

Table 2.31.2007

Respondents reporting whether they think it will be necessary to give up some civil liberties to curb terrorism in the United States

United States, selected years 1996-2007

Question: "In order to curb terrorism in this country, do you think it will be necessary for the average person to give up some civil liberties, or not?"

	Yes, it will be necessary	No, it will not be necessary	Don't know/ refused
1996	30%	65%	5%
1997	29	62	9
Mid-September 2001	55	35	10
January 2002	55	39	6
June 2002	49	45	6
2003	44	50	6
2004 ^a	38	56	6
2005 ^a	40	53	7
2006	43	50	7
2007	40	54	6

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2007 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 2,007 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Dec. 12, 2006-Jan. 9, 2007. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

^aIn 2004 and 2005 the question was worded: "In order to curb terrorism in this country, do you think it is necessary for the average person to give up some civil liberties, or not?"

Source: The Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, *Trends in Political Values and Core Attitudes: 1987-2007* (Washington, DC: The Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, 2007), p. 106. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.