Gun Violence in Tennessee

OVERVIEW

In an average year, **1,273** people die and **2,220** are wounded by guns in Tennessee. Tennessee has the **14th-highest** rate of gun violence in the US.

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

GUN DEATHS OVER TIME

In Tennessee, the rate of gun deaths increased **48%** from 2011 to 2020, compared to a **33%** increase nationwide. The rate of gun suicides increased **20%** and gun homicides increased **103%** compared to a **12%** increase and **70%** increase nationwide, respectively.

COST OF GUN VIOLENCE

Tennessee has the **8th-highest** societal cost of gun violence in the US at **$1,346** per person each year. Gun deaths and injuries cost Tennessee **$9 billion**, of which **$433 million** is paid by taxpayers.

GUN DEATHS BY INTENT

In Tennessee, **56%** of gun deaths are suicides and **40%** are homicides. This is compared to **59%** and **38%** nationwide, respectively.

Sources


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

[EveryStat.org](https://www.everystat.org)
Updated: January 2022
Every year, an average of 718 people in Tennessee die by gun suicides and 119 are wounded by gun suicide attempts—a rate of 10.0 suicides and 1.8 suicide attempts per 100,000 people. Tennessee has the 13th-highest rate of gun suicides and gun suicide attempts in the US.

Guns are the leading cause of death among children and teens in Tennessee. In Tennessee, an average of 117 children and teens die by guns every year, of which 31% of these deaths are suicides and 62% are homicides. In the US, 35% of all gun deaths among children and teens are suicides and 60% are homicides.

In 2019, 18 women were fatally shot by an intimate partner in Tennessee. 67% 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.