



# California Gun Violence

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## Gun violence takes a devastating toll on California

- From 2008 through 2017, 30,703 people were killed with guns in California.<sup>1</sup>
- From 2014 through 2018, there were 186 mass shootings in California. A total of 198 people were killed and 757 were injured.<sup>2</sup>

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

- From 2008 through 2017, a gun homicide occurred every six hours.<sup>3</sup>
- Law enforcement officers in California face an enormous risk of gun violence. From 2008 through 2017, 37 police officers were feloniously killed with a firearm in California.<sup>4</sup>

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## The burden of gun violence in California falls disproportionately on communities of color

- Approximately 32 percent of the state's gun homicide victims are Black; however, only 6 percent of the state's population is Black.<sup>5</sup>
- While Hispanics make up close to 38 percent of the state's population, they account for approximately 47 percent of gun homicide victims in the state.<sup>6</sup>

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## Domestic violence and access to guns is a lethal combination in California

- From 2007 through 2016, 568 women were fatally shot by an intimate partner in California.<sup>7</sup>
- In California, 51 percent of female murder victims are killed by an intimate partner; out of those, 51 percent are killed with a gun.<sup>8</sup>

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## Gun suicides are a substantial problem in California

- From 2008 through 2017, 15,519 people in California died by gun-related suicide, meaning a gun suicide occurred every six hours.<sup>9</sup>

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## Young people are killed with guns in high numbers in California

- From 2008 through 2017, 3,876 people under the age of 21 were shot to death in California.<sup>10</sup>

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## Fatal unintentional shootings are also common in California

- From 2008 through 2018, 309 people in California were killed as a result of an unintentional shooting. Twenty-five percent of these victims were under the age of 21.<sup>11</sup>

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## Gun theft is a substantial problem in California

- From 2012 through 2018, close to 1,854 firearms were stolen from gun dealers in California.<sup>12</sup>
- Overall, an estimated 185,741 firearms were stolen in California from both individual gun owners and gun dealers from 2012 through 2017.<sup>13</sup>

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## 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 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).
- 5 Center for American Progress analysis of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Injury Prevention and Control: Data and Statistics (WISQARS): Fatal Injury Data."
- 6 Ibid.
- 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."
- 10 Ibid.
- 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.