

# THE STATE OF GUN VIOLENCE IN MASSACHUSETTS

Despite the state's strong gun laws and low gun death rate, hundreds of Massachusetts residents are killed or wounded by a gun each year. Lawmakers should continue to enact gun safety proactive laws and policies.

## GUN SUICIDE

- More than 56% of gun deaths in Massachusetts are suicides, and nearly 21% of all suicide deaths in Massachusetts involve firearms.
- From 2013 to 2017, 652 people in Massachusetts died by gun-related suicide.

## URBAN GUN VIOLENCE

- Gun violence has a disproportionate impact on urban communities of color.
- Black men make up less than 5% of Massachusetts's population, but account for nearly 48% of the state's gun homicide victims.
- In Massachusetts, black men ages 18–24 are nearly 19 times more likely than white men the same age to be murdered with a gun.

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- Guns make domestic violence incidents far more likely to end in death.
- 20% of Massachusetts's intimate partner homicides involve a gun.
- From 2007 to 2016, 26 women were killed with a firearm by their intimate partner in Massachusetts.

## 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, 587 people under age 25 were killed with a gun in Massachusetts.

Published January 2020. Sources: CDC WONDER, FBI Supplementary Homicide Reports.

## PROVEN SOLUTIONS TO PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE IN MASSACHUSETTS

Massachusetts has some of the strongest gun laws in the country and leads the nation in investing state funds to support evidence-based community violence intervention strategies. The state has the second-lowest gun death rate and imports three times more crime guns than it exports. To further strengthen its gun laws, Massachusetts legislators could **strengthen relinquishment laws and regulate undetectable and untraceable firearms.** [Learn more about Massachusetts's gun laws at \[lawcenter.giffords.org/MA\]\(http://lawcenter.giffords.org/MA\).](#)



Massachusetts earned an A- on our Annual Gun State Scorecard. Visit [gunlawscorecard.org](http://gunlawscorecard.org) to learn how to raise your state's grade.

ANNUAL COST OF  
GUN VIOLENCE:

**\$1.5  
BILLION**

\$221 PER RESIDENT



Someone is killed with a gun every 38 hours in Massachusetts. That's 231 people a year.