

# FAIR TAX FOR ILLINOIS

FAIR  
TAX  
NOW

Responsible  
Budget  
Coalition

Illinois suffers from one of the most unfair taxing systems in the nation, as it fails to tax people relative to their income – contributing to a structural deficit, inadequate levels of core services to Illinois communities, and a bruised state economy. A Fair Tax would lower rates for the working and middle-class families in Illinois and increase rates for the people who can afford them – our state’s highest income earners.

## WHY IS A FAIR TAX IMPORTANT TO ILLINOIS?

### The state general fund and private sector economy will improve.

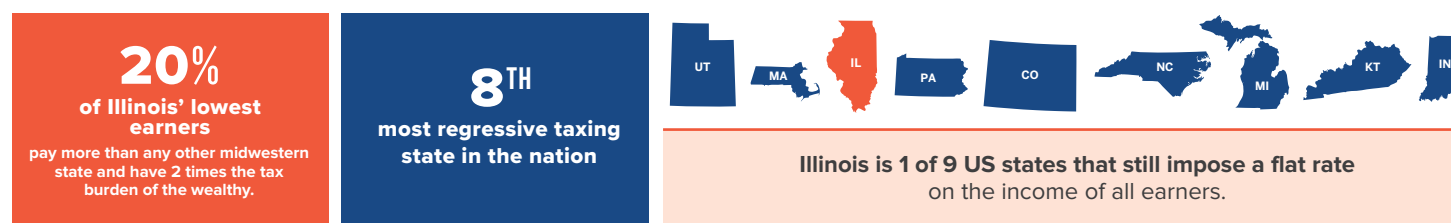
Illinois has been suffering from a structural deficit, driven by an insufficient revenue system that fails to keep up with the modern economy. A Fair Tax will shrink this deficit.

- ◆ A Fair Tax would ensure that **revenues for critical state investments grow** along with the economy.
- ◆ **Consumer spending would not be materially harmed** by the tax increase because the increase will be affecting taxpayers with a more substantial wealth.
- ◆ Revenue growth would be enhanced to the point where it could **correspond to long-term economic growth**.
- ◆ The new revenue **would fund public services such as education, health care, and social services** – helping empower working class Illinoisans, drive social mobility and mitigate the negative impacts of increasing income inequality.

### It can correct Illinois’s upside-down tax code.

The bottom 20 percent of Illinoisans pay nearly **2 times more** the taxes as a share of their income than the wealthy.

- ◆ Currently, **the bottom 20 percent of Illinois residents pay more** in total state and local taxes as a share of their income than any other Midwestern State.
- ◆ Illinois ranks as the **eighth-most-regressive taxing state in the nation**, meaning it is among the worst offenders of state tax systems that make incomes more unequal after taxes than before.
- ◆ Illinois is **1 of 9 US states** that still impose a flat rate on the income of all earners.



**TELL SPRINGFIELD THAT WE CAN NO LONGER WAIT TO CHANGE THE WAY OUR STATE DOES BUSINESS**

**WE NEED A FAIR TAX NOW TO REVITALIZE ILLINOIS' ECONOMY**

For more information or to join our campaign, please visit:

[responsiblebudget.org](https://responsiblebudget.org)

[@RespBudgetIL](https://twitter.com/RespBudgetIL)

[ResponsibleBudgetCoalition](https://facebook.com/ResponsibleBudgetCoalition)

[#FairTaxNow](https://twitter.com/FairTaxNow)

Source: Center for Tax and Budget Accountability – Cutting Taxes for the Middle Class and Shrinking the Deficit: Moving to a Graduated State Income Tax in Illinois: <https://ctbaonline.org/reports/cutting-taxes-middle-class-and-shrinking-deficit-moving-graduated-state-income-tax-illinois>