

VIOLENCE

in U.S. K-12 Schools, 1974-2012

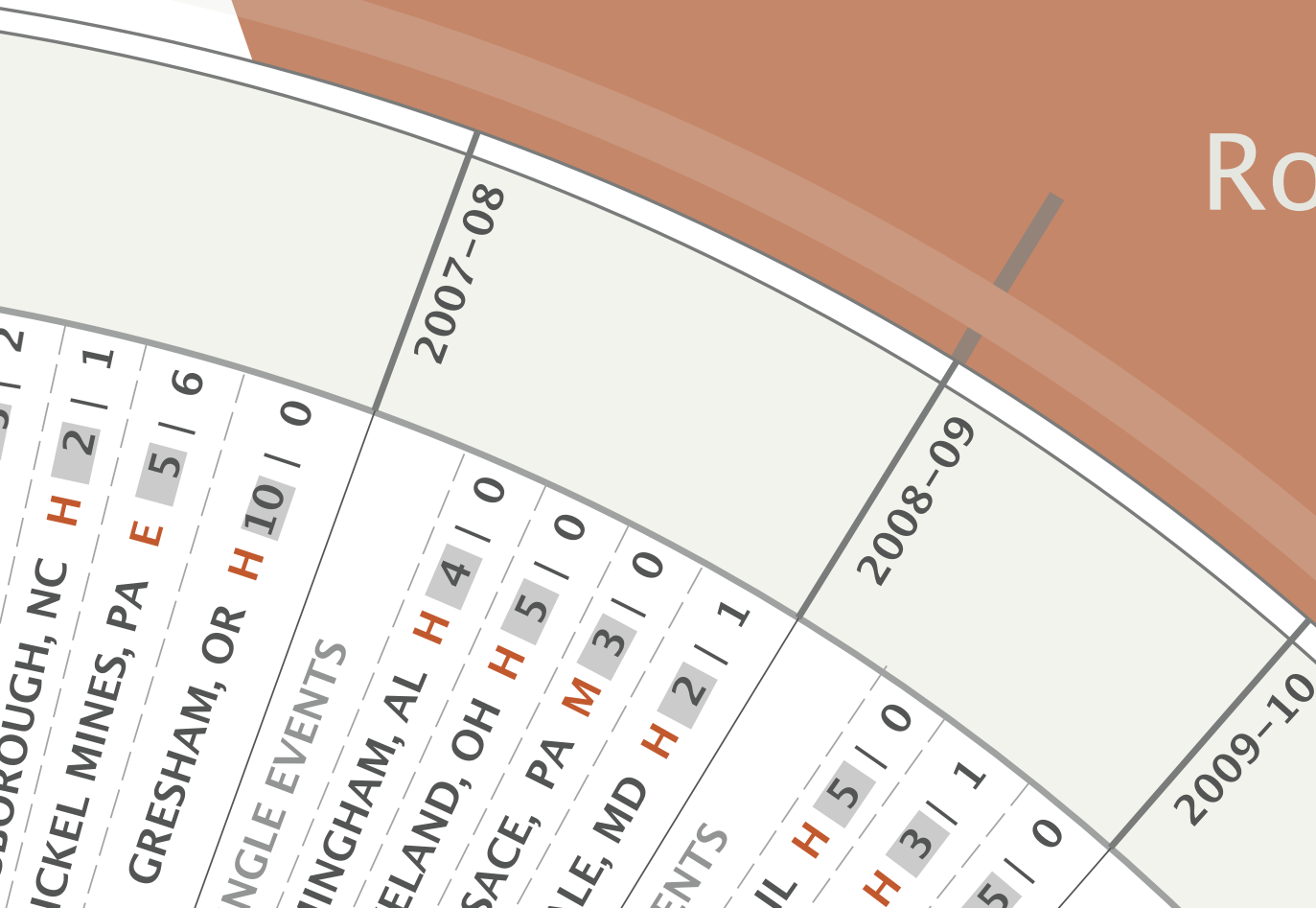
Patterns in Deadly Incidents and Mass Threat

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A report of the Rural School
and Community Trust

Revised 2016



THREE KEY POINTS:

- School-to-Prison Pipeline
- Getting the Story Straight
- Solutions That Make a Difference

NOT WHAT YOU THINK

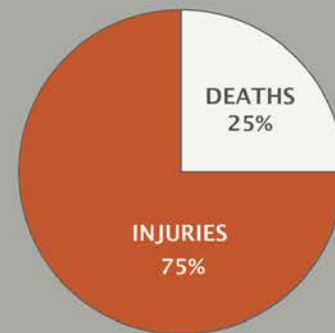
PATTERNS IN SCHOOL VIOLENCE, 1974-2012

MASS VIOLENCE

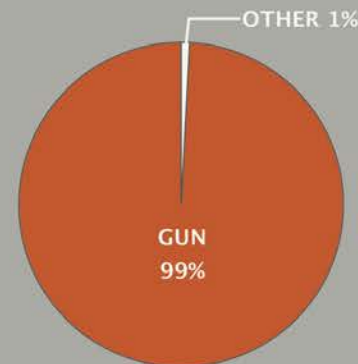
Rounded percentages are based on 700 media accounts of violent incidents in schools.

SINGLE EVENTS targeted one or two individuals. They claimed three-quarters of lives lost in school incidents. Most assailants (75%) were students. Guns were involved in more than two-thirds of deaths in single events.

MASS VIOLENCE EVENTS created a generalized threat and targeted victims randomly. Mass violence was responsible for one quarter of all violent school deaths. Students were the most common perpetrators in middle and high schools. Intruders were the only perpetrators in elementary schools. Guns accounted for 99% of deaths in mass events.

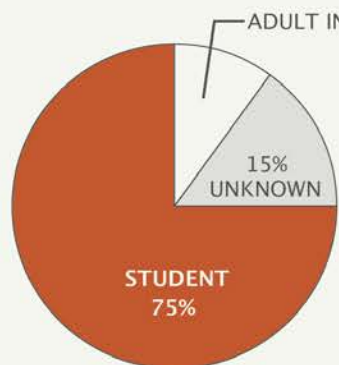


INJURIES & DEATHS

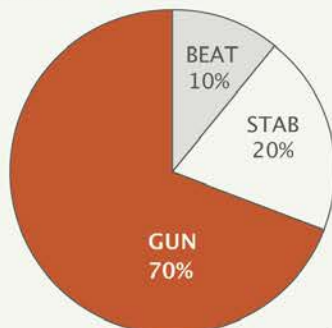


WEAPON

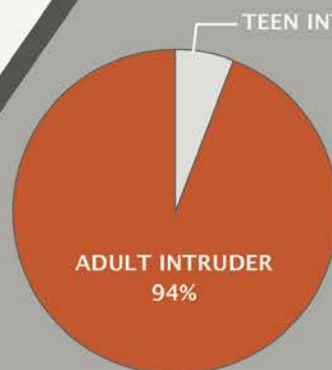
SINGLE EVENTS



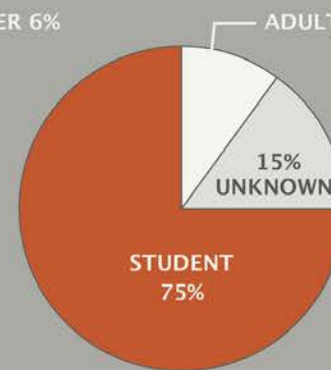
PERPETRATOR AGES



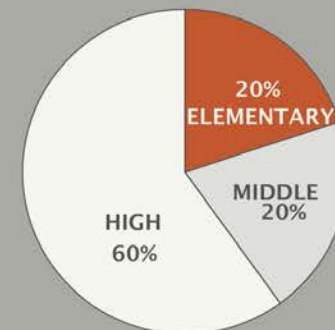
WEAPON



PERPETRATOR AGES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



PERPETRATOR AGES MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL



SCHOOL LEVEL



For more information, see "Violence in U.S. K-12 Schools, 1974-2012" at www.ruraledu.org. © Rural School and Community Trust, March 2013

WHAT MAKES

SCHOOLS SAFE

ALSO MAKES THEM

SUCCESSFUL

CLIMATE

CONNECTIONS

RELATIONSHIPS

No school can be 100% safe from violence or armed intruders. But communities and schools can reduce the likelihood of violence from within.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Students do academic work that makes **meaningful contributions** to the community. • Health services are offered students and families. • Creative expression is taught and encouraged.



For more info, see "Violence in U.S. K-12 Schools, 1974-2012" at www.ruraledu.org. © Rural School and Community Trust, 2013.

QUALITY RELATIONSHIPS

The quality of relationships is a core issue. • **Students and teachers are known**

- Everyone has valued and valuable work to do.
- Student voice matters.
- Kindness, inclusion, and collaboration are rewarded.
- Safety is a shared responsibility.
- All latches and doors work correctly.



POSITIVE SCHOOL CLIMATE

School culture is based on trust, respect, and belonging. • **Flexibility and personalization** frame practice. • Discipline promotes good behavior and personal responsibility. • Restitution not punishment, is fostered.



Images: *Schools That Change Communities*, Bob Gliner, 2013. For more information, visit www.ruraledu.org/video.php?id=142.

RURAL SCHOOLS:

- 33% of All Schools; 20% of students
- Diverse
- High-Poverty/Low-Wealth
- “Solutions” Must Be Tailored
- Consolidation Usually Harms Kids and Communities
- Policy Matters