

A COMMISSION SURVEY

CHANGING  
PUBLIC ATTITUDES  
ON GOVERNMENTS  
AND TAXES

1988

Advisory Commission on  
Intergovernmental Relations  
WASHINGTON, DC 20575

S-17



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# Foreword

This publication presents the 17th 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 page 11. Users should note that for 1988, the sample size is 1,013, and the sampling tolerances are slightly smaller than in 1987.

This year ACIR asked 13 questions. This publication presents both the current results and cumulative record since 1982. It contains an appendix listing 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 ordering copies of the 1983 or 1984 reports (S-12 and S-13), which present the data in Appendix III of each of those volumes.

The following analysis of the poll results was prepared by Debra L. Dean, analyst, with assistance from Bruce D. McDowell, acting director of government policy research, and Susannah E. Calkins, senior analyst. 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 Kincaid**  
**Executive Director**





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# The 1988 Survey

## Highlights

Major findings from the U.S. Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations June 1988 poll on changing public attitudes on government and taxes include the following:

- The public was evenly divided over whether it gets the most for its money from the federal government, state government, or local government. The proportion of respondents who said “don’t know” dropped from 21 percent last year to 16 percent.
  - For the tenth straight year, the federal income tax was rated as the worst (least fair) tax. Approximately one-third (33 percent) of the public called the federal income tax worse than state income, state sales, and local property taxes. However, when the question was reworded to include Social Security taxes, the proportion selecting the federal income tax as worst fell seven points to 26 percent. Twenty-four percent of the respondents picked the local property tax as the worst; 17 percent called the Social Security tax the worst; followed by 15 percent for the state sales tax and 9 percent for the state income tax.
  - Respondents were also asked a new series of questions about the efficiency of the federal, state, and local governments. Only a very small proportion of the general public (2 percent to 5 percent) said that any of these governments is efficient “almost all of the time.” The federal government emerged with the lowest efficiency ratings. Nearly one-quarter (23 percent) of the respondents said that the federal government is “hardly ever” efficient, 10 points higher than the percentages for state and local governments. Overall, local governments got favorable efficiency ratings most often (46 percent), compared with the states (36 percent) and the federal government (25 percent).
  - Just over half of those surveyed were not aware that their state has its own constitution.
- A bare majority was aware that their state constitution contains a bill of rights or other similar protections for individual rights.
- The public was almost evenly divided about the wisdom of spending state and local funds abroad to promote international trade. Approximately half of the respondents thought that spending public funds for state offices in foreign countries is a good use of public funds, and about half endorsed funding for foreign promotional trips for governors and mayors.
  - A 59 percent majority said that it is improper for city councils to pass foreign policy resolutions.
  - A plurality of respondents (36 percent) gave roads and bridges a grade of “C” on their performance, and another 27 percent graded them at “B.” The grades were higher for water supply, with 44 percent giving that service a “B” and 21 percent assigning a “C.” Thirty-one percent graded solid waste disposal at a “B,” and another 28 percent gave this service a “C.”

This is the 17th annual public opinion survey commissioned by the ACIR. The sample for the poll was 1,013 adults age 18 and older. The margin of error for samples of this size is plus or minus 4 percentage points at a 95 percent level of confidence.

## From Which Level of Government Do You Get the Most for Your Money?

Since 1972, the ACIR poll has asked: “From which level of government do you get the most for your money?” The percentages of respondents mentioning each level of government was approximately equal in the 1988 poll (see Table 1). Twenty-eight percent said that they got the most from the federal government, 29 percent picked local government, and 27 percent selected state government. Sixteen percent made no choice.

There was a sharp decrease in the proportion of respondents replying “don’t know” or “no answer,” from 21 percent in 1987 to 16 percent in 1988. The

**Table 1**  
**From Which Level of Government**  
**Do You Feel You Get the**  
**Most for Your Money —**  
**Federal, State, or Local?**  
 (in percent)

	Federal	State	Local	Don't Know/ No Answer
1988	28	27	29	16
1987	28	22	29	21
1986	32	22	33	13
1985	32	22	31	15
1984	24	27	35	14
1983	31	20	31	19
1982	35	20	28	17
1981	30	25	33	14
1980	33	22	26	19
1979	29	22	33	16
1978	35	20	26	19
1977	36	20	26	18
1976	36	20	25	19
1975	38	20	25	17
1974	29	24	28	19
1973	35	18	25	22
1972	39	18	26	17

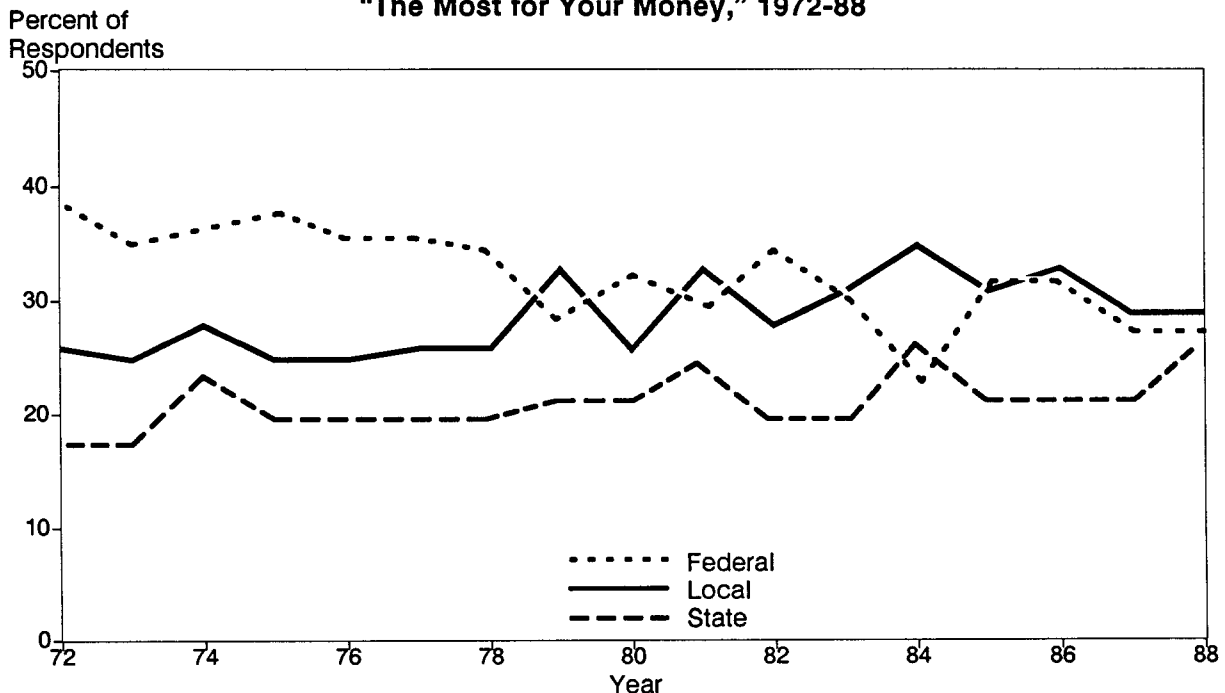
Detailed data appear in Appendix I, Tables 1-4, pages 15-21.

1988 figure is much more similar to percentages recorded in previous years, and suggests that the 1987 figure may reflect either a temporary phenomenon, or the type of variation that repeated samples sometimes display.

As in previous years, the respondents most likely to cite the federal government as giving them the most for their money were persons who are age 65 and older (34 percent), retired (41 percent), or non-white (41 percent). In addition, in this year's poll, people who did not complete high school (35 percent), respondents with household incomes in the \$15,000 to \$24,999 range (45 percent), and renters (35 percent) were more likely than average to select the federal government. The highest percentage of respondents who chose the state government had household annual incomes in the \$25,000 to \$29,999 range (36 percent). The respondents who most often chose local government included college graduates (40 percent), respondents in the professional/managerial/owner occupation category (39 percent), and individuals making at least \$30,000 in household income (40 percent).

Looking back over the 17 years for which this question was asked, a number of overall trends are apparent. First, the percentage of respondents picking the federal government as giving them the most for their money has declined since 1972. In that year, more than one-third (39 percent) of the public said it got the most for its money from the federal govern-

**Figure 1**  
**Comparison of Opinions about the Level of Government that Provides**  
**"The Most for Your Money," 1972-88**



*Table 2*  
**Which Do You Think Is the Worst Tax – That Is, the Least Fair?**  
 (in percent)

	Federal Income Tax	State Income Tax	State Sales Tax	Local Property Tax	Don't Know/ No Answer
July 1988	33	10	18	28	11
June 1987	30	12	21	24	13
May 1986	37	8	17	28	10
May 1985	38	10	16	24	12
May 1984	36	10	15	29	10
May 1983	35	11	13	26	15
May 1982	36	11	14	30	9
Sept. 1981	36	9	14	33	9
May 1980	36	10	19	25	10
May 1979	37	8	15	27	13
May 1978	30	11	18	32	10
May 1977	28	11	17	33	11
May 1976	not available				
May 1975	28	11	23	29	10
April 1974	30	10	20	28	14
May 1973	30	10	20	31	11
March 1972	19	13	13	45	11

Detailed data appear in Appendix I, Tables 5-9, pages 22-29.

ment. By 1988, that number dropped by 11 points to 28 percent. Although the line is not consistently downward from year to year, the trend over the entire period is clear (see Figure 1). The trend with regard to state government is also clear; the proportion of the population saying that it got the most for its money from state government has climbed during the past 17 years. In 1972, only 18 percent of the public chose the state government. By 1988, that percentage had climbed to 27 percent. In 1972, 26 percent chose local government. That figure climbed to a high of 35 percent in 1984 before settling in the 29 percent range for 1987 and 1988.

### Which Do You Think Is the Worst Tax – That Is, the Least Fair?

For the tenth straight year, the federal income tax has received the most votes as the worst tax, that is, the least fair tax. Thirty-three percent of the respondents said the federal income tax is the least fair tax, followed by 28 percent citing the local property tax. State sales taxes (18 percent) and state income taxes (10 percent) were regarded as least fair by smaller proportions of the public (see Table 2). These figures do not represent an abrupt change from the previous year, although the proportion of respondents selecting the local property tax as the

worst increased by 4 percentage points, from 24 percent in 1987 to 28 percent in 1988.

Beginning in 1979 and continuing through 1988, the public has consistently ranked the federal income tax as the worst tax, followed by the property tax and state sales tax. State income taxes are consistently identified as the worst by only a relatively small proportion of the respondents, not more than 13 percent.

The federal income tax is regarded as the worst by most demographic groups, but not by all. Subgroups particularly likely to regard the federal income tax as the worst include employed women (42 percent), people making at least \$40,000 in annual household income (44 percent), respondents in the professional/ managerial/owner occupational category (38 percent), and individuals in the West (39 percent).

Not surprisingly, individuals with limited incomes more often regard the local property tax as the least fair. Respondents over 65 years of age (40 percent), persons who did not complete high school (36 percent), the unemployed (32 percent), and retired persons (41 percent) regard the local property tax as the least fair, as do respondents in the \$15,000-\$24,999 and the \$30,000-\$39,999 income ranges (33 percent for each range). Regionally, the property tax is more often selected as the least fair tax by respondents in the Northeast (35 percent).



**Which Do You Think Is the Worst Tax – That Is, the Least Fair – Including Social Security**

Because of the growing importance of the Social Security tax in recent years, ACIR has received a number of requests to include the Social Security tax among the taxes evaluated in the poll. For many taxpayers, particularly those in the lower income categories, the Social Security tax is the largest tax they pay. As a result, ACIR's 1988 survey asked about the perceived fairness of the Social Security tax. The "worst tax" question was repeated, but this time, the Social Security tax was included as one of the options. The proportions of respondents selecting the federal income tax as the worst tax dropped 7 percentage points when the Social Security tax was added to the picture (see Table 3). Originally, 33 percent selected the federal income tax as the worst, but that figure fell to 26 percent when Social Security was added.

*Table 3*  
**Comparison of Worst Tax – With and Without Social Security**  
(in percent)

	Without Social Security As an Answer	With Social Security As an Answer	Difference*
Federal Income Tax	33	26	-7
Local Property Tax	28	24	-4
Social Security Tax	—	17	—
State Sales Tax	18	15	-3
State Income Tax	10	9	-1
Don't Know/ No Answer	11	9	-2

\*With Social Security minus without Social Security.

Detailed data appear in Appendix I, Table 5, page 22.

Overall, 17 percent of the respondents said that the Social Security tax is the worst. This is lower than the proportion that continued to mention the federal income tax (26 percent) and local property taxes (24 percent) as the least fair. However, it indicates that nearly one out of five respondents shifted to Social Security as the worst tax when given the opportunity to do so. The demographic groups that most often chose the Social Security tax as the least fair were persons 18-24 years old (24 percent) and those in the \$15,000 to \$24,999 income range (23 percent).

The overall percentage of respondents choosing the federal income tax as least fair fell by 7 percentage points when Social Security taxes were added to the question. This shift was somewhat larger than the shifts from local property taxes (-4 points), state sales taxes (-3 points), and state income taxes (-1 point). (See Appendix Table 5.)

Interestingly, there is a clear pattern to the shifts from other taxes to Social Security as the worst tax. The largest shift came from the federal income tax, the top ranked tax on the worst tax scale. The second largest shift came from the second ranked tax, the local property tax; the third largest shift came from the third ranked tax, the state sales tax; and the smallest shift came from the fourth ranked tax, the state income tax.

**Efficiency of Federal, State, and Local Governments**

In the poll for 1987, ACIR asked questions about confidence in federal, state, and local governments as a measure of comparative public attitudes toward different types of government. (See Appendix I, Tables 33-34.)

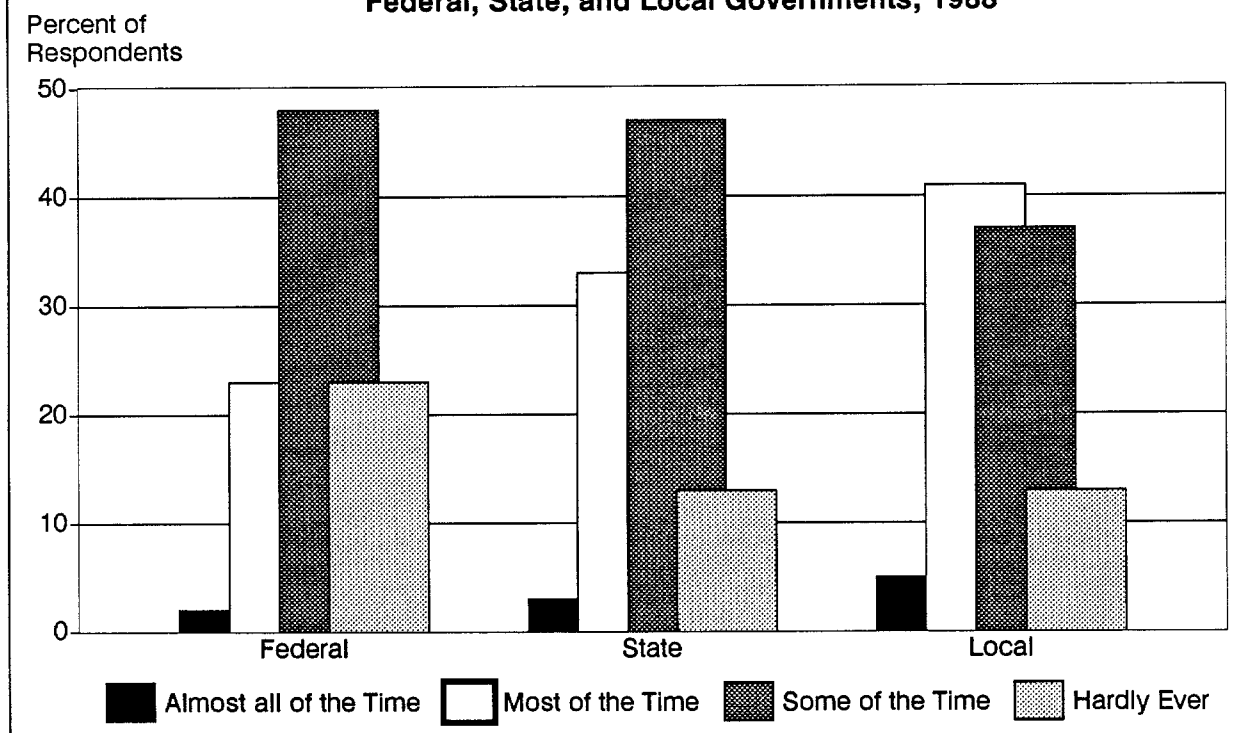
Another dimension of public attitudes toward government is perceived efficiency. Three new questions concerning government efficiency were added to the ACIR poll for 1988 in order to provide information about this additional dimension in public perceptions of government. Respondents were asked: "In your opinion, how often does the federal government perform its duties efficiently and at the best cost possible?" The same question was asked about state government and local government.

*Table 4*  
**In Your Opinion, How Often Does the Federal, State, Local Government Perform Its Duties Efficiently and at the Best Possible Cost?**  
(in percent)

	Level of Government		
	Federal	State	Local
Almost All of the Time	2	3	5
Most of the Time	23	33	41
Subtotal	25	36	46
Some of the Time	48	47	37
Hardly Ever	23	13	13
Subtotal	71	60	50
Don't Know/ No Answer	4	4	4

Detailed data appear in Appendix I, Tables 10-12, pages 30-32.

*Figure 2*  
**Comparison of the Perceived Efficiency of  
 Federal, State, and Local Governments, 1988**



A majority of those surveyed said that all three types of government are efficient either “most” or “some of the time” (see Table 4). For example, 23 percent of the respondents said that the federal government performs efficiently “most of the time”; 48 percent chose “some of the time.” The responses were slightly higher for state and local government.

Relatively few individuals regard any type of government as being efficient “almost all of the time,” ranging from a low of 2 percent for the federal government to a high of 5 percent for local government. At the other extreme, higher proportions of the respondents said that government is “hardly ever” efficient, ranging from 13 percent holding this view with regard to state and local governments, to 23 percent with regard to the federal government.

Subgroups more likely than average to say that the federal government “hardly ever” performs efficiently included 35-44-year-olds (30 percent), people making at least \$40,000 (28 percent), and employed women (28 percent).

There were some interesting regional variations. A majority of respondents (55 percent) in the North-Central states said that the federal government is efficient “some of the time,” compared to less than half elsewhere. Respondents in the West were more likely than others to describe the federal government as “hardly ever” performing efficiently.

State government fared slightly better; one-third (33 percent) of the respondents described it as efficient “most of the time”—a 10 percentage point improvement compared to the federal government. However, a 47 percent plurality thought that state government performs efficiently only “some of the time”—comparable to the percentage for the federal government. As with the federal government, majorities or pluralities of all subgroups in the sample thought that state government performs efficiently only “some of the time.”

Local government received the best ratings for efficiency. A 41 percent plurality of the respondents described their local government as efficient “most of the time.” Thirty-seven percent described local government as efficient only “some of the time.” This is still a fairly large proportion giving a mixed rating, but it is about 10 points lower than the percentage who gave this mixed evaluation to the federal and state governments.

Pluralities or majorities of most of the demographic subgroups said that local government is efficient “most of the time.” This is distinctly different from the evaluations given for the federal and state governments, which were generally rated as efficient only “some of the time.” Demographic groups that were particularly likely to choose “most of the time” for local government included 18-24-year-olds (51

percent), college graduates (47 percent), people in the \$40,000-plus income category (48 percent), employed women (49 percent), individuals in white collar/sales/clerical occupations (46 percent), and respondents in the North-Central region (46 percent).

### Awareness of State Constitutions

ACIR has initiated two major research projects on state constitutional law.<sup>1</sup> As part of these studies, two basic questions on state constitutions were included in the 1988 ACIR poll. Respondents were first asked whether their state has its own constitution, or whether it relies on the United States Constitution for its governing powers (see Table 5). Forty-four percent replied that their state has its own constitution, and another 5 percent volunteered that their state relies on both its own constitution and the U.S. Constitution. Nineteen percent of all respondents identified the U.S. Constitution as the only source of state governing powers. Nearly one-third (32 percent) of the respondents could not identify the source of state governing powers, and either did not answer the question, or answered "don't know."

<i>Table 5</i>	
<b>Does Your State Have Its Own Constitution, or Does It Rely on the United States Constitution for Its Governing Powers?</b>	
(in percent)	
State Has Own Constitution	44
Relies on U.S. Constitution	19
State Has Own and Relies on U.S. Constitution (volunteered)	5
Don't Know/No Answer	32
Detailed data appear in Appendix I, Table 13, page 33.	

In terms of population subgroups, men (49 percent) were more likely than women (38 percent) to say their state has its own constitution. College graduates (70 percent) and people with household incomes of at least \$40,000 a year (59 percent) were far more likely than others to say that their state relies on its own document. Other subgroups that were more likely than average to be aware of their state constitution included respondents over 65 years of age (52 percent), homeowners (51 percent), and professionals, managers, and business owners (53 percent).

<sup>1</sup>See U. S. Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, *State Constitutional Law: Cases and Materials*, September 1988, and *State Constitutional Law and the Federal System*, forthcoming, 1989.

Regionally, the Northeast stood out as the section of the country in which respondents were least aware of their state constitution. Thirty-eight percent (38 percent) of respondents in the Northeast said that their state has its own document, compared to 43 percent in the North-Central states, 46 percent in the South, and 45 percent in the West. The percentages of respondents who did not answer the question or answered "don't know" were relatively high across all regions, ranging from 29 percent in the Northeast to 38 percent in the West.

Demographic groups that were especially likely to say their state relies on the U.S. Constitution for its governing powers included non-whites (34 percent), individuals in the Northeast (28 percent), those under 35 years old (27 percent), high school graduates (24 percent), and individuals with household incomes below \$15,000 (25 percent).

Relatively few respondents volunteered that their state's governing powers derive from both its own constitution and the federal Constitution (5 percent overall). There was very little variation among subgroups; college graduates (4 percent) were no more likely than other educational groups to volunteer this response.

Among the nearly one-third of respondents who did not make a choice, several subgroups stood out. Nearly four out of ten women (37 percent) did not make a choice, along with 38 percent of respondents under 35 years of age, 40 percent of renters, 38 percent of respondents in the West, and 43 percent of individuals who did not graduate from high school.

### Awareness of State Bills of Rights

Later in the survey, respondents were asked whether their state constitution has a Bill of Rights or some similar guarantees of individual rights. A 56 percent majority said that their state constitution does protect individual rights; only 6 percent said that it does not. However, 38 percent of respondents did not know or did not answer the question (see Table 6).

<i>Table 6</i>	
<b>Does the Constitution of Your State Have a Bill of Rights or Some Other Provisions that Protect Individual Rights, Like Freedom of Religion and Freedom of Speech?</b>	
(in percent)	
Yes	56
No	6
Don't Know/No Answer	38
Detailed data appear in Appendix I, Table 14, page 34.	

Majorities of virtually all subgroups said that their state constitution protects individual rights. Groups particularly likely to reply "yes" included 18-24-year-olds (63 percent), 45-64-year-olds (63 percent), respondents with at least \$40,000 in annual household income (62 percent), respondents in white collar occupations (62 percent), and people in the Northeast (63 percent). Individuals who graduated from high school (59 percent), or from college (58 percent) were both more likely than nongraduates to say that rights are protected by state constitutions.

Those who did not indicate awareness of state constitutional rights protection generally did not make a choice. Respondents in the West (48 percent) and those in the 35-44 age range (43 percent) were particularly likely to say they did not know or not to answer the question.

### State Offices in Foreign Countries

ACIR is also conducting research on state and local activities in international affairs. For example, a number of states have set up trade and tourism offices in foreign countries. The ACIR poll included a question about public reaction to these offices. The question was: "In recent years, many states have set up full-time offices in foreign countries to promote trade, tourism, and investment for their states. Are these state offices usually a very good use of public funds, a somewhat good use, a not very good use, or a poor use of public funds?" As Table 7 indicates, respondents were substantially divided on this question. Forty-nine percent said that public funding for these offices is a very good or somewhat good idea; 41 percent said that it is not, and 10 percent did not choose.

More specifically, 11 percent of the respondents considered these offices to be a "very good use" of public funds, and another 38 percent described them as a "somewhat good use." On the other hand, 20 percent called them a "not very good use" of public funds, and another 21 percent described them as a "poor use" of money. Subgroups particularly likely to call foreign offices a "very good use" of public money included 18-24-year-olds (16 percent), college graduates (17 percent), and those in the professional/managerial/owner occupation category (17 percent). Groups most likely to describe the offices as a "somewhat good use" also included college graduates (50 percent) and professionals/managers/owners (43 percent), as well as respondents making annual household incomes of \$25,000 or more (43 percent).

The groups most likely to describe foreign offices as "not a very good use" of public funds included those in the \$15,000 to \$24,999 income range (25 percent) and nonwhites (25 percent). The groups most likely to choose "poor use" included respondents

*Table 7*  
**In Recent Years, Many States Have Set Up Full-Time Offices in Foreign Countries to Promote Trade, Tourism, and Investment for Their States.**  
**Are These State Offices Usually a Very Good Use of Public Funds, a Somewhat Good Use, a Not Very Good Use, or a Poor Use of Public Funds?**  
 (in percent)

Very Good Use	11
Somewhat Good Use	38
Not Very Good Use	20
Poor Use	21
Don't Know/No Answer	10

Detailed data appear in Appendix I, Table 15, page 35.

over age 65 (27 percent), persons who did not finish high school (27 percent), people in the \$30,000 to \$39,999 income range (26 percent), and retired persons (27 percent).

### Foreign Trips to Promote Trade

State and local officials are also making foreign trips to promote economic development for their jurisdictions. Respondents were asked to evaluate these trips. Again, the results were mixed, with 49 percent saying that the trips are a good use of public funds and 45 percent saying they are not. Six percent did not choose (see Table 8).

*Table 8*  
**In Recent Years, Many Governors and Mayors Have Traveled to Foreign Countries to Promote Trade, Tourism, and Investment for Their States and Cities.**  
**Are These Foreign Trips by Governors and Mayors Usually a Very Good Use of Public Funds, a Somewhat Good Use, a Not Very Good Use, or a Poor Use of Public Funds?**  
 (in percent)

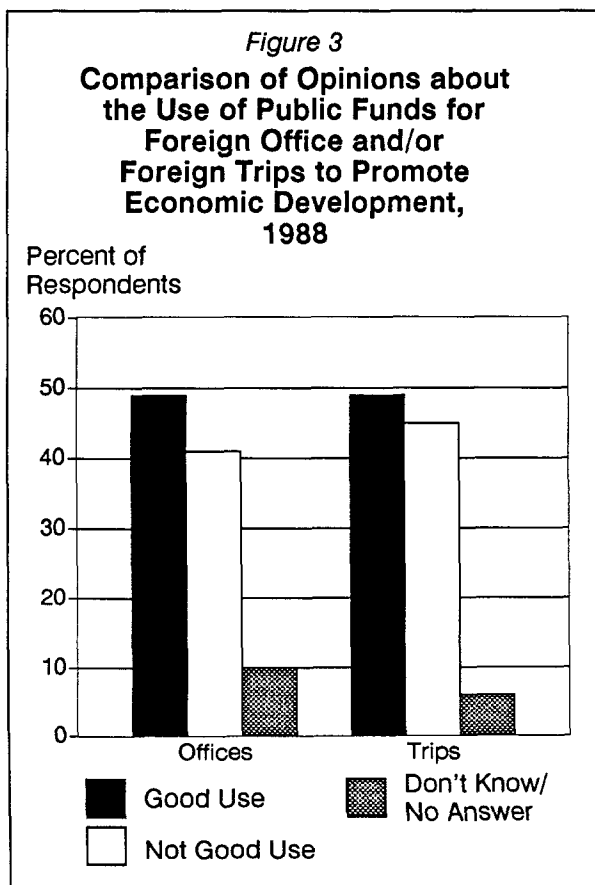
Very Good Use	10
Somewhat Good Use	39
Not Very Good Use	21
Poor Use	24
Don't Know/No Answer	6

Detailed data appear in Appendix I, Table 16, page 36.

In terms of demographic subgroups, there was relatively little variation with regard to the proportions of the public that thought that foreign trips are a "very good use" of public funds. However, several subgroups were unusually likely to call foreign trips a "somewhat good use." These subgroups included 24-35-year-olds (44 percent), college graduates (50 percent), and persons in the \$30,000 to \$39,999 income category (44 percent). The subgroup most likely to say that foreign trips are not a good use of public funds were retired persons (26 percent "not a very good use" and 29 percent a "poor use").

### Foreign Offices and Trips Compared

Although pluralities of respondents supported both foreign offices and foreign trips, respondents were not markedly more supportive of one than the other. Figure 3 shows the comparison graphically. Note that for both offices and trips, more respondents thought that they are good uses of public funds than thought that they are a poor use. However, the difference in the proportions choosing "good use" over "not good use" were greater in the case of public funding for state offices than with regard to public funding for trips.



*Table 9*

**Many City Councils Have Passed Resolutions on Such Foreign Policy Issues as Israel, Northern Ireland, South Africa and Nuclear Weapons. These Resolutions Sometimes Oppose the Foreign Policy of the President and Congress. Do You Think It Is Very Proper, Somewhat Proper, Not Very Proper, or Not Proper at All for City Councils to Pass Resolutions on Foreign Policy?**

(in percent)

Very Proper	10
Somewhat Proper	21
Not Very Proper	24
Not Proper at All	35
Don't Know/No Answer	10

Detailed data appear in Appendix I, Table 17, page 37.

### City Council Foreign Policy Resolutions

Respondents were also asked to evaluate the propriety of city council resolutions on foreign policy matters, an area traditionally thought to be reserved to the federal government. A 59 percent majority indicated that local foreign policy resolutions are not proper, including a plurality that said they are "not proper at all" (see Table 9).

Only one out of ten respondents (10 percent) described local foreign policy resolutions as "very proper," another 21 percent called them somewhat proper, for a total of 31 percent evaluating these activities favorably. On the other hand, nearly one out of four (24 percent) called such resolutions "not very proper." The largest percentage (35 percent) described the resolutions as "not proper at all." Ten percent (10 percent) did not choose.

Men were more likely to call local foreign policy resolutions "not proper at all" than were women (39 percent for men, compared to 32 percent for women). Whites were substantially more likely to choose "not proper at all" than were nonwhites (37 percent for whites, compared to 23 percent among nonwhites).

Pluralities of most of the demographic groups described foreign policy resolutions as "not very proper"—with some significant exceptions. Groups particularly likely to call local foreign policy resolutions "very proper" included professionals/managers/owners (17 percent) and respondents in the West (17 percent). Groups that were especially likely to

call such resolutions “somewhat proper” included respondents under 35 years old (28 percent) and nonwhites (32 percent).

### The Performance of Public Works

Among the new questions asked on the 1988 ACIR poll was a series of questions regarding public works performance. Specifically, respondents were asked to grade the performance of roads and bridges, the water supply, and solid waste disposal, using an A through F scale like that used on school report cards.

#### The Performance of Roads and Bridges

A 36 percent plurality of respondents gave roads and bridges a grade of C. Seven percent (7 percent) gave roads and bridges an A, 27 percent gave them a B, 20 percent graded them at D, and 9 percent gave them a failing grade (see Table 10, column 1).

*Table 10*

**If You Were to Grade the Performance of the Following Types of Public Works Services Based on Your Own Experience, What Grade Would You Give Each?**

	Roads and Bridges	Water Supply	Solid Waste Disposal
Grades:			
A	7	16	10
B	27	44	31
C	36	21	28
D	20	10	17
F	9	5	9
Don't Know/ No Answer	1	4	5
Average Grade*	2.02	2.59	2.16

\*Using a four-point scale, where A = 4 and F = 0.  
Detailed data appear in Appendix I, Tables 18-19, pages 38-40.

Only small variations were evident across the demographic subgroups in the sample. However, there were some interesting regional variations. In the Northeast (42 percent) and North-Central states (43 percent), respondents were particularly likely to give roads and bridges a C grade. In the South, however, the proportion grading them at C (30 percent) was approximately the same as the proportion grading them at B (32 percent). In the West, respondents were more likely to give an A—with 14 percent grading their roads and bridges this way. However, even in

the West, the proportion giving a C grade (32 percent) was higher than the proportion giving a grade of B (27 percent).

#### The Performance of Water Supply

The water supply received better grades from the public than either of the other two public works services. Sixteen percent gave the water supply an A, 44 percent gave it a B, 21 percent a C, 10 percent a D, and 5 percent an F. Four percent did not give any grade (see Table 10, column 2).

Respondents 18-24 years old were particularly likely to give the water supply a grade of A (25 percent) along with college graduates (24 percent) and persons in the professional/managerial/owner occupation category (21 percent). The groups that tended toward giving the grade of B included high school graduates (50 percent) and respondents with annual household incomes of \$40,000 or more (51 percent). Individuals who did not finish high school (28 percent) and nonwhites (29 percent) tended to give a C.

Once again, there were some interesting regional variations. In all four regions, the plurality of respondents gave the water supply a B. However, the proportions grading the water supply as B ranged from a low of 35 percent in the Northeast to a high of 53 percent in the North-Central states. Respondents in the Northeast gave the highest proportion of As to the water supply (20 percent).

#### The Performance of Solid Waste Disposal

Solid waste disposal services received more grades of A and B than did roads and bridges, but less than water supply. However, solid waste received more Cs, Ds and Fs than water supply. Ten percent of the public gave waste disposal an A, 31 percent a B, 28 percent a C, 17 percent a D, and 9 percent an F (see Table 10, column 3). As with the other public services evaluated in the poll, the variations among demographic groups were relatively minor. Men were more likely than women to give solid waste disposal services a grade of B, while women split their grades relatively equally between B and C. A plurality of whites gave the service a B (32 percent), while nonwhites split the majority of their grades between B (27 percent), C (28 percent) and D (20 percent).

There was no difference in the grades given this service by homeowners and renters. Thirty-one percent of each group gave solid waste disposal a grade of B. Twenty-eight percent of owners and 27 percent of renters chose a C. Other grades were similar across the two groups.

Regionally, voters in the South tended to give the service a B. Voters in the North-Central and western states divided relatively evenly between the grades of B and C. In the Northeast, voters divided relatively evenly between C and D, with a smaller proportion selecting a grade of B.

### Funding Improvements in Public Works Services

The public was also asked to choose among methods for raising additional revenues, if there is a need, in order to improve public works. Relatively few respondents (12 percent) chose general tax revenues as the preferred method for raising these revenues. Special taxes dedicated to funding specific improvements were chosen by 37 percent of the respondents. Approximately the same proportion (35 percent) selected user charges (see Table 11).

The proportion of respondents selecting user charges was approximately equal to the proportion selecting special taxes for most demographic groups.

There was also some regional variation in the public's preferences. Respondents preferring special taxes were concentrated in the Northeast (38 percent) and the South (40 percent). Respondents in the North-Central and West divided approximately evenly between the proportions preferring user charges and the proportions preferring special dedicated taxes.

Table 11

#### If there is a Need to Raise Additional Revenues to Improve Public Works Services, Which One of these Would Your Prefer?

(in percent)

User Fees or Charges for Specific Services	35
Special Taxes Dedicated to Funding Specific Services	37
General Purpose Taxes	12
Don't Spend More/Don't Increase Taxes (volunteered.)	7
Other	2
Don't Know/No Answer	7

Detailed data appear in Appendix I, Table 20, page 41.



# The Poll

This report presents the findings of a personal interview research survey conducted among a nationally representative sample of 1,013 men and women, 18 years of age or over, living in private households in the United States.

Interviewing for this survey was completed June 11-19, 1988, 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.

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 Assembly 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. Metropolitan areas consist of two parts: (1) "central city areas" with populations of 50,000 or more in a central city or combination of central cities of a metropolitan area; and (2) "fringe areas" with urban concentrations of population outside but closely associated with the central city or cities.

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 1988 total household income before taxes.

*Sampling tolerances* for the survey are plus or minus 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 1981-72 are presented in *Appendix III*, Detailed Results of 1981-72 Surveys (p. 41) of the 1984 public opinion volume (S-13) or the 1983 volume (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 1987-1982 are presented in *Appendix I* of this report (S-17).

*Revised* 1986 figures are underlined in the detailed tables.



*Appendix I*

**Detailed Results:  
1988-82 Surveys**



**Table 1**  
**1988-87\***  
**From Which Level of Government Do You Feel You Get the Most for Your Money—**  
**Federal, State, or Local?**  
(in percent)

	1988				1987			
	1. Federal	2. State	3. Local		4. Don't Know/No Answer			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Total Public	28	27	29	16	28	22	29	21
Male	29	30	29	12	31	21	32	16
Female	28	25	29	18	26	24	26	24
Head of Household	28	27	29	16	28	21	31	20
Male Head	29	31	28	12	29	20	35	16
Female Head	27	24	31	18	27	22	27	24
Under 35 Years of Age	29	31	26	14	30	30	23	17
18-24	30	29	25	16	34	27	16	23
25-34	29	33	26	12	27	32	28	13
35-44	22	25	38	15	21	23	40	16
45-65	26	26	34	14	26	16	31	27
Over 65	34	23	20	23	38	14	24	24
High School Incomplete	35	26	20	19	31	16	18	35
High School Graduate	28	25	28	19	31	24	24	21
College Incomplete	27	31	31	11	27	24	36	13
College Graduate	20	30	40	10	20	26	45	9
Household Income: Under \$15K	32	29	21	18	35	19	19	27
\$15-24.9K	45	20	22	13	27	23	32	18
\$25K +	19	30	37	14	23	24	35	18
\$25-29.9K	23	36	24	17	30	21	25	24
\$30-39.9K	24	22	41	13	22	23	34	21
\$40K +	15	32	40	13	21	27	40	12
Own	25	26	33	16	27	21	31	21
Rent	35	28	22	15	30	25	25	20
White	26	27	31	16	26	24	30	20
Nonwhite	41	27	18	14	42	15	15	28
Employed	25	27	34	14	26	24	33	17
Employed Female	24	22	36	18	22	27	32	19
Not Employed	33	26	23	18	31	21	22	26
Not Employed Female	33	27	23	17	30	23	19	28
Prof., Manager, Owner	18	30	39	13	22	23	45	10
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	27	23	33	17	32	26	22	20
Blue Collar	30	30	25	15	27	23	26	24
Retired	41	21	17	21	37	13	26	24
Married	26	28	30	16	29	21	32	18
Not Married	30	27	28	15	28	25	22	25
Household Size: 1-2 People	28	27	30	15	28	21	30	21
3-4 People	29	24	32	15	28	28	24	20
5+ People	22	55	2	21	37	13	23	27
Children in Household: Under 18	25	27	31	17	31	23	30	16
No Children	31	27	27	15	27	22	27	24
Northeast	32	20	28	20	23	20	32	25
North-Central	27	26	33	14	29	26	27	18
South	30	33	26	11	32	20	26	22
West	22	26	32	20	26	25	30	19
Nonmetro	26	31	29	14	30	21	27	22
Metro: 50,000 and Over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fringe	26	25	34	15	22	24	32	22
Central City	34	25	24	17	34	23	26	17

\*1986-72 data appear in Tables 2-4.

**Table 2**  
**1986-82**  
**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	39	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	33	22	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	39	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
45-65	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 <sup>1</sup>	23 <sup>1</sup>	35 <sup>1</sup>	18 <sup>1</sup>
\$30-39.9K	32	25	36	7	25	27	35	13	21	29	41	9	26	23	38	13	26 <sup>2</sup>	26 <sup>2</sup>	36 <sup>2</sup>	12 <sup>2</sup>
\$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, Owner	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: Under 18	32	22	37	9	29	25	33	19	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	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	35	19	28	18
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	—	—	—	—
<sup>1</sup> \$25-34.9K																				
<sup>2</sup> \$35K +																				



**Table 3**  
**1981-77**  
**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							
	1981				1980				1979				1978				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	28	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

Nielson 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 +	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	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
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*	—	—	—	—	35	21	23	21	20	31	27	22	33	19	24	25	33	25	20	23
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
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*	30	23	33	15	34	21	24	21	29	21	33	17	35	16	26	23	39	18	23	19
With Children: Total	30	26	33	12	32	24	28	16	29	23	34	14	34	23	27	17	31	23	29	17
12-17*	29	27	34	10	30	22	31	17	30	23	33	14	37	21	27	15	32	22	29	16
Under 12	30	26	34	11	32	23	30	15	27	23	36	14	28	24	28	19	32	23	27	17
6-11	—	—	—	—	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*	28	23	36	13	39	21	21	19	36	20	26	18	39	20	21	20	38	25	19	18
Rent Home*	34	27	26	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nonmetro: Rural	23	29	26	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Urban	27	25	39	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Metro 50,000-999,999	30	26	30	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1,000,000 and over	33	22	34	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

\*Comparable category in 1976-72 surveys.

*Table 4*  
**1976-72**  
**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							
	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
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+	30	23	35	13	37	23	31	9	29	22	35	14	33	18	33	16	39	20	29	12
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	38	19	23	21	39	19	22	20	29	23	27	21	35	18	23	24	39	17	25	19
Under 18	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 5*  
**1988**  
**Which Do You Think Is the Worst Tax –**  
**That Is, the Least Fair – Including Social Security?**  
(in percent)

	<b>1. Federal Income Tax</b>	<b>2. Social Security</b>				
	<b>3. State Income Tax</b>	<b>4. State Sales Tax</b>	<b>6. Don't Know/No Answer</b>			
	<b>5. Local Property Tax</b>					
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
Total Public	26	17	9	15	24	9
Male	26	17	10	16	24	7
Female	27	16	7	15	24	11
Head of Household	26	17	9	16	24	8
Male Head	26	19	10	16	23	6
Female Head	27	15	8	15	25	10
Under 35 Years of Age	29	21	9	14	18	9
18-24	26	24	10	11	16	13
25-34	30	19	9	16	19	7
35-44	26	15	10	15	26	8
45-65	26	12	9	18	27	8
Over 65	20	16	4	14	33	13
High School Incomplete	14	14	10	19	29	14
High School Graduate	27	18	7	14	24	10
College Incomplete	36	20	6	12	19	7
College Graduate	28	13	14	17	23	5
Household Income: Under \$15K	20	16	7	16	26	15
\$15-24.9K	25	23	9	12	25	6
\$25K+	28	15	11	16	23	7
\$25-29.9K	24	15	9	15	29	8
\$30-39.9K	23	13	11	23	22	8
\$40K+	33	17	11	11	21	7
Own	27	15	8	16	27	7
Rent	24	21	11	13	19	12
White	28	16	9	15	24	8
Nonwhite	14	18	9	17	25	17
Employed	29	18	10	15	22	6
Employed Female	33	16	8	13	21	9
Unemployed	22	13	7	16	29	13
Not Employed Female	19	14	8	17	29	13
Prof., Manager, Owner	30	15	14	17	18	6
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	30	21	7	13	24	5
Blue Collar	26	16	9	15	24	10
Retired	19	14	7	14	34	12
Married	27	16	9	17	25	6
Not Married	25	18	8	13	21	15
Household Size: 1-2 People	25	18	9	15	25	8
3-4 People	28	13	9	18	20	12
5+ People	36	13	0	3	41	7
Children in Household: Under 18	23	18	10	16	24	9
No Children	28	16	8	15	24	9
Northeast	24	12	7	16	33	8
North-Central	25	16	10	16	26	7
South	23	21	9	15	20	12
West	36	14	8	15	18	9
Nonmetro	29	17	8	14	24	8
Metro-50,000 and Over	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fringe	30	16	8	19	21	6
Central City	17	16	10	17	26	14

Table 6  
1988-87\*  
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																			
	1988										1987									
	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Total Public	33	10	18	28	11	30	12	21	24	13	30	12	21	24	13	30	12	21	24	13
Male	30	12	18	30	10	30	11	23	25	11	30	11	23	25	11	30	11	23	25	11
Female	35	9	18	26	12	30	12	20	23	15	30	12	20	23	15	30	12	20	23	15
Head of Household	33	10	18	28	11	30	12	21	25	12	30	12	21	25	12	30	12	21	25	12
Male Head	31	11	18	30	10	31	12	22	25	10	31	12	22	25	10	31	12	22	25	10
Female Head	34	9	18	27	12	30	12	20	24	14	30	12	20	24	14	30	12	20	24	14
Under 35 Years of Age	34	13	19	22	12	30	10	23	25	12	30	10	23	25	12	30	10	23	25	12
18-24	28	16	18	21	17	33	9	22	21	15	33	9	22	21	15	33	9	22	21	15
25-34	37	11	20	23	9	28	11	23	27	11	28	11	23	27	11	28	11	23	27	11
35-44	37	8	19	28	8	37	14	19	16	14	37	14	19	16	14	37	14	19	16	14
45-65	33	10	17	30	10	26	14	22	26	12	26	14	22	26	12	26	14	22	26	12
Over 65	24	6	13	40	17	27	8	22	30	13	27	8	22	30	13	27	8	22	30	13
High School Incomplete	20	10	19	36	15	24	9	23	24	20	24	9	23	24	20	24	9	23	24	20
High School Graduate	37	9	18	24	12	28	13	20	27	12	28	13	20	27	12	28	13	20	27	12
College Incomplete	37	8	17	25	13	39	10	20	20	11	39	10	20	20	11	39	10	20	20	11
College Graduate	32	15	17	31	5	33	13	24	22	8	33	13	24	22	8	33	13	24	22	8
Household Income: Under \$15K	25	8	19	30	18	22	9	23	30	16	22	9	23	30	16	22	9	23	30	16
\$15-24.9K	27	13	18	33	9	34	14	18	22	12	34	14	18	22	12	34	14	18	22	12
\$25K+	38	11	17	26	8	34	13	23	20	10	34	13	23	20	10	34	13	23	20	10
\$25-29.9K	29	10	17	33	11	32	9	24	26	9	32	9	24	26	9	32	9	24	26	9
\$30-39.9K	32	13	23	21	11	35	13	17	19	16	35	13	17	19	16	35	13	17	19	16
\$40K+	44	10	13	26	7	35	15	25	19	6	35	15	25	19	6	35	15	25	19	6
Own	33	9	17	32	9	28	13	20	26	13	28	13	20	26	13	28	13	20	26	13
Rent	33	12	20	20	15	35	9	25	18	13	35	9	25	18	13	35	9	25	18	13
White	33	10	17	29	11	31	11	21	25	12	31	11	21	25	12	31	11	21	25	12
Nonwhite	26	11	23	24	16	22	11	28	20	19	22	11	28	20	19	22	11	28	20	19
Employed	36	12	17	26	9	35	11	21	21	12	35	11	21	21	12	35	11	21	21	12
Employed Female	42	10	17	22	9	36	13	19	19	13	36	13	19	19	13	36	13	19	19	13
Not Employed	26	7	19	32	16	22	12	23	29	14	22	12	23	29	14	22	12	23	29	14
Not Employed Female	26	8	20	31	15	23	11	23	27	16	23	11	23	27	16	23	11	23	27	16
Prof., Manager, Owner	38	12	20	22	8	43	9	18	22	8	43	9	18	22	8	43	9	18	22	8
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	33	15	19	26	7	30	13	20	20	17	30	13	20	20	17	30	13	20	20	17
Blue Collar	34	11	17	27	11	31	14	24	20	11	31	14	24	20	11	31	14	24	20	11
Retired	24	7	12	41	16	21	13	23	30	13	21	13	23	30	13	21	13	23	30	13
Married	35	10	17	29	9	30	12	21	25	12	30	12	21	25	12	30	12	21	25	12
Not Married	29	10	19	27	15	29	11	22	22	16	29	11	22	22	16	29	11	22	22	16
Household Size: 1-2 People	31	11	18	29	11	30	12	20	25	13	30	12	20	25	13	30	12	20	25	13
3-4 People	33	9	20	25	13	28	12	24	23	13	28	12	24	23	13	28	12	24	23	13
5+ People	46	0	3	33	18	39	11	29	12	9	39	11	29	12	9	39	11	29	12	9
Children in Household: Under 18	32	12	20	25	11	28	12	23	24	13	28	12	23	24	13	28	12	23	24	13
No Children	33	9	17	30	11	31	11	20	25	13	31	11	20	25	13	31	11	20	25	13
Northeast	31	10	16	35	8	21	9	27	28	15	21	9	27	28	15	21	9	27	28	15
North-Central	31	11	17	32	9	32	14	18	26	10	32	14	18	26	10	32	14	18	26	10
South	31	10	19	27	13	35	12	21	19	13	35	12	21	19	13	35	12	21	19	13
West	39	9	19	18	15	28	10	20	28	14	28	10	20	28	14	28	10	20	28	14
Nonmetro	34	7	17	30	12	29	12	21	27	11	29	12	21	27	11	29	12	21	27	11
Metro—50,000 and Over:	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fringe	37	9	20	25	9	32	12	21	21	14	32	12	21	21	14	32	12	21	21	14
Central City	26	14	17	30	13	29	11	23	24	13	29	11	23	24	13	29	11	23	24	13

\*1986-72 data appear in Tables 6-8.

*Table 7*  
**1986-82**  
**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	38	7	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 <sup>1</sup>	12 <sup>1</sup>	12 <sup>1</sup>	31 <sup>1</sup>	6 <sup>1</sup>
\$30-39.9K	42	9	18	23	8	42	12	17	21	8	40	9	12	33	6	39	19	9	27	6	44 <sup>2</sup>	11 <sup>2</sup>	10 <sup>2</sup>	28 <sup>2</sup>	7 <sup>2</sup>
\$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, Owner	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:																									
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	29	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	—	—	—	—	—

<sup>1</sup>\$25-34.9K

<sup>2</sup>\$35K+

*Table 8*  
**1981-77**  
**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					
	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	
Blue Collar: 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+	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+	37	10	19	28	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
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: Total	—	—	—	—	—	34	11	22	23	10	36	8	17	27	12	27	13	19	31	10	30	10	20	29	11
One Family	—	—	—	—	—	34	12	21	24	9	37	7	13	31	11	30	13	14	34	9	29	10	20	31	10
Multifamily	—	—	—	—	—	33	10	25	20	12	34	9	26	17	14	21	13	28	25	12	31	12	18	25	14
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
Nonmetro: 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 9**  
**1975-72\***  
**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				
	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	9	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					

Northeast	21	15	27	30	10	29	11	21	29	17	29	12	23	28	9	13	16	20	38	13
North-Central	25	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	is	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+	29	13	18	35	6	38	14	17	27	8	34	10	16	35	6	19	13	14	46	8
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	28	10	24	27	12	29	9	20	28	17	28	9	20	32	12	18	11	12	46	13
Under 18	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

\*This question was not included in the 1976 survey.

Table 10  
**1988**  
**In Your Opinion, How Often Does the Federal Government Perform Its Duties Efficiently  
and at the Best Cost Possible?**  
(in percent)

	1. Almost All of the Time	2. Most of the Time	3. Some of the Time	4. Hardly Ever	5. Don't Know/No Answer
Total Public	2	23	48	23	4
Male	2	21	49	24	4
Female	2	24	48	22	4
Head of Household	3	21	49	24	3
Male Head	3	21	49	25	2
Female Head	2	22	49	23	4
Under 35 Years of Age	2	23	53	18	4
18-24	2	33	46	14	5
25-34	3	16	57	21	3
35-44	3	18	46	30	3
45-65	1	26	46	25	2
Over 65	3	27	43	21	6
High School Incomplete	5	28	41	19	7
High School Graduate	2	23	47	24	4
College Incomplete	2	22	52	22	2
College Graduate	1	18	54	25	2
Household Income: Under \$15K	2	27	41	22	8
\$15-24.9K	4	26	49	17	4
\$25K +	2	19	51	26	2
\$25-29.9K	1	18	60	17	4
\$30-39.9K	2	19	50	27	2
\$40K +	1	20	49	28	2
Own	2	23	50	23	2
Rent	4	21	46	23	6
White	2	23	48	24	3
Nonwhite	3	23	50	18	6
Employed	2	20	50	25	3
Employed Female	1	20	49	28	2
Unemployed	3	28	44	19	6
Not Employed Female	3	30	45	16	6
Prof., Manager, Owner	1	18	58	21	2
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	2	20	50	26	2
Blue Collar	3	21	46	27	3
Retired	2	29	42	21	6
Married	2	21	50	24	3
Not Married	2	26	46	20	6
Household Size: 1-2 People	3	22	49	23	3
3-4 People	1	25	47	22	5
5+ People	0	45	44	11	0
Children in Household: Under 18	2	22	50	23	3
No Children	2	24	47	23	4
Northeast	2	24	49	21	4
North-Central	2	17	55	23	3
South	3	30	45	19	3
West	2	17	45	30	6
Nonmetro	2	25	46	24	3
Metro: 50,000 and Over	—	—	—	—	—
Fringe	1	25	47	26	1
Central City	3	19	52	18	8

Table 11

1988

**In Your Opinion, How Often Does Your State Government Perform Its Duties Efficiently  
and at the Best Cost Possible?**

(in percent)

	<b>1. Almost all of the Time</b>	<b>2. Most of the Time</b>	<b>3. Some of the Time</b>	<b>4. Hardly Ever</b>	<b>5. Don't Know/No Answer</b>
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
Total Public	3	33	47	13	4
Male	3	31	46	16	4
Female	3	34	49	10	4
Head of Household	3	31	49	14	3
Male Head	3	31	47	17	2
Female Head	3	32	50	11	4
Under 35 Years of Age	4	34	49	9	4
18-24	6	37	45	7	5
25-34	2	33	51	11	3
35-44	2	29	45	20	4
45-65	2	29	51	14	4
Over 65	4	39	40	12	5
High School Incomplete	4	34	43	13	6
High School Graduate	3	32	47	14	4
College Incomplete	4	36	45	11	4
College Graduate	2	28	55	12	3
Household Income: Under \$15K	4	35	41	14	6
\$15-24.9K	4	33	46	14	3
\$25K +	2	31	50	13	4
\$25-29.9K	3	30	53	12	2
\$30-39.9K	2	25	52	17	4
\$40K +	3	36	47	10	4
Own	2	34	49	12	3
Rent	6	28	45	15	6
White	3	33	49	12	3
Nonwhite	7	31	40	15	7
Employed	2	30	51	14	3
Employed Female	1	31	53	13	2
Unemployed	5	36	42	11	6
Not Employed Female	6	36	44	8	6
Prof., Manager, Owner	1	31	52	12	4
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	1	26	57	16	0
Blue Collar	4	31	46	15	4
Retired	2	39	42	14	3
Married	2	31	51	13	3
Not Married	5	35	41	13	6
Household Size: 1-2 People	4	32	47	13	4
3-4 People	2	30	50	13	5
5+ People	0	56	40	4	0
Children in Household: Under 18	4	31	48	13	4
No Children	3	34	46	13	4
Northeast	4	31	47	12	6
North-Central	1	31	55	11	2
South	4	34	44	14	4
West	3	32	45	15	5
Nonmetro	2	33	50	10	5
Metro: 50,000 and Over	—	—	—	—	—
Fringe	3	35	47	14	1
Central City	5	29	44	16	6

*Table 12*  
**1988**  
**In Your Opinion, How Often Does Your Local Government Perform Its Duties Efficiently**  
**and at the Best Cost Possible?**  
(in percent)

	1. Almost all of the Time 3. Some of the Time 5. Don't Know/No Answer	2. Most of the Time 4. Hardly Ever	3	4	5
Total Public	5	41	37	13	4
Male	5	38	37	16	4
Female	6	44	36	10	4
Head of Household	6	40	37	13	4
Male Head	6	37	38	17	2
Female Head	6	42	36	11	5
Under 35 Years of Age	4	44	36	12	4
18-24	4	51	31	9	5
25-34	4	39	39	14	4
35-44	5	39	34	17	5
45-65	8	37	42	11	2
Over 65	7	43	32	11	7
High School Incomplete	5	38	34	16	7
High School Graduate	6	43	33	15	3
College Incomplete	5	35	45	11	4
College Graduate	5	47	39	6	3
Household Income: Under \$15K	5	39	33	15	8
\$15-24.9K	8	39	37	14	2
\$25K +	5	44	37	11	3
\$25-29.9K	2	35	41	20	2
\$30-39.9K	5	42	34	14	5
\$40K +	6	48	38	6	2
Own	6	41	38	12	3
Rent	5	39	34	15	7
White	6	42	37	12	3
Nonwhite	4	36	34	17	9
Employed	4	43	37	13	3
Employed Female	5	49	33	10	3
Unemployed	7	38	37	12	6
Not Employed Female	7	38	39	10	6
Prof., Manager, Owner	4	45	40	8	3
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	5	46	37	10	2
Blue Collar	5	38	33	20	4
Retired	9	40	33	14	4
Married	5	40	40	12	3
Not Married	6	42	31	14	7
Household Size: 1-2 People	6	41	37	12	4
3-4 People	5	40	37	13	5
5+ People	0	65	20	15	0
Children in Household: Under 18	5	41	36	14	4
No Children	6	40	38	12	4
Northeast	6	36	43	10	5
North-Central	4	46	38	10	2
South	8	40	34	14	4
West	4	42	32	16	6
Nonmetro	5	45	33	13	4
Metro: 50,000 and Over	—	—	—	—	—
Fringe	7	46	34	10	3
Central City	5	29	44	16	6



Table 13

1988

**Does Your State Have Its Own Constitution, or Does It Rely on the United States Constitution for Its Governing Powers?**

(in percent)

1. State has its own constitution
2. State relies on the United States Constitution
3. State has its own constitution and relies on the United States Constitution (volunteered)
4. Don't know/No answer

	1	2	3	4
Total Public	44	19	5	32
Male	49	19	4	28
Female	38	20	5	37
Head of Household	45	18	5	32
Male Head	52	18	5	25
Female Head	39	19	4	38
Under 35 Years of Age	30	27	5	38
18-24	29	32	8	31
25-34	31	23	4	42
35-44	47	16	5	32
45-65	56	15	4	25
Over 65	52	13	4	31
High School Incomplete	32	21	4	43
High School Graduate	37	24	5	34
College Incomplete	44	20	6	30
College Graduate	70	8	4	18
Household Income: Under \$15K	33	25	4	38
\$15-24.9K	37	20	6	37
\$25K +	52	16	5	27
\$25-29.9K	41	19	2	38
\$30-39.9K	48	21	4	27
\$40K +	59	12	6	23
Own	51	16	4	29
Rent	29	24	7	40
White	45	17	5	33
Nonwhite	33	34	4	29
Employed	43	20	5	32
Employed Female	35	23	6	36
Unemployed	44	18	5	33
Not Employed Female	41	17	5	37
Prof., Manager, Owner	53	15	4	28
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	37	22	7	34
Blue Collar	39	23	5	33
Retired	50	16	5	29
Married	46	17	5	32
Not Married	39	23	4	34
Household Size: 1-2 People	44	18	4	34
3-4 People	43	24	4	29
5+ People	38	18	16	28
Children in Household: Under 18	39	23	6	32
No Children	47	17	4	32
Northeast	38	28	5	29
North-Central	43	19	5	33
South	46	18	5	31
West	45	14	3	38
Nonmetro	45	14	6	35
Metro-50,000 and Over	—	—	—	—
Fringe	48	24	3	25
Central City	37	21	5	37

Table 14

**1988**  
**Does the Constitution of Your State have a Bill of Rights or**  
**Some Other Provisions that Protect Individual Rights,**  
**Like Freedom of Religion and Freedom of Speech?**  
(in percent)

	Yes	No	Don't Know/ No Answer
	1	2	3
Total Public	56	6	38
Male	57	7	36
Female	56	5	39
Head of Household	57	6	37
Male Head	59	7	34
Female Head	56	4	40
Under 35 Years of Age	56	6	38
18-24	63	5	32
25-34	52	6	42
35-44	50	7	43
45-65	63	5	32
Over 65	55	6	39
High School Incomplete	52	9	39
High School Graduate	59	4	37
College Incomplete	55	7	38
College Graduate	58	6	36
Household Income: Under \$15K	57	6	37
\$15-24.9K	54	8	38
\$25K +	59	5	36
\$25-29.9K	55	6	39
\$30-39.9K	55	3	42
\$40K +	62	6	32
Own	59	6	35
Rent	54	5	41
White	57	6	37
Nonwhite	52	9	39
Employed	55	6	39
Employed Female	55	4	41
Unemployed	57	7	36
Not Employed Female	57	6	37
Prof., Manager, Owner	60	5	35
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	62	5	33
Blue Collar	52	7	41
Retired	58	6	36
Married	58	6	36
Not Married	53	6	41
Household Size: 1-2 People	58	6	36
3-4 People	52	6	42
5+ People	55	7	38
Children in Household: Under 18	56	6	38
No Children	58	6	36
Northeast	63	3	34
North-Central	59	4	37
South	58	8	34
West	44	8	48
Nonmetro	56	6	38
Metro: 50,000 and Over	—	—	—
Fringe	56	8	36
Central City	58	4	38

Table 15

1988

**In Recent Years, Many States Have Set Up Full-time Offices in  
Foreign Countries to Promote Trade, Tourism, and Investment for Their States.  
Are These State Offices Ususally a Very Good Use of Public Funds, a  
Somewhat Good Use, a Not Very Good Use, or a Poor Use of Public Funds?  
(in percent)**

	1. Very Good Use 4. Poor Use		2. Somewhat Good Use 5. Don't Know/No Answer			3. Not Very Good Use	
	1	2	3	4	5		
Total Public	11	38	20	21	10		
Male	13	39	17	23	8		
Female	9	37	22	20	12		
Head of Household	11	37	20	22	10		
Male Head	14	38	17	23	8		
Female Head	8	37	22	21	12		
Under 35 Years of Age	13	40	20	17	10		
18-24	16	42	20	14	8		
25-34	11	39	19	19	12		
35-44	14	40	17	23	6		
45-65	9	37	21	23	10		
Over 65	7	29	21	27	16		
High School Incomplete	9	29	23	27	12		
High School Graduate	10	36	20	20	14		
College Incomplete	11	37	23	24	5		
College Graduate	17	50	12	14	7		
Household Income: Under \$15K	7	36	20	21	16		
\$15-24.9K	12	29	25	25	9		
\$25K +	12	43	18	20	7		
\$25-29.9K	10	48	19	15	8		
\$30-39.9K	11	44	16	26	3		
\$40K +	14	40	18	18	10		
Own	11	38	20	22	9		
Rent	11	37	20	18	14		
White	11	38	19	22	10		
Nonwhite	11	35	25	16	13		
Employed	12	41	19	19	9		
Employed Female	11	39	21	19	10		
Unemployed	10	31	22	24	13		
Not Employed Female	9	33	23	21	14		
Prof., Manager, Owner	17	43	13	20	7		
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	7	39	19	24	11		
Blue Collar	11	39	20	21	9		
Retired	9	31	20	27	13		
Married	12	36	20	22	10		
Not Married	10	41	18	19	12		
Household Size: 1-2 People	11	38	19	22	10		
3-4 People	11	38	21	19	11		
5+ People	17	37	25	21	0		
Children in Household: Under 18	12	37	20	20	11		
No Children	11	37	20	22	10		
Northeast	13	32	20	22	13		
North-Central	11	42	20	17	10		
South	9	38	21	25	7		
West	14	38	16	18	14		
Nonmetro	11	35	21	24	9		
Metro: 50,000 and Over	—	—	—	—	—		
Fringe	13	39	20	22	6		
Central City	9	40	18	17	16		

Table 16

1988

**In Recent Years, Many Governors and Mayors Have Traveled to Foreign Countries to Promote Trade, Tourism, and Investment for Their States and Cities. Are These Foreign Trips by Governors and Mayors Usually a Very Good Use of Public Funds, a Somewhat Good Use, a Not Very Good Use, or a Poor Use of Public Funds?**

(in percent)

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

Table 17

1988

**Many City Councils Have Passed Resolutions on Such Foreign Policy Issues as Israel, Northern Ireland, South Africa, and Nuclear Weapons.**

**These Resolutions Sometimes Oppose the Foreign Policy of the President and Congress.**

**Do You Think It Is Very Proper, Somewhat Proper, Not Very Proper, or Not Proper at All for City Councils to Pass Resolutions on Foreign Policy?**

(in percent)

	1. Very Proper	2. Somewhat Proper		3. Not Very Proper	
	4. Not Proper at All	5. Don't Know/No Answer			
			1	2	3
			4	5	
Total Public			10	21	24
Male			11	20	22
Female			9	22	25
Head of Household			10	20	23
Male Head			12	19	21
Female Head			9	21	25
Under 35 Years of Age			13	28	23
18-24			13	31	23
25-34			13	26	23
35-44			12	18	18
45-65			9	19	25
Over 65			3	12	28
High School Incomplete			5	17	29
High School Graduate			6	22	23
College Incomplete			15	19	24
College Graduate			20	25	17
Household Income: Under \$15K			8	22	20
\$15-24.9K			8	21	27
\$25K +			12	22	23
\$25-29.9K			11	18	24
\$30-39.9K			9	25	21
\$40K +			15	20	24
Own			10	20	25
Rent			13	24	20
White			10	19	24
Nonwhite			13	32	18
Employed			11	25	21
Employed Female			10	26	22
Unemployed			8	17	26
Not Employed Female			8	19	27
Prof., Manager, Owner			17	24	19
White Collar, Sales, Clerical			5	31	25
Blue Collar			9	21	22
Retired			6	12	28
Married			9	21	21
Not Married			12	21	28
Household Size: 1-2 People			10	20	24
3-4 People			10	21	24
5+ People			5	57	5
Children in Household: Under 18			14	23	19
No Children			8	20	26
Northeast			12	28	21
North-Central			8	17	30
South			7	23	23
West			17	15	17
Nonmetro			8	17	31
Metro: 50,000 and Over			-	-	-
Fringe			12	20	18
Central City			10	29	20

**Table 18**  
**1988**  
**If You Were to Grade the Performance of the Following Types of Public Works Services Based on**  
**Your Own Experience, What Grade Would You Give Each?**  
(in percent)

	1. Grade of A						2. Grade of B						3. Grade of C						4. Grade of D						5. Grade of F						6. Don't Know/No Answer					
	Roads and Bridges						Water Supply						Solid Waste Disposal																							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6						
Total Public	7	27	36	20	9	1	16	44	21	10	5	4	10	31	28	17	9	5	10	31	28	17	9	5	10	31	28	17	9	5						
Male	7	27	35	20	10	1	15	47	18	9	7	4	11	36	24	15	10	4	11	36	24	15	10	4	11	36	24	15	10	4						
Female	6	26	37	21	8	2	18	40	24	10	3	5	9	27	30	19	8	7	9	27	30	19	8	7	9	27	30	19	8	7						
Head of Household	6	26	38	21	8	1	16	44	22	9	5	4	10	31	28	17	9	5	10	31	28	17	9	5	10	31	28	17	9	5						
Male Head	8	26	36	20	9	1	14	49	18	8	8	3	11	36	24	14	11	4	11	36	24	14	11	4	11	36	24	14	11	4						
Female Head	5	25	39	22	8	1	17	40	25	10	3	5	7	27	31	20	8	7	7	27	31	20	8	7	7	27	31	20	8	7						
Under 35 Years of Age	7	25	37	21	9	1	18	41	20	11	5	5	9	34	27	15	9	6	9	34	27	15	9	6	9	34	27	15	9	6						
18-24	11	21	38	17	12	1	25	40	16	10	6	3	14	33	27	17	4	5	14	33	27	17	4	5	14	33	27	17	4	5						
25-34	4	27	35	24	8	2	14	41	22	12	5	6	6	34	27	14	13	6	6	34	27	14	13	6	6	34	27	14	13	6						
35-44	5	26	38	19	11	1	15	43	25	9	5	3	10	35	21	16	13	5	10	35	21	16	13	5	10	35	21	16	13	5						
45-65	8	28	30	25	8	1	16	47	20	8	6	3	9	28	33	18	9	3	9	28	33	18	9	3	9	28	33	18	9	3						
Over 65	7	28	43	12	7	3	14	45	23	8	3	7	12	25	27	22	4	10	12	25	27	22	4	10	12	25	27	22	4	10						
High School Incomplete	10	22	32	24	9	3	11	36	28	11	6	8	10	27	34	13	8	8	10	27	34	13	8	8	10	27	34	13	8	8						
High School Graduate	4	26	37	21	11	1	15	50	19	7	5	4	8	34	26	16	10	6	8	34	26	16	10	6	8	34	26	16	10	6						
College Incomplete	7	28	39	18	8	0	18	42	22	11	6	1	10	31	25	23	7	4	10	31	25	23	7	4	10	31	25	23	7	4						
College Graduate	7	30	39	17	6	1	24	40	18	11	3	4	13	30	27	17	9	4	13	30	27	17	9	4	13	30	27	17	9	4						
Household Income: Under \$15K	4	24	42	19	7	4	11	39	26	12	7	5	7	26	30	18	10	9	7	26	30	18	10	9	7	26	30	18	10	9						
\$15-24.9K	8	22	38	18	13	1	20	42	21	7	5	5	10	32	25	20	8	5	10	32	25	20	8	5	10	32	25	20	8	5						
\$25K+	6	30	33	22	8	1	18	47	19	10	3	3	11	33	29	15	8	4	11	33	29	15	8	4	11	33	29	15	8	4						
\$25-29.9K	11	23	32	21	12	1	18	44	24	5	4	5	14	27	35	15	5	4	14	27	35	15	5	4	14	27	35	15	5	4						
\$30-39.9K	4	26	36	25	9	0	17	43	19	14	3	4	8	39	28	12	8	5	8	39	28	12	8	5	8	39	28	12	8	5						
\$40K+	7	36	32	20	5	0	18	51	18	9	3	1	12	31	27	18	9	3	12	31	27	18	9	3	12	31	27	18	9	3						
Own	6	26	38	21	8	1	15	46	22	8	4	5	9	31	28	18	7	7	9	31	28	18	7	7	9	31	28	18	7	7						
Rent	7	24	33	22	12	2	19	39	20	12	7	3	10	31	27	15	13	4	10	31	27	15	13	4	10	31	27	15	13	4						
White	6	28	36	20	9	1	17	45	20	9	5	4	10	32	28	16	9	5	10	32	28	16	9	5	10	32	28	16	9	5						
Nonwhite	9	20	39	20	9	3	13	37	29	10	8	3	8	27	28	20	12	5	8	27	28	20	12	5	8	27	28	20	12	5						

Employed	7	26	36	21	9	1	17	45	20	10	5	3	10	34	25	17	10	4
Employed Female	5	26	36	23	9	1	18	42	23	11	3	3	9	29	27	18	11	6
Unemployed	7	27	36	19	9	2	16	41	22	10	5	6	10	26	30	19	7	8
Not Employed Female	7	27	38	19	7	2	17	39	25	10	3	6	8	24	34	21	5	8
Prof., Manager, Owner	9	25	39	18	8	1	21	43	18	9	5	4	9	37	23	12	14	5
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	7	26	37	25	5	0	20	39	31	7	2	1	9	29	32	16	6	8
Blue Collar	6	25	34	22	12	1	13	48	17	11	8	3	9	31	28	18	11	3
Retired	6	33	36	17	8	0	13	45	24	8	4	6	12	27	32	18	4	7
Married	7	25	36	24	7	1	15	46	21	9	4	5	9	33	27	18	8	5
Not Married	6	29	37	14	12	2	19	39	21	11	6	4	11	28	29	16	10	6
Household Size: 1-2 People	6	25	39	21	8	1	17	43	21	9	5	5	9	31	29	16	9	6
3-4 People	7	33	28	20	12	0	15	47	20	10	5	3	8	33	23	20	11	5
5+ People	29	19	39	8	5	0	19	30	22	11	18	0	28	5	42	25	0	0
Children in Household: Under 18	6	26	37	22	8	1	16	44	22	9	5	4	10	33	24	16	11	6
No Children	8	27	35	20	9	1	16	43	21	10	6	4	10	29	30	18	8	5
Northeast	5	16	42	20	15	2	20	35	22	12	5	6	8	20	26	25	16	5
North-Central	2	27	43	21	6	1	16	53	18	5	4	4	8	35	31	16	5	5
South	7	32	30	23	7	1	15	42	25	10	4	4	10	36	25	16	6	7
West	14	27	32	15	11	1	16	41	17	12	10	4	13	28	30	13	12	4
Nonmetro	6	28	33	24	7	2	11	45	20	11	5	8	10	31	27	18	7	7
Metro: 50,000 and Over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fringe	5	30	36	20	9	0	22	49	16	8	4	1	11	33	29	15	10	2
Central City	9	20	41	16	11	3	18	35	28	10	6	3	8	29	28	18	11	6

*Table 19*  
**Average Grades for Public Services**  
 (on a zero to four scale)\*

	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
	<b>Roads and Bridges</b>	<b>Water Supply</b>	<b>Solid Waste</b>
Total Public	2.02	2.59	2.16
Male	2.03	2.55	2.23
Female	2.01	2.62	2.10
Head of Household	2.01	2.59	2.15
Male Head	2.05	2.54	2.23
Female Head	1.97	2.62	2.07
Under 35 Years of Age	1.98	2.59	2.20
18-24	2.04	2.73	2.40
25-34	1.96	2.50	2.08
35-44	1.96	2.57	2.12
45-65	2.03	2.60	2.08
Over 65	2.18	2.62	2.23
High School Incomplete	2.01	2.39	2.18
High School Graduate	1.92	2.65	2.14
College Incomplete	2.10	2.54	2.15
College Graduate	2.17	2.73	2.21
Household Income: Under \$15K	1.98	2.36	2.03
\$15-24.9K	1.95	2.69	2.16
\$25K +	2.06	2.68	2.24
\$25-29.9K	1.96	2.68	2.32
\$30-39.9K	1.91	2.59	2.27
\$40K +	2.18	2.73	2.19
Own	2.03	2.64	2.18
Rent	1.92	2.54	2.11
White	2.03	2.63	2.19
Nonwhite	2.00	2.38	2.00
Employed	2.00	2.59	2.16
Employed Female	1.94	2.65	2.09
Unemployed	2.05	2.58	2.14
Not Employed Female	2.09	2.59	2.11
Prof., Manager, Owner	2.10	2.68	2.17
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	2.03	2.69	2.19
Blue Collar	1.90	2.48	2.10
Retired	2.11	2.60	2.26
Married	2.01	2.61	2.17
Not Married	2.05	2.57	2.15
Household Size: 1-2 People	1.99	2.61	2.18
3-4 People	2.05	2.60	2.07
5+ People	2.62	2.24	2.40
Children in Household: Under 18	2.00	2.60	2.17
No Children	2.04	2.57	2.17
Northeast	1.75	2.55	1.78
North-Central	2.00	2.77	2.28
South	2.10	2.57	2.29
West	2.17	2.43	2.18
Nonmetro	2.02	2.50	2.20
Metro: 50,000 and Over	—	—	—
Fringe	2.04	2.77	2.20
Central City	2.00	2.50	2.06

\*Averaged on a zero to four scale where zero equals a grade of "F" and four equals a grade of "A."



Table 20

**1988**  
**If There Is a Need to Raise Additional Revenues to Improve**  
**Public Works Services, Which One of These Would You Prefer?**  
(in percent)

	<b>1. User Fees or Charge for Specific Services</b>	<b>2. Special Taxes Dedicated to Funding Specific Services</b>	<b>3. General Purpose Taxes</b>	<b>4. Don't Spend More/Don't Increase Revenues (volunteered)</b>	<b>5. Other</b>	<b>6. Don't Know/No Answer</b>
Total Public	35	37	12	7	2	7
Male	36	33	14	7	3	7
Female	33	42	10	7	1	7
Head of Household	36	37	12	8	2	5
Male Head	37	34	14	8	3	4
Female Head	34	41	11	7	1	6
Under 35 Years of Age	38	35	12	5	2	8
18-24	37	35	12	4	1	11
25-34	38	36	12	6	3	5
35-44	35	39	10	10	2	4
45-65	36	36	13	6	3	6
Over 65	26	42	12	9	2	9
High School Incomplete	30	36	14	11	1	8
High School Graduate	36	36	11	8	3	6
College Incomplete	34	40	8	8	2	8
College Graduate	39	39	14	1	2	5
Household Income: Under \$15K	29	39	12	9	2	9
\$15-24.9K	35	37	11	10	2	5
\$25K+	38	35	12	6	2	7
\$25-29.9K	34	37	16	6	1	6
\$30-39.9K	35	37	10	8	2	8
\$40K+	42	34	12	4	3	5
Own	35	39	12	7	2	5
Rent	36	34	11	9	2	8
White	36	36	12	7	2	7
Nonwhite	25	43	12	12	2	6
Employed	37	37	12	7	2	5
Employed Female	35	44	8	8	2	3
Unemployed	32	38	11	9	2	8
Not Employed Female	32	40	12	6	1	9
Prof., Manager, Owner	40	39	12	2	2	5
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	36	34	9	11	3	7
Blue Collar	35	36	13	8	2	6
Retired	27	41	12	13	1	6
Married	37	37	12	7	2	5
Not Married	31	38	12	7	2	10
Household Size: 1-2 People	35	37	12	8	2	6
3-4 People	34	40	12	4	2	8
5+ People	35	20	9	23	2	11
Children in Household: Under 18	36	38	12	7	2	5
No Children	34	37	12	7	2	8
Northeast	33	38	8	12	2	7
North-Central	39	36	13	5	3	4
South	33	40	12	5	2	8
West	34	35	13	9	1	8
Nonmetro	34	38	12	6	3	7
Metro-50,000 and Over	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fringe	42	33	12	6	2	5
Central City	28	41	12	10	1	8

Table 21  
**1987**  
**Which Government Do You Feel Wastes the Most of Your Tax Money—**  
**Federal, State, or Local?**  
(in percent)

1. Federal	2. State	3. Local		4. Don't Know/No Answer	
		1	2	3	4
Total Public		66	14	8	12
Male		70	14	7	9
Female		63	14	9	14
Head of Household		68	13	8	11
Male Head		73	13	5	9
Female Head		63	14	10	13
Under 35 Years of Age		63	17	8	12
18-24		62	16	11	11
25-34		64	18	6	12
35-44		70	11	9	10
45-65		70	12	7	11
Over 65		64	13	10	13
High School Incomplete		52	19	9	20
High School Graduate		65	15	9	11
College Incomplete		78	8	4	10
College Graduate		76	13	7	4
Household Income: Under \$15K		54	17	13	16
\$15-24.9K		71	12	8	9
\$25K+		74	13	3	10
\$25-29.9K		70	13	7	10
\$30-39.9K		74	13	0	13
\$40K+		76	12	4	8
Own		69	13	7	11
Rent		61	15	10	14
White		70	13	7	10
Nonwhite		39	19	17	25
Employed		71	14	6	9
Employed Female		71	15	4	10
Not Employed		58	14	11	17
Not Employed Female		54	15	14	17
Prof., Manager, Owner		79	11	5	5
White Collar, Sales, Clerical		70	14	9	7
Blue Collar		64	17	6	13
Retired		68	13	10	9
Married		68	14	7	11
Not Married		63	13	10	14
Household Size: 1-2 People		68	12	8	12
3-4 People		62	17	9	12
5+ People		59	18	0	23
Children in Household: Under 18		66	17	6	11
No Children		67	11	9	13
Northeast		59	15	10	16
North-Central		76	12	5	7
South		61	17	10	12
West		70	11	6	13
Nonmetro		67	17	8	8
Metro-50,000 and Over: Fringe		69	10	7	14
Central City		62	16	9	13

Table 22

1987

**If the Federal Government Decided to Raise a Small Amount of  
Additional Revenue to Help Meet Costs and  
Reduce the Deficit, Which One of These Would You Prefer?**

(in percent)

1. An Increase in Gasoline and Diesel Fuel Taxes
2. An Increase in Individual Income Tax Rates
3. A National Lottery
4. A National Sales Tax on All Purchases Other Than Food
5. An Increase in User Fees or Charges for Things Like the Use of National Parks and Forests, Passports, Customs Inspections, and Coast Guard Services for Boaters
6. No Tax Increase/No New Taxes (volunteered)
7. Don't Know/No Answer

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Total Public	8	7	47	10	15	6	7
Male	9	7	47	11	14	6	6
Female	7	5	46	10	17	7	8
Head of Household	9	6	46	11	16	6	6
Male Head	10	8	47	11	14	5	5
Female Head	8	5	44	11	18	7	7
Under 35 Years of Age	7	6	54	8	14	5	6
18-24	3	6	57	11	12	5	6
25-34	10	6	52	5	16	5	6
35-44	7	7	46	15	14	7	4
45-65	9	8	42	9	19	5	8
Over 65	10	6	33	16	13	11	11
High School Incomplete	9	4	46	11	8	7	15
High School Graduate	6	5	52	8	15	7	7
College Incomplete	5	6	51	10	20	6	2
College Graduate	15	14	32	13	22	2	2
Household Income: Under \$15K	7	4	47	10	12	8	12
\$15-24.9K	5	5	48	12	17	7	6
\$25K+	10	9	47	9	18	4	3
\$25-29.9K	6	6	52	6	15	10	5
\$30-39.9K	12	7	41	11	22	4	3
\$40K+	11	12	48	10	15	2	2
Own	9	7	43	11	18	6	6
Rent	7	4	52	9	11	8	9
White	9	6	46	10	17	6	6
Nonwhite	4	7	47	13	7	9	13
Employed	9	7	49	8	15	7	5
Employed Female	7	7	51	7	15	8	5
Not Employed	8	4	42	13	18	5	10
Not Employed Female	8	3	42	12	21	4	10
Prof., Manager, Owner	12	9	45	11	16	5	2
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	4	11	50	12	11	6	6
Blue Collar	7	5	52	9	13	9	5
Retired	10	7	38	12	17	8	8
Married	10	6	46	11	17	5	5
Not Married	6	7	47	9	13	8	10
Household Size: 1-2 People	8	6	45	12	15	7	7
3-4 People	11	7	48	8	16	4	6
5+ People	0	0	71	0	8	15	6
Children in Household: Under 18	9	6	53	9	14	5	4
No Children	8	7	42	11	16	7	9
Northeast	7	4	55	4	15	6	9
North-Central	9	7	44	16	15	4	5
South	9	8	45	10	14	7	7
West	7	7	43	10	18	8	7
Nonmetro	7	6	48	11	16	6	6
Metro-50,000 and Over: Fringe	10	7	45	7	16	6	9
Central City	7	6	47	15	13	6	6

Table 23

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	so	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: 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
Non-metro	32	6	49	13
Metro-50,000 and Over: Fringe	33	6	46	15
Central City	29	9	46	16

Table 24  
**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 Size: 1-2 People	25	50	26
3-4 People	25	53	22
5 + People	21	54	26
Children in Household: 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 25

1983

**If 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 Size: 1-2 People	23	12	37	28
3-4 People	20	16	39	25
5+ People	18	15	44	23
Children in Household: 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 26  
**1987**  
**If Your State Government Decided to Raise a Small Amount of**  
**Additional Revenue to Help Meet Costs and Improve Services,**  
**Which One of These Would You Prefer?**  
(in percent)

1. An Increase in Cigarette and Liquor Taxes
2. An Increase in The General State Sales Tax
3. An Increase in Gasoline and Diesel Fuel Taxes
4. An Increase in State Income Tax Rates, or an Income Tax If Your State Does Not Now Have One
5. An Increase in User Fees or Charges for Things Like the Use of State Parks, Automobile Registration, Boating Licenses, or Toll Roads
6. No Tax Increase/No New Taxes (volunteered)
7. Don't Know/No Answer

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Total Public	54	8	4	6	13	8	7
Male	53	9	4	5	15	9	5
Female	55	7	3	6	13	7	9
Head of Household	55	8	4	6	14	8	5
Male Head	53	8	5	5	15	9	5
Female Head	57	7	3	6	12	7	8
Under 35 Years of Age	56	7	4	6	13	7	7
18-24	57	7	1	4	15	10	6
25-34	55	7	5	7	11	6	9
35-44	53	9	4	7	16	7	4
45-65	51	9	3	6	16	8	7
Over 65	57	9	3	3	10	10	8
High School Incomplete	50	3	5	4	14	10	14
High School Graduate	53	9	3	6	14	8	7
College Incomplete	60	7	3	6	12	10	2
College Graduate	57	11	5	8	15	3	1
Household Income: Under \$15K	54	6	3	5	11	11	10
\$15-24.9K	55	7	3	4	15	8	8
\$25K+	53	11	4	7	16	6	3
\$25-29.9K	46	8	3	6	17	16	4
\$30-39.9K	55	12	5	7	16	4	1
\$40K+	56	11	3	8	15	4	3
Own	58	8	3	6	13	7	5
Rent	49	8	5	5	13	10	10
White	56	9	3	5	14	7	6
Nonwhite	44	3	5	9	10	15	14
Employed	54	8	4	6	13	8	7
Employed Female	54	8	4	8	11	7	8
Not Employed	55	7	3	6	14	8	7
Not Employed Female	58	6	2	5	15	6	8
Prof., Manager, Owner	66	9	5	5	8	5	2
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	51	10	2	8	14	6	9
Blue Collar	51	7	4	6	13	11	8
Retired	50	7	4	3	19	11	6
Married	55	8	4	6	15	7	5
Not Married	53	8	3	5	11	10	10
Household Size: 1-2 People	54	8	4	6	13	8	7
3-4 People	55	7	3	4	16	7	8
5+ People	58	14	0	3	0	11	14
Children in Household: Under 18	60	6	4	6	14	6	4
No Children	50	9	3	6	13	9	10
Northeast	48	8	4	4	10	11	15
North-Central	60	6	5	7	12	7	3
South	50	9	2	6	17	9	7
West	61	9	3	5	13	5	4
Nonmetro	57	7	2	8	15	7	4
Metro-50,000 and Over: Fringe	55	8	4	4	13	7	9
Central City	49	10	4	5	13	11	8

Table 27  
**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/No Answer
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
\$15-24.9K	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 Size: 1-2 People	27	53	20
3-4 People	20	62	19
5+ People	18	59	23
Children in Household: 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 28

1987\*

**If Your Local Government Decided to Raise a Small Amount of  
Additional Revenue to Help Meet Costs and Improve Services,  
Which One of These Would You Prefer?**

(in percent)

1. A Local Income pr Wage Tax, or an Increase in Existing Local Income or Wage Tax Rates
2. A Local Sales Tax, or an Increase in the Existing Local Sales Tax
3. An Increase in Property Tax Rates
4. An Increase in User Fees or Charges for Things Like the Use of Local Parks and Swimming Pools,  
Parking, Library Use, Garbage Pick-Up, or Ambulance Service
5. No Tax Increase/No New Taxes (volunteered)
6. Don't Know/No Answer

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Total Public	9	20	9	33	17	12
Male	9	24	10	32	16	9
Female	9	16	9	35	17	14
Head of Household	10	19	9	34	17	11
Male Head	10	23	10	33	15	9
Female Head	9	17	8	34	19	13
Under 35 Years of Age	9	23	8	34	15	11
18-24	6	21	11	37	15	10
25-34	10	25	7	32	14	12
35-44	7	19	12	35	18	9
45-65	10	19	11	33	15	12
Over 65	11	16	4	31	23	15
High School Incomplete	9	16	8	23	21	23
High School Graduate	10	20	8	34	17	11
College Incomplete	8	17	9	41	20	5
College Graduate	8	30	14	37	7	4
Household Income: Under \$15K	10	18	5	28	20	19
\$15-24.9K	8	21	10	31	20	10
\$25K +	9	22	12	39	12	6
\$25-29.9K	5	22	9	34	22	8
\$30-39.9K	7	26	10	43	8	6
\$40K +	11	20	16	38	10	5
Own	9	20	10	35	16	10
Rent	8	22	8	29	18	15
White	9	20	10	35	16	10
Nonwhite	6	20	6	23	23	22
Employed	8	22	11	34	15	10
Employed Female	9	15	12	34	17	13
Not Employed	11	17	6	32	19	15
Not Employed Female	11	15	6	35	18	15
Prof., Manager, Owner	9	25	12	35	15	4
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	8	21	13	32	13	13
Blue Collar	8	20	9	31	18	14
Retired	12	17	4	34	22	11
Married	9	20	9	36	16	10
Not Married	8	21	10	30	17	14
Household Size: 1-2 People	10	20	9	34	18	9
3-4 People	7	23	11	32	12	15
5+ People	2	11	0	41	17	29
Children in Household: Under 18	8	20	8	38	15	11
No Children	10	20	10	30	18	12
Northeast	10	16	7	30	19	18
North-Central	12	22	11	33	14	8
South	8	20	10	36	16	10
West	6	23	8	33	17	13
Nonmetro	11	20	8	34	18	9
Metro-50,000 and Over: Fringe	8	19	12	33	14	14
Central City	8	23	7	32	18	12

\*See also, Tables 29-31.



Table 30  
1983  
**Suppose Your Local Government Must Raise More Revenue, the  
Better Way to Do this Would Be . . .**  
(in percent)

	1. Local Income Tax	2. Local Sales Tax		
	3. Local Property Tax	4. Don't Know		
	1	2	3	4
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 Size: 1-2 People	12	44	20	24
3-4 People	11	46	20	23
5 + People	12	45	17	26
Children in Household: 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 31

**September 1981**  
**Suppose Your Local Government Must Raise More Revenue,**  
**Which of These Do You Think Would Be the Best Way to Do It?**  
(in percent)

	<b>1.</b>	<b>2.</b>	<b>3.</b>	<b>4.</b>	<b>5.</b>
	<b>1. Local Income Tax</b>	<b>2. Local Sales Tax</b>	<b>3. Local Property Tax</b>	<b>4. Charges for Specific Services</b>	<b>5. Don't Know</b>
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: Some	7	22	5	58	8
Grad.	10	19	8	56	7
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 +	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
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
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
Nonmetro: 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 32

1987

**Overall, Do You Feel that the Federal Government Has Too Much Power, the Right Amount of Power, or Too Little Power over the Activities of State and Local Governments Today?**

(in percent)

	1. Too Much Power 3. Too Little Power		2. The Right Amount of Power 4. Don't Know/No Answer	
	1	2	3	4
Total Public	45	37	8	10
Male	47	37	9	7
Female	44	37	6	13
Head of Household	46	37	8	9
Male Head	48	37	9	6
Female Head	44	37	6	13
Under 35 Years of Age	39	42	7	12
18-24	39	41	9	11
25-34	40	43	5	12
35-44	48	39	8	5
45-65	52	29	8	11
Over 65	46	32	9	13
High School Incomplete	45	26	10	19
High School Graduate	48	34	7	11
College Incomplete	51	38	6	5
College Graduate	37	55	4	4
Household Income: Under \$15K	46	30	9	15
\$15-24.9K	49	33	9	9
\$25K +	43	43	6	8
\$25-29.9K	53	35	2	10
\$30-39.9K	40	45	4	11
\$40K +	41	44	10	5
Own	46	38	7	9
Rent	45	33	10	12
White	44	38	8	10
Nonwhite	53	30	4	13
Employed	44	39	9	8
Employed Female	45	39	7	9
Not Employed	47	33	6	14
Not Employed Female	45	34	5	16
Prof., Manager, Owner	44	45	6	5
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	50	35	7	8
Blue Collar	47	32	11	10
Retired	47	33	6	14
Married	45	38	8	9
Not Married	46	35	7	12
Household Size: 1-2 People	45	36	8	11
3-4 People	46	36	8	10
5+ People	50	45	0	5
Children in Household: Under 18	41	39	9	11
No Children	49	35	6	10
Northeast	38	44	6	12
North-Central	43	39	10	8
South	51	34	6	9
West	46	31	9	14
Nonmetro	49	30	8	13
Metro-50,000 and Over: Fringe	44	41	6	9
Central City	42	40	9	9

Table 33  
1987  
**In Which of the Following People in Government  
Do You Have the Most Trust and Confidence?**  
(in percent)

1. The People in Charge of Running the Federal Government
2. The People in Charge of Running Your State Government
3. The People in Charge of Running Your Local Government
4. Don't Know/No Answer

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

Table 34

1987

**Overall, How Much Trust and Confidence Do You Have in Your Federal, State, or  
Local Government to Do a Good Job in Carrying Out Its Responsibilities?**  
(in percent)

	1. A Great Deal					2. A Fair Amount					3. Not Very Much				
	4. None at All					5. Don't Know/No Answer									
	Federal					State					Local				
	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Total Public	9	59	24	4	4	11	62	19	4	4	16	57	16	7	4
Male	10	61	21	6	2	12	61	20	5	2	17	56	17	8	2
Female	9	56	27	2	6	11	63	18	3	5	14	59	15	6	6
Head of Household	9	59	25	3	4	11	62	19	4	4	16	56	17	7	4
Male Head	10	61	22	5	2	11	60	22	5	2	17	54	18	9	2
Female Head	9	57	27	2	5	11	64	17	3	5	15	59	15	5	6
Under 35 Years of Age	9	62	22	3	4	11	66	15	4	4	13	64	14	5	4
18-24	6	67	20	6	1	10	71	14	3	2	12	64	16	6	2
25-34	11	58	24	1	6	11	63	16	4	6	13	64	13	5	5
35-44	4	66	24	3	3	10	63	21	4	2	14	58	19	6	3
45-65	10	54	25	7	4	11	59	21	5	4	14	53	17	11	5
Over 65	15	51	26	4	4	16	60	19	2	3	29	45	17	5	4
High School Incomplete	10	51	25	9	5	11	56	22	6	5	13	52	19	10	6
High School Graduate	8	59	26	3	4	9	63	20	3	5	13	59	15	8	5
College Incomplete	11	58	25	3	3	16	67	14	3	0	21	58	15	5	1
College Graduate	9	70	18	1	2	12	65	16	4	3	19	59	15	4	3
Household Income: Under \$15K	11	53	24	6	6	10	60	20	6	4	15	54	15	10	6
\$15-24.9K	9	59	29	1	2	13	61	21	2	3	13	58	19	6	4
\$25K+	7	63	23	4	3	10	67	16	4	3	16	59	16	6	3
\$25-29.9K	6	65	19	6	4	13	60	19	6	2	10	61	21	6	2
\$30-39.9K	10	59	24	3	4	10	69	13	3	5	13	62	16	5	4
\$40K+	5	66	23	4	2	9	68	17	4	2	22	57	13	6	2
Own	10	58	25	3	4	12	63	18	3	4	18	56	15	7	4
Rent	8	62	22	4	4	10	61	19	6	4	11	58	19	8	4
White	10	60	23	3	4	12	64	17	3	4	17	58	15	6	4
Nonwhite	5	46	30	15	4	6	49	32	10	3	5	48	26	18	3
Employed	8	62	24	3	3	11	65	18	3	3	15	60	15	6	4
Employed Female	7	59	27	2	5	10	68	15	3	4	15	62	12	6	5
Not Employed	12	52	25	6	5	12	58	20	5	5	15	52	19	9	5
Not Employed Female	10	53	28	3	6	12	58	21	3	6	14	55	18	6	7
Prof., Manager., Owner	9	68	18	2	3	13	65	16	3	3	22	57	15	3	3
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	6	69	21	2	2	10	75	12	1	2	12	68	8	9	3
Blue Collar	8	57	26	6	3	9	59	21	8	3	12	57	16	11	4
Retired	14	49	30	4	3	12	59	24	3	2	22	47	22	6	3
Married	9	60	24	3	4	11	63	20	3	3	16	57	17	6	4
Not Married	10	56	24	6	4	11	62	17	6	4	15	57	16	8	4
Household Size: 1-2 People	9	60	25	3	3	11	63	19	4	3	15	57	17	7	4
3-4 People	9	57	24	5	5	11	62	18	5	4	16	57	15	8	4
5+ People	18	64	13	0	5	21	60	12	5	2	33	52	10	5	0
Children in Household: Under 18	7	64	23	2	4	8	66	20	3	3	14	62	15	5	4
No Children	11	55	25	5	4	14	59	18	6	3	17	53	17	9	4
Northeast	15	55	21	5	4	13	65	15	5	2	18	53	15	9	5
North-Central	6	62	25	4	3	9	67	17	3	4	19	61	11	6	3
South	10	59	23	3	5	13	57	22	3	5	14	56	19	7	4
West	7	57	27	5	4	8	62	20	7	3	12	58	18	8	4
Nonmetro	8	63	22	2	5	10	65	18	2	5	17	55	15	8	5
Metro-50,000 and Over: Fringe	9	57	25	5	4	12	65	15	5	3	16	59	15	6	4
Central City	11	55	27	4	3	12	55	25	6	2	13	57	18	8	4

*Table 35*  
**1986-82\***  
**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	<u>30</u>	24	<u>39</u>	7	32	26	36	6	36	23	34	7	39	17	30	14
Male Head	<u>37</u>	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 <sup>a</sup>	18 <sup>a</sup>	26 <sup>a</sup>	9 <sup>a</sup>
\$30-39.9K	25	30	42	3	35	27	35	3	40	26	32	2	51 <sup>a</sup>	18 <sup>a</sup>	22 <sup>a</sup>	9 <sup>a</sup>
\$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, Owner	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	33	5	44	13	34	9
Children in Household	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	35	20	31	14
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 <sup>1</sup>	16 <sup>1</sup>	29 <sup>1</sup>	14 <sup>1</sup>
Central City	23	30	40	7	33	30	29	8	33	24	37	6	37 <sup>2</sup>	20 <sup>2</sup>	32 <sup>2</sup>	11 <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Metro—50,000-999,999.

<sup>2</sup>Metro—1,000,000 and over.

<sup>3</sup>\$25-34.9K

<sup>4</sup>\$35K +

\*1978 data appear in *Table 24*.

Table 36  
**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 Power More Vigorously to Promote the Well Being of All Segments of the People  
4. No Opinion

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

Table 37  
1986, 1984

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	52	2	30	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
35-44	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, Owner	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: 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 38  
**1986, 1982\***  
**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 3. Increase Services and Raise Taxes				2. Keep Taxes and Services about Where they Are 4. No Opinion			
	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: Male Head	31	51	10	8	37	41	8	14
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	40	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, Owner	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	—	—	—	—	36	41	8	15
Children under 18	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
Metro-50,000 and Over : Fringe	31	52	8	9	35	39	9	17
Central City	25	53	11	11	35	42	9	14

\*1980-75 data appear in Tables 39 and 40.

Table 39  
1980-77

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  
3. Increase Services and Raise Taxes

2. Keep Taxes and Services about Where they Are  
4. No Opinion

	May 1980				May 1979				May 1977			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Total Public	38	45	6	11	39	46	6	9	31	52	4	13
18-29 Years of Age	35	43	10	12	41	43	7	8	30	51	5	14
30-44	41	44	7	8	39	46	5	10	31	54	3	12
45-59	39	48	4	9	40	47	5	8	35	49	3	13
60 Years and Over	39	46	3	12	36	48	5	11	29	56	3	12
Male: Total	37	44	8	11	41	44	6	10	35	51	4	10
18-29 Years of Age	34	42	12	12	44	41	7	8	37	49	5	9
30-44	38	41	9	12	45	40	5	10	36	51	4	10
45-50	39	49	5	7	37	48	6	9	38	50	3	10
60 Years and Over	39	47	2	12	34	47	5	13	29	56	4	11
Female: Total	39	45	5	11	38	47	5	9	28	53	3	16
18-29 Years of Age	36	44	8	12	39	45	8	9	24	52	5	19
30-44	43	46	5	6	33	51	6	10	28	57	2	13
45-59	39	47	3	11	43	46	3	8	31	49	3	16
60 Years and Over	39	45	3	13	38	48	4	10	29	56	2	13
Employed	37	48	6	9	36	50	6	8	29	52	4	15
Housewife	41	47	3	9	41	48	3	8	28	54	2	15
High School Grad or Less: Total	38	45	5	12	39	46	5	11	30	53	3	14
Less than Grad	39	42	5	14	37	45	4	13	32	49	2	17
High School Grad	38	47	5	10	40	46	5	9	28	57	4	11
College: Total	38	46	8	8	41	46	7	6	34	51	4	11
Some	35	50	8	7	42	43	8	7	32	54	2	12
Grad	43	41	9	7	40	49	6	5	36	47	8	9
Executive, Prof., Manager	44	42	6	8	44	43	6	7	37	52	4	7
White Collar	43	41	7	9	38	47	7	8	35	51	4	10
Blue Collar												
Total	36	45	7	12	40	45	5	10	29	51	4	16
Skilled	39	42	8	11	41	46	7	7	27	56	4	13
Semi/Unskilled	33	48	6	13	40	44	3	13	30	47	4	19
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
\$7-9.9K	36	52	4	8	36	49	5	10	32	51	3	13
\$10-14K	37	44	7	12	39	46	4	10	31	58	2	9
\$15-24.9K	38	46	5	11	41	46	6	7	33	52	3	12
\$25K+	43	43	7	7	44	43	7	6	38	50	6	6
Northeast	35	46	8	11	39	43	10	9	33	48	3	15
North-Central	38	48	4	10	40	49	3	7	27	61	4	8
South	38	44	6	12	36	47	6	12	32	51	4	13
West	42	42	7	9	45	42	3	18	33	46	3	18
Rural	49	34	5	12	41	45	3	12	37	45	3	15
Suburb	38	48	4	10	42	47	5	6	31	55	4	10
City: 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
Multifamily	30	44	13	13	36	44	8	12	28	48	5	20
White	40	45	6	9	41	46	5	8	33	53	3	11
Nonwhite	27	45	10	18	30	44	7	20	22	49	6	23
No Child	37	46	6	11	38	49	5	9	30	54	3	13
With Children: Total	40	43	7	10	40	44	6	9	32	50	4	13
12-17	37	47	8	8	37	49	5	9	33	52	4	11
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
Rent Home	34	45	9	12	35	44	6	15	30	48	5	17

Table 40  
1976-75  
**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

	March 1976				May 1975			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Total U.S. Public	30	51	5	14	38	45	5	12
18-29 Years of Age	32	51	5	12	36	47	6	11
30-39	30	53	4	13	42	46	3	9
40-49	33	45	7	15	39	47	3	11
50-59	35	45	5	15	43	42	5	10
60 Years and Over	23	59	3	15	33	45	3	19
Male	32	50	6	12	40	46	4	10
Female	29	52	4	15	37	45	4	14
High School Grad or Less								
Less than Grad	32	47	4	17	33	46	4	17
High School Grad	31	53	3	13	43	46	3	8
College:Some College	28	53	9	10	40	42	7	11
Professional	28	52	10	10	36	49	8	7
Managerial	38	46	5	11	44	45	5	6
Clerical, Sales	31	50	4	15	37	52	3	8
Craftsman, Foreman	32	50	4	14	42	43	4	11
Other Manual, Service	30	51	4	15	36	49	4	11
Farmer, Farm Laborer	39	35	6	20	39	30	5	26
Household Income: Under \$5K	30	52	4	14	31	42	5	22
\$5-6.9K	25	54	1	20	39	44	3	14
\$7-9.9K	34	47	5	14	34	53	4	9
\$10-14.9K	28	52	4	16	39	48	5	8
\$15K+	32	52	6	10	46	42	5	7
Northeast	28	53	5	14	39	39	5	17
North-Central	28	50	5	17	39	47	4	10
South	31	53	4	12	34	50	4	12
West	37	46	5	12	43	42	5	10
Rural	40	45	4	11	37	48	3	12
Old Suburb	32	53	5	10	37	50	4	9
New Suburb	29	57	3	11	41	47	4	8
City: One Family	27	53	4	16	42	44	4	10
Multifamily	23	59	3	15	43	41	4	12
White	31	51	5	13	39	46	3	12
Nonwhite	24	48	4	24	33	40	11	16
No Child	28	54	5	13	36	44	5	15
With Children: Under 18	33	48	5	14	40	48	4	8
12-17	37	44	5	14	44	46	2	8
Own Home	32	51	4	13	41	46	3	10
Rent Home	26	52	5	17	33	45	6	16
Apartment	29	50	8	13	31	40	9	20

[22Table 41

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

	1	2	3	4
Total Public	32	51	13	4
Male	34	49	14	3
Female	30	52	13	5
Head of Household	33	50	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, Owner	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: 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 42  
1985  
For Which, If Any, of the Following Programs Should the Federal Government  
Stop Providing Federal Financial Support?  
(in percent)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>1. Highways (except the Interstate system)</b>								
<b>2. Aid to Local Public Schools</b>								
<b>3. Aid to Low-Income People, Including Food Stamps</b>								
<b>4. Nursing Home Care for the Elderly</b>								
<b>5. Sewage Treatment Plants</b>								
<b>6. Community and Economic Development</b>								
<b>7. None of these</b>								
<b>8. Don't Know</b>								
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: 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 43

1984

**In the Next Fiscal Year, the Federal Government Is  
Expected to Spend about \$180 Billion 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: 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

*Table 44*  
**1985**  
**Would the Following Services Be More Efficiently Produced/Delivered by Private Companies or Your Local Government?**  
(in percent)

	1. Private Companies						2. Local Government						3. Don't Know					
	<u>Parking Facilities</u>			<u>Parks and Street Maintenance</u>			<u>Hospitals</u>			<u>Swimming Pools</u>			<u>Garbage Collection</u>			<u>Ambulance Service</u>		
	1.	2.	3.	1.	2.	3.	1.	2.	3.	1.	2.	3.	1.	2.	3.	1.	2.	3.
Total Public	42	48	10	21	73	6	46	45	9	25	68	7	41	53	6	41	52	7
Male	44	49	7	24	72	4	48	44	8	24	70	6	43	52	5	43	50	7
Female	41	46	13	18	74	8	46	45	9	25	67	8	39	55	6	39	53	8
Head of Household	42	48	10	22	72	6	47	44	9	24	69	7	42	52	6	42	51	7
Male Head	43	50	7	24	72	4	50	42	8	22	71	7	45	50	5	44	49	7
Female Head	41	46	13	19	73	8	45	45	10	26	66	8	40	54	6	40	52	8
Under 35 Years of Age	45	47	8	22	73	5	45	48	7	28	66	6	43	52	5	42	52	6
18-24	41	50	9	16	80	3	32	60	8	30	65	5	38	58	4	31	63	6
25-34	47	45	8	27	67	6	53	40	7	26	67	7	46	48	6	48	45	7
35-44	44	47	9	24	71	5	49	44	7	25	69	6	42	54	4	44	50	6
45-65	42	48	10	19	76	5	48	44	8	21	73	6	40	56	4	42	52	6
Over 65	34	50	16	17	71	12	47	36	17	22	64	14	36	52	12	37	49	14
High School Incomplete	37	50	13	16	74	10	34	54	12	24	65	11	33	59	8	32	58	10
High School Graduate	40	50	10	19	75	6	41	50	9	25	68	7	41	54	5	38	55	7
College Incomplete	48	44	8	23	73	4	57	36	7	22	73	5	46	48	6	48	45	7
College Graduate	50	45	5	29	69	2	67	28	5	26	70	4	48	50	2	55	42	3
Household Income: Under \$15K	40	44	16	21	69	10	39	48	13	26	61	13	39	51	10	38	52	10
\$15-24.9K	45	47	8	19	77	4	44	50	6	23	72	5	36	61	3	40	56	46
\$25K	43	52	5	23	74	3	55	39	6	25	72	3	47	51	2	46	49	5
\$25-29.9K	37	55	8	22	75	3	51	41	8	26	70	4	57	40	3	45	48	7
\$30-39.9K	42	53	5	21	73	6	53	42	5	23	74	3	43	55	2	50	45	5
\$40K +	47	49	4	25	73	2	60	35	5	25	73	2	46	52	2	44	52	4
Own	43	48	9	20	74	6	49	42	9	22	71	7	42	53	5	41	52	7
Rent	40	47	13	22	71	7	39	52	9	29	63	8	37	56	7	41	52	7

White	42	48	10	21	74	5	49	43	8	24	69	7	43	52	5	43	51	6
Nonwhite	45	43	12	19	70	11	29	58	13	27	63	10	26	65	9	26	60	14
Employed	43	49	8	23	73	4	48	45	7	25	70	5	43	53	4	42	52	6
Employed Female	40	49	11	21	74	5	48	46	6	26	69	5	43	54	3	41	54	5
Not Employed	41	45	14	17	73	10	44	44	12	24	65	11	38	54	8	39	51	10
Not Employed Female	42	43	15	15	74	11	44	43	13	24	65	11	35	56	9	37	53	10
Prof., Manager, Owner	44	52	4	27	71	2	62	33	5	23	74	3	47	51	2	48	49	3
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	40	51	9	19	79	2	47	49	4	25	72	3	44	53	3	47	51	2
Blue Collar	43	48	9	22	73	5	35	57	8	25	69	6	37	58	5	34	60	6
Retired	35	50	15	18	74	8	45	40	15	20	68	12	38	54	8	40	50	10
Married	43	49	8	22	73	5	50	42	8	26	69	5	45	51	4	44	50	6
Not Married	41	46	13	18	74	8	40	49	11	22	68	10	34	58	8	35	55	10
Household Size: 1-2 People	41	46	13	22	70	8	50	39	11	25	66	9	40	52	8	42	48	10
3-4 People	41	51	8	17	78	5	45	48	7	21	73	6	41	55	4	40	54	6
5+ People	47	46	7	26	69	5	43	52	5	31	64	5	45	51	4	41	55	4
Children in Household: Under 18	43	48	9	21	74	5	44	49	7	26	69	5	42	54	4	42	53	5
No Children	42	47	11	21	72	7	48	42	10	24	67	9	40	53	7	40	52	8
Northeast	38	52	10	24	70	6	38	54	8	22	70	8	36	58	6	33	61	6
North-Central	38	51	11	19	73	8	49	42	9	27	65	8	49	45	6	40	51	9
South	46	42	12	19	75	6	44	46	10	26	66	8	35	59	6	39	53	8
West	45	50	5	24	73	3	58	35	7	20	76	4	48	48	4	54	40	6
Nonmetro	40	49	11	23	71	6	47	44	9	27	63	10	52	42	6	45	48	7
Metro-50,000 and Over: Fringe	41	50	9	19	76	5	47	44	9	22	74	4	41	55	4	39	54	7
Central City	47	43	10	21	71	8	46	46	8	25	68	7	27	66	7	38	53	9

Table 45

**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 Gov-**  
**ernment Programs, or Should they Place them in a**  
**"Rainy Day" Fund?**  
(in percent)

	1	2	3	4
<b>1. Reduce Taxes</b>				
<b>3. Place in a "Rainy Day Fund"</b>				
<b>2. Expand Government Programs</b>				
<b>4. Don't Know/No Answer</b>				
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: 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 46

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	13	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	13	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 Size: 1-2 People	48	13	6	18	6	10
3-4 People	50	13	6	16	8	6
5+ People	49	9	9	13	7	14
Children in Household: 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-50,000 and Over: Fringe	53	11	7	15	7	7
Central City	45	13	7	14	8	13

Table 47

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 Size: 1-2 People	18	43	17	22
3-4 People	22	48	14	17
5+ People	14	48	17	22
Children in Household: 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 48

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	31	6
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	41	2
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 Size: 1-2 People	43	35	3	19
3-4 People	47	37	2	14
5+ People	46	29	5	21
Children in Household: 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





## Appendix II

# Questions, 1988-72

Numbered Tables (1988-82) appear in *Appendix I* of this volume—Detailed Results: 1988-82 Surveys. Lettered Tables (1972-81) appear in *Changing Public Attitudes on Government and Taxes*, (S-12 or S-13), Appendix III, Detailed Results: 1972-81 Surveys.

	Year	Table	Page
<b>Taxes</b>			
<b>Federal-State-Local Taxes</b>			
From which level of government do you feel you get the most for your money?	1988-87	1	15
	1986-82	2	16
	1981-77	3	18
	1976-72	4	20
Considering all government services on the one hand and taxes on the other, which of the following statements comes closest to your view?	1986, 82	38	60
	1980-77	39	61
	1976-75	40	62
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?	1988-87	6	23
	1986-82	7	24
	1981-77	8	26
	1975-72	9	28
Which do you think is the worst tax, that is, the least fair—Including Social Security	1988	5	22
<b>Federal-Local Taxes</b>			
Which statement agrees most with your own thinking about the national value-added tax and local property tax?	1972	1	59 (S-13)
<b>Federal Taxes</b>			
If the federal government had to raise taxes/revenues, which would be the best way to do it?	1987	22	43
	1984	23	44
	1983	24	45
	1972	K	62 (S-13)
If the federal income tax collections must be increased, which way is the best?	1983	25	46
Which one of the changes would be the single most important change that would make the nation's tax system more fair?	1983	46	69
Which one way of reducing the federal deficit would you prefer?	1984	43	65

**State Taxes**

Suppose your state government must raise taxes/revenues, which would be the way to do it?	1987	26	47
	1983	27	48
	1972, 76	D	50 (S-13)
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)

**Local Taxes**

Suppose your local government must raise more taxes/revenue, which would be the way to do it?	1987	28	49
	1986	29	50
	1983	30	51
	1981	31	52
Which reason do you feel is the most important for dissatisfaction with the property tax?	1977	G	56 (S-13)

**Aid Programs****Federal Aid**

Rank types of federal grant programs as to whether they are necessary or unnecessary.	1982	16	30-38 (S-13)
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)
For which, if any, of the following programs should the federal government stop providing federal financial support?	1985	42	64

**State Aid**

With the cutbacks in federal financial aid to local governments, what should states do?	1983	47	70
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**Spending****Federal Spending**

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	43	65
If the federal government decides to reduce spending, which one way would you prefer?	1986, 84	37	59

**State-Local Spending**

Supposing the budgets of your state and local governments have to be curtailed, which one part would you limit most severely?	1980-81	O	66 (S-13)
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**Government Power and Efficiency****Federal Power and Efficiency**

Which of these statements comes closest to your view about government power today?	1986-82	35	56
	1978	36	58
How much power do you feel the federal government has over the activities of state and local government?	1987	32	53
In your opinion, how often does the federal government perform its duties efficiently and at the best cost possible?	1988	10	30

**Federal-State-Local Efficiency**

From which level of government do you feel you get the most for your money?	1988-87	1	15
	1986-82	2	16
	1981-77	3	18
	1976-72	4	20
Which government do you feel wastes the most of your tax money?	1987	21	42
In your opinion, how often does your state government perform its duties efficiently and at the best cost possible?	1988	11	31
In your opinion, how often does your local government perform its duties efficiently and at the best cost possible?	1988	12	32
<b>State-Local Efficiency</b>			
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	44	66

**Trust and Confidence in Government**

How much trust and confidence do you have in your government to do a good job?	1987	34	55
In which people in government do you have the most trust and confidence?	1987	33	54
In recent years, many states have set up full-time offices in foreign countries to promote trade, tourism, and investment for their states. Are these state offices usually a very good use of public funds, a somewhat good use, a not a very good use, or a poor use of public funds?	1988	15	35
In recent years, many governors and mayors have traveled to foreign countries to promote trade, tourism, and investment for their states. Are these foreign trips by governors and mayors usually a very good use of public funds, a somewhat good use, a not a very good use, or a poor use of public funds?	1988	16	36
Many city councils have passed resolutions on such foreign policy issues as Israel, Northern Ireland, South Africa, and nuclear weapons. These resolutions sometimes oppose the foreign policy of the President and Congress. Do you think it is very proper, somewhat proper, not very proper, or not proper at all for city councils to pass resolutions on foreign policy?	1988	17	37

**Public Works**

If you were to grade the performance of the following types of public works services based on your own experience, what grade would you give each—roads and bridges, water supply, solid waste disposal?	1988	18	38
Average grades for public works services	1988	19	40
If there is a need to raise additional revenues to improve public works services, which one of these methods would you prefer?	1988	20	41

## Other

### Political Organizations

In general, which one of the organizations listed below do you feel best represents the political interests of people like you? 1983 48 71

### State Surplus Funds

How should states use their surplus funds? 1984 45 68

### Welfare

Should single parents receiving welfare be required to work in a government program to continue receiving payments? 1986 41 63

### State Constitutions

Does your state have its own constitution, or does it rely on the United States Constitution for its governing powers? 1988 13 33

Does the constitution of your state have a Bill of Rights or some other provisions that protect individual rights, like freedom of religion and freedom of speech? 1988 14 34



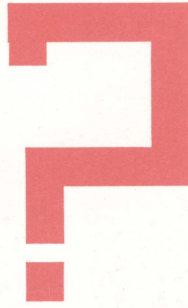


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The Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (ACIR) was created by the Congress in 1959 to monitor the operation of the American federal system and to recommend improvements. ACIR is a permanent national bipartisan body representing the executive and legislative branches of Federal, state, and local government and the public.

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