



FACT SHEET

District of Columbia Gun Violence

October 2016

Gun violence takes a devastating toll on Washington, D.C.

- From 2005 to 2014, 1,090 people were killed with guns in the District of Columbia.¹
- From 2005 to 2014, D.C. had a rate of 15.36 gun-related deaths for every 100,000 people. This rate is 50 percent higher than the national average.²
- In the District of Columbia, more people are killed with guns than in car accidents.³

The District of Columbia has some of the highest levels of gun-related crime in the country

- From 2005 to 2014, D.C. had a high rate of gun-related murders, with a rate of 13.40 gun-related homicides per every 100,000 people.⁴
- During 2005 to 2014, a gun-related homicide occurred every four days.⁵

The burden of gun violence in the District of Columbia falls disproportionately on communities of color

- While African Americans make up close to 53 percent of the population, they account for approximately 96 percent of gun-related homicide victims.⁶

Violence against women and access to guns is a lethal combination in the District of Columbia

- From 2005 to 2014, 69 women were murdered with a gun in the District of Columbia.⁷



In the District of Columbia, a person is killed with a gun every three days.¹⁰

From 2005 to 2014,

240

young people under 21 were killed with a gun in the District of Columbia.

Young people are killed with guns in high numbers in the District of Columbia

- From 2005 to 2014, 240 people younger than age 21 were killed by gun violence in the District of Columbia.⁸
- With a rate of 17.16 gun-related deaths of people younger than age 21, D.C. has a rate four times higher than the national rate.⁹

Endnotes

1 Center for American Progress analysis of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Injury Prevention & Control: Data & Statistics (WISQARS): Fatal Injury Data," available at http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/fatal_injury_reports.html (last accessed June 2016).

2 Ibid.

3 Violence Policy Center, "Gun Deaths Outpace Motor Vehicle Deaths in 21 States and the District of Columbia in 2014" (2016), available at <http://www.vpc.org/studies/guns-vs-cars16.pdf>.

4 Center for American Progress analysis of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Injury Prevention & Control: Data & Statistics (WISQARS): Fatal Injury Data."

5 Ibid.

6 Ibid.

7 Ibid.

8 Ibid.

9 Ibid. The rate is per every 100,000 people under 21 years of age.

10 Center for American Progress analysis of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Injury Prevention & Control: Data & Statistics (WISQARS): Fatal Injury Data."