

UNDERSTANDING THE DANGERS OF CONCEALED CARRY

A STUDY OF FIVE STATES CONCEALED CARRY LICENSE HOLDERS

**Year after year, states that
provide comprehensive
concealed carry conviction
statistics show the same thing:
*permitted concealed carriers are over
99.87% law abiding.***

1. INTRODUCTION

This study provides the reader with an inside look at concealed carriers in terms of if they are law abiding or not. It is not easy and there are not standards in reporting on concealed carry permit holders regarding being convicted of crimes amongst each state in the United States. This report looks at the statistics provided by five states. Texas, Ohio, Florida, Kansas and Michigan.

2. STUDY DATA

Using the statistics from these five states provides 4.2 million concealed carry permit holders conviction data. While some states do not get into the specifics of the convictions, they do provide how many were revoked which encompasses being convicted of a disqualifying crime. All data is from 2016 data sets. We use convictions/revocation and not suspensions of permits due to someone having their day in court. Until proven guilty someone is still law abiding.

3. STATE SPECIFIC DATA

❖ TEXAS (99.98% Law Abiding)

Texas has **1,772,523 concealed handgun license holders** as of December 31, 2016. Texas's statistics are very detailed of the specific crime convicted. Below is a summary of how many concealed handgun license holders were convicted of disqualifying crimes in 2016.

CRIME	CHL CONVICTED	% CHL CONVICTED
AGG ASSAULT W/ DEADLY WEAPON	8	0.0007%
BURGLARY	3	0.0003%
KIDNAPPING	0	0.0%
MANSLAUGHTER	2	0.0002%
MURDER	2	0.0002%
ROBBERY	1	0.0001%
TERRORISTIC THREAT	3	0.0003%
UNLAWFULLY CARRYING WEAPONS	5	0.0005%

After looking at these statistics we can see that only 2 of 1,772,523 concealed handgun license holders were convicted of murder in 2016. The entire state of

Texas had 212 murder convictions in 2016, showing that concealed handgun license holders were convicted of 0.9433% of all Texas's murder convictions in 2016. Not even 1% of all of Texas's murder convictions were attributed to concealed handgun license holders. A look at burglary we see that CHL holders were convicted 3 times in 2016. While the state convicted 5,903 in total for burglary in 2016. This means that non-CHL holders are 84x more likely to commit robbery.

Texas's concealed handgun license holders were convicted of 148 disqualifying crimes in 2016. This shows that **99.98%** of Texas's CHL holders were not convicted of disqualifying crimes and were law abiding. A look at the previous year showed the same percentage of 99.98%.

❖ **KANSAS (99.90% Law Abiding)**

Kansas has **83,543 concealed carry handgun license holders** as of December 14, 2016. Kansas's statistics are detailed in that they show how many revoked per crime conviction. Below is a summary of how many concealed carry handgun license holders were convicted of disqualifying crimes in 2016.

CRIME	CHL CONVICTED	% CHL CONVICTED
AGGRAVATED BATTERY	2	0.0024%
BURGLARY	0	0.0%
KIDNAPPING	0	0.0%
MANSLAUGHTER	1	0.0012%
MURDER	0	0.0%
ROBBERY	0	0.0%
CRIMINAL THREAT	1	0.0012%
UNLAWFULLY CARRYING WEAPONS	0	0.0%

All together Kansas had 81 total revocations of concealed carry handgun license holders in 2016. 30, the largest segment, of which were due to CCHL holders moving without notification. Given that if you do not follow the law, notifying the state you moved, you are not law abiding we included those numbers in the total. Showing that Kansas concealed carry handgun license holders are **99.90%** law abiding.

❖ MICHIGAN (99.51% Law Abiding)

Michigan has **616,941 concealed pistol license holders** as of September 30, 2016. Michigan's statistics are detailed in that they show how many revoked per crime conviction. Below is a summary of how many concealed carry handgun license holders were convicted of disqualifying crimes in 2016.

CRIME	CHL CONVICTED	% CHL CONVICTED
ASSAULT OR ASSAULT AND BATTERY	49	0.0079%
BURGLARY	0	0.0%
KIDNAPPING	1	0.0001%
MANSLAUGHTER	1	0.0001%
MURDER	0	0.0%
ROBBERY	2	0.0003%
CRIMINAL THREAT	1	0.0001%
CARRYING CONCEALED PISTOL IN PROHIBITED PREMISES	1	0.0001%

Of all the five states, Michigan did have the most concealed pistol license holders convicted of crimes in 2016. With it being 2,982 in total. They had 1,928 licenses suspended in 2016. This is largely due to arrests pending a court date. Michigan has over 400,000 non-cleared arrests each year. This would put their concealed pistol license holders at 0.48% of the total arrests in the state for 2016. Taking the 2,982 criminal convictions into account against the 616,941 total CPL holders we see that Michigan CPL holders are **99.51% law abiding**.

❖ OHIO (99.87% Law Abiding)

Ohio has **574,000 concealed carry license holders** as of December 31, 2016. Ohio's statistics are not detailed in that they do not show how many revoked per crime conviction. Due to that we have to do our analysis off the raw revocation number for 2016. Revocation's consist of disqualifying crime convictions. Ohio concealed carry license holders had 697 revocations in 2016. Meaning that **99.87% of their concealed carry license holders** were law abiding.

Looking deeper at the effect of Ohio's concealed carry license holders on arrests we looked at the total suspensions of licenses. Suspension of concealed carry licenses includes arrests pending court dates. In total Ohio suspended 1,669 concealed carry licenses in 2016. They had 302,529 total arrests in 2016. Showing that Ohio's concealed carry license holders attributed to only 0.55% of the total arrests in the state in 2016.

❖ FLORIDA (99.92% Law Abiding)

Florida has **1,772,523 concealed weapon license holders** as of June 30, 2017. The most of any state we analyzed. Florida's statistics are not detailed in that they do not show how many revoked per crime conviction. Due to that we have to do our analysis off the raw revocation number for 2016. Revocation's consist of disqualifying crime convictions. Florida concealed weapon license holders had 1,492 revocations in 2016. Meaning that **99.92% of their concealed weapon license holders** were law abiding.

As with other states, looking into the arrest contribution of Florida's concealed weapon license holders shows a miniscule amount compared to the rest of it's population. Florida had 726,494 arrests in total for 2016. Florida suspended, which consists of disqualifying arrests, 3,752 concealed weapon license holders in 2016. Meaning that Florida's concealed weapon license holders made up only 0.52% of Florida's total arrests for 2016.

4. CONCLUSION

After review of these five states it is apparent that the concealed carry license holders in each of these states are by and large law abiding. While they do commit crimes, it is at a amazingly low rate compared with the rest of these states societies. Overall these statistics show that the 4.2 million concealed carry license holders reviewed in this study are more than 99.87% law abiding. They contributed on average around 0.50% to the total arrests in their states. Not even 1%. For contrast DUI arrests in the USA are 0.64% of all drivers and that is just one traffic offense. With around 14 million concealed carry license holders in the USA, this study has used a sample that is 1/3 the entire concealed carry license holder community. This study concludes that concealed carry license holders are not a danger to society.

Taking the arrest rate in the United States, 2,229 per 100,000 and comparing it to the total crime conviction rate of concealed carry license holders, 1.3 per 100,000, it is very visible that concealed carry license holders are one of the least likely groups of individuals to be arrested or convicted of a crime. While they do commit crimes, they are nowhere near the frequency of non-concealed carry license holders. Showing that concealed carry license holders are a safe law abiding group of individuals.

5. REFERENCES

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