

# PPIC Statewide Survey: Californians and Their Government

March 22, 2018

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Supported with funding from the James Irvine Foundation  
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# Outline

- PPIC Statewide Surveys
- 2018 California election
- State and national issues
- 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
  - 345,000+ Californians interviewed since 1998
  - 160+ general, issue, and regional surveys

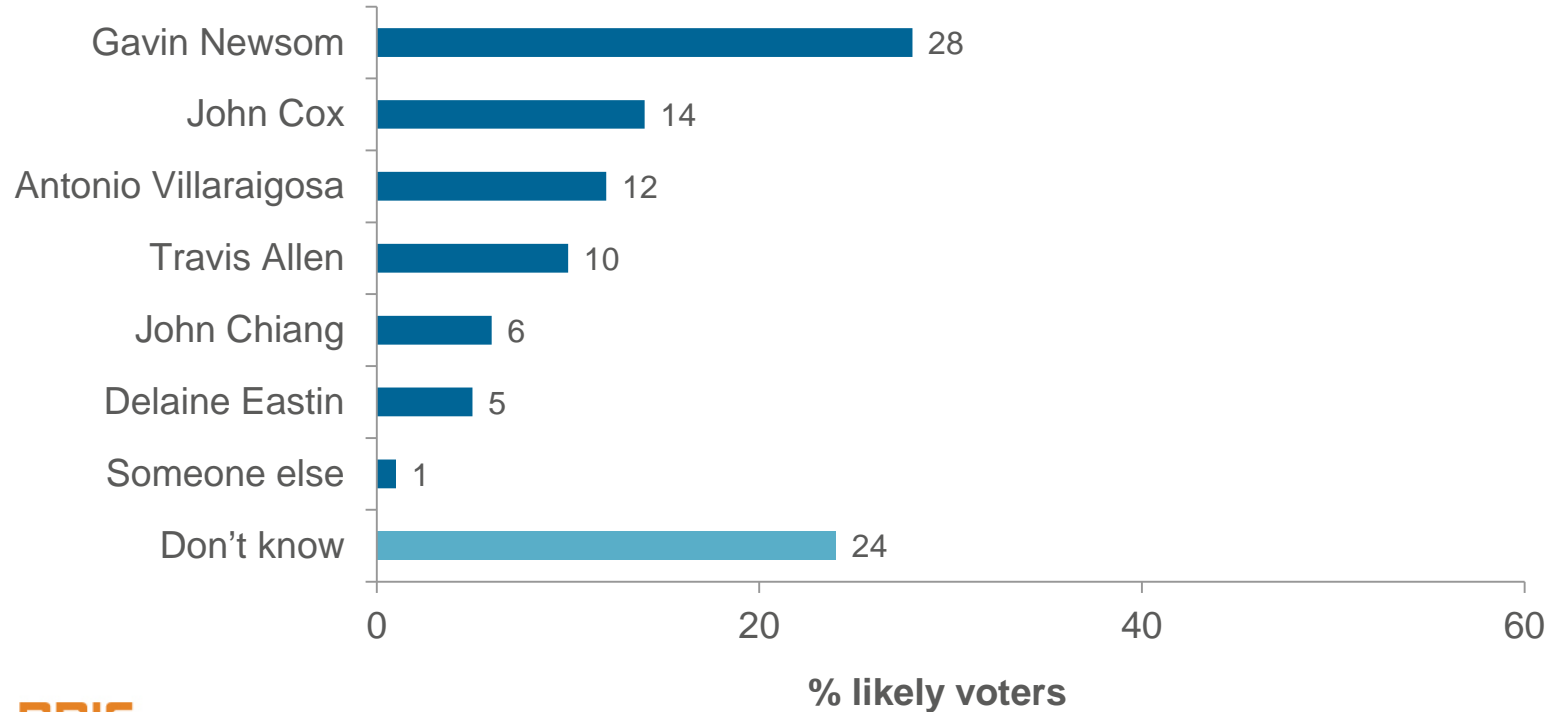
# Californians and Their Government

- General series funded by the James Irvine Foundation and the PPIC Donor Circle
- Telephone interviews, March 4–13, 2018
  - 70% cell phone, 30% landline
  - 1,706 adults,  $\pm 3.4\%$  margin of error
  - 931 likely voters,  $\pm 4.5\%$  margin of error
- Views on gubernatorial and US Senate elections and bond measures
- Opinions on state and federal elected officials, water policy, high-speed rail, the state and local tax system, and immigration policy

# Outline

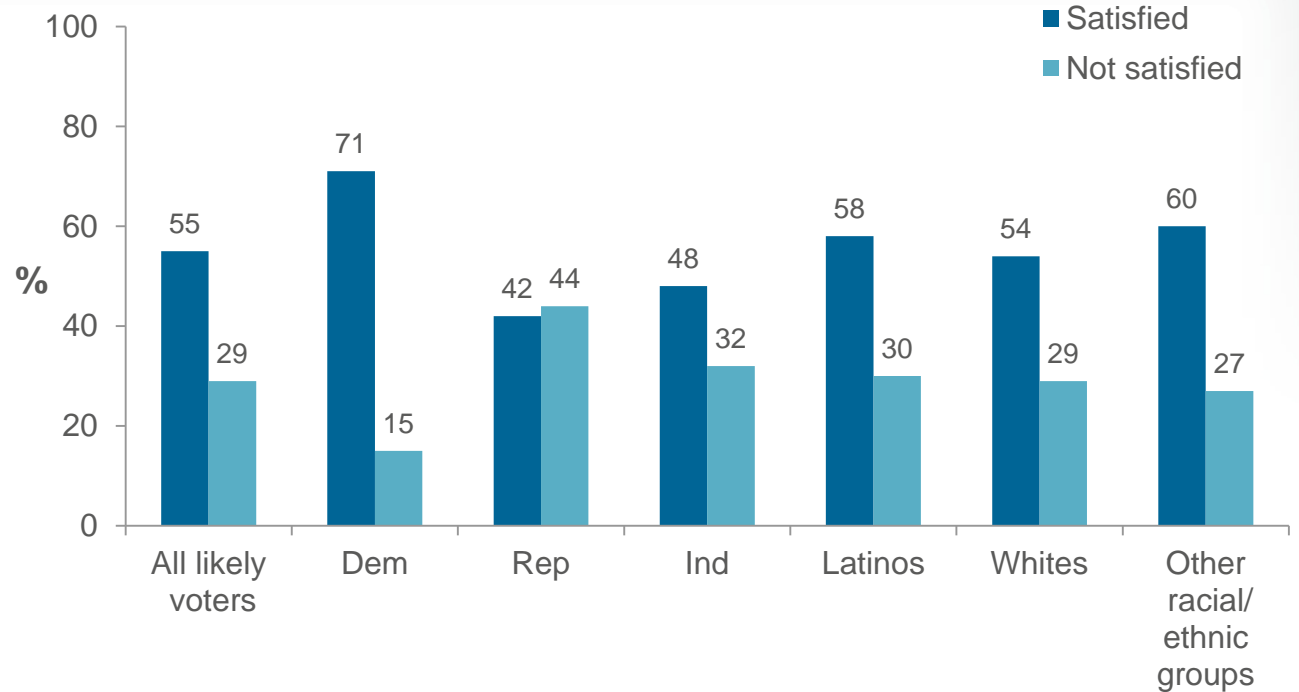
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# Gubernatorial candidate preference



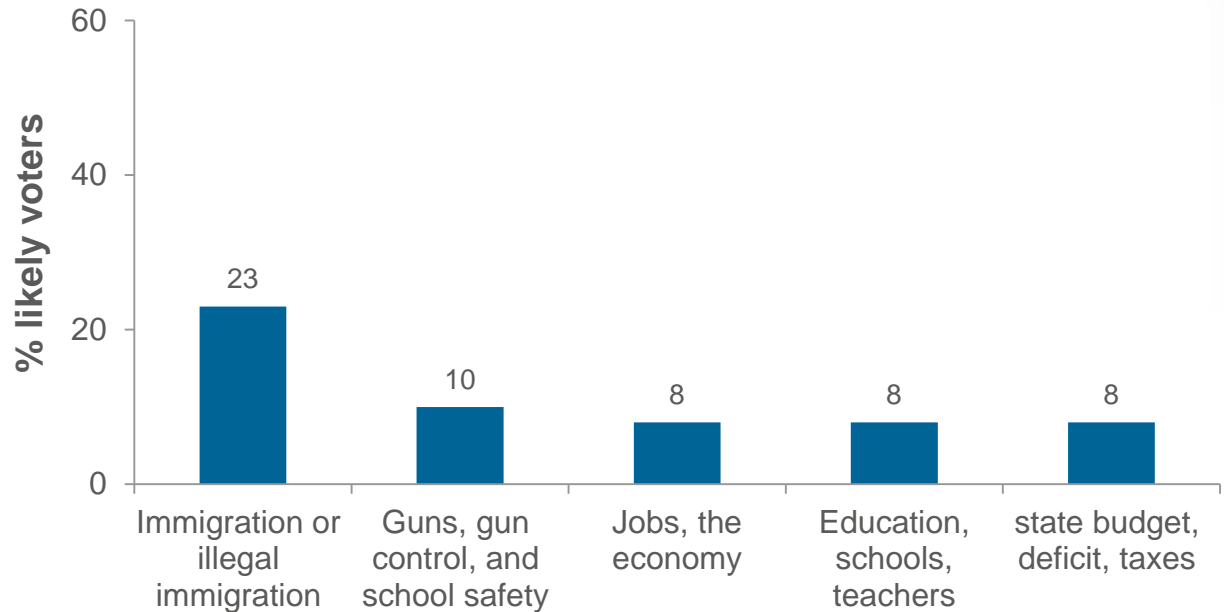
# Satisfaction with gubernatorial candidates

In general, would you say you are satisfied or not satisfied with your choices of candidates in the primary election for governor this June?



# Top issues for candidates to discuss

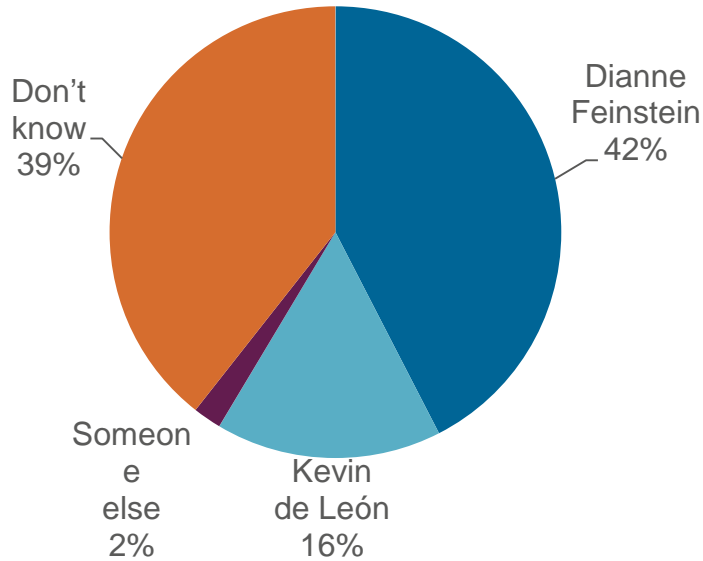
Which one issue would you like to hear the candidates for governor talk about between now and the June primary?



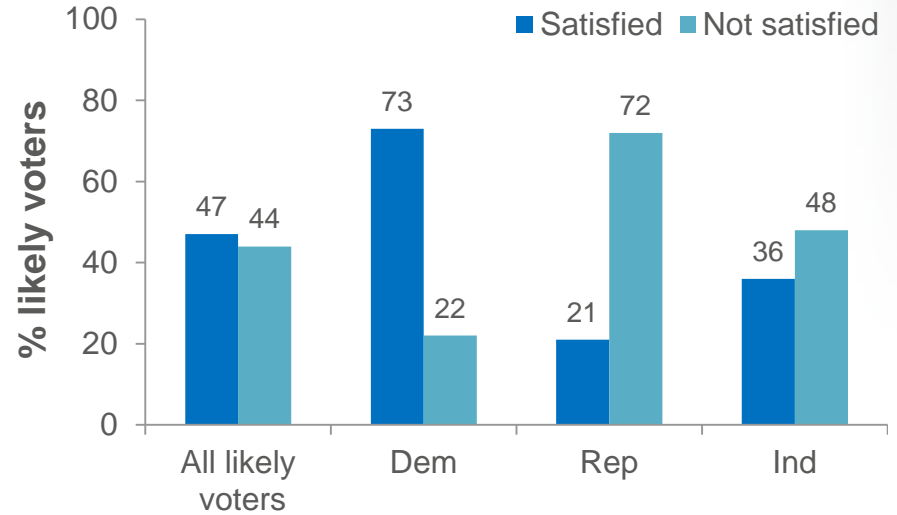


# US Senate race

## Candidate preference

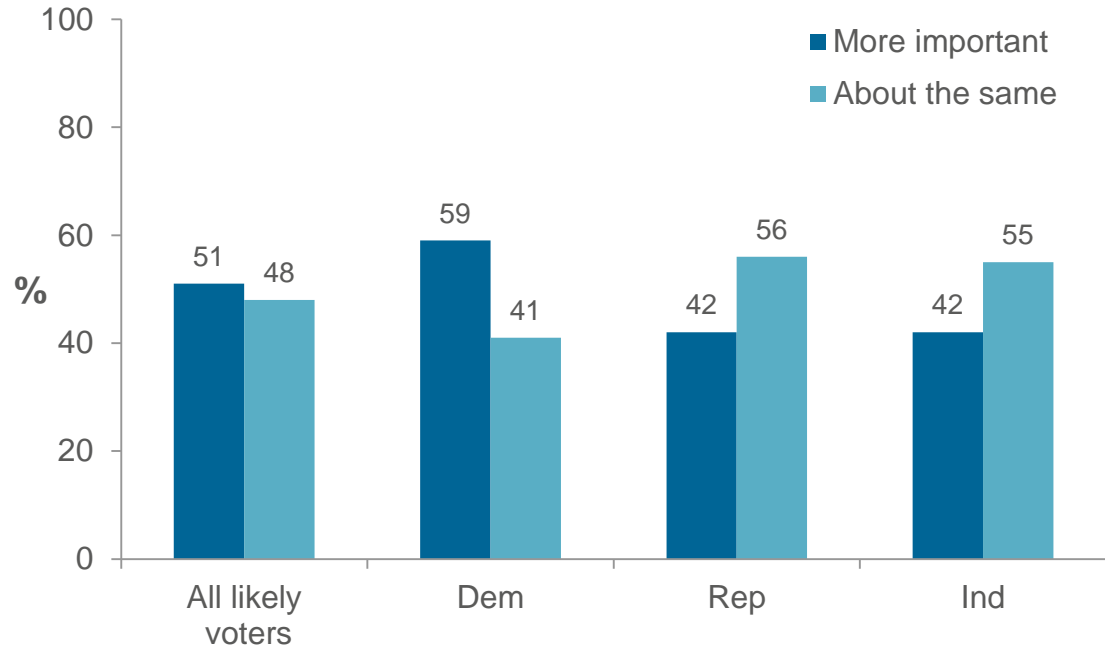


## Satisfaction with choice of candidates



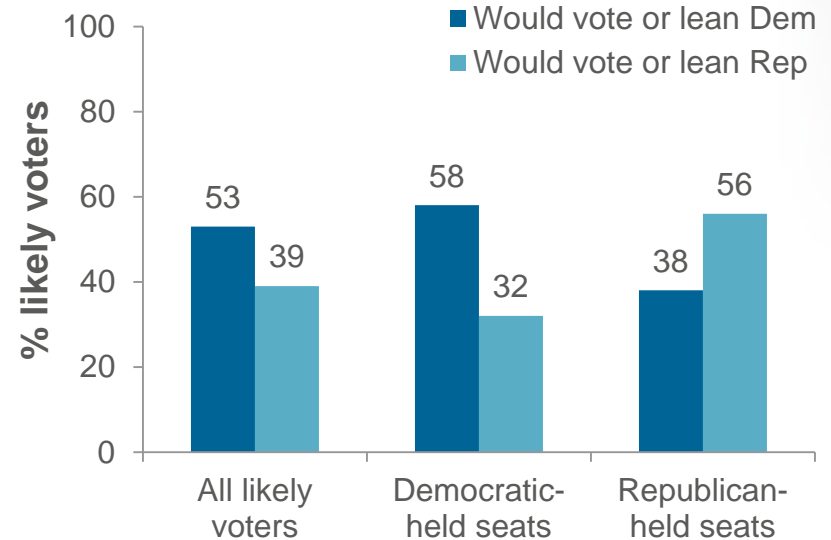
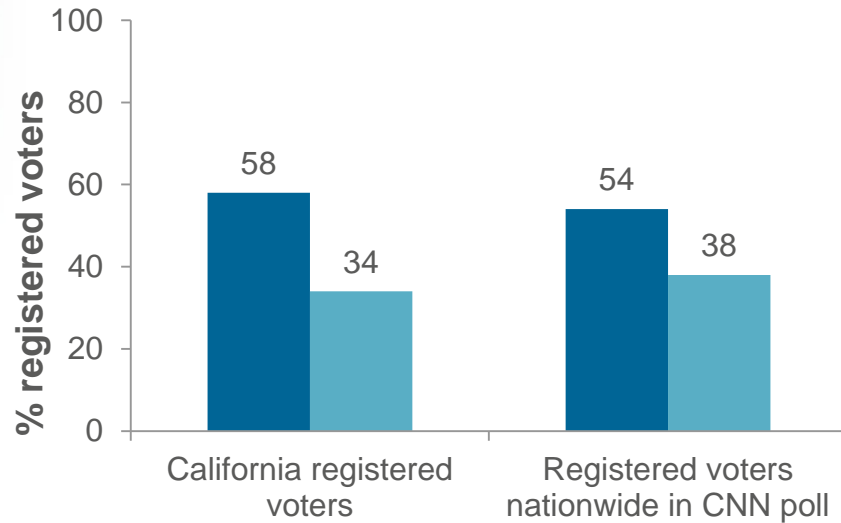
# Importance of 2018 midterms

Is voting this year more important to you than in past midterm elections, less important, or about the same?



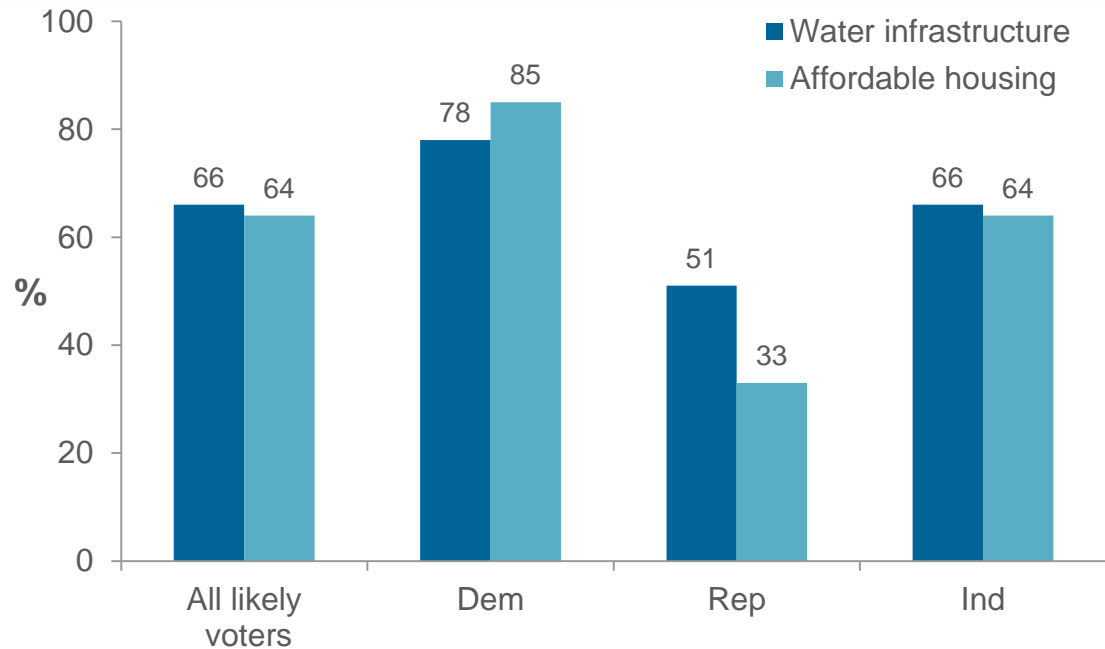
# November 2018 House races

If the 2018 election for US House of Representatives were being held today, would you vote for the Republican candidate or the Democratic candidate in your district? (*If other/unsure: As of today, do you lean more toward the Republican candidate or the Democratic candidate?*)



# Support for state bonds

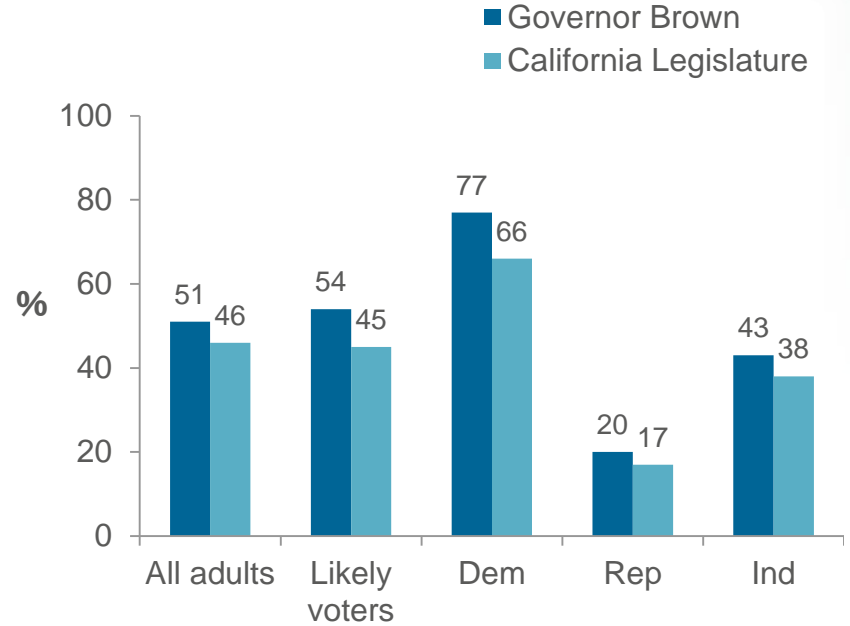
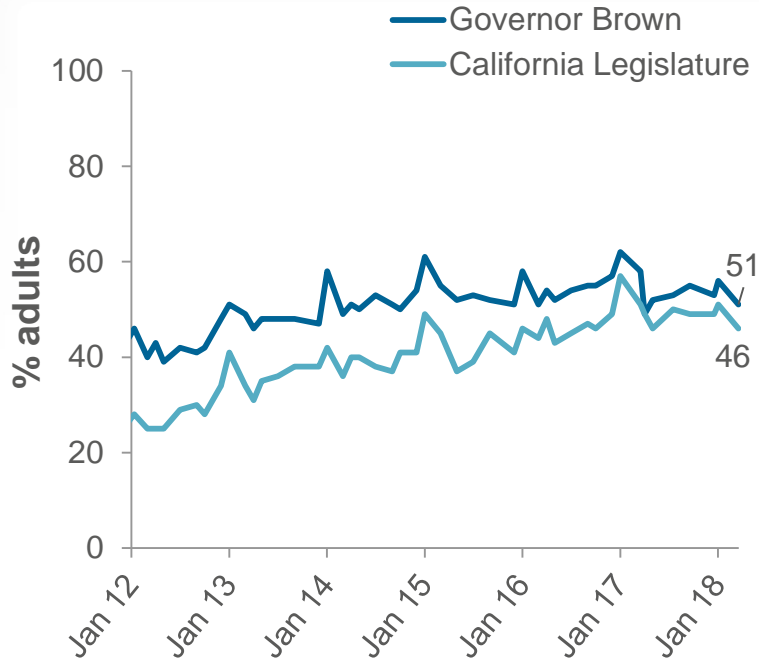
If the state ballot had a bond measure to pay for \_\_\_\_\_ projects, would you vote yes or no?



# Outline

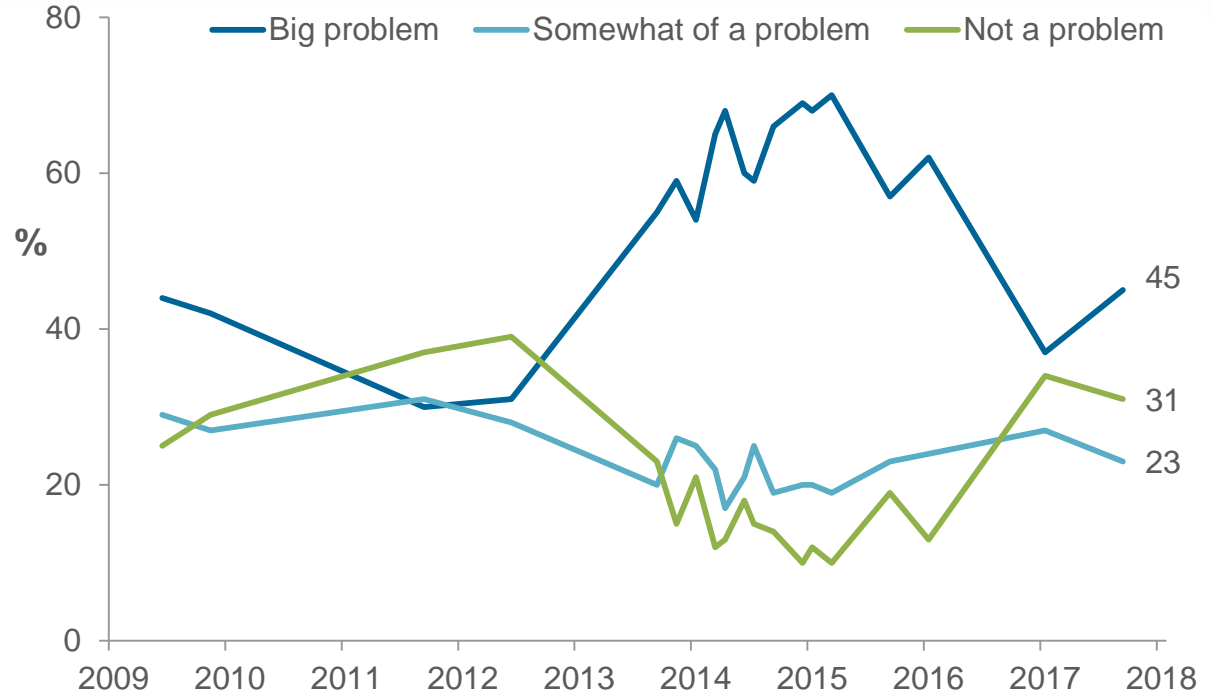
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# Approval of state elected officials



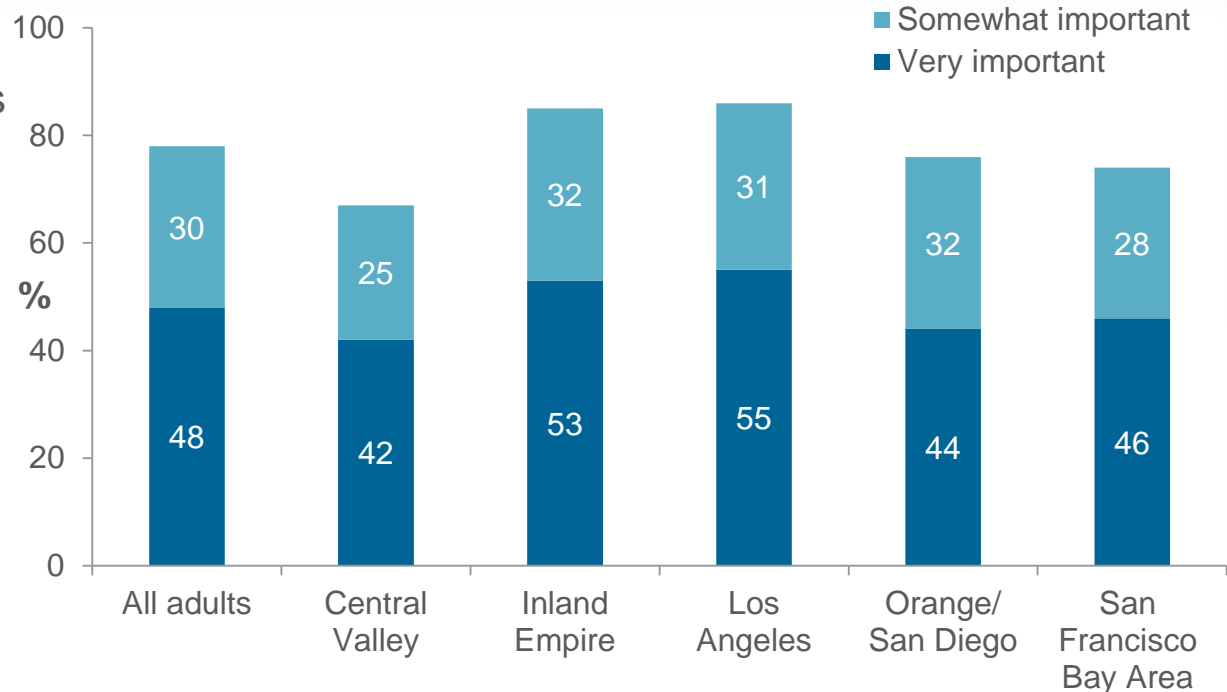
# Water supply

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?



# Importance of Delta tunnels

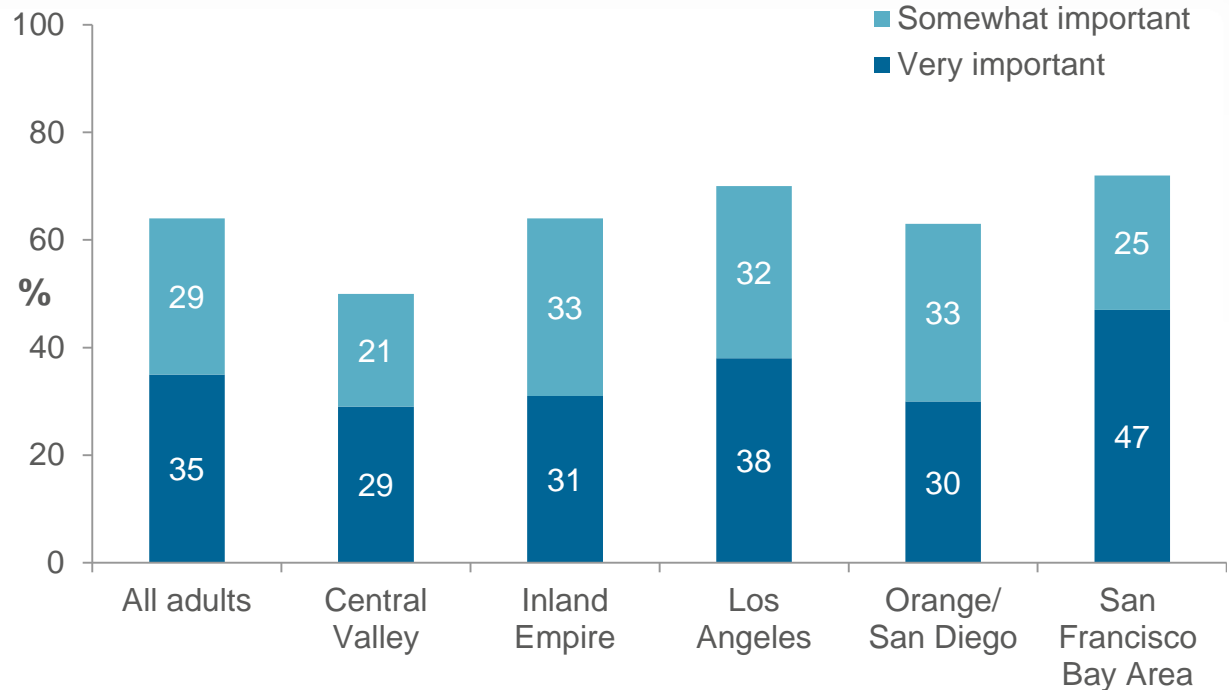
The governor has proposed to improve the reliability of water supplies by building tunnels in the Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta—starting with one tunnel and then adding a second tunnel in the future. How important is this proposal for the future quality of life and economic vitality of California?





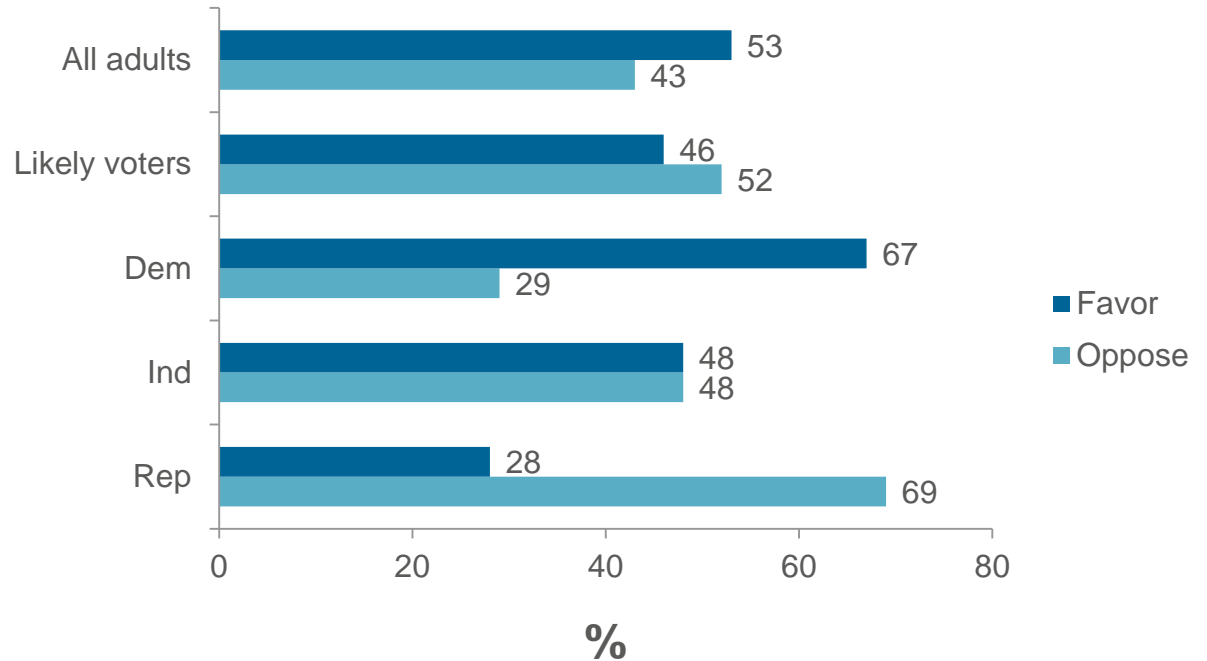
# Importance of high-speed rail

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?



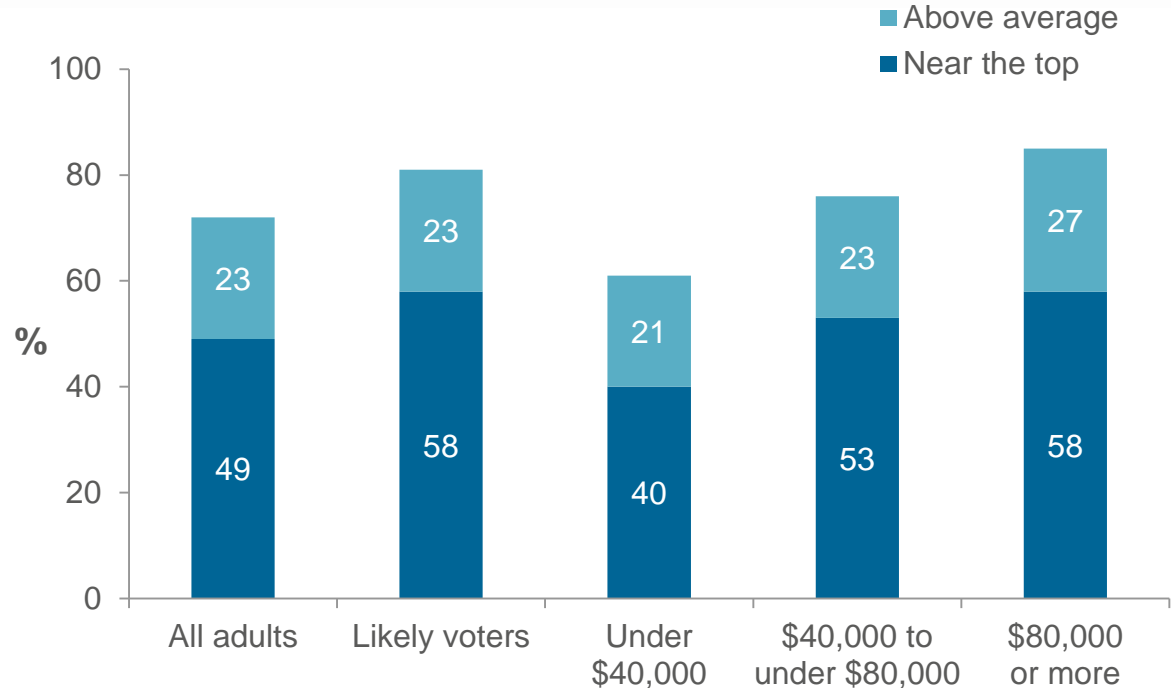
# Support for high-speed rail

As you may know, California voters passed a \$10 billion state bond in 2008.... Do you favor or oppose building a high-speed rail system in California?



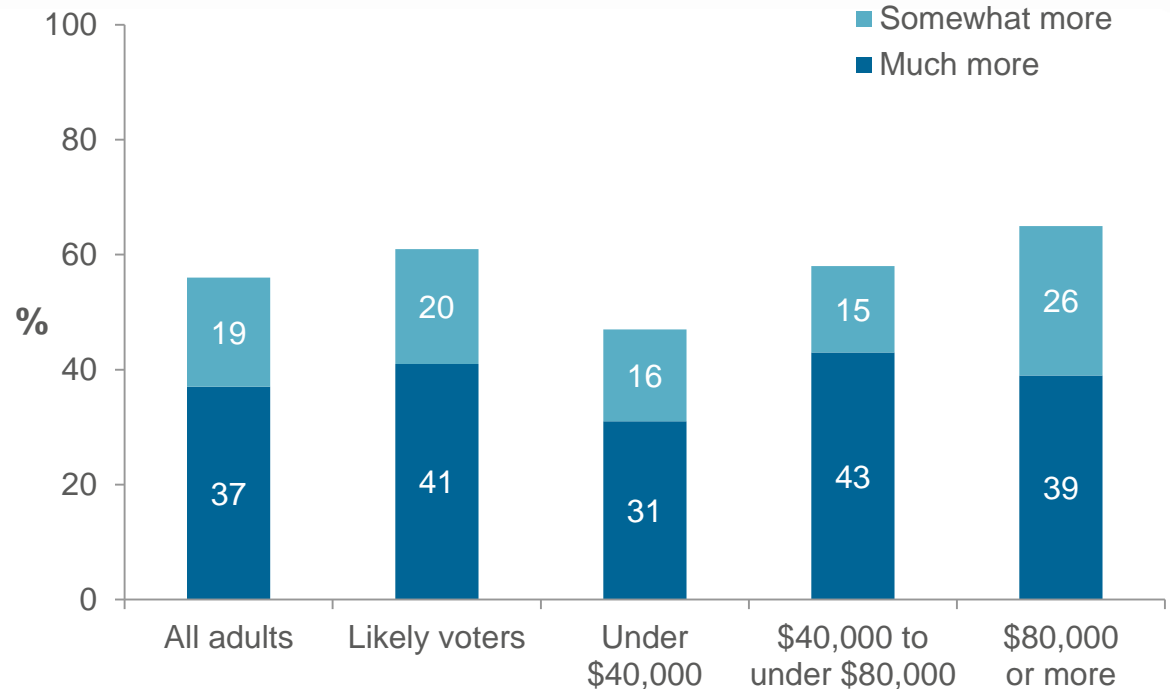
# California's tax burden compared to other states

Where do you think California currently ranks in state and local tax burden per capita? Compared to other states, is California's tax burden per capita near the top, above average, below average, or near the bottom?

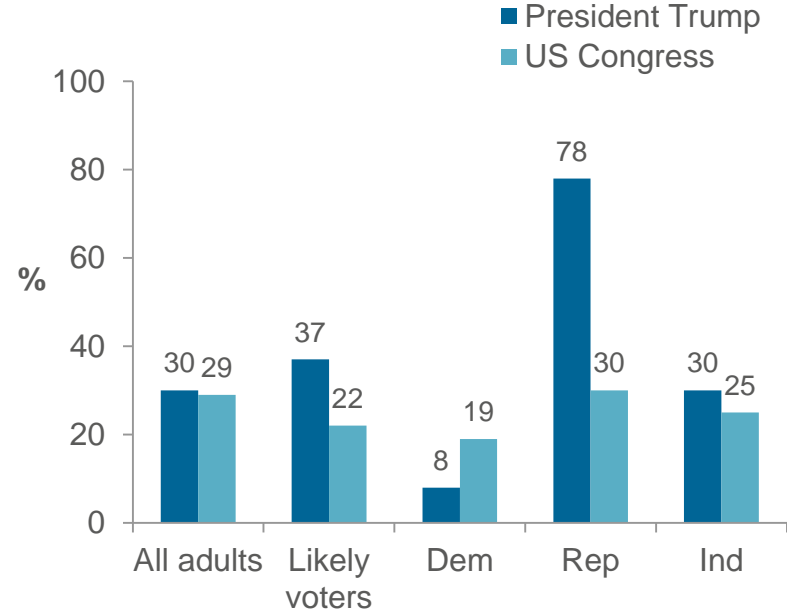
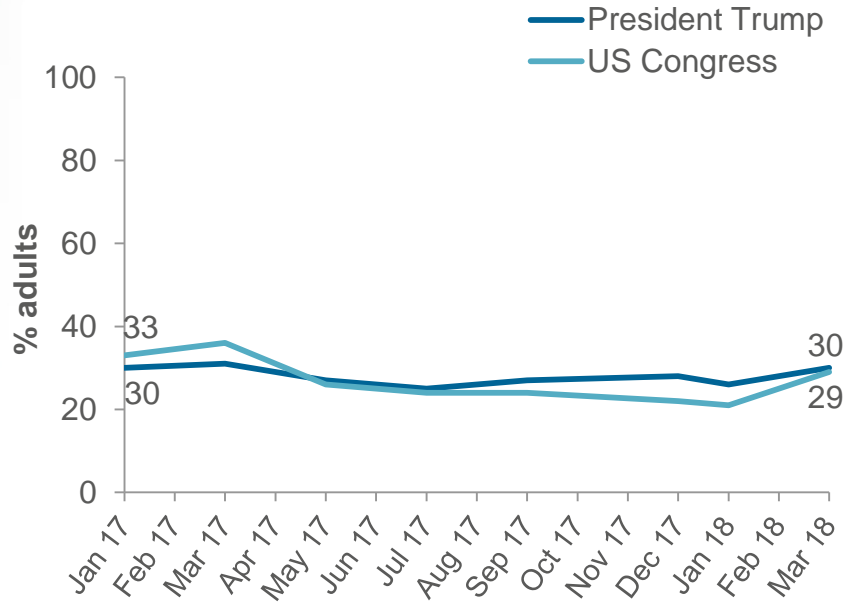


# Personal tax burden

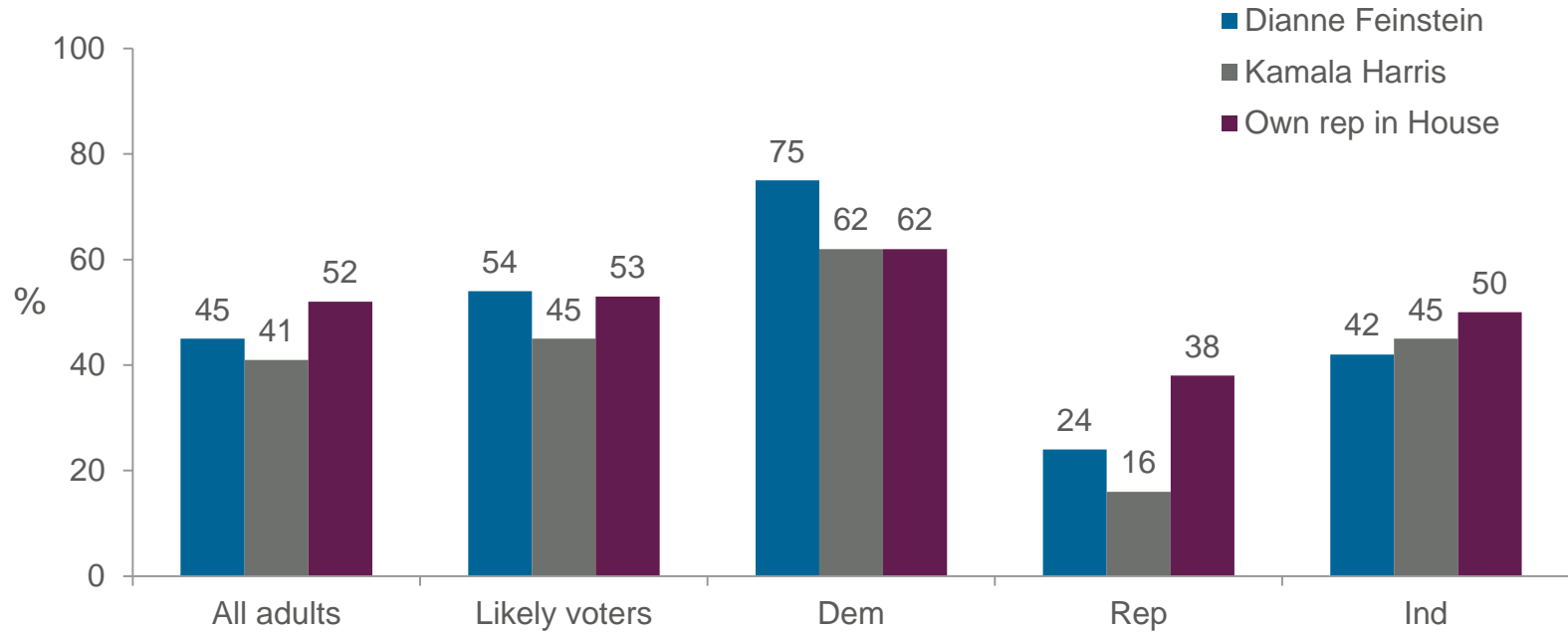
When you combine all of the taxes you pay to state and local governments, do you feel that you pay much more than you should, somewhat more than you should, about the right amount, or less than you should?



# Approval of federal elected officials

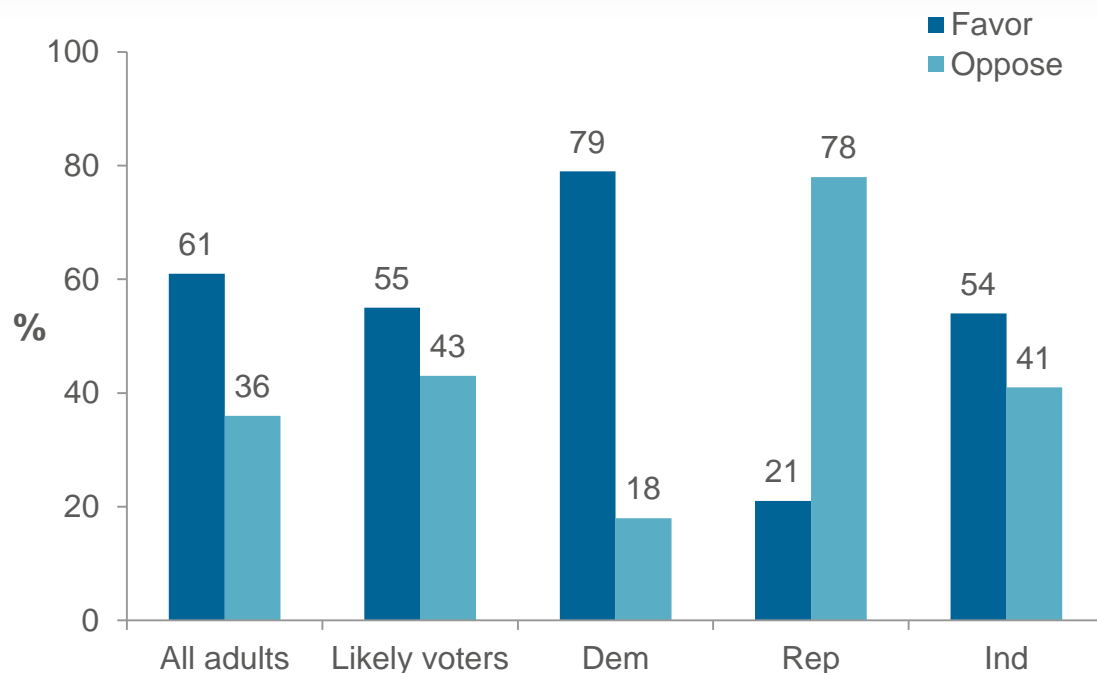


# Approval of federal elected officials



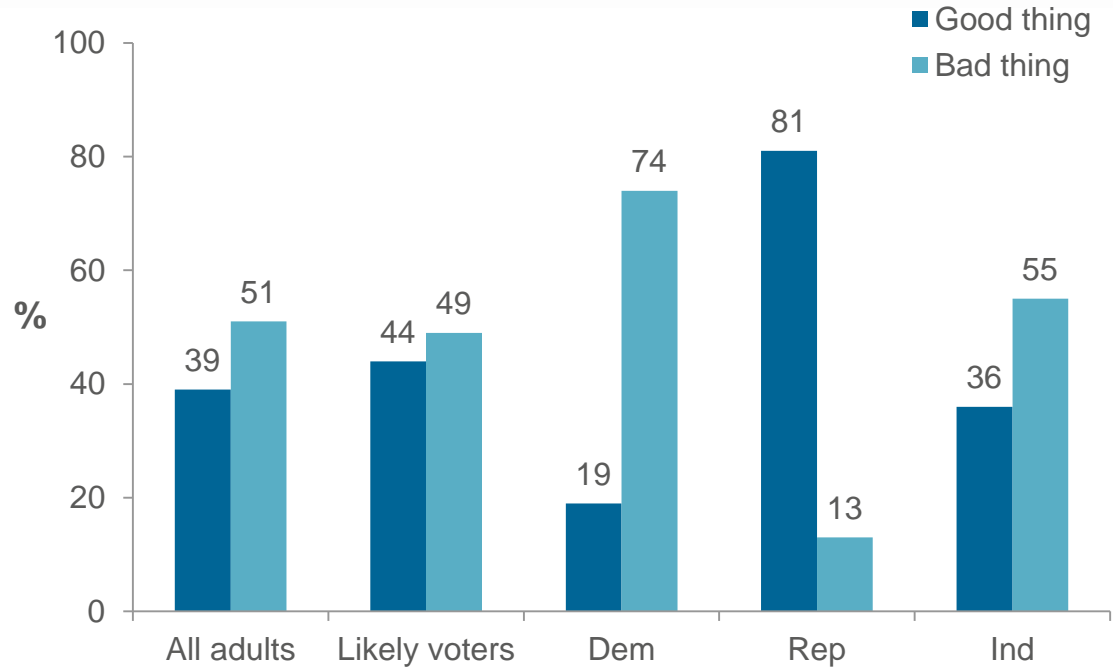
# State and local action to protect undocumented immigrants

Do you favor or oppose the California state and local governments making their own policies and taking actions, separate from the federal government, to protect the legal rights of undocumented immigrants in California?



# Federal crackdown on undocumented immigrants

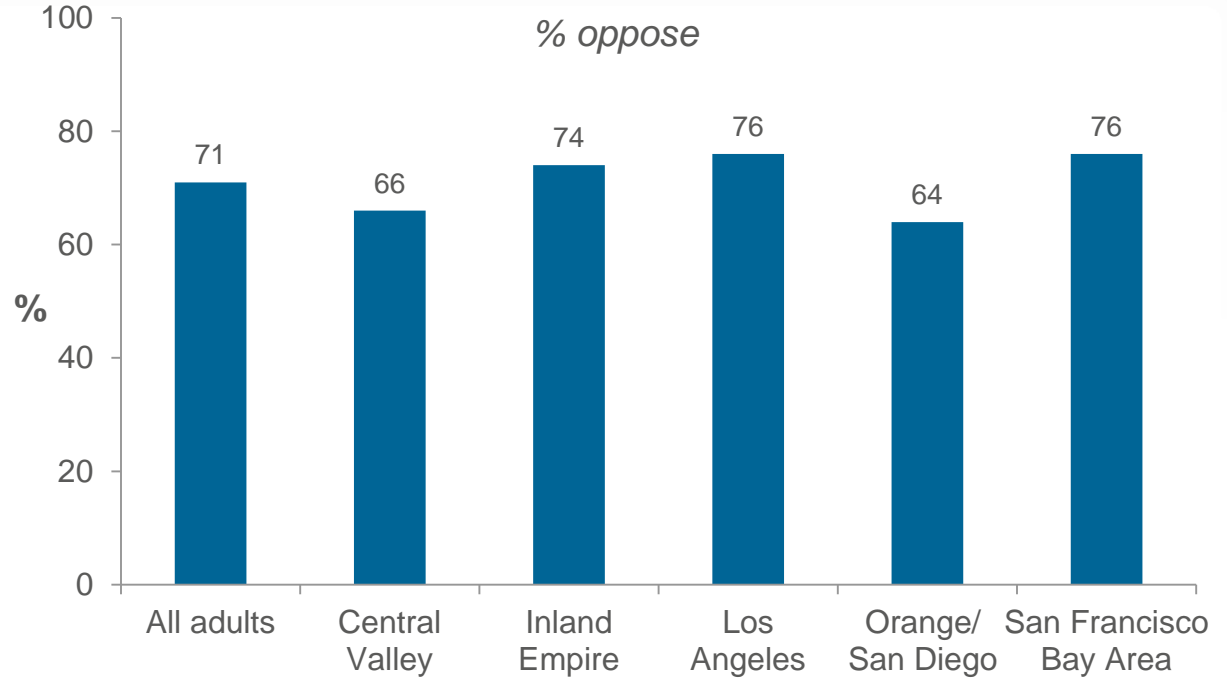
Do you think the federal crackdown on undocumented immigrants is a good thing for the country or a bad thing for the country?





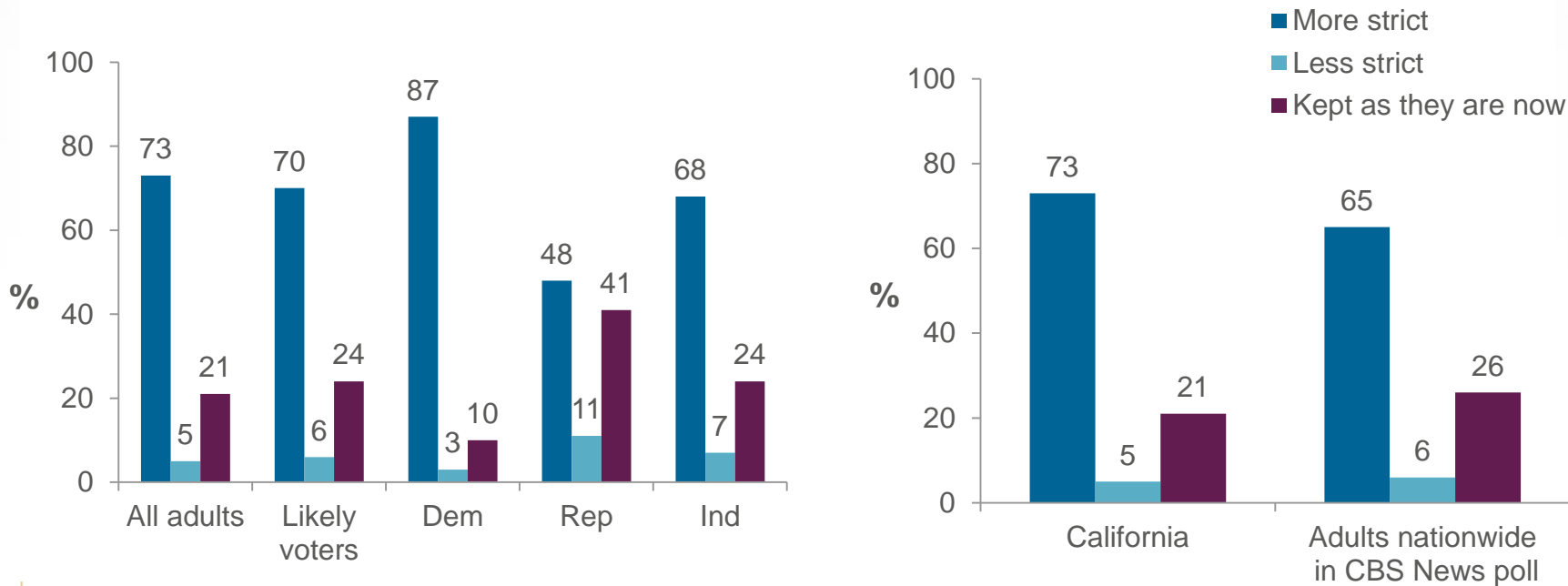
# Opposition to building a wall along Mexican border

All in all, would you favor or oppose building a wall along the entire border with Mexico?



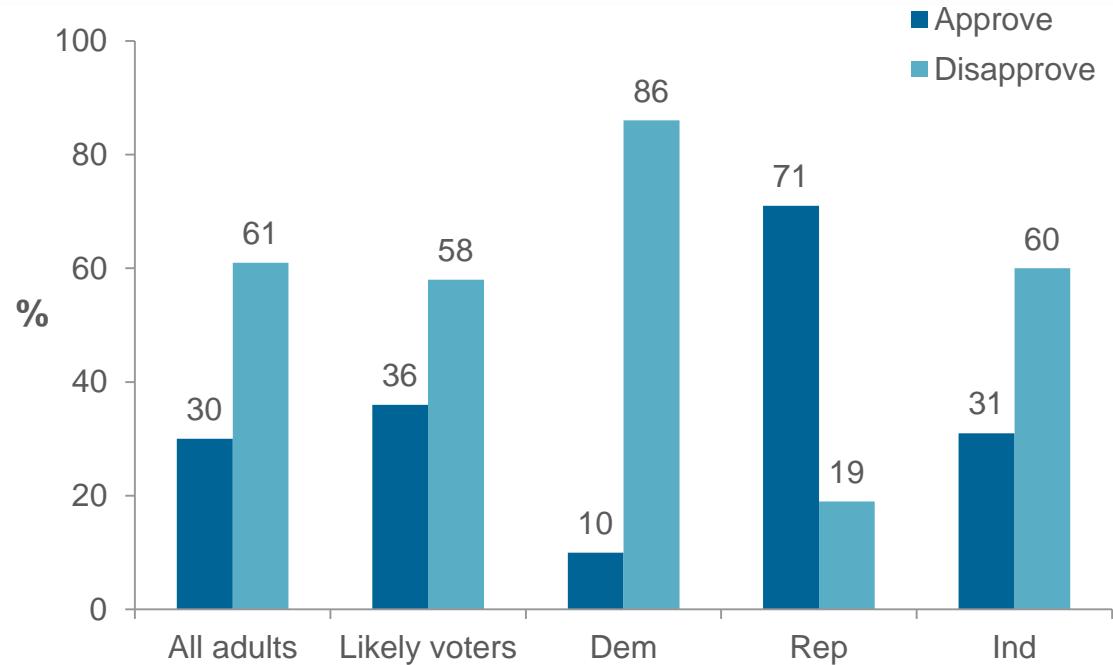
# Laws covering sale of guns

In general, do you think laws covering the sale of guns should be made more strict, less strict, or kept as they are now?



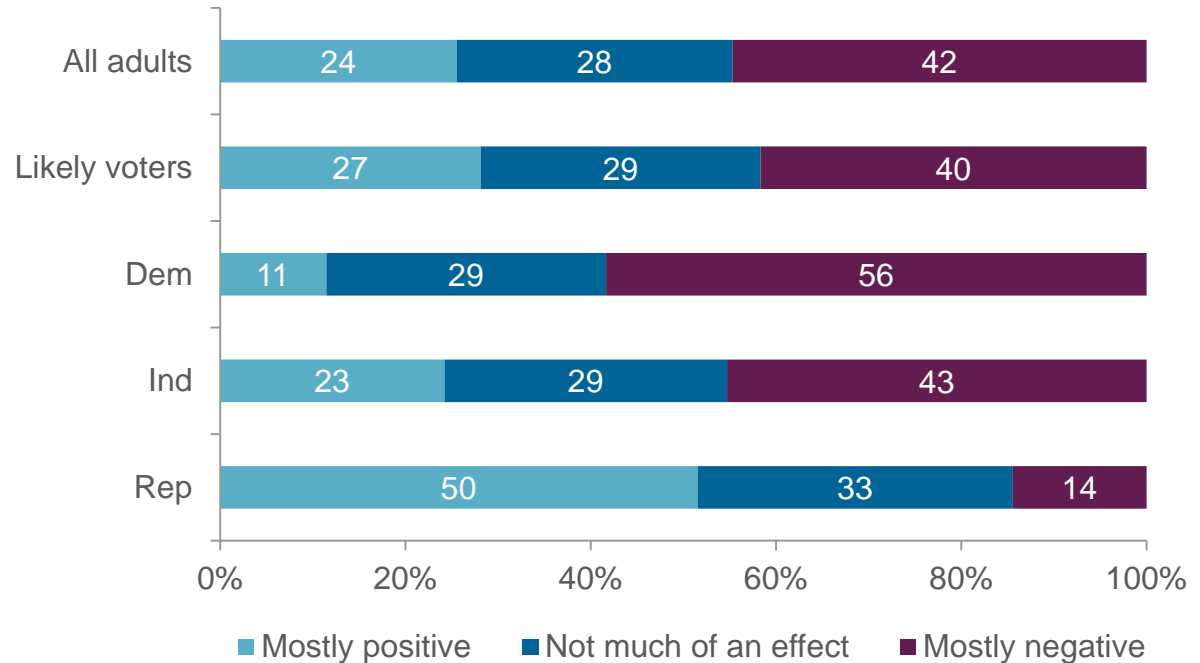
# Federal tax law

Do you approve or disapprove of the tax law passed by Donald Trump and Congress in December?



# Impact of new tax law

Do you think the overall effect of the tax law on you and your family over the coming years will be mostly positive, mostly negative, or will it not affect you much either way?



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# Conclusions

- Newsom solidifies lead in gubernatorial primary as Cox gains ground and Villaraigosa falls back. In the US Senate race, Feinstein continues to lead de León by double digits; a third of likely voters remain undecided.
- Half of likely voters say voting this year is more important to them than in past midterm elections, with Democrats more likely than Republicans to hold this view.
- A record-high share of adults think California ranks near the top in the state and local tax burden per capita and most Californians oppose the new federal tax law.
- With federal-state tension rising, Californians continue to support state and local governments making their own policies to protect undocumented immigrants.
- A record-high share of Californians support stricter laws covering the sale of guns.

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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.