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# Broad Public Approval of New Gun Law, but Few Say It Will Do a Lot To Stem Gun Violence

*Majority of Americans want Congress to pass more gun policy legislation*

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## How we did this

Pew Research Center conducted this study to better understand Americans' attitudes about the gun law that Congress passed and President Joe Biden signed in June 2022. The study also gauges the public's attitudes about gun laws more generally. For this analysis, we surveyed 6,174 U.S. adults between June 27 and July 4, 2022. Everyone who took part in this survey is a member of the Center's American Trends Panel (ATP), an online survey panel that is recruited through national, random sampling of residential addresses. This way nearly all U.S. adults have a chance of selection. The survey is weighted to be representative of the U.S. adult population by gender, race, ethnicity, partisan affiliation, education and other categories. [Read more about the ATP's methodology.](#)

Here are the [questions used for the report](#) and its [methodology](#).

# Broad Public Approval of New Gun Law, but Few Say It Will Do a Lot To Stem Gun Violence

*Majority of Americans want Congress to pass more gun policy legislation*

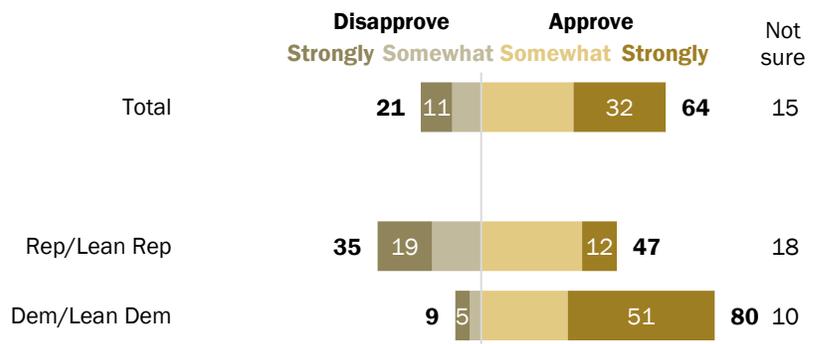
Americans are largely supportive of the new gun law passed by Congress and signed into law by President Joe Biden on June 25. Nearly two-thirds of U.S. adults (64%) approve of the new gun law, including 32% who *strongly* approve. Just 21% say they disapprove of the law, including 11% who *strongly* disapprove; 15% are not sure.

Despite broad support for the new law, however, most Americans are not optimistic it will do much to reduce gun violence in the country: 78% think the new gun law will do a little (42%) or nothing at all (36%) to reduce gun violence. Only 7% say the bill will do a lot, while 14% say they are not sure.

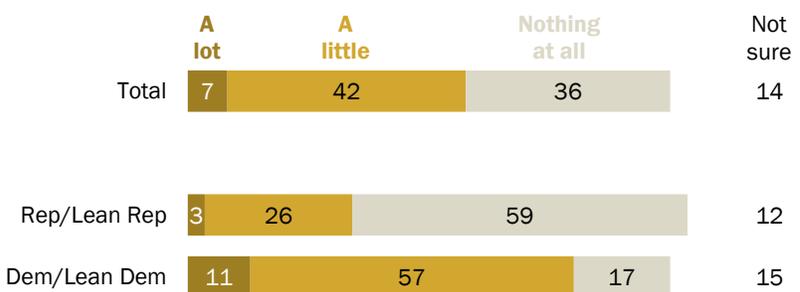
And roughly six-in-ten adults (63%) say they would like to see Congress pass another round of legislation to address gun violence, compared with 35% who do not.

## Americans largely supportive of new gun law, but most would like Congress to do more

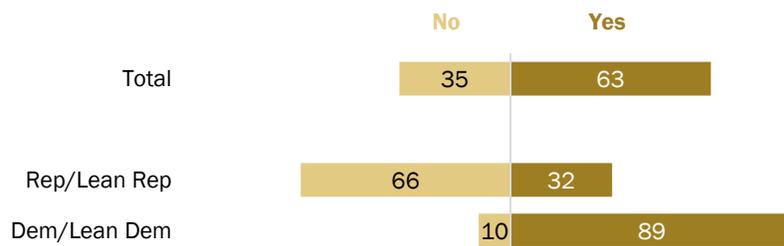
*% who \_\_\_ of the new law to address gun violence passed by Congress and signed into law by Joe Biden*



*% who say the new gun law will do \_\_\_ to reduce gun violence*



*After this new gun law, would you like to see Congress pass another round of legislation to address gun violence? (%)*



Note: No answer responses not shown.  
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 27-July 4, 2022.

The new Pew Research Center survey was conducted June 27-July 4, 2022, among 6,174 adults. It was conducted amid a series of mass shootings and rising levels of gun violence in several major U.S. cities; it was nearly completed before the shooting at a [July Fourth parade in Highland Park, Illinois](#), which took seven lives.

Republicans and Democrats differ sharply in views of the new gun law, its effectiveness and whether further gun legislation will be necessary. The gun law, passed with bipartisan support in Congress, draws overwhelming support from Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents; 80% approve of the law, with 51% saying they strongly approve.

Notably, more Republicans and Republican leaners approve (47%) than disapprove (35%) of the new law; 18% say they are not sure. However, Republicans who say they have heard “a lot” about the gun law are less supportive of it than those who have heard little or nothing about the law.

While neither Democrats nor Republicans believe the new gun law will do a lot to reduce gun violence, Democrats are considerably more optimistic about its effect (68% say it will do at least a little to reduce gun violence, compared with 29% of Republicans). Nearly six-in-ten Republicans (59%) say the new law will do nothing at all to reduce gun violence, compared with just 17% of Democrats who say the same.

Democrats overwhelmingly support further legislation to address the issue. Nearly nine-in-ten Democrats (89%) would like to see Congress pass another round of legislation, while 32% of Republicans say the same. About two-thirds of Republicans (66%) say they do not want more legislation.

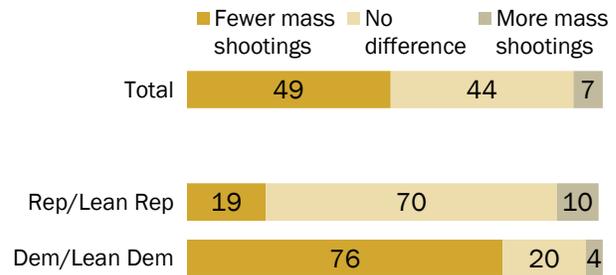
The survey also finds:

**Little change in views of impact of gun restrictions on number of mass shootings.**

About half of Americans (49%) say that if it was harder for people to legally obtain guns, then there would be fewer mass shootings; a nearly identical share (50%) say this would make no difference or would result in *more* mass shootings. This is little changed from the last time the Center asked this question, in [April 2021](#). While about three-quarters of Democrats (76%) say making it harder for people to obtain guns would decrease the number of mass shootings in the country, 80% of Republicans say it would make no difference, or it would lead to more mass shootings.

**Wide partisan divisions on whether gun laws affect number of mass shootings**

% who say if it was **harder for people to legally obtain guns** in the U.S., there would be ...



Note: No answer responses not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 27-July 4, 2022.

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**Declining share of Americans say if more people owned guns there would be less crime.** Overall, the share of U.S. adults who say that there would be less crime if more Americans owned guns decreased from 31% in 2021 to 24% today. In contrast, the share of Americans who say there would be *more* crime increased from 34% to 41%. The share that say there would be no difference remains unchanged at 34%.

**Persistent divide on priorities for gun policy.** About half of Americans (52%) say it is more important to control gun ownership than to protect gun rights; nearly as many (47%) say it is more important to protect the right of Americans to own guns. These views have changed little in recent years and remain deeply divided along partisan lines: 81% of Republicans say it is more important to protect gun rights while an identical share of Democrats (81%) say it is more important to control gun ownership.

## Widespread support for new gun bill among most demographic groups

By about three-to-one, more Americans approve than disapprove of the gun bill passed by Congress and [signed into law by Biden on June 25](#).

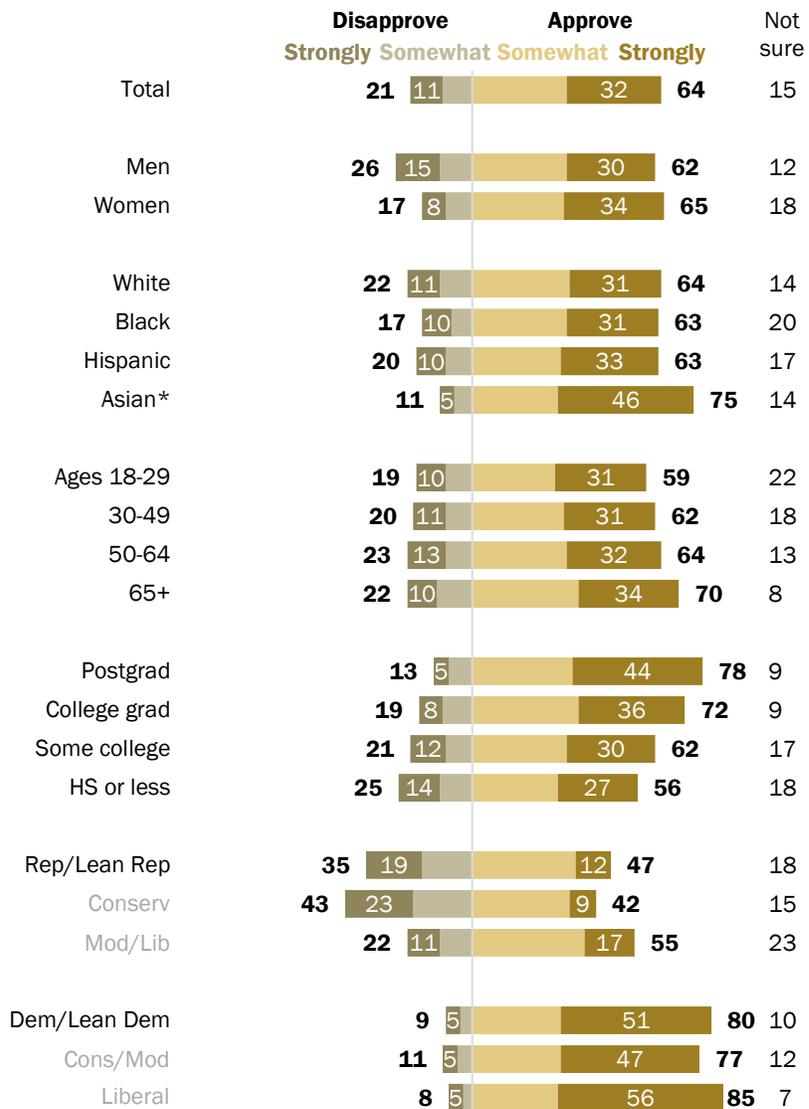
Nearly two-thirds of Americans approve of the bill (64%), with about three-in-ten strongly approving (32%). Just two-in-ten Americans (21%) disapprove of the bill, including 11% who strongly disapprove; 15% of the public is not sure of their view of the law.

About six-in-ten White (64%), Black (63%) and Hispanic (63%) adults approve of the law, as does a larger majority (75%) of Asian Americans.

Majorities of adults across age groups approve of the law, with about two-in-ten disapproving across all age groups. Older Americans (those ages 65 and older) are somewhat more likely to express approval of the law than are younger adults, though this difference is largely attributable to younger adults being less likely to express an opinion (for instance, 22% of adults under 30 say they are not sure, compared with just 8% of adults 65 and older).

### More GOP approval than disapproval of new gun law; Democrats overwhelmingly approve

*% who \_\_\_\_ of the new law to address gun violence passed by Congress and signed into law by Joe Biden*



\* Estimates for Asian adults are representative of English speakers only.

Notes: White, Black, and Asian adults include only those who report being one race and are not Hispanic. Hispanic adults are of any race. No answer responses not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 27-July 4, 2022.

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Adults with a college degree are more likely to approve of the law than those with less formal education. A slim majority of adults with no college experience (56%) and about six-in-ten of those with some college experience (62%) approve of the law. Larger majorities of those with a bachelor’s degree (72%) and with postgraduate degrees (78%) approve. While just 13% of those with postgraduate degrees disapprove, a quarter of adults with no college experience (25%) disapprove of the law.

In both parties, more approve than disapprove of the new legislation, but support is substantially higher among Democrats than Republicans. Eight-in-ten Democrats approve, with just 9% disapproving; by contrast, about half of Republicans (47%) approve while 35% disapprove. Conservative Republicans are split: 43% disapprove of the bill (including 23% who strongly disapprove), and 42% approve (9% strongly). Moderate Republicans approve of the legislation by more than two-to-one: 55% approve, 22% disapprove.

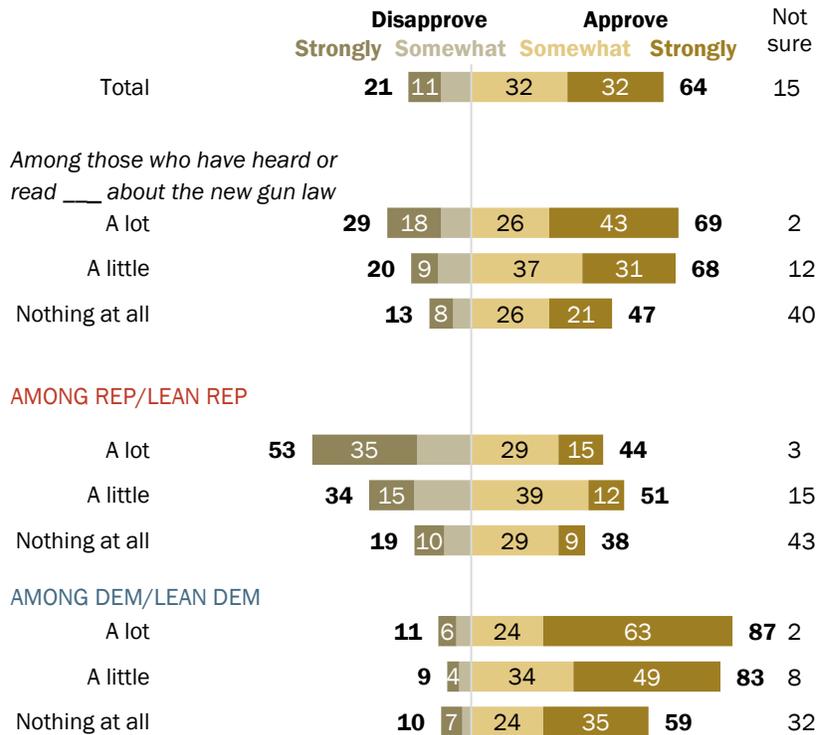
Americans are largely familiar with the new gun legislation: Nearly eight-in-ten say they have heard or read a lot (25%) or a little (54%) about the gun bill signed into law last month; 20% say they have heard nothing at all about the law.

Overall, those who have heard more about the law are more likely to offer an opinion about it, with support substantially outweighing opposition regardless of how much people have heard about the legislation.

Among Republicans, those who have heard or read a lot about the new gun law are more likely to disapprove of it than those who have heard less. About half

### Republicans who have heard ‘a lot’ about the new gun law more likely to disapprove of it

% who \_\_\_ of the new law to address gun violence passed by Congress and signed into law by Joe Biden



Note: No answer responses not shown.  
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 27-July 4, 2022.

of Republicans (53%) who say they have heard *a lot* about the law say they disapprove of it, while 44% say they approve. On balance, Republicans who have heard *a little* about the legislation approve of it: 51% say they approve, while 34% say they disapprove; an additional 15% say they are unsure about their opinions of the law.

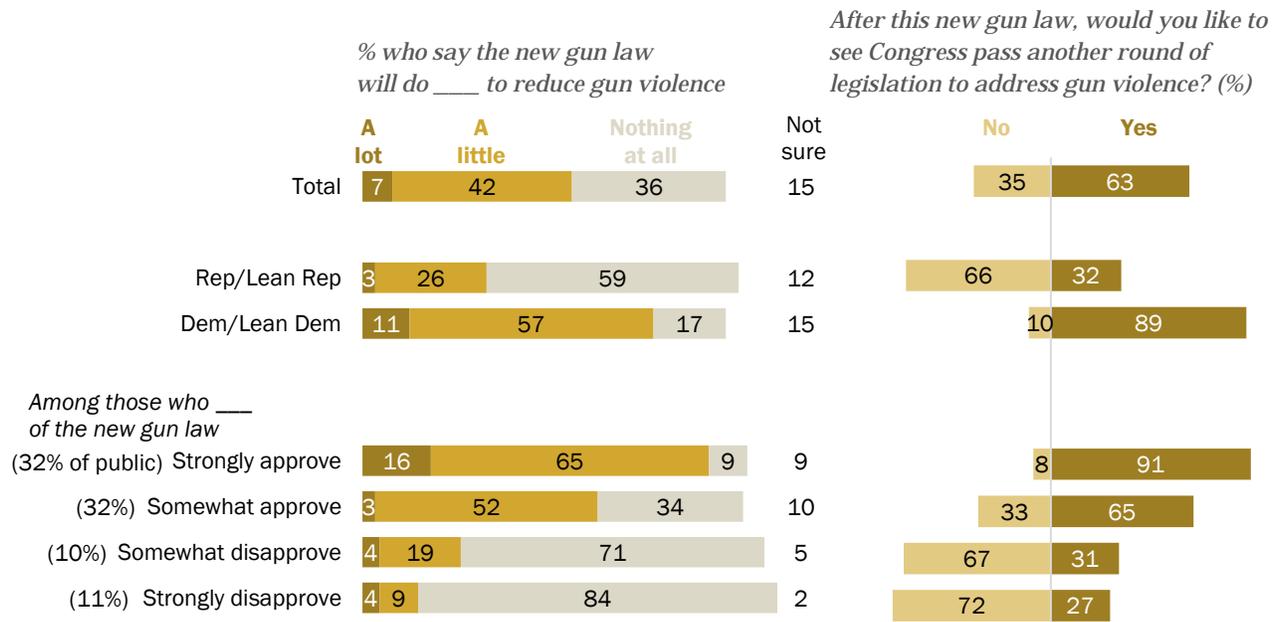
Democrats are largely supportive of the new gun law, regardless of how much they have heard about it. Still, about a third of Democrats who have heard nothing about the law (32%) say they are unsure of their opinion of it.

## Many supporters of the gun law say it will do ‘a little’ to reduce gun violence

While most Americans approve of the new gun law, opinions are more divided over how much it will do to reduce gun violence: Just 7% of Americans say it will do a lot, 42% say it will do a little, and 36% say it will do nothing at all; 14% are not sure. A 59% majority of Republicans say the law will do nothing at all to reduce gun violence. By comparison, 57% of Democrats say the law will do a little and an additional 11% say it will do a lot to reduce gun violence.

Among the 32% of the public that expresses strong approval of the bill, about eight-in-ten say it will do a lot (16%) or a little (65%) to reduce gun violence. A narrower majority of those who somewhat approve of the bill (56%) also say it will reduce gun violence at least a little. In contrast, among the 11% of Americans who strongly disapprove of the law, 84% say the law will do nothing at all to reduce gun violence – a view also held by 71% of those who somewhat disapprove of the law.

## Americans who strongly approve of the new gun law are the most likely to want Congress to pass additional legislation to address gun violence



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 27-July 4, 2022.

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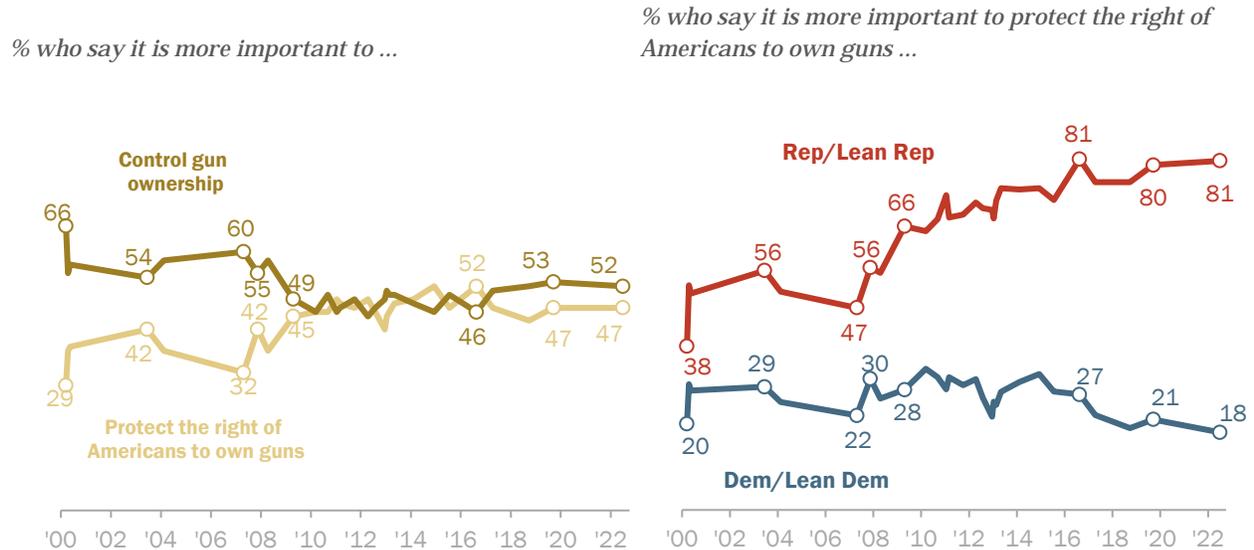
About six-in-ten Americans (63%) would like to see Congress pass additional legislation to address gun violence, although there are deep partisan divides on this issue. Roughly nine-in-ten Democrats (89%) say they would like to see another round of legislation, while just 32% of Republicans say the same.

Those who strongly approve of the bill overwhelmingly would like to see Congress pass additional legislation: 91% say this. About two-thirds of those who somewhat approve of the law (65%) say Congress should take up another round of legislation on this issue. By contrast, 70% of those who disapprove of the law do not want to see Congress take further action.

### Gun rights, gun control and the impact of gun ownership on crime

A narrow majority of the public (52%) says that controlling gun ownership is more important than protecting gun rights, while slightly fewer (47%) prioritize protecting Americans' rights to own guns. As in the past, there are deep partisan divides on this question: Roughly eight-in-ten Republicans (81%) say that protecting gun rights is more important, compared with about two-in-ten Democrats (18%). Overall, Americans' attitudes on this question have changed little over the past three years.

### Public remains closely divided over controlling gun ownership and protecting gun rights, with Republicans and Democrats holding opposing views



Notes: Share of respondents who did not offer an answer not shown. 2019 and 2022 data from Pew Research Center's American Trends Panel; prior data from telephone surveys.  
 Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 27-July 4, 2022.

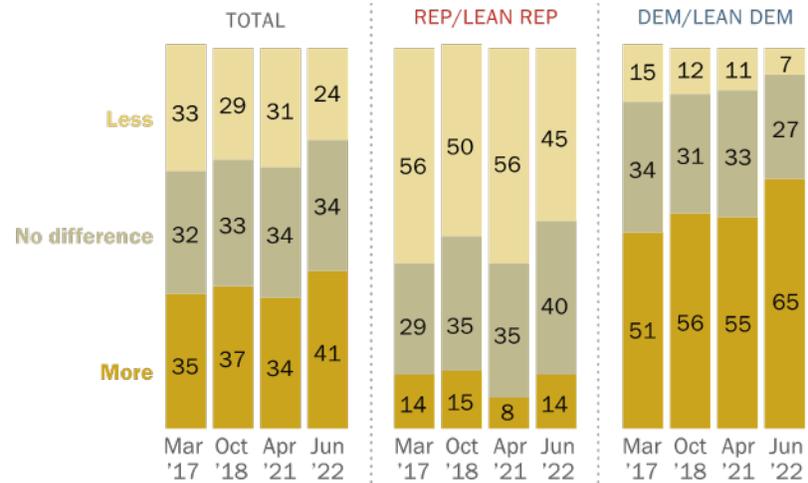
Overall, the share of U.S. adults who say that there would be *less* crime if more Americans owned guns has decreased from 31% last year to 24% today, while the share saying there would be *more* crime has increased from 34% to 41%. About a third of Americans (34%) continue to say that if more people owned guns there would be no difference in the amount of crime.

Nearly two-thirds of Democrats (65%) now say there would be more crime if more Americans owned guns, up from 55% last year and 51% in 2017.

By contrast, just 14% of Republicans say that there would be more crime if more Americans owned guns, while 45% say there would be less. While the share of Republicans saying more gun ownership would lead to more crime is little changed in recent years, Republicans are now less likely to say that more gun ownership would lead to less crime than in past years (45% say this today, compared with 56% last year).

### Drop in the share saying more Americans with guns would lead to less crime

% who say if more Americans owned guns, there would be \_\_\_\_ crime



Note: No response answers not shown.  
 Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 27-July 4, 2022.

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## Acknowledgments

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## Methodology

### The American Trends Panel survey methodology

#### Overview

The American Trends Panel (ATP), created by Pew Research Center, is a nationally representative panel of randomly selected U.S. adults. Panelists participate via self-administered web surveys. Panelists who do not have internet access at home are provided with a tablet and wireless internet connection. Interviews are conducted in both English and Spanish. The panel is being managed by Ipsos.

Data in this report is drawn from the panel wave conducted from June 27 to July 4, 2022, and includes oversamples of Asian, Black and Hispanic adults, as well as 18- to 29-year-old Republicans and Republican-leaning independents in order to provide more precise estimates of the opinions and experiences of these smaller demographic subgroups. These oversampled groups are weighted back to reflect their correct proportions in the population. A total of 6,174 panelists responded out of 7,176 who were sampled, for a response rate of 86%. The cumulative response rate accounting for nonresponse to the recruitment surveys and attrition is 3%. The break-off rate among panelists who logged on to the survey and completed at least one item is 2%. The margin of sampling error for the full sample of 6,174 respondents is plus or minus 1.8 percentage points.

#### Panel recruitment

The ATP was created in 2014, with the first cohort of panelists invited to join the panel at the end of a large, national, landline and cellphone random-digit-dial survey that was conducted in both English and Spanish. Two additional recruitments were conducted using the same method in 2015 and 2017, respectively. Across these three surveys, a total of 19,718 adults were invited to join the ATP, of whom 9,942 (50%) agreed to participate.

#### American Trends Panel recruitment surveys

Recruitment dates	Mode	Invited	Joined	Active panelists remaining
Jan. 23 to March 16, 2014	Landline/ cell RDD	9,809	5,338	1,593
Aug. 27 to Oct. 4, 2015	Landline/ cell RDD	6,004	2,976	936
April 25 to June 4, 2017	Landline/ cell RDD	3,905	1,628	470
Aug. 8 to Oct. 31, 2018	ABS	9,396	8,778	4,420
Aug. 19 to Nov. 30, 2019	ABS	5,900	4,720	1,618
June 1 to July 19, 2020; Feb. 10 to March 31, 2021	ABS	3,197	2,812	1,692
May 29 to July 7, 2021 Sept. 16 to Nov. 1, 2021	ABS	1,329	1,162	931
	<b>Total</b>	<b>39,540</b>	<b>27,414</b>	<b>11,660</b>

Note: Approximately once per year, panelists who have not participated in multiple consecutive waves or who did not complete an annual profiling survey are removed from the panel. Panelists also become inactive if they ask to be removed from the panel.

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In August 2018, the ATP switched from telephone to address-based recruitment. Invitations were sent to a stratified, random sample of households selected from the U.S. Postal Service's Delivery Sequence File. Sampled households receive mailings asking a randomly selected adult to complete a survey online. A question at the end of the survey asks if the respondent is willing to join the ATP. Starting in 2020 another stage was added to the recruitment. Households that do not respond to the online survey are sent a paper version of the questionnaire, \$5 and a postage-paid return envelope. A subset of the adults returning the paper version of the survey are invited to join the ATP. This subset of adults receive a follow-up mailing with a \$10 pre-incentive and invitation to join the ATP.

Across the four address-based recruitments, a total of 19,822 adults were invited to join the ATP, of whom 17,472 agreed to join the panel and completed an initial profile survey. In each household, the adult with the next birthday was asked to go online to complete a survey, at the end of which they were invited to join the panel. Of the 27,414 individuals who have ever joined the ATP, 11,660 remained active panelists and continued to receive survey invitations at the time this survey was conducted.

The U.S. Postal Service's Delivery Sequence File has been estimated to cover as much as 98% of the population, although some studies suggest that the coverage could be in the low 90% range.<sup>1</sup> The American Trends Panel never uses breakout routers or chains that direct respondents to additional surveys.

### **Sample design**

The overall target population for this survey was non-institutionalized persons ages 18 and older living in the U.S., including Alaska and Hawaii. It featured a stratified random sample from the ATP in which Asian, Black and Hispanic adults and 18- to 29-year-old Republicans and Republican-leaning independents were selected with certainty. The remaining panelists were sampled at rates designed to ensure that the share of respondents in each stratum is proportional to its share of the U.S. adult population to the greatest extent possible. Respondent weights are adjusted to account for differential probabilities of selection as described in the Weighting section below.

### **Questionnaire development and testing**

The questionnaire was developed by Pew Research Center in consultation with Ipsos. The web program was rigorously tested on both PC and mobile devices by the Ipsos project management team and Pew Research Center researchers. The Ipsos project management team also populated

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<sup>1</sup> AAPOR Task Force on Address-based Sampling. 2016. "[AAPOR Report: Address-based Sampling.](#)"

test data that was analyzed in SPSS to ensure the logic and randomizations were working as intended before launching the survey.

### Incentives

All respondents were offered a post-paid incentive for their participation. Respondents could choose to receive the post-paid incentive in the form of a check or a gift code to Amazon.com or could choose to decline the incentive. Incentive amounts ranged from \$5 to \$20 depending on whether the respondent belongs to a part of the population that is harder or easier to reach. Differential incentive amounts were designed to increase panel survey participation among groups that traditionally have low survey response propensities.

### Data collection protocol

The data collection field period for this survey was June 27 to July 4, 2022. Postcard notifications were mailed to all ATP panelists with a known residential address on June 27.

Invitations were sent out in two separate launches: Soft Launch and Full Launch. Sixty panelists were included in the soft launch, which began with an initial invitation sent on June 27. The ATP panelists chosen for the initial soft launch were known responders who had completed previous ATP surveys within one day of receiving their invitation. All remaining English- and Spanish-speaking panelists were included in the full launch and were sent an invitation on June 28.

All panelists with an email address received an email invitation and up to two email reminders if they did not respond to the survey. All ATP panelists that consented to SMS messages received an SMS invitation and up to two SMS reminders.

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#### Invitation and reminder dates

	Soft Launch	Full Launch
Initial invitation	June 27, 2022	June 28, 2022
First reminder	June 30, 2022	June 30, 2022
Final reminder	July 2, 2022	July 2, 2022

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### Data quality checks

To ensure high-quality data, the Center's researchers performed data quality checks to identify any respondents showing clear patterns of satisficing. This includes checking for very high rates of leaving questions blank, as well as always selecting the first or last answer presented. As a result of

this checking, one ATP respondent was removed from the survey dataset prior to weighting and analysis.

## Weighting

The ATP data is weighted in a multistep process that accounts for multiple stages of sampling and nonresponse that occur at different points in the survey process. First, each panelist begins with a base weight that reflects their probability of selection for their initial recruitment survey. The base weights for panelists recruited in different years are scaled to be proportionate to the effective sample size for all active panelists in their cohort and then calibrated to align with the population benchmarks in the accompanying table to correct for nonresponse to recruitment surveys and panel attrition. If only a subsample of panelists was invited to participate in the wave, this weight is adjusted to account for any differential probabilities of selection.

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### Weighting dimensions

Variable	Benchmark source
Age x Gender	2019 American Community Survey (ACS)
Education x Gender	
Education x Age	
Race/Ethnicity x Education	
Born inside vs. outside the U.S. among Hispanics and Asian Americans	
Years lived in the U.S.	
Census region x Metro/Non-metro	
Volunteerism	2019 CPS Volunteering & Civic Life Supplement
Voter registration	2018 CPS Voting and Registration Supplement
Party affiliation	2021 National Public Opinion Reference Survey (NPORS)
Frequency of internet use	
Religious affiliation	

Note: Estimates from the ACS are based on non-institutionalized adults. Voter registration is calculated using procedures from Hur, Achen (2013) and rescaled to include the total U.S. adult population.

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Among the panelists who completed the survey, this weight is then calibrated again to align with the population benchmarks identified in the accompanying table and trimmed at the 1st and 99th percentiles to reduce the loss in precision stemming from variance in the weights. Sampling errors and tests of statistical significance take into account the effect of weighting.

Some of the population benchmarks used for weighting come from surveys conducted prior to the coronavirus outbreak that began in February 2020. However, the weighting variables for panelists recruited in 2021 were measured at the time they were recruited to the panel. Likewise, the profile variables for existing panelists were updated from panel surveys conducted in July or August 2021.

This does not pose a problem for most of the variables used in the weighting, which are quite stable at both the population and individual levels. However, volunteerism may have changed over the intervening period in ways that made their 2021 measurements incompatible with the available (pre-pandemic) benchmarks. To address this, volunteerism is weighted using the profile variables that were measured in 2020. For all other weighting dimensions, the more recent panelist measurements from 2021 are used.

For panelists recruited in 2021, plausible values were imputed using the 2020 volunteerism values from existing panelists with similar characteristics. This ensures that any patterns of change that were observed in the existing panelists were also reflected in the new recruits when the weighting was performed.

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.

*Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 27-July 4, 2022*

<b>Group</b>	<b>Unweighted sample size</b>	<b>Weighted %</b>	<b>Plus or minus ...</b>
Total sample	6,174		1.8 percentage points
Half form	At least 3,085		2.5 percentage points
Rep/Lean Rep	2,705	43	2.6 percentage points
Half form	At least 1,347		3.8 percentage points
Dem/Lean Dem	3,246	51	2.5 percentage points
Half form	At least 1,602		3.6 percentage points

Note: This survey includes an oversample of Asian, Black and Hispanic Americans, as well as Republican and Republican-leaning respondents ages 18-29. Unweighted sample sizes do not account for the sample design or weighting and do not describe a group's contribution to weighted estimates. See the Sample design and Weighting sections above for details. See appendix for full details on state groupings.

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.

**Dispositions and response rates**

<b>Final dispositions</b>	<b>AAPOR code</b>	<b>Total</b>
Completed interview	1.1	6,174
Logged onto survey; broke off	2.12	101
Logged onto survey; did not complete any items	2.1121	51
Never logged on (implicit refusal)	2.11	847
Survey completed after close of the field period	2.27	2
Completed interview but was removed for data quality		1
Screened out		0
<b>Total panelists in the survey</b>		<b>7,176</b>
Completed interviews	I	6,174
Partial interviews	P	0
Refusals	R	1,000
Non-contact	NC	2
Other	O	0
Unknown household	UH	0
Unknown other	UO	0
Not eligible	NE	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>7,176</b>
AAPOR RR1 = $I / (I+P+R+NC+O+UH+UO)$		86%

<b>Cumulative response rate</b>	<b>Total</b>
Weighted response rate to recruitment surveys	12%
% of recruitment survey respondents who agreed to join the panel, among those invited	69%
% of those agreeing to join who were active panelists at start of Wave 110	43%
Response rate to Wave 110 survey	86%
<b>Cumulative response rate</b>	<b>3%</b>

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**2022 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL  
WAVE 110 JULY 2022  
FINAL TOPLINE  
JUNE 27-JULY 4, 2022  
N=6,174**

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**ASK ALL:**

SENGUN22A As you may know, Congress passed a bill that Joe Biden signed into law to address gun violence that will expand background checks for gun purchases and put new limits on gun ownership for people convicted of domestic abuse. It will also increase funding for mental health programs, school security, and state "red flag laws" to remove guns from people who may be dangerous.

How much, if anything, have you heard about this law?

Jun 27-Jul 4,

2022

25	A lot
54	A little
20	Nothing at all
*	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

SENGUN22B All in all, do you approve or disapprove of this new gun law? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS 1-4 AND 4-1]**

Jun 27-Jul 4,

2022

32	Strongly approve
32	Somewhat approve
10	Somewhat disapprove
11	Strongly disapprove
15	Not sure
*	No answer

**[ASK FORM 1 (XFORM=1), SENGUN22C FIRST AND SENGUN22D SECOND ON SEPARATE SCREENS;  
ASK FORM 2 (XFORM=2), SENGUN22D FIRST AND SENGUN22C SECOND ON SEPARATE SCREENS]**

**ASK ALL:**

SENGUN22C Do you think this new gun law will do...

Jun 27-Jul 4,

2022

7	A lot to reduce gun violence
42	A little to reduce gun violence
36	Nothing at all to reduce gun violence
14	Not sure
*	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

SENGUN22D After this new gun law, would you like to see Congress pass another round of legislation to address gun violence?

Jun 27-Jul 4,  
2022

63	Yes
35	No
2	No answer

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****ASK ALL:**

RGHTCNTRL What do you think is more important?

	To protect the right of Americans <u>to own guns</u>	Control <u>gun ownership</u>	No <u>answer</u>
Jun 27-Jul 4, 2022	47	52	1
Sep 3-15, 2019	47	53	1
Aug 16-Sep 12, 2016 <sup>2</sup>	53	46	1

**PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:**

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>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
Sep 5-16, 2019	46	51	3
Sep 18-24, 2018	44	52	4
Apr 5-11, 2017	47	51	2
Aug 9-16, 2016	52	46	3
Jul 14-20, 2015	47	50	3
Dec 3-7, 2014	52	46	3
Jan 23-Feb 9, 2014	49	48	3
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

<sup>3</sup> In W20, question was called GUNOWN.

**RGHTCNTRL PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON CONTINUED ...**

	Protect right of Americans <u>to own guns</u>	Control <u>gun ownership</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
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 FORM 1 ONLY [N=3,085]**

MOREGUNIMPACT If more Americans owned guns, do you think there would be... **[RANDOMIZE PUNCHES 1 AND 2 FOR RANDOM HALF SAMPLE; ALWAYS DISPLAY THIRD OPTION LAST]**

Jun 27-Jul 4, <u>2022</u>		Apr 5-11 <u>2021</u>	Sep 24- Oct 7 <u>2018</u>	Mar 13- Mar 27 <u>2017</u>
41	More crime	34	37	35
24	Less crime	31	29	33
34	No difference	34	33	32
1	No answer	1	1	1

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=3,089]:**

MASSTRICT If it was harder for people to legally obtain guns in the United States, do you think there would be ... **[RANDOMIZE PUNCHES 1 AND 2 FOR RANDOM HALF SAMPLE; ALWAYS DISPLAY THIRD OPTION LAST]**

Jun 27-Jul 4, <u>2022</u>		Apr 5-11 <u>2021</u>	Sep 24- Oct 7 <u>2018</u>	Mar 13- Mar 27 <u>2017<sup>3</sup></u>
49	Fewer mass shootings	49	47	47
7	More mass shootings	9	6	13
44	No difference	42	46	39
1	No answer	*	*	1

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****ASK ALL:**

PARTY In politics today, do you consider yourself a:

**ASK IF INDEP/SOMETHING ELSE (PARTY=3 or 4) OR MISSING:**

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to...

<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	Something <u>else</u>	No <u>answer</u>	Lean <u>Rep</u>	Lean <u>Dem</u>
24	28	30	16	2	19	23

**Key to Pew Research trends noted in the topline:**

(U) Pew Research Center/USA Today polls

<sup>3</sup> In March 2017, third answer option read "Not make a difference"