

PPIC Statewide Survey: Californians and Their Government

June 6, 2019

Mark Baldassare, Dean Bonner, Alyssa Dykman, and Rachel Ward

Supported with funding from the James Irvine Foundation
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PPIC

PUBLIC POLICY
INSTITUTE OF CALIFORNIA

25 YEARS

Outline

- PPIC Statewide Surveys
- State issues
- 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
 - 350,000+ Californians interviewed since 1998
 - 170+ general, issue, and regional surveys



Californians and Their Government

- General series funded by the James Irvine Foundation and the PPIC Donor Circle
- Telephone interviews, May 19–28, 2019
 - 70% cell phone, 30% landline
 - 1,713 adults, $\pm 3.3\%$ margin of error
 - 1,123 likely voters, $\pm 4.1\%$ margin of error
- Views on state elected officials, the state budget, housing policy, and vaccines
- Opinions on federal elected officials, the Mueller report, possible impeachment, and the 2020 presidential election

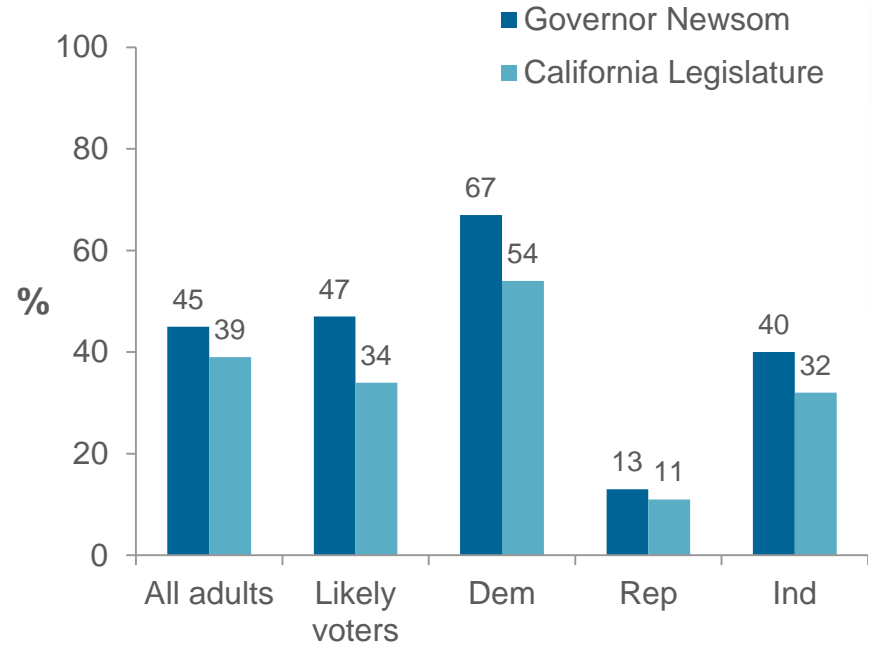
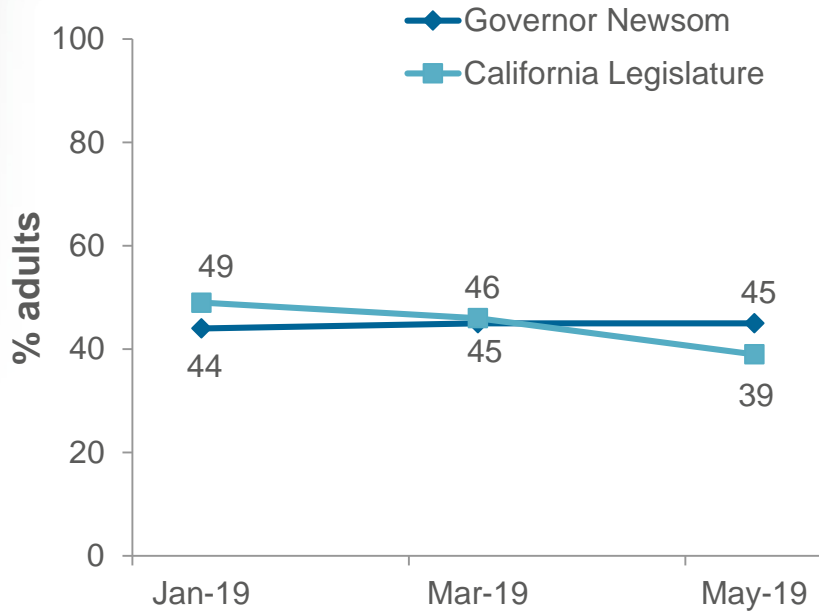


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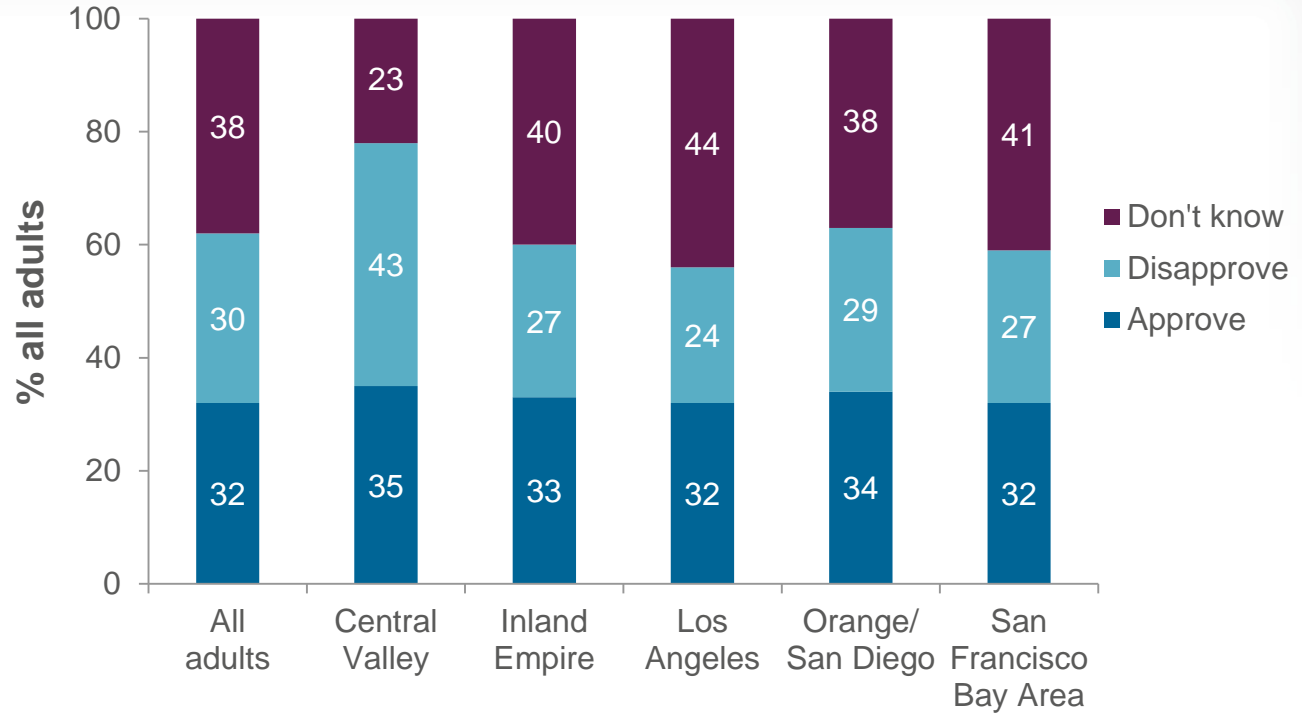


Approval of state elected officials



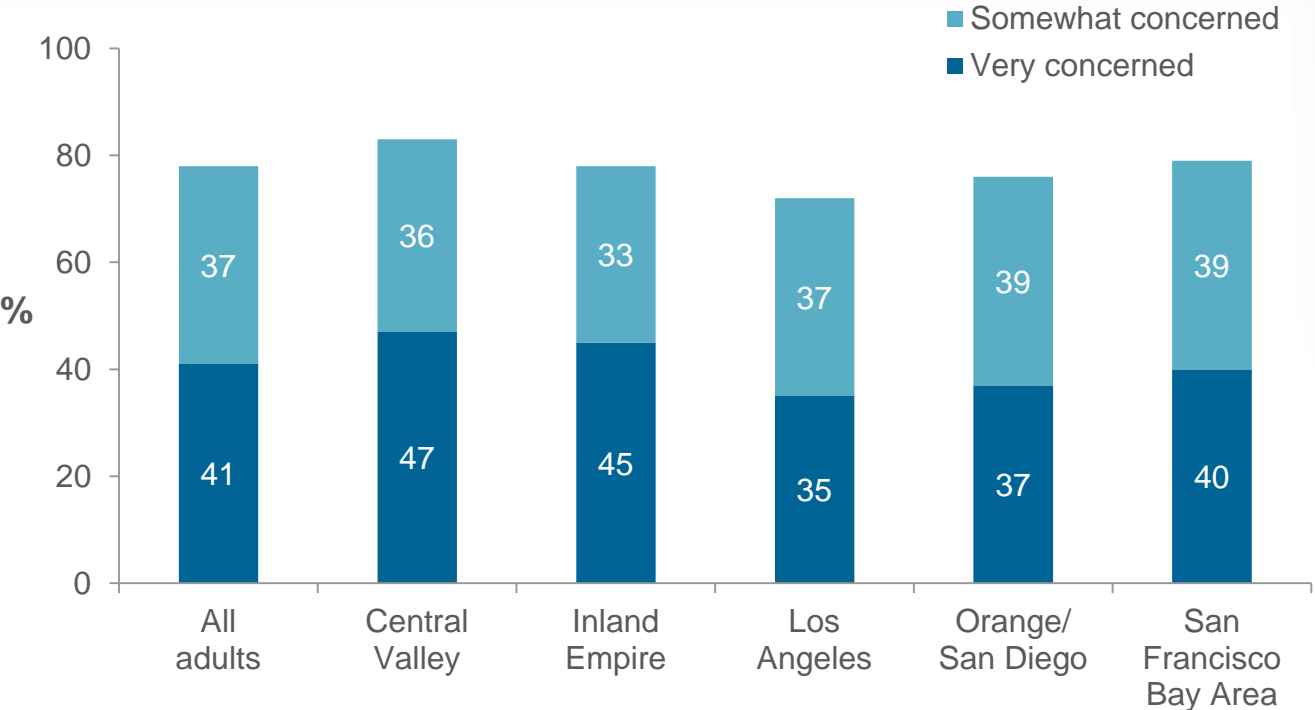
Governor's handling of PG&E bankruptcy

Do you approve or disapprove of the way that Governor Newsom is handling the PG&E bankruptcy and utilities' responsibilities for wildfire damage costs?



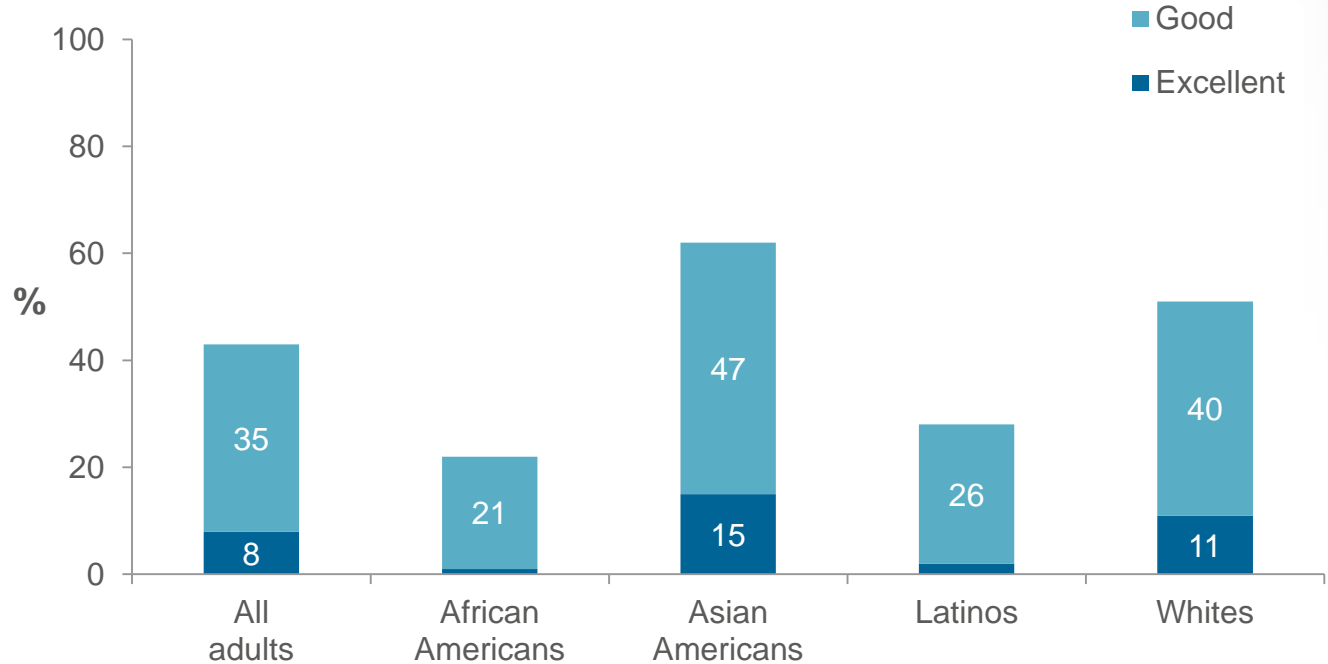
Rising electricity bills

How concerned are you about rising electricity bills because of utilities' responsibilities for wildfire damage costs? Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned?



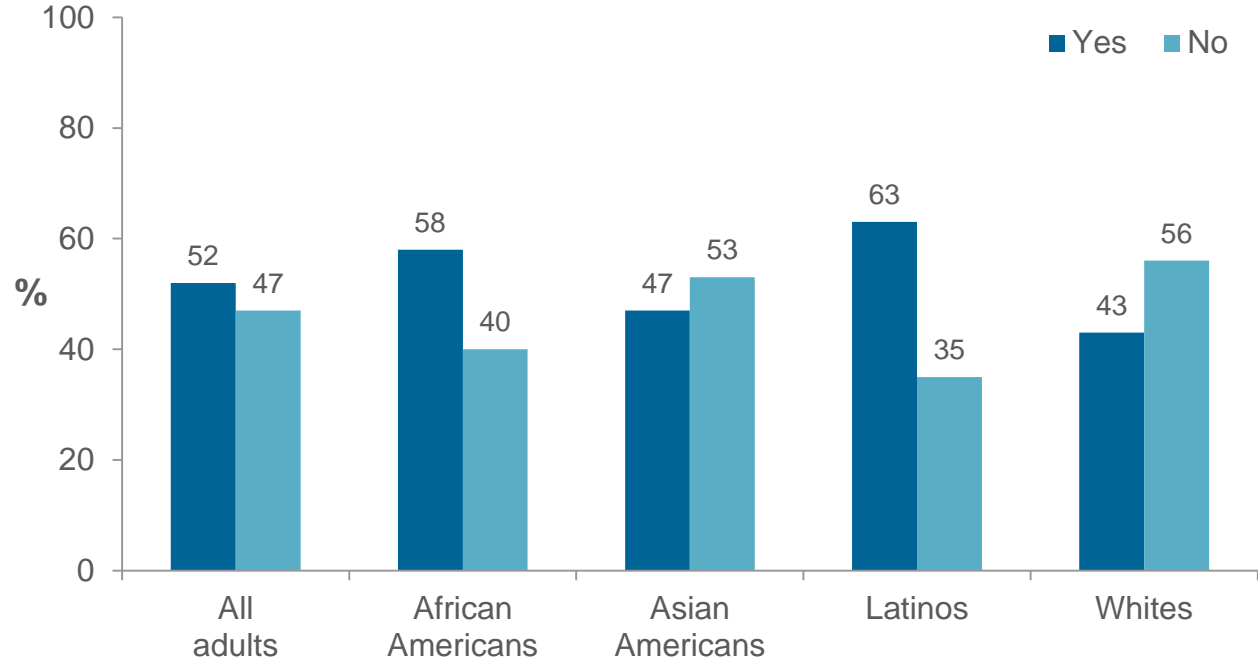
Personal financial situation

How would you rate your own personal financial situation? Would you say you are in excellent shape, good shape, only fair shape, or poor shape financially?

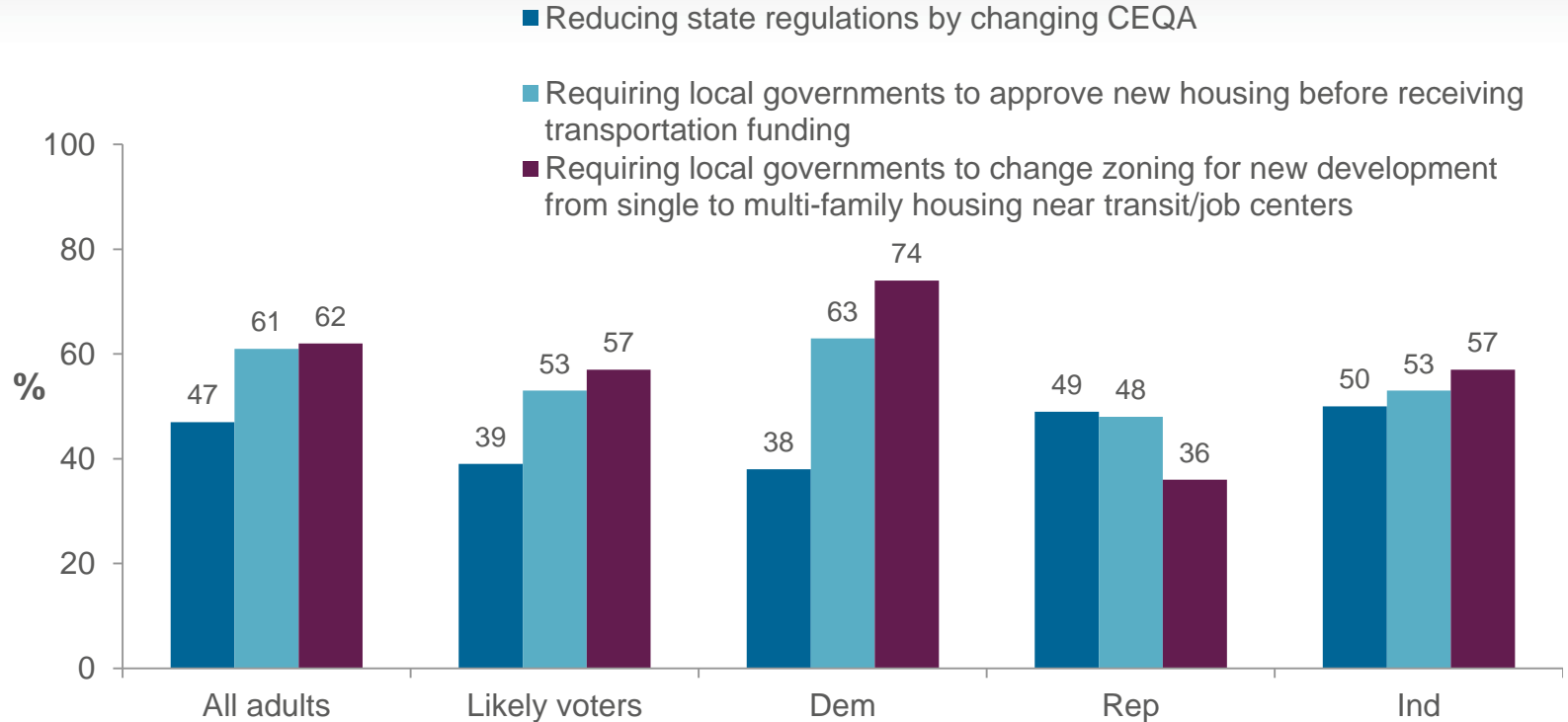


Financial strain of housing costs

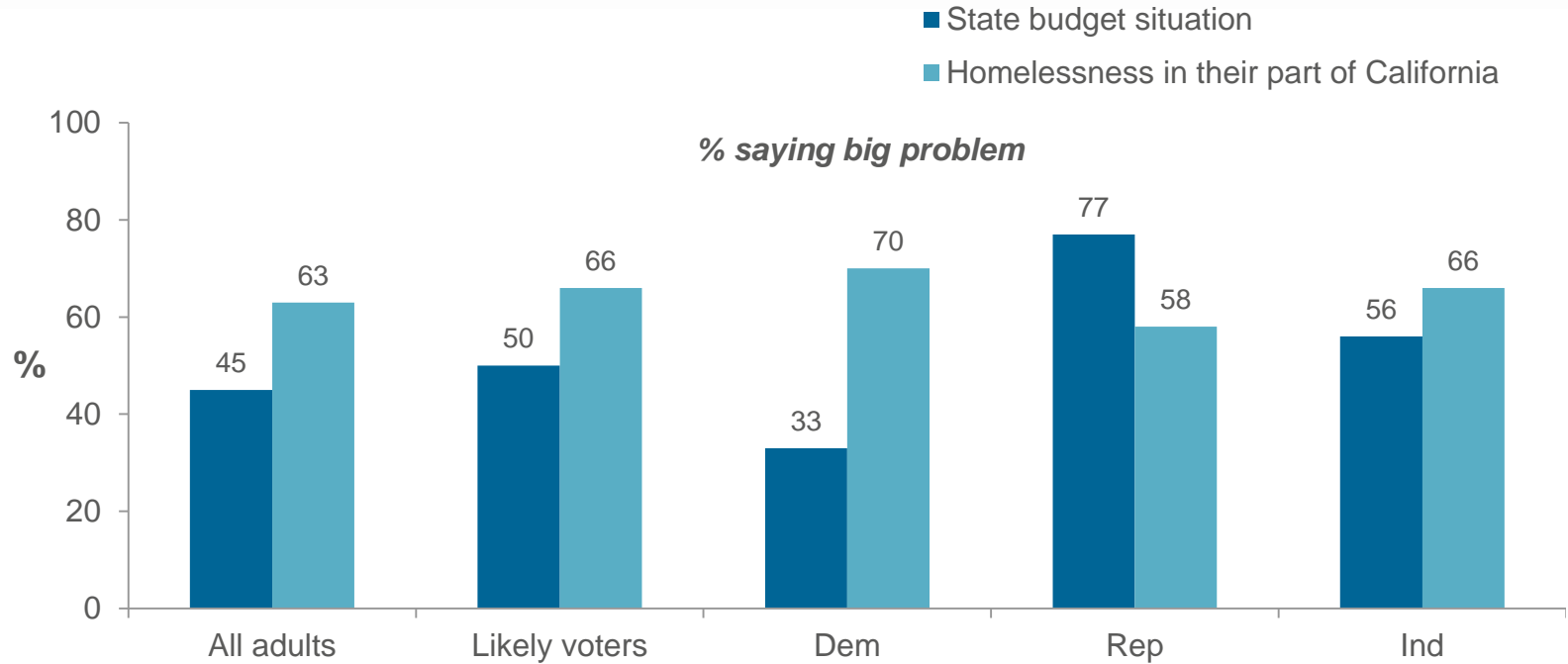
Does the cost of your housing place a financial strain on you and your family today?



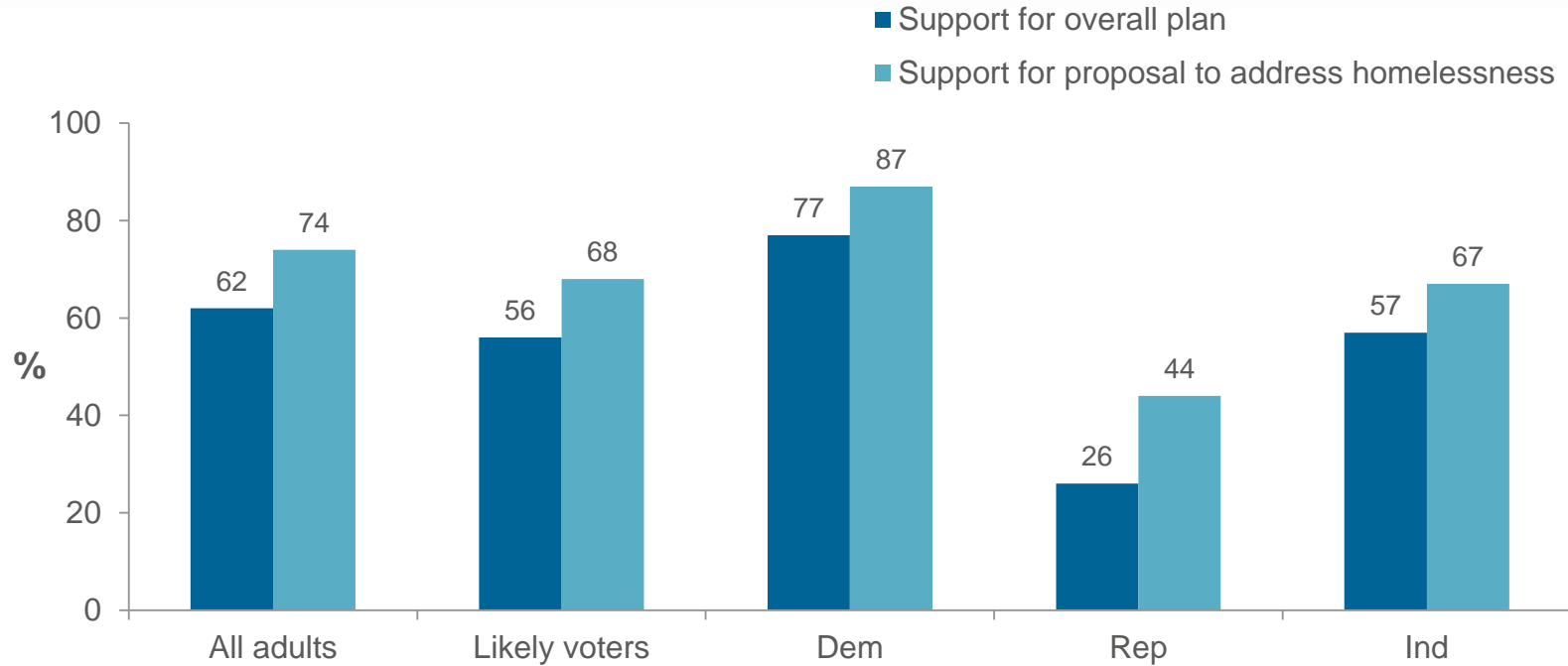
Support for housing policy proposals



State budget and homelessness

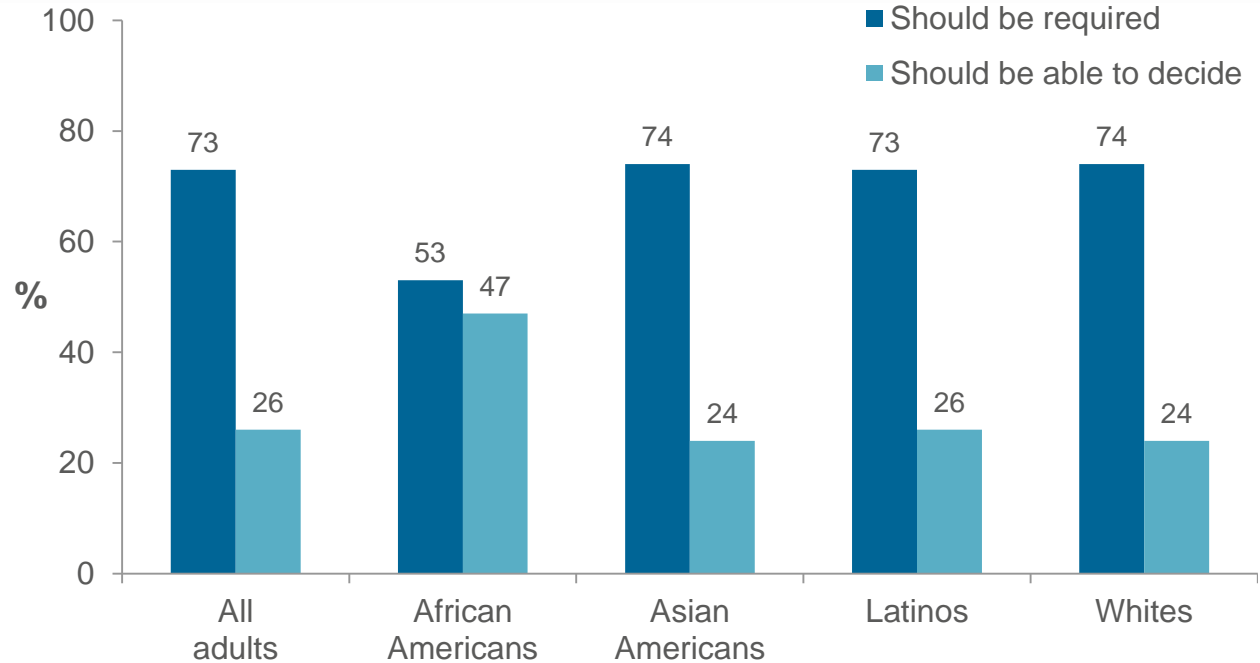


Governor's budget proposals



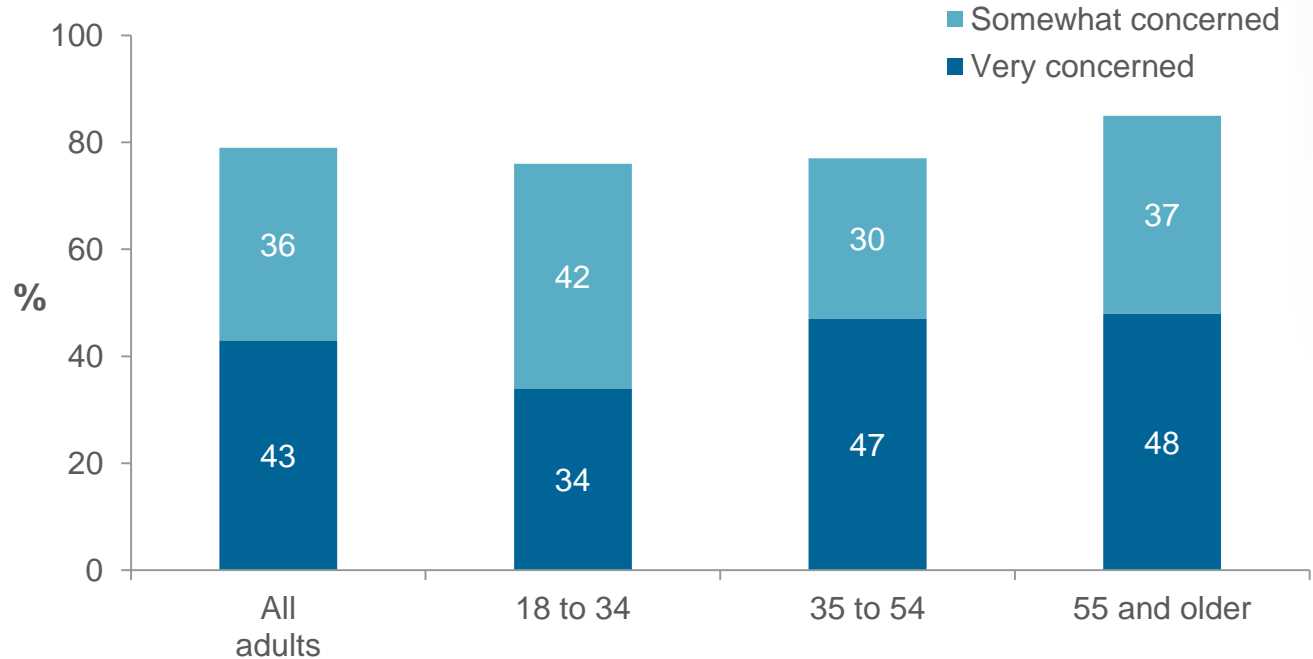
Requiring parents to vaccinate their children

Do you think parents should be required to vaccinate their children for diseases like measles, mumps, and rubella, or do you think parents should be able to decide whether or not to vaccinate their children?



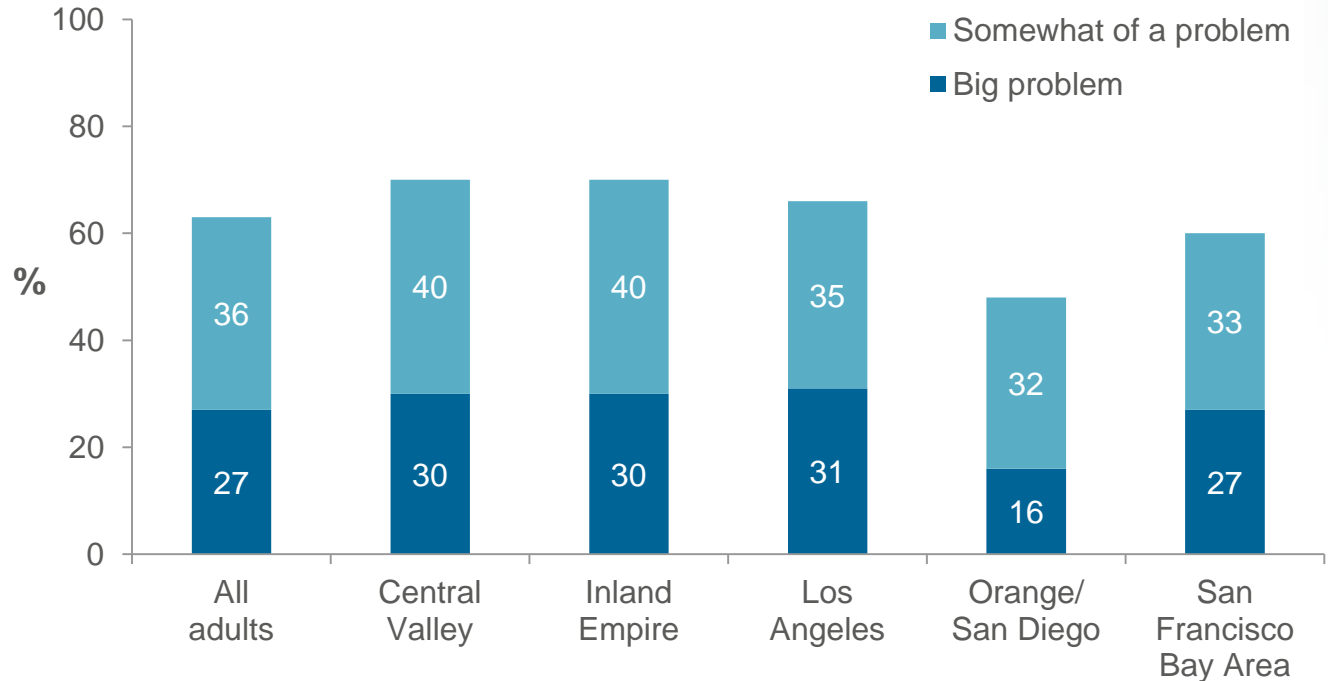
Concern about measles outbreak

How concerned are you that the recent outbreak of measles will become more widespread—very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned?



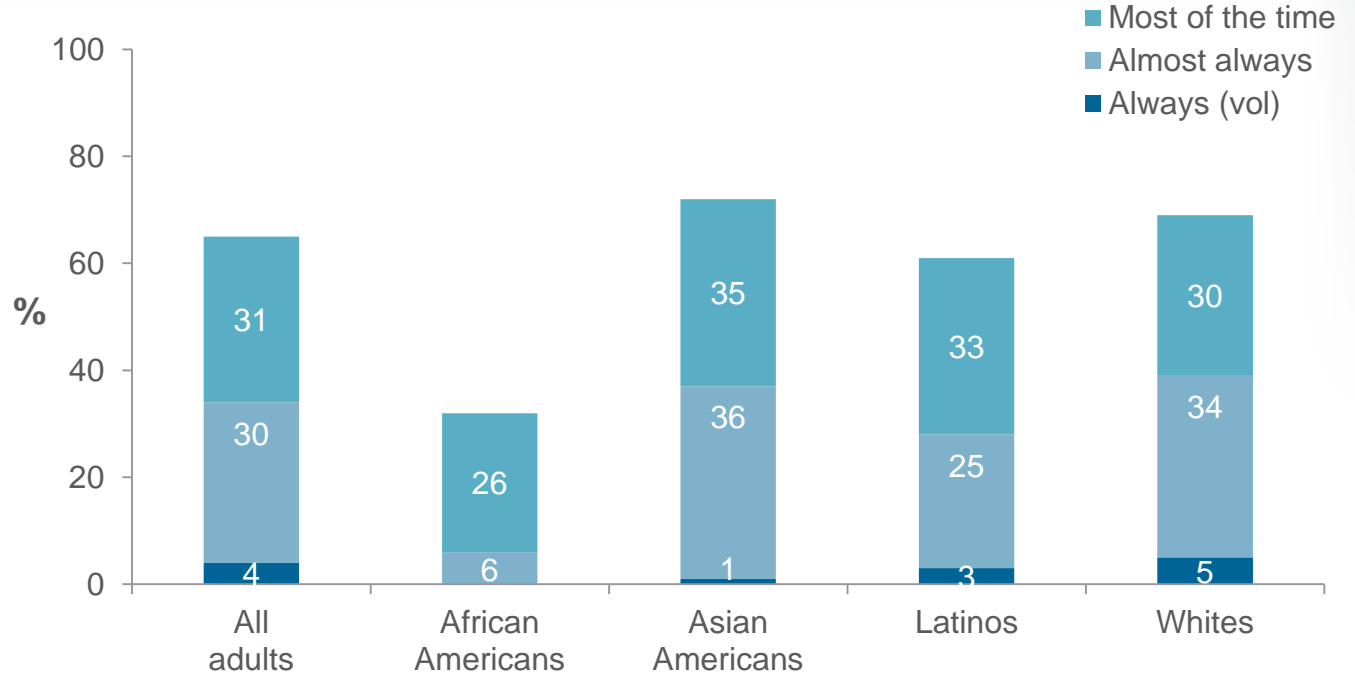
Local violence and street crime

How much of a problem are violence and street crime in your local community today—a big problem, somewhat of a problem, or not much of a problem?



Police treatment of racial and ethnic groups

Do you think the police in your community treat all racial and ethnic groups fairly almost always, most of the time, only some of the time, or never?

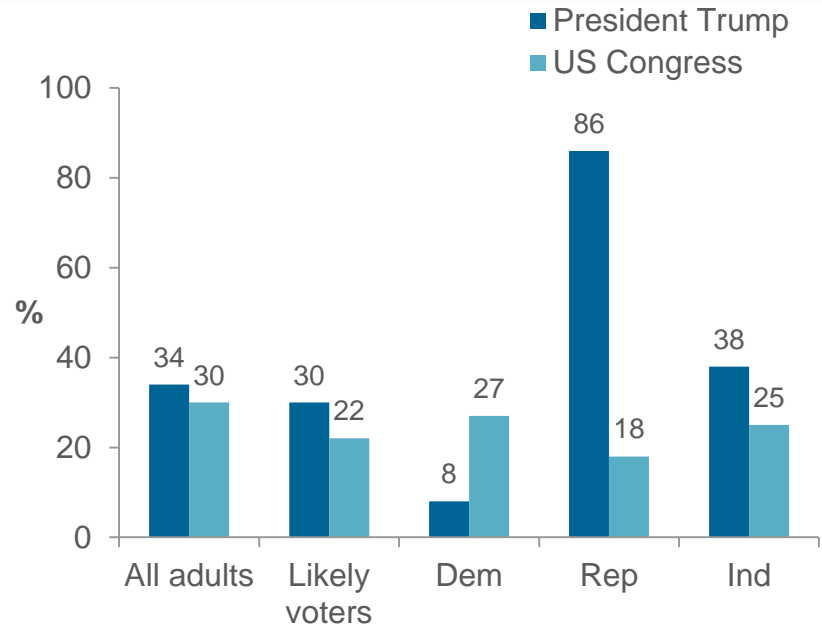
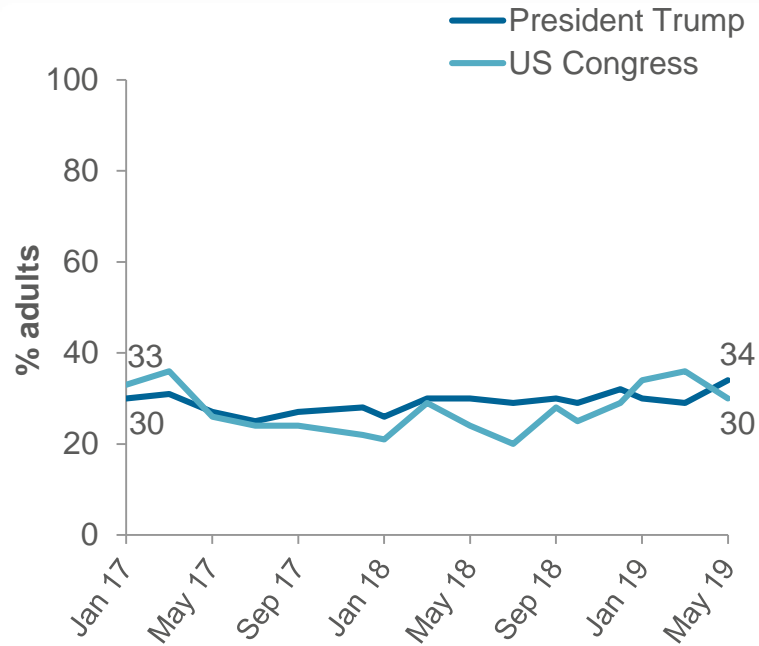


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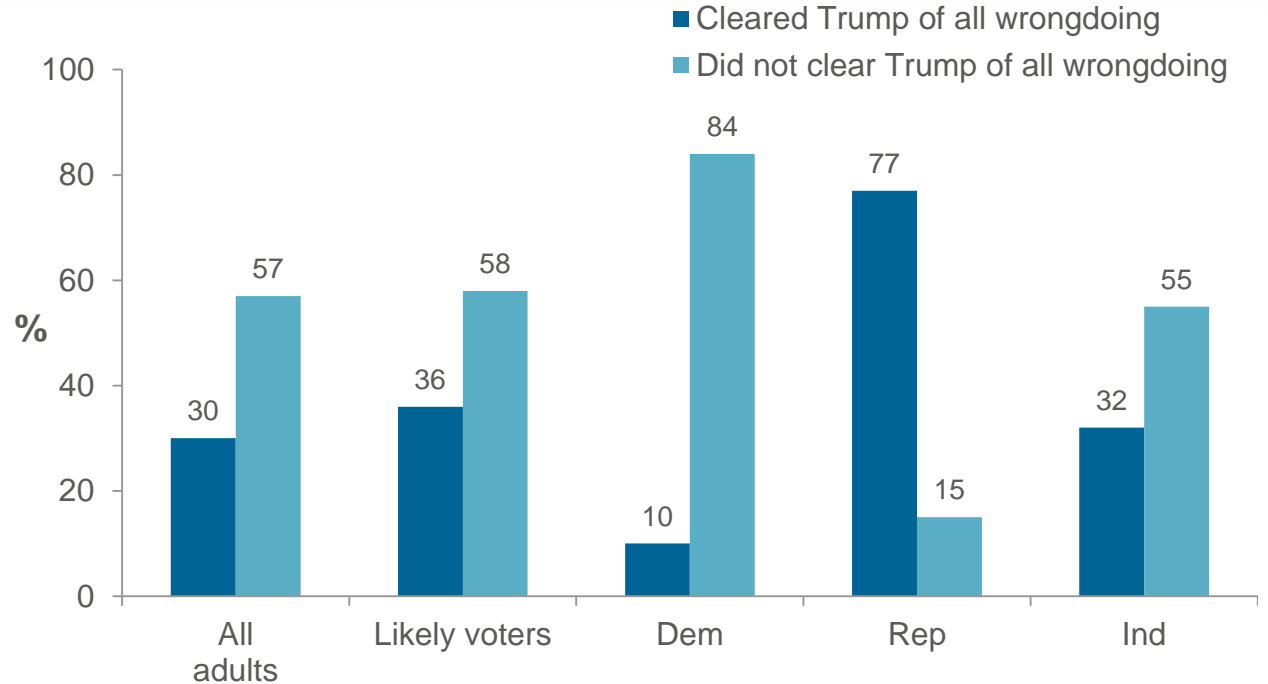


Approval of federal elected officials



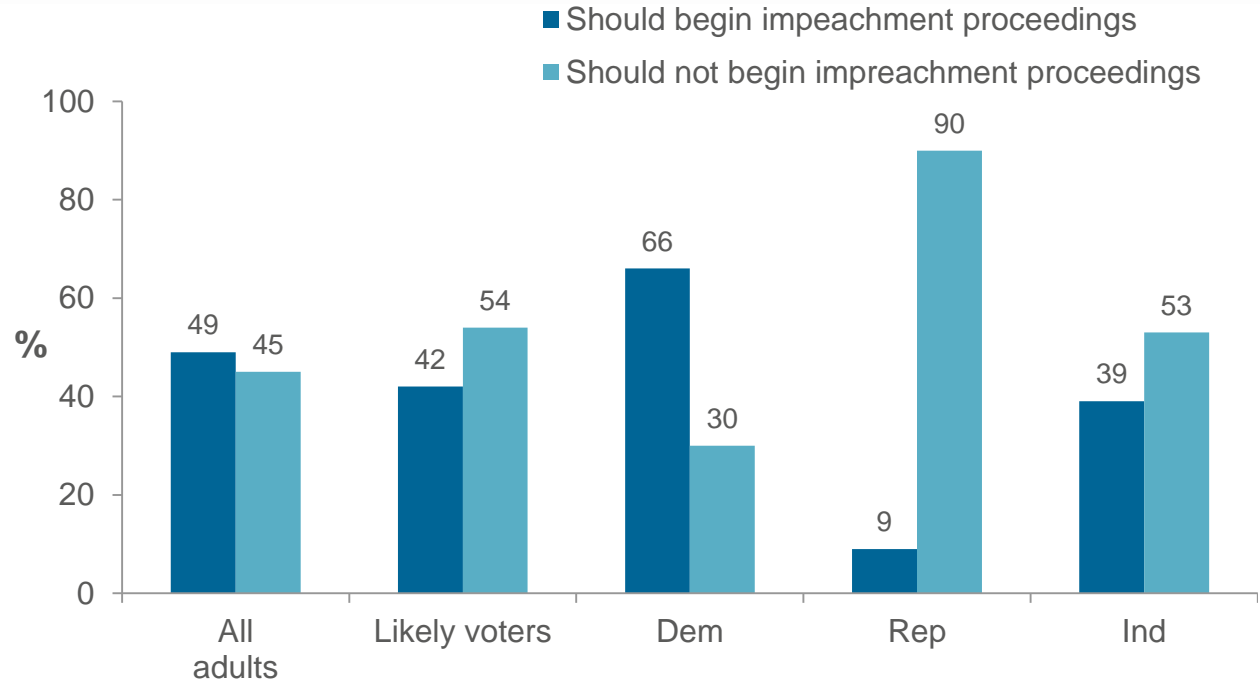
Mueller investigation

From what you have heard or read about it, do you think the Mueller investigation cleared Trump of all wrongdoing, or did it not clear him of all wrongdoing?



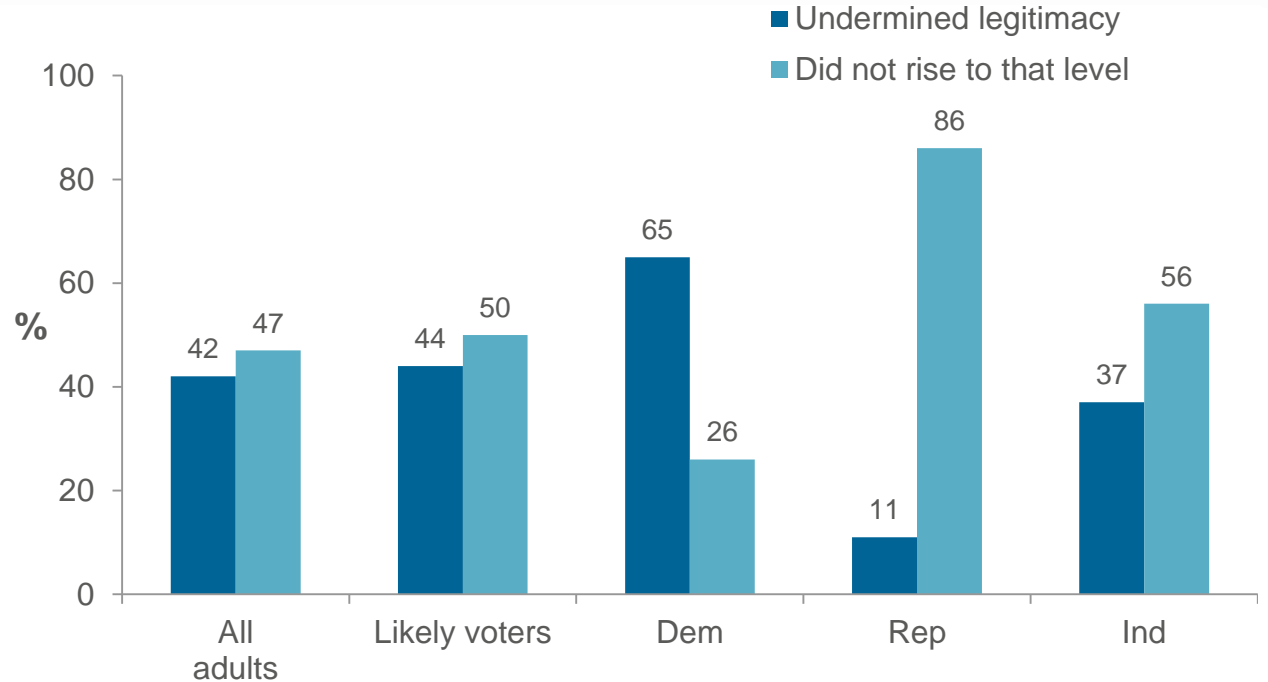
Impeachment proceedings

Based on what you know, do you think Congress should or should not begin impeachment proceedings that could lead to Trump being removed from office?



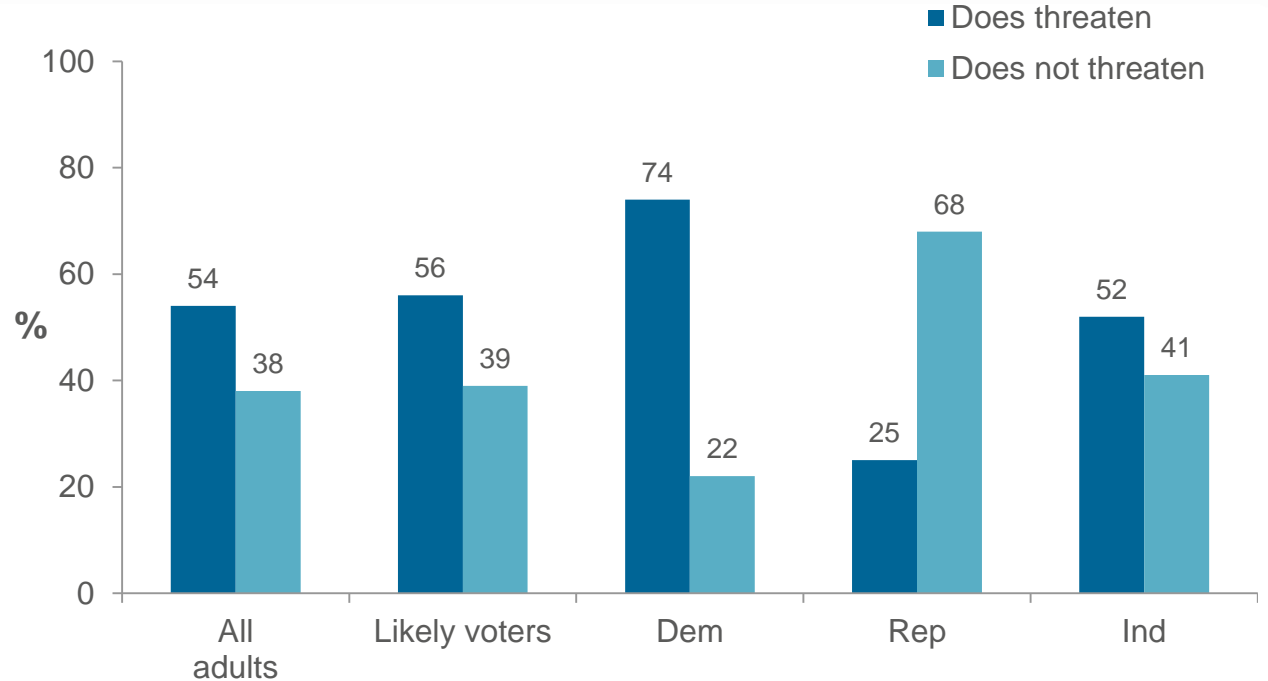
Russian interference and the 2016 election

Given what you have heard or read, do you think interference by Russia undermined the legitimacy of the 2016 presidential election, or did it not rise to that level?

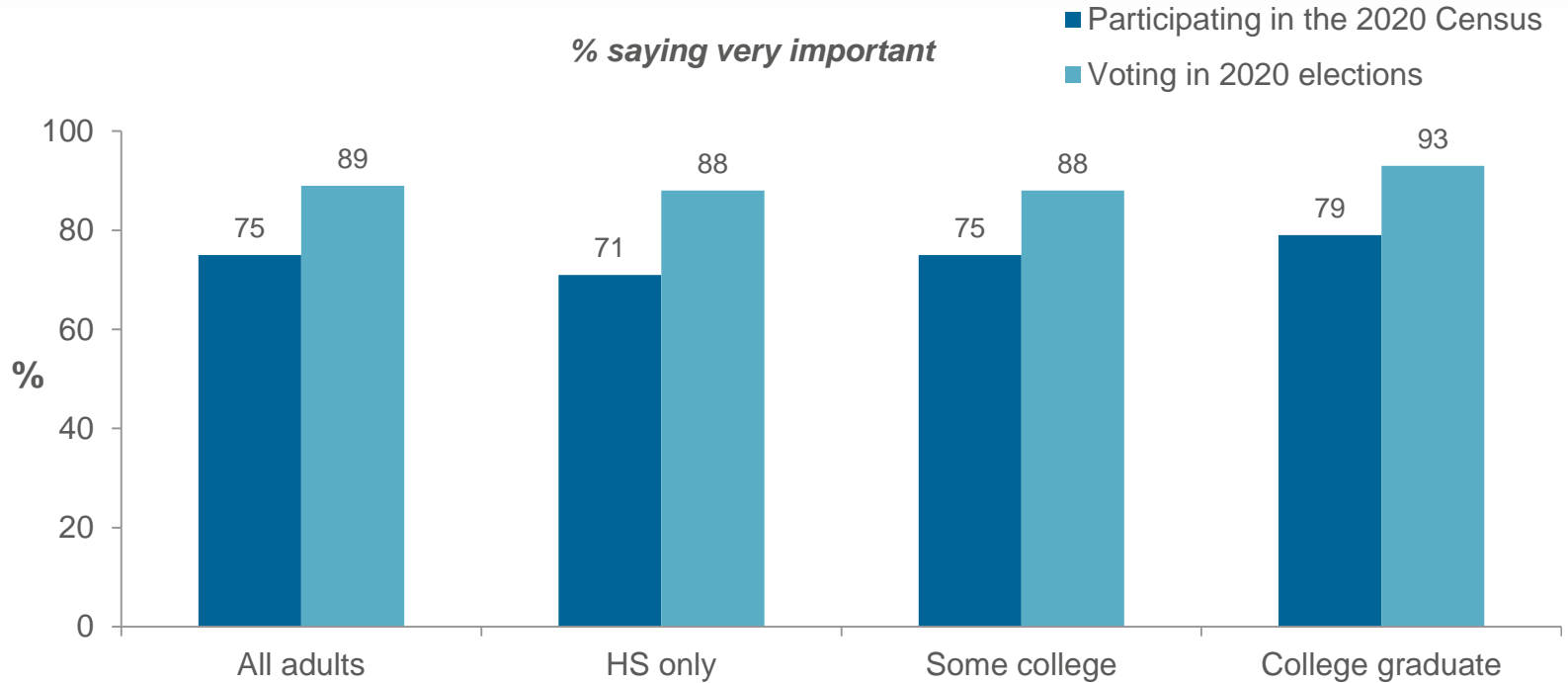


Possible interference in the 2020 election

Do you think possible interference by Russia and other countries does or does not threaten the legitimacy of the 2020 presidential election?

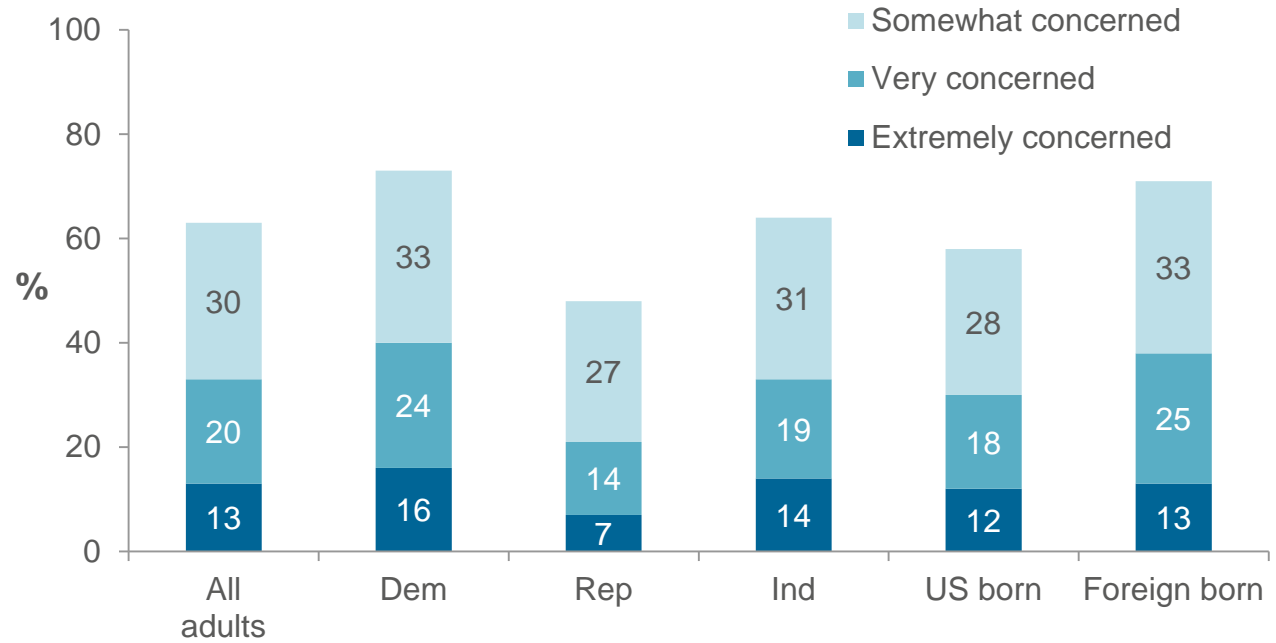


2020 Census and elections



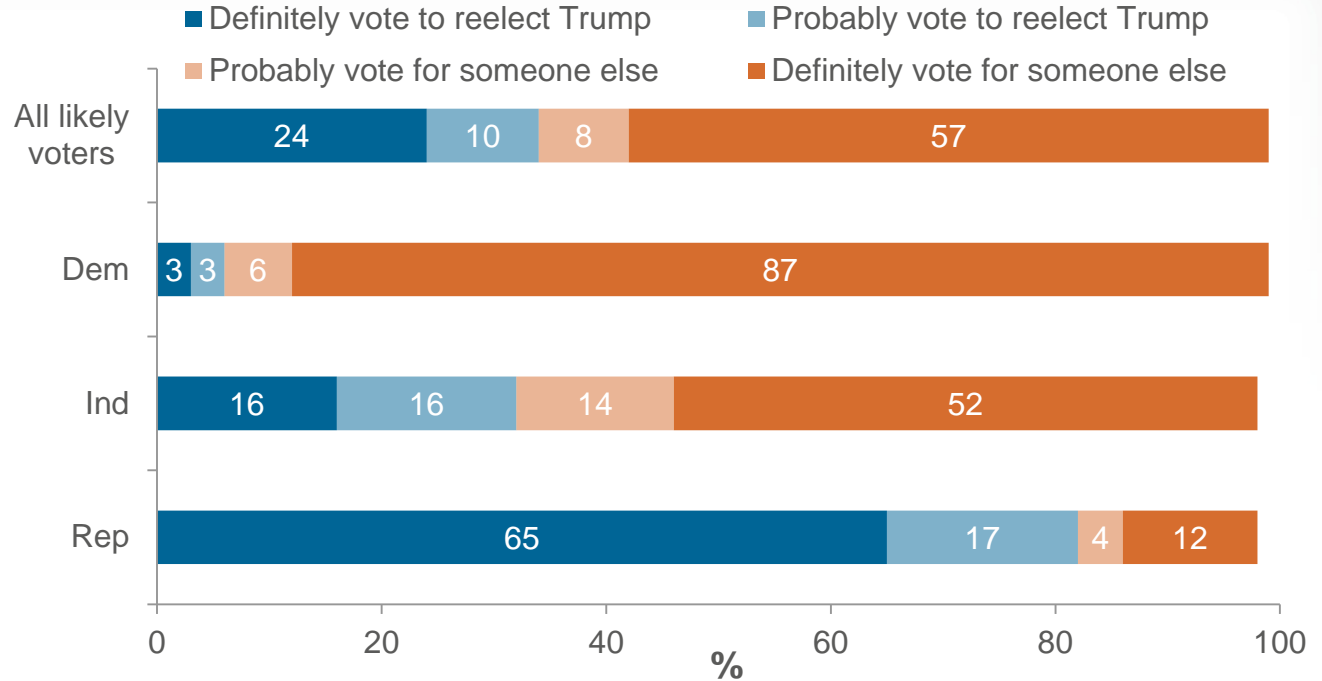
Confidentiality of census answers

How concerned are you, if at all, that the Census Bureau will not keep answers to the 2020 Census confidential?



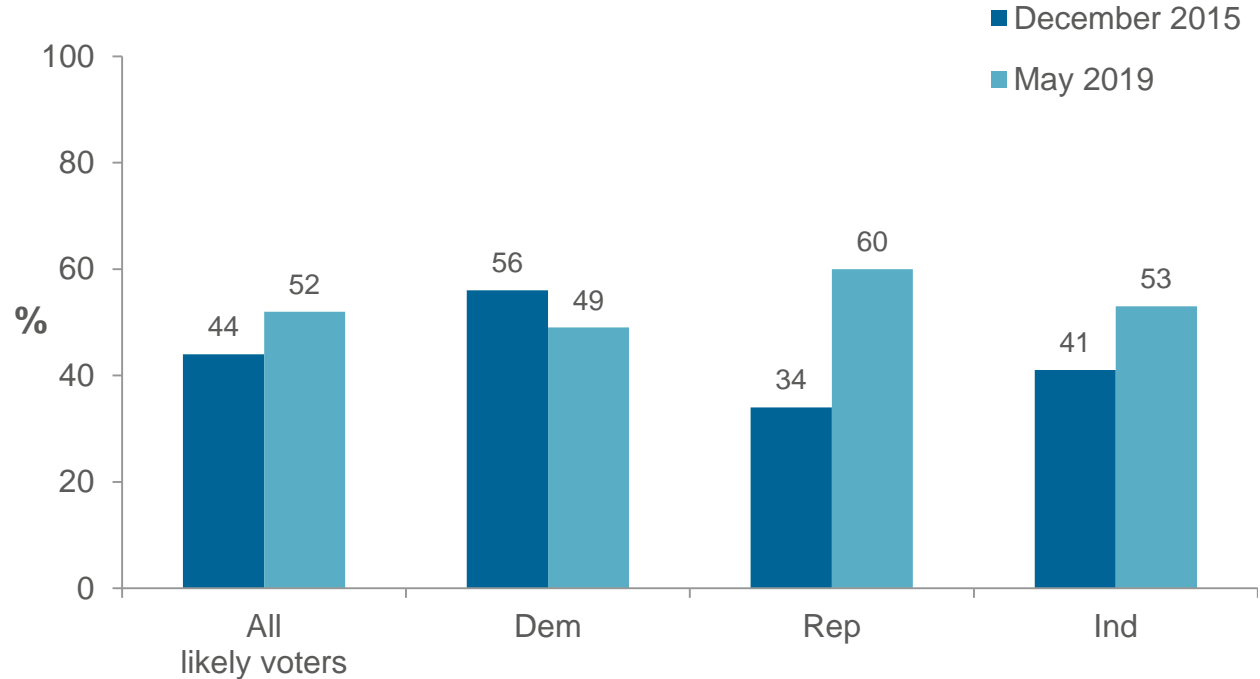
Trump and the 2020 elections

If the 2020 presidential election were held today, would you definitely vote to reelect Donald Trump, probably vote to reelect Trump, probably vote for someone else, or definitely vote for someone else?



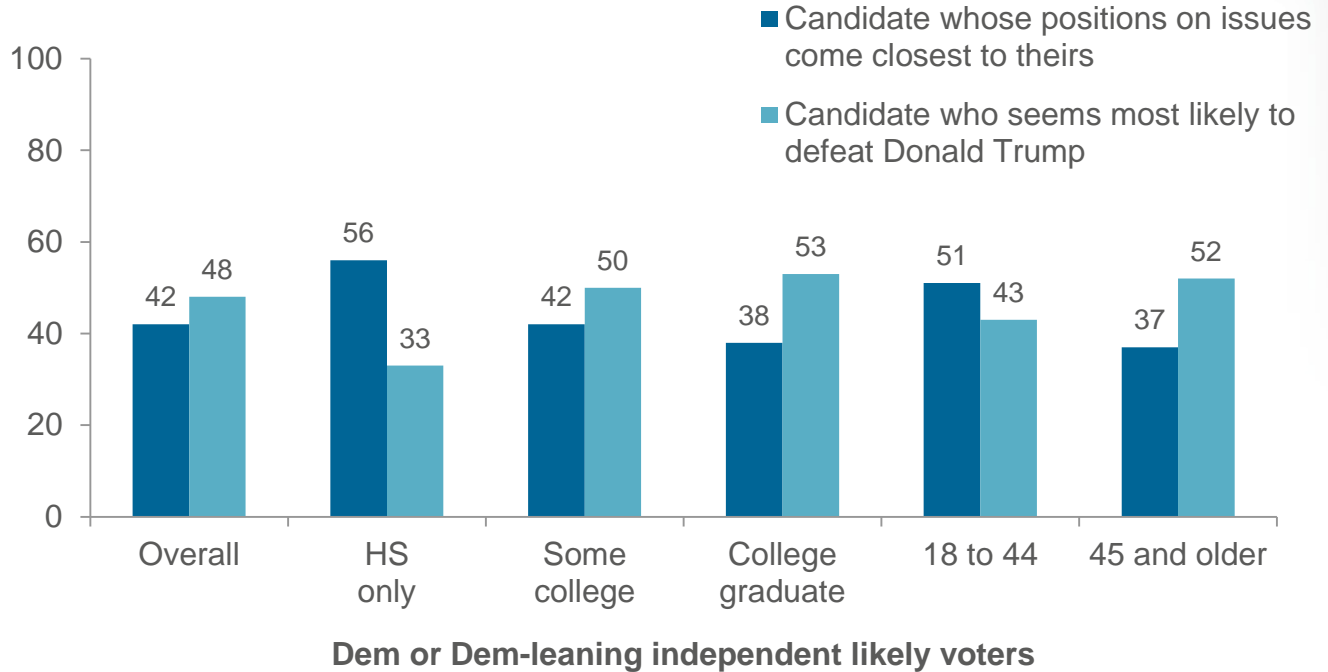
Candidate experience versus new ideas

Which of the following is more important to you in a presidential candidate—experience and a proven record or new ideas and a different approach?



Preference for Democratic nominee

What's more important to you—that Democrats nominate the presidential candidate whose positions on the issues come closest to yours, or the candidate who seems most likely to defeat Donald Trump in November 2020?



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Conclusions

- Eight in ten Californians are concerned that their electricity bills could increase as a result of wildfire damages
- Californians across party lines view homelessness where they live as a big problem
- Many Californians believe that vaccinations for measles and other diseases are very safe and should be required
- Most Californians believe that the Mueller investigation did not clear Trump of wrongdoing—but they are more divided on impeaching the president
- For the 2020 presidential primary, Republicans overwhelmingly want to reelect Trump, while most Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents are divided about what they are looking for in a candidate



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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:

Dean Bonner (bonner@ppic.org; 415-291-4497)

Thank you for your interest in this work.