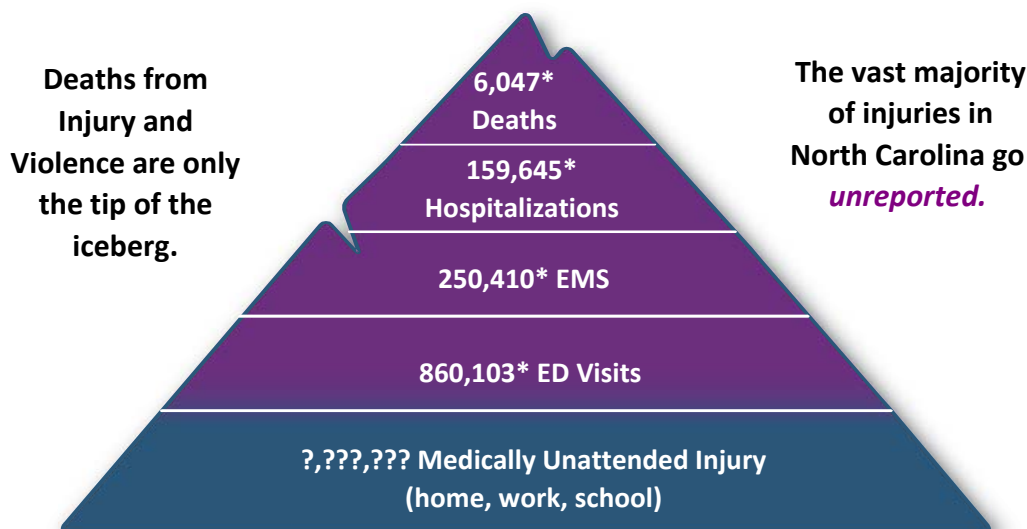


Do You Know These Facts About Injuries in North Carolina?

- ▶ Injury and violence are the third leading causes of death in North Carolina for all residents and the leading causes of death for residents ages 1-44 years.¹
- ▶ Injury is the leading cause of years of potential life lost in North Carolina.¹
- ▶ Approximately, 6,000 North Carolina residents die ¹, 160,000 are hospitalized², and 860,000 are treated in emergency departments (ED)³ because of injury each year.



INJURY ICEBERG

* 2009 death file, 2008 for hospitalization discharge, 2009 EMS data and 2009 for NC DETECT (Emergency)

SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM

WHAT

- 6,074 deaths (2009).¹
- 159,645 hospitalizations (2008).²
- 250,410 EMS (2009).³
- 860,103 ED visits (2009).³

WHO

- The highest number of deaths occur in the 45 - 54 year age group.²
- The highest number of hospitalizations occur in the 65+ year age group.²
- The highest number of ED visits occur in the 25 - 34 year age group.³
- Males sustained 67 percent of deaths¹; however, hospitalizations and ED visits are distributed more equitably between males and females.^{3, 2}
- Whites and blacks account for 97 percent of the injury deaths in North Carolina.¹

WHEN

- The greatest number of fatal motor vehicle crashes occur in the summer.⁴ In addition, slightly more drownings and firearm-related deaths occur in the summer.¹
- More than one-half of fatal motor vehicle crashes occur between the hours of 6 am - 5:59 pm (57 percent) in 2009; however, 77 percent of alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes occur between the hours of 6 pm - 5:59 am.⁴

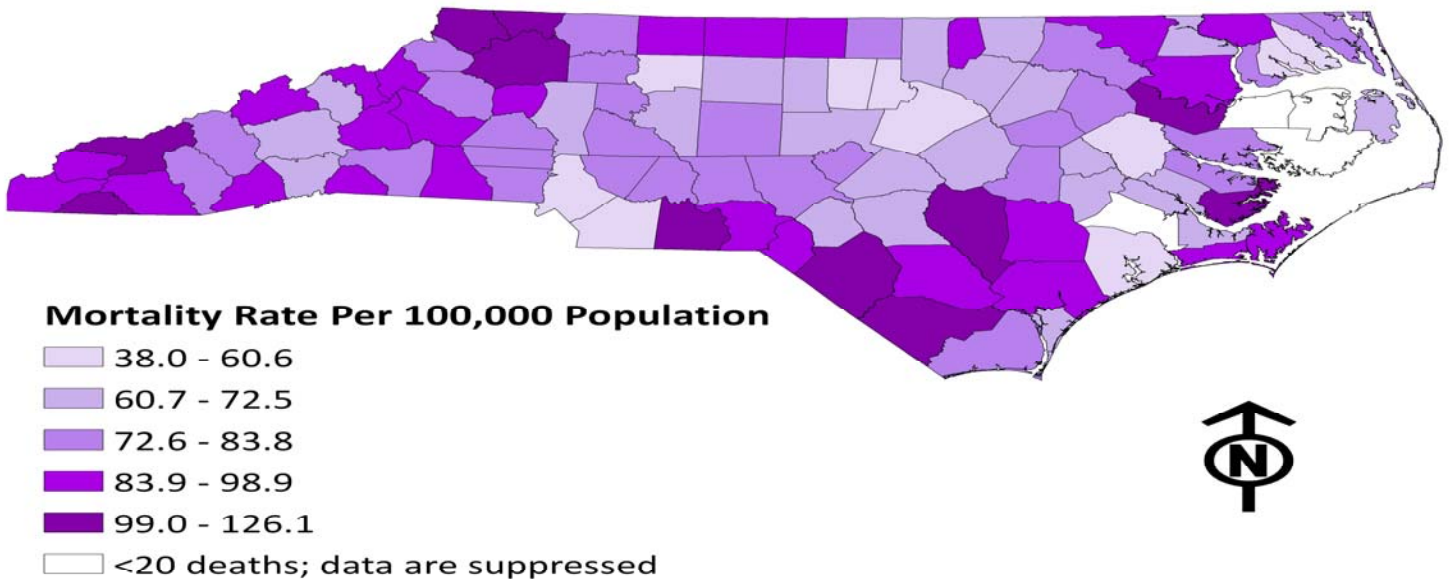
WHERE

- Thirty-four percent of injuries occur in the home, 4 percent occur on a farm, 3 percent occur in a recreation area, and 59 percent occur in an other/unspecified location .

HOW

- Motor vehicles (22 percent), poisoning (22 percent), and firearms (18 percent) are the leading mechanisms of injury death.¹
- Most injuries are unintentional in nature (68 percent).¹

INJURY MORTALITY RATES PER 100,000 BY COUNTY: N.C. RESIDENTS, 2007-2009



State Average: 67.2 Deaths Per 100,000 Population

AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION

In 2008, the median hospital bill for all hospital discharges associated with injury was about \$22,000 per discharge (\$6.15 - \$5,170,045.38) and the sum total for 2008 was over \$6 billion.²

Preventing injuries always costs less than treating them. For example, nationally:

- Every \$1 spent on injury prevention counseling for children 0-4 years-of-age by pediatricians saves \$9.
- Every \$1 spent on smoke alarms saves \$18.
- Every \$1 spent on poison control centers saves \$7.
- Every \$1 spent on child safety seats saves \$42.
- Every \$1 spent on child booster seats saves \$71.
- Every \$1 spent on bicycle helmets for children 3-14 years-of-age saves \$48.
- Every \$1 spent to a triaged regional trauma center saves \$36.
- Every \$1 spent on sobriety checkpoints saves \$7.⁵

1. N.C. State Center for Health Statistics (SCHS) Death file: 2007-2009 2. N.C. State Center for Health Statistics (SCHS) Hospitalization Discharge file: 2008 3. N.C. EMS & N.C. DETECT Emergency Department Visits file: 2009 4. FARS Encyclopedia: 2009 5. Children's Safety Network. Injury Prevention: What Works? A Summary of Cost-Outcome Analysis for Health Services and Miscellaneous (a 2010 Update): 2010. 6. National Center for Health Statistics Bridged Population File: 2009. Definitions: "Fall" includes falls from stairs, ladders, beds, buildings, playground equipment, cliffs, trees, slipping, and tackles in sports. "Firearm" includes injuries from handguns, shotguns, rifles, and other firearms. "Motor Vehicle Traffic" includes injuries from motor vehicles traveling on public roads to occupants, pedestrians, and bicyclists. "Poisoning" includes drugs, solid and liquid substances, gases, and vapors. "Struck" includes falling objects, people, and during an unarmed fight/brawl. "Suicide" and "Self-inflicted" includes intentional self-inflicted injuries. "Overexertion" includes harmful and painful condition caused by overuse or overexertion of some part of the musculoskeletal system. "Undetermined" includes unspecified intent or when intent cannot be determined. "Unintentional" means an unexpected or unplanned injury or event.