

# THE STATE OF GUN VIOLENCE IN TEXAS

Gun violence poses a serious public safety risk to the people of Texas, claiming the lives of 3,139 Texans each year and wounding even more. Lawmakers owe it to their constituents to pass gun safety legislation.

#### **GUN SUICIDE**

- More than 62% of gun deaths in Texas are suicides, and more than 57% of all suicide deaths in Texas involve firearms.
- From 2013 to 2017, 9,737 people in Texas died by gun-related suicide. That's one every 5 hours.

### **URBAN GUN VIOLENCE**

- Gun violence has a disproportionate impact on urban communities of color.
- Black and Hispanic men make up less than 25% of Texas's population, but account for nearly 63% of the state's gun homicide victims.
- In Texas, black men ages 18–24 are nearly 11 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.
- Over 61% of Texas's intimate partner homicides involve a gun.
- From 2007 to 2016, 691 women were killed with a gun by their intimate partner in Texas.

### 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 2013 to 2017, 3,137 people under age 25 were killed with a gun in Texas.
- Guns are the third-leading cause of death for Texas children ages 1-17.

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## **PROVEN SOLUTIONS TO PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE IN TEXAS**

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Texas has extremely weak gun laws. The state has the 27th-highest gun death rate and is a major importer of crime guns. In addition to repealing its dangerous campus carry law, Texas legislators should consider **requiring background checks on all gun sales, enacting an extreme risk protection order law, and strengthening laws that restrict access to firearms by domestic abusers. Learn more about Texas's gun laws at lawcenter.giffords.org/TX.** 



Texas 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: \$16.6 BILLION \$632 PER RESIDENT

# HOURS

Someone is killed with a gun every three hours in Texas. That's 3,139 people a year.

For over 25 years, the legal experts at Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence have been fighting for a safer America by researching, drafting, and defending the laws, policies, and programs proven to save lives from gun violence.