

# Columbus County Violence Profile



Columbus County, in southeastern North Carolina, has a population of 50,213 and is predominantly rural. The largest city is Whiteville (pop. 4,631). The closest trauma center is Novant Health New Hanover Regional Medical Center (49 miles from Whiteville).

## Crime



*Columbus County only reports crime data that represents 21% of the county population. Due to low reporting, crime statistics are not interpretable.*

For more detailed crime data visit: [NC Justice Data Portal](#)

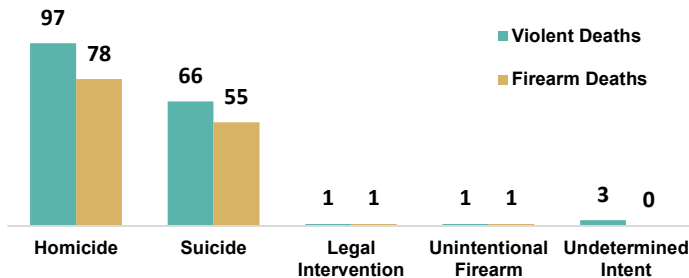
**Male, Non-Hispanic Black, and young adult residents have the highest rates of violent death in Columbus County**

## Violent Deaths

Columbus County had 16 violent deaths\* in 2022

**80% of homicides and 83% of suicides in the past 10 years involved a firearm**

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



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

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

In Columbus County...

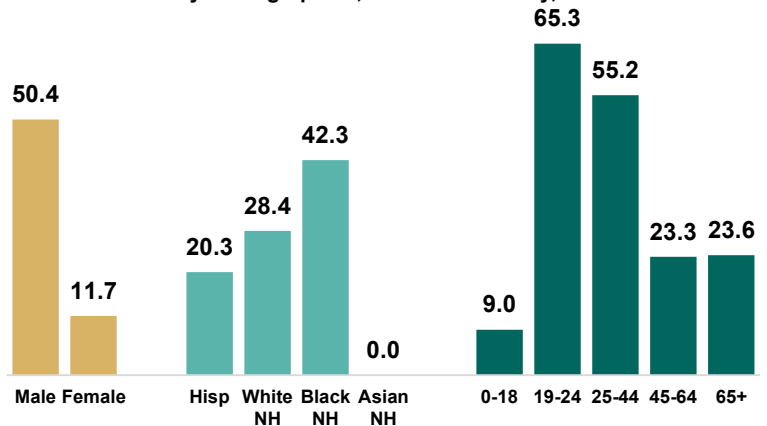
Nearly  
**1 in 4**

male homicide deaths were precipitated by another crime

More than  
**1 in 2**

female homicide deaths involved intimate partner violence

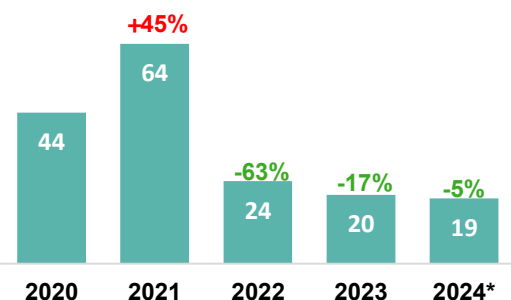
Violent Death Rate by Demographics; Columbus County, 2013-2022



Source: VDRS 2013-2022.

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



## Violent Injury

In 2024, a total of 19 Columbus County residents visited the emergency department due to firearm injury

**Emergency department visits due to firearm injury decreased by 5% in the past year among Columbus 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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