

Californians and Education April 2016

Time Trends – Likely Voters

Methodology Note:

Findings for April 2016 are based on a survey of 1,703 California adult residents, with 50 percent interviewed on landline telephones (851 interviews) and 50 percent interviewed on cell phones (852 interviews). Interviews took an average of 20 minutes to complete. Interviewing took place on weekend days and weekday nights April 3–12, 2016.

The April 2016 sampling error for the 997 likely voters, taking design effects from weighting into consideration, is ± 4.4 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.

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

**PPIC Statewide Survey
Californians and Education - April 2016
Likely Voters - Time Trends**

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

	approve	disapprove	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Apr 2016	56%	35%	9%	993
Mar 2016	53%	36%	11%	1031
Jan 2016	60%	31%	9%	1036
Dec 2015	54%	35%	11%	1097
Sep 2015	55%	35%	10%	1054
Jul 2015	55%	37%	9%	1054
Jun 2015	54%	36%	10%	1041
Apr 2015	53%	37%	11%	1063
Mar 2015	56%	36%	8%	1056
Jan 2015	58%	33%	9%	1006
Dec 2014	57%	34%	9%	1050
Oct 2014	54%	37%	9%	966
Sep 2014	55%	36%	9%	908
Jul 2014	56%	34%	9%	971
May 2014	54%	35%	11%	1029
Apr 2014	56%	31%	13%	1068
Mar 2014	52%	35%	13%	1080
Jan 2014	60%	32%	8%	1138
Dec 2013	49%	38%	13%	1077
Sep 2013	49%	39%	12%	1092
Jul 2013	54%	31%	15%	1267
May 2013	48%	40%	11%	1117
Apr 2013	49%	41%	10%	1124
Mar 2013	48%	39%	13%	1132
Jan 2013	50%	36%	14%	1110
Dec 2012	49%	40%	11%	1433
Oct 2012	45%	43%	12%	1331
Sep 2012	42%	47%	11%	1322
Aug 2012	46%	42%	11%	1551
May 2012	42%	43%	14%	1248
Apr 2012	47%	40%	12%	1196
Mar 2012	46%	38%	16%	1160
Jan 2012	44%	38%	17%	1297
Dec 2011	46%	36%	17%	1288
Nov 2011	47%	38%	15%	1622
Sep 2011	45%	35%	20%	1350
Jul 2011	48%	35%	17%	1631
Jun 2011	46%	28%	25%	1400
Apr 2011	46%	32%	21%	1640
Mar 2011	41%	25%	34%	1363
Feb 2011	41%	17%	43%	1552
Jan 2011	47%	20%	33%	1380

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey
 Californians and Education - April 2016
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q2. Do you approve or disapprove of the way that Governor Brown is handling the state's kindergarten through 12th grade public education system?

	approve	disapprove	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Apr 2016	36%	39%	25%	985
Apr 2015	34%	39%	28%	1054
Apr 2014	33%	38%	29%	1070
Apr 2013	31%	49%	21%	1120
Apr 2012	23%	54%	23%	1195
Apr 2011	25%	41%	34%	1638

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey
Californians and Education - April 2016
Likely Voters - Time Trends**

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 2016	40%	51%	9%	993
Mar 2016	38%	50%	12%	1029
Jan 2016	41%	48%	11%	1034
Dec 2015	38%	48%	14%	1100
Sep 2015	39%	47%	15%	1056
Jul 2015	32%	54%	13%	1055
Jun 2015	30%	52%	18%	1043
Apr 2015	36%	55%	9%	1061
Mar 2015	39%	50%	11%	1059
Jan 2015	41%	47%	13%	1003
Dec 2014	39%	51%	10%	1046
Oct 2014	37%	51%	13%	969
Sep 2014	32%	54%	14%	901
Jul 2014	31%	56%	13%	972
May 2014	36%	54%	11%	1027
Apr 2014	29%	56%	15%	1074
Mar 2014	32%	57%	12%	1084
Jan 2014	33%	57%	10%	1145
Dec 2013	32%	56%	12%	1077
Sep 2013	32%	57%	10%	1095
Jul 2013	33%	55%	12%	1272
May 2013	29%	59%	12%	1125
Apr 2013	29%	64%	7%	1129
Mar 2013	25%	61%	14%	1130
Jan 2013	31%	55%	14%	1115
Dec 2012	26%	61%	13%	1434
Oct 2012	21%	68%	11%	1329
Sep 2012	22%	68%	10%	1325
Aug 2012	21%	69%	10%	1560
May 2012	17%	71%	11%	1248
Apr 2012	15%	73%	12%	1199
Mar 2012	21%	66%	14%	1162
Jan 2012	17%	71%	12%	1297
Dec 2011	16%	69%	15%	1293
Nov 2011	17%	70%	13%	1634
Sep 2011	17%	71%	12%	1363
Jul 2011	15%	74%	11%	1639
Jun 2011	17%	72%	11%	1404
Apr 2011	14%	74%	12%	1644
Mar 2011	16%	70%	14%	1360
Feb 2011	20%	63%	17%	1558
Jan 2011	18%	68%	14%	1390
Nov 2010	9%	82%	9%	1673
Oct 2010	10%	86%	3%	1238
Sep 2010	11%	85%	4%	1214
Jul 2010	10%	82%	8%	1462
May 2010	11%	80%	8%	1247
Apr 2010	11%	79%	9%	1540
Mar 2010	9%	85%	6%	1235
Jan 2010	12%	80%	7%	1299
Dec 2009	10%	83%	7%	1077
Nov 2009	10%	80%	10%	1630

**PPIC Statewide Survey
 Californians and Education - April 2016
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

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
Sep 2009	16%	76%	8%	1339
Jul 2009	10%	84%	6%	1563
May 2009	12%	80%	8%	1213
Apr 2009	16%	74%	10%	1596
Mar 2009	11%	80%	10%	1136
Feb 2009	14%	75%	10%	1564
Jan 2009	15%	76%	9%	1387
Nov 2008	20%	69%	11%	1633
Oct 2008	22%	70%	8%	1280
Sep 2008	16%	76%	9%	1277
Aug 2008	20%	74%	6%	1183
May 2008	23%	65%	12%	1224
Apr 2008	22%	66%	12%	1517
Mar 2008	25%	64%	11%	1219
Jan 2008	27%	61%	12%	1226
Dec 2007	35%	54%	10%	1146
Oct 2007	32%	54%	14%	1574
Sep 2007	29%	59%	11%	1158
Jun 2007	35%	47%	18%	1106
May 2007	36%	51%	14%	1127
Apr 2007	35%	51%	14%	1510
Mar 2007	39%	47%	14%	1233
Jan 2007	37%	49%	14%	1274
Oct 2006	26%	61%	13%	1188
Sep 2006	32%	55%	13%	1207
Aug 2006	27%	61%	12%	1105
May 2006	23%	61%	15%	1093
Mar 2006	23%	65%	12%	1002
Jan 2006	25%	63%	12%	1256
Jan 2006	23%	60%	17%	1443
Oct 2005	21%	65%	14%	1161
Sep 2005	28%	60%	12%	1111
Aug 2005	23%	64%	13%	1052
May 2005	24%	63%	12%	1237
Jan 2005	33%	57%	11%	1230
Oct 2004	40%	46%	14%	1210
Sep 2004	37%	51%	12%	1191
Aug 2004	37%	52%	11%	1183
Jun 2004	38%	51%	11%	1346
May 2004	35%	52%	13%	1098
Jan 2004	34%	50%	16%	977
Aug 2003	22%	68%	10%	1067
Jun 2003	29%	58%	13%	1032
Feb 2003	29%	55%	16%	1071
Sep 2002	40%	45%	15%	1029
Jan 2002	46%	43%	11%	967
Dec 2001	50%	36%	14%	939
Jan 2001	56%	32%	12%	1085
Sep 2000	56%	34%	11%	1089

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey
 Californians and Education - April 2016
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q4. Do you approve or disapprove of the way that the California Legislature is handling the state's kindergarten through 12th grade public education system?

	approve	disapprove	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Apr 2016	29%	51%	20%	990
Apr 2015	26%	54%	20%	1055
Apr 2014	22%	51%	27%	1069
Apr 2013	23%	60%	17%	1127
Apr 2012	10%	69%	21%	1198
Apr 2011	9%	69%	22%	1637
Apr 2010	8%	76%	16%	1540
Apr 2009	11%	70%	19%	1595
Apr 2008	14%	68%	18%	1514
Apr 2007	21%	54%	25%	1510
Apr 2006	16%	65%	20%	1265

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**PPIC Statewide Survey
 Californians and Education - April 2016
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q5. How much of a problem is the quality of education in California's K-to-12 public schools 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
Apr 2016	53%	33%	11%	3%	993
Apr 2015	60%	28%	9%	3%	1064
Apr 2014	61%	30%	6%	3%	1074
Apr 2013	64%	27%	7%	2%	1131
Apr 2012	67%	24%	6%	4%	1206
Apr 2011	67%	23%	7%	3%	1652
Apr 2010	60%	31%	7%	2%	1541
Apr 2009	59%	29%	8%	4%	1600
Apr 2008	62%	25%	9%	4%	1520
Apr 2007	63%	26%	7%	4%	1516
Apr 2006	70%	21%	6%	2%	1268
Apr 2005	60%	28%	8%	5%	1475
Oct 2002	54%	35%	8%	4%	1052
Dec 2001	59%	29%	9%	3%	949
Jan 2001	55%	31%	8%	5%	1093
Jan 2000	62%	27%	9%	2%	985
May 1998	57%	30%	9%	4%	949

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**PPIC Statewide Survey
 Californians and Education - April 2016
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q6. How concerned are you that schools in lower-income areas have a shortage of good teachers compared to schools in wealthier areas? Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned about this issue?

	very concerned	somewhat concerned	not too concerned	not at all concerned	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Apr 2016	56%	28%	6%	8%	2%	990
Apr 2015	57%	25%	7%	8%	3%	1062
Apr 2014	57%	26%	8%	7%	2%	1072
Apr 2013	50%	29%	10%	8%	3%	1125
Apr 2012	62%	22%	9%	6%	1%	1203
Apr 2011	62%	25%	6%	6%	1%	1641
Apr 2010	58%	28%	8%	5%	2%	1541
Apr 2008	51%	32%	10%	6%	2%	1517
Apr 2007	54%	31%	7%	6%	2%	1515
Apr 2006	54%	31%	6%	7%	2%	1264

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**PPIC Statewide Survey
 Californians and Education - April 2016
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q7. How concerned are you that students in lower-income areas are less likely than other students to be ready for college when they finish high school?

	very concerned	somewhat concerned	not too concerned	not at all concerned	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Apr 2016	58%	29%	6%	7%	0%	992
Apr 2015	60%	25%	7%	6%	1%	1066
Apr 2014	62%	23%	11%	4%	0%	1078
Apr 2013	56%	27%	9%	7%	1%	1126
Apr 2011	59%	28%	7%	5%	0%	1653
Apr 2010	59%	27%	7%	5%	1%	1542

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**PPIC Statewide Survey
 Californians and Education - April 2016
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q8. Next, how much, if anything, have you heard about the Common Core State Standards, a new set of English and math standards that the state began implementing in recent years? Have you heard a lot, a little, or nothing at all?

	a lot	a little	nothing at all	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Apr 2016	36%	43%	21%	0%	996
Apr 2015	30%	43%	26%	1%	1069
Apr 2014	26%	38%	36%	0%	1076

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey
 Californians and Education - April 2016
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q9. The Common Core State Standards are a single set of K-to-12 English language arts and math standards that most states have voluntarily adopted. From what you've read and heard, do you favor or oppose the Common Core education standards?

	favor	oppose	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Apr 2016	33%	49%	18%	991
Apr 2015	37%	40%	23%	1060

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey
 Californians and Education - April 2016
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q10. How confident are you that implementing Common Core in California's schools will make students more college or career ready upon graduation - very confident, somewhat confident, not too confident, or not at all confident?

	very confident	somewhat confident	not too confident	not at all confident	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Apr 2016	8%	32%	26%	27%	6%	993
Apr 2015	7%	36%	28%	21%	8%	1067
Apr 2014	10%	46%	26%	13%	5%	1073

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey
 Californians and Education - April 2016
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q11. How confident are you that implementing Common Core in California's schools will help students develop critical thinking and problem solving skills - very confident, somewhat confident, not too confident, or not at all confident?

	very confident	somewhat confident	not too confident	not at all confident	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Apr 2016	11%	30%	27%	26%	6%	994
Apr 2015	8%	37%	27%	20%	8%	1064
Apr 2014	12%	39%	27%	16%	7%	1073

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**PPIC Statewide Survey
 Californians and Education - April 2016
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q15. Overall, how would you rate the quality of public schools in your neighborhood today?

	A	B	C	D	F	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Apr 2016	18%	36%	28%	11%	4%	3%	997
Apr 2015	15%	34%	32%	11%	4%	4%	1066
Apr 2014	12%	37%	33%	9%	4%	5%	1077
Apr 2013	17%	35%	31%	9%	5%	3%	1133
Apr 2012	15%	34%	28%	12%	4%	6%	1202
Apr 2011	16%	31%	32%	13%	4%	4%	1649
Apr 2010	20%	32%	27%	11%	4%	5%	1543
Apr 2009	18%	34%	29%	9%	4%	5%	1598
Apr 2008	18%	35%	27%	10%	4%	5%	1523
Apr 2007	14%	34%	30%	10%	5%	7%	1516
Apr 2006	19%	36%	27%	8%	4%	5%	1268
Apr 2005	17%	34%	29%	9%	3%	8%	1476
Oct 2002	14%	33%	32%	11%	4%	5%	1051
Aug 2000	10%	29%	30%	14%	7%	8%	1014

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**PPIC Statewide Survey
 Californians and Education - April 2016
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q16. Are your local public schools doing an excellent, good, not so good, or poor job in preparing students for college?

	excellent	good	not so good	poor	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Apr 2016	12%	42%	30%	11%	6%	996
Apr 2015	12%	44%	26%	11%	7%	1063
Apr 2014	10%	41%	26%	14%	9%	1075
Apr 2013	10%	39%	30%	13%	8%	1131
Nov 2011	4%	28%	38%	25%	5%	1639
Apr 2011	3%	33%	37%	23%	4%	1645
Apr 2010	3%	35%	42%	17%	4%	1539
Apr 2009	3%	40%	38%	15%	5%	1600

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey
 Californians and Education - April 2016
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q17. Are your local public schools doing an excellent, good, not so good, or poor job in preparing students for jobs and the workforce?

	excellent	good	not so good	poor	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Apr 2016	9%	35%	35%	15%	7%	996
Apr 2015	8%	36%	35%	13%	9%	1063
Apr 2014	4%	33%	37%	18%	7%	1076
Apr 2013	5%	34%	37%	17%	8%	1130
Apr 2011	2%	26%	40%	27%	5%	1644
Apr 2010	2%	23%	49%	22%	5%	1539
Apr 2009	1%	24%	49%	21%	4%	1598

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey
 Californians and Education - April 2016
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q18. How about teacher quality? (Do you think this is a big problem, somewhat of a problem, or not really a problem for California's K-to-12 public schools today?)

	big problem	somewhat of a problem	not really a problem	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Apr 2016	30%	49%	19%	2%	996
Apr 2013	29%	45%	23%	3%	1130
Apr 2011	46%	37%	16%	2%	1650
Apr 2010	37%	42%	18%	2%	1542
Apr 2009	30%	42%	23%	4%	1601
Apr 2008	30%	43%	23%	4%	1520
Apr 2007	31%	43%	22%	4%	1517
Apr 2006	28%	42%	26%	4%	1265

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey
 Californians and Education - April 2016
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q20. Do you think the current level of state funding for your LOCAL public schools is more than enough, just enough, or not enough?

	more than enough	just enough	not enough	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Apr 2016	13%	22%	60%	5%	997
Apr 2015	14%	27%	54%	5%	1069
Apr 2014	18%	27%	49%	6%	1077
Apr 2013	12%	26%	58%	3%	1133
Apr 2012	12%	26%	59%	3%	1207
Apr 2011	12%	30%	52%	6%	1650
Apr 2010	8%	26%	59%	6%	1543
Apr 2009	14%	32%	49%	6%	1601
Apr 2008	12%	32%	49%	7%	1520
Apr 2007	13%	33%	46%	8%	1515
Apr 2006	13%	34%	46%	7%	1267
Apr 2005	8%	33%	48%	10%	1474
Jan 2004	12%	23%	60%	5%	981
Oct 2002	10%	21%	63%	6%	1049
Aug 2000	10%	23%	62%	5%	1012
Sep 1999	11%	20%	65%	4%	913
Sep 1998	10%	21%	63%	6%	1042

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey
 Californians and Education - April 2016
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q21. As you may know, voters passed Proposition 30 in November 2012. It increased taxes on earnings over \$250,000 dollars until 2018 and sales taxes by one quarter cent until 2016. Do you favor or oppose extending for 12 years the tax increase on earning over \$250,000 to fund education and health care?

	favor	oppose	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Apr 2016	62%	35%	2%	995
Mar 2016	58%	38%	4%	1038

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey
 Californians and Education - April 2016
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q23. If your LOCAL school district had a bond measure on the ballot to pay for school construction projects, would you vote yes or no?

	yes	no	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Apr 2016	62%	34%	4%	994
Apr 2015	53%	42%	4%	1067
Apr 2014	55%	38%	8%	1076
Apr 2013	56%	42%	3%	1131
Apr 2012	53%	40%	6%	1204
Apr 2011	53%	43%	4%	1651
Apr 2010	54%	41%	5%	1543
Apr 2009	54%	41%	5%	1599
Apr 2008	58%	38%	5%	1520
Apr 2007	58%	37%	5%	1516
Apr 2005	68%	27%	5%	1475
Jun 2004	68%	28%	3%	1348
Feb 2004	59%	31%	10%	1009
Oct 2002	70%	25%	6%	1049
Oct 2000	63%	27%	10%	1090
Feb 2000	63%	30%	7%	1012
Dec 1999	72%	22%	6%	908

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey
 Californians and Education - April 2016
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q24. What if there was a measure on your LOCAL ballot to increase local parcel taxes to provide more funds for the local public schools? Would you vote yes or no?

	yes	no	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Apr 2016	52%	43%	5%	996
Apr 2015	49%	46%	5%	1067
Apr 2014	48%	48%	3%	1076
Apr 2013	51%	47%	3%	1131
Apr 2012	51%	44%	6%	1206
Apr 2011	54%	42%	4%	1653
Apr 2010	52%	44%	4%	1539
Apr 2009	49%	47%	5%	1596

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey
 Californians and Education - April 2016
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q25. Do you think it's a good idea or a bad idea to replace the two-thirds vote requirement with a 55 percent majority vote for voters to pass local parcel taxes for the local public schools?

	good idea	bad idea	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Apr 2016	44%	49%	7%	991
Apr 2015	44%	50%	6%	1062
Apr 2014	39%	54%	8%	1076
Apr 2013	47%	48%	5%	1128
Jan 2013	51%	42%	7%	1113
Apr 2011	46%	49%	5%	1652
Apr 2009	40%	55%	5%	1595

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey
 Californians and Education - April 2016
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q27. Who do you think SHOULD have the MOST control in deciding how the money from state government is spent in local public schools - [ROTATE ORDER] [1] the local schools, [2] the local school districts, [OR] [3] the state government?

	the local schools	the local school districts	the state government	[VOL] other (SPECIFY)	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Apr 2016	38%	51%	8%	1%	2%	996
Apr 2013	37%	46%	14%	1%	2%	1130
Apr 2012	36%	53%	6%	4%	1%	1207
Apr 2011	35%	51%	11%	1%	2%	1648
Apr 2010	38%	51%	8%	2%	2%	1540
Apr 2009	35%	52%	10%	2%	2%	1600
Apr 2008	38%	47%	10%	3%	2%	1519

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey
 Californians and Education - April 2016
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q28. Next, how much, if anything, have you heard about the Local Control Funding Formula, a policy enacted in recent years that changes the way K-to-12 public school districts are funded in California?

	a lot	a little	nothing at all	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Apr 2016	4%	27%	69%	0%	997
Apr 2015	3%	21%	75%	1%	1068
Apr 2014	4%	23%	73%	0%	1078

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey
 Californians and Education - April 2016
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q29. The Local Control Funding Formula provides add'l funding to school districts that have more (english language learners) AND (low income students) and gives flexibility over how state funding is spent. Do you favor or oppose this plan?

	favor	oppose	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Apr 2016	75%	20%	5%	990
Apr 2015	69%	22%	9%	1064
Apr 2014	67%	24%	8%	1073

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey
 Californians and Education - April 2016
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q30. As the state implements the Local Control Funding Formula, how confident are you that local school districts which receive additional funding will spend that money on programs\support for (english language learners) AND (low income students)?

	very confident	somewhat confident	not too confident	not at all confident	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Apr 2016	12%	47%	24%	12%	4%	996
Apr 2015	7%	43%	30%	18%	2%	1067

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

**PPIC Statewide Survey
 Californians and Education - April 2016
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q31. As the state implements the Local Control Funding Formula, do you think the academic achievement of (english language learners) AND (low income students) will or will not improve?

	improve a lot	improve somewhat	will NOT improve	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Apr 2016	18%	52%	23%	8%	992
Apr 2015	10%	50%	31%	8%	1064
Apr 2014	10%	44%	33%	13%	1076

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q33. On another topic, do you think that the state government should or should not fund voluntary preschool programs for all four-year-olds in California?

	should	should not	[VOL] don't know	Unweighted n
Apr 2016	67%	31%	2%	997
Apr 2014	63%	32%	5%	1073

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding

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 Californians and Education - April 2016
 Likely Voters - Time Trends**

Q35. How important is attending preschool to a student's success in kindergarten through grade 12
 - 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
Apr 2016	62%	24%	10%	4%	1%	997
Apr 2014	61%	22%	10%	6%	2%	1077
May 2006	57%	25%	9%	7%	2%	1093
Mar 2006	58%	24%	8%	7%	2%	1007

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding