

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

Institution	Percentage of respondents by levels of confidence, 1996					Percentage 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	39	28	8	7	—	—	—	—	—
Small businesses	15	41	33	8	4	25	31	34	9	1
Religious organizations	24	31	31	12	2	34	25	26	12	2
The military	17	37	31	12	3	33	31	25	8	2
Public higher education	15	36	34	12	3	—	—	—	—	—
Private elementary or secondary education	15	35	33	10	7	—	—	—	—	—
Youth development and recreation	15	35	33	12	6	—	—	—	—	—
Public elementary or secondary education	13	32	37	15	2	16	21	40	20	1
Health organizations	11	28	42	16	3	—	—	—	—	—
Federated charitable appeals, e.g., United Way	13	26	35	22	5	—	—	—	—	—
Human services organizations	9	28	43	15	5	—	—	—	—	—
Arts, culture, and humanities organizations	9	27	40	14	10	—	—	—	—	—
Recreation for adults	8	28	42	13	9	—	—	—	—	—
Environmental organizations	9	23	41	20	6	—	—	—	—	—
Private and community foundations	8	24	42	14	13	—	—	—	—	—
Local government	5	26	43	23	2	—	—	—	—	—
Public/society benefit, e.g., civil rights, social justice, community improvement organizations	8	23	43	21	6	—	—	—	—	—
Media, e.g., newspapers, TV, radio	6	23	40	30	2	—	—	—	—	—
Television news	—	—	—	—	—	15	19	40	24	1
Work-related organizations	6	22	47	17	8	—	—	—	—	—
State government	4	22	45	26	3	—	—	—	—	—
International/foreign, e.g., culture exchange, relief organizations	6	19	38	24	13	—	—	—	—	—
Organized labor	7	18	41	29	6	11	15	45	22	5
Major corporations	5	19	44	27	5	—	—	—	—	—
Federal government	5	18	44	31	2	—	—	—	—	—
Organizations that advocate a particular cause	4	16	43	30	8	—	—	—	—	—
Congress	3	12	42	39	4	10	18	48	20	2
Political organizations, e.g., Republican or Democratic parties	4	11	39	43	4	—	—	—	—	—

—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. Because of rounding, percents may not add up to 100.0. Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding.