

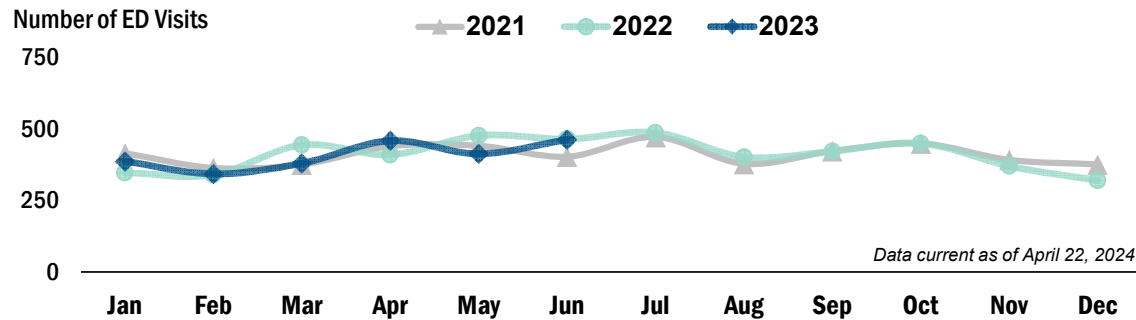
Firearm-Related Emergency Department Visits in North Carolina

Quarter 2: April - June 2023

There were **1,335** firearm-related ED visits from Apr-Jun 2023 compared to **1,352** from Apr-Jun 2022

Firearm-related injury ED visits increased from April - June 2023.

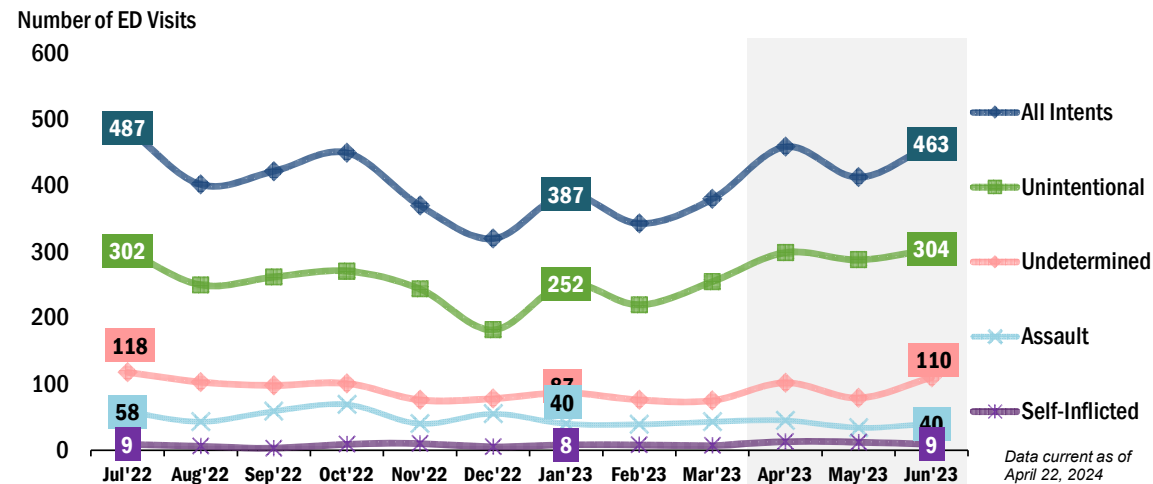
Firearm-Related Injury ED Visits by Month: 2021-2023



The number of firearm-related injury ED visits was slightly lower in Quarter 2 2023 compared to Quarter 2 2022.

Most firearm-related injury ED visits (64%) from April - June 2023 were for unintentional injuries.

Firearm-Related Injury ED Visits by Intent: Jul 2022-Jun 2023



Unintentional firearm-related injury ED visits increased during the current quarter (Apr-Jun 2023), while firearm-related injuries of other intents remained similar to previous quarters.

Some counties and groups experienced a significant decrease in firearm-related injury ED visits during April - June 2023.

County-Level Groups with Significant Increases in Firearm-Related Injury ED Visits in Q2 2023 vs. Prior 3-Year Average

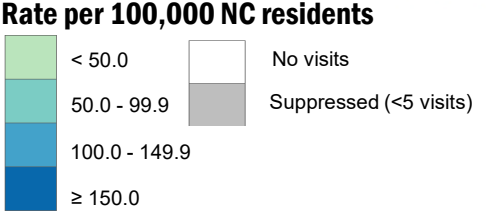
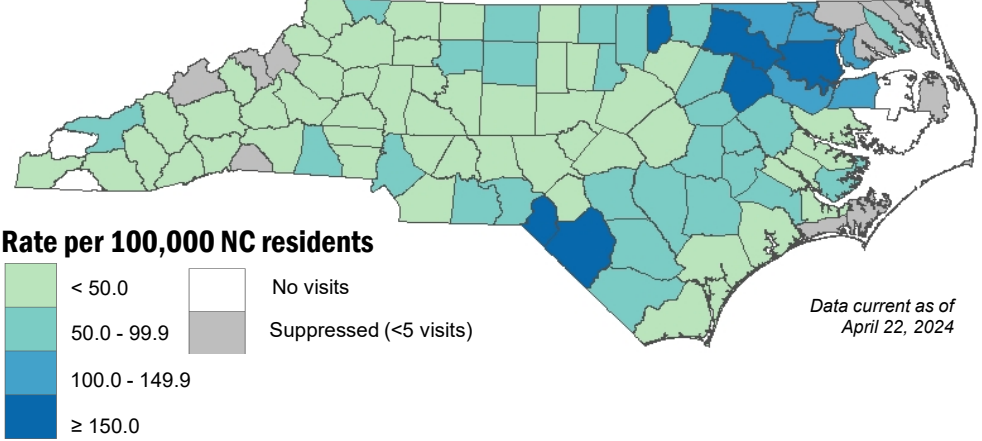
County	Group	# ED Visits Q2 2023	Percent Increase
Cherokee	Non Hispanic	6	200%
	Male	6	200%
	White	6	200%
	Total Visits	6	200%
Duplin	Non Hispanic	11	200%
Durham	Non Hispanic	47	213%
Hertford	Non Hispanic	10	500%
Jackson	Non Hispanic	6	200%
Orange	Ages 10-17	6	500%
	Hispanic	6	500%
Pitt	Non Hispanic	36	391%
	Ages 10-17	8	243%
Scotland	Ages 10-17	7	367%
Surry	Ages 65+	6	500%
Wilson	Non Hispanic	14	367%

Note: Significant is defined as an observation count for Q2, 2023 that is > 2 standard deviations from the mean of observations for Q2 of 2020-2022.

The table is limited to top 15 county-level groups with the highest percent increase from the mean. There were a total of 41 county-level groups with significant increases in firearm-injury ED visits.

Rates of firearm-related injury ED visits were highest in Bertie, Robeson, Scotland, and Halifax counties.

Firearm-Related Injury ED Visit Rates by County of Residence: Jul 2022-Jun 2023



Data current as of April 22, 2024

Counties with the Highest Annual Firearm-Related Injury ED Visit Rates: Jul 2022-Jun 2023

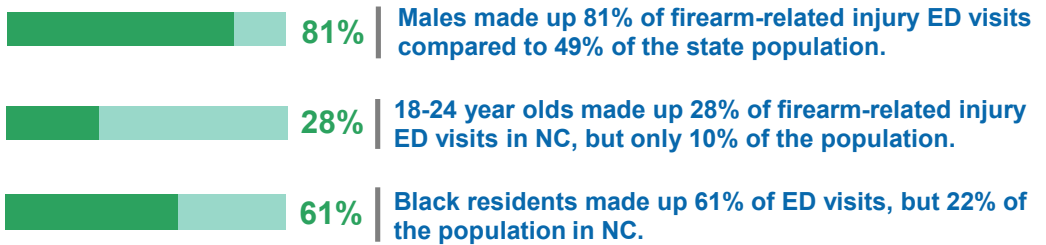
County	Count	Annual Rate [†]
Bertie	36	208.8
Robeson	232	198.9
Scotland	62	181.5
Halifax	86	179.7
Edgecombe	81	167.7
Vance	65	154.3
Washington	16	147.8
Northampton	22	131.1
Martin	25	116.2
Chowan	16	114.8
Statewide	4,896	45.8

More than half of non-suppressed counties (50/91) had annual rates lower than the state rate of 45.8 firearm-related ED visits per 100,000 residents. Eleven counties had rates of 100 per 100,000 residents or higher.

† Rates are calculated using the most recent 12 months of data and 2023 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, young adults (18-24), and Black residents experienced a higher than expected burden of firearm-related injury ED visits.

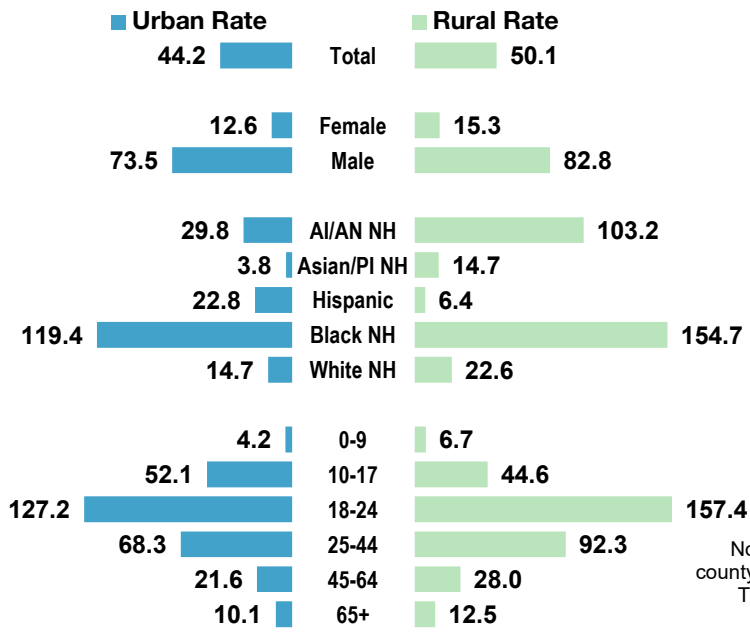
Percentage of Firearm-Related Injury ED Visits by Demographic Group: Jul 2022-Jun 2023



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



Asian/Pacific Islander residents experienced the greatest difference in rates of firearm injury ED visits by rurality, with rural residents experiencing a rate over 50% higher than urban residents.

Residents ages 10-17 and Hispanic residents experienced higher firearm injury ED visit rates in urban counties.

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



Safely Storing Firearms - Locked Up and Unloaded

53% of firearm owners who reported having loaded firearms around them home also stored them unlocked.¹ 3 out of 4 children who live in a household with a firearm know where the firearm is stored, including children under 10.²

¹ NC BRFSS (2021); ² Baxley & Miller (2006)

For more information, visit <https://ncdetect.org>

