

# Caldwell County Violence Profile



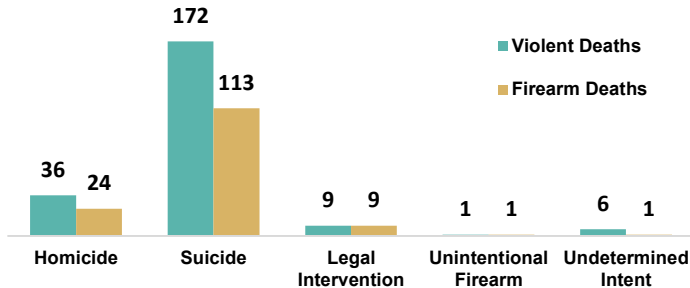
Caldwell County, located in northwest North Carolina, has a population of 81,028 and is predominantly urban. The largest city is Lenoir with a population of 18,162. The closest trauma center is Atrium Health Cleveland (49 miles from Lenoir).

## Violent Deaths

Caldwell County had 31 violent deaths\* in 2022

**67% of homicides and 66% of suicides in the past 10 years involved a firearm**

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



## Crime

In 2023, Caldwell County had a total crime count of 4,053 with 102 violent crimes\*

**Violent crime in Caldwell County has decreased by 5% in the past year**

Violent Crimes per 100,000 people

**127 312**  
Caldwell Statewide

The most common violent crimes were aggravated assault (76.5%) and rape (12.8%)

\*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. Caldwell County had a reporting coverage of 99% 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](#)

**Male, Non-Hispanic Black, and middle-aged adult residents have the highest rates of violent death in Caldwell County**

In Caldwell County, 54% of all homicide deaths involved an argument or conflict

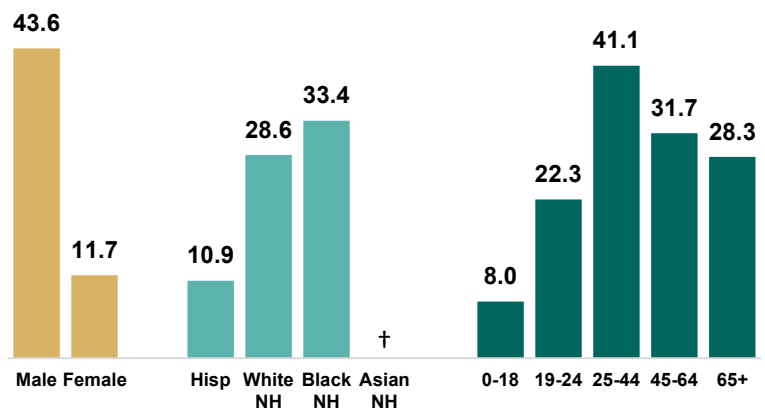
**Homicide circumstances vary by sex of the victim**

In Caldwell County...

More than  
**1 in 5**  
male homicide deaths involved drugs (dealing, trade, or use)

More than  
**2 in 3**  
female homicide deaths involved intimate partner violence

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

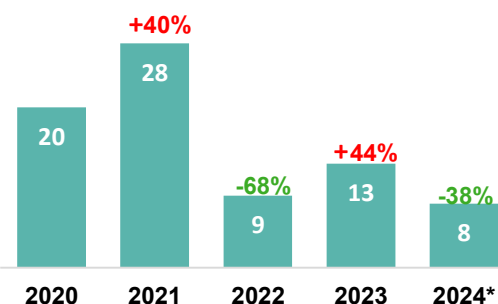


† indicates fewer than 5 deaths; rates based on fewer than 5 deaths are considered unstable

Source: VDRS 2013-2022.

\*Violent deaths includes deaths due to homicide, suicide, unintentional firearm, legal intervention, and undetermined intent. Limited to NC residents. 97% 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; Caldwell County



## Violent Injury

In 2024, a total of 8 Caldwell County residents visited the emergency department due to firearm injury

**Emergency department visits due to firearm injury decreased by 38% in the past year among Caldwell 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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