

ABC's *Good Morning America*

06/06/22

7:00:49 a.m. [TEASE]

11 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: New Deadly Violence; Mass Shooting Manhunts]

MICHAEL STRAHAN: This morning, what is behind the spike in gun violence as a bipartisan group of senators races to reach a deal. Is change coming on gun safety?

(...)

7:03:12 a.m.

3 seconds

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS: We have to begin with another round of mass shootings in America.

(...)

7:05:18 a.m.

10 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: New This Morning; Three Killed in Chattanooga Shooting; Authorities Say Multiple Gunman Opened Fire at a Nightclub]

JANAI NORMAN: According to the Gun Violence Archive, there have been at least a dozen mass shootings this weekend alone, parents and children around the country on edge.

(...)

7:05:54 a.m.

3 minutes and 52 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: New This Morning; Urgent Mass Shooting Manhunts; New Round of Deadly Violence Erupts Across the Country]

NORMAN: And we know as summer gets underway, we tend to see more crime. That's a concern as well as just the sheer number of firearms out there. In the incident here in Philadelphia, the full video shows both men had ample time to walk away, walk away with both of their lives, instead, Michael, they both had guns.

STRAHAN: Just makes no sense. Janai, thank you. And we're going to turn now — you know, since the elementary school massacre in Uvalde, Texas 13 days ago, there have been 33 mass shootings across America. The crisis touching nearly every corner of this country and our chief

Justice correspondent Pierre Thomas is in Washington with more. Good morning, Pierre.

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Happening Now; America's Mass Shooting Crisis; At Least 246 Incidents So Far This Year]

PIERRE THOMAS: Michael, good morning. It feels like mass shootings are becoming as American as apple pie. There have been more mass shootings than days in the year so far. In only 157 days, there have been 246 mass shootings, defined as four or more people shot and/or killed in a single incident and they're happening in every kind of scenario, public and private. From workplace and domestic violence cases where sometimes entire families are killed to cases like we saw last week where an escaped killer guns down a grandfather and four grandchildren in Texas to the case in Tulsa where a man shot and killed four people after he was allegedly angry over pain from back surgery. This year's pace of mass shootings matches that of last year, which ended with 692 mass shootings, that, Michael, was 66 percent higher than the number in 2019.

STRAHAN: And, Pierre, just this weekend another teen was arrested in California.

THOMAS: Michael, we learned yesterday that a 17-year-old in Menifee, California was arrested after allegedly making threats to "shoot up" a school. Police say when they arrested him he had an unmarked ghost gun, another sign that criminals, the unstable, and the evil have easy access to 300 million guns already in circulation, Michael.

STRAHAN: Too easy, too easy, thank you so much for your reporting, George.

STEPHANOPOULOS: Okay, Michael. We will go to Congress where a bipartisan group of senators is working on a limited package of gun control measures. Congressional correspondent Rachel Scott is tracking the latest. Good morning, Rachel.

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: New This Morning; Urgent Push on Gun Reform; Bipartisan Group of Senators Under Pressure to Reach a Deal]

RACHEL SCOTT: George, good morning. Senators are under pressure to reach a deal on gun reform by the end of the week. I'm told by one senator involved, that is a goal, not a guarantee. This issue is top of mind for the American people because a week has not gone by in 2022 without a mass shooting. Take a look at our latest ABC News/Ipsos poll that shows 72 percent of Americans say gun violence is extremely important in their vote for Congress and 70 percent believe enacting new laws to reduce gun violence should be a higher priority than protecting gun ownership. We know that a small group of bipartisan senators are considering a range of options from expanded background checks to incentives for states to enact red flag laws that would temporarily take guns away from people considered to be dangerous as well as funding for mental health and school security. And in just 48 hours, families of the victims of the Buffalo and Uvalde mass shootings will be testifying before Congress, including a fourth grader who says that she survived the Uvalde mass shooting by playing dead in her classroom, George.

STEPHANOPOULOS: Rachel, the politics of this are so fraught. We saw a Republican

congressman have to resign late — late last week after coming out in favor of an assault weapons ban because of the backlash but down in Texas, some Republican donors are backing gun control.

SCOTT: Yes, George, this is a group of more than 250 Republican Texas donors who sent a letter saying that they are backing these bipartisan negotiations playing out here on Capitol Hill. They describe themselves as gun enthusiasts but support expanded background checks, red flag laws. They would even support raising the age limit to purchase a firearm, George.

STEPHANOPOULOS: Rachel Scott, thanks. And tomorrow, ABC News will devote the entire day to a closer look at guns in America across all our programs.

(...)

7:31:13 a.m.
3 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Right Now; Mass Shooting Manhunts]

STEPHANOPOULOS: There's been an average of more than one mass shooting a day this year.

(...)

8:05:16 a.m.
9 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: New This Morning; Three Killed in Chattanooga Shooting; Authorities Say Multiple Gunman Opened Fire at a Nightclub]

NORMAN: According to the Gun Violence Archive, there have been at least a dozen mass shootings this weekend alone, parents and children around the country on edge.

(...)

8:05:50 a.m.
15 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: New This Morning; Urgent Mass Shooting Manhunts; New Round of Deadly Violence Erupts Across the Country]

NORMAN: And the full video of the incident here shows both men had ample time to both walk away with their lives and said they were both armed, both opened fire leaving two innocent people, one of those shooters dead and that speaks to the concern about the sheer number and prevalence of firearms out there.