

Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online

<http://www.albany.edu/sourcebook/pdf/t2652007.pdf>

Table 2.65.2007

Attitudes toward a law restricting the possession of handguns

United States, selected years 1959-2007

Question: "Do you think there should or should not be a law that would ban the possession of handguns, except by the police and other authorized persons?"

| | Should | Should not | Don't know/ refused |
|---------------|--------|------------|------------------------|
| 1959 | 60% | 36% | 4% |
| 1965 | 49 | 44 | 7 |
| 1975 | 41 | 55 | 4 |
| January 1980 | 31 | 65 | 4 |
| December 1980 | 38 | 51 | 11 |
| April 1981 | 39 | 58 | 3 |
| June 1981 | 41 | 54 | 5 |
| 1987 | 42 | 50 | 8 |
| 1988 | 37 | 59 | 4 |
| 1990 | 41 | 55 | 4 |
| 1991 | 43 | 53 | 4 |
| March 1993 | 42 | 54 | 4 |
| December 1993 | 39 | 60 | 1 |
| 1999 | 34 | 64 | 2 |
| 2000 | 36 | 62 | 2 |
| 2002 | 32 | 65 | 3 |
| 2003 | 32 | 67 | 1 |
| 2004 | 36 | 63 | 1 |
| 2005 | 35 | 64 | 1 |
| 2006 | 32 | 66 | 2 |
| 2007 | 30 | 68 | 2 |

Note: See Note, [table 2.33.2007](#). 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/101731/Shrunken-Majority-Now-Favors-Stricter-Gun-Laws.aspx> [Jan. 14, 2008]. Reprinted by permission.