

## Tax Avoidance

### CATI Fieldwork : 20th May - 22nd May 2011

Absolutes/col percents

Table 1

**Q1 Tax avoidance is where people or businesses arrange their financial affairs to minimise the amount of tax they pay while remaining within the law. Thinking about tax avoidance, do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?**

**- Summary Table**

**Base: All respondents**

	The Government should crack down on tax avoidance by businesses operating in the UK.	The Government should crack down on tax avoidance by businesses, even if it causes unemployment, or some companies to leave the UK.	If companies can reduce the amount of tax they pay then they should do so because their first duty is to maximise returns to their shareholders.
Unweighted base	1001	1001	1001
Weighted base	1001	1001	1001
Agree	843 84%	600 60%	492 49%
Disagree	124 12%	345 34%	433 43%
Don't know	34 3%	56 6%	76 8%

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Table 2

**Q1 Tax avoidance is where people or businesses arrange their financial affairs to minimise the amount of tax they pay while remaining within the law. Thinking about tax avoidance, do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?**

**- The Government should crack down on tax avoidance by businesses operating in the UK.**

**Base: All respondents**

	Gender			Age						Social Grade				Region				
	Total	Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	South East	Mid-lands	North Eng-land	Wales & South West	Scot-land
Unweighted base	1001	447	554	72	167	164	162	183	253	332	203	159	307	267	257	249	140	88
Weighted base	1001	491	510	120	160	190	170	150	210	270	290	210	230	254	264	251	144	87
Agree	843	413	431	92	135	159	150	125	183	216	253	175	199	206	225	215	117	81
	84%	84%	84%	77%	84%	83%	88%	83%	87%	80%	87%	83%	86%	81%	85%	85%	81%	93%
Disagree	124	62	61	25	17	23	14	22	22	49	28	25	21	41	30	28	19	5
	12%	13%	12%	21%	11%	12%	8%	15%	11%	18%	10%	12%	9%	16%	11%	11%	13%	6%
Don't know	34	15	19	3	8	8	6	4	5	6	9	9	10	7	9	8	8	1
	3%	3%	4%	3%	5%	4%	4%	2%	2%	2%	3%	4%	4%	3%	4%	3%	5%	1%

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Table 3

**Q1 Tax avoidance is where people or businesses arrange their financial affairs to minimise the amount of tax they pay while remaining within the law. Thinking about tax avoidance, do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?**

**- The Government should crack down on tax avoidance by businesses operating in the UK.**

**Base: All respondents**

	Total	Q1 The Government should crack down on tax avoidance by businesses, even if it causes unemployment, or some companies to leave the UK.		
		Agree	Disagree	Don't know
Unweighted base	1001	621	318	62
Weighted base	1001	600	345	56
Agree	843 84%	573 96%	228 66%	42 74%
Disagree	124 12%	25 4%	95 28%	4 6%
Don't know	34 3%	2 *	21 6%	11 20%

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Table 4

**Q1 Tax avoidance is where people or businesses arrange their financial affairs to minimise the amount of tax they pay while remaining within the law. Thinking about tax avoidance, do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?**

**- The Government should crack down on tax avoidance by businesses operating in the UK.**

**Base: All respondents**

	Total	Q1 If companies can reduce the amount of tax they pay then they should do so because their first duty is to maximise returns to their shareholders.		
		Agree	Disagree	Don't know
Unweighted base	1001	490	429	82
Weighted base	1001	492	433	76
Agree	843 84%	402 82%	383 88%	58 77%
Disagree	124 12%	74 15%	38 9%	11 15%
Don't know	34 3%	15 3%	12 3%	6 9%

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Table 5

**Q1 Tax avoidance is where people or businesses arrange their financial affairs to minimise the amount of tax they pay while remaining within the law. Thinking about tax avoidance, do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?**

**- The Government should crack down on tax avoidance by businesses, even if it causes unemployment, or some companies to leave the UK.**

**Base: All respondents**

	Gender			Age						Social Grade				Region				
	Total	Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	South East	Mid-lands	North Eng-land	Wales & South West	Scot-land
Unweighted base	1001	447	554	72	167	164	162	183	253	332	203	159	307	267	257	249	140	88
Weighted base	1001	491	510	120	160	190	170	150	210	270	290	210	230	254	264	251	144	87
Agree	600 60%	307 62%	293 57%	55 45%	89 56%	102 54%	107 63%	106 71%	140 67%	167 62%	177 61%	113 54%	142 62%	148 58%	156 59%	157 63%	79 55%	59 68%
Disagree	345 34%	166 34%	179 35%	64 54%	61 38%	77 40%	56 33%	34 23%	53 25%	93 34%	100 35%	84 40%	68 30%	93 37%	94 36%	83 33%	53 37%	22 25%
Don't know	56 6%	18 4%	39 8%	1 1%	10 6%	11 6%	7 4%	10 7%	18 8%	11 4%	12 4%	13 6%	20 9%	13 5%	14 5%	11 4%	12 9%	6 6%

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Table 6

**Q1 Tax avoidance is where people or businesses arrange their financial affairs to minimise the amount of tax they pay while remaining within the law. Thinking about tax avoidance, do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?**

**- The Government should crack down on tax avoidance by businesses, even if it causes unemployment, or some companies to leave the UK.**

**Base: All respondents**

	Total	Q1 The Government should crack down on tax avoidance by businesses operating in the UK.		
		Agree	Disagree	Don't know
Unweighted base	1001	850	120	31
Weighted base	1001	843	124	34
Agree	600 60%	573 68%	25 20%	2 5%
Disagree	345 34%	228 27%	95 77%	21 63%
Don't know	56 6%	42 5%	4 3%	11 33%

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Table 7

**Q1 Tax avoidance is where people or businesses arrange their financial affairs to minimise the amount of tax they pay while remaining within the law. Thinking about tax avoidance, do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?**

**- The Government should crack down on tax avoidance by businesses, even if it causes unemployment, or some companies to leave the UK.**

**Base: All respondents**

	Total	Q1 If companies can reduce the amount of tax they pay then they should do so because their first duty is to maximise returns to their shareholders.		
		Agree	Disagree	Don't know
Unweighted base	1001	490	429	82
Weighted base	1001	492	433	76
Agree	600 60%	267 54%	291 67%	42 55%
Disagree	345 34%	202 41%	124 29%	19 25%
Don't know	56 6%	23 5%	19 4%	15 20%

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Table 8

**Q1 Tax avoidance is where people or businesses arrange their financial affairs to minimise the amount of tax they pay while remaining within the law. Thinking about tax avoidance, do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?**

**- If companies can reduce the amount of tax they pay then they should do so because their first duty is to maximise returns to their shareholders.**

**Base: All respondents**

	Gender		Age						Social Grade				Region					
	Total	Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	South East	Mid-lands	North Eng-land	Wales & South West	Scot-land
Unweighted base	1001	447	554	72	167	164	162	183	253	332	203	159	307	267	257	249	140	88
Weighted base	1001	491	510	120	160	190	170	150	210	270	290	210	230	254	264	251	144	87
Agree	492 49%	247 50%	245 48%	58 48%	81 50%	92 48%	78 46%	75 50%	107 51%	131 49%	143 49%	103 49%	114 50%	116 46%	141 53%	125 50%	68 47%	42 49%
Disagree	433 43%	216 44%	217 43%	52 43%	71 44%	88 46%	78 46%	66 44%	79 38%	126 46%	128 44%	89 42%	91 39%	122 48%	102 38%	110 44%	63 43%	37 43%
Don't know	76 8%	28 6%	48 9%	10 8%	9 5%	11 6%	14 8%	8 6%	24 11%	13 5%	19 7%	18 9%	25 11%	15 6%	22 8%	17 7%	14 9%	8 9%



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Table 9

**Q1 Tax avoidance is where people or businesses arrange their financial affairs to minimise the amount of tax they pay while remaining within the law. Thinking about tax avoidance, do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?**

**- If companies can reduce the amount of tax they pay then they should do so because their first duty is to maximise returns to their shareholders.**

**Base: All respondents**

	Total	Q1 The Government should crack down on tax avoidance by businesses operating in the UK.		
		Agree	Disagree	Don't know
Unweighted base	1001	850	120	31
Weighted base	1001	843	124	34
Agree	492 49%	402 48%	74 60%	15 45%
Disagree	433 43%	383 45%	38 31%	12 36%
Don't know	76 8%	58 7%	11 9%	6 19%

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Table 10

**Q1 Tax avoidance is where people or businesses arrange their financial affairs to minimise the amount of tax they pay while remaining within the law. Thinking about tax avoidance, do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?**

**- If companies can reduce the amount of tax they pay then they should do so because their first duty is to maximise returns to their shareholders.**

**Base: All respondents**

	Total	Q1 The Government should crack down on tax avoidance by businesses, even if it causes unemployment, or some companies to leave the UK.		
		Agree	Disagree	Don't know
Unweighted base	1001	621	318	62
Weighted base	1001	600	345	56
Agree	492 49%	267 44%	202 59%	23 40%
Disagree	433 43%	291 49%	124 36%	19 33%
Don't know	76 8%	42 7%	19 5%	15 27%