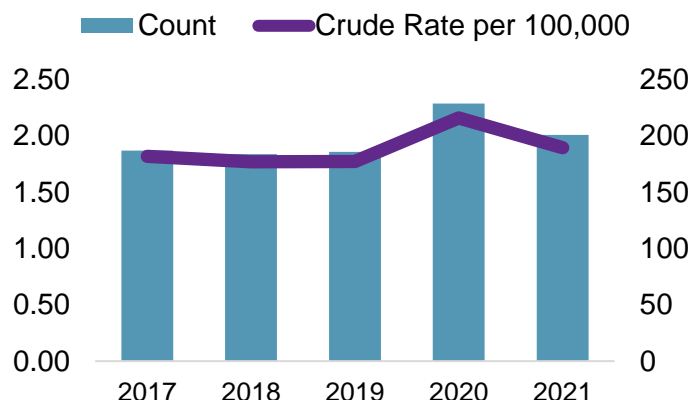


Firework-Related Emergency Department Visits in NC 2017-2021

NC residents averaged 197 emergency department (ED) visits per year for firework-related injuries from 2017 to 2021, with the peak in 2020 at 229 ED visits.

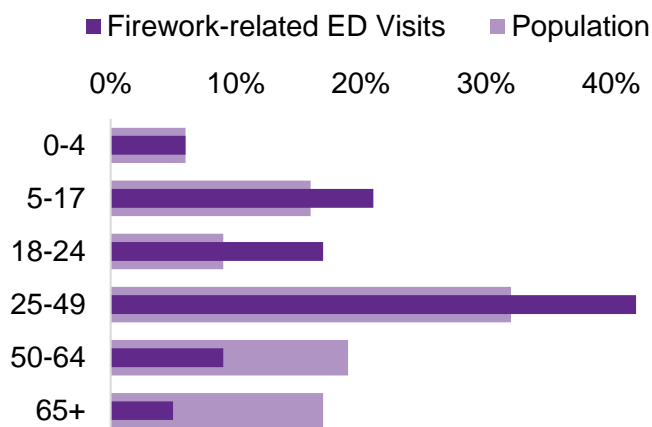
70% occur in **July**
68% are by **males**



ED Visits by Age Group

80% of firework-related ED visits occur in those aged 5-49.

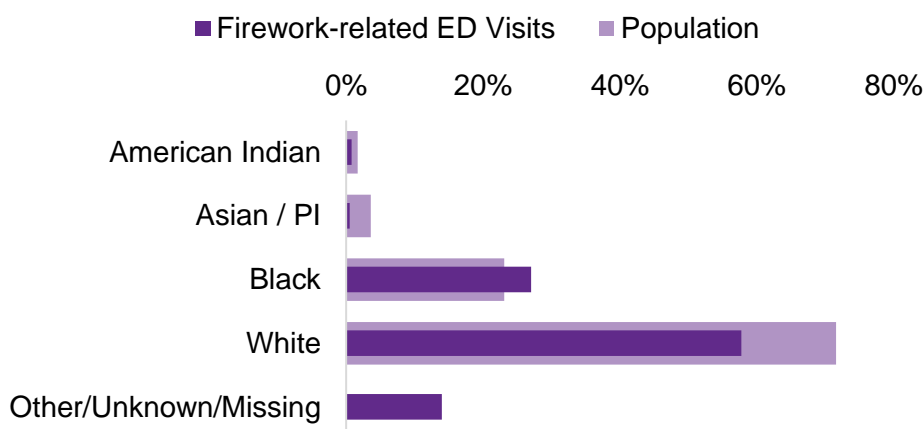
- 5-17 year-olds make up 16% of the NC population & 21% of firework-related ED visits.
- 18-24 year-olds make up 9% of the NC population and 17% of firework-related ED visits.
- 25-49 year-olds make up 32% of the NC population and 42% of firework-related ED visits.



ED Visits by Race Category

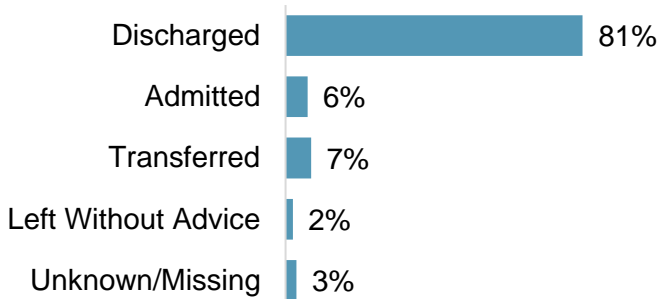
Black NC residents are disproportionately represented in firework-related ED visits.

- 27% of fireworks-related ED visits are among Black patients compared to a population proportion of 23%.
- Note that 14% of ED visits cannot be compared to the NC population by race category.



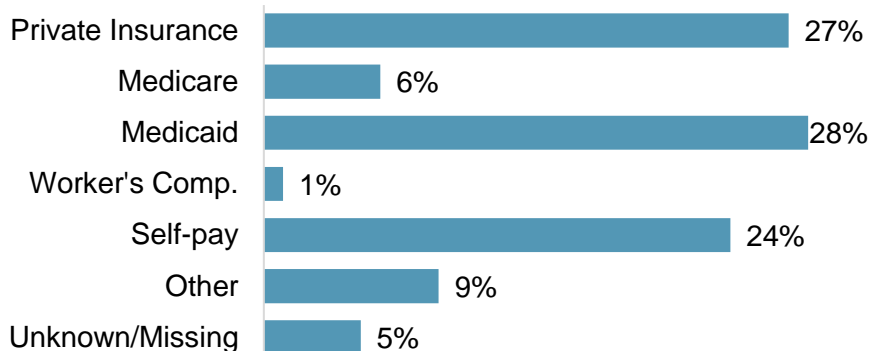
NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES North Carolina Injury & Violence Prevention Branch

Disposition



81% of fireworks-related ED visits were discharged home.

Insurance Coverage



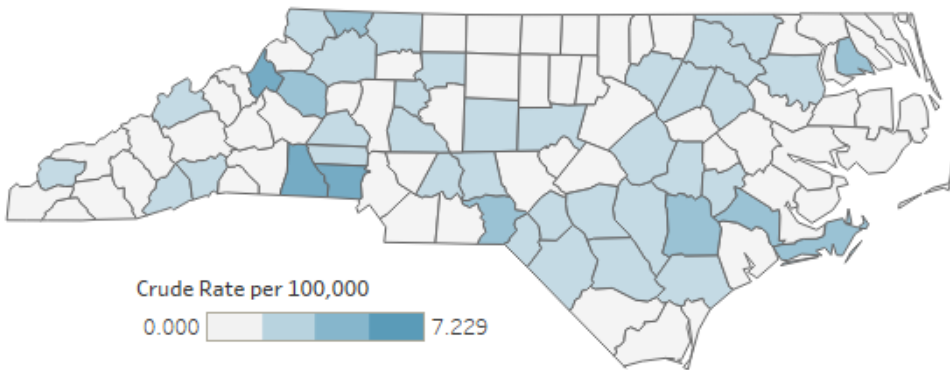
28% of fireworks-related ED visits were covered by Medicaid followed by private insurance (27%) and self-pay/uninsured (24%).

County-level Crude Rates

Gaston, Cleveland, & Richmond counties have the highest rates for firework-related injury for 2017-2021 among counties with at least 10 ED visits.

County	Count	Crude Rate
Gaston	81	7.2
Cleveland	31	6.3
Avery	5	5.7
Richmond	12	5.4
Duplin	15	5.1
Carteret	15	4.3
Caldwell	15	3.7
Stanly	11	3.5
Transylvania	6	3.5
Cumberland	54	3.2

- 10 counties have 0 fireworks-related ED visits.
- 57 have fewer than 10.
- The table displays the counties with the highest crude ED visit rates.



Consumer Firework Injury Prevention Tips

- Never use fireworks while impaired by alcohol or drugs
- Do not attempt to re-light fireworks
- Keep water handy
- Visit cpsc.gov/fireworks for more info

Source: Carolina Center for Health Informatics / cchi.web.unc.edu / Department of Emergency Medicine, UNC Chapel Hill
NC Division of Public Health / publichealth.nc.gov / Injury Epidemiology & Surveillance Unit
NC DETECT / <https://ncdetect.org>

State of North Carolina / Department of Health and Human Services / ncdhhs.gov
NC DHHS is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov

