

Table 2.65

Attitudes toward the death penalty

United States, selected years 1965-97

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

	Believe in it	Opposed to it	Not sure
1965	38%	47%	15%
1969	48	38	14
1970	47	42	11
1973	59	31	10
1976	67	25	8
1983	68	27	5
1997	75	22	3

Note: 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.