

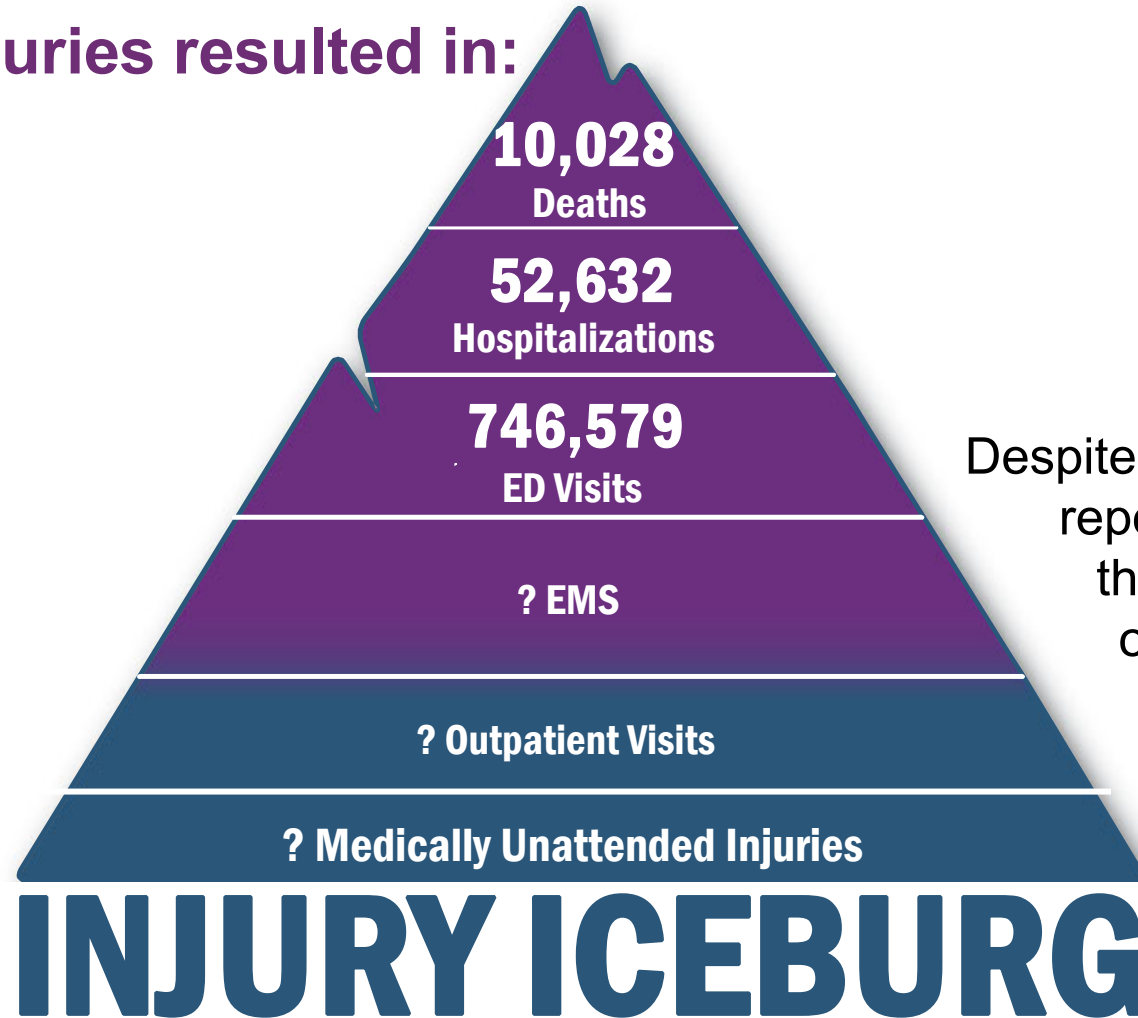
NC Department of Health and Human Services

Leading Causes of Injury in North Carolina 2020

NC Division of Public Health
Data updated: March 4, 2022

Injury deaths are just the tip of the iceberg.

In 2020, injuries resulted in:



Despite NC's excellent reporting systems, the *total burden* of injuries in the state is *unknown*.

Limited to NC Residents, 2020

Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics, Vital Statistics Deaths (2020) and Hospital Discharge Data (2020); NC DETECT (2020)

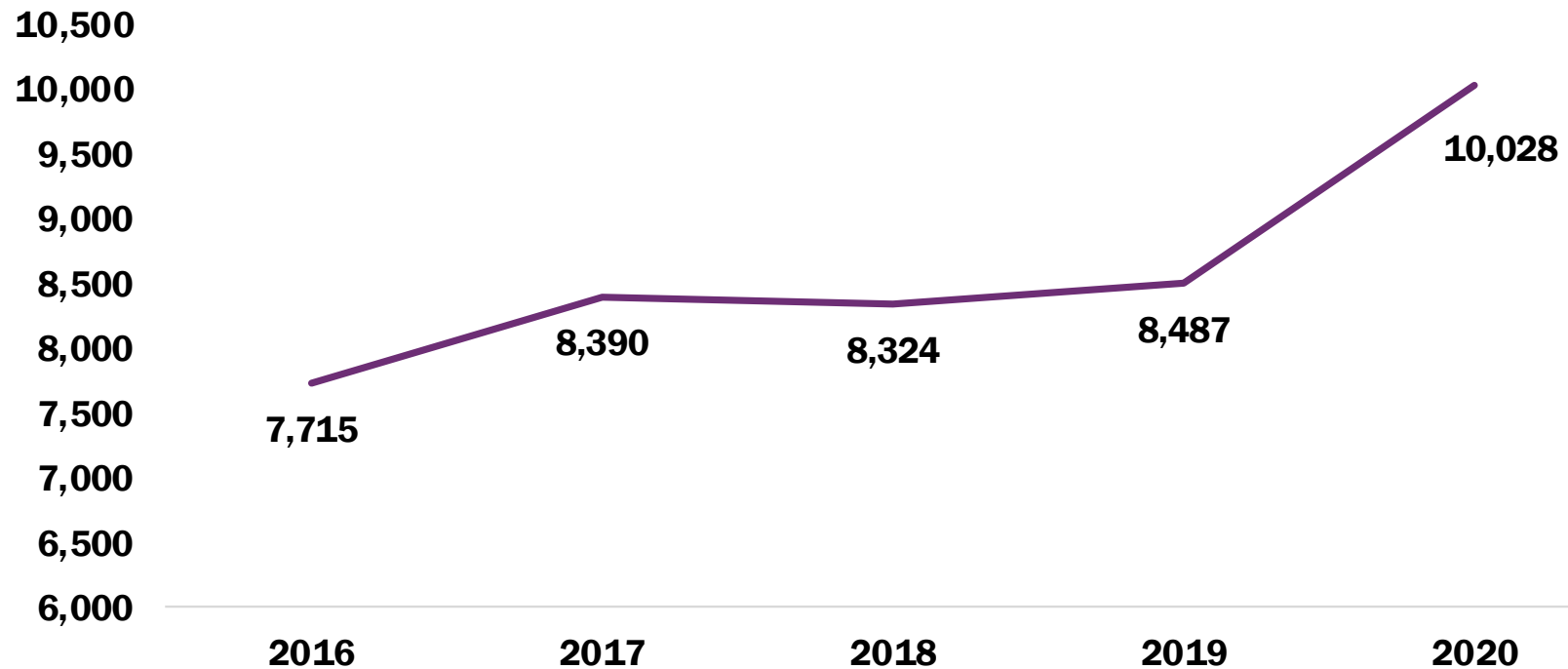
Analysis by the NC-DPH, Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit

Injury Deaths

Overall injury deaths: NC Residents, 2016-2020

The total number of injury deaths has increased by 23% since 2016.

Number of Injury Deaths



Data limited to NC Residents, 2016-2020

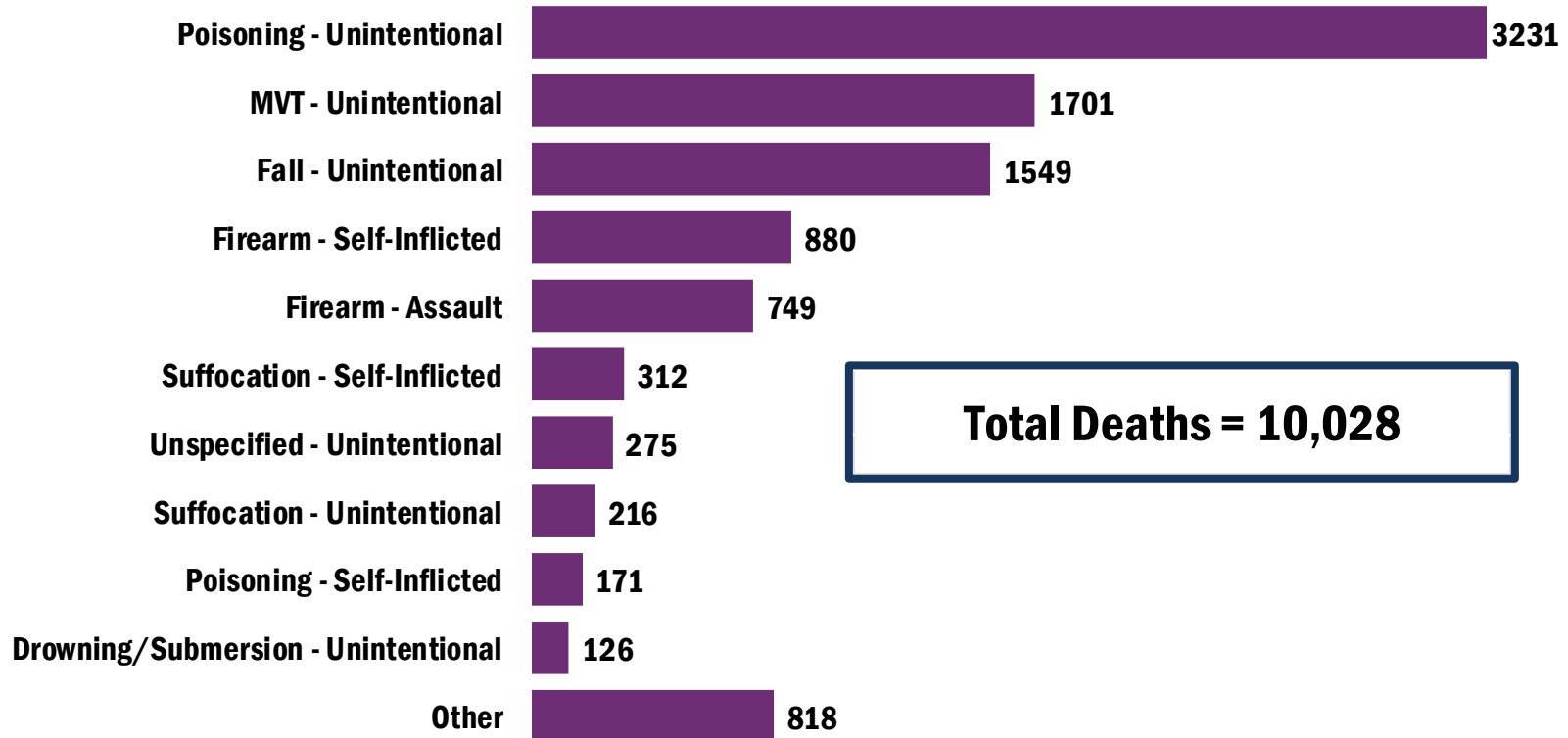
For more information on these data, see the Injury Surveillance Technical Notes: <https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/DataSurveillance/Technical-Notes.pdf>

Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics, Vital Statistics Deaths (2016-2020)

Analysis by the NC-DPH Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit

Leading cause of injury death: NC Residents, 2020

The leading cause of injury death in 2020 was unintentional poisoning.



Unintentional poisoning includes both medication/drug overdoses and non-drug poisonings (96% and 4% respectively)

MVT = Motor Vehicle Traffic

Data limited to NC Residents, 2020

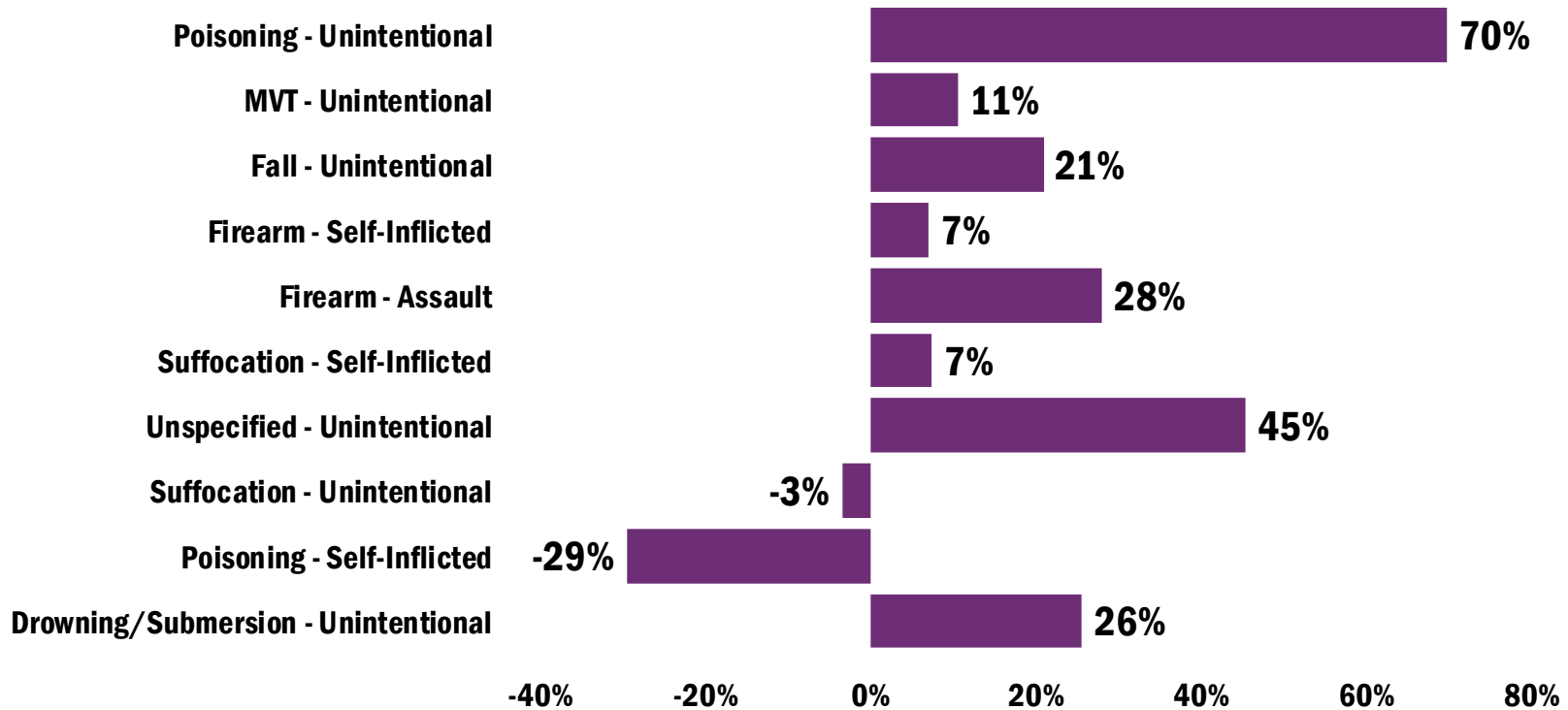
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Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics, Vital Statistics Deaths (2020)

Analysis by the NC-DPH Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit

Percent change in leading NC injury death rates 2016-2020, NC Residents

Unintentional poisoning had the largest five-year increase.



MVT = Motor Vehicle Traffic

Data limited to NC Residents, 2016 & 2020

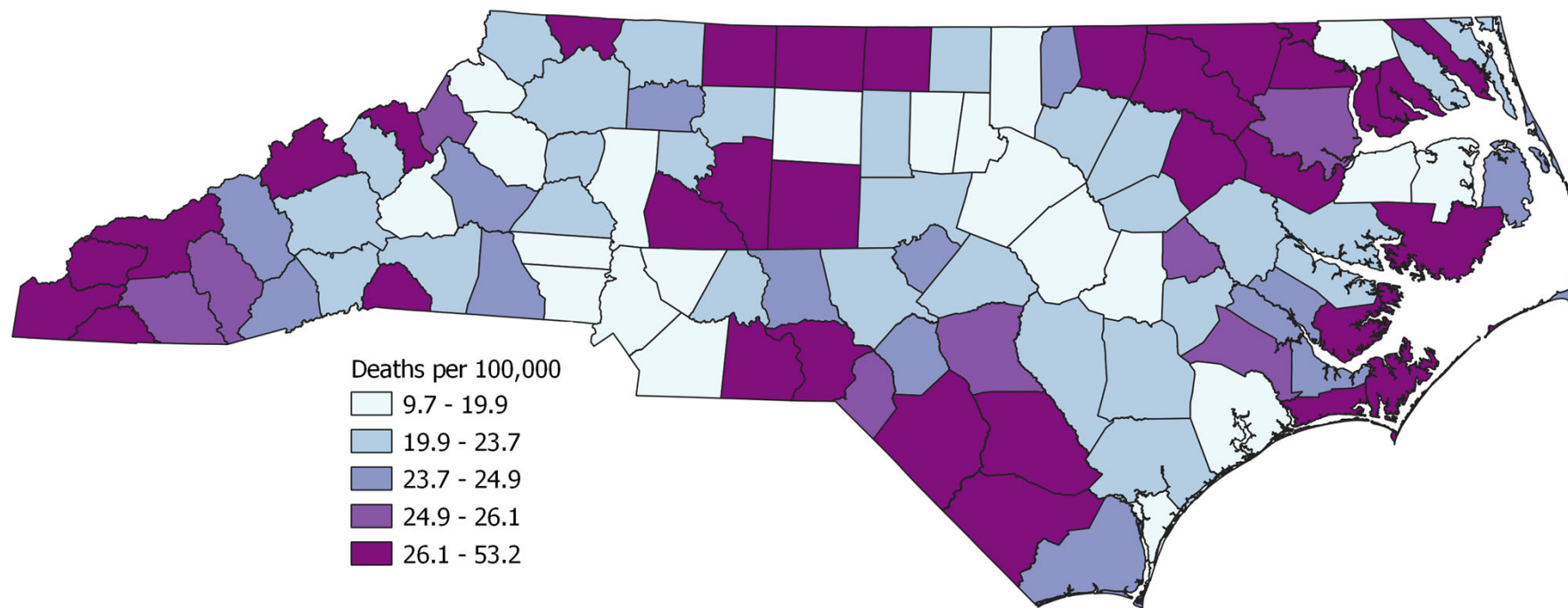
For more information on these data, see the Injury Surveillance Technical Notes: <https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/DataSurveillance/Technical-Notes.pdf>

Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics, Vital Statistics Deaths (2016 & 2020)

Analysis by the NC-DPH Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit

Injury Death Rates Among NC Residents, 2016-2020

Statewide, the rate of injury deaths from 2016-2020 was 20.3 per 100,000 people.



Data limited to NC Residents, 2016-2020

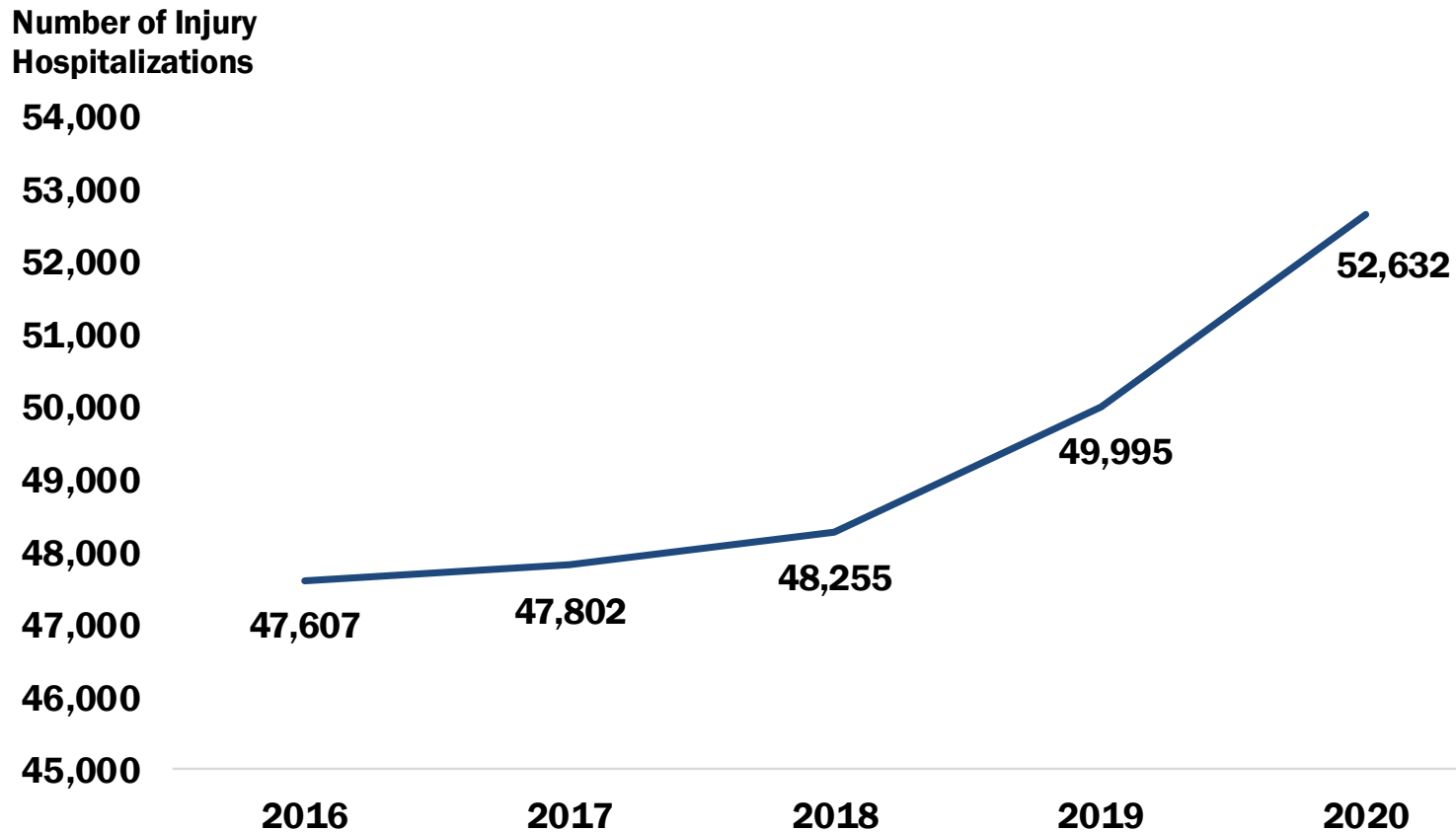
Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics, Vital Statistics Deaths (2016-2020)

Analysis by the NC-DPH Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit

Injury Hospitalizations

Overall injury hospitalizations: NC Residents, 2016-2020

The total number of injury hospitalizations has increased by 10% since 2016.



Data limited to NC Residents, 2016-2020

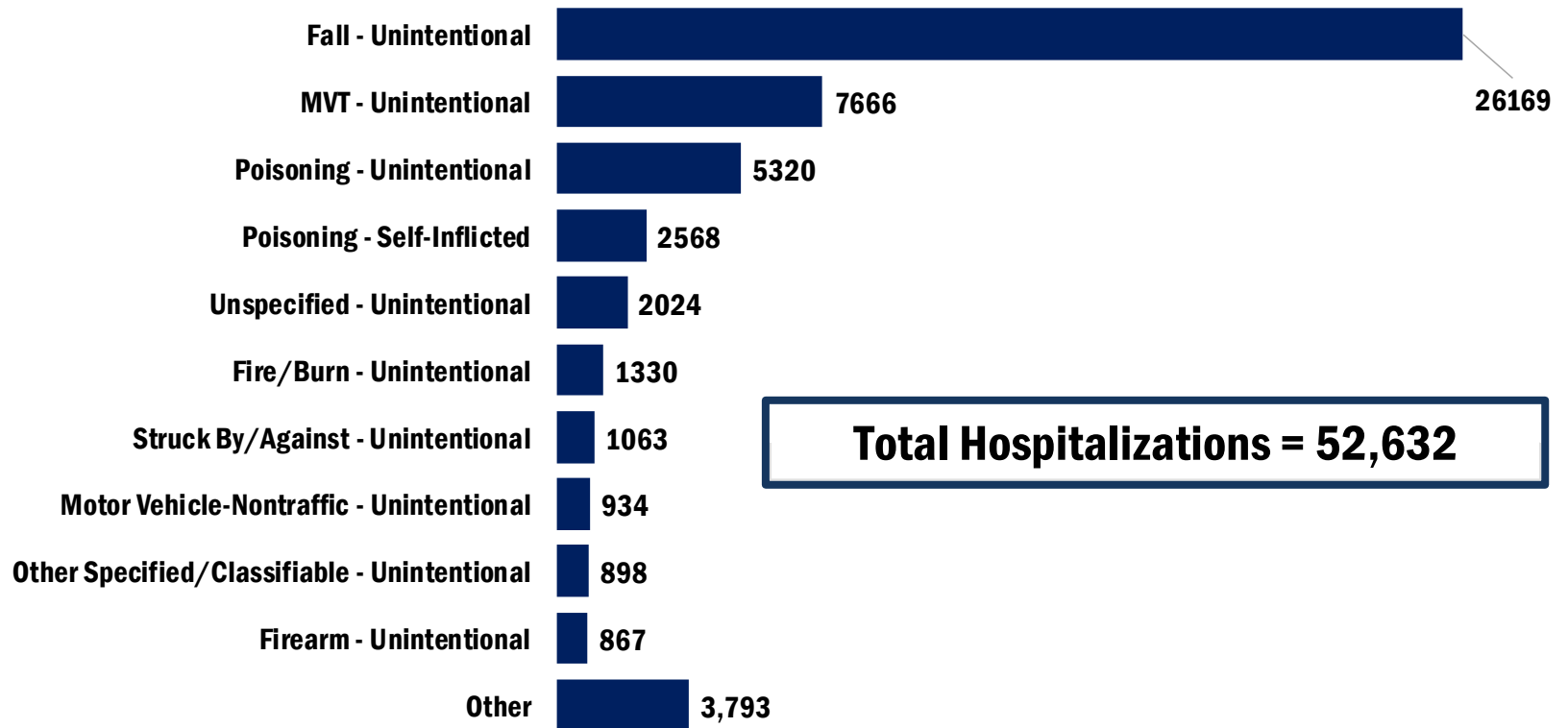
For more information on these data, see the Injury Surveillance Technical Notes: <https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/DataSurveillance/Technical-Notes.pdf>

Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics, Vital Statistics Hospitalizations (2016-2020)

Analysis by the NC-DPH Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit

Leading cause of injury hospitalization: NC Residents, 2020

The leading cause of injury hospitalization in 2020 was unintentional fall.



Unintentional poisoning includes both medication/drug overdoses and non-drug poisonings (93% and 7% respectively)

MVT = Motor Vehicle Traffic

Data limited to NC Residents, 2020

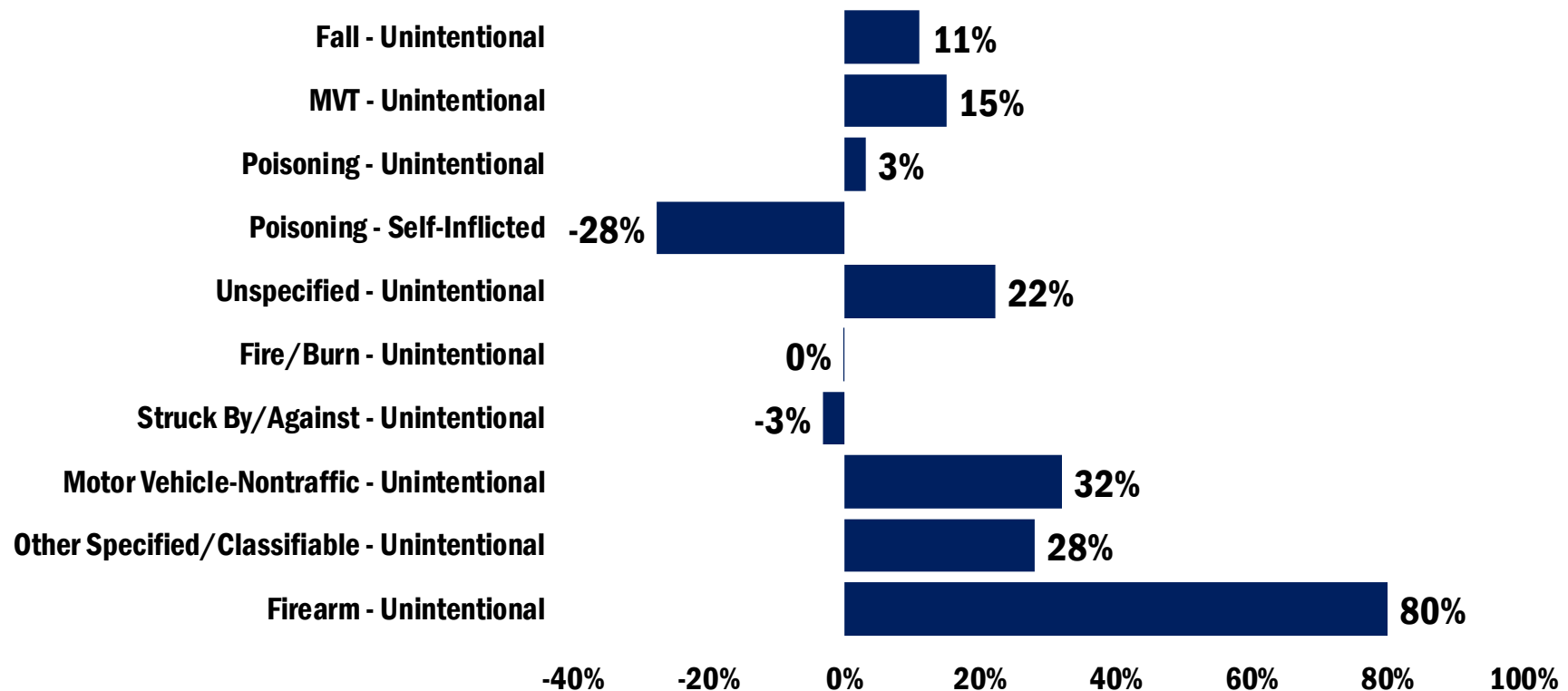
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Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics, Vital Statistics Hospitalizations (2020)

Analysis by the NC-DPH Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit

Percent change in leading NC injury hospitalization rates between 2016 and 2020, NC Residents

Unintentional - unspecified had the largest five-year increase.



MVT = Motor Vehicle Traffic

Data limited to NC Residents, 2020

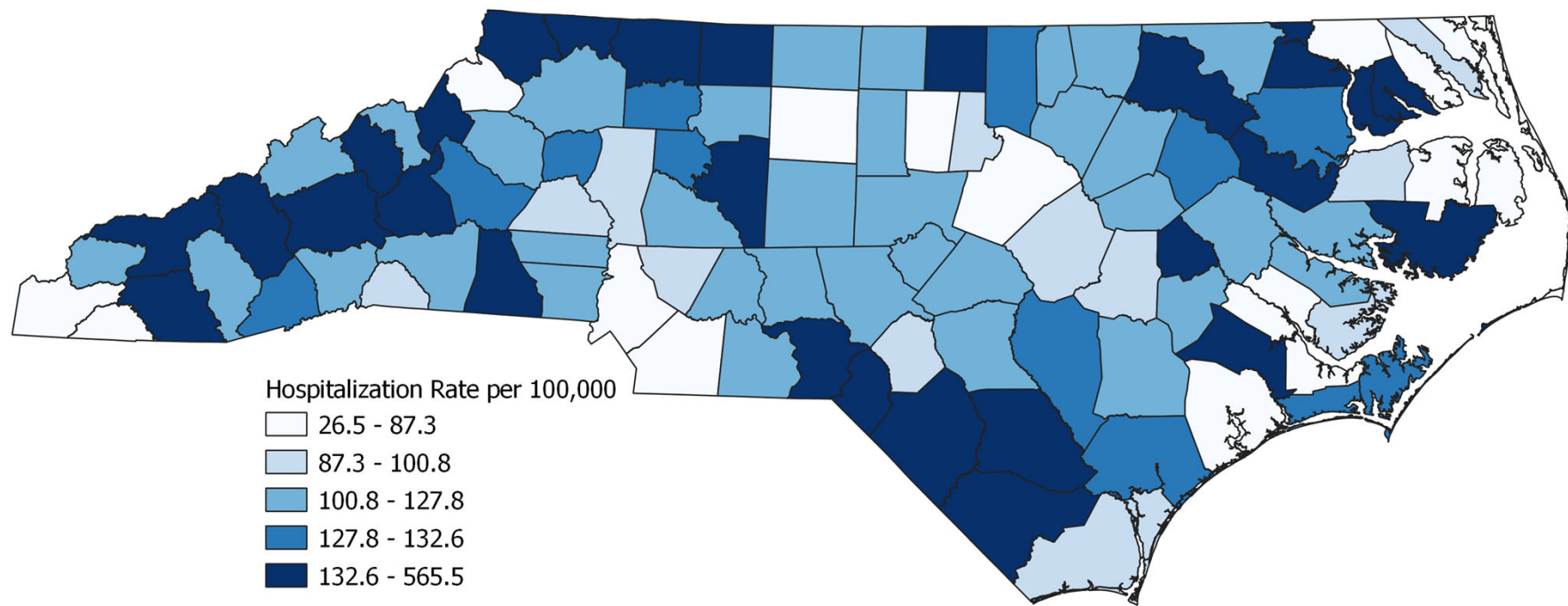
For more information on these data, see the Injury Surveillance Technical Notes: <https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/DataSurveillance/Technical-Notes.pdf>

Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics, Vital Statistics Hospitalizations (2016 & 2020)

Analysis by the NC-DPH, Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit

Injury Hospitalization Rates Among NC Residents, 2016-2020

Statewide, the rate of injury hospitalizations from 2016-2020 was 102.0 per 100,000 people.



Data limited to NC Residents, 2016-2020

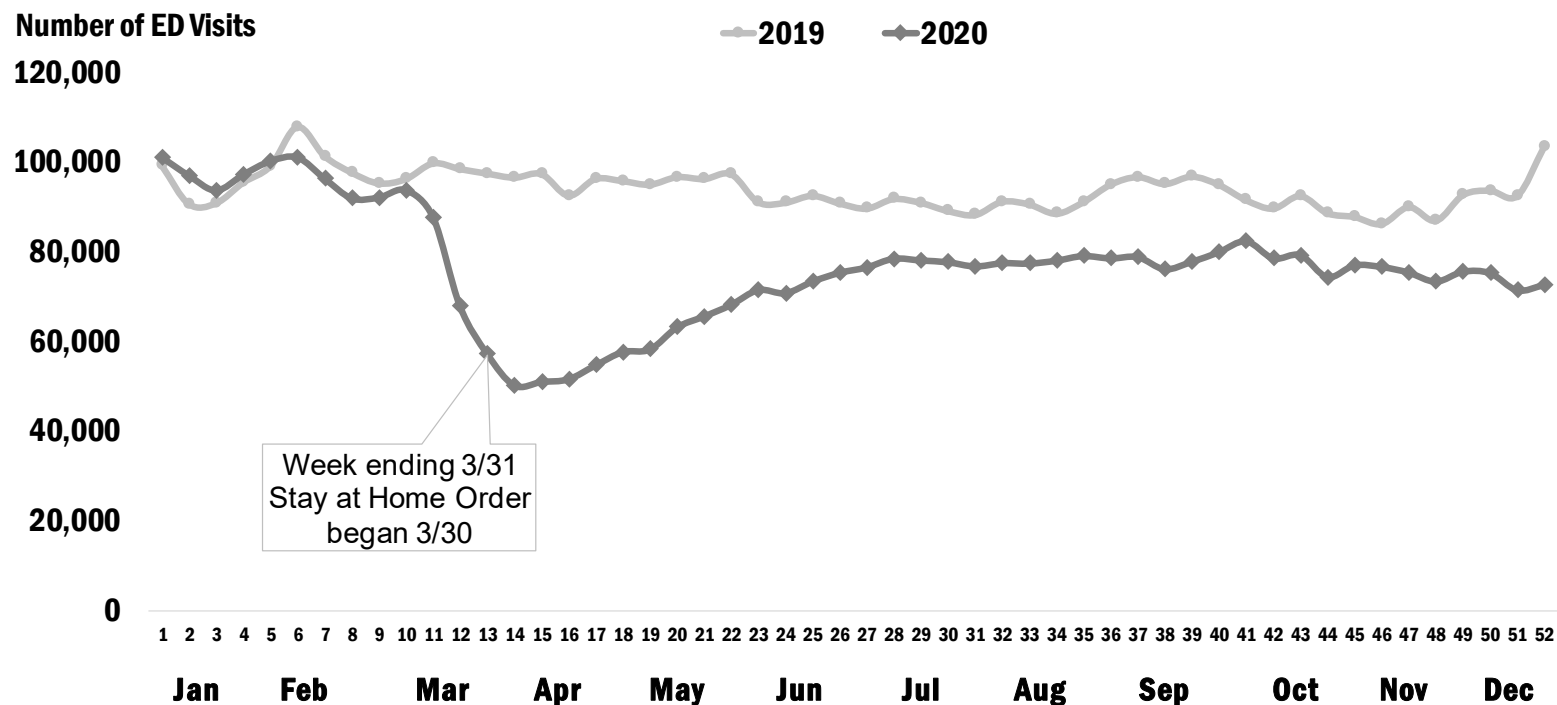
Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics, Vital Statistics Deaths (2016-2020)

Analysis by the NC-DPH, Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit

Injury Emergency Department (ED) Visits

NC experienced an 18% decrease in overall ED visits 2019-2020

This decrease in overall ED utilization also impacted ED visits for injuries.

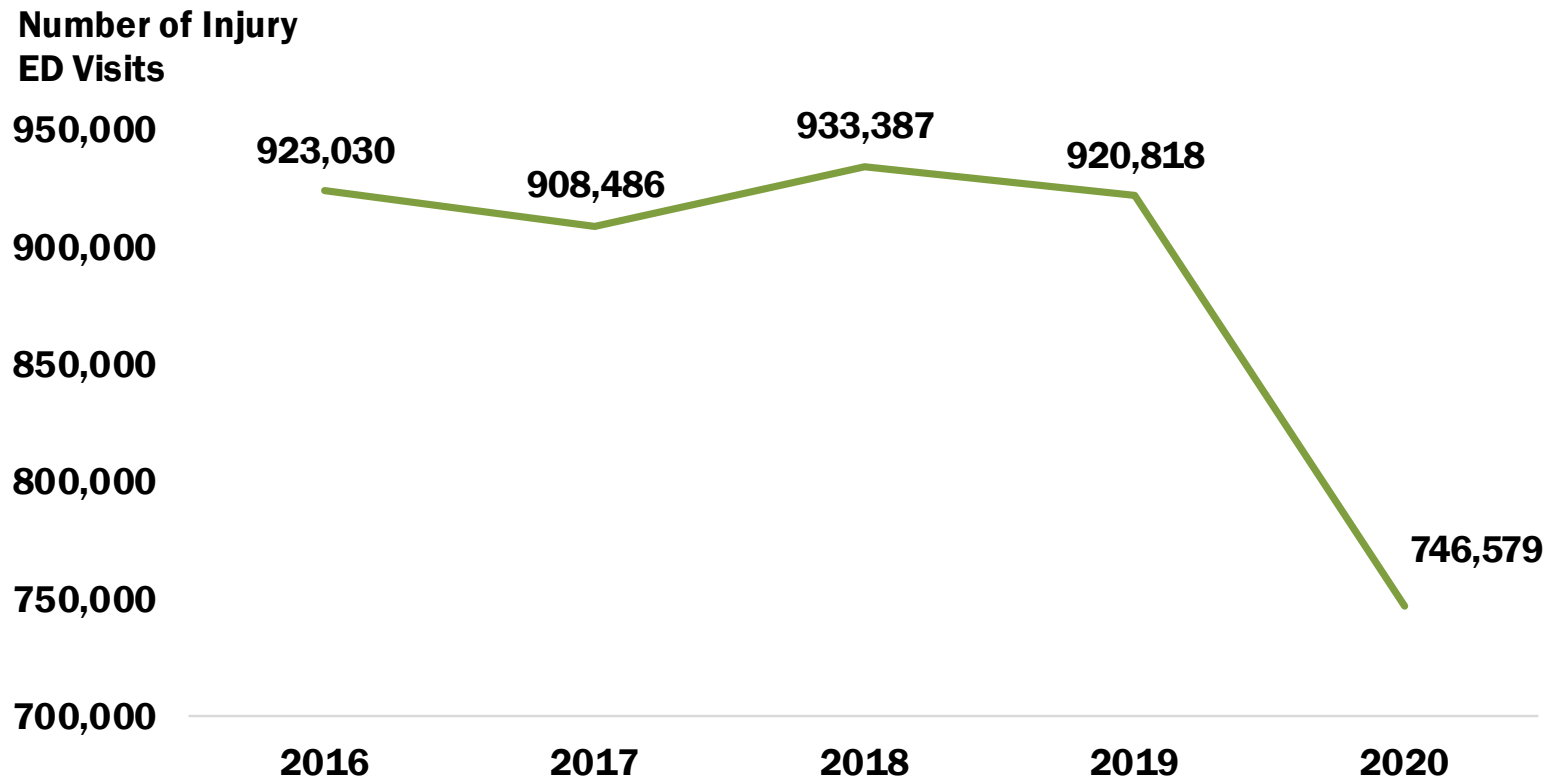


Note: Provisional 2020 data as of 12/14/2021, limited to NC residents
Weeks begin at 01/01 and end at 12/30 for 2019 and 12/29 for 2020
Source: NC DETECT ED Visits, 2019-2020



Overall injury ED Visits: NC Residents, 2016-2020

The total number of injury ED visits decreased 24% since 2016.



Data limited to NC Residents, 2016-2020

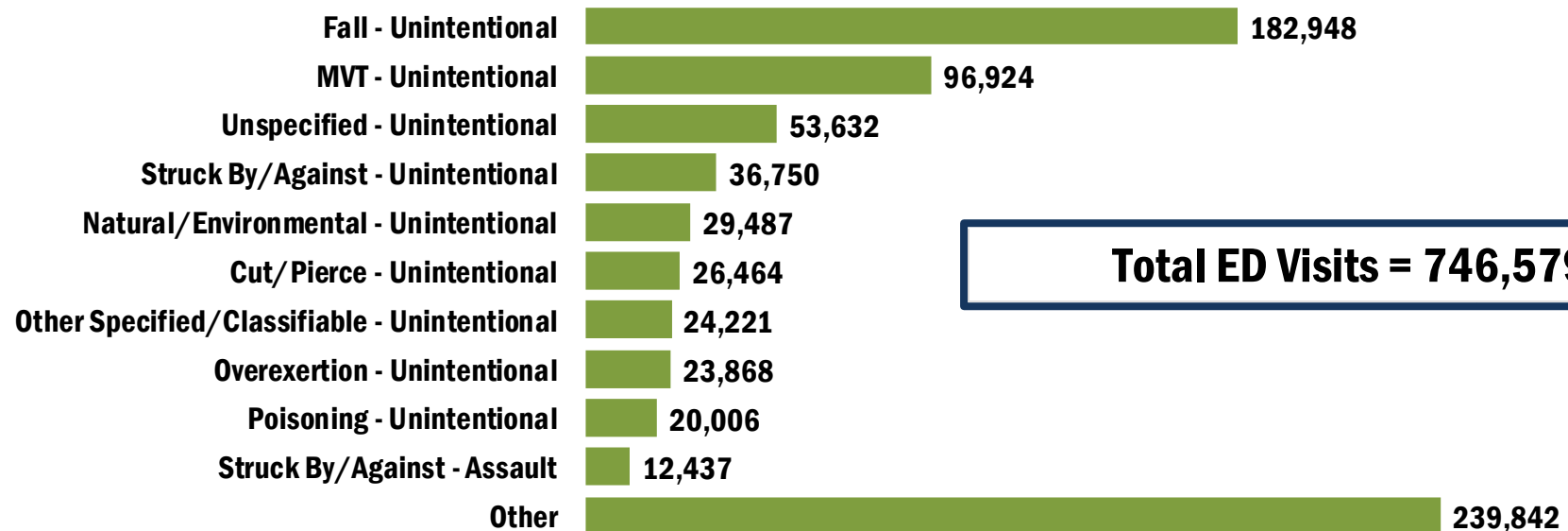
For more information on these data, see the Injury Surveillance Technical Notes: <https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/DataSurveillance/Technical-Notes.pdf>

Source: NC DETECT, 2016-2020

Analysis by the NC-DPH, Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit

Leading cause of injury ED visits: NC Residents, 2020

The leading cause of injury emergency department visits in 2020 was unintentional fall.



Unintentional poisoning includes both medication/drug overdoses and non-drug poisonings (85% and 15% respectively)

MVT = Motor Vehicle Traffic

Data limited to NC Residents, 2020

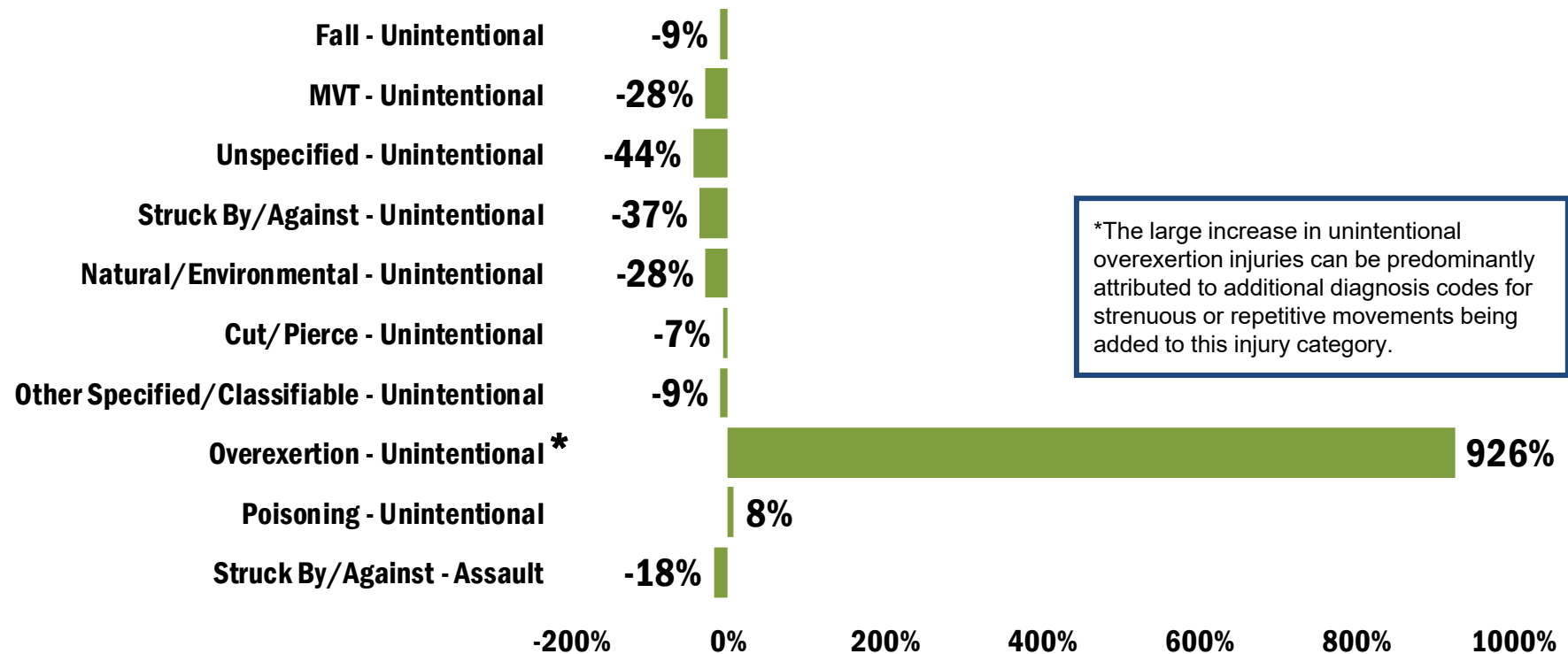
For more information on these data, see the Injury Surveillance Technical Notes: <https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/DataSurveillance/Technical-Notes.pdf>

Source: NC DETECT, 2020

Analysis by the NC-DPH, Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit

Percent change in leading NC injury ED visit rates between 2016 and 2020, NC Residents

Unintentional overexertion injuries had the largest five-year increase.



MVT = Motor Vehicle Traffic

Data limited to NC Residents, 2016 & 2020

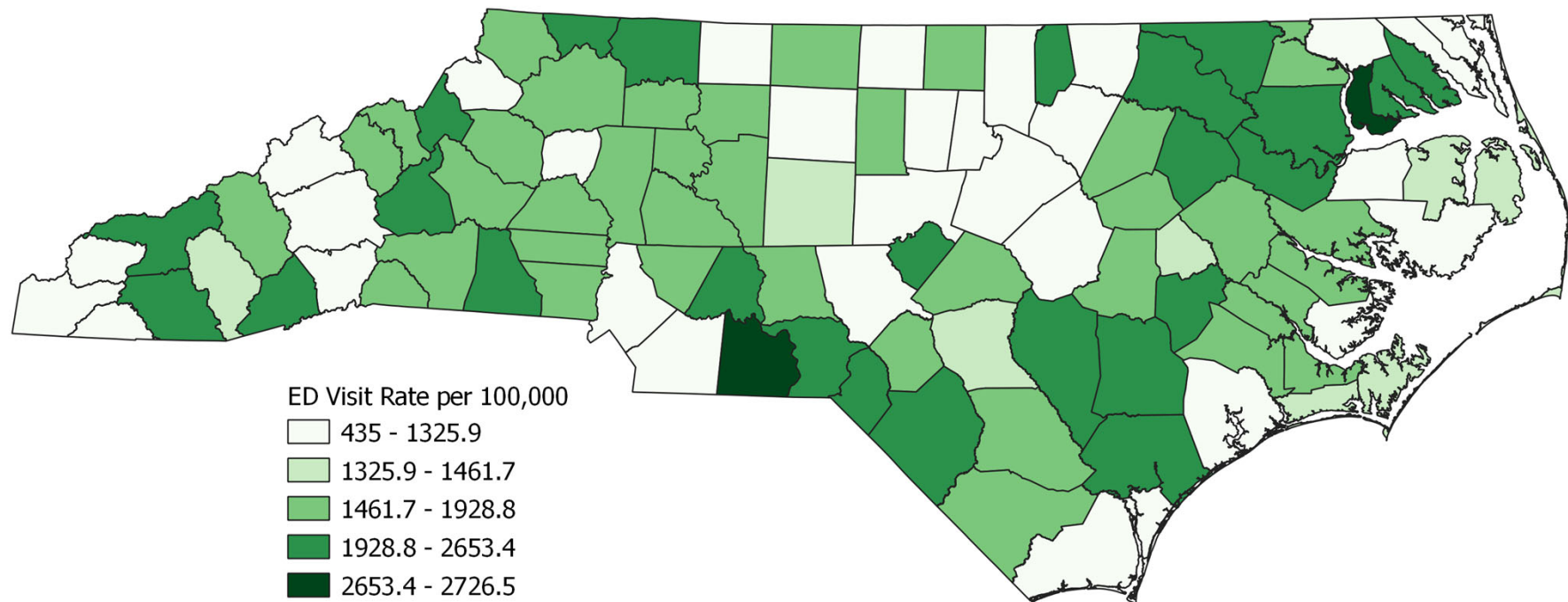
For more information on these data, see the Injury Surveillance Technical Notes: <https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/DataSurveillance/Technical-Notes.pdf>

Source: NC DETECT, 2016 & 2020

Analysis by the DPH Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit

Injury Emergency Department Visit Rates Among NC Residents, 2016-2020

Statewide, the rate of injury ED visits from 2016-2020 was 1521.8 per 100,000 people.



Data limited to NC Residents, 2016-2020

Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics, Vital Statistics Deaths (2016-2020)

Analysis by the NC-DPH Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit