



FACT SHEET

Missouri Gun Violence

October 2016

Gun violence takes a devastating toll on Missouri

- From 2005 to 2014, 8,323 people were killed with guns in Missouri.¹
- Missouri is among the deadliest states for gun violence. From 2005 to 2014, Missouri had the 15th-highest rate of gun-related deaths of any state, with a rate of 13.84 gun-related deaths for every 100,000 people. This rate is 35 percent higher than the national average.²
- From 2005 to 2014, 1.6 times more people in Missouri were killed with guns than the total number of soldiers killed in combat in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars combined.³
- Missouri is one of the 21 states where more people are killed with guns than in car accidents.⁴

Missouri has some of the highest levels of gun-related crime in the country

- From 2005 to 2014, Missouri ranked seventh for highest rate of gun-related murders, with a rate of 5.36 gun-related homicides per every 100,000 people. This rate is 39 percent higher than the national average.⁵
- Missouri has high rates of aggravated assaults committed with a gun. From 2005 to 2014, there were 88 aggravated assaults with a gun per every 100,000 people in Missouri, giving it a rank of fourth-highest among the states.⁶

The burden of gun violence in Missouri falls disproportionately on communities of color

- While African Americans make up close to 12 percent of the state population, they account for approximately 69 percent of gun-related homicide victims in the state.⁷

Domestic violence and access to guns is a lethal combination in Missouri

- From 2005 to 2014, 152 women were fatally shot by their intimate partner in Missouri.⁸



In Missouri, a person is killed with a gun every 10 hours.¹⁵



From 2005 to 2014, **1.6 times** more people were killed with a gun in Missouri than U.S. soldiers killed in combat in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars combined.

- Missouri ranked 12th-worst in the nation for the rate of gun-related murders of women by intimate partners from 2005 to 2014, with a rate of 5.0 per every 1 million women.⁹

Gun-related suicides are a substantial problem in Missouri

- From 2005 to 2014, a gun-related suicide occurred every 18 hours.¹⁰
- From 2005 to 2014, 4,907 people in Missouri died by a gun-related suicide.¹¹

Young people are killed with guns in high numbers in Missouri

- From 2005 to 2014, 1,017 people younger than age 21 were killed by gun violence in Missouri.¹²
- With a rate of 6.08 gun-related deaths of people younger than age 21, the state ranks fourth in the nation.¹³

Missouri residents strongly support common-sense measures to prevent gun violence

- A 2013 poll found that 85 percent of Missouri voters supported requiring a background check for every gun sale.¹⁴

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 Ibid.; U.S. Department of Defense, *U.S. Casualty Status* (2015), available at <http://www.defense.gov/casualty.pdf>. This number was calculated using the number of deaths from the start of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, respectively, to June 22, 2016.

4 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>.

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

6 Federal Bureau of Investigation, "Uniform Crime Reports" (2005-2014), available at <https://www.fbi.gov/stats-services/crimestats>.

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

8 Center for American Progress analysis of Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Supplemental Homicide Data* (U.S. Department of Justice, 2005-2014); "Intimate partners" includes

boyfriends, girlfriends, husbands, wives, ex-wives, ex-husbands, common law wives, and common law husbands. The authors only considered those cases with one victim and one offender.

9 Ibid.

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

11 Ibid.

12 Ibid.

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

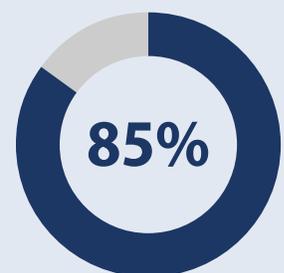
14 Mayors Against Illegal Guns, "New Poll Finds 85 Percent in Missouri Favor Mandatory Background Checks for All Gun Buyers," Press release, March 5, 2013, available at http://libcloud.s3.amazonaws.com/9/b3/b/1399/MO_MAIG_Release_030513.pdf.

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

16 Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence, "2015 Gun Law State Scorecard," available at <http://gunlawscorecard.org/> (last accessed May 2016).



The Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence gives Missouri an F for the strength of its gun laws.¹⁶



of Missouri voters supported requiring a background check for every gun sale.