

Kentucky Gun Deaths in 2021



947

gun deaths in
Kentucky, including



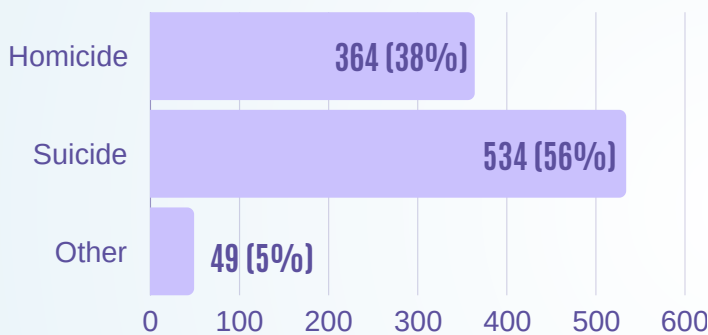
93

children and
teens (0-19)

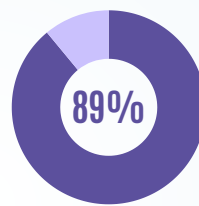


An average of 1
person killed
every 9 hours

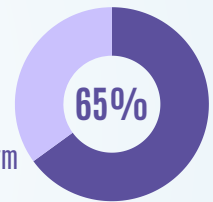
A majority of gun deaths in Kentucky are
suicide



Firearms are the most common method for
homicide & suicide in Kentucky

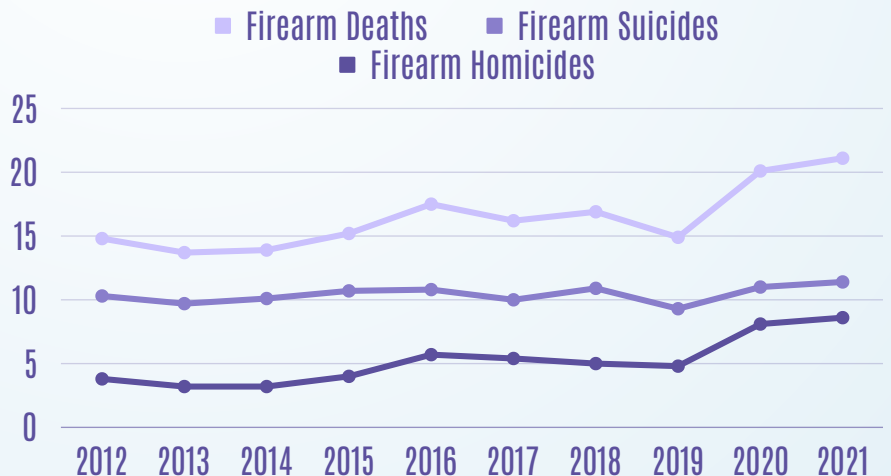


Homicides by firearm



Suicides by firearm

From 2012 to
2021 the gun
death rate
increased 43%



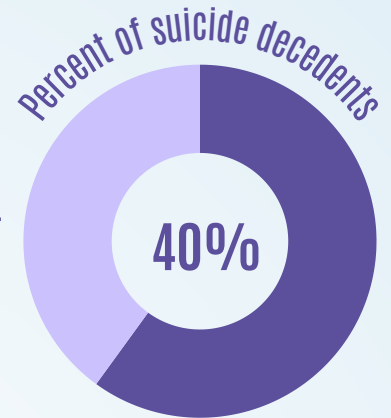
Key Takeaways

- Kentucky had the 13th highest gun death rate in the country in 2021.
- Firearms were the leading cause of death among children and teens ages 1-19.
- In 2019, there were 55 domestic violence-related homicides in Kentucky. 65% were by firearm¹

Demographics

Firearm Suicide in Kentucky

- Males were 8 times as likely to die by firearm suicide than females.
- Forty percent of all gun suicide decedents in 2021 were over the age of 54.
- In 2021, one Kenuckian died by firearm suicide every 16 hours

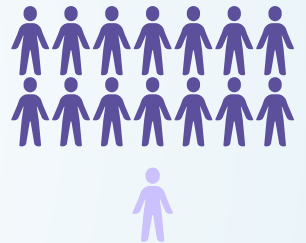


Mass Violence in Kentucky

- Per the Gun Violence Archive, there have been eight incidents of mass violence in our state this year: Lexington (1), Louisville (6), and Paducah (1).

Firearm Homicide in Kentucky

- Males were nearly 5 times as likely to die by firearm homicide than females.
- Black people are at the highest risk for gun homicide. They were nearly 14 times as likely to die by gun homicide than their white counterparts.



County Variation in Kentucky

- While narratives around gun violence often focus on cities, both rural and urban communities in Kentucky are impacted by gun violence.
- The three counties with the highest gun death rates from 2011 to 2020 were Wolfe County, Knott County, and Lee County. All Three counties had a gun death rate nearly twice the state average.²
- Rural counties in Kentucky had a gun suicide rate 1.4 times as high as urban counties.



¹ WISQARS. [2020] National Violent Death Reporting System (NDRS). <https://wisqars.cdc.gov/nvdrs/> domestic violence-related includes: spouse or other intimate partners (current or ex), parent, child, other relative, and victim injured by other intimate partner involvement.

² All data in the county variation section is from 2011-2020. Large central metro and large fringe metro counties are classified as Urban. Rural counties are classified as Nonmetro.