

[Illinois Center for Violence Prevention Fact Sheet](#)

Gun Violence

- In 2007, 385,178 total firearm crimes were committed, including 11,512 murders, 190,514 robberies, and 183,153 aggravated assaults.¹
- In 2007, guns took the lives of 31,224 Americans in homicides, suicides and unintentional shootings. This is the equivalent of more than 85 deaths each day and more than three deaths each hour.²
- From 2001, through 2007, over 4,900 people in the United States died from unintentional shootings.³
- On average, 46 gun suicides were committed each day for the years 2001-2007.⁴
- In 2009, the most recent year for which data is available, approximately 81% of workplace homicides were committed with a firearm.⁵
- In 2006, firearms were used in 68 percent of murders, 42 percent of robbery offenses and 22 percent of aggravated assaults nationwide.⁶
- Homicides committed with firearms peaked in 1993 at 17,075, after which the figure steadily fell, leveling off in 1999 at 10,117. Gun-related homicides have increased slightly each year since 2002.⁷
- In 2007, 88.5% of murder-suicides involved the use of a firearm.⁸

¹ U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Key Facts at a Glance: Crimes Committed with Firearms, 1973-2007*. Retrieved from <http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/content/glance/tables/gunrimetab.cfm>

² National Center Injury Prevention & Control, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, Web-Based Injury Statistics Query & Reporting System (WISQARS) Injury Mortality Reports, 1999-2007, at http://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/mortrate10_sy.html

³ National Center Injury Prevention & Control, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, Web-Based Injury Statistics Query & Reporting System (WISQARS) Injury Mortality Reports, 1999-2007, at http://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/mortrate10_sy.html

⁴ National Center Injury Prevention & Control, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, Web-Based Injury Statistics Query & Reporting System (WISQARS) Injury Mortality Reports, 1999-2007, at http://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/mortrate10_sy.html

⁵ Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Dep't of Labor, 2009 Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, TABLE A-6. Fatal Occupational Injuries Resulting from Transportation Incidents and Homicides by Occupation, All United States, 2009, at <http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshwc/foi/cftb0246.pdf> (last visited Oct. 27, 2010) (reporting that 420 of the 521 homicides were homicides by shooting).

⁶ United States Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation. (September 2007). Crime in the United States, Violent Crime, 2006. Retrieved from http://www2.fbi.gov/ucr/cius2006/offenses/violent_crime/index.html

⁷ Fox, J. A., Zawitz, M. W., & United States. Bureau of Justice Statistics. (1999). Homicide trends in the United States: [Washington, D.C.]: U.S. Dept. of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics

⁸ Violence Policy Center. (2008) American Roulette: Murder-Suicide in the United States. Washington, D.C: Violence Policy Center. Retrieved from <http://www.vpc.org/studies/amroul2008.pdf>