

Table 1.39

**Minimum educational requirements for new officer recruits in local police departments**

By size of population served, United States, 2000<sup>a</sup>

Population served	Total with requirements	Percent of agencies requiring a minimum of:			
		High school diploma	Some college <sup>b</sup>	2-year college degree	4-year college degree
All sizes	98%	83%	6%	8%	1%
1,000,000 or more	100	67	33	0	0
500,000 to 999,999	100	71	18	6	6
250,000 to 499,999	98	65	18	10	5
100,000 to 249,999	99	71	18	9	2
50,000 to 99,999	99	65	17	16	1
25,000 to 49,999	99	73	11	13	2
10,000 to 24,999	99	78	8	12	1
2,500 to 9,999	99	85	4	9	1
Less than 2,500	97	86	4	6	(c)

Note: See Note, [table 1.33](#).

<sup>a</sup>Percents may not add to total because of rounding.

<sup>b</sup>Nondegree requirements.

<sup>c</sup>Less than 0.5%.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Local Police Departments 2000*, NCJ 196002 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2003), p. 6, Table 10.