



Gun Violence Data Analysis in *America*

Neshat J. Heravi
November 2021

There are more guns than people in the United States^[1]

- US Citizens own the highest number of firearms in the world!
- Gun laws are enforced by federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and the state agencies.

The objective of this project is to perform Exploratory Data Analysis on gun violence related data to provide insights on this subject matter.





What is the Public Opinion on Current Gun Laws?

57% Favor **more restrict laws**

9% Favor **less restrict laws**

34% Favor **kept as now**

What's the Problem?

The Washington Post

Democracy Dies in Darkness

Politics • Analysis

2021 has already been a very bad year for mass shootings

Los Angeles Times

Column: This UC firearms researcher says America is on a collision course with disaster. We need to listen

The Goal: Understand the gun violence in the US by performing **Exploratory Data Analysis** on the data. Find opportunities for improvement and better allocating federal and states resources.

Proposed Data Science Solution:

- Use **Poisson regression** modeling to predict the number of casualties in a gun violence incident based on location, offenders' demography, city events, number of law enforcements in the vicinity, type of arms involved etc.
- Use the **unsupervised clustering** to segment state counties and locations that have higher rates of gun violence in more detail for better allocation of resources.



Methodology

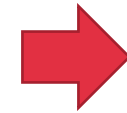
Data Collection

US gun violence
and mass shooting
data from open
source:



Exploratory Data Analysis

Tools:
Google Sheets
DB Browser for Sqlite
(SQL)
Tableau



Building Models

Supervised
Poisson Regression

Unsupervised
Clustering

Future Work

Insights

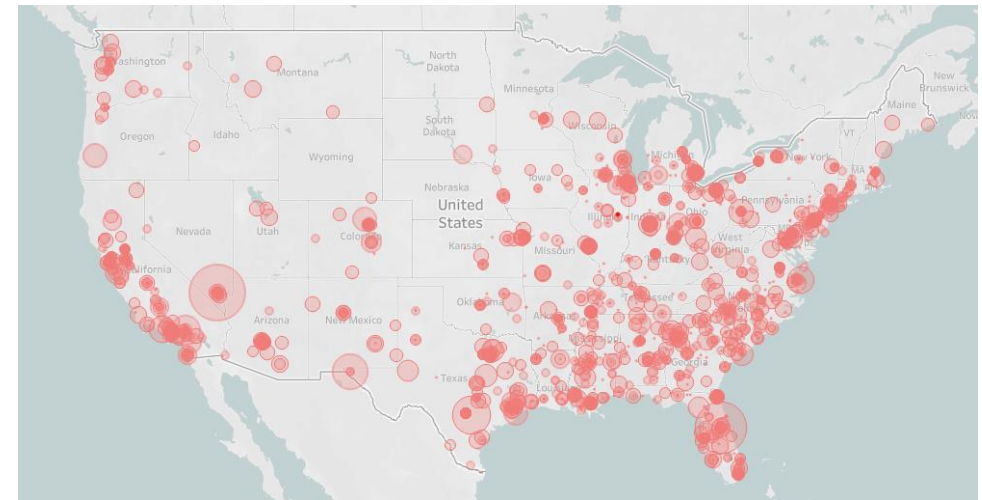
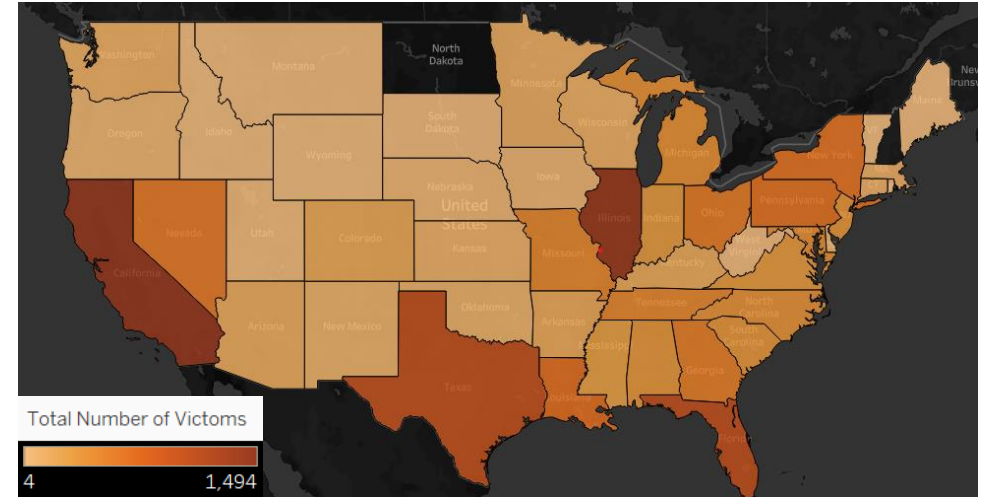
Location Data from 2014 – 2021

Top States with Gun Violence Incidents:

- California
- Illinois
- Florida
- Texas



Interact with the data

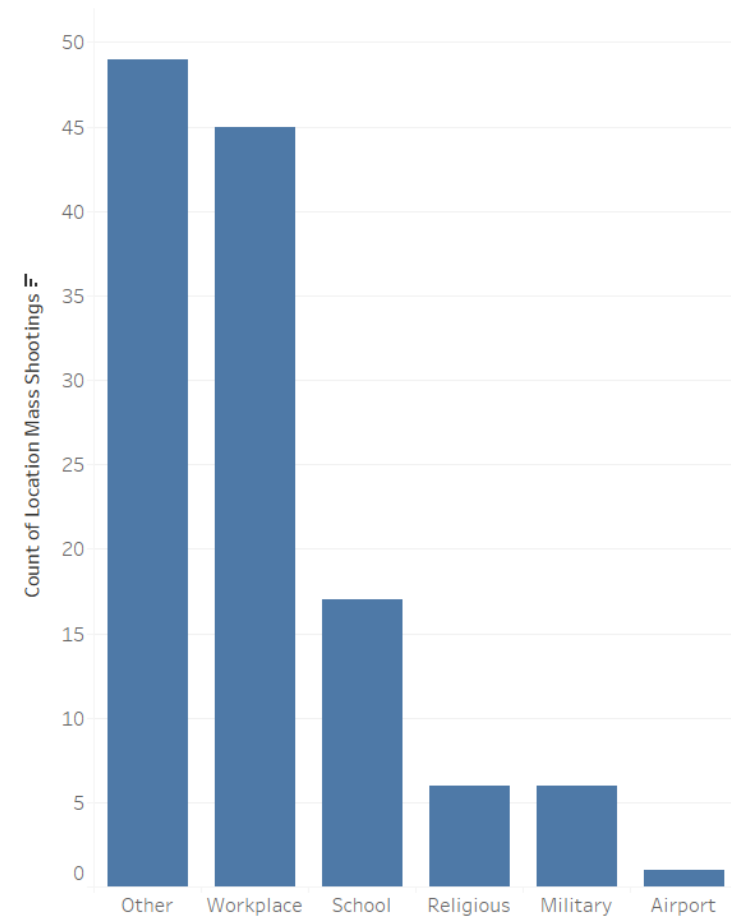


Insight

Data from **1982 – 2021**
US Mass Shooting Location Type

**Workplaces and schools are among
most vulnerable locations.**

Shooting Location Type

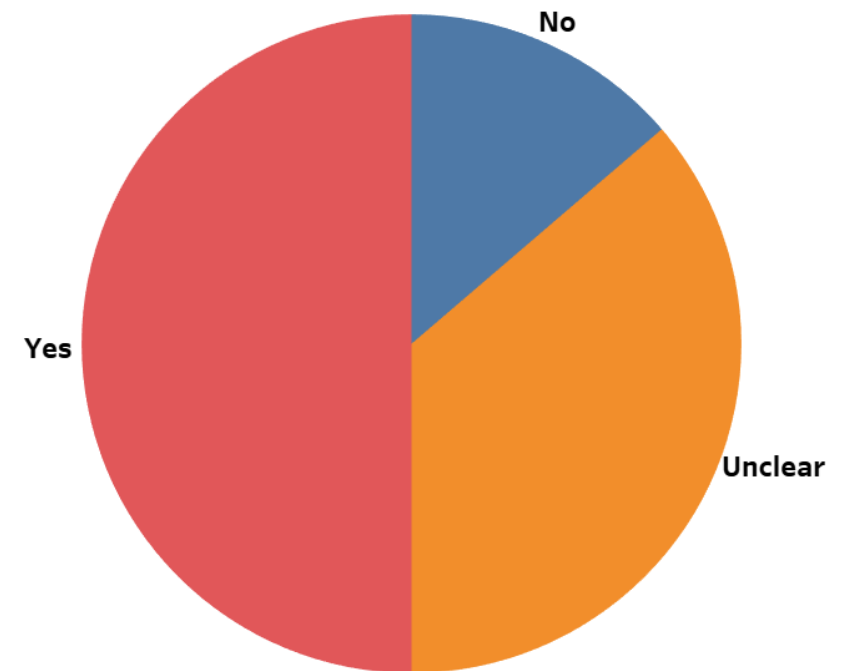


Insight

Data from 1982 – 2021 US Mass Shooting Offenders Demography

- 50% of offenders had been diagnosed with a type of **mental health issues** prior to the mass shooting.
- Around 96% of the mass shootings have been conducted by **male**.
- Shooters between **age of 40 – 45** had the highest number of incident counts.

Shooters' Prior Mental Health Diagnosis



Conclusion

ATF can optimize resource allocations by performing EDA on US gun violence data.

California has the highest number of gun violence incidents among all States.

Workplaces and schools are the most vulnerable places for shootings.

50% of the shooters were diagnosed with a type of mental health prior to the shooting. 95.9% of the mass shootings were conducted by male. Shooters between 40-45 had the highest count.





Future Work

A more uniform data collection is needed to be able to perform a more accurate analysis.

Using data science solutions such as a Poisson Regression, ATF can predict the count of casualties using location data, offenders' demography, number of law enforcements, city events etc. as the features.

An unsupervised clustering model can be used to detect cities and counties that require more resources.



Thank you!

Appendix

References

- 1- [Washington Post: There are more guns than people in the united states](#)
- 2- [Washington Post: 2021 has already been a very bad year for mass shooting](#)
- 3- [Los Angeles Times: Article](#)
- 4- [Gallup Survey on Guns](#)

Data Resources

[data.world Dataset 1](#)

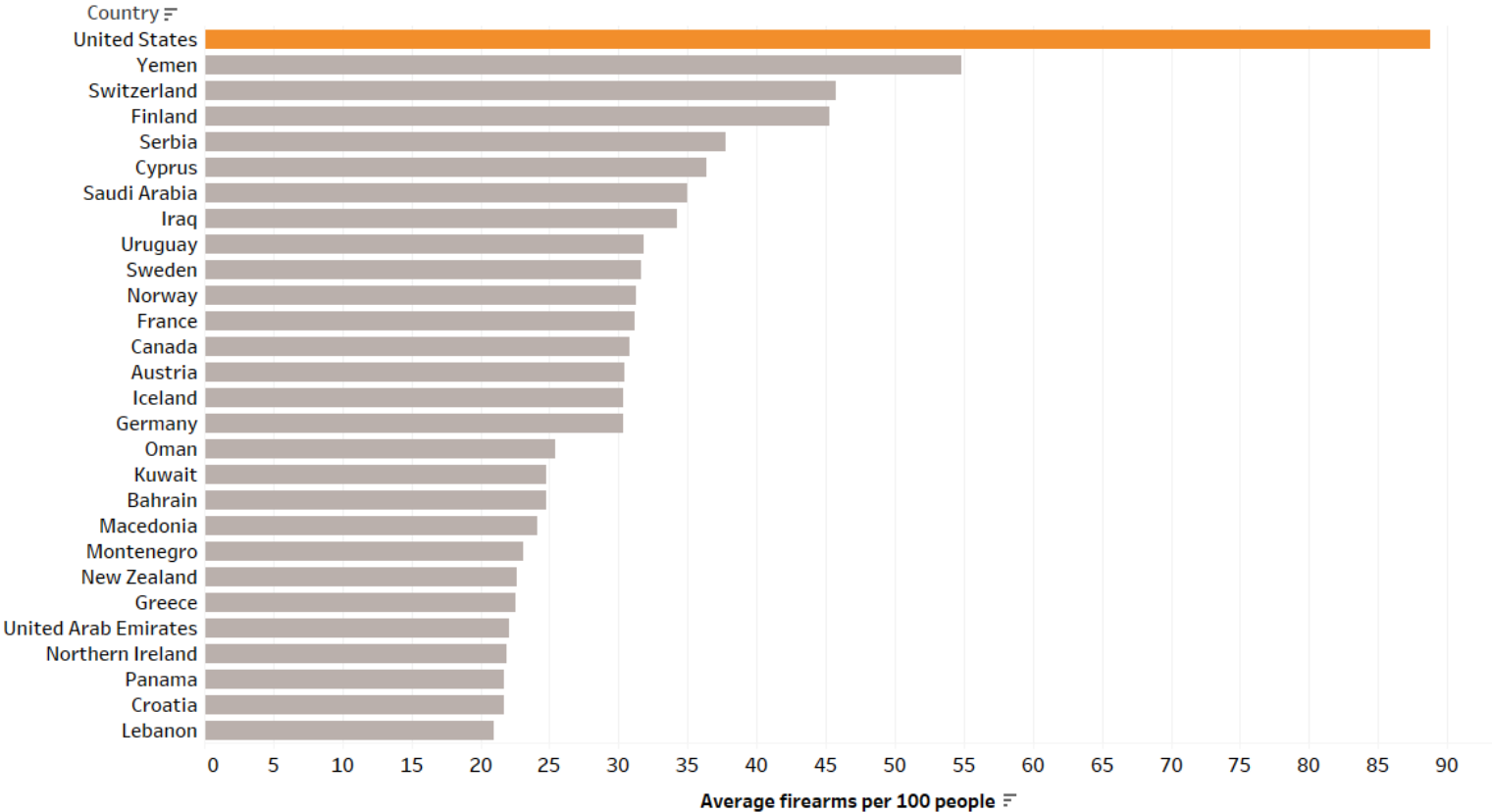
[data.world Dataset 2](#)

[data.world Dataset 3](#)

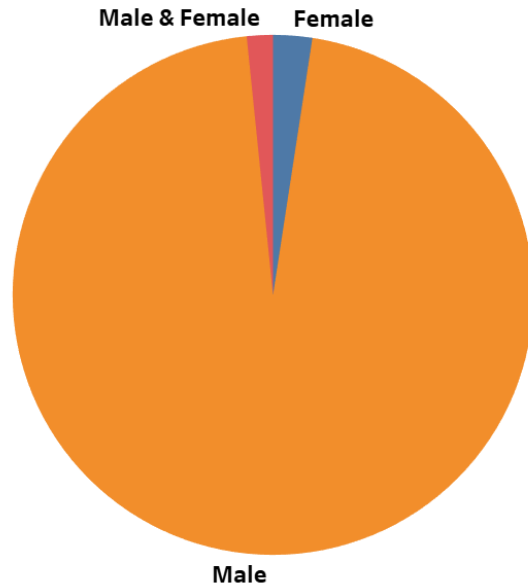


Appendix

US has the highest number of civilian firearms in the world!

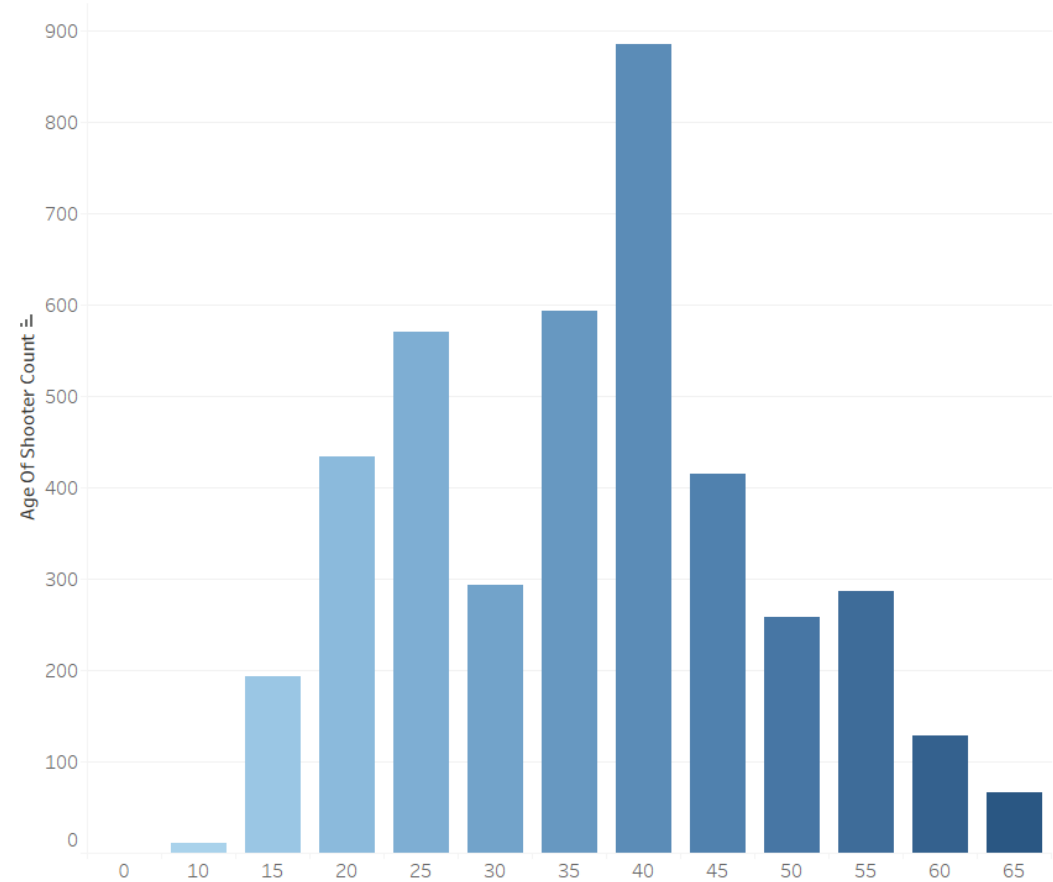


Appendix



Data from 1982 – 2021 for US mass shooting shows 95.9% of the shooters are male.

Age of Shooter Distribution



Appendix

**Data from 1982 – 2021 for US mass shooting
(Total of 124 mass shootings in this study)**

Shooters' Race Breakdown

