

Table 2.101.2006

Attitudes toward the legality of abortion

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2006

Question: "Do you think abortions should be legal under any circumstances, legal only under certain circumstances, or illegal in all circumstances?"

	Always legal	Legal under certain circumstances	Never legal
National	30%	53%	15%
Sex			
Male	29	56	13
Female	31	50	17
Race			
White	29	54	15
Nonwhite	33	50	16
Black	33	47	18
Age			
18 to 29 years	27	57	13
30 to 49 years	31	53	16
50 to 64 years	34	53	12
50 years and older	30	52	15
65 years and older	26	51	19
Education			
College post graduate	37	50	12
College graduate	36	46	16
Some college	33	53	12
High school graduate or less	21	58	19
Income			
\$75,000 and over	37	49	13
\$50,000 to \$74,999	27	59	13
\$30,000 to \$49,999	28	55	14
\$20,000 to \$29,999	26	52	21
Under \$20,000	31	52	16
Community			
Urban area	35	52	11
Suburban area	31	51	16
Rural area	22	60	18
Region			
East	37	51	11
Midwest	22	63	14
South	21	54	21
West	43	44	12
Politics			
Republican	16	57	25
Democrat	37	50	11
Independent	34	54	10
Ideology			
Conservative	15	58	25
Moderate	34	56	9
Liberal	55	37	7

Note: These data are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,002 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted May 8-11, 2006. The "no opinion" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

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