

THE STATE OF GUN VIOLENCE IN **ALASKA**

Gun violence has a devastating impact on Alaska, which has the highest gun death rate of all 50 states. Lawmakers owe it to their constituents to strengthen the Alaska's gun laws.

GUN SUICIDE

- More than 70% of all gun deaths in Alaska are suicides, and 63% of all suicide deaths in Alaska involve firearms.
- From 2008 to 2017, 1,089 people in Alaska died by gun-related suicide.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- Guns make domestic violence incidents far more likely to end in death.
- Nearly 50% of Alaska's intimate partner homicides involve a gun.

TRAFFICKING

- Because of the state's weak gun laws, guns are purchased in Alaska and trafficked to states with stronger gun laws, where they end up in the hands of criminals and people unable to pass a background check.
- From 2013 to 2017, 1,687 guns originally purchased in Alaska were recovered after being used in crime in other states.

YOUNG PEOPLE AND GUNS

- Exposure to gun violence can cause lasting trauma in young people, leading to PTSD, chronic stress, and decreased future earnings.
- From 2008 to 2017, 410 people under age 25 were killed with a gun in Alaska.
- Guns are the leading cause of death for Alaska children ages 1-17.

Published January 2019. Sources: CDC WONDER, ATF Firearms Trace Data Report, FBI Supplementary Homicide Reports.

PROVEN SOLUTIONS TO PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE IN ALASKA

Despite having the highest gun death rate in the nation, Alaska has failed to pass even the most fundamental of gun safety laws, like requiring a background check for every firearm sale or transfer. Because of its weak gun laws, Alaska is a major exporter of crime guns to other states. In order to raise its F grade and save lives, Alaska should **institute universal background checks, prohibit the possession of military-style weapons and large-capacity magazines, and repeal its dangerous permitless carry law.** [Learn more about Alaska's gun laws at lawcenter.giffords.org/AK.](http://lawcenter.giffords.org/AK)



Alaska earned an F on our Annual Gun Law State Scorecard. Visit gunlawscorecard.org to learn how to raise your state's grade.

ANNUAL COST OF
GUN VIOLENCE:

**\$763
MILLION**
\$1,049 PER RESIDENT



2 DAYS
Someone is killed with
a gun every two days
in Alaska. That's 165
people a year.