

Table 2.27

Respondents favoring increased law enforcement powers

United States, 2001-2004

Question: "Here are some increased powers of investigation that law enforcement agencies might use when dealing with people suspected of terrorist activity, which would also affect our civil liberties. For each, please say if you would favor or oppose it."

Percent responding "favor" to:	2001	2002	2003	2004
Expanded under-cover activities to penetrate groups under suspicion	93%	88%	81%	80%
Stronger document and physical security checks for travelers	93	89	84	84
Stronger document and physical security checks for access to government and private office buildings	92	89	82	85
Use of facial-recognition technology to scan for suspected terrorists at various locations and public events	86	81	77	80
Issuance of a secure I.D. technique for persons to access government and business computer systems, to avoid disruptions	84	78	75	76
Closer monitoring of banking and credit card transactions, to trace funding sources	81	72	67	64
Adoption of a national I.D. system for all U.S. citizens	68	59	64	56
Expanded camera surveillance on streets and in public places	63	58	61	61
Law enforcement monitoring of Internet discussions in chat rooms and other forums	63	55	54	50
Expanded government monitoring of cell phones and e-mail, to intercept communications	54	44	44	36

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2004 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,020 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Feb. 9-16, 2004. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

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