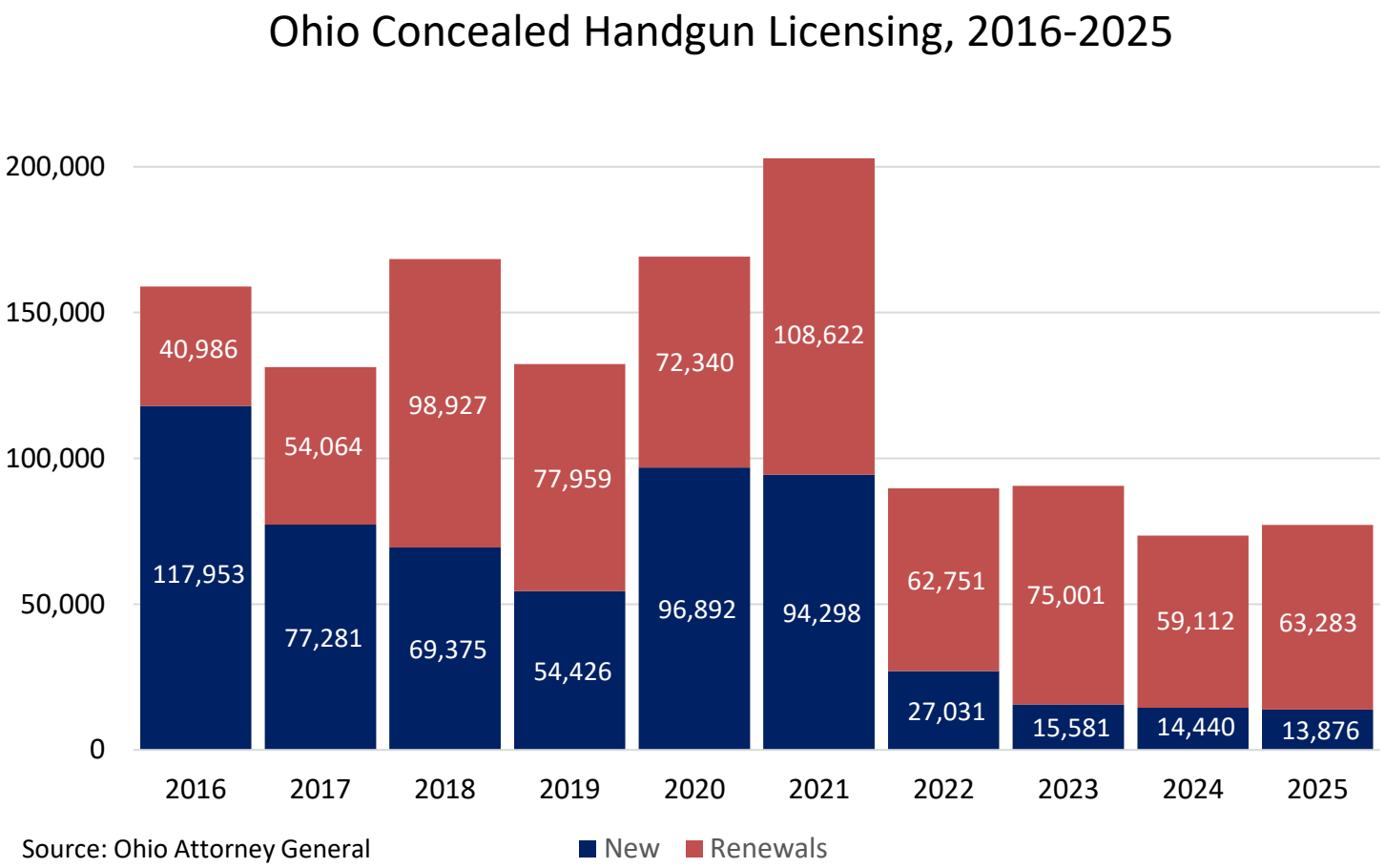
New concealed handgun licenses continue downward trend following law change in 2022



Source: Ohio Attorney General

- In 2025, 13,876 new concealed handgun licenses were issued, compared to 14,440 issued in 2024 and 15,581 issued in 2023.
- These continued decreases in new license applications are attributed to the enactment of S.B. 215 of the 134th General Assembly which went into effect in June 2022 and allows qualifying adults to carry a concealed handgun without obtaining a license.
- License holders who opt to voluntarily retain their licenses must renew every five years.
- Since 2022, renewals have averaged 65,037 per year, remaining relatively stable.
- Ohio residents with a license are able to carry concealed in any state that has a reciprocity agreement with Ohio. Ohio has such agreements with several states.
- County sheriffs are responsible for issuing concealed handgun licenses, which were first offered in 2004.