

# ANALYSIS OF SCHOOL SHOOTINGS

DECEMBER 15, 2012 – DECEMBER 9, 2014

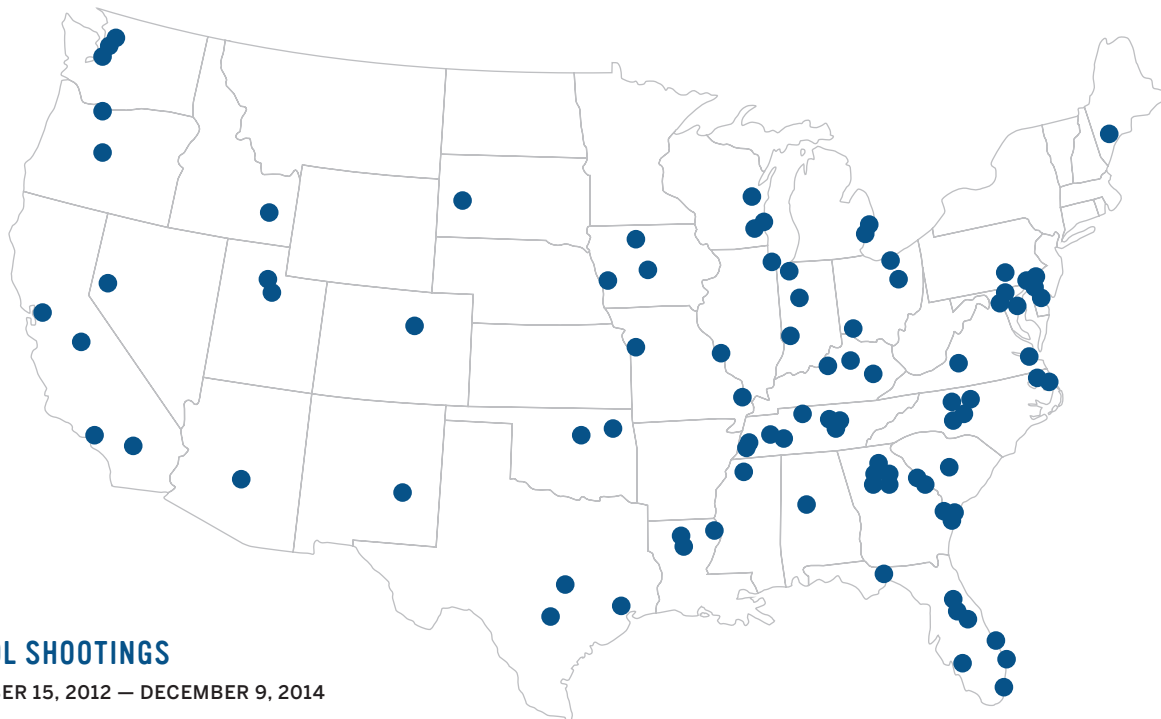
In the two years since the mass shooting in Newtown, Connecticut, there have been at least 94 school shootings including fatal and nonfatal assaults, suicides, and unintentional shootings — an average of nearly one a week.

During the last three months alone, there were 16 school shootings including a single week in which there were five incidents in five separate states. These school shootings resulted in 45 deaths and 78 non-fatal gunshot injuries. In 32 percent of these incidents at least one person died.

Of the K-12 school shootings in which the shooter's age was known, 70 percent (28 of 40 incidents) were perpetrated by minors. Among these K-12 school shootings where it was possible to determine the source of the firearm, nearly two-thirds of the shooters (10 of 16) obtained their guns from home.

In 35 shootings— more than a third of all incidents — at least one person was shot after an argument or confrontation escalated and a gun was on hand.

Regardless of the individuals involved in a shooting or the circumstances that gave rise to it, gunfire in our schools shatters the sense of security that these institutions are meant to foster. Everyone should agree that even one school shooting is one too many.



## SCHOOL SHOOTINGS

DECEMBER 15, 2012 — DECEMBER 9, 2014

**CRITERIA FOR INCLUSION:** Incidents were classified as school shootings when a firearm was discharged inside a school building or on school or campus grounds, as documented by the press or confirmed through further inquiries with law enforcement. Incidents in which guns were brought into schools but not fired, or were fired off school grounds after having been possessed in schools, were not included.

Over the course of two years, we identified a total of three incidents in which a private citizen discharged a firearm at a school that was ultimately determined to be self-defense — February 4, 2013 at Martin Luther King, Jr., High School in Detroit, MI, January 30, 2014 at Eastern Florida State College, and April 7, 2014 at Eastern New Mexico University. These three incidents were not included in the analysis.



## 94 SCHOOL SHOOTINGS IN THE LAST TWO YEARS

The 94 school shootings occurred in 33 states across the country. Fifty-three percent of the shootings took place at K-12 schools and 47 percent took place on college or university campuses.

In 65 incidents (69 percent), the perpetrator(s) intentionally injured or killed another person with a gun; of these, 23 incidents resulted in at least one homicide. In 16 incidents, the shooter attempted or completed suicide — in six incidents after shooting someone else. Six shootings were purely accidental in nature. In 13 other incidents, a gun was discharged but no one was injured.

When it comes to American children being exposed to gunfire, these shootings are just the tip of the iceberg. A recent report by the Urban Institute showed that in just a single school district, Washington, DC, there were at least 336 gunshots in the vicinity of schools over just a single school year.<sup>1</sup>

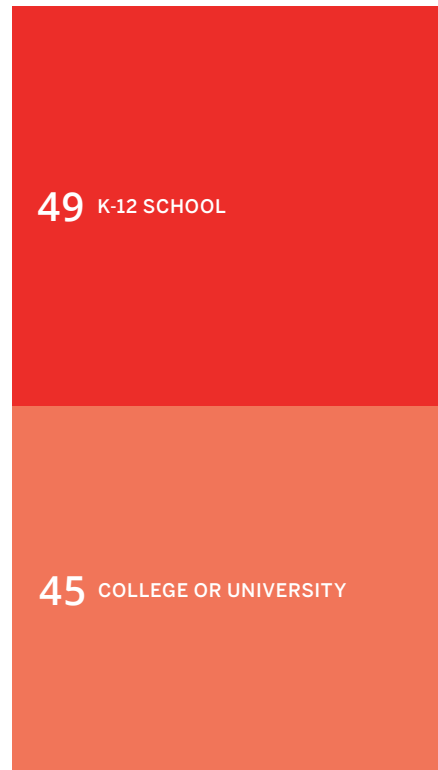
### SCHOOL CONFRONTATIONS LEAD TO SHOOTINGS

At least 35 of the shootings — more than a third of total incidents — occurred after a confrontation or verbal argument intensified and shots were fired. Among the shootings that occurred after an altercation escalated:

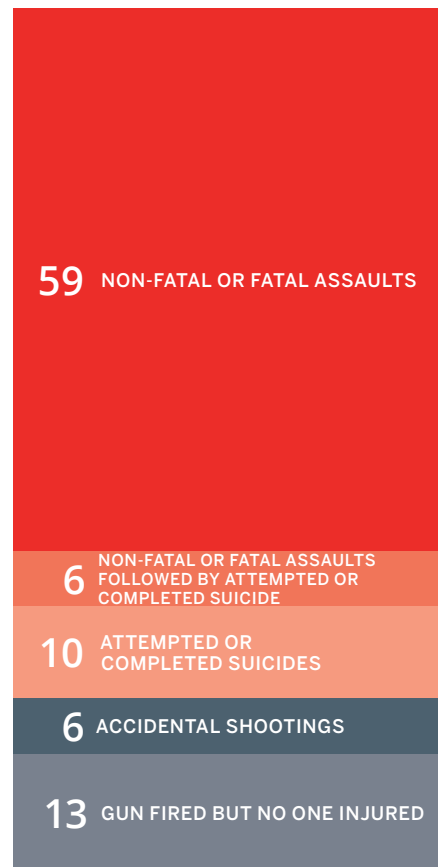
- OCTOBER 3, 2014, LANGSTON HUGHES HIGH SCHOOL, FAIRBURN, GEORGIA**  
In the school parking lot after the homecoming football game, an 18-year-old student traded insults with a 17-year-old student from a different school and then shot and killed him.
- MAY 3, 2014, HORIZON ELEMENTARY, EVERETT, WASHINGTON**  
A group of teens was playing basketball at the school court when another group of teens arrived and a verbal argument began. When it turned physical, one of the teens pulled out a gun and shot a member of the other group.
- APRIL 16, 2014, STILLMAN COLLEGE, TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA**  
After two students began arguing about a bet they had made over a video game, one pulled out a small caliber handgun and shot the other student twice in the torso. The victim was rushed to a hospital but did not die, and the other student turned himself in and was charged with attempted murder.
- JANUARY 9, 2014, LIBERTY TECHNOLOGY MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL, JACKSON, TENNESSEE**  
Two male students, ages 16 and 17, got into a disagreement over a female student. After classes were dismissed, the two boys got into a fight, and one shot the other in the thigh.
- DECEMBER 4, 2013, WEST ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL, WINTER GARDEN, FLORIDA**  
A 17-year-old student shot a 15-year-old classmate during a fight that began as classes were being dismissed.
- JANUARY 22, 2013, LONE STAR COLLEGE, HOUSTON, TEXAS**  
A confrontation that began when two young men bumped into each other in the doorway of an academic building ended when one fired at least 10 shots. Three people were wounded, including two students and a 55-year-old maintenance worker who was shot in the leg.
- JANUARY 16, 2013, CHICAGO STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**  
A fight broke out after a basketball game and spilled into the parking lot. In the confusion 17-year-old Tyrone Lawson was shot twice in the back, killing him. Two older men were later charged with the crime.

1. S Bieler and N La Vigne, "Everyday violence: Gunfire near DC Schools," The Urban Institute, Sep. 2014, available at: <http://urbn.is/1vsYck3>

### SHOOTINGS BY TYPE OF SCHOOL



### SHOOTINGS BY INJURY AND INTENT





# K-12 SCHOOL SHOOTINGS IN FOCUS

Over the last two years an average of two school shootings took place at K-12 schools each month.

Among shootings at K-12 schools in which the shooter's age was known, 70 percent (28 of 40 incidents) were perpetrated by minors.

Many of the students who perpetrated these shootings had easy access to guns at home. In several cases, investigators declined to comment on how the child obtained a firearm because the incidents are under active investigation. But in the sixteen incidents where the source of the firearm was known, ten of the shooters (63 percent) used a gun they obtained from home. This is consistent with a CDC analysis of school-associated violent deaths between 1992-99. It found that 56 percent of students involved directly in a school-associated homicide or suicide used a firearm, and of those guns for which the source could be determined, 79 percent were obtained from the shooter's home or that of a friend or relative.<sup>2</sup>

The incidents included the following:

**OCTOBER 24, 2014 MARYSVILLE PILCHUCK HIGH SCHOOL, MARYSVILLE, WASHINGTON**

Fifteen-year-old Jaylen Fryberg walked into the school cafeteria and shot five students, killing four, before fatally shooting himself. The gun used in the incident belonged to Fryberg's father.

**APRIL 21, 2014, PROVO HIGH SCHOOL, PROVO, UTAH**

A 14-year old student took his father's gun to school and shot himself, though he survived.

**JANUARY 14, 2014, BERRENDO MIDDLE SCHOOL, ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO**

Mason Campbell, age 12, walked into his school gym and pulled out a 20-gauge shotgun that he'd taken from home. The boy opened fire on his fellow students, critically wounding an 11-year-old boy, seriously injuring a 13-year-old girl, and slightly wounding an adult staff member. A teacher persuaded the boy to put the gun down.

**JANUARY 10, 2013, TAFT UNION HIGH SCHOOL, TAFT, CALIFORNIA**

Sixteen-year-old Bryan Oliver walked into his science classroom with a 12-gauge Winchester shotgun that belonged to his brother, aimed at a 16-year-old classmate he said had bullied him, and fired a single shot that struck the boy in the chest.

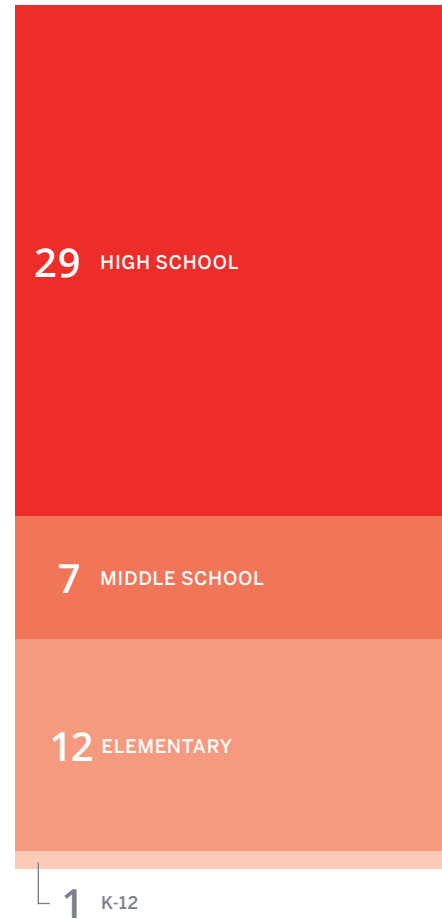
**OCTOBER 21, 2013, SPARKS MIDDLE SCHOOL, SPARKS, NEVADA**

Shouting "Why are you laughing at me? Why are you doing this to me?" 12-year-old Jose Reyes fatally shot a teacher and wounded two 12-year-old students with a 9mm semiautomatic Ruger handgun. His parents told investigators that the gun had been stored in an unlocked case on a shelf above the refrigerator.

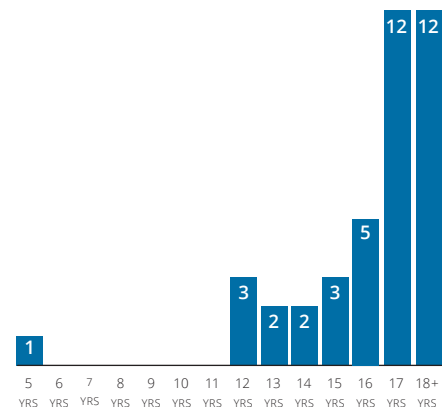
**MARCH 21, 2013, DAVIDSON MIDDLE SCHOOL, SOUTHGATE, MICHIGAN**

Just before classes started one morning, 13-year-old Tyler Nichols walked into the bathroom at his school, pulled out a handgun, and committed suicide. Police reported that the gun was legally owned by a family member but had not been safely secured.

## SHOOTINGS AT K-12 SCHOOLS BY SCHOOL-TYPE



## SHOOTINGS AT K-12 SCHOOLS BY AGE OF SHOOTER



2. CDC, "Source of Firearms Used by Students in School-Associated Violent Deaths , United States, 1992-1999," Mar. 7 2003, available at: <http://1.usa.gov/1Blyk2X>

For 9 shootings, the age of the shooter could not be determined.



## SCHOOL SHOOTINGS IN AMERICA SINCE DECEMBER 15, 2012

			SHOOTER DISCHARGED FIREARM ON SCHOOL PROPERTY	SHOOTER INJURED AT LEAST ONE PERSON BUT DID NOT KILL ANYONE	SHOOTER KILLED AT LEAST ONE PERSON	SHOOTER ATTEMPTED BUT DID NOT COMPLETE SUICIDE	SHOOTER COMMITTED SUICIDE
1/8/2013	FORT MYERS, FL	Apostolic Revival Center Christian School	X		X		
1/10/2013	TAFT, CA	Taft Union High School	X	X			
1/15/2013	HAZARD, KY	Hazard Community and Technical College	X		X		
1/15/2013	ST. LOUIS, MO	Stevens Institute of Business & Arts	X	X		X	
1/16/2013	CHICAGO, IL	Chicago State University	X		X		
1/22/2013	HOUSTON, TX	Lone Star College North Harris Campus	X	X			
1/31/2013	ATLANTA, GA	Price Middle School	X	X			
2/1/2013	ATLANTA, GA	Morehouse College	X	X			
2/7/2013	FORT PIERCE, FL	Indian River State College	X	X			
2/13/2013	SAN LEANDRO, CA	Hillside Elementary School	X		X		
2/27/2013	ATLANTA, GA	Henry W. Grady High School	X				
3/18/2013	ORLANDO, FL	University of Central Florida	X				X
3/21/2013	SOUTHGATE, MI	Davidson Middle School	X				X
4/12/2013	CHRISTIANSBURG, VA	New River Community College	X	X			
4/13/2013	ELIZABETH CITY, NC	Elizabeth City State University	X	X			
4/15/2013	GRAMBLING, LA	Grambling State University	X	X			
4/29/2013	CINCINNATI, OH	La Salle High School	X			X	
6/7/2013	SANTA MONICA, CA	Santa Monica College	X		X		
6/19/2013	WEST PALM BEACH, FL	Alexander W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts	X		X		
8/15/2013	CLARKSVILLE, TN	Northwest High School	X		X		
8/20/2013	DECATUR, GA	Ronald E. McNair Discovery Learning Academy	X				
8/22/2013	MEMPHIS, TN	Westside Elementary School	X				
8/23/2013	SARDIS, MS	North Panola High School	X		X		
8/30/2013	WINSTON-SALEM, NC	Carver High School	X	X			
9/21/2013	SAVANNAH, GA	Savannah State University	X		X		
9/28/2013	GRAY, ME	New Gloucester High School	X				X
10/4/2013	PINE HILLS, FL	Agape Christian Academy	X	X			
10/15/2013	AUSTIN, TX	Lanier High School	X				X
10/21/2013	SPARKS, NV	Sparks Middle School	X		X		X
11/1/2013	ALGONA, IA	Algona High/Middle School	X				X
11/2/2013	GREENSBORO, NC	North Carolina A&T State University	X	X			
11/3/2013	STONE MOUNTAIN, GA	Stephenson High School	X	X			
11/21/2013	RAPID CITY, SD	South Dakota School of Mines & Technology	X				X
12/4/2013	WINTER GARDEN, FL	West Orange High School	X	X			
12/13/2013	ARAPAHOE COUNTY, CO	Arapahoe High School	X		X		X
12/19/2013	FRESNO, CA	Edison High School	X	X			
1/9/2014	JACKSON, TN	Liberty Technology Magnet HS	X	X			
1/14/2014	ROSWELL, NM	Berrendo Middle School	X	X			



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1/15/2014	LANCASTER, PA	King Elementary School	X				
1/17/2014	PHILADELPHIA, PA	Delaware Valley Charter HS	X	X			
1/20/2014	CHESTER, PA	Widener University	X	X			
1/21/2014	WEST LAFAYETTE, IN	Purdue University	X		X		
1/24/2014	ORANGEBURG, SC	South Carolina State University	X		X		
1/28/2014	GRAMBLING, LA	Grambling State University	X	X			
1/28/2014	NASHVILLE, TN	Tennessee State University	X	X			
1/31/2014	PHOENIX, AZ	Cesar Chavez HS	X				
1/31/2014	DES MOINES, IA	North High School	X	X			
2/7/2014	BEND, OR	Bend High School	X				X
2/10/2014	SALISBURY, NC	Salisbury High School	X	X			
2/11/2014	LYNDHURST, OH	Brush High School	X				
2/12/2014	JACKSON, TN	Union University	X		X		
2/20/2014	RAYTOWN, MO	Raytown Success Academy	X		X		
3/2/2014	WESTMINSTER, MD	McDaniel College	X				
3/7/2014	TALLULAH, LA	Madison Parish High School	X	X			
3/8/2014	OSHKOSH, WI	University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh	X				
3/23/2014	NEWARK, DE	University of Delaware	X				
3/30/2014	SAVANNAH, GA	Savannah State University	X				
4/3/2014	KENT, OH	Kent State University	X				
4/11/2014	DETROIT, MI	East English Village Preparatory Academy	X		X		
4/16/2014	COUNCIL BLUFFS, IA	Iowa Western Community College	X	X			
4/16/2014	TUSCALOOSA, AL	Stillman College	X	X			
4/21/2014	GRIFFITH, IN	St. Mary Catholic School	X		X		
4/21/2014	PROVO, UT	Provo High School	X	X		X	
5/2/2014	MILWAUKEE, WI	Marquette University	X				
5/3/2014	EVERETT, WA	Horizon Elementary	X	X			
5/4/2014	AUGUSTA, GA	Paine College	X	X			
5/5/2014	AUGUSTA, GA	Paine College	X	X			
5/8/2014	GEORGETOWN, KY	Georgetown College	X	X			
5/8/2014	LAWRENCEVILLE, GA	Georgia Gwinnett College	X	X			
5/21/2014	MILWAUKEE, WI	Clarke Street School Playground	X	X			
6/5/2014	SEATTLE, WA	Seattle Pacific University	X		X		
6/10/2014	TROUTDALE, OR	Reynolds High School	X		X		X
6/23/2014	BENTON, MO	Kelly High School	X		X		
6/27/2014	MIAMI, FL	University of Miami	X				
8/13/2014	FREDRICK, MD	Heather Ridge High school	X	X			
8/14/2014	NEWPORT NEWS, VA	Saunders Elementary	X		X		





**EVERYTOWN**  
FOR GUN SAFETY