

**Results**  
**Survey #21 (March 2017)**

Emails sent: 430  
Surveys started: 135  
Surveys completed: 128

Q1: "If others in the community acquire handguns, this will tend to make the average person in the community:

Safer	1%
Less safe	76%
No change	5%
It depends	13%
No opinion	5%

Q2: Rate the quality of the scientific evidence on this issue

Very weak	2%
Weak	12%
Medium	34%
Strong	30%
Very Strong	12%
I don't know	11%

Q3: Rate your level of familiarity with the literature on this topic

Not knowledgeable	8%
Slightly knowledgeable	9%
Medium	20%
Knowledgeable	35%
Very knowledgeable	23%
I don't know	4%

Q4: Area of research/expertise

Public health/medicine	31%
Criminology/sociology	30%
Public Policy	13%
Economics	7%
Other	18%

Area of Expertise vs Responses:

	Among Public Health/Medicine Experts, % who (n = 40)	Among Experts from Other Disciplines, % who (n = 86)
If others in the community acquire handguns, this will tend to make the average person in the community safer	2%	0%
Less Safe	82%	73%
Believes scientific evidence is strong <sup>^</sup>	45%	42%
Believes scientific evidence is weak <sup>^^</sup>	15%	13%
Is knowledgeable+ about topic	55%	62%
Is not knowledgeable ++	13%	20%

<sup>^</sup>Strong or very strong; <sup>^^</sup>Weak or very weak

+Knowledgeable or very knowledgeable; ++slightly or not knowledgeable

Among those who believe they are knowledgeable or very knowledgeable about this issue 83% believe that if others in the community acquire handguns, this will tend to make the average person less safe, and 1% believe it will make the average person safer.

**Conclusion:**

An overwhelming majority of gun researchers believe that if others in the community acquire handguns, this will tend to make the average person in the community less safe. Only 42% of gun researchers rate the quality of the scientific evidence as strong.