

Catawba County Violence Profile



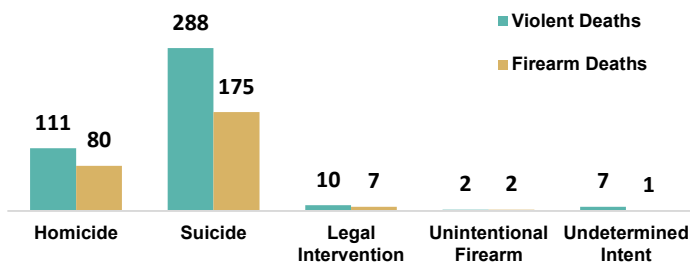
Catawba County, located in western North Carolina, has a population of 167,601 and is predominantly urban. The largest city is Hickory with a population of 44,942. The closest trauma center is Atrium Health Cleveland (38 miles from Hickory).

Violent Deaths

Catawba County had 42 violent deaths* in 2022

72% of homicides and 61% of suicides in the past 10 years involved a firearm

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



Crime

In 2023, Catawba County had a total crime count of 6,355 with 280 violent crimes*

Violent crime in Catawba County has decreased by 20% in the past year

Violent Crimes per 100,000 people

180 312
Catawba Statewide

The most common violent crimes were aggravated assault (72.1%) and robbery (12.9%)

*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. Catawba County had a reporting coverage of 96% 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 young adult residents have the highest rates of violent death in Catawba County

In Catawba County, 51% of all homicide deaths involved an argument or conflict

Homicide circumstances vary by sex of the victim

In Catawba County...

More than

1 in 4

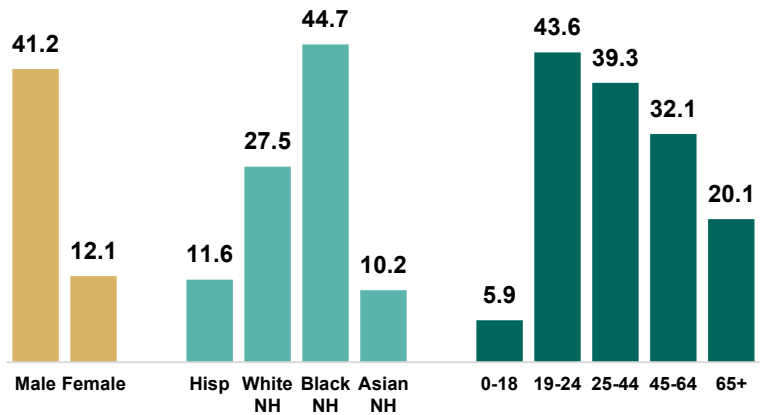
male homicide deaths were precipitated by another crime

Approximately

1 in 3

female homicide deaths involved intimate partner violence

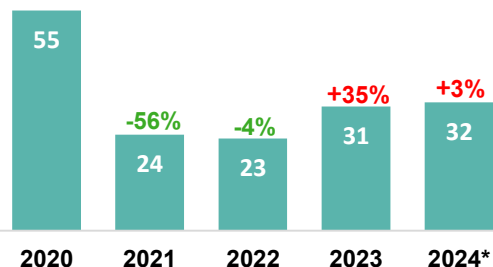
Violent Death Rate by Demographics; Catawba County, 2013-2022



Source: VDRS 2013-2022.

*Violent deaths includes deaths due to homicide, suicide, unintentional firearm, legal intervention, and undetermined intent. Limited to NC residents. 95% 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; Catawba County



Violent Injury

In 2024, a total of 32 Catawba County residents visited the emergency department due to firearm injury

Emergency department visits due to firearm injury increased by 3% in the past year among Catawba 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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