

Firearm Injuries



Firearm injuries are a serious public health problem. In 2018, there were 39,740 firearm-related deaths in the United States – that’s about 109 people dying from a firearm-related injury each day. A firearm injury is a gunshot wound or penetrating injury from a weapon that uses a powder charge to fire a projectile. This definition includes gunshot injuries from handguns, rifles, and shotguns.

Impact and Magnitude of Firearm Injuries and Death

FIGURE 1: Firearm-Related Deaths, Hospitalizations, and Emergency Department Visits by Intent in

Firearm Injuries and Deaths by Intent

FIGURE 2: Firearm-Related Deaths by Firearm Type: Count and Rate per 100,000 in

Firearm Type	Count	Rate per 100K People	% of Total Firearm Deaths
1. Handgun			
2. Rifle, shotgun, and larger firearm			
3. Other and unspecified firearm			

FIGURE 3: Male and Female Intentionally Self-inflicted (suicide) Firearm Injuries and Interpersonal Violence (homicide) Firearm Injuries from

Firearm Injury Trends



Special Emphasis Report: Firearm Injuries

Firearm Violence Prevention Strategies

CDC’s National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC) has been the nation’s leading public health authority on violence and injury prevention for nearly 30 years. Firearm violence has tremendous impact on the overall safety and wellbeing of Americans. Using a public health approach is essential to addressing firearm violence and keeping people safe and healthy.

CDC’s approach to preventing firearm injuries focuses on three elements:

- 1. providing data to inform action
- 2. conducting research
- 3. applying science to identify effective solutions; and promoting collaboration across multiple sectors to address the problem.

	Count	Rate
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

Firearm Violence Prevention Activities

PREVENTION	
SURVEILLANCE	
PARTNERSHIPS	
ACCOMPLISHMENTS/ SUCCESES	