



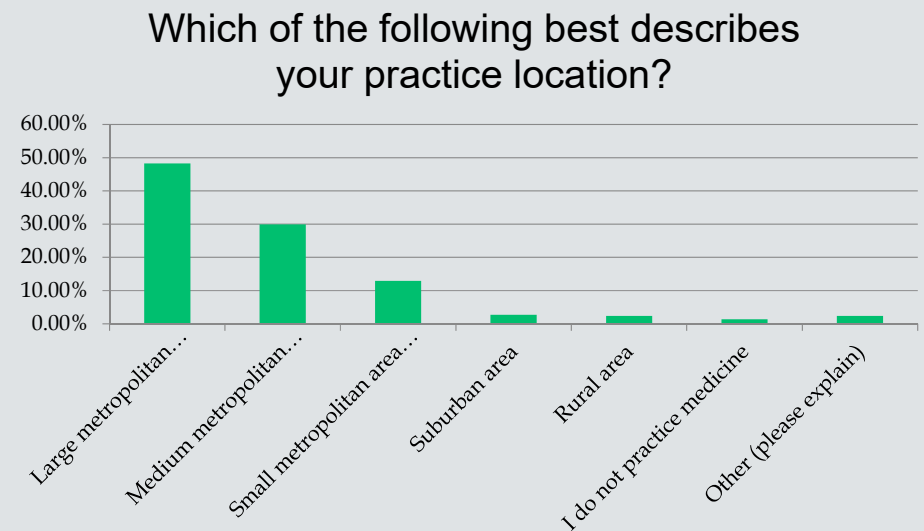
# APSA, Firearms, and Children

Putting it all together



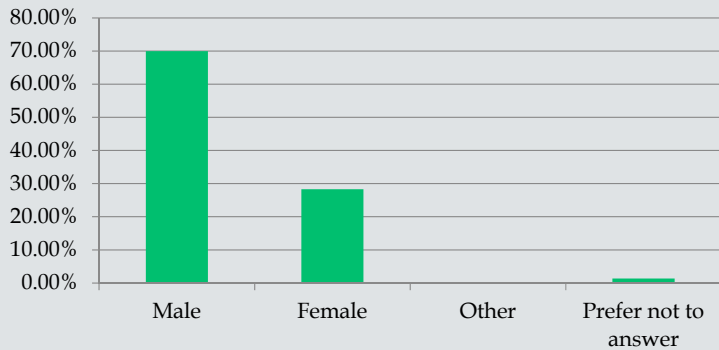
# Listening to APSA: Who we are

- Survey invitation
  - 48% opened email
  - 47% of those clicked on link
- 25% response rate (295/1,194)
- Average age 53
- 98% USA practice
- 85% have no military experience

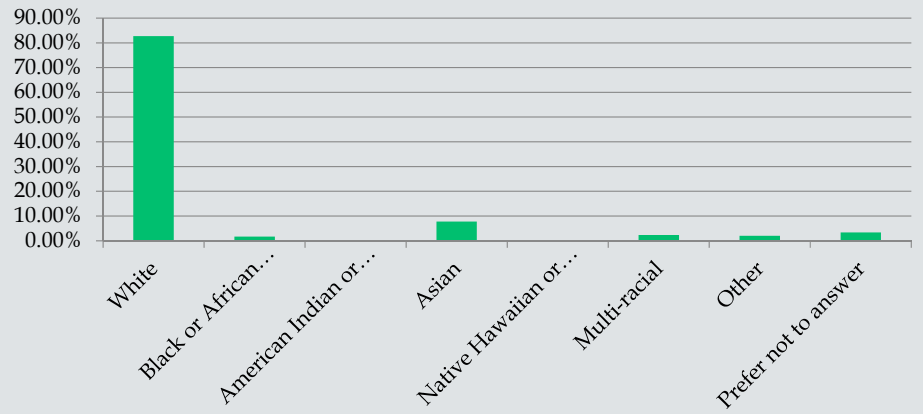


# Listening to APSA: Who we are

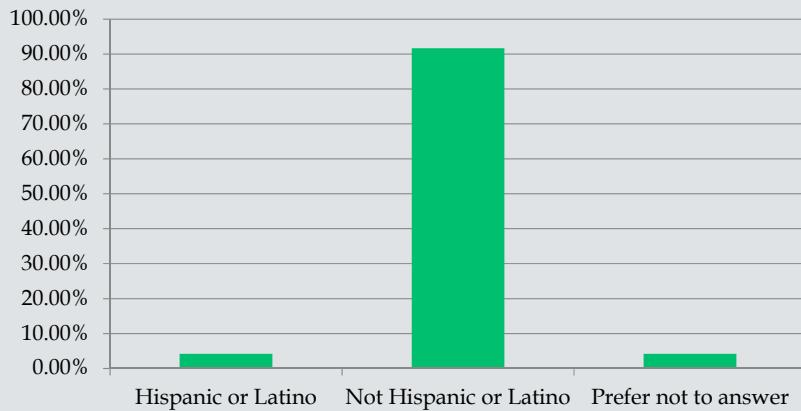
### What is your gender?



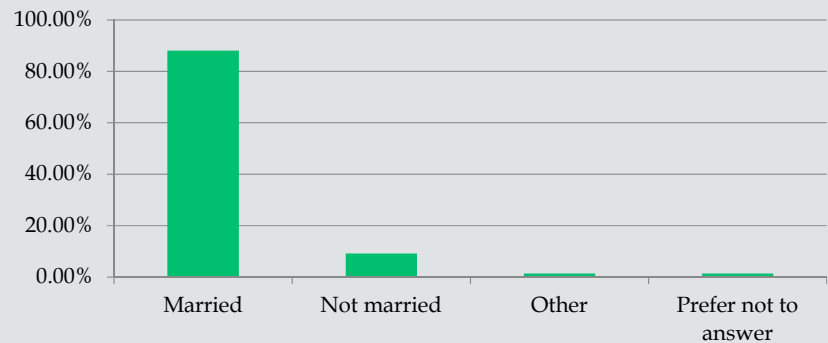
### Please specify your race:



### Please specify your ethnicity:

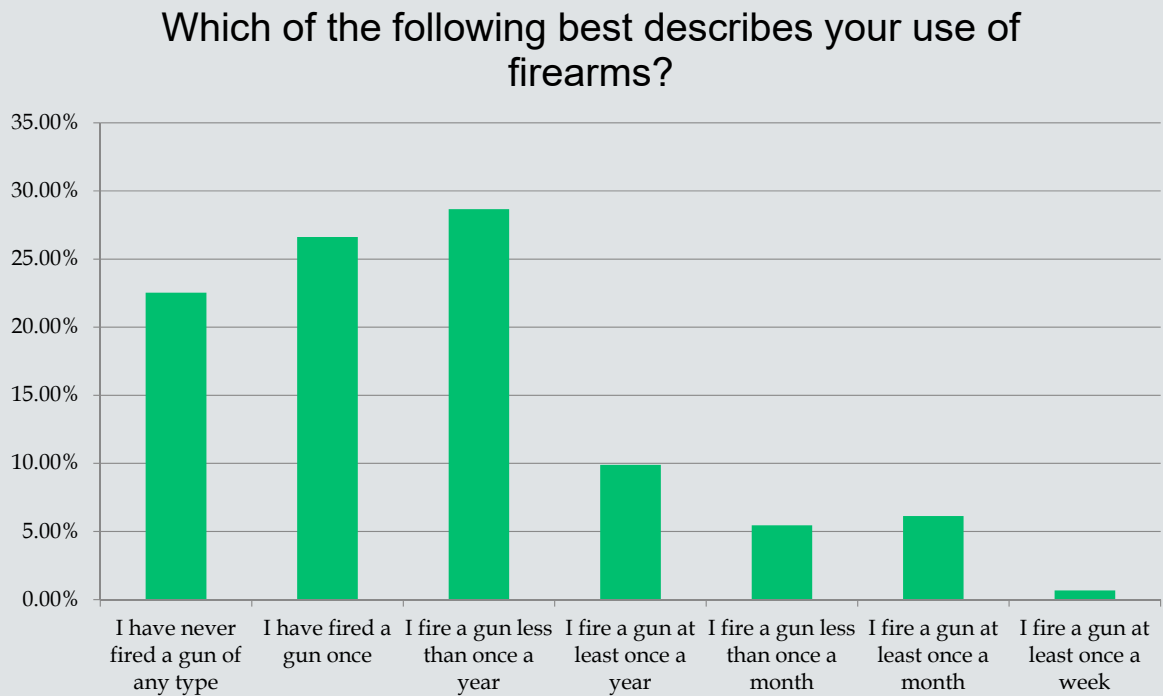


### What is your marital status?



# APSA's guns

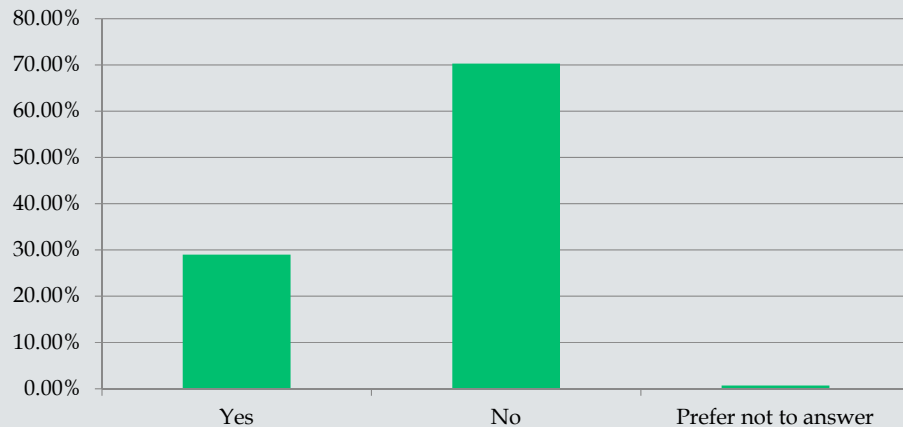
- Most APSA members do not fire a gun very often



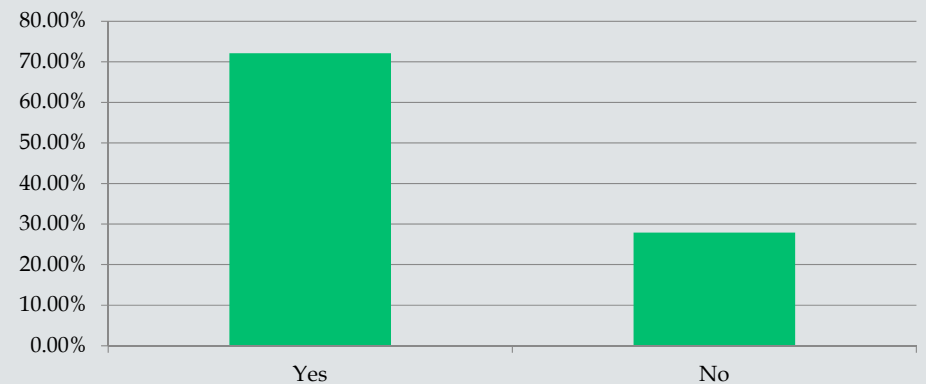
# APSA's guns

- 29% of APSA members own guns
- BUT most do not shoot more than once a year
- 28% of APSA gun owners do **not** keep the gun locked

Do you or does any individual currently living in your home own a firearm?

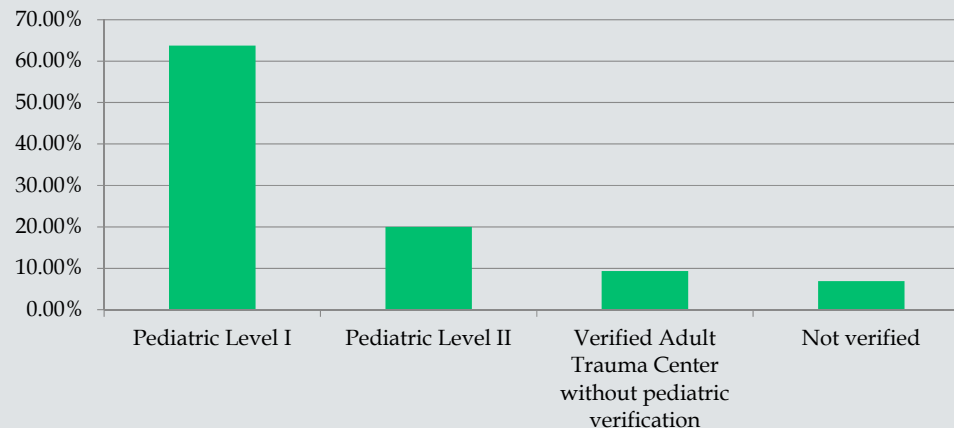


If you answered "yes" on question 12, is the gun stored in a locked box or cabinet or gun safe?



# APSA and pediatric trauma

Which best describes the trauma center verification status of the hospital where you practice?

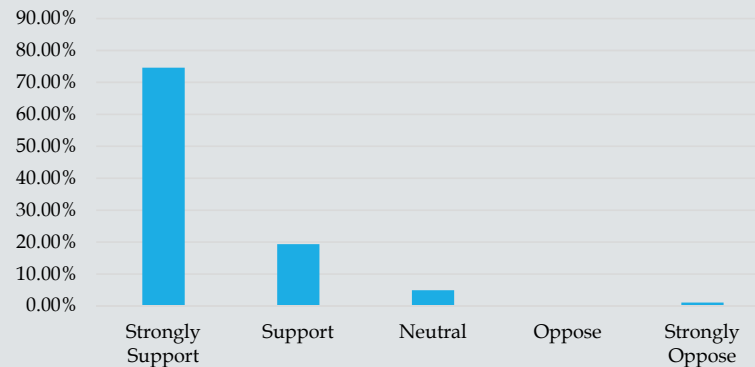


- Over 90% work in pediatric trauma (predominantly trauma centers)
- Injury care and injury prevention are “real world” issues for our members
- APSA has **unquestionable credibility** for pediatric trauma care

# APSA and pediatric trauma

- “APSA fundamentally commits to pediatric trauma care, pediatric trauma readiness, pediatric trauma centers, and pediatric trauma systems as the optimal resources for pediatric firearm injuries when they occur. APSA endorses firearm injury prevention as part of comprehensive pediatric trauma care.”

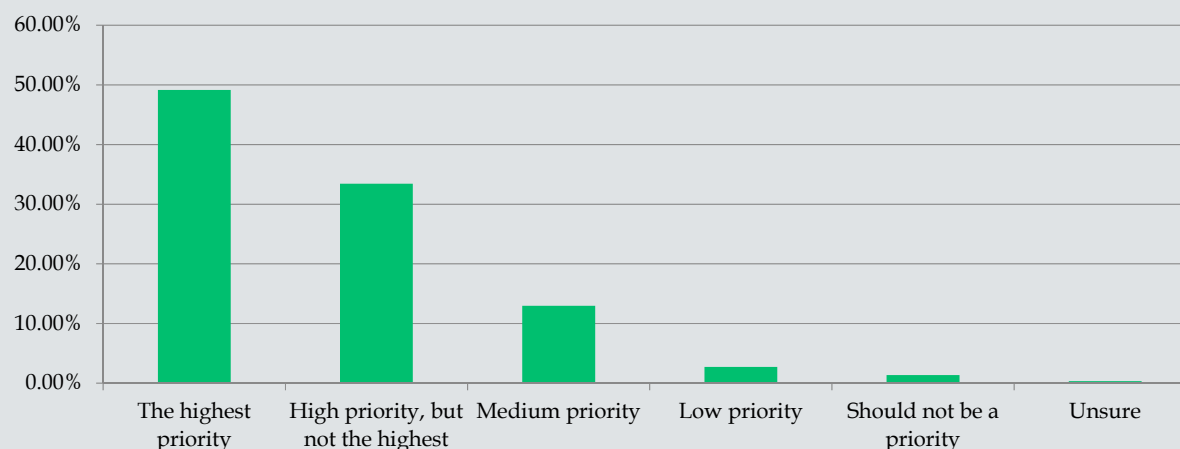
Identifying and implementing evidence-based injury prevention programs that decrease firearm injuries (either in partnership with or independently of other professional organizations).



# Speaking for APSA: Is firearm injury reduction a priority?

- YES!
- Nearly half say it is the **highest priority**

What level of priority, if any, should APSA give to reducing gun-related injuries through **non-advocacy** related methods, such as research, education, community outreach, injury prevention?

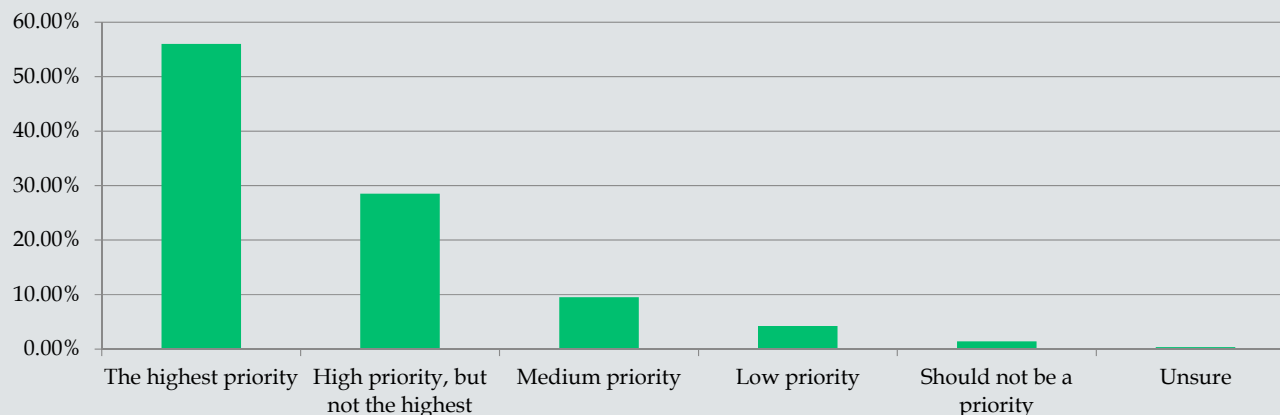




# Speaking for APSA: Is firearm injury advocacy a priority?

- YES!
- Over half say it is the **highest priority**

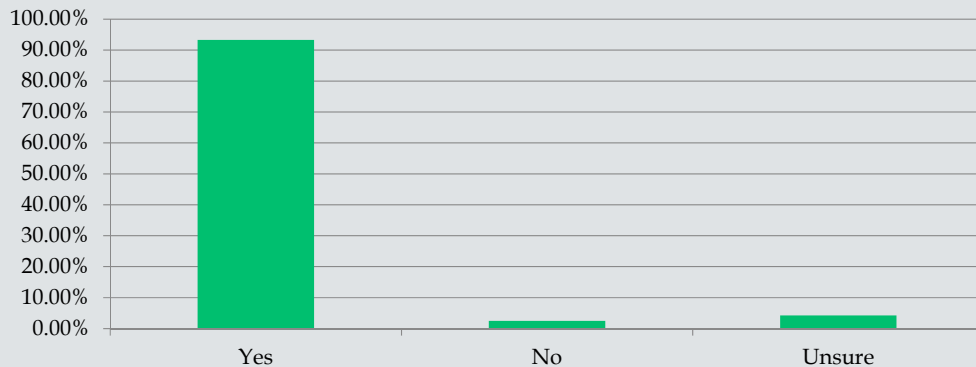
What level of priority should the American Pediatric Surgical Association give as an organization to **advocate for health policy changes** in the US, designed to reduce the loss of life caused by firearms, with a specific focus on insuring the safety of chil



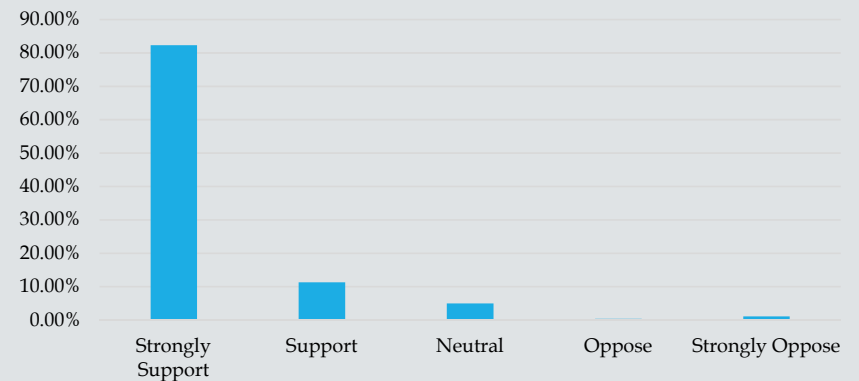
# Speaking for APSA: Counseling our patients

- “APSA opposes, in the strongest possible terms, any policy or legislation that infringes upon the freedom of physicians and patients to discuss firearm safety.”

Should health care professionals be allowed to counsel patients (or parents of their patients) about how to prevent gun-related injuries?



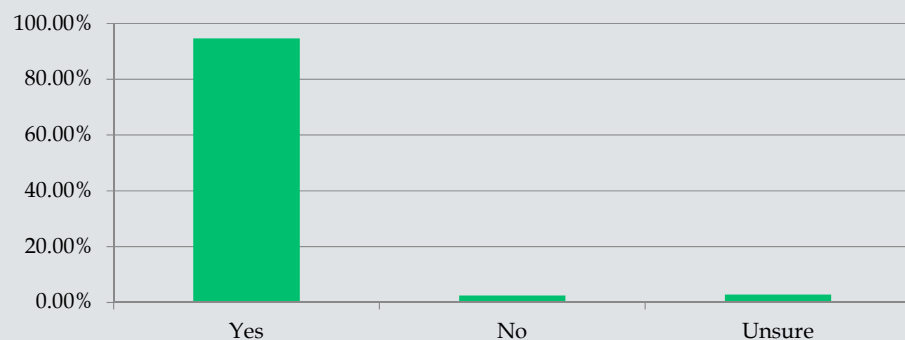
Preserving the right of physicians and health care providers to counsel their patients or the parents of their patients on safe firearm ownership.



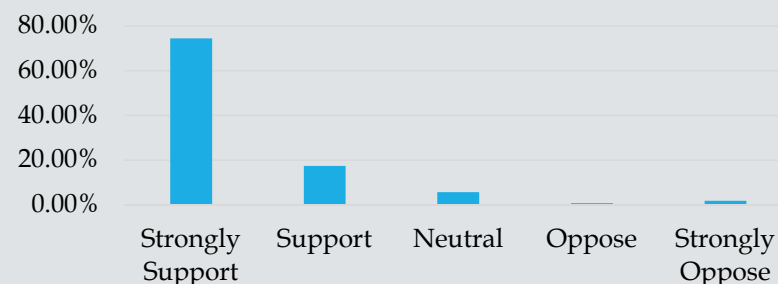
# Speaking for APSA: Funding firearm injury research

- “APSA supports addressing firearm injury as a public health issue that requires resources and commitment to solve.”
- “APSA recommends removal of policy barriers that prevent firearms-related research and recommends expansion of the NVDRS to all states and territories.”

Should the NIH, CDC and other sources of research funding be allowed to fund research on the epidemiology and prevention of gun-related injuries?



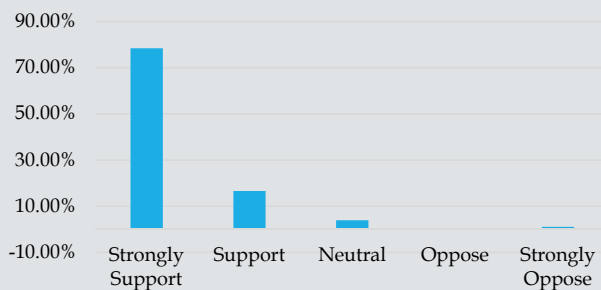
Making funds available for research to better understand gun violence and how to prevent gun violence.



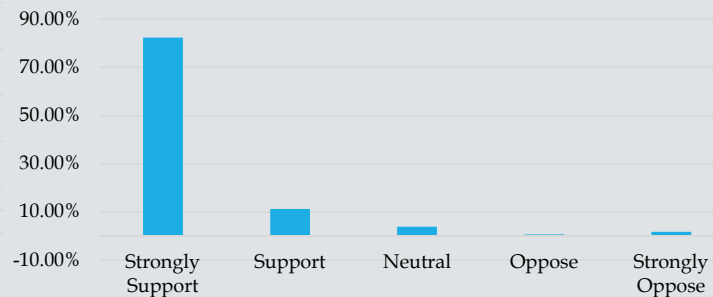
# Speaking for APSA: Background checks

- “APSA supports a system of universal background checks for all firearms transactions, including private sales.”

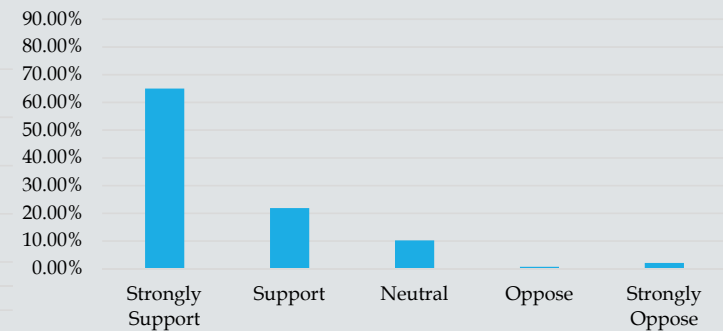
Preventing people with mental health illness from purchasing firearms.



Mandatory background checks and licenses/permits for all firearm purchases including those from authorized dealers, gun shows or private sales prior to purchase.

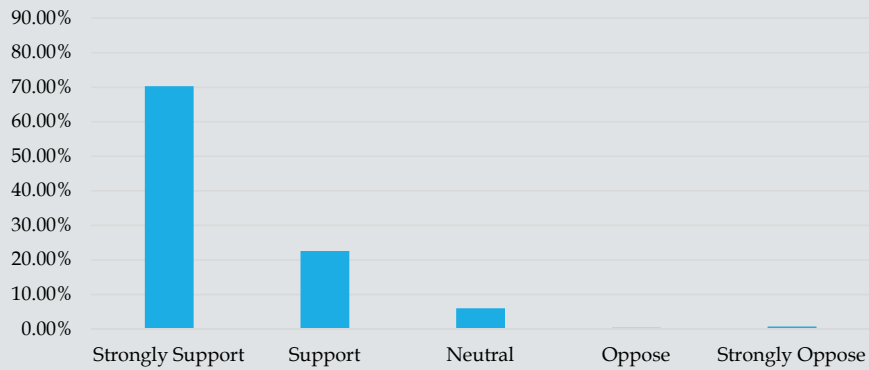


Preventing people who are on the US No Fly list to purchase firearms.

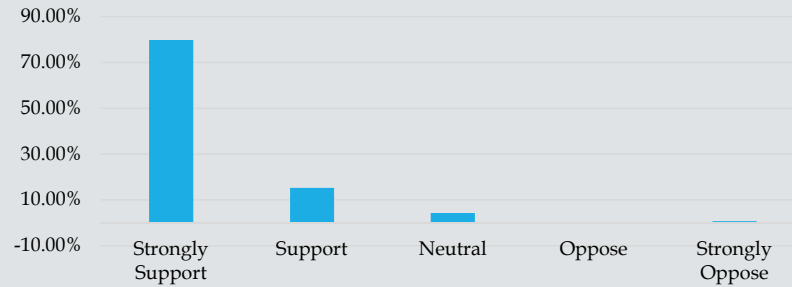


# Speaking for APSA: Better enforcement

Mandatory prosecution of convicted felons who are unlawfully attempting to purchase a firearm or body armor, but denied due to background check.



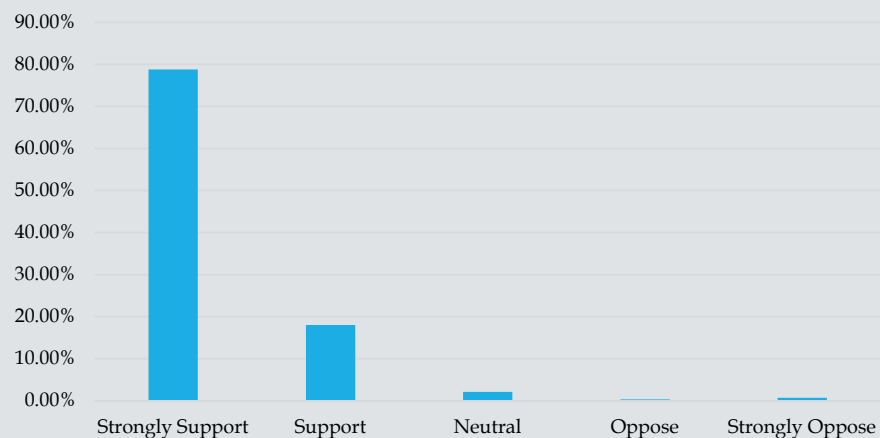
Efforts to increase penalties for purchasers that provide guns to individuals illegally (straw purchasers) and dealers that sell firearms through illegal means or bypassing background checks.



# Speaking for APSA: Mental health services

- “APSA supports efforts to improve the availability and quality of mental health services for both children and adults.”

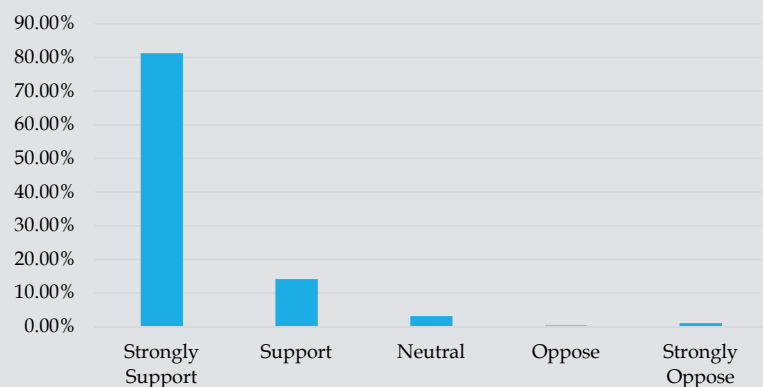
Improve mental health screening and treatment for Americans to help reduce suicides and gun-related violence.



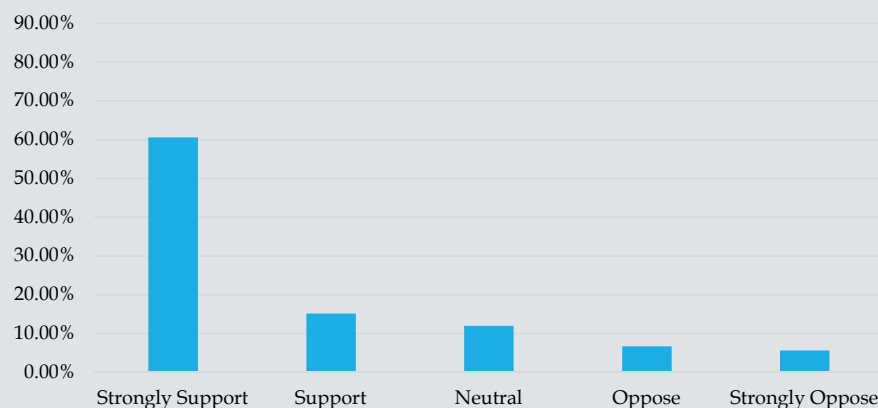
# Speaking for APSA: Child access protection laws and age

- “APSA supports strong CAP laws for firearm storage and a legal minimum purchase age of 21 years for all firearms.”

Promoting Child Access Prevention (CAP) laws to prevent children from gaining access to loaded firearms.



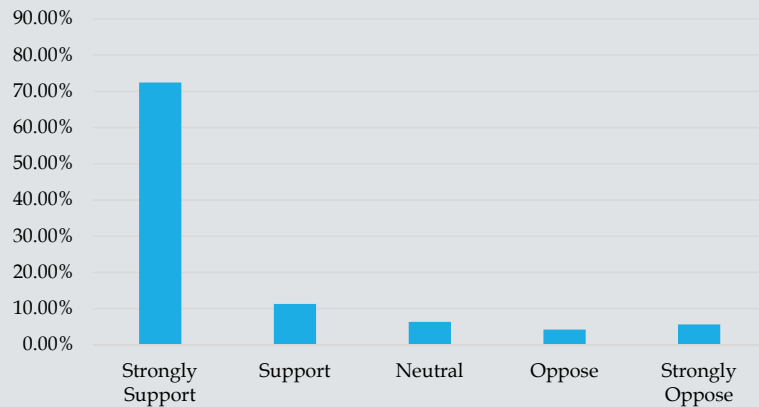
Requiring firearms owners to be 21 years of age or older.



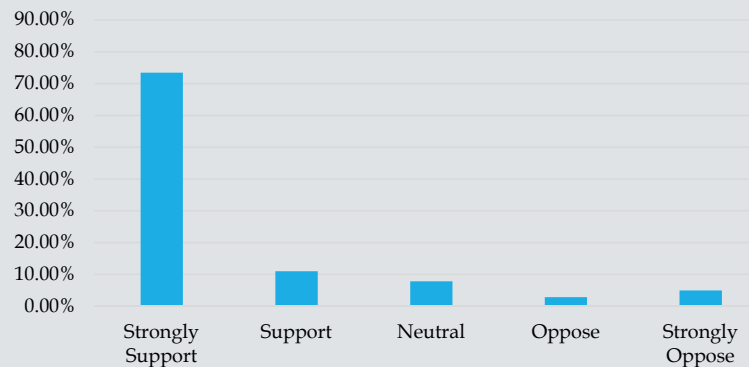
# Speaking for APSA: Assault weapons

- “APSA supports restrictions on civilian access to high capacity magazines and assault-style weaponry.”

Advocacy efforts to restrict civilian access to assault rifles (magazine-fed, semi-automatic, e.g., AR-15)



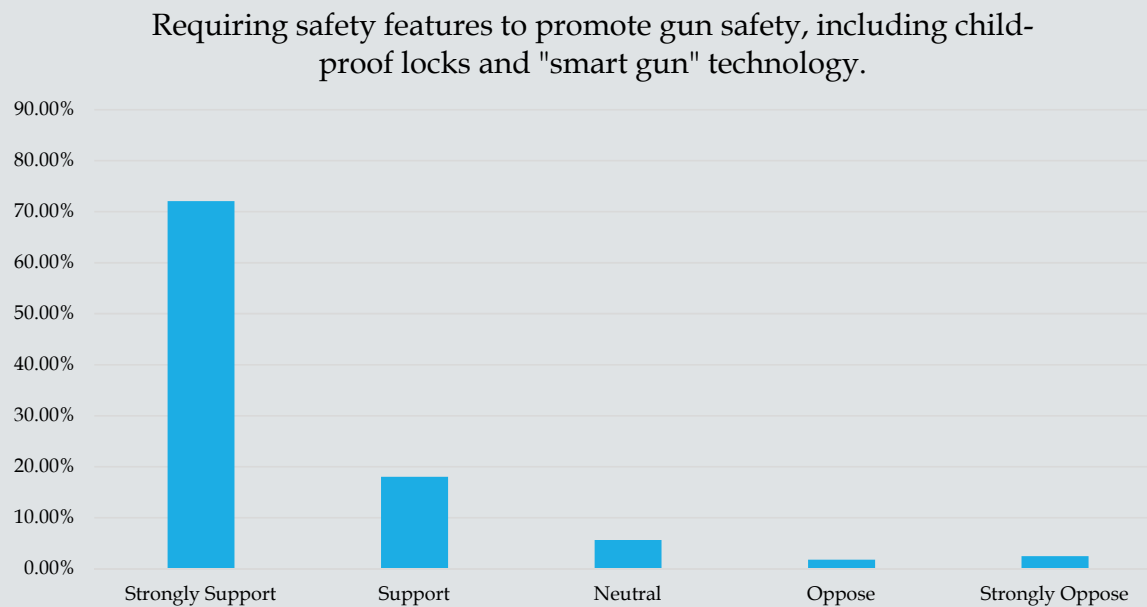
Advocacy efforts to limit civilian access to types of ammunition designed for military or law enforcement use (e.g., armor piercing, large magazine capacity).





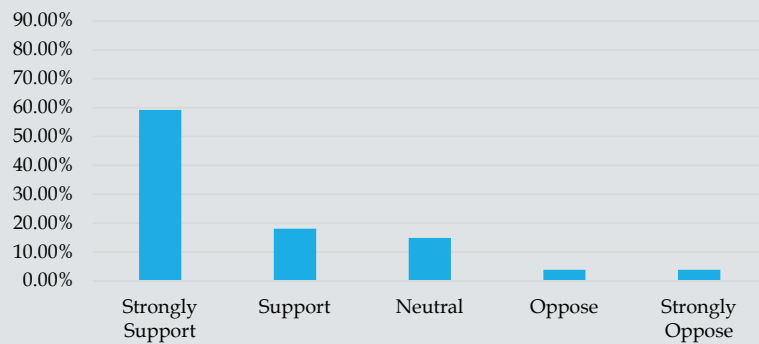
# Speaking for APSA: Locking guns

- “APSA supports all efforts to limit access by children to firearms, including the use of gunlocks and safe storage techniques.”

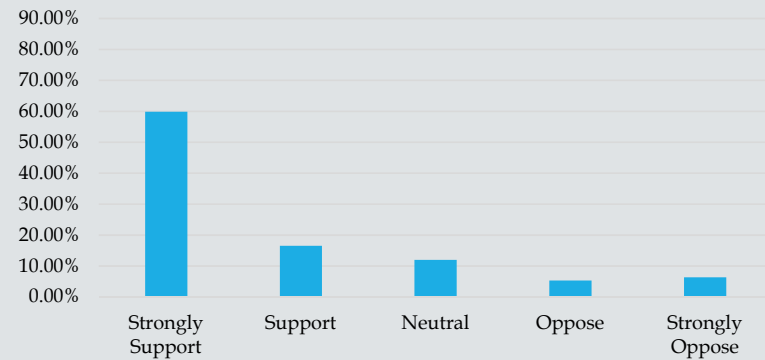


# Speaking for APSA: Firearms safety policy

Encouraging the development and use of technology that identifies the purchaser of ammunition fired from a firearm.



Creating a federal database to track firearm sales.



## Speaking for APSA: Schools, bystanders, care providers

- “APSA supports school safety and readiness for active shooter situations. APSA does not support arming teachers to improve school safety. APSA supports wide dissemination of ‘Stop the Bleed’ training to school personnel.”
- “APSA supports research, education and treatment for the second victim phenomenon and the stress reactions faced by survivors and health care teams in the face of these incidents.”

# Putting it all together

- APSA members represent a range of backgrounds, practice environments, and personal gun practices
  - Opportunity for gun owners and non-owners to work together on solutions.
  - Possible opportunity to address safer gun behavior in members?
- APSA members clearly support both increased efforts to reduce firearm injuries and stronger advocacy to make policy changes
- The APSA firearms position statement reflects member views and provides an evidence driven framework to promote increased action
- APSA members are highly committed to pediatric trauma care, and thus we speak on these issues with authority
- We should lead in this