

Mayors Against Illegal Guns



**GUN OWNERS:
NRA Gun-Owners & Non-NRA Gun-Owners
December 2009**

The following are key findings from a national survey of 832 gun owners (401 NRA gun-owners and 431 non-NRA gun-owners) conducted by The Word Doctors on behalf of Mayors Against Illegal Guns on November 25 – December 2, 2009. The sample is subject to a margin of error of 3.5%.

1. First, what is your gender?

NRA	NON-NRA	
73%	55%	MALE
27%	46%	FEMALE

2. And what is your age?

NRA	NON-NRA	
25%	20%	18-39
19%	20%	40-49
36%	44%	50-64
20%	16%	65+

3. How many guns do you or does a member of your family own?

NRA	NON-NRA	
-	-	NONE (TERMINATE)
18%	25%	ONE
16%	20%	TWO
26%	30%	THREE – FIVE
17%	15%	SIX – NINE
24%	11%	TEN OR MORE

4. Are you a member of the National Rifle Association (NRA)?

NRA	NON-NRA	
-	100%	I AM NOT A MEMBER OF THE NRA (TERMINATE ONCE NON-NRA SAMPLE EXCEEDS 400 RESPONDENTS)
100%	-	I AM A MEMBER OF THE NRA

5. Which do you believe should be a higher priority for America right now?

NRA	NON-NRA	
61%	50%	PROMOTING PERSONAL FREEDOM
39%	50%	PROMOTING NATIONAL, STATE AND LOCAL SAFETY AND SECURITY

6. And when you think about where you live and work, do you feel ... today than you did five years ago?

NRA	NON-NRA	
19%	8%	SAFER (NET)
9%	3%	MUCH SAFER
11%	5%	SOMEWHAT SAFER
38%	47%	ABOUT THE SAME
26%	30%	SOMEWHAT LESS SAFE
18%	16%	MUCH LESS SAFE
43%	46%	LESS SAFE (NET)

Now let's talk about issues and policies involving guns...

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

NRA	NON-NRA	
48%	53%	KEPT AS THEY ARE NOW
35%	18%	LESS STRICT
16%	26%	MORE STRICT
1%	2%	DON'T HAVE AN OPINION

Now you're going to read several statements about gun laws and policies and I want you to tell me whether you ... with each statement...

8. "Support for Second Amendment rights goes hand-in-hand with keeping illegal guns out of the hands of criminals."

NRA	NON-NRA	
83%	73%	AGREE (NET)
62%	50%	STRONGLY AGREE
21%	23%	SOMEWHAT AGREE
9%	18%	NEUTRAL/NO OPINION
4%	5%	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE
4%	4%	STRONGLY DISAGREE
8%	9%	DISAGREE (NET)

9. "Criminals who possess, use, and traffic in illegal guns should be punished to the maximum extent of the law."

NRA	NON-NRA	
96%	94%	AGREE (NET)
86%	85%	STRONGLY AGREE
10%	9%	SOMEWHAT AGREE
3%	4%	NEUTRAL/NO OPINION
1%	1%	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE
1%	1%	STRONGLY DISAGREE
2%	1%	DISAGREE (NET)

10. "Irresponsible gun dealers who break the law by **knowingly** selling guns to unqualified purchasers should be held accountable to the maximum extent of the law."

NRA	NON-NRA	
90%	93%	AGREE (NET)
72%	79%	STRONGLY AGREE
18%	14%	SOMEWHAT AGREE
7%	5%	NEUTRAL/NO OPINION
2%	1%	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE
2%	1%	STRONGLY DISAGREE
4%	2%	DISAGREE (NET)

11. “The federal government should not restrict the police’s ability to access, use, and share data that helps them enforce federal, state and local gun laws.”

NRA	NON-NRA	
69%	74%	AGREE (NET)
42%	51%	STRONGLY AGREE
26%	23%	SOMEWHAT AGREE
17%	17%	NEUTRAL/NO OPINION
7%	5%	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE
8%	4%	STRONGLY DISAGREE
15%	10%	DISAGREE (NET)

12. “Federal, state and local governments should partner with the firearms industry to develop safeguards to identify criminals attempting to purchase guns.”

NRA	NON-NRA	
81%	83%	AGREE (NET)
54%	63%	STRONGLY AGREE
27%	20%	SOMEWHAT AGREE
11%	11%	NEUTRAL/NO OPINION
4%	3%	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE
5%	2%	STRONGLY DISAGREE
8%	5%	DISAGREE (NET)

13. “Law-abiding Americans should have the freedom to choose how to protect themselves, based on their personal situation. No local, state or federal government should dictate this decision.”

NRA	NON-NRA	
92%	83%	AGREE (NET)
79%	64%	STRONGLY AGREE
13%	19%	SOMEWHAT AGREE
5%	9%	NEUTRAL/NO OPINION
2%	7%	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE
2%	2%	STRONGLY DISAGREE
3%	9%	DISAGREE (NET)

14. “We can do more to stop criminals from getting guns while also protecting the rights of citizens to freely own them.”

NRA	NON-NRA	
86%	86%	AGREE (NET)
66%	63%	STRONGLY AGREE
20%	23%	SOMEWHAT AGREE
8%	9%	NEUTRAL/NO OPINION
3%	3%	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE
4%	2%	STRONGLY DISAGREE
7%	5%	DISAGREE (NET)

15. Looking at those seven statements, which one do you agree with the most?

NRA	NON-NRA	
42%	33%	“Law-abiding Americans should have the freedom to choose how to protect themselves, based on their personal situation. No local, state or federal government should dictate this decision.”
22%	19%	“Criminals who possess, use, and traffic in illegal guns should be punished to the maximum extent of the law.”
10%	18%	“We can do more to stop criminals from getting guns while also protecting the rights of citizens to freely own them.”
13%	8%	“Support for Second Amendment rights goes hand-in-hand with keeping illegal guns out of the hands of criminals.”
6%	9%	“Irresponsible gun dealers who break the law by <u>knowingly</u> selling guns to unqualified purchasers should be held accountable to the maximum extent of the law.”
3%	7%	“Federal, state and local governments should partner with the firearms industry to develop safeguards to identify criminals attempting to purchase guns.”
3%	5%	“The federal government should not restrict the police’s ability to access, use, and share data that helps them enforce federal, state and local gun laws.”
2%	2%	None of them

16. And which one do you agree with next most?

NRA	NON-NRA	
25%	19%	“Criminals who possess, use, and traffic in illegal guns should be punished to the maximum extent of the law.”
17%	21%	“We can do more to stop criminals from getting guns while also protecting the rights of citizens to freely own them.”
18%	15%	“Law-abiding Americans should have the freedom to choose how to protect themselves, based on their personal situation. No local, state or federal government should dictate this decision.”
14%	16%	“Irresponsible gun dealers who break the law by <u>knowingly</u> selling guns to unqualified purchasers should be held accountable to the maximum extent of the law.”
13%	9%	“Support for Second Amendment rights goes hand-in-hand with keeping illegal guns out of the hands of criminals.”
5%	12%	“Federal, state and local governments should partner with the firearms industry to develop safeguards to identify criminals attempting to purchase guns.”
7%	7%	“The federal government should not restrict the police’s ability to access, use, and share data that helps them enforce federal, state and local gun laws.”
2%	1%	None of them

15/16. Looking at those seven statements, which one do you agree with the most? And which one do you agree with next most? **(COMBINED ANSWERS)**

NRA	NON-NRA	
60%	48%	“Law-abiding Americans should have the freedom to choose how to protect themselves, based on their personal situation. No local, state or federal government should dictate this decision.”
46%	38%	“Criminals who possess, use, and traffic in illegal guns should be punished to the maximum extent of the law.”
26%	38%	“We can do more to stop criminals from getting guns while also protecting the rights of citizens to freely own them.”
20%	25%	“Irresponsible gun dealers who break the law by <u>knowingly</u> selling guns to unqualified purchasers should be held accountable to the maximum extent of the law.”
25%	17%	“Support for Second Amendment rights goes hand-in-hand with keeping illegal guns out of the hands of criminals.”
8%	18%	“Federal, state and local governments should partner with the firearms industry to develop safeguards to identify criminals attempting to purchase guns.”
10%	11%	“The federal government should not restrict the police’s ability to access, use, and share data that helps them enforce federal, state and local gun laws.”
4%	4%	None of them

Now we are going to discuss a few policies and proposals under consideration, as well as some existing laws that are being discussed. Do you ... the following?

17. A proposal prohibiting people on the terrorist watch lists from purchasing guns.

NRA	NON-NRA	
82%	86%	SUPPORT (NET)
61%	69%	STRONGLY SUPPORT
21%	17%	SOMEWHAT SUPPORT
9%	9%	NEUTRAL/NO OPINION
5%	4%	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE
4%	2%	STRONGLY OPPOSE
9%	5%	OPPOSE (NET)

18. A proposal requiring all gun sellers at gun shows to conduct criminal background checks of the people buying guns.

NRA	NON-NRA	
69%	85%	SUPPORT (NET)
44%	64%	STRONGLY SUPPORT
25%	21%	SOMEWHAT SUPPORT
12%	8%	NEUTRAL/NO OPINION
8%	4%	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE
10%	3%	STRONGLY OPPOSE
19%	7%	OPPOSE (NET)

19. A proposal requiring gun owners to alert police if their guns are lost or stolen.

NRA	NON-NRA	
78%	88%	SUPPORT (NET)
54%	70%	STRONGLY SUPPORT
24%	17%	SOMEWHAT SUPPORT
11%	9%	NEUTRAL/NO OPINION
6%	2%	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE
5%	1%	STRONGLY OPPOSE
11%	3%	OPPOSE (NET)

20. A proposal requiring every gun owner to register each gun he or she owns as part of a national gun registry.

NRA	NON-NRA	
30%	46%	SUPPORT (NET)
20%	32%	STRONGLY SUPPORT
10%	14%	SOMEWHAT SUPPORT
11%	12%	NEUTRAL/NO OPINION
8%	14%	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE
51%	28%	STRONGLY OPPOSE
59%	42%	OPPOSE (NET)

21. A proposal requiring gun retailers to perform background checks on all employees to ensure they are not felons.

NRA	NON-NRA	
82%	85%	SUPPORT (NET)
54%	65%	STRONGLY SUPPORT
28%	20%	SOMEWHAT SUPPORT
13%	11%	NEUTRAL/NO OPINION
3%	3%	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE
3%	2%	STRONGLY OPPOSE
6%	5%	OPPOSE (NET)

22. A federal law allowing guns to be carried in America's national parks.

NRA	NON-NRA	
76%	51%	SUPPORT (NET)
55%	29%	STRONGLY SUPPORT
21%	22%	SOMEWHAT SUPPORT
15%	23%	NEUTRAL/NO OPINION
6%	12%	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE
4%	15%	STRONGLY OPPOSE
10%	27%	OPPOSE (NET)

23 A federal law allowing guns to be carried in bags on Amtrak trains.

NRA	NON-NRA	
61%	33%	SUPPORT (NET)
41%	19%	STRONGLY SUPPORT
20%	14%	SOMEWHAT SUPPORT
19%	25%	NEUTRAL/NO OPINION
9%	21%	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE
11%	20%	STRONGLY OPPOSE
20%	42%	OPPOSE (NET)

24. A federal law making it illegal to manufacture, sell, or possess semi-automatic weapons, sometimes known as “assault rifles.”

NRA	NON-NRA	
30%	47%	SUPPORT (NET)
20%	31%	STRONGLY SUPPORT
10%	17%	SOMEWHAT SUPPORT
12%	17%	NEUTRAL/NO OPINION
10%	12%	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE
48%	24%	STRONGLY OPPOSE
58%	36%	OPPOSE (NET)

25. How familiar would you say you are with the Supreme Court case Heller v. D.C.?

NRA	NON-NRA	
30%	70%	NOT FAMILIAR AT ALL
19%	17%	ONLY A LITTLE FAMILIAR
34%	10%	SOMEWHAT FAMILIAR
17%	3%	VERY FAMILIAR

26. In the Heller v. D.C. case, the Supreme Court ruled that there is a constitutional right to keep a loaded handgun at home for self-defense. Do you ____ with this ruling?

NRA	NON-NRA	
95%	92%	AGREE (NET)
82%	76%	STRONGLY AGREE
13%	17%	SOMEWHAT AGREE
4%	4%	NO OPINION
1%	2%	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE
1%	2%	STRONGLY DISAGREE
2%	4%	DISAGREE (NET)

27. The Heller case concerned only federal laws. The Supreme Court will soon determine whether state and local gun laws should also fall under the Second Amendment. With that in mind, do you ... with this statement:

“The Second Amendment should apply to state and local laws, not just federal laws.”

NRA	NON-NRA	
93%	86%	AGREE (NET)
76%	64%	STRONGLY AGREE
17%	22%	SOMEWHAT AGREE
3%	5%	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE
2%	2%	STRONGLY DISAGREE
2%	7%	NOT SURE
5%	7%	DISAGREE (NET)

28. Do you think President Obama will attempt to ban the sales of guns in the United States at some point while he is president?

NRA	NON-NRA	
79%	57%	YES (NET)
44%	27%	DEFINITELY
35%	30%	PROBABLY
12%	18%	PROBABLY NOT
5%	12%	DEFINITELY NOT
4%	14%	NOT SURE
18%	30%	NO (NET)

We're almost finished. But first, we are going to ask a few questions about the recent shootings at Fort Hood.

29. Prior to the Fort Hood shootings, Major Nidal Hasan had been under investigation by the FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force for having at least ten contacts with a radical Muslim cleric with ties to al-Qaeda. With that in mind, do you ... with this statement:

"The FBI should be able to access and keep information about gun purchases by terror suspects in cases similar to Major Hasan."

NRA	NON-NRA	
90%	93%	AGREE (NET)
64%	75%	STRONGLY AGREE
26%	18%	SOMEWHAT AGREE
5%	2%	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE
2%	2%	STRONGLY DISAGREE
3%	4%	NOT SURE
7%	3%	DISAGREE (NET)

30. Despite being under investigation for having multiple contacts with a radical Muslim cleric with ties to al-Qaeda, Major Nidal Hasan passed a background check and was able to buy the gun he used in the shooting at Fort Hood. With that in mind, do you ... with this statement:

"The FBI should have had the option of blocking Hasan from purchasing the gun because of the open investigation into his ties to terrorists."

NRA	NON-NRA	
87%	90%	AGREE (NET)
64%	73%	STRONGLY AGREE
23%	17%	SOMEWHAT AGREE
6%	3%	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE
4%	2%	STRONGLY DISAGREE
4%	5%	NOT SURE
10%	5%	DISAGREE (NET)

Now a few final questions for statistical purposes only ...

31. Where are you **PERSONALLY MOST** likely to get your news and information about national and international events?

NRA	NON-NRA	
32%	23%	FOX NEWS
14%	16%	CNN
7%	12%	ABC
7%	10%	CBS
8%	10%	NBC
10%	9%	NONE OF THESE
6%	7%	LOCAL NEWSPAPER
7%	4%	TALK RADIO
3%	5%	MSNBC
1%	2%	CNBC
1%	1%	NPR
1%	1%	PBS
2%	1%	USA TODAY
1%	1%	WALL STREET JOURNAL
1%	-	NEW YORK TIMES

32. And what is your second most likely source of news for national and international events?

NRA	NON-NRA	
15%	15%	LOCAL NEWSPAPER
16%	11%	FOX NEWS
11%	11%	CBS
11%	9%	TALK RADIO
7%	10%	ABC
6%	11%	NBC
10%	8%	NONE OF THESE
10%	7%	CNN
4%	6%	MSNBC
3%	5%	CNBC
3%	1%	NEW YORK TIMES
1%	2%	NPR
2%	1%	USA TODAY
1%	1%	PBS
1%	1%	WALL STREET JOURNAL

31/32. Where are you **PERSONALLY MOST** likely to get your news and information about national and international events? And what is your second most likely source of news for national and international events? (COMBINED ANSWERS)

NRA	NON-NRA	
46%	33%	FOX NEWS
23%	22%	CNN
20%	20%	LOCAL NEWSPAPER
17%	20%	CBS
18%	17%	NONE OF THESE
13%	21%	ABC
13%	21%	NBC
17%	12%	TALK RADIO
7%	10%	MSNBC
4%	6%	CNBC
2%	3%	NPR
4%	2%	USA TODAY
3%	1%	NEW YORK TIMES
2%	2%	PBS
2%	1%	WALL STREET JOURNAL

33. What was your final level of education you achieved?

NRA	NON-NRA	
41%	50%	SOME COLLEGE/VOCATIONAL SCHOOL/COMMUNITY COLLEGE
26%	19%	4-YEAR COLLEGE GRAD
15%	20%	HIGH SCHOOL GRAD OR LESS
17%	11%	A POST GRADUATE DEGREE
1%	1%	DECLINE TO STATE

34. In the 2008 presidential election, did you vote for Barack Obama ... John McCain ... or someone else? If you were among the tens of millions of people who did not vote, just say so.

NRA	NON-NRA	
58%	46%	JOHN MCCAIN
21%	27%	BARACK OBAMA
6%	9%	REGISTERED BUT DID NOT VOTE
3%	8%	NOT REGISTERED TO VOTE
6%	6%	DECLINE TO STATE
6%	4%	SOMEONE ELSE

35. And if the election for Congress were held today and you had to make a decision, would you be more likely to vote for a ... candidate?

NRA	NON-NRA	
55%	41%	REPUBLICAN
18%	27%	DEMOCRAT
18%	24%	TRULY EQUAL
10%	9%	DECLINE TO STATE

36. And which of the following best describes where you live?

NRA	NON-NRA	
37%	32%	SUBURBAN
27%	35%	RURAL/FARM AREA
17%	19%	SMALL TOWN
19%	14%	URBAN/INNER CITY

37. What area of the country do you currently live in?

NRA	NON-NRA	
35%	37%	South
24%	28%	Industrial Midwest
25%	21%	West/Pacific
16%	14%	North East