Gun Violence in South Dakota

OVERVIEW

In an average year, 107 people die and 297 are wounded by guns in South Dakota. South Dakota has the 16th-highest rate of gun violence in the US.

GUN DEATHS OVER TIME

In South Dakota, the rate of gun deaths increased 42% from 2010 to 2019, compared to a 17% increase nationwide. The rate of gun suicides increased 41%, compared to a 13% increase nationwide. Data on gun homicides was not consistently available in South Dakota during this time period.

COST OF GUN VIOLENCE

South Dakota has the 28th-highest societal cost of gun violence in the US at $911 per person each year. Gun deaths and injuries cost South Dakota $792 million, of which $22 million is paid by taxpayers.

GUN DEATHS BY INTENT

In South Dakota, 80% of gun deaths are suicides and 13% are homicides. This is compared to 60% and 38% nationwide, respectively.

Sources


EveryStat.org

Updated: January 2021
INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDES

There is insufficient data on intimate partner gun homicides for South Dakota.

GUN HOMICIDES AND ASSAULTS

Every year, an average of 17 people in South Dakota die by gun homicides and 112 are wounded by gun assaults—a rate of 2.1 homicides and 12.9 assaults per 100,000 people. South Dakota has the 25th-highest rate of gun homicides and gun assaults in the US. In South Dakota, 45% of all homicides involve a gun, compared to 75% nationwide.

Gun Suicides by Race/Ethnicity in South Dakota

- Black
- American Indian/Alaska Native
- Latino
- White
- Asian/Pacific Islander

Deaths per 100,000 people

Gun Homicides by Race/Ethnicity in South Dakota

- Black
- American Indian/Alaska Native
- Latino
- White
- Asian/Pacific Islander

Deaths per 100,000 people

GUN SUICIDES AND SUICIDE ATTEMPTS

Every year, an average of 86 people in South Dakota die by gun suicides—a rate of 9.9 suicides per 100,000 people. South Dakota has the 22nd-highest rate of gun suicides and gun suicide attempts in the US. Due to confidentiality considerations, gun suicide attempt data is not made public for South Dakota because it averages fewer than 10 attempts per year.

Gun Suicides by Race/Ethnicity in South Dakota

- Black
- American Indian/Alaska Native
- Latino
- White
- Asian/Pacific Islander

Deaths per 100,000 people

GUN DEATHS AMONG CHILDREN AND TEENS

Guns are the 3rd-leading cause of death among children and teens in South Dakota. In South Dakota, an average of 12 children and teens die by guns every year, and 60% 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 South Dakota.

Did You Know?

American Indians and Alaska Natives make up 9% of the population in South Dakota yet they make up 36% of the state’s gun homicides.

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.

EveryStat.org

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