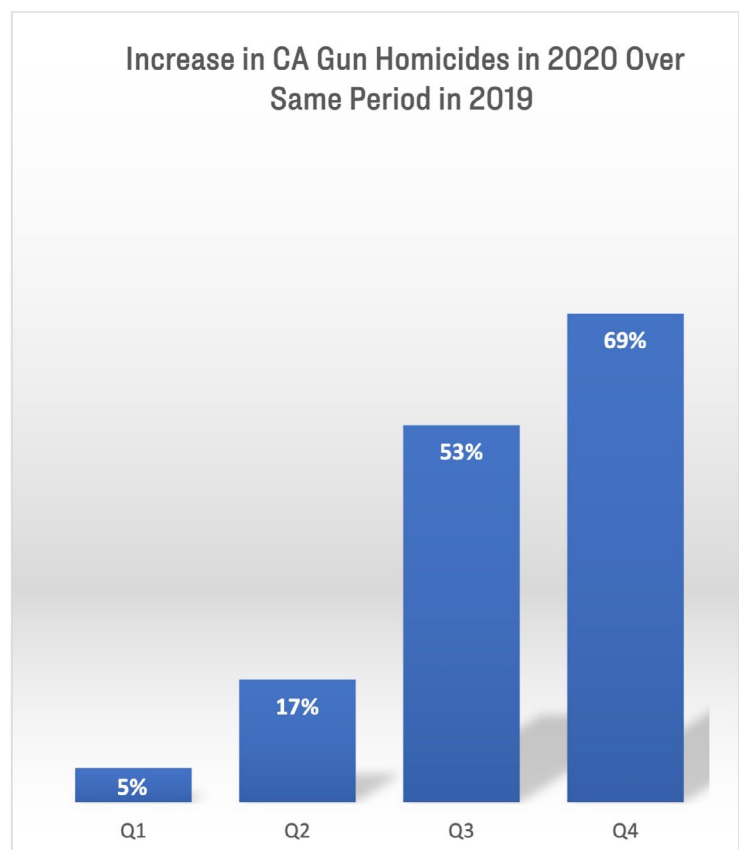
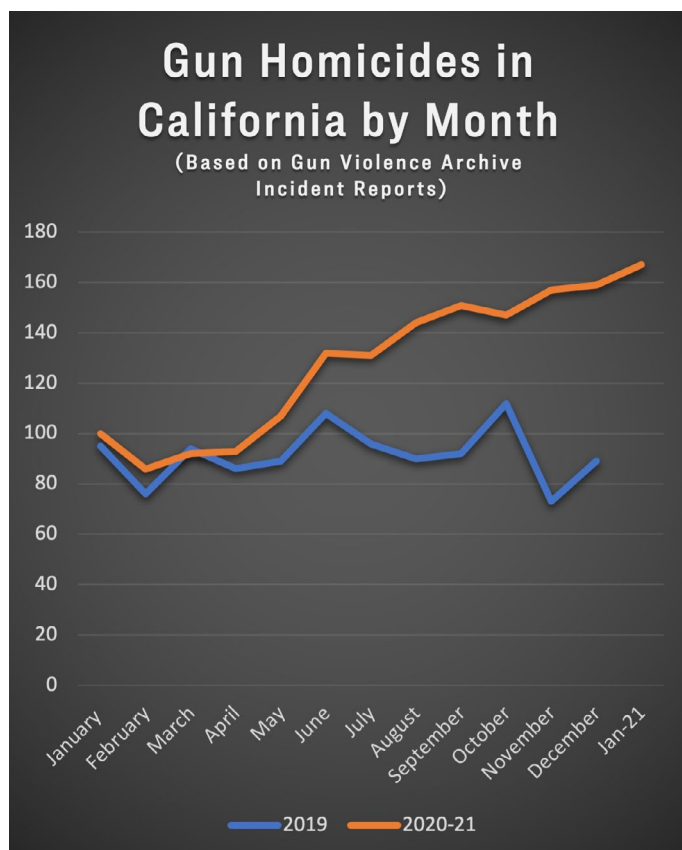


Invest in Violence Prevention, Healing, and Recovery

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