

Abortion Killed 628,898 Babies, Firearms Killed 3,080 Under 19

This article is from the "Edifying the Body" section of the Church of God Big Sandy's website (churchofgodbigandy.com). It was posted for the weekend of June 11, 2022. (A version of the article was posted at cnsnews.com on June 7.)

By Lucy Collins

RESTON, Va.—According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), abortion killed 204.5 times more American babies in 2019 than the number of Americans ages 1 to 19 years old killed that year by firearms.

- In 2019 there were 629,898 abortion deaths in the 47 states and the District of Columbia that reported their abortions to the CDC.
- That same year there were 3,080 firearms deaths of people 19 and under in those same 47 states and the District of Columbia.

That equaled 204.5 abortions for each firearms death of a person 19 or under. (California, Maryland and New Hampshire do not report their abortions to the CDC. The 3,080 firearms deaths to people 19 and under cited here also exclude the firearms deaths from those three states.)

These numbers (from 47 states and the District of Columbia) were collected from the CDC's WONDER and WISQARS online databases, which contain the CDC information on deaths in the U.S. and a variety of data for epidemiological research. The abortion numbers were collected from the CDC's *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report: Abortion Surveillance for 2019*.

In 2019 there were 10,546 total deaths (all causes) for those aged 1 to 19 from states that reported their abortion numbers to the CDC. Given the 629,898 reported abortions, this means there were 59.7 times more abortion deaths than total deaths for children ages 1 to 19 in 2019.

- In 2020 the numbers are slightly different because only 42 states have so far reported their abortions for that year.
- Nonetheless, the reported abortion-death number to date for 2020 is 513,716.
- Also, all deaths for people ages 1 to 19 in 2020 totaled 11,162.
- Among those, 3,664 were firearm deaths.

Under these parameters, deaths by abortion were 140.2 times more than firearm deaths of minors and 46 times more than all deaths for the 1-19 age range in 2020.

On May 25, following the horrific mass shooting at the Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas, California's Democrat governor Gavin Newsom said,

"Guns are now the leading cause of death for kids in America." The governor was likely omitting abortion data.

On May 27 CBS News reported, "New data from the CDC shows firearm deaths were the leading cause of death for children for the first time in 2020." CBS was not counting the abortion numbers.

In 2020 non-firearm-related deaths were the leading cause of death in every below-teen age range. For ages 1 through 3 years old, drowning was the leading cause of death.

For ages 4 through 12, every individual age-group reports motor-vehicle-related deaths as the leading cause, with firearms coming in second for ages 7, 8, 10, 11 and 12.

For 2020, CDC data show that firearms are the leading cause of death for the 0 to 17 age-group, when abortion deaths are not included. Motor-vehicle deaths come in second, with 50 fewer deaths. When removing all deaths caused by suicide, which account for 32 percent of firearm deaths, motor vehicles become the leading cause of death at 27 percent, and firearms are second at 19 percent.