



# Secure Storage Fact Sheet

1. **“The most secure way to store firearms, as recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics, is to store them unloaded, locked, and separate from ammunition.”**  
American Academy of Pediatrics (2012). Firearm–related Injuries Affecting the Pediatric Population, 130 (5): e1416–e1423.,  
<https://publications.aap.org/pediatrics/article/130/5/e1416/32375/Firearm-Related-Injuries-Affecting-the-Pediatric>
2. **“Estimated 20 million firearms in California and 25% of California households own firearms.”**  
Kravitz-Wirtz N, Pallin R, Miller M, Azrael D, Wintemute GJ. Firearm ownership and acquisition in California: findings from the 2018 California Safety and Well-being Survey. Inj Prev. 2020;26(6):516-523.  
<https://injuryprevention.bmj.com/content/26/6/516#block-system-main>
3. **“COVID pandemic fueled a 66% surge in gun sales in California in 2020.”**  
<https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.10.03.20206367v1>
4. **Fatalities and injuries in California**  
California Department of Public Health. California Household Firearm Storage Practices, 2019  
[https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/CALACOUNTY/2021/11/08/file\\_attachments/1990124/CAHouseholdFirearmStorage2017-2019\\_ADA.pdf](https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/CALACOUNTY/2021/11/08/file_attachments/1990124/CAHouseholdFirearmStorage2017-2019_ADA.pdf)
5. **Fatalities and injuries in Santa Clara County**  
Santa Clara Department of Public Health. Firearms in Santa Clara County.  
<https://publichealth.sccgov.org/sites/g/files/exjcpb916/files/firearms-facts-2018.pdf>
6. **“Firearm injuries in San Jose cost \$442 million annually.”**  
San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo’s Gun Harm Reduction proposal.  
<https://sanjose.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=9544129&GUID=854A7D62-1F37-4F85-B835-A149CB167660>
7. **“Access to a firearm triples one’s risk of death by suicide.”**  
Anglemyer, A., Horvath, T., & Rutherford, G. (2014). The accessibility of firearms and risk for suicide and homicide victimization among household members: A systematic review and meta-analysis. Annals of Internal Medicine, 160(2), 101–110.  
<https://doi.org/10.7326/M13-1301>
8. **“The interval between deciding to act and attempting suicide can be as short as 5 or 10 minutes.”**  
Simon OR, Swann AC, Powell KE, Potter LB, Kresnow MJ, O’Carroll PW. Characteristics of impulsive suicide attempts and attempters. Suicide Life Threat Behav. 2001;32(1 Suppl):49-59.  
Deisenhammer EA, Ing CM, Strauss R, Kemmler G, Hinterhuber H, Weiss EM. The duration of the suicidal process: how much time is left for intervention between consideration and accomplishment of a suicide attempt? J Clin Psychiatry. 2009;70(1):19-24  
<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/suicidetechnicalpackage.pdf>



9. **People tend not to substitute a different method when a highly lethal method is unavailable or difficult to access."**  
Hawton K. Restricting access to methods of suicide: rationale and evaluation of this approach to suicide prevention. *Crisis*. 2007;28(S1):4-9.  
Yip P, Caine E, Yousuf S, Chang S-S, Wu K, Chen Y-Y. Means restriction for suicide prevention. *Lancet*. 2012;379(9834):2393-2399  
<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/suicidetechnicalpackage.pdf>
10. **"Firearms are a particularly lethal means of self-harm, with a fatality rate of approximately 90 percent. By comparison, 4 percent of people who attempt suicide using other methods die."** Andrew Conner, Deborah Azrael, and Matthew Miller, "Suicide Case-Fatality Rates in the United States, 2007 to 2014: A Nationwide Population-Based Study," *Annals of Internal Medicine*, (2019):885-895.  
Everytown for Gun Safety, <https://www.everytown.org/issues/gun-suicide/>  
<https://www.acpjournals.org/doi/abs/10.7326/M19-1324?journalCode=aim>
11. **"Suicide among youth happened in the decedent's home 65% of the time, with 57% of the firearms owned by a family member."**  
Johnson, R. M., Barber, C., Azrael, D., Clark, D. E., & Hemenway, D. (2010). Who are the owners of firearms used in adolescent suicides? *Suicide & life-threatening behavior*, 40(6), 609–611.  
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/21198329/>
12. **Santa Clara County suicide statistics from 2015-2020.**  
2019-20 Suicide Prevention Annual Report, Reporting Period: July 2019-June 2020,
13. **"Gun owners who do not safely store their firearms are more likely to have their guns stolen."**  
David Hemenway, Deborah Azrael, and Matthew Miller, "Whose Guns are Stolen? The Epidemiology of Gun Theft Victims," *Injury Epidemiology* 4, no. 1 (2017)  
<https://injepijournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s40621-017-0109-8>
14. **"Nationally survey data suggests that approximately 380,000 guns are stolen from individual gun owners each year."**  
David Hemenway, Deborah Azrael, and Matthew Miller, "Whose Guns are Stolen? The Epidemiology of Gun Theft Victims," *Injury Epidemiology* 4, no. 1 (2017).  
<https://injepijournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s40621-017-0109-8>
15. **An analysis of more than 23,000 stolen firearms recovered by police between 2010 and 2016 found that the majority of these weapons were recovered in connection with violent acts such as murder, kidnapping, and armed robbery.**  
Brian Freskos, "Missing Pieces: Gun Theft from Legal Gun Owners is on the Rise, Quietly Fueling Violent Crime, *The Trace*, November 20, 2017,  
<https://www.thetrace.org/2017/11/stolen-guns-violent-crime-america/>
16. **"In a national study more than one third of adolescents said they could access a loaded household firearm within 5 minutes. Although 70% of parents reported that their adolescent could not independently access a household firearm, more than one-third were contradicted by their child's report."**



- Salhi C, Azrael D, Miller M. Parent and Adolescent Reports of Adolescent Access to Household Firearms in the United States. JAMA Netw Open. 2021;  
[https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2777216?utm\\_source=undefined&utm\\_campaign=content-shareicons&utm\\_content=article\\_engagement&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_term=031521](https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2777216?utm_source=undefined&utm_campaign=content-shareicons&utm_content=article_engagement&utm_medium=social&utm_term=031521)
- Baxley, F., & Miller, M. (2006). Parental Misperceptions About Children and Firearms. Archives of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine.
- Baxley, F., & Miller, M. (2006). [Parental Misperceptions About Children and Firearms](#). Archives of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine
17. "Unintentional shooting deaths by children increased 30% from 2019 to 2020."  
Gun Violence and COVID-19 in 2020, A Year of Colliding Crises  
Everytown analysis of #NotAnAccident Index,  
<https://everytownresearch.org/report/gun-violence-and-covid-19-in-2020-a-year-of-colliding-crises/>
  18. "5.4 million children in America live in households where at least one gun is unlocked and loaded."  
<https://everytownresearch.org/issue/responsible-gun-ownership/>
  19. "50% of mass school shootings are committed by students or former students whose weapon is an unsecured firearm obtained from their home or a relative's home".  
U.S. Government Accountability Office, K-12 Education: Characteristics of School Shootings  
<https://www.gao.gov/products/gao-20-455>
  20. "Every year, nearly 350 children under the age of 18 unintentionally shoot themselves or someone else, and 70 percent of these incidents take place inside a home."  
Everytown for Gun Safety. #NotAnAccident Index. 2020
  21. "700 children die by gun suicide each year, most often using guns belonging to a family member."  
<https://everytownresearch.org/report/unload-lock-and-separate-secure-storage-practices-to-reduce-gun-violence/>  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. WONDER Online Database.  
Johnson RM, Barber C, Azrael D, Clark DE, Hemenway D. Who are the owners of firearms used in adolescent suicides? Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior. 2010;40(6):609-611.  
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/21198329/>
  22. "Only 35% of California households are storing their firearms in the most secure manner."  
Pallin R, Wintemute GJ, Kravitz-Wirtz N. Firearm Practices, Perceptions of Safety, and Opinions on Injury Prevention Strategies Among California Adults With vs Without Children. JAMA Network Open.2021;4(8):e2119146. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2021.19146  
<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2782627>