



NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

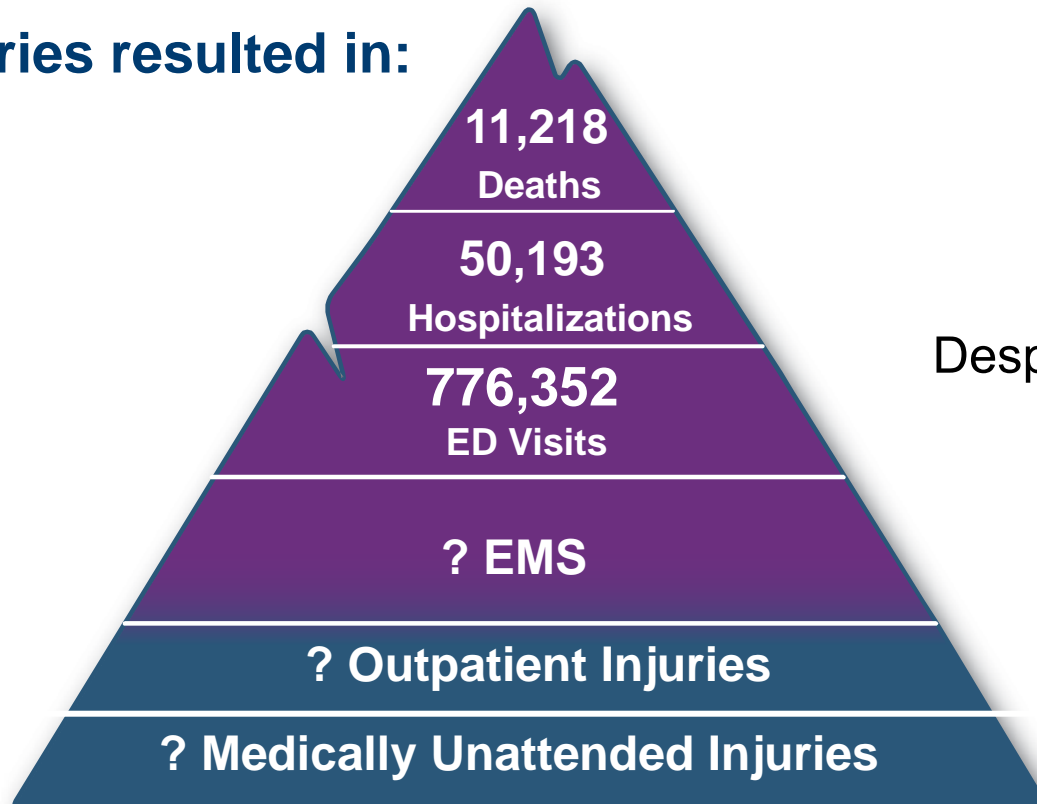
Leading Causes of Injury in North Carolina

Division of Public Health

Data updated: May 2, 2024

Injury deaths are just the tip of the iceberg.

In 2021, injuries resulted in:



Despite NC's extensive reporting systems, the ***total burden*** of injuries in the state is ***unknown.***

INJURY ICEBURG

Limited to NC Residents, 2021

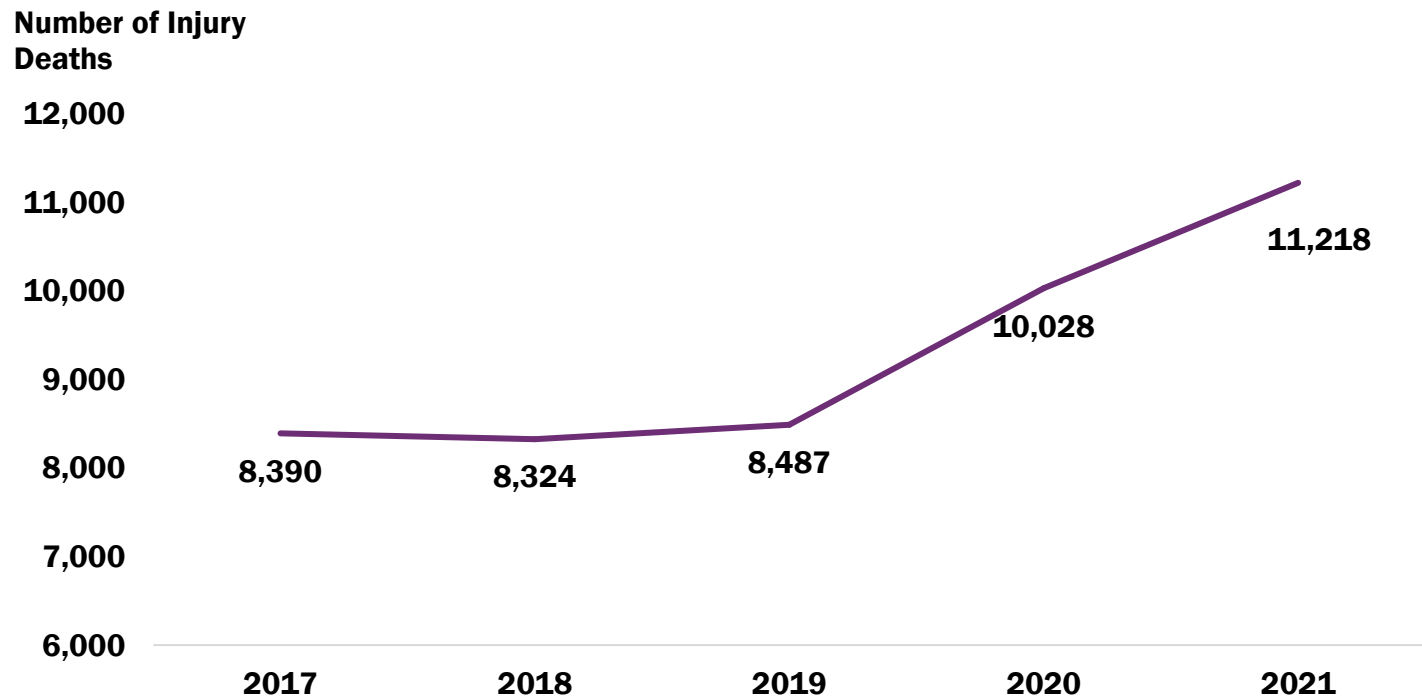
Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics, Vital Statistics Deaths (2021) and Hospital Discharge Data (2021); NC DETECT (2021)

Analysis by the DPH, Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, Injury Epidemiology, Surveillance and Informatics Unit

Injury Deaths

Overall injury deaths: NC Residents, 2017-2021

The total number of injury deaths has increased by 25% since 2017.



Data limited to NC residents, 2017-2021

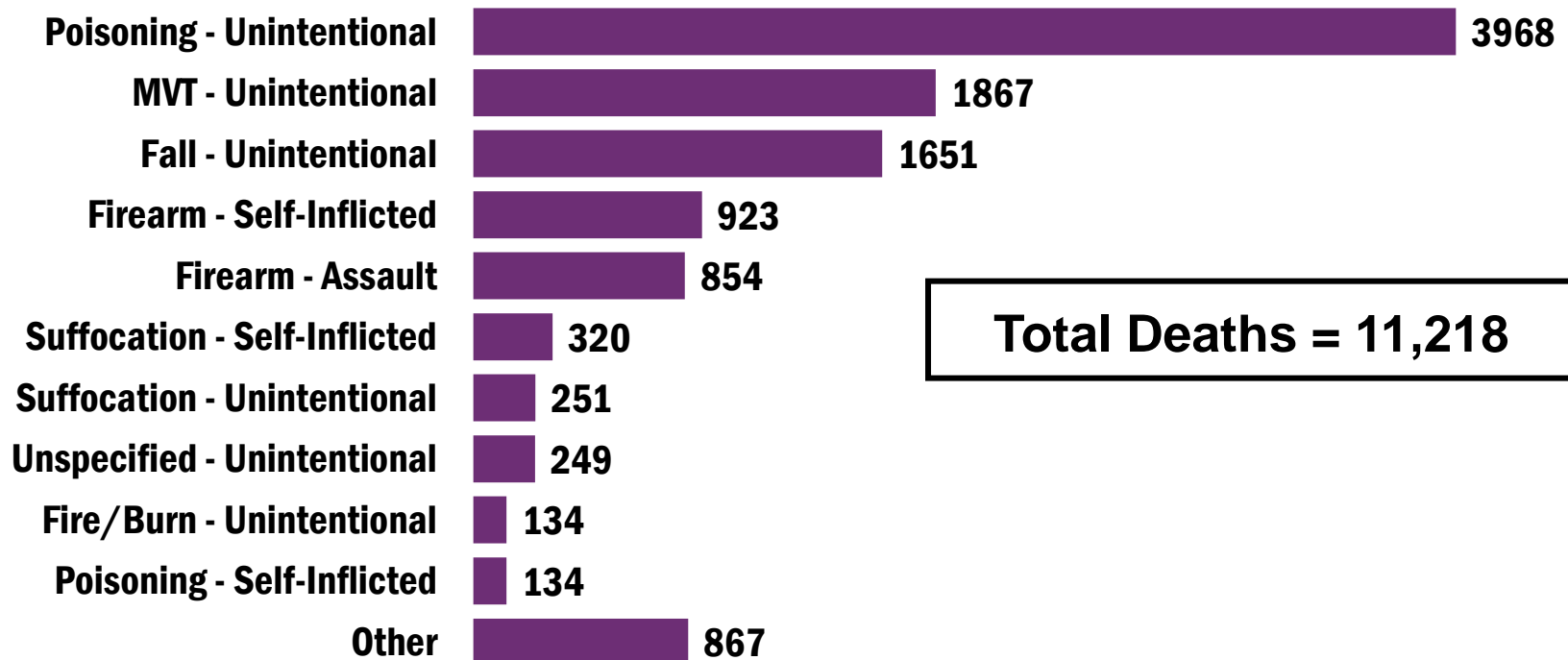
For more information on these data, see the Injury Surveillance Technical Notes: <https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/DataSurveillance/Technical-Notes.pdf>

Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics, Vital Statistics Deaths (2017-2021)

Analysis by the DPH, Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, Injury Epidemiology, Surveillance and Informatics Unit

Leading cause of injury death: NC Residents, 2021

The leading cause of injury death in 2021 was unintentional poisoning.



Unintentional poisoning includes both medication/drug overdoses and non-drug poisonings

MVT = Motor Vehicle Traffic

Data limited to NC residents, 2021

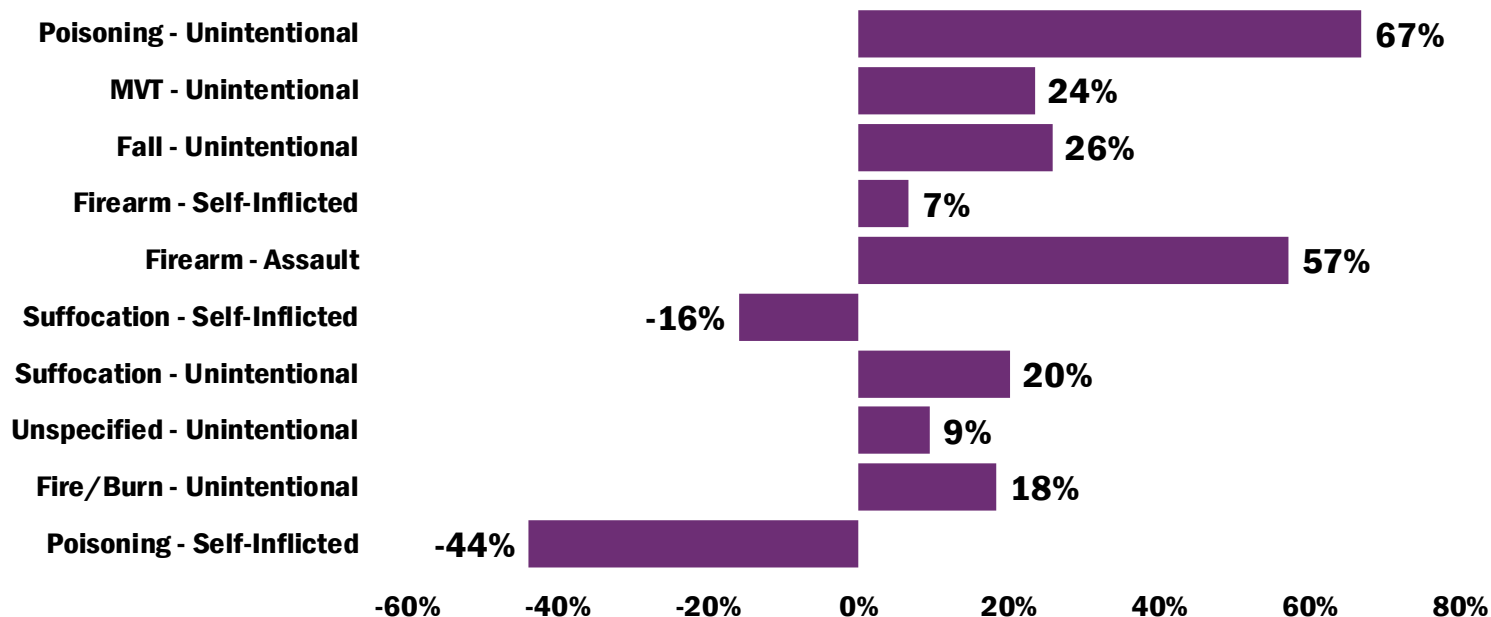
For more information on these data, see the Injury Surveillance Technical Notes: <https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/DataSurveillance/Technical-Notes.pdf>

Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics, Vital Statistics Deaths (2020)

Analysis by the DPH, Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, Injury Epidemiology, Surveillance and Informatics Unit

Percent change in leading NC injury death rates 2017-2021, NC Residents

Unintentional poisoning had the largest five-year increase.



MVT = Motor Vehicle Traffic

Data limited to NC residents, 2017 & 2021

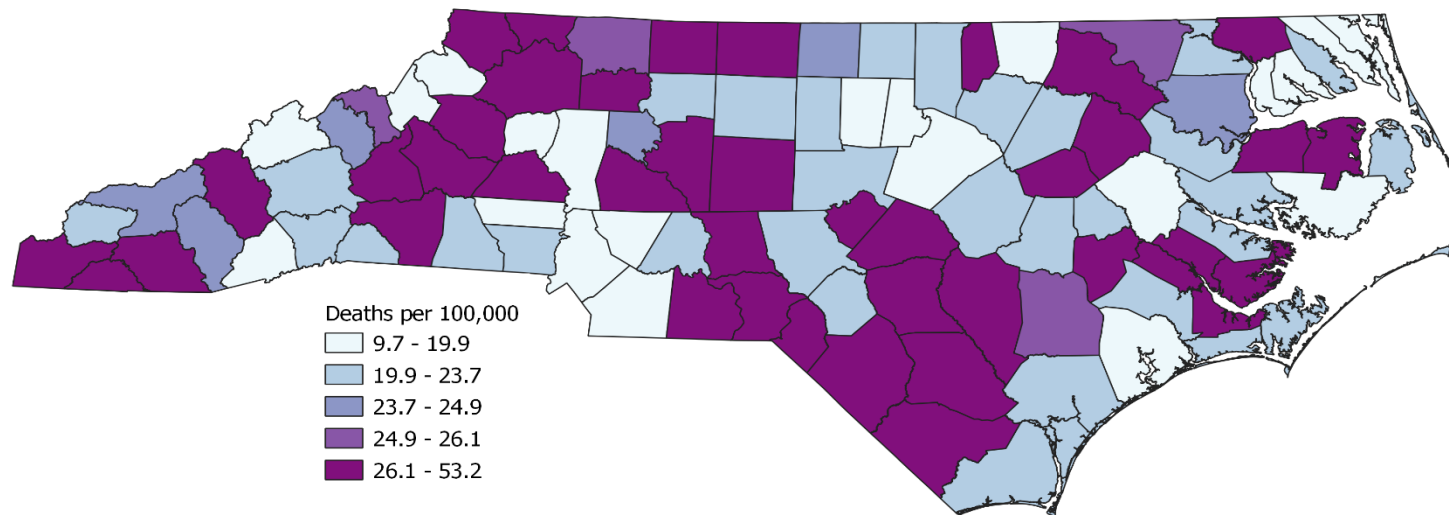
For more information on these data, see the Injury Surveillance Technical Notes: <https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/DataSurveillance/Technical-Notes.pdf>

Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics, Vital Statistics Deaths (2017 & 2021)

Analysis by the DPH, Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, Injury Epidemiology, Surveillance and Informatics Unit

Injury Death Rates Among NC Residents, 2017-2021

Statewide, the rate of injury deaths from 2017-2021 was 22.6 per 100,000 people.



Data limited to NC residents, 2017-2021

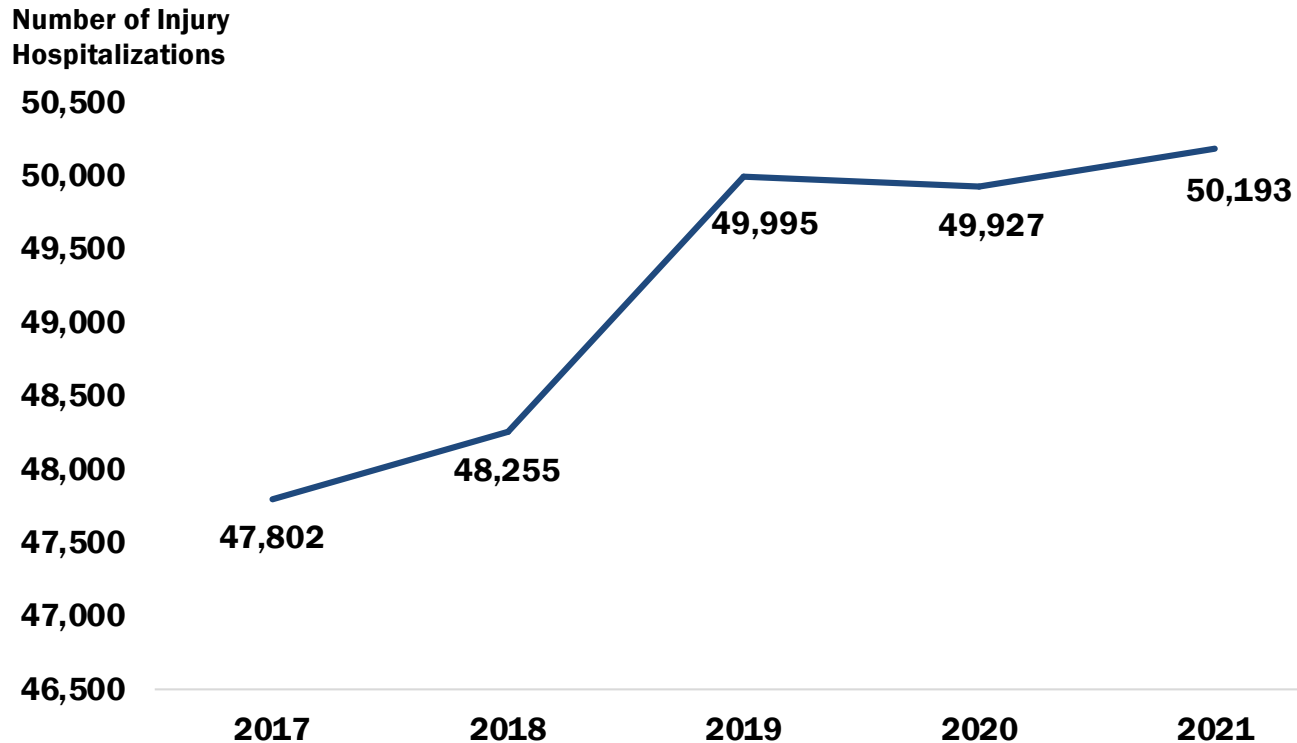
Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics, Vital Statistics Deaths (2017-2021)

Analysis by the DPH, Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, Injury Epidemiology, Surveillance and Informatics Unit

Injury Hospitalizations

Overall injury hospitalizations: NC Residents, 2017-2021

The total number of injury hospitalizations has increased by 5% since 2017.



Data limited to NC residents, 2017-2021

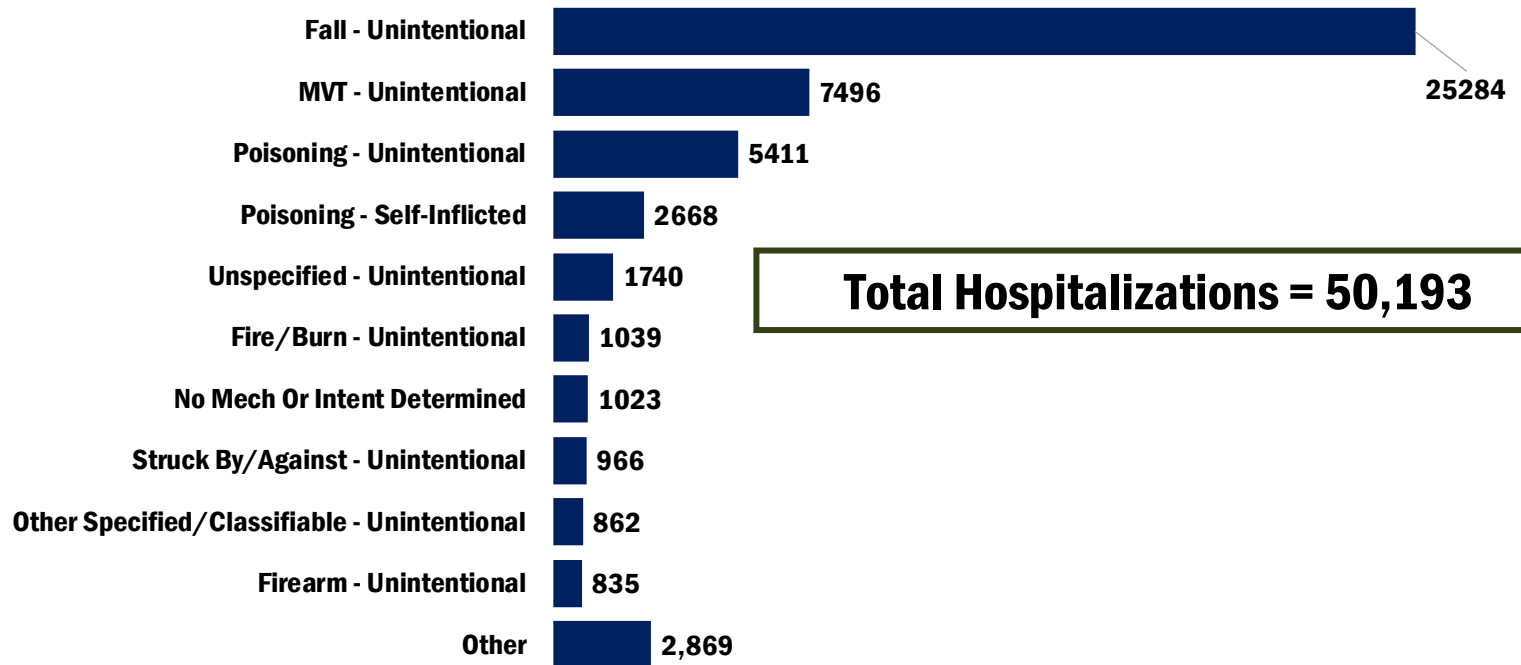
For more information on these data, see the Injury Surveillance Technical Notes: <https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/DataSurveillance/Technical-Notes.pdf>

Source: Hospitalization Discharge Data (2017-2021)

Analysis by the DPH, Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, Injury Epidemiology, Surveillance and Informatics Unit

Leading cause of injury hospitalization: NC Residents, 2021

The leading cause of injury hospitalization in 2021 was unintentional fall.



Unintentional poisoning includes both medication/drug overdoses and non-drug poisonings

MVT = Motor Vehicle Traffic

Data limited to NC residents, 2021

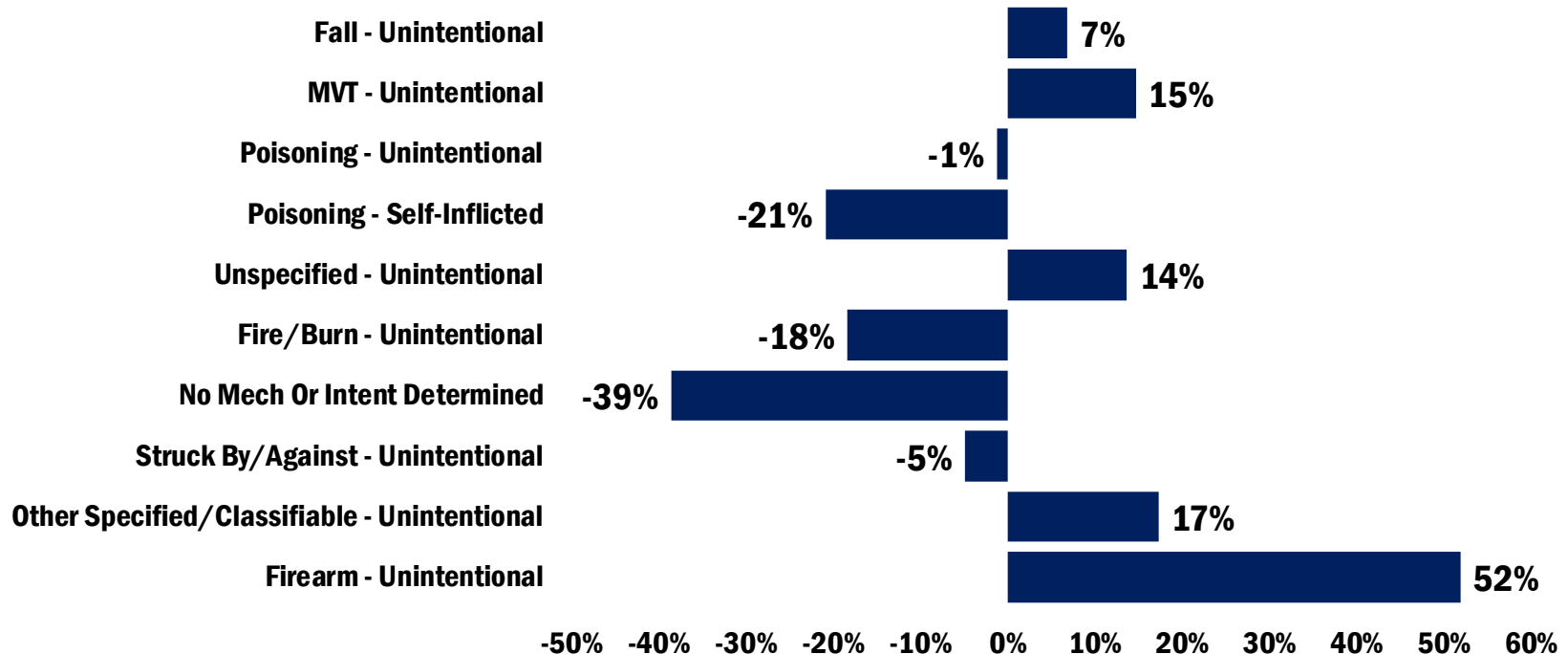
For more information on these data, see the Injury Surveillance Technical Notes: <https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/DataSurveillance/Technical-Notes.pdf>

Source: Hospital Discharge Data (2021)

Analysis by the DPH, Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, Injury Epidemiology, Surveillance and Informatics Unit

Percent change in leading NC injury hospitalization rates between 2017 and 2021, NC Residents

Unintentional - firearm injuries had the largest five-year increase.



MVT = Motor Vehicle Traffic

Data limited to NC residents, 2021

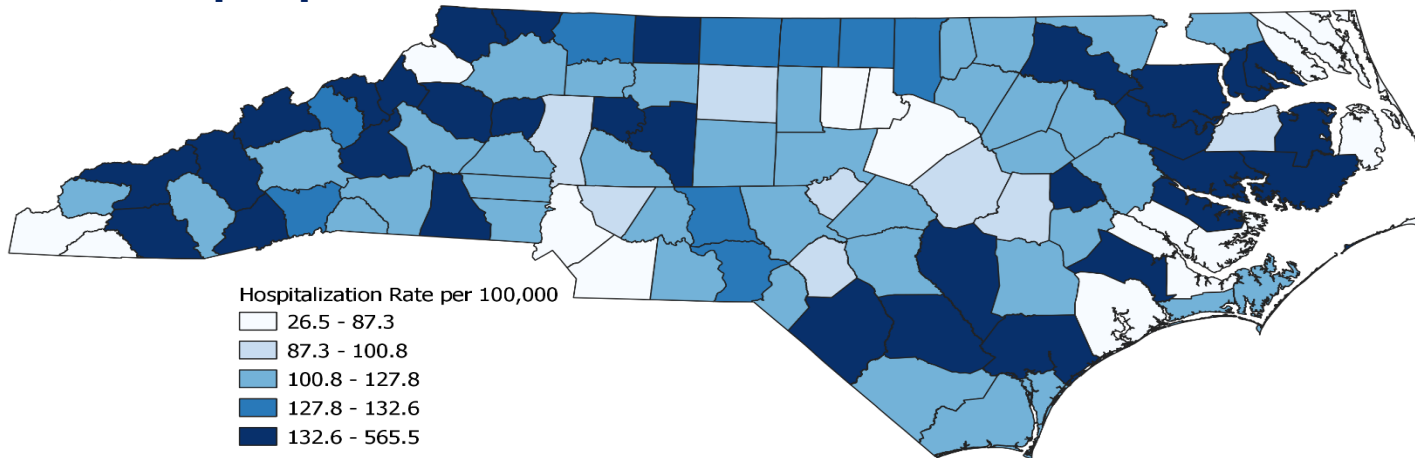
For more information on these data, see the Injury Surveillance Technical Notes: <https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/DataSurveillance/Technical-Notes.pdf>

Source: Hospital Discharge Data (2017 & 2021)

Analysis by the DPH, Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, Injury Epidemiology, Surveillance and Informatics Unit

Injury Hospitalization Rates Among NC Residents, 2017-2021

Statewide, the rate of injury hospitalizations from 2017-2021 was 103.3 per 100,000 people.



Data limited to NC Residents, 2017-2021

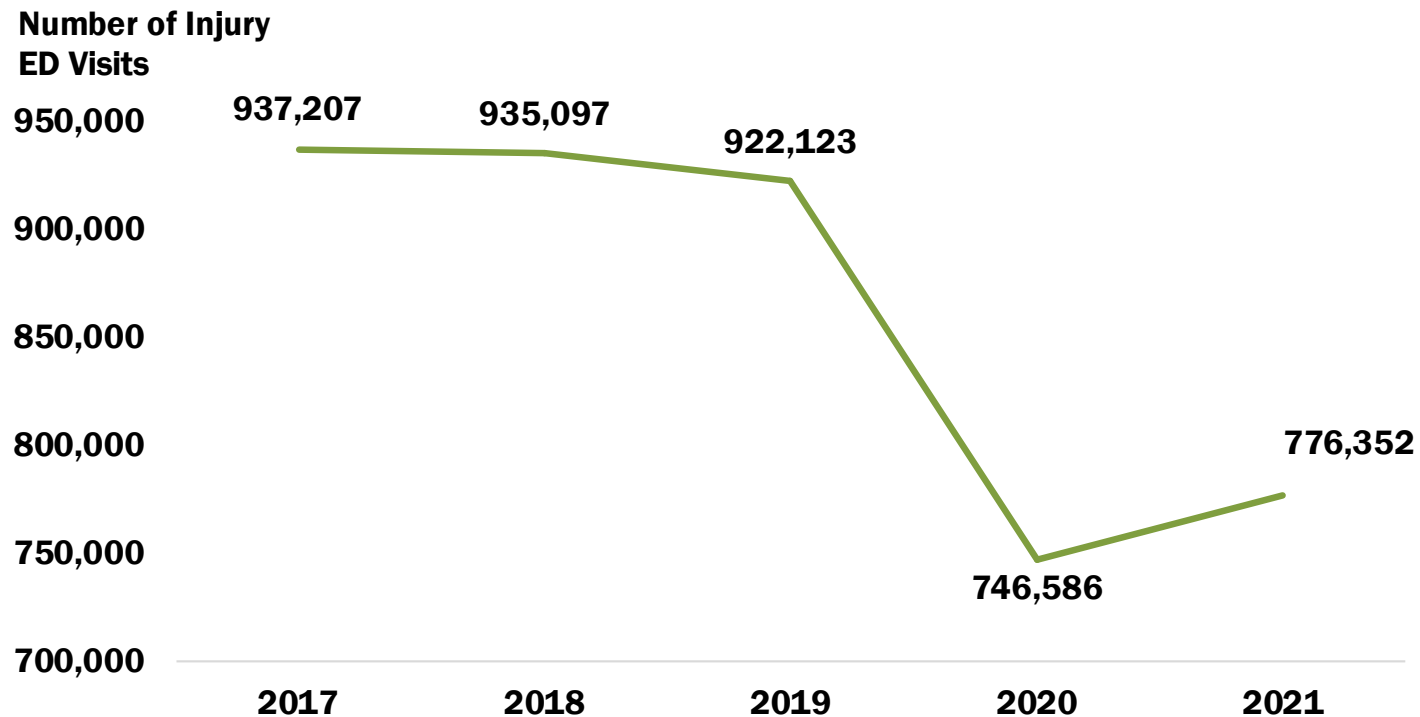
Source: Hospital Discharge Data (2017-2021)

Analysis by the DPH, Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, Injury Epidemiology, Surveillance and Informatics Unit

Injury Emergency Department (ED) Visits

Overall injury ED Visits: NC Residents, 2017-2021

The total number of injury ED visits decreased 21% since 2017.



Data limited to NC residents, 2017-2021

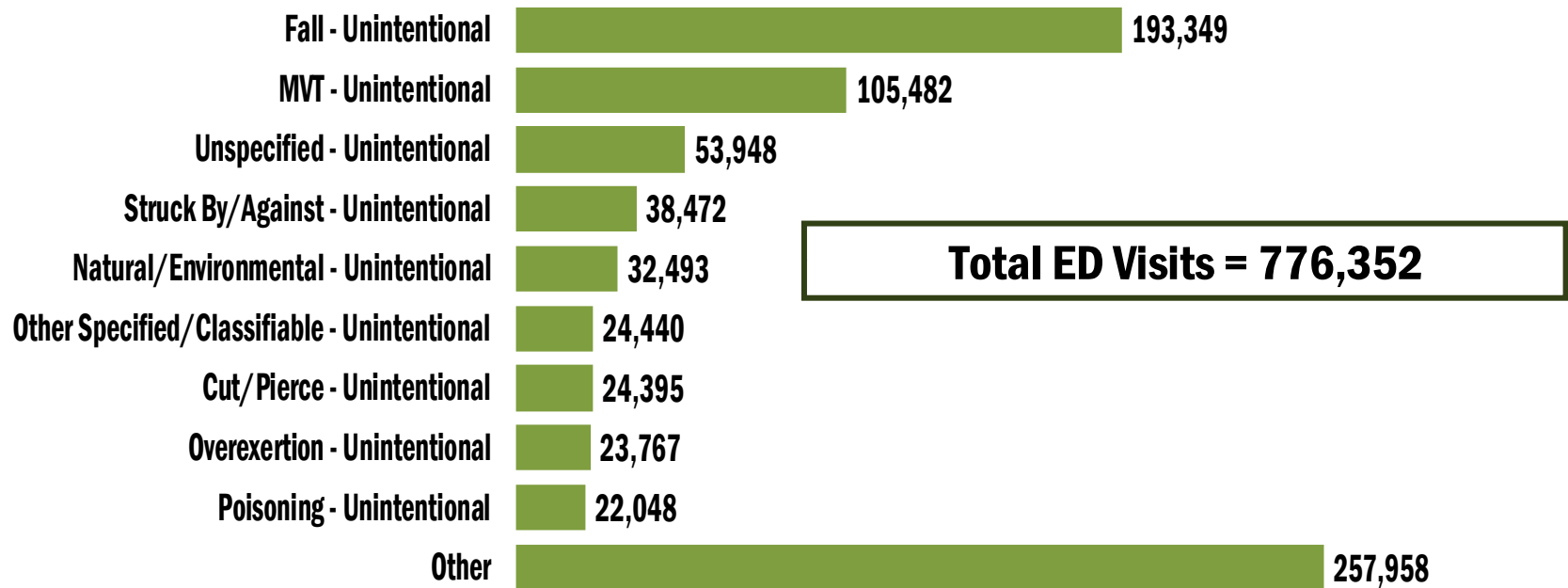
For more information on these data, see the Injury Surveillance Technical Notes: <https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/DataSurveillance/Technical-Notes.pdf>

Source: NC DETECT, 2017-2021

Analysis by the DPH, Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, Injury Epidemiology, Surveillance and Informatics Unit

Leading Cause of injury ED visits: NC Residents, 2021

The leading cause of injury emergency department visits in 2020 was unintentional fall.



Data limited to NC residents, 2021

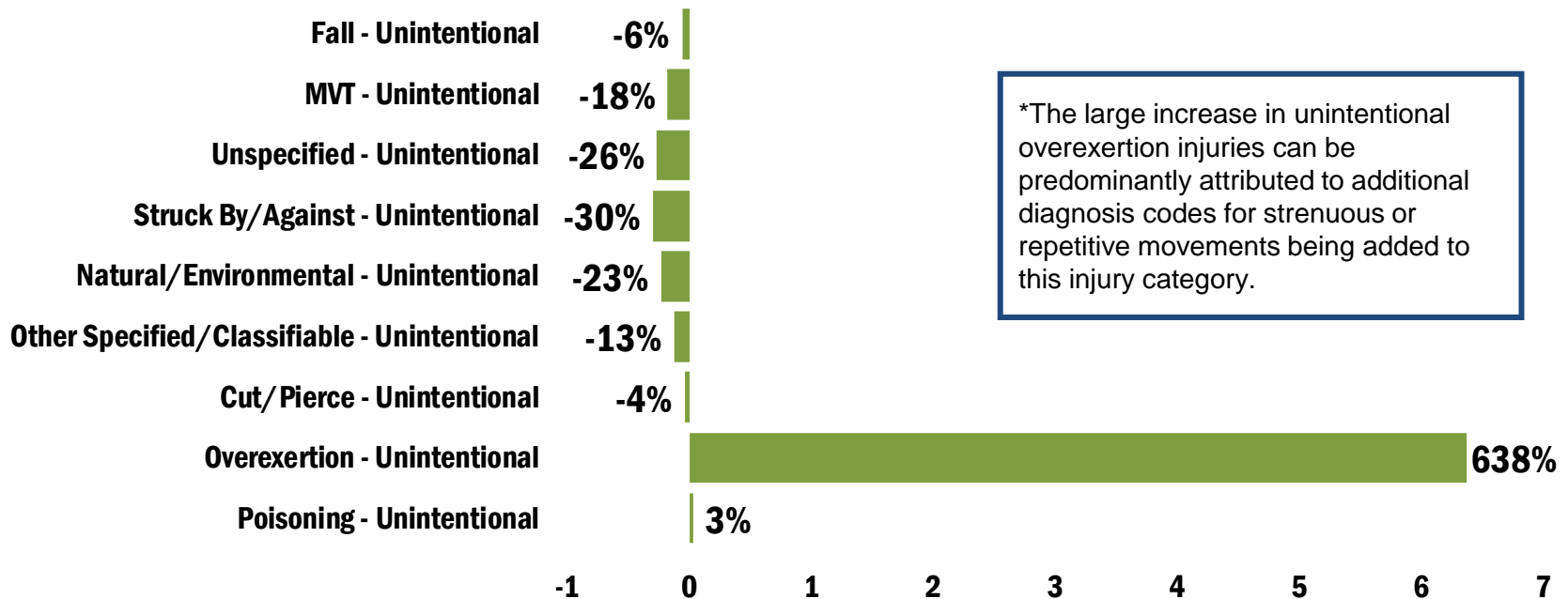
For more information on these data, see the Injury Surveillance Technical Notes: <https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/DataSurveillance/Technical-Notes.pdf>

Source: NC DETECT, 2021

Analysis by the DPH, Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, Injury Epidemiology, Surveillance and Informatics Unit

Percent change in leading NC injury ED visit rates between 2017 and 2021, NC Residents

Unintentional overexertion injuries had the largest five-year increase.



Data limited to NC residents, 2021

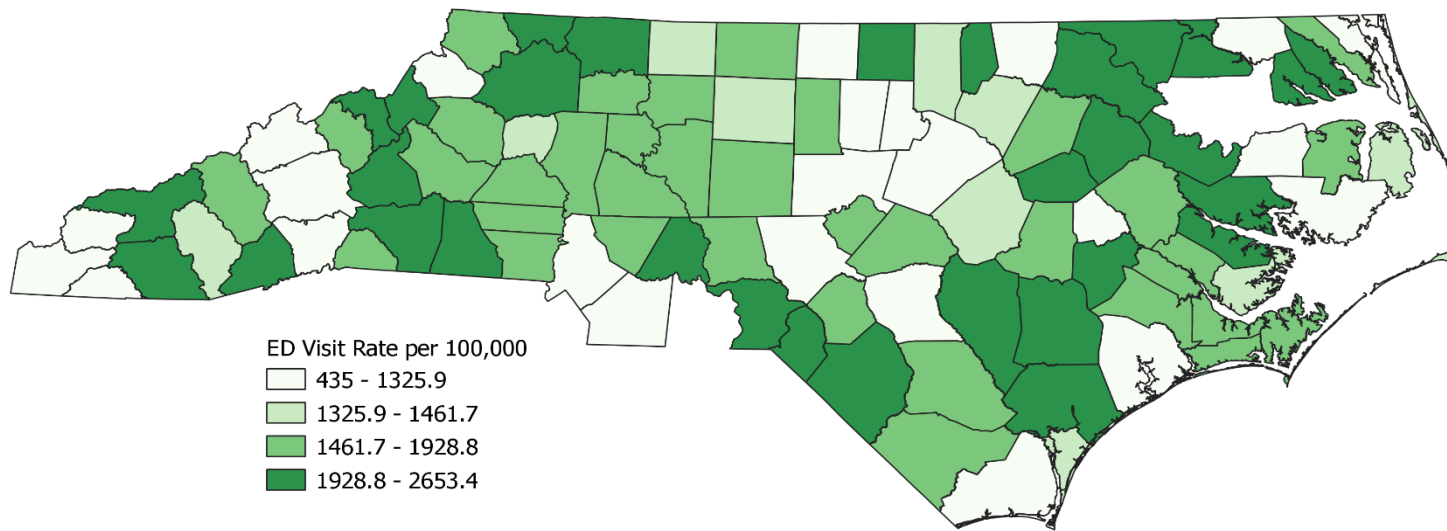
For more information on these data, see the Injury Surveillance Technical Notes: <https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/DataSurveillance/Technical-Notes.pdf>

Source: NC DETECT, 2021

Analysis by the DPH, Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, Injury Epidemiology, Surveillance and Informatics Unit

Injury Emergency Department Visit Rates Among NC Residents, 2017-2021

Statewide, the rate of injury hospitalizations from 2017-2021 was 1612.7 per 100,000 people.



Data limited to NC residents, 2021

For more information on these data, see the Injury Surveillance Technical Notes: <https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/DataSurveillance/Technical-Notes.pdf>

Source: NC DETECT, 2021

Analysis by the DPH, Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, Injury Epidemiology, Surveillance and Informatics Unit