Outline

- PPIC Statewide Surveys
- State government
- Federal government
- Conclusions
PPIC Statewide Survey mission

- Provide timely, relevant, nonpartisan data on political, social, and economic opinions
- Inform and improve state policymaking, raise awareness, encourage discussion
- Provide a voice for all Californians in important state policy debates
  - 318,000+ Californians since 1998
  - 150+ general, issue, and regional surveys
Californians and Their Government

- General series funded by The James Irvine Foundation
- State election policy landscape
  - Approval ratings and overall mood
  - Economic inequality, Proposition 30, climate change, health care, and 2016 ballot issues
- Federal election policy landscape
  - Approval ratings, congressional elections, and presidential candidates
  - Party favorability, party preferences on issues, voting, and reforms
- Telephone interviews, November 8–17
  - 60% landline, 40% cell phone
  - 1,703 adults, ± 3.7% margin of error
  - 1,115 likely voters, ± 4.4% margin of error
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Approval of state elected officials

Governor Brown
California Legislature

Dec-10  Dec-11  Dec-12  Dec-13  Dec-14  Dec-15

% 40  20  0

Governor Brown:
- 42
- 48
- 47
- 54
- 51

California Legislature:
- 25
- 34
- 38
- 41
- 41
Thinking about the state as a whole, what do you think is the most important issue facing people in California today?

- Water, drought: 27%
- Jobs, economy: 24%
- Immigration, illegal immigration: 6%
- Housing costs, availability: 5%
- State budget deficit, state spending: 5%
Do you think things in California are generally going in the right direction or the wrong direction?

- Right direction: 51%
- Wrong direction: 43%
- Don't know: 6%

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

- Good times: 48%
- Bad times: 41%
- Don't know: 11%

All adults
Do you think that California is divided into haves and have-nots, or do you think that California is not divided that way?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>% saying divided</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All adults</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asians</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blacks</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latinos</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whites</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Are you in the haves or have-nots?

If you had to choose, which of these groups are you in—the haves or have-nots?

- **All adults**: 40% Haves, 44% Have-nots
- **Asians**: 49% Haves, 33% Have-nots
- **Blacks**: 22% Haves, 69% Have-nots
- **Latinos**: 24% Haves, 62% Have-nots
- **Whites**: 52% Haves, 31% Have-nots
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?
Do you favor or oppose extending the Proposition 30 tax increases which are set to fully expire in 2018?

% saying favor

- Central Valley: 58%
- SF Bay Area: 61%
- Los Angeles: 53%
- Orange/ San Diego: 52%
- Inland Empire: 55%
Problem seriousness of global climate change

In your view, is global climate change a very serious problem, somewhat serious, not too serious or not a problem?

% saying very serious

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Californians</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: U.S. and International findings from Pew Research Center, spring 2015.
Effect of state efforts to reduce global warming on jobs

Do you think that California doing things to reduce global warming will cause there to be more jobs for people around the state, will cause there to be fewer jobs, or won’t affect the number of jobs for people around the state?

December 2014

- More jobs: 43%
- No effect: 21%
- Fewer jobs: 29%
- Don't know: 7%

December 2015

- More jobs: 45%
- No effect: 19%
- Fewer jobs: 27%
- Don't know: 9%

All adults
Medical coverage for undocumented immigrants

Do you favor or oppose providing health care coverage for undocumented immigrants in California?

% saying favor

- All adults: 54%
- Asians: 53%
- Blacks: 44%
- Latinos: 85%
- Whites: 33%
Overall, how much would you say that the initiative process in California today is controlled by special interests—a lot, some, or not at all?

- All adults: 55%
- Likely voters: 66%
- Republicans: 68%
- Democrats: 60%
- Independents: 59%

% saying a lot
Next, several issues may be decided by California voters on the November 2016 ballot. Please tell me if each of the following issues is very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important to you. How about…?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>All adults</th>
<th>Likely voters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State bonds funding K–12 schools and community college facilities</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increasing the state minimum wage</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extending Prop 30 tax increases set to expire in 2018</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legalizing marijuana in California</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Approval of federal elected officials

- President Obama: 51% in Dec-13, 61% in Dec-15
- U.S. Congress: 18% in Dec-13, 26% in Dec-15
In general, would you say you are satisfied or not satisfied with your choices of candidates in the election for U.S. president in 2016?

- **All adults**: 46%
- **Likely voters**: 53%
- **Republicans**: 58%
- **Democrats**: 51%
- **Independents**: 41%
Preference for presidential candidate with experience or new ideas

Which of the following is more important to you in a presidential candidate—experience and a proven record new ideas and a different approach?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Experience and a proven record</th>
<th>New ideas and a different approach</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Californians</td>
<td>Adults nationwide*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Pew Research Center, October 2015
2016 Congressional elections

What is your preference for the outcome of next year’s congressional elections: a Congress controlled by Republicans or a Congress controlled by Democrats?

- Controlled by Democrats: 52%
- Controlled by Republicans: 32%
- Don’t know: 9%
- Neither (volunteered): 8%

Generally, what’s the better situation: that a president’s political party also has a controlling majority in Congress, or that one party controls the White House while the other party controls the Congress, or don’t you think it matters too much one way or the other?

- President’s party controls Congress: 31%
- One party controls each: 20%
- Don’t think it matters too much: 42%
- Don’t know: 7%
Please tell me if you think the Republican Party or the Democratic Party could do a better job of handling each of these national issues.

- **Health care**: Democratic Party 53%, Republican Party 31%
- **Immigration**: Democratic Party 46%, Republican Party 37%
- **Economy**: Democratic Party 45%, Republican Party 41%
- **Federal budget**: Democratic Party 44%, Republican Party 38%
Impressions of political parties

Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable impression of the…?

% saying favorable

Asians
- Democrats: 52%
- Republicans: 26%

Blacks
- Democrats: 69%
- Republicans: 14%

Latinos
- Democrats: 64%
- Republicans: 23%

Whites
- Democrats: 43%
- Republicans: 39%
Automatic voter registration

How likely is it that you will vote in elections if you are automatically registered to vote when you use the California Department of Motor Vehicles?

How likely is it that you will vote in elections if you are automatically mailed a ballot which you could return by mail or at a local voting center?

Among citizens who are not registered to vote

- Very likely: 44%
- Somewhat likely: 12%
- Not too likely: 27%
- Not at all likely: 16%
- Don't know: 1%

Among registered voters who do not always vote

- Very likely: 66%
- Somewhat likely: 4%
- Not too likely: 4%
- Not at all likely: 3%
- Don't know: 22%
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Conclusions — California’s 2016 Election Landscape

- Majority approval ratings for President Obama and Governor Brown are limiting support for political outsiders and setting tone for 2016 election
- Water and the economy are top state issues; mixed results on state’s current direction and next year’s economic outlook
- Many say state school bond and minimum wage increases are very important ballot items
- Public support for health reform and climate change, but partisan divide exists
- Party preferences and impressions highlight the role of changing demographics
- New and proposed reforms could increase voter rolls and turnout over time
These slides were created to accompany a presentation. They do not include full documentation of sources, data samples, methods, and interpretations. To avoid misinterpretations, please contact:

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Thank you for your interest in this work.