

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER
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 (VOL.) | 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]?**

| | | (VOL.) | | |
|-------------------|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | <u>Favor</u> | <u>Oppose</u> | <u>DK/Ref</u> |
| NO ITEM a. | | | | |
| 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 (VOL.) | 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 (VOL.) | 8 | 8 |
| 58 | No, nobody in household owns a gun | 54 | 57 |
| 4 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) | 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 |
| Yearly Totals | | | | | | | | |
| 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 ¹ | 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 |

¹ 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> | (VOL.) <u>No opinion</u> <u>either way</u> | <u>Haven't</u> <u>heard of</u> | (VOL.) <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 |

Key to Pew Research trends noted in the topline:

(U)

Pew Research Center/USA Today polls
