

THE STATE OF GUN VIOLENCE IN **ALASKA**

Gun violence has a devastating impact on Alaska, which has the highest gun death rate of all 50 states. Lawmakers owe it to their constituents to strengthen Alaska's gun laws.

GUN SUICIDE

- More than 70% of all gun deaths in Alaska are suicides, and 63% of all suicide deaths in Alaska involve firearms.
- From 2008 to 2017, 1,089 people in Alaska died by gun-related suicide.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- Guns make domestic violence incidents far more likely to end in death.
- Nearly 50% of Alaska's intimate partner homicides involve a gun.

TRAFFICKING

- Because of the state's weak gun laws, guns are purchased in Alaska and trafficked to states with stronger gun laws, where they end up in the hands of criminals and people unable to pass a background check.
- From 2013 to 2017, 1,687 guns originally purchased in Alaska were recovered after being used in crime in other states.

YOUNG PEOPLE AND GUNS

- Exposure to gun violence can cause lasting trauma in young people, leading to PTSD, chronic stress, and decreased future earnings.
- From 2008 to 2017, 410 people under age 25 were killed with a gun in Alaska.
- Guns are the leading cause of death for Alaska children ages 1-17.

Published January 2020. Sources: CDC WONDER, ATF Firearms Trace Data Report, FBI Supplementary Homicide Reports.

PROVEN SOLUTIONS TO PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE IN ALASKA

Alaska has very weak gun laws and the highest gun death rate among the states. Despite its distance from the rest of the country, Alaska supplies crime guns to other states at the fifth-highest rate. Lawmakers in Alaska could save lives by **passing a law requiring background checks for all firearm sales and passing an extreme risk protection order law.** [Learn more about Alaska's gun laws at lawcenter.giffords.org/AK.](http://lawcenter.giffords.org/AK)



Alaska earned an F on our Annual Gun Law Scorecard. Visit gunlawscorecard.org to learn how to raise your state's grade.

ANNUAL COST OF GUN VIOLENCE:

**\$763
MILLION**
\$1,049 PER RESIDENT



2 DAYS
Someone is killed with a gun every two days in Alaska. That's 165 people a year.