

PPIC Statewide Survey: Californians and the Environment

July 27, 2018

Mark Baldassare, Dean Bonner, Alyssa Dykman, Lunna Lopes

Supported with funding from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, the Dirk and Charlene Kabcenell Foundation, the Flora Family Foundation, and the Heising-Simons Foundation



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#PPICsurvey

Outline

- PPIC Statewide Surveys
- 2018 election and environmental issues
- Public perceptions and policy preferences
- Conclusions

PPIC Statewide Survey mission

- Provide timely, relevant, nonpartisan data on political, social, and economic opinions
- Inform and improve state policymaking, raise awareness, encourage discussion
- Provide a voice for all Californians in important state policy debates
 - 350,000+ Californians interviewed since 1998
 - 170+ general, issue, and regional surveys

Californians and the Environment

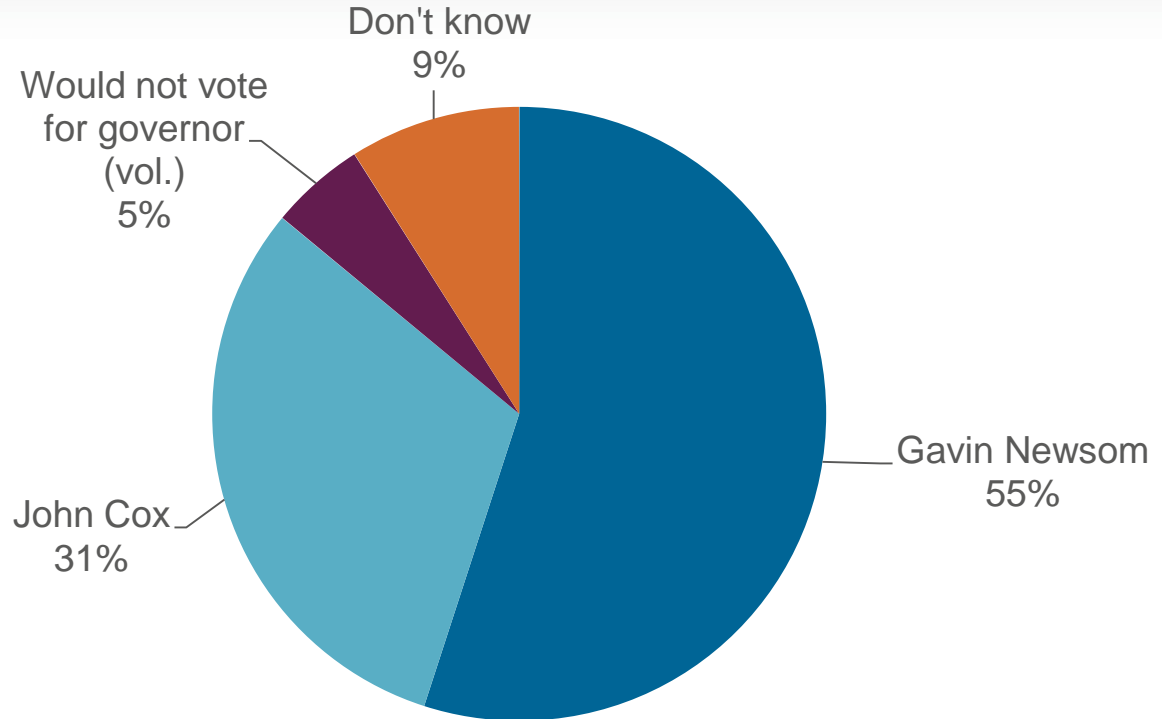
- Conducted with funding from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, the Dirk and Charlene Kabcenell Foundation, the Flora Family Foundation, and the Heising-Simons Foundation
- Telephone interviews, July 8–17, 2018
 - 70% cell phone, 30% landline
 - 1,711 adults, \pm 3.4% margin of error
 - 1,020 likely voters, \pm 4.3% margin of error
- Preferences in gubernatorial and US Senate races, water, air pollution, and coastal issues
- Approval ratings, climate change and energy policy

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Gubernatorial election preferences

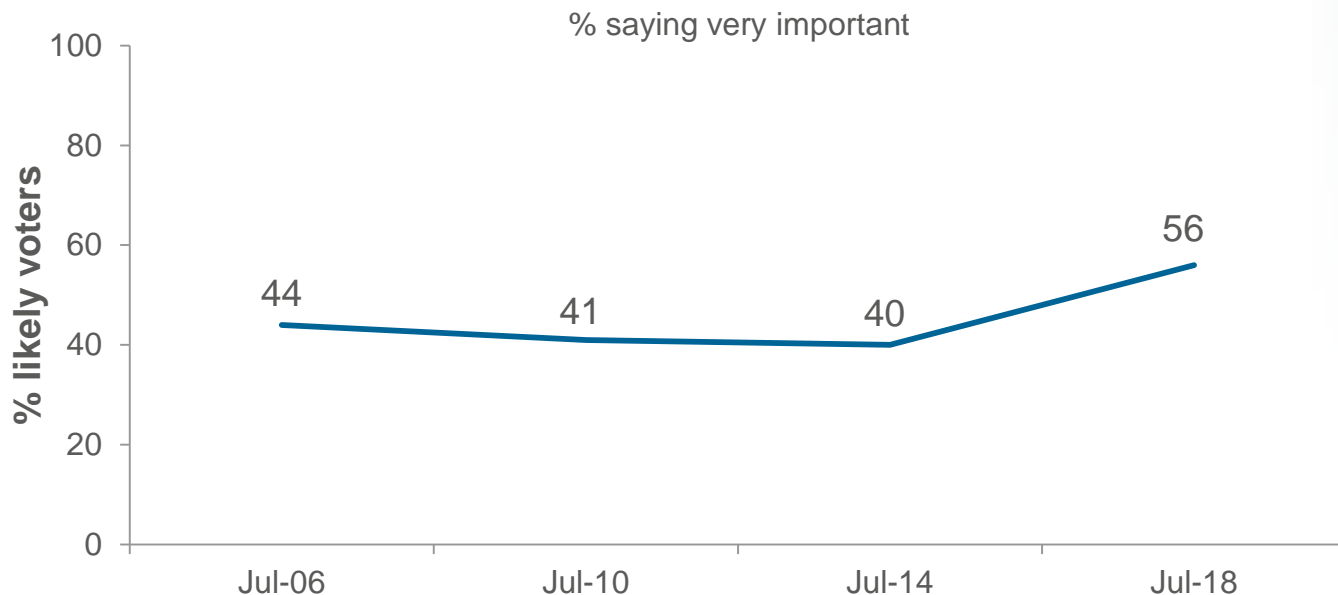
If the November 6 election for governor were being held today, would you vote for...?



% likely voters

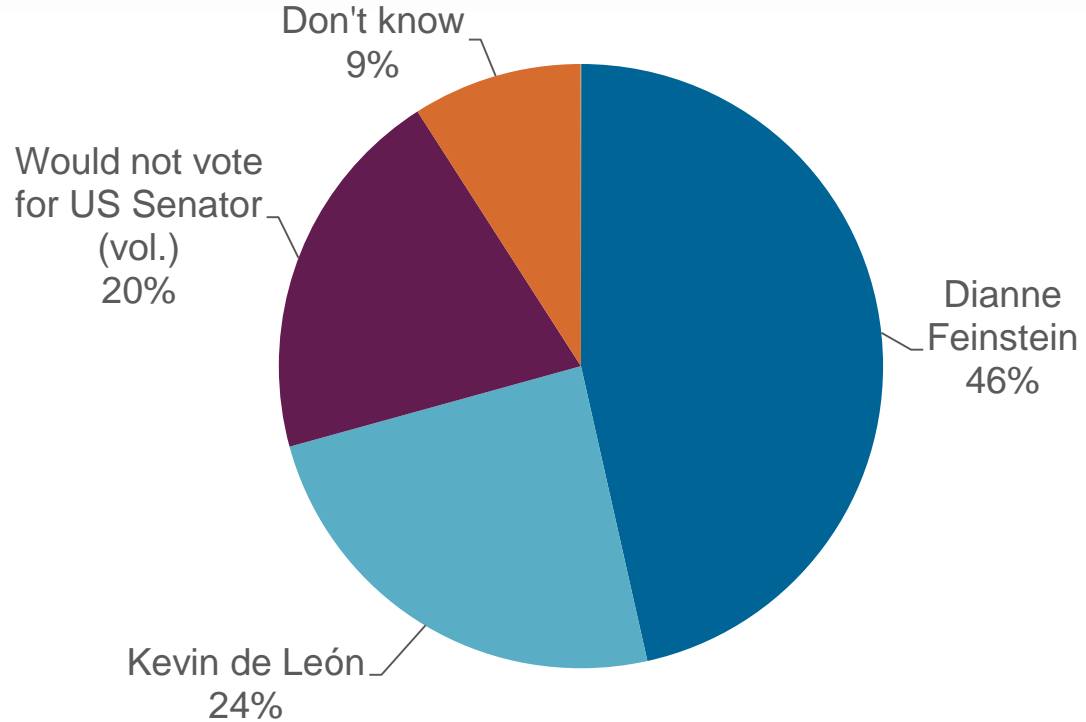
Importance of gubernatorial candidates' positions on the environment

In thinking about the California governor's election in November, how important to you are the candidates' positions on the environment in determining your vote?



US Senate election preferences

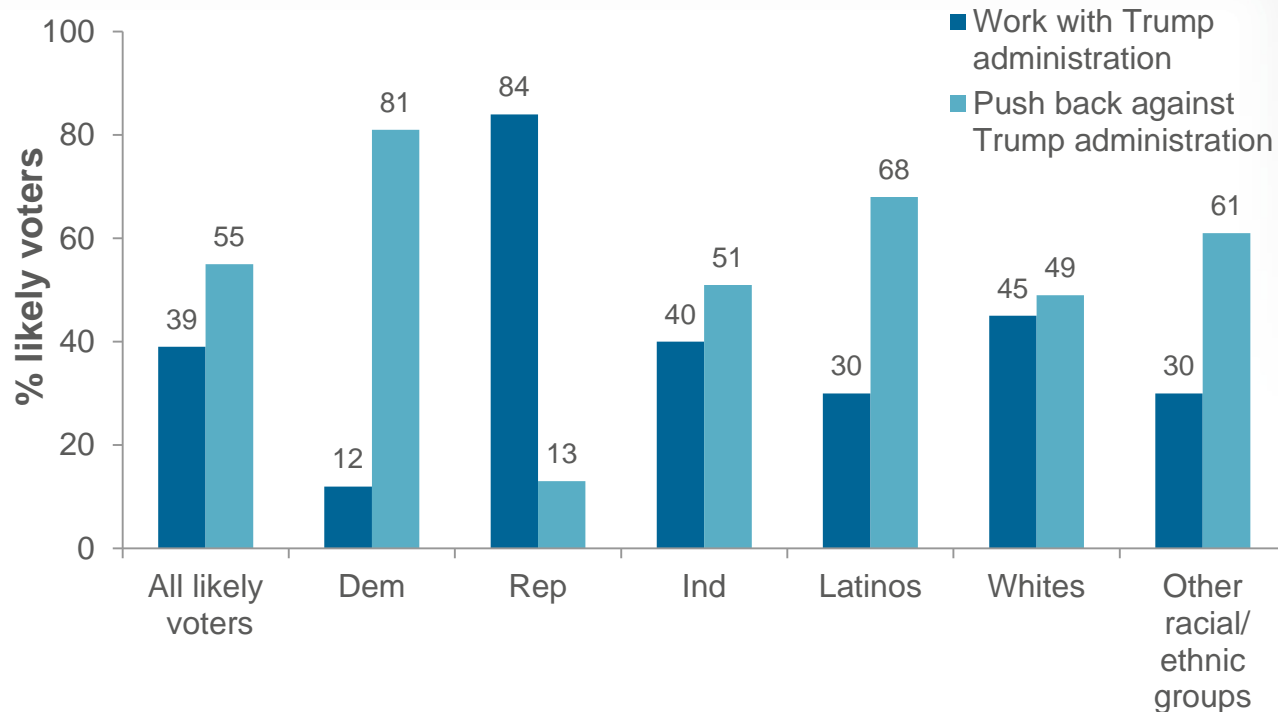
If the November 6 election for the US Senate were being held today, would you vote for...?



% likely voters

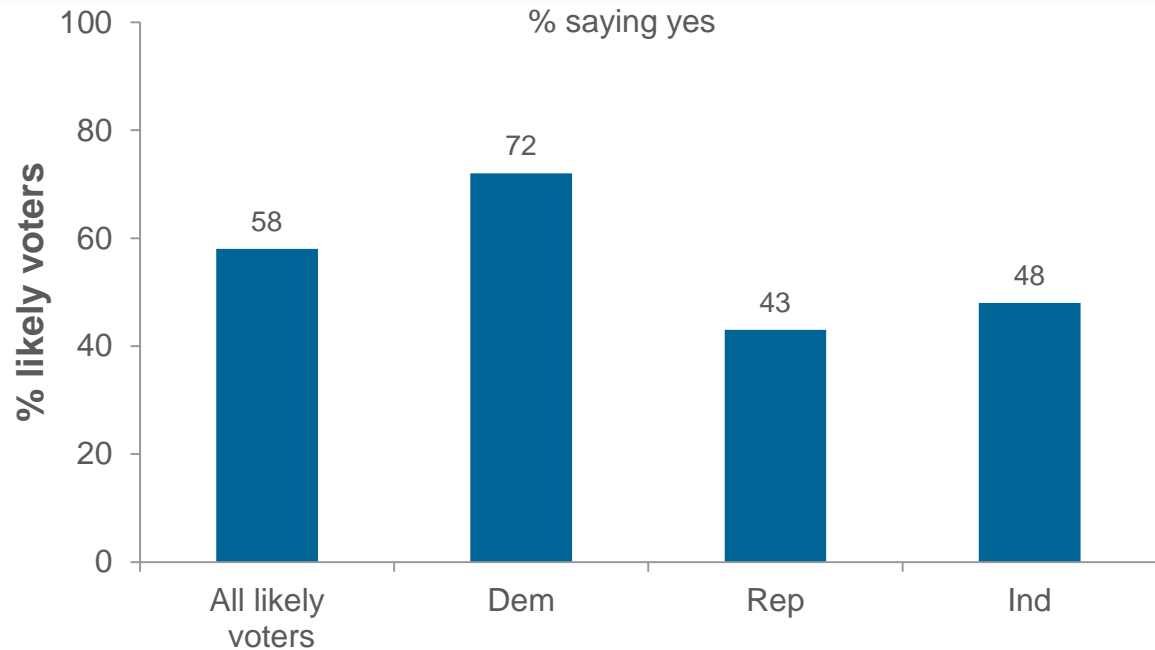
Should candidates work with the Trump administration or push back on environmental issues?

Which of the following is more important to you in candidates for statewide office, such as governor or US senator, when it comes to environmental issues—that they work with the Trump administration or that they push back against the Trump administration?

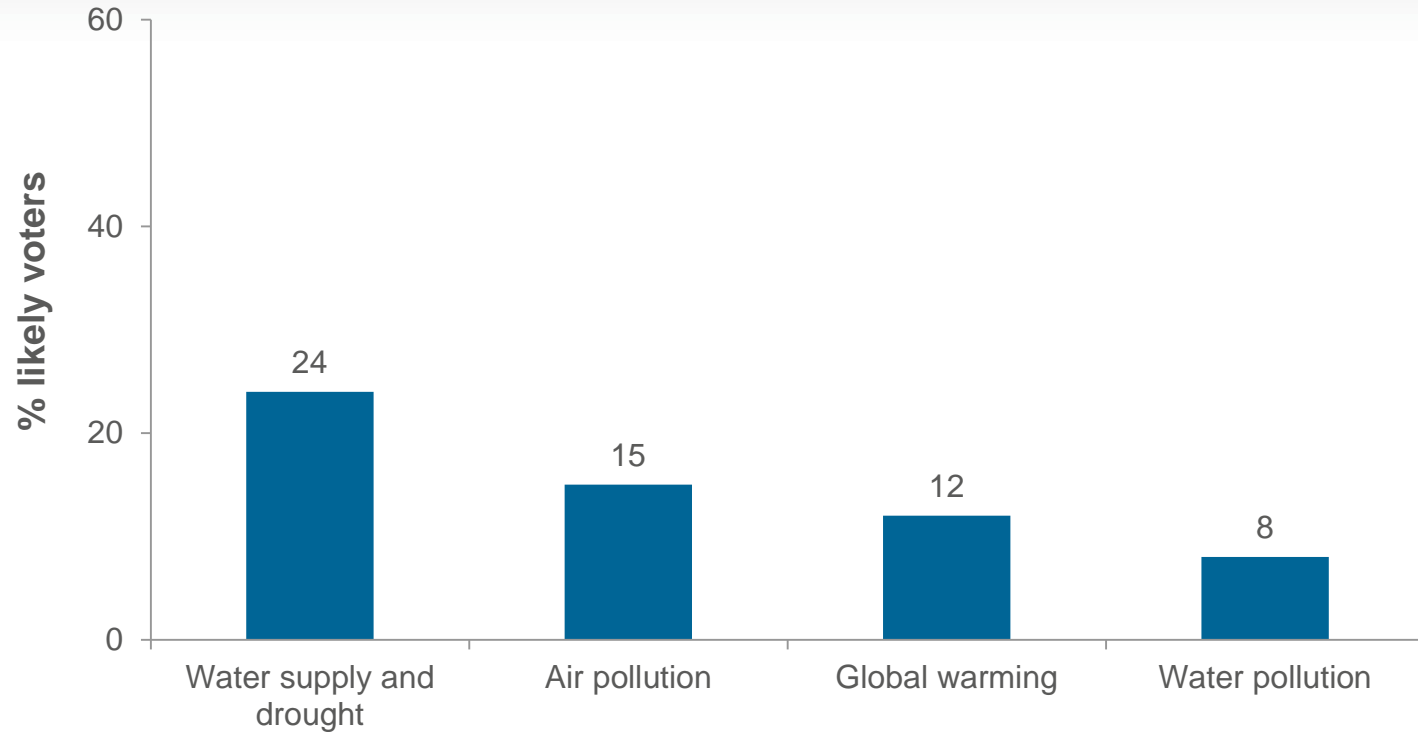


Support for water bond

The November 6 ballot has a state bond measure of approximately \$8.9 billion to pay for various water infrastructure projects. If the election were being held today, would you vote yes or no?

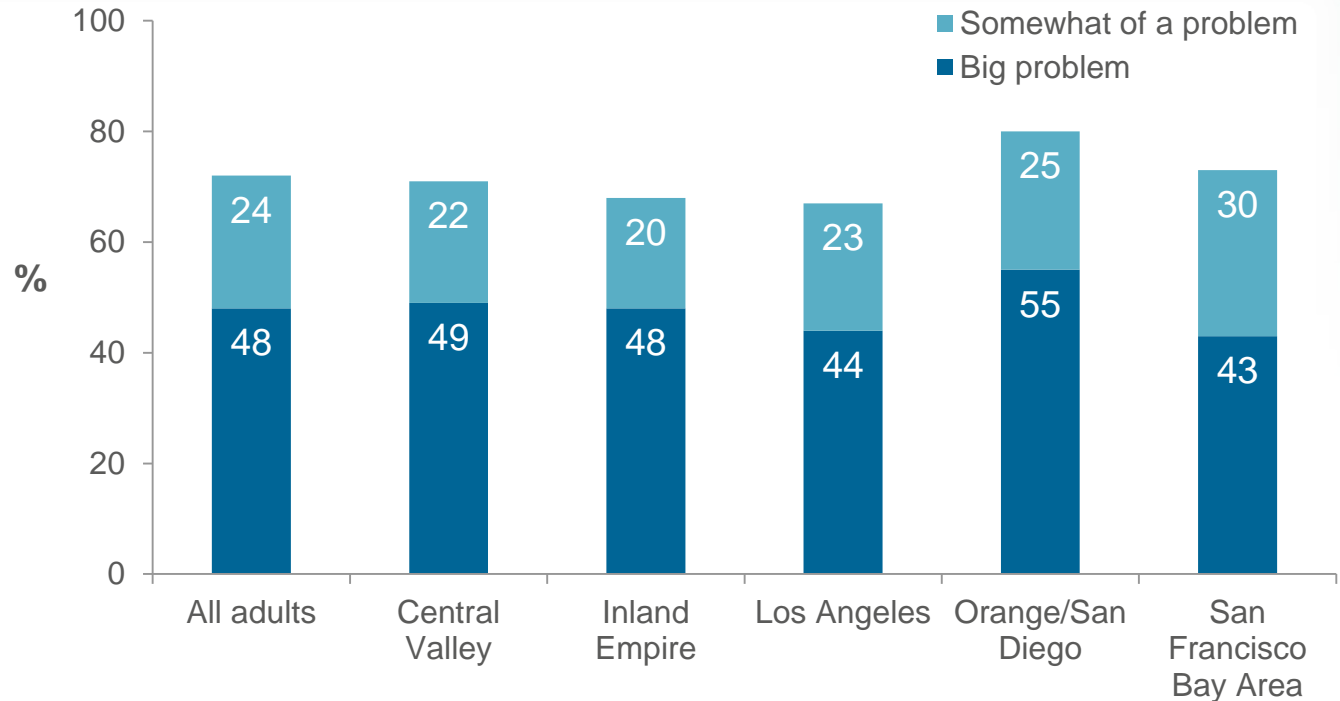


Most important environmental issue



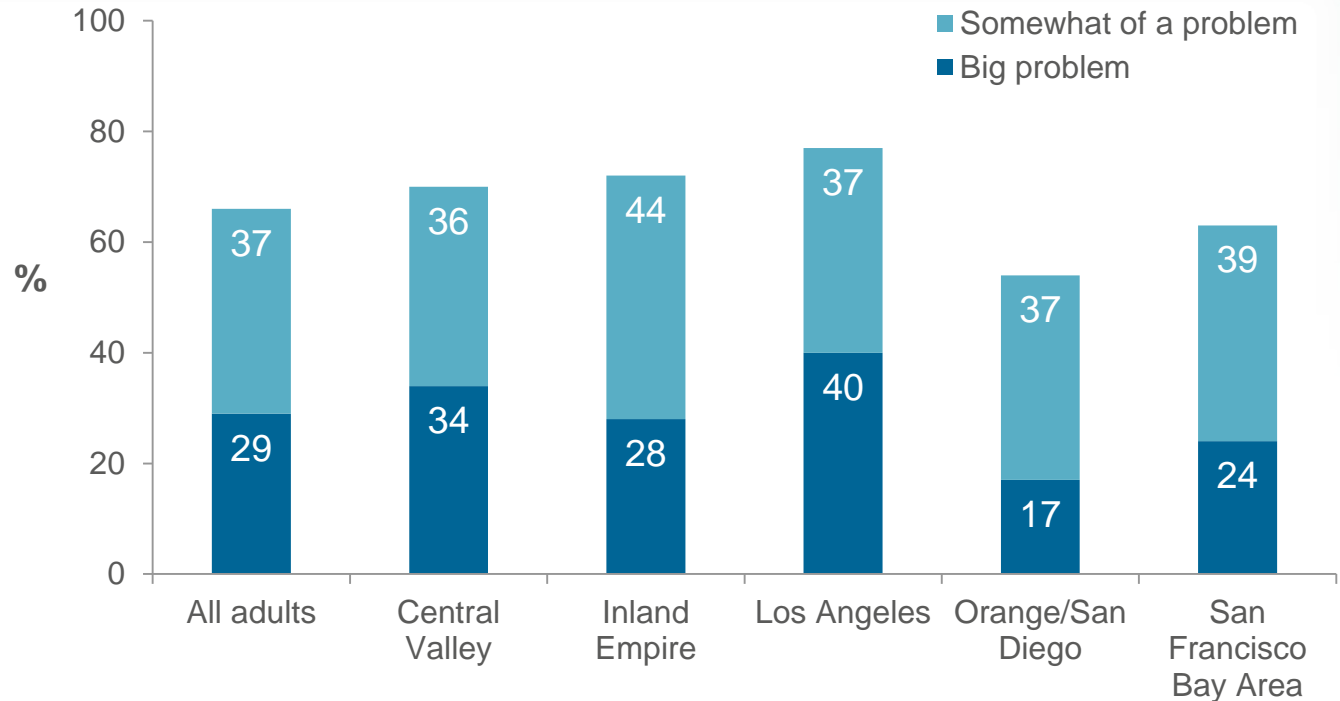
Seriousness of water supply problem

Would you say that the supply of water is a big problem, somewhat of a problem, or not much of a problem in your part of California?



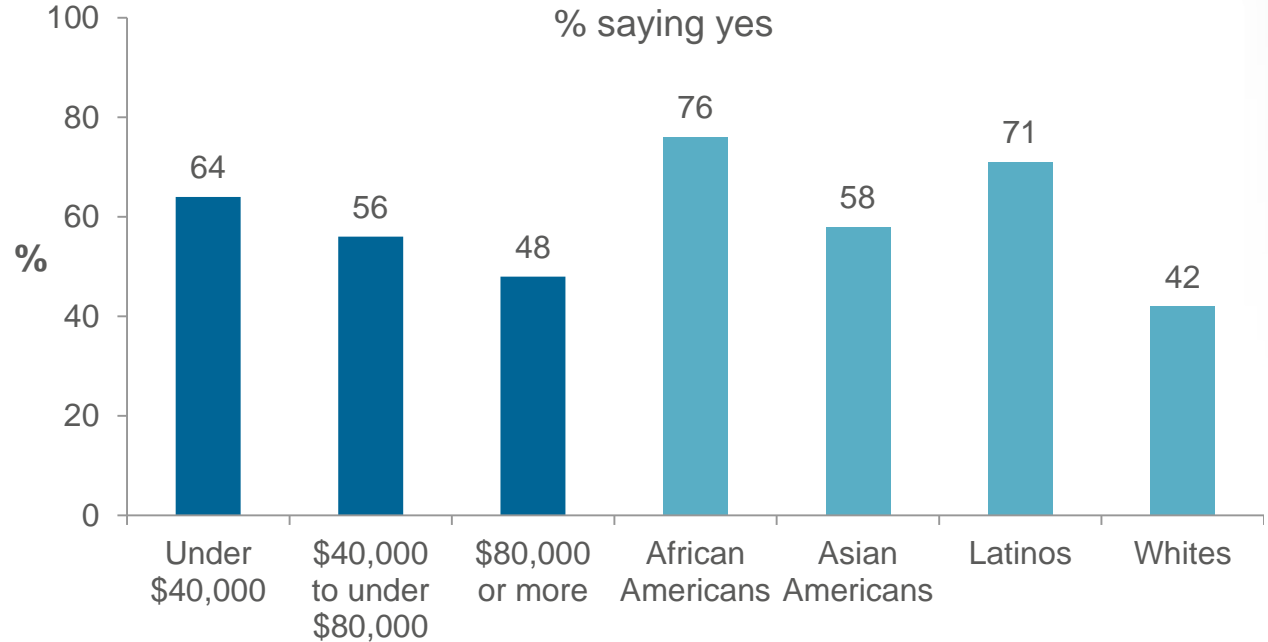
Seriousness of air pollution problem

Would you say that air pollution is a big problem, somewhat of a problem, or not much of a problem in your part of California?



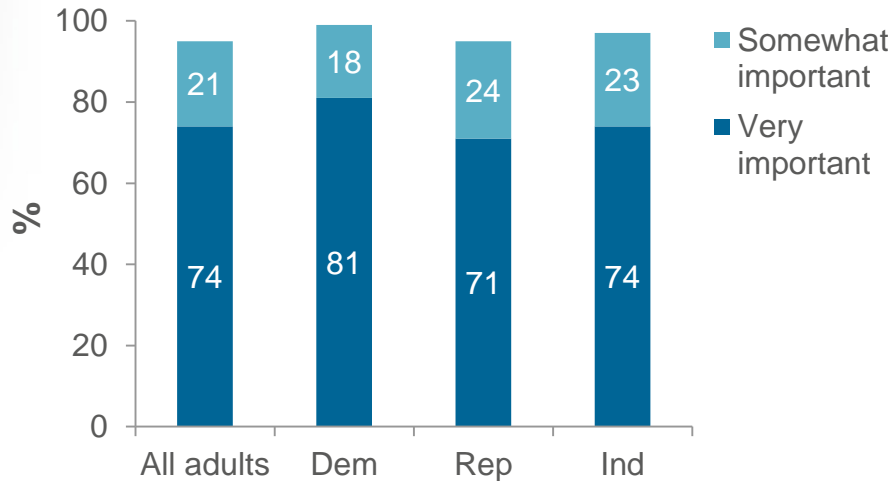
Air pollution in lower-income areas

Do you think that air pollution is a more serious health threat in lower-income areas than other areas in your part of California, or not?

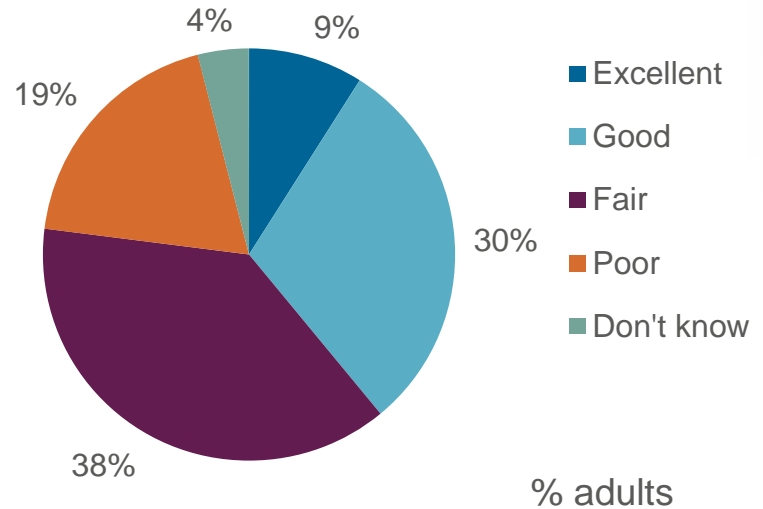


California's ocean and beaches

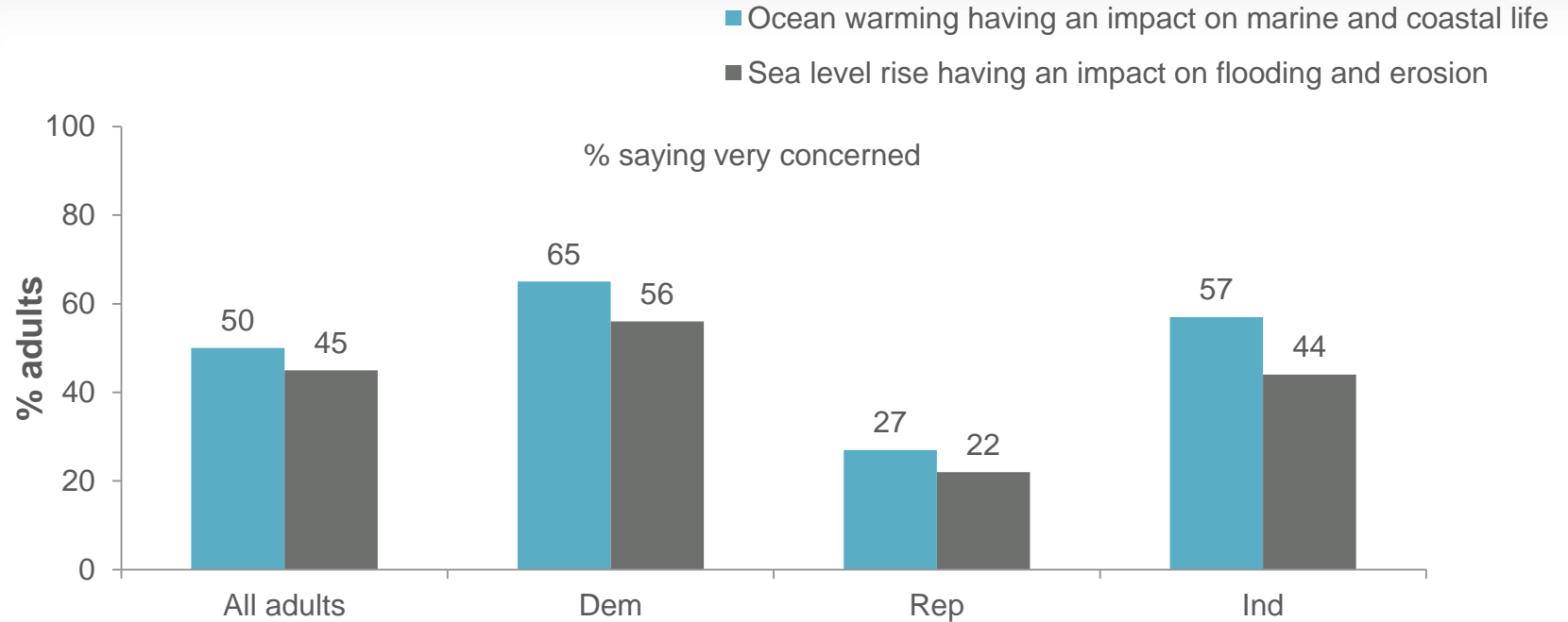
Importance of the condition of the ocean and beaches for California's future



Rating of the overall health and quality of the ocean along the California coast

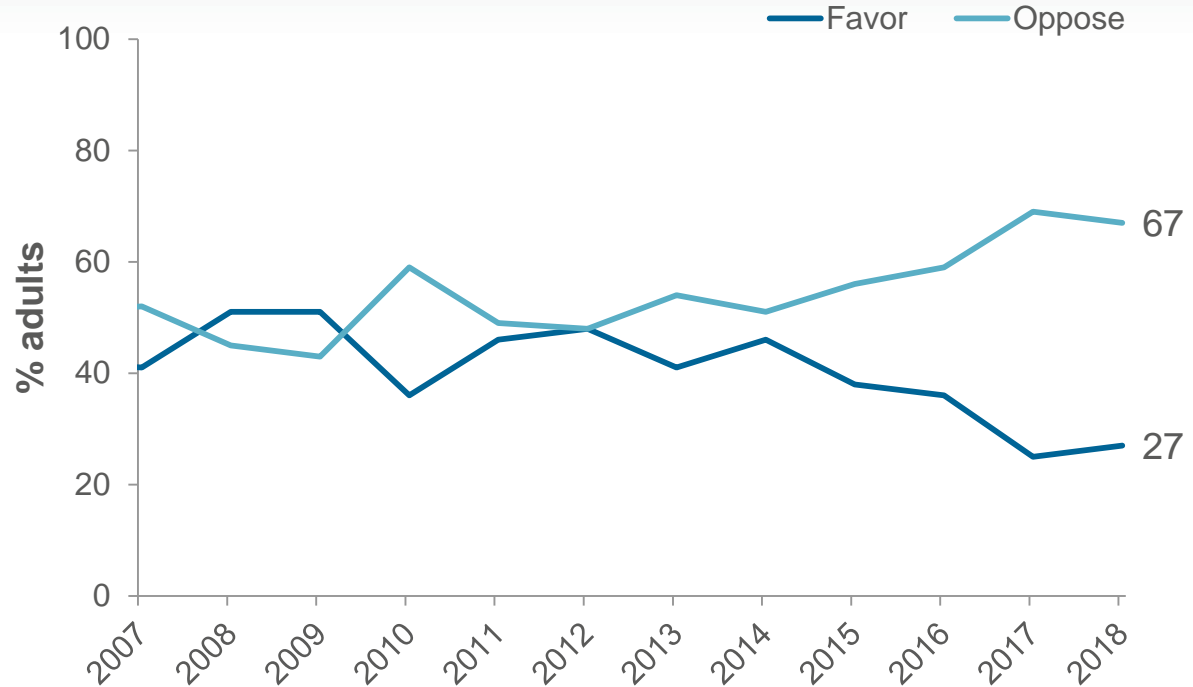


Concerns about coastal issues



Support for more oil drilling off the coast

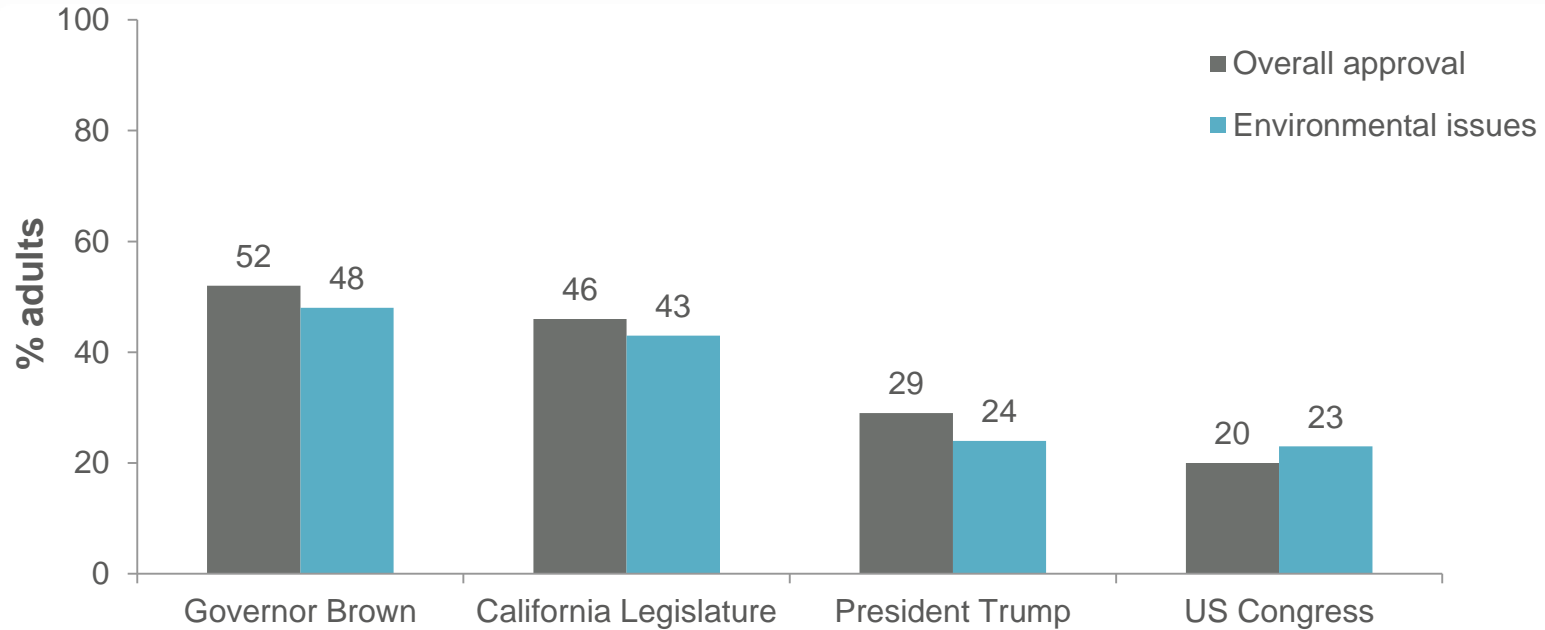
How about allowing more oil drilling off the California coast?



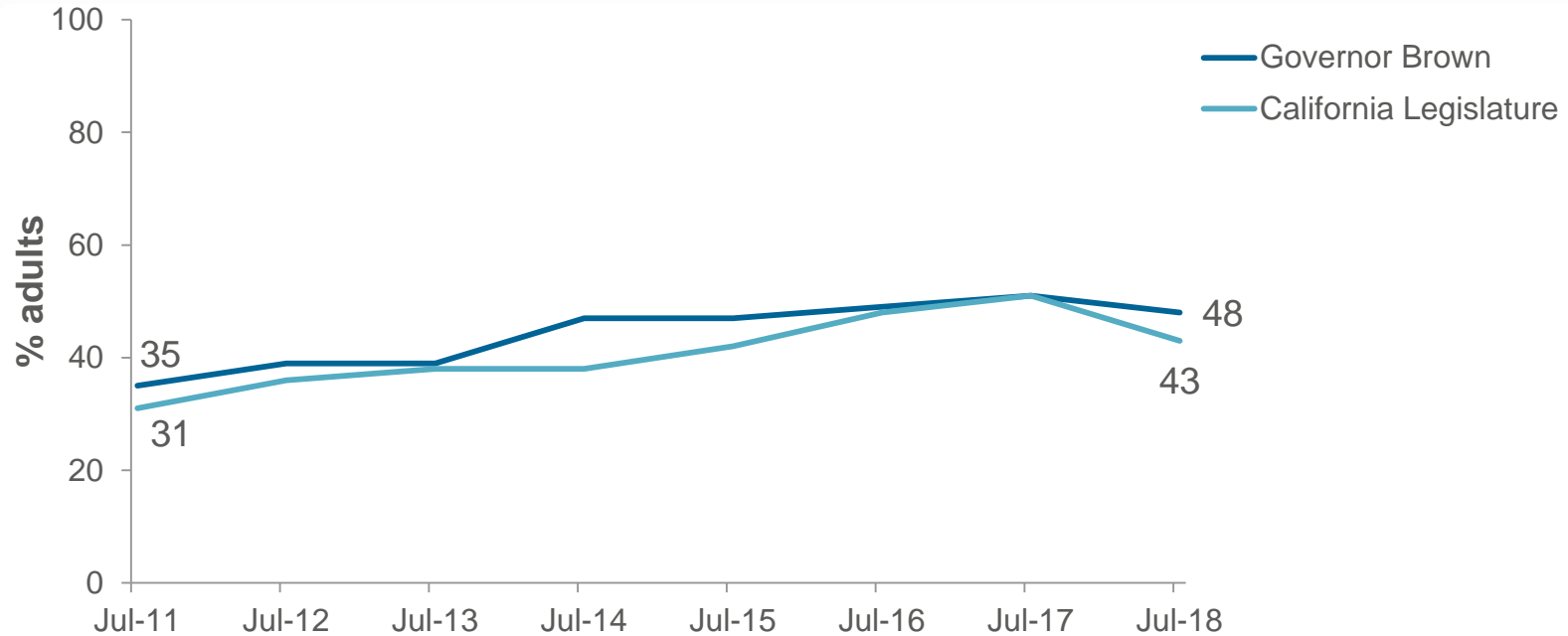
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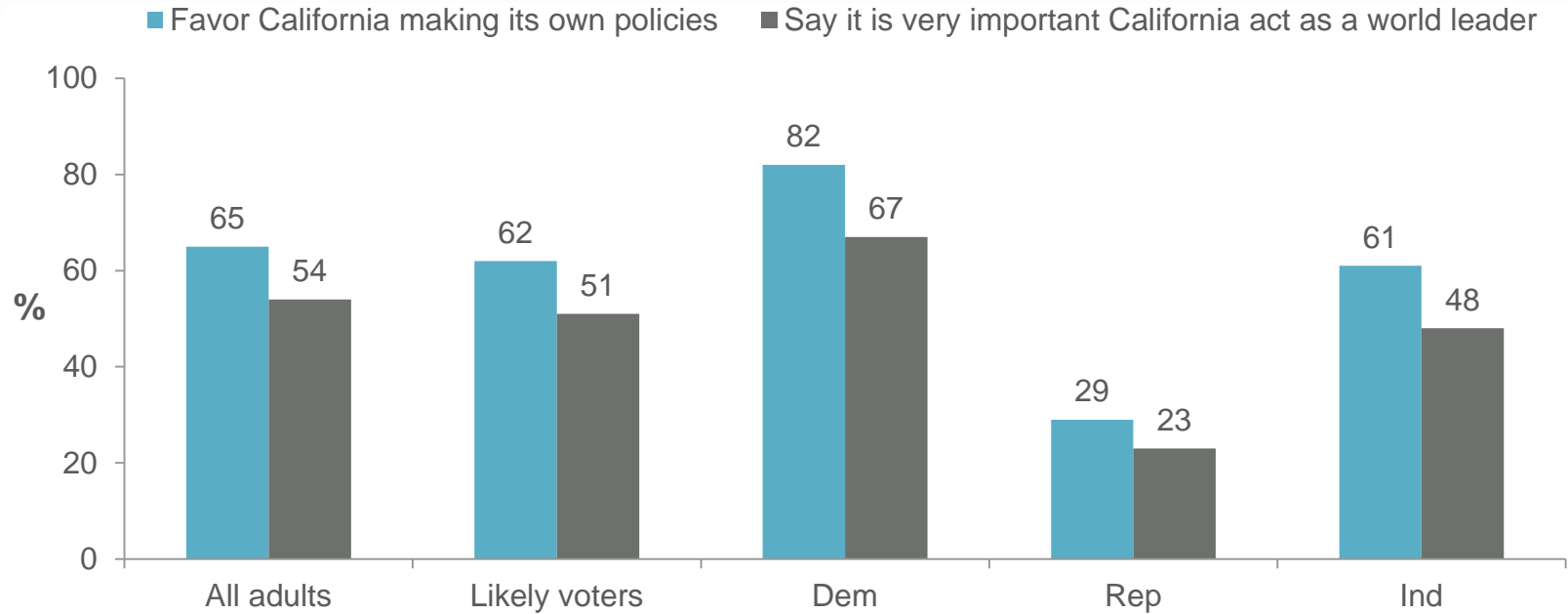
Approval of state and federal elected officials



Approval trends for state elected officials on environmental issues

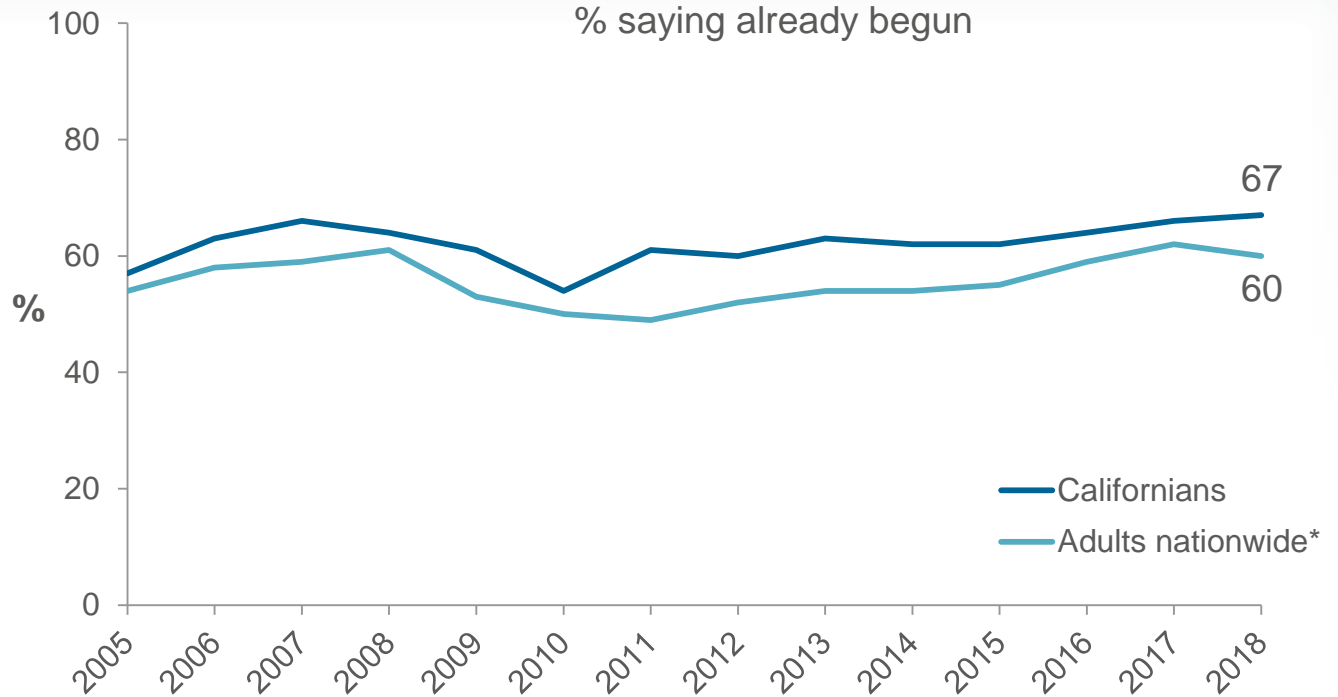


State leadership on climate change



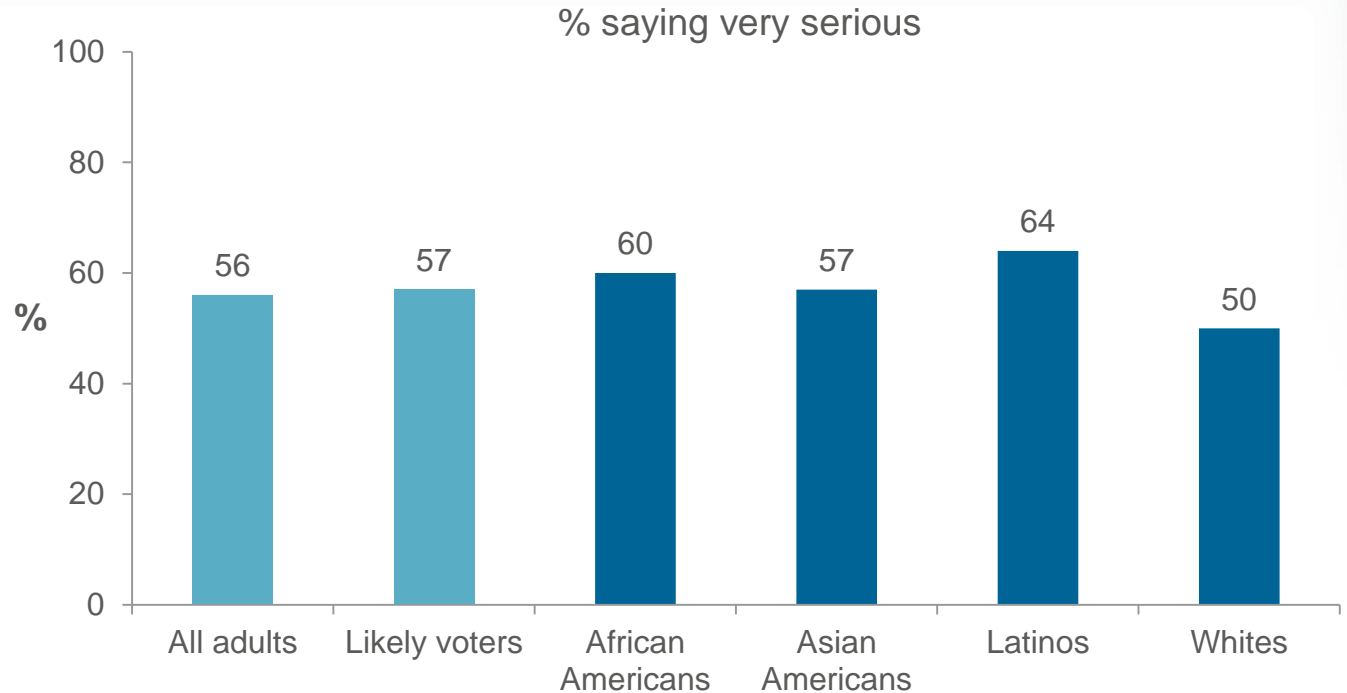
Effects of global warming

Which of the following statements reflects your view of when the effects of global warming will begin to happen?



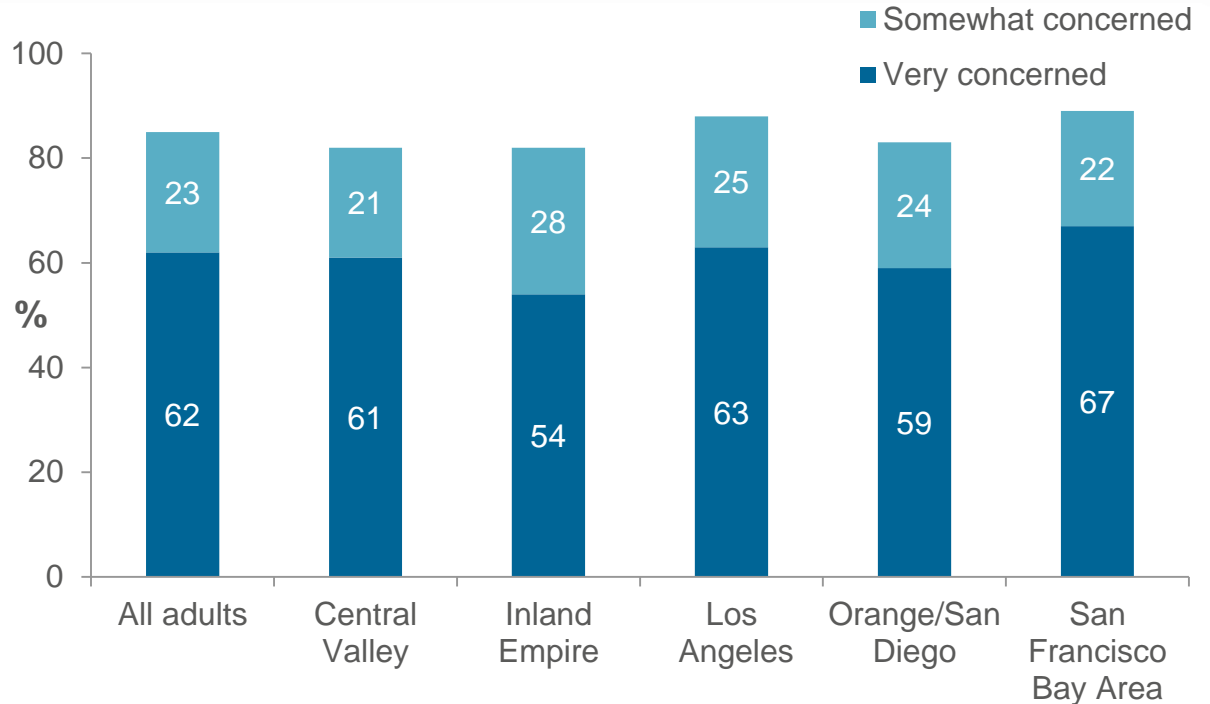
Threat of global warming

How serious of a threat is global warming to the economy and quality of life for California's future?



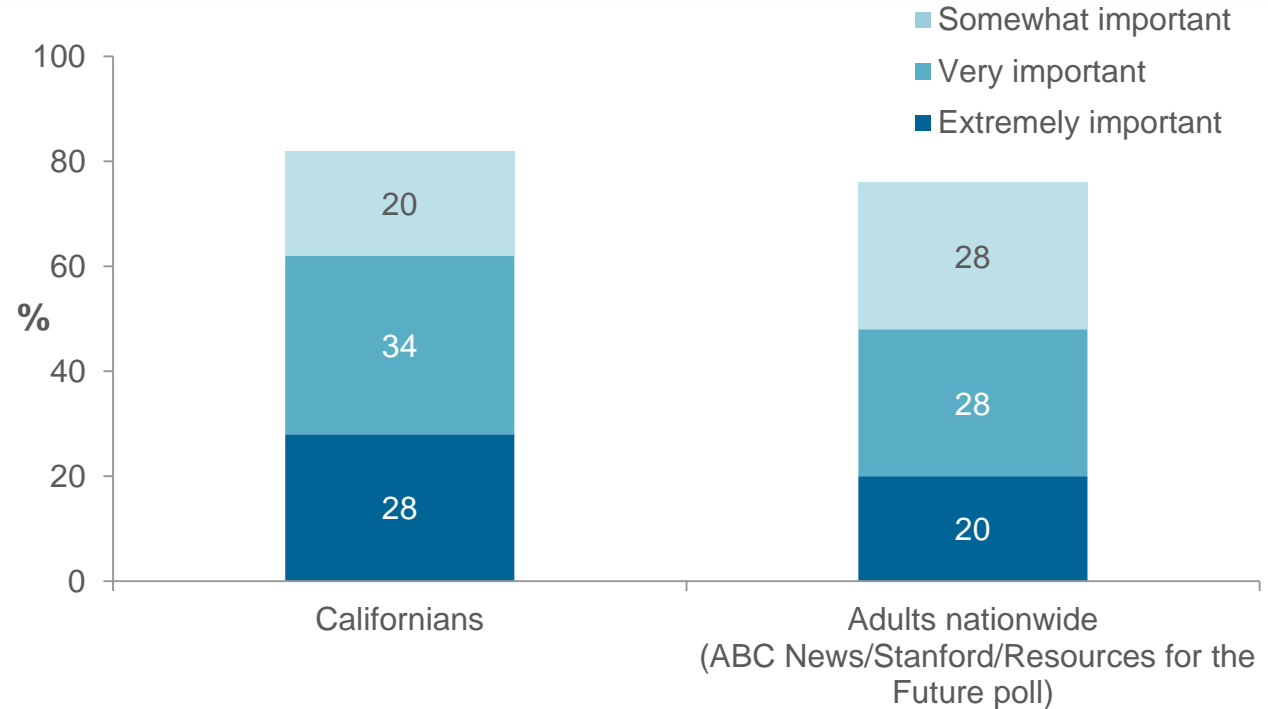
Concern about more severe wildfires

Thinking about the possible impact of global warming in California, how concerned are you about more severe wildfires because of extreme weather?



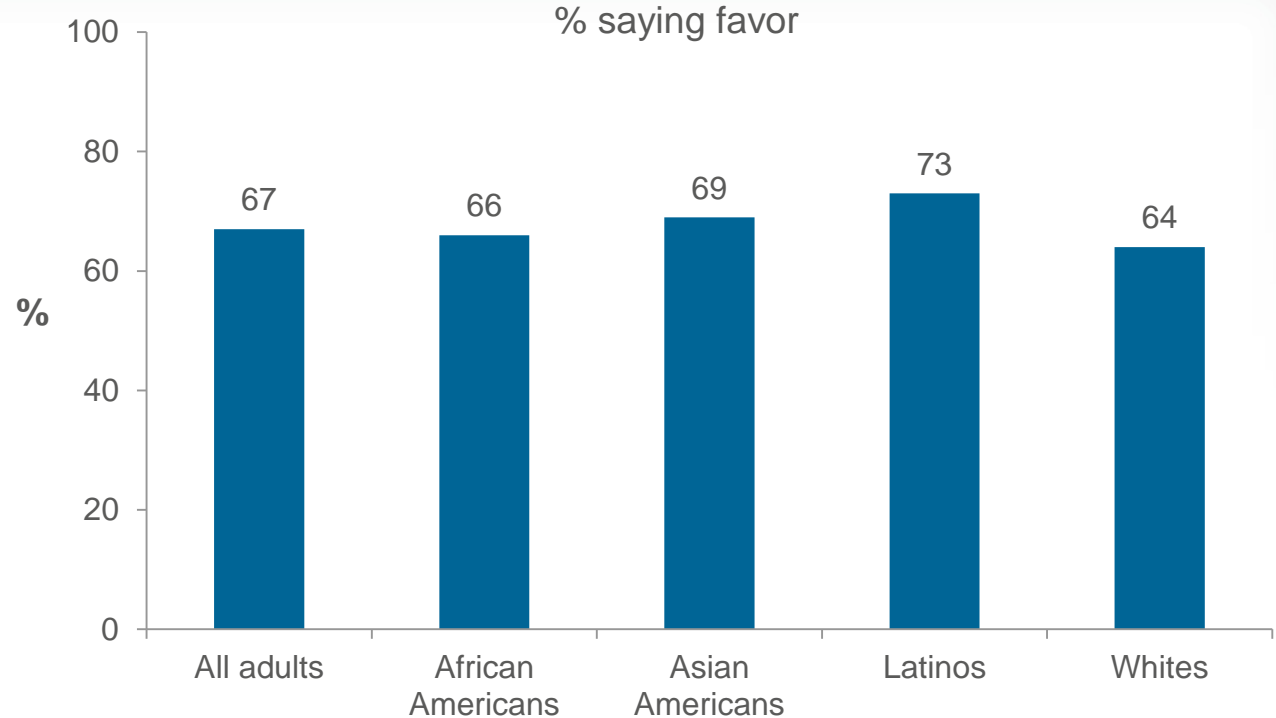
Personal importance of the issue of global warming

How important is the issue of global warming to you personally?



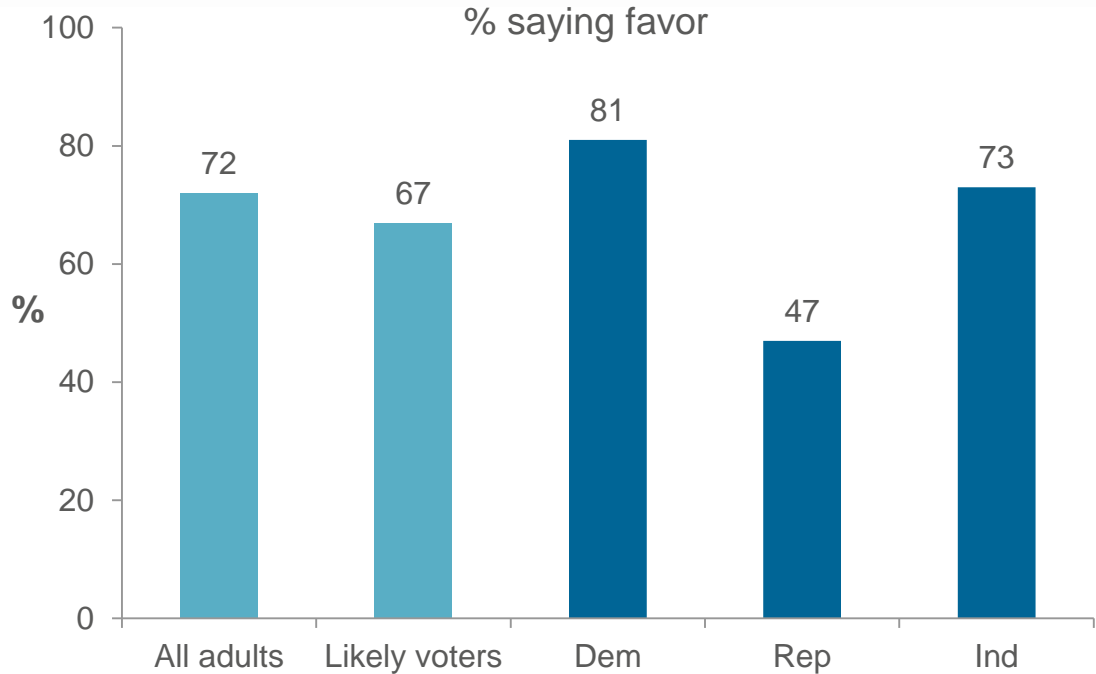
Support for SB 32's emission-reduction goal

To address global warming, do you favor or oppose the state law that requires California to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by the year 2030?



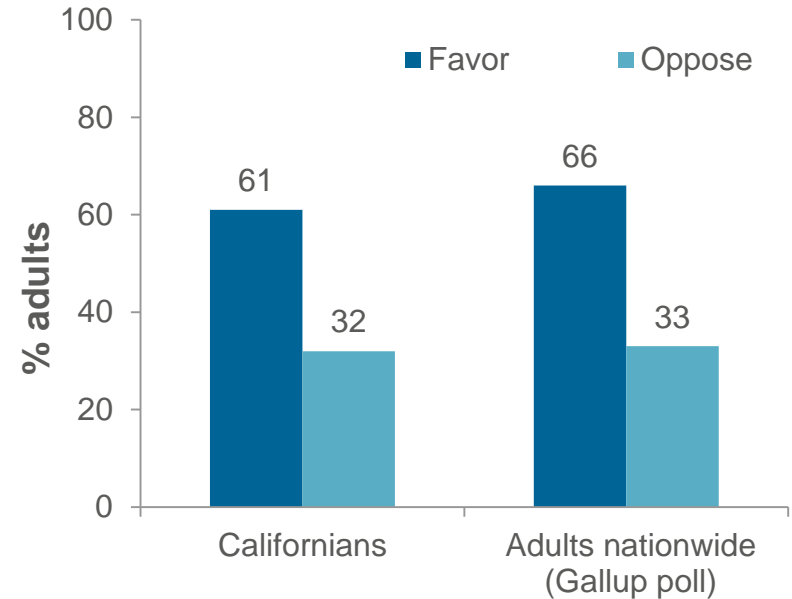
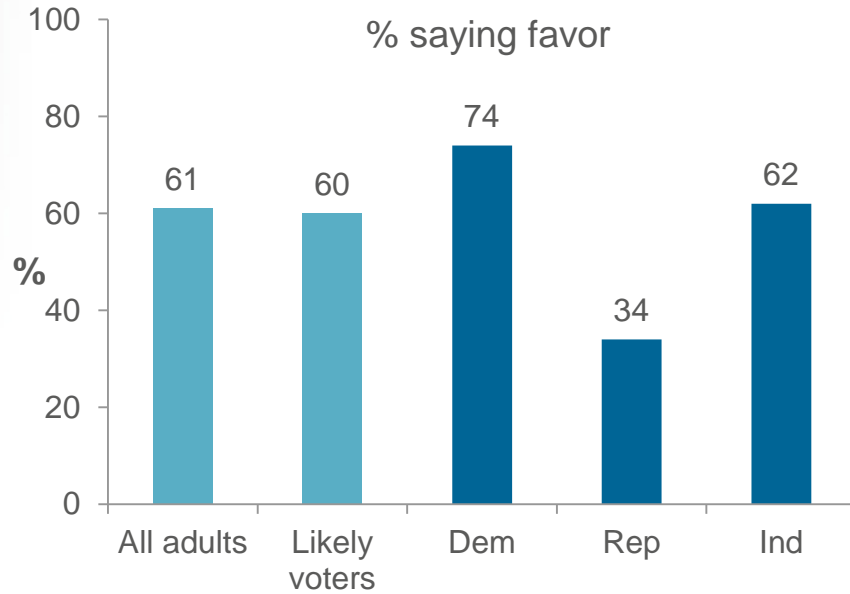
Support for 100 percent renewable goal

Do you favor or oppose a proposed state law that would require 100 percent of the state's electricity to come from renewable energy by the year 2045?



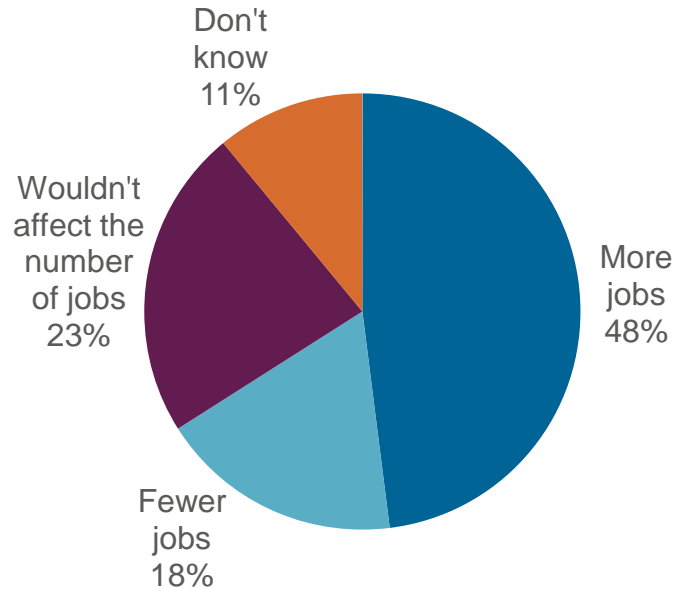
Support for higher emissions standards

How about setting higher emissions standards for automobiles?

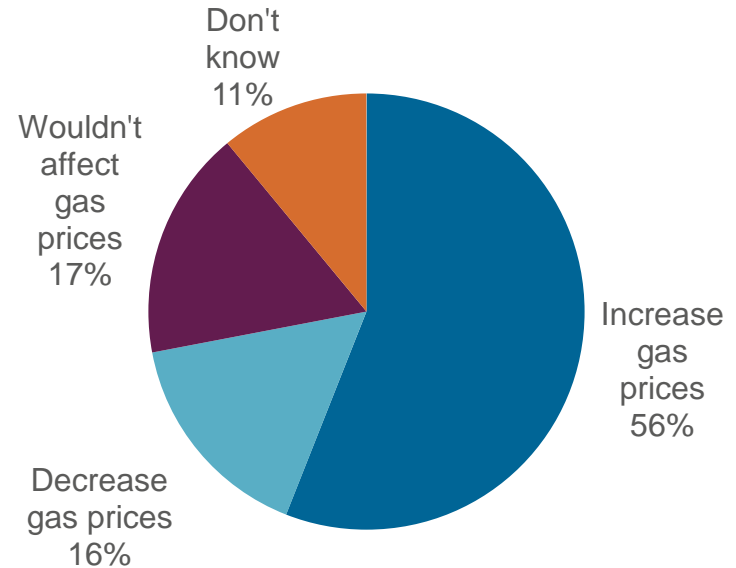


Impact of state climate policies on jobs and gas prices

Impact on jobs

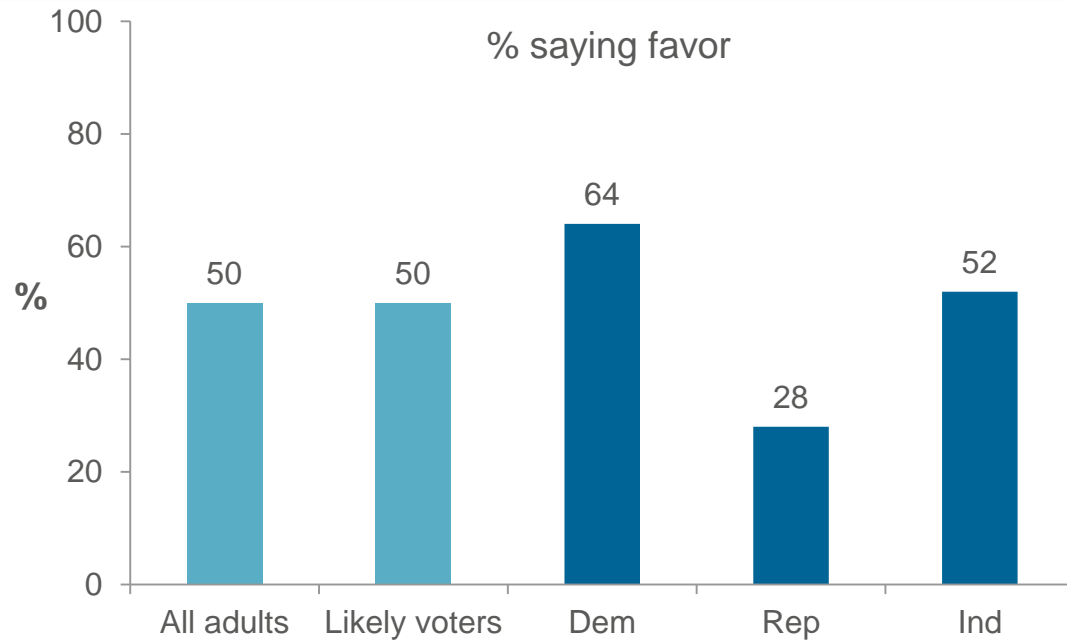


Impact on gas prices



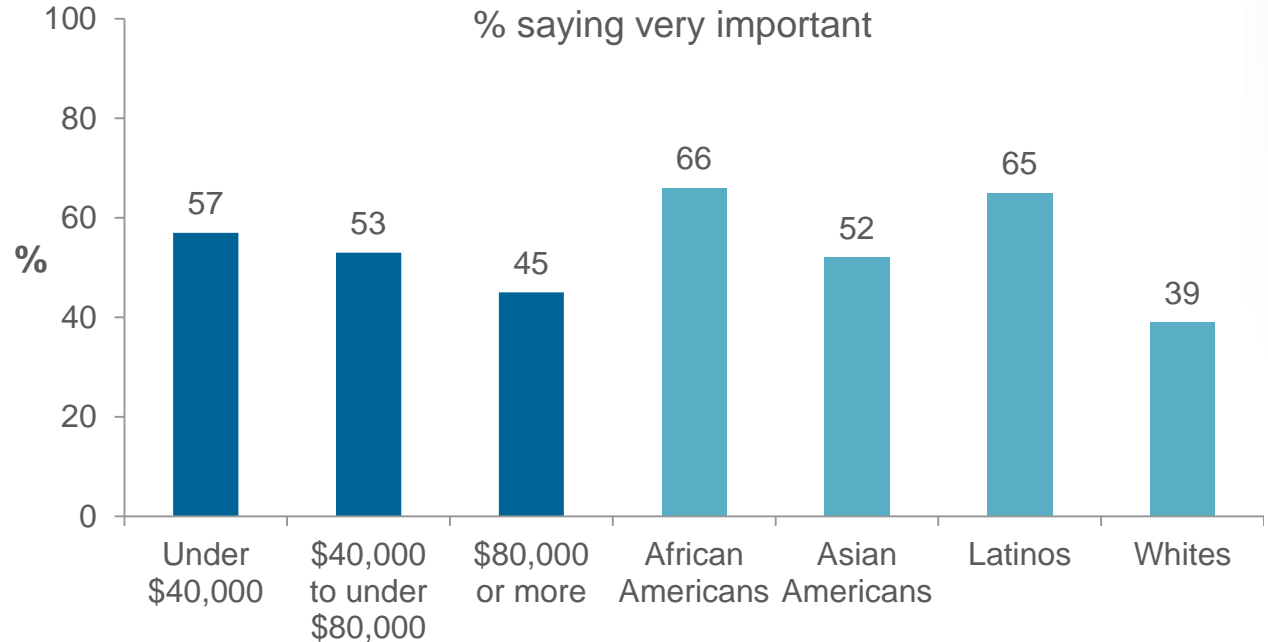
Cap and trade

In the system called “cap and trade,” the California state government issues permits limiting the amount of greenhouse gases companies can put out... Do you favor or oppose the cap-and-trade system?



Cap and trade: spending in lower-income areas

How important to you is it that some of the cap-and-trade revenues are spent on projects to improve environmental conditions in lower-income and disadvantaged communities?



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Conclusions

- Newsom leads Cox in November's gubernatorial election; Feinstein leads de León in the US Senate race. Most likely voters say candidates' positions on the environment are important.
- Californians are most likely to name water supply and drought as the top environmental issue; a majority of likely voters favor the \$8.9 billion water bond on the November ballot.
- Approval ratings for the president and Congress on environmental issues remain far lower than those for the governor and state legislature.
- There are wide partisan differences in views on climate change and what the state should do about it.
- Many Californians say global warming is important to them personally and majorities across regions fear more severe wildfires due to extreme weather.

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Notes on the use of these slides

These slides were created to accompany a presentation. They do not include full documentation of sources, data samples, methods, and interpretations. To avoid misinterpretations, please contact:

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Thank you for your interest in this work.