

Firearm-Related Emergency Department Visits in North Carolina

Quarter 2: April - June 2024

There were **1,252** firearm-related ED visits from Apr-Jun 2024 compared to **1,335** from Apr-Jun 2023

Some counties and groups experienced a significant increase in firearm-related injury ED visits during April - June 2024.

County-Level Groups with Significant Increases in Firearm-Related Injury ED Visits in Q2 2024 vs. Prior 3-Year Average

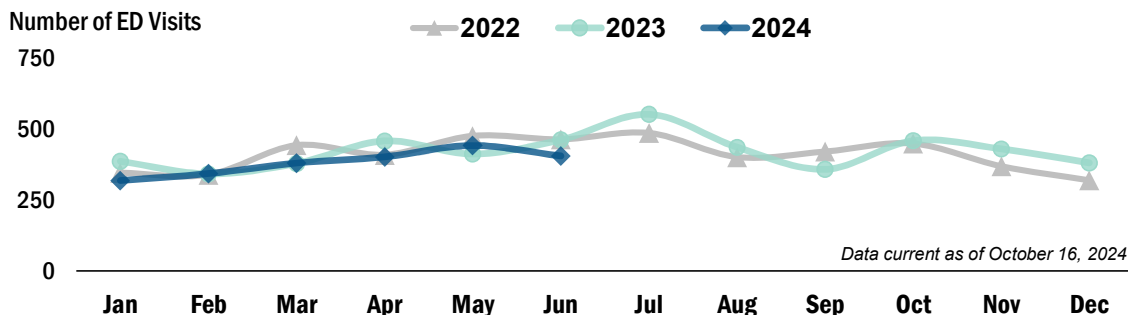
County	Group	# ED Visits Q2 2024	Percent Increase
Alamance	Female	8	300%
Craven	Black	10	567%
Edgecombe	Non-Hispanic	24	140%
Halifax	Female	7	250%
Johnston	Male	18	260%
	Total Visits	20	208%
Macon	Male	7	600%
	White	8	300%
	Total Visits	8	300%
	Non-Hispanic	6	200%
Mecklenburg	Other	54	414%
Nash	Ages 18-24	16	191%
Orange	Black	11	144%
Robeson	Other	6	200%
Rowan	Black	16	146%

Note: Significant is defined as an observation count for Q2, 2024 that is > 2 standard deviations from the mean of observations for Q2 of 2021-2023.

The table is limited to top 15 county-level groups with the highest percent increase from the mean. There were a total of 46 county-level groups with significant increases in firearm-injury ED visits.

Firearm-related injury ED visits decreased from April - June 2024.

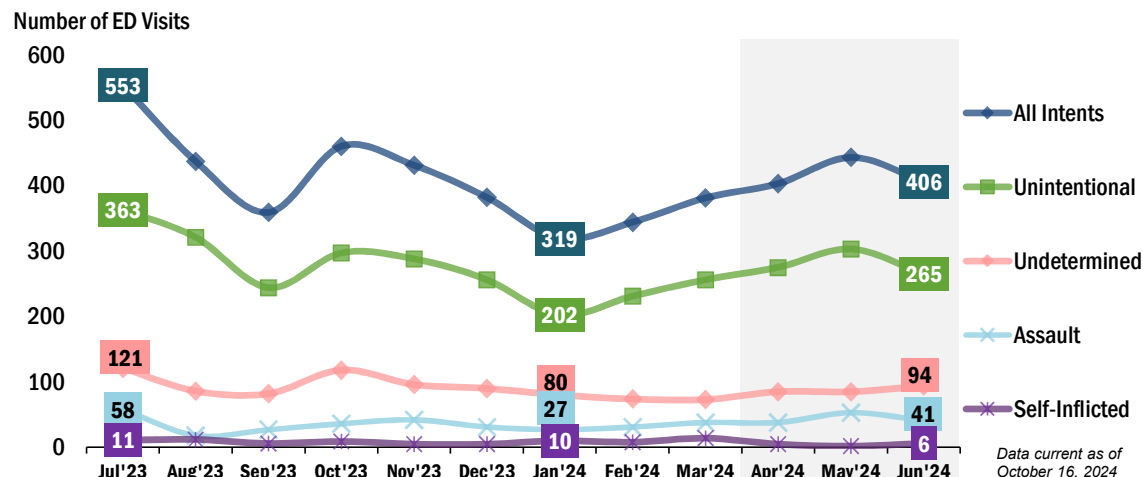
Firearm-Related Injury ED Visits by Month: 2022-2024



The number of firearm-related injury ED visits was slightly lower in Quarter 2 2024 compared to Quarter 2 2023.

Most firearm-related injury ED visits (67%) from April - June 2024 were for unintentional injuries.

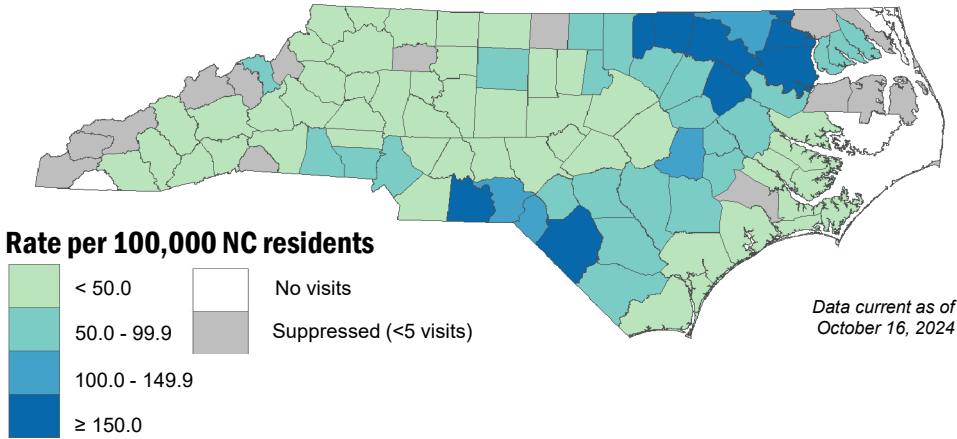
Firearm-Related Injury ED Visits by Intent: Jul 2023-Jun 2024



Unintentional firearm-related injury ED visits increased during the current quarter (Apr-Jun 2024), while firearm-related injuries of other intents remained similar to previous quarters.

Rates of firearm-related injury ED visits were highest in Anson, Warren, Edgecombe, and Vance counties.

Firearm-Related Injury ED Visit Rates by County of Residence:
Jul 2023-Jun 2024



Counties with the Highest Annual Firearm-Related Injury ED Visit Rates: Jul 2023-Jun 2024

County	Count	Annual Rate [†]
Anson	51	232.9
Warren	39	207.1
Edgecombe	101	206.8
Vance	84	198.6
Hertford	37	190.2
Robeson	222	189.2
Bertie	30	177.3
Halifax	75	158.6
Richmond	58	137.0
Scotland	44	128.0
Statewide	4,918	45.4

More than half of non-suppressed counties (46/86) had annual rates lower than the state rate of 45.4 firearm-related ED visits per 100,000 residents. 12 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.

Preventing Firearm-Related Injuries: What Works



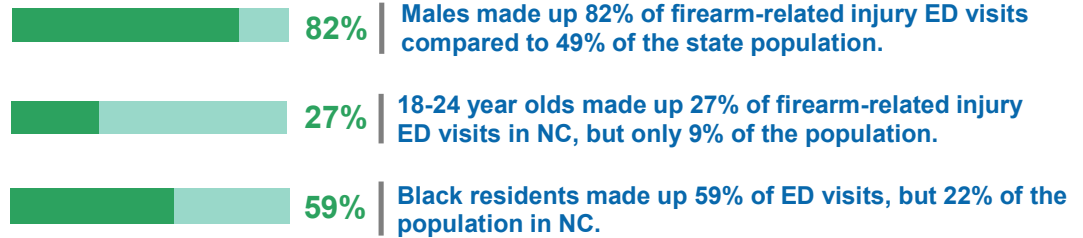
Safely Storing Firearms - Locked Up and Unloaded

53% of firearm owners who reported having loaded firearms around the 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)

Males, young adults (18-24), and Black residents experienced a higher than expected burden of firearm-related injury ED visits.

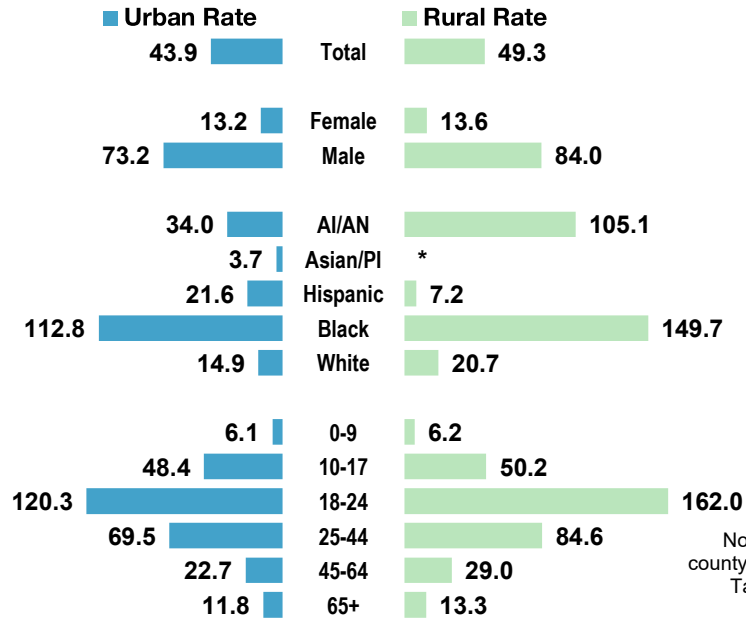
Percentage of Firearm-Related Injury ED Visits by Demographic Group:
Jul 2023-Jun 2024



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 2023-Jun 2024



American Indian residents experienced the greatest difference in rates of firearm injury ED visits by rurality, with rural residents experiencing a rate 200% higher than urban residents.

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.

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

