

navigator*

Friday, June 17th

Gun Violence Prevention: A Guide for Advocates



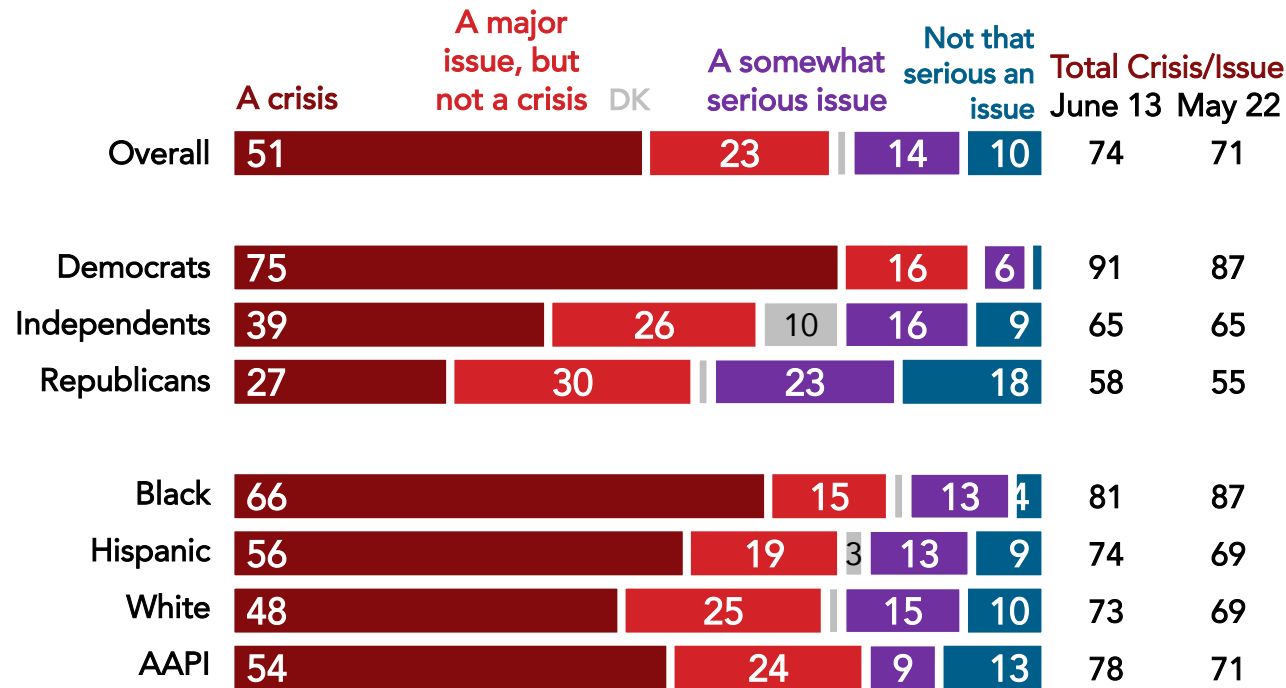
Key Takeaways:

- Following recent mass shootings, two in three Americans say they want stronger gun laws – the highest share reported in Navigator history.
- Majorities say Washington has not done enough to prevent gun violence.
- The most popular gun violence prevention policies include background checks, mandatory safety training, restrictions on ghost guns, and raising the minimum age of gun purchase from 18 to 21.

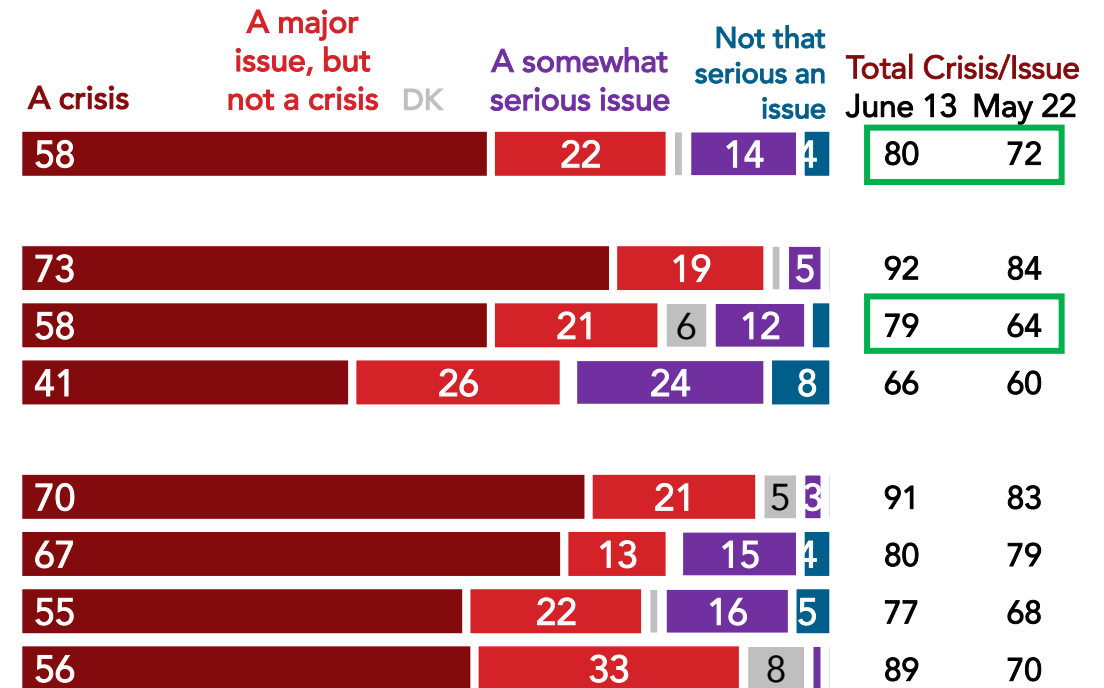
Americans Increasingly See Gun Violence and Mass Shootings as Crises

Since late May, there has been a 15-point increase in the share of independents who think mass shootings are “a crisis” or “major issue, but not a crisis” in the United States (from 64% to 79%).

(Split sample) How big of an issue do you think gun violence is in the United States?



(Split sample) How big of an issue do you think mass shootings are in the United States?

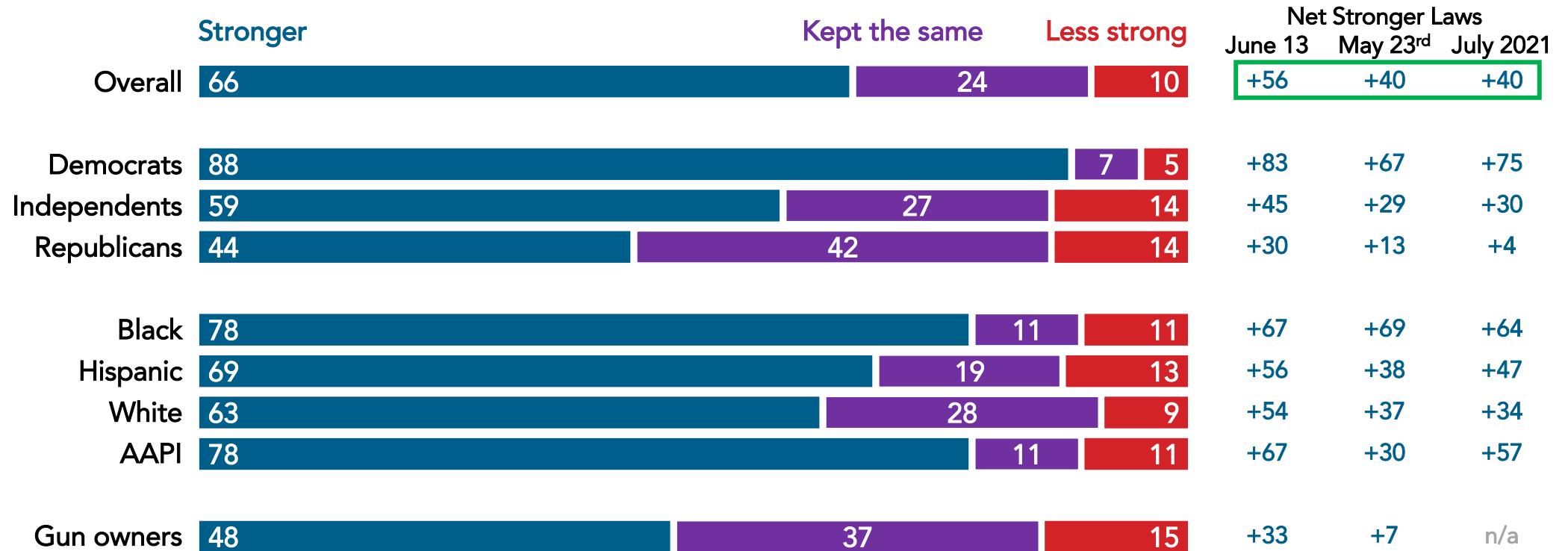


Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted June 9-June 13, 2022. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Two in Three Americans Support Stronger Gun Laws, a Double-Digit Increase Since the Uvalde School Shooting

Since May 23rd, there has been a 16-point net increase in the share who support stronger gun laws (from +40 to +56), and the increase is bipartisan: there has been a 16-point increase among Democrats (from +67 to +83), a 16-point increase among independents (from +29 to +45), and a 17-point increase among Republicans (from +13 to +30).

Do you think gun laws in the United States should be stronger, less strong, or kept the same as they are now?



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Majorities Do Not Think Washington Has Done Enough on Gun Violence and Say We Have Not Done Enough to Reform

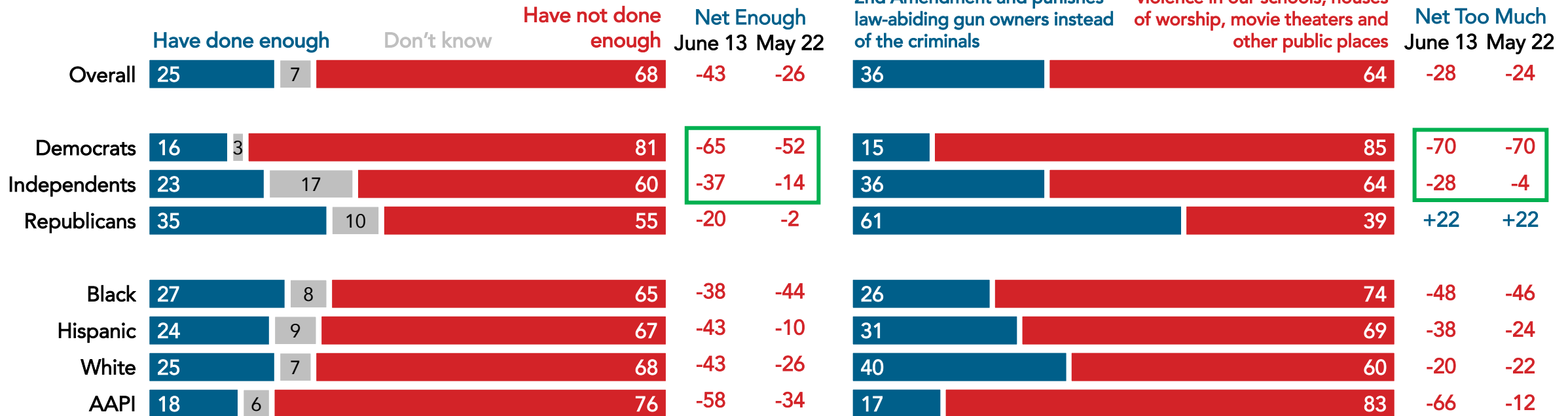
A growing share of independents agree that "our leaders in Washington have not done enough to prevent gun violence" (net -37 "have done enough," down from net -14 in late May).

Do you think our leaders in Washington have done enough to prevent gun violence in the United States?

With which statement do you agree more?

Those who say too much has been done to restrict access to guns, which goes against the 2nd Amendment and punishes law-abiding gun owners instead of the criminals

Those who say that we have not done enough to reform our gun laws in order to reduce gun violence in our schools, houses of worship, movie theaters and other public places



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Most Popular Policies are Background Checks, Safety Training, Ghost Gun Restrictions, and Raising Minimum Age of Purchase

A range of policies have seen an increase in support since last year, including background checks and safety training.

- Among parents, the most popular policies include providing more mental health services in schools (88% support) and requiring background checks on all gun sales (84%).

Please indicate whether you support or oppose each policy some have proposed to combat gun violence in the United States.



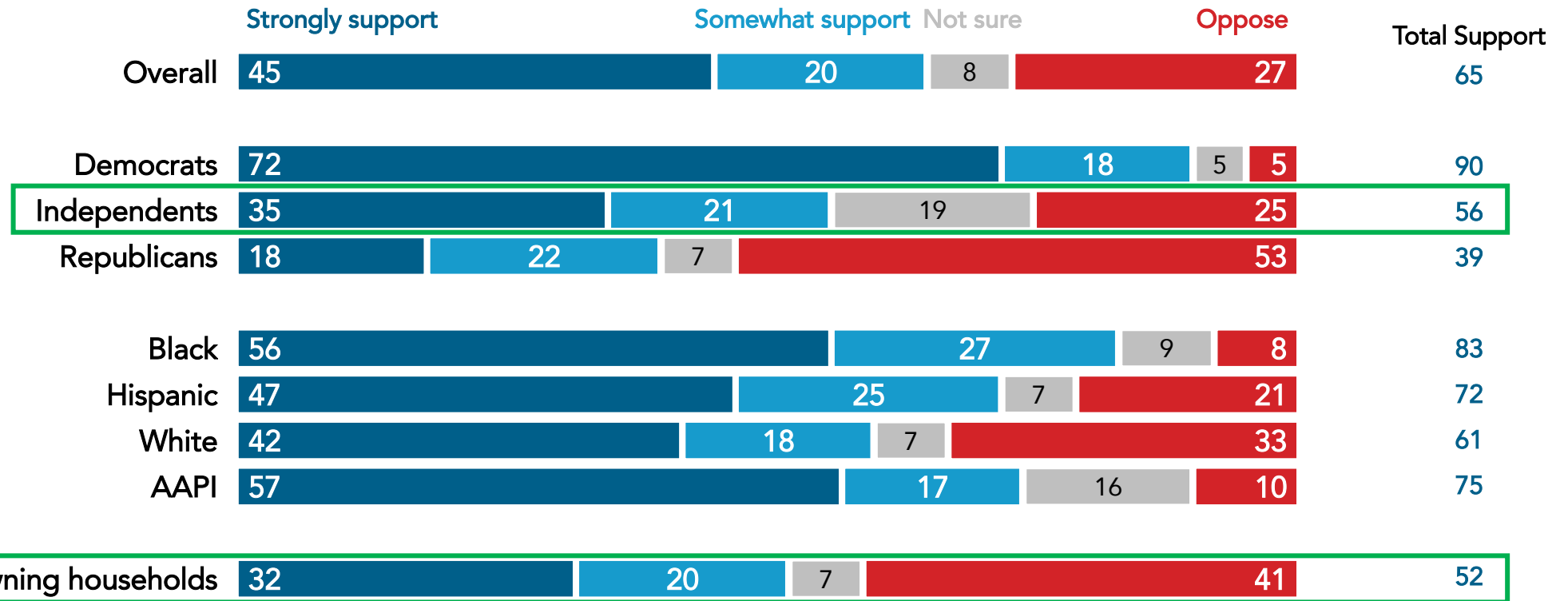
Nationwide survey of 998 registered voters conducted June 9-June 13, 2022.
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Majorities Support Biden's Proposal on Gun Violence Prevention

More than half of independents (56%) and those in gun-owning households (52%) support President Biden's gun policy proposal.

To combat gun violence, President Biden has proposed universal background checks on all gun sales, banning assault weapons and high-capacity magazines, and new laws that would prevent gun sales to individuals with criminal records. His reforms would also repeal the liability shields for gun manufacturers, making it possible to hold gun manufacturers legally accountable for gun violence committed using their weapons. **Do you support or oppose President Biden's proposal?**



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Two in Five Say Biden & Congress Are Focused on Guns, and on Positives on Biden, "Gun Control" and "Guns" Emerge

Two in five Democrats (39%), 32% of independents, and 44% of Republicans see Biden and Congress as focused on guns.

- Among those hearing positive things or a mix of positive and negative things about Biden, "gun control" and "guns" stand out.

Which of these issues do you feel President Joe Biden and Congress are actually most focused on?

		Dem	Ind	Rep
Guns	40%	39	32	44
Nat. security & foreign policy, inc. Ukraine	35	39	38	30
Climate change and the environment	30	22	18	42
The coronavirus pandemic	29	32	33	25
Abortion	28	24	25	33
Inflation	27	35	27	17
Jobs and the economy	26	36	27	15
Immigration	15	16	16	14
Voting rights	14	14	13	14
Crime	13	16	16	9
Health care	10	15	8	6
Corruption in government	9	7	10	10
Social Security and Medicare	9	10	10	7
Education	5	5	3	4

[If heard positive/mixed] In a few words, what positive things have you seen, read, or heard recently about Joe Biden?



"He gave a speech about the need to take action to **prevent gun violence**."

"**Gun control** and **gun violence** positions."

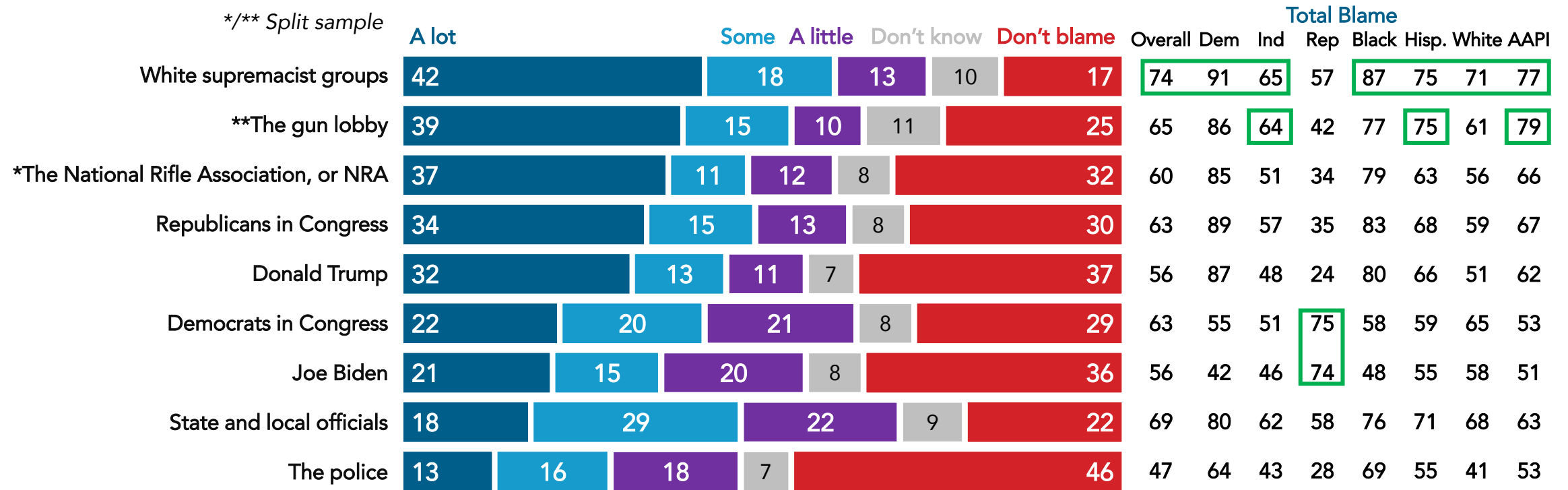
"That he's trying for more **gun control**."

Nationwide survey of 998 registered voters conducted June 9-June 13, 2022. These questions were fielded to 762 respondents as a result of a delayed addition to the poll. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

White Supremacist Groups, the Gun Lobby/NRA, and GOP Are Blamed Most for Gun Violence and Mass Shootings

Democrats and independents blame white supremacist groups (91% and 65%, respectively), the gun lobby (86% and 64%), the NRA (85% and 51%), and Republican politicians the most (89% and 57%); Republicans blame Democrats (75%) and Joe Biden (74%).

Below is a list of people and groups. Please indicate how much you blame each one for gun violence and mass shootings in the United States.



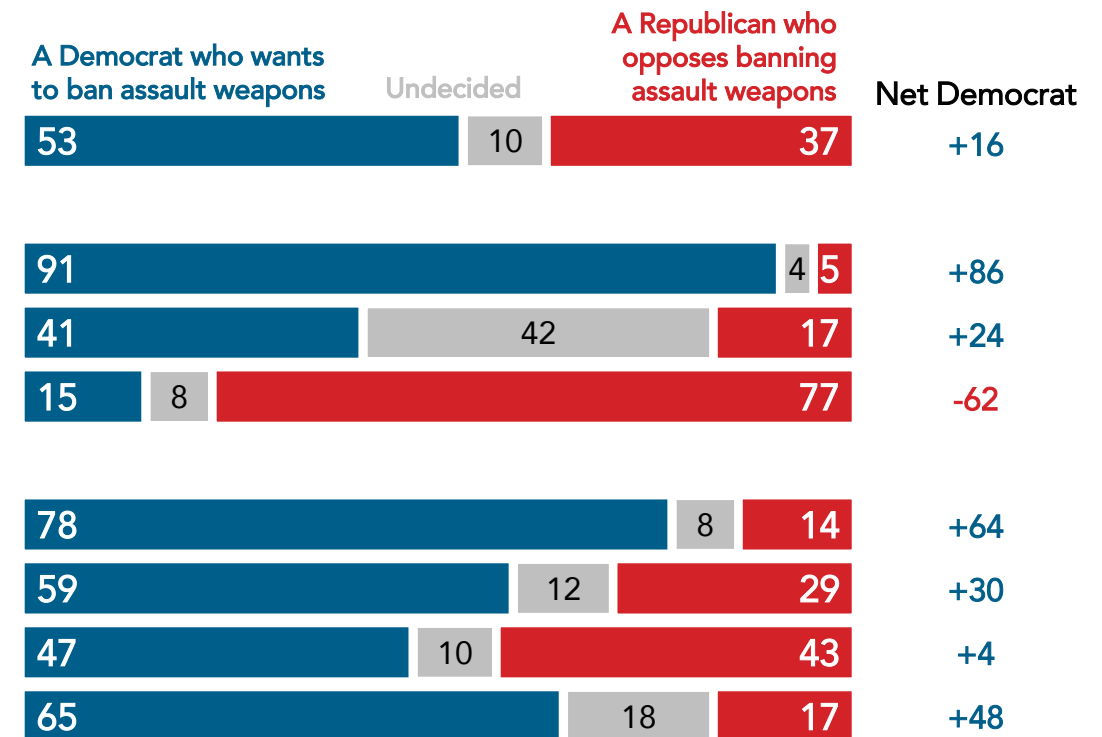
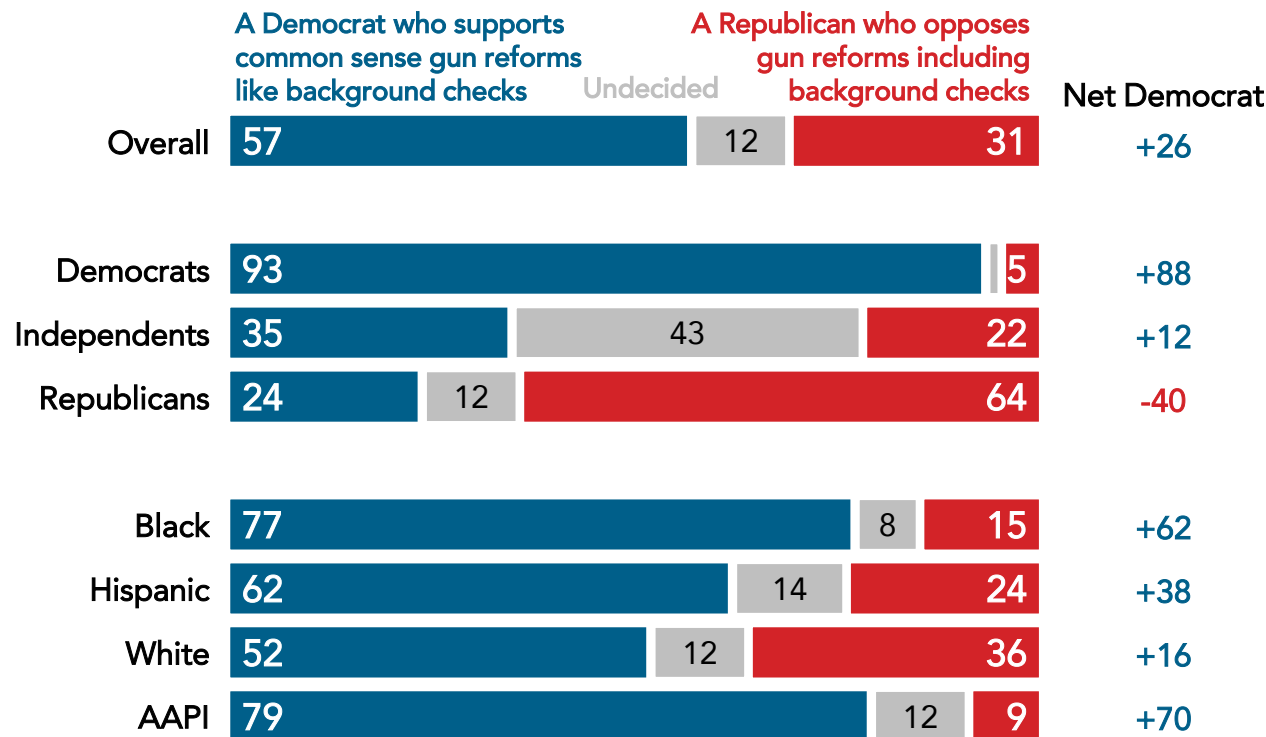
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Americans Prefer a Democrat Who Favors Common Sense Gun Reforms Over a Republican Who Opposes Them

Pluralities of Democrats, independents, and each racial and ethnic group prefer a Democrat who favors commonsense gun reforms and a ban on assault weapons over a Republican who opposes each.

(Split sample) If the general election for U.S. Congress were today, for whom would you vote? [IF UNDECIDED] If you had to decide today, which way would you lean?

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Facts on School Shootings, Child Deaths Related to Guns, and Murders Involving Firearms Most Convincing for Reform

Among the most convincing reasons to support gun reform, incidents of gunfire on school grounds (83% credible), gun murders in 2020 (80%), and the share of murders involving a firearm (80%) are seen as most credible.

Below is a list of facts related to gun violence in America. Please indicate how convincing you find each one as a reason to support gun reform.

	Very convincing	Somewhat convincing	Not convincing	Total Convincing Overall	Dem	Ind	Rep	Total % Credible
In 2022 so far, there have been at least 85 incidents of gunfire on school grounds, resulting in 36 deaths and 68 injuries nationally	55	23	22	78	92	70	64	83
Deaths related to guns are now the leading cause of death among children in America	53	21	26	74	91	67	58	71
In 2020, there were almost 20,000 gun murders in the United States, the highest number since 1968 – nearly a 50% increase over the last 5 years	51	26	23	77	93	72	61	80
Nearly 80% of murders in the United States involve a firearm	51	22	27	73	91	68	55	80
When last reported in 2020, the United States had more than 45,000 gun deaths in just one year	50	23	27	73	94	68	50	77
More Americans died of gun-related injuries in 2020 than in any year before it	47	26	26	74	92	66	56	79
Of all the women killed in high-income countries by firearms, 92% of those deaths occur in the United States	46	27	27	73	90	70	55	71
Over a ten-year period, there has been a 15% increase in intimate partner violence involving guns	42	27	31	69	87	65	51	84
States with stricter gun laws – like California, Hawaii, New York, and Massachusetts – all experience lower firearm mortality rates, and states with higher rates of gun ownership are more likely to experience mass shootings	42	27	31	69	91	63	46	63
In 2020, there were almost 25,000 suicides using guns in the United States	41	26	33	67	86	65	46	79

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A Range of Messages About Republican Failures on Gun Violence Reform Are Concerning

Two in five Americans find each of a range of hits on Republicans for inaction on gun violence prevention “very concerning” while two in three find each hit concerning overall.

Below are criticisms of positions many Republican politicians have on guns. For each, please indicate how concerning you find each one.

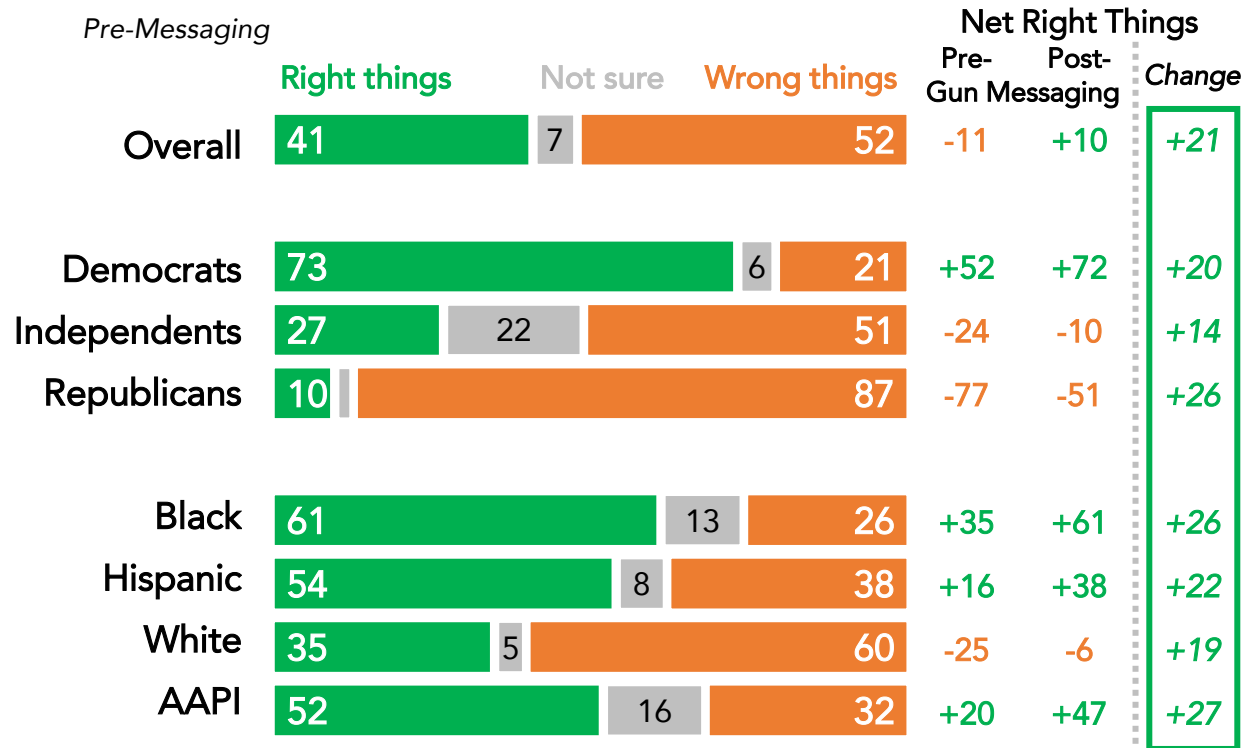
	Very concerning	Somewhat concerning	Don't believe	Not concerning	Total Concerning Overall	Dem	Ind	Rep
Republican officials have for decades blocked even the most common sense gun violence prevention laws, such as closing loopholes that allow anyone to get their hands on a gun, no questions asked, and universal background checks, and now we're seeing the horrific consequences of their inaction	44	21	19	16	65	88	63	40
Republican officials have no serious solutions to tackle gun violence, and instead offer ideas that would do little to nothing to solve the problem. Their response to the terrible shooting of schoolchildren in Texas was to say we should eliminate most school doors and arm untrained teachers, instead of holding the gun lobby accountable and passing common sense gun violence prevention laws	43	20	19	18	64	87	61	38
Republican officials are in the pocket of the National Rifle Association, who contributes millions of dollars to their campaigns every year. It's clear that Republicans care far more about protecting the gun lobby's profits and holding onto their own power than trying to save lives of victims of gun violence, including young children's lives	43	22	20	15	65	89	65	38
Republican officials say that mental health is the true problem, and not guns, but Republican lawmakers and legislatures across the country have slashed funding for mental health services and blocked legislation that would keep guns out of the hands of the mentally ill	43	25	16	16	68	85	65	50
Republicans used to support common sense gun laws, but they've changed. Even President Reagan supported the Assault Weapons Ban, which passed with support from both Democrats and Republicans. Now, Republicans oppose any common sense gun laws like universal background checks on all gun sales, limits on high-capacity weapons, and bans on military-style assault weapons	43	23	17	17	66	88	65	42
Republican officials are so obsessed with amassing power that they're doing it at the expense of safety in our communities and our schools. They're siding with big gun lobby organizations who keep them in power and opposing common sense reforms that would protect Americans and save countless lives	42	20	22	16	63	87	62	35
Republican officials are more extreme on guns than most gun owners themselves. Most responsible gun owners, including military veterans and police officers, want stronger gun laws, stronger background checks, and limited access to assault weapons, yet Republican officials stand in the way of all of these things as gun violence continues to increase in our country	41	24	19	16	65	86	67	41

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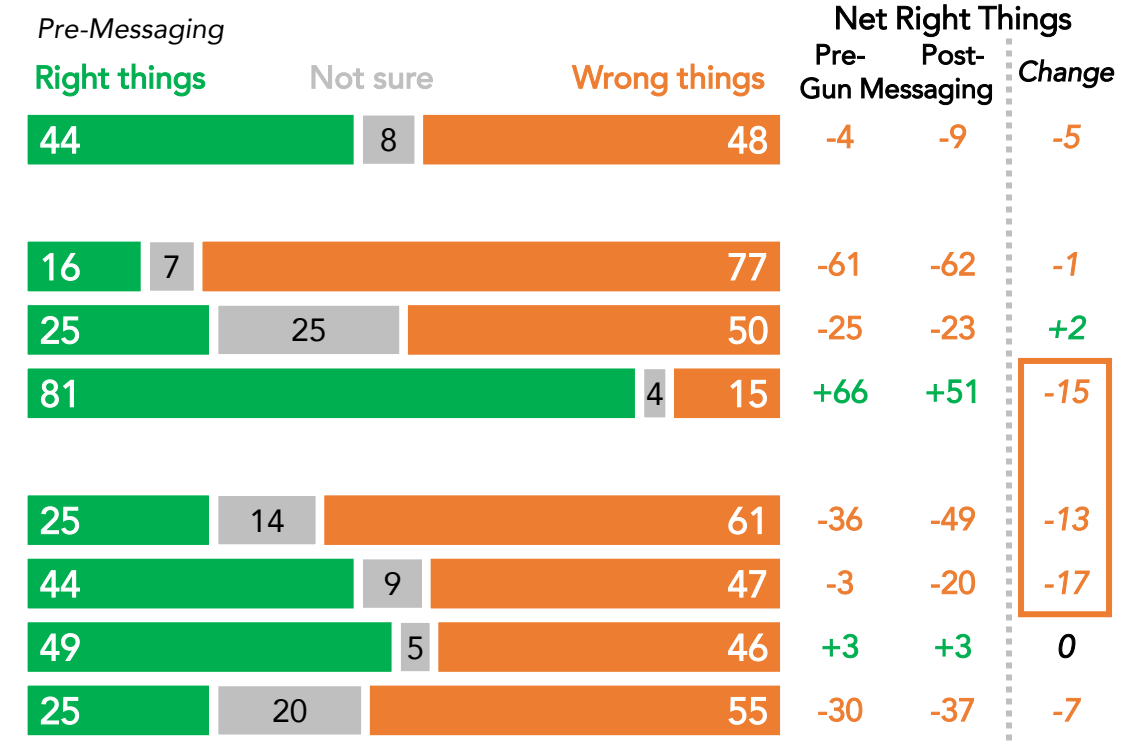
Messaging on Gun Violence Prevention and Republican Inaction Shifts Views Positively on Democrats, Negatively on Republicans

Messaging on gun violence prevention, as well as Republicans blocking gun reform legislation, increases the share who say the Democratic Party is focused on the right things from net -11 to net +10, a 21-point shift: on Republicans, it shifts perceptions 5 points into the negative (including a 15-point negative shift among Republicans).

Do you think the Democratic Party is focused on the right things?



Do you think the Republican Party is focused on the right things?



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About Navigator

In a world where the news cycle is the length of a tweet, our leaders often lack the real-time public-sentiment analysis to shape the best approaches to talking about the issues that matter the most. Navigator is designed to act as a consistent, flexible, responsive tool to inform policy debates by conducting research and reliable guidance to inform allies, elected leaders, and the press. Navigator is a project led by pollsters from Global Strategy Group and GBAO along with an advisory committee, including: Arkadi Gerney, The Hub Project; Joel Payne, The Hub Project; Christina Reynolds, EMILY's List; Mike Podhorzer, AFL-CIO; Jesse Ferguson, progressive strategist; Navin Nayak, Center for American Progress Action Fund; Stephanie Valencia, EquisLabs; and Melanie Newman, Planned Parenthood Action Fund.

About the Study

Global Strategy Group conducted public opinion surveys among a sample of 998 registered voters from June 9-June 13, 2022. 106 additional interviews were conducted among Hispanic voters. 80 additional interviews were conducted among Asian American and Pacific Islander voters. 102 additional interviews were conducted among African American voters. 101 additional interviews were conducted among independent voters. The survey was conducted online, recruiting respondents from an opt-in online panel vendor. Respondents were verified against a voter file and special care was taken to ensure the demographic composition of our sample matched that of the national registered voter population across a variety of demographic variables.

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To learn more about Navigator:

<http://navigatorresearch.org>

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