

National Survey

Topline Results

January 7-13, 2020

Project #: 20002

N=1,000 Registered Voters

Credibility Interval = $\pm 4.56\%$ for N=600 online

Margin of Error = $\pm 4.90\%$ for N=400 on phones



In this document...

- *An asterisk (*) in a response category means that less than 0.5% of respondents chose that response category and a dash (-) represents no response.*
- *^ Denotes rounding. Due to rounding, some figures may be higher or lower by less than one-half of one percent.*
- *Sample A was asked of ½ of the sample, N=493. Sample B was asked of ½ of the sample, N=507.*

1. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of local law enforcement officers in your area?

45%	Very favorable
37%	Somewhat favorable
10%	Somewhat unfavorable
4%	Very unfavorable
4%	UNSURE (DO NOT READ/NOT ONLINE)
*	REFUSED (DO NOT READ/NOT ONLINE)
82%	TOTAL FAVORABLE
14%	TOTAL UNFAVORABLE

(ASKED OF N=635 RESPONDENTS)

2. What are the two or three reasons you have a **(INSERT Q1 RESPONSE)** opinion of local law enforcement officers in your area? **(PROBE ON PHONES)** Please tell me more about that.
Responses listed are ones that exceed 1%.

FAVORABLE RESPONSES AMONG 82% OF VOTERS:

19%	Keep us safe/protect us
14%	Helpful/responsive/there when you need them
11%	Dangerous/difficult/challenging job
8%	Active in our community/presence in community/community programs
8%	Ethical/honest/trustworthy/respectful
6%	Professional/well-trained/high standards

- 6% Fair/treat everyone the same
- 6% Positive personal experience/seen good job
- 4% No problems in my community/unlike national news
- 4% Family/friends are law enforcement/know them
- 4% Most are good/some bad apples
- 4% Hard working
- 4% Respect them/deserve respect

UNFAVORABLE RESPONSES AMONG 14% OF VOTERS:

- 20% Biased/discriminatory/racist
- 11% Corruption
- 8% Should spend more time on serious crimes
- 8% Overzealous
- 7% Negative personal experience
- 6% Quick to be violent
- 6% Rude
- 5% Could be more helpful
- 3% Arrogant
- 2% Do not respond quickly enough
- 2% Give too many speeding tickets
- 2% Poorly trained
- 2% Unprofessional

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3. And since the past few questions have been about law enforcement officers - Do you or does anyone in your immediate family currently work in law enforcement, including as a police officer, sheriff's deputy, correctional officer, or other position?

(IF NO) Did you or someone in your immediate family previously work in law enforcement?

- 12% Yes/current
- 7% Yes/past
- 81% No

* REFUSED (**DO NOT READ/NOT ONLINE**)

18%^ TOTAL YES

The following are some phrases that could describe local law enforcement officers, again, meaning the police officers and sheriff's deputies working in your community. For each phrase, please indicate how well you think it describes the local law enforcement officers in your area. Does it describe them very well, somewhat well, not very well, or not well at all?

RANKED BY % VERY WELL

	TOTAL WELL	VERY WELL	SMWT WELL	NOT VERY WELL	NOT WELL AT ALL	(NOT ONLINE/DNR) DK/UNSURE	REF
The first/next one is...(RANDOMIZE)							
4.	93%^	73%	21%	5%	2%	*	*
Have a difficult and dangerous job (ASKED OF N=791)							
15.	92%^	69%	24%	5%	2%	1%	--
Put their lives on the line every day (ASKED OF N=809)							
16.	92%^	61%	30%	5%	3%	*	*
Have one of the most challenging jobs (ASKED OF N=791)							
11.	85%	50%	35%	11%	4%	*	--
Care a lot about the people and neighborhoods they serve (ASKED OF N=809)							
14.	83%	49%	34%	13%	3%	1%	*
Are representative of the community in which they serve (ASKED OF N=791)							
12.	86%	48%	38%	9%	4%	1%	*
Act in a professional manner (ASKED OF N=791)							
13.	83%	48%	35%	11%	5%	1%	--
Are accountable to the public (ASKED OF N=809)							
9.	83%	46%	37%	11%	4%	1%	--
Are well trained (ASKED OF N=809)							
8.	82%^	43%	40%	11%	5%	1%	*
Are trustworthy (ASKED OF N=791)							
10.	79%	40%	39%	12%	7%	1%	*
Enforce laws fairly (ASKED OF N=791)							
5.	74%	34%	40%	15%	10%	1%	--
Treat everyone fairly (ASKED OF N=809)							

Continued...

	TOTAL WELL	VERY WELL	SMWT WELL	NOT VERY WELL	NOT WELL AT ALL	(NOT ONLINE/DNR) DK/UNSURE	REF
7. Are biased against African Americans and people of color (ASKED OF N=809)	34%	14%	20%	27%	35%	3%	*
6. Often use too much force when making arrests (ASKED OF N=791)	39%^	13%	25%	33%	24%	3%	1%

17. In the last two or three months, have you seen, read, or heard anything about local law enforcement officers in the news? **(ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)**

57% Yes
 43% No

* UNSURE/REFUSED **(DO NOT READ/NOT ONLINE)**

(IF Q17:1, ASK)(ASKED OF N=568 RESPONDENTS)

18. And, has what you have seen, read, or heard about local law enforcement officers in your area given you a **(ROTATE PUNCHES 1 AND 2)**

25% More favorable opinion of local law enforcement officers
 20% Less favorable opinion of local law enforcement officers
 ...or...
 54% Made no difference at all in my opinion of local law enforcement officers

* UNSURE/REFUSED **(DO NOT READ/NOT ONLINE)**

19. Thinking about your opinion of local law enforcement officers which one or two of the following do you think has most informed how you feel about law enforcement officers? **(RANDOMIZE)**

****RESPONSES ADD UP TO GREATER THAN 100% BECAUSE MULTIPLE RESPONSES WERE ALLOWED****

51% Personal or family experiences with law enforcement officers
 47% Local news stories or social media about law enforcement officers
 27% National news stories or social media about law enforcement officers
 18% What others have told me about their experiences with law enforcement officers
 8% TV shows and movies depicting law enforcement officers

* OTHER/NONE OF THESE **(DO NOT READ/NOT ONLINE)**

* UNSURE/REFUSED **(DO NOT READ/NOT ONLINE)**

The following are some of the types of training that law enforcement officers could receive more of. For each one, please indicate how important it is to you that the law enforcement officers in your area receive that kind of training: extremely important, very important, somewhat important, or not too important at all (**ROTATE**).

RANKED BY % EXTREMELY IMPORTANT

EXT/VERY IMPT	EXT IMPT	VERY IMPT	SMWT IMPT	NOT TOO IMPT	(DNR/NOT ONLINE) DK	REF
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The first/next one is...(RANDOMIZE)

27.	Handling stress and trauma experienced on the job (ASKED OF N=507)	96%	63%	33%	3%	1%	*	*
21.	Interacting with people with mental health issues (ASKED OF N=507)	95%	60%	35%	4%	*	*	*
22.	De-escalating conflicts (ASKED OF N=493)	91%	57%	34%	7%	2%	--	*
25.	Using non-lethal methods to arrest suspects (ASKED OF N=507)	89%	52%	37%	8%	1%	1%	*
24.	Building relationships in their communities (ASKED OF N=493)	90%	51%	39%	9%	1%	*	*
20.	Working with diverse populations (ASKED OF N=493)	81%	44%	37%	14%	5%	--	*
26.	Learning to recognize stereotypes and uncover bias (ASKED OF N=493)	78%	44%	34%	16%	5%	*	*
23.	Interacting with people experiencing homelessness (ASKED OF N=507)	82%	42%	40%	15%	2%	*	*
28.	Language training so they can communicate with non-English speaking residents (ASKED OF N=493)	61%	31%	30%	29%	10%	*	*

There are a number of different policies and programs being considered to improve public safety in your state or area. For each one, please indicate if that is something you would strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose (ROTATE).

RANKED BY % STRONGLY SUPPORT

	TOT SUPP	STR SUPP	SMWT SUPP	SMWT OPP	STR OPP	(DNR/NOT ONLINE) DK	REF
The first/next one is...(RANDOMIZE)							
31.	Increase and improve training for police officers on de-escalating conflicts with people experiencing mental illness or chronic homelessness (ASKED OF N=493)						
	96%	72%	24%	2%	1%	*	*
34.	Increase anti-poverty programs in high crime communities, such as job training, skilled trades apprenticeships, and education programs (ASKED OF N=507)						
	96%	70%	26%	2%	*	2%	--
32.	Increase and improve training for police officers on de-escalating conflicts with people (ASKED OF N=507)						
	95%^	70%	26%	4%	1%	*	--
29.	Increase and improve services for the mentally ill (ASKED OF N=493)						
	96%	69%	27%	3%	*	--	*
36.	Educating the public to understand how better to interact with law enforcement officers in tense situations and their rights to file complaints and seek solutions afterward if an officer oversteps his or her authority (ASKED OF N=507)						
	94%	63%	31%	4%	1%	1%	*
30.	Require those convicted of drug-related crimes participate in drug treatment programs to help ensure they receive help for chronic drug abuse (ASKED OF N=507)						
	93%	63%	29%	4%	2%	1%	--
33.	Provide supportive housing solutions for people experiencing chronic homelessness (ASKED OF N=493)						
	87%	49%	38%	9%	3%	1%	*
35.	Arrest and prosecute more law enforcement officers who are accused of using too much force (ASKED OF N=493)						
	81%	47%	34%	14%	4%	1%	*

And for statistical purposes only...

D1. In what year were you born?

26%	18 - 34
16%	35 - 44
14%	45 - 54
23%	55 - 64
21%	65 AND ABOVE
*	REFUSED

D2. **GENDER (BY OBSERVATION ON PHONES)**

ONLINE: Please record your gender.

48%	MALE
52%	FEMALE

D4. And do you currently own a gun, rifle or other firearm?

32%	Yes
65%	No
--	UNSURE (DO NOT READ/NOT ONLINE)
3%	REFUSED TO SAY (DO NOT READ/NOT ONLINE)

D5. How would you describe the area in which you live? Would you say that you live in...

29%	A city
35%	A suburban area outside of a city
17%	A small town
19%	A rural area
*	REFUSED (DO NOT READ. NOT ONLINE)

D6. What was the last level of education you completed?

- 29% GRADUATED HIGH SCHOOL OR LESS
 - 6% TECHNICAL OR VOCATIONAL SCHOOL
 - 28% SOME COLLEGE
 - 25% GRADUATED COLLEGE
 - 12% GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL

 - * REFUSED (**DO NOT READ/NOT ONLINE**)
-

(IF NO PARTY ON FILE)

D8. In politics today, do you consider yourself to be a ... (**ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP**)

- 36% REPUBLICAN
 - 40% DEMOCRAT
 - 23% INDEPENDENT/SOMETHING ELSE

 - 1% DECLINED TO STATE
-

D9. And, in politics today, do you consider yourself to be...(**ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP**)

- 18% Very Conservative
 - 21% Somewhat Conservative
 - 33% Moderate
 - 16% Somewhat Liberal
 - 10% Very Liberal

 - 2% REFUSED (**DO NOT READ/NOT ONLINE**)
-

D10. And, do you have any children age 18 or younger living in your household?

- 30% Yes
 - 70% No

 - * REFUSED (**DO NOT READ/NOT ONLINE**)
-

D11. Other than being an American, what is your main ethnic or racial heritage? **(READ/SHOW CHOICES)**

12% AFRICAN AMERICAN OR BLACK

74% WHITE

10% HISPANIC AMERICAN OR LATINO

4% ASIAN AMERICAN

* OTHER/MIX **(DO NOT READ) (IF PUNCH , ASK)** Now I realize you just said your main ethnic or racial heritage doesn't fall into any of the categories I just mentioned...but if you had to choose JUST ONE of these categories, which ONE would you choose?

* REFUSED **(DO NOT READ/NOT ONLINE)**

D12. And for statistical purposes only...is your total household income per year... **(READ/LIST IN ORDER. ALLOW TO COMPLETE WITHOUT RESPONSE HERE.)**

13% LESS THAN \$20,000

24% \$20,000 BUT BELOW \$40,000

16% \$40,000 BUT BELOW \$60,000

16% \$60,000 BUT BELOW \$80,000

7% \$80,000 BUT BELOW \$100,000

20% \$100,000 OR MORE

4% REFUSED **(DO NOT READ/NOT ONLINE)**
