

To: Interested parties
From: Global Strategy Group
Date: January 30, 2020
Re: New Survey Shows Gun Violence Prevention Key to Winning Pennsylvania

A recent poll of Pennsylvania voters conducted by Global Strategy Group, together with Everytown for Gun Safety, demonstrates that Pennsylvania voters are united in support of stronger gun laws and ready to vote on this issue come 2020. Key findings from the poll include:

Pennsylvanians support gun violence prevention

Pennsylvania voters agree: We must pass stronger gun laws. In recent years, voters across party lines have increasingly demanded common-sense solutions to reduce gun violence. And even in this traditionally competitive state, where Democrats have a narrow two-point party identification advantage (48% Democrat/46% Republican), voters:

- support stronger gun laws by a 9:1 margin (63% stronger/7% less strong). Even in battleground districts, where Democrats narrowly outnumber Republicans (48% Democrat/45% Republican), voters support stronger gun laws by a 6:1 margin (60% stronger/9% less strong).
- broadly agree that it is possible to keep guns out of the hands of criminals and other dangerous people while also protecting the rights of gun owners (68% possible/32% not possible statewide; 65% possible/35% not possible in battleground districts).

Support for specific gun violence prevention policies is even broader. Critical swing groups all overwhelmingly want their elected officials to pass gun safety legislation. This includes independents, suburban women, and those unsure about who they will vote for in state legislative elections.

Total support (strong support) for...	Total	Independents	Suburban women	Undecided voters	Battleground legislative districts
Blocking domestic abusers from owning guns	94 (74)	92 (69)	99 (82)	94 (72)	93 (73)
Requiring background checks on all gun sales	91 (76)	86 (69)	97 (88)	91 (75)	89 (78)
Enacting red flag laws, which give family or law enforcement a way to remove guns from someone who is exhibiting violent or unstable behavior	86 (63)	80 (56)	92 (71)	85 (61)	84 (63)

Gun violence prevention will play a key role in Pennsylvania

Gun violence is a key issue in 2020 and, importantly, there is significant intensity on the side of gun violence prevention advocates. Over three-quarters of Pennsylvania voters (78%), including 82% of voters who support stronger gun laws, consider a candidate’s position on guns “very important” to their vote in 2020.

Background checks will be a key litmus test in 2020. Sixty-four percent of voters would never vote for a candidate who doesn't support background checks, putting the issue on par with health care and national security in voters' minds. In fact, it is the TOP issue among voters overall, suburban women, and undecided voters.

% who say "I agree with _____ and would never vote for a candidate with whom I disagreed on this position"	Total	Independents	Suburban women	Undecided voters	Battleground legislative districts
Requiring background checks on all gun sales	64	62	79	65	66
Reducing health care costs	64	68	66	60	66
Protecting America's national security interests	60	55	60	59	65
Creating new jobs	53	49	48	51	57
Reducing taxes	51	55	51	51	56
Investing in our education system	50	55	54	47	54
Protecting children at the border	49	55	54	47	49
Protecting the environment	48	52	57	46	54
Protecting borders from illegal immigration	47	42	39	49	51
Making the criminal justice system fairer	47	50	49	44	46
Taking money out of politics	44	46	41	42	47
Protecting access to abortion	43	44	50	40	41
Lowering our national debt and budget deficit	42	52	37	39	45

Voters are ready and willing to hold candidates accountable who don't prioritize gun violence prevention. A sizable majority of Pennsylvanians (80%) are less likely to vote for a candidate who supports allowing those convicted of domestic violence to own guns. Further, nearly 60 percent of voters are less likely to vote for a candidate who opposes a red flag law (58%); 70% are less likely to support someone who stands in the way of background checks for all gun sales.

% more/less likely to vote for a candidate who...	Total		Independents		Suburban women		Undecided voters		Battleground legislative districts	
	Less likely	More likely	Less likely	More likely	Less likely	More likely	Less likely	More likely	Less likely	More likely
Supports allowing those convicted of domestic violence to own guns	80	13	80	11	87	8	79	13	79	13
Opposes requiring background checks on all gun sales, including those sold online and at gun shows	70	21	63	26	80	14	68	22	69	21
Opposes enacting red flag laws, which give family or law enforcement a way to temporarily remove guns from someone who is exhibiting violent or unstable behavior	58	31	56	32	66	25	56	31	58	31

ABOUT THIS POLL

Global Strategy Group conducted an online survey of 600 likely voters in Pennsylvania from January 2nd to 12th, 2020, including 199 voters from battleground districts. The survey had a confidence interval of +/- 4.0%.