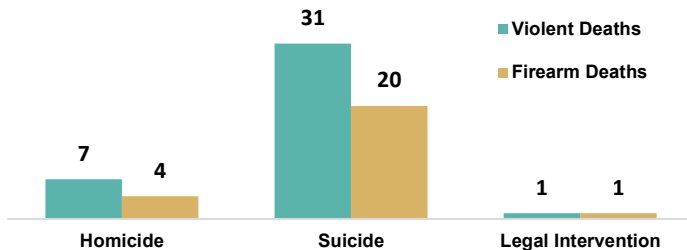# Avery County Violence Profile

Avery County, located in northwest North Carolina, has a population of 17,601 and is predominantly rural. The largest city is Foscoe with a population of 1,421. The closest trauma center is Mission Hospitals (76 miles from Foscoe).

Crime

In 2023, Avery County had a total crime count of 603 with 28 violent crimes*

Violent crime in Avery County has increased by 56% in the past year

Violent Crimes per 100,000 people

157 Avery

312 Statewide

The most common violent crimes were aggravated assault (71.4%) and rape (17.9%)

*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.
Avery County had a reporting coverage of 97% of the population compared to the statewide coverage of 98% (2021). Source: CJAC NIBRS 2023
For more detailed crime data visit: **NC Justice Data Portal**

Violent Deaths

Avery County had 3 violent deaths* in 2022

57% of homicides and 65% of suicides in the past 10 years involved a firearm

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

Legend:
- Violent Deaths
- Firearm Deaths

Manner	Violent Deaths	Firearm Deaths
Homicide	7	4
Suicide	31	20
Legal Intervention	1	1

Male, Non-Hispanic White, and older adult residents have the highest rates of violent death in Avery County

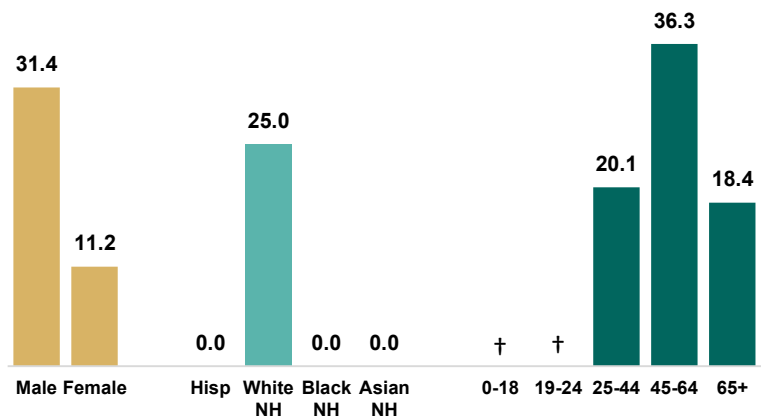In Avery County, 50% of all homicide deaths involved an argument or conflict

Homicide circumstances vary by sex of the victim

In North Carolina...

More than **1 in 4** male homicide deaths were precipitated by another crime

More than **2 in 5** female homicide deaths involved intimate partner violence

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

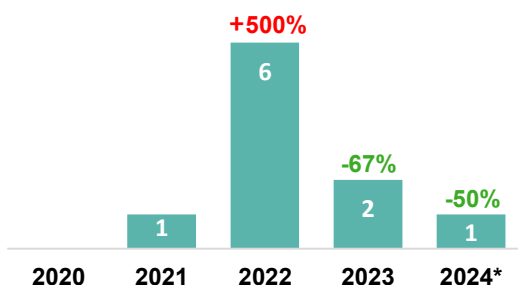| Demographic	Rate
Male	31.4
Female	11.2
Hisp	0.0
White NH	25.0
Black NH	0.0
Asian NH	0.0
0-18	†
19-24	†
25-44	20.1
45-64	36.3
65+	18.4

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

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**

Violent Injury

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

Year	Visits	Change
2020	1	
2021	1	
2022	6	+500%
2023	2	-67%
2024*	1	-50%

In 2024, 1 Avery County resident visited the emergency department due to firearm injury

Emergency department visits due to firearm injury decreased by 50% in the past year among Avery County residents

provisional data. Source: NC DETECT, ED Visits 2020-2024
For more detailed firearm injury data visit: **NC FASTER Reports | NC DETECT**