

What do voters think about gun laws?

Despite the controversy surrounding the issue, the majority of voters favor common sense gun laws.

North Carolina: Here in North Carolina voters, including gun owners, support background checks and permits which can keep guns out of the wrong hands.¹

- 90% of North Carolina voters support background checks on all gun sales, this includes 87% of reported gun owners.
- Background checks have bi-partisan support; including 86% of Republicans and 87% of self-identified 'conservatives'.
- 67% of North Carolina voters support county permits for handguns, this includes 57% of reported gun owners.
- Handgun permits also have bi-partisan support; including 62% of Republicans and 59% of self-identified 'conservatives'.

Nationwide: Voters, including gun owners, support sensible gun laws which close legal gaps to keep guns out of the wrong hands²

- 90 percent of Americans and 90 percent of gun owners support fixing gaps in government databases that are meant to prevent the mentally ill, drug abusers and others from buying guns.
- 91 percent of Americans and 93 percent of gun owners support requiring federal agencies to share information about suspected dangerous persons or terrorists to prevent them from buying guns.
- 86 percent of Americans and 81 percent of gun owners support requiring all gun buyers to pass a background check, no matter where they buy the gun and no matter who they buy it from.
- 89 percent of Americans and 85 percent of gun owners support a law to require background checks for all guns sold at gun shows.
- 51% of voters feel the laws covering the sale of guns should be made more strict and 39% support keeping our current gun laws, **only 7% of voters think current gun laws should be less strict**
- 81% of voters support laws tracking the bulk purchase of assault rifles
- 74% of Americans and 70% of gun owners believe our government can both protect gun owners' rights, and simultaneously prevent criminals and other dangerous people from having guns.
- In the aftermath of the assassination attempt in Tucson 50% of Americans believe we should make it harder for dangerous people to have access to guns.

¹ Public Policy Polling, December, 2010

² Momentum Analysis & American Viewpoint Poll, 2011