

Texas Gun Violence

November 2019

Gun violence takes a devastating toll on Texas

- From 2008 through 2017, 29,040 people were killed with guns in Texas.¹
- From 2014 through 2018, there were 102 mass shootings in Texas. A total of 196 people were killed and 410 were injured.²

Texas has some of the highest levels of gun-related crime in the country

- From 2008 through 2017, a gun homicide occurred every nine hours.³
- Texas has high rates of aggravated assaults committed with a gun. From 2008 through 2017, there were 66.8 aggravated assaults with a gun per 100,000 people in Texas, giving it a rank of 15th highest among all states.⁴
- Law enforcement officers in Texas face an enormous risk of gun violence. From 2008 through 2017, 40 police officers were feloniously killed with a firearm in Texas.⁵

The burden of gun violence in Texas falls disproportionately on communities of color

 Approximately 36 percent of the state's gun homicide victims are Black; however, only 12 percent of the state's population is Black.⁶

Domestic violence and access to guns is a lethal combination in Texas

 From 2007 through 2016, 687 women were fatally shot by an intimate partner in Texas.⁷ • In Texas, 54 percent of female murder victims are killed by an intimate partner; out of those, 61 percent are killed with a gun.8

Gun suicides are a substantial problem in Texas

• From 2008 through 2017, 17,956 people in Texas died by gun-related suicide, meaning a gun suicide occurred every five hours.9

Young people are killed with guns in high numbers in Texas

• From 2008 through 2017, 3,031 people under the age of 21 were shot to death in Texas.10

Fatal unintentional shootings are also common in Texas

• From 2008 through 2017, 457 people in Texas were killed as a result of an unintentional shooting. Twenty-eight percent of these victims were under the age of 21.11

Gun theft is a substantial problem in Texas

- From 2012 through 2018, close to 5,000 firearms were stolen from gun dealers in Texas.12
- Overall, an estimated 268,942 firearms were stolen in Texas from both individual gun owners and gun dealers from 2012 through 2017.¹³

Endnotes

- 1 Center for American Progress analysis of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Injury Prevention and Control: Data and Statistics (WISQARS): Fatal Injury Data," available at http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/fatal.html (last accessed June 2019).
- 2 Gun Violence Archive, "Past Summary Ledgers," available at https://www.gunviolencearchive.org/past-tolls (last accessed June 2019). Mass shootings are defined as incidents where four or more people are shot or killed, not including the perpetrator.
- 3 Center for American Progress analysis of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Injury Prevention and Control: Data and Statistics (WISQARS): Fatal Injury Data."
- 4 FBI, "Crime in the U.S.," available at https://ucr.fbi.gov/ crime-in-the-u.s (last accessed June 2019). To estimate rates, the authors used the state population presented by the FBI on these reports.
- 5 Center for American Progress analysis of FBI, "Uniform Crime Reports: Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted," available at https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/ucr/ leoka (last accessed June 2019).
- 6 Center for American Progress analysis of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Injury Prevention and Control: Data and Statistics (WISQARS): Fatal Injury Data."
- 7 Center for American Progress analysis of Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research, "Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976–2016," available at https://doi.org/10.3886/E100699V5. The authors only included cases with one victim and one aggressor. In the FBI's Supplementary Homicide Reports, "intimate partners" include boyfriends, girlfriends, husbands, wives, ex-wives, ex-husbands, common-law wives, common-law husbands, and same-sex couples.

- 8 Ibid.
- 9 Center for American Progress analysis of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Injury Prevention and Control: Data and Statistics (WISQARS): Fatal Injury Data."
- 11 Ibid.
- 12 Center for American Progress analysis of U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, "Data and Statistics: Federal Firearms Licensee Statistics Theft / Loss Reports," available at https://www.atf.gov/resource-center/ data-statistics (last accessed June 2019). The authors did not include lost firearms in this analysis.
- 13 Center for American Progress analysis of Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research, "Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program Data: Property Stolen and Recovered (Supplement to Return A) 1960-2017," available at https://doi.org/10.3886/E105403V2 (last accessed July 2019). Estimations are based on the value of stolen and recovered guns. These figures are based on an average price of \$450 per gun, consistent with data from the U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics from 2005 to 2010.

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