

Results
Survey #5 (October 2014)

Emails sent: 279
Emails opened: 143
Surveys started: 121
Surveys completed: 119

Q1: "Safe storage (e.g., unloaded, locked up) of firearms in the home reduces the likelihood of suicide."

Strongly disagree	4%
Disagree	13%
Neither Agree or Disagree	9%
Agree	35%
Strongly Agree	30%
I don't know	9%

Q2: Rate the quality of the scientific evidence on this issue

Very weak	4%
Weak	19%
Medium	24%
Strong	16%
Very Strong	9%
I don't know	27%

Q3: Rate your level of familiarity with the literature on this topic

Not knowledgeable	16%
Slightly knowledgeable	20%
Medium	17%
Knowledgeable	27%
Very knowledgeable	16%
I don't know	4%

Q4: Area of research/expertise

Public health/medicine	45%
Criminology/sociology	34%
Public Policy	5%
Economics	9%
Other	7%

Area of Expertise vs Responses:

	Among Public Health/Medicine Experts, % who (n = 53)	Among Experts from Other Disciplines, % who (n = 65)
Agree* that safe storage of firearms in the home reduces the likelihood of suicide	72%	58%
Disagree** that the more permissive laws have reduced crime	13%	20%
Believes scientific evidence is strong^	38%	15%
Believes scientific evidence is weak^^	21%	25%
Is knowledgeable+ about topic	64%	25%
Is not knowledgeable ++	15%	51%

*Agree or strongly agree; **Disagree or strongly disagree

^Strong or very strong; ^^Weak or very weak

+Knowledgeable or very knowledgeable; ++slightly or not knowledgeable

Among those who believe they are knowledgeable or very knowledgeable about the literature 84% agree or strongly agree with the statement, while 12% disagree or strongly disagree with statement.

Conclusion:

A sizeable majority of firearms researchers agree with the statement that safe storage of firearms reduces the likelihood of suicide, but the consensus is that the scientific evidence on this issue is not very strong (nor very weak).