

Chart 12

Americans enjoy a lower tax burden than any of the major industrial countries of Western Europe -- and this includes taxes levied at all levels of government -- Federal, state, and local. As shown in the chart, estimates based on data compiled by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development show that as a proportion of total national production, French citizens paid 38.5 percent in taxes; Germany, 34.4 percent; Italy, 29.6 percent; United Kingdom, 28.6 percent; and the U. S., 27.3 percent. The figures are based on data for 1966. Little change in these percents has occurred since then.