

Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online

<http://www.albany.edu/sourcebook/pdf/t200052008.pdf>

Table 2.0005.2008

Attitudes toward fairness of the application of the death penalty

United States, 2000 and 2002-2008

Question: "Generally speaking, do you believe the death penalty is applied fairly or unfairly in this country today?"

	Applied fairly	Applied unfairly	Don't know/refused
2000	51%	41%	8%
2002	53	40	7
2003	60	37	3
2004	55	39	6
2005	61	35	4
2006 ^a	60	35	4
2007	57	38	5
2008	54	38	8

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2008 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,011 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Oct. 3-5, 2008. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

^a Asked of a half sample.

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/111931/Americans-Hold-Firm-Support-Death-Penalty.aspx> [Dec. 3, 2008]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.