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### **Did the Federal Assault Weapons Ban (AWB) Reduce Mass Shootings?**

Sample: Mass shooting incidents studied in DiMaggio et al. 2019

Classification of incidents as to whether a banned AW was used: Klarevas 2019

#### Mass Shooting Incidents Per Year

	<u>No AWB in effect<sup>a</sup></u>	<u>AWB in effect<sup>b</sup></u>	<u>% Reduction in Mass</u>
<u>Shootings</u>			
Did incident involve	Yes 0.52	0.20	38%
a banned AW?	No 1.09	0.50	46%

Notes:

- a. 1984-1994, 2005-2017
- b. 1995-2004 (Federal AWB was in effect from 9-13-94 to 9-13-04)

Conclusion: The frequency of mass shootings that involved guns *not* banned by the federal assault weapons ban declined during the ban period more than mass shootings involving banned guns. Therefore, the decline in mass shootings cannot be attributed to the AW ban. The temporal association of the decline in mass shootings and the period when the AWB was in effect was apparently coincidental.

References:

DiMaggio, Charles, et al. 2019. "Changes in US mass shooting deaths associated with the 1994–2004 federal assault weapons ban: Analysis of open-source data." Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery 86(1):11-19.

Klarevas, Louis. 2019. "Letter to the Editor." Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery 86(5):926-928.