

MAY 23, 2013

Gun Rights Proponents More Likely to Vote on Issue

Broad Support for Renewed Background Checks Bill, Skepticism about Its Chances

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Gun Rights Proponents More Likely to Vote on Issue

Broad Support for Renewed Background Checks Bill, Skepticism about Its Chances

Following the Senate’s rejection of gun legislation last month, the public continues to overwhelmingly favor making private gun sales and sales at gun shows subject to background checks. Nearly three-quarters of Americans (73%) say that if the Senate bill is reintroduced, Congress should pass it.

However, even gun control advocates are pessimistic that new gun policy legislation will be enacted this year. Overall, 55% of the public – including 53% of those who favor controlling gun ownership – say it is unlikely that Congress will pass significant new gun control laws this year.

The national survey by the Pew Research Center, conducted May 1-5 among 1,504 adults, finds advantages and disadvantages for both sides in the debate over gun policy.

Gun control supporters can point to broad and consistent public support for expanded background checks. Fully 81% favor making private gun sales and sales at gun shows subject to background checks, little changed since January (85%). The proposal draws nearly equal levels of support from Democrats (83%), Republicans (81%) and independents (80%).

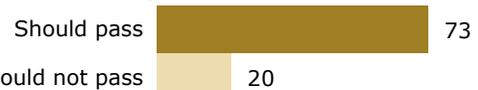
However, the Senate bill on background checks is far more divisive. Republicans are decidedly less supportive of this legislation than of the general idea of making private gun sales subject to background checks; 57% support the Senate bill, while 81% favor expanding background checks. Many of those who have reservations about the bill express concerns that it includes other restrictions beyond background checks, or that it opens a “slippery slope” toward more government power.

New Background Check Bill Favored, Prospects in Doubt

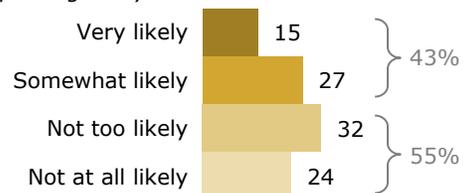
Making private gun sales & sales at gun shows subject to background checks



If the failed Senate background checks bill is reintroduced, Congress...



Likelihood of significant new gun control laws passing this year ...



PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 1-5, 2013.

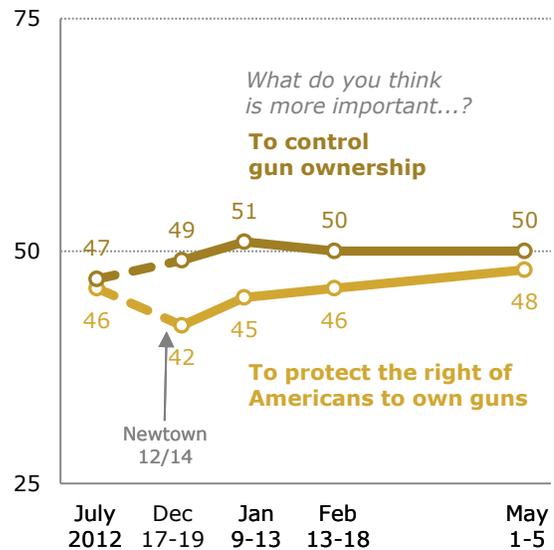
The survey finds that gun control supporters continue to lag gun rights advocates on most measures of political activism. However, nearly as many gun control supporters (9%) as opponents (11%) say that in the last six months they have contacted a public official to express their opinion on gun policy.

Yet the overall trend on whether it is more important to control gun ownership or protect gun rights has edged back in the direction of gun rights. And when it comes to the importance of gun policy as a voting issue, gun rights supporters have the advantage.

In the days after the school shooting in Newtown, Conn. last December, more prioritized gun control than gun rights (49% vs. 42%), the first time [this had occurred since Barack Obama became president](#). Roughly five months later, the public is again evenly divided over whether in general it is more important to control gun ownership (50%) or to protect the rights of Americans to own guns (48%). This mirrors the close divide in opinion that existed prior to Newtown. ([See Pew Research Center's 20 years of public opinion data on gun rights and gun control.](#))

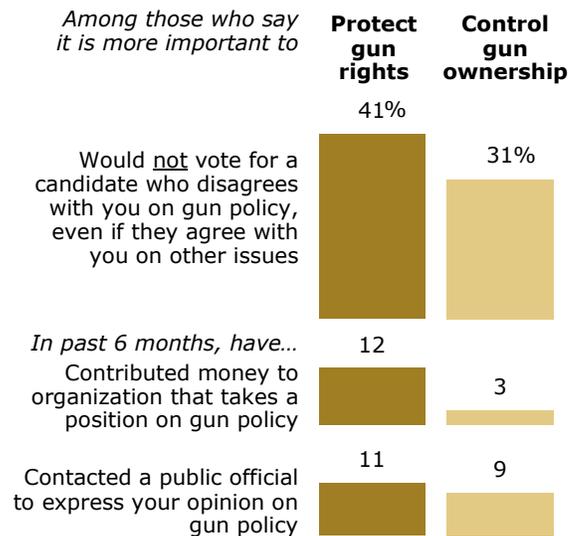
Among those who prioritize gun rights, 41% say they would not vote for a candidate with whom they disagreed on gun policy, even if they agreed with the candidate on most other issues. Fewer gun control supporters (31%) say gun policy is a make-or-break voting issue for them.

Views of Gun Control vs. Rights Return to Pre-Newtown Levels



PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 1-5, 2013. Q40.

Gun Policy More of a Voting Issue for Gun Rights Proponents



PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 1-5, 2013. Q42, Q48a-b.

And while nearly as many gun control supporters as gun rights supporters report contacting a public official about gun policy in the past six months, more gun rights advocates have contributed money to organizations that take positions on gun policy (12% vs. 3% of gun control supporters).

Meanwhile, overall impressions about the political influence of the National Rifle Association (NRA) are about the same today as they were in the days following the Connecticut tragedy. Currently, 39% think the NRA has too much influence over gun control laws in this country; about half (53%) say either that the NRA has the right amount of influence (35%) or that it has too little influence (18%) over gun control laws.

Little Change in Overall Views of NRA's Influence over Gun Laws

<i>NRA's influence over nation's gun control laws ...</i>	Dec 17-19	Jan 10-13	May 1-5
	%	%	%
Too much	36	38	39
Too little	19	24	18
Right amount	28	30	35
Don't know	<u>17</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>
	100	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 1-5, 2013. Q50. January from ABC News/Washington Post. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

However, there is a wider gap in opinions about the NRA's influence between liberal Democrats and conservative Republicans than in December. In the current survey, 77% of liberal Democrats say the NRA has too much influence over gun control laws, up from 59% in December. By contrast, more conservative Republicans say the NRA has the right amount of influence than did so in December (58% now, 46% then).

Background Checks vs. Background Checks Legislation

A wide majority of Americans would like to see the Manchin-Toomey bill, which failed to garner sufficient votes in the Senate a few weeks ago, to ultimately succeed. Yet even at 73%, support for a new background checks bill falls short of the 81% who favor expanded background checks in general. Republicans – particularly conservatives and those who agree with the Tea Party – are most likely to see a distinction between the two.

Nearly eight-in-ten conservative Republicans (77%) favor background checks on private gun sales, but just 50% say they want Congress to pass new legislation along the same lines as the Manchin-Toomey bill.

The differences in support are even more dramatic among Republicans and Republican-leaning independents who agree with the Tea Party; 63% support making private gun sales subject to background checks, but fewer than half as many (28%) say Congress should pass the Senate bill to expand background checks, compared with 67% who say it should not.

Many in GOP Favor Background Checks but Not Senate Bill

	Favor back- ground checks %	Want background checks bill to pass %	Diff
Total	81	73	-8
Republican	81	57	-24
Conservative	77	50	-27
Moderate/Liberal	90	75	-15
Democrat	83	88	+5
Conserv/Moderate	80	87	+7
Liberal	90	92	+2
Independent	80	71	-9
<i>Among Reps and Rep-leaning Inds</i>			
Agree w/Tea Party	63	28	-35
Disagree/No opinion	84	67	-17
Gun household	82	54	-28
Gun owner	79	43	-36
No gun in household	79	69	-10
<i>Among Dems and Dem-leaning Inds</i>			
Gun household	90	89	-1
Gun owner	90	88	-2
No gun in household	82	88	+6

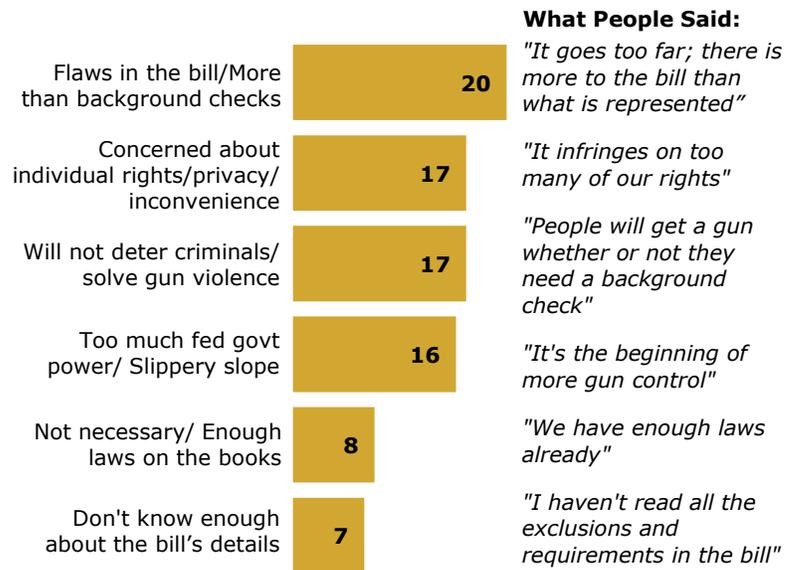
PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 1-5, 2013. Q46a, Q51.

There also is a 21-point difference in support among gun owners for background checks (82% favor) and the Senate background checks legislation (61%). Yet this is almost entirely driven by Republicans and GOP-leaning independents – 79% of Republican gun owners favor background checks, while 43% want this background checks legislation to pass. Among Democrats and Democratic leaners who own guns, 90% support background checks while 88% favor the Senate legislation.

When those who support background checks in general but oppose the Senate legislation (10% of the public) are asked why they do not want to see the bill pass, 20% point to flaws in the legislation. Nearly as many cite worries about individual rights (17%) or say that it would expand government power too much (16%). Another 17% are critical of the legislation's effectiveness, saying that it will not deter criminals or curb gun violence.

Why Some Background Check Supporters Oppose Manchin-Toomey

Asked of background check supporters who do not think Congress should pass version of Manchin-Toomey (10% of public)
"Why do you not want to see the background check bill pass?"



PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 1-5, 2013. Q52. Open-ended responses.

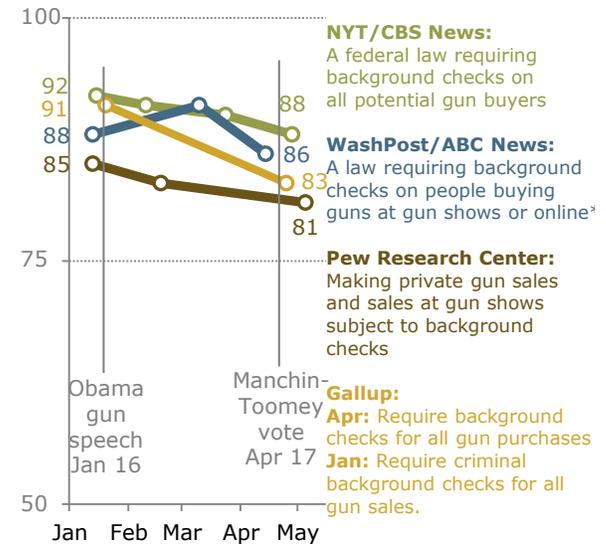
Polling on Background Checks: A Closer Look

Since January, the Pew Research Center has asked its question on background checks three times. In the current survey, 81% favor making private gun sales and sales at gun shows subject to background checks. This is not significantly different from February (83%) and down only slightly from January (85%).

Other major surveys have also tracked the background checks issue with similarly lopsided results, though some suggest slippage of support for background checks. As many as 88% support a federal law requiring background checks on all potential gun buyers, according to an April 24-28 New York Times/CBS News survey, compared with 92% in January. And an April 22-25 Gallup survey found 83% saying they would vote for a law requiring background checks on all gun purchases, down from 91% when a similar question was asked in January.

Across Surveys, 80% or More Favor Background Checks

Percent who favor...



PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 1-5, 2013. Q46a.

* In January and March surveys, question did not include the "or online" language.

Democrats Not Bullish about Gun Control Prospects

There are only modest partisan differences in expectations for passage of significant gun control legislation this year. Fewer than half of Democrats (45%), independents (42%) and Republicans (41%) say it is very or somewhat likely that the president and Congress will pass new gun control legislation.

However, better educated people are far more likely than those with less education to give negative assessments of gun control's prospects. Just 27% of those with a post-graduate degree say that Congress is likely to pass gun control legislation this year; 72% say this is not too likely or not at all likely. Among those with a high school diploma or less, 52% see passage of gun control legislation as likely while 45% say it is unlikely.

Better Educated Are More Skeptical of Gun Control's Chances

Likelihood that president and Congress will pass significant new gun control legislation ...

	Very/ Somewhat likely	Not too/ Not at all likely	DK
	%	%	%
Total	43	55	2=100
Post-grad degree	27	72	1=100
College degree	32	67	2=100
Some college	42	57	1=100
HS or less	52	45	3=100
Republican	41	57	3=100
Democrat	45	53	2=100
Independent	42	57	1=100
<i>More important to</i>			
Control gun ownership	45	53	2=100
Protect gun rights	40	58	2=100

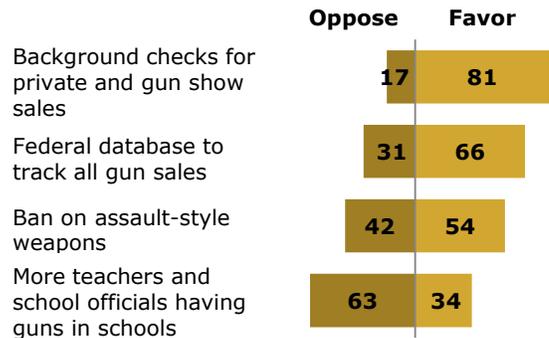
PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 1-5, 2013. Q41.
Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Views of Gun Policy Proposals

Overall, there has been little change since January in opinions about two other gun policy proposals: creating a federal database to track all gun sales and a ban on assault style weapons. Currently 66% support a federal gun database and 54% support an assault weapons ban.

Support for more teachers and school officials having guns in school has declined, from 40% in January to 34% in the current survey. More than six-in-ten (63%) oppose this proposal.

Continued Majority Support for Gun Database, Assault Ban



PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 1-5, 2013. Q46.

There are wide partisan differences over each of these proposals, in contrast to support for background checks. Substantial majorities of Democrats favor a federal gun sale database (80%) and a ban on assault-style weapons (68%); among Republicans, 48% and 39%, respectively, favor these proposals.

Wide Partisan Gap on Gun Policy Proposals – Except Background Checks

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Diff
<i>% favor</i>	%	%	%	%	
Making private gun sales & sales at gun shows subject to background checks	81	81	83	80	D+2
Creating a federal database to track all gun sales	66	48	80	69	D+32
Ban on assault-style weapons	54	39	68	54	D+29
More teachers and officials having guns in schools	34	51	21	34	R+30

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May1-5, 2013. Q46.

The Gun Policy Activism Gap

There is a substantial gap between those who prioritize gun rights and gun control when it comes to political involvement. Nowhere is this gap larger than in making donations to activist organizations. The current survey finds that a quarter (25%) of those who prioritize gun rights say they have, at some point, contributed money to an organization that takes a position on the issue, and about half of those (12% overall) have contributed money within the past six months. By comparison, just 6% of those who prioritize gun control have ever donated to a group, and only 3% have done so in the past six months.

How Gun Rights Supporters and Gun Control Supporters Compare in Political Activism

	January 2013			May 2013					
	Have <u>ever</u> done the following			Have <u>ever</u> done the following			Have done in the past <u>six months</u>		
	Gun rights %	Gun control %	Diff	Gun rights %	Gun control %	Diff	Gun rights %	Gun control %	Diff
Contributed money to an organization that takes a position on gun policy	23	5	+18	25	6	+19	12	3	+9
Contacted a public official to express opinion on gun policy	15	8	+7	16	11	+5	11	9	+2
Expressed opinion on gun policy on a social network like Facebook or Twitter	19	15	+4	22	14	+8	19	12	+7
Signed a petition on gun policy	12	10	+2	18	12	+6	10	8	+2
NET: One or more activity	42	25	+17	45	26	+19	31	19	+12

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 1-5, 2013. Q47.

The gap in overall political outreach is more modest: 16% of gun rights proponents say they have *ever* contacted a public official to express their opinion on gun policy, compared with 11% of gun control proponents. However, when asked about just the past six months, similar numbers of gun rights (11%) and gun control (9%) proponents say they have expressed their views on the issue to a public official.

Gun rights and gun control proponents have also been about equally likely to have signed a petition on gun policy over the past six months (10% vs. 8%, respectively). There has been a larger gap in discussing the issue on social media: 19% of those who prioritize gun rights say they have expressed their opinion on social networks like Facebook or Twitter, compared with 12% of those who prioritize gun control.

Gun Policy as a Voting Issue

Nearly half of conservative Republicans (47%) say they would not vote for a candidate who agreed with them on most issues, but disagreed with them on gun policy. Smaller percentages across other partisan and ideological groups, including 37% of liberal Democrats, say they would not support candidates who did not share their views on gun policy, even if they agreed with them on most other issues.

People who own guns (46%) are more likely than those in households with no guns (33%) to view gun policy as an important voting issue. And among the vast majority of gun owners who support gun rights, 52% say they would not vote for a candidate with whom they disagreed on gun policy even if they agreed with them on most other issues. Among the much smaller share of gun owners who favor gun control, just 26% view gun policy as an important voting issue.

Among those in households with no guns, about as many who favor gun control (33%) as gun rights (32%) say they would not vote for a candidate who they disagreed with on gun policy but agreed with on most other issues.

Conservative Republicans More Likely to Vote on Gun Policy

<i>Vote for a candidate you disagree with on gun policy but agree with on most other issues?</i>	Would vote for %	Would not %	Other/DK %
Total	54	36	10=100
Conservative Republican	42	47	10=100
Mod/Lib Republican	58	34	8=100
Independent	56	35	10=100
Cons/Mod Democrat	64	31	5=100
Liberal Democrat	56	37	8=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 1-5, 2013. Q42.
Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.
Based on those who prioritize gun rights or controlling gun ownership (N=1,457).

How Gun Owners and Non-Owners View Voting on Gun Policy

<i>Vote for a candidate you disagree with on gun policy but agree with on most other issues?</i>	Would vote for %	Would not %	Other/DK %
All gun households	52	40	8=100
Gun owner	47	46	8=100
No gun in household	58	33	9=100
<i>Among gun owners who prioritize...</i>			
Protecting gun rights	40	52	8=100
Controlling gun ownership	67	26	7=100
<i>Among those with no guns at home who prioritize...</i>			
Protecting gun rights	59	32	9=100
Controlling gun ownership	58	33	9=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 1-5, 2013. Q42.
Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.
Based on those who prioritize gun rights or controlling gun ownership (N=1,457).

Influence of the National Rifle Association

While the NRA has played a highly visible role in the congressional debate over gun policy, public views of its influence have changed only modestly since December. Currently, about four-in-ten (39%) say it has too much influence over gun control laws, while 18% say it has too little influence and 35% say the organization has the right amount of influence.

Fully 77% of liberal Democrats say the NRA has too much influence over gun control laws, up 18 points since December and the highest percentage of any partisan group. By contrast, conservative Republicans are the only partisan group in which a majority (58%) says the NRA has the right amount of influence over gun laws.

A majority (61%) of those who prioritize controlling gun ownership think the NRA has too much influence. Among those who say it is more important to protect gun rights, 54% view the NRA's influence as appropriate while 21% say the organization has too little influence.

Wide Ideological Divide in Views of NRA's Influence

<i>NRA's influence over gun control laws...</i>	Too much	Too little	Right amount	DK
	%	%	%	%
Total	39	18	35	9=100
Men	34	19	41	6=100
Women	44	17	29	11=100
White	37	16	41	7=100
Black	52	25	19	5=100
Hispanic	44	18	20	18=100
Conserv Republican	15	19	58	8=100
Mod/Lib Republican	29	17	47	6=100
Independent	35	19	38	8=100
Conserv/Mod Dem	52	20	20	8=100
Liberal Democrat	77	11	10	2=100
Gun household	29	18	46	7=100
Gun owner	28	20	47	4=100
No gun in household	50	17	24	9=100
<i>More important to ...</i>				
Protect gun rights	17	21	54	8=100
Control ownership	61	15	16	8=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 1-5, 2013. Q50. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding. Whites and Blacks include only those who are not Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race.

About the Survey

The analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted May 1-5, 2013 among a national sample of 1,504 adults, 18 years of age or older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia (751 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 753 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 401 who had no landline telephone). The survey was conducted by interviewers at Princeton Data Source under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International. A combination of landline and cell phone random digit dial samples were used; both samples were provided by Survey Sampling International. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish. Respondents in the landline sample were selected by randomly asking for the youngest adult male or female who is now at home. Interviews in the cell sample were conducted with the person who answered the phone, if that person was an adult 18 years of age or older. For detailed information about our survey methodology, see <http://people-press.org/methodology/>

The combined landline and cell phone sample are weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race, Hispanic origin and nativity and region to parameters from the 2011 Census Bureau's American Community Survey and population density to parameters from the Decennial Census. The sample also is weighted to match current patterns of telephone status and relative usage of landline and cell phones (for those with both), based on extrapolations from the 2012 National Health Interview Survey. The weighting procedure also accounts for the fact that respondents with both landline and cell phones have a greater probability of being included in the combined sample and adjusts for household size among respondents with a landline phone. Sampling errors and statistical tests of significance take into account the effect of weighting. The following table shows the unweighted sample sizes and the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey:

Group	Unweighted sample size	Plus or minus...
Total sample	1,504	2.9 percentage points
Republicans	399	5.7 percentage points
Democrats	489	5.2 percentage points
Independents	529	5.0 percentage points
More important to		
Control gun ownership	742	4.2 percentage points
Protect gun rights	715	4.3 percentage points

Sample sizes and sampling errors for other subgroups are available upon request.

In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
MAY 2013 POLITICAL SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
May 1-5, 2013
N=1,504

QUESTIONS 1-5, 9, 14, 17c, 18-20, 25-27, 29-30 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED
QUESTIONS 17a-b, 36-38 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE
NO QUESTIONS 6-8, 10-13, 15-16, 21-24, 28, 31-35, 39

ASK ALL:

On a different subject ...

Q.40 What do you think is more important – to protect the right of Americans to own guns, OR to control gun ownership?

	Protect right of Americans <u>to own guns</u>	Control <u>gun ownership</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
May 1-5, 2013	48	50	2
Feb 13-18, 2013 (U)	46	50	4
Jan 9-13, 2013	45	51	5
Dec 17-19, 2012	42	49	9
July 26-29, 2012	46	47	6
Apr 4-15, 2012	49	45	6
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	47	49	5
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	48	47	6
Jan 13-16, 2011	49	46	6
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	46	50	4
Mar 10-14, 2010	46	46	7
Mar 31-Apr 21, 2009	45	49	6
April, 2008	37	58	5
November, 2007	42	55	3
April, 2007	32	60	8
February, 2004	37	58	5
June, 2003	42	54	4
May, 2000	38	57	5
April, 2000	37	55	8
March, 2000	29	66	5
June, 1999	33	62	5
May, 1999	30	65	5
December, 1993	34	57	9

ASK ALL:

Q.41 In your opinion, how likely is it that the president and Congress will pass significant new gun control laws this year [**READ IN ORDER**]?

<u>May 1-5 2013</u>		<u>May 2000</u>
15	Very likely	14
27	Somewhat likely	34
32	Not too likely	25
24	Not at all likely	21
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	6

ASK IF OPINION GIVEN (1-4) IN Q.40

Q.42 Would you vote for a candidate who DISAGREES with you about gun policy, if they AGREE with you on most other issues?

BASED ON TOTAL:

May 1-5 <u>2013</u>		Feb <u>2004</u> ¹
53	Yes, would	54
35	No, would not	33
6	Depends (VOL.)	5
4	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	3
2	No opinion on gun ownership (FROM Q.40)	5

NO QUESTIONS 43-45**ASK ALL:**

Q.46 Please tell me if you favor or oppose the following proposals about gun policy. First, **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]**? What about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: Do you favor or oppose [ITEM]?**

		<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	Making private gun sales and sales at gun shows subject to background checks			
	May 1-5, 2013	81	17	3
	Feb 13-18, 2013 (U)	83	15	2
	Jan 9-13, 2013	85	12	3
b.	A ban on assault style weapons			
	May 1-5, 2013	54	42	4
	Feb 13-18, 2013 (U)	56	41	3
	Jan 9-13, 2013	55	40	5

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=740]:

c.F1	More teachers and school officials having guns in schools			
	May 1-5, 2013	34	63	3
	Jan 9-13, 2013	40	57	3

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=764]:

d.F2	Creating a federal government database to track all gun sales			
	May 1-5, 2013	66	31	3
	Jan 9-13, 2013	67	30	3

¹ In 2004, the question asked about voting for a candidate who disagrees with you about gun ownership.

ASK ALL:

Q.47 Have you ever **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]**, or not? And, have you ever **[INSERT NEXT ITEM]**, or not?

ASK OF THOSE WHO SAID 'YES' TO EACH IN Q.47a-d:

Q.48 Thinking about just the past six months or so, Have you **[INSERT ITEM IN SAME ORDER AS Q47]** in the past six months, or not? And, have you **[INSERT NEXT ITEM]** in the past six months, or not?

BASED ON TOTAL:

	Yes, <u>ever</u>	----- <i>Last six months</i> -----			No, <u>never</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
		<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>		
a. Contacted a public official to express your opinion on gun policy						
May 1-5, 2013	13	10	3	*	86	*
Jan 9-13, 2013	11	--	--	--	89	*
b. Contributed money to an organization that takes a position on gun policy						
May 1-5, 2013	15	7	8	*	84	1
Jan 9-13, 2013	13	--	--	--	86	1
c. Expressed your opinion on gun policy using Facebook, Twitter, or another social network						
May 1-5, 2013	18	15	2	*	82	1
Jan 9-13, 2013	17	--	--	--	83	1
d. Signed a petition about gun policy						
May 1-5, 2013	15	9	6	*	84	1
Jan 9-13, 2013	11	--	--	--	88	1

ASK IF YES-IN Q.48a (Q48a=1) [N=172]:

Q.48aa In the past six months, have you contacted a public official about the issue of background checks for gun purchases, or only about other issues related to gun policy?

May 1-5

2013

53 Yes, about background checks
44 No
4 Don't know/Refused **(VOL.)**

ASK ALL:

Q.49 How much, if at all, would the passage of stricter gun laws affect you personally? **[READ IN ORDER]**

May 1-5

2013

20 A great deal
22 Somewhat
19 Not too much
37 Not at all
2 Don't know/Refused **(VOL.)**

ASK ALL:

Q.50 Do you think the National Rifle Association has too much influence, too little influence or the right amount of influence over gun control laws in this country?

May 1-5 <u>2013</u>		ABC/WP			Time/CNN	
		Jan 10-13 <u>2013</u>	Dec 17-19 <u>2012</u>	Apr <u>2000</u>	Dec <u>1993</u>	Aug <u>1993</u>
39	Too much	38	36	42	45	39
18	Too little	24	19	17	15	15
35	Right amount	30	28	28	27	33
9	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	8	17	13	13	13

ASK ALL:

Q.51 As you may know, a few weeks ago a bill that would have expanded background checks on gun purchases did not receive enough votes in the Senate to pass. The bill's sponsors plan to ask for another vote on this bill in the next few months. Do you think Congress should pass this background check bill into law, or not?

May 1-5 <u>2013</u>	
73	Yes, should
20	No, should not
6	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK IF SHOULD NOT PASS (Q.51=2) AND FAVOR BACKGROUND CHECKS (Q.46a=1) [N=151]:

Q.52 Why do you NOT want to see the background check bill pass? **[OPEN END: ACCEPT UP TO THREE RESPONSES]**

May 1-5 <u>2013</u>	
20	Flaws of bill (general)/More than background checks
17	Worries about rights/inconveniences to law-abiding citizens
17	Will not deter criminals/solve gun violence
16	Too much federal government power/Slippery slope
8	Not necessary/Enough laws on the books
7	Not aware of bill's details
2	Waste of money
2	Already failed/Don't think it will pass
15	Other (VOL.)
4	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

Total exceeds 100% because of multiple responses.

ASK ALL:

Q.53 Do you, or does anyone in your household, own a gun, rifle or pistol? **[IF YES: Is that you or someone else in your household?]**

May 1-5 <u>2013</u>		Feb 13-18 <u>2013</u>
18	Yes, respondent	17
14	Yes, someone else	13
8	Yes, both (VOL.)	8
54	No, nobody in household owns a gun	57
5	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	6
27	<i>NET: Respondent owns gun</i>	24
41	<i>NET: Gun in household</i>	37

NO QUESTIONS 54-55, 64-68, 73-74, 76-77, 81-83
QUESTIONS 56-63, 69-72, 75, 78-80, 84 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

PARTY In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or independent?

ASK IF INDEP/NO PREF/OTHER/DK/REF (PARTY=3,4,5,9):

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

				(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	Lean	Lean
	Republican	Democrat	Independent	No preference	Other party	DK/Ref	Rep	Dem
May 1-5, 2013	25	32	37	2	1	3	14	16
Mar 13-17, 2013	26	33	34	3	1	3	14	15
Feb.13-18, 2013	22	32	41	2	*	2	15	19
Jan 9-13, 2013	25	32	38	2	*	2	15	16
Dec 17-19, 2012	21	32	38	4	*	4	15	14
Dec 5-9, 2012	23	33	38	3	1	2	14	19
Oct 31-Nov 3, 2012	26	34	34	3	1	3	13	16
Oct 24-28, 2012	28	33	33	4	*	2	12	16
Oct 4-7, 2012	27	31	36	3	1	3	15	15
Sep 12-16, 2012	24	35	36	2	*	2	14	16
Jul 16-26, 2012	22	33	38	4	*	3	14	15
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	24	33	37	3	*	3	15	17
Jun 7-17, 2012	24	33	39	2	*	2	17	17
May 9-Jun 3, 2012	24	32	36	4	*	4	13	14
Apr 4-15, 2012	24	31	39	3	*	2	15	15
Yearly Totals								
2012	24.7	32.6	36.4	3.1	.5	2.7	14.4	16.1
2011	24.3	32.3	37.4	3.1	.4	2.5	15.7	15.6
2010	25.2	32.7	35.2	3.6	.4	2.8	14.5	14.1
2009	23.9	34.4	35.1	3.4	.4	2.8	13.1	15.7
2008	25.7	36.0	31.5	3.6	.3	3.0	10.6	15.2
2007	25.3	32.9	34.1	4.3	.4	2.9	10.9	17.0
2006	27.8	33.1	30.9	4.4	.3	3.4	10.5	15.1
2005	29.3	32.8	30.2	4.5	.3	2.8	10.3	14.9
2004	30.0	33.5	29.5	3.8	.4	3.0	11.7	13.4
2003	30.3	31.5	30.5	4.8	.5	2.5	12.0	12.6
2002	30.4	31.4	29.8	5.0	.7	2.7	12.4	11.6
2001	29.0	33.2	29.5	5.2	.6	2.6	11.9	11.6
2001 Post-Sept 11	30.9	31.8	27.9	5.2	.6	3.6	11.7	9.4
2001 Pre-Sept 11	27.3	34.4	30.9	5.1	.6	1.7	12.1	13.5
2000	28.0	33.4	29.1	5.5	.5	3.6	11.6	11.7
1999	26.6	33.5	33.7	3.9	.5	1.9	13.0	14.5
1998	27.9	33.7	31.1	4.6	.4	2.3	11.6	13.1
1997	28.0	33.4	32.0	4.0	.4	2.3	12.2	14.1
1996	28.9	33.9	31.8	3.0	.4	2.0	12.1	14.9
1995	31.6	30.0	33.7	2.4	.6	1.3	15.1	13.5
1994	30.1	31.5	33.5	1.3	--	3.6	13.7	12.2
1993	27.4	33.6	34.2	4.4	1.5	2.9	11.5	14.9
1992	27.6	33.7	34.7	1.5	0	2.5	12.6	16.5
1991	30.9	31.4	33.2	0	1.4	3.0	14.7	10.8
1990	30.9	33.2	29.3	1.2	1.9	3.4	12.4	11.3
1989	33	33	34	--	--	--	--	--
1987	26	35	39	--	--	--	--	--

ASK REPUBLICANS AND REPUBLICAN LEANERS ONLY (PARTY=1 OR PARTYLN=1) [N=600]:

TEAPARTY3 From what you know, do you agree or disagree with the Tea Party movement, or don't you have an opinion either way?

May 1-5 <u>2013</u>		Mar 13-17 <u>2013</u>	Feb 13-18 <u>2013</u>	Jan 9-13 <u>2013</u>
28	Agree	43	36	35
8	Disagree	7	9	10
61	No opinion either way	47	52	51
2	Haven't heard of (VOL.)	1	1	2
1	Refused (VOL.)	1	3	2

Key to Pew Research trends noted in the topline:

(U) Pew Research Center/USA Today polls
