

| 2021 | Injuries Data Brief



Key Findings from 2019 Guilford County Injury Data

A note on data in this report: The processing requirements of birth and death certificate records results in a delay in public availability of the data.

- In 2019, the overall leading cause of injury deaths was unintentional poisoning, followed by unintentional falls, motor vehicle injury deaths, homicide and suicide.
- Unintentional poisoning deaths (131 in 2019) were due primarily to adverse reactions to prescription and non-prescription use of opioid drugs.
- Death rates due to motor vehicle crashes, which stayed the same between 2017 and 2018, increased slightly in 2019.
- Mortality rates due to non-motor vehicle-related injuries in Guilford County and North Carolina continued to increase.
- Homicide deaths have been on the increase since 2009. Those most at risk of homicide are African American males ages 20-39.
- While suicide deaths increased in both 2017 and 2018, they declined in 2019.
- Firearms were used in most suicides and homicides.
- Opioid overdose Emergency Department visits increased between 2019 and 2020, from 257 to 348.

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For more information about Guilford County health statistics, visit:
www.guilfordcountync.gov/our-county/human-services/health-department/health-statistics.

Leading Causes of Injury Mortality and Rates per 100,000 Guilford County, 2015-2019

All Residents

Injury Type	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Motor Vehicle Injury	53	10.2	57	10.9	71	13.4	72	13.5	74	13.8
Unintentional Falls	77	14.9	83	15.8	67	12.7	84	15.7	102	19.0
Suicide, Self-Inflicted Injury	71	13.7	60	11.4	63	11.9	69	12.9	58	10.8
Homicide	39	7.5	44	8.4	51	9.6	51	9.6	62	11.5
Unintentional Poisoning	62	12.0	95	18.1	118	22.3	113	21.2	131	24.4
Unintentional Death by Fire	1	0.2	5	1.0	2	0.4	8	1.5	7	1.3
Guilford County Population	517,414		525,055		529,496		533,670		537,174	

Source: North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health. State Center for Health Statistics.

Leading Causes of Injury Mortality and Rates per 100,000 by Sex Guilford County, 2015-2019

Female Residents

Injury Type	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Motor Vehicle Injury	14	5.1	19	6.9	18	6.5	23	8.2	22	7.8
Unintentional Falls	47	17.3	50	18.1	34	12.2	43	15.3	54	19.1
Suicide, Self-Inflicted Injury	15	5.5	18	6.5	13	4.7	15	5.3	13	4.6
Homicide	7	2.6	6	2.2	10	3.6	9	3.2	10	3.5
Unintentional Poisoning	17	6.2	29	10.5	36	12.9	38	13.5	52	18.5
Unintentional Death by Fire	1	0.4	3	1.1	0	0.0	4	1.4	4	1.4
Female Population	272,096		276,311		278,877		280,983		282,962	

Male Residents

Injury Type	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Motor Vehicle Injury	39	15.9	38	15.3	53	21.1	49	19.4	52	20.5
Unintentional Falls	30	12.2	33	13.3	33	13.2	41	16.2	48	18.9
Suicide, Self-Inflicted Injury	56	22.8	42	16.9	50	20.0	54	21.4	45	17.7
Homicide	32	13.0	38	15.3	41	16.4	42	16.6	52	20.5
Unintentional Poisoning	459.00	18.3	66	26.5	82	32.7	75	29.7	79	31.1
Unintentional Death by Fire	0	0.00	2	0.8	2	0.8	4	1.6	3	1.2
Male Population	245,414		248,744		250,619		252,687		254,212	

Source: North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health. State Center for Health Statistics.

Leading Causes of Injury Mortality and Rates per 100,000, by Race Guilford County, 2015-2019

White Residents

Injury Type	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Motor Vehicle Injury	32	10.5	33	10.8	31	10.1	31	10.2	35	11.4
Unintentional Falls	66	21.8	74	24.2	56	18.3	71	23.2	93	30.4
Suicide, Self-Inflicted Injury	62	20.4	53	17.4	50	16.4	55	18.0	44	14.4
Homicide	6	2.0	6	2.0	8	2.6	10	3.3	6	2.0
Unintentional Poisoning	46	15.2	72	23.6	96	31.4	91	29.8	95	31.0
Unintentional Death by Fire	1	0.3	4	1.3	2	0.7	2	0.6	5	1.6
Population	303,419		305,425		305,444		305,332		306,101	

African American Residents

Injury Type	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Motor Vehicle Injury	18	9.8	19	10.1	30	15.7	31	16.0	36	18.3
Unintentional Falls	9	4.9	9	4.8	9	4.7	11	5.7	8	4.1
Suicide, Self-Inflicted Injury	5	2.7	4	2.1	11	5.8	12	6.2	10	5.1
Homicide	29	15.8	34	18.1	42	22.0	40	20.6	54	27.5
Unintentional Poisoning	11	6.0	21	11.2	18	9.4	21	10.8	31	15.8
Unintentional Death by Fire	0	0.0	1	0.5	0	0.0	6	3.1	2	1.0
Population	183,433		187,728		190,736		193,628		196,492	

Asian and Hispanic Residents, 2019

Injury Type	Asian	Hispanic
	Number	Number
Motor Vehicle Injury	2	5
Unintentional Falls	0	2
Suicide, Self-Inflicted Injury	1	4
Homicide and Intentional Injury	1	3
Unintentional Poisoning	0	6
Unintentional Death by Fire	0	0

Note: Rate not calculated for Asian and Hispanic residents due to small numbers.

Source: North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health. State Center for Health Statistics.

Detailed External Injury Causes of Mortality, 2019

ICD-10 Cause of Death Codes	Cause of Death Description	Number of Deaths
Deaths due to Motor Vehicle and other Transport-Related Injuries		
V00-V99	Transport Accidents	77
V00-V09	Pedestrian injured in transport accident	20
V20-V29	Motorcycle rider injured in transport accident	8
V40-V49	Car occupant injured in transport accident	3
V60-V69	Occupant of heavy transport vehicle injured in transport accident	3
V80-V89	Other land transport accidents	43
Deaths due to Falls		
W00-W19	Deaths due to Falls	102
W01	Fall from slipping, tripping or stumbling	4
W05	Fall from non-moving wheelchair or mobility scooter	1
W06	Fall from bed	7
W07	Fall from chair	1
W10	Fall from stairs or steps	6
W11	Fall from ladder	1
W13	Fall from building or structure	2
W17	Fall from one level to another	1
W18	Other slipping, tripping, stumbling and falls	23
W19	Unspecified fall	56
Exposure to Inanimate Mechanical Forces		
W25	Contact with sharp glass	1
W30	Contact with agricultural machinery	2
Deaths Due to Drowning and other Unintentional Threats to Breathing		
W65	Accidental drowning and submersion while in bathtub	1
W67	Accidental drowning and submersion while in swimming pool	1
W69	Accidental drowning and submersion while in natural water	4
W75	Accidental suffocation and strangulation in bed	1
W79	Inhalation and ingestion of food causing obstruction of respiratory tract	3
W80	Inhalation and ingestion of other objects causing obstruction of respiratory tract	8
Exposure to Smoke, Fire and Flames		
X00	Exposure to uncontrolled fire in building or structure	7
Exposure to Forces of Nature		
X30	Exposure to excessive natural heat	1
X31	Exposure to excessive natural cold	2

ICD-10 Cause of Death Codes	Cause of Death Description	Number of Deaths
Deaths due to Unintentional Poisoning by and Exposure to Noxious Substances		
X40-X49	Accidental poisoning by and exposure to noxious substances	131
X40	Accidental poisoning by and exposure to nonopioid analgesics, antipyretics and antirheumatics	1
X41	Accidental poisoning by and exposure to antiepileptic, sedative-hypnotic, anti-parkinsonism and psychotropic drugs	2
X42	Accidental poisoning by and exposure to narcotics and psychodysleptics [hallucinogens], Not Elsewhere Classified (NEC)	69
X44	Accidental poisoning by and exposure to other and unspecified drugs, medicaments and biological substances	55
X45	Accidental poisoning by and exposure to alcohol	2
X47	Accidental poisoning by and exposure to other gases and vapors	1
X49	Accidental poisoning and exposure to other an unspecified chemicals and noxious substances	1
Deaths due to Suicide		
X60-X84	Intentional self-harm	58
X61	Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to antiepileptic, sedative-hypnotic, anti-Parkinson's and psychotropic drugs	1
X62	Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to narcotics and psychodysleptics [hallucinogens], NEC	1
X64	Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to other and unspecified drugs, medicaments and biological substances	4
X67	Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to other gases and vapors	4
X70	Intentional self-harm by hanging, strangulation and suffocation	12
X71	Intentional self-harm by drowning and submersion	1
X72	Intentional self-harm by handgun discharge	9
X73	Intentional self-harm by rifle, shotgun and larger	5
X74	Intentional self-harm by other and unspecified firearm and gun discharge	19
X78	Intentional self-harm by sharp object	2
Deaths due to Homicide		
X85-Y09	Assault	61
X91	Assault by hanging, strangulation and suffocation	1
X95	Assault by other and unspecified firearm discharge	49
X99	Assault by sharp object	6
Y03	Assault by crashing of motor vehicle	1
Y09	Assault by unspecified means	4
Y87.1	Sequelae of assault	1

Source: Detailed Mortality Statistics, North Carolina Residents, 2014, NC State Center for Health Statistics.

Opioid Drug Trends in Guilford County: Annual Data Trends: 2012-2020

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Heroin Overdose ED Visits ¹	36	70	191	107	156	291	173	176	150
Opioid Overdose ED Visits ¹	119	184	305	243	263	390	261	257	348
Heroin-Related ED Visits ¹	178	104	234	180	611	1,009	750	752	479
Opiate Poisoning Deaths ^{2,3}	32	17	42	47	71	99	98	114	NA
Heroin Poisoning Deaths ^{2,4}	9	9	25	23	40	29	40	44	NA
Synthetic Opioid Poisoning Deaths ^{2,5}	1	1	18	11	34	84	72	89	NA

¹Source: NC DETECT (NC Disease Event Tracking and Epidemiologic Collection Tool), Emergency Department data.

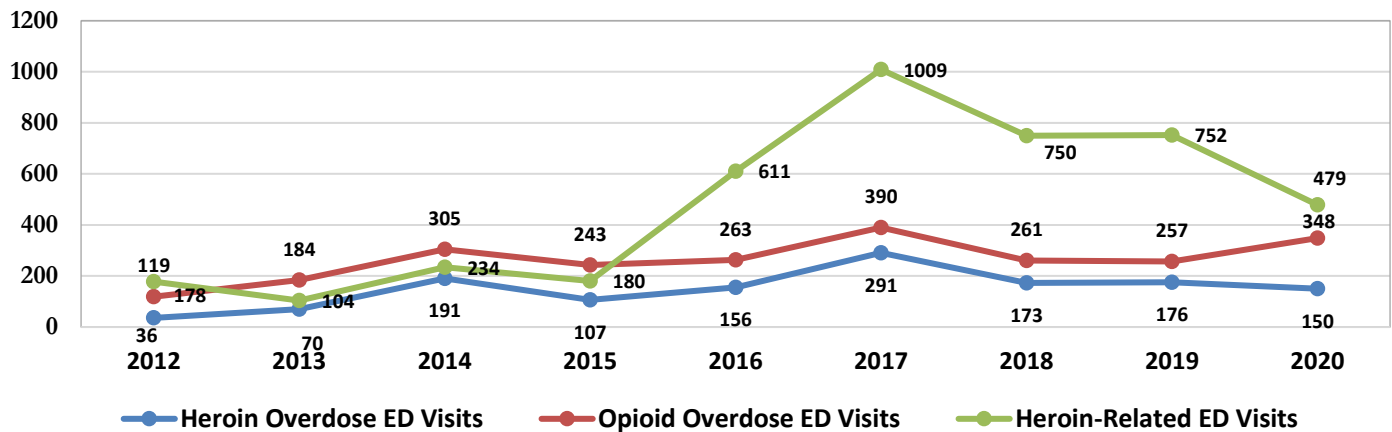
²Source: Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, NCDHHS.

³Cause of Death Codes used: Any mention (cod1-cod21) of T40.0 (Opium), T40.1 (Heroin), T40.2 (Other Opioids), T40.3 (Methadone) and/or T40.4 (Other synthetic opioid).

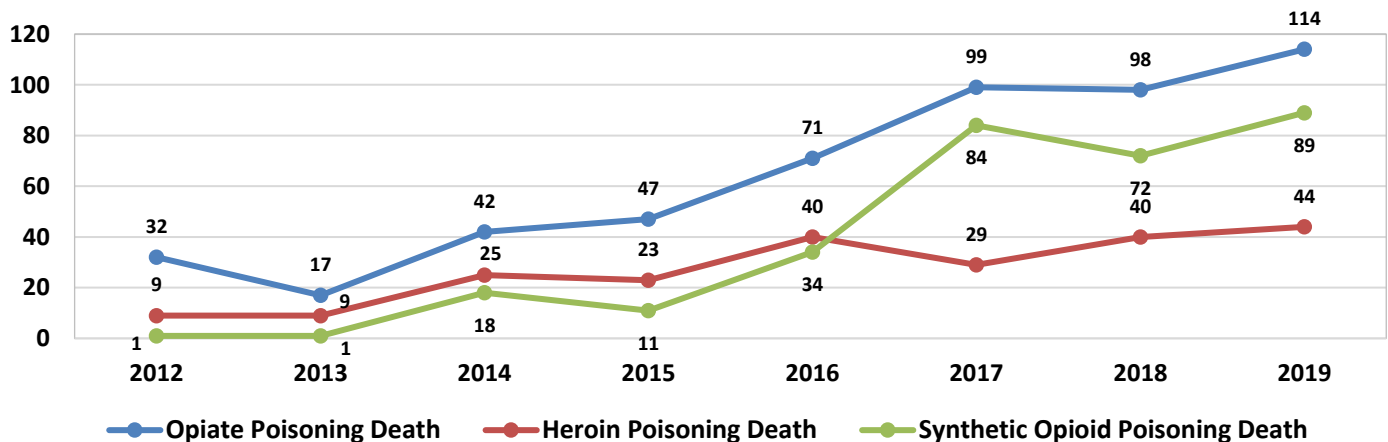
⁴Cause of Death Codes used: Any mention (cod1-cod21) of T40.1 (Heroin).

⁵Cause of Death Codes used: Any mention (cod1-cod21) of T40.4 (Other Synthetic Opioids).

Guilford County Emergency Department Visits by Overdose Type



Guilford County Overdose Deaths by Drug Type by Year



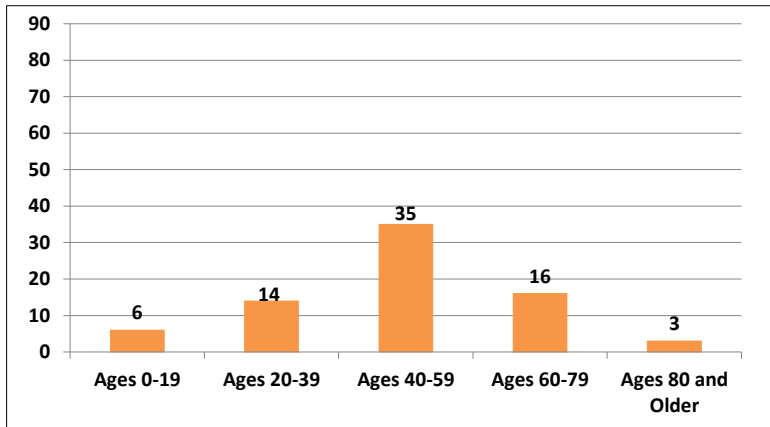
¹Source: NC DETECT (NC Disease Event Tracking and Epidemiologic Collection Tool).

Data prepared by the Guilford County Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health.

Injury Mortality by Age Group

Motor Vehicle Injury Deaths by Age Group Guilford County, 2019

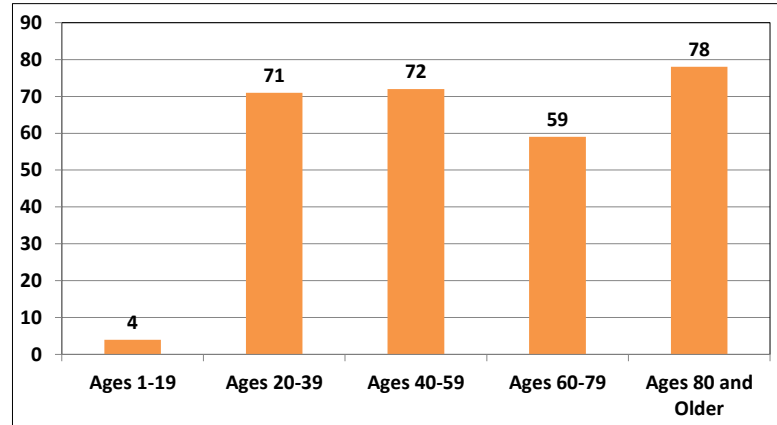
Number of Deaths



Source: Data provided by the NC Center for Health Statistics.
Chart prepared by the GCDHHS, Division of Public Health.

Unintentional Injury Deaths other than Motor Vehicle by Age Group Guilford County, 2019

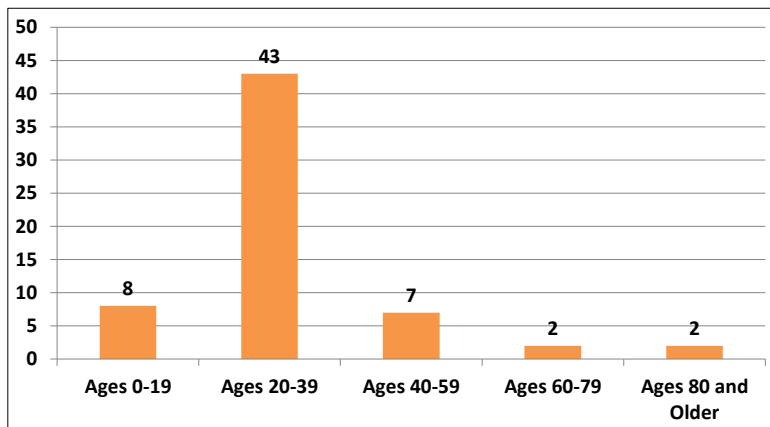
Number of Deaths



Source: Data provided by the NC Center for Health Statistics.
Chart prepared by the GCDHHS, Division of Public Health.

Homicide Deaths by Age Group Guilford County, 2019

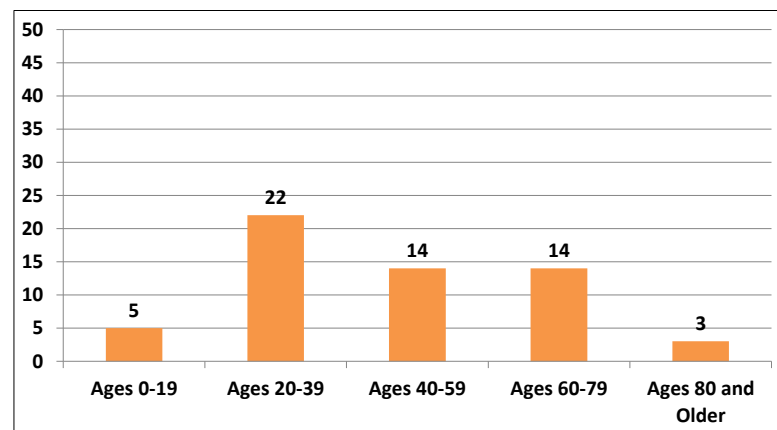
Number of Deaths



Source: Data provided by the NC Center for Health Statistics.
Chart prepared by the GCDHHS, Division of Public Health.

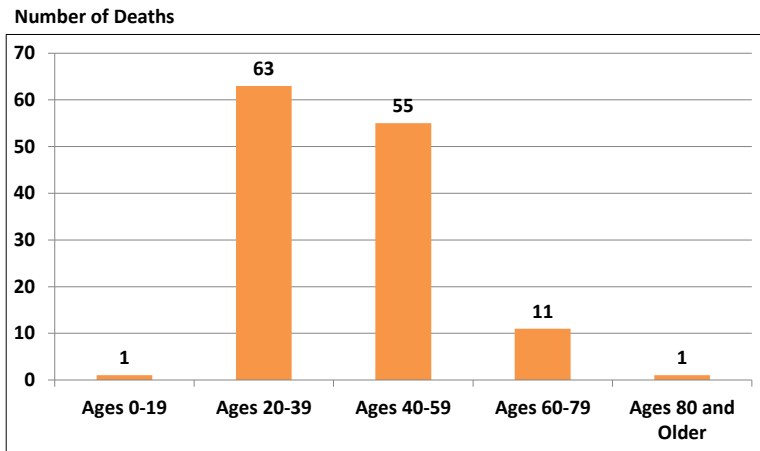
Suicide Deaths by Age Group Guilford County, 2019

Number of Deaths



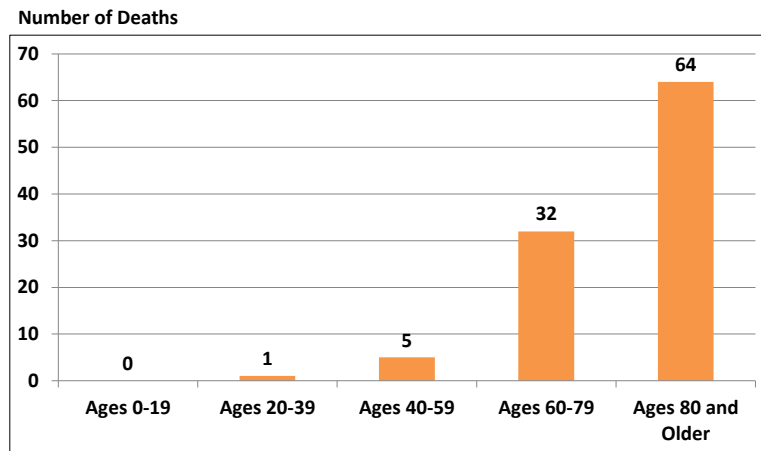
Source: Data provided by the NC Center for Health Statistics.
Chart prepared by the GCDHHS, Division of Public Health.

Unintentional Poisoning Deaths by Age Group Guilford County, 2019



Source: Data provided by the NC Center for Health Statistics.
Chart prepared by the GCDHHS, Division of Public Health.

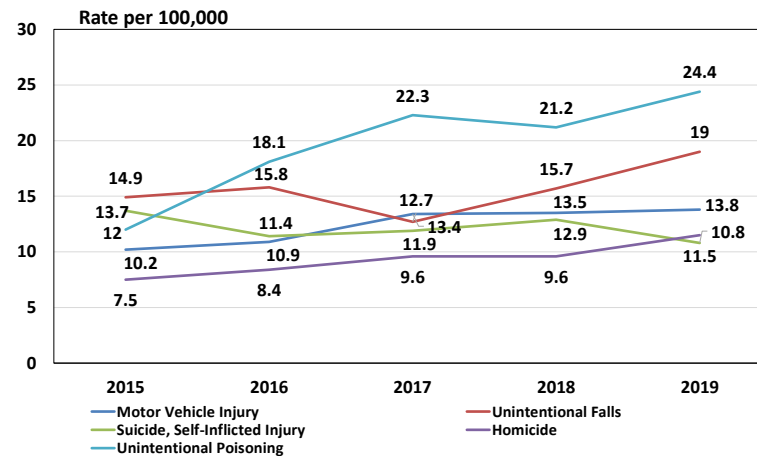
Deaths from Injuries due to Falls by Age Group, Guilford County, 2019



Source: Data provided by the NC Center for Health Statistics.
Chart prepared by the GCDHHS, Division of Public Health.

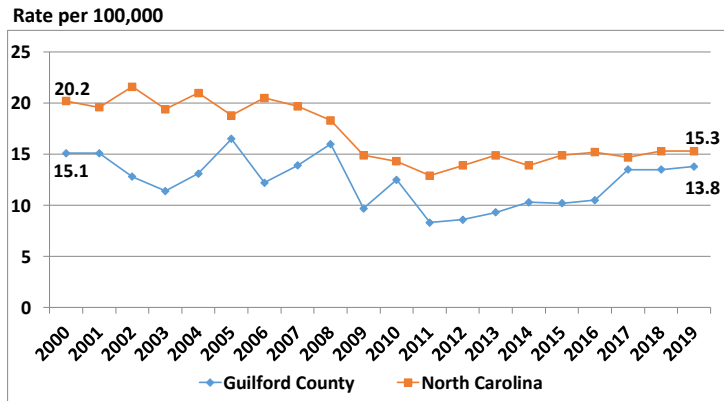
Injury Mortality Trends

Trends in Injury Mortality Guilford County, 2015-2019



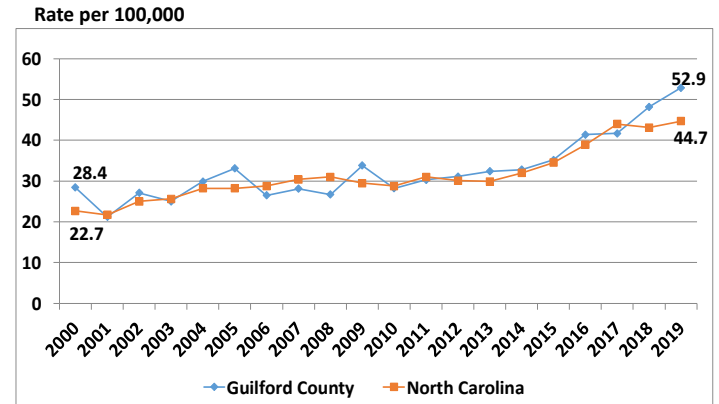
Notes: Rates not age-adjusted.
Source: Data provided by the NC Center for Health Statistics.
Chart prepared by the GCDHHS, Division of Public Health.

Motor Vehicle Injury Mortality Guilford County and NC, 2000-2019



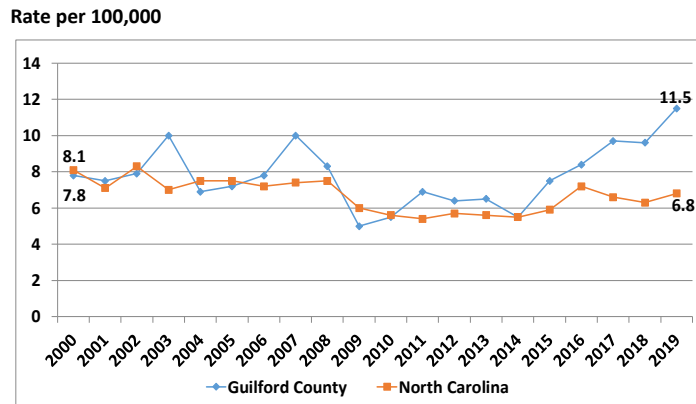
Note: Rates are not age-adjusted.
Source: Data provided by the NC Center for Health Statistics.
Chart prepared by the GCDHHS, Division of Public Health.

Mortality Due to Unintentional Injury other than Motor Vehicle Injury Guilford County and NC, 2000-2019



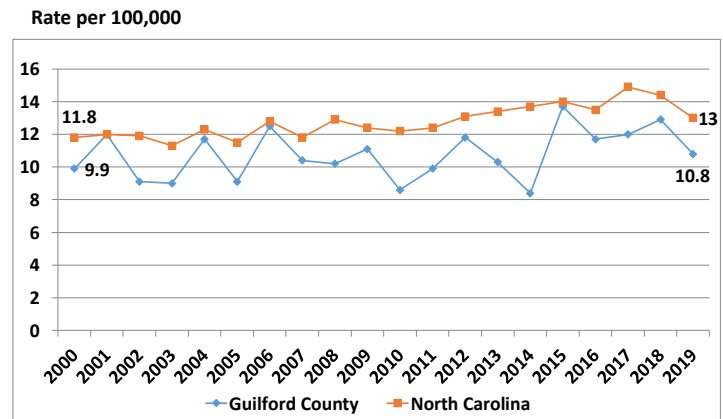
Note: Rates are not age-adjusted. This category of Unintentional Injury primarily includes unintentional poisonings, falls and other external causes of injury related deaths.
Source: Data provided by the NC Center for Health Statistics.
Chart prepared by the GCDHHS, Division of Public Health.

Homicide Mortality Guilford County and NC, 2000-2019



Note: Rates are not age-adjusted.
Source: Data provided by the NC Center for Health Statistics.
Chart prepared by the GCDHHS, Division of Public Health.

Suicide Mortality Guilford County and NC, 2000-2019



Note: Rates are not age-adjusted.
Source: Data provided by the NC Center for Health Statistics.
Chart prepared by the GCDHHS, Division of Public Health.