

Gun Violence Nationwide

- Firearm injuries are the second leading cause of injury-related deaths nationwide, surpassed only by motor vehicle injuries.¹
- In 2006, 30,896 Americans were killed with firearms – in homicides, suicides and unintentional shootings.²
- In 2007, 69,863 Americans were treated in hospital emergency departments for non-fatal gunshot wounds. The rate of individuals hospitalized for non-fatal gunshot wounds increased by 5% from 2001 to 2007.³
- Children and young people ages 0- 25 constituted 44% of all firearm deaths and injuries in 2006.⁴
- On average, 23 children and young people ages 0-25 are killed by guns in the U.S. every day.⁵
- In 2007, 35% of teens nationwide reported that they knew someone who had been shot.⁶
- Last year, 56% of teens nationwide reported that they believe the government wouldn't care if they were a victim of gun violence.⁷
- The overall firearm-related death rate among U.S. children under age 15 is nearly 12 times higher than it is in 25 other industrialized nations combined.⁸
- In 2006, African Americans made up 13% of the U.S. population but suffered from 27% of all firearm deaths and 56% of all firearm homicides.⁹
- Firearm homicide was the leading cause of injury-related death for African Americans ages 15-34 in 2006.¹⁰
- White males, accounted for about 40% of the U.S. population and 80% of firearm suicides in 2006.¹¹
- Once all the direct and indirect medical, legal and societal costs are factored together, the annual cost of gun violence in America amounts to \$100 billion.¹²
- States with higher rates of household gun ownership have significantly higher homicide victimization rates for men, women and children.¹³
- Homicides and aggravated assault with a firearm both increased by 10% from 2004 to 2006.¹⁴

1-5 National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System (WISQARS) Leading Causes of Death Reports, 1999-2006*. National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System (WISQARS) Injury Mortality Reports, 1999-2006*. National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System (WISQARS) Nonfatal Injury Reports, 2001-2007*.

6-7 UCAN Teen Gun Survey Results, 2005-2007 Comparison.

8 U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Rates of Homicide, Suicide, and Firearm-Related Death Among Children--26 Industrialized Countries*, MMWR Weekly, Vol. 46, No.5, Feb. 7, 1997

9-11 National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System (WISQARS) Injury Mortality Reports, 1999-2006*.

12 Philip J. Cook and Jens Ludwig, *Gun Violence: The Real Costs*, New York: Oxford University Press, 2000, 115.

13 Matthew Miller, David Hemenway, and Deborah Azrael, *State-level homicide victimization rates in the U.S. in relation to survey measures of household firearm ownership, 2001 -2003*, Social Science & Medicine 64 (2007) 656-664.

14 Police Executive Research Forum, *Violent Crime in America: 24 Months of Alarming Trends*, March 2007.