Outline

- PPIC Statewide Surveys
- State and national issues
- Approval ratings and the 2020 election
- 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
  - 360,000+ Californians interviewed since 1998
  - 180+ general, issue, and regional surveys
Californians and Their Government

- General series funded by the James Irvine Foundation and the PPIC Donor Circle
- Telephone interviews, September 16–25, 2019
  - 70% cell phone, 30% landline
  - 1,705 adults, ± 3.2% margin of error
  - 1,031 likely voters, ± 4.2% margin of error
- Opinions on the direction of the state, disaster preparedness, immigration, health care, guns, and abortion
- Views on elected officials, the electoral process, state ballot measures, and the 2020 presidential election
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Thinking about the state as a whole, what do you think is the most important issue facing people in California today?
Outlook for the state

- % of likely voters expect things to be headed in the right direction:
  - All adults: 46%
  - Likely voters: 41%
  - Democrats: 61%
  - Republicans: 38%
  - Independents: 38%

- % expecting good times financially:
  - All adults: 41%
  - Likely voters: 37%
  - Democrats: 38%
  - Republicans: 38%
  - Independents: 36%
Disaster preparedness

- Household has a disaster preparedness kit
- Household has a definite disaster plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>All adults</th>
<th>Under $40,000</th>
<th>$40,000 to under $80,000</th>
<th>$80,000 or more</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>57%</td>
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</table>
How worried are you that you and the members of your household will experience personal injury, property damage or a major disruption of your routine if there is a disaster, such as a major earthquake, wildfire, or flood?
Perception of immigrants

- Immigrants are a benefit
- Immigrants are a burden

Graph showing the percentage of adults likely voters, Democrats, Republicans, and Independents who perceive immigrants as a benefit or a burden.

- All adults: 71% benefit, 22% burden
- Likely voters: 66% benefit, 28% burden
- Democrats: 88% benefit, 11% burden
- Republicans: 58% benefit, 31% burden
- Independents: 65% benefit, 25% burden
When it comes to increased federal immigration enforcement, how much do you worry that someone that you know could be deported?
Affordable Care Act

Generally favorable
Generally unfavorable

% adults

Mar 14 Sep 14 Mar 15 Sep 15 Mar 16 Sep 16 Mar 17 Sep 17 Mar 18 Sep 18 Mar 19 Sep 19

*Kaiser Family Foundation poll, September 2019
What do you think about being able to afford the cost of your health care, including the cost of insurance and your out-of-pocket expenses, over the next few years? Is this something that you are very worried about, somewhat worried, not so worried, or not worried at all?

*ABC News/Washington Post poll, July 2019
In general, do you think laws covering the sale of guns should be made more strict, less strict, or kept as they are now?

- **All adults**:
  - More strict: 68%
  - Kept as they are now: 19%
  - Less strict: 10%

- ** Likely voters**:
  - More strict: 65%
  - Kept as they are now: 22%
  - Less strict: 12%

- **Rep**:
  - More strict: 32%
  - Kept as they are now: 44%
  - Less strict: 22%

- **Ind**:
  - More strict: 58%
  - Kept as they are now: 27%
  - Less strict: 13%

- **Dem**:
  - More strict: 87%
  - Kept as they are now: 7%
  - Less strict: 4%
Mass shootings

How concerned are you about the threat of a mass shooting in the area where you live? Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned, or not concerned at all?
As you may know, the 1973 Supreme Court case *Roe v. Wade* established a women’s constitutional right to have an abortion. Would you like to see the Supreme Court overturn its *Roe v. Wade* decision, or not?

*Gallup poll, June 2019*
Thinking about abortion policies around the country, which is your greater concern—that some states are making it too difficult for people to be able to get an abortion, or that some states are making it too easy for people to get an abortion?
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Approval of state elected officials

Line graph showing the approval of Governor Newsom and the California Legislature from Jan 19 to Sep 19.

Bar chart comparing the approval of Governor Newsom and the California Legislature among all adults, likely voters, Democrats, Republicans, and Independents.
Approval of federal elected officials
Approval of federal elected officials

- Dianne Feinstein
- Kamala Harris
- Own rep in House

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>All adults</th>
<th>Likely voters</th>
<th>Dem</th>
<th>Rep</th>
<th>Ind</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>%</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>40</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>64</td>
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<td>49</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>37</td>
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How much confidence do you have in the system in which votes are cast and counted in California elections—a great deal, quite a lot, some, or very little?

- **All adults**: 18% Great deal, 18% Quite a lot, 29% Some, 30% Very little
- ** Likely voters**: 22% Great deal, 20% Quite a lot, 28% Some, 27% Very little
- **Rep**: 11% Great deal, 16% Quite a lot, 25% Some, 41% Very little
- **Ind**: 18% Great deal, 17% Quite a lot, 31% Some, 31% Very little
- **Dem**: 27% Great deal, 25% Quite a lot, 29% Some, 17% Very little
Concern about voting in California

Too hard for eligible people to vote
- Very: 29%
- Somewhat: 23%
- Not too: 25%
- Not at all: 20%

Too easy for ineligible people to vote
- Very: 24%
- Somewhat: 20%
- Not too: 30%

Poll results by party:
- Dem: 50%
- Rep: 79%
- Ind: 53%

Concern about voting in California.
If the state ballot had a $15 billion bond measure to pay for construction and modernization of public schools, community colleges, and California’s four-year college systems, would you vote yes or no?
Support for split roll property tax

What if there was a state ballot measure to have commercial properties taxed according to their current market value and direct some of this new tax revenue to state funding for K–12 public schools? Would you vote yes or no?
In deciding who to vote for in the presidential primary, how important to you are the candidates’ performances in public debates—very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important?

Dem or Dem-leaning independent likely voters

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Somewhat important</th>
<th>Very important</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 to 44</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 and older</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Preferred candidate for 2020 Democratic primary

- Elizabeth Warren: 23%
- Joe Biden: 22%
- Bernie Sanders: 21%
- Kamala Harris: 8%
- Pete Buttigieg: 6%
- Someone else*: 13%
- Don’t know: 9%

*Respondents were read 11 candidate names and also had the option of naming someone else.
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Conclusions

- Homelessness tied with jobs and the economy as the top issues facing the state.
- Many lower-income Californians are worried about health care costs, natural disasters, and mass shootings in their area.
- Strong majorities oppose overturning *Roe v. Wade*; many express concerns about some states making it too difficult to get an abortion.
- California’s two senators and House representatives have higher approval ratings than Congress overall, while the president’s approval rating remains stable.
- The state’s elected leaders and economic outlook get mixed reviews, and a slim majority of likely voters support a $15 billion school construction bond.
- Warren, Biden, and Sanders lead in the Democratic presidential primary, but many Democratic-leaning voters are open to switching allegiances.
PPIC Statewide Survey: Californians and Their Government

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

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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.