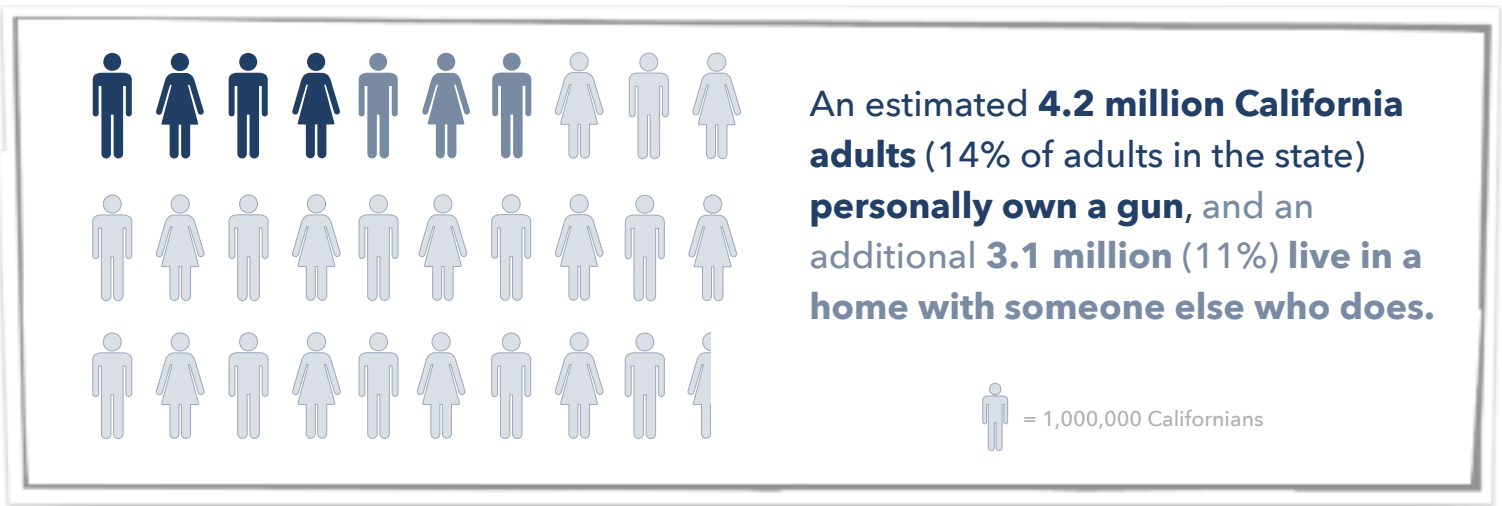


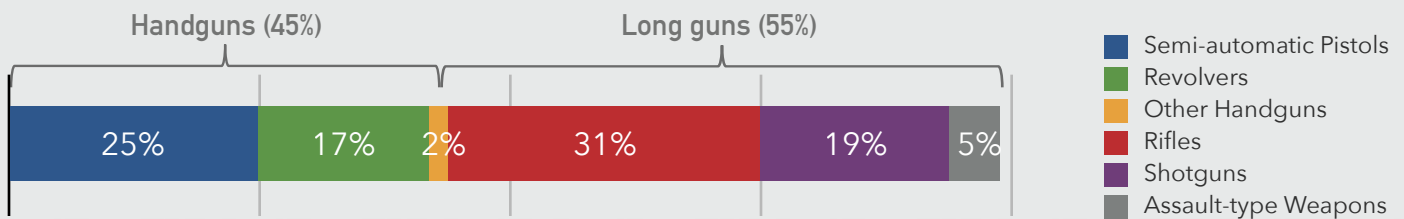
# FIREARM OWNERSHIP IN CALIFORNIA

Results from the 2018 California Safety and Wellbeing Survey (CSaWS)



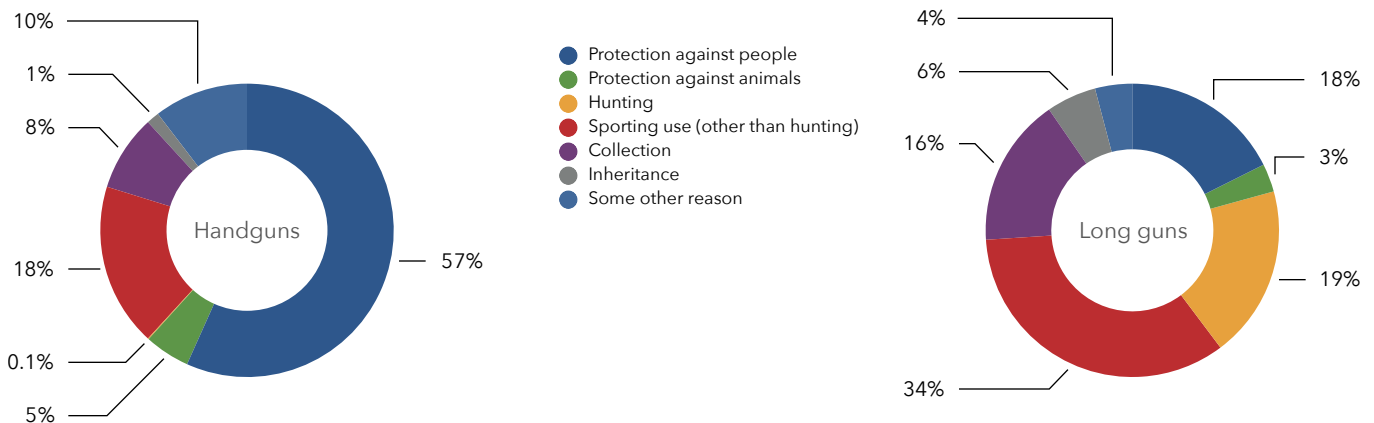
## A MAJORITY OF GUNS IN CALIFORNIA ARE LONG GUNS, SUCH AS RIFLES AND SHOTGUNS.

Californians who own one gun most often own a handgun.



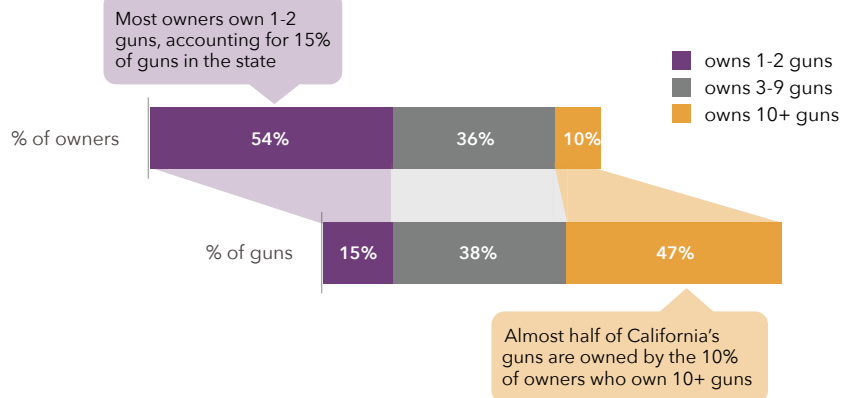
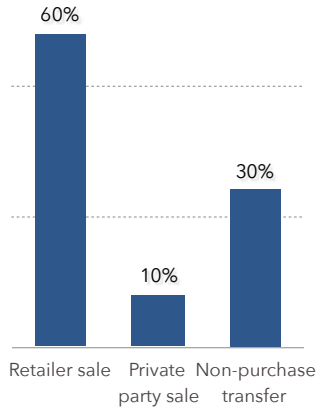
## CALIFORNIANS OWN HANDGUNS AND LONG GUNS FOR DIFFERENT REASONS.

Protection is the most common reason for owning handguns. Sport shooting is the most common reason for owning long guns.

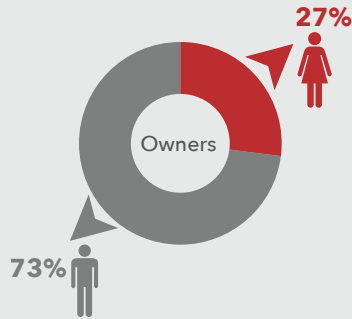


[Read the full study](#)

Most firearms are purchased, usually from a retailer such as a gun or sporting goods store. In California, nearly all firearm sales, including private party sales, require a background check.

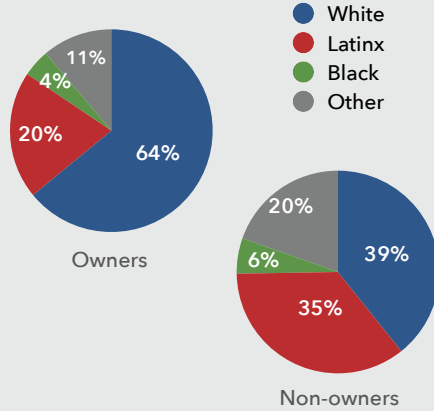
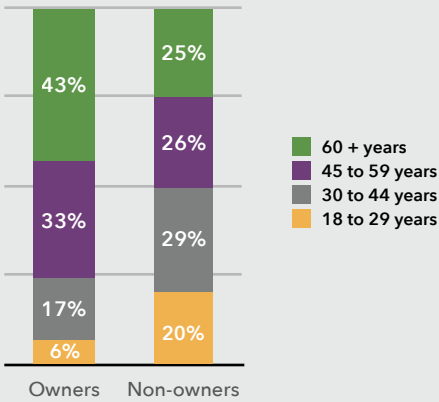
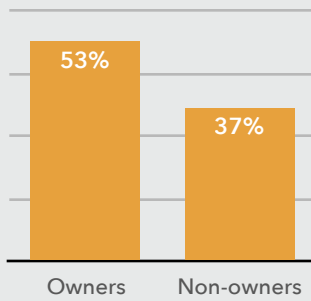


## Gun Ownership by Sex, Income, Age, and Race/Ethnicity



Non-owners were 56% female and 44% male.

Household income >\$100,000



## What we learned:

There are approximately **4.2 million gun owners** and 20 million firearms (9 million handguns) in California.

About **1 in 4 California adults** lives in a gun-owning home.

Gun ownership is highly concentrated. The **typical owner just 1 or 2 guns**, but 10% of owners own 10 or more.

Most owners purchased their last firearm from a retailer. These **purchases were most often handguns** purchased primarily for protection against people.

Compared with the US as a whole, **California has lower prevalence of firearm ownership** but similar demographic patterns of ownership, reasons for ownership, and trends in acquisition.



The California Safety and Wellbeing Survey (CSaWS) is a statewide, probability-based Internet survey developed by UCFC and administered by Ipsos Public Affairs, LLC in late 2018. CSaWS asked questions on a wide range of topics related to firearm ownership and exposure to violence and its consequences. More than 2,500 California adults completed CSaWS, and their answers are weighted to be statistically representative of the adult population of the state.

Funding for CSaWS comes from the State of California.