

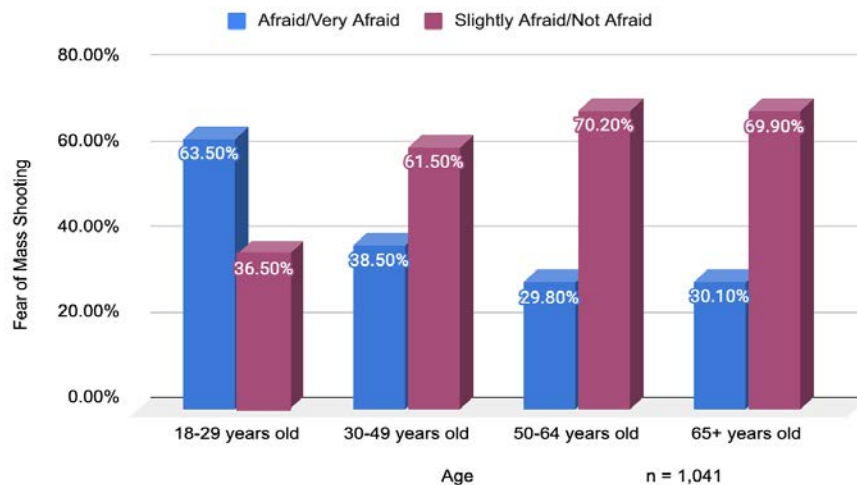
The Chapman Survey of American Fears: Random/Mass Shooting

The Chapman Survey of American Fears Wave 8 asks participants, how afraid are you of being a victim of the following crimes: Random/Mass Shooting? In 2022, mass shootings have spiked and continuously become a growing fear for Americans. From the study, I collected data to examine the following independent variables: age, race, and gender. My research gathers data to evaluate if there is a direct correlation among the independent variables and the dependent variable, fear of random and mass shootings.

Age & Fear of Random/Mass Shootings

The most significant correlation found in my research was through age and fear of mass shootings. Participants of the survey who were between the ages of 18-29 years old are 63.5% afraid and very afraid of mass shootings. In contrast, 69.9% of participants 65 years and older are slightly afraid or not afraid of mass shootings. We can conclude the age group between 18 and 29 years of age is more afraid of mass shootings than those who are 65 years and above because of the more recent increase in school shootings, elementary through high school. School shootings have become more common in today's years than for those who are 65 years or older. Today schools in the U.S. have prepared school shooting safety drills. The younger generation is more likely to fear mass shootings because, many of which have occurred on school campuses. It is now the norm to practice safety training for the events of a shooting in the classroom. Thus, the age group of rising students fear shootings because training in the case of this dangerous situation has become ingrained into their academic years.

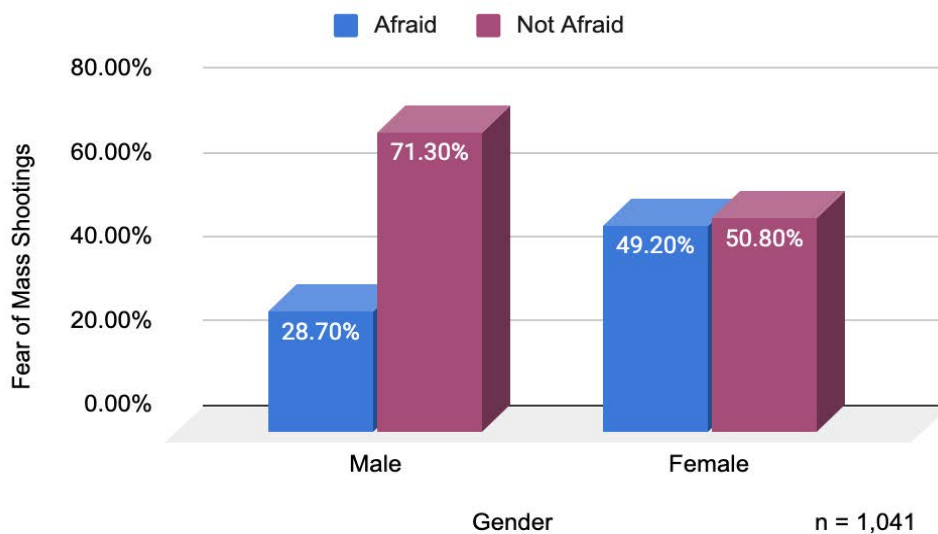
Figure 1



Gender & Fear of Random/Mass Shootings

It can be concluded from my findings that gender correlates to fear of random and mass shootings. As seen in Figure 2, 71.3% of males and 50.8% of females are not afraid of random and mass shootings. In contrast, there is about a 20.5% difference between females being more afraid of mass shootings than males. From my research, gender did not have a direct relation to fear of mass shootings, although it can play a factor more research must be done to determine its correlation.

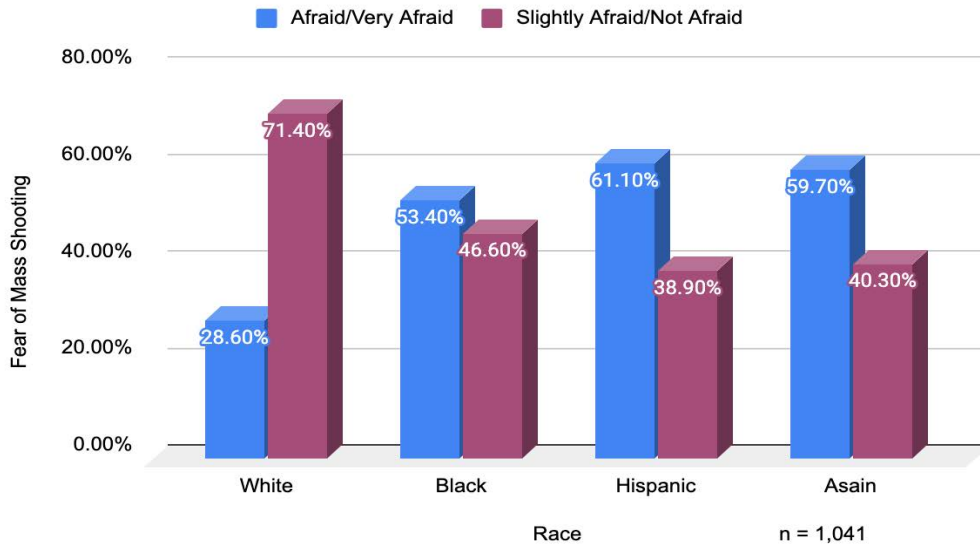
Figure 2



Race & Fear of Random/Mass Shootings

Race also plays a role in relation to fear of mass shootings. Figure 3 displays 71.4% of white individuals are slightly or not afraid of mass shootings. In contrast 53.4% of blacks, 61.1% of Hispanics, and 59.7% of Asian Americans in the survey voted that they are afraid and very afraid of mass shootings. There is a significant gap between white and non-white individuals' fear of mass shootings. Communities of color are more disproportionately affected by mass shootings thus, their fear is significantly higher than individuals who are white. Only 28.6% of the white participants in the survey are afraid or very afraid of mass shootings. This leaves a 42.8% gap difference among white respondents in the survey who are and are not afraid.

Figure 3



Current Events on Mass Shootings

From data collected by the Gun Violence Archive, in the year 2022 over three hundred mass shootings have occurred in the U.S as of July. One of the most recent tragic school shootings this year occurred in Uvalde Texas at Robb Elementary School on May 24th, 2022. Nineteen children and two teachers were pronounced dead, about eighteen others at the school were injured. During the Fourth of July weekend this year, over 14 mass shootings occurred fatally shooting and injuring many individuals. Mass shootings have significantly increased within the past decade in the United States. Along with the Robb Elementary School shooting, America has endured some of the most heart-wrenching mass shootings including: Sandy Hook Elementary School, Pulse Nightclub, Harvest Music Festival, Virginia Tech, and Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland. These are only a few that have severely impacted individuals in the United States today. There are many factors that have indirectly and directly influenced individuals' fear of mass shootings. From my research, using The Chapman Survey of American Fears age has the most substantial direct impact on one's fear of random and mass shootings.

Works Cited

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