High school seniors reporting positive attitudes toward the performance of the police
and other law enforcement agencies

By sex, race, region, college plans, and illicit drug use, United States, 1984-96

Question: "Now we'd like you to make some ratings of how good or bad a job you feel each of
the following organizations is doing for the country as a whole. . . How good or bad
a job is being done for the country as a whole by . . . the police and other law enforce-
ment agencies?"

(Percent responding "good" or "very good")

|                | Class of 1984 (N=3,287) | Class of 1985 (N=3,294) | Class of 1986 (N=3,159) | Class of 1987 (N=3,378) | Class of 1988 (N=2,852) | Class of 1989 (N=2,600) | Class of 1990 (N=2,582) | Class of 1991 (N=2,582) | Class of 1992 (N=2,582) | Class of 1993 (N=2,773) | Class of 1994 (N=2,642) | Class of 1995 (N=2,658) | Class of 1996 (N=2,455) | Total | Sex | Male | 38.3 38.1 39.9 40.4 37.3 33.5 33.4 29.3 27.4 29.1 29.1 | 28.6 | Female 35.6 36.5 40.9 38.5 37.5 34.2 35.0 27.2 26.8 24.3 28.1 26.5 | Race | White | 37.6 38.9 42.4 41.9 40.5 35.5 35.4 31.5 30.0 31.0 32.2 31.5 30.7 | Black | 31.7 29.4 30.3 24.8 22.6 28.3 22.4 11.0 12.4 9.2 16.9 16.8 14.6 | Region | Northeast | 32.0 32.7 32.5 37.4 34.0 33.4 28.3 26.3 26.6 28.0 29.5 25.5 30.7 | North Central | 37.1 36.9 41.4 39.4 38.5 33.8 35.2 35.7 27.7 28.5 29.9 29.9 24.5 | South | 37.5 36.5 42.7 39.5 38.5 35.2 36.0 22.1 24.5 25.4 29.3 27.3 26.5 | West | 41.1 44.7 46.2 41.9 37.3 30.7 36.3 30.0 30.7 27.8 28.4 32.9 31.1 | College plans | Yes | 38.9 38.6 39.9 40.7 38.7 34.2 34.0 28.5 25.8 26.9 29.5 28.9 27.8 | No | 34.5 34.9 42.6 38.3 35.4 34.0 33.8 28.7 31.0 27.3 29.7 29.4 28.1 | Lifetime illicit drug use | None | 37.3 41.4 43.4 43.0 39.7 35.1 37.7 31.1 29.5 29.7 32.9 31.7 29.4 | Marijuana only | 37.0 39.3 39.6 39.8 35.1 33.1 33.6 27.0 23.5 24.0 25.8 26.3 25.5 | Few pills | 38.3 33.8 40.3 38.2 35.9 28.0 31.5 29.4 23.3 25.2 26.7 24.2 36.3 | More pills | 34.6 30.3 36.9 32.6 35.7 32.8 26.6 17.5 21.3 22.2 22.9 25.8 20.0 | Note: See Notes, tables 2.92 and 2.93. Response categories were "very poor," "poor," "fair," "good," "very good," and "no opinion." Readers interested in responses to this question for 1975 through 1983 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey method-
ology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 7.