

Clay County Violence Profile



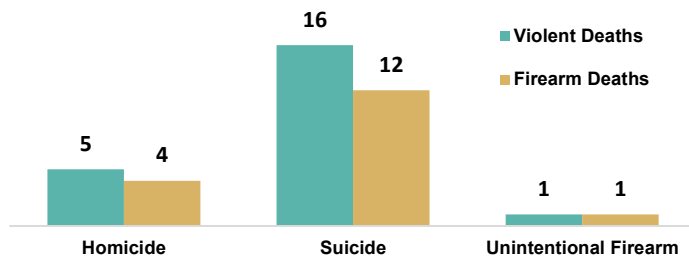
Clay County, located in southwestern North Carolina, has a population of 12,362 and is predominantly rural. The largest city is Hayesville with a population of 492. The closest trauma center is Mission Hospitals (104 miles from Hayesville).

Violent Deaths

Clay County had 2 violent deaths* in 2022

80% of homicides and 75% of suicides in the past 10 years involved a firearm

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



In Clay County, 80% of all homicide deaths involved an argument or conflict

Homicide circumstances vary by sex of the victim

In North Carolina...

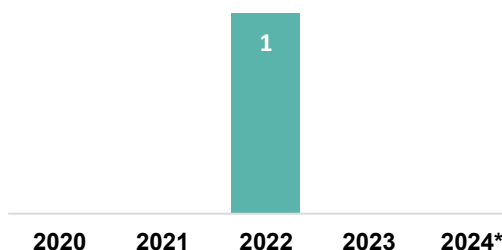
More than
1 in 4
male homicide deaths were precipitated by another crime

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

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; Clay County



Violent Injury

In 2024, a total of 0 Clay County residents visited the emergency department due to firearm injury

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

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

Crime

In 2023, Clay County had a total crime count of 374 with 8 violent crimes*

Violent crime in Clay County has decreased by 47% in the past year

Violent Crimes per 100,000 people

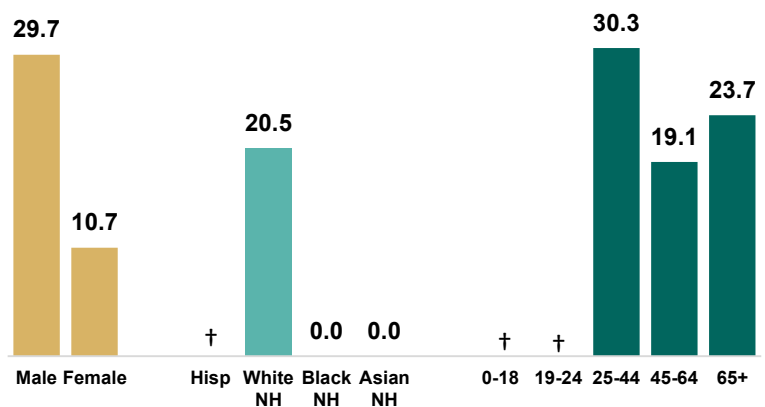
72 Clay
312 Statewide

The most common violent crimes were aggravated assault (75.0%) and rape (25.0%)

*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. Clay County had a reporting coverage of 100% 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 White, and middle-aged adult residents have the highest rates of violent death in Clay County

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



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



Office of Violence Prevention
NC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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

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