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# ***Rocky Mountain Poll***

Rated in the Top 15% of Political Polls in the U.S.

NEWS RELEASE [RMP 2015-I-04]

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## ARIZONA: SUPPORT FOR TIGHTENING GUN SALE LAWS HAS DECLINED

Phoenix, Arizona, February 23, 2015 – Between April of 2013 and today, support in Arizona for stricter laws governing the sale of firearms in this state has shrunk from 42 to 33 percent. At the same time, support for less strict gun sale laws also shrank from 16 to only 13 percent. Overall, what has happened is that there has been an increase in the proportion who may be fence-sitting on the issue by adopting the view that it may be best to simply keep the laws as they are. That figure rose to 48 per cent from 38 percent in 2013.

These changes may reflect consumer concern about the wisdom of changing any gun sale laws in the face of what appears to be growing terrorist attacks against civilians such as occurred recently in France and other parts of Europe.

Although the number of Arizonans overall who favor stricter gun sale laws (33%) remains nearly three times as high as the proportion who favor less strict laws (13%), there is clearly less surety than just a year and a half ago in the public's view about which direction is best to take.

The earlier study, completed in 2013, also found that half of Arizonans keep no operative firearm in their home and while 37 percent do own such guns, a surprisingly large 13 percent were not sure whether there is an operational gun in their home. That earlier study also found that gun ownership is highest among Republicans (48%) but fell to 33 percent among Democrats and was at 42 percent among Independents.

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For this and other Rocky Mountain Polls, see [www.brcpolls.com/results](http://www.brcpolls.com/results)

RMP (2015-I-04)

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** This Rocky Mountain Poll - Arizona (2015-I-04), is based on 701 interviews with adult heads of household statewide including 460 registered voters, conducted between January 13 and 21, 2015. Interviewing was conducted in English or Spanish by professional interviewers of the Behavior Research Center on both land lines and cell phones. Where necessary, figures for age, sex, and race were weighted to bring them into line with their actual proportion in the population. In a sample of this size, one can say with a 95 percent certainty that the results have a statistical precision of plus or minus 3.8 percent of what they would have been had the entire adult population been surveyed. The Rocky Mountain Poll is conducted by the Behavior Research Center of Arizona and is an independent and non-partisan research program sponsored by the Center.

This statement conforms to the principles of disclosure of the National Council on Public Polls.

**Rocky Mountain Poll is rated in top 15 percent of polls in America:** In 2014, Nate Silver of the noted analytics website *fivethirtyeight.com* rated BRC in the top tier of political polling firms in America for methodology and accuracy. Mr. Silver and his website have correctly predicted national and state election outcomes in recent election cycles by aggregating polling results from multiple research firms.

ENCLOSED: Statistical tables.

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“Do you think the laws governing the sale of firearms should be made more strict,  
 less strict or kept as they are now?”

	April 2013				Jan. 2015			
	More Strict	Less Strict	No Change	Not Sure	More Strict	Less Strict	No Change	Not Sure
STATEWIDE	<b>42%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>6%</b>
COUNTY								
Maricopa	43	21	31	5	31	12	50	7
Pima	46	3	49	2	34	15	47	4
Rural	35	10	50	5	39	13	44	4
PARTY								
Republican	22	17	57	4	20	17	61	2
Independent	33	15	45	7	27	11	52	10
Democrat	59	8	25	8	54	8	31	7
GENDER								
Men	31	20	46	3	29	13	54	4
Women	50	12	32	6	38	12	42	8
ETHNICITY								
Caucasian	42	14	38	6	30	15	48	7
Latino	55	25	18	2	56	0	41	3
Other	37	10	51	2	32	8	56	4
AGE								
Under 35	35	14	45	6	23	14	58	5
35 to 54	42	23	32	3	40	14	41	5
55 or Older	51	7	38	4	36	11	46	7

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