PPIC Statewide Survey: Californians and Their Government

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March 2013
Economic Outlook

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

Likely voters

- Bad times
- Good times

Survey data shows a percentage of likely voters' opinions on economic conditions from March 2007 to March 2013. The data is represented in a line graph with two lines, one for bad times and one for good times, indicating the fluctuation in public opinion over time.
State Budget Situation

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?

Percent likely voters saying big problem

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Jan 07</th>
<th>May 07</th>
<th>Mar 08</th>
<th>Sep 08</th>
<th>Mar 09</th>
<th>Sep 09</th>
<th>Mar 10</th>
<th>Sep 10</th>
<th>Mar 11</th>
<th>Sep 11</th>
<th>Mar 12</th>
<th>Sep 12</th>
<th>Mar 13</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>49</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Jan 07: 49%
May 07: 46%
Mar 08: 79%
Sep 08: 84%
Mar 09: 85%
Sep 09: 85%
Mar 10: 87%
Sep 10: 90%
Mar 11: 83%
Sep 11: 81%
Mar 12: 78%
Sep 12: 83%
Mar 13: 72%
New revenue sources have been proposed to address the state budget situation. For each of the following, please say if you favor or oppose the proposal. How about...?

- Increase taxes on alcoholic beverages: Favor 61%, Oppose 37%
- Extend sales tax to services and lower overall sales tax rate: Favor 43%, Oppose 48%
- Tax the extraction of oil and natural gas: Favor 44%, Oppose 50%
Fiscal reforms have been proposed to address state budget and local budget issues. For each of the following, please say if you think the proposal is a good idea or a bad idea. How about...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposal</th>
<th>Likely voters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Simple majority vote for legislature to pass taxes</td>
<td>40% Good idea, 57% Bad idea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simple majority vote for legislature to put taxes on ballot</td>
<td>60% Good idea, 38% Bad idea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55% vote to pass local sales taxes for transportation</td>
<td>49% Good idea, 46% Bad idea</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Stricter environmental laws and regulations in California cost too many jobs and hurt the economy or stricter environmental laws and regulations in California are worth the cost.
If the election were being held today, would you vote yes or no on the $11.1 billion state water bond?

Likely voters

- Yes: 51
- No: 42
- Don't know: 8
High-Speed Rail System

Do you favor or oppose building a high-speed rail system in California?

- Favor: 43
- Oppose: 54
- Don't know: 3

Likely voters
Conclusions

- Concern about California’s current economic and budget situation is affecting attitudes towards the state’s plans for the future
- Likely voters are more likely to oppose than favor the state water bond and high-speed rail system
- Likely voters are reluctant to make it easier for the legislature to pass taxes on its own, but are much more positive if voters have a role in the process
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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.

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