

A Test
Compare your attitudes toward the land with others.
What Do You Think?

The following are questions used in national and state polls that explore the issues of land use, land preservation, and development. Answer these questions and then compare your answers to those who participated in the actual poll. Information is provided as to who conducted the poll, the date of the poll, the number of participants and the margin of error (MoE).

I. The Gallup Poll. March 5-7, 2001. N=1,060 adults nationwide. MoE \pm 3.

"I'm going to read you a list of environmental problems. As I read each one, please tell me if you personally worry about this problem a great deal, a fair amount, only a little, or not at all. How much do you personally worry about [see below]?"

| | Great Deal % | Fair Amount % |
|--|-----------------|------------------|
| "Pollution of drinking water" | ___ | ___ |
| "Pollution of rivers, lakes and reservoirs" | ___ | ___ |
| "Contamination of soil and water by toxic waste" | | ___ ___ |
| "Contamination of soil and water by radioactivity from nuclear facilities" | | ___ |
| "Air pollution" | ___ | ___ |
| "The loss of natural habitat for wildlife" | ___ | ___ |
| "Damage to the earth's ozone layer" | ___ | ___ |
| "The loss of tropical rain forests" | ___ | ___ |
| "Ocean and beach pollution" | ___ | ___ |
| "Extinction of plant and animal species" | | ___ ___ |
| "Urban sprawl and loss of open spaces" | | ___ ___ |
| "The 'greenhouse effect,' or global warming" | ___ | ___ |
| "Acid rain" | ___ | ___ |

I. The Gallup Poll. April 3-9, 2000. N=1,004 adults nationwide. MoE \pm 3.

With which one of these statements about the environment and the economy do you

most agree?

- Protection of the environment should be given priority, even at the risk of curbing economic growth. OR,
 Economic growth should be given priority, even if the environment suffers to some extent."

I. CNN/Time Poll conducted by Yankelovich Partners. Jan. 20-21, 1999. N=1,024 adults nationwide.

"Is the amount of commercial development and traffic a very serious problem where you live, somewhat serious, not very serious, or not serious at all?"

- Very serious
 Somewhat serious
 Not very serious
 Not serious at all
 Not sure

I. "Do you favor or oppose the establishment of a zone or greenbelt around your community where new homes, businesses, or stores could not be built on land that is currently undeveloped?"

- Favor
 Oppose
 Not sure

I. "Do you favor or oppose using taxpayer money to buy undeveloped land to keep it free from residential and commercial development?"

- Favor
 Oppose
 Not sure

I. "If you had to choose, which is more important: the ability of individuals to do what they want with land that they own, or the ability of government to regulate residential and commercial development for the common good?"

- Ability of individuals to do what they want
 Ability of government to regulate development
 Not sure

1. Survey Collection: NNSP: CALIFORNIA / THE CALIFORNIA POLL / FIELD INSTITUTE / 8701 IRSS Study Number: NNSP-CA-043.

Date: 01/1987

Sample: CALIFORNIA Residents 18 or older, Number of Valid Cases: 1004

Question Number: 25A.

“Next, I’d like to get your opinion on some different ideas that have been talked about regarding land use in California. For each statement I read, please tell me whether you agree or disagree, strongly or somewhat. Here’s the first one:”

“California should keep as much of its productive land in food growing as possible, even if it means building fewer houses in suburbs or the country?”

- Agree strongly
- Agree somewhat
- Disagree somewhat
- Disagree strongly

1. Survey Collection: NNSP: CALIFORNIA / THE CALIFORNIA POLL / FIELD INSTITUTE / 8701

IRSS Study Number: NNSP-CA-043

Date: 01/1987

Sample: CALIFORNIA Residents 18 or older, Number of valid cases: 967

Question Number: 25B.

“Next, I’d like to get your opinion on some different ideas that have been talked about regarding land use in California. For each statement I read, please tell me whether you agree or disagree, strongly or somewhat.”

“Government should have the authority to designate which areas in the state are prime agricultural lands and to prohibit housing and industrial development on them.”

- Agree strongly
- Agree somewhat
- Disagree somewhat
- Disagree strongly

1. Survey Collection: NNSP: CALIFORNIA / THE CALIFORNIA POLL / FIELD INSTITUTE / 8701

IRSS Study Number: NNSP-CA-043

Date: 01/1987

Sample: CALIFORNIA Residents 18 or older, Number of valid cases: 935

Question Number: 25C.

“I’d like to get your opinion on some different ideas that have been talked about regarding land use in California. For each statement I read, please tell me whether

you agree or disagree, strongly or somewhat.”

“When farmlands are sold for development, taxes should be assessed on the profits to discourage the further loss of agricultural land in California.”

- Agree strongly
- Agree somewhat
- Disagree somewhat
- Disagree strongly

1. Survey Collection: NNSP: CALIFORNIA / THE CALIFORNIA POLL / FIELD INSTITUTE / 8701
IRSS Study Number: NNSP-CA-043
Date: 01/1987
Sample: CALIFORNIA Residents 18 or older, Number of valid cases: 992
Question Number: 25D.

“I’d like to get your opinion on some different ideas that have been talked about regarding land use in California. For each statement I read, please tell me whether you agree or disagree, strongly or somewhat.”

“State funds should be spent on providing more information to local governments about land quality and soils so they can make more informed decisions about land use.”

- Agree strongly
- Agree somewhat
- Disagree somewhat
- Disagree strongly

1. Survey Collection: NNSP: CALIFORNIA / THE CALIFORNIA POLL / FIELD INSTITUTE / 8701
IRSS Study Number: NNSP-CA-043
Date: 01/1987
Sample: CALIFORNIA Residents 18 or older, Number of valid cases: 930
Question Number: 25E.

“I’d like to get your opinion on some different ideas that have been talked about regarding land use in California. For each statement I read, please tell me whether you agree or disagree, strongly or somewhat.”

“Zoning ordinances which place restrictions on how farmlands can be used are unfair to the exercise of a landowner’s private property rights.”

- Agree strongly
- Agree somewhat

- Disagree somewhat
- Disagree strongly

1. Survey Collection: NNSP: CALIFORNIA / THE CALIFORNIA POLL / FIELD INSTITUTE / 8701
IRSS Study Number: NNSP-CA-043
Date: 01/1987
Sample: CALIFORNIA Residents 18 or older, Number of valid cases: 981
Question Number: 25F.

“I’d like to get your opinion on some different ideas that have been talked about regarding land use in California. For each statement I read, please tell me whether you agree or disagree, strongly or somewhat.”

“Local governments should continue to use zoning and other legal methods to manage land use and development.”

- Agree strongly
- Agree somewhat
- Disagree somewhat
- Disagree strongly

1. Survey Collection: NNSP: CALIFORNIA / THE CALIFORNIA POLL / FIELD INSTITUTE / 8701
IRSS Study Number: NNSP-CA-043
Date: 01/1987
Sample: CALIFORNIA Residents 18 or older, Number of valid cases:
Question Number: 25G.

“I’d like to get your opinion on some different ideas that have been talked about regarding land use in California. For each statement I read, please tell me whether you agree or disagree, strongly or somewhat.”

“State law should require that local governments adopt tough policies to discourage further urban sprawl onto farmlands.”

- Agree strongly
- Agree somewhat
- Disagree somewhat
- Disagree strongly

1. Survey Collection: NNSP: WISCONSIN / WISCONSIN OPINIONS / SURVEY RESEARCH LAB / UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN / 1994
IRSS Study Number: NNSP-WI-003
Date: 1994
Sample: WISCONSIN Residents 18 or older, Number of valid cases 799

Question Number: LANDDEV.

“Do you think that local laws concerning land development, that is, planning and zoning regulations in your community are too strict, about right, or not strict enough?”

- Too strict
- About right
- Not strict enough
- Don't know

**Interactive test - Attitudes toward the land
Results of Survey Questions**

I. The Gallup Poll. March 5-7, 2001. N=1,060 adults nationwide. MoE ± 3.

"I'm going to read you a list of environmental problems. As I read each one, please tell me if you personally worry about this problem a great deal, a fair amount, only a little, or not at all. How much do you personally worry about [see below]?"

| | Great Deal % | Fair Amount % | |
|--|-----------------|------------------|----|
| "Pollution of drinking water" | 64 | 24 | |
| "Pollution of rivers, lakes and reservoirs" | 58 | 29 | |
| "Contamination of soil and water by toxic waste" | | 58 | 27 |
| "Contamination of soil and water by radioactivity from nuclear facilities" | 49 | 22 | |
| "Air pollution" | 48 | 34 | |
| "The loss of natural habitat for wildlife" | 48 | 33 | |
| "Damage to the earth's ozone layer" | 47 | 28 | |
| "The loss of tropical rain forests" | 44 | 32 | |
| "Ocean and beach pollution" | 43 | 34 | |
| "Extinction of plant and animal species" | | 43 | 30 |
| "Urban sprawl and loss of open spaces" | | 35 | 34 |
| "The 'greenhouse effect,' or global warming" | 33 | 30 | |
| "Acid rain" | 28 | 28 | |

I. The Gallup Poll. April 3-9, 2000. N=1,004 adults nationwide. MoE ± 3.

With which one of these statements about the environment and the economy do you most agree?

Protection of the environment should be given priority, even at the risk of curbing economic growth. OR,

Economic growth should be given priority, even if the environment suffers to some extent."

| | Protection of Environment | Economic Growth | No Opinion |
|------|---------------------------|-----------------|------------|
| | % | % | % |
| 4/00 | 67 | 28 | 5 |
| 1/00 | 70 | 23 | 7 |
| 4/99 | 67 | 28 | 5 |
| 3/99 | 65 | 30 | 5 |
| 4/00 | 67 | 28 | 5 |
| 1/00 | 70 | 23 | 7 |
| 4/99 | 67 | 28 | 5 |
| 3/99 | 65 | 30 | 5 |
| 4/98 | 68 | 24 | 8 |
| 1997 | 66 | 27 | 7 |
| 1995 | 62 | 32 | 6 |
| 1991 | 71 | 20 | 9 |
| 1990 | 71 | 19 | 10 |
| 1984 | 61 | 28 | 11 |

3. CNN/Time Poll conducted by Yankelovich Partners. Jan. 20-21, 1999. N=1,024 adults nationwide.

"Is the amount of commercial development and traffic a very serious problem where you live, somewhat serious, not very serious, or not serious at all?"

| | ALL % | Urban % | % | Suburban % | Rural |
|--------------------|----------|------------|----|---------------|-------|
| Very serious | 16 | 17 | 22 | 9 | |
| Somewhat serious | 29 | 32 | 34 | 23 | |
| Not very serious | 30 | 29 | 27 | 33 | |
| Not serious at all | 24 | 21 | 15 | 35 | |
| Not sure | 1 | 2 | 2 | - | |

4. "Do you favor or oppose the establishment of a zone or greenbelt around your community where new homes, businesses, or stores could not be built on land that is currently undeveloped?"

| | ALL % | Urban % | % | Suburban % | Rural |
|----------|----------|------------|----|---------------|-------|
| Favor | 57 | 59 | 62 | 52 | |
| Oppose | 33 | 32 | 30 | 36 | |
| Not sure | 10 | 9 | 8 | 12 | |

1. "Do you favor or oppose using taxpayer money to buy undeveloped land to keep it free from residential and commercial development?"

| | ALL % | Urban % | % | Suburban % | Rural |
|----------|----------|------------|----|---------------|-------|
| Favor | 44 | 42 | 49 | 39 | |
| Oppose | 49 | 51 | 44 | 54 | |
| Not sure | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | |

1. "If you had to choose, which is more important: the ability of individuals to do what they want with land that they own, or the ability of government to regulate residential and commercial development for the common good?"

| ALL % | Urban % | Suburban Rural % | Rural % |
|----------|------------|------------------------|------------|
|----------|------------|------------------------|------------|

| | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|----|
| Ability of individuals to do what they want | 69 | 69 | 65 | 73 |
| Ability of government to regulate development | 25 | 23 | 29 | 22 |
| Not sure | 6 | 8 | 6 | 5 |

1. Survey Collection: NNSP: CALIFORNIA / THE CALIFORNIA POLL / FIELD INSTITUTE / 8701
 IRSS Study Number: NNSP-CA-043.
 Date: 01/1987
 Sample: CALIFORNIA Residents 18 or older, Number of Valid Cases: 1004
 Question Number: 25A.

“Next, I’d like to get your opinion on some different ideas that have been talked about regarding land use in California. For each statement I read, please tell me whether you agree or disagree, strongly or somewhat. Here’s the first one.”

“California should keep as much of its productive land in food growing as possible, even if it means building fewer houses in suburbs or the country?”

Percent Responding

| | |
|--------|-------------------|
| 50.90% | Agree strongly |
| 31.00% | Agree somewhat |
| 11.70% | Disagree somewhat |
| 6.40% | Disagree strongly |

1. Survey Collection: NNSP: CALIFORNIA / THE CALIFORNIA POLL / FIELD INSTITUTE / 8701
 IRSS Study Number: NNSP-CA-043
 Date: 01/1987
 Sample: CALIFORNIA Residents 18 or older, Number of valid cases: 967
 Question Number: 25B.

“Next, I’d like to get your opinion on some different ideas that have been talked about regarding land use in California. For each statement I read, please tell me whether you agree or disagree, strongly or somewhat.”

“Government should have the authority to designate which areas in the state are prime agricultural lands and to prohibit housing and industrial development on them.”

Percent Responding

| | |
|--------|-------------------|
| 39.40% | Agree strongly |
| 31.20% | Agree somewhat |
| 13.70% | Disagree somewhat |

15.70% Disagree strongly

1. Survey Collection: NNSP: CALIFORNIA / THE CALIFORNIA POLL / FIELD INSTITUTE / 8701
IRSS Study Number: NNSP-CA-043
Date: 01/1987
Sample: CALIFORNIA Residents 18 or older, Number of valid cases: 935
Question Number: 25C.

“I’d like to get your opinion on some different ideas that have been talked about regarding land use in California. For each statement I read, please tell me whether you agree or disagree, strongly or somewhat.”

“When farmlands are sold for development, taxes should be assessed on the profits to discourage the further loss of agricultural land in California.”

Percent Responding

| | |
|--------|-------------------|
| 38.60% | Agree strongly |
| 31.60% | Agree somewhat |
| 16.60% | Disagree somewhat |
| 13.30% | Disagree strongly |

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IRSS Study Number: NNSP-CA-043
Date: 01/1987
Sample: CALIFORNIA Residents 18 or older, Number of valid cases: 992
Question Number: 25D.

“I’d like to get your opinion on some different ideas that have been talked about regarding land use in California. For each statement I read, please tell me whether you agree or disagree, strongly or somewhat.”

“State funds should be spent on providing more information to local governments about land quality and soils so they can make more informed decisions about land use.”

Percent Responding

| | |
|--------|-------------------|
| 56.80% | Agree strongly |
| 31.70% | Agree somewhat |
| 6.50% | Disagree somewhat |
| 4.90% | Disagree strongly |

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IRSS Study Number: NNSP-CA-043

Date: 01/1987

Sample: CALIFORNIA Residents 18 or older, Number of valid cases: 930

Question Number: 25E.

"I'd like to get your opinion on some different ideas that have been talked about regarding land use in California. For each statement I read, please tell me whether you agree or disagree, strongly or somewhat."

"Zoning ordinances which place restrictions on how farmlands can be used are unfair to the exercise of a landowner's private property rights."

Percent Responding

| | |
|--------|-------------------|
| 32.80% | Agree strongly |
| 34.40% | Agree somewhat |
| 21.80% | Disagree somewhat |
| 11.10% | Disagree strongly |

1. Survey Collection: NNSP: CALIFORNIA / THE CALIFORNIA POLL / FIELD INSTITUTE / 8701
IRSS Study Number: NNSP-CA-043

Date: 01/1987

Sample: CALIFORNIA Residents 18 or older, Number of valid cases: 981

Question Number: 25F.

"I'd like to get your opinion on some different ideas that have been talked about regarding land use in California. For each statement I read, please tell me whether you agree or disagree, strongly or somewhat."

"Local governments should continue to use zoning and other legal methods to manage land use and development."

Percent Responding

| | |
|--------|-------------------|
| 49.20% | Agree strongly |
| 36.50% | Agree somewhat |
| 8.40% | Disagree somewhat |
| 6.00% | Disagree strongly |

1. Survey Collection: NNSP: CALIFORNIA / THE CALIFORNIA POLL / FIELD INSTITUTE / 8701
IRSS Study Number: NNSP-CA-043

Date: 01/1987

Sample: CALIFORNIA Residents 18 or older, Number of valid cases:

Question Number: 25G.

"I'd like to get your opinion on some different ideas that have been talked about

regarding land use in California. For each statement I read, please tell me whether you agree or disagree, strongly or somewhat.”

“State law should require that local governments adopt tough policies to discourage further urban sprawl onto farmlands.”

Percent Responding

| | |
|--------|-------------------|
| 49.20% | Agree strongly |
| 36.50% | Agree somewhat |
| 8.40% | Disagree somewhat |
| 6.00% | Disagree strongly |

1. Survey Collection: NNSP: WISCONSIN / WISCONSIN OPINIONS / SURVEY RESEARCH LAB / UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN / 1994
IRSS Study Number: NNSP-WI-003
Date: 1994
Sample: WISCONSIN Residents 18 or older, Number of valid cases 799
Question Number: LANDDEV.

“Do you think that local laws concerning land development, that is, planning and zoning regulations in your community are too strict, about right, or not strict enough?”

Percent Responding

| | |
|--------|-------------------|
| 16.40% | Too strict |
| 47.10% | About right |
| 22.70% | Not strict enough |
| 13.90% | Don't know |