

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER
MARCH 2019 POLITICAL SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
MARCH 20-25, 2019
N=1,503**

QUESTIONS 1-2, 10, 14, 33-34, 47-49 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

NO QUESTIONS 3-9, 11-13, 15-18, 21-24, 26-32, 35-43, 45-46

QUESTIONS 19-20, 25, 44 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

Q.50 I'm going to read you some pairs of statements that will help us understand how you feel about a number of things. As I read each pair, tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own views — even if neither is exactly right. The first pair is **[READ AND RANDOMIZE PAIRS BUT NOT STATEMENTS WITHIN EACH PAIR, EXCEPT FOR ITEM d AND e WHICH SHOULD HAVE STATEMENTS RANDOMIZED WITHIN PAIR]. [IF NECESSARY: Next], [NEXT PAIR]. [IF NECESSARY: "Which statement comes closer to your views, even if neither is exactly right?"]**

a.	<u>Business corporations make too much profit</u>	<u>Most corporations make a fair and reasonable amount of profit</u>	(VOL.) <u>Both/Neither/ DK/Ref</u>
Mar 20-25, 2019	56	39	5
Jun 8-Jul 9, 2017	59	36	5
Mar 17-26, 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 (RVs)	54	39	6
December, 2008	58	35	7
October, 2008	59	33	8
December, 2005	61	33	6
December, 2004	53	39	8
June, 2003	51	42	7
July, 2002	58	33	9
February, 2002	54	39	7
September, 2000	54	38	8
August, 1999	52	42	6
June, 1997	51	43	6
October, 1996	51	42	7
October, 1995	53	43	4
April, 1995	51	44	5
October, 1994	50	44	6
July, 1994	52	43	5

QUESTIONS 50b-c PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

	The economic system in this country unfairly <u>favors powerful interests</u>	The economic system in this country is generally <u>fair to most Americans</u>	(VOL.) Both/Neither/ <u>DK/Ref</u>
d. Mar 20-25, 2019	63	34	3
Sep 18-24, 2018	63	33	4
Jun 8-Jul 9, 2017	65	32	3
Mar 17-26, 2016	66	31	2
Aug 27-Oct 4, 2015	65	31	3
Feb 18-22, 2015	62	33	4
Jan 29-Feb 9, 2014	62	34	4

QUESTION 50e-f, 54-55, 58, 60-61 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**NO QUESTIONS 51-53, 59, 62-63****QUESTIONS 56-57 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****ASK ALL:**

Thinking about the tax system...

Q.64 How fair do you think our present federal tax system is? Overall would you say that our tax system is **[READ IN ORDER]**

	<u>Very fair</u>	Moderately <u>fair</u>	Not too <u>fair</u>	Not fair <u>at all</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Mar 20-25, 2019	5	41	30	23	2
Oct 25-30, 2017	3	38	32	26	1
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
CNN: Apr 9-11, 2010	4	45	30	20	1
NPR/Kaiser/Harvard: March 2003	4	47	32	16	1
Time/CNN: March 1997	3	42	31	23	2
Time/CNN: May 1985	2	41	31	24	2

ASK ALL:

Q.65 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?]**

	<u>A lot</u>	<u>Some</u>	Not too <u>much</u>	Not <u>at all</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. The amount you pay in taxes					
Mar 20-25, 2019	27	29	24	17	2
Apr 5-11, 2017	27	26	25	21	1
Feb 18-22, 2015	27	26	27	19	2
b. The complexity of the tax system					
Mar 20-25, 2019	39	34	15	10	2
Apr 5-11, 2017	43	29	16	10	2
Feb 18-22, 2015	44	28	17	8	3
c. The feeling that some wealthy people don't pay their fair share					
Mar 20-25, 2019	60	20	10	9	1
Apr 5-11, 2017	60	18	9	12	1
Feb 18-22, 2015	61	18	10	10	2

QUESTION 65 CONTINUED ...

	<u>A lot</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Not too much</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
d. The feeling that some poor people don't pay their fair share					
Mar 20-25, 2019	16	24	19	39	2
Apr 5-11, 2017	20	20	22	36	2
Feb 18-22, 2015	20	22	22	34	2
e. The feeling that some corporations don't pay their fair share					
Mar 20-25, 2019	62	20	9	8	2
Apr 5-11, 2017	62	18	9	9	1
Feb 18-22, 2015	64	18	9	8	1

QUESTIONS 66-69 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**ASK ALL:**

Next,

Q.70 Do you approve or disapprove of the tax law passed by Donald Trump and Congress in 2017?

ASK IF APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE (Q.70=1,2):

Q.70a Do you [approve/disapprove] very strongly, or not so strongly?

Mar 20-25 <u>2019</u>		Jan 10-15 <u>2018</u> ¹
36	Approve	37
20	Very strongly	26
16	Not so strongly	10
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	*
49	Disapprove	46
34	Very strongly	35
14	Not so strongly	11
*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	1
15	Don't know/Refused	17

ASK ALL:Q.71 How well do you feel you understand how the tax law has affected you and your family **[READ]**?

Mar 20-25 <u>2019</u>		Jan 10-15 <u>2018</u>
26	Very well	30
37	Somewhat well	35
20	Not too well	18
13	Not at all well	13
5	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	4

NO QUESTIONS 72-74**QUESTIONS 75-77 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**

¹ In January 2018 the question read, "Do you approve or disapprove of the tax law passed by Donald Trump and Congress last month?"

ASK ALL:

PARTY In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or independent?

ASK IF INDEP/NO PREF/OTHER/DK/REF (PARTY=3,4,5,9):

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

				(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	Lean	Lean
	Republican	Democrat	Independent	No preference	Other party	DK/Ref	Rep	Dem
Mar 20-25, 2019	26	30	37	3	1	3	14	19
Jan 9-14, 2019	25	31	40	2	1	2	16	18
Sep 18-24, 2018	25	32	37	3	1	2	15	18
Jun 5-12, 2018	25	31	38	3	1	2	15	18
Apr 25-May 1, 2018	27	28	38	4	1	2	14	19
Mar 7-14, 2018	26	28	41	3	*	1	17	18
Jan 10-15, 2018	26	33	34	3	1	3	12	18
Yearly Totals								
2018	25.7	30.8	37.6	3.0	.8	2.0	14.7	18.3
2017	23.6	31.4	39.4	3.3	.6	1.7	15.8	18.7
2016	25.4	32.0	36.5	3.4	.5	2.2	14.6	17.0
2015	23.7	30.4	40.1	3.6	.4	1.8	16.4	17.3
2014	23.2	31.5	39.5	3.1	.7	2.0	16.2	16.5
2013	23.9	32.1	38.3	2.9	.5	2.2	16.0	16.0
2012	24.7	32.6	36.4	3.1	.5	2.7	14.4	16.1
2011	24.3	32.3	37.4	3.1	.4	2.5	15.7	15.6
2010	25.2	32.7	35.2	3.6	.4	2.8	14.5	14.1
2009	23.9	34.4	35.1	3.4	.4	2.8	13.1	15.7
2008	25.7	36.0	31.5	3.6	.3	3.0	10.6	15.2
2007	25.3	32.9	34.1	4.3	.4	2.9	10.9	17.0
2006	27.8	33.1	30.9	4.4	.3	3.4	10.5	15.1
2005	29.3	32.8	30.2	4.5	.3	2.8	10.3	14.9
2004	30.0	33.5	29.5	3.8	.4	3.0	11.7	13.4
2003	30.3	31.5	30.5	4.8	.5	2.5	12.0	12.6
2002	30.4	31.4	29.8	5.0	.7	2.7	12.4	11.6
2001	29.0	33.2	29.5	5.2	.6	2.6	11.9	11.6
2001 Post-Sept 11	30.9	31.8	27.9	5.2	.6	3.6	11.7	9.4
2001 Pre-Sept 11	27.3	34.4	30.9	5.1	.6	1.7	12.1	13.5
2000	28.0	33.4	29.1	5.5	.5	3.6	11.6	11.7
1999	26.6	33.5	33.7	3.9	.5	1.9	13.0	14.5
1998	27.9	33.7	31.1	4.6	.4	2.3	11.6	13.1
1997	28.0	33.4	32.0	4.0	.4	2.3	12.2	14.1
1996	28.9	33.9	31.8	3.0	.4	2.0	12.1	14.9
1995	31.6	30.0	33.7	2.4	.6	1.3	15.1	13.5
1994	30.1	31.5	33.5	1.3	--	3.6	13.7	12.2
1993	27.4	33.6	34.2	4.4	1.5	2.9	11.5	14.9
1992	27.6	33.7	34.7	1.5	0	2.5	12.6	16.5
1991	30.9	31.4	33.2	0	1.4	3.0	14.7	10.8
1990	30.9	33.2	29.3	1.2	1.9	3.4	12.4	11.3
1989	33	33	34	--	--	--	--	--
1987	26	35	39	--	--	--	--	--

Key to Pew Research trends noted in the topline:

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Pew Research Center/USA Today polls