

## OVERVIEW

Gun violence has been a relevant debate in the US for many years now, and many people have very different views on the topic. There are those who feel that guns should not be in school at all, and there are those who feel that we should have guns in schools as a way of protection against gun violence that may occur at school.

## PROS

- Arming Teachers gives them a fighting chance against the threat
- Extra protection for schools in more rural areas where it takes longer for law enforcement to arrive
- A deterrence for people who may target a school because they will get pushback from those with weapons on school grounds
- Saves money for the district to arm teacher

## CONS

- Having multiple armed individuals can be cause for more chaos, and can even potentially cause confusion for law enforcement who come to identify armed individual causing harm
- Negligent misfire and mishandling of weapon.
- Leading to increased homicide and suicide rates
- Increased chance for risky and violent behavior

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## CONCLUSION

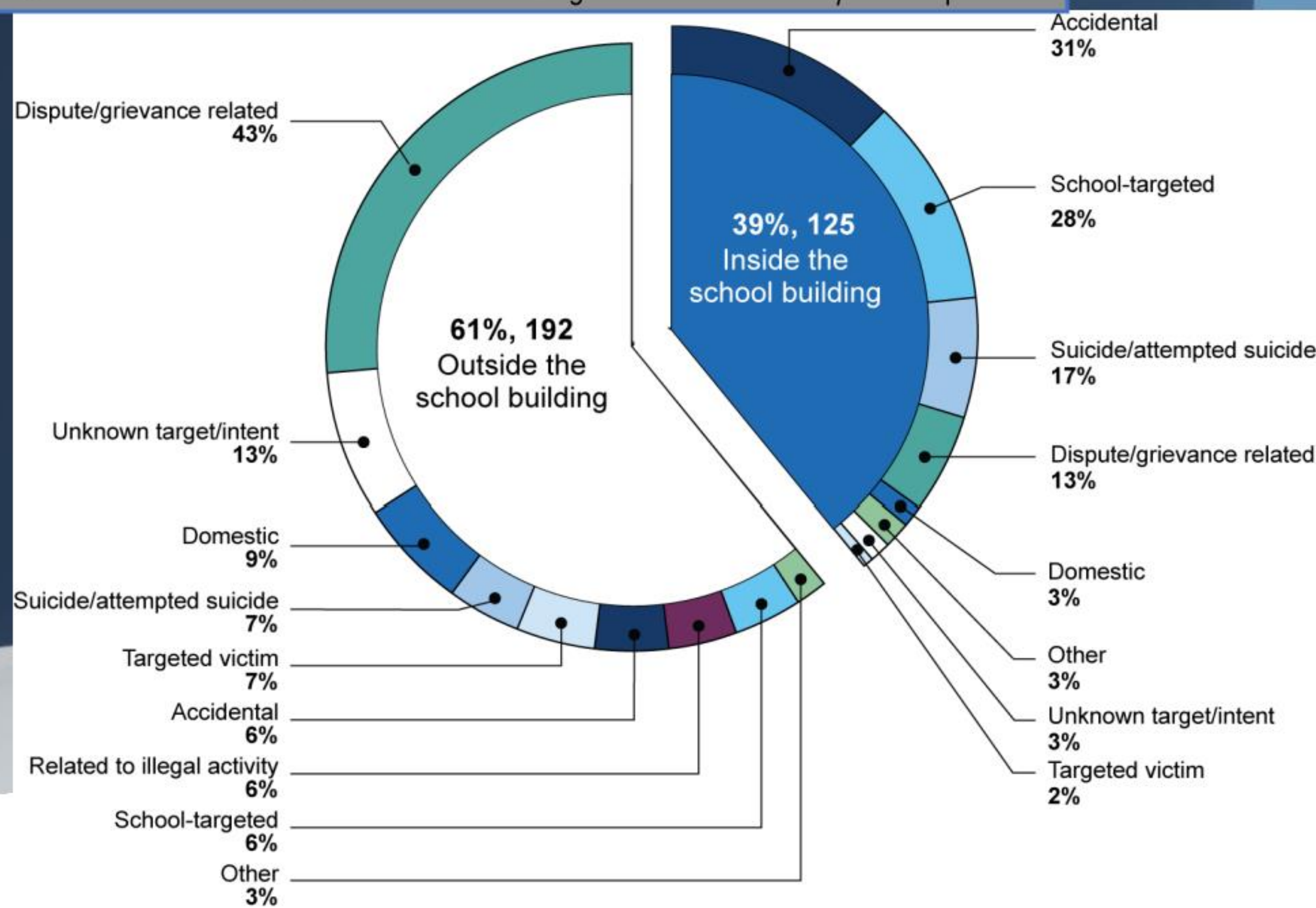
I believe that guns have no place in school and need to be regulated better so they cannot be so easily obtained. The answer to gun violence is not to just bring more guns to fight back, the logical and more safe answer is to find ways to prevent guns from being so accessible to be able to cause harm. Because while not all incidences occur with the intention of directly targeting the school, the discussion still becomes a matter of why guns are so easily obtainable for these tragedies to continue to occur?

## Additional points to think about

One possible problem that could come from allowing more guns or safety officers in schools is the risk of over-policing in schools. Research has suggested a school-to-prison pipeline where the presence of school resource officers increases risk of arrest for Black students, which highly increases their chances of being incarcerated outside of school, thus heavily impacting the ability for them to do things like get jobs, housing, and impacting their rights for things like voting.



Stats on reasons for school shooting and where they take place



Source: GAO analysis of the Naval Postgraduate School's K-12 School Shooting Database for school years 2009-10 through 2018-19. | GAO-20-455