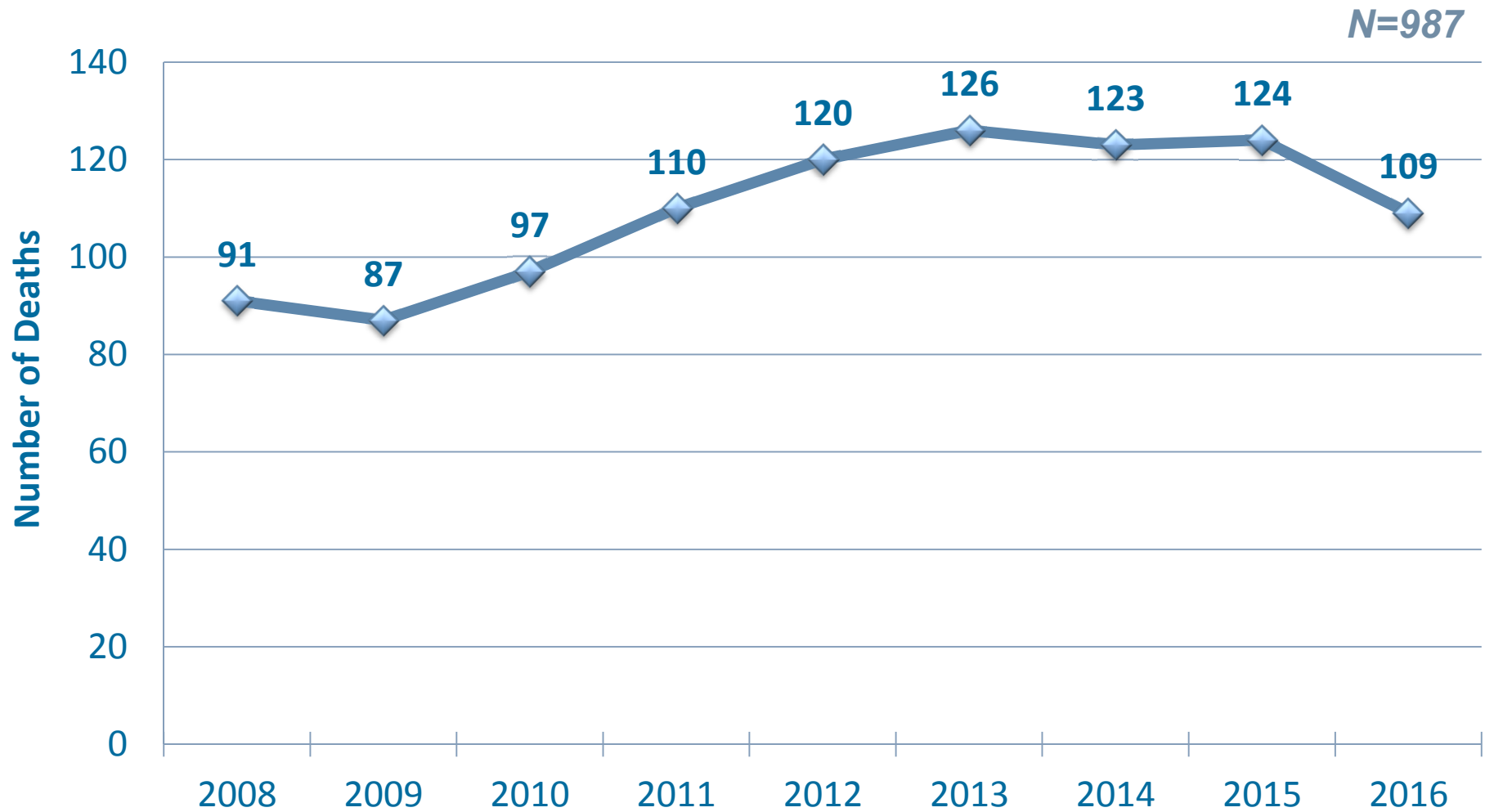
# About the Project

- Data from Medical Examiner's office
- Includes accidental and suicide-related deaths
- Inclusion criteria
  - Primary cause of death is due to a substance, or is substance induced
  - Ex: overdose, substance-induced heart attack
- Exclusion criteria
  - Primary cause of death is related to another event in conjunction with the use of a substance
  - Ex: positional asphyxiation, drowning, fatal car crash



# Deaths Overall: *2008-2016*

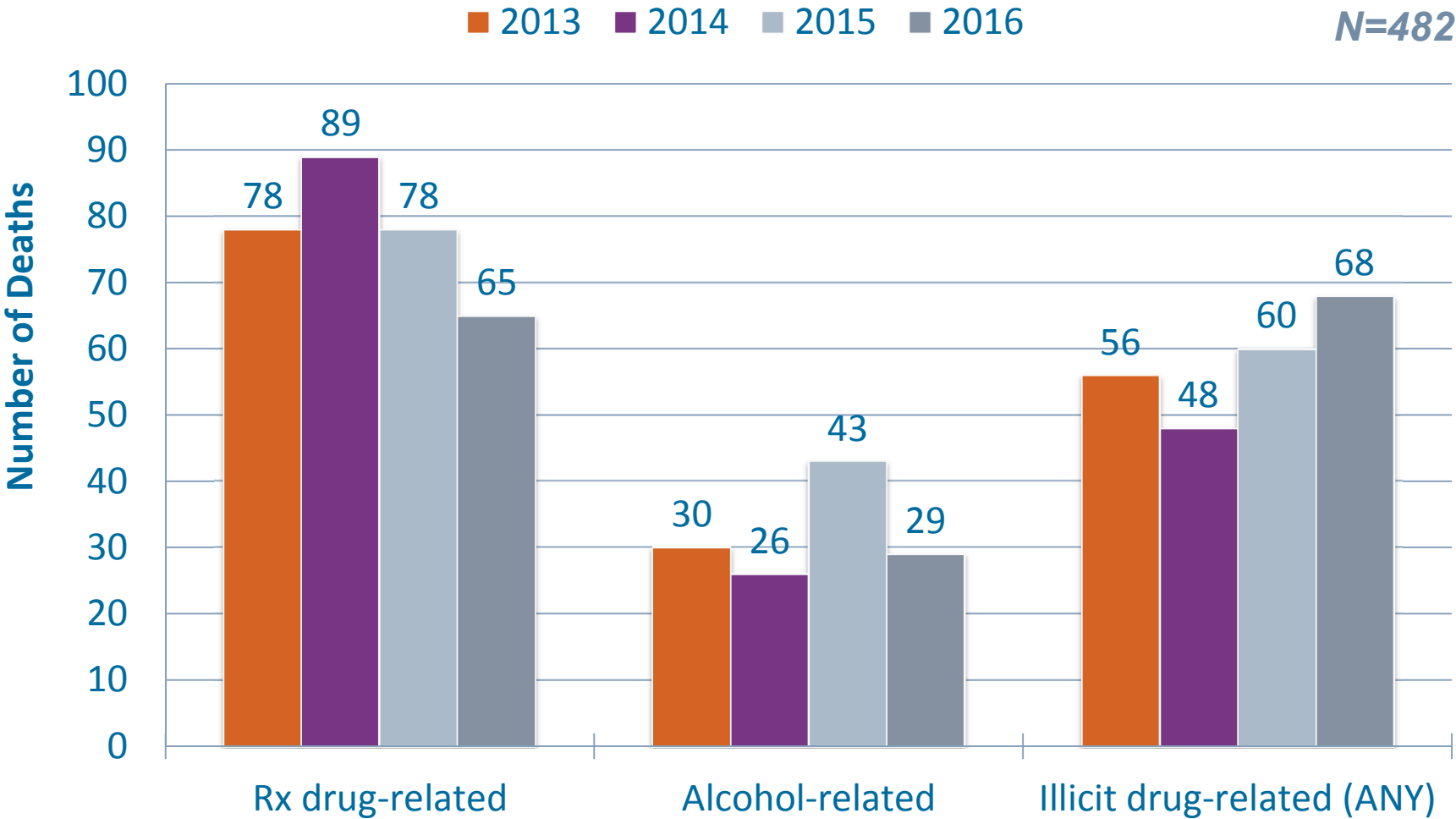
# Overdoses by Year





# New Breakout Categories: *2013-2016*

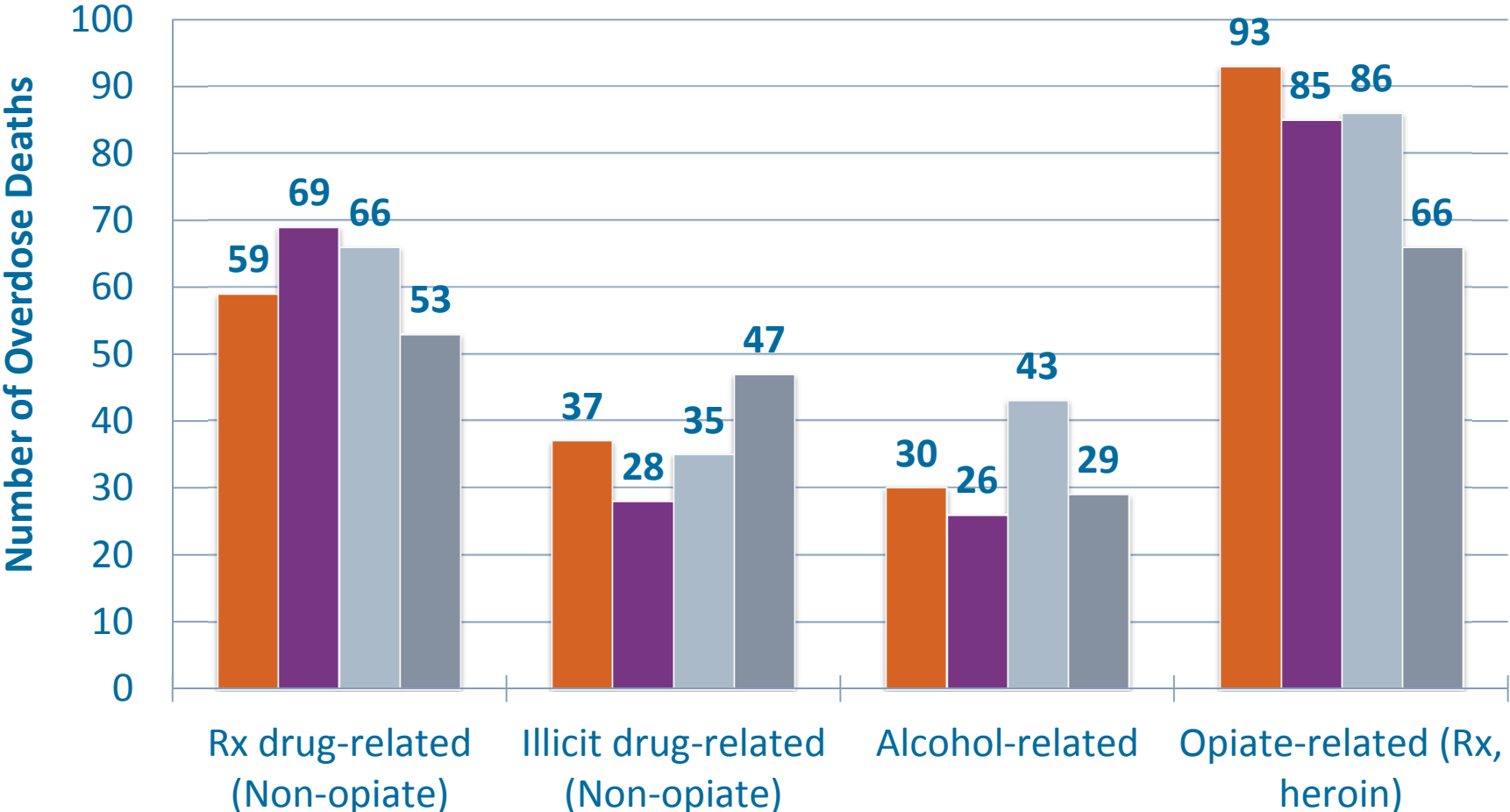
# “Very Broad” Categories



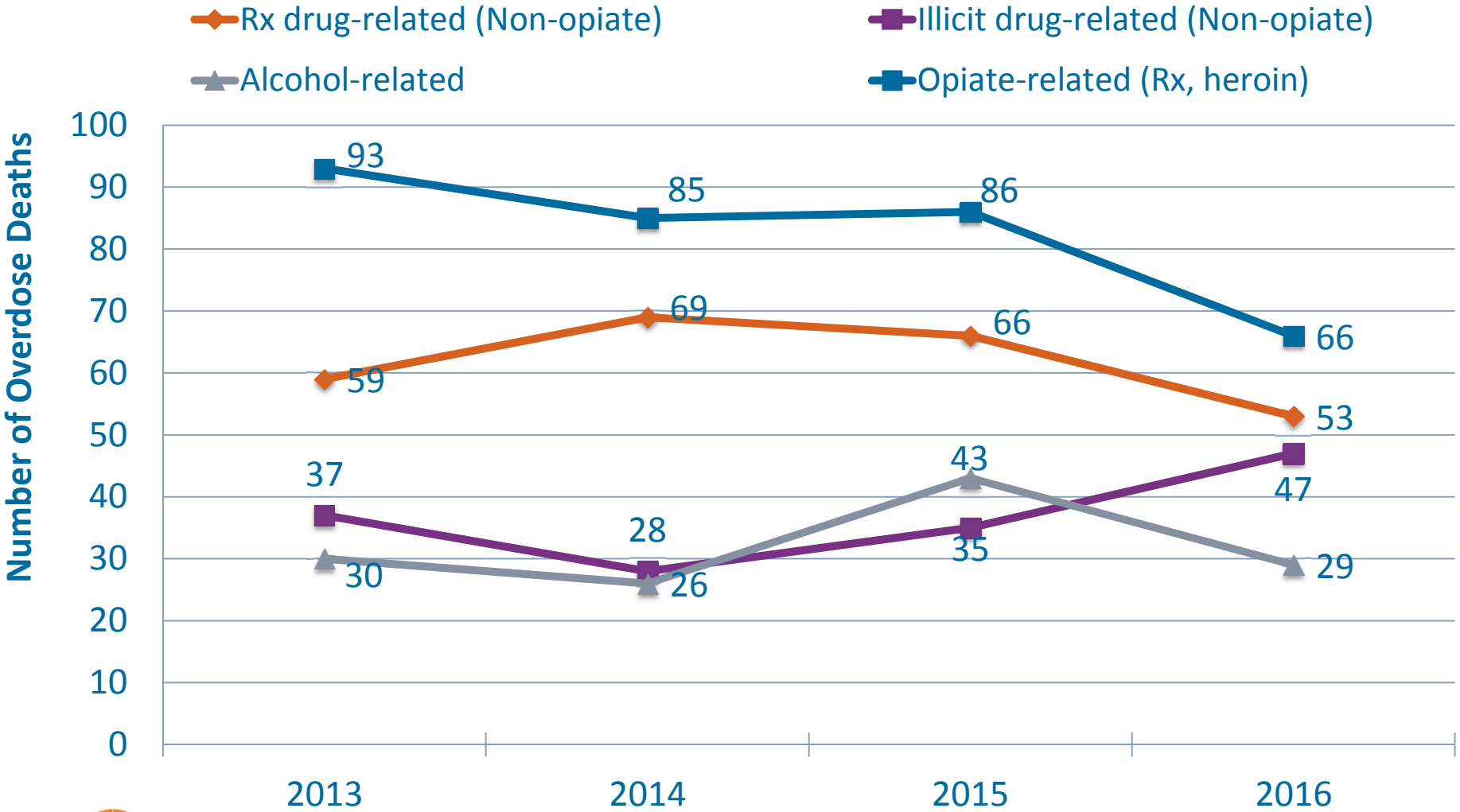
# Opiates vs. Non-Opiates

2013 2014 2015 2016

N=482



# Opiates vs. Non-Opiates

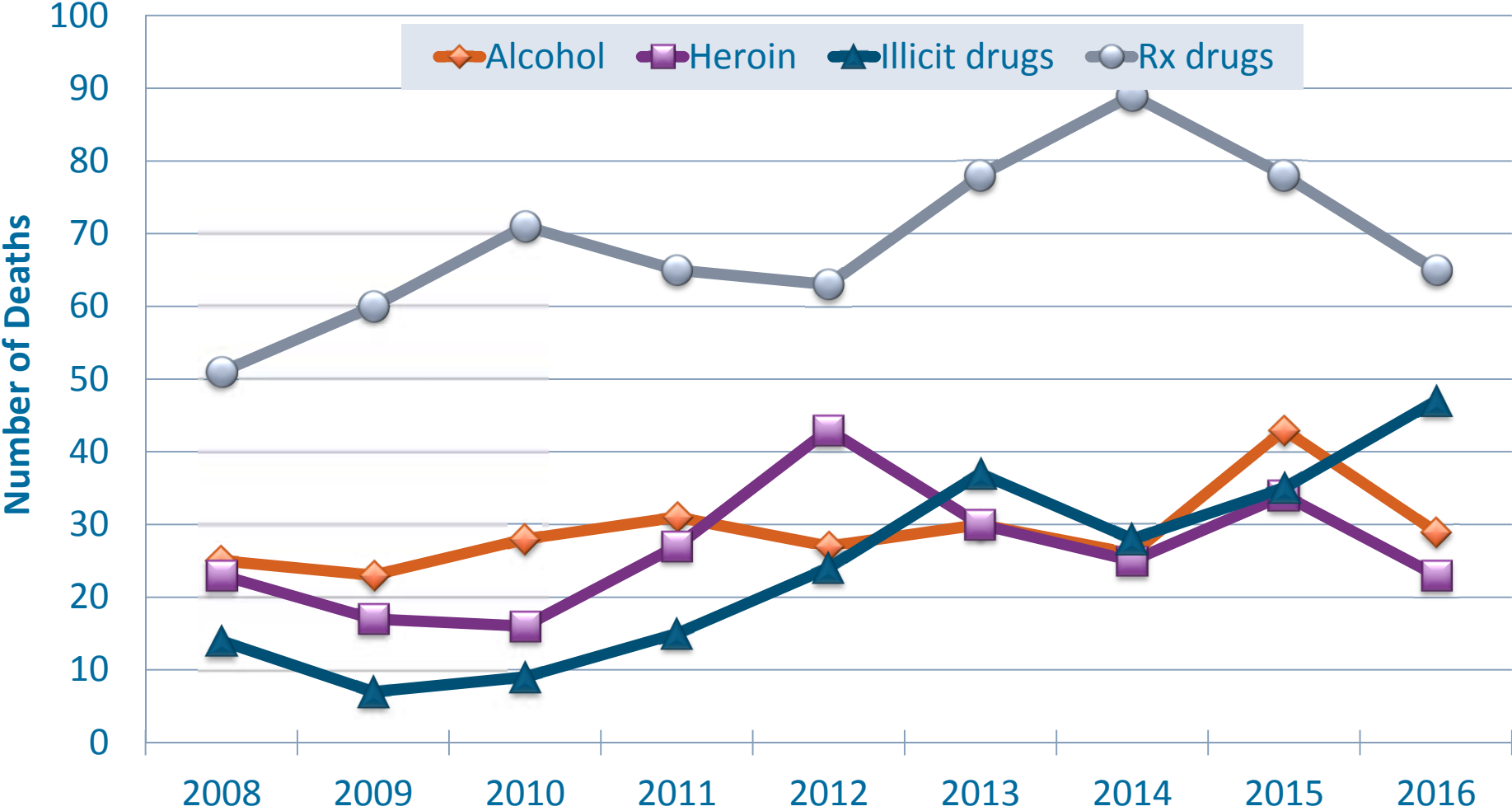




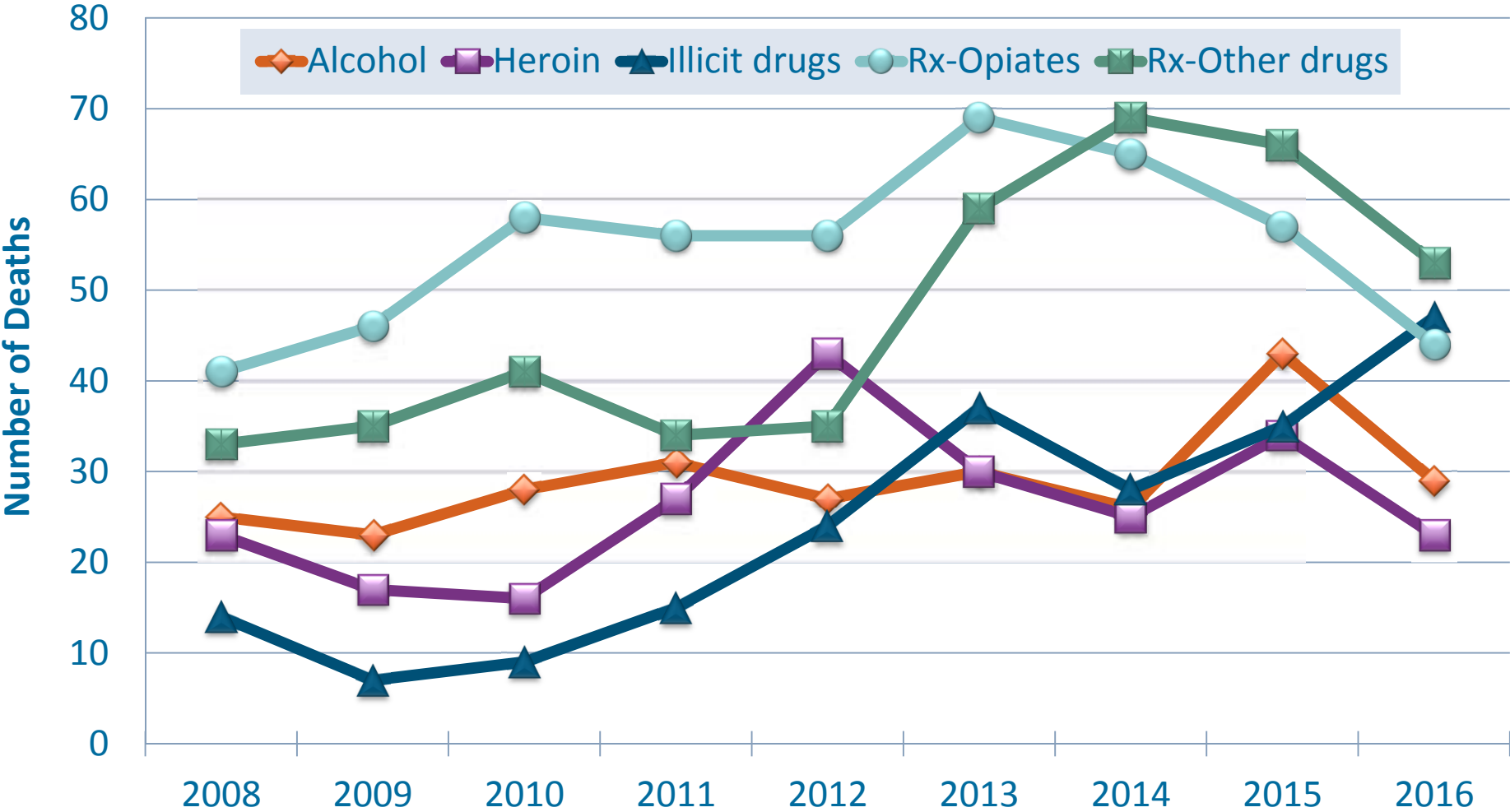


# Yearly Counts: *2008-2016*

# Broad Categories



# Breakout Categories



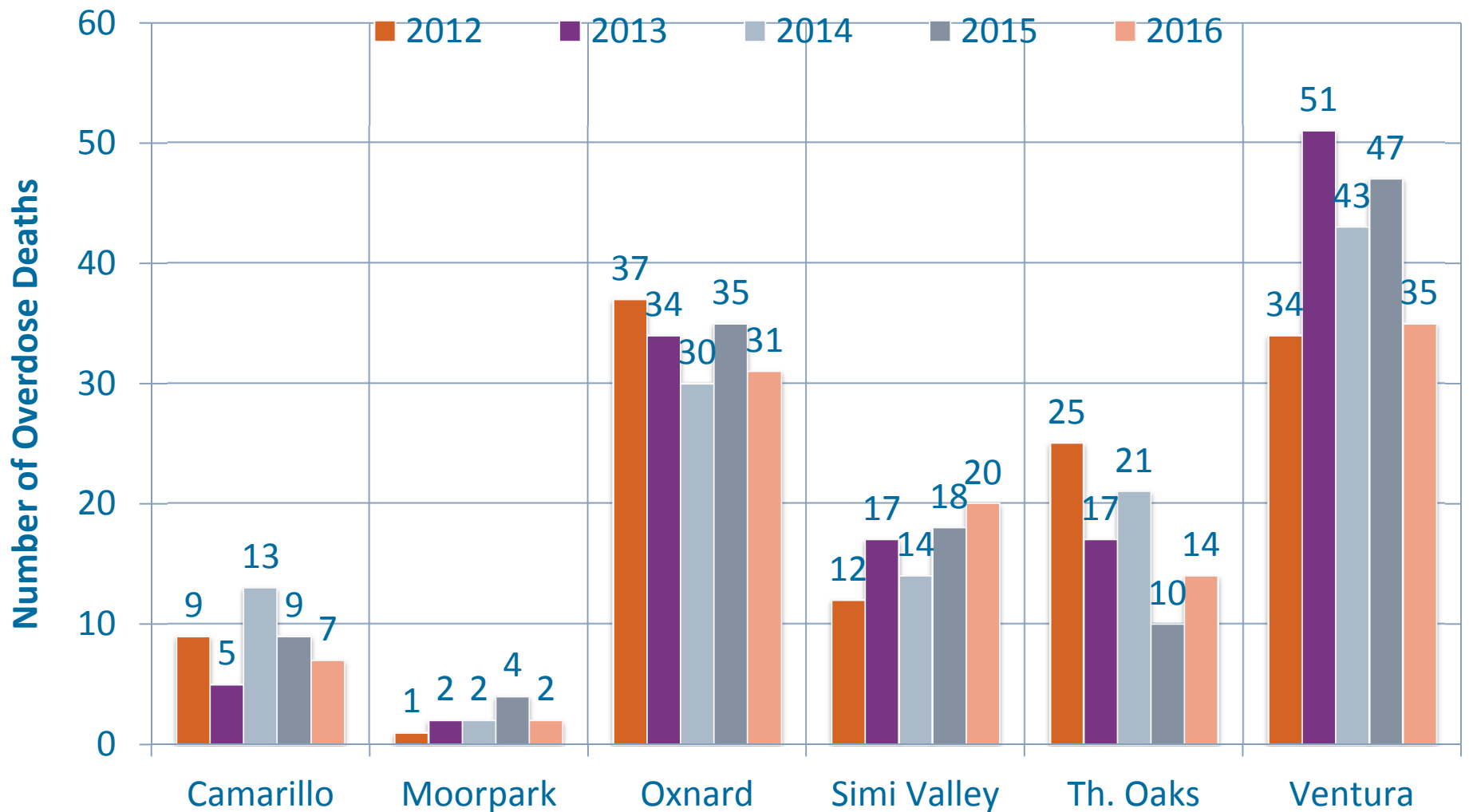


# Substance-Related Deaths by Zip Code: *2012-2016*

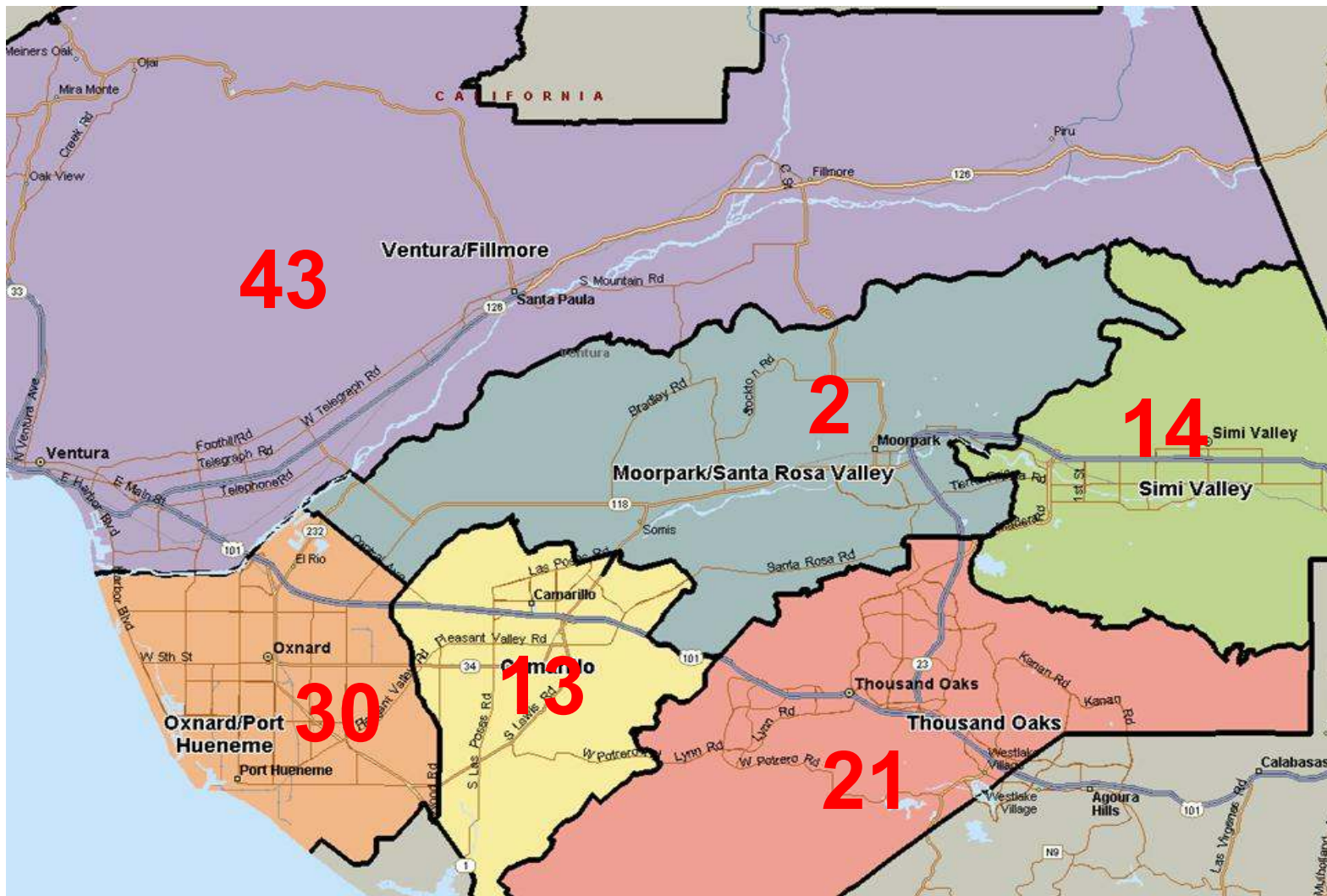
# Notes

- 2012-2014
  - Data reflects the location of where the decedent became deceased
- 2015 and beyond
  - Data reflects the location where the overdose occurred
  - In instances where this is not known (N=2 in 2015; N=3 in 2016), the location where the individual became deceased was used

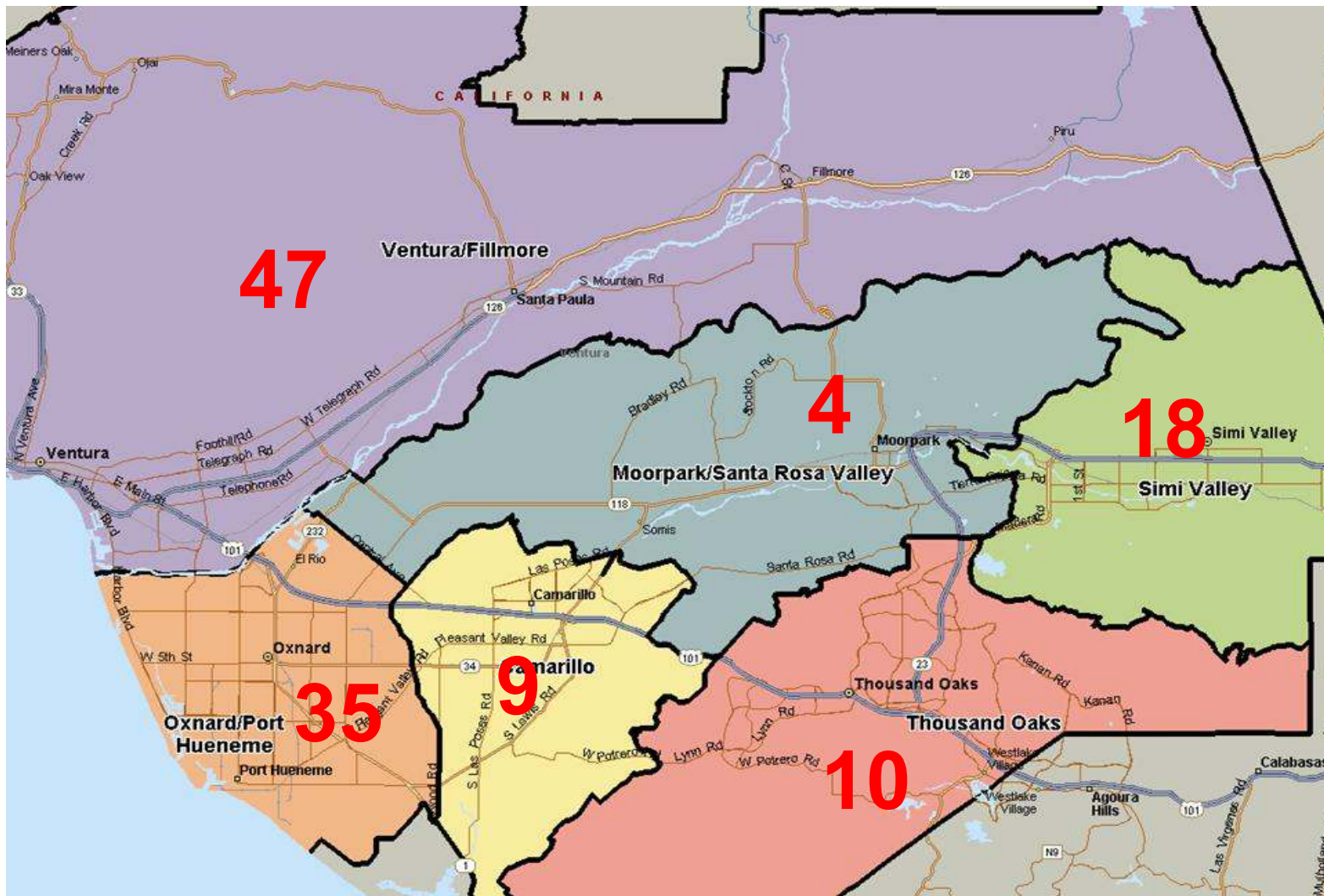
# Yearly Overdose Deaths by Region



# All Overdose Deaths – 2014

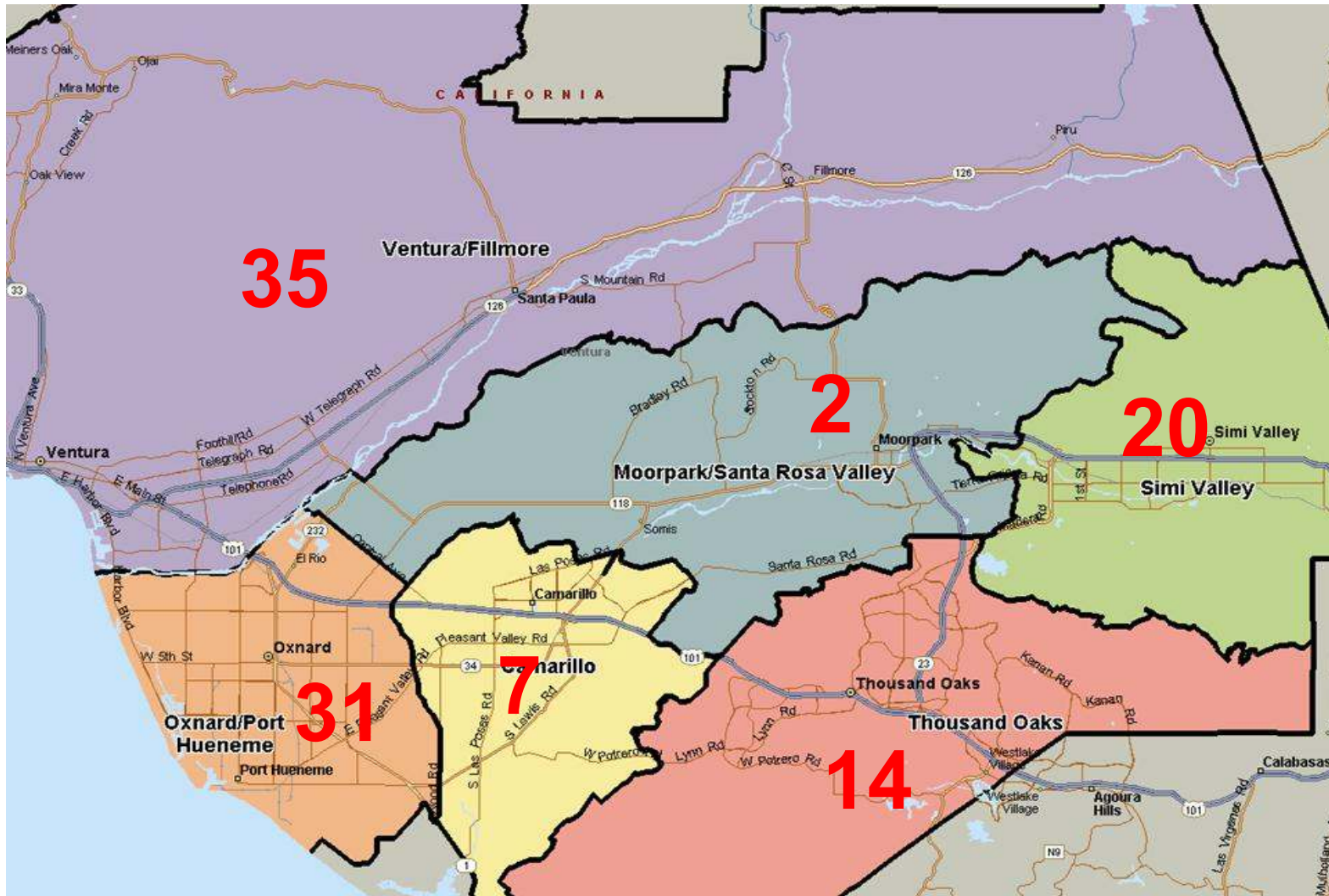


# All Overdose Deaths – 2015

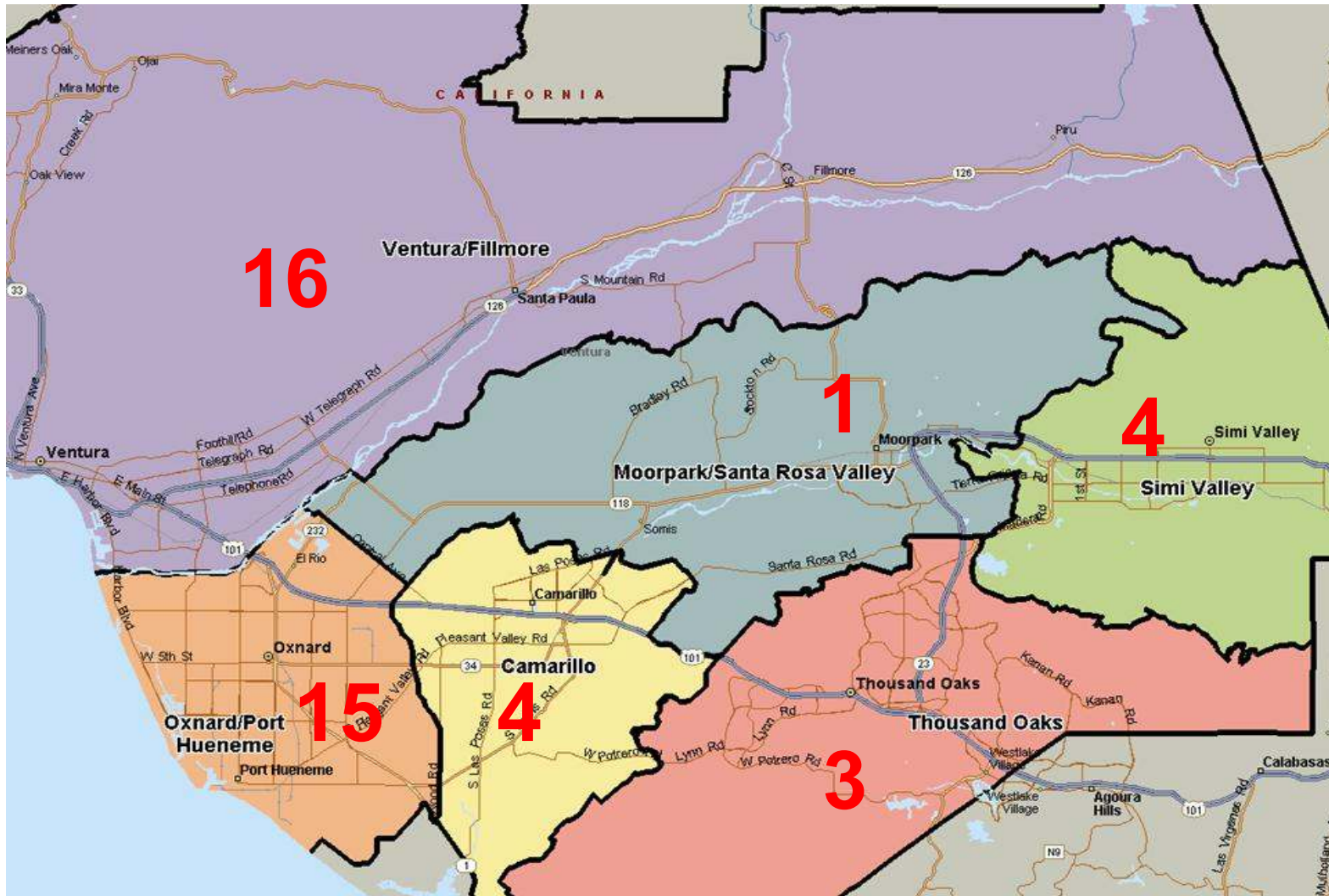




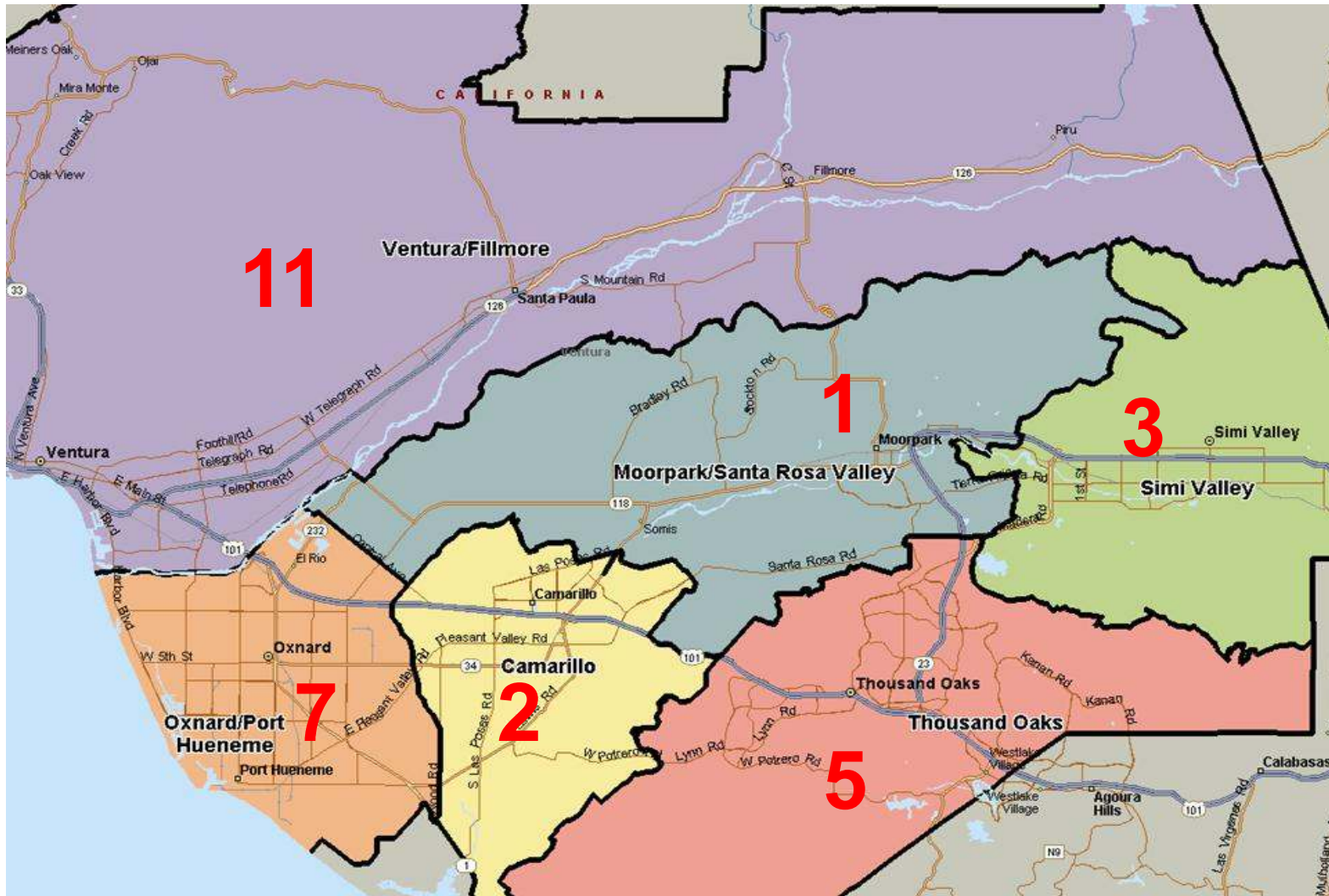
# All Overdose Deaths – 2016



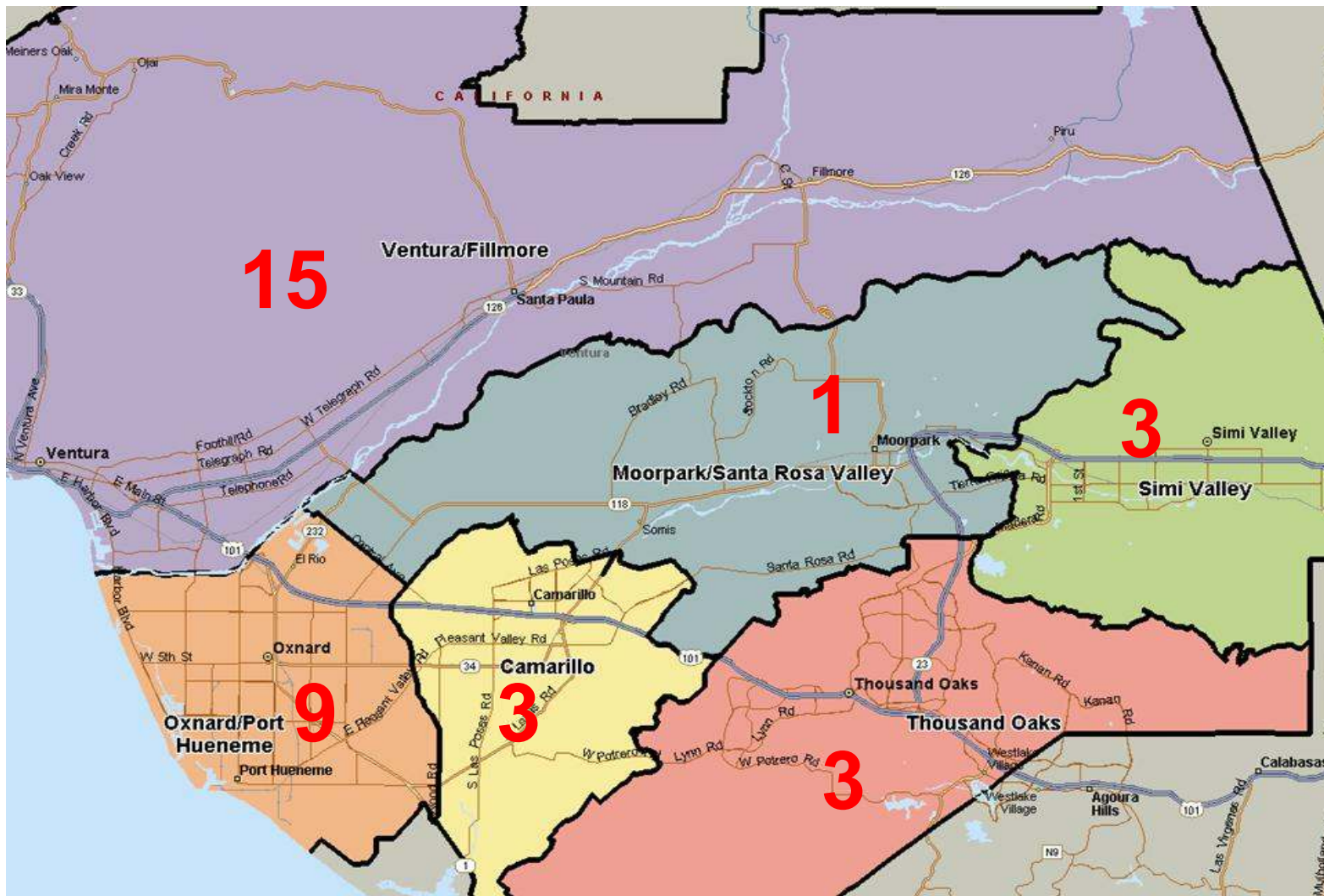
# Alcohol-Related – 2015



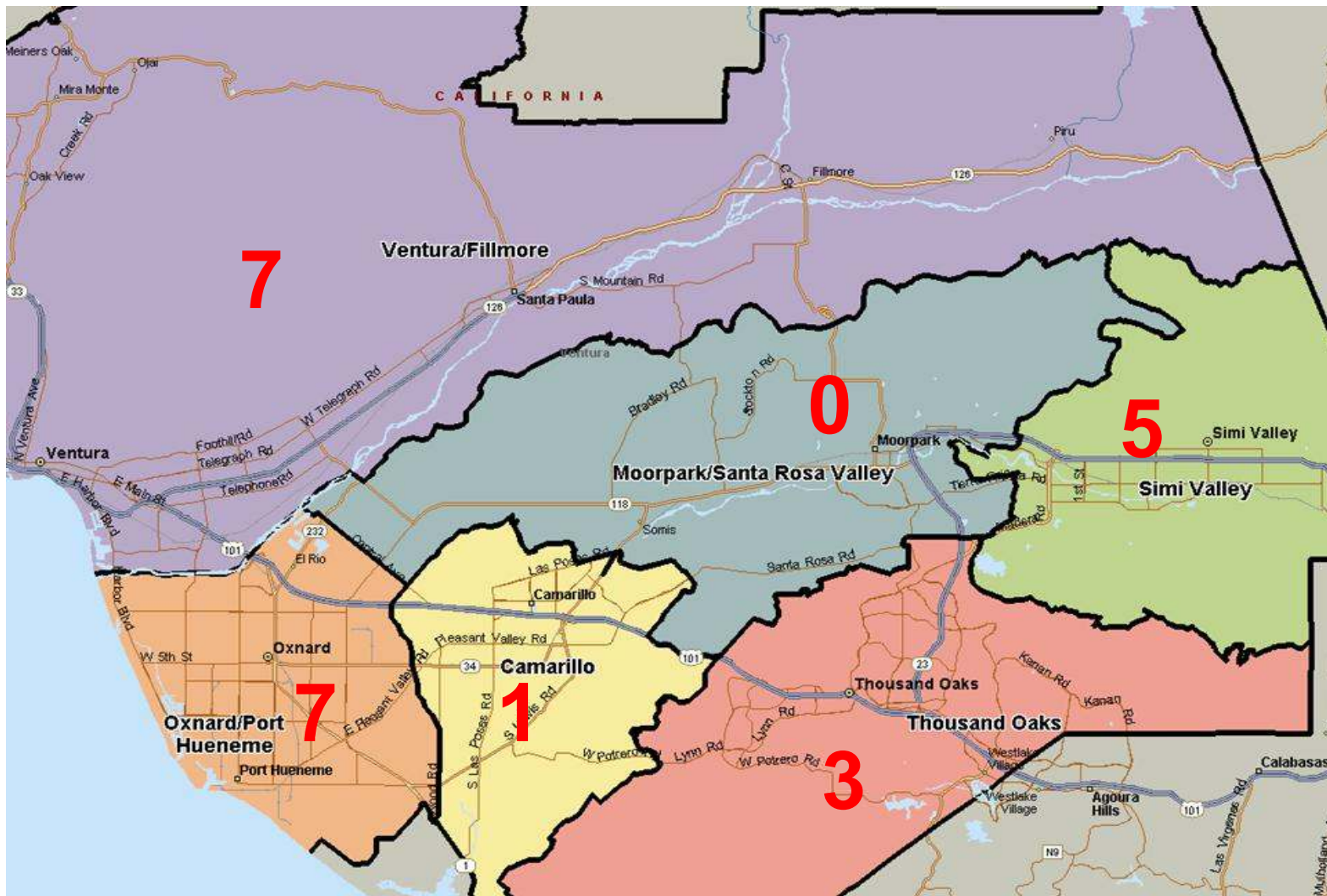
# Alcohol-Related – 2016



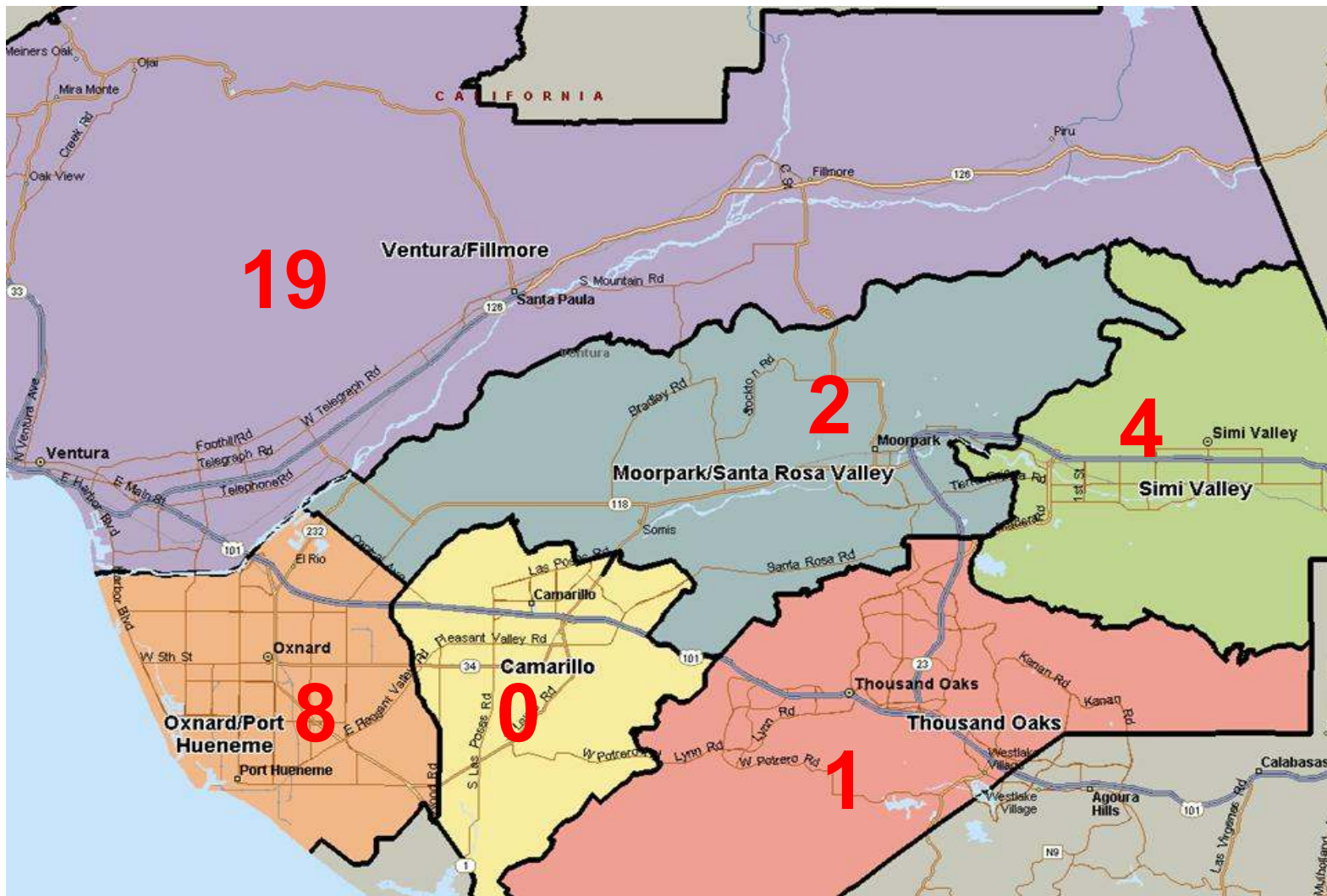
# Heroin-Related – 2015



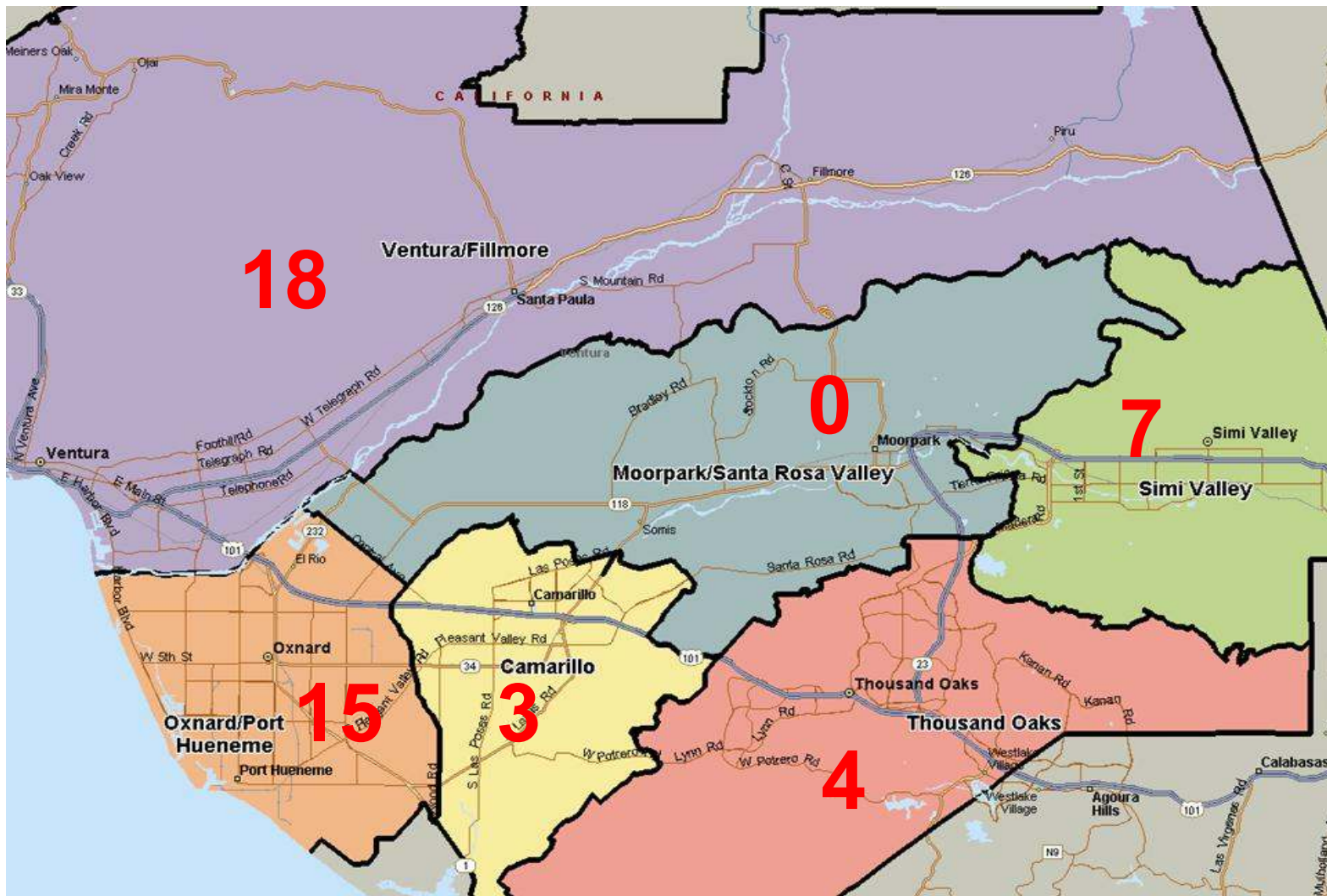
# Heroin-Related – 2016



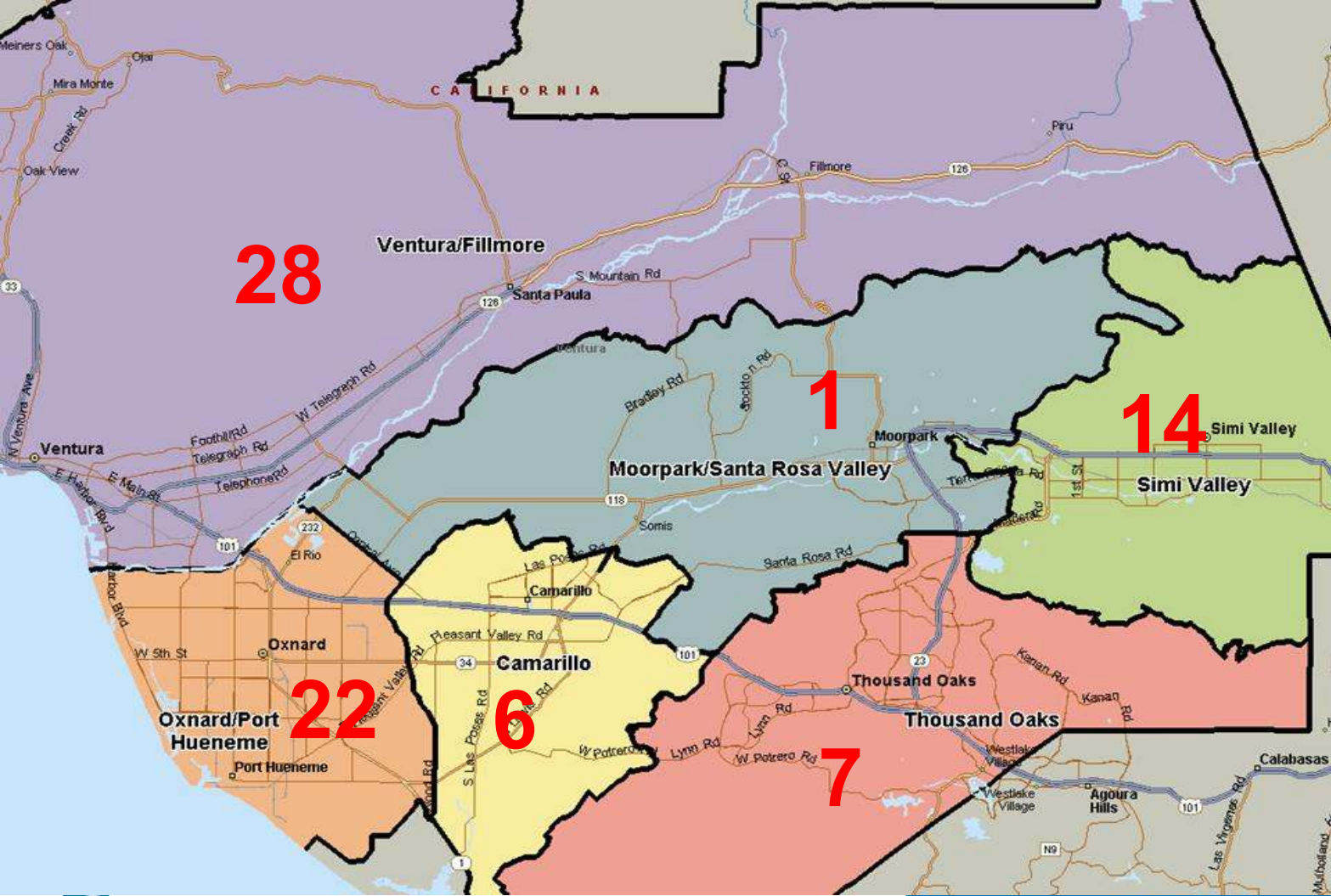
# Illicit Drug-Related – 2015



# Illicit Drug-Related – 2016

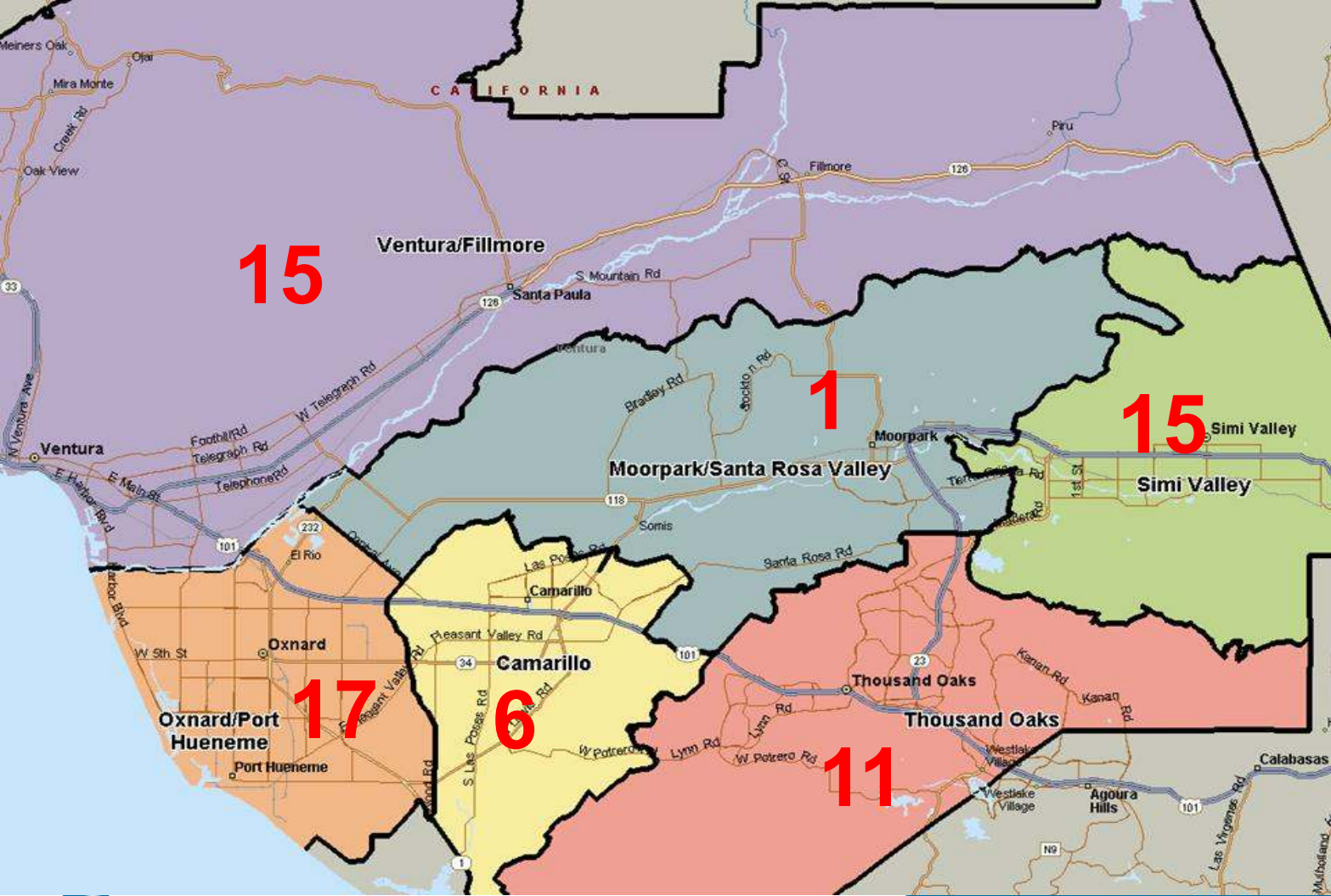


# Rx Drug-Related – 2015





# Rx Drug-Related – 2016



# Summary Points

- The overall number of overdose deaths dramatically decreased from 2015 to 2016.
  - As did the overall number of opioid-related overdose deaths.
- Prescription drug-related overdose deaths have begun to decline.
- Illicit drug-related overdose deaths are sharply increasing.
- Heroin-related overdoses slightly spiked again in 2015 but decreased in 2016.
- The majority of overdose deaths remain opioid-related.

# Credits

**This project is funded by the Alcohol and Drug department of the Ventura County Health Care Agency.**

**Please contact Patrick Zarate for questions or comments on this presentation.**

Data analysis completed by Kayleigh Hunnicutt, M.A., M.Ed.

*Special thanks is given to the Medical Examiner's office, for their continued assistance and cooperation with this project.*