Gun Violence in California

OVERVIEW

In an average year, **3,090** people die and **6,843** are wounded by guns in California. California has the **37th-highest** rate of gun violence in the US.

Data on states, congressional districts, and counties: [EveryStat.org](http://EveryStat.org)

GUN DEATHS OVER TIME

In California, the rate of gun deaths decreased **6%** from 2010 to 2019, compared to a **17%** increase nationwide. The rate of gun suicides decreased **5%** and gun homicides decreased **8%**, compared to a **13%** increase and **26%** increase nationwide, respectively.

COST OF GUN VIOLENCE

California has the **44th-highest** societal cost of gun violence in the US at $571 per person each year. Gun deaths and injuries cost California **$23 billion**, of which **$1 billion** is paid by taxpayers.

GUN DEATHS BY INTENT

In California, **52%** of gun deaths are suicides and **44%** are homicides. This is compared to **60%** and **38%** nationwide, respectively.

Sources


[EveryStat.org](http://EveryStat.org)

Updated: January 2021
GUN SUICIDES AND SUICIDE ATTEMPTS
Every year, an average of 1,596 people in California die by gun suicides and 108 are wounded by gun suicide attempts—a rate of 3.8 suicides and 0.3 suicide attempts per 100,000 people. California has the 45th-highest rate of gun suicides and gun suicide attempts in the US.

Gun Suicides by Race/Ethnicity in California

GUN DEATHS AMONG CHILDREN AND TEENS
Guns are the 2nd-leading cause of death among children and teens in California. In California, an average of 240 children and teens die by guns every year, and 73% of these deaths are homicides. In the US, 58% of all gun deaths among children and teens are homicides.

GUN HOMICIDES AND ASSAULTS
Every year, an average of 1,448 people in California die by gun homicides and 3,517 are wounded by gun assaults—a rate of 3.7 homicides and 8.9 assaults per 100,000 people. California has the 30th-highest rate of gun homicides and gun assaults in the US. In California, 71% of all homicides involve a gun, compared to 75% nationwide.

Gun Homicides by Race/Ethnicity in California

INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDES
From 2015 to 2019, 323 women were fatally shot by an intimate partner in California. 55% of female intimate partner homicide victims were killed with a gun, compared to 59% nationwide.

Did You Know?
Gun violence in California costs each person an average of $571 every year.

Sources

Note: Gun violence data on EveryStat and in this fact sheet includes individuals who die by guns or are wounded by guns and visit a hospital for care. We recognize that the impact of gun violence extends far beyond those who are killed or physically injured. However, data on those who witness an act of gun violence, are threatened with a gun, or know or care for someone wounded or killed is not systematically collected at this time.