

From the CFCU Advocacy Team

Total firearm deaths among Colorado's residents decreased for the third year in a row in 2024 since reaching a peak in 2021 during the height of the Covid pandemic. There were 101 fewer gun deaths between 2021 and 2024, a 10% decrease, although 2024 firearm deaths remained higher than in 2019, prior to the pandemic.

Firearm homicides, which accounted for 22% of all firearm deaths among Colorado residents in 2024, declined substantially between the peak year of 2022 and 2024, by 31%, or 95 fewer deaths. As with total firearm deaths, the 2024 number remained higher than the 2019 pre-pandemic number. Firearm suicide deaths, representing 74% of all firearm deaths in 2024, showed a similar pattern, although with a lower decrease - of 4% and 30 fewer deaths - since the 2021 peak year.

The patterns are similar nationwide, with total firearm deaths decreasing yearly from the 2021 peak (48,830) to 2024 (44,444, provisional), or 4,386 fewer deaths, a decline of 9%. Firearm homicides also decreased during the same period, by 5,594 deaths, a decrease of 27%. Both total firearm deaths and firearm homicide deaths in 2024 remained higher than in 2019. In contrast, firearm suicide deaths increased every year between 2019 and 2024. (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. National Vital Statistics System, Provisional Mortality on CDC WONDER Online Database)