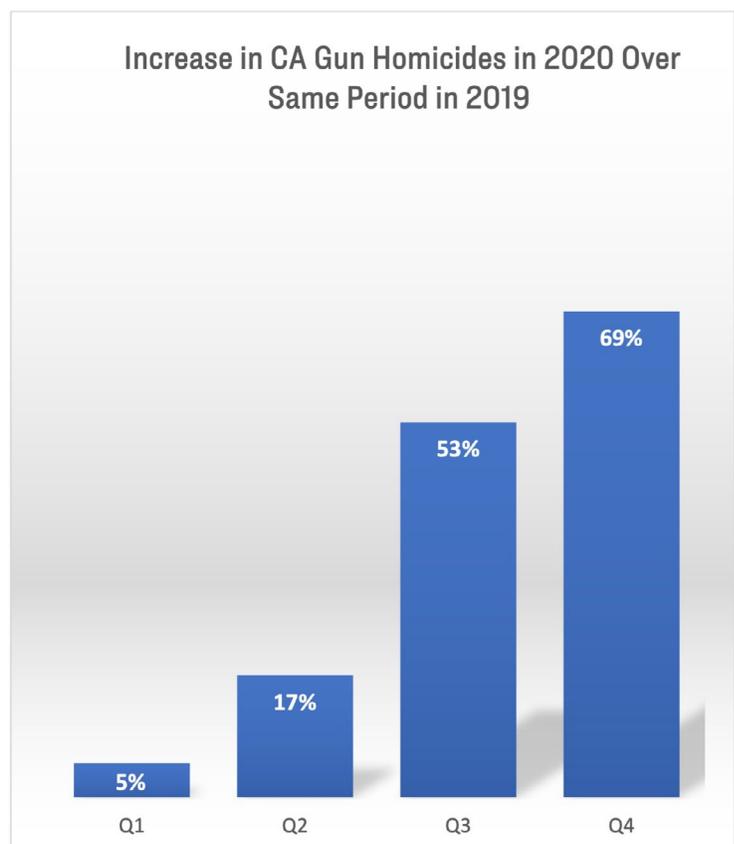
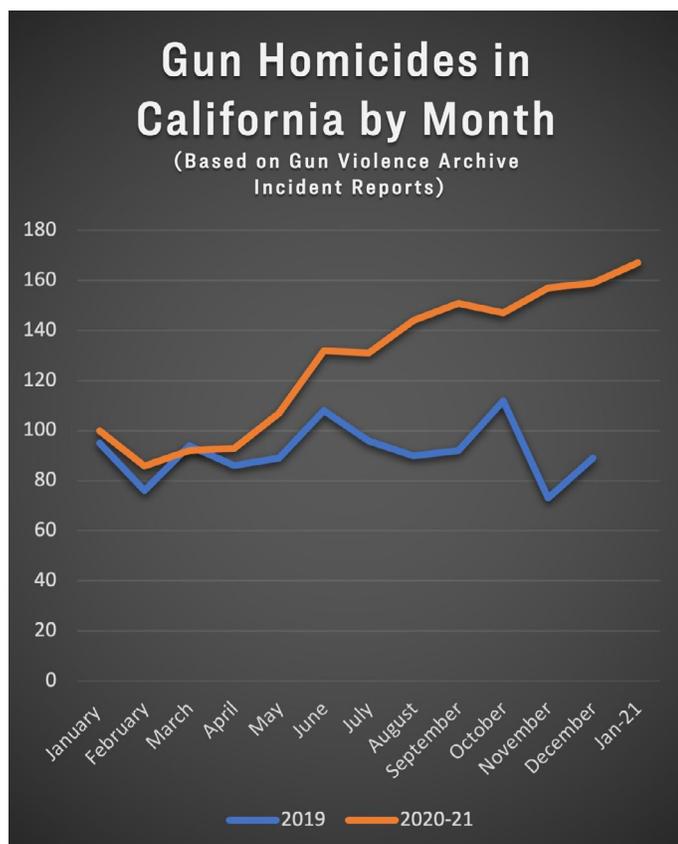


# Invest in Violence Prevention, Healing, and Recovery

## THE CALIFORNIA VIOLENCE INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION (CALVIP) GRANT PROGRAM

### California's communities are in the midst of a gun violence emergency:

- In 2020, the US suffered the largest one-year increase in murders [on record](#), driven largely by nationwide spikes in fatal shootings.
- In California, this spike in violence started at the same time as the Covid-19 pandemic. It then grew increasingly worse over the course of 2020 and into 2021.
- **California suffered a 46% increase in gun homicides** after the onset of the pandemic, from April to December 2020, compared to the same period in 2019.
- In the last three months of 2020, California suffered a 69% increase compared to 2019.
- January 2021 was California's single deadliest month for gun homicides since 2007.
- Prior to this surge in violence in 2020, homicide was already, by far, the leading cause of death for young Black men and boys in California.



## Increased investment in CalVIP is needed now more than ever:

- **More and more research has shown how effective CalVIP-supported programs are at saving lives, and saving taxpayer dollars too.**
- **Prior to 2020's massive increase in violence, CalVIP-supported programs helped California make truly historic progress:**
  - In 2019, gun homicides among California's 15-24-year olds fell to the lowest rate since 1970
  - CA cut gun homicides among 15-29-year olds by 23% from 2016-19 alone.
  - Communities that received CalVIP grants during the 2018 cycle saw homicides decrease nearly 3 times more than those that did not receive CalVIP support
- **Previous funding levels for CalVIP are woefully inadequate:**
  - In the most recent grant cycle, eligible applicants sought a total of \$78 million in matching CalVIP grants, prior to CA's significant spike in homicides.
  - This **substantially** understates the true scope of CA's pre-pandemic needs because CalVIP applicants were capped from applying for more than \$500k per year—a small fraction of many communities' violence prevention costs (e.g., \$14M spent by Oakland annually, or \$28M by Los Angeles).
  - Other cities and CBOs in particular were also unable to request the maximum grant or apply for CalVIP funds at all due to a 100% match requirement.
- **To provide emergency relief and protect all Californians from violence, we request \$114 million in funding for CalVIP in the 2020 Budget**
  - This amount reflects a 46% increase over the \$78 million in matching grants CalVIP applicants sought last year, prior to a significant spike in violence. (Gun homicides spiked by 46% in CA after the onset of the pandemic and rose substantially more than that in the latter half of 2020).
  - This amount is still substantially less than some other, much safer states have invested in violence prevention. In December 2020, Massachusetts' GOP Governor signed a Budget investing just under \$25 million in programs like CalVIP for a state with 1/12th as many gun homicides as California in 2020.
  - To match MA's investment-per-shooting would require nearly \$300M in CA.
- We also request that CalVIP's Budget language direct BSCC to **(1) waive the CalVIP match requirement during this crisis & (2) raise the cap on CalVIP awards to at least \$1.5M per year**, so more programs can participate and receive the support they need to deliver peace and community safety to all Californians