



Child Access to Guns

- **Gun violence is the second leading cause of death in American youth.ⁱ**
 - **Child Gun-Related Deaths:**
 - According to the Children's Defense Fund, 2,694 children and teens died from guns in the United States in 2010.ⁱⁱ
 - 1,773 homicide gun deaths among children and teens
 - 749 suicide gun deaths
 - 134 accidental gun deaths
 - 38 deaths of undetermined intent.
 - 15,576 children and teens were injured by guns in 2010.ⁱⁱ
 - In 2010, gun-related injuries caused 6570 deaths among youth 1 to 24 years old: 18 deaths a day.
 - In a 2009 study of injury deaths of kids ages 15 to 19—from homicide, suicide, and unintentional injury—more than 1 in 4 were gun related;
 - For children younger than 20, nearly 1 in 5 deaths were gun related.ⁱⁱⁱ
 - **Children, Guns, and Suicide:**

Suicide is a leading cause of death for kids ages 15-19; guns are the most common method used.^{iv}

 - Firearm availability plays a large role in increasing risk.^v The odds are particularly high if the gun stored at home is kept loaded and/or unlocked.^{vi}
 - More than half of youth who commit suicide with a gun obtained the gun from their home, usually a parent's gun.^{vii}
 - Of all methods used for attempting suicide, firearms are the most lethal, with an approximate 90% mortality rate.^{ix}
- **How do children gain access to firearms?**
 - **Guns in the Home:** Children obtain guns most often from within their own homes.^x
 - In fact, of 37 school shootings in 26 states, the attacker got the gun from his or her own home or that of a relative more than 65% of the time.^{xi}
- **Presence of Firearms in Homes with Children:**
 - **Homes with Loaded and Unlocked Guns:** One third of US households with children under the age of 18 contain firearms.^{xii}
 - Nearly 2 million of these children live in homes where guns are kept loaded and/or unlocked.^{xiii}
 - One fifth of gun owners with children under 18 store a gun loaded; more than one third store one unlocked; nearly 1 in 10 store a gun loaded and unlocked.^{xiv}
 - In homes with adolescents ages 13-17, firearms were left unlocked 41% of the time.^{xv}

- **New York State needs a CAP law:**
 - **New York Children Killed with Guns:** 1,192 children and teens in New York were killed with guns from 2000-2010.
 - In 2010 alone, 116 New York children and teens were killed with guns.ⁱⁱ
 - **Proposed Child Access Prevention Legislation:** NYAGV is working to enact new gun safety laws in New York State that require child access prevention (CAP) and safe storage of firearms.
 - **NYAGV supports A8293, or Nicholas’s Bill, the Child Access Prevention or Safe Weapon Storage Act.** A8293 requires the safe storage of all guns not in the immediate possession or control of the gun owner, either in a safe storage depository or with a locking device, to prevent access by children and others who should not have access to them. The bill was named for 12-year-old Nicholas Naumkin, who died after being unintentionally shot by a friend playing with his father’s unlocked gun.

ⁱChildren’s Defense Fund, Protect Children, Not Guns 2013: <http://www.childrensdefense.org/child-research-data-publications/data/protect-children-not-guns-2013.pdf>.

ⁱⁱIbid

ⁱⁱⁱIbid

^{iv}National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Web-Based Injury Statistics Query & Reporting System (WISQARS) Injury Mortality Reports, 1999–2009, for national, regional, and states (May, 2012). Available at: http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/fatal_injury_reports.html.

^vWiebe DJ. Homicide and suicide risks associated with firearms in the home: a national case-control study. *Ann Emerg Med.* 2003;41(6):771–782; . Miller M, et al, The association between changes in household firearm ownership and rates of suicide in the United States,1981-2002. *Inj Prev.* 2006;12(3):178–182

^{vi}Brent DA, et al, Firearms and adolescent suicide. A community case-control study.*Am J Dis Child.* 1993;147(10):1066–1071; Brent DA, et al, Suicide in adolescents with no apparent psychopathology. *J Am Acad Child Adolesc Psychiatry.* 1993;32(3):494–500

^{vii}8 Johnson, Renee M., Catherine Barber, Deborah Azrael, David E.Clark, and David Hemenway. 2010. “Who Are the Owners of Firearms Used in Adolescent Suicides?” *Suicide and Life Threatening Behavior* 40(6):609-11.

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3085447/>

^{viii}Grossman, David C., Donald T. Reay, and Stephanie A. Baker.1999. “Self-inflicted and Unintentional Firearm Injuries Among Children and Adolescents: The Source of the Firearm.” *Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine* 153(8):875-8.

<http://archpedi.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleid=347593>

^{ix}Elnour AA, Harrison J. Lethality of suicide methods. *Inj Prev.* 2008;14(1):39–45

^xJohnson RM, et al, Are household firearms stored less safely in homes with adolescents? Analysis of a national random sample of parents, *Arc PediatrAdolesc Med.* 2006;160(8):788-792. doi:10:1001/archpedi.160.8.788

^{xi}US Secret Service, U.S. Department of the Treasury, An Interim Report on the Prevention of Targeted Violence in Schools 6 Oct. 2000.

^{xii}Johnson RM et al, Firearm ownership and storage practices, U.S. households, 1992-2002. A systematic review. *Am J Prev Med.* 2004 Aug;27(2):173-82.

^{xiii}Okoro, CA et al, Prevalence of household firearms and firearm storage practice in the 50 states and the District of Columbia: findings from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2002 *Pediatrics* 2005;116e370-e376

^{xiv}WISQARS (Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System). Atlanta, see above

^{xv}Ibid

^{xvi}Children’s Defense Fund, *Protect Children, Not Guns* 2013: <http://www.childrensdefense.org/child-research-data-publications/data/protect-children-not-guns-2013.pdf>

^{xvii}Schuster, M.A., T.M. Franke, A.M. Bastian, S. Sor, and N. Halfon.2000. “Firearm Storage Patterns in U.S. Homes With Children.”*American Journal of Public Health* 90(4):588-594, p. 590. http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/reprints/2005/RAND_RP890.pdf

^{xviii}Baxley, Frances and Matthew Miller. 2006. “Parental Misperceptions About Children and Firearms.” *Archives*

of Pediatric Adolescent Medicine 160(5):542-47. p. 542.<http://archpedi.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleid=204929>

^{xix}Baxley, Frances and Matthew Miller. 2006. “Parental Misconceptions About Children and Firearms.” *Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine* 160(5): 542-547.

^{xx}Kellermann, Authur L., Frederick P. Rivara, Norman B. Rushforth,Joyce G. Banton, Donald T. Reay, Jerry T. Francisco, Ana B. Locci,Janice Prodzinski, Bela B. Hackman, and Grant Somes. 1993. “Gun Ownership as a Risk Factor for Homicide in the Home.” *New England Journal of Medicine* 329:1084-1119, p. 1084.

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^{xxi}Kellermann, Arthur L., Frederick P. Rivara, Grant Somes, Donald TTeay, Jerry Francisco, Joyce Banton, Janice Prodzinski, CorinneFligner, and Bela B Hackman. 1992. “Suicide in the Home in Relation to Gun Ownership.” *New England Journal of Medicine* 327:467-72, p. 467.

<http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJM199208133270705#t=a>

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- ^{xxiii}Wiebe, Douglas J. 2003. "Firearms in US Homes as a Risk Factor for Unintentional Gunshot Fatality." *Accident Analysis and Prevention* 35(5):711-716.
- ^{xxiv}Grossman DC, Reay DT, Baker SA. Self-inflicted and unintentional firearm injuries among children and adolescents. *Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med.* 1999; 153(8); 875-878.
- ^{xxv}Ibid
- ^{xxvi}Ibid
- ^{xxvii}Grossman DC, Mueller BA, Riedy C, et al. Gun storage practices and risk of youth suicide and unintentional firearm injuries. *JAMA.* 2005;293(6):707-714
- ^{xxviii}American Academy of Pediatrics Policy Statement: *Firearm-Related Injuries affecting the Pediatric Population.* AAP website <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/early/2012/10/15/peds.2012-2481.full.pdf+html>
- ^{xxix}<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/01/27/us/selling-a-new-generation-on-guns.html?pagewanted=all&r=0>
- ^{xxx}Ibid
- ^{xxxi}Cummings, Peter, David C. Grossman, Frederick P. Rivara, and Thomas D. Koepsell. 1997. "State Gun Safe Storage Laws and Child Mortality Due to Guns." *Journal of the American Medical Association* 278(13):1084-6; and Hepburn, L., D. Azrael, M. Miller, and D.Hemenway. 2006. "The Effects of Child Access Prevention Laws on Unintentional Child Firearm Fatalities, 1979-2000." *The Journal of Trauma* 61(2):423-8.
- ^{xxxii}Webster, Daniel W., Jon S. Vernick, April M. Zeoli, and Jennifer A. Manganello. 2004. "Association Between Youth-Focused Firearm Laws and Youth Suicides." *Journal of the American Medical Association* 292(5):594-601.