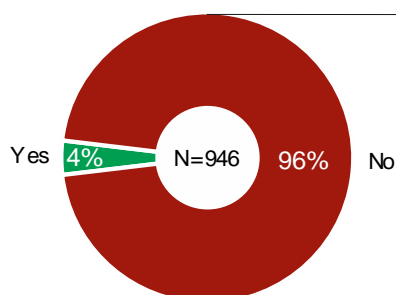


Opinions about access to firearms

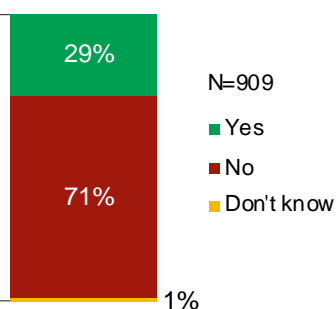
At the end of September, the Sejm started proceedings of the draft law on firearms, submitted by members of parliament for the Kukiz'15 movement. It was referred for further revision in the Committee for Administration and Home Affairs. According to the submitting MPs, the aim of the project is to simplify and harmonize the law, including the limitation of discretion in issuing firearms permits by the police (the draft proposes that a representative of the local government would be responsible for issuing licenses). Opponents of the draft law argue that in practice this would mean a liberalization of the right to bear firearms and a significant weakening of state control over that sphere.

Currently only 4% of respondents admit that they use firearms at work, on the shooting range or for hunting. Among the remainder, over a quarter (29%) personally know someone who has such a weapon.

Do you personally have contact with firearms, i.e. do you have a gun or use it at work, on a shooting range or for hunting?

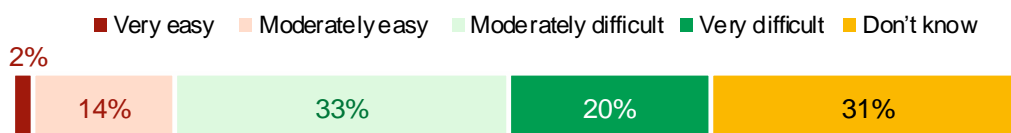


Do you personally know someone who has a firearm?



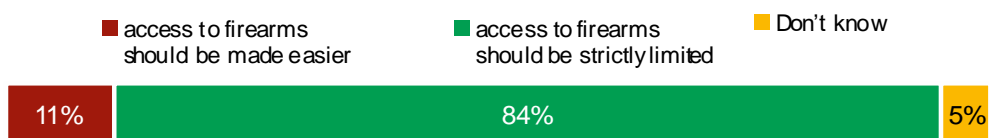
The majority of respondents think that in Poland it is difficult to obtain firearms: more than half (53%) of respondents share this view, in which one in five (20%) think it is very difficult.

Is it easy or difficult to access firearms at present in Poland?



The vast majority (84%) of Poles believe that access to firearms should be strictly limited. Only one in nine (11%) is in favour of liberalizing regulations in the current situation.

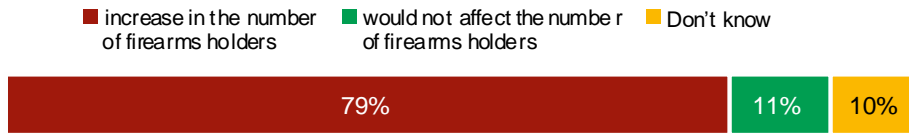
Which view is closer to your own opinion? Currently in Poland...



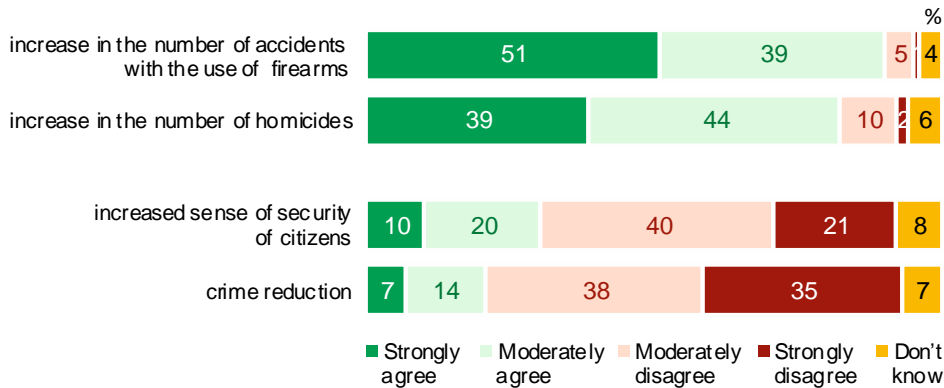
Men (18%), young people (23% of those aged 18-24 years and 20% of the 25-34 age group) are more likely to support easing access to firearms. This proposal is also relatively frequently advocated by those who directly or indirectly have contact with firearms (21% of them favour it, and 75% believe access should remain strictly limited).

Respondents predict that simplifying procedures would increase the number of firearms owned by citizens, which in turn could lead to more accidents and homicides. A relatively small part of society count on the positive effects of widespread access to arms - increasing citizens' sense of security and reducing crime.

In your opinion, simplification of the gun licensing procedure would result in...

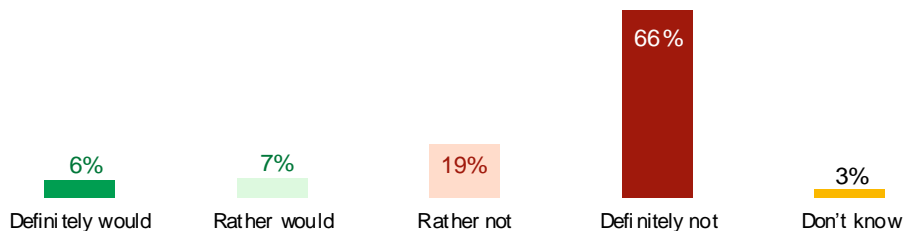


Do you agree that wider access to firearms would contribute to...



In total, 13% of respondents declare interest in the firearms license, if the procedure were to be simplified, in which 7% express a strong interest.

If the procedure for acquiring a firearms license were to be simplified, would you consider applying for such a license?



Young people (22% of those aged 25 to 34 years and 34% of the 18-24 age group) most commonly declare interest in obtaining a gun license. Men (21%) express such wishes much more commonly than women (5%).

The main reason for interest in owning a weapon is self-defence (46%, or 6% of the total). Some respondents also mention home protection (21%, or 3% of the total) and the intention to practice sport shooting (13%, or 2% of the total).

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Opinions about Access to Firearms", November 2017. Fieldwork for national sample: October 2017, N=985. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.