

Table 2.70

Attitudes toward the death penalty for persons convicted of murder

United States, selected years 1953-95^a

Question: "Are you in favor of the death penalty for a person convicted of murder?"

	Yes, in favor	No, not in favor	No opinion ^b
1953	68%	25%	7%
1956	53	34	13
1957	47	34	18
1960	53	36	11
1965	45	43	12
1966	42	47	11
1967	54	38	8
1969	51	40	9
1971	49	40	11
1972 ^c	50	41	9
1972 ^d	57	32	11
1976	66	26	8
1978	62	27	11
1981	66	25	9
1985	72	20	8
1988	79	16	5
1991	76	18	6
1994	80	16	4
1995	77	13	10

Note: For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 6.

^aPercents may not add to 100 because of rounding.

^bMay include other response categories such as "depends" or "refused."

^cMar. 3-5.

^dNov. 10-13.

Source: George Gallup, Jr., *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 357 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, June 1995), p. 25. Reprinted by permission.