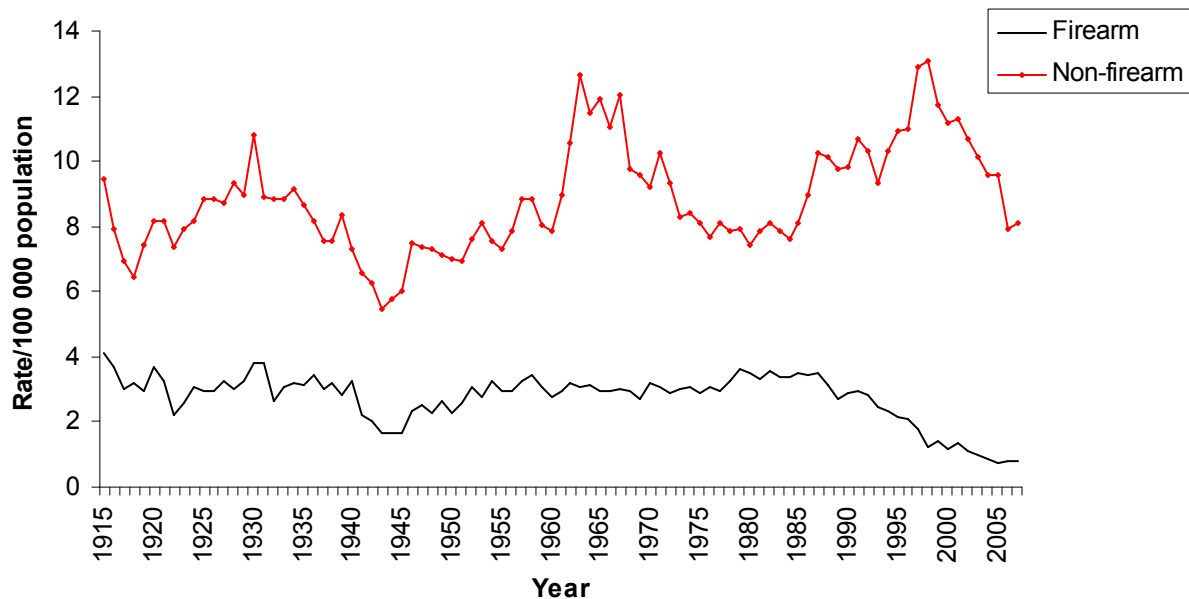


### Firearm and non-firearm suicide rates, 1915-2007



- Although most firearm-related deaths are suicides, firearm suicides represent a low percentage of suicides overall.
- Firearm suicide rates began falling in the 1980s.
- A number of studies, from a range of different sources, have shown that:
  - The 1996 firearms legislation did not have a significant impact on the pre-existing downward trend in firearm suicides.
  - Declines in firearm suicide have been accompanied by an increase in the use of other suicide methods (especially hanging).
  - Declines in non-firearm suicides began around the same time as the gun laws were changed. The declines coincided with the introduction of the National Suicide Prevention Strategy.
- A recent report backed by the Public Health Association of Australia concluded that the 1996 gun laws were “not a cost effective intervention” for suicide prevention.

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