

Table 2.84

Attitudes toward restricting the sale of handguns

By demographic characteristics, United States, 1996

Question: "Now I am going to read you a list of some programs and proposals that are being discussed in this country today. For each one, please tell me whether you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose it: Restricting the sale of handguns?"

	Strongly favor	Favor	Oppose	Strongly oppose
National	29.5%	23.7%	25.9%	18.6%
Sex				
Male	21.8	24.7	29.1	22.2
Female	36.4	22.7	22.9	15.3
Race				
White	29.3	23.9	25.7	18.7
Black	30.9	22.0	27.9	17.1
Nonwhite ^a	31.1	22.4	26.7	17.9
Age				
18 to 29 years	29.7	27.8	23.3	18.3
30 to 49 years	28.5	25.1	24.8	19.4
50 to 64 years	31.0	20.5	26.3	20.0
65 years and older	29.7	16.2	33.3	15.2
Education				
College graduate	41.5	24.0	18.8	13.9
Some college	26.0	28.0	27.1	17.6
High school graduate	26.6	21.9	28.5	20.2
Less than high school graduate	24.8	21.5	27.4	22.5
Family income				
\$75,000 and over	37.7	23.2	20.5	17.1
\$50,000 to \$74,999	30.5	27.7	24.4	15.9
\$30,000 to \$49,999	26.4	24.4	25.5	22.0
\$20,000 to \$29,999	30.7	23.9	26.2	16.6
Under \$20,000	27.2	23.0	30.1	18.0
Region				
Northeast	34.2	20.2	22.3	20.2
Midwest	31.2	22.8	28.3	15.8
South	26.8	24.9	25.8	19.7
West	27.4	26.1	26.5	18.4
Politics				
Republican	22.8	27.2	28.0	19.7
Democrat	34.0	22.0	26.4	15.8
Independent	31.8	23.1	22.3	20.4

Note: These data are derived from telephone interviews of a nationwide sample of 1,975 adults, 18 years of age and older. The interviews were conducted May 31-June 9, 1996 by Princeton Survey Research Associates for The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press. The "don't know" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 6.

^aIncludes black respondents.

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