

# *KIDS and GUNS*



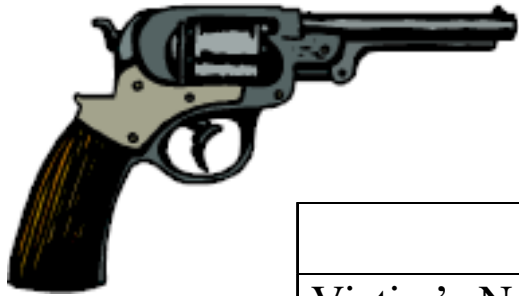
## *New Mexico's Data Collection System for Children's Firearm Injury Deaths*

*Bill Jordan*

*Deputy Director*

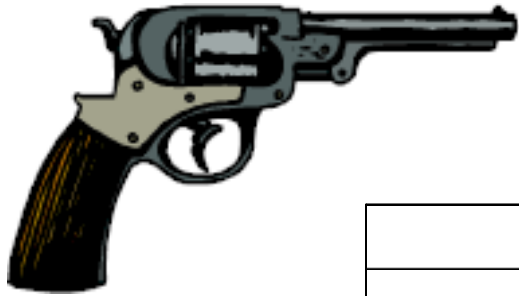
*New Mexico Advocates for Children and Families  
and the  
New Mexico Coalition Against Youth Gun Violence*

# Data Sources



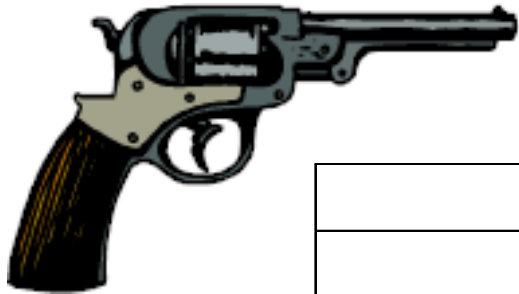
<b>Data Collected</b>	<b>Source of Data</b>
Victim's Name, Case Number, Identifiers	OMI
Address or County	OMI
Next of Kin info	OMI
Age/Date of birth	OMI
Gender	OMI
Ethnicity/Race	OMI
Incident Date	OMI
Date of Death	OMI
Location of Incident: home, car, street, etc.	OMI, Police reports
Manner of death: S/H/A/L/U	OMI, Police reports

# Data Sources



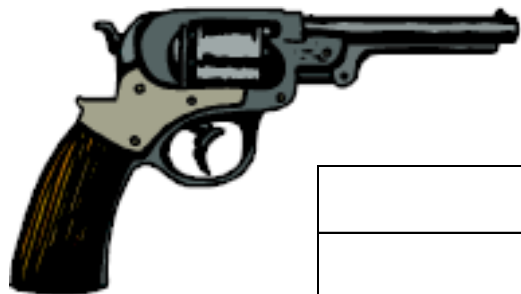
<b>FIREARM INFO</b>	
<b>Data Collected</b>	<b>Source of Data</b>
Type of Firearm	OMI, Police reports, family interview
Make and Model	OMI, Police reports, family interview
Serial Number	OMI, Police reports, family interview
Gun safety and storage info	OMI, Police reports, family interview
Source of gun	OMI, Police reports, family interview

# Data Sources



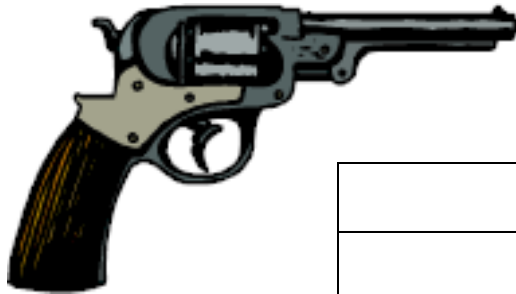
<b>DECEDENT INFO</b>	
<b>Data Collected</b>	<b>Source of Data</b>
Experience with firearms	OMI, Police reports, family interview
Toxicology	OMI
School status	Family interview, school records
Mental health hx (and prior suicide attempts, hx of abuse)	Family interview, school records, Child Protective Services
Prior arrest record	Police reports and rap sheets
Relationship status/hx	OMI, Police reports, family interview

# Data Sources



<b>DECEDENT INFO</b>	
<b>Data Collected</b>	<b>Source of Data</b>
Experience with firearms	OMI, Police reports, family interview
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Mental health hx ( and prior suicide attempts, hx of abuse)	Family interview, school records, Child Protective Services
Prior arrest record	Police reports and rap sheets
Relationship status/hx	OMI, Police reports, family interview

# Data Sources



<b>PERPETRATOR INFO</b>	
<b>Data Collected</b>	<b>Source of Data</b>
Toxicology or hx of drug/alcohol use	Police records and background checks, family interview
School status	School records, family interview
Prior arrest record	Police reports and rap sheets
Mental health hx, hx of abuse, witness to violence?	Police records, rap sheets, Child Protective Services, family interview, court records

# Data Sources



<b>INTENTIONALITY</b>	
<b>Data Collected</b>	<b>Source of Data</b>
Victim/Perpetrator acquainted?	OMI, Police reports, family interview
Gang related?	Police reports
During commission of another crime?	OMI, Police reports
Description of motive/intent	Panel review

# *Data Sources*

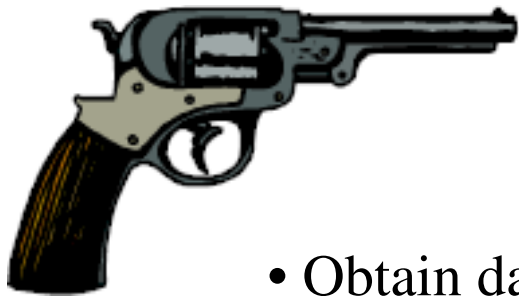


Other data ...

- Financial difficulties
- Church/community or sports activity
- Family makeup and hx
- Hate crime?



# *Family Interview*



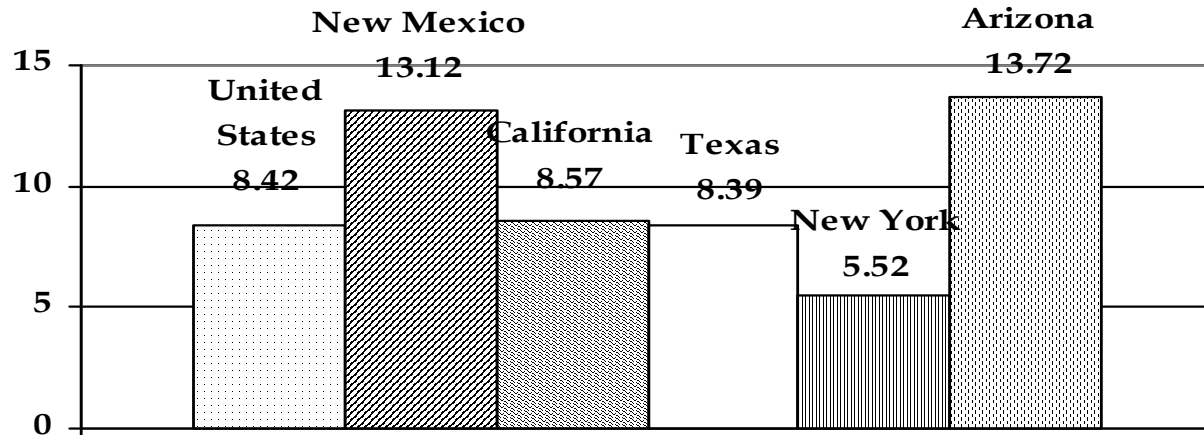
- Obtain data for the case review
- Offer support to the family by giving them an opportunity to talk about their loved one
- Offer the family members an opportunity to channel their grief and anger into action to prevent future gun deaths by getting involved in your project
- Offer resources for grief counseling, survivor support groups, victim's reparation funds, etc.

# *Family Interview*



- Take time; be prepared to take as much time as the family needs
- Explain why you are interviewing them and how the information they share will be used
- Assure them of confidentiality, but offer them the opportunity to tell their loved one's story
- Be compassionate and understanding, never judgmental

# *Rates of Firearm Deaths Ages 0-24: National and by State*



# *Firearm Deaths by Manner of Death*



	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>5 Year Total</b>
<b>Suicide</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>181 (43%)</b>
<b>Homicide</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>212 (50%)</b>
<b>Accidental/ Negligent</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>13 (3%)</b>
<b>By Law Enforcement</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9 (2%)</b>
<b>Undetermined</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>13 (3%)</b>

Source: Office of the Medical Investigator, N.M. Dept. of Health Vital Records

# *Firearm Deaths by Gender*



	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>5 Year Total</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>379 (89%)</b>
<b>Female</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>49 (11%)</b>

Source: Office of the Medical Investigator, N.M. Dept. of Health Vital Records

# Firearm Deaths by Ethnicity\*



	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	5 Year Total
<b>Hispanic</b>	47	44	55	52	60	258 (60%)
<b>Anglo</b>	19	28	20	20	20	107 (25%)
<b>African American</b>	5	8	3	3	6	25 (6%)
<b>Native American</b>	8	4	8	12	4	36 (8%)
<b>Unknown</b>	0	0	1	1	0	2 (<1%)

\*Ethnicity is determined by Deputy Medical Investigator on the scene of the incident.

Source: Office of the Medical Investigator, N.M. Dept. of Health Vital Records

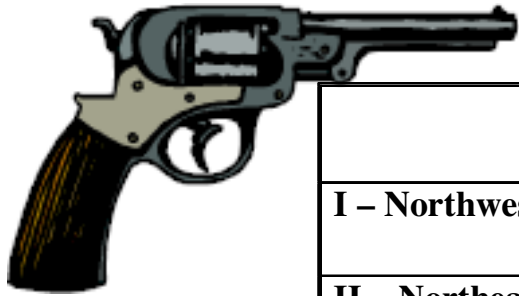
# Firearm Deaths by Age



	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	5 Year Total
<16	9	14	9	9	5	46 (11%)
16-18	24	21	32	25	35	137 (32%)
19-21	26	24	25	33	26	134 (31%)
22-24	20	25	21	21	24	111 (26%)

Source: Office of the Medical Investigator, N.M. Dept. of Health Vital Records

# Firearm Deaths by Region



	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	5 Year Total
I – Northwest	11		17	15	11	58 (14%)
II – Northeast	4	8	10	5	9	36 (8%)
III – Southwest	7	16	10	12	18	63 (15%)
IV-Southeast	9	22	12	10	16	69 (16%)
V – Bernalillo County	40	28	36	42	31	177 (41%)
VI – Santa Fe County	8	6	2	4	4	20 (5%)
Unknown	0	0	0	0	1	1 (<1%)

The regions correspond to the four Public health Districts. Bernalillo County and Santa Fe County have been excluded from Region I and Region II respectively.

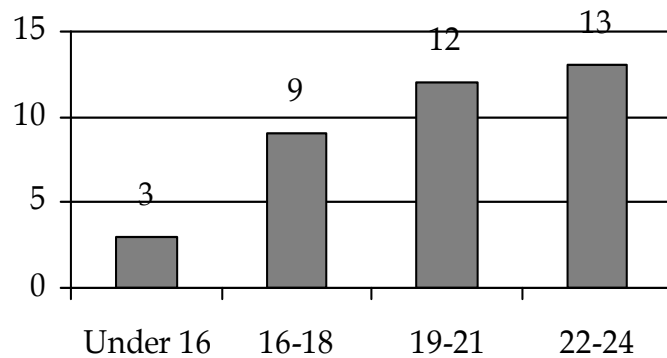
Source: Office of the Medical Investigator, N.M. Dept. of Health Vital Records



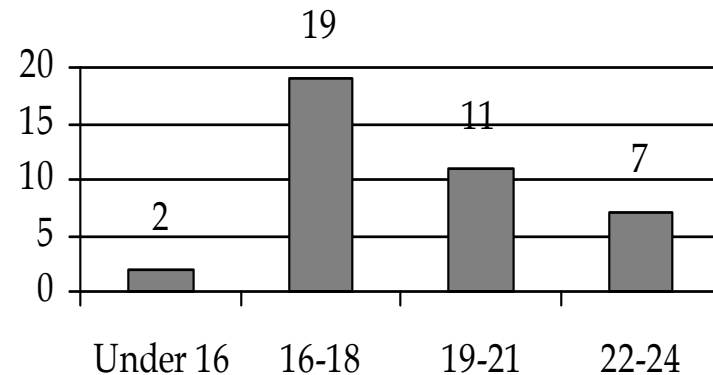
# 1998 Suicide and Homicide Deaths By Firearm, 0-24



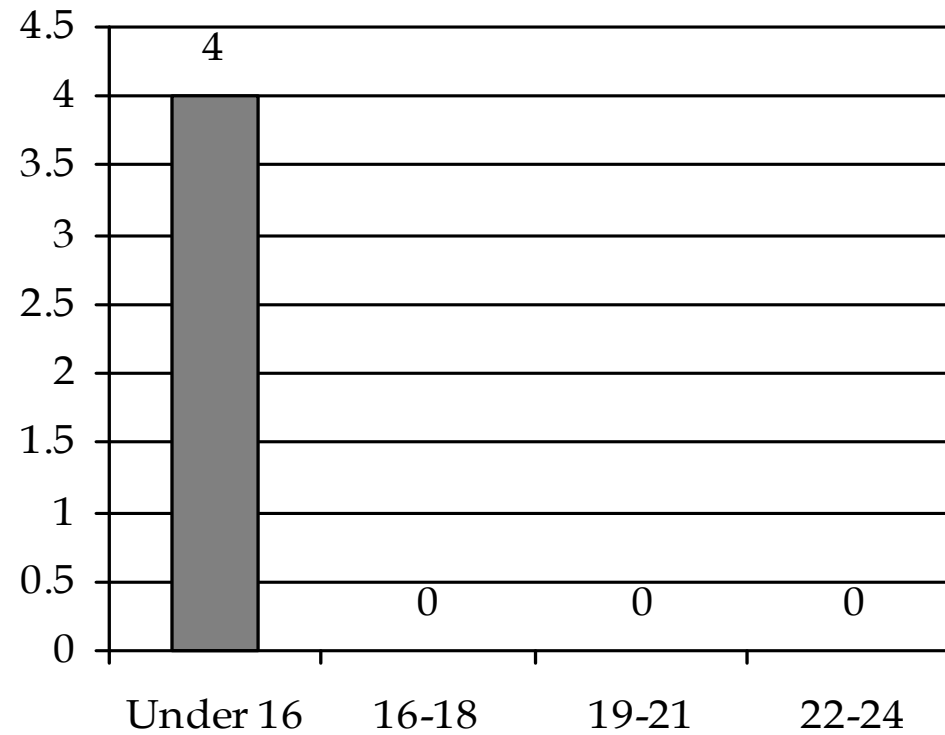
## Suicide



## Homicide



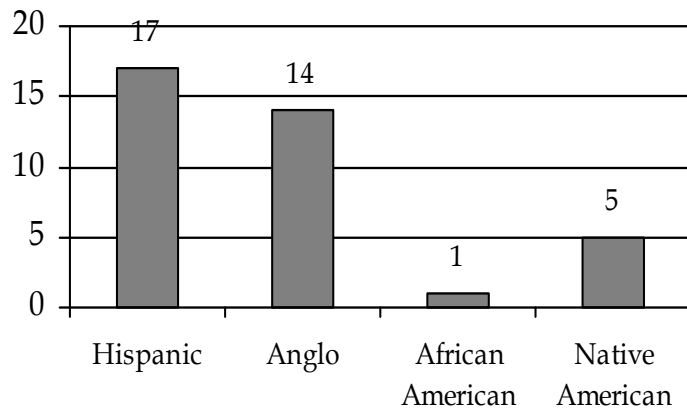
# 1998 Accidental/Negligent Firearm Deaths



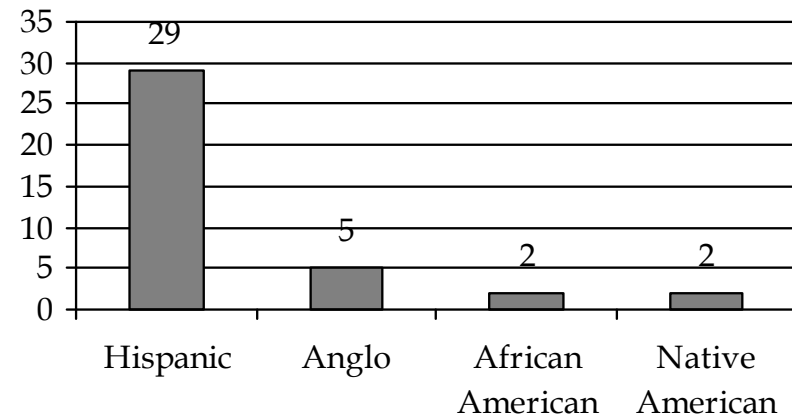
# 1998 Suicide and Homicide By Race, 0-24



## Suicide



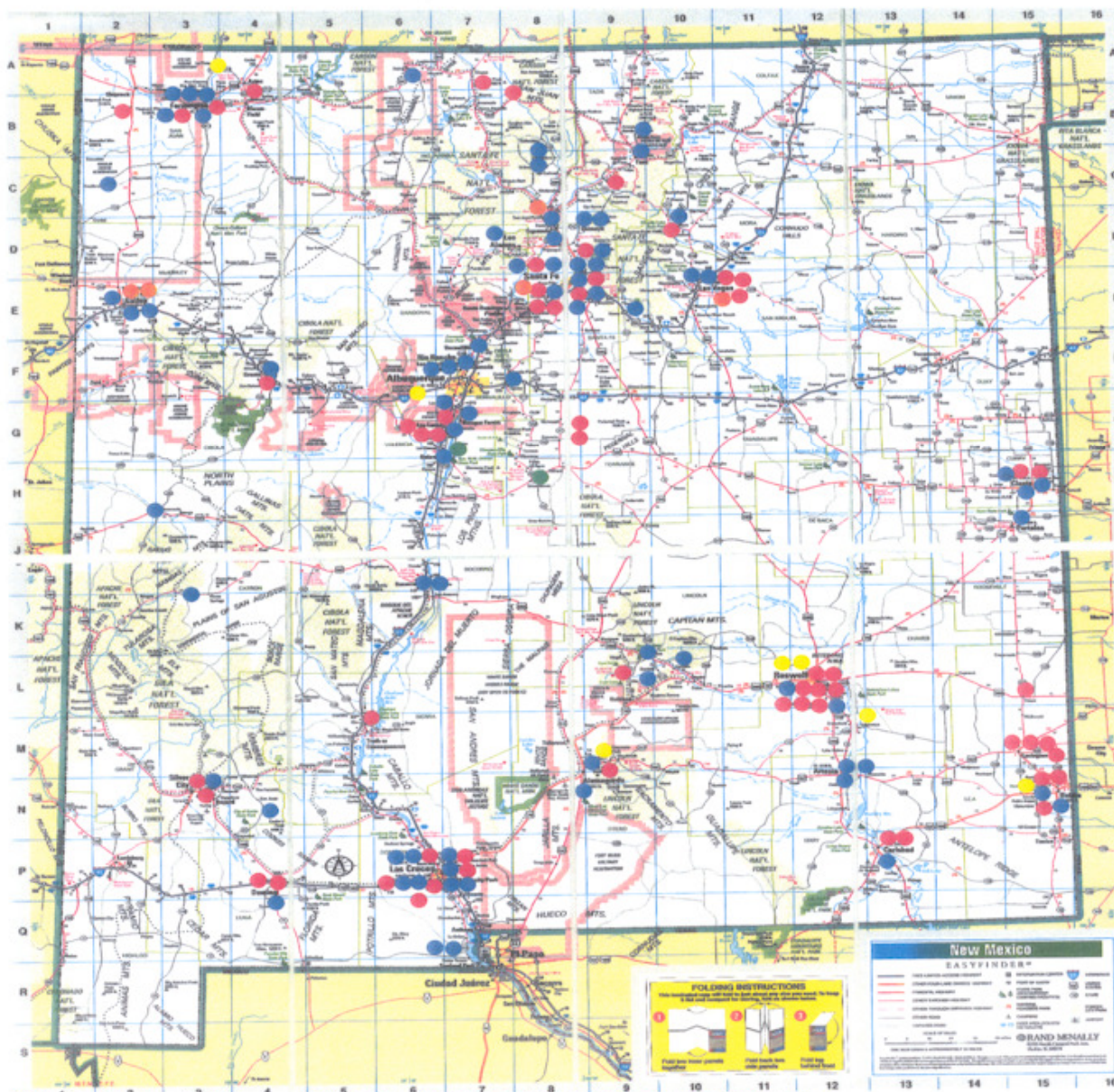
## Homicide



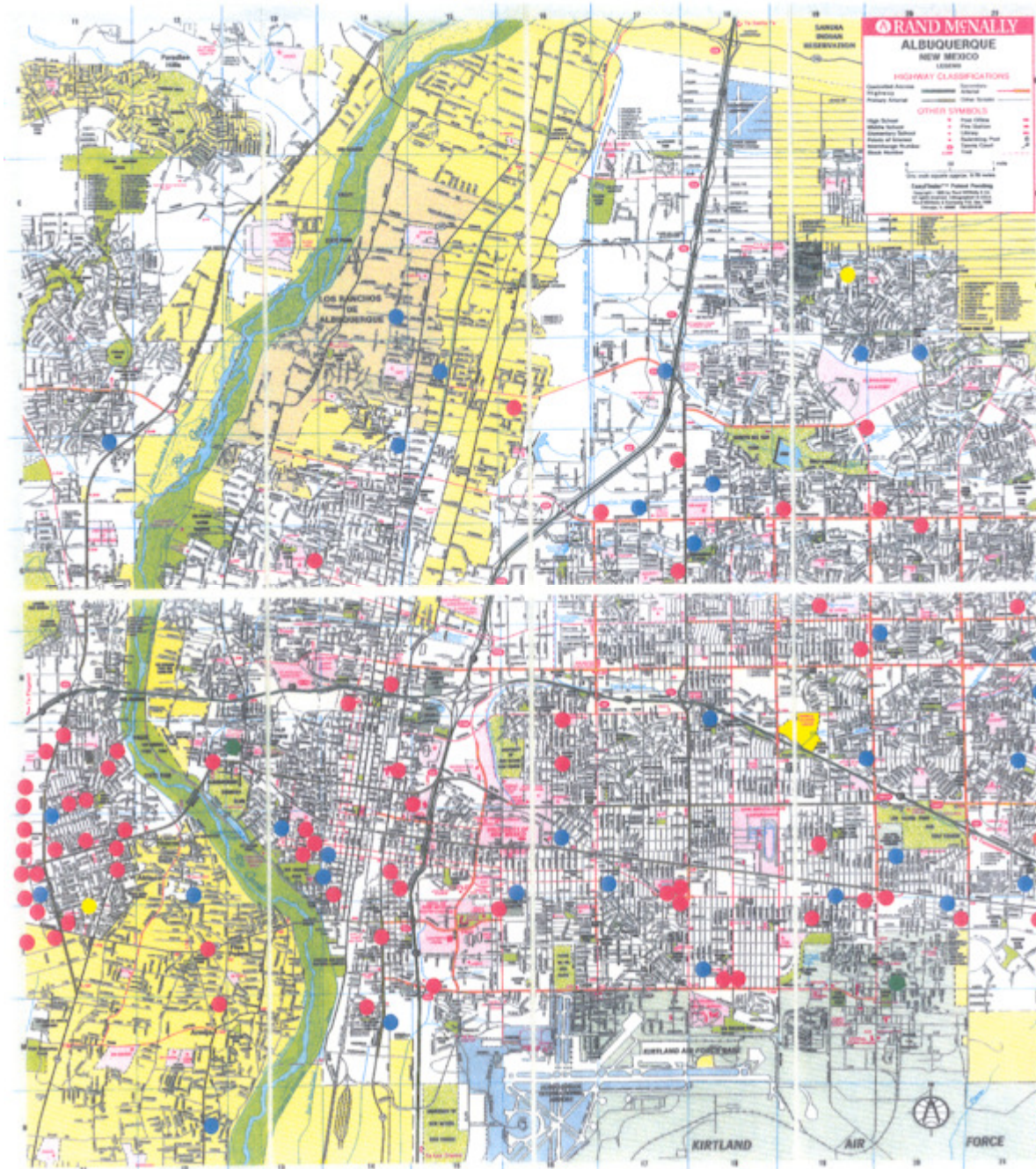
# New Mexico Youth Gun Deaths, Ages 0 – 24, 1996 – 1998

(New Mexico and Albuquerque Area Maps)

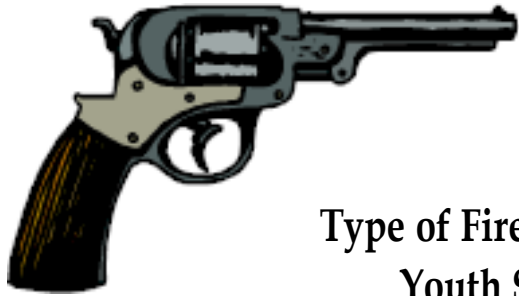
- HOMICIDE
- SUICIDE
- ACCIDENT / NEGLIGENCE
- BY LAW ENFORCEMENT
- UNDETERMINED



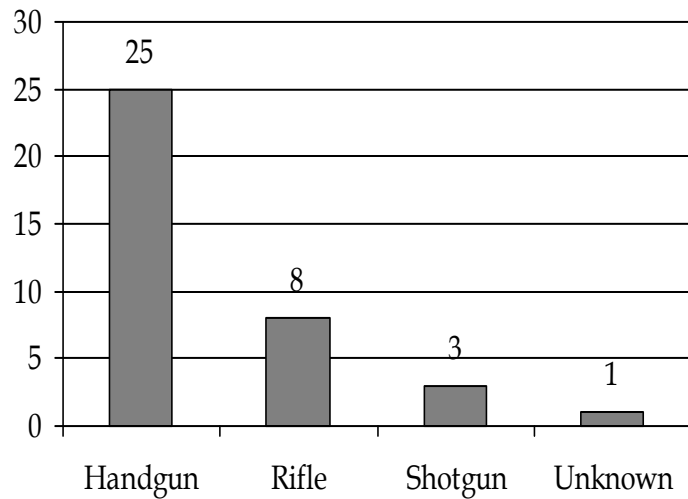




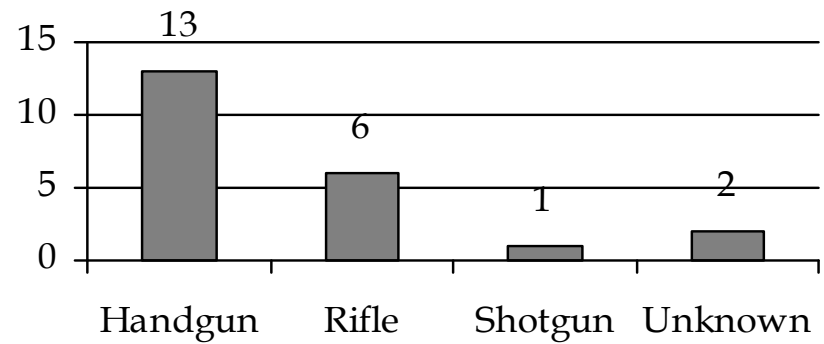
# Type of Firearm Used



**Type of Firearm Used in Youth Suicides**



**Type of Firearm Used in Youth Homicides**



# *Source of the Firearm in Youth Suicides, 1997-1998*



- Family (25) or Friend (5) 30
- Victims own gun 14
- Stolen 1
- Total 45

# New Mexico's Firearm Injury Surveillance Report Form



Emergency Department—NM Firearm Injury Surveillance System [ED-NMFISS]

PASTE PATIENT ID LABEL HERE

*If you attach the patient label, do not re-enter any information that is on the label (For example the "0" items below.)*

1. Hospital/facility name \_\_\_\_\_
2. \*Treatment Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Month Day 4-digit Year
3. \*Medical Record Number \_\_\_\_\_
4. \*Patient's Name: (Last, First, Middle initial) \_\_\_\_\_
5. \*Birthdate: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ OR Age \_\_\_\_ Unknown   
Month Day 4-digit Year
6. City of Residence (Do not enter post office box or rural route): \_\_\_\_\_ Unknown
7. State of Residence: \_\_\_\_\_ Unknown
8. ZIPcode \_\_\_\_\_ Unknown

<p>9. Gender</p> <p>Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>12. Body Region(s) Injured (Check all that apply):</p> <p>Abdomen/pelvis <input type="checkbox"/> Back <input type="checkbox"/> Chest <input type="checkbox"/> Head/neck <input type="checkbox"/>          Arm/hand <input type="checkbox"/> Leg/foot <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>10. Race</p> <p>White <input type="checkbox"/> Black <input type="checkbox"/> Native American <input type="checkbox"/>          Asian/Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>13. Firearm Wound Type (Check all that apply):</p> <p>Bullet <input type="checkbox"/> BB <input type="checkbox"/> Pellet <input type="checkbox"/> Shotgun <input type="checkbox"/>          Blunt trauma with gun (e.g. pistol-whipped) <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>11. Ethnicity</p> <p>Hispanic <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Hispanic <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>14. ED Discharge Status:</p> <p>Home/self <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitalized <input type="checkbox"/> Left-AMA <input type="checkbox"/>          Dies in Ed <input type="checkbox"/> DOA at ED <input type="checkbox"/>          Transferred to _____ <input type="checkbox"/>          Unknown <input type="checkbox"/></p>

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

SUBMIT directly by

MAIL to: ED-NMFISS, Office of Epidemiology, New Mexico Department of Health, P.O. Box 26110, Santa Fe, NM 87502-6110  
 OR

TELEPHONE to the answering machine 1-800-432-4404 and READ IN data, stating item and then patient facts.

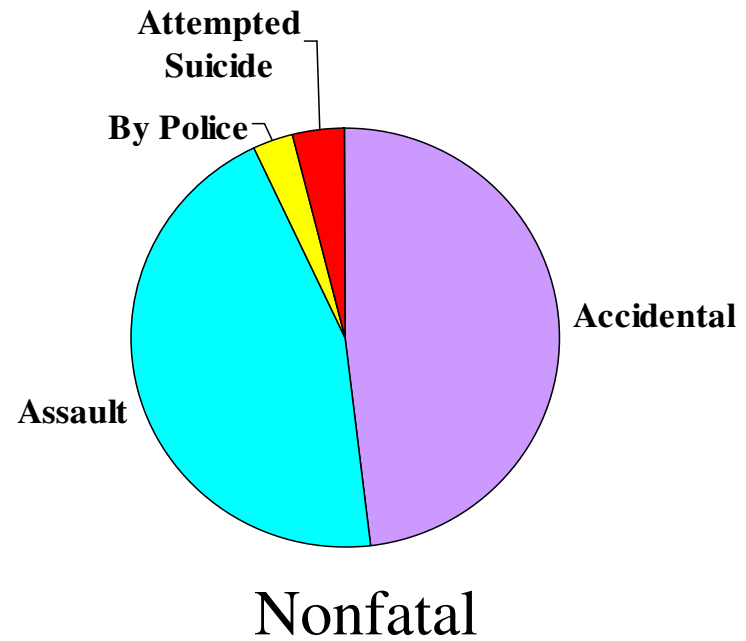
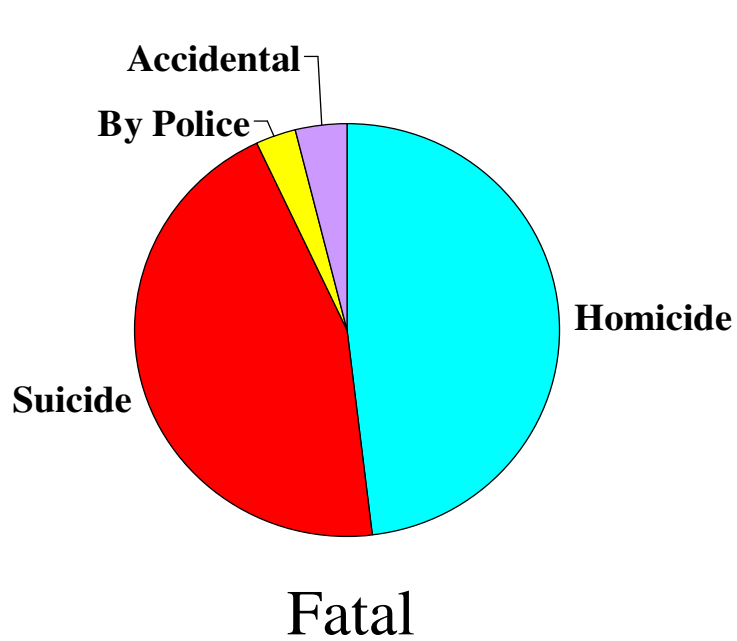
Have any questions? Please call Isaac Romero (505) 827-2694 or Barbara Chatterjee (505) 476-3563. All data you submit is treated as confidential. PLEASE **SUBMIT DATA WITHIN 4 DAYS OF ED VISIT.**

Thank you for providing these data.

NMFISSARMED data form 21.doc 12/07/00



# Fatal vs. Nonfatal Firearm Injuries

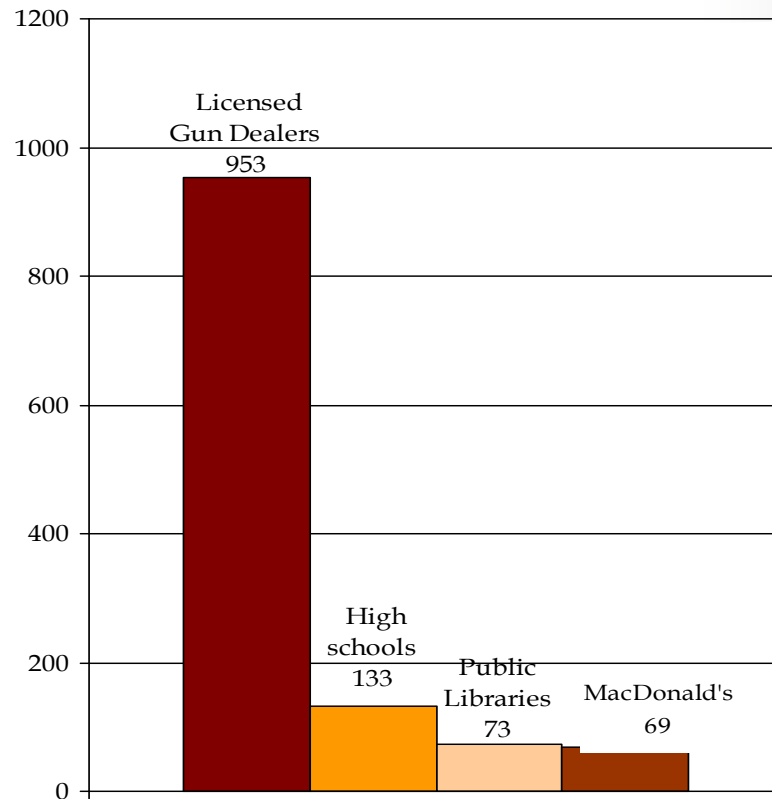


# *Prevention Recommendations*

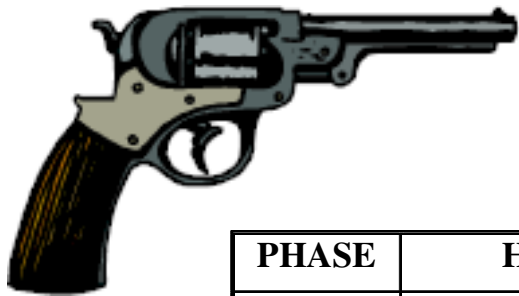


- Administrative
- Parents and Gun Owners
  - School System
- Mental Health System
- Juvenile Justice System
  - Law Enforcement
  - Legislative

# Comparison of the Number of New Mexico Gun Dealers



# Haddon Matrix



PHASE	HOST (HUMAN)	FIREARM	ENVIRONMENT
Pre-injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gun safety and hunter safety education</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integrated safety devices</li> <li>Child safety locks</li> <li>Lead indicators</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tougher enforcement of gun access laws</li> <li>High visibility police in hot spots</li> <li>Mental health programs available to at-risk youth</li> <li>Prohibit firearms in schools, airport, etc.</li> </ul>
Injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bullet proof vests</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regulations to reduce the lethality of guns and bullets</li> <li>Design and performance standards for guns produced in the US</li> </ul>	
Post-injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Surveillance, data analysis and dissemination of results</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gun Tracing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EMS and rehab services</li> <li>Arrest and conviction of perpetrator</li> </ul>



# *Who is strong enough to fire a gun?*



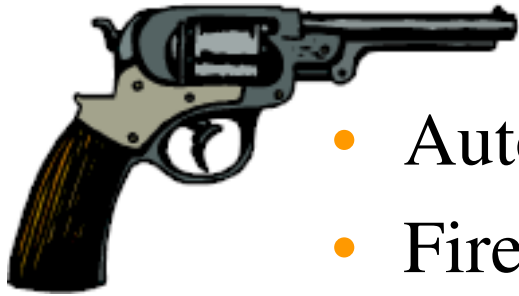
- 25% of 3- to 4-year olds
- 70% of 5- to 6-year olds
- 90% of 7- to 8-year olds

*Children who witness violence  
are more like to:*



- develop risk-taking behaviors
- abuse alcohol or drugs
- imitate violent acts
- use violence as a means to resolve conflict
- develop mental health problems

# *New Mexico Causes of Death, Ages 0-18, 1998*



- Auto/truck accident injuries 55
- Firearm injury 42
- Congenital defect 31
- Prematurity 26
- SIDS 14
- Pneumonia 12
- Respiratory Distress Syndrome 12
- Asphyxia 10

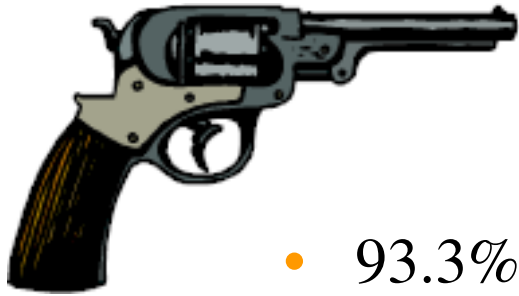


## *In 1996, Firearms Murdered:*



- 2 persons in New Zealand
- 13 in Australia
- 15 in Japan
- 30 in Great Britain
- 106 in Canada
- 114 in New Mexico

*New Mexico Criminal and Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council Statistical Analysis Center, in 1997 reports that:*



- 93.3% of juvenile delinquents reported it was easy or very easy to get a gun.
- 70% said they could get a gun within one day.
- the average number of guns owned was eight (8)
- the average age by which they kept a gun was 12.5 years
- only 5.5% received their gun as a gift from a parent or relative

## *New Mexico data shows:*



- over 40% of households with children have a gun
- sixth highest rate of firearm fatalities in the nation (1996)
- seventh highest rate of youth suicide (1997)
- 2/3 of youth suicides are completed with a gun
- 2/3 of youth homicides are completed with a gun

# *Recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics:*



The safest choice to reduce  
firearm injuries is to remove  
guns from environments where  
children live and play

*For those who must keep a gun in  
the home:*



- Keep the gun unloaded and locked up
- Lock and store bullets in a separate location
- Make sure children don't have access to keys

# *When families don't keep guns in their own homes:*



- Talk about the risks that guns pose
- Find out if the families of friends keep a gun in the home
- Urge families to dispose of guns safely, or else empty them out and lock them up



- Counsel families about guns when there is any chance of adolescent depression or mental illness

## *Be a political advocate!*



- Learn the issues
- Support candidates who will work to decrease firearm injuries
- Write and call policymakers
- Join the efforts of local advocacy groups like N.M. ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES



## *A gun for self-protection?*



A gun in the homes is 43 times  
more likely to be used to kill  
a family member or friend  
than an intruder

# *New Mexico Gun Laws*



- **Guns are prohibited on school property**
- **Must be 20 to own a handgun, but no age restriction on purchase**
- **NO juvenile sales laws**
- **NO child safety lock law**
- **NO child access prevention law**
- **NO limit to the number of guns purchased**
- **NO registration of firearm**
- **NO licensing of gun owners**
- **NO state background check required for private sales at gun shows**
- **NO record of gun sales**
- **NO ban on assault weapons**
- **NO ban on Saturday night specials**
- **NO consumer product safety laws**
- **NO waiting period**
- **NO ability to enact “local” gun laws**
- **Allow the carrying of concealed weapons as of January 2002**