

## THE STATE OF GUN VIOLENCE IN **TENNESSEE**

Tennessee's lack of basic gun safety laws contribute to its high gun death rate. More than 1,100 Tennessee residents die from gun violence each year. Lawmakers can and must do more to address this epidemic.

### GUN SUICIDE

- Nearly 61% of gun deaths in Tennessee are suicides, and more than 62% of all suicide deaths in Tennessee involve firearms.
- From 2013 to 2017, 3,344 people in Tennessee died by gun-related suicide. That's one every 13 hours.

### URBAN GUN VIOLENCE

- Gun violence has a disproportionate impact on urban communities of color.
- Black men make up less than 9% of Tennessee's population, but account for more than 57% of the state's gun homicide victims.
- In Tennessee, black men ages 18–24 are more than 19 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.
- Nearly 63% of Tennessee's intimate partner homicides involve a gun.
- From 2007 to 2016, 204 women were killed with a gun by their intimate partner in Tennessee.

### 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, 1,082 people under age 25 were killed with a gun in Tennessee.
- Guns are the second-leading cause of death for Tennessee children ages 1–17.

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

## PROVEN SOLUTIONS TO PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE IN TENNESSEE

Tennessee moderately strengthened its gun laws in 2018 by making it easier for law enforcement to investigate when an individual prohibited from possessing a firearm for mental health reasons attempts to purchase a gun. The state also conducts its own background checks on firearm purchasers and prohibits domestic abusers from accessing firearms. The state could save lives from gun violence by **requiring background checks for all gun sales and passing an extreme risk protection order law.**

**Learn more about Tennessee's gun laws at [lawcenter.giffords.org/TN](http://lawcenter.giffords.org/TN).**



Tennessee earned a D- on our Annual Gun Law State Scorecard. Visit [gunlawscorecard.org](http://gunlawscorecard.org) to learn how to raise your state's grade.

### ANNUAL COST OF GUN VIOLENCE:

**\$6  
BILLION**  
\$928 PER RESIDENT



**8 HOURS**  
Someone is killed with a gun every eight hours in Tennessee. That's 1,103 people a year.