

Table 2.101.2011

Attitudes toward the legality of abortion

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2011

Question: "Do you think abortions should be legal under any circumstances, legal only under certain circumstances, or illegal in all circumstances?"

	Always legal	Legal under certain circumstances	Never legal
National	27%	50%	22%
Sex			
Male	24	55	19
Female	29	45	24
Race			
White	29	48	21
Nonwhite	22	54	22
Black	30	47	20
Age			
18 to 29 years	32	45	23
30 to 49 years	29	49	21
50 to 64 years	26	53	19
65 years and older	18	52	25
Education			
College post graduate	35	49	15
College graduate	24	58	16
Some college	32	50	17
High school graduate or less	21	48	29
Income			
\$75,000 and over	33	56	10
\$50,000 to \$74,999	33	52	15
\$30,000 to \$49,999	25	45	27
\$20,000 to \$29,999	16	53	30
Under \$20,000	23	46	29
Region			
East	27	50	22
Midwest	24	46	28
South	22	51	25
West	37	51	11
Politics			
Republican	13	52	34
Democrat	38	47	14
Independent	29	52	18
Ideology			
Conservative	9	56	32
Moderate	31	51	16
Liberal	51	38	11

Note: These data are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,018 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted May 5-8, 2011. The "no opinion" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by [Gallup, Inc.](#) Reprinted by permission.