

Gun Violence in South Carolina

OVERVIEW

In an average year, 1,044 people die and 2,358 are wounded by guns in South Carolina. South Carolina has the 6th-highest rate of gun violence in the US.



Data on states, congressional districts, and counties: **EveryStat.org**

Gun deaths: CDC, WONDER, four-year average: 2018-2021.

Gun violence trends: CDC, WONDER, 2012-2021.

Gun injuries: Ted R. Miller, David Swedler, and Kate Schnippel analysis of HCUP nonfatal injury: 2019.

Cost of gun violence: Ted R. Miller and Bruce Lawrence analysis of CDC fatal injury: 2019 and HCUP nonfatal injury: 2019.

Rankings are based on the 50 states and Washington, DC with first being highest, 51st lowest. Death and injury rankings are based on rates, economic cost rankings are based on average societal per-resident cost. Overall state gun violence rankings are calculated by adding count of gun deaths plus count of nonfatal gun injuries divided by population.

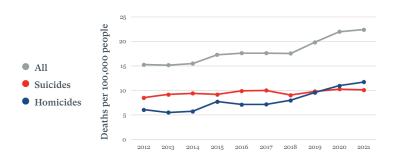
Totals do not always sum to 100% due to rounding.

EveryStat.org

Updated: May 2023

GUN DEATHS OVER TIME

In South Carolina, the rate of gun deaths increased 47% from 2012 to 2021, compared to a 39% increase nationwide. The rate of gun suicides increased 19% and gun homicides increased 92% compared to a 19% increase and 73% increase nationwide, respectively.

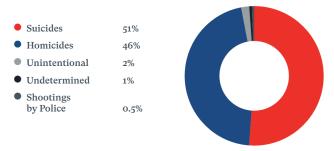


COST OF GUN VIOLENCE

South Carolina has the 10th-highest societal cost of gun violence in the US at \$2,716 per resident each year. Gun deaths and injuries cost South Carolina \$14.0 billion each year, of which \$371.9 million is paid by taxpayers.

GUN DEATHS BY INTENT

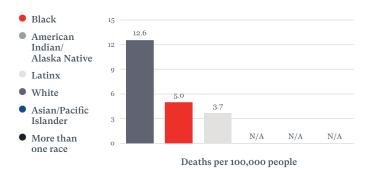
In South Carolina, 51% of gun deaths are suicides and 46% are homicides. This is compared to 57% and 40% nationwide, respectively.



GUN SUICIDES AND SUICIDE ATTEMPTS

Every year, an average of 534 people in South Carolina die by gun suicides and 58 are wounded by gun suicide attempts—a rate of 9.8 suicides and 1.1 suicide attempts per 100,000 people. South Carolina has the 19th-highest rate of gun suicides and gun suicide attempts in the US.

Gun Suicides By Race/Ethnicity in South Carolina



CHILDREN AND TEENS GUN DEATHS

Guns are the leading cause of death among children and teens in South Carolina. In South Carolina, an average of 111 children and teens die by guns every year, of which 29% of these deaths are suicides and 63% are homicides. In the US, 33% of all gun deaths among children and teens are suicides and 62% are homicides.

SOURCES:

Gun suicides and gun homicides: CDC, WONDER, four-year average: 2018–2021. Homicides include shootings by police.

Gun suicide attempts and gun assaults: Ted R. Miller, David Swedler, and Kate Schnippel analysis of HCUP nonfatal injury: 2019.

Children and teens gun deaths: CDC, WONDER, four-year average: 2018–2021, ages 0–19; Leading causes of death: CDC, WONDER, 2021, ages 1–19.

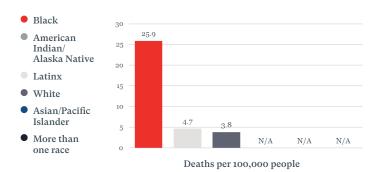
Intimate partner homicides: CDC, National Violent Death Reporting System, 2020; Intimate partner homicides by race and ethnicity: CDC, National Violent Death Reporting System, 2016–2020.

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

GUN HOMICIDES AND ASSAULTS

Every year, an average of 483 people in South Carolina die by gun homicides and 864 are wounded by gun assaults—a rate of 10.1 homicides and 16.8 assaults per 100,000 people. South Carolina has the 6th-highest rate of gun homicides and gun assaults in the US. In South Carolina, 84% of all homicides involve a gun, compared to 78% nationwide.

Gun Homicides By Race/Ethnicity in South Carolina



INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDES

In 2020, 12 women were fatally shot by an intimate partner in South Carolina. 75% of female intimate partner homicide victims were killed with a gun, compared to 66% nationwide.

Female Intimate Partner Firearm Homicides by Race/Ethnicity in South Carolina

