YouGov
What the world thinks

YouGov / Compass Survey Results

Sample Size: 1069 GB Adults
Fieldwork: 19th - 20th November 2009

		Voting intention			Gender		Age			Social grade		Region				
	Total	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	ABC1	C2DE	London	North	Rest of South	Midlands / Wales	Scotland
Weighted Sample	1069	366	251	137	513	556	333	361	375	587	481	137	263	348	229	93
Unweighted Sample	1069	388	230	128	499	570	273	327	469	661	407	131	239	377	220	102
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
When all taxes are taken into account – income tax, national insurance, VAT, excise duties, council tax etc – the richest households pay a smaller share of their income in tax than the poorest households. The overall tax rate for the richest 10% is 34%; for the poorest 10% it is 46%. In principle, do you agree or disagree with this statement…? "The government should change the tax system to ensure that the richest households pay at least the same percentage of tax as the poorest households"																
Agree strongly	54	41	63	64	52	55	44	54	62	52	55	49	54	56	54	48
Tend to agree	24	31	21	26	25	23	27	24	21	25	23	22	26	22	23	32
TOTAL AGREE	*78*	*72*	*85*	*90*	*77*	*78*	*72*	*78*	*83*	*77*	*78*	*71*	*80*	*78*	*77*	*80*
Neither agree nor disagree	6	7	4	3	4	7	6	4	6	4	7	6	5	7	2	8
Tend to disagree	7	12	5	5	8	6	10	6	6	8	6	13	6	5	10	6
Disagree strongly	7	7	6	2	8	6	7	10	4	7	6	6	8	7	5	6
TOTAL DISAGREE	*14*	*18*	*11*	*7*	*16*	*12*	*17*	*16*	*10*	*16*	*12*	*19*	*13*	*12*	*15*	*12*
Don't know	3	3	1	0	3	3	6	2	1	3	3	5	1	3	6	0

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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Until last year the starting rate of income tax was 10%, paid on the first £2,220 of taxable income. Last year this was abolished to pay for a 2p reduction in the standard rate of income tax.																
Do you agree or disagree with this statement…?																
“The government should restore the 10p starting rate by increasing taxes on the top 10% of households by income”																
Agree strongly	**35**	33	42	41	38	32	17	33	53	36	33	29	39	35	31	41
Tend to agree	**24**	27	25	28	25	24	26	25	22	25	24	23	22	25	28	24
TOTAL AGREE	***59***	***59***	***67***	***69***	***63***	***56***	***43***	***58***	***75***	***61***	***57***	***52***	***60***	***60***	***59***	***65***
Neither agree nor disagree	**17**	16	16	8	16	17	23	16	11	14	19	19	15	16	19	13
Tend to disagree	**7**	9	6	5	8	7	8	9	6	9	5	6	9	9	3	8
Disagree strongly	**6**	7	4	4	7	5	5	9	4	7	5	7	7	6	6	3
TOTAL DISAGREE	***13***	***16***	***10***	***9***	***15***	***12***	***13***	***17***	***10***	***16***	***10***	***13***	***15***	***15***	***9***	***11***
Don’t know	**11**	9	6	14	7	15	22	9	4	9	14	16	9	9	13	11

Some people say that the tax system should be changed to reduce the income of the richest 10%, and increase take home income for the remaining 90% of people. Their proposal has 4 key elements:

1. the income tax rate would be 50% for anyone earning more than £100,000 a year;

2. the cap on national insurance would be lifted and also applied to investment income;

3. and new anti-avoidance rules would be introduced and simplified to ensure that all income, apart from standard personal allowances, is taxed;

4. the 10p starting rate of income tax would be restored.

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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Overall this new package would raise enough tax to allow government borrowing to be reduced sharply without major cuts in public spending and many economists believe the economy would be less likely to slip back into recession.																
Which of these views comes closer to your own?																
"This package is a good idea: it would make Britain fairer, it would assist the recovery by giving more money to 90% of all households, and ensure that our public services don't suffer"	**62**	54	74	74	65	59	51	63	71	61	63	54	68	63	59	63
"This package is a bad idea: many high-paid people and international companies would move to other countries, and Britain's economy would suffer"	**25**	37	16	17	27	22	31	21	22	28	21	31	18	24	28	26
Don't know	**13**	9	10	9	8	19	17	16	8	12	16	15	14	13	13	11