

A COMMISSION SURVEY

1986

CHANGING
PUBLIC ATTITUDES
ON GOVERNMENTS
AND TAXES

Advisory Commission on
Intergovernmental Relations
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20575 • 1986



S-15

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September 1986

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Foreword

This publication presents the 15th annual survey of public attitudes toward government and taxes conducted for the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (ACIR).

The Gallup Organization has conducted the polls since 1983 using the Gallup Personal Omnibus. Every effort was made to ensure comparability with the previous surveys conducted by Opinion Research Corporation of Princeton, NJ. A description of the poll appears on p. 6. Users should note that for 1986, the sample size has been reduced to 1,004, and the sampling tolerances are slightly larger than in previous years.

This year ACIR asked seven questions. This publication presents both the current results and cumulative record since 1982. It contains an appendix which lists all the questions which have been asked since 1972 and the tables in which detailed data on responses can be found. Data on questions asked in the 1972-81 surveys may be obtained by requesting copies of the 1983 or 1984 reports (*S-12* and *S-13*) which present the data in Appendix III.

Susannah E. Calkins, senior analyst, prepared this study with the assistance of Karen Kirkwood. Members of the ACIR staff participated in developing the questions and in reviewing the results.

All interpretations of the data are those of the ACIR staff.

John Shannon
Executive Director

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The 1986 Survey

HIGHLIGHTS

The Federal Income Tax Chosen as the Worst Tax for the Eighth Straight Year

For the eighth straight year, the federal income tax has received the most votes as the worst tax—the least fair—from respondents polled by the Gallup Organization for the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations' 15th annual poll on changing public attitudes on government and taxes. Between 1973 and 1978, it was usually a toss-up between the local property tax and the federal income tax as to which levy would end up occupying the cellar position in public esteem.

It is not surprising that the public's view of the federal income tax has remained unchanged since 1979. During the period, inflation pushed

many taxpayers into tax brackets that would have been inconceivable to them a decade earlier. Criticism of the tax has remained widespread. During the past year, public attention has been focused on the federal income tax as the President's tax reform proposals have been actively debated in the Congress and in the press.

The gap between public disapproval of the federal income tax and the local property tax, which reached its high point of 14 percentage points in 1985, narrowed in 1986; there are now only 9 percentage points between the two. Most of the difference is accounted for by increasing disapproval of the local property tax.

There are striking differences in the way the various regions view the federal income tax and the local property tax.

Text Table 1

Which do you think is the worst tax—that is, the least fair?

Percent of U.S. Public

	May 1986	May 1985	May 1984	May 1983	May 1982	Sept. 1981	May 1980	May 1979	May 1978	May 1977	May 1975	April 1974	May 1973
Federal Income Tax	37	38	36	35	36	36	36	37	30	28	28	30	30
State Income Tax	8	10	10	11	11	9	10	8	11	11	11	10	10
State Sales Tax	17	16	15	13	14	14	19	15	18	17	23	20	20
Local Property Tax	28	24	29	26	30	33	25	27	32	33	29	28	31
Don't Know	10	12	10	15	9	9	10	13	10	11	10	14	11

Detailed data appear in *Appendix II, Tables 4, 5, and 6, pp. 19-23.*

Text Table 2

**Which do you think is the worst tax—that is, the least fair?
1986 Regional comparisons**

	Percent of U.S. Public	
	Federal Income Tax	Local Property Tax
United States	37	28
Northeast	31	27
North-Central	37	34
South	36	28
West	44	22

Detailed data appear in *Appendix II, Table 4, p. 19.*

As the table indicates, the West has the lowest disapproval rating for the local property tax at 22% (probably related to the effect of California's Prop. 13 and its clones in holding down local property taxes in that region), and the highest disapproval of the federal income tax at 44%; there is a 22 percentage point gap between the two. The largest spread for any other region is the 8 percentage points in the South separating the local property tax (at 28%) and the federal income tax (at 36%).

Should Single Parents Receiving Welfare Be Required to Work?

A majority of the United States public believe that single parents who receive welfare should be required to work in a government program if the children can be placed in affordable day care or are in school. When asked whether single parents receiving welfare should be required to work in a government program in order to continue receiving their welfare payments, 13% said they should

not, compared to 32% of those polled who believed that they should. A considerably larger number of respondents (51%) believed that single parents should be required to work in a government program *only* if the children can be placed in affordable day care or are in school. The number of persons with opinions on the subject (96%) was unusually high for the ACIR poll; only 4% did not answer or had no opinion on the subject.

Government Services and Taxes

Since 1979, there has been a slow but steady decline in the number of respondents who favor cutbacks in both government services and taxes—from 39% in 1979 to 31% in 1986. The 1986 responses also reflected an increased level of satisfaction with the current level of government services and taxes; there was a particularly sharp increase between 1982 and 1986—from 42% in 1982 to 51% in 1986. (*Text Table 4.*)

When regional data are examined, it appears that the level of satisfaction with the current level of government is highest in the Northeast (58%)

Text Table 3

Should single parents receiving welfare be required to work in a government program in order to continue receiving payments?

	Percent of U.S. Public
	1986
Yes	32
Only if the children can be placed in affordable day care or are in school	51
No	13
Don't know	4

Detailed data appear in *Appendix II, Table 15, p. 20.*

Text Table 4

How do you feel about government services and taxes?

	Percent of U.S. Public			
	1986	1982	1980	1979
Decrease services and taxes	31	36	38	39
Keep services and taxes about where they are	51	42	45	46
Increase services and taxes	9	8	6	6
Don't know	9	14	11	9

Detailed data appear in *Appendix II, Table 10*, p. 27 and *Table 11*, p. 28. *Table 11* also shows data for 1975-77.

and lowest in the West (44%). The West gives higher support for increasing services and taxes (14%) than the U.S. average.

Rating Government Power

Just as an increasing number of respondents are moving away from the view that government services should be cut and taxes decreased, fewer respondents now believe that the federal government has too much power. In 1978 and 1982, 38% of the respondents felt that the federal government had too much power; by 1986 that number had dropped to 28%. At the same time those believing that the federal government should use its powers more vigorously has increased from a low of 30% in 1982 to 41% in 1986.

When regional changes between 1982 and 1986 are examined, there is a sharp drop in the Northeast (21 percentage points) in the belief that the federal government has too much power, and a drop of about 10 percentage points in the North-Central and the West. Similarly, there have been impressive increases between 1982 and 1986 in

the percentage of those believing that the federal government should use its powers more vigorously: 15 percentage points in the Northeast, 16 percentage points in the North-Central, and 13 percentage points in the West.

Rating Governments

Since 1972 the ACIR poll has asked the public, "From which level of government do you feel you get the most for your money?" This year, as last year and in 1983, the percentages choosing the federal government and local government were about equal: 33% for the federal government and 32% for local government. State government trailed with 22% of the vote, about what it had received in 1985 and 1983. (*Text Table 6.*)

When the demographic detail is examined, it appears that the strongest support for the federal government comes from those over 65 years old (43%) and the lowest level from college graduates (24%) and those with incomes between \$25,000

Text Table 5

Which of these statements comes closest to your view about government power?

	Percent of U.S. Public			
	1986	1984	1982	1978
Federal government has too much power	28	35	38	38
Federal government is using about the right amount of power	24	25	18	18
Federal government should use its powers more vigorously	41	34	30	36
Don't know	7	6	14	8

Detailed data (including 1985) appear in *Appendix II, Table 7*, p. 24 and *Table 8*, p. 25.

Text Table 6

**From which level of government do you feel you get the most for your money—
federal, state or local?**

Percent of U.S. Public

	May 1986	May 1985	May 1984	May 1983	May 1982	Sept. 1981	May 1980	May 1979	May 1978	May 1977	March 1976	May 1975	April 1974	May 1973
Federal	32	32	24	31	35	30	33	29	35	36	36	38	29	35
Local	33	31	35	31	28	33	26	33	26	26	25	25	28	25
State	22	22	27	20	20	25	22	22	20	20	20	20	24	18
Don't Know	13	15	14	19	17	14	19	16	19	18	19	17	19	22

Detailed data appear in *Appendix II, Tables 1, 2 and 3, pp. 13-17.*

and \$29,900 (24%). State government drew its strongest support from those aged 18-24 (29%) and the lowest from those over 65 years old (16%). Local government drew high levels of support from college graduates (43%), those in the \$25,000-29,900 income group (46%) and over \$40,000 income group (42%), as well as from those classified in the professional, managerial and clerical occupational groups (42%).

There are distinct regional patterns in the preferences for levels of government: the Northeast gives higher than average votes to both the federal government (37%) and state governments (26%), and lower than average to local governments (25%). The North-Central region gives a lower than average vote to the federal government (28%) and a higher than average vote to local government (39%). The South also shows a marked preference for local government (35%) over state government (18%). The West gives approximately equal ratings to state government (27%) and to local government (29%).

Cutting the Federal Budget

There is no indication of any significant change in public opinion since 1984 on ways to cut the federal budget—as in 1984, a majority opted for cuts in defense spending (over 50% in both years), and only 2% chose the option of cutting Social Security and Medicare. In 1986, 29% selected the option of cutting federal programs other than defense and Social Security-Medicare. (*Text Table 8.*)

Raising More Revenues for Local Governments

When it comes to the painful task of raising more revenue for local governments, the public clearly prefers the use of charges for services—49% chose this option as the best way to raise more revenue. The second choice was the local sales tax, at 26%. Both the local income tax (9%) and the local property tax (7%) trailed far behind.

Text Table 7

From which level of government do you feel you get the most for your money?

Percent of U.S. Public

1986

	Federal	State	Local	Don't Know
United States	32	22	33	13
Northeast	37	26	25	12
North-Central	28	22	39	11
South	32	18	35	15
West	32	27	29	12

Detailed data appear in *Appendix II, Table 1, p. 13.*

Text Table 8

If the federal government decides to reduce spending to keep it more in line with revenues, which one of these would you prefer?

	Percent of U.S. Public	
	1986	1984
Cut defense spending	53	50
Cut Social Security and Medicare	2	3
Cut all other programs	29	31
Cut all federal programs	3*	2*
Cut no federal programs	4*	2*
Don't know/No answer	9	12

*Volunteered

Detailed data appear in *Appendix II, Table 9, p. 26.*

Text Table 9

Suppose your local government must raise more revenue, which of these do you think would be the best way to do it?

	Percent of U.S. Public	
	1986	1981
Local income tax	9	7
Local sales tax	26	21
Local property tax	7	5
Charges for specific services	49	55
Don't know	9	12

Detailed data appear in *Appendix II, Table 12, p. 30.* A similar question asked in 1983 but with different options appears in *Table 14, p. 32.*

The ACIR poll had asked this question in 1981 with results which were quite similar except that support for raising more revenues by charging for specific services had been measurably higher in 1981—55% at that time, compared with 49% in 1986. There was also a small increase in support for the option of raising the local sales tax—from 21% in 1981 to 26% in 1986.

Examination of the regional figures shows a sharp drop in support in the Northeast for in-

creased charges for specific services even though the 1986 level of support still remains slightly higher than the United States average; in 1981, 68% of the respondents in the Northeast chose charges for specific services, but by 1986 it had dropped to 54%. In 1986, the Northeast at 17% is below the U.S. average (26%) in choosing the sales tax and considerably below both the North-Central and the Southern region (30%). (*Text Table 9.*)

THE POLL

This report presents the findings of a personal interview research survey conducted among a nationally representative sample of 1,004 men and women, 18 years of age or over, living in private households in the United States.

Interviewing for this survey was completed from May 17-18, 1986, by members of the Gallup Personal Omnibus national interviewing staff. All interviews were conducted in the homes of respondents.

To ensure the representativeness of the sample, data were weighted to take into account demographic variables. Therefore, the results may be projected to the total adult civilian population, 18 years of age or over, living in the United States.

Introduction to Detailed Findings

The tables contained in this report present detailed findings of the various survey results. Percentages may not add to 100 because of rounding.

The following definitions are provided for some of the standard breakdowns by which the data are analyzed. Other breakdowns are self-explanatory.

Occupation refers to the occupation of the respondent. The types of positions included in each category are listed below. The fourth classification is retired persons.

Professional/Manager/Owner

Executives, Professionals, Technical and Kindred Workers, Managers, Officials, and Proprietors.

White Collar, Sales, Clerical

Clerical, Office and Secretarial Workers, and Sales Agents and Workers.

Blue Collar

Semi-skilled, laborers, and service workers: Craftsmen, Foremen, Kindred Workers, Maintenance Repairmen, Carpenters, Plumbers and Electricians; Operatives and Kindred Workers, Apprentices, and As-

sembly Line Workers; Housekeepers in Private Households, Institutional and Public; Police, Security Guards; Beauticians and Barbers.

Metro size groupings are determined by the U.S. Bureau of the Census population figures for the metropolitan area. Nonmetro areas are those not in a metropolitan area, with populations under 50,000. Central city areas have populations of 50,000 or more in a central city of a metropolitan area. Fringe areas have populations of 50,000 or more in metropolitan areas outside a central city.

The four *geographic regions* are defined as follows: Northeast—Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania; North Central—Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas; South—Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas; West—Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, Washington, Oregon, California, Hawaii, Alaska.

Income groups respondents by 1986 total household income before taxes.

Sampling tolerances for the survey are ± 4 percentage points at the 95% level of confidence.

Further detail on the survey methods and sampling tolerances are available from ACIR.

Previous Classifications and Results

Data for 1972-81 are presented in Appendix III, Detailed Results of 1972-81 Surveys (p. 41) of the 1984 public opinion volume (S-13) or 1983 (S-12). Copies may be requested from ACIR. Descriptions of classifications used in these years may be found in the volumes for the relevant years.

Tables for 1982-1986 are presented in *Appendix II* of this report (S-15).

Appendix I
**QUESTIONS ASKED:
1972-86**

QUESTIONS, 1972-85

Numbered Tables (1982-85) appear in *Appendix II, Detailed Results: 1982-85 Surveys*; Lettered Tables (1972-81) appear in *Appendix III, Detailed Results: 1972-81 Surveys* (S-12 or S-13).

Taxes

	Year	Table	Page
<i>Federal-State-Local Taxes</i>			
From which level of government do you feel you get the most for your money?	1972-76	3	16
	1977-81	2	14
	1982-86	1	13
Considering all government services on the one hand and taxes on the other, which of the following statements comes closest to your view?	1975-80	11	28
	1982, 86	10	27
Here is a list of the major types of taxes in the country today. Which do you think is the fairest?	1972, 74	E	51 (S-13)
Which do you think is the worst tax, that is the least fair?	1972-75	6	22
	1977-81	5	20
	1982-86	4	19
<i>Federal-Local Taxes</i>			
Which statement agrees most with your own thinking about the national value-added tax and local property tax?	1972	I	59 (S-13)
<i>Federal Taxes</i>			
If the federal government had to raise taxes substantially, which would be the best way to do it?	1972	K	62 (S-13)
	1983	20	41
	1984	19	40
If the federal income tax collections must be increased, which way is the best?	1983	21	42
Which one of the changes would be the single most important change that would make the nation's tax system more fair?	1983	24	45
Which one way of reducing the federal deficit would you prefer?	1984	17	37
<i>State Taxes</i>			
Suppose your state government must raise taxes substantially, which would be the way to do it?	1972, 76	D	50 (S-13)
	1983	23	44
Do you favor or oppose state laws which give special tax breaks or other incentives to industries that will locate or expand present operations in the state?	1977	L	63 (S-13)
<i>Local Taxes</i>			
Suppose your local government must raise more revenue, which would be the way to do it?	1981	14	32
	1983	13	31
	1986	12	30
Which reason do you feel is the most important for dissatisfaction with the property tax?	1977	G	56 (S-13)

Aid Programs

<i>Federal Aid</i>			
Rank types of federal grant programs as to whether they are necessary or unnecessary.	1982	16	30-38 (S-13)

		<i>Table</i>	<i>Page</i>
Do you favor or oppose revenue sharing?	1973-76, 79	C	48 (S-13)
Do you favor or oppose special federal aid for central cities experiencing financial difficulty?	1976-79	J	60 (S-13)
Which, if any, of the following programs should the federal government stop providing federal financial support for?	1985	16	36
<i>State Aid</i>			
With the cutbacks in federal financial aid to local governments, what should states do?	1983	25	46
Spending			
<i>Federal Spending</i>			
Which functions should the federal government turn back to state and local governments?	1981	P	68 (S-13)
Which one way of reducing the federal deficit would you prefer?	1984	17	37
If the federal government decides to reduce spending, which one way would you prefer?	1984, 86	9	26
<i>State-Local Spending</i>			
Supposing the budgets of your state and local governments have to be curtailed, which one part would you limit most severely?	1980-81	0	66 (S-13)
Government Power and Efficiency			
<i>Federal Power and Efficiency</i>			
Which of these statements comes closest to your view about government power today?	1978	8	25
	1982-86	7	24
<i>Federal-State-Local Efficiency</i>			
From which level of government do you feel you get the most for your money?	1972-76	3	16
	1977-81	2	14
	1982-86	1	13
<i>State-Local Efficiency</i>			
Which of these statements about the ability of state and local government to deal with today's problems comes closest to your view?	1978	N	65 (S-13)
Would the following services be more efficiently produced/delivered by private companies or your local government?	1985	18	38
Other			
<i>Political Organizations</i>			
In general, which one of the organizations listed below do you feel best represents the political interests of people like you?	1983	26	47
<i>State Surplus Funds</i>			
How should states use their surplus funds?	1984	22	43
<i>Welfare</i>			
Should single parents receiving welfare be required to work in a government program to continue receiving payments?	1986	15	34

Appendix II
**DETAILED RESULTS:
1982-86 SURVEYS**

Table 1
1982-86*

From Which Level of Government Do You Feel You Get the Most for Your Money—Federal, State, or Local?

(in percent)

	1. Federal				2. State				3. Local				4. Don't Know/No Answer							
	1986				1985				1984				1983				1982			
	1.	2.	3.	4.	1.	2.	3.	4.	1.	2.	3.	4.	1.	2.	3.	4.	1.	2.	3.	4.
Total Public	32	22	33	13	32	22	31	15	24	27	35	14	31	20	31	19	35	20	28	17
Male	34	24	34	8	33	23	31	13	26	27	37	10	33	20	32	16	38	20	29	13
Female	31	21	31	17	32	22	29	17	23	27	33	17	29	20	31	21	33	19	28	20
Head of Household	32	23	33	12	32	22	31	15	24	26	37	13	30	19	32	19	36	18	28	18
Male Head	34	23	35	8	32	22	33	13	26	25	38	11	32	20	33	16	37	20	29	14
Female Head	33	21	31	15	32	22	29	17	23	26	35	16	28	19	32	22	34	17	28	21
Under 35 Years of Age	32	27	32	9	32	27	28	13	22	34	33	11	31	23	30	16	35	24	27	14
18-24	33	29	26	12	35	26	27	12	21	36	28	15	36	24	23	17	37	27	23	13
25-34	31	26	36	7	29	28	28	15	22	33	37	8	27	23	35	15	33	21	30	16
35-44	28	24	37	11	28	21	38	13	21	26	38	15	27	22	37	15	27	26	36	11
30-65	30	19	37	14	36	19	30	15	26	23	37	14	30	18	32	20	34	15	31	20
Over 65	43	16	21	20	33	17	29	21	32	18	33	17	37	11	26	25	46	11	19	24
High School Incomplete	36	19	23	22	37	17	26	20	30	21	27	22	37	18	20	26	44	13	22	21
High School Graduate	34	23	31	12	35	22	28	15	25	28	34	13	29	18	33	19	32	23	27	18
College Incomplete	32	21	39	8	27	32	30	11	20	35	34	11	30	23	36	11	30	24	31	15
College Graduate	24	25	43	8	24	22	43	11	19	25	49	7	23	23	44	10	30	19	43	8
Household Income																				
Under \$15K	37	21	22	20	39	20	22	19	29	27	29	15	37	16	24	24	42	15	21	22
\$15-24.9K	36	21	33	10	33	20	33	14	26	26	36	12	26	24	34	16	37	20	30	13
\$25K+	28	24	41	7	27	25	36	12	20	27	41	12	26	23	39	12	25	24	36	15
\$25-29.9K	24	23	46	7	27	27	34	12	21	19	38	22	28	28	35	9	24 ^a	23 ^a	35 ^a	18 ^a
\$30-39.9K	32	25	36	7	25	27	35	13	21	29	41	9	26	23	38	13	26 ^b	26 ^b	36 ^b	12 ^b
\$40K+	26	24	42	8	28	23	38	11	18	32	43	7	26	20	42	12	—	—	—	—
Own	30	22	36	12	30	23	32	15	23	27	37	13	28	19	35	17	32	20	31	17
Rent	38	24	26	12	37	23	27	13	27	26	34	13	39	18	22	21	42	19	22	17
White	32	22	34	12	31	23	32	14	23	27	37	13	27	21	34	18	32	20	30	18
Nonwhite	37	27	25	11	40	22	19	19	33	26	24	17	51	12	16	21	57	13	19	11
Employed	32	25	35	8	31	24	32	13	22	29	37	12	27	21	37	16	30	23	32	15
Employed Female	33	23	33	11	30	23	31	16	20	29	36	15	27	20	36	18	27	25	31	17
Not Employed	33	18	30	19	34	20	28	18	28	23	32	17	35	18	25	22	38	17	26	19
Not Employed Female	29	19	29	23	32	22	28	18	27	25	30	18	31	19	27	23	37	16	27	20
Prof., Manager, Clerical	25	27	42	6	27	23	40	10	23	28	36	13	24	21	44	11	28	17	43	12
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	38	20	34	8	29	30	26	15	26	25	31	18	32	19	33	16	29	34	24	13
Blue Collar	35	25	31	19	35	21	29	15	22	29	36	13	29	21	30	19	31	24	28	17
Retired	31	23	35	11	37	17	27	19	26	25	28	21	41	12	24	23	43	13	21	23
Married	31	23	35	11	30	24	32	14	23	26	38	13	29	21	33	18	33	19	32	16
Not Married	35	22	28	15	37	18	29	16	27	29	29	15	34	18	29	20	38	20	22	20
Household Size																				
1-2 People	32	22	33	13	33	21	29	17	26	24	36	14	34	14	31	21	38	17	24	21
3-4 People	33	26	31	10	32	23	33	12	21	29	36	14	26	26	32	16	31	23	31	15
5+ People	41	20	37	2	28	27	28	17	26	27	34	13	32	20	31	18	37	20	31	12
Children in Household																				
Children under 18	32	22	37	9	29	25	33	13	23	27	36	14	28	23	33	16	31	22	33	14
No Children	33	22	30	15	36	20	27	17	25	27	35	13	33	17	30	20	38	18	24	20
Northeast	37	26	25	12	36	19	28	17	25	22	37	16	31	14	31	24	32	14	33	21
North-Central	28	22	39	11	29	22	35	14	26	30	31	13	27	20	38	15	33	24	24	19
South	32	18	35	15	36	22	28	14	23	26	36	15	34	20	28	18	39	18	26	17
West	32	27	29	12	25	28	30	17	23	29	36	12	30	26	28	16	35	21	31	13
Nonmetro	32	20	33	15	30	23	30	17	22	30	34	14	29	23	28	20	35	21	28	16
Metro—50,000 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fringe	32	24	32	12	33	22	32	13	22	27	39	12	27	17	42	14	—	—	—	—
Central City	35	23	33	9	33	22	30	15	29	24	32	15	36	17	27	21	—	—	—	—

^a \$25-34.9K. ^b \$35K+.

*1972-1981 data appear in Tables 2 and 3.

Table 2
1977-81

**From Which Level of Government Do You Feel You Get the Most for Your Money
—Federal, State, or Local?**

(in percent)

	1. Federal				2. State				3. Local				4. Don't Know							
	September 1981				May 1980				May 1979				May 1978				May 1977			
	1.	2.	3.	4.	1.	2.	3.	4.	1.	2.	3.	4.	1.	2.	3.	4.	1.	2.	3.	4.
Total Public*	30	25	33	14	33	22	26	19	29	22	33	16	35	20	26	19	36	20	26	18
18-29 Years of Age*	29	27	33	11	35	29	23	13	29	25	36	10	37	24	25	14	33	27	25	14
30-44	29	25	35	11	29	22	30	19	27	23	38	12	30	21	29	20	29	22	33	16
45-59	25	27	34	15	30	21	30	19	27	22	33	19	31	21	30	18	37	16	27	20
60 Years and Over*	35	18	29	19	40	13	18	29	32	15	26	27	41	10	21	28	45	13	18	25
Male																				
Total*	32	24	34	10	33	22	28	17	31	21	33	14	38	20	27	15	42	17	28	13
18-29 Years of Age	29	27	37	7	31	29	29	11	31	24	37	8	39	23	27	11	36	27	27	10
30-44	34	24	34	9	28	25	31	16	29	24	38	8	33	19	30	18	37	18	36	9
45-59	28	29	29	15	30	20	30	20	32	21	28	20	30	25	30	15	48	10	30	12
60 Years and Over	36	15	36	13	46	11	20	23	35	13	28	20	52	9	22	18	50	10	21	19
Female																				
Total*	28	25	31	16	34	22	23	21	26	22	34	18	32	20	25	23	30	24	24	23
18-29 Years of Age	30	28	29	14	38	30	18	14	28	25	35	12	36	26	23	16	31	28	24	18
30-44	24	27	36	13	30	20	29	21	25	23	37	15	27	23	28	21	24	25	31	20
45-59	22	25	39	15	31	21	30	18	23	23	37	17	31	19	30	21	26	23	23	27
60 Years and Over	34	20	24	23	36	15	17	32	29	17	24	30	34	11	20	35	39	16	13	31
Employed	26	28	35	11	31	25	29	15	24	23	37	16	33	19	31	17	29	25	26	20
Housewife	29	23	29	20	32	21	23	24	24	23	38	16	28	22	26	25	28	23	25	25
High School Grad or Less																				
Total	32	24	29	15	36	21	21	22	32	20	30	18	36	18	24	22	38	21	21	21
Less Than Grad*	34	22	25	19	39	15	18	28	36	18	21	25	40	13	18	28	39	20	16	26
High School Grad*	30	26	32	12	32	27	24	17	28	22	37	13	33	22	29	16	37	22	26	15
College																				
Total*	—	—	—	—	28	24	36	12	21	26	43	11	30	25	31	14	32	20	36	13
Some	25	26	38	11	30	24	32	14	22	26	41	11	33	26	27	14	35	21	31	14
Grad	22	25	46	7	26	24	41	9	19	25	46	11	26	22	38	14	27	19	43	11
Executive, Prof., Manager*	28	25	42	6	24	26	36	14	22	27	43	9	23	25	36	17	23	24	42	11
White Collar	29	27	31	14	27	24	35	14	26	20	43	12	31	23	33	13	33	21	32	14
Blue Collar																				
Total	25	30	35	11	35	25	21	19	30	24	30	17	35	21	23	21	36	22	22	20
Skilled	19	32	37	13	32	28	23	17	27	25	32	15	36	24	24	17	34	21	25	20
Semi/Unskilled	29	28	33	10	38	22	20	20	31	23	27	18	35	18	22	25	38	22	19	20
Retired	—	—	—	—	43	12	18	27	35	16	25	24	45	12	19	24	45	15	17	22

Nielsen Markets																				
A	--	--	--	--	36	21	23	20	30	16	37	17	39	18	25	18	36	18	25	20
B	--	--	--	--	34	18	31	17	31	23	31	15	34	20	27	19	36	19	30	15
C	--	--	--	--	28	26	27	18	29	22	35	15	32	21	28	19	35	23	25	17
D	--	--	--	--	31	26	21	22	21	31	30	18	31	21	24	24	34	24	22	20
Household Income																				
Under \$7K	34	24	25	17	45	15	15	25	37	15	21	26	47	16	15	22	41	20	15	23
\$7-9.9K*	34	24	31	11	41	20	21	18	32	18	33	17	35	14	28	23	38	21	24	17
\$10-14.9K*	35	23	27	15	34	24	26	16	30	22	34	15	37	22	21	20	35	23	26	16
\$15-24.9K*	28	22	35	15	29	26	27	18	24	28	37	10	28	21	35	16	32	19	33	17
\$25K Plus	24	29	39	9	24	24	38	14	22	23	44	12	23	26	35	15	27	18	48	8
\$25-29.9K	24	36	35	6	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
\$30-34.9K	24	25	37	14	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
\$35K+	24	26	43	7	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Region																				
Northeast*	38	19	27	16	36	17	26	21	38	16	30	16	41	16	26	18	39	16	26	19
North-Central*	28	26	37	9	33	24	24	19	25	18	40	17	30	20	32	18	37	19	27	16
South*	30	24	32	15	34	21	27	19	31	26	27	16	36	18	21	25	34	24	22	20
West*	22	30	34	15	30	27	25	18	18	27	40	15	32	28	27	13	31	22	29	17
Rural*																				
Suburb	--	--	--	--	30	22	29	19	27	21	40	12	31	20	31	18	34	20	28	17
City																				
Total	--	--	--	--	35	22	24	19	33	18	32	16	38	20	24	18	38	20	25	17
One Family*	--	--	--	--	32	22	26	20	30	18	35	16	25	21	26	18	36	18	29	17
Multifamily*	--	--	--	--	40	22	21	17	39	19	25	16	46	18	19	18	42	22	18	18
Race																				
White*	28	24	34	15	32	23	26	19	26	22	36	15	33	20	28	18	35	21	27	18
Nonwhite*	42	28	25	5	42	18	18	22	46	18	13	22	44	18	9	29	42	18	18	21
No Child*																				
With Children	30	23	33	15	34	21	24	21	29	21	33	17	35	16	26	23	39	18	23	19
Total																				
12-17*	30	26	33	12	32	24	28	16	29	23	34	14	34	23	27	17	31	23	29	17
Under 12	29	27	34	10	30	22	31	17	30	23	33	14	37	21	27	15	32	22	29	16
6-11	30	26	34	11	32	23	30	15	27	23	36	14	28	24	28	19	32	23	27	17
Under 6	--	--	--	--	33	24	28	15	30	24	36	9	33	24	24	19	29	25	29	17
Under 6	--	--	--	--	31	22	28	19	25	22	37	15	33	19	28	19	35	18	29	18
Own Home*																				
Rent Home*	28	23	36	13	39	21	21	19	36	20	26	18	39	20	21	20	38	25	19	18
34	27	26	13	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Nonmetro—Rural																				
Urban	23	29	26	23	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
27	25	39	10	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Metro—50,000-999,999																				
1,000,000 and over	30	26	30	15	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
33	22	34	11	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

*Comparable category in 1976-72 surveys.

Table 3
1972-76

**From Which Level of Government Do You Feel You Get the Most for Your Money
—Federal, State, or Local?**
(in percent)

	1. Federal				2. State				3. Local				4. Don't Know							
	March 1976				May 1975				April 1974				May 1973				March 1972			
	1.	2.	3.	4.	1.	2.	3.	4.	1.	2.	3.	4.	1.	2.	3.	4.	1.	2.	3.	4.
Total Public	36	20	25	19	38	20	25	17	29	24	28	19	35	18	25	22	39	18	26	17
Male	39	19	26	17	40	21	26	13	34	23	28	15	37	20	26	17	43	17	28	12
Female	33	21	24	22	36	21	23	20	25	26	27	22	33	17	24	26	37	18	24	21
18—29 Years of Age	36	26	25	13	38	26	24	12	30	27	27	16	38	21	23	18	40	23	24	13
30—39	31	23	30	16	36	22	28	14	23	24	32	21	33	20	26	21	41	19	23	17
40—49	33	22	28	19	40	18	27	15	31	23	30	16	35	20	26	19	39	15	30	16
50—59	32	17	24	27	40	18	29	13	31	24	28	17	31	17	31	21	35	16	32	17
60 Years and Over	43	12	19	26	38	16	18	28	30	21	24	25	37	14	19	30	41	14	22	23
Less Than High School Grad	43	16	16	26	41	16	19	24	31	22	20	27	37	16	19	28	38	17	23	22
High School Grad	33	24	26	17	37	22	27	14	27	27	31	15	35	20	27	18	41	19	27	13
Some College	31	21	36	13	37	22	29	12	29	24	35	12	34	21	30	15	38	19	30	13
Professional	27	27	34	13	35	24	31	10	22	28	34	16	30	22	37	11	43	19	25	13
Managerial	29	17	40	14	37	21	31	11	29	24	34	13	34	19	30	17	34	22	32	12
Clerical, Sales	32	27	25	16	43	21	25	11	25	28	31	16	34	17	28	21	41	18	26	15
Craftsman, Foreman	35	25	22	18	35	20	30	15	28	25	29	18	33	21	27	19	37	21	26	16
Other Manual, Service	37	17	22	24	41	21	19	19	33	21	25	21	37	18	22	23	41	15	25	19
Farmer, Farm Laborer	30	27	29	21	35	26	26	13	18	22	27	33	23	28	20	29	40	14	27	19

Rural	34	21	30	16	37	21	24	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Old Suburb	33	24	24	20	38	21	25	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
New Suburb	24	24	34	18	36	24	31	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
City																				
One Family	40	18	25	17	38	22	25	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Multifamily	30	26	20	24	49	13	20	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Apartment	46	13	17	24	35	17	25	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Nonmetro – Rural	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	26	25	25	24	35	20	21	24	33	20	26	21
– Urban	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	28	27	29	16	35	19	28	18	37	20	27	16
Metro – 50,000-999,999	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	26	26	27	21	34	18	26	22	37	20	29	14
– 1,000,000 or Over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	32	22	28	18	37	18	23	22	44	15	23	18
Region																				
Northeast	36	18	24	24	42	16	24	18	28	22	25	25	34	16	28	22	43	12	24	21
North-Central	34	22	27	18	34	24	27	15	30	22	35	13	37	16	26	21	38	21	29	12
South	39	22	22	17	42	19	20	19	29	27	22	22	37	19	21	23	36	19	27	18
West	34	17	31	18	34	23	29	14	28	27	28	17	30	25	26	19	42	21	21	16
Household Income																				
Under \$5K	42	17	19	24	37	19	17	27	32	26	21	21	37	15	16	32	42	18	19	21
\$5-6.9K	50	13	13	24	43	14	22	21	34	20	29	17	38	20	18	24	48	17	19	16
\$7-9.9K	34	19	26	21	41	20	26	13	27	23	24	26	35	18	23	24	37	19	29	15
\$10-14.9K	34	24	22	20	37	22	26	15	25	28	30	17	35	22	29	14	36	16	31	17
\$15K Plus	30	23	35	13	37	23	31	9	29	22	35	14	33	18	33	16	39	20	29	12
Race																				
White	35	21	27	17	37	21	25	17	28	24	30	18	35	19	27	19	38	19	26	17
Nonwhite	46	11	10	33	44	18	20	18	34	24	11	31	40	16	11	33	52	10	20	18
No Children																				
Under 18	38	19	23	21	39	19	22	20	29	23	27	21	35	18	23	24	39	17	25	19
12-17	34	22	27	18	37	23	27	13	29	26	28	17	35	19	26	20	40	19	26	15
12-17	32	21	28	19	38	22	27	13	31	22	28	19	35	18	25	22	38	18	28	16
Own Home	34	21	27	19	39	21	24	16	29	24	30	17	34	17	28	21	38	18	28	16
Rent Home	41	19	19	21	37	20	24	19	30	24	23	23	36	22	19	23	43	19	20	18

Table 4
1982-86*

Which Do You Think is the Worst Tax, That is the Least Fair?

(in percent)

	1. Federal Income Tax					2. State Income Tax					3. State Sales Tax					4. Local Property Tax					5. Don't Know/No Answer				
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
Total Public	37	8	17	28	10	38	10	16	24	12	36	10	15	29	10	35	11	13	26	15	36	11	14	30	9
Male	36	8	17	30	9	36	11	17	26	10	36	9	15	32	8	35	12	14	27	13	36	12	16	29	7
Female	38	8	16	26	12	39	9	16	22	14	35	11	16	26	12	36	11	11	25	17	35	10	13	31	11
Head of Household	37	8	16	28	11	38	9	17	23	13	35	11	15	29	10	38	11	12	26	14	36	11	13	30	10
Male Head	39	7	16	30	8	36	11	16	26	11	35	10	14	33	8	37	11	13	27	12	37	12	14	29	8
Female Head	38	7	16	26	13	40	8	17	21	14	34	12	16	27	11	38	10	12	25	16	35	9	13	31	12
Under 35 Years of Age	34	8	20	31	7	39	9	17	24	11	36	11	15	29	9	33	15	13	25	14	39	11	15	29	6
18-24	21	12	23	34	10	33	10	17	29	11	33	8	15	33	11	26	14	14	27	19	36	13	18	27	6
25-34	43	5	17	30	5	43	9	17	19	12	38	13	15	27	7	40	16	12	23	11	41	10	12	30	7
35-44	47	4	18	22	9	44	10	17	22	7	36	13	14	29	8	38	10	16	25	11	31	12	16	33	8
45-65	37	9	15	28	11	37	10	17	24	12	38	10	17	25	10	40	10	11	26	13	36	12	11	30	11
Over 65	31	9	12	28	20	29	9	14	26	22	29	6	17	32	16	27	6	11	32	23	31	5	17	33	14
High School Incomplete	25	7	20	32	16	27	10	17	32	14	28	6	18	29	19	29	9	14	27	22	28	8	16	32	16
High School Graduate	36	7	16	30	11	40	9	17	21	13	38	10	14	32	6	38	12	12	27	12	38	12	13	32	5
College Incomplete	48	8	13	24	7	43	9	13	25	10	40	10	13	25	12	36	14	14	22	14	36	13	17	25	9
College Graduate	41	9	17	24	9	43	10	18	20	9	35	16	18	25	6	41	13	10	27	9	45	8	12	29	6
Household Income																									
Under \$15K	33	5	20	27	15	28	10	17	28	17	32	8	18	31	11	30	10	14	25	21	30	9	17	32	12
\$15-24.9K	31	10	13	36	10	41	10	15	21	13	37	11	14	28	10	39	12	12	27	10	36	12	14	31	7
\$25K+	44	8	16	24	8	43	10	17	22	8	38	12	14	28	8	42	13	11	28	7	41	12	11	30	6
\$25-29.9K	45	5	16	25	9	45	7	13	25	10	29	14	17	29	11	37	9	14	30	10	39 ^a	12 ^a	12 ^a	31 ^a	6 ^a
\$30-39.9K	42	9	18	23	8	42	12	17	21	8	40	9	12	33	6	39	19	9	27	6	44 ^b	11 ^b	10 ^b	28 ^b	7 ^b
\$40K+	44	8	15	25	8	44	9	19	22	6	42	13	14	24	7	48	10	11	26	6	—	—	—	—	—
Own	39	8	13	30	10	38	10	15	25	12	36	10	14	30	10	37	11	11	29	11	37	9	13	33	8
Rent	35	5	23	25	12	37	9	19	22	13	36	12	18	25	9	30	13	16	19	22	33	13	17	24	13
White	37	8	17	28	10	38	10	17	23	12	35	11	14	30	10	37	11	12	27	14	36	11	15	29	9
Nonwhite	38	5	15	30	12	33	9	15	27	16	36	7	23	23	11	28	15	16	21	20	33	11	11	34	11
Employed	39	8	18	28	7	42	9	16	23	10	38	11	15	29	7	38	13	12	27	11	38	12	13	30	7
Employed Female	39	8	18	27	8	46	8	15	21	10	39	13	16	24	8	39	13	9	28	10	36	11	13	32	8
Not Employed	33	7	16	29	15	31	11	17	24	17	31	9	17	29	14	32	10	13	26	19	35	9	15	30	11
Not Employed Female	35	6	16	27	16	32	9	17	23	19	31	9	16	28	16	33	10	12	24	21	35	8	15	31	11
Prof., Manager, Clerical	37	6	16	31	10	45	9	17	21	8	35	11	15	26	13	40	14	11	30	5	48	13	14	20	5
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	37	11	13	37	2	47	7	16	20	10	41	8	22	19	10	33	16	13	26	13	37	15	10	30	8
Blue Collar	38	7	21	25	9	37	11	16	27	9	42	10	16	25	7	36	11	12	27	13	32	11	12	36	9
Retired	36	7	15	24	18	29	13	17	23	18	27	6	8	37	22	28	8	14	30	21	29	8	18	32	13
Married	38	7	16	28	11	39	10	17	23	11	35	11	14	30	10	39	11	13	26	11	39	10	12	31	8
Not Married	34	8	18	29	11	34	10	16	24	16	36	9	18	27	10	29	12	12	26	21	29	11	18	30	12
Household Size																									
1-2 People	38	7	15	29	11	34	10	15	23	18	37	10	16	27	10	35	11	12	25	17	35	11	14	29	11
3-4 People	35	6	23	28	8	39	8	19	26	8	36	10	13	32	9	39	13	11	28	11	38	9	15	30	8
5+ People	17	22	33	17	11	42	13	15	19	11	33	9	21	25	12	30	11	17	26	17	32	13	14	33	8
Children in Household																									
Children under 18	36	8	20	28	8	43	10	17	21	9	32	9	16	32	11	35	13	14	27	12	36	9	15	31	9
No Children	38	8	15	26	13	33	10	16	25	16	39	11	15	26	9	35	10	12	25	17	35	11	14	30	10
Northeast	31	9	22	27	11	32	10	22	22	14	27	13	24	28	8	29	17	15	23	16	37	11	16	24	12
North-Central	37	8	14	34	7	34	9	15	33	9	32	7	12	39	10	34	15	10	29	12	32	11	12	37	8
South	36	6	16	28	14	42	9	14	21	14	39	10	13	27	11	36	6	12	28	17	38	10	10	33	9
West	44	9	16	22	9	39	13	17	18	13	44	12	14	20	10	43	8	14	21	14	34	12	24	22	8
Nonmetro	34	5	18	30	13	37	10	13	27	13	38	7	11	32	12	39	8	12	27	14	34	13	14	29	10
Metro—50,000 and Over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	36	9	15	31	9
Fringe	39	10	16	25	10	41	10	19	18	12	37	13	15	27	8	33	13	13	30	11	—	—	—	—	—
Central City	38	8	16	30	8	34	9	18	26	13	31	11	21	28	9	32	14	13	22	19	—	—	—	—	—

^a \$25-34.9K

^b \$35K+

* 1972-81 data appear in Tables 5 and 6.

Table 5
1977-81

Which Do You Think is the Worst Tax – That is, the Least Fair?
(in percent)

	1. Federal Income Tax					3. State Sales Tax					5. Don't Know														
	2. State Income Tax					4. Local Property Tax																			
	September 1981					May 1980					May 1979					May 1978					May 1977				
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
Total Public	36	9	14	33	9	36	10	19	25	10	37	8	15	27	13	30	11	18	32	10	28	11	17	33	11
18-29 Years of Age	36	7	13	35	8	37	10	22	24	7	42	7	16	25	9	29	10	19	32	10	29	10	18	35	9
30-44	42	9	18	25	6	40	10	17	24	9	42	9	11	26	13	31	14	21	29	5	34	15	16	29	6
45-59	36	7	13	39	6	39	12	18	22	9	36	12	15	27	9	35	11	16	32	9	32	11	14	33	10
60 Years and Over	28	11	14	33	15	29	11	16	29	15	24	6	16	33	21	24	7	17	36	18	18	7	20	34	20
Male																									
Total	38	9	13	34	7	38	11	19	24	8	39	9	14	26	12	31	13	17	32	8	28	11	18	36	7
18-29 Years of Age	44	7	10	32	7	41	10	21	23	5	48	6	15	23	8	30	12	16	33	9	29	10	18	40	3
30-44	39	8	18	27	8	37	10	19	21	13	38	9	11	29	13	32	15	19	29	4	32	16	15	33	4
45-59	36	9	10	40	6	39	11	17	26	7	35	16	15	24	10	34	13	16	35	6	29	11	15	38	7
60 Years and Over	29	11	14	40	7	32	12	18	29	9	30	4	15	31	20	26	11	19	33	12	21	9	23	31	16
Female																									
Total	34	9	16	32	10	35	11	18	25	11	35	8	15	28	14	29	9	19	32	12	29	10	17	30	14
18-29 Years of Age	29	7	16	39	10	34	10	24	24	8	37	8	17	26	11	27	8	22	32	11	28	9	19	30	14
30-44	44	10	19	23	4	42	10	15	27	6	45	8	11	23	13	31	13	22	29	5	35	15	18	26	7
45-59	37	6	15	37	5	38	12	20	19	11	38	8	16	30	9	36	9	17	29	11	34	10	14	28	14
60 Years and Over	27	11	13	28	21	27	10	15	28	20	20	8	17	34	21	22	4	15	37	22	15	4	17	38	26
Employed	38	11	17	29	5	38	11	19	26	6	47	7	14	22	9	32	8	22	31	8	31	10	19	30	10
Housewife	31	7	15	34	14	37	11	17	25	10	31	10	16	30	13	30	9	14	35	13	29	13	17	27	13
High School Grad or Less																									
Total	34	7	14	35	9	35	10	19	25	11	34	8	15	28	15	26	12	20	31	12	26	11	19	31	13
Less Than Grad	30	7	17	35	12	30	10	17	27	16	27	8	17	28	20	19	10	21	33	16	23	11	20	29	17
High School Grad	37	8	12	36	7	40	11	20	22	7	40	8	14	29	10	31	13	19	30	9	29	11	17	33	10
College																									
Total	—	—	—	—	—	40	11	18	24	7	45	9	13	24	8	39	8	14	34	5	33	10	15	35	6
Some	38	11	12	31	8	42	10	18	24	6	48	10	11	24	7	36	8	14	36	6	33	12	14	35	6
Grad	42	12	18	22	5	37	12	18	24	9	41	9	17	23	10	43	9	14	32	5	34	8	16	36	7
Executive, Prof., Manager	38	9	14	34	4	42	10	17	24	7	45	10	13	26	7	39	13	15	29	6	29	8	14	42	6
White Collar	40	9	13	35	3	39	11	19	24	7	41	11	13	26	9	35	11	16	30	8	34	13	14	32	7

Total	42	8	17	27	6	40	10	17	23	10	37	8	15	25	14	28	11	21	32	10	30	11	19	31	10
Skilled	43	12	13	24	8	41	12	17	23	7	40	8	17	28	8	34	14	17	28	7	31	13	16	33	7
Semi/Unskilled	42	6	19	29	4	39	9	18	23	11	35	9	14	23	20	23	9	23	35	12	28	10	21	29	12
Retired	-	-	-	-	-	26	11	20	28	15	25	6	18	32	19	22	8	17	38	15	19	9	21	33	18
Nielsen Markets																									
A	-	-	-	-	-	34	12	21	23	10	40	10	16	23	10	26	15	18	32	9	25	13	16	34	11
B	-	-	-	-	-	32	11	24	23	10	37	7	15	28	13	31	10	19	31	9	31	9	17	33	9
C	-	-	-	-	-	43	9	12	28	8	28	11	13	34	13	30	8	16	35	12	28	10	18	35	10
D	-	-	-	-	-	41	8	13	26	12	40	5	11	26	18	35	4	20	30	13	31	9	20	25	15
Household Income																									
Under \$7K	30	5	12	40	13	25	8	23	27	17	26	5	21	26	22	22	7	20	32	19	22	8	21	30	18
\$7-9.9K	24	11	18	37	11	31	7	20	28	14	28	8	17	28	19	26	11	25	27	10	28	11	19	30	12
\$10-14.9K	38	11	10	33	9	47	11	13	23	6	36	12	10	32	10	26	14	18	36	8	31	10	18	37	4
\$15-24.9K	42	9	14	29	7	39	12	20	22	7	42	8	14	28	8	34	10	16	36	6	33	13	14	32	8
\$25K Plus	38	8	17	32	5	40	12	17	25	6	47	11	11	24	7	43	13	16	25	5	31	13	14	38	3
\$25-29.9K	43	5	14	33	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
\$30-34.9K	34	8	19	35	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
\$35K and over	37	10	19	28	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region																									
Northeast	24	12	22	39	3	31	13	25	22	9	27	10	24	29	10	25	18	21	27	9	20	17	23	28	13
North-Central	33	7	13	38	10	37	9	17	28	9	38	10	11	30	11	34	11	15	35	7	32	9	15	37	8
South	43	8	11	27	11	39	11	15	24	11	38	6	13	25	17	33	6	19	27	17	33	10	17	25	14
West	40	8	14	30	9	37	9	19	25	10	45	9	11	24	11	23	11	19	44	5	25	7	15	45	7
Rural	-	-	-	-	-	40	10	12	26	12	34	9	8	34	16	28	9	17	34	13	27	10	17	36	10
Suburb	-	-	-	-	-	38	10	17	27	8	40	9	15	23	13	33	9	18	32	9	27	11	15	35	11
City	-	-	-	-	-	34	11	22	23	10	36	8	17	27	12	27	13	19	31	10	30	10	20	29	11
Total	-	-	-	-	-	34	12	21	24	9	37	7	13	31	11	30	13	14	34	9	29	10	20	31	10
One Family	-	-	-	-	-	33	10	25	20	12	34	9	26	17	14	21	13	28	25	12	31	12	18	25	14
Multifamily	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Race																									
White	36	9	15	33	8	37	11	18	25	9	38	8	14	28	11	32	10	17	33	9	28	11	17	34	10
Nonwhite	33	9	13	31	15	31	8	21	24	16	30	9	17	19	25	16	13	27	23	23	27	10	20	23	20
No Child	33	9	14	35	9	35	10	19	25	11	34	9	15	29	13	26	11	17	34	13	26	9	17	34	14
With Children																									
Total	39	7	15	30	8	39	11	18	24	8	41	8	13	26	12	33	11	19	30	7	31	11	18	32	8
12-17	41	8	18	25	7	34	13	19	26	8	40	10	13	27	11	35	11	18	29	7	31	13	18	31	8
Under 12	41	7	15	29	9	42	10	21	20	7	43	8	12	23	15	31	10	19	31	8	32	13	18	30	7
Under 6	-	-	-	-	-	42	10	16	23	9	42	7	14	28	9	31	11	21	30	7	29	10	17	34	9
Own Home	36	9	13	33	8	37	11	17	27	8	37	9	12	30	11	32	11	16	34	9	27	10	17	36	10
Rent Home	36	7	17	32	9	35	10	23	20	12	36	6	20	20	18	24	11	24	26	14	30	12	18	26	14
Non metro—Rural	29	6	13	38	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Urban	34	9	20	30	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Metro—50,000-999,000	38	10	15	30	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1,000,000 and over	38	8	12	34	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 6
1972-75

Which Do You Think is the Worst Tax – That is, the Least Fair?
(in percent)

	1. Federal Income Tax					3. State Sales Tax					5. Don't Know									
	2. State Income Tax					4. Local Property Tax														
	May 1975					April 1974					May 1973					March 1972				
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
Total Public	28	11	23	29	10	30	10	20	28	14	30	10	20	31	11	19	13	13	45	11
Male	30	12	22	29	9	29	9	23	31	10	30	9	19	34	9	19	11	15	44	11
Female	26	11	24	29	12	30	10	17	26	19	30	11	20	28	12	18	14	12	45	12
18-29 Years of Age	33	12	25	26	5	31	8	21	29	13	31	12	21	28	9	22	13	15	41	9
30-39	28	14	23	29	8	30	11	18	29	13	33	9	19	31	8	22	16	15	40	10
40-49	29	12	19	33	9	35	10	21	28	7	29	11	19	32	11	19	12	12	46	11
50-59	26	12	22	30	11	31	13	17	30	14	36	12	16	29	8	17	14	14	45	11
60 Years and Over	22	9	25	29	20	24	8	21	26	23	21	7	22	34	17	13	9	10	51	17
Less Than Grad	24	10	26	28	16	26	8	22	25	22	27	7	21	30	15	17	11	13	43	16
High School Grad	29	12	20	32	9	34	12	16	30	11	34	12	19	29	8	21	14	12	46	8
Some College	33	12	23	27	6	32	9	22	31	7	28	13	18	34	7	19	13	17	45	8
Professional	29	13	19	30	9	33	14	21	27	10	29	11	20	35	5	13	16	17	48	9
Managerial	35	11	20	31	5	37	10	16	29	12	37	11	16	31	5	25	12	16	41	6
Clerical, Sales	28	12	22	31	7	33	8	16	32	11	32	15	15	30	8	23	13	13	42	9
Craftsman, Foreman	27	13	21	31	10	34	12	19	26	9	34	12	14	32	9	21	15	15	41	9
Other Manual, Service	31	13	26	27	6	26	10	19	31	15	32	10	24	27	10	20	13	11	43	14
Farmer, Farm Laborer	22	4	36	22	16	27	4	27	11	31	27	9	14	27	23	16	13	5	51	16

Rural	28	9	26	28	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Old Suburb	29	15	22	27	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
New Suburb	24	10	19	34	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
City																				
One Family	29	11	19	35	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Multifamily	21	10	33	29	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Apartment	33	12	25	20	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Nonmetro – Rural	—	—	—	—	—	26	8	26	18	23	32	6	17	30	15	26	9	6	41	19
– Urban	—	—	—	—	—	41	7	19	25	8	31	10	20	31	9	25	7	15	41	12
Metro – 50,000-999,999	—	—	—	—	—	30	10	17	30	15	28	13	22	28	10	18	15	14	47	7
– 1,000,000 or Over	—	—	—	—	—	27	10	21	31	14	31	9	19	33	10	15	13	14	45	13
Region																				
Northeast	21	15	27	30	10	29	11	21	29	17	29	12	23	28	9	13	16	20	38	13
North-Central	26	14	21	34	7	32	12	20	27	9	27	9	20	36	10	16	11	9	56	10
South	33	6	22	25	14	29	9	19	23	19	30	11	20	25	14	26	12	13	34	16
West	31	12	23	27	10	29	4	19	38	11	35	8	13	36	8	18	12	11	54	5
Household Income																				
Under \$5K	25	9	25	25	19	22	7	24	26	22	23	5	22	28	21	16	9	13	48	15
\$5-6.9K	31	10	26	25	11	22	8	26	29	15	26	9	26	28	12	18	11	14	44	13
\$7-9.9K	25	14	27	24	10	30	8	18	30	16	35	12	19	29	8	21	15	13	41	12
\$10-14.9K	31	12	23	30	7	33	10	17	20	10	30	13	18	33	7	22	15	14	41	8
\$15K Plus	29	13	18	35	6	38	14	17	27	8	34	10	16	35	6	19	13	14	46	8
Race																				
White	28	12	22	31	10	31	10	20	29	12	30	11	19	31	10	20	12	13	45	11
Nonwhite	30	7	30	17	16	23	7	21	24	29	26	7	26	26	18	12	16	16	39	18
No Children																				
Under 18	28	10	24	27	12	29	9	20	28	17	28	9	20	32	12	18	11	12	46	13
12-17	28	13	21	31	8	31	10	19	29	12	32	11	19	29	10	19	14	15	43	10
12-17	28	12	20	34	9	30	10	21	28	12	31	11	20	28	10	19	15	13	45	10
Own Home	27	11	21	33	10	31	10	18	29	13	28	12	18	35	9	19	12	12	47	11
Rent Home	31	13	26	20	12	27	8	24	27	17	33	7	24	23	14	19	14	15	40	12

Table 7
1982-86*

Which of These Statements Comes Closest to Your View About Government Power Today?

(in percent)

1. The federal government has too much power.
2. The federal government is using about the right amount of power for meeting today's needs.
3. The federal government should use its powers more vigorously to promote the well being of all segments of the people.
4. Don't know.

	1986				1985				1984				1982			
	1.	2.	3.	4.	1.	2.	3.	4.	1.	2.	3.	4.	1.	2.	3.	4.
Total Public	28	24	41	7	31	27	36	6	35	25	34	6	38	18	30	14
Male	32	29	34	5	35	27	34	4	41	24	30	5	38	20	32	10
Female	24	20	48	8	28	27	38	7	30	25	37	8	39	16	29	16
Head of Household	28	24	41	7	32	26	36	6	36	23	34	7	39	17	30	14
Male Head	37	29	30	4	36	25	34	5	42	23	30	5	39	21	30	10
Female Head	25	19	47	9	28	27	38	7	31	23	38	8	39	14	29	18
Under 35 Years of Age	25	29	43	3	29	29	37	5	34	27	34	5	38	17	33	12
18-24	17	31	48	4	27	32	38	3	32	27	33	8	32	19	35	14
25-34	31	28	39	2	31	28	35	6	35	27	34	4	43	15	31	11
35-44	28	26	38	8	37	24	36	3	37	22	34	7	42	17	28	13
45-65	31	21	40	8	32	27	37	4	38	25	31	6	41	18	30	11
Over 65	31	16	42	11	28	25	33	14	32	20	37	11	29	20	29	22
High School Incomplete	24	20	44	12	28	24	38	10	32	19	37	12	28	16	35	21
High School Graduate	31	21	42	6	31	23	40	6	33	23	37	7	41	18	28	13
College Incomplete	29	22	46	3	30	35	33	2	41	29	27	3	42	17	30	11
College Graduate	26	39	30	5	38	32	28	2	38	32	28	2	47	22	27	4
Household Income																
Under \$15K	20	23	45	12	31	23	37	9	31	21	38	10	30	16	36	18
\$15-24.9K	26	20	49	5	28	28	39	5	36	25	34	5	36	21	30	13
\$25K+	31	28	37	4	34	29	35	2	39	28	29	4	49	18	24	9
\$25-29.9K	37	26	32	5	28	30	38	4	40	27	25	8	47 ^c	18 ^c	26 ^c	9 ^c
\$30-39.9K	25	30	42	3	35	27	35	3	40	26	32	2	51 ^d	18 ^d	22 ^d	9 ^d
\$40K+	34	28	34	4	34	31	34	1	38	29	31	2	—	—	—	—
Own	30	23	41	6	31	27	36	6	36	25	33	6	41	18	29	12
Rent	23	26	43	8	32	28	36	4	33	23	38	6	32	16	35	17
White	29	25	40	6	31	28	36	5	36	25	33	6	41	18	28	13
Nonwhite	22	18	52	8	30	20	39	11	29	20	41	10	21	15	45	19
Employed	28	27	40	5	33	27	37	3	37	27	31	5	39	19	31	11
Employed Female	20	22	53	5	29	26	41	4	30	29	36	5	40	16	29	15
Not Employed	29	21	42	8	29	27	35	9	32	20	38	10	39	16	31	14
Not Employed Female	28	17	44	11	27	28	35	10	29	20	39	12	39	15	32	14
Prof., Manager, Clerical	24	34	38	4	37	26	36	1	34	27	34	5	51	17	26	6
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	28	28	41	3	29	37	31	3	29	18	38	15	37	26	28	9
Blue Collar	29	20	45	6	30	24	42	4	33	23	38	6	34	16	34	16
Retired	35	19	38	8	28	27	35	10	36	22	29	13	33	17	30	20
Married	32	24	39	5	34	26	34	6	38	24	33	5	42	17	28	13
Not Married	21	24	46	9	25	28	40	7	31	26	34	9	31	19	34	16
Household Size																
1-2 People	30	24	39	7	31	27	35	7	37	20	36	7	37	19	30	14
3-4 People	22	24	50	4	32	26	38	4	35	26	33	6	37	17	30	16
5+ People	26	24	43	7	32	30	33	5	32	31	32	5	44	13	34	9
Children in Household																
Children under 18	29	26	40	5	33	25	38	4	33	27	34	6	42	15	28	15
No Children	28	23	42	7	28	29	36	7	37	23	33	7	41	14	35	10
Northeast	21	27	45	7	21	29	44	6	26	22	44	8	42	18	30	10
North-Central	26	20	48	6	31	27	36	6	39	24	30	7	36	21	32	11
South	32	28	34	6	37	25	32	6	37	24	32	7	35	16	30	19
West	32	20	42	6	34	28	34	4	36	28	31	5	41	16	29	14
Nonmetro	31	23	39	7	32	25	37	6	39	25	29	7	37	16	31	16
Metro—50,000 and over																
Fringe	27	22	45	6	30	27	40	3	33	25	35	7	41 ^a	16 ^a	29 ^a	14 ^a
Central City	23	30	40	7	33	30	29	8	33	24	37	6	37 ^b	20 ^b	32 ^b	11 ^b

^aMetro—50,000-999,999

^c\$25-34.9K

*1978 data appear in Table 8.

^bMetro—1,000,000 and over

^d\$35K+

Table 8
May 1978

**Which of These Statements Comes Closest to Your View
About Government Power Today?**

(in percent)

1. Federal government has too much power.
2. Federal government is using about the right amount of power for meeting today's needs.
3. Federal government should use its powers more vigorously to promote the well being of all segments of the people.
4. No Opinion.

	1.	2.	3.	4.		1.	2.	3.	4.
Total Public	38	18	36	8	Total Public	38	18	36	8
18-29 Years of Age	32	20	42	6	Nielsen Markets				
30-44	44	17	35	4	A	33	19	41	6
45-59	43	17	33	7	B	36	20	35	8
60 Years and Over	33	18	33	16	C	45	14	32	8
Male					D	41	16	31	12
Total	38	19	37	6	Household Income				
18-29 Years of Age	34	21	39	6	Under \$7K	27	16	42	15
30-44	46	15	38	1	\$7-9.9K	32	19	37	12
45-59	39	20	35	5	\$10-14.9K	39	20	34	7
60 Years and Over	35	19	33	13	\$15-24.9K	46	15	36	4
Female					\$25K Plus	46	21	31	2
Total	37	17	36	10	Region				
18-29 Years of Age	31	18	45	6	Northeast	27	17	47	9
30-44	42	18	33	7	North-Central	41	23	31	5
45-59	47	13	31	9	South	40	16	33	11
60 Years and Over	31	17	32	19	West	42	15	37	6
Employed	41	15	38	6	Rural	38	18	33	10
Housewife	37	17	34	12	Suburb	40	18	35	7
High School Grad or Less					City				
Total	34	17	38	10	Total	36	18	39	8
Less Than Grad	28	15	41	16	One Family	41	16	35	7
Grad	40	18	37	5	Multifamily	23	21	47	9
College					Race				
Total	46	20	31	3	White	39	17	36	7
Some	43	21	33	3	Nonwhite	24	23	36	16
Grad	51	18	28	4	No Child	36	18	35	11
Executive, Prof., Manager	48	20	30	2	With Children				
White Collar	42	17	35	6	Total	39	18	37	6
Blue Collar					12-17	44	15	36	5
Total	35	17	39	9	6-11	39	18	36	7
Skilled	38	15	41	6	Under 6	34	18	41	7
Semi/Unskilled	32	18	38	12	Own Home	41	18	33	8
Retired	31	20	37	12	Rent Home	29	18	44	9

Table 9
1984, 1986

If the Federal Government Decides to Reduce Spending to Keep it More in Line with Revenues, Which One of These Would You Prefer?

(in percent)

1. Cut defense spending.
2. Cut Social Security and Medicare.
3. Cut all federal programs *other than* defense and Social Security and Medicare. That would include federal programs such as farm supports, veterans benefits, welfare, education, and transportation aid.
4. All federal programs.
5. No federal programs.
6. Don't know/No answer.

	1986						1984					
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	1.	2.	3.	4.*	5.*	6.
Total Public	53	2	29	3	4	9	50	3	31	2	2	12
Male	51	2	31	3	4	9	49	2	35	3	1	10
Female	55	2	27	3	4	9	51	3	27	3	3	13
Head of Household	53	2	29	3	4	9	50	3	31	2	2	12
Male Head	49	2	32	3	4	10	48	3	36	2	1	10
Female Head	54	2	27	3	5	9	52	3	26	3	3	13
Under 35 Years of Age	61	3	24	1	4	7	53	3	30	2	1	11
18-24	68	3	16	1	5	7	52	2	29	2	1	14
25-34	57	2	29	1	3	8	55	3	30	2	1	9
47-44	47	2	31	2	5	13	48	5	33	1	2	11
45-65	48	2	34	5	5	6	51	2	28	5	2	12
Over 65	49	1	28	6	3	13	42	2	35	2	3	16
High School Incomplete	58	2	23	2	6	9	51	2	23	3	2	19
High School Graduate	53	1	28	2	5	11	48	2	34	2	2	12
College Incomplete	52	3	31	5	2	7	51	5	35	1	1	7
College Graduate	49	3	35	4	3	6	53	4	30	3	1	9
Household Income												
Under \$15K	56	2	24	2	4	12	55	1	24	3	2	15
\$15-24.9K	63	2	25	2	2	6	51	3	30	3	3	10
\$25K+	46	2	35	4	6	7	45	4	38	2	1	10
\$25-29.9K	55	—	28	3	4	10	47	5	33	2	1	12
\$30-39.9K	43	2	35	3	9	8	45	2	42	2	1	8
\$40K+	44	3	38	5	4	6	43	4	39	3	1	10
Own	51	2	31	4	3	9	47	3	33	3	2	12
Rent	54	2	26	2	7	9	57	3	25	2	1	12
White	51	2	30	3	5	9	47	3	33	3	2	12
Nonwhite	66	—	21	2	3	8	68	2	12	1	1	16
Employed	52	2	30	2	5	9	49	3	34	2	2	10
Employed Female	56	1	28	2	5	8	48	3	32	2	3	12
Not Employed	55	2	26	4	4	9	51	3	26	3	2	15
Not Employed Female	54	2	25	5	4	10	53	2	22	4	3	16
Prof., Manager, Clerical	47	3	37	4	4	5	50	2	34	1	2	11
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	60	4	24	1	3	8	42	4	30	4	2	18
Blue Collar	51	1	28	2	6	12	53	2	31	2	3	9
Retired	51	2	25	6	6	10	50	—	26	1	2	21
Married	50	2	33	3	4	8	48	3	34	2	2	11
Not Married	59	3	21	3	5	9	54	2	25	3	2	14
Household Size												
1-2 People	52	2	29	3	5	9	53	2	29	3	1	12
3-4 People	56	3	27	3	3	8	47	3	33	3	2	12
5+ People	63	—	29	2	2	4	52	3	30	1	2	12
Children in Household												
Children under 18	56	1	27	2	5	9	50	3	31	2	2	12
No Children	50	3	30	4	4	9	50	2	31	3	2	12
Northeast	57	3	23	2	3	12	53	6	22	2	2	15
North-Central	56	2	31	4	4	3	50	1	36	2	2	9
South	45	2	35	3	4	11	48	3	29	3	2	15
West	57	1	24	3	6	9	51	2	36	3	1	7
Nonmetro	50	1	33	3	4	9	48	2	36	2	2	10
Metro—50,000 and over												
Fringe	51	3	27	4	5	10	50	3	31	2	2	12
Central City	60	3	24	2	4	7	53	3	26	4	1	13

Table 10
1982, 1986*

**Considering All Government Services on the One Hand and Taxes on the Other
Which of the Following Statements Comes Closest to Your View?**

(in percent)

1. Decrease services and taxes.
2. Keep taxes and services about where they are.
3. Increase services and raise taxes.
4. No Opinion.

	1986				1982			
	1.	2.	3.	4.	1.	2.	3.	4.
Total Public	31	51	9	9	36	42	8	14
Male	34	51	9	6	37	40	8	15
Female	28	51	10	11	34	43	9	14
Head of Household	31	51	10	8	37	41	8	14
Male Head	34	51	10	5	40	40	7	13
Female Head	29	51	10	10	34	43	9	14
Under 35 Years of Age	31	52	8	9	33	43	10	14
18-24	33	50	4	13	31	42	9	18
25-34	29	53	10	8	34	43	11	12
35-44	29	55	11	5	37	46	8	9
45-65	36	46	10	8	37	42	8	13
Over 65	27	51	11	11	39	34	5	22
High School Incomplete	26	49	12	13	34	41	7	18
High School Graduate	32	54	5	9	35	43	8	14
College Incomplete	39	42	12	7	34	41	9	16
College Graduate	28	54	14	4	44	41	10	5
Household Income								
Under \$15K	25	56	8	11	—	—	—	—
\$15-24.9K	34	44	10	12	33	42	8	17
\$25K +	34	50	12	4	36	44	10	10
\$25-29.9K	22	61	7	10	39	41	7	13
\$30-39.9K	37	50	10	3	34	43	8	15
\$40K +	37	45	16	2	44	39	6	11
Own	32	51	10	7	38	43	6	13
Rent	28	51	8	13	32	39	13	16
White	32	50	10	8	37	41	8	14
Nonwhite	22	53	10	15	28	45	11	16
Employed	31	52	9	8	38	41	9	12
Employed Female	23	56	11	10	34	45	8	13
Not Employed	32	49	9	10	31	44	9	16
Not Employed Female	33	47	8	12	32	43	11	14
Prof., Manager, Clerical	32	47	16	5	43	41	11	5
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	31	54	8	7	36	39	8	17
Blue Collar	30	55	5	10	36	43	7	14
Retired	29	49	13	9	38	38	5	19
Married	33	50	10	7	38	43	7	12
Not Married	27	53	9	11	31	39	10	20
Household Size								
1-2 People	30	52	10	8	37	40	7	16
3-4 People	34	48	7	11	35	42	9	14
5+ People	40	45	9	6	36	44	9	11
Children in Household								
Children under 18	—	—	—	—	36	41	8	15
No Children	34	50	8	8	34	43	8	15
No Children	30	52	11	7	37	42	10	11
Northeast	26	58	6	10	36	42	7	15
North-Central	32	51	10	7	34	42	7	17
South	33	50	9	8	36	43	8	13
West	33	44	14	9	37	38	11	14
Nonmetro	35	48	10	7	37	43	7	13
Me'tro—50,000 and over								
Fringe	31	52	8	9	35	39	9	17
Central City	25	53	11	11	35	42	9	14

*1975-80 data appear in Table 11.

Executive, Prof., Manager	44	42	6	8	44	43	6	7	37	52	4	7	Professional	28	52	10	10	36	49	8	7		
White Collar	43	41	7	9	38	47	7	8	35	51	4	10	Managerial	38	46	5	11	44	45	5	6		
Blue Collar													Clerical, Sales	31	50	4	15	37	52	3	8		
Total	36	45	7	12	40	45	5	10	29	51	4	16	Craftsman, Foreman	32	50	4	14	42	43	4	11		
Skilled	39	42	8	11	41	46	7	7	27	56	4	13	Other Manual, Service	30	51	4	15	36	49	4	11		
Semi/Unskilled	33	48	6	13	40	44	3	13	30	47	4	19	Farmer, Farm Laborer	39	35	6	20	39	30	5	26		
Retired	35	51	4	10	37	47	5	11	29	56	2	13											
Nielsen Markets																							
A	34	46	8	12	39	47	5	10	29	54	4	14											
B	38	45	7	10	43	42	7	7	35	52	5	9											
C	41	49	2	8	36	46	5	13	31	54	1	14											
D	44	37	6	13	37	51	4	8	30	49	5	16											
Household Income																							
Under 7K	33	45	8	14	36	46	5	14	27	51	4	18	Under 5K	30	52	4	14	31	42	5	22		
7-9.9K	36	52	4	8	36	49	5	10	32	51	3	13	5-6.9K	25	54	1	20	39	44	3	14		
10-14.9K	37	44	7	12	39	46	4	10	31	58	2	9	7-9.9K	34	47	5	14	34	53	4	9		
15-24.9K	38	46	5	11	41	46	6	7	33	52	3	12	10-14.9K	28	52	4	16	39	48	5	8		
25K Plus	43	43	7	7	44	43	7	6	38	50	6	6	15K Plus	32	52	6	10	46	42	5	7		
Region																							
Northeast	35	46	8	11	39	43	10	9	33	48	3	15	Northeast	28	53	5	14	39	39	5	17		
North-Central	38	48	4	10	40	49	3	7	27	61	4	8	North-Central	28	50	5	17	39	47	4	10		
South	38	44	6	12	36	47	6	12	32	51	4	13	South	31	53	4	12	34	50	4	12		
West	42	42	7	9	45	42	3	18	33	46	3	18	West	37	46	5	12	43	42	5	10		
Rural	49	34	5	12	41	45	3	12	37	45	3	15	Rural	40	45	4	11	37	48	3	12		
Suburb	38	48	4	10	42	47	5	6	31	55	4	10	Old Suburb	32	53	5	10	37	50	4	9		
City													New Suburb	29	57	3	11	41	47	4	8		
Total	35	46	8	11	37	45	7	10	29	53	3	15											
One Family	37	48	5	10	38	46	6	10	30	55	3	12	One Family	27	53	4	16	42	44	4	10		
Multifamily	30	44	13	13	36	44	8	12	28	48	5	20	Multifamily	23	59	3	15	43	41	4	12		
													Apartment	29	50	8	13	31	40	9	20		
Race																							
White	40	45	6	9	41	46	5	8	33	53	3	11	White	31	51	5	13	39	46	3	12		
Nonwhite	27	45	10	18	30	44	7	20	22	49	6	23	Nonwhite	24	48	4	24	33	40	11	16		
No Child	37	46	6	11	38	49	5	9	30	54	3	13	No Child	28	54	5	13	36	44	5	15		
With Children																							
Total	40	43	7	10	40	44	6	9	32	50	4	13	Under 18	33	48	5	14	40	48	4	8		
12-17	37	47	8	8	37	49	5	9	33	52	4	11	12-17	37	44	5	14	44	46	2	8		
6-11	39	43	8	10	37	44	4	14	28	53	5	14											
Under 6	41	43	6	10	43	43	7	6	32	49	5	14											
Own Home	40	45	5	10	41	46	5	7	32	54	3	11	Own Home	32	51	4	13	41	46	3	10		
Rent Home	34	45	9	12	35	44	6	15	30	48	5	17	Rent Home	26	52	5	17	33	45	6	16		

*Surveys prior to 1977 had different subclassifications.

Table 12*
1986

**Suppose Your Local Government Must Raise More Revenue,
Which Do You Think Would Be the Way To Do It**

(in percent)

	1. Local income tax.	2. Local sales tax.	3. Local property tax.	4. Charges for specific services.	5. Don't know.
	1986				
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
Total Public	9	26	7	49	9
Male	9	28	7	50	6
Female	9	25	7	48	11
Head of Household	9	26	7	49	9
Male Head	8	29	7	50	6
Female Head	9	25	8	47	11
Under 35 Years of Age	9	23	8	55	5
18-24	12	21	6	55	6
25-34	8	23	9	55	5
35-44	6	25	10	51	8
45-65	10	30	5	46	9
Over 65	11	29	5	39	16
High School Incomplete	12	23	7	40	18
High School Graduate	9	25	7	53	6
College Incomplete	4	33	7	50	6
College Graduate	12	25	7	51	5
Household Income					
Under \$15K	11	20	9	43	17
\$15-24.9K	8	30	5	52	5
\$25K +	9	28	8	51	4
\$25-29.9K	5	32	9	45	9
\$30-39.9K	10	23	8	55	4
\$40K +	10	30	6	52	2
Own	9	29	6	48	8
Rent	7	22	9	51	11
White	9	27	7	49	8
Nonwhite	8	19	10	46	17
Employed	9	26	7	52	6
Employed Female	10	20	8	55	7
Not Employed	9	26	7	45	13
Not Employed Female	7	31	7	40	15
Prof., Manager, Clerical	10	26	5	54	5
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	10	23	6	56	5
Blue Collar	9	21	10	53	7
Retired	9	30	7	39	15
Married	8	27	7	50	8
Not Married	10	25	8	47	10
Household Size					
1-2 People	7	29	7	48	9
3-4 People	14	19	7	53	7
5 + People	18	15	2	60	5
Children in Household					
Children under 18	9	25	8	52	6
No Children	8	28	6	48	10
Northeast	9	17	11	54	9
North-Central	11	30	6	48	5
South	8	30	5	44	13
West	8	26	7	54	5
Nonmetro	12	27	4	46	11
Metro—50,000 and over					
Fringe	6	24	9	54	7
Central City	7	28	10	47	8

*1981 data appear in Table 13; similar data with different options for 1983 appear in Table 14.

Table 13
1983

**Suppose Your Local Government Must Raise More Revenue,
The Better Way to Do This Would Be—**

(in percent)

	Local Income Tax	Local Sales Tax	Local Property Tax	Don't Know
Total Public	12	45	19	24
Male	12	46	22	20
Female	12	44	17	28
Head of Household	12	45	20	23
Male Head	12	47	23	19
Female Head	12	44	17	27
Under 35 Years of Age	12	41	25	22
18-24	13	43	22	22
25-34	11	40	27	22
35-44	14	44	21	21
45-65	11	52	14	23
Over 65	12	38	15	35
High School Incomplete	14	38	13	35
High School Graduate	10	45	20	25
College Incomplete	9	50	28	13
College Graduate	15	54	22	10
Household Income				
Under \$15K	11	38	18	33
\$15-24.9K	13	46	22	19
\$25K+	11	55	20	14
\$25-29.9K	14	43	25	18
\$30-39.9K	11	56	18	15
\$40K+	9	64	18	9
Own	12	51	16	22
Rent	11	32	28	29
White	13	46	20	22
Nonwhite	8	41	16	35
Employed	12	46	23	19
Employed Female	14	44	21	21
Not Employed	12	43	16	29
Not Employed Female	11	43	15	32
Prof., Manager, Owner	14	48	27	12
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	13	45	22	21
Blue Collar	11	43	22	24
Retired	13	44	14	29
Married	12	48	18	22
Not Married	12	39	22	28
Household				
1-2 People	12	44	20	24
3-4 People	11	46	20	23
5+ People	12	45	17	26
Children in Household				
Children under 18	11	46	20	23
No Children	12	44	19	25
Northeast	17	33	21	29
North-Central	12	48	20	20
South	9	49	18	23
West	10	48	17	25
Nonmetro	10	48	20	23
Metro—50,000 and Over				
Fringe	13	43	23	21
Central City	13	42	16	28

Table 14
September 1981

Suppose Your Local Government Must Raise More Revenue, Which of These Do You Think Would be the Best Way to Do It?

	1. Local Income Tax	2. Local Sales Tax	3. Local Property Tax	4. Charges for Specific Services	5. Don't Know
Total Public	7	21	5	55	12
18-29 Years of Age	9	15	4	60	12
30-44	9	16	6	65	5
45-59	4	32	3	53	9
60 Years and Over	7	26	7	38	22
Male					
Total	10	24	6	51	9
18-29 Years of Age	12	17	4	60	8
30-44	13	17	7	57	7
45-59	5	39	5	46	5
60 Years and Over	8	28	9	35	20
Female					
Total	5	19	5	59	14
18-29 Years of Age	6	13	5	61	15
30-44	6	15	6	72	3
45-59	3	25	1	60	12
60 Years and Over	6	25	6	40	23
Employed	3	20	6	61	11
Housewife	6	18	4	57	15
High School Grad or Less					
Total	7	21	5	54	13
Less Than Grad	7	22	8	46	18
High School Grad	7	21	2	61	10

College	7	22	5	58	8
Some	10	19	8	56	7
Grad.					
Executive, Prof., Manager	7	22	4	59	9
White Collar	8	16	4	62	10
Blue Collar					
Total	6	26	7	53	8
Skilled	7	21	6	58	8
Semi/Unskilled	5	29	8	51	9
Household Income					
Under 7K	7	21	4	48	19
7-9.9K	4	32	7	48	11
10-14.9K	10	22	6	48	14
15-24.9K	9	23	4	56	9
25K Plus	6	16	5	65	8
25-29.9K	7	14	8	62	9
30-34.9K	4	16	4	69	6
35K+	7	17	4	64	8
Region					
Northeast	7	11	4	68	10
North-Central	9	25	5	53	9
South	7	23	6	50	16
West	7	26	5	53	9
Race					
White	7	22	5	55	11
Nonwhite	10	15	3	56	18
No Child	6	25	5	50	14
With Children					
Total	9	16	6	61	9
12-17	8	16	5	60	11
Under 12	10	14	6	64	6
Own Home	7	23	4	56	10
Rent Home	7	17	8	55	13
Non-Metro—Rural	8	28	5	44	16
Urban	6	24	3	58	9
Metro—50,000-999,999	5	19	6	60	11
1,000,000 and Over	10	19	6	54	12

Table 15
1986

**Which Statement Comes Closest To Your View On
Single Parents That Receive Welfare?**

(in percent)

1. Single parents should be required to work in a government program in order to continue receiving payments.
2. Single parents should be required to work in a government program only if the children can be placed in affordable day care or are in school.
3. Single parents should *not* be required to work in a government program in order to continue receiving payments.
4. Don't know.

	1986			
	1.	2.	3.	4.
Total Public	32	51	13	4
Male	34	49	14	3
Female	30	52	13	5
Head of Household	32	51	13	4
Male Head	36	48	12	4
Female Head	30	52	13	5
Under 35 Years of Age	24	54	19	3
18-24	23	53	21	3
25-34	25	55	18	2
35-44	30	52	14	4
30-65	40	48	7	5
Over 65	39	44	12	5
High School Incomplete	34	45	14	7
High School Graduate	32	53	12	3
College Incomplete	32	47	16	5
College Graduate	29	56	12	3

Household Income						
Under \$15K	30	48	15	7		
\$15-24.9K	36	52	10	3		
\$25K +	31	53	14	2		
\$25-29.9K	25	63	9	3		
\$30-39.9K	30	49	19	2		
\$40K +	35	51	12	2		
Own	37	48	12	3		
Rent	23	55	16	6		
White	33	50	13	4		
Nonwhite	25	55	17	3		
Employed	31	53	13	3		
Employed Female	31	55	12	2		
Not Employed	34	46	14	6		
Not Employed Female	29	50	14	7		
Prof., Manager, Clerical	32	56	10	2		
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	30	54	12	4		
Blue Collar	31	51	15	3		
Retired	42	43	9	6		
Married	35	48	14	3		
Not Married	27	55	13	5		
Household Size						
1-2 People	33	49	13	5		
3-4 People	31	53	14	2		
5+ People	17	70	11	2		
Children in Household						
Children under 18	27	56	14	3		
No Children	37	46	13	4		
Northeast	29	57	10	4		
North-Central	32	53	12	3		
South	34	47	15	4		
West	34	46	15	5		
Nonmetro	34	47	14	5		
Metro—50,000 and over						
Fringe	34	52	10	4		
Central City	26	54	17	3		

Table 16
1985

Which, if any, of the Following Programs Should the Federal Government Stop Providing Federal Financial Support For?

(in percent)

	1. Highways (Except the Interstate System)	2. Aid to Local Public Schools	3. Aid to Low-Income People, Including Food Stamps	4. Nursing Home Care for the elderly	5. Sewage Treatment Plants	6. Community and Economic Development	7. None of These	8. Don't Know
Total Public	13	10	14	8	17	18	56	6
Male	14	10	15	9	17	19	53	6
Female	13	9	13	7	16	18	58	6
Head of Household	13	10	14	8	17	19	56	6
Male Head	14	11	16	10	18	20	52	6
Female Head	12	9	13	7	16	18	59	6
Under 35 Years of Age	12	7	14	6	14	12	59	6
18-24	10	5	11	1	13	7	64	5
25-34	13	9	15	9	16	16	56	6
35-44	15	10	14	9	21	24	53	4
45-65	14	12	16	10	20	23	55	5
Over 65	13	13	13	8	12	19	52	13
High School Incomplete	12	8	12	6	11	14	58	10
High School Graduate	10	8	13	6	18	17	57	7
College Incomplete	14	11	17	8	16	18	56	3
College Graduate	19	16	18	15	23	28	52	1
Household Income								
Under \$15K	10	9	11	6	13	15	59	11
\$15-24.9K	16	9	14	7	17	19	57	4
\$25K+	15	11	18	10	19	22	53	3
\$25-29.9K	13	13	14	8	14	16	51	8
\$30-39.9K	13	7	17	7	19	21	56	2
\$40K+	18	14	20	13	22	25	53	2
Own	12	11	15	9	18	20	55	5
Rent	15	6	13	6	14	14	59	7
White	14	11	15	9	18	20	54	6
Nonwhite	9	5	9	4	10	9	68	8
Employed	13	9	14	8	16	17	57	5
Employed Female	14	9	12	6	14	17	60	5
Not Employed	12	11	14	8	18	20	55	8
Not Employed Female	11	10	14	7	19	19	56	8
Prof., Manager, Owner	15	14	16	13	21	22	59	2
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	14	7	14	3	16	17	54	3
Blue Collar	12	7	13	7	14	15	56	6
Retired	10	11	11	7	15	19	58	10
Married	13	10	16	9	18	21	54	5
Not Married	13	9	11	6	14	13	60	8
Household Size								
1-2 People	15	12	13	9	17	20	55	8
3-4 People	12	8	15	6	17	18	54	6
5+ People	11	9	14	10	17	14	62	4
Children in Household								
Children under 18	12	8	14	8	17	17	57	4
No Children	13	11	15	8	17	19	55	8
Northeast	11	6	9	5	12	15	67	6
North-Central	12	10	15	7	20	20	55	4
South	15	12	17	11	17	17	50	9
West	13	11	16	8	19	23	55	4
Nonmetro	10	10	17	6	17	18	54	6
Metro—50,000 and over								
Fringe	13	9	13	9	18	20	55	5
Central City	18	11	13	10	14	15	60	7

Table 17
1984

In the Next Fiscal Year, the Federal Government is Expected to Spend About 180 Billion Dollars More Than it Takes in. Which One of These Basic Ways of Reducing the Deficit Would You Most Prefer?

(in percent)

1. Mostly by cuts in spending.
2. Mostly by increases in taxes which would be earmarked for reducing the deficit.
3. About equally by cuts in spending and by tax increases.
4. Don't know/No answer.

	1.	2.	3.	4.
Total Public	51	7	33	9
Male	51	8	34	7
Female	51	6	32	11
Head of Household	52	7	32	9
Male Head	52	8	33	7
Female Head	52	6	32	10
Under 35 Years of Age	50	7	35	8
18-24	46	9	33	12
25-34	52	6	37	5
35-44	51	8	33	8
45-65	53	6	31	10
Over 65	51	8	29	12
High School Incomplete	50	8	24	18
High School Graduate	51	8	33	8
College Incomplete	51	6	37	6
College Graduate	51	6	40	3
Household Income				
Under \$15K	50	8	29	13
\$15-24.9K	54	6	31	9
\$25K+	51	6	38	5
\$25-29.9K	44	11	37	8
\$30-39.9K	55	4	37	4
\$40K+	53	4	40	3
Own	53	6	33	8
Rent	48	9	33	10
White	53	6	33	8
Nonwhite	38	14	33	15
Employed	52	8	33	7
Employed Female	52	8	33	7
Not Employed	49	6	32	13
Not Employed Female	50	4	30	16
Prof., Manager, Owner	46	5	41	8
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	60	4	26	10
Blue Collar	55	8	28	9
Retired	47	3	40	10
Married	52	7	34	7
Not Married	50	7	31	12
Household Size				
1-2 People	53	8	31	8
3-4 People	50	6	35	9
5+ People	50	8	32	10
Children in Household				
Children Under 18	49	6	35	10
No Children	53	8	31	8
Northeast	46	9	30	15
North-Central	56	6	31	7
South	50	6	34	10
West	52	8	36	4
Nonmetro	54	5	32	9
Metro—50,000 and Over				
Fringe	53	5	35	7
Central City	45	12	31	12

Would the Following Services Be More Efficiently Produced/Delivered (in percent)

	Parking Facilities			Street Maintenance		
	Private Companies	Local Government	Don't Know	Private Companies	Local Government	Don't Know
Total Public	42	48	10	21	73	6
Male	44	49	7	24	72	4
Female	41	46	13	18	74	8
Head of Household	42	48	10	22	72	6
Male Head	43	50	7	24	72	4
Female Head	41	46	13	19	73	8
Under 35 Years of Age	45	47	8	22	73	5
18-24	41	50	9	16	81	3
25-34	47	45	8	27	67	6
35-44	44	47	9	24	71	5
45-65	42	48	10	19	76	5
Over 65	34	50	16	17	71	12
High School Incomplete	37	50	13	16	74	10
High School Graduate	40	50	10	19	75	6
College Incomplete	48	44	8	23	73	4
College Graduate	50	45	5	29	69	2
Household Income						
Under \$15K	40	44	16	21	69	10
\$15-24.9K	45	47	8	19	77	4
\$25K +	43	52	5	23	74	3
\$25-29.9K	37	55	8	22	75	3
\$30-39.9K	42	53	5	21	73	6
\$40K +	47	49	4	25	73	2
Own	43	48	9	20	74	6
Rent	40	47	13	22	71	7
White	42	48	10	21	74	5
Nonwhite	45	43	12	19	70	11
Employed	43	49	8	23	73	4
Employed Female	40	49	11	21	74	5
Not Employed	41	45	14	17	73	10
Not Employed Female	42	43	15	15	74	11
Prof., Manager, Owner	44	52	4	27	71	2
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	40	51	9	19	79	2
Blue Collar	43	48	9	22	73	5
Retired	35	50	15	18	74	8
Married	43	49	8	22	73	5
Not Married	41	46	13	18	74	8
Household Size						
1-2 People	41	46	13	22	70	8
3-4 People	41	51	8	17	78	5
5+ People	47	46	7	26	69	5
Children in Household						
Children under 18	43	48	9	21	74	5
No Children	42	47	11	21	72	7
Northeast	38	52	10	24	70	6
North-Central	38	51	11	19	73	8
South	46	42	12	19	75	6
West	45	50	5	24	73	3
Nonmetro	40	49	11	23	71	6
Metro—50,000 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fringe	41	50	9	19	76	5
Central City	47	43	10	21	71	8

by Private Companies or Your Local Government?

Hospitals			Parks and Swimming Pools			Garbage Collection			Ambulance Service		
Private Companies	Local Government	Don't Know	Private Companies	Local Government	Don't Know	Private Companies	Local Government	Don't Know	Private Companies	Local Government	Don't Know
46	45	9	25	68	7	41	53	6	41	52	7
48	44	8	24	70	6	43	52	5	43	50	7
46	45	9	25	67	8	39	55	6	39	53	8
47	44	9	24	69	7	42	52	6	42	51	7
50	42	8	22	71	7	45	50	5	44	49	7
45	45	10	26	66	8	40	54	6	40	52	8
45	48	7	28	66	6	43	52	5	42	52	6
32	60	8	30	65	5	38	58	4	31	63	6
53	40	7	26	67	7	46	48	6	48	45	7
49	44	7	25	69	6	42	54	4	44	50	6
48	44	8	21	73	6	40	56	4	42	52	6
47	36	17	22	64	14	36	52	12	37	49	14
34	54	12	24	65	11	33	59	8	32	58	10
41	50	9	25	68	7	41	54	5	38	55	7
57	36	7	22	73	5	46	48	6	48	45	7
67	28	5	26	70	4	48	50	2	55	42	3
39	48	13	26	61	13	39	51	10	38	52	10
44	50	6	23	72	5	36	61	3	40	56	4
55	39	6	25	72	3	47	51	2	46	49	5
51	41	8	26	70	4	57	40	3	45	48	7
53	42	5	23	74	3	43	55	2	50	45	5
60	35	5	25	73	2	46	52	2	44	52	4
49	42	9	22	71	7	42	53	5	41	52	7
39	52	9	29	63	8	37	56	7	41	52	7
49	43	8	24	69	7	43	52	5	43	51	6
29	58	13	27	63	10	26	65	9	26	60	14
48	45	7	25	70	5	43	53	4	42	52	6
48	46	6	26	69	5	43	54	3	41	54	5
44	44	12	24	65	11	38	54	8	39	51	10
44	43	13	24	65	11	35	56	9	37	53	10
62	33	5	23	74	3	47	51	2	48	49	3
47	49	4	25	72	3	44	53	3	47	51	2
35	57	8	25	69	6	37	58	5	34	60	6
45	40	15	20	68	12	38	54	8	40	50	10
50	42	8	26	69	5	45	51	4	44	50	6
40	49	11	22	68	10	34	58	8	35	55	10
50	39	11	25	66	9	40	52	8	42	48	10
45	48	7	21	73	6	41	55	4	40	54	6
43	52	5	31	64	5	45	51	4	41	55	4
44	49	7	26	69	5	42	54	4	42	53	5
48	42	10	24	67	9	40	53	7	40	52	8
38	54	8	22	70	8	36	58	6	33	61	6
49	42	9	27	65	8	49	45	6	40	51	9
44	46	10	26	66	8	35	59	6	39	53	8
58	35	7	20	76	4	48	48	4	54	40	6
47	44	9	27	63	10	52	42	6	45	48	7
47	44	9	22	74	4	41	55	4	39	54	7
46	46	8	25	68	7	27	66	7	38	53	9

Table 19
1984

Suppose the Federal Government Must Raise Taxes Substantially, Which of These Do You Think Would be the Best Way to Do It?

(in percent)

1. Have a form of national sales tax on things other than food and similar necessities.
2. Raise individual income tax rates.
3. Raise money by reducing special tax treatment for capital gains and cutting tax deduction allowances for charitable contributions, state and local taxes, medical expenses, etc.
4. Don't know/No answer.

	1.	2.	3.	4.
Total Public	32	7	47	14
Male	34	7	47	12
Female	29	7	48	16
Head of Household	32	7	48	13
Male Head	35	7	47	11
Female Head	29	6	50	15
Under 35 Years of Age	30	8	49	13
18-24	30	8	45	17
25-34	30	8	52	10
35-44	34	6	48	12
45-65	29	6	49	16
Over 65	37	6	39	18
High School Incomplete	29	4	42	25
High School Graduate	33	6	47	14
College Incomplete	31	8	52	9
College Graduate	33	11	49	7
Household Income				
Under \$15K	30	6	45	19
\$15-24.9K	34	7	47	12
\$25K+	32	8	50	10
\$25-29.9K	26	11	51	12
\$30-39.9K	30	5	51	14
\$40K+	37	9	48	6
Own	31	6	47	16
Rent	30	9	48	13
White	33	7	47	13
Nonwhite	23	8	47	22
Employed	30	7	50	13
Employed Female	27	8	52	13
Not Employed	34	7	42	17
Not Employed Female	32	6	42	20
Prof., Manager, Owner	26	10	51	13
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	21	8	42	29
Blue Collar	27	9	51	13
Retired	38	5	37	20
Married	32	7	49	12
Not Married	30	7	44	19
Household Size				
1-2 People	35	6	45	14
3-4 People	30	6	50	14
5+ People	28	11	46	15
Children in Household				
Children under 18	29	7	50	14
No Children	34	7	44	15
Northeast	24	8	48	20
North-Central	33	7	48	12
South	33	6	45	16
West	36	6	49	9
Nonmetro	32	6	49	13
Metro—50,000 and Over				
Fringe	33	6	46	15
Central City	29	9	46	16

Table 20
1983

If the Federal Government Had to Raise Taxes Substantially, Which Would be a Better Way to Do It?

(in percent)

	Increasing Individual Income Taxes	A New National Sales Tax on All Purchases Other Than Food	Don't Know
Total Public	24	52	25
Male	25	53	22
Female	23	51	27
Head of Household	24	51	25
Male Head	27	52	22
Female Head	22	51	27
Under 35 Years of Age	26	52	22
18-24	24	56	20
25-34	27	49	24
35-44	22	56	23
45-65	24	52	24
Over 65	21	44	35
High School Incomplete	19	47	35
High School Graduate	22	55	23
College Incomplete	26	59	15
College Graduate	37	46	17
Household Income			
Under \$15K	22	47	32
\$15-24.9K	23	54	23
\$25K+	28	58	15
\$25-29.9K	29	55	16
\$30-39.9K	28	60	12
\$40K+	26	58	17
Own	23	54	22
Rent	25	45	30
White	25	52	23
Nonwhite	16	49	36
Employed	27	53	20
Employed Female	30	49	21
Not Employed	20	50	30
Not Employed Female	18	52	30
Prof., Manager, Owner	29	53	18
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	28	52	20
Blue Collar	20	55	25
Retired	27	44	30
Married	25	54	22
Not Married	23	48	29
Household			
1-2 People	25	50	26
3-4 People	25	53	22
5+ People	21	54	26
Children in Household			
Children under 18	22	54	24
No Children	25	50	25
Northeast	31	40	29
North-Central	21	58	21
South	21	55	24
West	24	52	25
Nonmetro	21	57	22
Metro—50,000 and Over			
Fringe	27	50	23
Central City	25	46	30

Table 21
1983

**If the Federal Income Tax Collections Must be Increased,
Which Way is the Best?**

(in percent)

1. Raise individual income tax rates.
2. Cut back on current tax exemptions such as social security, pensions, interest on municipal bonds, etc.
3. Cut back on all itemized deductions, such as those for state and local taxes, interest paid on mortgages and consumer loans, and charitable contributions.
4. Don't know.

	1.	2.	3.	4.
Total Public	21	14	39	26
Male	23	14	40	23
Female	19	14	38	29
Head of Household	22	14	38	26
Male Head	25	14	39	22
Female Head	20	13	38	30
Under 35 Years of Age	20	19	40	22
18-24	16	19	47	18
25-34	23	18	35	25
35-44	24	13	41	22
45-65	24	10	41	26
Over 65	16	12	32	40
High School Incomplete	16	11	37	36
High School Graduate	23	13	40	25
College Incomplete	19	20	46	15
College Graduate	30	17	35	18
Household Income				
Under \$15K	19	10	38	33
\$15-24.9K	22	18	40	21
\$25K+	23	17	42	18
\$25-29.9K	25	18	43	14
\$30-39.9K	23	21	39	18
\$40K+	21	13	45	21
Own	22	15	40	24
Rent	20	13	38	29
White	22	14	40	24
Nonwhite	15	13	33	38
Employed	24	16	40	20
Employed Female	22	15	41	22
Not Employed	18	12	38	31
Not Employed Female	17	14	36	33
Prof., Manager, Owner	24	23	36	17
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	21	16	47	16
Blue Collar	22	10	43	25
Retired	24	10	31	36
Married	23	14	40	23
Not Married	17	15	37	31
Household				
1-2 People	23	12	37	28
3-4 People	20	16	39	25
5+ People	18	15	44	23
Children in Household				
Children under 18	19	15	40	25
No Children	22	13	38	27
Northeast	27	9	35	29
North-Central	20	16	40	24
South	19	16	39	26
West	18	15	44	23
Nonmetro	18	15	39	27
Metro—50,000 and Over				
Fringe	29	11	41	18
Central City	18	14	37	30

Table 22

1984

**Now that Economic Recovery is Underway, Many State Treasuries are
Beginning to Report Surpluses. Should the States Use Most of These Surplus
Funds to Reduce Taxes, or to Expand Government Programs, or Should They
Place Them in a "Rainy Day" Fund?**

(in percent)

1. Reduce taxes.
2. Expand government programs.
3. Place in a "rainy day fund."
4. Don't know/No answer.

	1.	2.	3.	4.
Total Public	42	15	34	9
Male	43	16	35	6
Female	40	15	34	11
Head of Household	43	14	34	9
Male Head	45	15	34	6
Female Head	41	14	34	11
Under 35 Years of Age	37	18	36	9
18-24	38	20	32	10
25-34	36	17	38	9
35-44	43	18	31	8
45-65	46	13	34	7
Over 65	45	10	35	10
High School Incomplete	41	13	33	13
High School Graduate	43	16	33	8
College Incomplete	37	17	40	6
College Graduate	45	16	34	5
Household Income				
Under \$15K	42	17	30	11
\$15-24.9K	38	15	39	8
\$25K +	43	13	37	7
\$25-29.9K	41	15	35	9
\$30-39.9K	45	9	38	8
\$40K +	43	15	37	5
Own	44	12	36	8
Rent	38	22	30	10
White	43	14	35	8
Nonwhite	31	25	28	16
Employed	42	16	35	7
Employed Female	40	16	36	8
Not Employed	40	14	34	12
Not Employed Female	41	14	31	14
Prof., Manager, Owner	33	20	36	11
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	52	15	27	6
Blue Collar	33	19	38	10
Retired	43	6	34	17
Married	43	14	35	8
Not Married	39	19	33	9
Household Size				
1-2 People	45	13	33	9
3-4 People	38	18	35	9
5+ People	39	17	35	9
Children in Household				
Children under 18	38	17	36	9
No Children	44	14	33	9
Northeast	43	22	25	10
North-Central	41	13	38	8
South	42	13	35	10
West	40	16	37	7
Nonmetro	43	12	38	7
Metro—50,000 and Over				
Fringe	46	15	31	8
Central City	36	20	33	11

Table 23
1983

Suppose Your State Government Must Raise Taxes Substantially, Which Would be a Better Way to Do It?

(in percent)

	State Individual Income Tax	State Sales Tax	Don't Know
Total Public	23	57	20
Male	24	59	17
Female	22	56	23
Head of Household	22	58	20
Male Head	24	60	16
Female Head	21	56	24
Under 35 Years of Age	25	59	17
18-24	25	59	16
25-34	24	59	17
35-44	22	58	20
45-65	23	58	19
Over 65	19	52	30
High School Incomplete	20	47	33
High School Graduate	21	60	19
College Incomplete	25	66	10
College Graduate	30	63	7
Household Income			
Under \$15K	23	50	28
\$15-24.9 K	23	61	16
\$25K +	23	67	10
\$25-29.9K	23	65	12
\$30-39.9K	22	67	11
\$40K +	23	69	8
Own	22	62	16
Rent	24	47	29
White	23	59	18
Nonwhite	20	48	32
Employed	25	61	14
Employed Female	30	57	14
Not Employed	20	54	26
Not Employed Female	15	56	29
Prof., Manager, Owner	31	61	8
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	27	61	13
Blue Collar	23	57	20
Retired	20	54	26
Married	21	62	17
Not Married	26	50	25
Household			
1-2 People	27	53	20
3-4 People	20	62	19
5 + People	18	59	23
Children in Household			
Children under 18	18	62	21
No Children	27	54	20
Northeast	30	48	22
North-Central	23	60	17
South	17	61	22
West	22	60	18
Nonmetro	19	62	19
Metro—50,000 and Over			
Fringe	29	56	15
Central City	22	53	25

Table 24
1983

Which One of the Changes Would Be the Single Most Important Change That Would Make the Nation's Tax System More Fair?

(in percent)

1. Make the upper income taxpayers pay more.
 2. Reduce taxes on lower income taxpayers.
 3. Make business firms pay more even if it reduces the number of jobs.
 4. Leave the tax system alone—it is about as fair as you are ever going to get.
 5. None of the above.
 6. Don't know.

	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
Total Public	49	13	6	16	7	9
Male	50	14	7	15	7	7
Female	48	12	6	17	6	11
Head of Household	49	13	6	16	7	9
Male Head	51	14	6	15	8	6
Female Head	48	12	6	17	7	11
Under 35 Years of Age	46	15	8	16	6	10
18-24	38	17	11	18	5	11
25-34	53	13	5	14	7	8
35-44	54	12	6	13	6	9
45-65	52	12	6	15	8	6
Over 65	41	14	4	22	5	14
High School Incomplete	42	14	6	20	3	16
High School Graduate	52	14	6	15	6	7
College Incomplete	47	14	10	16	10	4
College Graduate	57	8	5	13	12	5
Household Income						
Under \$15K	45	15	6	16	5	13
\$15-24.9K	52	14	6	16	5	6
\$25K+	52	11	7	15	10	4
\$25-29.9K	57	12	6	11	8	5
\$30-39.9K	58	11	7	16	6	3
\$40K+	43	11	7	17	17	5
Own	52	12	7	15	7	7
Rent	43	15	6	17	5	14
White	49	13	6	17	7	8
Nonwhite	46	17	6	12	3	16
Employed	50	15	6	15	8	6
Employed Female	51	14	7	16	7	5
Not Employed	47	12	7	17	5	11
Not Employed Female	46	11	6	17	6	14
Prof., Manager, Owner	54	11	5	15	11	4
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	52	11	7	13	6	10
Blue Collar	49	16	8	16	5	6
Retired	48	15	3	20	6	8
Married	51	12	6	17	7	7
Not Married	45	15	8	14	6	13
Household						
1-2 People	48	13	6	18	6	10
3-4 People	50	15	6	16	8	6
5+ People	49	9	9	13	7	14
Children in Household						
Children under 18	48	13	8	16	6	9
No Children	49	13	5	16	7	9
Northeast	47	14	6	13	5	15
North-Central	56	14	5	15	5	5
South	46	12	8	18	5	12
West	45	13	6	18	15	4
Nonmetro	49	14	6	18	6	7
Metro—50,00 and Over						
Fringe	53	11	7	15	7	7
Central City	45	13	7	14	8	13

Table 25
1983

With the Cutbacks in Federal Financial Aid to Local Governments, There is a Debate As to What the States Should Do. Which Statement Comes Closest to Your View?

(in percent)

1. State governments should not try to make up for any of the federal cutbacks in financial aid to local governments.
2. State governments should try to make up for only some of the federal cutbacks in financial aid to local governments.
3. State governments should try to make up for almost all of the federal cutbacks in financial aid to local governments.
4. Don't know.

	1.	2.	3.	4.
Total Public	18	46	16	20
Male	21	47	16	16
Female	16	45	16	23
Head of Household	20	45	15	21
Male Head	23	47	14	16
Female Head	17	44	15	24
Under 35 Years of Age	15	51	18	16
18-24	16	49	21	14
25-34	15	52	15	18
35-44	22	49	12	17
45-65	21	45	15	19
Over 65	16	32	16	35
High School Incomplete	17	30	19	34
High School Graduate	21	47	15	18
College Incomplete	16	59	17	8
College Graduate	17	62	13	8
Household Income				
Under \$15K	17	36	20	28
\$15-24.9K	17	51	16	17
\$25K+	22	59	11	9
\$25-29.9K	27	53	10	11
\$30-39.9K	15	61	14	10
\$40K+	24	61	10	6
Own	20	48	14	18
Rent	16	40	21	24
White	20	48	15	17
Nonwhite	10	36	21	33
Employed	22	50	15	14
Employed Female	19	50	15	16
Not Employed	15	42	17	25
Not Employed Female	14	42	16	28
Prof., Manager, Owner	23	57	14	7
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	16	54	12	18
Blue Collar	21	45	17	18
Retired	18	39	16	28
Married	21	49	14	17
Not Married	14	41	20	25
Household				
1-2 People	18	43	17	22
3-4 People	22	48	14	17
5+ People	14	48	17	22
Children in Household				
Children under 18	18	47	15	20
No Children	19	45	17	20
Northeast	13	48	17	21
North-Central	23	45	13	18
South	16	42	19	23
West	22	51	12	15
Nonmetro	20	46	13	21
Metro—50,000 and Over				
Fringe	18	51	17	15
Central City	17	42	19	22

Table 26
1983

**In General, Which One of the Kinds of Organizations Listed Below
Do You Feel Best Represents the Political Interests of People Like You?**

(in percent)

1. Organized groups concerned with specific issues such as business, labor, environmental and civil rights groups.
2. The two major political parties—the Democrats and the Republicans.
3. Other political parties.
4. Don't know.

	1.	2.	3.	4.
Total Public	45	34	3	17
Male	45	38	3	14
Female	45	32	3	20
Head of Household	45	36	3	17
Male Head	45	39	3	13
Female Head	44	33	2	21
Under 35 Years of Age	56	25	5	15
18-24	56	21	5	17
25-34	56	27	4	13
35-44	44	41	3	12
45-65	41	40	2	17
Over 65	27	42	2	29
High School Incomplete	34	34	4	29
High School Graduate	47	34	3	16
College Incomplete	54	39	2	6
College Graduate	57	32	2	9
Household Income				
Under \$15K	40	29	4	27
\$15-24.9K	47	40	2	11
\$25K+	52	38	2	9
\$25-29.9K	54	36	2	8
\$30-39.9K	57	33	2	8
\$40K+	45	44	2	10
Own	43	39	2	16
Rent	51	23	4	22
White	45	36	3	16
Nonwhite	45	27	3	25
Employed	51	34	4	12
Employed Female	55	29	4	12
Not Employed	41	35	3	21
Not Employed Female	40	34	2	24
Prof., Manager, Owner	51	39	3	7
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	53	33	2	12
Blue Collar	51	29	3	16
Retired	34	39	2	24
Married	46	38	3	14
Not Married	45	29	4	23
Household				
1-2 People	43	35	3	19
3-4 People	47	37	2	14
5+ People	46	29	5	21
Children in Household				
Children under 18	48	32	4	16
No Children	43	36	3	18
Northeast	52	26	2	21
North-Central	43	38	3	15
South	41	37	4	19
West	48	35	3	14
Nonmetro	40	38	3	19
Metro—50,000 and Over				
Fringe	51	36	3	10
Central City	48	29	3	21

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The Commission is composed of 26 members—nine representing the Federal government, and three representing the public. The President appoints 20—three private citizens and three Federal executive officials directly and four governors, three state legislators, four mayors, and three elected county officials from slates nominated by the National Governors' Association, the Council of State Governments, the National League of Cities/U.S. Conference of Mayors, and the National Association of Counties. The three Senators are chosen by the President of the Senate and the three Congressmen by the Speaker of the House.

Each Commission member serves a two year term and may be reappointed.

As a continuing body, the Commission approaches its work by addressing itself to specific issues and problems, the resolution of which would produce improved cooperation among the levels of government and more effective functioning of the federal system. In addition to dealing with the all important functional and structural relationships among the various governments, the Commission has also extensively studied critical stresses currently being placed on traditional governmental taxing practices. One of the long range efforts of the Commission has been to seek ways to improve Federal, state, and local governmental taxing practices and policies to achieve equitable allocation of resources, increased efficiency in collection and administration and reduced compliance burdens upon the taxpayers.

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