

Table 2.98.2012

**Attitudes toward the legality of homosexual (gay or lesbian) relations**

United States, selected years 1977-2012

Question: "Do you think homosexual (gay or lesbian) relations between consenting adults should or should not be legal?"

	Should be legal	Should not be legal	Don't know/refused
1977	43%	43%	14%
1982	45	39	16
1985	44	47	9
1986	33	54	13
1987	33	55	12
1988	35	57	11
1989	47	36	17
1992	48	44	8
1996	44	47	9
1999	50	43	7
2001	54	42	4
2002	52	43	5
2003 May	60	35	5
2003 July	50	44	6
2004	52	43	5
2005	52	43	5
2006 <sup>a</sup>	56	40	4
2007	59	37	4
2008 <sup>b</sup>	55	40	5
2009	56	40	4
2010	58	36	6
2011	64	32	4
2012 May	63	31	6
2012 November	64	33	3

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for November 2012 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,015 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Nov. 26-29, 2012. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

<sup>a</sup> Asked of a half sample.

<sup>b</sup> Beginning in 2008, the question wording is: "Do you think gay or lesbian relations between consenting adults should or should not be legal?"

Source: Gallup, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/1651/Gay-Lesbian-Rights.aspx> [Dec. 19, 2012]. Reprinted by permission.