

PPIC STATEWIDE SURVEY

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Californians & their government



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in collaboration with
The James Irvine Foundation



PPIC

PUBLIC POLICY
INSTITUTE OF CALIFORNIA

ABOUT THE SURVEY

The PPIC Statewide Survey provides policymakers, the media, and the public with objective, advocacy-free information on the perceptions, opinions, and public policy preferences of California residents. This is the 132nd PPIC Statewide Survey in a series that was inaugurated in April 1998 and has generated a database of responses from more than 278,000 Californians.

This is the 56th survey in the *Californians and Their Government* series. The survey is conducted periodically to examine the social, economic, and political trends that influence public policy preferences and ballot choices. Supported with funding from The James Irvine Foundation, the series seeks to inform decisionmakers, raise public awareness, and stimulate policy discussions and debate about important state and national issues.

The survey was conducted a week after the deadline for legislators to introduce bills and as the legislature began to address the more than 2,000 bills introduced. Included on the legislative agenda are gun policies, fiscal reforms, and initiative reforms. Some legislators seek to reform the California Environmental Quality Act, which would likely impact projects associated with the state water bond on the 2014 ballot as well as the construction of California's high-speed rail system. At the national level, the automatic spending cuts known as the sequester took place days before our survey began. Interviews were conducted as President Obama and Congress continued to debate ways to further reduce the federal budget deficit, address the approaching debt ceiling and a potential government shutdown, and pass a budget for 2014. Congress is debating gun regulations and immigration reform, while President Obama is discussing climate change policies. There is also ongoing political debate by the Republican Party at the state and national levels about outreach to Latino and young voters in the wake of the 2012 election.

This survey presents the responses of 1,703 adult residents throughout the state, interviewed in English or Spanish by landline or cell phone. It includes findings on these topics:

- State government, including perceptions of the economy, state budget situation, and the direction of the state; approval ratings of state elected officials; preferences for raising new revenues and for fiscal reforms; attitudes toward the \$11.1 billion water bond on the November 2014 ballot; support for high-speed rail and views on its importance to the future of California; opinions on the role of government in business regulation and environmental protection; and attitudes toward the citizens' initiative process, including support for reforms.
- Federal government, including approval ratings of federal elected officials; approval of the president and congressional Republicans in handling federal spending; preferences for legislative priorities; views on fiscal and economic policy, including support for increasing the minimum wage; preferences for gun regulations, immigration reform, and climate change policies; and perceptions of political parties.
- Time trends, national comparisons, and the extent to which Californians may differ in their perceptions, attitudes, and preferences regarding state and federal government, based on political party affiliation, likelihood of voting, region of residence, race/ethnicity, and other demographics.

This report may be downloaded free of charge from our website (www.ppic.org). For questions about the survey, please contact survey@ppic.org. Try our PPIC Statewide Survey interactive tools online at <http://www.ppic.org/main/survAdvancedSearch.asp>.

NEWS RELEASE

EMBARGOED: Do not publish or broadcast until 9:00 p.m. PDT on Wednesday, March 20, 2013.

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<http://www.ppic.org/main/pressreleaseindex.asp>

PPIC STATEWIDE SURVEY: CALIFORNIANS AND THEIR GOVERNMENT

Support for Water Bond, High-Speed Rail Falls Short of Majority— Unless Costs Are Reduced

ECONOMY, STATE AND FEDERAL BUDGETS WORRY CALIFORNIANS

SAN FRANCISCO, March 20, 2013—With the economy weighing on Californians' minds, fewer than half of the state's likely voters favor construction of a high-speed rail system or support an \$11.1 billion water bond that is scheduled to go on the 2014 ballot. Both get majority support with lower price tags. These are among the key findings of a statewide survey released today by the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC), with funding from The James Irvine Foundation.

Support for the water bond has dropped since last March, when 51 percent of likely voters said they planned to vote "yes." Today, 42 percent favor it and 51 percent are opposed, when read a summary of the 2009 water package that includes the bond. When those who plan to vote "no" are asked how they would vote if the bond were a smaller amount, overall support increases to 55 percent. Most (68%) say it is important that the water bond be passed (33% very important, 35% somewhat important).

Voters passed a \$10 billion bond in 2008 for the planning and construction of high-speed rail. Today, when read a description of the project and its \$68 billion cost estimate, 43 percent of likely voters favor it and 54 percent are opposed. Last March, when the estimated cost was \$100 billion, responses were similar (43% favor, 53% oppose). When those who are opposed are asked how they would feel if the cost were lower, overall support rises to 55 percent. Most (59%) say high-speed rail is important to the state's quality of life and economic vitality (32% very important, 27% somewhat important).

"Majorities of likely voters would favor the water bond and high-speed rail if the price tags on these big-ticket items were reduced," says Mark Baldassare, PPIC president and CEO. "Californians' continuing concerns about the economy and the state and federal budgets make planning for the future a difficult process."

LIKELY VOTERS DIVIDED ON COST OF ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION

State leaders are discussing changes in the California Environmental Quality Act, which would likely affect projects that are part of the water bond and high-speed rail construction. When likely voters are asked for their views on environmental regulation in California, 49 percent say stricter laws and regulations cost too many jobs and hurt the economy, while 46 percent say stricter laws and regulations are worth the cost. Among all adults, there are partisan, regional, and racial/ethnic differences on this question. Most Democrats (62%) and independents (56%) say these regulations are worth the cost, but most Republicans (73%) say the regulations cost too many jobs. Residents in the Inland Empire (59%) and Central Valley (52%) say the regulations cost too many jobs, while those in Los Angeles (58%) and the

San Francisco Bay Area (55%) say they are worth the cost. Orange/San Diego residents are split (47% cost too many jobs, 50% worth the cost). Asians (62%) and Latinos (55%) say the regulations are worth the cost, while blacks (68%) and whites (52%) say they cost too many jobs. Asked about government regulation of business in California, 55 percent of likely voters say it does more harm than good, and 40 percent say it is necessary to protect the public interest.

Yet most likely voters favor policies to address climate change, with 66 percent saying the government should regulate the release of greenhouse gases from sources like power plants, cars, and factories to reduce global warming (29% oppose). And 59 percent favor new federal policies to address climate change, which President Obama has advocated (36% oppose).

GOVERNOR'S JOB APPROVAL AT 48 PERCENT, LEGISLATURE'S AT 25 PERCENT

Californians are more optimistic about the economy than they were during and just after the Great Recession. Among likely voters, 41 percent today say they expect good times in the next year—the second consecutive PPIC survey in which more than 40 percent of likely voters have expressed this positive view (44% January). But a larger share—52 percent—expects bad times. And California residents continue to name jobs and the economy as the most important issue facing the state. Asked how they rate state leaders, likely voters give Governor Jerry Brown a 48 percent job approval rating, similar to his record-high 50 percent in January (39% disapprove today, 36% January). The legislature's approval rating is 25 percent, similar to January (31%). As for the state budget situation, a large majority of likely voters (72%) say it is a big problem, and another 23 percent say it is somewhat of a problem.

Given their concern about the state budget, do California likely voters have an appetite for raising taxes? The survey asked about three possible ways to address the budget situation: increasing taxes on the purchase of alcoholic beverages, taxing the extraction of oil and natural gas in California, and extending the state sales tax to services not currently taxed while lowering the overall sales tax rate. Only the alcoholic beverage tax has majority support among likely voters—with 61 percent in favor—while 44 percent favor an oil and gas tax and 43 percent favor the sales tax idea.

The survey asks about fiscal reforms that have been proposed to address state and local budget issues. About half of likely voters (49%) say it would be a good idea to lower the threshold—from two-thirds to 55 percent—for voters to pass local sales taxes for transportation projects. Likely voters are reluctant to make it easier for the legislature to pass state tax measures: 40 percent say it would be a good idea to lower the threshold from two-thirds to a simple majority. But they are more positive about the idea of voters having a role in the process: 60 percent favor lowering the threshold—to a simple majority—for the legislature to put taxes on the ballot.

STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE CITIZENS' INITIATIVE—AND FOR REFORMING THE PROCESS

Consistent with this preference for giving the electorate the final say on state tax increases, 72 percent of likely voters say it is a good thing that a majority of voters can make laws and change public policies by passing initiatives (24% a bad thing). Solid majorities express this view across political parties, regions, and demographic groups. Since PPIC began asking this question in October 2000, large majorities of likely voters have said it is a good thing that voters can make laws by passing initiatives.

A majority of likely voters (62%) are satisfied with the way the initiative process is working, but most of them (55%) are only somewhat satisfied. Three-fourths (74%) say the process needs changes (36% major changes, 38% minor changes). Only 19 percent say it is fine the way it is. Asked about three changes that have been suggested, overwhelming majorities support each: 84 percent favor increasing public disclosure of funding sources for signature gathering and initiative campaigns, 78 percent favor having a period of time in which the initiative sponsor could meet with the legislature to see if there is a compromise solution before putting a measure on the ballot. And 77 percent favor having a system for

reviewing and revising proposed initiatives to try to avoid legal issues and drafting errors. Each of these three ideas has strong support across party lines.

MOST SAY FEDERAL CUTS WILL AFFECT THEM, YET MOST WANT DEFICIT CUT

The PPIC survey was taken just after sequestration—or automatic budget cuts—went into effect, and as Congress debated how to avert a government shutdown. Against this backdrop, California likely voters give President Obama a 57 percent job approval rating, similar to January (56%). They rate Congress at just 16 percent, similar to the 21 percent rating in January. How is the president handling federal spending? Fewer (44%) approve than approve of his overall job performance (57%). Asked how the Republicans in Congress are handling federal spending, 23 percent approve. Most likely voters (70%) say the automatic cuts will affect their own economic situation (28% a major effect, 42% a minor effect).

Among the legislative priorities the president raised in his State of the Union address, PPIC asked about four: reducing the federal budget deficit, passing major immigration legislation, passing major legislation on gun policies, and setting new federal policies on climate change. The largest share of likely voters (71%) say it is essential to act on the deficit this year, while fewer say it is essential to pass major legislation this year on immigration (52%), gun policies (42%), and climate change (33%). Most likely voters say the president and Congress should act on each of these issues—whether this year or in the next few years—rather than not acting on them at all.

Asked two further questions on immigration, 59 percent of likely voters favor a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants and 78 percent support stricter border control to try to reduce illegal immigration.

On gun policies, PPIC asked whether it is more important to control gun ownership or protect the right of Americans to own guns. Likely voters are evenly divided (49% control ownership, 48% protect the right to own). Most likely voters (62%) favor a nationwide ban on high-capacity ammunition clips that hold more than 10 bullets and favor (67%) creating a federal government database to track all gun sales.

The president has also proposed raising the federal minimum wage from \$7.25 to \$9.00 an hour. An overwhelming majority of likely voters (70%) favor this increase. This result echoes a national survey in February by the Pew Research Center/USA Today in which 71 percent of adults were in favor.

DEMOCRATIC PARTY VIEWED MORE FAVORABLY

At a time of partisan polarization, what are likely voters' views of the two major political parties? While 53 percent have a favorable impression of the Democratic Party, just 34 percent view the Republican Party favorably. Among registered voters, Democrats are far more likely to view their own party favorably (83%) than are Republicans (58%). Independents are divided in their views of the Democratic Party (49% favorable, 42% unfavorable), while a solid majority (66%) have an unfavorable impression of the Republican Party. Among all adults, overwhelming majorities of Asians (71%), blacks (74%), and Latinos (70%) have favorable impressions of the Democratic Party, while more than half of whites (54%) have an unfavorable one. Half or more among racial/ethnic groups have unfavorable impressions of the Republican Party, with this view held more strongly among blacks (79%) and Asians (66%) than whites (54%) and Latinos (51%).

When asked which party is more concerned with the needs of people like themselves, 52 percent of likely voters say the Democratic Party and 32 percent the Republican Party. Solid majorities of blacks (86%), Latinos (73%), and Asians (64%) choose the Democratic Party. Whites are divided (37% Republican Party, 41% Democratic Party).

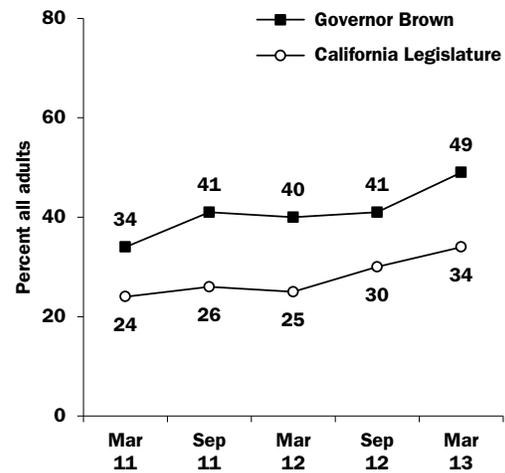
A majority of likely voters (59%) say the two major parties do such a poor job representing the American people that a third major party is needed, while just 32 percent say the Republican and Democratic parties do an adequate job.

STATE GOVERNMENT

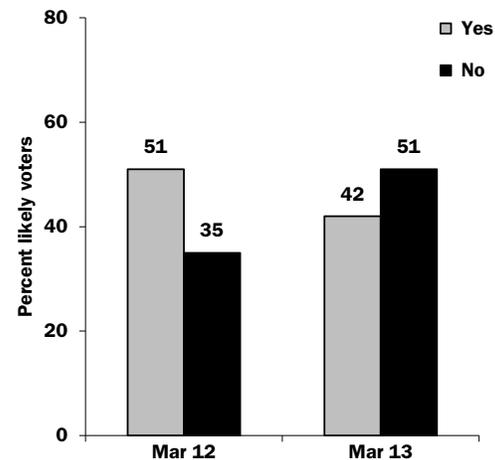
KEY FINDINGS

- Governor Brown's approval rating is at 49 percent, and 34 percent approve of the state legislature; 44 percent think the state is headed in the right direction. *(page 7)*
- Forty-five percent of Californians name jobs and the economy as the state's most important issue. Two-thirds say the state budget is a big problem and 44 percent expect good economic times. *(page 8)*
- Two in three Californians favor increasing taxes on alcohol, while about half oppose taxing the extraction of oil and gas and extending the sales tax to services while lowering the sales tax rate. *(page 9)*
- Six in 10 Californians say it's a good idea to lower the vote threshold to a simple majority for the legislature to put tax measures on the ballot, while fewer (43%) say it's a good idea to lower the vote threshold for the legislature to pass taxes. *(page 10)*
- Californians are divided about the impact of regulation on business and about stricter environmental laws. *(page 11)*
- About half of likely voters say they would vote no on the \$11.1 billion state water bond; 42 percent would vote yes. Four in 10 think it is very important that voters pass the state water bond. *(page 12)*
- Californians are divided about building a high-speed rail system in California. Thirty-six percent view high-speed rail as very important to future of the state. *(page 13)*
- Residents have positive views of the initiative process but overwhelmingly favor increased disclosure, a system of review and revision, and a period of time for compromise between the legislature and initiative sponsors. *(pages 14, 15)*

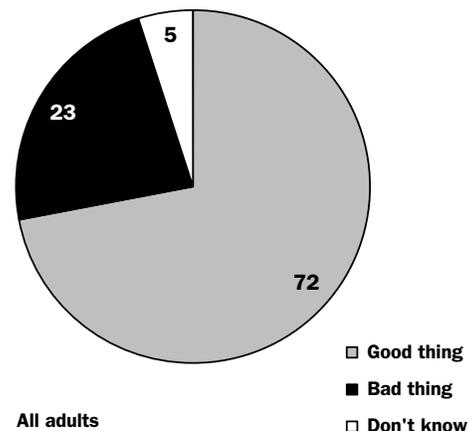
Approval Ratings of State Elected Officials



State Water Bond



Allowing Voters to Make Laws and Change Public Policy at Ballot Box



APPROVAL RATINGS OF STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS

When it comes to the overall direction of the state, Californians are divided: 44 percent say things are going in the right direction and 48 percent say “wrong direction.” This is somewhat of a decline from January (51%), when positive perceptions eclipsed 50 percent for the first time since January 2007 (55%). Still, the perception that things are going in the right direction is 10 points higher than last March (34%). Most Democrats (55%, down 12 points since January) are positive about the direction of the state, compared to 42 percent of independents (unchanged since January) and just 16 percent of Republicans (down 8 points since January). Optimism is highest in the San Francisco Bay Area (62%), followed by Los Angeles (43%), the Inland Empire (42%), Orange/San Diego (42%), and the Central Valley (31%). Majorities of Asians (57%), Latinos (56%), and blacks (54%) have an optimistic outlook, while 63 percent of whites say the state is going in the wrong direction.

Governor Brown’s approval rating is at 49 percent, similar to his record-high approval in January (51%); 31 percent disapprove of his job performance. Among likely voters, 48 percent approve and 39 percent disapprove. A wide partisan divide exists, with 65 percent of Democrats approving and 65 percent of Republicans disapproving; 47 percent of independents approve. Independents are as likely to disapprove of his job performance (26%) as to be unsure (27%). Most Latinos (59%), Asians (57%), and blacks (49%) approve, while whites are divided (39% approve, 43% disapprove). Governor Brown’s approval is highest in the San Francisco Bay Area (66%); four in 10 or more across other regions approve of his performance (46% Los Angeles, 43% Central Valley, 42% Orange/San Diego, 42% Inland Empire). Approval is somewhat higher among those earning \$80,000 or more annually than among less-affluent Californians.

“Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that Jerry Brown is handling his job as governor of California?”

	All adults	Party			Likely voters
		Dem	Rep	Ind	
Approve	49%	65%	19%	47%	48%
Disapprove	31	19	65	26	39
Don't know	20	16	16	27	13

At 34 percent, the California Legislature’s approval rating is identical to the level reached in December 2012. This is a slight decrease from January (41%). Approval ratings of likely voters is at 25 percent—again similar to last December (26%) and January (31%). Democrats are divided in their assessment of the legislature (42% approve, 44% disapprove), while more than half of independents (54%) and three in four Republicans (75%) disapprove. Half of Latinos (50%) approve, compared to fewer Asians (34%), blacks (30%), and whites (23%). Approval declines with age and is somewhat higher among those with incomes under \$40,000 (40%) than among others (33% \$40,000 to \$80,000, 29% \$80,000 or more).

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

	All adults	Party			Likely voters
		Dem	Rep	Ind	
Approve	34%	42%	13%	28%	25%
Disapprove	49	44	75	54	61
Don't know	17	14	13	18	14

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC PERCEPTIONS

Californians continue to name jobs and the economy (45%) as the most important issue facing the state; far fewer name education (11%) or the state budget (10%). Pluralities across parties, regions, and demographic groups name jobs and the economy as the state’s most important issue.

Californians are divided about the state economic outlook: 44 percent expect good times, 49 percent expect bad times. Positive perceptions today are similar to January, when 49 percent expected good times. After a prolonged period during which positive expectations remained below 40 percent (from March 2007 to October 2012), this is the third consecutive survey (41% December, 49% January, 44% today) to find that positive expectations have eclipsed 40 percent.

Partisans have different outlooks about the state’s economy: 51 percent of Democrats expect good times and 73 percent of Republicans expect bad times; independents are divided (45% good times, 47% bad times). Positive expectations are most prevalent in the San Francisco Bay Area (57%), while fewer in other regions are positive (45% Orange/San Diego, 41% Central Valley, 41% Los Angeles, 38% Inland Empire). Asians (59%), Latinos (50%), and blacks (49%) are more likely than whites (34%) to expect good times.

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

	All adults	Party			Likely voters
		Dem	Rep	Ind	
Good times	44%	51%	22%	45%	41%
Bad times	49	39	73	47	52
Don’t know	8	10	5	8	8

Two in three Californians (65%) think that the state budget situation is a big problem in California and another 27 percent say it is somewhat of a problem. Findings were similar in January (63% big problem, 28% somewhat of a problem) and last March (67% big problem, 24% somewhat of a problem). Negative perceptions of the budget have been above 60 percent since January 2008. Likely voters hold more negative views (72% big problem, 23% somewhat of a problem).

Partisans agree that the budget situation is a big problem; Republicans (82%) are the most likely to hold this view, followed by independents (70%) and Democrats (64%). The belief that the budget situation is a big problem is held by more than six in 10 across regions. Whites (74%) are more likely than Asians (64%), blacks (63%), and Latinos (56%) to hold this view. More than eight in 10 among those who disapprove of Governor Brown and the state legislature think that the state budget situation is a big problem.

“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?”

	All adults	Party			Likely voters
		Dem	Rep	Ind	
Big problem	65%	64%	82%	70%	72%
Somewhat of a problem	27	31	13	27	23
Not a problem	5	4	3	3	4
Don’t know	2	1	2	1	1

RAISING REVENUES

What preferences do Californians have when it comes to raising revenues? We asked about three possible new revenue sources to address the state budget situation. Two in three Californians (65%) and six in 10 likely voters (61%) favor increasing taxes on the purchase of alcoholic beverages. Fewer Californians and likely voters favor the other two options—extending the state sales tax to services not currently taxed while lowering the overall sales tax rate (42% all adults, 43% likely voters), and taxing the extraction of oil and natural gas in California (42% all adults, 44% likely voters). Extending while lowering the state sales tax is more popular than simply extending it (in January, 32% favored extending the state sales tax alone).

“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...”

<i>All adults</i>	Increasing taxes on the purchase of alcoholic beverages?	Extending the state sales tax to services that are not currently taxed while lowering the overall sales tax rate?	Taxing the extraction of oil and natural gas in California?
Favor	65%	42%	42%
Oppose	34	49	53
Don't know	1	10	5

There is support for increasing taxes on alcoholic beverages, with majorities across parties, regions, and demographic groups in favor. When it comes to extending the state sales tax to services not currently taxed while lowering the overall sales tax rate there is more division among partisans: 49 percent of Democrats and 46 percent of independents are in favor, compared to 32 percent of Republicans. Fewer than half across regions favor extending and lowering the sales tax. Establishing a tax on the extraction of oil and gas in California garners support among slim majorities of Democrats (52%) and independents (54%), while far fewer Republicans (24%) are in favor.

<i>Percent saying favor</i>	Increasing taxes on the purchase of alcoholic beverages?	Extending the state sales tax to services that are not currently taxed while lowering the overall sales tax rate?	Taxing the extraction of oil and natural gas in California?
All adults	65%	42%	42%
Likely voters	61	43	44
Party			
Democrats	69	49	52
Republicans	52	32	24
Independents	61	46	54
Region			
Central Valley	61	38	43
San Francisco Bay Area	75	45	56
Los Angeles	66	42	43
Orange/San Diego	60	46	32
Inland Empire	56	30	30
Age			
18 to 34	63	52	41
35 to 54	68	37	43
55 and older	63	36	40
Household income			
Under \$40,000	70	40	35
\$40,000 to \$80,000	64	43	42
\$80,000 or more	58	44	53

STRUCTURAL FISCAL REFORM

When it comes to fiscal reforms to address state budget and local budget issues, Californians (43% good idea, 52% bad idea) and likely voters (40% good idea, 57% bad idea) are reluctant to lower the threshold for the legislature to pass state tax measures. They are more willing to lower the threshold for the legislature to put taxes on the ballot for voters to decide on (61% all adults, 60% likely voters). Californians were more likely to favor the proposal to lower the vote requirement for the legislature to pass taxes in December (51% Californians, 45% likely voters). About half of Californians (52%) and likely voters (49%) think it is a good idea to replace the two-thirds majority requirement with a 55 percent majority for voters to pass local sales taxes for transportation projects.

“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...”

<i>All adults</i>	Replacing the two-thirds vote requirement with a simple majority vote for the state legislature to pass state taxes?	Replacing the two-thirds vote requirement with a simple majority vote for the state legislature to put taxes on the ballot for voters to decide on?	Replacing the two-thirds vote requirement with a 55 percent majority vote for voters to pass local sales taxes for transportation projects?
Good idea	43%	61%	52%
Bad idea	52	35	43
Don't know	5	4	6

Allowing a simple majority in the legislature to pass state taxes is viewed as a good idea by a majority of Democrats (54%), while few independents (35%) and Republicans (28%) hold this view. Across regions and demographic groups majority support is reached only among those with household incomes under \$40,000 (51%). By contrast, support for lowering the vote threshold to put taxes on the ballot has majority support among Democrats and independents (Republicans: 49%), and across regions, and demographic groups. A 55 percent vote to pass local sales taxes for transportation projects is considered a good idea by more Democrats (64%) than independents (46%) or Republicans (37%). Across regions, support is highest in Orange/San Diego (59%)—it is about half in the other regions. Latinos (62%) and blacks (55%) are more likely than whites (48%) and Asians (41%) to favor this idea.

<i>Percent saying good idea</i>	Simple majority vote for the state legislature to pass state taxes?	Simple majority vote for the state legislature to put taxes on the ballot for voters to decide on?	55 percent vote for voters to pass local sales taxes for transportation projects?
All adults	43%	61%	52%
Likely voters	40	60	49
Party	Democrats	54	73
	Republicans	28	49
	Independents	35	53
Region	Central Valley	41	62
	San Francisco Bay Area	45	63
	Los Angeles	43	60
	Orange/San Diego	39	58
	Inland Empire	42	58
Household income	Under \$40,000	51	67
	\$40,000 to \$80,000	36	58
	\$80,000 or more	39	55

REGULATION OF BUSINESS

With some in Sacramento discussing reforms to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), how do Californians view environmental laws and regulations in California? Californians are divided, with 45 percent saying that stricter environmental laws and regulations in California cost too many jobs and hurt the economy and 49 percent saying these laws and regulations are worth the cost. Likely voters are also divided (49% cost too many jobs, 46% worth the cost). Last March we asked this question without specific mention of California and findings were similar (45% cost too many jobs, 47% worth the cost).

There is partisan division on this question: 73 percent of Republicans say environmental laws and regulations in California cost too many jobs and hurt the economy, while majorities of Democrats (62%) and independents (56%) say these regulations are worth the cost. Residents in the Central Valley (52%) and Inland Empire (59%) say these laws and regulations cost too many jobs, while residents in Los Angeles (58%) and the San Francisco Bay Area (55%) say they are worth the cost. Orange/San Diego residents are divided (47% cost too many jobs, 50% worth the cost). Asians (62%) and Latinos (55%) say the regulations are worth the cost, while blacks (68%) and whites (52%) say they cost too many jobs.

**“Which statement comes closest to your own view, even if neither is exactly right:
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.”**

	All adults	Party			Likely voters
		Dem	Rep	Ind	
Cost too many jobs and hurt the economy	45%	34%	73%	40%	49%
Are worth the cost	49	62	21	56	46
Don't know	6	4	6	5	5

When it comes to regulation of business in California, we find that Californians are again divided: 48 percent say government regulation of business in California is necessary to protect the public interest, while 45 percent say government regulation of business in California does more harm than good. Likely voters are more likely to say regulation does more harm than good (55%; 40% regulation is necessary). Last March we asked this question without specific mention of California and findings were similar (48% necessary, 43% more harm than good).

Partisan differences exist, with Democrats (57%) saying regulation is necessary and Republicans (78%) saying regulation does more harm than good; independents are divided (47% necessary, 48% more harm than good). Residents in the San Francisco Bay Area (58%) and Los Angeles (51%) think regulation is necessary, while those in the Inland Empire (56%) and Orange/San Diego (52%) think regulation does more harm than good. Central Valley residents are divided (44% necessary, 47% more harm than good). Latinos (63%), blacks (59%), and Asians (55%) say regulation is necessary, while 60 percent of whites say it does more harm than good.

**“Which statement comes closest to your own view, even if neither is exactly right:
Government regulation of business in California is necessary to protect the public interest or
Government regulation of business in California does more harm than good.”**

	All adults	Party			Likely voters
		Dem	Rep	Ind	
Government regulation is necessary	48%	57%	18%	47%	40%
Government regulation does more harm than good	45	36	78	48	55
Don't know	7	7	4	5	4

STATE WATER BOND

When read a summary of the 2009 water package passed by the governor and legislature that includes an \$11.1 billion bond measure now on the November 2014 ballot, 44 percent of adults say they would vote yes, 48 percent say they would vote no, and 7 percent are undecided. Responses are similar among likely voters (42% yes, 51% no, 8% undecided). Support for the state water bond was higher among likely voters in March 2012 (51% yes, 35% no, 14% undecided). A majority of Democrats (55%) would vote yes on the state water bond, 69 percent of Republicans would vote no, and independents are divided on this issue (46% yes, 50% no). Residents are divided in the San Francisco Bay Area, Los Angeles, the Inland Empire, and Orange/San Diego, while a majority of Central Valley residents are opposed to the state water bond. Support for the bond falls short of a majority in all age, education, gender, and income groups. When those who would vote no are asked how they would vote if the state water bond was a lower amount, overall support increases (all adults: 61% yes, 31% no; likely voters: 55% yes, 38% no).

“...If the election were being held today, would you vote yes or no on the \$11.1 billion state water bond?”*

		Yes	No	Don't know
All adults		44%	48%	7%
Likely voters		42	51	8
Party	Democrats	55	35	10
	Republicans	23	69	9
	Independents	46	50	4
Region	Central Valley	37	56	7
	San Francisco Bay Area	47	44	10
	Los Angeles	48	46	6
	Orange/San Diego	49	47	4
	Inland Empire	45	46	9

*For complete text of question, see p.28.

Three in four adults say that passing the state water bond measure is important (39% very, 36% somewhat) and 68 percent of likely voters share this view. Responses were similar in March 2012 (42% very, 32% somewhat). Democrats are more likely than independents and much more likely than Republicans to say that passing the state water bond measure is very important. About four in 10 across regions say it is very important.

Among those who say it is very important that voters pass the state water bond, 67 percent would vote yes (30% no); those who say it is somewhat important are divided on the bond (45% yes, 49% no).

“How important is it that voters pass the state water bond measure?”

	All adults	Party			Likely voters
		Dem	Rep	Ind	
Very important	39%	42%	24%	32%	33%
Somewhat important	36	40	29	40	35
Not too important	10	7	16	17	13
Not at all important	10	5	22	8	13
Don't know	6	6	7	4	6

HIGH-SPEED RAIL SYSTEM AND CALIFORNIA'S FUTURE

California voters passed a \$10 billion state bond in 2008 for the planning and construction of a high-speed rail system, and Governor Brown has expressed support for this project. When read a description of the high-speed rail system and its \$68 billion cost estimate, 48 percent favor it, 50 percent oppose it, and 2 percent are unsure. Likely voters are less supportive (43% favor, 54% oppose). Favor was similar last March among adults (51%) and likely voters (43%), when estimated costs were about \$100 billion. Most Democrats (57%) favor building a high-speed rail system; most Republicans (68%) and a majority of independents (53%) oppose it. Majorities of San Francisco Bay Area and Los Angeles residents are in favor, while majorities in the Central Valley, Inland Empire, and Orange/San Diego are opposed. When those who oppose the system are asked how they would feel about it if it cost less, overall support increases (all adults: 62% favor, 36% oppose; likely voters: 55% favor, 42% oppose).

“As you may know, California voters passed a \$10 billion state bond in 2008 for planning and construction of a high-speed rail system from Southern California to the Central Valley and the San Francisco Bay Area. The estimated costs associated with the 800-mile high speed rail system are about \$68 billion over the next 20 years. Do you favor or oppose building a high-speed rail system in California?”

		Favor	Oppose	Don't know
All adults		48%	50%	2%
Likely voters		43	54	3
Party	Democrats	57	41	3
	Republicans	30	68	2
	Independents	43	53	4
Region	Central Valley	42	57	2
	San Francisco Bay Area	59	38	3
	Los Angeles	52	46	2
	Orange/San Diego	43	55	2
	Inland Empire	39	57	4

Majorities of adults (36% very, 31% somewhat) and likely voters (32% very, 27% somewhat) say the high-speed rail system is important for the future quality of life and economic vitality of California. Six in 10 adults held this view in March 2012 (33% very, 26% somewhat). San Francisco Bay Area residents (48%), Democrats (43%), and Asians (47%) are among the most likely to say the system is very important, while Inland Empire residents (25%), Republicans (25%), and whites (29%) are among the least likely.

Among those who say the system is very important 84 percent favor building it; among those who say it is somewhat important, 56 percent are in favor, while others are overwhelmingly opposed to building it.

“Thinking ahead, how important is the high-speed rail system for the future quality of life and economic vitality of California?”

	All Adults	Region					Likely Voters
		Central Valley	San Francisco Bay Area	Los Angeles	Orange/San Diego	Inland Empire	
Very important	36%	31%	48%	37%	33%	25%	32%
Somewhat important	31	29	25	31	33	37	27
Not too important	15	20	16	11	15	19	16
Not at all important	17	20	11	19	18	16	24
Don't know	1	–	–	1	–	2	1

INITIATIVE PROCESS

When it comes to the use of the state’s initiative process, seven in 10 Californians (72%) and likely voters (72%) think it is a good thing that a majority of voters can make laws and change public policies by passing initiatives. About one in four adults (23%) and likely voters (24%) see it as a bad thing. Since we first asked this question in October 2000, more than two in three Californians have said that it is a good thing that voters can make laws by passing initiatives. Solid majorities across parties, ideological groups, regions, and demographic groups hold this view.

Sixty-five percent of Californians are satisfied (9% very, 56% somewhat) with the way the initiative process is working today and 29 percent are not satisfied. Likely voters have similar opinions (7% very, 55% somewhat, 33% not satisfied). Findings were similar among all adults last September (9%, very, 51% somewhat, 33% not satisfied), and at least 55 percent of Californians have been satisfied with the initiative process since we began asking this question in October 2000. Strong majorities of Democrats (68%) and independents (73%) express satisfaction today, while Republicans are divided (47% satisfied, 45% not satisfied). Majorities across regions and demographic groups are satisfied with the way the initiative process is working in California today. Yet, in all regions and demographic groups, most say they are “somewhat satisfied” and few say they are “very satisfied” with the initiative process.

“Generally speaking, would you say you are very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, or not satisfied with the way the initiative process is working in California today?”

	All adults	Party			Likely voters
		Dem	Rep	Ind	
Very satisfied	9%	8%	3%	13%	7%
Somewhat satisfied	56	60	44	60	55
Not satisfied	29	27	45	24	33
Don’t know	6	4	8	2	4

Consistent with majorities giving a rating of “somewhat satisfied,” most Californians think there is room for improvement in the state’s initiative process. Three in four adults say that the citizens’ initiative process is in need of major changes (40%) or minor changes (36%), while only 17 percent say it is fine the way it is. Likely voters hold similar views (36% major, 38% minor, 19% fine the way it is). The share of adults saying that major changes are needed was slightly higher last October (46%), and even higher in October 2010 (52%). More than six in 10 adults have said that major or minor changes are needed since we began asking this question in October 2000. Democrats (81%) are more likely than Republicans (72%) and independents (70%) to say that major or minor changes are needed. The belief that major or minor changes are needed is widely held across regions and demographic groups.

“Do you think the citizens’ initiative process in California is in need of major changes, minor changes, or that it is basically fine the way it is?”

	All adults	Party			Likely voters
		Dem	Rep	Ind	
Major changes	40%	40%	43%	29%	36%
Minor changes	36	41	29	41	38
Fine the way it is	17	14	18	24	19
Don’t know	7	5	10	6	7

INITIATIVE REFORM

While most Californians think that the initiative process is a good thing and are somewhat satisfied with the way it is working today, most express a belief that major or minor changes are needed. When asked about three suggested changes to address some issues that arise in the initiative process, overwhelming majorities support these reforms.

Overwhelming majorities (79% adults, 78% likely voters) favor having a period of time in which the initiative sponsor and the legislature could meet to see if there is a compromise solution before initiatives go to the ballot. Results were similar last October (81% adults, 79% likely voters) and we have found overwhelming support for this initiative reform since we began asking this question in October 2005. More than seven in 10 across parties favor this idea. Overwhelming majorities in all regions of the state and across all demographic groups favor this change to the citizens' initiative process.

Seventy-eight percent of adults and 84 percent of likely voters favor increasing public disclosure of funding sources for signature gathering and initiative campaigns. Support for increasing public disclosure was similar last October (77% adults, 84% likely voters) and has been above 70 percent since we first asked this question in October 2005. Partisan groups have similar levels of support for this reform (81% Democrats, 80% Republicans, 85% independents). Support for increased public disclosure of initiative funding sources is above 70 percent in all regions of the state and in every age, education, gender, and income group.

Overwhelming majorities of adults (76%) and likely voters (77%) support a system of review and revision of proposed initiatives to try to avoid legal issues and drafting errors. There has been strong majority support since we began asking about this reform in October 2005. The level of support among all adults is at a record high today. There is strong support across party lines (82% Democrats, 81% independents, 69% Republicans) and strong majority support in every region and across demographic groups.

“Reforms have been suggested to address issues that arise in California’s initiative process. Please say whether you would favor or oppose each of the following reform proposals. How about...”

		All adults	Party			Likely voters
			Dem	Rep	Ind	
<i>Having a period of time in which the initiative sponsor and the legislature could meet to see if there is a compromise solution before initiatives go to the ballot?</i>	Favor	79%	85%	73%	78%	78%
	Oppose	16	11	22	19	19
	Don't know	5	4	5	3	4
<i>Increasing public disclosure of funding sources for signature gathering and initiative campaigns?</i>	Favor	78	81	80	85	84
	Oppose	17	16	16	12	14
	Don't know	5	3	3	3	1
<i>A system of review and revision of proposed initiatives to try to avoid legal issues and drafting errors?</i>	Favor	76	82	69	81	77
	Oppose	16	12	20	15	15
	Don't know	8	6	11	4	7

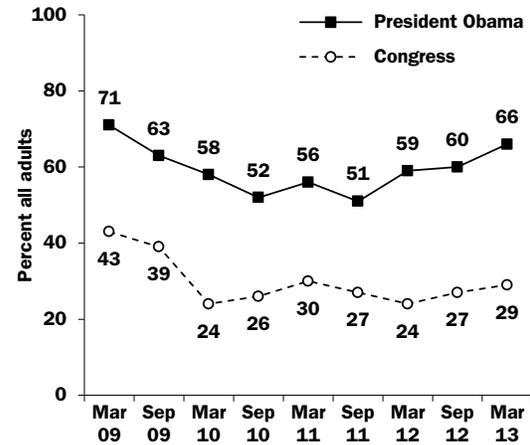
We find overwhelming majority support for the three initiative reforms among those who think that the initiative process is a good thing and those who see it as a bad thing, among those who are satisfied and not satisfied with the initiative process, and among those who think that change is needed in the initiative process and those who think it is fine the way it is. Most who favor one of the three initiative reforms also favor one of the other two reforms. Majorities of adults (57%) and likely voters (59%) favor all three reforms.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

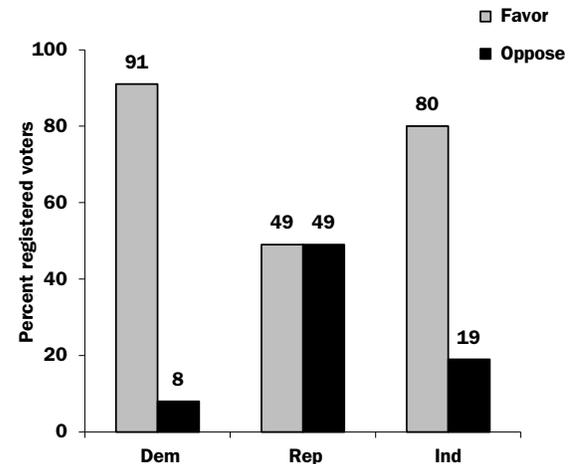
KEY FINDINGS

- Two in three Californians approve of President Obama, while two in three disapprove of Congress. On federal spending, half of Californians approve of the president, while 23 percent approve of Republicans in Congress. *(page 17)*
- When asked about legislative priorities, two in three Californians say reducing the federal budget deficit is essential to do this year; about half say this about immigration and gun policies. Just 37 percent say setting new federal policies about climate change is essential this year. *(page 18)*
- Most Californians say automatic federal spending cuts will affect their own personal finances (35% major effect, 39% minor). Eight in 10 Californians favor increasing the minimum wage to \$9 an hour; support differs widely across parties. *(page 19)*
- Solid majorities of Californians support both a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants (64%) and stricter border controls to reduce illegal immigration (74%). *(page 20)*
- A majority say it is more important to control gun ownership (56%) than to protect the right of Americans to own guns (41%). Majorities favor both creating a federal government database to track all gun sales (69%) and a nationwide ban on high-capacity ammunition clips (55%). *(page 21)*
- Strong majorities think government should regulate greenhouse gases (73%) and favor new federal policies to address climate change (65%). *(page 22)*
- Majorities view the Democratic Party favorably and say it is the party most concerned with the needs of people like them. Views vary considerably between whites and non-whites. *(page 23)*

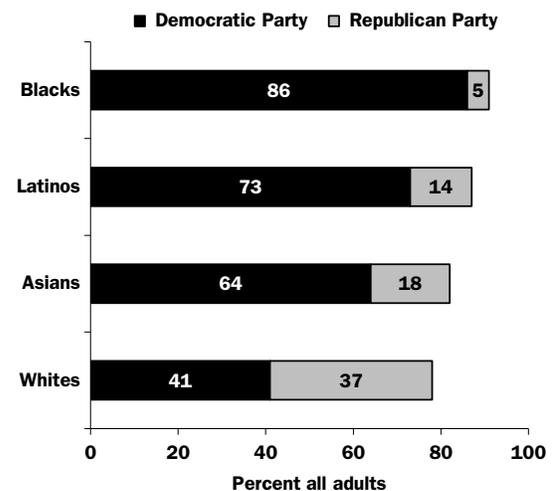
Approval Ratings of Federal Elected Officials



Support for Raising the Federal Minimum Wage



Which Party Addresses the Needs of People Like Me



APPROVAL RATINGS OF FEDERAL ELECTED OFFICIALS

Amid turmoil over the federal budget situation, two in three Californians (66%) approve of the way President Obama is handling his job, similar to ratings around his January inauguration (65%). Unlike national ratings in Washington Post/ABC News polls where his approval has hovered around 50 percent over the last year, President Obama’s job approval among Californians has steadily increased since May 2012 (56% May, 57% July, 60% September, 63% October, 65% January, 66% today). A year ago, 59 percent approved. Among likely voters, 57 percent approve, similar to January (56%), but higher than at any time since September 2009 (58%). Registered voters are divided deeply along party lines.

Just three in 10 Californians (29%) approve of the way Congress is handling its job. After months of job approval ratings below 30 percent (from July 2011 through October 2012), Congress saw a slight uptick in January (34%). Adults nationwide are even less positive about Congress, with only 16 percent expressing approval in the Washington Post/ABC News poll. In California, strong majorities of likely voters (81%) and voters across parties disapprove of Congress.

“Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that...?”

		All adults	Party			Likely voters
			Dem	Rep	Ind	
Barack Obama is handling his job as president of the United States?	Approve	66%	89%	23%	64%	57%
	Disapprove	32	9	75	33	40
	Don't know	3	2	1	4	2
The U.S. Congress is handling its job?	Approve	29	27	16	20	16
	Disapprove	67	69	81	78	81
	Don't know	4	4	3	2	3

This survey was conducted against a tumultuous fiscal backdrop. It began just after the automatic federal spending cuts known as “sequestration” took effect, as Congress debated how to avert a government shutdown at the end of March, and as starkly different options on federal spending were proposed. This political rancor may affect attitudes toward the president’s handling of federal spending: far fewer (49%) approve of him on this dimension than on his job performance overall (66%). Among likely voters, 44 percent approve and 52 percent disapprove. Voters are divided along party lines. Californians are far less likely to approve of the way Republicans in Congress are handling federal spending (23% approve, 70% disapprove). Opinion is nearly identical among likely voters. Eight in 10 Democrats and independents disapprove, while Republicans are divided (46% approve, 50% disapprove). In a February Washington Post/ABC News poll, approval on this issue for both President Obama (43%) and the Republicans in Congress (26%) among adults nationwide was similar to approval among Californians in our survey.

“Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way...?”

		All adults	Party			Likely voters
			Dem	Rep	Ind	
Barack Obama is handling federal spending?	Approve	49%	66%	14%	52%	44%
	Disapprove	45	27	82	43	52
	Don't know	6	7	4	5	4
Republicans in Congress are handling federal spending?	Approve	23	15	46	13	23
	Disapprove	70	80	50	81	72
	Don't know	7	6	4	6	5

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

When it comes to four of the legislative priorities the president raised in his State of the Union address, two in three Californians (66%) say it is essential for the president and Congress to pass major legislation to reduce the federal budget deficit this year. Half say it is essential this year to pass major legislation on immigration (52%) or gun policies (50%), while fewer say it is essential to set new climate change policies (37%). Attitudes among Californians are similar to those of adults nationwide, according to a mid-February Pew Research Center/USA Today survey (adults nationwide: 70% deficit reduction, 51% immigration reform, 46% gun policies, 34% climate change).

Most Californians do believe that each of these priorities should be addressed, whether it happens this year or in the next few years, rather than ignored. However, passing new gun policies garners the highest percentage saying it should not be done (30%).

When it comes to reducing the deficit, majorities across parties, regions, and nearly all demographic groups say it is essential to pass major legislation this year. On passing major immigration legislation: Democrats (54%) are the most likely across parties to say it is essential to do this year, followed by Republicans (49%) and independents (40%). Latinos (69%) are by far the most likely racial/ethnic group to consider immigration legislation essential for this year (46% whites, 42% blacks, 36% Asians). On passing gun policies: a majority of Democrats (60%) and a plurality of independents (47%) say it is essential this year, while a majority of Republicans (57%) say it should not be done. At least six in 10 blacks (60%), Latinos (63%), and Asians (64%) say legislation on gun policies is a priority for this year, whereas a plurality of whites (44%) say it should not be done. On setting climate change policies: Democrats (44%) are more likely than independents (34%) or Republicans (13%) to prefer making it a priority this year. Fifty-one percent of Republicans say it should not be done.

“How essential do you think it is for the president and Congress to act on the following issues this year? Is ... essential to do this year, something that can be done in the next few years, or should it not be done?”

		All adults	Party			Likely voters
			Dem	Rep	Ind	
Passing major legislation to reduce the federal budget deficit	Essential this year	66%	64%	80%	65%	71%
	Next few years	25	29	17	28	24
	Should not be done	7	5	2	6	3
	Don't know	2	2	1	1	1
Passing major legislation about immigration	Essential this year	52	54	49	40	52
	Next few years	34	37	40	46	39
	Should not be done	11	7	9	13	8
	Don't know	2	3	2	1	1
Passing major legislation about gun policies	Essential this year	50%	60%	21%	47%	42%
	Next few years	19	23	21	20	21
	Should not be done	30	16	57	32	36
	Don't know	1	1	1	1	1
Setting new federal policies about climate change	Essential this year	37	44	13	34	33
	Next few years	40	48	33	45	38
	Should not be done	21	8	51	20	28
	Don't know	3	1	3	1	1

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC POLICY

The president and Congress were unable to reach an agreement to avoid the automatic spending cuts that were part of the sequestration agreement. As these cuts begin to take place, many Californians believe they will be impacted personally: three in four say the cuts will have either a major (35%) or minor (39%) effect on their own personal financial situation. In a late February survey by the Washington Post/Pew Research Center, 70 percent of adults nationwide anticipated some personal effect, either major (30%) or minor (40%), while 19 percent said the cuts would not affect their financial situation.

Although majorities across racial/ethnic groups believe the cuts will have at least a minor impact on them personally, Latinos (56%) are far more likely than others to say they will have a major effect. And those with household incomes less than \$40,000 are far more likely than those with higher incomes to expect more serious effects (47% under \$40,000, 28% \$40,000 to \$80,000, 22% \$80,000 or more). Similarly, those with less education are more likely than others to anticipate major effects on their personal finances (49% high school or less, 26% some college, 22% college graduates). Women are more likely than men (41% to 28%) and parents of children age 18 or younger are more likely than others (44% to 29%) to expect major effects. Those ages 55 and older are somewhat less likely than younger residents to say these cuts will have a major effect on their financial situation (28% 55 and older, 40% 35 to 54, 35% 18 to 34).

“As you may know, automatic federal spending cuts recently took place. Do you think these cuts will have a major effect, a minor effect, or no effect on your own personal financial situation?”

	All adults	Race/ethnicity				Household income		
		Asians	Blacks	Latinos	Whites	Under \$40,000	\$40,000 to \$80,000	\$80,000 or more
Major effect	35%	20%	32%	56%	23%	47%	28%	22%
Minor effect	39	55	46	29	43	32	46	44
No effect	22	20	14	14	29	17	20	32
Don't know	4	5	7	1	5	4	6	2

President Obama is proposing an increase in the federal minimum wage from \$7.25 to \$9 an hour. An overwhelming majority of Californians (79%) and likely voters (70%) favor this increase. In a mid-February Pew Research Center/USA Today survey, adults nationwide also overwhelmingly favored increasing the minimum wage (71%). In California, Democrats (91%) and independents (80%) are far more likely than Republicans (49% favor, 49% oppose) to favor increasing the federal minimum wage.

Raising the minimum wage is popular with Californians across demographic groups, although support declines with higher income levels and is higher among blacks (95%), Latinos (91%), and Asians (84%) than among whites (69%). At least seven in 10 across other demographic groups and across regions express support. Among those who approve of President Obama’s job performance, 91 percent favor raising the minimum wage. Among those who disapprove, 54 percent favor it.

“Do you favor or oppose an increase in the federal minimum wage from \$7.25 to \$9.00 an hour?”

	All adults	Race/ethnicity				Household income		
		Asians	Blacks	Latinos	Whites	Under \$40,000	\$40,000 to \$80,000	\$80,000 or more
Favor	79%	84%	95%	91%	69%	87%	79%	69%
Oppose	19	12	5	7	29	10	19	29
Don't know	2	4	1	2	2	2	2	2

IMMIGRATION POLICY REFORM

Immigration reform is a key priority for the president and Congress. Conversations are under way about how to handle immigrants who are in the country illegally and how to slow the tide of illegal immigration. Two in three Californians (64%) support a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants and an even higher share (74%) support stricter border control to try to reduce illegal immigration.

Support for a path to citizenship is consistent with findings on another question we have asked since 2007 about whether working illegal immigrants should be allowed to eventually apply for legal status or be deported. Since June 2007, at least 65 percent have supported a legal pathway rather than deportation, with a record 76 percent saying this in January 2013, the last time we asked about it.

Support for a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants is higher among Californians in our survey (64%) than among adults nationwide (55% in a late January-early February survey by the Washington Post/ABC News). In our survey, Democrats (73%) are much more likely than independents (58%) and far more likely than Republicans (40%) to express support. Eighty-four percent of Latinos support a path to citizenship, and this idea is also supported by 63 percent of blacks and 59 percent of Asians. Whites are divided (49% support, 44% oppose). Majorities across regions support a path to citizenship (57% Orange/San Diego, 62% San Francisco Bay Area, 65% Inland Empire, 67% Central Valley, 69% Los Angeles) as do both men (66%) and women (63%). Majorities across other demographic groups favor this idea—however, support is far higher among immigrants (78%) than the U.S.-born (57%).

“Overall, do you support or oppose a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants?”

	All adults	Party			Race/ethnicity			
		Dem	Rep	Ind	Asians	Blacks	Latinos	Whites
Support	64%	73%	40%	58%	59%	63%	84%	49%
Oppose	31	24	54	39	36	36	14	44
Don't know	4	4	7	4	5	–	2	6

Stricter border control is widely supported among Californians in our survey (74%) and is even more popular among adults nationwide (83% in the Washington Post/ABC News poll). In our survey, strong majorities across parties, regions, and demographic groups express support. Still, support is higher among Republicans (91%) than independents (74%) and Democrats (70%). Across racial/ethnic groups, blacks (83%) are the most likely to favor stricter border control, followed by whites (79%), Asians (76%), and Latinos (67%). Support is highest in Orange/San Diego (81%) and lowest in Los Angeles (69%). About three in four U.S.-born residents (76%) and immigrants (72%) support tighter borders.

Among those who support stricter border control, 59 percent support and 36 percent oppose a path to citizenship. Among those who support a path to citizenship, 69 percent support and 29 percent oppose stricter border control. In total, 44 percent of Californians support both immigration policies. Among those who say it is essential for the president and Congress to pass immigration legislation this year, 70 percent favor a path to citizenship and 75 percent favor stricter border controls.

“Overall, do you support or oppose stricter border control to try to reduce illegal immigration?”

	All adults	Party			Race/ethnicity			
		Dem	Rep	Ind	Asians	Blacks	Latinos	Whites
Support	74%	70%	91%	74%	76%	83%	67%	79%
Oppose	23	27	8	23	21	8	31	18
Don't know	3	3	1	3	3	9	2	3

GUN REGULATIONS

Californians are much more likely to say that it is more important to control gun ownership (56%) than to protect the right of Americans to own guns (41%). Likely voters are evenly divided. Adults nationwide were divided in a February Pew Research Center/USA Today survey (50% control ownership, 46% protect the right). Most Democrats (70%) say it is more important to control gun ownership while most Republicans (73%) say it is more important to protect the right to own guns. Independents are divided (50% control ownership, 45% protect the right). Majorities in Los Angeles (65%), the San Francisco Bay Area (62%), and the Inland Empire (53%) say controlling ownership is more important, while Central Valley residents (52%) say protecting the right is more important. Orange/San Diego residents are divided (51% control ownership, 47% protect the right). Among those with firearms in their home, seven in 10 say protecting the right is more important, while two in three without firearms say controlling gun ownership is more important.

“What do you think is more important: to protect the right of Americans to own guns, or to control gun ownership?”

	All adults	Party			Have gun, rifle, or pistol in home	
		Dem	Rep	Ind	Yes	No
Protect the right to own guns	41%	27%	73%	45%	72%	30%
Control gun ownership	56	70	24	50	26	67
Don't know	3	3	2	5	2	3

Californians are much more likely to favor (55%) than oppose (42%) a nationwide ban on high-capacity ammunition clips that hold more than 10 bullets. Views among adults nationwide were similar in the Pew Research Center/USA Today survey (53% favor, 44% oppose). Democrats (70%) and independents (64%) are in favor, while Republicans are divided (47% favor, 50% oppose). Half of those with firearms at home (51%) oppose this proposal; six in 10 without firearms are in favor. Those in the San Francisco Bay Area (67%), Los Angeles (58%), and Orange/San Diego (57%) are in favor, while Inland Empire residents (54%) oppose and Central Valley residents are divided (46% favor, 49% oppose).

Seven in 10 Californians favor (69%) creating a federal government database to track all gun sales. In a January Pew Research Center survey, 67 percent of adults nationwide were in favor and 30 percent were opposed. Overwhelming majorities of Democrats (80%) and independents (74%) favor this proposal while Republicans are divided (48% favor, 51% oppose). Fifty-eight percent of those with firearms at home are in favor, as are three in four without firearms. Majorities across regions and demographic groups are in favor.

Among those saying it is essential for the president and Congress to pass major legislation about gun policies this year, 84 percent say it is more important to control gun ownership, 70 percent favor a ban on high-capacity clips, and 82 percent favor a federal tracking database.

“Please tell me if you favor or oppose the following proposals about gun policy. How about...?”

		All adults	Party			Have gun, rifle, or pistol in home	
			Dem	Rep	Ind	Yes	No
A nationwide ban on high-capacity ammunition clips that hold more than 10 bullets?	Favor	55%	70%	47%	64%	44%	60%
	Oppose	42	28	50	33	51	37
	Don't know	3	2	3	3	5	3
Creating a federal government database to track all gun sales?	Favor	69	80	48	74	58	75
	Oppose	29	18	51	25	41	23
	Don't know	2	1	1	1	1	2

CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY

Overwhelming majorities of Californians (73%) say the government should regulate the release of greenhouse gases from sources like power plants, cars, and factories to reduce global warming; only 23 percent say the government should not regulate the release of greenhouse gases. Three in four or more Californians have held this view in previous surveys (79% July 2011, 76% July 2010, 76% July 2009).

Overwhelming majorities of Democrats (86%) and independents (72%) say the government should regulate greenhouse gases. Half of Republicans say the government should not regulate greenhouse gases (51%) and about four in 10 say the government should (43%). Support for regulation is highest in the San Francisco Bay Area (82%) followed by Los Angeles (77%), the Inland Empire (71%), Orange/San Diego (69%), and the Central Valley (68%). Among racial/ethnic groups, Asians (91%) and Latinos (82%) are more likely than whites (62%) and blacks (61%) to say the government should regulate greenhouse gases. Californians younger than age 55 are more likely than older residents to say the government should regulate these emissions.

“Do you think the government should or should not regulate the release of greenhouse gases from sources like power plants, cars, and factories in an effort to reduce global warming?”

	All adults	Party			Likely voters
		Dem	Rep	Ind	
Should	73%	86%	43%	72%	66%
Should not	23	10	51	24	29
Don't know	4	3	6	3	5

A solid majority of Californians (65%) are in favor of new federal policies to address climate change; 28 percent are opposed. In a February Washington Post poll of adults nationwide, 50 percent were in favor and 36 percent were opposed. Among likely voters in our survey, 59 percent favor and 36 percent oppose new federal policies. Eight in 10 Democrats favor (81%) new federal policies, while six in 10 Republicans are opposed (61%). More than six in 10 independents are in favor (63%). San Francisco Bay Area residents (75%) are the most likely to favor new federal policies addressing climate change, followed by those in the Inland Empire and Los Angeles (69% each), Orange/San Diego (61%), and the Central Valley (51%). Latinos (79%) and Asians (78%) are more likely than blacks (63%) and whites (51%) to hold this view. Renters (72%) are much more likely than homeowners (58%) to favor new federal policies to address climate change.

Among those who say government should regulate greenhouse gas emissions, 82 percent favor new federal policies to address climate change. Among those saying it is essential for the president and Congress to act on climate change this year, 89 percent think the government should regulate greenhouse gasses and 89 percent favor new federal policies to address climate change.

“Do you favor or oppose new federal policies to address climate change?”

	All adults	Party			Likely voters
		Dem	Rep	Ind	
Favor	65%	81%	31%	63%	59%
Oppose	28	16	61	30	36
Don't know	7	4	8	7	5

PERCEPTIONS OF POLITICAL PARTIES

Fifty-five percent of Californians have a favorable impression of the Democratic Party, similar to the record high reached last October (58%). Overwhelming majorities of Asians (71%), blacks (74%), and Latinos (70%) have favorable impressions of the Democratic Party, while more than half of whites (54%) hold unfavorable views. A majority of Californians have an unfavorable impression (56%) of the Republican Party. Results were nearly identical last October (56% unfavorable, 35% favorable). Half or more among racial/ethnic groups hold unfavorable views of the Republican Party, and this view is held more strongly among blacks (79%) and Asians (66%) than among whites (54%) and Latinos (51%). Democrats (83%) are far more likely than Republicans (58%) to view their own party favorably. Independents have mixed views of the Democratic Party (49% favorable, 42% unfavorable), while a solid majority (66%) view the Republican Party unfavorably. Favorable views of the Democratic Party are higher among those younger than age 55 than among those age 55 and older, but majorities across age groups view the Republican Party unfavorably.

“Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable impression of the...?”

	All adults	Race/ethnicity				Likely voters	
		Asians	Blacks	Latinos	Whites		
Democratic Party?	Favorable	55%	71%	74%	70%	38%	53%
	Unfavorable	36	20	16	22	54	44
	Don't know	8	9	10	8	8	3
Republican Party?	Favorable	37	26	16	42	39	34
	Unfavorable	56	66	79	51	54	62
	Don't know	7	8	4	7	8	4

When asked which party is more concerned with the needs of people like themselves, 57 percent say the Democratic Party and 25 percent the Republican Party. Eleven percent volunteer neither party, and 3 percent volunteer both. Results were similar in September 2004 (57% Democratic Party, 30% Republican Party). Among independents, 49 percent say the Democratic Party, 25 percent say neither party, and 19 percent say the Republican Party. Across regions, residents are more likely to say the Democratic Party than the Republican Party. Solid majorities of blacks (86%), Latinos (73%), and Asians (64%) say the Democratic Party. Whites are divided (37% Republican Party, 41% Democratic Party). Six in 10 of those younger than age 55 say the Democratic Party, compared with half of older residents.

Half of Californians (51%) say the two major parties do such a poor job representing the American people that a third major party is needed, while 39 percent believe that the Republican and Democratic parties do an adequate job. Last October, Californians were divided (44% adequate job, 48% third party needed). Independents (68%) and Republicans (57%) are far more likely to say a third party is needed than to say the major parties do an adequate job; Democrats are divided (42% adequate job, 49% third party needed). Asians are evenly divided; majorities of blacks (54%) and Latinos (52%) say the parties do an adequate job. Most whites (62%) say a third party is needed. Across age groups about half say a third party is needed.

“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?”

	All adults	Party			Race/ethnicity			
		Dem	Rep	Ind	Asians	Blacks	Latinos	Whites
Adequate job	39%	42%	33%	27%	48%	54%	52%	26%
Third party is needed	51	49	57	68	48	44	39	62
Don't know	10	9	10	6	3	2	9	13

METHODOLOGY

The PPIC Statewide Survey is directed by Mark Baldassare, president and CEO and survey director at the Public Policy Institute of California, with assistance from Dean Bonner, project manager for this survey, and survey research associates Sonja Petek and Jui Shrestha. The *Californians and Their Government* series is supported with funding from The James Irvine Foundation. We benefit from discussions with PPIC staff, foundation staff, and other policy experts, but the methods, questions, and content of this report were determined solely by Mark Baldassare and the survey team.

Findings in this report are based on a survey of 1,703 California adult residents, including 1,190 interviewed on landline telephones and 513 interviewed on cell phones. Interviews took an average of 20 minutes to complete. Interviewing took place on weekend days and weekday nights from March 5–12, 2013.

Landline interviews were conducted using a computer-generated random sample of telephone numbers that ensured that both listed and unlisted numbers were called. All landline telephone exchanges in California were eligible for selection, and the sample telephone numbers were called as many as six times to increase the likelihood of reaching eligible households. Once a household was reached, an adult respondent (age 18 or older) was randomly chosen for interviewing using the “last birthday method” to avoid biases in age and gender.

Cell phones were included in this survey to account for the growing number of Californians who use them. These interviews were conducted using a computer-generated random sample of cell phone numbers. All cell phone numbers with California area codes were eligible for selection, and the sample telephone numbers were called as many as eight times to increase the likelihood of reaching an eligible respondent. Once a cell phone user was reached, it was verified that this person was age 18 or older, a resident of California, and in a safe place to continue the survey (e.g., not driving).

Cell phone respondents were offered a small reimbursement to help defray the cost of the call. Cell phone interviews were conducted with adults who have cell phone service only and with those who have both cell phone and landline service in the household.

Live landline and cell phone interviews were conducted by Abt SRBI, Inc., in English and Spanish, according to respondents’ preferences. Accent on Languages, Inc., translated new survey questions into Spanish, with assistance from Renatta DeFever.

With assistance from Abt SRBI, we used data from the U.S. Census Bureau’s 2009–2011 American Community Survey (ACS) through 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. To estimate landline and cell phone service in California, Abt SRBI used 2011 state-level estimates released by the National Center for Health Statistics (which used data from the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) and the ACS) and 2012 estimates for the West Census Region in the latest NHIS report. The estimates for California were then compared against landline and cell phone service reported in this survey. 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 landline and cell phone samples were then integrated using a frame integration weight, while sample balancing adjusted for differences across regional, age, gender, race/ethnicity, education, telephone service, and party registration groups.

The sampling error, taking design effects from weighting into consideration, is ± 3.8 percent at the 95 percent confidence level for the total unweighted sample of 1,703 adults. This means that 95 times out of 100, the results will be within 3.8 percentage points of what they would be if all adults in California were interviewed. The sampling error for unweighted subgroups is larger: For the 1,445 registered voters, the sampling error is ± 4.0 percent; for the 1,138 likely voters, it is ± 4.6 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 populated areas are not large enough to report separately.

We present specific results for non-Hispanic whites and also for Latinos, who account for about a third of the state’s adult population and constitute one of the fastest-growing voter groups. We also present results for non-Hispanic Asians, who make up about 14 percent of the state’s adult population, and non-Hispanic blacks, who comprise about 6 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. 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 by their responses to voter registration survey questions, previous election participation, and current interest in politics.

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 to those in national surveys by the Pew Research Center, Pew Research Center/USA Today, Washington Post, Washington Post/ABC News, and Washington Post/Pew Research Center. Additional details about our methodology can be found at www.ppic.org/content/other/SurveyMethodology.pdf and are available upon request through surveys@ppic.org.

QUESTIONNAIRE AND RESULTS

CALIFORNIANS AND THEIR GOVERNMENT

March 5–12, 2013

1,703 California Adult Residents:
English, Spanish

MARGIN OF ERROR $\pm 3.8\%$ AT 95% CONFIDENCE LEVEL FOR TOTAL SAMPLE
PERCENTAGES MAY NOT ADD TO 100 DUE TO ROUNDING

1. First, thinking about the state as a whole, what do you think is the most important issue facing people in California today?

[code, don't read]

45% jobs, economy
11 education, schools
10 state budget, deficit, taxes
5 immigration, illegal immigration
3 crime, gangs, drugs
3 government in general
3 health care, health reform
2 gas prices
2 water, drought
12 other
4 don't know

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

49% approve
31 disapprove
20 don't know

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

34% approve
49 disapprove
17 don't know

4. Do you think things in California are generally going in the right direction or the wrong direction?

44% right direction
48 wrong direction
8 don't know

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

44% good times
49 bad times
8 don't know

6. Next, 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?

65% big problem
27 somewhat of a problem
5 not a problem
2 don't know

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.

[rotate questions 7 to 9]

7. How about increasing taxes on the purchase of alcoholic beverages?

65% favor
34 oppose
1 don't know

8. How about extending the state sales tax to services that are not currently taxed while lowering the overall sales tax rate?

42% favor
49 oppose
10 don't know

9. How about taxing the extraction of oil and natural gas in California?

- 42% favor
- 53 oppose
- 5 don't know

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.

[rotate questions 10 to 12]

10. How about replacing the two-thirds vote requirement with a simple majority vote for the state legislature to pass state taxes?

- 43% good idea
- 52 bad idea
- 5 don't know

11. How about replacing the two-thirds vote requirement with a simple majority vote for the state legislature to put taxes on the ballot for voters to decide on?

- 61% good idea
- 35 bad idea
- 4 don't know

12. How about replacing the two-thirds vote requirement with a 55 percent majority vote for voters to pass local sales taxes for transportation projects?

- 52% good idea
- 43 bad idea
- 6 don't know

13. Next, the governor and legislature passed a water package in 2009 that includes water conservation requirements and plans for new water storage systems, water clean-up and recycling, and a council to oversee restoration of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. This package includes an \$11.1 billion state bond measure on the November 2014 ballot to pay for water projects. If the election were being held today, would you vote yes or no on the \$11.1 billion state water bond? (**If no:** "What if the state water bond was a lower amount, would you vote yes or no?")

- 44% yes
- 48 total no
 - 17 no, but would vote yes if it was a lower amount
 - 31 no, even if it was a lower amount
 - 7 don't know

14. How important is it that voters pass the state water bond measure—is it very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important?

- 39% very important
- 36 somewhat important
- 10 not too important
- 10 not at all important
- 6 don't know

15. Next, as you may know, California voters passed a \$10 billion state bond in 2008 for planning and construction of a high-speed rail system from Southern California to the Central Valley and the San Francisco Bay Area. The estimated costs associated with the 800-mile high speed rail system are about \$68 billion over the next 20 years. Do you favor or oppose building a high-speed rail system in California? (**If oppose:** "What if the high speed rail system cost less, would you favor or oppose building it?")

- 48% favor
- 50 total oppose
 - 14 oppose, but would favor if it cost less
 - 36 oppose, even if it cost less
 - 2 don't know

16. Thinking ahead, how important is the high-speed rail system for the future quality of life and economic vitality of California—is it very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important?

- 36% very important
- 31 somewhat important
- 15 not too important
- 17 not at all important
- 1 don't know

For each of the following issues, please indicate which statement comes closest to your own view, even if neither is exactly right.

[rotate questions 17 and 18]

17. **[rotate]** (1) Stricter environmental laws and regulations in California cost too many jobs and hurt the economy; **[or]** (2) Stricter environmental laws and regulations in California are worth the cost.

- 45% cost too many jobs, hurt the economy
- 49 worth the cost
- 6 don't know

18. **[rotate]** Government regulation of business in California is necessary to protect the public interest; **[or]** Government regulation of business in California does more harm than good.

- 48% regulation is necessary
- 45 regulation does more harm than good
- 7 don't know

On another topic, California uses the direct initiative process, which enables voters to bypass the legislature and have issues put on the ballot—as state propositions—for voter approval or rejection.

19. In general, do you think it is a good thing or a bad thing that a majority of voters can make laws and change public policies by passing initiatives?

- 72% good thing
- 23 bad thing
- 5 don't know

20. Generally speaking, would you say you are very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, or not satisfied with the way the initiative process is working in California today?

- 9% very satisfied
- 56 somewhat satisfied
- 29 not satisfied
- 6 don't know

21. Do you think the citizens' initiative process in California is in need of major changes, minor changes, or that it is basically fine the way it is?

- 40% major changes
- 36 minor changes
- 17 fine the way it is
- 7 don't know

Reforms have been suggested to address issues that arise in the initiative process. Please say whether you would favor or oppose each of the following reform proposals.

[rotate questions 22 to 24]

22. How about having a period of time in which the initiative sponsor and the legislature could meet to see if there is a compromise solution before initiatives go to the ballot?

- 79% favor
- 16 oppose
- 5 don't know

23. How about a system of review and revision of proposed initiatives to try to avoid legal issues and drafting errors?

- 76% favor
- 16 oppose
- 8 don't know

24. How about increasing public disclosure of funding sources for signature gathering and initiative campaigns?

- 78% favor
- 17 oppose
- 5 don't know

25. On another topic, overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that Barack Obama is handling his job as president of the United States?

- 66% approve
- 32 disapprove
- 3 don't know

26. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way the U.S. Congress is handling its job?

- 29% approve
- 67 disapprove
- 4 don't know

Next, how essential do you think it is for the president and Congress to act on the following issues this year?

[rotate questions 27 to 30]

27. Is passing major legislation to reduce the federal budget deficit essential to do this year, something that can be done in the next few years, or should it not be done?

- 66% essential this year
- 25 next few years
- 7 should not be done
- 2 don't know

28. Is passing major legislation about gun policies essential to do this year, something that can be done in the next few years, or should it not be done?

- 50% essential this year
- 19 next few years
- 30 should not be done
- 1 don't know

29. Is passing major legislation about immigration essential to do this year, something that can be done in the next few years, or should it not be done?

- 52% essential this year
- 34 next few years
- 11 should not be done
- 2 don't know

30. Is setting new federal policies about climate change essential to do this year, something that can be done in the next few years, or should it not be done?

- 37% essential this year
- 40 next few years
- 21 should not be done
- 3 don't know

[rotate questions 31 and 32]

31. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling federal spending?

- 49% approve
- 45 disapprove
- 6 don't know

32. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Republicans in Congress are handling federal spending?

- 23% approve
- 70 disapprove
- 7 don't know

33. As you may know, automatic federal spending cuts recently took place. Do you think these cuts will have a major effect, a minor effect, or no effect on your own personal financial situation?

- 35% major effect
- 39 minor effect
- 22 no effect
- 4 don't know

Changing topics,

34. Do you favor or oppose an increase in the federal minimum wage from \$7.25 to \$9.00 an hour?

- 79% favor
- 19 oppose
- 2 don't know

Next,

[rotate questions 35 and 36]

35. Overall, do you support or oppose a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants?

- 64% support
- 31 oppose
- 4 don't know

36. Overall, do you support or oppose stricter border control to try to reduce illegal immigration?

- 74% support
- 23 oppose
- 3 don't know

37. On another topic, do you think the government should or should not regulate the release of greenhouse gases from sources like power plants, cars, and factories in an effort to reduce global warming?

- 73% should
- 23 should not
- 4 don't know

38. Do you favor or oppose new federal policies to address climate change?

- 65% favor
- 28 oppose
- 7 don't know

Next,

39. What do you think is more important **[rotate]** (1) to protect the right of Americans to own guns, **[or]** (2) to control gun ownership?

- 41% protect the right of Americans to own guns
- 56 control gun ownership
- 3 don't know

Please tell me if you favor or oppose the following proposals about gun policy.

[rotate questions 40 and 41]

40. How about a nationwide ban on high-capacity ammunition clips that hold more than 10 bullets?

- 55% favor
- 42 oppose
- 3 don't know

41. How about creating a federal government database to track all gun sales?

- 69% favor
- 29 oppose
- 2 don't know

Changing topics,

[rotate questions 42 and 43]

42. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable impression of the Democratic Party?

- 55% favorable
- 36 unfavorable
- 8 don't know

43. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable impression of the Republican Party?

- 37% favorable
- 56 unfavorable
- 7 don't know

43a. Which party do you think is more concerned with the needs of people like you—**[rotate]** (1) the Republican Party **[or]** (2) the Democratic Party?

- 25% Republican Party
- 57 Democratic Party
- 3 both equally (*volunteered*)
- 11 neither (*volunteered*)
- 4 don't know

44. 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?

- 39% adequate job
- 51 third party is needed
- 10 don't know

45. Next, some people are registered to vote and others are not. Are you absolutely certain that you are registered to vote in California?

- 69% yes *[ask q45a]*
- 31 no *[skip to q46b]*

45a. Are you registered as a Democrat, a Republican, another party, or are you registered as a decline-to-state or independent voter?

- 45% Democrat *[ask q46]*
- 29 Republican *[skip to q46a]*
- 4 another party (specify) *[skip to q47]*
- 22 independent *[skip to q46b]*

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

- 53% strong
- 46 not very strong
- 1 don't know

[skip to q47]

46a. Would you call yourself a strong Republican or not a very strong Republican?

- 48% strong
- 49 not very strong
- 3 don't know

[skip to q47]

46b. Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican Party or Democratic Party?

- 21% Republican Party
- 57 Democratic Party
- 17 neither (*volunteered*)
- 5 don't know

47. Next, would you consider yourself to be politically: *[read list, rotate order top to bottom]*

- 11% very liberal
- 18 somewhat liberal
- 31 middle-of-the-road
- 24 somewhat conservative
- 14 very conservative
- 3 don't know

48. Generally speaking, how much interest would you say you have in politics—a great deal, a fair amount, only a little, or none?

- 24% great deal
- 38 fair amount
- 32 only a little
- 6 none
- don't know

[d1–d3a: demographic questions]

D3b. Do you happen to have any guns, rifles, or pistols in your home?

- 20% yes
- 79 no
- 1 don't know

[d4–d16: demographic questions]

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PPIC

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INSTITUTE OF CALIFORNIA

The Public Policy Institute of California is dedicated to informing and improving public policy in California through independent, objective, nonpartisan research on major economic, social, and political issues. The institute's goal is to raise public awareness and to give elected representatives and other decisionmakers a more informed basis for developing policies and programs.

The institute's research focuses on the underlying forces shaping California's future, cutting across a wide range of public policy concerns, including economic development, education, environment and resources, governance, population, public finance, and social and health policy.

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Mark Baldassare is President and CEO of PPIC.

Gary K. Hart is Chair of the Board of Directors.

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