



**PULIS SANDIGAN NG BAYAN: PUBLIC TRUST AND  
CONFIDENCE TO THE POLICE**

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**ABSTRACT**

This non-experimental quantitative research determined the level of public trust and confidence in the police in Barangay North General Santos City. The data revealed that in terms of public safety, the community held a high level of trust in the police, with a total mean score of 4.03. For internal security, the police received a total mean score of 4.06, indicating their ability to protect the community from threats. In police-community relations, the police were viewed positively, with a total mean score of 4.06. Regarding police checkpoints, the community agreed that they were transparent and fair, with a total mean score of 4.11. The community also had confidence in police patrolling, with a total mean score of 4.06, and for crime prevention, the community had a strong level of trust in police efforts, with a total mean score of 4.06. Overall, across the six key variables, the community expressed a high level of trust and confidence in the police, with overall mean scores of 4.05 and 4.08. This reflects that the community often agreed with the effectiveness of police techniques and operations in maintaining safety and preventing crime. This means that transparency and police visibility were highly appreciated, although there were areas for improvement, particularly in the speed of response and the thoroughness of crime prevention strategies. Additionally, the results of this study indicated a solid foundation of trust in the police with opportunities for further enhancement in specific areas of their operations, as the police were viewed as effective in maintaining public safety and managing internal security, in order to build and maintain trust effectively.

**Keywords:** *Crime Prevention, Police Visibility, Public Trust*

**INTRODUCTION**

Assessing the level of public trust and confidence to the police is crucial for promoting transparency, accountability, and social cohesion (Mayangsari, 2023). It ensures effective policy implementation and maintains public confidence in the justice system. According to Gozgor (2022), building police-community relations requires substantial effort on both sides. This may include making police actions more transparent, fostering accountability where officers are held to the community's standards of service, and concentrating on targeting the crimes that the public finds most alarming, since a sense of safety and belonging are fundamental to any human needs.

The objective of this study was to determine the community's current level of trust and confidence in the police and its effective collaboration in an effort to reduce crime more effectively. This was done by understanding the citizens' perspective in public safety and the security of their society for the effective



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implementation of policing, enforcing laws, responding to emergencies and providing support services. In addition, community policing and its implementation are designed to accomplish four goals: apprehend criminals, stop crime, resolve remaining issues, and improve the quality of life (Frazier, 2019). In this regard, “Pulis Sandigan ng Bayan: Public Trust and Confidence to the Police” helps the PNP Organization examine citizens’ perceptions towards the betterment of its duties and responsibilities by identifying its strength and weaknesses to develop an efficient method of community policing for smoother communication and response, minimizing chaos and maximizing efficiency, not just for today’s generation, but for the greater good of the residents in Barangay Dadiangas North General Santos City on its 2024 projected population.

### STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

This study sought to determine the level of public trust and confidence in the police in Barangay North General Santos City.

Specifically, the study aimed to answer the following questions:

1. What is the level of trust and confidence of the community to the police in terms of:
  - 1.1 Public Safety;
  - 1.2 Internal Security; and,
  - 1.3 Police Community Relations?
2. What is the level of trust and confidence of the community to the police in employing techniques, equipment, vehicles and communications, and facilities/gadgets in terms of conducting:
  - 2.1 Checkpoints;
  - 2.2 Patrolling; and,
  - 2.3 Crime Prevention?
3. Is there a significant relationship between the level of trust and confidence of the community to the police and the level of trust and confidence of the community to the police in employing techniques, equipment, vehicles and communications, and facilities/gadgets.

### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### Trust and Confidence of the Community to the Police

The trust between communities and police forces is a critical component of effective law enforcement and public safety. However, this trust has been significantly eroded in many communities, particularly among minority groups. This literature review explores the underlying causes of this mistrust and examines potential solutions to rebuild trust between the police and the communities they serve.

High-profile incidents of police violence, such as the killings of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor, have highlighted systemic issues within policing that contribute to community distrust. These events underscore the prevalence of excessive force and racial bias within law enforcement agencies (Fair, 2021). The prevalence of violence against women and their children (VAWC) highlights the urgent need for an effective legal protection. The alarming prevalence of VAWC cases worldwide, including the Philippines also underscores the need for local studies that may provide a better understanding of the scope and nature of this issue within specific communities. Thus, this study may aid in the implementation and enforcement of policies specifically the RA 9292; making them more responsive to the needs of vulnerable populations in General Santos City and fostering a safer society.

Effective policing and community well-being are contingent upon the presence of trust and confidence in law enforcement. It is imperative for law enforcement agencies to comprehend the various



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aspects that impact these attitudes, including procedural fairness, police legitimacy, community participation, transparency, and ethical conduct. Police departments may build public trust and confidence in addressing these issues and putting evidence-based tactics into practice that will make communities safer and more resilient

### **Public Safety**

It is the umbrella term for a number of policies and procedures designed to protect people in a community. This survey of the literature uses reliable sources to examine important ideas, problems, and tactics related to public safety. According to McCluskey and Mastrofski (2020), the significance of social fairness and community involvement in public safety efforts is becoming increasingly apparent. Building trust and cooperation between law enforcement and local communities is a key component of community policing methods, which also place a strong focus on accountability and openness. In addition, Fleischer and Decker (2019), initiatives are being made to address prejudices and inequities in the criminal justice system, such as policing practice improvements and legislation meant to lessen racial disparities in law enforcement results.

### **Internal Security**

It includes actions done by a government to uphold law and order, defend its population, and guard against challenges to the state's sovereignty and territorial integrity. It is a crucial component of national governance. The goal of this study is to compile important works on internal security, with an emphasis on the different risks, approaches, and difficulties that law enforcement needs to have for maintaining peace in the community.

### **Police Community Relations**

The New York City Police Department (NYPD) adopted Neighborhood Policing in 2015, which aims to build stronger relationships between officers and community members. An independent evaluation by RAND in 2019 indicated that this approach has improved public safety and increased community trust in the police. The program involves officers engaging more directly with residents to understand and address local concerns.

The two main goals of policing are the prevention of criminal activity and the enforcement of the law. In order to lower crime rates and promote good bonds between police agencies and their communities, Manning and Redford (2019) stressed the significance of proactive policing techniques like community policing. In a similar vein, Rosenbaum and Lurigio (2020) emphasize the efficacy of problem-oriented police techniques in resolving root causes of criminal activity.

### **Level of Trust and Confidence of the Community to the Police in Employing Techniques, Equipment, Vehicles and Communication, and Facilities/Gadgets**

Confidence in law enforcement is a critical component of a just and effective criminal justice system. It reflects the trust that individuals and communities have in the police and other law enforcement agencies to uphold the law, protect their rights, and ensure public safety. Confidence in law enforcement can be influenced by various factors, including the professionalism and integrity of law enforcement officers, the fairness and impartiality of policing practices, and the responsiveness of police to community needs and concerns. When confidence in law enforcement is high, people are more likely to cooperate with the police, report crimes, and support efforts to maintain public order. However, when confidence is low, it can undermine the legitimacy of law enforcement and erode trust between police and the communities they serve, potentially leading to increased crime and social unrest.



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According to Tyler (2019), tension, mistrust, and structural injustices have always been present in the relationship between communities and law enforcement. This is due to the fact that historical injustice and socioeconomic inequalities are just the two of the many causes of the hostile relationship that exist between community and Police officer. In order to end this conflict, a mutual understanding should be done on both sides.

### Methodology

The present study utilized a descriptive quantitative research design. It involved the process of collecting and analyzing numerical data, which deals with numbers, logic, and an objective stance, in contrast to qualitative data that involves analyzing non-numerical studies (Bhandari, 2020). Quantitative research produces data that can clearly determine the relationship between an independent and dependent variable (Williams, 2021).

In this study, the researchers employed a non-experimental design using survey questionnaires as the instrument for collecting and analyzing the data. This was done by finding patterns and averages to generalize a result from the 2024 projected population, with a thorough interpretation of the study's results

### Research Instruments

The researchers used a researcher-made survey questionnaire classified into two sections. It consisted of the level of trust and confidence of the community in the police and the level of trust and confidence of the community in the police in employing techniques, equipment, vehicles, communications, and facilities/gadgets.

In the first part of the questionnaire, it was composed of the level of trust and confidence of the community in the police, with a response format of 5 (Very High), 4 (High), 3 (Moderately High), 2 (Low), and 1 (Very Low) from the scale below:

Mean Range	Description	Verbal Interpretation
4.50-5.00	Very High	The community always trust
3.50-4.49	High	The community generally trust
2.50-3.49	Moderately High	The community seldom trust
1.50-2.49	Low	The community rarely trust
1.00-1.49	Very Low	The community never trust

In the second part of the questionnaires, it was composed of the level of trust and confidence of the community to the police in employing techniques, equipment, vehicles and communications, and facilities/gadgets, with a response format of 5 (Strongly Agree), 4 (Agree), 3 (Moderately High), 2 (Disagree), and 1 (Strongly Disagree) from the scale below:

Mean Range	Description	Verbal Interpretation
4.50-5.00	Strongly Agree	The community always confident
3.50-4.49	Agree	The community generally confident



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2.50-3.49	Moderately Agree	The community seldom confident
1.50-2.49	Disagree	The community rarely confident
1.00-1.49	Strongly Disagree	The community never confident

### Data Gathering Procedure

In gathering the needed data for the study, the researchers used the following procedures to answer the statement of the problem. A questionnaire was first assessed and approved by the research adviser before it was conducted. Upon approval, a letter request was sent to the Dean of the College of Criminal Justice Education of Holy Trinity College of General Santos City to ask permission to conduct the study with the residents of Barangay North, General Santos City. After approval, an individual informed consent with voluntary participation and a validated researcher-made survey questionnaire was given to the respondents, with secure confidentiality of information stated therein. After the survey, the results were tabulated and analyzed as the basis for the conclusion of the study. The researchers used statistical analysis to process the numerical data regarding the problem of the study. The tool used was the Likert Scale to determine the average weighted mean and highest percentage that the residents experienced in terms of the different variables in the following sets of questions. Furthermore, all data and findings gathered from the respondents were checked accordingly for accuracy and legitimacy using a researcher-made survey questionnaire.

### Ethical Considerations

The researchers ensured that all ethical considerations were followed as mandated by Holy Trinity College to avoid engaging in practices that may implicitly or explicitly abuse or exploit those with whom they sought to conduct research.

In this study, the researchers ensured the quality and integrity of the study using the following:

**Informed Consent.** Before conducting the survey, each respondent was provided with an informed consent form, outlining their rights in this study. They were asked to sign an informed consent form, attesting to their willingness to participate freely in the study, the confidentiality of all the data collected, their understanding and right to ask questions, and their right to withdraw at any time from the study, with their identities kept confidential to maintain anonymity.

**Voluntary Participation.** Before starting the survey, the researchers obtained consent from the respondents to ensure that everyone who participated did so voluntarily and of their own free will, respecting each individual's decision as to whether or not to participate in the study.

**Data Privacy.** To respect the privacy of the respondents, the researchers informed them that there would be no personal disclosure of information and that it would be kept strictly confidential. Additionally, the data would only be used for data collection and analysis in compliance with Republic Act No. 10173 – Data Privacy Act of 2012.

**Gender Sensitivity.** In conducting the survey, the researchers ensured respect for the respondents' gender and exercised gender sensitivity to avoid discrimination and unfair behavior towards them.

**Cultural Sensitivity.** The researchers recognized the respondents' well-being and differences, ensuring cultural sensitivity and fair treatment to prevent bias or judgment towards other cultures.





## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Trust and Confidence of the Community to the Police in Terms of Public Safety

Table 1.1 presents the level of trust and confidence of the community to the police in terms of public safety in maintaining peace and order for a strong focus accountability and openness.

Table 1.1

The Level of Trust and Confidence of the Community to the Police in Terms of Public Safety

Public Safety	Mean	Description
1. The police is committed in protecting the rights of all community members.	4.25	High
2. The police is fast in responding to emergencies.	3.90	High
3. The police is transparent in its policies and practices.	4.00	High
4. The police are always visible and accessible to the community.	4.08	High
5. The police are responsive to the community issues and concerns.	3.92	High
Total Mean	4.03	High

The table 1 presents the level of trust and confidence the community has in the police, categorized into three key variables: Public Safety, Internal Security, and Police Community Relations.

In terms of public safety, the community holds a high level of trust in the police, as reflected in a total mean score of 4.03. The police's commitment to protecting the rights of all community members is rated particularly high, with a mean of 4.25, indicating that the community feels strongly that their rights are being upheld. Visibility and accessibility are also highly rated, with a mean of 4.08, suggesting that the presence of the police provides a sense of security. Transparency in policies and practices is perceived positively, as evidenced by a mean of 4.00, implying that the community appreciates the clarity and openness of police operations. The police's ability to respond to emergencies and address community issues is rated slightly lower, with scores of 3.90 and 3.92, respectively. While still high, these ratings suggest that some community members may feel that response times and issue resolution could be improved.

According to McCluskey and Mastrofski (2020), the significance of social fairness and community involvement in public safety efforts is becoming increasingly apparent. Building trust and cooperation between law enforcement and local communities is a key component of community policing methods, which also place a strong focus on accountability and openness. In addition, Fleischer and Decker (2019), initiatives are being made to address prejudices and inequities in the criminal justice system, such as policing practice improvements and legislation meant to lessen racial disparities in law enforcement results.

In the study of Khan et al. (2020), emergency management organizations have been crucial in directing response activities, putting mitigation plans into action, and providing the public with correct information. In order to handle complex crises that endanger community safety and well-being, cross-sector coordination, emergency planning, and a strong public health infrastructure are in needs.

### Trust and Confidence of the Community to the Police in Terms of Internal Security



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Table 1.2 presents the level of trust and confidence of the community to the police in terms of internal security for police's commitment to safeguarding sensitive information.

Table 1.2

The Level of Trust and Confidence of the Community to the Police in Terms of Internal Security

Internal Security	Mean	Description
1. The police are committed in protecting sensitive information.	4.19	High
2. The police have the ability to handle and resolve security breaches in the community.	4.07	High
3. The police are conducting surveillance involving potential security threats.	3.97	High
4. The police are effective in preventing crime in the community.	4.04	High
5. The police investigate crimes thoroughly and effectively.	4.05	High
Total Mean	4.06	High

For internal security, the police receive a total mean score of 4.06, indicating a strong level of trust in their ability to protect the community from internal threats. The highest-rated indicator in this category is the police's commitment to safeguarding sensitive information, with a mean score of 4.19. This suggests that the community trusts the police to handle confidential matters with care. The police's ability to manage and resolve security breaches and prevent crime is also perceived positively, with scores of 4.07 and 4.04, respectively. This indicates confidence in the police's preventive measures and their capacity to respond to security incidents. Surveillance efforts, with a score of 3.97, are seen as effective, though this is the lowest rating within internal security, suggesting that more robust surveillance practices could further enhance trust. Crime investigations are rated at 4.05, demonstrating that the community believes the police are thorough and effective in solving crimes.

According to Layug (2019), clashes between the law enforcement continues. A formal and lasting peace is still elusive to the communities where internal security are fought. As such, the state continues pursuing negotiations with the remaining threats to national security. The study revealed that conflicts originate from insurgencies, tribal war, and election-related violence (ERV) which are caused by different factors and require different approaches to resolve. Also, peace structures and processes in LGUs implementation differs from one province to another, since effective intelligence gathering and analysis are crucial for identifying and disrupting threats, with proactive measures aimed at preventing attacks, with the help of the community.

### Trust and Confidence of the Community to the Police in Terms of Police Community Relations

Table 1.3 presents the level of trust and confidence of the community to the police in terms of police community relations aimed at addressing individual concerns, as well as police's respectful engagement with diverse cultural groups and their professional demeanor in interactions with residents for effectiveness.

Table 1.3

The Level of Trust and Confidence of the Community to the Police in Terms of Police Community Relations

Police Community Relations	Mean	Description
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1. The police community programs are effective aimed for addressing individual concerns.	4.06	High
2. The police equally served and protect all the residents.	3.96	High
3. The police collaborate with the community organization to address community needs.	4.08	High
4. The police are respectful and works with diverse communities with cultural differences.	4.14	High
5. The police are professional and helpful towards the residents.	4.04	High
Total mean	4.06	High
Over-all Mean Result:	4.05	High

When it comes to police-community relations, the community views the police positively, giving this variable a total mean score of 4.06. The police's professionalism, helpfulness, and respect for diversity are highly rated, with mean scores of 4.04 and 4.14, respectively. This suggests that the community appreciates the police's respectful engagement with diverse cultural groups, as well as their professional demeanor in interactions with residents. The police's collaboration with community organizations is also seen positively, with a mean score of 4.08, indicating that these partnerships are viewed as beneficial in addressing community needs. Programs aimed at addressing individual concerns are rated at 4.06, reflecting the community's perception that these initiatives are effective. However, the equitable service provided by the police receives a slightly lower score of 3.96, although it is still classified as high. This may suggest that while the police are generally seen as serving all residents equally, there is some room for improvement in ensuring fairness across all interactions. Overall, the community expresses strong trust in the police's efforts to foster good relations and work collaboratively with residents.

The Center for Policing Equity (2021) indicated that the lack of accountability in cases of police misconduct leads to public perception of bias and unfairness in the justice system. This perception is particularly strong in communities of color, where historical and ongoing instances of police misconduct are more prevalent and less likely to be adequately addressed.

The community expresses a high level of trust and confidence in the police across all variables, with an overall mean score of 4.05. The police are viewed as effective in maintaining public safety, managing internal security, and fostering positive relationships with the community. While there are areas for improvement, particularly in terms of response to emergencies and ensuring equitable service, the high ratings indicate a strong foundation of trust that the police can build upon. This overall sentiment suggests that the police have successfully earned the confidence of the community through their commitment to safety, security, and community collaboration.

### **Trust and Confidence of the Community to the Police in Employing Techniques, Equipment, Vehicles and Communications, and Facilities/Gadgets in Terms of Conducting Checkpoints**

Table 2.1 presents the level of trust and confidence of the community to the police in employing techniques, equipment, vehicles and communications, and facilities/gadgets in terms of conducting checkpoints for crime reduction and control.

Table 2.1

The Level of Trust and Confidence of the Community to the Police in Employing Techniques, Equipment, Vehicles and Communications, and Facilities/Gadgets in Terms of Conducting Checkpoints





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Checkpoints	Mean	Description
1.The police checkpoint have a transparent procedure.	4.25	Agree
2. The police checkpoints are fairly conducted and no misconduct.	4.02	Agree
3. The police checkpoints help reduce crimes in the community.	4.22	Agree
4. The police checkpoints have no significant delays to the resident.	4.05	Agree
5. The police are always conducting checkpoint in the community.	3.99	Agree
Total Mean	4.11	Agree

The table 2 assesses the community's trust and confidence in the police's use of techniques, equipment, vehicles and communications, and facilities/gadgets, focusing on three key areas: Checkpoints, Patrolling, and Crime Prevention.

In terms of police checkpoints, the community generally agrees that they are conducted with transparency and fairness, with a total mean score of 4.11. The highest-rated aspect is the transparency of procedures, with a mean of 4.25, indicating that the community perceives the operations as clear and open. The community also agrees that checkpoints help reduce crime, as reflected in a score of 4.22. Fair conduct at checkpoints is rated at 4.02, with a similar score for the lack of significant delays for residents at 4.05, showing that the community finds these operations efficient and fair. The lowest score in this section is for the frequency of checkpoints with a mean of 3.99, suggesting that while checkpoints are effective, their consistency might be an area for improvement. Overall, checkpoints are seen positively, enhancing community trust.

But according to Merenda et al. (2022), over the last few decades, law enforcement has come to value aspects of its role as essential to its crime-fighting capacity and partnership with the community. While evolving law enforcement strategies have improved crime control, many departments still strive to enhance satisfaction among community members while balancing crime control and community-oriented approaches. However, it generally been assessed in larger, urban contexts because of lack of proper implementation and citizen satisfaction in the survey results. Aside from demographic factors, there is a low level of satisfaction with police predicted by citizens' perceptions of procedural justice, safety, crime, and disorder.

### **Trust and Confidence of the Community to the Police in Employing Techniques, Equipment, Vehicles and Communications, and Facilities/Gadgets in Terms of Conducting Patrolling**

Table 2.2 presents the level of trust and confidence of the community to the police in employing techniques, equipment, vehicles and communications, and facilities/gadgets in terms of conducting patrolling include the speed of response to crimes and emergencies.

Table 2.2

The Level of Trust and Confidence of the Community to the Police in Employing Techniques, Equipment, Vehicles and Communications, and Facilities/Gadgets in Terms of Conducting Patrolling

Patrolling	Mean	Description
1. The police have a sufficient number of patrols to maintain public safety and trust.	4.24	Agree
2. The police patrol always listen to community concerns.	4.05	Agree
3. The police patrol are visible in the community day and night.	4.11	Agree



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4. The police patrol are fast in responding to crimes and emergencies.	3.98	Agree
5. The police patrol are not doing unprofessional misconduct.	3.93	Agree
Total Mean	<b>4.06</b>	<b>Agree</b>

The community also expresses confidence in police patrolling, with a total mean score of 4.06. The highest-rated indicator is the sufficiency of patrols to maintain public safety and trust, at 4.24, showing that the community feels well-protected by visible police patrols. Patrol visibility in the community, both day and night, is rated at 4.11, reflecting the community's recognition of police presence. The responsiveness of police patrols to community concerns is rated 4.05, showing that the community feels their needs are being heard. However, areas for improvement include the speed of response to crimes and emergencies (3.98) and avoiding unprofessional misconduct with a mean of 3.93, which, though still positive, suggest room for growth in timeliness and professionalism.

Research by Chen et al. (2022) and Johnson et al. (2020) emphasized the importance of police checkpoints in reducing traffic accidents and enhancing traffic safety. Checkpoints help to reduce the number of traffic-related fatalities and injuries by closely enforcing traffic laws and identifying drivers who are intoxicated.

### **Trust and Confidence of the Community to the Police in Employing Techniques, Equipment, Vehicles and Communications, and Facilities/Gadgets in Terms of Conducting Crime Prevention**

Table 2.3 presents the level of trust and confidence of the community to the police in employing techniques, equipment, vehicles and communications, and facilities/gadgets in terms of conducting checkpoints for corrective measures.

Table 2.3

The Level of Trust and Confidence of the Community to the Police in Employing Techniques, Equipment, Vehicles and Communications, and Facilities/Gadgets in Terms of Conducting Checkpoints

Crime Prevention	Mean	Description
1. The police service improved over the past year.	4.02	Agree
2. The police responds promptly to call for service.	4.07	Agree
3. The police always plan corrective measures to improve crime prevention and control.	4.07	Agree
4. The police find and solve the main source of crime in the community.	4.00	Agree
5. The police provide adequate resources to perform their duties effectively.	4.13	Agree
Total Mean	4.06	Agree
Over-all Mean Result	<b>4.08</b>	<b>Often</b>

For crime prevention, the community expresses a strong level of trust in police efforts, with a total mean score of 4.06. The highest-rated indicator in this section is the police providing adequate resources to perform their duties, with a score of 4.13, indicating that the community believes the police are well-equipped. Prompt responses to service calls 4.07 and planning corrective measures for crime prevention 4.07 are also viewed positively, reflecting that the police are seen as proactive in managing crime. However, the ability to solve the root causes of crime receives the lowest score 4.00, indicating that while the community appreciates police efforts, there is an expectation for more comprehensive crime-solving



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strategies. The overall improvement in police service over the past year is rated 4.02, suggesting gradual progress in their approach to crime prevention.

The overall mean score of 4.08 reflects that the community often agrees with the effectiveness of police techniques, equipment, and operations in maintaining safety and preventing crime. Across the three variables, transparency, resource adequacy, and police visibility are highly appreciated, although there are areas for improvement, particularly in the speed of response, consistency of checkpoints, and the thoroughness of crime prevention strategies. This indicates a solid foundation of trust in the police, with opportunities for further enhancement in specific areas of their operations

### **Trust and Confidence of the Community to the Police and the Level of Trust and Confidence of the Community to the Police in Employing Techniques, Equipment, Vehicles and Communications, Facilities/Gadgets**

Table 3 presents the level of trust and confidence of the community to the police and the level of trust and confidence of the community to the police in employing techniques, equipment, vehicles and communications, facilities/gadgets for operational effectiveness and the adequacy of their resources.

Table 3

Significant Relationship Between the Level of Trust and Confidence of the Community to the Police and the Level of Trust and Confidence of the Community to the Police in Employing Techniques, Equipment, Vehicles and Communications, Facilities/Gadgets

Variable	Level of Trust and Confidence of the Community to the Police and the Level of Trust and Confidence of the Community to the Police in Employing Techniques, Equipment, Vehicles and Communications, Facilities/Gadgets			
Level of Trust and Confidence	r- value	p- value	Remarks	Decision
	.542	.021	Significant	Reject Ho

The analysis reveals a significant positive relationship between the community's overall trust and confidence in the police and their trust in the police's use of techniques, equipment, vehicles, communications, and facilities. With an r-value of 0.542, there is a moderate to strong correlation, suggesting that as the community's general trust in the police increases, so does their confidence in the police's operational methods and resources. The p-value of 0.021, which is below the conventional threshold of 0.05, confirms that this relationship is statistically significant. This finding indicates that improvements in the police's overall conduct and interactions with the community are likely to enhance perceptions of their operational effectiveness and the adequacy of their resources. Consequently, it is important for the police to continue fostering high levels of trust through transparent, effective practices and resource utilization, as this will likely reinforce and bolster community confidence in all aspects of police work.

In conclusion, this study was anchored in the Home Rule Theory by Isaac Butt in 1885, which posits that the police are the servants of the community, having their own set of policing aimed at maintaining peace and order by establishing a collaborative partnership within their communities. The home rule allows citizens to have greater control over issues that concern their region and encourages involvement at the local level as it gives an ability to craft ordinances and make decisions based on local



needs. The results of the study indicate that the police are seen as effective in protecting rights, maintaining security, and engaging respectfully with diverse groups.

## CONCLUSIONS

Based on the summary of the findings, the following conclusions were drawn:

The community's trust and confidence in the police are consistently rated high across all key areas: public safety, internal security, and police-community relations. The police are seen as effective in protecting rights, maintaining security, and engaging respectfully with diverse groups. However, there are areas for improvement, particularly in emergency response and ensuring equitable service across the community. Despite these opportunities for enhancement, the overall sentiment reflects a strong foundation of trust, indicating that the police have effectively fostered a positive relationship through their commitment to safety and transparency.

The community demonstrates a strong level of trust and confidence in the police's use of techniques, equipment, and resources across checkpoints, patrolling, and crime prevention. Transparency in procedures, sufficient patrols, and adequate resources are particularly valued by the community, contributing to a positive perception of police effectiveness and power. However, there are areas for improvement, such as increasing the frequency of checkpoints, enhancing response times, and addressing the root causes of crime more comprehensively. Overall, while the community is largely satisfied, focusing on these aspects could further strengthen public trust and confidence in police operations.

The significant positive relationship between the community's overall trust in the police and their confidence in the police's use of operational techniques and resources highlights the critical link between general trust and perceptions of police effectiveness. This finding reinforces the need for the police to uphold high standards in both their interactions with the community and their use of techniques and resources to build and maintain trust effectively as fostering mutual understanding and cooperation with the community is essential in order to harness the power of diversity to build a stronger and safe environment.

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