Gun Violence in Alabama

INTRODUCTION
This fact sheet is a summary of data contained in EveryStat for Gun Safety, a free, interactive website that contains data about gun violence by state, county, race and ethnicity, gender, and intent. These materials have been designed for users to better understand how gun violence impacts the communities they care about.

Visit the tool at everytownresearch.org/EveryStat

IN AN AVERAGE YEAR, 961 PEOPLE DIE BY GUNS IN ALABAMA. WITH A RATE OF 19.7 DEATHS PER 100,000 PEOPLE, ALABAMA HAS THE 3RD-HIGHEST RATE OF GUN DEATHS IN THE UNITED STATES.

In Alabama, 55% of gun deaths are suicides and 41% are homicides. This is compared to 61% and 35% respectively, nationwide.

The rate of gun deaths in Alabama increased 32%↑ from 2008 to 2017, compared to a 17%↑ increase over this same time period nationwide.

Among the 67 counties in Alabama, Jefferson and Montgomery counties contain the state’s two largest cities, Birmingham and Montgomery. These counties have rates of 25.6 gun deaths and 26.8 gun deaths per 100,000 people, respectively. For data on all counties, visit the EveryStat for Gun Safety tool online.

55% OF ALL GUN DEATHS IN ALABAMA ARE SUICIDES.

WHAT FOLLOWS IS THE LATEST DATA ON GUN DEATHS IN THREE CATEGORIES:

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I. GUN SUICIDE

An average of 527 people in Alabama die by gun suicide every year—a rate of 10.3 suicides per 100,000 people. In Alabama, there is an average of 17 hours between gun suicide deaths.

Across all states, Alabama has the 11th-highest rate of gun suicides in the country.

White people in Alabama are 4 times as likely to die by gun suicide as Black people.


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II. GUN HOMICIDE

An average of 400 people in Alabama die by gun homicide every year—a rate of 8.6 homicides per 100,000 people.

Across all states, Alabama has the 4th-highest rate of gun homicides in the country. Of all homicides in Alabama, 81% involve a gun, compared to 73% nationally.

In Alabama, Black people are 6 times as likely to die by gun homicide as white people, compared to 10 times nationwide.


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III. CHILDREN AND TEENS GUN DEATHS

Firearms are the 2nd-leading cause of death among children and teens in the United States.

In Alabama, an average of 68 children and teens die by guns every year, and 60% of these deaths are homicide. In the US, 58% of all gun deaths among children and teens are homicides.

Black children and teens in Alabama are 3 times as likely as their white peers to die by guns.


There is insufficient data on intimate partner homicides for this state.
Gun Violence in the United States

For data on all states and counties, visit everytownresearch.org/EveryStat

IN AN AVERAGE YEAR, 36,383 PEOPLE DIE BY GUNS IN THE US. THIS EQUATES TO A RATE OF 11.1 DEATHS PER 100,000 PEOPLE.

In the US, 61% of gun deaths are suicides and 35% are homicides. While Alaska has the highest rate of all gun deaths in the country, Montana has the highest rate of gun suicide and DC has the highest rate of gun homicide.

The rate of gun deaths in the US increased 17%↑ from 2008 to 2017. During that same time period, the rate of gun suicide increased 19%↑ and the rate of gun homicide increased 15%↑.

In the US, Black people are 2 times as likely to die by guns as their white peers. Across all states, Missouri has the highest rates of gun deaths among Black people, followed by Indiana and Illinois.

For data on all states and counties, visit the EveryStat for Gun Safety tool online.

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Sources: CDC, Fatal Injury Reports, five-year average: 2013-2017. Percents may not equal 100% due to missing data.
WHAT FOLLOWS IS THE LATEST DATA ON GUN DEATHS IN FOUR CATEGORIES:

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I. GUN SUICIDE

An average of 22,274 people in the US die by gun suicide every year—a rate of 6.6 suicides per 100,000 people. Gun suicide makes up nearly two-thirds of all gun deaths nationwide and one-half of all suicides.

In the US, white people are 3 times as likely to die by gun suicide as Black people.


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II. GUN HOMICIDE

An average of 13,326 people in the US die by gun homicide every year—a rate of 4.3 homicides per 100,000 people.

Of all homicides in the US, 73% involve a gun.

In the US, Black people are 10 times as likely to die by gun homicide as White people.


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III. CHILDREN AND TEENS GUN DEATHS

Firearms are the 2nd-leading cause of death among children and teens in the US.

In the US, an average of 2,887 children and teens die by guns every year, and 58% of these deaths are homicides.

Black children and teens in the US are 14 times as likely as their white peers to die by gun homicide.


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IV. INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDE

From 2013 to 2017, 3,120 women were fatally shot by an intimate partner in the US. This represents 81% of all intimate partner gun homicides in the country.

Nearly 1 million women alive today have reported being shot or shot at by an intimate partner.