

**U.S. Policy Survey
Questionnaire**

Q1. Right now, do you think the nation's economy is getting better, worse, or staying the same?

1. Better
2. Worse
3. Staying the same

----- **NEW SCREEN** -----

Throughout this survey we will use both the words gun and firearm. These include barreled weapons such as rifles, shotguns, revolvers, and pistols, but do not include air guns, bb guns, starter pistols, paintball guns, or any weapons that do not use ammunition to fire.

----- **NEW SCREEN** -----

Q6. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the idea that any American can possess a gun?

1. Strongly agree
2. Somewhat agree
3. Neither agree nor disagree
4. Somewhat disagree
5. Strongly disagree

Q7. To what extent do you agree or disagree that people should be required to store their gun in a locked manner (e.g., in a safe, locked cabinet, or with an external locking device)?

1. Strongly agree
2. Somewhat agree
3. Neither agree nor disagree
4. Somewhat disagree
5. Strongly disagree

Q8. Many people are legally allowed to openly carry a gun. That is, carry a gun in a way that other people can see it. To what extent do you agree or disagree that people who are lawfully able to openly carry a gun, other than law enforcement, should be allowed to do so?

1. Strongly agree
2. Somewhat agree
3. Neither agree nor disagree
4. Somewhat disagree
5. Strongly disagree

----- **NEW SCREEN** -----

As a reminder, in this survey we use both the words gun and firearm to include barreled weapons such as rifles, shotguns, revolvers, and pistols, but do not include air guns, bb guns, starter pistols, paintball guns, or any weapons that do not use ammunition to fire.

Q4. Do you or anyone else you live with currently own any type of gun?

1. Yes
2. No **[SKIP TO Q5A]**

[ASK Q5 IF Q4=1 Yes]

Q5. Do you personally own a gun?

1. Yes **[SKIP TO Q5B]**
2. No

[ASK Q5A IF (Q4=2 or no response or Q5=2 or no response)]

Q5A. Have you ever owned a gun?

1. Yes
2. No

Q5B. Growing up, did you have guns in your home or on your property?

1. Yes
2. No
3. I don't recall

----- **NEW SCREEN** -----

The next set of questions ask about ways gun policies or practices may impact Americans.

[PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS A-T; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION IN DATA FILE]

Q10. On a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means completely oppose and 10 means completely support, please rate the extent to which you would support or oppose a policy or practice that may result in each of the following.

Completely Oppose					Neither Support nor Oppose					Completely Support
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

How about a policy or practice that... (INSERT ITEM)?

- a. Increases the cost to purchase a gun
- b. Increases the cost of ammunition
- c. Increases the time it takes a person to get to and ready a gun in their home
- d. Reduces the number of available licensed gun dealers

----- **NEW SCREEN** -----

[PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS A-T; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION IN DATA FILE]

Q10. On a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means completely oppose and 10 means completely support, please rate the extent to which you would support or oppose a policy or practice that may result in each of the following.

Completely Oppose					Neither Support nor Oppose					Completely Support
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

How about a policy or practice that... (INSERT ITEM)?

- e. Limits the types of guns that a person can purchase
- f. Makes it more difficult for a person under 18 to purchase a gun

- g. Requires a permit to purchase a gun
h. Makes it more difficult for a person with mild mental health problems (e.g., some depression or anxiety) to own a gun

----- **NEW SCREEN** -----

Completely Oppose					Neither Support nor Oppose					Completely Support
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

How about a policy or practice that... (INSERT ITEM)?

- i. Makes it more difficult for a person with serious mental health problems (e.g., suicidal/homicidal behavior, self-harm, hallucinations) to own a gun
j. Makes it more difficult for a person with minor, non-violent legal offenses (e.g., minor drug possession, theft, forgery) to own a gun
k. Makes it more difficult for a person convicted of violent misdemeanors, such as simple assault (e.g., resulting in only minor injuries) to own a gun
l. Makes it more difficult for a person convicted of domestic violence to own a gun

----- **NEW SCREEN** -----

[PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS A-T; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION IN DATA FILE]

Q10. On a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means completely oppose and 10 means completely support, please rate the extent to which you would support or oppose a policy or practice that may result in each of the following.

Completely Oppose					Neither Support nor Oppose					Completely Support
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

How about a policy or practice that... (INSERT ITEM)?

- m. Requires a person to purchase a specific device for storing a gun
o. Makes it more difficult to access a gun when driving
r. Requires gun users to receive continuing education around gun safety
s. Increases government regulation of how guns are handled

----- **NEW SCREEN** -----

[PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS A-L; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION IN DATA FILE]

Q11. Again, on a scale from 0 to 10 (where 0 means completely oppose and 10 means completely support) please rate the extent to which you would support or oppose a policy or practice that results in each of the following.

Completely Oppose					Neither Support nor Oppose					Completely Support

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----

How about a policy or practice that... (INSERT ITEM)

- a. Allows a person with a felony conviction to obtain a gun
- b. Allows a person with a history of violent behavior to obtain a gun
- c. Allows a person with serious mental health problems (e.g., suicidal/homicidal behavior, self-harm, hallucinations) to obtain a gun
- e. Allows a person to purchase an AR-15, or similar style weapon.
- g. Allows a person with a domestic violence conviction to obtain a gun

----- **NEW SCREEN** -----

Completely Oppose					Neither Support nor Oppose					Completely Support
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

How about a policy or practice that... (INSERT ITEM)

- i. Makes it easier to purchase a gun without a permit
- j. Makes it easier to participate in shooting sports
- k. Makes it easier to participate in hobbies such as gun collection and restoration
- l. Allows a person under the age of 18 to possess a gun

----- **NEW SCREEN** -----

[PN: ASK Q12A_1-Q12A_9 IF Q5=1 (YES)]

Q12a. For each of the following statements, please indicate whether it is (yes) or is not (no) a reason why you are a gun owner?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

- 1. Personal safety away from home
- 2. Personal safety at home
- 3. To express my freedom
- 4. Hunting
- 5. Competition
- 6. Received as a gift or inheritance
- 7. Target shooting
- 8. Collecting or restoration
- 9. Required for my job

----- **NEW SCREEN** -----

[PN: ASK Q12B_1 – Q12b_9 IF Q4=2 or no response or Q5=2 or no response]

Q12b. For each of the following statements, please indicate whether it is (yes) or is not (no) a reason why you do not own a gun?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

1. I have no interest in gun sports such as hunting or shooting
2. Owning a gun is too expensive
3. To keep the people in my home safe
4. I have children in my home
5. I'm not legally allowed
6. I'm scared of guns
7. I don't know how to use a gun
8. Guns are lethal
9. I don't want to own a gun

----- **NEW SCREEN** -----

[PN: ASK Q13 IF Q5=1 (yes)]

Q13. For how many years have you considered yourself a gun owner?

1. Less than 2 years
2. 2 to less than 5 years
3. 5 to 10 years
4. Greater than 10 years

[PN: ASK Q15 IF Q5=1 (yes)]

Q15. For each of the following gun types, please let us know what types of guns you personally own and approximately how many:

If 'none' please enter '0')

- a. Handgun(s) [text entry, numbers only, range 0-99]
- b. Shotgun(s) [text entry, numbers only, range 0-99]
- c. Rifle(s) [text entry, numbers only, range 0-99]

----- **NEW SCREEN** -----

[PN: ASK Q16 IF Q5=1 (yes)]

Q16. For the following questions, please indicate which option best describes how you store your guns that you personally own when not in use.

1. None of my guns
 2. Some of my guns
 3. All of my guns
- a. In a locked gun cabinet or a gun safe
 - b. In a gun case that you can carry
 - c. In a gun rack in my house
 - d. In another location on my property
 - e. In my vehicle
 - f. In another location, not on my property.

[PN: ASK Q17 IF Q5=1 (yes)]

Q17. Do you keep at least one gun loaded and unlocked on your property – even when it's not in use?

1. Yes
2. No

[PN: ASK Q20 IF Q5=1 (yes)]

Q20. Other than for hunting or sport, have you ever openly carried a gun in a public space?

1. Yes
2. No

----- **NEW SCREEN** -----

Q24. To what extent, if any, do you think a policy that requires gun owners to securely store a gun can impact each of the following:

1. Significantly decrease
 2. Somewhat decrease
 3. No effect
 4. Somewhat increase
 5. Significantly increase
-
- a. The number of people murdered by guns
 - b. The number of people who use a gun in suicide
 - c. The number of guns stolen each year
 - d. The frequency of mass shootings

----- **NEW SCREEN** -----

[PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS A-E; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION IN DATA FILE]

Q25. To what extent, if any, do you think a policy that promotes the open carry of firearms can impact each of the following:

1. Significantly decrease
 2. Somewhat decrease
 3. No effect
 4. Somewhat increase
 5. Significantly increase
-
- a. The number of people murdered by guns
 - b. The number of people who use a gun in suicide
 - c. The frequency of mass shootings
 - d. The number of guns stolen each year
 - e. The number of law enforcement involved shootings

----- **NEW SCREEN** -----

R21. Please indicate how concerned you are about each of the following, if at all:

5. Extremely concerned
4. Significantly concerned
3. Moderately concerned
2. Slightly concerned
1. Not at all concerned

[Randomize a-f]

- a. The most recent conflict between Israel and Hamas in Gaza
- b. Domestic terrorism (i.e. by US citizens), such as cyberattacks, bombings, or chemical attacks
- c. A potential mass shooting in **[INSERT RESPONDENT'S STATE]**

- d. Crime in your community
- e. The 2024 presidential election

----- NEW SCREEN -----

If R21A-f equals 3 or more, ask corresponding item in R22]

R22. Thinking again about [**insert item**] how concerned does it make you about your own personal safety, if at all?

- 5. A great deal
- 4. Somewhat
- 3. Not very much
- 2. Not much at all
- 1. I have not thought about it

ITEM list: If R21A-f equals 3 or more, ask corresponding item in R22]

- a. the most recent conflict between Israel and Hamas in Gaza
- b. domestic terrorism (i.e. by U.S. citizens), such as cyberattacks, bombings, or chemical attacks
- c. a potential mass shooting in the state where you live
- d. crime in your community
- e. the 2024 presidential election

----- NEW SCREEN -----

R23. In the past 12 months (between October 2023 and October 2024), have you done any of the following:

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

- 1. Changed your locks
- 2. Purchased a security system for your home
- 3. Purchased a firearm
- 4. Taken a self-defense class
- 5. Decided to skip or not attend an event
- 6. Something else to protect you or your family

----- NEW SCREEN -----

The next set of questions ask about whether or not you've ever experienced certain very stressful events. Remember that your answers will not be linked back to your personal information. Please answer the questions to the best of your ability. You can skip any questions you prefer not to answer.

Q26A. At any time in your life, have you ever seen or heard adults in your home physically assault or hit, punch, shove, choke, kick, or hurt each other?

1. Yes, as a child (under age 18)
2. Yes, as an adult (age 18 or older)
3. Yes, both as a child and as an adult
4. No, never

Q26B. At any time in your life, has something else extremely stressful or traumatic ever happened to you in which you or someone you care about may have been hurt or killed?

1. Yes, as a child (under age 18)
2. Yes, as an adult (age 18 or older)
3. Yes, both as a child and as an adult
4. No, never

Q26C. At any time in your life, have you ever seen a person badly hurt or kill someone in your community or other public space?

1. Yes, as a child (under age 18)
2. Yes, as an adult (age 18 or older)
3. Yes, both as a child and as an adult
4. No, never

----- NEW SCREEN -----

Q27A. At any time in your life, has someone ever physically assaulted or hit, punched, shoved, choked, kicked, or hurt you? *If yes, please select all that apply.* [programmer: allow multiple responses, unless "no" is selected]

1. No **[exclusive]**
2. Yes, as a child under age 18 by a romantic partner
3. Yes, as a child under age 18 by another person, not romantic partner
4. Yes, as an adult age 18+ by a romantic partner
5. Yes, as an adult age 18+ by another person, not romantic partner

Q27B. At any time in your life, has someone ever made you think they might badly hurt or kill you or someone you care about? *If yes, please select all that apply.* [programmer: allow multiple responses, unless "no" is selected]

1. No **[exclusive]**
2. Yes, as a child under age 18 by a romantic partner
3. Yes, as a child under age 18 by another person, not romantic partner
4. Yes, as an adult age 18+ by a romantic partner
5. Yes, as an adult age 18+ by another person, not romantic partner

Q27C. At any time in your life, has someone ever sexually assaulted you or forced you to engage in sexual behavior? *If yes, please select all that apply.* [programmer: allow multiple responses, unless "no" is selected]

1. No **[exclusive]**
2. Yes, as a child under age 18 by a romantic partner
3. Yes, as a child under age 18 by another person, not romantic partner
4. Yes, as an adult age 18+ by a romantic partner

5. Yes, as an adult age 18+ by another person, not romantic partner

Q27D. At any time in your life, has someone ever threatened to harm you or someone you care about with a firearm? *If yes, please select all that apply.* [programmer: allow multiple responses, unless “no” is selected]

1. No **[exclusive]**
2. Yes, as a child under age 18 by a romantic partner
3. Yes, as a child under age 18 by another person, not romantic partner
4. Yes, as an adult age 18+ by a romantic partner
5. Yes, as an adult age 18+ by another person, not romantic partner

Q27E. At any time in your life, has someone ever shot at or hurt you or someone you care about with a firearm? *If yes, please select all that apply.* [programmer: allow multiple responses, unless “no” is selected]

1. No **[exclusive]**
2. Yes, as a child under age 18 by a romantic partner
3. Yes, as a child under age 18 by another person, not romantic partner
4. Yes, as an adult age 18+ by a romantic partner
5. Yes, as an adult age 18+ by another person, not romantic partner

----- **NEW SCREEN** -----

Q28. Below is a list of responses that people sometimes have following a very stressful experience. Please read each statement carefully and then indicate how much you have been bothered by experiencing that response in the past 30 days.

In the past 30 days, how much were you bothered by:

- 0 Not at all
- 1 A little bit
- 2 moderately
- 3 Quite a bit
- 4 Extremely

- a. Repeated, disturbing, and unwanted memories of a stressful experience.
- b. Avoiding external reminders of a stressful experience (e.g., people, places, conversations, activities, objects, or situations).
- c. Having strong negative beliefs about yourself, other people, or the world (e.g., having thoughts such as: I am bad, there is something seriously wrong with me, no one can be trusted, the world is completely dangerous).
- d. Feeling jumpy or easily startled.

----- **NEW SCREEN** -----

Finally, a few questions for statistical purposes only.

D3. What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received?

- 1 Less than a high school diploma (Grades 1 through 11 or no schooling)
- 2 High school graduate (Grade 12 with diploma or GED certificate)
- 3 Technical, trade, vocational, or business school or program after high school
- 4 Some college - college, university, or community college - but no degree

- 5 Two-year associate degree from a college, university, or community college
- 6 Four-year bachelor's degree from a college or university (e.g., BS, BA, AB)
- 7 Some postgraduate or professional schooling after graduating college, but no postgraduate degree (e.g., some graduate school)
- 8 Postgraduate or professional degree, including master's, doctorate, medical, or law degree (e.g., MA, MS, PhD, MD, JD)

D5. In politics, as of today, do you consider yourself a Republican, a Democrat, or an Independent?

- 1 Republican
- 2 Democrat
- 3 Independent
- 4 Other party
- 8 Don't know

D8. How religious do you consider yourself to be?

- 1. Not religious
- 2. Slightly religious
- 3. Moderately religious
- 4. Very religious
- 5. Not sure

D10. Have you ever served in the U.S. military?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

[PROGRAMMER: IF YES TO D10, DISPLAY:] D11. Do you currently serve in the U.S. Military (i.e., active duty)?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

D12. Are you currently registered to vote?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

D9. What is your total ANNUAL household income, before taxes? Please include income from wages and salaries, remittances from family members living elsewhere, farming, and all other sources.

- 01 Less than \$12,000
- 02 \$12,000 to \$23,999
- 03 \$24,000 to \$35,999
- 04 \$36,000 to \$47,999
- 05 \$48,000 to \$59,999
- 06 \$60,000 to \$89,999
- 07 \$90,000 to \$119,999
- 08 \$120,000 to \$179,999
- 09 \$180,000 to \$239,999
- 10 \$240,000 and over
- 98 (Don't know)