

Table 2.79

Attitudes toward laws covering the sale of firearms

By demographic characteristics, United States, 1996

Question: "In general, do you feel that the laws covering the sale of firearms should be made more strict, less strict, or kept as they are now?"

	More strict	Less strict	Kept as they are now	Don't know/refused
National	61%	9%	26%	4%
<u>Sex</u>				
Male	48	13	36	3
Female	73	5	17	5
<u>Race</u>				
White	59	9	28	4
Black	77	4	17	2
Nonwhite ^a	75	4	16	5
<u>Age</u>				
18 to 29 years	65	8	25	2
30 to 49 years	61	10	26	3
50 to 64 years	57	9	29	5
50 years and older	60	7	27	6
65 years and older	63	6	24	7
<u>Education</u>				
College post graduate	65	7	24	4
College graduate	58	14	23	5
Some college	66	8	23	3
No college	58	8	30	4
<u>Income</u>				
\$50,000 and over	61	11	26	2
\$30,000 to \$49,999	59	9	29	3
\$20,000 to \$29,999	62	6	29	3
Under \$20,000	66	7	23	4
<u>Community</u>				
Urban area	72	6	19	3
Suburban area	57	10	29	4
Rural area	51	10	34	5
<u>Region</u>				
East	68	8	20	4
Midwest	63	4	29	4
South	55	11	30	4
West	62	10	23	5
<u>Politics</u>				
Republican	51	13	33	3
Democrat	73	4	20	3
Independent	58	10	26	6

Note: For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 6.

^aIncludes black respondents.

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