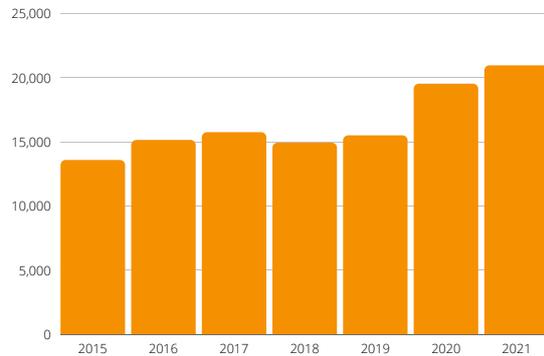


# Community Gun Violence In Minnesota

The Facts & How You Can Help Prevent It

## What is community gun violence?

Community gun violence is a scourge affecting MN. Defined as intentional acts of interpersonal gun violence committed in public places by individuals who are not intimately related to each other, community gun violence occurs in streets, parks, front porches—and it makes up the majority of gun homicides that occur in the U.S. While the national conversation around gun violence revolves around mass shootings, the epicenter of community gun violence is in communities of color and in under-resourced urban areas. Nationally, nearly 13,500 lives are lost to gun homicides in the United States every year. Tens of thousands are shot & survive, suffering life-altering injuries & trauma. As is the case nationally, the community gun violence threat is particularly acute for Black and Brown Minnesotans, who make up just 13% of the Minnesota population yet account for 55% of gun homicide victims.



Firearm homicides continue to rise in the U.S.

## Statistics to Know

Communities of color face drastically higher rates of murder than in other communities. Historically, the U.S. government concentrated communities of color in neighborhoods with limited resources and experienced poverty. These neighborhoods where poverty is most concentrated bear the largest brunt of gun homicide, crime, and associated trauma.

**10** Black men are about 10x more likely than white Americans to be victims of gun homicide.

**14** Black children and teens are 14x more likely than white children and teens of the same age to die by gun homicide.

Exposure to community gun violence reverberates far beyond those killed or injured; it includes witnessing or having knowledge of acts of gun violence. Exposure to gun violence in communities affects mental & physical health & can reduce quality of life. Those indirectly & directly impacted by community gun violence experience lasting impacts on health and wellbeing.

**44%** US adults say they personally know someone who has been shot, either accidentally or intentionally.

**57%** Black Americans know someone who has been shot.

**23%** Americans say they or someone in their family has been threatened or intimidated by someone using a gun.

Gun violence has an economic cost. Individuals, businesses, & neighborhoods all suffer economically from gun violence. Shootings engender fear in affected neighborhoods, visitors stay away from areas perceived as violent, businesses are forced to relocate or limit hours of operations, and property values decrease income for both homeowners and local governments. Just one less gun homicide in Minneapolis is linked to the creation of 80 jobs and an additional \$9.4 million in sales across all businesses the following year.

**763 million** The annual direct cost of Firearm deaths & injuries for Minnesotans

**2.2 billion**

**\$2.2 billion in quality-of-life costs.**

### Breaking the Cycle: Prevention Strategies that Work

- Reduce The Flow of Illegal and Ghost Guns
- Universal Background Checks
- Violence Interruption and Prevention Strategies
  - Disrupting Cycles of Violence
  - Addressing Root Causes of Firearm Injuries and Deaths

