

FOR RELEASE: MARCH 22, 2018

**MOST U.S. VOTERS BACK LIFE OVER DEATH PENALTY,
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY NATIONAL POLL FINDS;
VOTERS BACK ANTI-GUN MARCH 2-1, BUT SAY IT WON'T WORK**

In a simple question, American voters support the death penalty 58 – 33 percent for persons convicted of murder, according to a Quinnipiac University National Poll released today.

But when offered a choice between the death penalty or life in prison with no chance of parole, American voters choose the life option 51 – 37 percent, the first time a majority of voters backed the life without parole option since the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University Poll first asked this question in 2004.

There are deep party and gender divisions as Republicans back the death penalty 59 – 29 percent. Backing the life option are Democrats 73 – 19 percent and independent voters 49 – 37 percent. Women back the life option 56 – 33 percent. Men are divided as 45 percent back the life option and 42 percent support the death penalty.

American voters are more united as they oppose 71 – 21 percent, including 57 – 35 percent opposition among Republicans, imposing the death penalty for persons convicted of selling drugs that cause a lethal overdose.

Voters say 75 – 20 percent that this use of the death penalty would not help stop the opioid crisis.

But voters say 64 – 31 percent that the death penalty should not be abolished nationwide. Democrats are divided as 47 percent say abolish the death penalty and 46 percent say don't abolish it. Every other listed party, gender, education, age and racial group is opposed to abolishing the death penalty.

“It's a mixed message on a question that has moral and religious implications. Voters are perhaps saying, ‘Keep the death penalty, but just don't use it,’” said Tim Malloy, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Poll.

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Quinnipiac University Poll/March 22, 2018 – page 2

“Despite what President Donald Trump says, neither Democrats nor Republicans have the stomach for executing drug dealers,” Malloy added.

Climate Change

A total of 69 percent of American voters are “very concerned” or “somewhat concerned” about climate change, while 31 percent are “not so concerned” or “not concerned at all.”

A total of 62 percent are “very concerned” or “somewhat concerned” that they or a family member will be personally affected by climate change, while 37 percent are “not so concerned” or “not concerned at all.”

Only 22 percent of voters say the U.S. is doing enough to address climate change, while 10 percent say the U.S. is doing too much and 63 percent say more needs to be done.

More needs to be done, say 27 percent of Republicans, 92 percent of Democrats and 64 percent of independent voters.

Climate change contributed to the recent surge of storms battering New England, 48 percent of American voters say.

Gun Violence

American voters approve 63 – 31 percent a nationwide march Saturday in support of stricter gun laws. Republicans disapprove of the march 61 – 31 percent. Voters say 62 – 31 percent, however, that the march will not be effective in getting new gun laws passed.

President Donald Trump must do more to reduce gun violence, 61 percent of voters say, as 32 percent say he is doing enough.

Congress must do more to reduce gun violence, 68 percent of voters say, as 25 percent say Congress is doing enough.

From March 16 – 20, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,291 voters nationwide with a margin of error of +/- 3.3 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 and Colorado as a public service and for research.

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27. Do you support or oppose the death penalty for persons convicted of murder?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Support	58%	82%	38%	57%	66%	50%	53%	71%
Oppose	33	13	52	33	27	39	39	24
DK/NA	9	5	10	10	7	11	8	5

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Support	57%	60%	57%	56%	68%	56%	62%	42%	50%
Oppose	36	30	35	33	28	35	32	41	38
DK/NA	7	10	8	11	4	9	6	17	13

28. Which punishment do you prefer for people convicted of murder: the death penalty or life in prison with no chance of parole?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Death penalty	37%	59%	19%	37%	42%	33%	32%	47%
Life/No parole	51	29	73	49	45	56	55	40
DK/NA	12	12	9	14	13	11	13	12

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Death penalty	28%	40%	42%	35%	46%	34%	40%	23%	34%
Life/No parole	58	47	48	53	41	54	48	70	57
DK/NA	13	13	9	12	13	12	12	7	10

TREND: Which punishment do you prefer for people convicted of murder: the death penalty or life in prison with no chance of parole?

	Death Pen	Life NoPar	DK/NA
Mar 22, 2018	37	51	12
Jun 01, 2015	43	48	9
May 02, 2013	48	43	9
Jul 17, 2008	47	44	9
Dec 14, 2004	42	46	12

29. Do you support or oppose the death penalty for persons convicted of selling drugs that contributed to a fatal overdose?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG			
							Yes	No		
Support	21%	35%	7%	22%	24%	18%	16%	29%		
Oppose	71	57	87	69	70	73	77	62		
DK/NA	8	8	6	9	6	9	7	9		
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Support	18%	19%	20%	25%	26%	19%	22%	4%	29%	
Oppose	82	74	72	63	68	71	69	90	69	
DK/NA	1	8	8	12	6	10	8	6	3	

30. Do you think allowing the death penalty to be brought against people convicted of selling drugs that contributed to a fatal overdose will help stop the opioid crisis, or don't you think that will help stop the opioid crisis?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG			
							Yes	No		
Yes/Help stop crisis	20%	33%	7%	19%	24%	15%	16%	24%		
No	75	57	91	76	72	78	80	68		
DK/NA	5	10	3	5	4	7	4	7		
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Yes/Help stop crisis	21%	21%	17%	18%	23%	17%	20%	3%	31%	
No	76	77	80	74	73	76	74	95	65	
DK/NA	3	2	3	8	4	7	6	2	4	

40. How concerned are you about climate change; very concerned, somewhat concerned, not so concerned, or not concerned at all?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG			
							Yes	No		
Very concerned	42%	11%	72%	39%	33%	50%	45%	30%		
Smwht concerned	27	27	23	30	29	25	29	25		
Not so concerned	16	30	4	16	21	11	13	21		
Not concerned at all	15	32	1	14	17	13	12	23		
DK/NA	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	1		
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Very concerned	42%	45%	40%	42%	30%	45%	38%	57%	54%	
Smwht concerned	30	25	30	23	29	26	27	29	24	
Not so concerned	18	17	13	15	21	14	17	13	14	
Not concerned at all	9	13	16	20	20	15	17	1	7	
DK/NA	1	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	

TREND: How concerned are you about climate change; very concerned, somewhat concerned, not so concerned, or not concerned at all?

	Very Concern	Smwht Concern	NotSo Concern	Not Concern	DK/NA
Mar 22, 2018	42	27	16	15	1
Sep 28, 2017	45	27	10	18	-
Aug 16, 2017	45	28	12	14	1
Jun 07, 2017	49	27	10	13	-
Apr 05, 2017	45	31	11	12	1
Mar 24, 2017	43	30	15	12	-
Mar 08, 2017	46	25	14	15	1
Feb 08, 2017	44	28	12	14	-
Jan 27, 2017	44	30	14	12	-
Jan 12, 2017	45	29	14	13	1

See additional trend information on website

41. How concerned are you that you or a member of your family will be personally affected by climate change: very concerned, somewhat concerned, not so concerned, or not concerned at all?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Very concerned	35%	11%	59%	34%	26%	44%	35%	29%
Smwht concerned	27	22	31	29	27	27	29	24
Not so concerned	17	25	7	19	20	13	19	18
Not concerned at all	20	42	2	18	26	14	17	29
DK/NA	1	-	1	1	1	1	-	1

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Very concerned	32%	38%	34%	37%	22%	40%	32%	46%	46%
Smwht concerned	28	25	31	24	27	27	27	35	27
Not so concerned	20	19	13	15	22	15	18	10	11
Not concerned at all	19	18	22	23	28	17	23	7	14
DK/NA	1	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	2

TREND: How concerned are you that you or a member of your family will be personally affected by climate change: very concerned, somewhat concerned, not so concerned, or not concerned at all?

	Very Concern	Smwht Concern	NotSo Concern	Not Concern	DK/NA
Mar 22, 2018	35	27	17	20	1
Sep 28, 2017	36	28	13	22	1
Aug 16, 2017	37	29	14	19	1
Apr 05, 2017	37	29	16	17	1

42. Do you think the United States is doing enough to address climate change, doing too much, or do you think more needs to be done to address climate change?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....			
							Yes	No		
Doing enough	22%	41%	6%	24%	26%	18%	22%	28%		
Doing too much	10	24	2	7	14	6	8	15		
More to be done	63	27	92	64	55	70	66	50		
DK/NA	5	8	1	4	4	5	4	7		

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....				
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Doing enough	22%	17%	25%	23%	28%	22%	25%	11%	17%
Doing too much	7	11	11	11	17	7	12	3	8
More to be done	68	69	61	58	51	65	58	83	72
DK/NA	3	3	4	7	5	6	5	3	3

TREND: Do you think the United States is doing enough to address climate change, doing too much, or do you think more needs to be done to address climate change?

	Doing Enough	Doing TooMuch	MoreTo BeDone	DK/NA
Mar 22, 2018	22	10	63	5
Sep 28, 2017	21	12	63	5
Aug 16, 2017	19	13	64	4
Jun 07, 2017	19	12	65	4
Apr 05, 2017	18	18	59	5
Mar 24, 2017	19	17	59	4
Mar 08, 2017	18	19	59	4
Feb 08, 2017	17	18	59	5
Dec 03, 2015	21	17	57	5

43. As you may know, New England has recently experienced multiple large snow storms over a matter of weeks. Do you think that climate change contributed to these events, or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....			
							Yes	No		
Yes/Contributed	48%	17%	77%	47%	39%	56%	47%	39%		
No	41	74	12	41	51	32	41	51		
DK/NA	11	9	11	12	10	12	12	10		

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....				
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Yes/Contributed	53%	49%	49%	46%	33%	52%	43%	78%	60%
No	37	39	43	42	56	37	46	16	30
DK/NA	11	13	8	11	10	12	11	5	10

44. Would you like to see the death penalty abolished nationwide, or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Yes/Abolished	31%	13%	47%	30%	26%	35%	36%	24%
No	64	84	46	64	72	57	60	72
DK/NA	5	3	6	6	3	7	4	4

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Yes/Abolished	34%	28%	31%	31%	26%	34%	30%	35%	33%
No	62	68	64	63	73	59	66	56	60
DK/NA	4	4	5	6	1	6	4	9	7

45. Do you think Congress is doing enough to reduce gun violence or do you think Congress needs to do more to reduce gun violence?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Doing enough	25%	46%	3%	27%	33%	17%	21%	34%
Do more	68	41	96	64	58	77	72	56
DK/NA	8	13	1	9	9	7	7	9

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Doing enough	28%	24%	25%	20%	36%	19%	28%	8%	18%
Do more	67	66	69	72	54	73	64	90	76
DK/NA	5	10	6	8	9	7	8	2	7

	Gun HsHld	DENSITY.....			HAVE KIDS <18 YRS InPublic School	
		City	Suburb	Rural	Yes	School
Doing enough	37%	19%	19%	38%	29%	26%
Do more	53	75	75	50	63	66
DK/NA	10	5	6	12	7	8

TREND: Do you think Congress is doing enough to reduce gun violence or do you think Congress needs to do more to reduce gun violence?

	Doing Enough	Do More	DK/NA
Mar 22, 2018	25	68	8
Feb 20, 2018	17	75	8
Dec 20, 2017	25	67	8
Nov 15, 2017	23	69	9
Oct 12, 2017	24	68	8

46. Do you think President Trump is doing enough to reduce gun violence or do you think President Trump needs to do more to reduce gun violence?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....			
							Yes	No		
Doing enough	32%	64%	4%	32%	39%	25%	32%	39%		
Do more	61	26	92	60	53	68	63	51		
DK/NA	7	10	4	7	7	7	6	10		
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Doing enough	31%	29%	35%	29%	43%	29%	36%	12%	26%	
Do more	65	61	60	61	49	64	57	85	70	
DK/NA	4	10	6	9	8	8	8	3	4	
	Gun DENSITY.....				HAVE KIDS <18 YRS					
	HsHld	City	Suburb	Rural	Yes	InPublic School				
Doing enough	45%	25%	26%	47%	37%	34%				
Do more	46	70	68	42	56	59				
DK/NA	9	5	6	10	7	7				

47. In general, do you think that President Trump is afraid of the NRA, or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....			
							Yes	No		
Yes/Afraid	37%	9%	66%	36%	32%	43%	42%	26%		
No	57	89	26	59	65	50	54	71		
DK/NA	5	2	8	4	3	7	4	3		
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Yes/Afraid	37%	34%	40%	39%	28%	39%	34%	56%	44%	
No	59	63	55	54	69	56	62	32	50	
DK/NA	5	4	5	6	2	4	3	12	6	
	Gun DENSITY.....				HAVE KIDS <18 YRS					
	HsHld	City	Suburb	Rural	Yes	InPublic School				
Yes/Afraid	27%	43%	42%	24%	32%	34%				
No	71	49	54	73	64	62				
DK/NA	2	8	3	4	4	4				

TREND: In general, do you think that President Trump is afraid of the NRA, or not?

	Yes	No	DK/NA
Mar 22, 2018	37	57	5
Mar 06, 2018	31	65	5

48. As you may know, there is a march in support of stricter gun laws planned for the end of March. Do you approve or disapprove of this protest?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....				
							Yes	No			
Approve	63%	31%	94%	63%	56%	70%	66%	53%			
Disapprove	31	61	5	29	39	23	27	40			
DK/NA	6	9	1	8	5	7	6	7			
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....						
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Approve	65%	62%	67%	63%	52%	67%	60%	88%	69%		
Disapprove	29	30	29	32	43	26	34	7	28		
DK/NA	7	8	4	4	5	8	7	6	4		
	Gun DENSITY.....				HAVE KIDS <18 YRS						
	HsHld	City	Suburb	Rural	Yes	InPublic School					
Approve	49%	71%	70%	46%	56%	60%					
Disapprove	45	25	23	46	36	32					
DK/NA	6	4	6	9	8	8					

49. Do you think that the march in support of stricter gun laws will be effective in getting new gun laws passed, or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....				
							Yes	No			
Yes/Effective	31%	17%	48%	27%	26%	35%	32%	25%			
No	62	77	43	66	69	55	61	66			
DK/NA	7	6	9	7	5	10	7	9			
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....						
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Yes/Effective	28%	22%	35%	33%	22%	34%	28%	43%	41%		
No	67	69	59	58	72	56	64	48	54		
DK/NA	5	8	6	9	6	10	8	9	5		
	Gun DENSITY.....				HAVE KIDS <18 YRS						
	HsHld	City	Suburb	Rural	Yes	InPublic School					
Yes/Effective	21%	35%	33%	22%	24%	26%					
No	72	58	61	68	69	68					
DK/NA	6	7	6	10	6	5					