

Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online

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Table 2.0018.2011

Respondents reporting whether they think gun control or the right to own a gun is more important

United States, selected years 1993-2011

Question: "What do you think is more important--to protect the right of Americans to own guns, or to control gun ownership?"

	Protect right of Americans to own guns	Control gun ownership	Don't know/ refused
1993 December	34%	57%	9%
1999 May	30	65	5
1999 June	33	62	5
2000 March	29	66	5
2000 April	37	55	8
2000 May	38	57	5
2003 June	42	54	4
2004 February	37	58	5
2007 April	32	60	8
2007 November	42	55	3
2008 April	37	58	5
2009 March/April	45	49	6
2010 March	46	46	7
2010 August/September	46	50	4
2011 January	49	46	6
2011 February/March	48	47	6

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for February/March 2011 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,504 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Feb. 22-Mar. 1, 2011. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

Source: Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, *Beyond Red vs. Blue: The Political Typology* (Washington, DC: Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, May 4, 2011), p. 139. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.