



GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION

An Introduction from Minnesota Doctors for Health Equity

STOP VIOLENCE

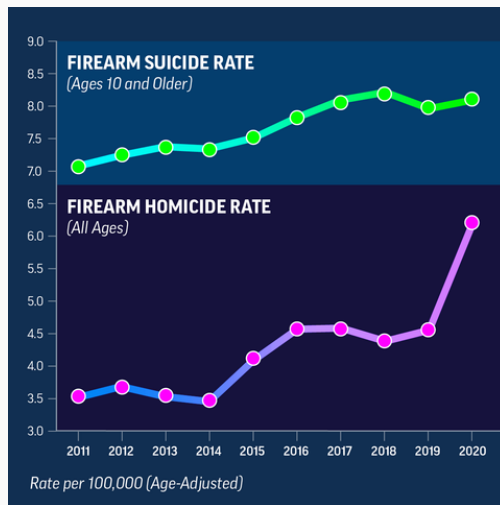
The Impact of Gun Violence on Health

There are **~45,000 deaths** and **~115,000 injuries**/year in the United States due to firearms. Recent trends show this problem worsening.

Guns are involved in:



- ~50% of suicides
- ~80% of homicides
- 4,357 children's deaths
- *in 2020 the leading cause of death



Click the graph to explore CDC data on firearm deaths.

Gun ownership:



- 400 million firearms
- 45% of homes

Widening disparities:



This worsening burden is not distributed evenly and racial, ethnic, and other disparities are increasing. For example, young people, males, and Black people, and those living in the highest poverty areas have the highest rates of exposure to gun violence.

How healthcare providers can help



Healthcare providers can play an effective role to reduce the risk of harm from firearm-related suicide and unintentional injury by:

- **Educating** the community on gun safety,
- **Providing care** for survivors and families, and
- **Supporting legislative efforts** to increase research on gun violence prevention, and evidence based interventions.

Resources

Click the numbers below to learn more about gun violence prevention



- 1 Learn to *talk to your patients* about firearm safety
- 2 Promote *safe firearm storage* with gun locks and education
- 3 Learn how you can help *prevent youth suicide*
- 4 Practice *trauma-informed care*
- 5 Connect with experts specialized in *treating survivors of gun violence*
- 6 *Advocate* for legislation and policies that will reduce gun violence

Want to join the MDHEQ Gun Violence Prevention workgroup? Email us! info@MDHEQ.org

