



# Wyoming Gun Violence

November 2019



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## Gun violence takes a devastating toll on Wyoming

- From 2008 through 2017, 1,016 people were killed with guns in Wyoming.<sup>1</sup>
- Wyoming is among the deadliest states for gun violence. From 2008 through 2017, Wyoming had the sixth-highest rate of gun deaths of any state, with a rate of 17.73 gun deaths for every 100,000 people. This rate is 63 percent higher than the national average.<sup>2</sup>

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

- From 2007 through 2016, 12 women were fatally shot by an intimate partner in Wyoming.<sup>3</sup>
- In Wyoming, 58 percent of female murder victims are killed by an intimate partner; out of those, 63 percent are killed with a gun.<sup>4</sup>

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## Gun suicides are a substantial problem in Wyoming

- With 15.46 gun suicides per 100,000 people, Wyoming ranks first in the United States with a rate 134 percent higher than the national average.<sup>5</sup>

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

- From 2008 through 2017, 93 people under the age of 21 were shot to death in Wyoming.<sup>6</sup>

- With a rate of 5.82 gun deaths for every 100,000 people among people under the age of 21, the state ranks ninth in the nation.<sup>7</sup>

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## Gun theft is a substantial problem in Wyoming

- From 2012 through 2018, close to 118 firearms were stolen from gun dealers in Wyoming.<sup>8</sup>
- Overall, an estimated 3,328 firearms were stolen in Wyoming from both individual gun owners and gun dealers from 2012 through 2017.<sup>9</sup>

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## Weak gun laws make Wyoming a favorite state for illegal gun traffickers to purchase guns

- Wyoming has the fifth-highest rate of crime gun exports—guns sold in Wyoming that are later used in crimes in other states—in the country.<sup>10</sup>
- From 2010 through 2018, Wyoming had a rate of 40.8 crime gun exports for every 100,000 people—80 percent higher than the national average.<sup>11</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 Ibid.

3 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.

4 Ibid.

5 Center for American Progress analysis of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Injury Prevention and Control."

6 Ibid.

7 Ibid.

8 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.

9 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.

10 Center for American Progress analysis of U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, "Firearms Trace Data - 2018," available at <https://www.atf.gov/resource-center/firearms-trace-data-2018> (last accessed September 2019); U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, "Firearms Trace Data - 2017," available at <https://www.atf.gov/resource-center/firearms-trace-data> (last accessed May 2019); U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, "Firearms Trace Data - 2016," available at <https://www.atf.gov/resource-center/firearms-trace-data-2016> (last accessed May 2019); U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, "Firearms Trace Data - 2015," available at <https://www.atf.gov/about/firearms-trace-data-2015> (last accessed May 2019); U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, "Firearms Trace Data - 2014," available at <https://www.atf.gov/about/firearms-trace-data-2014> (last accessed May 2019); U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, "Firearms Trace Data - 2013," available at <https://www.atf.gov/about/firearms-trace-data-2013> (last accessed May 2019); U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, "Firearms Trace Data - 2012," available at <https://www.atf.gov/about/firearms-trace-data-2012> (last accessed May 2019).

11 Ibid.