

## The Luntz Research Companies - National Survey on Taxes and Social Security - August 1998

Most Americans will never pay the Death Tax - but 70% still believe it is one of the most unfair taxes.

"People do not work for inherited income, so inheritances should be taxed at a higher rate since it is not earned income." **77% DO NOT AGREE**



"The estate tax is progressive, and it only affects the wealthiest Americans. Right now, inheritances of less than \$625,000 are not taxed. Since only wealthy Americans have estates that high, the death tax should not be reduced." **48% DISAGREED, 44% AGREED**

"Inheritance taxes are an extreme form of taxation. The tax rate, as high as 55%, is higher than even the highest federal income tax rate - and that's unfair." **85% AGREED**

### Percentage of Americans Who Believe Tax is UNFAIR

Social Security Benefits	79%
Savings Account Interest	74%
Death/Inheritance	69%
Long Distance Phone	65%
Capital Gains	48%
Property	47%
Income	46%
Payroll	46%
Gas	43%
Sales	37%
Alternative Minimum	30%
Cigarette	28%
Alcohol and Beer	20%

### Percentage of Americans Who Believe Tax is FAIR

Alcohol and Beer	76%
Cigarette	69%
Sales	61%
Gas	54%
Income	51%
Property	50%
Payroll	47%
Capital Gains	41%
Long Distance Phone	32%
Death/Inheritance	24%
Savings Account Interest	24%
Alternative Minimum	22%
Social Security Benefits	18%