Gun owner’s profiles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Protectors</th>
<th>Recreational group</th>
<th>Self-defense enthusiasts</th>
<th>2nd Amendment Advocates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>33% of gun owners</td>
<td>26% of gun owners</td>
<td>27% of gun owners</td>
<td>13% of gun owners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bought a gun to protect themselves or their home</td>
<td>Frequently goes hunting or target shooting</td>
<td>Became interested in guns to protect themselves or their family</td>
<td>Believe that having a firearm is the only way to maintain their freedom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are not emotionally or politically invested in their firearm</td>
<td>Frequently engages in other gun activities</td>
<td>Frequently carry their firearm concealed</td>
<td>More likely to be white men</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do not differ from the general population</td>
<td>Usually own multiple firearms (around 8)</td>
<td>Frequently practice at the shooting range to be prepared for an emergency</td>
<td>Are politically invested in “gun rights”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Usually have only 1 or 2 guns that they never use</td>
<td>Grew up in a house with a gun</td>
<td>Have around 3 firearms</td>
<td>Are more likely to possess many firearms (on average 14, including tactical weapons)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are not politically or emotionally invested in their guns</td>
<td>Are not emotionally invested in their guns</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The policies that gun owners support the most

1. Requiring background checks to obtain a concealed carry permit (87% of gun owners)
2. Prohibiting gun possession by people deemed to be a risk to themselves or others, i.e. red flag laws (81% of gun owners)
3. Prohibiting a person subject to a temporary restraining order for domestic violence from having a gun for the duration of the order (79% of gun owners)
4. Prohibiting a person convicted of a series of serious crimes as a juvenile from having a gun for 10 years (79% of gun owners)

5. Requiring a permit to carry a concealed handgun (77% of gun owners)

6. Requiring background checks for private sales and at gun shows, i.e. universal background checks (75% of gun owners)

7. Barring gun purchases by people on no-fly or watch list (75% of gun owners)

Engaging gun owners about prevention

1. Most gun owners feel that their culture is disrespected: keep an open mind and ask questions about their firearms and how they use them

2. Most gun owners are feeling blamed for gun violence: keep in mind the “law abiding citizen” and the “good guy with a gun” rhetoric. Remind them you know they are not responsible for the problem.

3. Most gun owners take pride in the way they safely handle and store their firearm, they are feeling responsible

4. Citing research is often ineffective as two competing bodies of research exist. Start by engaging gun owners on the policies you both support. How do we move from there?

5. Most gun owners think that they are atypical in that they support universal background check and believe that NRA members are typical gun owners: remember to address that with them

Gun owners’ attitudes
(results from the National Lawful Use of Guns Survey, Siegel & Boine)

1. What percent of gun engage in at least one monthly recreational gun activity (shooting, hunting, going to a gun show, buying a gun for collecting…)?

   → Only 23% engage in at least one monthly recreational gun activity.

2. What percent of gun owners own a gun primarily to protect themselves or their family?
→ 68% of gun owners own a gun to protect themselves or their family. Women are more likely than men to own a gun for that reason.

3. What percent of gun owners belong to the NRA?
→ Our survey was skewed toward older white men so we had 12% of NRA members. In the general population, around 5% of gun owners are NRA members. 1/3 of the U.S. population owns a gun, and there are about 5 million NRA members in total.

4. What percent of gun owners support universal background checks?
→ In our survey, 75% of gun owners reported supporting universal background check. 14% said they were neutral. In surveys in which there is no neutral option, researchers have found up to 96% of support for this policy.

5. What percent of gun owners believe that they are a typical gun owner?
→ 8% of gun owners report being a typical gun owner. The majority of gun owners believe they are “atypical”. The ones who believe that they are typical are in fact not representative of gun owners. They are more likely to have assault weapons and advocate for gun rights.

6. What percent of gun owners who support universal background checks have ever expressed public support for it?
→ Only 7% of the gun owners who support universal background checks have ever expressed it publicly.

7. What percent of gun owners have ever participated in a political activity to support gun rights?
→ 14% of gun owners have ever taken part in an activity to support gun rights.

8. What percent of gun owners feel like they are being blamed for gun violence?
→ 60% of gun owners report that they are feeling blamed for gun violence in the country.

9. What percent of gun owners are willing to talk about gun violence prevention with friends and family?
→ Although they are not willing to engage in public activity around gun violence prevention, 43% of gun owners are willing to talk about it with friends and family members.

10. What percent of gun owners report feeling alienated because gun control advocates really understand what gun ownership is all about?
→ 60% of gun owners say that gun control advocates don’t understand what gun ownership is about and disrespect them.

11. What percent of gun owners think owning a gun is important to their identity?
→ Only 12% of gun owners feel that gun ownership is tied to their identity.

12. What percent of gun owners do not want others to know they have a gun?
→ 23% of gun owners do not want others to know they own a firearm. You might have gun owners around you without even knowing it!