

# SAFE STORAGE PROTECTS CHILDREN



Guns are the leading cause of death for children in the U.S. Suicide is the second leading cause of adolescent death.

The most lethal means of suicide attempts? **Firearm.**

The source of guns used in 79% of youth firearm suicides? **Family.**

The source of guns used in 76% of school shootings? **Family.**

The proportion of teens who report having access to a firearm? **44%.**

The proportion of teens with depression/suicidal risk who have access to a firearm? **27%.**

The gun safety policy found to be one of the most effective?  
**Requiring safe storage.**



HOW  
TO  
HELP!

## ASSESS FAMILY RISK

Determine whether now is the right time to have a gun in your home. Consider storing guns off property.

## STORE FIREARMS SECURELY

Use gun safes, the most secure option, or gun locks. Most law enforcement agencies and many healthcare providers offer free gun locks.

## LEVERAGE CREDIBLE MESSENGERS

Gun owners may prefer safe storage information from firearm businesses, law enforcement, or hunting organizations.

## STRENGTHEN GUN SAFETY LAWS

Require secure storage for all firearms and bolster Child Access Prevention laws to ensure the safety of all children ages 0-18.

SOURCES: JAMA Pediatrics, 2025. [Firearm Laws and Pediatric Mortality in the US.](#) | Journal of the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, 2025. [A National Evaluation of the Impact of Child Access Prevention Laws on Rates of Youth Suicide and Other Youth Firearm Deaths](#) | Pediatrics, 2023. [Firearms Availability Among High-School Age Youth with Recent Depression or Suicidality](#) | Preventative Medicine, 2022. [Who owned the gun in firearm suicides of men, women, and youth in five US states](#)



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