

QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY

P O L L

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CONNECTICUT VOTERS BACK MOST GUN MEASURES 2-1 OR MORE, QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS; 93% WANT BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR ALL GUN BUYERS

By margins of 2-1 or more, Connecticut voters support most gun-control measures, with support for universal background checks at 93 – 6 percent, including 89 – 9 percent among voters in households where there are guns, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

Voters support stricter statewide gun-control laws 66 – 30 percent, the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University poll finds. Support for specific measures includes:

- 68 – 28 percent back an expansion of the statewide ban on the sale of assault weapons. Gun owners are opposed 49 – 44 percent;
- 68 – 28 percent back a ban on the sale of ammunition magazines with more than 10 rounds. Gun owners are divided 49 – 48 percent;
- 72 – 27 percent back registration of all handguns, with annual renewal. Gun owners are divided with 48 percent in favor and 50 percent opposed;
- 63 – 31 percent, including 50 – 46 percent among gun owners, favor limiting handgun purchases to one per month;
- 85 – 14 percent, including 71 – 28 percent among gun owners, back a permit requirement to purchase and carry all guns;
- 86 – 11 percent, including 85 – 12 percent among gun owners, favor a gun offender registry for those convicted of gun crimes;
- 76 – 19 percent, including 65 – 32 percent among gun owners, back stricter gun storage requirements;
- 50 – 43 percent back mandatory liability insurance for gun owners, who oppose this measure 71 – 26 percent.

“In the wake of the Newtown tragedy, there is overwhelming support among Connecticut voters for strengthening the state’s gun laws. It is remarkable how bipartisan the support is for some of the most talked-about gun-control measures. Universal background checks tops the list with 93 percent support, higher than we’ve ever seen for any issue in 20 years of Connecticut surveys,” said Douglas Schwartz, PhD, director of the Quinnipiac University poll.

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“Interestingly, Republican voters are divided 45 – 48 percent on the general question, ‘Do you support or oppose stricter gun-control laws in Connecticut.’ They support, however, most of the specific measures,” Dr. Schwartz added.

The Newtown tragedy makes them more likely to support gun-control, 54 percent of Connecticut voters say, while 43 percent say it makes no difference.

Voters are divided on a proposal to prohibit people convicted of drunk driving from owning guns, with 45 percent in favor and 48 percent opposed.

Voters also are divided on a proposed ban on children under 18 playing violent point-and-shoot video games in public arcades, with 46 percent in favor and 48 percent opposed.

Voters do support 54 – 41 percent placing armed police officers in public schools in the state.

Connecticut voters are divided on the way Gov. Dannel Malloy is handling gun policy, with 41 percent approving and 38 percent disapproving. Approval is 58 – 19 percent among Democrats, while disapproval is 55 – 30 percent among Republicans and 43 – 35 percent among independent voters.

Gov. Malloy is moving too quickly on gun-control, 33 percent of voters say, while 17 percent say he is not moving quickly enough and 42 percent say his pace is about right.

Voters also say 54 – 39 percent that Democrats and Republicans in the State Legislature will not be able to work together to reduce gun violence in Connecticut.

By a 42 – 20 percent margin, voters are more likely rather than less likely to back a state legislator who votes for stricter gun control. Another 35 percent say this won’t affect their vote.

“Connecticut voters are not optimistic that Democratic and Republican elected officials can or will act together to reduce gun violence,” Schwartz said. “Democrats are optimistic 50 – 43 percent, but Republicans are not, 64 – 32 percent, and independent voters are pessimistic, 58 – 35 percent.”

From March 4 – 5, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,009 registered voters with a margin of error of +/- 3.1 percentage points. Live interviewers call landlines and cell phones.

The Quinnipiac University Poll conducts public opinion surveys in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Florida, Ohio, Virginia, and the nation as a public service and for research.

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1. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Dannel Malloy is handling his job as Governor?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Gun HsHlds
Approve	43%	25%	63%	36%	41%	44%	30%
Disapprove	43	64	22	48	49	37	55
DK/NA	15	12	15	15	10	19	15

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Dannel Malloy is handling his job as Governor?

	Mar 06 2013	Oct 24 2012	Aug 28 2012	Jun 06 2012	Apr 25 2012	APPROVE..... High Oct 24 2012	Low Mar 09 2011
Approve	43	45	43	44	37	45	35
Disapprove	43	41	43	47	44	41	40
DK/NA	15	14	14	9	19	14	25

2. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Dannel Malloy is handling gun policy?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Gun HsHlds
Approve	41%	30%	58%	35%	35%	48%	28%
Disapprove	38	55	19	43	48	29	52
DK/NA	21	15	23	21	18	23	20

3. Do you support or oppose stricter gun control laws in Connecticut?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Gun HsHlds
Support	66%	45%	84%	63%	55%	75%	44%
Oppose	30	48	12	33	40	20	53
DK/NA	5	7	3	4	5	5	4

4x. Summary table for questions 4 through 15

	Support	Oppose
(4) Background checks for all gun buyers	93%	6%
(5) Expansion of statewide ban on assault weapons	68	28
(6) Statewide Ban on high-capacity magazines holding more than 10 bullets	68	28
(7) Registration of all handguns with annual renewal	72	27
(8) Limiting handgun purchases to one per month	63	31
(9) Requiring a permit to purchase and carry all guns	85	14
(10) Creating a gun offender registry	86	11
(11) Prohibiting drunk drivers from owning guns	45	48
(12) Stricter gun storage requirements	76	19
(13) Requiring gun owners to buy liability insurance	50	43
(14) Prohibiting children under 18 from playing violent point-and-shoot video games in public arcades	46	48
(15) Placing an armed police officer in public schools in Connecticut	54	41

4. (INTRO q4-q15: Do you support or oppose the following laws in Connecticut?)
Do you support or oppose requiring background checks for all gun buyers?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Gun HsHlds
Support	93%	91%	96%	92%	90%	96%	89%
Oppose	6	7	3	8	9	3	9
DK/NA	1	1	2	-	1	1	1

5. Do you support or oppose expanding the statewide ban on the sale of assault weapons?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Gun HsHlds
Support	68%	51%	85%	63%	56%	79%	44%
Oppose	28	43	10	33	41	16	49
DK/NA	5	5	5	4	4	5	7

6. Do you support or oppose a statewide ban on the sale of high-capacity ammunition magazines that hold more than 10 bullets?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Gun HsHlds
Support	68%	56%	85%	63%	56%	80%	49%
Oppose	28	40	11	35	42	16	48
DK/NA	3	4	5	2	2	5	3

7. Do you support or oppose requiring registration of all handguns with annual renewal?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Gun HsHlds
Support	72%	62%	88%	66%	59%	84%	48%
Oppose	27	36	12	32	40	14	50
DK/NA	2	3	-	2	1	2	1

8. Do you support or oppose limiting handgun purchases to one per month?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Gun HsHlds
Support	63%	56%	73%	61%	57%	69%	50%
Oppose	31	37	22	33	38	24	46
DK/NA	6	7	5	5	4	7	4

9. Do you support or oppose requiring a permit to purchase and carry all guns?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Gun HsHlds
Support	85%	83%	94%	81%	76%	93%	71%
Oppose	14	17	5	18	23	7	28
DK/NA	1	-	1	1	1	1	1

10. Do you support or oppose creating a gun offender registry for those convicted of crimes using a firearm?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Gun HsHlds
Support	86%	87%	88%	85%	87%	85%	85%
Oppose	11	10	9	12	12	9	12
DK/NA	4	3	3	4	1	6	3

11. Do you support or oppose prohibiting people convicted of drunk driving from owning guns?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Gun HsHlds
Support	45%	35%	51%	45%	34%	54%	35%
Oppose	48	57	42	49	60	37	58
DK/NA	7	8	7	7	6	9	7

12. Do you support or oppose having stricter gun storage requirements?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Gun HsHlds
Support	76%	66%	89%	72%	68%	83%	65%
Oppose	19	28	8	23	28	11	32
DK/NA	5	6	3	5	3	6	3

13. Do you support or oppose requiring gun owners to buy liability insurance?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Gun HsHlds
Support	50%	35%	65%	49%	37%	63%	26%
Oppose	43	58	29	46	57	31	71
DK/NA	6	8	7	5	5	7	3

14. Do you support or oppose prohibiting children under 18 from playing violent point-and-shoot video games in public arcades?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Gun HsHlds
Support	46%	46%	52%	43%	36%	56%	41%
Oppose	48	49	42	52	61	37	57
DK/NA	5	5	6	5	3	7	2

15. Do you support or oppose placing an armed police officer in public schools in Connecticut?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Gun HsHlds
Support	54%	56%	50%	55%	53%	55%	58%
Oppose	41	37	46	41	43	40	38
DK/NA	5	7	4	4	4	6	3

16. Do you think Governor Malloy is trying to change the state's gun laws too quickly, not quickly enough, or at about the right pace?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Gun HsHlds
Too quickly	33%	50%	12%	39%	46%	20%	53%
Not quickly enough	17	7	22	18	10	23	5
About right	42	35	54	36	36	47	32
DK/NA	9	7	12	7	8	10	10

17. If your state legislator votes for stricter gun control laws in Connecticut, would you be more likely to vote for that person, less likely to vote for that person, or wouldn't it make a difference?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Gun HsHlds
More likely	42%	27%	59%	36%	32%	52%	19%
Less likely	20	29	6	24	29	12	41
No difference	35	41	31	37	38	33	37
DK/NA	3	3	4	3	2	4	3

18. Do you think Republicans and Democrats in the state legislature will be able to work together to reduce gun violence in Connecticut or don't you think so?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Gun HsHlds
Yes/Work together	39%	32%	50%	35%	34%	44%	31%
No/Don't think so	54	64	43	58	61	48	64
DK/NA	7	4	7	7	5	8	5

19. Thinking about the school shootings in Newtown, would you say this incident has made you more likely to support stricter gun control laws, less likely to support stricter gun control laws, or made no difference in your opinion about gun control laws?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Gun HsHlds
More likely	54%	46%	66%	48%	44%	62%	38%
Less likely	3	5	1	4	3	3	6
No difference	43	49	33	46	52	34	56
DK/NA	1	1	-	2	1	1	1

19a. Thinking about the school shootings in Newtown, would you say this incident has made you more likely to support some forms of gun control, less likely to support some forms of gun control, or made no difference in your opinion on gun control?

COMBINED WITH: (If more likely/less likely) Is that much more/less likely or somewhat more/less likely?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Gun HsHlds
Much more likely	36%	28%	48%	31%	25%	47%	23%
Somewhat more likely	17	17	18	18	19	15	15
Somewhat less likely	1	3	1	2	2	1	2
Much less likely	1	2	-	2	2	1	4
No difference	43	49	33	46	52	34	56
DK/NA	1	1	1	2	1	1	1

20. Do you think that stricter state gun control laws will help Connecticut's economy, hurt Connecticut's economy, or not make a difference?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Gun HsHlds
Help	6%	4%	9%	4%	3%	8%	3%
Hurt	25	38	11	30	36	16	47
No difference	65	56	76	62	57	71	47
DK/NA	4	2	4	3	3	5	3

20x. Do you or does anyone in your house own a gun, or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Yes	27%	36%	18%	29%	35%	20%
No	67	55	80	65	58	76
DK/NA	5	9	2	6	7	4