

Table 2.0004.2012

Attitudes toward a law prohibiting the manufacture, sale, or possession of semi-automatic guns known as assault rifles

United States, selected years 1995-2012

Question: "Now, I am going to read several propositions that would prohibit and make illegal certain activities. First, would you vote...For or against a law which would make it illegal to manufacture, sell, or possess semi-automatic guns known as assault rifles?"

	For	Against	No opinion
1995 ^a	68%	29%	3%
1996	57	42	1
2000	59	39	2
2004	50	46	4
2011	43	53	5
2012	44	51	5

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2012 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,038 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Dec. 19-22, 2012. The "don't know/refused" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

^aFor the 1995 survey, the question was: "Please tell me whether you would favor or oppose the following proposal which some people have made to reduce crime: a ban on the manufacture, sale and possession of certain semi-automatic guns known as assault rifles?"

Source: Gallup, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/1645/Guns.aspx> [Feb. 13, 2013]; and data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.