

Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online

http://www.albany.edu/sourcebook/pdf/t2172011.pdf

Table 2.17.2011

Respondents' ratings of the honesty and ethical standards of various occupations

By type of occupation, United States, 2011

Question: "Please tell me how you would rate the honesty and ethical standards of people in these different fields--very high, high, average, low, or very low . . .?"

	Very high/ high	Average	Low/ very low	Don't know/ refused
Nurses	84%	15%	1%	(a)
Druggists, pharmacists	73	23	4	(a)
Medical doctors	70	23	6	(a)
High school teachers	62	29	8	1%
Police officers	54	35	11	(a)
Clergy	52	36	9	3
Funeral directors	44	43	9	4
Accountants	43	49	7	2
Building contractors	26	58	15	1
Journalists	26	46	27	1
Bankers	25	48	26	(a)
Real estate agents	20	57	22	1
Lawyers	19	43	37	1
Business executives	18	48	32	2
Labor union leaders	18	37	41	3
Stockbrokers	12	46	40	3
Advertising practitioners	11	52	34	3
Telemarketers	8	38	53	1
Lobbyists	7	27	62	4
Members of Congress	7	27	64	1
Car salespeople	7	44	47	1

Note: These data are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,012 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Nov. 28-Dec. 1, 2011. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

^a Less than 0.5%.

Source: Gallup, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/1654/Honesty-Ethics-Professions.aspx> [Jan. 18, 2012]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.