

FOR RELEASE: MAY 31, 2018

**SUPPORT FOR GUN CONTROL DIPS IN TEXAS,
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS;
BARE MAJORITY FOR ARMING TEACHERS**

With big gender, party and racial divisions, Texas voters are divided on “stricter gun laws in the United States,” as 49 percent support stricter laws and 45 percent are opposed, according to a Quinnipiac University Poll released today.

This is down from the 55 – 41 percent for stricter gun laws in an April 19 survey by the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University.

In today’s results, support for stricter gun laws is 56 – 39 percent among women, with men opposed 51 – 42 percent. Support is 68 – 29 percent among black voters and 58 – 36 percent among Hispanic voters. White voters are opposed 53 – 43 percent.

Republicans oppose stricter gun laws 70 – 25 percent. Support is 79 – 17 percent among Democrats and 53 – 42 percent among independent voters.

There is no division among groups as Texas voters support 93 – 6 percent requiring background checks for all gun buyers. Gun owners support universal background checks 92 – 7 percent.

There are gender, racial and party divisions as Texas voters support 51 – 45 percent allowing teachers and school officials to carry guns on school grounds.

Voters with children under 18 years old in public schools support arming teachers and school officials 54 – 44 percent. Gun owners support the idea 69 – 28 percent.

“The tragedy at the Santa Fe school south of Houston changed few opinions among Texas voters about gun control. Support for gun control in general is down slightly, while support for background checks for all gun buyers is virtually unchanged,” said Peter A. Brown, assistant director of the Quinnipiac Poll.

“While 51 percent of Texas voters want to arm teachers and other school officials, 87 percent of voters want armed security officers in the schools.”

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By a much larger 87 – 11 percent, Texas voters support having armed security officers in schools. Support is 77 percent or higher among every listed party, gender, education, age and racial group, including parents of schoolchildren and voters in gun households.

Texas voters support 64 – 27 percent holding parents legally responsible if their child commits a crime with the parent’s gun. Support is consistent among all listed groups.

Voters also support 64 – 33 percent laws requiring that all guns be kept in a locked place. Gun owners are divided as 47 percent support such laws and 49 percent oppose them.

Texas voters support 50 – 44 percent a nationwide ban on the sale of assault weapons. Again, there are wide gender, party and racial divisions.

Support for such a ban increases with age:

- Voters 18 to 34 years old are divided, with 47 percent supporting a ban and 49 percent opposed;
- Voters over 65 years old support a ban 57 – 35 percent.

From May 23 – 29, Quinnipiac University surveyed 961 Texas voters with a margin of error of +/- 3.8 percentage points, including the design effect. Live interviewers call landlines and cell phones.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Douglas Schwartz, Ph.D., conducts nationwide public opinion surveys, and statewide polls in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Florida, Ohio, Virginia, Iowa, Colorado and Texas as a public service and for research.

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12. Do you support or oppose stricter gun laws in the United States?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG				
							Yes	No			
Support	49%	25%	79%	53%	42%	56%	48%	39%			
Oppose	45	70	17	42	51	39	48	56			
DK/NA	6	5	5	5	6	6	5	5			
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....						
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Support	52%	46%	47%	56%	37%	47%	43%	68%	58%		
Oppose	41	48	47	38	59	47	53	29	36		
DK/NA	6	6	6	6	4	6	5	4	6		
	GUN.....		DENSITY.....			HAVE KIDS <18 YRS					
	HsHld	Owner	City	Suburb	Rural	Yes	InPublic School				
Support	39%	37%	57%	49%	35%	43%	42%				
Oppose	55	58	37	44	61	53	55				
DK/NA	5	5	6	7	5	4	3				

13. Do you support or oppose requiring background checks for all gun buyers?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG				
							Yes	No			
Support	93%	91%	98%	93%	91%	95%	94%	91%			
Oppose	6	7	2	6	8	4	5	8			
DK/NA	2	3	-	1	2	1	1	1			
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....						
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Support	96%	91%	93%	91%	88%	95%	92%	96%	95%		
Oppose	3	7	6	8	10	4	7	4	4		
DK/NA	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	-	1		
	GUN.....		DENSITY.....			HAVE KIDS <18 YRS					
	HsHld	Owner	City	Suburb	Rural	Yes	InPublic School				
Support	92%	92%	95%	94%	89%	90%	89%				
Oppose	7	7	4	4	8	8	9				
DK/NA	1	1	-	3	3	1	1				

14. Do you support or oppose a nationwide ban on the sale of assault weapons?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG				
							Yes	No			
Support	50%	31%	83%	50%	41%	60%	46%	42%			
Oppose	44	63	15	44	55	34	48	53			
DK/NA	5	5	2	6	5	6	7	4			
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....						
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Support	47%	47%	52%	57%	34%	52%	44%	73%	56%		
Oppose	49	49	43	35	63	40	51	23	42		
DK/NA	4	4	5	8	3	8	5	4	1		
	GUN.....		DENSITY.....			HAVE KIDS <18 YRS					
	HsHld	Owner	City	Suburb	Rural	Yes	InPublic School				
Support	38%	33%	57%	46%	44%	43%	45%				
Oppose	56	61	39	48	51	54	52				
DK/NA	5	5	5	6	5	3	3				

15. Do you support or oppose laws requiring that all guns be kept in a locked place?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG				
							Yes	No			
Support	64%	53%	84%	62%	56%	72%	50%	61%			
Oppose	33	44	12	35	41	24	46	36			
DK/NA	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	3			
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....						
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Support	66%	66%	62%	69%	45%	64%	55%	84%	74%		
Oppose	33	32	35	27	52	32	41	11	24		
DK/NA	2	3	3	4	3	4	3	4	2		
	GUN.....		DENSITY.....			HAVE KIDS <18 YRS					
	HsHld	Owner	City	Suburb	Rural	Yes	InPublic School				
Support	49%	47%	69%	63%	58%	61%	63%				
Oppose	47	49	28	35	38	37	34				
DK/NA	3	3	3	2	4	2	3				

16. Do you support or oppose holding parents legally responsible if their child commits a crime with the parent's gun?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG				
							Yes	No			
Support	64%	60%	68%	65%	68%	59%	64%	62%			
Oppose	27	28	23	27	25	29	25	24			
DK/NA	9	12	9	8	7	12	11	14			
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....						
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Support	65%	68%	59%	68%	65%	61%	63%	68%	64%		
Oppose	27	26	32	21	25	25	25	26	30		
DK/NA	8	7	9	11	10	14	12	6	6		
	GUN.....		DENSITY.....			HAVE KIDS <18 YRS					
	HsHld	Owner	City	Suburb	Rural	Yes	InPublic	School			
Support	66%	66%	69%	61%	56%	65%	66%				
Oppose	26	26	23	30	32	27	26				
DK/NA	8	7	8	9	12	8	9				

17. Do you support or oppose allowing teachers and school officials to carry guns on school grounds?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG				
							Yes	No			
Support	51%	78%	12%	50%	57%	45%	59%	69%			
Oppose	45	18	83	47	39	51	37	26			
DK/NA	4	4	6	3	3	5	4	5			
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....						
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Support	49%	48%	54%	51%	72%	58%	65%	17%	43%		
Oppose	49	50	42	41	26	36	31	79	54		
DK/NA	1	2	4	8	2	6	4	4	3		
	GUN.....		DENSITY.....			HAVE KIDS <18 YRS					
	HsHld	Owner	City	Suburb	Rural	Yes	InPublic	School			
Support	65%	69%	48%	46%	62%	56%	54%				
Oppose	32	28	47	49	35	42	44				
DK/NA	4	4	4	4	2	2	2				

18. Do you support or oppose having armed security officers in schools?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....				
							COLLEGE DEG				
							Yes	No			
Support	87%	95%	77%	85%	89%	85%	90%	91%			
Oppose	11	4	19	14	10	12	8	6			
DK/NA	2	2	4	1	1	3	2	3			
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....						
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Support	84%	86%	88%	88%	92%	90%	91%	81%	83%		
Oppose	14	11	10	9	7	6	7	17	16		
DK/NA	2	3	1	3	1	4	2	2	2		
	GUN.....		DENSITY.....			HAVE KIDS <18 YRS					
	HsHld	Owner	City	Suburb	Rural	Yes	InPublic School				
Support	93%	95%	85%	87%	92%	89%	88%				
Oppose	6	4	13	11	6	9	10				
DK/NA	1	1	2	2	2	2	2				