

## The Gun Industry & the Cost of Gun Violence

Gun manufacturers are making more guns than ever: production has almost tripled in the last decade from 3,099,025 in 2004, to 9,050,626 in 2014. While the gun industry makes billions of dollars selling these guns, regular Americans pay the costs of our gun violence epidemic. Medical treatment, criminal justice proceedings, new security precautions, and reductions in quality of life are estimated to cost U.S. citizens \$100 billion annually.

### GUNS MADE IN THE U.S. IN 2014

	3,633,454 pistols
	744,047 revolvers
	3,379,549 rifles
	935,411 shotguns
	358,165 misc. firearms

### TOP GUN MANUFACTURERS IN THE U.S.

Annual sales in millions of dollars

<b>\$931.9</b>	Remington Outdoor Company
<b>\$551.9</b>	Smith & Wesson Holding Corp.
<b>\$551.1</b>	Sturm, Ruger & Company, Inc.
<b>\$277.9</b>	Colt Defense LLC



Walmart is America's largest seller of guns and ammunition. In 2015 Walmart stopped selling high-powered rifles associated with many mass shootings.

## What Can I Do?

If you own a gun, make sure it is locked and unloaded where children cannot access it. If you have children, ask other parents if they have an unlocked loaded gun before your child plays in their home.

While background checks work, only 60% of gun sales are subject to them. Write to your legislators to ask them to fix these dangerous loopholes. Domestic abusers, violent criminals, and terrorists should not be allowed to buy guns.

Demand that our broken educational system be fixed. A good education gives our young people their best chance to escape violence and poverty.

Tell your legislators that people in the midst of a mental health crisis should have an easier time getting treatment than getting a gun. And visit [suicideproof.org](http://suicideproof.org) to see what you can do to prevent suicide in your own home.

## Sources

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# GUN VIOLENCE

The recent mass shooting in Orlando, the deadliest in U.S. history, has all of us thinking once again about gun violence in our country. But how much do we really know about the dangers guns pose?

Most Americans who own a gun say they do so for protection. However, guns are very rarely used in self defense. In fact, having a gun in your home increases the chances that you or someone you love will get shot. A gun in the home is 22 times more likely to be used to kill or injure a person living with you (in a domestic homicide, suicide or accident) than to be used in self defense.



People who live in homes with guns are over three times as likely to die from suicide and twice as likely to be a victim of homicide as those who don't have access to firearms.

Wayne LaPiere of the NRA has famously argued that "the surest way to stop a bad guy with a gun — is a good guy with a gun!" The U.S. has, by far, the most heavily armed civilian population in the world. So by LaPiere's logic, we should have the lowest rates of gun violence. However, the opposite is true. In Germany, for example, your chances of being killed by a gun are roughly the same as our chances of dying because of a falling object (about 2 per million).



Every year on average about 109,000 people are shot in America. **Around 33,000 people die from gun violence. Of those, 20,500 kill themselves, 11,000 are murdered, 500 die by accident, 500 by legal intervention and 250 die but intent is unknown.**

## Domestic Violence & Guns

More than half of all women murdered in the U.S. in recent years were murdered by a current or former intimate partner. Men with a history of domestic violence are already more likely to murder an intimate partner, and owning a gun increases that risk even more. Abused women are 5 times more likely to be murdered when abusers own a gun. Domestic violence attacks involving a gun are 12 times more likely to be fatal than those using other weapons or bodily force.

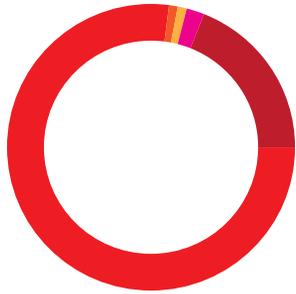


## Race, Class & Gun Violence

Racial inequality and the resulting economic disparity in the U.S. has a shocking impact on gun violence. Although only 13% of Americans are black, nearly 40% of homicide victims are African-Americans. Centuries of racism have contributed to poverty, unemployment and lack of mental health services in communities that are predominantly African-American. The Black Lives Matter movement has brought national attention to the murders of black people by law enforcement officers, but the impact of race on gun violence goes much further. Legal intervention accounts for less than 2% of black lives ended by guns. Young black people, especially boys, who grow up with the message that their lives don't matter are more likely to kill and be killed with guns than any other group of people in the U.S..

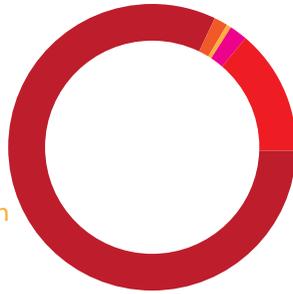
### WHITE GUN DEATHS

77% Suicide  
19% murder  
2% accident  
1% legal intervention  
1% unknown



### BLACK GUN DEATHS

14% Suicide  
82% murder  
2% accident  
1.5% legal intervention  
.5% unknown



## Children & Guns

17,500 children and teens are shot in the U.S. every year. Of those 2,700 die. Gun violence is the second leading cause of death for children and teens; only car crashes kill more kids in America. More than a third of these gun deaths are suicides or accidents. Nearly 1.7 million children live in a home with an unlocked, loaded gun.

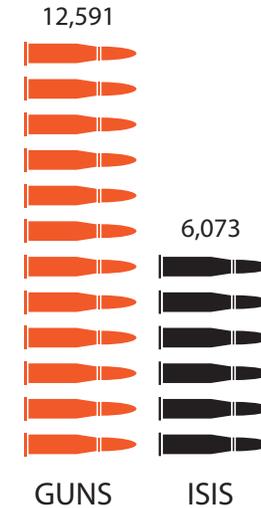


**1 in 3**

homes with children in the U.S. have guns. Of those, nearly half of parents keep at least one gun unlocked and one quarter of parents keep this gun loaded.

## A Far Greater Threat than Terrorism

More than twice as many people in the U.S. were murdered with guns in 2014 than all the people ISIS killed worldwide that same year.



From 2004 to 2014, 303 U.S. citizens were killed in terrorist attacks while 320,523, about a thousand times as many, were killed with guns in non-terrorism related incidents.

The U.S. spends more than a hundred billion dollars a year fighting terrorism. Imagine the impact even a fraction of that amount could have if spent on efforts to reduce gun violence.

## Mass Shootings

Mass shootings (incidents where 4 or more people are murdered) can be put into three categories: There are **public shootings**, like the one in the Orlando night club, that garner the most media attention. There are those that are a result of **domestic violence**, typically a man kills his entire family in their home late at night. And there are those that involve some **other criminal activity**, like a robbery or fight that escalates, and generally take place in our poorest neighborhoods.

15 YEARS OF MASS SHOOTINGS

