

POLL RESULTS

# State/Municipal Tax Poll

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Serafin & Associates

We Ask America™ Polls

5/15/2011





**Date of Poll:** May 15, 2011

**Responses:** 2,970 Voting Households

**Margin of Error:** ±1.85%

## TOPLINE RESULTS:

1. As you may know, state lawmakers are considering a change in the law that would allow Springfield to keep more of your tax dollars rather than return the money to your community as it has in the past. Those in favor of that idea say that communities need to “share in the pain” and that those tax dollars should go toward paying down the statewide deficit. Those opposed say that the state has already raised income taxes, and that cutting the amount of money coming back to the community could force higher property taxes or deep cuts to important local services. We’d like to know how you feel about this. [SPRINGFIELD SHOULD KEEP MORE]

	Count	Percentage
Gov't should keep more	368	12.39%
Gov't should not keep more	2382	80.20%
Uncertain	220	7.41%

2. Which governing body do you think is MORE fiscally responsible with your tax dollars: state government in Springfield or your local municipality? [MORE FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE]

	Count	Percentage
State gov't	555	18.69%
Local gov't	1806	60.81%
Uncertain	609	20.51%

3. Would you support higher local property taxes or cuts in local services to help Springfield pay down its deficit? [SUPPORT HIGHER PROPERTY TAXES]

	Count	Percentage
Support	184	6.20%
Do not support	2612	87.95%
Uncertain	174	5.86%

4. Do you AGREE or DISAGREE with this statement: State lawmakers have already raised income taxes. They should find deeper cuts in spending before trying to use our local tax dollars to balance the budget." [DEEPER CUTS STATEMENT]

	Count	Percentage
Agree	2044	68.82%
Disagree	544	18.32%
Uncertain	382	12.86%

5. What is your gender? [ GENDER]

	Count	Percentage
Female	1771	59.63%
Male	1117	37.61%
Refused	82	2.76%

6. In which of the following age brackets do you belong? [AGE BRACKET]

	Count	Percentage
18-24	75	2.53%
25-24	151	5.08%
35-44	329	11.08%
45-54	576	19.39%
55-64	727	24.48%
65+	1002	33.74%
Refused	110	3.70%

7. Area of State [LOCATION]

	Count	Percentage
Chicago	567	19.09%
Sub. Cook	615	20.71%
Collar Counties	621	20.91%
Downstate	1167	39.29%

# CROSSTABS

## By GENDER:

Cross-Tabulation between Question # 1 and Question # 5

GENDER	SPRINGFIELD KEEP MORE			Total
	Gov't should keep more	Gov't should not keep more	Uncertain	
1. Female	10.39%	81.99%	7.62%	100.00%
2. Male	15.40%	78.07%	6.54%	100.00%
3. Refused	14.63%	70.73%	14.63%	100.00%
Total	12.39%	80.20%	7.41%	100.00%

Cross-Tabulation between Question # 2 and Question # 5

GENDER	MORE FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE			Total
	State gov't	Local gov't	Uncertain	
1. Female	19.65%	57.59%	22.76%	100.00%
2. Male	17.28%	66.16%	16.56%	100.00%
3. Refused	17.07%	57.32%	25.61%	100.00%
Total	18.69%	60.81%	20.51%	100.00%

Cross-Tabulation between Question # 3 and Question # 5

GENDER	SUPPORT HIGHER PROPERTY TAXES			Total
	Support	Do not support	Uncertain	
1. Female	5.19%	88.42%	6.38%	100.00%
2. Male	8.06%	87.20%	4.74%	100.00%
3. Refused	2.44%	87.80%	9.76%	100.00%
Total	6.20%	87.95%	5.86%	100.00%

Cross-Tabulation between Question # 4 and Question # 5

GENDER	DEEPER CUTS STATEMENT			Total
	Agree	Disagree	Uncertain	
1. Female	69.34%	17.17%	13.50%	100.00%
2. Male	69.20%	19.96%	10.83%	100.00%
3. Refused	52.44%	20.73%	26.83%	100.00%
Total	68.82%	18.32%	12.86%	100.00%

**By AGE BRACKET:**

Cross-Tabulation between Question # 1 and Question # 6

AGE BRACKET	SPRINGFIELD KEEP MORE			Total
	Gov't should keep more	Gov't should not keep more	Uncertain	
1. 18-24	25.33%	65.33%	9.33%	100.00%
2. 25-24	14.57%	77.48%	7.95%	100.00%
3. 35-44	11.85%	79.33%	8.81%	100.00%
4. 45-54	9.55%	83.51%	6.94%	100.00%
5. 55-64	12.93%	80.74%	6.33%	100.00%
6. 65+	12.38%	80.44%	7.19%	100.00%
7. Refused	13.64%	73.64%	12.73%	100.00%
Total	12.39%	80.20%	7.41%	100.00%

Cross-Tabulation between Question # 2 and Question # 6

AGE BRACKET	MORE FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE			Total
	State gov't	Local gov't	Uncertain	
1. 18-24	34.67%	42.67%	22.67%	100.00%
2. 25-24	28.48%	52.32%	19.21%	100.00%
3. 35-44	17.02%	61.09%	21.88%	100.00%
4. 45-54	17.36%	65.10%	17.53%	100.00%
5. 55-64	18.02%	63.00%	18.98%	100.00%
6. 65+	17.96%	59.88%	22.16%	100.00%
7. Refused	17.27%	55.45%	27.27%	100.00%
Total	18.69%	60.81%	20.51%	100.00%

Cross-Tabulation between Question # 3 and Question # 6

AGE BRACKET	SUPPORT HIGHER PROPERTY TAXES			Total
	Support	Do not support	Uncertain	
1. 18-24	22.67%	66.67%	10.67%	100.00%
2. 25-24	7.28%	87.42%	5.30%	100.00%
3. 35-44	6.99%	88.15%	4.86%	100.00%
4. 45-54	6.08%	90.45%	3.47%	100.00%
5. 55-64	6.88%	88.45%	4.68%	100.00%
6. 65+	4.59%	87.62%	7.78%	100.00%
7. Refused	1.82%	89.09%	9.09%	100.00%
Total	6.20%	87.95%	5.86%	100.00%

Cross-Tabulation between Question # 4 and Question # 6

AGE BRACKET	DEEPER CUTS STATEMENT			Total
	Agree	Disagree	Uncertain	
1. 18-24	65.33%	20.00%	14.67%	100.00%
2. 25-24	76.16%	15.89%	7.95%	100.00%
3. 35-44	72.95%	16.41%	10.64%	100.00%
4. 45-54	77.08%	14.76%	8.16%	100.00%
5. 55-64	71.25%	16.78%	11.97%	100.00%
6. 65+	61.98%	22.06%	15.97%	100.00%
7. Refused	51.82%	20.91%	27.27%	100.00%
Total	68.82%	18.32%	12.86%	100.00%

Cross-Tabulation between Question # 5 and Question # 6

AGE BRACKET	GENDER			Total
	Female	Male	Refused	
1. 18-24	69.33%	30.67%	0%	100.00%
2. 25-24	50.99%	49.01%	0%	100.00%
3. 35-44	54.71%	45.29%	0%	100.00%
4. 45-54	57.81%	42.19%	0%	100.00%
5. 55-64	60.11%	39.89%	0%	100.00%
6. 65+	67.56%	32.44%	0%	100.00%
7. Refused	13.64%	11.82%	74.55%	100.00%
Total	59.63%	37.61%	2.76%	100.00%

Cross-Tabulation between Question # 7 and Question # 6

AGE BRACKET	LOCATION				Total
	Chicago	Sub. Cook	Collar Counties	Downstate	
1. 18-24	22.67%	21.33%	21.33%	34.67%	100.00%
2. 25-24	26.49%	21.19%	19.87%	32.45%	100.00%
3. 35-44	19.45%	21.58%	21.88%	37.08%	100.00%
4. 45-54	16.84%	23.61%	26.04%	33.51%	100.00%
5. 55-64	20.77%	22.15%	20.36%	36.73%	100.00%
6. 65+	17.96%	17.66%	18.16%	46.21%	100.00%
7. Refused	16.36%	20.00%	20.91%	42.73%	100.00%
Total	19.09%	20.71%	20.91%	39.29%	100.00%

**By LOCATION:**

Cross-Tabulation between Question # 1 and Question # 7

LOCATION	SPRINGFIELD KEEP MORE			Total
	Gov't should keep more	Gov't should not keep more	Uncertain	
1. Chicago	13.40%	77.78%	8.82%	100.00%
2. Sub. Cook	12.20%	80.65%	7.15%	100.00%
3. Collar Counties	13.04%	80.35%	6.60%	100.00%
4. Downstate	11.65%	81.06%	7.28%	100.00%
Total	12.39%	80.20%	7.41%	100.00%

Cross-Tabulation between Question # 2 and Question # 7

LOCATION	MORE FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE			Total
	State gov't	Local gov't	Uncertain	
1. Chicago	29.81%	35.45%	34.74%	100.00%
2. Sub. Cook	18.54%	64.39%	17.07%	100.00%
3. Collar Counties	14.17%	71.98%	13.85%	100.00%
4. Downstate	15.77%	65.30%	18.94%	100.00%
Total	18.69%	60.81%	20.51%	100.00%

Cross-Tabulation between Question # 3 and Question # 7

LOCATION	SUPPORT HIGHER PROPERTY TAXES			Total
	Support	Do not support	Uncertain	
1. Chicago	8.11%	84.83%	7.05%	100.00%
2. Sub. Cook	6.34%	88.13%	5.53%	100.00%
3. Collar Counties	6.28%	90.34%	3.38%	100.00%
4. Downstate	5.14%	88.09%	6.77%	100.00%
Total	6.20%	87.95%	5.86%	100.00%

Cross-Tabulation between Question # 4 and Question # 7

LOCATION	DEEPER CUTS STATEMENT			Total
	Agree	Disagree	Uncertain	
1. Chicago	61.90%	23.10%	14.99%	100.00%
2. Sub. Cook	69.11%	17.56%	13.33%	100.00%
3. Collar Counties	74.56%	15.94%	9.50%	100.00%
4. Downstate	68.98%	17.65%	13.37%	100.00%
Total	68.82%	18.32%	12.86%	100.00%

**By SPRINGFIELD SHOULD KEEP MORE:**

Cross-Tabulation between Question # 2 and Question # 1

SPRINGFIELD KEEP MORE	MORE FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE			Total
	State gov't	Local gov't	Uncertain	
1. Gov't should keep more	41.58%	38.86%	19.57%	100.00%
2. Gov't should not keep more	15.16%	66.71%	18.14%	100.00%
3. Uncertain	18.64%	33.64%	47.73%	100.00%
Total	18.69%	60.81%	20.51%	100.00%

Cross-Tabulation between Question # 3 and Question # 1

SPRINGFIELD KEEP MORE	SUPPORT HIGHER PROPERTY TAXES			Total
	Support	Do not support	Uncertain	
1. Gov't should keep more	26.36%	66.30%	7.34%	100.00%
2. Gov't should not keep more	2.90%	92.65%	4.45%	100.00%
3. Uncertain	8.18%	73.18%	18.64%	100.00%
Total	6.20%	87.95%	5.86%	100.00%

Cross-Tabulation between Question # 4 and Question # 1

SPRINGFIELD KEEP MORE	DEEPER CUTS STATEMENT			Total
	Agree	Disagree	Uncertain	
1. Gov't should keep more	52.45%	33.70%	13.86%	100.00%
2. Gov't should not keep more	72.88%	16.12%	11.00%	100.00%
3. Uncertain	52.27%	16.36%	31.36%	100.00%
Total	68.82%	18.32%	12.86%	100.00%

**By MORE FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE:**

Cross-Tabulation between Question # 1 and Question # 2

MORE FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE	SPRINGFIELD KEEP MORE			Uncertain	Total
	Gov't should keep more	Gov't should not keep more			
1. State gov't	27.57%	65.05%	7.39%	100.00%	
2. Local gov't	7.92%	87.98%	4.10%	100.00%	
3. Uncertain	11.82%	70.94%	17.24%	100.00%	
Total	12.39%	80.20%	7.41%	100.00%	

Cross-Tabulation between Question # 3 and Question # 2

MORE FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE	SUPPORT HIGHER PROPERTY TAXES			Uncertain	Total
	Support	Do not support			
1. State gov't	14.41%	80.36%	5.23%	100.00%	
2. Local gov't	3.88%	92.03%	4.10%	100.00%	
3. Uncertain	5.58%	82.76%	11.66%	100.00%	
Total	6.20%	87.95%	5.86%	100.00%	

Cross-Tabulation between Question # 4 and Question # 2

MORE FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE	DEEPER CUTS STATEMENT			Uncertain	Total
	Agree	Disagree			
1. State gov't	61.08%	25.95%	12.97%	100.00%	
2. Local gov't	74.75%	15.84%	9.41%	100.00%	
3. Uncertain	58.29%	18.72%	22.99%	100.00%	
Total	68.82%	18.32%	12.86%	100.00%	

**By SUPPORT HIGHER PROPERTY TAXES:**

Cross-Tabulation between Question # 1 and Question # 3

SUPPORT HIGHER PROPERTY TAXES	SPRINGFIELD KEEP MORE			Total
	Gov't should keep more	Gov't should not keep more	Uncertain	
1. Support	52.72%	37.50%	9.78%	100.00%
2. Do not support	9.34%	84.49%	6.16%	100.00%
3. Uncertain	15.52%	60.92%	23.56%	100.00%
Total	12.39%	80.20%	7.41%	100.00%

Cross-Tabulation between Question # 2 and Question # 3

SUPPORT HIGHER PROPERTY TAXES	MORE FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE			Total
	State gov't	Local gov't	Uncertain	
1. Support	43.48%	38.04%	18.48%	100.00%
2. Do not support	17.08%	63.63%	19.30%	100.00%
3. Uncertain	16.67%	42.53%	40.80%	100.00%
Total	18.69%	60.81%	20.51%	100.00%

Cross-Tabulation between Question # 4 and Question # 3

SUPPORT HIGHER PROPERTY TAXES	DEEPER CUTS STATEMENT			Total
	Agree	Disagree	Uncertain	
1. Support	41.30%	45.11%	13.59%	100.00%
2. Do not support	71.94%	16.54%	11.52%	100.00%
3. Uncertain	51.15%	16.67%	32.18%	100.00%
Total	68.82%	18.32%	12.86%	100.00%

**By DEEPER CUTS STATEMENT:**

Cross-Tabulation between Question # 1 and Question # 4

DEEPER CUTS STATEMENT	SPRINGFIELD KEEP MORE			Uncertain	Total
	Gov't should keep more	Gov't should not keep more			
1. Agree	9.44%	84.93%		5.63%	100.00%
2. Disagree	22.79%	70.59%		6.62%	100.00%
3. Uncertain	13.35%	68.59%		18.06%	100.00%
Total	12.39%	80.20%		7.41%	100.00%

Cross-Tabulation between Question # 2 and Question # 4

DEEPER CUTS STATEMENT	MORE FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE			Uncertain	Total
	State gov't	Local gov't			
1. Agree	16.59%	66.05%		17.37%	100.00%
2. Disagree	26.47%	52.57%		20.96%	100.00%
3. Uncertain	18.85%	44.50%		36.65%	100.00%
Total	18.69%	60.81%		20.51%	100.00%

Cross-Tabulation between Question # 3 and Question # 4

DEEPER CUTS STATEMENT	SUPPORT HIGHER PROPERTY TAXES			Uncertain	Total
	Support	Do not support			
1. Agree	3.72%	91.93%		4.35%	100.00%
2. Disagree	15.26%	79.41%		5.33%	100.00%
3. Uncertain	6.54%	78.80%		14.66%	100.00%
Total	6.20%	87.95%		5.86%	100.00%

## METHODOLOGY

This automated poll was conducted the evenings of May 15, 2011 between 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM CDT. In all, 32,000+ random residential phone numbers of Illinois registered voter households were dialed, resulting in 2,970 people taking the poll. Those numbers dialed were randomly selected using our proprietary system to assure the greatest chance of providing an accurate cross-section of opinion from the countywide sample.

Our sampling methodology ensures that *We Ask America* poll results are “projectable,” meaning that if *every* resident in a given geography was dialed, the results would not differ from the reported poll results by more than the stated margin of error at a 95% confidence level (the industry standard), if the same survey was repeated. For this case, results with a margin of error of  $\pm 0.55\%$  at the 95% confidence level means that if the same survey were conducted 100 times, then 95 times out of 100 the results would not vary in either direction by more than 0.55% in either direction. No weighting measures were applied to the results to correct for over/under-sampling since it was determined those changes would not make a statistically significant difference.

“Topline” results provide percentages of responses on the single poll question.

“Crosstabs” allow analytic comparisons to determine trends and contrasting opinions.

*We Ask America* adheres to the principles, ethics and guidelines of the American Association of Public Opinion Research.