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Interviews: 1,200 voters who voted in 2016
Dates: June 2-7, 2017

FINAL

Study #12120
Tax Reform Survey
June 2017

47 Male
53 Female
[114]

Please note: all results are shown as percentages unless otherwise stated.

S1. How would you describe your overall point of view in terms of the political parties?

Mostly Democratic.....	28	[109]
Leaning Democratic.....	14	
Completely independent.....	16	
Leaning Republican.....	14	
Mostly Republican.....	28	
Total Democratic	42	
Total Republican	42	

S2. Thinking about your general approach to issues, do you consider yourself to be conservative, moderate, or liberal?

Conservative	36	[110]
Moderate	41	
Liberal.....	23	

S3. How active would you say you are in politics--very active, fairly active, just somewhat active, or not too active?

Very active	9	[111]
Fairly active	25	
Just somewhat active	34	
Not too active	32	

S4a. Who did you vote for in the November presidential election?

Voted for Donald Trump	46	CONTINUE	[112]
Voted for Hillary Clinton	48		
Voted for Gary Johnson	5	Skip to Q.S5	
Voted for Jill Stein	1		
Did not get a chance to vote in this election	-	TERMINATE	
Don't recall.....	-		

(ASK ONLY OF RESPONDENTS WHO SAY "DONALD TRUMP" IN Q.S4a.)

S4b. Did you strongly support Donald Trump for president, or did you have mixed feelings about voting for him?

Strongly supported Trump	53	[113]
Had mixed feelings about voting for Trump	47	

S7. For statistical purposes only, please indicate how old you are.

18-24.....	4	[121-122]
25-29.....	9	
30-34.....	11	
35-39.....	7	
40-44.....	7	
45-49.....	9	
50-54.....	8	
55-59.....	11	
60-64.....	10	
65 -69.....	11	
70-74.....	7	
75 and over.....	6	

S8. What is the last grade that you completed in school?

Grade school.....	-	[123-124]
Some high school.....	2	
High school graduate.....	28	
Some college, no degree.....	18	
Vocational training.....	3	
2-year college degree.....	9	
4-year college/bachelor's degree.....	24	
Some postgraduate work, no degree.....	3	
2-3 years' postgraduate work/master's degree.....	8	
Doctoral/law degree.....	5	

S9ab. Are you from a Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish-speaking background? **(IF RESPONDENT DOES NOT SAY "YES," ASK:)** And again, for statistical purposes only, please indicate your race.

White.....	72	[125-126]
Black/African American.....	12	
Hispanic.....	9	
Asian.....	5	
Other.....	1	
Prefer not to say.....	1	

1. In general, how satisfied are you with the direction of the country today?

Very satisfied.....	9	[127]
Somewhat satisfied.....	33	
Somewhat dissatisfied.....	23	
Very dissatisfied.....	35	
Total Satisfied	42	
Total Dissatisfied	58	

2. Below are some possible priorities for Congress and the president. Please indicate which two you think should be the highest priorities. *

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE

Reduce the cost of healthcare.....	51	[128/356]
Strengthen Social Security.....	30	>
Create jobs.....	22	
Reduce the budget deficit.....	22	
Reduce illegal immigration.....	21	
Cut taxes.....	20	
Invest in roads, bridges, and other infrastructure.....	17	
Improve education.....	16	

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS A/C).

3a. Which party do you think would do a better job of handling the issue of federal taxes?

	<u>6/17</u>	<u>6/12</u>	
Democrats would do a much better job of handling federal taxes	18	16	[129]
Democrats would do a somewhat better job of handling federal taxes	16	19	
No difference	28	30	
Republicans would do a somewhat better job of handling federal taxes	15	20	
Republicans would do a much better job of handling federal taxes	23	15	
Total Democrats Would Do Better Job	34	35	
Total Republican Would Do Better Job	38	35	

3b. Which party do you think would do a better job of handling the issue of the economy?

Democrats would do a much better job of handling the economy	20	[130]
Democrats would do a somewhat better job of handling the economy	16	
No difference	22	
Republicans would do a somewhat better job of handling the economy	19	
Republicans would do a much better job of handling the economy	23	
Total Democrats Would Do Better Job	36	
Total Republican Would Do Better Job	42	

4. Please indicate which of these candidates you would be more likely to support.

(FORMS A/C): A Republican who favors cutting taxes across the board for all families and businesses, OR A Democrat who favors a large tax cut for the middle class, with higher taxes on the wealthy.

(FORMS B/D): A Republican who favors cutting taxes across the board for all families and businesses, OR A Democrat who favors not passing any tax cut at this time, so there is adequate funding for important needs such as education, healthcare, and infrastructure.

	FORMS <u>A/C</u> *	FORMS <u>B/D</u> **	
Republican--much more likely	22	25	[131]
Republican--somewhat more likely	27	24	
Democrat--somewhat more likely	23	24	
Democrat--much more likely	28	27	
Total Republican	49	49	
Total Democrat	51	51	

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS A/C).
** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS B/D).

5. Below are some policies that President Trump and the Republican majority in Congress have proposed. For each one, please indicate whether you feel favorable or unfavorable about that proposal.

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY VERY OR SOMEWHAT FAVORABLE

	Total Fav	Total Unfav	Very Favorable	Somewhat Favorable	Neutral	Somewhat Unfavorable	Very Unfavorable	
Balance the budget within 10 years	65	11	40	25	24	4	7	[133]
Reform the tax system *	65	16	33	32	19	7	9	[134]
Pass a large tax cut **	48	29	24	24	23	13	16	[137]
Cut funding for Medicaid **	20	63	8	12	17	16	47	[139]
Cut funding for Medicaid, to pay for large tax cuts *	19	64	8	11	17	20	44	[136]
Cut funding for Medicare, to pay for large tax cuts **	13	72	5	8	15	16	56	[138]
Cut funding for Medicare *	12	73	4	8	15	21	52	[135]

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS A/D).
** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS B/C).

Now we have some questions on federal tax issues....

6a. Below are some priorities that Congress might have as it considers making changes to the tax system. Please rank them in importance for you.

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF COMBINED 1st /2nd 3rd MOST IMPORTANT

	Most Important	Combined 1 st /2 nd Most Important	Combined 1 st /2 nd /3 rd Most Important	
Growing the economy and creating jobs.....	22	49	78	[140/357]
Making the wealthy and big corporations pay their fair share	28	48	61	>
Reducing tax rates	18	37	57	
Raising revenue for healthcare, education, and infrastructure.....	17	37	55	
Reducing the budget deficit	15	28	48	

6b. If Congress closes some corporate loopholes and limits deductions, which of the following do you think the tax revenue from these reforms should be used for?

Invest in infrastructure, healthcare, and education	84	[141]
Reduce tax rates on businesses	16	

7. Here are some goals that Congress might try to achieve as it changes the federal tax system. Please rate how important each one of these goals is to you, using a scale from 0 to 10, on which a 0 means it is not important and a 10 means it should be an extremely important goal for tax reform. You may use any number from 0 to 10, depending on how strongly you feel.

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY EXTREMELY IMPORTANT (RATING "9-10")

	Total 8-10	Extremely Important		Not Important		
		9-10	7-8	5-6	0-4	
End tax breaks for corporations that stash their profits offshore *	73	62	19	13	6	[160-161]
Close tax loopholes that benefit wealthy campaign donors **	71	60	18	13	9	[172-173]
Make sure the wealthy pay their fair share **	71	57	23	12	8	[166-167]
End tax breaks for corporations that send American jobs offshore **.....	69	57	22	14	7	[170-171]
Make sure big corporations pay their fair share *	68	56	22	14	8	[158-159]
Avoid cuts in funding for priorities such as education and healthcare **	64	51	22	18	9	[164-165]
Reduce taxes on the middle class.....	63	50	25	20	5	[152-153]
Increase funding for priorities such as education and healthcare *	63	47	24	18	11	[154-155]
Close tax loopholes for special interests *	61	47	26	21	6	[162-163]
Make sure the wealthy pay more in taxes *	56	46	18	18	18	[156-157]
Make sure the wealthy and big corporations do not get any new tax cuts..	57	45	20	18	17	[148-149]
Simplify the tax system.....	59	43	28	23	6	[142-143]
Make sure big corporations pay more in taxes **	53	40	23	21	16	[168-169]
Don't increase the federal deficit	54	39	25	28	8	[150-151]
Reduce tax rates for individuals across the board	47	32	28	27	13	[144-145]
Reduce the tax rate for corporations	19	11	16	27	46	[146-147]

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS A/B).

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS C/D).

8. Next are some statements that people have made about taxes and the budget. For each one, please indicate whether you think it is definitely true, probably true, probably false, or definitely false

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY DEFINITELY OR PROBABLY TRUE

	Total True	Total False	Definitely True	Probably True	Probably False	Definitely False	Not Sure	
Increasing funding for education, healthcare, and infrastructure will create jobs and grow the economy *	74	17	28	46	13	4	9	[177]
Raising taxes on the wealthy and big corporations will reduce the budget deficit and the national debt *	58	34	19	39	21	13	8	[178]
Raising taxes on the wealthy and big corporations will generate funds needed to create jobs and grow the economy **	56	32	20	36	19	13	12	[180]
Raising taxes on the wealthy and big corporations will increase investments in education, healthcare, and other priorities **	55	34	19	36	23	11	11	[208]
Passing a major tax cut will increase the budget deficit and the national debt **	54	33	14	40	22	11	13	[179]
Raising taxes will cost jobs and weaken the economy	51	37	20	31	24	13	12	[175]
Passing a major tax cut will result in large cuts in education, healthcare, and other priorities later *	51	35	16	35	25	10	14	[176]
Passing a major tax cut will create jobs and grow the economy	50	37	16	34	26	11	13	[174]

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS A/C).

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS B/D).

9. Now you're going to see pairs of statements describing different priorities for tax legislation that Congress might pass. For each pair, please indicate whether you feel that A or B should be the higher priority.

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY STATEMENT B (ANTI-TAX-CUT)--SOMEWHAT OR MUCH MORE HIGHER PRIORITY

Statement A Pro-Tax Cut	Statement A			Statement B			Statement B Anti-Tax Cut
	Total A	Much Higher Priority	Some- what Higher Priority	Some- what Higher Priority	Much Higher Priority	Total B	
Cut taxes for American businesses to make them more competitive in the global economy *	31	16	15	27	42	69	Make sure that wealthy corporations pay their fair share of taxes [210]
Reduce taxes across the board for people at all income levels * ..	31	16	15	16	53	69	Protect education, Medicare, and other priorities from cuts * [212]
Provide large cuts in personal income taxes *	32	18	14	23	45	68	Ensure adequate funding for education and Medicare * [211]
Maintain the current level of taxes on the wealthy and big corporations **	34	9	25	24	42	66	Increase taxes on the wealthy and big corporations ** [214]
Provide large cuts in personal income taxes **	35	19	16	17	48	65	Prevent cuts to education and Medicare ** [215]
Reduce taxes across the board for people at all income levels ** .	35	18	17	23	42	65	Reduce taxes on the middle class, but not the wealthy ** [217]
Reduce taxes across the board for people at all income levels * ..	37	22	15	18	45	63	Make sure the wealthy pay their fair share of taxes * [213]
Reduce taxes across the board for people at all income levels ** .	38	21	17	31	31	62	Avoid increasing the budget deficit and the national debt ** [216]
Congress should focus on cutting taxes for ordinary Americans, who are working harder but still struggling to make ends meet.....	59	39	20	14	27	41	Instead of tax cuts, we should require the rich and wealthy corporations to pay more taxes to strengthen Medicare, education, and infrastructure [209]

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS A/D).
** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS B/C).

10. Next we would like to get your reaction to a tax plan proposed by President Trump and Republicans in Congress. It has five main components:

- Cuts income tax rates at all income levels
- Doubles the size of the standard deduction--the amount of income not taxed-for individuals and families
- Cuts the tax rate on corporations from 35 percent to 20 percent
- Cuts the tax rate corporations pay on foreign profits currently held offshore from 35 percent to 10 percent, and eliminates taxes on foreign profits earned in the future
- Cuts the top tax rate on business owners from 40 percent to 20 percent

Is your overall reaction to this tax plan very favorable, somewhat favorable, neutral, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable?

Very favorable	17	[218]
Somewhat favorable	23	
Neutral	20	
Somewhat unfavorable	18	
Very unfavorable	22	
Total Favorable	40	
Total Unfavorable	40	

11. If Congress passes this Republican tax plan, do you think that would have a positive impact, a negative impact, or no impact either way on each of the following? *

	Positive <u>Impact</u>	Negative <u>Impact</u>	No Impact <u>Either way</u>	
The economy and jobs	46	36	18	[224]
The budget deficit	30	49	21	[225]
The fairness of the tax system	38	47	15	[226]
Public services like education and healthcare	26	54	20	[227]
Your own finances	43	33	24	[228]

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS A/B).

ROTATE Q.12a AND Q.12b.

12a. Overall, which one of these is the best reason to consider supporting the Trump and Republican tax plan?

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE

It will reduce the tax burden on ordinary people.....	24	[229]
It will create jobs and grow the economy	19	
It will create a simpler, fairer, flatter tax code	16	
None of these.....	41	

12b. Overall, which one of these, if any, is your biggest concern about the Trump and Republican tax plan? And which is your second biggest concern

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF COMBINED 1st /2nd BIGGEST CONCERNS

	Biggest Concern	Combined 1 st /2 nd Biggest Concerns	
Most of the tax cuts go to the wealthy and big corporations	32	54	[230-379]
The tax cuts will be paid for by cuts to healthcare and education	27	51	>
It will not grow the economy or create jobs	8	22	
It will increase the federal debt by trillions of dollars.....	10	22	
It will encourage corporations to shift jobs and profits offshore	9	22	
None of these is a concern.....	14	14	

13a. You will now see a statement from people who favor this tax plan by Donald Trump and Republicans in Congress. Please rate it on a scale from 1 to 7 in terms of how convincing you find the statement to be. A 1 means the statement is not that convincing a reason, and a 7 means that it is an extremely convincing reason to favor the plan. You may use any number from 1 to 7 to rate how you feel.)

Our current tax code is strangling business growth, job creation, and higher wages. This plan simplifies the tax system and cuts taxes for the American people, allowing middle-class families and small businesses to keep more of their hard-earned money and invest in their future. Today we have the highest corporate tax rate in the world, putting American businesses at a competitive disadvantage around the world. Getting their tax rates down to 20 percent will create jobs and make the United States a more inviting place to do business, providing more opportunity for all Americans.

7, extremely convincing	14	[231]
5-6	35	
1-4, not that convincing.....	51	
Total 6-7	29	

13b. You will now see two statements from people who oppose the tax plan by Donald Trump and Republicans in Congress. Please rate each one on a scale from 1 to 7 in terms of how convincing you find the statement to be. A “1” means that the statement is not that convincing a reason, and a “7” means that it is an extremely convincing reason to oppose the plan. You may use any number from 1 to 7 to rate how you feel.

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY EXTREMELY CONVINCING (RATING “6-7”)

	Total 6-7	Extremely Convincing <u>7</u>	<u>5-6</u>	Not That Convincing <u>1-4</u>	
This deficit-exploding proposal to hand out massive tax breaks to millionaires, billionaires, and wealthy corporations will threaten deep cuts to Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and other middle-class priorities. The wealthy have done extremely well in recent years, while middle-class families work harder than ever to make ends meet and older Americans are increasingly reliant on Social Security and Medicare. We should focus on ways to create jobs, rather than handing out tax cuts for the wealthy and big corporations **	47	30	29	41	[232]
We need to invest in jobs and our communities, not give more tax breaks to wealthy corporations that ship our jobs and profits offshore. That means requiring the wealthy and big corporations to start paying their fair share of taxes so we can rebuild our roads and bridges, make college affordable, research new medical cures, and ensure a secure retirement for seniors. By ending tax giveaways to millionaires, billionaires, and big corporations, we can create a lot more good-paying jobs for working people, putting money in their pockets and protecting our families *	44	25	39	36	[235]
The Trump-Republican tax plan puts the interests of wealthy corporations and the richest Americans ahead of working families. It makes working people pay a larger share of taxes while rewarding millionaires and billionaires. It gives tax breaks to corporations that ship jobs and profits offshore and provides special loopholes for big oil companies. Under this plan, many working families would pay a higher tax rate than wealthy corporations. Instead, we should get rid of special tax loopholes put in place by lobbyists and campaign contributors, and make the rich and big corporations pay their fair share.**	43	28	30	42	[233]
We all believe we need to fix the tax code, but let’s secure tax cuts for the middle class, support working families, and make sure the tax rules work for all Americans, not just the wealthiest at the top. The Republican plan will give huge tax breaks to the wealthiest Americans and big corporations, and costs so much money we will have to cut spending on education, healthcare, and other vital programs. Instead, Congress should cut taxes for the middle class and close loopholes for the wealthy, so we don’t increase the deficit. *	39	21	38	41	[234]

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS B/D).

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS A/C).

ROTATE Q.14a AND Q.14b FOR FORMS B/D

14a. Below you will see two of those statements about the Trump/Republican tax plan again. This time, please indicate which of the two you agree with more. **

Those in favor say: Our current tax code is strangling business growth, job creation, and higher wages. This plan simplifies the tax system and cuts taxes for the American people, allowing middle-class families and small businesses to keep more of their hard-earned money and invest in their future. Today we have the highest corporate tax rate in the world, putting American businesses at a competitive disadvantage. Getting tax rates down will create jobs and make the United States a more inviting place to do business, providing more opportunity for all Americans.

Those opposed say: This deficit-exploding proposal to hand out massive tax breaks to millionaires, billionaires, and big corporations will threaten deep cuts to Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and other middle-class priorities. The wealthy have done extremely well in recent years, while middle-class families work harder than ever to make ends meet and older Americans are increasingly reliant on Social Security and Medicare. We should focus on ways to create jobs, rather than handing out tax cuts for the wealthy and big corporations.

Agree much more with those in favor.....	20	[236]
Agree somewhat more with those in favor	22	
Agree somewhat more with those opposed	25	
Agree much more with those opposed.....	33	
<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>		
Total Agree With Those In Favor	42	
Total Agree With Those Opposed	58	

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS B/D).

14b. Below you will see two of those statements about the Trump/Republican tax plan again. This time, please indicate which of the two you agree with more. **

Those in favor say: Our current tax code is strangling business growth, job creation, and higher wages. This plan simplifies the tax system and cuts taxes for the American people, allowing middle-class families and small businesses to keep more of their hard-earned money and invest in their future. Today we have the highest corporate tax rate in the world, putting American businesses at a competitive disadvantage. Getting tax rates down will create jobs and make the United States a more inviting place to do business, providing more opportunity for all Americans.

Those opposed say: The Trump-Republican tax plan puts the interests of corporations and the wealthiest Americans ahead of working families. It makes the middle class pay a larger share of taxes while rewarding millionaires and billionaires, giving tax breaks to corporations that ship jobs offshore, and providing special loopholes for big oil companies. Under this plan, many middle-class families would pay a higher tax rate than the wealthiest corporations. Instead, we should get rid of special tax loopholes for the rich and corporations, and make them pay their fair share.

Agree much more with those in favor.....	18	[237]
Agree somewhat more with those in favor	24	
Agree somewhat more with those opposed	25	
Agree much more with those opposed.....	33	
<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>		
Total Agree With Those In Favor	42	
Total Agree With Those Opposed	58	

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS B/D).

ROTATE Q.14c AND Q.14d FOR FORMS A/C

14c. Below you will see two of those statements about the Trump/Republican tax plan again. This time, please indicate which of the two you agree with more. *

Those in favor say: Our current tax code is strangling business growth, job creation, and higher wages. This plan simplifies the tax system and cuts taxes for the American people, allowing middle-class families and small businesses to keep more of their hard-earned money and invest in their future. Today we have the highest corporate tax rate in the world, putting American businesses at a competitive disadvantage. Getting tax rates down will create jobs and make the United States a more inviting place to do business, providing more opportunity for all Americans.

Those opposed say: We all believe we need to fix the tax code, but let's secure tax cuts for the middle class, support working families, and make sure the tax rules work for all Americans, not just the wealthiest at the top. The Republican plan will give huge tax breaks to the wealthiest Americans and big corporations, and costs so much money we will have to cut spending on education, healthcare, and other vital programs. Instead, Congress should cut taxes for the middle-class and close loopholes for the wealthy, so we don't increase the deficit.

Agree much more with those in favor.....	16	[238]
Agree somewhat more with those in favor	27	
Agree somewhat more with those opposed	27	
Agree much more with those opposed.....	30	
Total Agree With Those In Favor	43	
Total Agree With Those Opposed	57	

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS A/C).

14d. Below you will see two of those statements about the Trump/Republican tax plan again. This time, please indicate which of the two you agree with more. *

Those in favor say: Our current tax code is strangling business growth, job creation, and higher wages. This plan simplifies the tax system and cuts taxes for the American people, allowing middle-class families and small businesses to keep more of their hard-earned money and invest in their future. Today we have the highest corporate tax rate in the world, putting American businesses at a competitive disadvantage. Getting tax rates down will create jobs and make the United States a more inviting place to do business, providing more opportunity for all Americans.

Those opposed say: We need to invest in jobs and our communities, not give more tax breaks to corporations that ship our jobs offshore. That means requiring the wealthy and corporations to start paying their fair share of taxes so we can rebuild our roads and bridges, make college affordable, research new medical cures, and ensure a secure retirement for seniors. By ending tax giveaways to millionaires, billionaires, and big corporations, we can create a lot more good-paying jobs for working people, putting money in their pockets and protecting our families.

Agree much more with those in favor.....	15	[239]
Agree somewhat more with those in favor	28	
Agree somewhat more with those opposed	27	
Agree much more with those opposed.....	30	
Total Agree With Those In Favor	43	
Total Agree With Those Opposed	57	

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS A/C).

15. Following are some specific facts about the tax plan proposed by President Trump and Republicans. For each one, please indicate whether this specific fact makes you feel more favorable or less favorable about the tax plan.

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY SOMEWHAT OR MUCH LESS FAVORABLE

	<u>Much More</u>	<u>Somewhat More</u>	<u>No Effect</u>	<u>Somewhat Less</u>	<u>Much Less</u>	
The plan will increase the national debt by \$5 trillion **	2	6	22	21	49	[260]
The plan eliminates a key Medicare tax paid by the top two percent, cutting Medicare funding by \$60 billion **	4	8	18	20	50	[261]
Wealthy corporations that are holding \$2.6 trillion in profits offshore will get a \$600 billion tax cut **	5	8	19	16	52	[255]
To pay for some of these tax cuts, the Republican Congress is trying to cut programs like Social Security disability insurance, Medicaid, and student loans *	7	9	20	14	50	[250]
Half of the total tax cut goes to the wealthiest one percent of taxpayers *	5	5	26	14	50	[251]
The richest one percent get an average tax cut of \$215,000 each year **	3	6	28	18	45	[257]
The plan creates a new low tax rate of 20 percent for lobbyists, lawyers, and other wealthy business owners, that people who work for a salary or hourly wage aren't eligible for *	5	10	24	18	43	[246]
It cuts by forty percent the tax rate that big Wall Street banks pay *	6	9	24	20	41	[248]
The richest one percent get an average tax cut of \$215,000 each year, while someone making \$50,000 would get a tax cut of just one dollar a day *	5	9	25	16	45	[247]
Under the plan, Donald Trump would likely get a tax break worth tens of millions of dollars every single year **	3	7	31	13	46	[262]
It eliminates taxes on future profits that corporations earn offshore, while continuing to tax profits earned in America *	7	12	23	19	39	[245]
Someone making \$50,000 would get a tax cut of just one dollar a day **	5	9	29	20	37	[258]
It cuts the tax rate that corporations pay on foreign profits currently held offshore from 35 percent to 10 percent **	8	12	23	20	37	[259]
By eliminating the estate tax, the plan provides billions of dollars in tax cuts to Donald Trump's children and the families of wealthy campaign contributors *	8	10	28	14	40	[252]
It eliminates the personal exemptions for each member of a taxpayer's family *	6	11	31	22	30	[249]
It eliminates the estate tax on estates of \$5 million or more **	10	12	27	17	34	[253]
It cuts the tax rate on corporations to 20 percent **	10	17	25	20	28	[254]
It cuts the tax rate on corporations from 35 percent to 20 percent *	11	19	23	16	31	[244]
The plan cuts the top tax rate on business owners from 40 percent to 20 percent **	10	20	24	19	27	[256]
It eliminates the federal tax deduction for state and local taxes people pay, such as state income taxes and property taxes	9	18	30	18	25	[240]
It eliminates the estate tax *	18	20	29	12	21	[243]
It reduces income tax rates at all income levels	21	30	27	10	12	[241]
It doubles the size of the standard deduction for both individuals and married couples	26	33	24	8	9	[242]

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS A/B).

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS C/D).

Q.15 SUMMARY

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY SOMEWHAT OR MUCH LESS FAVORABLE

	Total More Favorable	Total Less Favorable	
The plan will increase the national debt by \$5 trillion **	8	70	[260]
The plan eliminates a key Medicare tax paid by the top two percent, cutting Medicare funding by \$60 billion **	12	70	[261]
Wealthy corporations that are holding \$2.6 trillion in profits offshore will get a \$600 billion tax cut **	13	68	[255]
To pay for some of these tax cuts, the Republican Congress is trying to cut programs like Social Security disability insurance, Medicaid, and student loans *	16	64	[250]
Half of the total tax cut goes to the wealthiest one percent of taxpayers *	10	64	[251]
The richest one percent get an average tax cut of \$215,000 each year **	9	63	[257]
The plan creates a new low tax rate of 20 percent for lobbyists, lawyers, and other wealthy business owners, that people who work for a salary or hourly wage aren't eligible for *	15	61	[246]
It cuts by forty percent the tax rate that big Wall Street banks pay *	15	61	[248]
The richest one percent get an average tax cut of \$215,000 each year, while someone making \$50,000 would get a tax cut of just one dollar a day *	14	61	[247]
Under the plan, Donald Trump would likely get a tax break worth tens of millions of dollars every single year **	10	59	[262]
It eliminates taxes on future profits that corporations earn offshore, while continuing to tax profits earned in America *	19	58	[245]
Someone making \$50,000 would get a tax cut of just one dollar a day **	14	57	[258]
It cuts the tax rate that corporations pay on foreign profits currently held offshore from 35 percent to 10 percent **	20	57	[259]
By eliminating the estate tax, the plan provides billions of dollars in tax cuts to Donald Trump's children and the families of wealthy campaign contributors *	18	54	[252]
It eliminates the personal exemptions for each member of a taxpayer's family *	17	52	[249]
It eliminates the estate tax on estates of \$5 million or more **	22	51	[253]
It cuts the tax rate on corporations to 20 percent **	27	48	[254]
It cuts the tax rate on corporations from 35 percent to 20 percent *	30	47	[244]
The plan cuts the top tax rate on business owners from 40 percent to 20 percent **	30	46	[256]
It eliminates the federal tax deduction for state and local taxes people pay, such as state income taxes and property taxes	27	43	[240]
It eliminates the estate tax *	38	33	[243]
It reduces income tax rates at all income levels	51	22	[241]
It doubles the size of the standard deduction for both individuals and married couples	59	17	[242]

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS A/B).

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS C/D).

ROTATE Q.16 AND Q.17

16. You will now see some reasons that people favor the tax plan by Donald Trump and Republicans in Congress. Please rank the three that you feel are strongest reasons to consider supporting the tax plan.

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF COMBINED 1ST/2ND/3RD STRONGEST REASON

	<u>Strongest Reason</u>	Combined 1 st /2 nd <u>Strongest Reason</u>	Combined 1 st /2 nd /3 rd <u>Strongest Reason</u>	
By cutting tax rates and doubling the standard deduction, the plan gives the average family \$1,000 in tax relief they can use to meet rising expenses or save for the future	20	38	51	[263-270]
Cutting the tax rate on small businesses and job creators will strengthen our economy and create millions of new American jobs	16	31	48	
The plan makes the tax code simpler, fairer, and flatter, with just three tax brackets. In fact, millions of taxpayers will be able to do their taxes on a form the size of a postcard	14	28	42	
The plan reduces the cost of childcare by allowing families to fully deduct the average cost of childcare from their taxes, including stay-at-home parents	13	27	38	
By making America's corporate tax rate competitive with the rest of the world, the plan will keep jobs in America and give companies an incentive to invest here at home	10	24	37	
Today's high tax rates on American businesses drive good-paying jobs overseas and make it more difficult for our job creators and workers to succeed here at home	9	19	30	
The plan creates a level playing field for American businesses, which will unleash business investment, enhance productivity, and create millions of jobs here in America	8	16	27	
It will be the largest tax cut in history, providing a massive tax reduction for the American people.....	10	17	26	

17. You will now see some reasons that people oppose the tax plan by Donald Trump and Republicans in Congress. Please rank the three that you feel are strongest reasons to oppose the tax plan.

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF COMBINED 1ST/2ND/3RD STRONGEST REASON

	<u>Strongest Reason</u>	<u>Combined 1st/2nd Strongest Reason</u>	<u>Combined 1st/2nd/3rd Strongest Reason</u>	
It's wrong for Congress to cut Social Security disability insurance, Medicaid, education, and medical research to pay for tax breaks for wealthy corporations and the richest two percent	28	43	57	[272-279]
We should not give huge tax breaks to wealthy corporations that avoided taxes by stashing profits offshore, while small businesses at home did the right thing and paid their fair share	12	27	39	>
This plan is a massive \$5 trillion giveaway that mostly benefits millionaires, billionaires, and big corporations	12	26	38	
Donald Trump and many other politicians trying to pass this plan would each receive millions of dollars in tax breaks	8	19	31	
America cannot afford huge, irresponsible tax cuts that explode the deficit and add \$5 trillion to the national debt.....	11	20	30	
Giving huge tax breaks to the wealthy and big corporations will create few jobs, but will starve job-creating investments in education, research, and infrastructure	8	17	28	
The plan will no longer tax corporate profits earned offshore, encouraging more outsourcing of American jobs	8	17	27	
Republicans claim tax cuts will grow the economy and create jobs, but history shows they just make the rich richer and make wealthy corporations more profitable--trickle down does not help me and my family	7	17	27	
Republicans promised to clean up Washington, but this plan doesn't close any special interest loopholes--this bad deal just rigs the system even more	6	14	24	

18. You will now see some pairs of short statements about this tax plan proposed by Donald Trump and Republicans in Congress. For each pair, please indicate which statement you agree with more, even if neither is exactly right.

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY STATEMENT B (ANTI-TAX-CUT)—AGREE SOMEWHAT OR MUCH MORE

Statement A Pro-Tax Cut	Statement A			Statement B			Statement B Anti-Tax Cut
	Total A	Agree Much More	Agree Some- what More	Agree Some- what More	Agre e Much More	Total B	
By lowering taxes on businesses, the plan will make American companies more competitive and create jobs **	36	19	17	18	46	64	Wealthy corporations should be paying more in taxes because they are making record profits and benefit from special loopholes ** [314]
These large tax cuts will pay for themselves by growing the economy and creating jobs, which increases federal tax revenues **	39	20	19	18	43	61	History shows that large tax cuts don't pay for themselves--they increase the deficit while the rich get richer ** [315]
Consideration of this legislation should not depend on political leaders releasing their tax returns.....	40	23	17	19	41	60	Congress should not vote on this plan until voters know how Donald Trump and members of Congress will personally benefit from the legislation [280]
By lowering taxes on businesses, the plan will make American companies more competitive and create jobs *	41	22	19	18	41	59	Wealthy corporations should pay more so we can rebuild infrastructure, improve education, and create more jobs * [309]
Donald Trump and Republicans in Congress are trying to cut taxes to grow the economy and help average Americans **	42	28	14	11	47	58	Donald Trump and Republicans in Congress are trying to cut taxes to benefit themselves and the millionaires who fund their campaigns ** [316]
The plan provides needed tax relief that lets ordinary Americans keep more of the money they earn**	42	26	16	13	45	58	We can't afford tax cuts that force cuts in education, endanger Medicare, and increase the deficit ** [317]
These large tax cuts will pay for themselves by growing the economy and creating jobs, which increases federal tax revenues *.	43	23	20	17	40	57	These large tax breaks will hurt the economy by causing cuts to education, Medicaid, infrastructure, and other investments * [310]
The plan provides needed tax relief that lets ordinary Americans keep more of the money they earn *	48	28	20	15	37	52	The plan's tax cuts go mostly to millionaires, billionaires, and big corporations, not to working people * [312]
By lowering taxes on businesses and individuals, the plan will create jobs and grow the economy **	48	26	22	18	34	52	The plan will weaken our economy because it doubles the deficit and adds \$5 trillion in national debt ** [313]

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS A/C).
** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS B/D).

Q.18 (cont'd)

Statement A Pro-Tax Cut	Statement A			Statement B			Statement B Anti-Tax Cut
	Total <u>A</u>	Agree Much <u>More</u>	Agree Some- what <u>More</u>	Agree Some- what <u>More</u>	Agree Much <u>More</u>	Total <u>B</u>	
Donald Trump and Republicans in Congress are trying to cut taxes to grow the economy and help average Americans *	51	31	20	9	40	49	Donald Trump and Republicans in Congress are trying to cut taxes to benefit the millionaires who fund their campaigns * [311]
By lowering taxes on businesses and individuals, the plan will create jobs and grow the economy *	54	28	26	20	26	46	The plan will weaken our economy because it rewards corporations that send jobs and profits offshore * [308]

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS A/C).

19. If tax cuts do reduce federal revenues, it could result in cuts to some of the programs below. Please indicate which three of these cuts, if any, you would most like to avoid.

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE

Avoid cuts in Medicare	63	[318-319]
Avoid cuts in Social Security disability benefits	52	>
Avoid cuts in K-12 education	38	
Avoid cuts in Medicaid.....	37	
Avoid cuts in transportation and infrastructure	24	
Avoid cuts in medical research	19	
Avoid cuts in food and nutrition programs	18	
Avoid cuts in clean energy development	16	
Avoid cuts in college loans and tuition assistance	12	
None of these	6	

Now that you have read a lot about the tax plan by Donald Trump and Republicans in Congress, we have a few last questions on that issue....

20. We would like to get your final reaction to the tax plan proposed by President Trump and Republicans in Congress. It has five main components:

- Cuts income tax rates at all income levels
- Doubles the size of the standard deduction--the amount of income not taxed for individuals and families
- Cuts the tax rate on corporations from 35 percent to 20 percent
- Cuts the tax rate corporations pay on foreign profits currently held offshore from 35 percent to 10 percent, and eliminates taxes on foreign profits earned in the future
- Cuts the top tax rate on business owners from 40 percent to 20 percent

Is your overall reaction to this tax plan very favorable, somewhat favorable, neutral, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable?

	Q.20	Initial Results (Q.10)	
Very favorable	15	17	[320]
Somewhat favorable	24	23	
Neutral	16	20	
Somewhat unfavorable	16	18	
Very unfavorable	29	22	
Total Favorable	39	40	
Total Unfavorable	45	40	

21. If Congress passes this Republican tax plan, do you think that would have a positive impact, a negative impact, or no impact either way on each of the following?

	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	Does Not Apply	
The economy and jobs				[321]
Q.21 **	43	40	17	
Initial results (Q. 11).....	46	36	18	
The budget deficit				[322]
Q.21 **	22	59	19	
Initial results (Q. 11).....	30	49	21	
The fairness of the tax system				[323]
Q.21 **	38	48	14	
Initial results (Q. 11).....	38	47	15	
Public services like education and healthcare				[324]
Q.21 **	18	61	21	
Initial results (Q. 11).....	26	54	20	
Your own finances				[325]
Q.21 **	37	35	28	
Initial results (Q. 11).....	43	33	24	

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS B/C).

Now we have some questions on the issue of taxing corporations.

22. Now you will see a pair of statements about the Republican proposal to lower the corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 20 percent. Please indicate whether you agree more with the Republicans' statement or more with the Democrats' statement.

Republicans say that today we have the worst tax code among the major industrialized nations of the world, with the highest business tax rate at 35 percent. By lowering the rate to a competitive 20 percent, this plan leapfrogs the rest of the world and ensures that our companies can compete against foreign companies on a level playing field. That will get us faster economic growth, higher productivity, more manufacturing, and more jobs.

(FORMS A/B) Democrats say this massive 40 percent cut in the corporate tax rate will do little to spur investment or create jobs, it will simply pad the pockets of CEOs and rich stockholders. Instead of giving wealthy corporations and CEOs a tax cut, we should ask them to pay their fair share so we have the funds to rebuild infrastructure, hire more teachers, make college affordable, provide healthcare, and develop new clean energy sources.

(FORMS C/D) Democrats say the problem isn't that corporations pay too much in taxes--they pay too little. Many wealthy corporations such as General Electric and Verizon frequently get away with paying no federal income taxes. Under this plan even more will pay little or nothing, and they will have more incentive to shift jobs and profits offshore. The last thing we should do is give even more tax breaks to the country's wealthiest corporations.

	FORMS A/B *	FORMS C/D **	
Agree with Republicans--strongly	24	20	[331]
Agree with Republicans--not so strongly. .	21	21	
Agree with Democrats--not so strongly.....	19	21	
Agree with Democrats--strongly	36	38	
Total Agree With Republicans	45	41	
Total Agree With Democrats	55	59	

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS A/B).

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS C/D).

23a. Today, most people who own a business pay personal income taxes on their business earnings, at the usual tax rates determined by their personal income tax bracket. Under the Republican tax plan, all business owners would pay a top tax rate of 20 percent, regardless of their income level. Do you favor or oppose this proposal?

Strongly favor	18	[332]
Somewhat favor	32	
Somewhat oppose.....	30	
Strongly oppose	20	
Total Favor	50	
Total Oppose	50	

23b. Now you will see a pair of statements about the Republican proposal to lower the “pass-through” tax rate paid by most business owners to 20 percent, regardless of their income level, instead of the higher rates that some business owners pay currently. Please indicate whether you agree more with the Republicans' statement or more with the Democrats' statement.

Republicans say that small businesses should not pay a higher tax rate than big corporations. Small businesses are the engine of the American economy, hiring two-thirds of all new workers. Keeping the pass-through tax rate the same as the corporate rate will ensure that small businesses are treated fairly and have enough money to create new jobs and strengthen our communities.

(FORMS A/C) Democrats say this proposal is designed to give a big tax cut to wealthy Wall Street hedge fund managers, corporate lobbyists, and real estate developers. Most of this tax cut will really go to millionaires and billionaires, not to family businesses. And real small businesses will be hurt because the plan reduces funding for services vital to Main Street, such as infrastructure, education, and small business loans.

(FORMS B/D) Democrats say the plan will not lower taxes for most family businesses, it will just create a new special tax loophole that allows Wall Street hedge fund managers, big law firms, and real estate moguls like Donald Trump to slash their tax rate in half. Billionaires like Donald Trump should not get to pay the same tax rate as a small-business owner making \$60,000 a year.

	FORMS A/C *	FORMS B/D **	
Agree with Republicans--strongly	22	24	[333]
Agree with Republicans--not so strongly .	24	21	
Agree with Democrats--not so strongly.....	22	19	
Agree with Democrats--strongly	32	36	
Total Agree With Republicans	46	45	
Total Agree With Democrats	54	55	

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS A/C).
** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS B/D).

24a. Today, American companies are holding \$2.6 trillion in foreign profits offshore, because they don't owe taxes on these profits until they bring the money back to the United States. Do you favor or oppose the Republican proposal that would temporarily reduce the tax rate on foreign earnings held overseas, from 35 percent to 10 percent, in order to encourage companies to bring more foreign profits back to the United States?

Strongly favor	20	[334]
Somewhat favor	34	
Somewhat oppose.....	24	
Strongly oppose	22	
Total Favor	54	
Total Oppose	46	

24b. Now you will see a pair of statements about the Republicans' proposal to change the way \$2.6 trillion in existing corporate profits earned in other countries are taxed. Please indicate whether you agree more with the Republicans' statement or more with the Democrats' statement.

Republicans say the \$2.6 trillion in profits that American firms are holding overseas are stranded there, locked out of the country by the current high 35 percent corporate tax rate. By taxing those earnings at a lower, one-time rate of 10 percent, it will bring back trillions of dollars that are offshore to be invested here. This will boost the economy, make America a magnet for new jobs, and generate billions of dollars that were otherwise uncollectible.

(FORMS A/D) Democrats say that wealthy corporations should pay all the taxes they owe on their offshore profits, not get a special loophole that drops the tax rate from 35 percent to 10 percent. Congress should require wealthy corporations to bring these profits home and pay the \$750 billion they owe. It's wrong to reward wealthy corporations that avoided taxes by shifting jobs and stashing profits offshore, while many smaller businesses did the right thing by paying their fair share.

(FORMS B/C) Democrats say that wealthy corporations should not be rewarded for shifting jobs and profits offshore to dodge paying their fair share of taxes. They need to pay the \$750 billion they owe on their offshore profits. They should not get a tax cut that would save them \$600 billion in taxes. We need them to pay all that they owe so we have the funds to invest in rebuilding roads and bridges, improving schools, and creating a lot of good-paying jobs.

	FORMS <u>A/D</u> *	FORMS <u>B/C</u> **	
Agree with Republicans--strongly	20	19	[335]
Agree with Republicans--not so strongly . .	23	24	
Agree with Democrats--not so strongly.....	22	21	
Agree with Democrats--strongly	35	36	
Total Agree With Republicans	43	43	
Total Agree With Democrats	57	57	

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS A/D).
** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS B/C).

25a. Some US-based companies earn profits in other countries, as well as in the United States. In your opinion, which of the following is the best approach for taxing profits that companies earn in foreign countries?

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE

Tax foreign profits at the same rate as US profits	40	[336]
Tax foreign profits at a higher rate than US profits.....	32	
Tax foreign profits at a lower rate than US profits	8	
Do not tax foreign profits at all	4	
Don't know	16	

25b. Now you will see a pair of statements about how the Republicans propose to stop taxing future corporate profits earned in other countries. Please indicate whether you agree more with the Republicans' statement or more with the Democrats' statement. *

Republicans say the United States should not tax the profits that American corporations make overseas because almost every other advanced nation does not tax those profits. This is critical to make American companies more competitive around the world so they are on a level playing field with foreign corporations. This way, American companies would have more money to invest here at home to create jobs, raise wages, and grow the middle class.

Democrats say the United States should continue to tax the profits that American corporations make offshore. If American corporations paid less U.S. taxes on those offshore profits than they pay now, or if they paid no taxes, they would have even more incentive to send jobs and profits offshore to avoid paying taxes. The Republican plan would be a massive tax cut for wealthy corporations, paid for by small businesses and working families.

Agree with Republicans--strongly	14	[337]
Agree with Republicans--not so strongly ..	23	
Agree with Democrats--not so strongly	27	
Agree with Democrats--strongly	36	
Total Agree With Republicans	37	
Total Agree With Democrats	63	

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS A/B).

26. Now you will see some things that concern some people about the Republican proposals to change the corporate tax system. Please indicate which three concern you the most. *

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE

Prescription drug companies such as Pfizer would get a huge tax cut while continuing to price-gouge consumers, Medicare, and Medicaid.....	53	[338-339]
Huge corporations such as General Electric and Verizon would pay a lower tax rate than many middle-class families	36	>
Corporations that supported Donald Trump would get billions in tax breaks.....	28	
Some corporate CEOs would pay a lower tax rate than their secretaries	27	
Corporations would pay a small fraction of the \$750 billion they owe on their offshore profits while you pay all the taxes you owe each year	25	
Apple would get a \$75 billion tax break on its \$240 billion in untaxed offshore profits--that could pay for pre-K education for all four-year-olds over 10 years.....	19	
The tax rate paid by Donald Trump's 500 businesses would be cut in half.....	17	
Wall Street banks would pay a much lower tax rate than they pay now.....	16	
Corporations would get a tax cut of \$600 billion from what they owe on their offshore profits	14	
None of these is a concern	16	

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS C/D).

Now thinking about all the issues you have read about in this survey....

27a. Which party do you think would do a better job of handling the issue of federal taxes?

	<u>Q.27a</u>	<i>Initial Results (Q.3a)</i>	
Democrats would do a much better job of handling federal taxes	25	18	[340]
Democrats would do a somewhat better job of handling federal taxes.....	19	16	
No difference	18	28	
Republicans would do a somewhat better job of handling federal taxes	19	15	
Republicans would do a much better job of handling federal taxes.....	19	23	
Total Democrats Would Do Better Job	44	34	
Total Republican Would Do Better Job	38	38	

27b. Which party do you think would do a better job of handling the issue of the economy?

	<u>Q.27b</u>	<i>Initial Results (Q.3b)</i>	
Democrats would do a much better job of handling the economy	24	20	[341]
Democrats would do a somewhat better job of handling the economy.....	19	16	
No difference	18	22	
Republicans would do a somewhat better job of handling the economy	19	19	
Republicans would do a much better job of handling the economy.....	20	23	
Total Democrats Would Do Better Job	43	36	
Total Republican Would Do Better Job	39	42	

FACTUALS: These last few questions are for statistical purposes only.

F1. How would you describe the area in which you live?

Urban.....	22	[342]
Suburban.....	52	
Small town.....	12	
Rural.....	14	

F2. Are you currently single and never married, unmarried and living with a partner, married, separated, widowed, or divorced?

Single	21	[343]
Unmarried, living with partner.....	7	
Married	57	
Separated.....	1	
Widowed.....	4	
Divorced	10	

F3. Please indicate whether each of the following applies to you. You or someone in your household is self-employed or owns a small business

	Yes, Applies <u>To Me</u>	No, Does Not Apply <u>To Me</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>	
Your or someone in your household is self-employed or owns a small business	17	82	1	[344]
You or someone in your household is a member of a labor union	14	84	2	[345]
You itemize deductions on your federal tax return.....	48	47	5	[346]

F4. Which of these best describes your current situation?

Employed	59	[347]
Student	3	
Homemaker	6	
Retired	26	
Unemployed, looking for work	4	
Other	2	

F5. If you added together the yearly income of all the members of your family who were living at home last year, what would the total be?

Less than \$10,000.....	2	[348]
Between \$10,000 and \$19,999.....	5	
Between \$20,000 and \$29,999.....	8	
Between \$30,000 and \$39,999.....	9	
Between \$40,000 and \$49,999.....	10	
Between \$50,000 and \$74,999.....	23	
Between \$75,000 and \$99,999.....	18	
Between \$100,000 and \$149,999.....	16	
\$150,000 or more	9	