

THE STATE OF GUN VIOLENCE IN RHODE ISLAND

Even though Rhode Island has stronger gun safety laws than many other states, lawmakers should continue to act proactively to protect the constituents who are killed and wounded by guns every year.

GUN SUICIDE

- Nearly 70% of gun deaths in Rhode Island are suicides, and more than a quarter of all suicide deaths in Rhode Island involve firearms.
- From 2008 to 2017, 301 people in Rhode Island died by gun-related suicide.

URBAN GUN VIOLENCE

- Gun violence has a disproportionate impact on urban communities of color.
- Black men make up just 4% of Rhode Island's population, but account for nearly 30% of the state's gun homicide victims.
- In Rhode Island, black men ages 18–35 are nearly 7 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.
- 25% of Rhode Island's intimate partner homicides involve a gun.

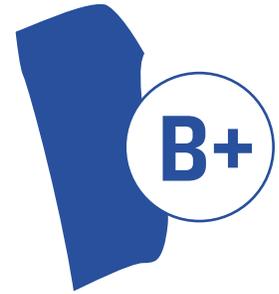
YOUNG PEOPLE AND GUNS

- Exposure to gun violence can cause lasting trauma in young people, leading to PTSD, chronic stress, and decreased future earnings.
- From 2008 to 2017, 91 people under age 25 were killed with a gun in Rhode Island.

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

PROVEN SOLUTIONS TO PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE IN RHODE ISLAND

Rhode Island has a number of critical gun safety laws on the books, including a background check requirement on private-party transfers and a seven-day waiting period on all firearm purchases. The state further strengthened its gun laws in 2018 by adopting extreme risk protection legislation and banning dangerous trigger activators like bump stocks. To save lives from gun violence, Rhode Island should **ban military-style weapons and prohibit hate crime offenders from accessing guns**. [Learn more about Rhode Island's gun laws at \[lawcenter.giffords.org/RI\]\(http://lawcenter.giffords.org/RI\).](#)



Rhode Island earned a B+ on our Annual Gun Law State Scorecard. Visit gunlawscorecard.org to learn how to raise your state's grade.

ANNUAL COST OF
GUN VIOLENCE:

**\$268
MILLION**

\$255 PER RESIDENT



8 DAYS

Someone is killed with a gun every eight days in Rhode Island. That's 47 people a year.