

THE STATE OF GUN VIOLENCE IN AMERICA

EVERY YEAR, 121,066 PEOPLE ARE SHOT.

Among those:

- **44,341** people die from gun violence¹
- **76,725** people survive gunshot injuries²
- **17,673** are murdered
- **34,566** are intentionally shot by someone else and survive
- **25,205** die from gun suicide
- **3,554** survive an attempted gun suicide
- **498** killed unintentionally
- **570** are killed by legal intervention
- **1,376** are shot by legal intervention and survive
- **394** die but the intent was unknown
- **4,471** are shot and survive but the intent is unknown

THE FACTS THAT MAKE US ACT

- Gun violence is the leading cause of death among children and teens (aged 1-19) in the U.S.³
- Between 2012 and 2021, the youth (aged 0-17) firearm suicide rate rose by 57% – disproportionately impacting children of color. Meanwhile, the overall firearm suicide rate increased by 14%.⁴
- Studies suggest that storing firearms locked and unloaded can be an effective measure to reduce suicidal acts.⁵ In fact, safe storage can reduce the risk of unintentional shootings and suicide among children by up to 32%.⁶

MEDICAL SPENDING DUE TO GUN VIOLENCE

- Each year, \$2.8 billion goes towards immediate and long-term medical care, mental health care, and ambulance and patient transport costs.⁷
- A 2022 study found that patients with firearm injuries saw a 402% increase in medical spending per month.⁸
- Studies estimating first-year admittance costs have concluded that 16% of firearm injury patients initially admitted to the hospital were readmitted at least once, which cost them between \$8,000 and \$11,000 per patient.⁹

¹ Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System (WISQARS). Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. (2024). www.wisqars.cdc.gov.

² HCUP Nationwide Readmissions Database (NRD). Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP). 2014, 2016, and 2017. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Rockville, MD. www.hcup-us.ahrq.gov/nrdoverview.jsp.

³ Goldstick, J. E., Cunningham, R. M., & Carter, P. M. (2022). Current Causes of Death in Children and Adolescents in the United States. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 386(20), 1955-1956. <https://doi.org/10.1056/NEJMc2201761>.

⁴ Firearm Suicide Rates are on the Rise. Brady. (2023). <https://www.bradyunited.org/resources/research/firearm-suicide-rates-rise>.

⁵ Shenassa, E., Rogers, M., Spalding, K., et al. (2004). Safer storage of firearms at home and risk of suicide: a study of protective factors in a nationally representative sample. *Journal of Epidemiol Community Health*, 58(10), 841-848. <https://doi.org/10.1136/jech.2003.017343>.

⁶ Monuteaux, M. C., Azrael, D., & Miller, M. (2019). Association of Increased Safe Household Firearm Storage With Firearm Suicide and Unintentional Death Among 6 US Youths. *JAMA Pediatrics*, 173(7), 657-662. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jamapediatrics.2019.1078>.

⁷ Gani, F., Sakran, J. V., & Canner, J. K. (2017). Emergency Department Visits For Firearm-Related Injuries In The United States, 2006-14. *Health Aff (Millwood)*, 36(10), 1729-1738. <https://doi.org/10.1377/hlthaff.2017.0625>.

⁸ Song, Z., Zubizarreta, J. R., Giuriato, M., et al. (2022). Changes in Health Care Spending, Use, and Clinical Outcomes After Nonfatal Firearm Injuries Among

⁹ Survivors and Family Members. *Annals of Internal Medicine*, 175(6). <https://doi.org/10.7326/M21-2812>.

Firearm Injuries: Health Care Service Needs and Costs. Government Accountability Office. (2021). <https://www.gao.gov/assets/gao-21-515.pdf>.