

Table 2.48

**Attitudes toward the treatment of juveniles who commit violent crimes**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2003

Question: "In your view, how should juveniles between the ages of 14 and 17 who commit violent crimes be treated in the criminal justice system--should they be treated the same as adults, or should they be given more lenient treatment in a juvenile court?"

	Same as adults	More lenient treatment	Tougher <sup>a</sup>	Depends <sup>a</sup>	Don't know/refused
National	59%	32%	(b)	8%	1%
<b>Sex</b>					
Male	64	29	1%	5	1
Female	55	34	(b)	10	1
<b>Race</b>					
White	59	32	(b)	8	1
Nonwhite	58	32	1	8	1
Black	54	36	0	9	1
<b>Age</b>					
18 to 29 years	62	34	1	3	0
30 to 49 years	57	31	(b)	11	1
50 to 64 years	65	27	(b)	6	2
50 years and older	59	31	1	7	2
65 years and older	52	36	1	8	3
<b>Education</b>					
College post graduate	42	49	0	9	(b)
College graduate	51	41	(b)	7	1
Some college	61	27	1	9	2
High school graduate or less	68	25	(b)	6	1
<b>Income</b>					
\$75,000 and over	58	36	(b)	5	1
\$50,000 to \$74,999	54	35	1	9	1
\$30,000 to \$49,999	63	28	(b)	8	1
\$20,000 to \$29,999	59	31	1	8	1
Under \$20,000	58	31	0	7	4
<b>Community</b>					
Urban area	62	29	0	8	1
Suburban area	57	34	1	7	1
Rural area	60	31	(b)	7	2
<b>Region</b>					
East	57	34	0	7	2
Midwest	51	37	1	10	1
South	66	25	1	7	1
West	59	34	0	6	1
<b>Politics</b>					
Republican	64	24	1	10	1
Democrat	55	35	(b)	9	1
Independent	59	35	0	5	1

Note: See Note, table 2.13. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

<sup>a</sup>Response volunteered.

<sup>b</sup>Less than 0.5%.

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