

THE STATE OF GUN VIOLENCE IN **MONTANA**

Montana's weak gun laws endanger its residents, particularly those at risk for suicide. Legislators owe it to their constituents to take proactive measures to save lives from gun violence.

GUN SUICIDE

- More than 85% of gun deaths in Montana are suicides, and nearly 63% of all suicide deaths in Montana involve firearms.
- From 2013 to 2017, 845 people in Montana died by gun-related suicide. That's one every two days.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

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

TRAFFICKING

- Because of the state's weak gun laws, guns are purchased in Montana 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, 1,937 guns originally purchased in Montana 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, 290 people under age 25 were killed with a gun in Montana.
- Guns are the second-leading cause of death for Montana children ages 1-17.

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

PROVEN SOLUTIONS TO PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE IN MONTANA

Montana lacks many fundamental gun safety laws, from private sale background checks to firearm registration requirements, and has a correspondingly high gun death rate. Montana failed to pass any significant gun laws in 2018. To save lives from gun violence, the state should **institute universal background checks, pass child access prevention and extreme risk protection laws, and ban military-style weaponry.** [Learn more about Montana's gun laws at lawcenter.giffords.org/MT.](http://lawcenter.giffords.org/MT)



Montana 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:

**\$935
MILLION**

\$929 PER RESIDENT



44 HOURS

Someone is killed with a gun every 44 hours in Montana. That's 197 people a year.