

Gun Violence in Virginia

OVERVIEW

In an average year, 1,200 people die and 1,624 are wounded by guns in Virginia. Virginia has the 33rd-highest rate of gun violence in the US.



SOURCES:

Gun deaths: CDC, WONDER, five-year average: 2019-2023

Gun violence trends: CDC, WONDER, 2014-2023 (provisional).

Gun injuries: Everytown analysis of Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP) data, 2020.

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

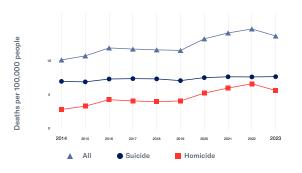
Rankings are based on the 50 states and Washington, DC, with first being highest, 51st lowest. Death and injury rankings are based on rates, economic cost rankings are based on average societal per-resident cost. Overall state gun violence rankings are calculated by adding count of gun deaths plus count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

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

EveryStat.org Updated: October 2024

GUN DEATHS OVER TIME

In Virginia, the rate of gun deaths increased 34% from 2014 to 2023, compared to a 34% increase nationwide. The rate of gun suicides increased 10% and gun homicides increased 93%, compared to a 21% increase and a 57% increase nationwide, respectively.

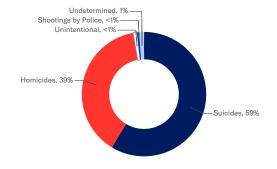


COST OF GUN VIOLENCE

Virginia has the 35th-highest societal cost of gun violence in the US at \$1,667 per resident each year. Gun violence costs Virginia \$14.2 billion each year, of which \$288.3 million is paid by taxpayers.

GUN DEATHS BY INTENT

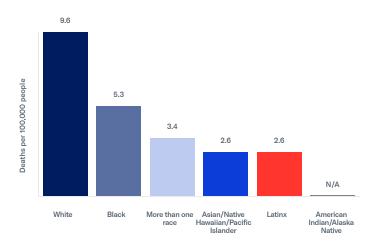
In Virginia, 59% of gun deaths are suicides and 39% are homicides. This is compared to 56% and 40% nationwide, respectively.



GUN SUICIDES AND SUICIDE ATTEMPTS

Every year, an average of 704 people in Virginia die by gun suicides and 24 are wounded by gun suicide attempts—a rate of 7.7 suicides and 0.3 suicide attempts per 100,000 people. Virginia has the 37th-highest rate of gun suicides and gun suicide attempts in the US.

Gun Suicides By Race/Ethnicity in Virginia



CHILDREN AND TEENS GUN DEATHS

Guns are the leading cause of death among children and teens in Virginia. In Virginia, an average of 119 children and teens die by guns every year, of which 31% of these deaths are suicides and 62% are homicides. In the US, 30% of all gun deaths among children and teens are suicides and 65% are homicides.

SOURCES:

Gun suicides and gun homicides: CDC, WONDER, five-year average: 2019–2023 (provisional). Homicides include shootings by police.

Gun suicide attempts and gun assaults: Everytown analysis of Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP) data, 2020.

Children and teens gun deaths: CDC, WONDER, five-year average: 2019–2023 (provisional), ages 0–19; Leading causes of death: CDC, WONDER, 2023 (provisional), ages 1–19.

Intimate partner homicides: CDC, National Violent Death Reporting System, 2021; Intimate partner homicides by race and ethnicity: CDC, National Violent Death Reporting System, 2017–2021.

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.

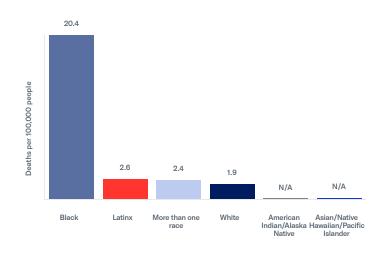
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GUN HOMICIDES AND ASSAULTS

Every year, an average of 471 people in Virginia die by gun homicides and 462 are wounded by gun assaults—a rate of 5.6 homicides and 5.4 assaults per 100,000 people. Virginia has the 32nd-highest rate of gun homicides and gun assaults in the US. In Virginia, 82% of all homicides involve a gun, compared to 79% nationwide.

Gun Homicides By Race/Ethnicity in Virginia



INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDES

In 2021, 29 women were fatally shot by an intimate partner in Virginia. 81% of female intimate partner homicide victims were killed with a gun, compared to 71% nationwide.

Female Intimate Partner Homicides by Race/Ethnicity in Virginia

