

Report on 1,024 Completed Interviews

A. *The Respondents' Concerns*

| In this section I am going to read you several statements. Please tell me if you are very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not concerned at all. How concerned are you about gasoline prices being too high for your family's budget? | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| Very concerned | 56.6 |
| Somewhat concerned | 25.9 |
| Not too concerned | 10.4 |
| Not concerned at all | 6.7 |
| Don't know or won't say | 0.4 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| Concerned about members of your family or friends being laid off from work? | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| Very concerned | 38.3 |
| Somewhat concerned | 19.5 |
| Not too concerned | 22.8 |
| Not concerned at all | 19.1 |
| Don't know or won't say | 0.3 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| Concerned that nuclear missiles may attach United States cities? | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| Very concerned | 23.6 |
| Somewhat concerned | 20.7 |
| Not too concerned | 27.5 |
| Not concerned at all | 26.9 |
| Don't know or won't say | 1.3 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| Concerned that the public schools may not be educating children in your community adequately? | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| Very concerned | 60.2 |
| Somewhat concerned | 24.1 |
| Not too concerned | 7.4 |
| Not concerned at all | 7.4 |
| Don't know or won't say | 0.9 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| Concerned that meat or poultry sold in your community's stores might be unsafe to eat? | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| Very concerned | 38.9 |
| Somewhat concerned | 28.0 |
| Not too concerned | 18.5 |
| Not concerned at all | 13.8 |
| Don't know or won't say | 0.8 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| Concerned that unhealthy levels of residues from agricultural pesticides may remain on fruit or vegetables sold in your community's grocery stores? | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| Very concerned | 37.5 |
| Somewhat concerned | 33.2 |
| Not too concerned | 17.4 |
| Not concerned at all | 11.3 |
| Don't know or won't say | 0.6 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| Concerned that agricultural pesticides or livestock manure may contaminate drinking water in your community? | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| Very concerned | 37.8 |
| Somewhat concerned | 24.7 |
| Not too concerned | 18.5 |
| Not concerned at all | 18.0 |
| Don't know or won't say | 1.0 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| Concerned that eating genetically modified food [sold at stores] may harm members of your family? | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| Very concerned | 36.9 |
| Somewhat concerned | 27.0 |
| Not too concerned | 15.2 |
| Not concerned at all | 18.8 |
| Don't know or won't say | 2.1 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| Concerned that too much farmland in your state may be converted to houses, stores, and other nonagricultural developments? | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| Very concerned | 40.2 |
| Somewhat concerned | 28.8 |
| Not too concerned | 15.9 |
| Not concerned at all | 13.4 |
| Don't know or won't say | 1.7 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

B. Respondents' Interest in Farmland and Ranchland: What they value about it

| Some people value farms and ranches for their scenic beauty while other people don't find farms particularly attractive. How much do you value farms or ranches for their scenic qualities? | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| Value not at all | 8.7 |
| Value slightly | 12.4 |
| Value moderately | 31.4 |
| Value highly | 45.5 |
| Don't know or won't say | 2.0 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| Some people value farms and ranches for their recreational opportunities, such as providing places to hunt, hike, or camp if the owner permits. How much do you value farmland or ranchland for its recreational opportunities? | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| Value not at all | 21.2 |
| Value slightly | 19.6 |
| Value moderately | 25.8 |
| Value highly | 32.3 |
| Don't know or won't say | 1.1 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| How much do you value farms or ranches as habitats for wildlife like pheasants, wild ducks, and other animals? | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| Value not at all | 6.6 |
| Value slightly | 10.2 |
| Value moderately | 23.7 |
| Value highly | 58.3 |
| Don't know or won't say | 1.2 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

***C. Respondents' Personal Interests in Agriculture (continued):
Geographic Source of Food They Eat, Patronage of Farm Stands and
Farmers' Markets, Purchase of Organically Grown Food, and Visits to
Farms or Ranches***

| When you purchase or use food or beverages, how often do you look at the labels to see in which country or state they were produced? | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| Never | 19.0 |
| Rarely | 20.5 |
| Sometimes | 21.3 |
| Frequently look at labels | 38.9 |
| Don't know or won't say | 0.3 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| How important is it that the food you eat comes from farms and ranches in the United States rather than from foreign countries? | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| Not at all important | 7.9 |
| Not too important | 10.8 |
| Somewhat important | 29.1 |
| Very important | 51.5 |
| Don't know or won't say | 0.7 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| How important is it that the food you eat comes from farms and ranches in your own state rather than outside your state? | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| Not at all important | 25.9 |
| Not too important | 22.0 |
| Somewhat important | 28.8 |
| Very important | 22.7 |
| Don't know or won't say | 0.6 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| In the past 12 months did you buy anything directly from a farmer such as from a farmers' market or a stand at a farm or ranch? | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| Yes | 70.0 |
| No | 29.1 |
| Don't know or won't say | 0.9 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| If did buy directly from a farmer, did you buy something from: | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| A farmer's market | 29.8 |
| A stand on a farm or ranch | 15.5 |
| From both types of places | 24.5 |
| Don't know, won't say, or didn't buy from either type | 30.2 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| In the past 12 months did you buy any organically produced fruits or vegetables, that is, fruits or vegetables labeled as produced without any chemical pesticides or fertilizers? | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| Yes | 43.9 |
| No | 50.0 |
| Don't know or won't say | 6.1 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| In the past 12 months did visit a farm or ranch for business or pleasure? | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| Yes | 50.0 |
| No | 49.2 |
| Don't know or won't say | 0.8 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

D. Respondents' Preferences for Income-Support Policies, including Possible Conservation Conditions for Farmers' Receipt of Aid

| Some farmers receive such payments [from the federal government] either to offset or make up for low market prices for their farm products or to pay for damage to their crop from drought or floods. Have you seen, read, or heard about federal government payments to farmers to offset the effects of low market prices or severe weather? | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| Yes | 77.9 |
| No | 20.9 |
| Don't know or won't say | 1.2 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| When farmers face low market prices for their farm products, how do you feel about federal payments to help them stay in business? Do you: | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| Approve | 77.5 |
| Disapprove | 14.8 |
| Neutral | 6.2 |
| Don't know/won't say | 1.5 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| When drought or floods damage farmers' crops, how do you feel about federal payments to help them stay in business? Do you: | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| Approve | 88.1 |
| Disapprove | 8.1 |
| Neutral | 2.9 |
| Don't know/won't say | 0.9 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| Thinking about federal payments to help farmers stay in business, some people believe that, in exchange for payments, farmers should apply some conservation practices such as protecting waterways, wetlands, and wildlife. Other people prefer that the payments be given without conservation conditions. Do you prefer: | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| Payments given without conservation conditions, or | 18.3 |
| requiring one or more conservation practices in exchange for payments? | 74.9 |
| Don't know/won't say | 6.8 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

Types of Conservation Practices to be Applied in Exchange for Federal Payments to Help Farmers Stay in Business

| Do you approve or disapprove of the condition that farmers receiving federal payments should adopt university-tested practices to prevent pollution of streams or other bodies of water? | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| Approve | 66.1 |
| Disapprove | 5.5 |
| Neutral | 1.7 |
| Don't know/won't say | 1.6 |
| Not asked this question because respondent preferred giving payments without conservation conditions. | 25.1 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| Do you approve or disapprove of the condition that farmers receiving federal payments should adopt university-tested practices for providing wildlife habitat on their land? | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| Approve | 55.1 |
| Disapprove | 13.0 |
| Neutral | 4.0 |
| Don't know/won't say | 2.8 |
| Not asked this question because respondent preferred giving payments without conservation conditions. | 25.1 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| Do you approve or disapprove of the condition that farmers receiving federal payments should protect wetlands on their farm or ranch? | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| Approve | 62.1 |
| Disapprove | 9.4 |
| Neutral | 1.9 |
| Don't know/won't say | 1.4 |
| Not asked this question because respondent preferred giving payments without conservation conditions. | 25.1 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

A Second Question Testing for Respondents' Approval of a Policy of Allocating Relatively More Income-Support Payments to Farmers Willing to Apply Conservation Practices

| Some people believe that farmers willing to use university-tested practices to protect water and air from pollution should receive more federal payments than farmers who refuse to do so. Other people believe that allocating the limited money available for helping farmers should be based only on financial need. | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| Do you favor basing the assistance on financial need alone? | 31.3 |
| Or do you favor more federal payments to farmers using anti-pollution practices? | 57.6 |
| Neither or makes no difference | 6.5 |
| Don't know/won't say | 4.6 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| Respondents' positions on the two similar policy options: (a) requiring one or more conservation practices as a condition for federal payments to help stay in business and (b) allocating more payments to farmers using anti-pollution practices compared to farmers who refuse to use them. | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Response Categories | % of Respondents per Choice* |
| Approved of both policies. | 48.6 |
| Favored at least one of the two policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The policy of requiring conservation practices as a condition for payments = 74.9%</i> • <i>The policy of allocating more payments to farmers using anti-pollution practices compared to farmers who refuse to use them = 57.6%</i> | 83.9 |
| Favored neither policy option. | 11.5 |
| Answered "Don't know" or wouldn't say | 4.6 |
| | |
| Among the respondents who preferred (a) requiring conservation practices as a condition for payments, the percentage who also favored (b) allocating more payments to farmers using anti-pollution practices | 64.9 |
| Among the respondents who favored (1) allocating more payments to farmers using anti-pollution practices, the percentage who also preferred (2) requiring conservation practices as a condition for payments | 84.4 |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

* Percentages do not add up to 100.0.

Comments:

As worded in the survey instrument, these two policies are mutually exclusive. The requirement of conservation practices attracted a higher level of support. An expanded analysis due this coming week shall report on the strength of the favorable opinions. In follow-up questions, we asked, "Do you favor this policy strongly or somewhat strongly?"

Respondents' Positions on Extending Federal Assistance that Helps Farmers Stay in Business to Farmers Not Currently Receiving Such Aid

| Not all farmers receive federal payments to help them stay in business. I am going to read two policies. Please tell me which one you prefer. | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| First, help farmers currently receiving aid but exclude new* farmers. | 23.3 |
| Or second policy, extend aid to new farmers even though farmers currently receiving aid might receive less money. | 66.0 |
| Neither or makes no difference | 6.6 |
| Don't know/won't say | 4.1 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

***Potential criticism:** Might critics say that the word, "new," should be limited to persons who are new to farming, rather than--as we intended--farmers who would be new to being eligible for direct federal payments to help them stay in business? If so, for the second round of interviews (those that will take us to 300 completions per region), we can change the wording to "other farmers" and see if the findings change.

E. Respondents' Preferences for Levels of Federal Spending

| Now I have a list of purposes for federal spending. For each purpose, please tell me whether you favor spending more, less, or about the same amount as currently. The first purpose is to achieve an effective military defense. Do you favor spending: | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| More | 37.5 |
| Less | 12.5 |
| About the same as currently | 48.2 |
| Don't know/won't say | 1.8 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| To achieve effective treatment for cancer victims. Do you favor spending: | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| More | 70.3 |
| Less | 2.2 |
| About the same as currently | 26.5 |
| Don't know/won't say | 1.0 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| To achieve good wildlife habitats on farms and ranches. Do you favor spending: | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| More | 37.7 |
| Less | 10.9 |
| About the same as currently | 49.1 |
| Don't know/won't say | 2.3 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| To help farmers minimize their uses of chemical pesticides and fertilizers. Do you favor spending: | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| More | 47.0 |
| Less | 12.1 |
| About the same as currently | 37.8 |
| Don't know/won't say | 3.1 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| To help farmers store and dispose of livestock manure safely. Do you favor spending: | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| More | 43.1 |
| Less | 10.4 |
| About the same as currently | 41.6 |
| Don't know/won't say | 4.9 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| To effectively educate children in public schools. Do you favor spending: | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| More | 78.3 |
| Less | 4.9 |
| About the same as currently | 15.6 |
| Don't know/won't say | 1.2 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| To protect wetlands on farms and ranches. Do you favor spending: | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| More | 41.5 |
| Less | 11.4 |
| About the same as currently | 44.7 |
| Don't know/won't say | 2.4 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| To keep productive farmland from being converted into housing or commercial developments. Do you favor spending: | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| More | 52.9 |
| Less | 12.8 |
| About the same as currently | 31.4 |
| Don't know/won't say | 2.9 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

| To find economical ways to use corn or other crops as sources of fuel to produce power. Do you favor spending: | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| More | 69.1 |
| Less | 6.6 |
| About the same as currently | 22.2 |
| Don't know/won't say | 2.1 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

F. Respondents' Willingness to Pay to Achieve Conservation Purposes

| To keep drinking water safe, some local governments help farmers use practices that prevent polluted water from their fields getting near public wells and reservoirs. Would you be willing to pay any additional property or sales taxes to help farmers to achieve safe drinking water in this way? | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
| Yes | 58.8 |
| No | 36.8 |
| Don't know/won't say | 4.4 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

In some parts of this country, citizens have agreed to tax themselves extra each year to keep especially beautiful farmland from being developed. Would you be willing to pay any additional property or sales taxes to help protect especially beautiful farmland?

| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Yes | 39.6 |
| No | 54.4 |
| Don't know/won't say | 6.0 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

In some parts of this country, citizens have agreed to tax themselves extra each year to protect farmland that produces fruits and vegetables sold locally from being developed. Would you be willing to pay any additional property or sales taxes to help protect farmland that produces locally sold fruits and vegetables?

| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Yes | 48.5 |
| No | 47.5 |
| Don't know/won't say | 4.0 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

Let's say that you might get a \$100 tax refund, and there is an opportunity for some of that money to be spent on protecting waterways, wetlands, or wildlife habitat. Would you prefer:

| Response Choices | % of Respondents per Choice |
|---|------------------------------------|
| To receive the entire \$100 | 33.5 |
| Or have some of the money spent on conservation purposes? | 62.9 |
| Don't know/won't say | 3.6 |
| Total percent | 100.0% |
| Total respondents | 1,024 |

For each of these four "willingness-to-pay" questions, later in the week I shall provide breakdowns for how much money the "positive" respondents said they would be pay. This analysis is not ready yet because a sizable of respondents gave idiosyncratic answers.

