

Table 2.66

Attitudes toward the death penalty

By demographic characteristics, United States, 1997

Question: "Do you believe in capital punishment, that is, the death penalty, or are you opposed to it?"

	Believe in it	Opposed to it
National	75%	22%
Sex		
Male	80	19
Female	71	25
Race, ethnicity		
White	80	17
Black	46	53
Hispanic	72	28
Region		
East	71	26
Midwest	72	24
South	76	22
West	84	14
Politics		
Republican	87	11
Democrat	67	31
Independent	72	23

Note: The "not sure" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 6.

Source: Louis Harris and Associates, Inc., *The Harris Poll* (Los Angeles: Creators Syndicate, Inc., June 11, 1997), p. 3. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.