

Safe At Home Evidence-Based Research



Secure storage. Responsible reporting.
Safe At Home.

Today, there are more guns in our country than people, and too many tragedies have resulted when guns get into the hands of children, at-risk people, and criminals. Studies show that unsecured firearms and lost and stolen guns are fueling incidents of suicide, unintentional shootings, mass shootings, and crime in our communities.

Evidence-based research shows that safe firearm storage and stronger lost and stolen firearm reporting policies work together to reduce crime and save lives. Safe and secure storage practices also help prevent guns from being stolen, diverted into illegal markets and used in gun crime, helping to keep our children, families and communities safe from gun violence.

[Locked and UN-loaded: The Importance of Safe and Secure Firearm Storage](#)

Safely and securely storing firearms can reduce gun injuries and deaths, and is a practice supported by researchers, health care professionals, and gun owners alike. (Johns Hopkins School of Public Health)

[Whose guns are stolen? The epidemiology of Gun Theft victims](#)

Gun theft is an important source of guns used by criminals. (Injury Epidemiology/ PMC nih.gov)

[Association of Increased Safe Household Firearm Storage With Firearm Suicide and Unintentional Death Among US Youths](#)

Results of this modeling study suggest that a relatively modest uptake of a straightforward safe storage recommendation ... could result in meaningful reductions in firearm suicide and unintentional firearm fatalities among youth. (PubMed nih.gov)

[Adolescent Suicide, Household Firearm Ownership, and the Effects of Child Access Prevention Laws - ScienceDirect](#)

There is an increased risk of adolescent suicide associated with household firearm ownership, and safe storage provisions are associated with decreased adolescent firearm suicide. (Journal of the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry)



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Child Access Prevention Firearm Laws and Firearm Fatalities Among Children Aged 0-14 Years

In this state-level, cross-sectional study throughout the United States, negligence-specific child access prevention firearm laws were associated with a 13% reduction in all-intent firearm fatalities, a 15% reduction in firearm homicides, a 12% reduction in firearm suicides, and a 13% reduction in unintentional firearm fatalities among children aged 0 to 14 years. Absence of the most stringent negligence laws accounted for 29% of pediatric firearm fatalities. (Law and Medicine | JAMA Pediatrics | JAMA Network)

Maximizing Lost and Stolen Firearm Policies

Research confirms that lost and stolen firearms are more likely to be used in a crime. The report offers nearly two dozen best practices and recommendations which fill a critical knowledge gap in determining if the laws can be effective as designed in the 15 states that currently have these laws in place. (UC Davis Health Violence Prevention Research Program)

Report on Strengthening Lost and Stolen Firearm Reporting Policies

Research confirms that lost and stolen firearms are more likely to be used in a crime. (National Policing Institute Issues)

The Effects of Lost or Stolen Firearm Reporting Requirements

Laws that require gun owners to report lost or stolen firearms are intended to (1) help prevent gun trafficking and straw purchases and (2) help ensure that prohibited possessors do not obtain access to firearms. As of January 1, 2024, 15 states and the District of Columbia require gun owners to notify law enforcement if their firearms are lost or stolen. (Rand-Gun Policy in America)

Keeping Firearms Out of the Wrong Hands Addressing Theft and Diversion Through Reporting of Lost and Stolen Firearms

According to the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), 205,000 firearms were stolen from private owners each year from 2017 to 2021—figures that many experts believe are a significant undercount. Mandatory reporting of lost and stolen firearms was significantly associated with less interstate gun trafficking. (National Policing Institute)

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