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## Tale of Two Super Tuesday States

*How federal spending supports two states heading to the polls on Super Tuesday.*

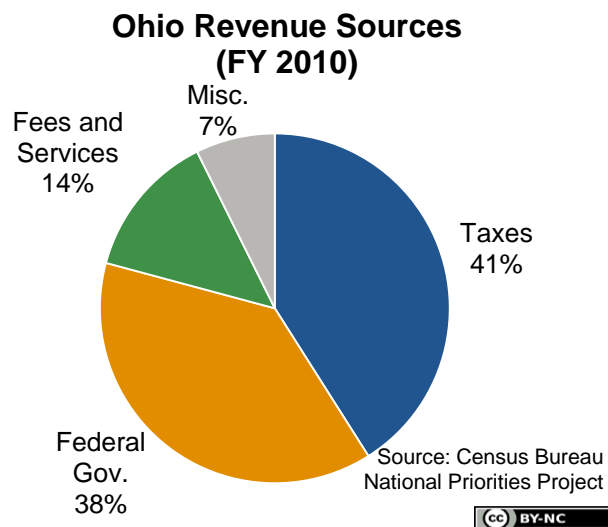
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The presidential election is about voters' vision for how the federal government should serve the American people. National Priorities Project's *Primary Stakes* series examines how residents of primary states currently rely on assistance from the federal government, and two Super Tuesday states illustrate that support from the federal government—and taxes paid—can vary widely.

### Almost Forty Percent of Ohio Revenues Come From the Feds

In fiscal 2010, the Ohio state government drew 38 percent of its revenues from the federal government.<sup>i</sup> That money helped the state build roads and fix bridges, among other kinds of projects, and it helped pay the cost of health care for low-income residents. Ohio was hard-hit



during the Great Recession and the state's median income, \$46,093, is well below the nationwide median of \$49,445.<sup>ii</sup> The average Ohio resident [received \\$5,575 in direct federal assistance](#) in 2010.<sup>iii</sup> That's support from programs like Social Security, Medicare, and unemployment insurance. Residents of the state paid substantial federal taxes, however, with the average Ohioan [sending \\$8,360 to the federal government](#) in 2010.<sup>iv</sup> That includes income and payroll taxes as well as federal excise taxes on items like cigarettes.

### Wealthy Virginians Pay Less in Taxes than Ohioans

Federal support in Virginia tells a different story. The median income is \$60,363 in Virginia, the seventh highest in the nation.<sup>ii</sup> Still, the average Virginia resident received nearly as much direct assistance from the federal government as Ohioans did—[\\$5,171 in 2010](#).<sup>iii</sup> And despite being far wealthier on average than residents of Ohio, Virginians paid substantially *less* in federal taxes. The average Virginian [paid \\$6,251 in federal taxes](#) in 2010.<sup>iv</sup> ([See numbers for your state here.](#))

Virginia's state government drew only 25 percent of its revenues in 2010 from federal sources.<sup>i</sup>

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<sup>i</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [State Government Finances Summary Report](#), 2010.

<sup>ii</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Median Household Income by State – Single-Year Estimates](#), 1 Nov. 2011.

<sup>iii</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, [Consolidated Federal Funds Report 2010](#), 27 Sept. 2011. Direct assistance to individuals in the CFFR is all payments coded DR and DO.

<sup>iv</sup> Internal Revenue Service, [Gross Collections by Type of Tax and State and Fiscal Year](#), 31 Mar. 2011.