



Missouri Gun Violence

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Gun violence takes a devastating toll on Missouri

- From 2008 through 2017, 9,590 people were killed with guns in Missouri.¹
- Missouri is among the deadliest states for gun violence. From 2008 through 2017, Missouri had the 11th-highest rate of gun deaths of any state, with a rate of 15.91 gun deaths for every 100,000 people. This rate is 46 percent higher than the national average.²
- From 2014 through 2018, there were 55 mass shootings in Missouri. A total of 61 people were killed and 196 were injured.³

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

- From 2008 through 2017, Missouri had the fourth-highest rate of gun murders, with a rate of 6.2 gun homicides per 100,000 people. This rate is 61 percent higher than the national average.⁴
- From 2008 through 2017, a gun homicide occurred every 23 hours.⁵
- Missouri has high rates of aggravated assaults committed with a gun. From 2008 through 2017, there were 104.8 aggravated assaults with a gun per 100,000 people in Missouri, giving it a rank of fifth highest among all states.⁶

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

- Approximately 69 percent of the state's gun homicide victims are Black; however, only 12 percent of the state's population is Black.⁷

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

- From 2007 through 2016, 158 women were fatally shot by an intimate partner in Missouri.⁸
- In Missouri, 50 percent of female murder victims are killed by an intimate partner; out of those, 59 percent are killed with a gun.⁹

Gun suicides are a substantial problem in Missouri

- From 2008 through 2017, 5,540 people in Missouri died by gun-related suicide, meaning a gun suicide occurred every 16 hours.¹⁰

Young people are killed with guns in high numbers in Missouri

- From 2008 through 2017, 1,098 people under the age of 21 were shot to death in Missouri.¹¹
- With a rate of 6.63 gun deaths for every 100,000 people among people under the age of 21, the state ranks third in the nation.¹²
- In Missouri, shootings are the leading cause of death for young people.¹³

Fatal unintentional shootings are also common in Missouri

- From 2008 through 2017, 193 people in Missouri were killed as a result of an unintentional shooting. Twenty-three percent of these victims were under the age of 21.¹⁴

Gun theft is a substantial problem in Missouri

- From 2012 through 2018, close to 1,482 firearms were stolen from gun dealers in Missouri.¹⁵
- Overall, an estimated 51,674 firearms were stolen in Missouri from both individual gun owners and gun dealers from 2012 through 2017.¹⁶

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 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.
- 4 Center for American Progress analysis of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Injury Prevention and Control: Data and Statistics (WISQARS): Fatal Injury Data."
- 5 Ibid.
- 6 The authors' analysis of aggravated assault rates is based on FBI state population estimates. See FBI, "Crime in the U.S.," available at <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s> (last accessed June 2019).
- 7 Center for American Progress analysis of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Injury Prevention and Control: Data and Statistics (WISQARS): Fatal Injury Data."
- 8 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.
- 9 Ibid.
- 10 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 Ibid.
- 13 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "About Compressed Mortality, 1999–2016," available at <http://wonder.cdc.gov/cmfi-10.html> (last accessed June 2019). The authors only considered 2016, the year with the latest available data. The authors considered ages 15 to 24 for this statistic.
- 14 Center for American Progress analysis of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Injury Prevention and Control: Data and Statistics (WISQARS): Fatal Injury Data."
- 15 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.
- 16 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.