

## Youth Violence

In 2002, more than 877,700 young people ages 10 to 24 were injured from violent acts. Approximately 1 in 13 required hospitalization.

Homicide is the second leading cause of death among young people ages 10 to 24 overall. In this age group, it is the leading cause of death for African-Americans, the second leading cause of death for Hispanics, and the third leading cause of death for American Indians, Alaskan Natives, and Asian Pacific Islanders.

In 2001, 5,486 young people ages 10 to 24 were murdered—an average of 15 each day.

Between 1994 and 1999, 172 students ages 5 to 18 were killed on or near school grounds or at school-related activities.

In a nationwide survey, 17% of students reported carrying a weapon (e.g., gun, knife, or club) on one or more days in the 30 days preceding the survey.

Among students nationwide, 33% reported being in a physical fight one or more times in the 12 months preceding the survey.

## Who's at Risk

Among 10 to 24 year olds, homicide is the leading cause of death for African-Americans, the second leading cause of death for Hispanics, and the third leading cause of death for American Indians, Alaskan Natives, and Asian Pacific Islanders.

Of the 5,486 homicides reported in the 10 to 24 age group in 2001, 85% (4,659) were males and 15% (827) were females.

A nationwide survey found male students (41%) more likely to have been involved in a physical fight than female students (25%) in the 12 months preceding the survey.

To learn more about Youth Violence and Who's at Risk, visit:  
[www.cdc.gov/ncipc/factsheets/yvfacts.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/factsheets/yvfacts.htm)

## **Teens & Guns**

During the late 1980's and early 1990's, teen gun violence increased dramatically in the United States. More and more teens began to acquire and carry guns, leading to a sharp increase in gun deaths and injuries.

In recent years, however, it appears that the tide has begun to turn. Fewer teens are carrying guns now, and gun-related murders and suicides have begun to decline. Even so, many teens still illegally carry guns and harm others and themselves.

A recent study found that 43% of households in the U.S. with children and teens had at least one gun. More than 1 in 5 gun owners with children under 18 said that they stored their weapons loaded, and about 1 in 11 said that their weapons were stored loaded and unlocked.

Guns are the number one way that teens take their own lives. Almost 60% of teen suicide deaths in recent years have involved guns. In 1999, 1,062 teens killed themselves with guns - almost 3 on average every day of the year. Another study found that parents owned the guns used in more than half of the teen suicides and suicide attempts.

In a 1999 National survey, almost 1 in 10 male high school students reported having carried a gun in the last 30 days. Also in 1999, 1,210 juveniles were arrested for killing people with guns. And, for every person killed with a gun, another 3 people are treated in hospital emergency rooms for non-accidental gun injuries. There were over 37,000 teen gun arrests in 2000.

Visit [www.safeyouth.org](http://www.safeyouth.org) to learn more about Teens & Guns.