

THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



1687 Which Professions Are the Most Honest and Ethical?

Is your profession widely respected? If there was a rating system on the honesty and ethical standards of major industries, would your line of work score well in the high/very high category, or be seen as average, or be in the low/very low grouping? I'm Jerry Roberts, and we'll pull out the national scorecard on this, next on the Extra Point.

The Gallup Organization, one of the oldest and largest polling companies, recently released their survey that shows how Americans view various job classifications in terms of honesty and overall ethics.

The survey doesn't list all professions, but let's see if we have yours.

Again, survey takers could rate each job as high or very high in terms of honesty and ethics; or average, or low or very low.

We're going to take the high road here, telling you the percentage of people who gave the profession a positive rating.

Car salespeople scored 7%. That is, 7% of respondents scored them as honest and ethical. Members of the U.S. Congress checked in at only 8%.

Perhaps this was indication that the survey is flawed. I know that car salespeople don't have the best of reputations, especially those on the mainland. Even so, how could any job get a worse rating than the 100 U.S. senators and 438 members of the House of Representatives? We press on.

Business leaders came in slightly higher at 12%. I can't recall it ever being that low. The biz folks won't like this, but lawyers were five points better at 17%. Here's where local officeholders come in. They're three points better than attorneys at 20%. Bankers checked in at 23%.

Then we get to religious leaders, your priests

and pastors. They have a rating of 30% in the positive column. Auto mechanics rated higher, at 33%.

I have nothing against auto mechanics. I've used some good ones and I think they're treated me fairly. Do you think it at all odd that mechanics are trusted more than religious leaders?

On we go, daycare operators scored 42%. If they're at 42%, why are people leaving their kids with them?

Police officers had 44%, which takes us to the top five listings.

Medical doctors had a score of 53% positive, again in terms of honesty and ethics. It wasn't so long ago that doctors were in the 80 or 90% category. Now, they've fallen to where just over half of the population believe they are honest and ethical.

Military officers were next, with scoring 59%. Grade-school teachers had 61%.

What is the highest rated profession, the people holding those jobs seen as being the most honest and with the strongest ethics?

Nurses. Nurses scored highest of all, and it wasn't close. Nurses were 25% better than the nearest job classification, coming in at 76% on the Gallup Organization study of which professions rated highest for honesty and ethics.

That's the Extra Point. Be responsible and make something good happen today. For 93.3FM, the Ray Gibson Show, and First Hawaiian Bank, I'm Jerry Roberts.

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