



Firearm Safe Storage

Presentation on firearm safety and how to properly store firearms





What is Safe Storage?

1. Securely encased
2. Disabled or rendered inoperable by a firearm safety device
3. In a location where it can't be found by others





According to the Data:
There are more than 393 million guns in circulation in the United States.

Data from Small Arms Survey



According to the Data:

In 2022, there were more than 48,000 firearm-related deaths in the United States according to provisional mortality data. That's about 132 people dying from a firearm-related injury each day.

More than half of firearm-related deaths were suicides and more than 4 out of every 10 were firearm homicides.

Data from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



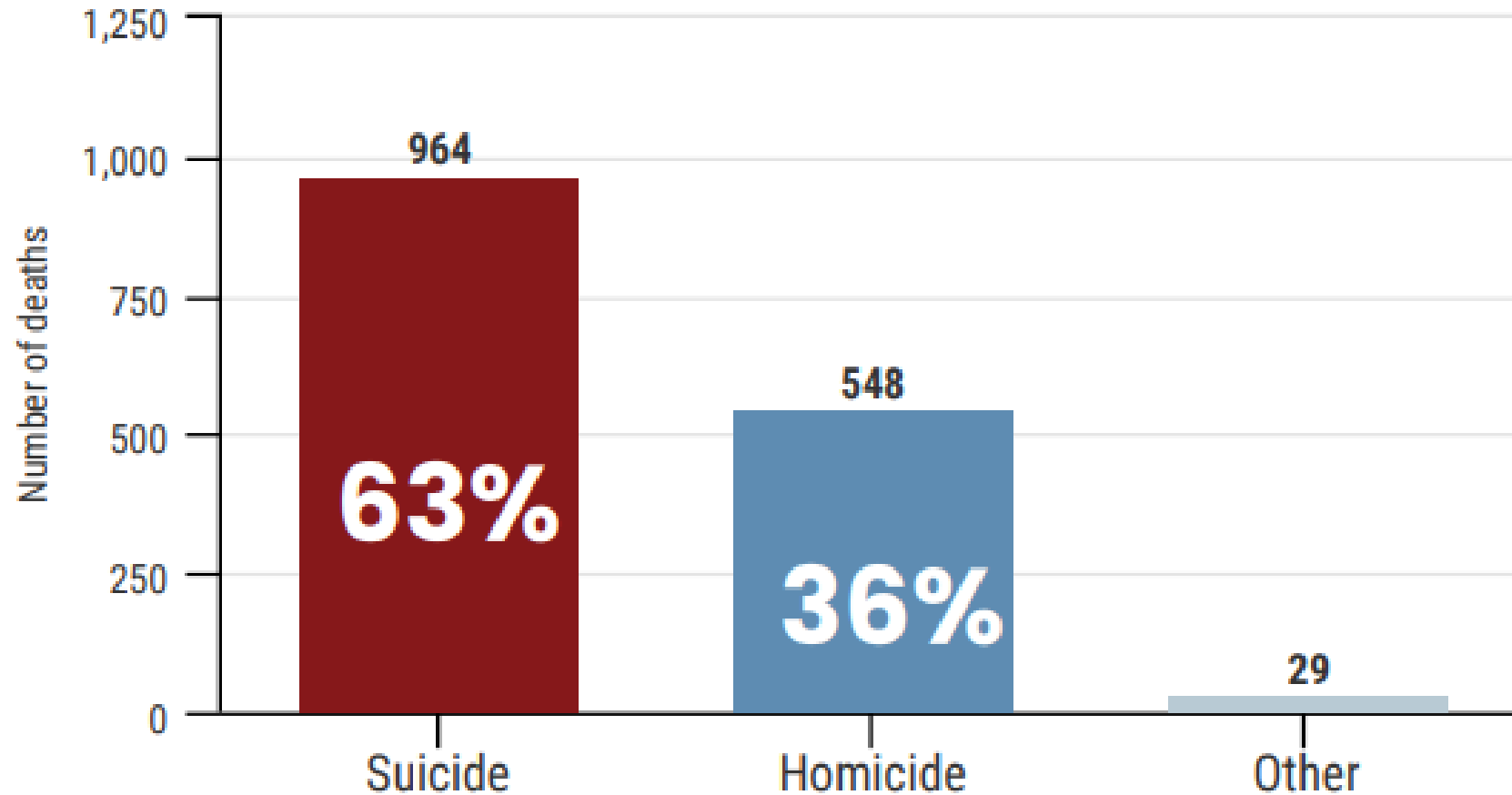
According to the Data:

Nearly 1,600 Pennsylvanians die each year from gun violence- one person every 6 hours!

More than 900 Pennsylvanians commit suicide by firearms annually, making guns our most lethal means of suicide.

Data from the Pennsylvania Health Policy Coalition

Nearly 1,600 Pennsylvanians died by gun violence in 2019, an average of four people every day. Suicides made up 63% of the deaths and homicides made up 36%.

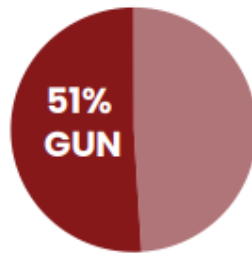


FIREARM SUICIDES:

964

firearm suicide deaths in Pennsylvania in 2019, including **33** children and teens (0-19).

SUICIDES BY METHOD



Half of all suicides in Pennsylvania were by firearms in 2019.



DEMOGRAPHICS

In Pennsylvania, White males have the highest rates of firearm suicide. Black males have the second-highest firearm suicide rate in the state, followed by Hispanic/Latino males and Asian/Pacific Islander males.



BY COUNTY

Wayne County has the highest firearm suicide rate in the state -- four times higher than in Philadelphia County, where the firearm suicide rate is the lowest. Elk County and Carbon County have the second and third highest rates in the state.

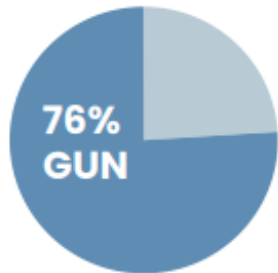
Note: Based on a ten-year average (2010-2019).

FIREARM HOMICIDES:

548

firearm homicide deaths in Pennsylvania in 2019, including **64** children and teens (0-19).

HOMICIDES BY METHOD



Three-fourths of homicides in Pennsylvania were committed with firearms in 2019.



DEMOGRAPHICS

In Pennsylvania, young Black males are disproportionately impacted by firearm homicide. Black males aged 15-34 have a firearm homicide rate nearly 39 times higher than White males of the same age group.

BY COUNTY



Philadelphia County has the highest firearm homicide rate in the state -- 19 times higher than in Bucks County, where the rate is the lowest. Allegheny County and Delaware County have the second and third highest rates in the state.

Note: Based on a ten-year average (2010-2019).



According to the Data:

In Pennsylvania, between 2014 and June 2020, there have been over 14,000 reported incidents involving a firearm.

Data from the Pennsylvania Health Policy Coalition

Why Safe Storage?



For the children.

A close-up portrait of a young girl with long, dark, wavy hair. She is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. The lighting is soft and slightly dim, highlighting her face against a plain, light-colored background.

ad
COUNCIL

Safety

Firearm Safety for Families



Studies show children are naturally curious, even about a firearm they've been warned not to touch.



Kids are safer when:
Firearms are in a lockbox or safe, unloaded. Ammunition is locked away separately.



Kids are safest when:
firearms are stored outside the home.

Ask About Firearms Before a Playdate

If it's not safe,
invite their child over
to your home instead

 [healthychildren.org](https://www.healthychildren.org)
Powered by pediatricians. Trusted by parents.
from the American Academy of Pediatrics

American Academy
of Pediatrics



DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®

My kids are looking forward to play with your kids. A warning, Leah is allergic to strawberries.

Mine too! OK.

I always ask families where my kids go about firearms. Do you have guns at home?

Yes, we do have a gun.

Great. Jimmy is so curious, and always getting into things. How are your firearms stored?

We put the gun in a safe and lock up the ammo separately. See you at 3!



Keep the “safe” in firearm safety

Hiding a gun is not enough! Kids are curious, and studies show they usually know where a family keeps a gun.

Gun safes can lower the risk a curious child will be hurt:



Safe or lockbox
for handguns



Locked gun
safe for rifles



Gun trigger locks—
inexpensive and effective



Lock box
for ammo

Why Safe Storage?



**For those who are
contemplating harm to
themselves or others.**



PBSO
NEWS
WEEKEND

Why Safe Storage?



Prevent Theft

BY THE NUMBERS

54%

An estimated 54 percent of gun owners don't lock all of their guns securely.

Stat

350

Every year, 350 children under the age of 18 unintentionally shoot themselves or someone else.

Stat

4.6M

4.6 million children in the US live in a home with at least one unlocked and loaded firearm.

Stat

76%

The US Secret Service found that roughly three-quarters of school shooters acquired their firearm from the home of a parent or close relative.

Stat

According to Everytown Gun Safety

Myth:

Storage devices defeat the purpose of owning a gun by putting barriers between the gun owner and their means of defense.

Fact:

There are many affordable options for firearm storage that provide owners with quick access to their guns while still preventing access by children and people at increased risk of harming themselves or others.

Secure storage prevents shootings by disrupting unauthorized access to firearms.

Why Safe Storage?



For our community.

Securing Process



Safe Storage Options



Cable Lock



Trigger Lock



Safe

Safe Storage Options




**Gun safe with
biometric lock**



**Lockbox mounted
in a closet**



**Locked cabinet with
safety latch**

A woman with long, curly hair is shown from the chest up, wearing a dark top. She appears to be speaking or listening intently. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

How do you keep the ones you love safe?

Take Action

Store firearms unloaded

Keep firearms stored unloaded and locked in a safe with ammunition stored separately.

Use gun locks

Secure firearms with gun locks when not in use to prevent unauthorized access.

Store keys securely

Keep keys and lock combinations hidden and out of reach of children.

Educate family members

Teach children gun safety rules and dangers. Monitor access closely.

Consider smart technology

Purchase firearms with smart technology like fingerprint access to improve safety.

Ask about firearm storage

When visiting others, ask about firearm storage to ensure safe practices.

Resources

- American Trauma Society, PA Division: www.atspa.org
- American Academy of Pediatrics: <https://www.aap.org/>
- Ad Council: <https://www.adcouncil.org/>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <https://www.cdc.gov/index.htm>
- Healthy Child: healthychild.org
- Department of Health: <https://www.health.pa.gov/Pages/default.aspx>
- Pennsylvania Health Policy Coalition: <https://pahealthpolicy.org/>
- Sandy Hook Project: <https://www.sandyhookpromise.org/>
- Small Arms Survey: <https://www.smallarmssurvey.org/>

Thank You

The American Trauma Society, Pennsylvania Division (ATSPA) is a non-profit trauma prevention education organization.

ATSPA Mission

Injury prevention and mitigation through education, intervention, and advocacy.

ATSPA Vision

To be the leading provider of evidence-based trauma prevention, education, and resources.

