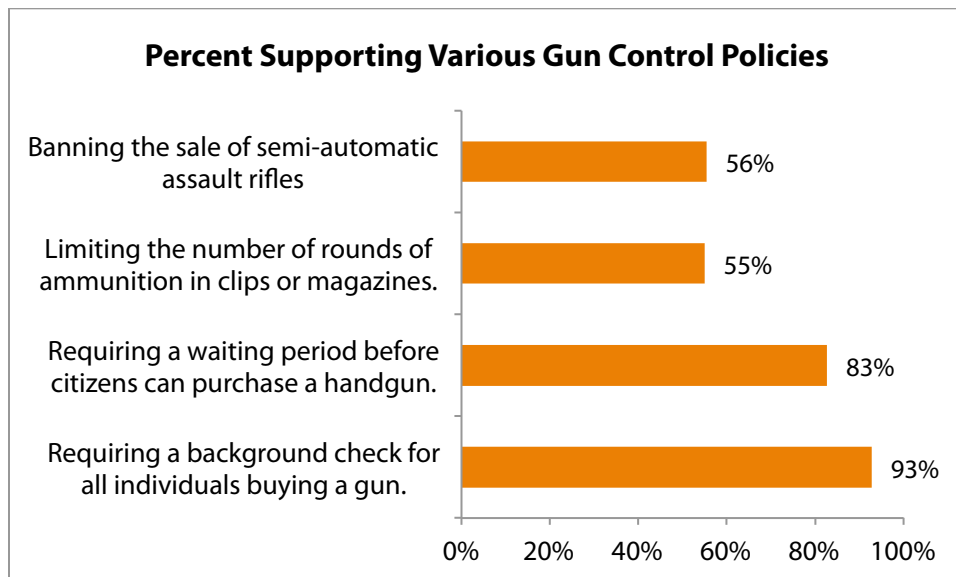


## Attitudes on Gun Control in North Carolina

Elon University Poll

February 24-28, 2013

A recent survey conducted by the Elon University Poll found strong support for a variety of proposals to regulate the purchase of guns. Almost 93% of those surveyed said they supported a background check for all individuals buying a gun. Support for a waiting period before purchasing a gun received almost 83 percent support. Although support dropped for proposals limiting the number of rounds in a magazine and banning assault rifles, still over half of those sampled supported both these proposals. Fifty-five percent of respondents supported limiting the number of rounds in clips, and about the same proportion supported the banning of assault rifles.



Support for these gun control measures was high for most groups. Democrats, women, African Americans, and respondents with a college degree or higher were the most supportive of these policy proposals. Republicans generally supported background checks (91% support) and waiting periods (76% support), but most Republicans opposed limiting the number of rounds in a magazine (35% support) and banning assault rifles (38% support).

To some extent attitudes on gun control have likely been influenced by the media attention surrounding the tragedy in Newton, Connecticut on December 14, 2012. But some gun control measures seem to have enduring support. An April 2010 Elon University Poll found 84 percent of North Carolinians supported a waiting period before citizens can purchase a handgun.

Now, I'm going to read you a list of specific ways some people have proposed to deal with guns. Please tell me if you [support or oppose] each of the following.

Requiring a background check for all individuals buying a gun.

	No.	%
Support.....	827.....	92.80%
Oppose.....	54.....	6.10%
Don't know / No Opinion.....	9.....	1.00%
Refused.....	1.....	0.10%
N=.....	891.....	100.00%

Requiring a waiting period before citizens can purchase a handgun.

	No.	%
Support.....	737.....	82.70%
Oppose.....	134.....	15.00%
Don't know / No Opinion.....	19.....	2.20%
Refused.....	1.....	0.10%
N=.....	891.....	100.00%

Limiting the number of rounds of ammunition in clips or magazines.

	No.	%
Support.....	490.....	55.00%
Oppose.....	346.....	38.90%
Don't know / No Opinion.....	54.....	6.00%
Refused.....	1.....	0.20%
N=.....	891.....	100.00%

Banning the sale of semi-automatic assault rifles

	No.	%
Support.....	494.....	55.50%
Oppose.....	354.....	39.70%
Don't know / No Opinion.....	39.....	4.40%
Refused.....	3.....	0.40%
N=.....	891.....	100.00%

**Table 1: Party ID and Background Checks**

	Support %	Oppose %	Don't Know %	Total %
Democrats	95	4	1	100
Independents	94	5	1	100
Republicans	91	8	1	100
Don't Know / Refused	89	11	0	100
Total	93	6	1	100

**Table 2: Party ID and Waiting Period**

	Support %	Oppose %	Don't Know %	Total %
Democrats	89	9	1	100
Independents	85	15	1	100
Republicans	76	21	3	100
Don't Know / Refused	76	19	6	100
Total	83	15	2	100

**Table 3: Party ID and Clip Limits**

	Support %	Oppose %	Don't Know %	Total %
Democrats	77	17	6	100
Independents	54	41	5	100
Republicans	35	59	6	100
Don't Know / Refused	47	44	9	100
Total	55	39	6	100

**Table 4: Party ID and Semi-Auto Ban**

	Support %	Oppose %	Don't Know %	Total %
Democrats	78	18	4	100
Independents	53	42	5	100
Republicans	38	59	3	100
Don't Know / Refused	48	45	7	100
Total	56	40	4	100

**Table 5: Gender and Background Checks**

	Support %	Oppose %	Total %
Male	92	8	100
Female	97	3	100
Total	94	6	100

**Table 6: Gender and Waiting Period**

	Support %	Oppose %	Total %
Male	82	18	100
Female	90	10	100
Total	86	14	100

**Table 7: Gender and Clip Limit**

	Support %	Oppose %	Total %
Male	49	51	100
Female	68	32	100
Total	58	42	100

**Table 8: Gender and Semi-Auto Ban**

	Support %	Oppose %	Total %
Male	44	56	100
Female	72	28	100
Total	57	43	100

**Table 9: Age and Background Checks**

	Support %	Oppose %	Don't Know %	Total %
18-30	94	5	1	100
31-40	94	6	1	100
41-50	91	7	1	100
51-65	95	5	1	100
65+	90	7	3	100
Total	93	6	1	100

**Table 10: Age and Waiting Period**

	Support %	Oppose %	Don't Know %	Total %
18-30	74	23	3	100
31-40	82	18	1	100
41-50	87	11	1	100
51-65	89	10	2	100
65+	84	11	5	100
Total	83	15	2	100

**Table 11: Age and Clip Limit**

	Support %	Oppose %	Don't Know %	Total %
18-30	49	49	2	100
31-40	56	37	8	100
41-50	50	43	7	100
51-65	60	36	4	100
65+	61	26	13	100
Total	55	39	6	100

**Table 12: Age and Semi-Auto Ban**

	Support %	Oppose %	Don't Know %	Total %
18-30	46	51	3	100
31-40	56	38	5	100
41-50	52	45	3	100
51-65	65	31	5	100
65+	62	31	7	100
Total	56	40	4	100

**Table 13: Race and Background Checks**

	Support %	Oppose %	Don't Know %	Total %
White	92	7	1	100
Black	97	2	1	100
Other	93	7	0	100
Total	93	6	1	100

**Table 14: Race and Waiting Period**

	Support %	Oppose %	Don't Know %	Total %
White	81	16	2	100
Black	87	11	2	100
Other	83	17	0	100
Total	83	15	2	100

**Table 15: Race and Clip Limit**

	Support %	Oppose %	Don't Know %	Total %
White	50	45	5	100
Black	72	19	9	100
Other	60	36	4	100
Total	55	39	6	100

**Table 16: Race and Semi-Auto Ban**

	Support %	Oppose %	Don't Know %	Total %
White	51	44	4	100
Black	68	27	6	100
Other	64	33	3	100
Total	56	40	4	100

**Table 17: Income and Background Checks**

	Support %	Oppose %	Don't Know %	Total %
Less than \$25,000	91	7	1	100
\$25,000 to \$50,000	95	4	1	100
\$50,000 to \$75,000	94	6	0	100
More than \$75,000	92	7	1	100
Total	93	6	1	100

**Table 18: Income and Waiting Period**

	Support %	Oppose %	Don't Know %	Total %
Less than \$25,000	82	15	3	100
\$25,000 to \$50,000	83	14	3	100
\$50,000 to \$75,000	76	21	3	100
More than \$75,000	88	12	0	100
Total	83	15	2	100

**Table 19: Income and Clip Limits**

	Support %	Oppose %	Don't Know %	Total %
Less than \$25,000	55	35	10	100
\$25,000 to \$50,000	57	38	4	100
\$50,000 to \$75,000	53	44	3	100
More than \$75,000	54	43	4	100
Total	55	40	5	100

**Table 20: Income and Semi-Auto Ban**

	Support %	Oppose %	Don't Know %	Total %
Less than \$25,000	57	37	6	100
\$25,000 to \$50,000	60	36	4	100
\$50,000 to \$75,000	54	44	2	100
More than \$75,000	52	44	4	100
Total	55	41	4	100

## Basic Methodological Information

---

Mode:	Live Interviewer RDD Telephone Interviews (Dual Frame: Cell Phone and Landlines)
Sample Area:	North Carolina
Dates in the field:	February 24 – February 28, 2013
Sample Size	891
Margin of Error	±3.28
Confidence Level	95%
Weighting Variables	Age , Race, Gender, and Phone Ownership

For more information on the Elon University Poll, visit [www.elon.edu/elonpoll](http://www.elon.edu/elonpoll)

**or contact:**

**Kenneth E. Fernandez, Ph.D.**

Director of the Elon University Poll & Assistant Professor of Political Science  
[kfernandez@elon.edu](mailto:kfernandez@elon.edu) (336) 278-6438

**Jason A. Husser, Ph.D.**

Assistant Director of the Elon University Poll & Assistant Professor of Political Science  
[jhusser@elon.edu](mailto:jhusser@elon.edu) (336) 278-5239