



MEMORANDUM

To: Interested Parties

From: Matthew Shelter
Kiley & Company

Date: April 29, 2015

RE: Key Findings from Statewide Voter Survey on Gun Safety

Introduction

This memo summarizes key findings from our recently completed survey of 604 registered voters in New York State. Trained professionals, working from a central, monitored location, conducted the interviews by telephone during the evening hours between April 14-16, 2015. The average interview required 11 minutes to complete. The sample of respondents was selected randomly from an up-to-date file of all registered voters in New York State, and was contacted using a mix of both landline and cell phone telephone numbers. The data was statistically adjusted by age, region and race to ensure representativeness. The margin of error for the survey is plus or minus 4 percentage points.

Overview

Our poll shows that a clear majority of New York voters see the problem of gun crime and gun violence to be very serious, and favor a broad range of new measures aimed at better protecting the public from gun-related injuries or deaths. Of particular note is that a majority of gun-owners themselves in New York State believe the public has a right to set reasonable regulations on the ownership and use of firearms, and favor many of the proposed new safeguards. Support for new gun safety legislation extends across all regions of the state, including New York City, the suburbs and upstate. In addition, a majority of voters in the state – especially women and suburban voters – say that their own state legislator’s support for or opposition to gun safety legislation will affect how they vote in the next election.

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Key Findings

	<u>All voters</u>	<i>Responses among:</i>		
		<u>Non-gun household</u>	<u>Gun household</u>	<u>Gun owners</u>
■ % who believe the problem of gun crime and gun violence in New York State is 'extremely' or 'very' serious	61%	70%	43%	39%
■ % who agree that: 'The easy availability of guns in the U.S. is a major reason why America has a higher death rate from guns than all other developed nations.'	64%	77%	41%	34%
■ % who <u>disagree</u> that: 'Having a gun in the home makes the occupants of that home safer.'	52%	65%	24%	22%
■ % who agree that: 'The public has a right to set reasonable restrictions on the ownership and use of firearms.'	75%	78%	68%	67%
■ % who believe that: 'Strengthening New York's gun laws will help improve public safety.'	64%	76%	37%	26%
■ Widespread majorities of voters favor all seven pieces of proposed New York State gun safety legislation we tested, and a majority of those in gun-owning households favor six of the seven proposals.				

	<u>All voters</u>	<i>Support among:</i>		
		<u>Non-gun household</u>	<u>Gun household</u>	<u>Gun owners</u>
— Safe Gun Storage/Nicholas' Law	91%	97%	80%	77%
— State Police inspection of gun dealers	70	73	64	61
— Require those convicted of domestic violence to have guns removed from their possession	78	83	69	67
— Require police to remove guns from a home when called to a domestic violence situation	78	84	67	64
— Microstamping	87	93	76	71
— Ban on .50-cal. sniper rifles	67	72	58	48
— Limiting NYers to one gun purchase/mo.	64	74	44	38

- More than half (53%) of all New Yorkers say they would be more inclined to vote for their own state legislator for reelection if that person voted *in favor* of stronger gun laws. An almost equal percentage (50%) say they would be less inclined to vote for their legislator if that person *opposed* stronger gun laws.

Q. Thinking about the issue of gun-related deaths, injuries and crimes – how serious a problem do you feel gun crime and gun violence is in New York State?																			
	Total	Region			Gender		Age				Race			Party			Gun Ownership		
		NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	M	F	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	A-A/Blck	Latino	Dem	Ind/oth	Rep	HH w/ gun	Gun Owner	Non-gun HH
Extremely/Very serious	61%	72	63	50	50	71	66	57	58	64	54	84	68	68	60	48	43	39	70
Only smwt/not that serious	37%	28	35	48	49	27	32	41	41	34	43	16	32	31	38	49	56	60	28
Extremely serious	25%	35	24	18	18	32	29	20	23	30	19	49	37	31	24	17	17	15	30
Very serious	35%	37	39	32	31	39	37	37	35	34	36	35	32	37	36	32	26	24	40
Only somewhat serious	27%	24	26	30	32	22	26	29	28	23	31	10	30	26	26	28	31	30	24
Not that serious	11%	3	9	18	17	5	5	12	13	10	13	6	2	5	12	20	25	30	4

I'm going to mention some statements that have been made about the issue of guns and gun regulation. For each one I read, please tell me whether you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with that statement.

Q. "The easy availability of guns in the U.S. is a major reason why America has a significantly higher death rate from guns than all other developed nations."																			
	Total	Region			Gender		Age				Race			Party			Gun Ownership		
		NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	M	F	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	A-A/Black	Latino	Dem	Ind/oth	Rep	HH w/ gun	Gun Owner	Non-gun HH
Total agree	64%	78	69	49	54	73	66	54	64	72	61	72	77	78	52	50	41	34	77
Total disagree	33%	21	29	47	44	23	32	45	35	23	36	26	23	20	44	48	57	65	21
Strongly agree	49%	64	51	33	42	54	43	34	53	59	44	62	56	62	37	34	28	27	59
Somewhat agree	16%	14	18	16	12	19	24	20	11	13	17	10	21	16	16	16	13	7	17
Somewhat disagree	12%	11	11	13	15	9	12	20	13	5	13	9	9	11	13	13	20	22	8
Strongly disagree	21%	10	18	34	29	14	20	25	23	18	23	17	14	9	31	35	37	43	13

Q. "Having a gun in the home makes the occupants of that home safer."																			
	Total	Region			Gender		Age				Race			Party			Gun Ownership		
		NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	M	F	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	A-A/Black	Latino	Dem	Ind/oth	Rep	HH w/ gun	Gun Owner	Non-gun HH
Total agree	45%	30	46	59	52	40	35	57	47	41	49	35	30	31	52	66	73	76	32
Total disagree	52%	67	52	38	46	58	64	42	50	54	49	64	66	66	47	32	24	22	65
Strongly agree	27%	18	24	37	36	18	18	27	30	29	28	24	21	16	27	46	45	55	18
Somewhat agree	19%	12	22	22	15	22	16	30	18	13	21	11	9	15	25	20	28	21	14
Somewhat disagree	20%	25	19	17	18	22	36	17	16	17	19	23	32	23	22	13	12	12	23
Strongly disagree	32%	43	32	22	27	36	28	25	34	37	30	41	34	42	25	18	12	10	42

Q. "The public has a right to set reasonable regulations on the ownership and use of firearms."

	Total	Region			Gender		Age				Race			Party			Gun Ownership		
		NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	M	F	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	A-A/Black	Latino	Dem	Ind/oth	Rep	HH w/ gun	Gun Owner	Non-gun HH
Total agree	75%	78	75	71	74	75	82	72	77	69	74	72	75	77	76	68	68	67	78
Total disagree	23%	19	23	26	24	22	16	28	22	26	23	24	25	20	21	31	29	31	20
Strongly agree	50%	56	53	44	48	53	58	48	49	49	49	59	49	57	49	40	38	32	57
Somewhat agree	24%	22	22	27	26	22	24	24	28	20	26	13	27	21	27	28	30	36	21
Somewhat disagree	8%	7	7	9	7	9	8	8	9	6	7	5	16	7	8	8	9	6	7
Strongly disagree	15%	13	16	17	18	13	8	20	12	19	16	19	9	12	13	23	21	25	13

Q. "Strengthening New York State's gun laws will help improve public safety."

	Total	Region			Gender		Age				Race			Party			Gun Ownership		
		NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	M	F	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	A-A/Black	Latino	Dem	Ind/oth	Rep	HH w/ gun	Gun Owner	Non-gun HH
Total agree	64%	76	70	49	53	73	67	56	59	72	61	70	73	79	54	44	37	26	76
Total disagree	35%	24	29	50	46	26	31	44	40	26	38	28	27	19	45	56	62	73	23
Strongly agree	44%	60	47	28	37	51	36	38	43	55	40	58	49	59	30	30	18	13	57
Somewhat agree	19%	16	23	21	16	22	31	18	16	17	20	12	24	20	24	14	19	13	19
Somewhat disagree	11%	11	5	14	14	8	11	10	13	8	11	5	18	5	16	16	15	18	8
Strongly disagree	25%	13	24	36	32	18	20	33	27	19	28	23	9	15	29	40	46	55	14

I'm going to mention several pieces of gun-related legislation that have been proposed in New York State. For each one, please tell me whether you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose that proposal.

Q. Requiring gun owners to safely store their guns in a gun safe or equip them with a trigger lock to prevent children from gaining access to firearms.

	Total	Region			Gender		Age				Race			Party			Gun Ownership		
		NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	M	F	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	A-A/Black	Latino	Dem	Ind/oth	Rep	HH w/ gun	Gun Owner	Non-gun HH
Total favor	91%	94	90	89	85	97	96	90	89	91	91	88	98	94	92	85	80	77	97
Total oppose	9%	6	10	11	15	3	4	10	11	9	9	12	2	6	8	15	20	23	3
Strongly favor	83%	92	83	74	74	90	88	76	81	86	80	87	98	90	81	70	64	62	91
Somewhat favor	8%	2	6	16	11	6	8	13	8	5	11	1	0	4	10	15	15	15	5
Somewhat oppose	3%	2	1	4	5	1	2	5	3	2	3	3	0	1	2	6	6	6	1
Strongly oppose	6%	4	9	6	10	3	2	5	8	7	6	9	2	5	6	9	14	17	2

Q. Authorizing the New York State Police to conduct inspections of firearm dealers, to supplement the inspections that are currently carried out by the federal bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms only once a decade.

	Total	Region			Gender		Age				Race			Party			Gun Ownership		
		NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	M	F	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	A-A/Black	Latino	Dem	Ind/oth	Rep	HH w/ gun	Gun Owner	Non-gun HH
Total favor	70%	73	78	62	70	70	70	68	72	70	71	63	67	73	71	64	64	61	73
Total oppose	27%	26	20	33	27	27	26	30	27	26	25	35	33	25	26	32	32	35	24
Strongly favor	47%	54	52	39	46	49	34	40	52	57	49	51	36	55	39	40	33	30	55
Somewhat favor	23%	19	26	23	24	21	36	28	20	13	22	12	32	17	31	24	31	31	18
Somewhat oppose	10%	10	7	11	7	12	11	17	7	6	8	11	21	10	11	8	10	11	9
Strongly oppose	17%	15	13	22	21	14	14	13	20	20	17	24	12	15	16	24	21	24	15

Q. Requiring anyone convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence to have their guns removed from their possession.

	Total	Region			Gender		Age				Race			Party			Gun Ownership		
		NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	M	F	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	A-A/Black	Latino	Dem	Ind/oth	Rep	HH w/ gun	Gun Owner	Non-gun HH
Total favor	78%	86	81	68	71	84	78	67	82	82	77	74	91	84	77	68	69	67	83
Total oppose	21%	14	17	31	28	15	22	33	18	15	23	26	7	16	22	31	30	32	17
Strongly favor	59%	70	62	46	47	70	48	48	66	67	59	56	69	66	53	50	45	44	66
Somewhat favor	19%	16	19	22	24	15	29	19	16	15	18	18	22	17	23	18	24	24	17
Somewhat oppose	12%	6	12	18	16	9	14	22	9	7	15	10	4	9	15	16	17	18	10
Strongly oppose	9%	8	6	12	12	6	8	11	9	8	8	16	2	7	7	15	13	14	7

Q. Requiring police or other law enforcement officers to remove any guns from a home when called to a domestic violence situation.

	Total	Region			Gender		Age				Race			Party			Gun Ownership		
		NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	M	F	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	A-A/Black	Latino	Dem	Ind/oth	Rep	HH w/ gun	Gun Owner	Non-gun HH
Total favor	78%	83	84	69	70	85	79	73	81	78	77	81	81	85	72	70	67	64	84
Total oppose	20%	17	11	28	28	13	18	24	19	18	20	19	17	14	22	28	30	35	14
Strongly favor	54%	66	57	42	42	66	53	48	55	59	52	68	58	65	50	39	31	27	66
Somewhat favor	24%	17	27	27	29	19	27	25	25	18	26	13	24	20	23	30	36	37	18
Somewhat oppose	10%	9	5	13	12	8	8	17	8	7	10	9	7	5	17	12	18	21	6
Strongly oppose	10%	8	6	15	15	5	9	8	11	11	10	9	9	9	6	16	13	14	8

Q. Requiring the microstamping of all guns sold in New York State, which would give every gun a distinct marking that would make it easier for law enforcement to trace weapons used to commit crimes.

	Total	Region			Gender		Age				Race			Party			Gun Ownership		
		NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	M	F	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	A-A/Black	Latino	Dem	Ind/oth	Rep	HH w/ gun	Gun Owner	Non-gun HH
Total favor	87%	91	94	79	82	91	89	90	87	83	87	80	96	92	87	78	76	71	93
Total oppose	13%	9	6	20	18	8	11	10	13	16	13	19	4	8	13	21	23	28	7
Strongly favor	76%	85	83	63	72	79	76	72	78	77	75	75	82	86	71	62	61	56	84
Somewhat favor	11%	5	12	16	10	12	14	18	9	6	12	5	13	6	16	16	15	15	9
Somewhat oppose	3%	3	1	5	4	2	3	3	4	3	3	4	2	1	5	4	5	6	2
Strongly oppose	9%	6	5	15	13	6	8	7	9	12	10	15	2	6	8	17	18	22	5

Q. Imposing a ban on the sale or possession of .50-caliber sniper rifles.

	Total	Region			Gender		Age				Race			Party			Gun Ownership		
		NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	M	F	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	A-A/Black	Latino	Dem	Ind/oth	Rep	HH w/ gun	Gun Owner	Non-gun HH
Total favor	67%	70	72	61	58	75	67	69	65	66	69	71	46	72	66	57	58	48	72
Total oppose	29%	26	22	35	39	19	29	29	30	28	28	19	46	24	29	38	39	50	23
Strongly favor	57%	64	63	48	50	64	51	60	59	58	59	65	37	65	54	47	44	38	64
Somewhat favor	9%	6	9	13	7	11	16	9	7	8	10	6	9	8	13	10	14	10	7
Somewhat oppose	11%	10	8	13	15	7	13	12	11	9	11	2	24	7	15	15	16	22	8
Strongly oppose	18%	16	14	22	24	12	15	17	19	18	16	17	22	17	14	23	23	28	15

Q. Limiting New Yorkers to the purchase of one firearm per month, instead of the unlimited purchases that are currently allowed.

	Total	Region			Gender		Age				Race			Party			Gun Ownership		
		NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	M	F	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	A-A/Black	Latino	Dem	Ind/oth	Rep	HH w/ gun	Gun Owner	Non-gun HH
Total favor	64%	72	72	51	53	73	64	64	62	65	63	59	72	71	62	52	44	38	74
Total oppose	35%	28	24	48	46	25	36	36	36	31	35	39	28	27	36	48	55	60	25
Strongly favor	50%	61	53	36	40	58	48	50	50	50	49	48	59	58	49	34	29	23	60
Somewhat favor	14%	10	19	14	12	16	16	13	13	15	14	11	13	12	13	18	15	15	14
Somewhat oppose	11%	11	4	16	13	9	19	10	9	10	10	12	12	8	19	9	18	20	8
Strongly oppose	24%	17	20	32	33	15	18	26	27	22	25	27	16	19	17	39	36	40	17

Q. If your own state legislator voted against stronger gun laws, would that make you much more inclined to vote for that person, somewhat more inclined, somewhat less inclined or much less inclined to vote for that person in the next election, or would it not make much difference to you either way?

	Total	Region			Gender		Age				Race			Party			Gun Ownership		
		NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	M	F	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	A-A/Black	Latino	Dem	Ind/oth	Rep	HH w/ gun	Gun Owner	Non-gun HH
More inclined	26%	22	25	29	30	22	29	30	23	22	26	27	19	26	15	34	33	32	22
Less inclined	50%	57	53	40	43	55	40	53	52	50	50	50	61	58	42	42	40	46	55
Much more inclined	12%	11	9	15	16	8	12	13	12	12	13	10	8	11	8	18	16	12	11
Somewhat more inclined	13%	11	17	14	14	13	17	17	11	11	13	17	10	15	8	17	18	20	11
Somewhat less inclined	17%	19	15	15	13	19	20	16	17	14	17	18	19	19	15	14	15	18	17
Much less inclined	33%	38	39	25	30	36	21	37	35	36	33	32	42	38	27	28	25	28	37
No difference	23%	18	20	29	27	19	30	16	22	23	22	23	20	15	39	21	25	22	22

Q. If your own state legislator voted in favor of stronger gun laws, would that make you much more inclined to vote for that person, somewhat more inclined, somewhat less inclined or much less inclined to vote for that person in the next election, or would it not make much difference to you either way?

	Total	Region			Gender		Age				Race			Party			Gun Ownership		
		NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	M	F	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	A-A/Black	Latino	Dem	Ind/oth	Rep	HH w/ gun	Gun Owner	Non-gun HH
More inclined	53%	69	59	35	41	65	47	52	56	56	54	56	52	69	38	39	27	23	66
Less inclined	26%	12	21	42	37	17	23	30	28	23	29	19	23	16	31	41	50	58	15
Much more inclined	30%	41	31	18	25	34	19	26	34	35	31	30	28	40	16	24	13	11	38
Somewhat more inclined	24%	27	29	17	16	30	29	25	22	20	23	26	24	29	22	15	15	12	28
Somewhat less inclined	10%	9	4	15	14	6	9	11	11	9	10	4	17	6	13	13	16	18	7
Much less inclined	16%	3	17	28	23	10	14	19	17	14	18	15	6	10	18	27	35	39	8
No difference	19%	18	20	21	22	17	30	18	15	19	17	23	26	14	30	19	21	19	18

Profile of the Sample	
New York State Registered Voters	
Region	
NYC	36%
Suburbs*	25%
Upstate	39%
Gender	
Male	47%
Female	53%
Age	
18-34	19%
35-49	22%
50-64	30%
65+	29%
Race	
White	69%
African-American/Black	15%
Latino	10%
Party	
Democrat	49%
Independent/other	25%
Republican	23%
Conservative	3%
Gun Ownership	
Gun-owning household	29%
<i>(Gun owner)</i>	20%
Household without gun	67%

*Suburbs = Suffolk, Nassau, Westchester, Rockland, and Orange Counties