

HOMICIDE / ASSAULT

- *Black males were four times more likely to die from homicide than white males, and accounted for 60% of all the homicide deaths.*
- *Males, especially black males and Hispanic males, had a higher hospitalization rate than females from assault.*

Homicide (death) or assault (nonfatal) is defined as an intentional injury with the intent to harm or kill.

Deaths from Homicide

From 1999 through 2001, 1,936 Georgians died from homicide, an average of 645 per year. Of those dying, 73% were between the ages of 15 and 44 years, 74% were males and 60% were black (Table 18).



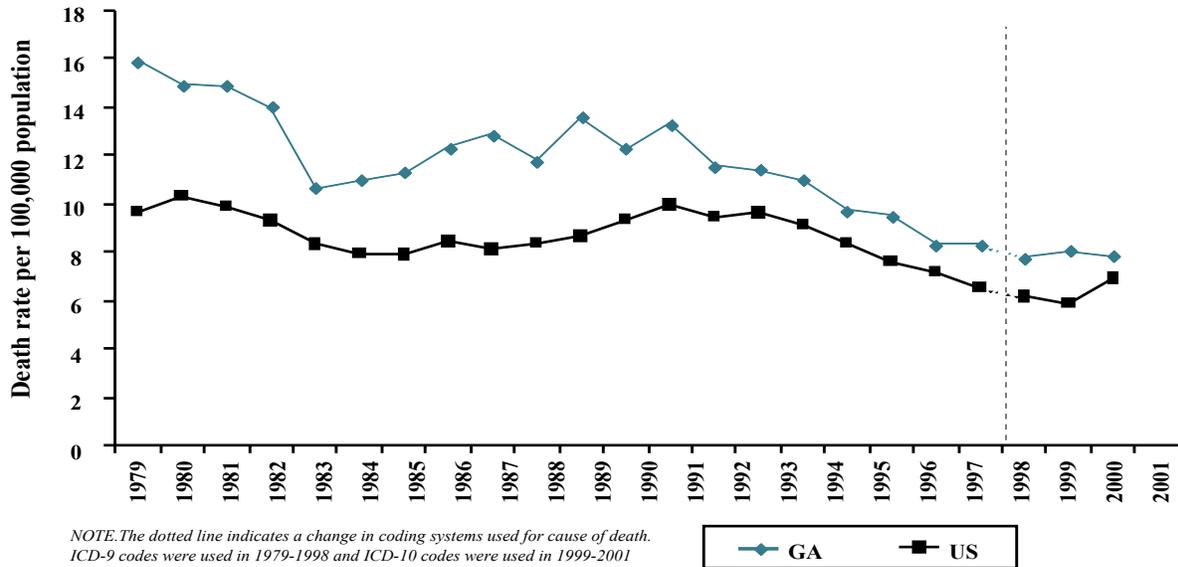
**Table 18. Number of Deaths by Age, Race and Sex:
Homicide, Georgia, 1999-2001**

Age Group	White		Black		Other		Total	Average per year
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female		
Under 5	15	15	28	32	1	0	91	30
5-14	14	12	16	7	1	0	50	17
15-24	111	32	308	53	5	0	509	170
25-44	225	93	431	141	12	5	907	302
45-64	121	43	94	35	8	3	304	101
65+	27	23	18	7	0	0	75	25
Total	513	218	895	275	27	8	1936	645

Profile of Injuries in Georgia

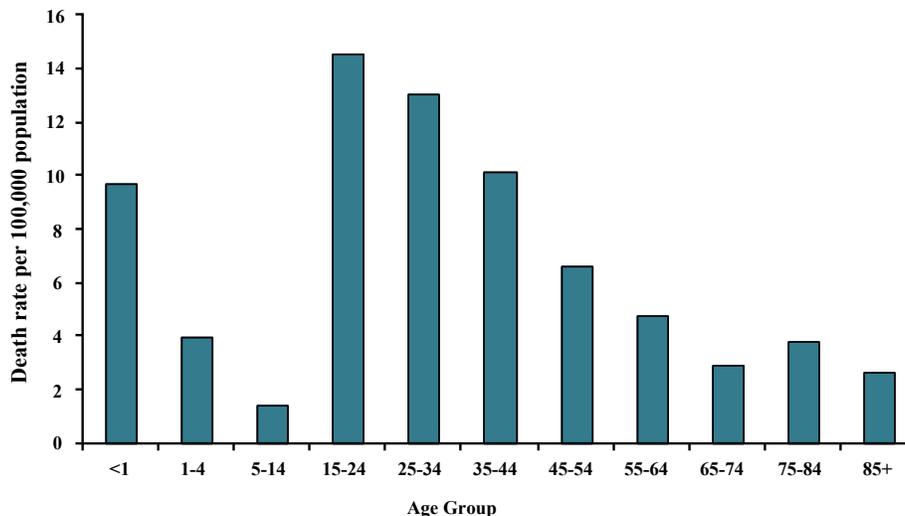
The death rate from homicide in Georgia has been consistently higher than the US rate since 1979. Both rates have decreased over the past two decades (Figure 51). During the period 1999 through 2001, if the death rate for homicides in Georgia had been equal to the death rate for homicides in the United States, an estimated 130 persons per year would not have died (Table 1).

Figure 51. Age-Adjusted Death Rates: Homicide, Georgia and US, 1979-2001



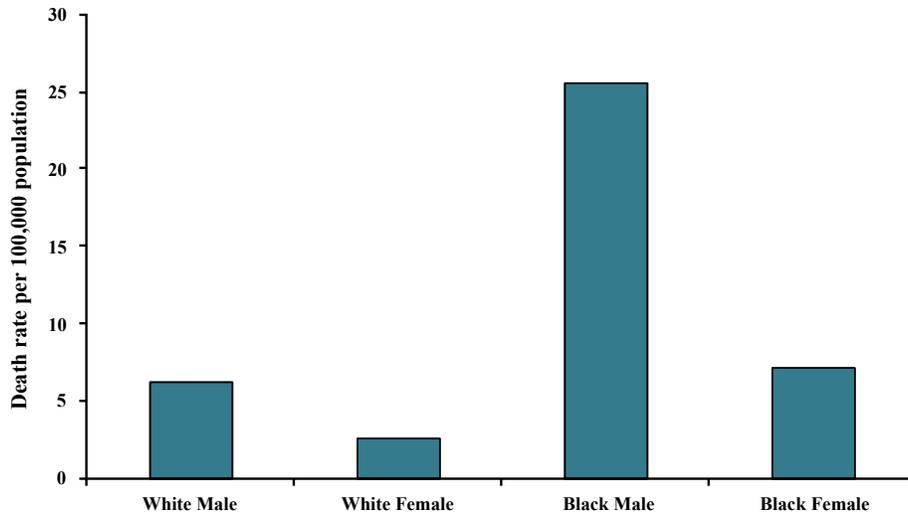
Infants less than one year old and persons aged 15 to 44 years had the highest homicide rates of all age groups (Figure 52).

Figure 52. Age-Specific Death Rates: Homicide, Georgia, 1999-2001



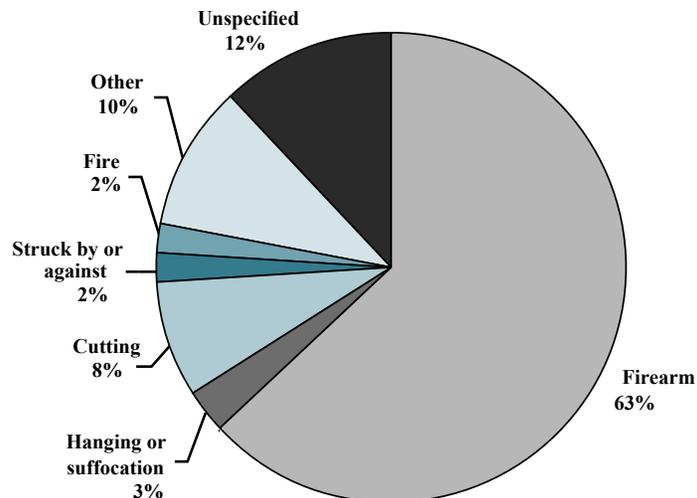
The rate of homicide was about 3 times higher for males (12.0 per 100,000 population) than for females (4.0 per 100,000 population). Blacks were more likely to die from homicide (16.0 per 100,000 population) than whites (4.5 per 100,000 population). Black males had the highest homicide rate (25.6 per 100,000 population) among all the race/sex groups (Figure 53).

Figure 53. Age-adjusted Death Rates by Race and Sex: Homicide, Georgia, 1999-2001

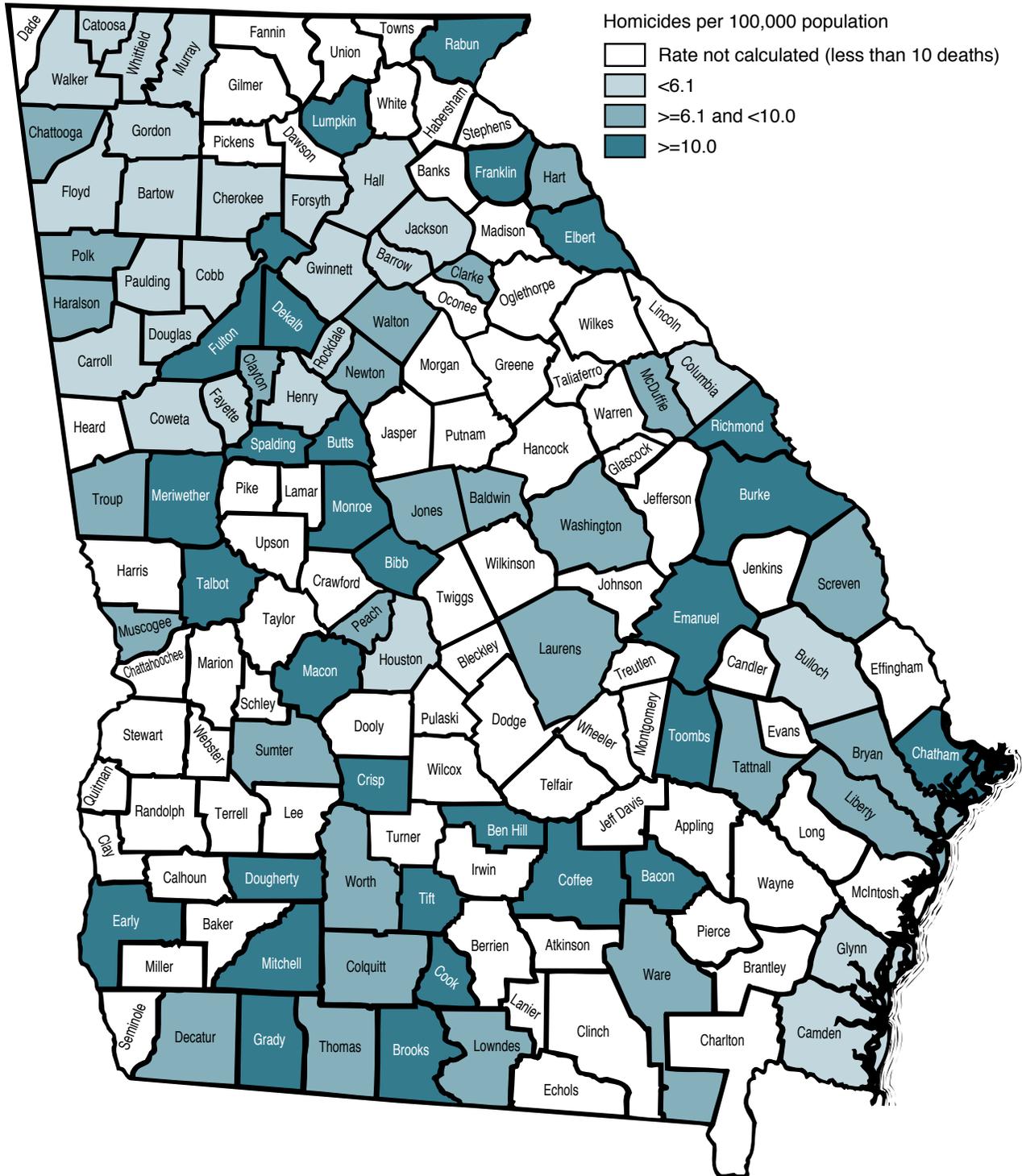


Firearms were the most common method used for homicide in Georgia, accounting for 63% of all homicides from 1999 through 2001 (Figure 54).

Figure 54. Homicide by Method Used, Georgia, 1999-2001



**Map 13. Age-adjusted Death Rate by County of Residence:
Homicide, Georgia, 1994-2001**



Hospitalizations from Assaults

There were a total of 5,972 injury hospitalizations from assaults from 1999 to 2001, an average of 1,991 per year, resulting in approximately 11,600 hospitalization days and almost \$37 million in hospital charges per year. Of those hospitalized, about 75% were between the ages of 15 and 44 years, 78% were male and 63% were black (Table 19).

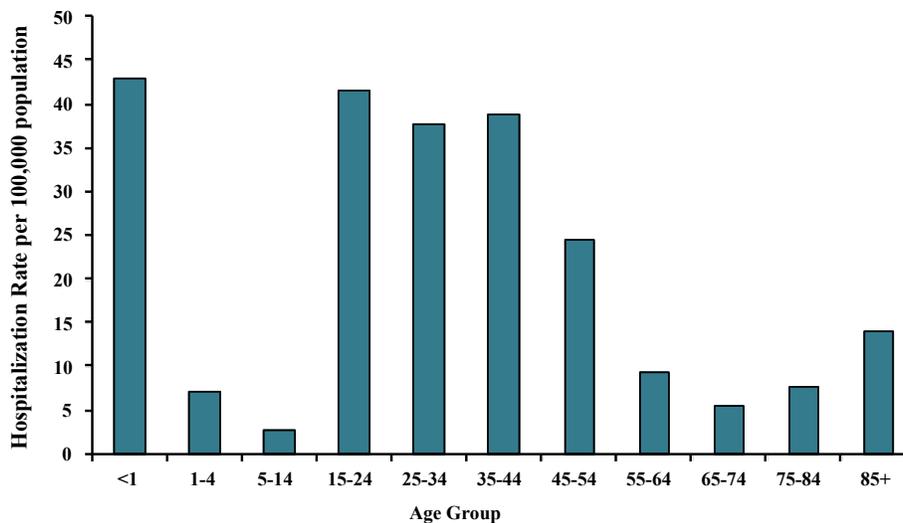
Table 19. Number of Hospitalizations by Age, Race and Sex: Assault, Georgia, 1999-2001

Age Group	White		Black		Hispanic		Total*	Average per Year
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female		
Under 5	52	30	70	60	11	4	258	86
5-14	11	5	63	15	5	4	106	35
15-24	289	48	805	134	132	6	1,456	485
25-44	627	138	1,608	340	162	9	3,012	1,004
45-64	202	77	530	82	30	2	971	324
65+	36	57	35	33	2	0	169	56
Total	1,217	355	3,111	664	342	25	5,972	1,991

*Total includes all other races/ethnicity.

Infants and persons between the ages of 15 and 44 years had the highest assault hospitalization rates among all age groups (Figure 55).

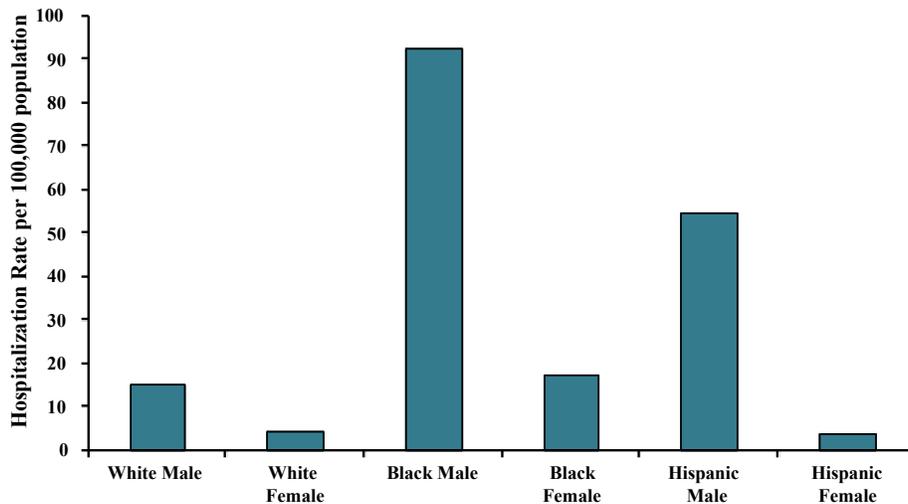
Figure 55. Age-Specific Hospitalization Rates: Assault, Georgia, 1999-2001



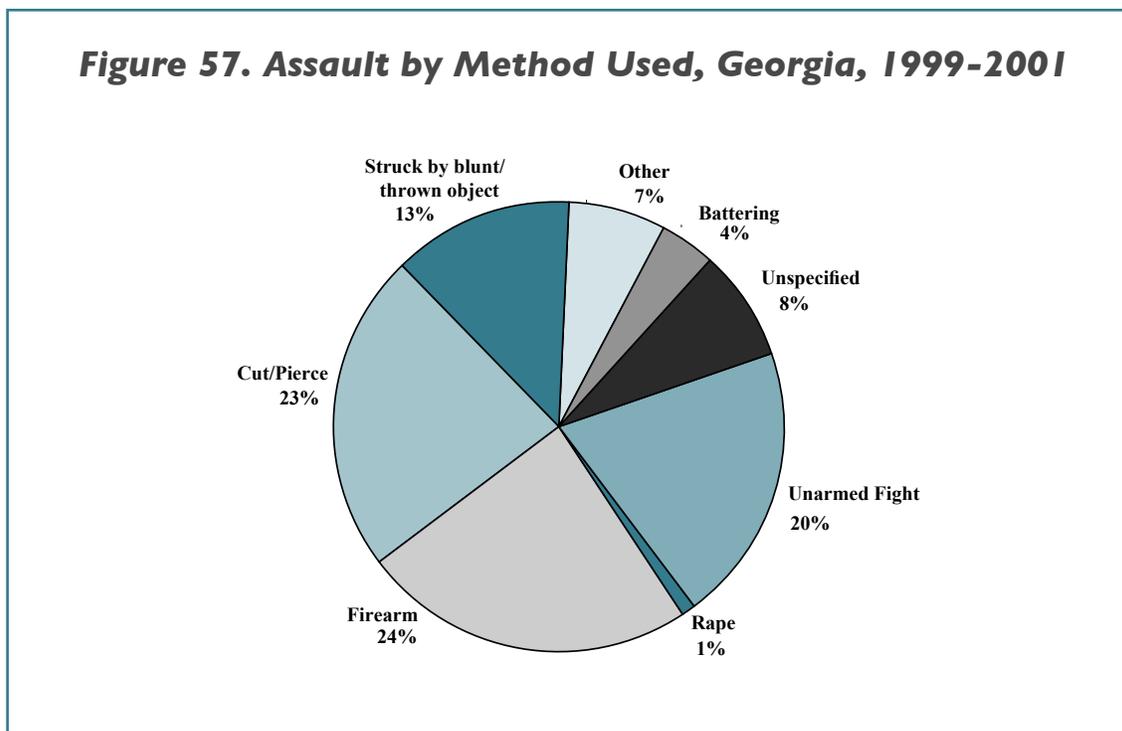
Profile of Injuries in Georgia

The rate of hospitalization due to assault was 4.5 times higher for males (38.8 per 100,000 population) than for females (8.7 per 100,000 population). Non-Hispanic blacks had a higher assault hospitalization rate (52.5 per 100,000 population) than non-Hispanic whites (10.0 per 100,000 population). Non-Hispanic black males and Hispanic males had the highest hospitalization rates from assault among all race/ethnic/sex groups (Figure 56).

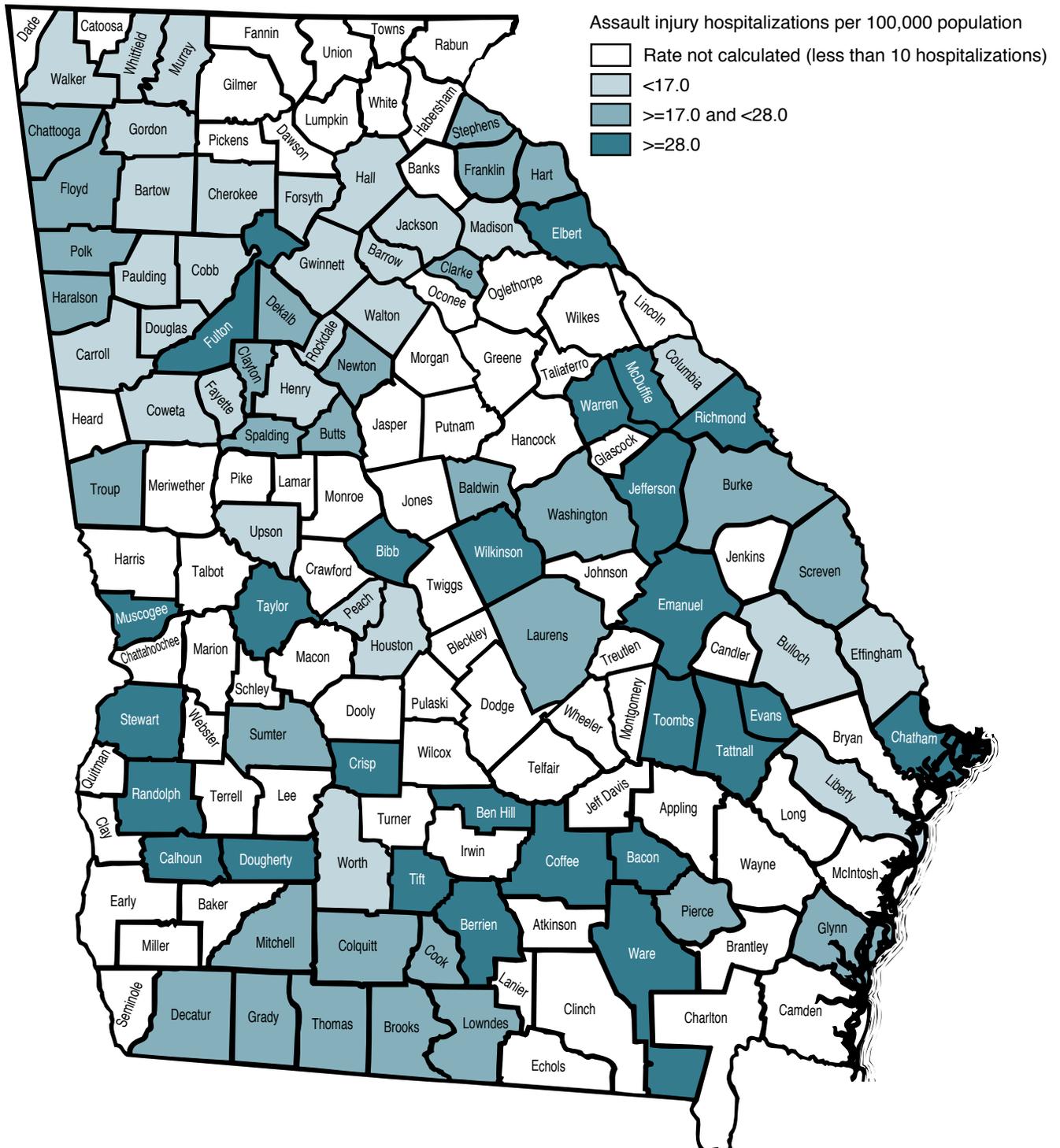
Figure 56. Age-Adjusted Hospitalization Rates by Race and Sex: Assault, Georgia, 1999-2001



Among all assault injuries that resulted in hospitalization, 24% were inflicted by firearms, 23% by cutting/piercing, and 20% by unarmed fights (Figure 57).



**Map 14. Age-adjusted Hospitalization Rate by County of Residence:
Assault, Georgia, 1999-2001**



Homicide/Assault Prevention Strategies

Firearms caused 63% of homicides in Georgia. Methods for reducing homicide deaths include reducing the illegal acquisition and use of firearms by criminals and juvenile offenders, increasing education on safe use and storage of firearms, promoting awareness of anger management skills, and implementing programs to reduce bullying and violence against women.

Injury Prevention Programs for Homicide/Assault

The Injury Prevention Section is collaborating with the Family Health Branch on a Violence Against Women Project funded by CDC through its Core Capacity grant. A statewide needs assessment has been conducted to describe the magnitude of domestic violence and sexual assault in Georgia, increase collaboration with stakeholders, and assess gaps in services for prevention, intervention and services for victims. A strategic plan is under development to strengthen services in communities through best practices and increase collaboration and awareness of health and social service providers, the criminal justice system and Violence Against Women programs.

Homicide/Assault Prevention Resources

National Sexual Violence Resource Center
<http://www.nsvrc.org/>
877-739-3895

**National Violence Against Women
Prevention Research Center**
<http://www.vawprevention.org/>
843-792-2945

**National Youth Violence Prevention
Resource Center**
<http://www.safeyouth.org/>

**Violence Against Women Electronic
Network**
<http://www.vawnet.org/>

National Center for Victims of Crime
<http://www.nvc.org>
phone: 202.467.8700 fax: 202.467.8701

National Domestic Violence Hotline
<http://www.ndvh.org/>
phone hotline: 1.800.779.SAFE (7233)

National Network to End Domestic Violence
<http://www.nnedv.org/>
(202-543-5566)

**National Resource Center on Domestic
Violence**
<http://www.vawnet.org/>
(800-537-2238)

**Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network
(RAINN)**
<http://www.rainn.org/>
hotline: 800.656.HOPE

**The National Center for Injury Prevention
and Control (NCIPC)**
<http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/dvp/dvp.htm>

**U. S. Department of Justice, Office for
Victims of Crime
Office for Victims of Crime Resource Center
National Criminal Justice Reference Service**
1-800-627-6872
(TTY 1-877-712-9279)

<http://ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/>

**U.S. Department of Justice
Violence Against Women Office**
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/vawo/>

National Youth Violence Prevention Resource Center
<http://www.safeyouth.org/>
1-866-SAFEYOUTH (723-3968)