



Firearm Justifiable Homicides and Non-Fatal Self Defense Gun Use

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Violence Policy Center

Firearm Justifiable Homicides and Non-Fatal Self-Defense Gun Use

**An Analysis of Federal Bureau of Investigation
and National Crime Victimization Survey Data**

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INTRODUCTION

Guns are rarely used to kill criminals or stop crimes.

In 2013, across the nation there were only 211 justifiable homicides¹ involving a private citizen using a firearm reported to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program as detailed in its Supplementary Homicide Report (SHR).² That same year, there were 7,838 criminal gun homicides tallied in the SHR. *In 2013, for every justifiable homicide in the United States involving a gun, guns were used in 37 criminal homicides.*³ And this ratio, of course, does not take into account the tens of thousands of lives ended in gun suicides or unintentional shootings that year.⁴

This report analyzes, on both the national and state levels, the use of firearms in justifiable homicides. It also details, using the best data available on the national level, the *total* number of times guns are used for self-defense by the victims of both attempted and completed violent crimes and property crimes whether or not the use of the gun by the victim resulted in a fatality.

Key findings of this report, as detailed in its accompanying tables, include the following.

JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDES WITH A GUN COMPARED TO CRIMINAL GUN HOMICIDES

- In 2013, there were only 211 justifiable homicides involving a gun. For the five-year period 2009 through 2013, there were only 1,114 justifiable homicides involving a gun. [For additional information see *Table One: Firearm Justifiable Homicides by State, 2009-2013.*]

- 1 The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) defines "justifiable homicide" as the killing of a felon, during the commission of a felony, by a private citizen.
- 2 The Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program collects basic information on serious crimes from participating police agencies and records supplementary information about the circumstances of homicides in its unpublished Supplementary Homicide Report (SHR). The SHR contains more detailed information not available through published UCR data or elsewhere including: the age, sex, and race of victims and offenders; the types of weapons used; the relationship of victims to offenders; and, the circumstances of the homicides. Detailed information (such as weapon used, relationship between the victim and offender, etc.) in the SHR is available *only* for the first victim and/or offender in any justifiable homicide or homicide incident. From 2008 to 2013, 97.5 percent of firearm justifiable homicide incidents (1,286 out of 1,319) had just one victim. Recognizing how the data is presented in the SHR and the fact that virtually all justifiable incidents had just one victim, throughout this report justifiable homicide incidents will be referred to as justifiable homicides.
- 3 Number of reported justifiable homicides and homicides taken from Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program Supplementary Homicide Report (SHR) as tabulated by the Violence Policy Center. It is important to note that the coding contained in the SHR data used in this report comes from law enforcement reporting at the local level. The level of information submitted to the SHR system may vary from agency to agency. While this study utilizes the best and most recent data available, it is limited by the degree of detail in the information submitted.
- 4 In 2013 there were 21,175 firearm suicide deaths and 505 fatal unintentional shootings. Source: Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention WISQARS database.

- In 2013, 20 states⁵ reported no justifiable homicides (Alaska, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Montana, New York, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, West Virginia, and Wyoming). [For additional information see *Table One: Firearm Justifiable Homicides by State, 2009-2013.*]
- In 2013 for every justifiable homicide in the United States involving a gun, guns were used in 37 criminal homicides. For the five-year period 2009 through 2013, for every justifiable homicide in the United States involving a gun, guns were used in 37 criminal homicides. [For additional information see *Table Two: Circumstances for Homicides by Firearm, 2009-2013.*]

RELATIONSHIP OF PERSON KILLED TO SHOOTER IN JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDES BY FIREARM

- In 2013, 27.0 percent (57 of 211) of persons killed in a firearm justifiable homicide were known to the shooter,⁶ 59.7 percent (126) were strangers, and in 13.3 percent (28) the relationship was unknown. For the five-year period 2009 through 2013, 32.2 percent (359 of 1,114) of persons killed in a firearm justifiable homicide were known to the shooter, 55.8 percent (622) were strangers, and in 11.9 percent (133) the relationship was unknown. [For additional information see *Table Three: Relationship of Person Killed to Shooter in Justifiable Homicides by Firearm, 2009-2013.*]

SEX OF SHOOTER IN JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDES BY FIREARM

- In 2013, of the 211 firearm justifiable homicides, 93.8 percent (198) were committed by men, and 6.2 percent (13) were committed by women. For the five-year period 2009 through 2013, of the 1,114 firearm justifiable homicides, 91.6 percent (1,020) were committed by men, 7.8 percent (87) were committed by women, and in seven cases (0.6 percent) the gender of the shooter was unknown. [For additional information see *Table Four: Sex of Shooter in Justifiable Homicides by Firearm, 2009-2013.*]

SEX OF SHOOTER AND PERSON KILLED IN JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDES BY FIREARM

- In 2013, of the 211 firearm justifiable homicides, 98.1 percent (207) of the persons shot and killed were men and 1.9 percent (four) were women. For the five-year period 2009 through 2013, of the 1,114 firearm justifiable homicides, 98.3 percent (1,095) of the persons shot and killed were men and 1.7 percent

5 The state of Florida did not submit any data to the FBI Supplementary Homicide Report (SHR) for the years 2009 through 2013. Alabama did not submit data to the SHR for the years 2011 through 2013. In addition, according to the FBI, limited SHR data was received from Illinois for the years 2010 through 2013. For the five-year period 2009 through 2013, the District of Columbia submitted SHR data only in 2009, during which there were no justifiable homicides in the District. Data from these jurisdictions was not requested individually because the difference in collection techniques would create a bias in the study results.

6 Relationship categories in which the justifiable homicide victim was known to the shooter are acquaintance, boyfriend, brother, common-law husband, employee, ex-husband, ex-wife, father, friend, girlfriend, husband, in-law, neighbor, other family, other known, son, stepfather, stepson, and wife.

(19) were women. [For additional information see *Table Five: Sex of Person Killed in Justifiable Homicides by Firearm, 2009-2013.*]

- In 2013, 98.0 percent (194) of the persons killed by a male with a gun in a justifiable homicide were male and 2.0 percent (four) were female. For the five-year period 2009 through 2013, 98.2 percent (1,002) of the persons killed by a male with a gun in a justifiable homicide were male and 1.8 percent (18) were female. [For additional information see *Table Six: Sex of Shooter and Person Killed in Justifiable Homicides by Firearm, 2009-2013.*]
- In 2013, 100.0 percent (13) of the persons killed by a female with a gun in a justifiable homicide incident were male and 0.0 percent (zero) were female. For the five-year period 2009 through 2013, 98.9 percent (86) of the persons killed by a female with a gun in a justifiable homicide incident were male and 1.1 percent (one) were female. [For additional information see *Table Six: Sex of Shooter and Person Killed in Justifiable Homicides by Firearm, 2009-2013.*]

RACE OF SHOOTER IN JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDES BY FIREARM

- In 2013, 46.9 percent (99) of the shooters who committed justifiable homicides were white, 49.3 percent (104) were black, 2.4 percent (five) were Asian, 0.5 percent (one) were American Indian, and 1.0 percent (two) were of unknown race.⁷ For the five-year period 2009 through 2013, 49.3 percent (549) of the shooters who committed justifiable homicides were white, 46.7 percent (520) were black, 2.3 percent (26) were Asian, 0.4 percent (five) were American Indian, and 1.3 percent (14) were of unknown race. [For additional information see *Table Seven: Race of Shooter in Justifiable Homicides by Firearm, 2009-2013.*]

RACE OF PERSON KILLED IN JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDES BY FIREARM

- In 2013, 36.5 percent (77) of persons killed with a gun in a justifiable homicide were white, 61.6 percent (130) were black, 1.0 percent (two) were Asian, 0.5 percent (one) were American Indian, and 0.5 percent (one) were of unknown race. For the five-year period 2009 through 2013, 37.9 percent (422) of persons killed with a gun in a justifiable homicide were white, 60.1 percent (670) were black, 0.8 percent (nine) were Asian, 0.7 percent (eight) were American Indian, and 0.4 percent (five) were of unknown race. [For additional information see *Table Eight: Race of Person Killed in Justifiable Homicides by Firearm, 2009-2013.*]
- In 2013, 71.7 percent (71) of the persons killed with a gun in a justifiable homicide by a white shooter were white, 26.3 percent (26) were black, none were Asian, 1.0 percent (one) were American Indian, and 1.0 percent (one) were of unknown race. For the five-year period 2009 through 2013, 68.7 percent (377) of the persons killed by white shooters were white, 29.1 percent (160) were black, 0.2 percent (one) were Asian, 1.3 percent (seven) were American Indian, and 0.7 percent (four) were of unknown race. [For additional information see *Table Nine: Race of Shooter and Person Killed in Justifiable Homicides by Firearm, 2009-2013.*]

⁷ Detailed information (such as race of offender and victim) in the FBI's Supplementary Homicide Report is only available for the first victim and/or offender in the incident. Hispanic ethnicity could not be determined because of the inadequacy of data collection and reporting.

- In 2013, 4.8 percent (five) of the persons killed with a gun in a justifiable homicide by a black shooter were white, 95.2 percent (99) were black, none were Asian, none were American Indian, and none were of unknown race. For the five-year period 2009 through 2013, 6.0 percent (31) of the persons killed by black shooters were white, 93.8 percent (488) were black, 0.2 percent (one) were Asian, none were American Indian, and none were of unknown race. [For additional information see *Table Nine: Race of Shooter and Person Killed in Justifiable Homicides by Firearm, 2009-2013.*]

TYPES OF FIREARMS USED IN JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDES

- In 2013, firearms were used in 78.1 percent of justifiable homicides (211 of 270). Of these: 78.2 percent (165) were handguns; 3.8 percent (eight) were shotguns; 2.8 percent (six) were rifles; and, 14.2 percent (30) were firearm, type not stated. For the five-year period 2009 through 2013, firearms were used in 80.9 percent of justifiable homicide incidents (1,114 of 1,377). Of these: 75.5 percent (841) were handguns; 7.3 percent (81) were shotguns; 4.8 percent (54) were rifles; 12.1 percent (135) were firearm, type not stated; and, 0.3 percent (three) were other gun. [For additional information see *Table Ten: Weapon Used in Justifiable Homicides, 2009-2013* and *Table Eleven: Type of Firearms Used in Justifiable Homicides, 2009-2013.*]

HOW OFTEN ARE GUNS USED IN SELF-DEFENSE WHETHER OR NOT A CRIMINAL IS KILLED?

While it is clear that guns are rarely used to justifiably kill criminals, an obvious question remains: How often are guns used in self-defense whether or not a criminal is killed?

Pro-gun advocates – from individual gun owners to organizations like the National Rifle Association – frequently claim that guns are used up to 2.5 million times each year in self-defense in the United States.⁸ According to the 2004 book *Private Guns, Public Health* by Dr. David Hemenway, Professor of Health Policy at the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health and director of the Harvard Injury Control Research Center:

Much discussion about the protective benefits of guns has focused on the incidence of self-defense gun use. Proponents of such putative benefits often claim that 2.5 million Americans use guns in self-defense against criminal attackers each year. This estimate is not plausible and has been nominated as the most outrageous number mentioned in a policy discussion by an elected official.

8 See, for example: “The Armed Citizen” (“Studies indicate that firearms are used more than 2 million times a year for personal protection....”), *American Rifleman*, National Rifle Association, April 2016; and, “Chris Cox’s NRA Armed Citizen: True Stories of Your Right to Self Defense in Action,” (“While the anti gun media doesn’t want to report the truth about Americans using guns for self defense as often as 2.5 million times a year, you can read breaking stories of everyday citizens fending off violent criminals in CHRIS COX’S ARMED CITIZEN”), *Armed Citizen E-Newsletter* (March 26, 2015). The 2.5 million estimate is the result of a telephone survey conducted by Florida State University criminologist Dr. Gary Kleck, see Hemenway, David, “The Myth of Millions of Annual Self-Defense Gun Uses: A Case Study of Survey Overestimates of Rare Events,” *Chance* (American Statistical Association), Volume 10, No. 3, 1997.

In his book, Hemenway dissects the 2.5 million figure from a variety of angles and, by extension, the NRA's own non-lethal self-defense claims for firearms. He concludes, "It is clear that the claim of 2.5 million annual self-defense gun uses is a vast overestimate" and asks, "But what can account for it?" As he details in his book, the main culprit is the "telescoping and...false positive problem" that derives from the very limited number of respondents claiming a self-defense gun use, "a matter of misclassification that is well known to medical epidemiologists."⁹

ESTIMATES ON SELF-DEFENSE USE OF FIREARMS FROM THE BUREAU OF JUSTICE STATISTICS NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMIZATION SURVEY

Hemenway notes, and numerous others agree, that the most accurate survey of self-defense gun use is the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) conducted by the Bureau of Justice Statistics. The survey has been ongoing since 1973.¹⁰

VIOLENT CRIME

According to the NCVS, looking at the total number of self-protective behaviors undertaken by victims of both attempted and completed violent crime for the *three-year period 2012 through 2014*, in only 0.9 percent of these instances had the intended victim in resistance to a criminal "threatened or attacked with a firearm."¹¹ As detailed in the chart on the next page, for the three-year period 2012 through 2014, the NCVS estimates that there were 18,328,600 victims of attempted or completed violent crime. During this same *three-year period*, only 163,600 of the self-protective behaviors involved a firearm. Of this number, it is not known what type of firearm was used or whether it was fired or not. The number may also include off-duty law enforcement officers who use their firearms in self-defense.

9 For a more detailed discussion, please see Hemenway, David, *Private Guns, Public Health*, (The University of Michigan Press, 2004), pp. 66-69 and pp. 238-243.

10 According to the website of the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) "is the nation's primary source of information on criminal victimization. Each year, data are obtained from a nationally representative sample of about 90,000 households, comprising nearly 160,000 persons, on the frequency, characteristics, and consequences of criminal victimization in the United States. Each household is interviewed twice during the year. The survey enables BJS to estimate the likelihood of victimization by rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated and simple assault, theft, household burglary, and motor vehicle theft for the population as a whole as well as for segments of the population such as women, the elderly, members of various racial or ethnic groups, city dwellers, and other groups. The NCVS provides the largest national forum for victims to describe the impact of crime and characteristics of violent offenders," (see <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=dcdetail&iid=245>).

11 For "violent crime" the NCVS measures rape/sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated and simple assault (see Bureau of Justice Statistics, "Violent Crime," (see <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=tp&tid=931>).

SELF-PROTECTIVE BEHAVIORS, BY TYPE OF CRIME, 2012-2014

	Violent Crime 2012-2014		Property Crime 2012-2014	
	Total	Percent	Total	Percent
Total Number of Crimes	18,328,600	100	51,685,500	100
Self-Protective Behavior				
Offered no resistance	7,126,200	38.9	6,423,500	12.4
Threatened or attacked with a firearm	163,600	0.9	99,900	0.2
Threatened or attacked with other weapon	315,300	1.7	21,700*	~*
Threatened or attacked without a weapon	4,303,800	23.5	371,800	0.7
Nonconfrontational tactics, including yelling, running, or arguing	5,425,900	29.6	990,700	1.9
Other reaction	954,300	5.2	170,300	0.3
Unknown reaction	39,500*	0.2*	11,600*	~*
Property crime, victim not present.	≠	≠	43,596,000	84.3
~ Less than 0.1 percent	≠ Not applicable			
* Interpret with caution. Estimate based on 10 or fewer sample cases, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50 percent.				
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2012-2014.				

PROPERTY CRIME

According to the NCVS, looking at the total number of self-protective behaviors undertaken by victims of attempted or completed property crime for the *three-year period 2012 through 2014*, in only 0.2 percent of these instances had the intended victim in resistance to a criminal threatened or attacked with a firearm.¹² As detailed

12 For “property crime” the NCVS measures household burglary, motor vehicle theft, as well as property theft. Since the survey information is obtained from a sample of households, it does not include property crimes affecting businesses or other commercial establishments. If such crimes are reported to law enforcement, they are included in the FBI’s Uniform Crime Reporting Program. The NCVS includes property crimes affecting victims and household members which were reported and not reported to the police. (See Bureau of Justice Statistics, “Property Crime,” <http://bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=tp&tid=32>.)

in the prior table, for the *three-year period 2012 through 2014*, the NCVS estimates that there were 51,685,500 victims of attempted or completed property crime. During this same *three-year period*, only 99,900 of the self-protective behaviors involved a firearm. Of this number, it is not known what type of firearm was used, whether it was fired or not, or whether the use of a gun would even be a legal response to the property crime. And as before, the number may also include off-duty law enforcement officers. In comparison, data from the Department of Justice shows that an average of 232,400 guns were stolen *each year* from U.S. households from 2005 to 2010.¹³

COMPARING NCVS DATA TO CLAIMS THAT GUNS ARE USED IN SELF-DEFENSE 2.5 MILLION TIMES A YEAR

Using the NCVS numbers, for the *three-year period 2012 through 2014*, the total number of self-protective behaviors involving a firearm by victims of attempted or completed violent crimes or property crimes totaled only 263,500. In comparison, the gun lobby claims that during the same *three-year period* guns were used 7.5 million times in self defense (applying to the three-year period the gun lobby's oft-repeated claim, noted earlier, that firearms are used in self defense 2.5 million times a year).

CONCLUSION

The reality of self-defense gun use bears no resemblance to the exaggerated claims of the gun lobby and gun industry. The number of justifiable homicides that occur in our nation each year pale in comparison to criminal homicides, let alone gun suicides and fatal unintentional shootings. And contrary to the common stereotype promulgated by the gun lobby, those killed in justifiable homicide incidents don't always fit the expected profile of an attack by a stranger: in 27.0 percent of the justifiable homicides that occurred in 2013 the persons shot and killed were known to the shooter.

The devastation guns inflict on our nation each and every year is clear: more than 33,000 dead, more than 84,000 wounded, and an untold number of lives traumatized and communities shattered.¹⁴ Unexamined claims of the efficacy and frequency of the self-defense use of firearms are the default rationale offered by the gun lobby and gun industry for this unceasing, bloody toll. The idea that firearms are frequently used in self-defense is the primary argument that the gun lobby and firearms industry use to expand the carrying of firearms into an ever-increasing number of public spaces and even to prevent the regulation of military-style semiautomatic assault weapons and high-capacity ammunition magazines. Yet this argument is hollow and the assertions false. When analyzing the most reliable data available, what is most striking is that in a nation of more than 300 million guns, how *rarely* firearms are used in self-defense.¹⁵

13 "Firearms Stolen During Household Burglaries and Other Property Crimes 2005-2010," U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics, November 2012.

14 In 2013, 33,636 Americans died from firearms and 84,258 were injured by firearms. Source: Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention WISQARS database.

15 It is estimated that the total number of firearms available to civilians in the United States is 310 million: 114 million handguns, 110 million rifles, and 86 million shotguns. Krouse, William J., *Gun Control Legislation*, Congressional Research Service, November 14, 2012, p. 8.

TABLE ONE: FIREARM JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDES BY STATE, 2009-2013

State	Number of Justifiable Homicides					TOTAL
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	
Alabama	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	0
Alaska	4	2	3	6	0	15
Arizona	13	16	6	7	13	55
Arkansas	0	3	0	3	0	6
California	20	23	23	27	22	115
Colorado	4	5	3	2	3	17
Connecticut	0	0	0	0	0	0
Delaware	1	1	0	0	0	2
Florida	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Georgia	11	19	5	8	6	49
Hawaii	0	0	0	0	0	0
Idaho	0	0	0	0	0	0
Illinois	2	0	4	1	2	9
Indiana	2	12	6	12	11	43
Iowa	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kansas	1	3	1	3	0	8
Kentucky	9	4	3	7	0	23
Louisiana	9	10	9	10	6	44
Maine	0	1	1	2	0	4
Maryland	1	6	2	6	5	20
Massachusetts	0	2	0	1	0	3
Michigan	16	13	31	20	12	92
Minnesota	1	2	0	1	2	6
Mississippi	2	1	0	1	1	5
Missouri	3	5	8	8	3	27
Montana	0	0	0	0	0	0

State	Number of Justifiable Homicides					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	TOTAL
Nebraska	2	1	0	1	3	7
Nevada	5	3	2	1	1	12
New Hampshire	0	0	0	0	1	1
New Jersey	0	2	2	0	3	7
New Mexico	3	2	1	1	1	8
New York	0	0	0	0	0	0
North Carolina	6	0	3	5	1	15
North Dakota	0	0	1	0	0	1
Ohio	2	2	1	2	4	11
Oklahoma	4	5	5	11	7	32
Oregon	3	4	3	6	0	16
Pennsylvania	11	8	11	9	12	51
Rhode Island	0	1	0	0	0	1
South Carolina	6	7	6	11	6	36
South Dakota	0	1	0	1	0	2
Tennessee	10	14	21	20	16	81
Texas	44	44	29	47	49	213
Utah	0	1	0	2	0	3
Vermont	0	0	0	0	1	1
Virginia	9	5	6	7	9	36
Washington	3	2	5	4	8	22
West Virginia	0	0	0	1	0	1
Wisconsin	6	0	0	5	3	14
Wyoming	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	213	230	201	259	211	1,114

TABLE TWO: CIRCUMSTANCES FOR HOMICIDES BY FIREARM, 2009-2013

Circumstance	Number of Homicides											
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		TOTAL	
Criminal Homicide	8,697	97.6%	8,275	97.3%	8,066	97.6%	8,342	97.0%	7,838	97.4%	41,218	97.4%
Justifiable Homicide	213	2.4%	230	2.7%	201	2.4%	259	3.0%	211	2.6%	1,114	2.6%
Ratio of Criminal Homicide to Justifiable Homicide	41-1		36-1		40-1		32-1		37-1		37-1	
Total	8,910		8,505		8,267		8,601		8,049		42,332	

TABLE THREE: RELATIONSHIP OF PERSON KILLED TO SHOOTER IN JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDES BY FIREARM, 2009-2013

Relationship	Number of Justifiable Homicides											
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		TOTAL	
Acquaintance	36	16.9%	51	22.2%	36	17.9%	52	20.1%	30	14.2%	205	18.4%
Boyfriend	1	0.5%	2	0.9%	2	1.0%	1	0.4%	3	1.4%	9	0.8%
Brother	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	1.5%	2	1.0%	6	0.5%
Common-Law Husband	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.5%	1	0.1%
Employee	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Ex-Husband	3	1.4%	3	1.3%	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	7	0.6%
Ex-Wife	0	0.0%	1	0.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.1%
Father	2	0.9%	2	0.9%	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	1	0.5%	6	0.5%
Friend	0	0.0%	1	0.4%	3	1.5%	5	1.9%	0	0.0%	9	0.8%
Girlfriend	0	0.0%	1	0.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.1%
Husband	1	0.5%	1	0.4%	3	1.5%	1	0.4%	4	1.9%	10	0.9%
In-Law	0	0.0%	1	0.4%	1	0.5%	2	0.8%	0	0.0%	4	0.4%
Neighbor	4	1.9%	3	1.3%	1	0.5%	5	1.9%	2	1.0%	15	1.3%
Other Family	4	1.9%	0	0.0%	5	2.5%	3	1.2%	2	1.0%	14	1.3%
Other Known	9	4.2%	7	3.0%	8	4.0%	13	5.0%	9	4.3%	46	4.1%
Son	1	0.5%	4	1.7%	3	1.5%	4	1.5%	1	0.5%	13	1.2%
Stepfather	0	0.0%	2	0.9%	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	0.3%
Stepson	0	0.0%	3	1.3%	1	0.5%	1	0.4%	1	0.5%	6	0.5%
Stranger	123	57.7%	130	56.5%	110	54.7%	133	51.4%	126	59.7%	622	55.8%
Wife	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%	1	0.5%	3	0.3%
Unknown Relationship	28	13.1%	18	7.8%	25	12.4%	34	13.1%	28	13.3%	133	11.9%
Total	213		230		201		259		211		1,114	

TABLE FOUR: SEX OF SHOOTER IN JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDES BY FIREARM, 2009-2013

Sex of Shooter	Number of Justifiable Homicides											
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		TOTAL	
Male	199	93.4%	205	89.1%	181	90.1%	237	91.5%	198	93.8%	1,020	91.6%
Female	13	6.1%	24	10.4%	17	8.5%	20	7.7%	13	6.2%	87	7.8%
Unknown	1	0.5%	1	0.4%	3	1.5%	2	0.8%	0	0.0	7	0.6%
Total	213		230		201		259		211		1,114	

TABLE FIVE: SEX OF PERSON KILLED IN JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDES BY FIREARM, 2009-2013

Sex of Person Killed	Number of Justifiable Homicides											
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		TOTAL	
Male	212	99.5%	226	98.3%	196	97.5%	254	98.1%	207	98.1%	1,095	98.3%
Female	1	0.5%	4	1.7%	5	2.5%	5	1.9%	4	1.9%	19	1.7%
Total	213		230		201		259		211		1,114	

TABLE SIX: SEX OF SHOOTER AND PERSON KILLED IN JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDES BY FIREARM, 2009-2013

Sex of Shooter	Sex of Person Killed	Number of Justifiable Homicides											
		2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		TOTAL	
Male	Male	198	99.5%	202	98.5%	176	97.2%	232	97.9%	194	98.0%	1,002	98.2%
	Female	1	0.5%	3	1.5%	5	2.8%	5	2.1%	4	2.0%	18	1.8%
Female	Male	13	100.0%	23	95.8%	17	100.0%	20	100.0%	13	100.0%	86	98.9%
	Female	0	0.0%	1	4.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.1%
Total		212		229		198		257		211		1,107	

TABLE SEVEN: RACE OF SHOOTER IN JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDES BY FIREARM, 2009-2013

Race of Shooter	Number of Justifiable Homicides											
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		TOTAL	
White	112	52.6%	121	52.6%	86	42.8%	131	50.6%	99	46.9%	549	49.3%
Black	91	42.7%	102	44.3%	106	52.7%	117	45.2%	104	49.3%	520	46.7%
Asian	6	2.8%	5	2.2%	4	2.0%	6	2.3%	5	2.4%	26	2.3%
American Indian	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	2	1.0%	1	0.4%	1	0.5%	5	0.4%
Unknown	3	1.4%	2	0.9%	3	1.5%	4	1.5%	2	1.0%	14	1.3%
Total	213		230		201		259		211		1,114	

TABLE EIGHT: RACE OF PERSON KILLED IN JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDES BY FIREARM, 2009-2013

Race of Person Killed	Number of Justifiable Homicides											
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		TOTAL	
White	87	40.8%	90	39.1%	70	34.8%	98	37.8%	77	36.5%	422	37.9%
Black	122	57.3%	138	60.0%	128	63.7%	152	58.7%	130	61.6%	670	60.1%
Asian	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	2	1.0%	4	1.5%	2	1.0%	9	0.8%
American Indian	2	0.9%	1	0.4%	1	0.5%	3	1.2%	1	0.5%	8	0.7%
Unknown	1	0.5%	1	0.4%	0	0.0%	2	0.8%	1	0.5%	5	0.4%
Total	213		230		201		259		211		1,114	

TABLE NINE: RACE OF SHOOTER AND PERSON KILLED IN JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDES BY FIREARM, 2009-2013

Race of Shooter	Race of Person Killed	Number of Justifiable Homicides										TOTAL	
		2009		2010		2011		2012		2013			
White	White	77	68.8%	82	67.8%	62	72.1%	85	64.9%	71	71.7%	377	68.7%
	Black	34	30.4%	37	30.6%	23	26.7%	40	30.5%	26	26.3%	160	29.1%
	Asian	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.8%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%
	American Indian	1	0.9%	1	0.8%	1	1.2%	3	2.3%	1	1.0%	7	1.3%
	Unknown	0	0.0%	1	0.8%	0	0.0%	2	1.5%	1	1.0%	4	0.7%
Black	White	8	8.8%	5	4.9%	3	2.8%	10	8.6%	5	4.8%	31	6.0%
	Black	83	91.2%	97	95.1%	102	96.2%	107	91.5%	99	95.2%	488	93.8%
	Asian	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%
	American Indian	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Unknown	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Asian	White	0	0.0%	1	20.0%	2	50.0%	1	16.7%	0	0.0%	4	15.4%
	Black	4	66.7%	4	80.0%	1	25.0%	2	33.3%	3	60.0%	14	53.8%
	Asian	1	16.7%	0	0.0%	1	25.0%	3	50.0%	2	40.0%	7	26.9%
	American Indian	1	16.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	3.8%
	Unknown	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
American Indian	White	1	100.0%	0	0.0%	2	100.0%	1	100.0%	1	100.0%	5	100.0%
	Black	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Asian	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	American Indian	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Unknown	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total		210		228		198		255		209		1,100	

TABLE TEN: WEAPON USED IN JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDES, 2009-2013

Weapon	Number of Justifiable Homicides											
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		TOTAL	
Firearm	213	81.9%	230	83.0%	201	77.0%	259	83.8%	211	78.1%	1,114	80.9%
Knife or cutting instrument	29	11.2%	32	11.6%	49	18.8%	35	11.3%	35	13.0%	180	13.1%
Blunt object	3	1.2%	4	1.4%	4	1.5%	4	1.3%	7	2.6%	22	1.6%
Bodily force	8	3.1%	4	1.4%	3	1.2%	9	2.9%	11	4.1%	35	2.5%
Strangulation	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%	1	0.1%
Asphyxiation	1	0.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%	2	0.1%
Unknown	6	2.3%	7	2.5%	4	1.5%	2	0.7%	4	1.5%	23	1.7%
Total	260		277		261		309		270		1,377	

TABLE ELEVEN: TYPE OF FIREARMS USED IN JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDES, 2009-2013

Weapon	Number of Justifiable Homicides											
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		TOTAL	
Firearm, type not stated	21	9.9%	28	12.2%	26	12.9%	30	11.6%	30	14.2%	135	12.1%
Handgun	163	76.5%	166	72.2%	152	75.6%	195	75.3%	165	78.2%	841	75.5%
Rifle	9	4.2%	8	3.5%	12	6.0%	19	7.3%	6	2.8%	54	4.8%
Shotgun	19	8.9%	28	12.2%	11	5.5%	15	5.8%	8	3.8%	81	7.3%
Other Gun	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.9%	3	0.3%
Total	213		230		201		259		211		1,114	



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