PPIC Statewide Survey: Californians and Their Government

Mark Baldassare, Dean Bonner, Lauren Mora, and Deja Thomas

Table of Contents

Key Findings

The 2024 election cycle was officially launched with the Iowa caucuses in January and the South Carolina primary in early February. President Joe Biden and former president Donald Trump are leading by large margins. Governor Newsom released a state budget proposal that deals with a multibillion-dollar revenue shortfall. The US economy continues to show signs of strong job growth, with mixed signals on inflation. In early February, all California voters were mailed ballots for the March 5 primary.

This is the 26th year of the PPIC Statewide Survey. These are the key findings of the *Californians and Their Government* survey on state and national issues conducted February 6–13, 2024:

➤ **Fifty-nine percent of likely voters would vote yes on Proposition 1, which authorizes $6.38 billion in bonds to build mental health treatment facilities and provide housing for homeless Californians.** Democratic congressmembers Adam Schiff and Katie Porter and Republican Steve Garvey are in the lead in the top-two US Senate primary race. Six in ten Republican likely voters say they will vote for former President Donald Trump in the Republican presidential primary. President Joe Biden leads Donald Trump by 23 points in a potential November rematch. Relatively few Californians are "extremely" or "very" enthusiastic about voting for president and for Congress this year. Still, 84 percent say that voting in 2024 is "very important," including overwhelming majorities across parties.

About six in ten California likely voters say they would vote yes on Proposition 1

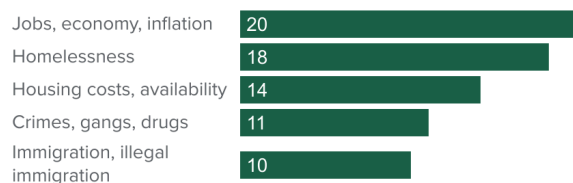|	Yes	No
All likely voters	59	38
Democrats	76	22
Republicans	32	66
Independents	56	40
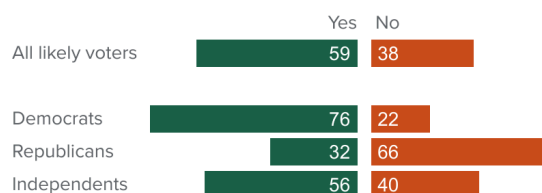
➤ **Four in ten Californians name economic conditions and homelessness as the top issues for the governor and legislature to work on in 2024.** Fewer than half of adults and likely voters think that things in California are generally going in the right direction and approve of the job performance of Governor Newsom and the state legislature. Still, 56 percent say they think that Governor Newsom and the legislature will be able to work together and accomplish a lot in the next year. There is a partisan divide on all of these issues.

➤ **About six in ten Californians believe the state will have bad times financially during the next 12 months, including majorities across the state's major regions.** However, majorities of Californians expect their local economy—and their personal finances—to be about the same or stronger six months from now. Nine percent think it is "extremely" or "very" likely that they, a family member, or someone they know will lose their job in the next six months as a result of economic conditions. Strong majorities continue to say they are less comfortable making a major purchase and other household purchases compared to six months ago. Partisans differ in their views of economic conditions.

One in five Californians name jobs, economy, and inflation as the most important issue for the state government to work on in 2024

Jobs, economy, inflation	20
Homelessness	18
Housing costs, availability	14
Crimes, gangs, drugs	11
Immigration, illegal immigration	10

➤ **Forty percent think the state budget situation is a big problem.** After reading a brief description, 51 percent of adults and 48 percent of likely voters favor the governor's budget plan. Californians are divided about whether it is a good idea to use state reserves to partially address the current budget situation. Majorities say it is a good idea to use a combination of reductions, delayed spending, and shifts in funding sources. Partisans agree on K–12 public education and health and human services as their top two state

spending priorities. Partisans are divided when asked if they would prefer to pay lower taxes and have a state government that provides fewer services.

➤ **More than six in ten adults and likely voters—including half or more across regions, parties, and demographic groups—would support Israel and Hamas agreeing to a ceasefire now.** Californians are more divided when asked if they favor the US increasing, decreasing, or maintaining the same amount of military aid to Israel and increasing, decreasing, or maintaining the same amount of humanitarian aid to the Palestinians. Californians are divided and many are not sure about whether the US is providing too much, not enough, or the right amount of support to Ukraine. However, most see Russia's invasion of Ukraine as a threat (35% major, 28% minor) to US interests, including majorities across partisan groups.

➤ **Seven in ten think the current situation with the US–Mexico border is a "crisis" or a "very serious problem"—while partisans are divided on whether it is a "crisis."** Three in four Californians say that national security and the well-being of migrants are reasons that they consider this a crisis or a very serious problem. When it comes to migrants seeking shelter at the US–Mexico border, 67 percent say that the US should focus on making sure the process is more efficient. Six in ten Californians say that immigrants are a benefit to California because of their hard work and job skills.

➤ **Six in ten Californians believe the nation will have bad times financially in the next 12 months, and three in four think the nation is generally going in the wrong direction.** Forty-two percent of adults and 49 percent of likely voters approve of President Biden; 19 percent of adults and 12 percent of likely voters approve of the US Congress. One in four think that President Biden and the US Congress will be able to work together and accomplish a lot in the next year. About four in ten adults and likely voters are satisfied with the way US democracy is working. Six in ten say that the way democracy is working in the US today has gotten a little (27%) or a lot (33%) worse than it was five years ago.

Six in ten Californians say democracy has gotten worse in the last five years

% a little/a lot worse

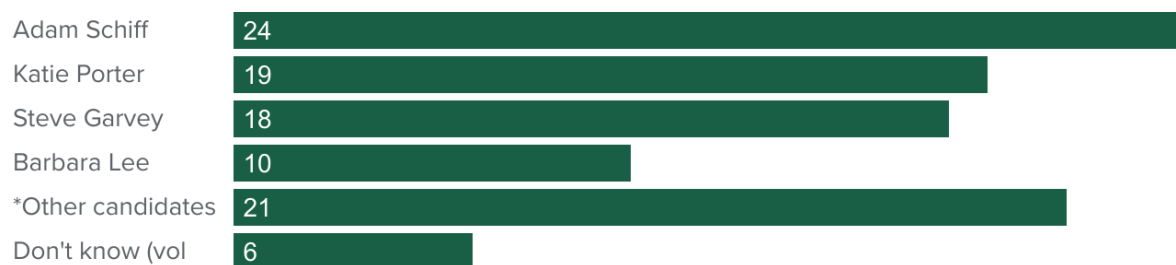|	
All adults	60
Likely voters	68
Democrats	55
Republicans	77
Independents	68

2024 Election

California's March 5 primary is part of a national "Super Tuesday" that sets the stage for the November 5 presidential election. The California ballot includes the presidential primary, top-two US Senate primary, federal and state legislative races, and Proposition 1. Majorities of Californians are either somewhat, not too, or not at all enthusiastic about voting this year. Fewer than four in ten say they are "extremely" (23%) or "very" (14%) enthusiastic about voting for president. Fewer than three in ten are "extremely" (15%) or "very" (13%) enthusiastic about voting for Congress. Republicans are more enthusiastic than Democrats about voting for president, while partisans hold similar views about voting for US representatives; independents are less enthusiastic than the partisans about voting for president or a House representative. Yet, 84 percent say that voting in 2024 is "very important" (85% Democrats, 86% Republicans, 78% independents).

Here are the latest findings on the key races and Proposition 1 on the March 2024 ballot:

Senate primary. Democratic congressmembers Adam Schiff (24%) and Katie Porter (19%) and Republican Steve Garvey (18%) lead in the primary race; the top two vote-getters will be on the November ballot. Support is lower for Democratic congressmember Barbara Lee (10%) and all other candidates, while 6

percent are undecided. Schiff and Porter were the frontrunners in the July, September, November, and December PPIC Statewide Surveys. Support for Garvey has increased since the December Survey (10% to 18% today), while support is similar for Schiff (21% to 24%), Porter (16% to 19% today) and Lee (8% to 10% today). Today, 38 percent of Democrats would vote for Schiff and 29 percent would vote for Porter. Forty-nine percent of Republicans would vote for Garvey, while independents are divided (19% Schiff, 19% Porter, 15% Garvey). Schiff has the most support in the San Francisco Bay Area (32%) and Los Angeles (26%). Porter's support is highest in Orange/San Diego (29%). Garvey has more support in Orange/San Diego (25%), the Inland Empire (24%), and the Central Valley (21%) than elsewhere. Support varies across demographic groups. Among those under the age of 45, Porter (23%) leads Schiff (11%) and Garvey (12%). For adults 45 and older, Schiff (31%) leads Garvey (22%) and Porter (18%). Sixty-two percent of likely voters and majorities across regions and demographic groups are satisfied with their choice of candidates in the US Senate primary, although partisans are divided (74% Democrats, 47% Republicans, 55% independents).

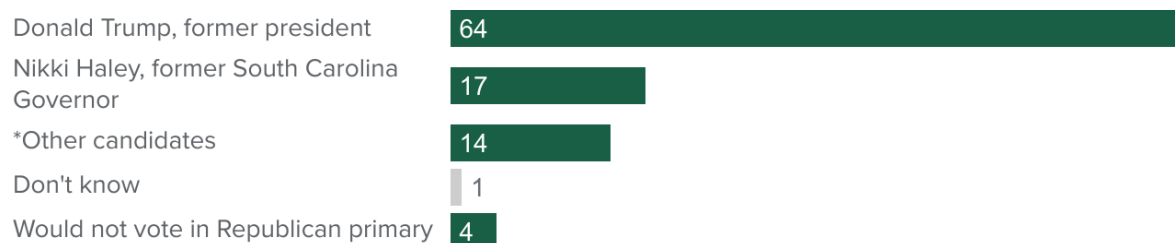## Adam Schiff, Katie Porter, and Steve Garvey lead in the top-two US Senate primary race

Candidate	Percent
Adam Schiff	24
Katie Porter	19
Steve Garvey	18
Barbara Lee	10
*Other candidates	21
Don't know (vol	6

SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, February 2024. Survey was fielded from February 6-13, 2024 (n=1,628 adults and n=1,075 likely voters).
NOTES: *Other candidates includes the "someone else (specify)" response option and any candidates below the top four. Among likely voters only.

Republican presidential primary. A solid majority of Republican likely voters say they would vote for former president Donald Trump (64%) in the presidential primary. Trump's support has increased since last year (50% June, 50% July, 48% September, 53% November, 56% December), in the wake of candidates leaving the race. Today, support for former South Carolina governor Nikki Haley is at 17 percent, while other candidates named on the ballot are at 3 percent or lower. Just 1 percent say they don't know how they will vote; 2 percent say they will vote for someone else, and 4 percent would not vote in the Republican primary. Trump's support is at 75 percent among conservatives and is similar among men (65%) and women (62%). Support for Trump is at 48 percent among college graduates and is at 67 percent among those 45 and older. When asked how they would vote when the choice is between the two remaining Republican presidential candidates, 69 percent say they would vote for Trump and 29 percent would vote for Haley, while 2 percent would not vote in the Republican primary.

Most Republican likely voters say they would vote for Donald Trump if the Republican presidential primary were held today
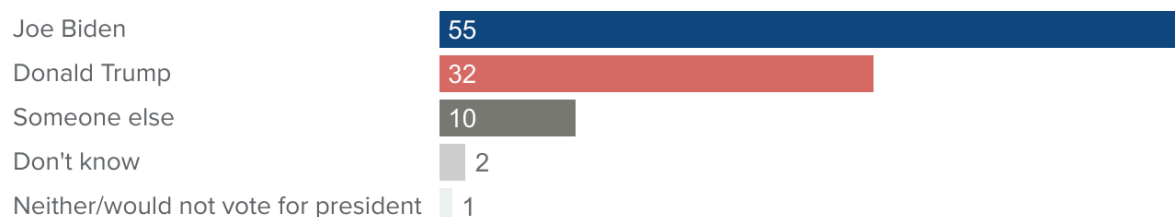
Donald Trump, former president	64
Nikki Haley, former South Carolina Governor	17
*Other candidates	14
Don't know	1
Would not vote in Republican primary	4

SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, February 2024. Survey was fielded from February 6-13, 2024 (n=1,628 adults and n=1,075 likely voters).
NOTES: *Other candidates includes the "someone else (specify)" response option and any candidates below the top four. Among Republican likely voters only (n=275).

Presidential election. When asked about the possible (and increasingly likely) November rematch between President Joe Biden and former president Donald Trump, California likely voters would choose Biden by a wide margin (55% to 32%). Biden led by a large margin last June (58% Biden, 25% Trump), July (56% Biden, 31% Trump), September (57% Biden, 26% Trump), November (60% Biden, 29% Trump), and December (54% Biden, 30% Trump). These PPIC Statewide Survey findings are aligned with 2020 California election results (63.5% Biden, 34.3% Trump). Today, 82 percent of Democrats would vote for Biden, 78 percent of Republicans support Trump, and independents would vote for Biden by a wide margin (47% Biden, 29% Trump). About half or more of likely voters across age, gender, and racial/ethnic groups say they would vote for Biden. Support for Biden varies across regions (68% San Francisco Bay Area, 57% Los Angeles, 44% Central Valley, 56% Orange/San Diego, 43% Inland Empire). Biden has stronger support among college graduates (65% Biden, 21% Trump) than with those with some college education (47% Biden, 40% Trump) and high school or less education (49% Biden, 37% Trump). Ten percent say they would vote for "someone else" for president; shares with this view are similar among partisans (5% Democrats, 8% Republicans, 19% independents), while shares are similar across age, gender, and education groups and state regions.

Joe Biden continues to lead against Donald Trump by a wide margin

Joe Biden	55
Donald Trump	32
Someone else	10
Don't know	2
Neither/would not vote for president	1

SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, February 2024. Survey was fielded from February 6-13, 2024 (n=1,628 adults and n=1,075 likely voters).
NOTES: Among likely voters only.

House district races. Most of California's 52 US House seats are held by Democrats. The outcomes in several competitive districts this November will help determine party control of a closely divided Congress in 2025–2026. If the 2024 election for the US House of Representatives were held today, 61 percent of likely voters say they would vote for or lean toward the Democratic candidate, while 36 percent would vote

for or lean toward the Republican candidate. The margin was similar in the December PPIC Statewide Survey (62% Democrat, 37% Republican). Today, 91 percent of Republicans and 92 percent of Democrats would vote for their party's House candidate, while independents favor Democratic candidates by a wide margin (57% Democrat, 37% Republican). Majorities across demographic groups would vote for or lean toward the Democratic candidate in their local House district race. Support for Democratic House candidates varies by region (74% San Francisco Bay Area, 64% Los Angeles, 58% Orange/San Diego, 50% Central Valley, 47% Inland Empire). In the 10 competitive districts as defined by the Cook report, 54 percent say they would vote for or lean toward the Democratic candidate and 43 percent say they would vote for or lean toward the Republican candidate.

Proposition 1. Fifty-nine percent of likely voters say they would vote yes, and 38 percent would vote no after reading the ballot title and label of Proposition 1, a legislative initiative which includes $6.38 billion in bonds to build mental health treatment facilities for those with mental health and substance abuse challenges and provide housing for the homeless. Majorities across demographic groups and regions say they would vote yes, while partisans are divided (76% Democrats, 32% Republicans, 56% independents). About half (51%) say it is a "good time" (48% bad time) to issue $6.38 billion in bonds to fund housing for homeless individuals and veterans with mental health or substance abuse disorders. Findings were similar in December (51% good time, 46% bad time). Today, shares viewing this as a "good time" vary by party (66% Democrats, 25% Republicans, 51% independents) and across income levels (66% less than $40,000; 54% $40,000 to $79,999; 46% $80,000 or more). When asked about the Mental Health Services Act—Proposition 63 passed by voters in 2004 to fund county mental health services with revenue from a 1 percent tax of income above $1 million—63 percent say that it has been mostly a "good thing" (33% bad thing). Seventy-five percent say the outcome of the Proposition 1 vote is important to them (29% very, 46% somewhat). Those who would vote yes on Proposition 1 are more likely to say the outcome is important to them.

A solid majority of California likely voters would vote for the Democratic candidate if the 2024 election for the House of Representatives were held today
Among likely voters

	Republican candidate/Lean Republican	Democratic candidate/Lean Democratic	Don't know
All likely voters	36	61	3
Democrats	6	92	2
Republicans	91	8	2
Independents	37	57	6
Competitive congressional district	43	54	3
Central Valley	47	50	2
Inland Empire	51	47	2
Los Angeles	32	64	4
Orange/San Diego	40	58	1
SF Bay Area	24	74	2
Men	42	56	2
Women	31	66	3
Less than $40,000	38	60	3
$40,000 to $79,999	32	64	3
$80,000 or more	38	61	2

SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, February 2024. Survey was fielded from February 6-13, 2024 (n=1,628 adults and n=1,075 likely voters).
**NOTES:** Among likely voters only.

State of the State

When asked about the most important issue for the governor and state legislature to work on in 2024, Californians are most likely to name jobs, the economy, and inflation (20%) or homelessness (18%). Fewer mention housing costs and availability (14%), crime, gangs, and drugs (11%), or immigration (10%). Findings among likely voters are similar. About one in four Democrats (26%) name homelessness, while one in four Republicans (24%) mention immigration as the top issue to work on in 2024; independents are equally as likely to name jobs, the economy, and inflation (19%) as housing costs and availability (18%).

Majorities of California adults (57%) and likely voters (55%) continue to think that things in the state are headed in the wrong direction. Findings have been similar in recent months, while last February Californians were evenly divided (49% right direction, 49% wrong direction). Overwhelming shares of Republicans (88%)

and two in three independents (68%) think things are going in the wrong direction, compared to just one in three Democrats (33%). Majorities across regions and demographic groups hold this pessimistic view—with the exception of African Americans (50% right direction, 47% wrong direction).

A majority of Californians continue to think things in the state are going in the wrong direction

— Right direction — Wrong direction
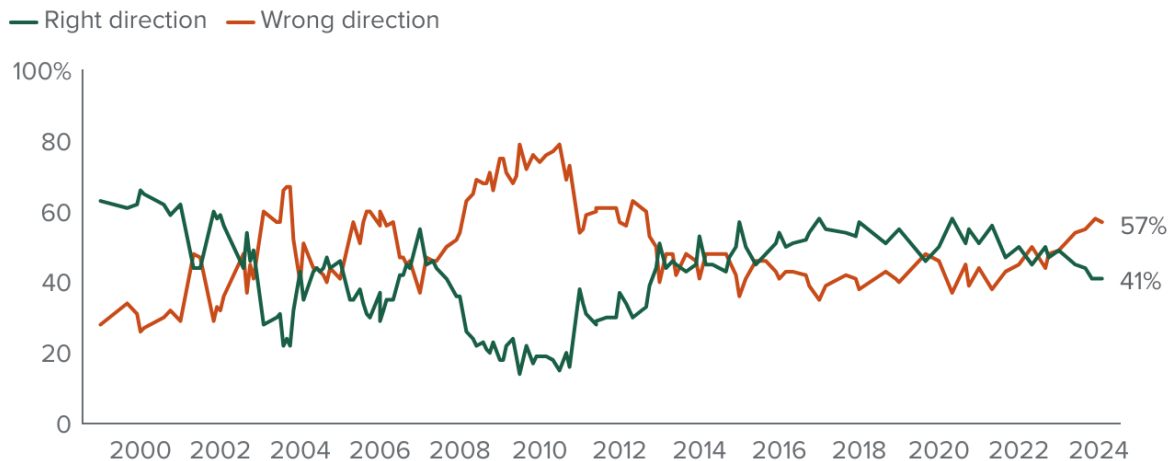
SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Surveys, 1999–2024.

Fewer than half of adults (47%) and likely voters (48%) approve of Governor Newsom's job performance (50% disapprove among both adults and likely voters). This marks the first time since November 2019—when 18 percent were unsure—that fewer than 50 percent of adults approve of the governor. An overwhelming share of Democrats (70%) approve, while six in ten independents (60%) and over eight in ten Republicans (84%) disapprove. Approval varies across regions, with a majority of residents in Los Angeles (53%) and the San Francisco Bay Area (52%) approving, while majorities in other regions disapprove. Two in three African Americans (67%) and half of Latinos (51%) approve, while Asian Americans are evenly divided (48% approve, 48% disapprove) and a majority of whites (56%) disapprove.

Forty-three percent of Californians approve of the state legislature, while 54 percent disapprove. Findings among likely voters are similar. Approval was higher among Californians last February (49% approve, 48% disapprove). Approval of the California Legislature falls short of 50 percent across parties, regions, and demographic groups except among Democrats (64%) and African Americans (57%).

Fewer than half approve of Governor Newsom or the state legislature
% approve

— Governor Newsom — California Legislature

47%
43%

2019   2020   2021   2022   2023   2024
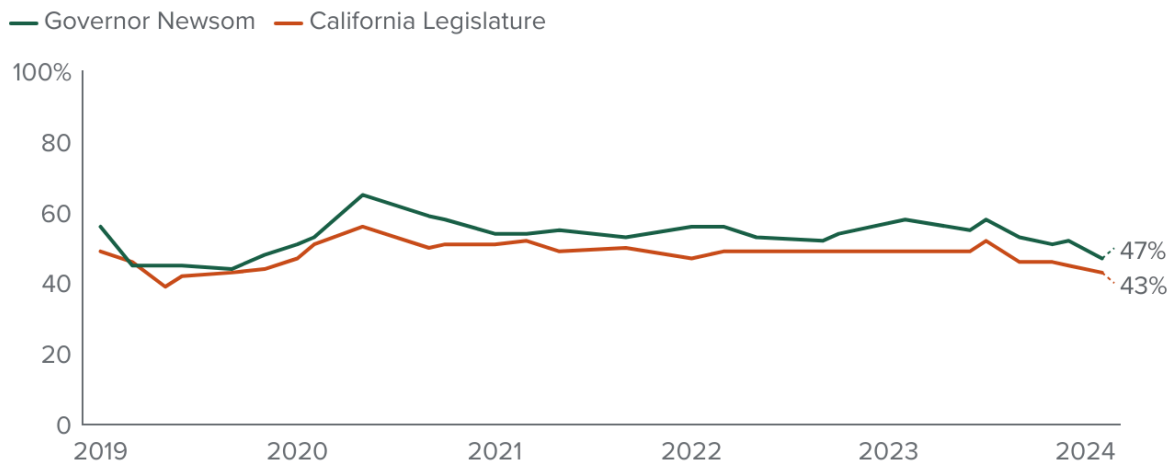
SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Surveys, 2019–2024.

Despite half or more disapproving of Governor Newsom and of the state legislature, 56 percent of Californians think that the governor and state legislature will be able to work together and accomplish a lot in the next year. This level of optimism has held steady in recent years, including last year when 61 percent held this view. It is noteworthy that optimism is down 11 points from January 2019, when 67 percent were optimistic about the prospects of Governor Newsom and the legislature accomplishing a lot. Today, about three in four Democrats (74%) think the governor and legislature will be able to accomplish a lot, compared to 47 percent of independents and 38 percent of Republicans. Majorities across regions and demographic groups are optimistic.

A majority of Californians think Governor Newsom and the state legislature will be able to accomplish a lot in the next year

|	Approve of Governor Newsom	Approve of California Legislature	Think the governor and legislature will be able to accomplish a lot in the next year
All adults	47	43	56
Likely voters	48	42	61
Democrats	70	64	74
Republicans	15	13	38
Independents	38	32	47
Central Valley	44	36	51
Inland Empire	40	37	57
Los Angeles	53	47	60
Orange/San Diego	46	40	53
SF Bay Area	52	49	61
Men	45	43	61
Women	49	43	51
African Americans	67	57	61
Asian Americans	48	43	55
Latinos	51	47	56
Whites	43	38	56
Less than $40,000	50	42	53
$40,000 to $79,999	48	48	57
$80,000 or more	46	42	58

SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, February 2024. Survey was fielded from February 6-13, 2024 (n=1,628 adults and n=1,075 likely voters).

Economic Conditions

Roughly six in ten Californians expect bad economic times in the next year. This perception was similar in December (65%) and last February (66%), and a majority of Californians have been pessimistic since November 2021 (47% good times, 52% bad times). Partisans are divided on the economic outlook for the state, with eight in ten Republicans (80%) and two in three independents (68%) pessimistic, compared to fewer than half of Democrats (45%). Majorities across regions and demographic groups expect bad times. Pessimism is highest in the Inland Empire (71%) and Central Valley (69%) and lowest in the San Francisco

Bay Area (53%). Six in ten or more whites (63%), Asian Americans (62%), and Latinos (62%) are pessimistic, while African Americans are divided (48% good times, 48% bad times).
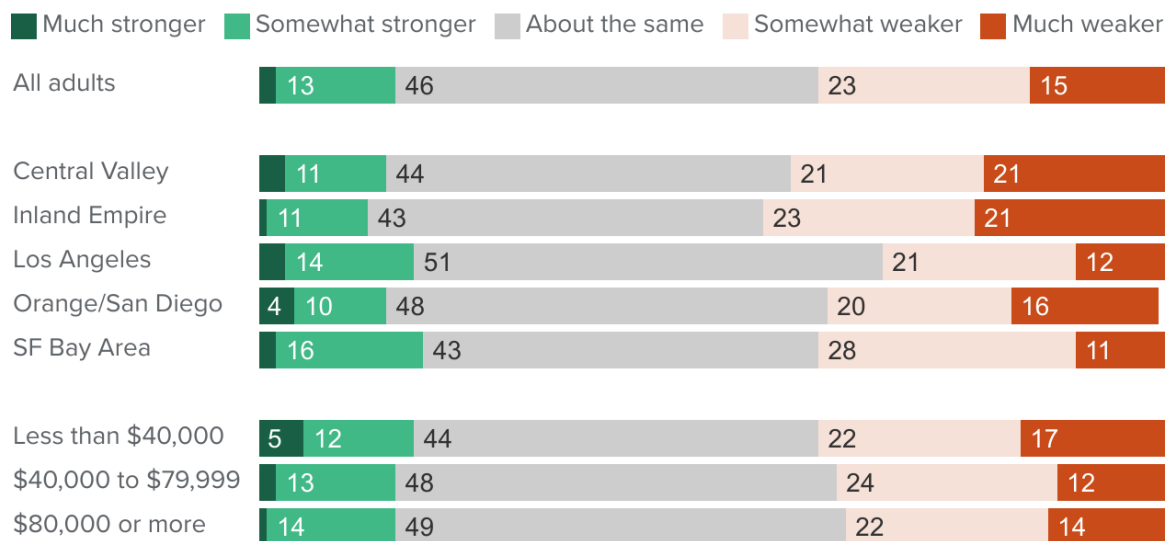
A majority of Californians continue to expect bad economic times in the next year

— Expect good times — Expect bad times
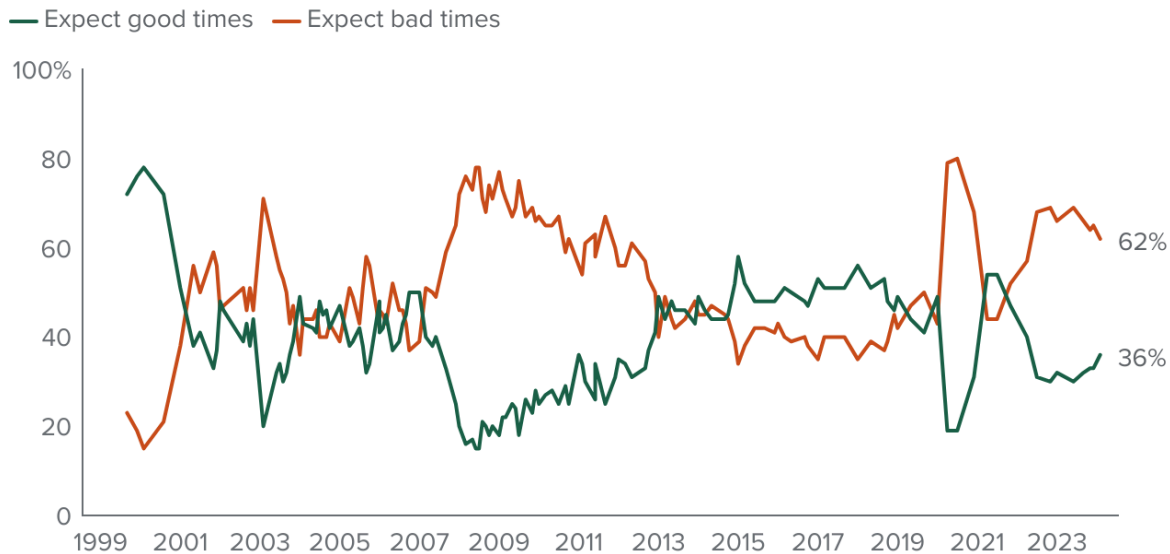
When asked about the economy in their local area, a plurality of Californians (46%) expect it to be about the same six months from now. Nearly four in ten expect their local economy to be weaker (15% much weaker, 23% somewhat weaker) and 15 percent expect it to be stronger (2% much stronger, 13% somewhat stronger). Views were nearly identical in December and September—the first two times we asked this question. Today, residents in the Inland Empire and Central Valley are more pessimistic than Californians elsewhere. Differences across demographic groups are minimal, although men (19%) are somewhat more likely than women (12%) to be optimistic. Across parties, Republicans (63%) are the most likely to be pessimistic about the outlook for the economy in their local area, while fewer independents (40%) and Democrats (26%) hold this view.

Nearly half of Californians think their local economy will be about the same six months from now

Legend: ■ Much stronger ■ Somewhat stronger ■ About the same ■ Somewhat weaker ■ Much weaker

	Much stronger	Somewhat stronger	About the same	Somewhat weaker	Much weaker
All adults		13	46	23	15
Central Valley		11	44	21	21
Inland Empire		11	43	23	21
Los Angeles		14	51	21	12
Orange/San Diego	4	10	48	20	16
SF Bay Area		16	43	28	11
Less than $40,000	5	12	44	22	17
$40,000 to $79,999		13	48	24	12
$80,000 or more		14	49	22	14

SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, February 2024. Survey was fielded from February 6-13, 2024 (n=1,628 adults and n=1,075 likely voters).

Californians have slightly more positive views of their personal finances over the next six months. Half (52%) expect their financial situation to be about the same, while about one in five expect it to be stronger (4% much stronger, 17% somewhat stronger) and about one in four expect it to be weaker (17% somewhat weaker, 10% much weaker). Perceptions were nearly identical in December and September. Today, African Americans (15% much stronger, 25% somewhat stronger) are much more likely than Latinos (6% much stronger, 19% somewhat stronger), whites (1% much stronger, 17% somewhat stronger), and Asian Americans (3% much stronger, 11% somewhat stronger) to expect a stronger financial situation in six months. Men (5% much stronger, 21% somewhat stronger) are more likely than women (3% much stronger, 14% somewhat stronger) to be optimistic about their finances, and the share expecting their financial situation to be about the same rises with increasing age, education, and income.

When asked how they feel about making purchases today compared to six months ago, most Californians say they are less comfortable. About three in four Californians (74%) say they are less comfortable making a major purchase, such as a home or car, while roughly two in three (64%) say they are less comfortable about making other household purchases. Views were nearly identical in December: 74 percent were less comfortable making major purchases while 66 percent were less comfortable about other household purchases.

While solid majorities across parties say they are less comfortable about making a major purchase, Republicans and independents are much more likely than Democrats to hold this view. Two in three or more across regions are less comfortable, with those in the Inland Empire the most likely—and those in Orange/San Diego and the San Francisco Bay Area the least likely—to hold this view. Six in ten or more across demographic groups report being less comfortable; shares with this view decline with increasing age, education, and income. Latinos are more likely than African Americans, Asian Americans, and whites to report feeling less comfortable about making major purchases.

When it comes to making other household purchases, similar patterns emerge. Republicans and independents are much more likely than Democrats to say they are less comfortable. Inland Empire residents are the most likely to say they are less comfortable, while those in Orange/San Diego and the San Francisco Bay Area are the least likely. Latinos and African Americans are more likely than whites and Asian Americans to hold this view and this perception increases with increasing education and income.

When asked about job loss, 21 percent of Californians say that in the last six months they, someone in their family, or someone else they know personally lost their job as a result of economic conditions. Experiencing a job loss is most likely for Californians in the San Francisco Bay Area (27%) and the Central Valley (24%) along with Latinos (26%) and those with incomes less than $40,000 (28%).

Looking ahead at the next six months, 9 percent think it is "extremely" or "very" likely that they, a family member, or someone they know will lose their job in the next six months as a result of economic conditions, and nearly three in ten say it is somewhat likely. Six in ten Californians say job loss in the next six months is "not very" likely (44%) or "not at all" likely (18%).

A majority expect their personal financial situation to be the same in six months; a majority are less comfortable making purchases compared to six months ago

	Expect personal financial situation to be about the same in 6 months	Less comfortable making major purchases	Less comfortable making other household purchases
All adults	52	74	64
Likely voters	53	68	61
Democrats	53	62	53
Republicans	44	81	79
Independents	54	75	66
Central Valley	51	74	71
Inland Empire	45	82	79
Los Angeles	56	75	63
Orange/San Diego	50	67	56
SF Bay Area	54	68	55
Men	52	72	62
Women	52	75	66
African Americans	45	75	65
Asian Americans	58	68	55
Latinos	46	81	71
Whites	56	69	60
Less than $40,000	42	85	74
$40,000 to $79,999	51	77	67
$80,000 or more	59	65	56

SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, February 2024. Survey was fielded from February 6-13, 2024 (n=1,628 adults and n=1,075 likely voters).

Budget and Taxes

In January, Governor Newsom released a $291.5 billion spending plan and announced an estimated $37.9 billion state budget shortfall. This shortfall has increased since last January, when it was estimated to be $22.5 billion. Most California adults and likely voters say the state budget situation is at least somewhat of a problem; four in ten adults and just under half of likely voters (47%) say it is a big problem (not a problem: 10% adults, 8% likely voters). The share of adults saying the budget situation is a big problem was similar in June 2023 (36%); however, likely voters are now more likely to hold this view (39% June 2023). Today,

majorities of partisans say it is at least somewhat of a problem, but Republicans are much more likely (69%) than independents (47%) and Democrats (26%) to say it is a big problem.

Three in ten or more among racial/ethnic groups say the budget situation is a big problem, with shares highest among whites (45%) and lowest among African Americans (31%; 36% Latinos, 38% Asian Americans). Four in ten or more adults with at least some college education hold this view, compared to fewer adults with a high school diploma only (46% some college). The share saying the budget is a big problem increases with rising income and age. Somewhat similar shares across the state's major regions hold this view. Eighty-eight percent of adults in competitive congressional districts say the budget situation is at least somewhat of a problem (43% big problem, 45% somewhat of a problem).

Four in ten Californians say the state budget situation is a big problem
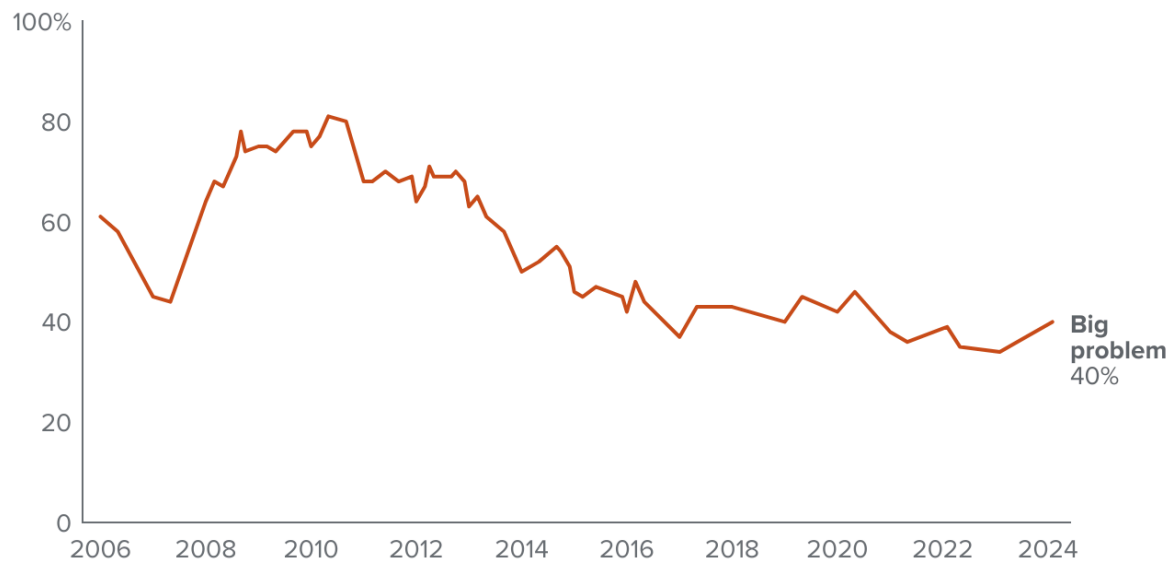
After reading a short summary of Governor Newsom's budget proposal, about half of adults (51%) and likely voters (48%) are in favor. The proposal includes $5.1 billion in budget delays, $2.1 billion in deferrals, and $3.4 billion in fund shifts. Despite the projected shortfall, the plan currently includes no new taxes. A solid majority of Democrats are in favor, while an overwhelming majority of Republicans and about half of independents oppose the budget plan. Support is highest among Los Angeles residents (61%) and lowest in Orange/San Diego (42%; 52% Inland Empire, 51% San Francisco Bay Area, 48% Central Valley). About half or more across demographic groups are in favor, except for white adults (42%) and adults with some college education (46%).

Roughly half of California adults and likely voters approve of the budget for the next fiscal year proposed by Governor Newsom
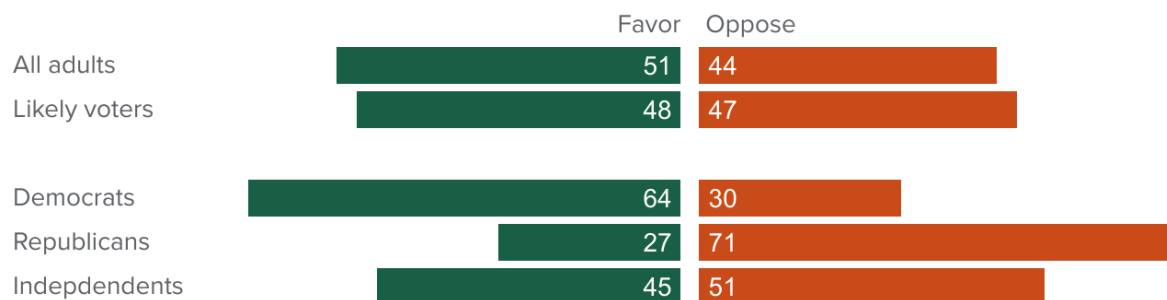
	Favor	Oppose
All adults	51	44
Likely voters	48	47
Democrats	64	30
Republicans	27	71
Indepdendents	45	51

SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, February 2024. Survey was fielded from February 6-13, 2024 (n=1,628 adults and n=1,075 likely voters).

The governor's budget plan proposes the use of $13.1 billion from the state's reserves, mostly from the Budget Stabilization Account (or Rainy Day Fund), to partially address the current budget shortfall. Californians are divided, with a plurality of adults and likely voters (46% each) saying this is a good idea, and about half of adults (48%) and likely voters (51%) saying this is a bad idea. Partisan views vary, with a majority of Democrats (58%) saying this is a good idea, compared to fewer Republicans (27%) and independents (42%). Four in ten or more across demographic groups see using some state reserves as a good idea, with men more likely than women and African Americans most likely among racial/ethnic groups to say this. Across regions, residents in Los Angeles and the San Francisco Bay Area are most likely to say it is a good idea, compared to fewer in other regions. Adults in competitive congressional districts are slightly more likely to call this a bad idea (46% good idea, 48% bad idea).

The governor's budget proposal also calls for a combination of cuts, delayed spending, and shifts in funding sources to help bridge the gap between spending and revenues. Currently, the plan calls for $8.5 billion in spending cuts, including $2.9 billion in various climate reductions and $1.2 billion in various housing program reductions. A majority of adults (54%) and likely voters (57%) say these spending cuts are a good idea, while about four in ten say they are a bad idea (42% adults, 40% likely voters). A majority of Republicans (67%) and Democrats (52%) say the cuts are a good idea, while independents are divided (47% good idea, 49% bad idea). Over four in ten across demographic groups see these spending cuts as a good idea; men are much more likely than women to hold this view. Asian Americans, Latinos, and whites are more likely than African Americans to say the cuts are a good idea, and the share holding this view increases with rising education, income, and age. Majorities across regions see spending cuts as a good idea, with the exception of 49 percent of Los Angeles residents. A majority of adults in competitive congressional districts say the cuts are a good idea (55% good idea, 39% bad idea).

How would Californians prefer to deal with the state's projected $38.9 billion gap between spending and revenues? About four in ten or more (41% adults, 45% likely voters) say they would prefer to deal with it mostly through spending cuts, while another four in ten would prefer a mix of spending cuts and tax increases (39% adults, 40% likely voters). Fewer than one in ten say they would prefer dealing with it mostly through tax increases or say it is okay to borrow money and run a budget deficit.

When asked to name an area of state government spending that should have the highest priority, 45 percent of adults named health and human services, 38 percent named K–12 public education; fewer named higher education (8%) or prisons and corrections (7%). Priorities were similar among Californians in competitive congressional districts. When it comes to taxes and services, Californians are divided: about half say they would rather pay higher taxes and have a state government that provides more services (48% adults, 48% likely voters), and half say they would rather pay lower taxes and have fewer services (49% adults, 51% likely voters). Partisans differ acutely when it comes to their preferences for taxes and services. A slim majority of Californians in competitive districts say they would prefer lower taxes and fewer services.

A majority say spending cuts in the governor's budget plan are a good idea; fewer say spending Rainy Day Funds is a good idea
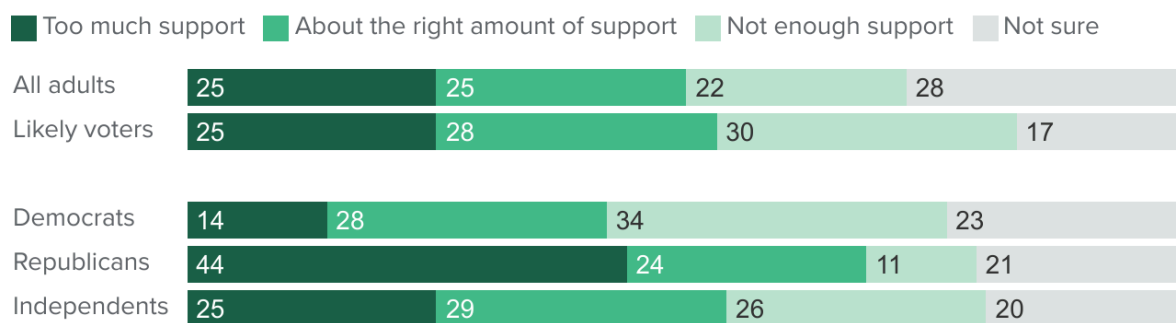% good idea

	Spending cuts in the proposed 2024 state budget	Spending reserve money in the proposed 2024 state budget
All adults	54	46
Likely voters	57	46
Democrats	52	58
Republicans	67	27
Independents	47	42
Central Valley	55	45
Inland Empire	53	42
Los Angeles	49	52
Orange/San Diego	58	42
SF Bay Area	57	48
Men	63	50
Women	45	43
African Americans	44	52
Asian Americans	53	46
Latinos	54	49
Whites	55	45
Less than $40,000	44	46
$40,000 to $79,999	57	53
$80,000 or more	60	45

The Nation's Role in Global Affairs

Californians are divided over the amount of support the US is providing to Ukraine in its war with Russia: a quarter of adults and likely voters say there is too much support, while about a quarter say there is about the right amount of support (25% adults, 28% likely voters), and somewhat similar shares say there is not enough support (22% adults, 30% likely voters). Nearly three in ten adults (28%) and 17 percent of likely voters say they are unsure. Notably, the share saying the US is providing the right amount of support has declined since December 2023 (36% adults, 41% likely voters). Today, partisan views vary, with Republicans most likely to say there is too much support, and Democrats most likely to say there is not enough support, while independents are divided. Views vary across demographic and regional groups. Adults in competitive congressional districts are divided (25% too much, 22% not enough, 30% about the right amount). Adults nationwide are also divided, with about a third saying there is too much support, another third saying there is about the right amount, and three in ten saying there is not enough—according to a survey conducted in February by NPR/PBS News Hour/Marist Poll.
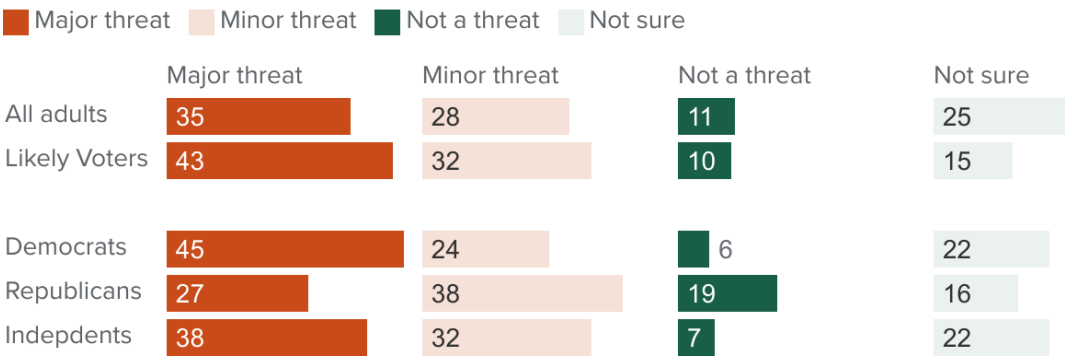
Californians are divided over the amount of support the US has given Ukraine

Legend: ■ Too much support ■ About the right amount of support ■ Not enough support ■ Not sure

	Too much support	About the right amount of support	Not enough support	Not sure
All adults	25	25	22	28
Likely voters	25	28	30	17
Democrats	14	28	34	23
Republicans	44	24	11	21
Independents	25	29	26	20

SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, February 2024. Survey was fielded from February 6-13, 2024 (n=1,628 adults and n=1,075 likely voters).

A solid majority of California adults and likely voters say Russia's invasion of Ukraine is a threat to US interests; 35 percent of adults and 43 percent of likely voters say it is a major threat. One in ten adults (11%) and likely voters (10%) say it is not a threat, and a quarter of adults and 15 percent of likely voters are unsure. Today, solid majorities of partisans say the invasion is at least a minor threat to US interests; however, Democrats are most likely to say it is a major threat. Across racial/ethnic groups, nearly half of Asian Americans (47%) say this, compared to fewer whites (37%) and African Americans (35%), and far fewer Latinos (26%). The share saying the invasion is a major threat increases with rising age, education, and income. Across regions, San Francisco Bay Area residents (41%) are the most likely to hold this view, while Central Valley residents (26%) are the least likely. A strong majority of adults in competitive congressional districts say Russia's invasion of Ukraine is at least a minor threat to US interests (39% major, 29% minor). A strong majority of adults nationwide said it was a major (33%) or minor threat (34%), according to a December 2023 Pew Research Center poll.

A majority of Californians say that Russia's invasion of Ukraine is a threat to US interests
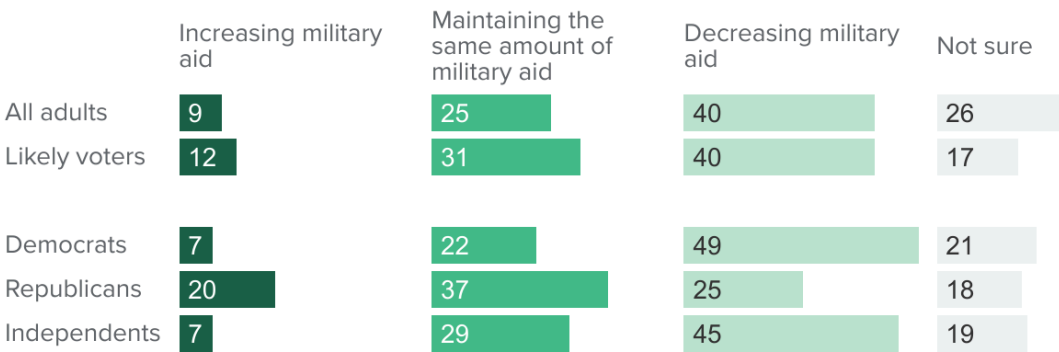
■ Major threat   ■ Minor threat   ■ Not a threat   ■ Not sure

	Major threat	Minor threat	Not a threat	Not sure
All adults	35	28	11	25
Likely Voters	43	32	10	15
Democrats	45	24	6	22
Republicans	27	38	19	16
Indepdents	38	32	7	22

SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, February 2024. Survey was fielded from February 6-13, 2024 (n=1,628 adults and n=1,075 likely voters).

Asked about the war between Israel and Hamas in Gaza, four in ten adults and likely voters favor the US decreasing military aid to Israel. A quarter of adults (25%) and 31 percent of likely voters favor maintaining the same amount of military aid, while fewer favor increasing military aid (9% adults, 12% likely voters; not sure: 25% adults, 17% likely voters). Democrats and independents are most likely to favor decreasing military aid, while Republicans are most likely to favor maintaining current levels of aid. In addition, Republicans are much more likely than Democrats and independents to favor increasing military aid. About three in ten or more across demographic and regional groups favor decreasing military aid; this share declines as age rises and increases as education rises. Thirty-six percent of adults in competitive congressional districts favor decreasing military aid (28% maintaining same amount, 9% increasing aid). Californians are more likely than adults nationwide to hold this view, according to a February Economist/YouGov poll (19% increase aid, 31% decrease aid, 30% maintain same amount of aid).

Four in ten California adults and likely voters favor decreasing military aid to Israel
% favor

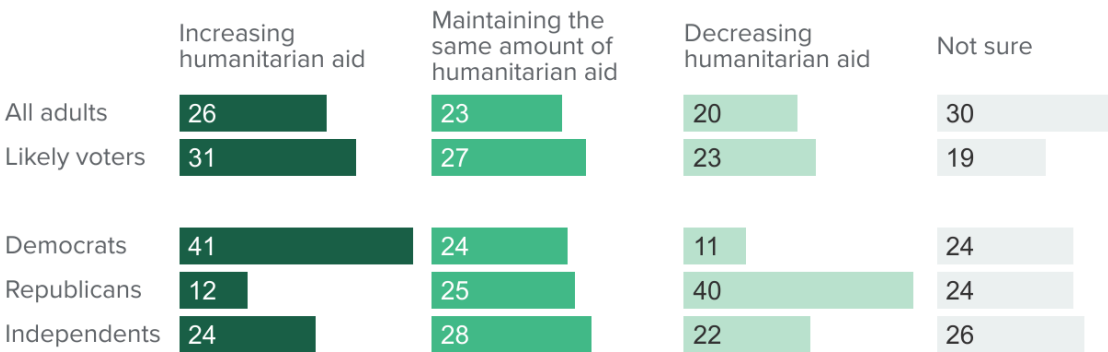|	Increasing military aid	Maintaining the same amount of military aid	Decreasing military aid	Not sure
All adults	9	25	40	26
Likely voters	12	31	40	17
Democrats	7	22	49	21
Republicans	20	37	25	18
Independents	7	29	45	19

SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, February 2024. Survey was fielded from February 6-13, 2024 (n=1,628 adults and n=1,075 likely voters).

When it comes to the US providing humanitarian aid to the Palestinians, 26 percent of adults and 31 percent of likely voters favor increasing humanitarian aid; 23 percent of adults and 27 percent of likely voters favor maintaining the same amount of aid, and about two in ten adults (20%) and likely voters (23%) favor

decreasing humanitarian aid. Three in ten adults and 19 percent of likely voters are unsure. Partisans are divided, with Democrats most likely to favor increasing humanitarian aid, Republicans most likely to favor decreasing aid, and independents divided. Opinions vary across racial/ethnic groups, with fewer than three in ten Asian Americans (27%), Latinos (27%), and whites (25%) in favor of increasing humanitarian aid, while nearly half of African Americans say they are not sure (48%). The share in favor of increasing aid declines with rising age and increases as education levels rise. Across regions, about three in ten or more adults in the San Francisco Bay Area (34%), Orange/San Diego (29%), and Los Angeles (28%) favor increasing Palestinian aid, compared to fewer in the Inland Empire (21%) and Central Valley (18%). Among adults in competitive districts, about a quarter (24%) favor maintaining the current amount, and about two in ten favor decreasing (20%) or increasing aid (21%). Adults nationwide are also divided on this issue, with similar shares saying they favor increasing (26%), decreasing (24%), or maintaining the same amount of humanitarian aid (26%) to the Palestinians, according to the February Economist/YouGov poll.

California adults and likely voters are divided on the US providing humanitarian aid to Palestinians

% favor

	Increasing humanitarian aid	Maintaining the same amount of humanitarian aid	Decreasing humanitarian aid	Not sure
All adults	26	23	20	30
Likely voters	31	27	23	19
Democrats	41	24	11	24
Republicans	12	25	40	24
Independents	24	28	22	26

SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, February 2024. Survey was fielded from February 6-13, 2024 (n=1,628 adults and n=1,075 likely voters).

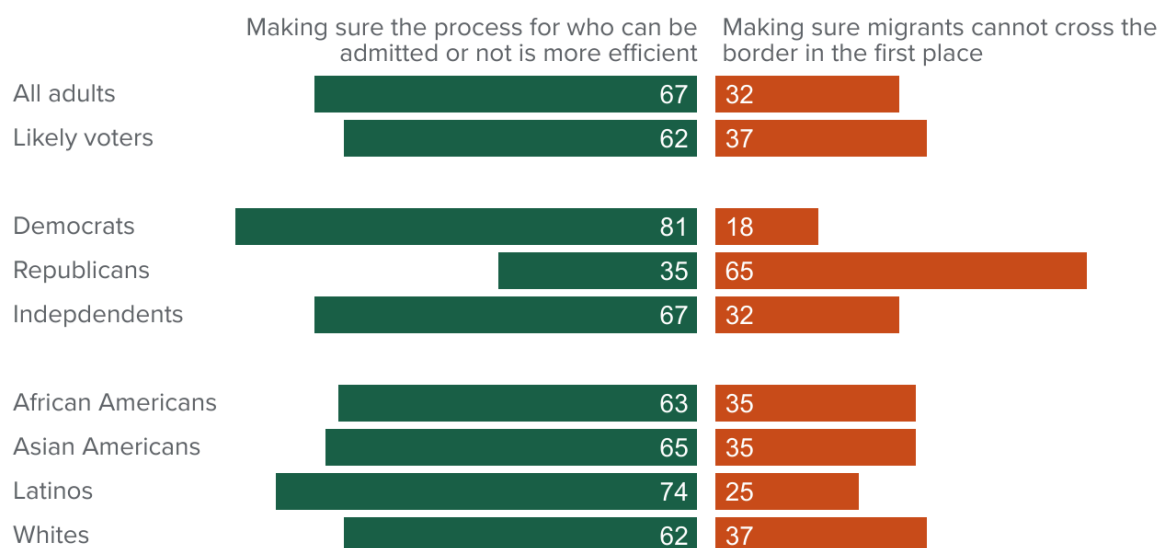About six in ten California adults and likely voters say they would support Israel and Hamas agreeing to a ceasefire now; 47 percent of adults and 51 percent of likely voters strongly support a ceasefire. Majorities across partisan, demographic, and regional groups strongly or somewhat support a ceasefire, with the exception of half of Republicans (27% strongly, 23% somewhat). The share that strongly supports this reaches a majority among Democrats (61%), San Francisco Bay Area residents (59%), Latinos (52%), and college graduates (53%). About six in ten adults in competitive congressional districts strongly (44%) or somewhat (17%) support a ceasefire.

Most Californians support a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas, with shares varying among partisan groups

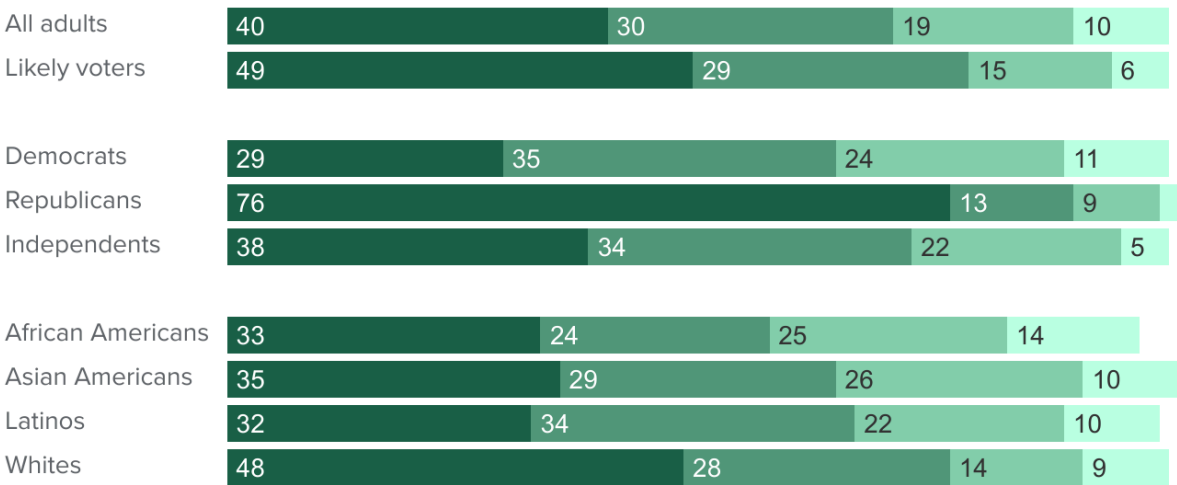|	Strongly support	Somewhat support	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Not sure
All adults	47	16	7	7	23
Likely voters	51	18	7	9	14
Democrats	61	14	5	4	16
Republicans	27	23	10	17	23
Independents	49	17	9	7	17
Central Valley	41	21	9	5	24
Inland Empire	39	15	11	8	26
Los Angeles	50	16	5	8	21
Orange/San Diego	43	15	7	13	22
SF Bay Area	59	13	6	3	17
Men	45	17	8	10	21
Women	50	15	6	4	24
African Americans	41	17	5	2	35
Asian Americans	44	22	5	11	18
Latinos	52	10	9	6	24
Whites	43	19	7	7	23
Less than $40,000	46	14	5	7	28
$40,000 to $79,999	46	15	10	7	22
$80,000 or more	49	19	7	6	19

SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, February 2024. Survey was fielded from February 6-13, 2024 (n=1,628 adults and n=1,075 likely voters).

US–Mexico Border

In the last few years, there has been a surge in migrants from different countries trying to cross the US–Mexico border. December 2023 saw the largest surge in more than two decades of migrant encounters at the border (close to 250,000). This issue has also been central to negotiations in Congress over the last few months. Four in ten Californians say the border situation has reached a crisis level, yet a solid majority

still think immigrants are a benefit to the state because of their hard work and job skills. Two-thirds of Californians think the border policy focus should be on making sure the process for who can or cannot be admitted more efficient, while about a third say the focus should be on blocking migrants crossing the border. According to a January YouGov/CBS News national poll, a majority of Americans (57%) say the policy focus should be on improving efficiency.

There is a large partisan divide on this issue. An overwhelming majority of Democrats (81%) and two in three independents (67%) say the focus should be on making the process more efficient, while a strong majority of Republicans say the focus should be blocking migrants from crossing (65%). Nearly three in four Latinos say the focus should be on making the process more efficient, a share that is higher than other racial and ethnic groups. A solid majority across demographic groups say the focus should be on making the process more efficient, as do majorities across regions of the state.

A strong majority of Californians say the border policy focus should be on making the process more efficient for migrants

	Making sure the process for who can be admitted or not is more efficient	Making sure migrants cannot cross the border in the first place
All adults	67	32
Likely voters	62	37
Democrats	81	18
Republicans	35	65
Indepdendents	67	32
African Americans	63	35
Asian Americans	65	35
Latinos	74	25
Whites	62	37

SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, February 2024. Survey was fielded from February 6-13, 2024 (n=1,628 adults and n=1,075 likely voters).

An overwhelming majority of Californians say the situation at the border is at least a very serious problem: 40 percent say the situation is a crisis and 30 percent say it is a very serious problem but not a crisis. About one in five say the situation is a somewhat serious problem (19%), while one in ten say it is not much of a problem (10%). Today, there is a huge partisan divide on views of the severity of the situation. About three quarters of Republicans say the situation is a crisis, while 38 percent of independents and 29 percent of Democrats say the same. However, majorities of Democrats and independents do say it is at least a very serious problem. Whites are much more likely to say the situation is a crisis compared to other racial and ethnic groups. A majority of Californians 55 and over (53%) say the situation is a crisis, a share much higher than those 35–54 (35%) and 18–34 (29%). According to the same YouGov/CBS News poll, the views of all Americans are similar to those of Californians.

An overwhelming majority of Californians say the situation at the border is a crisis or a very serious problem

Legend:
- A crisis
- A very serious problem, but not a crisis
- A somewhat serious problem
- Not much of a problem

	A crisis	A very serious problem, but not a crisis	A somewhat serious problem	Not much of a problem
All adults	40	30	19	10
Likely voters	49	29	15	6
Democrats	29	35	24	11
Republicans	76	13	9	
Independents	38	34	22	5
African Americans	33	24	25	14
Asian Americans	35	29	26	10
Latinos	32	34	22	10
Whites	48	28	14	9

SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, February 2024. Survey was fielded from February 6-13, 2024 (n=1,628 adults and n=1,075 likely voters).

Those who say the situation is a crisis or a very serious problem were asked additional questions about their reasons for concern: concerns about national security, the lives and well-being of migrants, and changes to US culture and people. About three quarters of this subgroup say concerns about national security (76%) and the lives and well-being of the migrants (75%) are a reason why they view the situation as a crisis or a very serious problem. Less than half (46%) attributed their view to concerns about changes to the US culture and people.

Virtually all Republicans (97%) say concerns about national security are a reason they think the border situation is a crisis or very serious problem, compared to smaller majorities of independents (72%) and Democrats (64%). Conversely, nine in ten Democrats (89%) say they are concerned about the lives of migrants, compared to smaller majorities of independents (73%) and Republicans (58%). When it comes to changes to US culture, a majority of Republicans say this is a reason they see the border situation as a crisis or a very serious problem, compared to four in ten independents and about a third of Democrats.

Across regions, residents in the Inland Empire (85%) are the most likely to say concerns about national security are reasons for viewing the situation as a crisis or a very serious problem, while those in the San Francisco Bay Area (69%) are the least likely. Similar shares across regions say concerns about the well-being of migrants are a reason. Residents in the Inland Empire (56%) are most likely to say concern about changes to US culture is a reason, while residents in Los Angeles (40%) are the least likely to say this.

Similar shares across demographic groups say concern about national security is a reason why the border situation is at least a very serious problem. Concern about the lives and well-being of migrants is higher among Latinos (82%) than among other racial/ethnic groups; a somewhat higher share of younger adults than other age groups say this is a reason. Half or more of African Americans, adults with a high school

education, and adults ages 55 and older say changes to US culture is a reason for their view of the border situation.

Three in four say national security and the well-being of migrants are reasons the border situation is at least a very serious problem

% reason the current situation at the border is a crisis/very serious problem

	National security	The lives and well-being of the migrants	Changes to the US culture and people
All adults	76	75	46
Likely voters	78	74	44
Democrats	64	89	32
Republicans	97	58	65
Independents	72	73	41
Central Valley	79	72	50
Inland Empire	85	76	56
Los Angeles	76	76	40
Orange/San Diego	73	72	50
SF Bay Area	69	75	44
Men	76	72	45
Women	76	77	47
African Americans	75	68	57
Asian Americans	72	64	39
Latinos	73	82	48
Whites	79	73	46
Less than $40,000	79	77	50
$40,000 to $79,999	76	82	49
$80,000 or more	74	70	41

SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, February 2024. Survey was fielded from February 6-13, 2024 (n=1,628 adults and n=1,075 likely voters).
NOTES: Among those who said the current situation at the U.S.-Mexico border is a crisis or very serious problem.

State of the Nation

Over the past year, the federal government has been in turmoil, with the expulsion of the Speaker of the House, Kevin McCarthy, an ongoing impeachment inquiry into President Biden by House Republicans, and months of negotiations on foreign aid and border policy. Relatively few laws have been passed, putting this

Congress on course to be the <u>least productive in decades.</u> Entering a very important election year, both Biden and Congress's approval ratings are at record lows. President Biden's approval is at a low of 42 percent among all Californians (49% of likely voters); congressional approval is the lowest it has been in the past 10 years.

Three in four Californians say the United States is going in the wrong direction. Californians felt this strong sentiment right before the 2020 election and during the Great Recession in 2008, and shares with this view have been somewhat similar since October 2022. Today, about nine in ten Republicans feel the US is going in the wrong direction, as do 85 percent of independents; Democrats are much less likely to hold this view (63%). Among racial and ethnic groups, whites (78%) are somewhat more likely than Latinos (71%) and African Americans (65%) to say the US is going in the wrong direction (74% Asian Americans). Young adults ages 18 to 34 are slightly more likely than older groups to hold this view (80%, 18 to 34; 73%, 35 and older).

Three in four say the US is going in the wrong direction
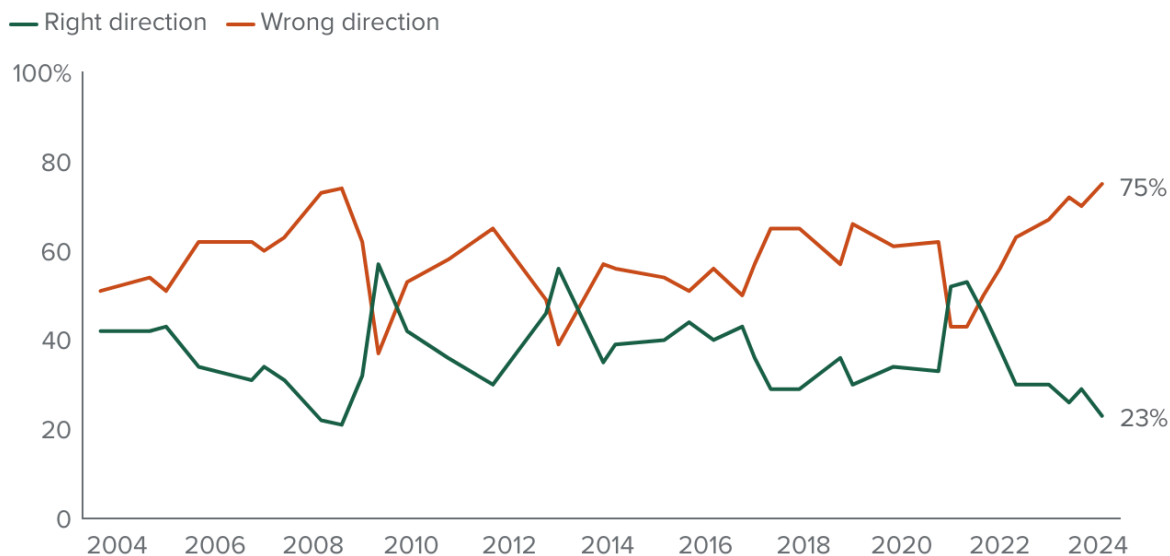
SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Surveys, 2003–2024.

Relatedly, a solid majority (63%) expect bad times financially in the US during the next year. Democrats are divided (48% each good and bad time), while Republicans and independents are much more pessimistic. Majorities across most demographic groups and regions hold this pessimistic view, with the exception of African Americans (48% bad times).

About four in ten Californians and half of likely voters approve of the job Joe Biden is doing as president (disapprove: 56% adults, 50% likely voters). There are some differences across parties, regions, and demographic groups. About two in three Democrats approve of Biden, compared to significantly fewer independents (37%) and Republicans (14%). Across regions, a majority in the San Francisco Bay Area approve of Biden, compared to about four in ten or fewer elsewhere. His approval rating is similar among all Americans, according to a <u>recent Gallup poll</u> (41%).

Across racial/ethnic groups, African Americans (62%) are most likely to approve of Biden, while Latinos are least likely to approve (37%). A slim majority of Asian Americans (52%) approve, as do about four in ten white Californians. Approval of Biden increases with age, with half of adults 55 and older approving, compared to 30 percent of younger adults (age 18 to 34). A majority of college graduates (55%) approve of Biden's performance, compared to 37 percent with some college and 35 percent with only a high school education.

About four in ten Californians approve of President Biden, while a near record low approve of Congress
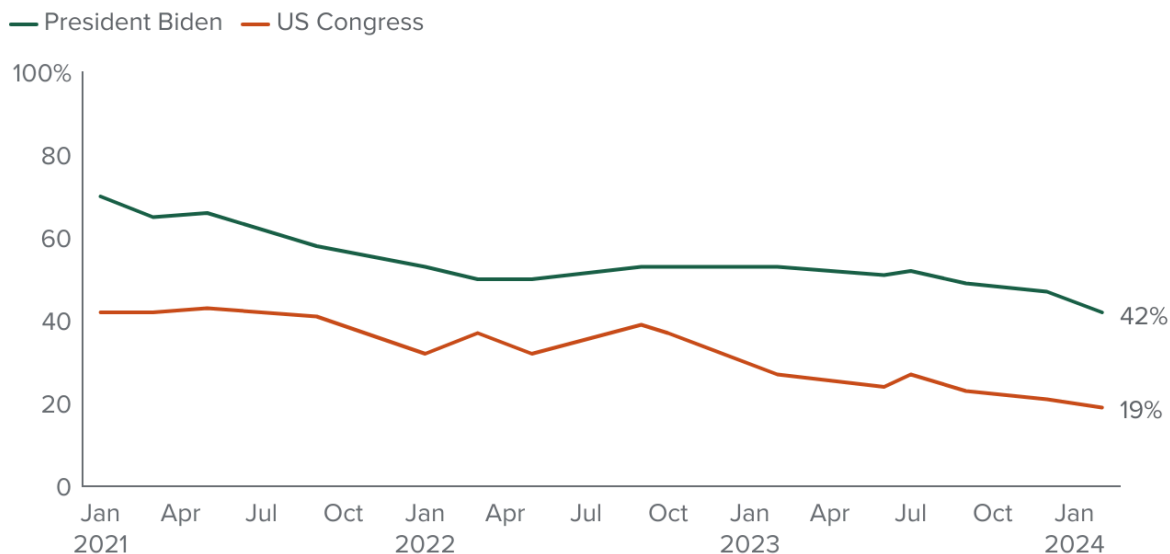
SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Surveys, 2021–2024.

About one in ten Californians say they have a great deal of confidence in President Biden to make the right decisions for the country's future, while about a third say they have none at all.

Approval of Congress is near a record low among Californians, at 19 percent; approval is similarly low among all Americans (15%), according to a January 2024 Gallup poll. There is little variation across parties, regions, and most demographic groups in California. Independents are the least likely to approve of Congress (11%), followed by Republicans (16%) and Democrats (20%). Latinos and African Americans (26% each) are twice as likely as whites (13%) to approve, while 21 percent of Asian Americans approve.

When Californians were asked if President Biden and the US Congress will be able to work together to accomplish a lot in the next year, a quarter express confidence (72% say they will not be able to work together). Democrats are more than twice as likely as Republicans and independents to think the president and Congress will be able to work together. Across regions of the state, Inland Empire residents are the most likely to hold this view, while those in Orange/San Diego are the least likely.

Across racial/ethnic groups, African Americans are the most optimistic, with four in ten saying President Biden and Congress will be able to accomplish a lot in the next year, while whites are least likely to be optimistic (17%). About a third of adults with only a high school education are optimistic, compared to a fifth of college graduates and those with some college education. Californians with incomes less than $80,000

are more likely than those with incomes over $80,000 to think the president and Congress will be able to work together (30% and 20% respectively).

About a quarter of Californians say the president and Congress will be able to work together to accomplish a lot in the next year

	Approve of President Biden	Approve of Congress	Think president and Congress will be able to accomplish a lot in the next year
All adults	42	19	25
Likely voters	49	12	22
Democrats	66	20	33
Republicans	14	16	14
Independents	37	11	14
Central Valley	38	17	21
Inland Empire	36	18	30
Los Angeles	42	23	28
Orange/San Diego	42	13	20
SF Bay Area	53	20	26
Men	44	20	26
Women	41	18	24
African Americans	62	26	40
Asian Americans	53	21	23
Latinos	37	26	34
Whites	41	13	17
Less than $40,000	37	25	31
$40,000 to $79,999	41	24	29
$80,000 or more	47	13	20

SOURCE: PPIC Statewide Survey, February 2024. Survey was fielded from February 6-13, 2024 (n=1,628 adults and n=1,075 likely voters).

Six in ten Californians say they are not satisfied with how democracy is working in the US, with 38 percent saying they are not too satisfied and 22 percent saying they are not at all satisfied. About a third say they are somewhat satisfied and 4 percent say they are very satisfied. Satisfaction varies most among partisan groups. Close to seven in ten Republicans say they are not too (35%) or not at all satisfied (34%) with how democracy is working; dissatisfaction levels are similar among independents (44% not too, 24% not at all).

Democrats express less dissatisfaction with democracy in the US: about half say they are not too (36%) or not at all satisfied (16%). Across regions and across gender, age, and income groups, close to six in ten or more express dissatisfaction. There are some differences across racial/ethnic groups: about a quarter of whites say they are not at all satisfied, while African Americans are most likely to express satisfaction (45%).

In line with these sentiments about democracy, six in ten Californians say that the way that democracy is working in the US has gotten worse in the past five years. Majorities hold this view across parties, regions, and most demographic groups. A strong majority of whites (72%) say democracy has gotten worse in the past five years, compared to a smaller majority of Asian Americans (55%) and fewer than half of Latinos and African Americans (48% each).

Six in ten Californians say they are not satisfied with how democracy is working in the US

	Not at all satisfied	Not too satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Very satisfied
All adults	22	38	34	4
Likely voters	24	37	35	5
Democrats	16	36	42	4
Republicans	34	35	24	6
Independents	24	44	28	3
Central Valley	21	40	31	4
Inland Empire	21	41	31	6
Los Angeles	20	34	40	5
Orange/San Diego	21	41	31	5
SF Bay Area	22	39	36	3
Men	20	38	35	6
Women	23	39	33	3
African Americans	17	34	36	9
Asian Americans	19	41	35	4
Latinos	18	36	38	5
Whites	26	40	29	4
Less than $40,000	21	35	34	8
$40,000 to $79,999	18	40	37	2
$80,000 or more	23	40	33	4

Regional Map

This map highlights the five geographic regions for which we present results; these regions account for approximately 90 percent of the state population. Residents of other geographic areas (in gray) are included in the results reported for all adults, registered voters, and likely voters, but sample sizes for these less-populous areas are not large enough to report separately.
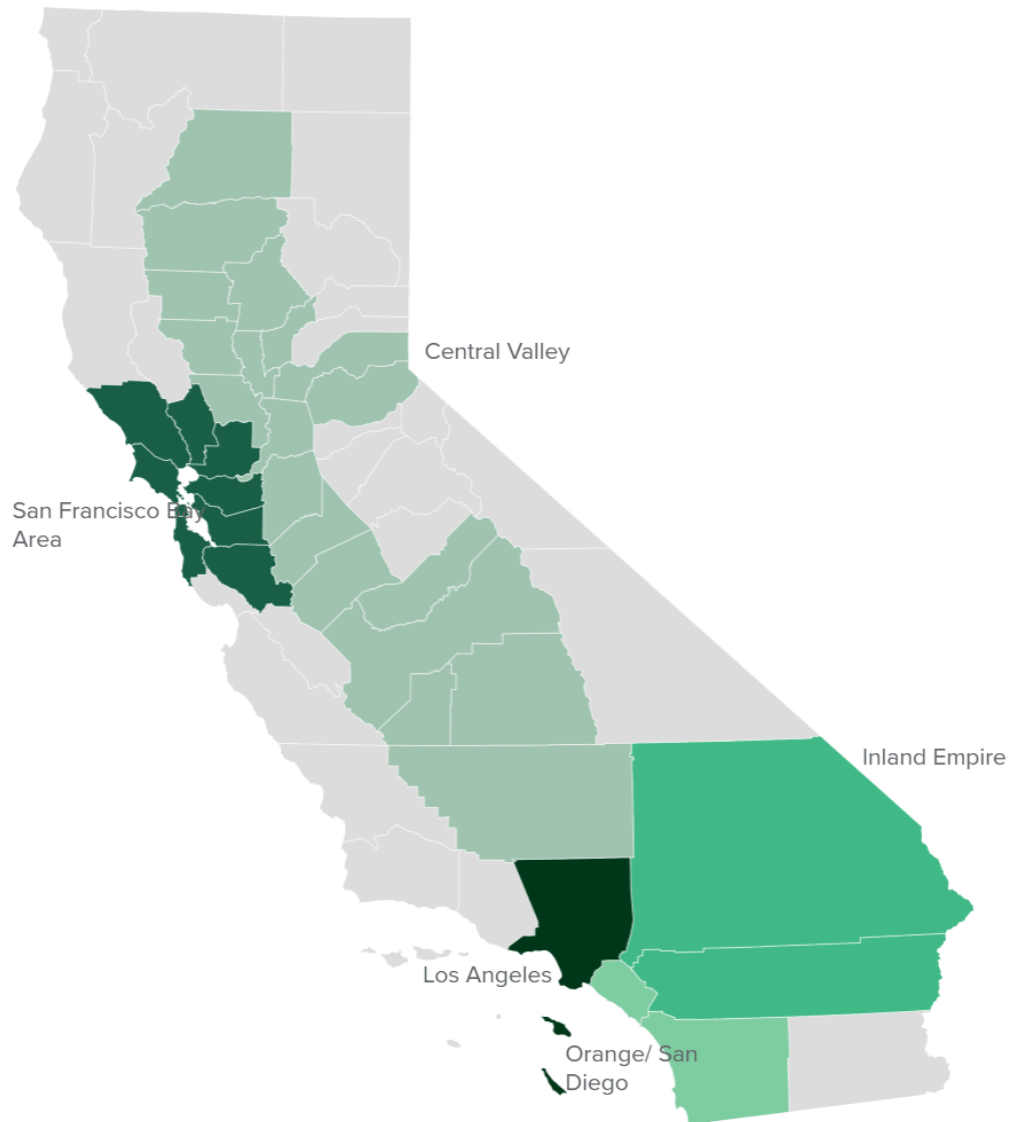
Methodology

This is the 26th year of the PPIC Statewide Survey. Coauthors of this report include survey director Mark Baldassare, who holds the Miller Chair in Public Policy; associate survey director and research fellow Dean Bonner and survey analyst Lauren Mora, who were co-project managers for this survey, and survey analyst Deja Thomas. The Californians and Their Government survey is supported with funding from the Arjay R. and Frances F. Miller Foundation. The PPIC Statewide Survey invites input, comments, and suggestions from policy and public opinion experts and from its own advisory committee, but survey methods, questions, and content are determined solely by PPIC's survey team.

Findings in this report are based on a survey of 1,628 California adult residents. The median time to complete the survey was 20 minutes. Interviews were conducted from February 6–13, 2024.

The survey was conducted by Ipsos, using its online KnowledgePanel, in English and Spanish according to respondents' preferences. KnowledgePanel members are recruited through probability-based sampling and include both those with internet access and those without. KnowledgePanel provides internet access for those who do not have it and, if needed, a device to access the internet when they join the panel. KnowledgePanel members are primarily recruited using address-based sampling (ABS) methodology, which improves population coverage, particularly for hard-to-reach populations such as young adults and minority groups. ABS-recruited Latinos are supplemented with a dual-frame random digit dialing (RDD) sampling methodology that targets telephone exchanges associated with areas with a higher concentration of Latinos to provide the capability to conduct representative online surveys with Latinos, including those who speak only Spanish. KnowledgePanel's recruitment was originally based on a national RDD frame and switched to the primarily ABS-based methodology in 2009. KnowledgePanel includes households with landlines and cell phones, including those with cellphones only and those without phones. ABS allows probability-based sampling of addresses from the US Postal Service's Delivery Sequence File (DSF). The DSF-based sampling frame used for address selection is enhanced with a series of refinements—such as the appendage of various ancillary data to each address from commercial and government data sources—to facilitate complex stratification plans. Taking advantage of such refinements, quarterly samples are selected using a stratified sampling methodology that aims to retain the representativeness of the panel. KnowledgePanel recruits new panel members throughout the year to offset panel attrition.

To qualify for the survey, a panel member must be age 18 or older and reside in California. A general population sample of Californians was selected using Ipsos's PPS (probability proportional to size) sampling procedure to select study-specific samples. Briefly, to select such samples, the panel is first weighted to population benchmarks and those panel weights are used as the measure of size for a PPS sample selection that yields a fully representative sample. A total of 1,673 respondents completed the survey out of 2,971 panelists who were sampled, for a response rate of 56 percent. To ensure the highest data quality, we flagged respondents who sped through the survey, which we defined as completing the survey in one-fourth of the overall median time (less than 5.1 minutes). We also flagged respondents if their self-reported age or gender did not match the data stored in their profile. A total of 45 cases were removed after this review process, resulting in 1,628 total qualified and valid cases.

Accent on Languages, Inc., translated new survey questions into Spanish, with assistance from Renatta DeFever.

Ipsos uses the US Census Bureau's 2017–2021 American Community Survey's (ACS) Public Use Microdata Series for California (with regional coding information from the University of Minnesota's Integrated Public Use Microdata Series for California) to compare certain demographic characteristics of the survey sample—region, age, gender, race/ethnicity, and education—with the characteristics of California's adult population. The survey sample was closely comparable to the ACS figures. We also used voter registration data from the California Secretary of State to compare the party registration of registered voters in our sample to party registration statewide. The sample of Californians is first weighted using an initial sampling or base weight that corrects for any differences in the probability of selecting various segments of the KnowledgePanel sample. This base weight is further adjusted using an iterative proportional fitting (raking) procedure that aligns sample demographics to population benchmarks from the 2017–2021 ACS data as well as party registration benchmarks from the California Secretary of State's voter registration file.

The sampling error, taking design effects from weighting into consideration, is ±3.3 percent at the 95 percent confidence level for the total unweighted sample of 1,628 adults. This means that 95 times out of 100, the results will be within 3.3 percentage points of what they would be if all adults in California were interviewed. The sampling error for unweighted subgroups is larger: for the 1,410 registered voters, the sampling error is ±3.5 percent; for the 1,075 likely voters, it is ±3.9 percent; for the 275 Republican Primary likely voters, it is ±8.3 percent. Sampling error is only one type of error to which surveys are subject. Results may also be affected by factors such as question wording, question order, and survey timing.

We present results for five geographic regions, accounting for approximately 90 percent of the state population. "Central Valley" includes Butte, Colusa, El Dorado, Fresno, Glenn, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, Placer, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Shasta, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Tulare, Yolo, and Yuba Counties. "San Francisco Bay Area" includes Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, and Sonoma Counties. "Los Angeles" refers to Los Angeles County, "Inland Empire" refers to Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, and "Orange/San Diego" refers to Orange and San Diego Counties. Residents of other geographic areas are included in the results reported for all adults, registered voters, and likely voters, but sample sizes for these less-populous areas are not large enough to report separately.

We present results for non-Hispanic whites, who account for 40 percent of the state's adult population, and also for Latinos, who account for 36 percent of the state's adult population and constitute one of the fastest-growing voter groups. We also present results for non-Hispanic Asian Americans, who make up about 16 percent of the state's adult population, and non-Hispanic African Americans, who comprise about 5 percent. Results for other racial/ethnic groups—such as Native Americans—are included in the results reported for all adults, registered voters, and likely voters, but sample sizes are not large enough for separate analysis. Results for African American and Asian American likely voters are combined with those of other racial/ethnic groups because sample sizes for African American and Asian American likely voters are too small for separate analysis. We compare the opinions of those who report they are registered Democrats, registered Republicans, and decline-to-state or independent voters; the results for those who say they are registered to vote in other parties are not large enough for separate analysis. We also analyze the responses of likely voters—so designated per their responses to survey questions about voter registration, previous election participation, intentions to vote this year, attention to election news, and current interest in politics.

Sample sizes and margins of error for each subgroup are presented in the table below.

The percentages presented in the report tables and in the questionnaire may not add to 100 due to rounding.

We compare current PPIC Statewide Survey results to those in our earlier surveys and national surveys conducted by CBS News/YouGov, Economist/YouGov, Gallup, and Pew Research Center. Numerous questions were adapted from the national surveys by the Pew Research Center, Ipsos, and YouGov. Additional details about our methodology can be found at www.ppic.org/wp-content/uploads/SurveyMethodology.pdf and are available upon request through surveys@ppic.org.

Unweighted N-size and margin of error

Group	Unweighted N-size	Margin of error
All adults	**1,628**	**3.2%**
Likely voters	1,075	3.9%
Democrats	708	4.8%
Republicans	347	7.2%
No party preference/ Independents	325	7.1%
Central Valley	327	7.3%
Inland Empire	185	9.8%
Los Angeles	388	6.6%
Orange/San Diego	258	8.3%
SF Bay Area	311	7.8%
Men	786	4.9%
Women	842	4.4%
African Americans	144	11.5%
Asian Americans	171	9.4%
Latinos	445	6.1%
Whites	806	4.6%
Less than $40,000	327	6.9%
$40,000 to $79,999	371	6.6%
$80,000 or more	863	4.6%
All likely voters	**1,075**	**3.9%**
Democrats	557	5.4%
Republicans	275	8.3%
No party preference/ Independents	222	8.3%
Central Valley	216	9%
Inland Empire	113	11.6%
Los Angeles	241	8.2%
Orange/San Diego	176	9.8%
SF Bay Area	229	8.3%
Men	562	5.6%
Women	513	5.5%
Latinos	222	8.6%
Whites	610	5.1%
Other	243	8.2%
Less than $40,000	146	10.3%
$40,000 to $79,999	223	7.9%
$80,000 or more	664	5.2%

Questions and Responses

February 6–13, 2024
1,628 California adult residents
English, Spanish

Margin of error ±3.3% at 95% confidence level for total sample
Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding

1. First, which one issue facing California today do you think is the most important for the governor and state legislature to work on in 2024?

20% jobs, economy, inflation
18% homelessness
14% housing costs, availability
11% crime, gangs, drugs
10% immigration, illegal immigration
6% state budget, deficit, taxes
5% environment, pollution, climate change
2% government in general, problems with elected officials, political parties
13% other (*specify*)
2% don't know

2. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that Governor Newsom is handling his job as governor of California?

47% approve
50% disapprove
2% don't know

3. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that the California Legislature is handling its job?

43% approve
54% disapprove
3% don't know

4. Do you think that Governor Newsom and the state legislature will be able to work together and accomplish a lot in the next year, or not?

56% yes, will be able to work together
41% no, will not be able to work together
3% don't know

5. Do you think things in California are <u>generally</u> going in the right direction or the wrong direction?

41% right direction
57% wrong direction
2% don't know

6. How much of the time do you think you can trust the <u>state</u> government in Sacramento today to do what is right—just about always, most of the time, or only some of the time?

6% just about always
34% most of the time
58% only some of the time
1% none of the time (*volunteered*)
2% don't know

7. Would you say the state government is pretty much run by a few big interests looking out for themselves, or that it is run for the benefit of all of the people?

70% a few big interests
27% benefit of all of the people
2% don't know

8. Do you think the people in the state government waste a lot of the money we pay in taxes, wastes some of it, or don't waste much of it?

48% a lot
43% some
8% don't waste very much
1% don't know

9. Turning to economic conditions in California, do you think that during the next 12 months we will have good times financially or bad times?

36% good times
62% bad times
2% don't know

10. Looking ahead six months from now, do you expect the economy in your local area to be [rotate top 1 to 5 and 5 to 1] [1] much stronger, [2] somewhat stronger, [3] about the same, [4] somewhat weaker, or [5] much weaker than it is now?

[*rotate top to bottom and bottom to top; 1–5/5–1*]

2% much stronger
13% somewhat stronger
46% about the same
23% somewhat weaker
15% much weaker
1% don't know

11. Looking ahead six months from now, do you expect your personal financial situation to be [*rotate top 1 to 5 and 5 to 1*] [1] much stronger, [2] somewhat stronger, [3] about the same, [4] somewhat weaker, or [5] much weaker than it is now?

[rotate top to bottom and bottom to top; 1–5/5–1]

4% much stronger
17% somewhat stronger
52% about the same
17% somewhat weaker
10% much weaker
1% don't know

12. Compared to six months ago, are you NOW [*rotate*] [1] more or [2] less comfortable making a major purchase, like a home or car?

25% more comfortable
74% less comfortable
2% don't know

13. Compared to six months ago, are you NOW [*rotate*] [1] more or [2] less comfortable making other household purchases?

34% more comfortable
64% less comfortable
2% don't know

14. Thinking of the last six months, have you, someone in your family, or someone else you know personally lost their job as a result of economic conditions?

21% yes
79% no
1% don't know

15. Now look ahead at the <u>next</u> six months. How likely is it that you, someone in your family, or someone else you know personally will lose their job in the next six months as a result of economic conditions?

[rotate top to bottom and bottom to top; 1–5/5–1]
3% extremely likely
6% very likely
28% somewhat likely
44% not very likely
18% not at all likely
1% don't know

16. Some people are registered to vote and others are not. Are you absolutely certain that you are registered to vote in California?

76% yes *[ask q16a]*
24% no *[skip to q17b]*

16a. Are you registered as a Democrat, a Republican, another party, or are you registered as a decline-to-state or independent voter?

47% Democrat *[ask q17]*
24% Republican *[skip to q17a]*
2% another party *(please specify)* *[skip to q18]*
27% decline-to-state/independent *[skip to q17b]*

[likely voters only]

49% Democrat *[ask q7]*
27% Republican *[skip to q7a]*
1% another party *(please specify)* *[skip to q8]*
23% decline-to-state/independent *[skip to q7b]*

17. Would you call yourself a strong Democrat or not a very strong Democrat?

47% strong
52% not very strong
1% don't know

[skip to q18]

17a. Would you call yourself a strong Republican or not a very strong Republican?

56% strong
44% not very strong
– don't know

[skip to q18]

17b. Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican Party or Democratic Party?

12% Republican Party
33% Democratic Party
43% neither
11% don't know

18. ***[likely voters only]*** **As you may know, California now has a top-two primary system for statewide races in which voters can cast ballots for any candidate, regardless of party, and the two candidates receiving the most votes—regardless of party—will advance to the general election. These are the candidates on the ballot for the March 2024 primary for US Senator. If the primary were being held today, who would you vote for?** *[randomize list]*

24% Adam Schiff, a Democrat, Congressman

19% Katie Porter, a Democrat, Congresswoman
18% Steve Garvey, a Republican
10% Barbara Lee, a Democrat, Congresswoman
4% Eric Early, a Republican, Attorney/Business
3% James P. Bradley, a Republican, Chief Financial Officer
2% Sarah Liew, a Republican, Chief Executive Officer
1% Sharleta Basett, a Republican, Business Woman/Mother/Farmer
1% Denice Gary-Pandol, a Republican, Retired Security Analysis
1% Laura Garza, no party affiliation, Freight Railroad Worker
1% Don J. Grundmann, no party affiliation, Doctor of Chiropractic
1% Forrest Jones, American Independent
1% Gail Lightfoot, a Libertarian, Retired Registered Nurse
1% James "Jim" Macauley, a Republican, Sales Associate
1% Christina Pascucci, a Democrat
1% David Peterson, a Democrat, Small Business Owner
1% Douglas H. Pierce, a Democrat, Missing Persons' Investigator
1% Jonathan Reiss, a Republican, Business Owner
– Sepi Gilani, a Democrat, Physician/Surgeon, Professor
– Harmesh Kumar, a Democrat
– Perry Pound, a Democrat, Small Business Owner
– Aejaz Rab, a Democrat, Aviator/Educator/Entrepreneur
– John David Rose, a Democrat, Office Manager
– Mark Ruzon, no party preference, Software Engineer
– Stefan Simchowitz, a Republican, Art Dealer
– Major Singh, no party preference, Software Engineer
– Jehu Thomas De Gerold Hand, a Republican
– Martin Veprauskas, a Republican, Retired Operations Manager
1% someone else (please specify)
6% don't know

19. *[likely voters only]* **In general, would you say you are satisfied or not satisfied with your choices of candidates in the US Senate Primary?**

62% satisfied
36% not satisfied
2% don't know

20. *[Republican likely voters only]* **These are the candidates on the ballot for the March 2024 Republican primary for president. If the primary was being held today, who would you vote for?** *[randomize list]*

64% Donald Trump, former President
17% Nikki Haley, former South Carolina Governor
3% Chris Christie, former Governor of New Jersey
3% Ron DeSantis, Florida Governor
3% Vivek Ramaswamy, Entrepreneur and Author
2% Asa Hutchinson, Businessman and former Arkansas Governor

1% Rachel Swift, Businesswoman
– Ryan Binkley, Pastor and Businessman
– David Stuckenberg, Entrepreneur
2% someone else *(please specify)*
4% would not vote in Republican primary *(volunteered)*
1% don't know

20a. *[Republican likely voters only]* **As you may know, although still on the ballot, multiple candidates have suspended their campaigns for the Republican nomination for president. That being said, if these were the candidates for the March 2024 Republican primary, who would you vote for?** *[randomize list]*

29% Nikki Haley, former South Carolina Governor
69% Donald Trump, former President
2% would not vote in Republican primary (*volunteered*)
– don't know

21. *[likely voters only]* **If the 2024 presidential election were being held today, and these were the candidates, who would you vote for?**

55% Joe Biden
32% Donald Trump
10% someone else *(please specify)*
1% neither/would not vote for President *(volunteered)*
2% don't know

22. *[likely voters only]* **How enthusiastic would you say you are about voting for President this year—extremely enthusiastic, very enthusiastic, somewhat enthusiastic, not too enthusiastic, or not at all enthusiastic?**

[rotate top to bottom and bottom to top]

23% extremely enthusiastic
14% very enthusiastic
19% somewhat enthusiastic
21% not too enthusiastic
22% not at all enthusiastic

23. *[likely voters only]* **How closely are you following news about candidates for the 2024 presidential election?**

33% very closely
41% fairly closely
20% not too closely
7% not at all closely
– don't know

24. *[likely voters only]* **If the 2024 election for US House of Representatives were being held today, would you vote for [rotate] [1] the Republican candidate [or] [2] the Democratic candidate in your district?**

36% Republican candidate/lean Republican
61% Democratic candidate/lean Democratic
3% don't know

25. *[likely voters only]* **How enthusiastic would you say you are about voting for Congress this year—extremely enthusiastic, very enthusiastic, somewhat enthusiastic, not too enthusiastic, or not at all enthusiastic?**

[rotate top to bottom and bottom to top]

15% extremely enthusiastic
13% very enthusiastic
27% somewhat enthusiastic
28% not too enthusiastic
16% not at all enthusiastic
– don't know

26. *[likely voters only]* **How important is voting in elections in 2024? Would you say this is very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important?**

[rotate top to bottom and bottom to top]

84% very important
13% somewhat important
2% not too important
1% not at all important
– don't know

27. *[likely voters only]* **Proposition 1 is called the "Authorizes $6.38 Billion in Bonds to Build Mental Health Treatment Facilities for Those With Mental Health and Substance Use Challenges; Provides Housing for the Homeless. Legislative Statute."**

It amends the Health Services Act to provide additional behavioral health services. The fiscal impacts are to shift roughly $140 million annually of existing tax revenue for mental health, drug, and alcohol treatment from counties to the state and increase state bond repayment costs of $310 million annually for 30 years. Supporters include California Professional Firefighters; CA Assoc. of Veteran Service Agencies; National Alliance on Mental Illness—CA Opponents include Mental Health America of California; Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association; CalVoices.

If the election were today, would you vote yes or no on Proposition 1?

59% yes
38% no
2% don't know

28. *[likely voters only]* **Is this a good time or a bad time for the state to issue $6.38 billion in bonds to fund housing for homeless individuals and veterans with mental health or substance disorders?**

51% good time
48% bad time
1% don't know

28a. *[likely voters only]* **The Mental Health Services Act enacted by voters as Proposition 63 in 2004 funds county mental health services with revenues from a 1 percent tax on income above $1 million. Overall, do you feel that passing Proposition 63 turned out to be mostly a good thing for California or mostly a bad thing?**

63% mostly a good thing
33% mostly a bad thing
4% don't know

29. *[likely voters only]* **How important to you is the outcome of the vote on Proposition 1—is it very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important?**

29% very important
46% somewhat important
18% not too important
5% not at all important
1% don't know

On another topic,

30. Do you think the state budget situation in California—that is, the balance between government spending and revenues—is a big problem, somewhat of a problem, or not a problem for the people of California today?

40% big problem
48% somewhat of a problem
10% not a problem
2% don't know

31. Thinking about these four areas of state spending, I'd like you to name the one you think should have the <u>highest</u> priority when it comes to state government spending, [*rotate*] [1] K–12 public education, [2] higher education, [3] health and human services, [*or*] [4] prisons and corrections

38% K–12 public education
8% higher education
45% health and human services
7% prisons and correction
1% don't know

32. In general, which of the following statements do you agree with more—[*rotate*] [1] I'd rather pay higher taxes and have a state government that provides more services, [*or*] [2] I'd rather pay lower taxes and have a state government that provides fewer services?

48% higher taxes and more services

49% lower taxes and fewer services
3% don't know

33. Governor Newsom recently proposed a budget plan for the next fiscal year that includes $208.7 billion in general fund spending and a $37.86 billion budget shortfall. The plan also contains $5.1 billion in budget delays, $2.1 billion in deferrals and $3.4 billion in fund shifts. Despite the projected shortfall, the plan currently includes no new taxes. In general, do you favor or oppose the governor's budget plan?

51% favor
44% oppose
2% haven't heard anything about the budget (*volunteered*)
4% don't know

34. As part of the 2024 budget, Governor Newsom has proposed to use $13.1 billion from the state's reserves, mostly from the Budget Stabilization Account or "Rainy Day Fund," to partially address the current budget. This means less funding will be available to backfill spending if revenues continue to decrease. However, it also means if reserves are not used, more budget cuts are needed. In general, do you think using state reserve money is a good idea or a bad idea?

46% good idea
48% bad idea
6% don't know

35. Governor Newsom's budget plan also includes a combination of reductions, delayed spending, and shifts in funding sources to bridge the gap between spending and revenues. Currently, the plan calls for $8.5 billion in spending cuts including $2.9 billion in various climate reductions and $1.2 billion in various housing program reductions. In general, do you think these spending cuts are a good idea or a bad idea?

54% good idea
42% bad idea
5% don't know

36. As you may know, the state government currently has an annual general fund budget of around $208.7 billion dollars and faces a $38.9-billion-dollar gap between spending and revenues. How would you prefer to deal with the state's budget gap—mostly through spending cuts, mostly through tax increases, through a mix of spending cuts and tax increases, or do you think that it is okay for the state to borrow money and run a budget deficit?

41% mostly through spending cuts
9% mostly through tax increases
39% through a mix of spending cuts and tax increases
6% okay to borrow money and run a budget deficit
4% don't know

37. How much of a problem is poverty in your part of California? Is it a big problem, somewhat of a problem, or not much of a problem?

43% big problem
46% somewhat of a problem
11% not a problem
1% don't know

38. How much do you think government policies and programs can do to reduce poverty in California—a lot, some, not much, or nothing at all

26% a lot
40% some
24% not much
9% nothing at all
1% don't know

On another topic,

Do you favor or oppose each of these policies that could improve the economic well-being of Californians?

[rotate questions 39 to 40]

39. Would you favor or oppose the federal government providing a guaranteed income, sometimes called a "Universal Basic Income," of about $1,000 a month for all adult citizens, whether or not they work?

47% favor
51% oppose
2% don't know

40. Do you favor or oppose a policy that would increase the current minimum wage from $15 per hour to $16 in 2024 and subsequently by $1 each year until it reaches $18?

65% favor
34% oppose
1% don't know

41. Do you think the gap between the rich and the poor in your part of California is getting larger, getting smaller, or has it stayed the same?

70% getting larger
7% getting smaller
21% has stayed the same
2% don't know

42. Which comes closer to your view? [ROTATE] [1] In today's economy, everyone has a fair chance to get ahead in the long run OR [2] In today's economy, it's mainly just a few people at the top who have a chance to get ahead.

31% everyone has a fair chance

67% just a few people at the top have a chance
2% don't know

On another topic,

43. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that Joe Biden is handling his job as president of the United States?

42% approve
56% disapprove
2% don't know

44. How much confidence do you have in President Biden to make the right decisions for the country's future—a great deal of confidence, a good amount, just some, or none at all?

12% great deal of confidence
25% a good amount
27% just some
35% none at all
1% don't know

45. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way the US Congress is handling its job?

19% approve
78% disapprove
3% don't know

46. Do you think that President Biden and the US Congress will be able to work together and accomplish a lot in the next year, or not?

25% yes, will be able to work together
72% no, will not be able to work together
3% don't know

47. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that the US Supreme Court is handling its job?

32% approve
65% disapprove
3% don't know

48. **Do you think things in the United States are generally going in the right direction or the wrong direction?**

23% right direction
75% wrong direction
2% don't know

49. How much of the time do you think you can trust the <u>federal</u> government in Washington today to do what is right—just about always, most of the time, or only some of the time?

3% just about always
24% most of the time
71% only some of the time
1% none of the time (*volunteered*)
1% don't know

50. Would you say the <u>federal</u> government is pretty much run by a few big interests looking out for themselves, or that it is run for the benefit of all of the people?

80% a few big interests
18% benefit of all of the people
2% don't know

51. Do you think the people in the <u>federal</u> government waste a lot of the money we pay in taxes, wastes some of it, or don't waste much of it

58% a lot
35% some
6% don't waste very much
1% don't know

52. Turning to economic conditions, do you think that during the next 12 months the United States will have good time financially or bad times?

34% good times
63% bad times
3% don't know

How much influence, if any, do you feel you have over decision-making in...

[rotate questions 53 to 55]

53. The United States?

5% a great deal
15% some
39% not much
40% none at all
– don't know

54. California?

5% a great deal
22% some

37% not much
35% none at all
– don't know

55. Your local area?

5% a great deal
31% some
37% not much
27% none at all
– don't know

56. How satisfied are you with the way democracy is working in the United States? Are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, not too satisfied, or not at all satisfied?

4% very satisfied
34% somewhat satisfied
38% not too satisfied
22% not at all satisfied
2% don't know

57. Compared to five years ago, would you say that the way democracy is working in the United States today has got better, got worse, or stayed the same?

3% got a lot better
10% got a little better
25% stayed the same
27% got a little worse
33% got a lot worse
2% don't know

58. On another topic, please indicate which statement comes closest to your own view—even if neither is exactly right. [ROTATE] [1] Immigrants today are a benefit to California because of their hard work and job skills OR [2] Immigrants today are a burden to California because they use public services.

60% immigrants are a benefit to California
38% immigrants are a burden to California
2% don't know

59. Do you think the current situation with migrants at the US-Mexico border is...

40% a crisis
30% a very serious problem, but not a crisis
19% a somewhat serious problem
10% not much of a problem
1% don't know

Which of the following, if any, are reasons you consider the current situation at the border to be a [crisis / very serious problem]? How about your concerns about... The lives and well-being of the migrants?

[rotate questions 60 to 62]

60. National security?

76% yes
24% no
– don't know

61. The lives and well-being of the migrants?

75% yes
25% no
– don't know

62. Changes to US culture and people?

46% yes
53% no
1% don't know

63. If people cross the US-Mexico border and ask for asylum—they say they are fleeing violence or their lives are in danger—what should US policy toward them be? Should the US rule be that they must:

47% remain in the US while waiting for a court hearing to decide if they can stay legally or not
41% leave the US then wait for a court to decide if they can return legally or not
10% leave the US without a court hearing and no chance to return or stay legally
2% don't know

64. What should the US focus on more when it comes to migrants seeking asylum at the US-Mexico border? [rotate response options 1 and 2]

67% making sure the process for who can be admitted or not is more efficient
32% making sure migrants cannot cross the border in the first place
1% don't know

65. Generally speaking, do you think the recent immigrants who have been crossing the US-Mexico border will make American society...? [randomize response options 1 and 2, and always ask 3 last]:

29% better in the long run
38% worse in the long run
31% won't have much of an effect one way or the other
2% don't know

On a different topic,

66. Do you favor the US increasing, decreasing, or maintaining the same amount of military aid to Israel? [randomize response options 1 and 2, and always ask 3 and 4 last]

9% increasing military aid
40% decreasing military aid
25% maintaining the same amount of military aid to Israel
26% not sure/don't know

67. Do you favor the US increasing, decreasing, or maintaining the same amount of humanitarian aid to the Palestinians? [randomize response options 1 and 2, and always ask 3 and 4 last]

26% increasing humanitarian aid to the Palestinians
20% decreasing humanitarian aid to the Palestinians
23% maintaining the same amount of aid to the Palestinians
30% not sure/don't know

68. Would you support or oppose Israel and Hamas agreeing to a ceasefire now?

[rotate top to bottom and bottom to top]

47% strongly support
16% somewhat support
7% somewhat oppose
7% strongly oppose
23% not sure/don't know

69. When it comes to Russia's invasion of Ukraine, do you think that the US is providing (randomize 1 and 2 and always ask 3 and 8 last): [1] too much support to Ukraine, [2] not enough support to Ukraine, or [3] about the right amount of support to Ukraine? or [8] are you not sure?

25% too much support
22% not enough support
25% about the right amount
28% not sure/don't know

70. How much of a threat to US interests is Russia's invasion of Ukraine? [rotate top to bottom and bottom to top]

35% a major threat
28% a minor threat
11% not a threat
27% not sure/don't know

Changing topics,

[rotate questions 71 and 72]

71. Do you have a [rotate] (1) favorable or an (2) unfavorable impression of the Democratic Party?

42% favorable
55% unfavorable
3% don't know

72. Do you have a [rotate] (1) favorable or an (2) unfavorable impression of the Republican Party?

23% favorable
75% unfavorable
3% don't know

73. In your view, do the Republican and Democratic parties do an adequate job representing the American people, or do they do such a poor job that a third major party is needed?

25% adequate job
72% third party is needed
4% don't know

74. Would you consider yourself to be politically: *[rotate order top to bottom]*

13% very liberal
19% somewhat liberal
42% middle-of-the-road
17% somewhat conservative
8% very conservative
2% don't know

75. Generally speaking, how much interest would you say you have in politics?

16% a great deal
33% a fair amount
30% only a little
21% none
– don't know

[d1–d18 demographic questions]

Authors

Mark Baldassare is the Statewide Survey Director at the Public Policy Institute of California, where he holds the Arjay and Frances Fearing Miller Chair in Public Policy. He is a leading expert on public opinion and survey methodology and has directed the PPIC Statewide Survey since 1998. He is an authority on elections, voter behavior, and political and fiscal reform, and the author of ten books and numerous publications. Previously, he served as PPIC's president and CEO, director of research, and senior fellow. Before joining PPIC, he was a professor of urban and regional planning in the School of Social Ecology at the University of California, Irvine, where he held the Johnson Chair in Civic Governance. He has conducted surveys for the *Los Angeles Times*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and the California Business Roundtable. He holds a PhD in sociology from the University of California, Berkeley.

Dean Bonner is associate survey director and research fellow at PPIC, where he coauthors the PPIC Statewide Survey—a large-scale public opinion project designed to develop an in-depth profile of the social, economic, and political attitudes at work in California elections and policymaking. He has expertise in public opinion and survey research, political attitudes and participation, and voting behavior. Before joining PPIC, he taught political science at Tulane University and was a research associate at the University of New Orleans Survey Research Center. He holds a PhD and MA in political science from the University of New Orleans.

Lauren Mora is a survey analyst at the Public Policy Institute of California, where she works with the statewide survey team. Prior to joining PPIC, she was a research assistant with the race and ethnicity team at the Pew Research Center, where she played a key role in quantitative and qualitative studies on Latino and Asian Americans. She holds a BA in geography/environmental studies from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Deja Thomas is a survey analyst at the Public Policy Institute of California, where she works with the statewide survey team. Prior to joining PPIC, she was a research assistant with the social and demographic trends team at the Pew Research Center. In that role, she contributed to a variety of national quantitative and qualitative survey studies. She holds a BA in psychology from the University of Hawaiʻi at Mānoa.

Acknowledgments

PPIC Statewide Advisory Committee

Copyright