



## Deaths, Firearms and Gun Control 2017

There were 33,589 [gun related deaths](#), nationwide, in 2014 by firearms (a decrease of 2.8% from 2013), and this number is not disputed. U.S. population was, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, [322,762,018 as of December 31, 2016](#). **Do the math:** 0.01% of the population dies from gun related causes each year. Statistically speaking, although clearly tragic, this is insignificant!

What is never shown, however, is a breakdown of those 33,589 deaths, to put them in perspective especially when compared to other causes of death:

- 63% (21,386-2014) of those [deaths are by suicide](#) which would never be prevented by gun laws
- 2.94% (990-2015) are [by law enforcement](#) in the line of duty and justified
- 32.8% (11,017) are through [criminal activity, gang and drug related or mentally ill persons](#) – gun violence
- 1.3% (461-2014) are [accidental discharge deaths](#)

So technically, "gun violence" is not 33,589 annually, but drops to 11,017. Still too many? Well, first, how are those deaths spanned across the nation?

- 411 homicides (3.73%) were in [Chicago](#)
- 211 homicides (1.91%) were in [Baltimore](#)
- 298 homicides (2.70%) were in [Detroit](#)
- 105 homicides (0.95%) were in [Washington D.C.](#)
- 248 homicides (2.25%) were in [Philadelphia](#)
- 260 homicides (2.36%) were in [Los Angeles](#)
- 333 homicides (3.02%) were in [New York City](#)

So basically, 17% of all firearm related violent crime happens in just 7 cities. All 7 of those cities have strict gun laws, so it is not the lack of law that is the root cause.

This basically leaves 9,151 for the entire rest of the nation, or about 212 deaths per state. That is an average because some States have much higher rates than others. For example, California had 1,697 homicides ([FBI-UCR](#)) and Alabama had 1 homicide ([FBI-UCR](#)).

Now, who has the strictest gun laws by far? California, of course, so clearly it is not firearms causing this. It is a crime rate spawned by the number of criminal persons residing in those cities and states. So if all cities and states are not created equally, then there must be something other than the tool causing the gun deaths.

Are 9,151 deaths per year horrific? How about in comparison to other deaths? All death is sad and especially so when it is in the commission of a crime but that is the nature of crime. Robbery, death, rape, assault all is done by criminals and thinking that criminals will obey laws is ludicrous. That's why they are criminals.

**But what about other deaths each year?**

- 47,000+ die from a drug overdose—THERE IS NO EXCUSE FOR THAT!
- 74,363 people [die per year](#) from the flu, far exceeding the criminal gun deaths
- 32,675 people die per year in traffic fatalities (exceeding gun deaths even if you include suicide)

**Now it gets good:**

- 400,000+ people die each year (and growing) from [preventable medical errors](#). You are safer in Chicago than when you are in a hospital!
- 610,000 people die per year from [heart disease](#).

It's time to stop the double cheeseburgers! So what is the point? If Obama and the anti-gun movement focused their attention on heart disease, even a 10% decrease in cardiac deaths would save twice the number of lives annually of all gun-related deaths (including suicide, law enforcement, etc.). A 10% reduction in medical errors would be 130% of the total gun deaths or 4 times the number of criminal homicides.....Simple, easily preventable 10% reductions!

So you have to ask yourself, in the grand scheme of things, why the focus on guns? It's pretty simple:

**The taking away of guns gives control to governments.**

The founders of this nation knew that regardless of the form of government, those in power may become corrupt and seek to rule as the British did by trying to disarm the populace of the colonies. It is not difficult to understand that a disarmed populace is a controlled populace.

Thus, the second amendment was proudly and boldly included in the U.S. Constitution. It must be preserved at all costs.

So the next time someone tries to tell you that gun control is about saving lives, look at these facts and **remember these words from Noah Webster: "Before a standing army can rule, the people must be disarmed, as they are in almost every kingdom in Europe. The supreme power in America cannot enforce unjust laws by the sword, because the whole body of the people are armed and constitute a force superior to any band of regular troops that can be, on any pretense, raised in the United States. A military force at the command of a Congress can execute no laws, but such as the people perceive to be just and constitutional; for they will possess the power."**

Remember, when it comes to "gun control," the important word is "control," not "gun."

***If you would like to join with us and help FOAC in our mission to defend and advance our Constitutional Freedoms, please contact us at the Links below:***

- **Join FOAC:** <https://foac-pac.org/Premium-Membership>
- **Donate to FOAC:** <https://foac-pac.org/Donate>
- **Contact FOAC:** [info@foacpac.org](mailto:info@foacpac.org)
- **For more information visit:** [www.foac-pac.org](http://www.foac-pac.org)

*Firearms Owners Against Crime (FOAC) is non-partisan, non-connected all-volunteer Political Action Committee organized to empower 'all' gun owners, outdoors enthusiasts and supporters of the 2nd Amendment to the Bill of Rights, of the U.S. Constitution, and Article 1 Section 21 and 25, of the PA Constitution, with the tools and information necessary to protect freedom from transgression. FOAC became a formal statewide Political Action Committee in early 1994.*