

# **Gun Regulations and Policy**

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# The Problem..

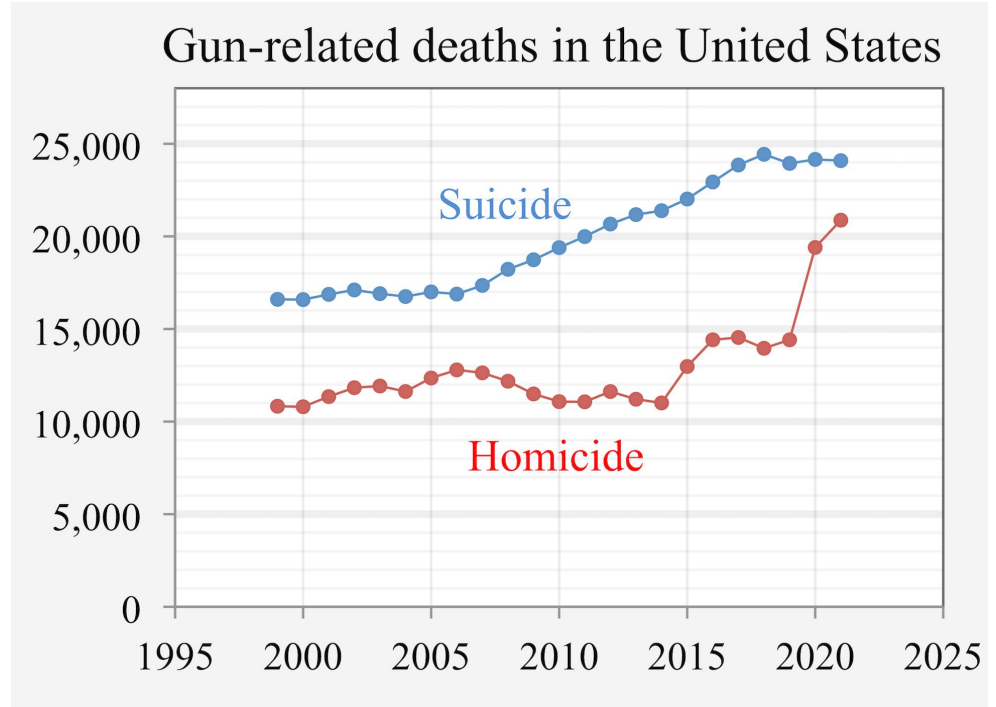
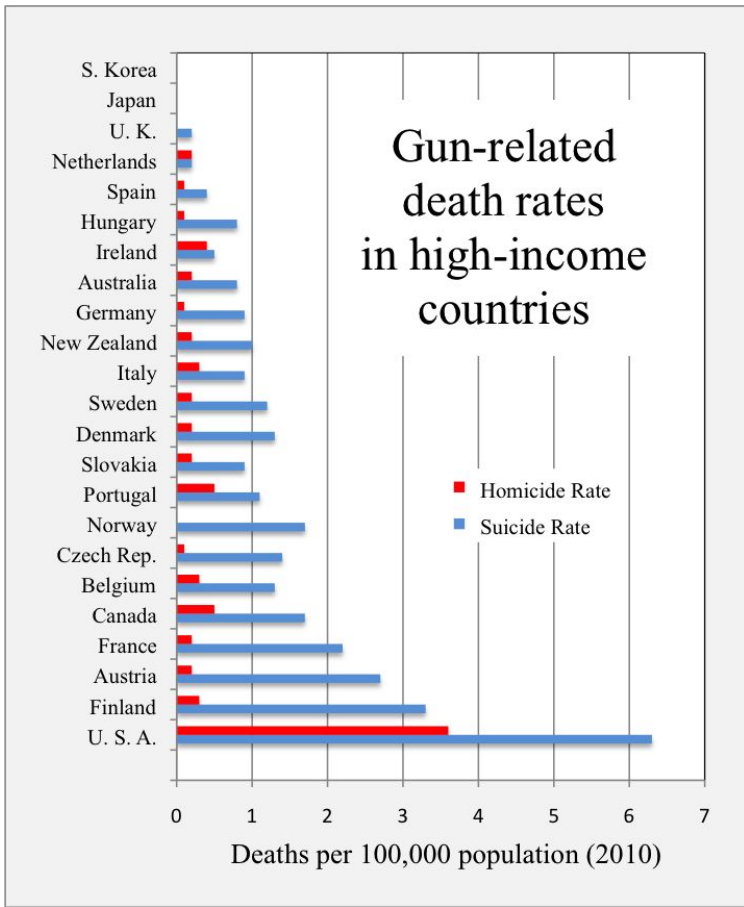
- Gun laws are not as secure as they need to be
- Shootings in the US occur frequently
- Guns are often used in suicides or domestic violence situations
- The minimum age for buying a gun in the US is 18
- There are many loopholes around gun laws
- Higher levels of gun violence can increase medical costs and housing prices

## Laws vary by states...

- In 2016 Mississippi passed a permitless carry law that allows almost everyone to carry loaded guns hidden in public. This law does not require a background check or any law enforcement oversight.
- New Jersey on the other hand has the fourth-strongest gun laws in the US. Assault weapons designed for military use are prohibited to purchase in the state, background checks are mandated, a permit is required to carry a gun in public, etc.
- The data clearly shows that states with stricter gun control laws have lower gun-related deaths and the least loss of civilian life

# Consequences of inadequate policies....

- According to the CDC, 48,830 people died in 2021 from gun-related injuries.
- This number is a 23% increase from the statistics recorded in 2019 regarding gun-related deaths. Because gun laws have not progressed and because there is no significant gun control in the US, the public is suffering at an increasing rate.
- Gun death rates vary significantly from state to state. Mississippi had the highest gun death rates in the country in 2021 while New Jersey had one of the lowest. Mississippi's gun laws make it clear as to why this is.



# Major gun related policies...

## The National Firearms Act (1934)

- Regulates manufacture and transfer of firearms. Puts excise tax on firearms.

## The Gun Control Act (1968)

- Created federal minimum age for purchasing firearms, and made firearms have serial numbers

## Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (2022)

- Require additional investigative steps as a part of the background check process before an 18 to 20 year old is able to purchase a long gun

# Current Policies...

- There are ways to get a gun without a background check, such as through a gun show. These background checks also are not very extensive, as they do not put an emphasis on a person's mental health.
- Firearm regulations vary from state to state
- The Federal gun minimum age is dangerously low, at 18 for possessing a handgun. You can buy a gun before you can drink alcohol.
- People often have “straw purchases” which is when someone who is ineligible to purchase a gun gets someone else to purchase it for them.
- Homicide rates are higher in states with weaker gun laws.
- Overall, our current gun policies have many loopholes and make it very easy for guns to end up in unsafe hands.

# Sources

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