

Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online

http://www.albany.edu/sourcebook/pdf/t2992009.pdf

Table 2.99.2009

Attitudes toward the legality of homosexual relations

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2009

Question: "Do you think gay or lesbian relations between consenting adults should or should not be legal?"

	Should be legal	Should not be legal	Don't know/refused
National	56%	40%	4%
Sex			
Male	54	42	5
Female	57	39	4
Race			
White	56	40	4
Nonwhite	55	40	6
Black	50	45	5
Age			
18 to 29 years	71	26	3
30 to 49 years	55	42	3
50 to 64 years	57	40	3
65 years and older	50	45	5
65 years and older	41	51	8
Education			
College post graduate	75	23	2
College graduate	63	36	2
Some college	57	37	6
High school graduate or less	43	52	4
Income			
\$75,000 and over	62	34	4
\$50,000 to \$74,999	59	39	2
\$30,000 to \$49,999	54	41	5
\$20,000 to \$29,999	53	43	4
Under \$20,000	48	51	2
Region			
East	65	33	2
Midwest	57	39	4
South	44	51	5
West	63	32	5
Politics			
Republican	41	56	3
Democrat	69	27	3
Independent	57	38	6
Ideology			
Conservative	39	57	4
Moderate	65	29	6
Liberal	82	16	2

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2009 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,015 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted May 7-10, 2009. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.