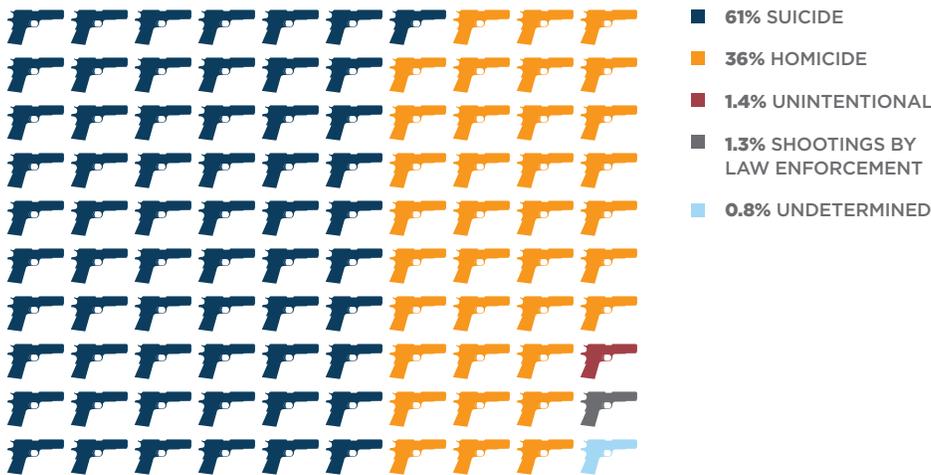


FACTS ABOUT GUN VIOLENCE

The United States is in the grips of a gun violence epidemic that impacts every community across the country. **Our nation's high rate of gun violence can be reduced, but because of weak gun laws riddled with loopholes, dangerous people like convicted felons and domestic abusers have still easy access to deadly weapons.** Enacting smart, strong gun laws is a route to reducing tragedy—policies that enjoy broad support by a majority of Americans.

Gun Death Breakdown

36,252 Americans died from gunfire in 2015, with many more suffering debilitating injuries. Over 60% of all gun deaths are self-inflicted. The majority of homicides can be attributed to urban gun violence and domestic gun violence incidents.



114,000

Americans are shot each year—over one million in the past decade.

160+

new smart gun laws have been enacted in 43 states and DC since the tragedy at Sandy Hook.

92%

of Americans support universal background checks, one of the most effective tools we have to ensure that guns do not fall into dangerous hands, preventing deadly shootings and saving lives.

AMERICA HAS EXCEPTIONALLY HIGH RATES OF GUN VIOLENCE

Almost **13,000** Americans were **murdered** with guns in 2015—a rate nearly 25 times higher than in other peer countries.

Women in the United States are 11 times more likely to be murdered with a gun than in other peer countries.

Americans are eight times more likely to commit **suicide** using a gun than in other peer countries.

American **children** are roughly 11 times more likely to die by guns than children in other peer countries.

HISTORICAL TRENDS

While the United States is statistically a safer place than it was 15 years ago, the gun murder rate in the US has remained relatively constant.

- Between 1999 and 2014, gun homicides have not varied more than 10% in either direction.
- Non-fatal firearm injuries are on the rise—in 2010, there were 73,505 non-fatal firearm injuries. That number climbed more than 10% by 2014, to 81,034.
- National gun violence rates obscure the true levels of violence in certain locations, particularly underserved urban communities.

THE ECONOMIC COST OF GUN VIOLENCE

Gun violence has an outsized economic impact on American taxpayers beyond the devastating human toll it wreaks on society.

- Researchers estimate that gun violence costs the American economy at least \$229 billion every year, including \$8.6 billion in direct expenses.
- Gun violence costs every American roughly \$700 every year.

SUICIDE & GUNS: MEANS MATTER

The majority of gun deaths are self-inflicted. The easy availability of firearms to those in distress makes suicide attempts far more likely to result in death.

- Over 50% of all suicides in the United States are committed with a firearm.
- White males, 40% of the population, account for nearly 80% of gun suicides.
- A study of California handgun purchasers found that in the first year after buying a gun, suicide was the leading cause of death among the purchasers.

THE IMPACT OF FIREARMS ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Deaths from domestic violence incidents involving guns have reached warzone proportions—firearms are a deadly force in abusive situations.

- Between 2001 and 2012, more than 6,410 women were murdered in the US by an intimate partner using a gun—more than the total number of US troops killed during the entirety of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.
- Abused women are five times more likely to be killed by their abuser if the abuser has access to a firearm.

KIDS & GUNS—A DEADLY COMBINATION

Unsecured guns pose a special risk to children—kids as young as three years old are strong enough to pull a trigger.

- A total of 999 American children under the age of 18 died from unintentional gunshot wounds between 2004 and 2013.
- More than 75% of guns used in suicide attempts of children and teens were stored in the residence of the victim, a relative, or a friend.

URBAN GUN VIOLENCE

The gun epidemic has hit underserved communities of color particularly hard—gun homicide rates in these neighborhoods have reached a crisis point.

- The murder rate among young black male Americans is close to 90 homicides per 100,000 people—nearly 20 times the national average.
- Black Americans comprise just 13% of the US population but constitute more than 50% of all firearm homicides.

For more details and underlying research, visit smartgunlaws.org/statistics

LAW CENTER TO PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE
smartgunlaws.org
media@smartgunlaws.org | 415.433.2062

responsiblesolutions.org

AMERICANS FOR RESPONSIBLE SOLUTIONS | press@responsiblesolutions.org | 571.295.7807

2016 GUN LAW SCORECARD

Year after year, our data shows the same thing: smart, comprehensive gun laws lead to fewer gun deaths. See how your state's gun laws stack up:

gunlawscorecard.org

ABOUT US

Led by former Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords and Navy combat veteran and retired NASA astronaut Captain Mark Kelly, Americans for Responsible Solutions and the Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence are committed to advancing commonsense change that makes communities safer from gun violence. Operating out of offices in Washington DC, San Francisco, and New York, our staff partners with lawmakers and advocates to craft and enact the smart gun laws that save lives. We provide expertise in firearms litigation, lead grassroots coalitions, and educate the public on the proven solutions to America's gun violence epidemic.

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