

Table 2.54

Attitudes toward fairness of the application of the death penalty

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2004

Question: "Generally speaking, do you believe the death penalty is applied fairly or unfairly in this country today?"

	Applied fairly	Applied unfairly	Don't know/ refused
National	55%	39%	6%
Sex			
Male	59	35	6
Female	51	42	7
Race			
White	59	35	6
Nonwhite	41	51	8
Black	32	58	10
Age			
18 to 29 years	61	35	4
30 to 49 years	56	40	4
50 to 64 years	53	41	6
50 years and older	52	40	8
65 years and older	52	38	10
Education			
College post graduate	43	50	7
College graduate	56	41	3
Some college	59	34	7
High school graduate or less	57	36	7
Income			
\$75,000 and over	56	41	3
\$50,000 to \$74,999	64	32	4
\$30,000 to \$49,999	56	38	6
\$20,000 to \$29,999	59	39	2
Under \$20,000	44	46	10
Community			
Urban area	42	50	8
Suburban area	58	36	6
Rural area	64	31	5
Region			
East	53	40	7
Midwest	52	41	7
South	64	30	6
West	48	46	6
Politics			
Republican	75	20	5
Democrat	42	51	7
Independent	50	44	6

Note: See Note, [table 2.49](#). For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

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