

Gun sales expected to spike following a week of massacres

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Gun violence is big business, according to [CNN](#), which reports that firearm sales could spike following back-to-back massacres that left 18 people shot dead.

Southwick Associates founder Rob Southwick told the cable news channel that as lawmakers try and rein in homicidal gun use, firearm advocates react by stocking up.

“When you hear more calls for firearm restrictions, we have observed gun sale increases primarily from people buying before they’re not able to,” Southwick said.

His Florida-based market research company specializes in outdoorsman activities, including hunting and shooting.

President Biden reacted to a March 16 gun massacre in Atlanta and a subsequent March 22 slaughter in Colorado by saying, “I don’t need to wait another minute, let alone an hour, to take common-sense steps that will save lives.”

That could prove to be a call to arms for gun collectors who have been putting off purchasing the types of weapons that might be effected by restrictions on high-powered hardware.

David Kopel, of the Cato Institute think tank told CNN that’s “a longstanding pattern.”

Bloomberg reports that gun sales were up 12.6% in the year after the February 2018 school shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School massacre in Parkland, Fla., that left 17 people dead. [Influential conservatives](#) questioned the veracity of that shooting, falsely suggesting it was a PR stunt staged by gun-control advocates.

Before former President Donald Trump moved to eliminate bump stocks due to their role in a 2017 mass shooting in Las Vegas, sales of those rapid-fire accessories reportedly surged as well.

The 2013 killing of 27 people at Sandy Hook Elementary School was also good for business, according to [CNN](#). Former President Barack Obama’s push for gun control reportedly led to “semiautomatic rifles and high-capacity magazines (...) flying off shelves” at gun stores.

National Shooting Sports Foundation representative Mark Oliva said his gun industry trade group urges lawmakers to wait for investigators’ findings with regards to last week’s shooting in Boulder, CO before making any decisions on gun control.

Since solid statistics from federal background checks won’t be released until next month, CNN said it’s too soon to know if the most recent round of mass shootings in the U.S. will impact sales.