

Alexander County Violence Profile



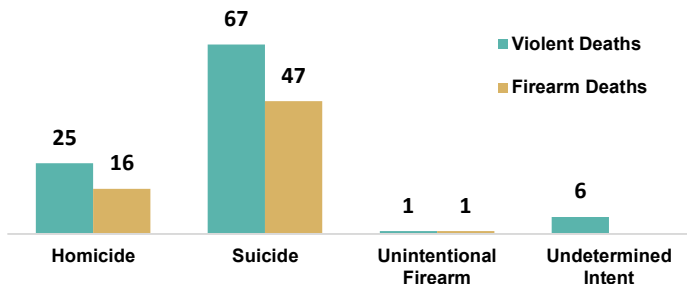
Alexander County, in western North Carolina, has a population of 36,787 and is predominantly rural. The largest city is Bethlehem with a population of 3,928. The closest trauma center is Novant Health Presbyterian Medical Center (56 mi. from Bethlehem).

Violent Deaths

Alexander County had 11 violent deaths* in 2022

64% of homicides and 70% of suicides in the past 10 years involved a firearm

All Violent Deaths and Firearm Deaths by Manner; Alexander County, 2013-2022



In Alexander County, 39% of all homicide deaths involved an argument or conflict

Homicide circumstances vary by sex of the victim

In Alexander County...

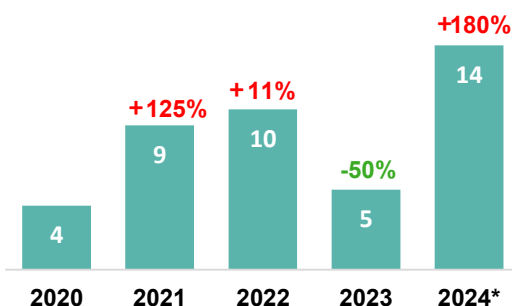
More than
1 in 3
male homicide deaths were precipitated by another crime

More than
4 in 5
female homicide deaths involved intimate partner violence

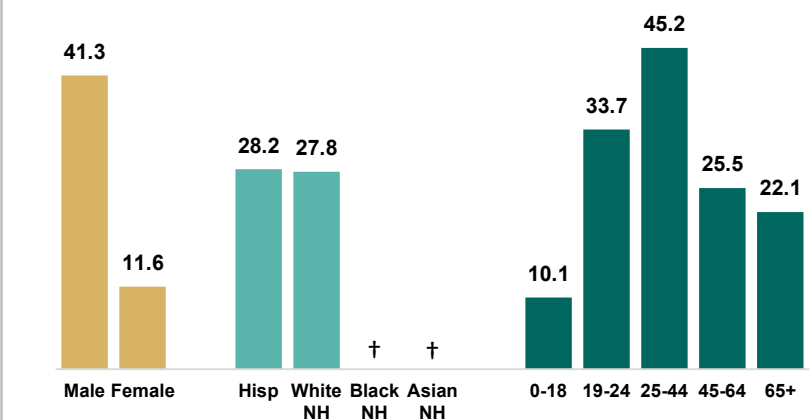
Source: VDRS 2013-2022.

*Violent deaths includes deaths due to homicide, suicide, unintentional firearm, legal intervention, and undetermined intent. Limited to NC residents. 92% of homicide victims had circumstance information. Suicide deaths are only reported for ages ≥10. For more detailed violent death data visit: [NC-VDRS Data Dashboard](#)

Firearm-related Injury Emergency Department Visits by Year; Alexander County



Violent Death Rate by Demographics; Alexander County, 2013-2022



† indicates fewer than 5 deaths; rates based on fewer than 5 deaths are considered unstable

Crime

In 2023, Alexander County had a total crime count of 1,349 with 88 violent crimes*

Violent crime in Alexander County has increased by 16% in the past year

Violent Crimes per 100,000 people

242 Alexander **312** Statewide

The most common violent crimes were aggravated assault (87.5%) and rape (3.4%)

*Violent Crimes include the offenses of homicide (murder and non-negligent manslaughter and negligent manslaughter), aggravated assault, rape (including sodomy and sexual assault with an object) and robbery. Alexander County had a reporting coverage of 100% of the population compared to the statewide coverage of 98% (2021). Source: CJAC NIBRS. For more detailed crime data visit: [NC Justice Data Portal](#)

Male, Hispanic, Non-Hispanic White, and middle-aged adult residents have the highest rates of violent death in Alexander County

Violent Injury

In 2024, a total of 14 Alexander County residents visited the emergency department due to firearm injury

Emergency department visits due to firearm injury increased by 180% in the past year among Alexander County residents

provisional data. Source: NC DETECT, ED Visits 2020-2024

For more detailed firearm injury data visit: [NC FASTER Reports](#) | [NC DETECT](#)



Office of Violence Prevention
NC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

For more county profiles and resources visit: [ncdps.gov/ovp](#)

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