

The Government Quiz: What Should the Federal Government Do?

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Record the number of times you say "Yes" to the federal government activities listed below. Remember: this quiz does not even ask about local and state government. To keep the list of questions short, it asks only about the federal government's role.

The maximum possible number of "Yes" answers is 30. So if you say "Yes" more than 20 times, you believe in a far-reaching federal government...whether you admit it or not.

Do you believe the government should:

- | | | |
|---|---------|--------|
| A. Maintain an army? | Yes [] | No [] |
| B. Maintain a navy? | Yes [] | No [] |
| C. Maintain an air force? | Yes [] | No [] |
| D. Maintain a Marine Corps | Yes [] | No [] |
| E. Maintain a Coast Guard? | Yes [] | No [] |
| F. Maintain a border patrol to prevent illegal immigration? | Yes [] | No [] |

G. Maintain the Centers for Disease Control, to detect the threat of epidemics and other health hazards, and to work the medical community to protect the U.S. population from illness?

Yes [] No []

H. Fund the National Institute of Health, the National Science Foundation, and NASA, in order to pay for biomedical research, basic scientific research, and space exploration?

Yes [] No []

I. Operate an Unemployment Insurance program, under which workers who have lost their jobs can receive a cash payment for 26 weeks while they look for a new job?

Yes [] No []

J. Expand Transitional Jobs programs that offer unemployed workers the chance to work in a temporary job at the minimum wage until they find regular employment?

Yes [] No []

K. Require all employers to pay a minimum wage?

Yes [] No []

If you answered "Yes", what do you feel the minimum wage should be? Select only one.

- Current level of \$7.25 per hour []
- \$10.00 per hour []
- \$12.00 per hour []
- \$15.00 per hour []

L. Limit the number of hours that employers can require their workers to work?

Yes [] No []

M. Help working adults obtain a higher income (making it easier to pay the rent or housing, buy food, and meet other necessities) by providing:

(1) An Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) to lower-income workers (some with no children, some with children)?

Yes [] No []

(2) A Child Tax Credit to both lower-income and middle-class workers who have dependent children?

Yes [] No []

N. Operate a disability program, providing adults with a monthly payment if they have a severe disability that prevents them from working?

Yes [] No []

O. Maintain the basic Social Security program, under which workers who have paid Social Security taxes, and then retire at 62 or later, are entitled to receive Social Security payments?

Yes [] No []

P. Maintain the Medicaid program, under which poor and near-poor individuals can receive free health insurance?

Yes [] No []

Q. Maintain the portion of the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) under which uninsured individuals between 100%-400% of the poverty pay only part of the premium—because the rest is subsidized—when they make a choice among health insurance plans

Yes [] No []

R. Maintain the Medicare program, under which seniors who paid Medicare taxes during their working years are entitled, at age 65, to receive Medicare’s hospital, medical, and prescription drug benefits?

Yes [] No []

S. Maintain the program known as Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), under which very low-income parents of dependent children receive a monthly cash payment?

Yes [] No []

T. Maintain the Food Stamps program, under which low-income individuals receive an amount they can use to buy food in grocery stores and other places that sell food?

Yes [] No []

U. Maintain subsidized housing programs, that provide some low-income individuals with inexpensive public housing and give others vouchers that pay part of the cost of private housing?

Yes [] No []

V. Regulate businesses to ensure that:

(1) They do not pollute the air, water, and land?

Yes [] No []

(2) Workplaces are safe from hazards that might harm employees and customers?

Yes [] No []

(3) The products they make, or import from other countries, will not injure consumers when used as intended?

Yes [] No []

(4) Businesses do not form monopolies, fix prices, or engaging in other anti-competitive behavior that increases prices?

Yes [] No []

W. Regulate banks to ensure that the banks are solvent, and that customer deposits will be prudently invested?

Yes [] No []

X. Regulate the stock market, bond market, and other “security exchanges” to ensure that investors get complete and accurate information about potential investments, and to prohibit certain inherently risky activities from taking place?

Yes [] No []

Y. Provide subsidies or tax breaks that encourage *consumers* to buy more of a particular product or service than they would normally do?

Yes [] No []

Z. Provide subsidies or tax breaks that encourage *investors* to make larger investments in particular assets than they would normally do?

Yes [] No []