

Table 2.64.2008

**Attitudes toward laws covering the sale of firearms**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2008

Question: "In general, do you feel that the laws covering the sale of firearms should be made more strict, less strict, or kept as they are now?"

	More strict	Less strict	Kept as they are now
National	49%	8%	41%
<u>Sex</u>			
Male	42	12	46
Female	56	4	36
<u>Race</u>			
White	47	8	44
Nonwhite	55	8	33
Black	66	10	19
<u>Age</u>			
18 to 29 years	58	4	37
30 to 49 years	46	11	41
50 to 64 years	50	9	40
50 years and older	48	8	42
65 years and older	47	6	44
<u>Education</u>			
College post graduate	61	5	33
College graduate	49	9	40
Some college	50	11	39
High school graduate or less	43	6	47
<u>Income</u>			
\$75,000 and over	51	7	41
\$50,000 to \$74,999	51	10	38
\$30,000 to \$49,999	48	7	43
\$20,000 to \$29,999	38	13	46
Under \$20,000	50	6	43
<u>Region</u>			
East	50	7	39
Midwest	50	8	41
South	47	10	43
West	51	7	40
<u>Politics</u>			
Republican	31	15	51
Democrat	66	3	29
Independent	47	7	45
<u>Ideology</u>			
Conservative	34	13	51
Moderate	55	5	39
Liberal	67	5	27

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. The "don't know/refused" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

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