

Table 2.57

Respondents reporting whether they believe the death penalty acts as a deterrent to murder

United States, 1985, 1986, 1991, and 2004

Question: "Do you feel that the death penalty acts as a deterrent to the commitment of murder, that it lowers the murder rate, or not?"

	Yes, does	No, does not	Don't know/ refused
1985	62%	31%	7%
1986	61	32	7
1991	51	41	8
2004	35	62	3

Note: See Note, [table 2.49](#). For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/> [May 19, 2004]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.