

# Comparing gun deaths across countries

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# General idea:

We will compare the data on gun-related deaths across 5-10 countries. Yet to finalize exactly which countries, but we will definitely include the US and likely focus on countries with similar economic, mortality, and demographic characteristics. We were inspired to do this project in part because of questions that arose after exploring this (exceptional) visualization: [Gun Deaths in America](#)

1. What are the gun death statistics in other developed countries? How does the US compare?
2. Over 60% of gun deaths in the US are suicides. What does the data look like when adjusting for suicide rates?

# User experience

First, we'll present the data for gun deaths across all the countries we're including. Then, we'll look at the suicide rates for these countries. We aren't looking for anything specific, but expect that suicides by gun are much more common in the US. Perhaps this data will show that increased access to guns results in higher suicide rates, perhaps not. Next, we'll adjust the gun death rate statistics for total suicide rates and compare the data across all countries again.

After we have led users through the data, we'll stay true to the "martini glass" experience and allow users to explore the data for themselves.

# Visualization details

For at least a portion of our project, we'd like to use a similar visualization to the one used on [fivethirtyeight](#). It is a very expressive and honest visualization for this data.

For the finer-detail year-by-year case studies of particular countries, we'll use stacked line charts (unless we find a more expressive and concise chart. we'll keep looking).

Our data will come largely from [gunpolicy.org](#), and [this](#) compiled set of data by country, which only needs a small amount of cleaning. We anticipate that we may need to augment this set. In particular we will need to augment it with data from more years for those countries we examine in finer detail.