Carnegie Mellon University

Patterns of Firearm-Related Crimes in the United States

Apurv Singh, Noah Russo, Yue Sun

Disclaimer

Please note that the content and results cover a sensitive topic area for many as they relate to gun violence in the United States and schools in particular.

The data and analysis presented in this project are based on publicly available sources and do not represent the views of any individual or organization. The project is for informational purposes only and should not be construed as a comprehensive or definitive analysis of gun-related violence and deaths in the United States. The data and analysis may be subject to limitations and biases inherent in the sources and methods used, and should be interpreted with caution. The project is not intended to promote any particular policy or agenda related to gun control or gun rights, and the conclusions and recommendations presented should not be taken as an endorsement or condemnation of any such policy or agenda. The project is intended to contribute to the public discourse on gunfrelated violence and deaths in the United States and to promote further research and discussion on the topic.

Motivation

- US has the highest rate of civilian gun ownership in the world.
- Guns are one of the leading causes of death among American children and teens.



the attack in advance.

Question 1

Introduction

What state-level firearm-restrictive laws have the highest effect on preventing homicide?

Gun Law Dataset

CDC Dataset

Amount of firearms legislation across states

Number of firearm-related death across states

Models Used

Ridge

Lasso

Linear

For Linear Regression

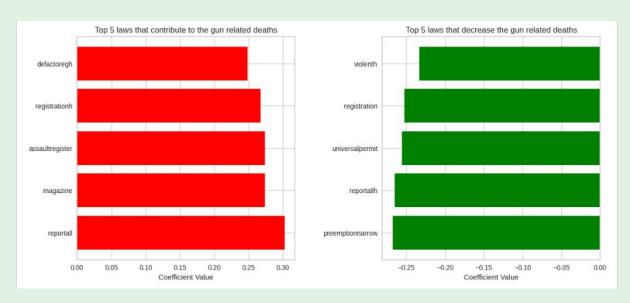
Training R-squared: 0.9570227076052755 Testing R-squared: 0.9353640332573007

MSE train: 0.001995591707188507 MSE test: 0.003229367552749634

ElasticNet - new model

Conclusion and Discussion

We noticed that the more restrictive state level guns law are, the lesser gun related death we observe. We can use this correlation to identify and frame better laws for gun control.



- Defactoregh Hand guns registered
- Assaultregisterh Gandfathered weapons registered
- Violenth Handgun possession is banned for people with violent misdemeanor
- universalpermit background checks and permit requirement

Question 2

Introduction

Based on the severity of the attack, can we predict which type of gun is most likely to be used in a school shooting?

School Shooting Incidence Dataset

Information about school shootings

School Shooting Weapon Dataset

Weapon information on school shooting

Classification Models

KNN

AdaBoost

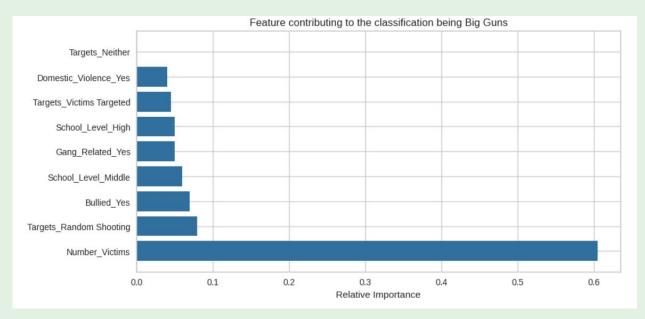
Logistic Regression

| AdaBoost clas | sification r | eport: | | |
|---------------|--------------|--------|----------|---------|
| | precision | recall | f1-score | support |
| 0 | 0.90 | 0.99 | 0.94 | 502 |
| 1 | 0.71 | 0.15 | 0.25 | 65 |
| accuracy | | | 0.90 | 567 |
| macro avg | 0.81 | 0.57 | 0.60 | 567 |
| weighted avg | 0.88 | 0.90 | 0.86 | 567 |

Decision Tree

Conclusion and Discussion

- Number of victims is the most important factor for classifying a weapon as "Big Gun"
- Usefulness for policymakers in developing strategies to prevent school shootings



Question 3

Introduction

Can we predict gun dealer types based on violations, inspection letter content, and license recommendation?

ATF Inspection Reports Dataset

Firearm distributor violations across the US

Classification Models

KNN

Logistic Regression

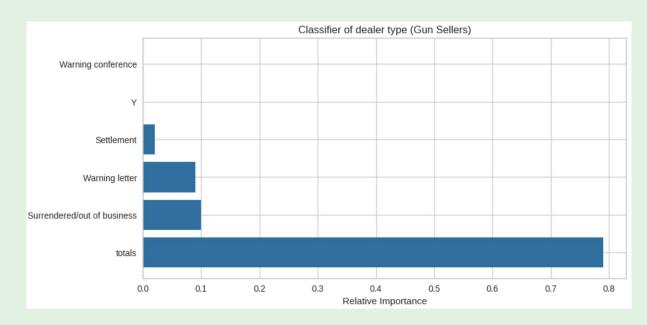
AdaBoost

| AdaBoost classi | fication r recision | | f1-score | support |
|-----------------|------------------------|------|----------|---------|
| Dealer | 0.75 | 1.00 | 0.85 | 355 |
| Manufacturer | 0.67 | 0.02 | 0.03 | 123 |
| accuracy | | | 0.74 | 478 |
| macro avg | 0.71 | 0.51 | 0.44 | 478 |
| weighted avg | 0.73 | 0.74 | 0.64 | 478 |

Decision Tree

Conclusion and Discussion

- Total violations is the most important factor in classifying the distributor type: Manufacturer
- Suggests manufacturers committing most violations - target for policy action



Future Work

- Expanding the scope of analysis to include other variables or factors that may impact gun violence or firearm laws
- Investigate the effectiveness of specific policy interventions
- Conduct analyses on local levels
- Ongoing evaluation and monitoring of firearm laws and their impact on gun violence

References

- https://www.statefirearmlaws.org/resources
- https://projects.thetrace.org/inspections/methodology/
- https://github.com/washingtonpost/data-school-shootings
- https://wisgars.cdc.gov/data/explore-data/explore/selected-years
- https://www.sandyhookpromise.org/blog/gun-violence/facts-about-gun-violence-and-school-shootings/