

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

10 Leading Causes of Injury ED Visits By Age Group* North Carolina Residents, 2021

ALL AGES

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Mechanism & Intent Undetermined	217,230	2,055.9
2	Fall - Unintentional	193,349	1,829.9
3	MVT - Unintentional	105,482	998.3
4	Unspecified - Unintentional	53,948	510.6
5	Struck - Unintentional	38,472	364.1
6	Nat/Env - Unintentional	32,493	307.5
7	Other Specified - Unintentional	24,440	231.3
8	Cut/Pierce - Unintentional	24,395	230.9
9	Overexertion - Unintentional	23,767	224.9
10	Poisoning - Unintentional	22,048	208.7

Total Injury Case Count: 776,352 Rate: 7,347.4

INFANTS (<1)

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Fall - Unintentional	2,714	2,338.5
2	Mechanism & Intent Undetermined	1,548	1,333.8
3	Unspecified - Unintentional	611	526.5
4	Other Specified - Unintentional	530	456.7
5	MVT - Unintentional	526	453.2
6	Struck - Unintentional	260	224.0
7	Other Specified - Assault	244	210.2
8	Nat/Env - Unintentional	210	180.9
9	Poisoning - Unintentional	149	128.4
10	Fire/Burn - Unintentional	80	68.9

Total Injury Case Count: 6,726 Rate: 5,795.5

1 - 4 YEARS

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Mechanism & Intent Undetermined	11,596	2,457.7
2	Fall - Unintentional	9,950	2,108.9
3	Other Specified - Unintentional	4,078	864.3
4	Unspecified - Unintentional	3,703	784.8
5	Struck - Unintentional	2,819	597.5
6	Nat/Env - Unintentional	2,700	572.3
7	MVT - Unintentional	2,267	480.5
8	Poisoning - Unintentional	1,559	330.4
9	Cut/Pierce - Unintentional	1,004	212.8
10	Fire/Burn - Unintentional	596	126.3

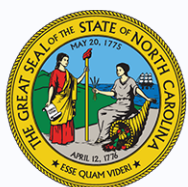
Total Injury Case Count: 39,463 Rate: 8,364.1

5 - 14 YEARS

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Mechanism & Intent Undetermined	24,209	1,881.2
2	Fall - Unintentional	14,107	1,096.2
3	MVT - Unintentional	6,759	525.2
4	Struck - Unintentional	6,513	506.1
5	Unspecified - Unintentional	4,801	373.1
6	Nat/Env - Unintentional	4,192	325.7
7	Other Specified - Unintentional	3,629	282.0
8	Cut/Pierce - Unintentional	2,650	205.9
9	Overexertion - Unintentional	2,327	180.8
10	Other Land Trans - Unintentional	1,029	80.0

Total Injury Case Count: 73,663 Rate: 5,724.0

* Rate suppressed, count between 1 and 4. ¹ Rate should be interpreted with caution, count between 5 and 10. Rates are reported per 100,000.
NEC=Not Elsewhere Classifiable; MV=Motor Vehicle; MVT=Motor Vehicle Traffic; Nat/Env=Natural/Environmental



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Categories of injury emergency department visits are not mutually exclusive and do not sum to the total number of injuries.

Data Source: NC DETECT, Emergency Department Visit Data, 2021

Analysis conducted by the NCDHHS, DPH, Injury Epidemiology, Surveillance & Informatics Unit.

Date of analysis: 19 March 2024

For more information on these data, go to the Injury Surveillance Technical Notes Document:

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15 - 24 YEARS

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Mechanism & Intent Undetermined	29,458	2,048.3
2	MVT - Unintentional	23,440	1,629.9
3	Fall - Unintentional	10,306	716.6
4	Struck - Unintentional	7,663	532.8
5	Unspecified - Unintentional	7,444	517.6
6	Cut/Pierce - Unintentional	4,663	324.2
7	Overexertion - Unintentional	4,508	313.5
8	Nat/Env - Unintentional	4,303	299.2
9	Other Specified - Unintentional	3,044	211.7
10	Poisoning - Unintentional	2,997	208.4

Total Injury Case Count: 109,777 Rate: 7,633.1

25 - 44 YEARS

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Mechanism & Intent Undetermined	56,999	2,077.2
2	MVT - Unintentional	38,973	1,420.3
3	Fall - Unintentional	23,429	853.8
4	Unspecified - Unintentional	16,090	586.4
5	Struck - Unintentional	10,310	375.7
6	Poisoning - Unintentional	9,573	348.9
7	Nat/Env - Unintentional	9,116	332.2
8	Overexertion - Unintentional	8,543	311.3
9	Cut/Pierce - Unintentional	8,536	311.1
10	Other Specified - Unintentional	5,999	218.6

Total Injury Case Count: 204,752 Rate: 7,461.6

45 - 64 YEARS

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Mechanism & Intent Undetermined	47,045	1,736.3
2	Fall - Unintentional	40,557	1,496.8
3	MVT - Unintentional	23,869	880.9
4	Unspecified - Unintentional	12,437	459.0
5	Nat/Env - Unintentional	7,640	282.0
6	Struck - Unintentional	6,599	243.5
7	Overexertion - Unintentional	5,754	212.4
8	Cut/Pierce - Unintentional	5,149	190.0
9	Poisoning - Unintentional	5,085	187.7
10	Other Specified - Unintentional	4,129	152.4

Total Injury Case Count: 165,901 Rate: 6,122.9

AGES 65 & OVER

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Fall - Unintentional	92,172	5,122.6
2	Mechanism & Intent Undetermined	46,216	2,568.5
3	MVT - Unintentional	9,417	523.4
4	Unspecified - Unintentional	8,846	491.6
5	Nat/Env - Unintentional	4,328	240.5
6	Struck - Unintentional	4,294	238.6
7	Other Specified - Unintentional	3,026	168.2
8	Cut/Pierce - Unintentional	2,319	128.9
9	Overexertion - Unintentional	2,207	122.7
10	Poisoning - Unintentional	1,963	109.1

Total Injury Case Count: 175,311 Rate: 9,743.3

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10 Leading Causes of Injury ED Visits By Race/Ethnicity* North Carolina Residents, 2021

WHITE

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Fall - Unintentional	141,656	1,911.8
2	Mechanism & Intent Undetermined	122,849	1,658.0
3	MVT - Unintentional	45,933	619.9
4	Unspecified - Unintentional	34,223	461.9
5	Struck - Unintentional	24,365	328.8
6	Nat/Env - Unintentional	20,873	281.7
7	Cut/Pierce - Unintentional	16,247	219.3
8	Other Specified - Unintentional	14,763	199.2
9	Overexertion - Unintentional	14,368	193.9
10	Poisoning - Unintentional	14,235	192.1

Total Injury Case Count: 470,513 Rate: 6,350.0

BLACK

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Mechanism & Intent Undetermined	60,116	2,562.5
2	MVT - Unintentional	43,866	1,869.8
3	Fall - Unintentional	33,835	1,442.3
4	Unspecified - Unintentional	14,324	610.6
5	Struck - Unintentional	9,489	404.5
6	Overexertion - Unintentional	7,006	298.6
7	Nat/Env - Unintentional	6,568	280.0
8	Other Specified - Unintentional	5,956	253.9
9	Poisoning - Unintentional	5,097	217.3
10	Cut/Pierce - Unintentional	4,834	206.1

Total Injury Case Count: 205,127 Rate: 8,743.7

AMERICAN INDIAN

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Mechanism & Intent Undetermined	4,874	2,990.3
2	Fall - Unintentional	1,405	862.0
3	MVT - Unintentional	1,225	751.6
4	Poisoning - Unintentional	595	365.0
5	Other Land Trans - Unintentional	535	328.2
6	Nat/Env - Unintentional	312	191.4
7	Poisoning - Undetermined	251	154.0
8	Other Specified - Unintentional	225	138.0
9	Unspecified - Unintentional	219	134.4
10	Unspecified - Assault	218	133.7

Total Injury Case Count: 9,880 Rate: 6,061.6

ASIAN

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Mechanism & Intent Undetermined	1,897	500.1
2	Fall - Unintentional	1,100	290.0
3	MVT - Unintentional	892	235.2
4	Unspecified - Unintentional	287	75.7
5	Struck - Unintentional	258	68.0
6	Nat/Env - Unintentional	247	65.1
7	Other Specified - Unintentional	230	60.6
8	Cut/Pierce - Unintentional	212	55.9
9	Overexertion - Unintentional	111	29.3
	Poisoning - Unintentional	111	29.3

Total Injury Case Count: 5,613 Rate: 1,479.8

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Caution – race classifications changed in July 2020 for all data years
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10 Leading Causes of Injury ED Visits By Race/Ethnicity & Gender* North Carolina Residents, 2021

HISPANIC

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Mechanism & Intent Undetermined	10,914	1,010.2
2	Fall - Unintentional	7,519	695.9
3	MVT - Unintentional	7,497	693.9
4	Unspecified - Unintentional	3,463	320.5
5	Struck - Unintentional	2,495	230.9
6	Cut/Pierce - Unintentional	1,876	173.6
7	Nat/Env - Unintentional	1,769	163.7
8	Other Specified - Unintentional	1,731	160.2
9	Overexertion - Unintentional	1,428	132.2
10	Poisoning - Unintentional	775	71.7

Total Injury Case Count: 41,716 Rate: 3,861.1

FEMALE

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Fall - Unintentional	114,811	2,131.0
2	Mechanism & Intent Undetermined	102,905	1,910.0
3	MVT - Unintentional	55,779	1,035.3
4	Unspecified - Unintentional	26,483	491.6
5	Nat/Env - Unintentional	16,592	308.0
6	Struck - Unintentional	16,430	305.0
7	Overexertion - Unintentional	11,936	221.5
8	Other Specified - Unintentional	10,401	193.1
9	Poisoning - Unintentional	9,232	171.4
10	Cut/Pierce - Unintentional	8,414	156.2

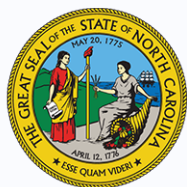
Total Injury Case Count: 392,369 Rate: 7,282.8

MALE

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Mechanism & Intent Undetermined	114,119	2,203.8
2	Fall - Unintentional	78,368	1,513.4
3	MVT - Unintentional	49,422	954.4
4	Unspecified - Unintentional	27,442	529.9
5	Struck - Unintentional	22,020	425.2
6	Cut/Pierce - Unintentional	15,967	308.3
7	Nat/Env - Unintentional	15,893	306.9
8	Other Specified - Unintentional	14,029	270.9
9	Poisoning - Unintentional	12,761	246.4
10	Overexertion - Unintentional	11,829	228.4

Total Injury Case Count: 383,043 Rate: 7,396.9

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