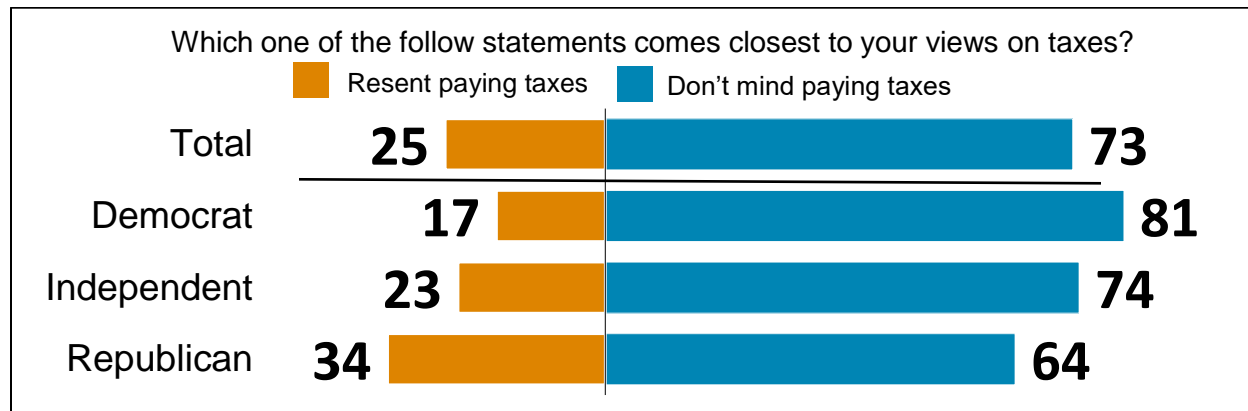


To: Interested Parties
 Fr: Lake Research Partners
 Re: Results from Survey on Taxes and Revenue in Maine
 Date: November 9, 2018

Our recent survey¹ of likely voters in Maine shows strong and broad support for increased revenue for the state government. Support for progressive taxation in the state is not limited to just one source, with voters supporting increased taxes on the wealthy and reinstating the education surcharge passed in 2016 that was repealed by the state legislature.

Nearly 3 in 4 voters (73%) in the state say they generally don't mind paying taxes, compared to only 25% who say they resent paying taxes. Even 64% of Republicans say they do not mind paying taxes (34% resent).



Looking at income taxes, 74% of Mainers believe that income earned from investments and the stock market should be taxed at the same rate or higher than income earned from wages that people work for. Majorities of Democrats (81%), independents (74%) and Republicans (71%) believe that investment income should be taxed at the same rate as wage income or higher.

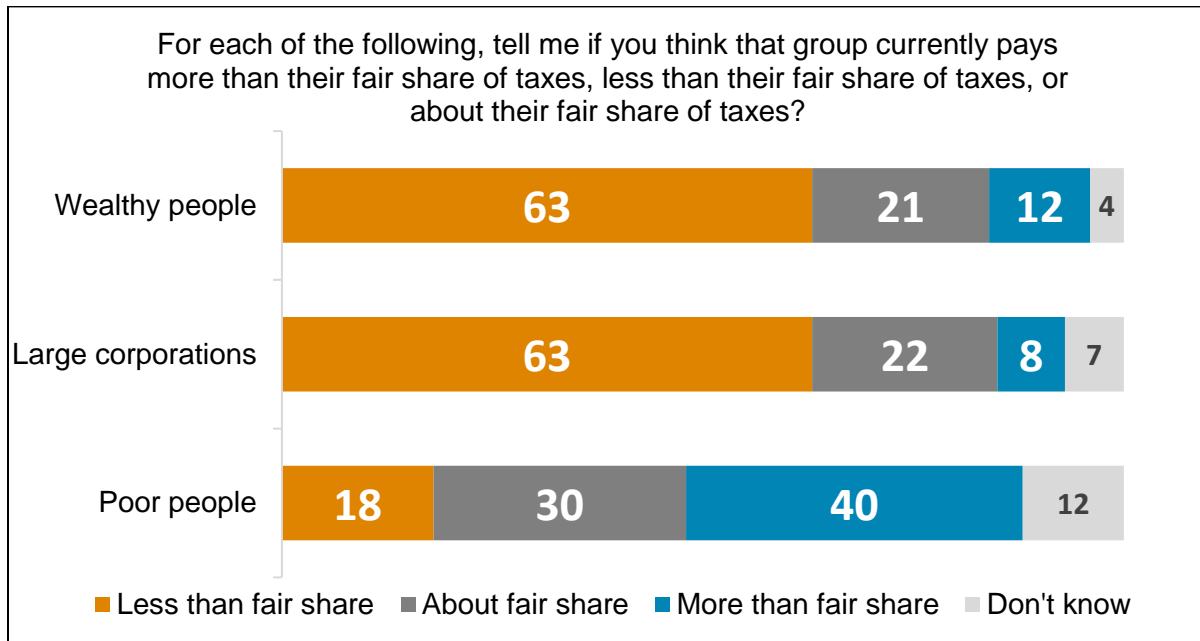
Do you think income from investments and the stock market should be taxed higher, lower, or at the same rates as income earned from wages that people work for?

%	Total	Democrats	Independents	Republicans
Higher	20	27	18	14
Same Rate	54	54	56	57
Lower	18	11	16	23

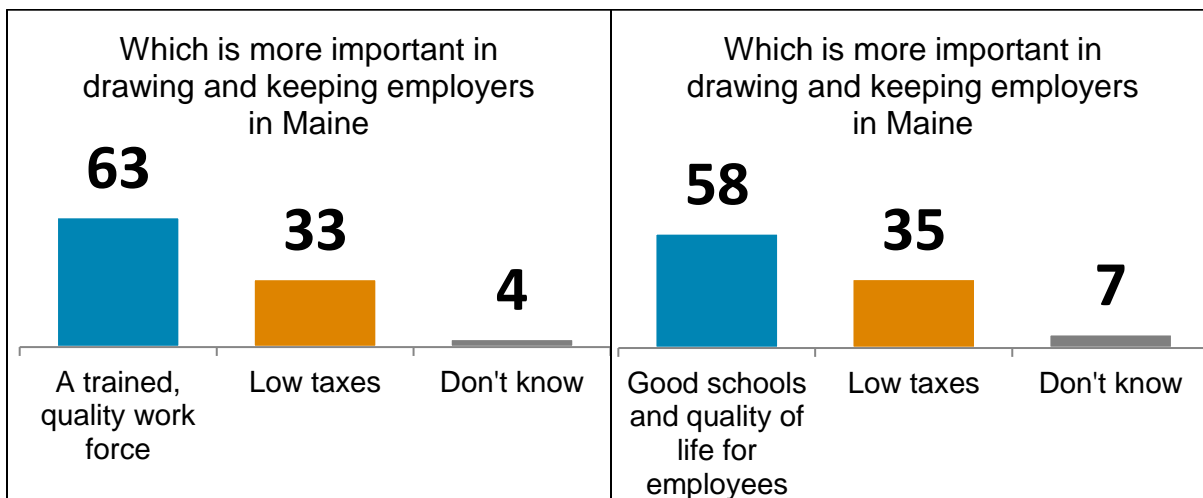
The voting public clearly supports a more progressive tax system in the state, starting with increasing taxes on the wealthy and large corporations. A majority of Mainers (63%) say that both the wealthy and large

¹ Lake Research Partners conducted a live telephone survey on cell phones and landlines among 600 likely November 2018 general election voters in Maine. The survey was conducted July 28 – August 5, 2018 and has a margin of error of +/-4.0%.

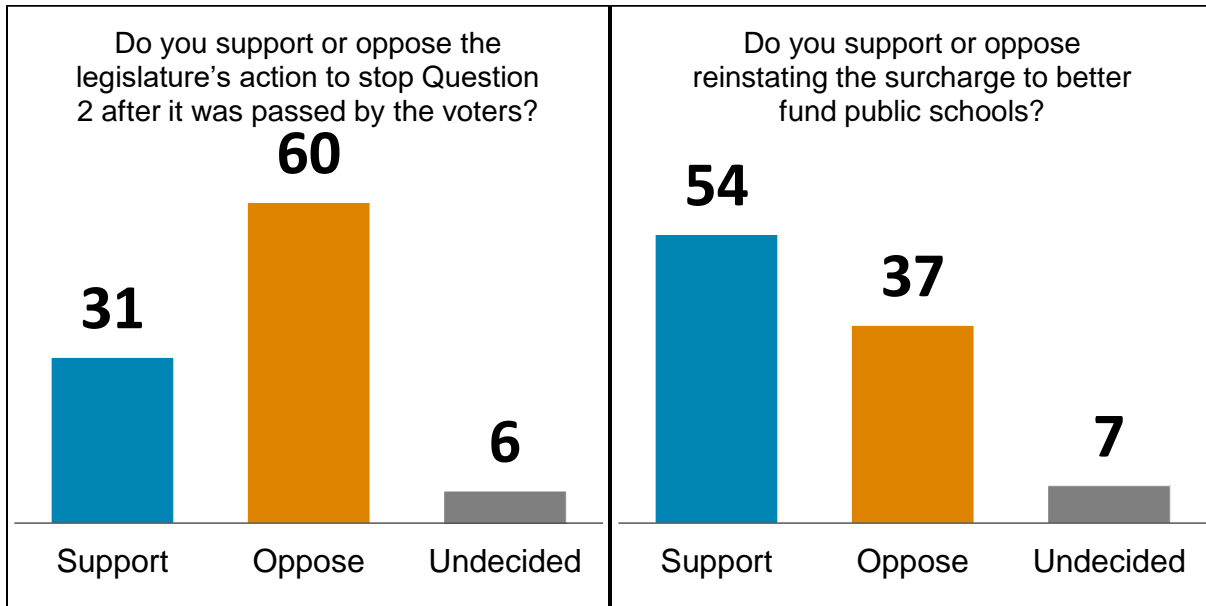
corporations pay less than their fair share of taxes. Seven in 10 (70%) say that poor people in the state either pay their fair share or more than their fair share of taxes.



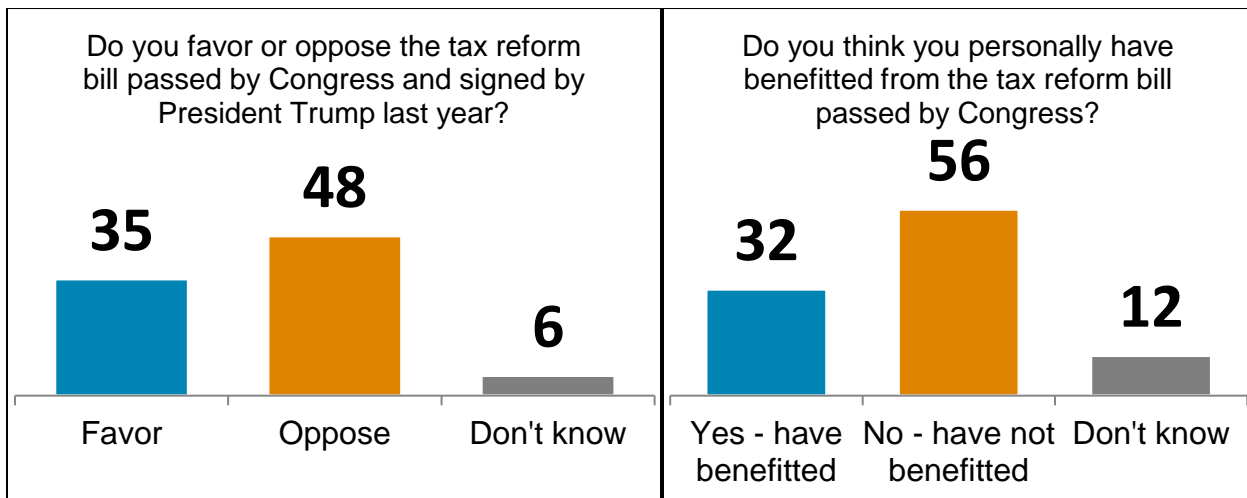
Mainers are concerned about making sure that employers are drawn to the state and stay in the state. To further that goal, a large majority (63%) believe that a trained quality work force is more important in drawing and keeping employers in Maine than low taxes (33%). A majority (58%) also believes that good schools and quality of life for employees is more important in drawing and keeping employers in Maine than low taxes (35%).



One possible source of revenue for the state would be reinstating the education surcharge. A majority of Mainers (54%) support reinstating the 2016 education surcharge on income above \$200,000 that was passed by voters and then repealed by the legislature. And an even larger majority, 60%, oppose the legislature's action to repeal the measure. Support for the surcharge is now higher than the initial margin by which the measure passed.



Nearly half (48%) of Mainers say they oppose the tax reform bill passed by Congress in 2016, with only 35% in favor. Additionally, a majority (56%) of Mainers believe they have not personally benefited from the tax reform bill, revealing another possible avenue for increasing tax rates for the wealthy and corporations.



Please do not hesitate to reach out to Celinda Lake (clake@lakeresearch.com) or David Mermin (dmermin@lakeresearch.com) at 202-776-9066 should you have any questions or comments about this research.