



COMPILATION OF POLLING ON TAX FAIRNESS ISSUES

*Questions Are Primarily from 2012 to 2017
Updated April 18, 2017*

Americans for Tax Fairness has conducted an extensive online search of public polls conducted in recent years posing questions on tax issues. We found that media outlets do very limited polling on tax issues – typically a question or two when an issue is being publicly debated in Congress. The most relevant questions we could find related to the topics below are included here. On behalf of Americans for Tax Fairness and other clients, [Hart Research Associates](#) has conducted in-depth polling on tax reform issues in recent years, which comprise many of the poll questions below.

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SECTION 1: TAX TRADEOFFS

Tax Reform Creates Space for Public Investment

Hart Research Associates online survey for Americans United, Project New America, AFL-CIO, and others. July 15-20, 2015. N = 1,602 swing voters

Asked of swing voters: Which candidate would you be more likely to support?

- 50% Republican candidate who favors cutting government spending to bring down the deficit and reduce debt
- 50% Democratic candidate who favors investment in schools, research, and transportation that create jobs

vs.

- 39% Republican candidate who favors cutting government spending to bring down the deficit and reduce debt
- 62% Democratic candidate who favors investment in schools, research, and transportation that create jobs, funded **by closing tax loopholes for big corporations and the rich**

Voters Choose Public Investment Over Reducing Taxes

2014 Election Day voters when asked: “Which one of the following do you think should be the higher priority for the president and Congress right now—(A) reducing taxes on businesses and individuals or (B) investing in key priorities like education, healthcare, and job creation?” chose “investing in key priorities” (67%) over “reducing taxes” (29%).

[Hart Research Assoc. poll for the AFL-CIO, November 2014, Q14](#)

Voters Favor Raising Taxes on Corps & the Rich to Pay for Investment

By 62% to 32%, 2014 Election Day voters favor “raising taxes on the wealthy and large corporations to fund priorities like education, job training, and deficit reduction.”

[Hart Research Assoc. poll for the AFL-CIO, November 2014, Q17](#)

Voters Favor Expanding Poverty Programs Over Tax Cuts for the Rich

By 54% to 35%, when asked what would do more to reduce poverty, respondents favored, “raising taxes on wealthy people and corporations to expand programs for the poor” instead of, “lowering taxes on wealthy people and corporations to encourage investment and economic growth.”

[Pew Research Center, January 2014, Q26](#)

Voters Favor Closing Offshoring Loopholes to Invest in Infrastructure

By 68% to 31% voters believe “we should close tax loopholes for large corporations that ship jobs offshore, and instead use that money to invest in jobs in America by improving our roads and bridges and rebuilding manufacturing.”

[Hart Research Assoc. poll for Americans for Tax Fairness, October 2013, Q16a/b](#)

Voters Oppose Tax Cuts If They Increase the Deficit

[Ipsos Poll for National Public Radio, April 11-12, 2017](#). Online survey of 1,010 adults.

Q7. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

f. The government should cut taxes even if it causes the national debt to increase

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Democrats</u>	<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Independents</u>
Strongly Agree	12	10	15	12
Somewhat Agree	29	28	31	28
Somewhat Disagree	42	40	42	42
Strongly Disagree	17	22	13	18
Total Agree	41	37	46	40
Total Disagree	59	63	54	60

[Quinnipiac University, November 17-20, 2016](#), N = 1,071 voters nationwide.

46. Do you support or oppose reducing taxes across the board, even if it means increasing the deficit?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Support	32%	45%	20%	34%	34%	31%	28%	36%
Oppose	60	47	72	58	61	59	67	55
DK/NA	8	8	8	8	5	10	5	9
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	NonWht
Support	34%	33%	36%	24%	37%	28%	32%	34%
Oppose	58	63	59	61	60	61	60	58
DK/NA	9	4	4	15	3	11	7	8

Voters Favor Investing in Infrastructure

[Quinnipiac University, November 17-20, 2016](#), N = 1,071 voters nationwide.

44. Do you support or oppose increasing federal spending for roads, bridges, mass transit and other infrastructure?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Support	83%	83%	84%	83%	85%	81%	90%	82%
Oppose	15	17	15	12	15	15	8	16
DK/NA	2	-	2	4	-	4	3	2

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	NonWht
Support	76%	89%	83%	87%	86%	86%	86%	77%
Oppose	20	10	16	11	14	11	12	21
DK/NA	4	1	1	3	-	4	2	2

SECTION 2: TAXING CORPORATIONS

Raising Min Wage Preferable to Cutting Corporate Taxes

[McClatchy-Marist Poll, December 1-9, 2016](#), N=1,005 national Adults.

In order to help the economy and move the nation forward, do you think the focus of government should be: *More on raising the minimum wage and providing job training and education* or *More on cutting corporate taxes and reducing regulations on businesses?* (page 11)

	National Adults	Party ID: Democrat	Party ID: Republican	Party ID: Indpndnt	February 2014
Raising minimum wage, job training and education	61%	85%	36%	54%	61%
Cutting corporate taxes and reducing regulations on businesses	35%	12%	60%	40%	35%
Unsure	5%	4%	4%	6%	5%

Tax Rates Should Be Raised on Big Corporations

[Ipsos Poll for National Public Radio, April 11-12, 2017](#). Online survey of 1,010 adults.

9. Should tax rates be raised, lowered or kept the same for businesses with...

a. Fewer than 50 employees

	Total	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
Raised	7	8	8	4
Kept the same	34	39	32	29
Lowered	59	53	60	67

b. 50 to less than 500 employees

	Total	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
Raised	14	17	13	14
Kept the same	48	53	45	46
Lowered	37	31	42	40

c. 500 to less than 1,000 employees

	Total	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
Raised	38	45	37	32
Kept the same	43	43	39	47
Lowered	18	12	25	20

d. 1,000 or more employees

	Total	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
Raised	59	69	49	55
Kept the same	28	23	31	31
Lowered	13	9	19	14

Corporations Pay Too Little

[Gallup News Service, April 5-9, 2017](#), Q 26. Telephone survey of 1,019 adults

As I read off some different groups, please tell me if you think they are paying their FAIR share in federal taxes, paying too MUCH or paying too LITTLE?

	Fair Share	Too Much	Too Little
Corporations	19%	9%	67%
Upper-Income People	24%	10%	63%
Lower-Income People	35%	48%	14%
Middle Income People	40%	51%	6%

<i>Corporations</i>	Fair Share	Too Much	Too Little
April 5-9, 2017	19%	9%	67%
April 6-10, 2016	16%	12%	67%
April 9-12, 2015	16%	9%	69%
April 3-6, 2014	20%	8%	66%
April 4-7, 2013	21%	8%	66%
April 9-12, 2012	21%	11%	64%
April 7-11, 2011	20%	9%	67%
April 8-11, 2010	22%	9%	62%
April 6-9, 2009	18%	8%	67%
April 6-9, 2008	15%	6%	73%
April 2-5, 2007	19%	5%	71%
April 10-13, 2006	18%	5%	70%
April 4-7, 2005	21%	4%	69%
April 5-8, 2004	19%	5%	69%

[Pew Research Center, April 5-11, 2017](#). Landline and cell phone interviews with 1,501 adults.

Q67 Please tell me how much, if at all, each of the **following bothers you about the federal tax system**? First, [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE] does this bother you a lot, some, not too much, or not at all? How about [NEXT ITEM]? [IF NECESSARY: Does this bother you a lot, some, not too much, or not at all?] [Sorted by “a lot”]

	<u>A lot</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Not too much</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	<u>DK/ref.</u>
The feeling that some corporations don't pay their fair share	62%	18%	9%	9%	1%
The feeling that some wealthy people don't pay their fair share	60%	18%	9%	12%	1%
The complexity of the tax system	43%	29%	16%	10%	2%
The amount you pay in taxes	27%	26%	25%	21%	1%
The feeling that some poor people don't pay their fair share	20%	20%	22%	36%	2%

Global Strategy Group Survey for The Hub Project, April 5-9, 2017. Online survey of 1,211 registered voters.

Q.13-18 Below is a list of groups. For each, please indicate whether you think that group pays more than their fair share of taxes to the federal government, about the right amount, or less than their fair share of taxes to the federal government. [Ranked by “Less than fair share”

	More than their fair share	About the right amount	Less than their fair share
Wealthy corporations [Spilt B]	9	14	77
Millionaires and billionaires [Split B]	10	14	76
Wealthy Americans [Split A]	13	18	69
Corporations [Split A]	12	22	67
Lower-income Americans	51	33	16
People in your local community [Split B]	44	50	6
Your household [Split A]	50	44	6
Working families	66	29	6
The middle class	59	37	4

[The Washington Post-ABC News poll, January 12-15, 2015.](#) Q20. N = 1,003 adults

“Overall, do you think large business corporations pay their fair share in taxes, pay too (little), or pay too (much).”

19% Pay their fair share

65% Pay too little

9% Pay too much

7 % No opinion

Corporate Profits

Which statement comes closer to your views, even if neither is exactly right

[Pew Research Center, March 17-27, 2016, Q50a.](#) N = 2,254

	Business Corporations Make Too Much Profit	Most Corporations Make a Fair and Reasonable Amount of Profit	Both/Neither/DK/Refused
Mar 17-27, 2016	58	37	5
Aug 27 - Oct 4, 2015	57	38	5
Jan 23 – Mar 16 2014	56	39	4
Mar 13-17, 2013	53	41	6
Feb 22 – Mar 14, 2011	54	39	7
Aug 25 – Sep 6, 2010	54	39	6
Dec 2008	58	35	7
Oct 2008	59	33	8
Dec 2005	61	33	6
Dec 2004	53	39	8
June 2003	51	42	7
July 2002	58	33	9
Feb 2002	54	39	7
Sep 2000	54	38	8
Aug 1999	52	42	6
June 1997	51	43	6
Oct 1996	51	42	7
Oct 1995	53	43	4
April 1995	51	44	5
Oct 1994	50	44	6
July 1994	52	43	5

Oil and Gas Tax Breaks

By 62% to 34%, voters want to “Eliminate special tax breaks for oil and gas companies.”

[Hart Research Assoc. poll for Americans for Tax Fairness, October 2013, Q20a/b](#)

Eliminate Some Corporate Deductions

By 70% to 26%, Americans favor an Obama administration proposal “increasing taxes on some corporations by eliminating certain tax deductions.”

[Gallup poll, April 2011, Q16](#)

Close Loopholes and Invest Rather than Reduce Tax Rates (Revenue Neutral Tax Reform)

By 61% to 35%, Americans believe that “in order to help the economy and move the nation forward, the focus of the government should be more on raising the minimum wage and providing job training and education” than on “cutting corporate taxes and reducing regulations on businesses.”

[McClatchy/Marist poll, February 2014](#)

By 82% to 9%, voters believe that “reform[ing] the tax system by closing corporate loopholes and limiting deductions for the wealthy” should be used to “reduce the budget deficit and make new investments” rather than to “reduce tax rates on corporations and the wealthy.”

[Hart Research Assoc. poll for Americans for Tax Fairness, October 2013, Q21](#)

By 83% to 11%, voters want to use “tax revenue from closing corporate loopholes and limiting deductions to reduce the budget deficit and make public investments, rather than to reduce tax rates on corporations.”

[Hart Research Assoc. poll for Americans for Tax Fairness, January 2013, Q17](#)

Pay Full Tax on Offshore Profits

[Morning Consult Intelligence, October 2-5, 2015](#). Online Poll of 1979 adults

As you may know, American companies are taxed when they bring profits earned overseas back home to the United States. Do you think American companies should be required to pay full taxes when they bring foreign profits back to the United States or not?

Yes	58%
No	20%
Don't Know/No Opinion	22%

By 73% to 21%, 2014 Election Day voters favor “increasing taxes on the profits that American corporations make overseas, to ensure they pay as much on foreign profits as they do on profits made in the United States.”

[Hart Research Assoc. poll for the AFL-CIO, November 2014, Q17](#)

By 83% to 13% voters want to “Increase taxes on the profits that American corporations make overseas, to ensure they pay as much on foreign profits as they do on profits made in the United States.”

[Hart Research Assoc. poll for Americans for Tax Fairness, January 2013, Q12](#)

By 84% to 11% voters want to “Increase taxes on the profits that American corporations make overseas, to ensure they pay as much on foreign profits as they do on profits made in the United States.”

[Hart Research Assoc. poll for Americans for Tax Fairness, November 2012, Q16](#)

By 79% to 17%, voters want to “Close tax loopholes to ensure that American corporations pay as much on foreign profits as they do on profits made in the United States.”

[Hart Research Assoc. poll for Americans for Tax Fairness, October 2013, Q20a/b](#)

Tax Holiday on Offshore Profits

[Morning Consult Intelligence, October 2-5, 2015](#). Online Poll of 1979 adults

As you may know, American companies are taxed when they bring profits earned overseas back home to the United States. Do you believe this tax should be temporarily suspended to encourage more American companies to bring foreign profits back to the United States or not?

Yes, it should be temporarily suspended	29%
No, it should not be temporarily suspended	44%
Don't Know/No Opinion	27%

Taxing Offshore Profits to Fund Infrastructure

[Morning Consult Intelligence, October 2-5, 2015](#). Online Poll of 1979 adults

Would You Support or Oppose increasing funding for the nation's transportation infrastructure by taxing the overseas profits of U.S. companies?

Strongly Support	34%
Somewhat Support	34%
Somewhat Oppose	10%
Strongly Oppose	6%
Don't Know/No Opinion	15%

[Morning Consult Intelligence, June 26-29, 2015](#). Online Poll of 1976 adults

As you may know, the federal fund to build and maintain interstates and highways will expire at the end of July. Do you think the following actions being proposed to address the fund's expiration are a good idea or a bad idea:

Tax U.S. companies' overseas profits to fund the highway account?

Very Good Idea	32%
Somewhat Good Idea	32%
Somewhat Bad Idea	12%
Very Bad Idea	9%
Don't Know/No Opinion	15%

Close Tax Loopholes Encouraging Moving Money Overseas

[Morning Consult Intelligence, June 20-22 2015](#). Online Poll of 1306 adults

Do you Support or Oppose the U.S. government providing tax breaks to American companies doing business overseas?

Support	18%
Oppose	70%
Don't Know/No Opinion	13%

By 57% to 37%, 2014 Election Day voters favor “ending all tax loopholes that encourage U.S. companies to send jobs overseas.”

[Hart Research Assoc. poll for the AFL-CIO, November 2014, Q17](#)

By 62% to 36%, voters want to “Close loopholes that allow corporations and wealthy individuals to avoid paying U.S. taxes by shifting income to offshore tax havens.”

[Hart Research Assoc. poll for Americans for Tax Fairness, October 2013, Q20a/b](#)

By 73% to 25% voters want to “close loopholes that allow corporations and wealthy individuals to avoid paying U.S. taxes by shifting income to overseas tax havens.”

[Hart Research Assoc. poll for Americans for Tax Fairness, January 2013, Q12](#)

By 68% to 31% voters believe that “We should end tax breaks to large corporations that ship jobs overseas and use that money to invest in jobs in America improving our roads and bridges, rebuilding manufacturing and making us energy independent.”

[Hart Research Assoc. poll for Americans for Tax Fairness, January 2013, Q16](#)

By 61% to 33%, voters want to “pass legislation to prevent corporations and wealthy individuals from avoiding U.S. taxes by shifting income earned here in the United States to overseas tax havens.”

[Hart Research Assoc. poll for Americans for Tax Fairness, November 2012, Q16](#)

Nearly three-quarters (73%) of Americans support “raising taxes on businesses that move manufacturing jobs overseas.”

[ABC News/Washington Post poll, February 2012, Q11](#)

Exit Tax

[Morning Consult Intelligence, August 8-10, 2016](#). Online Poll of 1,998 adults
Please indicate whether you support or oppose each of the following:

Impose an exit tax on U.S. companies that move overseas?

Strongly Support	37%
Somewhat Support	27%
Somewhat Oppose	9%
Strongly Oppose	5%
Don't Know/No Opinion	22%

Corporate Tax Inversions

[Morning Consult Intelligence, September 4-7, 2014](#). N = 1,059

Please indicate if you have a Very Favorable, Somewhat Favorable, Somewhat Unfavorable, or Very Unfavorable opinion of corporate tax inversion, the practice by which U.S. corporations continue to do business in America but move their headquarters to another country to take advantage of lower tax rates.

Very Favorable	5%
Somewhat Favorable	12%
Somewhat Unfavorable	17%
Very Unfavorable	42%
No Opinion	23%

[Morning Consult Intelligence, September 26-28, 2014](#). N = 1,824 adults

Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statement:

Some U.S. companies move their headquarters abroad primarily to expand international growth opportunities, not to pay a lower corporate tax rate.

Strongly Agree	7%
Somewhat Agree	26%
Somewhat Disagree	26%
Strongly Disagree	27%
Don't Know/No Opinion	14%

By more than a three-to-one margin, 70% to 23%, Colorado voters disapproved of “tax inversions, a practice where an American company becomes a subsidiary of another company in a foreign country for the purpose of reducing its taxes.”

[Public Policy Polling poll of Colorado voters for Americans for Tax Fairness Action Fund, September 2014, Q15](#)

76% of Democrats, 69% of Republicans and 80% of Independents disapprove of corporate tax inversions when they were asked “Do you approve or disapprove of tax inversions, a practice where one company becomes a subsidiary of another company in a foreign country for the purpose of reducing its tax rate?”

[Morning Consult poll, August 2014](#)

By 70% to 20%, Iowa voters disapproved of “tax inversions, a practice where an American company becomes a subsidiary of another company in a foreign country for the purpose of reducing its taxes.”

[Public Policy Polling poll of Iowa voters for Americans for Tax Fairness Action Fund, August 2014, Q12](#)

CEO Pay

By 63% to 34%, voters want to “prevent corporations from avoiding taxes when they award their executives millions of dollars in stock options.”

[Hart Research Associates poll, January 2013, Q12](#)

Financial Transaction Tax and a Bank Fee

By 47% to 13%, voters favor “instituting a fee on debts of banks and other financial institutions with more than \$50 billion in assets ...as a way to pay for tax cuts or additional government spending.” (36% neither favored nor opposed this proposal).

[Associated Press/GfK poll, February 2015, TAX2](#)

By 61% to 32%, voters want to “Establish a small tax on all trading in stocks and bonds and other financial market trades. For example, for every ten thousand dollars in a trade the tax would be three dollars.”

[Hart Research Assoc. poll for Americans for Tax Fairness, January 2013, Q12](#)

Views of Small Business Owners

By 67% to 31% small business owners believe “we should end tax breaks for companies that ship jobs and profits offshore, and level the playing field for small businesses that create jobs in America.”

[Hart Research Assoc. poll for Americans for Tax Fairness, October 2013, Q16a/b](#)

34% of American small business owners chose “closing tax loopholes for large corporations” over six other budget-cutting or revenue raising measures, when asked to choose their top priority for the federal government. The largest number of Republican respondents (27%) chose the same answer.

[Lake Research Partners poll for Main Street Alliance and American Sustainable Business Council, April 2013](#)

When asked about “a tax system that would allow U.S. multinational corporations to avoid taxes permanently by shifting their income to places like the Cayman Islands,” more than four out of five (85%) small business owners oppose instituting this type of territorial tax system.

[Lake Research Partners poll for Main Street Alliance and American Sustainable Business Council, April 2013](#)

67% of small business owners say big corporations are paying “less than their fair share” of taxes; 73% say the same thing about multinational corporations.

[Lake Research Partners poll for Main Street Alliance, American Sustainable Business Council and Small Business Majority, February 2012, Q3 and Q8](#)

90% of small business owners think “big corporations use tax loopholes to avoid taxes that small businesses have to pay,” and 92% think that “tax loopholes for big corporations” is a problem.

[Lake Research Partners poll for Main Street Alliance, American Sustainable Business Council and Small Business Majority, February 2012, Q9 and Q10](#)

Three-quarters of respondents think their “small business is harmed when big corporations use loopholes to avoid taxes.”

[Lake Research Partners poll for Main Street Alliance, American Sustainable Business Council and Small Business Majority, February 2012, Q11](#)

91% of respondents said that “U.S. multinational corporations using accounting loopholes to shift their U.S. profits to their offshore subsidiaries to avoid taxes” is a problem.

[Lake Research Partners poll for Main Street Alliance, American Sustainable Business Council and Small Business Majority, February 2012, Q12](#)

81% of small business owners disapprove of the carried interest loophole that lets hedge fund managers “have their personal income taxed at the capital gains rate of 15% instead of the ordinary income tax rate.”

[Lake Research Partners poll for Main Street Alliance, American Sustainable Business Council and Small Business Majority, February 2012, Q17](#)

In a Vacuum, Mild Support for Cutting Corporate Tax Rate to 15%

[Morning Consult Intelligence, August 8-10, 2016](#). Online Poll of 1998 adults

Please indicate whether you support or oppose each of the following:

Cut the corporate tax rate to 15 percent?

Strongly Support	17%
Somewhat Support	23%
Somewhat Oppose	17%
Strongly Oppose	16%
Don't Know/No Opinion	27%

SECTION 3: TAXING THE WEALTHY

Voters Don't Think Reducing Taxes on the Wealthy Will Improve the Economy

[Ipsos Poll for National Public Radio, April 11-12, 2017](#). Online survey of 1,010 adults.

Q7. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

a. Tax cuts for the wealthy lead to economic growth

	Total	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
Strongly Agree	12%	10%	19%	8%
Somewhat Agree	25%	19%	33%	29%
Somewhat Disagree	31%	23%	33%	40%
Strongly Disagree	32%	48%	14%	24%
Total Agree	37%	29%	53%	36%
Total Disagree	63%	71%	47%	64%

[Quinnipiac University, November 17-20, 2016](#), N = 1,071 voters nationwide.

51. Do you believe that reducing taxes on the wealthy will improve the economy and create more jobs or not?

							WHITE.....	
							COLLEGE DEG	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No
Yes/Improve	38%	56%	19%	37%	42%	34%	31%	45%
No	57	37	79	55	53	60	65	48
DK/NA	6	8	2	8	5	6	5	7
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	NonWht
Yes/Improve	40%	34%	40%	39%	43%	35%	38%	37%
No	56	62	56	52	51	59	56	58
DK/NA	4	5	4	8	6	6	6	5

Tax Rates Should Be Raised on Those with Incomes of \$100K or more

[Ipsos Poll for National Public Radio, April 11-12, 2017](#). Online survey of 1,010 adults.

8. Should tax rates be raised, lowered or kept the same for people with an annual income of ...

a. \$49,000 or less

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Democrats</u>	<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Independents</u>
Raised	9	28	35	31
Kept the same	31	9	12	8
Lowered	60	64	52	61

b. \$50,000 - \$99,000

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Democrats</u>	<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Independents</u>
Raised	17	16	16	20
Kept the same	39	40	41	39
Lowered	44	44	43	41

c. \$100,000 - \$249,000

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Democrats</u>	<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Independents</u>
Raised	47	54	36	56
Kept the same	32	32	35	28
Lowered	21	14	29	16

d. \$250,000 - \$999,000

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Democrats</u>	<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Independents</u>
Raised	70	81	56	74
Kept the same	15	10	20	16
Lowered	15	9	25	10

e. \$1,000,000 or more

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Democrats</u>	<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Independents</u>
Raised	75	85	62	81
Kept the same	12	8	18	9
Lowered	13	7	20	10

Trump Should NOT Lower Taxes on the Wealthy

[Quinnipiac University National Poll, March 30-April 3, 2017](#). Landline and cell phone interviews with 1,171 voters nationwide.

36. As president, do you think Donald Trump should - lower taxes on the wealthy, or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Yes/Should	21%	41%	8%	19%	26%	17%	20%	28%
No	72	48	91	74	68	76	75	61
DK/NA	7	11	1	7	6	7	4	11

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	NonWht
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom		
Yes/Should	18%	16%	22%	27%	29%	20%	24%	14%
No	74	77	73	65	65	71	68	82
DK/NA	8	7	4	8	6	9	8	4

TREND: As president, do you think Donald Trump should - lower taxes on the wealthy, or not?

	Yes	No	DK/NA
Apr 05, 2017	21	72	7
Mar 24, 2017	22	74	5
Mar 08, 2017	21	74	5
Feb 23, 2017	18	76	6
Nov 23, 2016	29	67	4

The Wealthy Pay Too Little

[Gallup News Service, April 5-9, 2017](#), Q 26. Telephone survey of 1,019 adults

As I read off some different groups, please tell me if you think they are paying their FAIR share in federal taxes, paying too MUCH or paying too LITTLE?

	Fair Share	Too Much	Too Little
Corporations	19%	9%	67%
Upper-Income People	24%	10%	63%
Lower-Income People	35%	48%	14%
Middle Income People	40%	51%	6%

<i>Upper-Income People</i>	Fair Share	Too Much	Too Little
April 5-9, 2017	24%	10%	63%
April 6-10, 2016	21%	15%	61%
April 9-12, 2015	25%	11%	62%
April 3-6, 2014	24%	13%	61%
April 4-7, 2013	26%	11%	61%
April 9-12, 2012	25%	10%	62%
April 7-11, 2011	25%	13%	59%
April 8-11, 2010	26%	15%	55%
April 6-9, 2009	23	13	60
April 6-9, 2008	24	9	63
April 2-5, 2007	21	9	66
April 10-13, 2006	21	8	67
April 4-7, 2005	22	7	68
April 5-8, 2004	24	9	63
April 7-9, 2003	24	10	63
April 6-7, 1999	19	10	66
April 9-10, 1996	19	9	68
April 16-18, 1994	20	10	68
March 29-31, 1993	16	5	77
March 26-29, 1992	16	4	77

[Pew Research Center, April 5-11, 2017.](#) Landline and cell phone interviews with 1,501 adults.

Q67 Please tell me how much, if at all, each of the following **bothers you about the federal tax system**? First, [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE] does this bother you a lot, some, not too much, or not at all? How about [NEXT ITEM]? [IF NECESSARY: Does this bother you a lot, some, not too much, or not at all?] [Sorted by “a lot”

	<u>A lot</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Not too much</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	<u>DK/ref.</u>
The feeling that some corporations don't pay their fair share	62%	18%	9%	9%	1%
The feeling that some wealthy people don't pay their fair share	60%	18%	9%	12%	1%
The complexity of the tax system	43%	29%	16%	10%	2%
The amount you pay in taxes	27%	26%	25%	21%	1%
The feeling that some poor people don't pay their fair share	20%	20%	22%	36%	2%

Global Strategy Group Survey for The Hub Project, April 5-9, 2017. Online survey of 1,211 registered voters.

Q.13-18 Below is a list of groups. For each, please indicate whether you think that group pays more than their fair share of taxes to the federal government, about the right amount, or less than their fair share of taxes to the federal government. [Ranked by “Less than fair share”

	More than their fair share	About the right amount	Less than their fair share
Wealthy corporations [Spilt B]	9	14	77
Millionaires and billionaires [Split B]	10	14	76
Wealthy Americans [Split A]	13	18	69
Corporations [Split A]	12	22	67
Lower-income Americans	51	33	16
People in your local community [Split B]	44	50	6
Your household [Split A]	50	44	6
Working families	66	29	6
The middle class	59	37	4

When asked to say if wealthy households pay “too much, too little, or about the right amount in federal taxes,” 68% of respondents said “too little,” 18% said “about the right amount” and 11% said “too much.”

[Associated Press/GfK poll, February 2015, TAX1](#)

Support for Increasing Taxes on the Wealthy

[Pew Research Center for People and the Press, October 20-25, 2016](#). N= 2,583 national adults.

Thinking about taxes ... do do you think tax rates on household income over \$250,000 should be raised, lowered, or kept the same as they are now?

- 38% Raised
- 21% Lowered
- 34% Kept the same as they are now
- 7% Don't know/Refused

[Morning Consult Intelligence, August 8-10, 2016](#). Online Poll of 1,998 adults

Please indicate whether you support or oppose each of the following:

Increase taxes on wealthy Americans?

	<i>8/10/2016</i>	<i>5/2/2016</i>	<i>4/17/2016</i>	<i>4/11/2016</i>	<i>4/3/2016</i>	<i>3/13/2016</i>
Strongly Support	34%	50	47	47	42	44
Somewhat Support	25%	24	24	24	27	27
Somewhat Oppose	13%	10	13	12	15	13
Strongly Oppose	8%	12	9	9	8	10
Don't Know/No Opinion	19%	4	6	7	7	6

Setting the Framework

Hart Research Associates online survey for Americans United, Project New America, AFL-CIO, and others. July 15-20, 2015. N = 1,602 swing voters

Percentage of swing voters who find each of the below statements to be an **extremely serious concern**:

34% Working people's wages standing still, **even though productivity is rising**

vs.

52% Working people's wages standing still; **CEOs giving themselves multimillion-dollar bonuses**

37% Ordinary people's incomes have flat-lined

vs.

44% Ordinary people's incomes have flat-lined; **incomes of the richest 1% continue to rise**

Which of the two candidates would you be most likely to support?

45% Democratic candidate who will make the economy work for all of us

55% Republican candidate who will grow the economy

vs.

61% Democratic candidate who will make the economy work for all of us, **not just the wealthy**

39% Republican candidate who will grow the economy

Tax Investment Income at Same Rate as Wages/Salaries

By 56% to 16%, respondents favor "increasing the capital gains tax on the stocks held by people in households making more than \$500,000 a year...as a way to pay for tax cuts or additional government spending." (25% neither favored nor opposed this proposal).

[Associated Press/GfK poll, February 2015, TAX2](#)

By 52% to 36%, voters support a proposal that would "For those making over two hundred fifty thousand dollars, end the lower tax rate on income from selling stocks and other assets."

[Hart Research Assoc. poll for Americans for Tax Fairness, January 2013, Q12](#)

By 61% to 28%, voters want to "End the lower tax rate on income from selling stocks and other assets, so that investors pay the same tax rates as workers do on their earnings."

[Hart Research Assoc. poll for Americans for Tax Fairness, November 2012, Q16](#)

[GQRR/Democracy Corps for the Roosevelt Institute, September 12-16, 2015](#). N = 900 likely 2016 voters. *I am going to read you some statements about the American Economy. For each statement, please tell me if you agree or disagree with it.*

Q.46 Making sure CEOs and the top 1 percent pay more taxes and curbing speculation from corporations will lead to greater economic growth and raise incomes of the middle class and working families.
[Split. N = 450]

40% Strongly Agree	
23% Somewhat Agree	63% Agree
20% Somewhat Disagree	34% Disagree
15% Strongly Disagree	

[GQRR/Democracy Corps for the Roosevelt Institute, September 12-16, 2015](#). N = 900 likely 2016 voters. Percentage saying the following would be effective in “producing a better economy” (Percentage saying **very effective**)

72% Increase taxes on top income earners so that they pay their fair share.
(46% very effective) Q. 59, Split, N = 450

72% Increase taxes on the richest 1 percent to fund investments that will grow the economy in the long term, like public education, scientific research, and infrastructure. (44% very effective) Q. 60, Split, N = 450

72% Close tax loopholes that allow speculators and people who make money from short-term trades to pay less taxes on profits than full-time workers pay on their income or wages. (38% very effective) Q.53 Split, N = 450

Hart Research Associates online survey for Americans United, Project New America, AFL-CIO, and others. July 15-20, 2015. N = 1,602 swing voters. Percentage saying the following would be *effective in strengthening the economy*:

72%	Make sure millionaires pay tax rates at least as high as the middle class pays
70%	Close tax loopholes for companies moving jobs overseas, use savings to create jobs on roads, bridges, schools, mass transit
68%	Limit influence of billionaires and corporate lobbyists in the political system
64%	End tax breaks for companies paying huge CEO salaries, use savings for job training/more affordable college so people can get higher-paying jobs

By 68% to 28%, voters want to “Eliminate the [carried interest] loophole that allows Wall Street hedge fund managers to pay a lower tax rate than middle-class taxpayers.”

[Hart Research Assoc. poll for Americans for Tax Fairness, October 2013, Q20a/b](#)

By 52% to 41%, voters want to “Limit tax deductions for people making over two hundred fifty thousand dollars a year.”

[Hart Research Assoc. poll for Americans for Tax Fairness, October 2013, Q20a/b](#)

By 73% to 22%, voters want to “Place a surtax of five percent on a person’s income over ten million dollars per year.” By 67% to 28%, voters want to “Place a surtax of five percent on a person’s income over one million dollars a year.”

[Hart Research Associates Poll, January 2013, Q12](#)

By 61% to 31%, voters want to “Place a surtax of five percent on a person’s income over one million dollars a year.”

[Hart Research Assoc. poll for Americans for Tax Fairness, November 2012, Q16](#)

36% of the public believes that “taxes on wealthy people should be kept low because they invest their money in the private sector and that helps the economy and creates jobs.” 56% of the public say that “taxes on wealthy people should be kept high so the government can use their money for programs to help lower income people.”

[CNN/ORC poll, November 2012, Q21](#)

Buffett Rule

By 71% to 23%, voters want to “Pass the Buffett Rule, which sets a minimum income tax rate of thirty percent for millionaires to ensure they do not pay a lower tax rate than the middle class.”

[Hart Research Assoc. poll for Americans for Tax Fairness, October 2013, Q 20a/b](#)

By 59% to 30%, the public supports “requiring all Americans of incomes of one million dollars or more to pay at least 30 percent of their income in taxes;” 42% strongly supported it and only 17% strongly opposed it.

[Associated Press/GfK Roper poll, April 2013, BUD5](#)

By 60% to 37%, Americans are “in favor Congress passing a law requiring households earning \$1 million a year or more to pay a minimum of 30% of their income in taxes.” 74% of Democrats, 63% of Independents and 43% of Republicans support the measure.

[Gallup poll, April 2012, Q36](#)

Income Tax Rates

56% of Americans (59% of Democrats, 48% of Republicans and 56% of Independents) feel that “the amount you pay is about right” when it comes to federal income taxes. 42% (40% of Democrats, 50% of Republicans and 43% of Independents) think that they pay “more than their fair share.” Only 1% believes that they pay “less than your fair share.”

[McClatchy/Marist poll, April 2014](#)

Estate/Inheritance Taxes

[Ipsos Poll for National Public Radio, April 11-12, 2017](#). Online survey of 1,010 adults.

Q2. To the best of your knowledge, are the following statements about U.S. tax policy TRUE or FALSE?

a. The Estate Tax affects less than 1% of the people inheriting in the United States?

	Total	<u>Democrats</u>	<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Independents</u>
True	50%	52%	53%	53%
False	25%	25%	28%	24%
Don't Know	25%	23%	20%	23%

[Morning Consult Intelligence, August 8-10, 2016](#). Online Poll of 1998 adults

Please indicate whether you support or oppose each of the following:

Eliminate the Estate Tax?

Strongly Support	27%
Somewhat Support	26%
Somewhat Oppose	13%
Strongly Oppose	8%
Don't Know/No Opinion	26%

[Morning Consult Intelligence, February 6-9, 2015](#). N = 1,781

The White House and Congress are considering a variety of tax proposals, one of which pertains to capital gains. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statement...

Recipients of inherited assets should pay the same rate of taxation on the assets as those who purchased them.

39%	Agree
48%	Disagree
14%	DK/No Opinion

By 60% to 35%, voters want to “Eliminate the loophole that allows wealthy families to avoid paying any capital gains taxes on stocks and bonds they inherit.

[Hart Research Associates poll, January 2013, Q12](#)

Social Security Taxes

By 61% to 30%, 2014 Election Day voters favor “increasing Social Security benefits, paid for by having high-income people pay Social Security taxes on all of their wages.”

[Hart Research Assoc. poll for the AFL-CIO, November 2014, Q14](#)

By a four-to-one margin, 80% to 20%, Americans support a “proposal [that] would gradually eliminate the earnings cap (currently \$117,000) over 10 years.”

[National Academy of Social Insurance Survey, June 2014, Q42 and page 18](#)

By almost a five-to-one margin, 83% to 17%, Americans support a proposal that “would raise the Social Security tax rate for workers and employers in two steps in the future – from 6.2% to 7.2% in 2022 and to 8.2% in 2052.”

[National Academy of Social Insurance Survey, June 2014, Q44 and page 18](#)

SECTION 4: GENERAL TAXES

Believe U.S. Taxes are Higher Than in Other Western Democracies

[Ipsos Poll for National Public Radio, April 11-12, 2017](#). Online survey of 1,010 adults.

Q6. Compared to other Western Democracies, is the average federal income tax rate in the United States ...

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Democrats</u>	<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Independents</u>
Much Higher	14%	14%	15%	12%
Somewhat Higher	33%	33%	38%	28%
About the Same	15%	16%	12%	17%
Somewhat Lower	20%	17%	22%	30%
Much Lower	6%	8%	5%	2%
Don't Know	13%	12%	8%	11%
Total Higher	46%	47%	53%	40%
Total Lower	26%	26%	26%	32%

It is Wrong to Cheat on Taxes

[Ipsos Poll for National Public Radio, April 11-12, 2017](#). Online survey of 1,010 adults.

Q10. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

c. It is sometimes ok for people to not report all their income on their taxes

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Democrats</u>	<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Independents</u>
Strongly Agree	6	7	6	5
Somewhat Agree	19	20	17	16
Somewhat Disagree	27	26	25	33
Strongly Disagree	48	47	51	45
Total Agree	25	27	24	22
Total Disagree	75	73	76	78

It is Americans' Civic Duty to Pay Their Fair Share of Taxes

[CNN-ORC International Poll, September 28 - October 2, 2016](#), Q9. N = 1,335 registered voters, 1,213 likely voters.

Which better describes your view of paying taxes: It is every American's civic duty to pay their fair share of taxes, or Taxes are an unnecessary burden and Americans should do everything they can to pay as little as possible?

86% It is every American's civic duty to pay their fair share of taxes

12% Taxes are an unnecessary burden and Americans should do everything they can to pay as little as Possible

1% No Opinion

Support for a Progressive Tax System

[Ipsos Poll for National Public Radio, April 11-12, 2017](#). Online survey of 1,010 adults.

Q10. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

d. Tax rates should be the same for everyone

	Total	<u>Democrats</u>	<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Independents</u>
Strongly Agree	17	13	21	20
Somewhat Agree	25	21	33	19
Somewhat Disagree	33	31	31	39
Strongly Disagree	25	35	16	22
Total Agree	41	34	54	39
Total Disagree	59	66	46	61

d. The tax rate on income from work should be lower than the tax rate on income from wealth

	Total	<u>Democrats</u>	<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Independents</u>
Strongly Agree	26	25	24	37
Somewhat Agree	49	52	47	47
Somewhat Disagree	20	19	24	15
Strongly Disagree	5	4	6	1
Total Agree	75	77	71	84
Total Disagree	25	23	29	16

Fairness of Tax System

[Pew Research Center, April 5-11, 2017](#). Landline and cell phone interviews with 1,501 adults.

Q.65F2 How fair do you think our present federal tax system is? Overall, would you say that our tax system is *very fair*, *moderately fair*, *not too fair*, or *not fair at all*? [Half sample; N=755]

42% Fair (Very Fair/Moderately Fair)

56% Unfair (Not Too Fair/Not Fair At All)

	Very Fair	Moderately Fair	Not Too Fair	Not Fair at All	DK/Refused
Apr 5-11, 2017	2%	40%	29%	27%	1%
Feb 18-22, 2015	4%	46%	24%	24%	1%
Dec 7-11, 2011	3%	40%	31%	24%	3%

Biggest Concerns with the Federal Tax System

[Pew Research Center, April 5-11, 2017](#). Landline and cell phone interviews with 1,501 adults.

Q67 Please tell me how much, if at all, each of the following **bothers you about the federal tax system**? First, [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE] does this bother you a lot, some, not too much, or not at all? How about [NEXT ITEM]? [IF NECESSARY: Does this bother you a lot, some, not too much, or not at all?] [Sorted by “a lot”

	<u>A lot</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Not too much</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	<u>DK/ref.</u>
The feeling that some corporations don't pay their fair share	62%	18%	9%	9%	1%
The feeling that some wealthy people don't pay their fair share	60%	18%	9%	12%	1%
The complexity of the tax system	43%	29%	16%	10%	2%
The amount you pay in taxes	27%	26%	25%	21%	1%
The feeling that some poor people don't pay their fair share	20%	20%	22%	36%	2%

Value from Your Taxes

[Pew Research Center, April 5-11, 2017](#). Landline and cell phone interviews with 1,501 adults.

Q.66F1 Considering what you get from the federal government, do you think you *pay more than your fair share* of taxes, *less than your fair share*, or *about the right amount*? [asked of half sample; N=746]

40% Pay More than Fair Share in Taxes
 5% Pay Less Than Fair Share in Taxes
 54% Pay About the Right Amount in Taxes

	Pay More Than Fair Share	Pay Less Than Fair Share	Pay About the Right Amount	DK/Refused
Apr 5-11, 2017	40%	5%	54%	2%
Feb 18-22, 2015	40%	4%	53%	2%
Dec 7-11, 2011	38%	5%	52%	5%
Mar 11-21, 2010	43%	3%	50%	3%
Feb 2000	55%	1%	41%	3%
Oct 1997	52%	2%	45%	1%

[Gallup News Service, April 5-9, 2017](#). Telephone survey of 1,019 adults

Q25. Do you regard the income tax which you will have to pay this year as fair?

	<u>Apr 5-9, 2017</u>	<u>April 2016</u>	<u>April 2015</u>	<u>April 2014</u>	<u>April 2013</u>	<u>April 2012</u>	<u>April 2011</u>	<u>April 2010</u>
Yes, Fair	61	50	56	54	55	59	57	59
No, Not fair	35	47	40	41	42	37	40	36
No Opinion	4	3	4	5	3	5	3	5

Scope of Tax Reform

Which of the following statements comes closest to your overall view of the federal tax system in this country?

[Pew Research Center, February 18-22, 2015, Q27.](#) N = 1,504

38% On the whole, the federal tax system works pretty well and Congress should only make minor changes to make it work better

59% There is so much wrong with the federal tax system that Congress should completely change it

3% DK/Refused

	Minor Changes	Completely Change it	DK/Refused
Feb 18-22 2015	38%	59%	3%
Dec 7-11, 2011	34%	59%	7%
March 2003	44%	52%	3%

Spending Cuts vs. Raising Taxes

[Kaiser Family Foundation/Social Science Research Solutions, April 23-31, 2015.](#) N = 1,849.

What do you think is the best approach to managing the federal budget deficit: mostly by cutting federal spending, mostly by increasing taxes on the wealthy and corporations, or by a fairly even combination of both spending cuts and tax increases?

21% Mostly by cutting federal spending

23% Mostly by increasing taxes on the wealthy and corporations

52% Fairly even combination of both

1% (Vol.) Not take any action now

3% Don't know/Refused

Lowering Taxes Would Decrease Deficit

[Morning Consult Intelligence, January 16-19, 2015.](#) N = 1540

Please say if you agree or disagree with the following statements:

If Congress were to pass a piece of legislation that lowers both corporate and individual tax rates, the U.S. deficit would decrease as a result.

41% Agree

38% Disagree

21% Don't Know/No Opinion

SECTION 5: INCOME INEQUALITY

Income Distribution is Unfair

[Gallup News Service, April 6-10, 2016](#), Q34. N = 1,015 adults

Do you feel that the distribution of money and wealth in this country today is fair, or do you feel that the money and wealth in this country should be more evenly distributed among a larger percentage of the people?

	Distribution is fair	Should be more evenly distributed	No opinion
	%	%	%
2016 Apr 6-10	34	59	7
2015 Apr 9-12	31	63	6
2013 Apr 4-7	33	59	7
2011 Nov 28-Dec 1	35	61	4
2011 Apr 7-11	35	57	8
2009 Mar 27-29	35	59	6
2008 Oct 23-26	37	58	5
2008 Apr 6-9	27	68	5
2007 Apr 2-5	29	66	5
2003 Jan 10-12	31	63	6
2000 Sep 11-13	38	56	6
1998 Apr 23-May 31	31	63	6
1996 Apr 25-28	33	62	5
1990 May 17-20	28	66	6
1984 Dec 7-10	31	60	9

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[Gallup News Service, January 6-10, 2016](#). N = 1,012 adults

Satisfaction with Various Aspects of Life in the United States Today (partial list)

	Satisfied	Dissatisfied
The overall quality of life	76	24
The opportunity for a person to get ahead by working hard	62	38
The way income and wealth are distributed in the U.S.	29	68
The nation's efforts to deal with poverty and homelessness	22	75

Democrats Say Income Inequality is Most Important Economic Problem

What do you think is the most important economic problem facing this country today – jobs and unemployment, federal budget and government spending, taxes, income inequality, or other?

[CBS News/New York Times Poll, November 6-10, 2015](#), Q4. N-1,495 adults nationwide.

	<u>All</u>	<u>Democrats</u>
Federal budget and government spending	37%	20%
Jobs and Unemployment	23%	27%
Income Inequality	20%	37%
Taxes	9%	6%
Other	9%	9%
DK/NA	1%	1%

Income Inequality is a Serious Problem

Do you think the gap between rich and poor in this country is a problem that needs to be addressed now, a problem but one that does not need to be addressed now, or not a problem?

[CBS News/New York Times Poll, November 6-10, 2015](#), Q10. N-1,495 adults nationwide.

	<u>All</u>	<u>Democrats</u>
Needs to be addressed now	68%	88%
Problem, doesn't need to be addressed now	12%	9%
Not a problem	17%	2%
DK/NA	3%	1%

Thinking about the income gap between wealthy Americans and those who are less well off – do you think this is a major problem facing this country, a problem but not a major one, or not a problem?

[The Washington Post-ABC News poll, January 12-15, 2015. Q24](#) N = 1,003 adults

- 51% Major Problem
- 32% Problem, but Not a Major One
- 15% Not a Problem
- 1% No opinion

Taxing the Rich is a Solution for Income Inequality

[Gallup News Service, April 6-10, 2016](#), Q35. N = 1,015 adults

People feel differently about how far a government should go. Here is a phrase which some people believe in and some don't. Do you think our government should or should not redistribute wealth by heavy taxes on the rich?

	Yes, should	No, should not	No opinion
	%	%	%
2016 Apr 6-10	52	46	2
2015 Apr 9-12	52	45	2
2013 Apr 4-7	52	45	3
2011 Apr 7-11	47	49	4
2009 Mar 27-29	50	46	4
2008 Oct 23-26	46	50	4
2008 Apr 6-9	51	43	5
2007 Apr 2-5	49	47	4
1998 Apr 23-May 31	45	51	4
1939 Mar ^	35	54	11

^ Roper/Fortune Magazine poll

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[CBS News/New York Times Poll, November 6-10, 2015](#). N-1,495 adults nationwide.

Q53. In General, would you favor or oppose increasing taxes on wealthy Americans and large corporations in order to help reduce income inequality in the U.S.?

	ALL	Dems
Favor	63%	85%
Oppose	31%	11%
DK/NA	6%	4%

SECTION 6: PUBLIC BELIEVES ECONOMIC POLICIES FAVOR RICH & CORPORATIONS

[McClatchy-Marist Poll, December 1-9, 2016](#), N=1,005 national Adults.

In this country right now, do you think: *Everyone more or less plays by the same rules to get ahead or There are different rules for the well-connected and people with money?* (page 7)

	<u>National Adults</u>	<u>Party ID:</u> <u>Democrat</u>	<u>Party ID:</u> <u>Republican</u>	<u>Party ID:</u> <u>Indpndnt</u>	<u>February 2014</u>
Everyone plays by the same rules	14%	9%	24%	9%	14%
Different rules for well-connected and people w/ money	83%	90%	72%	88%	85%
Unsure	3%	1%	4%	2%	1%

[Center for American Progress National Post-Election Survey by Gerstein Bocian Agne Strategies, November 9-14, 2016](#). N=2,000 Total November 2016 voters.

33. **The wealthy and big corporations are the ones really running this country**

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>Trump Voters</u>	<u>Clinton Voters</u>
Strongly Agree	45%	38%	52%
Somewhat Agree	40%	42%	37%
Somewhat Disagree	13%	16%	10%
Strongly Disagree	2%	4%	0%

36. Our government is rigged in favor of the very rich and the very poor, and the middle class gets left behind.

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>Trump Voters</u>	<u>Clinton Voters</u>
Strongly Agree	37%	39%	34%
Somewhat Agree	43%	43%	44%
Somewhat Disagree	17%	14%	20%
Strongly Disagree	3%	3%	2%

[Reuters /Ipsos National Election Day Poll, November 8, 2016](#). N=10,000 people who have already cast their ballots in the presidential election.

- 75 percent agree that "America needs a strong leader to take the country back from the rich and powerful."

- 72 percent agree "the American economy is rigged to advantage the rich and powerful."

- 68 percent agree that "traditional parties and politicians don't care about people like me."

- 76 percent believe "the mainstream media is more interested in making money than telling the truth."

- 57 percent feel that "more and more, I don't identify with what America has become."

- 54 percent feel "it is increasingly hard for someone like me to get ahead in America."

[Pew Research Center, March 17-27, 2016](#), Q58m N = 2,254

Which statement comes closer to your views, even if neither is exactly right:

	The Economic System in This Country Unfairly Favors Powerful Interests	The Economic System in This Country is Generally Fair to Most Americans	Both/Neither DK/Refused
Mar 17-27, 2016	66	31	2
Aug 27 – Oct 4 2015	65	31	3
Feb 18-22, 2015	62	33	4
Jan 23 – Feb 9, 2014	62	34	4

[Gallup News Service, January 6-10, 2016](#). N = 1,012 adults
 Satisfaction with Various Aspects of Life in the United States Today (partial list)

	Satisfied	Dissatisfied
The overall quality of life	76	24
The opportunity for a person to get ahead by working hard	62	38
The acceptance of gays and lesbians in the nation	60	34
The nation's military strength and preparedness	59	35
The quality of medical care in the nation	53	45
The quality of public education in the nation	38	61
The availability of affordable health care	37	58
The size and power of the federal government	37	62
The amount Americans pay in federal taxes	36	61
The size and influence of major corporations	35	63
The state of the nation's economy	34	63
Our system of government and how well it works	34	64
The way income and wealth are distributed in the U.S.	29	68
The state of race relations	27	64
The nation's efforts to deal with poverty and homelessness	22	75
The nation's campaign finance laws	20	54

[GQR/Democracy Corps for the Roosevelt Institute, September 12-16, 2015](#). N = 900 likely 2016 voters. I am going to read you some statements about the American Economy. For each statement, please tell me if you agree or disagree with it.

Q.43 The rules that govern America's economy matter, and the top 1 percent have used their influence to shape the rules of the economy to their advantage. [Split. N = 450]

59% Strongly Agree
 24% Somewhat Agree 83% Agree

 8% Somewhat Disagree 15% Disagree
 6% Strongly Disagree

[ABC News Washington Post Poll, September 5-8, 2016](#). Q.36. N = 1,002 adults.

How much say do you feel people like you have in influencing what the federal government does – a lot, some, a little, or none at all?

8% A lot
 24% Some

 35% A little
 33% None

 1% No opinion

Hart Research Associates online survey for Americans United, Project New America, AFL-CIO, and others.
July 15-20, 2015. N = 1,602 swing voters

Percentage of swing voters who **Strongly Agree** with the following statements:

- 74% We need to make politicians accountable to working people, instead of lobbyists for corporate special interests
- 68% We need a government that uses resources to benefit all Americans, instead of giving tax breaks to wealthy special interests
- 67% The wealthy, large corporations, and Wall Street have too much political power, which they use to get special tax breaks at the expense of the rest of us.

Hart Research Associates online survey for Americans United, Project New America, AFL-CIO, and others.
July 15-20, 2015. N = 1,602 swing voters

In each pair of statements, which statement is the biggest obstacle to having a strong economy today:

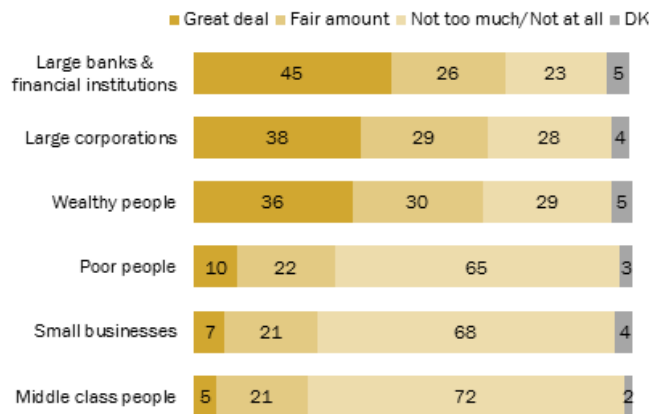
- 52% Government spending and taxing too much, and over-regulating business
- 48% **Big corporations putting profits ahead of workers and the community**

vs.

- 42% Government spending and taxing too much, and over-regulating business
- 58% **Politicians looking out for the wealthy and big corporations rather than average people**

Banks, Corporations, the Wealthy Widely Viewed as Benefiting from Gov't Policies Since Recession

% saying government economic policies since the recession have helped each...



Survey conducted Feb. 18-22, 2015. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

[Pew Research poll, February 2015, p. 1 and Q59F2](#)

Gov't Policies Seen as Helping Wealthy More Than the Middle Class or Poor

% saying gov't policies since recession have helped each a great deal/fair amount ...

	Middle class people	Poor people	Wealthy people
	%	%	%
Total	26	32	66
<i>Family income</i>			
\$100,000 or more	23	32	61
\$75,000-\$99,999	20	28	56
\$30,000-\$74,999	22	36	70
Less than \$30,000	33	30	68
<i>Party</i>			
Republican	16	38	55
Democrat	36	34	73
Independent	24	29	69
Rep-Dem diff	-20	+4	-18

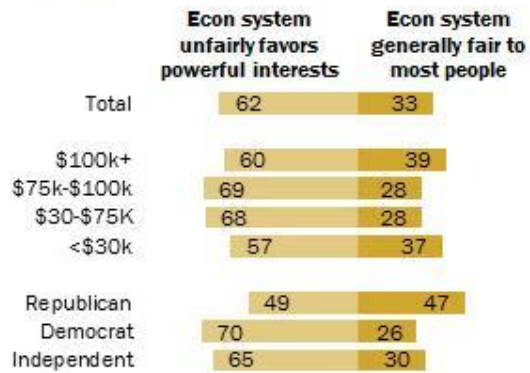
Survey conducted Feb. 18-22, 2015.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

[Pew Research poll, February 2015, p. 5 and Q59F2](#)

On Core Economic Values, Party Divides Larger Than Income Differences

% saying ...



[Pew Research poll, February 2015, p. 10 and Q11b](#)

62% of respondents (80% of Democrats, 59% of Republicans and 40% of Independents) think that “America's tax system favors the wealthy over the middle class and poor.”

[Huffington Post and YouGov poll, January 2015, Q2](#)

SECTION 7: TRUST IN GOVERNMENT

Trust the Federal Government

[Quinnipiac University Survey, February 2-6, 2017](#). Telephone survey of 1,155 voters nationwide.

7. How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Washington to do what is right; almost all of the time, most of the time, only some of the time, or hardly ever?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Almost all the time	4%	9%	1%	3%	4%	4%	5%	5%
Most of the time	19	34	12	14	19	18	20	22
Some of the time	47	36	50	51	45	48	48	45
Hardly ever	29	18	35	30	29	28	25	27
DK/NA	2	3	2	1	2	2	3	1

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	NonWht
Almost all the time	3%	4%	4%	5%	5%	4%	5%	2%
Most of the time	19	16	19	21	21	21	21	13
Some of the time	56	47	43	44	45	47	46	48
Hardly ever	19	32	32	28	28	25	26	36
DK/NA	2	1	2	3	2	3	2	1

TREND: How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Washington to do what is right; almost all of the time, most of the time, only some of the time, or hardly ever?

	Almost All	Most	Only Some	Hardly Ever	DK/NA
Feb 7, 2017	4	19	47	29	2
Jan 10, 2017	2	16	52	27	3
Aug 31, 2015	2	13	51	34	1
Nov 26, 2014	2	12	50	34	1
Jul 02, 2014	2	12	49	37	1
Jan 21, 2014	2	13	50	33	2
Dec 10, 2013	1	11	46	41	1
Nov 12, 2013	2	13	49	35	1
Oct 01, 2013	3	14	51	31	2
Jul 12, 2013	2	14	46	37	1
May 30, 2013	3	12	47	36	1
Jul 22, 2010	2	16	50	31	1
Mar 24, 2010	2	17	50	30	1
Feb 11, 2010	2	16	54	27	1

On a scale of 0 to 100, what percent of time do you think you can trust the federal government?
[Center for American Progress National Post-Election Survey by Gerstein Bocian Agne Strategies, November 9-14, 2016.](#) Q30. N=2,000 Total November 2016 voters.

<u>% of Time</u>	<u>All Voters</u>	<u>Trump Voters</u>	<u>Clinton Voters</u>
MEAN	47	43	53
90+	8%	8%	9%
80 - 89	9%	7%	12%
70 - 79	11%	7%	16%
60 - 69	9%	9%	10%
50 - 59	22%	21%	22%
40 - 49	7%	7%	6%
30 - 39	5%	6%	3%
20 - 29	9%	11%	6%
10 - 19	7%	9%	6%
Under 10	13%	16%	9%

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>Trump Voters</u>	<u>Clinton Voters</u>
70 or more	28%	22%	37%
50 or more	59%	52%	69%
Less than 50	41%	49%	30%

On a scale of 0 to 100, when the government tries to solve a problem, what percent of the time do you feel confident that it will actually make a difference in helping to solve the problem?
[Center for American Progress National Post-Election Survey by Gerstein Bocian Agne Strategies, November 9-14, 2016.](#) Q31. N=2,000 Total November 2016 voters.

<u>% of Time</u>	<u>All Voters</u>	<u>Trump Voters</u>	<u>Clinton Voters</u>
MEAN	46	41	53
90+	8%	7%	9%
80 - 89	8%	6%	11%
70 - 79	10%	8%	12%
60 - 69	10%	7%	12%
50 - 59	22%	20%	25%
40 - 49	7%	7%	7%
30 - 39	6%	6%	5%
20 - 29	11%	14%	8%
10 - 19	7%	9%	5%
Under 10	12%	16%	7%

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>Trump Voters</u>	<u>Clinton Voters</u>
70 or more	26%	21%	32%
50 or more	58%	48%	69%
Less than 50	43%	52%	32%

Role of Government

Which statement comes closer to your views, even if neither is exactly right

[Pew Research Center, March 17-27, 2016](#), Q58I. N = 2,254

	Government Should Do More to Solve Problems	Government is Doing Too Many Things Better Left to Businesses and Individuals	Both/Neither DK/Refused
Mar 17-27, 2016	48	49	3
Aug 27 – Oct 4 2015	47	48	4
Nov 6-9, 2014	49	46	6
Jan 23 – Feb 9, 2014	45	51	4
Sep 12-16, 2012	44	49	6
Nov 4-7, 2010	43	48	9
Jun 8-28, 2010	43	47	10
Jan 14-27, 2010	45	47	8

Frustrated with Government

Some People say they are basically content with the federal government, others say they are frustrated, and others say they are angry. Which best describes how you feel?

[Pew Research Center, March 17-27, 2016](#). Q10F. N = 1,130

	Basically Content	Frustrated	Angry	DK/Refused
Mar 17-27, 2016	20	57	21	2
Aug 27-Oct 4, 2015	18	57	22	3
Feb 12-26, 2014	17	62	19	2
Oct 9-13, 2013	12	55	30	3
Sep 25-29, 2013	17	51	26	5
Jan 9-13, 2013	20	58	19	3
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	17	58	21	3
Aug 17-21, 2011	11	60	26	3
Feb 22- Mar1, 2011	22	59	14	5
Aug 25 – Sep 6, 2010	21	52	23	4
Apr 1-5, 2010	23	52	21	4
Mar 11-21, 2010	19	56	21	5
Jan 2007	21	58	16	5
Oct 2006	21	54	20	5
March 2004	32	52	13	3
Nov 2001	53	34	8	5
June 2000	28	53	13	6
Feb 2000	33	54	10	3
Oct 1997	29	56	12	3

Confidence in Political Leaders at New Low

[Gallup News Service, September 7-11, 2016](#). Q.14. N = 1,020 adults

PRINCETON, N.J. -- Americans' trust in their political leaders and in the American people themselves to make political decisions continues to decline. The percentages trusting the American people (56%) and political leaders (42%) are down roughly 20 percentage points since 2004 and are currently at new lows in Gallup's trends.

How much trust and confidence do you have in general in men and women in political life in this country who either hold or are running for public office -- a great deal, a fair amount, not very much, or none at all?

	Great Deal	Fair Amount	Not Very Much	None at All	No Opinion	Great Deal + Fair Amount
Sep 2016	7	35	48	9	1	42
Sep 2015	5	39	47	9	1	44
Sep 2014	6	39	44	9	2	45
Sep 2010	4	43	44	7	2	47
Sep 2008	8	58	29	3	2	66
Sep 2005	4	54	35	5	2	58
Sep 2002	6	54	33	6	1	60
Jul 2000	7	57	31	3	2	64
Dec 1998	7	56	31	4	2	63
Jun 1976	6	58	28	4	4	64
Apr 1974	7	61	24	4	4	68
May 1972	7	58	27	5	2	65

SECTION 8: TRUMP

Americans Want Trump to Release his Tax Returns

Global Strategy Group Survey for The Hub Project, April 5-9, 2017. Online survey of 1,211 registered voters.

Q16. Do you agree or disagree that Donald Trump should release his tax returns?

49% Strongly agree

31% Somewhat agree

14% Somewhat disagree

6% Strongly disagree

80% Total agree

20% Total disagree

[Washington Post-ABC News Poll, January 12-15, 2017.](#) N = random national sample of 1,005 adults.

Q15: Do you think Trump should or should not release his tax returns? (IF SHOULD RELEASE) How much do you care about that – a lot, or not so much?

41% Should Release, Care a lot

74% Total Should Release

33% Should Release, Care not so much

18% Should not release tax returns

8% No Opinion

[Quinnipiac University National Poll, March 30 – April 3, 2017](#). Landline and cell phone interviews of 1,171 voters nationwide.

64. Do you think Donald Trump should publicly release his tax returns, or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Yes/Should	68%	40%	93%	68%	65%	72%	67%	57%
No	26	52	6	26	29	23	28	36
DK/NA	6	8	1	6	7	5	5	7

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	NonWht
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom		
Yes/Should	78%	70%	66%	63%	59%	64%	62%	83%
No	16	26	28	31	34	30	32	13
DK/NA	6	4	6	6	7	6	6	3

TREND: Do you think Donald Trump should publicly release his tax returns, or not?

	Yes	No	DK/NA
Apr 04, 2017	68	26	6
Mar 22, 2017	66	30	5
Mar 08, 2017	67	29	5
Feb 23, 2017	68	27	5

[NBC News-Wall Street Journal Survey, January 12-15, 2017](#). N=1,000 adults.

Q20. Now, I'm going to mention a number of ways that Donald Trump will be different from other presidents. For each one, please tell me if you strongly support this change from other presidents, it is acceptable, you are uncertain about this change, or if you strongly oppose this change from other presidents. (RANDOMIZE)

Refusing to release his tax returns [asked of half sample]

- 10% Strongly support
- 20% Acceptable
- 15% Uncertain
- 53% Strongly oppose**
- 2% Not sure

[Pew Research Center, January 4-9, 2017, 2017](#). N = national sample of 1,502 adults.

Q31F1. Do you think Trump has a responsibility to publicly release his tax returns, or does he not have this responsibility?

60% Has responsibility to release returns

33% Does not have responsibility to release returns

7% Don't know/Refused [Vol.]

[CBS News Poll, February 17-21, 2017](#). N=1,280

Q34. Do you think it is necessary for Donald Trump to publicly release his tax returns, or don't you think that is necessary?

	Total	<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Democrats</u>	<u>Independents</u>
Necessary	56	22	88	53
Not necessary	43	77	11	44
Don't know/No answer	2	1	1	3

[CBS News Poll, December 9-13, 2016](#). N=1,259

Q35a. Do you think it is necessary for Donald Trump to publicly release his tax returns, or don't you think that is necessary?

	Total	<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Democrats</u>	<u>Independents</u>
Necessary	60	30	84	60
Not necessary	38	67	15	36
Don't know/No answer	2	3	1	3

Trump Has Not Done Enough to Prevent Conflicts of Interest

[CBS News Poll, February 17-21, 2017](#). N=1,280

Q345. So far, do you think Donald Trump has done enough to prevent any conflicts of interest he may have between his business interests and his job as president, or has he not done enough to prevent conflicts of interest?

	Total	<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Democrats</u>	<u>Independents</u>
Done enough	36	69	13	33
Not done enough	55	22	82	56
No conflicts of interest (volunteered)	2	3	1	1
Don't know/No answer	7	7	5	9

Trump Voters Chose Trump to Help the Middle Class

[NBC News-Wall Street Journal Poll, December 12-15, 2016](#). N=1,000 adults. Conducted by Hart Research Associates & Public Opinion Strategies.

Q13. (ASKED OF TRUMP VOTERS) Here are a number of reasons why people say they voted for Donald Trump. For each one, please tell me if this was the single most important reason why you voted for Trump, a fairly important reason, only somewhat important, or not really a reason why you voted for Trump?

	<u>Most Important Reason</u>	<u>Fairly Important Reason</u>	<u>Somewhat Important Reason</u>	<u>Not Really a Reason</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>
To make sure Hillary Clinton did not become president	46%	30%	14%	10%	-
To improve the economy and make it work better for the middle and working class	41%	44%	11%	2%	2%
To look out for America first instead of focusing on other countries	40%	40%	11%	7%	2%
To change business as usual in Washington, D.C.	40%	41%	13%	5%	1%
To take a tough approach on immigration, including building a wall on the border with Mexico	20%	42%	21%	17%	-
To pursue traditional Republican policies	10%	26%	26%	36%	2%

Q13a. Now, from the list of reasons we just reviewed, which ONE is the most important reason you voted for Trump?

- 27% To improve the economy and make it work better for the middle and working class
- 23% To look out for America first instead of focusing on other countries
- 21% To make sure Hillary Clinton did not become president
- 18% To change business as usual in Washington, D.C.
- 5% To take a tough approach on immigration, including building a wall on the border ...
- 1% To pursue traditional Republican policies

Trump Appointment of Millionaires and Billionaires is Bad

[NBC News-Wall Street Journal Poll, December 12-15, 2016](#). N=1,000 adults. Conducted by Hart Research Associates & Public Opinion Strategies.

Q20b. (Asked of half sample) As you may know, President-elect Donald Trump has appointed a number of millionaires and billionaires to key posts in his administration. Which one best describes what you think? Would you say this is a ...

- 47% Bad thing because these people are out of touch with the needs of average Americans and will favor policies that benefit wealthy Americans like themselves
- 43% Good thing because these people have been successful in the private sector and know how to get things done to grow the economy and create jobs
- 7% (Volunteered) Mixed, some of both
- 3% Not sure

Majority Says Trump's Conflicts of Interest Are a Problem

[NBC News-Wall Street Journal Poll, December 12-15, 2016](#). N=1,000 adults. Conducted by Hart Research Associates & Public Opinion Strategies.

Q23. Some people say the businesses Donald Trump owns will present a conflict of interest for a sitting president. Do you think this is a major problem, a minor problem, or not a problem at all?

- 35% A major problem
- 23% A minor problem
- 28% Not a problem at all
- 13% No opinion
- 1% Not Sure

Voters Split on If Trump Will Lower Their Taxes

[Quinnipiac University, November 17-20, 2016](#), N = 1,071 voters nationwide.

30. As president, do you think Donald Trump will - lower your taxes, or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Yes/Will	45%	74%	21%	44%	54%	38%	48%	55%
No	48	19	73	48	40	54	44	39
DK/NA	7	7	6	8	6	8	8	7
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	NonWht
Yes/Will	43%	41%	51%	44%	62%	44%	52%	30%
No	50	50	46	46	34	47	41	64
DK/NA	8	8	3	10	5	9	7	6

Trump Should Not Remove Regulations on Corporations

[Quinnipiac University, November 17-20, 2016](#), N = 1,071 voters nationwide.

38. As president, do you think Donald Trump should - remove regulations on businesses and corporations, or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Yes/Should	38%	66%	9%	39%	48%	30%	39%	46%
No	48	21	77	48	43	53	51	38
DK/NA	14	13	14	14	10	17	10	16

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....			
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	NonWht
Yes/Should	36%	39%	39%	37%	54%	34%	43%	27%
No	50	49	48	47	38	49	44	59
DK/NA	14	12	13	16	9	17	13	14