



Gun Violence

For thousands of teens, death from gun violence is the end of the pipeline. In 2007, 3,042 children and teens died from gunfire in the U.S.—almost eight every day—as a result of homicide, suicide or accidental shootings. Almost six times as many children and teens – 17,523 – suffered non-fatal gun injuries, which have serious physical and emotional consequences. Random violence, especially in poor communities, drives thousands of vulnerable young people into the pipeline to prison where they remain trapped with little chance of escape.

- The 3,042 deaths of children and teens from gunfire in 2007 nearly equaled the total number of U.S. combat deaths in Iraq through May 2010 (3,475).
- More Black than White children and teens were killed by firearms in 2007.
- Black males ages 15–19 are more than five times as likely as White youths and more than twice as likely as Hispanic youths to be killed by a firearm. White children and teens are six times as likely as any other racial or ethnic group to be victims of firearm-related suicide.
- The annual number of firearm deaths of White children and teens *decreased* by about 54 percent between 1979 and 2007, while the deaths of Black children and teens *increased* by 61 percent.
- Since 1979 gun violence has ended the lives of 110,645 children and teens in America.
- Almost one in five high school students admitted carrying a weapon in 2007; one-third of those students brought the weapon to school. One in 20 admitted carrying a gun. More than one-third had been in a physical fight.
- One in 18 high school students reported staying home from school because they felt unsafe at school or going to or from school.

Children and Teens Killed by Firearms: A Portrait

The latest data from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention show that 3,042 children and teens died from gunfire in the United States in 2007—one every three hours, eight every day, 58 every week.

| | |
|-------|--|
| 2,161 | were homicide victims |
| 683 | committed suicide |
| 198 | died in accidental or undetermined circumstances |
| 2,665 | were boys |
| 377 | were girls |
| 397 | were under age 15 |
| 154 | were under age 10 |
| 85 | were under age 5 |
| 1,499 | were Black |
| 1,460 | were White |
| 611 | were Latino* |
| 43 | were Asian or Pacific Islander |
| 40 | were American Indian or Alaska Native |

More than five times as many children and teens—17,451—suffered non-fatal gun injuries, which also can have serious physical and emotional consequences.

There are more than 280 million privately owned firearms in the United States, which is the equivalent of nine firearms for every ten men, women and children in this country.

* Persons of Hispanic/Latino origin can be of any race; these 678 deaths are included in the four race categories.

Since 1979, more than 110,000 children and teens have been killed by firearms.
Fifty-seven percent were homicides and 31 percent were suicides.

Firearm Deaths of Children and Teens, by Manner, 1979–2007

| | Total* | Homicide* | Suicide | Accident | Unknown |
|-------|---------|-----------|---------|----------|---------|
| 1979 | 3,710 | 1,651 | 1,220 | 726 | 113 |
| 1980 | 3,749 | 1,743 | 1,214 | 689 | 103 |
| 1981 | 3,589 | 1,660 | 1,213 | 604 | 112 |
| 1982 | 3,332 | 1,498 | 1,207 | 550 | 77 |
| 1983 | 2,962 | 1,238 | 1,150 | 504 | 70 |
| 1984 | 3,030 | 1,289 | 1,114 | 552 | 75 |
| 1985 | 3,169 | 1,322 | 1,256 | 519 | 72 |
| 1986 | 3,349 | 1,513 | 1,293 | 472 | 71 |
| 1987 | 3,400 | 1,573 | 1,281 | 467 | 79 |
| 1988 | 3,974 | 1,953 | 1,387 | 543 | 91 |
| 1989 | 4,384 | 2,367 | 1,380 | 567 | 70 |
| 1990 | 4,935 | 2,852 | 1,476 | 541 | 66 |
| 1991 | 5,329 | 3,247 | 1,436 | 551 | 95 |
| 1992 | 5,353 | 3,336 | 1,426 | 501 | 90 |
| 1993 | 5,715 | 3,625 | 1,460 | 526 | 104 |
| 1994 | 5,793 | 3,579 | 1,565 | 512 | 137 |
| 1995 | 5,254 | 3,249 | 1,450 | 440 | 115 |
| 1996 | 4,613 | 2,836 | 1,309 | 376 | 92 |
| 1997 | 4,205 | 2,562 | 1,262 | 306 | 75 |
| 1998 | 3,761 | 2,184 | 1,241 | 262 | 74 |
| 1999 | 3,365 | 1,990 | 1,078 | 214 | 83 |
| 2000 | 3,012 | 1,776 | 1,007 | 193 | 36 |
| 2001 | 2,911 | 1,771 | 928 | 182 | 30 |
| 2002 | 2,867 | 1,830 | 828 | 167 | 42 |
| 2003 | 2,827 | 1,822 | 810 | 151 | 44 |
| 2004 | 2,825 | 1,804 | 846 | 143 | 32 |
| 2005 | 3,006 | 1,972 | 822 | 173 | 39 |
| 2006 | 3,184 | 2,225 | 763 | 154 | 42 |
| 2007 | 3,042 | 2,161 | 683 | 138 | 60 |
| Total | 110,645 | 62,628 | 34,105 | 11,723 | 2,189 |

*Total firearm deaths and homicide firearm deaths exclude firearm deaths by legal (police or corrections) intervention.

Sources: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC WONDER, at <<http://wonder.cdc.gov/mortSQL.html>>, accessed December 2004; and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Control and Prevention, WISQARS, at <<http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/wisqars/>>, accessed December 2004, January 2006, December 2006, January 2008, April 2009, and June 2010.

Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

More Black than White children and teens were killed by firearms in 2007. Black children and teens are more likely to be victims of homicide. White children and teens are more likely to be victims of suicide.

Firearm Deaths of Children and Teens, by Age, Manner, and Race/Hispanic Origin, 2007

| | Under 5 | Ages 5–9 | Ages 10–14 | Ages 15–19 | Total under age 20 |
|---------------------------------------|------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| All races | 85 | 69 | 243 | 2,645 | 3,042 |
| Accident | 19 | 20 | 26 | 73 | 138 |
| Suicide | 0 | 0 | 53 | 630 | 683 |
| Homicide | 63 | 47 | 154 | 1,897 | 2,161 |
| Undetermined intent | 3 | 2 | 10 | 45 | 60 |
| White | 50 | 43 | 144 | 1,223 | 1,460 |
| Accident | 12 | 10 | 22 | 43 | 87 |
| Suicide | 0 | 0 | 43 | 518 | 561 |
| Homicide | 36 | 31 | 72 | 645 | 784 |
| Undetermined intent | 2 | 2 | 7 | 17 | 28 |
| Black | 32 | 25 | 91 | 1,351 | 1,499 |
| Accident | 6 | 9 | 4 | 29 | 48 |
| Suicide | 0 | 0 | 9 | 80 | 89 |
| Homicide | 25 | 16 | 76 | 1,217 | 1,334 |
| Undetermined intent | 1 | 0 | 2 | 25 | 28 |
| American Indian, Alaska Native | 3 | 1 | 4 | 32 | 40 |
| Accident | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 3 |
| Suicide | 0 | 0 | 1 | 19 | 20 |
| Homicide | 2 | 0 | 3 | 10 | 15 |
| Undetermined intent | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Asian, Pacific Islander | 0 | 0 | 4 | 39 | 43 |
| Accident | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Suicide | 0 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 13 |
| Homicide | 0 | 0 | 3 | 25 | 28 |
| Undetermined intent | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Hispanic* | 19 | 8 | 45 | 539 | 611 |
| Accident | 4 | 2 | 2 | 14 | 22 |
| Suicide | 0 | 0 | 2 | 90 | 92 |
| Homicide | 14 | 6 | 39 | 427 | 486 |
| Undetermined intent | 1 | 0 | 2 | 8 | 11 |

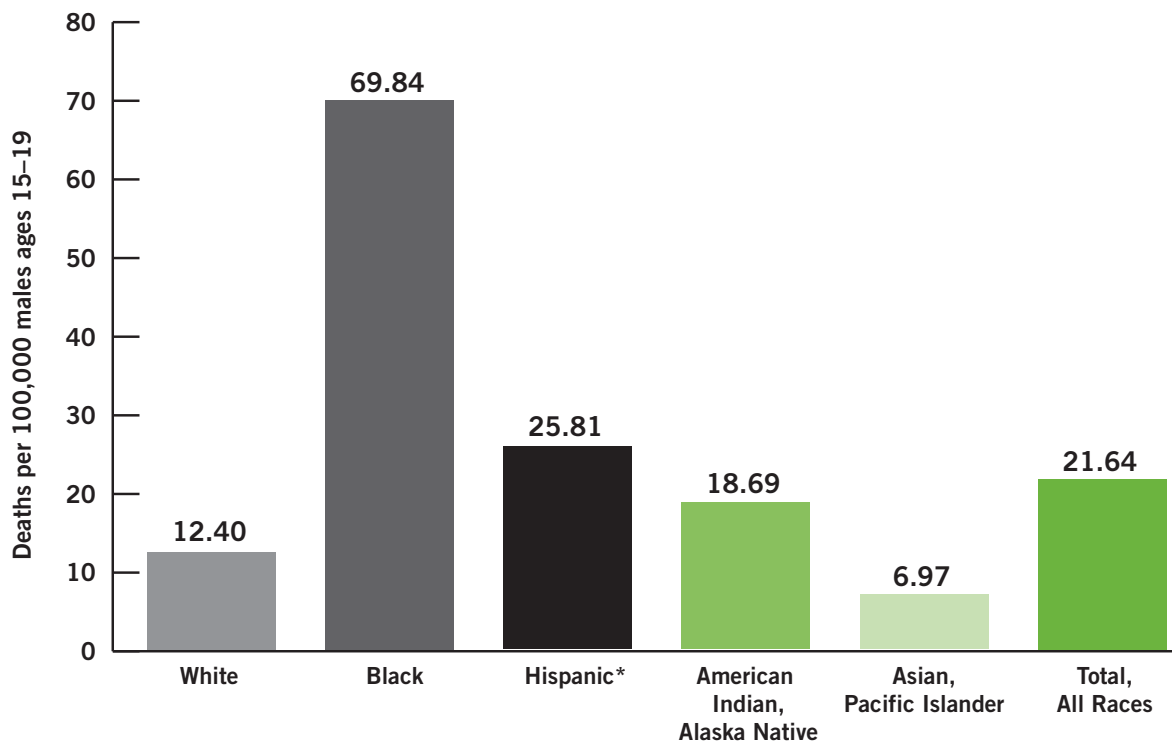
*Persons of Hispanic origin can be of any race.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, WISQARS, at <<http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/wisqars>>, accessed June 2010. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Black males 15 to 19 are more than five times as likely as White males and more than twice as likely as Hispanic and American Indian males to be killed by firearms.

Firearm Death Rates of Males Ages 15–19 by Race and Hispanic Origin, 2007

Black males ages 15 to 19 are more than five times as likely as their White peers and more than twice as likely as their Hispanic peers to be killed by firearms.



*Persons of Hispanic origin can be of any race.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, WISQARS, at <<http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/wisqars>>, accessed June 2010.

Calculations by Children’s Defense Fund.

Since 1979 the annual number of firearm deaths of White children and teens decreased by about 54 percent, but deaths of Black children and teens increased by 61 percent.

Firearm Deaths of Children and Teens, by Race/Hispanic Origin, 1979–2007

| | Total | Black | White | American Indian, Alaska Native* | Asian, Pacific Islander* | Hispanic** |
|-------|---------|--------|--------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| 1979 | 3,710 | 929 | 2,700 | — | — | — |
| 1980 | 3,749 | 944 | 2,739 | — | — | — |
| 1981 | 3,589 | 944 | 2,569 | 49 | 27 | — |
| 1982 | 3,332 | 811 | 2,450 | 55 | 23 | — |
| 1983 | 2,962 | 739 | 2,155 | 42 | 25 | — |
| 1984 | 3,030 | 716 | 2,238 | 44 | 32 | — |
| 1985 | 3,169 | 850 | 2,241 | 42 | 36 | — |
| 1986 | 3,349 | 938 | 2,337 | 43 | 31 | — |
| 1987 | 3,400 | 1,117 | 2,199 | 28 | 54 | — |
| 1988 | 3,974 | 1,458 | 2,405 | 76 | 53 | — |
| 1989 | 4,384 | 1,694 | 2,563 | 50 | 76 | — |
| 1990 | 4,935 | 2,047 | 2,753 | 47 | 87 | 748 |
| 1991 | 5,329 | 2,297 | 2,878 | 60 | 91 | 883 |
| 1992 | 5,353 | 2,359 | 2,834 | 55 | 105 | 924 |
| 1993 | 5,715 | 2,600 | 2,925 | 51 | 139 | 977 |
| 1994 | 5,793 | 2,559 | 3,024 | 75 | 135 | 993 |
| 1995 | 5,254 | 2,153 | 2,898 | 73 | 130 | 1,005 |
| 1996 | 4,613 | 1,976 | 2,475 | 64 | 98 | 817 |
| 1997 | 4,205 | 1,687 | 2,357 | 59 | 102 | 748 |
| 1998 | 3,761 | 1,416 | 2,197 | 60 | 88 | 661 |
| 1999 | 3,365 | 1,301 | 1,934 | 57 | 73 | 605 |
| 2000 | 3,012 | 1,149 | 1,762 | 44 | 57 | 568 |
| 2001 | 2,911 | 1,128 | 1,695 | 49 | 39 | 518 |
| 2002 | 2,867 | 1,112 | 1,639 | 52 | 64 | 581 |
| 2003 | 2,827 | 1,172 | 1,554 | 50 | 51 | 553 |
| 2004 | 2,825 | 1,149 | 1,568 | 57 | 51 | 574 |
| 2005 | 3,006 | 1,271 | 1,624 | 51 | 60 | 614 |
| 2006 | 3,184 | 1,441 | 1,618 | 48 | 77 | 678 |
| 2007 | 3,042 | 1,499 | 1,460 | 40 | 43 | 611 |
| Total | 110,645 | 41,456 | 65,791 | 1,421 | 1,847 | 13,058 |

* Data for American Indian/Alaska Native and Asian/Pacific Islander not available for 1979-1980.

** Persons of Hispanic origin can be of any race. Hispanic data not available prior to 1990. For 1990 to 1996, a small number of states with small Hispanic populations did not include Hispanic identifiers in their reporting to the federal government.

Sources: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC WONDER, at <<http://wonder.cdc.gov/mortSQL.html>>, accessed December 2004; and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Control and Prevention, WISQARS, at <<http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/wisqars/>>, accessed December 2004, January 2006, December 2006, January 2008, April 2009, and June 2010.

Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

The number of children and teens killed by firearms increased in 19 states and the District of Columbia and decreased in 29 states between 2006 and 2007.

Firearm Deaths of Children and Teens, by Manner, 2005–2007

| | Total* | | | Homicide* | | | Suicide | | | Accident | | | Undetermined Intent | | |
|----------------------|--------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|---------|------|------|----------|------|------|---------------------|------|------|
| | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
| Alabama | 64 | 59 | 69 | 39 | 39 | 52 | 17 | 18 | 11 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Alaska | 13 | 17 | 14 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 8 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Arizona | 102 | 112 | 82 | 62 | 68 | 53 | 35 | 35 | 17 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 8 |
| Arkansas | 46 | 34 | 35 | 17 | 20 | 23 | 23 | 13 | 8 | 5 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| California | 474 | 511 | 431 | 392 | 435 | 376 | 54 | 54 | 43 | 25 | 20 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| Colorado | 44 | 46 | 33 | 19 | 22 | 13 | 20 | 19 | 16 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| Connecticut | 10 | 24 | 14 | 7 | 20 | 10 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Delaware | 7 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| District of Columbia | 26 | 23 | 26 | 26 | 22 | 25 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Florida | 148 | 172 | 176 | 96 | 122 | 136 | 46 | 37 | 31 | 5 | 11 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 6 |
| Georgia | 80 | 87 | 114 | 54 | 60 | 87 | 21 | 18 | 16 | 5 | 5 | 8 | 0 | 4 | 3 |
| Hawaii | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Idaho | 16 | 22 | 14 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 9 | 15 | 12 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Illinois | 130 | 154 | 150 | 111 | 133 | 128 | 13 | 16 | 17 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Indiana | 62 | 74 | 50 | 41 | 51 | 31 | 18 | 18 | 16 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Iowa | 15 | 28 | 15 | 4 | 11 | 4 | 10 | 15 | 10 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Kansas | 18 | 25 | 36 | 11 | 9 | 19 | 4 | 14 | 17 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Kentucky | 36 | 30 | 42 | 17 | 11 | 21 | 16 | 14 | 17 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Louisiana | 110 | 98 | 114 | 67 | 75 | 82 | 30 | 14 | 21 | 12 | 8 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Maine | 1 | 6 | 5 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Maryland | 75 | 79 | 82 | 64 | 66 | 73 | 10 | 10 | 9 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Massachusetts | 27 | 24 | 31 | 26 | 21 | 26 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Michigan | 92 | 128 | 119 | 65 | 93 | 92 | 23 | 32 | 23 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Minnesota | 42 | 28 | 27 | 16 | 17 | 11 | 23 | 11 | 16 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Mississippi | 30 | 41 | 50 | 12 | 24 | 20 | 9 | 6 | 16 | 7 | 9 | 13 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Missouri | 73 | 90 | 85 | 44 | 63 | 55 | 16 | 19 | 20 | 10 | 7 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 5 |
| Montana | 18 | 6 | 8 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 15 | 4 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Nebraska | 19 | 17 | 20 | 3 | 9 | 10 | 15 | 8 | 8 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Nevada | 34 | 41 | 38 | 20 | 26 | 27 | 14 | 14 | 9 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| New Hampshire | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| New Jersey | 45 | 58 | 53 | 40 | 54 | 50 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| New Mexico | 25 | 33 | 36 | 11 | 15 | 14 | 12 | 18 | 16 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| New York | 93 | 115 | 107 | 66 | 96 | 93 | 20 | 17 | 13 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| North Carolina | 91 | 94 | 91 | 58 | 60 | 67 | 26 | 27 | 17 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 0 |
| North Dakota | 11 | 10 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Ohio | 118 | 106 | 104 | 78 | 72 | 65 | 28 | 29 | 32 | 12 | 5 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Oklahoma | 35 | 46 | 45 | 19 | 30 | 24 | 12 | 12 | 16 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Oregon | 17 | 24 | 15 | 2 | 11 | 3 | 12 | 13 | 11 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Pennsylvania | 138 | 159 | 126 | 99 | 121 | 93 | 32 | 30 | 21 | 4 | 8 | 8 | 3 | 0 | 4 |
| Rhode Island | 7 | 5 | 0 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| South Carolina | 41 | 51 | 60 | 24 | 37 | 46 | 12 | 11 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| South Dakota | 11 | 9 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Tennessee | 77 | 69 | 61 | 48 | 43 | 40 | 22 | 21 | 19 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Texas | 264 | 237 | 250 | 164 | 162 | 160 | 84 | 58 | 73 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 3 | 3 | 2 |
| Utah | 10 | 15 | 15 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 7 | 13 | 9 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Vermont | 3 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Virginia | 79 | 66 | 76 | 54 | 40 | 57 | 22 | 21 | 19 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Washington | 44 | 38 | 32 | 20 | 13 | 16 | 21 | 19 | 15 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 0 |
| West Virginia | 19 | 10 | 10 | 9 | 4 | 3 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Wisconsin | 56 | 46 | 57 | 33 | 27 | 35 | 20 | 18 | 14 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Wyoming | 7 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| United States | 3,006 | 3,184 | 3,042 | 1,972 | 2,225 | 2,161 | 822 | 763 | 683 | 173 | 154 | 138 | 39 | 42 | 60 |

*Total firearm deaths and homicide firearm deaths exclude firearm deaths by legal (police or corrections) intervention.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, WISQARS, at <<http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/wisqars/>>. data accessed February 2008, April 2009, and June 2010. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Children and teens killed by gunfire in 2006 nearly equaled the total number of U.S. combat deaths in Iraq since the war started and were more than four times the number of American combat fatalities in Afghanistan.

It's Time to Stop the Deaths

U.S. Soldiers Killed in Action

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Revolutionary War, 1775–1783 | 4,435 |
| War of 1812, 1812–1815 | 2,260 |
| Mexican War, 1846–1848 | 1,733 |
| Civil War (Union Forces), 1861–1865 | 140,414 |
| Spanish-American War, 1898 | 385 |
| World War I, 1917–1918 | 53,402 |
| World War II, 1941–1945 | 291,557 |
| Korean War, 1950–1953 | 33,741 |
| Vietnam War, 1961–1973 | 47,424 |
| Persian Gulf War, 1990–1991 | 147 |
| Military fatalities by hostile action in Afghanistan (through May 1, 2010) | 762 |
| Military fatalities by hostile action in Iraq (through May 1, 2010) | 3,475 |
| Persons Killed in the Terrorist Attacks on 9/11 | 2,927 |

U.S. Firearm Deaths

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Firearm deaths in America since 1968 when Dr. King and Robert Kennedy were assassinated | 1,265,734 |
| Child and teen firearm deaths since 1979 | 110,645 |
| Children and teens killed by firearms in 2007 | 3,042 |

Source: U.S. Department of Defense, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Statistical Information Analysis Division, "Principal Wars in Which the United States Participated: U.S. Military Personnel Serving and Casualties," at <http://siadapp.dmdc.osd.mil/personnel/CASUALTY/WCPRINCIPAL.pdf>, "Operation Enduring Freedom: Military Deaths, October 1, 2001 through May 1, 2010," at <http://siadapp.dmdc.osd.mil/personnel/CASUALTY/oefdeaths.pdf>, and "Operation Iraqi Freedom: Military Deaths, March 19, 2003 through May 1, 2010," at <http://siadapp.dmdc.osd.mil/personnel/CASUALTY/oif-deaths-total.pdf>; and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Center for Health Statistics, Vital Statistics of the United States, various years; and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, WISQARS, at <http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/index.html>.

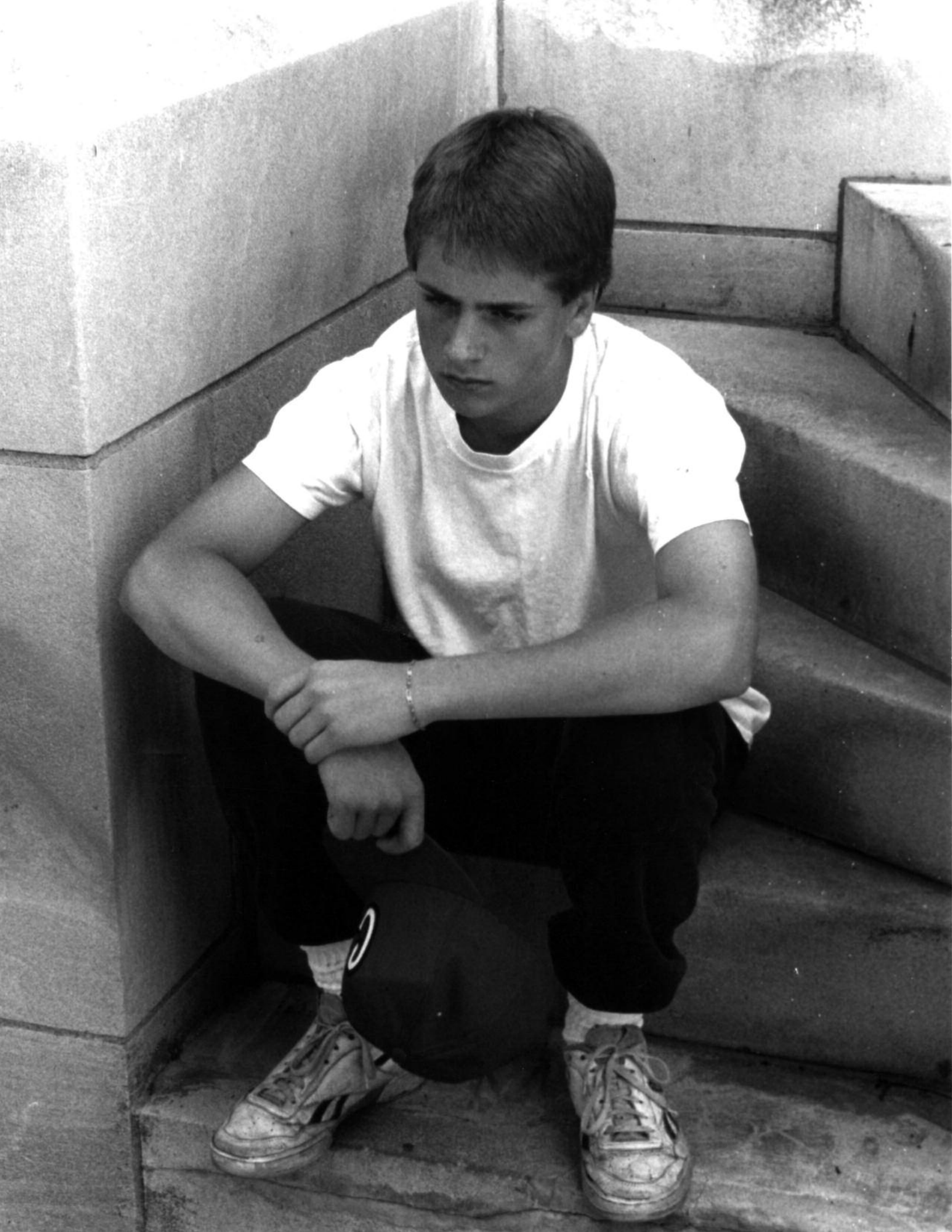
In 2007 almost one in five high school students admitted carrying a weapon; one-third of them brought the weapon to school. One in 18 high school students reported staying home from school because they felt unsafe at school or going to or from school.

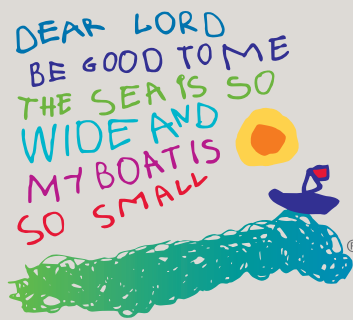
Violence and Risk Behaviors of High School Students, 2007

| | Total | Race/Ethnicity | | | Grade | | | |
|---|-------|----------------|-------|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | | White | Black | Hispanic | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| Carried a weapon | 18.0% | 18.2% | 17.2% | 18.5% | 20.1% | 18.8% | 16.7% | 15.5% |
| Carried a gun | 5.2 | 4.3 | 6.2 | 6.2 | 5.2 | 5.5 | 4.6 | 5.0 |
| Carried a weapon to school | 5.9 | 5.3 | 6.0 | 7.3 | 6.0 | 5.8 | 5.5 | 6.0 |
| Threatened or injured with a weapon on school property | 7.8 | 6.9 | 9.7 | 8.7 | 9.2 | 8.4 | 6.8 | 6.3 |
| In a physical fight | 35.5 | 31.7 | 44.7 | 40.4 | 40.9 | 36.2 | 34.8 | 28.0 |
| Injured in a physical fight | 4.2 | 3.0 | 5.3 | 6.3 | 5.6 | 3.7 | 3.5 | 3.3 |
| In a physical fight on school property | 12.4 | 10.2 | 17.6 | 15.5 | 17.0 | 11.7 | 11.0 | 8.6 |
| Did not go to school because felt unsafe at school or on way to/from school | 5.5 | 4.0 | 6.6 | 9.6 | 6.6 | 5.4 | 4.7 | 4.8 |

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Surveillance Summaries, "Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance – United States, 2007," MMWR, Vol. 57, No. SS-4 (June 6, 2008), Tables 7, 9, 13, 15 and 17.

**For more information on the State of America's Children,
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Children's Defense Fund