

FIREARM RELATED STATISTICS

NATIONAL FIREARM FACTS

Firearms are second to motor vehicles as the leading cause of death from injury in the U.S. (Public Health Data Watch, August 2000, Public Health—Seattle & King County).

60.9% of the total number of firearms used in school associated-homicides or suicides came from the perpetrator's home or from a friend or relative of the perpetrator (Source of Firearms Used by Students in School-Associated Violent Deaths—United States, 1992-1999, MMWR Weekly, March 7, 2003/52(09); 169-172).

WASHINGTON STATE FIREARM FACTS

2,702 Washington residents died as a result of firearms between 1997 and 2001, including 287 children less than 20 years old (WA State DOH, Center for Health Statistics, Death Records—August 2002 Release).

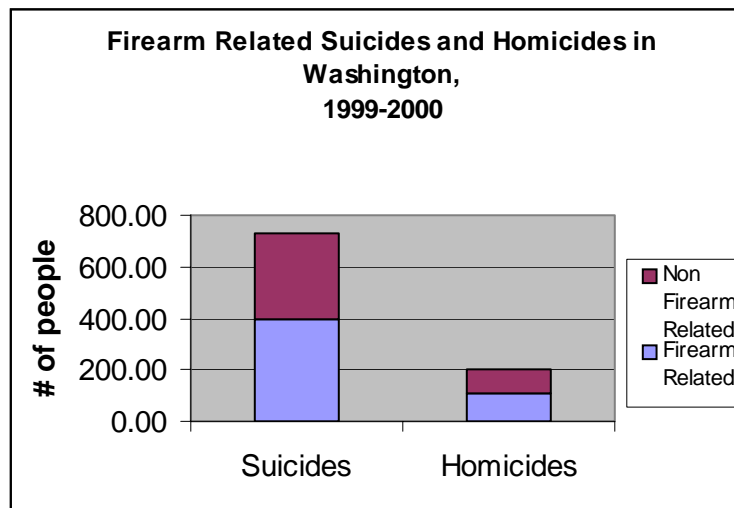
1,289 residents were hospitalized for non-fatal firearm-related injuries between 1997 and 2001, including 293 children less than 20 years old (WA State DOH, Center for Health Statistics, Office of Hospital & Patient Data, CHARS—February 2003 Release).

In Washington, 55% of suicides are committed with firearms (The Health of Washington State, 2002: WA State DOH).

More than half (56%) of homicides in Washington are committed with firearms (The Health of Washington State, 2002: WA State DOH).

The second leading cause of fatal injuries in Washington between 1997-2001 was suicide by firearm (WA State DOH, Center for Health Statistics, Death Records—August 2002 Release).

Firearms are present in approximately 711,000 (33.1%) of Washington households. Of these households, 394,000 (18.5%) store their guns unlocked, and 148,000 (6.9%) store their guns loaded (WA State Department of Health, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2000).



KING COUNTY FIREARM FACTS

Firearms are second to motor vehicles as the leading cause of death from injury in King County (Public Health Data Watch, August 2000, Public Health—Seattle & King County).

In King County, firearms were the leading suicidal injury mode and the leading homicidal method between 1997- 2001 (King County Medical Examiner's Office—2001 Annual Report).

636 fatal injuries in King County between 1997 - 2001 were due to firearms (WA State DOH, Center for Health Statistics, Death Records—August 2002 Release)

Firearms were responsible for 457 of the non-fatal injury hospitalizations in King County between 1997 - 2001 (WA State DOH, Office of Hospital and Patient Data, CHARS—February 2003 Release).

Firearms are present in an estimated 143,605 (20.2%) of King County households. Approximately 80,000 (20.5%) of these households have children under 18 (EPE, Public Health—Seattle & King County & Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2000).

An estimated 79,000 (11.1%) King County households keep their guns unlocked. Approximately 36,000 (5.1%) households in King County have loaded guns. Furthermore, an estimated 25,000 (3.5%) households in King County store firearms *loaded and unlocked* (Public Health—Seattle & King County & Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2000).

An estimated 32,000 (8.3%) of King County children reside in homes where firearms are unlocked, approximately 7,000 (1.8%) King County children live in homes where firearms are loaded, and an estimated 2,000 (0.5%) children reside in homes where the guns are stored both *loaded and unlocked* (EPE, Public Health—Seattle & King County & Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2000).

Total King County Households with Firearms	143,605
Firearms loaded and unlocked	25,000
Firearms unlocked and children present	32,000
Firearms loaded and children present	7,000
Firearms loaded, unlocked, and children present	2,000