

**State Budget Questions to be Included on Behalf of Next10  
(Topline Findings)**

(n = 1,003 CA registered voters)

**(READ SLOWLY)** Governor Brown and the state legislature have been dealing with a large accumulated state budget deficit, which last year totaled over 20 billion dollars. In 2011 lawmakers made a series of cuts to most areas of the state spending. However, current estimates are that the state still faces a budget deficit of about 9 billion dollars next year, which is equal to about 10 percent of the state's total general fund budget.

1. Which of the following best represents how you would like state lawmakers and the Governor to resolve the state's current 9 billion dollar deficit? **(READ ALL THREE CATEGORIES AND RECORD ONE RESPONSE)**
  - 1) Solve the deficit mostly through additional spending cuts .....32%
  - 2) Solve the deficit mostly through tax increases; or, .....11
  - 3) Solve the deficit with about an equal mix of spending cuts and tax increases .....52

**DO NOT READ → DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION .....5**
  
2. The state's biggest area of spending is in k-12 public schools. Recognizing that the state's budget deficit for next year is about 9 billion dollars, which of the following proposals do you favor most with regard to the budget for k-12 public schools? **(READ ALL THREE CATEGORIES AND RECORD ONE RESPONSE)**
  - 1) Keep per student spending at its current level .....41%
  - 2) Cut per student spending by 2.4 billion dollars, which might require a significant reduction in the length of the school year or other comparable cuts; or, .....17
  - 3) Increase per student spending by 2.5 billion dollars .....30

**DO NOT READ → DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION .....12**
  
3. The state's biggest source of revenue comes from personal income taxes. Recognizing that the state's budget deficit for next year is about 9 billion dollars, which of the following proposals do you favor most with regard to state personal income taxes in terms of the amount raised and who pays? **(READ ALL FOUR CATEGORIES AND RECORD ONE RESPONSE)**
  - 1) Keep state personal income taxes at their current rates .....20%
  - 2) Increase income tax rates by one-quarter of 1 percent on all wage earners, raising 2.5 billion dollars in additional revenues .....9
  - 3) Increase income tax rates by one-half of 1 percent on individuals making 250 thousand dollars or more, raising 3.5 billion dollars in additional revenues; or, .....25
  - 4) Increase income tax rates by 3 percent on individuals making over \$1 million a year, and 5 percent on individuals over \$2 million a year, raising over 3.5 billion dollars in additional revenues .....40

**DO NOT READ → DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION .....6**

4. The state's second largest source of revenue comes from state sales taxes. Recognizing that the state's budget deficit for next year is about 9 billion dollars, which of the following proposals do you favor most with regard to state sales taxes? (**READ ALL THREE CATEGORIES AND RECORD ONE RESPONSE**)
- 1) Keep state sales taxes at their current rates .....39%
  - 2) Increase the state sales tax by one-half cent, raising 2.5 billion dollars in additional revenues; or, .....25
  - 3) Extend the state sales tax to some services that are not currently taxed, raising 2.5 billion dollars in additional revenues .....30
  - DO NOT READ → DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION** ..... 6
5. Since 2009 the state has made over 50 billion dollars in spending cuts from its annual budgets, including cuts to the k-12 public schools, the University of California, the California State University, the community colleges, state health care and social service programs, and to other state and local government services funded by the state. How much have you and your family have been affected: a lot, some, a little, or not at all by these budget cuts?
- A LOT.....28%
  - SOME .....27
  - A LITTLE ..... 16
  - NOT AT ALL.....27
  - DO NOT READ → DON'T KNOW**... 2
- } 71%