



# Definitions

Last Updated: 8/8/2023

FASTER (Firearm Surveillance Through Emergency Rooms) is grant provided by the CDC (Centers of Disease Control and Prevention) to assist with rapid detection of potential visits for a firearm injury. Injury intents due to firearms include unintentional, intentional self-directed, assault, underdetermined intent, legal intervention, and terrorism. The definition is meant to capture only initial encounters and not subsequent ones.

The definition is used using diagnosis codes and chief complaint. The following codes show up in the syndrome.

Variable	Specific terms
ICD-10 Unintentional	W32 Accidental handgun discharge and malfunction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• W32.0 Accidental handgun discharge</li> <li>• W32.1 Accidental handgun malfunction</li> </ul> W33 Accidental rifle, shotgun and larger firearm discharge and malfunction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>W33.0 Accidental rifle, shotgun and larger firearm discharge               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• W33.00 Accidental discharge of unspecified larger firearm</li> <li>• W33.01 Accidental discharge of shotgun</li> <li>• W33.02 Accidental discharge of hunting rifle</li> <li>• W33.03 Accidental discharge of machine gun</li> <li>• W33.09 Accidental discharge of a larger firearm</li> </ul> </li> <li>W33.1 Accidental rifle, shotgun and larger firearm malfunction               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• W33.10 Accidental malfunction of unspecified larger firearm</li> <li>• W33.11 Accidental malfunction of shotgun</li> <li>• W33.12 Accidental malfunction of hunting rifle</li> <li>• W33.13 Accidental malfunction of machine gun</li> <li>• W33.19 Accidental malfunction of other larger firearm</li> </ul> </li> </ul> W34 Accidental discharge and malfunction from other and unspecified firearms and guns <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• W34.0 Accidental discharge from other and unspecified firearms and guns</li> <li>• W34.00 Accidental discharge from unspecified firearms or gun</li> <li>• W34.09 Accidental discharge from other specified firearms</li> </ul>
ICD-10 Intentional	X72 Intentional self-harm by handgun discharge

	<p>X73 Intentional self-harm by rifle, shotgun and larger firearm discharge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• X73.0 Intentional self-harm by shotgun discharge</li> <li>• X73.1 Intentional self-harm by hunting rifle discharge</li> <li>• X73.2 Intentional self-harm by machine gun discharge</li> <li>• X73.8 Intentional self-harm by other larger firearm discharge</li> <li>• X73.9 Intentional self-harm by unspecified larger firearm discharge</li> </ul> <p>X74 Intentional self-harm by other and unspecified firearm and gun discharge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• X74.8 Intentional self-harm by other firearm discharge</li> <li>• X74.9 Intentional self-harm by unspecified firearm discharge</li> </ul> <p>X93 Assault by handgun discharge</p> <p>X94 Assault by rifle, shotgun and larger firearm discharge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• X94.0 Assault by shotgun</li> <li>• X94.1 Assault by hunting rifle</li> <li>• X94.2 Assault by machine gun</li> <li>• X94.8 Assault by other larger firearm discharge</li> <li>• X94.9 Assault by unspecified larger firearm discharge</li> </ul> <p>X95 Assault by other and unspecified firearm and gun discharge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• X95.8 Assault by other firearm discharge</li> <li>• X95.9 Assault by unspecified firearm discharge</li> </ul>
Chief Complaint	GSW, gun shot, shot, gunshot, shot gun, firearm, pistol, handgun, rifle, buckshot, revolver, handgun, ricochet
Exclusions	Bebe gun, pellet, been shot, was shot, got shot, hit head, graze, water gun, airgun, pistol whipping, stun, tazer, infection, bloodshot, follow up gsw, post gsw, post gunshot wound, nail gun, staple gun, allergy shot, hit with gun, kick back, hit head, water gun, nerf, airsoft, wound infection, paint gun

## **Age Groups**

Ages are presented by detailed age groups. The FASTER-GA team created age groups "00-10", "11-14", "15-24", "25-34", "35-44", "45-54", "55-64", "65-74", "75-84", and "85+". All ages will supersede any start and end age selection.

## **Georgia Emergency Medical Services (EMS) District**

"Emergency Medical Service District" or "EMS District" means a geographic area identified by the Department for the purpose of administratively sub-dividing the Emergency Medical Services system in this state. Each EMS Region shall be comprised of counties from one or more health districts established by the Department (O.C.G.A. Rule 511-9-2). See below for the counties included in each EMS district.

EMS District	Counties
EMS district 1	Dade, Walker, Catoosa, Whitfield, Murray, Gilmer, Fannin, Pickens, Cherokee, Bartow,

	Gordon, Chattooga, Floyd, Polk, Paulding, Haralson
EMS district 2	Forsyth, Dawson, Lumpkin, Union, Towns, Rabun, White, Habersham, Stephens, Hart, Franklin, Banks, Hall
EMS district 3	Cobb, Douglas, Fulton, Clayton, DeKalb, Gwinnett, Rockdale, Newton
EMS district 4	Carroll, Heard, Troup, Meriwether, Pike, Upson, Lamar, Spalding, Butts, Henry, Spalding Fayette
EMS district 5	Jasper, Monroe, Crawford, Peach, Houston, Twiggs, Wilkinson, Washington, Hancock, Putnam, Bibb, Jones, Baldwin, Pulaski, Wilcox, Telfair, Wheeler, Montgomery, Treulten, Johnson, Laurens, Bleckley,
EMS district 6	Wilkes, Lincoln, Columbia, Richmond, Burke, Screven, Jenkins, Emanuel, Jefferson, Glascock, Warren, McDuffie, Taliaferro
EMS district 7	Harris, Muscogee, Chattahoochee, Stewart, Quitman, Clay, Randolph, Webster, Schley, Macon, Taylor, Talbot, Marion
EMS district 8	Dooly, Sumter, Crisp, Turner, Ben Hill, Irwin, Berrien, Lanier, Echols, Lowndes, Brooks, Cook, Tift, Worth, Colquitt, Thomas, Grady, Decatur, Seminole, Miller, Baker, Mitchell, Dougherty, Lee, Terrell, Calhoun, Early
EMS district 9	Jeff Davis, Coffee, Atkinson, Clinch, Charlton, Camden, Glynn, McIntosh, Long, Liberty, Bryan, Chatham, Effingham, Bulloch, Candler, Toombs, Evans, Tatnall, Appling, Bacon, Ware, Pierce, Wayne,
EMS district 10	Morgan, Walton, Barrow, Jackson, Madison, Elbert, Oglethorpe, Elbert, Clarke, Oconee, Greene

### **Georgia Public Health Districts**

Each of Georgia’s 159 county health departments has been assigned to one of eighteen Health Districts. Health Districts are proposed by the Commissioner of Public Health and approved by the County Boards of Health and the County Commissions of the affected counties (O.C.G.A. Section 31-6-2). See below for the counties included in each health district.

<b>Public Health District</b>	<b>Counties in District</b>
District 1-1 Northwest	Dade, Walker, Catoosa, Chattooga, Gordon, Floyd, Bartow, Polk, Paulding, Haralson
District 1-2 North Georgia	Whitfield, Murray, Gilmer, Fannin, Pickens, Cherokee
District 2 North	Union, Towns, Rabun, Habersham, Stephens, Franklin, Hart, Banks, Hall, Forsyth, Dawson, Lumpkin, White
District 3-1 Cobb- Douglas	Cobb and Douglas
District 3-2 Fulton	Fulton

District 3-3 Clayton	Clayton
District 3-4 GNR	Gwinnett, Rockdale and Newton
District 3-5 DeKalb	DeKalb
District 4	Carroll, Heard, Troup, Meriwether, Pike, Lamar, Upson, Butts, Spalding, Henry, Fayette
District 5-1 South Central	Pulaski, Bleckley, Laurens, Johnson, Treutlen, Montgomery, Wheeler, Telfair, Wilcox, Dodge
District 5-2 North Central	Houston, Peach, Crawford, Monroe, Jasper, Putnam, Hancock, Washington, Wilkinson, Baldwin, Jones, Bibb, Twiggs
District 6 East Central	Taliaferro, Wilkes, Lincoln, Columbia, McDuffie, Warren, Glascock, Jefferson, Burke, Richmond, Jenkins, Screven, Emmanuel
District 7 West Central	Clay, Quitman, Stewart, Chattahoochee, Muscogee, Harris, Talbot, Taylor, Marion, Macon, Schley, Webster, Randolph, Sumter, Crisp, Dooly
District 8-1 South	Turner, Ben Hill, Irwin, Tift, Berrien, Cook, Lanier, Lowndes, Echols, Brooks
District 8-2 Southwest	Terrell, Lee, Calhoun, Dougherty, Worth, Colquitt, Thomas, Grady, Decatur, Seminole, Miller, Baker, Mitchell, Early, Calhoun
District 9-1 Coastal	Effingham, Chatham, Bryan, Liberty, Long, McIntosh, Glynn, Camden
District 9-2 Southeast	Jeff Davis, Appling, Wayne, Brantley, Charlton, Ware, Clinch, Atkinson, Coffee, Bacon, Pierce
District 10 Northeast	Walton, Barrow, Jackson, Madison, Elbert, Oglethorpe, Greene, Morgan, Oconee, Clarke

## **International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM) vs. ICD10**

The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), the Federal agency responsible for use of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, 10th revision (ICD-10) in the United States, has developed a clinical modification (CM) of the classification for morbidity (hospital and ER data) purposes. The ICD-10 is used to code and classify mortality data from death certificates, having replaced ICD-9 for this purpose as of January 1, 1999. ICD-10-CM is the replacement for ICD-9-CM, effective October 1, 2015 in discharge and ER data. The ICD-10 is copyrighted by the World Health Organization (WHO). WHO has authorized the development of an adaptation of ICD-10 for use in the United States (ICD-10-CM). All modifications to the ICD-10 must conform to WHO conventions for the ICD. <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/icd/icd10cm.htm>

## **Injury ED Visits**

The number of emergency department (ED) visits to non-Federal acute care inpatient facilities with an injury tag applied to syndromic categorization. Only ED visits of patients seen in a Georgia facility are included. Persons can be counted more than once if readmitted. Visits include people both living and deceased, but not those admitted as an inpatient to a hospital. Since the number and proportion are derived only from ED visits, they do not include all existing cases (prevalence) among residents of Georgia. ED Visits are reported by date of admission, not discharge date.

### **Non-Rural**

Any county with 50,000 or more total population according to the United States decennial census of 2010 or any future such census (O.C.G.A. Section 31-6-2).

### **Percent Firearm Related Injury ED Visits**

Formula:  $[\text{Number of Firearm Related Injury ED Visits} / \text{Total Injury ED Visits}] * 100$ . Total number of Injury ED Visits can change dependent on the selected filters.

### **Percent Among Group**

Formula:  $[\text{Number of Firearm Related Injury ED Visits among one group} / \text{Number of Firearm Related Injury ED Visits among all groups}] * 100$ .

### **Race**

Per the Federal Office of Management and Budget, Directive 15 (1997),

- White is a person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East or North Africa.
- Black or African American is a person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa;
- Asian is a person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand and Vietnam.
- American Indian/Alaska Native is a person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central American), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander is a person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.
- Multiracial is a person declaring 2 or more of these races.

American Indian/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, Multiracial, and Hispanic/Latino (with no other race included) are all categorized as Other due to low individual

group counts. In addition, the variability of data documentation across health care facilities can make it difficult to categorize race, and so common misspellings or resemblance to each term in the table below are used for its respective categorization.

Categorization in Dashboard	Text Fields in Syndromic Data
Asian	A, Asian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese, Indian, 2029-7, 2028-9,
Black	Black, B, African American, AA, 2056-0, 2054-5
Other	Native Hawaiian, NH, Other Pacific Islander, American Indian, AI, Alaska Native, Other, O, OT, OTH, Samoan, Multi-Racial, MR, Hispanic, Latino, 2118-8, 2131-1, 1002-5, 2076-8
White	White, W, Caucasian, CA, 2106-3, 2111-3
Unknown	Patient Refused, Unknown, Declined to Provide, U, UNK, Declined to Answer, DEC, Refused, Unable to Obtain, X, or missing value

## **Rural**

Any county having a population of less than 50,000 according to the United States decennial census of 2010 or any future such census (O.C.G.A. Section 31-6-2).

## **Syndromic Data**

Emergency Departments and Urgent Care Facilities (UCFs) across Georgia automatically send data about chief complaints, and date and time of visit to the Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) daily. Many facilities also send patient demographics such as age, sex, race, and residential zip code, as well as discharge diagnosis in some cases. This data is used as a part of the nearly real-time Georgia syndromic surveillance (SS) system used to categorize EDs/UCFs visits across Georgia into disease or illness syndromes, based on the patient chief complaint upon admission and/or discharge diagnosis. The majority of SS data are based on chief complaint upon admission to EDs/UCFs, it does not always reflect the patients' final diagnosis, and can have limited ability to understand the true nature of the visit. Additionally, variability in data documentation across health care facilities can make it difficult to interpret the reason for a patient visit.