PPIC STATEWIDE SURVEY

DECEMBER 2016

Californians and Higher Education December 2016 Time Trends – All Respondents

Methodology Note:

Findings for December 2016 are based on a survey of 1,711 California adult residents, with 50 percent interviewed on landline telephones (851 interviews) and 50 percent interviewed on cell phones (860 interviews). Interviews took an average of 19 minutes to complete. Interviewing took place on weekend days and weekday nights November 13–22, 2016.

The sampling error for December 2016, taking design effects from weighting into consideration, is ±3.5 percent at the 95 percent confidence level for the total unweighted sample of 1,711 adults. This means that 95 times out of 100, the results will be within 3.5 percentage points of what they would be if all adults in California were interviewed. 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.

If you have any questions or require additional information regarding this survey, please contact surveys@ppic.org

Q1. First, overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that Jerry Brown is handling his job as governor of California?

_	as governor or California?					
	approve	disapprove	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n		
Dec 2016	57%	24%	18%	1695		
Oct 2016	55%	24%	21%	1692		
Sep 2016	55%	28%	18%	1691		
Jul 2016	54%	27%	20%	1686		
May 2016	52%	28%	20%	1691		
Apr 2016	54%	26%	19%	1689		
Mar 2016	51%	29%	19%	1693		
Jan 2016	58%	26%	16%	1693		
Dec 2015	51%	29%	20%	1677		
Sep 2015	52%	29%	19%	1693		
Jul 2015	53%	27%	20%	1678		
Jun 2015	52%	27%	21%	1681		
Apr 2015	50%	27%	23%	1693		
Mar 2015	55%	28%	17%	1686		
Jan 2015	61%	23%	16%	1694		
Dec 2014	54%	28%	18%	1683		
Oct 2014	50%	28%	22%	1685		
Sep 2014	51%	28%	21%	1679		
Jul 2014	53%	28%	19%	1684		
May 2014	50%	30%	20%	1680		
Apr 2014	51%	26%	23%	1682		
Mar 2014	49%	28%	23%	1679		
Jan 2014	58%	26%	16%	1689		
Dec 2013	47%	28%	25%	1688		
Sep 2013	48%	31%	22%	1686		
Jul 2013	48%	27%	26%	2090		
May 2013	48%	31%	21%	1687		
Apr 2013	46%	31%	22%	1687		
Mar 2013	49%	31%	20%	1686		
Jan 2013	51%	28%	21%	1696		
Dec 2012	48%	35%	17%	1985		
	40 %	37%	21%	1993		
Oct 2012	42%	36%	23%	1986		
Sep 2012						
Aug 2012	42%	35% 36%	23% 24%	2461 1989		
May 2012	39%					
Apr 2012	43%	32%	25%	1983		
Mar 2012	40%	33%	27%	1984		
Jan 2012	46%	31%	23%	1987		
Dec 2011	42%	30%	28%	1982		
Nov 2011	44%	30%	26%	2476		
Sep 2011	41%	28%	31%	1985		
Jul 2011	42%	28%	29%	2481		
Jun 2011	42%	24%	33%	1990		
Apr 2011	40%	29%	31%	2479		
Mar 2011	34%	24%	42%	1984		
Feb 2011	34%	17%	49%	2470		
Jan 2011	41%	19%	39%	1969		

Q2. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that Governor Brown is handling California's public college and university system?

	approve	disapprove	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Dec 2016	45%	31%	24%	1698
Nov 2011	31%	44%	25%	2486

Q3. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that the California Legislature is handling its job?

-	approve	disapprove	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Dec 2016	49%	38%	13%	1697
Oct 2016	46%	33%	20%	1684
Sep 2016	47%	37%	16%	1690
Jul 2016	45%	40%	15%	1687
May 2016	43%	37%	20%	1690
-	48%	38%	14%	1694
Apr 2016	44%	39%	18%	1692
Mar 2016	44 % 46%			
Jan 2016		39%	15%	1692
Dec 2015	41%	40%	19%	1678
Sep 2015	45%	38%	17%	1691
Jul 2015	39%	45%	16%	1688
Jun 2015	37%	43%	20%	1694
Apr 2015	42%	43%	15%	1695
Mar 2015	45%	39%	16%	1693
Jan 2015	49%	36%	15%	1689
Dec 2014	41%	42%	17%	1681
Oct 2014	41%	42%	17%	1686
Sep 2014	37%	42%	20%	1673
Jul 2014	38%	46%	16%	1683
May 2014	40%	44%	16%	1684
Apr 2014	40%	44%	17%	1693
Mar 2014	36%	45%	19%	1685
Jan 2014	42%	44%	14%	1698
Dec 2013	38%	43%	19%	1688
Sep 2013	38%	45%	17%	1693
Jul 2013	36%	45%	19%	2096
May 2013	35%	50%	16%	1697
Apr 2013	31%	53%	15%	1699
Mar 2013	34%	49%	17%	1689
Jan 2013	41%	42%	17%	1700
Dec 2012	34%	51%	15%	1992
Oct 2012	28%	55%	17%	1995
Sep 2012	30%	53%	17%	1989
Aug 2012	29%	54%	17%	2480
May 2012	25%	57%	18%	1990
Apr 2012	25%	58%	16%	1992
Mar 2012	25%	54%	21%	1989
Jan 2012	28%	56%	16%	1988
Dec 2011	25%	55%	20%	1987
Nov 2011	25%	55%	19%	2490
Sep 2011	26%	56%	18%	1998
Jul 2011	23%	59%	18%	2496
Jun 2011	23%	58%	19%	1998
Apr 2011	21%	60%	19%	2487
Mar 2011	24%	54%	21%	1982
Feb 2011	24%	52%	24%	2483
Jan 2011	26%	55%	19%	1990
	14%	72%	14%	2486
Nov 2010	16%	72%	7%	1989
Oct 2010				
Sep 2010	16% 15%	75% 68%	9% 1 7 %	1990
Jul 2010	15% 16%	68% 72%	17% 12%	2487
May 2010	16%	72%	12%	1993

Q3. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that the California Legislature is handling its job?

•	approve	disapprove	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Apr 2010	16%	69%	14%	2493
Mar 2010	14%	72%	14%	1996
Jan 2010	18%	71%	11%	1989
Dec 2009	17%	70%	13%	2000
Nov 2009	18%	68%	15%	2491
Sep 2009	21%	68%	11%	1998
Jul 2009	17%	71%	11%	2484
May 2009	21%	65%	14%	1994
Apr 2009	23%	63%	14%	2493
Mar 2009	18%	68%	14%	1995
Feb 2009	21%	65%	14%	2494
Jan 2009	21%	67%	12%	1994
Nov 2008	24%	60%	16%	2482
Oct 2008	25%	63%	12%	1996
Sep 2008	21%	67%	11%	1990
Aug 2008	26%	63%	11%	1991
May 2008	26%	57%	17%	1991
Apr 2008	26%	58%	16%	2495
Mar 2008	30%	55%	15%	1988
Jan 2008	34%	53%	13%	1988
Dec 2007	41%	47%	12%	1992
Oct 2007	33%	50%	17%	2490
Sep 2007	34%	51%	15%	1988
Jun 2007	39%	40%	21%	1987
May 2007	37%	44%	19%	1994
Apr 2007	38%	44%	18%	2483
Mar 2007	41%	42%	17%	1989
Jan 2007	40%	44%	15%	2006
Oct 2006	30%	52%	18%	1993
Sep 2006	34%	50%	16%	1994
Aug 2006	31%	53%	16%	1995
May 2006	26%	54%	20%	1988
Mar 2006	25%	59%	16%	1988
Jan 2006	29%	57%	14%	2000
Jan 2006	24%	54%	22%	2481
Oct 2005	25%	56%	19%	1993
	32%	53%	15%	1992
Sep 2005 Aug 2005	27%	56%	17%	1993
~	26%	58%	16%	1992
May 2005	37%	50%	13%	1993
Jan 2005	43%	41%	16%	2005
Oct 2004	40%	46%	14%	1988
Sep 2004				
Aug 2004	42% 40%	45% 44%	13% 16%	1990 2498
Jun 2004	40% 40%	44%	17%	2 4 96 1986
May 2004	40% 36%	45% 45%	17%	1981
Jan 2004				1981
Aug 2003	28%	58% 44%	14% 17%	
Jun 2003	39% 36%	44%	17%	1976
Feb 2003	36%	45%	19%	1967
Sep 2002	45%	36%	18%	1967

Q3. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that the California Legislature is handling its job?

	approve	disapprove	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Jan 2002	49%	35%	16%	1942
Dec 2001	53%	29%	18%	1952
Jul 2001	45%	38%	18%	1966
Jan 2001	58%	27%	15%	1960
Sep 2000	56%	31%	12%	1980

Q4. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that the California Legislature is handling California's public college and university system?

	approve	disapprove	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Dec 2016	42%	42%	16%	1703
Nov 2011	21%	59%	20%	2492
Nov 2010	15%	71%	15%	2483
Nov 2009	16%	66%	18%	2489
Nov 2008	23%	50%	27%	2482
Oct 2007	29%	47%	24%	2494

Q5. Thinking about the public higher education system overall in California today, do you think it is generally going in the right direction or the wrong direction?

	right direction	wrong direction	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n	
Dec 2016	45%	45%	10%	1701	
Nov 2011	28%	62%	10%	2489	

Q7. How about the overall QUALITY of education in California's public colleges and universities today? (Is it a big problem, somewhat of a problem, or not much of a problem?)

	big problem	somewhat of a problem	not much of a problem	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Dec 2016	15%	35%	45%	4%	1707
Dec 2014	25%	36%	34%	5%	1699
Nov 2011	24%	36%	34%	6%	2498
Nov 2010	22%	36%	38%	5%	2495
Nov 2009	21%	37%	37%	5%	2496
Nov 2008	18%	36%	40%	7%	2496
Oct 2007	18%	34%	43%	6%	2496

Q8. How about the overall AFFORDABILITY of education for students in California's public colleges and universities today? (Is it a big problem, somewhat of a problem, or not much of a problem?)

	big problem	somewhat of a problem	not much of a problem	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Dec 2016	57%	28%	13%	2%	1707
Dec 2014	59%	27%	12%	1%	1701
Dec 2012	65%	23%	12%	1%	2000
Nov 2011	61%	25%	11%	4%	2502
Nov 2010	60%	27%	11%	1%	2495
Nov 2009	57%	29%	12%	2%	2499
Nov 2008	52%	32%	13%	3%	2501
Oct 2007	53%	31%	14%	2%	2500

Q9. Overall, is the California Community College system doing an excellent, good, not so good, or poor job?

	excellent	good	not so good	poor	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Dec 2016	15%	51%	19%	7%	8%	1707
Nov 2011	10%	52%	21%	8%	9%	2497
Nov 2010	13%	51%	23%	7%	7%	2487
Nov 2009	13%	52%	22%	5%	7%	2495
Nov 2008	15%	51%	19%	4%	10%	2498
Oct 2007	14%	52%	21%	5%	8%	2502

Q10. Overall, is the California State University system doing an excellent, good, not so good, or poor job?

	excellent	good	not so good	poor	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Dec 2016	10%	56%	19%	6%	9%	1704
Nov 2011	6%	50%	25%	6%	13%	2496
Nov 2010	9%	53%	21%	5%	12%	2489
Nov 2009	9%	52%	20%	6%	13%	2496
Nov 2008	10%	52%	21%	3%	14%	2499
Oct 2007	9%	57%	18%	3%	12%	2501

Q11. Overall, is the University of California system doing an excellent, good, not so good, or poor job?

	excellent	good	not so good	poor	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Dec 2016	14%	51%	20%	7%	8%	1707
Nov 2011	11%	48%	23%	6%	12%	2498
Nov 2010	15%	49%	19%	6%	11%	2489
Nov 2009	13%	49%	20%	6%	13%	2495
Nov 2008	15%	50%	18%	4%	14%	2501
Oct 2007	15%	52%	17%	4%	11%	2500

Q12. Do you happen to know which branch has the HIGHEST state tuition and fees- [ROTATE] the California Community College system, the California State University system, or the University of California system?

	California Community College	California State University	University of California	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Dec 2016	3%	19%	55%	23%	1710
Oct 2007	4%	16%	57%	24%	2501

Q13. Do you happen to know which branch has the MOST students enrolled- [ROTATE] the California Community College system, the California State University system, or the University of California system?

	California Community College	California State University	University of California	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Dec 2016	45%	18%	10%	27%	1708
Oct 2007	42%	21%	9%	28%	2500

Q18. Next, do you think the current level of state funding for California's public colleges and universities is more than enough, just enough, or not enough?

	more than enough	just enough	not enough	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Dec 2016	10%	19%	67%	5%	1709
Dec 2014	12%	24%	59%	6%	1699
Nov 2011	7%	14%	74%	5%	2502
Nov 2010	6%	15%	74%	5%	2496
Oct 2007	7%	28%	57%	8%	2500

Q19. To significantly improve California's public higher education system, which of the following statements do you agree with the MOST?

	use funds more wisely	increase state funding	use funds more wisely and increase funding	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Dec 2016	36%	13%	49%	3%	1704
Jan 2015	41%	8%	48%	3%	1512
Nov 2011	34%	12%	50%	3%	2497
Nov 2010	34%	11%	54%	1%	2486
Nov 2009	38%	7%	52%	2%	2497
Nov 2008	37%	9%	50%	4%	2500
Oct 2007	39%	9%	50%	2%	2499

Q20. The price of a college education keeps students who are qualified and motivated to go to college from doing so. (Do you agree or disagree with this statement?)

	agree	disagree	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Dec 2016	72%	27%	2%	1709
Nov 2011	70%	27%	2%	2499
Nov 2010	73%	25%	2%	2492
Nov 2009	69%	28%	2%	2494
Oct 2007	66%	31%	3%	2499

Q21. Almost anyone who needs financial help to go to college can get loans or financial aid. (Do you agree or disagree with this statement?)

	agree	disagree	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Dec 2016	58%	39%	3%	1710
Nov 2011	55%	40%	5%	2501
Nov 2010	55%	40%	5%	2494
Nov 2009	51%	43%	6%	2500
Nov 2008	52%	42%	5%	2502

Q22. Students have to borrow too much money to pay for their college education. (Do you agree or disagree with this statement?)

	agree	disagree	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Dec 2016	78%	21%	1%	1710
Nov 2011	75%	23%	3%	2500
Nov 2010	74%	23%	3%	2492
Nov 2009	76%	21%	3%	2494
Nov 2008	73%	23%	4%	2500
Oct 2007	74%	22%	3%	2502

Q23. Next, do you think that most students are prepared for college-level work when they enter college, or do you think that many students require basic skills and remedial education when they enter college?

	most students are prepared	many require basic skills and remedial education	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Dec 2016	26%	67%	7%	1708
Nov 2011	23%	69%	8%	2499

Q24. Do you think that a college education is necessary for a person to be successful in today's work world, or do you think that there are many ways to succeed in today's work world without a college education?

	college is necessary	many ways to succeed without a college education	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Dec 2016	49%	49%	1%	1706
Mar 2016	59%	39%	2%	1705
Nov 2011	58%	39%	3%	2495
Nov 2010	63%	35%	3%	2488
Nov 2009	66%	31%	3%	2498
Nov 2008	68%	30%	3%	2497
Oct 2007	64%	34%	1%	2497

Q26. How important do you think it is for public colleges and universities to have a racially diverse student body - that is, a mix of blacks, whites, Asians, Hispanics, and other minorities? Is it...?

	very important	somewhat important	not too important	not at all important	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Dec 2016	61%	18%	9%	11%	1%	1706
Nov 2011	53%	22%	11%	13%	1%	2497
Nov 2010	54%	23%	11%	11%	2%	2493
Nov 2009	54%	23%	9%	13%	1%	2494
Nov 2008	55%	23%	8%	11%	2%	2495

Q27. How important do you think it is for public colleges and universities to have an economically diverse student body - that is, a mix of students from lower, middle, and upper-income backgrounds? Is it ...?

	very important	somewhat important	not too important	not at all important	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Dec 2016	61%	23%	9%	6%	1%	1710
Nov 2011	54%	27%	10%	9%	1%	2498
Nov 2010	57%	26%	9%	8%	1%	2495
Nov 2009	54%	26%	9%	10%	1%	2497
Nov 2008	57%	25%	9%	7%	2%	2500

Q28. How important to you is it that community colleges include career technical or vocational education - very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important?

	very important	somewhat important	not too important	not at all important	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Dec 2016	78%	19%	2%	0%	0%	1711
Nov 2011	72%	24%	3%	1%	0%	2502
Nov 2010	73%	23%	2%	1%	1%	2500
Oct 2007	76%	20%	2%	1%	1%	2501

Q29. How important to you is it that community colleges include classes that prepare students to transfer to four-year colleges and universities - very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important?

	very important	somewhat important	not too important	not at all important	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Dec 2016	78%	18%	2%	1%	1%	1708
Nov 2011	73%	23%	2%	1%	1%	2499
Nov 2010	78%	18%	2%	1%	1%	2500
Oct 2007	81%	15%	2%	1%	1%	2501

Q35. If the state ballot had a bond measure to pay for construction projects in California's higher education system, would you vote yes or no?

	yes	no	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Dec 2016	65%	29%	6%	1705
Dec 2014	54%	42%	4%	1699
Nov 2011	58%	34%	8%	2492
Nov 2009	53%	40%	7%	2496
Oct 2007	64%	28%	8%	2493

Q36. In general, how important is California's higher education system to the quality of life and economic vitality of the state over the next 20 years - very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important?

	very important	somewhat important	not too important	not at all important	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Dec 2016	77%	19%	2%	2%	1%	1711
Mar 2016	80%	14%	3%	2%	1%	1706
Sep 2015	80%	15%	2%	2%	1%	1705
Dec 2014	76%	19%	3%	1%	1%	1702
Dec 2012	85%	11%	1%	1%	1%	1998
Nov 2011	73%	23%	2%	1%	1%	2502
Nov 2010	77%	20%	2%	1%	1%	2496
Nov 2009	72%	24%	2%	1%	1%	2502
Nov 2008	72%	23%	2%	1%	2%	2498
Oct 2007	76%	20%	2%	1%	1%	2502

Q37. In thinking ahead 20 years, if current trends continue, do you think California will have (1) more than enough, (2) not enough, [OR] just enough college-educated residents needed for the jobs and skills likely to be in demand?

	more than enough	not enough	just enough	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Dec 2016	17%	45%	32%	6%	1706
Sep 2015	15%	50%	29%	6%	1701
Dec 2014	17%	47%	32%	4%	1690
Dec 2012	14%	56%	28%	2%	1999
Nov 2011	13%	49%	32%	6%	2498
Nov 2010	11%	56%	27%	6%	2488
Nov 2009	16%	49%	29%	6%	2497
Nov 2008	16%	47%	30%	7%	2496
Oct 2007	14%	52%	29%	6%	2501

Q38. How much confidence do you have in the state government's ability to plan for the future of California's higher education system - a great deal, only some, very little, or none?

	great deal	only some	very little	none	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Dec 2016	16%	43%	28%	12%	1%	1707
Sep 2015	13%	42%	29%	13%	2%	1704
Dec 2014	14%	46%	28%	11%	1%	1699
Dec 2012	13%	37%	34%	15%	1%	1997
Nov 2011	10%	37%	34%	16%	2%	2499
Nov 2010	7%	33%	38%	19%	2%	2491
Nov 2009	8%	33%	37%	20%	1%	2501
Nov 2008	12%	40%	33%	12%	2%	2495
Oct 2007	14%	43%	30%	12%	2%	2499