

## THE STATE OF GUN VIOLENCE IN VERMONT

Vermont made significant improvements to its gun laws in 2018, yet the state could do far more to save lives from gun violence. Legislators must step up and take proactive measures to address this public safety crisis.

### GUN SUICIDE

- Nearly 88% of gun deaths in Vermont are suicides, and more than 54% of all suicide deaths in Vermont involve firearms.
- From 2008 to 2017, 597 people in Vermont died by gun-related suicide.

### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- Guns make domestic violence incidents far more likely to end in death.
- 75% of Vermont's intimate partner homicides involve a gun.

### TRAFFICKING

- Because of the state's weak gun laws, guns are purchased in Vermont 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, 846 guns originally purchased in Vermont were recovered after being used in crime in other states.

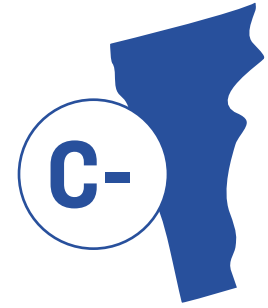
### YOUNG PEOPLE AND GUNS

- Exposure to gun violence can cause lasting trauma in young people, leading to PTSD, chronic stress, and decreased future earnings.
- From 2008 to 2017, 83 people under age 25 were killed with a gun in Vermont.

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

## PROVEN SOLUTIONS TO PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE IN VERMONT

In 2018, Vermont significantly strengthened its very weak gun laws. The state has the 17th-lowest gun death rate in the country and supplies crime guns to other states at the 19th-highest rate. To build on the state's recent progress, Vermont legislators could **require a waiting period before all gun purchases, strengthen its laws regarding gun possession by domestic abusers, and close the loophole that allows guns to be transferred before a background check is complete.** [Learn more about Vermont's gun laws at lawcenter.giffords.org/VT.](http://lawcenter.giffords.org/VT)



Vermont earned a C- on our Annual Gun Law Scorecard. Visit [gunlawscorecard.org](http://gunlawscorecard.org) to learn how to raise your state's grade.

ANNUAL COST OF  
GUN VIOLENCE:

**\$370  
MILLION**

\$591 PER RESIDENT



Someone is killed with a gun every five days in Vermont. That's 70 people a year.