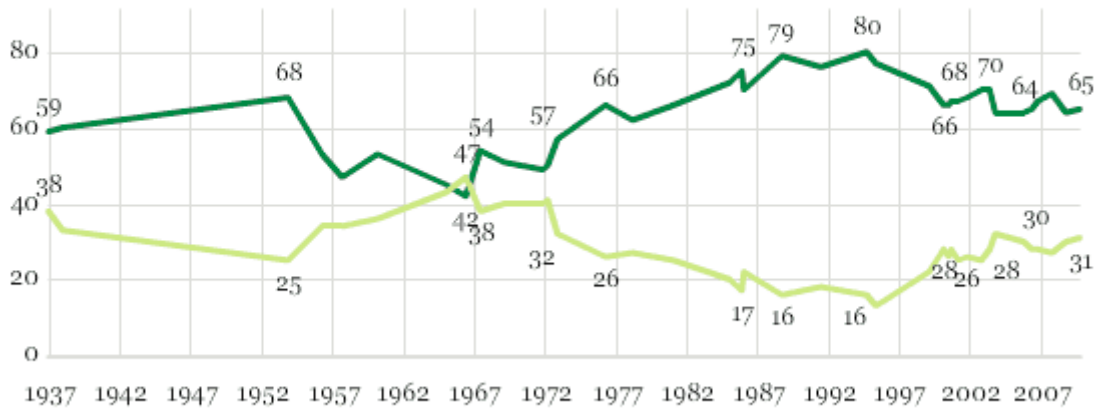


Gallup News - Death Penalty (as of Jan. 22, 2010)

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

■ % Favor ■ % Oppose



GALLUP

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

	For	Against	No opinion
	%	%	%
2009 Oct 1-4	65	31	5
2008 Oct 3-5	64	30	5
2007 Oct 4-7	69	27	4
2006 Oct 9-12	67	28	5
2006 May 5-7 ^	65	28	7
2005 Oct 13-16	64	30	6
2004 Oct 11-14	64	31	5
2003 Oct 6-8	64	32	4
2003 May 19-21	70	28	2
2002 Oct 14-17	70	25	5
2001 Oct 11-14	68	26	6
2001 Feb 19-21 ^	67	25	8
2000 Aug 29-Sep 5	67	28	5
2000 Jun 23-25	66	26	8
2000 Feb 14-15	66	28	6
1999 Feb 8-9	71	22	7
1995 May 11-14	77	13	10
1994 Sep 6-7	80	16	4
1991 Jun 13-16	76	18	6

1988 Sep 25-Oct 1	79	16	5
1988 Sep 9-11	79	16	5
1986 Jan 10-13	70	22	8
1985 Jan 11-14	72	20	8
1985 Nov 11-18	75	17	8
1981 Jan 30-Feb 2	66	25	9
1978 Mar 3-6	62	27	11
1976 Apr 9-12	66	26	8
1972 Nov 10-13	57	32	11
1972 Mar 3-5	50	41	9
1971 Oct 29-Nov 2	49	40	11
1969 Jan 23-28	51	40	9
1967 Jun 2-7	54	38	8
1966 May 19-24	42	47	11
1965 Jan 7-12	45	43	12
1960 Mar 2-7	53	36	11
1957 Aug 29-Sep 4	47	34	18
1956 Mar 29-Apr 3	53	34	13
1953 Nov 1-5	68	25	7
1937 Dec 1-6	60	33	7
1936 Dec 2-7	59	38	3

^ Based on half sample

In your opinion, is the death penalty imposed -- [ROTATED: too often, about the right amount, or not often enough]?

	About			
	Too often	the right amount	Not enough	No opinion
	%	%	%	%
2009 Oct 1-4	20	24	49	7
2008 Oct 3-5	21	23	48	8
2007 Oct 4-7	21	26	49	4
2006 May 8-11	21	25	51	3
2005 May 2-5	20	24	53	3
2004 May 2-4	23	25	48	4
2003 May 5-7	23	26	48	3
2002 May 6-9	22	24	47	7
2001 May 10-14	21	34	38	7

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

Fairly	Unfairly	No opinion
%	%	%

2009 Oct 1-4	57	34	9
2008 Oct 3-5	54	38	8
2007 Oct 4-7	57	38	5
2006 May 8-11	60	35	4
2005 May 2-5	61	35	4
2004 May 2-4	55	39	6
2003 May 5-7	60	37	3
2002 May 6-9	53	40	7
2000 Jun 23-25	51	41	8

How often do you think that a person has been executed under the death penalty who was, in fact, innocent of the crime he or she was charged with -- do you think this has happened in the past five years, or not?

	Yes, in past five years	No No, not opinion	
	%	%	%
2009 Oct 1-4	59	31	10
2006 May 8-11	63	27	10
2005 May 2-5	59	33	8
2003 May 5-7	73	22	5

If you could choose between the following two approaches, which do you think is the better penalty for murder -- [ROTATED: the death penalty (or) life imprisonment, with absolutely no possibility of parole]?

	The death penalty	Life imprisonment	No opinion
	%	%	%
2006 May 5-7 ^	47	48	5
2001 Feb 19-21 ^	54	42	4
2000 Aug 29-Sep 5 ^	49	47	4
2000 Feb 20-21	52	37	11
1999 Feb 8-9 ^	56	38	6
1997 Aug 12-13 ^	61	29	10
1993 Oct 13-18	59	29	12
1992 Mar 30-Apr 5	50	37	13
1991 Jun 13-16	53	35	11
1986 Jan 10-13	55	35	10
1985 Jan 11-14	56	34	10

^ Asked of a half sample

Do you feel that the death penalty acts as a deterrent to the commitment of murder, that it lowers the murder rate, or not?

Yes, does No, does not No opinion

	%	%	%
2006 May 8-11	34	64	2
2004 May 2-4	35	62	3
1991 Jun 13-16	51	41	8
1986 Jan 10-13	61	32	7
1985 Jan 11-14	62	31	7

Just your best guess, about what percent of people who are executed under the death penalty are really innocent of the crime they were charged with?

[BASED ON ADULTS WHO SAY SOMEONE HAS BEEN EXECUTED UNDER THE DEATH PENALTY IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS WHO WAS INNOCENT OF THE CRIME]

	2005 May 2-5	2003 May 5-7
	%	%
None	--	*
1-5%	57	55
6-10%	14	13
11-20%	10	8
21-50%	9	15
More than 50%	2	2
No opinion	8	7
Mean	10.7%	11.7%
Median	5%	5%
* Less than 0.5%		

Which comes closer to your view -- [ROTATED: states should be allowed to execute prisoners sentenced to the death penalty by means of lethal injection, (or) lethal injection of death row prisoners represents cruel and unusual punishment that should not be permitted]?

	Allowed by means of lethal injection	Not permit lethal injection	No opinion
2004 Mar 26-28	75%	21	4

Why do you favor the death penalty for persons convicted of murder? [Open-ended]

[BASED ON 715 WHO FAVOR THE DEATH PENALTY FOR PERSONS CONVICTED OF MURDER]

	May 19-21, 2003	Feb 19-21, 2001	Feb 14-15, 2000	Jun. 13-16, 1991
	%	%	%	%
An eye for an eye/They took a life/Fits the crime	37	48	40	40

They deserve it	13	6	5	5
Save taxpayers money/Cost associated with prison	11	20	12	12
Deterrent for potential crimes/Set an example	11	10	8	8
They will repeat crime/Keep them from repeating it	7	6	4	4
Biblical reasons	5	3	3	3
Depends on the type of crime they commit	4	6	6	6
Serve justice	4	1	3	2
Fair punishment	3	1	6	6
If there's no doubt the person committed the crime	3	2	--	--
Would help/benefit families of victims	2	1	--	--
Support/believe in death penalty	2	6	--	--
Don't believe they can be rehabilitated	2	2	1	1
Life sentences don't always mean life in prison	1	2	--	--
Relieves prison overcrowding	1	2	--	--
Other	4	3	10	10
No opinion	2	1	3	3

Why do you oppose the death penalty for persons convicted of murder? [Open-ended]

[BASED ON 277 WHO OPPOSE THE DEATH PENALTY FOR PERSONS CONVICTED OF MURDER]

	May 19-21, 2003	Jun. 13-16, 1991
	%	%
Wrong to take a life	46	41
Persons may be wrongly convicted	25	11
Punishment should be left to God/Religious belief	13	17
Need to pay/suffer longer/think about their crime	5	--
Possibility of rehabilitation	5	6
Depends on the circumstances	4	--
Unfair application of death penalty	4	6
Does not deter people from committing murder	4	7
Other	3	16
No opinion	4	6

Do you favor or oppose the death penalty for -- [RANDOM ORDER]? How about for -- [INSERT NEXT ITEM]?

Women

Favor Oppose No opinion

2002 May 6-9 68% 29 3

The mentally ill

Favor Oppose No opinion

2002 May 6-9 19% 75 6

The mentally retarded

Favor Oppose No opinion

2002 May 6-9 13% 82 5

Juveniles

Favor Oppose No opinion

2002 May 6-9 26% 69 5

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