

Table 27.—Public's level of confidence in various institutions: 1996 and 1998

Institution	Percent of respondents by levels of confidence, 1996					Percent of respondents by levels of confidence, 1998				
	A great deal	Quite a lot	Some	Very little	No opinion	A great deal	Quite a lot	Some	Very little	No opinion
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Private higher education	18.3	38.7	28.3	7.5	7.1	—	—	—	—	—
Small businesses	15.3	40.8	32.6	7.6	3.6	25.0	31.0	34.0	9.0	1.0
Religious organizations	23.6	31.1	31.3	12.3	1.7	34.0	25.0	26.0	12.0	2.0
The military	16.9	37.0	31.0	12.1	3.1	33.0	31.0	25.0	8.0	2.0
Public higher education	15.0	36.4	34.2	11.6	2.8	—	—	—	—	—
Private elementary or secondary education	15.1	35.3	33.4	9.7	6.5	—	—	—	—	—
Youth development and recreation	14.8	35.2	32.7	11.6	5.7	—	—	—	—	—
Public elementary or secondary education	13.3	31.7	37.2	15.3	2.4	16.0	21.0	40.0	20.0	1.0
Health organizations	10.8	28.2	42.0	15.9	3.1	—	—	—	—	—
Federated charitable appeals, e.g., United Way	12.6	26.3	34.9	21.6	4.5	—	—	—	—	—
Human services organizations	9.1	28.1	42.6	15.1	5.0	—	—	—	—	—
Arts, culture, and humanities organizations	9.3	26.7	39.8	14.3	9.9	—	—	—	—	—
Recreation for adults	7.8	27.5	41.9	13.4	9.4	—	—	—	—	—
Environmental organizations	9.4	23.1	41.0	20.3	6.2	—	—	—	—	—
Private and community foundations	7.6	24.0	42.3	13.5	12.6	—	—	—	—	—
Local government	5.4	25.9	43.3	23.1	2.3	—	—	—	—	—
Public/society benefit, e.g., civil rights, social justice, community improvement organizations	7.5	22.7	43.4	20.8	5.6	—	—	—	—	—
Media, e.g., newspapers, TV, radio	6.3	22.7	39.5	29.7	1.8	—	—	—	—	—
Television news	—	—	—	—	—	15.0	19.0	40.0	24.0	1.0
Work-related organizations	6.1	21.5	47.2	17.4	7.9	—	—	—	—	—
State government	4.1	22.2	44.9	26.4	2.5	—	—	—	—	—
International/foreign, e.g., culture exchange, relief organiza- tions	6.3	19.1	37.5	24.2	12.8	—	—	—	—	—
Organized labor	6.6	17.7	40.9	29.3	5.6	11.0	15.0	45.0	22.0	5.0
Major corporations	4.9	18.7	44.2	27.4	4.8	—	—	—	—	—
Federal government	5.2	17.5	43.9	31.1	2.2	—	—	—	—	—
Organizations that advocate a particular cause	4.0	15.7	42.7	29.5	8.1	—	—	—	—	—
Congress	3.4	12.4	41.7	39.0	3.5	10.0	18.0	48.0	20.0	2.0
Political organizations, e.g., Republican or Democratic parties	3.8	10.8	39.2	42.6	3.7	—	—	—	—	—

—Not available.

SOURCE: Independent Sector, The Gallup Organization, *Giving and Volunteering in the United States, 1996 and 1998*. (This table was prepared September 1998.)

NOTE: Institutions are listed in rank order as determined by the combined responses of "a great deal" and "quite a lot" of confidence for 1996.