



## RECENT POLLING SHOWS THE PUBLIC OPPOSES TAX CUTS FOR CORPORATIONS AND THE WEALTHY

As of July 14, 2017

President Trump and Congressional Republicans are fighting public opinion in their efforts to cut taxes for the wealthy and corporations. A wave of recent polling shows public opinion is on the side of those who want to make the wealthy and corporations pay their fair share of taxes.

### VOTERS OPPOSE TAX CUTS FOR CORPORATIONS AND THE WEALTHY

[Pew Research Center](#) (April 5-11, 2017, Q. 67)

*Please tell me how much, if at all, each of the following bothers you about the federal tax system?*

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

[Gallup News Service](#) (April 5-9, 2017, Q 26)

*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
<b>Corporations</b>	19%	9%	67%
<b>Upper-Income People</b>	24%	10%	63%
Lower-Income People	35%	48%	14%
Middle Income People	40%	51%	6%

A [Washington Post-ABC News poll](#) (Jan. 12-15, 2017, Q19c) found 61% oppose “reducing income taxes paid by higher-income people,” while 36% support it.

[Politico/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health](#) (June 14-18, 2017) by a margin of **62% to 24% the public opposes Trump's tax cut proposal.**

*PO-04. President Trump has proposed a tax plan that would lower tax rates for individuals and families, reduce the number of tax brackets, and lower rates for all businesses. It would double the standard deduction that individuals can take without having to itemize on their tax forms. In addition, Trump's plan would eliminate all income tax deductions except mortgage interest and charitable contributions. That means people could no longer deduct state and local taxes, work-related deductions for the self-employed, and tax credits for retirement accounts like 401(k)s. In addition, their employer-paid health insurance premiums would be taxed. Do you favor or oppose this new tax proposal?*

[Quinnipiac University's Post-Election Poll](#) (Nov. 17-20, 2016, Q37) found two-thirds of voters (67%) say President-elect Trump *should not* **"lower taxes on the wealthy,"** while only 29% say he should. And 87% of Democrats and 72% of independents oppose lower taxes on the rich.

More broadly, by a nearly two-to-one margin (60% to 32%), [Quinnipiac's post-election survey](#) (Q. 46) found voters oppose **"reducing taxes across the board, even if it means increasing the deficit."** The margin among Democrats is an overwhelming 72% to 20%.

A December 2016 poll for the [Center for American Progress Action Fund, Hart Research](#) (p. 8) surveyed 1,206 likely voters in states where Democrats will be defending Senate seats in 2018. They found 57% of voters have an unfavorable reaction to an **"across-the-board cut in federal income tax rates, which would result in very large tax cuts for millionaires and much smaller tax cuts for the middle class,"** compared to only 28% who have a favorable reaction.

Similarly, the [Hart poll for the Center for American Progress Action Fund](#) (p. 8) found 55% of likely voters have an unfavorable reaction to **"a large cut in the tax rate for corporations, which would reduce the amount of taxes most large corporations pay."** Only 30% have a favorable reaction.

## VOTERS REJECT TRICKLE-DOWN ECONOMICS

[Politico/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health](#) (June 14-18, 2017) found that **57% of voters do not think the Trump tax plan will help the economy and create jobs,** 34% do think it will. *PO-05. If it is enacted, do you think President Trump's tax proposal will improve the economy and create more jobs or not?*

A strong majority does not believe tax cuts for the wealthy will improve the economy. [Quinnipiac's post-election poll asked](#) (Q51), **"Do you believe that reducing taxes on the wealthy will improve the economy and create more jobs or not?"** By a margin of 57% to 38% voters believe tax cuts for the wealthy *will not* improve the economy and create more jobs. Among Democrats, opinion is even more lopsided: 79% to 19%.

The [McClatchy-Marist Dec. 2016 poll](#) (p. 11) had even stronger results. It asked, “**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?***” Sixty-one percent choose raising the minimum wage, providing job training and education, compared to 35% who choose cutting corporate taxes and reducing business regulations. The results were even more striking for Democrats: 85% to 12%.

**VALUE FROM YOUR TAXES**

[Pew Research Center](#) (April 5-11, 2017, 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?*

	Pay More Than Fair Share	Pay Less Than Fair Share	Pay About the Right Amount	DK/Refused
<b>Apr. 5-11, 2017</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>2%</b>
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, Q. 25).

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

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