

Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online

http://www.albany.edu/sourcebook/pdf/t2522009.pdf

Table 2.52.2009

Attitudes toward the death penalty for persons convicted of murder

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2009

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	65%	31%	5%
Sex			
Male	69	27	4
Female	61	34	5
Race			
White	69	27	5
Nonwhite	55	40	5
Black	41	52	7
Age			
18 to 29 years	56	40	4
30 to 49 years	66	29	5
50 to 64 years	69	28	3
65 years and older	68	28	4
65 years and older	67	27	6
Education			
College post graduate	48	49	4
College graduate	71	24	5
Some college	63	34	3
High school graduate or less	73	20	7
Income			
\$75,000 and over	67	29	4
\$50,000 to \$74,999	62	35	3
\$30,000 to \$49,999	69	26	5
\$20,000 to \$29,999	60	36	4
Under \$20,000	58	40	2
Region			
East	55	38	7
Midwest	63	34	3
South	69	27	3
West	69	25	6
Politics			
Republican	81	16	3
Democrat	48	47	5
Independent	67	28	5
Ideology			
Conservative	75	21	3
Moderate	62	30	7
Liberal	47	52	1

Note: These data are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,013 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Oct. 1-4, 2009. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

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