

# PROTECT MINNESOTA

working together to prevent gun violence

## An Introduction

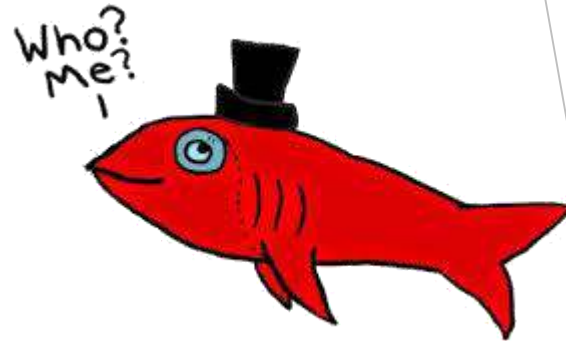
*A presentation by the Rev. Nancy Nord Bence  
Executive Director, Protect Minnesota*



Most people believe the issue of gun violence is all about the **Second Amendment**.



But the Second Amendment  
is a **red herring**.



In *Heller v. D.C.*,  
Justice Antonin Scalia wrote:

*“Like most rights, the right secured by the  
Second Amendment is not unlimited...”*

We have the right to regulate WHO can have a gun,  
WHERE guns can be carried, and WHICH guns can  
be sold.

Protect Minnesota is the **ONLY** independent, state-based gun violence prevention (GVP) organization in Minnesota.

We have been working to prevent gun violence for 25 years.

*We have formed the **Interfaith Alliance for Gun Safety** because people of faith working together are the strongest force for change in Minnesota.*

We are NOT anti-gun ownership.  
We are anti-gun violence.  
Our goal is to make gun ownership SAFER.

Our focus has always been on gun violence as a **PUBLIC HEALTH** issue.



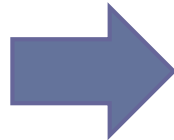
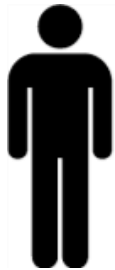
# Public Health Model

changes the focus from

individual  
rights, behavior  
and punishment

to

population trends  
and the safety of  
the community



*This means looking at trends in **gun ownership**  
and **gun violence** in aggregate.*

## Every day in America...

300 people are shot.

90 people die.

48 children and teens shot.

7 children and teens die.

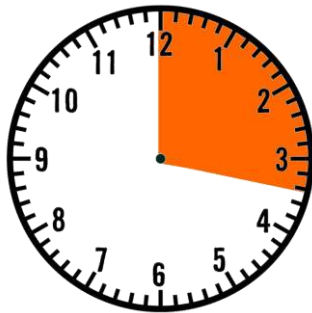
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## Every year in America...

117,000 Americans are shot.

More than 32,000 of them die by gun fire.

More than 11,000 of them murdered with a gun.

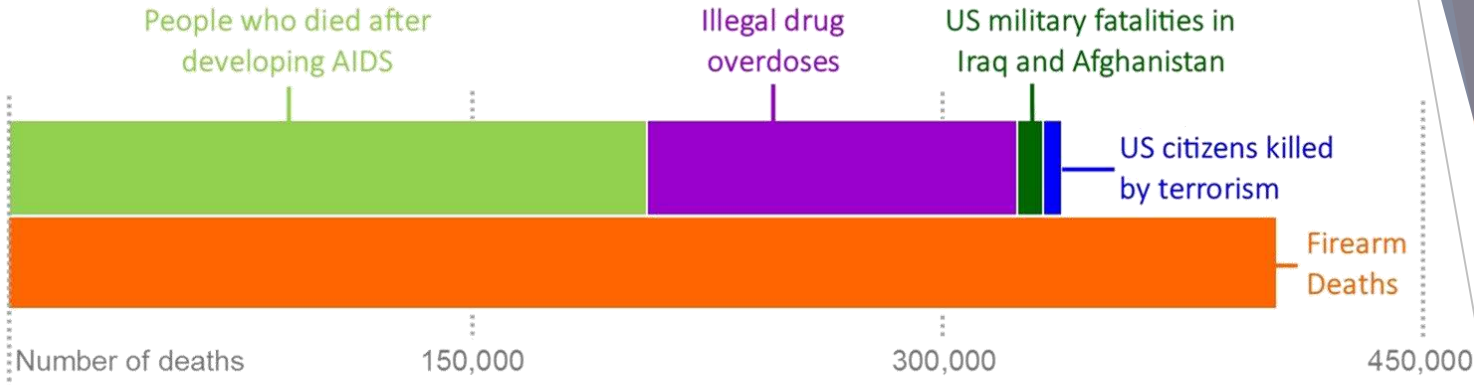


One person dies by gun  
fire every 17 minutes.

*Source: The Brady Center averaged the most recent five years of complete data from death certificates (2010-2014) and estimates of emergency room admissions (2009-2013) available via CDC's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control's Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System, [www.cdc.gov/ncipc/wisqars/](http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/wisqars/). Data retrieved 12.18.15. Numbers may not sum to 100% because of rounding of CDC averages.*

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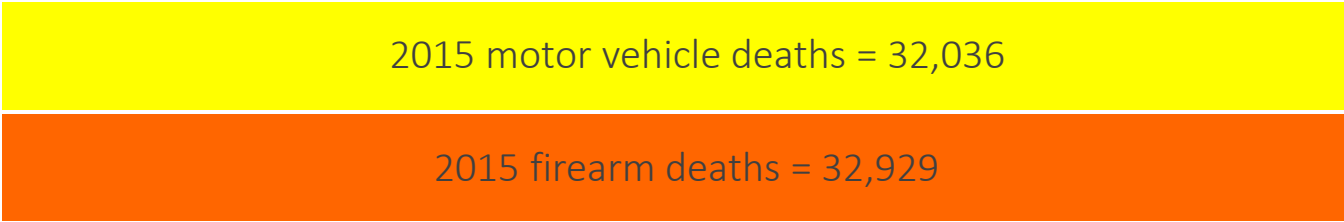
Between 2001 and 2013, guns killed more people in the US than AIDS, illegal drug overdoses, wars and terrorism combined.



Sources: IIHS, icasualties, CDC/WISQARS, Micah Zenko

Vox

In 2015, gun deaths exceeded motor vehicle deaths in the US.



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention data compiled by Bloomberg

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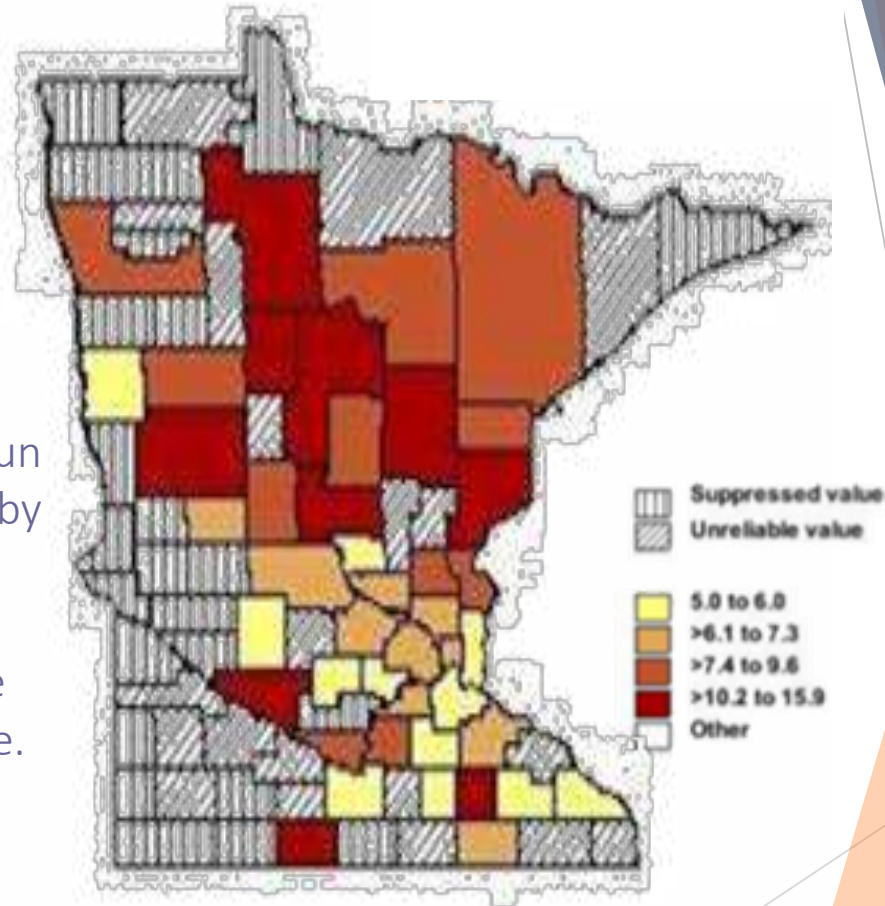
# MDH: Minnesota firearm mortality by county

*Includes all types, 2004-2013*

Almost **45%** of all households in Minnesota own at least one gun.

**One person** is killed by a gun and one person is injured by a gun every day.

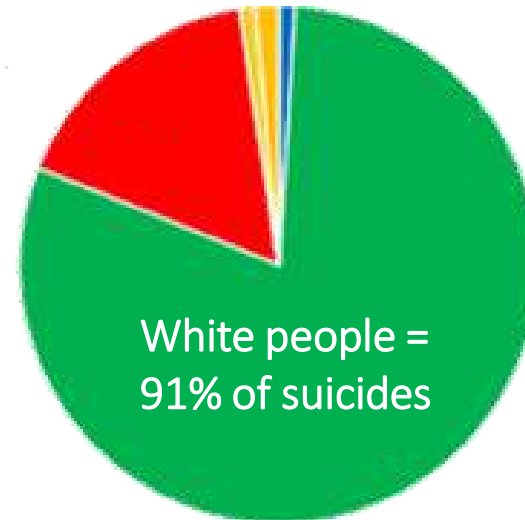
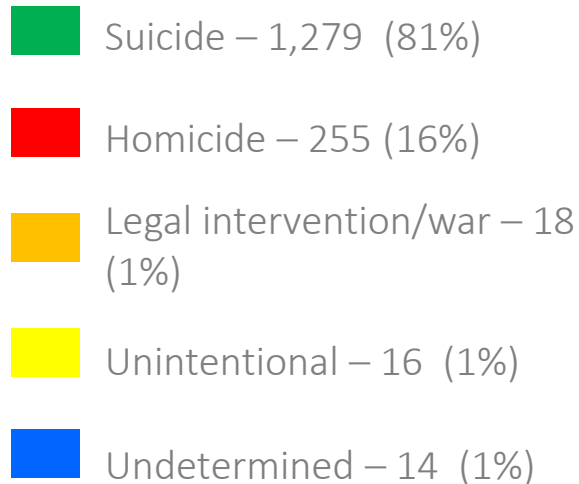
Over **900** Minnesotans are shot per year; over **425** die.



The highest rates of gun violence are found in rural counties.



## MDH: Minnesota firearm deaths by type *2011-2014 by intent, data from the CDC*



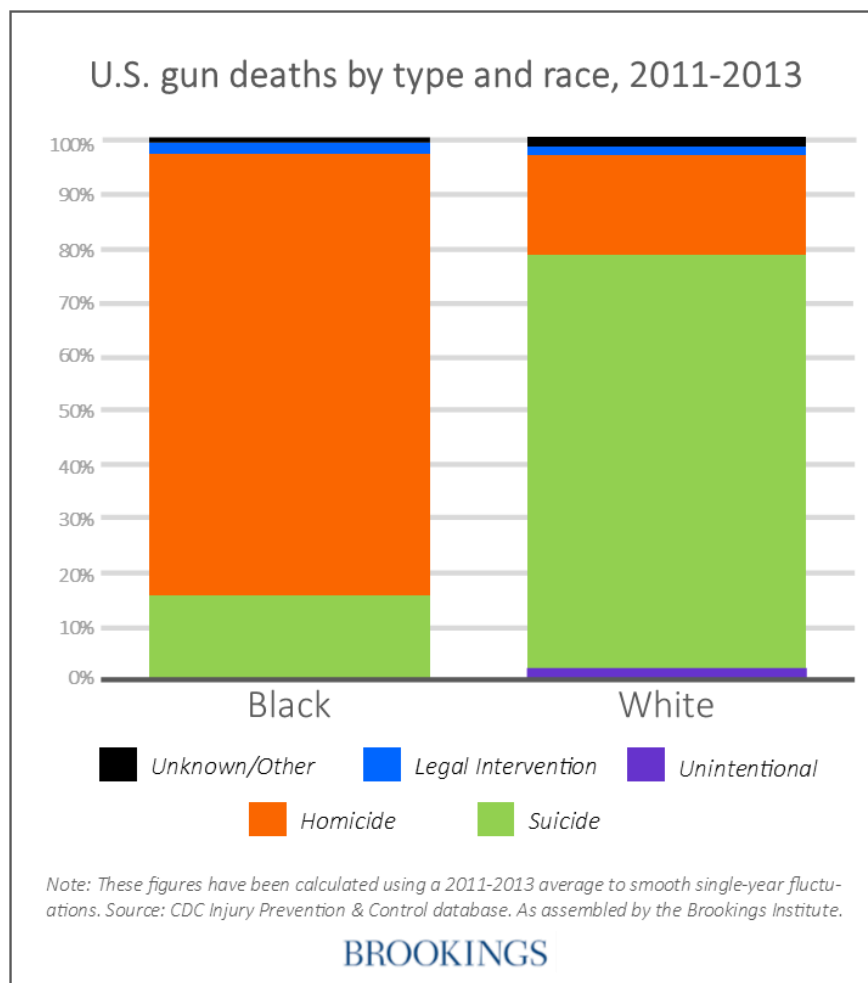
**In 2015, suicides accounted for 82% of all gun deaths in Minnesota.  
Guns are used in 45% of suicides in Minnesota.**

Gun suicides have increased over 35% since 1999.  
Gun homicides have increased 9% in the same time.

Gun violence impacts whites and blacks differently...

African Americans account for 55% of gun homicide victims but make up just 13% of the population.

Black men are 10 times more likely to be shot and killed than white men, and 2-½ times more likely to be killed by police.



Source: Brookings Institute report: "Guns and Race: the Different Worlds of Black and White Americans". By Richard V. Reeves/Holmes. December 15, 2015.  
<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/social-mobility-memos/2015/12/15/guns-and-race-the-different-worlds-of-black-and-white-americans/>

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The annual cost of gun violence in Minnesota

**\$2.2 billion**

Twice the cost of a **Vikings Stadium** every year!

**Direct costs = \$764 million**

(health care, law enforcement, employer costs, lost wages)

**Indirect costs = \$1.4 billion**

(pain and suffering, ongoing therapy, lost business, lowered property values, reduced tax base)

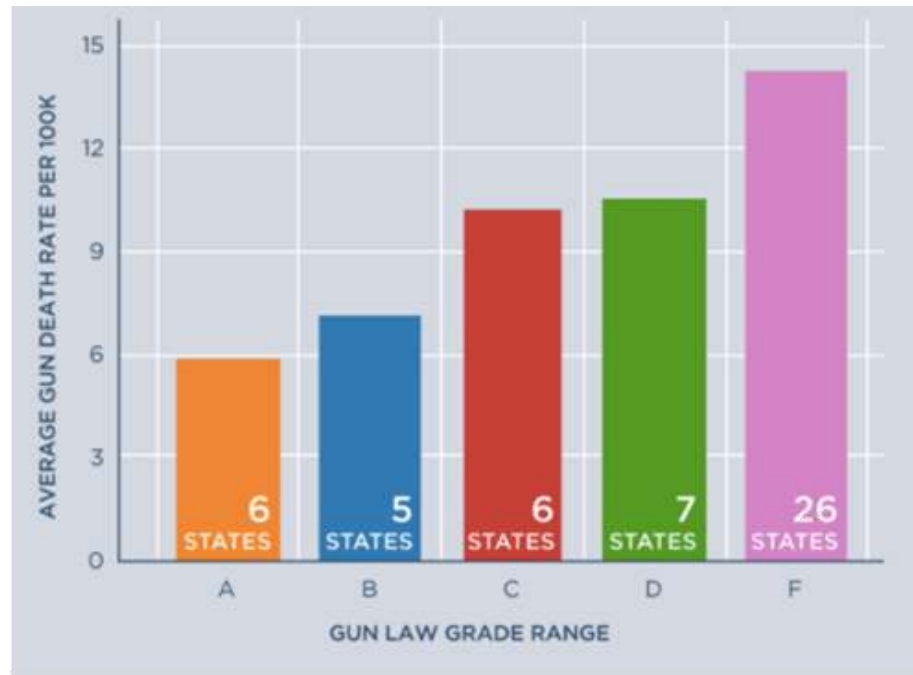
Source: *The Economic Cost of Gun Violence in Minnesota: A Business Case for Action*, by the Minnesota Coalition for Common Sense, December 1, 2017, [AmericansforResponsibleSolutions.org/MN](http://AmericansforResponsibleSolutions.org/MN)

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# WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT GUN VIOLENCE??

Stronger gun laws = fewer deaths

The states with the strongest gun laws have the lowest rates of gun violence, and vice versa.



LAW CENTER TO PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE

# MN's Post-Election Legislative Outlook

## Minnesota's congressional delegation – no real change

GVP supporters:

Senators Klobuchar and Franken

Congresswoman McCollum and Congressmen Nolan and Ellison  
(Ellison may be stepping down.)

## Minnesota State Legislature – BAD NEWS!

House of Representatives: Pro-Gun (76-57)

Senate: Pro-Gun (34-33).



## Silver lining

Governor Dayton  
can probably be counted  
on to veto really bad  
gun bills for the next  
two years.

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With the pro-gun party taking control of the Presidency, Congress and the MN Capitol, we expect bills to be introduced in the next session like these:

## Permit Reciprocity

Any state permit to carry would be valid in Minnesota – even from states where no background check or training is required.

## Permitless Carry

Anyone could carry a gun without a permit or background check.

## “Stand Your Ground”

Removes the legal obligation to try to get away from a threatening situation outside your home before using lethal force.

## Campus Carry, Gun Free Zone bans

Guns could not be banned at schools, universities, government buildings, and other public places.

## GVP bills we will support...

### Already introduced

SF2493 – Criminal Background Checks

SF2980 -- Voluntary Firearm Transfer and  
Gun Violence Protective Orders

### Possible new legislation

Removing the gun data collection prohibitions from state law

Fully funding a pilot program to combat urban gun violence through intensive intervention and sustainable community investment

## How you can get involved:

Get on our email list so we can keep you informed.

Go to [www.protectmn.org](http://www.protectmn.org)

Attend a “Leading the Conversation” workshop

Saturday, January 14, 2-4pm

Sunday, January 29, 2-4pm

Sunday, February 5, 2-4pm



Join the Interfaith Alliance for Action Lobby Day

Date in February TBA. Protect Minnesota will also participate in MPHA Lobby Day on April 6.

Join the Interfaith Alliance for Gun Safety

All faith groups and individual people of faith are welcome!

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Questions? Thoughts? Concerns?

Want this data and lots more?

Go to [www.protectmn.org/resources](http://www.protectmn.org/resources)  
and click on GUN FACTS or any of the presentations.

Want to contact me?

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