

Appendix table 7-21

**Public confidence in leadership of various institutions: 1973–2004**

(Percent)

Institution	1973 (n = 1,504)	1974 (n = 1,484)	1975 (n = 1,490)	1976 (n = 1,499)	1977 (n = 1,530)	1978 (n = 1,532)	1980 (n = 1,468)	1982 (n = 1,506)	1983 (n = 1,599)	1984 (n = 989)	1986 (n = 1,470)	1987 (n = 1,466)	1988 (n = 997)	1989 (n = 1,035)	1990 (n = 899)	1991 (n = 1,017)	1993 (n = 1,057)	1994 (n = 2,011)	1996 (n = 1,925)	1998 (n = 1,911)	2000 (n = 1,887)	2002 (n = 912)	2004 (n = 877)
Medicine	54	60	50	54	51	46	52	45	51	50	46	52	51	46	46	48	39	41	45	44	44	37	38
Scientific community	37	45	39	43	41	36	41	38	41	44	39	45	39	40	37	41	37	38	39	40	41	39	43
Military	32	40	35	39	36	29	28	31	29	36	31	34	34	32	33	60	42	37	37	36	39	55	59
U.S. Supreme Court	31	33	31	35	35	28	25	30	27	33	30	36	35	34	35	37	31	30	28	37	32	37	32
Banks and financial institutions	—	—	32	39	42	33	32	27	24	31	21	27	27	19	18	12	15	18	25	26	29	22	30
Major companies	29	31	19	22	27	22	27	23	24	30	24	30	25	24	25	20	21	25	23	26	28	18	19
Organized religion	35	44	24	30	40	31	35	32	28	31	25	29	20	22	23	25	23	24	25	27	28	19	24
Education	37	49	31	37	41	28	30	33	29	28	28	35	29	30	27	30	22	25	23	27	27	25	29
Executive branch of federal government	29	14	13	13	28	12	12	19	13	18	21	18	16	20	23	26	12	11	10	14	13	27	22
Organized labor	15	18	10	12	15	11	15	12	8	8	8	10	10	9	11	11	8	10	11	11	13	12	15
Congress	23	17	13	14	19	13	9	13	10	12	16	16	15	17	15	18	7	8	8	11	12	13	14
Press	23	26	24	28	25	20	22	18	13	17	18	18	18	17	15	16	11	8	11	9	10	10	9
Television	18	23	18	19	17	14	16	14	12	13	15	12	14	14	14	14	12	9	10	10	10	10	10
Average <sup>a</sup>	30	33	26	29	31	24	26	26	24	27	25	28	26	25	25	29	22	22	23	24	25	25	26

— = not asked

<sup>a</sup>Excluding 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?* Survey not conducted in 1979 and 1981 and every other year from 1994 through 2004; question not asked in 1985. Sample size not exact for all variables.

SOURCE: J.A. Davis, T.W. Smith, and P.V. Marsden, General Social Survey 1972–2004 Cumulative Codebook, University of Chicago, National Opinion Research Center (2005).

Science and Engineering Indicators 2006