

Table 2.9

Reported confidence in the criminal justice system

By demographic characteristics, United States, 1997

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 criminal justice system?"

	Great deal/quite a lot	Some	Very little	None ^a
National	20%	40%	35%	5%
Sex				
Male	23	37	34	5
Female	17	42	36	4
Race				
White	19	41	34	5
Black	24	30	43	3
Nonwhite ^b	22	33	40	4
Age				
18 to 29 years	23	40	33	4
30 to 49 years	14	45	36	5
50 to 64 years	22	32	39	5
50 years and older	24	33	36	4
65 years and older	25	35	32	4
Education				
College post graduate	19	57	22	1
College graduate	21	50	23	4
Some college	18	39	36	5
No college	20	33	41	5
Income				
\$50,000 and over	16	50	29	4
\$30,000 to \$49,999	20	35	41	3
\$20,000 to \$29,999	18	37	35	10
Under \$20,000	22	34	38	3
Community				
Urban area	19	42	32	5
Suburban area	21	38	35	5
Rural area	16	41	39	2
Region				
East	18	41	35	4
Midwest	19	44	34	2
South	21	35	37	5
West	19	42	31	8
Politics				
Republican	17	39	40	4
Democrat	23	39	32	3
Independent	18	41	33	7

Note: 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 6.

^aResponse volunteered.

^bIncludes black respondents.

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