

Table 2.10

Reported confidence in the criminal justice system

By demographic characteristics, United States, 1996^a

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?"

	A great deal	Quite a lot	Some	Very little	Don't know
National	8.0%	14.8%	40.1%	32.6%	4.4%
Sex					
Male	10.6	16.0	37.8	31.7	3.8
Female	5.5	13.8	42.3	33.4	5.0
Race, ethnicity					
White	6.4	16.0	41.6	32.8	3.2
Black	12.7	7.3	40.0	35.5	4.5
Hispanic	13.9	15.2	32.9	26.6	11.4
Age					
18 to 24 years	13.4	14.8	48.6	22.5	0.7
25 to 39 years	7.8	16.4	38.3	32.8	4.7
40 to 59 years	7.1	14.1	41.6	33.0	4.2
60 years and older	6.7	11.6	34.8	39.6	7.3
Education					
College graduate	5.1	20.4	46.3	23.8	4.4
Some college	8.3	13.3	42.6	35.2	0.6
High school graduate	9.4	12.1	36.0	37.8	4.7
Less than high school graduate	10.7	13.1	30.3	32.0	13.9
Income					
Over \$60,000	5.3	18.0	48.2	27.2	1.3
\$30,000 to \$60,000	6.8	14.9	43.8	31.5	3.0
\$15,000 to \$29,999	9.1	15.3	36.4	34.7	4.5
Less than \$15,000	16.5	12.2	30.9	31.7	8.6
Community					
Urban	6.0	12.6	46.7	31.1	3.6
Suburban	8.7	15.7	44.4	28.7	2.4
Small city	5.6	18.9	40.0	27.2	8.3
Rural/small town	9.1	13.6	35.1	38.0	4.2
Region					
Northeast	5.7	17.7	39.4	35.4	1.7
Midwest	9.6	18.4	36.4	30.9	4.8
South	9.8	10.8	44.5	30.3	4.6
West	4.8	14.9	37.8	36.5	6.0
Politics					
Republican	9.5	15.8	39.5	32.4	2.9
Democrat	9.4	15.0	45.2	24.9	5.6
Independent/other	4.3	14.4	35.7	40.8	4.7

Note: The National Opinion Survey on Crime and Justice-1996 was designed and commissioned by the College of Criminal Justice's Survey Research Program at Sam Houston State University. The data were collected by the Public Policy Research Institute of Texas A & M University through telephone interviews conducted from May 16 to June 9, 1996. A total of 1,085 interviews were conducted from a stratified random sample of all working telephone numbers in the United States. The data presented are weighted estimates adjusted according to U.S. Bureau of the Census racial/ethnic group and gender population figures for 1990. The "other" racial category is comprised of a small number of respondents and therefore was omitted.

^aPercents may not add to 100 because of rounding.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by the Survey Research Program, College of Criminal Justice, Sam Houston State University.