

# One nation, up in arms

BY EMILY BARONE

Recent mass shootings have renewed the debate over gun rights. And every day Americans are killed by accidental gunshots or by weapons that fell into the wrong hands. Here's a look at gun ownership and gun deaths in the U.S.

There were  
**310 MILLION**  
firearms in the U.S.  
as of 2009

**114 million**  
Handguns

Firearms were responsible for 71% of all murders last year

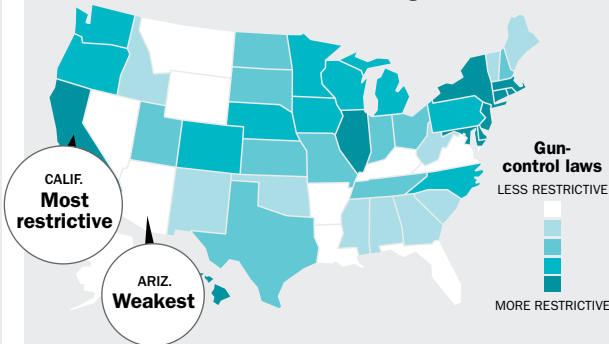
**86 million**  
Shotguns

**110 million**  
Rifles

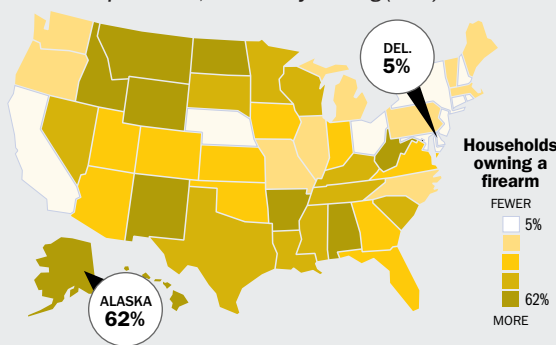
**110 million**  
Rifles

NOTE: THE BRADY CAMPAIGN'S STATE RANKING EVALUATES EACH STATE ON 33 GUN POLICIES, GUN DEATH RATE AND CRIME-GUN EXPORT RATE.  
SOURCES: CRS; BRADY CAMPAIGN TO PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE; BMJ; CDC; DOJ; PEW RESEARCH CENTER; FBI; GALLUP; GUNVIOLENCEARCHIVE.ORG

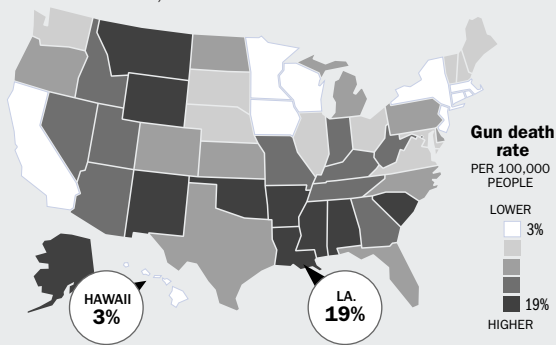
**GUN LAWS** are most stringent in California and in the Northeast. States are ranked here on the restrictiveness of their gun laws.



**GUN OWNERSHIP** is higher where gun laws are looser. About half of owners say they own guns for protection, followed by hunting (32%).



**GUN-RELATED DEATHS** are more prevalent in the Southern states. More than 60% are suicides, while about a third are homicides.



## U.S. GUN OWNERS

Background checks, an indicator of sales, have been ticking up ...

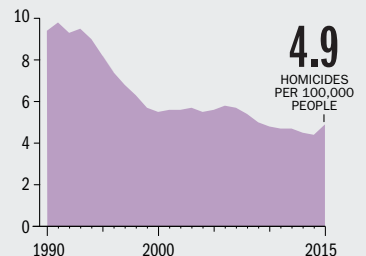
**Background checks**  
9 MILLION (2000)      23 MILLION (2015)

much faster than gun-owning households, suggesting that owners are stocking up

**Gun-owning households**  
39% (2000)      41% (2015)

## GUN VIOLENCE

While gun sales are ticking up, the U.S. homicide rate is trending down



Still, more people die from guns than from car accidents. In 2016 there have been 1,622 accidental shootings, and 515 children have been shot

## REFORM PROPOSALS



Donald Trump calls for concealed-carry permits in all 50 states; he supports stricter sentences for felons caught with firearms



Hillary Clinton supports a ban on assault weapons and the expansion of background checks to mental-health outpatients and domestic abusers

TRUMP, CLINTON: DREW ANGERER—GETTY IMAGES

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