

Firearm-Related Emergency Department Visits in North Carolina

January - March 2021

70%

70% of NC firearm-related Emergency Department injury visits from April 2020 - March 2021 were for unintentional injuries.

2020 saw an increase in firearm-related injury ED visits compared to 2019. Data from January to March of 2021 show similar trends as in 2020.

Some populations in North Carolina face a disproportionate burden of firearm-related injury ED visits.

44%

25-44 year olds make up 44% of NC firearm-related injury ED visits.

18-24 year olds account for 29% of firearm ED visits, 45-64 year olds account for 12% of visits, and 10-17 year olds account for 9% of visits. Ages 65+ make up 3% of visits, and ages 0-9 make up 1% of visits.

84%

Males make up 84% of firearm-related injury ED visits in NC, yet only 49% of the population.

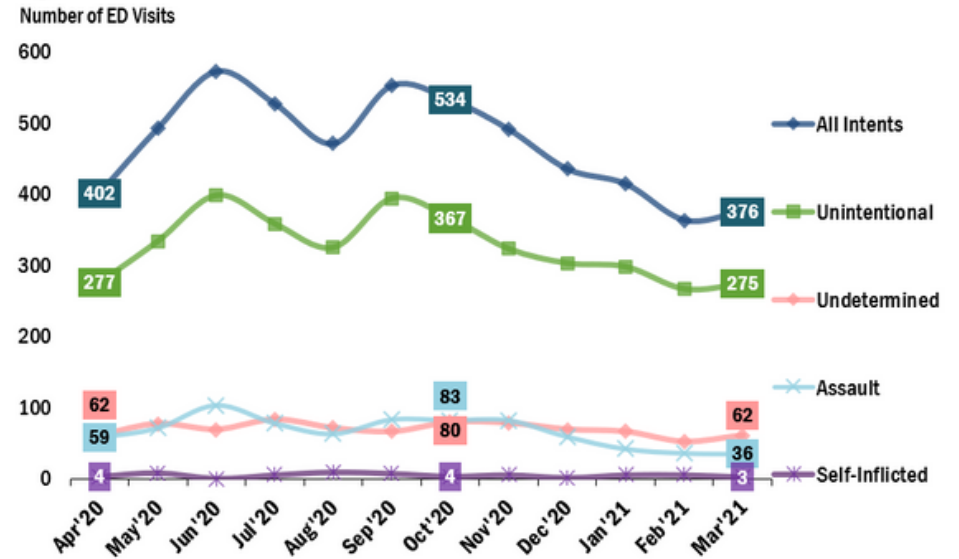
Females make up 51% of the population, yet account for only 15% of firearm ED visits.

46%

Non-Hispanic Black patients make up 46% of firearm-related injury ED visits in NC.

White non-Hispanic patients account for 20% of firearm-related injury ED visits, Hispanic patients account for 4% of ED visits, American Indian/Alaskan Native patients account for 2% of visits, and Asian/Pacific Islander patients account for 1% of visits. Race/ethnicity is unknown for 27% of visits.

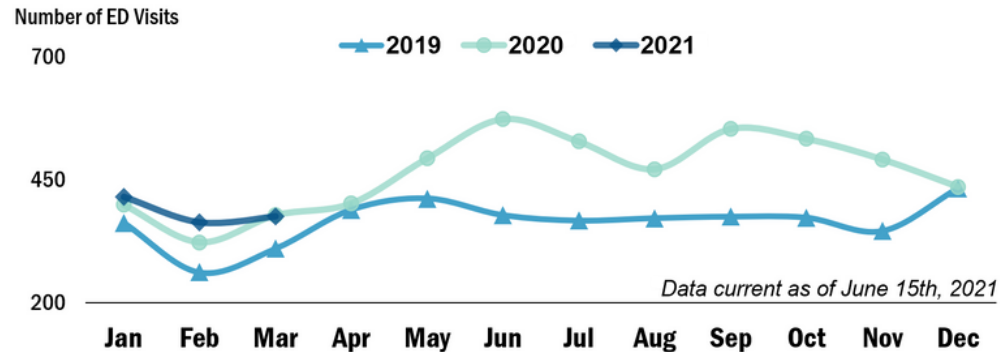
Firearm-Related Injury ED Visits by Intent Apr 2020-Mar 2021



Data current as of June 15th, 2021

The majority of firearm-related injury ED visits in the past 12 months were due to unintentional injuries. ED visits due to firearm injuries from assault and undetermined intent had similar numbers in the past 12 months, with a peak in firearm-related ED visits due to assault in June 2020.

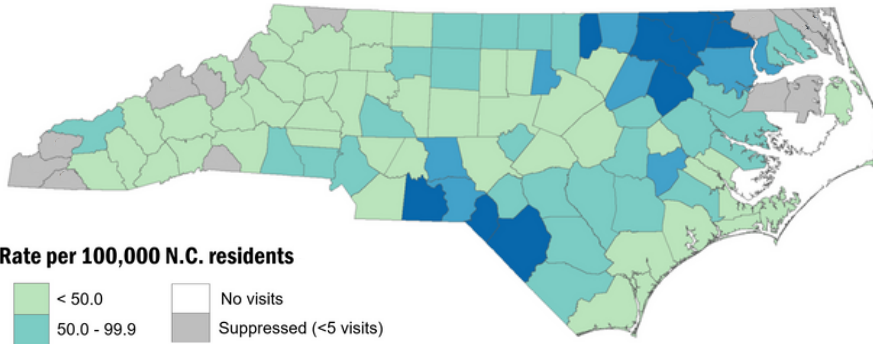
Firearm-Related Injury ED Visits by Month, 2019-2021



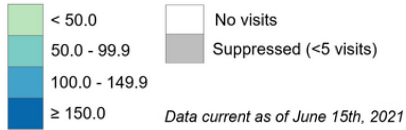
Data current as of June 15th, 2021

Firearm-related injury ED visits were higher overall in 2020 than 2019, with peaks in June and September. January to March 2021 had slightly more ED visits than in the same time period in 2020.

Firearm-Related Injury ED Visit Rates: Apr 2020-Mar 2021



Rate per 100,000 N.C. residents



Data current as of June 15th, 2021

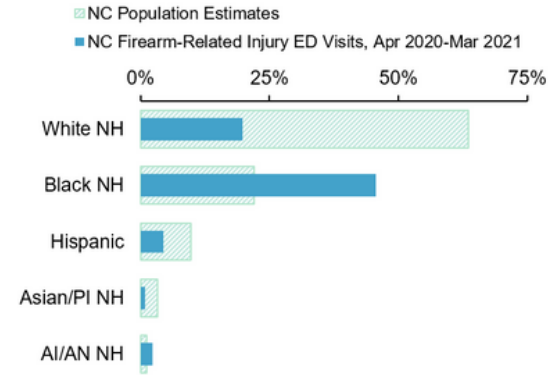
Counties with Highest Annual Firearm-Related Injury Rates

County	Count	Annual Rate [†]
Halifax	116	232.0
Vance	94	211.1
Robeson	272	208.2
Edgecombe	106	205.9
Scotland	70	201.0
Hertford	40	168.9
Northhampton	32	164.2
Anson	37	151.4
Montgomery	40	147.2
Lenoir	78	139.4
Statewide	5,641	53.8

Over half of non-suppressed counties (45/85) had annual rates lower than the state rate of 53.8 ED visits per 100,000 residents. Sixteen counties had rates of 100 or higher per 100,000 residents.

[†] Rates are calculated using the most recent 12 months of data and 2019 population estimates. Counties listed in the "Highest Rates of Firearm-Related Injury ED visits" table will likely change each quarter. Therefore, the counties listed this quarter cannot be generalized as the top burden counties for the year.

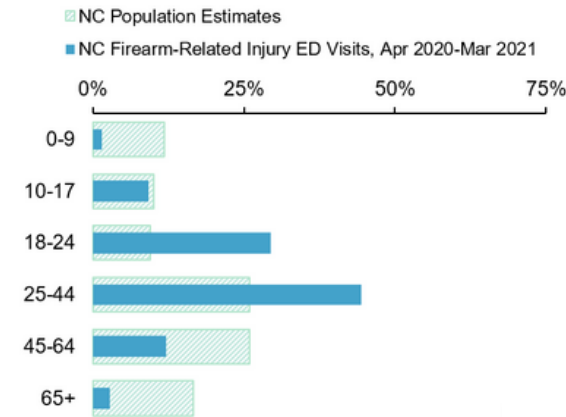
ED Visits by Race & Ethnicity



Note: NH (non-Hispanic); PI (Pacific Islander); AI/AN (American Indian/Alaskan Native)
Race/ethnicity unknown or other for 27% of encounters

Data current as of June 15th, 2021

ED Visits by Age Group



Data current as of June 15th, 2021

Non-Hispanic Blacks make up 22% of the NC population and 46% of firearm-related injury ED visits in NC. Non-Hispanic whites make up 64% of the population and 20% of firearm-related injury ED visits. Hispanics make up 10% of the population and 4% of visits. American Indians/Alaskan Natives make up 1% of the population and 2% of visits. Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders make up 3% of the population and 1% of visits.

25-44 year olds make up 26% of NC's population and 44% of firearm-related injury ED visits. 18-24 year olds make up 9% of NC's population and 29% of firearm-related injury ED visits. 45-64 year olds make up 17% of NC's population and 3% of visits. 0-9 year olds make up 12% of NC's population and 1% of visits.

Preventing Firearm-Related Injuries: What Works

Safe Storage



Areas requiring safe storage have a decrease of up to 59% of unintentional firearm-related deaths.

Violence Interrupters



Community violence interruption programs can reduce firearm injuries by up to 50%.

Waiting Period Laws



Waiting period laws can reduce both firearm-related assaults and suicides.

For more information, visit www.ncdetect.org

