



# EVERYSHOT FEBRUARY 2026 IN REVIEW

## UNDERSTANDING GUN VIOLENCE IN THE UNITED STATES

### A comprehensive AI-driven analysis of gun violence in February 2026

February 2026 | Generated March 06, 2026

**Methodology:** This report analyzes gun violence incidents documented by EveryShot from February 1, 2026 through February 28, 2026, based on automated monitoring of public news reports across the United States.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As policymakers, researchers, and advocates across the country seek to reduce gun violence and identify the policies and prevention strategies that will have the greatest impact, a clear, timely understanding of national patterns and trends is critical. This report provides a detailed overview of gun violence in the United States for February 2026 using the most recently available data tracked by EveryShot.

EveryShot is a near real-time AI tool that tracks gun violence incidents across the U.S. It draws on data from news articles about gun violence from thousands of newspapers, local television stations, and other news providers using a news aggregation service and then deploys AI to summarize the articles and group them into types of shooting incidents. The below findings have been generated using an AI analysis of EveryShot's publicly reported incidents of gun violence in February 2026 across the United States and have been vetted by Everytown researchers.

*Please note that the data reported by EveryShot differ to some degree from data used in other Everytown Research reports that rely predominately on federal data sources via the CDC, FBI, and other agencies, whereas EveryShot draws on data from news articles about gun violence. Data from federal data sources typically lag by approximately 12-18 months, while EveryShot is able to provide near-real time data. It should also be noted that incidents of gun violence that go*

*unreported, including most gun suicides, are not captured in EveryShot or this analysis.*

### **Key Data Points**

- EveryShot documented 2,627 incidents of gun violence in the U.S. in February 2026, resulting in 950 deaths, of which 880 were homicides, and 1,407 injuries.
- Compared to February 2025, deaths decreased by 13.7% (950 vs 1,101) and injuries increased by 8.2% (1,407 vs 1,300).
- Among the 50 states, West Virginia had the highest death rate, at 6.8 deaths per million residents, followed by Louisiana (6.7 deaths per million residents) and New Mexico (6.1 deaths per million residents).
- Incidents were most likely to occur on a street, accounting for 38% of all incidents.
- Escalating altercations comprised the most common incident type with 819 incidents, resulting in 277 deaths and 459 injuries.
- When firearm type was identified (40% of incidents), a handgun was the most common, used in 961 incidents.
- There were 167 incidents involving intimate partner violence, resulting in 112 deaths.
- There were 36 mass shooting incidents, resulting in 50 deaths.
- There were 70 unintentional shootings, resulting in 16 deaths.
- Road rage accounted for 47 incidents and 10 deaths.
- Police shootings by officers comprised 184 incidents, resulting in 103 deaths.
- Police shootings of officers involved 59 incidents and 23 deaths.

## NATIONAL OVERVIEW

Based on systematic monitoring of public news reports across the United States, EveryShot documented 2,627 gun violence incidents in February 2026. These incidents resulted in 950 deaths and 1,407 injuries.

Figure 1: Overall Impact of Gun Violence in February 2026

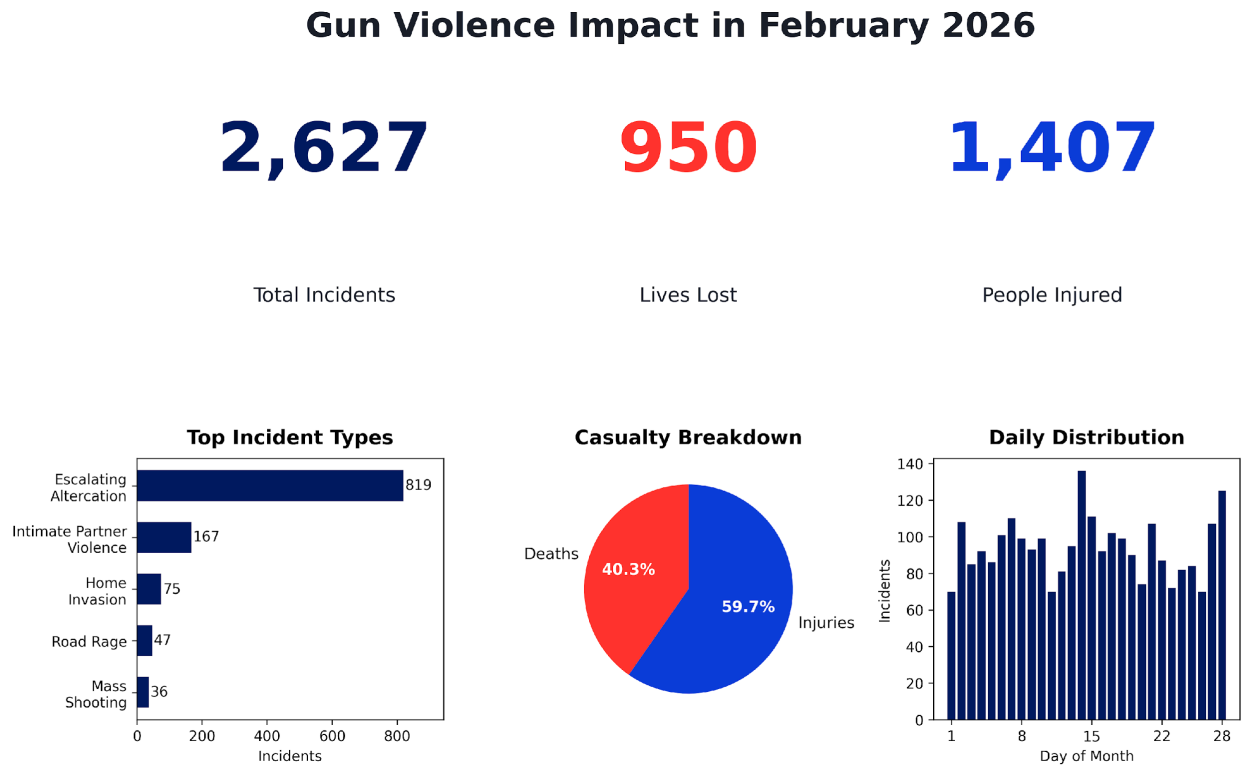


Figure 1: Overall Impact of Gun Violence in February 2026

## FEBRUARY 2026 SUMMARY TABLE

Comprehensive summary of gun violence statistics for February 2026:

| Metric                     | February 2026 | February 2025 | Change |
|----------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------|
| <b>OVERALL STATISTICS</b>  |               |               |        |
| Total Deaths               | 950           | 1101          | -13.7% |
| Total Injuries             | 1407          | 1300          | +8.2%  |
|                            |               |               |        |
| <b>INCIDENT CATEGORIES</b> |               |               |        |
| Escalating Altercations    | 819           | 1005          | -18.5% |
| Intimate Partner Violence  | 167           | 206           | -18.9% |
| Home Invasion              | 75            | 86            | -12.8% |
| Road Rage                  | 47            | 81            | -42.0% |
| Mass Shootings             | 36            | 25            | +44.0% |
| Murder-Suicide             | 45            | 51            | -11.8% |
|                            |               |               |        |
| <b>POLICE SHOOTINGS</b>    |               |               |        |
| Shootings BY Police        | 184           | 209           | -12.0% |
| Shootings OF Police        | 59            | 72            | -18.1% |

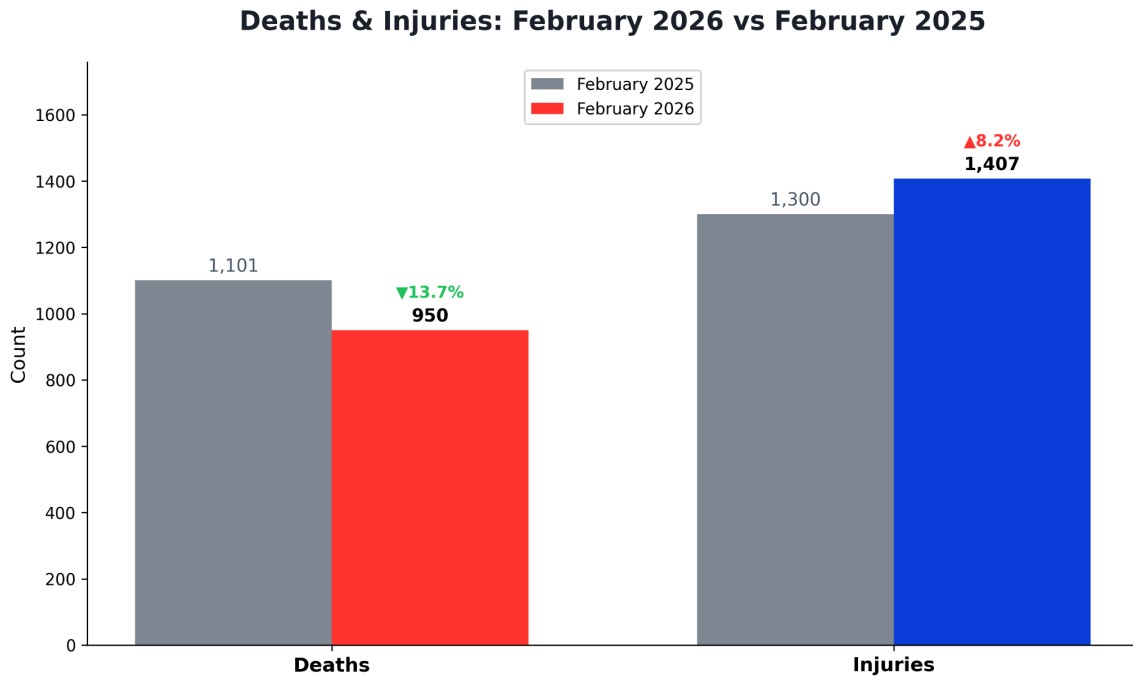
## YEAR-OVER-YEAR COMPARISON: FEBRUARY 2026 VS FEBRUARY 2025

This section compares gun violence metrics between February 2026 and February 2025 to identify emerging trends.

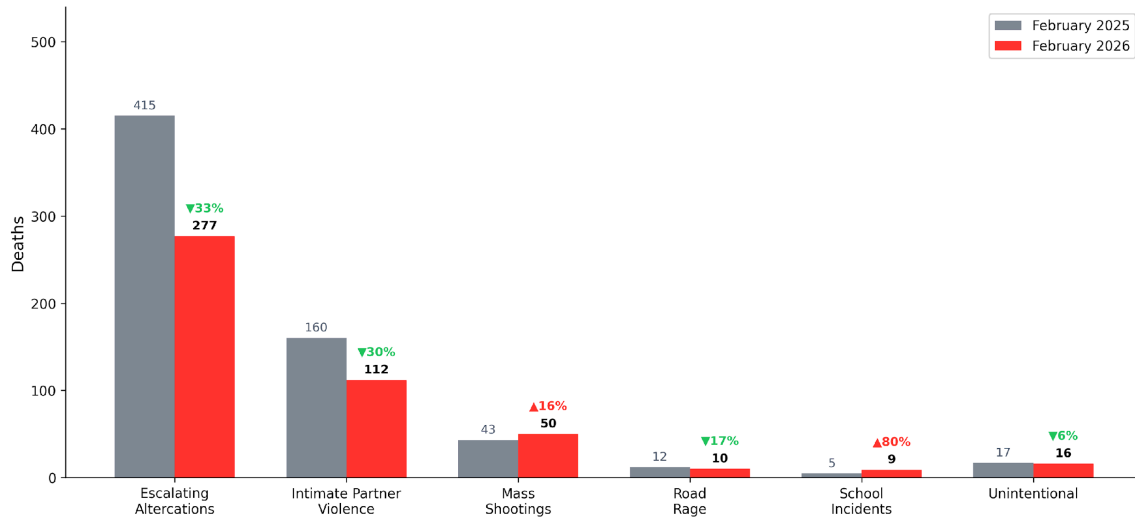
Key Findings:

1. Fatalities: Deaths decreased by 13.7% (950 vs 1,101)
2. Injuries: Injuries increased by 8.2% (1,407 vs 1,300)

Figure 6: Year-over-Year Comparison



### Deaths by Incident Category: February 2026 vs February 2025



## GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Gun violence incidents documented from public news reports were identified across 51 states and territories. When adjusted for population using 2024 Census estimates, the five states with the highest gun death rates per million residents in February 2026 were West Virginia, Louisiana, New Mexico, South Carolina, and Missouri.

Figure 2: Top 10 States by Gun Death Rate per Million Population

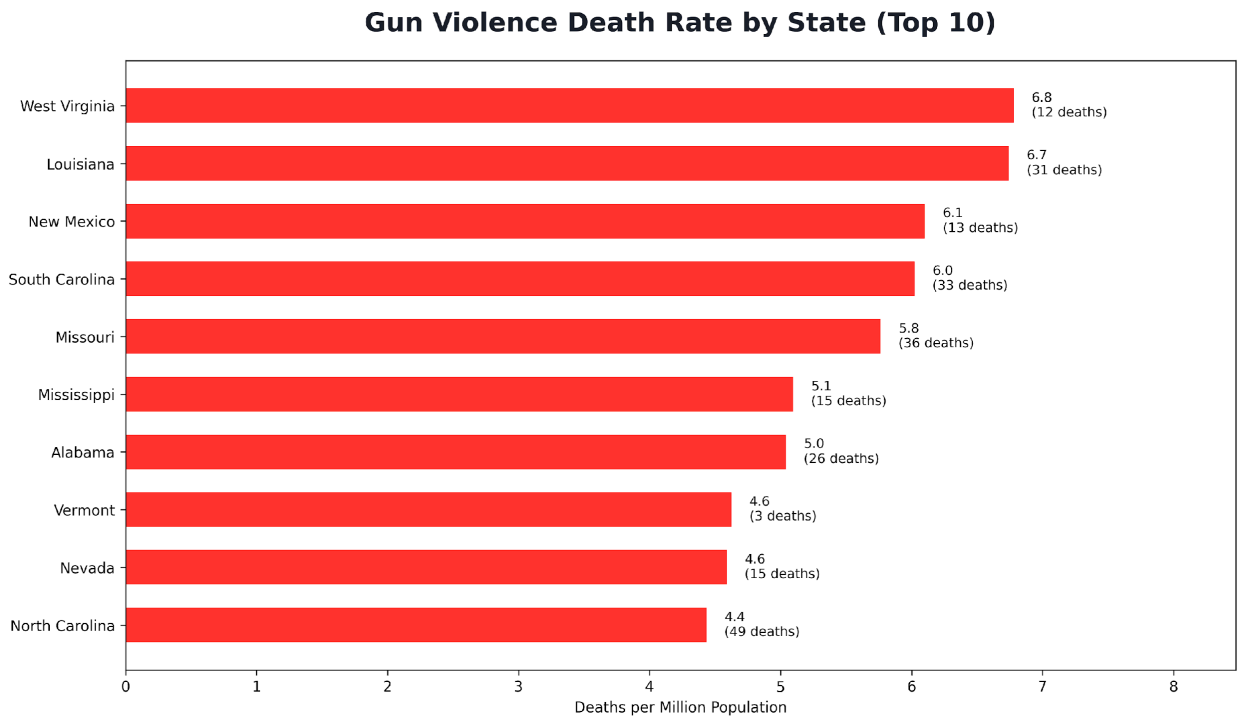


Figure 2: Top 10 States by Gun Death Rate per Million Population

The following table shows gun violence deaths and injuries by state, with year-over-year comparison to February 2025.

| State                | Deaths (Feb 2026) | Deaths Change from Feb 2025 | Injuries (Feb 2026) | Injuries Change from Feb 2025 |
|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Texas                | 114               | ▲ 12%                       | 122                 | ▼ 5%                          |
| California           | 95                | ▲ 27%                       | 101                 | ▼ 4%                          |
| Florida              | 68                | ▼ 8%                        | 103                 | ▲ 24%                         |
| North Carolina       | 49                | ▲ 11%                       | 66                  | ▲ 8%                          |
| Illinois             | 48                | ▲ 9%                        | 86                  | ▲ 46%                         |
| Georgia              | 43                | ▼ 14%                       | 55                  | ▼ 7%                          |
| Missouri             | 36                | ▼ 8%                        | 40                  | ▲ 54%                         |
| South Carolina       | 33                | ▲ 27%                       | 28                  | —                             |
| Louisiana            | 31                | ▲ 24%                       | 63                  | ▲ 43%                         |
| Ohio                 | 29                | ▼ 29%                       | 62                  | ▲ 11%                         |
| Virginia             | 27                | ▼ 25%                       | 42                  | ▲ 68%                         |
| Alabama              | 26                | ▼ 26%                       | 51                  | ▲ 55%                         |
| Michigan             | 24                | ▲ 9%                        | 35                  | ▲ 21%                         |
| Tennessee            | 24                | ▼ 41%                       | 58                  | ▼ 24%                         |
| Maryland             | 24                | ▼ 23%                       | 30                  | —                             |
| Pennsylvania         | 22                | ▼ 41%                       | 37                  | ▼ 45%                         |
| Indiana              | 20                | ▼ 38%                       | 34                  | ▼ 8%                          |
| Kentucky             | 20                | ▼ 20%                       | 28                  | ▼ 7%                          |
| Wisconsin            | 18                | ▲ 20%                       | 32                  | ▲ 100%                        |
| Arizona              | 17                | ▼ 41%                       | 34                  | ▲ 6%                          |
| Nevada               | 15                | ▼ 21%                       | 10                  | ▲ 43%                         |
| Mississippi          | 15                | ▼ 29%                       | 33                  | ▲ 136%                        |
| Washington           | 14                | ▼ 36%                       | 22                  | ▼ 4%                          |
| New Mexico           | 13                | ▲ 18%                       | 6                   | ▼ 57%                         |
| West Virginia        | 12                | ▲ 140%                      | 7                   | ▲ 75%                         |
| New York             | 11                | ▼ 62%                       | 37                  | ▲ 9%                          |
| Oklahoma             | 11                | ▼ 15%                       | 30                  | ▲ 173%                        |
| Minnesota            | 11                | ▼ 35%                       | 10                  | ▼ 41%                         |
| Arkansas             | 10                | —                           | 12                  | ▲ 200%                        |
| Colorado             | 9                 | ▼ 62%                       | 8                   | ▼ 60%                         |
| District of Columbia | 8                 | ▼ 60%                       | 11                  | ▼ 52%                         |
| Kansas               | 7                 | ▼ 53%                       | 9                   | ▼ 57%                         |
| Iowa                 | 6                 | ▼ 25%                       | 13                  | ▲ 30%                         |
| Connecticut          | 5                 | ▲ 67%                       | 16                  | ▲ 167%                        |
| Massachusetts        | 5                 | —                           | 13                  | ▼ 7%                          |
| New Jersey           | 5                 | —                           | 9                   | —                             |
| Montana              | 4                 | ▲ 33%                       | 2                   | —                             |
| Rhode Island         | 4                 | ▲ 100%                      | 3                   | —                             |
| Vermont              | 3                 | ▲ 50%                       | 0                   | —                             |

|               |   |        |    |        |
|---------------|---|--------|----|--------|
| Oregon        | 3 | ▼ 67%  | 15 | ▲ 200% |
| Maine         | 3 | ▼ 25%  | 3  | ▼ 40%  |
| Idaho         | 2 | ▼ 50%  | 4  | ▲ 33%  |
| Utah          | 1 | ▼ 67%  | 6  | ▼ 14%  |
| Alaska        | 1 | ▼ 75%  | 0  | ▼ 100% |
| New Hampshire | 1 | ▲ 100% | 2  | ▼ 33%  |
| Nebraska      | 1 | ▼ 83%  | 5  | ▼ 17%  |
| North Dakota  | 1 | —      | 2  | ▲ 100% |
| Hawaii        | 1 | ▼ 67%  | 7  | ▲ 17%  |
| South Dakota  | 0 | ▼ 100% | 1  | ▼ 50%  |
| Delaware      | 0 | ▼ 100% | 4  | ▲ 100% |
| Wyoming       | 0 | ▼ 100% | 0  | —      |

*Note: Change percentages compare February 2026 to February 2025. "—" indicates no change or insufficient data.*

## INCIDENT LOCATIONS

Based on public news reports, 1,964 incidents in February 2026 had an identifiable location. Among these, 50.4% (989) occurred on a street, 26.4% (519) occurred at home, and 14.8% (291) occurred at a business.

Street was the deadliest location type, with 312 deaths recorded.

Figure 3: Gun Violence Incidents by Location Type

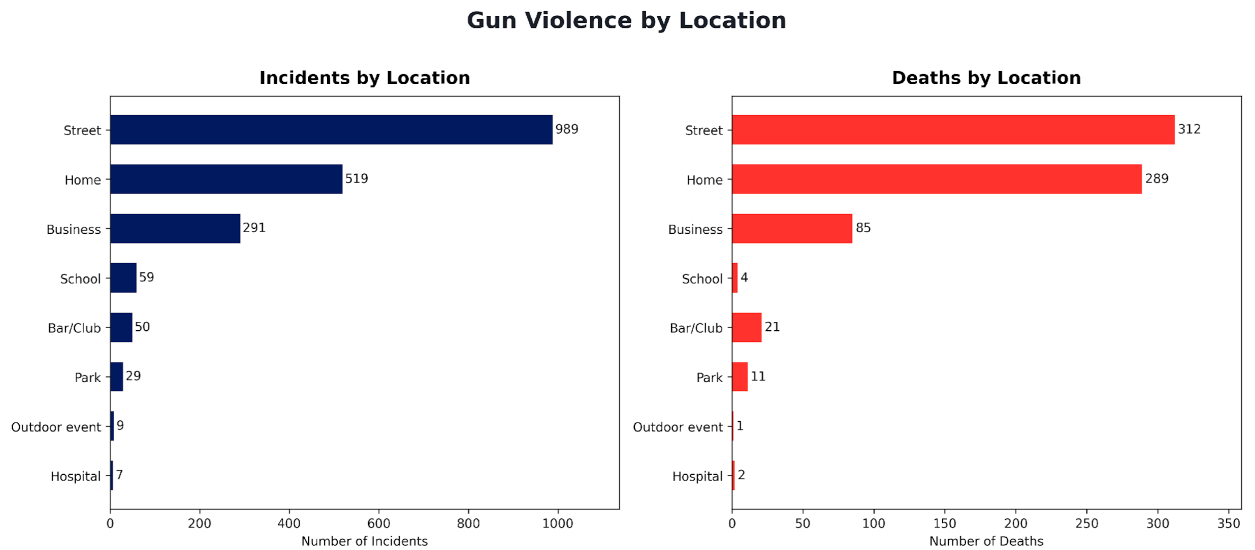


Figure 3: Gun Violence Incidents by Location Type

## INCIDENT TYPES

EveryShot categorizes incidents using binary variables that indicate whether specific circumstances apply. An incident may have multiple categories if applicable.

The most common incident type was Escalating Altercation with 819 incidents, followed by intimate partner violence with 167 incidents.

The types being tracked by EveryShot include: Escalating Altercation, Extremism, Hate Crime, Home Invasion, Intimate Partner Violence, LGBTQ+, Mass Shooting, Murder-Suicide, Political Violence, Road Rage, Trans-Involved, and Workplace Shooting.

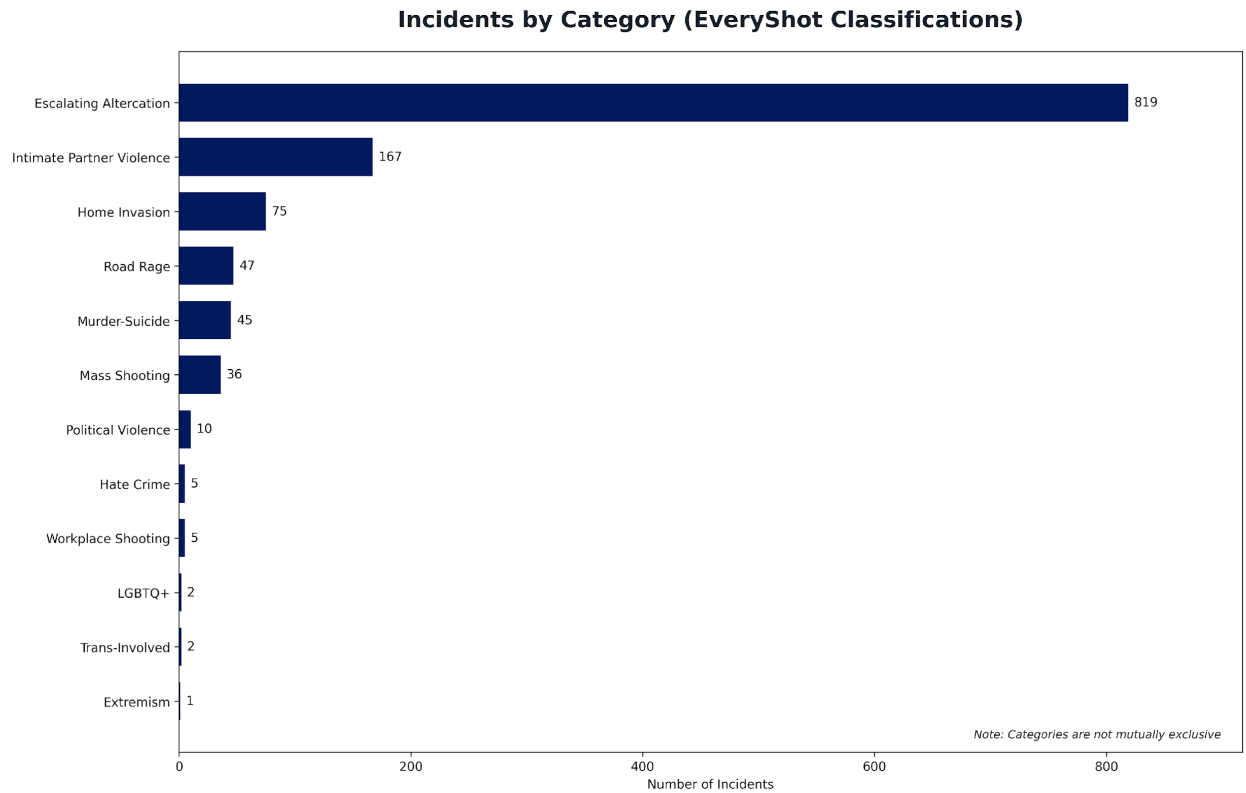


Figure 4: Incidents by Type Category

## **METHODOLOGY AND LIMITATIONS**

### **Data Collection:**

EveryShot documents gun violence incidents through systematic monitoring of public news reports across the United States. Incidents are recorded with available details including location, date, time, casualties, and contextual information.

### **Data Classification:**

Incidents are categorized using binary variables that indicate whether specific circumstances apply (e.g., intimate partner violence, road rage, mass shooting). An incident may be assigned multiple categories when applicable.

### **Limitations:**

This data is subject to the inherent limitations of media reporting. Incidents that receive less or no media coverage may be underrepresented or not included in this dataset. The geographic and demographic patterns observed may reflect variations in media coverage as well as actual patterns of gun violence. State death rates are calculated using 2024 Census population estimates.

Categories like firearm type, time of day, and specific circumstances are only available when included in news reports. For some incidents, this information is unavailable; its absence should not be interpreted as indicating that it is not applicable.

Because EveryShot uses AI to identify and extract details from news reports on gun violence, EveryShot data may contain errors, incomplete information, or misclassifications.

*Report generated from EveryShot data. All statistics are derived from incident counts documented in public news reports. Population data from U.S. Census Bureau 2024 estimates.*