Gun Violence in Mississippi

OVERVIEW

In an average year, 686 people die and 2,005 are wounded by guns in Mississippi. Mississippi has the 3rd-highest rate of gun violence in the US.

GUN DEATHS OVER TIME

In Mississippi, the rate of gun deaths increased 59% from 2011 to 2020, compared to a 33% increase nationwide. The rate of gun suicides increased 6% and gun homicides increased 129% compared to a 12% increase and 70% increase nationwide, respectively.

COST OF GUN VIOLENCE

Mississippi has the 2nd-highest societal cost of gun violence in the US at $1,707 per person each year. Gun deaths and injuries cost Mississippi $5 billion, of which $272 million is paid by taxpayers.

GUN DEATHS BY INTENT

In Mississippi, 43% of gun deaths are suicides and 51% are homicides. This is compared to 59% and 38% nationwide, respectively.
GUN SUICIDES AND SUICIDE ATTEMPTS
Every year, an average of 292 people in Mississippi die by gun suicides and 68 are wounded by gun suicide attempts—a rate of 9.5 suicides and 2.3 suicide attempts per 100,000 people. Mississippi has the 11th-highest rate of gun suicides and gun suicide attempts in the US.

GUN HOMICIDES AND ASSAULTS
Every year, an average of 358 people in Mississippi die by gun homicides and 668 are wounded by gun assaults—a rate of 12.7 homicides and 22.4 assaults per 100,000 people. Mississippi has the 4th-highest rate of gun homicides and gun assaults in the US. In Mississippi, 84% of all homicides involve a gun, compared to 76% nationwide.

CHILDREN AND TEENS GUN DEATHS
Guns are the leading cause of death among children and teens in Mississippi. In Mississippi, an average of 66 children and teens die by guns every year, of which 27% of these deaths are suicides and 61% are homicides. In the US, 35% of all gun deaths among children and teens are suicides and 60% are homicides.

INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDES
In 2019, fewer than 10 women were fatally shot by an intimate partner in Mississippi. 70% of female intimate partner homicide victims were killed with a gun, compared to 67% nationwide.

Sources
Gun homicides: CDC, WONDER, five-year average: 2016-2020. Homicides include shootings by police.
Children and teens gun deaths: CDC, WONDER, five-year average: 2016-2020, ages 0-19; Leading causes of death: CDC, WONDER, 2020, ages 1-19.

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.