

Table 2.43

Attitudes toward the level of spending to deal with drug addiction

By demographic characteristics, United States, selected years 1985-2002

Question: "We are faced with many problems in this country, none of which can be solved easily or inexpensively. I'm going to name some of these problems, and for each one I'd like you to tell me whether you think we're spending too much money on it, too little money, or about the right amount. First (dealing with drug addiction) are we spending too much, too little, or about the right amount on (dealing with drug addiction)?"

	1985			1986			1987			1988			1989			1990		
	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much
National	62%	28%	5%	58%	32%	6%	65%	28%	4%	68%	24%	4%	71%	19%	6%	64%	26%	7%
Sex																		
Male	61	27	8	55	36	7	62	31	4	72	21	5	74	15	7	60	28	8
Female	62	30	2	60	29	5	68	26	4	66	27	3	68	22	6	67	24	5
Race																		
White	62	28	5	57	32	6	66	28	4	67	25	4	69	20	6	63	27	6
Black/other	59	30	9	66	27	5	60	28	6	75	20	5	80	11	6	68	20	7
Age																		
18 to 20 years	60	40	0	50	40	10	58	26	10	50	40	5	67	33	0	68	24	8
21 to 29 years	62	29	6	53	42	4	57	40	2	57	34	7	69	22	7	66	28	4
30 to 49 years	64	29	5	59	33	6	65	29	4	73	22	2	72	18	6	66	26	5
50 years and older	61	26	6	60	24	7	70	22	6	71	20	4	71	18	7	61	26	9
Education^a																		
College	59	32	5	54	39	5	59	36	4	70	25	4	74	19	4	64	29	6
High school graduate	67	25	5	61	28	7	69	23	4	67	26	3	69	19	8	67	22	7
Less than high school graduate	49	31	11	58	23	7	71	19	5	68	17	8	65	20	12	50	28	13
Income																		
\$50,000 and over	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$30,000 to \$49,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$20,000 to \$29,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Under \$20,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Occupation																		
Professional/business	59	31	5	54	37	6	63	31	5	68	25	4	73	18	6	62	30	6
Clerical/support	61	32	3	62	30	2	61	34	5	64	29	3	67	23	4	68	26	3
Manual/service	64	25	7	60	28	8	67	26	4	72	22	4	71	18	7	63	24	9
Farming/agriculture	50	38	8	63	32	5	65	24	12	90	10	0	77	8	15	71	14	14
Region																		
Northeast	66	25	6	54	34	4	71	26	2	71	23	5	69	20	4	58	29	8
Midwest	61	29	5	61	30	5	61	32	4	68	27	2	73	18	6	63	28	7
South	62	26	6	58	30	8	66	26	5	66	24	4	71	18	7	71	23	4
West	59	35	4	58	34	7	62	30	6	70	21	6	70	21	7	61	25	9
Religion																		
Protestant	64	28	4	60	29	7	67	26	4	68	24	4	72	18	7	67	25	6
Catholic	62	29	6	55	37	4	64	32	3	71	24	3	69	23	3	58	30	8
Jewish	65	18	6	52	35	4	60	20	20	67	33	0	91	9	0	65	29	0
None	49	38	6	54	33	7	51	37	7	64	23	9	59	21	16	57	26	12
Politics																		
Republican	58	31	5	52	37	7	58	38	3	68	26	4	69	23	5	60	32	7
Democrat	64	27	5	62	29	6	74	20	4	70	24	4	80	12	5	64	25	6
Independent	63	27	6	58	30	6	57	32	6	67	24	4	61	26	9	69	22	6

Note: See Note, table 2.15. The "don't know" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. Readers interested in responses to this question for previous years should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2002," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

^aBeginning in 1996, education categories were revised slightly and therefore are not directly comparable to data presented for prior years.

1991			1993			1994			1996			1998			2000			2002		
Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much
58%	32%	7%	60%	27%	8%	60%	26%	9%	58%	27%	11%	58%	28%	9%	59%	28%	8%	57%	30%	9%
48	41	8	55	32	9	57	28	11	58	26	12	56	28	12	57	29	10	54	31	13
64	26	7	64	23	7	62	25	7	58	27	10	60	28	7	60	27	7	60	30	6
54	34	8	58	29	8	57	28	10	55	29	12	56	29	10	57	29	9	55	31	10
72	19	4	73	19	7	73	17	5	71	18	8	66	23	6	63	24	6	65	26	6
69	31	0	62	33	5	58	33	6	66	26	3	42	44	9	58	26	9	52	41	7
57	34	7	61	32	4	66	28	3	60	31	6	53	33	8	56	32	9	52	35	9
58	32	8	60	28	8	58	30	8	57	28	13	62	25	10	60	29	8	55	34	9
56	30	8	60	24	10	60	20	12	58	23	12	58	28	9	58	25	9	62	24	10
52	36	8	56	32	8	55	32	9	55	30	12	58	28	10	54	32	9	52	34	11
60	31	7	65	23	6	66	22	7	61	26	10	56	30	8	64	21	8	66	25	6
72	16	6	58	18	18	56	17	15	64	19	10	62	23	11	61	26	7	61	26	10
NA	NA	NA	55	31	9	58	30	10	53	31	14	57	32	8	58	33	6	52	33	12
NA	NA	NA	62	28	7	56	32	8	57	30	11	58	30	10	61	26	8	53	35	8
NA	NA	NA	66	26	7	68	24	8	64	26	8	61	24	10	57	31	8	68	23	8
NA	NA	NA	62	25	8	62	21	9	61	24	9	60	26	9	63	22	9	59	28	9
53	34	11	54	34	9	55	30	10	53	29	14	55	32	9	52	34	8	54	32	10
61	28	6	66	20	9	61	28	7	58	26	13	61	26	9	62	24	7	59	30	8
56	34	7	64	25	7	65	22	8	62	25	8	58	26	11	63	24	9	59	28	10
53	35	0	50	36	14	52	38	7	48	19	14	77	15	8	44	28	24	56	35	9
56	34	7	67	21	8	61	25	8	57	28	12	59	30	8	60	29	8	58	28	11
57	35	6	58	30	6	59	31	7	61	25	10	59	27	8	61	26	8	58	32	6
64	25	8	61	26	10	62	23	10	57	26	12	68	20	12	58	27	8	57	31	10
48	38	8	55	32	6	56	28	9	58	28	10	53	23	16	56	31	10	55	29	12
60	29	6	60	26	8	62	25	8	60	26	10	55	31	10	60	27	8	60	30	8
55	36	6	60	30	10	58	28	9	60	26	10	59	28	10	61	25	10	59	32	7
48	28	22	54	27	9	64	29	7	59	26	11	60	28	9	48	44	7	43	38	14
42	42	1	56	31	10	53	29	13	52	28	15	58	25	8	55	30	7	53	28	16
51	37	10	50	34	12	54	31	9	49	32	16	54	34	10	54	32	10	52	32	14
66	23	6	70	23	4	67	22	7	68	22	7	64	25	7	62	27	8	63	28	7
55	35	6	58	27	8	58	28	9	57	27	11	57	27	10	58	27	8	56	32	8