Taxes Survey Toplines

Online sample of 1531 likely voters fielded over web panels from March 16, 2026 to March 18, 2026 and weighted by gender, race, 2024 Presidential Vote, education and age. Respondents were also weighted by whether they passed attention checks. The margin of error is 4.1%.

1. Please select your gender:

Male	48%
Female	52%

2. What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received?

No high school diploma	2%
High school diploma or equivalent	22%
Some college, no degree	24%
Associate's degree	15%
Bachelor's degree	25%
Advanced degree (such as Masters, Professional, or Doctorate degree)	12%

3. Choose the race or ethnicity you consider yourself to be:

White	71%
Black or African American	11%
Hispanic or Latino/a	11%
Asian	4%
American Indian or Alaska Native	1%
Other race	3%

4. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president?

Strongly approve	24%
Somewhat approve	17%
Somewhat disapprove	8%
Strongly disapprove	47%
Not sure	4%
Total Approve	**41%**
Total Disapprove	**55%**

Net Total Approve	-13%

5. Did you vote in the 2024 presidential election?

Yes, I voted	94%
No, I didn't vote	6%
I'm not sure	0%

6. Who did you vote for in the 2024 presidential election?

(Asked only of respondents who answered 'voted' to voted_2024)

Democrat Kamala Harris	49%
Republican Donald Trump	50%
Libertarian Chase Oliver	0%
Green Party candidate Jill Stein	0%
Independent Robert F. Kennedy Jr.	0%
Someone else	1%

7. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent, or something else?

Democrat	35%
Republican	36%
Independent	26%
Something else	4%

8. If you had to choose, would you say you typically lean more towards Democrats or more towards Republicans?

(Asked only of respondents who did not answer 'democrat' to party_self_id and Asked only of respondents who did not answer 'republican' to party_self_id)

(n=466)

Democrats	32%
Republicans	26%
Neither	42%

9. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable view of the following people?: Joe Biden

Very favorable	17%
Somewhat favorable	28%
Somewhat unfavorable	12%
Very unfavorable	41%

Not sure/never heard of	2%
Total Favorable	45%
Total Unfavorable	53%
Net Total Favorable	-8%

10. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable view of the following people?: Donald Trump

Very favorable	25%
Somewhat favorable	18%
Somewhat unfavorable	7%
Very unfavorable	48%
Not sure/never heard of	2%
Total Favorable	43%
Total Unfavorable	55%
Net Total Favorable	-12%

11. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable view of the following people?: Bernie Sanders

Very favorable	23%
Somewhat favorable	24%
Somewhat unfavorable	14%
Very unfavorable	31%
Not sure/never heard of	8%
Total Favorable	47%
Total Unfavorable	45%
Net Total Favorable	2%

12. Are you a parent or guardian of a child under 18?

Yes	17%
No	82%
Prefer not to say	1%

13. Do you consider the amount of federal income tax you have to pay as too high, about right, or too low?

Too high	57%
About right	30%
Too low	1%
Not sure	12%

14. Are each of the following groups paying their fair share of federal taxes, paying too much, or paying too little?: Lower-income people

Fair share	24%
Too much	54%
Too little	8%
Not sure	14%

15. Are each of the following groups paying their fair share of federal taxes, paying too much, or paying too little?: Middle-income people

Fair share	27%
Too much	55%
Too little	5%
Not sure	13%

16. Are each of the following groups paying their fair share of federal taxes, paying too much, or paying too little?: Upper-income people

Fair share	16%
Too much	9%
Too little	64%
Not sure	11%

17. Are each of the following groups paying their fair share of federal taxes, paying too much, or paying too little?: Corporations

Fair share	12%
Too much	6%
Too little	68%
Not sure	14%

18. How fair or unfair do you think each of the following taxes are?: Federal income tax

Very fair	8%
Somewhat fair	28%
Somewhat unfair	29%
Very unfair	23%
Not sure	12%

19. How fair or unfair do you think each of the following taxes are?: State sales tax

Very fair	9%
Somewhat fair	33%
Somewhat unfair	25%
Very unfair	20%
Not sure	13%

20. How fair or unfair do you think each of the following taxes are?: Local property tax

Very fair	6%
Somewhat fair	22%
Somewhat unfair	28%
Very unfair	30%
Not sure	14%

21. How fair or unfair do you think each of the following taxes are?: Federal Social Security tax

Very fair	12%
Somewhat fair	31%
Somewhat unfair	19%
Very unfair	22%
Not sure	15%

22. How fair or unfair do you think each of the following taxes are?: State income tax

Very fair	8%
Somewhat fair	30%
Somewhat unfair	24%
Very unfair	22%
Not sure	16%

23. How fair or unfair do you think each of the following taxes are?: Payroll tax

Very fair	8%
Somewhat fair	26%
Somewhat unfair	25%
Very unfair	22%
Not sure	19%

24. Which of the following comes closer to your view, even if neither is exactly right?

I benefit from programs that are funded by taxes	39%
I do not benefit from programs that are funded by taxes	41%
Not sure	20%

25. Which of the following comes closer to your view, even if neither is exactly right?

People should be required to pay into government programs in order to benefit from them.	31%
Access to government programs should depend on need, not on whether you have contributed.	52%
Not sure	17%

26. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?: I know where my tax dollars go

Strongly agree	5%
Somewhat agree	15%
Somewhat disagree	31%
Strongly disagree	40%
Not sure	9%
Total Agree	**21%**
Total Disagree	**71%**
Net Total Agree	**-50%**

27. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?: I trust the government to make good spending decisions with tax dollars

Strongly agree	6%
Somewhat agree	13%
Somewhat disagree	26%
Strongly disagree	46%
Not sure	10%
Total Agree	**19%**
Total Disagree	**72%**
Net Total Agree	**-53%**

28. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?: The tax system in the United States feels fair

Strongly agree	6%

Somewhat agree	15%
Somewhat disagree	34%
Strongly disagree	36%
Not sure	10%
Total Agree	**20%**
Total Disagree	**70%**
Net Total Agree	**-50%**

29. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?: Paying taxes feels like a punishment

Strongly agree	25%
Somewhat agree	32%
Somewhat disagree	22%
Strongly disagree	11%
Not sure	10%
Total Agree	**57%**
Total Disagree	**33%**
Net Total Agree	**23%**

30. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?: Paying taxes is part of being a good citizen

Strongly agree	22%
Somewhat agree	45%
Somewhat disagree	12%
Strongly disagree	11%
Not sure	10%
Total Agree	**66%**
Total Disagree	**24%**
Net Total Agree	**43%**

31. What, if anything, would make you feel better about paying your taxes? Select all that apply.

Having a better sense of where my money went	57%
Knowing my money went to programs I like	33%
Knowing everyone was paying their fair share	58%
Paying less	41%

Other	2%
None of the above	9%

32. What is your biggest concern when it comes to your taxes?

Tax burden too high / affordability	20%
Perceived unfairness / unequal tax responsibility (especially wealthy & corporations)	18%
Disagreement with how tax dollars are allocated (policy priorities)	14%
Government waste, fraud, and corruption	21%
Lack of transparency about where taxes go	8%
Taxes increasing / rate uncertainty	4%
Refunds, benefits, and value received from taxes	4%
No concern / general opposition to taxation	5%
Complexity, compliance burden, and risk of mistakes	5%

33. Do you think this survey was written by Democrats or Republicans?

Democrats	24%
Republicans	8%
Not sure	69%