



U.S. Gun Violence Statistics

People: You don't need to memorize the statistics in this document. However, what you are expected to know are the broad themes concerning gun violence in United States that emerge from them. For latest statistics click on subtitles

Statistics on the Dangers of Gun Use for Self-Defense

Guns kept in the home are more likely to be involved in a fatal or nonfatal unintentional shooting, criminal assault or suicide attempt than to be used to injure or kill in self-defense.¹ That is, a gun is more likely to be used to kill or injure an innocent person in the home than a threatening intruder.

Though guns may be successfully used in self-defense even when they are not fired, the evidence shows that their presence in the home makes a person more vulnerable, not less. Instead of keeping owners safer from harm, objective studies confirm that firearms in the home place owners and their families at greater risk. Research published in the New England Journal of Medicine found that living in a home where guns are kept increased an individual's risk of death by homicide by between 40 and 170%.² Another study published in the American Journal of Epidemiology similarly found that "persons with guns in the home were at greater risk of dying from a homicide in the home than those without guns in the home." This study determined that the presence of guns in the home increased an individual's risk of death by homicide by 90%.³

Claims that guns are used defensively millions times every year have been widely discredited. Using a gun in self-defense is no more likely to reduce the chance of being injured during a crime than various other forms of protective action.⁴ At least one study has found that carrying a firearm significantly increases a person's risk of being shot in an assault; research published in the American Journal of Public Health reported that, even after adjusting for confounding factors, individuals who were in possession of a gun were about 4.5 times more likely to be shot in an assault than those not in possession.⁵

The gun lobby has often cited to a thoroughly debunked statistic that guns are used defensively 2.5 million times per year in the United States. That discredited estimate came from a 1995 study that suffered from several fatal methodological flaws, including its reliance on only 66 responses in a telephone survey of 5,000 people, multiplied out to purportedly represent over 200 million American adults.⁶ The authors of that discredited study *themselves* stated that in up to 64% of their reported defensive gun use cases, the guns were carried or used illegally, including cases where the victim was actually the aggressor.⁷

A study published in 2013 by the Violence Policy Center, using five years of nationwide statistics (2007-2011) compiled by the federal Bureau of Justice found that defensive gun use occurs at a dramatically lower rate, about 98.5% lower than the gun lobby has claimed.⁸ The V.P.C. also found that for every one justifiable homicide in the

United States involving a gun, guns were used in 44 criminal homicides.² This ratio does not take into account the tens of thousands of lives lost in gun suicides or accidental shootings every year.

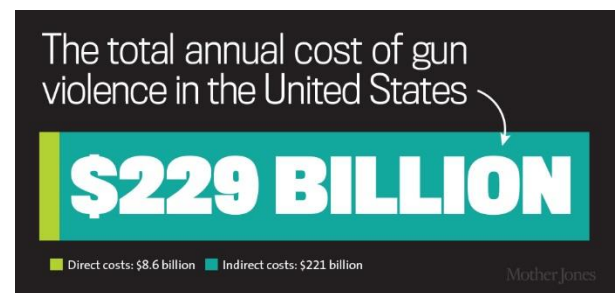
Another study reviewing surveys of gun use in the U.S. determined that a majority of self-reported defensive gun uses may also have been illegal and against the interests of society.¹⁰

1. Arthur L. Kellerman et al., *Injuries and Deaths Due to Firearms in the Home*, 45 J. Trauma 263, 263, 266 (1998). []
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3. Linda L. Dahlberg et al., *Guns in the Home and Risk of a Violent Death in the Home: Findings from a National Study*, 160 Am. J. Epidemiology 929, 935 (2004). []
4. David Hemenway, *Private Guns, Public Health* 78 (2004). []
5. Charles C. Branas, et al, *Investigating the Link Between Gun Possession and Gun Assault*, 99 Am. J. Pub. Health 2034 (Nov. 2009), at <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2759797/pdf/2034.pdf>. []
6. See David Hemenway, *Policy and Perspective: Survey Research and Self-Defense Gun Use: An Explanation of Extreme Overestimates*, 87 J. Crim. L. & Criminology 1430, 1432 (1997). []
7. Gary Kleck & Marc Gertz, *Armed Resistance to Crime: The Prevalence and Nature of Self-Defense with a Gun*, 86 J. CRIM. L. & CRIMINOLOGY 150, 174 (1995). []
8. Marty Langley & Josh Sugarman, *Firearm Justifiable Homicides and Non-Fatal Self-Defense Gun Use: An Analysis of Federal Bureau of Investigation and National Crime Victimization Survey Data*, Violence Policy Center 1, 9 (Apr. 2013), at <http://www.vpc.org/studies/justifiable.pdf>. []
9. Marty Langley & Josh Sugarman, *Firearm Justifiable Homicides and Non-Fatal Self-Defense Gun Use: An Analysis of Federal Bureau of Investigation and National Crime Victimization Survey Data*, Violence Policy Center 1, 2 (Apr. 2013), at <http://www.vpc.org/studies/justifiable.pdf>. See also, Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Dept. of Justice, *Crime in the United States, 2009, Expanded Homicide Data Table 15*, at http://www2.fbi.gov/ucr/cius2009/offenses/expanded_information/data/shrtable_15.html (last visited Oct. 10, 2010)(reporting that of the 13,636 Americans who were murdered in 2009, only 215 involved justifiable homicide by firearms and only 165 involved justifiable homicide by handguns). []
10. David Hemenway, Deborah Azrael & Matthew Miller, *Gun Use in the United States: Results from Two National Surveys*, 6 Inj. Prevention 263, 263 (2000). []

Statistics on the Costs of Gun Violence

Researchers conservatively estimate that gun violence costs the American economy at least \$229 billion every year, including \$8.6 billion in direct expenses such as for emergency and medical care.¹ Gun violence costs more than \$700 per American every year, more than the total economic cost of obesity and almost as much as the annual price tag for the entire Medicaid program.²

Half of these costs are borne by U.S. taxpayers.³ But these costs are not borne evenly; the data shows that states with smart gun laws save lives and funds. Wyoming, with the nation's highest rate of gun deaths, also bears the highest gun violence costs per capita of any state: gun violence costs Wyoming around \$1,400 per resident every year, twice the national average.⁴ By comparison, Hawaii, among the two states with the nation's lowest rate of gun deaths, had costs associated with gun violence of \$234 per resident per year, about 1/6th of Wyoming's.⁵



In California, the direct costs of hospital use for firearm assault injuries alone was estimated at \$87.4 million in 2010. 65% of these costs were borne by taxpayers.⁶

1. Mark Follman, Julia Lurie, Jacah Lee & James West, *The True Cost of Gun Violence in America* (2015), available at <http://www.motherjones.com/politics/2015/04/true-cost-of-gun-violence-in-america>. []

2. Id. []
3. Philip Cook et al., *The Medical Costs of Gunshot Injuries in the United States*, 282 JAMA 447 (1999); Embry M. Howell et al., *State Variation in Hospital Use and Cost of Firearm Assault Injury*, 2010, 1, 6 (2014), available at <http://www.urban.org/research/publication/state-variation-hospital-use-and-cost-firearm-assault-injury-2010>. []
4. Mark Follman, Julia Lurie, Jaeah Lee & James West, *The True Cost of Gun Violence in America* (2015), available at <http://www.motherjones.com/politics/2015/04/true-cost-of-gun-violence-in-america>. []
5. Id. []
6. Embry M. Howell et al., *State Variation in Hospital Use and Cost of Firearm Assault Injury*, 2010, 1 (2014), available at <http://www.urban.org/research/publication/state-variation-hospital-use-and-cost-firearm-assault-injury-2010>. []

Introduction to Gun Violence Statistics

The United States experiences epidemic levels of gun violence, claiming over 30,000 lives annually, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. For every person who dies from a gunshot wound, two others are wounded. Every year, approximately 100,000 Americans are victims of gun violence. In addition to those who are killed or injured, there are countless others whose lives are forever changed by the deaths of and injuries to their loved ones.

Gun violence touches every segment of our society. It increases the probability of deaths in incidents of domestic violence, raises the likelihood of fatalities by those who intend to injure others and among those who attempt suicide, places children and young people at special risk, and disproportionately affects communities of color.

Mass shooting tragedies like the school shootings at Virginia Tech in April 2007 and Northern Illinois University in February 2008 – or the 1993 office shooting in San Francisco that led to the formation of the Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence – receive significant media attention. However, gun deaths and injuries in the U.S. usually occur quietly, without national press coverage, every day.

Statistics on Gun Deaths & Injuries

In 2010, guns took the lives of 31,076 Americans in homicides, suicides and unintentional shootings. This is the equivalent of more than 85 deaths **each day** and more than three deaths **each hour**.¹

73,505 Americans were treated in hospital emergency departments for non-fatal gunshot wounds in 2010.²

Firearms were the third-leading cause of injury-related deaths nationwide in 2010, following poisoning and motor vehicle accidents.³

Between 1955 and 1975, the Vietnam War killed over 58,000 American soldiers – less than the number of civilians killed with guns in the U.S. in an average two-year period.⁴

In the first seven years of the U.S.-Iraq War, over 4,400 American soldiers were killed. Almost as many civilians are killed with guns in the U.S., however, *every seven weeks*.⁵

Homicide

Guns were used in 11,078 homicides in the U.S. in 2010, comprising almost 35% of all gun deaths, and over 68% of all homicides.⁶

On average, 33 gun homicides were committed each day for the years 2005-2010.⁷

Regions and states with higher rates of gun ownership have significantly higher rates of homicide than states with lower rates of gun ownership.⁸

Where guns are prevalent, there are significantly more homicides, particularly gun homicides.²

Suicide

Firearms were used in 19,392 suicides in the U.S. in 2010, constituting almost 62% of all gun deaths.¹⁰

Over 50% of all suicides are committed with a firearm.¹¹

On average, 49 gun suicides were committed each day for the years 2005-2010.¹²

White males, about 40% of the U.S. population, accounted for over 80% of firearm suicides in 2010.¹³

A study of California handgun purchasers found that in the first year after the purchase of a handgun, suicide was the leading cause of death among the purchasers.¹⁴

Firearms were used in nearly 44% of suicide deaths among persons under age 25 in 2010.¹⁵

More than 75% of guns used in suicide attempts and unintentional injuries of 0-19 year-olds were stored in the residence of the victim, a relative, or a friend.¹⁶

The risk of suicide increases in homes where guns are kept loaded and/or unlocked.¹⁷

Unintentional Deaths and Injuries

In 2010, unintentional firearm injuries caused the deaths of 606 people.¹⁸

From 2005-2010, almost 3,800 people in the U.S. died from unintentional shootings.¹⁹

Over 1,300 victims of unintentional shootings for the period 2005–2010 were under 25 years of age.²⁰

People of all age groups are significantly more likely to die from unintentional firearm injuries when they live in states with more guns, relative to states with fewer guns. On average, states with the highest gun levels had nine times the rate of unintentional firearms deaths compared to states with the lowest gun levels.²¹

A federal government study of unintentional shootings found that 8% of such shooting deaths resulted from shots fired by children under the age of six.²²

The U.S. General Accounting Office has estimated that 31% of unintentional deaths caused by firearms might be prevented by the addition of two devices: a child-proof safety lock (8%) and a loading indicator (23%).²³

1. Nat'l Ctr. for Injury Prevention & Control, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Web-Based Injury Statistics Query & Reporting System (WISQARS) Injury Mortality Reports, 1999-2010, for National, Regional, and States* (Dec. 2012), http://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/dataRestriction_inj.html (hereinafter *WISQARS Injury Mortality Reports, 1999-2010*. Note: Users must agree to data use restrictions on the CDC site prior to accessing data). []
2. Nat'l Ctr. for Injury Prevention & Control, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Web-Based Injury Statistics Query & Reporting System (WISQARS) Nonfatal Injury Reports*, at <http://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/nfirates2001.html> (last visited Nov. 20, 2012) (hereinafter *WISQARS Nonfatal Injury Reports*). []

3. Nat'l Ctr. for Injury Prevention and Control, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Web-Based Injury Statistics Query & Reporting System (WISQARS) Leading Causes of Death Reports, 1999-2010, for National, Regional, and States (RESTRICTED)*, at http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/leading_causes_death.html (last visited Nov. 30, 2012). []
4. U.S. Department of Defense, Statistical Information Analysis Division, Personnel & Military Casualty Statistics, *U.S. Military Casualties in Southeast Asia: Vietnam Conflict – Casualty Summary As of May 16, 2008*, at <http://siadapp.dmdc.osd.mil/personnel/CASUALTY/vietnam.pdf> (last visited Feb. 10, 2012); *WISQARS Injury Mortality Reports, 1999-2010*, *supra* note 1. []
5. U.S. Department of Defense, *Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) U.S. Casualty Status, Fatalities as of: March 12, 2012, 10 a.m. EST*, at <http://www.defense.gov/news/casualty.pdf> (last visited Feb. 10, 2012); *WISQARS Injury Mortality Reports, 1999-2010*, *supra* note 1. []
6. *WISQARS Injury Mortality Reports, 1999-2010*, *supra* note 1. []
7. *Id.* []
8. Matthew Miller, Deborah Azrael & David Hemenway, *Rates of Household Firearm Ownership and Homicide Across US Regions and States, 1988-1997*, 92 Am. J. Pub. Health 1988 (2002). []
9. David Hemenway, *Private Guns, Public Health* 65 (2004). []
10. *WISQARS Injury Mortality Reports, 1999-2010*, *supra* note 1. []
11. *Id.* []
12. *Id.* []
13. *Id.* []
14. Garen J. Wintemute et al., *Mortality Among Recent Purchasers of Handguns*, 341 New Eng. J. Med. 1583, 1585 (Nov. 18, 1999). []
15. *WISQARS Injury Mortality Reports, 1999-2010*, *supra* note 1. []
16. David C. Grossman, Donald T. Reay & Stephanie A. Baker, *Self-inflicted & Unintentional Firearm Injuries Among Children & Adolescents: The Source of the Firearm*, 153 Archives Pediatric & Adolescent Med. 875 (Aug. 1999), at <http://archpedi.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/short/153/8/875>. []
17. Matthew Miller & David Hemenway, *The Relationship Between Firearms and Suicide: A Review of the Literature*, 4 Aggression & Violent Behavior 59, 62-65 (1999) (summarizing the findings of multiple studies). []
18. *WISQARS Injury Mortality Reports, 1999-2010*, *supra* note 1. []
19. *Id.* []
20. *Id.* []
21. Matthew Miller, Deborah Azrael & David Hemenway, *Firearm Availability and Unintentional Firearm Deaths*, 33 Accident Analysis & Prevention 477 (July 2001). []
22. U.S. General Accounting Office, *Accidental Shootings: Many Deaths and Injuries Caused by Firearms Could Be Prevented* 17 (Mar. 1991), at <http://161.203.16.4/d20t9/143619.pdf>. []
23. *Id.* A loading indicator, also known as a “chamber load indicator,” is a safety device that indicates at a glance whether a firearm is loaded and whether a round remains in the chamber. []

Statistics on Youth Gun Violence & Gun Access

Firearm injuries are the cause of death of 18 children and young adults (24 years of age and under) each day in the U.S.¹

Children and young adults (24 years of age and under) constitute 38% of all firearm deaths and non-fatal injuries.²

In the United States, over 1.69 million kids age 18 and under are living in households with loaded and unlocked firearms.³

More than 75% of guns used in suicide attempts and unintentional injuries of 0-19 year-olds were stored in the residence of the victim, a relative, or a friend.⁴

A 2000 study found that 55% of U.S. homes with children and firearms have one or more firearms in an unlocked place; 43% have guns without a trigger lock in an unlocked place.⁵

In another study, 73% of children aged nine and under reported knowing the location of their parents' firearms and 36% admitted that they had handled the weapons, including many whose parents had reported their children did not know the location of their firearm.⁶ It is therefore unsurprising that 89% of accidental shooting deaths among children occur in the home and that most of these deaths occur when children are playing with an unsecured loaded gun in their parents' absence.⁷

The practices of keeping firearms locked, unloaded, and storing ammunition in a locked location separate from firearms may assist in reducing youth suicide and unintentional injury in homes with children and teenagers where guns are stored.⁸

Many young children, including children as young as three years old, are strong enough to fire handguns.²

1. Nat'l Ctr. for Injury Prevention & Control, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Web-Based Injury Statistics Query & Reporting System (WISQARS) Injury Mortality Reports, 1999-2010, for National, Regional, and States* (Sept. 2012), http://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/dataRestriction_inj.html (hereinafter *WISQARS Injury Mortality Reports, 1999-2010*. Note: Users must agree to data use restrictions on the CDC site prior to accessing data). []
2. *Id.*, Nat'l Ctr. for Injury Prevention & Control, U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, *Web-Based Injury Statistics Query & Reporting System (WISQARS) Nonfatal Injury Reports*, at <http://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/nfirates2001.html> (last visited Nov. 20, 2012) (hereinafter *WISQARS Nonfatal Injury Reports*). []
3. Catherine A. Okoro et al., *Prevalence of Household Firearms and Firearm-Storage Practices in the 50 States and the District of Columbia: Findings from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System*, 2002, 116 *Pediatrics* e370, e370 (Sept. 2005), at <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/cgi/content/full/116/3/e370>. []
4. David C. Grossman, Donald T. Reay & Stephanie A. Baker, *Self-inflicted & Unintentional Firearm Injuries Among Children & Adolescents: The Source of the Firearm*, 153 *Archives Pediatric & Adolescent Med.* 875 (Aug. 1999), at <http://archpedi.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/short/153/8/875>. []
5. Mark A. Schuster et al., *Firearm Storage Patterns in U.S. Homes with Children*, 90 *Am. J. Pub. Health* 588, 590 (Apr. 2000). []
6. Frances Baxley & Matthew Miller, *Parental Misperceptions about Children and Firearms*, 160 *ARCHIVES OF PEDIATRIC & ADOLESCENT MED.* 542, 544 (2006). []
7. Guohua Li et al., *Factors Associated with the Intent of Firearm-Related Injuries in Pediatric Trauma Patients*, 150 *ARCHIVES OF PEDIATRIC & ADOLESCENT MED.* 1160, 1162 (1996). []
8. David C. Grossman et al., *Gun Storage Practices and Risk of Youth Suicide and Unintentional Firearm Injuries*, 293 *JAMA* 707, 711-13 (Feb. 2005). []
9. Naureckas, S.M. et al, *Children's and Women's Ability to Fire Handguns*, 149 *Archives of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine*, 1318 (Dec. 1995). []

Statistics on Non-Powder Guns

Non-powder guns, including BB, air and pellet guns, injured 13,851 people in 2010, including 9,252 young people (age 19 or younger).¹

From July 1993 to July 2003, non-powder guns caused 40 deaths nationwide.² Although injury rates for non-powder guns appear to have declined significantly since the early 1990's, non-powder guns are becoming more powerful and more accurate, and are often designed to appear almost indistinguishable from firearms.³

For additional information about non-powder guns, including background information and state and local laws on the topic, see our [Non-Powder Guns Policy Summary](#).

1. National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System (WISQARS) Nonfatal Injury Reports 2010*, at <http://webapp.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/nfirates2001.html>. []
2. Jennifer E. Keller et al., *Air-Gun Injuries: Initial Evaluation and Resultant Morbidity*, 70 *Am. Surgeon* 484, 484 (June 2004). []
3. Ann Marie McNeill & Joseph L. Annett, *The Ongoing Hazard of BB and Pellet Gun-Related Injuries in the United States*, 26 *Annals Emergency Med.* 187, 191-92 (Aug. 1995); Press Release, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, *CPSC Chairman Challenges Toy Industry To Stop Producing Look-Alike Guns* (Oct. 17, 1994), at <http://www.cpsc.gov/CPSCPUB/PREREL/PRHTML95/95009.html>. []

Statistics on Gun Deaths & Race

Firearm homicide is the leading cause of death for African Americans ages 1-44.¹

African Americans make up nearly 13% of the U.S. population, but in 2009 suffered almost 24% of all firearm deaths – and over 54% of all firearm homicides.²

1. Nat'l Ctr. for Injury Prevention & Control, U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, *Web-Based Injury Statistics Query & Reporting System (WISQARS) Leading Causes of Death Reports, 1999-2009, for National, Regional, and States (RESTRICTED)*, at

http://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/dataRestriction_lcd.html (last visited Mar. 8, 2012) (hereinafter *WISQARS Leading Causes of Death Reports, 1999-2009*; Note: Users must agree to data use restrictions on the CDC site prior to accessing data). []

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Statistics on Domestic Violence & Firearms

Guns increase the probability of death in incidents of domestic violence.¹

Firearms were used to kill more than two-thirds of spouse and ex-spouse homicide victims between 1990 and 2005.²

Domestic violence assaults involving a firearm are 12 times more likely to result in death than those involving other weapons or bodily force.³

Abused women are five times more likely to be killed by their abuser if the abuser owns a firearm.⁴

A recent survey of female domestic violence shelter residents in California found that more than one third (36.7%) reported having been threatened or harmed with a firearm.⁵ In nearly two thirds (64.5%) of the households that contained a firearm, the intimate partner had used the firearm against the victim, usually threatening to shoot or kill the victim.⁶

Laws that prohibit the purchase of a firearm by a person subject to a domestic violence restraining order are associated with a reduction in the number of intimate partner homicides.⁷

Between 1990 and 2005, individuals killed by current dating partners made up almost half of all spouse and current dating partner homicides.⁸

A study of applicants for domestic violence restraining orders in Los Angeles found that the most common relationship between the victim and abuser was a dating relationship, and applications for protective orders were more likely to mention firearms when the parties had not lived together and were not married.⁹

For additional information about domestic violence and firearms, including background information and state and local laws on the topic, see the Law Center's [Domestic Violence and Firearms Policy Summary](#).

1. Susan B. Sorenson, *Firearm Use in Intimate Partner Violence: A Brief Overview*, in 30 *Evaluation Review*, A Journal of Applied Social Research, Special Issue: Intimate Partner Violence and Firearms, 229, 232-33 (Susan B. Sorenson ed., 2006). []
2. Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, *Homicide Trends in the U.S.: Intimate Homicide* (July 2007), at <http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/content/homicide/intimates.cfm>. []
3. Linda E. Saltzman, et al., *Weapon Involvement and Injury Outcomes in Family and Intimate Assaults*, 267 *JAMA*, 3043-3047 (1992). []
4. Jacquelyn C. Campbell et al., *Risk Factors for Femicide in Abusive Relationships: Results from a Multisite Case Control Study*, 93 *Am. J. Pub. Health* 1089, 1092 (July 2003). []
5. Susan B. Sorenson et al., *Weapons in the Lives of Battered Women*, 94 *Am. J. Pub. Health* 1412, 1413 (2004). []
6. *Id.* at 1414. []
7. Elizabeth R. Vigdor et al., *Do Laws Restricting Access to Firearms by Domestic Violence Offenders Prevent Intimate Partner Homicide?*, 30 *Evaluation Rev.* 313, 332 (June 2006). []

Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, *Homicide Trends in the U.S.: Intimate Homicide* (July 2007), at <http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/content/homicide/intimates.cfm>. []

8. Katherine A. Vittes et al., *Are Temporary Restraining Orders More Likely to be Issued When Application Mention Firearms?*, 30 *Evaluation Rev.* 266, 271, 275 (2006). []

Statistics on Gun Ownership

Americans own an estimated 270 million firearms – approximately 90 guns for every 100 people.¹

However, these high numbers of firearms are concentrated in an increasingly small minority of households. Data from the General Social Survey, conducted by the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago, found that American household gun ownership peaked in 1977, when more than half of American households (53.7%) reported having any guns. By 2014, only 32.4% of American households had a gun in the home — less than a third. From 1985 to 2014, the percentage of Americans who reported personally owning a gun dropped by more than a quarter, down to 22.4%.²

1. Small Arms Survey, Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva, *Small Arms Survey 2007: Guns and the City* at 39 (Aug. 2007). []
2. *A Shrinking Minority: The Continuing Decline of Gun Ownership in America*, Violence Policy Center (May 2015), at <http://www.vpc.org/studies/ownership.pdf>. []

Statistics on Gun Crimes

In 2007, nearly 70% of all murders nationwide were committed with a firearm.¹

In 2007, 385,178 total firearm crimes were committed, including 11,512 murders, 190,514 robberies, and 183,153 aggravated assaults.²

1. U.S. Dep't of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Key Facts at a Glance: Crimes Committed with Firearms, 1973-2007*, at <http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/content/glance/tables/guncrimetab.cfm> (last visited Aug. 15, 2010). []
2. *Id.* []