



Deaths, Firearms and Gun Control - 2019

There were 39,682 [gun related deaths](#), nationwide, in 2019 by firearms (*a slight decrease from 2018*), and this number is not disputed. U.S. population was, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, [328,239,523 as of December 31, 2019](#). **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 39,682 deaths, to put them in perspective especially when compared to other causes of death:

- 23,941 - 60.33% (21,386-2014) of those [deaths are by suicide \(firearm\)](#) which are routinely 'not' by gun laws
- 1,112 - 2.80% (990-2015) are [by law enforcement](#) in the line of duty and justified
- 14,414 - 36.32% (11,017-2017) are through [Assault \(homicide\) by Discharge of Firearm](#) – gun violence
- 486 - 1.2% (461-2014) are [accidental discharge deaths](#)

So technically, "gun violence" is not **39,682** annually, but drops to **15,741** (minus suicides) then to **15,255** (minus firearm accidents) then to **14,143** (minus police use of lethal force) and finally, **13,757** (386 [Citizen Justifiable Homicides](#)). Still too many? Let's look at how those deaths spanned the nation!

1. 492 (2019) homicides (3.57%) were in [Chicago](#) (411-2017)
2. 348 (2019) homicides (2.53%) were in [Baltimore](#) (211-2017)
3. 275 (2019) homicides (2.01%) were in [Detroit](#) (298-2017)
4. 166 (2019) homicides (1.21%) were in [Washington D.C.](#) (105-2017)
5. 356 (2019) homicides (2.59%) were in [Philadelphia](#) (248-2017)
6. 39 (2019) homicides (.26%) were in [Pittsburgh](#) (58-2018)
7. 258 (2019) homicides (1.88%) were in [Los Angeles](#) (260-2017)
8. 78 (2019) homicides (.57%) were in [Oakland, CA](#)
9. 319 (2019) homicides (2.32%) were in [New York City](#) (333-2017)
10. 92 (2019) homicides (.66%) were in [Cleveland](#)

So basically, 17.61% of all firearm related violent crime happens in just 10 cities. All 10 of those cities have strict gun laws, so it is not the lack of law that is the root cause.

This basically leaves 11,334 for the entire rest of the nation, or about 283 homicide deaths per state. That is an average because some States have much higher rates than others. For example, California had 1,352 homicides – 2019 ([FBI-UCR](#)) and Alabama had 47 homicides ([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 11,334 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 are 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?

- 70,630 [died from a drug overdose](#) in 2019 – THERE IS NO EXCUSE FOR THAT!
- 61,000 people [died in the years 2017-2018](#) from the flu, far exceeding the criminal gun deaths
- 36,096 people [died in 2019 in traffic fatalities](#) (exceeding gun deaths even if you include suicide)

Now it gets interesting:

- 250,000 to 400,000+ [people die each year](#) (and growing) from [preventable medical errors](#). You are safer in Chicago than when you are in a hospital!
- 655,000 people die per year from [heart disease](#).

It's time to stop the double cheeseburgers! So, what is the point? If the political left 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!

Every citizen should ask themselves, 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 2nd 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
- **For more information visit:** 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, 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.