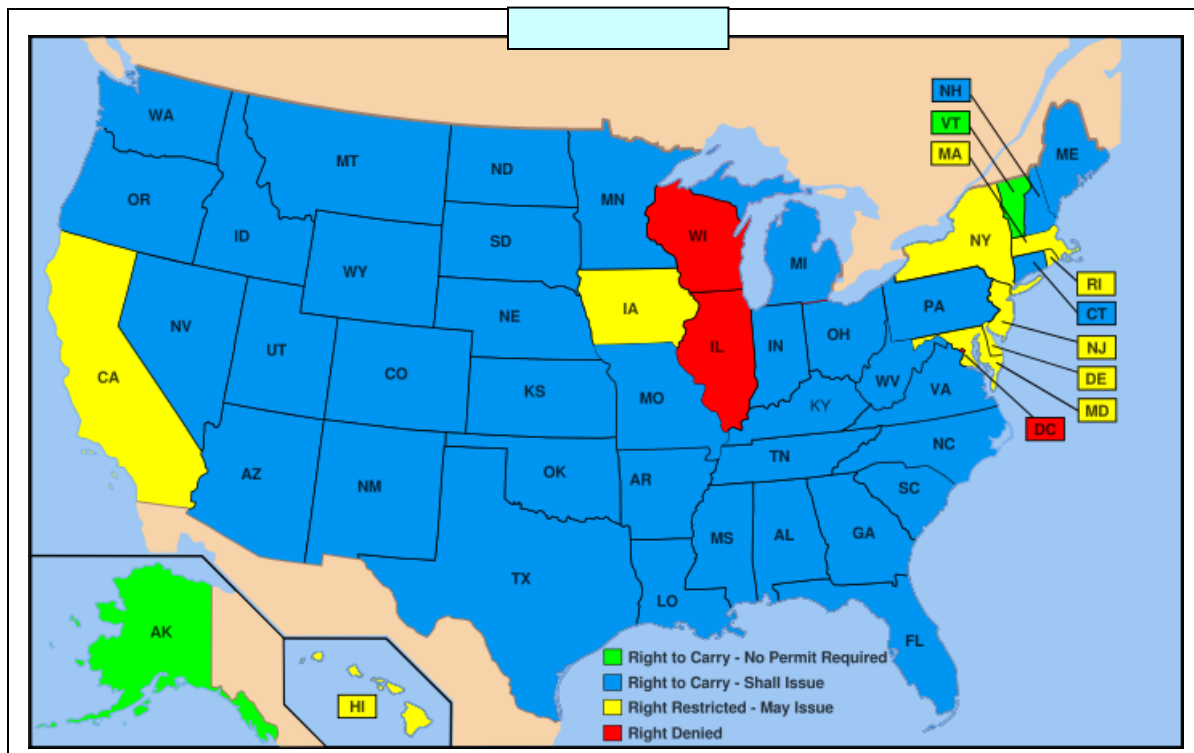


CONCEALED CARRY LAWS AND WEAPONS



MYTH: CONCEALED CARRY LAWS INCREASE CRIME

Fact: Forty states¹⁵⁰, comprising the majority of the American population, are "right-to-carry" states. Statistics show that in these states the crime rate fell (or did not rise) after the right-to-carry law became active (as of July, 2006). Nine states deny or restrict the right to carry.

Fact: Crime rates involving gun owners with carry permits have consistently been about 0.02% of all carry permit holders since Florida's right-to-carry law started in 1988.¹⁵¹

Fact: After passing their concealed carry law, Florida's homicide rate fell from 36% above the national average to 4% below, and remains below the national average (as of the last reporting period, 2005).¹⁵²

Fact: In Texas, murder rates fell 50% faster than the national average in the year after their concealed carry law passed. Rape rates fell 93% faster in the first year after enactment, and

¹⁵⁰At publication time two more states, Kansas and Nebraska, have pass shall-issue legislation, but insufficient data was available to determine how the change has impacted crime rates.

¹⁵¹ Florida Department of Justice, 1998

¹⁵²Cramer C and Kopel D. Shall issue: the new wave of concealed handgun permit laws. Golden CO: Independence Institute Issue Paper. October 17, 1994

500% faster in the second¹⁵³. Assaults fell 250% faster in the second year.¹⁵⁴

Fact: More to the point, crime is significantly higher in states without right-to-carry laws¹⁵⁵:

Fact: States that disallow concealed carry have violent crime rates 11% higher than national averages.¹⁵⁶

Fact: Deaths and injuries from mass public shootings fall dramatically after right-to-carry concealed handgun laws are enacted. Between 1977 and 1995¹⁵⁷, the average death rate from mass shootings plummeted by up to 91% after such laws went into effect, and injuries dropped by over 80%.¹⁵⁸

Type of Crime	% Higher in Restrictive States
Robbery	105%
Murder	86%
Assault	82%
Violent Crime	81%
Auto theft	60%
Rape	25%

¹⁵³ Some criminologist believe measuring first year change is shortsighted as it takes more than a year for permits to be issued, reach critical quantities, and for the criminally minded to recognize the new situation and avoid violent confrontations.

¹⁵⁴ Bureau of Justice Statistics, online database, reviewing Texas and U.S. violent crime from 1995-2001.

¹⁵⁵ John Lott, David Mustard: This study involved county level crime statistics from *all* 3,054 counties in the U.S., from 1977 through 1992. During this time ten states adopted right-to-carry laws. It is estimated that if all states had adopted right-to-carry laws, in 1992 the US would have avoided 1,400 murders, 4,200 rapes, 12,000 robberies, 60,000 aggravated assaults – and saved over \$5,000,000,000 in victim expenses.

¹⁵⁶ FBI, Uniform Crime Reports, 2004 - excludes Hawaii and Rhode Island - small populations and geographic isolation create other determinants to violent crime.

¹⁵⁷ Federal legislation created a nation “gun-free schools” policy, effective in 1996. Some criminologists maintain this created a new dynamic, encouraging mass murder on campus. Thus after 1995 it is increasing difficult to make comparisons based on the effects of CCWs and mass shootings.

¹⁵⁸ “Multiple Victim Public Shootings, Bombings, and Right-to-Carry Concealed Handgun Laws: Contrasting Private and Public Law Enforcement”, John Lott and William Landes, Law School of the University of Chicago, Law & Economics Working Paper No. 73

MYTH: PEOPLE WITH CONCEALED WEAPONS PERMITS WILL COMMIT CRIMES

Fact: The results for the first 30 states that passed “shall-issue” laws for concealed carry permits are similar.

Fact: The general public is:¹⁶⁸

- 5.7 times more likely to be arrested for violent offenses than CCW permit holders.
- 13.5 times more likely to be arrested for non-violent offenses than the than CCW permit holders.

Fact: In Texas, the general public is 14 more likely to commit a crime than a CCW permit holder. They are also five times more likely to commit a violent crime.¹⁶⁹

Fact: Even gun control organizations agree it is a non-problem, as in Texas – “because there haven't been Wild West shootouts in the streets”.¹⁷⁰

State ¹⁵⁹	Permits issued	Revoked permits	% Revoked	Violent Crime Rate Change ¹⁶⁰
Florida	1,327,321 ¹⁶¹	4,129	0.3%	-30.5%
Virginia	50,000 ¹⁶²	0	0.0%	-21.9%
Arizona	63,000 ¹⁶³	50	0.9%	-28.7%
North Carolina	59,597 ¹⁶⁴	1,274	1.2%	-26.4%
Minnesota	46,636 ¹⁶⁵	12	0.03%	16.8% ¹⁶⁶
Michigan	155,000 ¹⁶⁷	2,178	0.1%	1.4%

Fact: Of 14,000 CCW licensees in Oregon, only 4 (0.03%) were convicted of the criminal (not necessarily violent) use or possession of a firearm.

¹⁵⁹ Reports were as received. No selection or filtering process was used.

¹⁶⁰ Violent crime rates are from inception of “shall issue” CCW through 2006, the most recent period available through the Bureau of Justice Statistics online database.

¹⁶¹ October 1987 through Jan 2008

¹⁶² 1995 – no follow-up data available

¹⁶³ 1994 through 2007

¹⁶⁴ 1995 through 2004

¹⁶⁵ 2002 through 2006

¹⁶⁶ In 2005 and 2006, Minnesota had an abnormal spike in robbery and aggravated assaults. The first three years of CCW in Minnesota saw violent crime rates being roughly stable.

¹⁶⁷ 2001 through 2007

¹⁶⁸ “An Analysis of the Arrest Rate of Texas Concealed Carry Handgun License Holders as Compared to the Arrest Rate of the Entire Texas Population”, William E. Sturdevant, PE, September 11, 1999

¹⁶⁹ Texas Department of Public Safety and the U.S. Census Bureau, reported in San Antonio Express-News, September, 2000

¹⁷⁰ Nina Butts, Texans Against Gun Violence, Dallas Morning News, August 10, 2000

Fact: In Florida, a state that has allowed concealed carry since late 1987, you are twice as likely to be attacked by an alligator as by a person with a concealed carry permit.¹⁷¹

MYTH: TEXAS CCW HOLDERS ARE ARRESTED 66% MORE OFTEN

Fact: Most arrests cited are not any form of violent crime (includes bounced checks or tax delinquency).¹⁷²

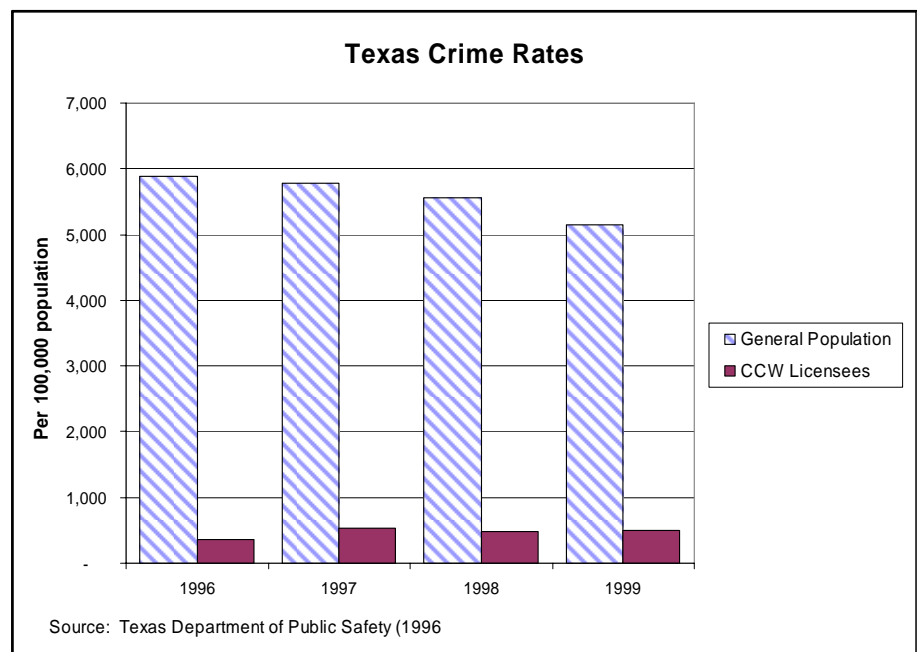
Fact: The VPC "study" only includes arrests, not convictions.

Fact: Many of these arrests in this premature VPC "study" came in the early years of Texas CCWs when the law was not understood by most of the law enforcement community or prosecutors.

Fact: Compared to the entire population, Texas CCW holders are about 7.6 times less likely to be arrested for a violent crime.¹⁷³ The numbers breakdown as follows:

- 214,000 CCW holders¹⁷⁴
- 526 (0.2%) felony arrests of CCW holders that have been adjudicated
- 100 (0.05%) felony convictions

Fact: A different study concludes that the four year violent crime arrest rate for CCW holders is 128 per 100,000. For the general population, it is 710 per 100,000. In other words, the general public is 5.5 times more likely to commit a violent crime than a CCW licensee.¹⁷⁵



¹⁷¹ Florida Department of State, "Concealed Weapons/Firearms License Statistical Report", 1998 – Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, December 1998

¹⁷² "Basis For Revocation Or Suspension Of Texas Concealed ", Texas Department of Public Safety, December 1, 1998

¹⁷³ Texas Department of Corrections data, 1996-2000, compiled by the Texas State Rifle Association, www.tsra.com/arrests.htm

¹⁷⁴ These are year 2000 records. As of 2005, the number of Texas concealed carry permit holders was 248,874.

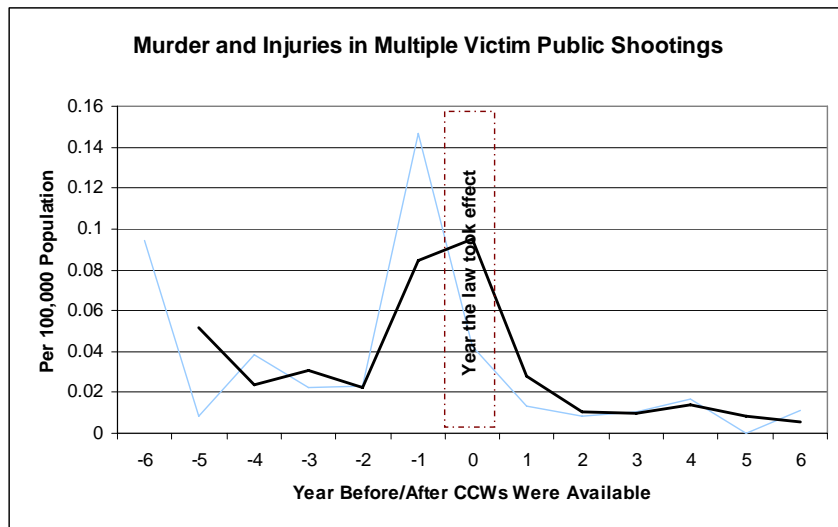
¹⁷⁵ "An Analysis Of The Arrest Rate Of Texas Concealed Handgun License Holders As Compared To The Arrest Rate Of The Entire Texas Population", William E. Sturdevant, PE, September 11, 1999

MYTH: CCWs WILL LEAD TO MASS PUBLIC SHOOTINGS

Fact: Multiple victim public shootings drop in states that pass shall-issue CCW legislation.¹⁷⁶

MYTH: PEOPLE DO NOT NEED CONCEALABLE WEAPONS

Fact: In 80% of gun defenses, the defender used a concealable handgun. A quarter of the gun defenses occurred in places away from the defender's home.¹⁷⁷



Fact: 77% of all violent crime occurs in public places.¹⁷⁸ This makes concealed carry necessary for almost all self-defense needs. But due to onerous laws forbidding concealed carry, only 26.8% of defensive gun uses occurred away from home.¹⁷⁹

Fact: Often, small weapons that are capable of being concealed are the only ones usable by people of small stature or with physical disabilities.

Fact: The average citizen doesn't need a Sport Utility Vehicle, but driving one is arguably safer than driving other vehicles. Similarly, carrying a concealable gun makes the owner – and his or her community – safer by providing protection not otherwise available.

MYTH: POLICE ARE AGAINST CONCEALED CARRYING BY CITIZENS

Fact: 66% of police chiefs believe that citizens carrying concealed firearms reduce rates of violent crime.¹⁸⁰

Fact: “All the horror stories I thought would come to pass didn't happen ...I think it's worked out well, and that says good things about the citizens who have permits. I'm a convert.”¹⁸¹

¹⁷⁶ Lott John R., Landes William M.; "Multiple Victim Public Shootings, Bombings, and Right-to-Carry Concealed Handgun Laws: Contrasting Private and Public Law Enforcement"; University of Chicago – covers years 1977 to 1995

¹⁷⁷ "Armed Resistance to Crime: The Prevalence and Nature of Self-Defense with a Gun," by Gary Kleck and Marc Gertz, in The Journal of Criminal Law & Criminology, Northwestern University School of Law, Volume 86, Number 1, Fall, 1995

¹⁷⁸ U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics, "Criminal Victimization in the United States", 1993

¹⁷⁹ Kleck and Gertz, National Self Defense Survey, 1995

¹⁸⁰ National Association of Chiefs of Police, 17th Annual National Survey of Police Chiefs & Sheriffs, 2005

¹⁸¹ Glenn White, president, Dallas Police Association, Dallas Morning News, December 23, 1997

Fact: “I ... [felt] that such legislation present[ed] a clear and present danger to law-abiding citizens by placing more handguns on our streets. Boy was I wrong. Our experience in Harris County, and indeed statewide, has proven my fears absolutely groundless”.¹⁸²

Fact: Explain this to the [Law Enforcement Alliance of America](#), [Second Amendment Police Department](#), and Law Enforcement for the Preservation of the Second Amendment, all of whom support shall-issue concealed carry laws.

¹⁸² John B. Holmes, Harris County Texas district attorney, Dallas Morning News, December 23, 1997