

GUN VIOLENCE IN WASHINGTON STATE BY THE NUMBERS



Gun violence is a public health crisis impacting every corner of the state.

Though every Washingtonian is impacted by the gun violence epidemic, we are not impacted equally. These numbers help illustrate the crisis in our communities.

FAST FACTS

915 Washingtonians were killed by guns in 2024, at a rate of 11.3 per 100,000 people.

Someone is killed by a gun about **every 10 hours** in Washington state.

Washington recorded **1,053 gun deaths** in 2023.

About **71% of gun deaths** in Washington were suicides in 2024.

Firearms were the **second leading cause of death** for Washington children and teens ages 1-17 in 2023, and 45 children and teens in that age group died by firearm injury.

Gun violence costs Washingtonians **\$10.5 billion every year**.

At least **294 people** were fatally shot by Washington police from 2015 through 2025.

More people are killed by guns than die in **car accidents** in Washington.

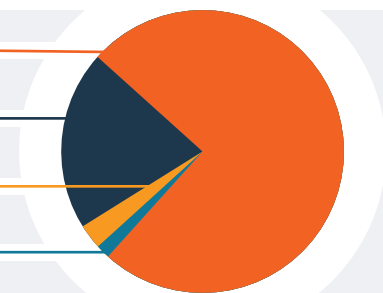
GUN VIOLENCE BY INTENT

Suicide 71%

Homicide (including domestic) **24%**

Police Involved 4%

Undetermined 1%



SUICIDE: The vast majority of gun deaths in Washington state—**71%**—are suicides. White people have the highest rate of gun suicide in Washington at a rate at 9.0 per 100,000 people, followed closely by American Indian and Alaskan Native people at 8.4 people per 100,000.

HOMICIDE: 74% of all homicides in Washington involve firearms. Homicides, including police shootings, account for over 28% of all gun deaths in the state and disproportionately impact Black communities. Black Washingtonians are **over 8 times** more likely to die by gun homicide than white Washingtonians.

To learn how to be part of the gun violence prevention movement, go to gunresponsibility.org



POLICE VIOLENCE: Since 2015, **294 people** have been fatally shot by law enforcement in Washington. While white people represent the largest number of victims of police violence, BIPOC Washingtonians are disproportionately likely to be fatally shot by police. For example, 40% of victims of fatal police shootings were white but white people account for about 70% of the state population.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: In 2021, **54% of domestic violence-related homicides** were committed by a firearm in Washington. We know that a woman is 5 times more likely to die in a domestic violence homicide when her abuser has access to a firearm.

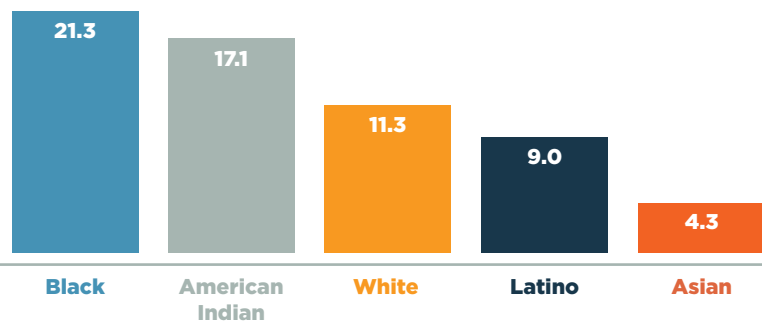
CHILDREN AND TEENS: Firearms are the **second leading cause of death for children and teens in Washington state**. While school shootings dominate the narrative around children and gun violence, young people are more likely to be victims of unintentional shootings, domestic violence, or suicide. In fact, suicide accounts for 53% of all youth firearm deaths in Washington. Black children and teens in Washington are three times as likely to be killed by a gun as their white peers.

RACE AND ETHNICITY: Black, Indigenous, and people of color in Washington are more likely to be killed by a gun than white people. Black Washingtonians are killed by a gun at the highest rate in the state—21.3 per 100,000 people—followed closely by American Indian and Alaska Native people, who are fatally shot at a rate of 17.1 per 100,000 people.

ALL FIREARM DEATHS
per 100,000 people in
Washington

CDC, UNDERLYING CAUSE OF
DEATH, FOUR-YEAR AVERAGE:
2018-2022

Deaths per 100,000 People



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Source: Unless otherwise linked, data is from CDC, John's Hopkins Public Health, and AGR.

