

Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online

http://www.albany.edu/sourcebook/pdf/t2122009.pdf

Table 2.12.2009

Reported confidence in the police

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2009

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: the police?"

	Great deal/quite a lot	Some	Very little	None ^a
National	59%	29%	10%	1%
Sex				
Male	59	30	9	1
Female	59	28	10	1
Race				
White	63	30	6	1
Nonwhite	51	27	20	3
Black	38	31	27	4
Age				
18 to 29 years	50	32	18	1
30 to 49 years	60	27	10	2
50 to 64 years	63	29	7	1
50 years and older	64	28	6	1
65 years and older	65	27	6	(b)
Education				
College post graduate	66	29	5	(b)
College graduate	69	23	7	2
Some college	57	30	10	2
High school graduate or less	55	30	13	1
Income				
\$75,000 and over	70	27	3	(b)
\$50,000 to \$74,999	65	30	4	2
\$30,000 to \$49,999	52	33	14	1
\$20,000 to \$29,999	52	31	10	4
Under \$20,000	50	25	23	1
Region				
East	60	31	9	1
Midwest	62	30	5	3
South	60	27	12	(b)
West	58	28	12	2
Politics				
Republican	71	26	2	0
Democrat	53	30	14	1
Independent	56	30	11	2
Ideology				
Conservative	66	25	7	1
Moderate	61	29	8	1
Liberal	49	38	12	1

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2009 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,011 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted June 14-17, 2009. The "don't know/refused" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

^aResponse volunteered.

^bLess than 0.5%.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.