

AMERICAN VIEWPOINT

MOMENTUM ANALYSIS



National Survey
Toplines (n=1003; gun owners = 451)
January 14, 2011

Hello. My name is _____. I'm calling to conduct a public opinion survey and I would like to ask you some questions about issues affecting your family and community. I am not selling anything, and at no time will I ask you for a contribution or a donation. You will not be added to any mailing list as a result of your participation. May I speak to the youngest man, over age 18, who is at home right now? **(IF NO MALE)** Okay, may I speak to the youngest woman, over age 18, who is at home right now? **IF RESPONDENT, CONTINUE) (IF YES, REPEAT INTRODUCTION FOR NEW RESPONDENT AND CONTINUE)**

CODE, BUT DO NOT ASK:

	Total	Gun HH
Male	48	59
Female.....	52	41

1. Are you currently registered to vote at this address?

	Total	Gun HH
Yes	100	100
No.....	TERMINATE	
DK/ref	TERMINATE	

2. I'm going to read you a name of a person and after that, please tell me your impression of them. Do you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable impression of **Barack Obama**? If you have never heard of him (5), or if you don't know enough about him to have an impression (6), just say so and we'll move on.

	Total	Gun HH
Very favorable	32	21
Somewhat favorable.....	22	20
Somewhat unfavorable.....	18	23
Very unfavorable	26	34
Never heard.....	0	0
Don't Know	3	2
NET FAVORABLE.....	54	41
NET UNFAVORABLE	44	57

3. In general, do you feel the laws covering the sale of guns should be made more strict, less strict, or kept as they are now?

	Total	Gun HH
More strict.....	51	36
Less strict	7	10
Kept as they are now.....	39	50
DK/ref [VOL]	3	4

4. Do you believe the Second Amendment to the US Constitution guarantees the rights of Americans to own guns, or do you believe it only guarantees members of state militias such as the National Guard units the right to own guns?

	Total	Gun HH
Rights of Americans	79	90
Only members of state militias	14	6
No opinion [vol].....	7	4

5. How much, if at all, have you been following the news about a shooting in Tucson of a Congresswoman, along with nearly twenty others? Would you say you are following the story...

	Total	Gun HH
Extremely closely.....	16	17
Very closely	33	35
Somewhat closely	35	34
Not too closely	10	9
Not at all closely	6	5
DK/ref [VOL]	0	0
NET MORE CLOSELY (SOMEWHAT+)	84	86
NET LESS CLOSELY (NOT TOO OR <)	16	14

Now I'm going to read you some more about this incident. As you may know, on Saturday an Arizona Congresswoman was shot at close range while she met with constituents at a grocery store. Six people were killed, including a federal judge and a 9-year-old girl, and over a dozen others were injured. The alleged gunman passed a background check and bought a Glock 9-millimeter semi-automatic pistol, along with an extended magazine holding more than 30 bullets. The alleged gunman also has a history of drug use, disturbed behavior and outbursts, causing him to be expelled from community college and rejected from the military.

6. Based on what you have heard, what external factor played the largest role in this incident?

7. What external factor would you say played the second largest role?

	1 st	2 nd	TOT	Gun HH
SHUFFLE 1-5				
Lax gun laws	21	17	37	30
Poor mental health care and treatment.....	42	18	58	55
Heated rhetoric by political figures.....	5	6	11	12
Poor security around government officials	8	13	21	22
Media coverage more focused on political conflict than on policy	5	10	15	15
Poor values/parenting (<i>open end</i>)	1	1	2	2
Drug Use (<i>open end</i>).....	0	1	2	2
Something else [VOL; "please specify: ____"].....	3	3	5	6
No external factor is responsible.....	10	18	18	21
DK/ref [VOL]	5	14	14	15

8. Based on what I've just read and what you already know, how, if at all, has this incident changed your opinion about gun laws?

	Total	Gun HH
ROTATE ORDER 1-3 OR 3-1		
I now feel more strongly that we should make gun laws more strict	41	27
I now feel more strongly that we should keep gun laws as they are now	8	10
I now feel more strongly that we should make gun laws less strict..	4	5
This incident has not changed my views on gun laws	46	58
DK/ref [VOL]	2	1

9. How worried are you about the possibility of another attack on a government official?

	Total	Gun HH
Extremely worried	11	8
Very worried	14	11
Somewhat worried	34	34
Not too worried	21	21
Not at all worried	18	24
DK/ref [VOL]	1	2
NET MORE WORRIED (SOMEWHAT+)	59	53
NET LESS WORRIED (NOT TOO OR <)	39	45

10. What, if anything, should be Congress's top priority as a result of this incident?

	Total	Gun HH
SHUFFLE 1-3		
Prohibiting violent campaign rhetoric and imagery directed at Members of Congress	11	10
Requiring self-defense gun training for all Members of Congress and their staff	9	11
Making it harder for dangerous people to have access to guns	50	43
OR		
Congress should not be doing anything differently as a result of this incident	25	31
DK/ref [VOL]	6	6

11. Which comes closer to your own view?

	Total	Gun HH
ROTATE FIRST TWO		
We need to protect Americans' constitutional right to own a gun ...	12	15
We need to have effective laws preventing criminals, terrorists, drug abusers, and the mentally ill from having guns	30	24
We need to do both simultaneously	48	52
I'm not sure about this	9	8
Refuse [vol].....	1	1

12. How possible do you think it is for our government to both protect gun owners' rights, and simultaneously prevent criminals and other dangerous people from having guns?

	Total	Gun HH
Extremely possible.....	15	16
Very possible	23	20
Somewhat possible.....	36	34
Not too possible	12	14
Not at all possible.....	11	14
DK/ref [vol]	3	3
NET MORE POSSIBLE (SOMEWHAT+)	74	70
NET LESS POSSIBLE (NOT TOO OR <)	23	28

Now I'm going to read you a list of proposals. After each, please tell me whether you favor or oppose this proposal. If you're not sure, just say so and we'll move on. **[AFTER EACH FAV/OPOSE:]** Do you (favor/oppose) this strongly, or not so strongly?

SHUFFLE	Fav Strng	Fav Smwt	Opp Swmt	Opp Strng	DK/ref	NET FAV	NET OPP
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13. Fill the four-year vacancy for director of the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms, the agency that is primarily responsible for enforcing our nation's gun laws

Total	50	23	5	5	17	74	10
<i>Gun HH</i>	48	23	6	5	18	72	11

14. Fix the gaps in government databases that are meant to prevent the mentally ill, drug abusers and others from buying guns

Total	77	12	4	3	4	90	7
<i>Gun HH</i>	74	16	3	3	4	90	7

15. Require federal agencies to share information about suspected dangerous persons or terrorists, in order to prevent them from buying guns

Total	75	16	4	2	3	91	6
<i>Gun HH</i>	77	16	2	3	2	93	5

16. Prohibit anyone other than law enforcement from knowingly carrying a gun within 1,000 feet of the President, Members of Congress or federal judges

Total	50	17	17	11	5	67	28
<i>Gun HH</i>	40	20	23	12	5	60	35

17. Fully enforce gun laws currently on the books

Total	67	16	4	3	9	83	7
<i>Gun HH</i>	66	17	5	4	8	83	9

18. Ban anyone arrested for a drug charge or who fails a federally-administered drug test from buying guns for five years

Total	57	17	11	11	4	74	23
<i>Gun HH</i>	55	17	11	13	4	72	24

19. Notify state and local police when someone fails a background check for a gun							
Total	61	17	8	10	4	79	18
<i>Gun HH</i>	59	19	10	11	3	77	21
20. Increase spending on security for Members of Congress							
Total	19	21	31	22	7	40	53
<i>Gun HH</i>	17	19	33	24	7	36	58
21. Fully fund the enforcement of the law Congress passed after the Virginia Tech massacre to prevent people with a history of mental illness from buying guns							
Total	74	15	5	3	4	89	7
<i>Gun HH</i>	75	14	4	4	4	89	7
22. Ban the sale of all handguns							
Total	10	7	61	19	3	17	80
<i>Gun HH</i>	5	4	76	14	2	9	90
23. Prohibit people on the terrorist watch lists from purchasing guns							
Total	77	11	5	4	3	88	9
<i>Gun HH</i>	77	10	4	5	4	88	9
24. Prohibit anyone convicted of a misdemeanor sex crime from purchasing guns							
Total	43	15	15	20	8	57	35
<i>Gun HH</i>	39	14	18	24	6	53	41
25. Track bulk purchases of assault rifles, which have become the weapon of choice of Mexican drug cartels							
Total	71	11	10	4	5	81	14
<i>Gun HH</i>	68	12	10	6	5	80	16
26. Require gun owners to alert police if their guns are lost or stolen							
Total	86	9	3	2	1	94	5
<i>Gun HH</i>	80	14	4	2	1	94	5
27. Ban the sale of high-capacity ammunition magazines							
Total	44	13	23	13	7	58	36
<i>Gun HH</i>	35	14	28	17	6	49	45
28. Require every gun owner to register each gun he or she owns as part of a national gun registry							
Total	54	12	25	6	2	66	32
<i>Gun HH</i>	36	13	39	9	3	49	48
29. Require all gun buyers at gun shows to pass a criminal background check							
Total	78	11	6	3	2	89	9
<i>Gun HH</i>	72	13	9	4	3	85	12

30. Require all gun buyers to pass a criminal background check, no matter where they buy the gun and no matter who they buy it from

Total	77	9	8	5	2	86	13
<i>Gun HH</i>	68	13	10	7	2	81	17

31. Require all people buying ammunition to pass a criminal background check

Total	56	13	19	10	2	69	29
<i>Gun HH</i>	40	16	28	13	3	56	41

32. Allow Members of Congress to carry guns in Washington, DC, including on the floor of the House and the Senate

Total	22	15	39	17	7	37	56
<i>Gun HH</i>	28	18	32	16	6	46	48

Thank you. The remaining questions are demographic questions for classification purposes only. Remember, we will not sell your information to anyone.

33. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an independent, or something else? **[IF REPUBLICAN/DEMOCRAT, ASK:]** Do you consider yourself a strong (Republican/Democrat) or a not so strong (Republican/Democrat)? **[IF INDEPENDENT, ASK:]** Would you say you lean more toward the Republicans or more toward the Democrats?

	Total	Gun HH
Strong Republican.....	18	22
Not so strong Republican.....	11	13
Independent, lean Republican.....	10	12
Independent.....	10	10
Independent, lean Democrat	10	8
Not so strong Democrat	10	9
Strong Democrat	19	14
Something else	10	10
DK.....	2	2
NET REPUBLICAN.....	39	46
NET DEMOCRAT.....	39	31

34. What is your current age? **[CODE VERBATIM RESPONSE. DK/REF=999]**

	Total	Gun HH
<34	25	24
35-44	16	17
45-54	20	21
54-65	19	19
65+	18	17
DK/ref	2	2

35. What is the highest level of education you have had the opportunity to complete?

	Total	Gun HH
Less than HS	4	2
HS graduate.....	19	18
Some college/vocational/2-year college	29	30
College graduate	27	30
Post graduate.....	21	20
DK/ref	1	0

36. What is your race? Would you say you are white, black, Hispanic, Asian, or something else?

	Total	Gun HH
White.....	75	84
Black	12	5
Hispanic	6	7
Asian	1	0
Multi racial [VOL]	2	2
Something else [please specify: _____].....	1	1
DK/ref	3	1

37. Thinking about to the 2008 presidential election, did you vote for [ROTATE] Democrat Barack Obama OR Republican John McCain, or did you not have an opportunity to vote in that election?

	Total	Gun HH
Obama.....	42	34
McCain.....	38	49
Don't remember [vol].....	1	1
Did not vote.....	11	11
Refused [vol].....	8	5

38. Are you, or is anyone in your household, a member of the National Rifle Association, or the NRA?

	Total	Gun HH
Yes, self.....	8	13
Yes, other	5	9
Yes, both	2	4
No.....	82	72
DK/ref	2	2
TOTAL YES	15	26

39. Do you, or does anyone in your household, currently own any guns or rifles?

	Total	Gun HH
Yes, self.....	23	50
Yes, other	12	27
Yes, both	10	23
No.....	49	0
DK/ref	6	0
TOTAL YES	45	100

IF Q39=1-3

40. And how many guns or rifles are owned by you and the members of your household?

[CODE VERBATIM RESPONSE. DK/REF=999]	Total/Gun HH
1.....	21
2.....	18
3.....	13
4-9	20
10+	11
DK/ref	17

RESUME ASKING EVERYONE

Thank you for your cooperation. That completes our survey!