PPIC Statewide Survey: Californians and Their Government

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Approval of state elected officials

- Governor Brown
- California Legislature

% Approval over time from Jan-12 to Jan-16.
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?

% saying big problem
In general, do you favor or oppose the governor’s budget plan?

% saying favor

- 50% in 2012
- 69% in 2013
- 77% in 2014
- 75% in 2015
- 48% in 2016
Preferences for the use of surplus budget funds

The state is projected to have a budget surplus of several billion dollars. In general, how would you prefer to use this extra money?

- **Pay down debt, build reserve**
- **Restore some funding for social service programs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>All adults</th>
<th>Dem</th>
<th>Rep</th>
<th>Ind</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pay down debt, build reserve</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restore some funding for social service programs</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>35%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Importance of potential 2016 ballot issues

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>% saying very important</th>
<th>% saying somewhat important</th>
<th>% saying not too important</th>
<th>% saying not at all important</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stricter gun laws</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increasing state tax on cigarettes to fund healthcare</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changing the public employee pension system</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requiring statewide voter approval for revenue bonds</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All adults vs Likely voters
Perception of terrorism and security

How much of a problem is terrorism and security in California today? Is it a big problem, somewhat of a problem, or not much of a problem?

% saying big problem

- Dec-01: 31%
- Jan-02: 25%
- Aug-02: 23%
- Aug-03: 22%
- Aug-04: 24%
- Aug-05: 29%
- Aug-08: 26%
- Sep-09: 24%
- Jan-16: 43%
Government regulation of access to guns

Please indicate which statement comes closest to your own view, even if neither is exactly right. The government goes too far in restricting the rights of citizens to own guns; or the government does not do enough to regulate access to guns.
Perceptions of immigrants in California

Please indicate which statement comes closest to your own view—even if neither is exactly right. Immigrants today are a benefit to California because of their hard work and job skills or immigrants today are a burden to California because they use public services.

- Benefit
- Burden

68%
27%


%
Notes on the use of these slides

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.