

**Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online**

http://www.albany.edu/sourcebook/pdf/t2522008.pdf

Table 2.52.2008

**Attitudes toward the death penalty for persons convicted of murder**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2008

Question: "Are you in favor of the death penalty for a person convicted of murder?"

	Yes, in favor	No, not in favor	Don't know/ refused
National	64%	30%	5%
<b>Sex</b>			
Male	72	25	3
Female	58	35	7
<b>Race</b>			
White	69	26	4
Nonwhite	52	40	8
Black	47	47	6
<b>Age</b>			
18 to 29 years	61	36	3
30 to 49 years	67	28	5
50 to 64 years	64	30	6
65 years and older	65	29	6
65 years and older	65	28	7
<b>Education</b>			
College post graduate	50	44	5
College graduate	70	25	5
Some college	66	30	4
High school graduate or less	68	25	7
<b>Income</b>			
\$75,000 and over	71	26	3
\$50,000 to \$74,999	64	28	8
\$30,000 to \$49,999	67	29	4
\$20,000 to \$29,999	54	36	9
Under \$20,000	55	42	3
<b>Region</b>			
East	62	32	6
Midwest	60	36	4
South	70	26	5
West	64	30	7
<b>Politics</b>			
Republican	78	18	4
Democrat	52	44	4
Independent	66	28	6
<b>Ideology</b>			
Conservative	77	17	6
Moderate	65	31	4
Liberal	40	56	3

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2008 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,011 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Oct. 3-5, 2008. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

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