

Table 2.19

Respondents' ratings of the honesty and ethical standards of lawyers

By demographic characteristics, United States, 1996

Question: "Please tell me how you would rate the honesty and ethical standards of people in these different fields--very high, high, average, low, or very low: Lawyers?"

| | Very high | High | Average | Low | Very low |
|--------------------------------|-----------|------|---------|-----|----------|
| National | 3% | 14% | 39% | 27% | 14% |
| Sex | | | | | |
| Male | 2 | 13 | 33 | 30 | 20 |
| Female | 3 | 15 | 45 | 24 | 9 |
| Race | | | | | |
| White | 2 | 12 | 40 | 28 | 15 |
| Black | 6 | 25 | 40 | 18 | 8 |
| Nonwhite ^a | 4 | 25 | 37 | 20 | 12 |
| Age | | | | | |
| 18 to 29 years | 5 | 19 | 37 | 25 | 13 |
| 30 to 49 years | 1 | 13 | 42 | 28 | 15 |
| 50 to 64 years | 4 | 14 | 38 | 26 | 16 |
| 65 years and older | 3 | 14 | 33 | 28 | 12 |
| Education | | | | | |
| College post graduate | 1 | 13 | 43 | 25 | 17 |
| College graduate | 1 | 10 | 46 | 28 | 14 |
| Some college | 2 | 14 | 37 | 30 | 15 |
| No college | 4 | 16 | 38 | 25 | 13 |
| Income | | | | | |
| \$75,000 and over | 2 | 11 | 40 | 30 | 16 |
| \$50,000 and over ^b | 1 | 10 | 40 | 33 | 15 |
| \$30,000 to \$49,999 | 4 | 13 | 40 | 27 | 15 |
| \$20,000 to \$29,999 | (c) | 17 | 40 | 23 | 17 |
| Under \$20,000 | 2 | 18 | 35 | 29 | 12 |
| Community | | | | | |
| Urban area | 3 | 21 | 34 | 27 | 12 |
| Suburban area | 3 | 11 | 42 | 27 | 15 |
| Rural area | 2 | 11 | 40 | 27 | 16 |
| Region | | | | | |
| East | 5 | 12 | 38 | 30 | 9 |
| Midwest | 1 | 16 | 41 | 30 | 10 |
| South | 2 | 14 | 41 | 26 | 15 |
| West | 2 | 16 | 33 | 23 | 24 |
| Politics | | | | | |
| Republican | 2 | 11 | 43 | 31 | 11 |
| Democrat | 3 | 18 | 42 | 24 | 10 |
| Independent | 3 | 14 | 32 | 28 | 20 |

Note: The "refused" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 6.

^aIncludes black respondents.

^bIncludes \$75,000 and over category.

^cLess than 0.5%.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.