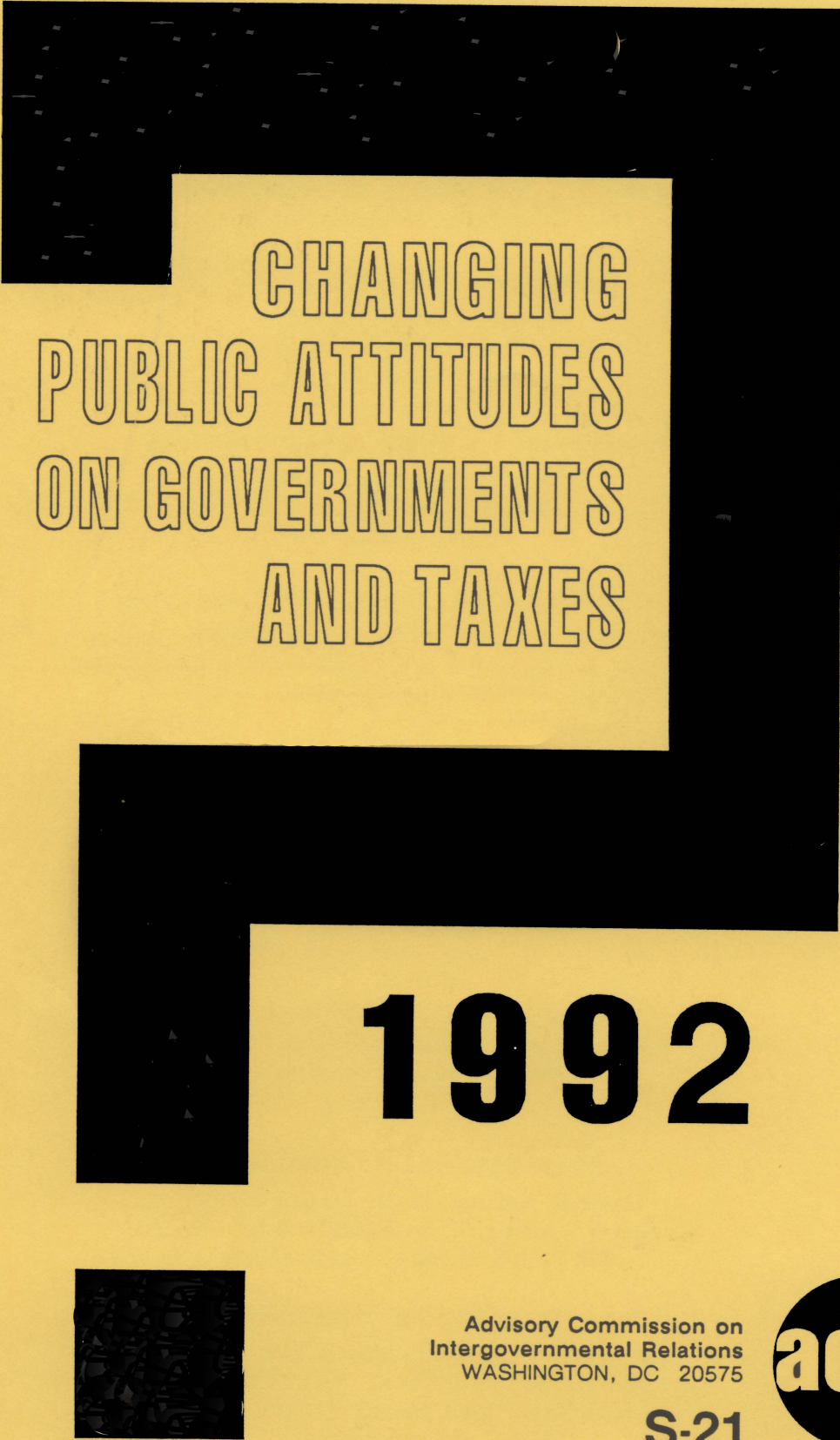


A COMMISSION SURVEY



CHANGING
PUBLIC ATTITUDES
ON GOVERNMENTS
AND TAXES

1992

Advisory Commission on
Intergovernmental Relations
WASHINGTON, DC 20575

S-21



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(November 1992)

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Foreword

This publication presents the results of the 21st annual survey of public attitudes toward governments and taxes conducted for the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (ACIR).

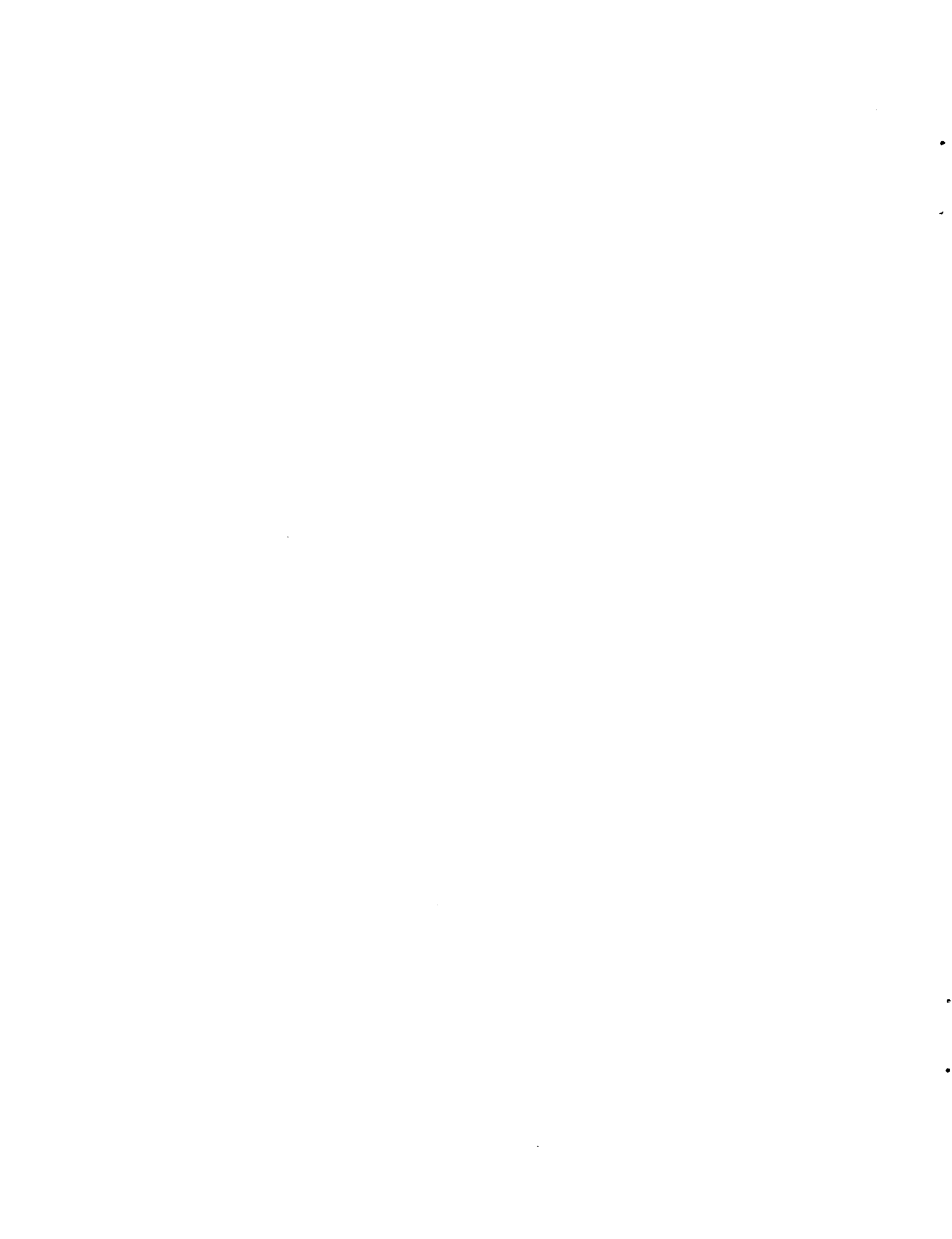
The Gallup Organization has conducted the polls since 1983, using the Gallup Personal Omnibus. Every effort was made to ensure comparability with the previous surveys conducted by Opinion Research Corporation of Princeton. A description of the survey method appears on page 11. For 1992, the sample size is 1,045 adults aged 18 and over. The margin of error for a poll of this size is plus or minus 3 percentage points.

This year ACIR asked 15 questions.

The analysis of the poll results was prepared by Jeffrey S. Fitzpatrick, analyst, with assistance from Bruce D. McDowell, director of government policy research. Members of the ACIR staff participated in developing the questions and reviewing the results.

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

John Kincaid
Executive Director



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The 1992 Survey Highlights

Major findings from the U.S. Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations 1992 poll on changing public attitudes toward governments and taxes include the following:

Worst Tax—For 1992, the local property tax (24.5 percent) and the federal income tax (25 percent) are in a virtual dead heat as least fair. This year, the state sales tax was rated least fair by 15.6 percent, the social security tax by 10.4 percent (this tax is included every other year), and the state income tax by 9.1 percent. The 1990 ratings were local property tax worst (28 percent), followed by federal income tax, (26 percent) social security tax (15 percent), state sales tax (12 percent), and state income tax (10 percent). Since 1972, citizens have been asked what they think is the worst tax, that is, the least fair.

Least for Tax Money—For the third time, Americans were asked from which level of government they get the least for their money. For 1992, 49 percent of citizens said the federal government gave them the least, followed by 18 percent for local government and 16 percent for the states. This question, a variation of the trend question on which government gives the most for the money, also was asked in 1989 and 1990. In those years, most Americans said they got the least for their money from the federal government (36 percent and 41 percent), followed by the states (25 percent and 26 percent) and by local governments (25 percent and 21 percent).

Trust in Government—Compared to 1987, Americans today have less confidence in all their governments to do a good job in carrying out their responsibilities. For the federal government this year, 13 percent said that their confidence level was “none at all” (compared to 4 percent in 1987); 41 percent reported “not very much” (24 percent); 38 percent said “a fair amount” (59 percent); and 4 percent expressed “a great deal” (9 percent). For state governments, the percentages for 1992 and 1987 were: none, 8 percent and 4 percent; not very much, 36 percent and 19 percent; a fair amount, 46 percent and 62 percent; and a great deal, 5 percent and 11 percent. The 1992 and

1987 responses for local government were: none at all, 9 percent and 7 percent; not very much, 26 percent and 16 percent; a fair amount, 54 percent and 57 percent; and a great deal, 6 percent and 16 percent.

Federal Government Power—In 1992, 39 percent of Americans say the federal government has too much power, 12 percent think the federal government is using the right amount of power to meet today’s needs, and 41 percent think the federal government should use its powers more vigorously to promote the well-being of all segments of society. When these questions were asked in 1986, the responses were 28 percent for too much power, 24 percent for using the right amount of power, and 41 percent for using power more vigorously.

Public Works—Asked to grade the performance of key public works services on a 4.0 scale (A=4, F=0), Americans rated roads and bridges at 2.14; water supply, 2.70; and solid waste disposal, 2.32. The average grades in 1988 were 2.02 for roads and bridges, 2.59 for water supply, and 2.16 for solid waste disposal.

How would Americans prefer to raise additional revenues to improve public works? Dedicated taxes are the choice of 35 percent, followed by 29 percent for user fees, 12 percent for general taxes, and 13 percent for no increase in spending or revenues (volunteered). Four years ago, the responses were 37 percent for special taxes, 35 percent for user fees, 12 percent (the same as 1992) for general taxes, and 7 percent for no increase.

Preemption—This year, citizens were asked their views on federal preemption of state or local power to regulate the following functions: labeling health risks on food products—75 percent for federal regulation and 18 percent for state regulation; interstate banking—50 percent federal and 38 percent state; insurance companies—37 percent federal and 51 percent state; use of pesticides on home lawns and public grounds—37 percent for federal regulation and 52 percent for local government regulation; and location and building of low-income housing in communities—20 percent federal and 72 percent local.

The 1992 Survey Results

This is the 21st annual public opinion survey commissioned by the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (ACIR). The sample for the poll was 1,045 adults aged 18 and older. The margin of error for samples of this size is plus or minus 3 percentage points at the 95 percent level of confidence.

This report contains only the 1992 survey results. Detailed data for each question are in the Appendix. Survey results for 1991 can be found in ACIR report S-20; for 1990, S-19; for 1989, S-18; for 1982-1988, S-17; and for 1972-1981, S-12 or S-13.

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

In 1992, the local property tax (24.5 percent) and the federal income tax (25 percent) are judged almost even as least fair. The state sales tax was chosen by 16 percent, the social security tax was selected by 10 percent, and 9 percent chose the state income tax.

The 10 percent choosing the social security tax as least fair was the lowest since ACIR began asking this version of the question in 1988 (Table 1 and Table A1). However, 15 percent said “don’t know/no answer,” the highest since 1988.

In 1992, the local property tax was chosen as worst more often by residents in the North-Central region (34 percent) and Northeast (30 percent), while those in the West (27 percent) and South (28 percent) more often cited the federal income tax.

The federal income tax was selected as least fair more often by employed women (31 percent) and persons in households having annual incomes of \$30,000-\$39,999 (32 percent).

When this question was asked by ACIR in 1988, the federal income tax was chosen as least fair by 26 percent

of the respondents. Since then, in 1989 and 1990, the local property tax has been selected as least fair.

Beginning in 1972, ACIR asked Americans “Which do you think is the worst tax—that is, the least fair: federal income tax, state income tax, state sales tax, or local property tax?” (Table 2) In 1988, the question was modified to include the social security tax, and that version is asked in even-numbered years.

From Which Level of Government Do You Feel You Get the Least for Your Money?

Asked “From which level of government do you feel you get the least for your money—federal, state, or local,” 49 percent of the public said federal, 18 percent said local, and 16 percent said state.

The 49 percent of Americans citing the federal government is up from 36 percent and 41 percent in 1989 and 1990, respectively (Table 3 and Table A2). Those choosing local government in 1992 as giving them the least for their money is the lowest so far, and the proportion choosing state government as giving the least for the money showed the largest drop (10 percent). The “don’t know/no answer” response increased compared to 1989 and 1990.

The highest percentages of those choosing the federal government as giving them the least for their money included adults between the ages of 25-34 (58 percent), people in households in the \$30,000-\$39,000 income range (57 percent), and those who had completed college (62 percent). The lowest percentages included persons over age 65 (41 percent) and those in households with incomes under \$15,000. More owners (53 percent), than renters (42 percent) selected the federal government as giving the least for the money.

Table 1
Which Do You Think is the Worst Tax—That is, the Least Fair? [with Social Security]
(in percent)

	Federal Income Tax	Social Security Tax	State Income Tax	State Sales Tax	Local Property Tax	Don't Know/ No Answer
June 1992	25	10	9	16	25	15
June 1991			Question Not Asked			
June 1990	26	15	10	12	28	9
June 1989	21	18	9	14	28	10
June 1988	26	17	9	15	24	9

Table 2
Which Do You Think Is The Worst Tax—That Is The Least Fair? [without Social Security]
 (in percent)

	Federal Income Tax	State Income Tax	State Sales Tax	Local Property Tax	Don't Know/ No Answer
1991	26	12	19	30	14
1990			Question Not Asked		
1989	27	10	18	32	13
1988	33	10	18	28	11
1987	30	12	21	24	13
1986	37	8	17	28	10
1985	38	10	16	24	12
1984	36	10	15	29	10
1983	35	11	13	26	15
1982	36	11	14	30	9
1981	36	9	14	33	9
1980	36	10	19	25	10
1979	37	8	15	27	13
1978	30	11	18	32	10
1977	28	11	17	33	11
1976			Not Available		
1975	28	11	23	29	10
1974	30	10	20	28	14
1973	30	10	20	31	11
1972	19	13	13	45	11

Table 3
From which Level of Government
Do You Feel You Get the Least for Your Money?
 (percent)

	Federal	State	Local	Don't Know/ No Answer
June 1992	49	16	18	16
June 1991	Question Not Asked			
June 1990	41	26	21	12
June 1989	36	25	25	14

Regionally, residents of the North-Central states and the South responded near the average, compared to 56 percent of those in the West and 40 percent in the Northeast.

In 1989 and 1990, the results were close for the state (25 percent and 26 percent) and local government (25 percent and 21 percent) categories.

For the last 20 years, the ACIR poll has asked: "From which level of government do you feel you get the *most* for your money?" (Table 4) In 1989, this trend question was modified to read "From which level of government do you feel you get the *least* for your money?" This question will be asked in even-numbered years.

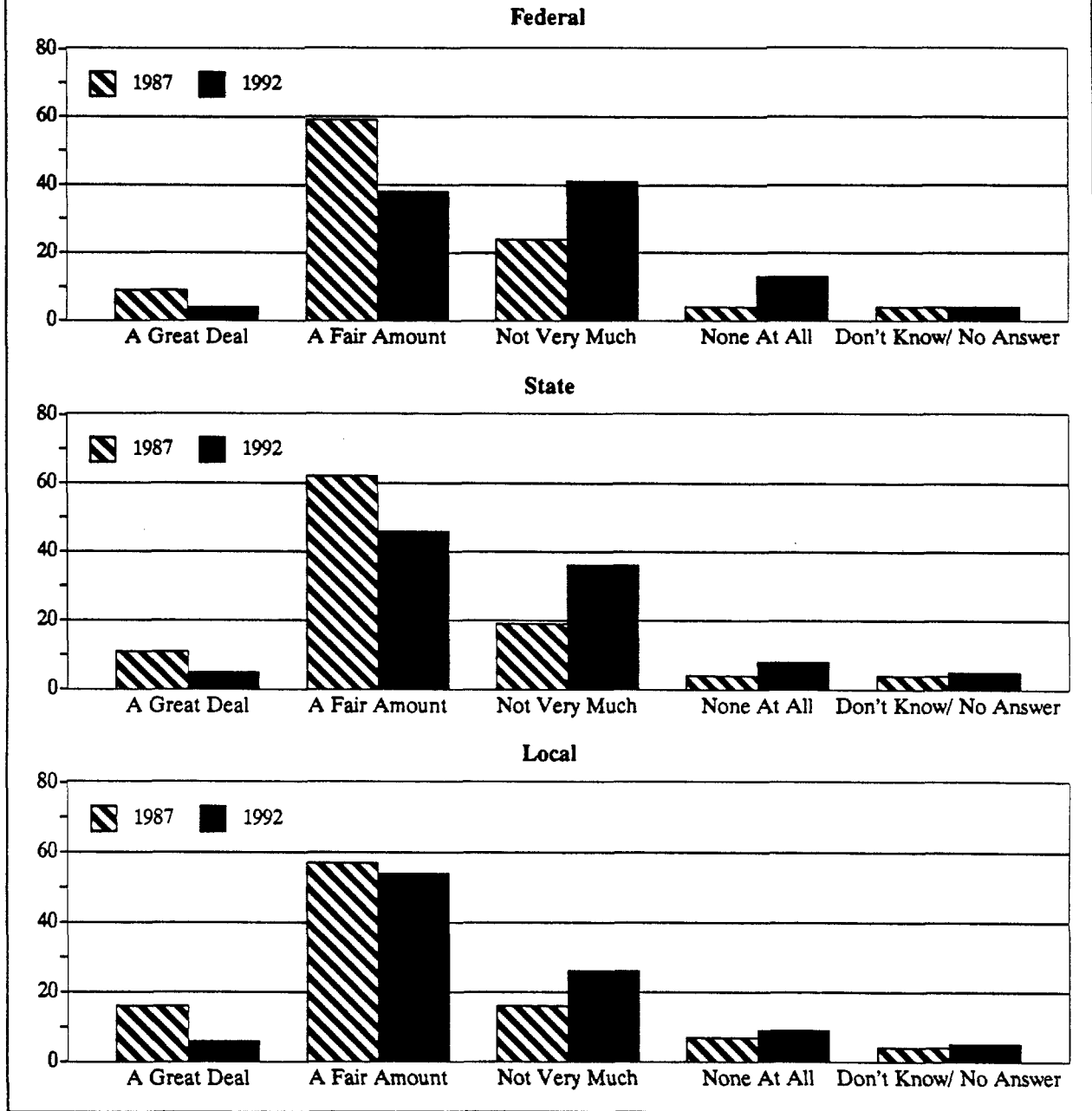
Trust and Confidence in Government

The Commission asked citizens how much trust and confidence they have in the federal, state, and

Table 4
From Which Level of Government
Do You Feel You Get the Most for Your Money
—Federal, State, or Local?
 (percent)

	Federal	State	Local	Don't Know/ No Answer
1991	26	22	31	22
1990	Question Not Asked			
1989	33	23	29	15
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

Figure 1
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?
 (percent)



local governments to do a good job in carrying out their responsibilities. Although the public's trust and confidence in all governments has slumped since 1987, when the question was last asked, the federal government had the greatest loss. This year, 4 percent of Americans have "a great deal" of trust and confidence in the federal government, compared to 9 percent in 1987. "A fair amount" of trust and confidence in the federal government was expressed by 38 percent, down from 59 percent in 1987. The response

"not very much" increased to 41 percent this year from 24 percent in 1987, while those answering "none at all" more than tripled from 4 to 13 percent (Figure 1 and Tables A3, A4, and A5).

Trust and confidence in state government fell as well. Only 5 percent of Americans have a great deal of confidence in state government, while 46 percent say a fair amount. In 1987, more than twice the proportion of Americans (11 percent) had a great deal of confidence in the state, and 62 percent said a fair

amount, 16 percentage points more than this year. The not very much response increased from 19 percent in 1987 to 36 percent this year, and the none at all response doubled to 8 percent.

Overall, local government rated the most trust and confidence, although it, too, has felt an increase in public dissatisfaction. Only 6 percent of the public expresses a great deal of confidence in local government, 10 percentage points less than in 1987. The fair amount response in 1992 was 54 percent, down from 57 percent in 1987. This year, 26 percent of Americans cite not very much trust and confidence in local government, up from 16 percent in 1987. At 9 percent, the none at all responses increased only 2 percentage points compared to 1987.

Totaling the "great deal" and "fair amount" responses, these losses in trust and confidence put local governments clearly ahead (60 percent), states in the middle (51 percent), and the federal government with the least (42 percent). In 1987, all three governments were more equal by this measure (68 percent, 73 percent, and 73 percent).

The decline in trust and confidence in the federal government was greater among whites than blacks. This year, 4 percent of whites expressed a great deal and 38 percent indicate "a fair amount" of trust and confidence in the federal government, compared to 10 percent and 60 percent, respectively, in 1987. Moreover, this year, 44 percent of white respondents answered "not very much," compared to 23 percent in 1987. "None at all" was offered by 12 percent this

year, up from 3 percent in 1987. Blacks, on the other hand, experienced only marginal decreases in their level of trust and confidence in the federal government.

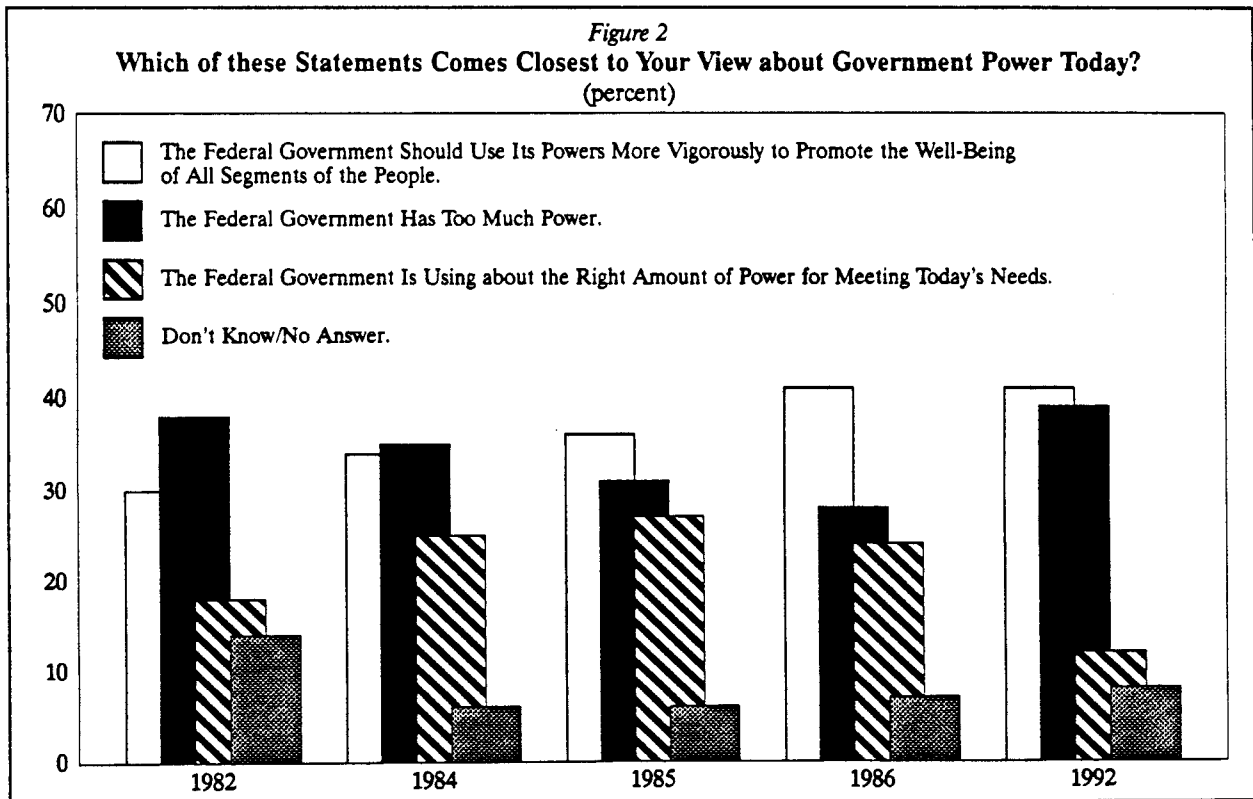
At a time when trust and confidence in all governments is slipping in the aggregate, blacks chose a great deal for state government twice as often (12 percent) as they did in 1987 (6 percent). Fewer responded not very much (28 percent versus 32 percent), and half the 1987 percentage said none at all (5 percent compared to 10 percent in 1987).

At the same time, white Americans have lost trust and confidence in state government since 1987. In 1992, whites responded a great deal 4 percent of the time, one-third of the 1987 results (12 percent). Whites with a fair amount of confidence in the state decreased 18 percentage points to 46 percent, while not very much confidence responses increased from 17 percent in 1987 to 38 percent in 1992. This year, 9 percent of whites responded none at all, compared to only 3 percent in 1987.

In 1992, again, local government gained trust and confidence among blacks: a great deal, 9 percent, compared to 5 percent in 1987; a fair amount, 53 percent, up from 48 percent in 1987; not very much, 24 percent, down from 26 percent; and none at all, 6 percent, a drop from 18 percent in 1987.

Rating Government Power

More Americans now believe the federal government has too much power than in the other years when ACIR asked this question (1978, 1982, 1984, and 1986).

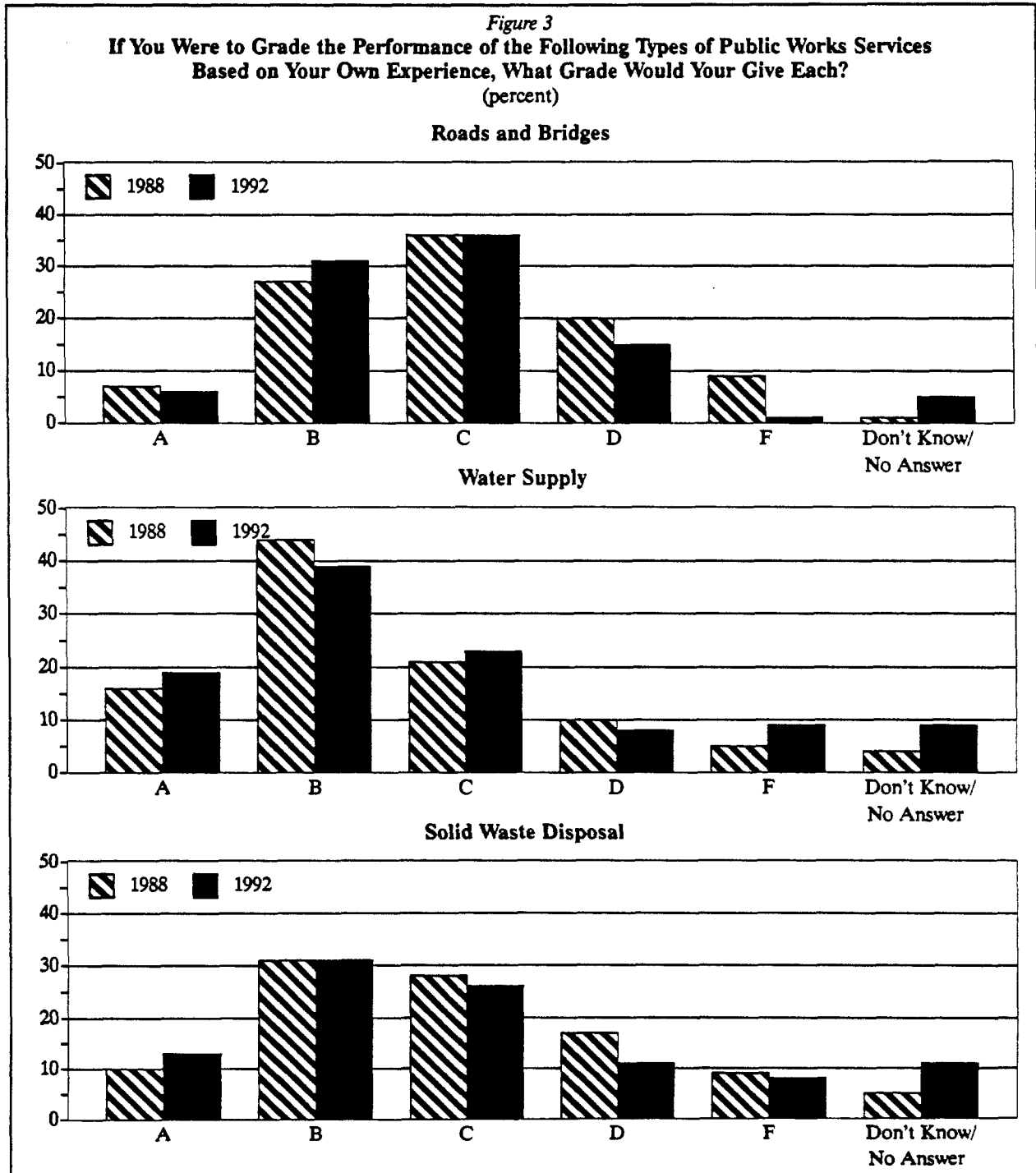


After declining in the 1980s, 39 percent now say the federal government has too much power (Figure 2 nd Table A6). In 1986, only 28 percent gave that response.

The proportion of people who believe that the federal government is using the right amount of power to meet today's needs reached a new low. This year, 12 percent of Americans think the federal government is using the right amount of power to meet today's needs, only half of the percentage that thought so in 1986 (24 percent), and somewhat less than in 1978.

In addition, 41 percent of citizens think the federal government should use its powers more vigorously to promote the well-being of all segments of the population (the same percentage as in 1986). About as many think the federal government should use its powers more vigorously (41 percent) as think the federal government has too much power (39 percent).

Regional variations in opinion on the amount of federal government power are evident. Westerners (45 percent) view the federal government as having



too much power compared to respondents in the Northeast (30 percent). Those living in the South (43 percent) and the North-Central region (36 percent) were closer to the aggregate (39 percent).

Opinion is also divided regionally on the more vigorous use of federal government power. On the high side are respondents in the North-Central and Northeast regions (48 percent each), and on the low side in the West (31 percent) and the South (36 percent).

Metro size also shows variations—fewer central city and metro area residents called for more vigorous use of federal government power (36 and 37 percent) than non-metro area (48 percent) residents.

More women (45 percent) think the federal government should use its powers more vigorously to promote the well-being of all segments of the population than men (35 percent). More whites (41 percent) than blacks (30 percent) think the federal government has too much power.

The Performance of Public Works

This year, as in 1988, ACIR asked citizens for their opinions about the condition and funding of three types of public works. In 1992, the average grades—on a 4.0 scale—for these three categories were: roads and bridges, 2.14; water supply, 2.70; and solid-waste disposal, 2.32. The grades were up for all categories over 1988, when roads and bridges were rated 2.02, water supply was at 2.59, and solid-waste disposal received a 2.16 grade (see Figure 3, page 7).

As in 1988, the 1992 respondents who gave the lowest grades for public works performance were concentrated in the Northeast, where 22 percent of the respondents graded roads and bridges a D and 14 percent gave them an F. In contrast, only 10 percent of western respondents gave a D, and only 3 percent gave a failing grade (Tables A7-A10).

Respondents in the South and North-Central states graded their public works near the average in 1988 and 1992, except for water supply in the North-Central region. There, water supply improved its proportion of A grades from 16 to 25 percent, and the proportion giving a B decreased from 53 to 41 percent.

In the West, one out of four respondents gave water supply an A. Only 8 percent in the Northeast gave the same evaluation. Water supply got a C from 33 percent of northeasterners compared to 20 percent of the westerners.

Solid-waste disposal shows a similar pattern. Twice as many respondents in the West (18 percent) rated the performance an A as those in the Northeast (9 percent).

The don't know/no answer response increased dramatically in all categories compared to the 1988 survey. Specifically, the percentage of individuals in that response category jumped from 1 to 5 percent for roads and bridges, from 4 to 9 percent for water supply, and from 5 to 11 percent for solid waste disposal.

Additional Funding for Public Works Services

Special taxes dedicated to specific improvements (35 percent) are the most preferred way of raising additional revenue for public works. The notion that users should pay a greater share of public works costs got 29 percent, the second most preferred means of raising additional revenue for public works in 1992. Together, these approaches are favored by nearly two-thirds (64 percent) of the public. General taxes came in third at 12 percent (Table 5 and Table A11).

This year, the number of citizens volunteering that governments should not increase taxes for public works rose to 13 percent. When this question was asked in 1988, special taxes also rated first at 37 percent, followed by user fees at 35 percent. In 1988, the no increase responses, which were volunteered, were only 7 percent.

For special taxes, the greatest support came from those aged 18-24 (46 percent), those not graduating from high school (40 percent), and those in households with annual incomes from \$15,000-\$24,999 (40 percent).

For user fees, the greatest support came from persons aged 25-34 (39 percent), persons who had completed college (38 percent), and persons in households with incomes \$40,000 and over (35 percent). There was little variation regionally.

Table 5
If There is a Need to Raise Additional Revenues to Improve Public Works Services, Which One of These Would Your Prefer?
(percent)

Revenue Source	1988	1992
User Fees or Charges for Specific Services	35	29
Special Taxes Dedicated to Funding Specific Services	37	35
General Purpose Taxes	12	12
Don't Spend More/Don't Increase Taxes (volunteered)	7	13
Other	2	2
Don't Know/No Answer	7	9

Federal Preemption of State and Local Authority

ACIR asked the public for its views about whether the federal government should preempt state or local powers to regulate five functions (Table 6).

For two of the five functions—the use of pesticides and the location and building of low-income housing—local government was the clear choice to regulate the activity. The federal government was overwhelmingly preferred to state government to regulate labeling health risks of food products. The federal government also was selected over state government to regulate interstate banking. Conversely, state government was chosen over the federal government to regulate insurance companies.

Pesticide Use. Federal preemption of local government powers to regulate pesticide use on home lawns and public grounds was supported by 37 percent of the

Table 6
Federal Preemption of State or Local Regulation
(percent)

Issue Question*	<u>Government that Should Regulate</u>			Don't Know/ No Answer
	Federal	State	Local	
Should the federal government regulate the listing of health risks on the labels of food products sold throughout the country, or should each state government regulate the listing of health risks on the labels of food products sold in its state?	75	18	—	8
Should the federal government regulate banks so as to let them operate freely across state lines throughout the country, or should each state government regulate banks that operate in its state so as to be able to limit or keep out banks from other states if it wishes to do so?	50	38	—	12
Should the federal government regulate companies that sell life, fire, property, casualty, and automobile insurance throughout the country, or should each state government regulate the companies that sell these types of insurance in its state?	37	51	—	12
Should the federal government regulate the use of pesticides on home lawns and public grounds throughout the country, or should each local government regulate the use of pesticides on home lawns and public grounds in its community?	37	—	52	11
Should the federal government regulate the location and building of low-income housing in communities throughout the country, or should each local government regulate the location and building of low-income housing in its community?	21	—	72	7

* These questions were prefaced by the following statement: Now I would like to ask you about federal preemption. Preemption means that the federal government in Washington takes a power from state or local government in order to use that power itself. For example, the federal government has preempted the power of state and local governments to regulate prescription drugs, airlines, and atomic energy. Therefore, these things are regulated by the federal government. For each of the following, I would like to ask whether you think the federal government should take over the regulation of the activity in order to set uniform rules across the country, or whether you think state or local governments should continue to regulate the activity, each in its own way.

public (Table A12). Continued local regulation was supported by 52 percent. The strongest support for federal regulation was expressed by persons in households having annual incomes of more than \$40,000 (46 percent) and by residents of metro areas (45 percent).

Low-Income Housing. Only 21 percent of the public expressed support for federal preemption of local regulation of the location and building of low-income housing in communities (Table A13). Fully 72 percent supported continued local regulation. Local regulation received majority support from all subgroups in the poll, including 75 percent of whites, 53 percent of blacks, 78 percent of those in households with incomes of \$40,000 and over, and 61 percent of those in households with incomes below \$15,000. Regionally, the strong-est support for local regulation was in the North-Central states (86 percent) and the weakest support in the Northeast (58 percent). Support for local regulation was greater outside metropolitan areas (79 percent) than in metro areas (69 percent) and central cities (68 percent). Also, homeowners (76 percent) were more supportive of local regulation than renters (65 percent).

Food Labeling. Asked whether the federal government or state government should regulate the labeling

of health risks on food products, 75 percent chose the federal government (Table A14). Only 18 percent said the states should regulate such labeling, while 8 percent did not know or gave no answer. Support for federal regulation was strongest among persons who had completed college (86 percent) and among those in households with high incomes (84 percent).

Interstate Banking. Support for federal regulation of interstate banking was expressed by 50 percent of the public, compared to 38 percent who supported state regulation (Table A15). Support for federal regulation increased from 34 percent of persons who had not completed high school to 60 percent of those with a college education. There also was a marked difference by age, with 54 percent of the respondents under age 35 supporting federal regulation, compared to 39 percent over age 65.

Insurance Companies. Asked whether the federal government or the state should regulate companies that sell life, fire, property, casualty, and automobile insurance, 37 percent said that the federal government should do so, while 51 percent supported continued state regulation (Table A16). There were no marked differences of opinion among various subgroups.

The Survey Method

This report presents the findings of a personal interview research survey conducted among a nationally representative sample of 1,045 men and women, 18 years of age or over, living in private households in the United States.

Interviewing for this survey was completed June 23-28, 1992, 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.

Survey Categories

The appendix tables in this report present detailed findings for the survey results. Details may not add to 100 percent due to rounding.

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

Occupation refers to the occupation of the respondent. Examples of 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

Skilled and Semi-Skilled Workers, Laborers, and Service Workers and Craftsmen.

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 1991 total household income before taxes.

Sampling tolerances for the survey are plus or minus 3 percentage points at the 95 percent level of confidence.

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

Previous Classifications and Results

This volume presents only the 1992 survey results. Detailed data may be found in the Appendix.

Survey results for questions asked in 1991 are in ACIR report S-20; 1990 in report S-19; and 1989 in report S-18.

Survey results for questions asked in the 1982-1988 surveys may be found in report S-17. Revised 1986 figures are underlined in the detailed tables of the 1988 report.

Data on questions asked in the 1972-1981 surveys may be found in Appendix III of the 1983 or 1984 reports (S-12 and S-13). Descriptions of classifications used in these years also may be found in those reports.

Appendix I
**Detailed Results:
1992 Survey**

(percentages may not total to 100% due to rounding)

Table A1
1992

Which Do You Think is the Worst Tax—That is, the Least Fair:
Federal Income Tax, Social Security Tax, State Income Tax, State Sales Tax, Local Property Tax?
(percent)

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

Table A2
1992

From Which Level of Government Do You Feel You Get the Least For Your Money? Federal, State, or Local?
(percent)

	Federal	State	Local	Don't Know/ No Answer
Total Public	49	16	18	16
Male	53	18	17	13
Female	47	15	19	20
Total Head of Household	51	16	19	15
Male Head	53	18	18	11
Female Head	49	14	19	19
Under 35 Years of Age	53	16	18	13
18-24	46	16	22	16
25-34	58	16	15	12
35-44	52	14	21	13
45-65	47	19	16	18
Over 65	41	14	21	24
High School Incomplete	42	18	13	27
High School Graduate	46	16	23	15
College Incomplete	53	16	19	13
College Graduate	62	14	14	11
Household Income: Under \$15K	40	16	20	25
\$15-24.9K	53	15	19	14
\$25K +	54	16	17	13
\$25-29.9K	49	22	15	14
\$30-39.9K	57	15	19	10
\$40K +	53	16	17	15
Own	53	14	18	15
Rent	42	20	20	17
White	50	17	18	15
Black	48	14	19	18
Employed	52	16	19	13
Employed Female	48	16	20	15
Not Employed	46	16	17	21
Not Employed Female	45	14	18	24
Professional, Manager, Owner	59	15	16	10
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	44	21	16	20
Blue Collar	46	19	23	13
Retired	45	14	19	22
Married	51	15	18	15
Not Married	46	17	19	18
Household Size: 1-2 People	49	16	18	17
3-4 People	52	15	18	15
5+ People	38	33	25	4
Children in Household Under 18	51	18	19	12
No Children	48	14	18	20
Northeast	40	18	22	20
North-Central	53	15	20	13
South	49	17	19	16
West	56	16	11	18
Nonmetro	51	19	16	13
Metro: 50,000 and Over				
Fringe	45	15	23	17
Central City	52	14	16	19

Table A3
1992

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

	A Great Deal	A Fair Amount	Not Very Much	None At All	Don't Know/ No Answer
Total Public	4	38	41	13	4
Male	4	39	41	14	3
Female	5	36	42	12	6
Total Head of Household	4	38	42	12	3
Male Head	4	38	41	14	3
Female Head	4	38	44	11	4
Under 35 Years of Age	2	40	41	12	4
18-24	5	46	29	16	4
25-34	1	37	49	10	4
35-44	4	38	42	13	3
45-65	6	36	39	15	5
Over 65	7	35	42	12	5
High School Incomplete	8	37	32	13	11
High School Graduate	3	40	43	11	3
College Incomplete	5	35	43	17	1
College Graduate	3	37	47	12	2
Household Income: Under \$15K	7	32	38	13	10
\$15-24.9K	4	43	37	13	3
\$25K +	4	38	44	12	2
\$25-29.9K	3	43	38	13	4
\$30-39.9K	3	34	48	15	1
\$40K +	5	39	44	11	2
Own	3	35	45	14	3
Rent	5	44	37	8	7
White	4	38	44	12	3
Black	7	36	29	15	13
Employed	4	40	41	12	3
Employed Female	4	41	41	11	3
Not Employed	5	33	41	13	7
Not Employed Female	5	31	43	13	8
Professional, Manager, Owner	4	38	43	13	3
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	6	40	41	12	2
Blue Collar	3	43	39	13	3
Retired	3	35	42	14	6
Married	5	37	43	12	4
Not Married	4	38	38	15	5
Household Size: 1-2 People	5	36	43	12	4
3-4 People	3	41	37	15	4
5+ People	7	47	37	8	2
Children in Household Under 18	3	38	44	12	3
No Children	5	37	40	13	5
Northeast	5	40	40	12	4
North-Central	5	36	47	9	3
South	5	38	38	14	5
West	3	37	42	15	4
Nonmetro	6	36	42	13	3
Metro: 50,000 and Over					
Fringe	4	36	45	13	2
Central City	3	41	37	12	7

Table A4
1992

Overall, How Much Trust and Confidence Do You Have in Your State Government to Do a Good Job
in Carrying Out its Responsibilities?

(percent)

	A Great Deal	A Fair Amount	Not Very Much	None At All	Don't Know/ No Answer
Total Public	5	46	36	8	5
Male	6	46	35	10	4
Female	5	45	38	7	6
Total Head of Household	6	45	37	9	4
Male Head	7	44	36	10	4
Female Head	4	46	38	8	4
Under 35 Years of Age	5	44	38	9	4
18-24	9	46	33	6	6
25-34	2	42	42	11	3
35-44	7	46	35	8	4
45-65	3	47	36	9	5
Over 65	7	47	33	8	6
High School Incomplete	9	45	27	8	11
High School Graduate	3	45	40	9	4
College Incomplete	6	45	38	10	2
College Graduate	5	47	38	7	3
Household Income: Under \$15K	8	41	33	8	10
\$15-24.9K	4	49	38	6	4
\$25K+	5	47	36	10	3
\$25-29.9K	4	52	28	13	3
\$30-39.9K	5	42	37	13	3
\$40K+	5	48	38	7	2
Own	4	45	38	10	3
Rent	7	48	32	6	6
White	4	46	38	9	4
Black	12	46	28	5	9
Employed	5	46	37	9	3
Employed Female	4	46	39	8	3
Not Employed	6	45	35	7	7
Not Employed Female	5	44	37	6	8
Professional, Manager, Owner	5	46	40	8	2
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	9	46	35	8	3
Blue Collar	5	48	33	11	4
Retired	6	48	31	9	6
Married	5	44	39	8	4
Not Married	5	49	32	8	5
Household Size: 1-2 People	6	44	38	8	4
3-4 People	4	48	32	11	6
5+ People	5	61	25	6	4
Children in Household Under 18	5	46	36	9	5
No Children	5	45	37	8	5
Northeast	5	42	38	11	6
North-Central	4	52	35	7	3
South	8	43	35	9	6
West	2	47	39	8	4
Nonmetro	5	47	38	8	3
Metro: 50,000 and Over					
Fringe	7	41	37	11	5
Central City	4	50	34	7	7

Table A5
1992

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

	A Great Deal	A Fair Amount	Not Very Much	None At All	Don't Know/ No Answer
Total Public	6	54	26	9	5
Male	7	55	26	8	4
Female	5	52	26	10	7
Total Head of Household	7	54	25	10	4
Male Head	8	55	25	9	3
Female Head	6	53	25	11	5
Under 35 Years of Age	4	54	29	8	5
18-24	7	52	30	6	6
25-34	3	56	28	9	4
35-44	8	56	22	11	3
45-65	7	52	27	9	7
Over 65	8	53	24	8	7
High School Incomplete	8	50	21	11	11
High School Graduate	5	52	30	10	4
College Incomplete	7	52	28	11	3
College Graduate	7	63	24	3	3
Household Income: Under \$15K	6	49	24	12	10
\$15-24.9K	7	53	28	8	4
\$25K+	7	55	26	8	4
\$25-29.9K	6	62	22	8	3
\$30-39.9K	6	50	30	11	4
\$40K+	8	57	26	6	4
Own	7	53	26	10	4
Rent	6	56	24	7	7
White	6	54	27	9	4
Black	9	53	24	6	9
Employed	6	57	26	8	3
Employed Female	6	56	25	9	4
Not Employed	7	49	26	10	8
Not Employed Female	5	49	27	10	10
Professional, Manager, Owner	7	57	28	6	2
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	5	53	28	9	5
Blue Collar	6	53	27	10	5
Retired	9	51	26	9	5
Married	7	54	25	10	5
Not Married	5	53	29	8	6
Household Size: 1-2 People	7	54	25	9	5
3-4 People	4	51	30	9	7
5+ People	5	62	25	4	4
Children in Household Under 18	5	53	27	10	5
No Children	7	53	27	8	6
Northeast	6	55	26	7	6
North-Central	7	60	24	6	3
South	6	51	27	11	6
West	5	50	30	10	6
Nonmetro	8	56	23	10	3
Metro: 50,000 and Over					
Fringe	7	53	27	7	6
Central City	3	52	30	9	6

Table A6
1992

Which of These Statements Comes Closest to Your View about Government Power Today?
(percent)

	The Federal Government Has Too Much Power	The Federal Government Is Using about the Right Amount of Power for Meeting Today's Needs	The Federal Government Should Use Its Powers More Vigorously to Promote the Well-Being of All Segments of the People	Don't Know/No Answer
Total Public	39	12	41	8
Male	44	14	36	7
Female	35	11	45	9
Total Head of Household	41	11	41	7
Male Head	46	11	36	8
Female Head	36	11	46	7
Under 35 Years of Age	34	15	43	8
18-24	27	22	42	10
25-34	38	11	44	8
35-44	43	10	41	6
45-65	41	11	39	9
Over 65	43	12	36	8
High School Incomplete	34	13	37	17
High School Graduate	39	10	43	8
College Incomplete	41	16	40	4
College Graduate	43	13	42	2
Household Income: Under \$15K	33	10	42	15
\$15-24.9K	44	12	39	5
\$25K +	42	14	39	6
\$25-29.9K	41	10	41	7
\$30-39.9K	46	15	34	6
\$40K +	41	14	41	5
Own	41	11	41	8
Rent	39	12	41	9
White	41	12	41	6
Black	30	14	41	16
Employed	39	12	42	7
Employed Female	31	13	48	8
Not Employed	39	13	38	10
Not Employed Female	38	10	43	10
Professional, Manager, Owner	42	14	38	7
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	37	12	46	4
Blue Collar	42	15	37	7
Retired	39	11	41	9
Married	40	10	42	8
Not Married	38	16	38	9
Household Size: 1-2 People	40	11	41	7
3-4 People	37	17	37	10
5+ People	23	8	64	6
Children in Household Under 18	37	11	45	7
No Children	40	14	37	9
Northeast	30	13	48	10
North-Central	36	10	48	6
South	43	12	36	9
West	45	16	31	8
Nonmetro	38	8	48	6
Metro: 50,000 and Over				
Fringe	42	13	37	7
Central City	38	16	36	11

Table A7
1992

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?
(on a 0-to-4 scale)

	Average Grades for Public Services		
	Roads and Bridges	Water Supply	Solid Waste Disposal
Total Public	2.14	2.70	2.32
Male	2.16	2.73	2.36
Female	2.12	2.68	2.29
Total Head of Household	2.14	2.71	2.35
Male Head	2.19	2.74	2.41
Female Head	2.09	2.67	2.31
Under 35 Years of Age	2.12	2.61	2.20
18-24	2.15	2.71	2.11
25-34	2.11	2.56	2.25
35-44	2.18	2.66	2.35
45-65	2.06	2.81	2.46
Over 65	2.25	2.78	2.37
High School Incomplete	1.99	2.69	2.35
High School Graduate	2.06	2.65	2.27
College Incomplete	2.22	2.58	2.24
College Graduate	2.38	2.93	2.49
Household Income: Under \$15K	2.01	2.60	2.17
\$15-24.9K	2.20	2.88	2.32
\$25K +	2.21	2.73	2.43
\$25-29.9K	2.27	2.76	2.40
\$30-39.9K	2.29	2.64	2.32
\$40K +	2.13	2.78	2.50
Own	2.14	2.76	2.36
Rent	2.14	2.59	2.37
White	2.15	2.73	2.36
Black	1.88	2.61	2.02
Employed	2.16	2.72	2.34
Employed Female	2.08	2.67	2.25
Not Employed	2.11	2.68	2.29
Not Employed Female	2.17	2.69	2.31
Professional, Manager, Owner	2.25	2.82	2.39
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	2.12	2.64	2.32
Blue Collar	2.03	2.62	2.30
Retired	2.11	2.83	2.30
Married	2.20	2.72	2.36
Not Married	2.03	2.68	2.26
Household Size: 1-2 People	2.11	2.71	2.35
3-4 People	2.20	2.71	2.25
5+ People	2.32	2.44	2.29
Children in Household Under 18	2.18	2.68	2.31
No Children	2.09	2.70	2.30
Northeast	1.71	2.41	2.06
North-Central	2.12	2.85	2.42
South	2.22	2.71	2.36
West	2.41	2.77	2.37
Nonmetro	2.16	2.82	2.41
Metro: 50,000 and Over			
Fringe	2.09	2.58	2.26
Central City	2.17	2.71	2.28

*Averaged on a 0-to-4 scale where 0 equals a grade of "F" and 4 equals a grade of "A."

Table A8
1992

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 Roads and Bridges?
(percent)

	PERFORMANCE GRADE					Don't Know/ No Answer
	A	B	C	D	F	
Total Public	6	31	36	15	7	5
Male	8	30	36	15	8	3
Female	4	31	36	15	7	7
Total Head of Household	6	30	37	14	8	4
Male Head	9	30	36	14	8	3
Female Head	4	31	38	15	7	6
Under 35 Years of Age	5	31	39	15	7	5
18-24	5	31	32	18	5	9
25-34	5	30	43	13	8	2
35-44	5	36	34	15	7	4
45-65	7	28	33	16	10	6
Over 65	9	29	38	12	6	8
High School Incomplete	7	24	31	15	12	11
High School Graduate	5	29	36	18	7	5
College Incomplete	7	33	38	15	5	2
College Graduate	6	41	40	8	4	3
Household Income: Under \$15K	5	28	32	15	11	9
\$15-24.9K	6	33	35	14	6	5
\$25K +	7	32	39	13	6	2
\$25-29.9K	9	33	34	13	6	4
\$30-39.9K	8	35	39	13	4	1
\$40K +	6	30	41	13	8	2
Own	6	29	39	13	7	5
Rent	5	34	31	16	7	7
White	6	32	37	14	7	4
Black	3	26	28	22	10	11
Employed	6	32	36	14	8	3
Employed Female	3	34	37	14	9	4
Not Employed	5	29	35	16	7	8
Not Employed Female	5	29	36	15	5	10
Professional, Manager, Owner	5	34	45	7	6	3
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	4	35	31	19	6	6
Blue Collar	7	29	31	17	12	4
Retired	8	22	41	15	7	7
Married	7	32	38	13	7	4
Not Married	4	29	33	17	9	8
Household Size: 1-2 People	6	30	38	15	8	4
3-4 People	7	32	32	14	7	8
5+ People	6	46	30	14	4	0
Children in Household Under 18	6	33	36	14	7	5
No Children	6	29	35	16	8	6
Northeast	2	19	36	22	14	8
North-Central	6	29	39	15	7	4
South	7	34	35	13	7	4
West	8	38	35	10	3	7
Nonmetro	5	35	38	13	8	2
Metro: 50,000 and Over						
Fringe	8	24	37	17	7	7
Central City	6	32	33	14	7	8

Table A9
1992

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 Water Supply?
(percent)

	PERFORMANCE GRADE					Don't Know/ No Answer
	A	B	C	D	F	
Total Public	19	39	23	8	2	9
Male	21	39	23	8	2	7
Female	17	40	23	9	2	10
Total Head of Household	20	38	23	8	2	8
Male Head	22	38	23	8	3	7
Female Head	18	39	23	9	2	9
Under 35 Years of Age	15	40	27	9	2	8
18-24	13	44	25	7	0	11
25-34	16	38	29	10	3	5
35-44	19	40	20	11	3	8
45-65	22	39	21	7	2	10
Over 65	22	39	20	7	3	10
High School Incomplete	17	38	22	8	2	13
High School Graduate	17	39	24	9	2	10
College Incomplete	16	39	25	10	4	6
College Graduate	26	43	20	6	1	5
Household Income: Under \$15K	16	36	25	10	2	12
\$15-24.9K	23	42	19	6	1	9
\$25K +	20	41	24	7	3	6
\$25-29.9K	17	43	26	6	1	7
\$30-39.9K	18	43	24	9	4	4
\$40K +	22	39	24	6	2	8
Own	20	40	22	7	2	9
Rent	17	36	27	10	3	8
White	19	40	23	7	2	8
Black	17	36	23	12	2	11
Employed	21	39	23	9	2	7
Employed Female	19	39	23	10	3	7
Not Employed	16	40	23	7	2	12
Not Employed Female	15	39	24	7	1	14
Professional, Manager, Owner	22	40	26	5	1	5
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	21	34	25	12	2	7
Blue Collar	18	39	21	11	3	8
Retired	25	39	17	6	5	8
Married	20	40	21	8	3	8
Not Married	17	38	26	9	1	9
Household Size: 1-2 People	20	39	23	8	2	8
3-4 People	17	40	23	8	1	11
5+ People	5	54	22	14	4	0
Children in Household Under 18	17	40	25	7	2	9
No Children	20	39	22	9	2	8
Northeast	8	33	33	9	3	15
North-Central	25	41	17	8	2	8
South	17	43	24	8	2	7
West	25	37	20	10	2	8
Nonmetro	22	41	16	9	2	11
Metro: 50,000 and Over						
Fringe	17	36	29	8	4	7
Central City	16	42	25	7	1	8

Table A10
1992

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 Solid Waste Disposal?
(percent)

	PERFORMANCE GRADE					Don't Know/ No Answer
	A	B	C	D	F	
Total Public	13	31	26	11	8	11
Male	15	31	26	12	8	9
Female	11	31	26	11	8	13
Total Head of Household	14	32	24	11	9	11
Male Head	17	32	22	12	8	9
Female Head	11	33	26	10	9	12
Under 35 Years of Age	9	30	30	12	9	10
18-24	11	22	29	14	10	13
25-34	9	35	30	11	9	7
35-44	14	35	22	11	10	9
45-65	15	34	21	10	7	12
Over 65	15	25	28	13	5	14
High School Incomplete	17	24	23	12	8	17
High School Graduate	10	32	28	11	8	11
College Incomplete	11	34	24	12	11	8
College Graduate	16	35	27	10	5	8
Household Income Under \$15K	12	27	21	13	12	16
\$15-24.9K	12	29	30	12	6	12
\$25K +	14	36	27	8	8	7
\$25-29.9K	5	48	23	12	5	7
\$30-39.9K	15	32	29	10	10	4
\$40K +	16	35	28	6	7	9
Own	13	33	26	10	8	11
Rent	15	30	24	11	9	12
White	13	33	25	11	7	10
Black	13	19	29	12	15	13
Employed	14	32	25	11	9	8
Employed Female	12	31	29	12	10	7
Not Employed	10	29	27	11	7	15
Not Employed Female	10	31	24	11	7	18
Professional, Manager, Owner	14	35	27	9	9	6
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	15	25	30	17	5	8
Blue Collar	15	32	20	11	12	10
Retired	12	26	26	13	6	17
Married	13	33	25	10	9	10
Not Married	12	28	27	14	8	12
Household Size: 1-2 People	13	32	25	11	8	10
3-4 People	12	27	28	12	8	13
5+ People	6	42	33	12	8	0
Children in Household Under 18	12	32	28	9	10	10
No Children	13	29	25	14	8	11
Northeast	9	21	27	16	9	18
North-Central	12	40	25	9	8	7
South	13	32	27	9	8	10
West	18	26	24	14	8	10
Nonmetro	14	35	21	11	8	11
Metro: 50,000 and Over						
Fringe	14	26	29	11	10	10
Central City	9	31	29	12	6	11

Table A11
1992

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

	User Fees or Charges for Specific Services	Special Taxes Dedicated to Funding Specific Services	General Purpose Taxes	(Volunteered) Don't Spend More/ Don't Increase Revenues	Other	Don't Know/ No Answer
Total Public	29	35	12	13	2	9
Male	32	34	12	13	3	7
Female	27	37	12	12	1	11
Total Head of Household	30	34	12	13	2	9
Male Head	33	33	12	13	3	7
Female Head	28	35	12	14	2	10
Under 35 Years of Age	33	35	10	11	1	9
18-24	24	46	7	11	2	11
25-34	39	29	13	12	1	7
35-44	30	33	13	15	1	8
45-65	27	36	13	11	4	10
Over 65	22	39	13	15	2	10
High School Incomplete	22	38	9	14	1	17
High School Graduate	28	33	12	15	2	11
College Incomplete	30	37	18	10	2	4
College Graduate	38	35	11	9	4	4
Household Income: Under \$15K	21	38	11	13	1	16
\$15-24.9K	27	40	11	12	2	8
\$25K +	35	33	11	14	3	6
\$25-29.9K	32	29	15	16	4	4
\$30-39.9K	35	30	11	19	0	5
\$40K +	35	35	10	10	4	6
Own	29	35	14	13	2	7
Rent	30	33	9	13	3	13
White	31	35	12	12	2	8
Black	16	42	10	14	0	18
Employed	33	35	12	12	2	7
Employed Female	29	35	12	13	2	9
Not Employed	23	37	13	14	2	12
Not Employed Female	24	38	13	12	1	13
Professional, Manager, Owner	37	34	11	10	2	6
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	22	39	15	11	3	10
Blue Collar	32	31	13	14	2	8
Retired	24	33	14	16	2	11
Married	32	34	12	13	2	8
Not Married	24	38	12	13	2	11
Household Size: 1-2 People	29	34	12	13	3	9
3-4 People	27	41	11	11	1	9
5+ People	34	34	11	11	0	9
Children in Household Under 18	33	32	11	14	2	8
No Children	25	38	13	11	2	10
Northeast	30	32	10	11	3	15
North-Central	31	37	15	6	2	9
South	27	37	10	15	2	9
West	29	33	15	18	0	4
Nonmetro	34	38	11	9	2	6
Metro: 50,000 and Over						
Fringe	27	33	12	17	2	9
Central City	25	36	13	12	1	14

Table A12
1992

Should the Federal Government Regulate the Use of Pesticides on Home Lawns and Public Grounds throughout the Country, or Should Each Local Government Regulate the Use of Pesticides on Home Lawns and Public Grounds in Its Community?
(percent)

	Federal Government Should Regulate	Local Government Should Regulate	Don't Know/ No Answer
Total Public	37	52	11
Male	39	51	10
Female	36	53	11
Total Head of Household	36	53	10
Male Head	38	52	10
Female Head	35	54	11
Under 35 Years of Age	40	51	9
18-24	40	50	11
25-34	40	52	9
35-44	41	52	8
45-65	35	54	11
Over 65	31	52	17
High School Incomplete	31	44	25
High School Graduate	38	54	8
College Incomplete	39	58	4
College Graduate	42	52	7
Household Income: Under \$15K	30	49	21
\$15-24.9K	37	55	8
\$25K +	41	53	6
\$25-29.9K	24	68	8
\$30-39.9K	42	53	5
\$40K +	46	48	6
Own	36	54	10
Rent	36	51	13
White	38	53	9
Black	32	50	18
Employed	38	53	8
Employed Female	36	56	9
Not Employed	37	50	14
Not Employed Female	37	50	13
Professional, Manager, Owner	42	51	7
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	34	58	8
Blue Collar	39	52	9
Retired	33	52	16
Married	36	54	10
Not Married	40	49	11
Household Size: 1-2 People	36	53	12
3-4 People	41	51	8
5+ People	44	48	8
Children in Household Under 18	38	53	9
No Children	38	50	12
Northeast	36	49	14
North-Central	41	54	6
South	34	54	12
West	41	49	10
Nonmetro	33	60	7
Metro: 50,000 and Over			
Fringe	45	44	11
Central City	34	51	15

Table A13
1992

Should the Federal Government Regulate the Location and Building of Low-Income Housing in Communities throughout the Country, or Should Each Local Government Regulate the Location and Building of Low-Income Housing in Its Community?

(percent)

	Federal Government Should Regulate	Local Government Should Regulate	Don't Know/ No Answer
Total Public	20	72	7
Male	19	75	6
Female	22	70	8
Total Head of Household	19	73	7
Male Head	17	76	3
Female Head	21	71	8
Under 35 Years of Age	20	73	7
18-24	22	71	7
25-34	19	75	7
35-44	20	74	6
45-65	23	68	10
Over 65	18	74	8
High School Incomplete	23	59	18
High School Graduate	21	74	5
College Incomplete	20	78	3
College Graduate	17	78	6
Household Income: Under \$15K	24	61	14
\$15-24.9K	20	74	6
\$25K +	18	77	5
\$25-29.9K	16	77	7
\$30-39.9K	20	76	4
\$40K +	18	78	4
Own	18	76	6
Rent	26	65	10
White	19	75	6
Black	32	53	15
Employed	20	74	6
Employed Female	23	70	7
Not Employed	21	69	10
Not Employed Female	20	70	10
Professional, Manager, Owner	20	75	6
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	18	79	3
Blue Collar	23	70	8
Retired	23	69	8
Married	17	76	7
Not Married	26	66	8
Household Size: 1-2 People	20	73	8
3-4 People	21	72	7
5+ People	21	71	9
Children in Household Under 18	19	74	7
No Children	22	71	8
Northeast	35	58	7
North-Central	10	86	4
South	21	70	10
West	18	75	7
Nonmetro	17	79	5
Metro: 50,000 and Over			
Fringe	26	69	6
Central City	20	68	13

Table A14
1992

Should the Federal Government Regulate the Listing of Health Risks on the Labels of Food Products Sold throughout the Country, or Should Each State Government Regulate the Listing of Health Risks on the Labels of Food Products Sold in Its State?
(percent)

	Federal Government Should Regulate	Local Government Should Regulate	Don't Know/ No Answer
Total Public	75	18	8
Male	75	19	6
Female	75	17	9
Total Head of Household	76	16	7
Male Head	76	17	7
Female Head	77	16	8
Under 35 Years of Age	74	20	6
18-24	68	26	6
25-34	78	17	5
35-44	78	17	4
45-65	74	17	9
Over 65	72	15	13
High School Incomplete	58	22	21
High School Graduate	74	20	6
College Incomplete	84	15	1
College Graduate	86	12	3
Household Income: Under \$15K	61	23	16
\$15-24.9K	78	17	6
\$25K +	81	15	4
\$25-29.9K	76	17	8
\$30-39.9K	80	17	3
\$40K +	84	13	3
Own	77	16	7
Rent	71	21	9
White	78	16	6
Black	57	28	15
Employed	77	18	5
Employed Female	76	17	7
Not Employed	71	19	10
Not Employed Female	73	17	10
Professional, Manager, Owner	82	14	4
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	79	16	5
Blue Collar	72	21	7
Retired	74	15	11
Married	77	16	7
Not Married	71	20	9
Household Size: 1-2 People	75	17	8
3-4 People	72	22	6
5+ People	82	14	4
Children in Household Under 18	76	20	5
No Children	75	16	9
Northeast	73	16	11
North-Central	80	15	5
South	71	21	9
West	77	18	5
Nonmetro	79	17	4
Metro: 50,000 and Over			
Fringe	79	14	7
Central City	65	23	12

Table A15
1992

Should the Federal Government Regulate Banks so as to Let Them Operate Freely across State Lines throughout the Country, or Should Each State Government Regulate Banks that Operate in Its State so as to Be Able to Limit or Keep Out Banks from Other States if It Wishes to Do So?

(percent)

	Federal Government Should Regulate	Local Government Should Regulate	Don't Know/ No Answer
Total Public	50	38	12
Male	52	38	9
Female	48	38	15
Total Head of Household	50	38	12
Male Head	52	38	10
Female Head	49	37	14
Under 35 Years of Age	54	35	11
18-24	52	36	12
25-34	55	34	11
35-44	54	38	8
45-65	47	39	14
Over 65	39	43	18
High School Incomplete	34	42	24
High School Graduate	52	38	10
College Incomplete	52	40	8
College Graduate	60	33	7
Household Income: Under \$15K	41	38	21
\$15-24.9K	52	35	14
\$25K +	52	41	7
\$25-29.9K	46	46	8
\$30-39.9K	55	40	5
\$40K +	52	40	9
Own	48	40	13
Rent	53	34	13
White	50	39	11
Black	51	31	19
Employed	54	37	10
Employed Female	53	35	12
Not Employed	44	40	16
Not Employed Female	42	41	17
Professional, Manager, Owner	54	36	10
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	54	37	9
Blue Collar	55	36	9
Retired	42	39	19
Married	49	40	12
Not Married	51	35	14
Household Size: 1-2 People	49	38	13
3-4 People	51	38	11
5+ People	54	42	4
Children in Household Under 18	54	37	10
No Children	48	39	14
Northeast	53	33	14
North-Central	45	44	11
South	47	40	13
West	58	31	11
Nonmetro	48	43	9
Metro: 50,000 and Over			
Fringe	50	38	12
Central City	51	32	17

Table A16
1992

Should the Federal Government Regulate Companies that Sell Life, Fire, Property, Casualty,
and Automobile Insurance throughout the Country, or Should Each State Government
Regulate the Companies that Sell These Types of Insurance in Its State?
(percent)

	Federal Government Should Regulate	Local Government Should Regulate	Don't Know/ No Answer
Total Public	37	51	12
Male	41	49	10
Female	34	53	13
Total Head of Household	37	52	11
Male Head	38	52	10
Female Head	36	52	12
Under 35 Years of Age	36	52	13
18-24	35	52	13
25-34	36	52	12
35-44	44	49	8
45-65	39	50	11
Over 65	30	54	15
High School Incomplete	33	44	23
High School Graduate	39	52	9
College Incomplete	39	55	6
College Graduate	38	52	10
Household Income: Under \$15K	30	49	21
\$15-24.9K	38	52	10
\$25K +	40	52	8
\$25-29.9K	41	51	9
\$30-39.9K	40	55	6
\$40K +	41	50	9
Own	35	54	11
Rent	42	45	12
White	38	51	11
Black	33	50	17
Employed	40	51	9
Employed Female	37	54	10
Not Employed	34	51	15
Not Employed Female	32	52	16
Professional, Manager, Owner	37	54	9
White Collar, Sales, Clerical	45	52	3
Blue Collar	40	48	12
Retired	37	46	16
Married	36	54	10
Not Married	40	47	14
Household Size: 1-2 People	38	51	11
3-4 People	36	50	14
5+ People	35	61	4
Children in Household Under 18	39	50	12
No Children	38	51	12
Northeast	40	47	14
North-Central	37	57	7
South	38	49	13
West	35	51	14
Nonmetro	37	55	9
Metro: 50,000 and Over			
Fringe	41	49	10
Central City	35	48	17

Appendix II

Index to Questions, 1972-1992

This guide is an index to all questions asked in the ACIR polls from 1972 through 1992. Individuals wishing to order data may (1) order individual tables and/or (2) order the publications in which the data appear.

This index should be read as follows: The first column is the question wording. Column 2 (Year) reports the years in which the question was asked. Column 3 (Publication, Table Number) reports the

publication and table number for previously published detailed tables.

The data for 1991 are published in *Changing Public Attitudes on Governments and Taxes 1991* (S-20). The data for 1990 are in volume S-19, for 1989 in volume S-18, 1982-88 in volume S-17, and for 1972-81 in volumes S-12 or S-13. For years with blanks, data are included in the first tables in that list.

	Year	Publication, Table Numbers
TAXES		
Federal-State-Local Taxes		
From which level of government do you feel you get the most for your money —federal, state, or local?	1991 1989-72	S-20, A2 S-18, 1 S-17, 1-4
From which level of government do you feel you get the least for your money —federal, state, or local?	1992 1990 1989	S-21, A2 S-19, A2 S-18, 2
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 1980-77 1976-75	S-17, 38-40
Here is a list of the major types of taxes in the country today. Which do you think is the fairest?	1972, 74	S-13, E
Which do you think is the worst tax, that is, the least fair?	1991 1990 1988-77 1975-72	S-20, A1 S-19, A1 S-18, 3 S-17, 6-9
Which do you think is the worst tax, that is, the least fair—including Social Security?	1992 1990-88	S-21, A1 S-18, 4 S-17, 5
Federal-Local Taxes		
Which statement agrees most with your own thinking about the national value-added tax and local property tax?	1972	S-13, 1
Federal Taxes		
If the federal government had to raise taxes/revenues, which would be the best way to do it?	1987 1984 1983 1972	S-17, 22-24 S-13, K
If the federal income tax collections must be increased, which way is the best?	1983	S-17, 25
Which one of the changes would be the single most important change that would make the nation's tax system more fair?	1983	S-17, 46
Which one way of reducing the federal deficit would you prefer?	1984	S-17, 43

State Taxes

Suppose your state government must raise taxes/revenues, which would be the better way to do it?	1987 1983 1972, 76	S-17, 26-27 S-13, D S-13, L
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	S-13, L

Local Taxes

Suppose your local government must raise more taxes/revenue, which would be the better way to do it?	1987 1986 1983 1981	S-17, 28-31
Which reason do you feel is the most important for dissatisfaction with the property tax?	1977	S-13, G

SPENDING

Federal Mandates

The federal government has passed laws requiring better local pay and benefits, local wastewater treatment standards, and state health services to the poor. Do you think the federal government was right in passing these laws?	1991	S-20, A6, A8, A10
Regardless of how you feel about these laws, do you think the costs should be paid by the federal government, your state or local government, or the federal and state or local government each paying part?	1991	S-20 A7, A9, A11

Federal-State-Local Spending

Which level of government do you think spends your tax dollars most wisely— federal, state, or local?	1991 1989	S-20, A3 S-18, 7
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Federal Spending

Which functions should the federal government turn back to state and local governments?	1981	S-13, P
Which one way of reducing the federal deficit would you prefer?	1984	S-17, 43
If the federal government decides to reduce spending, which one way would you prefer?	1986, 84	S-17, 37

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	S-13, O
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AID PROGRAMS

Federal Aid

Rank types of federal grant programs as to whether they are necessary or unnecessary.	1982	S-17,16
Do you favor or oppose revenue sharing?	1973-76, 79	S-13, C
Do you favor or oppose special federal aid for central cities experiencing financial difficulty?	1976-79	S-13, J
For which, if any, of the following programs should the federal government stop providing federal financial support?	1985	S-17, 42

State Aid

With the cutbacks in federal financial aid to local governments, what should states do?	1983	S-17, 47
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Welfare

Should single parents receiving welfare be required to work in a government program to continue receiving payments?	1986	S-17, 41
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GOVERNMENT POWER AND EFFICIENCY

Federal-State-Local Power

Power in our federal system is divided between the federal, state, and local governments. Here is a card with glasses of water illustrating different amounts of power for each government. Which set of glasses do you think best illustrates how power is actually distributed between our federal, state, and local governments today?	1991	S-20, A12
Here is a card with three empty glasses. Each glass has a scale from 0 to 100, 0 meaning empty or no power, and 100 meaning full or a lot of power. If you had 100 units of power to distribute,		

so that you could give the federal, state, and local governments the amount of power you thought each should have, how many units of power would you put in each glass?	1991	S-20, A13-15
Which level of government do you think has too much power today—federal, state, or local?	1989	S-18, 8
Which level of government do you think needs more power today—federal, state, or local?	1989	S-18, 9
How much power do you feel the federal government has over the activities of state and local government?	1987	S-17, 32
Which of these statements comes closest to your view about government power today?	1992 1986-82 1978	S-21, A6 S-17, 35-36

Federal Efficiency

In your opinion, how often does the federal government perform its duties efficiently and at the best cost possible?	1988	S-17, 10
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Federal-State-Local Efficiency

Which government do you feel wastes the most of your tax money?	1987	S-17, 21
In your opinion, how often does your state government perform its duties efficiently and at the best cost possible?	1988	S-17, 11
In your opinion, how often does your local government perform its duties efficiently and at the best cost possible?	1988	S-17, 12

State-Local Efficiency

Which of these statements about the ability of state and local government to deal with today's problems comes closest to your view?	1978	S-13, N
Would the following services be more efficiently produced/delivered by private companies or your local government?	1985	S-17, 44

TRUST AND CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT

Federal-State-Local Confidence

On the whole, who do you think is the most honest—federal officials, state officials, or local officials?	1989	S-18, 5
Which level of government do you think responds best to your needs?	1989	S-18, 6
How much trust and confidence do you have in your government to do a good job?	1992 1987	S-21, A3-A5 S-17, 34
In which people in government do you have the most trust and confidence?	1987	S-17, 33
To the extent that government may be involved, in which level of government do you have the most trust and confidence to handle each of the following problems most effectively: federal, state, or local?	1990	S19, A3-A8
In which level of government do you have the most trust and confidence to handle each of the following problems most effectively—federal, state, or local?	1989	S-18, 10-15

GOVERNMENT FUNCTIONS

Performance and Cooperation

Overall, how well do you think the federal government and your state government cooperate and get along with each other?	1991	S-20, A4
Overall, how well do you think your state government and your local government cooperate and get along with each other?	1991	S-20, A5
Overall, how would you grade the performance of each of the following governments—federal, state, local?	1990	S-19, A9-11
Overall, how would you grade the ability of the federal, state, and local governments to cooperate and work together today?	1990	S-19, A12-14

Foreign Policy and Trade

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, not a very good use, or a poor use of public funds?	1988	S-17, 15
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	1988	S-17, 16

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?

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 S-17, 17

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? 1992 S-21, A8-A10
1988 S-17, 18

Average grades for public works services 1992 S-21, A7
1988 S-17, 19

If there is a need to raise additional revenues to improve public works services, which one of these methods would you prefer? 1992 S-21, A11
1988 S-17, 20

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 S-17, 48

State Surplus Funds

How should states use their surplus funds? 1984 S-17, 45

State Constitutions

In addition to the United States constitution, do you know if your state has its own constitution, or does your state not have its own constitution? 1991 S-20, A16

Does your state have its own constitution, or does it rely on the United States Constitution for its governing powers? 1988 S-17, 13

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 S-17, 14

Preemption

Should the federal government regulate the use of pesticides on home lawns and public grounds throughout the country, or should each local government regulate the use of pesticides on home lawns and public grounds in its community? 1992 S-21, A12

Should the federal government regulate the location and building of low-income housing in communities throughout the country, or should each local government regulate the location and building of low-income housing in its community? 1992 S-21, A13

Should the federal government regulate the listing of health risks on the labels of food products sold throughout the country, or should each state government regulate the listing of health risks on the labels of food products sold in its state? 1992 S-21, A14

Should the federal government regulate banks so as to let them operate freely across state lines throughout the country, or should each state government regulate banks that operate in its state so as to be able to limit or keep out banks from other states if it wishes to do so? 1992 S-21, A15

Should the federal government regulate companies that sell life, fire, property, casualty, and automobile insurance throughout the country, or should each state government regulate the companies that sell these types of insurance in its state? 1992 S-21, A16

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