

## A Supplementary Appendix

**Table A.1:** Support for Gun Control Before and After Newtown: Cross-sectional results, December 2012

	Before Sandy Hook (%)	After Sandy Hook (%)	N
All	22.0	21.6	1,684
Democrats	33.7	34.0	645
Independents	22.5	19.8	601
Republicans	6.7	7.7	438
Liberals	32.9	38.7	538
Moderates	27.0	21.2	414
Conservatives	12.8	6.9	602
Women	22.3	22.6	866
Men	21.7	20.3	818
Parents	25.5	17.0	454
Non-parents	22.6	25.8	1,038
Non-NRA member	23.4	21.2	1,466
Non-Northeast	20.0	19.4	1,431
Northeast	32.0	30.3	253

*Note:* Entries show the percentages of respondents who supported gun control measures based on whether they completed the December 2012 survey before or after the Sandy Hook shooting on December 14. The last column shows the sample size.

**Table A.2:** Support for Gun Control Before and After Newtown: Within-respondent results, December 2012–January 2013

	December 2012 (%)	January 2013 (%)	<i>N</i>
All	21.9	18.0	1,066
Democrats	34.0	28.9	394
Independents	22.5	14.1	383
Republicans	6.7	9.9	289
Liberals	33.2	25.0	343
Moderates	27.4	28.3	252
Conservatives	12.9	5.8	398
Women	22.3	16.2	515
Men	21.5	19.7	551
Parents	24.9	26.0	259
Non-parents	22.8	14.4	691
Non-NRA member	23.6	20.0	942
Non-Northeast	20.0	16.1	916
Northeast	31.7	27.6	150

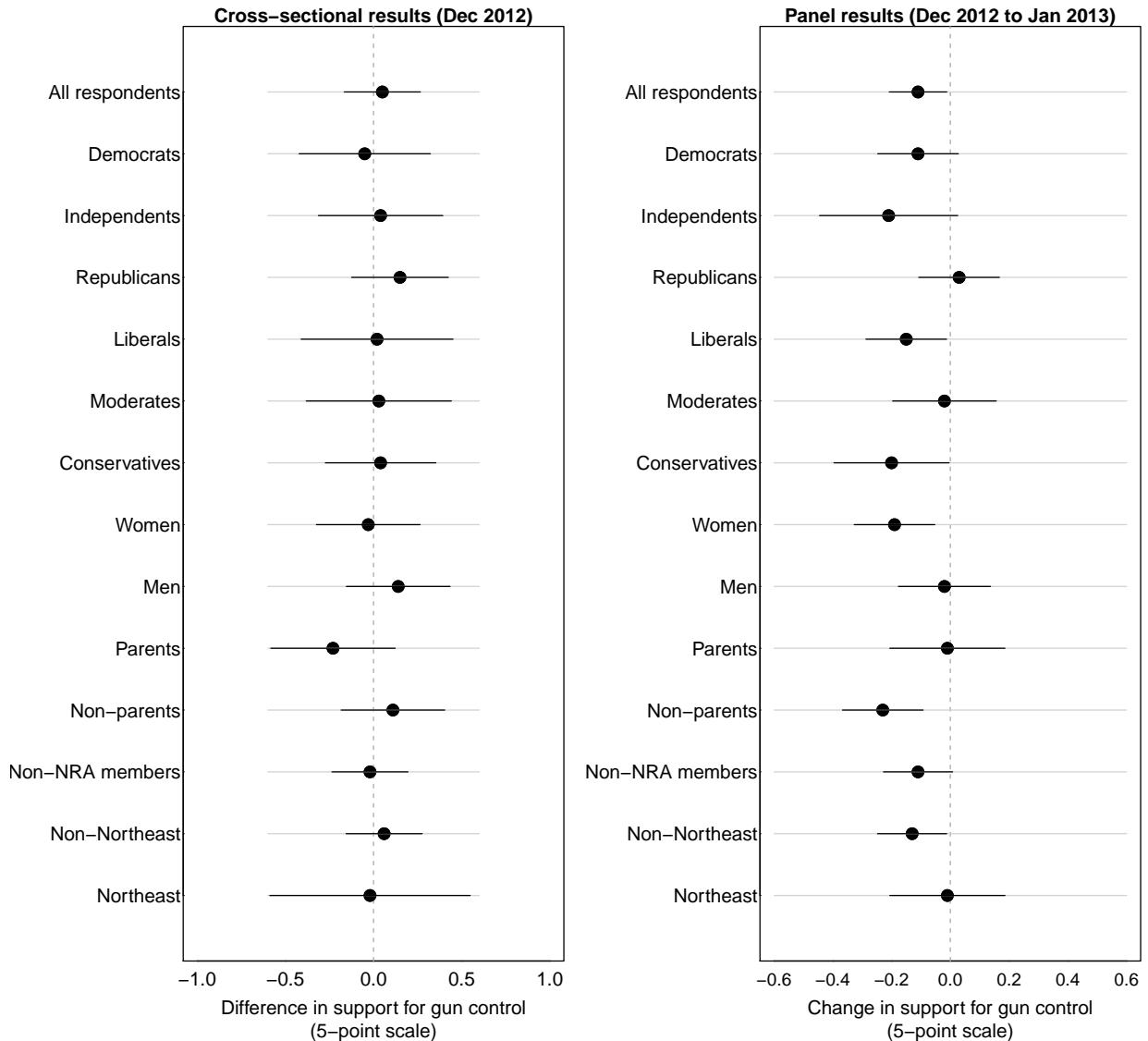
*Note:* Entries show the percentages of respondents who supported gun control measures in December 2012 and January 2013. Only those respondents who answered the December 2012 survey prior to the Sandy Hook shooting are included in the calculations. The last column shows the sample size.

**Table A.3:** Aggregate Changes in Support for Gun Control Measures, August and December 2012

	August 2012 (%)	December 2012 (%)
Ban high-capacity or extended ammunition clips	60	62
Ban semi-automatic assault weapons	57	62
Background checks	96	95
Gun registration with local government	76	78
Limit number of guns individuals can own	45	48
Ban guns for felons and individuals with mental health issues	91	92

*Note:* Data were collected by CNN/ORC International from nationally representative samples of U.S. adults. Entries show the percentages of respondents who supported gun control measures in August 2012 and December 2012. The August data were collected from August 7-8 ( $N = 1,010$ ) and the December data were collected after the Sandy Hook shooting on December 17-18 ( $N = 620$ ). None of the differences between the August and December surveys are statistically significant. Even on these much more nuanced indicators of public opinion toward gun control, we find little evidence of increased support following the Sandy Hook shooting. Entries reflect responses to Q17 provided in topline results available at <http://i2.cdn.turner.com/cnn/2012/images/12/19/cnnpoll.december19.4p.pdf> (accessed March 26, 2018).

**Figure A.1: The Effect of Sandy Hook on Support for Gun Control**



*Note:* Plots show differences in attitudes toward gun control before and after the Sandy Hook shooting on December 14, 2012. Attitudes were assessed using a five-point scale, where larger values meant increased support for limiting gun ownership. Positive values along the x-axes indicate increased support for gun control after Sandy Hook and negative values indicate decreased support. The left plot shows between-respondent differences based on whether respondents answered the December 2012 survey before or after the shooting. The right plot shows within-respondent differences using respondents who answered the December survey prior to the shooting. The horizontal lines are the 95% confidence intervals and the dashed vertical line indicates the null hypothesis of no difference in support.

## B Question wording

**Support for Gun Control:** Indicate your level of agreement with each statement. Federal law should ban the possession of handguns except by law enforcement personnel. *[Strongly Agree; Agree; Neither Agree nor Disagree; Disagree; Strongly Disagree]. Coded as “Support” if Strongly Agree or Agree*

**Party Identification (PID):** Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a ...?*[Democrat; Republican; Independent; Something Else].*

**Symbolic Ideology:** In terms of your political views, do you think of yourself as: *[Very liberal; Liberal; Slightly liberal; Moderate; Slightly conservative; Conservative; Very Conservative; Don’t know].*

**Gender:** Are you male or female? *[Male; Female].*

**Children:** Do you have any children under age 18? Yes; No.

**NRA Membership:** Which ones are you a member of, if any? National Rifle Association. Yes; No

## C Response Rates

AAPOR response rates are reported in Table C.1. The first column reports each wave's individual response rate (RR) without accounting for  $e$ , the estimated proportion of cases of unknown eligibility that is eligible. When accounting for  $e$ , as is the case in column 2, the response rate is much higher. The third column represents the completion rate for each month. This figure is calculated by dividing the number of completed surveys in a given wave by the number of panelists who were invited to take the survey that month.

**Table C.1:** Response Rate by Wave

Month	RR (no $e$ )	RR (with $e$ )	Completion Rate
Profile	6.7%	14.2%	89.2%
December 2012	4.8%	10.4%	84.1%
January 2013	4.8%	10.3%	83.0%

*Note:* These data were provided by the survey vendor, GfK/Knowledge Networks (<http://www.knowledgenetworks.com/ganp/>).