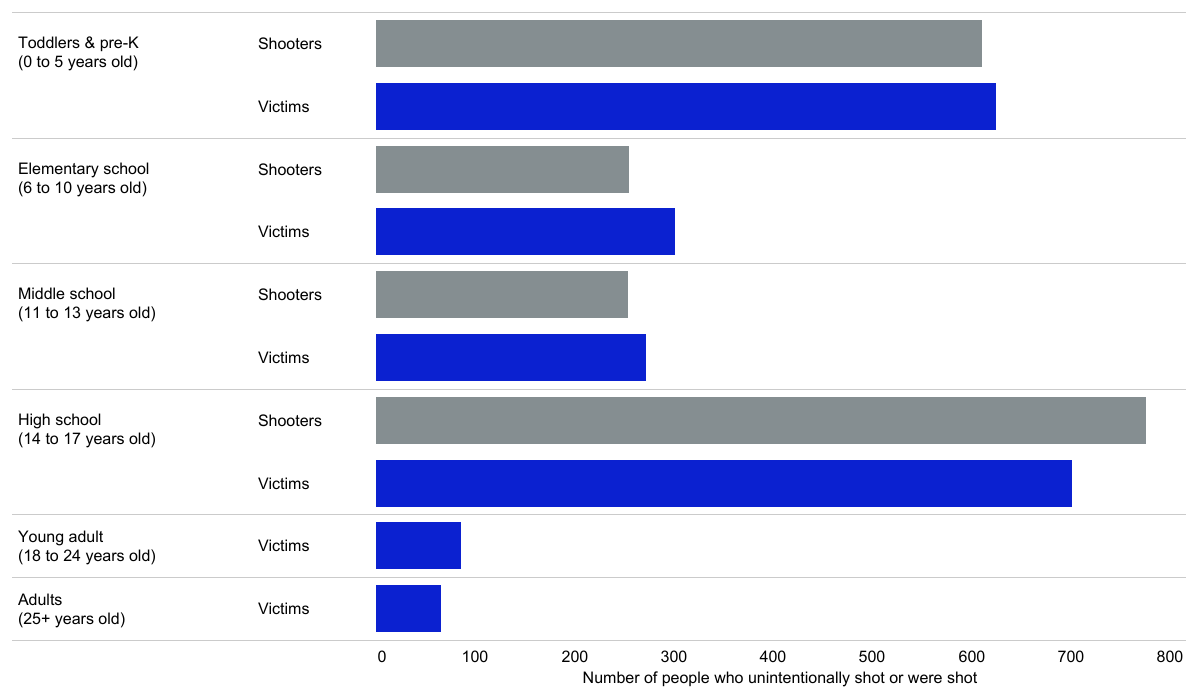
**National Injury Prevention Day: Nov 18th**

**Safety Topic #1: Children & Gun Safety**

* Firearms are the 2nd leading cause of death for children under age 18 in the United States.
* While the vast majority of these gun deaths are homicides and suicides, unintentional shootings—which make up 5% of annual gun deaths among children 18 & younger—are a persistent & heartbreaking aspect of this public health crisis.
* They are also preventable when families take the steps to reduce children’s access to firearms in their own homes and the homes of anywhere children are visiting.
* The 2 age groups most likely to be both shooters and victims were teenagers 14 to 17 first, and then preschoolers five and younger.
* From January 1, 2015, to December 31, 2020, there were at least 2,070 unintentional shootings by children resulting in 765 deaths & 1,366 nonfatal gun injuries.
* The number of unintentional deaths resulting from shootings by children from the start of the COVID-19 pandemic—March through December 2020—was a staggering 31% higher than that same period in 2019. ​In 2020 alone, at least 125 toddlers & pre-kindergarteners ages five & under shot themselves or someone else.

**2 AGE GROUPS ACCOUNT FOR THE LARGEST SHARE OF BOTH SHOOTERS & VICTIMS: HIGH SCHOOLERS & CHILDREN FIVE AND YOUNGER**

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[Preventable Tragedies: Findings from the #NotAnAccident Index | Everytown Research & Policy | Everytown Research & Policy](https://everytownresearch.org/report/notanaccident/)

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**What is Sentara Williamsburg Regional Medical Center doing to promote National Injury Prevention Day….**

* **The water fountain lights and outside building lights will be shining green for all of November.**
* **Staff & visitors encouraged to wear green on Nov 18th.**
* **Safety topics & promotions of this day are being posted on Workplace, our social media pages, employee communications (Communicator & The Flash), posted in the elevators, & on the Peninsulas Emergency Management Services (PEMS) website.**
* **Please help us spread the word of this Day and spread the importance of Injury Prevention!**

[National Injury Prevention Day (injuryfree.org)](https://www.injuryfree.org/nationalinjurypreventionday/2021/index.cfm?CFID=496335&CFTOKEN=5ea2943ce22f1f23-C8C71448-B6F3-FE1D-055732273985FFA5)

#BeinjuryFree

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