

**Table A:  
Leading Causes of Death\* by Age Group  
North Carolina Residents, 2018**

<i>All Ages</i>		
Rank	Cause	Number
1	Cancer	19,693
2	Diseases of the heart	19,254
3	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	5,367
4	Cerebrovascular disease	5,072
5	Alzheimer's disease	4,502
6	Other Unintentional injuries	4,478
7	Diabetes mellitus	3,021
8	Pneumonia and influenza	2,067
9	Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome and nephrosis	1,936
10	Motor vehicle injuries	1,591
	All other causes (Residual)	27,024
	<b>Total Deaths—All Causes</b>	<b>94,005</b>

<i>Infants (Age &lt;1)</i>		
Rank	Cause	Number
1	Congenital anomalies (birth defects)	140
2	Short gestation - low birthweight	133
3	Maternal complications of pregnancy	51
4	Bacterial sepsis	27
5	Complications of placenta, cord, and membranes	26
6	Diseases of the circulatory system	22
6	Other unintentional injuries	22
6	Respiratory distress	22
9	Necrotizing enterocolitis	14
10	Atelectasis	11
	All other causes (Residual)	338
	<b>Total Deaths—All Causes</b>	<b>806</b>

<i>1–4 Years</i>		
Rank	Cause	Number
1	Other unintentional injuries	27
2	Motor vehicle injuries	14
3	Congenital anomalies (birth defects)	13
4	Diseases of the heart	9
5	Cancer	7
5	Homicide	7
7	Pneumonia and influenza	3
8	Conditions originating in the perinatal period	2
8	Septicemia	2
10	Anemias	1
10	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	1
10	Diseases of appendix	1
10	In-situ/benign neoplasms	1
10	Nutritional deficiencies	1
	All other causes (Residual)	29
	<b>Total Deaths—All Causes</b>	<b>118</b>

<i>5–14 Years</i>		
Rank	Cause	Number
1	Motor vehicle injuries	28
2	Cancer	26
3	Other unintentional injuries	23
4	Suicide	18
5	Congenital anomalies (birth defects)	16
6	Homicide	11
7	Pneumonia and influenza	8
8	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	5
8	Diseases of the heart	5
10	In-situ/benign neoplasms	4
10	Septicemia	4
	All other causes (Residual)	40
	<b>Total Deaths—All Causes</b>	<b>188</b>

\* Leading causes of death are generated from a list of 51 causes of death categories developed by the National Center for Health Statistics to promote comparability in analyses of mortality. For deaths under 1 year of age, a list of 72 causes of death was used. See Appendices for the ICD-10 codes for these lists of causes.

**Table A: (cont.)**  
**Leading Causes of Death\* by Age Group**  
**North Carolina Residents, 2018**

<i>15–24 Years</i>		
Rank	Cause	Number
1	Motor vehicle injuries	248
2	Other unintentional injuries	239
3	Suicide	185
4	Homicide	163
5	Cancer	43
6	Diseases of the heart	29
7	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	7
7	Congenital anomalies (birth defects)	7
9	Cerebrovascular disease	5
9	Pneumonia and influenza	5
9	Diabetes mellitus	5
9	Septicemia	5
	All other causes (Residual)	121
	<b>Total Deaths—All Causes</b>	<b>1,062</b>

<i>25–44 Years</i>		
Rank	Cause	Number
1	Other unintentional injuries	1,297
2	Motor vehicle injuries	502
3	Cancer	488
4	Diseases of the heart	475
5	Suicide	438
6	Homicide	287
7	Diabetes mellitus	147
8	Chronic liver disease & cirrhosis	118
9	Cerebrovascular disease	87
10	Septicemia	56
	All other causes (Residual)	955
	<b>Total Deaths—All Causes</b>	<b>4,850</b>

<i>45–64 Years</i>		
Rank	Cause	Number
1	Cancer	5,153
2	Diseases of the heart	3,753
3	Other unintentional injuries	1,145
4	Diabetes mellitus	875
5	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	857
6	Cerebrovascular disease	685
7	Chronic liver disease & cirrhosis	680
8	Suicide	578
9	Motor vehicle injuries	453
10	Septicemia	347
	All other causes (Residual)	4,335
	<b>Total Deaths—All Causes</b>	<b>18,861</b>

<i>Ages 65 and Over</i>		
Rank	Cause	Number
1	Diseases of the heart	14,969
2	Cancer	13,976
3	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	4,470
4	Alzheimer's disease	4,454
5	Cerebrovascular disease	4,286
6	Diabetes mellitus	1,992
7	Other unintentional injuries	1,725
8	Pneumonia and influenza	1,705
9	Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome and nephrosis	1,553
10	Septicemia	1,114
	All other causes (Residual)	17,876
	<b>Total Deaths—All Causes</b>	<b>68,120</b>

\* Leading causes of death are generated from a list of 51 causes of death categories developed by the National Center for Health Statistics to promote comparability in analyses of mortality. For deaths under 1 year of age, a list of 72 causes of death was used. See Appendices for the ICD-10 codes for these lists of causes.

## Table B: Leading Causes of Death by Race\* North Carolina Residents, 2018

*Note: Hispanic and Non-Hispanic deaths are in Table D on page 8.*

<i>White, Non-Hispanic</i>		
Rank	Cause	Number
1	Cancer	14,977
2	Diseases of the heart	14,784
3	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	4,623
4	Cerebrovascular disease	3,782
5	Alzheimer's disease	3,727
6	Other unintentional injuries	3,576
7	Diabetes mellitus	1,891
8	Pneumonia and influenza	1,658
9	Suicide	1,279
10	Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome and nephrosis	1,200
	All other causes (Residual)	19,833
	<b>Total Deaths—All Causes</b>	<b>71,330</b>

<i>African American, Non-Hispanic</i>		
Rank	Cause	Number
1	Cancer	4,018
2	Diseases of the heart	3,893
3	Cerebrovascular disease	1,109
4	Diabetes mellitus	1,014
5	Other unintentional injuries	678
6	Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome and nephrosis	658
7	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	645
8	Alzheimer's disease	639
9	Motor vehicle injuries	419
10	Homicide	405
	All other causes (Residual)	5,726
	<b>Total Deaths—All Causes</b>	<b>19,204</b>

<i>American Indian, Non-Hispanic</i>		
Rank	Cause	Number
1	Diseases of the heart	217
2	Cancer	191
3	Other unintentional injuries	65
4	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	60
5	Alzheimer's disease	55
6	Motor vehicle injuries	47
7	Diabetes mellitus	45
8	Cerebrovascular disease	38
9	Chronic liver disease & cirrhosis	29
10	Homicide	28
	All other causes (Residual)	266
	<b>Total Deaths—All Causes</b>	<b>1,041</b>

<i>All Other Races, Non-Hispanic</i>		
Rank	Cause	Number
1	Cancer	213
2	Diseases of the heart	140
3	Cerebrovascular disease	57
4	Other unintentional injuries	38
5	Alzheimer's disease	31
6	Diabetes mellitus	30
7	Suicide	27
8	Motor vehicle injuries	26
9	Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome and nephrosis	23
10	Pneumonia and influenza	20
	All other causes (Residual)	253
	<b>Total Deaths—All Causes</b>	<b>858</b>

\* Caution should be taken when comparing the number of deaths across racial groupings. Population size varies considerably from one racial group to another. The number of deaths for each group is to a large extent a reflection of that population size.

**Table C:  
Leading Causes of Death by Sex  
North Carolina Residents, 2018**

<i>Female</i>		
Rank	Cause	Number
1	Cancer	9,244
2	Diseases of the heart	8,821
3	Alzheimer's disease	3,181
4	Cerebrovascular disease	2,893
5	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	2,824
6	Other unintentional injuries	1,803
7	Diabetes mellitus	1,263
8	Pneumonia and influenza	1,050
9	Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome and nephrosis	905
10	Septicemia	787
	All other causes (Residual)	13,048
	<b>Total Deaths—All Causes</b>	<b>45,819</b>

<i>Male</i>		
Rank	Cause	Number
1	Cancer	10,449
2	Diseases of the heart	10,433
3	Other unintentional injuries	2,675
4	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	2,543
5	Cerebrovascular disease	2,179
6	Diabetes mellitus	1,758
7	Alzheimer's disease	1,321
8	Suicide	1,170
9	Motor vehicle injuries	1,141
10	Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome and nephrosis	1,031
	All other causes (Residual)	13,486
	<b>Total Deaths—All Causes</b>	<b>48,186</b>

**Table D:  
Leading Causes of Death by Hispanicity  
North Carolina Residents, 2018**

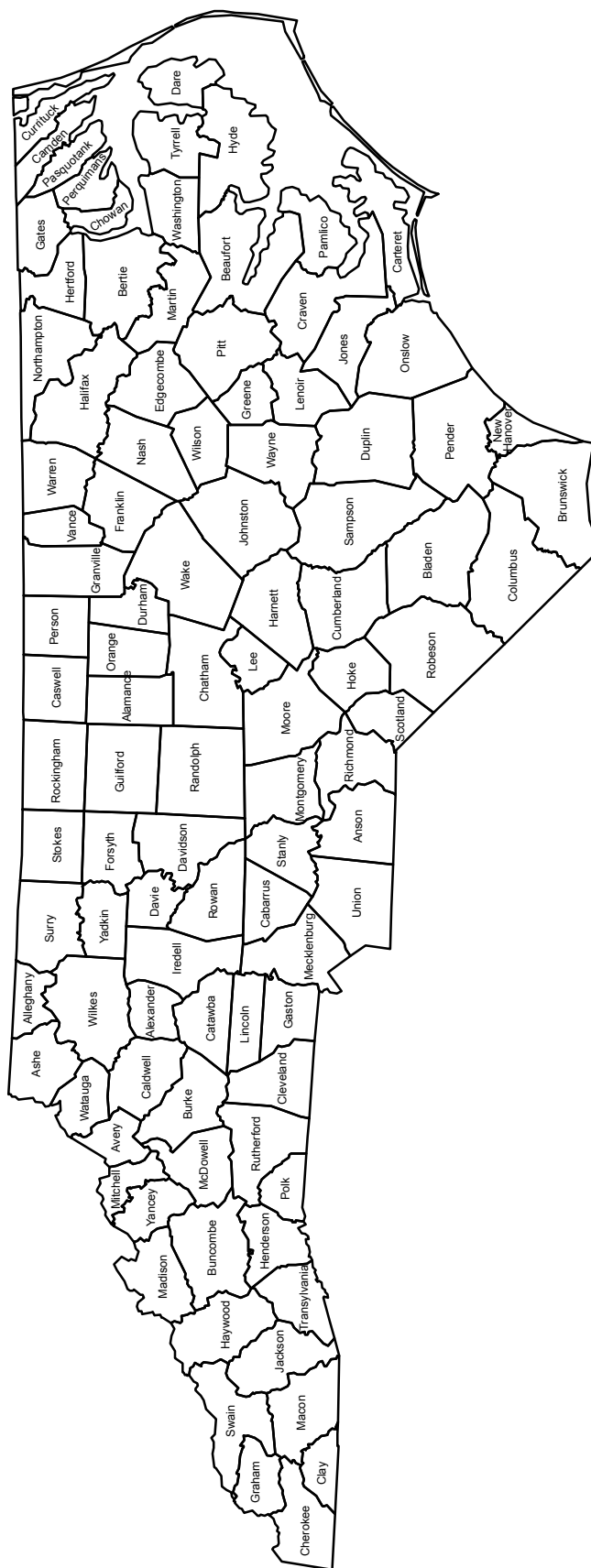
<i>Hispanic</i>		
Rank	Cause	Number
1	Cancer	294
2	Diseases of the heart	220
3	Other unintentional injuries	121
4	Motor vehicle injuries	113
5	Cerebrovascular disease	86
6	Suicide	53
7	Alzheimer's disease	50
8	Diabetes mellitus	41
9	Conditions originating in the perinatal period	39
10	Septicemia	36
10	Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome and nephrosis	36
	All other causes (Residual)	483
	<b>Total Deaths—All Causes</b>	<b>1,572</b>

<i>Non-Hispanic</i>		
Rank	Cause	Number
1	Cancer	19,399
2	Diseases of the heart	19,034
3	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	5,345
4	Cerebrovascular disease	4,986
5	Alzheimer's disease	4,452
6	Other unintentional injuries	4,357
7	Diabetes mellitus	2,980
8	Pneumonia and influenza	2,044
9	Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome and nephrosis	1,900
10	Septicemia	1,495
	All other causes (Residual)	26,441
	<b>Total Deaths—All Causes</b>	<b>92,433</b>

NOTE: Overall totals may not add up to the sum of the individual categories due to records with unknown gender or ethnicity.

**STATE AND  
COUNTY MORTALITY  
TABLES FOR 2018**

# North Carolina Counties



**Table E:  
North Carolina Resident Mortality Statistics  
Summary for 2014–2018**

<b>Leading Causes of Death</b>	<b>Number of Deaths 2018</b>	<b>Death Rate 2018</b>	<b>Number of Deaths 2014–2018</b>	<b>Unadjusted Death Rate 2014–2018</b>	<b>Age-Adjusted Death Rate 2014–2018</b>
Diseases of Heart	19,254	185.4	92,384	181.9	158.0
Acute Myocardial Infarction	3,351	32.3	16,873	33.2	28.4
Other Ischemic Heart Disease	7,127	68.6	35,054	69.0	59.4
Hypertension	1,027	9.9	4,801	9.5	8.3
Cerebrovascular Disease	5,072	48.8	24,832	48.9	43.0
Atherosclerosis	138	1.3	673	1.3	1.1
Cancer	19,693	189.7	97,303	191.6	161.3
Lip, Oral Cavity and Pharynx	346	3.3	1,637	3.2	2.7
Stomach	357	3.4	1,707	3.4	2.9
Colon, Rectum and Anus	1,617	15.6	8,097	15.9	13.6
Liver	890	8.6	4,183	8.2	6.7
Pancreas	1,418	13.7	6,684	13.2	11.0
Larynx	118	1.1	673	1.3	1.1
Trachea, Bronchus and Lung	5,196	50.0	27,132	53.4	44.1
Malignant Melanoma of Skin	243	2.3	1,355	2.7	2.3
Bladder	563	5.4	2,479	4.9	4.2
Brain Tumors	498	4.8	2,434	4.8	4.1
Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma	596	5.7	3,001	5.9	5.1
Leukemia	743	7.2	3,525	6.9	6.1
Diabetes Mellitus	3,021	29.1	14,170	27.9	23.7
Pneumonia and Influenza	2,067	19.9	10,024	19.7	17.4
Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	5,367	51.7	26,470	52.1	44.7
Chronic Liver Disease and Cirrhosis	1,303	12.5	6,265	12.3	10.4
Septicemia	1,531	14.7	7,524	14.8	12.8
Nephritis, Nephrotic Syndrome and Nephrosis	1,936	18.6	9,591	18.9	16.4
Unintentional Motor Vehicle Injuries	1,591	15.3	7,553	14.9	14.5
All Other Unintentional Injuries	4,478	43.1	19,576	38.6	37.0
Suicide	1,499	14.4	7,152	14.1	13.5
Homicide	651	6.3	3,217	6.3	6.5
Alzheimer's disease	4,502	43.4	19,988	39.4	35.7
HIV disease	190	1.8	1,064	2.1	1.9
<b>Total Deaths—All Causes</b>	<b>94,005</b>	<b>905.3</b>	<b>452,047</b>	<b>890.2</b>	<b>781.8</b>

**Table F:  
North Carolina Resident Sex-Specific Mortality Statistics  
Summary for 2014–2018**

<b>Sex-Specific Causes of Cancer Death</b>	<b>Number of Deaths 2018</b>	<b>Death Rate 2018</b>	<b>Number of Deaths 2014–2018</b>	<b>Unadjusted Death Rate 2014–2018</b>	<b>Age-Adjusted Death Rate 2014–2018</b>
Female Breast	1,406	26.4	6,880	26.4	20.9
Cervix Uteri	132	2.5	604	2.3	2.0
Ovary	379	7.1	2,050	7.9	6.1
Prostate	1,003	19.9	4,654	18.8	19.7

*NOTES:* All death rates are per 100,000 population. The sex-specific death rates cannot be compared to the other leading causes of death because the denominators are sex-specific. Therefore, in ranking the causes of death—for example, in ranking the leading cancer sites—one must use the observed numbers of deaths. See Appendices for cause of death codes.