

Gun Death in Minnesota

A SIX-YEAR TREND ANALYSIS
2018—2023



Violence Policy Center



Protect Minnesota
Preventing Gun Violence Together

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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The Violence Policy Center (VPC) is a national nonprofit educational organization that conducts research and public education on violence in America and provides information and analysis to policymakers, journalists, advocates, and the general public.

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Introduction

This study, a joint project of Protect Minnesota^a and the Violence Policy Center,^b offers an overview of lethal gun violence in Minnesota. It utilizes data from the year 2023, the most recent and comprehensive data available at time of publication from the WISQARS database maintained by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).¹ The study also offers trend analyses for the years 2018 to 2023 as well as 2003 to 2023.

The CDC data presented in this report provide a detailed examination of the full range of firearm deaths in Minnesota, as well as year-over-year trend analysis by geography, sex, race, and ethnicity. The data also allow for comparison of Minnesota death rates not only to national data, but other Great Lakes states.

In addition to the data, the study contains profiles and photos of gun violence survivors in Minnesota. These stories describe the loss of loved ones to gun violence and remind us of the crucial fact that while statistics and numbers are necessary for the development of effective public policy, we must never lose sight of the human element of this ongoing tragedy that impacts individuals, families, and communities in Minnesota and across the nation.

A note about race and ethnicity definitions:

The terms and definitions for race and ethnicity in this report are derived from U.S. Census Bureau definitions.

RACE

American Indian or Alaska Native — A non-Hispanic person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.

Asian — A non-Hispanic person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East (e.g., China, Japan), Southeast Asia (e.g., Vietnam, Thailand) or the India subcontinent (e.g., India, Pakistan). This report includes those commonly referred to as “Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander” — a non-Hispanic person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands — in this category.

Black — A non-Hispanic person having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa.

White — A non-Hispanic person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.

ETHNICITY

Hispanic — A person of any race having origins in Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Central or South America, or other Spanish cultures.

^a Protect Minnesota is the state’s gun violence prevention organization that works to prevent gun violence through engagement, advocacy, and community-led solutions. For more information, please see protectmn.org.

^b The Violence Policy Center (VPC) is a national education and advocacy organization working to stop gun death and injury. For more information, please see www.vpc.org.

Overall Gun Death in Minnesota

Gun violence has a significant impact on communities: both nationally as well as in Minnesota. In 2023, guns claimed 46,728 lives in the United States. Of these, 525 Minnesotans were lost to guns in suicides, homicides, and other deaths (Table 1).

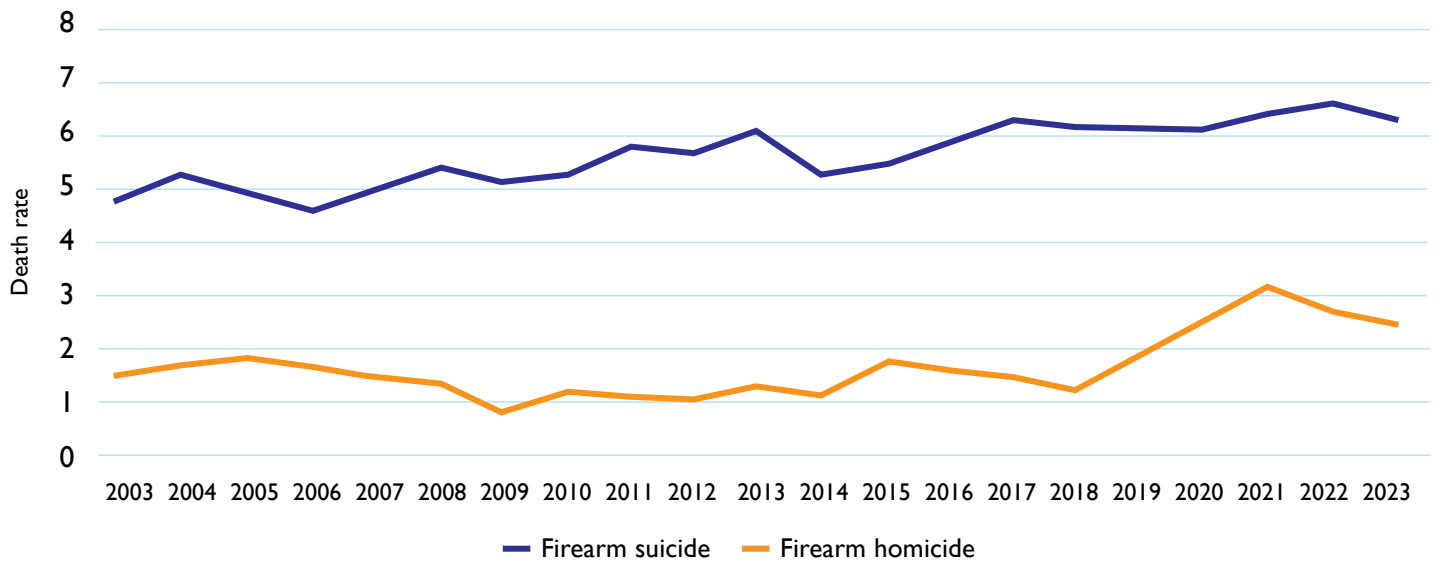
Table 1. Firearm deaths in Minnesota by year, 2018 — 2023¹

	ALL AGES			AGES 0-24		
	Total firearm deaths [#]	Firearm suicide deaths	Firearm homicide deaths	Total firearm deaths [#]	Firearm suicide deaths	Firearm homicide deaths
2018	437	356	66	95	62	27
2019	465	350	102	88	53	32
2020	513	354	138	96	38	49
2021	573	393	164	108	48	56
2022	561	402	143	102	49	48
2023	525	379	128	87	37	43

[#] Total firearm deaths include homicides, legal intervention deaths, suicides, unintentional deaths, and deaths of undetermined intent

Figure 1 shows how firearm suicide and firearm homicide rates have changed in Minnesota over the last two decades. Firearm suicide rates have been steadily increasing over the last two decades, while firearm homicide rates have generally been increasing since 2009. Both firearm suicide and firearm homicide rates have decreased in recent years.

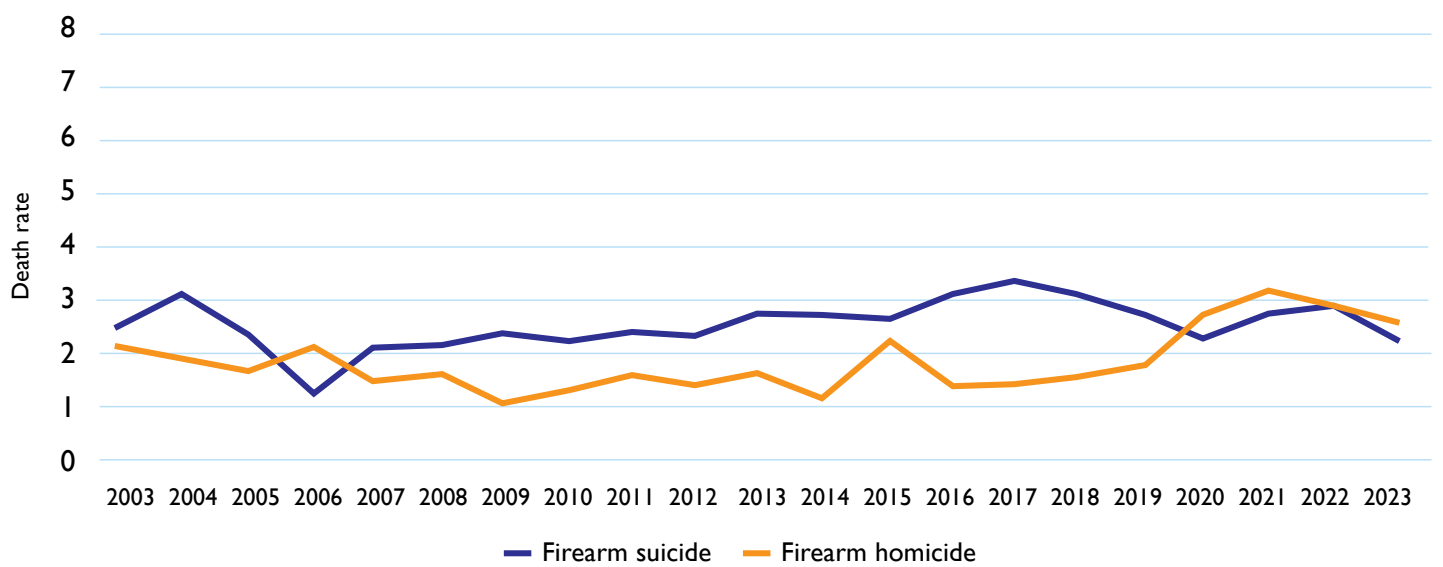
Figure 1. Rates^c of firearm homicide and firearm suicide in Minnesota, 2003 — 2023¹



^c Except where noted, all rates presented in this report are adjusted for age and per 100,000.

Among individuals age 24 and younger in Minnesota, the rate of firearm suicide deaths peaked in 2018 at 3.4 per 100,000 and then declined to 2.1 per 100,000 in 2020 (Figure 2). After a slight increase between 2020 and 2022, the firearm suicide rate again decreased to 2.1 per 100,000 in 2023. The rate of firearm homicides among those age 24 and under nearly tripled between 2014 and 2021, from 1.1 per 100,000 in 2014 to 3.1 per 100,000 in 2021. Since 2021 the firearm homicide rate in this age group has decreased to 2.4 per 100,000, which is still more than double the 2014 rate.

Figure 2. Rates* of firearm homicide and firearm suicide among individuals 24 years old and younger in Minnesota, 2003 — 2023¹



* Rates are not adjusted for age.

Joan Peterson

August 5th, 1992 marks the beginning of my long and winding road to becoming a gun violence prevention advocate. That is the day my sister, Barbara Lund, was shot and killed by her estranged husband Russell Lund. They had been separated for more than three years. Barbara and Russell had both moved on to new relationships and she was trying to get out of the marriage legally.



That day, Barbara went to Russell's Minnetonka home to deliver some legal papers to him. Her new partner, Kevin Kelly, was with her that day. They eventually went inside Russell's home, where he shot and killed both.

It took me years to find a way to be involved and find my voice.

Then, on Mother's Day of 2000, I attended the Million Mom March in Washington D.C. with dozens of other Minnesotans and other Americans from across the nation. My eyes were opened to the extent of the devastation that gun violence had wrought on so many people. Women with tee shirts and signs with the names of a loved one taken by gun violence made me cry.

Since that day, I have worked together with other Minnesotans to pass laws to prevent gun violence. The biggest effort came in 2013 after the heinous mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut. Hundreds attended rallies and lobbied and testified in the Minnesota legislature, often surrounded by gun-carrying pro-gun activists who taunted us and called us names. These early legislative attempts failed. But we were undaunted, keeping up our efforts every year. Finally, in 2023 a criminal background check and extreme risk protection order bill passed and was signed into law by Governor Tim Walz. The moment that legislation was signed by Governor Walz was very emotional for me after working for 23 years in support of these measures.

I have made many friends in this movement and connected with so many other victims as we pursued our goals to reduce and prevent gun violence. I am proud to be a leader in the Northland with Protect Minnesota and Brady, and value Protect Minnesota as one of the expert organizations concerning gun violence prevention in our state.

Suicide in Minnesota

In 2023, males accounted for the vast majority of suicide victims (79.1 percent) and an even larger percentage of firearm suicide victims (91.0 percent) (Table 2). The majority of both suicide and firearm suicide victims were white (84.2 percent and 89.4 percent, respectively).

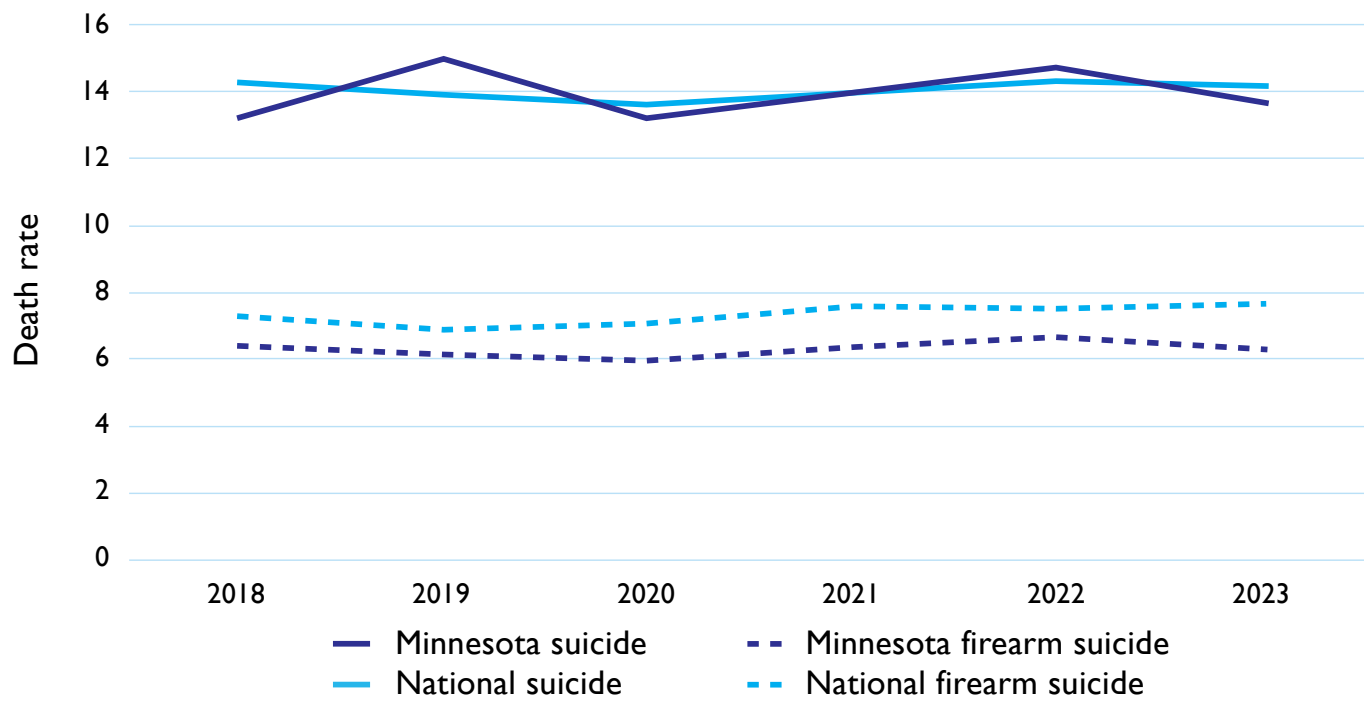
Table 2. Demographic characteristics of all suicide victims and firearm suicide victims in Minnesota, 2023¹

	All suicide deaths	Firearm suicide deaths
Total deaths	812 (100.0%)	379 (100.0%)
Sex		
Male	642 (79.1%)	345 (91.0%)
Female	170 (20.9%)	34 (9.0%)
Age		
< 10	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
10-24	119 (14.7%)	37 (9.8%)
25-44	279 (34.4%)	121 (31.9%)
45-64	272 (33.5%)	131 (34.6%)
65+	142 (17.5%)	90 (23.7%)
Race and ethnicity		
American Indian/Alaska Native	19 (2.3%)	--
Asian/Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	33 (4.1%)	11 (2.9%)
Black	33 (4.1%)	13 (3.4%)
White	684 (84.2%)	339 (89.4%)
More than one race	17 (2.1%)	--
Hispanic	25 (3.1%)	--

-- Indicates value has been suppressed because the number is too small to publish due to privacy concerns (nine or fewer deaths)

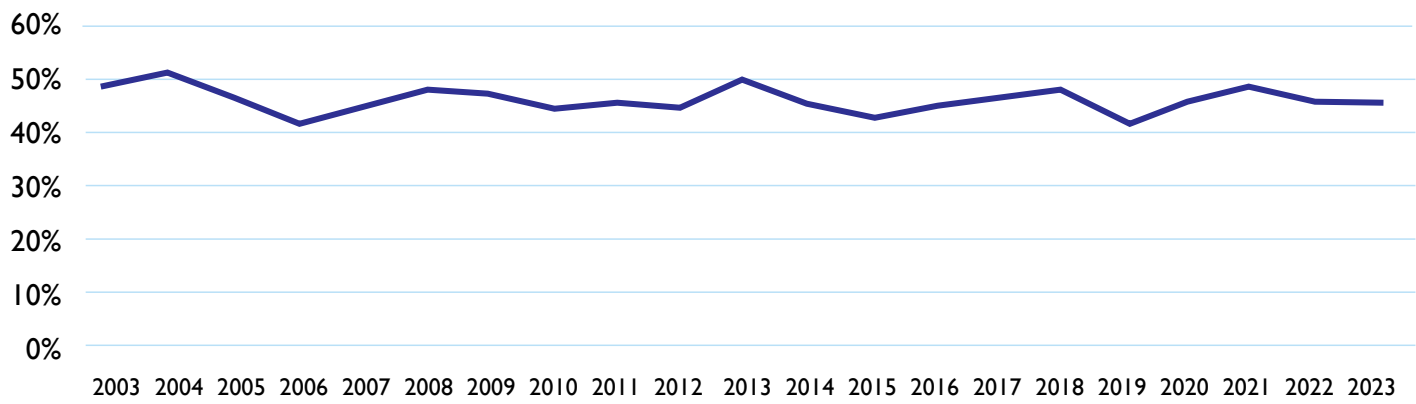
While the overall suicide rate in Minnesota is similar to the national rate, the firearm suicide rate is lower in Minnesota compared to nationally (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Overall and firearm suicide rates in Minnesota and nationally, 2018 — 2023¹



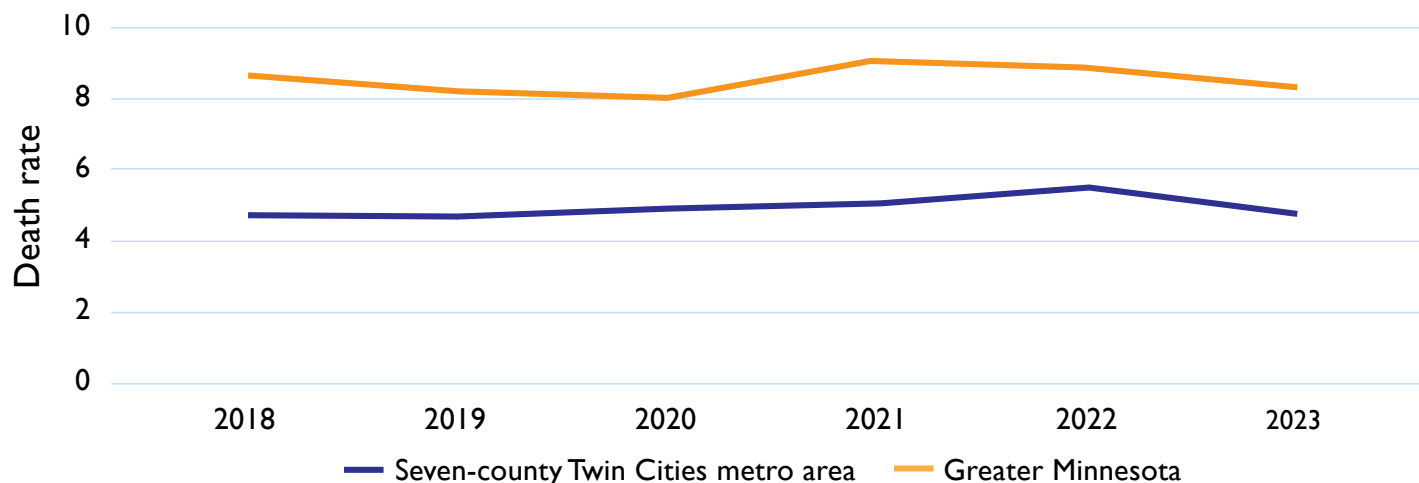
Over the last two decades, the percentage of all suicides in the state that were due to firearms has remained between 41.6 and 51.1 percent (Figure 4).

Figure 4. Percentage of suicides in Minnesota that are firearm suicides, 2003 — 2023¹



Firearm suicide rates are much higher in Greater Minnesota compared to the seven-county Twin Cities metro area (Figure 5). After peaking in 2021, firearm suicide rates in Greater Minnesota decreased from 9.1 per 100,000 to 8.5 per 100,000 in 2023.

Figure 5. Firearm suicide rates* in Minnesota by geography, 2018 — 2023²

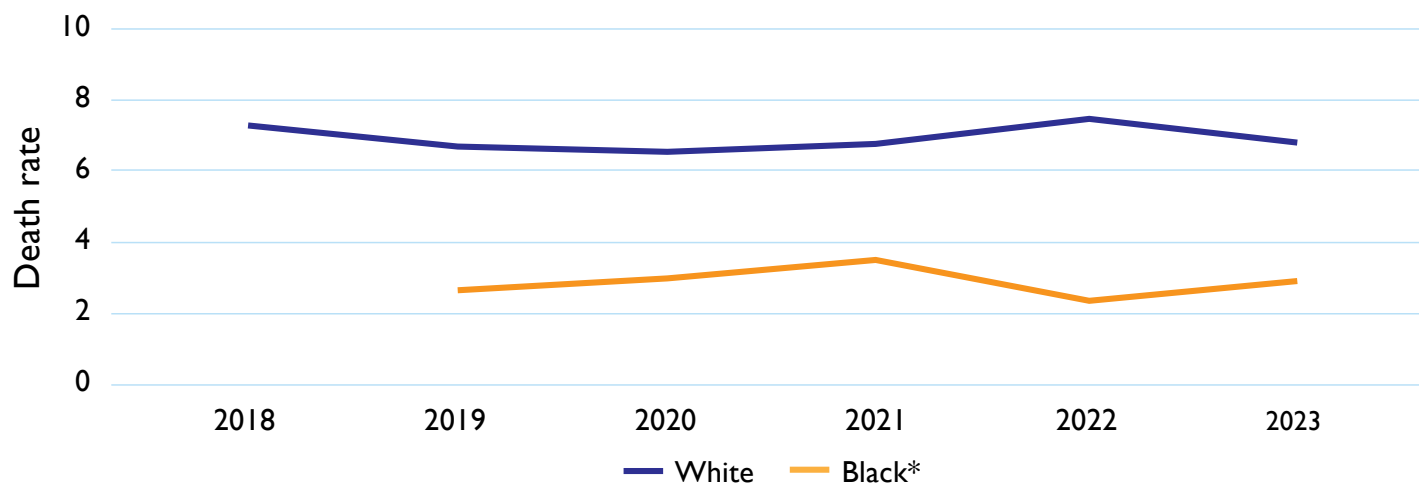


*Rates are not adjusted for age.

Note: The seven-county Twin Cities metro area includes Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, and Washington counties.

Firearm suicide rates were higher among white Minnesotans compared to Black Minnesotans (Figure 6). However, it should be noted that while firearm suicide rates decreased in the white population from 7.4 per 100,000 in 2022 to 6.9 per 100,000 in 2023, rates increased from 2.5 per 100,000 in 2022 to 2.9 per 100,000 in 2023 in the Black population.

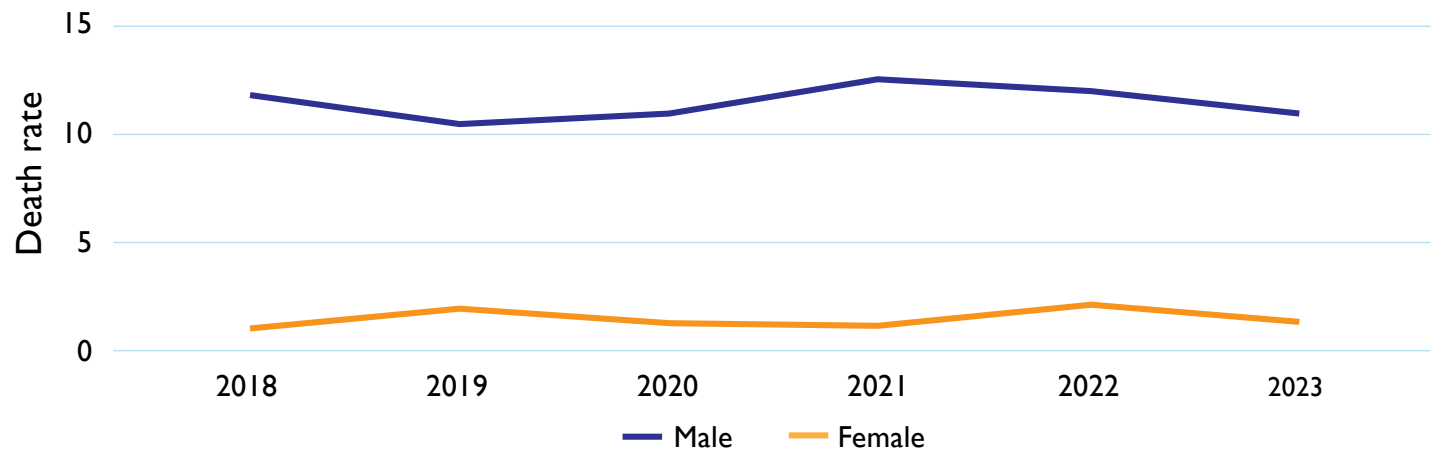
Figure 6. Firearm suicide rates in Minnesota for Black and white residents, 2018 — 2023¹



* The 2018 firearm suicide rate for Black Minnesotans is suppressed due to a small number of deaths in this category.

Males in Minnesota are much more likely to die by firearm suicide compared to females. In 2023 the male firearm suicide rate was 11.3 per 100,000 compared 1.2 per 100,000 for females (Figure 7).

Figure 7. Firearm suicide rates in Minnesota by sex, 2018 — 2023¹



Homicide in Minnesota

In 2023, males accounted for the vast majority of both homicide victims (76.6 percent) and firearm homicide victims (79.7 percent) (Table 3). While 45.2 percent of homicide victims were Black, a higher percentage of firearm homicide victims were Black — 57.8 percent.

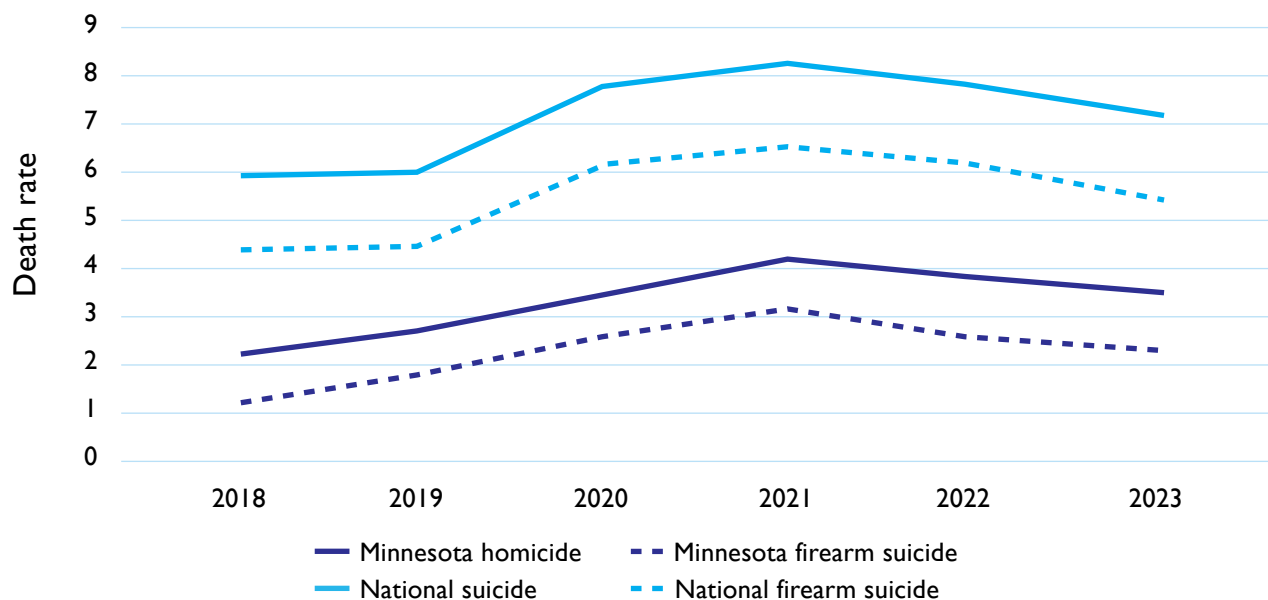
Table 3. Demographic characteristics of all homicide victims and firearm homicide victims in Minnesota 2023¹

	All homicide deaths	Firearm homicide deaths
Total deaths	197 (100.0%)	128 (100.0%)
Sex		
Male	151 (76.6%)	102 (79.7%)
Female	46 (23.4%)	26 (20.3%)
Age		
< 10	--	0 (0.0%)
10-24	46 (23.4%)	43 (33.6%)
25-44	94 (47.7%)	67 (52.3%)
45-64	28 (14.2%)	13 (10.2%)
65+	20 (10.2%)	--
Race and ethnicity		
American Indian/Alaska Native	12 (6.1%)	--
Asian/Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	--	--
Black	89 (45.2%)	74 (57.8%)
White	65 (33.0%)	26 (20.3%)
More than one race	--	--
Hispanic	21 (10.7%)	16 (12.5%)

-- Indicates value has been suppressed because the number is too small to publish due to privacy concerns (nine or fewer deaths)

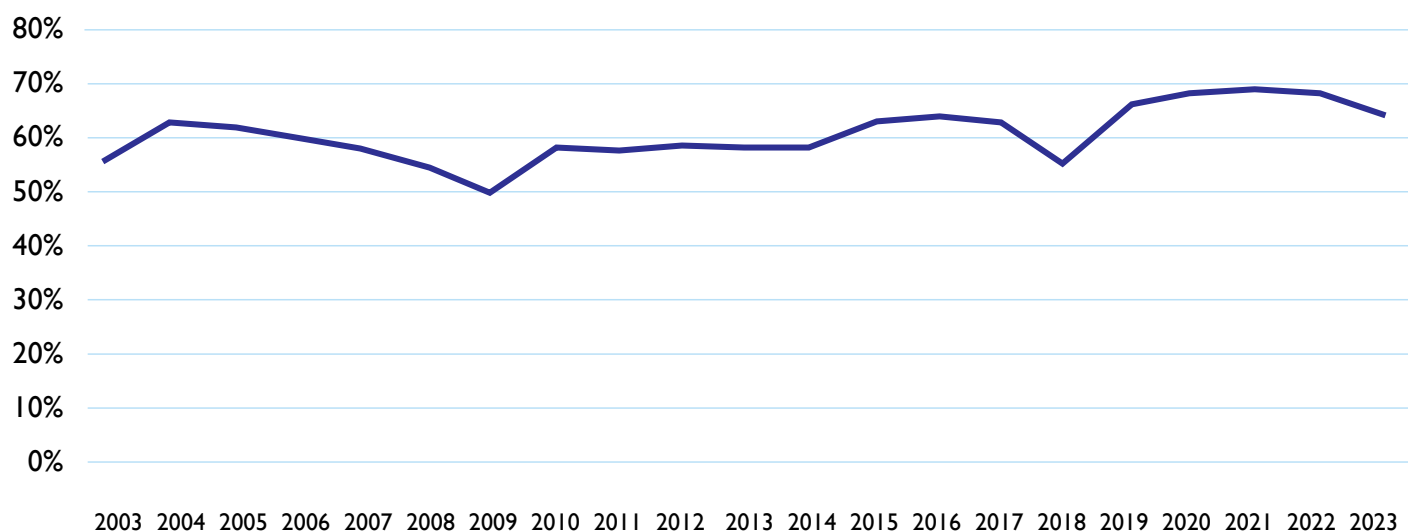
Both the overall homicide rate and firearm homicide rate are higher nationally than in Minnesota (Figure 8).

Figure 8. Overall and firearm homicide rates in Minnesota and nationally, 2018 — 2023¹



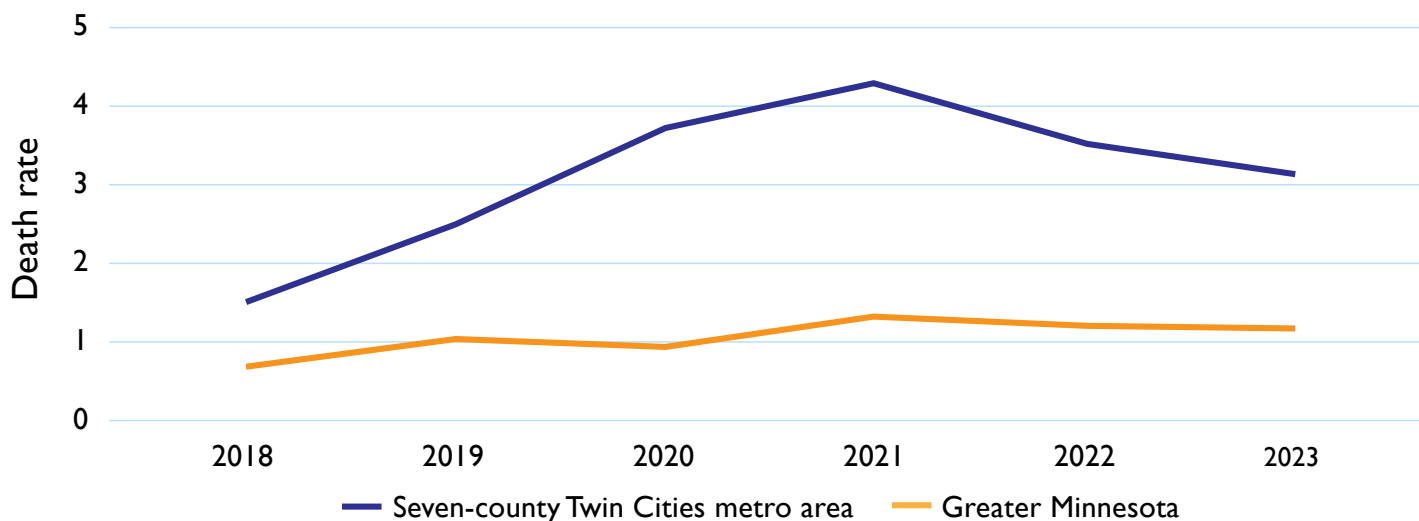
Between 2018 and 2021, the percentage of all homicides in the state committed with firearms increased from 54.1 percent to 70.7 percent, and then dropped to 65.0 percent in 2023 (Figure 9).

Figure 9. Percentage of homicides in Minnesota committed with firearms, 2003 — 2023¹



Firearm homicide rates are much higher in the seven-county Twin Cities metro area compared to Greater Minnesota (Figure 10). Firearm homicide rates more than doubled in the seven-county Twin Cities metro area between 2018 and 2021 from 1.5 per 100,000 to 4.2 per 100,000, and have since decreased to 3.1 per 100,000 in 2023.

Figure 10. Firearm homicide rates* in Minnesota by geography, 2018 — 2023²



*Rates are not adjusted for age.

Note: The seven-county Twin Cities metro area includes Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, and Washington counties.

Firearm homicide rates among Black Minnesotans more than tripled between 2018 and 2021, increasing from 7.9 per 100,000 to 24.2 per 100,000 (Figure 11). Firearm homicide disproportionately affects Black Minnesotans compared to white Minnesotans — rates are substantially higher in the Black population compared to the white population. In 2023, Black Minnesotans were 26 times more likely to die by firearm homicide compared to white residents — the Black firearm homicide rate was 15.6 per 100,000 compared to the white firearm homicide rate of 0.6 per 100,000. These racial disparities are particularly concerning when considering the racial breakdown of the state's population. While only 7.6 percent of the state's population is Black, more than half of the state's firearm homicide deaths occurred in the Black population in 2023 (57.8 percent)(Figure 12).

Figure 11. Firearm homicide rates in Minnesota for Black and white residents, 2018 — 2023¹

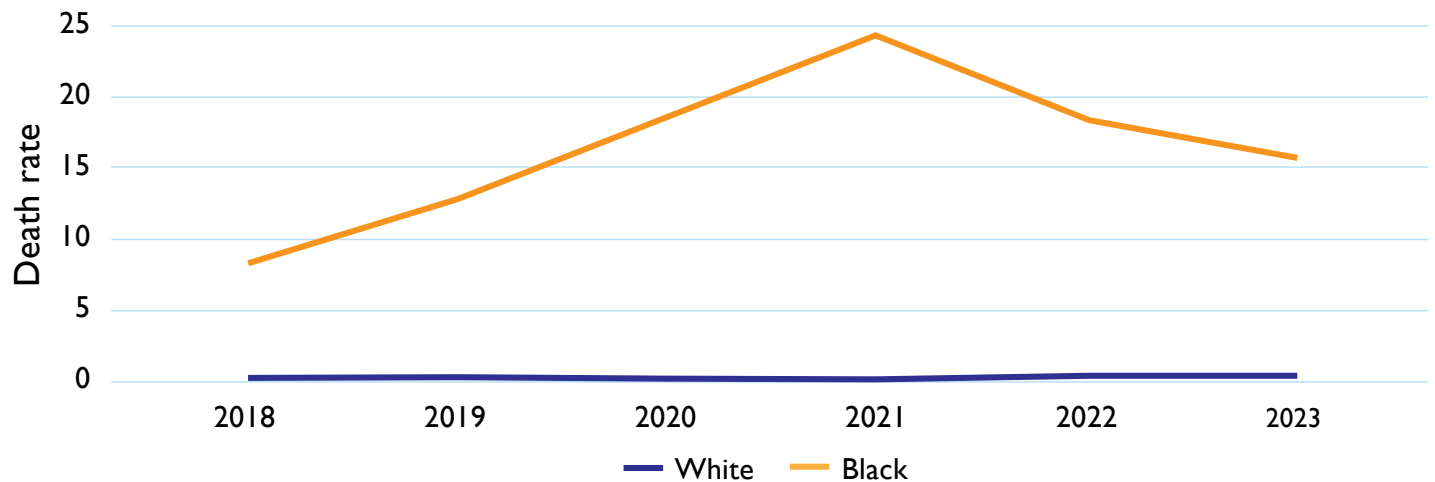
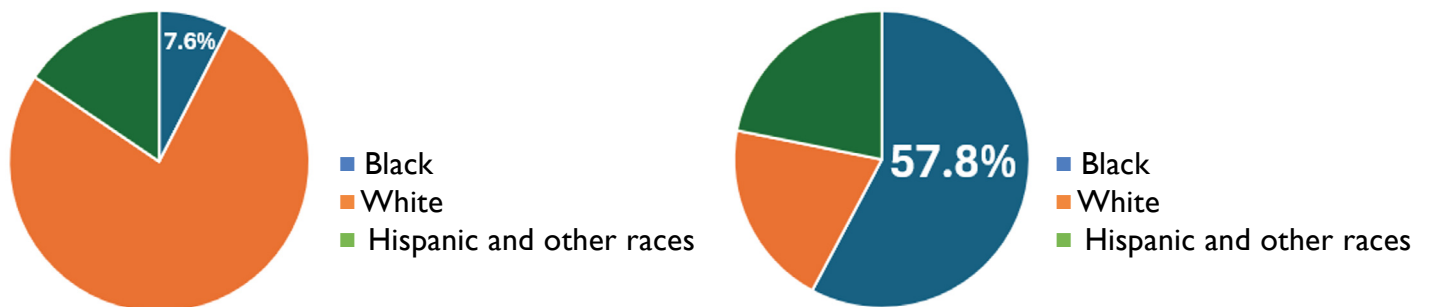
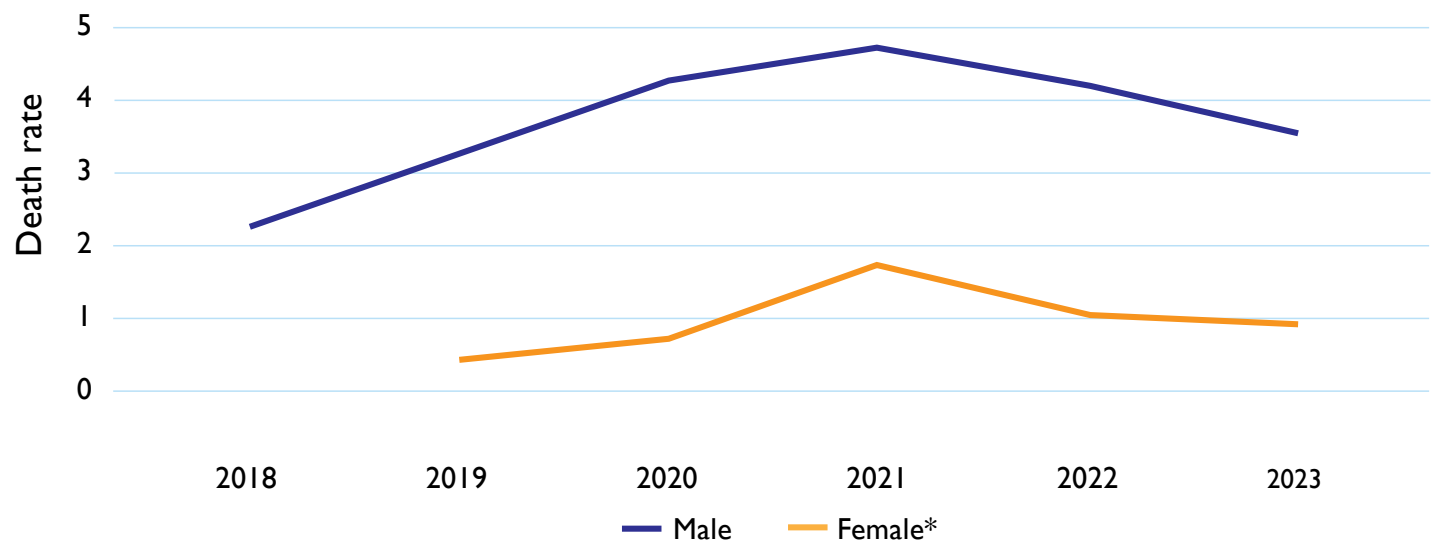


Figure 12. Percentage of Minnesota residents by race and ethnicity (left figure); Percentage of firearm homicide victims by race and ethnicity (right figure), 2023¹



Males in Minnesota are much more likely to die by firearm homicide compared to females — in 2023 the male firearm homicide rate was 3.8 per 100,000 compared to 0.9 per 100,000 for females (Figure 13).

Figure 13. Firearm homicide rates in Minnesota by sex, 2018 — 2023¹



*The 2018 firearm homicide rate for females is suppressed due to a small number of deaths in this category.

Minnesota Gun Deaths Compared to Other Great Lakes States

When compared to other Great Lakes states (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin), Minnesota had the lowest overall firearm death rate in 2023, as well as the lowest firearm homicide death rate (Table 4). Minnesota had the second to lowest firearm suicide death rate of 6.2 per 100,000 in 2023, with Illinois having the lowest at 5.1 per 100,000.

Table 4. Firearm death, firearm suicide, and firearm homicide rates by Great Lakes states, listed by firearm death rate, 2023¹

	Firearm death rate	Firearm suicide rate	Firearm homicide rate
Indiana	18.3	10.6	6.7
Ohio	15.0	8.3	6.4
Michigan	13.9	7.9	5.6
Illinois	13.6	5.1	8.2
Pennsylvania	13.6	7.5	5.8
Wisconsin	12.6	7.9	4.3
Minnesota	8.9	6.2	2.4

Tommy McBrayer, Jr.



Don't Shoot Guns, Shoot Hoops was founded by Tommy McBrayer Jr., a South Minneapolis native who fell in love with the game of basketball early in life. He played for Roosevelt High School, Vermilion College, and Central Lakes College. During that time, developed a deep passion not only for the sport but for using it as a tool for change.

At age 20, Tommy survived a near-fatal shooting in his own home, where he was shot multiple times and left in critical condition. That traumatic experience became a turning point. He committed himself to physical and mental recovery, and ultimately, to advocacy: dedicating his life to creating safe spaces for others who have endured similar pain.

Out of that dedication *Don't Shoot Guns, Shoot Hoops* was born. Tommy began coordinating resourceful, community-based programs, advocating against social injustices, and connecting deeply with those affected by violence — turning survivors into leaders and trauma into purpose.

Minnesota Crime Gun Trace Data from the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)

In 2023, a total of 5,206 firearms were recovered in Minnesota and traced.³ The state where the gun originated (“source state”) was identified in 4,188 traces. Of these traces, the majority of the firearms recovered in Minnesota originated in-state (74.0 percent), while 7.1 percent originated in other states of the Great Lakes region (Table 5).

Table 5. Source states for firearms with a Minnesota recovery, 2023³

Source state	Number (%) recovered
In-state	3,100 (74.0%)
Other Great Lakes states including Wisconsin, Indiana, and Illinois	298 (7.1%)
Other states	790 (18.9%)

Most of the firearms recovered and traced were handguns — 74.3 percent were pistols and 5.7 percent were revolvers (Table 6).

Table 6. Firearm types with a Minnesota recovery, 2023³

Firearm type	Number (%) recovered
Pistols	3,866 (74.3%)
Rifles	530 (10.2%)
Shotguns	396 (7.6%)
Revolvers	298 (5.7%)
Machine Gun Conversion Devices	58 (1.1%)
Machine Guns	30 (0.6%)
Other*	28 (0.5%)

*Other includes Derringers, Receivers/Frames, Any Other Weapons, a Combination, a Flare Gun, a Silencer, and an Unknown Type.

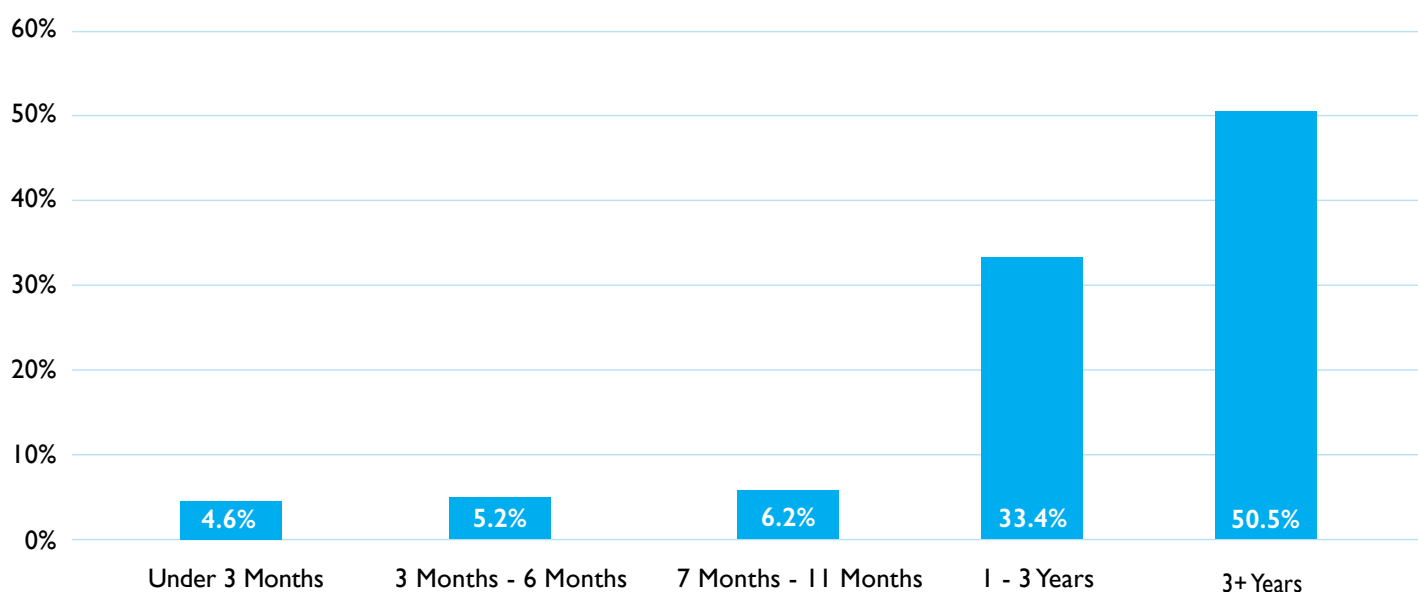
Recovered firearms were traced for a variety of reasons, with the most common reasons being Possession of Weapon (22.1 percent) and Firearm Under Investigation (16.2 percent) (Table 7).

Table 7. Firearm types with a Minnesota recovery, 2023³

Reason for firearm trace	Number (%) of firearms traced
Possession of Weapon	1,149 (22.1%)
Firearm Under Investigation	843 (16.2%)
Weapon Offense	593 (11.4%)
Found Firearm	525 (10.1%)
Dangerous Drugs	379 (7.3%)
Aggravated Assault	328 (6.3%)
Traffic Offense	254 (4.9%)
Family Offense	182 (3.5%)
Property Crimes	166 (3.2%)
Suicide	147 (2.8%)
Homicide	123 (2.4%)
Other	517 (9.9%)

Half of the firearms traced were first used in a crime reported to law enforcement three or more years after the weapon was originally purchased (Figure 14).

Figure 14. “Time-to-crime” percentages for firearms with a Minnesota recovery, 2023³



When information about the age of possessors was available, the majority of possessors were age 25 and older (Table 8).

Table 8. Age of possessors of firearms with a Minnesota recovery, 2023³

Age category	
17 and under	151 (4.4%)
18-24	792 (23.1%)
25-30	661 (19.3%)
31-50	1,387 (40.5%)
51+	437 (12.7%)

Almost half of the firearms recovered in Minnesota were recovered in Minneapolis (Table 9).

Table 9. Top recovery cities for firearms with a Minnesota recovery, 2023³

City	
Minneapolis	1,523 (47.8%)
St. Paul	720 (22.6%)
Brooklyn Park	188 (5.9%)
Duluth	152 (4.8%)
Brooklyn Center	134 (4.2%)
St. Cloud	116 (3.6%)
Maple Grove	98 (3.1%)
Rochester	96 (3.0%)
Burnsville	80 (2.5%)
Blaine	79 (2.5%)

Note: There were 313 additional municipalities that accounted for 2,016 traces. The recovery city could not be determined for four traces.

Conclusion

Firearms death remains an ongoing public health concern in Minnesota. Key findings presented in this report include the continued disproportionately high rate of firearm homicide victimization of the Black population, as well as an increase in firearm suicide rates between 2022 and 2023 among Black Minnesota residents. Despite this increase, firearm suicide rates were higher among white Minnesotans compared to Black Minnesotans, and rates are higher in rural Minnesota compared to urban areas of the state.

Equally important as the data are the voices of those who have experienced gun violence firsthand. The stories of survivors demonstrate the tragic toll gun violence exacts on families and communities and must serve as a call to action to reduce gun death and injury in the state of Minnesota and beyond.

The data and survivor stories presented in this report are crucial to understanding the devastating impact of lethal gun violence on Minnesota residents. Such data are essential to aid organizations like Protect Minnesota to shape their policy priorities and advocate for gun violence prevention laws to protect impacted communities. This report makes one thing clear: Minnesota cannot afford inaction. This information demands evidence-based policies that save lives and strengthen public safety. Recognizing this, Protect Minnesota's policy goals include the following.

Safe Storage

Safe storage laws can help prevent unintentional shootings, reduce youth suicide, and stem the flow of stolen guns into the illegal market.

Lost & Stolen Firearm Reporting

Requiring timely reporting of lost and stolen firearms can help close off one of the pipelines for guns to enter the criminal market, preventing tragedies before they occur.

Banning Guns in Spaces Central to Democracy

Given incidents of armed intimidation at public events and polling places and the tragic political violence seen firsthand in Minnesota, prohibiting guns in spaces central to democracy such as the state capitol and polling locations will protect the fundamental rights of state residents to participate in civic engagement without fear of violence or intimidation.

Dismantling Gun Industry Immunity Laws

The human toll of gun violence in Minnesota is compounded by the inability of many victims to seek justice from those whose negligence or misconduct contributed to their harm. Repealing or reforming gun industry immunity laws will ensure accountability, incentivize safer practices in the firearms industry, and give survivors a fair path to justice.

Repeal of and Protection Against State Preemption Laws

Minnesota's communities face diverse and unique challenges when it comes to gun violence. Repealing preemption laws will allow cities and counties to enact tailored protections that respond to their specific needs and save lives locally.

Ghost Gun Bans

The surge in untraceable “ghost guns” is a dangerous and rapidly growing threat. These unserialized firearms undermine law enforcement's ability to solve crimes and allow one more avenue for prohibited purchasers to obtain deadly weapons.

The path forward is clear: Minnesota's gun violence crisis is urgent but solvable. These policy priorities — drawn from comprehensive data and the lived realities of communities most affected — represent effective, lifesaving measures.

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Appendix

The appendix contains the data for the figures in the report.

Figure I. Rates of firearm homicide and firearm suicide in Minnesota, 2003 — 2023¹

Year	Firearm suicide	Firearm homicide
2003	4.8	1.5
2004	5.2	1.7
2005	4.9	1.7
2006	4.7	1.5
2007	5.0	1.4
2008	5.4	1.4
2009	5.1	0.9
2010	5.2	1.2
2011	5.8	1.1
2012	5.6	1.1
2013	6.0	1.4
2014	5.3	1.1
2015	5.4	1.8
2016	5.8	1.6
2017	6.3	1.5
2018	6.2	1.3
2019	6.0	1.9
2020	5.9	2.5
2021	6.5	3.1
2022	6.7	2.7
2023	6.2	2.4

Figure 2. Rates* of firearm homicide and firearm suicide among individuals 24 years old and younger in Minnesota, 2003 — 2023¹

Year	Firearm suicide	Firearm homicide
2003	2.5	2.1
2004	3.1	1.9
2005	2.5	1.7
2006	1.4	2.1
2007	2.0	1.6
2008	2.2	1.7
2009	2.3	1.0
2010	2.2	1.3
2011	2.4	1.5
2012	2.4	1.3
2013	2.7	1.5
2014	2.7	1.1
2015	2.7	2.2
2016	2.7	1.4
2017	3.1	1.4
2018	3.4	1.5
2019	2.9	1.8
2020	2.1	2.7
2021	2.6	3.1
2022	2.7	2.7
2023	2.1	2.4

*Rates are not adjusted for age.

Figure 3. Overall and firearm suicide rates in Minnesota and nationally, 2018 — 2023¹

Year	Minnesota suicide	Minnesota firearm suicide	National suicide	National firearm suicide
2018	13.1	6.2	14.2	7.0
2019	14.5	6.0	13.9	6.8
2020	13.0	5.9	13.4	6.9
2021	13.9	6.5	14.0	7.5
2022	14.9	6.7	14.3	7.6
2023	13.8	6.2	14.1	7.6

Figure 4. Percentage of suicides in Minnesota that are firearm suicides, 2003 — 2023¹

Year	Percentage
2003	49.1%
2004	51.1%
2005	46.6%
2006	43.9%
2007	46.3%
2008	48.5%
2009	48.1%
2010	46.2%
2011	47.1%
2012	47.3%
2013	50.0%
2014	44.9%
2015	41.6%
2016	44.6%
2017	46.6%
2018	48.2%
2019	42.2%
2020	46.7%
2021	48.6%
2022	46.7%
2023	46.7%

Figure 5. Firearm suicide rates* in Minnesota by geography, 2018 — 2023²

Year	Seven-county Twin Cities metro area	Greater Minnesota
2018	4.7	8.4
2019	4.7	8.1
2020	4.9	7.9
2021	5.1	9.1
2022	5.4	9.0
2023	5.0	8.5

*Rates are not adjusted for age.

Note: The seven-county Twin Cities metro area includes Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, and Washington counties.

Figure 6. Firearm suicide rates in Minnesota for white and Black residents, 2018 — 2023¹

	White	Black
2018	7.0	--
2019	6.6	2.7
2020	6.6	3.1
2021	6.8	3.4
2022	7.4	2.5
2023	6.9	2.9

-- Data are suppressed due to small counts in this category.

Figure 7. Firearm suicide rates in Minnesota by sex, 2018 — 2023¹

	Male	Female
2018	11.7	0.8
2019	10.7	1.4
2020	10.8	1.2
2021	12.0	1.2
2022	12.0	1.7
2023	11.3	1.2

Figure 8. Overall and firearm homicide rates in Minnesota and nationally, 2018 — 2023¹

Year	Minnesota homicide	Minnesota firearm homicide	National homicide	National firearm homicide
2018	2.3	1.3	5.9	4.4
2019	2.8	1.9	6.0	4.6
2020	3.6	2.5	7.7	6.1
2021	4.3	3.1	8.2	6.6
2022	3.8	2.7	7.8	6.2
2023	3.6	2.4	7.1	5.6

Figure 9. Percentage of homicides in Minnesota committed with firearms, 2003 — 2023¹

Year	Percentage
2003	57.7%
2004	63.4%
2005	63.3%
2006	60.9%
2007	58.3%
2008	55.5%
2009	49.5%
2010	58.0%
2011	57.3%
2012	58.1%
2013	58.0%
2014	58.4%
2015	62.6%
2016	64.3%
2017	63.9%
2018	54.1%
2019	66.2%
2020	69.7%
2021	70.7%
2022	69.1%
2023	65.0%

Figure 10. Firearm homicide rates* in Minnesota by geography, 2018 — 2023²

	Seven-county Twin Cities metro area	Greater Minnesota
2018	1.5	0.8
2019	2.4	1.0
2020	3.6	1.0
2021	4.2	1.3
2022	3.5	1.2
2023	3.1	1.1

*Rates are not adjusted for age.

Note: The seven-county Twin Cities metro area includes Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, and Washington counties.

Figure 11. Firearm homicide rates in Minnesota for white and Black residents, 2018 — 2023¹

	White	Black
2018	0.5	7.9
2019	0.7	12.7
2020	0.7	18.3
2021	0.8	24.2
2022	0.8	18.2
2023	0.6	15.6

Figure 12. Percentage of Minnesota residents by race and ethnicity (left figure); Percentage of firearm homicide victims by race and ethnicity (right figure), 2023¹

	Percentage of Minnesota population	Percentage of firearm homicide victims in Minnesota
Black	7.6%	57.8%
White	76.9%	20.3%
Hispanic and other races	15.5%	21.9%

Figure 13. Firearm homicide rates in Minnesota by sex, 2018 — 2023¹

	Male	Female*
2018	2.3	--
2019	3.2	0.5
2020	4.2	0.7
2021	4.7	1.5
2022	4.3	1.0
2023	3.8	0.9

*The 2018 firearm homicide rate for females is suppressed due to a small number of deaths in this category.



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