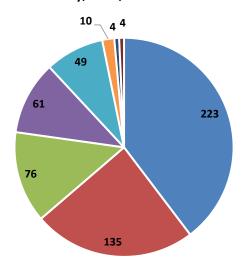
| 2024 | Injuries Data Brief





A note on data in this report: The processing requirements of birth and death certificate records results in a delay in the public availability of the data.

Leading Causes of Injury Deaths in Guilford County, 2022, Number of Deaths



- Unintentional Poisoning
- Motor Vehicle Injury
- Homicide
- Exposure to fire and flames
- Unintentional Falls
- Suicide, Self-Inflicted Injury
- Unintentional Threats to Breathing
- Drowning

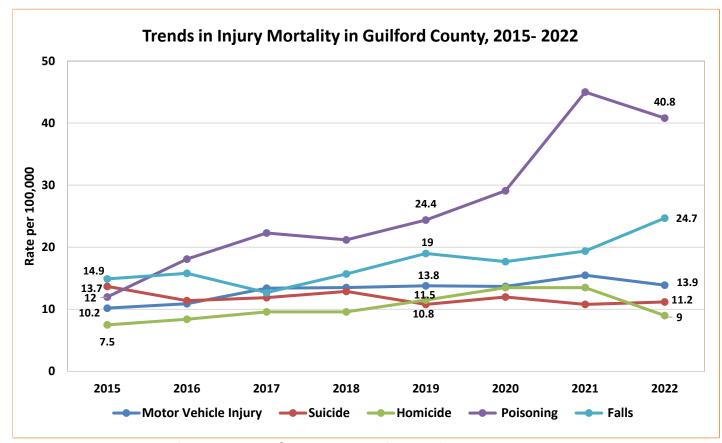
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• In 2022, there were 565 injury deaths in Guilford County. Of these deaths, 39% of deaths were due to unintentional poisoning/overdose, followed by falls (24%), motor vehicle injury deaths (13.5%), suicide (11%) and homicide (9%). The remaining 4.5% of deaths were due to unintentional threats to breathing, exposure to fire and flames and drowning.

Leading Causes of Injury Mortality

- In 2022, the overall leading causes of injury deaths were unintentional poisoning, followed by unintentional falls, motor vehicle injury deaths, suicide and homicide.
- Unintentional poisoning deaths almost doubled between 2018 and 2022, increasing from 113
 poisoning deaths in 2018 to 223 in 2022; this is an increase from a rate of 12 to 40.8 per 100,000.
 These poisoning deaths were due primarily to adverse reactions to prescription and nonprescription use of opioid drugs.
- Falls deaths have also doubled from 67 in 2017 to 135 in 2022, increasing from a rate of 14.9 to 24.7 per 100,000.



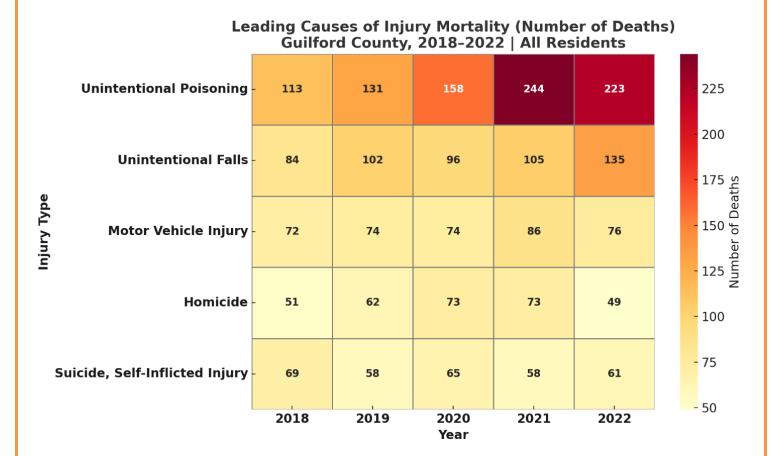
Leading Causes of Injury Mortality and Rates per 100,000 Guilford County, 2018-2022 All Residents

	2018	2018	2019	2019	2020	2020	2021	2021	2022	2022
Injury Type	Number	Rate								
Unintentional Poisoning	113	21.2	131	24.4	158	29.2	244	45.0	223	40.8
Unintentional Falls	84	15.7	102	19.0	96	17.7	105	19.4	135	24.7
Motor Vehicle Injury	72	13.5	74	13.8	74	13.7	86	15.9	76	13.9
Homicide	51	9.6	62	11.5	73	13.5	73	13.5	49	9.0
Suicide, Self-Inflicted Injury	69	12.9	58	10.8	65	12.0	58	10.7	61	11.2
Guilford County Population	533,6	70	537,1	74	541,2	99	542,4	10	546,1	.01

Source: North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health. State Center for Health Statistics.

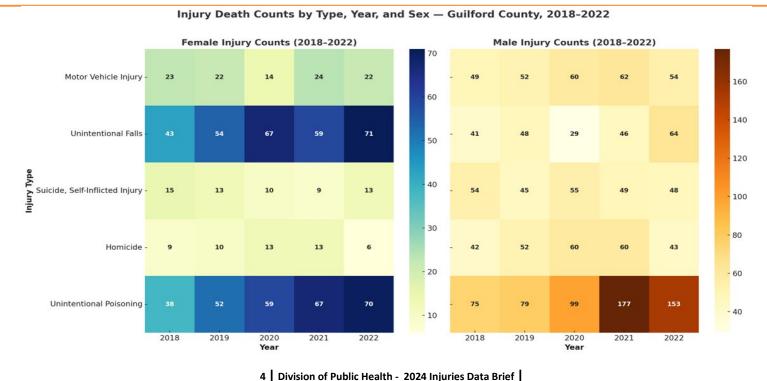
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- The heat map below shows the top causes of injury-related deaths in Guilford County from 2018 to 2022, based on the number of deaths each year.
- In 2022, the leading causes of injury deaths were unintentional poisoning, unintentional falls, motor vehicle injuries, suicide and homicide.
- Unintentional poisoning deaths nearly doubled from 113 in 2018 to 223 in 2022. Most of these were related to opioid drug use.
- Unintentional fall deaths increased from 84 in 2018 to 135 in 2022.
- Motor vehicle injury deaths stayed relatively steady, ranging from 72 to 86 deaths over the five-year period.
- Suicide deaths remained fairly consistent, with 58 to 69 deaths each year.
- Homicide deaths peaked in 2020 and 2021 (both at 73 deaths) and declined to 49 in 2022.



Leading Causes of Injury Mortality by Sex

- The heat maps below show the number of deaths from five major injury causes, separated by sex (female on the left, male on the right), over **five years (2018–2022**). For both males and females, the leading causes of injury deaths were unintentional poisoning, unintentional falls, motor vehicle injuries, suicide and homicide.
- The leading causes of injury deaths among females were unintentional falls, poisoning deaths, motor vehicle injuries, suicide and homicide.
- Unintentional poisoning was the most common cause of injury death among males, followed by falls, motor vehicle injury deaths, suicide and homicide. Males consistently had higher rates of homicide and suicide mortality rates than females.
- Unintentional poisoning deaths increased in both sexes over the five-year period. Among females, deaths from unintentional poisoning went up from 38 in 2018 to 70 in 2022. Among males, the numbers were even higher, rising from 75 in 2018 to a peak of 177 in 2021, before slightly declining to 153 in 2022.
- **Unintentional fall deaths** steadily increased among both males and females. For females, the number of deaths climbed from 43 in 2018 to 71 in 2022. For males, fall-related deaths rose from 41 in 2018 to 64 in 2022.
- Motor vehicle injury deaths remained relatively stable for both sexes throughout the five years. Among females, deaths ranged from 14 to 24 per year, while among males, the range was higher, from 49 to 62 deaths annually.
- **Homicide and suicide deaths** were consistently higher among males than females. Female homicide and suicide deaths ranged from 9 to 15 each year, while male deaths ranges between 43 and 60 annually.



Leading Causes of Injury Mortality and Rates per 100,000 by Sex Guilford County, 2018-2022

Female Residents

	2018	2018	2019	2019	2020	2020	2021	2021	2022	2022
Injury Type	Number	Rate								
Motor Vehicle Injury	23	8.2	22	7.8	14	4.9	24	8.4	22	7.7
Unintentional Falls	43	15.3	54	19.1	67	23.5	59	20.7	71	24.8
Suicide, Self-Inflicted Injury	15	5.3	13	4.6	10	3.5	9	3.2	13	4.5
Homicide	9	3.2	10	3.5	13	4.6	13	4.6	6	2.1
Unintentional Poisoning	38	13.5	52	18.5	59	20.7	67	23.5	70	24.4
Female Population	280,9	83	282,9	62	285,2	64	284,7	59	286,7	739

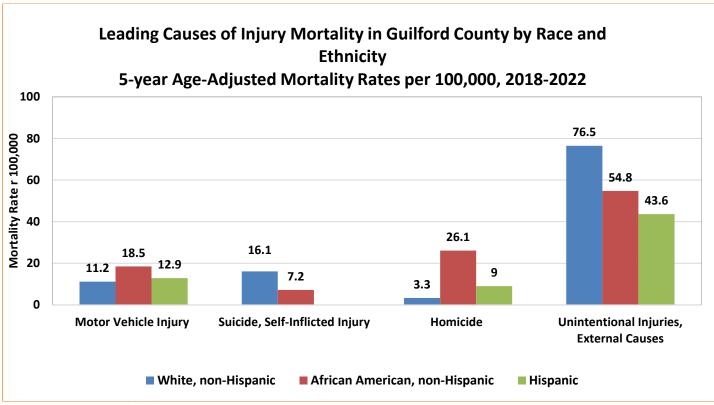
Male Residents

	2018	2018	2019	2019	2020	2020	2021	2021	2022	2022
Injury Type	Number	Rate								
Motor Vehicle Injury	49	19.4	52	20.5	60	23.3	62	24.1	54	20.8
Unintentional Falls	41	16.2	48	18.9	29	11.3	46	17.9	64	24.7
Suicide, Self-Inflicted Injury	54	21.4	45	17.7	55	21.4	49	19.0	48	18.5
Homicide	42	16.6	52	20.5	60	23.3	60	23.3	43	16.6
Unintentional Poisoning	75	29.7	79	31.1	99	38.5	177	68.7	153	59.0
Male Population	252,68	87	254,2	12	257,0	35	257,6	551	259,3	362

Source: North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health. State Center for Health Statistics.

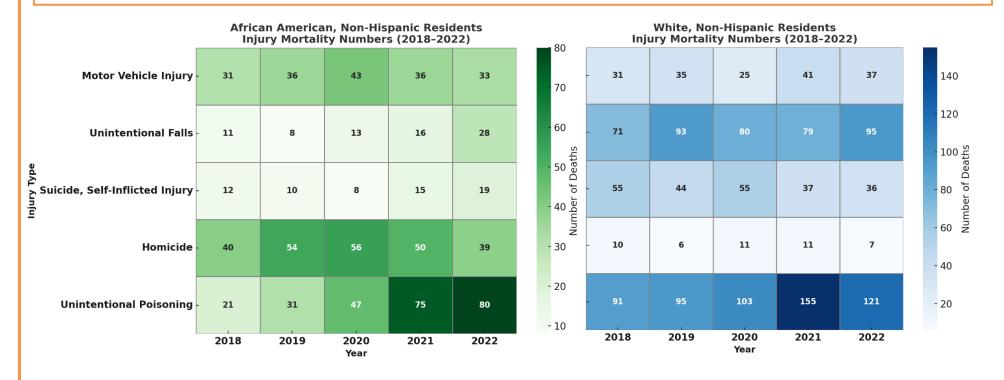
Leading Causes of Injury Mortality by Race and Ethnicity

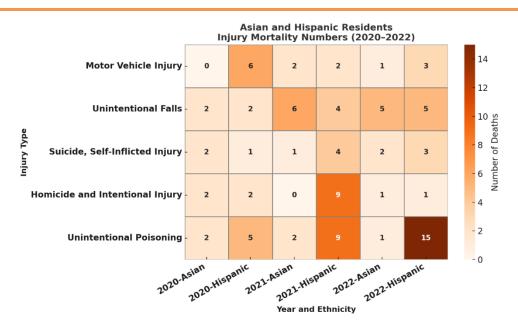
- 5-year age-adjusted homicide rates were almost eight times higher among African Americans and three times higher among Hispanic residents, compared to Whites in Guilford County (26.1 and 9.0 vs. 3.3 per 100,000).
- 5-year age-adjusted suicide rates were twice as high among Whites as compared to African Americans during that same time (16.1 vs. 7.2 per 100,000).
- Motor vehicle injury deaths rates were highest among African American residents.
- Unintentional Injuries/External Causes include deaths primarily due to unintentional poisonings, falls and other external causes of injury. Rates were highest among Whites (76.5 per 100,000) and African Americans (54.8 per 100,000).



^{*}Unintentional Injuries/External Causes include deaths primarily due to unintentional poisonings, falls, and other external causes of injury.

- The heat maps below show the number of deaths from five major injury causes by race and ethnicity (African American on the left, White on the right below; Asian and Hispanic on page 8), over **five years (2018–2022**).
- Unintentional poisoning was the leading cause of injury death across all groups, increasing sharply among African American (21 to 80) and White residents (91 to 155, then down to 121), while also rising among Hispanic residents (5 to 15) and remaining low but steady among Asian residents (2 to 1 death from 2020–2022).
- Unintentional fall deaths increased across all races and ethnicities, with the highest numbers among White residents (71 to 95), moderate increases among African American residents (11 to 28), and consistently low but rising numbers among Hispanic (2 to 5) and Asian residents (2 to 6).
- Motor vehicle injury deaths remained relatively stable over time for all groups, ranging from 31 to 43 among African American residents, 25 to 41 among White residents and remaining low for Hispanic (6 to 3) and Asian residents (0 to 2).
- Suicide deaths were highest among White residents (declining from 55 to 36), showed a gradual increase among African American residents (12 to 19), and remained consistently low among Hispanic (1 to 4) and Asian residents (1 to 2).
- Homicide deaths were most prominent among African American residents (peaking at 56 in 2020, dropping to 39 in 2022), stayed low among White residents (7 in 2022), and remained limited among Hispanic (peaking at 9) and Asian residents (0 to 2 deaths annually).





Leading Causes of Injury Mortality and Rates per 100,000, by Race in Guilford County, 2018-2022 White, Non-Hispanic Residents

			.,	P 4						
	2018	2018	2019	2019	2020	2020	2021	2021	2022	2022
Injury Type	Number	Rate								
Motor Vehicle Injury	31	10.2	35	11.4	25	8.2	41	16.0	37	14.1
Unintentional Falls	71	23.2	93	30.4	80	26.4	79	30.9	95	36.3
Suicide, Self-Inflicted Injury	55	18.0	44	14.4	55	18.1	37	14.5	36	13.8
Homicide	10	3.3	6	2.0	11	3.6	11	4.3	7	2.7
Unintentional Poisoning	91	29.8	95	31.0	103	34.0	155	60.7	121	46.3
Population	305,3	32	306,1	01	303,1	27	255,4	79	261,5	53

African American, Non-Hispanic Residents

	2018	2018	2019	2019	2020	2020	2021	2021	2022	2022
Injury Type	Number	Rate								
Motor Vehicle Injury	31	16.0	36	18.3	43	22.4	36	19.5	33	17.6
Unintentional Falls	11	5.7	8	4.1	13	6.8	16	8.7	28	15.0
Suicide, Self-Inflicted Injury	12	6.2	10	5.1	8	4.2	15	8.1	19	10.2
Homicide	40	20.6	54	27.5	56	29.2	50	27.1	39	20.9
Unintentional Poisoning	21	10.8	31	15.8	47	24.5	75	40.6	80	42.8
Population	193,6	28	196,4	92	191,6	19	184,5	74	187,0	71

Number of Deaths among Asian and Hispanic Residents, 2020-2022

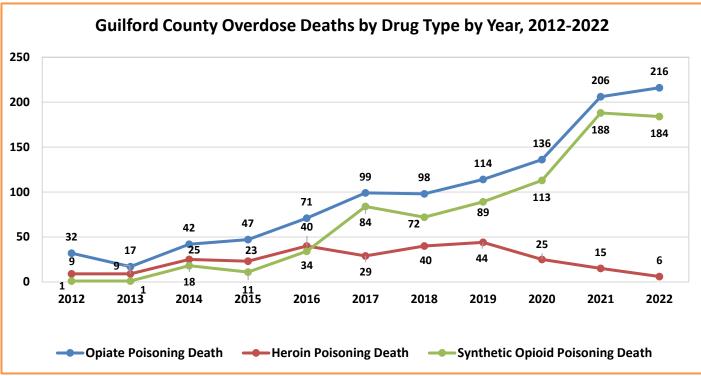
Hamber of Beating	differing Asia	an ana msp	arric resider	163, 2020 20.		
	2020	2020	2021	2021	2022	2022
	Asian	Hispanic	Asian	Hispanic	Asian	Hispanic
Injury Type	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
Motor Vehicle Injury	0	6	2	2	1	3
Unintentional Falls	2	2	6	4	5	5
Suicide, Self-Inflicted Injury	2	1	1	4	2	3
Homicide and Intentional Injury	2	2	0	9	1	1
Unintentional Poisoning	2	5	2	9	1	15

Rate not calculated for Asian and Hispanic residents due to small numbers.

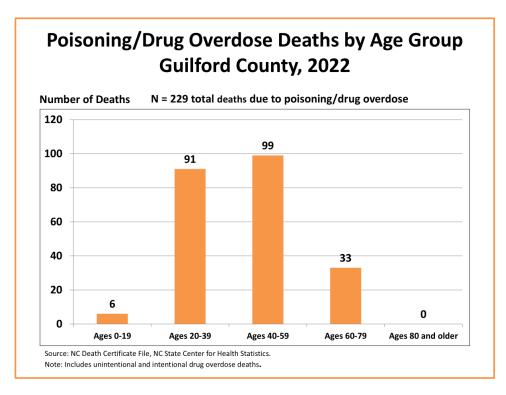
Source: North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health. State Center for Health Statistics.

Unintentional Poisoning/Drug Overdose Trends

- Guilford County overdose deaths have increased substantially over the past 10 years, primarily due to adverse reactions to prescription and nonprescription use of opioid drugs.
- The majority of overdose deaths are due to synthetic opioid poisoning from substances like fentanyl or a mixture of synthetic opioids with other drugs.
- Adults ages 20-59 were most impacted by unintentional poisoning and drug overdose in Guilford County.



Source: NC DETECT (NC Disease Event Tracking and Epidemiologic Collection Tool); NC DHHS Injury and Violence Prevention Branch); NC Death Certificate File, NC SCHS.



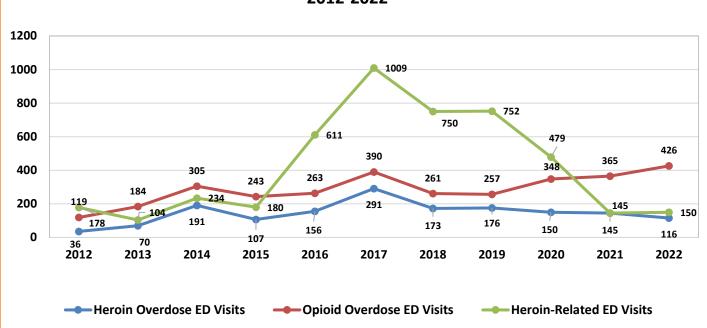
Opioid Drug Trends in Guilford County: Annual Data Trends: 2013-2022

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Heroin Overdose ED Visits ¹	70	191	107	156	291	173	176	150	145	116
Opioid Overdose ED Visits ¹	184	305	243	263	390	261	257	348	365	426
Heroin-Related ED Visits ¹	104	234	180	611	1,009	750	752	479	209	150
Opiate Poisoning Deaths ^{2,3}	17	42	47	71	99	98	114	136	206	216
Heroin Poisoning Deaths ^{2.4}	9	25	23	40	29	40	44	25	15	6
Synthetic Opioid Poisoning Deaths ^{2,5}	1	18	11	34	84	72	89	113	188	184

¹Source: NC DETECT (NC Disease Event Tracking and Epidemiologic Collection Tool), Emergency Department data.

⁵Cause of Death Codes used: Any mention (cod1-cod21) of T40.4 (Other Synthetic Opioids, includes Fentanyl).





Drug Overdose Mortality for All Intents, 2022, Guilford County

	Deaths	Mortality Rate per 100,000
Guilford County	229	41.9
Male	152	58.6
Female	77	26.8
White	126	48.2
Black	82	43.8

Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics; NC Mortality File, 2022.

Note: Includes fatal overdoses from all types of medications and drugs, whether unintentional or intentional.

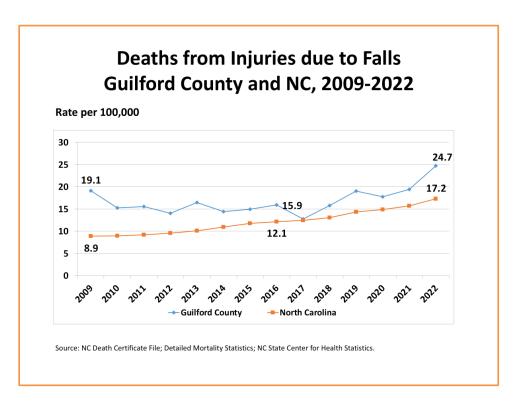
²Source: Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, NCDHHS; NC Death Certificate File, NCSCHS

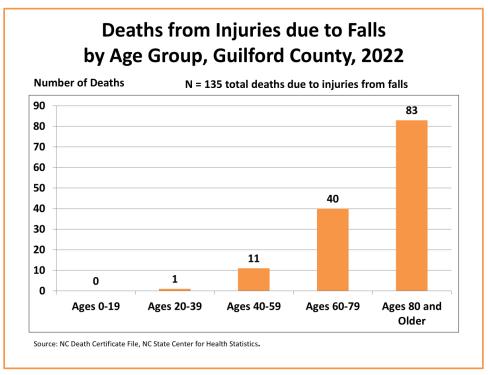
³Cause of Death Codes used: Any mention (cod1-cod21) of T40.0 (Opium), T40.1 (Heroin), T40.2 (Other Opioids), T40.3 (Methadone) and/or T40.4 (Other synthetic opioid).

⁴Cause of Death Codes used: Any mention (cod1-cod21) of T40.1 (Heroin).

Unintentional Falls Trends

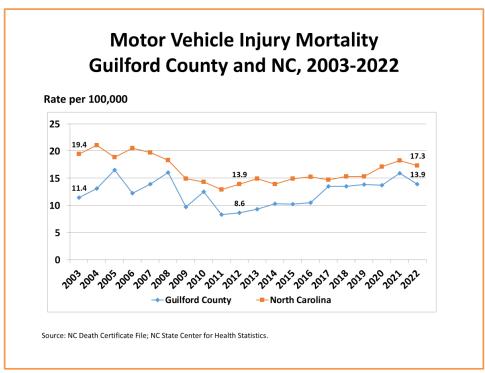
- Guilford County fall death rates exceed NC rates.
- Fall mortality increased from 12.7 per 100,000 in 2017, to 24.7 per 100,000 in 2022.
- Risk of fall deaths increased with age, with 30% of deaths occurring to residents ages 60-79 and 62% occurring to those ages 80 and older.
- In 2022, females accounted for 71 of fall deaths, compared to 64 among males. That same year, 70% of fall deaths were White, 28% were African American, 4% were Hispanic and 4% were Asian.

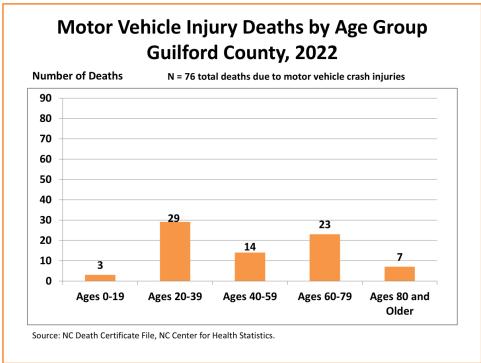




Motor Vehicle Injury Trends

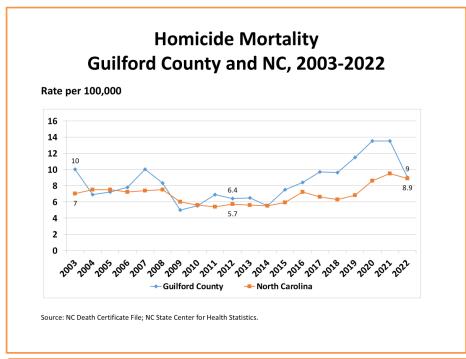
- Guilford County motor vehicle injury mortality rates consistently remained lower than NC.
- After dropping to a low 8.3 per 100,000 in 2011, rates increased to 15.9 in 2021 and dropped to 13.9 in 2022.
- Male residents consistently had a higher motor vehicle injury mortality than female residents.
- While all age groups are impacted, motor vehicle crash deaths are the second leading cause of death for adults ages 20-39 in Guilford County.
- In 2022, males had twice the number of motor vehicle injury fatalities (54 vs. 22). That same year, Whites accounted for 48% of these fatalities, 43% were African American, 4% were Hispanic and 1% were Asian.

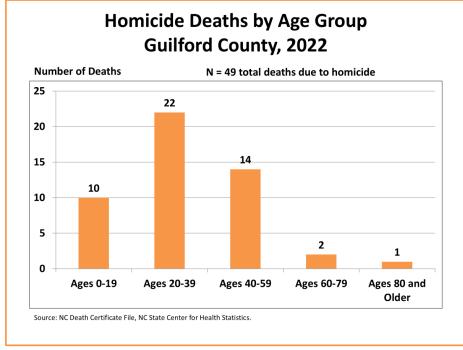




Homicide Trends

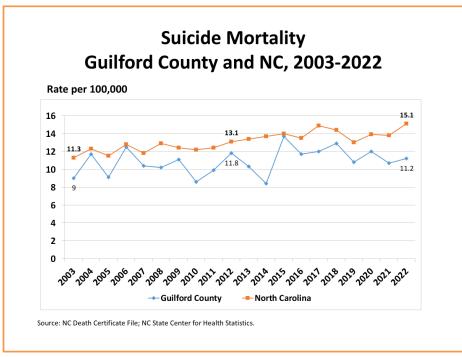
- Since 2010, the Guilford County homicide mortality rate has surpassed the North Carolina rate.
- After increasing from a rate of 5.5 per 100,000 in 2014 to 13.5 in 2021, Guilford County homicide rates dropped to 9 per 100,000 9 in 2022.
- African American males ages 20-39 are most at risk of homicide.
- Firearms were used in 84% of the homicides in 2022.
- In 2022, homicide was the second leading cause of death among those ages 0-19 and the fourth leading cause of death among those ages 20-39.
- In 2022, males accounted for 70% of the homicide deaths, compared to 30% among females. That same year, African American accounted for 80% of these homicides, 14% were White, 2% were Hispanic and 2% were Asian.

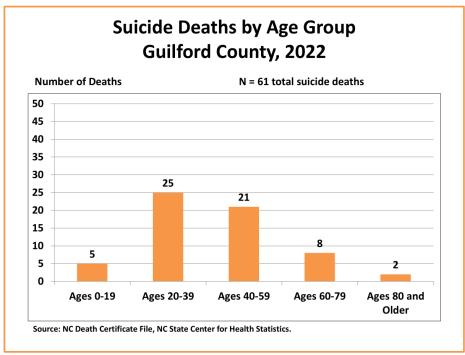




Suicide, Self-Inflicted Injury Trends

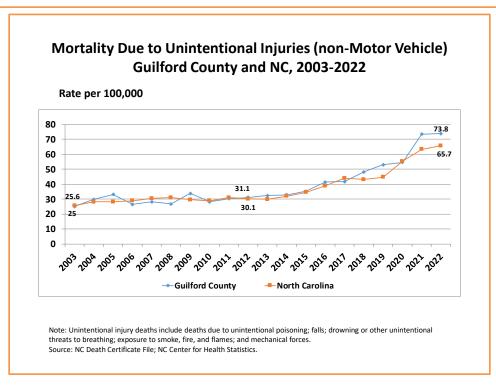
- Since 2003, the Guilford County suicide rate has been less than the North Carolina rate.
- There is no discernable trend in suicide mortality rates in Guilford County.
- Firearms were used in 58% of the suicides in 2022.
- White males are most at risk of suicide.
- In 2022, suicide was the third leading cause of death for those ages 20-39 and the fifth leading cause of death for those ages 0-19.
- In 2022, males accounted for 79% of the suicide deaths, compared to 21% among females. That same year, Whites accounted for 60% of these suicides, 31% were African American, 5% were Hispanic and 3% were Asian.

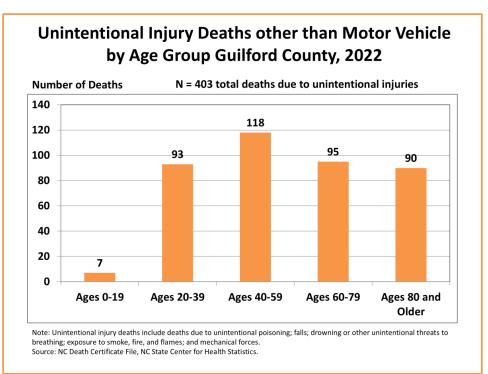




Unintentional Injury Mortality Trends

- Unintentional injury deaths include deaths due to unintentional poisoning; falls, drowning or other unintentional threats to breathing; exposure to smoke, fire and flames; and mechanical forces. Guilford County unintentional injury death rates most recently exceeded NC rates in 2021.
- Guilford County unintentional injury death rates due to unintentional injuries have tripled from 2003 to 2023. That increase was in large part due to unintentional overdoses and to a lesser extent unintentional falls.





Detailed External Injury Causes of Mortality, 2022

ICD-10 Cause of Death Codes	Cause of Death Description	Number of Deaths
	Deaths due to Motor Vehicle and other Transport-Related Injuries	
V00-V99	Transport Accidents	78
V00-V09	Pedestrian injured in transport accident	16
V20-V29	Motorcycle rider injured in transport accident	4
V40-V49	Car occupant injured in transport accident	4
V50-V59	Occupant of pick-up truck or van injured in transport accident	2
V80-V89	Other land transport accidents	51
	Deaths due to Falls	
W00-W19	Deaths due to Falls	135
W00	Fall involving ice and snow	1
W01	Fall from slipping, tripping, or stumbling	1
W05	Fall from non-moving wheelchair or mobility scooter	4
W06	Fall from bed	7
W07	Fall from chair	2
W08	Fall from other furniture	1
W10	Fall from stairs or steps	4
W11	Fall on and from ladder	3
W13	Fall from building or structure	2
W17	Other fall from one level to another	1
W18	Other slipping, tripping, stumbling, and falls	50
W19	Unspecified fall	59
	Exposure to Inanimate Mechanical Forces	
W20-W49	Exposure to inanimate mechanical forces	4
W20	Struck by thrown, projected, or falling object	2
W22	Striking against or struck by other objects	1
W32	Accidental handgun or other firearm discharge and malfunction	1
	Deaths Due to Drowning and other Unintentional Threats to Breathing	
W65-W84	Accidental drowning and other unintentional threats to breathing	14
W65	Accidental drowning and submersion while in bathtub	2
W69	Accidental drowning and submersion while in natural water	2
W79	Inhalation and ingestion of food causing obstruction of respiratory tract	3
W80	Inhalation and ingestion of other objects causing obstruction of respiratory tract	7
	Exposure to Smoke, Fire and Flames	
X00-X09	Exposure to smoke, fire and flames	5
X00	Exposure to uncontrolled fire in building or structure	4
X08	Exposure to other specified smoke, fire and flames	1

	Deaths due to Unintentional Poisoning by and Exposure to Noxious	
X40-X49	Substances Assidental reisoning by and exposure to povious substances	222
	Accidental poisoning by and exposure to noxious substances	223
X40	Accidental poisoning by and exposure to nonopioid analgesics, antipyretics and antirheumatics	1
X41	Accidental poisoning by and exposure to antiepileptic, sedative-hypnotic, antiparkinsonism, and psychotropic drugs	5
X42	Accidental poisoning by and exposure to narcotics and psychodysleptics [hallucinogens], Not Elsewhere Classified (NEC)	138
X44	Accidental poisoning by and exposure to other and unspecified drugs, medicaments, and biological substances	73
X45	Accidental poisoning by and exposure to alcohol	3
X47	Accidental poisoning by and exposure to other gases and vapors	3
	Deaths due to Suicide	
X60-X84, Y87	Intentional self-harm, Sequelae of intentional self-harm	61
X61	Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to antiepileptic, sedative-hypnotic, antiparkinsonism and psychotropic drugs	3
X62	Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to narcotics and psychodysleptics (hallucinogens), NEC	1
X64	Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to other drugs and biological substances	6
X67	Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to other gases and vapors	2
X70	Intentional self-harm by hanging, strangulation, and suffocation	10
X72	Intentional self-harm by handgun discharge	14
X73	Intentional self-harm by rifle, shotgun and larger	7
X74	Intentional self-harm by other and unspecified firearm and gun discharge	13
X78	Intentional self-harm by sharp object	3
X80	Intentional self-harm by jumping from a high place	1
X81	Intentional self-harm by jumping or lying in front of moving object	1
	Deaths due to Homicide	
X85-Y09, Y87.1	Assault	49
X93	Assault by handgun discharge	5
X94	Assault by rifle, shotgun, and larger firearm discharge	1
X95	Assault by other and unspecified firearm discharge	35
X99	Assault by sharp object	2
Y06	Neglect and abandonment	1
Y09	Assault by unspecified means	3
Y87.1	Sequelae of assault	2

	All Drug Overdose Deaths* (includes overdoses from all drugs and for all intents)	
X41-Y64	Unintentional and intentional drug overdose deaths	229
X41	Accidental poisoning by and exposure to antiepileptic, sedative-hypnotic, anti- parkinsonism, and psychotropic drugs	5
X42	Accidental poisoning by and exposure to narcotics and psychodysleptics [hallucinogens], NEC	138
X44	Accidental poisoning by and exposure to other and unspecified drugs, medicaments, and biological substances	73
X45	Accidental poisoning by and exposure to alcohol	3
X61	Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to antiepileptic, sedative-hypnotic, antiparkinsonism and psychotropic drugs	3
X62	Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to narcotics and psychodysleptics (hallucinogens) NEC	1
X64	Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to other drugs and biological substances	6

^{*}This table includes both accidental drug overdoses and overdoses due to suicide or unintentional self-harm.

Source: Detailed Mortality Statistics, North Carolina Residents, 2020, NC State Center for Health Statistics.

This report was prepared by the Health Surveillance & Analysis Unit of the Division of Public Health:

Laura Mrosla, MPH, MSW, Community Health Educator Rimple Patel, MPH, Epidemiologist Mark H. Smith, Ph.D., Epidemiologist Consultant

For more information about Guilford County health statistics, visit: https://www.guilfordcountync.gov/health-data-and-reports