



HEALTH
MANAGEMENT
ASSOCIATES

Cost Estimate of Federal Funding for Gun Violence Research and Data Infrastructure

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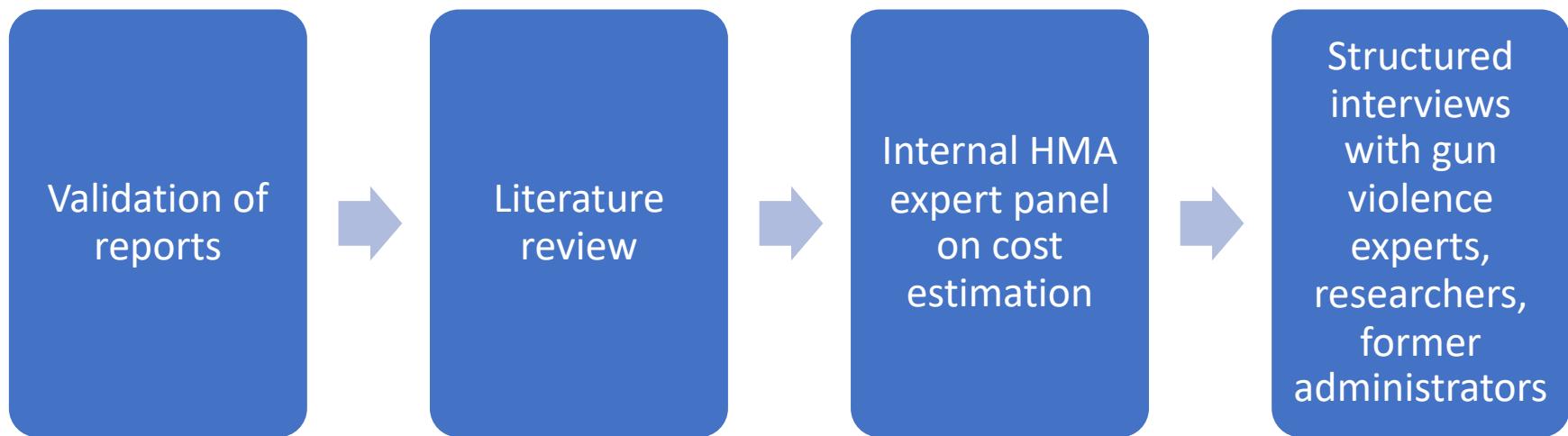
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Context

- Health Management Associates (HMA):
 - A leading independent national health care research and consulting firm founded in 1985
 - 300+ consultants in more than 20 offices across the U.S.
 - Our focus is publicly funded healthcare and community programs.
- Arnold Ventures and the Joyce Foundation commissioned HMA to conduct a cost estimate of the federal government implementing the recommendations of their two gun violence reports.
 - NORC Expert Panel report “A Blueprint for a U.S. Firearms Data Infrastructure”
 - Joyce Foundation’s report “100 Critical Questions for Gun Violence Research”
- HMA conducted its cost estimate as an independent third-party with the autonomy to evaluate all aspects of the data infrastructure recommendations and research agenda dimensions.
- Goal: Estimate the cost to the federal government of implementing the 13 data infrastructure recommendations of NORC report and the 10 research dimensions of the Joyce report.

Methodology: Multi-step methodology used gather information to form a cost estimate

- HMA designed and implemented a multi-step methodology aimed at identifying the costs to the federal government of implementing the 13 data infrastructure recommendations applicable to federal policymaking and the 10 dimensions of gun violence research if mandated by the US Congress as written in the reports.
- HMA conducted its work from April through June 2021
- HMA's team consisted Team of 5 experts in the fields of policy analysis, public health, medicine, health system management, and community strategies.



Methodology: Key assumptions

Information gathered from the multi-step methodology used to establish key assumptions

Key Assumptions
5-year budgeting period, 2022 to 2026
Most programs will remain in place all five years, but a few of the data infrastructure programs will take fewer than 5 years to implement
Average cost of a full-time equivalent employee associated with these programs would be slightly higher due to the need for data expertise and research scientists
Multiple federal agencies currently operate related data infrastructure programs
Field of gun violence researchers less robust than others, ~50 full time researchers, suggesting workforce is required to implement the recommended programs
Relative costliness of gun violence research varies by type of violence <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Homicide & intentional non-fatal = high complexity (broad community impact, tracking guns)• Suicide = moderate complexity (somewhat easier to track individuals and guns)• Accidental = least complex (fewer victims, gun storage issues, gun tracking easier)
Multiple federal agencies are currently involved with this work and will continue to be <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interagency coordination can increase costs• Existing infrastructure can decrease costs
Additional cost considerations: Oversight/audit, university facility and admin costs
Government program benchmarks: Agency budgets, survey budgets, dataset budgets

Methodology: Cost estimate calculations for Data and Research

**Data tasks
(13)**

Staffing:
Annual # of
FTEs per task

Staffing:
Oversight and
audit FTEs

Number of
years active

Complexity
adjustment
(depth of
collection,
existing systems)

Inflation over
5 years

**Research
dimensions
(10)**

Staffing: # of
small and large
studies, # of
FTEs per
dimension

Staffing:
Oversight
and audit
FTEs

Indirect
university
costs

Number
of years
active

Complexity
adjustment
(homicide,
suicide,
accidental)

Inflation over
5 years

Conclusion: Cost estimate of Gun Violence Data Infrastructure and Research

If mandated by Congress, the federal government would need to spend nearly \$600 million over the next five years (or \$128 million per year for five years) to implement the various components of the 13 gun violence data infrastructure recommendations and the 10 dimensions of gun violence research.

Legislative proposal	5-Year Lower bound (in \$ millions)	5-Year Upper bound (in \$ millions)	1-Year Lower bound (in \$ millions)	1-Year Upper bound (in \$ millions)
Data infrastructure (NORC Expert Panel)	\$137	\$159	\$27	\$32
Research agenda (Joyce Foundation Expert Advisory Panel)	\$450	\$480	\$90	\$96
Total (data infrastructure and research agenda)	\$587	\$639	\$117	\$128

Source: HMA analysis, 2021

*Limitations: Estimates do not incorporate federal savings or spending increases that may result from the implementation of these programs or the policy changes that could be made as the result of these programs.

Cost Estimate: Breakdown of 10 individual research dimensions

10 Dimensions of the Research Agenda	5-year Lower bound (in \$ millions)	5-year Upper bound (in \$ millions)
Firearm suicide	\$51	\$54
Community-based gun violence	\$56	\$59
Intimate partner violence with guns	\$56	\$59
Shootings by law enforcement	\$51	\$54
Mass shootings	\$51	\$54
Unintentional shootings	\$31	\$34
Impacts of lawful gun ownership and public carrying on safety	\$41	\$44
Limiting gun access to people during periods of high risk	\$31	\$34
Racial disparities and the role of the criminal justice system	\$51	\$54
Firearm related technology	\$31	\$34
Total	\$450	\$480

Source: HMA analysis, 2021

Cost Estimate: Breakdown of 13 individual data recommendations

Data Infrastructure Recommendation	5-year Lower bound (\$ millions)	5-year Upper bound (\$ millions)
Create valid and reliable administrative data systems to track nonfatal guns injuries	\$3	\$4
Facilitate implementation of the National Incident-Based Reporting System	\$32	\$34
Create specific guidance to improve timeliness of federal data	\$1	\$2
Increase federal data accessibility	\$5	\$6
Annual survey of firearms ownership, acquisition, and storage practices	\$10	\$12
Set up an interagency working group around data to create federal partnerships to address gaps	\$3	\$5
Create specific guidance to improve consistency and timeliness of criminal justice history reporting for use in background checks	\$3	\$5
Create specific guidance for supporting the development and use of data	\$5	\$6
Create resources and best practice guides for local and state governments to facilitate the integration of data on victims and perpetrators of firearm injury and misuse	\$16	\$18
Improvements to the firearm ownership and use datafiles	\$14	\$16
Improve the Survey of Prison Inmates	\$20	\$22
Integrate federal public health data and criminal justice data on firearms.	\$18	\$20
Create a model firearms data sharing platform within the federal government	\$7	\$9
Total	\$137	\$159

Source: HMA analysis, 2021

■ HMA presenter



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