

# Firearm Injuries: Data to Drive Prevention

**Thomas Simon, PhD**  
**Senior Director for Scientific Programs**

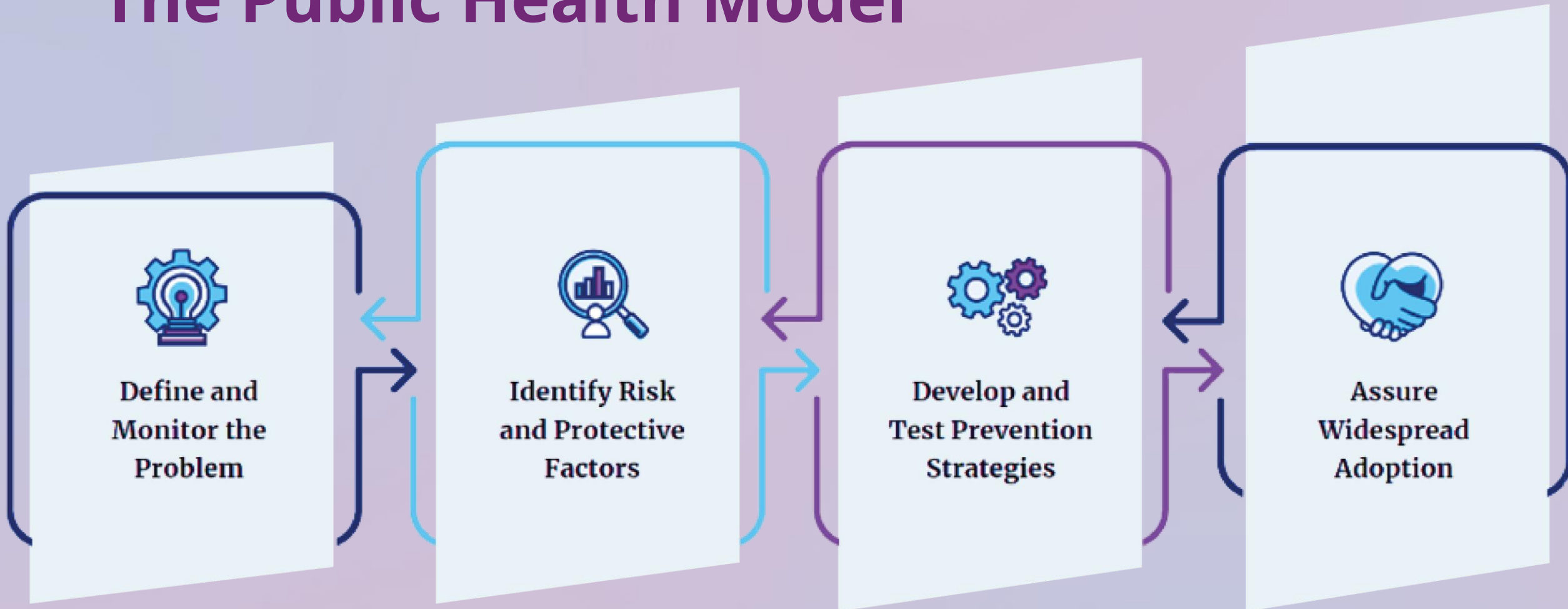
Division of Violence Prevention  
National Center for Injury Prevention and Control  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)





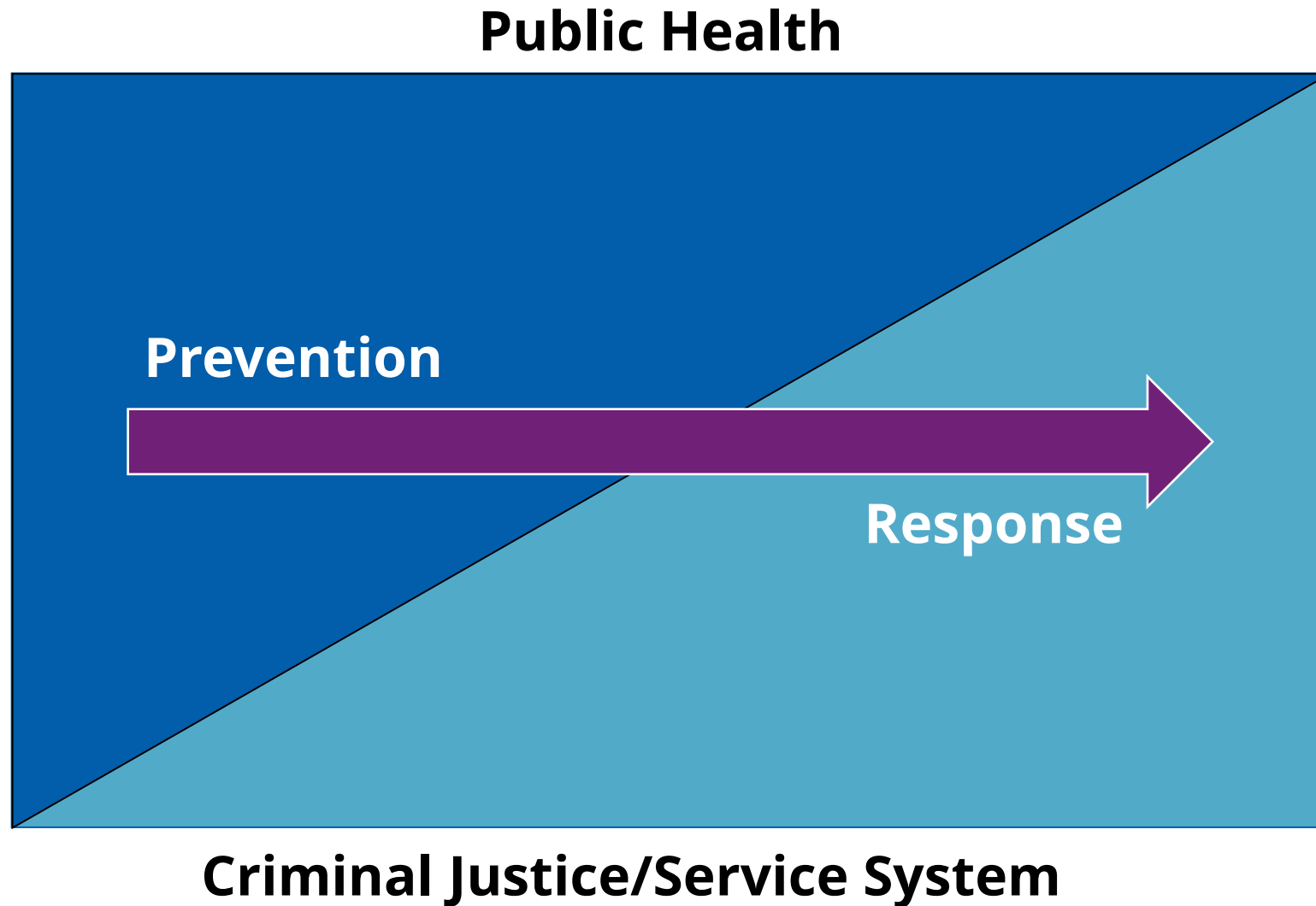
**57 lives lost to firearm homicide every day (20,958 in 2021)**  
**72 lives lost to firearm suicide every day (26,328 in 2021)**

# The Public Health Model



Data, partnerships, and experience are the foundations of the public health approach to violence prevention

# Violence is a Public Health Problem





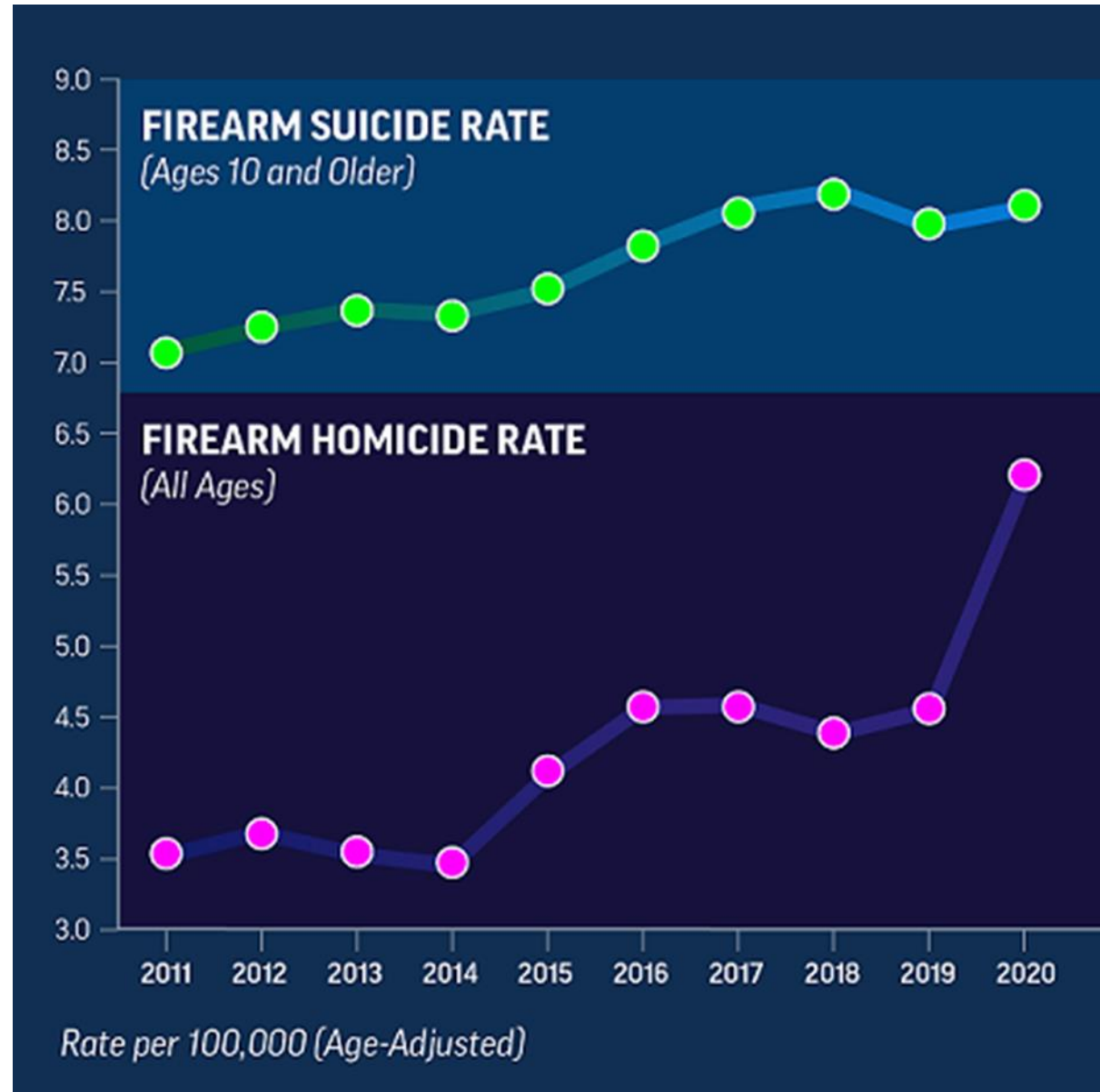
# Epidemiologic Trends and Patterns

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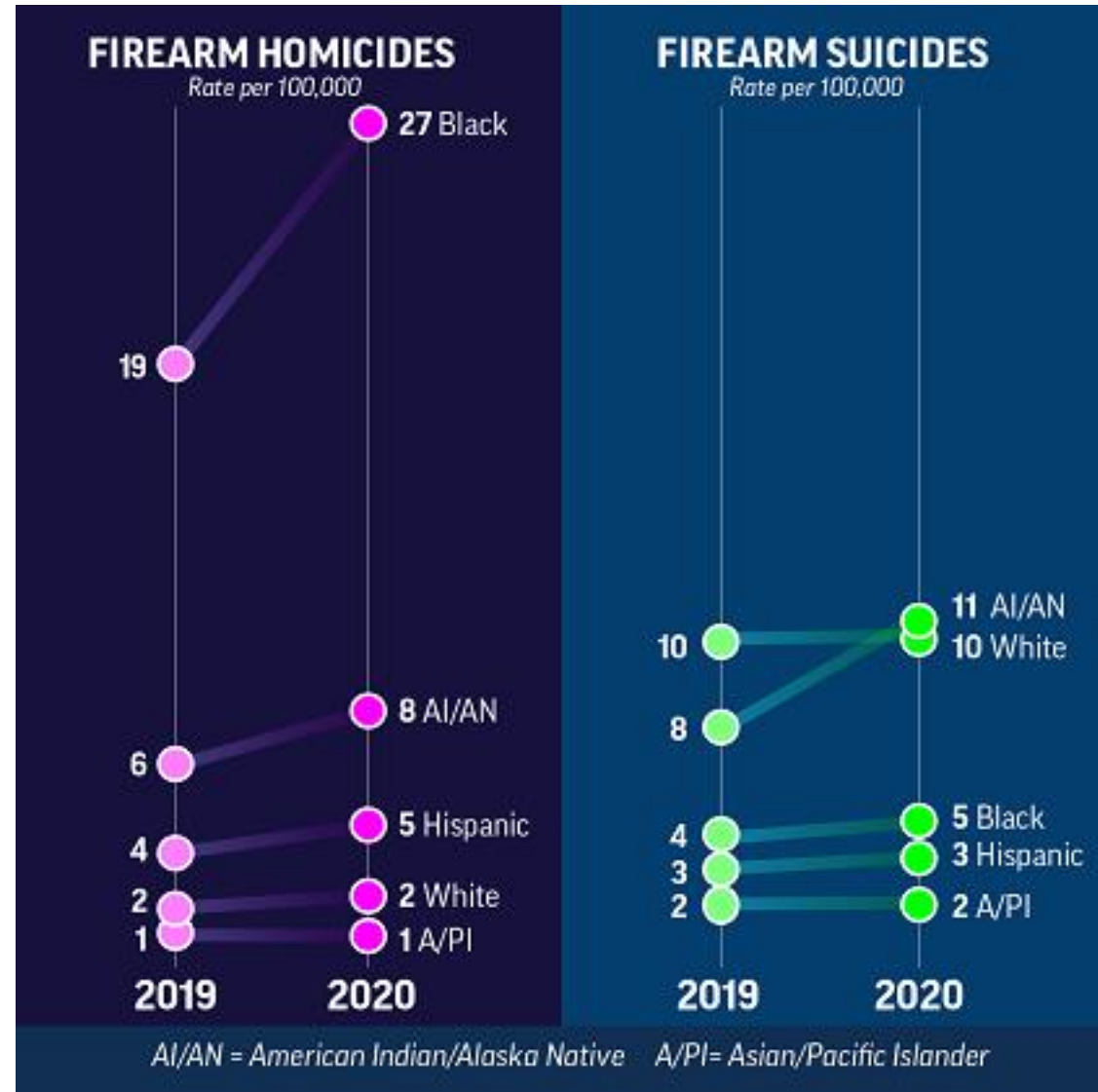
# Firearm Homicides Rose Sharply, and Firearm Suicides Remained High

From 2019 to 2020, the firearm homicide rate increased about 35%, while the firearm suicide rate remained high.



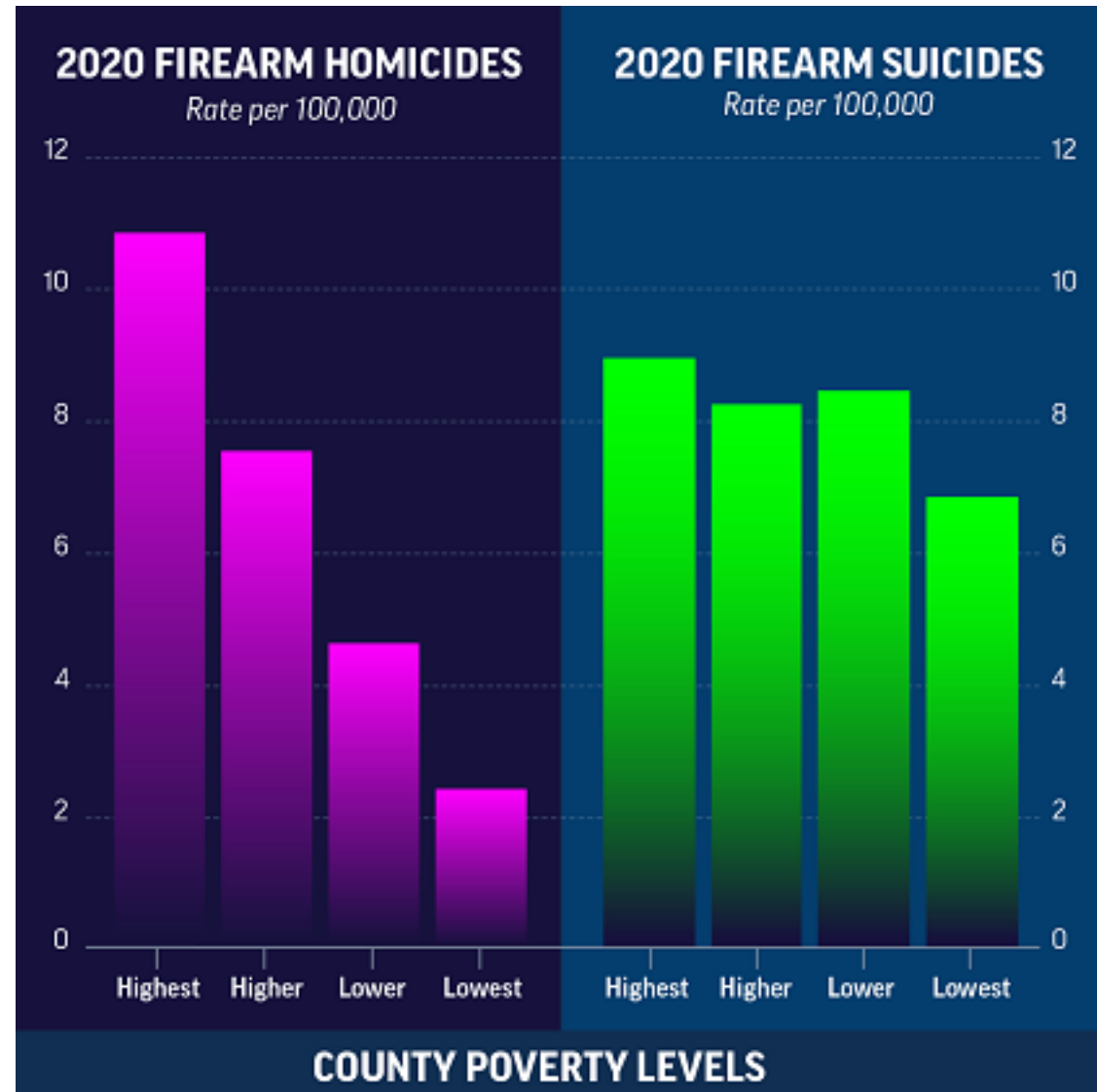
# Widening Disparities

The firearm homicide rate increased most for Black people, and the suicide rate increased most for American Indian/Alaska Native people.



# Conditions of Poverty Are Associated with Firearm Deaths

Counties with the highest poverty level had firearm homicide rates 4.5 times as high and firearm suicide rates 1.3 times as high as counties with the lowest poverty level.



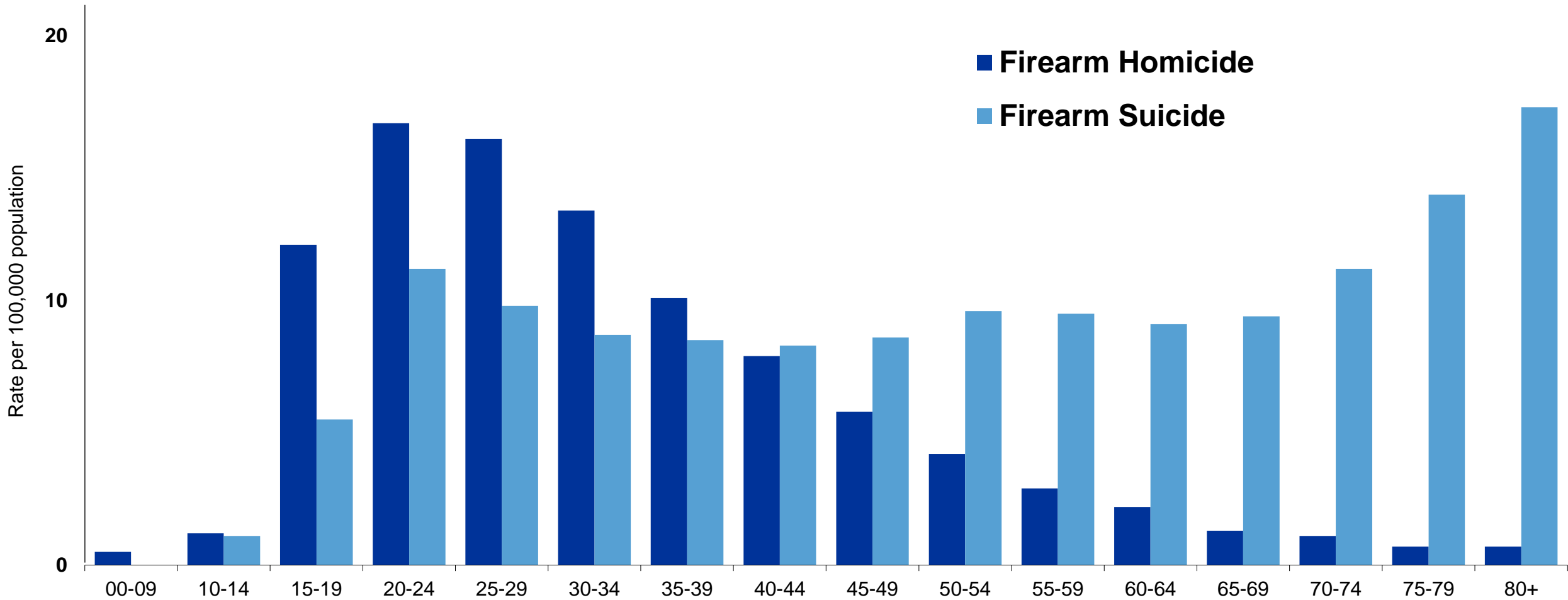


# Continued increases from 2020 to 2021

## Firearm homicide and suicide rates each increased by 8% from 2020 to 2021

- Nearly 9,000 more lives lost in 2021 than in 2019
- Firearms were used:
  - 81% of homicides
  - 55% of suicides

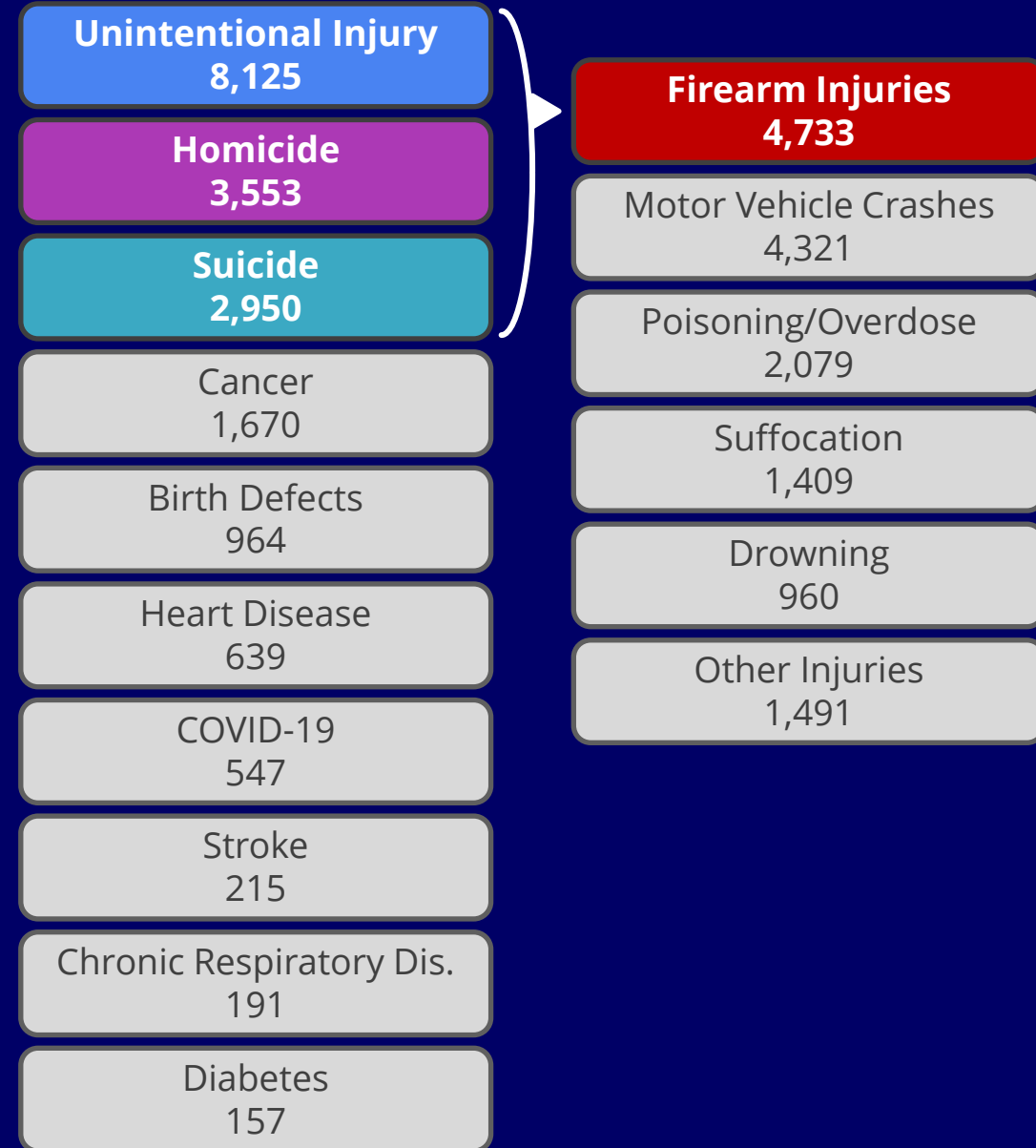
# Rates of firearm-related death by age group and intent, U.S., 2021



# Homicide as a Leading Cause of Death

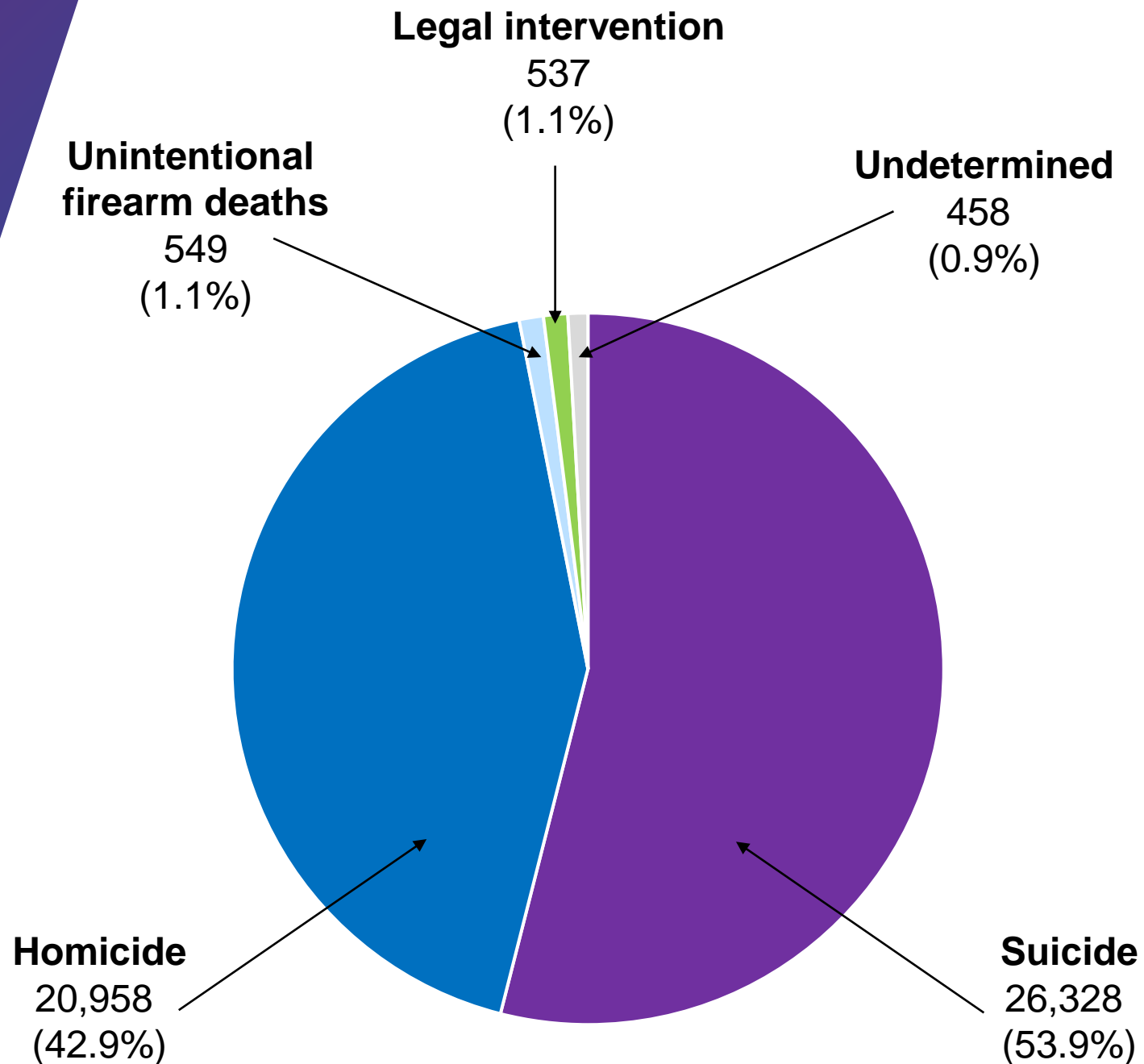
More children and teens died from firearm injuries than motor vehicle crashes

## Leading Causes of Death, Ages 1-19, 2021\*



# Firearm-related Mortality 2021

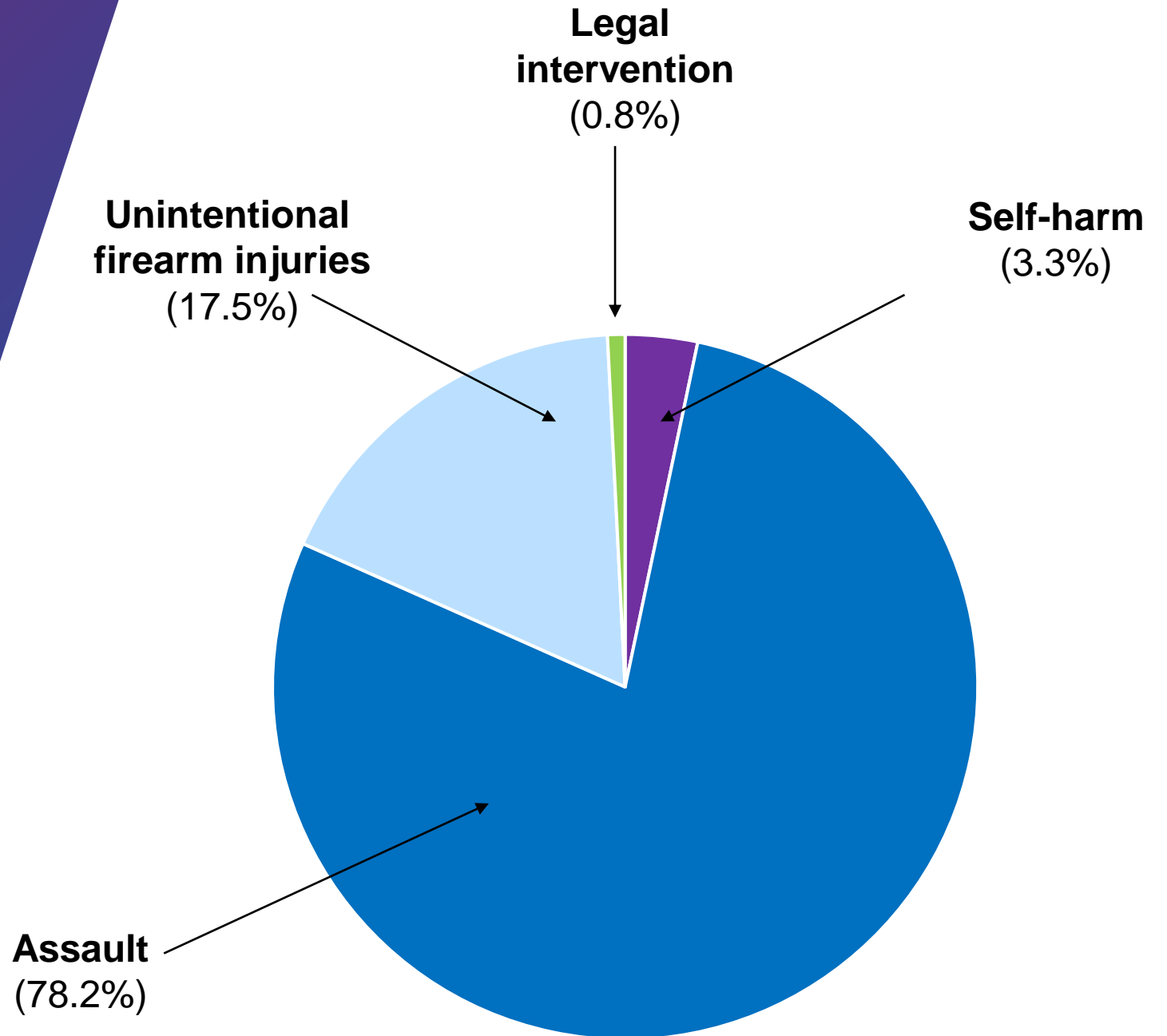
Total = 48,830



# Nonfatal Firearm-related Injury Emergency Department Visits

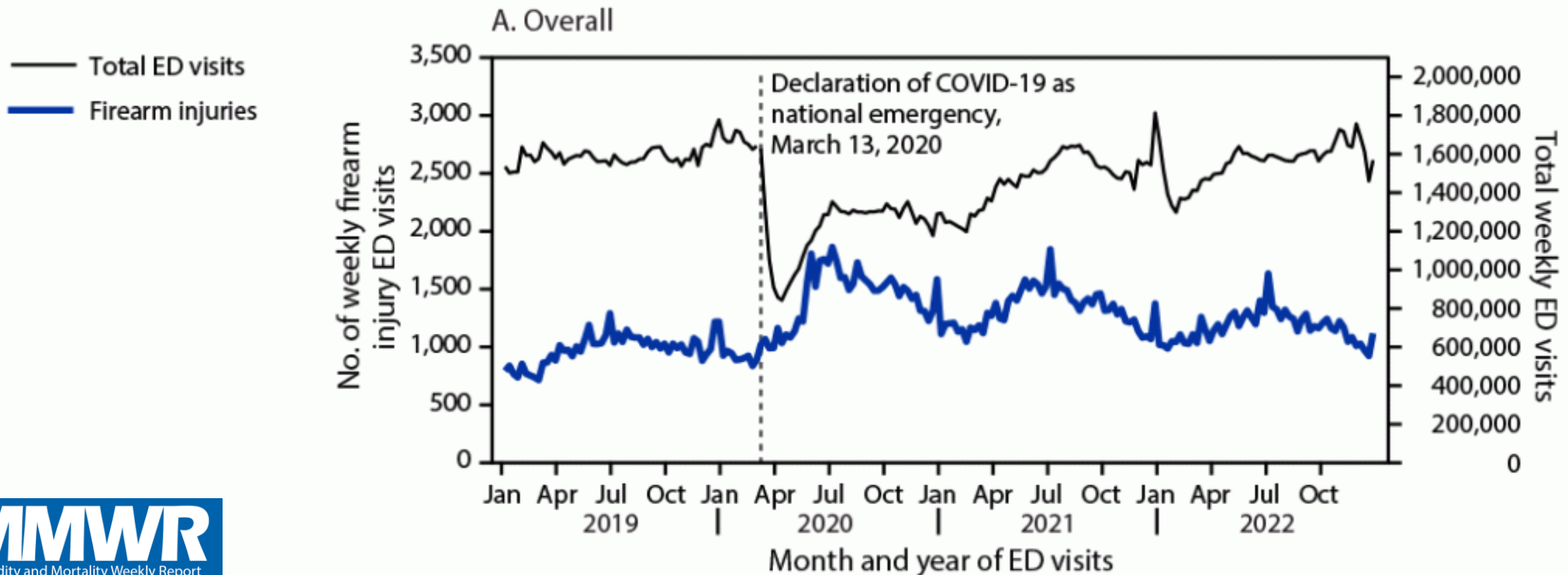
Average Annual  
Estimates  
2018-2020

Source: NEISS-Firearm Injury  
Surveillance Study, 2018-2020

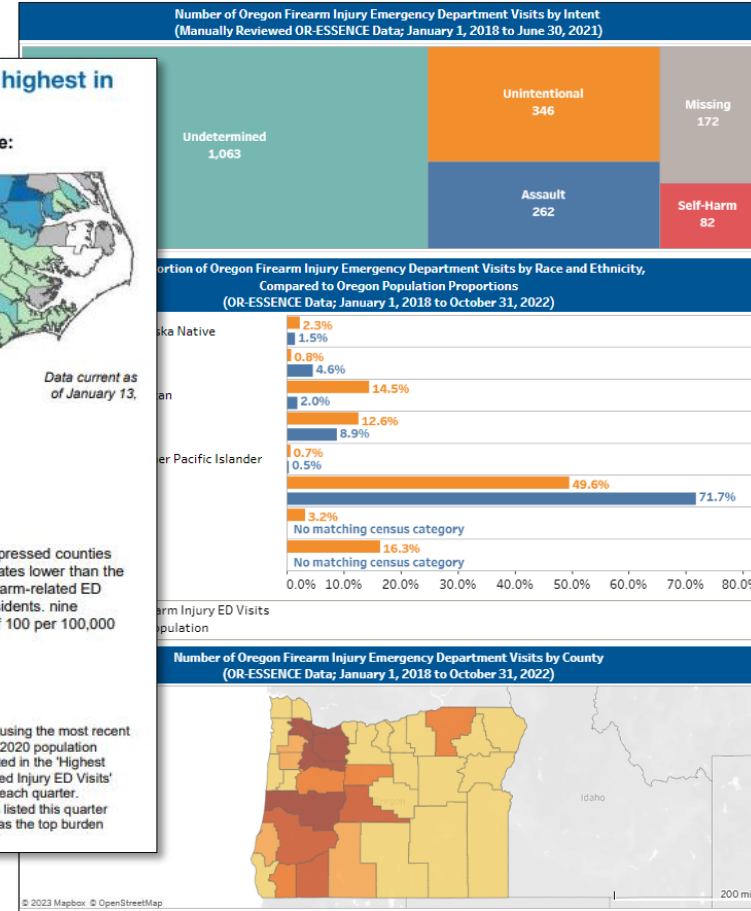
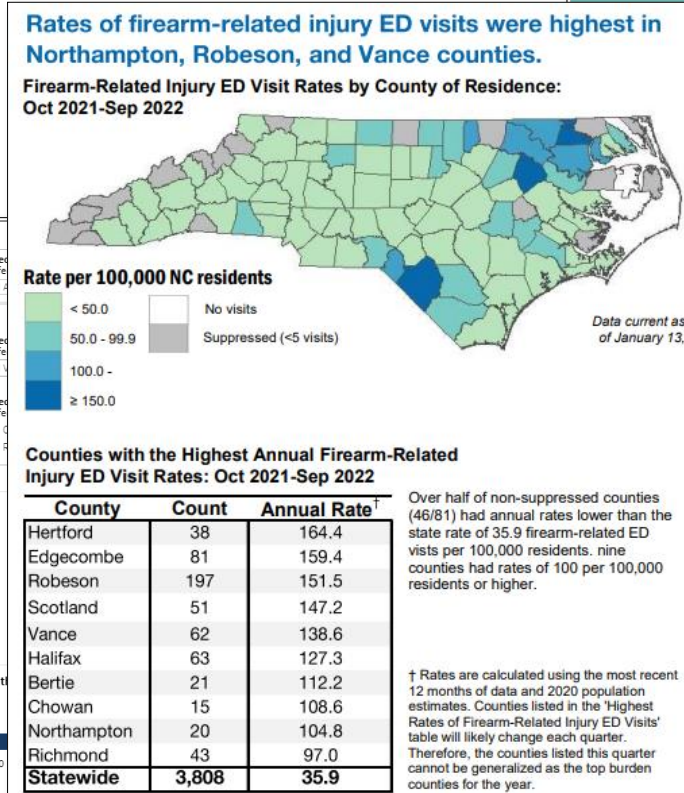
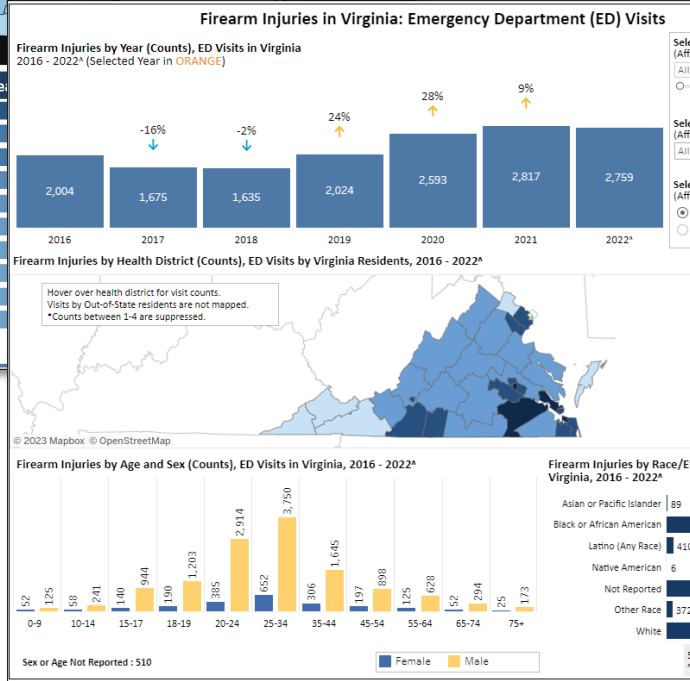
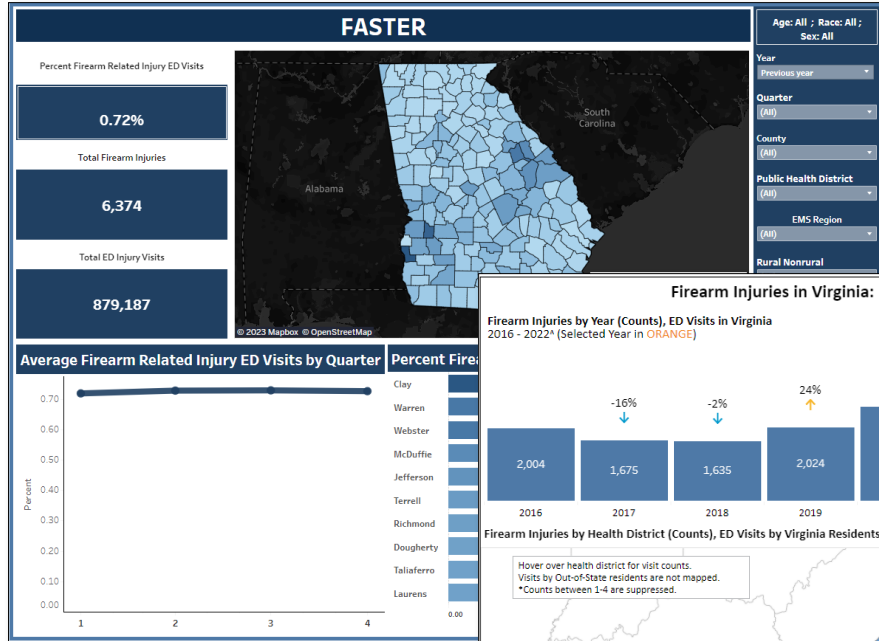


ED visits for firearm injuries during 2020, 2021, and 2022 were 37%, 36%, and 20% higher, respectively, than 2019.

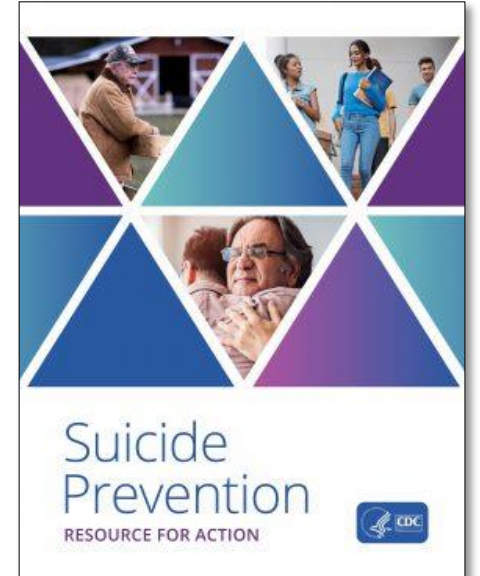
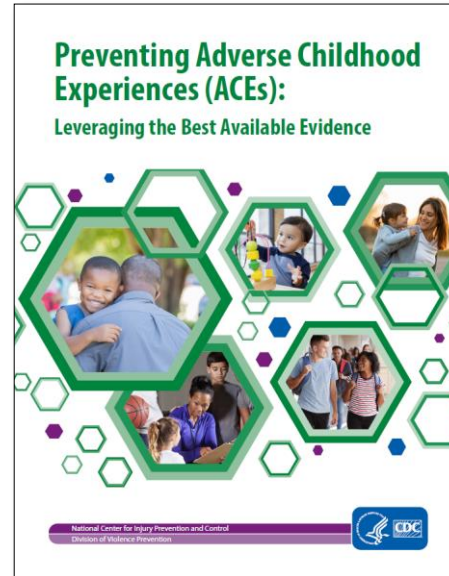
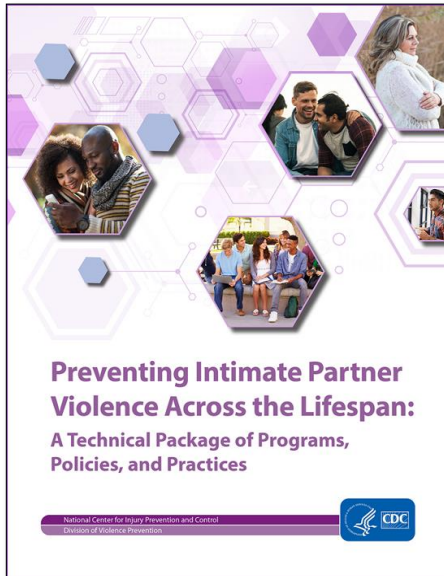
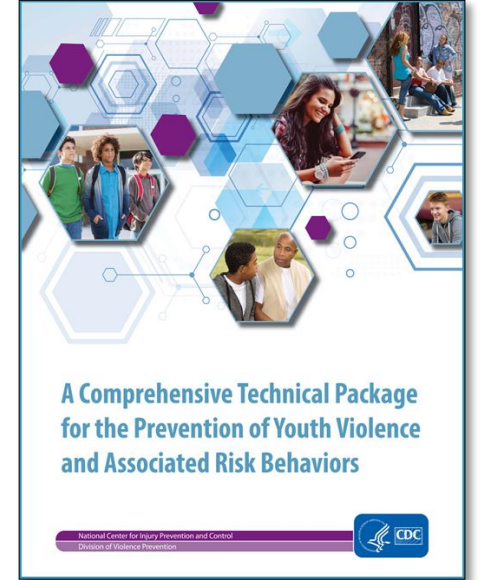
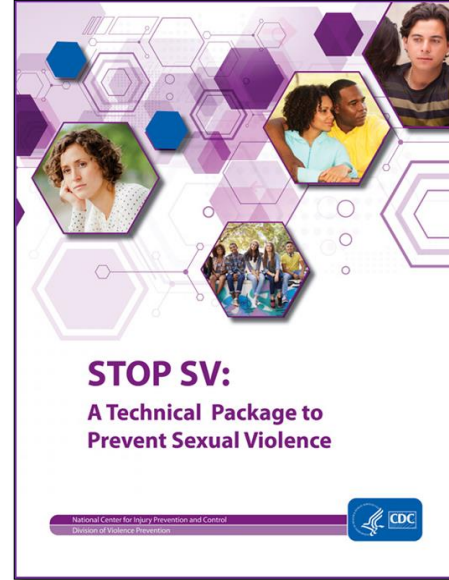
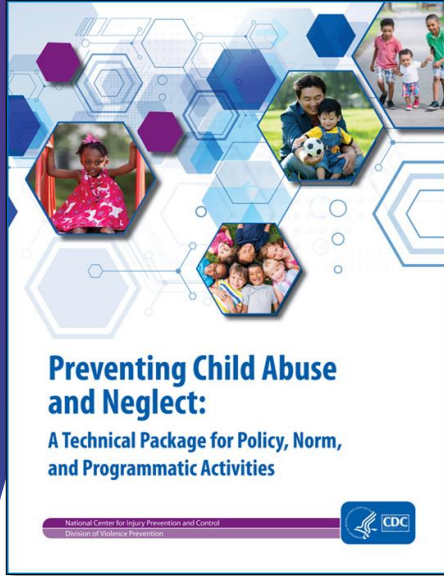
## Emergency Department Visits for Firearm Injuries Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic — United States, January 2019–December 2022



# Sample FASTER Data Dashboards



# CDC's Resources for Action: Violence and Suicide Prevention



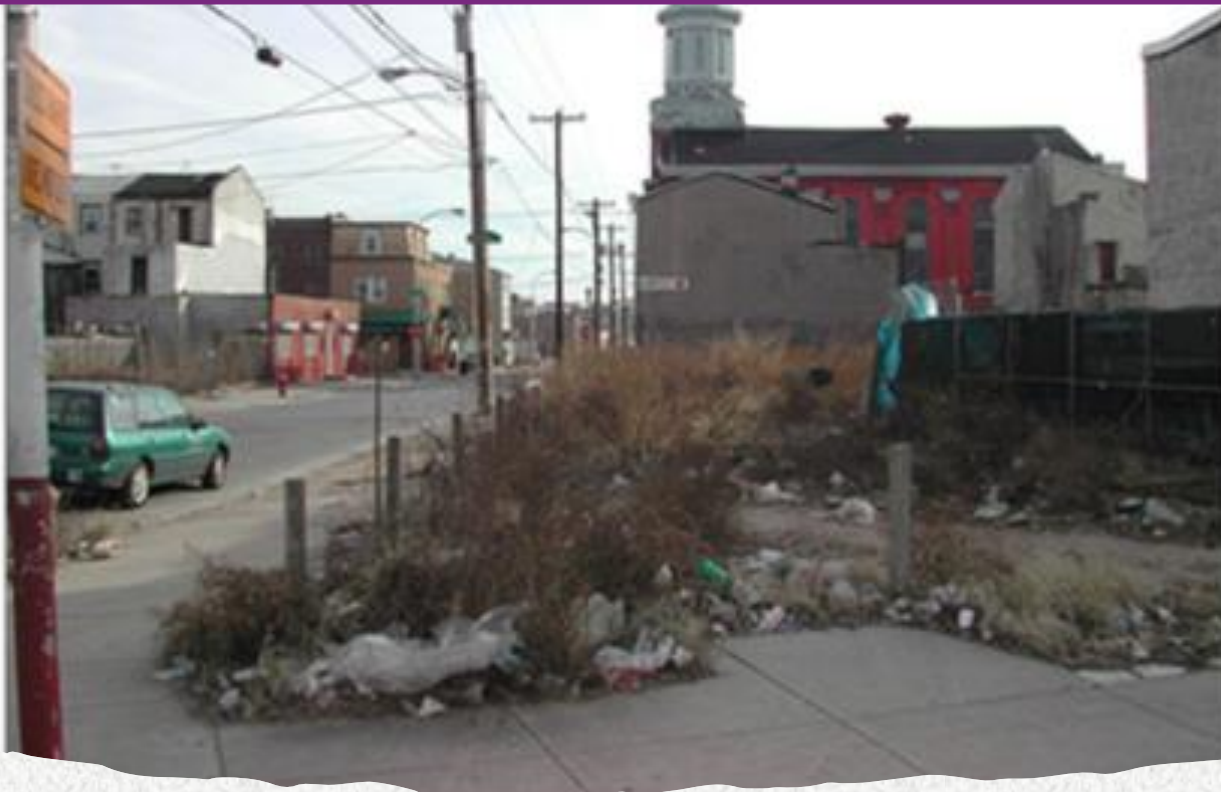
[bit.ly/CDC-Tech-Packages](https://bit.ly/CDC-Tech-Packages)





# Help people experiencing the greatest risk

- + Community Outreach Programs
- + Hospital-Community Partnerships



**Address the locations  
associated with the  
greatest risk**

+Environmental Design  
+Safe Passages



**Address the  
underlying  
conditions that  
contribute to  
risk and  
disparities**

+ Economic and  
household  
security

A hand is shown in the lower-left corner, holding a piece of white chalk and drawing a handgun on a dark chalkboard. The handgun is drawn in a simple, sketchy style. The background of the slide is split: the left side is a dark chalkboard with the drawing, and the right side is white with text.

# Firearm Violence Prevention Research

- + **Focus on populations or settings experiencing the greatest risk**
- + **Etiological Questions**
  - Reasons for increases, carrying, storage
  - Modifiable risk & protective factors
- + **Evaluation Questions**
  - Suicide, assaults, unintentional injuries
  - Policy evaluation
  - Strategies for different populations
  - Unintended consequences

# CDC Foundation

- Independent non-profit created by Congress
- Mobilizes philanthropic and private-sector resources to support CDC's work
  - Launching new programs
  - Expanding promising programs
  - Establishing pilot projects
- Collaborations provide external support to complement government investments

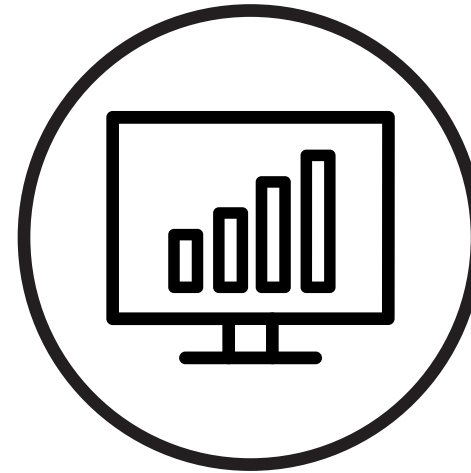


[bit.ly/CDC-Foundation](https://bit.ly/CDC-Foundation)

# Firearm Violence Prevention Website

[www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/firearms](http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/firearms)

- **Fast Facts**
  - Definitions
  - Statistics
  - Secure storage
- **Funded Research**
  - Funding opportunities
  - Current awards
- **Funded Surveillance**
  - FASTER description
  - Recipients
- **Resources**
  - CDC articles and MMWR reports
  - Federal and non-federal resources



# Thank you!

## Resources

### Firearm Violence Prevention

→ [bit.ly/CDC-Firearms](https://bit.ly/CDC-Firearms)



### Prevention Resources

→ [bit.ly/CDC-Tech-Packages](https://bit.ly/CDC-Tech-Packages)



*The findings and conclusions in this presentation are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.*