

Gaston County Violence Profile



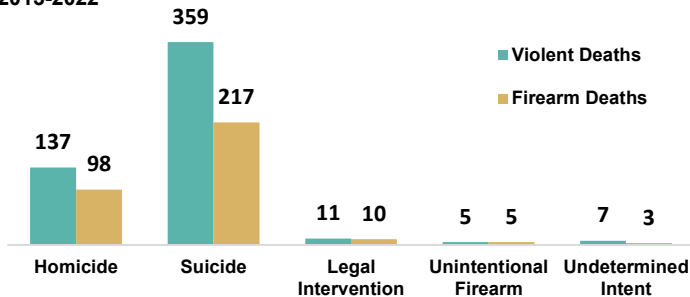
Gaston County, located in south-central North Carolina, has a population of 243,786 and is predominantly urban. The largest city is Gastonia with a population of 86,218. The closest trauma center is Caromont Regional Medical Center (in Gastonia).

Violent Deaths

Gaston County had 53 violent deaths* in 2022

72% of homicides and 60% of suicides in the past 10 years involved a firearm

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



Crime

In 2023, Gaston County had a total crime count of 15,095 with 812 violent crimes*

There was no notable increase or decrease in violent crime in Gaston County in the past year

Violent Crimes per 100,000 people

358 312
Gaston Statewide

The most common violent crimes were aggravated assault (73.4%) and robbery (15.9%)

*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. Gaston County had a reporting coverage of 100% of the population compared the statewide coverage of 98% (2021). Source: CJAC NIBRS 2023
For more detailed crime data visit: [NC Justice Data Portal](#)

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

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

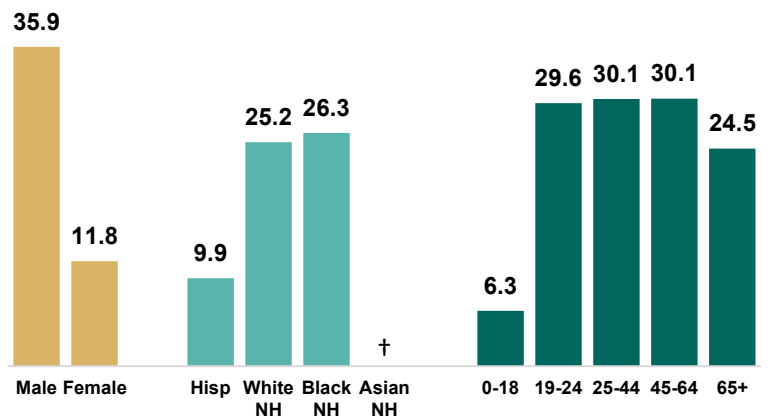
Homicide circumstances vary by sex of the victim

In Gaston County...

More than
1 in 3
male homicide deaths were precipitated by another crime

More than
1 in 3
female homicide deaths involved intimate partner violence

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

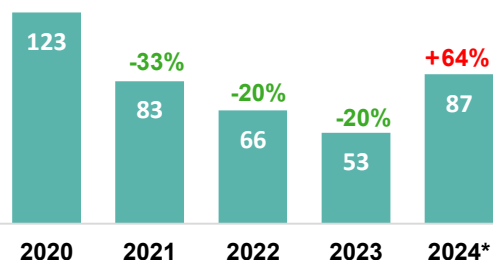


† indicates fewer than 5 deaths; rates based on fewer than 5 deaths are considered unstable

Source: VDRS 2013-2022.

*Violent deaths includes deaths due to homicide, suicide, unintentional firearm, legal intervention, and undetermined intent. Limited to NC residents. 96% 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; Gaston County



Violent Injury

In 2024, a total of 87 Gaston County residents visited the emergency department due to firearm injury

Emergency department visits due to firearm injury increased by 64% in the past year among Gaston 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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