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**U.S. VOTERS SAY SNOWDEN IS WHISTLE-BLOWER, NOT TRAITOR,  
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY NATIONAL POLL FINDS;  
BIG SHIFT ON CIVIL LIBERTIES VS. COUNTER-TERRORISM**

American voters say 55 – 34 percent that Edward Snowden is a whistle-blower, rather than a traitor, according to a Quinnipiac University national poll released today.

In a massive shift in attitudes, voters say 45 – 40 percent the government’s anti-terrorism efforts go too far restricting civil liberties, a reversal from a January 14, 2010, survey by the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University when voters said 63 – 25 percent that such activities didn’t go far enough to adequately protect the country.

Almost every party, gender, income, education, age and income group regards Snowden as a whistle-blower rather than a traitor. The lone exception is black voters, with 43 percent calling him a traitor and 42 percent calling him a whistle-blower.

There is a gender gap on counter-terrorism efforts as men say 54 – 34 percent they have gone too far and women say 47 – 36 percent they have not gone far enough. There is little difference among Democrats and Republicans who are about evenly divided. Independent voters say 49 – 36 percent that counter-terrorism measures have gone too far.

Some of the largest growth in those concerned about the threat to civil liberties is among men and Republicans, groups historically more likely to be supportive of governmental anti-terrorism efforts.

“The massive swing in public opinion about civil liberties and governmental anti-terrorism efforts, and the public view that Edward Snowden is more whistle-blower than traitor are the public reaction and apparent shock at the extent to which the government has gone in trying to prevent future terrorist incidents,” said Peter Brown, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute.

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“The fact that there is little difference now along party lines about the overall anti-terrorism effort and civil liberties and about Snowden is in itself unusual in a country sharply divided along political lines about almost everything. Moreover, the verdict that Snowden is not a traitor goes against almost the unified view of the nation’s political establishment.”

When Quinnipiac University asked voters in January, 2010, whether they thought the government had gone too far restricting civil liberties or not gone far enough to protect the country, not more than 35 percent of any demographic group thought it had gone too far. Then, Republicans said not far enough 72 – 17 percent; today GOP voters say not far enough 46 – 41 percent. Democrats went from not far enough 57 – 29 percent to too far 43 – 42 percent. Men went from 61 – 28 percent not far enough to 54 – 34 percent too far. Women went from 64 – 22 not far enough to 47 – 36 percent not far enough.

“The change in public attitudes has been extraordinary, almost across the board and obviously not just related to the revelation of the phone-scanning program, given all that has transpired since 2010,” said Brown. “Yet it would be naive to see these numbers as anything but evidence of a rethinking by the public about the tradeoffs between security and freedom.”

While voters support the phone-scanning program 51 – 45 percent and say 54 – 40 percent that it “is necessary to keep Americans safe,” they also say 53 – 44 percent that the program “is too much intrusion into Americans’ personal privacy.”

“Americans’ views on anti-terrorism efforts are complicated,” said Brown. “They see the threat from terrorism as real and worth defending against, but they have a sense that their privacy is being invaded and they are not happy about it at all.”

From June 28 – July 8, Quinnipiac University surveyed 2,014 registered voters with a margin of error of +/- 2.2 percentage points. Live interviewers call land lines and cell phones.

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

**For more information, visit <http://www.quinnipiac.edu/polling>, call (203) 582-5201, or follow us on [Twitter](#).**

41. What concerns you more about the government's anti-terrorism policies, that they have gone too far in restricting the average person's civil liberties, or that they have not gone far enough to adequately protect the country?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Gone too far	45%	41%	43%	49%	54%	36%	46%	35%	37%
Not gone far enough	40	46	42	36	34	47	39	52	54
DK/NA	15	13	15	15	12	17	15	12	10

WHITE.....

	COLLEGE DEG		Prot	Cath	Men	Wom	BornAgnEv		Mltry HsHld
	Yes	No					Yes	No	
Gone too far	50%	44%	39%	44%	55%	37%	42%	45%	44%
Not gone far enough	34	41	46	42	33	45	43	41	43
DK/NA	16	15	15	14	12	18	15	14	12

COLLEGE DEG ANNUAL HSHOLD INC AGE IN YRS.....  
 Yes No <50K 50-100 >100K 18-29 30-44 45-64 65+

Gone too far	48%	43%	43%	46%	50%	58%	52%	44%	32%
Not gone far enough	35	43	43	41	38	33	33	41	52
DK/NA	16	14	14	13	13	9	15	15	16

TREND: What concerns you more about the government's anti-terrorism policies, that they have gone too far in restricting the average person's civil liberties or that they have not gone far enough to adequately protect the country?

Jul 10 Jan 14  
 2013 2010

Gone too far	45	25
Not gone far enough	40	63
DK/NA	15	12

42. Do you support or oppose the federal government program in which all phone calls are scanned to see if any calls are going to a phone number linked to terrorism?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Support	51%	49%	58%	48%	48%	54%	51%	55%	55%
Oppose	45	45	37	50	49	41	45	40	40
DK/NA	4	5	5	2	4	5	4	5	6

WHITE.....

	COLLEGE DEG		Prot	Cath	Men	Wom	BornAgnEv		Mltry HsHld
	Yes	No					Yes	No	
Support	54%	49%	51%	57%	47%	55%	47%	54%	47%
Oppose	42	47	44	40	50	41	49	42	49
DK/NA	4	4	5	2	3	5	4	4	4

COLLEGE DEG ANNUAL HSHOLD INC AGE IN YRS.....  
 Yes No <50K 50-100 >100K 18-29 30-44 45-64 65+

Support	55%	49%	49%	51%	58%	47%	47%	54%	52%
Oppose	41	46	46	46	39	50	49	43	40
DK/NA	4	5	5	3	3	3	4	4	7

43. Do you think this program is necessary to keep Americans safe or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Yes	54%	55%	64%	48%	52%	57%	51%	66%	67%
No	40	41	31	46	45	36	43	28	29
DK/NA	5	4	6	5	3	7	5	5	4

WHITE.....

	COLLEGE DEG		Prot	Cath	Men	Wom	BornAgnEv		Mltry HsHld
	Yes	No					Yes	No	
Yes	50%	52%	55%	53%	49%	54%	49%	55%	53%
No	45	42	40	41	47	39	46	39	42
DK/NA	5	6	5	6	4	7	5	5	5

	COLLEGE DEG		ANNUAL <50K	HSHOLD 50-100	INC >100K	AGE IN YRS.....			
	Yes	No				18-29	30-44	45-64	65+
Yes	53%	55%	56%	50%	57%	50%	48%	57%	60%
No	43	39	38	47	39	46	51	36	33
DK/NA	5	5	6	4	4	5	1	7	7

44. Do you think this program is too much intrusion into Americans' personal privacy or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Yes	53%	56%	40%	60%	58%	47%	54%	47%	39%
No	44	42	56	38	39	49	43	48	58
DK/NA	3	2	4	2	2	4	3	6	3

WHITE.....

	COLLEGE DEG		Prot	Cath	Men	Wom	BornAgnEv		Mltry HsHld
	Yes	No					Yes	No	
Yes	52%	55%	55%	49%	60%	48%	61%	50%	57%
No	44	42	42	49	38	48	37	48	39
DK/NA	4	2	3	2	2	4	2	2	4

	COLLEGE DEG		ANNUAL <50K	HSHOLD 50-100	INC >100K	AGE IN YRS.....			
	Yes	No				18-29	30-44	45-64	65+
Yes	50%	54%	51%	56%	47%	55%	58%	50%	50%
No	45	44	45	41	50	42	40	47	45
DK/NA	4	3	4	3	2	4	1	3	5

45. Do you regard Edward Snowden, the national security consultant who released information to the media about the phone scanning program, as more of a traitor, or more of a whistle-blower?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Traitor	34%	38%	39%	30%	34%	35%	33%	43%	37%
Whistle-blower	55	55	49	58	57	52	56	42	57
DK/NA	11	7	12	11	9	13	11	14	6

WHITE.....

	COLLEGE DEG		Prot	Cath	Men	Wom	BornAgnEv		Mltry HsHld
	Yes	No					Yes	No	
Traitor	37%	31%	34%	41%	32%	34%	32%	35%	39%
Whistle-blower	53	57	54	51	58	53	57	55	49
DK/NA	9	12	12	9	9	13	11	10	12

	COLLEGE DEG		ANNUAL HSHOLD INC	AGE IN YRS.....					
	Yes	No			<50K	50-100	>100K	18-29	30-44
Traitor	38%	32%	31%	33%	42%	23%	29%	38%	39%
Whistle-blower	52	56	58	55	52	68	60	51	48
DK/NA	9	12	11	12	6	8	11	11	13