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# Continued Bipartisan Support for Expanded Background Checks on Gun Sales

*More Polarized Views of the NRA's Influence*

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# Continued Bipartisan Support for Expanded Background Checks on Gun Sales

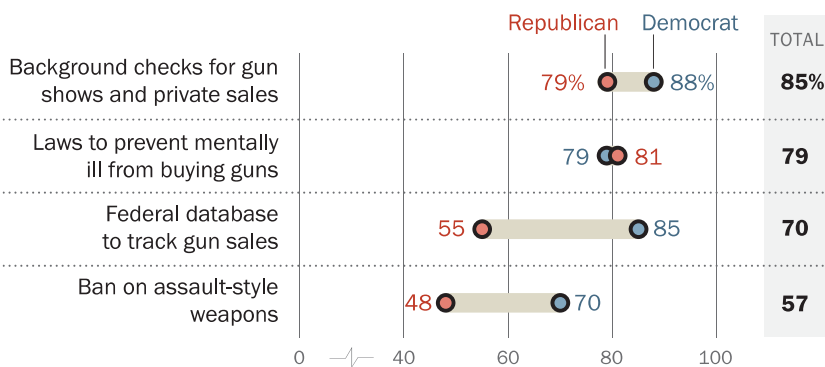
## *More Polarized Views of the NRA's Influence*

Two years after the failure of Senate legislation to expand background checks on gun purchases, the public continues to overwhelmingly support making private gun sales and sales at gun shows subject to background checks. Currently, 85% of Americans – including large majorities of Democrats (88%) and Republicans (79%) – favor expanded background checks, little changed from May 2013 (81%).

The latest Pew Research Center poll of 2,002 adults, conducted July 14-20, finds that opinions about other gun policy proposals also are largely unchanged from [two years ago](#), shortly after the December 2012 school shootings in Newtown, Conn.

### Partisan Views of Gun Proposals

% who favor ...



Source: Survey conducted July 14-20, 2015

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Nearly eight-in-ten (79%) favor laws to prevent people with mental illness from purchasing guns, 70% back the creation of a federal database to track all gun sales, while a smaller majority (57%) supports a ban on assault-style weapons.

Almost identical shares of Republicans (81%) and Democrats (79%) support laws to prevent the mentally ill from buying guns. But other proposals are more divisive: 85% of Democrats favor creation of a database for the federal government to track gun sales, compared with 55% of Republicans. And while 70% of Democrats back an assault-weapons ban, only about half of Republicans (48%) favor this proposal.

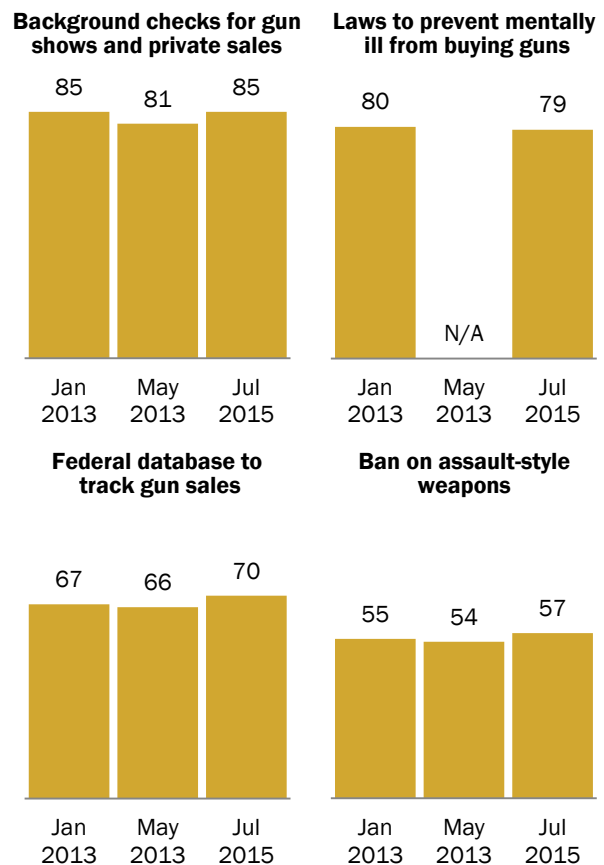
While there is broad support for several specific gun policy proposals – and opinion on these measures has not changed significantly since 2013 – the public continues to be more evenly divided in fundamental attitudes about whether it is more important to control gun ownership or to protect the right of Americans to own guns.

Currently, 50% say it is more important to control gun ownership, while 47% say it is more important to protect the right of Americans to own guns.

Since [December 2014](#), when support for gun rights reached a two-decade high, the share prioritizing gun rights has fallen five percentage points, while the percentage saying it is more important to control gun ownership has increased four points.

## Little Change in Public Views of Gun Policy Proposals

*% who favor...*



Survey conducted July 14-20, 2015.

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The balance of opinion on whether it is more important to control gun ownership or protect gun rights has been more closely divided in recent years than it was in the early 2000s or 1990s. From 1993-2008, majorities said it was more important to control gun ownership than to protect gun rights. (For more on long-term attitudes on gun control and gun rights, see [“A Public Opinion Trend that Matters: Priorities for Gun Policy.”](#) Jan. 9, 2015.)

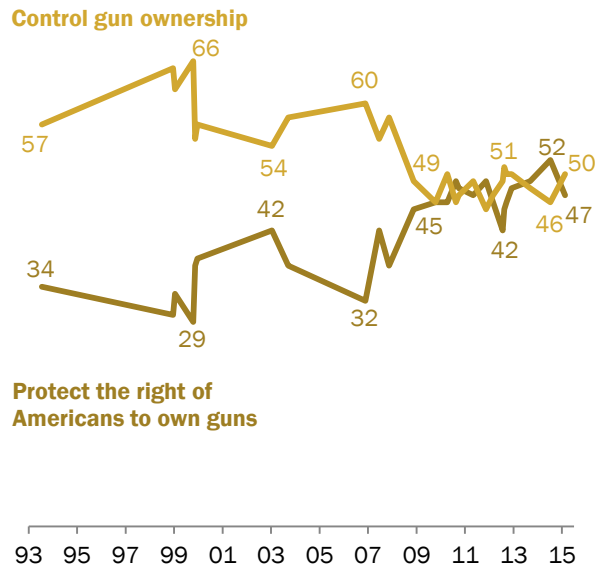
There continues to be a substantial partisan gap in opinions about whether it is more important to control gun ownership or protect gun rights – much larger, in fact, than the gap over specific gun proposals. Nearly three-quarters of Democrats (73%) say it is more important to control gun ownership; 71% of Republicans say it is more important to protect gun rights.

As previous Pew Research Center surveys have found, there is broad support for expanded background checks even from those who say it is more important to protect gun rights than to control gun ownership.

About eight-in-ten (82%) of those who say it is more important to protect gun rights favor expanded background checks on private gun sales, as do 88% of those who prioritize controlling gun ownership.

### More Important to Control Gun Ownership or Protect Gun Rights?

% saying it is more important to ...



Survey conducted July 14-20, 2015.

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### Those Who Prioritize Gun Control – and Gun Rights – Favor Background Checks on Private Sales

% who favor each policy proposal

	Total %	More important to ...		Diff
		Protect gun rights %	Control gun ownership %	
Laws that prevent mentally ill from buying guns	79	82	77	-5
Background checks for gun shows and private sales	85	82	88	+6
Federal database of gun sales	70	54	85	+31
Ban on assault weapons	57	41	71	+30

Survey conducted July 14-20, 2015.

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Similarly, support for laws preventing the mentally ill from buying guns draw comparable levels of support from those who prioritize protecting gun rights (82%) and those who say it is more important to control gun ownership (77%).

However, those who say it is more important to control gun ownership are 31 percentage points more likely than those who prioritize gun rights to favor a government database to track gun sales (85% v s. 54%), and 30 points more likely to support an assault weapons ban (71% vs. 41%).

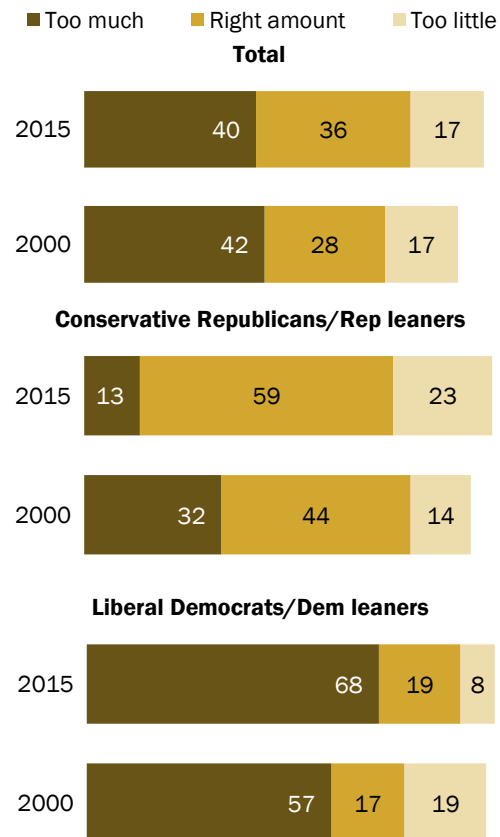
The survey finds that overall public views of the political influence of the National Rifle Association (NRA) have not changed much in recent years. But they have become more politically and ideologically polarized.

Currently, 40% say the NRA has too much influence over gun control laws in this country, 17% say it has too little influence, while 36% say it has the right amount of influence. This balance of opinion is virtually unchanged from May 2013. In fact, it is also comparable to opinion about the NRA's influence in 2000.

However, there are wider differences in how conservative Republicans and liberal Democrats see the NRA's influence. Among Republicans and Republican leaners, just 13% of conservatives say the NRA has too much influence, down from 32% in 2000. By contrast, 68% of liberal Democrats and Democratic leaners say the organization has too much influence, compared with 57% who said this in 2000.

### Views of the NRA's Influence Have Become More Ideologically Polarized

*% who say the influence of the National Rifle Association over gun control laws in this country is...*



Survey conducted July 14-20, 2015. Don't know responses not shown.

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## Views of Gun Policy Proposals

Support for expanded background checks and laws preventing the mentally ill from buying guns spans all partisan and demographic groups. In addition, both proposals are favored by majorities of those in households that have guns and those that do not.

There are wider demographic differences over the creation of a federal database for gun sales and banning assault weapons. While 66% of whites favor a federal database to track gun sales, this proposal draws more support from blacks (82%) and Hispanics (76%).

Support for an assault weapons ban varies by gender and education, as well as by gun ownership and community type. Nearly two-thirds of women (65%) favor banning assault weapons compared with 48% of men. Those with post-graduate degrees are among the most likely groups to favor a ban on these weapons (72%), while only about half of those with a high school degree or less education favor such a ban (48%).

### Large Majorities in Gun-Ownning Households Favor Background Checks, Ban on Guns for Mentally Ill

*% who favor each policy proposal*

	Ban on assault weapons	Federal database of gun sales	Laws barring mentally ill from buying guns	Background checks for gun shows
	%	%	%	%
Total	57	70	79	85
Men	48	66	79	83
Women	65	74	79	87
White	58	66	86	89
Black	60	82	75	80
Hispanic	47	76	58	77
18-29	49	76	81	84
30-49	55	74	79	88
50-64	61	67	80	86
65+	63	61	75	82
Post-grad	72	77	91	92
College grad	66	67	87	89
Some college	58	71	85	87
HS or less	48	68	68	80
<i>Community type</i>				
Urban	62	78	76	86
Suburban	56	65	81	85
Rural	48	65	80	84
Gun in household (39% of total)	49	61	84	87
No gun in household (58% of total)	64	78	76	85

Survey conducted July 14-20, 2015. Whites and blacks include only non-Hispanics; Hispanics can be of any race.

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Nearly two-thirds (64%) of those who live in households with no guns favor a ban on assault weapons, compared with 49% in gun-owning households.

## Opinions About Gun Control, Gun Rights

Currently, 50% of Americans say it is more important to control gun ownership, while 47% say it is more important to protect the right of Americans to own guns. That represents a shift since December 2014, when more prioritized protecting gun rights (52%) than controlling gun ownership (46%).

The issue remains a highly partisan one. Republicans choose gun rights over gun control by a 71% to 26% margin, while Democrats prioritize gun control over gun rights by a 73% to 25% margin.

Guns also continue to divide the public along racial and gender lines. Whites say it is more important to protect gun rights, by 57% to 40%. Majorities of Hispanics (75%) and blacks (72%) say it is more important to control gun ownership.

The balance of opinion among men favors gun rights over gun control (52% to 45%). By contrast, women give controlling gun ownership higher priority than protecting gun rights (55% vs. 42%)

By nearly a two-to-one margin (63% to 32%), adults with post-graduate degrees say it is more important to control gun ownership than protect gun rights. A majority of college graduates (54%) prioritizes gun control, while

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### Race, Education, Gender Differences on Gun Control vs. Gun Rights

*% saying it is more important to...*

	Protect gun rights %	Control gun ownership %	DK %
Total	47	50	3=100
Male	52	45	3=100
Female	42	55	3=100
White	57	40	3=100
Black	24	72	4=100
Hispanic	24	75	1=100
Post-grad	32	63	5=100
College grad	42	54	4=100
Some college	51	47	2=100
HS or less	50	47	3=100
Republican	71	26	3=100
Independent	51	46	3=100
Democrat	25	73	2=100
<i>Community type</i>			
Urban	38	60	*=100
Suburban	48	48	1=100
Rural	63	35	*=100
Gun in household (39% of total)	68	29	*=100
No gun in household (58% of total)	31	66	1=100

Survey conducted July 14-20, 2015. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding. Whites and blacks include only non-Hispanics; Hispanics can be of any race.

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42% prioritize gun rights. Those with less education are divided (51% protect gun rights, 47% control gun ownership).

Among people who live in urban areas, 60% say it is more important to control gun ownership, compared with 38% who prioritize gun rights. Opinion among suburban residents is divided (48% gun control, 48% gun rights), while a majority (63%) who live in rural areas prioritize gun rights.

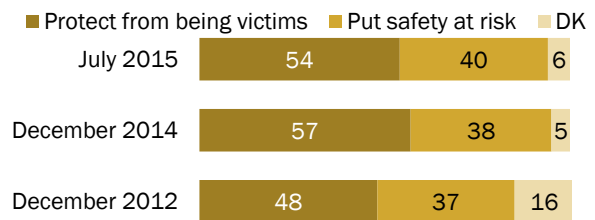
## Views of Impact of Gun Ownership on Personal Safety

A majority of Americans (54%) say that gun ownership in this country does more to protect people from becoming victims of crime, while 40% say it does more to put people's safety at risk. These findings are largely unchanged from December, when a 57% majority said owning guns does more to protect people from crime.

Whites, by 60% to 35%, say gun ownership does more to protect people from crime than to put their personal safety at risk. Blacks by a similar margin (56% to 37%) say that gun ownership does more to endanger people's personal safety.

### More Say Gun Ownership Protects People From Crime Than Risks Safety

*% who say gun ownership in this country does more to...*



Survey conducted July 14-20, 2015.

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While opinion among whites has changed little since December, more blacks now say gun ownership puts people's safety at risk (41% then, 56% today). Attitudes among African Americans today are closer to those in December 2012, when 53% said guns create a safety risk and just 29% said guns do more to protect people from crime.

There also are gender, partisan and education differences in these opinions. Six-in-ten (60%) men say gun ownership does more to protect people than endanger safety, compared with 49% of women. Republicans are about twice as likely as Democrats to view gun ownership as doing more to protect people than place their safety at risk (74% of Republicans vs. 36% of Democrats).

Adults with post-graduate degrees are the only educational category in which a majority (57%) says gun ownership does more to put people's safety at risk than to protect people from becoming crime victims. College graduates are divided (48% say they do more to put safety at risk, 46% to protect people from crime), while a majority (59%) of those with less education says gun ownership does more to protect people.

## Post-Grads Among Most Likely to Say Gun Ownership Endangers Safety

*% who say gun ownership in this country does more to...*

	Protect from becoming crime victims %	Put people's safety at risk %	DK
Total	54	40	6=100
Male	60	34	6=100
Female	49	45	6=100
White	60	35	6=100
Black	37	56	6=100
Hispanic	46	50	4=100
Post-grad	38	57	5=100
College grad	46	48	6=100
Some college	58	36	6=100
HS or less	60	35	5=100
Republican	74	19	6=100
Democrat	36	59	5=100
Independent	57	38	6=100
Gun in household (39% of total)	70	25	6=100
No gun in household (58% of total)	43	52	6=100

Survey conducted July 14-20, 2015. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding. Whites and blacks include only non-Hispanics; Hispanics can be of any race.

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## About the Survey

The analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted July 14-20, 2015 among a national sample of 2,002 adults, 18 years of age or older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia (700 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 1,302 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 758 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://www.pewresearch.org/methodology/u-s-survey-research/>

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 2013 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 (landline only, cell phone only, or both landline and cell phone), based on extrapolations from the 2014 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. The margins of error reported and statistical tests of significance are adjusted to account for the survey's design effect, a measure of how much efficiency is lost from the weighting procedures.

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:

<b>Group</b>	<b>Unweighted sample size</b>	<b>Plus or minus ...</b>
Total sample	2,002	2.5 percentage points
Republican	462	5.2 percentage points
Democrat	643	4.4 percentage points
Independent	796	4.0 percentage points
Gun in household	816	3.9 percentage points
No guns in household	1,111	3.4 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.

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JULY 2015 POLITICAL SURVEY  
FINAL TOPLINE  
JULY 14-20, 2015  
N=2,002**

**QUESTIONS 1-2, 9-10, 11a-d, 12-14, 21b-c, 25, 34-38, 45-46, 48F2-50 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**

**NO QUESTIONS 3-8, 15-20, 21a, 22-24, 26-33, 39-44, 51-53**

**QUESTION 47F1 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**ASK ALL:**

On a different subject ...

Q.54 What do you think is more important – to protect the right of Americans to own guns, OR to control gun ownership?

**IF OPINION GIVEN (Q.54=1,2), ASK:**

Q.55 Do you feel strongly about that, or not?

	Protect the right of -----Americans to own guns-----				-----Control gun ownership-----				
	<u>Net</u>	<u>Strongly</u>	<u>Not strongly</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>Strongly</u>	<u>Not strongly</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
Jul 14-20, 2015	47	42	5	*	50	40	10	*	3
Dec 3-7, 2014	52	47	4	*	46	37	8	1	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	39	5	*	51	41	9	*	5
Dec 17-19, 2012	42	37	4	*	49	42	6	2	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	31	6	*	58	46	11	1	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.56 Do you think that gun ownership in this country does more to **[INSERT OPTION; RANDOMIZE]** or does more to **[NEXT OPTION]**

Jul 14-20 <u>2015</u>		Dec 3-7 <u>2014</u>	Dec 17-19 <u>2012</u>
54	Protect people from becoming victims of crime	57	48
40	Put people's safety at risk	38	37
6	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	5	16

**ASK ALL:**

Q.57 Please tell me if you would favor or oppose the following proposals about gun policy. First, **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]**? What about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: Would you favor or oppose [ITEM]?**

		<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
<b>NO ITEM a.</b>				
b.	Laws to prevent people with mental illness from purchasing guns			
	Jul 14-20, 2015	79	19	2
	Jan 9-13, 2013	80	16	4
c.	Making private gun sales and sales at gun shows subject to background checks			
	Jul 14-20, 2015	85	13	2
	May 1-5, 2013	81	17	3
	Feb 13-18, 2013 (U)	83	15	2
	Jan 9-13, 2013	85	12	3
d.	A ban on assault style weapons			
	Jul 14-20, 2015	57	40	3
	May 1-5, 2013	54	42	4
	Feb 13-18, 2013 (U)	56	41	3
	Jan 9-13, 2013	55	40	5
e.	Creating a federal government database to track all gun sales			
	Jul 14-20, 2015	70	28	2
	May 1-5, 2013	66	31	3
	Jan 9-13, 2013	67	30	3

**ASK ALL:**

Q.58 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?

Jul 14-20 <u>2015</u>		May 1-5 <u>2013</u>	ABC/WP Jan 10-13 <u>2013</u>	Dec 17-19 <u>2012</u>	Apr <u>2000</u>	Dec <u>1993</u>	Time/CNN Aug <u>1993</u>
40	Too much	39	38	36	42	45	39
17	Too little	18	24	19	17	15	15
36	Right amount	35	30	28	28	27	33
6	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	9	8	17	13	13	13

**ASK ALL:**

Q.59 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?]

Jul 14-20 <u>2015</u>		May 1-5 <u>2013</u>	Feb 13-18 <u>2013</u>
18	Yes, respondent	18	17
12	Yes, someone else	14	13
9	Yes, both/multiple <b>(VOL.)</b>	8	8
58	No, nobody in household owns a gun	54	57
4	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	5	6
26	<i>NET: Respondent owns gun</i>	27	24
39	<i>NET: Gun in household</i>	41	37

**NO QUESTIONS 60, 66-74, 78-80****QUESTIONS 61-65, 75-77, 81-84 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?

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	(VOL.) <u>No preference</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other party</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>	Lean <u>Rep</u>	Lean <u>Dem</u>
Jul 14-20, 2015	22	32	41	4	*	1	15	19
May 12-18, 2015	24	32	38	3	1	2	15	18
Mar 25-29, 2015	25	30	39	4	*	2	15	17
Feb 18-22, 2015	24	31	38	4	1	1	18	17
Jan 7-11, 2015	21	30	44	3	1	1	19	18
Dec 3-7, 2014	24	31	39	3	1	2	17	17
Nov 6-9, 2014	27	32	36	2	*	1	15	16
Oct 15-20, 2014	24	33	38	4	*	1	13	17
Sep 2-9, 2014	24	33	38	3	1	2	15	15
Aug 20-24, 2014	24	31	37	4	1	4	15	16
Jul 8-14, 2014	25	34	37	2	1	1	16	15
<b>Yearly Totals</b>								
2014	23.2	31.5	39.5	3.1	.7	2.0	16.2	16.5
2013	23.9	32.1	38.3	2.9	.5	2.2	16.0	16.0
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

## PARTY/PARTYLN CONTINUED...

				(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	Lean	Lean
	Republican	Democrat	Independent	No preference	Other party	DK/Ref	Rep	Dem
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 ALL:

TEAPARTY2 From what you know, do you agree or disagree with the Tea Party movement, or don't you have an opinion either way?

	Agree	Disagree	No opinion either way	(VOL.) Haven't heard of	(VOL.) Refused	Not heard of/ DK
Jul 14-20, 2015	15	27	55	2	1	--
Jan 7-11, 2015	17	27	52	2	1	--
Jan 23-Mar 16, 2014	18	28	51	1	2	--
Oct 9-13, 2013	19	32	46	2	2	--
Jul 17-21, 2013	18	25	52	4	1	--
Jun 12-16, 2013	22	29	46	2	2	--
May 23-26, 2013	17	20	56	3	4	--
Feb 14-17, 2013	19	26	52	2	1	--
Dec 5-9, 2012	18	29	50	2	1	--
Oct 31-Nov 3, 2012 (RVs)	19	29	47	1	3	--
Oct 4-7, 2012	19	25	52	2	2	--
Sep 12-16, 2012	18	26	53	2	2	--
Jul 16-26, 2012	16	27	54	2	1	--
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	19	27	49	3	2	--
Jun 7-17, 2012	21	25	52	2	1	--
May 9-Jun 3, 2012	16	25	54	2	3	--
Apr 4-15, 2012	20	26	50	3	2	--
Mar 7-11, 2012	19	29	48	2	2	--
Feb 8-12, 2012	18	25	53	2	2	--
Jan 11-16, 2012	20	24	52	2	2	--
Jan 4-8, 2012	18	25	52	2	3	--
Dec 7-11, 2011	19	27	50	2	2	--
Nov 9-14, 2011	20	27	51	1	1	--
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	19	27	51	2	1	--
Aug 17-21, 2011	20	27	50	1	1	--
Jul 20-24, 2011	20	24	53	1	1	--
Jun 15-19, 2011	20	26	50	3	2	--
May 25-30, 2011	18	23	54	2	2	--
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	22	29	47	1	1	--
Mar 8-14, 2011	19	25	54	1	1	--
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	20	25	52	2	2	--
Feb 2-7, 2011 <sup>1</sup>	22	22	53	2	2	--
Jan 5-9, 2011	24	22	50	2	1	--
Dec 1-5, 2010	22	26	49	2	2	--
Nov 4-7, 2010	27	22	49	1	1	--
Oct 27-30, 2010 (RVs)	29	25	32	--	1	13

<sup>1</sup> In the February 2-7, 2011, survey and before, question read "...do you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the Tea Party movement..." In October 2010 and earlier, question was asked only of those who had heard or read a lot or a little about the Tea Party. In May 2010 through October 2010, it was described as: "the Tea Party movement that has been involved in campaigns and protests in the U.S. over the past year." In March 2010 it was described as "the Tea Party protests that have taken place in the U.S. over the past year."

**TEAPARTY2 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>No opinion</u> <u>either way</u>	<u>Haven't</u> <u>heard of</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>Refused</u>	<i>Not</i> <i>heard of/</i> <i>DK</i>
Oct 13-18, 2010 (RVs)	28	24	30	--	1	16
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010 (RVs)	29	26	32	--	1	13
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	22	18	37	--	1	21
Jun 16-20, 2010	24	18	30	--	*	27
May 20-23, 2010	25	18	31	--	1	25
Mar 11-21, 2010	24	14	29	--	1	31

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

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Pew Research Center/USA Today polls

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