Table 2.80

Attitudes toward various gun control issues

By demographic characteristics, United States, 1995

Question: "Please tell me for each of the following statements whether you strongly agree, agree, neither agree nor disagree, disagree or strongly disagree."

(Percent responding "strongly agree" or "agree")

	Armed citizens are the best defense against criminals	Parents should be charged with a crime if their children injure themselves or others with a gun kept in their household	It should be easier for law-abiding citizens to carry concealed handguns	Companies that manufacture guns with no hunting or sporting purpose should be held financially responsible when these guns injure or kill people
National	33.3%	55.6%	32.6%	45.4%
Sex				
Male	41.6	54.7	39.3	39.8
Female	25.5	56.5	26.3	50.7
Race				
White	33.6	57.6	33.2	43.6
Black	32.7	39.4	31.1	51.9
Hispanic	31.5	54.1	28.4	47.3
Age				
18 to 29 years	33.9	46.4	33.9	43.9
30 to 39 years	36.1	59.4	36.3	46.9
40 to 59 years	32.8	58.2	31.8	44.5
60 years and older	30.6	56.6	29.3	45.9
Education				
College graduate	23.4	60.2	25.5	51.3
Some college	37.2	57.3	39.2	43.0
High school graduate	35.1	52.5	32.0	47.7
Less than high school graduate	45.1	50.5	35.3	33.7
Income				
Over $60,000	33.3	62.6	28.5	48.4
Between $30,000 and $60,000	33.2	55.4	34.4	47.8
Between $15,000 and $29,999	33.1	56.1	36.7	43.9
Less than $15,000	40.0	51.3	28.6	48.7
Community				
Urban	26.8	58.0	35.9	48.1
Suburban	29.7	62.5	27.2	47.1
Small city	29.4	57.4	28.7	50.5
Rural/small town	41.2	50.3	37.0	41.1
Region				
Northeast	19.8	59.7	24.4	56.3
Midwest	28.7	45.6	26.9	42.9
South	41.7	53.1	38.9	42.9
West	35.3	65.7	35.3	43.4
Politics				
Republican	39.1	57.8	41.0	39.1
Democrat	29.6	54.6	29.2	55.0
Independent/other	32.7	54.9	30.3	44.4

Note: See Note, table 2.22.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by the Survey Research Program, College of Criminal Justice, Sam Houston State University.