

ICPSR 6955

National Study of Private Ownership of Firearms in the United States, 1994

Description

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Bibliographic Description

ICPSR Study No.: 6955

Title: National Study of Private Ownership of Firearms in the United States, 1994

Principal Investigator(s): The Police Foundation

Funding Agency: United States Department of Justice. Office of Justice Programs. National Institute of Justice

Grant Number: 93-IJ-CX-0017

Bibliographic Citation: The Police Foundation. NATIONAL STUDY OF PRIVATE OWNERSHIP OF FIREARMS IN THE UNITED STATES, 1994. ICPSR version. Radnor, PA: Chilton Research Services [producer], 1994. Ann Arbor, MI: Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research [distributor], 1998. <http://doi.org/10.3886/ICPSR06955.v1>

Scope of Study

Summary: This data collection consists of a survey of private ownership of firearms by adults in the United States. Respondents who both did and did not own firearms were included. The variables cover topics such as the number and type of guns owned privately, methods of, and reasons for, firearms acquisition, the storage and carrying of guns, the defensive use of firearms against criminal attackers, and reasons for and against firearm ownership. Basic demographic variables include sex, age, education, and employment.

Subject Term(s): firearms, gun ownership, handguns

Geographic Coverage: United States

Time Period: • 1994

Date(s) of Collection: • November 1994 - December 1994

Unit of Observation: Individuals.

Universe: Adults living in the United States.

Data Type: survey data

Data Collection Notes: The user guide, codebook, and data collection instruments are provided as a Portable Document Format (PDF) file. The PDF file format was developed by Adobe Systems Incorporated and can be accessed using PDF reader software, such as the Adobe Acrobat Reader. Information on how to obtain a copy of the Acrobat Reader is provided through the ICPSR Website on the Internet.

Methodology

Purpose of the Study: To learn more about the role of firearms in crime, the National Institute of Justice sponsored, through a grant to the Police Foundation, a nationally representative survey on private ownership and use of firearms by American adults. The research covered topics such as: (1) the size, composition, and ownership of the nation's private gun inventory, (2) methods of, and reasons for, firearms acquisition, (3) the storage and carrying of guns, and (4) the defensive use of firearms against criminal attackers.

Study Design: The Police Foundation contracted with Chilton Research Services to conduct the survey. Minimums were established for the number of completed interviews with racial minorities and gun-owning households. Such households were more likely to be included in the final sample. Weights were calculated to adjust for this design feature.

Sample: National probability sample.

Sources of Information: telephone interviews

Description of Variables: The data contain variables on methods of firearms acquisition, use of firearms, number and types of firearms owned, storage and carrying of guns, and reasons for and against firearm ownership. Basic demographic variables include sex, age, education, and employment of the respondent.

Response Rates: Approximately 50 percent.

Presence of Common Scales: None.

Extent of Processing: Standardized missing values.

Checked for undocumented or out-of-range codes.

Access and Availability

Note: A list of the data formats available for this study can be found in the [summary of holdings](#). Detailed file-level information (such as record length, case count, and variable count) is listed in the [file manifest](#).

Original ICPSR Release: 1998-10-08

Dataset(s):

- DS1: National Study of Private Ownership of Firearms in the United States, 1994

Publications

Final Reports and Other Publication Resources: A list of publications related to, or based on, this data collection can be accessed from the study's download page on the NACJD Web site or through the ICPSR Bibliography of Data-Related Literature at <http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/ICPSR/citations/index.html>. The list of citations includes links to abstracts and publications in Portable Document Format (PDF) files or text files when available.

Final reports and other publications describing research conducted on a variety of criminal justice topics are available from the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS). NCJRS was established in 1972 by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), an agency of the U.S. Department of Justice, to provide research findings to criminal justice professionals and researchers. NCJRS operates specialized clearinghouses that are staffed by information specialists who supply a range of reference, referral, and distribution services. Publications can be obtained from NCJRS at NIJ/NCJRS, Box 6000, Rockville, MD, 20849-6000, 800-851-3420 or 301-519-5500. TTY Service for the Hearing Impaired is 877-712-9279 (toll-free) or 301-947-8374 (local). The URL for the NCJRS Web site is:

<http://www.ncjrs.gov/>

NIJ Data Resources Program

About the DRP: The National Institute of Justice Data Resources Program (DRP) makes datasets from NIJ-funded research and evaluation projects available to the research community and sponsors research and training activities devoted to secondary data analysis. Datasets are archived by the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD) at the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) at the University of Michigan.

The NACJD maintains a World Wide Web site with instructions for transferring files and sending messages. Criminal justice data funded by the Department of Justice are available via the Internet at this site at no charge to the user. NACJD may be contacted at NACJD/ICPSR, P.O. Box 1248, Ann Arbor, MI, 48106-1248, 800-999-0960. The URL for the NACJD Web site is:

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<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/NACJD/>