

Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online

http://www.albany.edu/sourcebook/pdf/t2122012.pdf

Table 2.12.2012

Reported confidence in the police

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2012

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	56%	28%	15%	1%
Sex				
Male	59	24	14	2
Female	51	32	15	1
Race				
White	57	27	14	2
Nonwhite	49	32	17	1
Black	32	44	23	(b)
Hispanic	57	28	13	0
Age				
18 to 29 years	56	28	15	1
30 to 49 years	50	29	19	3
50 to 64 years	59	27	13	(b)
65 years and older	61	28	10	1
Education				
College post graduate	59	33	7	1
College graduate	63	28	8	1
Some college	50	28	20	2
High school graduate or less	55	27	16	2
Income				
\$75,000 and over	66	26	7	1
\$50,000 to \$74,999	58	30	10	1
\$30,000 to \$49,999	55	27	17	(b)
\$20,000 to \$29,999	48	27	24	2
Under \$20,000	36	31	27	4
Region				
East	60	27	12	1
Midwest	52	32	15	0
South	54	26	17	2
West	54	27	14	3
Politics				
Republican	78	15	12	0
Democrat	52	35	13	1
Independent	46	33	17	2
Ideology				
Conservative	62	26	12	1
Moderate	56	29	15	(b)
Liberal	48	30	18	4

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2012 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,004 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted June 7-10, 2012. 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%.

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