

Table 1.39.2003

Minimum educational requirements for new officer recruits in local police departments

By size of population served, United States, 2003^a

Population served	Total with requirements	Percent of agencies requiring a minimum of:			
		High school diploma	Some college ^b	2-year college degree	4-year college degree
All sizes	98%	81%	8%	9%	1%
1,000,000 or more	98	72	18	7	1
500,000 to 999,999	99	72	13	9	5
250,000 to 499,999	99	84	8	4	3
100,000 to 249,999	98	81	13	3	2
50,000 to 99,999	100	76	17	6	1
25,000 to 49,999	99	77	10	11	1
10,000 to 24,999	99	82	7	9	1
2,500 to 9,999	99	83	7	9	(c)
Less than 2,500	97	82	6	9	0

Note: See Note, [table 1.0001.2003](#).

^aPercents may not add to total because of rounding.

^bNondegree requirements.

^cLess than 0.5%.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Local Police Departments, 2003*, NCJ 210118 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2006), p. 9, Table 16.