

SCHOOL SHOOTINGS

IN THE U.S. & CALIFORNIA

4/2023

DEFINITIONS



SCHOOL SHOOTING* An incident in which a gun is brandished or fired on school property or a bullet hits school property for any reason, regardless of the number of victims, time of day, day of the week, or reason.

ACTIVE SHOOTER* Incidents are labeled as an "active shooter" when the shooter killed and/or wounded victims, either targeted or random, within the school campus during a continuous episode of violence.

NUMBER OF SCHOOL SHOOTINGS, SINCE 1970*

226

in California

293 wounded

87 killed

2,220

in the U.S.

1,934 wounded

702 killed

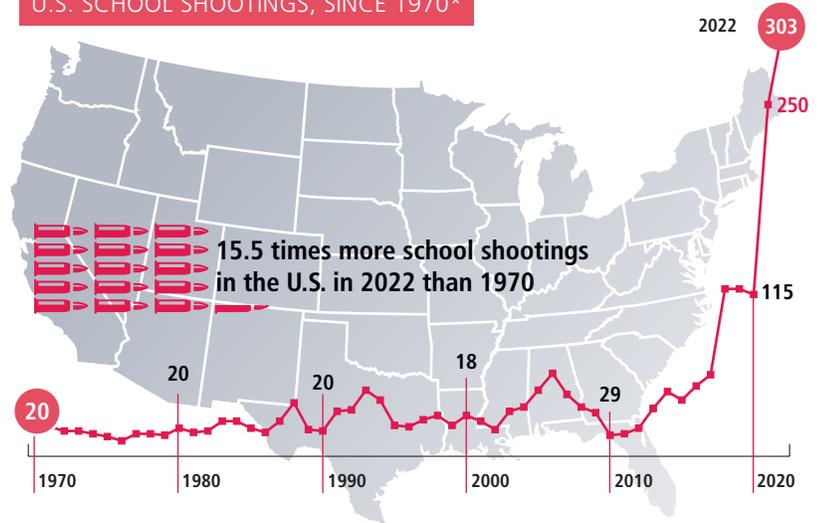
INCIDENTS OF GUN VIOLENCE †

349,000

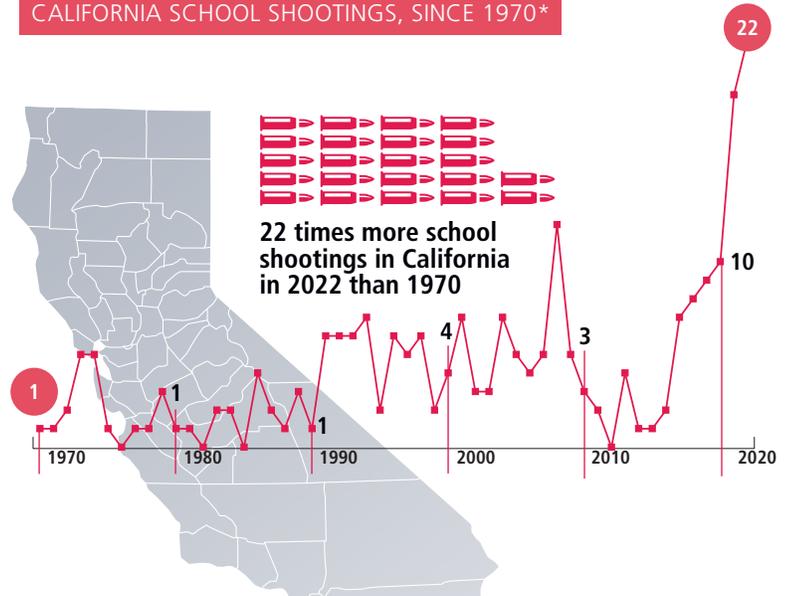
Students have been on campus during an incident of gun violence at school, since Columbine.

These exposures to gun violence, regardless of physical injury, impact the school community and their families.

U.S. SCHOOL SHOOTINGS, SINCE 1970*



CALIFORNIA SCHOOL SHOOTINGS, SINCE 1970*



* Source: Riedman, David (2022). K-12 School Shooting Database
† Source: Washington Post, as of April 12, 2023

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†† Source: CBS News/YouGov Poll, June 2022



TOP SCHOOL SHOOTING TYPES *

 **1/3**

of California's school shootings begins as a dispute.

The U.S. Secret Service advises schools to develop strategies for resolving interpersonal conflicts.

Incidents	% of occurrence
Escalation of a dispute	37%
Drive-by shooting	10%
Accidental	9%
Suicide/attempted	8%
Other illegal activity	8%

194

There have been 194 active school shooter incidents in the U.S. from 1970 to 2022.*

 **14**

Nationally, there have been 14 school shootings that resulted in injuries or deaths so far in 2023.‡

 **72%**

of parents of school-age children in the U.S. are somewhat or very concerned about gun violence at their child's school.††

RELATIONSHIPS OF THE SHOOTER TO THE SCHOOL IN THE U.S.*

46% are students

22% have no relation

14% Unknown

5% Nonstudent attending athletic event

4% Former student



TOP 5 LOCATIONS WHERE INCIDENTS OCCURRED AT K-12 SCHOOLS IN THE U.S.* (1970-2022)

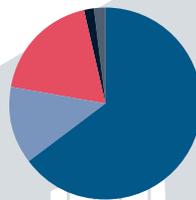
SCHOOL SHOOTING

Parking lot	533
Front of school	224
Beside building	210
Classroom	210
Hallway	175

ACTIVE SHOOTING

Classroom	57
Hallway	29
Cafeteria	16
Front/side of building	13
Office	11

MOST SCHOOL SHOOTINGS OCCUR ON SECONDARY CAMPUSES.*



- High school: 63.7%
- Middle/junior high school: 13.1%
- Elementary school: 18.2%
- K-8 school: 1.7%
- Other: 1.7%

TOP 5 TIME PERIODS WHEN SCHOOL SHOOTINGS OCCURRED AT K-12 SCHOOLS IN THE U.S. (1970-2022)*

Morning classes	411
Sporting event	275
Afternoon classes	251
Dismissal	249
Lunch	155

* Source: Riedman, David (2022). K-12 School Shooting Database

† Source: Washington Post, as of April 12, 2023

** Source: Washington Post, as of April 12, 2023

†† Source: CBS News/YouGov Poll, June 2022

‡ Source: Education Week, as of April 7, 2023

