



CBS NEWS/NEW YORK TIMES POLL
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TAX REBATE CHECKS AND THE ECONOMY
April 25-27, 2008

The federal government has begun depositing rebate checks into the bank accounts of a number of Americans as part of the government's economic stimulus package.

According to a CBS News/New York Times poll conducted this weekend, 75% of Americans expect to receive a rebate check.

DO YOU EXPECT TO RECEIVE A REBATE CHECK?

Yes	75%
No	19

The poll suggests that many of those who expect to receive a check can use it. Half say they plan to pay bills with the money they receive. Another 27% say they will save or invest it, while 18% say they will spend it.

WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH THE REBATE CHECK?

(Among those who expect to receive a check)

Pay bills	51%
Save/invest it	27
Spend it	18

Americans earning \$50,000 or more in income are more likely to say they plan to save or invest their rebate check than those earning less income.

While taxpayers may be delighted with the extra cash (up to \$600 for an individual and \$1200 for a couple), most - 56% - do not think the rebate checks will help stimulate the economy. 41% do think it will help.

WILL REBATE CHECKS HELP THE ECONOMY?

Yes	41%
No	56

More than half of Republicans think the rebate checks will help jumpstart the economy, compared to 38% of Democrats who think that.

This poll was conducted among a random sample of 664 adults nationwide, interviewed by telephone April 25-27, 2008. The error due to sampling for results based on the entire sample could be plus or minus four percentage points. The error for subgroups is higher.

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q84 The government is about to send out tax rebates of up to \$600 to people at certain income levels. This would be in addition to any tax refunds people receive from their income taxes this year. Do you think these tax rebate checks will help stimulate the economy, or not?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **			
	*** Party ID ***			
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Yes	41	54	38	34
No	56	43	58	63
DK/NA	3	3	4	3

q85 Do you expect to receive a tax rebate check this year?

Yes	75	85	72	71
No	19	14	22	21
DK/NA	6	1	6	8

q86 What do you expect to do with the tax rebate money you receive - will you spend it, use it to pay bills, or save or invest it?

	* AMONG THOSE EXPECTING A REBATE *			
Spend it	18	21	15	19
Pay Bills	51	40	61	50
Save/Invest	27	37	20	26
Something else (vol.)	1	1	2	1
DK/NA	3	1	2	4

	<u>UNWEIGHTED</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Total Respondents	664	
Total Republicans	203	191
Total Democrats	241	249
Total Independents	220	224