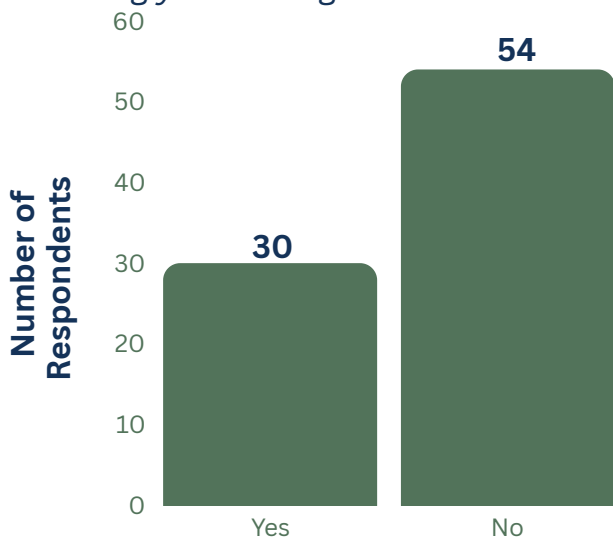


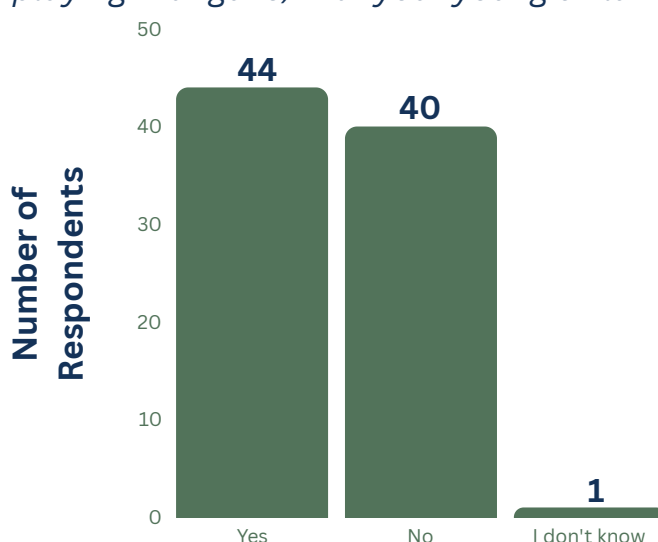


We surveyed 86 parents and caregivers of 2-5 year-old children at Safety Town events in Summer 2024. We asked about firearm storage and safety, and *where, how, and from whom* they would like to learn more about firearm safety.

“Have you ever asked other parents if there were guns in their home before letting your child go to their home?”



“In the past 12 months, have you discussed risky gun behaviors (e.g., playing with guns) with your young child?”



We also asked, “What challenges have you faced, if any, talking with other adults about gun safety and young children?”

“People that have guns are often militant and emotional when the topic is discussed”

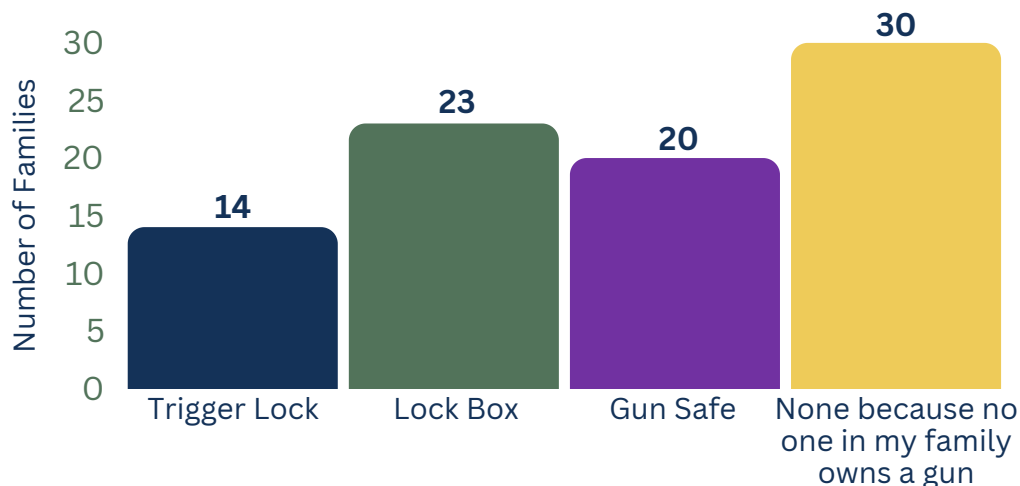
“They feel they have the right to handle and store their guns their way”

“Other people’s comfort levels”

“Feeling like I’m the only one with that concern”

“Differences of opinion of seriousness regarding guns”

And, “If Safety Town gave out free gun locks, which kind of lock would you prefer?”



- Many respondents reported not having a need for safe storage devices because they did not own firearms.
- Lock boxes were the most popular option.
- Nearly 35% of respondents reported not having a firearm.

Parents were asked to endorse where, how, and from whom they would be interested in learning about gun safety from a list of options

Where?



School
40%



Organizations in
my Community
(e.g., libraries)
31%



Head Start
20%

How?



Email newsletters /
physical handouts
(e.g., pamphlet, flyer)
30%



Short videos (e.g.,
YouTube, TikTok)
24%



Websites
24%

Who?



Police
Officer
49%



Safety Trainer
49%



Head Start /
Preschool
Teacher
26%

When asked about the safe storage topics they'd be interested in learning about, parents responded with being somewhat interested in learning about the following



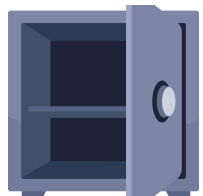
Talking with
other adults
about gun
safety



Legal
information



Guns and
young
children



Safe
Storage



Other strategies
for home defense



Information
about gun
injuries

Key Takeaways

- Although parents generally reported feeling comfortable asking other parents about guns in their homes, only about 35% reported actually doing so.
- About 35% of parents reported having another parent tell them that they had a gun in their home.
- In addition, parents suggested that they would be interested in learning about gun safety from lawyers and combat veterans and in being taught about gun safety at a gun range.