

Americans React to the Shooting in Orlando
 June 13-14, 2016

- A majority of Americans view the mass shooting over the weekend in Orlando, Florida as both an act of terrorism and a hate crime. They are divided over whether U.S. intelligence agencies could have prevented it.
- Americans give the President net positive ratings on his response to the Orlando attack. More than half disapprove (51%) of presidential candidate Donald Trump's response and are split in their opinions in how Hillary Clinton has handled the situation.

Most Americans (57%) describe the shooting over the weekend at a nightclub in Orlando as both an act of terrorism and a hate crime against gays and lesbians. 14% think it was mostly a terror act, while 25% think it was mostly a hate crime.

The Orlando Attack Was...

	Total	Reps	Dems	Inds
Mostly terrorism	14%	22%	8%	14%
Mostly a hate crime	25	10	37	25
Both	57	65	53	56

The suspect in the shooting, Omar Mateen, had been previously interviewed by the FBI regarding possible connections to terrorism. The public is split on whether U.S. intelligence agencies could have prevented the Orlando attack: 42% say yes, while 42% say no. Views are not much different than they were in a similar question asked after the Boston Marathon bombing in 2013.

Could U.S. Intelligence Agencies Have Prevented the Orlando Attack?

	Total	Boston Marathon (4/2013)
Yes	42%	41%
No	42	45
Don't know	17	15

The President and the Candidates' Responses to Orlando

President Barack Obama gets net positive ratings for his response to the shooting in Orlando. 44% approve, while 34% disapprove. About a quarter don't have an opinion.

President Obama's Response to Orlando

Approve	44%
Disapprove	34
Don't know	22

When asked to assess the responses of the presumptive nominees for President, Americans are divided on Hillary Clinton's response to the attack, while ratings of Trump are more negative. 51% of Americans disapprove of the way Trump is responding to the Orlando attack, while just 25% approve.

Presidential Candidates' Responses to Orlando

	Clinton	Trump
Approve	36%	25%
Disapprove	34	51
Don't know	30	24

Most Democrats (62%) approve of Clinton's response, while just half of Republicans (50%) approve of Trump's. More independents are critical of Trump's response than Clinton's.

Trump recently reiterated his support for temporarily banning Muslims from entering the United States, but most Americans don't support this. 62% think the US should not temporarily ban Muslims from entering the country, while 31% think the US should do so.

Most Democrats (79%) and independents (62%) say the U.S. should not ban Muslims from entering the U.S., while over half of Republicans (56%) support such a ban.

Should the U.S. Temporarily Ban Muslims from Entering the Country?

	Total	Reps	Dems	Inds	Total
Yes, should ban	31%	56%	14%	30%	36%
No, should not ban	62	37	79	62	58

Terrorism

Americans are on the alert when it comes to terrorism in this country. 33% think another terrorist attack in the U.S. in the next few months is very likely, down from 44% just after San Bernadino attack, but higher than after the attacks in Paris last November.

Likelihood of a Terror Attack in the U.S.

	Very likely	Somewhat likely	Not too/at all likely
Now (post-Orlando)	33%	34%	25
12/2015 (post-San Bernadino)	44%	35	17
11/2015 (post-Paris attacks)	28%	41	28
4/2015 (post Boston Bomber sentencing)	12%	32	53
5/2011 (post-killing of bin Laden)	21%	48	29
1/2010 (post-underwear bombing attempt)	26%	40	30
2/2003 (US on high terror alert)	35%	45	18
10/2001(post-9/11 attacks)	53%	35	10

Americans remain concerned about a homegrown terror threat but less so now compared to the days after the San Bernadino attack. Eight in 10 are concerned about an attack by people already living in the U.S. who have been influenced by foreign extremists, including 51% who are very concerned.

Majorities of all partisan stripes are at least somewhat concerned about homegrown terrorism, but Republicans are especially likely to be very concerned.

Concerned About a Terrorist Attack By People Already in the U.S.

	Total	Reps	Dems	Inds	12/2015
Very	51%	66%	45%	47%	63%
Somewhat	29	24	33	29	26
Not very/at all	19	9	22	23	11

It has been reported that the gunman in the Orlando shooting pledged his allegiance to the Islamic militant group, ISIS, during the attack. Most Americans (67%) continue to see ISIS as a major threat to the security of the U.S.

How Great a Threat is ISIS to the U.S.?

	Now	12/2015	3/2015	2/2015	10/2014
Major threat	67%	70%	62%	65%	58%
Minor threat	15	16	21	18	21
Not a threat	13	11	13	13	15

Gun Laws

In addition to terrorism, the issue of gun policy is being debated in the aftermath of the Orlando shooting. 57% of Americans think gun laws should be more strict; similar to views held earlier this year. There continues to be stark differences by political party, most Democrats (79%) want gun laws to be more strict; only 36% of Republicans think that.

Laws Covering Gun Sales Should Be...

	Total	Reps	Dems	Inds	1/2016
More strict	57%	36%	79%	52%	57%
Less strict	11	14	4	14	10
Kept as is	29	47	14	29	30

After dipping in December, support for a nationwide ban on assault weapons has risen back up. 57% favor a ban, up from 44%. Clinton has called for reinstating an assault weapons ban.

Nationwide Ban on Assault Weapons

	Now	12/2015	1/2011	4/2009	3/2000	8/1994
Favor	57%	44%	63%	54%	67%	78%
Oppose	38	50	34	41	27	19

Most Democrats support an assault weapons ban, while Republicans and independents are more divided.

Nationwide Ban on Assault Weapons

	Total	Reps	Dems	Inds
Favor	57%	45%	78%	47%
Oppose	38	50	18	45

There continues to be widespread support for background checks on all gun buyers. Nine in 10 Americans favor this, including large majorities of Republicans, Democrats and independents.

Background Checks on All Gun Buyers

	Total	Reps	Dems	Inds	Gun owner
Favor	89%	92%	97%	82%	82%
Oppose	8	6	2	15	14

This poll was conducted by telephone June 13-14, 2016 among a random sample of 1,001 adults nationwide. Data collection was conducted on behalf of CBS News by SSRS of Media, PA. Phone numbers were dialed from samples of both standard land-line and cell phones.

The poll employed a random digit dial methodology. For the landline sample, a respondent was randomly selected from all adults in the household. For the cell sample, interviews were conducted with the person who answered the phone.

Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish using live interviewers.

The data have been weighted to reflect U.S. Census figures on demographic variables.

The error due to sampling for results based on the entire sample could be plus or minus four percentage points. The error for subgroups may be higher and is available by request. The margin of error includes the effects of standard weighting procedures which enlarge sampling error slightly.

This poll release conforms to the Standards of Disclosure of the National Council on Public Polls.

CBS NEWS POLL
Americans React to the Orlando Shooting
June 13-14, 2016

Q1. How likely do you think it is that there will be a terrorist attack in the United States within the next few months—very likely, somewhat likely, not very likely, or not at all likely?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **				
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Dec15a
	%	%	%	%	%
Very likely	33	45	24	33	44
Somewhat likely	34	34	34	35	35
Not very likely	17	9	24	18	11
Not at all likely	8	6	12	7	6
Don't know/No answer	7	7	6	7	5

Q2. How concerned are you about the threat of terrorism against Americans committed by people currently living in the US who are inspired by foreign extremists? Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned or not concerned at all?

Very concerned	51	66	45	47	63
Somewhat concerned	29	24	33	29	26
Not very concerned	13	6	15	15	7
Not at all concerned	6	3	7	8	4
Don't know/No answer	1	1	1	1	1

Q3. In general, do you think laws covering the sale of guns should be made more strict, less strict, or kept as they are now?

					Jan16a
More strict	57	36	79	52	57
Less strict	11	14	4	14	10
Kept as they are	29	47	14	29	30
Don't know/No answer	4	3	4	5	3

Q3a. Do you favor or oppose a federal law requiring background checks on all potential gun buyers?

Favor	89	92	97	82	88
Oppose	8	6	2	15	10
Don't know/No answer	2	2	1	3	2

Q4. Do you favor or oppose a nationwide ban on assault weapons?

					Dec15a
Favor ban	57	45	78	47	44
Oppose ban	38	50	18	45	50
Don't know/No answer	6	5	3	8	6

Q5a. Do you think the U.S. should temporarily ban Muslims from other countries from entering the United States, or not?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **				Dec15c
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	
	%	%	%	%	%
Should ban	31	56	14	30	36
Should not ban	62	37	79	62	58
Don't know/No answer	7	7	6	8	6

Q5. Do you think the militant group ISIS is a threat to the security of the United States, or not? IF YES, ASK: Do you think it is a major threat or a minor threat?

					Dec15a
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	
Yes, major	67	85	60	61	70
Yes, minor	15	10	17	17	16
Not a threat	13	4	16	15	11
Don't know/No answer	5	1	7	7	3

Q6. How closely have you been following news about the recent shooting at a nightclub frequented by gays and lesbians in Orlando, Florida where at least 49 people were killed -- very closely, somewhat closely, not too closely, or not at all closely?

Very closely	50	56	55	42
Somewhat closely	38	35	34	42
Not too closely	8	7	7	8
Not at all closely	3	2	3	5
Don't know/No answer	1	-	*	3

Q7. Do you think the shooting at the nightclub in Orlando, Florida was mostly a terrorist act, mostly a hate crime against people who are gay and lesbian, or both?

Mostly terrorist act	14	22	8	14
Mostly hate crime	25	10	37	25
Both	57	65	53	56
Neither	1	-	1	1
Don't know/No answer	3	2	1	5

Q8. Do you think the U.S. Intelligence agencies had information that could have prevented the attack that occurred at the nightclub in Orlando, Florida, or not?

Could have prevented	42	51	39	38
Couldn't have prevented	42	36	47	41
Don't know/No answer	17	13	14	21

Q10. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is responding to the attack at the nightclub in Orlando, Florida?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **			
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Approve	44	19	72	38
Disapprove	34	66	8	34
Don't know/No answer	22	15	20	28

Q11. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Hillary Clinton is responding to the attack at the nightclub in Orlando, Florida?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **			
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Approve	36	17	62	27
Disapprove	34	60	13	36
Don't know/No answer	30	23	26	37

Q12. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is responding to the attack at the nightclub in Orlando, Florida?

Approve	25	50	11	20
Disapprove	51	26	71	51
Don't know/No answer	24	24	18	28

Gun. Do you or does any other member of your household own a handgun, rifle, shot gun, or any other kind of firearm?
IF YES, ASK: Is that person you or someone else?

Yes, self	13	20	9	12
Yes, other member of household	13	16	12	11
Yes, self and other	10	14	5	12
No	58	40	73	57
Don't know/No answer	6	10	2	7

	<u>Unweighted</u>	<u>Weighted</u>
Total respondents	1,001	
Total Republicans	255	249
Total Democrats	320	324
Total Independents	426	428