North Carolina Injury & Violence Prevention Branch

10 Leading Causes of Injury Deaths By Age Group* North Carolina Residents, 2022

ALL AGES

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Poisoning - Unintentional	4,199	39.3
2	Fall - Unintentional	1,846	17.3
3	MVT - Unintentional	1,796	16.8
4	Firearm - Self-Inflicted	993	9.3
5	Firearm - Assault	777	7.3
6	Suffocation - Self-Inflicted	331	3.1
7	Suffocation - Unintentional	218	2.0
8	Poisoning - Self-Inflicted	195	1.8
9	Unspecified - Unintentional	165	1.5
10	Fire/Burn - Unintentional	138	1.3

Total Injury Case Count: 11,580 Rate: 108.3

INFANTS (<1)

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Suffocation - Unintentional	31	25.6
2	Suffocation - Undetermined	12	9.9
3	Unspecified - Assault	8	6.6¹
4	MVT - Unintentional	4	*
5	Other Specified - Assault	3	*
6	Fire/Burn - Unintentional	2	*
	Firearm - Assault	2	*
	Nat/Env - Unintentional	2	*
	Poisoning - Undetermined	2	*
7	Cut/Pierce - Assault	1	*

Total Injury Case Count: 70 Rate: 57.8

1-4 YEARS

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Drowning - Unintentional	14	2.9
2	MVT - Unintentional	13	2.7
3	Poisoning - Unintentional	7	1.5¹
	Suffocation - Unintentional	7	1.5¹
4	Nat/Env - Unintentional	6	1.2 ¹
	Unspecified - Assault	6	1.2 ¹
5	Firearm - Unintentional	5	1.0¹
	Pedestrian - Unintentional	5	1.0¹
6	Firearm - Assault	4	*
7	Other Specified - Assault	3	*

Total Injury Case Count: 83 Rate: 17.3

5 - 14 YEARS

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	MVT - Unintentional	35	2.7
2	Drowning - Unintentional	12	0.9
	Firearm - Assault	12	0.9
3	Suffocation - Self-Inflicted	9	0.7¹
4	Firearm - Self-Inflicted	8	0.6¹
5	Other Land Trans - Unintentional	4	*
	Suffocation - Unintentional	4	*
6	Fire/Burn - Unintentional	3	*
	Poisoning - Unintentional	3	*
7	Firearm - Unintentional	2	*

Total Injury Case Count: 104 Rate: 8.0

^{*} 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



Note: Leading causes do not sum to the total number of injuries.

Data Source: State Center for Health Statistics, Death Certificate Data, 2022

Analysis conducted by the NCDHHS, DPH, Injury Epidemiology, Surveillance & Informatics Unit. Date of analysis: 27 December 2024

For more information on these data, go to the Injury Surveillance Technical Notes Document: $\label{local_notes} $$ https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/DataSurveillance/Technical-Notes.pdf $$$

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North Carolina Injury & Violence Prevention Branch

10 Leading Causes of Injury Deaths By Age Group* North Carolina Residents, 2022

15 - 24 YEARS

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Poisoning - Unintentional	302	21.1
2	MVT - Unintentional	278	19.4
3	Firearm - Assault	250	17.5
4	Firearm - Self-Inflicted	124	8.7
5	Suffocation - Self-Inflicted	54	3.8
6	Poisoning - Self-Inflicted	22	1.5
7	Drowning - Unintentional	13	0.9
8	Firearm - Legal/War	9	0.6¹
9	Firearm - Unintentional	8	0.6¹
10	Other Specified - Unintentional	7	0.5¹

Total Injury Case Count: 1,125 Rate: 78.7

25 - 44 YEARS

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Poisoning - Unintentional	2,248	80.4
2	MVT - Unintentional	587	21.0
3	Firearm - Assault	358	12.8
4	Firearm - Self-Inflicted	281	10.0
5	Suffocation - Self-Inflicted	155	5.5
6	Poisoning - Self-Inflicted	54	1.9
7	Drowning - Unintentional	39	1.4
8	Fall - Unintentional	34	1.2
9	Cut/Pierce - Assault	20	0.7
10	Fire/Burn - Unintentional	17	0.6

Total Injury Case Count: 4,010 Rate: 143.4

45 - 64 YEARS

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Poisoning - Unintentional	1,489	54.7
2	MVT - Unintentional	490	18.0
3	Firearm - Self-Inflicted	302	11.1
4	Fall - Unintentional	185	6.8
5	Firearm - Assault	127	4.7
6	Suffocation - Self-Inflicted	87	3.2
7	Poisoning - Self-Inflicted	75	2.8
8	Fire/Burn - Unintentional	44	1.6
9	Drowning - Unintentional	33	1.2
	Suffocation - Unintentional	33	1.2

Total Injury Case Count: 3,119 Rate: 114.7

AGES 65 & OVER

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Fall - Unintentional	1,623	88.1
2	MVT - Unintentional	389	21.1
3	Firearm - Self-Inflicted	278	15.1
4	Poisoning - Unintentional	149	8.1
5	Suffocation - Unintentional	130	7.1
6	Unspecified - Unintentional	126	6.8
7	Fire/Burn - Unintentional	69	3.7
8	Poisoning - Self-Inflicted	44	2.4
9	Nat/Env - Unintentional	33	1.8
10	Other-NEC - Unintentional	31	1.7

Total Injury Case Count: 3,069 Rate: 166.6

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Note: Leading causes do not sum to the total number of injuries.

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North Carolina Injury & Violence Prevention Branch

10 Leading Causes of Injury Deaths By Race/Ethnicity* North Carolina Residents, 2022

NON-HISPANIC WHITE

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Poisoning - Unintentional	2,806	43.0
2	Fall - Unintentional	1,576	24.1
3	MVT - Unintentional	1,027	15.7
4	Firearm - Self-Inflicted	792	12.1
5	Suffocation - Self-Inflicted	238	3.6
6	Poisoning - Self-Inflicted	162	2.5
7	Suffocation - Unintentional	145	2.2
8	Firearm - Assault	142	2.2
9	Unspecified - Unintentional	127	1.9
10	Fire/Burn - Unintentional	88	1.3

Total Injury Case Count: 7,638 Rate: 117.0

NON-HISPANIC BLACK

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Poisoning - Unintentional	1,008	44.7
2	Firearm - Assault	531	23.6
3	MVT - Unintentional	517	22.9
4	Fall - Unintentional	185	8.2
5	Firearm - Self-Inflicted	130	5.8
6	Suffocation - Unintentional	56	2.5
7	Fire/Burn - Unintentional	42	1.9
8	Drowning - Unintentional	37	1.6
9	Suffocation - Self-Inflicted	35	1.6
10	Nat/Env - Unintentional	31	1.4

Total Injury Case Count: 2,827 Rate: 125.5

NON-HISPANIC AMERICAN INDIAN

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Poisoning - Unintentional	121	109.4
2	MVT - Unintentional	54	48.8
3	Firearm - Assault	23	20.8
4	Firearm - Self-Inflicted	13	11.7
5	Fall - Unintentional	8	7.2 ¹
6	Cut/Pierce - Assault	4	*
	Poisoning - Self-Inflicted	4	*
	Suffocation - Self-Inflicted	4	*
	Suffocation - Unintentional	4	*
7	Drowning - Unintentional	3	*

Total Injury Case Count: 250 Rate: 225.9

NON-HISPANIC ASIAN

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Fall - Unintentional	23	6.2
	Poisoning - Unintentional	23	6.2
2	MVT - Unintentional	16	4.3
3	Suffocation - Self-Inflicted	13	3.5
4	Firearm - Self-Inflicted	10	2.7
5	Firearm - Assault	4	*
6	Drowning - Self-Inflicted	2	*
	Drowning - Unintentional	2	*
7	Cut/Pierce - Self-Inflicted	1	*
	Fall - Self-Inflicted	1	*

Total Injury Case Count: 100 Rate: 26.8

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Caution – race classifications changed in July 2020 for all data years Note: Leading causes do not sum to the total number of injuries.

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

10 Leading Causes of Injury Deaths By Race/Ethnicity & Gender* North Carolina Residents, 2022

HISPANIC

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Poisoning - Unintentional	215	18.7
2	MVT - Unintentional	174	15.1
3	Firearm - Assault	71	6.2
4	Fall - Unintentional	41	3.6
5	Firearm - Self-Inflicted	38	3.3
6	Suffocation - Self-Inflicted	35	3.0
7	Drowning - Unintentional	17	1.5
8	Suffocation - Unintentional	9	0.8 ¹
	Unspecified - Assault	9	0.8 ¹
9	Fire/Burn - Unintentional	8	0.71

Total Injury Case Count: 683 Rate: 59.3

FEMALE

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Poisoning - Unintentional	1,271	23.3
2	Fall - Unintentional	946	17.3
3	MVT - Unintentional	509	9.3
4	Firearm - Self-Inflicted	156	2.9
5	Firearm - Assault	132	2.4
6	Poisoning - Self-Inflicted	104	1.9
7	Suffocation - Unintentional	95	1.7
8	Unspecified - Unintentional	79	1.4
9	Suffocation - Self-Inflicted	62	1.1
10	Fire/Burn - Unintentional	46	0.8

Total Injury Case Count: 3,646 Rate: 66.7

MALE

Rank	Cause	Count	Rate
1	Poisoning - Unintentional	2,928	56.0
2	MVT - Unintentional	1,287	24.6
3	Fall - Unintentional	900	17.2
4	Firearm - Self-Inflicted	837	16.0
5	Firearm - Assault	645	12.3
6	Suffocation - Self-Inflicted	269	5.1
7	Suffocation - Unintentional	123	2.4
8	Drowning - Unintentional	102	2.0
9	Fire/Burn - Unintentional	92	1.8
10	Poisoning - Self-Inflicted	91	1.7

Total Injury Case Count: 7,934 Rate: 151.7

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