

Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online

<http://www.albany.edu/sourcebook/pdf/t2102011.pdf>

Table 2.10.2011

Reported confidence in selected institutions

United States, selected years 1973-2011

Question: "I am going to read you a list of institutions in American society. Please tell me how much confidence you, yourself, have in each one--a great deal, quite a lot, some, or very little?"

(Percent saying "a great deal" or "quite a lot")

	1973	1975	1977	1979	1981	1983	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Banks and banking	NA	NA	NA	60%	46%	51%	51%	49%	51%	49%	42%	36%	30%	37%	35%	43%	44%	41%	40%	43%	46%	44%	47%	50%
Big business	26%	34%	33%	32	20	28	31	28	NA	25	NA	25	22	22	26	21	24	28	30	30	29	28	20	22
Church or organized religion	66	68	64	65	64	62	66	57	61	59	52	56	56	53	54	57	57	56	59	58	56	60	45	50
Congress	42	40	40	34	29	28	39	41	NA	35	32	24	18	18	18	21	20	22	28	26	24	26	29	29
Criminal justice system	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	17	15	20	19	19	24	23	24	NA	27	29
Health maintenance organizations, HMOs	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	17	16	15	13	17
Medical system	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	34	36	41	42	38	40	40	40	38	44
Military	NA	58	57	54	50	53	61	63	61	68	63	68	69	68	64	64	66	60	64	68	64	66	79	82
Newspapers	39	NA	NA	51	35	38	35	37	31	36	NA	39	32	31	29	30	32	35	33	33	37	36	35	33
Organized labor	30	38	39	36	28	26	28	29	26	26	NA	27	22	26	26	26	25	23	26	28	25	26	26	28
Police	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	52	54	58	60	59	58	57	54	57	59	61
Presidency	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	50	43	38	45	39	49	53	49	42	48	58	55
Public schools	58	NA	54	53	42	39	48	49	50	49	43	45	35	39	34	40	38	40	37	36	37	38	38	40
Television news	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	46	35	33	36	34	34	34	34	36	34	35
U.S. Supreme Court	44	49	46	45	46	42	56	54	52	56	46	47	39	44	42	44	45	50	50	49	47	50	50	47

See notes at end of table.

Table 2.10.2011

Reported confidence in selected institutions

United States, selected years 1973-2011--Continued

Question: "I am going to read you a list of institutions in American society. Please tell me how much confidence you, yourself, have in each one--a great deal, quite a lot, some, or very little?"

(Percent saying "a great deal" or "quite a lot")

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Banks and banking	53%	49%	49%	41%	32%	22%	23%	23%
Big business	24	22	18	18	20	16	19	19
Church or organized religion	53	53	52	46	48	52	48	48
Congress	30	22	19	14	12	17	11	12
Criminal justice system	34	26	25	19	20	28	27	28
Health maintenance organizations, HMOs	18	17	15	15	13	18	19	19
Medical system	44	42	38	31	35	36	40	39
Military	75	74	73	69	71	82	76	78
Newspapers	30	28	30	22	24	25	25	28
Organized labor	31	24	24	19	20	19	20	21
Police	64	63	58	54	58	59	59	56
Presidency	52	44	33	25	26	51	36	35
Public schools	41	37	37	33	33	38	34	34
Television news	30	28	31	23	24	23	22	27
U.S. Supreme Court	46	41	40	34	32	39	36	37

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2011 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,020 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted June 9-12, 2011. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

Source: Gallup, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/1597/Confidence-Institutions.aspx> [June 23, 2011]. Reprinted by permission.