Meiners- Milestone 4 – Q&A

Q: *What specific countries were not included within the analysis?*

A: There are many countries in which were not included within the analysis due to missing data points from the UN dataset. Some notable countries not included were China, Russia, and Syria.

Q: *What regions were they in?*

A: Regions that had the lowest population in the analysis were Africa and Asia. North America and South America had the highest number of countries with reliable data points.

Q: *What was the total count of countries included within the analysis?*

A: The total number of countries in the analysis was 93

Q: *Were there any issues with compiling the data necessary for the analysis?*

A: Missing data for several countries was an issue in determining the concentration of homicide rates in Africa and Asia. The table for gun regulations also lacked some clarity on what regulation a country had so assumptions were made to infer if a regulation existed or not.

Q: *Which liberties were taken when cleaning and preparing the data?*

A: Countries with significant data missing were omitted from the analysis so that the most accurate data could be leveraged for comparison. The homicide rate was sampled over an 8-year period and then averaged for that country to account for years with any missing values.

Q: *What other factors may influence the homicide rate in a country apart from gun regulations?*

A: Other factors which were not in scope of this analysis that may impact homicide rates include poverty rate, gang violence, war, and government's ability to enforce regulations.

Q: *Are you confident in the reliability of the data sources leveraged for analysis?*

A: I am confident in the data sources provided enough context to effectively observe trends in countries based on gun ownership and regulations. The outliers point to other factors that influence gun related violence outside of this criterion.

Q: *How does the United States compare to countries with similar regulations?*

A: The United States is in the middle for gun homicide rate when compared to countries with similar gun regulations.

Q: *Are there any additional items which you would like to explore regarding the sources leveraged?*

A: I would want to look deeper into countries that have more strict gun laws but higher rates of homicides to understand what factors contributed to the higher rate that is observed.

Q: *How might the United States effectively enforce new regulations if passed?*

A: The United States would require a slow enactment of new regulations to help the transition go more smoothly while adhering to enforcement of the regulations. They must also tell an effective story with data that gets the majority to buy in to the new regulations by outlining the benefits of these new regulations.