

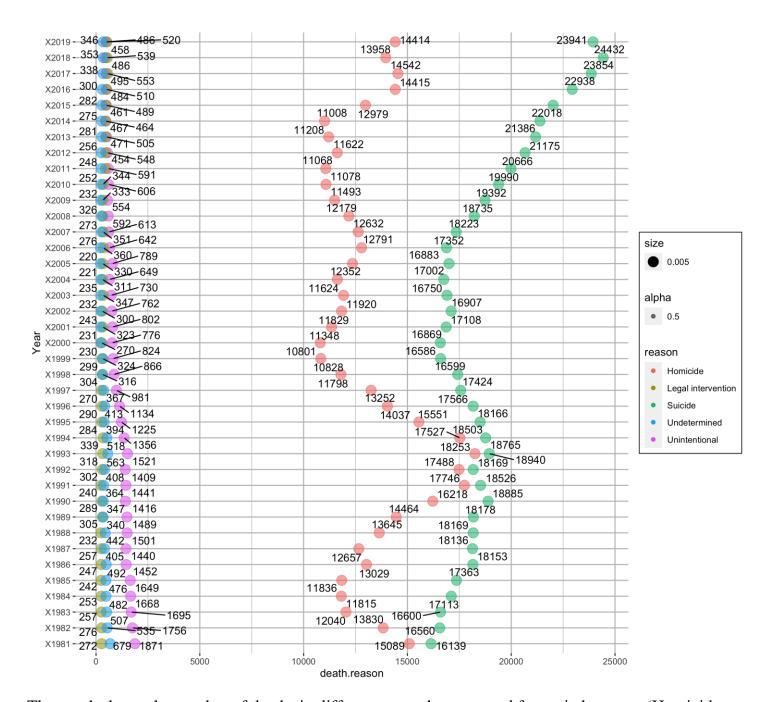
#### Interdiction

In this paper, we will statistically observe the topic that has been highly argumentative. Does gun control have any effect on gun violence? We would use statistics, not our emotions, to try to give some answers to this question. To paraphrase a bit about the history of today's topic: the right to keep and bear arms was part of the second amendment, which was added in 1971; gun control advocates are arguing that in 1971 each state-maintained militia composed of ordinary citizens who served as part-time soldiers. The second amendment would ensure that ordinary citizens who were part-time soldiers would be permitted to carry arms. The states were afraid that the federal government would use their army to force its will on states. Gun rights advocates argue that the second amendment ensured that all citizens could bear arms to protect their own will. Since 1971, many have changed, and different states have adopted other gun control laws. We will argue whether gun control laws help to decrease guninvolved violations.

## Introduction to a data source

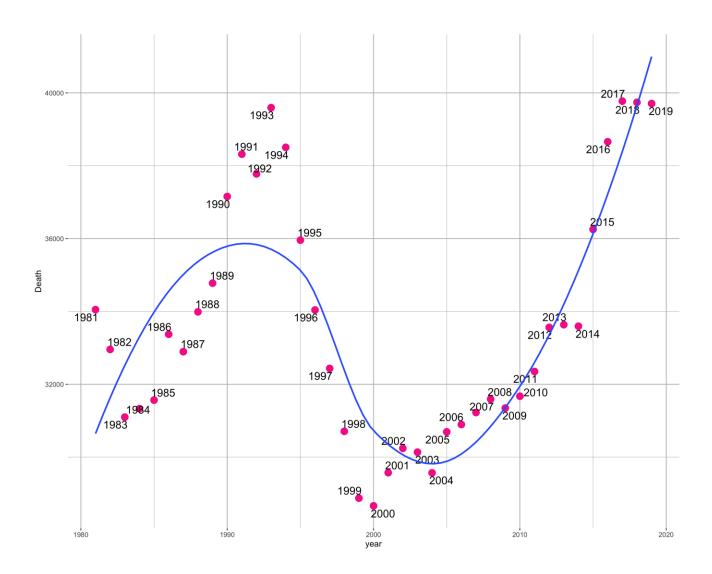
The data used in this paper was found in USAFacts.org, a non-profit organization founded by Steve Bellmer, former Microsoft CEO, and owner of the Los Angeles Clippers. USAFacts provides data and reports on the United States population.

#### **Data observation**



The graph shows the number of deaths in different years that occurred for varied reasons (Homicide, Legal intervention, Suicide, Undetermined, Unintentional). We can see significantly more deaths by suicide with firearms than homicide by firearms. According to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, mental health conditions such as depression, substance use problems, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, physical severe health conditions (including pain, traumatic brain injury, and many other reasons) can be reasons for committing suicide. By doing background and mental health checks, we would prevent people who are likely to use firearms for suicidal purposes from obtaining them. Conversely, people prone to suicidal tendencies may resort to other actions. It is important to note that

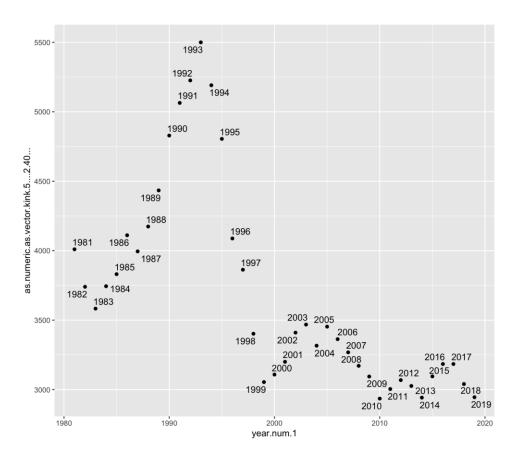
the gun controls law would not prevent suicide. This is an overly complex issue that would need further investigation.



In the graph of all United States deaths involving firearms by years, we can see that from 1993 to 2000 we see a sudden decrease in the number of fatalities after which it increases. One of the reasons could be that in 1994 the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act was enacted, being the most significant crime bill passed in the country's history. It includes multiple gun laws. According to ncjrs.gov, this bill bans the manufacture of 19 military-style assault weapons, strengthens federal firearms licensing, laws affecting the death penalty, gang crimes, domestic abusers, and firearms, increases the number of police officers, stricter parolel conditions, and many more new policies.

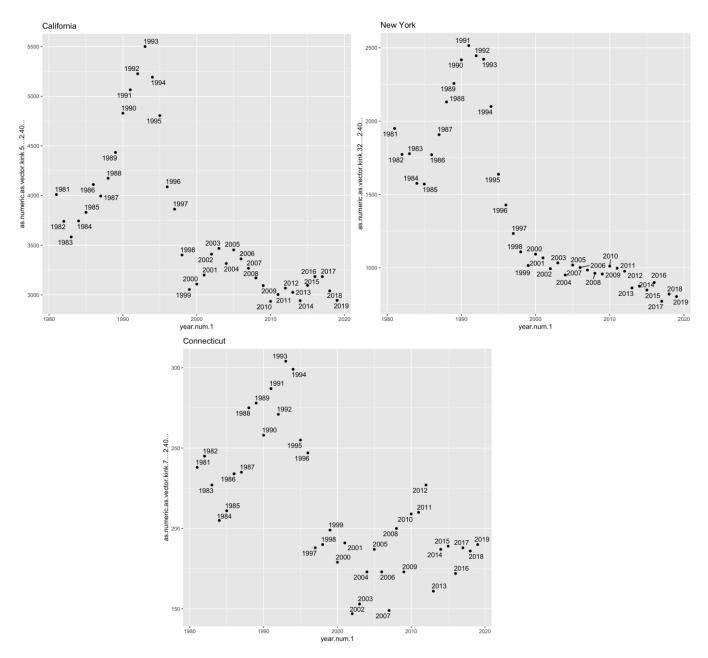
### Individual state statistics (Pro gun control)

Let's analyze states before and after they require background checks. For example, California has the highest deaths involving firearms, even though they have the strictest gun control laws in the country. According to California state PTA everychild. One Voice "In 1991, California required universal background checks for gun sales and transfers by authorized dealers. In 2006, California established a database for identifying firearm owners who fall into a prohibited status, such as violent crime conviction and drug offenses. In 2017, California voters approved Proposition 63, which required background checks for ammunition purchases and banned possession of large-capacity ammunition magazines." After 1991 California passed laws that have made civilians that want to own firearms go through background checks. How did this affect gun violations?

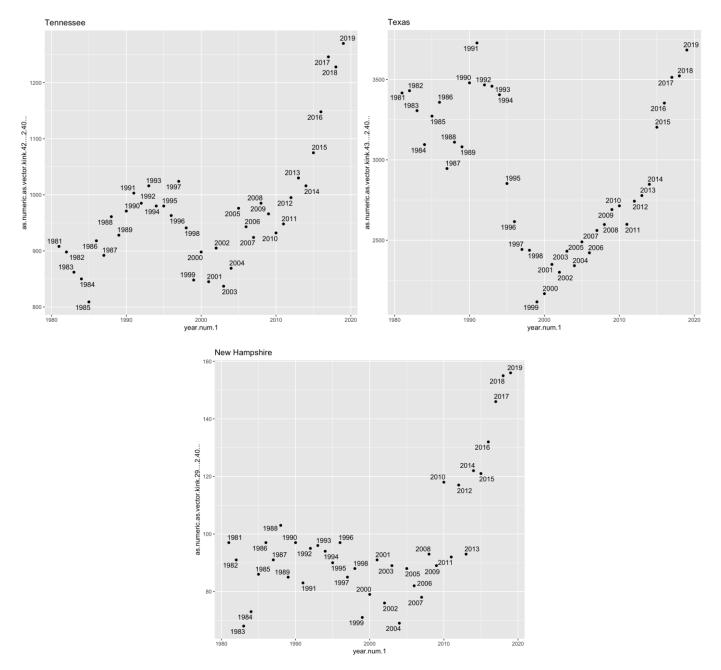


Here we can see amounts of deaths involving firearms in California. We can see that after 1993, California has had a massive drop in the number of deaths. Another surprising thing that we can see is that the amount of death in California did not go back up as we saw in the previous graph. This could be an indicator that gun control laws worked in California.

Let's see how the graph of the states that strict gun control laws have differs from states that have less strict gun control laws.



Here we can see the states with strict gun control laws, New York, Connecticut, California. Observing that the number of deaths decreases from around 1993 and does not go up, it is mainly decreasing. Let us take a couple of states that do not have strict gun control laws and see if we can see the exact correlation.



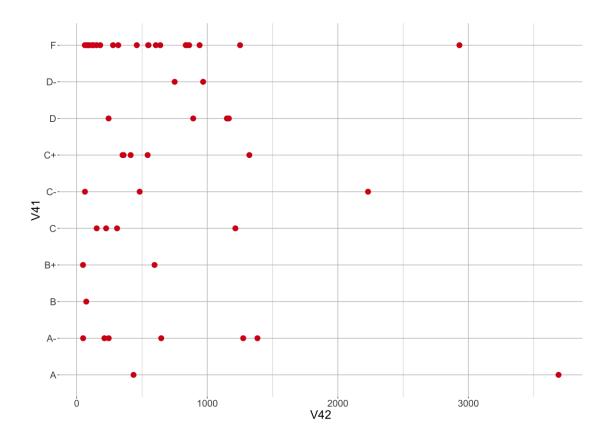
We can see states that do not have strict gun laws, Texas, Tennessee, New Hampshire. Here we can see another pattern. We still can see decrees in the number of deaths but unlike the other graphs here we can see a sudden rise in fatalities after around the 2000s.

Let us take a step further and look at all the states' graphs.



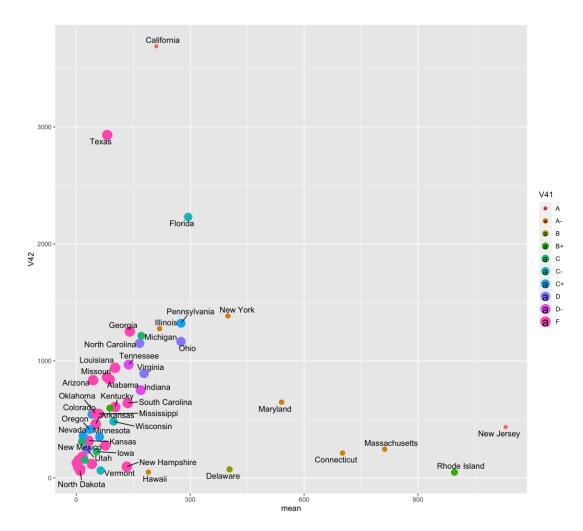
As you can see not all states with strict gun laws follow the same pattern. From here we can make a conclusion that not all gun laws work. This could fool a lot of people. There are states where strict gun control laws work such as big states like New York and California. It is hard to compare these states with states like Texas, as we know they are very different and as a result require different laws. These states could not afford to make their gun laws weak as it could very easily disrupt business as usual.

# Death involving firearms by states with different gun control laws



Here we can see the number of deaths involving firearms with the strictness of their gun control laws. A refers to strict laws, F refers to very few or no rules. So, we can see that there is no difference in their gun control strictness. By computing their means, we can make sure of that.

These numbers could very easily mislead people. All states are different and have different populations. And just by looking at these numbers, we can say we don't need gun control laws because states with strictest gun control laws have the highest mean of death by firearms. This is not true.



Here, we can see one interesting tendency. States that have weak gun control laws have a lower density of population. Therefore, it is tough to compare these states. We do not know what would have happened if California had adopted weaker gun control laws. As we saw in the preview's graphs, the gun control laws that California has adopted have helped them decrease the number of deaths by firearms.