

Documentation for Guns Data

Growth is a balanced panel of data on 50 US states, plus the District of Columbia (for a total of 51 “states”), by year for 1977 – 1999. Each observation is a given state in a given year. There are a total of 51 states × 23 years = 1173 observations. These data were provided by Professor John Donohue of Stanford University and were used in his paper with Ian Ayres “Shooting Down the ‘More Guns Less Crime’ Hypothesis” *Stanford Law Review*, 2003, Vol. 55, 1193-1312.

Variable Definitions

| Variable | Definition |
|--------------------|---|
| <i>vio</i> | violent crime rate (incidents per 100,000 members of the population) |
| <i>rob</i> | robbery rate (incidents per 100,000) |
| <i>mur</i> | murder rate (incidents per 100,000) |
| <i>shall</i> | = 1 if the state has a shall-carry law in effect in that year = 0 otherwise |
| <i>incarc_rate</i> | incarceration rate in the state in the previous year (sentenced prisoners per 100,000 residents; value for the previous year) |
| <i>density</i> | population per square mile of land area, divided by 1000 |
| <i>avginc</i> | real per capita personal income in the state, in thousands of dollars |
| <i>pop</i> | state population, in millions of people |
| <i>pm1029</i> | percent of state population that is male, ages 10 to 29 |
| <i>pw1064</i> | percent of state population that is white, ages 10 to 64 |
| <i>pb1064</i> | percent of state population that is black, ages 10 to 64 |
| <i>stateid</i> | ID number of states (Alabama = 1, Alaska = 2, etc.) |
| <i>year</i> | Year (1977-1999) |