

Table 2.41

Attitudes toward problems on which tax dollars should be spent

By sex, race, age, and education, United States, 1996

Question: "I am going to read you a list of concerns that people sometimes name as problems in the United States. After I read each one, please tell me if you think it is extremely important, somewhat important, not very important, or not at all important in terms of where tax dollars should be spent."

(Percent responding "extremely important")

	Reducing violent crime	Reducing illegal drug use among children and adolescents	Educational opportunities for children	Health insurance or low cost health care	Reducing drunk driving	Reducing unemployment	Reducing illegal drug use among adults	Gun control
Total	84%	82%	82%	66%	63%	57%	55%	36%
Sex								
Male	80	79	79	59	56	49	51	23
Female	87	85	85	72	69	61	62	46
Race								
White	83	81	81	64	62	52	54	32
Black	91	87	92	82	74	74	76	60
Other	86	86	86	74	56	71	59	50
Age								
18 to 25 years	84	75	88	55	59	49	47	35
26 to 34 years	83	83	85	63	61	51	49	34
35 to 54 years	82	81	82	66	59	56	57	32
55 years and older	87	86	78	73	73	60	67	41
Education								
College graduate	76	72	44	54	44	44	40	29
Some college	84	84	55	66	64	55	56	31
High school graduate	88	89	63	74	72	63	69	40
Less than high school graduate	90	83	63	75	83	63	72	51

Note: These data are from a nationwide telephone survey of 2,016 noninstitutionalized adults aged 18 or older living in telephone households in the contiguous United States conducted by The Gallup Organization, Inc. for the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

Source: Executive Office of the President, Office of National Drug Control Policy, *Consult with America: A Look at How Americans View the Country's Drug Problem* (Washington, DC: Office of National Drug Control Policy, 1996), pp. 22-25. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.