**Gallup: Americans Still Say Upper Income People Pay Too Little in Taxes**

<http://www.gallup.com/poll/190775/americans-say-upper-income-pay-little-taxes.aspx>

* Americans say money and wealth should be more evenly distributed
* Belief that upper-income pay too little in taxes has been evident for 25 years
* Slight majority favoring heavy taxes on rich is unchanged over last three years

April 6 – 10, 2016, asked of 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?** (Emphasis in original)

**First, let me ask you about upper-income people:**

**ALL ADULTS**

61% Too Little

21% Fair Share

15% Too Much

Those numbers have remained stable over the past five years, with 61 or 62% saying upper-income people pay too little in 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013 and 2012.

Gallup has asked the question every year since 1992.

The high point was in 1992 and 1993, when 77% said upper-income people pay too little.

The low point was in 2011, when 55% said upper-income people pay too little.

There are strong partisan divisions, but Independents mirror full sample. Still, a plurality of all groups says upper-income people pay too little. (April 6 – 10, 2016)

Democrats Independents Republicans

Too Little 75% 62% 45%

Fair Share 14% 18% 32%

Too Much 9% 16% 20%

**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?** (Emphasis in original)

**Corporations**

**ALL ADULTS** (April 6 – 10, 2016)

67% Too Little

16% Fair Share

12% Too Much

These numbers have stayed stable over the 13 years of available data. High point was 2008, when 73% said corporations pay too little. Low point was 2010, when 62% said corporations pay too little.

**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?** (Emphasis in original)

**Lower-Income People**

**ALL ADULTS** (April 6 – 10, 2016)

20% Too Little

31% Fair Share

46% Too Much

**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?** (Emphasis in original)

**Middle-Income People**

**ALL ADULTS** (April 6 – 10, 2016)

6% Too Little

39% Fair Share

53% Too Much

This is the first time a majority has said middle-income people are paying too much since 1999, when 59% said middle-income people were paying too much.

**TAXES USED FOR REDISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH**

**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?**

**ALL ADULTS** (April 6 – 10, 2016)

59% Should be more evenly distributed

34% Distribution is fair

7% No opinion

These numbers have been fairly stable since October 2008.

**People feel differently about how far a government should go. Here is a phrase 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?**

**ALL ADULTS** (April 6 – 10, 2016)

52% Yes, redistribute by heavy taxes on the rich

46% No, Should not redistribute wealth

 2% Don’t Know/Refused

These numbers have been very stable, as 52% have said “Yes, should” in each of the last three times this question was asked, 2016, 2015 and 2013.

Again, strong partisan divisions, but independents are close to national sample

Democrats Independents Republicans

Yes 80% 50% 22%

No 19% 47% 76%

DK/Refused 2% 3% 1%

Gallup’s conclusion:

“Americans are generally on board -- as they consistently have been in recent decades -- with the concept that wealth and income should be distributed more equally in the U.S. Americans also tend to agree that upper-income Americans pay too little in taxes and that the rich should be more heavily taxed in order to achieve a more even distribution of wealth.

“These attitudes are divided along partisan lines, with wide gaps in opinion between Republicans and Democrats, reflecting the starkly different positions of the two parties' presidential candidates on this issue.”

**Perceptions of Your Own Taxes**

<http://www.gallup.com/poll/190778/americans-years-say-tax-bill-high.aspx>

Bottom lines:

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

      57%  Too High

      37%   About right

        3%   Too Low

\*  The 57% saying "Too high" is the largest percent since April 2001, when 65% said "Too high"

\*  And the 37% saying "About right" is the smallest percentage since April 2001, when 31% said "About right"

\*  Huge partisan gap, as 73% or Republicans and 44% of Democrats said "Too high"

\*  But both Dems and GOPers had their "Too high" percentage increase in the last year, but GOPers saw a 10% jump and Dems only went up by 3%.

\*  Strangely, a majority of **voters younger than 30 years old** said "too high," up to 55% from 38% last year.

\*  Equally strange, 39% of**voters 65 or older** said "too high," *down* from 46% last year.

\*  58% of **women** said "too high," up from 47% last year.

\* 50% of voters "regard the income tax which you will have to pay this year as fair,"  versus 47% who say No, not fair.

\*  This is the lowest percentage of folks saying "Yes, fair" since April of 1999.