



### The Cost of Firearm Violence

Firearm injuries cost \$174 billion in the United States in 2010 and the government's firearm injury bill alone exceeded \$12 billion. PIRE researcher Ted Miller estimates annual firearm injury costs average \$645 per gun in America. The costs include medical and mental health care costs, criminal justice costs, wage losses, and the value of pain, suffering and lost quality of life. Violence - assaults and suicide acts - dominated the costs. These estimates are based on the latest injury data from the Centers for Disease Control and unit costs from the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation's (PIRE) widely cited injury cost model. Data was developed by Ted R Miller, PhD, Principal Research Scientist, Children's Safety Network Economics and Data Analysis Resource Center, at Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation, December 2012. All incidence data are from CDC's WISQARS web query system, accessed December 2012.

**Societal Cost per Firearm Injury, United States, 2010**

	Work Loss	Medical Care	Mental Health	Emergency Transport	Police	Criminal Justice	Insurance Claims Processing	Employer Cost	Quality of Life	Total Cost per Firearm Assault	Total Cost per Firearm Injury, Other Intents
<b>Fatal</b>	\$1,552,381	\$28,741	\$10,883	\$544	\$2,119	\$395,221	\$2,361	\$8,980	\$3,093,750	\$5,094,980	\$4,699,759
<b>Hospital Admitted</b>	\$72,651	\$49,947	\$238	\$329	\$978	\$6,613	\$3,355	\$2,204	\$296,498	\$432,813	\$426,200
<b>Emergency Department Only</b>	\$3,128	\$1,146	\$191	\$28	\$825	\$6,613	\$572	\$354	\$110,128	\$122,985	\$116,372

**Cost to Government per Firearm Injury, United States, 2010**

	Lost Tax Revenue	Medical Care (Medicare/Medicaid)	Mental Health (Medicare/Medicaid)	Emergency Transport	Police	Criminal Justice	Insurance Claims Processing	Total Cost per Firearm Assault	Total Cost per Firearm Injury, Other Intents
<b>Fatal</b>	\$163,488	\$14,371	\$5,442	\$544	\$2,119	\$395,221	\$1,181	\$582,366	\$187,145
<b>Hospital Admitted</b>	\$7,648	\$24,974	\$119	\$329	\$978	\$6,613	\$1,678	\$42,339	\$35,726

These estimates were funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration, US Department of Health and Human Services, and by Public Health Law Research, a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.



**Cost to Government per Firearm Injury, United States, 2010**

	Lost Tax Revenue	Medical Care (Medicare/Medicaid)	Mental Health (Medicare/Medicaid)	Emergency Transport	Police	Criminal Justice	Insurance Claims Processing	Total Cost per Firearm Assault	Total Cost per Firearm Injury, Other Intents
<b>Emergency Department Only</b>	\$329	\$573	\$96	\$28	\$825	\$6,613	\$286	\$8,750	\$2,137

**Incidence and Societal Cost of Firearm Injury, United States 2010**

	Incidence in 2010	Work Loss	Medical Care	Mental Health	Emergency Transport	Police	Criminal Justice	Insurance Claims Processing	Employer Cost	Quality of Life	Total Cost
<b>Fatal</b>	31672	\$49,167,011,032	\$910,284,952	\$344,686,376	\$17,229,568	\$67,112,968	\$4,414,618,570	\$74,777,592	\$284,414,560	\$97,985,250,000	\$153,265,385,618
<b>Hospital Admitted</b>	38566	\$2,801,858,466	\$1,926,256,002	\$9,178,708	\$12,688,214	\$37,717,548	\$167,341,965	\$129,388,930	\$84,999,464	\$11,434,741,868	\$16,604,171,165
<b>Emergency Department Only</b>	34939	\$109,289,192	\$40,040,094	\$6,673,349	\$978,292	\$28,824,675	\$174,325,293	\$19,985,108	\$12,368,406	\$3,847,762,192	\$4,240,246,601
<b>Total, United States</b>	105177	\$52,078,158,690	\$2,876,581,048	\$360,538,433	\$30,896,074	\$133,655,191	\$4,756,285,828	\$224,151,630	\$381,782,430	\$113,267,754,060	\$174,109,803,384

**Cost to Government of Firearm Injury, United States, 2010**

	Incidence in 2010	Lost Tax Revenue	Medical Care (Medicare/Medicaid)	Mental Health (Medicare/Medicaid)	Emergency Transport	Police	Criminal Justice	Insurance Claims Processing	Total Cost
<b>Fatal</b>	31,672	\$5,177,991,936	\$455,158,312	\$172,359,024	\$17,229,568	\$67,112,968	\$4,414,618,570	\$37,404,632	\$10,341,875,010
<b>Hospital Admitted</b>	38,566	\$294,952,768	\$963,147,284	\$4,589,354	\$12,688,214	\$37,717,548	\$167,341,965	\$64,713,748	\$1,545,150,881

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**Cost to Government of Firearm Injury, United States, 2010**

	Incidence in 2010	Lost Tax Revenue	Medical Care (Medicare/Medicaid)	Mental Health (Medicare/Medicaid)	Emergency Transport	Police	Criminal Justice	Insurance Claims Processing	Total Cost
<b>Emergency Department Only</b>	34,939	\$11,494,931	\$20,020,047	\$3,354,144	\$978,292	\$28,824,675	\$174,325,293	\$9,992,554	\$248,989,936
<b>Total, United States</b>	105,177	\$5,484,439,635	\$1,438,325,643	\$180,302,522	\$30,896,074	\$133,655,191	\$4,756,285,828	\$112,110,934	\$12,136,015,827

**Firearm Injury Costs per Gun, United States, 2010**

	Direct Cost	Work Loss	Quality Of Life	Total					
<b>Societal Cost Per Gun</b>	\$32	\$193	\$420	\$645					
	Lost Tax Revenue	Medical Care	Mental Health	Emergency Transport	Police	Criminal Justice	Claims Processing	Total Cost	
<b>Government Cost Per Gun</b>	\$0.04	\$0.07	\$0.01	\$0.00	\$0.11	\$0.65	\$0.04	\$0.92	

**Costs of Firearm Injury by Intent, United States, 2010**

	Unintentional	Homicide/ Assault	Legal Intervention	Suicide Act	Undetermined Intent	Total
<b>Societal Cost</b>	\$6,341,333,414	\$71,533,317,526	\$1,991,517,476	\$93,036,637,504	\$1,184,339,268	\$174,087,145,188
	4%	41%	1%	53%	1%	100%
<b>Direct Cost</b>	\$376,387,630	\$6,802,593,577	\$62,186,798	\$1,107,030,707	\$11,251,296	\$8,359,450,008
	5%	81%	1%	13%	0%	100%
<b>Government Cost</b>	\$343,728,011	\$7,841,224,101	\$94,919,283	\$3,786,325,696	\$47,160,540	\$12,113,357,631
	3%	65%	1%	31%	0%	100%

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**Incidence of Firearm Injury by Intent, United States, 2010**

	Unintentional	Homicide/ Assault	Legal Intervention	Suicide Act	Undetermined	Total
<b>Fatal</b>	606	11,078	344	19,392	252	31,672
<b>Hospital Admitted</b>	5,956	27,377	848	4,385		38,566
<b>Emergency Department Only</b>	8,205	26,361	115	258		34,939
<b>Total</b>	14,767	64,816	1,307	24,035	252	104,925

**Medical Care** includes payments for hospital and physician care, as well as rehabilitation, prescriptions, allied health services, medical devices, and insurance claims processing. For fatalities, also include coroner and premature burial costs.

**Mental Health Care** includes payments for services by psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, and pastoral counselors. Also includes insurance claims processing.

**Work Loss** includes wages, fringe benefits, and household work lost due to death and permanent or temporary disability

**Lost Tax Revenue** includes income taxes losses due to wage losses

**Criminal Justice** includes criminal justice processing, sanctions, legal defense, and incarceration costs

**Emergency Transport** includes ambulance, helicopter, and coroner transport costs.

**Police** includes costs of police response and investigation

**Criminal Justice** includes criminal justice processing, sanctions, legal defense, and incarceration costs.

**Insurance Claims Processing** is the cost of processing public and/or private health insurance claims

**Employer Cost** includes costs of recruiting and training replacements for workers who are killed or permanently disabled and juggling schedules due to temporary disability, as well as workplace disruption talking about firearm incidents

**Quality of Life** values the pain, suffering, and loss of enjoyment of life of people who were shot and their families; we did not value fear experienced by people who were not shot

**Direct Cost** includes out-of-pocket costs for medical and mental health care, emergency transport, police, criminal justice, and insurance administration.

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