

## Summary

Firearm owners were only moderately more supportive of political violence than nonowners. Among firearm owners, recent purchasers and owners who always or nearly always carried firearms in public were most supportive of political violence and most willing to engage in it.

## Background

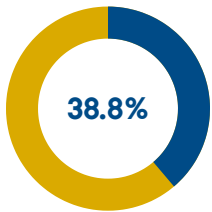
Little is known about support for and willingness to engage in political violence in the US, which is likely to involve firearms. Those with ready access to firearms are a key demographic to study.

## Methods

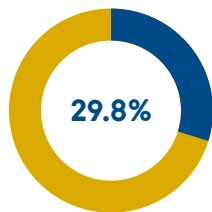
A nationally representative survey of 12,851 US adults was conducted online in mid-2022, including an oversample of 3,440 firearm owners, to examine the association between firearm ownership and support for political violence.

## Findings

Differences in support for political violence between **firearm owners and nonowners** were *small to moderate* when present.



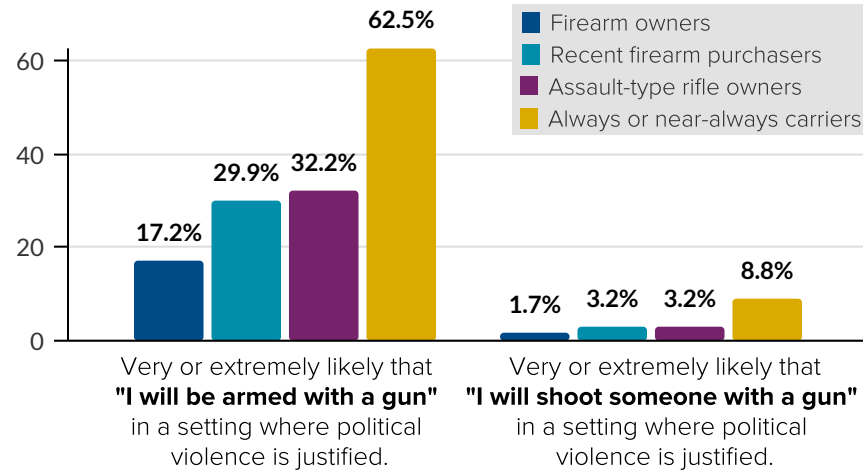
Firearm owners



Nonowners

consider the use of force or violence usually or always justified to support at least 1 of 17 specified political objectives.

**Subgroups of firearm owners stand out in their support and willingness to engage in political violence.**



## This study asked:

How do firearm owners and nonowners in the United States differ in support for and willingness to engage in political violence?

How do these measures vary among subsets of firearm owners?

## Big Picture

This study found that differences in support for political violence between firearm owners and nonowners without firearms at home were small to moderate when present. Subsets of firearm owners—recent purchasers and those who always or nearly always carry loaded firearms when in public—raised the greatest concerns.

Our results suggest a joint effort by **firearm owners and nonowners to publicly repudiate political violence** paired with **prevention efforts tailored to high-risk groups.**