

CATO INSTITUTE 2016 Criminal Justice Survey: Police Reform Fact Sheet

68%



SUPPORT MORE TRAINING

68% say police officers need additional training on how to handle confrontations with citizens, including 6 in 10 white Americans, and 8 in 10 Hispanic and black Americans.

89%



SUPPORT BODY CAMERAS

9 in 10 across race/ethnic groups support police body cameras. 51% would pay higher taxes to outfit a local department with cameras.

59%



SUPPORT POLICE USING DRONES

6 in 10 support police regularly using drones to assist in their police work. But 54% also worry police drones may invade their privacy.

79%



SUPPORT OUTSIDE AGENCY INVESTIGATE MISCONDUCT

8 in 10 support having outside law enforcement agencies investigate alleged police misconduct rather than leave the investigation to the local police department.

54%



SUPPORT DRUG DE-CRIMINALIZATION

54% support "re-categorizing drug offenses from felonies to civil offenses" and "treated like minor traffic violations rather than crimes."

63%



OPPOSE PRETEXTUAL STOPS & SEARCHES

63% oppose police officers using minor traffic stops to search cars for drugs without a court order.

84%



OPPOSE CIVIL ASSET FORFEITURE

84% say police should only "be able to take a person's money or property that is suspected to have been involved in a drug crime" if the person is convicted, not before. 76% want properly seized assets directed toward a state-level fund.

54%



OPPOSE POLICE USING MILITARY WEAPONS

54% say police departments using military weapons and armored vehicles are "going too far" while 46% believe this equipment is "necessary for law enforcement purposes."

63%



OPPOSE RACIAL PROFILING

63% oppose police officers "stopping motorists or pedestrians of certain racial or ethnic groups because the officer believes that these groups are more likely than others to commit certain types of crimes." But 65% think the practice is commonly used.

The Cato Institute/YouGov national survey of 2,000 adults was conducted June 6-22, 2016 and has a margin of sampling error of +/-3.19 percentage points. Read the full report at www.cato.org.