

From: Reimels, Elizabeth (CDC/DDNID/NCIPC/DVP)
Sent: Tue, 10 May 2022 14:27:45 +0000
To: Kelly, Bert (CDC/OD/OADC); Simon, Thomas (CDC/DDNID/NCIPC/DVP); Mercy, James (CDC/DDNID/NCIPC/DVP)
Cc: Santana, Alberto (CDC/DDNID/NCIPC/DVP); Strawn, Catherine (Cassie) (CDC/DDNID/NCIPC/OD); Middlebrooks, Jennifer (CDC/DDNID/NCIPC/DVP)
Subject: RE: Issue (MIS-131878) Defensive gun use - NEW

Bert,

Here is our response.

When the 2020 Vital Statistics Data came out we made several changes to the fact sheet, including updating statistics, updating references, adding resources related to safe storage, and simplifying the text related to defensive gun use. In reviewing the fact sheet for updates, CDC scientists determined that the original text, which provided an estimate with a very wide range – between 60,000 and 2.5 million – could raise more questions than it answered, and needed to be edited for clarity. Because estimates of defensive gun use vary depending on the questions asked, populations studied, timeframe, and other factors related to study design, and given the wide variability in previous estimates and the desire to keep the fact sheet short and succinct, it made the most sense to remove the numbers from the fact sheet and acknowledge that additional research is necessary to understand defensive gun use prevalence, frequency, circumstances, and outcomes.

Leading up to this decision, we had heard from a few members of the gun research community who expressed concern about the original fact sheet content. CDC always appreciates and welcomes feedback from partners.

From: Kelly, Bert (CDC/OD/OADC) < >
Sent: Monday, May 9, 2022 6:23 PM
To: Reimels, Elizabeth (CDC/DDNID/NCIPC/DVP) < >; Simon, Thomas (CDC/DDNID/NCIPC/DVP) < >; Mercy, James (CDC/DDNID/NCIPC/DVP) < >
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Yes, no rush.

Thx

From: Reimels, Elizabeth (CDC/DDNID/NCIPC/DVP) < >
Sent: Monday, May 9, 2022 5:54 PM
To: Simon, Thomas (CDC/DDNID/NCIPC/DVP) < >; Kelly, Bert (CDC/OD/OADC) < >; Mercy, James (CDC/DDNID/NCIPC/DVP) < >
Subject: RE: Issue (MIS-131878) Defensive gun use - NEW