



Date of Council Meeting: October 13, 2015

**TOWN OF LEESBURG  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

**Information Memo**

**Subject:** Heroin Use in Town of Leesburg

**Staff Contact:** Joseph R. Price, Chief of Police

**Council Action Requested:** None. Information Only.

**Staff Recommendation:** None. Information only.

**Commission Recommendation:** Not Applicable.

**Fiscal Impact:** None.

**Work Plan Impact:** None.

**Executive Summary:** Town Council requested an update on the heroin issues within the town, and the strategies that the Leesburg Police Department is using to address the matter.

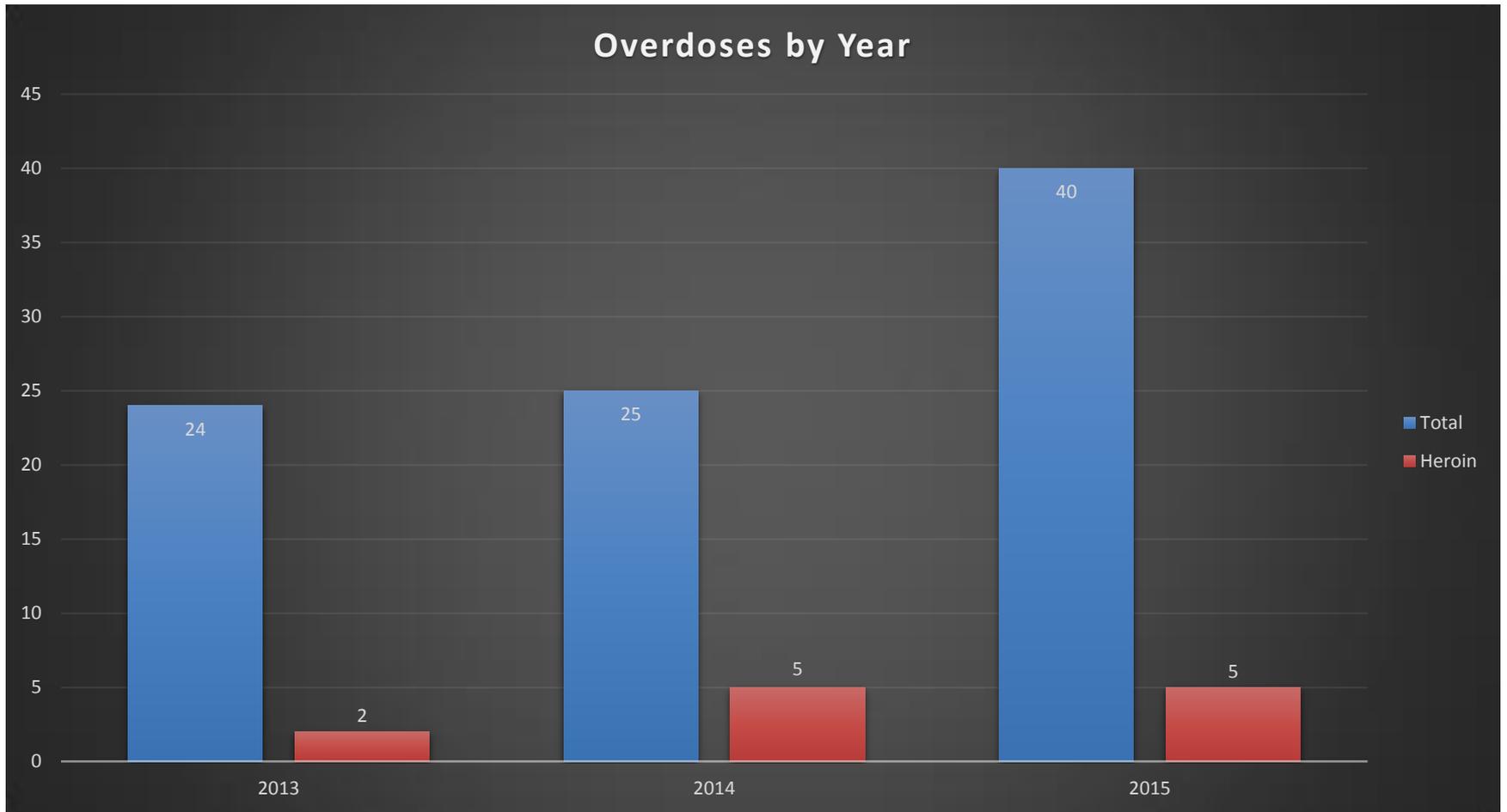
**Background:** The use of heroin has been increasing in our country over the past several years, and Leesburg has not been immune from this problem. The attached charts provide statistical information for overdose investigations conducted by the Leesburg Police Department in calendar years 2013, 2014, and 2105. This information includes not only heroin use, but also prescription drugs, over the counter drugs, and synthetic marijuana use.

Nationally, approximately 80% of new heroin users started with prescription drug abuse often times from unused prescriptions in the home. As part of an effort to counter this, the Leesburg Police Department recently partnered with CVS, and obtained the first, and currently the only Drug Disposal Box in the County of Loudoun. Since the start of the program on May 26, 2015, the department has collected 600 pounds of unwanted prescriptions and over the counter medications for safe destruction.

Leesburg Police detectives have been working diligently to reduce the flow of illegal drugs into our community with the bulk of the supply coming from the Baltimore area. In 2013, there were 5 heroin arrests, but in 2015, there has been 17 heroin arrests through September 2015. In addition, the department has assigned a detective to the FBI's Northern Virginia Safe Streets Task Force which is unit composed of agencies throughout Northern Virginia. The department also works very close with the Sheriff's office to share information, resources, and local investigative tips inclusive of the County's Heroin Initiative.

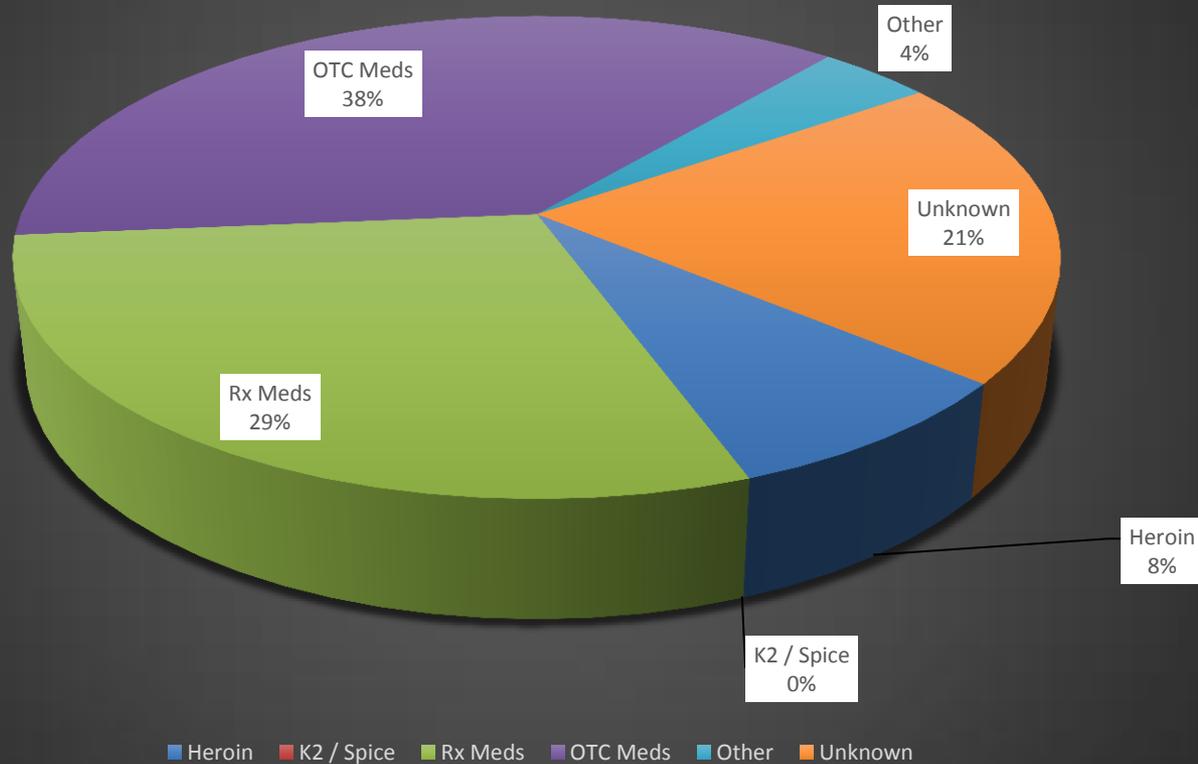
**Attachments:** Charts showing Overdoses and Arrests 2013-2015

# LPD Overdoses by Year



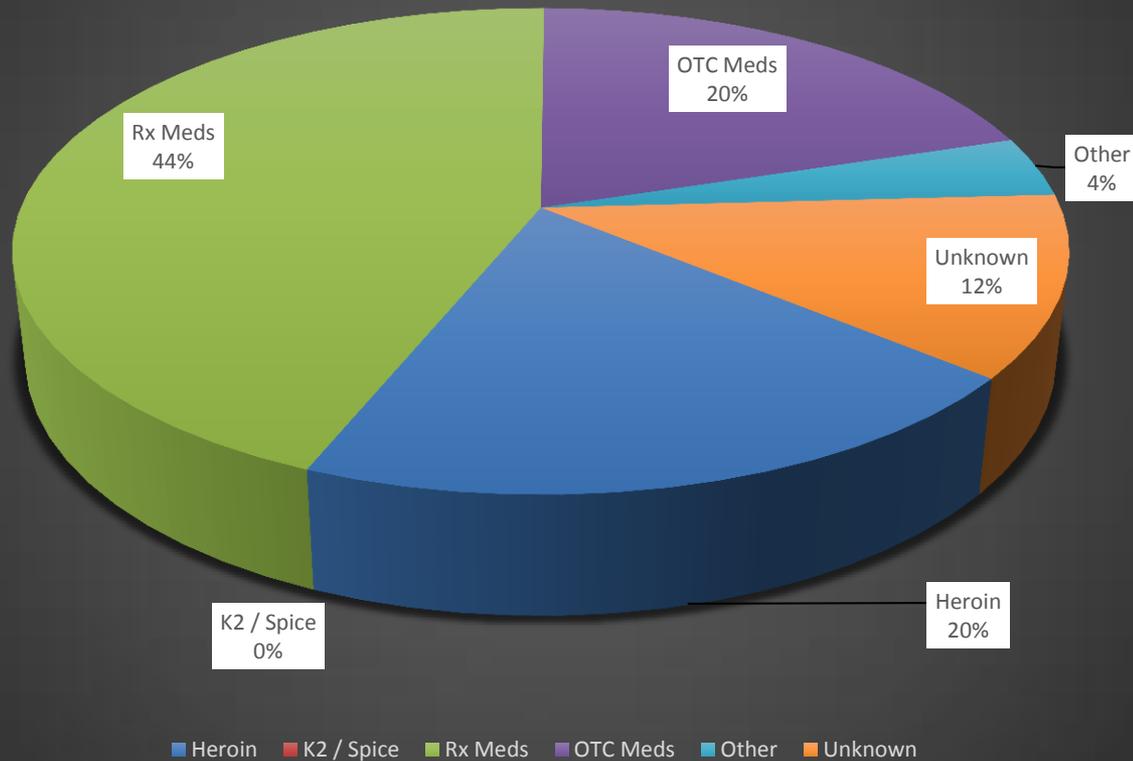
# LPD Overdoses 2013

2013 Overdoses by Drug Type



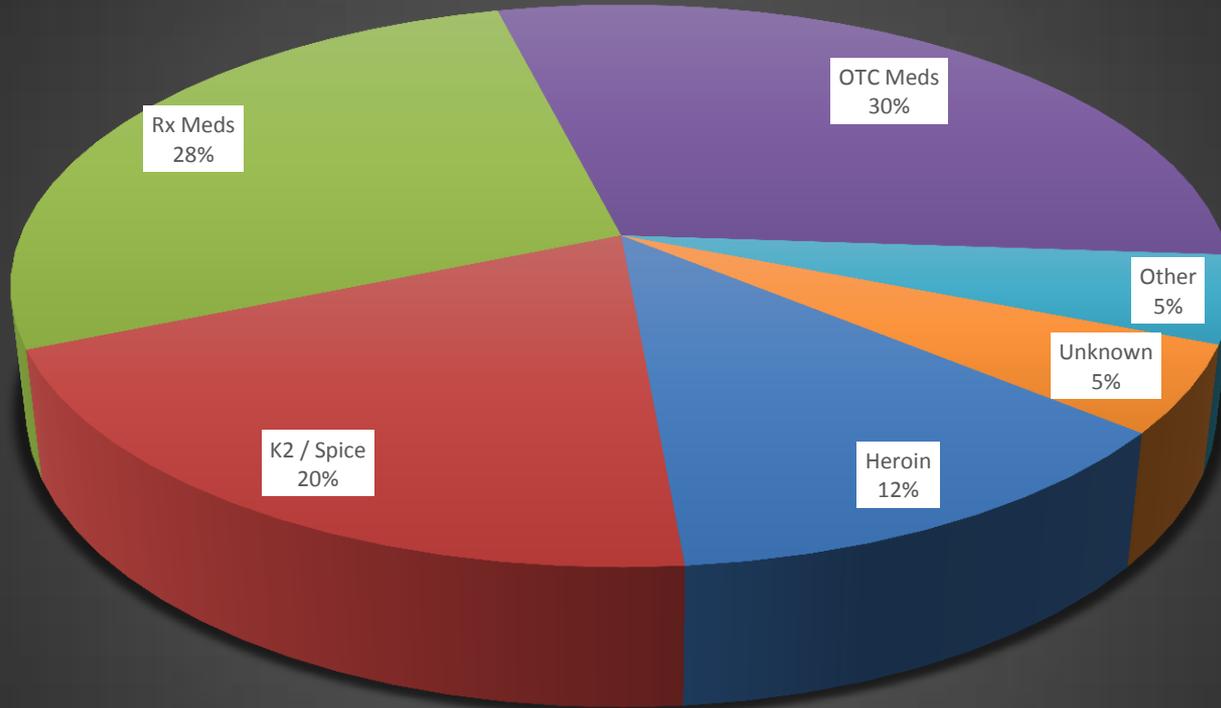
# LPD Overdoses 2014

2014 Overdoses by Drug Type



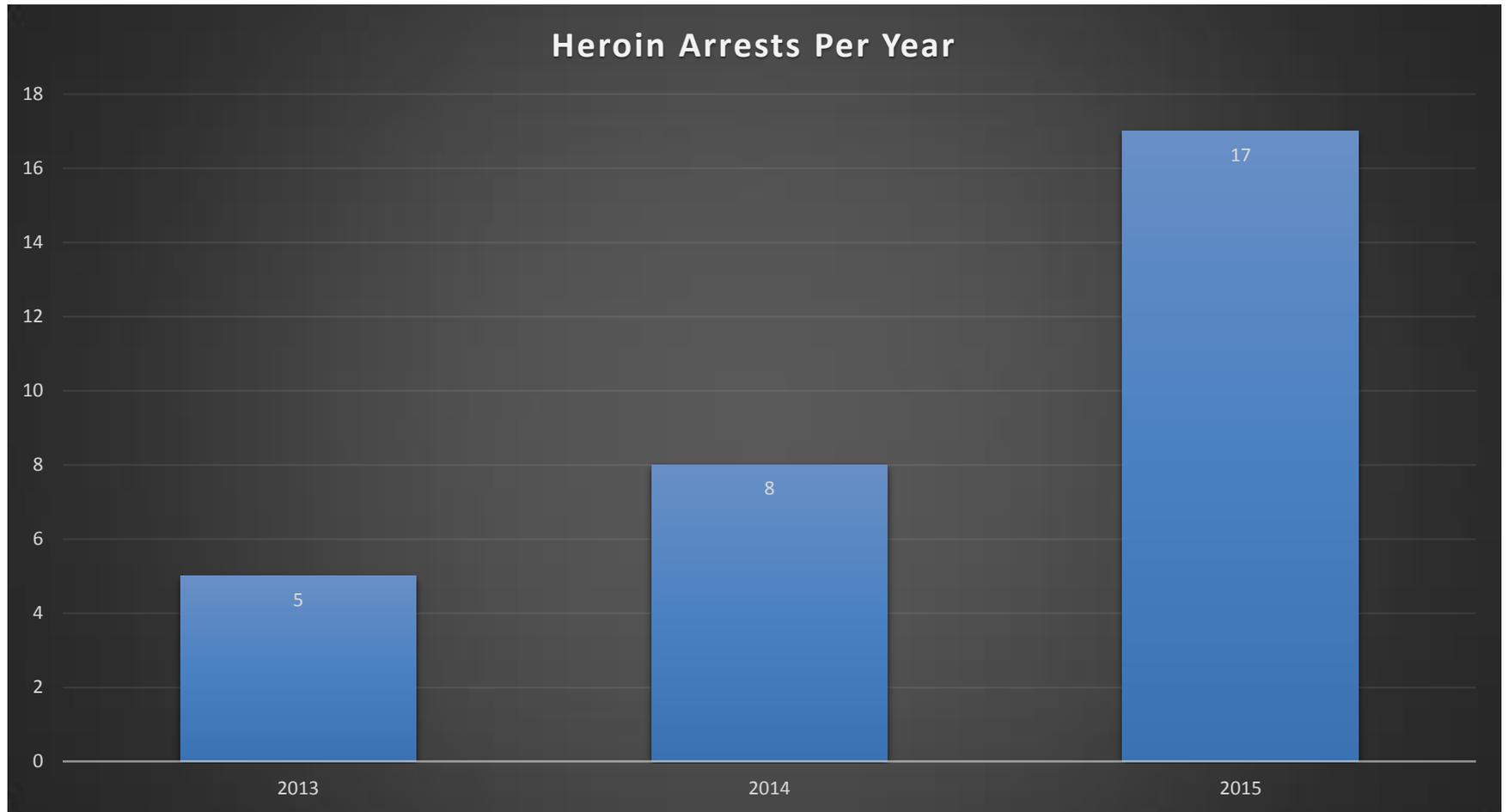
# LPD Overdoses 2015

2015 Overdoses by Drug Type

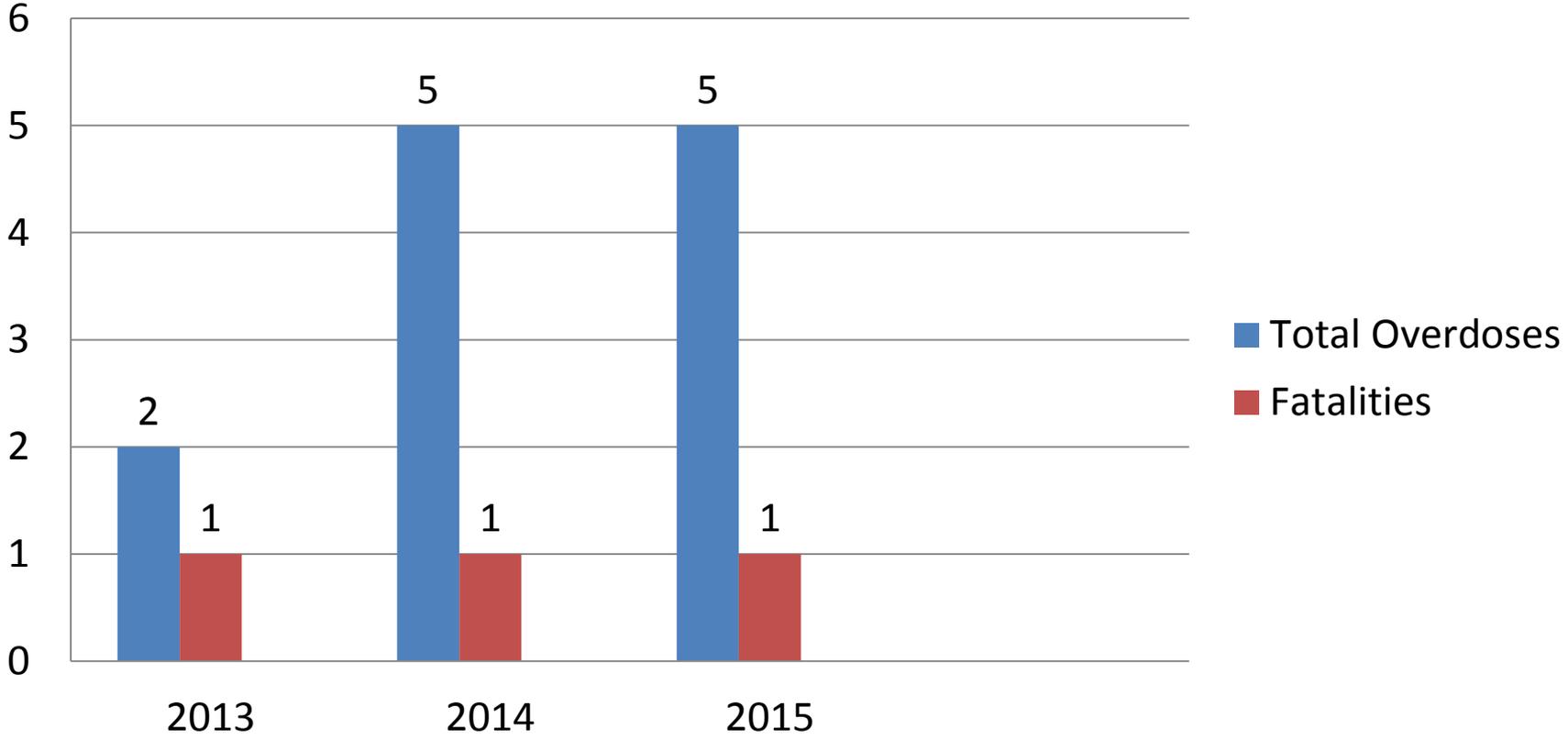


■ Heroin ■ K2 / Spice ■ Rx Meds ■ OTC Meds ■ Other ■ Unknown

# LPD Heroin Arrests



# LPD Heroin Overdoses



As of Sept. 29, 2015