



Secure Storage in New Mexico

Recent Gun Safety Reforms

- Background Checks on Gun Sales
- Disarming Domestic Abusers
- Extreme Risk Protection Orders
- Qualified Immunity Reform



Addressing Gun Violence in New Mexico

- 9th-highest rate of gun homicide deaths
 - Violence Intervention Program Funding
- 2nd-highest rate of fatal police shootings
 - Police Reform
- 5th-highest rate of gun suicide deaths
 - Secure Storage



Background on the Policy

Gun owners can make their homes and communities safer by storing their guns securely. This means storing them locked, unloaded, and separate from ammunition. Securing firearms protects children and adults by preventing unintentional shootings and gun suicides.



Background on the Policy

Experts agree: In order to prevent access, secure gun storage practices should include three methods employed in combination—unloading the ammunition, locking the firearm, and storing the firearm and ammunition in separate locations



Background on the Policy

- Gun owners should remove all ammunition from the firearm, including removing any chambered rounds
- Unloaded firearms should be secured with a firearm locking device, such as a jacket lock, or in a locked location, like a safe or lock box. Locking devices, safes, and lock boxes are equipped with keys, combinations, or biometric technology that limit access. Remember: Firearm locks do not prevent gun theft.
- Ammunition should be stored separately from the firearm in a secure location.



KEY FINDINGS



Access to unsecured firearms contributes to gun violence among children and teens.

Every year, nearly 350 children under the age of 18 unintentionally shoot themselves or someone else. That's roughly one unintentional shooting per day, and 70 percent of these incidents take place inside a home. Another 700 children die by gun suicide each year, most often using guns belonging to a family member.

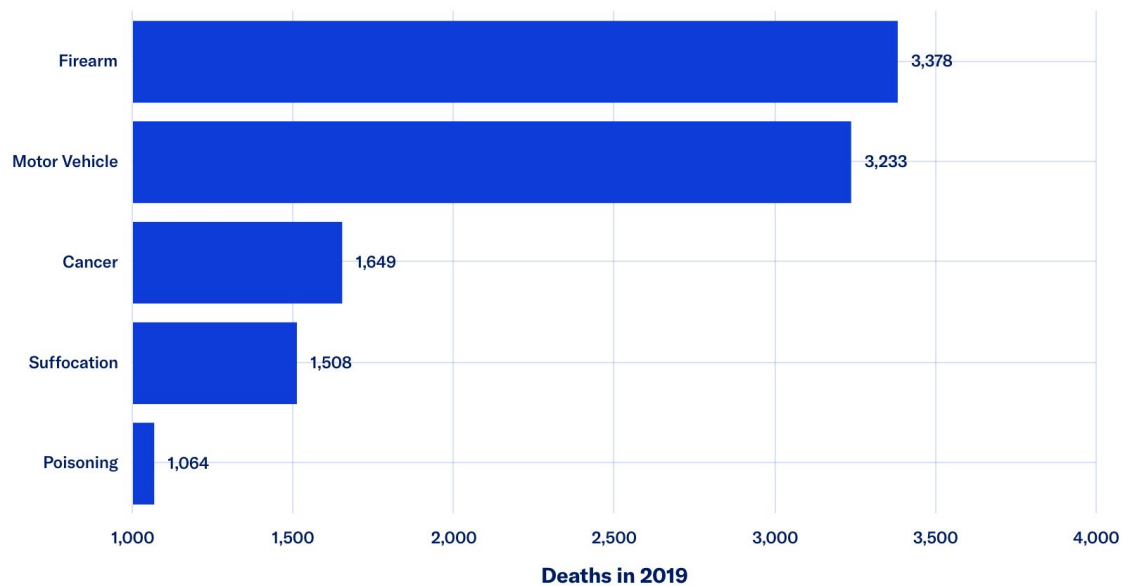


**1/3 of youth suicides and
unintentional deaths are
prevented by securing
guns.**



National Data

Firearms are the leading cause of death for American children and teens.



The Problem in New Mexico

Guns are the leading cause of death among children and teens in New Mexico. In New Mexico, an average of 32 children and teens die by guns every year, and 48% of these deaths are homicides. In the US, 58% of all gun deaths among children and teens are homicides.



The Solution in New Mexico

Strong secure storage legislation requires that a firearm must be securely stored when not under the control or carried by the person who owns or possesses the firearm. This can be achieved by securing the firearm with a trigger or cable lock or in a locked container, and is to be locked and maintained for the storage of firearms.



The Solution in New Mexico

- The violations for a storage requirement can vary depending on the conduct
- A gun that is not securely stored in the presence of a child can lead to a new level of a violation, increasing the penalty
- Penalties may also increase if and when a child gains access to an unsecured firearm and/or inflicts harm



Other States

- Six states and the District of Columbia have laws mandating that owners secure their firearms. In addition, several cities, including New York City and San Francisco, have local firearm storage ordinances requiring gun owners to secure their firearms when they are not in their possession.
- Fourteen states have passed another form of secure gun storage laws, known as child access prevention (CAP) laws. These laws vary by state but generally stipulate that if a minor accesses a firearm, the person who failed to adequately secure the firearm is liable. Four states have storage laws that are aimed at preventing access to firearms by persons legally prohibited from having guns.



Questions?

