



The root causes of gang-related gun violence in Chicago

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INTRODUCTION

In the United States, approximately 100 people die from gun violence every day. The city of Chicago has accounted for 1.5% of all gun-related deaths in America, while only being about 0.8% of the nation's population. Despite the theory that gang violence in inner cities is to blame on gang members, the weaker gun laws in neighboring states have helped to fuel the high homicide rates Chicago is known for. About 1 in 5 of the guns used or possessed in Chicago from 2013 to 2016 were from Indiana (Cohen, 2018).

RESEARCH METHODOLOGIES

Inquiry Approaches:

- Action Research
- Content Analysis
- Correlational Research
- Needs Assessment Research

Data Collection Tools:

- Database
- Document
- Text

Data Analysis Techniques:

- Summarizing
- Descriptive Statistics

DATA AND FINDINGS

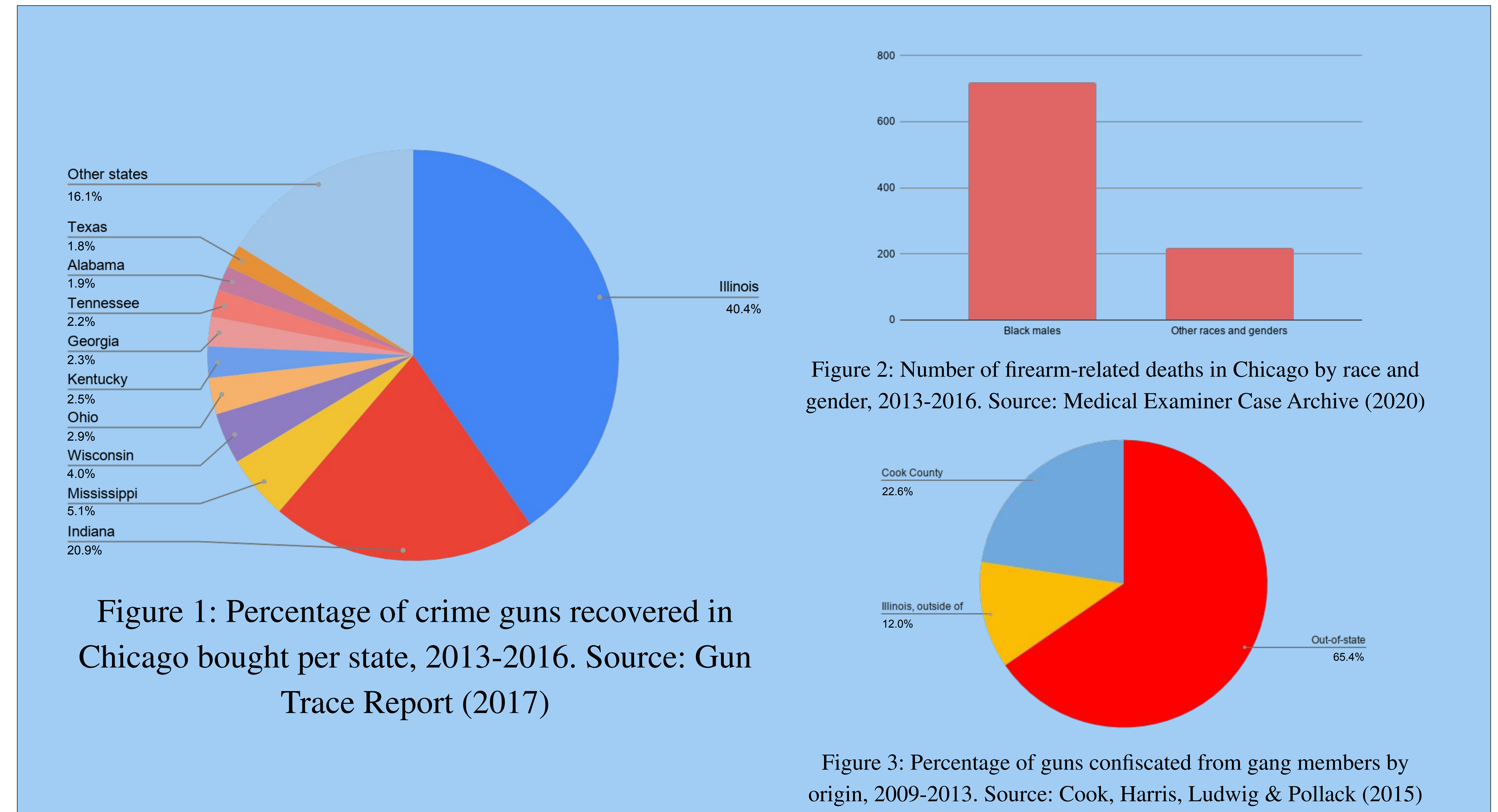


Figure 1: Percentage of crime guns recovered in Chicago bought per state, 2013-2016. Source: Gun Trace Report (2017)

Figure 2: Number of firearm-related deaths in Chicago by race and gender, 2013-2016. Source: Medical Examiner Case Archive (2020)

Figure 3: Percentage of guns confiscated from gang members by origin, 2009-2013. Source: Cook, Harris, Ludwig & Pollack (2015)

IMPLICATIONS AND NEXT STEPS

The data point to a deeply rooted problem that won't be solved by a single research paper or a single government action. Societal change involves everyone who actively participates in that society. That includes owners of gun shops that provide firearms that will eventually be used in gang activities. For this reason, I hope to do my part in solving this crisis by creating a pamphlet for gun stores in the Chicago area notifying them of their impact in this crisis. The pamphlet will outline how much of an impact their store has and what actions can be taken for them to help eradicate this epidemic.

PAMPHLET

★ The impact of gun shops on Chicago's homicide rate ★

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★ Top 10 source dealers of crime guns in Chicago ★

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Top 10 Source Dealers

1. Chicago Gun Shop (Hawthorn, IL)
2. Midwest Sporting Goods (Evanston, IL)
3. Streetly Sports (Evanston, IL)
4. Caber's (Hammond, IN)
5. Shoot Gallery (Lancaster, IL)
6. GAT Guns (East Dundee, IL)
7. Suburban Sporting Goods (Melrose Park, IL)
8. Peabers Shooter Supply (Lansing, IL)
9. Sports Sport Shop (Schaumburg, IL)
10. Sporting Arms & Supply (Downers, IL)

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***Works Cited:

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