

Reality Check Insights: Race and Policing in America

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Survey Details and Methodology

Reality Check Insights *Race and Policing in America Survey* was conducted from Sept. 23 – Oct. 7 (N=1,473; MOE $\pm 4.7\%$). Respondents were recruited through both random address-based sampling (where respondents completed interviews either online (via smart phone or computer) or by calling a toll-free number) and opt-in sampling through online advertising (with all interviews completed online). Each sample was weighted separately according to population benchmarks of age, race and ethnicity, gender, education, region, voter registration status, and partisanship before being combined for analysis. The margin of error was computed using the classical simple random sampling formula with an adjustment for the estimated design effect due to weighting.

The *Race and Policing in America Survey* is part of a broader survey conducted by Reality Check Insights. For this report, we focused only on questions related to the study's themes. Key insights speak to a potential crisis in confidence in the police, attitudes toward Black Lives Matter, and public views toward recent protests. Given the NBA's recent focus on racial justice issues, we have also included views about the league's favorability as part of this study.

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Toplines and Question Wordings

Protest Violence

Question text: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement:
The majority of recent protesters in U.S. cities are non-violent.

Strongly disagree	30.3%
Disagree	13.7%
Neither agree nor disagree	15.2%
Agree	20.4%
Strongly agree	20.5%

BLM Favorability

Question text: In general, do you have a favorable or an unfavorable impression of the Black Lives Matter movement?

Very unfavorable	31.9%
Unfavorable	10.4%
Favorable	25.3%
Very favorable	23.8%
No opinion/never heard of	8.5%

Police Attitudes

Question text: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements:

- Seeing a police officer in my neighborhood makes me feel safe.
- Most police officers treat racial and ethnic groups equally.

	Police officer makes me feel safe	Police officers treat groups equally
Strongly disagree	5.6%	16.1%
Disagree	9.6%	19.4%
Neither agree nor disagree	24.4%	15.3%
Agree	23.7%	23.3%
Strongly agree	36.8%	26.0%

Black/All Lives Matter

Question text: Which of these statements do you more closely agree with?

Black lives matter	32.0%
All lives matter	58.0%
Neither	10.0%

NBA Favorability

Before viewing the following question, each respondent saw a picture of a basketball court with the NBA logo in the center. For a random half of these respondents, the words “BLACK LIVES MATTER” were painted on the court above the logo, reflecting the design of the NBA court in the “bubble.”

Question text: How favorable or unfavorable is your opinion towards the National Basketball Association (NBA)?

	Court only	BLM on court	All Respondents
Very unfavorable	30.0%	28.6%	29.3%
Unfavorable	12.4%	8.6%	10.5%
Favorable	19.5%	24.8%	22.3%
Very favorable	17.8%	17.9%	17.8%
No opinion/never heard of	20.3%	20.0%	20.2%

Protest Violence Crosstabs

Question text: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement:
The majority of recent protesters in U.S. cities are non-violent.

Party ID

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
Democrat	12.5%	7.5%	14.2%	27.5%	38.2%
Independent	32.0%	10.3%	19.4%	22.0%	16.2%
Republican	51.0%	27.5%	8.1%	8.9%	4.5%

Race and Ethnicity

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
White	31.9%	13.7%	14.1%	17.9%	22.3%
Black	15.0%	11.8%	17.3%	30.4%	25.6%
Hispanic	35.3%	13.4%	19.4%	21.0%	10.8%
Other	29.2%	18.4%	10.3%	24.3%	17.9%

Education

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
HS or less	32.3%	14.0%	22.9%	18.1%	12.7%
Some college	22.7%	18.4%	15.4%	20.3%	23.2%
College or higher	32.0%	11.7%	8.5%	22.2%	25.6%

Income

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
< \$50,000	27.9%	13.3%	25.4%	17.7%	15.7%
\$50,000-\$99,999	28.6%	17.3%	9.6%	25.8%	18.7%
\$100,000-\$149,999	40.0%	13.5%	7.6%	19.2%	19.8%
> \$150,000	31.4%	10.5%	6.2%	17.6%	34.3%

Gender

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
Female	28.7%	12.4%	15.7%	19.3%	23.8%
Male	32.2%	15.3%	14.5%	21.6%	16.3%

BLM Favorability Crosstabs

Question text: In general, do you have a favorable or an unfavorable impression of the Black Lives Matter movement?

Party ID

	Very unfavorable	Unfavorable	Favorable	Very favorable	No opinion/never heard of
Democrat	6.6%	3.9%	33.4%	48.0%	8.0%
Independent	30.4%	12.1%	30.0%	15.8%	11.8%
Republican	66.4%	16.5%	7.7%	4.8%	4.6%

Race and Ethnicity

	Very unfavorable	Unfavorable	Favorable	Very favorable	No opinion/never heard of
White	34.0%	11.9%	27.2%	18.7%	8.2%
Black	10.1%	2.5%	26.3%	56.0%	5.1%
Hispanic	36.6%	12.2%	18.8%	22.5%	10.0%
Other	40.5%	5.6%	22.6%	17.9%	13.4%

Education

	Very unfavorable	Unfavorable	Favorable	Very favorable	No opinion/never heard of
HS or less	29.6%	14.3%	23.1%	19.4%	13.6%
Some college	31.5%	7.8%	27.1%	26.5%	7.2%
College or higher	34.5%	8.1%	26.0%	26.6%	4.8%

Income

	Very unfavorable	Unfavorable	Favorable	Very favorable	No opinion/never heard of
< \$50,000	20.4%	14.2%	25.0%	23.3%	17.1%
\$50,000-\$99,999	33.2%	9.7%	23.6%	28.1%	5.4%
\$100,000-\$149,999	47.7%	6.9%	19.3%	21.3%	4.8%
> \$150,000	36.8%	6.8%	34.3%	20.1%	2.0%

Gender

	Very unfavorable	Unfavorable	Favorable	Very favorable	No opinion/never heard of
Female	26.6%	9.8%	26.6%	30.2%	6.8%
Male	38.0%	11.1%	23.8%	16.7%	10.4%

Police Attitudes Crosstabs

Question text: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements:

- Seeing a police officer in my neighborhood makes me feel safe.
- Most police officers treat racial and ethnic groups equally.

Party ID

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
Democrats					
Police officer makes me feel safe	8.9%	11.9%	36.9%	28.0%	14.4%
Police officers treat groups equally	28.3%	29.0%	12.5%	18.2%	11.9%
Independents					
Police officer makes me feel safe	6.9%	13.8%	24.3%	22.7%	32.4%
Police officers treat groups equally	14.0%	22.7%	19.7%	18.7%	24.9%
Republicans					
Police officer makes me feel safe	0.0%	1.4%	9.1%	17.6%	71.9%
Police officers treat groups equally	3.8%	4.0%	11.2%	35.7%	45.4%

Race and Ethnicity

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
White					
Police officer makes me feel safe	5.1%	7.2%	21.3%	26.8%	39.6%
Police officers treat groups equally	11.2%	18.7%	16.2%	26.4%	27.5%
Black					
Police officer makes me feel safe	16.5%	16.6%	40.5%	10.0%	16.5%
Police officers treat groups equally	43.8%	22.1%	12.5%	11.2%	10.4%
Hispanic					
Police officer makes me feel safe	1.1%	12.3%	26.7%	20.6%	39.4%
Police officers treat groups equally	16.7%	17.6%	14.1%	22.2%	29.3%
Other					
Police officer makes me feel safe	1.3%	12.2%	17.9%	28.0%	40.5%
Police officers treat groups equally	10.0%	25.3%	14.3%	18.1%	32.3%

Education

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
HS or less					
Police officer makes me feel safe	7.0%	9.4%	22.7%	19.9%	41.0%
Police officers treat groups equally	16.2%	16.0%	17.2%	22.3%	28.3%
Some college					
Police officer makes me feel safe	7.6%	14.7%	24.7%	25.2%	27.7%
Police officers treat groups equally	23.9%	20.5%	11.2%	20.9%	23.5%
College or higher					
Police officer makes me feel safe	3.7%	7.9%	25.6%	25.8%	37.0%
Police officers treat groups equally	13.1%	21.9%	15.0%	24.7%	25.3%

Income

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
< \$50,000					
Police officer makes me feel safe	10.2%	13.7%	26.0%	20.4%	29.7%
Police officers treat groups equally	25.1%	18.5%	12.2%	21.3%	22.9%
\$50,000-\$99,999					
Police officer makes me feel safe	4.6%	8.1%	29.5%	22.0%	35.8%
Police officers treat groups equally	12.4%	19.6%	16.8%	25.3%	25.9%
\$100,000-\$149,999					
Police officer makes me feel safe	1.3%	10.6%	19.2%	24.5%	44.3%
Police officers treat groups equally	11.2%	17.5%	15.5%	24.3%	31.5%
> \$150,000					
Police officer makes me feel safe	3.4%	5.5%	18.4%	27.2%	45.4%
Police officers treat groups equally	11.2%	27.0%	13.6%	21.2%	27.1%

Gender

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
Female					
Police officer makes me feel safe	6.1%	10.3%	26.7%	20.9%	35.8%
Police officers treat groups equally	20.3%	21.3%	13.8%	21.3%	23.2%
Male					
Police officer makes me feel safe	4.4%	9.0%	22.1%	26.7%	37.8%
Police officers treat groups equally	11.1%	17.8%	16.7%	25.3%	29.0%

Black/All Lives Matter Crosstabs

Question text: Which of these statements do you more closely agree with?

Party ID

	Black lives matter	All lives matter	Neither
Democrat	63.1%	31.1%	5.9%
Independent	25.1%	60.8%	14.1%
Republican	5.3%	86.7%	8.0%

Race and Ethnicity

	Black lives matter	All lives matter	Neither
White	30.8%	60.2%	9.0%
Black	57.0%	42.9%	0.0%
Hispanic	23.7%	63.4%	12.9%
Other	17.8%	50.5%	31.7%

Education

	Black lives matter	All lives matter	Neither
HS or less	21.6%	70.7%	7.7%
Some college	38.6%	49.6%	11.7%
College or higher	38.0%	51.0%	11.0%

Income

	Black lives matter	All lives matter	Neither
< \$50,000	30.9%	62.4%	6.7%
\$50,000-\$99,999	33.4%	55.7%	10.9%
\$100,000-\$149,999	29.2%	60.4%	10.4%
> \$150,000	36.3%	50.0%	13.7%

Gender

	Black lives matter	All lives matter	Neither
Female	36.1%	58.9%	5.1%
Male	27.4%	57.4%	15.2%

NBA Favorability Crosstabs

Before viewing the following question, each respondent saw a picture of a basketball court with the NBA logo in the center. For a random half of these respondents, the words “BLACK LIVES MATTER” were painted on the court above the logo, reflecting the design of the NBA court in the “bubble.”

Question text: How favorable or unfavorable is your opinion towards the National Basketball Association (NBA)?

Party ID

	Very un- favorable	Unfavorable	Favorable	Very favorable	No opin- ion/never heard of
Democrats					
Court only	6.5%	9.5%	27.2%	37.4%	19.4%
BLM on court	6.2%	3.5%	38.2%	32.3%	19.8%
All respondents	6.1%	7.2%	33.5%	33.6%	19.5%
Independents					
Court only	26.8%	9.1%	17.3%	16.0%	30.8%
BLM on court	29.0%	11.0%	22.6%	13.3%	24.1%
All respondents	27.7%	10.0%	20.2%	14.5%	27.5%
Republicans					
Court only	58.1%	21.5%	11.0%	0.3%	9.1%
BLM on court	61.6%	11.9%	9.0%	4.2%	13.3%
All respondents	59.0%	16.9%	9.8%	3.0%	11.3%

Race and Ethnicity

	Very un- favorable	Unfavorable	Favorable	Very favorable	No opin- ion/never heard of
White					
Court only	36.1%	11.3%	16.7%	12.4%	23.6%
BLM on court	26.7%	11.2%	23.7%	16.7%	21.8%
All respondents	30.8%	11.2%	20.5%	14.6%	22.9%
Black					
Court only	0.6%	16.7%	29.5%	43.1%	10.1%
BLM on court	13.7%	3.4%	39.6%	28.5%	14.9%
All respondents	6.6%	10.6%	34.8%	35.5%	12.5%
Hispanic					
Court only	31.8%	12.5%	25.6%	16.5%	13.7%
BLM on court	41.8%	3.0%	23.2%	18.3%	13.7%
All respondents	35.5%	9.8%	24.2%	17.0%	13.5%
Other					
Court only	24.5%	13.8%	6.5%	23.2%	32.0%
BLM on court	47.5%	3.0%	14.4%	10.8%	24.2%
All respondents	34.9%	8.1%	11.2%	17.7%	28.1%

Education

	Very un- favorable	Unfavorable	Favorable	Very favorable	No opin- ion/never heard of
HS or less					
Court only	35.6%	12.3%	21.3%	10.4%	20.4%
BLM on court	27.9%	10.0%	22.4%	13.8%	25.9%
All respondents	30.6%	11.5%	22.1%	12.4%	23.4%
Some college					
Court only	30.7%	8.7%	21.8%	13.8%	24.9%
BLM on court	25.4%	10.9%	28.3%	17.7%	17.6%
All respondents	28.0%	9.9%	24.3%	15.4%	22.4%
College or higher					
Court only	25.7%	14.1%	17.0%	25.2%	18.0%
BLM on court	30.4%	6.6%	25.8%	21.3%	15.9%
All respondents	28.1%	10.4%	21.6%	23.0%	17.0%

Income

	Very un- favorable	Unfavorable	Favorable	Very favorable	No opin- ion/never heard of
< \$50,000					
Court only	23.0%	12.0%	21.7%	11.5%	31.8%
BLM on court	19.6%	11.6%	33.5%	15.5%	19.8%
All respondents	20.6%	12.6%	27.7%	13.7%	25.4%
\$50,000-\$99,999					
Court only	37.0%	9.6%	15.5%	27.1%	10.8%
BLM on court	22.4%	10.2%	20.7%	21.2%	25.5%
All respondents	29.0%	9.8%	18.6%	23.8%	18.8%
\$100,000-\$149,999					
Court only	32.0%	16.7%	19.4%	13.1%	18.8%
BLM on court	48.4%	7.4%	15.4%	17.0%	11.8%
All respondents	39.9%	12.2%	17.5%	15.0%	15.5%
> \$150,000					
Court only	28.3%	14.4%	18.9%	15.5%	22.9%
BLM on court	39.4%	1.2%	27.0%	18.3%	14.2%
All respondents	34.8%	7.2%	23.1%	16.9%	18.1%

Gender

	Very un- favorable	Unfavorable	Favorable	Very favorable	No opin- ion/never heard of
Female					
Court only	22.1%	14.2%	22.5%	16.6%	24.6%
BLM on court	25.5%	6.5%	29.7%	16.0%	22.3%
All respondents	23.5%	10.9%	26.3%	16.0%	23.4%
Male					
Court only	38.8%	10.5%	16.1%	19.2%	15.5%
BLM on court	31.8%	11.1%	20.1%	18.9%	18.1%
All respondents	34.8%	10.7%	18.2%	19.1%	17.2%