

## Trauma at School: The Impacts of Shootings on Students' Human Capital and Economic Outcomes

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### Abstract:

Abstract: We examine how shootings at schools—an increasingly common form of gun violence in the United States—impact the short- and long-run educational and economic trajectories of students. Using linked schooling and labor market data in Texas from 1992–2018, we compare within-student and across-cohort changes in outcomes following a shooting to those experienced by students at matched control schools. We find that school shootings increase absenteeism and grade repetition; reduce high school graduation, college enrollment, and college completion; and reduce employment and earnings at ages 24–26. These effects span student and school characteristics, suggesting that the economic costs of school shootings are universal.