

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
FEBRUARY 2013 POLITICAL SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
February 13-18, 2013
N=1,504

QUESTIONS 1-4, 7-8, 10-11, 15-20 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

NO QUESTIONS 5-6, 9, 13-14, 21

ASK ALL:

Q.22 I'm going to read you some things people say would occur if there were stricter gun laws. Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with each. First, **[INSERT ITEM, RANDOMIZE]**: do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree? How about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[REPEAT AS NECESSARY: Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree?]**

	<u>Net agree</u>	<u>Strongly agree</u>	<u>Somewhat agree</u>	<u>Net disagree</u>	<u>Somewhat disagree</u>	<u>Strongly disagree</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. Stricter laws would make it more difficult for people to protect their homes and families							
Feb 13-18, 2013	58	39	19	39	16	23	3
Gallup: Dec 17-19, 1993	48	25	23	51	27	24	1
b. Stricter laws would give too much power to the government over average citizens							
Feb 13-18, 2013	57	38	19	40	16	25	3
Gallup: Dec 17-19, 1993	52	30	22	47	26	21	1
c. Gun control measures will eventually lead to stricter laws which will take guns away from all citizens							
Feb 13-18, 2013	47	30	16	50	15	36	3
Gallup: Dec 17-19, 1993	50	28	22	49	26	22	1
d. Stricter laws would help keep guns out of the hands of criminals							
Feb 13-18, 2013	51	36	16	47	10	37	2
e. Stricter laws would reduce the number of accidental deaths caused by guns							
Feb 13-18, 2013	52	31	21	46	18	28	2
TREND FOR COMPARISON: Stricter laws would reduce the number of accidental deaths and suicides caused by guns. Gallup: Dec 17-19, 1993	67	43	24	32	15	17	2
f. Stricter laws would reduce the number of deaths caused by mass shootings							
Feb 13-18, 2013	54	35	19	43	11	32	3

ASK ALL:

Q.23 Should state governments be allowed to ignore federal gun laws if they choose to do so, or not?

Feb 13-18

2013

36 Yes, should be allowed
60 No, should not be allowed
4 Don't know/Refused (**VOL.**)

NO QUESTIONS 24-27, 29-37, 43-47

QUESTIONS 28, 38-42 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

ASK ALL:

On another subject...

Q.48 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?]

Feb 13-18

2013

17 Yes, respondent
13 Yes, someone else
8 Yes, both (**VOL.**)
57 No, nobody in household owns a gun
6 Don't know/Refused (**VOL.**)

24 *NET: Respondent owns gun*

37 *NET: Gun in household*

ASK IF PERSONALLY OWN GUN (Q.48=1,3) [N=421]:

Q.49 What is the main reason you own a gun? [**OPEN-END; DO NOT READ PRECODES. PROBE FOR CLARITY. IF MORE THAN ONE MENTION, RECORD IN ORDER OF MENTION USING EITHER PRECODES OR OTHER SPECIFY.]**

<u>Feb 13-18, 2013</u>				TREND FOR COMPARISON
<u>Both</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Second</u>		ABC/Wash Post
<u>mentions</u>	<u>mention</u>	<u>mention</u>		Aug 1999 ¹
				<u>First mention only</u>
60	48	12	Protection	26
39	32	7	Hunting	49
14	7	7	Target shooting/sport shooting/Skeet shooting	8
4	3	1	Gift/Inherited	--
3	2	1	2nd amendment/Constitutional right	4
3	2	1	Work-related/Current or ex-military/police	--
2	2	*	Collect guns/Hobby	4
2	2	0	Other	10
1	1	--	Don't know/Refused	--

¹ August 1999 question read "Why do you own a gun—what's the main reason?" and only the first response was accepted by the interviewer.

ASK IF SOMEONE IN HOME OWNS A GUN (Q48=1,2,3) [N=610]:

Q.50 Tell me if each describes how you feel about **[IF GUN OWNER (Q48=1,3): owning a gun/ IF SOMEONE ELSE (Q48=2)having a gun in your home]**. (First,) Would you say that **[owning a gun/having a gun in your home] [INSERT; RANDOMIZE]** or not?

		<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
a.	Is something you enjoy Feb 13-18, 2013	66	29	5
b.	Makes you feel uncomfortable Feb 13-18, 2013	7	92	1
c.	Makes you feel safer Feb 13-18, 2013	74	25	1

ASK IF DO NOT PERSONALLY OWN GUN (Q.48=2,4) [N=988]:

Q.51 Have you ever personally owned a gun, or not?

Feb 13-18	
<u>2013</u>	
16	Yes
84	No
*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK IF NO GUN IN HOME (Q.48=4) [N=799]:

Q.52 Would having a gun in your home be something you would be comfortable with or something that would make you uncomfortable?

Feb 13-18	
<u>2013</u>	
40	Would be comfortable with
58	Would make uncomfortable
3	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK IF WOULD FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE (Q.52=2) [N=461]:

Q.53 What is it about having a gun that would make you uncomfortable? **[OPEN-END. RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE. PROBE FOR CLARITY – DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL MENTIONS. IF MORE THAN ONE MENTION, RECORD IN ORDER OF MENTION]**

Feb 13-18	
<u>2013</u>	
39	NET Concerned about accidents
29	Child could have accident/Children in house
10	Accidents, general mention
22	Guns are dangerous/Unsafe/Don't want to kill or injure anyone
18	Don't like guns/Uncomfortable with them in the house
16	Could be stolen/Used by anyone/Used against me
8	Don't know how to use a gun
8	No use for gun/Not necessary/Other ways to protect oneself
2	Was or know victims of gun violence/Bad experience with guns
5	Other
*	Don't know/Refused

ASK ALL:

Q.54 Are you, or is anyone in your household, a member of the National Rifle Association or NRA? **[IF YES: Is that you or someone else in your household?]**

Feb 13-18

2013

4 Yes, respondent
 4 Yes, someone else
 1 Yes, both **(VOL.)**
 87 No, nobody in household is a member of NRA
 4 Don't know/Refused **(VOL.)**

NO QUESTIONS 55-60**QUESTIONS 61-64 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****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?

	Republican	Democrat	Independent	(VOL.) No preference	(VOL.) Other party	(VOL.) DK/Ref	Lean Rep	Lean Dem
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
Mar 7-11, 2012	24	34	36	3	1	2	16	17
Feb 8-12, 2012	26	32	36	4	1	2	13	17
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

PARTY/PARTYLN CONTINUED...

				(VOL.) No	(VOL.) Other	(VOL.) DK/Ref	Lean <i>Rep</i>	Lean <i>Dem</i>
	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>preference</u>	<u>party</u>			
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	--	--	--	--	--