

Table 2.61

Respondents reporting a firearm in their home

By demographic characteristics, United States, selected years 1973-2002

Question: "Do you happen to have in your home (or garage) any guns or revolvers?"

(Percent reporting having any firearms)

	1973	1974	1976	1977	1980	1982	1984	1985	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1993	1994	1996	1998	2000	2002	
National	47%	46%	47%	51%	48%	45%	45%	44%	46%	40%	46%	43%	40%	42%	41%	40%	35%	32%	34%	
Sex																				
Male	53	51	52	55	56	54	53	54	51	50	55	53	50	53	50	47	43	42	43	
Female	43	42	43	47	41	39	40	36	43	33	39	34	32	34	33	34	29	25	24	
Race																				
White	49	48	58	53	50	48	48	46	49	43	50	45	42	45	44	44	40	37	38	
Black/other	38	32	37	34	29	30	30	29	33	28	23	29	29	26	24	24	16	13	15	
Age																				
18 to 20 years	50	34	38	54	48	51	44	39	43	33	35	40	22	48	42	35	20	23	24	
21 to 29 years	43	48	45	45	48	41	37	40	35	34	33	34	36	38	34	32	23	24	31	
30 to 49 years	51	49	52	55	50	51	48	48	51	42	48	46	40	44	41	39	37	32	29	
50 years and older	46	44	44	49	46	44	49	44	47	42	50	42	42	42	43	47	39	38	41	
Education^a																				
College	45	42	44	45	41	39	42	40	43	37	41	37	34	38	38	38	31	33	33	
High school graduate	50	48	50	54	51	51	48	49	50	43	51	47	46	46	44	46	43	36	34	
Less than high school graduate	44	49	42	51	51	41	43	38	44	39	46	47	39	47	37	38	34	25	37	
Income																				
\$50,000 and over	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	49	52	49	43	43	45
\$30,000 to \$49,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	48	50	44	42	37	37
\$20,000 to \$29,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	44	38	44	32	37	26
Under \$20,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	32	28	26	22	18	20	
Occupation																				
Professional/business	48	45	46	48	45	42	42	40	45	39	46	38	35	38	38	39	35	32	32	
Clerical/support	42	43	40	49	45	39	41	40	45	37	37	38	35	36	36	40	31	28	25	
Manual/service	48	48	48	52	48	49	48	48	46	41	52	50	47	51	45	43	38	35	41	
Farming/agriculture	83	79	62	66	81	77	84	78	75	82	87	83	56	68	67	67	72	44	38	
Region																				
Northeast	22	27	29	32	27	32	32	28	31	25	32	30	28	29	26	24	22	18	20	
Midwest	51	49	48	53	52	48	44	48	46	41	46	44	42	41	46	42	37	37	35	
South	62	59	60	62	59	52	52	53	55	47	53	52	50	52	48	48	42	37	42	
West	47	42	44	46	44	47	49	40	47	42	48	39	32	39	35	39	32	33	33	
Religion																				
Protestant	56	52	53	57	56	52	52	50	52	46	53	48	46	47	46	46	42	37	40	
Catholic	35	37	36	39	36	36	34	35	36	31	36	36	30	36	34	34	27	26	29	
Jewish	14	7	26	17	6	11	22	9	25	0	18	6	10	9	18	11	12	19	7	
None	32	40	43	50	39	37	36	44	39	41	36	34	31	37	32	35	26	32	33	
Politics																				
Republican	53	49	50	56	53	50	56	47	51	46	50	48	42	51	49	49	46	46	47	
Democrat	44	45	45	49	46	44	42	47	44	39	43	40	41	35	37	35	30	27	28	
Independent	49	47	48	50	47	44	40	39	44	36	46	42	37	42	39	38	32	30	30	

Note: See Note, table 2.15. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2002," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

^aBeginning in 1996, education categories were revised slightly and therefore are not directly comparable to data presented for prior years.