Analysis of The USA Shootings in 2021

Adesola Afolayan Olayinka¹, JANET OYERONKE OLAYINKA¹, and Annah Abubakar¹

¹Affiliation not available

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Abstract

Mass Shootings are, for the most part, an American phenomenon, more Americans died of gun-related injuries in 2021 than in any other year on record, according to the latest available statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). This analysis seeks to know the extent of racial involvement among victims and the perpetrators of the shooting. The data was Extracted Transformed and Loaded for analysis from data.gov and using Microsoft Power Business Intelligence. Black has the highest perpetrator and victims and White has the least perpetrator and victim. The age group of perpetrators with the highest occurrence is 25-44. Socio-cultural, self-awareness, political, commercial, technological and economic influence are suggested as some of the influencing factors.

Introduction

In 2021, more Americans died from gun-related injuries than in any other year on record, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) most recent data. That included record numbers of both gun murders and gun suicides. Despite the increase in such fatalities, the *rate* of gun deaths – a statistic that accounts for the nation's growing population – remained below the levels of earlier decades.

How has the number of U.S. gun deaths changed over time?

The record 48,830 total gun deaths in 2021 reflect a 23% increase since 2019, before the onset of the coronavirus pandemic. Gun murders, in particular, have climbed sharply during the pandemic, increasing 45% between 2019 and 2021, while the number of gun suicides rose 10% during that span.

Persons who committed public mass shootings in the U.S. over the last half-century were commonly troubled by personal trauma before their shooting incidents, nearly always in a state of crisis at the time, and, in most cases, engaged in leaking their plans before opening fire. Most were insiders of a targeted institution, such as an employee or student. Except for young school shooters who stole the guns from family members, most used legally obtained handguns in those shootings.

Mass Shooting Methodology and Reasoning

Generally speaking, mass shootings are an American phenomenon. The established foundation definition is that they have a minimum of four victims shot, either injured or killed, excluding any shooter who may also have been killed or injured in the incident. While they are typically grouped together as one type of incident, they are actually several different types, including public shootings, bar/club incidents, family annihilations, drive-by shootings, workplace shootings, and those which defy description. Additionally, GVA provides the count of mass murder, which, like the FBI's definition, is defined as four or more victims killed—excluding the gunman. A subset of the mass shooting count is mass murder with a firearm.

Objective

We aimed to know if there are any racial influences on the USA shootings and or victims

Limitations

This study uses secondary data from data.gov which entails all shootings including murders, suicide, and mass shootings in 2021.

Previous works

In the context of the classification, as stated by **Binod Kumar in his work "Social Violence: The Role of Gun Culture"** it would be appropriate to refer to Gandhi's vision on the diffusion of societal functions and activities: "I claim that human mind or human society is not divided into watertight compartments called social, political and religious. All act and react upon one another" (Attenborough 1982). The proposed classification of violence is not very far from Gandhi's vision of social discourse and it does not imply rigid boundaries among the five forms resulting from human activity. Thus the forms of violence are not mutually exclusive. However, a delineation of the source of violence is an exercise of paramount importance for developing an effective set of solutions and social policies for its rectification.

Table 1: Source/Root and Impacts of Violence

Perhaps the most troublesome and long-lasting form of violence emanates from social traditions, beliefs, and practices. They have existed since the very beginning of the human civilization and reincarnated in different forms over centuries. Some of the important forms of social violence include the institutions of slavery, caste systems, racism, apartheid, human trafficking, drugs, inequality, and gangs. The social violence is legitimized through the perceived needs of the society, prevailing social practices, religious beliefs and corrupt, misguided political power. It is a long-lasting social stigma, and extremely detrimental to the objectives of just and fair civil society. The social violence can be carried on for generations and centuries. It is also extremely difficult to uproot, and often attempts to uproot them yield a different form of violence.

The neighborhoods plagued by gun violence must be transformed into a civil society that is peaceful, loving, and helpful. For such a shift to occur, moral forces must be ingrained in the family, neighborhood, law enforcement, and all governmental levels. Since the process of instilling moral principles takes time, patience and ongoing resources are essential. Even yet, the procedure can be put into action by adopting and following moral behaviors and regulations that are consistent with society.

Methodology

Microsoft Power BI was employed to interact with the secondary data source on data.gov. Data were extracted transformed and loaded to the Power BI environment. The dashboard was created with slicing and dicing

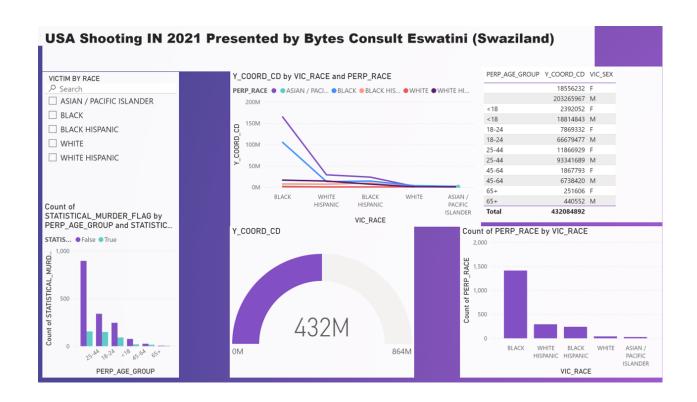


Figure 1: Collective picture of the Shootings.

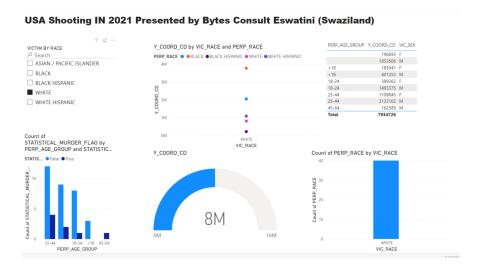


Figure 2: White Victims second to the least in number of victims

A 2018 policy brief by the Rockefeller Institute of Government and the State University of New York researched incidents that resulted in deaths and injuries, excluding gang and terrorist violence, and found that although whites make up the majority of mass shooters, the number is not overwhelming, the *Washington Times* reported.

"Despite common misperceptions that all mass shooters are white, the findings indicate that while a majority are, this proportion is just over half of the perpetrators (53.9 percent)," the study found. "More than one in four shooters is black and nearly one in ten is of Hispanic descent." (Jillian Peterson, 2021; gunviolencearchive, 2023).

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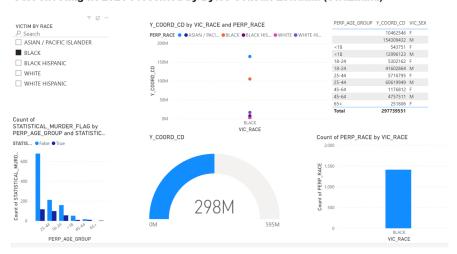


Figure 3: Black Victims

Black has the Highest number of perpetrators and the greatest victims number Fig 3.

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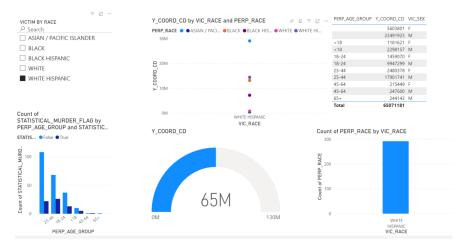


Figure 4: White Hispanic Victims and perpetrators

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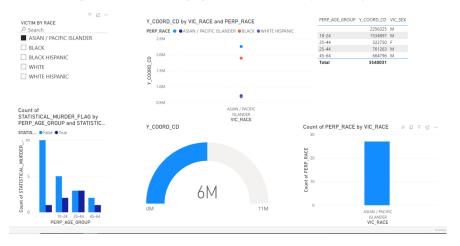


Figure 5: Asian pacific & Icelander Victims are the least

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Figure 6: Black Hispanic

Findings

- 1). The number of perpetrators in each race is directly proportional to victims per race
- 2) The black race has the highest number of perpetrators and Victims, followed by White Hispanics, then Black Hispanics, and White, while the Asian, Pacific, & Islander groups have the most minor perpetrators and Victims.

Recommendations

The UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), which were unveiled in 2015, rightly acknowledge the importance of nonviolent culture for maintaining world peace. Three sub-goals have been established by the

SDGs for member nations to approve, carry out, and evaluate. The UN has launched a number of programs to defend, uphold, and advance human rights in all of its member nations. Some nations objected to some rights' provisions, and these nations continue to reject a few particular Declaration of Human Rights sections. As two examples, Russia, disputed the right relating to employment, while Saudi Arabia expressed concerns about religious freedom. Social violence that stems from the gun culture is encroaching on people's rights, which is an expected but worrying reality that needs to be addressed.

A compromise between Article 3 of the UN Declaration of Human Rightsand the Second Amendment of the US Constitution is required in order to address and correct the societal issues caused by gun culture. In this nation, gun violence claims an abnormally high number of lives. Through restrictions on assault weapons, gun fairs, and the online firearms industry, it might be impacted and reduced. Additionally, even more, advantages could be achieved if access to firearms is limited to those who absolutely need them.

The government and corporate entities need to take a proactive stance to explore upcoming scientific and technical developments with the potential to have negative effects.

Acknowledgments

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