

FLORIDA

STATEWIDE

PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY

Survey conducted April 22 through April 24, 2025. 500 voters in Florida participated in the survey. Survey weighted to match statewide voter demographics. Margin of Error is +/-4% with a 95% level of confidence. Totals do not always equal 100% due to rounding.



Q1A: State officials are considering reopening a recreational bear hunting season in Florida. The last time bear hunting was allowed was in 2015, and over 300 bears were killed in just 2 days before the hunt was shut down.

Do you support or oppose the hunting of Florida's black bears?

Support: 16% Oppose: 81% Not sure: 2%

Q1B: State officials are considering reopening a recreational bear hunting season in Florida. The last time bear hunting was allowed was in 2015, and over 300 bears were killed in just 2 days before the hunt was shut down.

Do you support or oppose trophy hunting of Florida's black bears?

Support: 19% Oppose: 74% Not sure: 7%

Q2: The last bear hunt also orphaned dozens of cubs, as at least 38 female bears who were nursing cubs were killed by hunters. Knowing this, do you support or oppose opening another hunting season for Florida's black bears?

Support: 16% Oppose: 81% Not sure: 3%

Q3: Florida law already allows individuals to kill any bear posing a threat to public safety, pets, or to private property. Knowing this, do you support or oppose opening a recreational hunting season for Florida's black bears?

Support: 18% Oppose: 78% Not sure: 5%



Q4: Officials are considering allowing trophy hunters to use packs of radio-collared hounds to chase bears. Often the hounds are monitored remotely. Once the bear tires from the chase, the hounds either corner the bear on the ground or the bear climbs into a tree. Hunters arrive and shoot the bears at close range.

Do you support or oppose permitting using packs of hounds to chase and kill bears?

Support: 9% Oppose: 89% Not sure: 2%

Q5: Officials are also considering allowing bear baiting, a practice where trophy hunters use human food lures to accustom bears to feeding at a specific location. Hunters hide behind a blind or elevated platforms and shoot the feeding bears.

Do you support or oppose Florida permitting bear baiting?

Support: 11% Oppose: 86% Not sure: 3%

Q6: Bears sometimes come into conflict with people. Many states, including Florida, successfully reduce conflicts with people using non-lethal measures such as public education campaigns where trash and bird feeders are made unavailable to bears, or by ticketing people who intentionally or unintentionally feed bears.

Do you support or oppose Florida placing priority on policies that promote effective, non-lethal and more humane methods to reduce conflicts between bears and people?

Support: 81% Oppose: 14% Not sure: 5%



Q1A: State officials are considering reopening a recreational bear hunting season in Florida. The last time bear hunting was allowed was in 2015, and over 300 bears were killed in just 2 days before the hunt was shut down.

Do you support or oppose the hunting of Florida's black bears?

Column %	MIAMI-FT. LAUDERDALE DMA	ORLANDO- DAYTONA BCH- MELBRN DMA	TAMPA-ST. PETE (SARASOTA) DMA	WEST PALM BEACH-FT. PIERCE DMA	BALANCE
Support	15%	11%	16%	17%	24%
Oppose	85%	89%	79%	83%	73%
Not sure	0%	0%	6%	0%	3%

Table 1. Q1A by DMA

Column %	Republican	Democrat	Non-Partisan
Support	24%	6%	13%
Oppose	72%	92%	87%
Not sure	3%	2%	0%

Table 2. Q1A by PARTY

Column %	Conservative	Moderate	Liberal
Support	22%	16%	9%
Oppose	74%	83%	91%
Not sure	4%	2%	0%

Table 3. Q1A by IDEOLOGY

Column %	Female	Male
Support	9%	26%
Oppose	89%	72%
Not sure	2%	2%

Table 4. Q1A by GENDER



Q1B: State officials are considering reopening a recreational bear hunting season in Florida. The last time bear hunting was allowed was in 2015, and over 300 bears were killed in just 2 days before the hunt was shut down.

Do you support or oppose trophy hunting of Florida's black bears?

Column %	MIAMI-FT. LAUDERDALE DMA	ORLANDO- DAYTONA BCH- MELBRN DMA	TAMPA-ST. PETE (SARASOTA) DMA	WEST PALM BEACH-FT. PIERCE DMA	BALANCE
Support	0%	26%	18%	16%	27%
Oppose	92%	70%	73%	84%	62%
Not sure	8%	4%	9%	0%	11%

Table 5. Q1B by DMA

Column %	Republican	Democrat	Non-Partisan
Support	23%	11%	21%
Oppose	67%	86%	72%
Not sure	10%	3%	7%

Table 6. Q1B by PARTY

Column %	Conservative	Moderate	Liberal
Support	21%	23%	10%
Oppose	68%	71%	89%
Not sure	11%	7%	1%

Table 7. Q1B by IDEOLOGY

Column %	Female	Male
Support	15%	24%
Oppose	78%	70%
Not sure	8%	7%

Table 8. Q1B by GENDER



Q2: The last bear hunt also orphaned dozens of cubs, as at least 38 female bears who were nursing cubs were killed by hunters. Knowing this, do you support or oppose opening another hunting season for Florida's black bears?

Column %	MIAMI-FT. LAUDERDALE DMA	ORLANDO- DAYTONA BCH- MELBRN DMA	TAMPA-ST. PETE (SARASOTA) DMA	WEST PALM BEACH-FT. PIERCE DMA	BALANCE
Support	8%	16%	15%	13%	23%
Oppose	91%	80%	80%	87%	74%
Not sure	2%	5%	5%	0%	3%

Table 9. Q2 by DMA

Column %	Republican	Democrat	Non-Partisan
Support	20%	9%	15%
Oppose	75%	91%	81%
Not sure	5%	0%	4%

Table 10. Q2 by PARTY

Column %	Conservative	Moderate	Liberal
Support	17%	19%	9%
Oppose	77%	80%	90%
Not sure	6%	1%	2%

Table 11. Q2 by IDEOLOGY

Column %	Female	Male
Support	9%	23%
Oppose	87%	74%
Not sure	4%	3%

Table 12. Q2 by GENDER



Q3: Florida law already allows individuals to kill any bear posing a threat to public safety, pets, or to private property. Knowing this, do you support or oppose opening a recreational hunting season for Florida's black bears?

Column %	MIAMI-FT. LAUDERDALE DMA	ORLANDO- DAYTONA BCH- MELBRN DMA	TAMPA-ST. PETE (SARASOTA) DMA	WEST PALM BEACH-FT. PIERCE DMA	BALANCE
Support	9%	18%	17%	13%	27%
Oppose	84%	79%	80%	82%	68%
Not sure	8%	3%	3%	5%	5%

Table 13. Q3 by DMA

Column %	Republican	Democrat	Non-Partisan
Support	22%	10%	19%
Oppose	72%	87%	76%
Not sure	6%	3%	5%

Table 14. Q3 by PARTY

Column %	Conservative	Moderate	Liberal
Support	19%	21%	10%
Oppose	75%	75%	85%
Not sure	6%	4%	5%

Table 15. Q3 by IDEOLOGY

Column %	Female	Male
Support	11%	25%
Oppose	84%	70%
Not sure	5%	5%

Table 16. Q3 by GENDER



Q4: Officials are considering allowing trophy hunters to use packs of radio-collared hounds to chase bears. Often the hounds are monitored remotely. Once the bear tires from the chase, the hounds either corner the bear on the ground or the bear climbs into a tree. Hunters arrive and shoot the bears at close range.

Do you support or oppose permitting using packs of hounds to chase and kill bears?

Column %	MIAMI-FT. LAUDERDALE DMA	ORLANDO- DAYTONA BCH- MELBRN DMA	TAMPA-ST. PETE (SARASOTA) DMA	WEST PALM BEACH-FT. PIERCE DMA	BALANCE
Support	4%	8%	11%	7%	13%
Oppose	94%	91%	87%	90%	84%
Not sure	2%	1%	2%	3%	3%

Table 17. Q4 by DMA

Column %	Republican	Democrat	Non-Partisan
Support	11%	3%	12%
Oppose	86%	94%	87%
Not sure	3%	3%	1%

Table 18. Q4 by PARTY

Column %	Conservative	Moderate	Liberal
Support	10%	11%	5%
Oppose	87%	87%	93%
Not sure	3%	1%	2%

Table 19. Q4 by IDEOLOGY

Column %	Female	Male
Support	5%	14%
Oppose	92%	84%
Not sure	3%	1%

Table 20. Q4 by GENDER



Q5: Officials are also considering allowing bear baiting, a practice where trophy hunters use human food lures to accustom bears to feeding at a specific location. Hunters hide behind a blind or elevated platforms and shoot the feeding bears.

Do you support or oppose Florida permitting bear baiting?

Column %	MIAMI-FT. LAUDERDALE DMA	ORLANDO- DAYTONA BCH- MELBRN DMA	TAMPA-ST. PETE (SARASOTA) DMA	WEST PALM BEACH-FT. PIERCE DMA	BALANCE
Support	2%	11%	11%	7%	19%
Oppose	98%	85%	86%	90%	76%
Not sure	0%	4%	3%	3%	5%

Table 21. Q5 by DMA

Column %	Republican	Democrat	Non-Partisan
Support	13%	4%	15%
Oppose	82%	94%	85%
Not sure	5%	2%	0%

Table 22. Q5 by PARTY

Column %	Conservative	Moderate	Liberal
Support	11%	14%	5%
Oppose	83%	84%	95%
Not sure	6%	2%	0%

Table 23. Q5 by IDEOLOGY

Column %	Female	Male
Support	5%	18%
Oppose	92%	80%
Not sure	3%	3%

Table 24. Q5 by GENDER



Q6: Bears sometimes come into conflict with people. Many states, including Florida, successfully reduce conflicts with people using non-lethal measures such as public education campaigns where trash and bird feeders are made unavailable to bears, or by ticketing people who intentionally or unintentionally feed bears.

Do you support or oppose Florida placing priority on policies that promote effective, non-lethal and more humane methods to reduce conflicts between bears and people?

Column %	MIAMI-FT. LAUDERDALE DMA	ORLANDO- DAYTONA BCH- MELBRN DMA	TAMPA-ST. PETE (SARASOTA) DMA	WEST PALM BEACH-FT. PIERCE DMA	BALANCE
Support	89%	81%	87%	71%	74%
Oppose	10%	15%	9%	19%	20%
Not sure	1%	4%	5%	10%	6%

Table 25. Q6 by DMA

Column %	Republican	Democrat	Non-Partisan
Support	78%	87%	79%
Oppose	17%	11%	12%
Not sure	5%	2%	9%

Table 26. Q6 by PARTY

Column %	Conservative	Moderate	Liberal
Support	79%	77%	90%
Oppose	15%	18%	8%
Not sure	6%	5%	3%

Table 27. Q6 by IDEOLOGY

Column %	Female	Male
Support	85%	76%
Oppose	11%	19%
Not sure	4%	6%

Table 28. Q6 by GENDER



DEMOGRAPHICS

	%
MIAMI-FT. LAUDERDALE DMA	19%
ORLANDO-DAYTONA BCH-MELBRN DMA	21%
TAMPA-ST. PETE (SARASOTA) DMA	24%
WEST PALM BEACH-FT. PIERCE DMA	11%
BALANCE	25%

Table 29. DMA

	%
Republican	49%
Democrat	31%
Non-Partisan	20%

Table 30. PARTY

	%
Conservative	39%
Moderate	36%
Liberal	25%

Table 31. IDEOLOGY

	%
Female	54%
Male	46%

Table 32. GENDER