



# NC Suicide Prevention Data Sources

## NC-Violent Death Reporting System (VDRS)

[The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System](#) (NC-VDRS) provides detailed information on violent deaths to not only understand the “who, when, where, and how” but also “why” these deaths occurred. These surveillance data can improve understanding of the causes and circumstances of violent deaths to inform and tailor violence prevention in the state. [Learn more](#)

[The NC-VDRS Data Dashboard](#) offers the ability to query and visualize data on overall violent deaths, homicides, suicides, and firearm-related deaths. [Learn more](#)

Special variables included:	Means of suicide and subpopulations at county-level
Last Updated:	2020

## NC Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)

[The Injury and Violence Prevention Branch Surveillance Unit](#) compiles and analyzes YRBS data related to injury and violence. The YRBS is conducted by the N.C. Healthy Schools Initiative and coordinated and supported by the N.C. Department of Public Instruction.

The N.C. YRBS helps assess behaviors in youth that impact their health now and in the future. Topics related to injury prevention include violence, personal safety, mental health, drugs and alcohol, protective factors and sexual behavior questions (for high school students only). [Learn more](#)

Special variables included:	Self-reported suicide attempts, substance use, physical activity in middle and high schools at state-level
Last Updated:	2021

## NC Disease Event Tracking and Epidemiologic Collection Tool (NC DETECT)

[The North Carolina Disease Event Tracking and Epidemiologic Collection Tool](#) (NC DETECT) is North Carolina's statewide syndromic surveillance system. NC DETECT was created by the [North Carolina Division of Public Health](#) (NC DPH) in 2004 in collaboration with the [Carolina Center for Health Informatics](#) (CCHI) in the [UNC Department of Emergency Medicine](#) to address the need for early event detection and timely public health surveillance in North Carolina using a variety of secondary data sources. Authorized users are currently able to view data from emergency departments, [North Carolina Poison Control](#), and [emergency medical services](#) (EMS), as well as pilot data from select urgent care centers.

### Dashboards

- Annual ED Visit Trends
- ED Data Quality Dashboard
- Mental Health Dashboard

Special variables included:	Anxiety, depression, self-inflicted injury, suicidal ideation, trauma/stressors at county-level
Last Updated:	2021

## NC Firearm Injury Surveillance Through Emergency Rooms (NC FASTER)

Launched in 2020, the CDC's [Firearm Injury Surveillance Through Emergency Rooms](#) (FASTER) program has provided funding to 10 states, including North Carolina. NC-FASTER is a collaboration between the NC Division of Public Health Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, UNC-Chapel Hill's Injury Prevention Research Center, and the Carolina Center for Health Informatics in the Department of Emergency Medicine. It provides surveillance data in near-real time on emergency department visits for nonfatal firearm injuries.

NC-FASTER helps address important gaps in timely data availability for nonfatal firearm injuries. Timely reporting at state and local levels through FASTER allows states and communities to detect surges in violence, understand trends in firearm injuries by certain demographic characteristics, and facilitate rapid and focused public health prevention and response.

NC-FASTER releases quarterly fact sheets with provisional data on nonfatal firearm injury related emergency department visits to inform the work of prevention and response partners across the state. More detailed information on NC-FASTER activities is available in the NC-FASTER Annual Data Reports.

Special variables included:	Firearm-related ED visits – county-level groups with significant increases
Last Updated:	2023

## NC Poison Control

As you review the 2021 annual report, you can learn more about the common poisons people contacted NC Poison Control about, the age groups affected by poison exposures, and how the center is working to prevent poisonings. [NC Poison Control - Poisoning Stats](#)

Special variables included:	Reason for poison exposure, exposure route, case volume by county
Last Updated:	2021

## NC Institute of Medicine

This [interactive county map](#) aggregates key health data for North Carolina's one hundred counties. The map can be filtered to show a statewide comparison for four health topics: uninsured adults, poverty, infant mortality, and heart disease.

To see comprehensive health data profiles for each county, select the county from the map or click on the county's name in the list below. Each county profile includes state, regional, and county-level data on a variety of topics, including demographics, access to care, health status, and determinants of health.

Special variables included:	Public demographics, access to care, social vulnerability, school data at county-level
Last Updated:	2021

## 988 Performance Dashboard

The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline offers 24/7 call, text, and chat access to trained crisis counselors who can help people experiencing suicidal, substance use, and/or mental health crisis, or any other kind of emotional distress. When an individual contacts (defined as a call, chat, or text) 988, the contact goes to the National Operator (Vibrant Emotional Health). The individual may choose a specialized hotline (Veteran, Spanish, LGBTQ+), which will route them to a specialized call center. If they don't choose a hotline, their area code is used to route them to the NC 988 call center (REAL Crisis Intervention Inc.). If a contact is unanswered by the NC 988 call center after 2 minutes, it is routed back to the National Operator for a response. Link to the [988 Performance Dashboard](#).

Special variables included:	Contact volume, NC 988 call center answer rate, avg. time to answer calls, percent of contacts from repeat callers, reason for contacting 988, support offered by 988, etc.
Last Updated:	2023