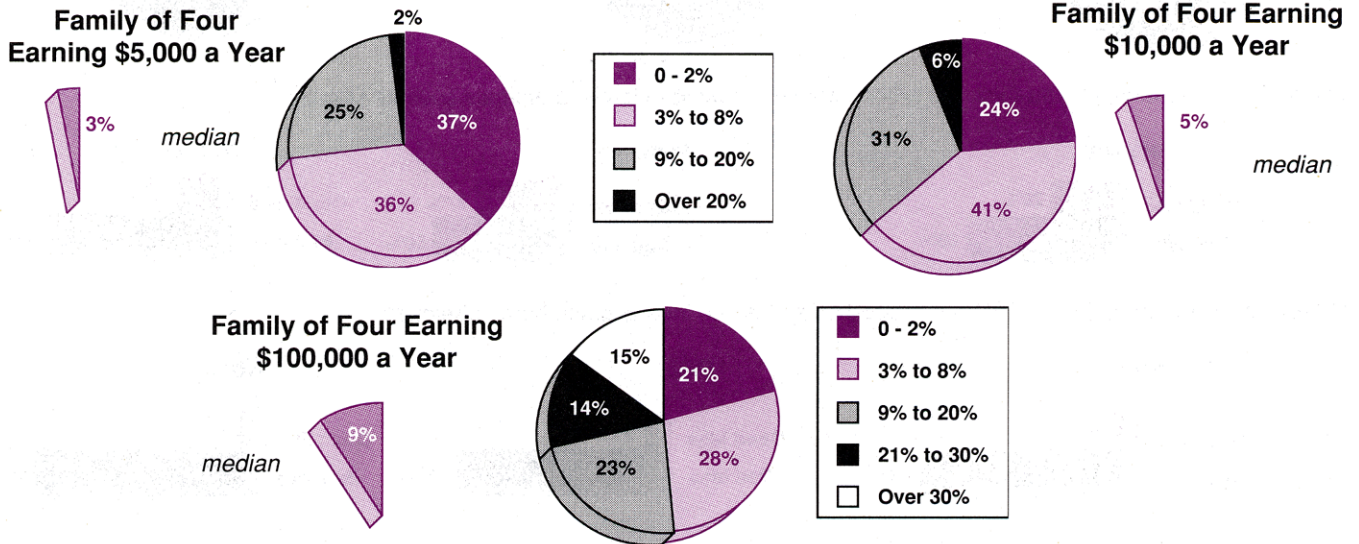


## Old Issues: What's Fair in Taxes?

From the Great Depression to the 1990s, the Public Has Opted for Moderate Progressivity, and Said "No" to "Soak the Rich"

1939

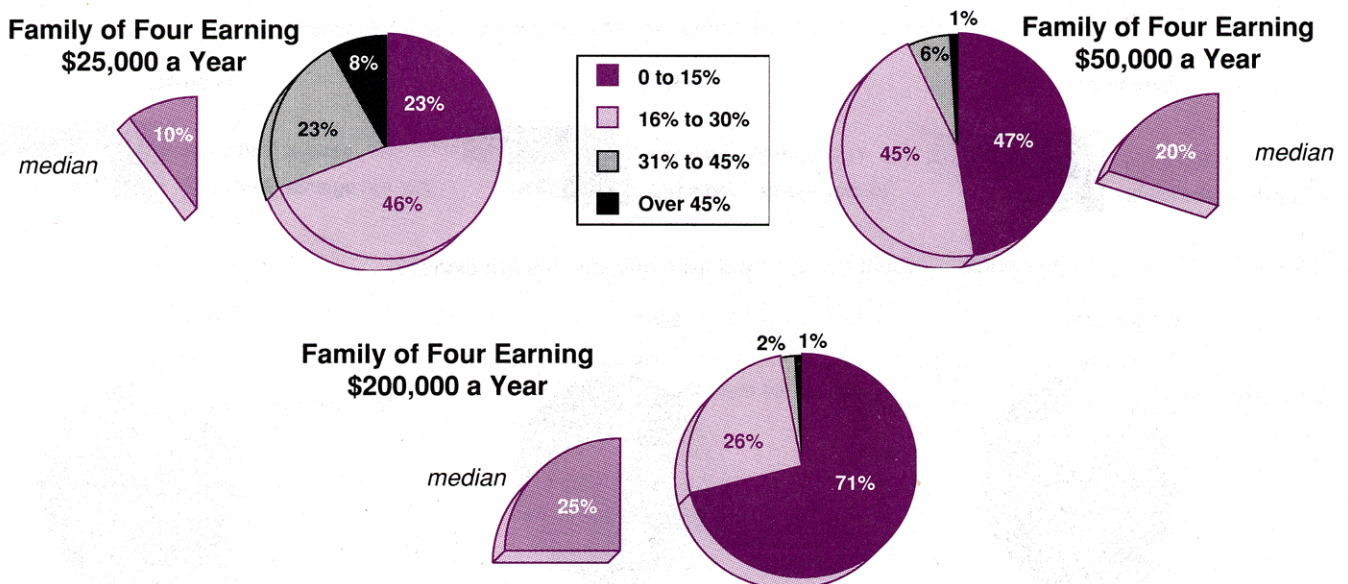
**Question:** About how much do you think a married man who earns \$5,000 [\$10,000/\$100,000] a year and has two children should pay in the form of **federal and state income taxes** combined?



Source: Survey by the Gallup Organization, January 10, 1939.

1995

**Question:** What is the highest percentage of income that would be fair for a family of four making \$25,000 [\$50,000/\$200,000] to pay in **all taxes** combined?



Source: Survey by the Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut, for *Reader's Digest*, October 21-29, 1995.