

Report: Firearms in Europe

Gun Ownership in Europe

07.10.2015

Firearms United

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Introduction

The rate of gun ownership can only be estimated as nobody knows the number of illegally held firearms. Whilst illegal owners do not care about firearms regulations legal owners receive the entire impact of gun regulations. It is therefore of utmost importance to pay attention to the legal status of firearms misused in violent crimes and their real numbers.

In July 2015 Fabio Marini, Head of Firearms Task Force at DG HOME, European Commission presented the report **'Firearms and Violent Deaths in Europe'** by Nils Duquet and Maarten Van Alstein, researchers at the Flemish Peace Institute. The first topic is the numbers of licit and illicit firearms in Europe.

Gary Mauser, Professor emeritus of the Simon Fraser University (CA) wrote:¹

This report by the Flemish Peace Institute purports to be scientific, but it should be seen as nothing more than advocacy, because it violates the basic principles of scientific inquiry. Science depends upon researchers honestly examining a question, with an open mind, and reporting what the data reveal. The authors of this paper instead selectively report only supportive studies that have been designed to reinforce their a priori claims. [...]

Section 1. Firearms in European Societies. *In the discussion of illegal firearms (p 5-6), The authors appear to equate illegally held guns with stolen firearms and they completely ignore smuggled arms. In North America, and I suspect in Europe, the bulk of guns used in violent crime are smuggled, not stolen. The research I have seen is that this is also true in the UK. [...]*

The authors' comments about the challenges of estimating firearms ownership rates are well taken. Self-report methods typically underestimate ownership rates (See Kleck 1997). As well, self-reports are strongly affected by the question wording and the respondents' evaluation of the survey sponsorship (e.g., government vs. private company).

Unsurprisingly, the degree to which respondents are comfortable reporting to the interviewer that they have firearms in their household varies across countries and time. See Kleck (1997) for a detailed discussion of the problems with self-report data. Two self-report methods are discussed in this report, the International Crime Victims Survey and Eurobarometer. The ICVS is a respected survey but the Eurobarometer might be much lower quality. I can't find a detailed description anywhere of the research methodology used by Eurobarometer.

In addition to the ICVS survey and the Eurobarometer, the authors also discuss another measure of firearms ownership: the Small Arms Survey. Both the ICVS and Eurobarometer are individual surveys: the ICVS asks about percentage of households with firearms, while the Eurobarometer inquires about the percentage of individuals who own firearms. These are quite different, but both solid research approaches. The SAS eschews population surveys for "expert" estimates. As well, instead of estimating percentage of households with firearms, or individuals with firearms, the SAS concoct guesses about the number of guns per 100 persons. Unfortunately, neither the Eurobarometer nor SAS adequately describe their methods.

The team of Firearms United looked deeper into official data regarding gun ownership and the numbers of legal and illegal firearms in Europe and compared them with the report. We are in contact with Professor Mauser and will change our findings as soon as we receive better data.

¹ [Official website of Gary Mauser](#), Professor Emeritus

1 Surveys

1.1. Small Arms Survey: the most reliable source?

The report relies on the estimated numbers of the Small Arms Survey (SAS) Yearbook 2007 in comparison with self-reporting surveys:

Although these national estimates by SAS are not equally reliable for every country, they are currently considered as one of the most reliable sources for international comparisons of gun ownership.

[..] A comparison [...] seems to confirm the estimates of levels of firearms possession based on other methods. Of course, certain discrepancies exist, some of which might reflect the different questions posed (individual firearm possession vs household firearm possession vs estimated numbers of firearms in a society). Some discrepancies, however - especially relating to Central and Eastern European countries - are striking and cannot be attributed to different research questions.

The SAS estimates for the total number of firearms in Bulgaria, Hungary and Poland, for example, are lower than the household firearm rates reported in the ICVS data for these countries (which – for different reasons – can be considered as an absolute minimum for the total number of firearms in society).

These observed differences are presumably not the result of dramatic changes in gun possession rates in these countries, since the figures are from the same time period, but are very likely the result of over-conservative estimates.

The report states the **SAS data as the most reliable source**. The researchers did not ask the European governments for official data, which are - as we show later on - exists on governmental platforms, are mentioned in mainstream press or studies. Discrepancies between ICVS and SAS data are interpreted in favour to the ICVS data.

The report declares **the ICVS data as the absolute minimum** as the respondents underestimate their gun ownership (see next chapter). We will show with official data - from England&Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Germany, that this interpretation is wrong in regards to licit gun possession.²

² Attachment 1 and 2

1.2. Comparing the results of self-reporting surveys on gun ownership

The report lists pitfalls and limitations in self-reporting surveys and declares, that these surveys give only insights in the **level of licit guns**, because illegal gun owners would not admit their gun ownership.

Listed pitfalls and limitations	
illegal gun owners won't say the truth	underestimation of illicit guns
firearms in the house is a sensitive theme	underestimation of licit guns
women in households are not aware that a firearm is in the house	underestimation of all guns

These limitations notwithstanding, self-reporting offers a useful tool for estimating rates of gun possession. Interestingly, a number of American studies comparing self-reported personal gun ownership with data from administrative records have revealed low false-negative rates. Although we must be cautious in transposing these findings to the European context, where the social desirability bias might work differently than in the US, these studies underline the value of using this type of data for estimating firearms possession in society.

Analysis of the ICVS data indicates a strong variation in national firearms ownership rates in Europe.

1.2.1. Self-reporting surveys on handgun ownership

This is the question of ICVS 2000 - regarding firearms ownership.

47. Do you or someone else in your household own **a handgun, shotgun, rifle or air rifle**?

(1) yes ---> GO TO Q47a

47a. Could you tell me which sort of gun or guns you own?

<< INT.: MULTIPLE ANSWER POSSIBLE - CODE ALL GUNS IF MORE THAN ONE MENTIONED >>

(1) handgun

(2) shotgun

(3) rifle

(4) air rifle

(5) other rifle

(6) don't know

(7) refused to say

Everybody who owns a blank firing pistol or air pistol or CO₂ revolver or muzzle loaded handgun can only chose answer 1, 6 or 7.

They should have asked: Do you or someone else in your household own **a gun or a firearm**? And the answers should have had a differentiation between handguns which are firearms and handguns which are "free" to buy by adults like blank firing handguns, air pistols, CO₂ powered handguns and muzzle loaded firearms.

Report forgot the following pitfalls and limitations

respondents like to boast about gun ownership	overestimation of all guns
respondents who answer that they have a handgun do not know the difference between a short firearm and blank firing pistol or air pistol	overestimation of handguns

Because of the missing differentiation between short firearms and other handguns the report comes to this wrong conclusion:

*What is particularly interesting is that most of the countries where a significant proportion of gun-possessing households own a handgun are also the European countries with the largest firearms production such as Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Germany, Italy and Switzerland. One possible explanation for this observation could be that **countries with significant firearms production have traditionally tended to have a less restrictive legal framework for civilian handgun ownership.***

All these mentioned countries have very restrictive rules for centerfired handguns which are also registered. All these countries have less restricted rules for handguns which are not firearms.

For some countries official data is known and can be compared to the ICVS data. The discrepancies in handgun ownership are huge. The official data often shows only firearms of category B, which includes beside handguns also semiautomatic rifles. For Austria, Belgium, France, Germany and Poland ownership of semiautomatic handguns is therefore less than the cumulated number.

Bulgaria's handgun ownership is 60% smaller than the ICVS data, the same can be assumed for Germany. Only for Luxembourg the real number is definitely bigger than the self reported data.

Country	ICVS Percentage of households owning a handgun ⁶	Calculation Estimated handgun ownership per 100 people ICVS	Calculation Number of registered handguns per 100 people	Official data ³ Numbers of registered handguns
Austria	5,6	2,8	< 4,3	<360.000
Belgium	5,2	2,1	<3,4	<360.000
Bulgaria	6,6	2,5	0,7	50.000
France	3,7	1,7	<1,3	< 824.000
Germany	4,2	2,1	<0,7	<600.000
Ireland	5,3	1,9	<0,05	<2000
Luxembourg	7,0	2,5	>4,5	> 21.500
Poland	0,9	0,3	<0,2	< 66000
Spain	0,5	0,2	0,3	116.500
United Kingdom	0,4	0,2	<0,01	7.000
England&Wales	0,5	0,2	0,0	0
Scotland	0,7	0,3	<0,03	2.000
Northern Ireland	2,1	0,8	0,3	5.000

When the official data of England&Wales show 0 registered handguns the researchers should have become curious why 14% gun owners in England&Wales reported they would own a handgun.

³ Attachment 4

1.2.2. Self-reporting surveys on gun ownership

The report also refers to the Eurobarometer survey of 2013. We compared the data with the self-reported data in the ICVS and the official data of all gun licences. The ICVS asked for households; own calculation was made for 100 people. The official data list all gun licences however it does not take into account that one owner may have several licences.

	Eurobarometer	Calculated	Calculated	Official data ⁴
Country	Estimated Gun ownership per 100 people	Estimated Gun ownership per 100 people ICVS	Maximum of registered gun owners per 100 people	Total numbers of gun licences
Austria	4	6,5	2,9	240.000
Belgium	3	4,9	3,9	409.000
Bulgaria	7	3,8	3,3	250.000
Croatia	6		2,8	120.000
Czech Republic	6		2,8	292.000
Denmark	7	5,8	3,1	>170.000
Finland	13	18,0	12,3	650.000
France	7	7,3	3,0	1.890.000
Germany	5	6,3	1,7	1.400.000
Hungary	3	4,3	0,8	81.000
Ireland	6	4,5	4,1	178.000
Italy	6	5,3	6,8	4.000.000
Luxembourg	5	4,4	3,3	15.700
Netherlands	1	2,1	0,4	72.600
Poland	2	1,6	0,5	196.000
Portugal	6	7,0	4,3	450.000
Romania	2		<0,6	<125.000
Spain	5	4,7	<4,4	< 2.000.000
Sweden	8		6,8	619.000
United Kingdom	2	2,5	1,5	900.000

Only for Belgium, Finland, Italy the self-reported data seem to match the total number of gun licences. For all other countries the registered gun ownership seems to be smaller. It is known that several gun owners possess more than one licence.

We have also to remind that not all firearms of category C and D are meanwhile registered in all countries. On the other hand some countries have gun licences also for non firearms, e.g. air guns or blank firing guns.

As long as self-reported surveys do not refer to the four EU categories (five, including non firearms) the comparisons will always show discrepancies.

⁴ Attachment 4

1.2.3. Reason for gun ownership

The respondents in the Eurobarometer were asked for their reasons for firearms possession. The report shows that hunting and sports are the main reasons in the EU15 countries (i.e., those who were members before 2004). In the new Member States the professional reason (police, army, security services) was often mentioned (especially in Romania, Estonia and Bulgaria) and personal self-defence (especially in Lithuania, the Czech Republic and Slovakia).

The report concludes: *Based on the available Eurobarometer figures, we can also deduce that in almost all EU Member States, the **collecting of firearms is a not significant reason** for firearms ownership. A comparison of the motives given for firearms possession by current and previous owners indicates that in almost all countries, **professional reasons were cited more frequently by previous gun owners than by current gun owners**. The opposite can be observed when looking at sport shooting and especially hunting: current gun owners cite these reasons much more often than previous gun owners. This might suggest an **evolution in the reasons for firearms possession** over time.*

County	Official data by governments or police by media ⁵		
	Numbers of registered handguns	Total numbers of registered firearms	Total numbers of gun licences
Austria	<360.000	837.000	240.000
Belgium	<360.000	740.000	409.000
Bulgaria	50.000	350.000	250.000
Croatia		390.000	120.000
Czech Republic	<310.000	742.000	292.000
Denmark		340.000	>170.000
Estonia		60.000	
Finland		1.620.000	650.000
France	< 824.000	> 3.000.000	1.890.000
Germany	<600.000	<5.500.000	1.400.000
Hungary		200.000	81.000
Ireland	<2000	200.000	178.000
Italy		10.000.000	4.000.000
Luxembourg	> 21.500	86.000	15.700
Netherlands		205.000	72.600
Poland	< 66000	380.000	196.000
Portugal		1.400.000	450.000
Romania	< 3.700	125.000	<125.000
Slovakia	<100.000	>280.000	150.000
Spain	116.500	3.350.000	< 2.000.000
Sweden		1.800.000	619.000
United Kingdom	7.000	2.250.000	900.000

Again the interpretation goes in the wrong direction. People like to boast in surveys. A great number of the former "gun owners" may be men who served in military service, **who never owned a gun at home**. Romania has a very strict gun law and the lowest gun ownership, Estonia and Bulgaria are also

⁵ Attachment 4

countries without high gun ownership. It may be that permission for hunting and sports are not as easily granted in these nations as in the EU15 countries.

Czech Republic and Slovakia have - besides Switzerland - the **less restrictive legal framework for the reason of personal self defence**. Citizens in other member states did not evolve reasons from hunting and sport. Their governments do not accept personal protection as good reason and do everything to deny a gun licence for self defence - even when the legal framework allows it. Even in Switzerland more and more applications for this reason get refused.

Even if **collecting of firearms** is no significant reason for gun owners the collected guns can outmatch in numbers other reasons. Every collector is obliged to expand his collection to certify his "good cause". A collector therefore often owns several hundreds of guns plus accessories, manuals, documents and uniforms. If "*not significant*" should be interpreted in "*can be banned*" the law maker should remind that gun collectors have a cultural mission. Museums borrow their equipment, scientists research their collections. They conserve things from our past which are essential to look in the future.

2. Firearms in European Societies

2.1. Legally-held firearms

In 1991 the member states classified under Directive 91/477/EEC⁶ firearms into four categories based on their level of dangerousness: (A) prohibited, (B) subject to authorization, (C) subject to declaration, and (D) those that are not subject to requirements. It was mandatory to register each firearm of category A and B, but countries could also register more categories.

2.1.1. Categories of legally-held firearms

	Short description	Examples	Legal Framework
A	Prohibited firearms	Full automatic firearms	Very few permits are granted for performance or art, including theatre and film, collection or exhibition, such as in a museum and for previous legal owner
B	Firearms subject to authorization	Semi-automatic firearms including most handguns and also very short other firearms.	Since 1991 these firearms need registration in all member states.
C	Firearms subject to declaration	Hunting rifles	In most countries kept police a register of dealers; dealers and manufacturers had to keep a register of all transactions
D	Firearms without subject to requirements	Shotguns with one or two rounds.	In some member states they could be sold to every adult without record keeping
	No firearms	Air guns, blank firing guns, antique guns (muzzle loaded), deactivated guns	In most member states they can be sold to adults without record keeping.

⁶ Council Directive 91/477/EEC of 18 June 1991 on Control of the Acquisition and Possession of Weapons, 1991 O.J. (L 256) 51, <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:31991L0477:en:HTML>

Since 2008 EU Members are required to register every firearm. Until December 2014 they have to establish and maintain a computerized data-filing system that allows designated authorities access to registered firearms. Firearms records, such as make, model, serial number, supplier's information, and data on the person who acquires or possesses a firearm, are required to be kept for a minimum of twenty years.⁷ Some countries like Germany and Austria already registered all guns and listed them in this data-filing system. Unfortunately the registration in Austria was - similar to Germany in 1972/76 - ineffective as not all former legal-held firearms have been registered.

The number of legally-held guns is known in detail for some member states who register all four categories (A,B,C and D) for a long period. For even more countries the numbers of semi-automatic guns (B) and prohibited guns (A) are known by the authorities. Also the numbers of hunting guns are known which are registered in the dealers and manufacturers records. So only the number of shotguns has to be estimated with the known numbers of manufacturers and dealers, imports and exports.

2.2 Illegally-held firearms

2.2.1. Categories of illegally-held firearms⁸

Status	Owners	Use and Misuse	Market
active	criminals	threat, attack or murder	Black Market
semi-active	people with criminal intentions people who cannot get a legal gun	personal protection	Grey market
inactive	people who do not want a legal gun which has to be stored in a safe without ammunition former legal owners who never registered their guns after the change of their gun law heirs who do not know that the family gun is subjected to licence citizens who bought in or from foreign countries firearms which are licit there but illicit in their own country collectors who willingly hurt the law to collect firearms	personal reason which does not include intended firing of the gun	Grey market
passive	former legal owners who never registered their airguns, blank firing guns and deactivated guns after the change of the gun law	same use as for legal airguns, blank firing guns and deactivated guns : plinking, protection, collection	Non market

⁷ Directive 2008/51/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 May 2008 Amending Council Directive 91/477/EEC on Control of Acquisition and Possession of Weapons, 2008 O.J. (L 179) 5, <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2008:179:0005:0011:en:PDF>

⁸ Lars Winkeldorf, „Waffenrepublik Deutschland: Der Bürger am Abzug“, 2010 Fackelträgerverlag GmbH Köln

2.2.2. Categories of illicit markets

Black market

is the professional market which offers weapons for the active and semi-active illegally-held firearms. Huge profits are earned in business with countries outside of the EU, where warlords or dictators want firearms, tanks, rockets and other war weapons to oppress their people.

SOCTA Review 2013 shows, that the illicit trade in firearms in the EU remains limited in size and is not a high priority threat: 9

OCGs (Organized Crime Groups) often rely on the availability of weapons to carry out their activities. However, the market for firearms in the EU remains modest in size. Trafficking occurs on a small scale and the weapons trafficked are intended for either personal use or to meet specific orders. The relatively high risks associated with weapons trafficking acts as a disincentive for OCGs. The merging of or sustained contact between OCGs and terrorist groups is currently only a very marginal phenomenon in the EU.

Grey market

is the private or semi-professional market which hurts the law willingly or unwillingly for the semi-active or inactive illegally-held firearms.

Deviant licensed gun dealers, not licensed manufacturer, receiver of stolen goods and private persons who willingly or unwillingly hurt the law serve the market of semi-active and inactive illegally-held firearms. The jeweler who does not want to be robbed the third time, the stalked victim who fears for their life, the firearms enthusiast who wants to collect guns are the buyers. None of them intend violent crimes or to cause harm or loss to other citizens. The first ones will also acquire small quantities of ammunition. The collector usually is only interested in the firearm

Non market

Is the number of passive illegally-held firearms which usually are destroyed when the owner deceases and the heirs do not recognize that the item is subject to license - and the collections of enthusiasts who willingly broke the law to achieve their collection but would never sell anything to the professional/violent criminals or people associated with them.

2.2.3. Illicit and former legal guns

The popular saying "every illicit gun starts out as a legal gun" does not account if we look to the European situation. Within the EU we have border control and common directives.

- Every gun which has been manufactured within the EU borders or legally imported should be described as "legal".
- Every gun which is smuggled in or manufactured by illicit means should be described as "illicit gun".
- Every gun which was legally imported and modified within our borders by illicit means should be described by "former legal".
- Every gun which has been stolen from a legal owner and feeds the illicit market should be described as "former legal".

⁹ SOCTA Review 2013: <http://www.statewatch.org/news/2013/apr/eu-europol-socta-2013.pdf>

2.2.3.1. Illicit Trafficking

The **black market** of illicit trafficking is worldwide a threat for people, OCGs are a threat for people; but the danger of illicit trafficking of firearms within the European Union is limited and not a high priority threat. As this market uses the same routes as for smuggling humans and drugs which both present higher threats to our community the combat against illicit trafficking in all of its aspects would also tackle the illicit trafficking of firearms.

No special regulations in the firearms directive is therefore necessary. We should concentrate on combat illicit trafficking in all goods.

The **grey market** fuels itself by deviant (often licensed) gun dealers and manufacturers (professionals and private citizens) who modify or manufacture illegal guns. Before new regulations are made for blank firing guns or deactivated guns their impact of possible modification needs a survey. Meanwhile we should strengthen the prosecution of professional dealers and manufacturers under suspicion within the borders of the EU.

2.2.3.2. Former legal modified guns

FACE already answered to this problem: ¹⁰

It is clear that, under the Directive, convertible weapons are considered firearms and thus subject to the same rules as firearms. Member States can only allow the acquisition and possession of items such as air weapons and blank-firing pistols outside of the controls imposed by the Directive if those items are not capable of being converted into firearms

[T]he Commission refers to concerns by the police that “items such as alarm guns, air weapons and blank-firers are being converted into illegal lethal firearms”. The Commission thus suggests considering the EU regulation of these items, which is surprising considering that the Firearms Directive already covers convertible weapons (see question 34).

It might be the case, however, that the Commission is in fact more interested in an EU-wide ban, since it only provides this kind of national example.

2.2.3.3. Former legal stolen guns

We refer again to FACE's response:

The Communication vaguely states that “Almost half a million firearms lost or stolen in the EU remain unaccounted for, the overwhelming majority of which are civilian firearms, according to the Schengen Information System”. The Communication thus argues that the introduction of common EU standards on storage of civilian firearms is necessary to reduce diversion of firearms into criminal hands.

Commissioner Malmström was only slightly more specific in reply to a parliamentary question on this topic in July 2013. According to her answer (on behalf of the Commission), the Second Generation Schengen Information System (SIS II) includes, among other objects, firearms, “generally those that

¹⁰ FACE'S RESPONSE TO THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION'S COMMUNICATION ON FIREARMS:

AIMING AT THE WRONG TARGET:

http://face.eu/sites/default/files/attachments/face_response_to_ec_communication_on_firearms_10_02_2014_formatted.pdf

have been stolen or lost or are searched for as evidence in criminal proceedings”, and as of 1st January 2013 there are 421 194 entries of firearms in it.

She further stated that “We can say without great risk of error that most of the reports of firearms come from declarations made to the police by people who were lawfully in possession of the firearm in question and who have either lost them or have been victims of crime”.

FACE believes that the Commission is using isolated and obscure figures that can be easily misinterpreted or misused in order to justify the introduction of EU common standards on storage of firearms and thus the reopening of the Directive.

EU DG Home interprets the number of almost 500.000 alerts of SIS II as stolen former legally guns who are searched for in criminal proceedings.

Volume of alerts

The table below shows the composition of the SIS II database on 31 December 2013.

COUNTRY	Person	Vehicle	Aircraft	Banknote	Blank document	Boat	Boat engine	Container	Firearm	Indu equip
BE	10 450	56 863		4 183	30 094	10	17		36 234	
BG	1 247	22 302							61	
CZ	14 462	81 988	1		3 516			3	16 989	
DK	3 061	26 487		14	1 148	8	49		1 562	
DE	76 302	234 818	5	191 598	154 369	172	609		148 227	
EE	1 574	2 442							254	
EL	65 885	165 303		28 284	99 134	8	9		14 433	
ES	71 454	632 581	1	483	9 164	191		3	45 848	
FR	125 058	326 824		35 313	72 413	1	5		32 557	
IT	294 101	1 143 745		2 700	382 194	126	9	1	51 511	
LV	1 414	1 756			11				10	
LT	2 339	27 298		19	33	12	7		3 255	
LU	1 220	1 085		25	4 899				156	
HU	16 888	32 518		175	461	5	14	1	397	
MT	2 451	836		1	9	2	11		174	
NL	24 393	89 331		114	3 145	51	43		1 517	
AT	27 043	24 999		280	3 142	4	66	1	5 658	
PL	29 953	210 721		939	1 518	286	250	6	17 121	
PT	20 147	57 204		2	1 263	1	1		9 369	
RO	6 587	7 343		16	1		1		537	
SI	896	7 652		238	1 262	12	22		645	
SK	7 370	20 657			265	5	6	4	4 424	
FI	2 789	4 391			100	7	69		8 070	
SE	11 002	34 406		27	16				17 819	
IS	36	3			164				11	
NO	14 161	7 009		97	275	145	500		1 493	
CH	29 386	21 175		1 460	24				9 780	
LI	231	72							8	
TOTAL	861,900	3,241,809	7	265,968	768,620	1,046	1,691	18	431,121	

As shown in the attachment 3 the alerts in the SIS II database do not list only stolen guns but mostly inventory losses. On 31st of December 2013 the database listed 17.819 alerts for Sweden and 148.227 for Germany.¹¹

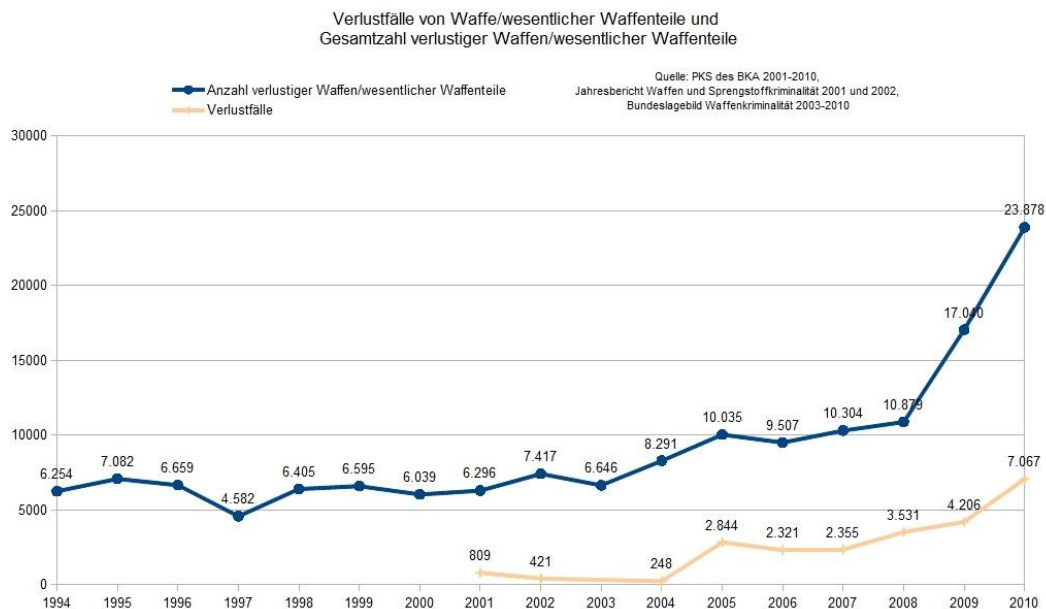
Sweden investigated all reported gun thefts (n=3,336) between 2003 and 2010. **On average 269 guns were stolen annually from legal gun owners.** Sweden joined SIS in 2000, so the estimated number of all stolen guns is 3500. The study states also that only 15% of the stolen guns were of use for criminals. But even fewer guns have been misused. Another Swedish **study shows that within 10 years a total of nine cases of serious crime took place (i.e. <1 year)** using firearms stolen from private individuals, in addition five or six guns were found in connection with crimes being prepared.

¹¹ SIS II - 2013 Statistics http://www.eulisa.europa.eu/Publications/Reports/eu-LISA_SIS%20II%20-%20Statistics%202013.pdf

During 13 years approximately 500 firearms have been stolen in Sweden which could have filled the black market, not 17.800. **Approximately 20 of these stolen guns within 13 years in Sweden have been used or were intended to be used in crime.**

Similarly to Sweden, Germany records also every year lost guns and gun parts. We know by officers who work in the gun registry that most "unaccounted for" guns are airguns and blank firings guns which did not match the new regulations of 1972/76 and therefore had to be registered. These firearms are missing from estates of deceased gun owners. Also inventory losses account for lots of these losses. Firearms which are registered despite the fact that the firearm does not exist or it is registered with a different serial number or has been scrapped but not removed from the registry.

Since 2009 lots of registry offices have to control the registered guns in the house of the gun owners and compare the records with the inspected real guns. In 2009 Germany installed the mandatory computerized data-filing system which produced in the beginning lots of errors. That is the reason why "lost" guns and gun parts increased in 2009: inventory losses. By telephone interview we were told that the numbers decreased after 2010 to the average level of 7000 to 8000.



Blue: lost guns and important gun parts - Orange: causes of loss

Source: Statistics by police and BKA. ¹²

The average number of stolen former legally guns is estimated with a maximum of 500 guns per year. Within 19 years of SIS approximately 9500 guns have been stolen in Germany, not 148.000. The gun ownership of Sweden and Germany differs as the Germans have more guns for sport, including handguns. Therefore we can estimate that 25% of the stolen guns may be suitable for criminal use. This would count for 100 guns each year of which only a few have been misused for crime.

These real figures explain why the SIS II database had only 172 hits in 2013. Hits means matches with found or confiscated guns.

¹² Liberales Waffenrecht : <http://www.liberales-waffenrecht.de/2012/09/04/unverhofft-kommen-sie-doch/>

2.2.3.4. Risks of illicit and former legal guns

	Description	Risk
Illicit smuggled in	We do not know the number of guns smuggled in, but SOCTA review shows this point is not of high priority.	low
Illicit manufactured	Whereas we know lots of illicit manufacturing in Pakistan and Philippines ¹³ numbers of illicit manufacturing in Europe seems to be low.	low
Former legal modified "blank firing guns"	EU study and own experience show that formerly legal "blank firing guns" can be converted by illicit manufactures.	medium
Former legal modified "deactivated guns"	Some member states have had less restrictive rules for deactivating of guns which eased re-activation of them. Most of these member states changed their law in the last years.	medium
Former legal stolen firearms	SIS II lists more inventory losses than stolen guns	very low

2.2.4. Numbers of illegally-held firearms

The number of illicit guns in the European Union can only be estimated.

Most illegal-held firearms belong to the huge block of passive illegally-held firearms which will not enter any market. From time to time police discovers them - sometimes by pure luck, sometimes by neighbours' complaints, sometimes by their own research in internet sales and sometimes by international scheduled raids at houses of suspects of organized crime groups.

German experts assume the number of illegally-held firearms 3 to 20 times higher than the legally stock. This would mean 15 to 100 millions.¹⁴ When Germany changed the law 1972 and 1976 to register all legal firearms of all four categories only 3 million of the sold 20 million guns had been registered. Therefore at least 17 millions are held without registration.

If we look to Austria we can see the same relation after changing the legal framework. Of the formerly sold 50.000 pumpguns only 5.000 had been registered. Of the estimated 2,5 million firearms less than 1 million have been registered until July 2014.

After the fall of the Berlin Wall lots of firearms had been sold by Russian soldiers. Europe has also been flooded with firearms of the Balkan Wars.¹⁵ All these new guns raised the illegally-held stock.

¹³ Philippines gun makers and child soldiers by [Live Leak](#)

¹⁴ Berliner Zeitung May 2012: <http://www.berliner-zeitung.de/berlin/von-ceska-bis-kalaschnikow-illegaler-waffenhandel-in-berlin-floriert,10809148,15180250.html>

¹⁵ Deutschlands illegale Waffen: <https://lawgunsandfreedom.wordpress.com/2014/04/29/deutschlands-illegale-waffen/>

3. Conclusions

3.1. Conclusions by EU report

The recent report commissioned by the European Commission estimates the number of illegally-held firearms between 81,000 and 67 million and assumes that the first number is too small and the second number too high.¹⁶

1. **The basic number of this report is 81 million total licit and illicit firearms in the EU.** This number is a mixture between 79 million licit firearms which the Small Arms Survey estimates for the 28 EU member states¹⁷ and an estimated number of the seized firearms. The report assumes that only 21% of the odd number of 81 million are registered guns (17 million). Therefore 79% (or 67 million) unregistered guns are described as illicit firearms.
2. The second approach to the number of illicit firearms is the indicator of firearms-related homicides and suicides.
3. And the third approach is the lost and stolen guns registered in the SIS II.

3.2. Conclusions by Firearms United

1. **The number of 79 million licit firearms by SAS is overestimated.** Germany never had more than 10 million registered guns, but the SAS counts 25 million licit guns for Germany. Same can be said for other countries like Czech Republic, France and Sweden. The estimates for illicit firearms in Germany lie between 15 and 100 millions; the number for all 28 EU member states may be higher than the assumed 67 millions, maybe even more than 200 millions.
2. A correlation between legal gun ownership and firearms suicides has been validated.¹⁸ A correlation with firearms homicides is only valid for illicit gun ownership.¹⁹
3. We already explained that SIS II database cannot be used as an approach.

The official data in the attachment 4 show that the number of 79 million for licit firearms is overestimated by nearly 50%.

We assume that the number of 67 million for illicit firearms is underestimated by at least 30%, maybe even 150%.

¹⁶ Centre for Strategy & Evaluation Services (2014), *Study to Support an Impact Assessment on Options for Combatting Illicit Firearms Trafficking in the European Union*, Brussels: European Commission Directorate General Home Affairs.

¹⁷ [Small Arms Survey \(2007\), Annexe 4](#). The largest civilian firearms arsenals for 178 countries, *Small Arms Survey 2007: Guns and the City*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

¹⁸ [Evidence for the "Suicide by Firearm" Proxy for Gun Ownership](#), Christian Westphal, 2013

¹⁹ [The Impact of Gun Ownership Rates on Crime Rates](#), Gary Kleck, 2014

3.2.1. Legally-held firearms

Small Arms Survey (2007)			Official data ²⁰
Country	Estimated number of civilian firearms ¹	Of these only registered firearms ¹	Total numbers of registered firearms
Austria	2.500.000	0	837.000
Belgium	1.800.000	870.000	740.000
Bulgaria	480.000	0	350.000
Croatia	950.000	371.000	390.000
Cyprus	275.000	105.000	
Czech Republic	1.600.000	632.000	742.000
Denmark	650.000		340.000
Estonia	123.000	47.000	60.000
Finland	2.400.000	1.600.000	1.620.000
France	19.000.000	2.800.000	> 3.000.000
Germany	25.000.000	7.200.000	<5.500.000
Greece	2.500.000	100.000	
Hungary	560.000	211.000	200.000
Ireland	270.000	209.000	200.000
Italy	7.000.000	0	10.000.000
Latvia	280.000	55.000	
Lithuania	135.000	78.000	
Luxembourg	70.000	0	86.000
Malta	48.000	0	
Netherlands	510.000	330.000	205.000
Poland	510.000	316.600	380.000
Portugal	900.000	0	1.400.000
Romania	160.000	61.000	125.000
Slovakia	450.000	170.000	>280.000
Slovenia	270.000	102.000	
Spain	4.500.000	3.050.000	3.350.000
Sweden	2.800.000	2.100.000	1.800.000
United Kingdom	4.060.000	1.742.300	2.250.000
England & Wales	3.400.000		1.838.000
Scotland	280.000		250.000
Northern Ireland	380.000		153.000
Total EU28	79.801.000	20.171.900	34.476.000

The total number of licit firearms which have had to be registered until the end of 2014 is approximately 40 to 45 million. Some countries did not register all shotguns, some countries did not publish their official data. Therefore the balance of 34.476.000 is not correct.

Due to the obligation of registration every firearm which is not registered becomes illicit, even when it has been bought under legal circumstances.

²⁰ Attachment 4

Attachment 1: Gun ownership in Germany

Comparison between the results of self-reporting surveys, estimates by experts and official data

ICVS (2004)

Percentage by ICVS for households in Germany	Own calculations for German households with ICVS nos.	Facts by German government (NWR) ²¹
12,5 % of households owning a firearm	4.987.500 own a firearm²²	1.400.000 gun owners > 700.000 households > 1,8% households
4,2% of households owning a handgun	1.675.800 own a handgun	less than 320.000 or 0,8% 647.584 semi-automatic are registered incl. exported, deactivated and destroyed
- 77% were handguns	- 3.840.375 own a handgun	less than 320.000 or 0,8%
- 26% were shotguns	- 1.296.750 own a shotgun	less than 700.000 or 1,8%
- 40% rifles	- 1.995.000 own a rifle	less than 700.000 or 1,8%
7,6 % of households in Berlin owning a firearm	146.984 own a firearm in Berlin	10.000 gun owners²³ > 5.000 households > 0,25% households
3,8% of households in Berlin owning a handgun	73.492 own a handgun in Berlin	Less than 5. 00 or 0,25%

Eurobarometer and Small Arms Survey (2013)

Nos. for Germany	Own calculations	Facts by German Government ²⁴
5% of the population own a firearm	4.055.000 citizen own a firearm	1.400.000 gun owners incl. former owners and deceased owners
15% for hunting	608.250 hunters	Apx. 320.000 hunters
22% for professional reason	892.100 professionals	45.829 officers have a licence for carrying
33% for sports	1.338.150 target shooters	Apx. 1,3 mn target shooters
8% for personal protection	324.400 personal protection	18.587 carrying licences
18% other personal reasons	729.900	heirs without license for ammunition
4% as a collector	162.200 collectors	
6% other reason		
25.000.000 legal firearms		5.650.000 legal firearms incl. deactivated, exported and destroyed weapons

²¹ Official information by the Parliament of Germany: [Drucksache 18/723](#) and [Drucksache 18/2213](#)

²² Households in Germany: [39.933.000](#), households in Berlin: [1.934.000](#)

²³ Official information by the Parliament of Berlin: [Drucksache 16 / 15 734](#)

²⁴ Official information by the Parliament of Germany: [Drucksache 18/723](#)

According to ICVS, 2004-2005 with 101 interviewed persons

- 12,5 % of households owning a firearm
- 4,2% of households owning a handgun
- 7,6 % of households in the capital owning a firearm
- 3,8% of households in the capital owning a handgun
- 77% were handguns, 26% were shotguns, 40% rifles

According to Flash Eurobarometer 383 (2013) with 49 interviewed persons

- 5 % of respondents that own a firearm
- 7 % of respondents that used to own a firearm
- 20% for hunting
- 39% for sports
- 2% for collecting
- 20% for professional reasons
- 6% for personal protection
- 14% for other personal reasons

International Crime Victims Survey: longitudinal data from 1989-2005 (pp14-15)

Germany did not take part in 1994, 1998 and 2003

- 1989 : 9,2 % of households owning a firearm
- 2005: 12,5 % of households owning a firearm

Estimates of gun ownership in Europe according to the Small Arms Survey (2007) (p18)

- 25.000.000 civilian firearms
- 30,3 firearms per 100 people

Discrepancy between estimated and administrative data

There is a discrepancy within the European survey itself in regards to handgun ownership and gun ownership at all. 1989: 9,2%, 2004: 12,5%, 2013: 5%. : It does not look for increased numbers.

Discrepancies of 72% to 97% between the German administrative and estimated data.

- Less than 1,8% of the households own a legal firearm.
This is 28% of the estimated number, means discrepancy of 72%.
- Less than 0,8% of the households own a legal handgun.
This is 19% of the estimated number, means discrepancy of 81%
- Less than 0,25% of the households in Berlin own a legal firearm.
This is 3% of the estimated number, means discrepancy of 97%
- Instead of 25 million legal firearms there are less than 5,6 million (incl. exported, destroyed and deactivated firearms).
This is 20% of the estimated number, means discrepancy of 80%

Attachment 2: Gun ownership in UK

Comparison between the results of self-reporting surveys, estimates by experts and official data

ICVS, 2004-2005

Percentage by ICVS for households in UK	Own calculations for households in UK with ICVS nos.	Facts by Government
6,1 % of households in England & Wales owning a firearm	1.427.400 households	151.000 firearms certificates 583.000 shotgun certificates >320.000 households > 1,4% households
6,7% in Scotland	160.800 households	94.000 certificates > 45.000 households > 1,8% households
12,7% in Northern Ireland	88.900 households	60.000 gun owners > 25.000 households > 3% households
0,5% of households in England & Wales owning a handgun	117.000 households	Handguns are prohibited
0,7% in Scotland	16.800 households	805 certificates > 400 households > 0,01% households
2,1% in Northern Ireland	14.700 households	2900 certificates >1200 households >0,1% households
- 66% were shotguns in England & Wales	942.000 households	583.000 shotgun certificates > 250.000 households, 1%
-- 63% in Scotland	101.000 households	50.000 Shotgun Certificates > 25.000 households, 1%
-- 76% in Northern Ireland	67.000 households	52.000 shotgun licenses >20.000 households, 2,8%
-- 59 % were rifles in England & Wales	842.000households	151.000 firearms certificates > 65.000 households, 0,2-5
-- 48% in Scotland	77.000 households	44.000 rifle certificates > 22000 households, 0,9%
-- 20% in Northern Ireland	17.800 households	30.000 licenses for rifles 12.000 households, 1,7%
		Total number 237,099 Firearms Certificates in UK and 632,088 Shotgun certificates. It should be noted that some FAC holders may also have a SGC so each certificate does not necessarily mean an individual

Eurobarometer and Small Arms Survey (2013)

Nos. for UK	Own calucalations	Facts
2% of the population own a firearm		Between 691,673 to 869,187 individual gun owners(not including low powered airguns) Between 1.07% to 1.35% of population own firearm
44% for hunting	382,442.28 hunters	Assuming maximum ownership levels of 869,187 individuals
19% for professional reason	165,145 professionals	
44% for sports	382,442.28 target shooters	
19% for personal protection	165,145.53 personal protection	2,924 Personal Protection Weapon Permits in NI
6% other personal reasons	52,151.22	
20% as a collector	173,837.4 collectors	

Own conclusions

There is a discrepancy even within the survey itself in regards to handgun ownership as handgun ownership is generally prohibited in the mainland UK. In Scotland and England & Wales handguns are very rarely allowed to be owned for humane despatch or for collection. Target shooting and personal protection are generally not allowed outside of Northern Ireland.

Using the surveys responses that 19% of UK firearms are held for personal protection against the figures of FAC/SGC holders would suggest there are 165,145 people who own firearms for personal protection. Again this is not generally accepted in the mainland UK and in Northern Ireland there are just under 3,000 individuals who have a Personal Protection Weapon Permit. These people are often serving or former Government workers (Police, Judges, Civil Servants, politicians etc) who are at threat from terrorism. They are not generally given to ordinary citizens.

This survey does not give a balanced view of Firearms Ownership in the mainland UK. People citing personal protection would not have given this reason to the authorities to obtain their Firearms certificates because it would have resulted in refusal. Also firearms are not permitted to be carried loaded or visible in public without good reason and should be stored unloaded when not in use.

Attachment 3: Stolen Guns

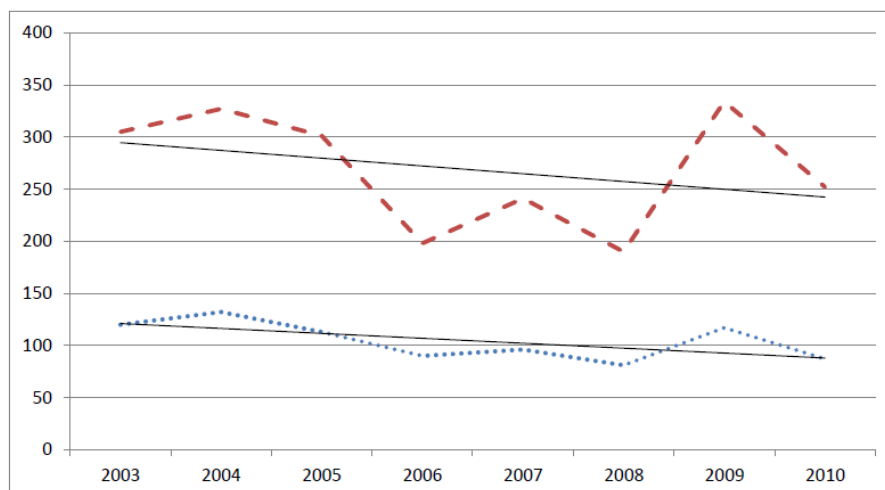
SIS II report lists on 31st of December 2013 17.819 stolen firearms for Sweden and 148.227 for Germany.²⁵

Stolen guns in Sweden

Citation of the study: **Safe Storage and Thefts of Firearms in Sweden: An Empirical Study** by Erik Lakomaa, PhD*, September 18, 2012²⁶

We have investigated all reported gun thefts (n=3,336) in Sweden between 2003 and 2010 and in the County of Stockholm for the period from 1995 to 2010. We have found that actual thefts from legal gun owners are very rare both in absolute terms and when compared to the number of gun owners, to legal guns and to burglaries. **From 2003 to 2010 on average 269 guns, on 105 occasions, were stolen annually from legal gun owners.** We have also found that the official reports on gun thefts have serious errors, e.g. 16% of police reports on gun thefts referred to cases in which no modern firearm requiring a license had been stolen.

How many guns have been stolen?



Number of thefts (dotted) and number of guns stolen (dashed) in Sweden (all counties) 2003-2010

Source: STOCKHOLM SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS RESEARCH PAPER 2012

Relationship to the National Police reported figures

National Police Board (RPS) has been tasked to provide annual reports on gun thefts to the Swedish Justice Department. The RPS has decided that instead of reporting stolen weapons separately, they should be reported along with weapons "unaccounted for." The latter category includes firearms that are registered but for some reason cannot be found, e.g. firearms missing from estates of deceased gun owners, but also firearms that due to deficiencies in the police records management are registered despite the fact that the firearm does not exist, is registered under a different serial number, has been scrapped but not removed from the registry, or as "inventory losses" within the Swedish Armed Forces.

²⁵ SIS II - 2013 Statistics http://www.eulisa.europa.eu/Publications/Reports/eu-LISA_SIS%20II%20-%20Statistics%202013.pdf

²⁶ Safe Storage and Thefts of Firearms in Sweden: An Empirical Study, 2012
<http://euc.sagepub.com/content/early/2014/07/23/1477370814543155.refs>

Year	Reported as "stolen or unaccounted for" by RPS	Stolen from private person
2003	2405	305 (12.7%)
2004	2233	327 (14.6%)
2005	2216	301 (13.6%)
2006	1939	198 (10.2%)

Table 2: Guns reported "stolen or unaccounted for" and guns actually stolen from private individuals, 2003-2006.¹⁷

The attractiveness of stolen firearms

That firearms stolen from legal gun owners are rarely used in crimes has been shown by for example Hagelin (2012 p. 10). **His study shows that from 2000 to 2010 a total of nine cases of serious crime took place (i.e. <1 year) using firearms stolen from private individuals**, in addition five or six guns were found in connection with crimes being prepared.

Stolen guns in Germany

SIS II has 148.227 alerts for stolen guns in Germany.

There is no study but the answer of the Federal Government in the year 2002.²⁷ Usually the statistics do not differ between legally-held firearms and others. So these numbers of 1999 and 2000 are the only ones which ever have been published in Germany. Researchers may inquire for the actual data, we are sure these data are recorded and known.

Stolen legally-held guns in Germany

Year	Hunters	Shooters	Dealers/Producers	Collectors	Other	Total
1999	52	57	20	2	195	326
2000	58	47	20	5	157	287

Plus 39 (1999) and 37 (2000) stolen guns from government bodies or military stocks.

Stolen guns in Germany according to recorded crime in police statistic

Year	Simple theft	Serious theft	Total	Legally-held guns
1999	503	1007	1510	326 (21%)
2000	549	904	1453	287 (19%)
2009	359	601	960	Not known.
2010	320	505	825	Not known

²⁷ [Answer of Germany's Federal Government 25. 02. 2002](#) – Drucksache 14/8340

Comparison of the 6296 alerts to SIS I with the report 2001 of the BKA²⁸

In 2001 the BKA listed 2009 causes of theft/loss for guns, ammunition and explosives (1383 in 2000):

Fallentwicklung

in den einzelnen Kriminalitätsbereichen (Erfassungsbereichen)

Recorded offences

Erfassungsbereich (im Meldedienst bekannt gewordene Fälle)	2001	2000	Veränderungen
Diebstahl/Verlust von Waffen/Munition/Sprengstoff	2.009	1.383	+45,3 %
Illegaler Besitz von Schusswaffen	3.120	3.405	-8,4 %
Illegaler Handel mit Schusswaffen/Munition	46	57	-19,3 %
Illegales Überlassen von Schusswaffen/Munition	106	112	-5,4 %
Illegale Einfuhr von Schusswaffen/Munition	107	139	-23,0 %
Illegales Führen von Schusswaffen	514	682	-24,6 %
Illegale Bearbeitung von Schusswaffen	575	625	-8,0 %
Illegale Herstellung von Schusswaffen	476	544	-12,5 %
StGB-Straftaten mit Sicherstellung von Tatwaffen	1.270	1.577	-19,5 %
Verstoß gegen das Sprengstoffgesetz	258	262	-1,5 %
Fund	537	467	+15,0 %
Summe	9.018	9.253	-2,5 %

Theft and loss of guns/ammunition/explosives
 Illicit ownership of firearms
 Illicit trafficking of firearms/ammunition
 Illicit delivery of firearms/ammunition
 Illicit import of firearms/ammunition
 Illicit carrying of firearms
 Illicit modification of firearms
 Illicit manufacturing of firearms
 Recorded crime with seized guns
 Crime against law of explosives
 Found
 Total

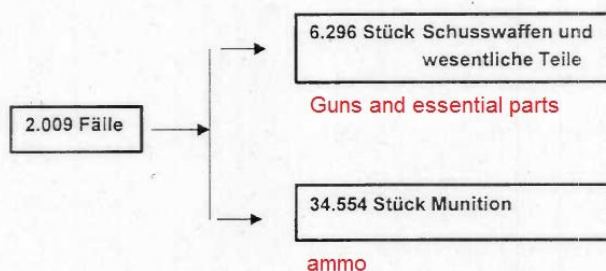
Only 317 of these 2009 causes were theft of firearms and ammunition:

Fälle des Diebstahls⁴ und sonstiger Verluste⁵ von Waffen, Munition und Sprengmitteln, die im Jahr 2001 in die Falldatei eingestellt wurden:

2001

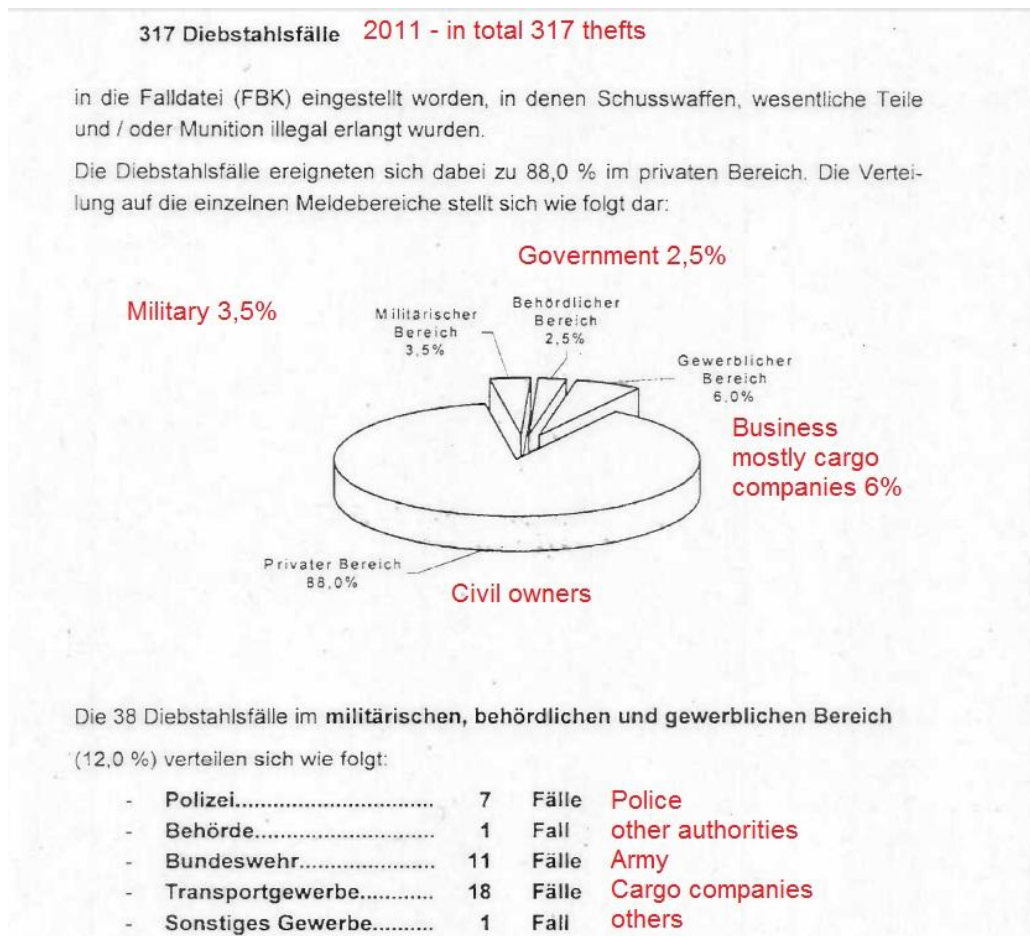
Grund des Abhandenkommens	Waffen / Munition guns+ammo	Sprengmittel explosives	Gesamt
Diebstahl theft	317 Fälle	7 Fälle	324 Fälle
Sonstige Verluste other losses	1.685 Fälle		1.685 Fälle
	2.002 Fälle	7 Fälle	2.009 Fälle

In den 2.009 Fällen des Diebstahls und der sonstigen Verluste kamen folgende Gesamtmenen an Schusswaffen⁶, Munition und Sprengmitteln⁷ abhanden:



²⁸ Bundeslagebild Waffenkriminalität [2001 BKA](#)

88% of the thefts were guns and ammunition legally-held by private persons



61,3% thefts occurred with gun owners who had no permit for ammunition like heirs and owners who had to register their arms in 1976 under the new gun law. These owners may not have heard that guns have to be stored in safes.



The report writes: In 2001 the number of lost and stolen guns increased by 257 to 6296 items.

Germany sent 6296 alerts to SIS I.

Erfassungsabschnitt "Diebstahl / Verlust"

Waffen / Munition

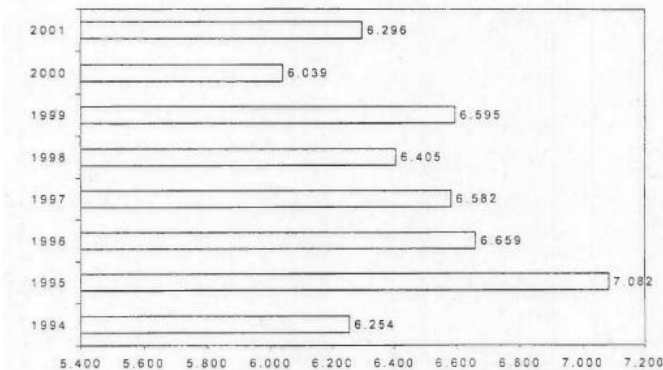
Im Jahr 2001 ist die Anzahl der durch Diebstahl oder Verlust abhanden gekommenen und daraufhin in die Sachfahndung eingestellten Waffen gegenüber dem Vorjahr um 257 auf 6.296 Stück angestiegen. Dies bedeutet eine Steigerung von 4,2 %.

Guns / Ammunition

In 2001 the number of lost and stolen guns increased by 257 to 6296 items. This means plus 4,2%

Entwicklung der Waffendiebstähle / -verluste

(Waffenstückzahlen)



Development of Thefts / Loss of Guns

Since 2003 gun owners have to store their guns in safes. The police statistics recorded 50% decrease for stolen guns between 2000 and 2010. The average number of stolen guns can be estimated with 150 - 500 guns, 150 causes with several guns.

Attachment 4: Official Data of registered firearms

Country	Hand-guns	Shot-guns	Rifles	All fire-arms	Gun licences	Source
Austria	<360.000	434.000	35.000	837.000	240.000	Media news of 01.07.2014
Belgium	<360.000			740.000	409.000	Flemish Peace Institute - September 2012
Bulgaria	50.000			350.000	250.000	Media news of 22.04.2014
Croatia				390.000	120.000	Media news of 13.09.2014
Cyprus						
Czech Republic	<310.000			742.000	292.000	Gunlex.cz of 05.02.2015
Denmark				340.000	>170.000	Media news of 04.03.2015
Estonia				60.000		Media news of 01.07.2013
Finland				1.620.000	650.000	Media news of 19.04.2012
France	< 824.000	??	1.940.000	> 3.000.000	1.890.000	French Government of 19.09.2015
Germany	<600.000	?	?	< 5.500.000	1.400.000	German Government of 06.03.2014
Greece						
Hungary				200.000	81.000	Media news of 12.08.2015
Ireland	<2000			200.000	178.000	Irish Government of November 2014
Italy				10.000.000	4.000.000	Media news of 13.04.2015
Latvia						
Lithuania						
Luxembourg	> 21.500			86.000	15.700	Media news of 15.01.2013
Malta						
Netherlands				205.000	72.600	Media news of 24.05.2015
Poland	< 66000		<270.000	380.000	196.000	Polish Government of 31.12.2014
Portugal				1.400.000	450.000	Portuguese Government of May 2010
Romania	< 3.700		<120.000	125.000	<125.000	Romanian Government of 05.05.2014
Slovakia	<100.000	165.000	?	> 280.000	150.000	Slovak Government of 31.12.2014
Slovenia						
Spain	116.500	2.975.000	370.000	3.350.000	< 2.000.000	Spanish Government of Juli 2014
Sweden				1.800.000	619.000	European Journal of Criminology of 24.07.2014
United Kingdom	7.000	1.500.000	650.000	2.250.000	900.000	Slightly raised balance of the next 3 sources
EU 28				34.476.000		

Attachment 4a: Official Data of registered firearms in UK

United Kingdom	7.000	1.500.000	650.000	2.250.000	900.000	Slightly raised balance of the next 3 sources
England&Wales	0	1.330.000	508.000	1.838.000	730.000	UK Government of March 2014
Scotland	2.000	140.000	88.000	250.000	96.600	Scottish Government of 07.10.2014
Northern Ireland	5.000	95.000	53.000	153.000	60.000	Media news of 23.08.2012