

Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online

http://www.albany.edu/sourcebook/pdf/t21012012.pdf

Table 2.101.2012

Attitudes toward the legality of abortion

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2012

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	25%	52%	20%
Sex			
Male	22	57	18
Female	28	48	22
Race			
White	25	55	18
Nonwhite	25	45	27
Black	30	47	17
Hispanic	21	40	37
Age			
18 to 29 years	24	55	18
30 to 49 years	30	50	17
50 to 64 years	26	50	20
65 years and older	17	55	25
Education			
College post graduate	35	53	11
College graduate	25	57	14
Some college	28	57	14
High school graduate or less	20	47	29
Income			
\$75,000 and over	32	55	12
\$50,000 to \$74,999	20	60	17
\$30,000 to \$49,999	22	53	21
\$20,000 to \$29,999	22	54	22
Under \$20,000	21	40	33
Region			
East	28	54	15
Midwest	27	56	15
South	20	50	26
West	28	50	20
Politics			
Republican	8	61	28
Democrat	40	42	16
Independent	25	56	16
Ideology			
Conservative	9	56	34
Moderate	26	58	13
Liberal	52	40	5

Note: These data are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,024 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted May 3-6, 2012. 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](#).

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