

THE STATE OF GUN VIOLENCE IN OREGON

Despite the state's relatively strong gun laws, 497 lives are lost to gun violence in Oregon each year. Most of these gun deaths are suicides. More can and must be done to save these lives.

GUN SUICIDE

- Nearly 82% of gun deaths in Oregon are suicides, and more than 53% of all suicide deaths in Oregon involve firearms.
- From 2013 to 2017, 2,037 people in Oregon died by gun-related suicide. That's one every 22 hours.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- Guns make domestic violence incidents far more likely to end in death.
- Nearly 65% of Oregon's intimate partner homicides involve a gun.
- From 2007 to 2016, 71 women were killed with a gun by their intimate partner in Oregon.

TRAFFICKING

- Oregon's relatively strong gun laws are undermined by gun trafficking. Guns are purchased in states with weaker gun laws and brought into Oregon, where they end up in the hands of criminals and people unable to pass a background check.
- From 2013 to 2017, 3,614 guns originally purchased in other states were recovered after being used in crime in Oregon.

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, 589 people under age 25 were killed with a gun in Oregon.
- Guns are the third-leading cause of death for Oregon 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 OREGON

While Oregon has enacted several basic gun safety laws, the state has significant room for improvement. Oregon has the 21st-lowest gun death rate and exports and imports crime guns at close to the national rates. To save lives from gun violence, Oregon legislators could **require people who live with minor children to store their firearms safely and restrict untraceable and undetectable firearms.** [Learn more about Oregon's gun laws at lawcenter.giffords.org/OR.](https://www.lawcenter.giffords.org/OR)



Oregon earned a C+ on our Annual Gun Law Scorecard. Visit gunlawscorecard.org to learn how to raise your state's grade.

ANNUAL COST OF
GUN VIOLENCE:

**\$2.6
BILLION**

\$654 PER RESIDENT



18 HOURS

Someone is killed with a gun every 18 hours in Oregon. That's 497 people a year.