

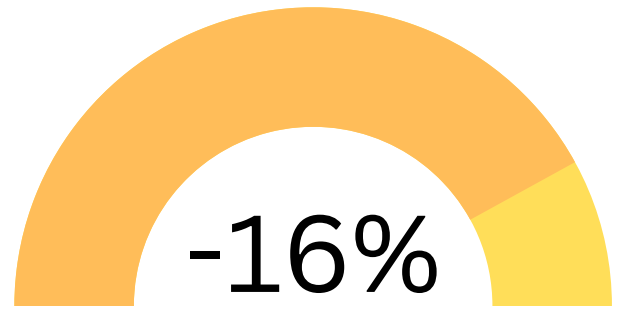
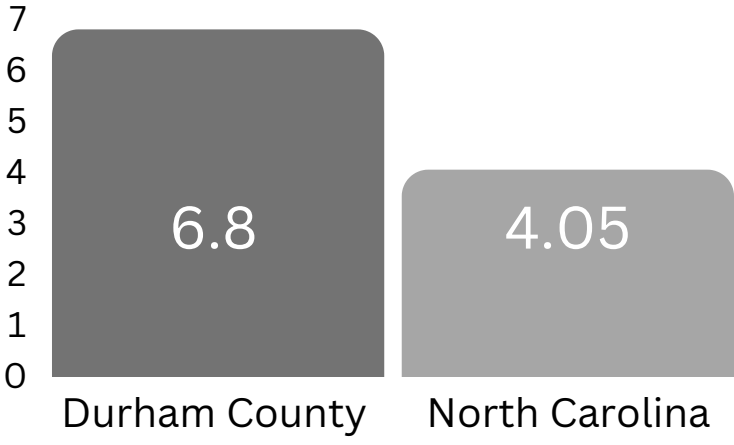
# Durham County Health Priorities 2024



## #3 Community Safety and Wellbeing

Community Safety and Wellbeing was ranked the third most important health priority in 2024 by Durham County residents.

### Durham County Violent Crime per 1,000<sup>1</sup>



Robbery decreased 16% from 2022 to 2023.<sup>2</sup>

“violent crime and education come hand in hand, because in In this country there are many bullying problems.”

Another suggestion included adding more recreational activities for youth to prevent gang involvement.

“Stop the gun violence.”

From 2022 to 2023, assault with a firearm decreased by 7%.<sup>2</sup> From Jan 1, 2023 - June 3, 2023, 20 children were shot.<sup>8</sup> The rate at which youth died from a firearm doubled from 2019 to 2021 in North Carolina.<sup>8</sup> Black or African Americans and Native Americans/Alaskan Natives are overrepresented in firearm homicides while white individuals are more likely to complete suicide with a firearm.<sup>8</sup> Violent crime was the second most mentioned issue affecting County-wide and Comunidad Latina participants.<sup>5,6</sup>

“It goes back to gun violence.”

### Community Wellbeing<sup>7</sup>

Priority	Satisfaction %
Quality of public schools	27%
Quality of police protection	44%
Quality of Parks and Recreation programs	60%
Quality of library services and programs	86%
Quality of fire and life safety programing	67%

As any county, Durham has areas of improvement but also areas of excellence.



Students who skip school because they feel unsafe at school or on the way to or from school.<sup>10</sup>

**4.8%**

Middle schoolers

**14.2%**

High schoolers

With firearms being the number one injury-related cause of death for children,<sup>8</sup>drastic changes are needed for gun control. The top three reasons students skip school are school shootings, bullying, and anxiety.<sup>9</sup>

# Durham County

## Health Priorities 2024



### Community Safety and Wellbeing

#### Community Insights<sup>5,6</sup>

- Decrease gun violence.
- Address violence and gun regulations.
- Increase police presence to decrease violence and crime.
- More things for kids to do so they don't become violent.
- More security and safety watch.
- Make communities safer.



#### Community Safety & Wellness Task Force

Formed in 2021 by the City of Durham, Durham County, and Durham Public Schools Board of Education. The mission is to recommend programs to enhance public safety and wellness that rely on community-based prevention, intervention, and re-entry services as alternatives to policing and the criminal legal system. The taskforce was completed in October 2023. Recommendations can be found [here](#).



#### Project BUILD

Project BUILD provides coordinated case management and services to youth and young adults between the ages of 14-21 who are at high risk of gang involvement. It is a joint collaboration with Durham County and the City of Durham. Outreach workers work one-on-one with young people to model pro-social behavior, provide behavior coaching, support positive decision-making, encourage education and employment success, and support involvement in pro-social activities. More information can be found [here](#).



#### Bull City United

Bull City United was developed in 2016 to address gun violence by proactively mitigating conflicts in violent crime-heavy areas. In 2023, the program will have an increase in staff from eight to twenty-six and will expand from two census tracts to six. The two census tracts have seen an “overall decline in gun-related crimes” according to the interlocal agreement.

#### Resources:

1. Neighborhood scout. Durham County. Available here: <https://www.neighborhoodscout.com/nc/durham/crime>
2. City of Durham. Crime statistics. Available here: <https://www.durhamnc.gov/719/Crime-Statistics>
3. MoveBuddah. Tips for moving to Durham, NC, Relocation guide. Available here: <https://www.movebuddha.com/blog/moving-to-durham-nc/>
4. Crime grade. Durham County, NC Violent Crime Rates and Maps. Available here: <https://crimegrade.org/violent-crime-durham-county-nc/>
5. Partnership for a Healthy Durham. 2022 Community Health Assessment County-wide survey data report. Available here: <https://healthydurham.org/health-data>
6. Partnership for a Healthy Durham. 2023 Community Health Assessment Comunidad Latina survey data report.. Available here: <https://healthydurham.org/health-data>
7. Durham County, NC 2023 Durham County Resident Survey Findings Report. Available here: <https://www.dconnc.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/40679/638451628494800000>
8. Partnership for a Healthy Durham. Spanish Listening Session.
9. Cision PR Newswire. April 2021. New poll reveals majority of US teens don't feel safe in schools. Available here: <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/new-poll-reveals-majority-of-us-teens-dont-feel-safe-in-schools-301268642.html>
10. Partnership for a Healthy Durham. 2023. 2021 Youth Risk Behavior Survey data report. Available here: <https://healthydurham.org/health-data>