

2018-2019

North Carolina Poison Control Biennial Snapshot

POISON
Help
1-800-222-1222
NC POISON CONTROL





150,389
cases handled



206*
calls and chats
taken per day



42% of people who needed help
from poison control were

adults.



1 out of 4
calls and chats
came from a
healthcare provider



67%
of cases were
managed at home
(or at the call site)

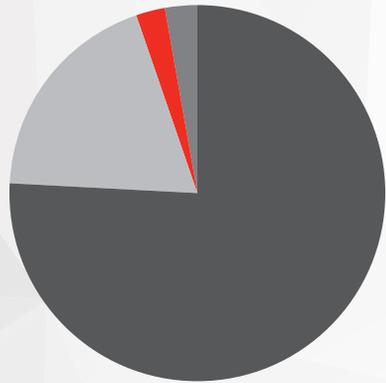


Pain relievers were the #1 substance
prompting people to contact NC Poison Control.**

*Average day

**Over-the-counter and prescription

Reason for Exposure



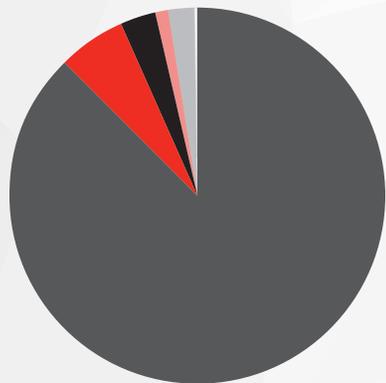
● Unintentional	76.04%
● Intentional	18.76%
● Adverse Reaction	2.7%
● Other	2.51%

Patient Age



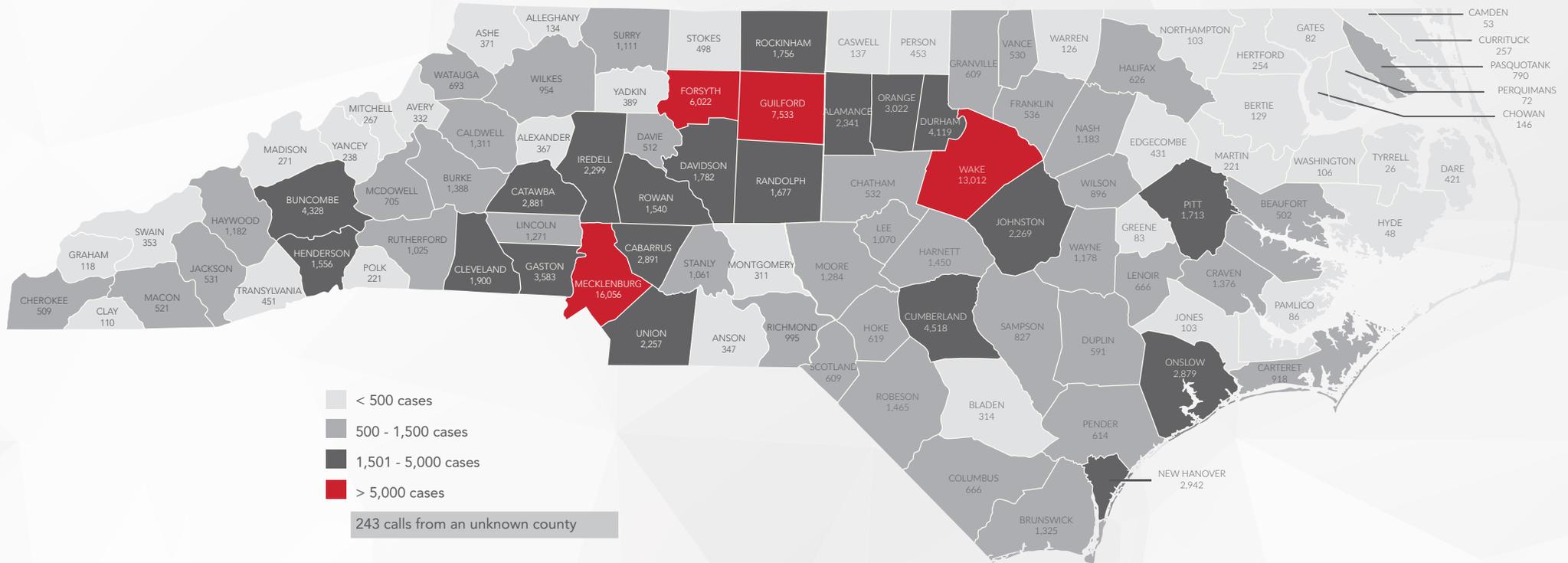
● < 6 years	41.47%
● 6-12 years	6.5%
○ 13-19 years	8.09%
● 20-59 years	31.4%
● > 60 years	10.69%
● Unknown Age	1.85%

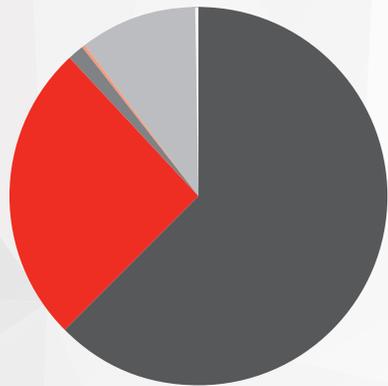
Case Types



● Human Exposures	87.74%
● Drug ID/Information	5.84%
● Animal Exposures	3.07%
● Poison Information	1.04%
● Other	2.06%
○ Confirmed Non-Exposures	0.24%

Case Volume by County





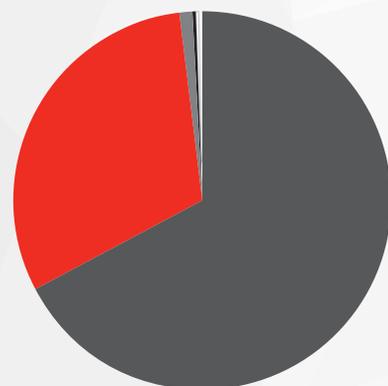
- Home 62.51%
- Healthcare Facility 25.77%
- Workplace 1.19%
- School 0.33%
- Other 10.06%
- Unknown/Not Specified 0.15%

13,052
webPOISONCONTROL® Cases Taken



2,158
Chats Taken

Management Site



Where was the care provided?

- Onsite (Non-Healthcare Facility) 67.29%
- Managed at Healthcare Facility 30.98%
- Refused Referral to Healthcare Facility 1.02%
- Other 0.27%
- Unknown 0.45%

Top 10 Substances People Contacted NC Poison Control About

Analgesics 22,226
(over-the-counter and prescription pain relievers)

Household cleaning products 11,307

Sedatives/hypnotics/antipsychotics 10,503
(including anxiety medications and sleep aids)

Cardiovascular drugs 10,053
(heart and blood pressure medications)

Antidepressants 9,798

Cosmetics/personal care products 9,201

Antihistamines 8,776

Pesticides 7,314

Foreign objects 5,638
(including silica gel packs, glow sticks, toys, batteries and coins)

Alcohols 5,025

Top 10 Education Items Distributed



Mini Magnet
13,724



Poison Help
Magnet
11,897



Poison Safety
Brochure
9,678

Think it's a Poisoning?
Should you call 911 or poison control?

Did you know about 7 out of 10 callers to North Carolina Poison Control are helped right where they are, without needing hospital care? Our nurses and pharmacists are standing by 24/7 ready to help.

Call North Carolina Poison Control at 1-800-222-1222 if someone has...	Call 911 if someone has...
Eaten, swallowed, tasted, touched, or inhaled something you think might be poisonous	Collapsed
Been bitten by a snake, aquatic animal, spider, or other insect	Had a seizure
A question about something you think might be poisonous	Experienced chest pains
	Stopped breathing and/or become unconscious

Poison Control and 911 Infographic
8,991



Program the
Number Sticker
8,435

PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE AMONG TEENS

OFTEN BEGINS AT HOME

LUCKILY, SO DOES [AWARENESS]

A growing cause of death among teens is prescription drug misuse. Tragically, happens when medication is taken incorrectly and when teens share pills. Most parents are unaware of this epidemic, and that deadly drug use often obtained in home medicine cabinet. Carolina Poison Center has a confidential, 24-hour help line staffed by experts who can answer your questions about prescription drug abuse and your child. **Anonymous lives.**

NEARLY TWICE AS MANY TEENS ARE DYING FROM POISONINGS THAN A DECADY AGO... AND MANY OF THOSE DEATHS ARE RELATED TO PRESCRIPTION DRUGS.*

POISON HELP
1-800-222-1222
poisonhelpnc.org

Atrium Health

Teen Rack
Card
8,105

PREVENT POISONINGS AT HOME

Store these products up and out of children's reach.

KITCHEN alcoholic beverages cooking cleaner dish cleaner dish sponges floor cleaner furniture polish hand sanitizer vitamins	LIVING ROOM buton batteries cigarettes diffuser oils e-cigarettes plants
BATHROOM cosmetics hair products mouthwash nail products shower/bath cleaner toilet bowl cleaner toothpaste	BEDROOM essential oils medicines perfumes respirators
LAUNDRY ROOM bleach detergents laundry pods soaps stain remover	GARAGE all-weather wheel cleaner ant/rat traps antifreeze grease kerosene lamp oil higher fluid paint thinner pesticides rust remover windshield washer fluid

Some items may be found in more than one room.

POISON HELP
1-800-222-1222
www.NCPoisonControl.org

Home Safety
Checklist
7,092

SHARING PILLS CAN KILL, BUT AWARENESS SAVES LIVES.

POISON HELP
1-800-222-1222

Atrium Health

CALL CAROLINA'S POISON CENTER FOR MEDICATION HELP.

SHARINGPILLSCANKILL.COM

Teen Magnet
5,600

POISON PERIL

Poisonings are more common—and more deadly—than you realize.

Poisoning is now the #1 cause of injury death, killing even more people than car accidents.¹ But poisonings are preventable and treatable and there's a resource to help: the **Poison Help line** — 1-800-222-1222, which connects you to your local poison center. The nurses, pharmacists, doctors and poison experts that staff the line 24 hours a day, 365 days a year can give you free and confidential advice, from how to handle an emergency to how to protect your family from poison dangers. To learn more, visit www.poisonhelp.hrsa.gov.

Top 5 Causes of Poisoning²

- Personal Products
- Consumer Personal Products
- Medications
- Household Cleaning Products
- Drugs

What Can You Do?

How Common is Poisoning?

Drug-related poisonings cause nearly **700,000** visits to hospital emergency rooms each year.³

35,000 deaths each year.⁴

Who's at Risk?

50% Young people are the most likely to be poisoned, with children under age six accounting for half of all poison exposures.⁵

92% Most of the poisoning deaths occur among people over the age of 65.⁶

HRSA

Atrium Health

Poison Peril Infographic
5,324

A GUIDE TO ACCIDENTAL PLANT POISONING

POISON HELP
1-800-222-1222

POISON EXPERTS ON CALL

NC Poison Control

Plant Brochure
5,229

North Carolina Poison Control (NCPC) is the poison control center serving all of North Carolina. The center is staffed by nurses, pharmacists and toxicologists who are expertly trained in handling poisonings. You can reach NCPC by calling 1-800-222-1222. Take a moment now to program the number into your phone.

NCPC helps people of all ages. Often poison control is thought of as a service primarily helping parents with young children. However, about the same percentage of adults contact us for help as do parents of young children.

NCPC also assists healthcare providers by giving treatment recommendations for their poisoned patients. One-fourth of our calls come from healthcare facilities across the state.

NCPC provides all of this assistance to the public and to healthcare providers for free. NCPC answered over 200 calls and chats per day in 2018-2019, and we are ready to help by phone at 1-800-222-1222, chat at [NCPoisonControl.org](https://www.NCPoisonControl.org) or online at [webPOISONCONTROL.org](https://www.webPOISONCONTROL.org).



CALL
1-800-222-1222



CHAT
[NCPoisonControl.org](https://www.NCPoisonControl.org)



ONLINE
[webPOISONCONTROL.org](https://www.webPOISONCONTROL.org)

Get poison prevention tips by visiting
www.NCPoisonControl.org.

POISON
Help
1-800-222-1222
NC POISON CONTROL

The logo features the word "POISON" in a small, bold, black font above the word "Help" in a large, bold, black font. The letter "e" in "Help" is replaced by a red pill bottle with a white cap and a white skull and crossbones symbol on its side. Below the text is the phone number "1-800-222-1222" and "NC POISON CONTROL" in a bold, black font.