Gun Violence in Oklahoma

OVERVIEW

In an average year, 711 people die and 1,435 are wounded by guns in Oklahoma. Oklahoma has the 12th-highest rate of gun violence in the US.

GUN DEATHS OVER TIME

In Oklahoma, the rate of gun deaths increased 29% from 2010 to 2019, compared to a 17% increase nationwide. The rate of gun suicides increased 16% and gun homicides increased 81%, compared to a 13% increase and 26% increase nationwide, respectively.

COST OF GUN VIOLENCE

Oklahoma has the 16th-highest societal cost of gun violence in the US at $1,133 per person each year. Gun deaths and injuries cost Oklahoma $5 billion, of which $163 million is paid by taxpayers.

GUN DEATHS BY INTENT

In Oklahoma, 66% of gun deaths are suicides and 31% are homicides. This is compared to 60% and 38% nationwide, respectively.

Sources

EveryStat.org
Updated: January 2021
GUN SUICIDES AND SUICIDE ATTEMPTS
Every year, an average of 472 people in Oklahoma die by gun suicides and 30 are wounded by gun suicide attempts—a rate of 11.7 suicides and 0.8 suicide attempts per 100,000 people. Oklahoma has the 12th-highest rate of gun suicides and gun suicide attempts in the US.

Gun Suicides by Race/Ethnicity in Oklahoma

GUN HOMICIDES AND ASSAULTS
Every year, an average of 224 people in Oklahoma die by gun homicides and 555 are wounded by gun assaults—a rate of 6.0 homicides and 14.1 assaults per 100,000 people. Oklahoma has the 16th-highest rate of gun homicides and gun assaults in the US. In Oklahoma, 72% of all homicides involve a gun, compared to 75% nationwide.

Gun Homicides by Race/Ethnicity in Oklahoma

GUN DEATHS AMONG CHILDREN AND TEENS
Guns are the leading cause of death among children and teens in Oklahoma. In Oklahoma, an average of 59 children and teens die by guns every year, and 52% of these deaths are suicides. In the US, 58% of all gun deaths among children and teens are homicides.

INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDES
There is insufficient data on intimate partner gun homicides for Oklahoma.

Did You Know?
In Oklahoma, the gun suicide rate in the most rural counties is 32% higher than in the most urban areas.

Sources
Children/teen deaths: CDC, WONDER, five-year average: 2015–2019, ages 0–19; leading causes of death: CDC, WONDER, 2019, 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.