

Table 1 – Options for Fixing Budget Deficit 2009 - 2015

The state of Illinois has a budget deficit of over [amount varies by year]. I'm going to read three statements that people have made about how to fix the deficit, and ask you which one comes closest to your views. If you haven't thought much about this issue, just tell me that.

	2009	2010	2011	2013	2014a	2014b	2015
Illinois' public programs and services have already been reduced significantly. We can only fix the problem by taking in more revenue, such as a tax increase	10%	9%	7%	8%	10%	16%	14%
The state takes in plenty of money to pay for public services, but wastes it on unnecessary programs. We can fix the problem by cutting waste and inefficiency in government	57%	57%	58%	55%	52%	43%	42%
Illinois' budget problem is so large it can only be solved by a combination of budget cuts and revenue increases	27%	27%	29%	29%	29%	32%	34%

Note: 2014a refers to the survey conducted in the spring of 2014, 2014b refers to the survey conducted in the fall of 2014.

Figure 1 – Percent Choosing Options for Fixing Budget Deficit 2009 - 2015

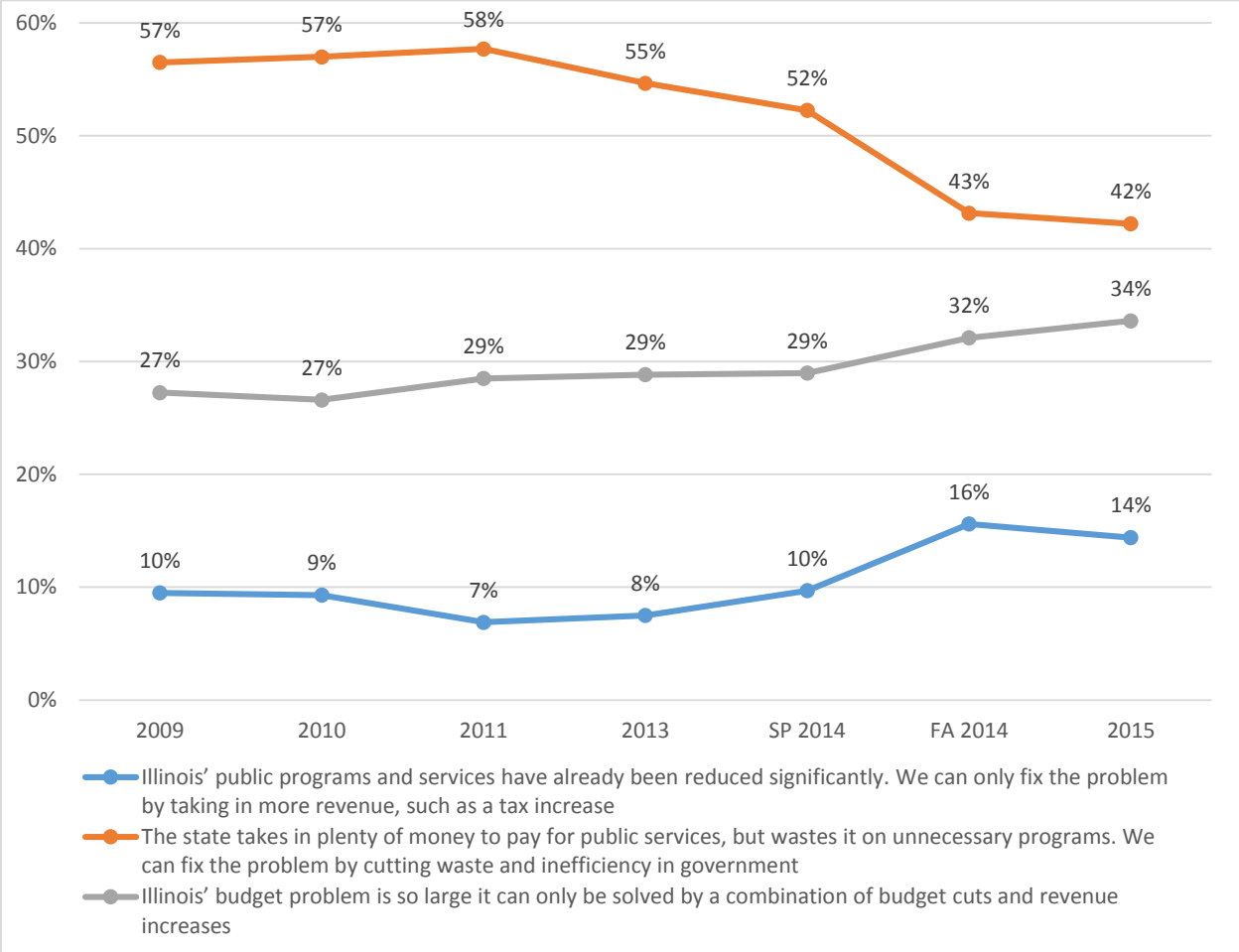


Table 2 – Percent Favoring Program Cuts, 2008 - 2015

There have been a number of proposals to address the state's budget problems by making cuts in state programs and services. I'm going to read several areas where people have suggested that the state could make cuts. For each one that I read, I'd like you to tell me whether you favor or oppose budget cuts in that area.

Percentage Favoring Proposed Cuts 2008-2015

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2014a	2015
To state spending on K-12 education	12.5%	13.0%	14.0%	16.5%	17.7%	15.7%
To state spending on state universities	20.9%	31.9%	34.0%	38.2%	36.7%	35.9%
To public safety, such as state policy and prison operations	13.5%	16.3%	21.0%	20.6%	24.1%	26.9%
To state spending on natural resources, such as state parks or environmental regulation	19.3%	32.0%	40.0%	36.7%	31.4%	35.5%
To state spending on programs for poor people	21.2%	20.4%	24.9%	25.2%	26.2%	23.1%
To state spending on programs for people with mental or physical disabilities	--	11.8%	12.4%	12.3%	14.8%	13.2%
To state spending on pension benefits for state workers' retirement	21.7%	39.5%	45.5%	45.5%	41.5%	44.3%

Note: *There were no data on these questions in 2012, 2013, and the fall of 2014.*

Figure 2 – Percent Favoring Program Cuts, 2008 - 2015

