

Table 2.31.2011

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 1996-2011

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
2001 Mid-September	55	35	10
2002 January	55	39	6
2002 June	49	45	6
2003	44	50	6
2004 ^a	38	56	6
2005 ^a	40	53	7
2006 ^a	43	50	7
2007	40	54	6
2009	27	65	8
2011	40	54	6

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2011 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,509 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Aug. 17-21, 2011. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

^aIn 2004, 2005, and 2006 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: Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, *United in Remembrance, Divided Over Policies: Ten years After 9/11* (Washington, DC: Pew Research Center, Sept. 1, 2011), p. 18. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.