

Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online

http://www.albany.edu/sourcebook/pdf/t2542009.pdf

Table 2.54.2009

Attitudes toward fairness of the application of the death penaltyBy demographic characteristics, United States, 2009^a

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	57%	34%	9%
Sex			
Male	64	29	7
Female	51	39	10
Race			
White	58	32	9
Nonwhite	54	40	7
Black	43	53	5
Age			
18 to 29 years	56	41	3
30 to 49 years	58	32	11
50 to 64 years	58	36	6
50 years and older	58	33	9
65 years and older	58	31	12
Education			
College post graduate	45	47	8
College graduate	62	30	8
Some college	62	31	7
High school graduate or less	58	31	11
Income			
\$75,000 and over	63	31	6
\$50,000 to \$74,999	60	28	11
\$30,000 to \$49,999	64	28	7
\$20,000 to \$29,999	45	46	9
Under \$20,000	49	46	5
Region			
East	48	41	10
Midwest	57	33	10
South	61	32	8
West	61	33	6
Politics			
Republican	70	22	8
Democrat	45	47	8
Independent	59	33	9
Ideology			
Conservative	67	24	9
Moderate	53	40	7
Liberal	47	48	5

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](#).

^aPercents may not add to 100 because of rounding.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.