

NTEU SURVEY FACT SHEET

A strong majority of Americans value highly the services provided by the government workforce and believe the wealthy in the country should pay their fair share before sharp cuts are made in federal agency resources and in the number of employees providing those services.

These are among the key findings of a survey conducted for the National Treasury Employees Union (NTEU) by the polling firm Ipsos Public Affairs:

- 69 percent of respondents believe the federal government should commit more resources and manpower to food safety.
- 72 percent believe the federal government should commit more resources and manpower to border security.
- 86 percent believe the federal government should commit more resources and manpower to veterans' assistance.
- 66 percent believe the federal government should commit more resources and manpower to ensuring the safety of medical devices.
- 58 percent believe the federal government should commit more resources and manpower to nuclear safety.
- 77 percent believe wealthy Americans should pay their fair share towards deficit reduction and economic recovery.
- 67 percent believe Congress should raise taxes on the wealthiest Americans before cutting funding for public services such as food and drug safety and border security.
- However, only 40 percent were aware that federal government employees have already contributed \$75 billion over 10 years towards deficit reduction and economic recovery through a two-year pay freeze and increases in retirement contributions for new employees.
- 84 percent believe the federal government should hire the most highly qualified persons to fill jobs.

Some Surprising Results:

- Republicans are often portrayed as supporting across-the-board spending cuts; the fact is that in every area respondents who affiliated with the GOP supported preserving or increasing the amount of employees and resources providing vital public services.
- Ranging from 67 to 91 percent, Republicans want the same amount or more resources and manpower for food safety, border security, veteran's assistance, nuclear safety and ensuring safety of drug and medical devices.
- And, 70 percent of independents believe Congress should raise taxes on the wealthiest Americans before cutting funding for public services such as food and drug safety and border security.

www.TheyWorkForUS.org

August 2012

NTEU
The National Treasury Employees Union

www.nteu.org

NTEU SURVEY RESULTS

For all results:

Base: All respondents 1,000
 Weighted 1,000

Do you think the federal government should commit more or less resources and manpower to:

FOOD SAFETY		
	Total	Percent
More	687	69%
Less	147	15%
Kept the same	147	15%
(DK/NS)	18	2%

BORDER SECURITY		
	Total	Percent
More	715	72%
Less	174	17%
Kept the same	81	8%
(DK/NS)	30	3%

NUCLEAR SAFETY		
	Total	Percent
More	581	58%
Less	212	21%
Kept the same	154	15%
(DK/NS)	53	5%

VETERANS' ASSISTANCE		
	Total	Percent
More	858	86%
Less	55	5%
Kept the same	64	6%
(DK/NS)	23	2%

ENSURING SAFETY OF DRUGS AND MEDICAL DEVICES		
	Total	Percent
More	659	66%
Less	174	17%
Kept the same	128	13%
(DK/NS)	39	4%

True or False: Wealthy Americans should pay their fair share towards deficit reduction and economic recovery.

	Total	Percent
True	773	77%
False	179	18%
(DK/NS)	47	5%

NTEU SURVEY RESULTS continued

For all results:

Base: All respondents 1,000
Weighted 1,000

True or False: Congress should raise taxes on the wealthiest Americans before cutting funding for public services such as food and drug safety and border security.

	Total	Percent
True	672	67%
False	295	29%
(DK/NS)	33	3%

True or False: Federal government employees have already contributed \$75 billion towards deficit reduction and economic recovery through a two-year pay freeze and increases in retirement contributions by new hires.

	Total	Percent
True	402	40%
False	423	42%
(DK/NS)	175	17%

Surprising Findings

True or False: Wealthy Americans should pay their fair share towards deficit reduction and economic recovery.

	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
True	89%	65%	72%
False	9%	29%	17%
(DK/NS)	2%	6%	11%

The survey was conducted during Aug. 2–6, 2012 with a nationally representative, randomly selected sample of 1,000 adults aged 18 and older across the U.S. via live telephone interviewing on landlines and cell phones. Margin of error of the survey was +/- 3.0 percentage points.