

Firearm-Related Emergency Department Visits in North Carolina

Quarter 2: April - June 2022

There were **916** firearm-related ED visits from Apr-Jun 2022 compared to **1,277** from Apr-Jun 2021

Some counties and groups experienced a significant increase in firearm-related injury ED visits for April - June 2022.

County-Level Groups with Significant Increases in Firearm-Related Injury ED Visits in Q2 2022 vs. Prior 3-Year Average

County	Group	Number of Visits	Percent Increase
Edgecombe	Ages 25-44	18	+116%
Gaston	Ages 10-17	6	+260%
Hertford	Ages 25-44	6	+157%
	Total Visits	12	+112%
Iredell	White NH	11	+83%
	Male	17	+38%
	Total Visits	19	+33%
Moore	White NH	6	+200%
Pasquotank	Ages 18-24	7	+425%
	Total Visits	12	+125%
	Male	10	+114%
Rockingham	Male	11	+38%
Wayne	Female	10	+131%
	Black NH	33	+106%
	Total Visits	36	+69%

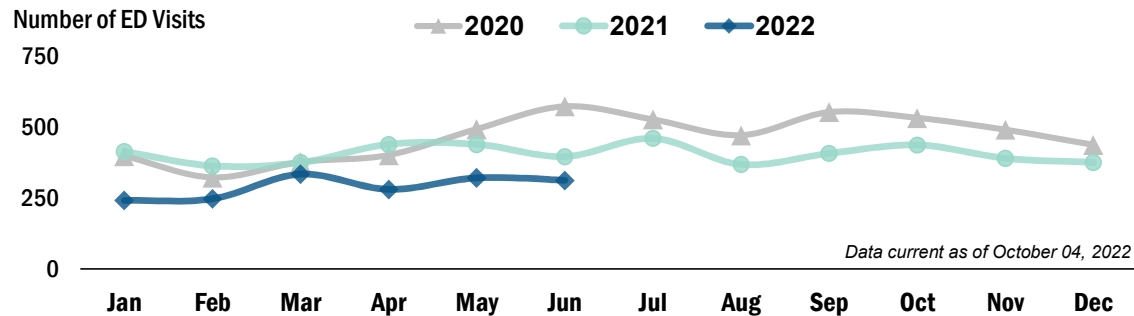
NH = Non-Hispanic

Note: Significant is defined as an observation count for Q2, 2022 that is > 2 standard deviations from the mean of observations for Q2 of 2019-2021.

The table is limited to top 15 county-level groups with the highest percent increase from the mean. There were a total of 16 county-level groups with significant increases in firearm-injury ED visits.

Firearm-related injury ED visits increased slightly from April - June 2022.

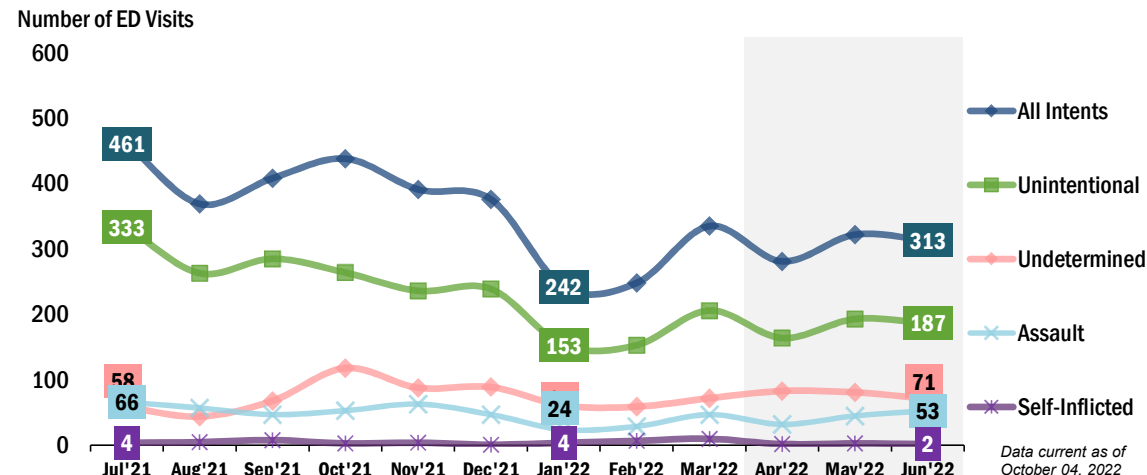
Firearm-Related Injury ED Visits by Month: 2020-2022



The number of firearm-related injury ED visits remained lower through June 2022 compared to previous years.

Most firearm-related injury ED visits (64%) from April - June 2022 were for unintentional injuries.

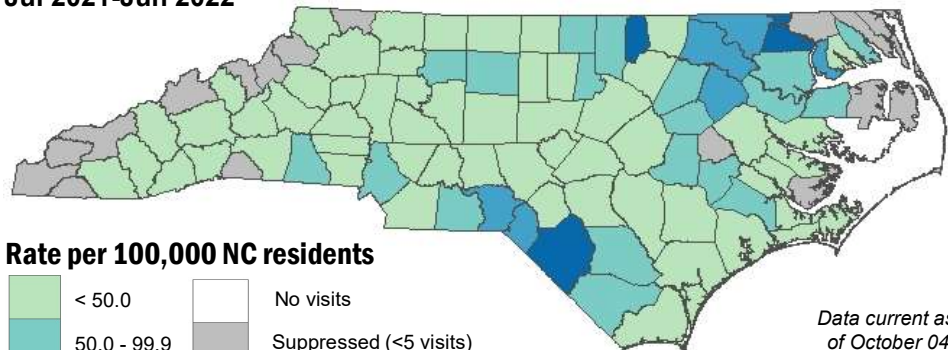
Firearm-Related Injury ED Visits by Intent: Jul 2021-Jun 2022



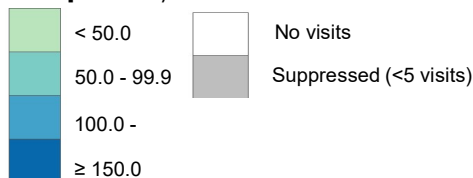
Firearm-related injury ED visits due to assault increased during the current quarter (Apr-Jun 2022), while firearm-related injury ED visits of undetermined intent decreased.

Rates of firearm-related injury ED visits were highest in Vance, Hertford, and Robeson counties.

Firearm-Related Injury ED Visit Rates by County of Residence: Jul 2021-Jun 2022



Rate per 100,000 NC residents



Data current as of October 04.

Counties with the Highest Annual Firearm-Related Injury ED Visit Rates: Jul 2021-Jun 2022

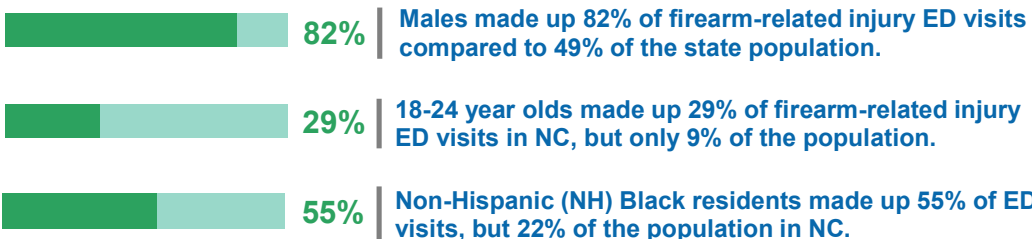
County	Count	Annual Rate [†]
Vance	89	199.0
Hertford	43	186.1
Robeson	222	170.8
Scotland	49	141.5
Northampton	26	136.2
Edgecombe	67	131.8
Halifax	65	131.4
Chowan	16	115.8
Richmond	50	112.8
Columbus	54	98.6
Statewide	4,184	39.5

Over half of non-suppressed counties (43/82) had annual rates lower than the state rate of 39.5 firearm-related ED visits per 100,000 residents. Nine counties had rates of 100 per 100,000 residents or higher.

[†] Rates are calculated using the most recent 12 months of data and 2020 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 calendar year.

Males, ages 18-24, and Non-Hispanic Black residents experienced a higher than expected burden of firearm-related injury ED visits.

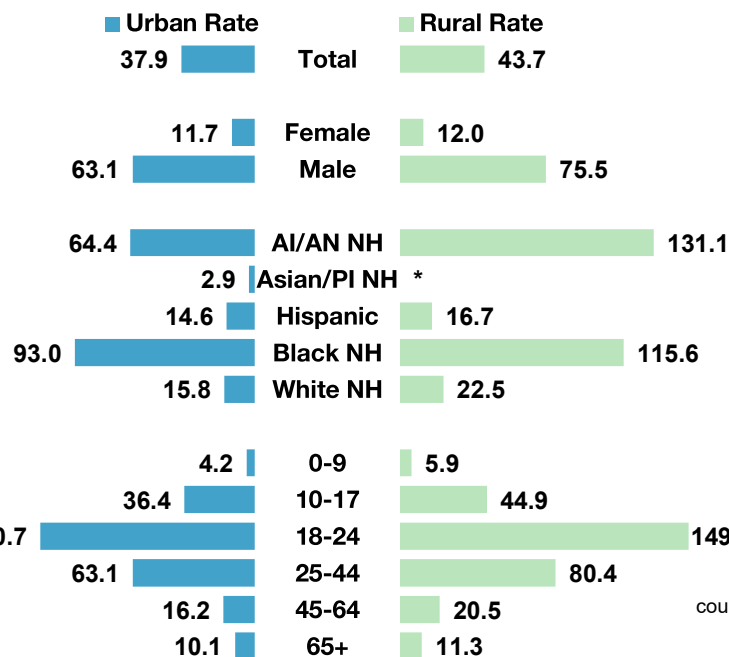
Percentage of Firearm-Related Injury ED Visits by Demographic Group: Jul 2021-Jun 2022



Generations of social, economic, and environmental inequities contribute to disparities in injuries, including firearm injury. When interpreting the data, it is crucial to recognize and acknowledge these systemic, avoidable, and/or unjust factors.

Residents of rural counties experienced higher rates of firearm-related injury ED visits across demographic groups.

Rates of Firearm-Related Injury ED Visits by Urban/Rural Residence and Demographic Group: Jul 2021-Jun 2022



NH American Indian residents experienced the greatest difference in rates of firearm injury ED visits by rurality, with rural residents experiencing twice the rate of ED visits as urban residents.

NH - Non-Hispanic
AI/AN - American Indian
PI - Pacific Islander
* Rate suppressed, <5 visits
Note: Rurality was classified at the county level. For more information see Table 5a in the IVPB Surveillance [Technical Notes Document](#).

Preventing Firearm-Related Injuries: What Works



Street outreach and hospital-based prevention
Street outreach and hospital-based prevention programs can help reduce the risk of gun violence and connect people with the greatest need to services.

For more information, visit www.ncdetect.org

