

# LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIREARM VIOLENCE DATA

**CONTENT WARNING:** The following material aims to increase knowledge about firearm violence. We invite everyone to trust their instincts and read with caution. Trauma-informed tips for self-care can be found at: [http://ph.lacounty.gov/ovp/TIC\\_LearningResources.htm](http://ph.lacounty.gov/ovp/TIC_LearningResources.htm)

**DURING 2020**

**818** Los Angeles County residents died from firearm injuries.

**2,239**

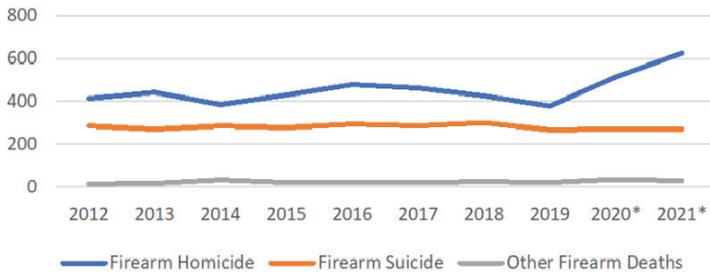
were shot & injured severely enough to require treatment in hospital or emergency departments.

This amounts to over

**8**

deaths & injuries each day.

## TRENDS IN FIREARM DEATHS BY INJURY INTENT, LA COUNTY RESIDENTS, 2012-2021



\* 2020 and 2021 data are provisional.

Firearm homicides increased by

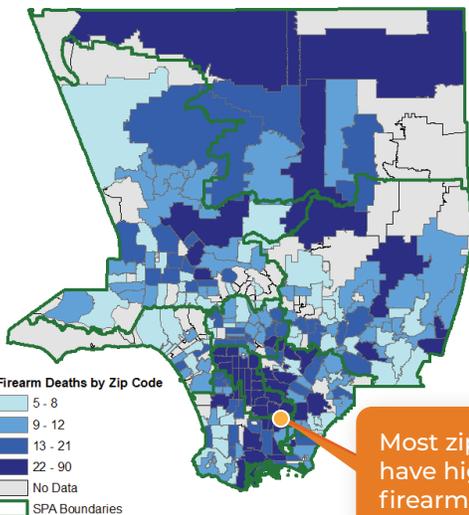
**64%**

from 2019 (n=379) to 2021 (n=625).

Other firearm deaths include unintentional injuries, legal intervention, and injuries of undetermined intent.

Numbers of firearm suicide and other firearm deaths did not increase much between 2019 and 2021.

## NUMBER OF FIREARM DEATHS AMONG LA COUNTY RESIDENTS BY ZIP CODE, 2016-2020



Most zip codes in **SPA 6** have high numbers of firearm deaths.

## RATE PER 100,000 OF FIREARM HOMICIDE AND FIREARM SUICIDE BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUP, LA COUNTY RESIDENTS, 2016-2020

Demographic Group	Firearm Suicide	Firearm Homicide
<b>Overall LA County</b>	2.6	4.3
Male	5.0	7.6
Female	0.4	1.0
American Indian/Alaskan Native	--	--
Asian	1.3	1.0
Black	2.4	17.2
Latinx	1.3	4.5
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	--	--
White	4.6	1.4
Children (0-14 years)	--	0.3
Youth (15-24 years)	1.9	9.1
Adults (25-54 years)	2.7	6.5
Seniors (55+ years)	5.3	1.1

\*2020 data are provisional

Overall, gender, and racial/ethnic group rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 US population. Rates not shown for small numbers (firearm suicides in children, all data for AIAN and NHOPI populations)

The firearm suicide rate for seniors (55+ years) is more than

**TWICE**  
that of the county overall.

The firearm homicide rate for Black people is more than

**3 TIMES**  
that of the county overall.

**IN 2020**

The direct costs (costs to health care, mental health, law enforcement, criminal justice, employers) of firearm suicide and homicide were more than

**\$547 MILLION**

Firearm violence impacts all communities and populations within Los Angeles County; however, as shown in this brief, certain areas and groups are disproportionately impacted by this problem; this includes areas affected by racism and the lack of community resources. During 2020, total costs, combining direct costs with costs associated with loss of work and quality of life, are more than \$11 billion. This is only for firearm homicides and suicides and does not include costs related to non-fatal firearm violence. While staggering, these costs cannot show the full impact of this violence to families, friends, and communities across the county.

Sources: 1) 2012-2019 mortality data from California Department of Public Health Vital Statistics, provided by Office of Health Assessment and Epidemiology. 2) Linked mortality datafile 2020 (provisional), LA County Dept. of Public Health. Office of Health Assessment and Epidemiology. 3) Provisional 2021 California Comprehensive Death Files (CCDF) for LA County, Long Beach, & Pasadena, downloaded 11/08/2022 via Vital Records Business Intelligence System (VRBIS), CA Dept. of Public Health. 4) Population data for rates from Hedderson Demographic Services for LA County ISD. 5) estimates from Everytown for Gun Safety's Cost Calculator, using estimated costs for California. Available here: <https://everytownresearch.org/report/economic-cost-calculator/>. 6) ICD-10 codes used to identify firearm deaths as follows: W32-W34 (unintentional); X72-X74 (suicide); X93-X95, U01.4 (homicide); Y22-Y24 (undetermined); Y35.0 (legal intervention).