

Appendix table 7-20

Public confidence in institutional leaders: 1973–2006

(Percent)

Year (number)	Military	Scientific community	Medicine	U.S. Supreme Court	Banks and financial institutions	Education	Organized religion	Major companies	Executive branch of federal government	Organized labor	Congress	Press	Television	Mean ^a
1973 (n = 1,504)	32	37	54	31	NA	37	34	29	29	15	23	23	18	30
1974 (n = 1,484)	39	45	61	33	NA	49	44	31	14	19	17	25	23	33
1975 (n = 1,490)	35	37	51	30	31	31	24	19	13	10	13	24	18	25
1976 (n = 1,499)	40	42	54	34	39	37	30	21	13	11	13	28	18	29
1977 (n = 1,530)	36	41	53	36	42	40	40	27	27	15	19	25	18	31
1978 (n = 1,532)	30	36	46	28	32	28	30	21	12	11	13	20	14	24
1980 (n = 1,468)	28	41	53	24	32	30	35	27	12	15	9	22	15	26
1982 (n = 1,860)	29	35	45	30	26	35	33	21	17	13	13	18	15	25
1983 (n = 1,599)	30	42	52	27	23	28	28	24	13	8	10	13	12	24
1984 (n = 989)	36	44	50	33	30	28	30	30	19	8	13	17	13	27
1986 (n = 1,470)	31	39	47	30	21	28	25	25	21	9	16	19	15	25
1987 (n = 1,819)	34	41	51	35	27	36	30	28	17	12	16	19	12	28
1988 (n = 997)	35	39	52	35	27	30	21	25	16	11	16	19	14	26
1989 (n = 1,035)	33	41	47	35	18	30	22	25	20	9	17	17	14	26
1990 (n = 899)	33	38	45	34	17	27	23	26	24	11	16	14	14	25
1991 (n = 1,017)	61	40	48	37	12	30	25	20	27	11	18	16	15	29
1993 (n = 1,057)	41	37	40	30	14	22	22	21	11	8	6	11	12	22
1994 (n = 2,011)	37	39	42	31	18	25	25	26	11	11	8	10	10	23
1996 (n = 1,925)	39	40	45	28	24	23	25	24	10	11	7	11	10	23
1998 (n = 1,911)	36	40	45	31	26	27	27	26	13	11	10	9	10	24
2000 (n = 1,896)	40	41	44	32	29	27	28	28	13	13	13	10	10	25
2002 (n = 912)	56	37	37	36	22	26	19	17	27	12	14	10	9	25
2004 (n = 876)	58	42	38	32	29	29	23	18	22	13	15	9	10	26
2006 (n = 1,989)	47	41	40	33	30	28	24	18	16	12	12	10	9	24

NA = not available, question not asked

^aExcludes banks and financial institutions.

NOTES: Data represent respondents expressing “great deal of confidence” when asked: *As far as the people running these institutions are concerned, would you say that you have a great deal of confidence, only some confidence, or hardly any confidence at all in them?* Sample size not exact for all institutions. Table includes all years for which data collected.

SOURCE: University of Chicago, National Opinion Research Center, General Social Survey (1973–2006).