

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

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

ALL AGES

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Fall - Unintentional	25,284	239.3
2	MVT - Unintentional	7,496	70.9
3	Poisoning - Unintentional	5,411	51.2
4	Poisoning - Self-Inflicted	2,668	25.2
5	Unspecified - Unintentional	1,740	16.5
6	Fire/Burn - Unintentional	1,039	9.8
7	Mechanism & Intent Undetermined	1,023	9.7
8	Struck - Unintentional	966	9.1
9	Other Specified - Unintentional	862	8.2
10	Firearm - Unintentional	835	7.9

Total Injury Case Count: 50,193 Rate: 475.0

INFANTS (<1)

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Other Specified - Assault	193	166.3
2	Fall - Unintentional	130	112.0
3	Unspecified - Unintentional	96	82.7
4	Poisoning - Unintentional	30	25.8
5	MVT - Unintentional	19	16.4
6	Fire/Burn - Unintentional	16	13.8
7	Other Specified - Unintentional	14	12.1
	Other-NEC - Undetermined	14	12.1
8	Nat/Env - Unintentional	10	8.6
9	Struck - Unintentional	9	7.8 ¹

Total Injury Case Count: 384 Rate: 330.9

1 - 4 YEARS

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Fire/Burn - Unintentional	133	28.2
2	Poisoning - Unintentional	128	27.1
3	Fall - Unintentional	124	26.3
4	Other Specified - Assault	87	18.4
5	Unspecified - Unintentional	66	14.0
6	MVT - Unintentional	65	13.8
7	Other Specified - Unintentional	44	9.3
8	Nat/Env - Unintentional	26	5.5
9	Struck - Unintentional	19	4.0
10	Firearm - Unintentional	13	2.8

Total Injury Case Count: 642 Rate: 136.1

5 - 14 YEARS

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Poisoning - Self-Inflicted	334	26.0
2	Fall - Unintentional	252	19.6
3	MVT - Unintentional	237	18.4
4	Poisoning - Unintentional	80	6.2
5	Fire/Burn - Unintentional	77	6.0
6	MV-NonTraffic - Unintentional	73	5.7
7	Other Specified - Unintentional	67	5.2
8	Unspecified - Unintentional	62	4.8
9	Struck - Unintentional	53	4.1
10	Nat/Env - Unintentional	38	3.0

Total Injury Case Count: 1,377 Rate: 107.0

* 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.
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Categories of injury hospitalizations are not mutually exclusive and do not sum to the total number of injuries.

Data Source: State Center for Health Statistics, Hospital Discharge 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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10 Leading Causes of Injury Hospitalizations By Age Group* North Carolina Residents, 2021

15 - 24 YEARS

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	MVT - Unintentional	1,163	80.9
2	Poisoning - Self-Inflicted	775	53.9
3	Poisoning - Unintentional	397	27.6
4	Firearm - Unintentional	315	21.9
5	Fall - Unintentional	252	17.5
6	Firearm - Assault	171	11.9
7	MV-NonTraffic - Unintentional	142	9.9
8	Fire/Burn - Unintentional	90	6.3
9	Unspecified - Unintentional	89	6.2
10	Cut/Pierce - Self-Inflicted	72	5.0

Total Injury Case Count: 3,794 Rate: 263.8

25 - 44 YEARS

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	MVT - Unintentional	2,508	91.4
2	Poisoning - Unintentional	1,786	65.1
3	Fall - Unintentional	1,153	42.0
4	Poisoning - Self-Inflicted	712	25.9
5	Firearm - Unintentional	371	13.5
6	Unspecified - Unintentional	351	12.8
7	Firearm - Assault	265	9.7
8	MV-NonTraffic - Unintentional	260	9.5
9	Other Specified - Unintentional	257	9.4
10	Struck - Assault	249	9.1

Total Injury Case Count: 8,875 Rate: 323.4

45 - 64 YEARS

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Fall - Unintentional	3,997	147.5
2	MVT - Unintentional	2,094	77.3
3	Poisoning - Unintentional	2,022	74.6
4	Poisoning - Self-Inflicted	635	23.4
5	Unspecified - Unintentional	448	16.5
6	Fire/Burn - Unintentional	283	10.4
7	Mechanism & Intent Undetermined	242	8.9
8	Nat/Env - Unintentional	223	8.2
9	Other Specified - Unintentional	213	7.9
10	Struck - Unintentional	187	6.9

Total Injury Case Count: 10,948 Rate: 404.1

AGES 65 & OVER

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Fall - Unintentional	19,376	1,076.9
2	MVT - Unintentional	1,410	78.4
3	Poisoning - Unintentional	968	53.8
4	Unspecified - Unintentional	628	34.9
5	Mechanism & Intent Undetermined	526	29.2
6	Struck - Unintentional	485	27.0
7	Poisoning - Self-Inflicted	212	11.8
8	Other Specified - Unintentional	195	10.8
9	Fire/Burn - Unintentional	192	10.7
10	Nat/Env - Unintentional	186	10.3

Total Injury Case Count: 24,173 Rate: 1,343.5

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

NON-HISPANIC WHITE

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Fall - Unintentional	20,995	320.8
2	MVT - Unintentional	4,338	66.3
3	Poisoning - Unintentional	3,296	50.4
4	Poisoning - Self-Inflicted	1,804	27.6
5	Unspecified - Unintentional	1,180	18.0
6	Mechanism & Intent Undetermined	759	11.6
7	Struck - Unintentional	733	11.2
8	Other Specified - Unintentional	565	8.6
9	MV-NonTraffic - Unintentional	498	7.6
10	Fire/Burn - Unintentional	478	7.3

Total Injury Case Count: 35,720 Rate: 545.8

NON-HISPANIC BLACK

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Fall - Unintentional	2,741	122.1
2	MVT - Unintentional	2,106	93.8
3	Poisoning - Unintentional	1,659	73.9
4	Firearm - Unintentional	545	24.3
5	Poisoning - Self-Inflicted	499	22.2
6	Firearm - Assault	374	16.7
	Unspecified - Unintentional	374	16.7
7	Fire/Burn - Unintentional	349	15.6
8	Struck - Assault	203	9.0
9	MV-NonTraffic - Unintentional	186	8.3

Total Injury Case Count: 9,791 Rate: 436.3

NON-HISPANIC AMERICAN INDIAN

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Fall - Unintentional	206	187.0
2	MVT - Unintentional	127	115.3
3	Poisoning - Unintentional	124	112.6
4	Poisoning - Self-Inflicted	27	24.5
5	Fire/Burn - Unintentional	24	21.8
6	Unspecified - Unintentional	20	18.2
7	Other Specified - Unintentional	15	13.6
8	Firearm - Unintentional	14	12.7
9	Mechanism & Intent Undetermined	13	11.8
	Struck - Assault	13	11.8

Total Injury Case Count: 626 Rate: 568.2

NON-HISPANIC ASIAN

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Fall - Unintentional	167	46.5
2	MVT - Unintentional	68	18.9
3	Poisoning - Self-Inflicted	33	9.2
4	Fire/Burn - Unintentional	18	5.0
5	Unspecified - Unintentional	16	4.5
6	Poisoning - Unintentional	11	3.1
7	Other Specified - Unintentional	9	2.5 ¹
8	Mechanism & Intent Undetermined	7	1.9 ¹
9	Other Specified - Assault	6	1.7 ¹
10	Cut/Pierce - Assault	5	1.4 ¹

Total Injury Case Count: 370 Rate: 103.1

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10 Leading Causes of Injury Hospitalizations By Race/Ethnicity & Gender* North Carolina Residents, 2021

HISPANIC

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Fall - Unintentional	732	70.4
2	MVT - Unintentional	614	59.1
3	Poisoning - Self-Inflicted	199	19.1
4	Poisoning - Unintentional	186	17.9
5	Unspecified - Unintentional	103	9.9
6	Fire/Burn - Unintentional	81	7.8
7	Other Specified - Unintentional	68	6.5
8	Cut/Pierce - Unintentional	56	5.4
9	MV-NonTraffic - Unintentional	51	4.9
10	Firearm - Unintentional	50	4.8

Total Injury Case Count: 2,408 Rate: 231.7

FEMALE

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Fall - Unintentional	15,714	291.7
2	MVT - Unintentional	2,787	51.7
3	Poisoning - Unintentional	2,382	44.2
4	Poisoning - Self-Inflicted	1,764	32.7
5	Unspecified - Unintentional	818	15.2
6	Mechanism & Intent Undetermined	505	9.4
7	Struck - Unintentional	428	7.9
8	Fire/Burn - Unintentional	358	6.6
9	Nat/Env - Unintentional	290	5.4
10	Other Specified - Unintentional	249	4.6

Total Injury Case Count: 25,649 Rate: 476.1

MALE

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Fall - Unintentional	9,568	184.8
2	MVT - Unintentional	4,705	90.9
3	Poisoning - Unintentional	3,026	58.4
4	Unspecified - Unintentional	922	17.8
5	Poisoning - Self-Inflicted	904	17.5
6	Firearm - Unintentional	700	13.5
7	Fire/Burn - Unintentional	681	13.2
8	Other Specified - Unintentional	613	11.8
9	MV-NonTraffic - Unintentional	579	11.2
10	Struck - Unintentional	538	10.4

Total Injury Case Count: 24,531 Rate: 473.7

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