# Police respond to shooting at store in Philadelphia, highlighting city's struggle with gun violence



Police responded to a shooting inside a corner store at 20th and Federal Streets in the Point Breeze section of Philadelphia on May 13. According to a New York Times analysis published on May 15, 2024, approximately three-quarters of Philadelphia residents lived within a quarter-mile of a fatal shooting between 2020 and 2023.

The analysis showed that 47 million Americans—about one in seven—lived within a quarter-mile radius of a gun homicide over the past three years. During the pandemic, gun violence extended into new neighborhoods, though communities with high poverty levels and where people of color reside continued to be most affected.

In Philadelphia, the issue of gun violence has led to heightened concern among residents, with many citing crime and public safety as the city's top issues. Mayor Cherelle Parker, who took office in January, has focused on enforcement-driven strategies to address these problems. Her administration is currently working to dismantle the open-air drug market in Kensington, an area with high gun crime rates.

The Times noted that the proportion of Philadelphia residents living near a gun homicide increased from 65% pre-pandemic to 75% during the pandemic years. This increase reflects Philadelphia's notably high gun homicide rates compared to other U.S. cities.

Despite the concerning data, Philadelphia has seen a decrease in gun violence in early 2024, with a 37% reduction in homicides and a more than 40% drop in non-fatal shootings compared to the same period last year.