

# PPIC Statewide Survey: Californians and Their Government

October 3, 2019

#PPICsurvey

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

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Supported with funding from the James Irvine Foundation  
and the PPIC Donor Circle



**PPIC**

PUBLIC POLICY  
INSTITUTE OF CALIFORNIA

25 YEARS

# 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,  $\pm 3.2\%$  margin of error
  - 1,031 likely voters,  $\pm 4.2\%$  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

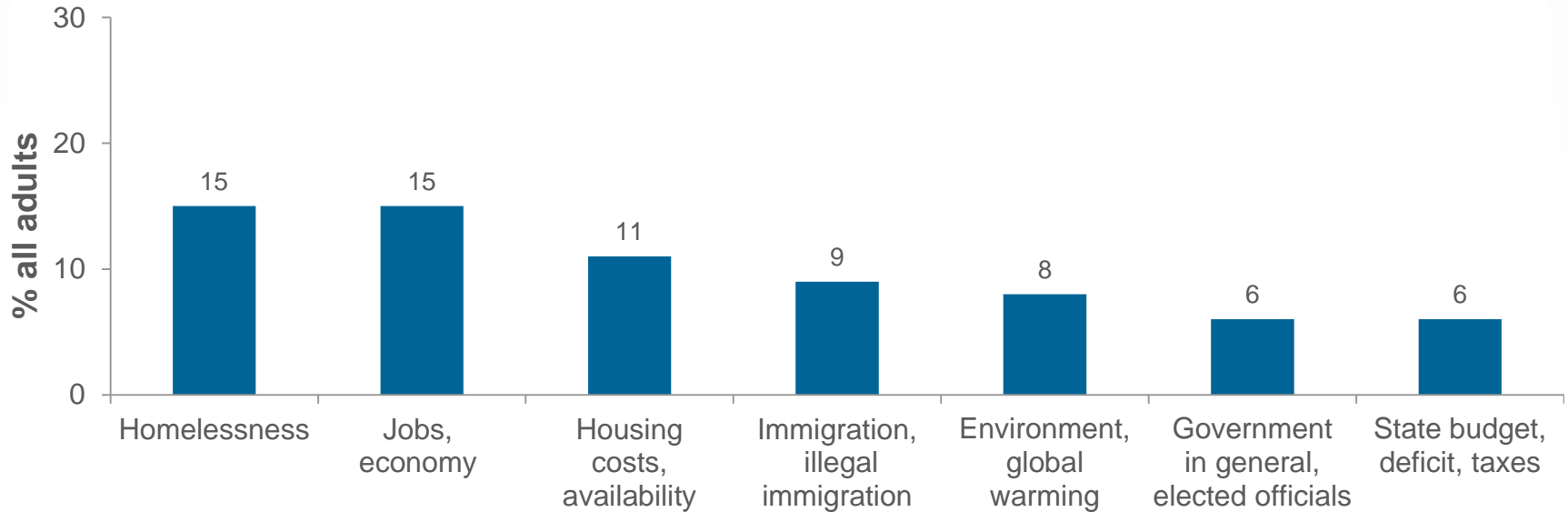


# Outline

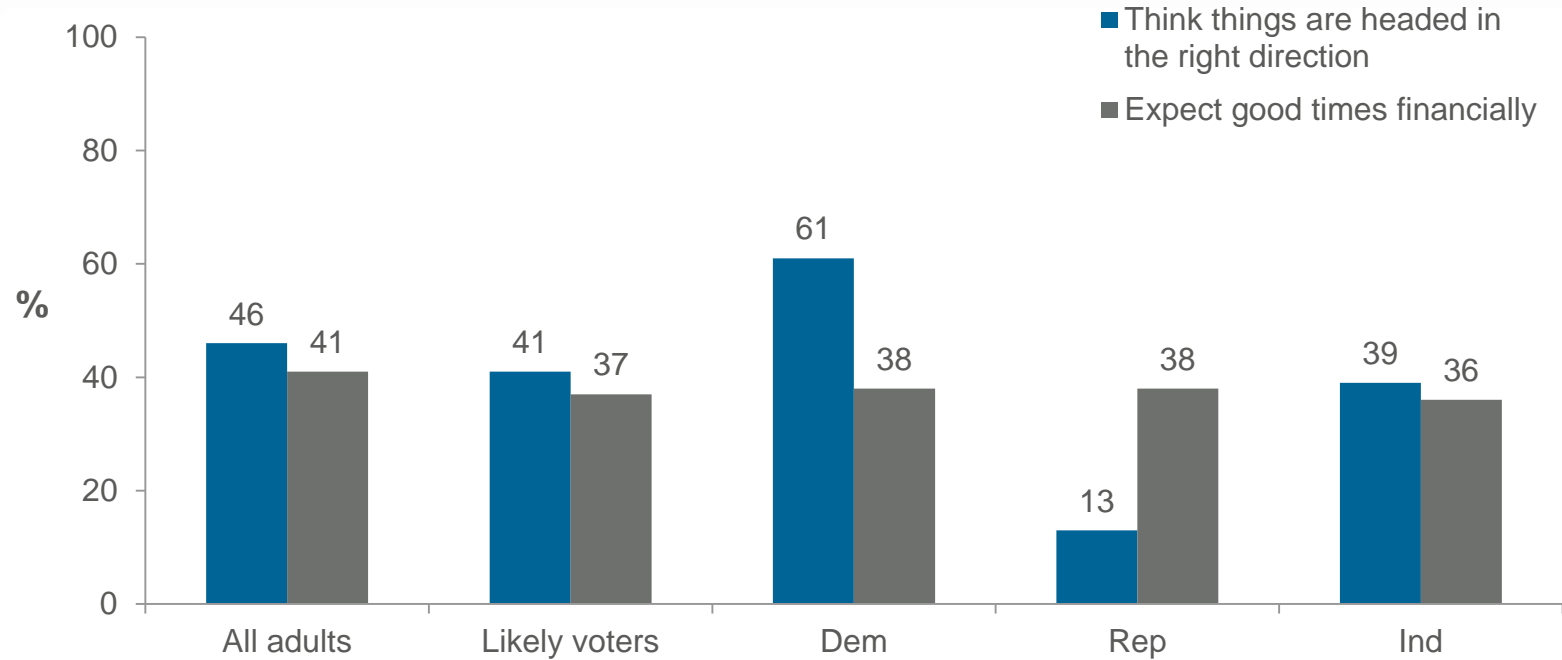
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# Top issue facing the state

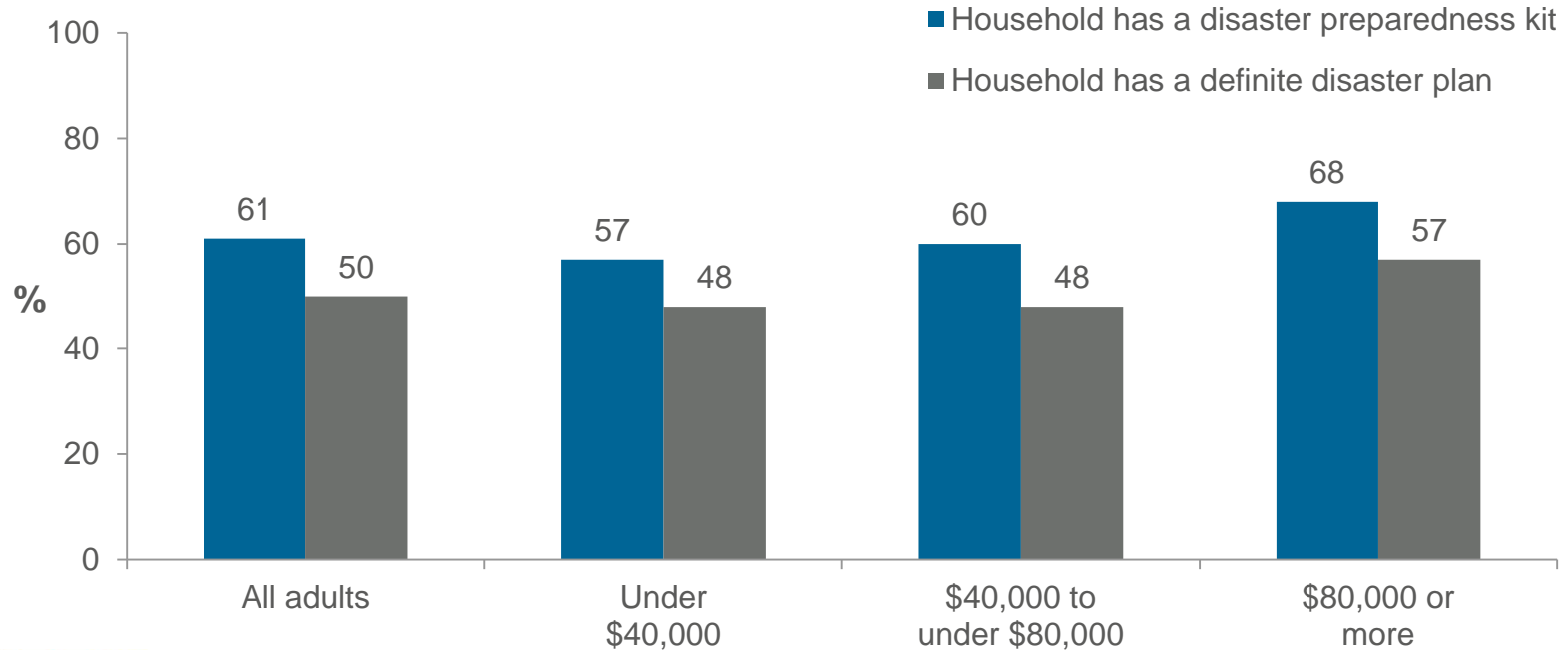
Thinking about the state as a whole, what do you think is the most important issue facing people in California today?



# Outlook for the state



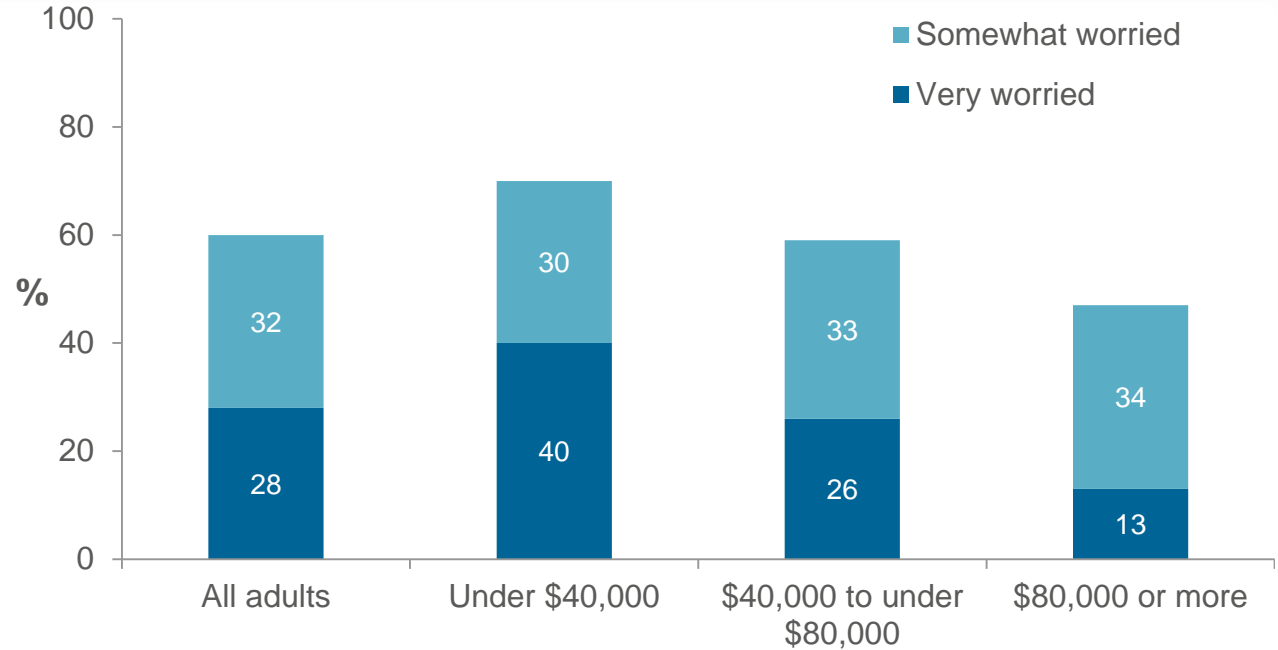
# Disaster preparedness



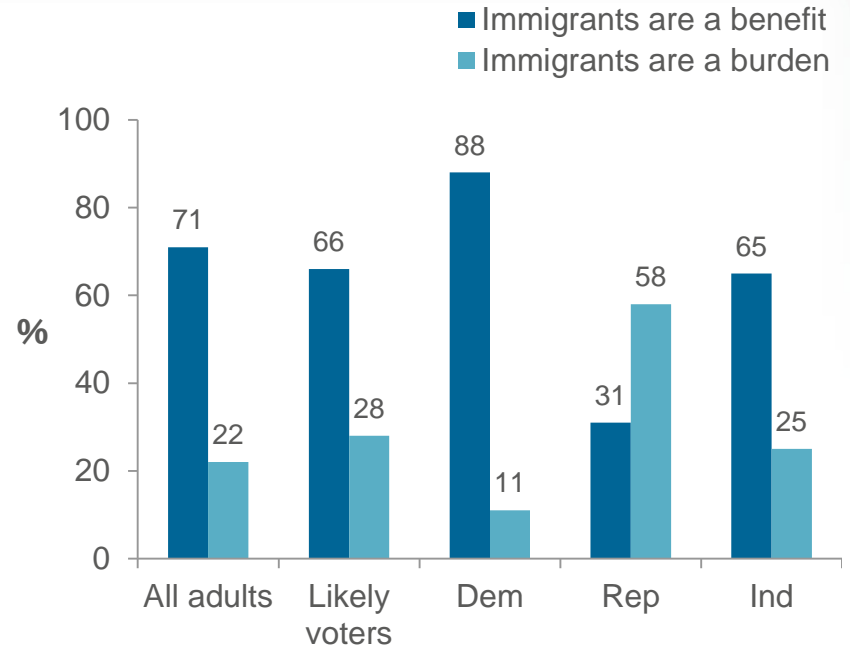
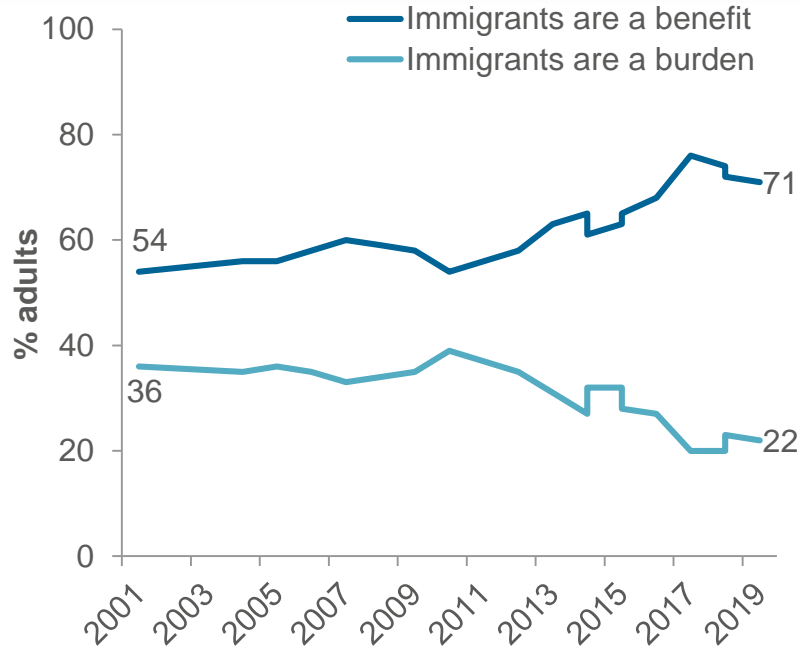


# Impact of a potential disaster

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?

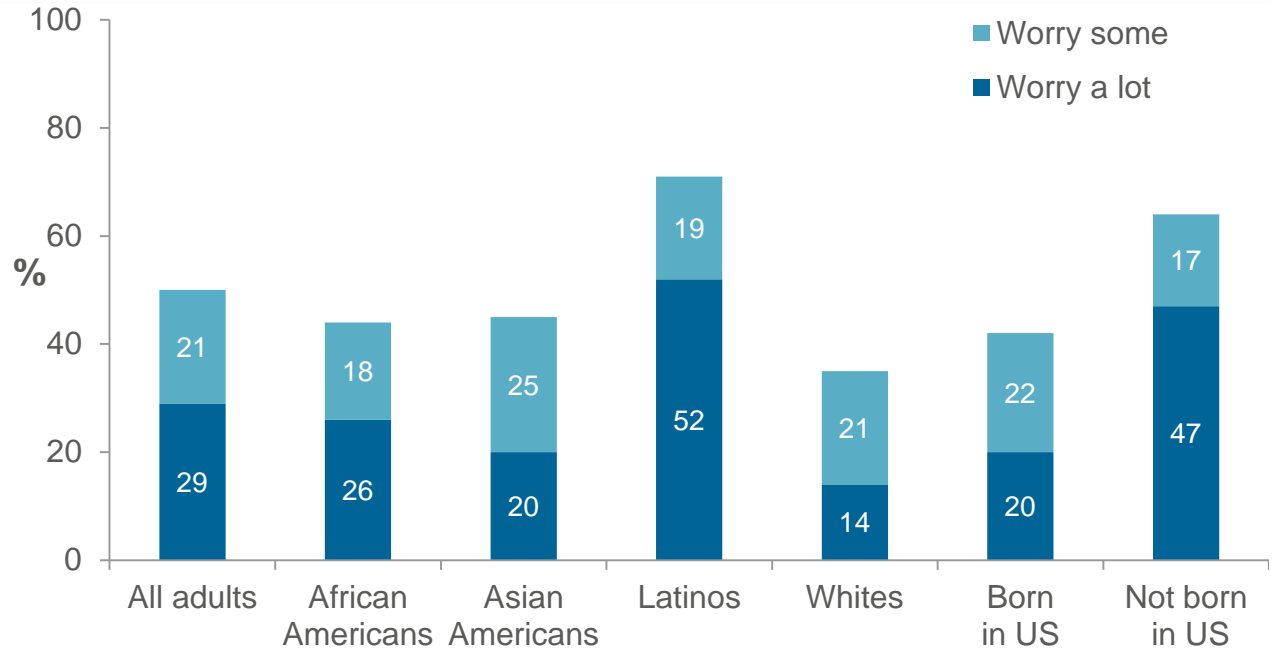


# Perception of immigrants

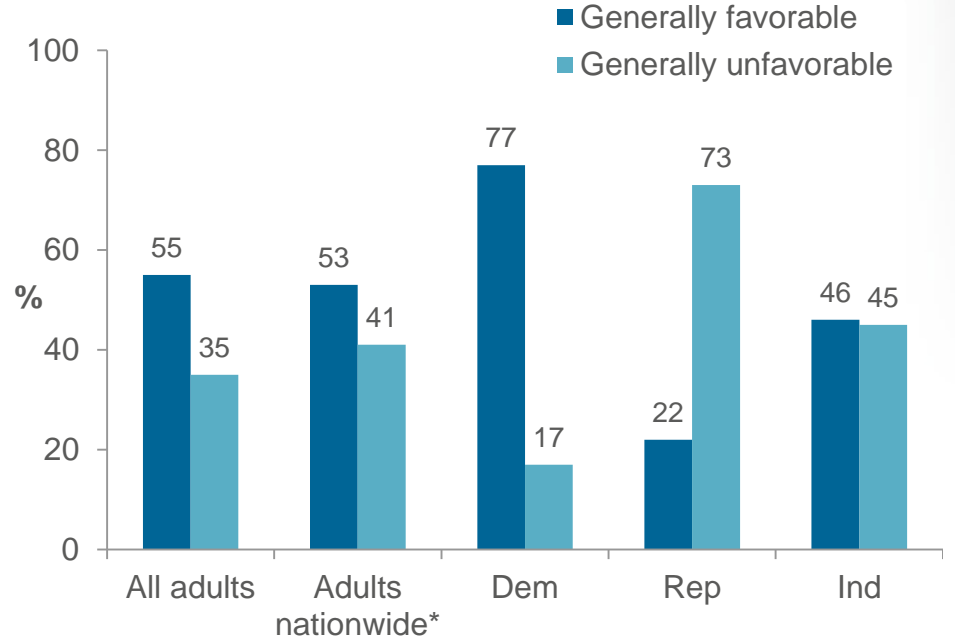
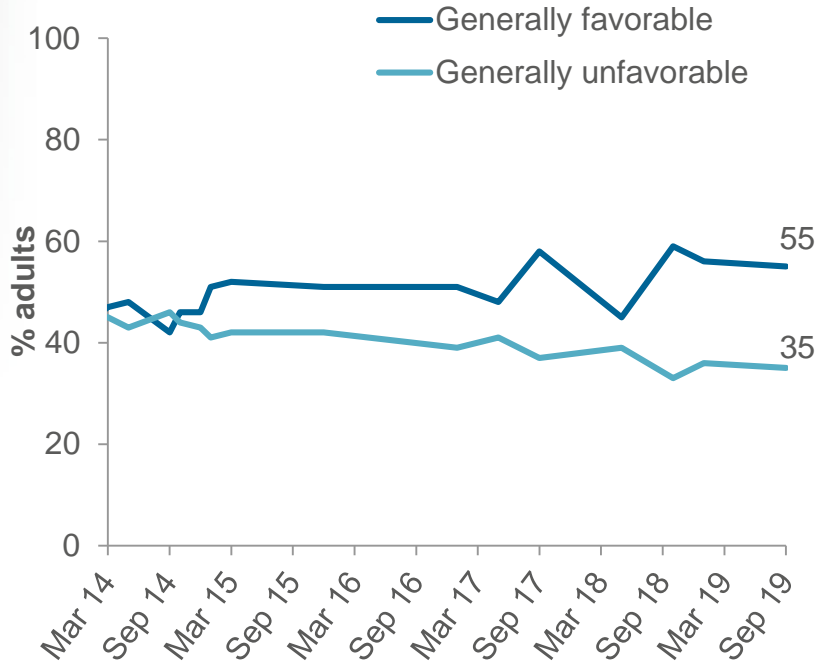


# Federal immigration enforcement

When it comes to increased federal immigration enforcement, how much do you worry that someone that you know could be deported?



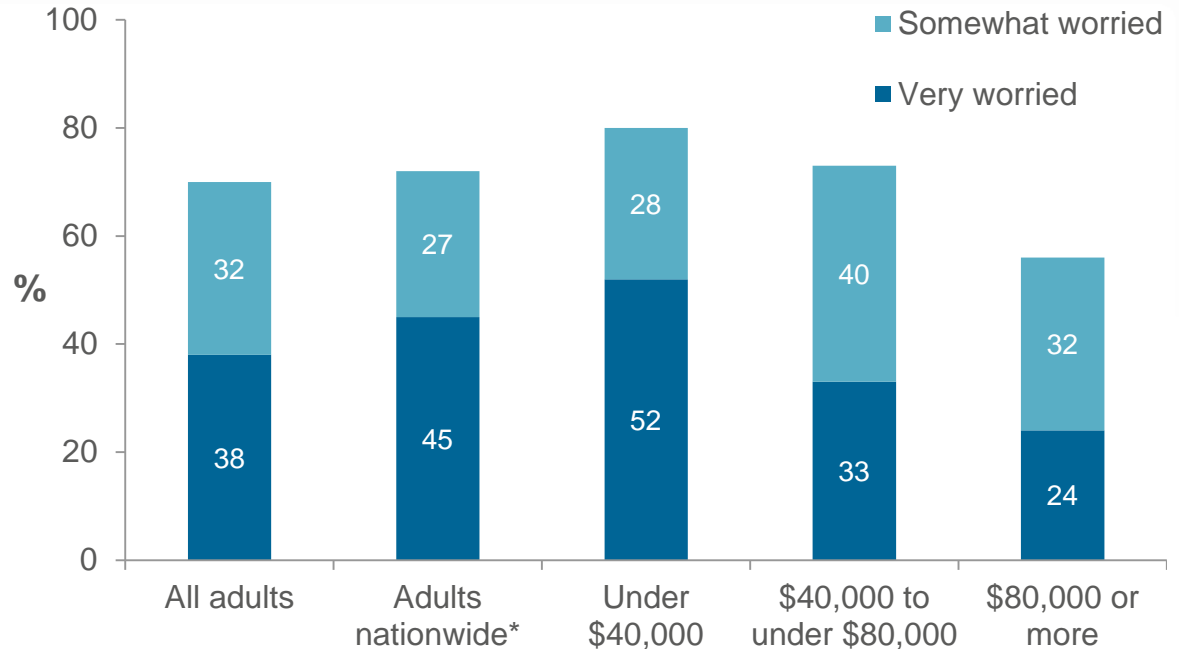
# Affordable Care Act



\*Kaiser Family Foundation poll, September 2019

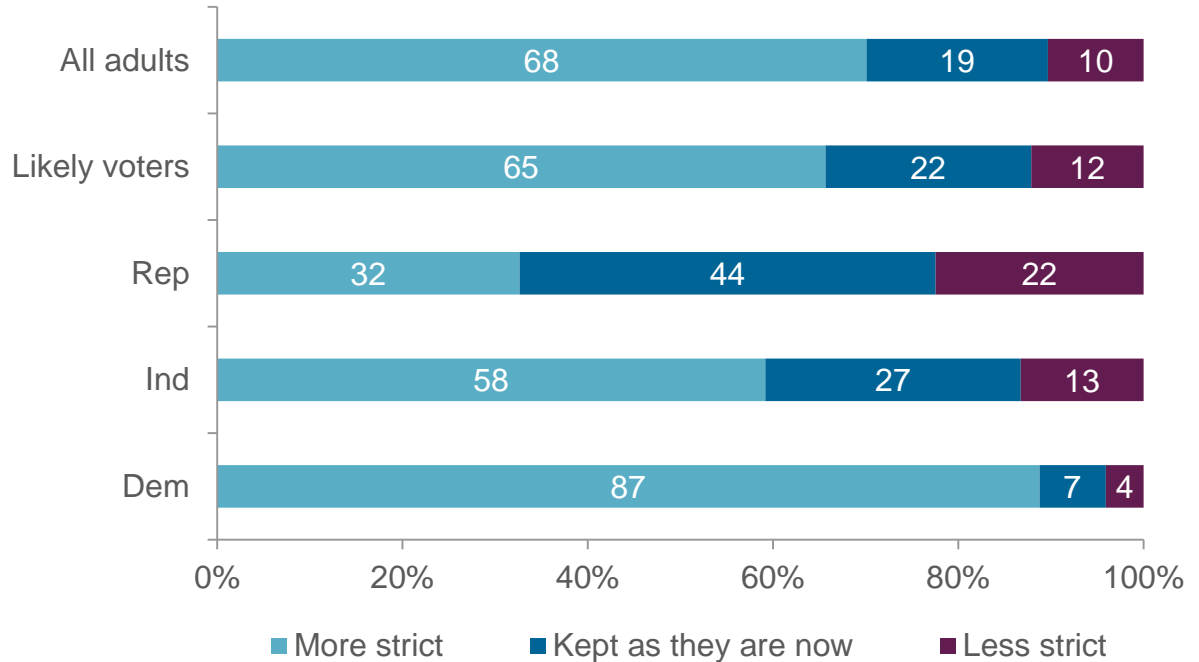
# Health care costs

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?



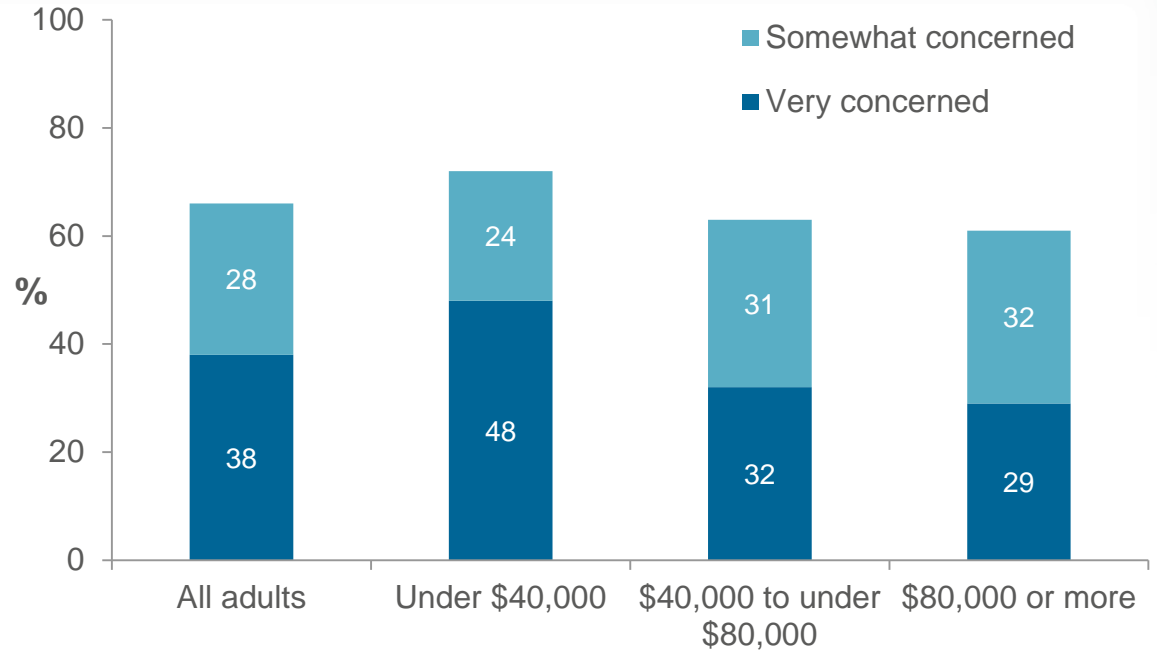
# Gun laws

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



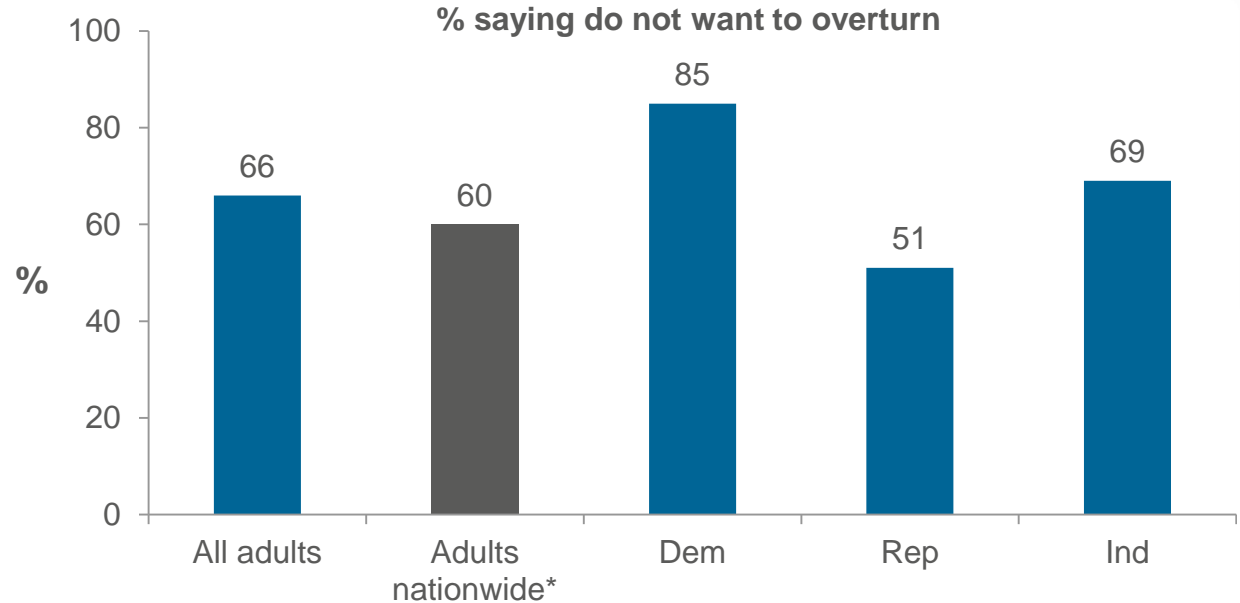
# Mass shootings

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?



# Overturing *Roe v. Wade*

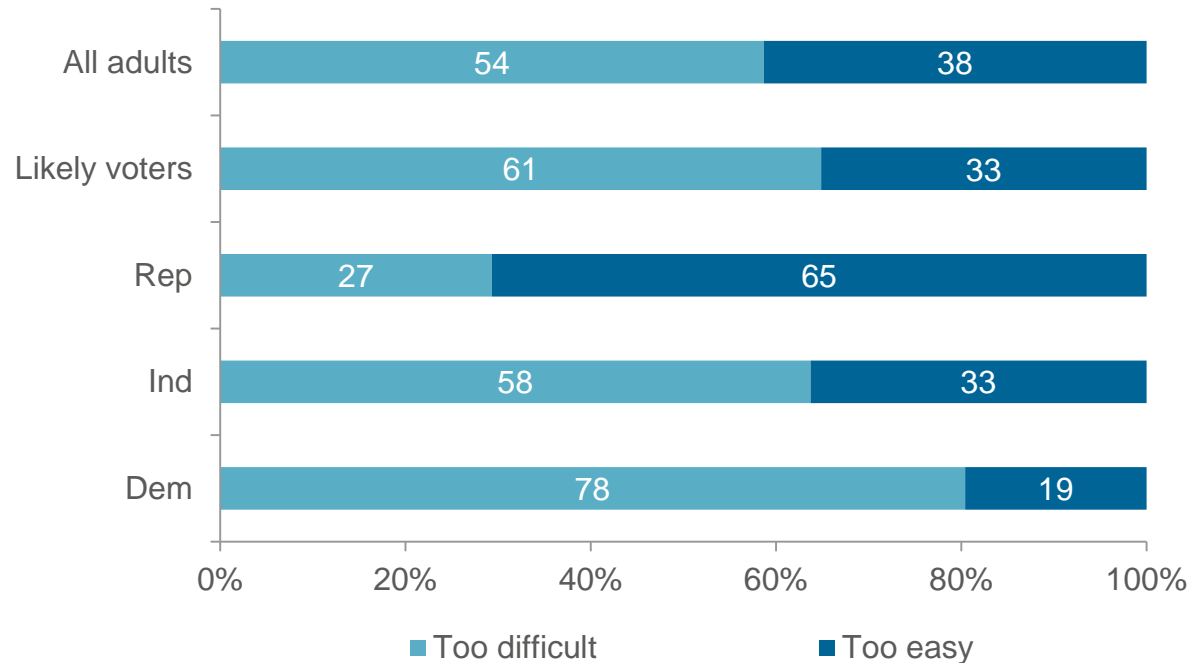
As you may know, the 1973 Supreme Court case *Roe v. Wade* established a women's constitutional right to have an abortion. Would you like to see the Supreme Court overturn its *Roe v. Wade* decision, or not?





# State abortion laws

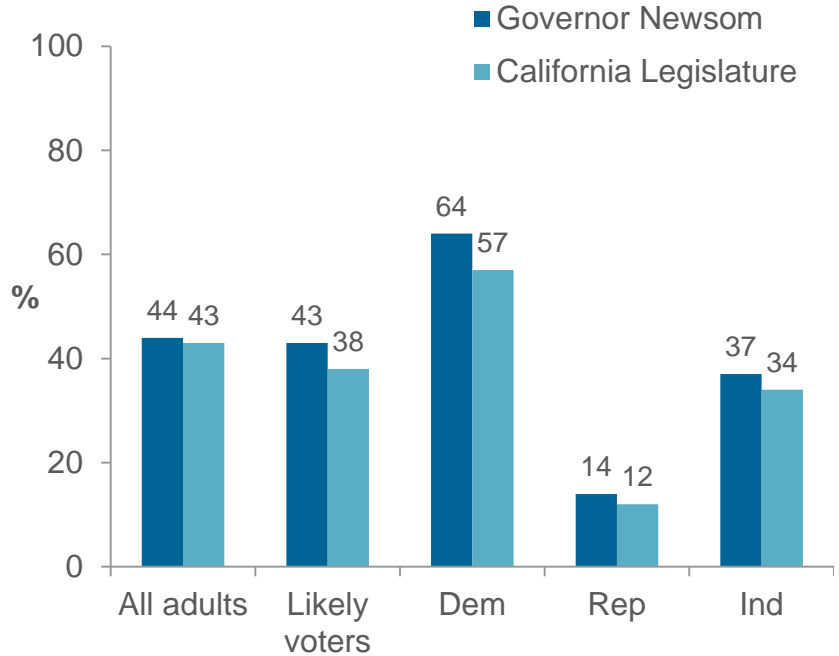
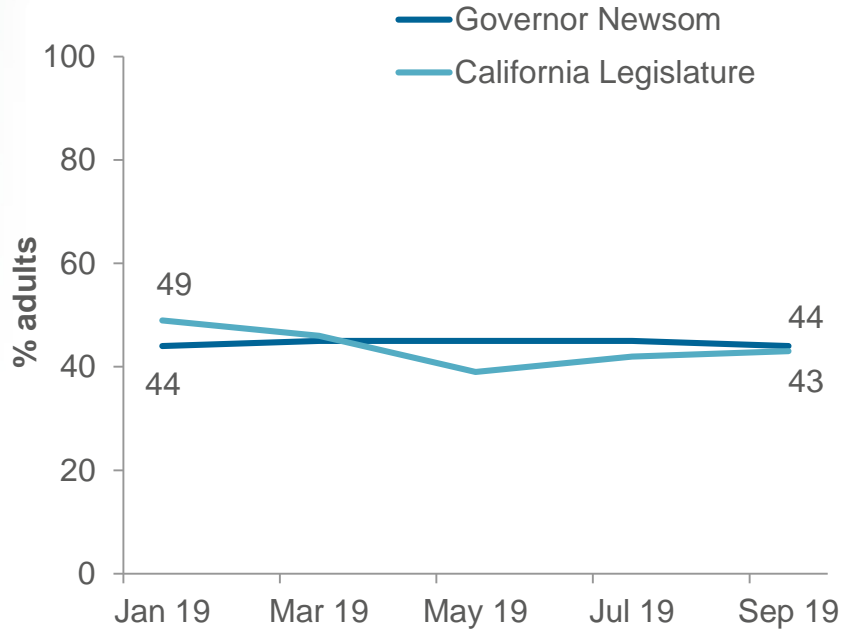
Thinking about abortion policies around the country, which is your greater concern—that some states are making it too difficult for people to be able to get an abortion, or that some states are making it too easy for people to get an abortion?



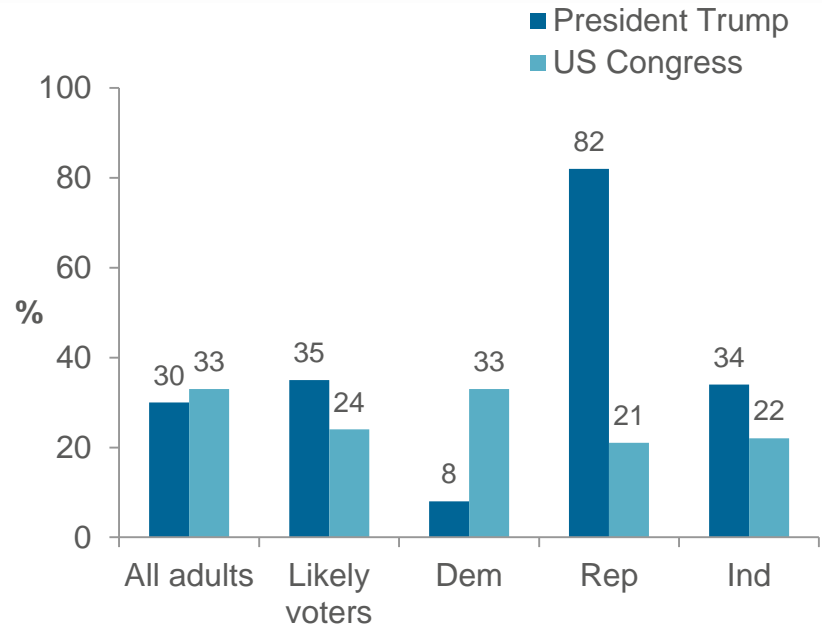
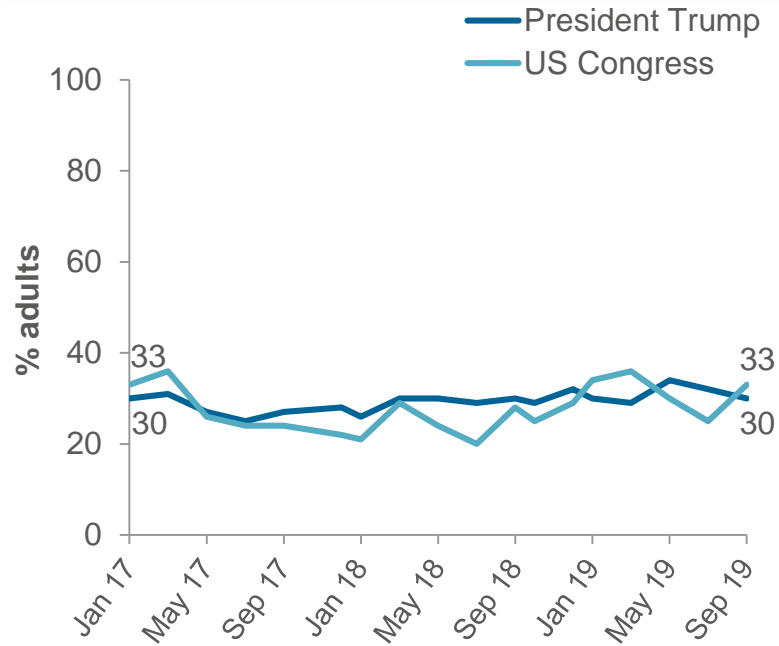
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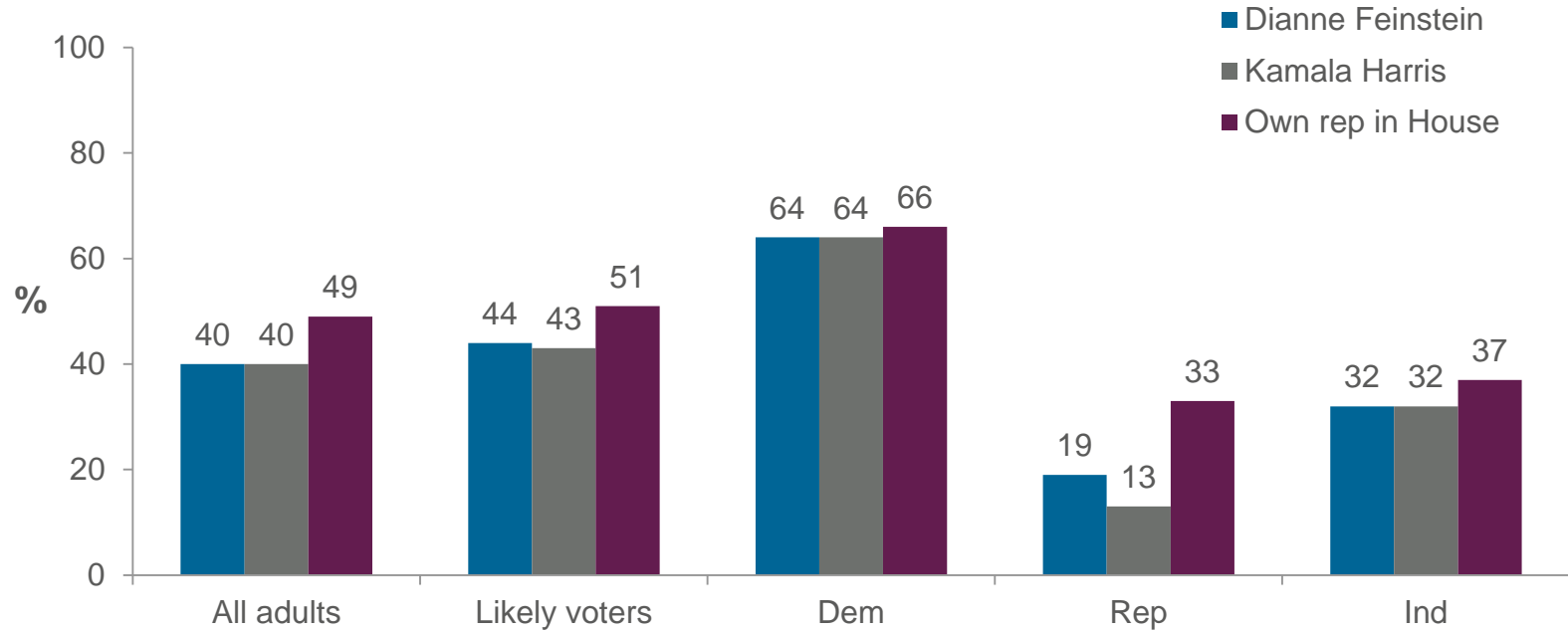
# Approval of state elected officials



# Approval of federal elected officials

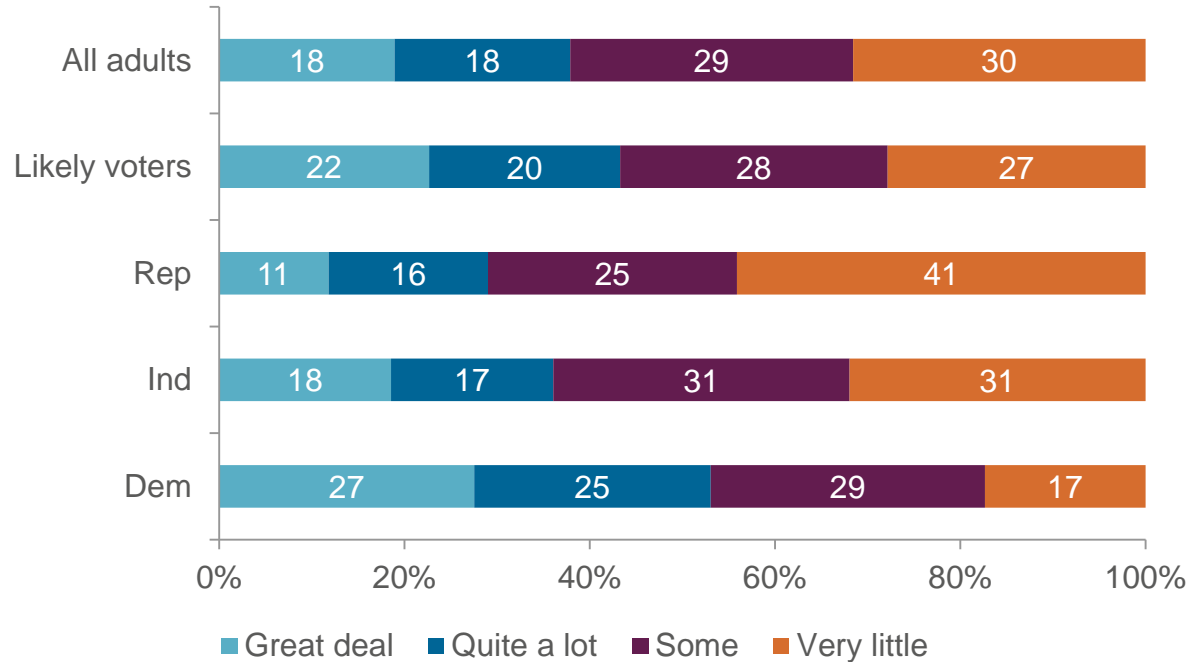


# Approval of federal elected officials

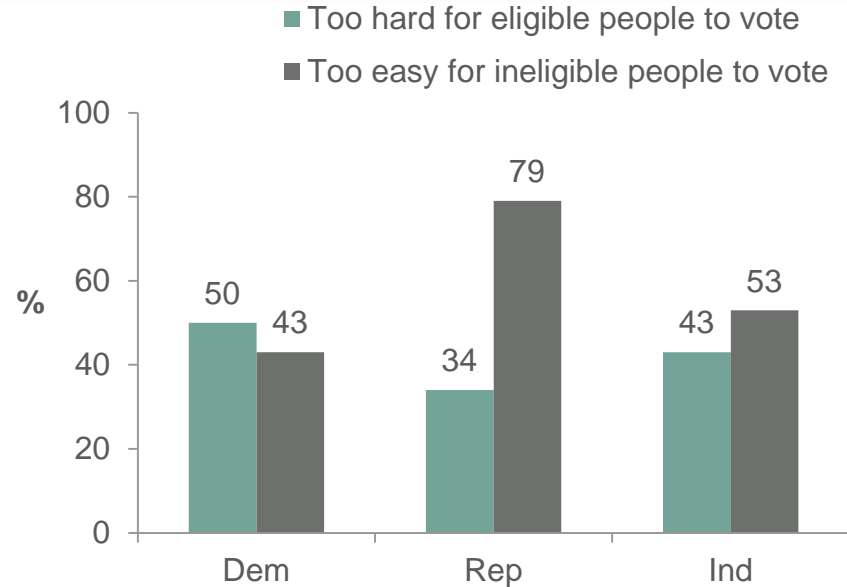
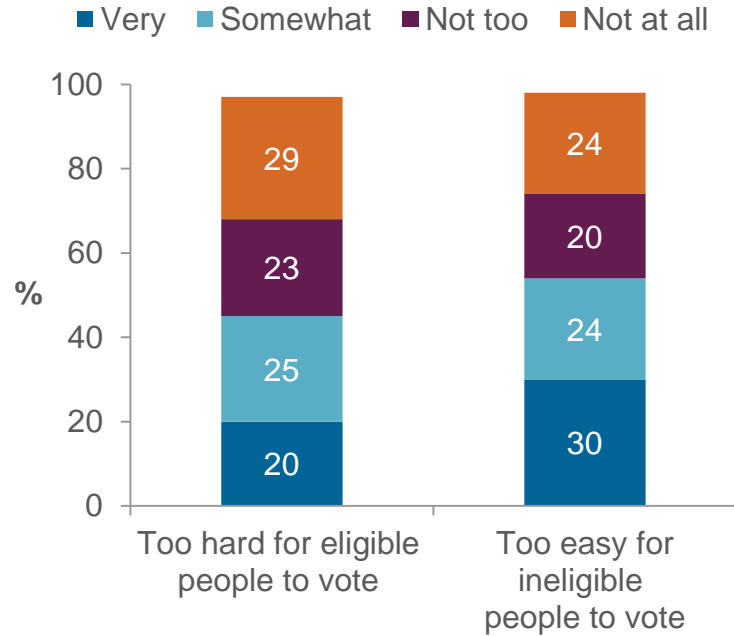


# Confidence in California's elections

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?

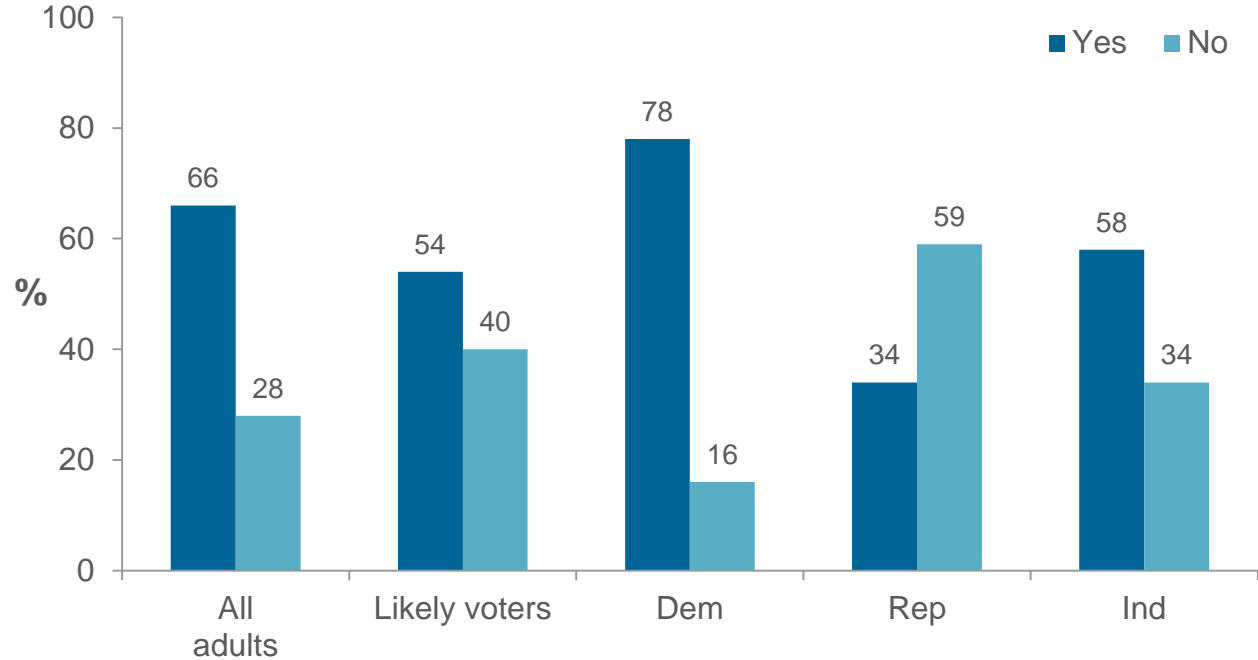


# Concern about voting in California



# Support for school construction bond

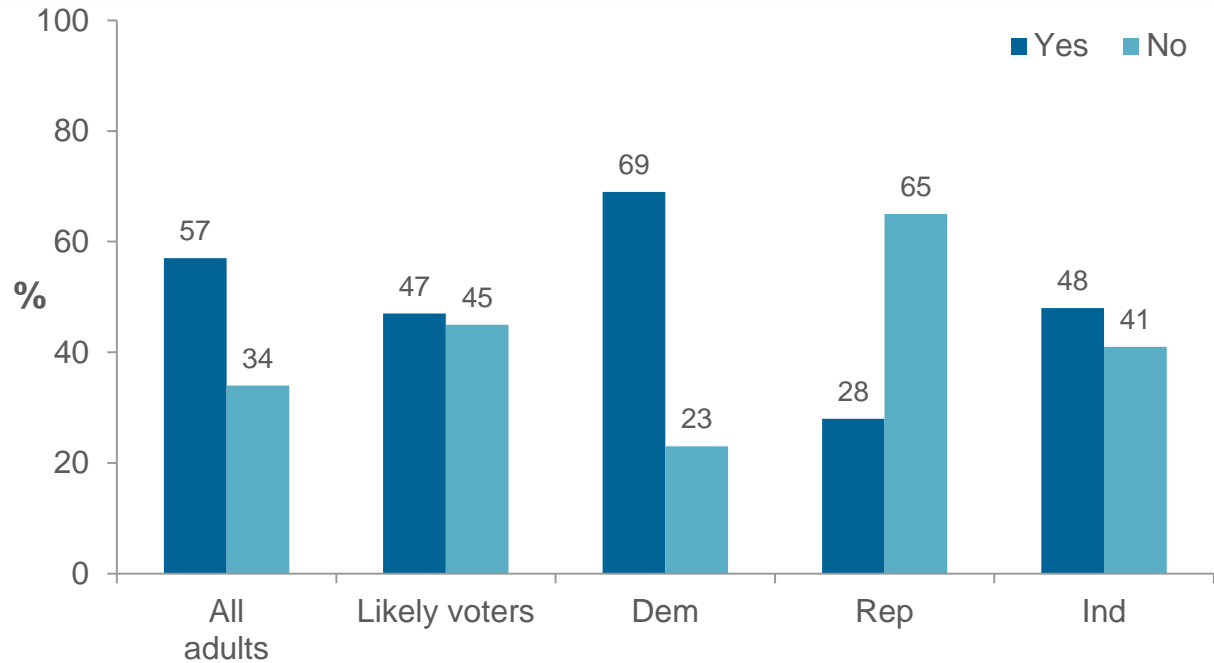
If the state ballot had a \$15 billion bond measure to pay for construction and modernization of public schools, community colleges, and California's four-year college systems, would you vote yes or no?





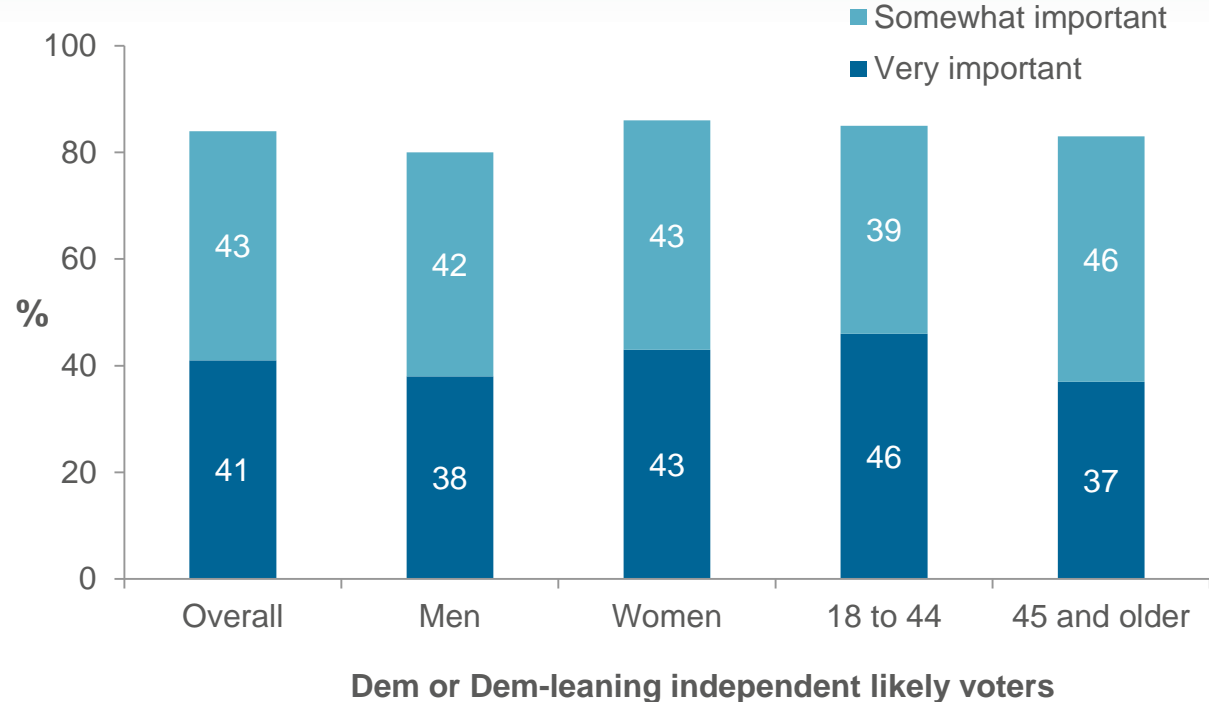
# Support for split roll property tax

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?

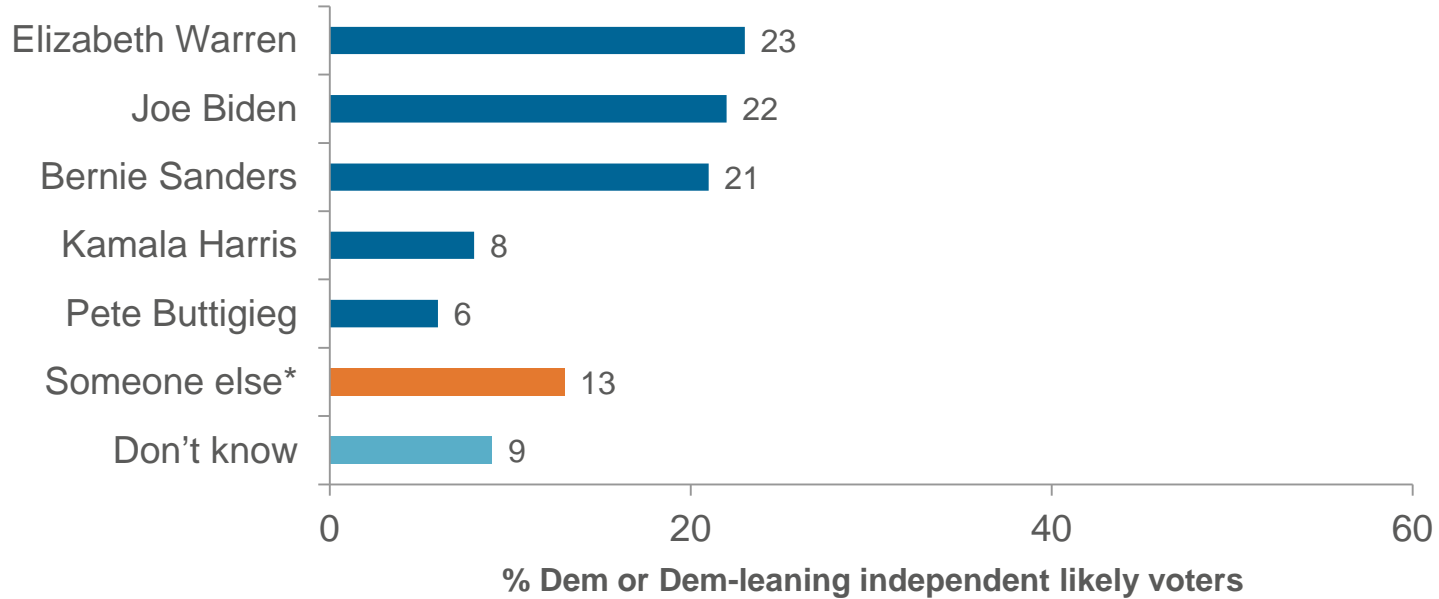


# Candidates' performance in public debates

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?



# Preferred candidate for 2020 Democratic primary



*\*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.



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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.