

| 2024 | Leading Causes of Death Data Brief



Key Findings from 2022 Mortality Data

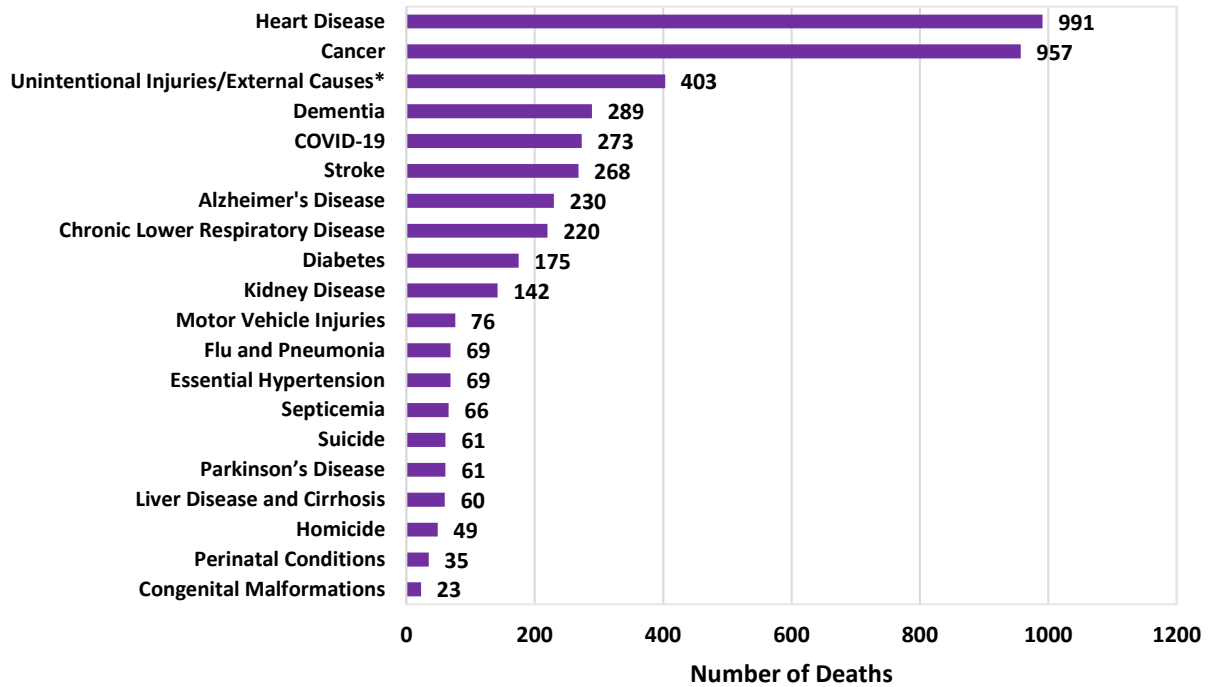
A note on the data in this report: The processing requirements for birth and death certificate records result in a delay in public availability of the data.

- Deaths due to COVID-19 declined from 550 in 2021 to 273 in 2022, dropping it from third to fifth leading cause of death.
- Heart disease was the leading cause of death in Guilford County in 2022, followed closely by cancer.
- Cancer and heart disease comprised about a third of all deaths in Guilford County in 2022.
- By far the leading cause of cancer deaths was cancer of the trachea, bronchus and lung.
- Males had higher rates of mortality due to cancer, heart disease, unintentional injuries, chronic liver disease, Parkinson's Disease, diabetes, suicide and homicide. Females had higher mortality rates from Alzheimer's Disease, dementia and chronic lower respiratory disease.
- African Americans had higher age-adjusted mortality rates than Whites for heart disease, cancers, stroke, diabetes and homicide. Whites had higher mortality rates due to chronic lower respiratory disease, chronic liver disease and cirrhosis, suicide and unintentional injuries.

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Selected Leading Causes of Death, Guilford County, 2022



Selected Leading Causes of Death, All Residents, Guilford County, 2022

	Cause of Death	Deaths	Mortality Rate per 100,000
1	Heart Disease	991	181.5
2	Cancer	957	175.2
3	Unintentional Injuries/External Causes*	403	73.8
4	Dementia	289	52.9
5	COVID-19	273	50.0
6	Stroke	268	49.1
7	Alzheimer's Disease	230	42.1
8	Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease	220	40.3
9	Diabetes	175	32.0
10	Kidney Disease	142	26.0
11	Motor Vehicle Injuries	76	13.9
12	Flu and Pneumonia	69	12.6
13	Essential Hypertension	69	12.6
14	Septicemia	66	12.1
15	Parkinson's Disease	61	11.2
16	Suicide	61	11.2
17	Liver Disease and Cirrhosis	60	11.0
18	Homicide	49	9.0
19	Perinatal Conditions	35	6.4
20	Congenital Malformations, abnormalities	23	4.2
	Other Causes	907	---
	Total 2022 Deaths from all Causes	5,424	993.2
	2022 Guilford County Population	546,101	

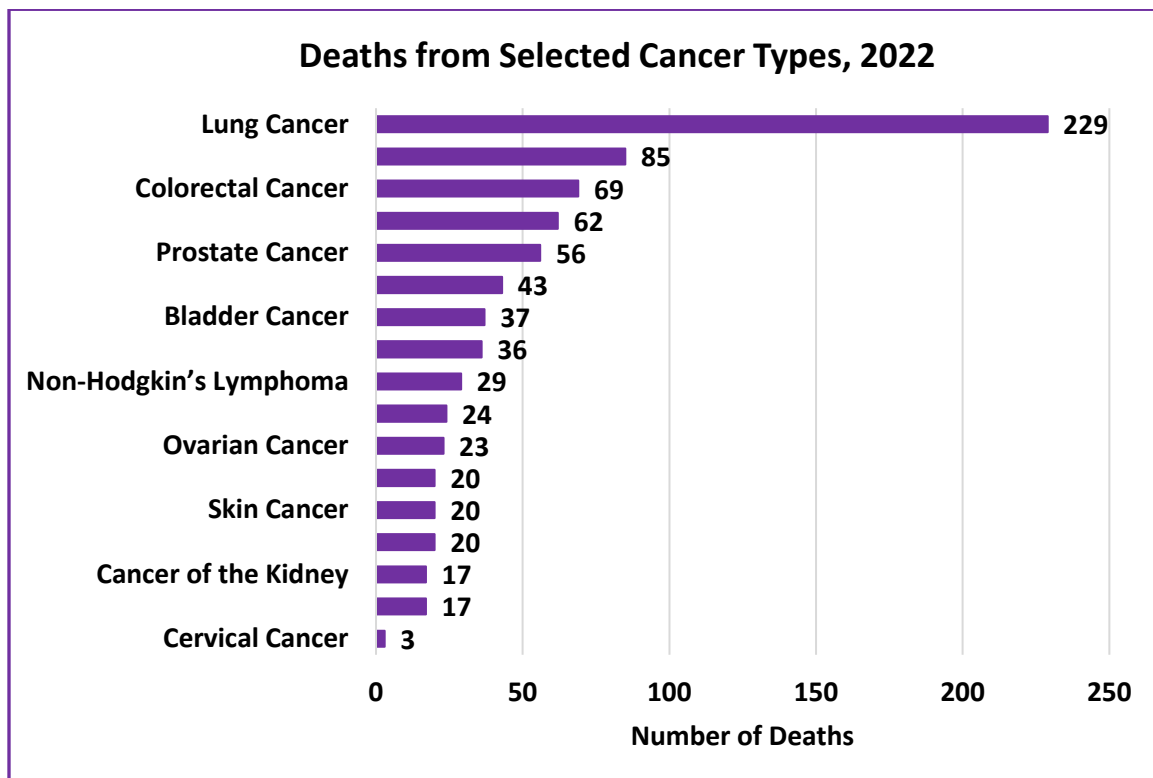
*Unintentional Injuries/External Causes include deaths primarily due to unintentional poisonings, falls, and other external causes of injury.

Deaths from Cancer by Type of Cancer, All Residents Guilford County, 2022

Cancer Cause of Death	Deaths	Rate per 100,000
Lung Cancer	229	41.9
Pancreatic Cancer	85	15.6
Colorectal Cancer	69	12.6
Breast Cancer	62	21.6
Prostate Cancer	56	21.6
Liver Cancer	43	7.9
Bladder Cancer	37	6.8
Leukemia	36	6.6
Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma	29	5.3
Cancer of the Esophagus	24	4.4
Ovarian Cancer	23	8.0
Stomach Cancer	20	3.7
Skin Cancer	20	3.7
Brain Cancer	20	3.7
Oral Cancer	17	3.1
Cancer of the Kidney	17	3.1
Cervical Cancer	3	1.0
Other deaths due to cancer	167	---
Total Cancers	957	175.2
Guilford County 2022 population	546,101	

Source: NC Mortality File, Center for Health Statistics; NCHS Bridged Population Estimates.

Note: Rates for Breast, Ovarian, Cervical and Prostate cancer are based on the population of females and males in Guilford County, respectively.



Leading Causes of Death by Sex (Females/Males)

Deaths and Mortality Rates per 100,000, Guilford County, 2022

Cause of Death	Females Number	Females Rate	Males Number	Males Rate
Cancer	467	162.9	490	188.9
Heart Disease	466	162.5	524	202.0
Unintentional Injuries/External Causes*	161	56.1	242	93.3
Dementia	204	71.1	85	32.8
COVID-19	122	42.5	151	58.2
Stroke	143	49.9	125	48.2
Alzheimer's Disease	161	56.1	69	26.6
Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease	139	48.5	81	31.2
Diabetes	74	25.8	101	38.9
Kidney Disease	79	27.6	63	24.3
Motor Vehicle Crash Deaths	22	7.7	54	20.8
Pneumonia and Flu	33	11.5	36	13.9
Essential Hypertension	38	13.3	31	12.0
Septicemia	35	12.2	31	12.0
Liver Disease and Cirrhosis	26	9.1	34	13.1
Parkinson's Disease	16	5.6	45	17.4
Suicide	13	4.5	48	18.5
Homicide	6	2.1	43	16.6
Perinatal Conditions	16	5.6	19	7.3
Congenital Malformations and abnormalities	8	2.8	15	5.8
Other Causes of Death	439	---	469	---
Total Deaths All Causes	2,668	930.5	2,756	1,062.6
2022 Total Population by Sex**	286,739		259,362	

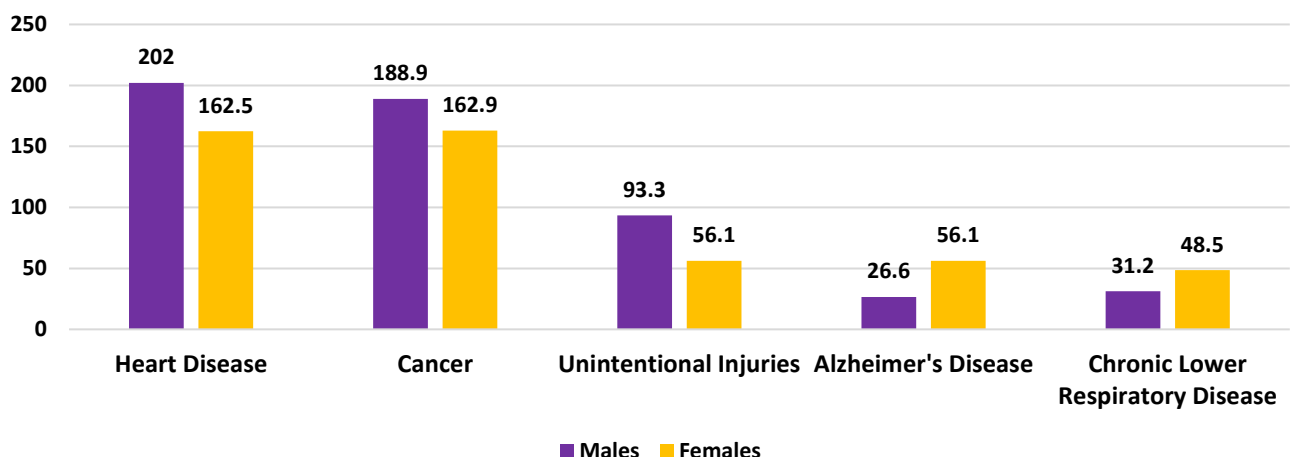
Source: NC Mortality File, Center for Health Statistics.

Note: Use caution when interpreting rates based on small numbers, i.e., less than 10.

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

**Population estimates from the American Community Survey, 2022, US Census Bureau.

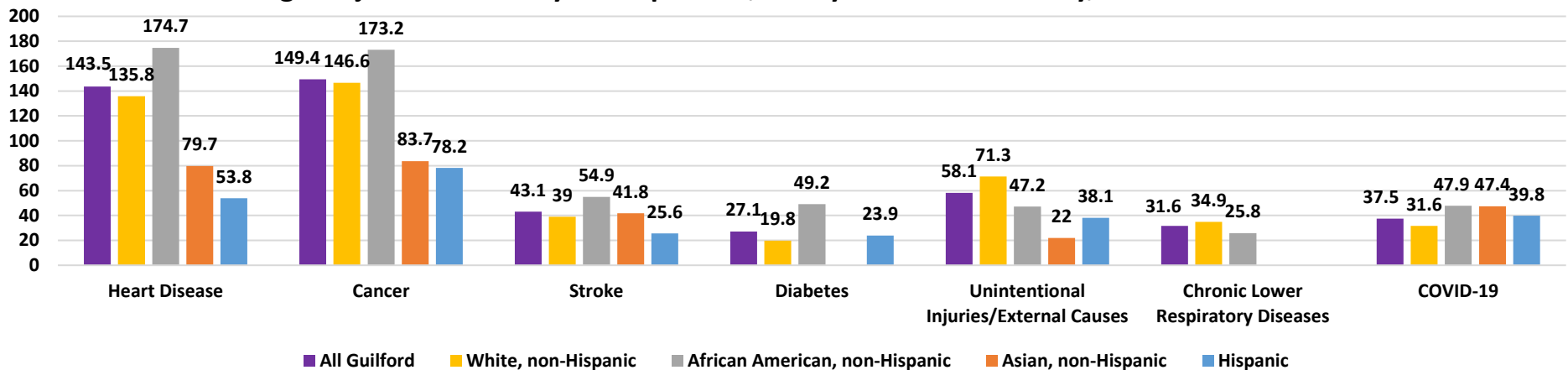
Selected Mortality Rates per 100,000 in Guilford County by Sex, 2022



Selected Leading Causes of Death, by Race/Ethnicity (Age-Adjusted)

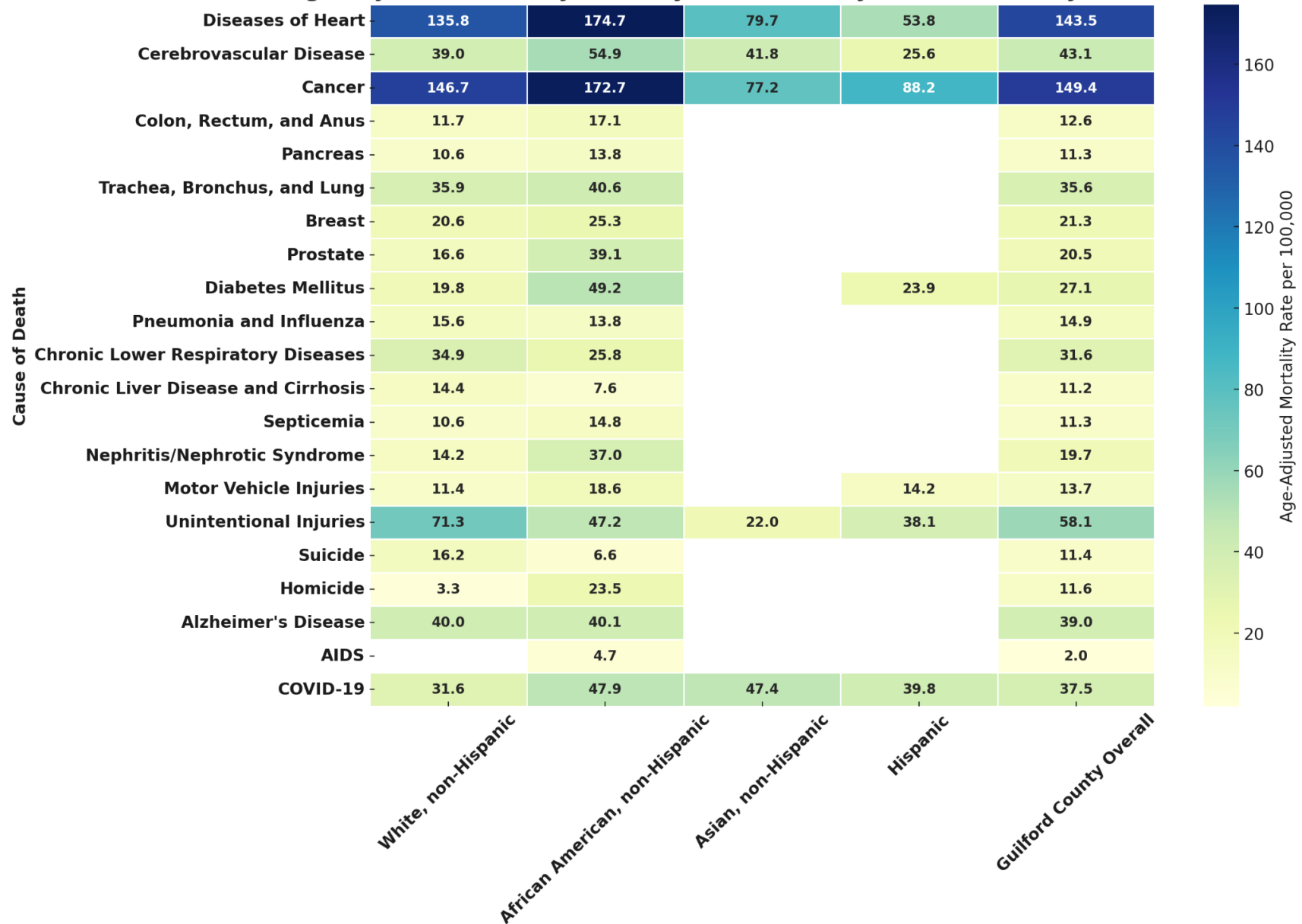
- The following chart illustrates how leading causes of death impact groups differently in Guilford County by comparing five-year age-adjusted mortality rates per 100,000 (2018-2022).
- Heart disease and cancer had the biggest impact on all populations, with White and African Americans having the highest rates overall.
- African Americans had the highest rates of heart disease, cancer, stroke and diabetes of all Guilford County residents and other subgroups.
- Whites had the highest rates of unintentional injuries/external causes, chronic lower respiratory disease and Alzheimer's Disease.
- While all subgroups were impacted, African American and Asians had the highest rates of COVID-19 mortality.

Selected Leading Causes of Death in Guilford County
Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates per 100,000 by Race and Ethnicity, 2018-2022



- The following heat map and table on page 7 further highlights these health impacts:
- **Diseases of the Heart** had the highest mortality rates across all racial groups, especially among African American (182.3) and White residents (146.3).
- **Cancer** was also a leading cause of death, with African American (173.2) and White residents (146.6) experiencing the highest rates. **Trachea, Bronchus and Lung Cancer** had significant rates for White (34.8), African American (38.8), and overall (34.2).
- **Unintentional Injuries** were notably high among White residents (76.5) and the overall population (63.6), compared to much lower rates in Asian (24.0) and Hispanic (43.6) groups.
- **Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases** had higher rates among White residents (35.0) and overall (31.0), but lower in other groups.
- **COVID-19 (Overall)** had a rate of 40.9 per 100,000, making it a significant recent cause of death. **COVID-19** showed considerable mortality impact, especially for African American (50.4), Asian (48.4) and White residents (35.5).
- **Alzheimer's Disease** had high rates among White (40.2) and African American (38.3) residents.
- **Cerebrovascular Disease** (e.g., strokes) showed higher rates in African Americans (59.7) and Whites (39.9).

Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates by Race/Ethnicity (Guilford County, 2018-2022)



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

Selected Leading Causes of Death, by Race and Hispanic Status

5-Year Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates per 100,000, Guilford County, 2018-2022

Note on Age-Adjustment: When comparing mortality rates of age-related conditions—i.e., when the mortality risk increases with age, as with chronic diseases—across groups that have different age distributions, it can be misleading to use crude or unadjusted rates. In such situations, it is advisable to use age-adjusted rates that control for differences in age distribution. In Guilford County, Whites and African Americans have substantially different age distribution, with Whites having an older age distribution than African Americans.

Note: Rates not calculated when case numbers are less than 20. Native American, Multiple Races and Other Races categories are not included in this table due to small numbers of cases and resulting instability of rates.

Cause of Death	White, Non- Hispanic	White, Non- Hispanic	African American, Non- Hispanic	African American, Non- Hispanic	Asian, Non- Hispanic	Asian, Non- Hispanic	Hispanic	Hispanic	Guilford County Overall	Guilford County Overall
	Deaths	Rate	Deaths	Rate	Deaths	Rate	Deaths	Rate	Deaths	Rate
Diseases of Heart	3,014	135.8	1,372	174.7	69	79.7	50	53.8	4,522	143.5
Cerebrovascular Disease	873	39.0	407	54.9	38	41.8	21	25.6	1,345	43.1
Cancer	3,137	146.7	1,428	172.7	84	77.2	82	88.2	4,763	149.4
Colon, Rectum and Anus	235	11.7	143	17.1	5	NA	8	NA	392	12.6
Pancreas	235	10.6	116	13.8	6	NA	6	NA	367	11.3
Trachea, Bronchus and Lung	787	35.9	337	40.6	14	NA	8	NA	1,156	35.6
Breast	231	20.6	125	25.3	7	NA	8	NA	372	21.3
Prostate	153	16.6	101	39.1	2	NA	3	NA	261	20.5
Diabetes Mellitus	406	19.8	402	49.2	14	NA	24	23.9	853	27.1
Pneumonia and Influenza	344	15.6	111	13.8	6	NA	5	NA	467	14.9
Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	780	34.9	206	25.8	5	NA	8	NA	1,010	31.6
Chronic Liver Disease and Cirrhosis	254	14.4	75	7.6	2	NA	11	NA	348	11.2
Septicemia	218	10.6	119	14.8	10	NA	5	NA	354	11.3
Nephritis, Nephrotic Syndrome and Nephrosis	308	14.2	283	37.0	9	NA	12	NA	617	19.7
Unintentional Motor Vehicle Injuries	163	11.4	178	18.6	8	NA	31	14.2	382	13.7
Unintentional Injuries/External Causes*	1,118	71.3	419	47.2	22	22.0	60	38.1	1,637	58.1
Suicide	220	16.2	63	6.6	7	NA	16	NA	311	11.4
Homicide	41	3.3	235	23.5	5	NA	16	NA	308	11.6
Alzheimer's Disease	931	40.0	242	40.1	13	NA	14	NA	1,201	39.0
Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome	7	NA	45	4.7	0	NA	5	NA	60	2.0
COVID-19	693	31.6	382	47.9	44	47.4	42	39.8	1,169	37.5
All Causes	16,814	808.9	7,827	987.8	429	452.8	519	480.8	25,774	836.6

Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics, County Health Databook.

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

Note: Rates are not calculated for numbers of deaths is less than 20.

Selected Leading Causes of Death, by Race and Ethnicity (Not Age-Adjusted)

Deaths and Mortality Rates per 100,000, Guilford County, 2022

Cause of Death	White	White	Black/ African American	Black/ African American	Asian	Asian	Hispanic	Hispanic
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Cancer	622	237.8	284	151.9	24	85.9	21	42.7
Heart Disease	630	240.9	314	167.9	22	78.7	21	42.7
Unintentional Injuries/External Causes*	247	94.4	119	63.6	8	28.6	21	42.7
Dementia	215	82.2	64	34.2	4	14.3	3	6.1
COVID-19	166	63.5	88	47.1	8	28.6	8	16.3
Stroke	171	65.4	81	43.3	9	32.2	5	10.2
Alzheimer's Disease	184	70.3	41	21.9	2	7.2	3	6.1
Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease	166	63.5	47	25.1	3	10.7	2	4.1
Diabetes	76	29.1	90	48.1	4	14.3	4	8.1
Kidney Disease	70	26.8	68	36.4	1	3.6	2	4.1
Pneumonia and Flu	49	18.7	18	9.6	1	3.6	1	2.0
Essential Hypertension	40	15.3	28	15.0	1	3.6	0	0.0
Motor Vehicle Crash Deaths	37	14.1	33	17.6	1	3.6	3	6.1
Liver Disease and Cirrhosis	48	18.4	10	5.3	0	0.0	1	2.0
Septicemia	39	14.9	22	11.8	1	3.6	2	4.1
Parkinson's Disease	52	19.9	7	3.7	1	3.6	1	2.0
Suicide	36	13.8	19	10.2	2	7.2	3	6.1
Homicide	7	2.7	39	20.9	1	3.6	1	2.0
Perinatal Conditions	6	2.3	21	11.2	1	3.6	7	14.2
Congenital Malformations and Abnormalities	12	4.6	8	4.3	1	3.6	2	4.1
Other Causes	579	---	297	---	6	---	22	
Total Deaths—All Causes	3,452	---	1,698	---	101	---	133	
2022 Population by Race and Ethnicity	261,553		187,017		27,954		49,230	

Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics.

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

Note: Rates are not adjusted for differences in age distributions among racial and ethnic groups.

Top Leading Causes of Death by Age Group and Number of Deaths in 2022

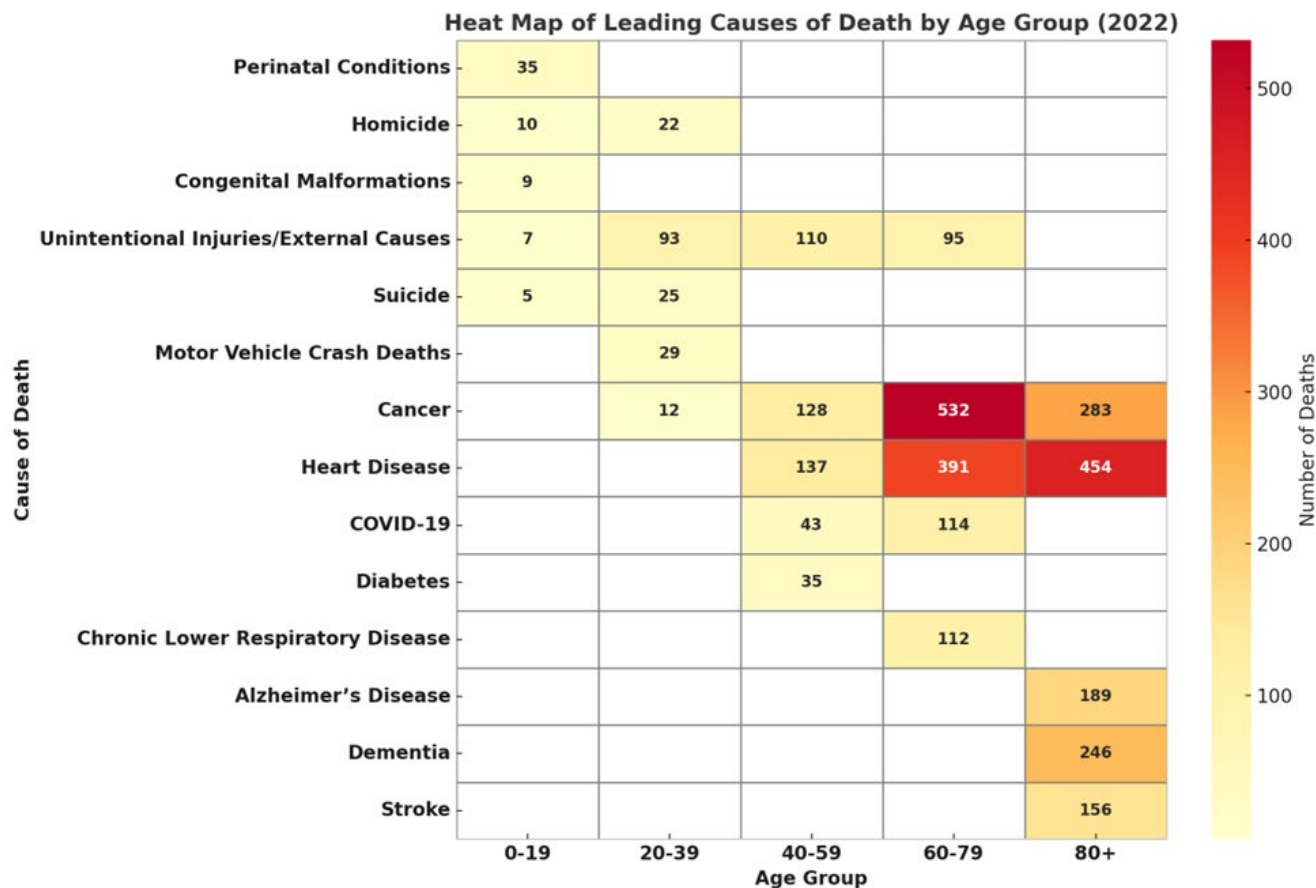
Ages 0–19: The leading cause of death is perinatal conditions (35 deaths), followed by homicide (10), congenital malformations (9), unintentional injuries (7) and suicide (5).

Ages 20–39: Unintentional injuries are the most common cause (93 deaths), with notable contributions from motor vehicle crashes (29), suicide (25) and homicide (22).

Ages 40–59: The primary causes of death include heart disease (137), cancer (128) and unintentional injuries (110).

Ages 60–79: Cancer leads this age group with 532 deaths, followed by heart disease (391), COVID-19 (114) and chronic lower respiratory disease (112).

Ages 80 and older: Heart disease (454) and cancer (283) remain the top causes, along with dementia (246), Alzheimer’s disease (189) and stroke (156).



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

Leading Causes of Death, by Age Group

Deaths and Rates per 100,000, Guilford County, 2022

Cause of Death	Ages 0-19		Ages 20-39		Ages 40-59		Ages 60-79		Ages 80 and over	
	Deaths	Rate	Deaths	Rate	Deaths	Rate	Deaths	Rate	Deaths	Rate
Cancer	2	1.4	12	8.0	128	98.6	532	501.5	283	1569.4
Heart Disease	0	0.0	9	6.0	137	105.6	391	368.6	454	2517.7
Unintentional Injuries/External Causes*	7	4.9	93	62.3	118	90.9	95	89.6	90	499.1
Dementia	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	1.5	41	38.6	246	1364.2
COVID-19	1	0.7	3	2.0	43	33.1	114	107.5	112	621.1
Stroke	1	0.7	4	2.7	23	17.7	84	79.2	156	865.1
Alzheimer's Disease	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	41	38.6	189	1048.1
Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease	1	0.7	2	1.3	16	12.3	112	105.6	89	493.6
Diabetes	0	0.0	7	4.7	35	27.0	84	79.2	49	271.7
Kidney Disease	0	0.0	0	0.0	21	16.2	64	60.3	57	316.1
Pneumonia and Flu	1	0.7	1	0.7	9	6.9	24	22.6	34	188.6
Motor Vehicle Crash Deaths	3	2.1	29	19.4	14	10.8	23	21.7	7	38.8
Essential Hypertension	0	0.0	1	0.7	11	8.5	24	22.6	32	177.5
Septicemia	1	0.7	1	0.7	16	12.3	26	24.5	22	122.0
Parkinson's Disease	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	21	19.8	40	221.8
Liver Disease and Cirrhosis	0	0.0	1	0.7	23	17.7	30	28.3	6	33.3
Suicide	5	3.5	25	16.8	21	16.2	8	7.5	2	11.1
Homicide	10	7.0	22	14.7	14	10.8	2	1.9	1	5.5
Perinatal Conditions	35	24.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Congenital Malformations	9	6.3	3	2.0	4	3.1	5	4.7	2	11.1
Other Causes of Death	22	---	41	---	125	---	333	---	387	---
Total Deaths	98	68.5	254	170.2	760	585.7	2,054	1,936.2	2,258	12,522.2
2022 Guilford County Population Estimate	142,980		149,249		129,758		106,082		18,032	

Source: NC Mortality File, Center for Health Statistics.

Note: Use caution when interpreting rates based on small numbers, i.e., less than 10.

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

Note: Population estimates from the American Community Survey, 2022, US Census Bureau.

Detailed Infant Causes of Death, 2022

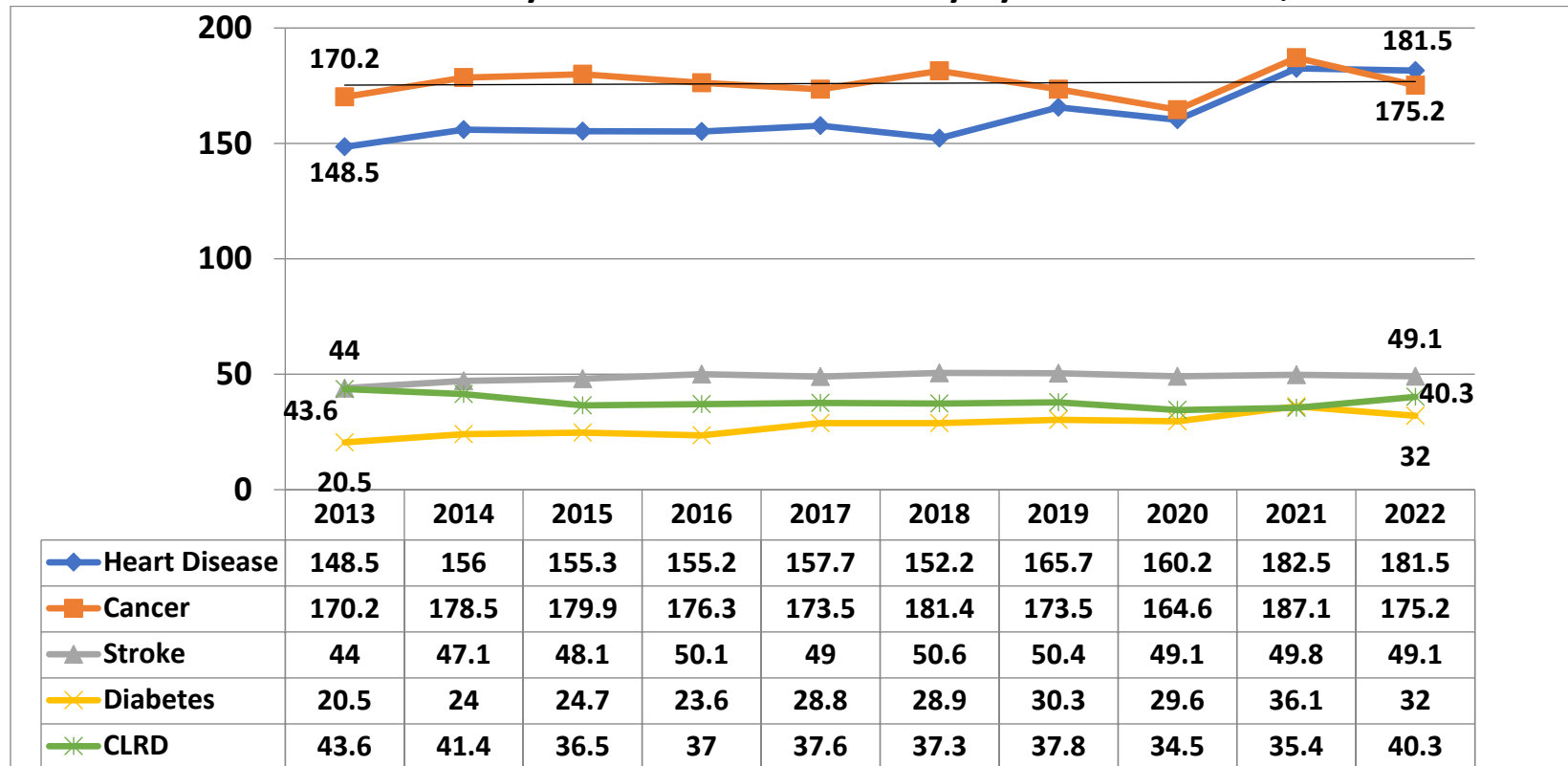
ICD-10 Codes	Cause of Death	Number of Deaths
B348	Viral infection, site unspecified	1
G409	Epilepsy, unspecified	1
J159	Bacterial pneumonia, unspecified	1
J939	Pneumothorax, unspecified	1
	Conditions Originating in the Perinatal Period	
P005	Newborn affected by maternal injury	1
P011	Newborn (suspected to be) affected by premature rupture of membranes	3
P021	Placental separation and hemorrhage	1
P027	Newborn (suspected to be) affected by chorioamnionitis	1
P072	Extreme prematurity of newborn	9
P073	Premature newborn	4
P209	Intrauterine hypoxia, unspecified	1
P220	Respiratory distress syndrome of newborn	3
P280	Primary atelectasis of newborn	1
P290	Neonatal cardiac failure	1
P368	Bacterial sepsis of newborn	1
P523	Unspecified intraventricular (nontraumatic) hemorrhage of fetus and newborn	1
P529	Intracranial (nontraumatic) hemorrhage of fetus and newborn	1
P614	Congenital anemia	1
P770	Necrotizing enterocolitis of fetus and newborn	1
P780	Perinatal intestinal perforation	2
P832	Hydrops fetalis not due to hemolytic disease	1
P916	Hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy	1
	Congenital Malformations and Chromosomal Abnormalities	
Q234	Hypoplastic left heart syndrome	1
Q249	Congenital malformation of heart, unspecified	1
Q419	Congenital absence, atresia and stenosis of small intestine	1
Q605	Renal hypoplasia	1
Q790	Congenital diaphragmatic hernia	1
Q899	Congenital malformation, unspecified	1
	Ill-defined and Unknown Cause of Mortality	
R95	Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS)	1
R99	Ill-defined and unspecified causes of mortality	4
	Other Causes	
Y069	Neglect and abandonment	1
Y20	Suffocation, undetermined	1
Y839	Surgical procedure with abnormal reaction or later complication	1
	Total Infant Deaths	52

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

Chronic Disease Mortality Trends

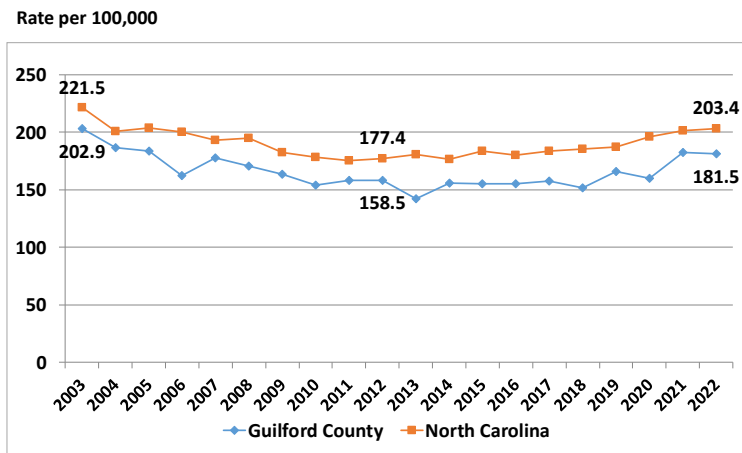
- Cancer and heart disease accounted for about a third of all deaths in Guilford County in 2022.
- Heart disease became the leading cause of death in Guilford County again in 2022, overtaking cancer for the first time since 2007.
- Heart disease and cancer death rates both increased from 2020 to 2021 but declined slightly in 2022.
- Stroke, chronic lower respiratory disease (CLRD) and diabetes follow as the sixth, eighth and ninth leading cause of death respectively.
- Over the past 10 years (2013-2022), there has been a gradual increase in death rates due to heart disease, cancer, stroke and diabetes.

Chronic Disease Mortality Rates in Guilford County by Cause of Death, 2015-2022

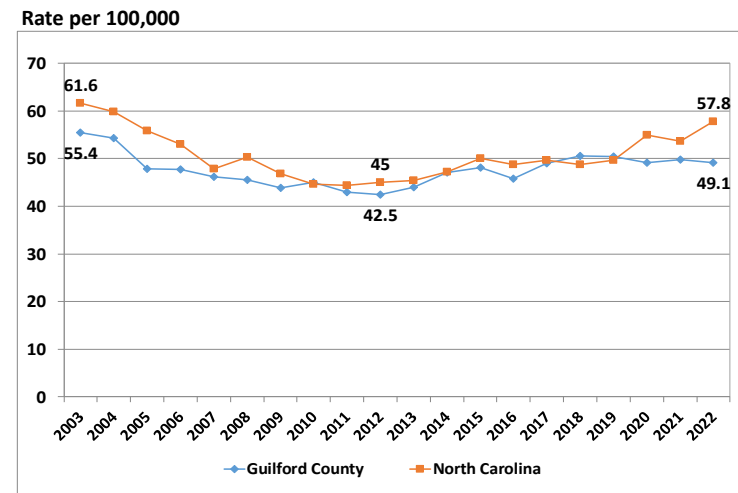


- The following charts show 20-year trends in death rates in Guilford County and North Carolina due to heart disease, stroke, diabetes, chronic lower respiratory disease, chronic liver disease and cirrhosis and pneumonia and influenza.
- Heart disease mortality rates in Guilford County have consistently been lower than the NC over the past twenty years. Guilford County heart disease rates gradually declined between 2003 and 2013 to a low of 158.5 per 100,000; however, have since increased up to 181.5 per 100,000 in 2022.
- Stroke mortality followed a similar pattern as heart disease, dropping to a rate of 42.5 per 100,000 in 2012 from 55.4 in 2003 but gradually increasing back to 49.1 in 2022.
- Along with North Carolina, Guilford County diabetes mortality rates have increased since 2010, but declined in 2022.
- Influenza and pneumonia mortality rates have been declining since 2017.

Heart Disease Mortality Guilford County and NC, 2003-2022

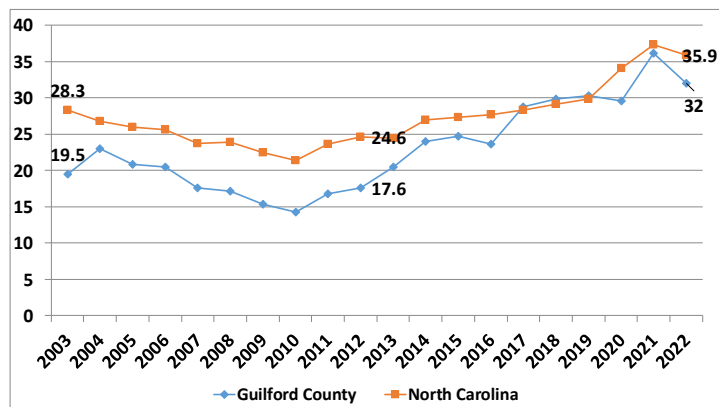


Cerebrovascular Disease (Stroke) Mortality Guilford County and NC, 2003-2022



Diabetes Mortality Guilford County and NC, 2003-2022

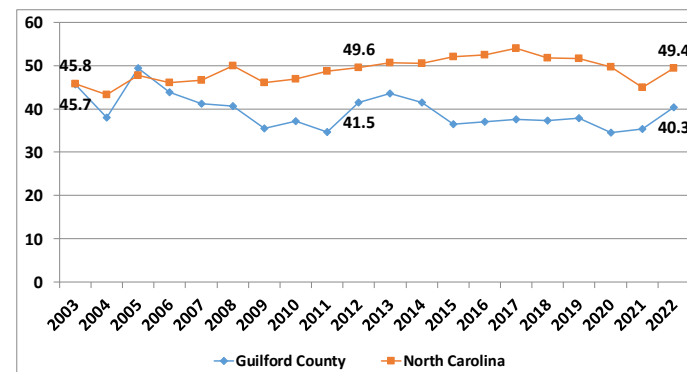
Rate per 100,000



Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics.

Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease Guilford County and NC, 2003-2022

Rate per 100,000

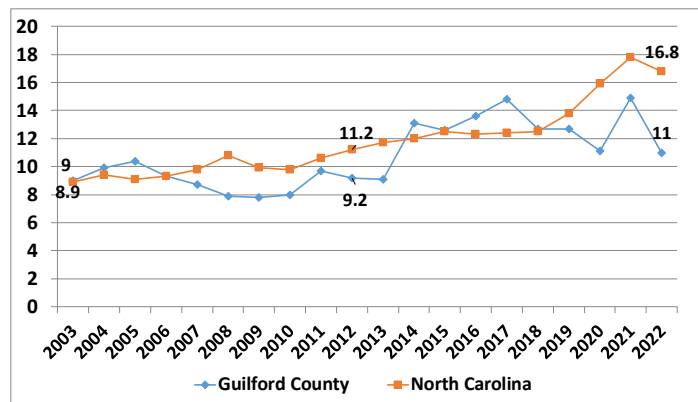


Notes: Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease (CLRD) is also known as Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD).

Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics.

Chronic Liver Disease and Cirrhosis Mortality Guilford County and NC, 2003-2022

Rate per 100,000

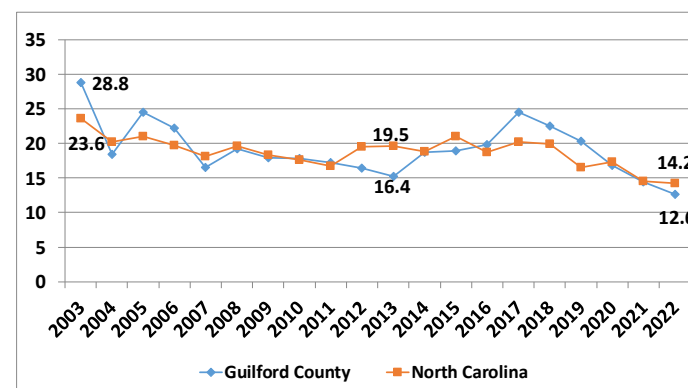


Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics.

Chart prepared by the GCDHHS, Division of Public Health.

Pneumonia and Influenza Mortality Guilford County and NC, 2003-2022

Rate per 100,000

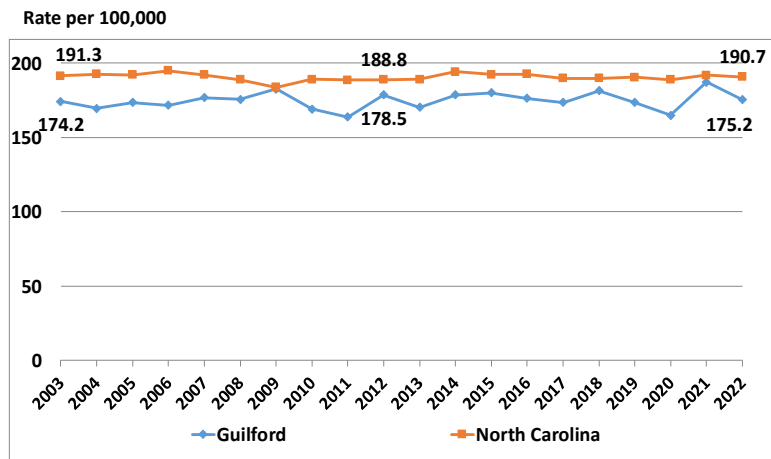


Source: Data provided by the NC Center for Health Statistics.

Cancer Mortality Trends

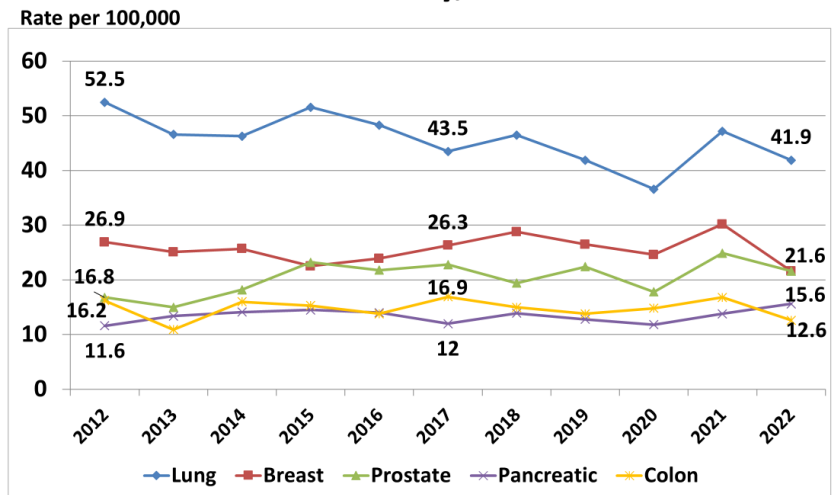
- In 2022, all-cause cancer was the second leading cause of death behind heart disease, after 15 years as the leading cause of death. The next six charts illustrate cancer mortality trends by cancer site.
- Cancer of the trachea, bronchus and lung has remained the leading cause of cancer death from 2012 to 2022, declining from a rate of 52.5 per 100,000 in 2012 to 41.9 in 2022.
- From 2003 to 2022, breast cancer mortality rates in Guilford County fluctuated without showing a clear trend.
- Both colorectal and prostate cancer have fluctuated without a clear trend from 2003 to 2022.
- Pancreatic cancer has shown an increasing trend in both Guilford County and North Carolina, increasing in Guilford County from 9.7 deaths per 100,000 in 2003 to 15.5 deaths per 100,000 in 2022.
- African American, non-Hispanic residents have higher age-adjusted cancer mortality rates than White residents, especially prostate cancer.

All Cause Cancer Mortality Guilford County and NC, 2003-2022



Source: NC Death Certificate File; NC State Center for Health Statistics.

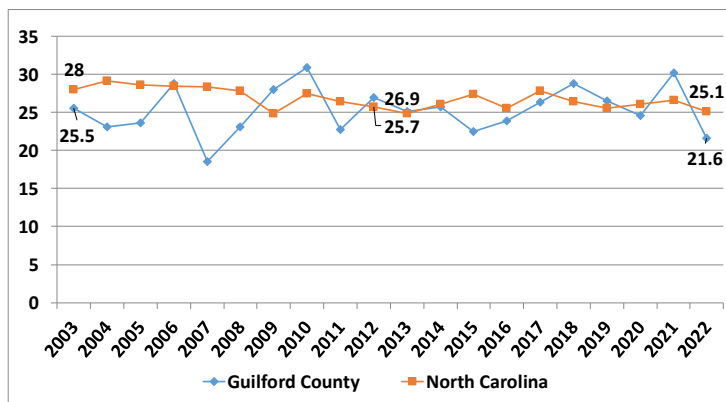
Leading Causes of Death: Cancer Types Guilford County, 2013-2022



Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics.

Breast Cancer Mortality Guilford County and NC, 2003-2022

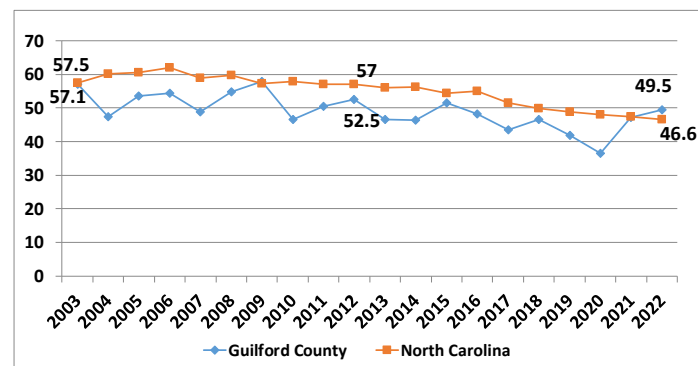
Rate per 100,000



Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics.

Lung Cancer Mortality Guilford County and NC, 2003-2022

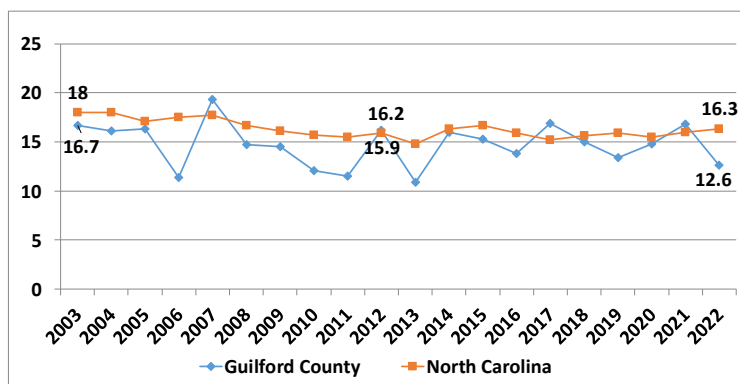
Rate per 100,000



Note: Lung cancer includes cancers of the trachea, bronchus, and lungs.
Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics.

Colorectal Cancer Mortality Guilford County and NC, 2003-2022

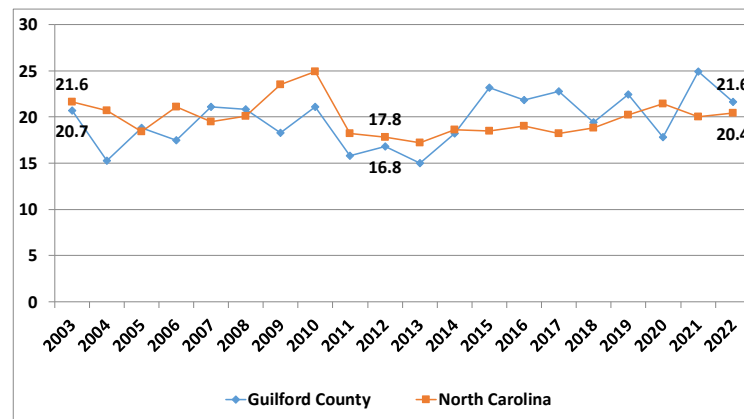
Rate per 100,000



Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics.

Prostate Cancer Mortality Guilford County and NC, 2003-2022

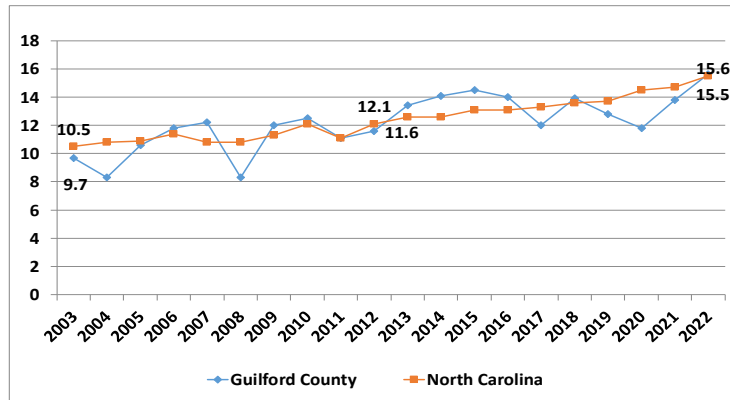
Rate per 100,000



Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics.

Pancreatic Cancer Mortality Guilford County and NC, 2003-2022

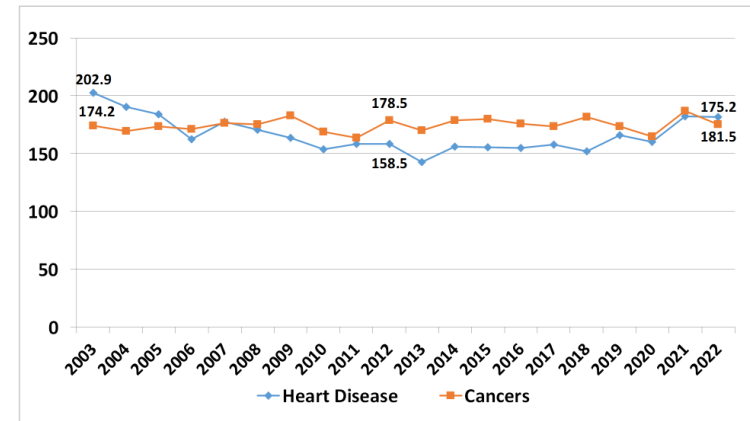
Rate per 100,000



Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics.

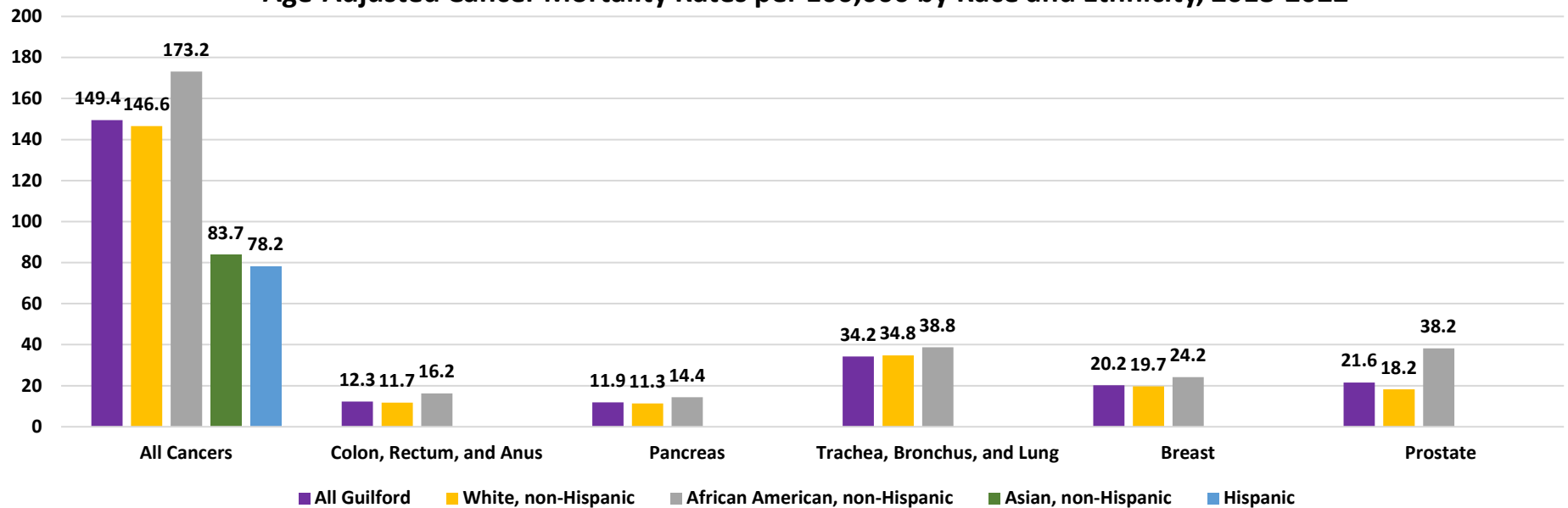
Cancer and Heart Disease Mortality Guilford County, 2003-2022

Rate per 100,000



Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics.

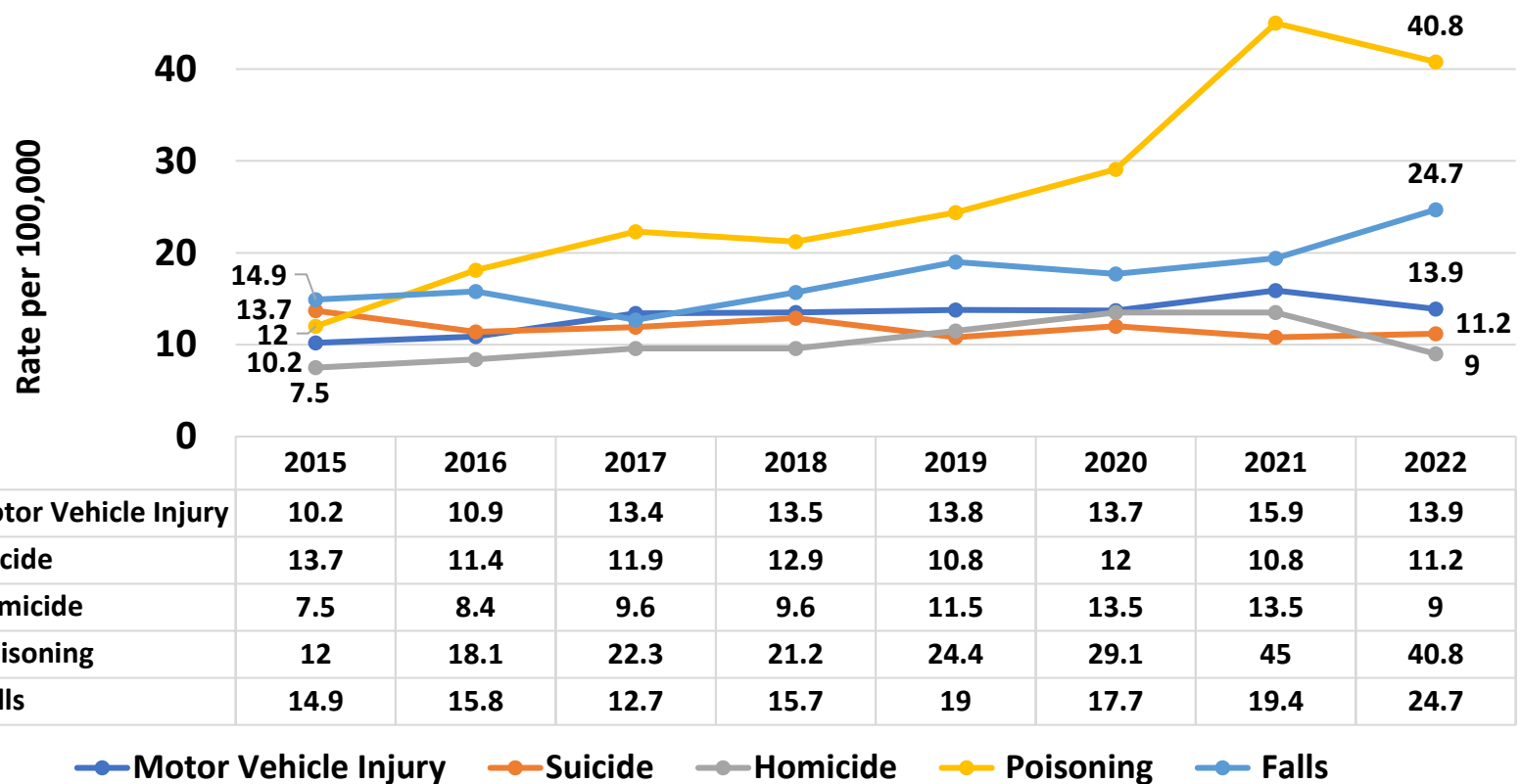
Age-Adjusted Cancer Mortality Rates per 100,000 by Race and Ethnicity, 2018-2022



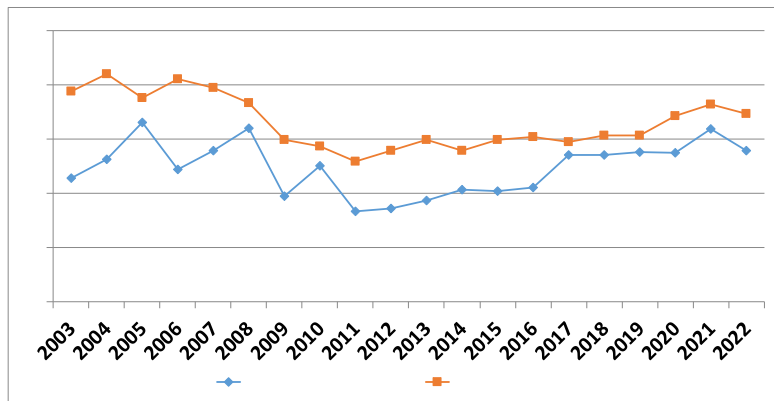
Overall Injury Mortality Trends

- Unintentional poisoning remained the leading cause of injury death in Guilford County from 2016 to 2022. There was a decrease from a mortality rate of 45 per 100,000 in 2021 to 40.8 per 100,000 in 2022. These poisoning deaths were due primarily to adverse reactions to prescription and nonprescription use of opioid drugs.
- Unintentional falls continued to be the second leading cause of injury death, increasing from a mortality rate of 17.7 per 100,000 in 2020 to 24.7 in 2022.
- The number of motor vehicle injury deaths dropped from 86 to 76 from 2021 to 2022 as the third leading cause of injury death.
- The number of suicide deaths increased from 58 to 61 deaths from 2021 and 2022 to overtake homicide as the fourth leading cause of injury death.
- Homicide deaths have been on an increasing trend since 2009 but declined from a rate of 13.5 per 100,000 in 2021 to 9 per 100,000 in 2022.

Injury Mortality Rates in Guilford County by Cause of Death, 2015-2022

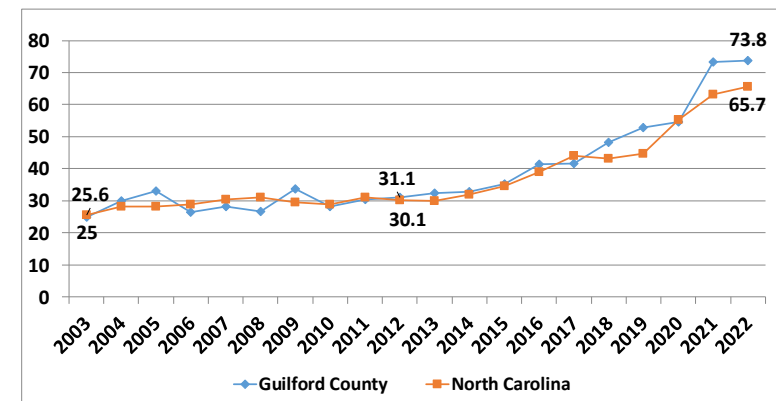


- Guilford County motor vehicle injury mortality rates consistently remained lower than NC; after dropping to a low 8.3 per 100,000 in 2011, rates increased to 15.9 in 2021.
- Unintentional injury deaths include deaths due to unintentional poisoning; falls, drowning or other unintentional threats to breathing; exposure to smoke fire and flames; and mechanical forces. Guilford County unintentional injury death rates 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.
- Guilford County unintentional injury death rates most recently exceeded NC rates in 2021.



Mortality Due to Unintentional Injuries (non-Motor Vehicle) Guilford County and NC, 2003-2022

Rate per 100,000

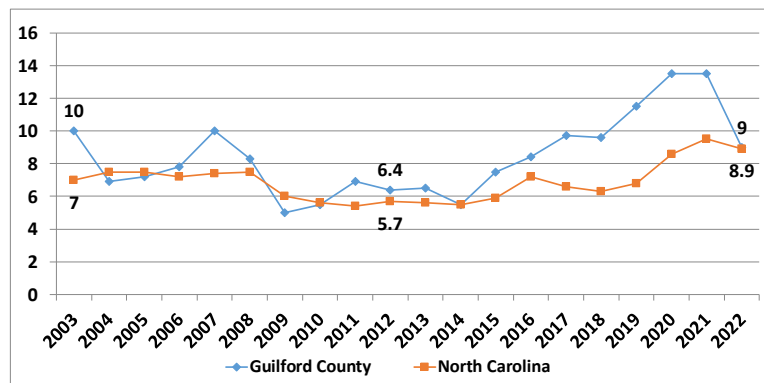


Note: Unintentional injury deaths include deaths due to unintentional poisoning; falls; drowning or other unintentional threats to breathing; exposure to smoke, fire, and flames; and mechanical forces.
Source: Data provided by the NC Center for Health Statistics.

- Since 2010, the Guilford County homicide mortality rate has surpassed the North Carolina rate, while the Guilford County suicide mortality rate has remained at or below the North Carolina rate for the past twenty years.
- 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 in 2022.
- There is no discernable trend in suicide mortality rates in Guilford County.
- Males consistently had higher rates of homicide and suicide mortality rates than females.
- Whites had higher rates of suicide mortality while African Americans had higher rates of homicide mortality.

Homicide Mortality Guilford County and NC, 2003-2022

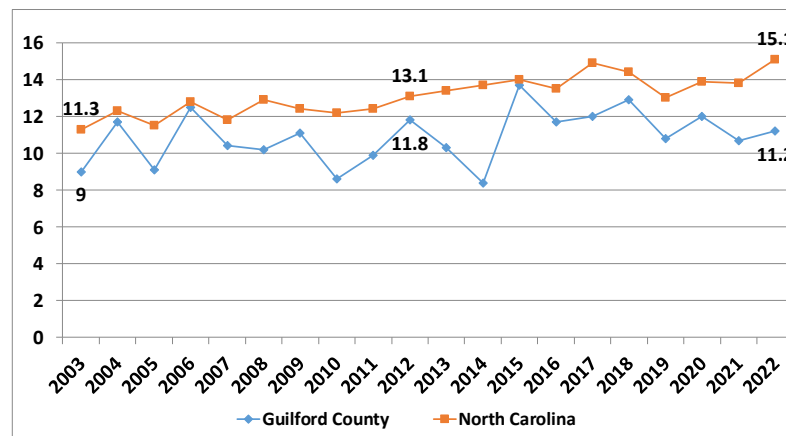
Rate per 100,000



Note: Rates are not age-adjusted.
Source: Data provided by the NC Center for Health Statistics.

Suicide Mortality Guilford County and NC, 2003-2022

Rate per 100,000



Note: Rates are not age-adjusted.
Source: Data provided by the NC Center for Health Statistics.

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

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