

THE STATE OF GUN VIOLENCE IN LOUISIANA

Gun violence has a devastating impact on Louisiana, claiming the lives of 946 residents each year. State lawmakers can and must do more to keep their constituents safe from gun violence.

GUN SUICIDE

- Nearly 47% of gun deaths in Louisiana are suicides, and more than 65% of all suicide deaths in Louisiana involve firearms.
- From 2013 to 2017, 2,204 people in Louisiana died by gun-related suicide—one every 20 hours.

URBAN GUN VIOLENCE

- Gun violence has a disproportionate impact on urban communities of color.
- Black men make up less than 16% of Louisiana's population, but account for nearly 72% of the state's gun homicide victims.
- In Louisiana, black men ages 18–24 are nearly 21 times more likely than white men the same age to be murdered with a gun.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- Guns make domestic violence incidents far more likely to end in death.
- More than 63% of Louisiana's intimate partner homicides involve a gun.
- From 2007 to 2016, 172 women were killed with a gun by their intimate partner in Louisiana.

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 2013 to 2017, 1,162 people under age 25 were killed with a gun in Louisiana.
- Guns are the second-leading cause of death for Louisiana children ages 1–17.

Published January 2019. Sources: CDC WONDER, FBI Supplementary Homicide Reports.

PROVEN SOLUTIONS TO PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE IN LOUISIANA

Louisiana has one of the highest rates of gun death among the states, and correspondingly weak gun laws. Although Louisiana strengthened its gun laws in recent years by making it harder for domestic abusers and other prohibited people to access guns, the state fails to require a background check for every gun sale or transfer and does not regulate military-style weapons. **Passing these regulations and imposing a waiting period on firearm sales** are two of the many ways Louisiana could save lives from gun violence. [Learn more about Louisiana's gun laws at lawcenter.giffords.org/LA.](http://lawcenter.giffords.org/LA)



Louisiana 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:

**\$5.4
BILLION**

\$1,173 PER RESIDENT



9 HOURS

Someone is killed with a gun every nine hours in Louisiana. That's 946 people a year.